



Day1 Newsletter

Discovering our youth potential

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Our biggest venture yet...

Day1 is excited to be opening a new state of the art Go-Karting arena for Inverness and the Highlands



The Raceway will provide vocational and practical training, work experience and real employment opportunities for Day1ers.



Waiting For the Final Whistle

This year Day1 celebrates its seventh birthday and already is on the way to becoming a financially self-sufficient charity. Plans to open a brand new Go-Karting arena are raring to go with only planning permission to secure before the million pound venture gets underway.

'Inverness Kart Raceway' will be located south of the city centre, at Fairways Leisure. As a relatively small city Inverness does not have the same to offer as other Scottish Cities; it needs more fun, adrenalin and super speed Go-Karts. Day1 plans to bring all this to Inverness by building the only indoor Go-Karting facility in the Highlands. The new facilities will not only enable Day1 to become financially independent but will provide numerous exciting new opportunities for Day1ers and young people in the area.

This enterprising business plan will mean that all profits from 'Inverness Kart Raceway' will be used to fund Day1 and help the charity to further support young people who are failing to thrive at school. The Raceway will provide vocational and practical training, work experience and real employment opportunities for Day1ers. There will also be facilities for corporate training and team building events. 'Inverness Kart Raceway' is not simply a business model but a highly functional social enterprise which will enrich the aim and efficiency of Day1 – to mentor young people towards employment.



Features of the facility will include a covered bitumen track, Fly-over Bridge, 200cc race Karts, Track Snack café and spectator lounge, a changing room area, a drop-in room for young people and a meeting area for business training and social gatherings.

This impressive line-up will cost around one million pounds which will be funded by a number of organisations along with Day1 itself. The majority of the funding is being granted by Social Investment Scotland (SIS), a body which grants funding to organisations that have the potential to make a sustainable social impact.

The SIS were highly impressed by Day1s innovative business plan saying it was one of the most enterprising applications that they have ever received –it seems the two years of hard work and planning is paying off. Other backing came from the Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Highland Opportunity. When the raceway opens Day1 also hope to gain sponsorship from local businesses, providing advertisement and staff discounts in exchange for revenue.

The raceway will generate funding for Day1 for years to come through regular use by local Go-Karting enthusiasts, business parties and tourists to the Highlands. This exciting new venture for the team is a huge milestone for Day1 and is a pioneering development for self-sufficiency among Scottish Charities. Day1 and 'Inverness Kart Raceway' are now keen to secure planning permission and jumpstart their vision into reality.

Why a social enterprise like Inverness Kart Raceway (IKR)?

- In the Highlands approximately 350 teenagers per year will be included on the NEET register (not in education, employment or training category). Day1 currently helps 25 teenagers per year; IKR will enable this number to grow.
- IKR will allow young members of the community to create links and meet new people, building a bridge between the business community and the younger generation
- Young people can use IKR as a platform allowing them to demonstrate their enthusiasm and abilities to local businesses.
- Training in Health & Safety, First Aid, an SVQ1 in Catering and Mechanics will be available – a chance for young people to increase their employability.
- IKR will offer part time employment to 16 young people (10 hours per week each) in catering and marshalling aspects.
- Day1 can operate independently of Government Grants.



Community Pathways Program

Within Inverness Kart Raceways will be a new program aimed at encouraging interaction between members of the community who want to inform and assist young people in areas of employment, work experience and training. Existing partnerships with The Highlands and Islands Fire and Rescue Service, Northern Constabulary, Lifescan, NHS Highland, Scottish Natural Heritage, Inverness College, Inverness Leisure and Highland Council will be developed, and new participants will be encouraged.



Interested in Sponsorship?

Day1 is currently looking for sponsorship for Inverness Kart Raceway. We are keen to involve local businesses in this exciting new venture, sponsoring the Raceway is a perfect way to help support the charity and have some fun at the same time!

For more details please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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Through the eyes of a Mentor

My first meeting with my Day1 mentee and new friend was on 25 Sep 2012. I picked him up and we set off to Rollerbowl and on a new and exciting journey together. Since then neither of us has looked back.

The boy I meet each week and talk to on the phone is a very different person to the one I first met. I was delighted for him to hear that the school had noticed a change in his behaviour and his attitude.

He is now someone who is determined to succeed.

He is in the process of working hard with his teachers to improve his chances of success at his prelim exams. I feel very privileged to share his thoughts and concerns and to share in his journey of self discovery. Yesterday at our weekly meeting over yet another *Burger King* meal he told me how "he wished he had discovered Day1 years ago as it had made such a huge change to his life".

By Malcolm Herron - Mentor to Chaz Horne

Chaz Horne attends Charleston Academy in Inverness, his school are one of a handful of High schools that work with Day1 and help young people discover how they can change their lives for the better...

"On behalf of the school I would like to thank Day1 and Day1 volunteer mentors for working with the young people from Charleston Academy. As a school we see the difference that this work makes. There are numerous examples of this. Recently, a boy from the school started working with a Day 1 mentor. There is a clear difference in the attitude and effort of the boy in school. There is a noticeable increase in his confidence and a bit more optimism from him about his future. Many thanks."