

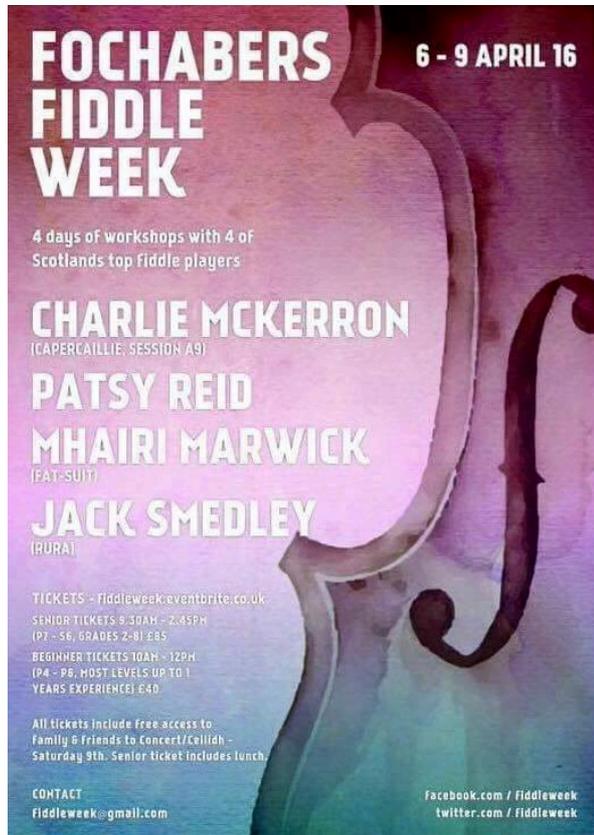
TASGADH

Traditional Arts Small Grants



CASE STUDY FOCHABERS FIDDLE WEEK

Tasgadh Grant Awarded	£1000
Total Project Cost	£4,553
Tasgadh contribution as % of total	22%
No. of beneficiaries	254



Project Update:

Fochabers Fiddle Week (FFW) was established in 2013 with the intention of providing a high quality and intensive musical learning experience for young violin/fiddle players in the areas of Moray, Aberdeenshire and the wider north-east of Scotland.

The FFW was to run for a 4th year in April 2016 and was open to fiddle players of varying abilities from P4 - S6. Participants would be engaged in a range of classes covering all aspects of playing (technique, creating music/arrangements, groupwork) across 4 days. The event would culminate with a concert & ceilidh on the final night when participants would have the opportunity to perform alongside tutors to an audience of friends, family and the local community. More advanced participants would also have the opportunity to play for the ceilidh which is provided by the tutors and guest accompanists.

Brief Resume:

The Fiddle Week was a huge success. With the aid of the Tasgadh fund they were able to guarantee all tutor fees and expenses could be covered without having to compromise any aspect of the event.

They decided to run a new class for students aged 8-10 years old (12 participants) which worked extremely well and they have since had great feedback from local tutors about the positive impact the FFW has had on these students.

In conjunction with these new classes they continued with their usual format for the older

Students (34 participants), which comprised of lessons running from 9.30am – 3pm over four days. The final concert/ceilidh was attended by over 200 local families and friends and featured performances from each group, the tutors themselves and was also bookended by the larger ensemble numbers involving all students.

Outcome/Aims:

The main aims of the FFW are to re-energise the music scene within an area historically renowned for producing talented musicians, particularly fiddle players and to encourage local students and families to engage with traditional music throughout the Fochabers and wider North-East area.

The event is beginning to make very real progress in achieving these goals. The best evidence of that is the fact that numbers of both students and audience have increased each year. This year they completely sold out the event around three weeks before and were still receiving enquiries from students/parents days before the FFW started.

Giving these students the opportunity to work with and perform alongside tutors at the forefront of the traditional music scene clearly has a very positive impact on both students and parents given all feedback that has been received by them since the event. They have also received positive feedback from local tutors who work with these students year round. They have seen a number of students return each year as well as new attendees each time, which shows the event is growing in popularity.