



capped children. Even though all of the entrants have some kind of a handicap, they make sure that everyone finds something that he or she can compete at.

Not only did David award prizes to the winners, he also spent a good deal of his spare time recording appeals that were later broadcast on radio and television.

## OLYMPICS

"I guess the folks who were organising the Olympics reckoned that the best place for someone who was an actor was on the box!"

David's appeals were an instant success: The Special Olympics Youth Society had their most successful year ever, and David was re-elected Chairman unanimously!

"It was really just an honorary position," says David now. "The people who really deserve congratulations are those who give the whole year to the organisation and planning, not me."

But still, when you think of how little spare time David has had in the past few years, you would have to admit that it takes a pretty generous guy to give so much time and energy to a worthy cause. And that's exactly what David is: a pretty generous guy.

Take the Muscular Dystrophy Group's City of London Treasure Hunt, which took place last November. David was contacted by the Group, and was more than happy to help out, especially for a cause as worthy as Muscular Dystrophy.

So, David, the folks at Screen Gems and the people from the Muscular Dystrophy

Group got their heads together and came up with a plan that eventually resulted in over £2,000 for the charity.

While the Group took care of organising the competition at this end, David and Screen Gems arranged an exciting week for the winners—in Hollywood!

And best of all, the high point of the visit was meeting David and visiting the Partridge Family set!

"When it was suggested, I thought that it was the least I could do. After all, Muscular Dystrophy is such a tragic disease that they deserve all the help they can get."

The whole competition was such a success that David was more than willing to help The Friends of The Children Society when they suggested a similar competition this year.

It's pretty hard to believe all the slappers who maintain that all David is interested in is money, when you think about these charitable activities, isn't it?

But these are just the best known of them. And when David was here last May despite all the rush and difficulties surrounding his visit, he took the time to help the Scottish Newtown East Kilbride.

The city's official opening is tied to the Keep Britain Tidy

campaign, and David's appearance helped attract attention to the campaign, and it certainly was a success.

Despite the official's refusal to dismiss the schools for the official opening, a good crowd of people of all ages managed to turn out for the opening!

It helped attract attention to East Kilbride, and also to the campaign for a cleaner Britain. I asked David how he managed to squeeze in the space for this in his fully packed schedule. "Well, it wasn't easy. Between rehearsals, press conferences and personal interviews, there really wasn't *all* that much time free.

"But I really dig the natural beauty in this country, and when the folks at East Kilbride asked me to help out, I was more than glad.

## EFFORT

"After all, even though I think people are basically pretty good about most things, sometimes we all need a little gentle prodding in the right direction.

"When you've seen some of the places in the States that are absolutely ruined by pollution and litter, then you kinda feel that *anything* you can do is worth the effort."

So there you have it—a side of David that his critics tend to ignore, especially the ones who accuse him of "exploiting" his fans, and the ones who suggest that all David really cares about is money.

There's no money in helping to promote a bit of happiness for retarded children, nor in raising funds for charity, nor in opening a Newtown.

There's only a genuine concern for people.

