



Newsletter

A Busy Summer Term

Welcome to Outfit's 8th newsletter which comes in the middle of a very busy Summer term, during which we are working with a wide variety of different groups including school activity weeks, primary schools and older school students who are looking for jobs. Our summer holiday programme is filling up very quickly so if you would like to book a place, send in your booking form as soon as you can.



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Summer School Holiday Programme: 6th July to 12th August



Our Summer holiday programme is running for three days each week during the six weeks of the Summer holidays, and is offering a wide variety of exciting activities for young people aged between nine and fifteen.

Activities include climbing and abseiling, kayaking, canoeing, mountain biking, surfing and coasteering, and are a mixture of full-day and half-day activities. Discounts are available for booking more than one session, and spaces are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment. Booking forms and further details are available from our website www.outfitmoray.com.



Funding Update

Eighteen months into the recession, we like other charities are battling on but face a tough year ahead. Unsurprisingly those relying on government funding are expected to feel the burn in the coming months with imminent public spending cuts. Fortunately we have no reliance on government funding as most of our resources are received from grant-making trusts.



According to Third Sector consultants Baker Tilly almost a third of charities have or will be increasing spend or time on fundraising activities and we are one of those. Over the last 2 months we have been successful in receiving grants from The Future Jobs Fund, The Henry Smith Charity (a major new funder), Ladbrokes, Dr Guthrie's Association, Sportmoray, Russell Trust, Clipper Foundation and The Hugh Fraser Foundation. We are sincerely grateful to all our funders.

Outfit Purpose:
We engage young people through outdoor learning to support them to reach their potential

Who Have we Been Working With?

Keith Grammar School

This term, we have run six sessions with a group of school leavers from Keith Grammar school, with the aim of trying new activities, building confidence and motivation, and helping with decision-making. Members of the group are completing vocational college courses and used some their skills to create bird boxes and even a bespoke squirrel feeder which they then sold to make a contribution towards the funding of the programme. The group achieved a lot during their time with us and we were really impressed by their determination and will to succeed.



St Sylvester's Primary School



Six P6 pupils from St Sylvester's School in Elgin have taken part in a programme with Outfit that has involved six activity sessions and a 3-day, 2-night expedition to Culbin Forest and Findhorn, which is the first time some of the young people have stayed away from home. The aim of the programme has been for the young people to build their confidence and try new experiences, and although at times the young people have found the experiences challenging, they all feel that they have learnt new things and are pleased that they have taken part.

Secondary School Activity Weeks

During May, we ran a number of activities as part of Elgin High School and Speyside High School's activity weeks. Over 90 young people took part in 14 sessions which included duckies, rock climbing, mountain biking and canoeing. The activities took place in a number of different locations including the Cairngorms National Park, the River Spey and the Moray Firth Coast.



Queen's Award for Voluntary Service



The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups

Outfit is delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, which is a National Honour, described as the 'MBE for volunteer groups'. It is the highest award given to volunteer groups across the UK for outstanding work done in local communities, and Outfit-Moray along with another local charity are the first two organisations in Moray that have received this award. Iain Jamieson, our Chairman, said "this is a tremendous achievement and is a worthy recognition for all the effort and energy invested by our 21 volunteers who are passionate about outdoor education and the value that it brings to support the development of young people".

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