

UHI | ARGYLL

UHI Argyll – Rothesay and Dunoon: Update for Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group
16/4/2024

Big College Open Week

This year, UHI Argyll participated in the national Big College Open Week, from Thursday 21 March to Thursday 28 March.

We hosted the following events:

- **Hairdressing Masterclass (Dunoon)**
- **Health & Social Care (all centres – networked)**
- **Horticulture Taster Session (Rothesay)**
- **Engineering: Metalwork Taster Session (Lochgilphead)**
- **Maritime Rope Workshop (Dunoon)**
- **Beauty Pamper Evening (Oban)**
- **Gaelic Taster Session (all centres – networked)**
- **Early Years Education (all centres – networked)**
- **Beauty Masterclass (Oban)**
- **Horticulture Walking Tour of Mount Stuart (Rothesay)**

We also welcomed people to drop into their local centres to make general enquiries (courses, funding, etc).

This was our busiest open event so far, with around 90 people visiting our centres during the week to attend one of the events.

Multiply/ESOL

As mentioned in our previous update for 6th February meeting, Argyll and Bute Council commissioned UHI Argyll to deliver the UK Government's Multiply Programme. This has been a success with a well-attended Life Skills course over 3 days in Dunoon and several ESOL courses running in Helensburgh, Rothesay and Oban.

There was significant interest in Rothesay and Dunoon for further ESOL courses, especially at level 3/beginners, and a new level 3 ESOL course started in Rothesay on 11th March. It will run twice a week until 24th April.

Forthcoming courses

We are running the following commercial courses:

- **Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Training (SCPLH): 14th May – online; 18th June (networked – join from local centre)**
- **Elementary Food Hygiene: 9th May (networked – join from local centre)**

MCR Pathways Programme

UHI Argyll Staff have volunteered to mentor young people in DGS. Hopefully this will be rolled out to centre staff in all locations.

General

As we enter the second half of semester two, staff and students are busy preparing for final assessments. Planning and preparations are well under way for the new academic year, and we plan to reintroduce our “Keep Warm” project (previously trialled prior to the 22-23 academic year). The aim of this is to provide regular updates and better support to our applicants to help them prepare for their new course.

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