



albinism
Fellowship

2014

ANNUAL REPORT

Summary of Activities, Income & Expenditure
1st April 2013 - 31st March 2014

Activities

Highlights of the year

This year was dominated by planning and delivery of Inspired by Albinism, our latest family weekend conference (October '13), by the impressive activity in Ireland/NI due to our growing and active membership there, and the continuation of regular support events in England.

Achievements and performance

Due to heavy snow the year began with some unexpected cancellations. Our event in County Derry NI and one we were supporting run by Sandwell MBC (March) had to be cancelled! They were both rescheduled (October). Despite the disappointment we had a family event in Nottingham (spring) to look forward to.

Our first small event in Cork, Ireland was held (April). Led by member Georgina Brennan, those present heard an interesting talk on assistive technology from Linda Doran of UCC.

The 2nd European Days of Albinism event (April) was an opportunity for two of our trustees to share our experiences, learn from and collaborate with other albinism organisations. We are now pursuing ideas for closer joint working.

Jordanstown School, County Antrim NI was the venue for our next event (May). There was a talk from Dr Maria Napier on the basics of albinism and an arts & crafts workshop for children. We were delighted that Andrea Begley, star of BBC's The Voice joined us to lead the singing!

St John's GAA Clubhouse, Dublin was again the venue for our Ireland BBQ (June). Professor Michael O'Keefe, Ophthalmologist and Andrew Costello (Trinity College) gave talks on albinism and technology support for VI people respectively.

Rick Guidotti, Positive Exposure www.positiveexposure.org made a quick visit to Ireland in July and met many of our members at the Clubhouse to update them on his work.

Back in the UK, Oak Tree School, Southgate London hosted our mainland BBQ (June). It was well attended and younger members enjoyed all the school facilities whilst adults had an update on AF activities.

Recognising the growing and active membership in Ireland/NI and our interest in setting up a more formal governance structure there to help respond to this our AGM was held in Dublin alongside the groups children's Christmas party (December).

At the time of writing (November 2014) we have just delivered a successful mini conference in Dublin. Delegates enjoyed presentations on albinism, education/employment, as well as panel discussions on sports, parenting and sports. A small number of exhibitors joined us and those staying over gathered together for a group dinner.

We continue to receive a good flow of enquiries mostly online, including questions about albinism but also approaches from the media which we evaluate for their benefits to the organisation and the albinism community – responding as appropriate. We also share news and research items of interest to our members. Evidence of these can be seen at www.albinism.org.uk and in our magazine Albinism Life. We have a strong following online too.

Structure, governance and management

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, Roselle Potts, Akeel Bari and Mark Sanderson for their continued support.

Plans for the future

Looking forward, The Hayes Conference Centre, Derbyshire will host our next weekend conference (October 2015). There are already plans for more events in NI and the rest of the UK including reactivating events in Scotland next year. Bringing people together to share, learn, cope (and live life to the full) because of albinism continues to be the core of what we do. We will continue to do more of this and expand and develop our supporters especially as fundraisers, event organisers and to run the charity (trustees).

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 2014 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)	£3,649
Donations	£13,418
Conference income	£6,750
Total Income	£23,817

Less: Expenditure

Item	Amount
Conference costs	£17,753
Secretarial and stationery costs (P O Boxes)	£244
Magazine expenses (Albinism Life)	£811
Regional events expenses	£1,117
Meeting expenses (trustees etc.)	£405
Literature, merchandise & exhibition stands	£265
Telephone	£229
Travel (meetings, events & conf. planning)	£306
Bank charges and interest (Just Giving)	£216
Safeguarding training etc. (annual fee)	£39
Governance costs (e.g. accounts)	£1,017
Total Expenses	£22,402
Surplus for the year	£1,415

Balances

Balance as at 31 March 2013	£537
+ surplus for 2013-14	£1,415
Balance as at 31 March 2014	£1,952