

Youth Work in the Portree area

October 2015 – March 2016

THE BIG HEADLINES



Youth work is an **educational** practice

It is an **empowering** process which is about

- Building self-esteem and self-confidence
- Developing the ability to manage personal and social relationships
- Creating opportunities for learning
- Building the capacity of young people to consider risk, make reasoned decisions and take control
- Having a targeted approach within a range of services for everyone
- Having FUN



Key facts and stats

The Portree youth team worked with over 150 youngsters aged between 11 and 21 amounting to 1379 meaningful contacts

In total there were 163 hours of engagement with young people.

These were delivered on 76 separate occasions.

And took place in Broadford, Portree, Staffin and Dunvegan

A total of 26 recognised awards were gained

THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

Marine Mammal Medic Course

Following the mass stranding of 21 long-finned pilot whales in Staffin last year, High Life Highland funding was secured to subsidise a British diver's marine life rescue course to train local people to respond to future emergencies. 6 young people were fully funded and 32 completed the course at Columba 1400 in October. Skye now has the highest concentration of qualified marine mammal medics in whole of the UK.

Portree & Braes Community Conversations

The Youth Service has been working in partnership with Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations for the past 6 months on extensive consultation with residents of Portree, Braes and those who use Portree services to understand what local people want. Members of Misty Isle Youth Forum were interviewed on Cuillin FM and young people made video diaries to express their views

Broadford Youth Club Employability Project

This is an annual partnership with the college in Broadford to give school leavers the opportunity to gain skills and real life interview experience. 4 young people completed the 6-week programme and were awarded certificates.

Quote from a young person

"I can't thank you enough for your help and support as a young person through to my life as a young adult. The skills I've gained through youth work helped me get the job!"

Quote from a parent;

"My son is shy and doesn't mix well but he came home full of excitement that he'd made a new friend".

HOW'S THE FUTURE LOOKING?

Getting On – achievements through learning

The Youth Service works in partnership with Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations, which administers the Saltire Awards, to support recognition of young people's volunteering achievements. We aim to increase this number in 2016 and raise awareness of the range of other awards available to young people, including the HLH Youth Leadership Award.

Getting Heard – confident voices, influencing decisions

The Misty Isle Youth Forum has recently been established and Highland Youth Parliament reps elected (2 schools + 2 forums). Representatives express the views of all young people in local and regional decision making and contribute to area action plans on multi-agency fora such as Skye & Lochalsh Drug & Alcohol Forum and the sexual health and well-being forum.

Getting Involved – youth work: it's educational

The Youth Service is not just about providing educational opportunities for young people. To achieve that, we also deliver quality training and support to staff, volunteers and partners to identify learning opportunities in all youth activities and support issue-based work with young people. We provide information and opportunities for young people to discuss issues which affect them, enabling them to make informed choices in their lives.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name Annie Davidson
Tel 07795825573
Email annie.davidson@highlifehighland.com
Facebook Skye YDO

