

Kilbraur Wind Energy Co-operative

Development Fund 2012



When the Kilbraur Co-op was established, Energy4All used money provided by Falck Renewables to establish a £12,000 development fund to support projects in the local community. The initial £3,000 funding was used to support the primary schools in Brora, Golspie and Rogart with projects that would enhance the school environment and meet criteria relating to sustainable development.

Recently the Co-op's board has been working with the **Highland Hospice** to fund the purchase of a mobile ultrasound scanner for use in the Scottish Highlands. The idea was first suggested by the Co-op's former chairman **Bruce Field** and has largely been developed by Co-op board member **Graham Phillips** working with the Hospice's fundraising director **Andrew Leaver**.

The scanner is for diagnostic purposes and to observe the progress of disease instead of invasive examinations or other much more expensive types of scan. It will also enable doctors to see what is happening during a procedure, for example when drawing fluid from a lung.

There are around 1,500 attendances annually for day care, many patients needing to travel great distances across the Highlands. Also, patients regularly travel from the Hospice to the Raigmore Hospital in Inverness for procedures and tests. These are people who are in the later stages of terminal illness and such journeys involve pain and distress in those least able to withstand it.

The scanner is portable by car and will be used in outreach clinics in Fort William, Thurso, Dornoch and Skye, eliminating the need for many patients to make long trips often with overnight stays. It will also be used in the Hospice and will reduce the number of journeys to the Raigmore Hospital. Trends towards decentralising healthcare suggest that usage of the portable scanner will increase in the future.



A cheque for £9,000 was presented to the Highland Hospice on 27 June 2012 and this will fund the purchase of the scanner plus training in its operation for four doctors. The picture shows Kilbraur board members **John Whitfield**, **Colin Lawrence** and **George Potts** presenting the cheque to the Hospice's fundraising director **Andrew Leaver** (second from left) at a misty Kilbraur Wind Farm.

Colin Lawrence
Kilbraur Co-op Chairman