



**Annual Report and Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 October 2024**

**Registered Charity – SC040193**

# **Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children**

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 October 2024**

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**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children  
Trustees' Annual Report  
For the year ended 31 October 2024**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2024.

**Reference and Administrative Information**

**Charity name** Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children  
**Known as** SNAC

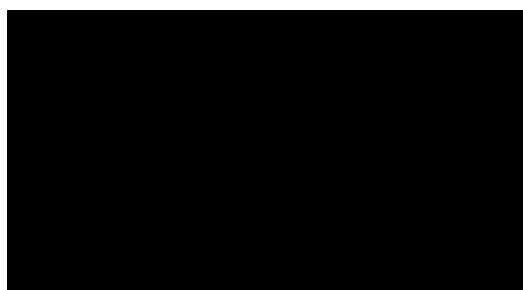
**Charity number** SC040193

**Contact address**



**Trustees**

Current trustees of the charity are:



**Structure, Governance and Management**

**Constitution**

The Charity is an unincorporated association registered on 16 January 2009 and governed by a constitution.

**Recruitment and appointment of Trustees**

At each annual general meeting, the members may elect any member to be a member of the management committee, which form the Trustees of the charity. The management committee may at any time appoint any member to be a member of the management committee. At each annual general meeting, all of the members of the management committee shall retire from office - but shall then be eligible for re-election.

## **Objectives and Activities**

### **Charitable purposes**

The charity's object is to provide a national support network for children with arthritis (and associated conditions) and their families through the provision of factual, practical and emotional support. It aims to pull together the wider community of affected children in Scotland as well as raise public awareness of childhood arthritis.

The charitable purposes are:

- the advancement of education,
- the provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended, and
- the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

## **Achievements**

### **Chair's Report: an overview of the activities and achievements of the charity:**

The Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children (SNAC) was started in 2008. Although parent volunteers / committee members have changed over the years, the aims of the charity remain the same:

- to provide factual, practical, and emotional support to children and their families affected by Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA) and,
- to raise & maintain awareness of the condition and its impact on children affected.

There are currently 638 active family memberships on the register, equating to 1925 individual members.

SNAC (SCIO) is lucky to have a fabulous group of volunteer parents who juggle supporting the charity with work, study commitments, homelife and carer roles for both their own children and often parents. Without the precious time and energy from our volunteer parents, SNAC could not continue to support families in Scotland affected by JIA. I would like to formally thank everyone for their ongoing commitment, organisation skills, positivity & time.

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***Chair's report continued***

Key roles of the committee, though not exhaustive, include distribution of welcome packs and overseeing the merchandise platform, 'buzzies' distribution, administrative duties to comply with charity governance and overseeing closed FB groups and membership requests, attendance at various groups e.g., SPARN, Cross parliamentary Musco-skeletal group, organising and hosting local and national events for families to attend and network, providing a link to medical staff and other charitable organisations, website maintenance, and administration of [REDACTED] fund.

Committee meetings remain online, which aids attendance, note taking and cost effective and more time efficient. However, in past the committee have valued the face-to-face time they had had during family weekends which from a team-building point of view, allowed more natural conversation and strengthens relationships for working together. We aim to hold our future AGMs with added strategy workshop to our parent's information day in March 2025 to facilitate close working and agree events moving forwards.

The current SNAC(SCIO) Trustees & Committee members consist of:

Role	Current Holder
Chair	[REDACTED]
Secretary	
Treasurer	
Trustees & committee members	
Professional Trustees	
Volunteers	
Patrons	

**Transfer to SCIO by Nov 2024**

Under the guidance of our treasure [REDACTED] and founding member and Trustee [REDACTED] SNAC successfully transferred from being a registered charity to a Scottish Charity Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). This means that SNAC (SCIO) is a recognised legal entity, separate from the volunteers who run it with tightened governance around our processes and liability. We remain regulated by OSCR (Scottish Charity Regulator). This has been a huge piece of work with various conditions to satisfy and we extend a huge thanks to [REDACTED] for navigating the journey within key deadlines

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children  
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***Chair's report continued***

**Overview of Activities since last reporting period (Oct 2023 – Oct 2024)**

SNAC ended 2023 with a “National Cinema Event” and booked out an Odeon in Edinburgh, Dundee and Glasgow along with a Cineworld in Aberdeen for the same date in November. Over 200 members attended sporting purple t-shirts, to watch Disney’s newest release, WISH with snacks and drinks. This was very well received by families and highlights the need to support more local events to allow parents to chat and network. Some newly diagnosed families were delighted and somewhat overwhelmed to see so many families together and the emotional response highlights the value SNAC can add to a family’s experience of living with JIA. We successfully raised awareness with a few enquiries about collection tins and were able to signpost a non-member passerby to our website to access info for their newly diagnosed daughter.

We ended the year with promotion of the SNAC virtual Christmas card to raise some funds and asked the community to flood the closed FB group with Christmas jumper photos on the 7th of December!

**January 2024**

The Trustees & office bearers (secretary, treasurer and then acting chair) met in Glasgow for an away day to discuss the risks and benefits and necessary steps for SNAC to become a SCIO. This was a valuable strategy day and provided the space for more prolonged discussion which is often a challenge during evening committee meetings.

**Blair Drummond Family Day – 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024**

An amazing grant of £14,000 from the National Lottery’s Awards for All programme enabled a national family fun day at Blair Drummond Safari Park on the 15th of September, open to all SNAC members. Buses with various pick-ups on route, were run from Ayr, Aberdeen, Glasgow and the Lothians enabling 400 people to attend a fantastic day with lunch, snacks, workshops by the Teapot Trust and animal antics! Children with JIA can often feel alone and isolated with their condition and parents and carers need support. The event was a huge success, allowing children and their siblings to hook up with old and make new friends, share useful information and tips for coping with JIA and generally have a great time. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, reinforcing the need for these events and making all the organisation behind the scenes truly worthwhile. A massive thanks to [REDACTED] who not only secured the grant, but coordinated the whole event and volunteer tasks.

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children  
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For the year ended 31 October 2024**

***Chair's report continued***

**Local Events:**

Due to the big Blair Drummond day, there was a reduced program of well attended local events enabling families to network:

Date	Location	Event
4 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Livingston	Goopy Slime Workshop for age 3+
5 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Glasgow	Rouken Glen Pottery party
19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Dalkeith	Tween / Teen Go Ape high rope course
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Bearsden	Tubing for 6+

**Aimee's Fund**

In 2023/24 SNAC received 3 Aimee's Fund grant applications for a course of swimming lessons, a term of horse riding and a bike (2 from health professionals at RHSC Edinburgh and 1 from Glasgow). This is down on previous years and will be mentioned again at the Scottish Paediatric Arthritis Network meeting to highlight to healthcare professionals that the fund is there and what it can cover.

**Buzzy Devices**

These remain popular and requested either individually by families or by the Rheumatology Nurses for distributing. Thank you to [REDACTED] for coordinating the supply on demand to Rheumatology Nurses and patients.

**Welcome packs**

These continue to be distributed to newly diagnosed children – thank you to the extended [REDACTED] family who send all packs from Arran! We have added to the packs this year and they are now sent out in cardboard instead of plastic envelopes in the interests of the environment.

**Online Shop**

Massive thanks to [REDACTED] for setting up a new online shop for SNAC. Previously, members were able to purchase merchandise from eBay and volunteers would parcel up the goods for posting out. This was becoming untenable from both a storage and time commitment point of view. Members can now buy SNAC badged products from <https://personalised.clothing/snac> and have them sent out directly which reduces postage costs for the charity and has provided the opportunity for new lines of merchandise – see the addition of the SNAC Reindeer in time for Christmas 2024!

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children  
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***Chair's report continued***

**Joint Working**

Committee members have also been representing SNAC at the Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Cross-party meetings at Scottish parliament, a children's mental health panel, providing letters of support for conference hosting bids & some research initiatives. We continue to engage with secondary school aged children in their Youth Philanthropy Initiative work.

SNAC committee members have been continuing to link in with teams from the Teapot Trust and Versus Arthritis to see what events we could help with, or where our members could help inform their work. We were delighted that Teapot Trust ran workshops at our Blair Drummond event and are collaborating with VA colleagues for our planned parent's information day in March 2025.

We continue to provide the parent and child's perspective to the SPARN (Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children) and represent SNAC in collaborating with healthcare professionals on workstreams such as Guidelines and Quality Indicators, presenting at their education day in June 2024 and liaising with the clinical teams for support for our information days and families weekend planned for 2025.

**Social media & website**

SNAC continues to manage accounts in Instagram, Twitter and most actively, Facebook. There is a Facebook page (1.9k followers) and two Facebook groups, one specifically for parents and carers (closed group, 677 members)).

The website continues to be improved and updated. It is a good way of giving accurate information to families and is updated regularly with news items. All credit to [REDACTED] for continuing to support the committee with this and a formal thank you to SNAC member [REDACTED] who has come forward to offer his extensive experience in this area.

**Fundraising**

A simple but massive "Thank you" to all fundraisers! SNAC could not continue to carry out our aims to support families or run events without such a fantastic and generous community of supporters. Full details are in the Treasurer's report, and we continue to give shout-outs to fundraisers on the FB group.



**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children  
Trustees' Annual Report  
For the year ended 31 October 2024**

***Chair's report continued***

**Moving forward into 2025**

Already in the diary is a Parent's information day on 15<sup>th</sup> March in Dundee, where healthcare professionals will provide information to parents / carers with newly diagnosed children and those with teenagers and adolescents transitioning into adult services. A family weekend is planned for Sept 4-6<sup>th</sup> and this will be aimed at families who have never attended a weekend before and / or are needing some support. We look forward to more local events in the new year and in the meantime the SNAC elves are working on a Christmas newsletter for all members!

With the dissolution of SNAC as a charity and transfer of assets to SNAC (SCIO), we move forward in a stronger position with all current committee members agreeing to become Trustees. Although buoyant in numbers, the committee can only take on SNAC activities with the continued support of volunteers. There will need to be a focus on contingency and resilience in 2025 to ensure succession planning, particularly of the office bearer roles given that current holders approach the 3-year mark in post.

**Financial review**

Total receipts for the year were £58,212 (2023: £37,418). Payments in the year amounted to £34,480 (2023: £45,375). This resulted in net surplus for the year of £23,732 (2023: net deficit of £7,957). Funds represented by deposits held in the SCIO's bank accounts at 31 October 2024 were £114,045 (2023: £90,313) all of which were unrestricted.

**Trustee remuneration and expenses**

Trustees were reimbursed for travel expense on behalf of the charity of £941 (2023: £1,324).

**Reserves**

The charity has a savings account holding an amounts considered to be the reserves of the charity. This is considered necessary to fund the events for a period of time if fundraising levels dropped. As at 31 October 2024, this was £52,000 which is roughly in line with one year's expenditure.

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children  
Trustees' Annual Report  
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**Major risks facing the charity**

SNAC is a volunteer led charity and no payment is made to the committee members, other than any travel costs. Being able to run events, post out welcome packs, attend meetings and maintain the website and social media etc takes time. SNAC relies on parents / carers coming forward to help and with other life and work commitments this is not always guaranteed. The committee are exploring more routes to enable parents to help in a more manageable way.

Local events and in particular the larger Scotland wide event have become more costly to run over the last few years as businesses pass on their increased costs to service users. These costs are met via fundraising and although we are lucky to have an engaged membership who help with this, the committee are keen to explore the possibility of grants to assist with some of the bigger events to enable inclusion of more families.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the Chair.

**Chair**

**15 March 2025**

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children  
Independent Examiner's Report  
For the year ended 31 October 2024**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2024, which are set out on pages 10 and 11 and the related notes on pages 12 to 14.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006(as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). The charity Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

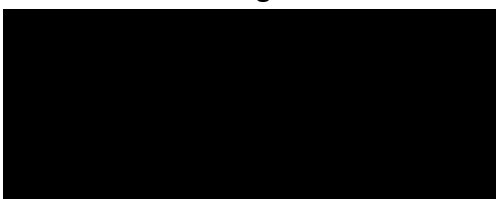
**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**EA Independent Ltd  
5 South Charlotte Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4AN  
7 April 2025**

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children**  
**Receipts and Payments Account**  
**For the year ended 31 October 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £	
<b>Receipts</b>						
Voluntary income	3	27,974	14,000	<b>41,974</b>	17,901	
Receipts from fundraising activities	4	16,238	-	<b>16,238</b>	19,517	
		<u>44,212</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u><b>58,212</b></u>	<u>37,418</u>	
<b>Payments</b>						
Fundraising activities	5	1,373	-	<b>1,373</b>	4,087	
Grants paid	6	867	-	<b>867</b>	1,643	
Charitable activities	7	18,240	14,000	<b>32,240</b>	38,817	
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	-	828	
		<u>20,480</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u><b>34,480</b></u>	<u>45,375</u>	
<b>Net receipts/(payments) for year</b>		<u>23,732</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>23,732</b></u>	<u>(7,957)</u>	<u></u>

The notes on pages 12 to 14 form part of these accounts

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children**  
**Statement of Balances**  
**For the year ended 31 October 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Opening funds		90,313	-	(90,313)	98,270
Net receipts/(payments) for year		23,732	-	<b>23,732</b>	(7,597)
<b>Closing funds</b>	8	<u>114,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>114,045</b></u>	<u>90,313</u>
<b>Represented by</b>					
Bank accounts		<u>114,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>114,045</b></u>	<u>90,313</u>

All funds at 31 October 2024 and 31 October 2023 are unrestricted

**Other assets**

	£	£
Fixed assets purchased at cost	<b>2,120</b>	2,120
Fixed assets at assumed current value	<b>414</b>	1,086
Stock of merchandise at cost	<b>12,808</b>	19,728

**Creditors**

	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	400	400

Approved by the Trustees on 15 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



**Chair**

The notes on pages 12 to 14 form part of these accounts

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 October 2024**

**1. Accounting policies**

*Basis of accounting*

The accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

*VAT*

The charity is not registered for VAT and, accordingly, expenditure includes VAT where appropriate.

*Resources expended*

Payments for fundraising activities comprises those costs incurred by the charity in raising funds for the charity and selling charity merchandise.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the Independent Examiner's fee.

*Nature and purpose of funds*

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. During the year the charity received funding from the National Lottery Community Fund Scotland to deliver a trip to Blair Drummond.

**2. Payments to Trustees**

Trustees were reimbursed for travel expenses when in charity duties, this amounted to a total of £941 (2023: £1,324).

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 October 2024**

**3. Voluntary income**

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Grants</b>				
The National Lottery	-	14,000	<b>14,000</b>	-
Bank of Scotland Foundation	10,000	-	<b>10,000</b>	-
The Wood Foundation	2,500	-	<b>2,500</b>	-
St James Place	2,500	-	<b>2,500</b>	-
<b>Donations</b>				
HSBC & match funding	2,507	-	<b>2,507</b>	-
Race Night	2,300	-	<b>2,300</b>	-
Benevity	1,600	-	<b>1,600</b>	-
Shepherd & Wedderburn	1,000	-	<b>1,000</b>	1,000
Donation from Golf - Douglas	-	-	-	4,050
Donation from Jam sales	-	-	-	3,110
Ralston Primary	-	-	-	1,537
Court of Dean	-	-	-	1,100
Others under £1,000	3,654	-	<b>3,654</b>	2,722
Gift Aid	1,913	-	<b>1,913</b>	4,382
	<u>27,974</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u><b>41,974</b></u>	<u>17,901</u>

**4. Receipts from fundraising activities**

	£	£	£	£
Fundraising activities	13,466	-	<b>13,466</b>	18,260
Trading activities	2,772	-	<b>2,772</b>	1,257
	<u>16,238</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>16,238</b></u>	<u>19,517</u>

**5. Costs of fundraising activities**

	£	£	£	£
Fundraising activities	1,214	-	<b>1,214</b>	395
Trading activities	159	-	<b>159</b>	3,692
	<u>1,373</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>1,373</b></u>	<u>4,087</u>

Trading activities relates to the purchase of branded merchandise for resale

**Scottish Network for Arthritis in Children**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 October 2024**

**6. Grants paid**

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Grants paid to individuals for equipment and similar	867	-	867	1,643

**7. Costs of charitable activities**

	£	£	£	£
Blair Drummond Event	2,372	14,000	16,372	879
Aviemore Event	-	-	-	24,118
Local Events	5,877	-	5,877	3,766
Buzzy 4 Shots	5,876	-	5,876	2,550
Welcome packs	1,888	-	1,888	2,923
What why video	-	-	-	2,461
Administration and travel costs	890	-	890	873
Insurance	676	-	676	687
Training and membership	261	-	261	560
Governance costs	400	-	400	-
	18,240	14,000	32,240	38,817

The cost of the 2024 independent examination of £400 is included in the statement of balances (2023: £400)

**8. Funds**

	Balance at 1 Nov 23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Balance at 31 Oct 24 £
Restricted Fund	-	14,000	(14,000)	-
Unrestricted Fund	90,313	44,212	(20,480)	114,045
Total Funds	90,313	58,212	(34,480)	114,045

**Nature and purpose of Funds**

**Unrestricted Funds:** This fund has no restriction and is administered on a discretionary basis by the trustees in line with the objects of the charity.

**Restricted Funds:** Represents funding from The National Lottery for the Blair Drummond trip.