

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2016

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

North West Highlands UNESCO Global Geopark (UK, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription: 2004 / Year of the last revalidation: 2015



Dr Laura Hamlet & Dr Tori Herridge discuss the Moine Thrust at Knockan Crag NNR on Channel 4 documentary

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 4 staffs including 2 geoscientist(s)

Number of Visitors: 15,865 @ Lochinver Visitor Centre. 33,461 @ Durness Visitor Centre 6600 @ Knockan Crag NNR & 8000 at the Rock Stop NWHG Visitor Centre

Number of Geopark events: 28 (Geopark), 106 (partners)

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 2

Number of Geopark press release: 3

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES (bulletize)

Major achievements in 2016

- Event in the Scottish Parliament showcasing the UNESCO wider value report from the Portuguese national commission (With Elizabeth Silva)
- Coigach Assynt Living Landscape Project secured £5million funding for land-management, community, scientific, marine and educational projects
- Appeared in Channel 4 Documentary 'Walking through Time' aired at 20:00, Saturday 24th September.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- Attendance @ UK Committee for UNESCO Global Geoparks
- Attendance @ 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee
- Attendance at the 38th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee,
- Attendance @ 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks
- Attendance at the Global Geoparks General Assembly
- Contribution of articles to the EGN magazine and Newsletters

Management and Financial status

- **Social Enterprise & Registered Scottish Charity**
- **In 2016 a trading subsidiary for the charity was incorporated.**
- **Accounts submitted show the company is solvent.**

Geoconservation

- Attended Geoconservation annual gathering and delivered workshop on Global Geoparks – Geodiversity audits and action plans

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

The North Coast 500 driving route www.northcoast500.com

New Education programmes

- The Soils Fertility Research Program www.nwhgeopark.com/research

Strategic Partnership

- North Coast 500 tourism initiative networking as precursor to formal partnership
- Attendance at UNESCO Wider Value Report celebration event for UK Government in Westminster, London
- Attendance at UNESCO Wider Value in Scotland event in Aberdeen Scotland
- Working to develop a UNESCO sites consortium in Scotland
- Worked with Wester Ross Biosphere to assist UNESCO MaB status

Promotional activities

- Channel 4 Documentary 'Walking through Time' aired at 20:00, Saturday 24th September. Channel 4 regularly get 10% of the 59 million TV viewers in the UK.
- Attended PETEX (Petroleum Geoscience conference with 2,300 delegates) to promote Scottish Geoparks

4. Contacts:

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