

**A Bear Named Buttony SCIO**

**Scottish Charity No – SC049781**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 30 November 2021**

**Trustees' Annual Report**

**For the year ended 30 November 2021**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2021.

**Charity name**

A Bear Named Buttony SCIO

**Charity no**

SC049781

**Address**

c/o Amber Computing Limited, Tillyneuk, 28 Pannanich Road, Ballater, Aberdeenshire AB35 5PA

**Current Trustees**

Jennifer Gow	Chair
Helen Macfarlane	Vice Chair
Moira McDougall	Treasurer
Gail Thomson	Secretary
Elizabeth Greig	
Lynn Park	
Aby Wilson	
Sheena Yule	
Linda Ewen	
Donna Bain	
Chris Driver	
Scott Clifford	

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

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## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The establishment of A Bear Named Buttony 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 Buttony Bear. Buttony 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 the charity are stated formally in the governing document. In summary, A Bear Named Buttony exists to:

- Support children and young people with a stoma. The provision of "Buttony," 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.
- Buttony is also 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 and will plan for some meetings in 2022, safety permitting, to be carried out in person.

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 specific interest in stomas and bowel disease, business knowledge and clinical expertise.

In 2020, the charity established an effective way of running and holding meetings in a virtual setting. This continued successfully throughout 2021 and has allowed the charity to proceed with all planned activities. 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 charitable work is discussed with the trustee cohort.

## **Achievements and Performance**

Buttony has experienced another successful year during 2021 in just the second year of its operation as a charity.

Covid has not halted the progress made by Buttony during another busy year of continuing to support children, young people and families across the UK as well as developing the charity within available resources.

The charity has a well-established meeting structure in place and regular meetings were held throughout the year, most with full trustee attendance and engagement.

Some impressive statistics demonstrate the strong year enjoyed by Buttony in 2021:

- Since 2020, 1,267 stoma bears have been distributed (682 during 2021)
- Since 2020, 614 young adult packs have been sent to young people across the UK
- During 2021, the charity supported 956 families in total (this is an increase on the 2020 figure of 925 families).
- A new resource was created in 2021; the Buttony Book "A Friend Just Like Me" became available on Buttony's birthday (18<sup>th</sup> November). This has proved to be hugely successful with 600 books distributed during November and December.

The figures are even more impressive considering that the entire Buttony team is comprised of volunteers. All Board trustees are volunteers and there is a growing team of individuals who support Buttony activities.

The volunteer workforce has increased during 2021 and the Board have been delighted at the response to calls for assistance with sewing activities in particular. There is now a strong cohort of, mainly locally-based, volunteers who support the charity and are providing much-needed resilience.

## **Financial review**

The financial report for the year shows total income of £71,931. This income included the return of Buttony restricted funds from The Breakaway Foundation as well as a donation from the same foundation of £20,000. General income was £52,044. Expenses incurred were £29,701. Surplus for the year was £42,230.

## **Plans for future period**

The Board have discussed aspirations for future developments and these include:

- Urology pack
- The charity achieving formal volunteer charter status
- Buttony colouring book.

In addition to projects, the Board are also looking to recruit new Board members to increase the breadth of skills across the Board of Trustees.

**Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30  
November 2021**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Year ended 30/11/2021</b>	<b>Period ended 30/11/2020</b>
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations	52,044	-	52,044	28,300
Fundraising	-	-	-	-
Transfer of funds from Breakaway Charity	19,887	-	19,887	-
Receipts from charitable activities	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<u>71,931</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,931</u>	<u>28,300</u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	-
Cost of charitable activities	29,201	-	29,201	23,488
Governance costs	500	-	500	-
Purchase of equipment	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<u>29,701</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,701</u>	<u>23,488</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	42,230	-	42,230	4,812
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>42,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,230</u>	<u>4,812</u>

## Statement of Balances - As at 30 November 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
Opening cash at bank and in hand	4,812	-	4,812	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	42,230	-	42,230	4,812
Closing cash at bank and in hand	<u>47,042</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,042</u>	<u>4,812</u>

### Bank and Cash Balances

Bank account	47,042	-	47,042	4,812
	<u>47,042</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,042</u>	<u>4,812</u>

### Other assets - unrestricted fund

Debtors			629	20,275
			<u>629</u>	<u>20,275</u>

### Liabilities (unrestricted fund)

Creditors			<u>664</u>	<u>500</u>
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Included in creditors is £500 relating to the governance cost relates to the independent examiner's fee.

**Notes to the accounts - for the year ended 30  
November 2021**

**1 Basis of accounting**

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

**2 Nature and purpose of funds**

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to-day running of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.