



**Issue 19
September
2014**

Joint Newsletter from Community Learning and Development Service and Orkney Association of Youth Clubs

Hello and welcome to the 19th issue of the Club Times. A new school year has begun which means our youth clubs have started or will soon be starting. This issue gives you the chance to catch up on what has been happening over the last year.

KGS Bake Off 2014

The after school KGS Dynamic Youth Group held a Bake Off event last term. They met every second Friday and baked lots of delicious cakes. They made cupcakes, cake pops and victoria sponges. Mr Griffiths, the Home Economics teacher, was the judge and decided the prettiest and best tasting cakes. Whilst doing the Bake Off, the group worked towards completing a Dynamic Youth Award.

If you would like more information about this group, please contact Lynne Peace.

Point of Ness Clean Up

Some members from the West Mainland Youth Achievement Group, (who reached the Final of the Young Scot Awards) along with parents, cleaned up the Point of Ness on Sunday the 27th April. It appears people are taking home more and more of their rubbish from beaches as this is all the group could find from Point of Ness to Warbeth beach! The kids had a great time searching and this is just another example of this industrious group helping their Community.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards

A record five young people from Sanday received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award, in the presence of the Duke of Edinburgh.

Charlie Cameron, Naomi MacLeod, Cassandra Beale, John Murray and Melissa Beale all showed the dedication needed to complete their Gold Award.

In addition, Rosemary and Martyn Newton were presented with long-service awards for their voluntary contribution to the DofE over the last 20 years. Congratulations to all!



HMI's give Great Praise

In February this year the learning community surrounding KGS came in for great praise from Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education. The inspection looked at how various providers, including schools, public agencies, voluntary and community organisations support learning and development in the surrounding community.

The inspection looked in particular at how well partners are working together to build stronger more resilient communities and improve the quality of services and provision within the Kirkwall Area.

Education Scotland evaluated Improvement in Performance as: Good, Impact on Participants as: Very Good, Impact on Communities as Very Good and Improving Services as Good. Inspectors also identified various other key strengths.

Karen Greaves, the Council's Head of Leisure and Lifelong Learning, said:

"I cannot stress strongly enough the vital role our partner organisations have played in achieving a strong inspection report."

A full copy of the report is available from the link below:

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/LCKirkwallGramSchIns220414_tcm4-829085.pdf

Young Scot's Youth Legacy Ambassadors (YLA's) visit Glasgow during Commonwealth Games

Three Orkney YLA's went to Glasgow to help volunteer in Young Scots Tent in Glasgow Green creating seedballs with visitors to create a sustainable legacy.

Pictured left are Dan Clewett and Sophie Freestone creating seedballs and furthest right is Katell Roche at the Netball Final.



Youth Clubs Given a Clean Bill of Health

The Community Learning and Development team undertook an evaluation exercise of their current Youth Club provision on the mainland earlier this year. The review involved seeking the opinions of a variety of people involved in participation and provision of the Council's Youth services.

The results from the survey were that 100% of the parents that responded thought that the nightly club fees were fair, with some stating that the fees were extremely good value compared to other youth activity provisions.

Over 97% of parents felt that communication between the club and themselves was adequate and that bullying was not an issue in their club, but that the club leaders were approachable should the issue ever arise.

94% of responses from youth leaders indicated that they gained satisfaction from their role and 90% indicated they felt adequately supported but the biggest issue staff raised was the lack of adequate preparation and tidying up time allowed within the contracted hours. This issue will be passed onto senior managers.

Practical Problems Sensible Solutions Youth Scotland Event



Four youth workers from Orkney were fortunate enough to be able to attend Youth Scotland's Annual PPSS in March 2014. This event was a great networking experience, especially for isolated clubs, together with a fabulous learning experience at the many workshops provided.

Some quotes from youth workers attending:

“It was really good to hear about other types of groups and youth clubs and the opportunities they offer to children on mainland Scotland. Also hearing the different experiences other youth workers have within their groups was a real eye opener.”

“This year I was fortunate enough to be asked to attend PPSS in Edinburgh. I found the weekend as a whole, enjoyable and informative and can't think of a single negative thing to say about it.”

Stromness Dynamic Youth Group – “Outstanding Voluntary Work”

The group pictured left took part in a fact finding trip to Edinburgh to look at global and local conservation. They attended Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh Zoo and the Falkirk Wheel and also took part in canoeing on the Union Canal and archery at Falkirk Community Centre.

True to their volunteering ambitions, the young people had spent the last 18 months fundraising for the trip, alongside raising money for local charities. The trip was part funded by various grants and the group were accompanied by youth workers and young leaders. They were praised throughout the trip and were excellent ambassadors for the young people of Orkney!



Young Scot of the Year Awards 2014

The Stromness Dynamic Youth and Youth Achievement Group were finalists for the Community Award at the Young Scot Awards held at the SECC in Glasgow earlier this year. In a hotly contested category they were beaten by the eventual overall winner. This does not take away from how much of an amazing achievement it is to be recognised nationally for all their efforts and contributions.

Pictured are Joel Wishart, Young Person, Maureen Herdman, Area Youth Worker and Nyree Gunn, Young Person.



Lifolf's Feast

A Viking Feast was held on Saturday 7 June 2014, with over 40 youth club members from all around Orkney. It was a busy fun-filled day, full of Viking activities. Some people came dressed up as Vikings!

We learnt all about the St Magnus Story and played Viking games. We had our hair done Viking style and got fake scars and wounds. We also made Viking long ships, swords and shields, which we decorated ourselves. At the end of the day, we performed the St Magnus Story to parents and helpers.

The Orkney Youth Café provided the catering for the Feast. It contained lots of Viking food such as broth and stew, bannocks, cheese and berries. Everyone appeared to enjoy their day a lot.

Lynne, Lorna and Maureen would like to thank everyone who attended Lifolf's Feast and helped make the day the success that it was.



Orkney Youth Scotland Colleague Honoured with Baton Relay Nomination

Youth Scotland Orkney Area Coordinator Maureen Herdman carried the baton as part of the 2014 Commonwealth Games Baton Relay in July. Maureen has been a youth worker in Orkney for over 25 years and is the Area Coordinator for Youth Scotland, as well as the West Mainland Area Youth Worker for Orkney Islands Council. Maureen has dedicated her life to young people in Orkney and as many of the young people she once worked with are now the parents of young people Maureen is now working with, she received a special and well deserved round of applause as she completed her stage of the relay. Well done Maureen!



Orkney's Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament

Iona Torbet and Samuel Murray, (MSYP's) are pictured having discussions with MSP Liam McArthur over some issues concerning young people in Orkney before heading away to the next SYP Sitting to be held on 4 and 5 October in Perth. At a local level Iona and Samuel are currently working along with Community Learning and Development Officer, Ernie Skea and other young people to establish an Orkney Youth Forum. If any young people are interested in the Youth Forum please contact Ernie Skea.

'Commonwealth Roadshow' hailed a success

Prior to the Queens Baton arriving in Orkney, our Active Schools and Community Learning and Development teams toured the Orkney mainland with a range of fun activities. The roadshow visited Dounby, Stromness, Firth, Kirkwall, St. Andrews and the Hope.

The project was made possible with funding from the Big Lottery's 'Celebrate' fund. Those who attended had the opportunity to wrestle in sumo suits, try the crossbow

challenge and have their face painted. They were also able to participate in fun sporting activities and learn more about the Commonwealth Games through the quizzes and challenges. The face painting and 'Clyde' tattoos were a big hit with the little ones!

Over the course of 3 days over 400 people participated in the various activities on offer.



Youth Worker Training

Just a reminder that the following Youth Worker Training sessions still available to attend:

- Basics of Youth Work – Monday 6 October.
- Keep it Real – Tuesday 4 November.
- Involvement Training Programme – Wednesday 5 November.
- Bored Meetings Training – Wednesday 5 November.
- Legal Highs – Thursday 6 November.
- Top Sport and Top Activity – Thursday 8 January 2015.
- Child Exploitation and Online Training (CEOP) – Wednesday 4 February 2015.

Please contact Ernie Skea if you wish to attend or would like further information on any of the events outlined above.

Community Learning and Development Service Contact Details

Community Learning Development Team Leader

Kerry Spence	kerry.spence@orkney.gov.uk
--------------	----------------------------

Community Learning Officers

Ernie Skea	ernie.skea@orkney.gov.uk
------------	--------------------------

Bill Innes	bill.innes@orkney.gov.uk
------------	--------------------------

Walter Gorman	walter.gorman@orkney.gov.uk
---------------	-----------------------------

Area Youth Workers

Lynne Peace	lynne.peace@orkney.gov.uk
-------------	---------------------------

Maureen Herdman	maureen.herdman@orkney.gov.uk
-----------------	-------------------------------

