

2016

The 'Big Day Out' is an annual event, open to all young people in Argyll and Bute, aged between 12 and 17.

This year the event was open to any area to put in a bid to be the host. North Argyll Youth Forum, in partnership with Atlantis Leisure, were the successful bidders. The event was themed 'Widening your Horizons' and was aimed at giving young people a chance to try a range of activities that they may not have had a chance to participate in before. It had a theme of Health & Fitness running quietly through the event.

The successful bid was put together by a group of 6 young people, aged 12-16 plus two Young Leaders aged 17 and 19. They were all members of either North Argyll Youth Forum or Atlantis Leisure Youth Forum. They worked on all aspects of the bid and the ideas for activities came through them. The bid was submitted in October 2015. Young people were given a chance to vote for their preferred bid in an online poll in mid-December and Oban was awarded the event following the poll. This group of young people worked throughout the following 6 months, supported by the Atlantis Youth Worker – Donna Smith and the CLD Youth Worker – Maureen Evans, putting together the programme and defining their roles for the event.

Young Leader Training Day @ Lochgilphead



from all areas of Argyll & Bute, had a training day before the event where their role on the day was established. They also had T-shirts with 'Staff' on the back. So that they would be distinctive and easily



identifiable by all the young people, they tie-dyed them.



As well as some fun team-building activities, the importance of their role was stressed. A rota was drawn up for the day, allowing the young leaders to take on an important role but also giving them time to enjoy the activities. The contribution that these young people made to the planning and running of the event was immense. The training day was organised by Ruth Cairns, CLD Youth Worker, Helensburgh.

The Programme



Once the programme was published, each area was responsible for recruiting and arranging free transport for the young people to get to Oban. A Consent Form along with 'Terms & Conditions' for the event and all information were available through 'Big Day Out 2016' Facebook page. Some activities had a restricted number of places (eg Pool inflatable & Archery) but everything else was provided on a 'drop-in' basis. All activities were free.

The programme was put together by Ben Pollock and Donna Smith at Atlantis, who worked alongside the organising group of young people and they managed to incorporate all their suggestions.

The Day

Saturday 9th July was wet! It cleared up for about 90 minutes but the rest of the time it rained – very heavily. The main building at Atlantis hosted the majority of the sporting event, with the Marquee being the venue for the Arts & Crafts (provided by Argyll Arts Hub) and the 'Mocktail Bar' which was provided by North Argyll Youth Forum. Outside there were the inflateables, the tennis courts and various activities on the back pitch.

Young people from all over Argyll & Bute atteded and the breakdown was as follows;

Oban 50

Mid Argyll 7

Campbeltown 8

Helensburgh 35

Bute 12

Dunoon 7

Giving a total of 119

Only Mull (which had no CLD Youth Worker in post) and Islay (new worker just started) did not attend.

All CLD Workers were on a rota to help supervise the inflatables, the playpark, the Marquee and the main building and generally be there to help out when needed. Staff from Atlantis supervised or coached all the sports sessions and the swimming pool and the young leaders had their rota.

The Marquee



Argyll Youth Arts Hub provided a range of activities in the Marquee. There was a knitting corner where young people could learn basic knitting stitches or just chill and knit a few rows.



Art took on a new look as a skateboard was used



on the floor of the marquee and large pieces of art work were created. Screen printing on bags was also on offer.









North Argyll Youth Forum had a 'Mocktail Bar', funded through the OLI Substance Misuse Forum. They had a range of non-alcoholic drinks plus fresh fruit provide by Lidl.

Inside Atlantis

A whole range of activities were available inside the main building at Atlantis. The Swimming Pool had the huge inflatable up for the morning and normal activities for the afternoon. Team games in the form of Basketball and Fun Games were in the Main Hall along with Badminton.





In the Dance Studio there was Hip Hop, Born to Move and Body Combat. Also available were Archery, Climbing and Spin.





The day was rounded off with a mass Roller Disco, with loud music and flashing lights, in the Main Hall,

Outside Atlantis

Outside Atlantis, in the rain, there were also a range of activities. On the back pitch, Touch Rugby and Football alternated all day. There was Tennis on the brand new Tennis Courts – alternating between coached sessions and free play. On the pitch outside the Marquee there were three activities – Giant Sumo Suits, Human Table Football and the Velcro Wall. Despite the weather, everyone just forgot about the rain and had a great time.









Evaluation - Young People

Roanna Clark, A&B Youth Participation Officer, carried out an evaluation with the young people attending – most of it very positive and the worst comments being about the weather!



Good

The range of activities is awesome, defo should do again
That its free for everyone

Like the YW/ YL Staff All the staff are very helpful © Everything

I liked the archery and roller disco

Everything

I liked interacting with the youth workers

I liked the activities I like football I think you should do it again I liked cheese pizza

The activities were good and varied I liked the game you could improve on getting more activities

Softplay good and cheese great Climbing good I liked everything Tennis

I liked the different activities to do although I would really like volleyball to be an activity. You could improvei don't really know because I had a lot of fun What to improve – nothing

Lots of different activities to suit everyone I'm having fun! Today is great! I like that its free

I loved Born to move I thought it was very fun I did archery and it was good Tennis

I liked swimming with inflatables

I liked meeting new people and doing different activities

I liked the inflatable I did the Velcro wall thing and roller disco I liked the swimming

Volunteering, Velcro wall, location (lots of different things to do)

I liked born to move & archery

Not So Good/ideas for next time

I didn't like the weather I didn't like the rain What I didn't like get really wet

Change the weather haha It's a knock out was better but it was an okay day

This year's event was better than last year as there were more spaces on activities.

Too sports orientated, more variety of activities please More outdoor stuff

I didn't like that you couldn't buy chips
The inflatable for the pool is early
Disliked weather

Better weather for next year Food wasn't very nice Nicer bands 1 or 2 more inflatables

More things to help with/ sign up for more things
The climbing cube could be better
rain

Staff Evaluation

A meeting was held by the organising staff (Maureen, Donna, Ben & Ruth) a few days after the event and it was agreed that, overall, it had been very successful and the behaviour of the young people attending had contributed to that.

THINGS THAT WORKED WELL – Young Leaders, range of activities, venue, well organised, well run & well staffed.

THINGS THAT DID NOT WORK SO WELL – Some CLD Staff did not stick to rota, Food, Range of Art activities

Comments from staff attending:

I really enjoyed working at this years 'Big Day Out'. The young people all seemed to really enjoy themselves, there was loads on offer and it was well organised, thank you to everyone involved. – Roanna Taylor

'Despite the rain, everyone had a great time. It was fantastic to see the vision of the young people who planned it come to life and be a massive success. I'm very proud of them.' **Ruth Cairns**

"Big Day Out 2016 was a great success and showed exactly what partnership working and listing to our young people can accomplish" **Ben Pollock, Atlantis**



The only major hiccup on the day happened in the last half hour during the Rollerblading. In the space of 5 minutes, 2 young people needed assistance for ankle injuries. Both were taken to hospital where one turned out to be a slight sprain but the other one had a broken ankle. Unfortunately, she came from Bute and her group had to return to the island before the last ferry or they would all have been stranded. Her family were informed and immediately left to come and collect her. Maureen and Roanna stayed with her until her parents arrived. It did not retract from her enjoyment of the day.

"Even the member of our group who ended up in hospital with a broken ankle could not praise the day highly enough. She was just very grateful that the accident had happened right at the end of the day so that she could fully enjoy herself first!" **Simon Kay, Youth Work Assistant, Bute**

Finance

			Running		
Item	In	Out	Total	Total spend	3846.13
Youth Services	1000		1000	Total left over	603.87
Cashback Grant	3450		4450		
Atlantis Facility and Staff Costs		1120.13	3329.87		
Marquee		936	2393.87		
Volunteer Tshirts		160	2233.87		
Inflatables		880	1353.87		
Garelochhead Coaches		355	998.87		
West Coast Motors		395	603.87		

The total spend for the event was £3,846.10 and most of this was covered by the Cashback Grant. This allowed us to hire Atlantis and staff, the Marquee and also have the Inflatables and have the transport and event entry free for all young people.

Misc

Food – Food was provided specifically for the young people to buy, at reduced prices, by Café Atlantis. This was not terribly successful as most of them were happier standing in the very long queue at the Café itself.