



the trophy on behalf of a mixed team from the Embassy and the British School. Richard McEvoy's skill as quizmaster set a terrific standard for others to follow.

Another event that set a new standard was the Village Fete, put together with a team from Corona, led by Philipa Kirkpatrick. Once again there were many members of the RGBB ranks who assisted on the day to make it a great success.



Those of us who managed to attend will never forget the assortment of teams who struggled in the Tug of War or that costume worn by Chief of the Elves, Nigel Astbury.

And one success leads to another, the Riyadh Concert Band who entertained us all at the Village



fete held "The only Night of the Proms" in the gardens in November. Long after the strains of Rule Britannia have died out, the benefits of their donation will be enjoyed by the children on the receiving end. And yet another beneficiary of ICING funds was the Pakistan Earthquake Appeal organisation with funds raised specifically for the cause directly from the Carol Service.

And in 2006, members of the ExPat community truly excelled themselves at yet another RGBB organised event in the residence gardens which raised a huge amount of cash and allowed ICING to make a significant donation to the children of Marikh Village in the Western Province. A full picture spread of that event was carried in the last magazine.

In September 2006 the Royal Society of St. George in Riyadh held an inaugural event at the Amenity Hall which also swelled the ICING coffers and they look set to assist again this year with the first St Georges Day Ball already being organised.

The activities of the ex-pat community have not gone unnoticed by the locals. One anonymous Saudi contributor donated a significant amount which allowed ICING to send a second donation to the Friends of the Hadramaut for more work to be done on schools in the area.

So what comes next?

Our most recent donation has been to British forces in Afghanistan for the Bost Charity fund where initial amounts will be spent on baby heart monitors. We hope to bring you pictures and a report in due course. Discussions also continue regarding what assistance might be given to a forgotten cause back in the UK.

We hope to continue to hold more fundraising events in 2007 and will keep you posted as those plans develop. Sadly though, we will be saying goodbye to our Patron fairly soon. As most of you will now know, the Ambassador completes his Saudi posting in early March and that of course means that Lady Cowper-Coles will be leaving as well.

Bridget has been tireless in her support for ICING during her stay in Riyadh and both she and Sherard have been more than generous in allowing the community into their garden for more events than I can possibly recall. With your help we can continue to make a difference to children in need.

