



WELCOME

It has been a particularly busy and exciting year for the Rangers Charity Foundation and I am delighted that we are making an even bigger difference than ever before to the lives of people young and old in our local community and beyond.

Since April 2016 we have taken responsibility for community programme work that was previously carried out by the Club. This agreement represents a significant milestone for the Foundation and an opportunity for us to help transform even more lives for the better. We now deliver over 20 programmes in the Glasgow area connected to health and wellbeing, diversity and inclusion, education and employability, which together reach more than 5,000 people.

As well as significantly expanding our remit we worked in partnership with 10 local, national and international charity organisations. Not only did we donate £131,400 to them over the season but we also helped increase their profile which remains an important aspect of our partnership approach. Additionally we contributed £5,000 to the Govan Ward Community Budgeting initiative.

Our commitment to helping others raise funds for causes close to their hearts is more powerful than ever before, with over 2,800 requests received and 90% of those receiving a donation in response. We strive to be as generous as we possibly can and donate items such as tickets, signed memorabilia, tours and souvenir packs to individuals or organisations in need of a boost. Our total cash and in kind donations since we were formed now stands at just under £4.6 million. A truly astounding figure, I am sure you will agree.

As you read some of the highlights from our remarkable year we hope that you share our pride and can accept our gratitude if you have been one of our many supporters. None of the work we do or help fund would be possible without the relationship we have with so many people and organisations including the players and staff at Rangers Football Club. We are truly grateful.

Thank you and rest assured we look forward to continuing to grow our impact over the next year.



Connal Cochrane
Director
Rangers Charity Foundation

The **Rangers Charity Foundation** exists to be a force for good on behalf of the Rangers Family, showing compassion to those in need, tackling inequalities and creating opportunities for people of all ages to change their lives for the better.



£243,287
WORTH OF IN KIND SUPPORT
DELIVERED IN 2016/17



EMPLOYABILITY

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Employability is a growing priority for the Foundation. We are working hard to expand the opportunities for people to join our programmes, and with key partners, help them overcome barriers to gaining and sustaining employment.

The importance of creating opportunities for a better future through the dignity and security of employment can never be underestimated and we are proud of our early success in this area.

Our Ready4Employment programme, for example, aims to improve the job prospects of local people in partnership with Jobcentre Plus by delivering an individual training programme to develop skills, confidence and relevant experience. Results were excellent, with at least 50% of participants going on to positive destinations such as employment or further education after completing the course.

Programmes such as Coach For Success and Get Started work with young people to help them build the skills, confidence and motivation necessary to get their working lives off to a great start and stop the cycle of unemployment in its tracks.



JOSH SWEENEY

Josh Sweeney was an out of work teenager unsure where he wanted to go in life when he signed up for our Get Started programme in partnership with The Prince's Trust.

Six months on from completing the course, he secured a job as a Community Coach, and is now helping to deliver the Foundation's programmes.

"The course helped me to gain confidence and all-round employability skills," he explained.

"I learned a lot from the coaches and now I'm confident speaking in front of people. I'm taking more coaching badges and working my way up."

"I'm showing the kids that are coming through now that there are opportunities out there if they can take them. It's absolutely great."



100%
OF PARTICIPANTS
ON OUR SPRING
READY4EMPLOYMENT
COURSE GOT A
JOB OR COLLEGE
PLACE BY THE END
OF THE COURSE



67

THE NUMBER OF
SCHOOLS IN WHICH
WE DELIVERED
OUR COMMUNITY
PROGRAMMES



EDUCATION

EMPOWERING A GENERATION

At the Rangers Charity Foundation we see education as being a crucial way to empower everyone to learn and grow. A high tech, multimedia classroom, run in partnership with Glasgow City Council, exists in the heart of the Broomloan Stand at Ibrox where we aim to help local kids become better prepared for future study or work opportunities.

Staffed by a qualified teacher, the hub is visited throughout the year by pupils and is where we deliver work around employability, health and wellbeing and workshops on diversity and equality.

Although Ibrox is a base for our wide-ranging work, our coaches are also out in schools across the city delivering initiatives such as the Old Firm Alliance and fitness based programmes such as +Sport, Move and Learn.

Overall, the Foundation engaged with 5,220 young people in the city last year delivering tangible and valuable learning outcomes.

TOBACCO AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Imagine a country where future generations of young people choose not to smoke and imagine the health and economic benefits that this kind of cultural change could achieve! That's the future we are committed to helping attain, one child at a time, thanks to our programme aimed at educating young people on the dangers of tobacco.

The programme uses interactive workshops on tobacco, plus games and physical activity to promote the importance of keeping fit as we bid to ensure future generations develop a positive attitude towards their health and wellbeing.



59 STONES AND 7 POUNDS

LOST BY 65 FOOTBALL FANS IN TRAINING
PARTICIPANTS IN JUST 12 WEEKS



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

HELPING TO CHANGE LIVES

Our health and wellbeing programmes tackle varied issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, fitness and obesity. We work with a range of age groups, from educating young people on the dangers of tobacco to helping those with dementia enjoy social interaction and memory stimulation via our Football Memories programme.

The Foundation currently runs eight different programmes in the community focusing on health and wellbeing, including Walking Football, Football Fans in Training and +Sport, Move and Learn.

Our Glasgow Veterans United programme, which helps veterans – including those struggling with mental health issues, addiction or social isolation – attracted plaudits from the UK Government while our Recovery With Rangers project, which supports those in the early stages of recovery from addiction, was shortlisted for two top community awards and has picked up several prestigious NHS awards.



“I’ve had a life of addiction. I’ve been in and out of jail and hospitals. I’ve been homeless.”

“I first came to Recovery With Rangers when I was looking for something to do with my time. I was lost. It gave me some kind of routine, something to focus on - something positive. It gave me something to look forward to.”

“The course helped me to get over some fears and to be comfortable with the uncomfortable stuff. After 12 weeks when it came to an end I was asked to stay on as a mentor.”

Franny Coates

1,800

PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS LEARNED ABOUT
HEALTHY DIET AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLE THROUGH
OUR +SPORT MOVE AND LEARN PROGRAMME



COMMUNITY

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

Rangers has been an integral part of Govan since 1887 and now more than ever the Foundation is working with local groups and individuals to build stronger relationships and a stronger community.

We delivered a number of projects in the area surrounding the stadium throughout the last year and have continued our support of local initiatives.

Giving local children a safe space to play is important to us. Our free Friday Activity Nights at the Ibrox Community Complex attracted boys and girls throughout the year offering them the chance to take part in badminton, football and dance. During the summer holidays we ran a similar free week-long camp for local children.

Caring for those less fortunate than others is part of our ethos. Last year we donated 1.5 tonnes of groceries to the foodbank at Ibrox Parish Church and at Christmas the Foundation arranged a lunch at Ibrox for local pensioners, bought pyjamas, slippers and gifts for the NSPCC in Govan and helped to fund 'Govan Loves Christmas' activities. At the same time we arranged a first team visit to the Royal Hospital for Children, plus players from the Rangers youth academy helped brighten the wards by hanging Christmas decorations.

Our Tickets for Good initiative helped 355 people attend a match at Ibrox when they may not have otherwise been able to. As part of the scheme tickets were purchased by supporters at a special price of £10 with all money going to the Foundation. We then distributed the tickets to veterans and members of the armed forces community as well as service users, volunteers and carers from a variety of local community groups and charities.

We also donated £5,000 to the Govan Ward Community Budgeting initiative, which allows local community and voluntary organisations to apply for a grant to support a grassroots project.

CHAMPIONS OF CHARITY

We are proud to support and show compassion to as many individuals and organisations as possible, from those involved in grassroots football, youth groups and care homes to cancer charities, hospices and services-related causes across the country. In the last year we received 2,811 requests and donated £243,287 worth of in kind support. We replied to every request and tried to be as generous as possible as we know fulfilling these requests can make a huge difference to local fundraisers. In total, we offered a donation to 90% of those who asked, including match tickets, Ibrox tours, signed merchandise and souvenir packs.

The Foundation also organised a number hospital visits by the players, arranged matchday trips and held two Rangers 'Dream Days' to help brighten the lives of those in need of a boost. On Dream Days, invited children and adults got to visit the Club's world-class training centre, meet the entire first team squad and watch them train before enjoying an exclusive tour of the facility. They then travelled to Ibrox for lunch and were given a tour of the stadium.



OVER 100
LOCAL CHILDREN
ATTENDED OUR
FREE SUMMER CAMP



EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY

We have had a busy year of events at the Foundation with some unforgettable moments along the way. Here are just a few of the highlights.



Charity Ball
Over 500 people had a great night at our Rhinestone Rangers Charity Ball raising £66,500.
Nov 2016



Charity Collections
Fans donated £20,510 to the Foundation via matchday can collections.
Aug 2016 - May 2017



Arran Cycle
Pedal power saw 45 fans cycle round Arran raising £15,332.
Mar 2017



Big Hearted Bears Day
We sold thousands of badges to supporters and raised awareness of the Foundation during our match against Partick Thistle.
Oct 2016



Dream Day
We held two amazing Dream Days where fans in need of a boost got to meet the first team squad.
Nov 2016 & May 2017



Fun Run
Ibrox was the backdrop for 117 Fun Run runners raising £19,530.
Apr 2017



Big Ibrox Sleep Outs
£52,000 was raised by 195 fans who braved the cold and took part in our Big Ibrox Sleep Outs.
Nov 2016



Connal's Great Glen Armed Forces Challenge
Our Director Connal Cochrane walked 79 miles in 34 hours raising over £5,000 for our Armed Forces Partnership.
Jun 2017



Ladies Lunch
Over 175 ladies glammed up for our Blue Belles Lunch raising over £8,000.
Jun 2017

£238,955
RAISED BY SUPPORTERS
IN 2016/17



PARTNERSHIPS

The Foundation works with charity partners each season to fund projects that have a lasting and significant benefit for the Glasgow community and beyond. In season 2016/17 we helped not only raise £131,400 for 10 organisations but also worked with them to raise awareness of their causes.

CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN

In 2016/17 we continued our long-term partnerships with both Unicef and Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity (formerly Yorkhill Children's Charity).

GLASGOW CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CHARITY

Undergoing treatment for cancer is one of the most distressing things a child could go through. We are proud to have donated £10,000 to Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity which bought a low level laser therapy (LLLT) pen used by young patients who have cancer, with the remaining money spent buying decorations to boost morale at Christmas.

Just minutes of LLLT can provide instant relief from the severe mouth pain often caused by chemotherapy and radiotherapy, helping sufferers to eat and drink.

UNICEF

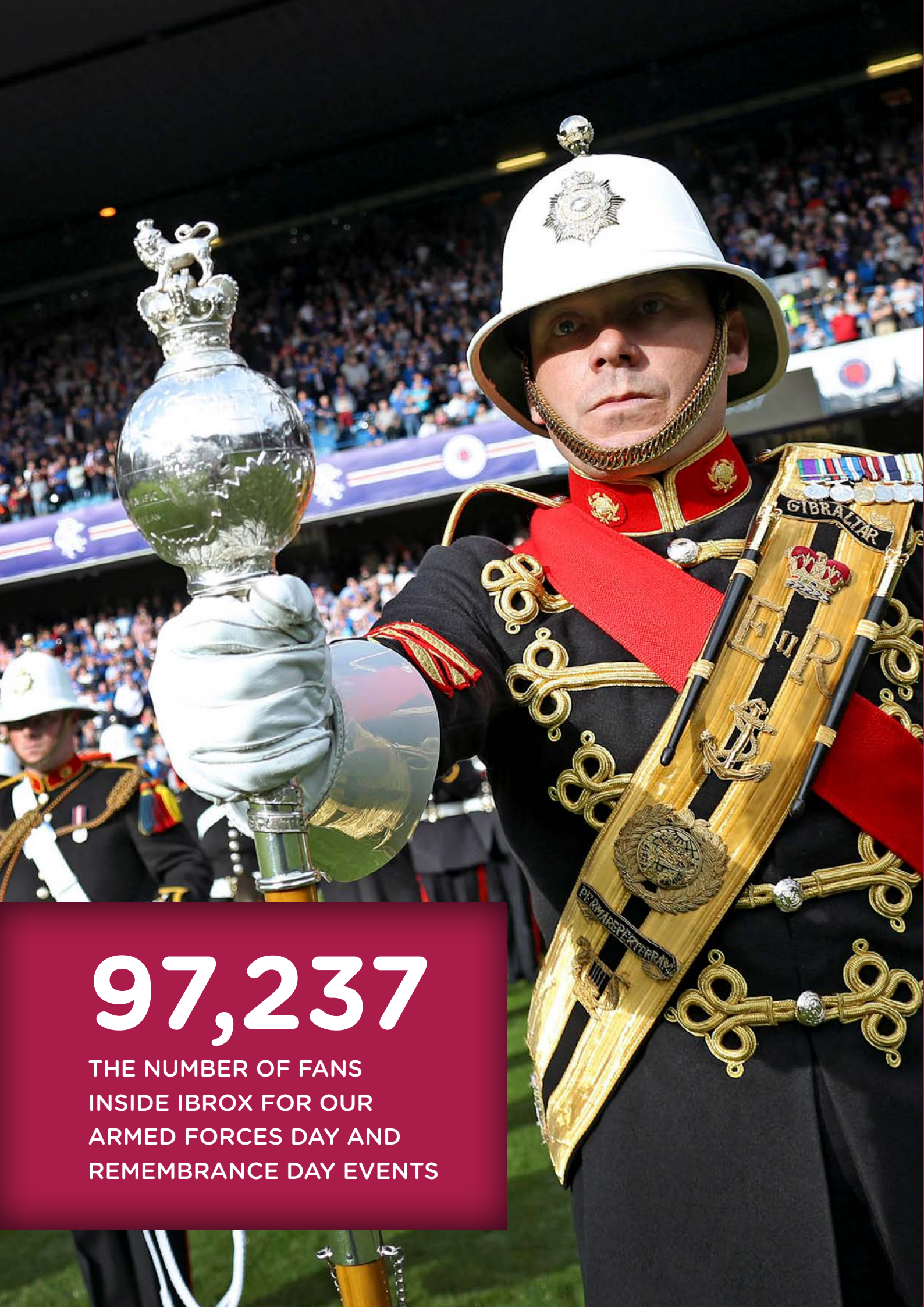
On 13 May we celebrated the ninth anniversary of our partnership with Unicef with the One Goal For Children Match against Hearts in the SPFL. The match was promoted by Rangers legend Michael Mols and broadcast around the world by Sky and RangersTV. Fans were shown a video documenting the importance of the partnership, made donations to the charity when entering the stadium and then took part in an iconic card display in the Sandy Jardine stand, further raising the profile of the Foundation and Unicef with our fans.

During the season we donated £25,000 to support the charity's Children's Emergency Fund. The fund reacts to global situations such as famine and conflict which place innocent children in danger. In 2016 we reached our goal of funding one million vaccines for Unicef after a three year campaign.



154
THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WE
ARRANGED TO MEET A PLAYER





97,237

THE NUMBER OF FANS
INSIDE IBROX FOR OUR
ARMED FORCES DAY AND
REMEMBRANCE DAY EVENTS

ARMED FORCES

Rangers has a proud tradition of backing our Armed Forces and veterans. The Foundation once again built upon that by partnering with four services charities donating a total of £25,000 in 2016/17. With the Club, we held our annual Armed Forces Day at Ibrox at Rangers match against Ross County. Prior to kick off, both the Foundation and the Club signed the Armed Forces Covenant (pictured below) pledging to support serving personnel and veterans, ensuring that those who serve or have served, and their families, are treated fairly. We also observed Remembrance Day in a powerful and respectful way.

COMBAT STRESS

Combat Stress is a leading mental health charity for veterans and we pledged £5,000 to help its West Community Team provide care and support to veterans in association with a variety of community mental health services, including local NHS services.

ERSKINE

As much as we enjoy supporting our Armed Forces personnel, many also enjoy supporting Rangers so we were proud to donate £10,000 to Erskine to fund a new minibus for the charity. Specially adapted, it can transport veterans to games and on other outings.

POPPYSCOTLAND

The Foundation's donation of £5,000 to Poppyscotland will help to fund the charity's employability programme, Employ-Able, which helps veterans identify and take steps towards the training course or work placement most suitable to them.

THE RIFLES REGIMENTAL TRUST'S CARE FOR CASUALTIES APPEAL

We donated £5,000 to Care for Casualties which assists those members of the Rifles Regimental family in need of help, including those who have been severely wounded, their families and the families of fallen Riflemen.



HOMELESSNESS

We continued to support local charities focusing on homelessness in Glasgow in 2016/17. Our Big Ibrox Sleep Outs saw fans bed down in the stadium overnight in the cold in November raising an incredible £52,000 which was split between Simon Community Scotland and Glasgow City Mission as well as supporting our own vital work in the local community.

SIMON COMMUNITY SCOTLAND

Glasgow currently has the highest concentration of young people who are homeless in Scotland. Simon Community Scotland used our donation to help fund its new Nightstop initiative. Targeting 16 to 25 year olds who are in danger of sleeping rough, Nightstop provides immediate support with 3-5 nights of emergency accommodation in the home of an approved volunteer. Volunteers provide the young people with a warm welcome, evening meal and breakfast. They also act as someone trusted that the young people can talk to and offer them advice to help them move forward in a positive direction.

GLASGOW CITY MISSION

The money donated to Glasgow City Mission was enough to pay for 17,000 hot meals for homeless and vulnerable people at its evening drop-in service. As well as being offered meals, staff and volunteers help those who attend access workshops and other services to improve their situations.

In January we invited, the then manager of the Club, Mark Warburton to one of the drop-in nights. He took time to chat to those who had come to the Mission that evening and joined volunteers serving food, helping to highlight our support for this special cause.



17,000

THE NUMBER OF MEALS WE FUNDED FOR GLASGOW CITY MISSION'S EVENING DROP IN SERVICE



195

FANS TOOK PART IN THE BIG IBROX SLEEP OUTS OVER THREE NIGHTS

SUPPORTERS RAISE
£52,000



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Scotland has one of the highest rates of cancer in Europe. Over the past year we have partnered with two charities working to make a difference to those with experience of the disease.

BEATSON CANCER CHARITY

About half of all cancer patients receive radiotherapy treatment and for many it is the reason they are cured but for some patients there are strict limits to the amount of treatment they can safely be given so as not to damage surrounding healthy tissues. We donated £10,000 to help fund a radiotherapy research project which is investigating ways to increase the ability of radiotherapy treatments to shrink, control and in some cases eradicate cancers.

"I'm very grateful for this incredible support from The Rangers Charity Foundation which will help change the face of cancer treatment on a global scale."

Professor Anthony Chalmers, Cancer Specialist

BREAST CANCER CARE SCOTLAND

Over the season we helped increase the profile of Breast Cancer Care Scotland as well as raise vital funds. Our partnership received some great national media coverage and we helped the charity achieve its top six tweets for the year. One of the highlights was when Rangers players Martyn Waghorn, Matt Gilks, Jordan Rossiter, Lee Hodson and Barrie McKay escorted some of the 22 models, who had all been diagnosed at some point in their life with breast cancer, down the runway at the charity's fashion show. We also donated £25,000, with £15,000 going towards the charity's helpline and a further £10,000 funding two specialist courses providing information, support and professional guidance on how to cope with, and adjust to, life after treatment.



90%

OF THE 2,811 LETTERS FROM INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS REQUESTING SUPPORT RECEIVED A POSITIVE RESPONSE



TRUE BLUE HEROES

Every year we honour our supporters whose dedication goes above and beyond.

As part of our award winning True Blue Hero initiative this year, every supporter who took on a personal challenge in support of the Foundation and raised more than £100 was invited to Ibrox to receive a True Blue Hero medal from a Rangers first team player at one of six events.

Throughout the course of the season Harry Forrester, Jason Holt, James Tavernier, Clint Hill, Barrie McKay and Emerson Hyndman were delighted to attend the events and meet the latest supporters to have earned their medals.

This year our trustee Colin Kirkwood received the Julie Wales Special Recognition Award. Colin has raised thousands of pounds for the Foundation, with the assistance of his family, by holding a series of annual events including a marathon relay run and charity football tournament in memory of his son Craig, who was tragically killed aged just 17.



421
TRUE BLUE
HEROES IN
2016/17

THANK YOU!

We would like to express our appreciation to everyone who supported the Foundation over the past year for their time, support and generosity. In particular we want to say a special thank you to the following individuals and organisations:



32Red, A & S Scaffolding, Arthur Numan, Bell Group UK, Big Think Agency, Blythswood Square Glasgow, Brian Ferguson, Buchanan Mechanical Services, Chick Young, Club 1872, Curtis Moore Group, Elixir, Frank Graham, Glynhill Hotel and Leisure Club, John Livesey, Isle of Arran Rangers Supporters Club, James Mortimer at 29 Private Members Club, Jacqueline Gourlay, John Brown, Karen Watson, Ken and Sheila Macleod, Kenneth Macleod, Kilpatrick Fraser Charitable Trust, L & S Litho, Lorne Hotel, Lynn Nicolson, Michael Mols, NARSA, National Tyres and Autocare, Northern Marine Group, Park's of Hamilton, PTS Clean, Rangers FC directors, Rangers FC staff and players, Regis Roofing Supplies Ltd, Richard Martin, Scotrae Productions Ltd, Scotcrest, Stewart Financial Management, SPD Print Solutions Ltd, Shearer Candles, Sheena McGregor, The Army, The Craigellachie Hotel, The Kirkwood Family, The RAF, The Royal Marines, The Royal Navy, Trump Turnberry Resort, Walter Smith, WATP Magazine, Willie Paterson.

We would also like to acknowledge our external funders as without their generosity we would not be able to run so many of our vital community programmes. They are:

Blind & Partially Sighted Young People Programme (Scottish Football Association), Coach4Success (East Dunbartonshire Council), Computer Gaming (Glasgow City Council), Enhanced Vocational Improvement Programme (Employment and Skills Partnership team at Glasgow City Council), FFIT Men (SPFL Trust), FFIT Women (SPFL Trust), Friday Night Club (Glasgow Life), Get Started (Prince's Trust), Glasgow Veterans United (Glasgow's Helping Heroes), Jump Into Journalism (UEFA Foundation for Children), Movie Making (Glasgow City Council), Old Firm Alliance (Glasgow City Council), Old Firm Alliance Youth Diversionary (Glasgow City Council), +Sport Move and Learn (Ferrero), Ready4Employment (DWP), Ready to Compute (Glasgow City Council), Recovery with Rangers/SHARP FC (Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership - South Locality Health Improvement Team and South Locality Alcohol and Drugs Recovery Service), Rise Together (Glasgow City Council), School of Football (Scottish Football Association), Sports Feature Writing (Glasgow City Council), Tobacco and Young People (Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership - Health Improvement Sector).





The Rangers Charity Foundation
Argyle House
Ibrox Stadium
150 Edmiston Drive
Glasgow
G51 2XD

Telephone: **0141 580 8775**

Email: **rangerscharity@rangers.co.uk**

Website: **www.rangerscharity.org.uk**

Twitter: **[@RFC_Charity](https://twitter.com/RFC_Charity)**

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