



**highlife**  
highland  
na gàidhealtachd

# Youth Work in the Ardnamurchan area

October 2016 – March 2017

## THE BIG HEADLINES



Youth Work is educational and it's fun

It's an empowering process where young people

- Learn new things about themselves and others
- Improve their confidence and self-belief
- Can express themselves without judgement
- Become more open and accepting of those who are different to them
- Are encouraged and supported to try and make differences to things that matter to all young people



Key numbers for the period

The Ardnamurchan youth team has had 82 meaningful contacts with young people

In total there were 174 hours of engagement

All this was delivered on 43 separate occasions.

This took place in The Sunart Centre, Ardnamurchan High School and at Highland Youth Parliament event in Fort William

10 Saltire awards have been gained which recognises the variety of achievements going on

# STORIES: DIFFERENCES: and THE FUTURE

## Projects

**YDO Recruitment:** Through engagement with Youth Work staff, young people in Ardnamurchan were actively involved in the recruitment of a new Youth Development Officer for the area. A small group met with existing staff to devise questions for interview and set out their ideas for what they hoped a new YDO would bring to the area.

Two local young people were part of the interview panel itself and were rewarded for their efforts by Highlife Highland.

**FUSION Food Event:** This year, Pancake Day coincided with our weekly Tuesday drop in session. What better way to celebrate than by making our own afternoon tea? Working in teams, the young people collaborated to source ingredients and follow a simple recipe to turn out plates of perfect pancakes!

**Saltire Volunteering Awards:** Working in partnership with colleagues from Highlife Highland's Active Schools team, Youth Development continues to support the work of our local young volunteers. Regular school assemblies to highlight these opportunities and drop-in sessions to help volunteers keep on top of the admin have been introduced. We look forward to continued success in this area!

## WHAT'S COMING UP

In the coming months local young people

- Will represent their area at the summer Highland Youth Parliament conference which this year will be held at the UHI campus in Inverness.
- Will be asked to engage with the Lochaber Community Partnership. This is the group of senior representatives from Education (Care and Learning), Health, the Third Sector, Enterprise and the Emergency Services who are all committed to involving communities to help improve local services
- Will take part in a Highland wide survey of youth work delivered by High Life Highland
- Will be able to participate in summer holiday activities including FUSION events
- Will continue to have opportunities to develop personal and social skills and be actively recognised for any achievements

Youth Development will also be working closely with Ardnamurchan High School to investigate the best way to use the newly launched Pupil Equity Fund to support our young people in closing the attainment gap.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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