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# REACH SCOTTISH BRANCH

THE ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH HAND OR ARM DEFICIENCY

March 2007

## *Spring Issue*

Before I begin to tell you what this year holds for the Scottish Branch of REACH, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy New year from Stacy, Ciara, Niamh and myself. I have to be honest that last year Reach was low down on my list of priorities with the arrival of Niamh. There were a few set backs but at last everything has worked out fine. So I have no excuses. This year I hope to have more activities and improve the branch, so as you look through the newsletter if you see something that you feel you can contribute towards, please feel free to volunteer.

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reporter at the scene has the details.



Here is the low-down of events as told by Michael. This year we moved venue for our Reach Scotland Christmas Party to Snozone at Xscape in Braehead, Glasgow. We spent a fun filled and very tiring forty five minutes tobogganing in real snow which made the day very festive with the children and some of the adults, very excited.

As the tobogganing ended we left the snow slope tired but happy and after changing into warm dry clothes we all headed to the party room. The children were very quiet while they wolfed down their party lunches with a choice of chicken nuggets, burgers, pizza or cheese burger and chips followed by dessert with lots of juice drunk by the children.

We then had party games including "Pass the Parcel" and a "Christmas Corner game" where the lucky last players received prizes. When the Children started singing Jingle Bells we had a surprise visitor when "Santa" came to deliver some presents to the children who it appears were all on the "NICE LIST" as no-one was given a lump of coal. After two

### *The Christmas Party*

Again Michael Moran exceeded himself arranging this event. Due to work commitments I was unable to attend, However our roving elf

hours of non-stop fun it was then time to leave and for everyone to begin their journey home with tired but happy children.

We would like to thank Santa for coming to the party and all of the staff at Snozone, especially Julie-Ann Webster, who is an events co-ordinator at Snozone as she helped make everything happen smoothly on the day. Thank you to Michael and Karen who went to a lot of effort to make this day such a success.

### Counsellors

This is it, this is one of those times where you could and should volunteer. I want to improve the counselling service that the Scottish Branch offers.



I am looking for either one or two dedicated members who would be prepared to allow members to phone them, and also to be the first point of contact with a new member.

What I would like to see is this - on receiving details of a new member from Head Office, we choose one of these Counsellors to be the "point of contact" for the new member. This would in the first instance, involve a phone call to introduce themselves and explain what the role of Reach is. That would make the new member feel much more at ease

picking up the phone if they feel like talking to someone, or if they have any questions We all know how hard it is to make that first phone call. So if you feel you could help out, please get in touch. Getting the right help, right at the start, does make a difference.

### Jeremy Beadle Quiz Night

By now you will all have heard tale of the legendary Jeremy Beadle Quiz night. Well rumour has it, (well it is not rumour Elaine Clark told me), that it will take place again this year. This had been planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, at the Glynhill Hotel in Renfrew. However, it has had to be postponed - the plan being to rearranged it for later in the year - possibly October.

To find out more information or to donate a prize contact Sue Stokes at Head Office or email Elaine Clarke direct at [clarkee@wyeth.com](mailto:clarkee@wyeth.com) SEE YOU THERE.

### Family Weekend

Some of you may be put off attending this after hearing, or even worse seeing the shocking behaviour of the Kell girls trying to knock their mother off the top of a telegraph pole. Or even at the taunts poor Carl endured as parents and children alike teased as he gripped those high wires for his dear life.

But for the brave amongst you it is time to step forward and face your fears (not Michael Moran's travelling Songs) but canoeing, high ropes, raft building and sleeping in a bunk bed.

This once in a life, or at least once a year, activity will cost £50 per family and will take place at Ardeonaig by Killin on the weekend of the 29<sup>th</sup> June to

1<sup>st</sup> July. Even if you are of faint heart, or a toddler (who can read this) attend anyway and bring Granny. I don't want to be the only one terrified!

All equipment, meals and accommodation is provided. For more details get in touch. I promise you will have a good weekend... even if the pub is 2 miles away.

### Accounts

Another chance to volunteer. I need someone to do the Branch accounts. This is not a time-consuming job but it would be useful to have someone other than myself who has access to the books. They are inspected yearly by head office, but someone who has a little experience could, I am sure, do a more adequate job. All you would have to do is keep track of how I spend the money on lavish items. Please get in touch if you can help.

### Easter Party

I am currently talking to Westmarc hospital and Murray Foundation about having a joint Easter party. This will more than likely be at Westmarc hospital in Glasgow. I am awaiting a response from Westmarc so I will post out a letter to you all once I get confirmation of details.



### Chariots of Fire

A lot of parents, families and friends were out running for Reach last year. If you are running, or know someone who wants to, then become part of our elite running club, (a slight exaggeration). All this means is that people entering the same race have the chance to meet up. More importantly, I can supply you with the latest in athletic clothing - a REACH T-shirt! If there are a lot of people running in a particular event then, with enough notice, I can get group T-shirts made up.



This goes for anyone doing a fundraising event for Reach. As long as you raise more than £3.50 the T-shirt is yours free. You can wear it to all those special engagements and be the envy of all your friends. If you are planning a fund-raising event, get in touch. Sponsor forms are available on our website

[www.reachscottishbranch.co.uk](http://www.reachscottishbranch.co.uk)

### Branch Items

#### T-Shirts

Due to the overwhelming response to our "design a t-shirt" competition, (not one reply), I will leave the current design. However, when they run out, if anyone has another design please feel free to submit it. We have a variety of sizes from 0 to 14 yrs, small, medium or large for the adults.

### Stationary

Just before Christmas I received Scottish Branch Stationary, in the form of letter-headed paper and Thank You cards. It came to approx £250 but should last at least 3 years. As people who donate money request that their donations stays in Scotland, I thought it would be nice to be able to respond with our own branch Thank You cards. To the many of you who fund-raise or promote the branch, I am more than happy to forward some of these items if you wish.

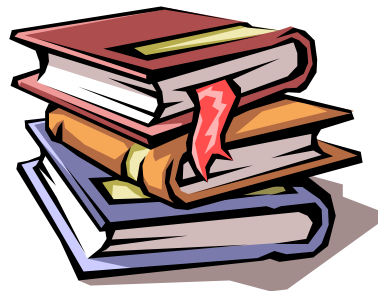
**Banners**  
We also have 2 large banners if required. These are 6 feet long and 2 feet high. They can be tied or nailed up and are available to any member who wishes to borrow them.

#### Collection tins

I have several Reach collection tins available should any one feel they may be able to display them.

#### Books

We currently have a small selection of books for people to borrow. A full list is displayed on the Scottish Branch website. The books are for different ages and are appropriate for different members of the family.



### Casino Equipment

I have a large supply of fun casino equipment available for anyone who is keen to fundraise. There are chips, roulette, poker, blackjack and craps tables all available.

### Financial Status

When the Scottish Branch opened its accounts four years ago, Head Office donated £300 to cover the cost of our first event. Since then, due to all the fund-raising achievements, we have been able to pay for all events ourselves, plus much more.

This would not be possible without the hard work put in by the members, their families and friends. Most of the time, the first we know of one these fund-raising events, is when a cheque arrives on the doorstep. Many friends and colleagues of members also fund-raise for Reach. I try to post back a Thank You, but often there is no address, so it is difficult to pass on our gratitude.

To all the people who have given up their time and effort to fund-raise or help out with events, we would like to say Thank You.

### Thank you

This section is to say Thank you to all those who have assisted the Scottish Branch recently, in various ways.

\* Derek Carr who raised £3345 with a race night.

\* Brian Robertson who raised £120 running in various events

\* Gareth James who raised £110 running in various events.

\* Craig Moran who ran a sponsored run and raised £78

\* Mr Thomson who donated £20

\* The British Horse Society highland north who donated £500

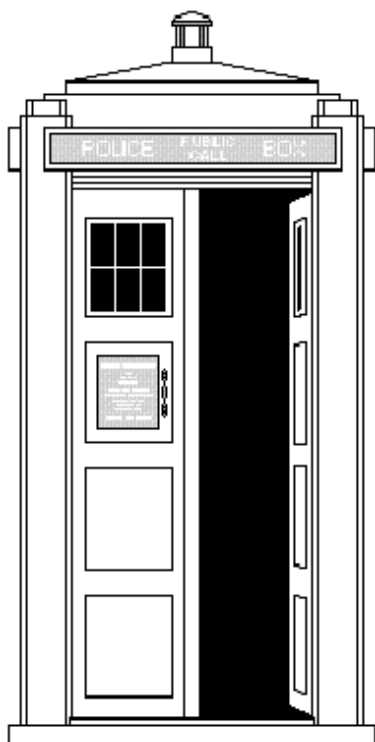
\* The Allan Glens school club who donated £350

\* Michael and Karen Moran who worked so hard organising the Christmas party

\* Mr Carr for helping Santa

Kids corner

- Q. Why did the man put his money in the freezer?  
 A. He wanted cold hard cash!
- Q. What did the porcupine say to the cactus?  
 A. "Is that you mommy?"
- Q. What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?  
 A. Frostbite.
- Q. How do crazy people go through the forest?  
 A. They take the psycho path
- Q. What do prisoners use to call each other?  
 A. Cell phones.
- Q. What do you get from a pampered cow?  
 A. Spoiled milk.



The Daleks have stolen all the colour from the TARDIS. Can you help Dr Who by colouring it in?

Word Search

Find the words in the list below. The letters not used will reveal a hidden message. – an event that involved all of the things in the list.. Once you have revealed the hidden message, write it in the box below, fill in your name and address and send it to Carl. The first correct entry returned will win a Dr Who prize!!!!!!

- TORCHWOOD
- DALEK
- DOCTOR
- WHO
- TARDIS
- TIMELORD
- CYBERMAN
- ROSE
- SONIC
- SCREWDRIVER
- TIME
- TRAVEL

T	I	M	E	S	T	S	H
I	T	D	O	C	T	O	R
M	O	E	B	R	A	N	O
E	R	T	L	E	T	I	S
L	C	L	E	W	E	C	E
O	H	O	V	D	F	C	A
R	W	T	A	R	D	I	S
D	O	N	R	I	A	R	Y
W	O	H	T	V	W	H	O
A	D	A	L	E	K	R	F
C	Y	B	E	R	M	A	N

The hidden message is -


Name :  
 Address :

Contacting Reach

Scottish Branch

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