



Together we did make a difference

by Andrew Mead

On an incredibly warm night in June, the British community got it together again in Riyadh. Partly to welcome Vanessa Patey, the wife of our new Ambassador and partly to say thank you to the many previous contributors to ICING, a garden party was held at the residence, which seems to have beaten all previous fundraisers.

Arcom, AXA, Clarendon Parker, Interserve/Marsh & the Saudi Hollandi Bank had all stepped up to the plate to guarantee the success of the evening and many turned up on the night with considerably more than their original pledges.

With sponsorships and donations already beating last years figure of SR135,000, a magnificent contribution of SR170,000 was pledged by KAC Racing.

Contributions from the Caledonian Society, The Round Table, The Riyadh Community Theatre, The Royal Society of St George were all handed over on the night, much of the cash being raised by their members at previous gatherings.

KAC Racing is essentially the stables of King Abdullah and Sons, and Frank McGovern and his guests had obtained the donation following the sale of some horses. Mrs Patey has subsequently met with Princess Nouf, the daughter of Prince Miteb, received the cheque and directed the funds towards the Down Syndrome Charity DSCA in Riyadh. With the prime object of helping children, who through no fault of their own, are not as fortunate as many in society, ICING has certainly achieved one of its objectives in raising the profile of this worthy cause.

Personal donations from Simon Ward, Paul Wicks, Sean McPoland, Ron Pump & Maya Nikro all added to the magnificent total raised from the sale of raffle tickets where a tremendous range of prizes had been donated by bmi, Electro Stores, BAE Systems, Noviacom, The InterContinental Hotel in Riyadh and the Regency InterContinental in Bahrain. Sharon, Peter and Andrew from the British Embassy and Tom Russell from the Irish Embassy also contributed 'critical' items for one part of the evening.

Pre-planning for the event had resulted in a number of companies and organisations agreeing to cover many of the set up costs. Al Hokair, Almisehal,

Indeed, much of the credit for the success of the evening must go to the 'helpers'. Ian & Graeme on gate duty, Gary on the auction, Graham who supplied the scoreboard, Nick on the camera, the boys and girls on the 'tables' (picture top right) and



Mr Salah Fustok with HMA



Al Hokair announce a new signing!



Vanessa Patey and Mal Brown (bmi tickets winner)



UPS Sponsors - Jim, Cheryl & Kayleigh O'Gara