

BRITISH COMMUNITY RAISES ONE MILLION RIYALS



Riyadh's British Community came together in the Ambassador's garden in June to coordinate the fundraising efforts made by various groups in the Kingdom's capital.

Building on the success of several social and business get-togethers, the organisers raised over **SR1,000,000** on the evening through a variety of activities. Not least

among the contributions was a generous donation from the Stables of King Abdullah and Sons.

ICING, which has Vanessa Patey, wife of the British Ambassador as its patron, has been supporting both local and international charities for about four years and this year's dinner doubled the level of support received to date.

During the last four years, funds raised under the ICING banner have been directed to different causes in Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen, Pakistan & Sudan as well as those in Saudi Arabia.

A contribution from the donations this year has been given to a selection of Children's Hospices in the UK who care for life-limited children who are not expected to reach adulthood - and their families - to have awareness of, and access to, the highest standards of care and support.

Donations from the event this year have so far been made to several charities in Saudi Arabia including **Open Skies Therapeutic Riding** facilities in Jeddah, where disabled children are supported by volunteer helpers of all nationalities; and the **Insan Charity Association** which provides orphans with comprehensive economic and social support such as food, clothes, education, sports activities, Hajj and Omra, scholarships, training, entertainment programs and employment schemes.



Dubbed the ICE-Maidens, the group of British ladies above succeeded in raising over SR100,000 from various raffle ticket sales and auction items.

In previous years, ICING has donated to **DSCA** the Downs Syndrome Charity Association and as a result of raising the profile of their need a substantial donation from the Royal Stables has been made directly to the organisation.

Funding outside the Kingdom this year has gone to the **Friends of the Hadramaut** charity to assist with specially targeted projects providing school facilities in a region of the Yemen; **Kids for Kids** who concentrate their efforts in Darfur, where sadly violence still continues; and **Together for Sudan** a charity providing care and education to children disadvantaged by HIV/Aids.

Over 300 people attended the event which was sponsored by a number of companies and organisations including: Al Misehal Group, Almarai, Arabian Homes, Arcom, AXA, BAE, bmi, Caledonian Society, Electro, Geant Saudi Ltd, Hotel Alkhozama, InterContinental Hotel, Maaden, Marsh Associates, Multinational School, Neo Vartis, Olayan, RGG, Riyadh Round Table, SABB, Sama, Saudi Hollandi Bank, Sheraton Hotel, St George's Society Riyadh, Suliaman Alothaim Jewellers and VISA.

Additional funds from other organisations during the year include donations from: Al Rabie, British International School, The Hash, Riyadh Theatre Group, Tetrapak, Mohamed & Sulaiman and a number of generous individuals.