



Education, Leisure and Housing Achievements in the Service September 2018

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Education

Kirkwall Grammar School

Joanne Miller



Joanne Miller from Orkney, former pupil of Kirkwall Grammar School (KGS), won the Reaching Out and Connecting category at Diabetes Scotland's Inspire Awards on the 23 June 2018 for raising awareness of Type 1 diabetes. Joanne worked with NHS Orkney, the local voluntary committee of Diabetes Scotland and the national Young Leader's project to plan, co-ordinate and deliver a week-long programme of raising awareness of Type 1 diabetes, with young people at Kirkwall Grammar School. The award was presented to Joanne at a special awards ceremony by Diabetes Scotland's first National Director, Delia Henry.

Music

GTCS (General Teaching Council for Scotland) Registrations



Instrumental Music Instructors Elizabeth Duncan, Elizabeth Sullivan, Brian Jones and David Griffith (pictured) are among the first in the country to have successfully registered with the General Teaching Council for Scotland as Affiliate Members. At present membership is open to those who have a degree relating to Music and/or

Education and meet the principles and outcomes for the Standard for Registration. Congratulations!

ABRSM Percussion Grade 8

Youth Music Initiative Percussion Tutor, Eilidh Wilkinson and Principal Teacher of Expressive Arts, Lynn Procter sat Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) Percussion Grade 8 examination in June, performing on marimba/xylophone and timpani. ABRSM have confirmed they are the first candidates in Orkney to enter and pass this exam.

Pupil Activities

Stromness Academy pupil Joe Cole (S2) gained a place on the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Percussion Summer School, 6 to 10 August. Joe also passed Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music Percussion Grade 6 examination in June.

KGS trombonist Steven Spence (S3) participated in "Beautiful Bones" trombone orchestra which was a co-production between Surge and Love Music. They rehearsed and performed in Glasgow on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 August.

Steven is also principal trombone of the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland's (NYBBS) Reserve Band and participated in the NYBBS Summer Course held at Strathallan School in Perthshire in July. He is pictured with the band (front right).



Sports and Leisure

Clubbercise



Clubbercise classes were re-launched in the KGS Sports Centre and Dounby Centre in August and have proved to be hugely popular. Clubbercise is a fun, easy to follow dance workout with glow sticks and disco lights. The classes were part of Orkney Island Council's (OIC's) exercise programme back in 2015-2016, but the classes ended when the instructor moved away from Orkney. Donna Cuthbertson, our new Dance Class Instructor, completed the training course back in May and has spent the summer learning the routines.



The re-launch nights were attended by an overwhelming 40 people in KGS and 47 in Dounby! The classes are now delivered weekly in both centres, and both classes are currently fully booked.

Birsay Outdoor Centre Defibrillator



A defibrillator was installed at the Birsay Outdoor Centre earlier this year in memory of a regular visitor to the site, Kathleen Hepburn. Kathleen passed away suddenly during a one month stay at the site with her husband, Charles, in August 2017. Mr Hepburn said he had been left with questions regarding what might have happened if there were been a defibrillator nearby, and so made the decision to donate a defibrillator. The defibrillator is 'open box', meaning it can be accessed by anyone. Mr Hepburn made an emotional return to the campsite in July, where he was joined by some family members and friends, to see the defibrillator installed.

Active Schools

Tesco Bank Football Challenge

The Tesco Bank Football Challenge works in partnership with the Scottish Football Association to deliver coaching and training sessions for Primary 3 pupils. The programme gives pupils the opportunity to learn basic football skills in a fun and safe environment.

Mainland schools in Orkney, received sessions, delivered by Active Schools Coordinators and local coach Joanne Bamford.



A grand total of 245 primary 3 pupils participated in the programme and were then invited to take part in either the East, West or Kirkwall Festival.

Both West and Kirkwall Festivals were primarily lead by secondary pupils; who were undertaking Sports Leader UK qualifications or applying to become the next sportscotland Young Ambassadors.

Pictured below are some photos taken at the Transition Sports Festivals.





Transition Sports Festival 2018

West Cluster



This year, Active Schools and Stromness Academy worked together to deliver a curriculum transition day based around physical activity for pupils transitioning from P7 to S1.

Pupils from Dounby, Evie, Firth, Stenness and Stromness schools received the following activities; rugby, dance, badminton, team building and ultimate dodgeball during their visit. The activities were delivered and supported by Stromness Academy's Sports Leaders and Young Ambassadors as well as Johns Cairns from Orkney Rugby Club.



The day was made extra special with the visit of the “Calcutta Cup”. Many of the children were able to see and handle this prestigious trophy.



East Cluster

Kirkwall Grammar School hosted the annual East Cluster Transition Sports Festival on Friday 1 June, for over 170 pupils from Burry, Hope, Orphir, St Andrews Glatness and Papdale schools, transitioning from P7 to S1.

Pupils enjoyed a day of sporting activities which included, hockey, rugby, football, badminton, athletics and dodgeball.



The day was made possible thanks to our partners from Kirkwall Grammar School PE Department, Orkney Athletics Club, Orkney Badminton Club, Orkney Rugby Club, Kirkwall Community Sports Hub and Kirkwall Grammar School's sportscotland Young Ambassadors.



All pupils who attended the East and West Cluster Transition Sport events were gifted with an Active Schools sports bag.

We hope all the Primary 7 pupils had a great day and enjoy their new venture at Stromness Academy and Kirkwall Grammar School.



Summer Holiday Programme

Stromness Shopping Week

Active Schools were invited by Stromness Shopping Week Committee to be part of this year's Seventieth Anniversary. Two 'turn up on the day' sports sessions were delivered during the week with registration required on the day.



The first, held on Monday afternoon was open to all primary 1 to 7 children and consisted of traditional sports day races.

The second, held on the Thursday afternoon was run in two age groups, primary 1 to 3 and primary 4 to 7. Each group took part in an hour session of fun stations working in teams to accumulate the most points from each station.

Over 90 children attended the sessions with a mix of local and visiting children taking part.



Year of Young People 2018 Family Fun Roadshow

Community Learning and Development hosted a 'Year of Young People 2018 Family Fun Roadshow' during the summer holidays. The sessions were planned and delivered by 'Year of Young People' Ambassadors and travelled to the island communities of Westray, Stronsay, Sanday and Hoy.

Active Schools worked in partnership to deliver fun Viking theme games as part of the sessions.

The roadshow was funded by Orkney Children's and Young People's Partnership and Orkney Association of Youth Groups.

Bikeability Level 1

Bikeability is what today's cycle training programme is called. At Level 1, riders learn to control and master their bikes in a space away from traffic such as a playground or closed car park. Active Schools offered two days of training to pupils going into Primary 6.

Eight children attended and learned valuable skills which will help and enable them to ride and control their bikes confidently before starting their Level 2 during the upcoming school year. Sessions covered various themes such as; bike checks, mounting and dismounting, braking, cornering, slow speed, as well as balance and control.



The picture above shows participants learning balance and control skills while giving each other high fives on their bikes.

“All participants that took part worked hard at learning the skills over the two days. Well done everyone on achieving your Bikeability Level 1.” (Kirsty Spence, Active Schools Co-ordinator.)

Kirkwall and St Ola Community Centre and Town Hall

St Magnus Café Goes Environmentally Friendly

The St Magnus Café in Broad Street removed a lot of its single use plastics and replaced them with a range of eco-friendly packaging. It is all made from Compostable materials sourced from sustainable and renewable resources. The products are manufactured from materials derived from trees and corn.



The products include take away coffee cups, soup containers, paper roll and baguette bags, sandwich and salad boxes, paper straws, hot food boxes, knives, forks and spoons. To ensure that all the packaging is compostable, we have also

stopped using sticky tape (Sellotape) and now use a biodegradable label to seal the bags and boxes.

As part of our efforts to reduce the amount of single use plastics we will no longer be using individual milk portions within our meeting rooms, and once stocks have been used up the single shot hot drinks will not be used.

Museums and Heritage

Scapa Flow Museum Painting Conservation Appeal

The Museums Service has launched a special appeal for funds to restore an oil painting which at one time adorned the walls of the canteen at the Royal Navy Base in Lyness.



The section of oil painting on hessian was taken from the frieze that decorated a wall in the canteen during World War 2 (WW2). It was painted by Duncan Letters, a shipwright working for Metal Industries, and presented to the Museum's collection by the architect, John Brandon-Jones, who was posted to Lyness and worked as a civil engineer from 1939 to 1945.

Like the wartime buildings, the frieze was meant to be temporary, and was created using available materials. The delicate painted surface on rough hessian has suffered over time, particularly in the unsuitable environment at the Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum. The large size of the panel (292.5 x 140.5 cm), and the restricted space in which it was displayed, meant that it had not been moved in several years, and this has contributed further to its poor condition.

This is a really important work of art for Lyness because it was created on site by someone working at the base. Many wartime structures have been lost because of the poor materials used and the temporary nature of their purpose, so the preservation of the buildings in which the Scapa Flow Museum is housed, and the survival of furnishings, objects, and oral history from the site, is incredibly important as a record of the experiences of service personnel stationed there. The frieze panel

shows that wartime life was not just captured in black and white and highlights a non-military aspect of the base as a place for entertainment and socialising.

Restoring the painting needs the skills of a specialist conservator and framer. Our fundraising target is £10,000 and we are appealing for help from our visitors to raise the money for this work and to ensure the long-term survival of the painting.

The restored painting will be one of the highlights of the refurbished Scapa Flow Museum when it re-opens in March 2020 and donation boxes are now available at the temporary exhibitions in Hoy and Kirkwall for those wishing to contribute to the restoration of the painting.

Temporary Scapa Flow Exhibition Now Open at Lyness

As part of its drive to continue to attract visitors to Hoy, whilst the main Scapa Flow Museum site is closed for redevelopment, our temporary exhibition is now open at Lyness and has already attracted over 1,000 visitors since the beginning of July.



Comments in the Visitors' Book show that it has been well worth investing in this exhibition:

“A brilliant display – very interesting.”

“Excellent exhibition. Can’t wait for the new build!”

“Good to see it being kept going. Looking forward to seeing the new Visitor Centre.”

The digital information has been particularly popular, especially the ‘virtual tour’ of the main site and buildings, which gives visitors the chance to look round the Pumphouse, Oil Tank and Boat Store and the collections that were displayed there even though the site is closed.

We are grateful for the support received from the Island of Hoy Development Trust, who granted us over £10,000 to purchase touchscreens, temporary walling and allowed us to commission a new WW2 display especially for the space. The equipment purchased will eventually move with us into the new space in 2020.



2018 Opening Times:

30 June – 23 September

Sunday – Friday: 10:00 – 15:30

Saturday: 10:00 – 15:00

24 September – 31 October

Monday – Friday: 10:00 – 16:00

Saturday: 10:00 – 15:00

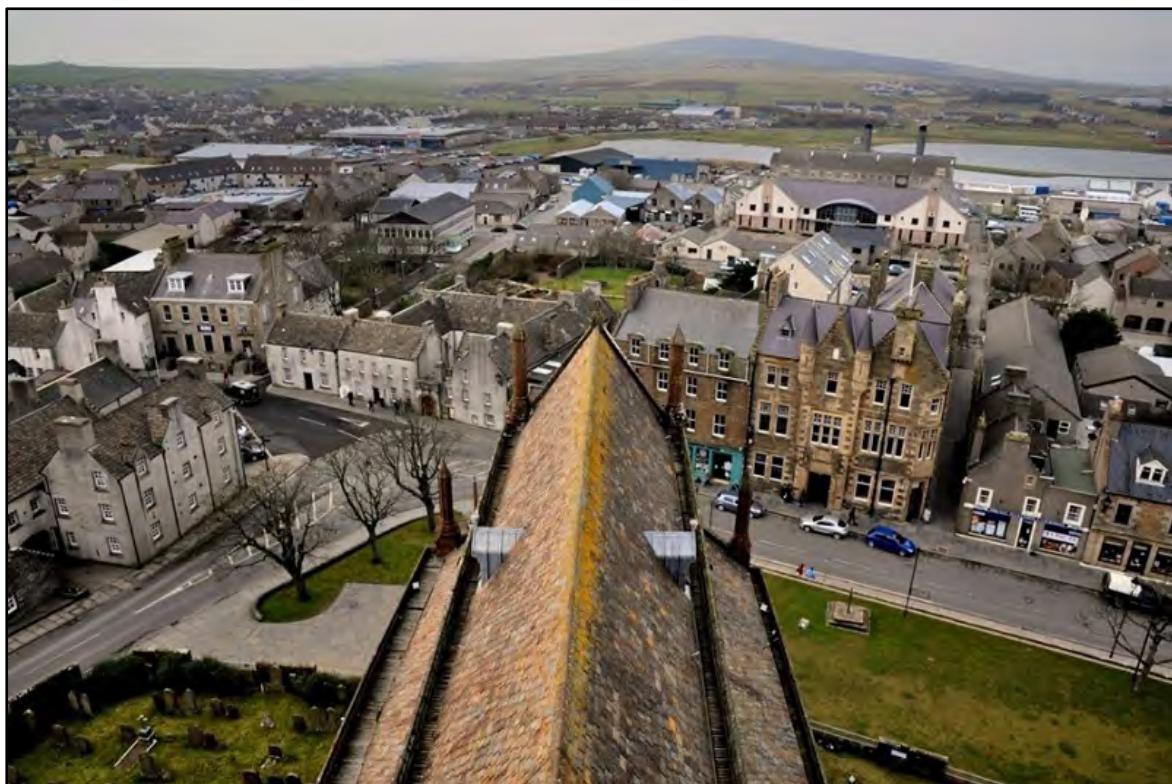
Limited opening during the winter may also be possible, and we will give an update as we move into the winter season.



New Tour App for St Magnus Cathedral

From Monday 3 September, visitors to St Magnus Cathedral can access a handy app providing an audio-visual guide to the iconic building.

Until now self-guided tours have been supported by traditional printed information leaflets. The digital guide, which can be accessed via the user's personal mobile device on entering the cathedral building, offers users access to an array of content about the cathedral including images, short videos and audio descriptions. This includes information about the cathedral's upper levels, giving those unable to undertake a tour images and information about this special part of the building.

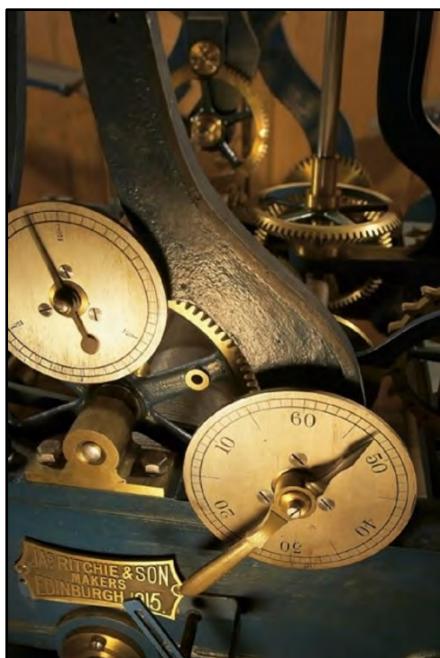


The digital content has been developed specially for this app by Edinburgh-based, ATS Heritage, and creates an enhanced, informative and educational visitor experience unlike any other currently available in Orkney, helping to re-imagine the cathedral for the twenty-first century and enhancing its appeal for a wider audience.

Instructions for accessing the app are available at the front door of the cathedral. Users will need to bring headphones to enjoy the full range of content available or pick up a disposable pair of ear buds in return for a £1 donation.

The development of the new app has been funded through the Kirkwall Townscape Heritage Initiative.

Cathedral Clock Mechanism Automated



Since the clock was installed in St Magnus Cathedral in 1919, it has been the job of the custodians and stonemasons to wind the large mechanism, but this is now a job of the past since the mechanism was automated in early July.

The work was carried out by Smith of Derby, who have recently merged with James Ritchie and Son (the original clock makers) and took four days to complete. Each of the three winding barrels now has a small motor fitted, and a sensor automatically detects when the clock has wound down to a certain level. In addition, the clock has been fitted with a pendulum regulator, which should ensure the clock time is more accurate.

Climbing the tower and winding the clock by hand was a physically arduous job and time-consuming job. Despite a few teething problems, the new system will make sure that the clock keeps time, and free up staff to spend more time with the thousands of visitors who visit the cathedral each week.

Funding to Train Young People in Cinema Programming and Presentation

Stromness based West Side Cinema has been awarded funding through the National Lottery's Awards for All scheme to provide training for young people in cinema programming and presentation.

Antony Mottershead has been working closely with West Side Cinema over the past eighteen months to develop projects and partnerships to grow film and community cinema provision in the county. The news comes as OIC and West Side Cinema also announce a 4-year strategic partnership with Film Hub Scotland that will see the return of a film festival this November.

The Awards for All funding will allow a group of young people between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four to join a 5-session training programme in cinema

programming and presentation, including; sourcing films, film and event programming, technical presentation, marketing and social media, and events management.

The project will culminate with a public film event specially designed and produced by the young people. Training will be delivered through practical sessions at West Side Cinema in Stromness and the Phoenix Cinema in Kirkwall and is a great way for participants to gain experience as well as develop a wide range of creative transferrable skills.

Orkney Library and Archives

The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge



Over 200 children took part in The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge this year, celebrating 80 years of the Beano. Children were tasked with reading six books over the holidays and collected incentives along the way. Culminating with a closing event featuring local artist Emma Fraser where children created their own character and made a comic strip. Children who completed the challenge also received a certificate and medal.

Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals

Children's Librarian Sally Walker, delivered a keynote speech at the opening of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals conference in Brighton in July, about her work at Orkney Library and Archive. Sally spoke about introducing such initiatives as Code Club, Lego and Minecraft, increasing attendance at Bookbug sessions and her work with children, their families and schools. Delegates took to Twitter to share how passionate Sally is about her work, saying what an inspiration she is to the profession.



“The days never seem the same.”

This line from a handwritten draft for the introduction to a book on Orkney by Gunnie Moberg is the title of an exhibition currently running at Stills Centre for Photography in Edinburgh. The exhibition features the work of photographer Gunnie Moberg and Orcadian filmmaker and poet Margaret Tait, and features material from Orkney Archive.

The exhibition includes a large selection of Moberg’s photographs, from portraits to aerial views of the Orkney landscape, all from the Gunnie Moberg Archive collection purchased in 2013 by Orkney Archive with the aid of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Margaret Tait Archive collection was donated to the archive by Tait’s family, and this exhibition is one of several events planned for this year to celebrate the centenary of the filmmaker’s birth.

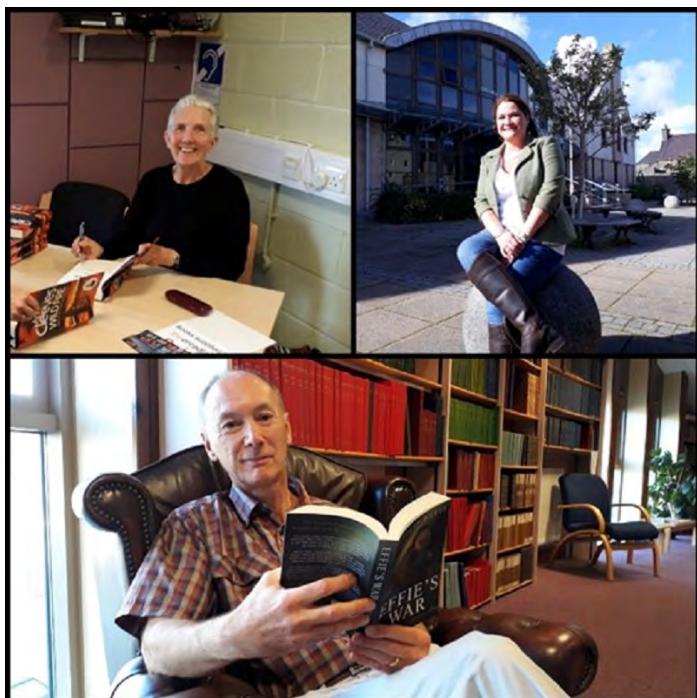
The exhibition at Stills runs until 28 October 2018 and has already met with considerable interest, being reviewed in The Times and The Scotsman newspapers, and attracting over 4000 visitors in its first month.



Image © Alan Dimmick 2018

Author Events at Orkney Library and Archive

Ann Cleeves, Gill Sims and Philip Paris visited recently. It was great to see new faces attending – almost 150 people came to the 3 events held in the MacGillivray Room during August and September.



Orkney Library and Archive's Most Viral Tweet



After posting a Twitter thread about Fortnite, an online video game, Orkney Library's Twitter following increased by over 12,000 last week. It also made the BBC News Scotland website. Click below to see what was said:

<https://twitter.com/OrkneyLibrary/status/1036624470121820161>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-45407615>

Over the last few years, several authors have contacted the Library offering to put on author events after following the Twitter feed. Several 'followers' have also visited Orkney because of the Twitter banter and Orkney Library and Archive bags have been selling like hot cakes. Bags have been posted all over the world.

Community Learning and Development

Orkney Certainly Has Young Talent!

On Thursday 30 August, 15 acts performed to an audience of over 300 people at the Orkney Theatre, as one of the main events in Orkney's Year of Young People Calendar. The event organised by the Community Learning and Development Team and Orkneys Year of Young People (YOYP) Ambassadors was a great success showcasing a range of young talent from across Orkney. Acts included dance, music, song and gymnastics, performed by a range of individuals and groups of young people aged between 9 and 24 years.



The event was made possible from funding sought from the Young Scot/Event Scotland Create18 fund as well as from Community Councils across Orkney who kindly donated funding towards this.



The event was very well supported by members of the public, with tickets selling out in advance of the evening. Sincerest thanks go to everyone who came together to make this event happen, including The Orcadian, the Orkney Theatre, the Youth Café, the sound and lighting team, and many more. Not to mention Nicola Williams (YOYP Ambassador) and Liam McArthur MSP who concluded the evening, our

comperes Calum McArthur (Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament) and Sarah Sutherland (The Orcadian), and finally the amazingly talented young people who came along, performed and made this event the enjoyable evening of entertainment that it was.



Fit4Fun

Orkney Association of Youth Groups (OAYG), supported by OIC's Community Learning and Development (CLD) Team recently organised an event for youth clubs to culminate in the Pickaquoy Centre. 'Fit4Fun' has always been a major event in OAYG's calendar, since the days of Youth Scotland's Fit4It Competitions and presents an ideal opportunity for young people to come together, learn, have fun and more importantly socialise.



The event which took place in May 2018 saw 164 young people attend from 10 Youth Clubs from across Orkney, including 3 from Orkney's North and South Isles.

Participants took part in a range of activities including the climbing wall, archery, trampolining, kickboxing, circus skills, Lianne's body art, team games, crafts, indoor bowling and baking.



Going by the smiles on the day and the participant and leader evaluations, everyone who came along had fun, learnt new skills and made new friends. OAYG would like to thank youth workers, CLD, staff at the Pickaquoy Centre, volunteers, tutors and last but not least, all the young people for participating and making it such an enjoyable day.



Viking Roadshow – Year of the Young People

During the summer break, Orkney's Year of Young People (YOYP) Ambassadors, one of our local Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP), Orkney Active Schools and OIC's Community Learning and Development team headed out to 4 of Orkneys islands to deliver a family fun – Viking themed roadshow.



As part of this year's Year of the Young People, Orkney's Young Ambassadors decided they would like to visit some of the islands to celebrate this. They headed to Hoy, Sanday, Stronsay and Westray with an array of arts, craft and sports activities. Attendance varied from island to island, but all the children, young people and families who came along thoroughly enjoyed it.



One parent said, "there were lots of choices of activities, well thought out and a really fun day for the family", with one of the young people saying, "they loved the whole thing". Activities included making Viking swords and shields, to dressing up as a Viking and learning how to do Viking pyrography. North Walls even had a visit from storyteller Fran Hollinrake.



Thank you to Orkney Children and Young People's Partnership and Orkney Archaeology society for funding towards the project, as well as to the islands who hosted us.

West Mainland Youth Achievement Group



Throughout the summer holidays, members of the West Mainland Youth Achievement Group have been holding twice weekly craft and games sessions in Stromness Community Centre, with 4 sessions in Shopping Week. Using mainly recyclable materials, the aim was to show that you could create and make many things with a little imagination and little or no expense. Creating such things as bracelets from ring pulls, gliders from single use straws, to pencil holders made from cardboard tubes. Healthy snacks were provided each morning, and games were put on to get everyone active. Many of the games sessions took advantage of the sunny weather by being conducted in the adjoining play park. All activities were organised and supervised by the volunteers and Centre staff.



Around 150 children attended the sessions over the course of the summer.



PSYV (Police Scotland Youth Volunteers) Team Building Weekend

Members of the CLD team continue to support the young people attending the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers group and were delighted to be involved in the planning and running of a PSYV team building weekend in Hoy.



The action-packed weekend took place over the weekend of Friday 1 June and young people were given the opportunity to try their hand at Canadian canoeing, paddle boarding, archery and coasteering.

Not only did the weekend help the PSYV team to work more closely together and get to know each other a little better it also provided opportunities for young people to try things they hadn't tried before, building up confidence and skills in Outdoor Education activities.

To make the weekend happen, and generate funding to pay for it, the PSYV group organised a bingo night and were fortunate in being offered additional funding from a local Cashback for Communities project which had highlighted an underspend.

Overall the weekend was hailed a great success by all who were involved and is definitely something the PSYV team would like to do again in the future.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award Orkney

Expeditions 2018

Young people involved with the Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Award in Orkney must complete all four sections if they want to achieve the full Award. At Bronze level, the entry level for the Award, they must undertake a volunteer placement for three months, take up or improve on a physical activity for three months and take up or improve on a skill for three months. Additionally, they must do a further three months on one of those activities to comply with the conditions of the Award.

In addition to those three sections, young people must complete a fourth section, the expedition section, before they can be presented with their Awards.



Bronze expedition training at Stromness Academy.

The expedition section involves a two-day, 15-mile trek through the Orkney countryside with an overnight camp. Before they undertake their expedition, our young people are trained in planning for it over a period of approximately three months. Training involves learning about, and putting into practice such things as navigation, cooking, campcraft, weather, map reading, nutrition, safety and hygiene and once their training has been completed they undertake a two-day practice expedition before undertaking the unaccompanied, self-reliant qualifying expedition itself.



Young people who participated in Stromness Academy's bronze qualifying expedition.

To pass the expedition section, young people must meet the 20 conditions set by the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and they must be assessed by a qualified, endorsed Duke of Edinburgh's Award Assessor.

We are pleased to say that all of our young people who went out on their expedition over the Spring / Summer months successfully completed it. So, congratulations must go to all of our DofE expeditioners from Stromness Academy, Kirkwall Grammar School and Sanday Open Award Group who have all demonstrated through their hard work and commitment that they have what is required to undertake and complete this section of the Award.



Young people who participated in Kirkwall Grammar School's bronze qualifying expedition.

A successful outcome for our young people undertaking their expeditions is due in no small part to our DofE leaders both in and out-with schools who have been instrumental in training, supervising and assessing DofE participants before, during and after their expeditions. Training, supervision and assessment are vital components of a successful DofE expedition and without the input of experienced, and enthusiastic DofE leaders the expeditions simply would not happen. We are therefore very grateful to those leaders who go over and above what is required in supporting our DofE participants throughout the expedition season.



Young people who participated in Sanday's bronze qualifying expedition.

Sanday Gold Expedition

Going further afield this year were Sanday Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award Group. They travelled down unaccompanied to Ardeonaig in the Highlands to undertake their Gold canoeing expedition on the Caledonian Canal.

Paddling from Neptune's Staircase near Fort William all the way to Inverness, Ebony Donaldson, Meredith Beale, Sam Brough, Dunstan Clarkson and Ambrose Allan all successfully completed their expedition under the watchful eye of outdoor staff from the Abernethy Trust.

The group are very grateful to Sanday's SSE Spurness fund who contributed towards the finances for the trip.



Stromness Academy Duke of Edinburgh presentations

Heather Brown, Hamish Burgon, Jamie Leitch, Amy Neil, Nicola Sutherland, Ella Thompson, James Walker, Kalvin Clark, Hope Laing, Magnus Runciman, Carmen Sandison Lianne Sinclair, Chloe Wilson, Lauren Flett, Shana Foubister, George Mayes and Scott Stewart all successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Stromness Academy this year.



Unfortunately, two of the staff who supported the Stromness Academy group through the sections will no longer be at Stromness Academy for the next Duke of Edinburgh's Award Intake. Debb Stead has moved away to take up a position within another school South and Ralph Harnden has decided to retire this year. We wish both Ralph and Debbs the very best for the future and would like to say a very big thank you for their input into the DofE over the last 10 years.



Both Debb and Ralph were presented with certificates by Wilfred Weir, Executive Director of Education, Leisure and Housing in recognition of their 10-year input into the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Stromness Academy.



Recognised by the Prince

Following on from her presentation for 25 years' service to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award here in Orkney in April this year, Alma Balfour was invited to attend Hollyrood Palace in July, where she was formally recognised for her dedication and commitment to the Award by HRH Prince Edward.

It is estimated that over her 15 years' service to the DofE, approximately 500 young people have been given the opportunity to participate in the award at Kirkwall Grammar School, largely due to Alma's input within the school. We are delighted to announce that Alma's input is set to continue at KGS. Following her retirement Alma has indicated that she would very much like to continue her involvement with the DofE at Kirkwall Grammar School.



Papdale House of Residence (PHoR)

Shark Attack

Shark attack was part of a Money for Life program aimed at equipping 16 to 25-year olds across the UK with the knowledge, life skills and provision needed to manage their money. The event was held in the Sound Archive and it saw four groups battle it out in a Dragons Dens style pitch. Papdale Halls Youth Group pitched a fun event aimed around budgeting and developing knowledge and skills around finances. Papdale Halls Youth Group were successful in being awarded £400 to go towards their event.

Young Enterprise

Congratulations to our residents Robbie Thomson and James MacLeod who along with their team mates in their company called Estrella, won the Orkney Young Enterprise Competition. Estrella also won Best Website and Social Media, Best Trade Stand, and Best Director, which was James. The group travelled down to the Young Enterprise Scotland finals in Glasgow at Hampden where they picked up a few awards and were named Company of The Year. Estrella went on to the UK finals in London and became the first Young Enterprise team from Scotland in five years to pick up an award. The Access Award was given to the team that made the most significant contribution to their local community.



Activities this term

Papdale Halls upheld its annual obstacle course for the second year in a row, giving our leavers an opportunity to leave with success. We had 5 brave participants test their physical prowess while staying cool under pressure against a fiendish obstacle course. Hurdles, hockey and shooting hoops were among the challenges that faced our enthusiastic competitors. It was a close race, but it was Kai Hanton who triumphed, completing the course in the fastest time against stiff competition.



There have been many activities during this term at the halls of residence, these have included; Easter Egg Hunt, decorating insect houses, chalk drawing, making bird feeders, making bracelets, Manhunt, mindfulness sessions, mindfulness colouring in, gardening club, games hall, bake off, indoor curling, card games/board games, Dungeons and Dragons.



Parents of Leavers survey

Sadly, we did not have such a high response rate from parents this year. However, here are some of the responses that we received; a big thank you to all those who responded.

“What a great transition into adulthood going to the Hostel is. Couldn't have wished for a kinder bunch of people to be there for the children. Thank you!”

“We were very fortunate to have our daughter some well looked after. She also loved her time there.”

“Thank you all for looking after all 4 of my kids! Greatly appreciate all you did for them!”

P7 Transitions



Over the last few months P7 pupils from North Walls, Rousay, Eday and Flotta have been to stay at PHoR to experience what it is like to reside here and to attend KGS the next day. Planning for this had been done over several months with involvement from KGS, PHoR Management team and Primary Schools Head Teachers. The youngsters have spent time getting to know their Keyworker and the rest of the team at PHoR. They have adapted to the PHoR routine and have been attending Support Study with the other S1 -S3 residents. They also had the opportunity to take part in various activities including prize bingo, making slime, Manhunt, outdoor dodgeball, hide and seek, stick in the mud, planting flowers, WII sports, board games, pool and table tennis. We look forward to welcoming some of them as residents in August.

Photography Competition

The entries in the photography competition were judged by Martin Findlay from Findlay's Photo Shop. The winner was Emily Bain and the theme was "My Island". Here's what Martin had to say about the photo, "I like this photo, you have really captured the theme of "My Island". You have showed the theme through using the stone as a metaphor for an island. I like the curves of the stone in the palm of your hand, you are holding your island "my island". I like the smooth curves of the stone with the straight lines of the rocks in the background. There is nice lighting and focus, you have really thought about this theme. Well Done". Emily received a certificate, £30 Amazon voucher and will have her photo framed and displayed in the Halls.

