



PRESS RELEASE  
November 2013



### **Unicom raise a total of £3,418.00 for Children in Need**

Through a week of fun filled fund raising events, local small business telecoms and utilities provider, Unicom, helped Children in Need raise a record breaking £31million.

The week of events, hosted at Unicom's head office in Northenden, South Manchester, raised £3,418.00 for the charity, which supports disadvantaged children and young people in the UK.

The fund raising events kicked off at the start of the week with a FIFA tournament and a man Vs food competition. Following this there was a baby photo quiz where employees had to guess which management were which from their baby pictures, a sponsored head shave, a raffle and two cake sales which raised over £200 alone.

The week of events built up to Children in Need day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, where employees were invited to dress up in 80's fancy dress for £3, before heading off to Unicom's Children in Need party after work at Wythenshawe Cricket Club.

The 80's fancy dress day proved to be a huge success with the majority of staff paying the donation to come dressed up for the day. There were some fantastic costumes including, Robo cop, Slash from Guns and Roses, Super Mario and Run DMC. There was also a lot of neon disco wear and shell suits.

"We're delighted at the total amount we've raised for Children in Need this year. We put on a good range of fun activities and events that got everyone involved. So many people participated and donated money to such a worthy cause it was great to see and I would like to thank everyone for their generous donations and help in running the events" said Peter White, Head of Customer Services, who organised many of the events.

The amount of money raised from employee donations was £1709.00, which was matched by Unicom, making the total donated to Children in Need for 2013 £3,418.00.

In the wake of the Philippines Typhoon disaster, Unicom CEO, Chris Earle, decided to donate the same amount of money that the company matched for Children in Need towards helping the surviving victims in the Philippines, £1,709.00 has since been donated.

~ Ends ~

## **Notes to Editors**

**Website:** [www.switchingon.com](http://www.switchingon.com)

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## **About Unicom**

Unicom, a trading name of Universal Utilities Ltd, is a telecommunications and utility service provider specialising in the small business market. It offers a one bill solution for telecoms and utility services providing telecoms, broadband, mobile, gas and electricity services and supplies over 100,000 small businesses throughout the UK. Unicom has an annual turnover of £70m, and employs 500 people at its 12 regional offices situated around the UK.

Unicom has attracted its business customers by offering substantial discounts and differentiates itself by offering a high standard of personal customer service, with customer service calls answered in 6 seconds, no premium rate 0845 or 0870 numbers, no recorded messages or menus, and no overseas call centres.

Unicom is ISO 9001:2008 certified and has also been awarded the 'Customer Service Excellence', 'Putting the Customer First' and the 'Investors in People' certifications.

## **About Children in Need**

**Website:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b008dk4b>

- Children in Need is the BBC's corporate charity which supports disadvantaged young people and children in the UK.
- The charity provides grants to projects in the UK which help to make the lives of disadvantaged children better and prolong their life choices.
- They accept applications all year round and once a year, in November, holds an appeal night broadcast on the BBC to help raise funds. This is a whole evening of entertainment, showing celebrities doing all sorts of things to raise money for the charity.
- This year the appeal night was held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2013 and raised a total of £31 million.