

Team Building & corporate tourism in the Hebrides

September 2008

Forming a team is easy. All you need is two or more people who want to accomplish the same thing. Building an effective and efficient team is another matter. To do that, you must help any number of individuals work together toward a common goat. Challenging? Surely. Done properly, however, the process can be fun and hugely rewarding.

Based in the midst of the Hebrides, Hebridean Whale & Dolphin Trust (HWDT) has been helping groups form better relationships since 1990. It is dedicated to the conservation of Scotland's whales, dolphins, and porpoises and the Hebridean marine environment through education, research and working with Hebridean communities. See



http://video.stv.tv/bc/entertainment-fivethirty-20080731-dolphins/ for the recent STV clip about us. Over the years we've grown into a close-knit family of enthusiasts, united by our love of the outdoors.

We see each team building programme as a real adventure, an opportunity to combine learning and fun in our favourite environment. Programmes take place on our eightberth research vessel, Silurian (pictured), a fully equip research vessel. We show members of every group how to produce better and faster results by working together the best way to persuade them to join the team.

Because each group has different goal, their programmes and achievements tend to vary. Each participant takes away an individual mixture of knowledge and skill. These results can include:

- Building enduring relationships
- Turning adversaries into partners
- Learning to trust others
- Enhanced confidence
- ➤ Higher tolerance for risk
- Improved communication
- Conflict management
- Leadership skills



Because no two groups are exactly alike, we welcome the opportunity to design a programme specifically for you, considering your specific needs and goals.

The Hebrides includes some 550 islands and covers a sea area of over 40 000 km. An area of outstanding natural beauty, it has diverse land and seascapes and abundant wildlife. Due to complex tidal streams, varied topography and the warm waters of the Gulf Stream, Hebridean waters are the most productive coastal area in the UK and contain a rich diversity of marine life. Nearly a third of the world's species of whales, dolphins and porpoises (collectively known as cetaceans) have been reported from these waters, from the occasional mighty blue whale to the tiny resident harbour porpoise – making the Hebrides one of the most important habitats for cetaceans in Europe. Visual and acoustic methodology is used to collect data which can then assist with the prediction of trends and the construction of an effective conservation strategy.

What better location for your next team building expedition?