

Chief Executive Update

As you would expect funding has dominated much of the thinking both in Cosgrove and the whole of the charitable sector. Now that the election is over the realities of public sector cut-backs will soon become clear and the impact will be felt. We do meet regularly with East Renfrewshire Council who are our main funders and we cooperate as much as we can to allow us both to plan.



For our part we're doing as much as we can to replace that inevitable lost public funding by placing more emphasis and resources on our own fundraising efforts on as broad a front as we can. We are looking for your cooperation and understanding as we explore new opportunities.

Our Community and Family Fundraising committee continue with their hard work and enthusiasm. We are keen to add more expertise and manpower so I would ask you to offer your services if you have any commercial or fundraising skills. The responsibilities aren't too heavy and can often be done in a few hours at home.

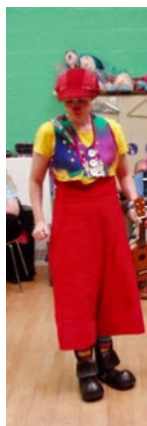
Let me end on a few upbeat notes. Our recent play schemes were a great success so a big vote of thanks to those staff who arranged them and indeed to all our staff for the unstinting enthusiasm and commitment in these tricky times.

Our second annual sponsored walk is being held on August 8th in Rouken Glen Park and weather permitting it should be another great day with a fundraising(not a distance) target of 10k so please enter a team and we'll do our best to ensure you have a fun day.

Finally our 50th Anniversary year starts in October of this year and a lot of exciting events are in the planning so watch this space.

Cosgrove News Roundup

Big Day Out



Cosgrove's Big Day Out was a huge success with something for everyone. The event was opened by Ken Macintosh MSP, who said:

"Cosgrove is one of the best organisations in the whole of East Renfrewshire. We all hope that we will be cared for at a time of need, but Cosgrove gives something much more. It's supported by the community and that's what makes it special."

For children, there was face painting, badge making, t-shirt printing and entertainment from Dunno the Clown, Kevin the Magician and Jimmy Pearson's Puppet Show.

Mark's Deli sold refreshments, plants grown by the Cosgrove gardening team were on sale and there were a variety of stalls and holistic therapies available for the adults. Cosgrove would like to thank those who volunteered their time and for everyone who supported the event

Cosgrove AGM

Cosgrove's AGM will be taking place on Wednesday 16th June at 7:45pm. There will be various speakers, including; Chief Executive Walter Hecht, Sylvia Livingston who has been involved with Cosgrove since its inception, Karen Gilligan, parent of a service user and fundraising committee member. The AGM is an opportunity to find out about what has been happening in the organisation, to meet staff and ask any questions. We hope that you will be able to make it along, your attendance is important this year, due to the potential cut backs in public funding.

Zurich Cares Challenge

Employees from Zurich Insurance Company will be generously volunteering their time to transform the garden at the home shared by four of Cosgrove's service users as part of the Zurich Cares Challenge. Volunteers will be working on making the garden more accessible to residents and creating an outside space where they can spend time relaxing.

Zurich employees completed a similar challenge last year for Cosgrove at one of our other residential properties. Cosgrove is extremely grateful for the continued support of Zurich Employees. Look out for the next newsletter which will feature the results of the challenge!



Cosgrove Features

Spotlight on Child Services

Summer is a busy time for the Cosgrove Child Services Team, as they are busy preparing for the Summer Playscheme. The playscheme provides children and young people with additional support needs with a safe, structured, stimulating, and fun creative project during the school holidays. There are many exciting activities and trips planned for the children attending, including outings to The Scotland Yard Activity Centre, Heads of Ayr Park Farm and Prestwick Beach.

The playscheme will run from the 12th July until the 6th August and it is a vital service for both the children and their families. For many families where one or more children are affected by Learning Disabilities, the long summer holiday presents a catalogue of difficulties beyond the normal worry about child care. The disadvantages children with Learning Disabilities and their families face mean that a concerted effort needs to be made to break out of patterns of isolation, exclusion and stress, which are actually exacerbated during times when the much needed support of a specialised school is unavailable.

Cosgrove Charity Shops

We are currently looking for shop volunteers with experience and skills in retail, window dressing, stock management and customer service to work a few hours a week. If you are interested please contact Derek Brown on 0141 620 2500. The Cosgrove charity shops are situated in Skirving Street in Shawlands.

We are always looking for donations of stock, suitable items include; Cds, DVDs, books, electrical items, furniture and linens. If you have any large items we will be happy to collect, please arrange by calling 0141 632 1441.

COSGROVE'LL FIX IT!!

A "Dream Day" at Rangers!

Cosgrove service user Daniel Green had a day to remember when he met some of his favourite football players at the Rangers Charity Foundation Dream Day.



He was invited by Walter Smith to join a very special group of Rangers supporters to meet Ally McCoist, Kenny McDowall and most of the Rangers First Team players at the Rangers Charity Foundation Dream Day.



The group went to Murray Park, where they enjoyed a tour of the facility with Sandy Jardine and got to meet the likes of Nacho Novo, Kenny Miller, Steven Davis and other first-team stars.

They also enjoyed a visit to Ibrox, where they were treated to a first-class lunch in the Thornton Suite before being shown around the famous stadium and trophy room

Daniel said "I had a fantastic day. Ally McCoist has always been my favourite player so it was amazing to get to meet him and he was really funny."

Cosgrove Volunteers

Cosgrove has a fantastic team of volunteers who bring their own special talents to so many areas of Cosgrove. We are dependent on our volunteers to enable us to enhance the services offered by Cosgrove and give the best possible opportunities to all our service users in order that we are able to meet their aspirations.

We are always looking for volunteers and have various opportunities including; fundraising, administration and IT. If you would like to find out more please contact us on 0141 620 2500.

Fundraising News

Fundraising Roundup

Local Lodge raises money for Cosgrove

The Lodge Sir George Cathcart held a Race Night on the 5th May at the Coupar Institute to raise money for charity. The event raised a total of £500, which was split between Cosgrove and Erskine Hospital. The money raised will be put to very good use, funding a Ferrari driving experience at Knockhill racing circuit for service user, Kieran McGarvie, fulfilling a dream for the car enthusiast.

Dobbies Garden Centre Support

Dobbies Garden Centre have supported Cosgrove on many occasions, including adopting Cosgrove as their Christmas Charity last year. The Cosgrove Music Group performed at the Dobbies Christmas charity night and were presented with a cheque for £250.



Bag Packing

Members of the Glasgow Jewish Lads' and Girls' Brigade recently held a fundraising bag packing event at Morrisons in Giffnock and kindly donated a proportion of the proceeds to Cosgrove Care.

Ladies That Lunch

A group of friends decided to raise funds for charity by starting a 'Ladies That Lunch' club. The group meets regularly and each take it in turn to host lunch, charging each guest £10 a head, the host then decides which charity they would like to donate the proceeds to. Rochelle Hyman, Cosgrove volunteer, kindly donated the proceeds to Cosgrove.

100+ Club

It's not too late to buy a ticket and be entered into all the remaining draws, including the £250 draws which will take place at the Cosgrove AGM in June, at the Sponsored Walk in August, and at the staff Festive Lunch in December. For just £15 a ticket you can help support Cosgrove and perhaps win one of the remaining cash prizes. So far the club has raised over £1700 towards Cosgrove's activities.

Cosgrove Sponsored Walk



Cosgrove's Sponsored Walk will be taking place on Sunday 8th August, 10:30am at Rouken Glen Park. We are aiming to raise £10,000 through our one mile sponsored walk.

This year's event will have a 'back to school' theme, with optional fancy dress and the one mile walk encompassing various challenges along the route such as egg and spoon and sack races! The walk is open to people of all ages and abilities; challenges along the route are optional! We are looking for teams of 4 to sign up. Register now to receive your sponsorship pack by contacting Sarah on 0141 620 2500 or email: sdawson@cosgrovecare.org.uk

Quick Fundraising Tip

Come Dine for Cosgrove - Host a dinner party for friends and family and ask each guest to make a donation to Cosgrove. Why not mimic the TV series and turn it into a competition, with each guest taking turns to host their own dinner party.

Carol's West Highland Way Challenge raises £900!



Carol Drury recently walked the West Highland Way and raised £900 for Cosgrove. Carol set off in torrential rain, but didn't let this "minor blip" deter her from completing the walk in six days.

Carol has two children who are supported by Cosgrove and therefore felt that she would like to give something back.

Carol said; "Walking the West Highland Way really is very challenging but it was a fantastic experience and I am glad that I did it. The fact that I did it for charity made it more worthwhile and kept me going.



This was a mental challenge as well as a physical one – but I kept going and achieved my two goals: raising money for Cosgrove Care and arriving in Fort William!"

Walter Hecht, Cosgrove Care's Chief Executive, said "We are delighted with Carol's fundraising idea and hope that other members of the local community are able to participate in activities which can help to raise funds for such a good cause."

If you have any ideas of how you can help to raise funds for Cosgrove by organising a fundraising event or taking part in a sponsored activity, please contact Sarah on 0141-620-2500.

Scottish Half Marathon



Sarah Dawson, Cosgrove's Fundraising Officer completed the Edinburgh Half Marathon on Sunday 23rd May raising £300 for Cosgrove Care.

Sarah said: "It was a brilliant experience and I was delighted to finish in just over 2 hours. It felt great representing Cosgrove at such a high profile event. It would be fantastic to have a team of runners representing Cosgrove for future events!"

We are looking for people to represent Cosgrove in the upcoming Great Scottish Run taking place in Glasgow on Sunday 5th September. The Great Scottish Run is Scotland's largest mass participation event with a Half Marathon and 10k course.

If you are interested in taking part in this event, why not join Cosgrove's running team and raise money for a good cause at the same time!

We will provide support and materials to help you fundraise and we will also provide moral support on the day with the Cosgrove cheering team!

To enter visit: www.runglasgow.org then let us know you have a place and we will send you a fundraising pack.

For details of other upcoming running events please see the table on the right.

RUNNING EVENTS 2010

Great Scottish Run: 10k and Half Marathon, Sunday 5th September To sign up visit www.runglasgow.org

Glasgow Men's 10k Sunday 20th June To sign up visit: www.mhfs.org.uk

The Big Fun Run - 5k Glasgow 24th July visit www.bigfunrun.com

Lock Ness Marathon 3rd October Visit www.lochnessmarathon.com

Once you have registered for a place in an event please contact us and let us know and we will send you a fundraising pack.