

ISLE OF GIGHA HERITAGE TRUST

NewsLetter July 2024

The IGHT Board meet the third Monday of every month; therefore, for any correspondence to be considered at these meetings, we ask for it to be submitted at least 1 week prior to give the Board time to review. Correspondence sent within 1 week of the Board meeting will be delayed for review until the following month meeting. Anonymous correspondence will not be considered by the Board.

Contact us by emailing directors@gigha.org.uk

Members Meeting

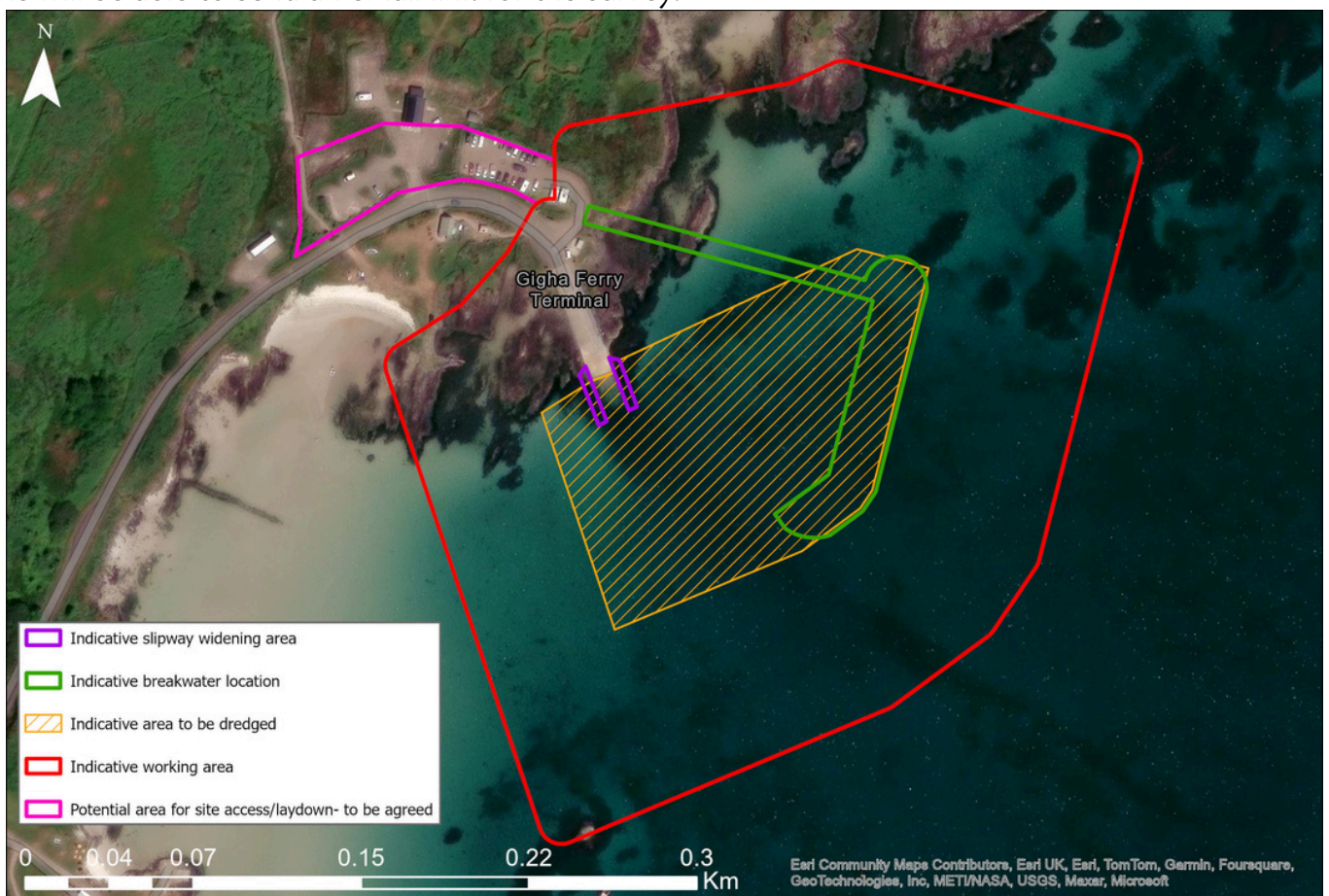
The next IGHT Members Meeting will be held at 7pm on Thursday 12th September in Gigha Village Hall. An agenda will be issued in advance of the meeting.

Gigha Community Fund

The Gigha Community Christmas Light Trail have been awarded £500. The funding will be used towards materials for lanterns, lights, batteries, Village Hall hire and refreshments.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SURVEY AND EVENT FOR PLANNED FERRY PORT INFRASTRUCTURE

RPS have been commissioned by Argyll and Bute Council to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment and Socio-economic Assessment in relation to proposed improvements to the Isle of Gigha and Tayinloan ferry port infrastructure. RPS are conducting two consultation events to engage with the local community with regard to potential socio-economic impacts, both positive and negative, that residents foresee as a result of the project. The first of the two events will be held at Gigha Village Hall on 21st August. The second event will be held at Tayinloan Village Hall on the following day. RPS have also issued a survey to be completed by Gigha residents. Please see poster at the back of the newsletter for details of the events and for the QR code link to the survey. If you have trouble with this, please get in touch with the Trust office, and someone will be able to send an email link for the survey.



Save the date!

Saturday 3rd August – Furboch Ceilidh (licensed bar)

Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th August - Perseids Meteor Shower Annual Stargazing Party & Brunch

Saturday 24th August – Root and Industrial Show

Saturday 24th August - Beer Festival

Friday 30th August - First Gardener Morgan Russell's leaving party

Saturday 2nd November – Fundraising Auction

Friday 15th – Monday 18th November – Dark Skies Festival

Isle of Gigha Ranger Service

It has been lovely to see a whole host of different butterfly species about the place this month, from the common blue, to the ringlet, meadow brown and small white (cabbage), alongside the uncountable number of baby birds peeping away in our woodlands and on our verges.

A visitor even spotted a crossbill on island, which was an amazing find. To boot, our very own First Gardener spotted a basking shark at the north end of the island, an absolute pleasure to see in our waters!



Our Protecting Gigha's Woodlands Project is still going well. All the identified areas of *Rhododendron ponticum* and skunk cabbage in Achamore Gardens have been treated. In the process we have uncovered some amazing, previously hidden, *Rhododendron* species, one of which can be found nowhere else in the Gardens. Some of the areas where work has been completed are still not safe or accessible, so you may still see some red hazard tape around the place.

Upcoming events in August: guided walk focusing on plant folklore on Saturday 10th August.

Isle of Gigha Ranger Service

The Invasive Species removal team are now elsewhere on the island, and the Himalayan Balsam has now flowered in the village, so this will be the war for the next few weeks.

The fencing contractors have also arrived and have started installing the fence lines for our hedgerows, ready for us to plant up in the autumn. We have sourced trees to be of Scottish provenance, meaning that the seed for these trees was collected in Scotland.

We have also tried our best to support small nurseries and have purchased from other community owned initiatives, such as the Isle of Eigg Tree Nursery. Our hedgerows will be planted based on advice from NatureScot and other tree charities to include hawthorn, blackthorn, elder, wild cherry, hazel, field maple and crab apple to increase the diversity whilst being safe for livestock, support our wildlife, and connect our currently fragmented woodland pockets.

Achamore Gardens

While the summer might've finally decided to visit, our Green Team continues to work hard to maintain and execute improvements across the site.

We'd like to say a huge thank you to Gigha's conservation volunteers who completed an enormous amount of renovation work on the south drive. With the clearance of young griselinia and sycamore, the passage has been opened up and notable shrubs including *Hydrangea aspera*, *Buddleja salvifolia* and many more have been uncovered.

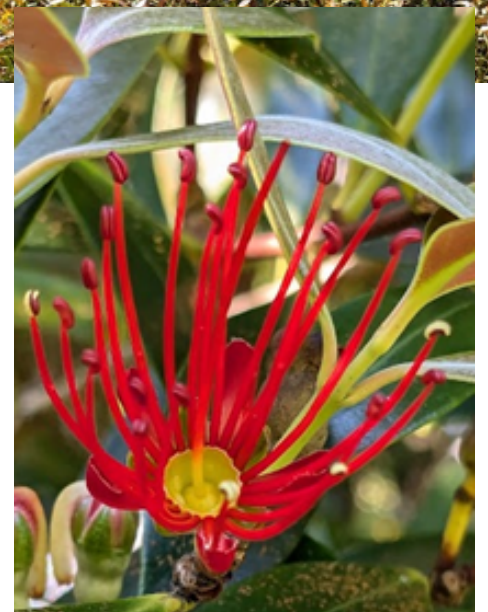
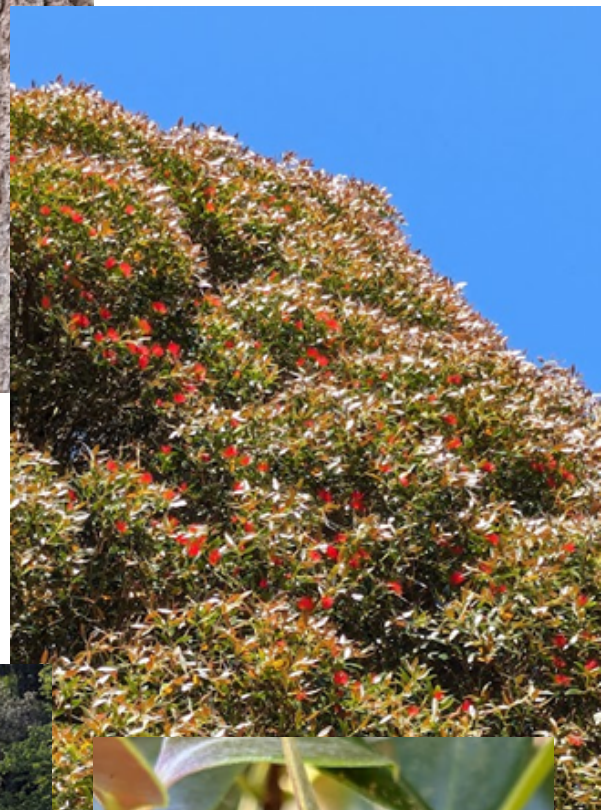


Achamore Gardens

Argyll Invasive Species Management continues to fight back *Rhododendron ponticum* across the gardens. The team have unveiled a large *Rhododendron decorum* ssp. *diaprepes* just as it has come into flower. Located in one of the oldest parts of the garden, this specimen is well established and has scented flowers that have a diameter of approximately 12cm!

The removal of *Rhododendron ponticum* will help to protect Colonel Horlick's collection of interesting *Rhododendron* against a water mould known as *Phytophthora ramorum*. The gardens have recently been visited by SASA (Science & Advice for Scottish Agriculture) who perform annual checks to help us combat the spread of the water mould. This month a sample was taken from a Larch tree (sometimes also affected by *Phytophthora*). Hopefully we will have negative results like last year!

The Walled Gardens are full of colour with our *Metrosideros* putting on a spectacular display of red flowers. In the main beds *Verbena bonariensis*, bountiful sweet peas, feathery astilbes and towering cardoons are putting on a delightful show.

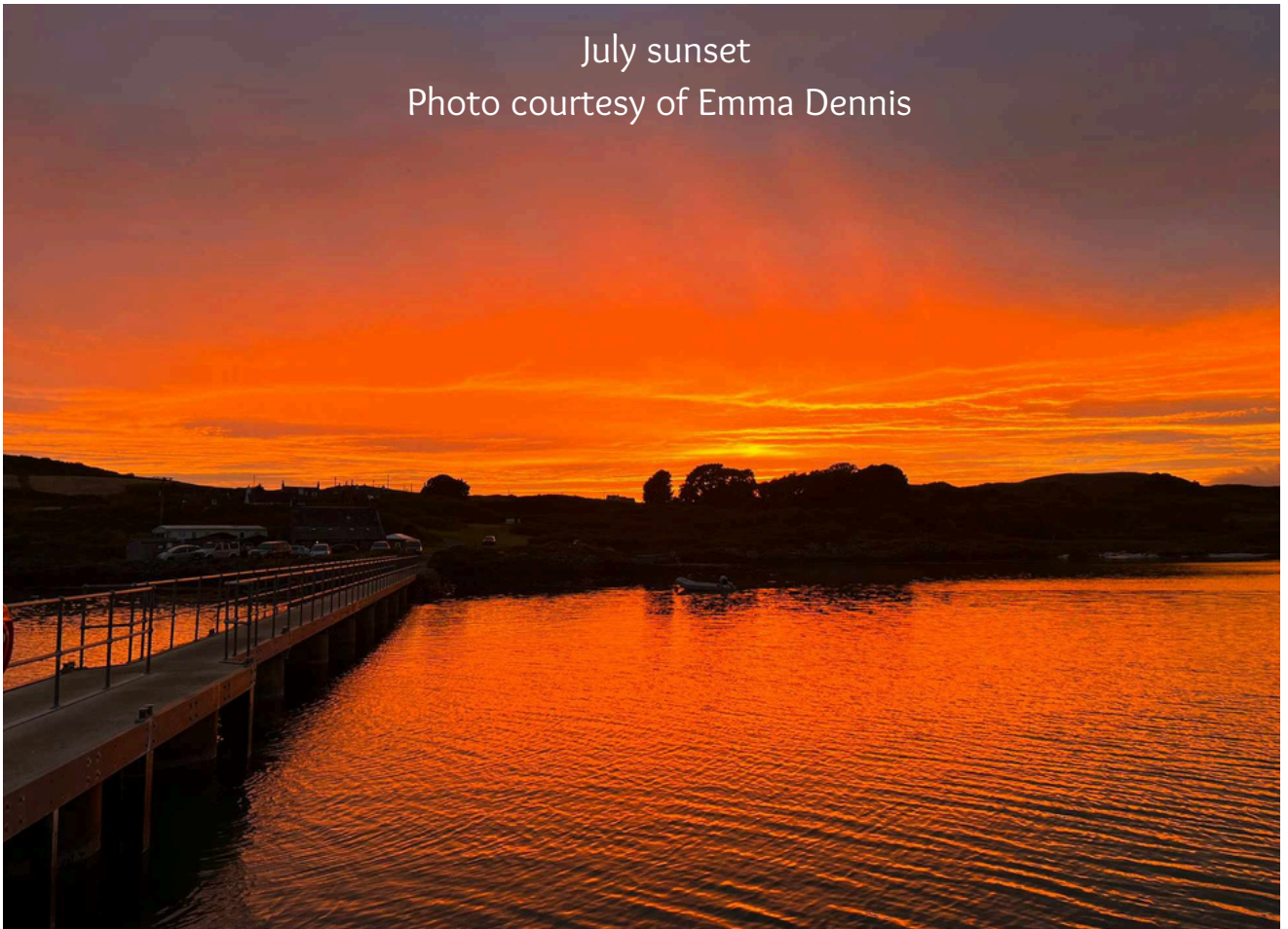


It is with great sadness we share that Gigha residents Lynn Cullen
and Helen Farquhar have passed away.
Our thoughts are with their families.

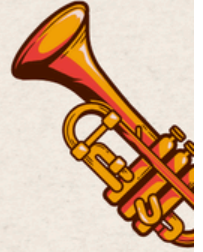
July sunrise
Photo courtesy of Michelle Bannatyne



July sunset
Photo courtesy of Emma Dennis



GIGHA BREWERY & BAR



SUMMER



FREE
ENTRY

FREE
ENTRY

BEER FESTIVAL

BEER • MUSIC • STALLS

THE HORSE BOX BAR GIGHA HOTEL BEER GARDEN

SATURDAY
24TH AUGUST

12PM TO 9:30PM

WWW.ISLEOFGIGHABREWING.CO.UK

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Proposed breakwater / ferry improvements in Gigha / Tayinloan

WEDNESDAY 21ST AUGUST



Scan above QR code to
access online stakeholder
engagement survey

Morning Session (9am – 1pm)	
9am	Project introduction and open room discussion / Q&A
10am	Workshop centred around tourism/leisure operators
12am	Workshop centred around accommodation providers
Afternoon Session (3pm – 6:30pm)	
3pm	Project introduction and open room discussion / Q&A
4pm	Workshop centred around fishing / marine enterprises
5:30pm	Workshop centred around retail operators
6:30pm	End of session

Email for more information

economicplanning101@gmail.com

Annual Furboch

Ceilidh

with the fantastic

Ceòl an Aire

Saturday 3rd August,

Gigha Village Hall

Don't have your tea as complimentary
supper served 7-8pm, then Ceilidh!

£15 per adult/£7 for 12-18yrs/under 12s free!

Licensed event. Raffle.

Donations gratefully received.



All proceeds from the Ceilidh
are used to fund the continuation of
the Furboch (OGAM) wellbeing facility
for children and young families
living on and visiting Gigha.

Any questions, call Maggie - 01583505234