

HALKIRK DISTRICT BENEFIT FUND

SUMMER 2012 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Halkirk District Benefit Fund (HDBF) Newsletter. For those of you not familiar with HDBF, the company was set up in 2004 and funding is provided by Npower Renewables who own the windfarm at Causeymire. The aim of our newsletter is to get our message to more people and make the community aware that funding is available for constituted groups and individuals within the community who wish to apply to become a member, (either as an individual or constituted group). You must live within the Halkirk District Community Council boundary, (this includes Altnabreac, Banniskirk, Calder, Georgemas, Harpsdale, Spittal, Mybster and Westerdale). Applicants should be registered on the electoral roll for the area and complete the appropriate application form which is available at either Halkirk or Westerdale Post Office. **Austerity is not affecting us; the money is there to be given out so nothing will be lost by applying.**

The decision of how funding should be used and distributed is made by the HDBF Directors who meet approximately ten times a year. The current Chairperson is Mrs Kathryn Cartwright and the Treasurer is Mr Norman Fraser. Other Directors are Mr Stuart Mills, Mr Dougie Munro, Mrs Gillian Coghill and Mr David Busby. Over the past seven years many groups and individuals

have benefited from funding from HDBF. In this letter we will focus on those who have received funding most recently.

HALKIRK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Halkirk Primary School have benefited from HDBF Funding on many occasions, most recently for help with transport for school summer trips including the annual trip to Fairburn Activity Centre. The school will soon also benefit from new flooring to the West Wing funded by HDBF.

HALKIRK VILLAGE COUNCIL

Halkirk Village Council have received grant aid from HDBF towards their re-building of the Riverside Walk, much of which had been eroded in the spate of 2006. Below is a photograph of HDBF Directors Dougie Munro and David Busby with some of the members of the Village Council at the Riverside Walk.



HALKIRK PLAYGROUP AND TODDLER GROUP

HDBF are delighted to have been of help to the youngest members of our community. The playgroup and toddler group have benefitted from our funds to purchase various items of equipment to help with play and education. The first grant this year paid for a walkie-talkie set, kidzoom cameras and video cameras, a digital picture frame, camcorder (to record the children) and a personalized chalkboard. They are also about to purchase a range of outdoor equipment. HDBF have also funded transport for their summer trips.



1st HALKIRK GUIDES

The guides are shortly to set off for a girlguiding weekend in Glasgow which again has been partly funded by Halkirk District Benefit Fund. This will allow the girls to meet up with many other girls of their own age from different areas and backgrounds and open a variety of new learning opportunities.

JORDAN BAIN

Jordan who lives in Church Lane, Halkirk has been a member of Thurso Amateur Swimming Club

since 2005. His steady progress has seen him break quite a few club records and he is now a member of the Highland Swim Team. He is now involved in the District Regional Programme (DRP) and his intensive training involves a lot of travel. HDBF were happy to give Jordan a bursary for this. Jordan told us "I have already achieved qualifying times for DRP this year and I hope to continue building on my success to date both locally and at district level. I am also fortunate enough to be going to watch a session of swimming at the Olympics – maybe one day I will compete at it too!



Further information is available from Mrs SylviaReilly, Secretary, on 01847-811375 or email sechbf99@yahoo.com or visit our website at: www.halkirkdistrictbenefitfund.org.uk