



STARS BRING SOME RED NOSE DAY CHEER TO THE FESTIVE SEASON

As the final total is announced, celebrities look back on 2011's unforgettable Red Nose Day campaign

A whole host of Comic Relief celebrities are taking to the small screen this Christmas to highlight where some of the whopping **£108,436,227** raised by Red Nose Day 2011 is already hard at work changing lives.

Presented by **Michael McIntyre**, the amazing 90 minute special will also look back at some of the hilarious moments that made Red Nose Day such a corker. It will also feature updates on where the money is hard at work from **Lenny Henry, Ruth Jones, Dermot O'Leary, David Walliams, Lorraine Kelly, Helen Skelton** and **JLS** – who all did their bit for Red Nose Day 2011.

Comic Relief legend Lenny Henry added: "This year's show is a must-see. It's a great mix of looking back on what a great night Red Nose Day was and looking forward to how the money is helping to change lives, both here in the UK and in Africa. Going back to Kibera was amazing, I could see how the public's money is making a real difference."

Lenny visited Kibera in Africa, where he took part in the hard hitting documentary 'Famous Rich & in the Slums'. 'Comic Relief 2011: What A Cracker' sees Lenny emotionally reunited with the poverty-stricken, orphaned family he stayed with as they show off their brand new home, complete with toilet and shower.

The show also follows JLS as they visit street kids in Uganda. The boys spend the day teaching a class, playing football and meeting a budding singer called Nicolas who breaks down when he tells the boys his heartbreaking story.

Meanwhile, Dermot O’Leary, who trekked across the Kaisut Desert for Red Nose Day, visits a slum in Kenya and proudly announces that there will be an eye clinic opening at the local Catholic Church.

Blue Peter presenter and Comic Relief daredevil, Helen Skelton, reflects on her amazing Red Nose Day challenge – high wiring across Battersea Power Station – and awards a hospital in Sierra Leone with a £300,000 grant. Meanwhile comedian David Walliams gives an update on the new clinics set up in Mageta Island, Kenya.

Of course the show doesn’t only look at where the money is hard at work in Africa, but also sees Gavin and Stacey’s very own Ruth Jones pay a visit to a UK drop in centre to surprise pensioner Ron. Ruth first met Ron earlier this year when she filmed a moving appeal film with him and his wife Gladys who was suffering from Alzheimer’s. Tragically, Gladys lost her battle soon after filming and Ron is now being helped through his bereavement by the Comic Relief funded project.

Michael McIntyre also looks back at some of the “best bits” from the Red Nose Day night of TV such as Smithy’s unforgettable sketch starring Sir Paul McCartney and many more celebrities; Miranda Hart’s dance with JLS; clips from the celebrity challenges and the special performance by the unforgettable “Fake That”.

After the fabulous 90 minute show there will also be a behind the scenes special available on the Red Button which will look at the making of the infamous and utterly hilarious Smithy Sketch.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Comic Relief Media Team

0207 820 2500

media@comicrelief.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Comic Relief

- Comic Relief was launched on Christmas Day in 1985, live on BBC One. At that time, a devastating famine was crippling Ethiopia and something had to be done. That something was Comic Relief. The idea was simple – Comic Relief would make the public laugh while they raised money to help people in desperate need. Before too long, Red Nose Day was created and the first ever event in 1988 raised a staggering £15m. To date, thirteen Red Nose Days have raised more than £600m. That money has helped, and is helping, to support people and communities in dire need both in the UK and Africa.

- Figures that made up the **£108,436,227** total include:
 - Over £15 million raised through text donations, the highest value of donations ever received through text messages
 - Over £11 million from Sainsbury's as a result of selling Red Nose Day goodies, and colleagues across the country taking part in all manner of fantastic fundraising. Hundreds of products in store also carried a donation to Comic Relief
 - Over £2.8 million raised through Chris Moyles and Comedy Dave's 52 hour non-stop radio marathon which also won a Guinness World Record
 - £1.5 million raised by the nine celebrities who took part in the BT Red Nose Desert Trek across the Kasuit Desert in Kenya
 - £16 million contribution by DfiD to Comic Relief's work in improving health and education across Africa. This matches the £16m Comic Relief will also commit to these areas
 - Other money came in through a combination of public fundraising, money raised by media outlets and donations from corporate partners.

- All digital viewers will be able to see the red button programme immediately after the BBC One programme. Red button is available to Freeview, FreeSat, Sky & Virgin Media viewers.

- *Comic Relief, registered charity 326568 (England/Wales); SC039730 (Scotland)*