

PARTY GAMES AND FUNDRAISING FOR CHILDREN IN NEED AT MONDIAL ASSISTANCE IN CROYDON

On Friday evening, while Terry Wogan & Co. entertained the nation and encouraged viewers to donate, 149 Mondial Assistance employees got into the Children's Party mood whilst handling telephone donations at its Croydon call centre. The company took over £151,000 in donations over the course of the night, and raised over £1,000 itself through a raffle, and Dress Down Friday donations in the office.

Mike Webb, Chief Executive, commented "Children in Need is such a worthy cause and we are thrilled to have been able to volunteer as a call centre for the appeal night this year. It is a testament to the generosity of our employees that so many volunteered to give up their Friday night to take pledges, and I am extremely proud of everyone who took part on the night and in the organisation of the event."

Dionne Rameswari, Roadside Assistance Coordinator, took one particularly memorable call from a young Eastenders fan, "A boy called Sammy who was 7 years old called up and said that he would like to speak to Heather from Eastenders. His mother asked me to pretend that I was Heather in return for a £20 donation. So, after speaking to him in character for a couple of minutes, he said that I didn't sound like her but asked me what was going to happen in the programme on Monday!"

Another call taker took a pledge from a woman who had decided to donate her entire £800 tax rebate to the cause!

Pudsey spent a week at the Mondial Assistance offices before the night, drumming up enthusiasm, and willing volunteers, right across the business. Keeping spirits high throughout the night, a children's entertainer performed amazing balloon modelling with an astounding surprise finale of actually ending up inside a giant balloon. Volunteers also enjoyed party games, a raffle which raised over £800 with prizes

from Avis, BMW, Croydon Park Hotel, Chrysler Jeep Dodge, Jury's Inn Hotels, Kenyons, London Coach Hire, MINI, Tiger Tiger Croydon, Virgin Active Croydon, and fantastic goody bags packed with gifts from Selsdon Park Hotel, Rituals, Glaxo Smith Kline, Virgin Active, Best Beverages, Allders, Clarins, Costco and Amber Promotions.

Rosanna Farrar, who organised Mondial's involvement in the Children in Need, said, "I was delighted with the huge amount of support from Mondial employees for this event. The night went fantastically well and we took pledges for a phenomenal amount of money for this extremely worthwhile cause. None of this would have been possible without teamwork as well as a lot of determination and hard work from the organisers here at Mondial House.

"The children's party theme worked really well and everyone enjoyed revisiting their childhoods with over zealous disco dancing, balloon modelling and of course some legendary fancy dress! I would like to extend a HUGE thanks to our clients, suppliers and local businesses for their enormous generosity for the goody bags and raffle."

ENDS

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Mondial Assistance: an intervention every 2 seconds around the world.

International leader in Assistance, Travel Insurance and Personal Services, today the Mondial Assistance Group counts more than 9 817 employees who speak 40 different languages and work throughout the world with a network of 400,000 service providers and 180 correspondents. 250 million people, or 4% of the world's total population, benefit from its services, which the Group provides on all five continents. Mondial Assistance is a member of the Allianz Group.

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