

# Awards Network News and Information Update - March 2018



Welcome to the latest Awards Network News and Information update, for and about the Awards Network and its Members!

Contributions welcome for next Update to [contact@awardsnetwork.org](mailto:contact@awardsnetwork.org) by Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018

## Employers need to be Awards Aware



**GLASGOW**  
Developing the  
Young Workforce

Thanks to DYW Glasgow for the opportunity to publish a blog from the Awards Network. The blog calls on employers to *'recognise what youth awards entail and value youth awards as evidence of skills, aptitudes and attitudes that are vital to their workforce. Recruitment practice that gives at least as much attention to a young person's wider achievements as to exam results could pay substantial dividends.'* Read the blog [here](#).

## Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday John Muir Award

Launched on 26<sup>th</sup> February 1997, a celebration to mark 21 years of the John Muir Award was held in Dunbar on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Speaking to a gathering of over 100 guests from across the UK, Ian McLaughlan, Chief Executive of Youth Scotland, congratulated the John Muir Trust on this significant milestone for their award. He highlighted growing recognition of the value of youth awards to the learner journey, the positive impact of youth awards on young people and thanked John Muir Award colleagues for their support to the work and development of the Awards Network. Read more about the celebration event [here](#).



## Young Enterprise Scotland – Company Programme Awards

The **BIG** week has arrived at last for the first of the [Young Enterprise Scotland](#) Company Programme Local Area Finals taking place, with events happening in Forth Valley, Dunbartonshire and Renfrewshire this week alone.



These are always exciting days as months of hard work from students and volunteers culminate in a Local Area Final that will decide which company from the local area will progress to the Scottish Final at Hampden on 6th June. This [short film](#) from last year's final gives a flavour of what lies ahead.

It is even more special in this year, Scotland's Year of Young people, that we will have a finalist from each of our Local Areas (coverage across all 32 Local Authorities) with activity again to the fore in both the Western Isles and the Borders. Check out [events near you](#).

## Kingussie High School's approach to profiling employability skills and wider achievement



## Learning blog

This DYW 'interesting practice' [exemplar](#) provides an overview of the profiling format adopted by Kingussie High School. It also outlines the schools systematic approach to capturing and reporting learners' wider achievement. The school has fully embraced wider achievement, recognising the importance and value of recording youth awards and other wider achievements from within and outside school, supporting DYW / employability goals. The [Curriculum Drives Attainment Paper](#) provides food for thought. Definitely worth reading and sharing!

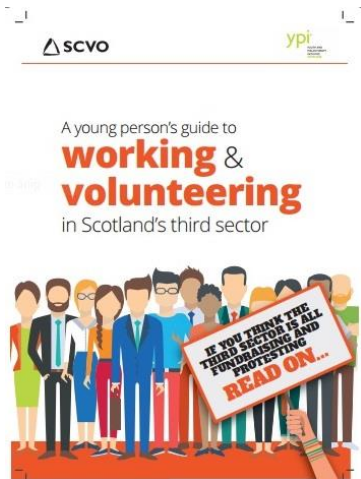
## St. Machar Academy - Using Outward Bound to Develop Employability Skills



Alasdair MacGregor, Deputy Head at St. Machar Academy, Aberdeen, identifies the top 5 employability skills that pupils learn through Outward Bound as Organisation, Working with Others, Resilience, Communication, Planning and Resource Management. Read more in this [blog](#).

The Outward Bound [Adventure Fund](#) can meet up to 50% of the cost of individual young people attending an Outward Bound Summer Adventure. Applications for the current year are still being accepted.

## A Young Person's Guide to Working and Volunteering in Scotland's Third Sector



Did you know that there are 130,000 directly paid staff in Scotland's Third Sector – a figure comparable with NHS Scotland – collectively making it one of Scotland's biggest employers? This and other interesting facts can be found in a new [SCVO publication](#) for young people launched at The Gathering 2018.

Supported by YPI (Youth Philanthropy Initiative Scotland) it seeks to inform young people about what the Third Sector is and does; its scale and reach; and the breadth of roles and career possibilities the Third Sector might offer.

It also highlights a wide range of benefits that volunteering can offer young people, including skills for work and nationally recognised awards. With volunteering being an important element in many youth award programmes, this guide can help young people

recognise added value and the transferable skills that youth awards can provide.

## Free Event! - Mental Health and Youth Expeditions

With expeditions a feature of many youth awards Toby Clark of the John Muir Award wishes to bring the following to the attention of members:

The [Young Explorers' Trust](#) (YET) is organising a Forum on Mental Health and Youth Expeditions on Saturday 21 April 2018 at Loretto School in Musselburgh, near Edinburgh (Pinkie Campus on Linkfield Road in Musselburgh, EH21 7RE) commencing at 9.30am and finishing about 3.30pm. Lunch is included and parking is readily available within the gates where all visitors will be met.

Speakers will explore the occurrence of mental health issues in young people today, the likely causes of these and the positive role that schools and other youth organisations can play in helping to combat this by involving young people in life-enhancing wilderness expeditions both in the UK and abroad. There will also be an opportunity for a question and answer session relating to any youth expedition topics. There is no charge for attendance at the YET Forum but please let Nigel Bidgood ([ncbidgood@aol.com](mailto:ncbidgood@aol.com)) know if you are coming to help with logistics and catering numbers for the day.

## National Youth Work Awards 2018



As this Newsletter goes out, many are on tenterhooks awaiting the results of the 2018 National Youth Work Awards to be announced at a gala event organised by YouthLink Scotland in Glasgow this evening.

This event is a fantastic showcase for youth work in Scotland and a great celebration of those who make it happen. Congratulations and best wishes to all the finalists!

## #awardsaware

The latest organisations to declare as Awards Aware include Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority; South Ayrshire Council; Turnbull RC High School; British Brain Bee and Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface.



Have you tweeted an image of your certificate yet? Help us to promote [Awards Aware](#) ..... and your awards too!

## Awards Network Meetings



The next Full Members Meeting will take place on **24<sup>th</sup> April 2018** (11.00am to 2.00pm), hosted by Boys' Brigade Scotland at their Scottish Headquarters, Carronvale, Larbert, [FK5 3LH](#)

Meetings for the rest of 2018 are scheduled as 4 September (Edinburgh) and 4 December (Glasgow).

**Jim Duffy**  
**Awards Network**  
**15 March 2018**