

THIRD SECTOR UPDATE

Third Sector groups continue to work hard to make a difference in their communities. Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service was successful in winning Gold in their category of 'Tackling Inequalities and Improving Health' at Argyll and Bute's annual Excellence Awards.

Deirdre Henderson and Chris Holden were very pleased to pick up the award on behalf of everyone who has helped make the service work. They also won the overall award chosen by Provost Len Scoullar. This is a great achievement for all involved in running and developing the service, but also recognises the wider support the service gets from colleagues, informal partners, elected representatives and community activists.

Vital Spark project, led by Firstport with Ispiralba a partner, has been rolled out across three areas, with Campbeltown, Dunoon and Rothesay. First phase in Dunoon started in September, with Campbeltown and Rothesay applications being assessed by 28th October. The project aims to support early ideas for new social enterprises to make a positive impact in communities.

Just Enterprise support available to support enterprising Third Sector organisations and has assisted a number of organisations across Argyll and Bute via business support and training.

Zero Waste Heroes has been established to work with communities in south Kintyre to reduce waste by recycling, repair and upcycling. Their shop will open at the end of November.

16th Argyll (Campbeltown) Scouts Group has 22 Beaver Scouts and 21 Cub Scouts at present, with plans to open a Scout Troop for girls aged 10.5 – 14 years. A team of dedicated leaders and assistants run these groups. Next year is the 100th birthday of Cub Scouts and it is hoped to experience new adventures and challenges while celebrating with other Cubs from around Argyll.

Campbeltown Community Business Ltd Centenary Project is moving forward. CCB has gone out to tender with the project on course to be completed in the spring of 2017. Meanwhile, CBB has been organising monthly film shows in the Victoria Hall with the help of Film Mobile Scotland. These are proving extremely popular.

Kintyre Crime Prevention Panel continues to work closely with agencies including Police Scotland, Fire and Rescue Service and Argyll and Bute Council. KCPP is pursuing the issue of CCTV cameras in Campbeltown, which have been described by a police spokesperson as 'not fit for purpose'. Recently, to encourage pupils to take part in cycle proficiency, KCPP has issued bicycle locks to primary schools in Kintyre. Personal alarms were also issued to secondary school leavers who were moving to cities for further

education/employment. The issue of speed limits outside schools was raised at KCPP's last meeting – Police are to report back to the panel.

South Kintyre Seniors' Forum meets monthly with a varied selection of speakers. Happy Bus trips continue to be enjoyed, with links formed with seniors from Oban and Helensburgh.

Kintyre Link Club offers its members computer clubs, therapies and creative craft groups. A trip to Tree Zone is planned with Lochgilphead-based group, Heads-Up.

Community Garden has had a busy summer and works successfully in partnership with SKDT and Zero Waste among others.

Befrienders, based in Lochgilphead, endeavour to successfully match adults with children who would benefit from befriending. Children in Need funds this valuable work. Their AGM will be held in Lochgilphead on Monday, 23rd November 2015.

Health and Wellbeing Network is undertaking asset mapping to become an online resource.

HomeStart Tarbert office has been closed and moved to Cowal. It is hoped this will not affect the service as workers are mobile and are able to work from home.

Shopper-Aide continues to grow with a constant stream of new clients and volunteers. Over 100 people attended a very successful Silver Thursday held at Campbeltown Free Church. Residents of local nursing homes are assisted to attend Elderberries group, held twice-weekly.

Monday Social Club hosted a successful Macmillan coffee morning and has secured funding to run a tea dance in March 2016. Dalintober and Milknoe Tenants and Residents Association are running Bonfire Night jointly with Fire and Rescue Service on Saturday, 7th November 2015.

Kintyre Food Bank continues to support families and individuals in need. Over 260 food parcels have now been given out, with a recipe booklet included. Premises next to the cabin have been acquired as a food store, to allow clients more privacy. KFB is the subject of an Early Day Motion raised by our MP, Brendan O'Hara, on 20th October 2015. The EDM recognised the important contribution being made by Kintyre Food Bank in alleviating food poverty in the Campbeltown area and on the successful launch of its recipe book.