Craig Levein puts his weight behind Foundation of Hearts

The Foundation of Hearts today announced that former Hearts player, Craig Levein has given his full support to the campaign to secure supporter ownership for Heart of Midlothian Football Club.

A highly successful manager at Tynecastle between 2000 and 2004, and former club captain, Craig was in Gorgie this afternoon to promote a final call for supporters to set up direct debits ahead of Monday's official first draw-down.

The Foundation backed bid sees Edinburgh business provide the up-front capital, through BIDCO, and then enter a binding contract with FANCO to sell the club, at no personal gain, in a controlled manner.

Former Hearts and Scotland manager Craig Levein said:-"I've asked a lot of searching questions over the last few months of the Foundation's team, and I am impressed by the answers. They've clearly done a huge amount of work to create a sustainable platform for Hearts to rebuild.

"What they've done to make this a genuine possibility now is remarkable. They combine business capital, and expertise with the passion of the Hearts support.

"The supporters have been absolutely magnificent. I can't stress that enough. The way they have rallied to support the club, time after time, is incredible. The fact Hearts even exists today is down to them. Hopefully the Foundation of Hearts can give the fans the fresh start they, more than anyone, deserve."

Ian Murray, chairman of the Foundation of Hearts added:-"We're delighted to receive this public show of support from Craig

Levein. He was a very fine player, captain and manager for this club. He's hugely respected by the Hearts support, and he's not offered this backing without considering some of the key detail.

"Supporters continue to sign up to the Foundation of Hearts in their numbers, and we cannot thank them enough. Together we can create the greatest supporter movement in Scottish football history."

Supporters, who are able to do so, are encouraged to set up their direct debit and help create history at www.foundationofhearts.org