



# For Inverness Area's Children Local Bulletin No.5

## *Integration Manager*

As most of you will know, Sue Roddick has now taken up her secondment as Integration Manager and has relocated to the Area Education Office with Kay. So far, no one has replaced Sue as Senior Family Liaison Officer for Inverness East, and she has been 'straddling' both posts. Her feet have yet to touch the ground!

Telephone number for Sue and Kay is now  
**01463 663822**

e-mail addresses remain the same:

[sue.rodick@highland.gov.uk](mailto:sue.rodick@highland.gov.uk)

[kay.ballantyne@highland.gov.uk](mailto:kay.ballantyne@highland.gov.uk)

## *Changes all round...*

Congratulations to Valerie Gunn, who has accepted a post as an LAC Education Link Worker. It is hoped that the vacant Senior Family Liaison Officer posts will be filled soon.

Congratulations and welcome to Malina Macdonald who has now commenced in her role of Play Development Officer, based in the Old School at Clachnaharry.

## *Children's Services Workers*

...attended a "4-way" introductory course on 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> February at Inverness Caledonian Thistle Stadium encompassing -

- Emotional Intelligence and "Lessons for Living";
- Health Behaviour Change;
- Solution-focused ways of working; and
- Myers Briggs applications.

A further course took place on 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> May at Ross County Football Stadium to explore the issues of Challenging Behaviour. Both courses were well attended and special thanks go to the Facilitators/Trainers -

- Peta Barber
- Jim Kane
- Alan Richards

## *Professional Development*

The Multi-Disciplinary Network Seminar on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2004 focused on 'Health Issues'. The day was extremely well-attended by all Agencies and the response very positive.

The most recent Network Meeting was held on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May when Colin Macaulay (no, he's not getting away from us) introduced the Children's Services Plan / For Highland's Children 2. The following "Themes" were explored in the first Workshops:

- Supportive families
- Safe
- Achievement
- Healthy
- Play and Leisure
- Positive Contribution

...and the following "Age Bands" were considered in the second Workshops:

- Early Years and Parents
- Primary School Age
- Secondary School Age
- Post-school/Youth Strategy

A good cross-section of delegates attended and the workshops gave a good opportunity for different agencies to get together to discuss common issues.



*Look out for various updated/more complete versions of the Plan over the Summer months.*

## *Professional Development/ Cont'd....*

You can also look out for copies of the Executive's draft guidance for integrated children's services planning. Contact [kay.ballantyne@highland.gov.uk](mailto:kay.ballantyne@highland.gov.uk) or [sue.rodick@highland.gov.uk](mailto:sue.rodick@highland.gov.uk) in the first instance.

***Please note that the next Network Meeting on the issue of School Liaison Group development, which was due to be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept, has been postponed until 6<sup>th</sup> December.***

Some colleagues will already be aware that these multi-agency meetings can have a significant impact in supporting children, young people and their families through early intervention.

The whole SLG process is still in its 'forming' stages - however, significant developments will be required in the near future that will further enhance the pivotal role and utilisation of these meetings.

Prior to the Network meeting in December it is envisaged that several planning meetings will be taking place to look into SLG structure and processes. These meetings will be invaluable in the planning of the Network Seminar.

## *NCSA Manuals and DVDs*

A few copies of these manuals and DVDs remain. If you have not received a copy, please contact Kay.

## *Easy Guide*

An updated edition of the Easy Guide is now available via the hyperlinks shown below:

[http://ntintra1/educ/new\\_community\\_schools/inverness\\_ncsa.htm](http://ntintra1/educ/new_community_schools/inverness_ncsa.htm)  
and  
[http://www.highland.gov.uk/educ/new\\_community\\_schools/inverness\\_ncsa.htm](http://www.highland.gov.uk/educ/new_community_schools/inverness_ncsa.htm)

The Guide is being constantly revised so please forward any omissions/corrections or requested inclusions from other Agencies and e-mail ([kay.ballantyne@highland.gov.uk](mailto:kay.ballantyne@highland.gov.uk))

## *Neil Gunn Writing Competition 2004 Congratulations!*

...to the following Inverness Primary Schools' prize-winners:

Lucy Church, Kirkhill - 1<sup>st</sup> Prize  
Gina Membury, Duncan Forbes - 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize  
Holly McLaughlin, Teanassie - 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize

and to the following Secondary School prize-winners:

Laura Guthrie, Glen Urquhart High - 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

The competition had a record number of entries this year, nearly 1200, almost twice the previous high, so the fact that the top 3 places in the Primary School Groupings all went to Inverness schools is brilliant! Well done girls!

A special winners ceremony is to be held at Dunbeath Heritage Centre on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2004 (the Centre was the only school Neil Gunn ever attended!)

## *Health Promoting Schools*

Sue is currently carrying out accreditation visits, together with colleagues from HPS.

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Tel: 01463 704960

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Tel: 01463 704780

Highland Wellbeing Alliance is holding a seminar on "Showcasing Highland Health" on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004. Some of the recent schools awarded Health Promoting Schools status will be presented with their awards during the seminar.

## *Healthy Highland Week 21-25 June '04*

The week cracks off to a great start with a day of visits and presentations for a group of colleagues from other local authorities throughout Scotland, who are interested in seeing how we do it in the Highlands.

Lindsay Graham, Health Promoting Schools Development Officer, has created a hugely diverse programme for the day on 21<sup>st</sup> June, including visits to Ross County Football Club and Alness Academy, covering aspects such as 'Life Skills through Sports', Health Promoting Schools and Community Safety, amongst others.

The Health Information Resources Website - [www.healthyhighlanders.org.uk](http://www.healthyhighlanders.org.uk) will identify other events that will take place during the Healthy Highland Week.

### *The Janny's Hoose*

Jean Mackay, the Project Co-ordinator, reports that the Janny's Hoose was set up to help the people of Merkinch help themselves to a greater sense of well-being and better health. This is done through

- providing workshops, groups and taster events covering cookery and eating well, personal development and support for parents.
- supervising the daily brushing of teeth for children in Merkinch Primary School.
- drop in sessions for antenatal care, mums and babies, stress, weight loss and a general coffee morning.
- exploring how people can use complementary therapies to help themselves.

The Janny's Hoose works in collaboration with many local agencies. The premises are available free for any health related purpose; this includes evening and weekend use. There is a small crèche for some activities as lack of suitable childcare in the area is a major stumbling block.

For further details, please contact Jean at The Janny's Hoose, Telford Road  
[jean.jannyshoose@scotnet.co.uk](mailto:jean.jannyshoose@scotnet.co.uk)  
Tel: 01463 226348

### *Child Protection Seminar*

As everyone will be aware, there was a huge response to the proposed Child Protection Seminar in Inverness on 4<sup>th</sup> May. So much so that we had to split the event between the Inverness Thistle Hotel and the Lochardil House hotel in order to accommodate the 240 or so delegates and facilitators. The Inverness Thistle Hotel, in particular, pulled all the stops out to make additional provision for those who 'turned up on the off-chance' and no-one went hungry at lunchtime.

A very last Roadshow is to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2004 at Tulloch Castle Hotel in Dingwall. It is hoped that everybody who missed the other events will be able to attend.

If you would like to reserve a place please contact [kay.ballantyne@highland.gov.uk](mailto:kay.ballantyne@highland.gov.uk)

N.B. Reminder to those SWS colleagues who attended a Roadshow - You should record 3 hours in your Personal Development Training record for registration purposes!!