



End of Year Report 21/22



OVERVIEW

- Over 500 young people benefitted
- Monitoring and evaluation
- School partnership
- Staff changes
- Huge thanks to our incredible funders

Reaching more young people

Last year we reported how we had adapted our way of working due to the pandemic restrictions preventing us from running residential.

Our change of focus allowed us to reach more young people in the local area, working with Oban High School, North Argyll Carers Centre and Oban Youth Cafe. We are over the moon to report now that this method has allowed us to work with over 500 young people during the last year - which is a record amount. We are so grateful to our funders and supporters who have made this possible.



Working with schools



Our work with Oban High School has been going from strength to strength. Pupils have been benefitting from multi-day activity sessions including winter hill walking, coasteering and climbing.



"Oban High School's young people have gained significantly from the partnership with Hebridean Pursuits, with the impact on participants being long-lasting. The bespoke approach to developing outdoor learning in all its aspects, the resilience and team-building, the range of support from 1:1 to residentials is a core part of our curriculum. The professionalism, expertise and energy of their staff is one of the core features which we value so highly."

Kevin Champion, Senior Depute Oban High School (November 2021)

Key stats

During this transition year we have:

- Worked with an incredible 522 young people - our highest ever!
- Delivered 170 days of activities



Meeting a celebrity

We often use an indoor climbing wall before taking young people out on the hill, and in February a group of pupils from Oban High School were lucky enough to bump into TV presenter Steve Backshall during a training session!



Staff changes

We said goodbye to Kirsty this year. Kirsty joined us in XXXX as an instructor and Finance/Operations manager (?) and has been an incredible advocate for women in the outdoor activity industry. We were sad to see her go but wish her the best of luck with her new ventures.



Welcome to Fiona, Finance and Admin Lead
Fiona joins us with over 25 years finance and admin experience.

Argyll is a wonderful place to live, I appreciate how lucky I am to have the stunning hills, beaches and nature on my doorstep so it is wonderful to work with an organisation who offer young people from all over the country the opportunities to experience, share and enjoy this.

Welcome to the team Fiona!



Monitoring and Evaluation

Following some really helpful sessions with Evaluation Scotland we are delighted to reveal our new outcomes and monitoring and evaluation system - which will allow us to collect feedback and evidence that what we do matters. This evidence is crucial for securing future funding and allowing us to continue our work. This word cloud contains the three words young people used to describe their time with us on recent courses:



The year ahead looks promising for getting back to our residential work, which we know many young people will benefit from. We plan to do this AND continue our very successful day work and the board are working hard to consider how we build capacity in order to meet the continued need.

Thank you

Huge thanks to all our donors and funders who have supported us this year - we couldn't have done it without you.

Adapt & Thrive Programme
Bartlett Foundation
Charles Skey Charitable Trust
Hugh Fraser Charitable Trust
Robert Barr Charitable Trust
Youth Link Scotland
Individual donors and supporters