



# MLG (Education)

Issue 5 :  
November '19  
Autumn

Find out what we are doing to support  
Children & Young People of the Armed Forces Highland Community

## Armed Forces Community 3SCOTS & 7SCOTS



09 Nov 2019 the SCOTS Association took part in a Service of Dedication for the Highland Branch Standard. This was a historic day as this is the first ever SCOTS Association Standard to be carried on Parade



Highland Council Schools



Proud to see Highland Schools Ambassadors alongside 3SCOTS and 7SCOTS at The Town House Inverness on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 to observe a two-minute silence and pay their respects

remembering those who have served our country. (Millburn Academy, Charleston Academy, Inverness High School, Culloden Academy and Inverness Royal Academy)

Information for education settings and families can be found at Highland Council Armed Forces Website [Click here](#) or visit [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk) and search "Armed Forces"

**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



## Army Welfare Service Community Support

The October half term was a busy time for Community Support with lots of activities taking place.

Friday the 25th October Highlands of Scotland celebrated its first AWS Youth Awards event that was aimed at celebrating the enormous success of all young people for 2019.

The evening saw families, friends and stakeholders come together to celebrate the many achievements of the last year and award all the accredited achievements as well as award seventeen individual trophies for outstanding achievement. Inspirational young person 2019 went to Oliver Harris, Inverness.



A number of young people from Kinloss & Inverness Barracks, attended the Royal Caledonian Educational Tri-Service Residential as well as having the opportunity to share their experiences at the RCET practitioners conferences. They spoke openly & honestly about their lives and are working hard to bring about changes for their peers. Well done to all who took part.

## RCET Conference



The work of Highland Council and, in particular, the MLG in welcoming and supporting Armed Forces families in Highland was presented at the RCET Conference in Edinburgh on 5<sup>th</sup> November. This was showcased as not only an example of best practice but also as a model which other local authorities may want to adopt. I think Highland should be really proud of their inclusive approach to meeting the educational



and wellbeing needs of your children and young people. The MLG presentation received very positive comments from delegates.

**Just ask** is an enquiry line for our parents, Carers, children, young people and those who work with them.

Please call us on 07785477686



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Poppyscotland  
The MacRobert Centre  
Strothers Lane  
Inverness  
IV1 1LR

## Sensory Impairment Open Day

Wednesday 4 December 12:00-16:00

Sensory impairment (hearing and sight loss) can negatively impact on an individual's life both physically and psychologically ... Opportunity to pop down to the Poppyscotland Inverness Welfare Centre for a brew and find out about the range of sensory impairment supports available locally and how to access them.

For more information:  
Tel: [01463 710300](tel:01463710300) or  
Email: [inverness@poppyscotland.org.uk](mailto:inverness@poppyscotland.org.uk)



[www.armedforcesmorayandhighland.co.uk](http://www.armedforcesmorayandhighland.co.uk)

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

[AFCMorayandHighland@moray.gov.uk](mailto:AFCMorayandHighland@moray.gov.uk)

Sadly the Covenant project finishes at the end of the year. However the MLG and Highland Armed Forces & Veterans Community Covenant Partnership will continue to collaborate to support the Armed Forces community in Highland. Whilst much has been achieved over the last few years there is inevitably much more to do.

Work in progress includes: the development of eLearning resources for Highland Council frontline and education staff; the inclusion of Highland services on Forces Connect mobile app— date of launch will be notified via your social media and MLG networks.

The MLG is a unique initiative and your children and young people really benefit from the enhanced support received as a result of the collaboration.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved in the partnerships for their enthusiasm, hard work and support over the last 2 years —I will miss working with you all.

TTFN Jo



**NEWS FLASH: Poppyscotland Strictly Come Dancing Event—See Page 4 for details**



**Louise Briggs**  
Education and Childcare  
Policy Manager

Having developed strong relationships with strategic education partners across the devolved administrations, I am enjoying the opportunity of reviewing how our service children are supported in Scotland and how we can make the transition of our families posted there a smoother process.

We would very much welcome any RAF families in Scotland, or organisations supporting them, to get in touch with us to discuss any issues and find out how we can help.

[Louise.briggs@raf-ff.org.uk](mailto:Louise.briggs@raf-ff.org.uk)  
01780 781650 | 07779 964574



**Wendy Quinn**  
Families Engagement Officer


New to the post of Families Engagement Officer, Scotland and NI with the Naval Families Federation I am pleased to have had the opportunity to connect with the MLG through Lou Kinnear from Highland Council and Moira Leslie from RCET. I look forward to working further with the group who are making such good tracks in supporting Armed Forces Children in the Highlands.



### Our Vision

MLG (Education) is a vehicle for understanding and supporting the needs of the service community and the local area in an educational context

**MLG**  
Education



Supporting Service Families


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**High Life Highland Youth Development team** deliver opportunities across the region. From our youth club style Fusions to youth forums and from employability projects to outdoor education, we aim to offer a service that has something for everyone while seeking to work with young people who need and want some informal but professional support in their lives.



Young people are looking for youth work to help with; **gaining confidence, experiencing new things, gaining qualifications, a chance to speak up for what is right and opportunities to help others.** These are the **outcomes** that we support young people to achieve. If you are interested please get in touch.

**Be involved, be heard and be the best you can be!**

[www.highlifehighland.com/youth/](http://www.highlifehighland.com/youth/)

Hello and welcome to ..

**Steve Walsh, Chief Executive, Highlife Highland**

Steve has said *"The work of High Life Highland encompasses much of what inspires and motivates me as a person... Providing equal access to culture, learning, sport, leisure, health and wellbeing has never been more important in our society....I understand the community challenges and opportunities against an increasingly challenging financial backdrop facing the council....those challenges and opportunities vary greatly and therefore a priority must be to develop solutions that allow local voices to be heard in terms of shaping the services offered by HLH for the future."*



Steve previously worked for Highland Council as Head of People and ICT. He is an RAF Veteran with his last role in service being as HQ Air Command. He amassed more than 4500 flying hours on the Nimrod jet in the RAF and took part in several operational overseas tours including Afghanistan and Iraq.

**MLG is delighted that Highlife Highland joins their team.**

Thank you and farewell ...

We sadly say goodbye to Jo Lenihan, Project Officer for the Highland & Moray Armed Forces Covenant. Jo's commitment and energy was contagious and the support she has given will be greatly missed.




Highland would like to wish her well on her journey ahead and thank her for the tremendous contributions and difference she has made to our Armed Forces Community here in Highland.

**Getting It Right for  
Forces Children  
In Highland**





**We want to hear from you!**

**Your voices and views are important to us**

Email: [louise.kinnear2@highland.gov.uk](mailto:louise.kinnear2@highland.gov.uk)

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



# Awareness and Understanding of our Armed Forces Communities Presentations to Highland Community Planning Partnerships

Delivered by Jo Lenihan, Project Officer for the Covenant and Lou Kinnear Military Liaison Group (Education) Lead for Highland Council.

- \* creating a wider understanding of the Armed Forces population within each of the 9 Community Partnerships
- \* Awareness and understanding of The Armed Forces Covenant and Highland's commitment and promise.
- \* creating awareness of Highland Council's Military Liaison Group (Education) that was formed to ensure the equity and equality for our children and young people from Armed Forces families within Highland.

We are delighted to share that these presentations are being well received. Already plans in some areas are being considered and reviewed to ensure Highland's Armed Forces population is being heard and supported: Locality Plan, Adult Plan, Child Plan

## *Participation, Engagement, Relationships, Integration*

The Scottish Government describe Community Planning as "... about how public bodies work together and with the local community to plan for, resource and provide or secure the provision of services which improve local outcomes in a local authority area, with a view to reducing inequalities."



**It's happening in Highland .....**  
**we would be delighted if you want to get involved**  
**Email: [Louise.kinnear2@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Louise.kinnear2@highland.gov.uk)**



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## **Come Dancing with Poppyscotland**

**in Association in Toe 2 Toe Dance**

is back for 2020 and has raised £50,000 since it started 2 years ago! The event is at the MacDonald Drumossie Hotel on Saturday February 2020.

Tickets £29 each inc arrival drink, 3 course buffet, disco until 1am and of course...

**FABULOUS STRICTLY STYLE DANCING.**

For more information/tickets,  
please contact Frances on:

Tel: 01463 701764

