



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

"With this enthusiasm we cannot but succeed"
DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD

This Award for Distinguished Service
is presented to

Charles Reid

for making an outstanding contribution
to the Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Hanney". The signature is written in a cursive style.

SIGNED *Lord Hanney of Chiswick, Chair, UNA-UK*

Charles Reid

Nomination submitted by UNA Scotland

Charles has served UNA Edinburgh branch in many ways and roles for some 45 years, and continues to do so despite the onset of health and mobility issues. Currently he serves as Treasurer of the branch, but this description alone does not do him justice.

Charles is the longest-serving member of UNA Edinburgh branch committee, and has been described as the lynch-pin of the branch. He joined the 'Youth Section' of UNA Edinburgh in 1964, graduating to the 'senior' branch around 1970, and was soon elected to the branch committee, on which he has served in various roles almost continuously ever since. As Chairman and Convenor (1979-1982, 1998-2000), he picked up the branch and built it up to its present membership of around or over a hundred. Charles was also instrumental in establishing UNA Scotland and currently serves as Deputy Convenor.

Charles has served as Treasurer of Edinburgh branch since about 1992, and has managed an income – including the modest office property bequeathed to the branch some years ago – that has enabled the branch to be active on a whole range of UNA/UN interests. Under his watch, the branch has held significant events, such as two recent conferences on nuclear non-proliferation at the Scottish Parliament, to advance the work and visibility of the UN and UNA-UK in Edinburgh and beyond.

Whenever there has been a UN-related activity in Scotland that appeared deserving of support, Charles has quietly taken it up, provided it with a sound foundation, and ensured that it flourished. Examples of Charles's efforts are: the annual United Nations Day Service at the High Kirk of St Giles; the founding of the National Association of International Development Organisations in Scotland (NIDOS) and the Cross-Party Group on International Development, the largest Cross-Party Group in the Scottish Parliament; the establishment of the Darfur Training Committee, which promotes the involvement of women from Darfur in the peaceful development of the Darfur region of the Sudan.

Underpinning his long and devoted service, Charles's encyclopaedic memory of UNA Edinburgh's past often proves invaluable and enables him to keep in touch with former branch members. Charles is a quiet, unassuming but very perceptive person. Perhaps the most notable features of his long and devoted service are his gentle amiability and dignified reliable leadership, which endear him to everyone. UNA-UK and Scotland have much to be grateful for in Charles.