

Dear members,

Welcome to our final newsletter of the year as 2017 all but draws to a close.

It has been another busy year for us. We have enjoyed meeting lots of new families at our events and days out. Our mailing list has almost doubled in size over the past 18 months and it feels like the SACHD family is growing all the time.

Welcome aboard everyone!

RECENT ACTIVITY

Halloween Event

We had a phenomenal turnout for our Halloween meet-up on 29th October and welcomed lots of new families.

Thank you to everyone who came along to join in with crafts and doorking for apples.

It was great to see you!



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Limited designs of SACHD Christmas cards are still available for purchase. Christmas cards and details of how order can be found on the website's [merchandise page](#).

SOCIAL SECURITY EXPERIENCE PANEL

You may remember we previously told you Anna and Joelle from the Glasgow branch had registered to be part of the Scottish Social Security Experience Panel.

In the near future, assessments and awards of certain benefits, including DLA and Carers Allowance, will become the responsibility of the devolved Scottish Government.

The consultation which accompanies this process has the aim of creating a more humane award system.

The focus groups give participants a voice and a chance to shape the future of the social security system in Scotland.

Is there anything you would like us to take to the next focus group in relation to DLA issues you may have faced when making a claim for your heart child? If so, please do not hesitate to get in touch!

CARAVAN

The Association's caravan in picturesque Faskally, near Pitlochry has now closed for the 2017 season.

We will bring you details of how to book for 2018 very soon.

WHAT? WHY? CHILDREN IN HOSPITAL

In our previous newsletter we made an appeal for members to take part in an exciting project aiming to help young people with heart conditions across Scotland. Thank you to those who responded, showing an interest in being filmed for What? Why? Children in Hospital's video looking at what adolescence is like for those with a heart condition.

What? Why? Children in Hospital are a Scottish charity who produce videos explaining various hospital tests and investigations performed on children and give helpful suggestions on how to prepare children for them.

They are about to begin filming their current project in Glasgow this month.

We are delighted to say that the Scottish Association for Children with Heart Disorders have funded the video and that some of our members will feature in it!

The film is being made in collaboration with the cardiology, psychology, and play specialist teams at Glasgow and will address the issues faced by our teenagers and young people.

The video is due for release in February and we will keep you informed of its launch.

If there is any last minute interest in being filmed please contact marit.boot@wwcih.org.uk as per the featured poster;



FUNDRAISING

Many families loyally fundraise, year after year for SACHD. We are very grateful for your continued support.

One of these families is the Delpippo family from Perthshire. They have attended our annual Millport day out for the last 14 years! Debbie Delpippo talks about the family's fundraising;

"Most of you will know our Alex was born with a heart defect which was corrected at 6 months with a 7.5 hour operation, she has done superbly not requiring any further heart surgery till the age of 13 which she recovered from quickly due to her true grit and determination. The Scottish Association for Children with Heart Disorders have been there through it all offering support, friendship and supplying much needed medical equipment to The Royal Hospital for Sick Children (who are also awesome by the way!).

The SACHD are a charity very close to our hearts (pardon the pun!) We have completed the cycle round Cumbrae now every year for the last 14 years and always have a great day out. Meeting up with other heart families, a lot of familiar faces and always some new ones too, a bit of exercise in to the bargain all in order to raise money to help a charity that have helped us a lot over the years."

The Association is most grateful to the Delpippo family for their continued support both in fundraising and the support they offer to other families.

Thank you to all our fundraisers! And to all our volunteers! We can only support the hearts of children in Scotland thanks to the generosity of yours!

Do you have plans to fundraise for 2018? We would love to hear about them!

UPCOMING DATES

Christmas stalls

We will be returning to the annual Glasgow Charities Christmas Fayre at the stunning City Chambers on **Tuesday 14th November**. This will be the 40th Anniversary of the event. The Fayre, which represents around 70 charities has free entry, festive entertainment and home baking on offer.

Please come and support us if you can!

Then on **Tuesday 28th November** we will be spreading cheer at our Christmas Fayre in the Atrium of the Children's Hospital, where we will be selling lots of Christmas goodies.

If you are an inpatient or at clinic please drop by to say hello, we'd love to see you!

UPCOMING DATES cont...



Christmas Party

Invitations for the Christmas party on **Sunday 3rd December** have already been sent out to members and numbers are filling up fast. This year's party will take place between 2-4pm at Riverside Hall, 29-31 Clydebrae St, Govan, Glasgow G51 2AJ.

There will be an entertainer for the children and a hot and cold buffet (including a slushie for each child and tea and coffee for the adults). As well as the usual raffle we will also have a photobooth 'instagrotto' set up for some family fun.

Please RSVP to Caroline and Lesley at events@youngheart.info if you would like to apply for free tickets.

Aberdeen Christmas Party

Lisa Simons from the Aberdeen area is holding a Christmas party for heart children and their families on **Saturday 16th December**.

If you'd like to reserve a place for your family follow the [eventbrite link](#) and enter SACHDABD when prompted.

We hope to see you at one of our events very soon. If you would like to ask any questions or are looking for support please contact any of us and we'll be glad to help. Our contacts are listed below.

Best wishes for the festive season from your Glasgow Committee!

Glasgow branch contacts:

Chair: Lesley Kinnear Lkinnear@sky.com

Assistant Chair: Caroline Aitken carolineaitken@gmail.com

Treasurer: John Fegan chairman@youngheart.info

Secretary: Joelle Miller glasgow@youngheart.info or millerjoelle@hotmail.com

Assistant Secretary: Anna Wilson mrsannawilson@gmail.com

And you can always get in touch with us via the [SACHD Facebook page](#) or [Twitter](#)