

# ISLE OF GIGHA HERITAGE TRUST

## NewsLetter Christmas 2025

### Gigha Hotel

The Isle of Gigha Hotel will be opening from 9am until midnight on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December as a hub during the planned power outage between 9am and 5pm.

Hot drinks will be available all day; bar service will operate as normal from 12pm and we will be serving hot food from 12pm until it's gone.

Menu:

Sandwiches £3.50

- Cheese (Veg)
- Tuna Mayo
- Ham and Cheese

Tomato soup £3.00

Chicken & chorizo stew £6.00 (served with bread)

Soup & sandwich deal £6.00

Updated Bar opening hours are:

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

Christmas opening hours are separate and shown below.

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.



**ISLE OF GIGHA HOTEL BAR**  
**FESTIVE**  
*opening hours*

Please note that there is no food service or accommodation currently available.

Wednesday 24th	3PM - LATE
Thursday 25th	3PM - 9PM
Friday 26th	3PM - LATE
Saturday 27th	12PM - 12AM
Sunday 28th	3PM - 9PM
Monday 29th	CLOSED
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	5PM - 10PM
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	4PM - LATE
Thursday 1st	12PM - 4PM



### Save the Date!

- Fridays in the Village Hall - Whist
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Primary School Christmas Fair 12-2pm
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Primary School Christmas Nativity in Gigha Church
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Christmas Party in the Village Hall
- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December - Hogmanay celebrations in the Gigha Hotel
- Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March - Fundraising Auction in the Village Hall



### Gigha Primary School & ELC

Gigha Primary School & ELC Christmas Fair Fundraiser will be going ahead on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 12-2pm at the Primary School. Please come along and help us raise much needed funds to enable pupils to access extra curricular activities. Raffle tickets are currently on sale at the shop, Gigha Natural Skincare and the Surgery. We are still looking for bottles for the bottle stall and raffle prizes which can be dropped at the school. We hope to see you there!

Gigha Primary School present their annual Christmas play on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December in the Gigha Church at 7pm, followed by a raffle, hot drinks and mince pies. All are welcome!

### Gigha Church in the Parish of Mid Kintyre and Gigha

We had a successful day on 16<sup>th</sup> November clearing the grass and mud from the Church driveway. Many thanks to those who came to help. Also, thanks to the builders for clearing away debris, etc. from around the Church to enable Kenny MacNeill's funeral and the Remembrance service to take place.

Unfortunately, due mainly to adverse weather, the work on the Church is not finished and the Church is therefore still a building site!

The next service will be on 14<sup>th</sup> December with Rev Lyn Peden. Check the Church Chat or Church notice board for other seasonal services.

A new anagrams quiz to raise money for the building fund will be out soon. This time it will be Scottish place names.

Best wishes for Christmas and a good New Year from Gigha Church.



### Gigha Community Christmas Light Trail

All are invited to follow the Christmas Lights Trail through the path between the Fire Station and the Village Hall from Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. The lights trail will be available until the end of December, weather permitting.



## Dark Skies Gigha Festival 2025

We had a brilliant time at all of our 2025 Celestial Stories events. So many thanks to everyone who attended, helped, supported and inspired us – you made it a truly wonderful weekend. Thank you to all the folks who travelled a long way to stay with us. We are sharing some photos of indoor events here, but you can see some outdoor ones on our website. We are taking a break now until January but will let you know about any impromptu clear skies winter stargazing and moon watching sessions via Facebook.

With thanks for all your amazing support in 2025. Here's to some clear skies in 2026!



Some Celtic Moon themed storytelling with  
Alison Clark



Wild Skies Shetland wowed us with a VR tour of  
the Northern Lights



Edglands inspiring us with the indigenous art of  
the Arctic skies and the Seven Sisters (Pleiades)



Our astronomer Dr Chris Leigh amazing us with  
the story of light in the universe

## Gigha Village Hall

To book the Gigha Village Hall please email [gighavillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:gighavillagehall@gmail.com) or telephone Joe on 01583 505251.

## Emergency Plan Group

The Emergency Plan Group will be distributing a leaflet to all households to assist with developing their own emergency plan. Please contact the Trust Office if you require additional copies.

## Sound of Gigha

Many thanks to everyone who joined us for Bingo Night Fundraiser on Friday 21st November. It was a fantastic turnout, and we are delighted to share that £430 was raised in support of next year's Sound of Gigha festival, taking place 5–7 June 2026. We are deeply grateful to the local businesses on and off the island whose generous contributions helped us offer an array of brilliant bingo and raffle prizes.

Congratulations to our bingo winners -Casey-Jo Zammit, Marion Wilson, Martha Teale, Terry Cullen, Sam Williams and Bryce Harvey - and to Fiona, who took home the cash bingo prize, with the top raffle prize going to Acca (Alistair McNeil). Special thanks to Red Herring Restaurant Tarbert, McNairs Fuels, McDowell Butchers, Headquarters Barbers, Campbeltown Picture House and Cadenheads Whisky for your support. A huge thank-you also goes to everyone for their continued encouragement, and to all the committee members and volunteers whose hard work makes these events possible.

We're also glad to announce more upcoming fundraisers in the new year, including Murder Mystery Night on 14 February, Gigha's Got Talent on 14 March (to coincide with Gigha Day), and a Treasure Hunt on 11 April. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year when it comes.



## Isle of Gigha Camp and Motorhome Site

The Campsite had a good 2025 season and we have plans to make improvements over the winter in preparation for an even better season in 2026! The Campsite is open weekends only until the end of March, as well as being open for the Christmas and New Year period. Bookings are now open for Spring/Summer 2026 – tell all your friends! It is advisable to book early for bank holidays, school holidays and when there are events happening on island.

<https://www.visitgigha.co.uk/Campsite>

## Gigha Community Fund

The Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust launched the Community Fund in November 2019 to benefit the residents of Gigha, and to help support a thriving and healthy community on the island. Since then, the fund has supported 39 projects totalling £20,762.47.

The range of projects include Bookbug sessions, Sound of Gigha children's events, Christmas Light Trail, training defibrillator and Village Hall hire.

If you would like to apply to the Gigha Community Fund, please contact [office@gigha.org.uk](mailto:office@gigha.org.uk) to request the guidance notes and application form.







# 2025 GIGHA RANGER SERVICE OVERVIEW



## NATIVE TREES PLANTED

As part of our NatureScot invasive non-native species and hedgerow project, we planted a mixture of hawthorn, blackthorn, field maple, hazel, and crab apple.

13,080

405

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

Not just our fabulous island volunteers, but also Edinburgh Young Walkers, Scout Explorers, and residential volunteers came to lend a helping hand. The work we do would not be possible without them!



## FUNDING FOR SKUNK CABBAGE

Secured from Highland and Islands Environment Foundation for removal of this invasive non-native species.

£13,310

116

## EVENT PARTICIPANTS

Including moth mornings, pond dipping, rock pooling, adult autumn woodland sessions, guided walks, and bonfire night.



## FUNDING FOR RHODODENDRON PONTICUM RESEARCH

Secured from Future Woodlands Scotland to trial new mapping and monitoring technology.

£9,540

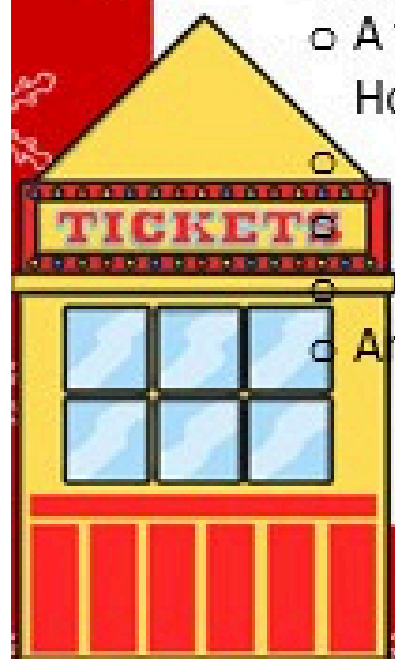
# Gigha Primary School & ELC Christmas Fair

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 12-2pm

Please come along and support our school and ELC Parent Council fundraiser to help raise funds for winter PE activities. We have:

- Soup and fresh rolls & Tea, coffee and mince pies.
- A human fruit machine with prizes for all
- A children's Lucky dip
- A bottle stall
- Guess the map square whisky competition.
- A silent auction and raffles with prizes including:
  - A 4 ball for Machrihanish Dunes
  - A 4-ticket distillery tour For Ardbeg Distillery
  - A McDowell's Large Steak pie
  - A Family ticket for Inveraray Jail
  - A family of 4 Sunday lunch for the Machrie Hotel
  - 6 bottles of Islay's finest whisky's
  - Gin
  - A McNair's voucher
  - And much much more!

We hope to see you there!





GIGHA VILLAGE HALL

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

AT 4:00PM - 6:00PM

SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER

JOIN US FOR PARTY GAMES,  
GINGERBREAD COMPETITION, SNACKS  
& A VISIT FROM A SPECIAL GUEST







# *Gingerbread Competition*

DECORATE A GINGERBREAD PERSON  
TO BE IN FOR A CHANCE TO WIN AN  
AWESOME PRIZE!

BRING YOUR GINGERBREAD MASTERPIECES  
ALONG TO THE VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS  
PARTY!

WE HAVE A LIMITED NUMBER OF GINGERBREAD  
PEOPLE AVAILABLE SO MAKE SURE YOU GRAB  
ONE TO BE IN FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

CONTACT MARGARET GUTHRIE TO  
ARRANGE COLLECTION!