

# FEBRUARY 2023

# Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust Newsletter

## Housing Development

We are looking for your suggestions as to what the new housing development adjacent to the Craft Units should be named. Please submit your ideas to [jane@gigha.org.uk](mailto:jane@gigha.org.uk) or the Trust office before 10th March. All ideas are welcome and there will be a prize for the chosen name!

## Cost of Living Support Fund

There is still Cost of Living funding available to residents. The funding is being distributed as £100 food or fuel vouchers from Ardmish Stores, or the Trust can purchase a small energy-saving electrical appliance for your home. The support is now being renewed monthly, meaning you can re-apply every month until end of May 2023.

Applications can be submitted by individuals that are in receipt of relevant benefits. This includes Universal Credit, Council Tax and Housing Benefits, Pension Credit, and more. Please contact Shona Bannatyne at the Trust office to find out more.

Please be assured that all enquiries will be treated confidentially, and any personal information will be held in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2018.

## IGHT Working Groups

At the Community Involvement Day last year we asked residents if they would like to join various working groups. If you are interested in joining the 10-year strategy working group, please contact the office.

## Gigha Day

There will be a flag raising ceremony held outside the Craft Units at 1pm on Wednesday 15th March for Gigha Day. All are welcome to join!

## Board Correspondence

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. Contact us by emailing [directors@gigha.org.uk](mailto:directors@gigha.org.uk)

## Gigha and Cara Parish Church

There will be a joint service at Clachan on March 5th at 11.15am. This later time of starting is to allow people to get there in time. This service is specifically about the Prayer Shawl Ministry so if you have received a shawl please take it with you. The next week 12th March Rev Lyn will be preaching in Gigha Church. Lyn will also be here on 26th March.

## Quiz Night

Saturday 25th March at 7pm in the Village Hall. Team of 4 - £20 entry per team. Snack provided during interval. BYOB. Raffle prizes gratefully received. All proceeds to Sound of Gigha Event.

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## Gateway to Gigha

With better conditions, longer days and more than a hint of spring has coming steady progress on the last major route of the Gateway path network. The team from Arran Footpaths and Forestry are now more than two thirds of the way along, laying the path's base before finishing with fines and compacting. There are still some items to complete on other routes, and fingerposts to install, but we're still very hopeful of having a complete path network in place by later in the springtime.

We've also now received the final piece in our suite of e-bikes and adaptive e-bikes. The Jorvik mountain e-trike and DaVinci powered handcycle arrived earlier this month, and on my last visit to Gigha, I brought with me the Beachstar beach wheelchair (pictured), having had it dropped off at my home in Dunblane the day before.

The heritage plinths are still lacking their interpretation panels but I'm very hopeful that they (and the secondary interpretation lecterns) will finally be with us, hopefully in time for announcement in the next newsletter!



## Residents Survey

The Gateway to Gigha project is looking for your feedback! This is your opportunity, as a Gigha resident, to give your view on the new path networks, community heritage project, visitor management, and more. The survey should only take 5 minutes and your feedback will help evaluate the project and identify any areas for improvement in future:

[https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Gigha\\_Resident\\_Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Gigha_Resident_Survey)

If you are unable to complete an online version, please contact the office for a paper version.

## Bakkafrost Scotland – Planning Engagement Event

Bakkafrost would like to thank the community of Gigha for attending the planning engagement event, for the proposed West Gigha development, held at the Gigha Village Hall on 9th February 2023. We welcomed the opportunity to discuss in detail the various aspects of the proposal with members of the community. The event also provided an excellent opportunity to hear feedback on how we can better engage with the community to ensure we are providing benefit to the Island. We will now take the feedback received from the planning engagement event and feed this back into the development process. We will provide further updates on the proposal in due course. Thank you.

# FEBRUARY 2023

## Gigha Ranger Service

We're finally reaping the benefits of longer days, and so are the spring blossoms. The daffodils are well and truly on their way, the Gardens and road verges are full of crocuses, and our first lesser celandine has already reared its head!

This month the conservation volunteers joined forces with Achamore Gardens to build a dead hedge along the path leading to the servants walk. A dead hedge is an amazing way to use up waste material, a natural way to border areas, and is a haven for wildlife from the prowling hedgehog and nesting robin to the humble invertebrate. The team did an amazing job in two hours, and it looks fantastic. Thank you to everyone who came along!



As Mrs Vipurs wrote in last month's newsletter, we have also started working on the school's vegetable growing scheme. Up to now we have experimented with different growing conditions for peas and beans, prepared the raised beds for root vegetables, planted garlic and tested what nutrients are present within the growing areas. Over the coming weeks we will be planting number of fruits and veggies that can be used in the school kitchen, to reduce food miles, promote healthier living, as well as making our own fertiliser and having fun creating some pea and bean frames! A very small update about last term's Bee Wild Garden – it's now in full bloom!

At the end of February, we will be travelling to Mallaig to meet with the Scottish Islands Federation to discuss the Scottish Government's Marine Litter Strategy, the issues and solutions Scottish islands are facing and finding with regards to marine litter, and an opportunity to put questions and comments to industry representative and local authorities. The Ranger Service has been working for the past two years to collect data and work with the Marine Litter Working Group to find a way to minimise waste across Scottish islands, which unfortunately primarily comes from the marine industry. We hope this visit will shed some light on solutions, circular economy options and litter prevention!



# FEBRUARY 2023

## Gigha Ranger Service

Upcoming event: Forest School joins forces with Our Island! On Sunday March 5th, Forest School will be running a leafy hunt to gather printing materials that can be showcased in the Our Island exhibition later that day in the Gigha Village Hall. Get in touch to reserve a spot!

## Gigha Primary School

This month has flown by at Gigha Primary School. In February we started to plan the Gigha Summer Fair which will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 20th May. Funds raised will be used to buy well-needed equipment for the playground. Please get in touch if you can help out as a volunteer on the day. Tel: 01583 505259.



We have also been working on school project based around Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. We have made wands and potions and written instructions for these in our literacy lessons. We have also entered the One Planet Picnic Pocket garden challenge alongside our regular lessons.

At the start of the month of February we finally got our fish which are now our class pets. We found out how many fish we could get for the size of the tank and then pupils decided which species they wanted. Pupils take responsibility for their care and feeding each day. Outdoors and in the polycrub we have started our food growing garden with Casey-Jo Countryside Ranger and have planted Garlic, Peppers, beans, carrots and potatoes. We look forward to adding these to our school dinners at harvest time.

## Zero Carbon Gigha

Zero Carbon Gigha are still meeting each month to discuss small wins that the community can achieve to make Gigha a greener, cleaner place. This month's meeting focused on what our ambitions were for 2023, and we have some fairly ambitious ones! The group are looking to focus their efforts on a composting scheme, car sharing, and a seed and plant swap event all for the benefit of the community, as well as a climate parade in collaboration with Gigha Primary School. Watch this space for more info, and please get in touch with Casey-Jo if you'd like to join us, or would like the group to discuss/work on a particular project.

We also have a "save the date"! Zero Carbon Gigha have invited Home Energy Scotland to Gigha to run a drop-in session that aims to help residents reduce energy use, signpost ways to save on energy costs, as well as discover alternative energy sources for the home, including the installation of renewables. Join us in the Village Hall on 25th March 11-2pm, for an informal chat with Home Energy Scotland, and of course for a slice of cake.

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## Achamore Gardens

South Walled Garden (partial) path resurfacing has just commenced and is likely to take 4 – 5 weeks to complete. South Walled Garden is currently closed to the public as a result. This work was funded through the Argyll and Bute Tourism Infrastructure Fund, along with the repairs and resurfacing of the Springbank Path which has now reopened to the public. Trees Ability were in for 4 days in January and helped us fell 20+ trees which were all diseased, dangerous or damaged.



## Commercial Premise to Let - Craft Workshop 3, Isle of Gigha

The above property is available for a long-term commercial let (up to 5 years) and proposals are invited from interested parties.

No contents are included in the lease, only the premises. | The lease holder is responsible for all consents, rates, and utilities.

Rent is £300.00 per calendar month. | Ground floor is 51 square metres in size with upstairs area 42 square metres.

All interested parties are invited to submit a full proposal by Tuesday 21st March 2023 to Shona Bannatyne, Office Manager by either post to Craft Workshop 1, Isle of Gigha, PA41 7AA or by email to [shona@gigha.org.uk](mailto:shona@gigha.org.uk)

If you require further details or wish to arrange a viewing, please email or telephone 01583 505390.

## Gigha Ranger's photo of the month: beautiful snowdrop (Galanthus nivalis)



# FEBRUARY 2023



## Dark Skies Gigha AGM

March 7th at 7pm in Gigha Hotel.

Come along to hear about our achievements in 2022 as we review our progress, audited accounts and elect new committee members. You will be made very welcome.

Email: [dark.skies.gigha@gmail.com](mailto:dark.skies.gigha@gmail.com)

**Save the Date!**

## Gigha Primary School Spring Fair Fundraiser

**Where:** Gigha Village Hall

**When:** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 1-4pm

Soup and sandwiches  
Cake Stall  
Bottle Stall  
Pet Show  
Archery  
Sports races  
Soak the Teacher  
And much more...

Please get involved in our Fair to help make our community school day a success. Raffle prizes and home baking would be much appreciated. Volunteers needed. All funds raised will go towards our local primary school.

If you would like to be a Volunteer and get involved with our School Spring Fair Fundraiser please contact the School Office on 01583 505259.

Thank you.



# FEBRUARY 2023



THE ISLE OF GIGHA HERITAGE TRUST

JOB VACANCY	
<b>Job Title:</b>	Household Resilience Advocate
<b>Date:</b>	February 2023
<b>Reports to:</b>	Business Development Manager
<b>Salary:</b>	£10.90 per hour
<b>Hours:</b>	30 hours per week
<b>Contract:</b>	12 months
<b>Location:</b>	The IGHT office is on Gigha and regular attendance in the office will be expected. However, the flexibility to work from home would be considered, subject to the candidate demonstrating how this would work to meet the core responsibilities of the role.
<b>Eligibility:</b>	Applicants must be unemployed at the time of application.
<b>Job Purpose:</b> To provide support to the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust and the wider community in promoting and supporting householders to access measures and services to address fuel and household poverty.	
<b>Core Responsibilities:</b> These are the core responsibilities for this role and is not an exhaustive list. The post holder will be required to undertake any other tasks as requested. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Responsible for providing outreach and engagement support to householders in the Gigha area to promote and assist householders to access relevant measures to address fuel and household poverty.</li><li>• Work with other specialist organisations, including Alienergy and Bute Advice Centre, to signpost and support access to specialist information. This will assist householders to learn about and assist with applications to access various sources of support.</li><li>• Assist in producing resources and information materials to support household resilience.</li><li>• Work collectively with the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust Team to plan and prioritise the roll out of this service and will provide regular updates to partners at Inspiralba, Alienergy and Bute Advice Centre as well as joining a network of advocates based with organisations across Argyll.</li><li>• Requirement to work with other partners involved in the project to maximise the reach and impact.</li><li>• Contribute to a wider team based with organisations across Argyll and Bute to share learning and good practice.</li></ul>	
Together with, and at all times, <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Positive engagement with the policies and procedures agreed by the Board</li><li>• Constructive and supportive interaction with all Trust employees and members and island residents</li></ul>	
<b>Person Specification:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experience working in a community setting is preferable</li><li>• The ability to establish, build and maintain a good working relationships</li><li>• An ability to engage with and work with people of all backgrounds and abilities, including vulnerable householders</li><li>• An ability to engage with the wider community and a range of stakeholders .</li><li>• The ability to gather information and assist with completing forms for householders</li><li>• An ability to pass relevant information to partner organisations</li><li>• Good written and verbal communication skills, including sufficient IT and phone skills</li><li>• The ability to recognise issues that arise and proactively respond, bringing in additional support where required</li><li>• An ability to meet tight deadlines</li><li>• A willingness to learn, an ability to work using own initiative and as part of a team.</li><li>• Sharing updates on progress and ensuring follow up for householders through the various application schemes to assist them to maximise income and reduce costs for their household.</li><li>• To carry out other such duties and responsibilities as may be required from time to time by the Line Manager.</li></ul>	
<b>How to apply:</b> Application can be made by sending a CV and short Cover Letter to <a href="mailto:jane@gigha.org.uk">jane@gigha.org.uk</a>	
Closing Date: Friday 17th March 2023 Interviews to be held: w/b 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	
<b>This post is funded through UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund.</b>	

# **Gigha Surgery (01583 505223)**

**In a MEDICAL EMERGENCY call 999**

**Community Nursing Hours  
Monday to Friday 08:30am – 3.00pm**

**If medical assistance required out with these hours  
the following applies:**

**Monday to Friday 3pm – 6pm**

**Contact Muasdale Surgery on 01583 421206**

**After 6pm and at weekends contact NHS24 on 111**

**Nurse Led Clinic (excluding Wednesday)**

**10am – 11am Drop In Clinic**

**2pm – 3pm Prescription collection only**

**To make an appointment with the Doctor phone**

**Muasdale Surgery on (01583) 421206**

**Repeat prescriptions can be ordered via**

**Muasdale Surgery on (01583) 421266**