

Orkney

What's going on • Summer 2017

Scottish autism

Emily's Trip to Caithness

On a Saturday in early April, Emily went across to Caithness on the Hamnavoe short sea crossing with support from our staff. She appeared to enjoy being on the ferry but the 90 minute crossing could not end soon enough because Emily was so eager to get to the train, as she really likes trains (a lot!). Emily, although non-verbal, clearly demonstrated how excited she was about the trip on the train. When in Caithness, Emily spent some time in playparks and went for a walk in Dunnets Forest, where she experimented with climbing trees.



Thomas and Andrew's Fundraising



A massive thank you to staff members Thomas and Andrew who have raised a fantastic £2,177 for Orkney services by taking part in a skydive! Thomas and Andrew travelled all the way down from Orkney to St Andrews to take part – well done both!

Ryan's work experience at Barnhouse



In April, Ryan spent two days at the Barnhouse Neolithic Village, working with other young people, professional stone masons and restoration experts. Ryan learned about the history of Barnhouse and how it was discovered by Professor Colin Richards, who came to give a talk to the volunteers. He was told about field walking and has been offered the opportunity to do this again in the future. It was during a field

walk that Professor Richard's dog, Rufus, started to dig and he came across part of the walls making up the Barnhouse village. Ryan worked with the stone masons and learned how to reconstruct stone walls to maintain the authentic look of the buildings.

Ryan said that he enjoyed the experience of working at Barnhouse and would like to be involved in similar projects in the future – as long as the weather is better!

Knowledge Share is coming to Orkney!

Orkney has been chosen as one of the locations for this year's Scottish Autism Knowledge Share Seminars.

The aim of the events is to create a forum where we can communicate directly with parents, carers, professionals and individuals with autism. We deliver practical information on a range of issues that directly impact on the quality of life and wellbeing of individuals on the spectrum and their families.

The first seminar went really well and there are still two to go: Voice, Participation and Involvement on 31 October and Relationships and Sexual Health on 27 February 2018. Places are just £20 each and each event runs from 9.30am – 12.30pm.

For more information, please pop into the Scottish Autism Office, 26 Bridge Street, Kirkwall or visit the Scottish Autism website www.scottishautism.org/knowledgeshare



For more information about our services in Orkney,
please contact 01856 877969 or email orkney@scottishautism.org

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autism

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