

News Release November 2009

## 4 Girls 4 Harps... and Richard Stilgoe makes five



Guests at a special fundraising event for local charity the Surrey Care Trust were entertained not only by the amazing sounds of 4 Girls and 4 Harps, but also the wit of lyricist, composer and entertainer Richard Stilgoe.

The evening was sponsored by owner managed accommodation specialists, Prelude Properties.

Richard Stilgoe, who is a patron of the Surrey Care Trust, was compère for the evening held in the stately and welcoming surroundings of the Great Hall at Loseley House, Compton.

The award-winning quartet - the "4 Girls, 4 Harps and 8 Dresses" as Richard described them after their interval change of costume - delighted the 60 guests with music that included excerpts from Handel's Royal Fireworks and the Nutcracker suite.

Keziah Thomas, Angharad Wyn Jones, Harriet Adie and Eleanor Turner have been playing together since 2000 and they told the audience that performing with Richard, who has been entertaining the nation with his music and humour for more than 40 years, had been a great privilege.

Loseley House, which featured in BBC's recent adaptation of Jane Austen's Emma, was made available to the Surrey Care Trust by the kindness of the owners, the More-Molyneux family.

The Surrey Care Trust is a charity dedicated to helping people overcome disadvantage, and much of its work today is focused on bringing second chance learning. It transforms the futures of young people and adults who are held back by their low skills and lack of educational achievement or who need a second chance in life. The Trust also runs the Crisis Grants Fund giving help to people in all parts of Surrey who are facing hardship.

4 Girls 4 Harps at Loseley was raising money for the Trust's Changing Young Lives Appeal which supports its education work with young people and its learning centres at Redhill, Staines and Woking.

The contrast between smart occasions such as this held and the difficult circumstances that people who benefit from the Surrey Care Trust's work have to cope is never lost on Richard. "Everybody at the event was aware that they are having a very glamorous evening in aid of people whose lives are far less glamorous and they want to be generous," he said.

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