



Newsletter #3

www.sanctuariesforhumanity.org

Welcome to the June 2026 Sanctuaries for Humanity (SfH) newsletter.

Plenty has been happening since our last communiqué, even if things move slower than we would like at times.

We said farewell to Vincent Mount (Chair of Susila Dharma International Association) as Trustee, though we look forward to collaborating with him in the future. We welcomed Harman Scott, as a Trustee in Scotland. Harman is a retired architect who is knowledgeable in all fields relating to buildings – particularly old ones. His expertise serves us extremely well as we look for the right property.

After a long process – initiated with ideas by Lawrence Pevec, US, Isaac Mount, UK, and finally realised by Marcus Bolt in the UK – we have a logo for SfH, including header, colour scheme and a revamped website, courtesy of Marcus (design) and Kitka (web builder in Australia). Please check it out.



The process of applying for charity status in England and Wales, which we initially thought was necessary because most of the trustees were based in England, became more expensive and complicated than we expected. Understandably, acquiring charity status these days has become more of a challenge than it might have been in the past. Among other things, we also discovered that while an England and Wales registered charity is not automatically valid in Scotland, a charity located in Scotland is valid in England and Wales. So, we put a stop to the process in

England, found a competent team of charity lawyers in Edinburgh, and have now submitted our application in Scotland. Having a trustee in Scotland was not a requirement but it is beneficial, so we are very happy to have Harman on the Board now.

As we proceeded with all this, we also began to consider the types of workshops we might offer once we have a sanctuary property. Among others, we welcomed Jamil and Mariallah Hugenholtz from The Netherlands to the team. They have decades of experience running a broad range of workshops – *Listening with Love*, *Breath is a Portal*, *Making Conscious Choices*, *Inspiration Week* and many more – and are keen to be part of the project. This led to the idea of organising some workshops this summer, even if we do not yet have our own venue. So, we are happy to announce that we will be running workshops in both Lewes, East Sussex, England, and Perth, Scotland, between July 10th and 29th. Please check out the WORKSHOPS area on our [website](http://www.sanctuariesforhumanity.org), in case you are close to either location and want to join in.

And now to news about Properties!!!



Ardanaiseig, located directly on Loch Awe, Argyll.

We visited quite a number of properties last summer and autumn, and also this spring. Harman and I often made the first visit, later being joined by other trustees. Quite a number have been truly impressive, such as [Greenside](#) in Fife, as well as Broomhill and Invertrossachs which were included in our previous newsletter. Yet, every time there were key points that made them impossible to consider: limited accessibility; the distant but constant drone of traffic noise; insufficient land for future development.

This summer, however, we found a property we became quietly excited about: [Ardanaiseig Hotel](#) on Loch Awe in Argyll. We have paid three visits, coming to realise that the 175 acre property was ticking every one of the boxes on our long list of criteria.



Main Building

It is a sixteen en-suite bedroom, award-winning hotel, with many additional buildings, including loch-side boathouse accommodation, a water-front amphitheatre, a two-bedroom cottages, 10-bedroom staff accommodation buildings, and planning permission (expired but easy to re-establish) for eco-cabins and stunning tree houses! It also has a football field-sized walled garden (a project in itself), different woodland areas, large open spaces, extensive planted gardens, plenty of water front, and an island with exciting potential use. You can understand why we were getting cautiously excited!

We began to brainstorm ideas of how the property might be run, how to build a small community on site and how we might involve the broader community in the area – all within the framework of our intention document (check it again on the website).



Amphitheatre by the water

Of course, because we are awaiting charity status, we are unable to make quick decisions, something the estate agents are well aware of (some in particular are getting to know us quite well and proving very helpful). This is a situation that we are unable to change. The process of acquiring a property will always take longer for us than for many potential buyers. Considering the diverse acreage and the buildings included, the £2,000,000 attractive price tag made it fairly clear that it could be off the market quite quickly. This happened two days ago, when an offer was submitted, so part of the news I hoped to share is now out of date. However, you never know... things change, deals fall through, etc.

The process, however, has been very useful in motivating us to further consider the many angles regarding acquiring a property, fine-tune intentions as well as give serious thought to fundraising and getting more people involved. All that is, of itself, material for a separate communiqué to come, so I will finish this off here sending greetings and best wishes to you all, on behalf of the SfH team.

Keep safe and in good spirits.
Osanna

