



albinism
Fellowship

2013

ANNUAL REPORT

***Summary of Activities, Income & Expenditure
1st April 2012 - 31st March 2013***

Activities

Highlights of a busy year

As well as continuing to deliver our core services e.g. magazine, online resources and helpline we had a very busy year especially with events and albinism in the news.

In May 2012 we held a Connect Albinism event in Belfast thanks to Rosie Dempsey. We also challenged the misrepresentation of albinism through a character in the children's film 'Pirates in an Adventure with Scientists', the 'Albino Pirate'.

June saw our Dublin BBQ and Family Day {thanks to Treasa O'Callaghan}, our usual London BBQ event and we announced our plans for our first ever mini-conference in Dundalk, Ireland in September.

In July our Chair {Mark Sanderson} and his family appeared in an awareness raising article in the Guardian. We were pleased to note that member Sara Krishan, a Para-triathlete had the privilege of taking part in the Paralympic torch relay.

9-13 July saw our first Albinism Awareness Week. We had over 300 Facebook views and a good level of media coverage especially in the Nottingham press thanks to the Bennett family. The week also kick-started fundraising for our next family conference & leisure weekend in October 2013.

In September we held our Five Shires family day thanks to Will & Sarah Fellows. This month also saw our first mini-conference in Ireland which was very well attended. This gave us the confidence to begin building our profile in Ireland.

In January 2013 we spoke up about albinism issues raised through Channel 4's Undateables. February saw another well attended event in Nottingham run by Joanne Bennett. Also this month our Chair and his partner Lorna were interviewed about their experiences of living life with albinism on Radio 4's Saturday Live.

Towards the end of the year we recognised our international moral responsibilities by supporting the showing of the film 'In the Shadow of the Sun', highlighting issues for people with albinism in parts of Africa, as part of Human Rights Watch's film festival. We held our first family day in Cork, Ireland thanks to Georgina Brennan.

Albinism online

Our online resources continue to prove popular. Latest figures show:

- Website hits were 461,000 in the year
- Our Understanding Albinism factsheet was downloaded 4,000 times

- We have 1020 Facebook Likes
- Our Twitter followers number 365

By far the biggest referrers to our website are Positive Exposure, Facebook and RNIB although we got quite a few through media coverage in the Guardian, Daily Mail and BBC R4 Saturday Live this year, showing that our media efforts help raise awareness of our work.

Governance

All of our trustees continued their commitment to the organisation during the year. We are grateful to Daniel Hill, Hilary Hill, Martin Lang, Rosie Dempsey, Will Fellows, Jo Bennett and Mark Sanderson for their continued support.

We are pleased to have attracted Roselle Potts and Akeel Bari to become trustees. We have encouraged their steady and increased involvement with the organisation and have now co-opted them {October 2013} to the board. They will formally be proposed for election as trustees at the next AGM.

Fundraising

We continue to receive a steady flow of income from community fundraising by members and supporters. This year they raised £3947 which included 1000 Euros from the Community Foundation for Ireland towards our mini-conference in Dundalk. Thank you to everyone who supports us in this way. It really is invaluable. Sadly successful funding bids to such as grant making trusts are increasingly scarce.

European links

We were pleased to be invited to be involved in and support the first meeting of European Days of Albinism, a weekend event which brought together a number of organisations representing people with albinism across Europe and those involved in albinism research. This was a good collaboration helping share experiences between support organisations and guiding the albinism research programme. Another event is anticipated in 2014.

Future plans

We look forward to the year ahead which will be dominated by planning and delivery of our next family conference & leisure weekend, Inspired by Albinism, in October 2013. We also plan a second mini-conference in Dublin in 2014.

Prepared by: *Mark Sanderson, Trustee/ Chair*
On behalf of the trustees, Albinism Fellowship

Income & Expenditure

The following is a summary of our income, expenditure and balances for the year ending 31st March 2013 as agreed by our accountants Cryer Sandham Ltd. of Reading. A full set of our accounts can be viewed at www.albinism.org.uk

Income

| Item | Amount |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Subscriptions (membership fees) | £2,783 |
| Training fees | £450 |
| Donations | £3,947 |
| | |
| Total Income | £7,180 |

Less: Expenditure

| Item | Amount |
|--|---------------|
| Donation (unpaid cheque) | £15 |
| Secretarial and stationery costs (P O Boxes) | £683 |
| Magazine expenses (Albinism Life) | £1,558 |
| Regional events expenses | £1,158 |
| Online services (e.g. Groupspaces) | £466 |
| Meeting expenses (trustees etc.) | £335 |
| Purchase of literature (e.g. AF T-shirts) | £695 |
| Telephone | £218 |
| Travel (meetings, events & conf. planning) | £1,201 |
| Bank charges and interest (Just Giving) | £216 |
| Safeguarding training etc. (annual fee) | £39 |
| - expenses in year not yet paid (accounts) | £799 |
| | |
| Total Expenses | £7,383 |
| | |
| Surplus/deficit for the year | -£203 |

Balances

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Balance as at 31 March 2012 | £740 |
| +/- surplus/deficit for 2012-13 | -£203 |
| Balance as at 31 March 2013 | £537 |