

## Newtownabbey Mencap (102823) Trustee's Annual Report -

During the year 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 - 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023 there were 8 committee meetings, all of which have been in person. The AGM was held at Drumross on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The officers were re-elected to their posts as follows; Chairman - Patrick Elliott, Vice Chairman - Gary Grattan, Secretary - Niqui Rainey, Treasurer - Jimmy Elliott & Minutes Secretary - Susan Byrne. Stella Wilson continues as a Trustee

I confirm that all the trustees have complied with their duty under charity law to have regard to the Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.  
Niqui Rainey, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### Newtownabbey MENCAP: Chairman's Report 2023

I would like to start by thanking everyone for coming tonight and extending the condolences of the committee to Gary and his family. Gary lost his sister Denise on the 7<sup>th</sup> May, and just a month later on 7<sup>th</sup> June he lost his mother, Molly. Both services were held in St Brigid's Parish Church. Gary and his sister Dawn gave warm, humorous eulogies and photo slide shows displayed on the large screen in the church, gave a touching insight into the rich, full lives they lived, surrounded by family and friends.

It's great to be back in Drumross Adult Centre again. We give a big thank you to the management team for facilitating our return.

We are having a low key AGM this year and have not invited a guest speaker. Hopefully next year we will be able to plan further ahead and make an effort to attract more people to our next AGM.

We have not resumed any of our fundraising activities, but we still have sufficient cash reserves to meet all our regular requests for support. The Treasurer's report contains a full audited record of all our expenditure. Included in that are £2,500 to Hill Croft School for their Christmas fund, a gift of £10 for each Service User at Drumross, Newway, The Martin Trust and several individuals in the community, totalling £1,340. We have also given financial support to a Learning Disability youth group based in New Mossley Presbyterian Church (£1,000) and to the Shadows Discos based in Nortel Social Club organised by Margaret Field a grant of £600.

We had our Christmas dinner outing this year on 23<sup>rd</sup> January in Corrs Corner. It was a lovely evening, an opportunity for a nice relaxed catch up.

We have sadly missed Eileen Lyttle from our committee meetings this past year. Things have been difficult for her at home and she has resigned from her role as Trustee. We send our best wishes to Eileen and hope to see her again soon.

I would like to finish with some thank yous. Firstly to the team that organised the Disability Pride event in Carrickfergus on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. It was another spectacular success, it raised the profile of the Learning Disability Community in an air of joyous celebration. And as I've mentioned already the management team at Drumross for giving us the use of the building again. Also, a big thanks to Tom Beck for auditing our accounts. And a big thanks to Margaret Field for organising the Shadows Discos and the Formal event held on 17<sup>th</sup> November last year. And could we pass on our thanks to DJ Willie McKee and a special thanks to Niqui who keeps us legal and affiliated and manages the day to day running of our group. And finally thanks to the outgoing committee:

Gary Grattan - Vice Chair and Trustee

Niqui Rainey – Secretary and Trustee

Jimmy Elliott – Treasurer

Susan Burne – Minutes Secretary

Stella Wilson – Trustee

Patrick Elliott – Chair and Trustee

Margaret Field, Dorothy Leonard, Brian Leonard, Dorothy Greer, Marie Todd, Suzanne Warwick, Eileen Lyttle

The Newtownabbey Mencap committee for 2022 – 2023 now stand down.

Patrick Elliot

26<sup>th</sup> June 2023