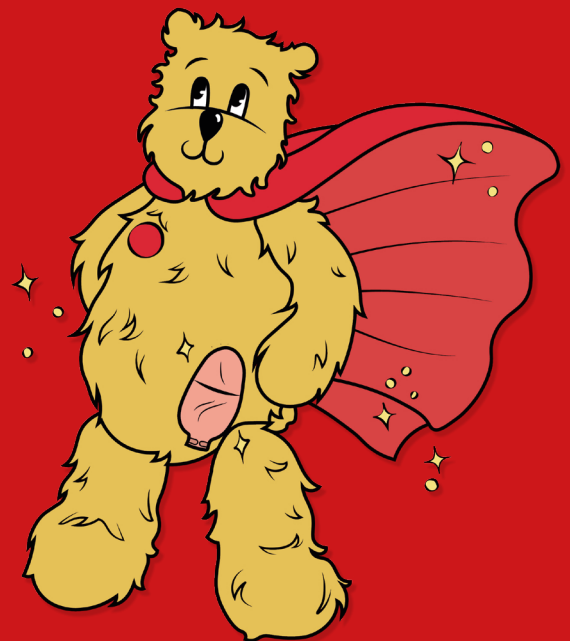


**A BEAR
NAMED
BUTT•NY**

Trustees' Annual Report

1 December 2021 - 30 November 2022



A Bear Named Butt•ny

This is the Trustees' Annual Report for A Bear Named Buttony for 2022.

The charity was established in November 2019.

CHARITY DETAILS

Name of charity:	A Bear Named Buttony SCIO
Scottish Charity Number:	SC049781
Address:	c/o Amber Computing Ltd, Tillyneuk, 28 Pannaninch Road, Ballater, Aberdeenshire, AB35 5PA
Telephone number:	07813 720963
Email address:	info@buttonybear.org.uk
Website:	www.buttonybear.com
Twitter:	@ButtonyBear
Facebook:	A Bear Named Buttony
Instagram:	buttonybear

CHARITY TRUSTEES

Gail Thomson (Chair)
Jennifer Gow MBE (Treasurer)
Helen Macfarlane (Secretary)
Donna Bain
Scott Clifford
Chris Driver
Carmen Irving
Moira McDougall
Nicky O'Flaherty
Lynn Park
Aby Wilson
Sheena Yule

As at November 2022

The establishment of A Bear Named Buttoney as a charity was, and continues to be, due to the inspiration of a very special young woman.

Eilidh Gow has lived with a stoma for many years and had her first surgery at the age of three. Seen as the type of medical condition that did not make for easy conversation, Eilidh and her family have lived through many years of appointments and surgeries, whilst also not feeling able to openly talk about stomas and bowels.

The relative lack of support and resources to help children and young people through such a delicate issue led to Jenny Gow, Eilidh's mum, establishing Buttoney Bear. Buttoney was created as a resource that could be used to help children, young people and their families navigate through often complicated medical journeys and conversations; and at the same time offering fun and comfort.

The objectives of A Bear Named Buttoney are stated formally in the governing document. In summary:

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Support children and young people with a stoma. The provision of "Buttoney", a specially created teddy bear with a button stoma, to children with medical conditions is designed to bring instant friendship, support and comfort to a child and their family.

Buttoney is also a supportive and educational charity which helps to raise public awareness about life with a stoma. This work includes the aim of developing an educational pack for nursery and primary school children.

The establishment of a dedicated online forum to support parents and carers.

A Bear Named Buttony has a written constitution which has been approved by the Board of Trustees and OSCR. This included the required amendment, approved by OSCR in January 2021, to allow for virtual meetings to take place during the covid pandemic. The Board continues to successfully meet virtually.

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees. The official roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary are allocated and clearly defined. The composition of the trustee membership includes a mixture of individuals with a personal or specific interest in stomas and bowel disease, business knowledge and clinical expertise.

We continue to comply with all of the requirements of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). The Board continues to develop transparent procedures, ensure good governance and keep up to date with new regulations and best practice. Our Return and Accounts for the year ended 30th November 2021 were submitted to OSCR on 30th May 2022, well within the required timescale.

The Board continues to conduct business meetings mainly in a virtual setting. All meetings are well documented, with minutes that are available to OSCR, and full agendas are written for each meeting to ensure that all aspects of the charitable work is discussed with the trustee cohort.

During 2022, formal trustee meetings were held on the following dates:

1. 6th February 2022
2. 13th March 2022 (to approve the annual accounts and annual report)
3. 24th April 2022
4. 26th June 2022
5. 21st August 2022
6. 31st October 2022



The list of trustees included in this report refer to the individuals who were responsible for the charity as at November 2022. The Board continues with the aim of having a wide range of skills and expertise involved in the governance of the charity.

The following changes were made to the trustee cohort during 2022:

- Nomination and acceptance of Nicky O’Flaherty from 13th March 2022
- Nomination and acceptance of Carmen Irving from 21st August 2022

TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT



The Board are delighted to present this annual report capturing another successful year for our small charity.

It was not possible to achieve our stated aim to have some in-person Board meetings during 2022; however, we continue to successfully run virtual meetings which are an effective solution given the trustees' widespread geographical locations and availability.

2022 was another busy and productive year with an increase in activity and the profile of the charity:

903

Buttomy bears - 903 distributed in 2022. Since 2015 the charity has provided a total of 5053 bears

Young adult stoma packs - 383 distributed in 2022 (total of 1044 since 2019)

383

287

Urology Packs - 287 distributed in 2022 (total of 337 since 2021)

Buttomy book - 4804 distributed in 2022 (total of 5900 since 2021)

4804

1650

Colouring book (new development) - 1650 distributed since November 2022

Our biggest development during 2022 was the introduction of our colouring book which was launched on Buttony's birthday in November 2022. The book was illustrated by a local Ballater artist whose drawings show Buttony undertaking a variety of activities which reinforce our core message that having a stoma does not stop children and young people from leading a full and active life.

The colouring book has proven to be hugely successful, as demonstrated by a very busy period since the launch in November and the distribution of 1650 books.

Buttony continues to be run entirely by volunteers. The Board remain very grateful to the growing number of volunteers who play a vital part in keeping the charity going and ensuring that we can respond quickly to children, young people and families. The wider support from the population at large has continued in 2022, which is demonstrated in the prompt and generous responses the charity receives to calls for support on our social media pages.



ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial details of the charity are available in the annual accounts which are published on our website.



FUTURE PLANS

The Board continue to look ahead, develop and expand the support which we can provide to children, young people and families. The projects for the future include:

- Videos for young people about living with a stoma. This work is already under way, working alongside stoma nurses from across the UK
- A project to provide support for siblings of children with a stoma
- Attending the Association of Stoma Care Nurses Conference in 2023 to strengthen and extend our ties with the clinical community.



We are pleased to present this report highlighting our achievements in another busy and productive year for our charity.

The governance structure we have in place continues to work well and our volunteer base has increased throughout the year which helps to strengthen the resilience of our small charity.

Our financial position remains strong and provides us with the resources to achieve our core aims and also plan ahead for modest developments. We are looking forward to another great year in 2023.



Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

Print Name

Designation

Date

