

# The Archie Foundation

We're here for you



## The Archie Foundation Newsletter October 2022

Dear Melanie

Isn't it lovely to see all the gorgeous autumn colours? The summer passed by in a flash for Team Archie, with fabulous progress made on key projects. I hope you enjoy reading about these and some of the additional activities we have coming up soon.

Thank you for your continued support in making all of this possible and please know that it really does mean so much to so many people. If you have any questions, feedback or suggestions please don't hesitate to drop me a line, it's always nice to hear from you!

With best wishes

Paula Cormack

Chief Executive

### Archie's £2m Fundraising Appeal to Support the New Baird Family Hospital

The Baird is the largest capital project currently being undertaken by NHS Scotland and construction is progressing well, with concrete works now virtually complete, window installation, cladding and internal partitioning work underway. The facility will boast so many innovations, delivering truly state-of-the-art care in a way never seen before in Scotland. Click here to see a fabulous timelapse video of progress to date.



Last month we were lucky to sit in on inspiring interviews with artists bidding to be part of this exciting project. These commissions will be funded by Archie's Baird appeal and will significantly enhance the clinical environment, making a real difference to the hospital experience for families attending the Baird.

We need your help to turn the vision into reality - read more about the Baird here.

### World Famous Local Artist Pledges Support to Help Brighten RACH Outpatients



Basford had agreed to support Archie in our mission to cheer up RACH's Outpatients Department. Over the course of this year Johanna has been gathering inspiration for the project. None of us expected that she would undertake full-on immersion research, but that's exactly what happened when Johanna's daughter, Mia, took a tumble from some monkey bars and badly fractured her arm. Johanna couldn't praise our NHS colleagues highly enough for the outstanding care that she and Mia received.

"From the receptionist at A&E who saw me carry in my broken wee girl, to the nurses in triage who didn't bat an eyelid when I couldn't remember her date of birth, the radiologist with her super cool disco light, the nurses and doctors on the ward - so patient and cheery - the anaesthetics team with their kind hearts and laughing gas and the orthopaedics team, in particular Mr Reidy her consultant, who put that little arm back together with so much care. I'm very, very grateful."

And we are very very grateful to Johanna for the considerable time and expertise she is donating to this exciting project. We can't wait to share further updates and we are especially pleased to report that Mia's arm has healed beautifully.

### Amazing Support from Young Artists for "Archie & Amanda's Amazing Adventure"

Late last year Alec Franks sent us a very shy email, tentatively sharing a carefully guarded draft of his first ever children's story. One that was inspired by our very own Archie bear! Our Fundraising Officer, Cassie, has worked with Alec over the course of this year to publish his book. First she engaged support from Archie patron, Clare Mackie to design the cover - Clare has illustrated Archie and our logo throughout our 22 year history.



Next she created a competition for school children to illustrate 50 pages of the book. We received a whopping 1,286 entries, which made judging very difficult! Every single one of the illustrations received was displayed at the book launch where we also enjoyed book signings and celebrity readings including one from another of our patrons - radio presenter Lauren Mitchell. The project has been very generously sponsored meaning all proceeds come to the charity - buy a copy of Archie and Amanda's Amazing Adventure today!



### New Patrons Pledge Their Support for The Archie Foundation



We are honoured to announce not one, not two but three new patrons for The Archie Foundation!

Scottish television personality, Lorraine Kelly CBE is a keen charity supporter with a particular affinity for children's causes. She said it was a 'perfect fit' to join Archie as a patron.

"I was truly honoured to be asked. Archie goes the extra mile for every family that walks through any north of Scotland hospital. I am also in awe of the wonderful personalised support that the charity provides for bereaved children and their families."

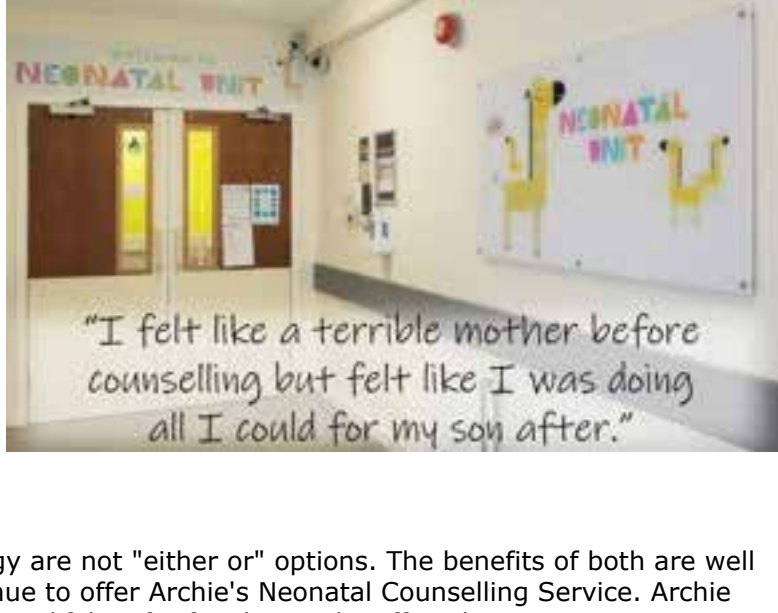


Aberdeen-born Neil and Lora, originally from Liverpool, were both affected by sight-loss from a young age and are now both multiple Paralympic gold medalists who have won major competitions with Team Scotland and Team GB. Collectively they boast 26 gold medals! Shortly after their appointment as patrons of The Archie Foundation, Neil and Lora gave a live "evening with" performance in aid of the charity at Inverurie Town Hall, just before

stage 1 of the Tour of Britain 2022. The event was filmed - click here to watch and listen to their inspirational "Bike Blethers".

### Paving the Way for the New NHS-Funded Maternity and Neonatal Psychological Interventions Service

We are delighted to see NHS Grampian launch the MNPI Service, building on a successful three year trial of psychological and counselling support funded by The Archie Foundation at Aberdeen Neonatal Unit. The MNPI Team will provide support for emotional difficulties related to complications during pregnancy, birth and neonatal inpatient care. The service focuses on enhancing the parent-infant relationship and improving parental and infant mental health.



Counselling and clinical psychology are not "either or" options. The benefits of both are well evidenced which is why we continue to offer Archie's Neonatal Counselling Service. Archie Counsellor, May Gilchrist, provides a lifeline for families and staff at the Unit.

Could you pay for a counselling session at Aberdeen Neonatal Unit, to help emotionally fragile families get the support they need?

### So Much Achieved and Still So Much More Archie Can Do For Children and Families In Tayside



Archie has certainly been busy in Tayside this year. He even teamed up with his old pal Wullie to host "Archie & Wullie's Braw Bucket Bash" at the Overgate during the summer!

Our Fundraising Officer, Chris, worked with Archie supporters to curate this one-off, pop-up exhibition, reuniting some of the best loved Oor Wullie sculptures from the 2016 and 2019 Bucket Trails. Over 5,000 people came to view them, collectively raising over £5,000 to support Archie's ongoing work in Tayside.

The magnificence of the new Ward 30 (Children's Theatre Suite) at Ninewells, which opened in May, makes it all the more

apparent how much more we can do to support patients and the staff who care for them at Tayside Children's Hospital. We are working on longer-term, ambitious plans (more to follow!) and in the immediate term Archie's support in funding the "extras" above and beyond core NHS provision, is making an enormous difference.

### Helping Struggling Families to Cope With The Cost of Living Crisis

Every week more and more children are missing hospital appointments. Why? Because their parents can't afford to bring them in. The cost of living crisis is causing immense stress for families. For parents like Karen, the pressure is almost unbearable. Her son has cerebral palsy and chronic lung disease which mean he requires oxygenation 24/7. Like everyone else, Karen's electricity bills have sky-rocketed, but she has more reason than most to worry about the consequences if she can't pay.



Can you help support parents like Karen who are facing impossible choices?

### An Amazing Show of Support From The Archie Knitting Army!



Archie's amazing Knitting Army have been incredibly generous in recent months! It has taken us a bit of time to sort all the donations received and we're hugely grateful to the team of volunteers who helped us with this. We have been really bowled over by the level of support shown all round. Our volunteers are doing a great job coordinating deliveries of stock to wards and families and of course if there are others out there who would appreciate a delivery please get in touch to let us know. We have high stock volumes of most items right now and are asking our knitters to check our website to see what we need before picking up their needles!

### Get Involved and Help Us Make Christmas 2022 The Best It Possibly Can Be!

This year we want to make Christmas as special as it possibly can be for the babies, children and families we support AND we want to bring some festive cheer to the amazing NHS staff who care for them. There can never be too much fun at Christmas! So whether it's donating toys for young patients, making pamper-hampers for NHS staff or helping us arrange visits and activities to bring some sparkle to festivities, you could really help us make this year special. Please get in touch to find out how you can help.



Following the success of our "Braw Bucket Bash" in summer our friends at the Overgate invited us back for Christmas!

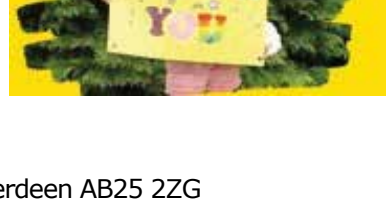
Santa's Grotto is not only one of the most exciting festive experiences for a child it's also one of the most exciting fundraising experiences for Team Archie! We're super excited to be running Santa's Grotto at the Overgate Centre in Dundee, from 26th November.

Book your slot today and please do get in touch if you would like to support the event - guaranteed pure festive fun!

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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