

**A Bear Named Buttomy SCIO**

**Scottish Charity No – SC049781**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 30 November 2023**

**Trustees' Annual Report**

**For the year ended 30 November 2023**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2023.

**Charity name**

A Bear Named Buttony SCIO

**Charity no**

SC049781

**Address**

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

**Trustees on Date Annual Report Approved**

Gail Thomson (Chair)

Michael Foy (Vice-Chair) (appointed 5 March 2023)

Helen Macfarlane (Secretary)

Jenny Gow (Founder and Treasurer)

Donna Bain

Chris Driver

Carmen Irving

Nicky O'Flaherty

Lynn Park

Kerry Thomson (appointed 21 January 2024)

**Other trustees during the year to 30 November 2023**

Scott Clifford (resigned 21 January 2024)

Abigael Wilson (resigned 10/12/2023)

**Signed on behalf of the Trustees**

Jenny Gow

Trustee/Treasurer

Date 1st July 2024

## **Structure Governance and Management**

### **Governing Document**

A Bear Named Buttomy was first registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) on 26 November 2019 and has a written constitution.

Changes to the original constitution have been made as follows:

Amendment to permit virtual Board meetings and virtual AGM, notified to OSCR 20 November 2020

Amendment to charitable purposes, approved by OSCR 21 February 2024

### **Trustee Recruitment and Appointment**

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees. The roles of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are clearly defined; these office bearers are elected by Board members. Members retire and may be re-appointed in accordance with the constitution. The maximum number of the charity's trustees is 12. The Board consider that the current cohort of 10 members have the requisite skills and experience to support the charity in achieving its stated purposes.

Trustees comprises a mixture of individuals with personal, specific interest in stomas, bowel disease, business knowledge and clinical expertise. Trustees who apply, or are approached, to join the Board attend an interview, sign the statutory declaration and are provided with a Trustee Pack. New Trustees are supported by existing Board members as they familiarise themselves with the charity's operations and projects.

At the AGM on 21 January 2024, the Board resolved, under the terms of the constitution, to create the following additional office bearers:

- Vice Chair, who will deputise for/ share duties of the Chair as required.
- Founder; to be held by Jenny Gow until she ceases to be a Trustee, or gives signed notice of resignation from that office.

The 2023 AGM was held on 22 January 2023 followed by regular Board meetings throughout the year:

- 22 January 2023
- 16 April 2023
- 11 June 2023
- 20 August 2023
- 1 October 2023
- 10 December 2023

An additional meeting was held on 5 March 2023 to consider and approve the Accounts and Trustees' Report 2022.

### **Charitable purposes**

A Bear Named Buttomy has the following purposes as set out at paragraph 4 of our constitution:

- 4.1 To support children and young people with a stoma, by providing a specially created teddy bear, "A Bear Named Buttomy". The bear is a CE approved toy, adapted by volunteers, with a button stoma in the same position as the child's own stoma. Buttomy Bear has proved to bring instant friendship, support and comfort to a child and their family. This makes the transition from undergoing surgery to living with a stoma less traumatic.
- 4.2 To support, educate and raise public awareness about life with a stoma. There is a stigma attached to living with a stoma. We aim to reduce that stigma by giving presentations about our work to interested groups and health professionals. We intend to develop and distribute an educational pack created specifically for nursery and primary school children.

4.3 To support the work of paediatric stoma nurses by supplying appropriate resources. We shall develop initiatives to support and enhance the lives of children, young people and their families living with a stoma.

At the AGM of 21 January 2024, the Board agreed unanimously not to pursue the establishment of a dedicated online forum to support parents and carers. A revised purpose 4.3 (see above) was drafted and subsequently approved by OSCR.

### **Main activities and achievements of the charity**

These are detailed in our Trustees Report and Annual review 2023 available on our website <https://www.buttonybear.com/>

### **Policy on Reserves**

The Board calculate that reserves equal to 6 months of the previous year's unrestricted expenditure (adjusted for inflation) are required to allow the charity to maintain a continuous service to the children and young people who are supported by the charity.

Reserves for 2024 are £26,300.

### **Details of any deficit**

The accounts for the year show a total surplus of £8,965.

The deficit of £601 arising on restricted funds was met from the opening balance on that fund.

### **Donated services and facilities**

#### Volunteer hours

The trustees are grateful to over 70 volunteers who give freely of their time and play a vital role in the running of the charity. This helps to keep costs and overheads to a minimum and allows us to respond quickly and effectively to requests for support from children, young people, their families and stoma nurses.

#### Storage and premises

A Bear Named Buttony has no permanent or leased premises. Trustees and volunteers donate space in their homes to store products ready for dispatch. Assembling young adult packs, sewing and postal preparations, amongst other tasks, are all undertaken in the houses of volunteers. We are extremely appreciative of the volunteers and families who accommodate our work in this way.

#### IT support

All IT services and support are provided pro-bono by Amber Computing Ltd. The Board thank the Directors and staff at Amber for their continued and generous support.

#### Stoma pouches

A Bear Named Buttony supports children and young people with a stoma by providing a specially created teddy bear. The bear is a UKCE approved toy, adapted by volunteers, with a button stoma in the same position as the child's own stoma.

Buttony's stoma pouches are specially manufactured to comply with UKCA regulations and donated by pelicanHEALTHCARE. The Board are very grateful to Pelican Healthcare Ltd for meeting the costs of this key element in the production of our bears.

### Amazon Wish-list

Our supporters gifted items to the value of £1,300 from our Amazon Wish List. Products on the list, such as fabric, stationery, and small items for our young adult or urostomy packs are essential to our operation. We are indebted to everyone who purchased these items and helped to cover our costs.

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of A Bear Named Buttony**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 November 2023.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities

Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Adele Middler FCCA, Goval Farm, Dyce, Aberdeen AB21 0HS



3 June 2024

**Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30  
November 2023**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Year ended 30/11/2023</b>	<b>Period ended 30/11/2022</b>
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations ( <i>Note 8</i> )	59,958	8,000	67,958	72,139
Fundraising	-	-	-	-
Transfer of funds from Breakaway Charity	-	-	-	-
Receipts from charitable activities	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>59,958</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>67,958</b>	<b>72,139</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	-
Cost of charitable Activities ( <i>Notes 5 &amp; 9</i> )	49,942	8,601	58,543	58,453
Governance costs	450	-	450	450
Purchase of equipment	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>50,392</b>	<b>8,601</b>	<b>58,993</b>	<b>58,903</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	9,566	(601)	8,965	13,236
Transfers between funds ( <i>Note 7</i> )	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<b>9,566</b>	<b>(601)</b>	<b>8,965</b>	<b>13,236</b>

**Statement of Balances - As at 30 November 2023**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds (Note 2)</b>	<b>Restricted Funds (Note 2)</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
Opening cash at bank and in hand	55,278	5,000	60,278	47,042
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	9,566	(601)	8,965	13,236
Closing cash at bank and in hand	<u>64,844</u>	<u>4,399</u>	<u>69,243</u>	<u>60,278</u>

**Bank and Cash Balances**

Bank account	64,844	4,399	69,243	60,278
	<u>64,844</u>	<u>4,399</u>	<u>69,243</u>	<u>60,278</u>

**Other assets - unrestricted fund**

Assets – Laptop			883	-
Debtors			-	-
			<u>883</u>	<u>-</u>

**Liabilities (unrestricted fund)**

Creditors			<u>570</u>	<u>450</u>
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Included in creditors is £570 relating to the governance cost relates to the independent examiner's fee.



**Notes to the accounts - for the year ended 30  
November 2023**

**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. During the year the Charity received £5,000 from the Jellie Foundation, which was a restricted fund to be allocated to the Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire areas.

In addition, during the year the Charity received £2,500 from the YPI The Wood Foundation for Glasgow and £500 from the St Peter the Apostle High School. Both these Charity donations were restricted funds to be allocated to the Glasgow area.

**3 Grants payable**

No grants were paid during the year.

**4 Trustee remuneration**

No remuneration was paid to any Trustee, or person connected to a Trustee.

**5 Trustee expenses**

During the year travel expenses totalling £2,596 were repaid for four of the Charity Trustees to attend the Stoma Nurses conference and other events in connection with the Charity.

**6 Related party transactions**

During the year there were no transactions incurred between the Charity and any Charity Trustee or person connected to a Charity Trustee.

**7 Transfer between funds**

There were no transfers between unrestricted and restricted funds during the year.

## 8 Donations

Income decreased by 5.8% compared to the previous year. Donations totalling £20,444 were made by three corporate donors. The balance of £51,695 represents fundraising, donations and sponsorship from many individuals and regular supporters.

## 9 Cost of charitable activities

Expenses remained stable, despite the cost-of-living pressures.

Main areas of spending (to nearest £100) were:

Bears	£17,500
Stoma Training Models	£6,300
Paediatric Stoma Models	£4,900
Washbags	£10,300
Story Books	£4,300
Postage	£3,800
Colouring Books	£1,300
Testing Bear for UKCA	£800

Costs represent the amounts paid in the year and includes payments for stock to be used in our first quarter of operations in 2024.