

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT August 2022

It is a pleasure to be able to welcome everyone to our first AGM since lockdowns put them on hold, it is good to be back. I will keep my comments to a minimum as I am sure we would all like to get out and enjoy the Zoo for the remainder of the day.

Firstly on behalf of everyone, I would like to thank Stewart Laing for sharing his story and Heart2Heart podcast with us, hope you found this interesting and I am sure if anyone wants to talk to Stewart he will be delighted to.

Our thanks also to Carla and Claire for hosting their cardiac workshops and of course to Pauline, for hosting her workshop on what the charity has to offer its families.

I would like to welcome Mark Davidson, the clinical director for Paediatric service at the RHC Glasgow. And Kemi Williams from Public Health Scotland, who is working on the Scottish Cardiac Audit Programme, which will replace the NICOR audits in Scotland. Kemi will liaise with our volunteers who have agreed to take part in the process. Lastly a big welcome to Stuart Lilley who I am sure you all know for his sterling work over many years with our children.

Since the beginning of the pandemic not a lot has happened with the charity, committee have continued to have meetings firstly by Zoom then latterly hybrid with some members continuing with Zoom and others in the office. This has kept the charity running over the past couple of years.

We are slowly coming out of hibernation having started to have the teenage weekend and one day out for the teens. We have also had our first family weekend since 2019. These events were very successful and we do hope to keep them running and also to start having family fun days out in the coming year and of course our caravan in Faskally has opened this year. I would like to thank Lesley, Pauline and Karen for all the hard work they put in to organise these events.

The Charity continues to support the clinical team at the Children's Hospital, to this end we have recently provided a further 17 CoaguChek INRange meters to Lyn Docherty in Haematology for cardiac patients and we continue to provide Meters to grown up heart patients who are referred to us by the clinicians looking after them, providing they are deemed suitable to use a meter, as not all patients are.

To do all this and keep the charity healthy, fundraising plays a big part, I am sure our treasurer will touch on this in his report. We have continued to sell our Christmas cards over the pandemic and this year they are already on sale, should you wish any check out the website. Thanks to Sandra for taking delivery, checking and having the cards ready to be picked up by the branches. We have also begun to have our family sponsored cycle around the Isle of Cumbrae where we had approx 80 people this year.

I am about to draw to a close but before I do I must thank Willie Gunn our treasurer for all his work in looking after our funds and preparing the figures for scrutiny at our meeting and with the auditors.

Thanks to Lyndsay Fegan for taking and distributing the minutes from our meetings and in a timely and well organised manner. Lyndsay is stepping down this year so thanks again for your hard work over the years.

Thanks to all our committee members for their efforts over the past 3 years in keeping the charity running not forgetting Frank DelPippo for his work at the Associations caravan and to his daughters Alex and Kerry for providing our crèche today.

Lastly thanks to all of you for coming along today, I would like to pass on to Willie who will give us a run through on the financial position.

John Fegan
Chair 2022