

# Comic Relief

## What Is Comic Relief All About?

Comic Relief began in 1985. The main aim was to help the very poorest people in the world and those who had been treated unfairly due to war or the way their country was run by their government.

The money that was raised would be used to improve people's lives.

In 1988, Comic Relief held its first Red Nose Day. Over one hundred and fifty celebrities and comedians joined in and a huge £15 million was raised!

## Who Did This Help?

Comic Relief have helped hundreds of charities over the last 31 years. Here are just some of the ways that the money has been used:

- helping homeless charities to buy washing machines,
- building schools in South Africa;
- training nurses and building hospitals in Africa;
- providing medicines to treat people with malaria.

## Comic Relief's Plans

Comic Relief wants to ensure that the money raised is also used to:

- make sure that all children receive a quality, safe and long term education;
- make sure children are protected from danger.

Many children do not have any education. They have to work long hours in unpleasant and unsafe places often earning as little as 70p a day.

Comic Relief want to help these people and communities to:

- grow their own crops so they have more food;
- own their own animals to provide them with fur and meat;
- stay healthy and know how to look after themselves.



## UK Support

Comic Relief has also put £300 million into projects in the UK.

The money has been used to:

- fund charities who help children that have experienced the death of a parent or brother or sister;
- help older people who need daily care and company;
- support children who look after a disabled parent.



Comic Relief also provides money for fun days out for poorer people, help to set up playgroups and support groups where people get the chance to get together and talk.

## Sport Relief

Sport professionals and comedians have all done their bit during Sports Relief including:

- David Walliams, who swam an amazing 140 miles along the River Thames in 2011;
- John Bishop, who raised an awesome £4 million cycling 290 miles in just 5 days in 2012;
- Eddie Izzard, who ran an astounding 27 marathons (each one 26 miles!) in 27 days in 2016!

Some other countries that have received money from Comic Relief are Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines.

## How Can You Help?

The money for Comic Relief comes from ordinary people holding fundraising events. Here are some ideas of how you could help:

**cake sales**

**sponsored sports**

**dress-up days**

**coffee mornings**

**head shaving**

**car washing**

# Questions

1. Name one way people might have been treated unfairly.

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2. How much was raised on the first Red Nose Day?

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3. Name two ways money from Comic Relief have helped people.

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4. Instead of being able to go to school, how much do some children earn by working?

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5. Why do Comic Relief want to help people grow their own crops?

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6. Comic Relief have helped people in the UK. Which of those ways do you think is the most important?

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7. Why is the fact about Eddie Izzard so amazing?

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8. Apart from the Philippines and Bangladesh, which other country has been helped by Comic Relief?

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9. Which of the fundraising ideas would you most likely want to do?

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# Answers

1. Name one way people might have been treated unfairly.

**People might have been treated unfairly because of war in their country or by the way their country was run by their government.**

2. How much was raised on the first Red Nose Day?

**£15 million was raised on the first Red Nose Day.**

3. Name two ways money from Comic Relief have helped people.

**Accept any two:**

- **helping homeless charities to buy washing machines,**
- **building schools in South Africa;**
- **training nurses and building hospitals in Africa;**
- **providing medicines to treat people with malaria.**

4. Instead of being able to go to school, how much do some children earn by working?

**Some children only earn 70p a day instead of going to school.**

5. Why do Comic Relief want to help people grow their own crops?

**Comic Relief want to help people grow their own crops because then they would have their own supply of food.**

6. Comic Relief have helped many people in the UK. Which of those ways do you think is the most important?

**Answers will vary but should reference one of these good causes:**

- **funding charities who help children that have experienced the death of a parent or brother or sister;**
- **helping older people who need daily care and company;**
- **supporting children who look after a disabled parent;**
- **giving money for days out and support groups for poorer people.**

7. Why is the fact about Eddie Izzard so amazing?

**It is so amazing because he ran 26 miles every day for 27 days!**

8. Apart from the Philippines and Bangladesh, which other country has been helped by Comic Relief?

**Another country that has been helped by Comic Relief is Nepal.**

9. Which of the fundraising ideas would you most likely want to do and why?

**Answers will vary.**

# Comic Relief

## What is Comic Relief All About?

Comic Relief began in 1985 with two main purposes. The first was to look at poverty and injustice in certain areas of the world. Secondly, the charity wanted to raise awareness of the problems that some people lived with every day. The aim was to raise money through comedy and then use the money to improve people's lives.

In 1988, Comic Relief held its first Red Nose Day. Over one hundred and fifty celebrities and comedians joined in and a whopping £15 million was raised!

## Who Did This Help?

Comic Relief has helped hundreds of causes over the last 31 years: from providing grants - money - for homeless charities to buy washing machines, funding schools to be built in areas of South Africa and training nurses and building hospitals in Sierra Leone so that people can be diagnosed and treated much more quickly.

## Comic Relief's Plans

Comic Relief plans for children and young people around the world are of great importance. These are to:

- make sure children receive a good quality, safe and long term education;
- ensure that children are protected from violence and distress.

All over the world, millions of children do not have education and instead have to work long hours in unpleasant and unsafe environments. Comic Relief wants to raise awareness of their lives so that hopefully they can make a change for them for the better. This might mean providing grants for people and communities to own land, grow their own crops, keep animals and earn their own money.

## UK Support

Comic Relief has also put £300 million into projects in the UK. They provide grants for charities to help children who have experienced the death of a parent or brother



or sister; support for older people who need daily care and company; help for disabled parents who need support, or for children who look after a disabled parent, who often miss out on the fun side of childhood. Comic Relief tries to help these children by providing money for fun days out, setting up playgroups, and helping them to meet other children who are in the same situation as they are.

## Sport Relief

Sport Relief and Comic Relief are held alternately every other year. Sport professionals and comedians have all done their bit during Sports Relief including:

- David Walliams, who swam an amazing 140 miles along the River Thames in 2011.
- John Bishop, who raised an awesome £4 million by cycling 290 miles in just 5 days in 2012.
- In 2016, Eddie Izzard, who ran an astounding 27 marathons (each one 26 miles!) in 27 days!



## How Can You Help?

Comic Relief grants would not be available without the public donating money or holding fundraising events. Here are some ideas of how you could help to raise money:

**cake sales**

**sponsored sports**

**dress-up days**

**coffee mornings**

**head shaving**

**car washing**

### Did You Know ...?

JK Rowling wrote two books for Comic Relief in 2000. *Quidditch Through the Ages* and *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* have raised £18 million so far for the charity!

### Did You Know ...?

Some of the countries that have received grants from Comic Relief are Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines.

# Questions

1. What was the aim of Comic Relief?

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2. What year was the first Red Nose Day, and how many celebrities were involved?

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3. Explain two ways Comic Relief have helped people.

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4. Why might a homeless charity need a washing machine?

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5. Why do you think it is better for children to have an education instead of going to work?

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6. Identify two ways that communities can be helped by Comic Relief.

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7. How can Comic Relief help children who are carers for a disabled parent?

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8. Which of the Sport Relief facts are you most impressed by and why?

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9. Apart from South Africa, name one other country that has benefitted from Comic Relief help.

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10. Think of one other way money could be raised for Comic Relief.

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# Answers

1. What was the aim of Comic Relief?  
**The aim was to raise money through comedy and use the money to improve people's lives.**
2. What year was the first Red Nose Day and how many celebrities were involved?  
**The first Red Nose Day was in 1988 and 150 celebrities were involved.**
3. Explain two ways Comic Relief have helped people.  
**Accept any two: helping homeless charities to buy washing machines, funding schools to be built in areas of South Africa, training nurses and building hospitals in Sierra Leone.**
4. Why might a homeless charity need a washing machine?  
**A homeless charity might need a washing machine to wash people's clothes who don't have: a home/ a washing machine/ clean clothes/ any other clothes to wear.**
5. Why do you think it is better for children to have an education instead of going to work?  
**Answers will vary but may include: it is not safe for children to go to work in dangerous environments/ children should learn things in school so that they can get a job when they are older/ every child deserves to go to school.**
6. Identify two ways that poorer communities can be helped by Comic Relief.  
**Accept any two: own their own land, grow their own crops, keep animals and earn their own money.**
7. How can Comic Relief help children who are carers for a disabled parent?  
**Comic Relief helps children who are carers for a disabled parent by funding fun day out and helping them meet other children who are in the same situation as they are.**
8. Which of the Sport Relief facts are you most impressed by and why?  
**Answers will vary but should include reference to one of these:**
  - **David Walliams swam an amazing 140 miles along the River Thames in 2011.**
  - **John Bishop raised an awesome £4 million by cycling 290 miles in just 5 days in 2012.**
  - **In 2016, Eddie Izzard ran an astounding 27 marathons (each one 26 miles!) in 27 days!**
9. Apart from South Africa, name one other country that has benefitted from Comic Relief help.  
**Accept any one: Nepal/ Bangladesh/ Philippines.**
10. Think of one other way money could be raised for Comic Relief.  
**Answers will vary.**

# Comic Relief

## What is Comic Relief All About?

Comic Relief began in 1985 with two main purposes. Firstly, it was founded to tackle poverty and injustice in certain areas of the world. Secondly, it aimed to raise awareness of various difficulties that people faced on a daily basis. Its aim was always to raise money through comedy and improve people's lives.

In 1988, Comic Relief held its first Red Nose Day. Over one hundred and fifty celebrities and comedians joined in and a whopping £15 million was raised!

## Who Has Benefitted?

Comic Relief has helped a huge range of causes over the last 31 years: providing grants for homeless charities to buy washing machines, securing the rights of disabled people, funding schools to be built in South Africa, and providing the staff and resources to build a hospital supplying life-saving vaccines in Sierra Leone. The money raised has certainly changed many lives!

## Comic Relief's Priorities for Children

Comic Relief has specific priorities regarding children and young people around the world. These are:

- Ensuring children receive a good quality, safe and ongoing education;
- Protecting children from violence, conflict and abuse;
- Building young people's enterprise and leadership skills.

Thousands of children in poorer countries do not have access to education and instead, have to work long hours in unpleasant and dangerous environments. This means their future prospects are limited. Comic Relief wants to raise awareness of the lives of these many children and aims to improve them for the better. This might mean providing grants for people and communities to own land, grow their own crops, keep animals and become self-sufficient.



## UK Support

Comic Relief has put £300 million into projects in the UK. These projects are not just to help people in poverty. They also provide grants for charities to help children who have experienced the death of a parent or sibling; provide help to the elderly who need daily care and company; provide support to disabled parents who need support, or children who are carers of a disabled parent. Comic Relief also funds fun days out for disadvantaged groups, provides support and guidance to many, as well as helping people set up charities.

## Sport Relief

Sport Relief and Comic Relief are held in alternate years. Sports Relief involves both sport fanatics and comedic legends helping raise money in their own unique way.

Gary Barlow, Cheryl Cole and Fearne Cotton scaled Mount Kilimanjaro in 2009; David Walliams swam an amazing 140 miles along the River Thames in 2011; John Bishop raised an awesome £4 million when he cycled 290 miles in just 5 days, and Eddie Izzard ran an astounding 27 marathons (each one 26 miles) in just 27 days!



## How Can You Help?

Comic Relief grants would not be available without the public donating money or holding fundraising events. Money has been raised through cake sales, coffee mornings, sponsored sports, head shaving, dress-up days, car washing and many more wacky money-raising schemes.

### Did You Know ...?

JK Rowling wrote two books for Comic Relief in 2000. *Quidditch Through the Ages* and *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* have raised £18 million so far for the charity!

### Did You Know ...?

Some of the countries that have received grants from Comic Relief are Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines.

# Questions

1. In your own words, explain one of the original purposes of Comic Relief.

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2. Describe two ways the money raised has changed people's lives.

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3. Which of Comic Relief's three priorities regarding children do you think is the most important? Explain your reasoning.

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4. How might a child in a poorer country have a different life to yours? Make reference to the text.

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5. What does it mean when it says that many children's 'future prospects are limited'?

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6. Name three ways Comic Relief funding has helped people in the UK.

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7. Can you think of an alternative subheading to 'UK Support'?

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8. What word or phrase could have been used instead of "scaled Mt Kilimanjaro"?

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9. Which fact about how different celebrities have raised money surprised you the most and why?

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10. In just one paragraph, describe what Comic Relief is and does.

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# Answers

1. In your own words, explain one of the original purposes of Comic Relief.

**Answers will vary but should include reference to Comic Relief being established to tackle poverty and injustice in certain areas of the world, and to raise awareness of various difficulties that people face on a daily basis.**

2. Describe two ways the money raised has changed people's lives.

**Answers will vary but should include reference to the money raised helping homeless charities to buy washing machines, securing the rights of disabled people, funding schools to be built in South Africa, and providing the staff and resources to build a hospital supplying life-saving vaccines in Sierra Leone.**

3. Which of Comic Relief's three priorities regarding children do you think is the most important? Explain your reasoning.

**Answers will vary but should include a reasoned justification as to why one of these priorities is the most important:**

- **Ensuring children receive a good quality, safe and ongoing education;**
- **Protecting children from violence, conflict and abuse;**
- **Building young people's enterprise and leadership skills.**

4. How might a child in a poorer country have a different life to yours? Make reference to the text.

**A child in a poorer country might not be able to have an education and instead 'work in unpleasant and dangerous environments'.**

5. What does it mean when it says that many children's 'future prospects are limited'?

**Answers will vary but should be based upon: the children might not have a very good future and have little to look forward to/ they might have to do a difficult and dangerous job forever/ they cannot learn to do anything else without an education, which is not always available to them.**

6. Name three ways Comic Relief funding has helped people in the UK.

**Accept any three: provide grants for charities to help children who have experienced the death of a parent or sibling/ provide help to the elderly who need daily care and company/ provide support for disabled parents who need support, or children who are carers of a disabled parent/ fund fun days out for disadvantaged groups/ provide support and guidance/ helping people set up charities.**

7. Can you think of an alternative subheading to 'UK Support'?

**Answers will vary. Subheading titles should match the information provided in that particular paragraph.**

8. What word or phrase could have been used instead of 'scaled' Mount Kilimanjaro?

**walked up/ mountaineered/ climbed/ clambered/ ascended**

9. Which fact about how different celebrities have raised money surprised you the most and why?

**Answers will vary but should include reference to one of the following:**

**Gary Barlow, Cheryl Cole and Fearne Cotton scaling Mount Kilimanjaro in 2009; David Walliams swimming an amazing 140 miles along the River Thames in 2011; John Bishop raising an awesome £4 million when he cycled 290 miles in just 5 days, and Eddie Izzard running an astounding 27 marathons (each one 26 miles) in just 27 days!**

10. In just one paragraph, describe what Comic Relief is and does.

**Answers will vary.**