

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE USE

Date Friday 16th October 2009



Victorian Ball a Huge Success

The Annual Douglas Macmillan Hospice Ball was held at Keele Hall last Friday and raised over £19,000

What a night – our guests arrived at 7pm and were greeted by our footman – volunteers – Les and Len as they came up the steps to Keele Hall. They were then formally greeted by Victoria and Albert. Victoria's tones, clipped and Albert's - brusque and German!

The night began with a reception drink courtesy of Keele in the Salvin suite and Robbie Keyes played on the Grand – delightful!

Dinner at 8pm began with the entrance by Victoria and Albert to 'God Save the Queen' and then a short address by Karen Rose, Director of Fundraising.

After Dinner a game of Pass the Parcel followed by the Grand Auction – which was fast and furious conducted by an ACE professional auctioneer, Brain Bull that gave his services free of charge. Throughout the night people text bids in our silent Auction also.

After the Grand Auction – a choice of entertainment; main room Sally Rivers and her Big Bash Band – who were fantastic and who also donated their skills free of charge, a just for fun casino and tombola upstairs and the goodie chest of chocolate treats to raid at midnight! - Superb!

The event was sponsored by LA International , Beswicks Solicitors, KMF

and Keele Occasions .

Over 250 people enjoyed the splendid 5 Course Gourmet Banquet, followed by a Grand Auction which included a weeks stay in a luxury Villa in Spain and a Cocktail Master Class at Harvey Nicks! .

Zoe Hollingsworth , Senior Fundraising Development Manager said ;

"We are extremely grateful to the many businesses that have supported us this year with sponsorship, advertising, prizes and of course attending the event

We appreciate that in the present economic climate we have been very fortunate to still have the support of the local Business community. Thank you all for your support is very much valued and appreciated.”

.”

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Douglas Macmillan Hospice provides specialist palliative care for adults across North Staffordshire who face cancer and other life-limiting illnesses
2. Care is provided at the Hospice and in people’s homes across the community.
3. The Hospice is independent (it receives no funding from any national charity) and has no association with any organisation bearing the same or a similar name.
4. It costs over £7 million each year to run and develop the full range of services form the Hospice. More than two thirds of money comes from local voluntary donations.

For quotes and comments on behalf of Douglas Macmillan Hospice, contact in the first instance should be made through Peter Keller on 01782 344303