



NEWSLETTER 1/07



(with dates for your diary)

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2007. Get your skates (or football boots) on and get tickets to:

Edinburgh Charity Game

rival fans coming together for charity

AND that charity is Simpsons Special Care Babies!

On **SUNDAY 8th APRIL 2007 at 1pm** in the Easter Road Stadium, 22 Men will take to the pitch to play for The Football Nation's Charity Cup. Will It Be the Hearts Fans winning the cup for the second year in a row or will the Hibs Fans be putting another cup in the Easter Road trophy cabinet this season? We look forward to finding out.

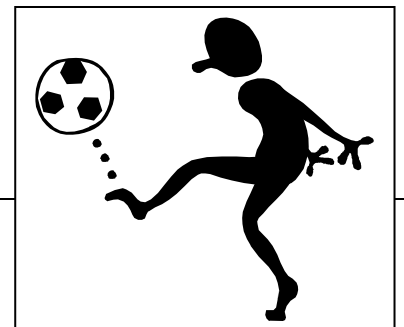
There has been a **fantastic** build up to the event with a recent Race Night (you will have seen this on SSCB website), press coverage and much background organisation. We are most grateful to the organising committee of Edinburgh Charity Game especially Scott and Sharon Moncrieff and appreciate the time and enthusiasm of our own Jenny Wood and Derek Houlston. Ryan Roy is a boy who was in the NNU last year and his story is the focus of the programme. Ryan's parents tell his story of early birth and struggle for survival with many of the issues of prematurity. Through their kindness we have been allowed photographs and his story. We are most grateful.

As an entry on the charity football website succinctly says:

After months of hard work , sweat and tears it all comes down to 90 mins of football. who will come out the winners... Hibs or Hearts ???

Come down to Easter Road to find out. Tickets available on the day or through the website - £5 for adults, £3 for under 16 and over 65's.

www.edinburghcharitygame.co.uk



Dear readers, it is marvellous to start our Newsletter with the great news of the Edinburgh Charity Game. You will be pleased to know that not only are Simpsons Special Care Babies the beneficiaries of The Edinburgh Charity Game but in the next few months we will also be part of the following events which each of us can show our support of the babies and the staff of the NNU through participation, sponsorship and support on the day. Through testing themselves physically, in training, dedication, determination and on the day to meet their goals, they seek support to raise funds for the Neonatal Unit for Lothian at the Simpson. We hope you will give that support.



27 May 2007 is the Edinburgh Marathon

Wonderfully we have **TWO** runners in the event - **Gordon Jamieson and James Brown**. They are both using web pages to highlight their run and raise funds. Look at Simpsons Special Care Babies website (www.sscb.org) and the workwithus.org website for more information. We know they are both doing well in their preparation which involves as well as long runs, other means of fitness training and work. The Edinburgh Marathon website says that May and June are the best months to run a marathon in Edinburgh as the wind is soft and temperature around 17°C. 2006's marathon was uncommonly warm at 24°C but it is forecast not to be as hot. We wish Gordon and James continued good health, fitness and training and say to everyone - be there on the day. They deserve our support.



Quote from the Marathon website, Henry Muchamore (EM Course Director): "believes the new route is the fastest marathon course in Britain." So expect some wonderful and exciting running.

In addition to our individual runners, we are delighted

that two teams from Scottish and Newcastle running for us. Mark Tweedie has been in touch and they are doing well in training. Their personal challenge is to try and reach the finish in under 3 hours! This had been suggested after last year's event and was realistic with training and fitness, but now with the change from 5 runners to 4 runners it is a heck of a challenge. We wish them luck and plenty of cheers.

Runners from 2006 say:

Wow, what a fantastic experience. The sun shone and it was a gift to be able to take part. Raising money for charity was the icing on the cake. Lisa Percox, Staffordshire

The Hairy Haggis is a fantastic Team Building event and a brilliant day out. Thank you everyone! Wendy Colley, Cumbria

With two confirmed relay teams and probably **THREE** in the Marathon - the charity's profile will be high, the support from the runners is second to none and their fundraising efforts deserve to be supported. It is always a wonderful event and audiences along the route are important to encourage all runners. Be there. It will be good.



10 June 2007



What is the Great Scottish Walk?

This great event allows anyone who can put one foot in front of the other to take part, AND raise sponsorship money for charity.

The walk is divided into 3 walks, which allows participants to choose a level to match their fitness. You can choose between 12 miles, 6 miles and a Golden Mile.

The Golden milers stay in the stadium where the facilities may best meet the needs of disabled users, wheel chairs, the elderly, or those whose physical health prohibits a longer walk but whom wish to become more active.

All walkers will gather in Meadowbank stadium where pipers will lead the 6 and 12 milers to Holyrood Park for the start line. Both groups finish back at the stadium and join the Golden milers in celebrating this fantastic event. Entertainment is provided in the stadium and along the route.

Meadowbank stadium comes alive on the day of the walk with an enormous range of carnival type activities for all the family. And if you as a family would like to walk why not think about walking as a team. A minimum of four or maximum of six may take part in teams. There are prizes for teams - have a look at the categories on the entry form

Website: <http://www.greatscottishwalk.com/gsw>
 You can download an entry form directly from there.



On Monday 16 July 2007 Allan Ryan will be up early, not making preparations for a normal Monday morning, an Edinburgh day - he will be at the Start Line of Stage 15 of the mighty Tour de France in Foix participating in the Etape du Tour - Foix to Loudenvielle, all 196 kilometres of it.

From a website on the Etape : "The **Etape du Tour** is an incredible opportunity offering a chance to essentially ride the Tour de France for a day. This year's stage, like any stage of the Tour de France, is a big challenge - it is one of the mountain stages. But, nothing can compare to riding over closed roads with 8500 other cyclists in one of the most scenic settings possible" - in the Pyrenees.

Allan Ryan is aiming to meet all the challenges of this tough event and will be sponsored for Simpsons Special Care Babies!



Simpsons Special Care Babies AGM

4 June 2007

The current committee is:

Chair	Jennifer Houliston
Vice Chair	Cally Fraser
Treasurer	Caroline Lismore-Kerr
Minute Secretary	Rachel Kelsey
Newsletter Secretary	Paula Ford
Secretary	Gill Mitchell

Additionally your committee is supported by a group of dedicated ordinary members.

The AGM is an opportunity for YOU to join our committee as an office bearer or an ordinary member. You would be most welcome. E-mail us at : info@sscb.org. We would be delighted to answer any questions and welcome you at our next meeting on 23 April 2007 or indeed at the AGM. The venue is the Seminar Room in the NNU at 7.15pm on both these nights.

ASDA Charity In The Community

The Jewel, Edinburgh

We have been given some fantastic news, which is that we have been selected by ASDA at The Jewel, Edinburgh, to be their Charity In The Community. Over the last couple of weeks they have raised several hundred pounds already, by placing SSCB charity boxes at the end of each check out, holding daily table sales (by a member of staff who has a particular interest in raising funds for charities), and there was also a raffle of a giant "Happy Feet" Penguin ! Asda are continually mentioning SSCB over their tannoy system too !

They are placing a noticed board in their foyer with a "totaliser", so that customers can see how much money they are raising. They have advised us that they would like to raise enough money for 4 incubators.

We thank them for thinking of us and any amount they raise will be tremendous. Our sincere thanks to Asda (The Jewel) customers and members of the community there, who are giving so generously.

We will keep you informed of how this wonderful community initiative is progressing OR you could go and shop there and tell us.

The aim of SSCB is to provide state of the art equipment for the care of babies cared for in the Neonatal Unit at The Simpson Centre for Reproductive Health. This equipment has saved lives and will continue to do so due to the generosity, dedication and commitment of many people. Thank you for yours. Keep making a difference.

Donations and other news



Pearl and Stanley Fletcher asked guests at their Golden Wedding party to gift to SSCB.

Craig Paterson's parents celebrated his life through a concert and jointly sent gifts to Brass Band Aid, the Anthony Nolan Trust and Simpsons Special Care Babies.

The Captains Bar have a charity bottle on their bar and gifted £387 to SSCB.

Aislinn's Granny from Coleraine sent a gift in her name in celebration of Aislinn being "a healthy 9½ year old".

We received £65 from the Church teas.

Staff at BMA Scotland sent SSCB their Christmas card money.

Pamela sent an astounding £625 at Christmas from "Pam's Christmas Charity Collection". She said "I am not a big fan of Christmas so I thought this year instead of getting presents - I would ask for money to donate to charity and I wouldn't buy any presents for the 11 people I usually do - I would just donate £200 as well." She went on to say that everyone was fine with the idea but the hardest part was to prevent people not to buy presents as well.

Freescale Semiconductor UK Ltd sent a wonderful £600 which was raised through Christmas fundraising activities.

Charlotte and Georgina are twins who live in Tyne & Wear, but were born in the Simpson. Their parents Michael and Tracey maintain contact with the Simpson and say in a recent letter that they hope their donations will help "towards your valuable projects".

Thank you

At the Simpson, Midwife Linda McDonald is the guiding force behind Mum's Recipes and now has organized the following:

Music for MUMS

**The Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Friday 20th April 2007, 7.30pm**

(doors 7pm)

A FUN evening of music and words featuring emerging and well-known performers from across Scotland and beyond.

TICKETS: £15/£10 CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE

CALL THE BOX OFFICE NOW ON 0131 228 1155

www.mumsrecipes.org

PRESENTED BY STEPHEN JARDINE, Scottish Television

Malawi Underprivileged Mothers

7.30pm until 10pm approx. with a 20 min interval

The purpose of the concert is to raise funds to help the building of a new high risk maternity hospital and refurbish Bottom Hospital as it is now, to cater for the normal birth. These needs are desperate as the state of Bottom Hospital now is unacceptable.

It is going to be a fun night of music and words featuring talented children and adults from around Scotland and beyond.

The acts include;

Craigmount School Choir }
Broughton High School Choir } Mass Choir
Beeslack High School Choir }

Moyenda African Band
Hotel California; Eagles tribute Band
Liz Lochhead