Gordon Highlanders Museum

WORKING WITH THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS MUSEUM

Third year students had opportunity to undertake a group Work-based Project with The Gordon Highlanders Museum, a self-financed regimental museum based in Aberdeen. Three students, studying Geography, International Relations-Legal Studies and Law, undertook the project with Alice Walton, Learning Manager at the Gordon Highlanders Museum overseeing this.

THE PROJECT

The Gordon Highlanders Museum provides educational trips for schools across the region, focusing on the topics of WW1 and WW2. The Museum wanted a greater insight into why schools in the City and Aberdeenshire did or did not visit the museum. The students began by mapping the schools that had visited the museum in recent years and followed this up with an in-depth survey sent out to teachers from across the region. A key finding of the students work was that transport costs were a barrier to many schools. As a result the Museum was able to secure funding from The Friends of Gordon Highlanders Museum enabling them to provide transport grants to schools. The idea has proven to be successful thus far and with marketing efforts including press coverage, the museum has managed to attract school bookings from as far as 55miles away.

ALICE WALTON, LEARNING MANAGER

The museum greatly benefited from the project in that research the students carried out acted as an outside assessment for the museum and brought to light several issues which had in the past been assumed but never proven. The detailed statistics produced within the student’s report enabled the museum to put forward supporting evidence when applying for funding.

With regards to the students, I found them professional and motivated. I would hope that the research experience the students gained as a team during this project would aid them when individually conducting research as part of a dissertation and could equally prove applicable to the workplace.

I would certainly consider the project a success and do hope to have another group of students back in the museum during 2016-2017.