

Considering some collected views of motivated young people

The following welds together views collected from a series of young people from across the UK. It is included to illustrate the odds stacked against the success of young people in venturing to trade or get a job, even when motivated, qualified and having had no trouble with the law.

Gran is ok, but enough has been said about avoiding debt and not sitting around for a well-paid job to drop into my lap or some celebrity to swan in and hand me money for TV appearances. My mates may not think that working sounds so cool, but it has got to be much better than one of those no-hope apprenticeships or being lumbered with debt after college. I really enjoyed playing around, testing out how to make my stuff – and amazing to find people who would actually part with money for those first ones, and just because those photos on my stuff were of down by the beach here.

Good to stay in bed awhile to think on how to get my photos onto other things to sell to visitors, but I wish autosave found more than just Radio Scotland just now. I'm surprised that people like geologists want to visit Scotland, as I'd thought visitors were tourists or on activity holidays. That chap from the west of Scotland was certainly happy that people with Euros have snapped up berths in the new marina, while the woman from up north was keen to improve things, if that is what a road with no pavements does. The man who talked about planting trees so that things can be made from wood in decades to come was ok, but I still prefer my things to using wood, and visitors would also like my stuff. All I need to do is to sort how to get their dosh, well, once I've sorted eating and keeping warm.

I am not going to speak with people who may nick my ideas, but I would like to go to one of those centres that tourists like to visit and which are established on-line traders. But, even if I had tons of money for bus fares, I'd never get to meet the right people. If I did, I can't even find out beforehand if those places deal only with wholesalers. I'm just not getting far, either in cracking how to sell at fairs and events or even in finding producers who could grow their trading by also producing my stuff – but being happy to keep me on board.

Mum would've told me to join a group so to make contacts, but what a joke. Young people abroad die in their struggle for rights to clean water and paid work, but so many groups in the UK just seem to beg for money and to get people involved in voluntary stuff, completely unaware what an embarrassing turn-off this is to those with little or no income. It's really odd just how few speak out other than to protect their little empires, although that frustrated employer was recently in the press. I agreed with what she seemed to be saying: why produce trillions of brochures that are supposed to attract visitors, but which assume they know how to find places featured? That's so true, especially if they need to travel by bus.

All of this gets me so despondent, even though Dad's loan of ten grand will get me going with my designs - somehow. Good job he got that lottery win, otherwise there'd be no option of a lump sum, and I'd not be here with a warm duvet now to pull over my head while I think. I just wonder ... if tourists come to Scotland only because it has been a film location, then perhaps the only sort of producers left to seek are of films ... **Zzzz**

The above just indicates that a lack of relevant informal contacts can make life bleak and lonely, and vulnerable to low income. More to the point is the waste of energy, waiting to be harnessed.