



People Tune in to 'The Big Night In' to Show Support

How did BBC Children in Need and Comic Relief start?

- The first BBC Children in Need telethon was broadcast in 1980.
- Comic Relief started in 1985 as a way of raising money to help people in need.

Two of Britain's best-known charities came together to hold 'The Big Night In', a **fundraising** event, yesterday.

BBC Children in Need and Comic Relief teamed up for the first time ever to help raise money for those affected by COVID-19. It was also an opportunity for people to show their **appreciation** for key workers that are helping those in need.

During 'The Big Night In', people joined in for this one-off event from home by **donating**, dancing, cutting their own hair and even baking banana bread.

Members of the Scouts challenged themselves to hike a mile around their homes so that, in total, they covered 240 000 miles — that's the distance from the Earth to the Moon.

As well as raising millions of pounds, Comic Relief's Ruth Davison said it would be, "the perfect opportunity to praise the heroes who are caring for us, feeding us, and lifting our spirits as we continue to help people most in need."

UK Goes Mad for Fundraising!

Governments around the world have been asking people to stay at home to keep safe. This has led many people to come up with things that they can do at home to raise money.

As well as 'The Big Night In', there have been many other fundraising events too. You may have read the inspiring story of Captain Tom,



Illustration: People tuned in to 'The Big Night In'.

who has raised almost £30 million for the NHS!

People around the country are also raising money by buying special T-shirts. Others are using their daily exercise **allowance** to run 5km in their local area and then donating £5. These ideas and others have raised over £80 million for the NHS Charities Together!

Starting on Sunday, the 2.6 challenge begins. The 2.6 challenge is trying to support charities in the UK. According to their website, "All you need to do is dream up an activity based around the numbers 2.6 or 26 that suits your skills and complete it on Sunday 26th April." Who knows what people will do to raise money?

Glossary

fundraising	Raise money for charity.
appreciation	To show someone you're grateful for them.
donating	To give something for free.
allowance	The amount that is permitted.

Questions

1. Find and copy the name of the two charities that have come together to do 'The Big Night In'.

1. _____

2. _____

2. Why do you think the event was called 'The Big Night In'?

3. According to the article, when are people allowed to run 5km?

4. Tick the statements which are **true**.

☐ The first BBC Children in Need telethon was broadcast in 1980.

☐ Comic Relief started in 1885.

☐ The Scouts hiked the height of Mount Everest

☐ The 2.6 Challenge starts on Sunday

5. In the second paragraph, find and copy a word that means the same as 'gratitude'.

6. Summarise the text in 15 words or fewer.

Answers

1. Find and copy the name of the two charities that have come together to do 'The Big Night In'.
BBC Children in Need and Comic Relief
2. Why do you think the event was called 'The Big Night In'?
Accept any answer referring to the fact that we all have to stay in at the moment and the event involved people doing things at home.
3. According to the article, when are people allowed to run 5km?
During their daily exercise allowance.
4. Tick the statements which are **true**.
 - ☒ **The first BBC Children in Need telethon was broadcast in 1980.**
 - ☐ Comic Relief started in 1885.
 - ☐ The Scouts hiked the height of Mount Everest.
 - ☒ **The 2.6 Challenge starts on Sunday.**
5. In the second paragraph, find and copy a word that means the same as 'gratitude'.
appreciation
6. Summarise the text in 15 words or fewer.
Accept any sensible summary of the text in 15 words or fewer, e.g. 'The Big Night In' was a special event. It raised lots of money for charity.