

# APRIL 2023

# Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust Newsletter

## Dates for your diary

### **Tea in the Hall - Wednesday 10th May**

2023 - 2-4pm - Gigha Village Hall

Come join us for tea, coffee, cakes, and a catch up. Donations will be collected for the Gigha Village Hall this month.

### **IGHT Members meeting - Wednesday 10th May 2023**

7pm - Gigha Village Hall  
The main purpose of this meeting is to provide Members with a general update on recent IGHT activity. We are asking Members to advise us of any specific topics you would like to be discussed at the meeting. Please contact the office prior to 3rd May to have these topics included in the agenda.

### **Gateway to Gigha showcase - Saturday 27 May 2023**

1-4pm - Gigha Village Hall  
Please note the Gateway to Gigha showcase has been rescheduled for Saturday 27th May instead of 29th April. The day will provide the community with an opportunity to see the final outcomes of the project as it comes to a conclusion, and an opportunity to feedback on the project. More details on the event will be confirmed shortly.

## 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)

## The Sound of Gigha

Preparations are well underway for The Sound of Gigha Weekend on 23-25 June 2023, with tickets on sale for the Saturday night gig and ceilidh with Shooglenifty and DLU and bookings being taken for the Flower Crown Workshop with Uairidh Flowers. Everything else that is happening over the weekend is free and does not need to be booked! See our website for more details

([www.thesoundofgigha.co.uk](http://www.thesoundofgigha.co.uk)). We'd also like to invite anyone and everyone to be a part of our Makers Market on Saturday 24th June, to show off all the amazing talent that Gigha has to offer - If you'd like to have a stall, add items to a group stall, demonstrate a skill or craft, sing a song or anything else you can think of, please do get in touch with Anna Lannigan at the Campsite, or email [thesoundofgigha@gmail.com](mailto:thesoundofgigha@gmail.com)

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## Gigha and Cara Parish Church

There will be two services in the Church during May. The first one will be on Sunday May 14th and will be a communion service with Rev Lyn Peden. The second one will be on Sunday May 28th. All are welcome at our services.

The current Church building will be a hundred years old in May. We are hoping to celebrate this later in the year.

## Gigha Primary School

We have recently returned from our Easter break and have now begun our longest term which will take us up to the summer holidays at the beginning of July. Upon our return the food growing beds and polytunnel have sprung into life with garlic, tomatoes and peas already making excellent progress. We also came back to the confirmation that our long anticipated swimming lessons are beginning in May where all school pupils will receive a six-week block of swimming tuition as part of their PE curriculum.

Pupils are also looking forward to a busy month of May which will see their own King's Coronation tea party and preparations for the rapidly approaching Summer Fair on Saturday 20th May at Gigha Village Hall. The Summer Fair will include 'Soup and Sandwiches' in the Hall, a cake stall, bottle stall, craft stall, raffle, pet show, child and adult sports races and activity stalls including Archery and soak the Teacher. All proceeds raised will go towards revamping the playground with new activities and equipment for the children. However, we need your help to make the day a success! Please consider volunteering to help on the day; donations of raffle prizes, bottles and home baking are desperately needed to make this day a success. We hope to see as many people as possible on the day to support our wonderful island school.

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Vipurs, Acting Principal Teacher

## Campsite

Easter Weekend was the busiest on the campsite to date, with all the campervan pitches fully booked and a few tents braving the cool, windy weather! Our community open day was well attended, with plenty of cake and guided tours! If you missed the event but would like to look around or find out more about the campsite, just get in touch! And if you have a business or event you'd like to advertise to the campers, please do drop in a poster and I will be sure to display it.

## Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) Development

Gigha Parent Council, Active Schools and the Trust, have been working in partnership to progress plans for a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) for the island.

A full update on the MUGA will be presented on 10th May at Tea in the Hall and at the Members meeting.



# APRIL 2023

## Gateway to Gigha

Another month has sped by on Gateway and, with just one month left to go, various aspects of our project are nearing completion. As I write, Scott and his team are completing the finishing touches to the Druimyeon Bay Link. Sadly, we won't be able to open this route until we fulfill the Council's Roads department's conditions in our planning permission, which is to produce a tarmac-surfaced, kerbed pavement at the campsite end, with bollards and tactile paving. This work is scheduled to take place in the third week of May.

Elsewhere, other finishing and tidying work has been ongoing and a few more fingerposts will be popping up shortly. It is a massive disappointment to me that we haven't managed to complete all our planned paths entirely, but we have succeeded in creating several kilometres more length of routes than was included within the original scope of the project. Gateway, I believe, will continue to develop and there are already plans to enhance the existing network.

In terms of our heritage interpretation, panels and wayfinders are currently in production and are due for dispatch in the first week of May. They will be fitted or installed during the remainder of the month, so that by the month's, and project's, end, things will look a lot more like the finished article.

I look forward to updating you one final time at the end of the month.



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## Gigha Ranger Service

Conservation volunteers have been hard at work making the roadside at Grianan more beautiful. A local resident had the wonderful idea of planting the area with wonderful wildflowers, so we have spent the last few weeks pulling up bracken, aerating the soil and sowed wildflower seeds. Forest School was also another success this month. The children went foraging for springtime edibles, and tried out a blindfolded taste test. All of the children were absolutely fantastic and identified everything they tasted – we have some serious plant experts on our hands!

We have also held our final event in the Community Heritage Project through Gateway to Gigha. Kilmartin Museum came to Gigha for the second time to present their mini museum of artefacts from across Argyll, give us the opportunity to try out some Bronze Age pottery. Gigha Primary also showcased their work from their Bronze and Stone Age topic and Kilmartin's previous visit working with the children to learn about a day in the life of a person in that period, and become bone detectives, looking at skeletons to understand disease, occupations and health of our ancestors.

We have just started our summer events programme, first off starting with bird song identification and then followed by a bat walk. We were amazingly lucky to be able to detect 3 species: the common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, and brown long-eared bat! We had so much fun with lots of giggling, and we're looking forward to the rest of the events. Please see the insert for dates and meeting places!

Another save the date! Gateway to Gigha showcase has had to be postponed to May 27th. Join us to see the outputs of Gateway, for soup, sandwiches and baking, and put your ideas and opinions forward on the project.



# 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.

# The SOUND of Gigha

23-25 JUNE 2023

**SHOOGLENIFTY  
DLÙ  
TRÒPOS ENSEMBLE  
JAMES GRAY**

**WORKSHOPS  
COMICS • FLOWER CROWNS • MUSIC MAKING • SINGING  
GAELIC FOR BEGINNERS**

**FIKA (SWEDISH COFFEE MORNING)  
CEILIDH • FACE PAINTING • STORYTELLING  
MINDFULNESS • HERITAGE WALK**

**MAKER'S MARKET  
SURVIVORS' PICNIC**  
LINEUP SUBJECT TO CHANGE

[thesoundofgigha.co.uk](http://thesoundofgigha.co.uk)

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## Ranger Events 2023

Prior booking is essential. Please reserve your spot by emailing [ranger@gigha.org.uk](mailto:ranger@gigha.org.uk).

All events are weather dependent and liable to cancellation at short notice.

### MORNING CHORUS

Sunday 16th April 10:00 Meet at Achamore Gardens Visitor Cabin  
Spend an hour picking up easy tips to identify common bird songs and find out a little bit more about the birds we find on Gigha

### BAT WALK

Friday 21st April 20:30 Meet at Fire Station  
A twilight wander to discover which of our nocturnal batty friends we have on Gigha, and try out a bat detector.

### GIGHA'S APOTHECARY PAST & PRESENT

Saturday 20th May 11:00 Meet at Village Hall  
A chance to learn about the medicinal properties of wild plants throughout history right up to the present day.

### BUMBLING BEES

Saturday 17th June 11:00 Meet at Achamore Gardens Stables  
Amble about in the Walled Gardens to hear about our precious bumblebee species.

### BUTTERFLY TRANSECTS

Saturday 22nd July 12:00 Meet at Fire Station  
Try your hand at carrying out a butterfly transect and discover the species that call Gigha home.