



End of Year Report 24/25

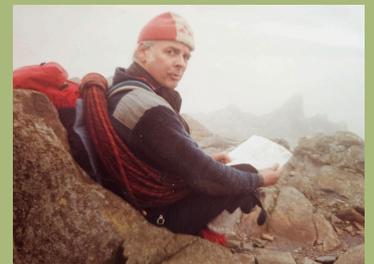
OVERVIEW

- Over 400 young people benefitted
- New Trustees
- Oban High School taster day success
- Our wonderful groups
- Thank you to our funders!

Stephen Thomas 1935-2025

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our Founder patron, and co-founder of The Roses Project and Hebridean Pursuits, Stephen Thomas.

As a worldwide expeditioner he left his indomitable mark wherever he ventured. His warm, welcoming, inclusive nature has continued through the work we continue to do to this day. Our hearts go out to his wonderful family and friends across the world for he had many.



Stephen on some of his many adventures



Our work

This year we have supported **422 young people** and 22 adults over 75 days and we have run 5 residentials. We have worked with young people from 13 organisations, 2 of whom were new to Hebridean Pursuits Outdoor Learning.



New Trustees



We are delighted to announce that the Hebridean Pursuits Outdoor Learning Board has been joined by five new trustees: Jill Nicholson, Gill Wright, Robbie Norval, Joanne Watts and Murdo Macdonald bring with them a wealth of experience, a fresh perspective and an impressive skill set that will help Hebridean Pursuits Outdoor Learning progress and thrive in the coming years.

Alternative stats...

Thanks to the support of our funders and the hard work of the Hebridean Pursuits Outdoor Learning staff and freelancers:

Rock faces were
conquered **323** times



300 splashes
were made by
jumping into
the sea!



Wetsuits were
squeezed into
150 times!



And, most importantly,
444 smiles were produced!!



Oban High School taster days

We're always seeking new ways to inspire young people to connect more with the outdoors; with the aim of creating a lifelong passion for outdoor pursuits which we all know is great for positive physical and mental health and wellbeing.

In order to cultivate this passion at a younger age we have piloted a Hebridean Pursuits Outdoor Learning taster day project with the whole of S1 of Oban High School. In October we worked with 117 pupils over four days, who tried out rock climbing and abseiling at a local spot in Ganavan, Oban. It was such a success we are in talks about doing it all over again this year with the new S1 year group!

From the feedback received:

- 71% said they had spent more time outdoors than usual
- 100% said they would encourage others to spend time outdoors
- 86% felt that they now knew more about the outdoors
- 100% said the session has encouraged them to look after themselves better
- 86% - said that they felt more confident to take on new challenges

"Thank you so much....The enthusiasm you have teaching these children shines through they bounce home, buzzing with confidence and excitement. As a parent you can't ask for more than that. Thank you"

"I love being outdoors and learning about nature"

"The sessions have made me feel happier and have encouraged me to go outside more."

