

ISLE OF GIGHA HERITAGE TRUST

NewsLetter May 2024

The 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 delivered to the Trust Office will not be considered by the Board.

Contact us by emailing directors@gigha.org.uk

Homehunt Gigha

The housing allocation policy used by the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust is Homehunt Gigha. Anyone interested in renting any Trust housing must be registered with Homehunt Gigha in order to be eligible to apply for Trust housing.

Trust housing is allocated using the following criteria:

1. Best use – does the applicant fit the best use of the property i.e. using all the available bedrooms.
2. Priority Pass awarded – does the applicant have a Priority Pass. There are 4 categories of Priority Pass to apply under.
3. Date of registration – if the first two criteria are equal, the applicant registered first would be allocated the property.

To register, please contact the Trust Office on 01583 505390 or email shona@gigha.org.uk

Sound of Gigha weekend

Join us on the weekend of 7-9th June for music, dancing, art, entertainment and relaxation – The Sound of Gigha Weekend really does have it all! Check out the full programme at the end of the Newsletter.

There's no need to book ahead for the free activities on the Saturday, but ticketed events can be booked on our website

www.thesoundofgigha.co.uk – book now to make sure you don't miss out!

Gigha Community Hub

The Community Hub behind the Trust Office offers a lounge area with Wi-Fi and television (Disney+ sign in is required). Exercise equipment available includes cross trainer, rowing machine and weight bench.

****Now available for a one-off membership fee****

To enquire, please contact shona@gigha.org.uk or telephone 01583 505390.



Summer Bar

The Summer bar is open in the beer garden of the Hotel Friday 5 - 9, Saturday 2 - 9, Sunday 12 - 5.

Save the date!

Friday 7th June - The Sound of Gigha concert and club night (licenced bar)

Saturday 8th June daytime - The Sound of Gigha parade, market, arts and children's activities

Saturday 8th June evening - The Sound of Gigha concert and ceilidh (licenced bar)

Saturday 8th June – live music at the Boathouse

Sunday 9th June – The Sound of Gigha events at Achamore House and Achamore Gardens

Thursday 13th June - Astronomy Club - everyone welcome

Saturday 16th June – Primary School Summer Fair and Pet Show

Monday 17th June – Boathouse Quiz Night

Saturday 29th June – Boathouse Raft Race

Friday 12th July – Sean Harvey's 21st (Marvel-themed) birthday party – all are welcome!

Monday 15th July – Boathouse Quiz Night

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 2nd November – Fundraising Auction

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

Gigha and Cara Parish Church

There will be 3 services in Gigha Church in June: 9th, 23rd and 30th. The Service on June 30th will be a joint service with Clachan, A'Chleit and Skipness and will include Communion. The AGM for the parish of Mid Kintyre and Gigha will be held after the service. All are welcome at these services.

Gigha Community Council

Gigha Community Council updates and minutes are available on their Facebook page.

Email: isleofgighacommunitycouncil@groups.outlook.com

Achamore Gardens

Another residents' picnic, another absolutely beautiful day! We want to say a massive thank you to everyone who joined us, as well as to Lolita at Wild Chameleon and Heather Gorman for providing such a delicious picnic. It truly is one of the best afternoons of the year!



Renewables

All four wind turbines are up and running again, although there are a couple of small faults leading to the turbines tripping off. Parts are on order to resolve these issues.

Community Fund

The Gigha Community Fund has awarded £100 to one secondary school leaver who is going on to further education.

Isle of Gigha Ranger Service

The month of May seems to have flown by, but we can certainly say that the weather has brought on all the amazing wildflowers and plant growth.

Our INNS (invasive non-native species) project is going well, having undertaken most of the *Rhododendron ponticum* removal in the Fire Station woodland and Achamore Gardens, and now beginning more fully at Gallochoille. The skunk cabbage has also been hit hard in Achamore Gardens and the woodland to the east of the Gardens (also known as the Spoot). In the coming weeks with the better weather, work will be starting at Ardaily. We will be looking to close off sections at Ardaily to ensure public safety due to the use of chainsaws and other power tools. This may also include some of the sections of the Western Link path at certain times. We will be sure to make any restrictions obvious and well advertised.



We also ran our medicinal plants and tea making walk. We took a gentle ramble down the Druimyeon Bay Link path taking a closer look at some easily identifiable plants and chatting about their medicinal properties throughout time and nowadays. We then made some tea infusions at Druimyeon Bay using nettles, silverweed, sorrel, hawthorn and bramble leaves. We had such beautiful weather for the walk – thank you to everyone who came along, it was fabulous!



Tea making photograph courtesy of
Amy Wilson

An absolute delight this month has been our marine biology project with Gigha Primary School relating to the science curriculum. We have been exploring solid, liquid and gases in the marine environment, experimenting with hydrophones to see how marine creatures hear in the air and in the water and the ways they communicate through echolocation. We also headed to Leim beach to explore pollution in solid, liquid and gas form, testing the pH and acidity of the water (an increase due to additional gases as a result of climate change), the health of the water by catching plankton (how liquid spills can affect our whole food chain) in our own beach-made nets, and carrying out a beach clean to remove solid pollution from our coastal sites. Our next sessions will look at the range of biodiversity, lifecycles and food chains in our marine environment, and spend time making banners and sculptures for an environmental awareness parade at the Sound of Gigha festival.

Isle of Gigha Ranger Service

Photo: children during their trip to Leim beach.

In the June, we will be wandering the glorious Achamore Gardens looking at a variety of bumblebee species, habitats and food plants, and there may even be a cuppa and biscuit to boot. If you'd like to join, booking is essential so please drop us an email at ranger@gigha.org.uk. We are also running a "nature nerds" session for children and a heritage walk at the Sound of Gigha festival, we hope to see you there!



Gigha Community Action Plan Group

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to the Gigha Community Action Plan Consultation: businesses, organizations, groups and all the residents who took the time to respond. The survey is now closed. The Group have read everyone's responses carefully, and sorted them into broad categories so we can count how many times different issues were raised. You can see the results of these here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14BidHrt8ZWIP0D-UEe9ESaWGWucp2fa0OI5UDgE4IU4/edit>

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1q0WhMOFY32H8fzoEhkPnl-V9PY-gypSA0bAAMWULnPA/edit#gid=848020839>

These results will be used to draft priority action points which will make up the bulk of the Community Action Plan. Dates for sharing the draft have not been set yet, but the Group aim to have the final plan published in late summer or early autumn of this year.

Visit Gigha

If you love learning about heritage and finding historic sites, then Gigha is the perfect place!

Find out more on our website <https://www.visitgigha.co.uk/Historic-Sites> or check out a copy of The Gigha Guidebook <https://www.scottishislandgifts.com/.../the-gigha-guidebook/>



Gigha Primary School & Early Learning Centre

This month both the Early Learning Centre (ELC) and Primary School have been taking part in Beach Schools. Whilst the ELC join with their friends each week from Rhunahaorine ELC, Primary pupils have been taking part in specific marine science sessions with IGHT Ranger, Casey-Jo. Pupils have visited several beaches around the island for these sessions and have been learning about the effects of climate change on our local environment. Pupils also took part in a beach clean and identified marine plastic which was able to be recycled. Pupils working on protecting our local environment will culminate in an environmental parade on 8th June at the Sound of Gigha weekend where they will share what they have created in these sessions with the community.

This month also saw the start of our long-awaited swimming lessons. Each week, the whole school travel to Campbeltown for a hour session at Aqualibrium. Sessions have focussed around developing pupils skills within the pool alongside increasing water confidence. Pupils really enjoy these sessions which form part of their PE curriculum.

In order to ensure we can afford swimming lessons next summer, we will be holding our Summer Fair and Pet Show on Saturday 15th June at Gigha Primary School and ELC. The Pet show will begin at 10.30am before the Summer Fair opens for soup and sandwiches from 12-3pm. Pupils will also be raising funds through a cake and bottle stall, guess the number of sweets in the jar and a raffle. The raffle has a range of incredible prizes including a 10 year old bottle of Glen Scotia Whisky, a tractor bucket of logs from Achamore Gardens, meal vouchers for The Boathouse, Skipness Seafood Cabin and Glenbarr Tearooms, a sack of coal and many more. We are still looking for bottles for the bottle stall and home baking for the day. If you are able to support us please contact the school office on 01583 505259. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the day. Kind regards, Mrs Vipurs, Head Teacher.

Sound of Gigha weekend programme

Friday Evening	Saturday Daytime	Sunday Daytime
WEEKEND WARM-UP	THE FAMILY FUN DAY	THE CHILL OUT DAY
Friday 7-Late	Saturday 10.45-4.00	Sunday 10.30-3.00
Gigha Village Hall	Craft Units, Ardminish Village	Achamore House
ANNA MASSIE & CLUB NIGHT	All day activities	10.30-1 Fika Swedish Coffee Morning
Ticketed event	Makers' Market -Licensed Bar	11.00 Gigha Ukelele Group
Free light supper	Kids' Zone - Funky Chicken	10.45 Sunstruck Poetry Workshop*
	Furboch Fun - Art Gallery	12.00 Spoken Word Performance
	Horse & Trap Rides - Shiatsu Massage	12.30 Family Football
		2.00 Achamore Gardens Tour*
	Timed Entertainment	Achamore Walled Gardens
Saturday Evening	10.45 Our Climate Parade	11.00 Tai Chi Taster*
THE BIG GIG	11.00 Loch Fyne Pipe Band	12.00 Forest Bathing & Meditative Breathing*
Saturday 7-Late	11.30 Nature Nerds Session	1.00 Sound Bath Experience*
Gigha Village Hall	11.40 Tanya Ward - Banjo	12-3 Survivors' Garden Bar
GUNNA SOUND & THE POOZIES	12.40 Kintyre Young Voices	
Ticketed event	1.00 Loch Fyne Pipe Band	
Food available to purchase	1.45 School Photo Comp Prize Giving	
	2.00 Esperanza	
	2.45 Zest for Life Energiser	
	3.00 Heritage Walk	
	3.15 Esperanza	
	3.15 Dance Battle	
To book tickets and find out more, visit thesoundofgigha.co.uk		*Limited places – book in advance via thesoundofgigha.co.uk
		Gigha Parish Church
		11.00 Songs of Praise



COMMUNITY ASTRONOMY STEM CLUB



DARK SKIES GIGHA AND DR CHRIS LEIGH WILL BE BACK FOR THE FINAL TWO SESSIONS OF OUR COMMUNITY ASTRONOMY STEM CLUB TO CELEBRATE THE MOON, THE STARS AND LEARN SKILLS IN ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY! JOIN US FOR TWO FASCINATING AND FUN WORKSHOPS IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MAY 30TH AND JUNE 13TH, 7-8.15PM.

ALL AGES WELCOME! NO BOOKING REQUIRED. ALL OLDER CHILDREN OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE MUST BRING A SUPERVISING ADULT

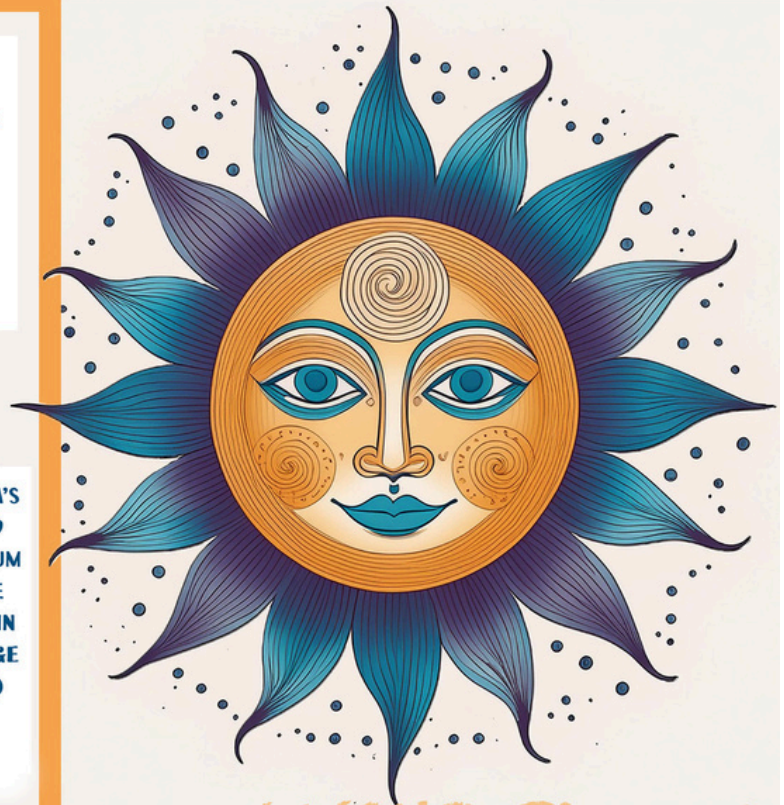
SUNSTRUCK POETRY WORKSHOP

WITH VICKI HUSBAND!

ACHAMORE HOUSE

SUNDAY 9TH JUNE 2024, 10.45AM

COME AND JOIN VISITING POET VICKI HUSBAND FOR DARK SKIES GIGHA'S SUNSTRUCK POETRY WORKSHOP! THE WORKSHOP IS THEMED AROUND THE SUN AND ITS INFLUENCE, AS 2024 IS THE YEAR OF SOLAR MAXIMUM IN THE SUN'S 11-YEAR CYCLE. READ, WRITE AND PLAY WITH LANGUAGE AS YOU LOOK TOGETHER AT POEMS RELATED TO THE SUN, TAKE PART IN WORD PLAY EXERCISES, AND CREATE POEMS TOGETHER. NO KNOWLEDGE OR EXPERIENCE OF POETRY IS NECESSARY, JUST A WILLINGNESS TO WRITE DOWN SOME WORDS, CELEBRATE THE SUN AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.



BOOK YOUR PLACE!

LIMITED PLACES, EMAIL DARK.SKIES.GIGHA@gmail.com TO BOOK YOUR PLACE. FERRY PICK-UP AND TRANSIT TO VENUE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.



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