

THIS WAS THE DANCE THIS WAS

After 35 years of entertaining children with special needs, drivers of the Albany Charity decided to raise more funds by entertaining themselves. So on January 19 they did just that! The charity's 35th year bash took place with a dinner and dance at the Charlton Athletic Football Ground. The North Stand Suite was the venue, the menu was a joint decision by all the committee - no fancy a La Carte just good English food with waitress service, casual dress, and no penguin suits. The whole evening was presided over by the Mayor of Greenwich Councillor Jawaid who purchased his own ticket saying he was "helping the cause and proud to do it".



DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY

Bitter Sweet supplied the music, with the set ranging from songs from the 50's to the present day. It didn't take long for the guests to get their feet moving and soon the dance floor was shaking with 250 people dancing the night away. The guests were only given a rest when the raffle for the 34 fantastic prizes that had been donated by sponsors and friends was announced. The top prize was a corporate weekend for 4 at Disneyland Paris, other prizes were items from Hobbs, Guggi and Hackett's and a meal for 2 at the Seashell Restaurant who had recently held a monthly promotion, they also presented a cheque to the charity for £1000, a percentage of the total amount that Taxi

Drivers had spent with them at the restaurant. Presentations were made on the night to drivers that had attended all the trips from day one and to Chris Carroll who was celebrating his 70th birthday. Freddie (Peckham Pearly King) Booth and James Pullum Senior one of the original Trustees from 35 years ago also received presentations.

SIGNED ARSENAL SHIRT ON OFFER

Money then rolled in from the auction. A full Arsenal team signed shirt, was on offer, which caused a few jeers from the Charlton and Millwall supporters, but then with one guest offering £75 to burn it was won with a £300 bid from the guys at Ascotts, who had supplied all the diesel for the trips in 2007. We would like to thank Pete, Diane and the Ascott family for their generosity. It had been decided by the committee that no speeches would interrupt the event so after a thank you to all by the Chairman Mickey Range it was back to the groove and more dancing.

After the sounds of the blues skilfully played by Mickey on his harmonica it was time for the carriages.

If you were at the dance and would like some pictures of the evening please contact us and we will be only too pleased to give you them free of charge.

The charity has three trips again this year. Hastings on June 4th. Herne Bay on July 7th, which now includes the children from Chernobyl and patients and carers from Demelzia House Hospice. The charity's 35th trip to Margate will be on July 14th.

Anybody wanting further details of the charity can contact the Secretary on 020 8378 9438

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