

Fun and frolics thanks to a Trefoil Holiday Grant

In 2009, the Trefoil Grants committee approved grants totalling over £10,000 which were awarded to 30 recipients.

As a result of economic conditions, there was a slight dip in applications earlier in the year but latterly, they rose again to near normal levels. Unfortunately, due to the credit crunch even with the help of a grant, it would appear that some families found it impossible to finance a holiday. Applications are again regularly coming in but we still find that the majority of them come from south of the border and we are at a loss as to why this should be! However, no matter where they come from, it seems that everyone concerned has a great time when they get to their chosen holiday destination as you can see from their holiday snaps. For more information and Holiday Grant criteria go to www.trefoil.org.uk/what_we_do.html



Darryl Murray fancies being an engine driver in Cornwall



Simon Harper meets a feathered friend in Puerto Rico

A message from the Chairman



Welcome to the first Trefoil newsletter of 2010. If this is the first time you have received a copy, then I hope you find it interesting and that you will become a regular reader and supporter of Trefoil. To those of you who are old friends of the charity, it is great to speak to you again and bring you up to date with what has been happening over the last few months.

First and foremost, I know that you will be anxious to hear of any progress on the negotiations in connection with Trefoil House. I would love to be able to tell you that everything is moving on apace, but as so often happens with these matters, it is taking longer than we had anticipated. We remain positive, however, and hopeful of a successful outcome to negotiations and I will keep you posted as to progress.

Sadly, we are currently without the services of our Chief Executive, David McArthur, who, in his role as Colonel of 205 Field Hospital, is currently in command of the hospital at Camp Bastion, Afghanistan. Some of you may have seen a recent BBC programme reporting on the fantastic work carried out there by David and his team. We look forward to having him safely back with us in April but, in the meantime, Trefoil Director, Maggie Dawson, has stepped in to hold the fort in his absence for which we are most grateful. My thanks also must go to Trefoil Manager, Denise Gibbons for her tremendous support at this time.

As you will see from our events update, the Trefoil Christmas Fair which was held in Guide Headquarters in November raised a fantastic sum of money despite precarious economic times. Both the hall and the various stalls looked so beautifully festive that it really put me in the mood for Christmas and I would like to say a huge "thank you" to Sarah Lansdown and her team for their hard work.

Finally, as always, I would like to acknowledge the part played by all of you who continue to show such support for Trefoil. We simply couldn't do it without you.

Peter Nussey
Chairman

Keeping in touch

We have had a great response to our request in the last newsletter that you let us know if you are getting duplicate mailings, you are receiving mailings that are incorrectly addressed or if you know of someone who would like to be kept up to date with Trefoil but is not receiving any information at all. This has allowed us to carry out a major clean-up of our database. As a result, it is now much leaner (which will save us money on postage) and, we hope, be a great deal more accurate. However, we are continually updating our records and so, if you are still encountering any difficulties with our mailings or would like us to amend your details, we would be grateful if you would return the form below, to Trefoil along with the original mailing label and details of the amendments to be made.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Details of corrections: _____

A new Trefoil Garden

Trefoil recently awarded a Development Grant of £6,000 to Stobhill School which is part of the Skye House Unit at Stobhill Hospital in Glasgow. Skye House provides in-patient care for young people aged 12–18 years, from across the West of Scotland, who have serious mental health problems. The grant will provide funding to help pupils and teachers landscape a garden to be called "The Trefoil Garden". The garden will be used to promote team building, individual development and as a project management exercise.



Peter Nussey presents the cheque to Linda Brown, Head Teacher at Stobhill School

Jam n' Jar

The 2009 Jam 'n Jar the annual event at which Edinburgh's professional singers, musicians and bands come along and mix and match to provide a truly entertaining jamming session was held at the Minto Hotel on 6th December. Trefoil was most grateful to be one of their chosen charities this year and to receive a cheque for £450.



Jam 'n Jar 2009

Trefoil Christmas Fair

This year's Christmas Fair was held in Guide Headquarters on a most inclement day in November. Our heartfelt thanks go out those of you who braved the elements to come along. Inside the hall everything was so festive that you could put the weather right out of your mind! The event raised over £3,000 thanks to the efforts of Sarah Lansdown and her team of helpers and stallholders. We were delighted that Liliias Finlay, who has done so much over the years to build this event up into the success that it now is, had recovered enough from a recent illness to be able join us for a short time. It would just not have been the same without her there.

Helping Rural guiding in Central America

As we reported in the last newsletter, Trefoil is helping the Worldwide Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to fund a rural guiding project in Nicaragua and Honduras. This has now been initiated and we have received our first progress report.

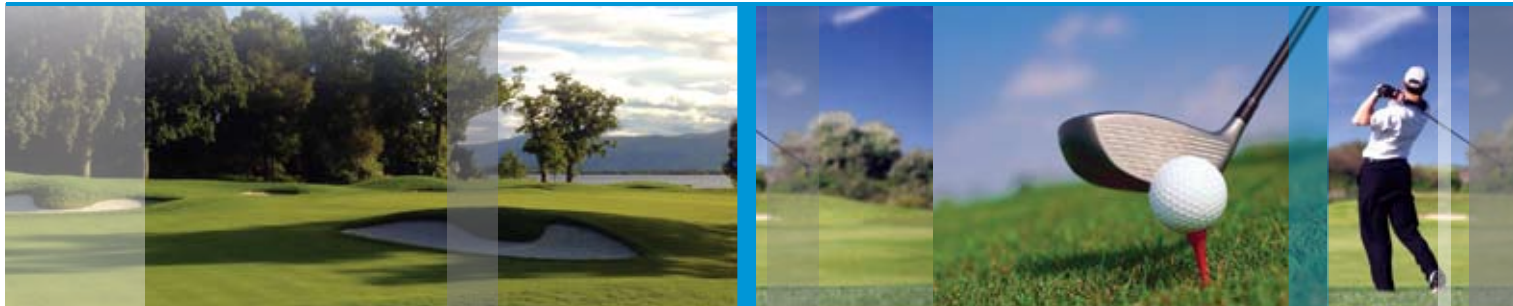
A varied programme of training in topics including self esteem, sexuality, rights and responsibilities, environmental conservation, leadership and prevention of violence against women and girls has been organised. Workshops in jewellery making proved particularly popular, as many girls had not had the chance to participate in this type of creative workshop before. The diversity of these events indicates the variety of ways that the guiding programme enables girls to become more confident, informed and discover their potential. The guides of Honduras have been doing some particularly interesting work with a group of girls with special needs in Juana Leclerc, adapting the training about sexuality to ensure that the training was explained in a way that they could engage with.

Unfortunately, the aftermath of the political coup in Honduras has continued to have an adverse effect on the project. The Guides of Honduras continue to show great resilience and commitment to the project, however, and although the total number of girls and women that have been reached is fewer than they had hoped, they are supporting 11 new groups of guides, which is a good achievement under the circumstances. In particular, it highlights that the National Association acknowledges the need for ongoing support to the new groups to consolidate them.

The Girl Guides of Nicaragua have continued to strengthen their reporting skills and are being strengthened as an association through running this project. Incorporation of an environmental community service element to the programme of the girls is a good innovation, enabling the girls to embrace the long heritage of giving service and caring for the planet as part of Guiding.

Getting in the Swing

Summer may seem like a long way off still and certainly the weather has not been the best for getting out on the golf course recently, but here at Trefoil preparations for the Trefoil Golf Tournament 2010 are well under way. The date for your diary is 8th June 2010 and the event will once again be held in the wonderful surroundings of The Royal Burgess Golfing Society of Edinburgh. For the early birds amongst you who get your bookings in before 30th April, the entrance fee will again be £390. For bookings received after that date the fee will be £420 per team. Full details can be found on the entry form at the back of this newsletter.



Trefoil Golf Tournament

Tuesday 8 June 2010

The Royal Burgess Golfing Society of Edinburgh

Golf 4 Grants – helping self-development in young people with disabilities

Teams of four invited – Tee times 9.30am – 12.30pm

Limited individual entries welcome for mixed teams*

(*Please contact Denise Gibbons for availability – details below)

I/we would like to enter a team/s of 4

(this includes morning coffee and carvery lunch)

@ £390.00 per team for bookings made before 30 April 2010. Thereafter, £420 per team

I/we would like to sponsor a competition hole

(this includes your company name at the sponsored hole and in the programme distributed to all players)

@ £100.00

I/we will provide a prize for the raffle and will confirm the prize as soon as possible

I would like to make a donation to the Trefoil Grant Fund of £

I enclose a cheque for £ made payable to "Trefoil House"

Name

Contact Name

Company

Address

Postcode

Telephone No

Email

Please return to Denise Gibbons at Trefoil. Enquiries to Denise on 0784 0909501 or email dg@panoplyevents.co.uk

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