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- Apprentice Emergency Gas Responder (SGNI)
- Domestic assistant (Western Isles Health Board)
- Catering Assistant (NHS Stornoway)
- Work Experience Opportunity for a Care Experienced Person (SCRA)
- Time served Joiners (O'Mac Construction)
- Development Worker (Newton Community Association)

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N&W Lewis News

- Sporiad na Mara survey resumes
- New Lewis Revival book to launch

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Barra News

- Bùth Bharraigh celebrates 10th birthday
- Fashion show fun for pupils

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Uist News

- Weather favours ailing MV Loch Portain
- Edge of the World screens at TC
- Supermarket in charity album pledge
- Co-op members raise charity cash
- Benbecula endorsement for Modern Apprenticeships

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Harris News

- Weather favours ailing MV Loch Portain
- Lost campers found by ranger

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For sale, for free

- Double Mattress - free!
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The careers fair included interactive elements, including trying cupcakes from the Cala Hotel Group.

Students look to future at Careers Fair

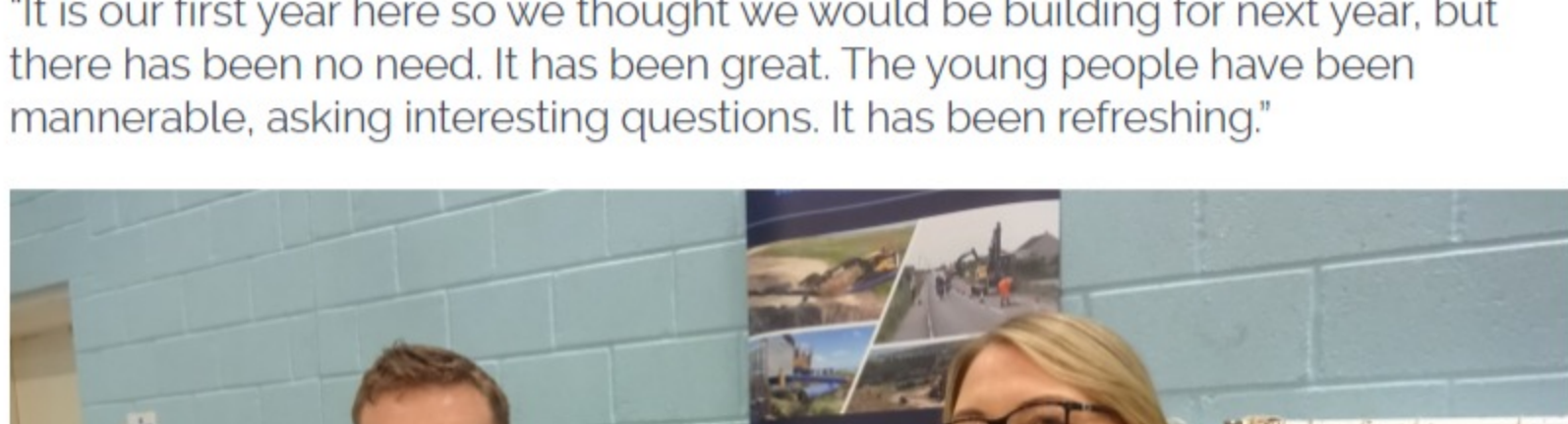
■ CREATED: 15 NOVEMBER 2023

[General News](#)

Students from The Nicolson Institute in Stornoway and Tarbert's Sir E Scott School were given a view of their post-school opportunities at the Lewis and Harris Careers Fair, held at the Lewis Sports Centre today (Wednesday November 15.)

More than 40 different employers and organisations were present at the fair, which was organised by Developing the Young Workforce in tandem with Comhairle nan Eilean Siar as part of Scottish Careers Week. In line with the theme of showing students local opportunities, all stallholders came from or worked on the islands.

Organised by year, the students, who were S1-S6 from the Nicolson Institute and S3-S6 from Sir E Scott, were allowed to freely navigate the hall in order to receive advice, look at what career and apprenticeships opportunities exist in the Western Isles, and learn about less obvious professions in familiar sectors such as hospitality, fishing, and healthcare.



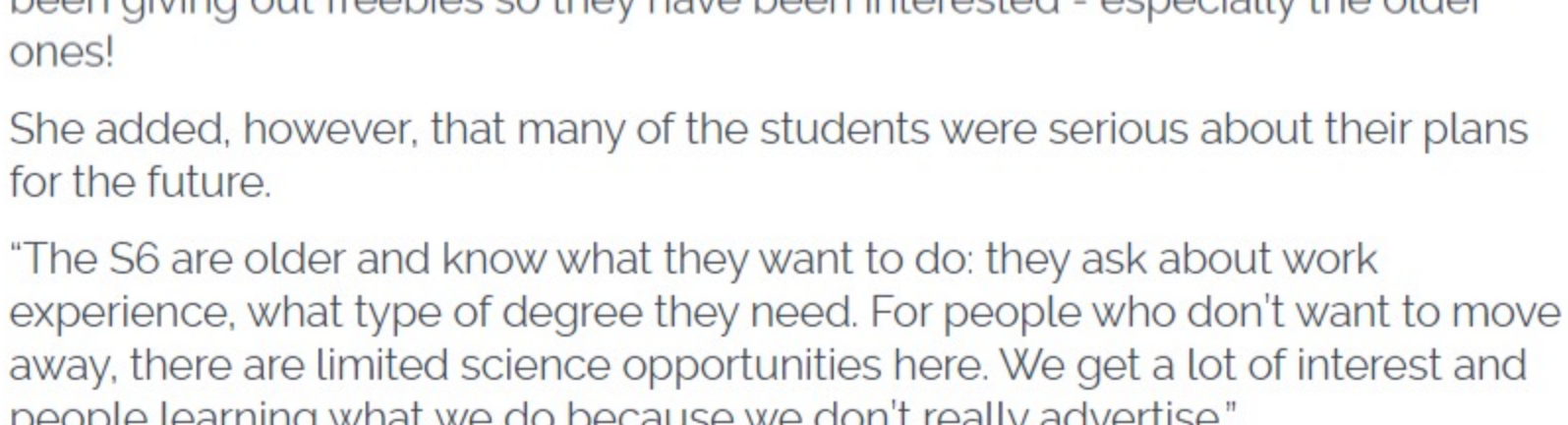
Joanna Maclean and Charlie Stewart of Skills Development Scotland.

A wide variety of literature, interactive elements, and free materials were on hand.

Stallholders were overwhelmingly positive about the chance to speak with the students.

"We have had a phenomenal response," said Jerome Jones and Iain Macleod of Macduff Shellfish.

"It is our first year here so we thought we would be building for next year, but there has been no need. It has been great. The young people have been mannerable, asking interesting questions. It has been refreshing."



Andrew Macleod and Christine Campbell of Macaulay Askernish.

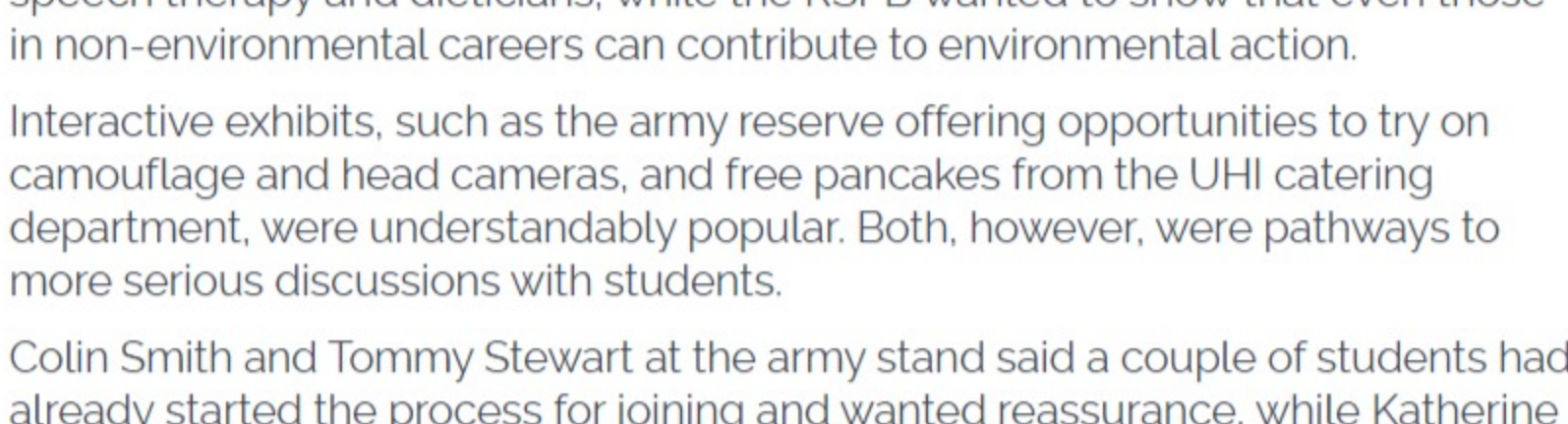
Christine Campbell and Andrew Macleod of Macaulay Askernish echoed the praise, saying they had not had such a fair when they were young. They said S3 and S4 were particularly interested in what was on offer.

"They are hitting the age they can leave. S6 sort of have things figured," Andrew said.

Katie Carmichael of organic skincare company Ishga, which is based in Stornoway, said: "It has been really good, and we have been very busy. We have been giving out freebies so they have been interested - especially the older ones!"

She added, however, that many of the students were serious about their plans for the future.

"The S6 are older and know what they want to do: they ask about work experience, what type of degree they need. For people who don't want to move away, there are limited science opportunities here. We get a lot of interest and people learning what we do because we don't really advertise."



Katie Carmichael of Ishga

For some organisations, the fair offered a chance to change common perceptions of what their work involves. NHS Western Isles had tables on speech therapy and dieticians, while the RSPB wanted to show that even those in non-environmental careers can contribute to environmental action.

Interactive exhibits, such as the army reserve offering opportunities to try on camouflage and head cameras, and free pancakes from the UHI catering department, were understandably popular. Both, however, were pathways to more serious discussions with students.

Colin Smith and Tommy Stewart at the army stand said a couple of students had already started the process for joining and wanted reassurance, while Katherine Lamont Smith and Florence Jansen were part of a UHI presence talking not only about course options, but financial support, student support, and apprenticeships.

"A lot of kids think they go to school then go to university, but we can show what options and career pathways are actually out there. And you can still look at the Highlands and Islands - you do not have to leave the islands to study, you can do it in an island community. In a cost of living crisis that is important," Katherine said.



James Mackenzie of UHI prepares pancakes



Tommy Stewart and Colin Smith of the Army Reserves

Speaking about the fair, Dolina Smith, Employability and Learning Development Manager at Comhairle nan Eilean Siar said: "Scottish Careers Week is designed to help people of all ages explore, understand and manage their career choices and inform them of the services and resources available to them. The economic future of our islands has the potential to be incredibly exciting.

"Through collaboration and partnership work between employers and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, we can make sure that this is a place full of opportunity where our future generations can live, work, and learn."

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Funeral Notices

- Funeral of the late Kenneth Macritchie
- Funeral of the late Dolina Macaskill
- Funeral of the late Alistair S Mackenzie
- Placing Funeral Notices on welovestornoway.com

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Family Notices

- Placing a Family Notice

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Uist community Info

Skittles return to Berneray Hall
Skittles are returning to Berneray Community Hall later this week after the success of a debut...

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Athletics Club fundraising ceilidh
North Uist Amateur Athletics Club is holding a fundraising ceilidh on Friday, December 8, in...

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Family support drop-in at Cothrom
Cothrom is hosting a Family Engagement event next Wednesday (November 22) to capture local opinion on what...

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Gaelic-speaking accommodation required
North Uist adult Gaelic language school, Love Gaelic, is looking for more Gaelic-speaking...

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Update - Nov 17 - Christmas events roundup
Christmas is fast approaching, and we have compiled a list to help you keep tabs on the...

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Berneray Ri Chèile Ceilidh
A Ri Chèile Ceilidh is planned for Berneray Hall on Saturday, November 25. The ceilidh, taking...

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Sollas Week 2024 dates
The ever-popular Sollas Week next year will take place between July 13 and 20, Taigh Sgìre Sholais have...

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Cemetery upkeep fund appeal
Contributions are being sought from each local household for the upkeep and maintenance of...

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Digital camera workshop on machair
If you have a digital camera but are not making the most of it, you may be interested to hear that...

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GCA book sale raises over £500
Grimsay Community Association raised over £500 at their weekend secondhand book sale. After...

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Community Info

Christmas lights to shine through isles
The spirit of the holiday season will soon illuminate the Western Isles as Christmas lights are...

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Marybank and Maryhill Community Association EGM Thursday 7 December
Marybank and Maryhill Community Association EGM
Please come along to the dining room at the Faillte...

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Seasonal grazings for let
SEASONAL GRAZINGS FOR LET (NOT FOR HORSES) Arnish Road Grazings (3.88ha approx) Gress Park (approx...

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New Lewis Revival book to launch
A new book aiming to separate truth from exaggeration in the Lewis Revival is to hold a launch...

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Soup and Pudding Lunch - 25 November
ISLE OF LEWIS CANCER RESEARCH COMMITTEE SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 12:00 - 2:00 M. A. MACLEOD..

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AGM of Western Isles Foyer
The 2023 **Annual General Meeting** of Western Isles Foyer will take place on Thursday 7th December...

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AGM of Third Sector Hebrides and Volunteering Hebrides
NOTICE OF MEETING The 2023 Annual General Meeting of Third Sector Hebrides and Volunteering...

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World Gaelic Week funding available
Funding is again being made available for those wishing to celebrate Seachdain na Gàidhlig (World...

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Islands Book Trust AGM
Islands Book Trust ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be held in person and via the Zoom platform, at...

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UOG publishes annual report ahead of AGM
Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn published its annual report yesterday (Thursday November 2), ahead of...

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