

Interview with Spring Fling Ball organisers
Gail Ingram and Theresa Anderson



Q. Can you tell us a little bit about the success of the Spring Fling Ball, how many years has it been running, and how much money has been raised?

A. The most recent ball was the third to be held in as many years. In total we've raised £8,000 in that time.

Q. So how did the idea come about and what made you decide to get involved?

A. The idea came from our daughters wanting to go to a ball. We saw that hosting a ball was a good opportunity to raise some money at the same time as giving them this experience.

Q What do you see as main benefits of raising this money?

A. The main benefit is that the money is used to help others. By raising this money Partners in Advocacy can do that little bit more to help people find their way in world.

Q. And what do you take personally from being involved in fundraising?

A. By raising funds and seeing people's enjoyment we gain personal fulfilment. It's hugely satisfying to play a part in helping people and giving something back to the organisation. Partners in

Advocacy helped us see that barriers could be broken down and provided a different outlook on life.

Q. What about the future, do you plan to keep the Spring Fling Ball going as an annual event?

A. Yes, the Invercarse Hotel in Dundee has been booked for the next 2 years to host the Ball. We're also looking a ways to make things easier for those who come along, perhaps help with saving for the event, or going to charity shops to buy ball gowns.

The most recent Spring Fling Ball raised over £2000. This will enable Partners in Advocacy to fund the following:

- Summer activity programme for young people with special needs
- Boardmaker – symbol based communication software
- Communication resources
- Digital camera
- Colour laser printer
- Citizen Advocacy events
- Promotional materials
- Dundee events stall
- Christmas dance
- Other project activity expenses