



**London
Irish™**

London Irish Trial New Player for potential signing!

This week at London Irish's training ground a very special player was put through his paces with the some of the squad in preparation for his big Children in Need night.

Pudsey Bear was filmed at the training ground as part of the BBC's Children in Need campaign.

London Irish's No 8 Richard Thorpe coaxed Pudsey to build his muscles with weights in the gym, ball catching skills at trial line outs on the pitch and tested his abilities in the scrum. Pudsey's friend Blush was on hand to lend support and mop his brow, as was London Irish's own Digger who offered his expert encouragement!

Pudsey and Blush will be back at London Irish at the Madejski Stadium, Reading, in Digger's Pound and on the pitch on Sunday 14th November when London Irish take on Scarlets in the LV= Cup, kickoff 2.30pm. The Round Table will also be collecting for the 2010 Children in Need Appeal at the match.

Chloe Bray, Community Manager for London Irish said: 'London Irish is delighted to be supporting Children in Need. Digger, Pudsey and Blush had a fantastic time training with the team and we really hope that we can lots of money for them on Sunday.'

London Irish has also invited Reading Rugby Club along to the game on Sunday to help support its fundraising activities and give them the chance to meet Pudsey and Blush.

Reading Rugby Club will be fundraising for Children in Need on the 19th November, when the appeal programme will be broadcast, with a variety of great ideas - the ladies breaking their own World Record for the most number of people to squeeze in a mini, the Vets team pulling a truck, under 13 boys being made up by their Mums, under 11's eating baked beans with cocktail sticks and coaches having legs waxed!

Amanda Newman, Youth Chairman for Reading RFC said, *"We want to put on a fun family night for children to help raise money for less fortunate children. London Irish has kindly invited us along to the match against Scarlets and a selection of the children who will be fundraising will be meeting Pudsey on the pitch at half time."*

BBC Children in Need operates all year round to help change the lives of some of the most disadvantaged children and young people right here in the UK. This year's spectacular Appeal Night kicks off on Friday 19th November at 5.30pm(?) on BBC One

Ends

For more press information on **London Irish** please contact:-

Tracy Goodyer | Communications Director

tel: 01932 750 112

mobile: 07590 890 858

email: tracy.goodyer@london-irish.com

For information on **Reading RFC** please contact:-

Amanda Newman
Youth Chairman
Reading RFC

youthchairman@readingrfc.co.uk Mobile: 0789 485 0241

for **high res images** contact sallie@bamboomarcomms.co.uk Tel:020 89791655