

FEBRUARY 2022

UOG WINTER NEWSLETTER

Other articles in this issue

Note from our
Chairperson
Page 2

Updates on our
Tourism Projects
Page 4

Sunnd - What's On?
Page 8



**Colin Maclean - A Tribute
Page 3**



URRAS OIGHREACHD GHABHSAINN
GABHSAINN ESTATE TRUST

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

WINTER OPENING HOURS
1 NOVEMBER 2021 TO 26 MARCH 2022

MONDAY

10AM TO 12 NOON
2PM TO 4PM

TUESDAY

CLOSED

WEDNESDAY

10AM TO 12 NOON
2PM TO 4PM

THURSDAY

10AM TO 12 NOON
2PM TO 4PM

FRIDAY

10AM TO 12 NOON
2PM TO 4PM

SATURDAY

9AM TO 12 NOON
1PM TO 4PM

Operatives will be onsite during the opening times. COVID-19 guidelines remain in place.
Please refrain from disposing of items outwith these times as this will be treated as fly tipping.
Contact Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn - 01851 850393

OUT OF HOURS
Zero Waste Business Hub (01851) 850393

**Amenity Site Hours -
Page 6**



The Hebridean Community Garden Updates - Page 5

Facal bhon chathraiche

A note from the Chairperson

A Happy New Year to everyone.

Bliadhna mhath ùr dhuibh.

I hope the year ahead will bring better times for all of us after two very challenging years in so many ways.

Tha mi an dòchas gu faic sinn uile piseach a' tighinn air gnothaichean às dèidh dà bhliadhna th'air a bhith gu math duilich ann an iomadach dòigh.

The Urras staff are looking forward to working in the new Business Centre in Galson and welcoming the community once again. After two years of much uncertainty due to COVID-19, we hope that it will be possible to progress work and develop new projects with the many groups in the community who have also had to put their plans on hold.

Tha luchd-obrach an Urrais a' coimhead air adhart ri faighinn dhan ionad ùr agus gnothaichean a chur air adhart a chùim maith na coimhearsnachd. Às dèidh dà bhliadhna de mhì-chinnt ri linn Covid19 tha sinn an dòchas gu faighear air an obair àbhaisteach a choilionadh agus aig a' cheart àm tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ri tòiseachadh ag obair còmhla ris an iomadh buidheann anns an sgìre tha an dùil planaichean a chur an gnìomh.

I want to mention our sadness at the recent death of our friend and colleague Colin Maclean. There is a full tribute to Colin later in this newsletter (page 3).

Bha sinn duilich ar deagh charaid Cailean Macilleathain a chall o chionn ghoirid agus tha sinn a' toirt luaidh air Cailean anns a' chuart-litir (duilleag 3).

I am sure you will all find something of interest in this issue of the newsletter and I would like to encourage you to read more on these and other stories on our social media platforms and each fortnight in Fios.

Tha mi làn chinnteach gun còrd na naidheachdan sa chuart-litir ribh agus mholainn dhuibh leughadh an tuilleadh gach cola-deug sa phàipear ionadail Fios agus air nam meadhanan sòisealta.

Agnes Rennie

UOG Chairperson / Cathraiche UOG

Plòigh and Plòigh Mhòr, our school-holiday event programmes, return for Easter 2022!

Easter Plòigh will take place from the **4th - 8th April 2022.**

Booking for events will open on **21st March** at **www.ploigh.co.uk**

Plòigh

Colin Maclean - A Tribute

We learnt with great sadness that Colin Maclean, one of our trustees, had passed away after a long illness.

Colin was elected onto Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn in 2005 and remained on the Board since then, bringing with him experience of running his own business, a passion for crofting, and a great enthusiasm for new ideas. He could see the benefits that could come from the Urras having its own revenue stream and took enormous pleasure from seeing the many projects supported through the Community Investment Fund.

Being Colin, we were never able to put enough towards crofting and he never lost his belief that crofting could be modernised and contribute to the economy of the area.

It was a great delight to everyone that Colin had recovered well enough to attend the Board meeting held last November in the new Business Centre in Galson. Unfortunately ill health and lockdown meant that we were not able to repeat this and despite his interest in all things technical, Colin resolutely avoided Zoom meetings.

The Board and staff at the Urras extend our condolences to Colin's wife Ishbal and their family; Christine, Norman, Angus and Calum and their families.

Bidh sinn gad ionndrain a charaid chòir.

Agnes Rennie

UOG Chairperson



Colin Maclean by Fiona Rennie

AGM 2021

We were delighted to host our 2021 Annual General Meeting both in person in the Business Centre in South Galson and online on 30th November 2021.

After updates on UOG activities and projects over the reporting year, guest speaker Magnus Davidson gave a thought-provoking talk on land-use and repopulation in the Highlands and Islands.

We hope to host more in-person events through 2022, subject to COVID-19 regulations.



Updates on our Tourism Projects

Since joining the Urras in November 2021, there have been various tourism projects which I've been supporting and managing. After a long time planning and developing, the Galson Campsite is finally up and running, situated behind the UOG Business Centre. There are four hard standing pitches and a brand-new block, which has toilet, shower and washing facilities. Since recently advertising the Campsite on multiple websites such as TripAdvisor, Visit Hebrides and Visit Scotland, we have already received several bookings this year, with our first guests staying in January.

With the Visit Galson Estate website live, www.visitgalsonestate.com, we have been focusing on ensuring that local businesses and key hot spots are being advertised to showcase the Galson Estate and help visitors be more aware of what the area has to offer. We were very fortunate to receive funding from the Scottish Government Digital Boost Development Grant to develop a tourism app, which will not only complement the website, but will also feature new and exciting features, helping visitors to shop, support and stay local to the Galson Estate.

I'm looking forward to seeing how these projects will impact tourism and the local community.



*First guest at the Galson Campsite, top.
Electric hook-up points, below.*

Colin Morrison

Graduate Tourism Administrative Officer

Administrative Officer

Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn are seeking an Administrative Officer, working 28+ hours a week (negotiable).

The Administrative Officer will work alongside the Administrative team to ensure an efficient running of the Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn Business Centre.

The successful candidate will be self-motivated and focused on delivering excellent customer service. For more information and to download an application pack, please visit our website:

www.galsontrust.com/job-vacancies

or call us on **01851 850 393**

We have a
VACANCY

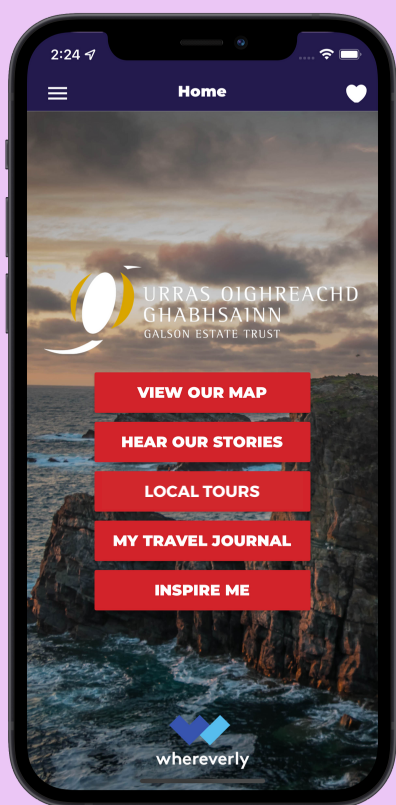
Visit Galson Estate App Launching March 2022!

NEW

Our new app, 'Visit Galson Estate', will be launched in March 2022.

Our app will compliment our tourism website, Visit Galson Estate.com, highlighting beauty spots and signposting local businesses.

If you would be interested in listing your business on the app, please contact us - details on the back page of this newsletter.



Save the Dates - Fèis na Fairge

After its successful launch in 2021, we are delighted to say that our maritime heritage festival, Fèis na Fairge [Festival of the Sea], will again return in 2022.

The Fèis will run from the **24th - 26th March inclusive**, and will have a blend of in-person and online events. With last year's programme featuring fascinating talks, film screenings, and a range of community activities, you'll not want to miss this year's calendar of events!

Keep an eye on our social media channels and our website for further updates.



Updates from The Hebridean Community Garden

The end of 2021 was a wonderful time for our community garden - we received successive 'yes's from a number of grant applications that we were waiting to hear from. New awards from the Islands Communities Fund, Healthy Islands Fund and the National Lottery Community Fund will allow our project to flourish and expand over the 2022-24 period.

Keep an eye open as you drive past the garden at Clan Macquarrie Community Centre over the next three months because you will see several new buildings going up and plans realised - drystone walls from Chris Barrowman, resurfacing works in the car park, a third polycrub and a series of raised beds. These will improve access to the garden, provide vital shelter from the elements and allow us to expand our growing programme in dynamic new ways.

The Hebridean Community Garden has a beautiful new website - courtesy of Heb Web Design - which I encourage you all to check out (www.hebrideancommunitygarden.co.uk). It has all the necessary information, as well as photographs, videos and links to our social media channels.

We are still adapting to the shifting tides locally, nationally and globally in our relationship to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is why community gardens are more important now than ever before. They offer a blueprint for sustainable and healthy living, where new skills can be learnt, and you can engage with the natural world through plants, flowers, birds and insects.

We cannot wait to share all these new developments with you this year.

Christopher Smail

Project Manager - The Hebridean Community Garden





URRAS OIGHREACHD GHABHSAINN
GALSON ESTATE TRUST

HABOST HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CENTRE

Bulky Household Waste Disposal and Recycling Point for the disposal of Household Waste Only

WINTER OPENING HOURS

1 NOVEMBER 2021 TO 26 MARCH 2022

MONDAY

10AM TO 12 NOON

2PM TO 4PM

THURSDAY

10AM TO 12 NOON

2PM TO 4PM

TUESDAY

CLOSED

FRIDAY

10AM TO 12 NOON

2PM TO 4PM

WEDNESDAY

10AM TO 12 NOON

2PM TO 4PM

SATURDAY

9AM TO 12 NOON

1PM TO 4PM

Operatives will be onsite during the opening times. COVID-19 guidelines remain in place.
Please refrain from disposing of items outwith these times as this will be treated as fly tipping.

Contact Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn – 01851 850393

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' kicked off in January 2022 with a range of activities. The programme started with a 6-week block of line dancing and the dancers got to know their grape vines and jazz boxes taught by Dave, their 82-year-old teacher. Great fun for all ages! This block will be followed by a 6-week salsa class in the Barvas Community Centre. Come and join 'Stress Monkey Solutions' to dance away your cares, either on your own or with a partner, no matter your age.

1-1 gym sessions were also run by Spòrsnis to tailor a fitness plan to your needs. Whether you're running marathons on the treadmill or needing some help with mobility, book a session any Friday at 2.30pm until the 18th of February. This block will be followed by a 6-week block of Release Method classes, mat-based gentle exercise which will help your strength and balance. If time-out is needed from exercise, work and life's daily stresses, relax with Caroline Envill as part of her online guided relaxation session. Switch off from it all for 30 minutes while listening

to her soothing voice - the next session is 3pm on 9th March.

Those looking for something more creative were introduced to DIY Screenprinting on Tuesday 25th January by Elaine Smith, making some beautiful tote bags and paper prints. Plenty more screenprinting sessions to choose from in the coming months. Fiona Rennie began a 6-week Introduction to Photography class which went down a storm at the first session.

We now have more first aid certified individuals in our community, thanks to Murdo at Western Isles First Aid Training who taught the group on 17th January. Murdo will be back in March for more training, this time focused on infants and toddlers.

Sunnd is hoping to visit the Comunn Eachdraidh Day Club and the Young at Heart in the next 2 months with some talks from Ability Net, TIG and NHS Western Isles departments - Mental Health, Occupational Therapy & Podiatry, to name a few.

Thank you to all our partners and participants who provided/



attended sessions for Sunnd over January and February.

If you'd like to see the programme, please visit our website or call us on 01851 850 393 for more information about 'Sunnd'. You can also pick up a booklet from local outlets on the Galson Estate. See overleaf for the programme for March.

Mairi Graham
Development Officer

DID YOU KNOW?

We have a new, bilingual Events Newsletter, distributed by email. Be one of the first to find out about upcoming UOG events! To sign up for the Events Newsletter, visit our website:
www.galsontrust.com/contact
and fill in the form at the bottom of the page.

SUNND 2022 - WHAT'S ON?

MARCH 2022

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

01

Salsa

02

Art Session

03

(YAH) -
TIG

04

Health Walks

Release Method

05

07

Health Walks

08

Salsa

09

Guided
Relaxation

10

Day Club -
Podiatry

Photography

11

Health Walks

Release Method

12

Art Session

14

Health Walks

15

Salsa

16

Art Session

17

First Aid -
Children

18

Health Walks

Release Method

19

21

Health Walks

FOCUS

22

Salsa

23

Heb Garden

24

Day Club OT

Photography

25

Health Walks

Release Method

26

28

Health Walks

29

Salsa

30

Heb Garden

31

Art Session

1

Health Walks

2



FULL PROGRAMME: GALSONTRUST.COM
OR CALL US ON 01851 850 393



URRAS OIGHREACHD GHABHSAINN
GALSON ESTATE TRUST

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*