Oban & Lorn Summer Activities 2016

There was a wide range of holiday provision in Oban & Lorn during the school holidays, comprising of:-

- 4 Rural Family Fun Days
- 4 days for John Muir Awards
- GIVE Programme
- 'The Big Day Out'
- Summer Sensations 2 day transition event
- German Exchange

RURAL FAMILY FUN DAYS

There were 4 Rural Family Fun Days held in during the school holidays in Appin, Achaleven, Dalmally and Easdale. The days have a relaxed format where families come along and there are a range of activities available. There is a simple art/craft activity which is easily replicated at home for little or no cost, playdoh for the younger children and a baby corner with toys and books. Outside we have a range of 'Big games' like connect 4 and dominoes as well as an organised activity gauged around the ages of the children. Parents are encouraged to take part with the children and a big pot of healthy soup is cooked allowing the family to eat lunch together. Numbers varied greatly this year:

Appin - 2 adults + 6 children = 8

Easdale - 4 adults + 12 children = 16

Achaleven - 11 adults + 17 children = 28

Dalmally - 13 adults + 31 children = 44





John Muir Awards

This was a 4 day programme, in partnership with Kilmartin Museum and Plantlife Scotland.

Day 1

Introduction to Award at Kilmartin Museum with Julia Hamilton, Education Officer, Kilmartin Museum. Looking at & discovering Lichens & Mosses with Polly Philpot from Plantlife, Scotland. Visit Kilmartin Museum and 'Walking the Glen' - discovering the monuments and burial chambers.





Day 2

Scottish National Heritage Glasdrum Reserve - discovering 3 specific areas of the reserve and comparing the areas (insect, buglife, lichens & mosses). Conservation work - coppicing and clearing the Birch. Making 'Gillie' dens.





Day 3

Forestry Commission Scotland Glen Creran (Faerie Bridge). Walk up to Bridge site. Surveying the bridge (measuring, photographing, drawing/sketching). Making Nettle Cordage (string).





Day 4

Forestry Commission Scotland - Arichonan deserted settlement, Near Tayvallich. Walk along forestry path to Arichonan. Discover and survey the buildings (measuring, photographing, drawing/sketching)





A follow-up day is still to be held to put together a presentation which will be displayed in Oban Library.

4 girls attended - aged 11/12

'GIVE' PROGRAMME

This Summer we followed the GIVE model, where young people do something for their community and in return, get a trip. The community activity days were a community clean-up, two bingo & games sessions at the Lynnside Daycare centre a hard day's work at the Green Shoots Community garden and a photography and surveying field trip to Arichonan - a settlement abandoned in the clearances.





Clean-up on progress and the group with their gathered rubbish.







Making planters to be donated to Lynnside Daycare centre & weeding / clearing a flower bed.



Left - a leaning gable at Arichonan.

Right - A staff member at Lynnside shows young people their box of memories.



The trips were Go-Karting & Lazer Tag at Clydebank and Ryze. The trip to M&D's was cancelled due to an accident and no-one signed up for the Safari Park.



A total of nine young people attended - 5 boys aged 12-17 and 4 girls aged 12-19.

The Programme was promoted through Oban High School, the Youth Forum and Soroba Youth Club. Most of the participants were from the Youth Forum and they were joined by one from Soroba Youth Club, one activity agreement participant and one youth arts hub worker.

On reflection and after evaluating with young people, the participants liked the arrangement of community projects and reward days. One parent reported that her youngster had enjoyed the community project days more than the trips.

Participants reported that they had learned about history, photography, how to grow plants and some woodwork skills. Highlights mentioned included working with other people, seeing the elderly people having fun and hearing all their stories.

When asked why the attendance was so low, the reasons seem to be:- not advertising on social media, sticking to set dates and venues to fit in with area-wide trips and not allowing P7's to attend.





The Big Day Out was held at Atlantis Leisure in Oban this year. A total of 119 young people, aged 11 - 17, attended this Argyll & Bute wide event - 50 from Oban. Several of the older Youth Forum members worked as Young Leaders at the event. There were a wide range of activities including inflatables in the pool, football, basketball, rugby, hip hop, born to move, badminton & tennis. Outside (in the rain) there was a large Velcro Wall, Sumo Suits & Human table Football. Arts & Crafts were available in the Marquee supplied by Argyll Arts Hub. Young people travelled from Campbeltown, Lochgilphead, Bute, Dunoon and Helensburgh.









This is a two day induction programme for all the P6 & p7 children from all the feeder primary schools for Oban High School. It is a partnership project with Youth Services, Atlantis Leisure, Active Schools, Youth Café, Stramash and the Sports Development Officers (Football, Rugby and Shinty). Day one is held at Atlantis and day two at Oban High School. All the activities on offer are available through Atlantis, Oban High or local clubs and organisations with many clubs, like Hockey, volleyball & kickboxing, putting on sessions for the young people. There were over 30 different activities available for the children to choose from over the two days.





This year 110 young people attended which is out highest ever attendance. This was a result of a different approach to marketing the event. Instead of sending the information to all the schools, members of the partnership visited a large number of schools and gave a presentation to the children. We had children from Coll, Mull & Lismore attending as well as the mainland schools. The feedback from the young people was all extremely positive.



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tional Youth Exchange

From 1st - 9th August 2016, ten young people from Argyll & Bute and twelve young people from Amberg- Sulzbach took part in a Youth Exchange Programme in Bavaria. The Scottish group was made up of 5 young people from Oban & Lorn, 4 from Bute and 1 from Helensburgh - all members of local Youth Forums. The participant from Helensburgh travelled in her capacity as a member of the Scottish Youth Parliament. In total there were 19 girls and 3 boys aged between 13-19 years.

Prior to the trip the young people from Oban & Bute met via Lync, met up at Braehead for an activity & planning day and had an overnight stay at Ardentinny Outdoor Centre where they did team building exercises, finished area presentations and drew up a questionnaire on health and wellbeing - one of the exchange themes. In addition, the young people all took part in fund raising activities - sponsored cycles and cake bakes.



The stay in Germany went very well with the young people all mixing very easily. Highlights included canoeing, climbing, a trip to Munich and a "perfect dinner". Over the course of the stay, workshop were held to address the themes of health and wellbeing and culture. All the young people completed the health and wellbeing survey and, back home, the Scottish group have compiled the results and highlighted noticeable differences between the two countries.



The group ready to eat the perfect dinner they planned and cooked - including toad in the hole and steak pie.