

Your Red Nose Day photo album
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For the sixth consecutive year, **HomeServe's** call centre in **Walsall** took calls. Some 215 volunteers, many dressed as pirates, answered 3,050 calls and donations exceeded £100,000. Visitors included Mayor and Mayoress of Walsall, Cllr Gary and Yvonne Clarke, and Joe Mayo, West Bromwich Albion FC star player, and mascots, Baggie and Albi Bird. HomeServe is the club's shirt sponsor this season.

Sarah Palmer, HomeServe national charity manager who helped to organise the evening, said it was the company's best Comic Relief night and added: "I'd like to thank all our staff and volunteers. To help raise over £100,000 in just five hours is an incredible achievement. We even had three £1,000 donations. It always amazes me how generous the great British public is - even in these difficult times."

Marc Weston, operations manager, agreed and said: "Everybody I spoke to had a great night and are looking forward to supporting such a worthy cause again next year". And Jo Simkins, customer service and sales director who runs the call centre, said the telethons were also an opportunity for friends and family to see what the call centre did, which was important for employee engagement.

Pictured - Alex Rudzinski (left), finance director, Ms Simkins (right) with the Mayor and Mayoress of Walsall; from left: Ms Palmer, Marc Weston and Martin Warlow, forecasting manager.

Fund raising events took place at all 37 of **Jobcentre Plus** call centres and raised a total of £8,000. Among them were home made cakes, served by fancy dressed tea maids in **Maraton Mere**, near Blackpool. And Jane Rowlands, a team leader at of Pembroke Dock, auctioned her Red Nose cake. Dave Massa, of the Jobcentre Plus contact centre directorate, said: "Another successful year... Well done to everybody for the efforts required to make the day so successful and roll on the next Red Nose Day."
Pictured - Glen Jordan, manager of Maraton Mere contact centre.



More than 60 employees at **HPI, Salisbury**, beat their total from last year with £97,000 in donations, including sums of £5,000 and £3,000. Company events raised a further £1,000. Volunteers dressed as cowboys, reflecting HPI's aim to beat used car cowboys. Andy Entwistle, operations director, said: "It was a really enjoyable day for all. It also gives us a new target to aim for, for next year - to see if we can take more than £100,000."
Pictured - Jonathan Blackmore, senior marketing manager, raised over £600 by having his head shaved



At **Hoseasons' Lovestoft** call centre, 105 staff took calls, including 19 people who made the 250-mile journey from the company's site in Earby, Yorkshire. They were joined by local businesses and friends and families. Calls totalled 3,457, resulting in donations worth just over £131,600, including one of £10,000 taken by Hayley Daves.

Fundraising included dancing, cake sale, celebrity photo booth and a wear red and fancy dress competition. Lovestoft raised £600, including £165 through a sponsored silence by Zoey Blocks. In Earby, John Dalgleish, general manager, boating, was sponsored for £200 to shave off his beard, bringing the total to £660.

Pictured - Louise Thacker, marketing services coordinator, guesses the number of sweets in the jar; fancy dress winners include Sandie Bransby (top left), operations manager, Lovestoft; Pali Badwal, operations director, Lovestoft, with fancy dress winner Chelsea Shorten; and Ginny Bessy, senior training and development officer, ready to compete in Wii Let's Dance.

