



FOP Friends

2018 Annual Report & Financial Statements

Year ending 1st March 2018

CHARITY: #1147704 | OSCR: #SCO46950

Charity Name

FOP Friends

Working Names

FOP Friends of Oliver, FOP Action

Registered address

The Cabin, 1 Cumberland Road, Sale,
Cheshire, M33 3FR, United Kingdom

Registered

March 2012

Charity number(s)

1147704, SC046950

Governed by

Trust Deed

Independent auditor

P.S. Hutchinson BSc FCA, 246 Park View,
Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear, NE26 3QX

Vision

That one day, no one will suffer the full effects
of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva
(FOP) and related conditions.

Mission

To promote programmes of research,
advocacy, education, support and
awareness to discover treatments
and a cure for Fibrodysplasia
Ossificans Progressiva (FOP) and
improve the lives of all it affects.

Values

- Committed to funding medical research to realise a cure for FOP and related conditions; to understand how we can prevent it and improve the life and well-being of those who are afflicted by it.
- Respect the integrity, ambition and interests of all FOP Patients.
- Strive to be a haven and champion for patients and their families; a centre of excellence for the provision of information on medical research, diagnosis, treatment and care, and participation in clinical trials.
- Act always with honesty, professionalism and ethical awareness.
- Work collaboratively with medical researchers and clinicians, patients and families, donors and supporters to realise our Vision and complete our Mission.



Founding Trustees

Christopher Bedford-Gay

Alison Acosta Bedford

Rachel Almeida

Trustees

Fiona White

John Leaver

Helen Bedford-Gay

Nicky Williams



Contents

Charity Name	1	Social media activity.....	9	Investments	14
Working Names.....	1	Media relations.....	9	Independent examiner's report	14
Registered address	1	Attendance at conferences and meetings	9	Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner.....	14
Registered	1	Vice-Chancellor's Circle	9	Basis of independent examiner's report	14
Charity number(s).....	1	Awards/recognitions.....	9	Independent examiner's statement.....	14
Governed by	1	FOP Family Weekend	9	Independent examiner	14
Independent auditor	1	UK FOP Conference and Family Gathering	10	Consolidated statement of financial activities	15
Vision	1	Impact and value	10	Balance sheet	16
Mission	1	#FunFeet4FOP.....	10	Notes to financial statements.....	17
Values	1	UoM Volunteer Fair	10	Our history (to 1st March 2018)	19
Founding Trustees	1	Gig for Isla celebrates its 4 th year	10	March 2008.....	19
Trustees	1	Sporting Success	11	November 2008	19
What is Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP)?	4	Record Currency Management's 24-hour pool playing.....	11	April 2009	19
Introduction and Chair's Statement	4	Annual Christmas Tree	11	2010.....	19
About us / Who we are	5	Future plans	12	2011.....	19
Trustees	5	Ambition & long-term plans	12	April 2011.....	19
Christopher Bedford-Gay - Trustee and Chairman	5	Charity objectives.....	12	2012.....	19
Alison Acosta Bedford - Trustee	5	Preventing misdiagnosis.....	12	June 2012.....	19
Rachel Almeida – Trustee.....	5	Fundraising	12	December 2012.....	19
Fiona White - Trustee.....	6	Family support	12	December 2012.....	19
John Leaver - Trustee.....	6	Medical support.....	12	March 2013	19
Helen Bedford-Gay – Trustee	6	Governance and Structure.....	13	March 2013	19
Nicky Williams – Trustee	6	Legal Status	13	December 2013.....	19
Meeting Charity Commission guidelines .	6	Organisational Structure	13	December 2013.....	19
Principal objects.....	6	Trustee recruitment and training	13	March 2014.....	19
Research Highlights.....	7	Employment	13	May 2014	19
University of Oxford.....	7	Karen Blenkinsop – Grants and Trusts Manager.....	13	June 2014.....	19
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals.....	7	Hannah Dempsey – Digital Administrator.....	13	August 2014.....	19
Clementia Pharmaceuticals.....	7	Statement of responsibilities of the trustees.....	13	August 2014.....	19
University of Pennsylvania	7	Financial review	14	September 2014	19
How we raised our money	7	Summary	14	October 2014	19
How money raised was spent.....	8	Income	14	November 2014	19
Achievements.....	8	Grants, trusts, and corporate sponsorship.....	14	December 2014.....	19
Providing funding to Oxford FOP Research.....	8	Charitable expenditure	14	January 2015.....	19
International FOP involvement	8	Gains and losses	14	February 2015	20
The FOP Connection Registry	8	Policy on reserves.....	14	March 2015	20
IFOPA Drug Development Forum.....	9	Designated Funds.....	14	June 2015.....	20
IFOPA Competitive Research	9	Future commitments.....	14	August 2015.....	20
EURORDIS.....	9	Restricted Funds.....	14	September 2015.....	20
Fundraising Regulator.....	9			October 2015	20
				November 2015.....	20
				December 2015.....	20

January 2016..... 20

February 2016..... 20

March 2016..... 20

April 2016 20

June 2016.....21

July 2016.....21

August 2016.....21

September 201621

October 201621

December 2016.....21

January 201721

February 201721

March 201721

April 2017.....21

May 201721

June 2017.....21

July 201721

August 201721

September 2017.....21

October 2017 22

November 2017..... 22

December 2017 22

January 2018..... 22

Feb 2018..... 22

Thank you to (March 2017 – March 2018)22

Trusts / Grants 22

Corporate Supporters 22

Donors of time and resources..... 22

Community / Clubs & Associations 22

Fundraisers 22

Contact Details 22



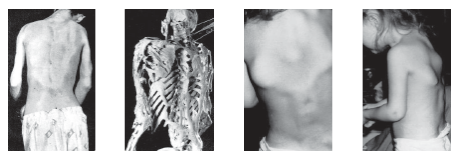
What is Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP)?

Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP) turns otherwise healthy people into human statues: a healthy mind locked inside a frozen body. FOP is one of the rarest and most disabling genetic conditions known to medicine, causing bone to form in muscles, tendons, ligaments and other connective tissues.

Bridges of extra bone develop across the joints, progressively restricting movement, forming a second skeleton that imprisons the body in bone. There are no other known examples in medicine where one normal organ system turns into another.

Most cases of FOP are new, meaning no-one else in the family has FOP. This happens because unexpected changes (mutations) occur as the genes are passed along from each parent. Many of these changes, such as the mutation that leads to FOP, are accidents of nature that happen for no apparent reason.

Children with FOP appear normal at birth except for congenital malformation of the great toes. During the first or second decade of life, painful swellings that look like tumours develop over the neck, back and shoulders and mature into bone.



FOP progresses along the trunk and limbs of the body, replacing healthy muscles with bone. These bridges of bone significantly restrict movement and attempts to remove them result in explosive new bone formation because trauma, like surgery, knocks and bumps, accelerates the FOP process. FOP is extremely variable and unpredictable. In some, progression is rapid, while in others it is gradual. Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP) causes progressive debilitation eventually leading to early death.

Introduction and Chair's Statement

2009 seems such a long time ago. That was 9 years ago now that our family was given the news that our first child, Oliver, had been born with Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP). He was just one year old at the time.

At that time there was a small patient group, FOP Action, but no UK charity dedicated to supporting FOP families and funding research.

Along with my wife, family and friends, we ran fundraising events to support research and raise awareness of FOP. Through this, we encountered barriers to accessing further help and funding from companies and organisations so decided to become a fully registered charity. We received full charitable status in 2012.

Since then we have continued to grow our support locally, nationally and internationally. Entering our seventh year, we have had success in grant and trust fundraising as well as increased fundraising from FOP families, friends and the public. We continue to grow and are regularly chosen as "charity for the year" by organisations when put forward.

We continue to raise awareness of FOP to aid early diagnosis preventing often-devastating progression of the condition, to make our annual fundraising target easier to reach, to support families living with FOP, and to continue to bring the FOP community together.

FOP Friends is now recognised internationally as a key partner and source of support and information by families, researchers and pharmaceutical companies alike. It is this increasing profile, together with continued involvement at the board level of the IFOPA and through chairing international efforts that we are the go-to organisation for many.

We are the second FOP organisation to make the transition from family ran into an organisation with a small staff. This step is wholly funded through grants, trusts and corporate support and is critical for the organisation to remain sustainable regardless of what the future holds for us as a family.

Our initiatives such as #FunFeet4FOP, family focused conferences, family weekends, and our promotional and information items are influencing or being replicated by many. The family support we provide is outstanding, being the first point of contact for the newly diagnosed, making introductions and contacts between families and medical professionals, advising on school challenges,



the day-to-day and simply being there when needed. We are also now informing our community of clinical trials taking place, something we could scarcely have imagined all those years ago. All whilst caring for our own family and our little boy with FOP.

Hard work and time have gotten us this far. It will take more to make our vision a reality. With continued support we will change the lives of every FOP family present and future.

Finally, my personal thanks go to all our supporters who help fund our work (through events, sponsorship or donations), and to the volunteers who step-up to help. Without your campaigning, fundraising and support we could not keep moving forward. You keep hope alive for all touched by this terrible condition, now and in the future.

Chris Bedford-Gay, Founder of FOP Friends.



About us / Who we are

FOP Friends' aim is to further research into Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP) and related conditions by supporting current and future research projects.

FOP research has far reaching implications for those with FOP but also those with common bone disorders such as fractures, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis and other forms of heterotopic ossification that occur through trauma such as military and sports injuries, paraplegia and post-hip surgery complications. More recently, research has shown that a rare form of childhood brain cancer, DIPG, could benefit from FOP research and vice versa.

FOP Friends aims to raise public awareness of FOP by holding and promoting charitable events and encouraging the news media to report upon FOP and related conditions. This will serve to educate the public to the existence of FOP and of research projects that will benefit not only FOP sufferers but also those with disorders that are more common.

FOP Friends was founded following the diagnosis of Oliver Bedford-Gay (9) with FOP at the age of 1. The aim of the charity is to support the search for a cure, whilst raising awareness and educating the public and medical world of the condition. FOP Friends supports existing research programmes such as at the University of Oxford and patient organisations; promotes FOP research worldwide; and helps other families impacted by FOP.

Each year the trustees vote on research or other projects to support with monies raised. To date, this has been targeted at maintaining (and growing) the University of Oxford's FOP Research Team.

FOP Friends continues to support the search for a cure that will not only benefit those with FOP but many other related conditions.



Trustees



There must be at least three trustees. Except for the three founders, trustees are appointed for a term of two years by a resolution of the trustees passed at a special meeting called under clause 15 of the Trust Deed. Selection of new trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective operation of the charity.

Christopher Bedford-Gay - Trustee and Chairman



Chris has been involved with the FOP community since his son Oliver's diagnosis in 2009. He was one of the founding trustees of FOP Friends, after learning that there was no UK charity to support families with FOP. Chris served as chairman of FOP Action (which has now been integrated into FOP Friends) and has also been a Board Member of the IFOPA since 2011. He is Chairman of the IFOPA International Presidents' Council, bringing together FOP organisations and leaders from across the world. He carries out this work alongside his day-job as director of UK based technology company, Skillsarena.

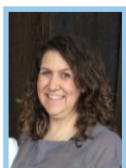
EDUCATION

- 1st Class BSc Hons, Computing for Business

EXPERIENCE

- Software engineer and consultant at GlaxoSmithKline
- Software engineer at Defence Evaluation Research Agency
- Technical Director, Turtlez Ltd (10 years)
- Director and CTO, Skillsarena Ltd (current)

Alison Acosta Bedford - Trustee



As one of the founding trustees, Alison has been on this journey from the beginning. Alison is a Chartered Management Accountant so assists with the financial accounts of the charity, along with other administrative tasks, and supporting fundraising efforts. As chair of the trustee

meetings, Alison remains committed to using her professional skills to assist in managing the day to day staffing and operation of the charity, as well as utilising personal relationships to raise awareness and funds for research into finding a cure for this terrible condition.

EDUCATION

- BSc Hons, Mathematics, University of Sheffield

- CGMA Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

EXPERIENCE

- Over 15 years' finance experience within social housing
- Experience of long-term financial planning as Treasury and Investment Manager of a housing association with over £60m annual turnover
- Experienced in Workforce Development through Manchester Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Alison is proud of how much FOP Friends has grown since forming and of the biennial family symposium held in May, which highlights how important FOP Friends has become to the FOP community.

Rachel Almeida - Trustee



Rachel is Head of Events and Sponsorship for the Association of Colleges, organising education-related conferences. She has worked in events for over 17 years and is pleased to be able to put her experience and expertise to good use. Rachel was inspired to complete her first ever fun-run in aid of FOP Friends, completing the Great North Run half marathon in under 2hr 30 minutes.

EDUCATION

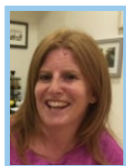
- BSc Hons, German and Law, University of Surrey

EXPERIENCE

- International trade shows
- International economic research charity dissemination conferences
- Head of Events and Sponsorship (current) – leading a team to deliver 40 education conferences per year with direct responsibility for a £1.7m annual turnover

Rachel looks to use her personal drive to work hard alongside fellow trustees and the whole of the FOP Community to find a cure for FOP.

Fiona White - Trustee



Fiona is a lead teacher working in a primary school. She works as a member of the senior leadership team having gained the National Professional Qualification in Senior Leadership (NPQSL). As a close friend of the Bedford-Gay family for many years, Fiona was devastated to learn about their son Oliver's condition. She has grown to understand just how important it is to raise awareness of FOP and ensure much needed funds are raised in order to continue the search for a cure.

EDUCATION

- BEd. (Hons.) Degree in primary education
- National Professional Qualification in Senior Leadership

EXPERIENCE

- Classroom teacher across Key Stages 1 and 2
- Advanced Skills Teacher - supported schools with curriculum development and teaching and learning
- Primary School ICT Manager
- Lectured at Newcastle University - OFSTED
- Lectured at Leeds University - Teaching Students

Fiona is dedicated to using her professional skills to support FOP Friends' vision. The growth of the charity and its ability to support the FOP community makes her more determined to be part of the progress towards finding a cure.

John Leaver - Trustee



When John heard about Oliver and others with FOP, he wanted to do what he could to help. As a first step, he produced a video through his creative company, claritycomms.com, engaging Stephen Fry to provide the voice over and to subsequently tweet to his millions of followers. John is now enjoying exploring some exciting new ideas to help FOP Friends raise awareness and funding. He feels it is a privilege to be part of such an inspiring team, on such an important mission.

Helen Bedford-Gay - Trustee



Helen has been with the charity since the very beginning, although she is the most recent addition to the trustee board. Having slowly come to terms with the devastating diagnosis that her son, Oliver, had FOP, she felt the need to become proactive in the search to find a treatment, so he could have as normal a childhood as possible. Helen also recognised the need for a proactive support network for families affected by FOP. Helen has taken a largely behind the scenes role, supporting and thanking the fundraisers around the country as well as developing much of the charity information that is in circulation. Helen also drives many of the fundraising activities in the local community. Unfortunately, since Oliver was diagnosed, there have been more young children in the UK who have received the same news. Helen often acts as the first point of call for families; she is able to offer parents a network of friends who understand their distress and can offer guidance for the incredibly difficult times ahead. Being an experienced teacher also allows her to offer practical guidance and support for parents and schools regarding mainstream education for their child.

EDUCATION

- BA (Ed.) QTS Hons. Durham

EXPERIENCE

- Classroom teacher across Key Stages 1 and 2, with experience of KS1 leadership
- Fulbright Exchange Teacher to USA

In addition to the work for the charity, Helen continues her career as a primary school teacher, and is also mum to Oliver's younger brothers Leo (8) and Harry (5).

Nicky Williams - Trustee



Nicky feels passionate around raising awareness of FOP and raising funds to get that cure that is in all our dreams. Nicky's daughter Isla was one of the youngest children to be diagnosed with FOP. After coming to terms with the initial shock of diagnosis, Nicky began fundraising to support the search for treatments. Along with her network of friends and family, Nicky continues to organise a series of successful events and sponsored sporting activities to raise funds in aid of FOP Friends. Nicky works part-time as a Marketing Campaigns Manager for Avaya and she has used her business contacts to gain support for

the charity from several large companies and organisations.

EDUCATION

- 1st Class Management degree from University of Brighton
- More recently completed various Marketing courses around social media, speaking engagements, event management, digital marketing

EXPERIENCE

After graduating, Nicky worked for the UK charity The Duke of Edinburgh's Award where she was a Marketing Coordinator and managed events and a large show trailer that travelled the UK. The last 10+ years have been spent as a marketer within the IT industry with a wide variety of experience in campaign management and field marketing.

Meeting Charity Commission guidelines

In setting FOP Friends' objectives and planning activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Principal objects

THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS AND SICKNESS FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY FIBRODYSPLASIA OSSIFICANS PROGRESSIVA (FOP) A TRAGIC, DEGENERATIVE AND DEBILITATING CONDITION AND TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF SUFFERERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Public Benefit: Removing FOP as a disabling health condition will greatly improve the lives of those with FOP and related conditions through prevention of a degenerative, life shortening disease. Related conditions, which will reap the rewards of FOP research, include fractures, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, military and sports injuries, paraplegia, and post-hip surgery complications.

TO RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF FIBRODYSPLASIA OSSIFICANS PROGRESSIVA (FOP) AND TO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH INTO THE STUDY AND CURE OF FOP AND RELATED CONDITIONS.

Public Benefit: Raising awareness will help to reduce misdiagnosis of the condition, which has been mistaken for cancer in the past (to the degree that some sufferers have undergone aggressive cancer treatments and harmful surgeries unnecessarily). It will also help to promote research into the condition, which will benefit FOP sufferers, but also other more common related conditions.

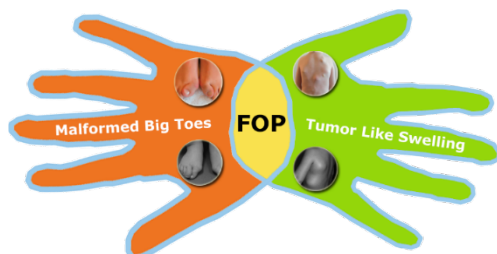
TO SUPPORT CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS IN THE UK AND ABROAD BY UNDERTAKING CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES TO FUND RESEARCH; AND TO PROVIDE HELP, SUPPORT, CARE AND TREATMENT FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY FOP AND RELATED CONDITIONS.

Public Benefit: Supporting other charities and organisations of this nature will benefit the public by providing care for those with FOP but also by furthering research that will lead to treatments and ultimately a cure for FOP, thus eliminating FOP as a health concern. FOP research projects will also benefit many people suffering with more common health conditions.

TO SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS RESEARCHING TREATMENTS AND A CURE FOR FOP AND RELATED CONDITIONS.

Public Benefit: Research into a treatment, and eventually a cure, for FOP will benefit all existing sufferers and all those in the future diagnosed with the condition. It will also benefit many more common related conditions, which affect a larger section of the public and the Armed Forces.

PREVENTING MISDIAGNOSIS.



Public Benefit: The rarity of FOP has resulted in many cases of misdiagnosis. This has led to FOP patients receiving incorrect information and interventions, resulting in a more rapid progression of the condition and unnecessary surgery and treatments. As children will continue to be born with FOP, preventing misdiagnosis is one of FOP Friends' key public benefits and achieved through our previously stated aims of awareness, education and advocacy.

Research Highlights

University of Oxford SARACATINIB (AZD0530)

The University of Oxford FOP Research Team continues to work hard to build a better understanding of the molecular causes of FOP and to advance the development of new treatments. The team have identified an investigational drug from AstraZeneca known as saracatinib (or



AZD0530) as a promising potential therapy for FOP. They are now continuing their preparations for clinical trials using saracatinib with the help of key collaborators, government funding agencies and regulatory authorities.

PHD SCHOLARSHIP

Richard Simcox continues to help fund a scholarship at Oxford University to support a postgraduate working on FOP research every year in perpetuity. Only once research into FOP is no longer necessary will the scholarship go towards funding research in another area. "Oxford-The Simcox Family Graduate Scholarship" is in memory of Richard's mother, Constance Mary Simcox nee Killingback.

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals ANTI-ACTIVIN A

REGENERON
science to medicine®

Following on from the promising Phase I clinical trial of anti-Activin A antibody (REGN2477) in healthy volunteers, Regeneron announced their Phase II trial, which is investigating if the drug can slow/stop bone growth in those who are living with FOP, and if the drug is well-tolerated (i.e. limited side effects, and correct dose amount).

There are currently two UK clinical trial sites (Manchester and London) that are recruiting approximately 40 individuals to take part in their 19-month trial.

Clementia Pharmaceuticals PALOVAROTENE TRIALS

clementia

In December 2017, the first FOP patient was enrolled onto Clementia's Phase III MOVE Trial. Clementia are currently recruiting approximately 80 individuals to take part in the phase III trial, which is a global, open-label (no placebo) trial for the drug palovarotene. Trials are being conducted internationally, with current sites located in the USA, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden, and the UK. The UK trial centre is Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in London.

University of Pennsylvania

In 2017 UPenn made great strides in understanding tissue hypoxia and inflammation in those living with FOP. The team were able to introduce a medication that targets the cellular response to tissue hypoxia and inflammation (specifically mast cells) into the clinic on a compassionate off-label basis for the management of FOP in children.



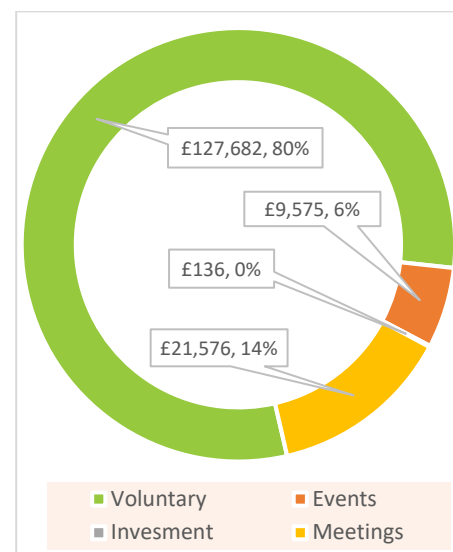
The International Clinical

Council on FOP was also founded in June 2017 by the Penn team. The International Clinical Council on FOP (ICC) is an autonomous and independent group of 19 internationally-recognized physicians who are clinical experts in FOP. The ICC was established to coordinate and consolidate a global voice for the best practices for clinical care and clinical research for people who live with FOP.

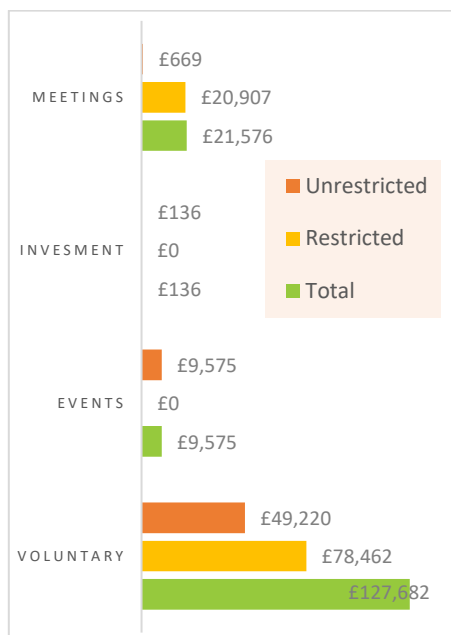
How we raised our money

Voluntary income accounts for the bulk of money raised within the charity's financial year. A small amount is attributed to investment income (interest on bank balances) and £9,575 revenue from fundraising events.

In addition, revenue of £3,112 is attributed to meetings which includes early fees associated with the 2018 FOP Friends UK Conference and Family Gathering (£180) and the FOP Family Weekend (£2932).



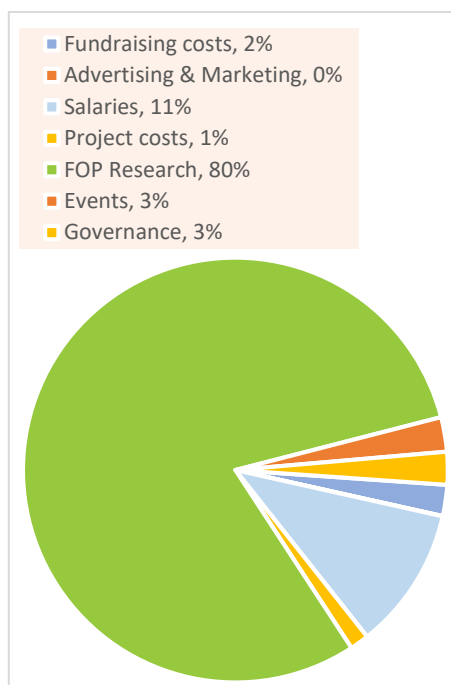
From a total £158,969 incoming resources £99,369 (63%) were restricted. £37,528 of which is attributed to funding from international FOP organisations with the remaining £59,600 (37%) being unrestricted.



Restricted funding has seen a 10% increase, unrestricted funding has seen a significant decrease of 30% to £59,600. This is one of our biggest challenges to address as unrestricted funding is the main source of research funding and additional family support.

How money raised was spent

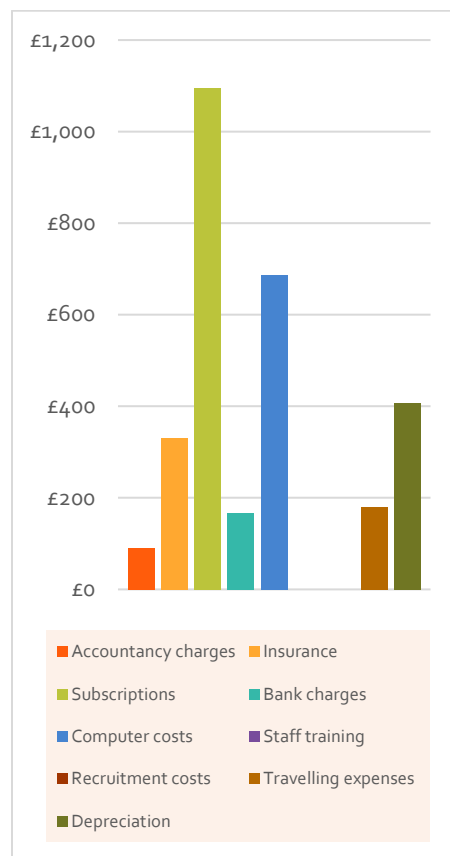
FOP Friends operates with minimal overheads therefore most of the fundraised money directly supports FOP research and families. Most operating costs (including staffing) are paid thanks to grants and corporate support. 96% of fundraised revenue (events, sponsorship and direct donations) directly supports our objects.



The main beneficiary of FOP Friends is the FOP Research team at the University of Oxford. Led by Dr Alex Bullock and Professor James Triffitt, The University of Oxford is one of a small number of institutions in the world conducting research into a cure for FOP. In addition, we provide a smaller amount of funding toward novel research project via the IFOPA Competitive Research Programme.

Through the charity year FOP Friends provided £95,063-in research funding which includes £37,528 of funding received from international FOP Associations (FOP France and Associazione Noi Si Amo (Swiss FOP association)) restricted to research.

Fundraising costs reduced to £2,802 almost 50% less than last year and included securing 15 x Great North Run places, provision of fundraising materials and merchandise such as running t-shirts, leaflets and information packs. Money spent on staff salaries of £12,864 was funded thanks to corporate support leaving "fundraised" money untouched.



Governance costs increase slightly to £2,955. Governance includes basic operating costs, accounting fees, insurance, postage, professional memberships, and costs associated with training and supporting trustees and staff.

Achievements

FOP Friends was successful in several areas most notably with friends, family and public fundraising.

FOP Friends has had success in growing awareness of FOP and taking fundraising efforts beyond FOP families. This remains critical to the growth and sustainability of the charity and the ability to continue to fund research and support families.



Major achievements include continuing to support the FOP research teams and their efforts, being involved in international FOP efforts and raising awareness of FOP.

Providing funding to Oxford FOP Research

Year on year FOP Friends and its supporters have successfully funded the FOP Research Team at the University of Oxford. This has been achieved in collaboration with FOP France and Associazione Noi Si Siamo (Swiss FOP association) who have also contributed to the Oxford Research Fund via FOP Friends.



International FOP involvement

Chris Bedford-Gay (Chairman of FOP Friends) continues his role on the board of the International FOP Association (IFOPA) working on international FOP projects and meeting annually with researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and other board members for his 6th year.

Additionally, as part of his role as Chair of the IFOPA International Presidents Council (IPC), Chris has also attended many international FOP meetings and works to bring together national FOP leaders to tackle the search for a treatment/cure for FOP and to share challenges faced by FOP families the world over.

The FOP Connection Registry



There are now 196 FOP patients associated with the FOP Connection patient registry. The initiative - developed by the IFOPA to help understand and learn more about FOP - is an international database that collects demographic and health data from individuals living with FOP worldwide using a

secure web-based survey tool. Patient registries are essential in rare disease research and drug development and are critical in showing pharmaceutical companies that FOP patients are pro-active in the search for a cure.

FOP Friends continues to assist the IFOPA with this effort, by raising awareness of the registry with the UK FOP community.

IFOPA Drug Development Forum

FOP Friends again attended the IFOPA Drug Development Forum an annual meeting critical in bringing research, pharmaceutical and patients together to accelerate the search for a treatment and cure for FOP.



Chris opened the meeting. In his speech, he spoke about the exciting times we are living

in, and that hope for a treatment for FOP is quickly becoming a reality. He also spoke about the need for us to work together as a community: locally, nationally, globally, so we can achieve our shared vision: a cure for FOP.

IFOPA Competitive Research

FOP Friends continued its support of the IFOPA through the competitive research grant programme with FOP Friends providing funding towards the "Validation of Novel Muscle Regenerating Prophylaxis for FOP-related Heterotopic Ossification", a new and novel project at University of Michigan, USA. A project being led by Yuji Mishina, Ph.D. and Benjamin Levi, M.D.



EURORDIS

FOP Friends remains a full member of the European Rare Disease Organisation (EURORDIS). EURORDIS is a non-governmental patient-driven alliance of patient organisations and individuals who are active in the field of rare diseases, dedicated to improving the quality of life of all people living with rare diseases in Europe.



EURORDIS seeks to achieve this through advocacy at the European level, support for research and medicines development,

facilitating networking amongst patient groups, raising awareness, and many other actions designed to reduce the impact of rare diseases on the lives of patients and family.

Fundraising Regulator



FOP Friends is voluntarily registered with the Fundraising Regulator (the organisation that replaces the Fundraising Standards Board (FRSB)). The Fundraising Regulator is the independent self-regulatory body for UK fundraising. The Fundraising Regulator works with member charities, suppliers and the wider charity sector to encourage commitment to and compliance with best practices in fundraising.

Social media activity

The power of social media today is



massive and the more that FOP Friends can raise awareness about FOP, the easier it will be to prevent any devastating misdiagnoses, whilst also raising funds to support the research. Thank you to everyone who has helped with our campaigns this year. FOP Friends continues to grow its network of supporters on social media, and we are especially proactive on Facebook and Twitter. The FOP Friends Facebook page has now exceeded 2,300 likes, with the top post reaching nearly 4,000 people.

FOP Friends' Twitter account attracts a small but active community, with over 550 followers who help to spread the word and increase the reactions to our posts by up to 7 times that number! LinkedIn continues to grow FOP awareness within the corporate community and Google+, although being used minimally at present, is set up and in operation. FOP Friends uses social media to post news on recent research discoveries and upcoming clinical trials, to promote the activities of fundraisers and to make and maintain contact with companies and people that support FOP Friends; these go a long way to help raise awareness of FOP and the charity.

Media relations

FOP Friends continues to make use of local and national media where appropriate to raise awareness of FOP and encourage fundraising. We are, however, very cautious when working with the media and only "go public" when it truly benefits the FOP community.

Attendance at conferences and meetings

In October 2017, Chris attended the IFOPA and FOP Italia 2017 Drug Development Forum where twelve countries came together to update on the search for treatments for FOP.

Chris was also pleased to attend the prestigious Eurordis Awards and Black Pearl in Brussels, along with many FOP leaders from around the world.

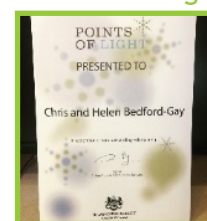


Vice-Chancellor's Circle

FOP Friends was honoured to accept the invitation to join the Vice-Chancellor's Circle at the University of Oxford. This is in recognition of the charity's generous financial support for the FOP research team, having donated over £300,000 since 2012. Helen and Chris were thrilled to represent the charity at the annual gala meeting in May 2017.



Awards/recognitions



FOP Friends came to the attention of the Prime Minister at Number 10, when Helen and Chris were chosen as 'Points of Light' for their volunteer work for the charity. They received a personalised letter and were thankful FOP had reached the desk of the Prime Minister.

The charity also came runner-up as Charity of the Year at the Altrincham and Sale Chamber of Commerce Business Awards. The commitment of the charity to the people it helps was recognised, as were the amazing people who fund raise tirelessly to support the research for a cure.



FOP Family Weekend

Our first Family Weekend Break Away took place in 2017, thanks to a generous grant from Children in Need. The destination was Center Parcs, Sherwood Forest, Nottinghamshire; a prime location for travel across a wide geographic area, with a total of 14 FOP families in attendance. This weekend away provided a brilliant opportunity for all the

families to connect and share precious time with others who understood.

The first night began with a welcome event. For many of the families, the last time they had seen each other was at the 2016 Family Gathering, so there was plenty of catching up to do.

On Saturday morning, the children had the chance to take part in pottery painting. Many took this opportunity to create a keepsake of their weekend. The main attraction of the weekend, though, was the amazing indoor pool.



Thanks to the generosity of Children in Need, our kids were also treated to another adventurous activity of their choosing; there were quad-bikers, teddy-bear makers, jet-skiers, den-builders, climbers, skidoo-ers to name just a few!



Saturday evening was the highlight of the weekend, as we all came together and celebrated our uniqueness. A children's entertainer had the kids juggling, limbo-ing, dancing, and wearing funny hats. What was so overwhelming and so evident was the most wonderful feeling of community, friendship and strength. The positive atmosphere of the weekend reaffirmed the knowledge that we're not alone on this journey.



This fun-filled weekend gave FOP children the opportunity to come together and try exciting new activities in a relaxed and safe setting.

The Activity Weekend Break also offered a welcome opportunity for parents and family members to meet, share experiences and spend quality time together in an relaxed environment.

UK FOP Conference and Family Gathering

FOP Friends was delighted to receive a grant from Big Lottery Fund to help fund the third biennial UK FOP Conference and Family Gathering, due to take place May 2018 in Manchester.



The main theme will be living with FOP, with a clear focus on patients and families. There will be presentations from our world-renowned FOP experts along with representatives from the pharmaceutical companies who are at the forefront of FOP research. Attendees will also be able to ask questions during a Q&A panel session, and in the afternoon, there will be workshop sessions to provide an opportunity for families and FOPers to break off into groups and discuss topics of relevance to them.

Clinical appointments will be available for FOPers, to give patients the opportunity to consult with the physicians privately. There will be a dinner in the evening with light entertainment provided. This is an informal and fun affair where parents can relax together and simply enjoy each other's company.

Impact and value

FOP Friends continues to benefit from the fantastic ongoing efforts of FOP families, friends and the wider public. The funding FOP Friends receives allows the search for a treatment and a cure for FOP to continue within the UK. The income generated has allowed the charity to continue its financing of the University of Oxford FOP Research team, supporting international research, as well as providing increased support and resources for families touched by FOP.

FOP Friends continues to grow from strength to strength, capitalising on its charitable status with further success with grants, trusts, and corporate sponsorship. However, nothing would be possible without the phenomenal support of the communities in which those touched by FOP live; those communities who have gone out of their way to aid the small number of FOP families. It is only through

their generosity, willingness to help with fundraising, and their direct donations, that the search for a cure can continue.

The community can never be thanked enough, but hopefully this small selection of supporters, events, challenges and activities provides an idea of the backing FOP Friends receives. It may be a small community, but it makes a big difference.

#FunFeet4FOP

The second #FunFeet4FOP campaign was a huge success. Why feet? Because the first sign of FOP is malformed big toes. This classic sign is seldom recognized because of a lack of awareness of FOP, and this leads to FOP being misdiagnosed in many cases (often as cancer). People from around the world shared pics of their decorated feet or flamboyant footwear.



UoM Volunteer Fair

In October, FOP Friends hosted a stall at the University of Manchester Volunteer Fair. This provided the opportunity to promote the charity and raise awareness for FOP. The charity was able to chat with a variety of students and help build valuable connections.



Gig for Isla celebrates its 4th year

The first Gig for Isla was held in October 2014. The L&M Band, who play 60s R&B agreed to play for free. Everyone had a good time and as they left, people were asking when the next one was going to be. Four gigs later, Gig for Isla has managed to fundraise over £13,000 for FOP Friends.



Sporting Success

RUNNING

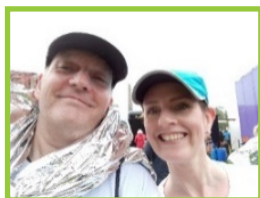
SUNDAY SUPERHEROES

For us mere mortals, 13 may be an unlucky number, but for 13 superheroes who took part in the DIFC Superhero Fun Run, it served to intensify their powers. The FOP Heroes team tripled what they'd set out to raise, netting £3,200 for FOP research in a heroic effort!



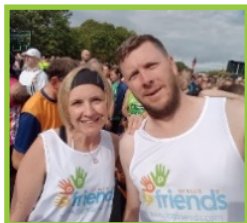
GREAT RUNS FROM GREAT PARENTS

The parents of those with FOP have plenty on their plates already. Yet they still find the time to train and fundraise.



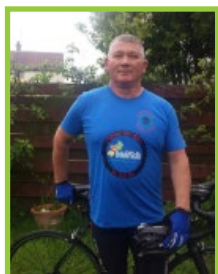
Iona (14) and Ellis (8) are two of our FOP Friends whose parents completed half marathons this year. Suz and

Rob Grant were two of the eight people who completed the Great North Run in Newcastle. While a few weeks later, Iona's parents, Judith and Alistair Gray, ran through a sodden Glasgow in the Great Scottish Run.



CYCLING

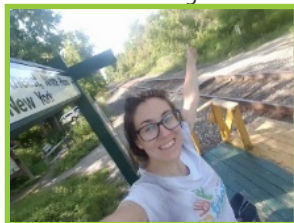
Stewart's Scottish cycle - Stewart decided to solo cycle from Thurso in the far north of Scotland, across the top of Scotland then down the west coast and home to Helensburgh, a distance of 500 miles. Stewart raised an amazing amount of awareness and funds for FOP.



OTHER EXCITING ACTIVITIES

800 MOUNTAINOUS MILES

Rebecca Deegan hiked 800 miles of the Appalachian trail alone. Her aim was to raise at least £1 a mile for FOP Friends, but the final total was far greater – over £2,500!



DANCING CLOSER TO A CURE

In the seaside town of Whitley Bay, on the outskirts of Newcastle, people have been sashaying and toe strutting for more than five years now and have raised nearly £30,000 in aid of FOP research.



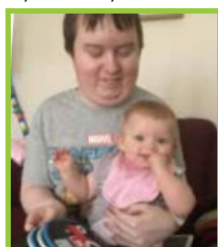
OUR YOUNGEST SUPPORTERS SHINE

William, 10, has continued to raise funds for FOP Friends. Having already completed a fun-run and organised two different sweet stalls, William decided to also take on a sponsored walk.



A Santa fun run in December saw some of Santa's little helpers, including Aurelea and Ryan (5), storm around London's Regent Park to help raise funds and awareness for FOP.

Without knowing it, baby Daisy – FOP Friend Dylan's tiny niece – became our youngest ever supporter in May. Her parents, Laura and Andrew, asked that, instead of gifts, family and friends invited to her naming ceremony donate to FOP Friends.



Record Currency Management's 24-hour pool playing

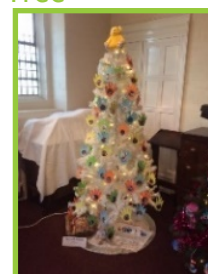


What can you achieve if you go through with your crazy idea to play pool for 24 hours? James and colleague

Nathan completed 214 frames, potted 2820 balls, potted the black off the break 3 times, and raised a very much appreciated £1,360 for FOP Friends.

Annual Christmas Tree

FOP Friends present their tree of thanks for Children in Need at the annual St. Alban's Church Tree Festival.



Oliver's little brother, Leo, contributed his own 'Little FOPers' trees.



All in all this has been a fun year of fundraising.



Future plans

FOP Friends plans to hold the third FOP Conference and Family Gathering in May 2018, continuing the biennial event started in 2014. The 2018 event is expected to be well attended and many side-meetings are scheduled to take place between clinicians, researchers and pharmaceutical companies, all alongside clinical appointments for patients, a creche for children, workshops and presentations.

Plans are underway to gain funding and support to run subsequent Family Weekends. These are weekends where families dealing with FOP can step-away and enjoy a relaxed atmosphere with others in the same situation.

A continued growth in staff is planned subject to the success of current staff. This continues the move towards a sustainable organisation whose day-to-day operation is not entirely dependent upon the time and commitment of the founders and their families (who run the organisation alongside full time jobs and family commitments).

An increase in the support provided to families is planned with production of new support materials such as the "Be Safe at School" handbook together with refreshing fundraising materials and information leaflets.

Finally, continued awareness and fundraising is planned to ensure research at the University of Oxford continues to be funded and the level of family support FOP Friends offers can be increased.

Ambition & long-term plans

Charity objectives

- To grow FOP Friends to make the annual fundraising target of £125,000 more easily achievable and to be in a strong position to increase this target soon

- To increase public awareness and expand the fundraising activities beyond friends and family

- To reduce misdiagnosis and help ensure there are more UK-based FOP experts and centres where treatment and possibly future clinical trials can take place

- To continue our involvement with the FOP community worldwide and help advance FOP research and awareness internationally

- To increase support given to FOP Families

- To maximise grant income

- To ensure regular communications are sent to the community and further afield to keep everyone abreast of the work that FOP Friends undertakes, progress with research and to thank those who fundraise for us

Preventing misdiagnosis

- To increase awareness of FOP with both health professionals and the public to reduce misdiagnosis and therefore the fallout from investigations that often trigger devastating episodes of FOP bone growth

Fundraising

- To continue to grow fundraising, helping and encouraging more families to become actively involved

- To, through increased public awareness, expand fundraising activities beyond friends and family to become a charity of choice for the public to support

- To sustain and maximise trusts and grant funding to continue the financial support for research

- To secure and sustain grant funding to enable the charity to support employees on a long-term basis

- To develop a Fundraising Pack to help those interested in fundraising to support the charity

- To secure funding to cover core costs and reduce attendee costs for future UK FOP conferences

- To seek corporate sponsorship as "charity of the year"

- To create alternative fundraising campaigns to diversify income streams

- To seek high-profile patrons to both, increase awareness and to actively encourage and support fundraising.

Family support

- To continue to provide support and advice to existing and recently diagnosed FOP families

- To organise and deliver regular family gatherings across the UK to support and promote the community and provide respite for families

- To provide best advice and information to families, schools, clinicians, and others, in understanding FOP and the challenges it poses

Medical support

- To reach out to health professionals and professional bodies to create interest and awareness of FOP to help prevent misdiagnosis and also to increase the available support for those with FOP

- To help establish UK specialist centres for the care and treatment of FOP patients

- To strengthen the reliability of our information sources by engaging medical professional as advisors



Governance and Structure

Legal Status

FOP Friends is a charitable trust registered with the Charities Commission in England and Wales, #1147704. It was founded in March 2012 and is governed by its "Trust Deed". The trustees are responsible for the management and administration of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

FOP Friends became registered with The Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) in November 2016, SC046950.

Organisational Structure

Ultimate responsibility for the governance of FOP Friends is with the trustees. The trustees are appointed by the founding trustees as detailed within the Trust Deed dated March 2012. The trustees meet in-person (defined as physically or via video conference) at least twice each year. Interim meetings are also held throughout the year. Trustee duties include ensuring compliance with all relevant laws and ensuring that its activities are in accordance with its charitable objectives and operation for the public benefit. Certain functions are delegated to individual trustees and it is expected in the future there will be several committees with specific responsibilities for the charity. Any change to the Trust Deed including the appointment of trustees is subject to 10 days' notice of the intention to discuss prior to any meeting.

Trustee recruitment and training

Vacancies for trustees are sought through recommendations gained through appropriate networks and associations of Trustees and supporters. Candidates shortlisted are those whose skills and expertise will complement those of the existing trustees. Short-list candidates are reviewed by the existing trustees with a decision to appoint made at a special general meeting. New trustees are provided with a copy of the Trust Deed with any amendments made to it and a copy of the charities latest Annual Report and Financial Statements. All trustees are required to complete a "Trustee Declaration" form. They will subsequently be inducted into the workings of the charity by an existing experienced trustee.

Employment

Karen Blenkinsop - Grants and Trusts Manager

Karen Blenkinsop, a very experienced project specialist, took up the post as Grants and Trusts Manager. Her notable successes include securing a grant to continue the production and distribution of our 'FOP Friends Together' quarterly newsletter, and a grant from Genetic Disorders UK, which has enabled us to fund a future family residential weekend at Center Parcs in 2019. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen personal commitments, Karen left the charity later in 2018. We were extremely sad to see her go but appreciated of all her hard work and efforts for the charity.



Hannah Dempsey - Digital Administrator

Having worked for FOP Friends as a Marketing and Communications Intern for 8 weeks in summer 2016, Hannah has stayed with the charity, working two days a week throughout her Master's year at the University of Manchester. She continues her hard work, managing all of FOP Friends' social media streams, tracking engagement with the public and writing blog posts to ensure maximum impact.



Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

Under the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006, the Trustees are required to prepare a report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of FOP Friends and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, that period. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP

- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its operations

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of FOP Friends and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of FOP Friends and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For the purposes of charity law, the trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of FOP Friends and financial information included on the charity's website.

This report was approved by the trustees on 30th December 2018 and signed on their behalf by

Chris Bedford-Gay.

Founding Trustee and Chairman

Financial review

Summary

Gross incoming resources for the year amounted to £158,969 with £235,640 being carried forward to the next charity year. Of the amount being carried forward £125,000 is designated to fund future research with £15,000 designated to operating reserves.

The charity currently has no long-term investments. Cash reserves are held in bank deposit accounts.

Income

Income for the year totalled £158,969 made up of unrestricted funds from fundraising and voluntary donations together with income from successful grant and trust applications, conference fees and a small amount of interest on savings.

Grants, trusts, and corporate sponsorship

The charity received £41,434 from grants and trusts, an approximate increase of 35% from the previous charity year.

Charitable expenditure

Through the charity year £95,063 was spent on funding FOP research.

Operating costs of £20,365 include costs associated with fundraising of £2,802 (t-shirts, Great North Run places, and support of fundraisers), staff salaries of £12,864, £2,955 in governance costs and £1,716 costs associated with projects.

Governance costs of £2,955 include accounting fees, insurance, postage, professional memberships and costs associated in employing staff.

£2,932 was spent on the FOP Family Weekend. These costs being covered by project grants.

Gains and losses

Income from fundraising, voluntary donations and fundraising activities decreased by 9.7% from £152,017 to a total of £137,257.

Policy on reserves

The Trustees have reviewed the reserves of FOP Friends. Our aim is to maintain reserves in unrestricted funds at a level of £15,000 to cover operational, support, governance costs and unforeseen expenditure over at least a 3-month period.

Designated Funds

£125,000 is designated towards future funding of FOP research with £15,000 held in reserve as an operating fund as detailed in our "Policy on reserves" above.

Future commitments

FOP Friends remains committed to funding FOP research internationally. Each year the trustees decide where to make disbursements to achieve the aims and objectives of the charity. At the time of writing £125,000 has been designated from funds carried over towards FOP research.

Ongoing projects such as the "Be Safe at School" handbook and "FOP Friends Together" newsletter is recognised as future financial commitments being funded through restricted grants and trust awards.

Restricted Funds

A total of £99,369 in funding received in this reporting year has been restricted towards research (£37,528 from international FOP organisations) and several projects including the "Be Safe at School" handbook, the FOP Friends 'Together' quarterly newsletter, and includes £15,407 in fees from the 2018 FOP Conference and Family Gathering and £5,500 in funding towards the 2019 FOP Family Weekend.

Investments

Presently FOP Friends has no investments

Independent examiner's report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 1st March 2017 which are set out on pages 15 to 18.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to FOP Friends' trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and charity's trustees, as a body, for my work or for this report.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

FOP Friends' trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

✓ examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act)

✓ to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act)

✓ to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

During my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner

P. S. Hutchinson BSc FCA, Chartered Accountant, 246 Park View, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear, NE26 3QX

Consolidated statement of financial activities

				Totals	
	Notes	Restricted	Unrestricted	2018	2017
<u>Incoming resources</u>					
<i>From generated funds</i>					
Voluntary income	2	£78,462	£49,220	£127,682	£135,912
Activities for generating funds	3	-	£9,575	£9,575	£16,105
Investment income		-	£136	£136	£164
<i>Other incoming resources</i>	4	£20,907	£669	£21,576	£22,734
<i>Total incoming resources</i>		£99,369	£59,600	£158,969	£174,915
<u>Resources expended</u>					
<i>Costs of generating funds</i>					
Fundraising costs	5	-	£2,802	£2,802	£4,922
Advertising and marketing	5	-	£28	£28	-
Salaries	5	£12,864	-	£12,864	£10,875
Project costs	5	£1,716	-	£1,716	£2,060
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Research	6	£37,528	£57,535	£95,063	£126,836
Events	7	£3,112	-	£3,112	£26,729
Salaries	5	-	-	-	-
<i>Governance costs</i>	8	£2,955	-	£2,955	£1,592
<i>Total resources expended</i>		£58,175	£60,365	£118,540	£173,014
<i>Net incoming/(outgoing)</i>		£41,955	(£765)	£40,429	£1,901
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>					
<i>Total funds brought forward</i>		£29,677	£165,534	£195,211	£193,310
<i>Total funds carried forward</i>		£70,871	£164,769	£235,640	£195,211

The notes on pages 17 and 18 form an integral part of these financial statement.

Balance sheet

	Notes	2018		2017	
Fixed assets	9		£243		£312
Current assets					
Cash at bank		£238,466		£200,783	
		£238,466		£200,783	
Creditors: amounts due within one year	10	(£3,069)		(£5,884)	
Net current liabilities			£235,397		£194,899
Net assets			£235,640		£195,211
<u>Funds</u>					
Restricted	11		£70,871		£29,677
Designated	12		£140,000		£140,000
Unrestricted			£24,769		£25,534
			£235,640		£195,211

Approved by the trustees on 30th December 2018 and signed on their behalf by



Alison Acosta Bedford, Founding Trustee.

Notes to financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005 and applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed.

Unrestricted income comprises those funds which are free to use for any purpose in line with the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have set aside resources for a specific purpose.

INCOMING RESOURCES

Incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received, and the value of incoming resources can be measured with enough reliability.

Voluntary income is received by way of donations & gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities as received.

Investment income is included as received.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of fundraising.

GOVERNANCE COSTS

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

IRRECOVERABLE VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	2018	2017
<i>Donations</i>	£86,247	£105,156
<i>Grants</i>	£41,434	£30,756
	£127,681	£135,912

3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2018	2017
<i>Fundraising events</i>	£9,575	£16,105
	£9,575	£16,105

4. OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES

	2018	2019
<i>Conference fees</i>	£15,407	£11,663
<i>Family getaway</i>	£5,500	£11,071
<i>Sales</i>	£669	-
	£21,576	£22,734

5. FUNDRAISING COSTS

	2018	2017
<i>Salaries</i>	£12,864	£10,875
<i>Advertising & PR</i>	£28	-
<i>Fundraising costs</i>	£2,802	£4,922
<i>Project costs</i>	£1,716	£2,060
	£17,410	£17,857

6. RESEARCH

	2018	2017
<i>UK Research</i>	£80,000	£126,836
<i>International Research</i>	15,063	
	£95,063	£126,836

7. EVENTS

	2018	2017
<i>Conference costs</i>	£180	£3,000
<i>Family weekend</i>	£2,923	-
	£3,112	£3,000

8. GOVERNANCE

	2018	2017
Accountancy	£90	£85
Insurance	£330	£329
Subscriptions	£1,096	£728
Bank charges	£167	£98
Computer costs	£686	£8
Staff training	-	£50
Travel expenses	£179	-
Depreciation	£407	£294
	£2,955	£1,592

9. FIXED ASSETS

Office equipment

Cost	
At 2 nd March 2017	£883
Additions	£338
Disposals	-
At 1 st March 2018	£1,221
Depreciation	
At 2 nd March 2017	£571
On disposals	-
Charge for year	£407
At 1 st March 2018	£978
Net book value	
At 2 nd March 2017	£243
At 1 st March 2018	£312

10. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year:

	2018	2017
Trade creditors	£3,153	£6,079
PAYE and NI	(£164)	(£164)
VAT	(£10)	(£121)
Accrued expenses	£90	£90
	£3,069	£5,884

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance b.fwd	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance c.fwd
Conference fees fund	£9,927	£15,407	(£180)	£25,154
Family getaway	£4,994	£5,500	(£2,932)	£7,562
Support fund	£4,146	-	(£4,146)	-
Operational	-	£15,156	(£10,912)	£4,244
School Handbook fund	£3,500	£20,509	-	£24,009
FOP 'Together' Newsletter	£7,110	£3,669	(£1,716)	£9,063
Charity leaflet	-	£1,600	-	£1,600
FOP Organisations	-	£37,528	£37,528	-
	£29,677	£99,369	(£57,414)	£71,632

The Support fund represents grant monies received from Genetic Disorders UK to fund the employment of a Charity Support Assistant.

The Conference fees fund represents donations and delegates deposits received in respect of the FOP Conference in May 2018.

The School Handbook fund represents grants awarded towards the cost of producing a handbook that families can provide to their child's school to detail best practice procedures for caring for a FOP child throughout their life in education.

The FOP 'Together' Newsletter fund represents grants awarded to fund the production of a quarterly print/online newsletter to inform the FOP community and to support fundraising.

12. DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance b.fwd	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance c.fwd
Research fund	£125,00	-	-	£125,000
Operating fund	£15,000	-	-	£15,000
	£140,000			£140,000

The Charity will sometimes raise funds to meet particular objectives, but the donor chooses not to restrict the Charity in how the funds are to be used. These funds are legally unrestricted, but the Trustees choose to designate the purpose for which the funds are to be used as follows:

The Research fund represents monies received which the Trustees have designated to be used to fund research in future years.

The Operating fund represents the higher of £15,000 or 3 months operating costs which is considered to be the safe minimum reserve level as determined by the charity's Reserves Policy.

Our history (to 1st March 2018)

March 2008

Oliver Peter Bedford-Gay born, all the medical professionals just think he has "funny toes".

November 2008

Oliver has mysterious lump removed from the back of his head.

April 2009

Bedford-Gay family receive devastating diagnosis of FOP.

2010

Family and friends begin fundraising to support the research team at Oxford.

2011



Friends of Oliver website created to celebrate and thank those who are supporting Oliver and the research team at Oxford.

FOP Friends chairman and founder Chris Bedford-Gay elected onto the Board of the IFOPA.

April 2011

First of many line dancing evenings held, which have been one of our biggest fundraisers, raising £16,000 to date.

2012

FOP Friends of Oliver website goes 'live' together with "What is FOP?" animated video, narrated by Stephen Fry.



June 2012

FOP Friends of Oliver becomes a registered charity # 1147704.

December 2012



Chris becomes an 'informal' member of University of Pennsylvania

FOP research team to collaborate in development of the International FOP Flare-up survey.

December 2012

First donation to the University of Oxford to support its research team: £10,000.

March 2013

First newsletter is published to celebrate the many different fundraising events being held across the country.



March 2013

FOP Friends is awarded a grant for £16,000 from GDUK to fund a Charity Administrative Assistant.

December 2013

FOP Friends is awarded a grant to employ a Senior Drug Developer at the University of Oxford.

December 2013

Annual donation to the University of Oxford's research team, this time £20,000.

March 2014

£65,000 in funding is provided by FOP Friends to employ a full-time medicinal chemist within the University of Oxford's FOP Research team.

May 2014

FOP Friends organizes a family gathering in Manchester, uniting UK FOP families for the first time in 12 years. The world's experts in FOP are also in attendance, including Prof. Kaplan.

June 2014

Friends of Oliver proudly becomes FOP Friends® to reflect the growing number of UK families now raising money together to support FOP research.

August 2014

FOP Friends' Drug Developer begins work at the University of Oxford, alongside the excellent existing team.

August 2014

FOP Friends is adopted by companies PwC Manchester and Avaya as their "Charity of the Year".

September 2014

Two teams of FOP Friends' runners take part in the Great North Run and the Windsor Half Marathon, raising £21,000 in total.

October 2014

FOP Friends makes an incredible donation of £70,000 to help maintain the research team at the University of Oxford for another year.

November 2014

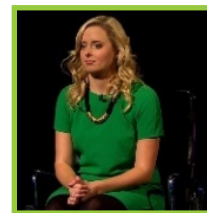
Website is updated with personalised "Friends" pages to recognise and celebrate the amazing people who make up FOP Friends.



FOP Friends Founder and chairman Chris attends the IFOPA Drug Development Forum in Boston, with over 100 researchers and interested pharmaceutical companies in attendance. A milestone in the search for a treatment and cure for FOP.

December 2014

FOP Friends decorates their annual Christmas Tree at St. Alban's Church, Cheshire, with photos of FOP patients from around the country.



CBBC's Katie Thistleton appears on Celebrity Mastermind and her chosen charity is...FOP Friends!

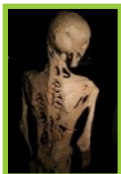
January 2015



Clementia open first European trial site in Paris, which some of our UK FOP patients then took the opportunity to take part in. Everyone in the FOP community thank you for furthering the research.

The Scotts and the Bedford-Gays are delighted to attend Richard Simcox's Burns Night Gala in aid of FOP in Aberdeen. A superb evening hosted by one of FOP's greatest and longest supporters.

February 2015



Chris visits a very cold Philadelphia for his in-person IFOPA board meeting. He visits the Mutter museum to see the world-famous skeleton of Harry Eastlack.

Rachel Winnard and her family travel to Australia to visit their new little FOP buddy Jarvis, a friendship they formed at the Gathering.

March 2015

Chris is honoured to be invited to, and attend, the 1st UK Genetic Disorders Leadership Symposium in London.

An update meeting at Oxford with the excellent FOP research team. Chris, Rachel, Nicky, George and Marian all attend.



Chris visits Rome for the FOP Italia conference: twelve countries coming together to find a cure for FOP.

June 2015

Chris flies to Boston for the first IFOPA Strategic Planning meeting. He visits the FOP research team and laboratory at Harvard University, who are collaborating with the team at Oxford to find a treatment. Next, he visits Blueprint Pharmaceuticals to learn of their progress and then goes on to Regeneron Pharmaceuticals in Tarrytown, New York. Chris finishes his whistle-stop tour with a quick visit to the FOP lab at the University of Pennsylvania.



PushOn adopt FOP Friends as their Charity of the Year.

August 2015

FOP Friends are delighted to announce our first FOP Friends employees, David Pilkington and Mari Jones, funded thanks to GDUK and other minor grants: a milestone in the charity's history



September 2015



The amazing Great North Run Team 2015 raise £14,000.

October 2015

BBC's Casualty run a story about a character with FOP. Whilst FOP was only touched upon briefly, it did put FOP 'out there' once more, hopefully raising further awareness.

FOP Friends is selected as Avaya's Charity of the Year, and many exciting fundraising activities are planned.

November 2015



The Natural History of Flare-Ups in FOP is published in the Journal of Bone and Mineral Research. Chris is credited as one of the contributors.

PwC Manchester present us with the cheque from their Charity of the Year activities, they raise over £30,000. It is their most successful fundraising year to date.

Clementia open their Clinical Trial Site in London, UK, under the supervision of Dr Richard Keen.

Chris flies out to Amsterdam for the Dutch FOP Symposium.

Amy Whyte organises a 'Channel Swim' at the local swimming baths which is attended by CBBC's Katie Thistleton.



December 2015

We are thrilled to be selected as part of BG Group's share dealership programme.

January 2016

FOP Friends' oldest supporter Mrs. Laura Gregory celebrates her 102nd birthday and donates her gift money to find a treatment for her great-grandson Oliver.



and Family Gathering 2016.

FOP Friends is excited to announce the award of a grant from The Big Lottery Fund to help fund the UK FOP Conference



FOP Friends supports IFOPA competitive research grant programme which saw FOP Friends providing 25% of the funding towards the "Allosteric inhibitors of ALK2 for FOP therapy" project at the University of Oxford.

February 2016



FOP Friends approved for full membership of EURORDIS on 8th February.

Chris heads off to Florida for a few days in the sun his annual in-person board meeting for the IFOPA.



Luciana tells her story to a national newspaper to raise awareness of FOP.



Adobe chooses FOP Friends as beneficiary of their Charity of the Year.

FOP Friends is honoured to be invited to the prestigious Eurordis Awards and Black Pearl Evening in Brussels, along with many FOP leaders from around the world.



We celebrate Rare Disease Day by announcing that we, along with FOP France, Swiss FOP and other donors, have funded the excellent research team at Oxford for yet another year.

March 2016

Rachel Winnard appears on ITV's 'Emergency Room with Jeremy Kyle' to raise awareness.

Trustee Rachel Almeida is proud to attend at the Genetic Disorders UK Conference, London, on behalf of FOP Friends.

The Hospital Saturday Fund awards FOP Friends a grant that will fund a new microscope for the FOP research team at Oxford.

Chris attends his second FOP Italia meeting in Livorno. A very positive conference with lots of exciting developments in the field of research, from all around the world.

April 2016

FOP Friends launch the #FunFeet4FOP campaign in celebration of FOP Awareness Day.

We launch our first national (now international) social media campaign, encouraging all our supporters to wear #FunFeet4FOP.



The weekend is an incredible success with many people posting photos of their weird and wonderful footwear. Oliver and Annelese's schools both join in to raise money as well as awareness.

May 2016 Savills take part in a 100k bike ride to raise funds and awareness for FOP Friends and the charity Dreams Come True.

The second 'FOP Friends Family Gathering' is a great success; Dr Keen sees patients in the morning before going to run the Manchester 10k to support FOP Friends, then is back to see more patients after!

June 2016

The NERDOC guys ride an amazing 270-mile round trip from one UK coast to another for the second time.

Dr Keen presents on the International FOP Association (IFOPA) FOP Connection Registry at Bone Research Society meeting.

FOP Australia holds an official launch, marking one year since the organization was established by Lara Boniface, mum of FOPer Jarvis.

July 2016

Kevin Gordon completes a sponsored cycle from Lands' End to John O'Groats in 15 days, helping to raise awareness of FOP.

August 2016

The eBay Charity UK sale for FOP Friends proves a great success.

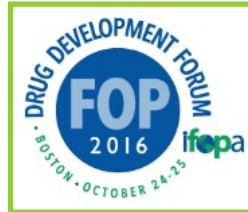
September 2016

Several FOP Friends champions take part in the Great North Run and London to Brighton cycle.

October 2016

Organized by Margot Charlton for the third year in a row, the charity gig for Isla is held on the Isle of Wight. The L&M Band play 60's tunes to dance the night away with attitude.

Chris attends the 2nd IFOPA Drug Development Forum in Boston. FOP Friends provides \$15,000 towards the event generating a total \$30,000 thanks to fund matching.



Helen and the boys visit Centre Parcs to check out the facilities for the FOP Family Weekend.

December 2016

FOP Friends decorates a Christmas tree at the annual event at St. Albans, with decorations made by the FOP families at the Family Gathering in May.

The "Don't send me a card" appeal proves an effective way of saving the trees and raising some £s for FOP Friends.

January 2017

Chris, Oliver, and FOP Friends received an exciting acknowledgement in Fiona Cummins' debut novel 'Rattle'. Chris consulted on the book as one of the main characters suffers from FOP. One to look out for in the cinemas soon!

February 2017

Anoushka, 16, from Azerbaijan, arranges for five groups of swimmers from the Baku sharks to swim the equivalent of the English Channel over two weeks. Each group swam 32km, and together they raised £360 for FOP friends.



Chris attends the Eurordis Black Pearl Rare Disease Gala in Brussels.

March 2017

Fun in the Forest for FOP Families - In March, over a dozen FOP families were able to enjoy a weekend at Centre Parcs Sherwood Forest thanks to funding from Children in Need.

April 2017

The second #FunFeet4FOP event takes place on International FOP Awareness Day, with some fab feet (including a farm animal or two) helping to boost the profile of FOP.



Jo and Jack take on a marathon each, with Jo running in London and Jack in Southampton.

May 2017

Enjoying the University of Oxford Vice-Chancellors Circle evening. An invite extended to us thanks to all the support we as a community have been able to give to our FOP Research team at Oxford.



June 2017

FOP Friends partner with Genetic Disorders UK.

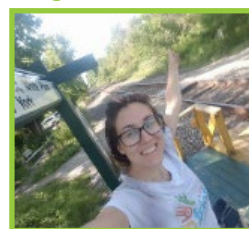
Savills continue their support by holding a Golf Day and raising over £165.

July 2017

Sophie, Becky and friends host a Garden Fundraiser and raise £670 taking FOP Friend Isla's fundraising page to over £40,000

Stewart and friends cycle over 500 miles across Scotland to raise awareness for FOP.

August 2017



Trekking an impressive 800 miles, Rebecca completes her Appalachian Trail journey, raising an incredible £2,000 along the way.

September 2017

8 runners took on the Great North Run, raising over £5,000 for FOP research, with special support from 6 different Nationwide branches.

October 2017

Chris attends the 3rd IFOPA Drug Development Forum in Sardinia, Italy, and opens the event with his inspirational 'Along for the Ride' speech.

FOP Friends is proud to be listed and recognised in the 2016/17 The Oxford Thinking - The Campaign for the University of Oxford report, as one of their valued donors.



The charity is awarded Runner-Up as Charity of the Year at the Altrincham & Sale Chamber of Commerce Awards.

November 2017

Bex completed a 61-day dryathlon, raising a sparkling £500 in the process. While Amy celebrated her 50th Birthday in style by jumping 855ft from the top of Las Vegas' Stratosphere Tower and raising over an incredible £2,100.

FOP Friends feature on the University of Manchester's Volunteer Hub, to help raise awareness and recruit student volunteers.

The charity also awarded Charity of the Week in the "The Week" magazine.

December 2017



Oliver's little brother, Leo, contributed his own 'Little FOPer's trees.

FOP Friends present their tree of thanks for Children in Need at the annual St. Alban's Church Tree Festival.



January 2018



in their communities.

Chris and Helen are named the UK's 883rd and 884th Points of Light. The Points of Light programme recognises outstanding volunteers who are making a real difference

Feb 2018

Chris attends the 7th edition of the EURORDIS Black Pearl Awards alongside other FOP leaders from Italy, Germany, and France.



Thank you to (March 2017 - March 2018)

FOP Friends would like to acknowledge our ever-growing supporters.

Trusts / Grants

The Albert Hunt Trust

The Boshier-Hinton Foundation

Genetic Disorders UK

Hedley Foundation

Sir Cliff Richard Charitable Trust

Corporate Supporters

Avaya

Roemex Ltd

Clementia Pharmaceuticals

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals

Skillsarena Ltd

Donors of time and resources

Clarity Comms: FOP Animation

Stephen Fry: FOP Animation Narration

Keith Hopwood (Herman's Hermits): FOP Animation Music

Skillsarena Ltd: Director's time

Foliozine: Logo and website design

Community / Clubs & Associations

Manchester Round Table

Royal Northumberland Yacht Club

St Alban's Church, Broadheath

Fundraisers

We would like to thank everyone who undertook a fundraiser or personal challenge to raise awareness and funding for FOP Friends.


Please accept our apologies if we have omitted anyone. If you notice any omissions

or would like to be removed, please contact us.

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