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Education



Supporting Service Families

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MLG (Education) Group

supporting
HIGHLANDS

Armed Forces Community

May 2022 Newsletter- Issue 13

Armed Forces Community



3 SCOTS It has been an exciting time here at the Wimberley way community centre. Over the Easter Weekend Celebrations we held an Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday in our community. Over 60 children and young persons competed to win the prestigious prize of a second egg. For this, they had to follow a series of clues and navigate their way around our community collecting numbered eggs. Once all eight eggs were collected in sequence, they had to race back to the community centre and declare a time to the team. For their efforts, they were awarded a delightful chocolate Easter egg. Shortly after the Easter egg hunt, the Commanding Officer judged the Easter bonnet parade. This year we had four entries, and all were equally impressive, with the theme being eco and sustainability.



7 SCOTS

Piper Christie played at the 6 & 7 SCOTS Combined Band, Gun Salute at Stirling Castle on the 21 Apr 22 to celebrate The Queens birthday in this Platinum Jubilee Year.



Our Inverness Regional Team is at the heart of an extensive network supporting the Armed Forces community across the North of Scotland. We pinpoint the support you need and put you in contact with experts who can help.

We can provide support for a wide variety of issues such as housing, employment, education, finances, mobility and mental health. Whatever problems you are facing, we can get you the support you need to take control of your life.

www.poppyscotland.org.uk

Contact us:

Tel: **01463 710300** (during office hours)

Email: inverness@poppyscotland.org.uk

School Enrolment Let your school know if your child is from a Serving, Reservist or Veteran family. If we know—we have a greater understanding of your child and how best to ensure their time at school is the best it can be. [Click Here](#) for info

Halkirk Cadets Clean Up Community



Recently cadets from Halkirk Detachment have been doing their bit for the local community by carrying out litter picks in their local area.

The past two weekends have seen the Detachment so far collect a total of 10 bags of rubbish from their weekend litter picks, cleaning areas such as the local park and the War Memorial. The cadet intend to continue with their community work this over the summer on an almost weekly basis once they return from Annual Camp at the start of July.

Locals have been asked to keep an eye out for areas around Halkirk that could use some TLC from the cadets during their weekly visits.

For more information about 1st Battalion The Highlanders [click here](#)



Top; Cadets of Halkirk with their bags full after a day's picking. Bottom Left: Cleaning the war memorial. Bottom Right; Cleaning around Halkirk.



! NEW RESOURCE !

Supporting the Wellbeing of C&YP [Click Here](#)

Further Helpful Resources

Beacon House: Talking to CYP about war & conflict [CLICK HERE](#)

The Armed Forces Covenant for Armed Forces Personnel [CLICK HERE](#)

Worrying About Money: Advice & Information [CLICK HERE](#)



We wish Cllr Roddy Balfour, Armed Forces Champion, Highland Council farewell and thanks for his dedication, commitment and significant contributions to Highland's Armed Forces Community. Picture (left) Cllr Balfour receiving the Armed Forces Covenant Gold Award on behalf of Highland Council.

Highland Council's Armed Forces Website [Click here](#) or visit www.highland.gov.uk search "Armed Forces"

Armed Forces Covenant Fund : [Force for Change programme](#)

Award grants of up to **£10,000** to Units, Schools and Local Authorities or a partnership of all three.

Apply now to make a real difference to your local Armed Forces community. **Application submission deadline by 30 May 2022.**

My Journey, My Voice

Comes from Millburn Academy, Inverness

Youth Work Volunteer

Ellie O’Gorman

Millburn Academy

Celebrating Forces Families



To watch Ellie at the AWARD PRESENTATION [Click Here](#) and play from 13:47 mins

Ellie O’Gorman, was awarded the Celebrating Forces Families 2022 “Young People’s Award” for her outstanding work in supporting the Forces young people within the Inverness area. The award celebrates her volunteering contribution, position on the Armed Forces Youth Voice and efforts in making sure all Forces Children within the Inverness area are seen and heard.

At Millburn Academy, Ellie is a Nurture Mentor who encourages some

of our most vulnerable pupils to take part in extra-curricular activities, especially the Armed Forces Youth Club. She has a natural ability to make people feel at ease and regularly leads successful group activities over break times. She is also a senior buddy to Millburn pupils who have a parent/carer in the Forces/Reservists/Veterans. She also helps Forces pupils with their transition from Primary to Secondary School. Through this and her involvement in establishing and running a Youth Club on the Army Families



Estate in Inverness, she has gained Highlife Highland Leadership and Saltire awards.

Ellie’s motivation comes from her own experience as a Forces child. She’s determined to highlight the needs of Forces young people and their families and encourages all schools and agencies to be “Forces family” aware.



Ellie’s comments “Volunteering helped me find purpose and has encouraged me to come out of my comfort zone. I’d encourage any young person to volunteer. It can be life changing”.

“Absolutely delighted to share that Ellie won and was presented with the 2022 Celebrating Forces Families UK Award. Fantastic to see her voluntary work being recognised at a such a prestigious event” (*Chloe Nicolaou, Pupil Support Millburn Academy*)



April saw James Cook, Head Teacher at Cawdor Primary, Inverness take to the dance floor in support of Poppyscotland.

James Cook, Head Teacher at Cawdor Primary School, took part in 'Come Dancing With Poppy Scotland in Association with Toe to Toe' on the 1st and 2nd of April.

After months of training with his Toe 2 Toe dance partner Rachel Murray, the seven couples took to the floor in the Drumossie Hotel in Inverness to put on a two night show. James and Rachel were at the top of the leaderboard and lifted the glitterball on the Friday night, wowing the judges with their Viennese Waltz and a Jive.

The event raised over £32,000 for Poppy Scotland. James took part in a fundraiser in November, running 5K each day, raising £1,730 for the charity.



"What an end to the term. Spent two nights dancing Latin and ballroom for Poppyscotland. Delighted to be the glitter ball winner on Friday night with my AMAZING partner, Rachel. Absolutely chuffed for last night's winners, Caitlin and Paul". (James Cook)

"Wow! A stunning [#Jive](#) from James and Rachel at Come Dancing with [#poppyscotland](#) in association with [@Toe2ToeDance](#). What energy!!". (Poppyscotland Tweet 2.4.22)

Awards success for Forces Children's Education



Forces Children's Education has won a Bronze Award at The 2022 Scottish Veterans Awards

The FCE team – led by National Transitions Officer Carolyn MacLeod – was honoured in the 'Health and Wellbeing' category for its work to support Armed Forces children, their families, and educators.



The Scottish Veterans Awards recognise veterans, reservists and organisations who support the military community and go above and beyond in their respective fields.

Carolyn, who runs the FCE site for the Association of Directors of Education in Scotland (ADES), said: "This is really wonderful



that FCE has been recognised for the work it does to support families and their children by providing authoritative information around education in Scotland."

"We're grateful to the judging panel and wish to congratulate all of the winners and nominees, and all of those who support our Armed Forces community."

<https://forceschildrenseducation.org.uk/awards-success-for-forces-childrens-education>

MLG (Education) are proud to work with and have Forces Children Education as partners to their group

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News and information FROM SPECIALIST SERVICE PROVIDERS MLG (Education) Partners

**ARMY
WELFARE
SERVICE**



Mission

To provide a comprehensive, professional and confidential Welfare Support Service, responsive to the needs of the individual, families and the Chain of Command in order to maximise the operational effectiveness of service personnel.

Confidentiality Code

Everything you tell us will be treated in absolute confidence and no-one outside the Army Welfare Service (AWS) will be informed without your consent, except in exceptional circumstances—for more information please ask an AWS staff member for a copy of our Privacy Statement.

To make a referral to AWS please contact the Intake and Assessment Team

RC-AWS-IAT@mod.gov.uk Tel: 01904 882053

For general information about AWS in Highland/Moray and the North of Scotland please email Tracie.McDermott360@mod.gov.uk or call 0300 162 3075

**ROYAL NAVY
FORUM**

RN FPS provides support for our service personnel and their families when required. Family support is vital to pre and school age children and especially when loved ones are absent from home due to deployment. We can send out a Memory Box to decorate and fill with memories to show your loved one these precious moments upon their return. We can provide deployment publications to assist with emotions during this period, and of course we have our RN Forum to keep in the loop and in touch with What's On, and days out! Please follow this [link to RN Forum](#).

If you wish any further information please email us at rnrn-wio@royalnavymail.mod.uk

ssafa
— the —
Armed Forces
charity

**ROYAL
AIR FORCE**

**Personal Support & Social Work Service
RAF Lossiemouth**

Need to talk? Contact our confidential, independent service on: Call 03000 111 723

Available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year or Email psswsraf@ssafa.org.uk

SSAFA offer a **CONFIDENTIAL** welfare service to **ALL** military personnel on the Station irrespective of rank, gender, or marital status. We are here to support spouses, partners, children, and extended families.

Contact Us

Debra.clarke@ssafa.org.uk

01343 817076 (95161 7076)

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News and information From MLG (Education) Partners Supporting Highland's Children & Young People



FORCES
CHILDREN'S
EDUCATION

Supporting Armed Forces families: a professional learning resource

This new resource has been launched on Forces Children's Education as a version that everyone can access and work through. You do not have to complete every section at once, you can pick and choose the steps you feel are most relevant to you.

The original resource created through collaboration of Education Scotland, ADES National Transitions Officer, and Forces Children Scotland (formerly RCET), is available for educators on GLOW (Professional Learning Activity).

Educators, and other professionals, can utilise this resource to gain a greater understanding of the experiences and life journeys of armed forces families. It will enable them to be more informed when working with families to provide necessary educational and pastoral support and be better placed to support positive mental health and wellbeing over challenges such as mobility, separation, and loss. Having the resource available on various online sites will reach a wider audience.

<https://forceschildrenseducation.org.uk/supporting-armed-forces-families>

Contact **Carolyn MacLeod**, National Transitions Officer, ADES at
info@forceschildrenseducation.org.uk
www.forceschildrenseducation.org.uk



Samira Nicholson has joined the team at Forces Children Scotland as the Participation Worker for Highlands and Moray.

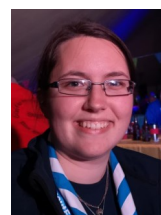
She previously worked at Action for Children, and has worked with Children and Young People for ten years.

Her aim is to work with local organisations working with young people in the Highlands and Moray area and promote the voices of Forces Children. She also seeks to co-produce and collaborate with them on projects that will provide support for Forces Children.

Currently Samira is working with several local high schools on a project centred around supporting Forces Children in schools during deployment.

Contact Samira at
samira.nicholson@forceschildrenscotland.org.uk or
07502040203

FORCES
CHILDREN
SCOTLAND



Hi, I am Anja Johnston, the Highland Youth Convener. Over the last year I have been in post, I have been asked by The Highland Council to help in developing a Highland Children and Young Peoples Charter. A charter is a set of statements, that will be chosen by the children and young people of the Highlands, that will ensure your rights are protected and that you have an equal say/view in all matters and decisions that may affect you.

I have created a workshop, that you can do as a group or as an individual, that allows you to explore what your rights are, hear from the Children and Young Peoples Commissioner of Scotland and have a look at an example Charter from Aberdeenshire. Everything can be found on the following link, which will take you to a jamboard, where you can add virtual post it notes and comments

<https://jamboard.google.com/d/13aWgQMSzUMEze1PbDriVeGiiZ3X-m2pcnBASOibUvfU/viewer?f=0>

If you have any questions, or just want to introduce yourself, then my email address is Youth.Convener@highlifehighland.com



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FAMILY FEDERATIONS NEWS

Supporting

Highland's Tri-Service Community

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Naval Families Federation
Championing Royal Navy and Royal Marines Families



Vicky Brindley
Devolved Policy Manager
Vicky.Brindley@nff.org.uk
07849087822

nff.org.uk
Naval Families Federation
@The_NFF

Naval Families Federation
Speaking up for Naval Service families

Here at the Naval Families Federation, we Value you, your contribution and your opinions

We take your feedback to those in positions of power — the Chain of Command, Government Ministers, other Government departments, local authorities and civilian service providers and it informs policy and decision making. [Naval Families Federation - Championing Royal Navy & Royal Marines families \(nff.org.uk\)](https://www.nff.org.uk)

The Spring Issue of Army & You is out now with lots of useful articles and information on different curriculums and schooling in different areas and what your posting to Scotland may involve.



All change in the classroom



aff army families federation
We are here to help!

Our regional lead for Scotland Amanda can be contacted using the following details:

Scotland@aff.org.uk
07780 093115

Location, location, location



The RAF Families Federation (RAFFF) provides an independent voice for all Regular and Reserve RAF personnel and families. We work to improve quality of life around the world – at work or at home, whether personnel are single or have partners and children.



To support Service children in education, the RAFFF work with the Service Children's Progression (SCiP) Alliance and we are excited to share that [The Thriving Lives Toolkit](#) interactive platform developed by the [SCiP Alliance](#) was launched in April 2022. The **Thriving Lives Toolkit** is a free framework designed to help schools evaluate and develop their practice supporting children in the Armed Forces community. If you have any questions about this new resource or other education and childcare matters, contact the RAFFF team and 'Report an Issue' at www.raf-ff.org.uk.

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News and information From MLG (Education) Partners Supporting Highland's Children & Young People



www.armedforcesmorayandhighland.co.uk

Information, guidance, advice and help for the Armed Forces community in Highland and Moray. We welcome suggestions to improve information please email

dot.ferguson@highland.gov.uk

The Highland Armed Forces and Veterans Community Covenant Partnership (HAFVCCP) are currently in the process of reviewing their action plan. The plan will be set out in a new format which will make it simpler to track the progress of agreed 'outcomes' and the actions been taken to achieve them.

The plan will be split into 'themed' priority areas of work namely: 'Children & Families', 'Economy' (inc employability & employment), 'Education', 'Health' and 'Housing'. In addition there will be a focus on the development of the Partnership itself.

The Partnership is proud of the many things it has achieved since its inception to support the Armed Forces and Veterans Community. This includes raising the awareness of the unique set of circumstances and challenges the AF and Veteran community experiences. Comprehensive training and other resources for those people helping plan, support and deliver services are just one of the areas of development the Partnership has been progressing.

The action plan enables the Partnership to focus efforts on areas of work that need particular collaborative attention.

The Covenant website is also in the process of being refreshed.

Good Day Everyone,

First of all I would like to introduce myself, My name is SSgt Matthew Mac Donald and I am one of the Regional Engagement officers for the British Army In Scotland.

One of our main roles is to visit schools, youth groups, sports teams all over Scotland to try and engage with young people and to help them with life skills.

We have available to you loads of opportunities for team building and life skills direct to your organisation, our Prime audience is from P6 up to S3 but older groups can also be catered for up to S6 and is completely **FREE of charge**.

We are available from July onwards and would especially like to hear from you if you would like a visit during the school holidays if your organisation are running a summer school club/camp. We can be flexible on dates, times and amount of attendees, if I have reached the wrong person in your school/group could you please forward this on to the appropriate person/department.

Just to clarify, we are not directly recruiting for the Army, our main focus is on something we call TRIPLOC, which is skills we work on and are:

- TEAMWORK
- RESILIENCE
- INITIATIVE
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- LEADERSHIP
- ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS
- COMMUNICATION

We have 3 Army Engagement group meetings being held in the Highlands area in May. We are visiting Portree, (25th) (Fort William 26th) and the finishing in Oban (26th), these are meetings where you will get a presentation about YOUR Army, there will be an opportunity to ask questions and find out what YOUR Army is up to around the globe, also provided is a free buffet, Locations within the towns are on the event invites linked below, the event is free of charge to all.

Portree <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-your-army-in-scotland-at-portree-tickets-317526238527>
Fort William <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-your-army-in-scotland-in-fort-william-tickets-317529257557>
Oban <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-your-army-in-scotland-in-oban-tickets-317530380917>

For any further information I can be reached by Email or Phone:
mathew.macdonald753@mod.gov.uk or 07971925781



FREE books, scrapbooks and reading journals for all Armed Forces families, including veterans

www.readingforce.org.uk



Reading Force works collaboratively with all organisations providing support to Armed Forces families, including veterans. It provides **FREE** reading resources for children and young people from babies to older teens, enabling families to share stories and chat about books. They can then fill the scrapbooks with their collective thoughts, drawings, crafts and photographs. Families can share books together at home or via video call if separated from family members for any reason. It's a fun way to bond and stay connected. There is a special Reading Journal for teens.

Schools, welfare organisations and charities can order **FREE** scrapbooks and Reading Journals to hand out [here](#) Families can then go to the Reading Force website to order their free books—one for each child!

Families can also order books and scrapbooks directly from the website [here](#)



To find out more about how Reading Force can provide resources to help you to support your families contact Fiona Maxwell, RF Ambassador Scotland: fiona@readingforce.org.uk or Tel 07548 778 930

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HIVE Information

Supporting the Service Community and their Families



Contact Information

Debs Tulip | HIVE Information Officer

St Aidan's Centre, RAF Lossiemouth, Moray, IV31 6SD

BT: (01343) 817050 | Mil: 95161 7050 | Skype No: +443001682931

Email: LOS-RAFLossiemouthHIVE1@mod.gov.uk

 www.raf.mod.uk/serving-families/hive-finder/

 RAF HIVE

 RAF HIVE

**Your Local HIVE is:
Leuchars**

**Your Local HIVE Information Support Officer is:
Sarah Stone**

RC-Pers-HIVE-Scotland-0Mailbox@mod.gov.uk

Mil:95151 7649 Civ:01334 857649

www.armyhiveinfo.blogspot.com

For more information, or to contact Army HIVE visit:

 www.army.mod.uk/hives

 www.facebook.com/ArmyHIVE

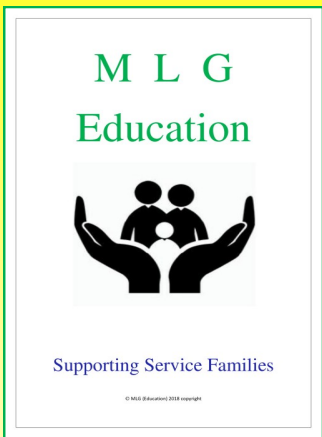
 www.twitter.com/ArmyHIVEinfo

 www.armyhiveinfo.blogspot.com

 www.instagram.com/ArmyHIVEinfo



Army HIVE



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A great place for sharing Information and Resources

JUST ASK

Do you have a question about the development or wellbeing of a child or young person in

Call us:

Tuesdays or Thursdays, 1–4pm

A health or educational professional will call you back within a few days

[Click Here](#) to view poster



Highland Council’s Psychological Service have made a selection of resources and training materials available on the [Highland Council Psychological Service Blog \(external link\)](#).

07514 120288 info@thrivingfamilies.org.uk

Our goal is to become the 'go to' organisation, known for improving the lives of families living in the Highlands, by giving you confidence, empowering you to know your rights, know what questions to ask and have your voices heard.

Improving the lives of families in the Highlands

Thriving Families
Improving the lives of families in the Highlands



[bumps to bairns](#)

Early help for Highland children

[Click Here](#) for further information

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Share your Voice

Information and Resources

**Getting It Right for Forces
Children In Highland**
[Click Here](#) for website

**Get Involved.
Have Your Say.
Make a Difference.**

**Your News
Your Views
Your MLG**

tell us
what
you think ...

A 3D rendered white figure of a person, seen from the side, holding a red megaphone to their mouth. The figure is standing on a light grey shadow.

Email: louise.kinnear2@highland.gov.uk

If you require an alternative format to suit individual needs please get in touch