

Drumming up support for charity

SO there I was, on stage at Windsor racecourse on Monday evening, microphone in hand and with Eddie Jordan behind me on the drums: we were bashing out Mustang Sally as best we could.

Mercifully, the colourful former Formula One team owner is better on the drums than I am at singing, or else the 250-strong audience might not have been so forgiving.

In my defence, we were there to raise funds for Clic Sergeant, the children's cancer charity. Long-term supporters Jordan and his wife, Maria, had gathered together friends and business partners at the evening meet for dinner in a large marquee. They raised £200,000.

Each ticket cost £200 and Jordan also rustled up his mates to sponsor the races. David Yarrow of Clareville Capital, the London hedge



Eddie Jordan: solid backing

fund where Jordan is a director, was one sponsor, with the McGee Group, Tiger Developments and Cheval Properties paying for the other races.

For those with any cash left, there was an auction after dinner: a pair of tickets for the World Cup final in Berlin was snapped up for £29,000; Matt Downer, head of trading at Clareville, bought a trip to Iceland for £6,000; and Charlie Feathers, an events organiser, paid £2,500 to sing Robbie Williams's Angels with the Bogus Brothers band after dinner. Ouch.