

APRIL 2022

UOG SPRING NEWSLETTER

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URRAS OIGHREACHD GHABHSAINN
GALISA ESTATE TRUST

HABOST HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CENTRE
Bulky Household Waste Disposal and Recycling Point for the disposal of Household Waste Only

SUMMER OPENING HOURS
28 MARCH 2022 TO 29 OCTOBER 2022

MONDAY
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CLOSED

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Operatives will be onsite during the opening times.
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Contact Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn - 01851 850393

OUT OF HOURS
Emergency Repairs Only - 01851 850393

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Facal bhon chathraiche

A note from the Chairperson

There is something about watching young lambs playing that lifts the spirit and there are many lambs on crofts now. Spring is in the air, and we seem to have avoided a repeat of last year's snow.

There is also a lot of activity in polytunnels and polycrubs with many people taking a new interest in growing their own food. The polycrubs at the Clan Macquarrie Community Centre in Borge are the result of a joint project between the Urras and the Centre and the project is intended to encourage growing food and to provide a learning space for folk keen to grow but with no previous experience (p5). As the price of food increases many more might consider having a go at growing their own food.

It's good to see visitors returning to the island and visiting this area. I really hope that accommodation providers and catering businesses will have a successful season. The campervan site and toilets at Tom na Bà have been developed to complement the other sites and facilities available through the community (p7). The tourism web site and the new visitor app should ensure that all visitors can easily find facilities and other information (p9).

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and find some interesting reading.

Tha coimhead uain bheaga a' buiceil 's a' leum a tha a' toirt togail dhuinn. Chan eil teagamh nach eil uain air iomadach lot tron sgìre an-dràsta agus coltas an earraich mun cuairt oirnn.

Thall sa bhos thathar ag ullachadh son glasaich de gach seòrsa a chur ann an leasan agus ann an polytunnels agus polycrubs. Chan eil teagamh nach eil an dà rud air goireas às ùr thoirt dha daoine aig a bheil ùidh ann a bhith a' fàs biadh. Chaidh na polycrubs aig an talla am Borgh a thogail airson cothrom thoirt dha fheadhainn nach robh airson tunnel na crub chuir an àirde iad fhèin agus tha iad cuideachd nan cothrom ionnsachaidh. Saoilidh mi gun aidich a h-uile duine nach eil dòigh ionnsachaidh ann cho math ri bhith cur do làmhnan dhan ùir agus faicinn ciamar tha rudan a' fàs (dg 5). Le prìs a' bhidhe dol às a rian 's mathaid gum bi tòrr a bharrachd ag iarraidh seo fheuchainn.

Tha e math a bhith coimhead luchd turais tighinn air ais dhan eilean 'sa tadhal san sgìre. Às dèidh dà bhliadhna dhuilich dhan ghnìomhachas tha mi an dòchas gun tèid gnothaichean gu math dha gach ionad bidhe agus àite-fuirich. Tha an làrach son carbadan campaidh aig Ionad an Urrais a cur ris an liuthad goireas eile tha a-nise air feadh na sgìre (dg 7). Tha fiosrachadh de gach seòrsa air an làrach lìn agus an App agus tha sinn an dòchas gun dèan luchd-turais feum mhath dhuibh (dg 9).

Gheibh sibh tuilleadh mu iomadach cuspair sa chuairt-litir seo.

Agnes Rennie

UOG Chairperson / Cathraiche UOG

DRYSTONE WALLING COURSE

FRIDAY 27TH & SATURDAY 28TH
MAY 2022

@

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£110 PER NON-RESIDENT

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your place



URRAS OIGHREACHD
GHABHSAINN
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Fèis na Fairge

Abair fèis inntinneach agus togaireach a th'ann an Fèis na Fairge! What an interesting and exciting Fèis na Fairge 2022 we had.

On Thursday 24th March we had a fantastic online talk from Prof Alexandra Sanmark of the University of the Highlands and Islands, 'The Norse & the Sea: The Maritime Cultural Landscape of Scandinavian Scotland'. This was then followed by an evening screening of 'Spàrr | Rivet', an innovative new piece of filmed theatre linking oral history from Lewis and Govan boatbuilding and shipbuilding.

Then on Friday 25th March, we had a wonderful presentation & discussion on the past and future of Sgoth Jubilee, chaired by volunteer skipper Ian Stephen. Also with us were Iain Macleod and Trevor Robertson, who both explained why Jubilee is worth saving.

On the morning of Saturday 26th March, we walked the Dell coast with archaeologist Ian McHardy & historian David Gange with support from Dòmhnall Ruadh. A morning of sharing stories, meandering along the shore & seeing things from a variety of perspectives.



Photo above: Fiona Rennie

In the afternoon, and to top the whole 3 days of events off, a team of keen litter pickers were out for a beach clean at Traigh Shanndaigh, followed by tea & cake with Guth Airson Iarrtasan Nis!

Thank you to all our event hosts, staff & participants for such brilliant events!

Butt of Lewis Lighthouse Buildings - Foundation Scotland and Crown Estate Scotland Award

We are delighted to announce we have been awarded a grant of £31,400 from Foundation Scotland and Crown Estate Scotland, via the Community Capacity Grants Programme. With tourism and its associated facilities being a key focus of our 20-year Strategic Plan, the funding allocated from Foundation Scotland and Crown Estate Scotland will be used to cover a much-needed feasibility study for the Butt of Lewis Lighthouse



Photo credit: David Matheson

buildings, as we seek to improve facilities there for both visitors and residents of North West Lewis. Monies allocated will also allow us to revisit our tourism strategy, enabling the delivery of the impactful tourism opportunities with long-term benefits that we seek for our area.

Easter Plòigh

Abair seachdain spòrsail!

Well done everyone on a fantastic Easter Plòigh 2022 - great teamwork by both partners and participants. Between 4th - 8th April as part of Plòigh, we had games and bouncy castles every day at Spòrsnis Play, a heritage trail with Comunn Eachdraidh Nis, planting and sowing at the The Hebridean Community Garden, a film with Taigh Dhonnchaidh, and sessions with Comunn na Gàidhlig and Eoropie Play Park. For our older children in Plòigh Mhòr, we had screen printing with Elaine Smith, raft building and mountain biking. Plòigh and Plòigh Mhòr are a partnership between Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn, Spòrsnis, RSPB, Taigh Dhonnchaidh, GAIN (Eoropie Play Park), Comunn na Gàidhlig, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and Comunn Eachdraidh Nis.



*Chì sinn as t-samhradh sibh!
See you in the summer!*

Updates from the Hebridean Community Garden



Spring is always a lovely time to be out gardening and for us at The Hebridean Community Garden it is especially energising because of all the new developments at the project. Thanks to grants from the Island Communities Fund, Healthy Islands Fund and the National Lottery, you will notice many new changes on site. Chris Barrowman is working hard on a series of drystone walls, our new (giant) polycrub is now up and is fitted out with raised beds, Breedons have begun their works on improving the car park at Clan Macquarrie Community Centre, and our sensory garden is starting to burst into life and colour. Keep your eyes open for the launch of a new set of garden classes for beginners during May and June. For more information, visit: www.hebrideancommunitygarden.co.uk.

Happy gardening!

Christopher Smail

*Project Manager -
The Hebridean Community Garden*



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OUT OF HOURS

Zero Waste Western Isles (CNES): 01851 709900

SEPA: 01851 706477

SEPA 24 hour pollution report line: 0800 80 70 60

UOG: 07469 189 449

Site Licence Number: WML / N / 0220269

Sunnd 2022

Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn's health and wellbeing programme 'Sunnd' is coming to an end, after a successful 3 months of activities to help keep our community active and healthy between January and March.

We had a fantastic range of activities, including salsa dancing, cookery demonstrations, photography workshops, first aid courses, art sessions and even sea swimming. Thank you to all our partners and participants who provided/attended/hosted sessions as part of our Sunnd programme.

Some sessions had to be rescheduled. These include:

Salsa – 26th April – 7-8pm @ Barvas Community Centre

Release Method – 22nd & 29th April – 2.30-3.30pm @ Spòrsnis

Immerse Hebrides Sea Swim – 23rd April @ 2pm & 30th April @ 4pm
– either at Stoth or Port of Ness, location will be confirmed.

If you'd like to book a place on any of these, please visit our website or call us on 01851 850 393 for more information about 'Sunnd'.

Mairi Graham

Development Officer



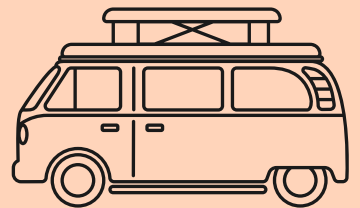
Campsite and Tourism

We are very happy to say that our brand-new tourism app, 'Visit Galson Estate', is now live and ready to be downloaded via the Android and Apple platforms. Please download it and explore the audio tracks, interactive 3D map and business listings.

The Galson Campsite is becoming increasingly busier as we are hitting the summer season, with more visitors using our brand-new shower and public toilet facilities. We have added within the facility a noticeboard for posters and leaflets to further promote local businesses. If you would like to have your business on the noticeboard, then please email office@uogltd.com.

Colin Morrison

Graduate Tourism Administrative Officer



Port of Ness Access Road

Remedial works at the Port of Ness access road got underway on 19th April and the contractor, Duncan Mackay & Sons, expects to be on site for 6 weeks.

Anyone requiring vehicular access to the harbour area during this period should contact Murdo Murray (07900 442497) in order to make arrangements with the contractor.

Available Now

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Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn is a company registered in Scotland - No: 273903 and a charity registered in Scotland - No: SC036903



**Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn
Business Centre,
Tom na Bà, South Galson
HS2 0SH
Tel: 01851 850393
Email: office@uogltd.com**

Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn's Business Centre in South Galson is now operational.

Staff are working in a hybrid manner, with their working days split between the Business Centre and home.

**A company registered in Scotland |
Companaidh Clàraichte an Alba - No: 273903
A registered Scottish Charity | Carthannas
Clàraichte an Alba - No: SC036903**