

Date for Release	From	Contact Tel	Email
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Title:

“Choir Gets Great Reception”

Body:

The Pearl of Africa Children's Choir was in South Gloucestershire on Friday 2nd November to perform in front of hundreds of local school children and raise awareness of their cause. The Choir, who recently appeared on Channel 4's The Paul O'Grady Show, performed at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre, with a day packed full of singing and dancing.

The not for profit company Pearl of Africa Children's Choir, tours the UK each year to raise funds through sponsorship and donations, to send to the charity Molly and Paul Childcare Foundation in Uganda. The charity, formed in 1983, provides schooling and housing for orphaned and destitute children in Southern Uganda. In addition, the desperately required funds that are collected are used to provide better living standards, improve healthcare and education, for children to gain important life skills.

School places in Uganda are insufficient and over 40% of the national education budget is collected through donations and in a country ravaged by AIDS, the importance of the social environments of schools for young orphaned children becomes very important.

Lisa Vyner, Leisure Operations Manager at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre said “To see the children from Uganda performing in the Choir, sing and dance with such passion, pride, and artistic vision, having overcome such adversity, was awe inspiring”. She continued “They displayed such technical ability and talent, with uncompromising enthusiasm. It was an amazing performance”.

She continued with “The local school children enjoyed every minute of the performances at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre. The children joined in with the singing and clapped in tune with the instruments, they had great fun. It was a great day for everyone”. Ms Vyner continued “We get involved in many of our charitable endeavours because of the positive impact that we can have on a child's life and their community. It's great to be able to give something back to help people affected by poverty”.

The Choir is nearing the end of their 2007 tour, but children from South Gloucestershire are likely to remember the great spirit that was displayed during the authentic African singing and dancing performance at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre.

Ends

Notes for Editors:

South Gloucestershire Leisure

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Registered as a Limited Company in England and Wales No. 05384234. Registered Charity No. 1111467

- **South Gloucestershire Leisure Ltd** - South Gloucestershire Leisure Ltd is a charitable trust established in November 2005. It operates the five leisure centres in South Gloucestershire on behalf of South Gloucestershire Council. The Trust is overseen by a board of voluntary trustees.
- Photographs of the Pearl of Africa Children's Choir are available to accompany the story. To obtain a copy, please contact Marketing.
- **Press releases** - All press releases can be found online at: www.sgleisure.org/press_releases

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