

ISLE OF GIGHA HERITAGE TRUST Newsletter January 2026

Gigha Hotel Bar

Opening hours:

- Sun – Tues: Closed
- Wed – Thurs: 5pm – 10pm
- Friday: 4pm – 12am
- Sat: 2pm – 12am

Please note that opening hours are reviewed regularly and may change at short notice. The hotel bar operates an 'early close' procedure in the event of low footfall.

Save the Date!

- Fridays in the Village Hall - Whist
- Saturday 31st January - Village Hall Trivia
- Mondays in February and March - Line Dancing in the Village Hall
- Saturday 14th March - Sound of Gigha Gigha's Got Talent
- Saturday 21st March - Fundraising Auction in the Village Hall

Gigha Church in the Parish of Mid Kintyre and Gigha

Ordinary Sunday services will now be at 11.30 am. This is to allow us to join the Tarbert congregation by Zoom. We have already had several services by Zoom and it seems to be working well. It also means we can have services if the ferry is unable to cross on the Sundays the Minister is due to preach here. Rev Lyn Peden is still aiming to come over at least once a month but with 5 churches in her charge it is not easy.

Services in February:

8th February 11:30am Zoom with Tarbert

22nd February 11:30 with Rev Lyn Peden

The Church collects used stamps for charity. If you have any (from your Christmas cards, etc.) please give them (with a narrow margin of envelope round them) to Margaret Andrew. Thank you.

The work on the Church is still on going. Hopefully it won't be much longer now.

Gigha Village Hall

To book the Gigha Village Hall please email gighavillagehall@gmail.com or telephone Joe on 01583 505251.

We remember

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Gigha residents past and present:
Helen Angus, Jeff Hill, Andreas Steininger and
Ina McNeill.

Our thoughts are with their families at this sad time.





Sound of Gigha

Gigha's got Talent - Village Hall - March 14th 7pm

The stage is open. The rules are loose.

Singing (on key optional)

Dancing (rhythm negotiable)

Instruments abused with confidence

Comedy that may immediately regret itself

Talents discovered 3 minutes before going on

ALL AGES. NO AUDITIONS. ZERO DIGNITY.

If you've ever thought "I could probably do something" — this is your moment.

Come perform. Come scream encouragement. Come witness something that will be talked about for years.

FUN. FRIENDLY. UNFORGETTABLE.

Email thesoundofgigha@gmail.com to register your interest to perform!

Seasonal Path Maintenance Operative

We are looking to either contract or employ someone to help us maintain part of the Gateway to Gigha path network this summer from April to September. This position consists of routine strimming and vegetation clearance on aggregate and trod paths. Please contact Casey-Jo for full details: 07596855398 / ranger@gigha.org.uk



26th January 2026



Property To Let

3 Woodside, Isle of Gigha, PA41 7AD

The above property is available for let and applications are invited from interested parties.

Applicants can only be considered if currently registered with Homehunt Gigha.

The property is a 1 bedroom semi-detached property with garden area.

RENT: £477.00 per calendar month.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Monday 23rd February 2026

To apply for this property please telephone the Trust Office on 01583 505390 or email office@gigha.org.uk to request an Application for Property Form.

Homehunt Gigha: If applying for a Priority Pass, please ensure that your application for the Priority Pass is received by the office a full 14 days before the closing date for a property - If you do not do this, your Priority Pass will not be considered in allocating a current property but your Pass will remain valid for any future properties.

Ranger & Gardens Volunteering Update

In order to change things up in 2026, each month we will be giving full updates on the amazing work carried out by our island volunteers.

We kick started conservation volunteering for the year with a bit of woodland management. Woodend wood (opposite the Fire Station), is a popular spot for walkers, residents, Forest School, and the Primary School, and as you'll know has been a focus of *Rhododendron ponticum* removal since 2023. We have now started to remove other invasive, less urgent, species such as Sitka spruce saplings and *griselinia* to make way for natural regeneration of our native broadleaf trees such as beech, rowan and birch, for a more diverse, wildlife friendly woodland, and one that is a little prettier for visitors.

On top of that, it is also stormy season, and that means... Beach cleans. Amazing residents have been filling the beach cleaning stations at Port na Carraigh, Grob Bagh, and Garbh, and volunteers have been out collecting all the microplastics, shredded plastic sheeting, strapping, and rope from the southside of Garbh beaches.



Stormy season in Achamore Gardens means much more wood clearance. This month volunteers have worked endlessly to process wood fuel for residents and clear storm damage from the occasional tree that is succumbing to the winds. But it doesn't end there, volunteers have also been collecting leaf litter for mulching and compost, and helping with the ditches to prevent flooding and drowned specimens.



The work we do on Gigha would not be possible without the help of volunteers, if you would like to join the conservation volunteers on a Thursday morning, or help out in the Gardens, please email ranger@gigha.org.uk. It's not all mud and spades, we promise!

Gigha Primary School and ELC

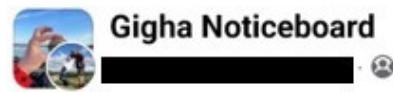
This month primary pupils have been learning about the Sustainable Development Goals and are beginning to think more deeply about ways in which they can help protect the world around them whilst challenging global inequalities. We have focussed on the work of UNICEF in other countries which has helped pupils learn more about how other children around the world live. Pupils have asked lots of interesting questions to further their understanding and link their learning back to their own life on Gigha.

At school, the pupils' sustainable egg project is well underway and 'Fresh Egg Friday' has become a popular part of the week. Eggs have sold out each week, once in a record time of 8 minutes! We would like to thank everyone who supports this project. Older pupils are tracking the ongoing profit/expenses associated with the chickens and have decided to purchase another chicken with the profit they have built to help grow their enterprise.



In the ELC, the theme of farming has been very popular with children building their own cow to milk. We were also very excited to have a visit from Sean Harvey with his tractor who taught us more about the role of machinery in modern day farming. Thank you, Sean!

Next week is our last week of term and we are looking forward to the end of term trip to Glencoe where, as well as sledging, pupils will also be taking snow samples to find out the answer to the question 'Are microplastics found in snow?' We look forward to updating you on our findings. Mrs Vipurs



Gigha Noticeboard

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Gigha primary school scrambled eggs for lunch. Delicious!



Pupils have also been learning more about their unique island heritage and are beginning to think about the impact which climate change is having on the island. At the recent Burns Supper, children asked some of the island elders how the island had changed both physically and socially across their lives and were interested to find out that there were previously highland cattle at farms on Gigha. The children, staff and island elders enjoyed a delicious meal and shared traditional poetry and music.

Gigha Village Hall & QM
Andy York present a



**Saturday,
Jan 31st**

at Gigha Village Hall
7:30pm till late

£5

per person. Max
Tables of 4.
(Under 13s dont
add to your
total)

**BYOB AND SNACKS FOR A
BARGAIN NIGHT OUT**

Cash Prizes, Raffle and Cash 50/50 tickets

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ADVANCE NOTICE

Auction in the Village Hall

2.00pm Saturday 21st March 2026

Donations accepted from 5-6pm on Friday 20th at the hall

Please note no books, clothes, DVDs, CDs

Further details to follow



LINE DANCE



FREE

Gigha Village Hall. 2, 9, 16, 23 Feb. & 2, 9 March 7.30 - 9.00
Secondary age and above - Soft soled shoes - Bring water
Come and enjoy the fun of line dancing from beginners upwards.

Contact: marionjwilson@gmail.co.uk