



Stirling City  
HERITAGE TRUST

**DYW**

FORTH VALLEY  
Developing the  
Young Workforce



#ScotAppWeek20  
#TalentWithout Limits

# women in construction.

**BANNOCKBURN HIGH SCHOOL  
4 MARCH 2020 | 9-3PM**

**event report**



## event

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### Aims

The event aimed to encourage female high school pupils to consider a career in the construction sector by showing them how varied and rewarding the work can be.

### Event

The majority of speakers and demonstrators were women working in the construction industry, as SCHAT believe that 'you can't be what you can't see'. The target audience was female high-school students in the Stirling area from S2-S5. The event coincided with International Women's Day, on March 8th and Scottish Apprenticeship Week.

On the day, pupils tried their hand at a variety of skills including; surveying,

stone masonry, traditional signwriting and earth building. They also heard from apprenticeship officers and recruitment consultants about career paths into the construction sector.

### Organisation

The event was co-organised by Rachael Dorman from DYW Forth Valley, and received funding from the Construction Industry Training Board. The Scottish Traditional Building Forum (STBF) also provided support on the day and debuted their equipment trailer. Historic Environment Scotland (HES) staff member Monica Warwick aided in the delivery and set-up of the equipment trailer, whose transport is funded by HES, in conjunction with John McKinney of STBF.

**Activities Zones:** On the day the 70 attendees split into 3 groups which rotated around 3 'Zones' in timed slots throughout the day. The Zones were as follows:



### zone one: outside

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Pupils engaged with demonstrations/activities on earth buildings, drone flying, engineering, and property surveying.



### zone two: lecture theatre

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A series of 3-minute presentations were given by women working in a variety of roles in the construction industry. Students had the chance to speak face-to-face with demonstrators showcasing a range of construction skills.



### zone three: workshops

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Pupils were able to try out the following Traditional Skills with expert demonstrators; stonemasonry, plastering and signwriting.

## **Exhibitors, Demonstrators, and Speakers**

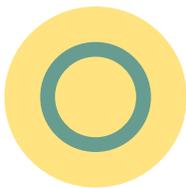
- Sophia Mirahsrafi, HES, Digital Project Officer
- Bonnie Burton, HES, Digital Project Officer
- Tyler Lott, SPAB Scotland
- Emily Brodie, TFT, Building Surveyor
- Emily Hughes, Faithfull+Gould, Project Manager
- Craig Peoples, SDS, Equality Executive
- Cameron Wilson, St Modan's Pupil
- Megan Jardine, Robertson Group, Community Benefits Officer
- Raymond Quinn, CITB, Apprenticeships Officer
- Brett Sinclair, Marshall Construction, Health and Safety Manager
- Mitchell Fotheringham, SCHT, Drone Survey Demonstrator
- David Lindsay, SCHT, Drone Survey Demonstrator
- Kelly Stirling, Contract Scotland, Management Consultant
- Tasha Wood Wakefield, Project Manager, Story Contracting

## **Traditional Skills Demonstrators**

- Ross Hastie and Rachael Hastings, signwriting
- Becky Little, Rebeearth, Earth Building
- Ffion Blench, Chalk, decorative plaster
- Jess Thomson, stonemason
- Lara Townsend, Rock Paper Chisels, stonemason

## **Participating Schools**

- Bannockburn High School, host school
- Wallace High School
- Stirling High School
- Dunblane High School
- McLaren High School



# outcomes



1

## encouragement

Pupils were encouraged to see a career in the construction industry as personally and professionally fulfilling.



2

## understanding

Deepened understanding of Traditional Skills & Materials and the Historic Built Environment amongst pupils.



3

## experience

Participants received practical experience in working with traditional skills & materials.



4

## advice

Participants received career advice from women working in the construction industry providing mentorship and inspirational role models.



5

## knowledge

School staff now have a greater understanding of the variety of roles available (and career paths into) the construction industry.



## statistics

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**57%**  
would consider  
a career in the  
construction  
industry



**STUDENTS**  
enjoyed  
visiting  
the event



**73%**  
hadn't thought  
what jobs exist  
in construction



**TEACHERS**  
Found the  
event helpful

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## most enjoyed activities

94%

Drone Surveying

82%

Clay plastering

90%

Signwriting

88%

Digital documentation

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**78% students felt better  
prepared**

**to make choices about their  
career options as a result of  
the event**

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**100% teachers improved  
knowledge**

**of career pathways and  
options for students in the  
construction industry**



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**80% students would  
consider a STEM subject**

**for future study and career  
options**

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**100% teachers want work  
experience opportunities**

**for students as a useful follow-  
up activity after the event**



## Comments from Pupils

‘Everything was great!’

**Nicole, Wallace High School**

‘Overall, a fun experience’

**Nicole, Wallace High School**

‘Great in general, good fun!’

**Solyse, Dunblane High School**

‘More on different apprenticeships next time thanks’,

**Sophie, Bannockburn High School**

‘More relevance to subject choices please’

**Lauren, Bannockburn High School**

## Comments from Teachers

‘Really well organised with a good range of activities and contributors. All exhibitors engaged really positively with the young people. Would be great to make this an annual event! Thanks for giving us the opportunity to host!’

**Jayne Hamilton,  
Bannockburn High School**

‘Might have been good for there to have been an SDS stall as some pupils had questions about apprenticeships but didn’t want to ask in front of the bigger group. Cracking variety of experiences and chance to play!’

**Kendal Delany, Dunblane High School**

‘Really good! Would love something similar for decorating, wallpapering, plumbing, mechanics at our school!’

**Katy McVicar, McLaren High School**

‘Info on live vacancies would be a good addition. These girls would never have touched this stuff if it hadn’t of been for this event, they are loving it!’

**Fiona Lafferty, SDS Adviser,  
Wallace High School**

‘Please make this an annual event.’

**Rosanna Ciccu, SDS Adviser,  
Bannockburn High School**

**“Overall, a fun experience”  
- Nicole, Wallace High**



## Media coverage Social Media



## Press

### THE NATIONAL

THE NEWSPAPER THAT SUPPORTS AN INDEPENDENT SCOTLAND

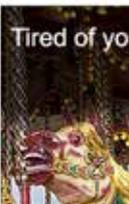
NEWS ▾ POLITICS ▾ COMMENT ▾ CULTURE ▾ COMMUNITY ▾ SPOILT ▾ BUSINESS ▾

NEWS

5th March

### Experts showcase skills in bid to get more girls in construction

By Tom Davie | @tomdaveie



### SCN Scottish Construction Now

For the latest news, events & jobs in construction

NEWS BLOG DEVELOPMENT JOBS TENDERS

### Women in construction inspire female Stirling pupils

Published 19 March 2020



Leading women working in Scotland's construction industry aimed to attract Stirling's female high school pupils to take up a career in construction last week.





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