

Looking to the future for students at the FI Community School

WITH fewer than 4000 people, the Falkland Islands could be regarded as restricted in its choice of careers for young people, however that is not the case judging by what is on offer at the FICS careers' day.

"We're very lucky that so many people have offered so many choices for the children," said Sally Heathman, Careers Development Officer at Falklands College. "It allows children to look at different jobs that they think they definitely would like to do, but also the opportunity to try a job

that they may have heard of and get a taster of it."

The students from FICS have had the benefit of days dedicated to their future careers for many years. In the past, there have been fairs where local businesses exhibited opportunities they had to offer. More recently, the days have taken the shape of timetabled lectures. In this way, students have the chance to ask questions in the classroom based sessions and generally get a better experience. "This is the fourth time we have had a careers' day at FICS,"

said Ali Ford, Careers Lead at Falkland College. "The feedback from the students and the work sector is that they prefer the careers' day."

This year also included 11 'off-site' visits where students were dropped off at various companies to see them at work. It included the Veterinary department as well as the hairdressers, the quarry and the Archives. "It's much easier for some companies and businesses to showcase the careers in the working environment," added Ali.



Above: Dex the sniffer dog gets ready to demonstrate the power of his nose.

Below L-R: Police work in the military; students take part in a murder trial under the watchful eye of Crown Counsel Stuart Walker.



Falklands Watch Group's future green leaders question MLAs

FALKLANDS Conservation Watch Group were given the opportunity to meet, ask questions and hear advice from 6 Members of the Falkland Islands Legislative Assembly on the evening of October 11.

The event allowed the Watch Group members to work towards being awarded their Community Involvement badge which is part of the Watch Group's award scheme which includes other awards such as a camping badge and a restoration badge.

The discussion, during the 90 minute session gave the Watch Group members the chance to see how the democratic decision making process works and to learn about how they can engage in Falkland Islands environmental decision making.

In turn the MLAs were able to hear first hand about which environmental issues were of most concern to some young people in the Falkland Islands.

The meeting was held upstairs at the Museum in front of the wildlife diorama.

This provided a perfect setting for a discussion about all things environment related. The Watch



Falklands Conservation Watch Group gather to grill the Members of Legislative Assembly

Group members had themselves pre-prepared questions on a range of topics which they asked in turn to the MLAs. The evening started with all of the MLAs discussing their favourite things about the Falklands before telling the children about MLA Short's heroic

rescue of a logger duck chick.

The Watch Group then asked questions about the process of environmental decision making finding out from MLAs what they were most proud of and which environmental decisions they had found difficult to make. There

was then a discussion on a range of topics including renewable energy and fossil fuels, habitat restoration, waste disposal and managing invasive species.

The evening ended with the Watch Group asking what advice the MLAs would give them about the environment (they were told to nag their parents about environmental issues) and how they could become green leaders in the future. To this last question the MLAs encouraged the Watch Group by telling them that through their great environmental work as part of the Watch Group they were already good examples of green leaders.

Overall the evening was a great success and was well attended. Despite MLA Roberts joking at the start of the evening that they were ready for a "grilling" the MLAs appeared to enjoy the evening discussing key issues with potential MLAs of the future.

If you would like to find out more about Falkland Conservation's Watch Group please email Glenn Welch on outreach@conservation.org.fk.