**Here’s one they rehearsed earlier!**

**Swapping sticky back plastic for tripping the light fantastic, six Blue Peter stars take to the Strictly Ballroom for BBC Children in Need**

Six well-loved Blue Peter presenters from the past 60 years will enter the glitz and glamour of the ballroom as Mark Curry, Diane-Louise Jordan, Anthea Turner, Tim Vincent, Konnie Huq and Radzi Chinyanganya, will join forces with the strictly professional dancers in a bid to win the Pudsey Glitter Ball trophy for BBC Children in Need.

As Blue Peter looks forward to celebrating its 60th birthday next year, former presenter Mark Curry said:  ‘Blue Peter, Strictly Come Dancing and BBC Children in Need are some of the most famous programmes in television history.   I’m proud to be a part of all three of these legendary shows by taking part in our Strictly special. Here’s hoping we help to raise a record breaking total on the 17th November.’

Diane-Louise Jordan said: ‘I'm a former Trustee for BBC Children in Need as well as a massive Strictly fan.  Blue Peter will always be my first love.  So to have an opportunity to combine all three is thrilling! It's also terrifying because (as all who know and love me will testify) I can't dance….  But as it's for charity I gladly accept the challenge!’

Anthea Turner said:  ‘I’m so excited to be back with my Blue Peter family for BBC Children in Need. What a night we are all going to have dancing and raising money.’

Tim Vincent said: ‘I am in equal measure excited and terrified to be taking part, however  I am sure with expert guidance and a Blue Peter badge I hopefully won't make a complete fool of myself. '

Konnie Huq said: ‘I’ve got two left feet but hopefully we’ll put them right, well one of them anyway! Looking forward to it.’

Current Blue Peter presenter Radzi Chinyanganya said: ‘It’s an absolute honour to be part of something so special. It is the first time that Blue Peter, Strictly and BBC Children in Need have come together and I can’t wait! Just keeping my fingers crossed that Craig is feeling kind…!’

Presented by Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman the special show will feature as part of the BBC Children in Need 2017 Appeal Night on BBC One on Friday 17th November. More information about BBC Children in Need Appeal Show will be announced in due course.

The BBC Children in Need Appeal Show is a BBC Studios production, executive produced by Clare Pizey and Leanne Witcoop.

**Notes to Editors**

**About BBC Children in Need**

BBC Children in Need’s vision is that every child in the UK has a safe, happy and secure childhood and the chance to reach their potential.  The charity will realise this vision by supporting, promoting and publicising work that addresses the challenges that children and young people face and work that builds their skills and resilience.

BBC Children in Need is currently supporting over 2,500 projects in communities across the UK that are helping children and young people facing a range of disadvantages such as living in poverty, being disabled or ill, or experiencing distress, neglect or trauma.

Further information on BBC Children in Need can be found at bbc.co.uk/pudsey

**About Blue Peter**

Blue Peter will celebrate its 60th anniversary in October 2018 with a host of special events taking place in the run up to honour the occasion.

A special edition of Blue Peter on Thursday 1st February 2018 will mark the show’s 5000th episode. February will also see the launch of a new Diamond Badge – the highest honour fans and viewers can be awarded within the special 60th year. Blue Peter is the world’s longest running children’s TV programme and can be seen every Thursday 5.30pm CBBC and on iplayer.

**About BBC Studios**

BBC Studios is the BBC’s main TV production arm, producing bold, British, creative content across a range of genres and specialisms. From Planet Earth II, Strictly Come Dancing, The Proms and Doctor Who, to One Love Manchester, Good Omens, W1A, Horizon and Murdered by My Father, its programmes are renowned for their quality and loved by audiences in the UK and around the world. With bases all over the country, BBC Studios reflects and represents diverse voices and creative talent from across the UK. BBC Studios launched as a commercial business in April 2017, able to make programmes for other broadcasters as well as the BBC, supporting the BBC’s public service mission and generating financial returns for licence fee payer.