



## The Archie Foundation Newsletter July 2023

Dear Friend

School's out for summer! And what a summer it has been so far, with lots of fundraising events, activities and opportunities to catch up with our amazing supporters.

Thanks to people like you we have also been able to deliver some fabulous activities for the children and families we support and for our wonderful NHS colleagues. Thank you for making this possible and please know how very much appreciated your support is, by everyone at The Archie Foundation and most importantly by the babies, children and families we are here for. Thank you so much for caring.

With best wishes

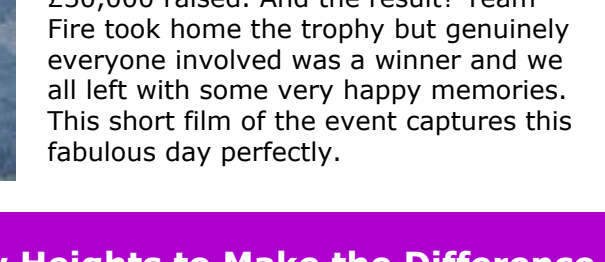
Paula Cormack

Chief Executive

PS - as ever, don't hesitate to drop me a line if you have any comments or suggestions and please feel free to share this newsletter with colleagues, friends and family.

### Battle of the Badges Raised Spirits, Smiles and A Record Sum

Archie's Battle of the Badges 2023 was a huge success and with teams from the Scottish Ambulance Service and NHS coming on board this year, we had twice number of players and mascots and more than double the fun! There were lots of activities on match day including face painting, a toy tombola, beat the goalie (our Archie mascot!) and even a visit from a real live unicorn! Players and mascots across our four fabulous teams all went to great lengths in their fundraising.



One group went all out in their fundraising, tackling Bennachie in blazing sunshine and full firefighting kit! This year we hit a record total with over £30,000 raised. And the result? Team Fire took home the trophy but genuinely everyone involved was a winner and we all left with some very happy memories. This short film of the event captures this fabulous day perfectly.

### Archie Supporters Going to New Heights to Make the Difference

Another supporter who took to the hills for Archie is NHS Physiotherapist, Katy Boocock. To mark her 60th birthday she decided to go one better than her 2015 participation in the original Archies Mountain Challenge - where 57 runners completed a relay over 16 days taking in all 130 Archies (mountains in Scotland over 1000 metres). For her 60th she set herself the gargantuan goal to go it alone, not only personally summiting each of the Archies but also walking, running canoeing or cycling her way between them!



Over the course of 38 days Katy took over 2 million steps, climbed the equivalent height of 10 Everests and covered the distance between RACH and Barcelona!! Click here to read all about her epic challenge.

### Amazing Response To Outpatients Renovation Works At Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital



We were super excited to unveil Phase 1 of our renovation works at RACH's Outpatients Department, which has been generously supported by local artist Johanna Basford OBE, who kindly donated her talent and time to the project, and by the staff and customers of John Clark Motor Group who raised the funds necessary to undertake the works. Feedback from staff and patients has been incredibly positive (the domestic staff did a wee dance the first time they saw it!).

Phase 2 of the project will be new seating and the adjoining yellow, blue and green waiting areas and there are already calls from all across the hospital for "our area next please"!

### The Sky's The Limit When It Comes to Archie's Support for Bereaved Children

A key part of Archie's support for bereaved children is facilitating friendships to connect young people going through similar experiences and emotions. This can help greatly in dealing with feelings of loneliness and isolation when grieving for a loved one. Our activity days are a great opportunity to encourage these friendships but without an exciting and appealing "purpose" it can be tricky encouraging children (especially teens) to attend. Bristow Helicopters more than delivered on this front, literally taking our Teenage Bereavement Group to new heights!



We're always on the look out for new activity ideas and opportunities. Could you or someone you know host an activity day for one of our Child Bereavement groups?

### Welcome to the World Gift Packs for Newborns Across Tayside



We've had a really positive response to our Welcome To The World baby gift packs, which will be rolling out in Tayside very soon. The aim of these is two-fold and their secondary purpose is equally, if not more, important than their face value. First and foremost this initiative provides a small gift for a new baby (in most cases a knitted toy, handmade by one of our many talented supporters). For many this will be the first toy they receive. For some it may be the only one. Also included in the pack is a leaflet explaining the support and services that Archie provides for babies and children with healthcare and/or bereavement needs. We hope that new parents will never need to call on our services, but if they do it's important they know how that we're here for them and how to get in touch.

If you are a knitter and would like to help, please visit our website for details of the items we need and knitting patterns.

### Mama Mia! Prosecco Picnics Raised Over £35,000 To Support Archie's Work in The Highlands!

The now legendary Prosecco Picnics for Archie are organised by our amazing Highland Fundraising Committee and hosted by Archie patron Kenny Smith. This year's Mama Mia themed events were held across two days at Culloden House and attended by 150 guests. Thanks to amazing auction prizes and some very deep pockets and generous hearts, in excess of £35,000 was raised. Next up for our fabulous Fundraising Committee is the Moonlight Ball on 27th October at Drumossie Hotel.



### Adding Some Archie TLC for Paediatric Outpatients at NHS Highlands' Birnie Centre



Our most recent project in the Highlands aims to make the difference at Raigmores' Birnie Centre, which accommodates paediatric outpatients. Prior to the move clinics were held across various wards and areas at Raigmores. The move to the Birnie is a major improvement but the building is dated and would definitely benefit from a little Archie TLC to make the facility more practical for staff and welcoming for patients. Our Projects Coordinator, Donald, attended the first in a series of consultations to gather feedback from the NHS staff who work there. We can't wait to get stuck into this one!

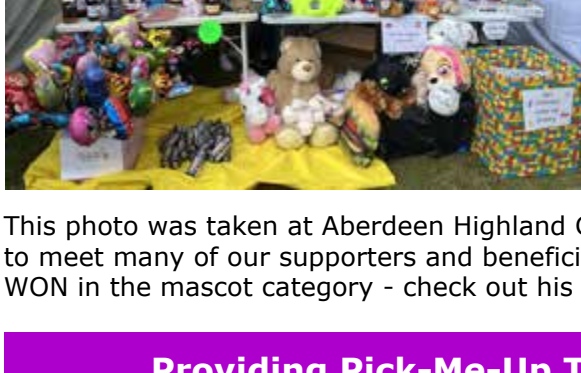
### Making the Difference for Children With Healthcare Needs In and Out of Hospital

As well as funding life-saving equipment for use in clinical settings, Archie also funds life-enhancing equipment for children and families to use at home or, as in Abby's case, to help her get out of the house. Four year old Abby has spastic quadriplegia cerebral palsy. Unable to use her limbs, there are very few activities she can actively participate in and enjoy but one thing she absolutely loves is being outdoors. When Abby outgrew her all-terrain buggy she became reliant on a basic, NHS-supplied wheelchair. It can't cope with rugged paths, sandy beaches or snow which meant the family's options for outdoor excursions were severely limited and Abby became increasingly housebound.



Thanks to people like you donating to The Archie Foundation were were able to fund a new all-terrain wheelchair for Abby so she can experience the joy of outdoor adventures once again!

### The Archie Roadshow is In Full Swing - Look Out for Us and Be Sure to Say Hello!



This was a rare sighting of Archie staff and volunteers who are most often confined to the Archie office. These ladies diligently deal with the hugely important but largely unseen work that turns donations into vital support. They count cash, record donations, thank donors, purchase and distribute toys, make payments, place orders (and much more besides!) all to ensure that Archie's help and support reaches children, families, the NHS and its staff when it is needed most. They don't "get out" often and when they do, they go large!

This photo was taken at Aberdeen Highland Games where they raised over £2,000 and got to meet many of our supporters and beneficiaries. Archie himself attended, competed and WON in the mascot category - check out his performance here.

### Providing Pick-Me-Up Treats to Say Thank You To NHS Colleagues

We ran our second Mini Massage day of the year at RACH at the end of June and what a hit these have become! Spaces were eagerly booked up by NHS colleagues who enjoyed a relaxing and invigorating head massage, delivered as a gift in kind by qualified beauty therapists. This is something we're keen to continue and to build upon so if you have time and talents that you could donate to help say thank to you NHS staff members we would love to hear from you.



### The New Baird Family Hospital Will Be Amazing - And All The More So Thanks to Archie Supporters



With external works on the Baird Family Hospital nearing completion the Project team are turning attention towards the internal fitting out including (and the bit we're most interested in!) where Archie's £2m Appeal fundraising can really make the difference. The contractors created a sample birthing room, to help visualise what can be achieved with government funding and to identify the "extras" over and above this that will really deliver the difference.



All rooms in the Baird will be en-suite and all will have capacity for partners to stay but without our support they will lack one fundamental thing in that regard - a nice comfy bed! Archie's fundraising will also go towards enhancing the decor, to make what would otherwise be quite a clinical environment feel more welcoming and homely. Many families will spend some considerable time in these rooms, and our aim is to make that time and experience as comfortable and positive as possible.

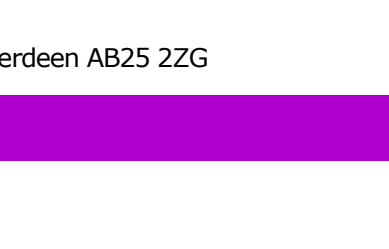
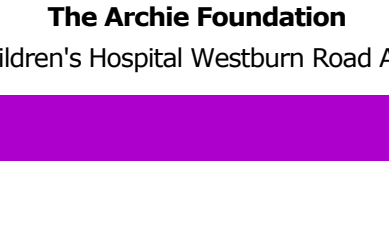
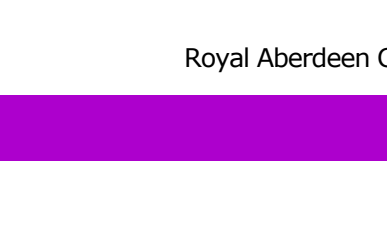
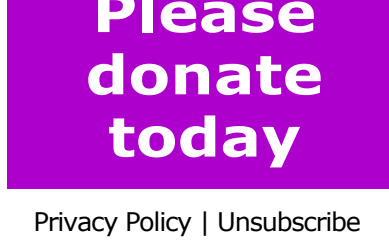
Click on the links if you'd like to read more about the sample room and/or to access the latest Baird & ANCHOR Newsletter from NHS Grampian.

### Supporting and Celebrating International Nurses Day With Our NHS Colleagues

Last but certainly not least, we were delighted to get involved earlier this year in celebrating International Nurses Day, having some fun with our NHS colleagues at RACH and making a feel good factor video. Our NHS colleagues across Grampian, Tayside, Highlands and Islands all work incredibly hard week in week out and Archie is proud to be here for them as well as for the patients and families they support. We hope you enjoy this film as much as we enjoyed helping make it!



### There Are So Many FUNdraising Events and Activities In Aid of Archie This Spring and Summer!



We couldn't achieve any of this without the fantastic fundraising efforts of amazing people like you. Thank you so much for caring!



Please donate today



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The Archie Foundation

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