

IONAD ACHADH NA CREIGE



THE ROCKFIELD CENTRE

SEPT 2021- AUG 2022



Over the past year, The Rockfield Centre has tried to cram as many events and activities as possible into the events programme. The large open spaces continue to adapt and flex to the needs of the community and our programme.

The Centre is now doing exactly as planned, functioning as a welcoming hub for the the community to meet, learn, experience and enjoy a wide range of activities.

Over the year The Rockfield Centre saw the staff team changing and growing to accommodate the operations of a busy town centre hub.

This year has seen us responding to community requests to support the response to the Ukraine appeal whilst also moving forward the existing plans to open our Heritage Kids Space; expanding our Wellbeing and Arts programme; removing the office hut and more recently opening the Cafe.

By talking and taking feedback from our users and listening to what they say about the programme of activities at The Rockfield Centre we are able to evaluate the impact the project is continuing to have across our four main themes:

Arts & Culture; History & Heritage Education & Enterprise Community Wellbeing.

This report gives just a taster of some of the activity that has taken place over the last year.

IN NUMBERS

IN PERSON TRC
ACTIVITIES
5939

INSTAGRAM
1200

FACEBOOK
3800

£66,632
MONETARY VALUE
CONTRIBUTED

4200
VOLUNTEER HOURS

ARTS

This year the Centre has been filled with all sorts of music, theatre and dance as well as an array of very popular workshops.

We have been fortunate to have had support from various funders which has subsidised our "live acts" in the Oak Studio. We opened the year with Horse MacDonald supported by a young local musician giving audiences not just great local gigs but enables us to also support local artists to reach new audiences and make national connections.

The funding received also allowed us to continue to keep ticket costs at reasonable rates. We continue to offer some free sessions or as a minimum offer free spaces for those less able to pay. This maintains our wish to widen access to audiences of all ages and give opportunities for all to attend very high quality cultural activity on our communities doorstep.

"keep music alive- can heal sad moods"



Picture courtesy Kevin McGlynn

PERFORMANCE

3 THEATRE

1 DANCE

6 MUSIC GIGS

4 EXHIBITIONS

7 ARTIST TALKS

16 WORKSHOPS

Our corner of colour dye garden once again has been busy with various projects relating to heritage, arts and wellbeing.

The bespoke Hawthorn Studio has seen our tutors offer a variety of workshops including print, drawing, sewing and bookbinding.



WELLBEING

Although wellbeing has always been part of the overall ethos this is the first year we have been able to have a staff member dedicated to this theme. Over the year workshops included seasonal arts, wellness skincare, drumming and creative walking.



3 CLUBS

However, the added bonus has been the clubs that have been established offering people the ability to meet whilst participating in our knitting, music or games clubs all taking place as just simple social gatherings.

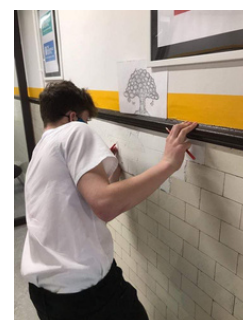
"great way to spend an afternoon"

"this group has given me so much support"

14 WORKSHOPS

Prior to the summer break the very successful creative wellbeing project in partnership with OHS expressive arts saw our corridors brightened with "wall art wellness."

Other work with partners in wellbeing included support to delivery of workshops with North Argyll Carers and The Ardchattan Centre



HERITAGE

It has been a very busy year for our heritage theme with the opening of the Kids Space being a highlight. A new project part of Heritage Horizons saw another map created with support from our heritage hunters. This map joins our growing collection of heritage resources on line.



Our Young Archaeology Club, established as an on line group in 2020/21 could finally meet with their tutors and guests face to face in the building.

"perfect for the kids, we love joining in"

2 EXHIBITIONS 5 WORKSHOPS 2 CLUBS



Oban Heritage Hunters are now a well established group managing the collection of books, artefacts and books whilst also curating 2 heritage exhibitions.



Seven years ago our heritage volunteers co created a plan which would provide a space to tell the story of Oban. This year the plan came to life and our now open Kids Space - Aite na Cloinne was ready to welcome children 0-10.

This new attraction for Oban encourages children to use their own imagination to interact with the displays and hopefully carers and children to learn just a little bit of the heritage of our town.

The year review would not be completed without a mention of our very popular Heritage Blethers whose audience continues to grow.



EDUCATION / ENTERPRISE

As part of the growing collaborations with UHI and SAMS we were delighted to host the Liminal Zone exhibition.

" fantastic project, could have sat and listened to the waves and prayer bowl all day"

As part of British Science week we were joined by various partners as we hosted our very popular Simply Seaweed Festival which celebrated the heritage and uses of seaweed -past and present.

The early summer saw visits from local primary schools participating in art and heritage activities



PARTNERSHIPS/ EVENTS

With operation now well underway we have hosted and supported the delivery of many larger local and national activities - The Hyperbaric Conference, Oban Winter Festival, Feis Latharna, Oban Music and Dance Piping, Oban Sea Shanty Festival, The Argyllshire Gathering Piping Competitions and the many groups and organisations activities.

A great deal of this activity could not have progressed without our band of volunteers who are willing to roll up their sleeves and muck in to help our small dedicated staff team.



Our charity shop and bookbank continue to function on a completely voluntary run basis. Both the shop and bookbank remain an important asset to our community. The summer saw the opening of the Rowan Room Cafe which is now used regularly by some of our own clubs and other groups to gather..

"Beautiful cosy space for people to meet "



CAFE OPENS AUGUST 2022



Photo courtesy Kevin McGlynn



We would like to thank every one of you who has taken time to read this report whether a member, a funder, a donor, a volunteer or a participant
The Rockfield Centre.

With your support this vibrant venue continues to grow and thrive
Please continue to act as our ambassadors by telling people far and wide about
The Rockfield Centre

Help us be the venue that continues to make a difference to
peoples lives for Oban and beyond

Contact general@therockfieldcentre.org.uk

www.therockfieldcentre.org.uk

Registered Charity SC045503