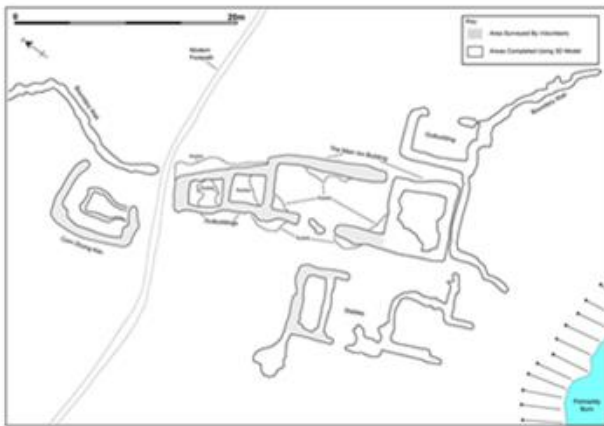




Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership Can You Dig It – Community Archaeology Project Update – August 2019

As we come to the end of the summer, it's a good time to look back on the work we've done as part of our Community Archaeology programme in July and August 2019. Thanks to our funders, [Historic Environment Scotland](#) and the [Heritage Lottery Fund](#), we've been able to make all of these learning experiences free for our volunteers. Big thanks are also due of course to the volunteers, who are making this into a fabulous programme, full of hard work, fun and finds, and also to [Rathmell Archaeology](#), whose team remain most professional and enthusiastic, even in the face of some rather challenging weather conditions!

The **Polmaddy survey** in mid-July was undertaken on two such 'challenging' days, but the volunteers persevered undaunted and created an excellent survey of the inn of the deserted settlement, which will hopefully add a lot of value to any further interpretation or exploration of the site.





This was followed by the **Castledykes excavation** – our first proper dig! There were ‘finds galore’ and also the chance to see a special exhibition put on for us at the [Stewartry Museum](#) from the 1910s Castledykes excavations – fabulous to see our work set in a wider context.



We then had a second very successful **guided walk up Corserine** to survey the remains of the WWII high-ground wrecks there – a fascinating aspect of our more recent history, and also a chance to see the Galloway Glens from a new perspective!





A third **Survey Skills workshop** was held in St Cuthbert's Kirkyard at the end of July, including the chance to join in on the regular guided tours of the Kirkyard hosted by the [Kirkcudbright History Society](#) – thanks for inviting us along guys!



In August, we were delighted to be a venue at the [Kirkcudbright Arts and Craft Trail](#) for our **Moat Brae excavation** – we certainly got lots of interested visitors as well as volunteers, which was excellent to see. We've also been really pleased this summer holiday to have plenty of family groups along – it's never too soon to recruit the next generation of enthusiasts!





Lastly, we had a great few days at a **Raiders Road deserted settlement** last week, unearthing what looks to be a substantial dwelling. It's hard but rewarding work out there, and the volunteers have been doing a great job at uncovering some more of our relatively recent history, despite yet more 'challenging' weather conditions!



If you'd like to find out more about this programme, which will be continuing until at least March 2020, do contact Helen Keron, the Galloway Glens Education and Community Engagement Officer, on helen.keron@dumgal.gov.uk or 07827 306 866.

For regular updates of upcoming events and progress reports, follow us on Facebook and Twitter – search for CanYouDigIt (@GGLPArchaeology).

For news articles and technical reports of our work to date, look on:

- <http://gallowayglens.org/resources> and scroll down to Can You Dig It, and
- <https://gallowayglens.org/projects/community-archaeology-programme-can-you-dig-it/>

Helen Keron
Galloway Glens
21st August 2019

