

The background of the entire page is a soft-focus bokeh effect. It consists of numerous out-of-focus circles in various colors, including shades of blue, teal, pink, yellow, and white, creating a sparkling and dreamy atmosphere.

# Abbie's Sparkle Foundation

## annual report

2020 – 2021



## **Annual Report April 2020 – March 2021**

### **Charity Contact Information**

Charity's name:	Abbie's Sparkle Foundation
Scottish Charity Number:	SC048189
Address:	5 Westerfolds Cottages. Duffus. Elgin
Postcode:	IV305RH
Telephone number:	01343209143
Email address:	<a href="mailto:abbiessparklefoundation@gmail.com">abbiessparklefoundation@gmail.com</a>
Website:	<a href="http://abbiessparklefoundation.org">abbiessparklefoundation.org</a>

### **Social Media**

Twitter:	@AbbiesSparkle25
Facebook:	abbiessparklefoundation
Instagram:	abbiessparklefoundation

### **Donate**

Link:	<a href="https://justgiving.com/abbiessparklefoundation">https://justgiving.com/abbiessparklefoundation</a>
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The following people volunteered their time to help spread Abbie's Sparkle during April 2020 – March 2021 ....

### Charity Trustees

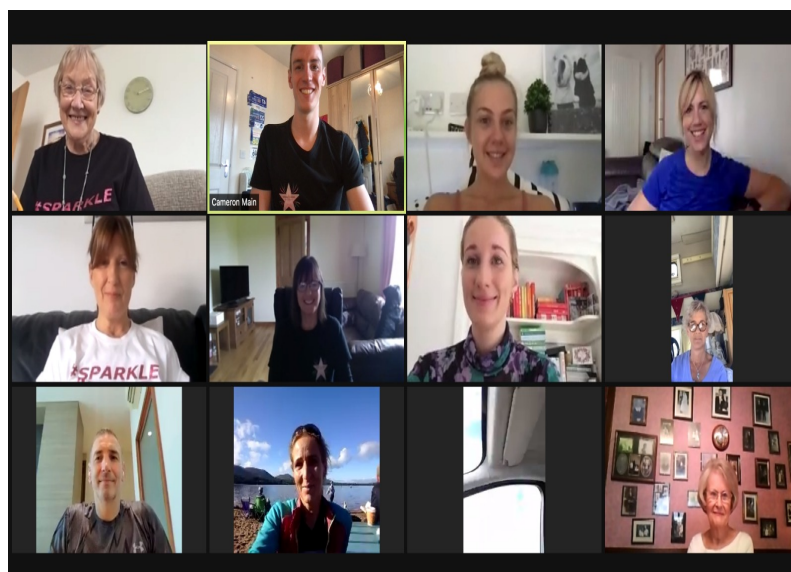
Cameron Main	Chairman
Tammy Main	Trustee and Charity Manager
Russell Main	Trustee and Events Coordinator
Angela Jess	Trustee and Merchandise Coordinator
Emma Whitton	Trustee
Karen W Smith	Secretary and Vice Chair
Julie Macdonald	Treasurer
David Allen	Trustee
NEW	

### Updates from AGM

Re elected
Re elected
Re elected
Re elected
Re elected as Treasurer
Left post
Left post
Re elected
Lauren Donald – Secretary

### Charity Ambassadors

Jennie Cameron  
Helen Main  
Kate McGarrey  
Chloe Cameron  
Christine Whitton  
David McKenzie  
Vicky Stewart  
Jenny Stewart  
Caroline Cameron  
Kylie Tatters  
Michelle Tatters



## Objectives and Activities

Abbie Main created Abbie's Sparkle Foundation. Abbie passed away from Sarcoma Cancer on Christmas Day 2017 and left wishes for her family to set up her charity to raise, in her own words, "Money towards Hospitals and Stuff".

### Our Aims:

- To put a smile on the face of a child undergoing challenges due to cancer.
- To give them even a small moment to feel happier.
- For them to know that someone is thinking of them and understanding that times are hard.
- To allow a child to have a treat that perhaps the family, due to circumstances, can no longer afford.
- And to help families make special memories.
- To spread awareness of Children's cancer and Sarcoma.

### What we do:

- We give gifts and grants (or as we call them Sparkles) to Children who are affected by cancer. This could mean they are in treatment, in remission or bereaved.
- Application for a Sparkle is via the form on our Website. This application can come directly from families or via their Oncology Social Worker or Specialist Nurse, who we are in close communication with.
- Applications are considered on an individual basis dependent on need and recipients may be supported on more than one occasion, depending on circumstances.
- We visit the Nurses in Scotland during Christmas and Easter to deliver Sparkle gift bags to all the children who are in active treatment, in Highland and Grampian. They also visit the Oncology Ward in The Royal Children's Hospital in Glasgow, Dundee and Edinburgh to deliver the Sparkle Gift Bags to all the Children in the unit that day.
- We spread awareness of Children's cancer and Sarcoma by having information on our Website, by linking in relevant Websites for followers to visit for information and support. We share information and tag relevant Children's cancer organisations on our Social Media platforms. We share information when we are speaking publically about Abbie's Sparkle Foundation. We take part in the specific months of awareness spreading - July for Sarcoma and September for Childhood Cancer.

## Who do we help

Children aged 18 or under living in the UK. Funds raised in Scotland stays in Scotland, Funds raised in other parts of the UK will be allocated to Children with cancer in the Hospitals nearest to the fundraiser.

## Our work throughout this year

### Sparkles (Output):

We are so proud that Abbie has spread 192 Sparkles in her third-year taking her up to 503 Children and families that have been supported. Examples of these are:

- Gifts - Wii, Bedroom makeover's Household goods, furnishings, Lego, Toddler Bed, Baby carrier, 14 arts & Crafts, Vinyl's, beats, Ipad's, exclusive use of soft play, swing chair & Gazebo, Gaming PC. Party, Swing set, Silver Cross Pram, Clothes, Playstation 5 £ for a special Christmas and Birthdays, book sets, Nintendo Switch, Samsung buds, Dyson Hair styler.
- Grants – on an individually assessed basis, helping several families with costs and treats while away from home undergoing treatment.
- Annual Easter Sparkles (2020) 44 Easter Gifts of value up to £250 to all the local Children and Children in treatment in Grampian and Highlands who would have been shielding due to CV – included Trampolines, TV's, Printers, Toys, Arts & Crafts, Laptops, tablets, Climbing Frame, Kids Playhouse, Fitbit, Bedroom furniture, Scooter, Mini Circus Tent, Swing, Keyboard, Vouchers and some Grants for activities.
- Annual Christmas Sparkle Bags (2020) – 45 Goodie Bags to local Children and hospitals containing £100 Vouchers. Letters sent to Glasgow and Edinburgh to apply for their £100 Christmas Voucher - 52 were returned and fulfilled
- Weekend trips and no cost stays at Abbie's Sparkle Lodge with further support for treats



## What our help does and the impact it has on others:

- Brings a wee bit of happiness to children and supports families
- Brings Abbie's Sparkle into people's lives, inspiring and motivating them
- Gives strength to others during their own cancer journey
- Gives people a purpose
- Supporters feel good about helping Abbie, help others
- Gives Abbie's family and friends a positive focus

## Structure, Governance and Management

Abbie's Sparkle Foundation complies with its governing document, that is its Constitution, which can be seen on our website. This set's out our purpose, structure and describes how we operate. It is run by our Board of trustees, some of the Trustees have operational roles as well as governance responsibilities. Abbie's Sparkle Foundation is regulated by OSCR.

Governance work started in January 2020 and progressed through the year, which included more advice and guidance from TSI Moray, developing Role Descriptions, Contracts and our Code of Conduct. We had quarterly Trustees meetings where we reviewed our Strategy and financial plans. We also had Team Sparkle Operational meetings monthly.

We are mindful of trying to be diverse on the board to bring creativity, energy and transparency. We are all aware of our roles and responsibilities and regularly review these at Trustee meetings.

## Trustee recruitment and appointment

Trustee recruitment happens as seen to be necessary and after discussion by and agreement of all the trustees presently in position. Abbie's Sparkle Foundation had 6 trustees and 2 more was appointed at their Annual General Meeting. No external organization would be involved in the appointments.

Trustee recruitment is open for discussion at any point as we are aware that diversity and a variety of skills and experience can boost our charities performance.

## Achievements and performance

### Our main achievements throughout the year:

- Getting through the year of Covid restrictions and lockdowns, which all our planned events being cancelled and with the support and creativity of our community's and further afield, we still raised over £100,000.
- We kept a positive attitude and developed Sparkle Friday Zoom meetings to keep everyone's spirits up .
- Spread 500 Sparkles. We used creative ways of still reaching the Children, even though we couldn't travel or enter the hospitals.
- Abbie's Sparkle Lodge was well used in between the lockdowns and restrictions.
- Gary Banfords amazing Legacy of fundraising raising over £25,000.
- Restructured the Board with commitment to good Governance.
- Abbie's Sparkle 100 Club (Small Society Lottery) was launched and is running successfully with 87 members. We were even able to have a draw in Perth Australia .
- Recognized by an Artist from London who used Abbie's Badges in a piece of Artwork and shared her story to inspire others in support groups.
- We were chosen to share Abbie's Story with Sarcoma UK live on Zoom Bingo.
- We supported both Sarcoma and Childhood cancer awareness months.
- We appreciate the continued support from Bijou Elgin having us as their chosen Charity. We are grateful for all the local Businesses that fundraise via ASF Collection Tins.
- ASF Online shop was launched
- Abbie travelled 240,960.28 Miles all the way to the Moon during her Birthday month of October

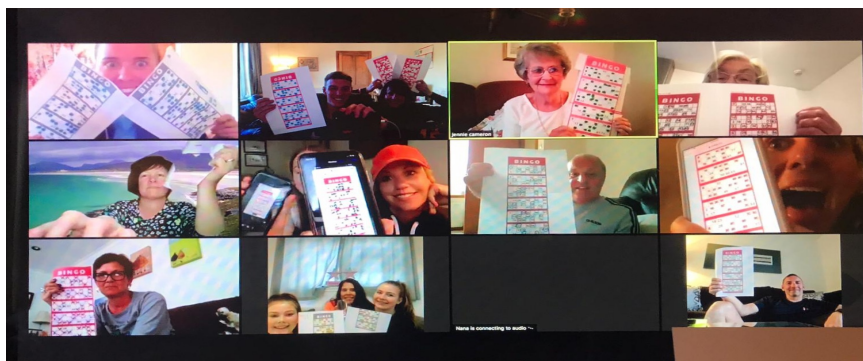




## Fundraisers

### There were 44 Fundraisers for Abbie's Sparkle Foundation:

- New Members joined AS100
- Peter Duggie 60 Mile Walk for his 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday
- Walking on Sunshine Dance created by Emma & Iris – 'Text donate'
- 100K indoor Cycle
- Lucky Squares by local Business Threaplands
- Solo Ironman Cycle & Run by Reece Ashfield
- Birthday Cocktails by Christine
- Cycling the NC500 by Luke Howard
- Referees 24hr Running Challenge in Moray
- Birthday Bows for Abbie's 18th by Amellia
- Bake Sales and Lucky Squares
- Forres Teacher shaved her hair off in school
- Sales of Masks made by 2 supporters
- Elgin Academy Dress as you please
- Run the Peaks - Virtual Challenge
- Speyside Soaps Sparkles Bath Crystals
- ASF Christmas Hamper run by Christine
- Rugby Glue t shirts – inspired by Gary B
- Bobble Hat sales at Christmas by Chloe
- Mortgage Commission by IK Mortgages
- Horse Racing competition by Guvner Taxis
- Month of Exercise in January by Rob Bichan
- New Years Day Sit up Challenge by Callum Witkowski
- Rugby Six Nations predictions – inspired by Gary B
- 2 Fundraisers by RAF Lossie - inspired by GB
- Big Birthday donations
- All Stars and Stripes Online Bingo Night
- ZM Online Bingo
- Virtual Topsy Tea Party by Shelly Imlach
- Collection Tins in Local Businesses
- No Profit Moray - Sales of Wooden items and Coppers for Kiddies
- Fencing Solutions Tarves- Colouring Comp, Planters and Mud Kitchens
- Charity of the Year for Lossie Owls Rugby Club
- Regular donator - June Prossar
- Grants : St James Palace, YPI, RWG (John Igesund), TK Max, Total, W Grant & Sons





## Biggest Successes

Gary Banford's "Get Fit to Fight Cancer" – after staying in Abbie's Sparkle Lodge with his family, Gary was inspired to do daily 'Hit' training videos to raise money and awareness of his own journey with cancer. He inspired so many people to also take up their own challenges and raised over £27,000. Gary continues to inspire people to fundraise for Abbie's Sparkles

Miles to the Moon challenge for Abbie's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday saw over 1087 participants signing up to exercise and log their miles during Abbie's Birthday month. The challenge inspired and motivated people during a time of added stress and restrictions due to covid and gave them a focus to keep active. This helped both physically and mentally and a whopping 240,960.28 miles were accumulated in total. It raised £6733.75 with Colin Scott's £1660 and Peter Duggie £1000 adding to funds raised making it a total of £9393.75

The virtual Kiltwalk by Team Sparkle, where Walkers planned their own exercise and had fun walking and cycling routes in Moray and Aberdeenshire, with 50% extra funds donated by Sir Tom Hunter raising £5350 .



## Teams Sparkles own Highlights

Definitely Miles to the Moon “It was amazing to know that every day of Abbie’s Birthday month that hundreds of people were exercising for Abbie. It was so exciting watching the miles stack up, everyone worked together and committed their time to get Abbie to the Moon. I’ve never cycled so much, it really gave us such a positive focus” “So special for everyone to reach the moon for Abbie but also for the sense of community it brought about when Sparkliness was very much needed during the pandemic” “the sheer amount of people who got on board to help Abbie get there was phenomenal and humbling too” “Watching all the miles add up with so many people taking part, LOVED it”

“Gary Banfords amazing Sparkly Spirit during his own personal challenges and the awareness support and money he raised to support Children affected by cancer” “We are so touched by the fundraising legacy Gary created. He is much loved and inspired so many people to generously donate to help Children going through a similar journey to him”

## Contribution of our Volunteers

Abbie’s Sparkle Foundation is run by volunteers who give their time and energy to help Abbie spread her Sparkle. It would not be possible to carry out our purposes without this support.

We welcome members of the public who are inspired by Abbie and her legacy to come and join us and help make a difference to Children with cancer. We have volunteer forms where people can register their interest and availability. We have had very positive feedback from the public as to how well run, friendly, fun and of course Sparkly our events are. We pride ourselves on how many family and friends are involved with Abbie’s Charity and we feel this closeness comes across to the public. We are always looking for new ideas and ways to continue raising funds for Abbie’s Sparkles.

## What impact has Abbie’s Sparkle Foundation made?

Abbie’s Sparkle has helped 192 children and families in its 3rd year. Therefore it has now made a difference to the lives of a total of 192 children and families, supporting them through their own challenging times. This we fully understand having supported Abbie through her own cancer treatment and being helped by charities ourselves.

We know the impact of how cancer affects children. We have seen the isolation that happens when your child cannot go to school and misses out on spending time with their peers. We have felt the frustration when a child can’t do the activities they enjoy due to the physical impact of cancer treatment and we understand the impact that a cancer diagnosis can have on a family, their circumstances and their finances.

That is why Abbie’s Sparkle Foundation is here, putting a bit of Sparkle into a child’s day and to provide support to the families. We plan to have a lasting impact with Abbie’s Sparkle Lodge to help hundreds of children and families.

## Our Impact - Parent Feedback

Thank you for this amazing opportunity, to gift my daughter during this crazy and trying time.

Thanks so so much, she will be absolutely delighted with it.

Still using our trampoline every day for last years Easter sparkle and still loving it :)

Just a note to let you know that you made one little girls day, week, month and everyday forward just that bit more fun! She received her scooter yesterday and she couldn't have been happier!! Thanks so much for your kindness and generosity and to those who fundraise for you to make little ones like our daughter ever so happy.

Like everyone else we'll look forward to the lifting of lock-down restrictions when the time is right and with his Sparkle, look to treat him to something really special. You are doing so much good and inspiring us.

I'm thinking all day what to say in my reply as thank you does not cut it, she is absolutely delighted to be getting new bedroom furniture, she is so excited and this has really made her smile which in turn makes me happy. I also feel sad thinking about how your charity happened and my heart goes out to you and your family, thank you so much for all your selfless acts of kindness, with a Mum like you I know for a fact Abbie would be an amazing girl with a very big heart of gold. Sending so my appreciation.

Thank you so much for all your help it really is appreciated

We are overwhelmed with help that is being offered

Thank you so much for your help in this difficult time of not being able to go anywhere.

This is very generous of you, thank you for thinking of him.

He will be delighted, really appreciate this kind gift from yourselves.

Thanks so much! That's great, you should be recognised for the amazing work you do for us families. Thanks a million

I'm really touched at what amazing charities like yourselves do, after going through painful experiences. It is truly remarkable and I admire you.

It will definitely be spent on a nice special present and maybe organise a little party for him.

It will be well used! It has made a huge difference! I am actually in tears.

I would like to thank the foundation for the grant that we have received recently. The lockdown has had a big effect on my son, the financial situation has changed drastically and left us struggling. The grant has made a massive difference for my little family. We even had some money left to spend on my sons upcoming special 18th birthday. Abbie's Sparkle Foundation has been a true spark in the darkness of the CV19 Pandemic. A huge "Thank You" to all volunteers who do the fundraising over the years, another family has been helped out and is extremely grateful.

We really can't thank you enough, her face says it all. You've absolutely made her day. Thank you so so much for everything you've done for Holly.

Thank you for making our son happy

Thank you so much, that really is so amazing of you!

He will be so excited and pleased when he receives his gift. Thank you doesn't seem enough.

I just want to say a massive thank you. My mom and myself greatly appreciate the immensely generous grant Abbie Sparkle have gifted to my family. Khym also sends his thanks as well, his wee face lit up when he heard.

I think your foundation is incredible and you've no doubt brought a lot of Sparkle to families as you have with mine.

I just wanted to let you know he is loving his iPad and is also doing his sign language on it as well. Thanks again.

That's absolutely amazing, thank you so much. Its a tough journey but getting through it!

We as a family have been overwhelmed with the care, love & support we have received from so many people and charities. So we would like to say a huge thank you so much to everyone at Abbie's Sparkle Foundation.

Thank you for your kind words and all the support you have given us. We are incredibly grateful and appreciate it so much.

Thank you so much for the Grant,  
it will help me give her an extra special Xmas this year.

Thank you so, so much for the grant you have sent us.  
It will help us so much! What amazing work you do.

Reading this email has literally just had me in tears as we are so grateful for all the support and help we have been receiving. This year has been so hard made even worse by covid-19

We are so thankful and grateful for everything.

We just take each day at a time with him some days are so much harder than others but he is my little warrior and we will always keep fighting its just so hard with him being so young.

Thank you so much for the grant you gave our daughter, I can't tell you what a boost it gave us this week after we'd had a difficult couple of days. It made her feel like a princess and really added to the fun, particularly since we're unable to go out to celebrate at the moment. So thank you so much. Abbie has definitely spread her sparkle to us at a really challenging time.

Abbie's sparkles will definitely put a smile on her face

You have made two children extremely happy, thank you so so much.  
They are over the moon

I am so excited to have received such an amazing and awesome gift from Abbie's sparkle. This grant has made a world of difference to my family by taking away the worry that comes with this time of the year - the financial burden of getting gifts to brighten up the season and the household expenses required at this time. Abbie's sparkle has put massive smiles on our sons face as well as all our faces. We cannot thank you enough for ending our year on such a high note. Christmas came early for my family, all thanks to Abbie's sparkle".

We are just blown away by your kindness and generosity. Thank you so much  
You are bringing a lot of happiness into our home right now

Thank you so much for Carter's gift bag today.  
You really do bring joy to the sick kids.

**#Sparkle**

## Financial Review

Access to full Annual Return is seen at [OSCR.org .uk](https://oscr.org.uk)

### Income April 2020/March 2021

Donations	£5167.00
Virgin Money Giving	£871.38
Abbie's Sparkle 100 Club	£6630.00
Fundraising Activity	£21,660.20
Bank Transactions	£2,936.53
Grants	£21,449.22
Total Income	£100,495.60

### Outgoings April 2020/March 2021

Sparkles (Gifts and Grants)	£45,946.69
Fundraising Activity Expenses	£1122.14
Trading	£1035.62
Payments for Abbie's sparkle Lodge	£5076.05
Payments for Charity Activity	£3,699.86
Bank Transactions	£1784.10
Total Expenditure	£58,664.46



## Statement of the charity's policy on reserves:

We held funds in reserve for the following reasons:

- Covid 19 – due to restricted fundraising and increased need for Sparkles
- Abbie's Sparkle Lodge
- Completion of surrounding decking area, grounds, plumbing and additional work within the holiday home
- Dalraddy Annual Fees and Rates £1838
- Holiday Home Insurance potentially £500
- ASF Liability Insurance £200 potential
- Funds for Sparkle Stays at ASL - £200 per family

The desired level of deficit each year would fluctuate depending on the charity funding activity at the time. This would be based on income and outgoings. Abbie's Sparkle Foundation aims to help every child and family who applies to us for support.

## Details of any deficit:

No Deficit was incurred

## Donated services and support:

We thank everyone for being motivated and committed to help Abbie and her legacy to help others and appreciated the good teamwork and combination of skills that enables Abbie's Sparkle Foundation to grow and develop as successfully as it has.

We appreciate all the support from our community and thank all our donators and sponsors. We would particularly like to thank the businesses that have taken on Abbie's Charity throughout the year, those who have Abbie's Collection Tins and our regular donators and fundraisers.

We appreciate Digital Solutions for donating their services to creating and maintaining our website, Moray digital limited for advice and support with printing, Dallas Designs for supporting Abbie's Merchandise, Third Sector Interface moray for their advice and support and Lynne Davidson, Finance Director for giving her time to carry out the Independent Examination of, our accounts.

Thank you  
Sparkle Foundation

## Importance of Good Communication, Information Sharing and Transparency

- We have Regular Trustees Governance and Strategy meetings, as well as Team Sparkle meetings where we share ideas and plan operations with our Ambassadors.
- We have a specific Coordinator roles, to help streamline communication with all Trustees, Ambassadors and helpers.
- All meetings were held on Zoom due to Covid restrictions and due to Geography of our members. The public were invited to our AGM, with notices posted on our Social Media.
- All Sparkles and Fundraisers are highlighted on Abbie's sparkle Foundation Social Media platforms. These live feed onto Abbie's website.
- We have close links with Specialist Nurses and Social Workers in all areas where Abbie has been Spreading her Sparkles.
- Our Website is a source of lots of information and has our application form with full instructions on how to complete.
- A copy of this Annual Report will be available on our website
- Room for improvement – keeping our website up to date, Role Descriptions for our Ambassadors

## Confidentiality policy

In order to respect families' privacy and confidentiality, we do not publicise stories or photos unless this is something the family wish us to do. Based on how Abbie conducted her life and how much she valued her privacy, we only ask families for anonymous quotes to help highlight the real impact of Abbie's Sparkles. We share all our Sparkle giving on Abbie's Sparkle Foundation social media. We are as transparent as possible within the boundaries of this ethos. Our aim is to support families with minimal stress to them and with total respect for their circumstances.

## Working with Young People in the community through Youth Philanthropy Initiative

Our manager and helpers work with school pupils in Buckie, Forres, Milnes, Elgin High, Elgin Academy, Gordonstoun and Lossiemouth. We love the opportunity to Network with the younger generation and to support them on their own journey with YPI. We appreciate working with all the Youth Philanthropy Initiative school pupils where we can inspire them by sharing Abbie's Story, information about her charity and spread awareness of sarcoma and childhood cancer as this could lead to early diagnosis and potentially save a life.

Be the Difference  
Be the Difference

## Plan Moving Forward for 2021 and Beyond

The plan moving forward for 2021 and beyond is to continue with Abbie's vision to raise *"Money towards Hospitals and Stuff"* and to spread awareness of Childhood cancer and Sarcoma.

## Future Fundraisers

We had several events planned for 2021, including another Sparkle Ceilidh and all had to be cancelled due to Covid 19. We even had a supporter undertaking a Challenge to take Abbie's Sparkle to Everest Base Camp. Amazingly our supportive community came up with creative ways to continue fundraising with virtual events and doing fantastic challenges in return for donations and thankfully some events have been rebooked for 2022.

- Limited amount of paid bookings for ASL
- Gregors Ben Nevis Challenge – completed in June
- Team Twenty 19 – Completed in July
- Lucky Squares to support Local Business
- RAF Lossie Owls World Record Non-Stop Rugby – completed in August
- ASCD Showcase Stall – attended in August
- Run the Peaks Challenge– Completed in August
- Wilsons Wedding – attended in Sept
- Lauren Muddy Sparkles Banchory Beast Race and Kiltwalk in Glasgow – completed in Sept
- Gleaner Arena 5 Aside Football – Boeig with Merch Stall – attended in Oct
- Gary Able doing the London Marathon – completed Oct
- Abbie's 19<sup>th</sup> Birthday Lucky Squares – completed Oct
- Abbie's Birthday Beach Walk with Team Sparkle – completed Oct
- Andrew doing a head shave – completed Nov
- Christmas Hampers – for month of Dec
- 21 Sparkle Challenge – 21 months 21 Challenges – all leading up to Abbie's 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday in Oct 2023 (see website for further details)
- Sparkle Ceilidh – April 2022
- Everest Challenge - Jason Robinson, Spring 2022
- Scribbles Quiz night – TBA by Gill McKenzie
- Bingo Night at the Town hall Nov 2022
- Abbie's 21<sup>st</sup> Sparkle Ball

# Abbie's Sparkle Foundation Strategy

## Short-terms goals

1. Continue fundraising and supporting our fundraisers. At least 5 ASF events, develop AS100 memberships
2. Good communication with our supporters, develop newsletter to feedback
3. Fulfill all Sparkle requests
4. Continue to deliver Christmas and Easter Sparkles to Highland, Aberdeenshire, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dundee.
5. Complete "Sparkle Lodge" business plan, including support from local businesses.
6. Continue to have at least 25 families stay at ASL and develop the potential to fundraise with rental stays
7. Potential donation to Children's cancer research
8. Continue to Spread awareness of Children's cancer and Sarcoma. Support the awareness raising months of July (Sarcoma) and September (Children's Cancer). Continue links with Glow Gold (Childhood cancer awareness) Campaigners.

## Long-term goals

1. Attract and keep committed sponsors and supporters. Consider a plan to secure corporate giving.
2. Continue to revisit and evaluate our Governance Strategies, Financial Strategies, and Policy's
3. Keep using creativity and imagination to keep providing Sparkles where they are needed the most, particularly in any areas that are not yet covered

TIME TO SPARKLE  
TIME TO SPARKLE

## Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name: Elizabeth Main K/A Tammy Main

Designation: Trustee/Charity Manager

Date : 10.12.20