



RANGERS  
CHARITY  
FOUNDATION



RANGERS CHARITY FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REVIEW

2023/2024

# WELCOME TO OUR ANNUAL REVIEW FOR SEASON 2023/2024



IT HAS BEEN A YEAR OF STRATEGIC SUCCESS AND SUSTAINED IMPACT FOR THE RANGERS CHARITY FOUNDATION. CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES FOR THE BETTER CAN BRING CHALLENGES, BUT IT IS ALSO A PRIVILEGE AND OUR RELENTLESS FOCUS. I'M VERY PROUD OF THE DEDICATION, EXPERTISE AND COMPASSION SHOWN BY OUR STAFF BUT ALSO THE COUNTLESS INDIVIDUAL STORIES OF PERSONAL GROWTH, CHANGE AND IMPROVEMENT WHICH OUR PARTICIPANTS HAVE ACHIEVED.

We are a Foundation for: Potential; Healthy Lives; Everyone and Anyone; A Better World; Our Local Community; Giving and Dreams, and we are committed, through these seven pillars, to making a powerful difference for people of all ages.

On behalf of everyone at the Foundation, I would like to share my thanks to our supporters, charity partners, volunteers, friends, funders and the over 7,400 people we have engaged with through our programmes and initiatives during the year.

I hope that you will be able to take some time to read our Annual Review and that you'll feel inspired by the remarkable work of the Rangers Charity Foundation.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Connal Cochrane'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a dark blue circular background.

Connal Cochrane

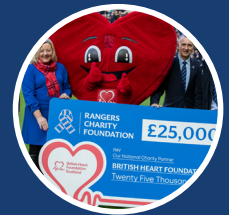
Chief Executive  
Rangers Charity Foundation

# OUR HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2023/2024



1. We delivered 23 community programmes and initiatives for 7,418 people of all ages, including our CashBack for Communities – Towards New Futures project which exceeded all outcome expectations and reached 53% more vulnerable young people than targeted.

2. We were able to champion and assist a range of local, national and international charity partners, including: Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity; Glasgow City Mission; The Simon Community; British Heart Foundation; BRAVEHOUND; Military Matters and UNICEF UK.



3. Our Wider Achievement programme for secondary school pupils who may be disengaged from school benefitted 276 pupils from 21 schools across five local authority areas – the highest number of schools in a year to date.

4. Cumulatively, almost 4,000 primary school pupils across Glasgow have benefitted from a range of tailored educational programmes focused upon health and wellbeing and diversity and inclusion, delivered by our inspiring community coaches.



5. We have continued to arrange for letters of support from first team players to be sent to those affected by illness, bereavement and difficult circumstances and provided Dream Day experiences for those in need.

6. In addition to our Armed Forces Fund, the Foundation coordinated Armed Forces Day and the annual observance of Remembrance at Ibrox as well as enjoying a second partnership event in Glasgow with TAPS, an American charity supporting bereaved military families.



7. The Foundation's Hub in the Community initiative continues to make a powerful difference, based in four secondary schools with dedicated Hub Officers delivering a range of programmes and one-to-one support to pupils who may be at risk of disengaging from their education or who need additional support to help fulfil their potential.

8. With a fantastic new 3G pitch and internal building upgrades well underway, the rejuvenation of the Ibrox Community Complex is set to further strengthen the Foundation's presence and capability within the local and wider community.





A FOUNDATION FOR

*Potential*

## OFFERING LIFE CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES IN EDUCATION AND PATHWAYS TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

Thanks to the Foundation's community programmes, thousands of young people are given the opportunity to learn, grow in confidence, improve their employability prospects and identify routes to other positive destinations, such as further education and volunteering.

Our CashBack For Communities – Towards New Futures programme, which aims to re-engage young people leaving prison or with experience of the criminal justice system, continues to break new ground. More participants completed the programme than ever before and every single graduate gained a new skill. We forged new partnerships with organisations in the local area with several of our course participants heading out to the Govan Appliance Project for work experience.

It was also a bumper year for our SQA Programme of Wider Achievement with a record 21 schools from five different local authorities engaging with the initiative. Thanks to the Foundation's SQA Approved Centre status, we are able to guide pupils who may be disengaged in the school environment through SQA approved qualifications. This year we handed out our 1,000th SQA award to Wider Achievement participant, Aaron Weir, from St Paul's High School.

“

The programme has helped me put the foundations down for a better future and it's something I'm determined to make work. I realise that I've done all my daft stuff and now I'm looking at planning a new chapter of my life.

”

Liam,  
CashBack for Communities Participant

Our Hub in the Community initiative runs in four high schools across Glasgow, with each school having a full-time member of Foundation staff on campus to assist with improving attainment and attendance. This year we hosted our first ever girl's football tournament at the Ibrox Community Complex where all four schools fielded a team.





411

SQA AWARDS  
WERE EARNED BY  
OUR PROGRAMME  
PARTICIPANTS

100%

OF OUR CASHBACK  
PROGRAMME  
PARTICIPANTS WENT  
ON TO A POSITIVE  
DESTINATION

276

SCHOOL PUPILS  
TOOK PART IN OUR  
WIDER ACHIEVEMENT  
PROGRAMME



A FOUNDATION FOR

# Healthy Lives

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND ADULTS TO IMPROVE THEIR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Our wide range of programmes target older people, young children and everyone in between thanks to a comprehensive range of initiatives designed to help people improve their health and wellbeing.

We have expanded our provision within mental wellbeing this season by adding an additional 'football and check in' session to our Team Talk initiative, as well as continuing with the Changing Room programme.

We run special activities for older people, such as Walking Football and Football Memories, and a variety of school-based programmes for young children focusing on nutrition and exercise, such as Joy of Moving and Get Ready For Sport.

Rangers players Robbie Fraser and Zak Lovelace visited a Joy of Moving session at St George's Primary School to talk to pupils about the importance of keeping active and having a balanced diet.

In partnership with the Scottish FA and thanks to funding from the Scottish Government, we launched the second phase of Extra Time in early 2024, which provides free after-school care for children at three local schools as well as a parent support group.

One of the Foundation's most popular programmes is Football Fans in Training, an initiative for adults aged 35 – 65. FFIT helps overweight men and women improve their fitness, lose weight and train with fellow fans at

“ There's no pressure on the course and there were always alternatives. I could modify aspects of the programme to suit my own personal fitness level which was great. ”

*Jackie,  
Football Fans In Training Participant*

Ibrox. This season alone, 123 adults lost a collective total of over 519kg and 875cm from their waists!

Participants are also given the opportunity to enjoy a free continuation programme, FFIT For Life, which helps them to maintain and build upon their successes from the course.





**127**

MEN ATTENDED OUR  
TEAM TALK SESSIONS

**519KG**

IN WEIGHT LOST BY FFIT  
PARTICIPANTS THIS SEASON

**296**

PEOPLE USED OUR  
WEEKLY RECOVERY  
DROP IN SERVICE



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# Everyone and Anyone

## CHAMPIONING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION FOR ALL

The Foundation is wholeheartedly committed to championing and celebrating diversity, which is reflected in the programmes we run under our Everyone and Anyone banner, as well as our wider work.

This year, thanks to funding from the Foundation's 150th Anniversary Appeal, we were able to launch Count Me In, a brand new programme providing young adults who have a learning disability with access to football.

Our flagship Diversity Wins programme was the first of its kind in the UK when it launched in 2018 and it was delivered to 831 primary pupils this season. Run in partnership with Glasgow City Council, this initiative teaches P6s and 7s about discrimination and prejudice, stereotyping and employability.

Lucky pupils at Pirie Park Primary School were treated to a visit by Rangers Women's player, Kirsty Howat, who took time to speak to the pupils about her experiences as a female footballer.

Autism Friendly Football and Visually Impaired Football sessions continue to be of huge benefit to young people who might otherwise be unable to enjoy structured football. The sessions provide an opportunity to have fun, become more physically active and allow parents and carers to connect.

We also partnered with our friends at the European Football for Development Network to deliver their

“ I think it's great that we can have conversations around diversity and inclusion in schools. We're in a world now where there's so many different cultures and beliefs so why should we not embrace every single one of them? ”

*Kirsty Howat,  
Rangers Women's Player*

Diversity Wins: Show Racism the Red Card programme this year with 800 young people participating in the workshops.

As part of our collective commitment to diversity and inclusion, Rangers Football Club and the Rangers Charity Foundation were proud once again to take part in Glasgow's Pride March.







831

PUPILS COMPLETED  
OUR DIVERSITY WINS  
INITIATIVE

1,758

PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN OUR  
EVERYONE ANYONE PROGRAMMES

96%

OF AUTISM  
FRIENDLY FOOTBALL  
PARENTS FELT THEIR  
YOUNG PERSON'S  
COMMUNICATION  
IMPROVED

# COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

## Healthy Lives

3,285 participants received 2,232 delivery hours of activity under our Healthy Lives pillar



### FOOTBALL FANS IN TRAINING

Hugely successful health and fitness programme for overweight men and women aged 35 to 65.



### FFIT FOR LIFE

Programme helping those who have completed FFIT maintain and build on their health and fitness successes.



### THE CHANGING ROOM

Targets men aged 30 to 64 and works to help participants better self-manage their mental health and support one another.



### TEAM TALK

Weekly support group helping adult men open up about mental wellbeing, build their social circle and raise confidence and coping skills.



### TEAM TALK FOOTBALL

Supporting men's physical and mental wellbeing through the power of football.



### RECOVERY DROP-IN

Peer-led weekly session for adults in recovery from drug or alcohol addiction which includes recovery meetings, access to support and a safe space to socialise.



### GET READY FOR SPORT

Our early primary years health and wellbeing programme which encourages kids to get active and learn about health.



### JOY OF MOVING

School-based programme for 9-10 year olds which encourages physical activity and delivers nutritional education.



### WALKING FOOTBALL

Free programme for anyone over 50 who wants to play football in a safe, non-contact environment.



### GLASGOW VETERANS UNITED EXTRA TIME

Free weekly football session for all Veterans offering social support, fitness and camaraderie.



### FOOTBALL MEMORIES

Helps to improve the lives of football fans with dementia by using football images and memorabilia from the past to aid recall and memory.



### SCOTTISH FA EXTRA TIME

Providing free after school and holiday activity clubs for primary school aged children.

Our total hours of cumulative programme delivery over the season equated to programmes taking place

**24** hours a day for **518** days

# Potential

2,192 participants received 9,595 delivery hours of activity under our Potential pillar



### TOWARDS BETTER FUTURES

Encompasses two programmes - helping school leavers secure employment or positive destination and supporting S3 pupils who have disengaged from mainstream education.



### CASHBACK FOR COMMUNITIES TOWARDS NEW FUTURES

Engages young people with experience of the criminal justice system and supports them in moving towards employment, volunteering or further education.



### HUBS IN THE COMMUNITY

Partnership with four Glasgow schools which sees a Hub Officer based fulltime in school to mentor vulnerable pupils and be a universal support.



### WIDER ACHIEVEMENT

Helps young people re-engage with their education by providing access to SQA qualifications and life skills in an empathetic, vocational environment.



### COACH FOR TOMORROW

Assisting young people with aspirations within sports coaching to gain valuable skills and experience.



### LEAP WITH PRINCE'S TRUST

Learning Employability Achieve Programme is a transition programme for school leavers unsure of their next steps.



### READY FOR UNI

Assisting young people preparing for the transition between school and university.

# Everyone and Anyone

1,757 participants received 598 delivery hours of activity under our Everyone and Anyone pillar



### COUNT ME IN

A bespoke programme providing young adults with a learning disability with access to football.



### VISUALLY IMPAIRED FOOTBALL

Free football sessions with trained coaches for visually impaired young people of all abilities, aged 8 - 18.



### AUTISM FRIENDLY FOOTBALL

Weekly free football sessions with trained coaches for youngsters aged 5 - 16 on the autistic spectrum.



### SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

Diversity and inclusion school education programme.



### DIVERSITY WINS

Project for P6 and 7 children focusing on discrimination, prejudice, stereotyping, equality and employability.



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# A Better World

## BUILDING POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS GLASGOW, SCOTLAND AND THE WORLD

The Rangers Charity Foundation aims to make the world a better place by working with charities in the local community, nationally and internationally and has donated over £6.6 million in cash and in-kind support to date.

For season 2023/24 we worked with the British Heart Foundation Scotland as our National Charity Partner, donating £25,000 and helping the charity to spread life-saving messages about heart health and the importance of learning CPR.

We also celebrated our 'Rangers Heart Heroes' with a special award which was won by 8-year-old Iain Norrie, who has Kabuki Syndrome and has undergone 20 surgeries in his short life, including six open heart surgeries.

The Foundation has worked with the world's leading children's charity, UNICEF, for 16 years and this season donated £25,000 to the charity's Children's Emergency Fund to help provide rapid assistance to children and their families around the world in crisis situations.

In total, the Foundation has now donated over £800,000 to UNICEF projects world-wide focused on education, health and emergency relief.

We also continue to support local partners, helping Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity bring the magic of the festive season to the wards by funding Christmas trees and decorations, as well as a special MRI compatible DVD player, thanks to a £10,000 donation.

Glasgow City Mission and the Simon Community Scotland received £24,500 from our Big Ibrox Sleep Out events, taking our total donated to homeless projects to over £340,000 to date. The donation helped fund Glasgow City Mission's Overnight Welcome Centre, which provides a safe, warm space, hot food and

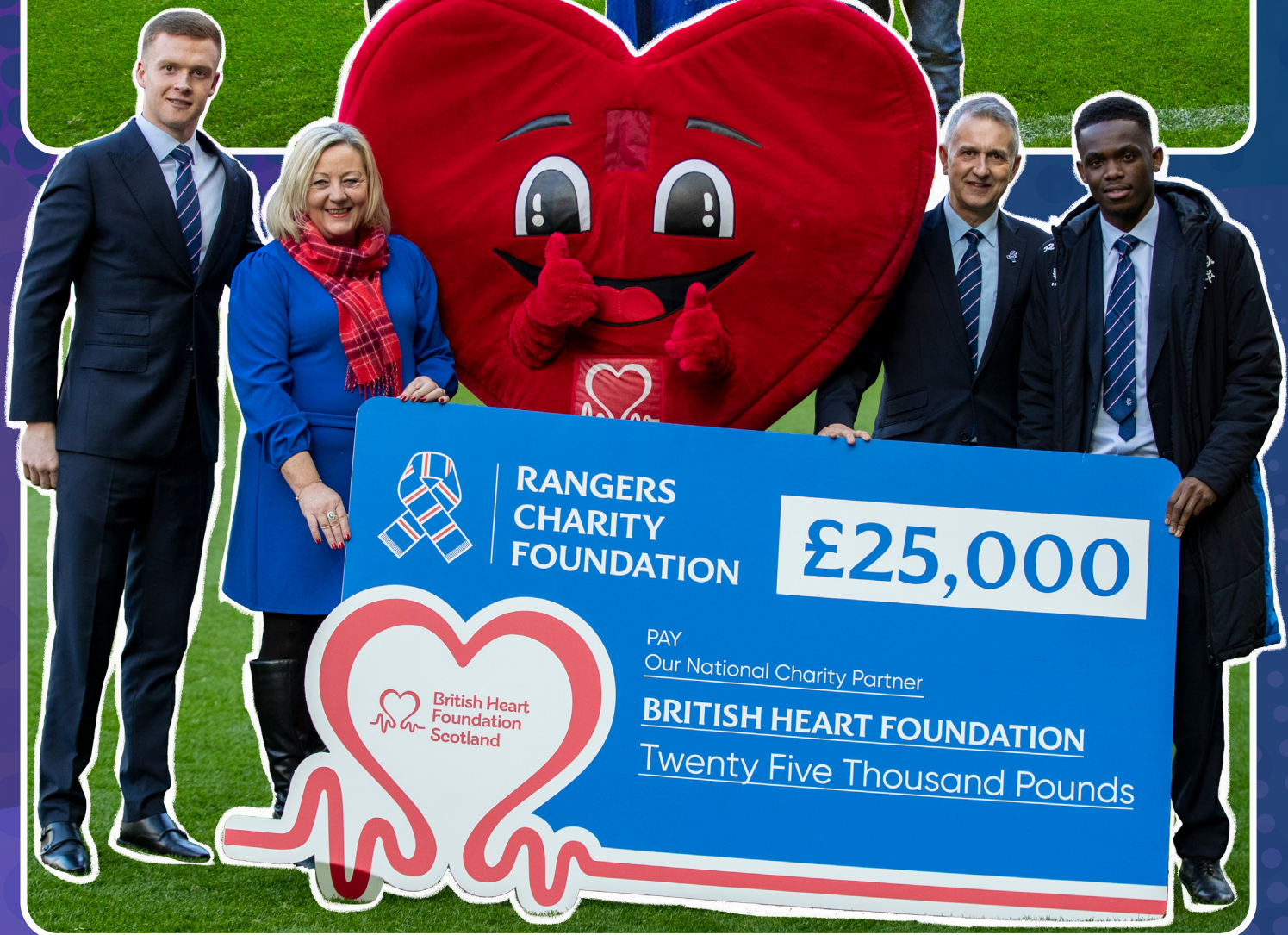
“Last night was wonderful and the amazing reaction from the supporters was awesome. It was so heartwarming to feel the positive energy and love shown for Iain and his journey. I cannot thank you all enough for giving Iain this opportunity in recognition of the relentless and spirited fight he has shown against his medical challenges and of course his six open heart surgeries.

*Nicola Norrie,  
Mother of Rangers Heart Hero Winner  
Iain Norrie*

support to those who would otherwise have to sleep on the streets, as well as allowing the Simon Community to provide crisis packs of essential items such as toiletries and warm clothes to the people they support.

The Rangers Charity Foundation has a long and proud tradition of working with services related charities and, along with the club, holds a Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award. This season we donated £10,000 in total to Military Matters and Bravehound through our Armed Forces Fund, taking our total donations to date to an incredible £251,000 to services-related charities.





**250**

BLOOD PRESSURE  
CHECKS CARRIED  
OUT AT MATCHDAY  
TAKEOVER

**4,285**

TIMES THE OVERNIGHT  
WELCOME CENTRE  
PROVIDED EMERGENCY  
ACCOMMODATION THIS WINTER

**£251K**

DONATED TO SERVICES  
RELATED CHARITIES  
TO DATE



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# Dreams

## MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

This season the Rangers Charity Foundation continued to bring smiles to the faces of those in need of a boost through the Rangers Charity Dream Fund. The Foundation was delighted to be able to host a special Dream Day in February of 2024. 12 nominees and their guests attended the Rangers Training Centre where they had the opportunity to meet the First Team and the Manager and enjoy an exclusive photo and autograph session, followed by a stadium tour and meal at Ibrox.

Another highlight was our annual Dream Fund Christmas party. Children living with life limiting illnesses and in other difficult circumstances were treated to entertainment, games and food as well as a surprise visit from Rangers stars Jack Butland and Borna Barisic.

Our Dream Day Matchday Experiences this season offered guests a day to remember. These included a special meet and greet with Rangers First Team players pre-match, before a tour of the Trophy Room and the chance to experience the match with hospitality.

I think it's one of the strengths of this club, the solidarity with the fans. It's crucial to have charity in the club. It's about being there for the community, for people who are in trouble and for people who have had more difficult lives. I want to be involved in those things.

*Philippe Clement,  
Rangers Manager*





**539**

SUPPORTERS IN NEED  
OF A BOOST RECEIVED  
A LETTER FROM A  
FIRST TEAM PLAYER OR  
THE MANAGER

**24**

24 NOMINEES HAD A  
DREAM DAY OR DREAM  
MATCHDAY EXPERIENCE  
WITH THEIR FAMILIES  
OR FRIENDS

**51**

CHILDREN ATTENDED  
THE DREAM FUND  
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS  
PARTY AT  
IBROX STADIUM



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## Our Local Community

### BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR BY SUPPORTING AND WORKING WITH LOCAL PEOPLE

Being a good and trusted neighbour is important to the Rangers Charity Foundation and we are proud to continue to play an active part in the Govan Thriving Place initiative which aims to improve the quality of life for people who live and work in the local area.

Within this, Foundation Chief Executive, Connal Cochrane, chairs the Learning for Life and Work and Young People theme groups, which focus on learning, employability and volunteering.

Supporters generously donated to the Foundation's foodbank collection at the match against Dundee FC in December. The food and other items collected were split between Glasgow South West Foodbank (Ibrox Parish Church) and Riverside Primary School Foodbank, which is a service accessed by local school pupils and families. Each organisation also received a cash donation.

**We go along because the company is great and when we can all come together at times like this it's really nice.**

*Mary Holmes,  
Festive Friends guest*

# £2,056

DONATED TO LOCAL  
FOOD BANKS IN ADDITION  
TO FOOD ITEMS

# 75

GOODY BAGS DONATED TO  
JOHNSTONE HIGH SCHOOL

# 80

SENIOR CITIZENS HOSTED  
FOR CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We provided monetary donations of £400 to four other local foodbanks at the same time from our discretionary fund; Govan Pantry, Pollok Pantry, Govan Free Church of Scotland Foodbank and Streetcare Volunteers.

Matchday bucket collections supported a wide range of local organisations this season. We also donated 75 goody bags to Johnstone High School for a memorial football tournament following the very sad loss of one of their pupils.

At the request of Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership, we were pleased to administer the distribution of £18,500 to 15 local organisations as part of a Govan Thriving Place Community Budgeting Exercise.

At Christmas time, we welcomed 80 local senior citizens to Ibrox for a special Christmas lunch with entertainment as part of the SPFL Trust's Festive Friends initiative. Among the guests was the Scotland women's team's first ever captain, Margaret McAuley. We also delivered hampers to the doorsteps of those who were unable to attend.







A FOUNDATION FOR

*Giving*

## ENABLING OTHERS TO SUPPORT CAUSES AND PEOPLE CLOSE TO THEIR HEARTS

The Foundation aims to support as many people as possible in the community who are working hard to raise funds for causes close to their hearts.

Over the past year we responded to 3,080 requests for support from people raising money for a wide variety of worthwhile causes and were able to say yes to 95% of these requests.

Thanks to our discretionary grants fund we also donated vital funds to a range of different organisations addressing food poverty, as well as helping Coastwatch West Fife and Peterhead Area Community Trust with donations.

We provided a wide range of charities and other good causes with the opportunity to hold a can collection at Ibrox Stadium. A total of £42,006 was collected for these organisations. We also donated complimentary match tickets to individuals and community groups and sent letters and goodie bags to children and adults in hospital.

“On behalf of Mike, I would like to say a big thank you for organising the wheelchair ticket for him to come to the Kilmarnock match. It was a dream come true for him, and getting to meet James Tavernier was the icing on the cake. We can't thank you enough.”

*Leanne Robertson,  
Support worker for wheelchair user Mike*

1,051

MATCH TICKETS DONATED TO GOOD CAUSES, WITH CLUB SUPPORT, VIA OUR TICKETS FOR GOOD INITIATIVE

66

WHEELCHAIR USERS WERE ABLE TO ATTEND IBROX THANKS TO OUR WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SPACE FROM THE CLUB

£173K

IN-KIND SUPPORT DONATED IN 2023/24



# Simply the Best Supporters

## FUNDRAISING

We simply couldn't deliver all the work we do in the local community and beyond without the generous support we receive from our fundraisers. From attending our events and buying our merchandise to running, climbing and sleeping out in the cold, our supporters really do go above and beyond for the Foundation!

- Our Hollywood themed Charity Ball was a fantastic night of glitz and glamour and raised £85,000.
- 173 supporters took part in our Big Ibrox Sleep Outs at Ibrox and raised £49,000 for the Foundation and our Community Charity Partners, Glasgow City Mission and the Simon Community Scotland.
- The club and players donated jerseys and boots which were auctioned and raffled to raise over £16,820.
- Our new Midnight Walk event saw 219 supporters take on a 10K at midnight around the pitch at Ibrox and raise over £41,000.
- 57 participants took part in our 'Simply the West' 20 mile walking challenge from Milngavie to Balmaha raising over £16,000.
- Over 80 individuals took on personal challenges, such as the Great Scottish Run, and raised £30,000.

“What a great day we had at Simply The West! The event was really well organised and there was great camaraderie among everyone taking part, and a really fun atmosphere. It was great to chat to Kevin Thomson and John Brown as well and hear their stories from their playing days.”

*Kirsty Forrest,  
Simply The West participant*

- Our first ever children's event, Broxi's Challenge, was a massive success with 200 young supporters enjoying a fun day at Ibrox, raising an incredible £54,000.





**542**

SUPPORTERS BECAME  
TRUE BLUE HEROES

**1,233**

PEOPLE TOOK PART IN OUR  
FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

**£351K**

AMOUNT RAISED BY  
OUR INCREDIBLE  
SUPPORTERS!

# Thank You



Our wonderful work is delivered tirelessly throughout the year by a team of dedicated and talented staff.



The Rangers Charity Foundation would like to thank all our supporters, partners, volunteers, sponsors, funders and of course, everyone at Rangers Football Club for everything they do for the Foundation.



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