



## Youth Work in the Fort Augustus 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 Fort Augustus youth team has had 187 meaningful contacts.

In total there were approximately 355 hours of engagement with young people

These occurred on 45 occasions and took place in Fort Augustus

2 awards have been gained which recognises the achievements going on

# THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

## Fort Augustus Youth Club

After the village hall was taken over by the community and remodelled it has become a much more user friendly space for a variety of local groups to use. There has been a recent downturn in participation throughout the village in youth club and the church supported youth café. We took the decision to invite the P7 transition group along to encourage their early participation. This has indeed boosted our numbers and re-energised the staff. It is always exciting when you get new members, we are hoping their continued enthusiasm will also encourage more to return to the group. With an increased number of young people in the area we hope his club will continue to grow in popularity.

We have dropped to one night a week but will be re-introducing the Friday nights as soon as we can, initially we will have them bi-monthly and they will be free access nights to promote our service and encourage more people through the door.

## Fort Augustus Youth Forum

The young people who have attended our youth forum this year have been particularly busy throughout the school term co-ordinating and helping with school events and fund raisers.

Our Great Glen Youth Forum has recently been awarded £350 from the ward funding event that was held in Drumnadrochit. We will use this money to help facilitate our participation at the Highland Youth Parliament this year in June. We are hoping to build on our youth forum in Kilchuimen this year and encourage others to expand on their already strong school involvement.

### ➤ *Quote from a youngster*

*"I like it when we make pancakes at youth club*

### ➤ *Quote from a parent*

*"The youth club is good, it would be good if we had a junior one too though.*

## 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 Inverness Community Partnership. This is a 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 Highlife 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
- Will continue the strong partnerships with Fort Augustus Community Company and the wider community to get youth work recognised as a valuable resource for the area.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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