NEWS FROM ISLAY AND JURA
FOURTEEN PROGRAMME

What is Fourteen?

The Islay & Jura Fourteen Programme is part of a wider Glasgow Commonwealth Games legacy programme supported by the Spirit of 2012 Trust and operating from 2015 – 2018. Islay and Jura is one of 14 communities across the UK receiving a resource budget of up to £250,000 to support activity that local people themselves believe will make a difference to well-being and happiness in their community. The programme is being run by the national grant making charity Foundation Scotland on behalf of the Spirit of 2012 Trust. Foundation Scotland is working with a Panel of local people to oversee the distribution of the resource budget.

What difference does Fourteen want to make?

The Spirit of 2012 Trust was established after the success of the London 2012 Olympics and promotes well-being by supporting opportunities for people to participate in sport, the arts and volunteering. Spirit believes that when people participate in these kinds of activities in their communities they become happier and healthier because their sense of belonging and connection increase. So midway through the programme it’s important to ask the question - Is Fourteen beginning to make a difference on Islay and Jura?
Fourteen in numbers

So what difference is Fourteen beginning to make?

An exciting – but challenging - aspect of Fourteen is that it didn’t come with any template! This meant the Panel and Foundation Scotland had the responsibility of deciding how to make the resource budget available to the community.

Over the past 18 months Fourteen has established six different programmes through which funds are distributed to the community as well as commissioning a Youth Led Enquiry.

The Panel has provided over 450 hours of their time to help make Fourteen happen.

As a result, we estimate that

Over 2100 people are benefiting from activity supported by Fourteen including over 630 experiencing that activity for the first time.

Meanwhile a UK wide evaluation process is underway to look at the real difference this activity is making to people’s well-being.
In June, Glasgow based organisation Space Unlimited, commissioned by the Fourteen Panel, facilitated a 3 day Youth Enquiry Process. 15 young people discussed and developed their ideas about how they can make Islay & Jura an even better place for children and young people - and the wider community. The young people enthusiastically shared ideas which ranged from improving play facilities for younger children, developing provision to support young people’s interest and skills in technology and gaming and enhancing support around signing and deaf awareness. There were many productive and creative ideas which the group will continue to shape and develop.

The process was also supported by youth workers Kerry Davene Baker and Amy Dunnachie commented:

“The young people were very positive about the whole experience, and from our point of view we could see that their confidence increased, as did their ability to work with each other successfully. They developed a really strong understanding of their own strengths and weaknesses in certain activities, and also became aware of their peers strengths and weaknesses which is just as important.”

The young people commented that:

“It helped us think about our community”

“They helped us understand our community and come up with new ideas”

“It gave me the opportunity to have my voice heard by the community”

“It helped me to work in a team”

In the coming months Fourteen hopes to find ways to ensure that some of the ideas the young people began to develop can become a reality.

How can we help to build a community that better supports the needs and aspirations of our local young people?
Grants of up to £500 to Islay and Jura’s seven Parent Councils were provided for a range of different activities. These organisations work tirelessly throughout the year and demonstrate how small amounts of funding can go a long way. The Panel looks forward to hearing further from the groups what has been achieved and the difference its made.

Bowmore Primary
A new adventure trail to enhance outdoor play and learning...

Keills Primary
Games to enhance outdoor play and learning...

Gaelic Medium & Bowmore Primary
Opportunities for outdoor adventures and field activities...

Port Charlotte
Fishing trip, volleyball equipment and a camping/survival skills event...

Port Ellen
Refurbishing the outdoor stage and buying some outdoor drums...

Small Isles
Play equipment, swimming sessions, music club...

Islay High
Purchase of a trailer to support Skiff building and sailing activity for young people...

“The children absolutely loved their fishing trip it took them on a boat ride to other areas of the island and see their environment from a whole new perspective. Many fish were caught a new exciting experience for most of them. It was something they would not have had the chance to do without the grant and the chance to choose how it was spent themselves.”
Grants of £250 - £500 were offered to individuals or groups who wanted to run an activity or project for the benefit of other community members but weren’t necessarily connected to an organised group;

**Sparks**

**Margaret Kemp**

Margaret Kemp used a Sparks grant of £250 to develop a knitting and textile craft group ‘Knit and Natter’. Margaret and volunteer Helen Ferrier are experienced knitters and wanted to share their skill with anyone interested to learn. The group provides a place for members to unwind, learn or develop creative skills and connect with people within their community. Knit and Natter has 12 members with an average of five to six people attending each week - ages range from 25 to 70 years old.

The group meets every Monday evening. They chat and create something special to keep or to give away. The group used some of the grant to buy a large supply of wool which they knitted into blankets for the premature baby unit at the local hospital. Margaret feels that groups like this are needed on Islay as more centres and services providing this kind of creative and social support are closed. Margaret believes that her project has helped some members through difficult times. One member of the group who had a stroke decided to attend the class which helped her to connect with people within her community each week and made her feel less isolated. The group has also helped another individual who was caring for her ill husband by providing her with a place to relax and unwind for a couple of hours.

**Sophie Hamilton**

A grant of £470 funded travel expenses for project practitioners and materials for costumes, scenery, props, arts sessions and books for a presentation of Bramble and Cultoon’s Sky Dragon, an artistic collaboration involving Sophie and local writer/artist Cathy Wilson.

“Participating in the project brought smiles to the faces of all who took part. It was an enjoyable experience for everyone. It was much talked about...when something goes well it is a truly inspiring experience.”

**Flora MacAllister**

A grant of £500 assisted Flora’s work with the South Islay Heritage Group including a guided walk with 14 children from the High School.

“The walk covered terrain and history that was not known to the students. There was good interaction with them and they showed a healthy interest in the area and its history.”

**Pat Jones**

A grant of £250 to contributed towards the Rainbows Unit on Islay, the youngest group of the guiding movement. The group meets every week and provides a place for the girls to learn new skills, play games and make new friends within their community. The grant helped with ongoing running costs for the unit including buying badges and hiring the hall and also helped towards transport costs to events such as the annual Christmas Service, and their trip to Islay Airport.

“Participating in the project brought smiles to the faces of all who took part. It was an enjoyable experience for everyone. It was much talked about...when something goes well it is a truly inspiring experience.”

**Knit and Natter runs very informally but is playing a critical role in the lives of some individuals whose difficult life circumstances are made that bit easier by the routine of meeting with others in their community in a relaxing, supportive and creative environment. It’s heartening that the project is still running and that Margaret continues to provide the safe haven of Knit and Natter to fellow residents.”**
Bridgend Bowling Club, awarded £1,260 in October 2015

Bridgend Bowling Club is a small club on Islay, with big ideas. With an elderly membership of 25 people, a key priority for the Club is to attract new members, whilst increasing the opportunities for people to play bowls.

One of the first steps has been the installation of boarding around the bowling green which a grant from Fourteen helped them achieve. The board allows safe access to the green for those with limited mobility, as well as providing a safety barrier for both players and spectators.

Over a two week period, a team of volunteers, helped create the ditch and install the boarding. Volunteers consisted of members and non-members. As a result, many members have felt more connected, with many commenting that they now feel as though they have an active role to play not just in attending the club and enjoying its facilities but also now in developing the club and promoting it so even more people can benefit from the physical and social workout it provides!

Club membership has also grown since the volunteering day with six new members joining and others coming along to play on a regular basis.

Picnic tables have also been installed for spectators, to help those who are no longer able to play and maintain their links with the club. The picnic tables provide a space where they can come with their carers, watch matches and have a chat amongst friends.

The Club have been surprised by the membership response to the work and the sense of community that has been generated. They hope the introduction of regular volunteer work days will allow them to build on this.

The next challenge is to tackle the perception of bowls being an old person’s sport and encourage the younger members of the community to become members. The club can certainly take inspiration from other clubs in Scotland that have growing junior sections.

Mactaggart Cybercafe, awarded £2000 in October 2015

150 people of all ages tested their climbing skills when a mobile climbing wall visited Port Ellen Green on a bright day in April. The event was organised by the Mactaggart Cybercafé with funding from Fourteen.

Transport was provided on the Saturday helping people to travel from surrounding villages. But the Rock Wall was so popular many people from outlying areas shared cars to bring family and friends. There was a lot of local support with many volunteers helping out over the weekend.

Little ones as young as 18 months had a go under the watchful eye of the instructor with some grown-ups overcoming fear of heights. The more adventurous had a few goes trying to make it more difficult by climbing blindfolded or single handed!

A lot of fun was had by all who enjoyed an almost festival like atmosphere. Many who participated are keen to have similar events or activities and even start working towards the community having a permanent climbing wall somewhere. So if anyone is reading this and feeling inspired about how that can happen, please share your ideas with Angela at the Cybercafé.
Islay Quilters are keen to ensure that sewing skills aren’t lost and skills are passed onto the younger inhabitants of Islay. A grant from Fourteen has enabled them to purchase smaller sewing machines and materials, allowing them to share basic skills in both hand and machine sewing. Whilst encouraging and inspiring young people to extend into more specialised areas of patchwork and quilting.

One of the group’s recent successes has been with a young girl in P7 at Bowmore primary. With dreams of being a designer, but with no relevant skills she approached the Quilters for help in making a dress. After some initial discussions regarding design and skills, it was agreed that a dress was perhaps too ambitious for a first attempt and a skirt would be a better option.

Working with the Quilters, the young girl designed a six panel skirt made up of different materials, an ambitious but achievable design. Over a number of weeks the Quilters taught her basic skills including how to use a sewing machine and put on a zip. The new smaller sewing machines meant the girl was able to take the machine home and work on her skirt between workshops. This skirt has now been completed and displayed in as part of the school’s Endeavour Project. The time spent with the Quilters has reinforced her desire to be a designer and she hopes to attend future workshops.

The Quilters have also worked more recently with the Rainbows and as a result are now considering organising craft workshops as an after school activity as well as during the school holidays.
Gregor Mitchell was one of three coaches from Port Ellen Juniors who received one of the first Volunteer Development Bursaries which covered the cost of him attending an SFA Early Touches training course in May. The course is one of a series that up skills football coaches to develop their coaching technique. Port Ellen Juniors has grown rapidly since being established last year. Gregor and five other coaches offer regular Sunday training sessions to over 25 5-15 year olds from across Islay with some even travelling from North Rhins to attend.

Gregor, 16, was delighted with the opportunity to attend the two day course that helped him further his coaching qualifications, develop his confidence and also enhance his CV. Day 1 was all about learning the techniques and Day 2 was about trying them out and getting assessed. He’s happy to have passed!

“I remember the great coaching I got through Islay Boys when I was younger. None of it would have happened without the efforts of the volunteer coaches who did everything. Not only did they coach us with drills and techniques but they also arranged trips – even one to Valencia was amazing.” Gregor wants to see those kinds of opportunities being offered to more children and young people on Islay and Jura. “There’s more and more interest from girls too,” says Gregor, “but we don’t have any female footie coaches – yet!”

Perhaps the next Bill Gates or Steve Jobs might come from Islay and Jura??

Mairi Maccuaig, Islay Youth Action’s Co-Chair said: “We have been planning this for a while but wasn’t sure how we would fund the trip. The Fourteen bursary was perfect for what we were doing along with it being perfect timing.”

Volunteer Development Bursary Scheme

A rolling programme offering up to £500 to any volunteer keen to develop skills and knowledge relevant to their volunteering;
THE BIG IDEA! – identifying and supporting a cluster of Fourteen legacy projects...

- 27 diverse ideas were submitted which broadly fitted the Fourteen criteria.
- 491 votes received across two voting rounds. This means approx. 16% of Islay and Jura’s population participated in voting – and more in the original submissions.
- The Panel allocated the £45,000 available as follows, informed by the public vote and the independent assessments that were carried out on each of the projects.
- The Panel made an additional two awards from the Fourteen resource budget.

Mactaggart Cyber Café  (205 votes)
£10,200
To establish mobile soft play provision for Islay & Jura’s younger children.

Ionad Chaluim Chille Ìle  (168 votes)
£13,200
To contribute to creating a heritage hub on Islay that will gathering, displaying & celebrating the island’s heritage resources

Jura Development Trust  (159 votes)
£21,600
Developing Jura’s Corran path and surrounds so the space is accessible for everyone to use and enjoy

The Panel also agreed to support the two other projects that were in the running for Stage 2:

Mactaggart Cyber Café  (174 votes)
£5,654
Providing “Boogie Bounce” trampoline fitness classes across Islay and Jura.

Jura Development Trust  (149 votes)
£12,000
Reinstate the Betti Bus one evening per week between Craighouse and Bowmore
How does Fourteen work

Decisions about how funds are spent are made by a Panel of local volunteers who represent a spread of ages, interests and communities across Islay and Jura.

Current Panel members, identified from expressions of interest that were invited last year, are:

- Joan Graham
- Jim MacCalman
- John Cameron
- Neil Woodrow
- Tracey Hunter
- Andrew McCowan
- Jenny Compton Bishop
- Lloyd Wells
- Janet Waterworth
- Jack Adamson
- Tony Archibald
- Kristeen McHarrie
- Nicole Summers
- Gregor Mitchell

Previous Panel members also included Ella Edgar, Eleanor McNab and Paula Davidson. Andrew Fletcher also attended the inaugural Panel meeting. Our thanks to all who contributed their time in the last year, particularly Petra Pearce who chaired the Panel so ably before stepping down in April.

Panel member Janet Waterworth says:

“I have been involved in voluntary work on Islay since 1994 in some form or other, often as a treasurer for the group based round our children’s interests at the time, or just a cake maker, tent put upper, bbq chef/cashier or whatever was needed to support each group. As a Panel member with Fourteen I am interested in anything that brings together the wide age ranges and wider community links.”

Fellow Panel member John Cameron adds:

“Reading through the summary of grants awarded over the last year, I am delighted to see many references to “New Volunteers”. Having been involved in voluntary organisations for decades, I have often heard the comment that it is the “same old faces” that appear whenever voluntary assistance is asked for. Although there are many such individuals, there is a far greater number of equally worthy citizens who do not normally “get involved”. Perhaps they will be encouraged by our endeavours, and the outcomes thereof. On a personal level, by witnessing the potential of our young people via our contact with Space Unlimited and Islay and Jura Youth Action, I have learned much. The manner in which the group leaders in both these organisations encourage the members to develop and progress their own ideas for activities and projects benefitting our Island communities is, to me, a lesson on just how it should be done.

I look forward to the year ahead, witnessing the grant-aided groups bringing their projects to fruition….and a whole new bundle of grant applications coming forward.”

IJCE operated as the Fourteen secretariat up until the end of June when that arrangement ceased. This role was critical when the Panel was getting established and when the first Fourteen grant-making opportunities became available during 2015. Our thanks to Sam MacDougall and Gary Scott for their work on Fourteen and for which IJCE was recompensed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bowmore Sports</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To contribute to the cost of attractions at the sports day and bonfire night fireworks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islay Motor Club</td>
<td>£1,157</td>
<td>To purchase a medium-sized tent for use at shows and events, high vis safety vests for members, and to build a website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jura Hall</td>
<td>£614</td>
<td>To fund the travel costs of the trainer delivering Zumba sessions at the hall, enabling the charge for the sessions to be reduced.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isle of Jura Development Trust</td>
<td>£1,990</td>
<td>To establish a children’s sports club on Jura.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isle of Jura Development Trust</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To establish a children’s after school and holiday activity club.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islay and Jura Youth Action</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To contribute to the cost of the summer programme, including weekly horseback riding sessions and comedy/drama workshops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Ellen Football Club Juniors</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To purchase four full size and four miniature goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Comunn Gaidhealach Meur Ile</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>To contribute to the cost of employing a paid secretary to market the Mod and undertake other associated activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coisir Og Ghaidhlig Ile</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To contribute to the cost of bringing the choir to perform at the National Mod in Oban in October 2015, including transportation and accommodation costs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small Isles Primary School Parent Council</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To purchase a climbing frame/tower structure and slide.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Islay Quilters</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To purchase equipment/materials and fund other expenses involved in reaching out to other local groups and young people to pass on sewing skills and show the produced work at the group’s annual exhibition.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isle of Jura Music Festival</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>To contribute to the cost of staging workshops and performances.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Port Ellen Playing Fields</td>
<td>£1,170</td>
<td>To purchase materials for repairing the group’s platform.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PM Club</td>
<td>£627</td>
<td>To fund an open afternoon to inviting new memberships to the club and to subsidise travel costs for volunteer drivers transporting people from outlying districts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgend Bowling Club</td>
<td>£1,260</td>
<td>To install boarding around the ditch surrounding the green, providing a barrier for players and spectators and enabling safer access to the green for mobility impaired sportspersons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argyll College</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To purchase safety equipment, training materials and RIB/workboat hire, enabling the delivery of a course in maritime skills and RYA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islay Book Festival</td>
<td>£1,040</td>
<td>To contribute to the cost of bringing two authors to Islay for the festival, including transport, professional fees and accommodation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ionad Chaluim Chille Ile</td>
<td>£1,620</td>
<td>To set up a Gaelic cafe/teenage drop in centre to run on Wednesday afternoons after school, allowing students studying Gaelic to engage in activities through the medium of Gaelic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mactaggart Community Cybercafé</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>To hire Gecko Venture to set up a mobile climbing wall for a weekend in Port Ellen.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>£29,478</strong></td>
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On Your Marks! Awards to date