

2009 Summer Charity Fundraiser



A generous SR15,000 donation from the Riyadh Community Theatre kicked-off the events in Riyadh's best garden late in May when the ICING team pulled off yet another spectacular evening to raise cash for Children in Need. Gail Tisdale and Phil Atkinson are pictured above presenting their cheque to HMA Sir William and Lady Patey.

The garden had been beautifully decorated by William and Philipa Kirkpatrick and their team who had created a unique setting for the many guests to part with their hard earned cash in support of ICING's drive to coordinate charitable efforts in the community.

Commercial support for the evening had come from a host of sponsoring companies and organisations including, Al Hokair, Arcom, AXA, BAE, bmi, La Vida Havana, Dirab Golf Course, Electro, Maaden, Neovartis, Riyadh Round Table, SABB, sama, the Al Khozama Hotel, the Riyadh Sheraton Hotel and the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Bahrain.

The number of volunteers and helpers is of course enormous and without their assistance the event simply wouldn't happen. Luke Bowen and Simon Messum had been instrumental in coordinating catering and sponsorship, Chris Durbridge and his team provided diversionary play before and after dinner whilst Mike Donovan and Dave Gosney did their usual bit on stage to entertain during the entire evening.

Owain, Ian, Marcus, Gary, Steve, Graham & Olaf all assisted on the night with everything from Gate Duty to Bid Spotting. In addition, a number of individuals made personal contributions of both cash and gifts which covered much of the costs for staging the event and provided prizes for the raffle and items for the auction.

Rob Wood, Shadi Sanbar, Zaher Al Munajed, Steve Wilson, Simon Marshall, and Simon Ward all contributed in their own way. Graham Deane and Andrew & Angeline Turner were among those who made personal contributions which generated a terrific response from the auction participants as



by Andrew Mead

was Sean McPoland, who had attended the Bahrain F1 earlier in the year obtaining Lewis Hamilton's signature on a souvenir shirt which was sold at auction for SR12,000. Quite how the Swedish Ambassador's waistcoat came up for sale will remain a mystery to many of us but thanks to Noura Al Haider's winning bid, it seemed to have been returned to him by the time the night was over!

Among those sponsors attending on the night, the British School PTA, represented by Andrea Corbett, made a generous donation from the proceeds of their own party, adding to a similar amount already donated by John and Helen Leifer on behalf of the Sulaimaniyah Hash earlier in the year.

In bidding for the Scottish Rugby Shirt and the Pet Rock, the Caledonian Society of Riyadh matched the St. Georges Society donation of SR25,000, slightly exceeding the Al Misehal table who in addition to their sponsorship collectively paid for three separate auction items. The figure was exceeded only by Majid Fustok who confirmed the Fustok family's continuing support for ICING by making the winning bids on two of the signed sports shirts to add to his collection of sporting memorabilia.

This years team of ICEMAIDENS pictured below included Fflur, Helen, Natalie, Kirsty, Alison, Rachel,





Andrea and Trish who achieved an amazing total of SR 50,250 in raffle ticket sales, which exceeded all previous ICING raffle figures.

being incorrectly identified by the auctioneer as Matt White) a first timer at an ICING event, was successful in securing the package for SR5000.

Special mention must also be made of Peter Howarth-Lees and Smile Productions. Peter had pledged SR20,000 on the evening as a donation from the LOL Comedy Tour. However, following a successful tour, the amount actually donated came to SR30,000, a truly magnificent contribution. Another post event contribution was made by Dianne Baxter on behalf of the team at Al Romaizan Compound who donated profits from their own bash earlier in the month.

The Alkhozama Hotel provided dinner on the evening, which was widely acclaimed as being among the best food in town at any price! Erik Huyer, Simon Coley and the Alkhozama team worked along with Gilbert and the staff from the Embassy to engineer a superb level of service.

The counting is almost over and when all the pledges are met, we will have collected an additional SR340,000 to distribute to worthy causes this year. We'll bring you details of where the money goes in the next edition.

The first prize in the raffle was won by Dave Shaw, a worthy winner since he had contributed to the event by donating one of the other prizes. Dave, seen centre right, collected his prize voucher from Richard Groves from SABB and Rachel Start from sama.

Olaf Brinkman, obviously intent on treating his wife Philipa, was successful in outbidding many others (including Gary Richardson who attempted to compete by telephone), for the superb package of flights to and accommodation in Palma generously donated by bmi and the Sheraton Hotel.



One raffle prize winner, David Letts who had won a series of rounds at Dirab, generously surrendered his prize for auction and Richard Zeverona, (despite

Below, Left to Right; David Letts, Lynne Charnley, Bennie Burger and Margaret Luckman were among the many prize winners.

