# Charity trustees in uproar over Wynne Evans’ controversial fundraising performance



# Backlash Over Wynne Evans' Performance at Children's Charity Fundraising Event

Ambassadors of a prominent children's charity in Wales have expressed outrage following the announcement that controversial opera singer Wynne Evans would be the "surprise" act at their fundraising lunch. Evans, known as the face of the Go Compare adverts, has come under fire after being caught on video making an inappropriate sexual remark to dancer Janette Manrara during the promotional launch of the Strictly Come Dancing live tour earlier this year.

The charity, which prioritizes the welfare of children, assured attendees on social media that Evans’ performance would be unforgettable. However, many members were blindsided by this choice, distancing themselves from the event. One member lamented, "I am absolutely horrified and outraged Wynne Evans is performing. This is unacceptable."

Evans’ comments and behaviours have sparked a larger conversation about conduct in the entertainment industry, highlighting a glaring inconsistency between public expectations and celebrity privilege. His remarks, widely criticized as “inappropriate and unacceptable,” prompted swift backlash and a half-hearted apology. In response, he suggested on social media that he was grateful for the support of those who stand by him, clearly lacking awareness of the further controversy his words ignited.

The distress among charity members is deepened by their long-standing commitment to advocating for women’s rights and children’s welfare. This incident raises significant concerns about the intersection of fundraising efforts and social accountability. As one member stated, “It flies in the face of everything we have been campaigning tirelessly for and puts our hard work back.”

Established 31 years ago by Dame Shân Legge-Bourke, the charity has long held a reputation for championing vulnerable groups. The announcement of Evans’ involvement has drawn ire from supporters, particularly the fact that Dame Shân reportedly had no say in this decision.

Interestingly, some of Evans’ associates have continued to support him despite the backlash. His girlfriend, Liz Brookes—who is also the events manager for the charity—has stood by him throughout this tumultuous time, raising questions about the leadership dynamics within the charity and their priorities.

This isn’t the first time Evans has courted controversy. He previously came under fire from Women's Aid for downplaying inappropriate behaviour during the Strictly series as an "in-joke." This dismissive attitude towards serious issues further complicates Evans' already tenuous public perception.

As the performance date approaches, reactions from charity members and the public are set to escalate, with many advocating for stricter criteria regarding who should be associated with charitable initiatives striving to support vulnerable populations. The stark contrast between Evans' glitzy persona and the serious ethical implications of his actions has placed the charity in a precarious position, calling into question the integrity of celebrity endorsements in charitable efforts.

With Evans now reportedly assembling a legal response to the allegations against him, the fallout from this incident is bound to raise deeper concerns about the standards that govern public conduct, especially in relation to organizations tasked with protecting and uplifting society’s most vulnerable.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14694005/Wynne-Evans-backlash-childrens-charity-fundraiser-Strictly-sex-slur-scandal.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.gbnews.com/celebrity/janette-manrara-wynne-evans-bbc-strictly-joke-breaks-silence-instagram> - Janette Manrara, host of Strictly Come Dancing, has broken her social media silence following the controversy involving Wynne Evans. The professional dancer shared a series of photos and clips dedicated to her family, marking her first public statement since Evans' departure from the tour after making inappropriate comments during a press launch. Manrara's message focused entirely on family matters, praising her mother's support during the nationwide tour. The post highlights her gratitude for her mother's assistance with childcare during the tour. ([gbnews.com](https://www.gbnews.com/celebrity/janette-manrara-wynne-evans-bbc-strictly-joke-breaks-silence-instagram?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.the-independent.com/arts-entertainment/tv/news/wynne-evans-strictly-janette-manrara-b2686473.html> - Wynne Evans, a Strictly Come Dancing star and opera singer, has apologized after making an 'inappropriate and unacceptable' remark to a woman during the Strictly live tour launch. The incident occurred during a photocall for the launch event on January 16, where Evans was caught on film suggesting a group sex session with presenter Janette Manrara and EastEnders actor Jamie Borthwick. Evans issued a statement expressing his sincere apologies for his language. ([the-independent.com](https://www.the-independent.com/arts-entertainment/tv/news/wynne-evans-strictly-janette-manrara-b2686473.html?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.gbnews.com/celebrity/katya-jones-wynee-evans-bbc-strictly-sexual-joke-live-tour-message> - Katya Jones, a professional dancer on Strictly Come Dancing, appears to have shown support for Wynne Evans after he apologized for making an 'inappropriate and unacceptable' sexual remark about presenter Janette Manrara during the show's live tour launch. Jones shared an image alongside Evans and fellow Strictly stars, accompanied by the message: 'Tour fam,' followed by a love heart emoji. This gesture suggests her backing for Evans amid the controversy. ([gbnews.com](https://www.gbnews.com/celebrity/katya-jones-wynee-evans-bbc-strictly-sexual-joke-live-tour-message?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2025/jan/26/wynne-evans-apologises-unacceptable-sexual-remark-strictly-tour-launch> - Wynne Evans has apologized for an 'inappropriate and unacceptable' sexual remark during the Strictly Come Dancing live tour launch. The Welsh opera singer, 52, who is best known for singing the jingle in the Go Compare insurance advertisements, is touring with the live show after competing on the BBC One programme last year. The Mail on Sunday reported that Evans was recorded using the term 'spitroast' in a remark allegedly aimed at the professional dancer and television presenter Janette Manrara. ([theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2025/jan/26/wynne-evans-apologises-unacceptable-sexual-remark-strictly-tour-launch?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://readertts.com/article/page/dailyrecord/entertainment/bbc-strictlys-janette-manrara-breaks-34572210> - After issuing an apology, Wynne Evans withdrew from his performance duties on the Strictly Come Dancing live tour in light of the uproar and also resigned from his BBC radio programme. Amidst the turmoil, 40-year-old Janette Manrara returned to social media, expressing gratitude towards her mother for her support while touring across the UK. Manrara shared a heartfelt tribute accompanied by several photos and videos featuring herself, her mother, her husband Aljaž Škorjanec, and their daughter Lyra. ([readertts.com](https://readertts.com/article/page/dailyrecord/entertainment/bbc-strictlys-janette-manrara-breaks-34572210?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/wynne-evans-apologises-strictly-tour-sexual-joke_uk_67974b39e4b0b90703e8629d> - Former Strictly Come Dancing contestant Wynne Evans has issued an apology after he was caught on camera making a crude remark in relation to It Takes Two host Janette Manrara. The current official Strictly tour got underway in Birmingham earlier this month, and a day earlier, its cast took part in a promotional photo-shoot. It was there that the Mail On Sunday recorded footage of Evans making the comment in question. ([huffingtonpost.co.uk](https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/wynne-evans-apologises-strictly-tour-sexual-joke_uk_67974b39e4b0b90703e8629d?utm_source=openai))