

Just A Minute - The Political Edition

13 March 2008

JUST A MINUTE

the political edition

Wednesday 12 March 2008



Just a Minute raises laughs and £7,000 for Norwood

Legendary radio and TV favourite Nicholas Parsons hosted a very special political edition of the gameshow Just A Minute in aid of Norwood on Wednesday 12 March at the offices of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in Central London. The event, organised by the Enterprise Committee, was attended by 170 guests and raised £7,000 for the leading Jewish UK charity supporting children and families living with disability or coping with social difficulties.

The guest panel featured Lembit Opik MP (Montgomeryshire), Lee Scott MP (Ilford North), John Mann MP (Bassetlaw) and the political commentator John Sergeant. Nicholas Parsons was joined by his wife Ann, who was timekeeper for the much-loved quiz in which panellists have to speak for a minute on a given subject without hesitation, deviation or repetition. The audience were frequently reduced to fits of laughter as the contestants went off on surreal tangents whilst tackling subjects such as "getting out of awkward situations" and "the high life in Estonia". Nicholas Parsons was on sparkling form as he oversaw proceedings, engaging in witty banter with the panel and members of the audience. At the end, Lembit Opik and Lee Scott finished in a tie for first place.

Once the main event was over, the audience had the opportunity to bid for the chance to choose the subject for a final bonus round. This was won by Lesley Malnick, who paid £250 to hear the panel speak about "whisky in the Houses of Parliament". She also won the chance to be photographed with Nicholas, Ann and all of the contestants and will receive a framed, autographed picture.

Speaking after the event, Nicholas Parsons said: "It gives me great pleasure to support Norwood and I was most impressed with the four panellists, who played what is a difficult game with great skill and style. Everybody had fun, and the evening raised many laughs and hopefully a lot of money for Norwood."

Lembit Opik said: "When talking on Just A Minute it feels like an hour. But the fantastic work carried out by Norwood lasts a lifetime. It is a pleasure to be involved with such a great charity."

Ron Fogelman, of the Enterprise Committee, said: "It has been a hugely entertaining evening and I would like to thank Nicholas, the panellists, MWB Exchange, Ocado and Bloomberg. The money raised will directly support vulnerable children and families in our community."

For more information please contact the Public Relations Manager at Norwood on 020 8420 6900 or email pressoffice@norwood.org.uk

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