

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I would like to welcome everyone to our 8<sup>th</sup> AGM, it hardly seems like a year has passed since our last AGM.

Our thanks to Eamon & Stuart for coming along today and giving us an informative and hilarious presentation.

Our thanks also to Danny for coming up from London to give us his update on CHF.

The Association has continued with its work offering support to families, providing CoaguCheck units to patients who need them, providing hospitals and clinicians with much needed equipment they cannot get through the NHS. As long as funding is there we will continue with this work.

If you recall last year Kieran Wardrop undertook the task of getting the proposed Teenage Branch up and running. He has been working on this over the year and making reasonable progress but as yet the Branch is still in the formative stage. This coming year things should begin to take off with information being handed out by hospital and clinic staff. To this end Kieran has had a number of information cards printed. If all goes well perhaps the Teenage weekends can be started up again.

**Website;** depends on what has been seen what you say??

we have been working with Paligap to have the website modernised, to this end you have seen the site they have built based on the information we provided. Now that you have all given your feedback we will get back to Paligap and get the site ready to go live.

**Obviously** the new website just like the old one will need to be kept up to date by each branch. Vikki Carpenter will continue to send out reminders to the branches to update their information. Photos etc.

**The Bravehearts Branch** has continued with the work of ensuring the service offered at the Golden Jubilee to grown up congenital heart patients is of a high standard and where this is not the case they follow this up with both the clinicians and the GGHB.

I reported that Bravehearts were to have a weekend break last year, this did not go ahead but I am pleased to say it will happen this year with the booking at the Atholl Centre already confirmed for 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September.

Our thanks and support to Gill and her committee for carrying on with this work.

**The family weekend break** at the Atholl Centre in May was very well attended this year with 9 families taking part and although we were missing a couple of regulars it was as usual a superb weekend. The weather played its part by improving as the weekend wore on and all the activities from cycling, swimming, boating and putting were enjoyed by all. In all the competitive events we had new names on the winners list with one exception that was Esther retained her putting trophy.

Thanks go to Vikki Carpenter for organising a well run and most enjoyable weekend. We hope she will continue to carry on with this for the foreseeable future.

The Associations caravan on site at Faskally Caravan Park was getting a bit worn and tired so it was decided we would replace it with a new caravan before the start of this summer season. A new caravan was ordered through the Hayes family who own the site and in the meantime we applied for part funding to the Wooden Spoon Charity, a rugby based children's charity that Alan McSherry, one of our Trustees, is also a member of. With the hard work of Alan filling out forms and having dialogue with the Wooden Spoon we were awarded the sum of £21,000 towards the caravan. Our thanks go to Alan and his friends at the Wooden Spoon for their help in securing this donation. To make up the shortfall a further anonymous donation of £7,000 from the Tayside region was used to fund the purchase.

There is a board in the room showing availability of the caravan for the remainder of the year, if anyone is interested in making a booking please speak to Sandra Parkins who will be able to confirm the arrangements. Our thanks go to the Parkins family for running the caravan on our behalf.

Sandra and the family have for the past 20 years ensured the caravan is in tip top condition for people to enjoy their holiday. We owe an awful lot to the Parkins family over the years.

Christmas cards; This year we are using two suppliers for the cards, this will allow us to keep the selling price the same as last year with no drop in quality.

Thanks to Jeanette Forsythe for giving her time in early January to choose and order the cards for the coming Christmas, almost a year away.

Thanks also to Brian & Sandra Parkins. For taking delivery, sorting and storing the cards ready for collection from the branches

We cannot thank Sandra enough for taking this on year after year, it is a lot of hard work and when the delivery is wrong Sandra has the hassle of sorting it out with the card company and this year Sandra needs the cards picked up as soon as possible after delivery so she can be ready for the wedding.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow trustee's and management committee for all the hard work they have put in to ensure the smooth running of the charity. I would like to thank all the branch committee's and their representative's who come along to the Scottish committee meetings without this the charity could not work. Special thanks to Willie Gunn for his work as treasurer and for the financial reports. Thanks to Scott our Vice Chair, thanks to Grant our secretary for recording the minutes of our meetings etc. Thanks to Jim Kelman for organising today's venue and last but not least to each and every-one of you for coming to today's AGM.

John Fegan  
Chairman  
June 2012