



The Archie Foundation Newsletter March 2023

Dear Friend

Isn't it nice to see the start of British Summer Time! I'm pleased to say that Team Archie have had a good start to the year with positive developments on our projects and appeals and a couple of fabulous fundraisers under our belt already.

This is also annual review time for the charity and I thought you might appreciate a sneak preview of some of our key achievements from last year. I hope you enjoy reading about the difference your support has made and that you will be keen to get involved in some of our fundraising activities and events this year.

From everyone at The Archie Foundation and most importantly on behalf of all the babies, children and families we collectively help, thank you so much for caring.

With best wishes

Paula Cormack

Chief Executive

PS - if you have any comments or suggestions please don't hesitate to get in touch and do feel free to share this newsletter with colleagues, friends and family.

XXXXX

Last year, thanks to people like you, The Archie Foundation raised a grand total of £1,487,286. We invested £669,901 of this in ongoing support and services which directly benefitted 2,384 babies and children. We also made good progress towards our appeal targets, including our £2m Baird Appeal which now sits at £943,000.

Many of the children we helped last year required short term, emergency help. Others needed longer term support. And in some cases lives were saved thanks to specialist equipment, funded by Archie and our supporters.

Thousands of patients were delighted by small things like a sticker or certificate for being brave in clinic. Those who received one of our gorgeous, hand-crafted Worry Monsters felt a weighty lift from their shoulders.

All in all over 50,000 children benefitted last year in some way from Archie's support.

Whether long or short term and irrespective of the cost to deliver, the difference Archie's support made for children and their families when they needed it most was priceless. Thank you for making this possible.

Enhancing Paediatric Healthcare & Helping Families Access It



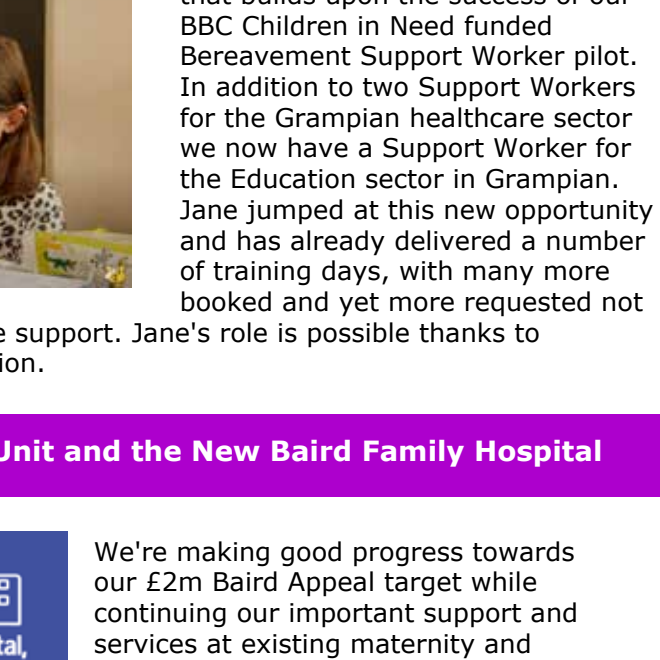
Archie might be best known for "bricks and mortar" appeals to make hospital environments more child friendly and welcoming but improving and enhancing NHS resources and supporting NHS staff is academic if parents can't afford to bring their children to hospital. That's why our biggest focus right now is on supporting struggling families to access the healthcare and bereavement support their children need. Applications for our help have increased rapidly over the last couple of years and with the cost of living crisis making things even tougher for so many families we fully expect this to continue.

Applications for support can be made via our website by parents or by NHS staff. In addition to formal applications we are always happy to receive suggestions and ideas. Earlier this year a parent dropped by our office to ask if the Archie Toy Box at RACH could include some games and books for visually impaired children. With his guidance we did more than that and have now provided accessible resources for Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital, Highland Children's Unit and Tayside Children's Hospital.



Archie's Child Bereavement Service Extended Into Tayside and Highlands

Last year saw record numbers of children in Grampian receive support from Archie's Child Bereavement Service and we extended the service into Tayside and the Highlands. In addition to directly supporting more bereaved children than ever we also trained nearly 500 professionals working with children and young people, to better equip them in supporting bereaved youngsters. The team are also now planning our bi-annual conference, which will take place in Inverness in September.



In January we introduced a new role that builds upon the success of our BBC Children in Need funded Bereavement Support Worker pilot. In addition to two Support Workers for the Grampian healthcare sector we now have a Support Worker for the Education sector in Grampian. Jane jumped at this new opportunity and has already delivered a number of training days, with many more booked and yet more requested not

to mention a busy case load of one to one support. Jane's role is possible thanks to generous funding from The Jellie Foundation.

Supporting Aberdeen Neonatal Unit and the New Baird Family Hospital

With most windows fitted and much of the building now insulated, clad and even painted, the Baird is looking great. As hoardings around the site have been removed for machinery access, we've started to get a feel for the scale of the building. At 26,000 sqm it is big! And each of the 1,000 rooms inside will be big. Big enough that in the new neonatal unit babies and their parents will have their own room.

That might not sound like much but compared with the cheek to jowl space that staff and families contend with just now, it will make the world of difference.



Archie's Big Band Ball Saw Some Star Performances and Incredibly Generous Support

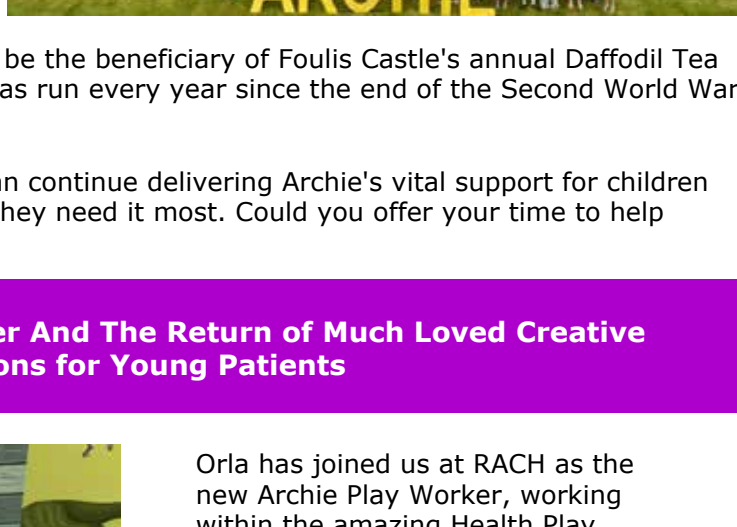


Over 200 people attended "Archie's Big Band Ball", sponsored by TEXO, on 17th March and thanks to some very generous (and competitive!) auction bidding it cleared a profit of £39,804! Events like these take a lot of time and effort to organise and we are incredibly grateful to our Tayside Fundraising Committee for their considerable input. We were also very appreciative of two VIP, big-screen guests at the

ball - Emily and Laura, and their families, who shared their stories in a really moving film, explaining the difference that Archie's support means for young patients visiting NHS Tayside hospitals.

Fabulous Highland Fundraising Events, Thanks to Talented and Generous Archie Volunteers

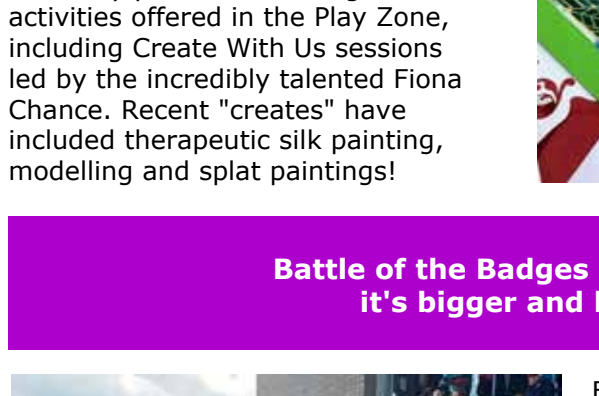
We have a really strong calendar of fundraising events in the Highlands this year, and all thanks to support from some extremely talented (and seemingly tireless!) volunteers who give generously of their time to support Archie.



Our Highland Fundraising Committee, chaired by Archie Trustee Mary Nimmo, are this year staging a Golf Day, two Prosecco Picnics and their legendary Moonlight Ball. Tickets and teams are selling fast so best get in touch quick! We are also very fortunate to be the beneficiary of Foulis Castle's annual Daffodil Tea on Saturday 15th April. This event has run every year since the end of the Second World War and is not to be missed!

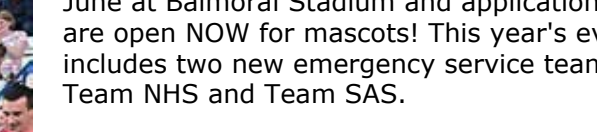
Volunteer help like this means we can continue delivering Archie's vital support for children and families in the Highlands when they need it most. Could you offer your time to help make the difference?

A New Archie Play Worker And The Return of Much Loved Creative Sessions for Young Patients



Orla has joined us at RACH as the new Archie Play Worker, working within the amazing Health Play Team. Orla is loving her new role and the opportunity to make many new friends. The thing she is enjoying most, however, is getting to know the children and families on the wards and helping generate smiles and laughter within the hospital. She's getting right into the Easter spirit, ears on and setting up Easter arts and crafts activities!

In addition to funding this key role within the RACH Play Team we are also very proud to fund regular activities offered in the Play Zone, including Create With Us sessions led by the incredibly talented Fiona Chance. Recent 'creates' have included therapeutic silk painting, modelling and splat paintings!



Battle of the Badges is Back - and this time it's bigger and better than ever!



Battle of the Badges will take place on 10th June at Balmoral Stadium and applications are open NOW for mascots! This year's event includes two new emergency service teams - Team NHS and Team SAS.

Team NHS is captained by none other than Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon and Archie Trustee, Mr Mike Reidy. Captain for the Scottish Ambulance Service, Scott Burnett, knows the event well having supported as on-site paramedic for a number of years (although thankfully we've never actually needed his blue lights). We think he might find this year's event a wee bit more challenging!

If you know of a child or young person who has benefitted from Archie and/or NHS support and would appreciate this opportunity please encourage them to find out more and apply.

Archie Staff Don't Just Talk the Talk, They Walk The Walk (and more!)

Team Archie like to practise what we preach, which is why we all take on a personal fundraising challenge or activity each year.

Inviting others to sponsor us helps raise even more money for the charity closest to our hearts and has the added bonus that it prevents us from giving up on our goals when the challenge becomes challenging! What's not to love about that?

Innes and Mel have already smashed Archie's Marathon March. Cassie's training is on track for the Edinburgh Half Marathon (her first). Caitlin has bagged to be first to Abseil down Aberdeen's 130ft radio tower.

Archie trustee Mike has signed up for Ride The North in August. Amy is taking on the Beast Race in September and I'm joining the BP Coast 2 Coast cycling challenge in May.

Is there something you've always wanted to do? Run a 5k? Climb a munro? Swim the channel?! Whatever it is, Team Archie are here to help you achieve your goal. Drop us a line or take the plunge and set up your Just Giving page now. You won't regret it!

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

