



The Bugle

**Magazine for Gargunnoch
and the surrounding area**

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**Issue 42
April 2016**



MAX TO JOIN NATIONAL SQUAD!

Local Stirling High schoolboy, Max Flett, is "over the moon" after being selected by Basketball Scotland as one of twelve playing members of the Scotland Under 13 Boys National Development Squad.

After receiving the good news, Max said "I can't wait to play for Scotland, I'm so excited and really looking forward to playing with a few good friends who have also been selected to join the squad. We'll do our best in Andorra for sure!"



Jennifer Abernethy, Principal Teacher of PE at Stirling High School said "What a wonderful achievement for Max. His hard work has certainly paid off!"

The twelve strong squad will travel to Andorra to participate in the TIM Pirineus Tournament, organised by the Andorran Basketball Federation. They will compete with other European teams from the 29th April to 1st May.

To ensure they make the trip, the squad need to raise funds of £3,000 between them. On the 4th of April, Max ran up Dumyat with his Dad, Andy and former Stirling Knights player and now Glasgow Rocks professional basketball player Adam Hammerschmidt and has raised £930 - a big thank you to those who have sponsored Max so far. Max is now looking for a business sponsor and it would be fantastic if someone in the village would be willing to support him, there are many affordable options available with benefits including exposure to over 6000 Basketball Scotland members.

Thank you in advance for any support you can give him (please contact Hilary & Andy Flett on andyflett@mac.com).

Twelve year old Max, who lives in The Glebe, trains with the Stirling Knights Basketball Club U14 team twice a week and was recently selected to join the Knights Performance Academy. This involves an extra two hours training a week (an hour before school on a Monday & Friday) as well as two fitness sessions.

Good luck Max from all your family and friends.

HOT TROTTERS FUNDRAISER

They wiggle, they grunt and they race at breakneck speed (well sort of). The first pig race of this kind comes to the Gargunnoch Community Centre on Saturday 7th May at 7.30pm. Lots of races for great prizes. Cheer on lively races of six muscle bound battery pigs over the Sty Stadium Race Track. Celebrity pigs such as Linford Crispy, Del Trotter and Patsy Swine compete to be Champion Pig. Own a pig and get VIP (Very Important Pig) treatment on the night.

This fundraiser for the Gargunnoch After School Club will be a great squeal. Licensed bar and live music after the races with Stevie Buchanan, Derek MacLachlan and friends. Tickets are £8 (includes food) and available from the village shop or GASC committee



GARGUNNOCK GALA DAY Saturday 18th June

One of the village's annual highlights is fast approaching; congratulations to our Gala Queen Morgan Wilson and our Gala Laird Aaron Buchanan.

The Gala this year will kick off as ever with our fancy dress competition and parade from the Park. With the Olympics taking place in Rio this summer the chosen theme is a Samba/Brazilian one. Should give plenty of scope for fancy dress ideas whether it's Carnival or Sports themed.

We will then make our way down to the Community Centre where we will have a range of stalls and tea room.

The BBQ will kick off late afternoon when the bar also opens, and later we'll have great live music from a band we all know and love!

- Fun starts at 2:45pm, Entry is FREE
- Money Prizes for Fancy Dress (Children, Teenagers & Adult)
- Every Child Receives A FREE GOODY BAG
- Every Adult in Fancy Dress Receives a Token for a FREE DRINK AT THE BAR

The Committee would be delighted to receive donations for the big day of:

- Home Baking
- Sweets and Children's toys for Tombola Stall

Donations for any of the above Stalls can be passed to the committee:

- Stevie Buchanan
- Fiona James
- Stuart Campbell

We're looking for as many volunteers as possible this year to help it go with a bang. If you'd like to help in any way on the day, run a stall, help with prizes etc then please contact Stuart Campbell (stucampbell3@gmail.com). You'll receive a very warm welcome!

Look out for your Gala flyer nearer the date when more details will be given.



**GARGUNNOCK VILLAGE TRUST AGM
Thursday 28th April at 8pm**

**GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM
Monday 6th June at 7:30pm**

Both of these meetings are open to everyone in the village and are held in the Community Centre.

There will be vacancies in both bodies and more people are needed.

If you would like to be more involved in either of these village groups please come along to their AGM and find out more information.

GARGUNNOCK FOOTBALL CLUB

The new season has already kicked off and in this significant year in the Club's history, the 60th Anniversary, we will be making every effort to ensure that a successful season is achieved.

The Management team are excited about the challenges ahead and have welcomed a few new faces to the team to complement the experience we already have.

Nevertheless, if anyone is interested in playing for the Club, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Committee whose details are on the Club website:

<http://www.gargunnockfc.co.uk/>

We would be delighted to see anyone who wishes to support the team at matches, and a fixture list is also posted on the website.

Dates for your diary, to support fund raising for the Club are ;

14TH May 16 - Race Night in the Community Centre (BYOB)

28th May 16 - Annual Duck Race - 2pm at the Square.

Once again, the support offered by the community and businesses in the village is greatly appreciated by the Committee and Players.

To celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Gargunnock Football Club, we have planned a recognition evening for 17th September 2016, in the Community Centre and further information on this will be published at a later date.

Thank you for your continued support.

Bill Sinclair

Chairman, Gargunnock Football Club

GARGUNNOCK FOOTBALL CLUB RACE NIGHT

Saturday 14th May 2016

in the Community Centre

Races start at 7:30pm

B.Y.O.B.

Raffle

Tickets - £7.50

Gargunnock FC are holding what is shaping up to be a real fun night. Bring friends along and enjoy a great night. Have a go at being a jockey or support your friends.

Hope to see you there.

If you would like to sponsor a race, buy a horse or buy tickets please contact Trish Petrie, Muriel Ferguson (0784 334 9943), Kirsty Lamond or The Gargunnock Inn.



'Young at Heart' (Drop in class)

is a dance exercise class designed for Active Older Adults wanting to have fun, whilst exercising to music, with easy-to-follow moves

Mondays: Kippen Village Hall 11.30am - 12:15pm

Tuesdays: Gargunnock Community Centre 11.30am - 12.15pm

Thursdays: Doune Rural Hall 10:00am - 10:45am

For further information please call

Janice on 01786 860251 or 07565 182259

Personal Training also available at a time to suit you

Please collect any lost property from the Community Centre, unclaimed items will be disposed off at the end of May

OH GRADYhow we miss you.

Just a week and a half ago, our second Guide Dog puppy, Grady, was taken in to further training at the training school at Forfar. Due to a 'blip' in the management of puppy production by Guide Dogs, he was getting on for 18 months before he left, which gave us four extra months to love him, and it was hard to see him go.

Grady is a Retriever/ Labrador, which is Guide Dogs major and preferred breed and he proved to be the best example of this mix. He was a star - the gentlest, best behaved dog, who has delighted us and all those who met him, throughout our time together. (We have to remember here, that we only have our black rascal, Guinness, as a benchmark!!) Guinness was withdrawn from Forfar after 12 weeks and is now an adored pet, living by the beach in a family with boys. Just perfect for him! We were delighted to have an update from his new owners at Christmas time.

However, only about 73% of puppies eventually go on to be guide dogs as there are often health issues as well as temperament difficulties which manifest during further training. They may well be passed on to other agencies such as the police, who use the German Shepherds, or become hearing, assistance or buddy dogs. This despite a very scientific and rigorous testing of the puppies when they are babies - dogs will be dogs!

While Grady was with us, we managed to do 14 talks to various groups of adults and children, and we really enjoyed this opportunity to inform folks about the work of GDBA. As always, we managed fundraising along the way and were particularly delighted when our local groups helped us in this way.

May we say a **big thank you** to you all.

Just this year, the association has been allocated several weekends to collect within the Thistle Centre - if you are ever shopping on those weekends, there will be lots of dogs around to cuddle near the back entrance of Debenhams!

For the last 2 months we have had a new wee puppy in our lives, another Retriever/Lab and have had a hilarious, hectic and delightful time with our two boys. Ian is a puppy sponsored and named by the Glasgow Vet School, and we are informed by our vet friends that he was probably named after one of the lecturers there. Hopefully we will find out, as we will be invited to visit when Ian is a bit older. When Ian arrived at 7 weeks, he was like a polar bear cub, but has since darkened in colour a little. More Guinness than Grady, we nickname him 'the missile', but he is the most loving little lad and learnt a lot from the big boy before he left.

It is sobering to know that there are 1500 puppies bred each year by GDBA and that does not meet the need. How fortunate are those of us with functional sight. We are happy that we are able to play our part in transforming a life.

Marilyn and Steve Willett



Save The Date

28 April	Trust AGM
7 May	After School Club Race Night
14 May	Coffee morning at Community Centre
14 May	Football Club Race Night
21 May	Songsters Spring Show
28 May	Duck Race
4 June	Gargunnock Show
6 June	Community Council AGM
18 June	Gala
2 July	Doune & Dunblane Show

Bite & Blether 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month 11am - 3pm

THE YEAR OF THE TABLECLOTH and CANDELABRA

Well that's another Flower Show Quiz over - and a successful one it was too. A good turnout of participants, Robert and Liz Petrie provided a great variety of questions - and the Minister's table was regaled with a tartan tablecloth and a candelabra!! Yes, a tablecloth and a candelabra. Never known such a thing at a quiz. Goodness knows what will happen next year when others try to copy/better that.

Anyway, the winners were friends of the Smellies from Stirling, Bill Sheila Claire and Robin with an excellent score including 3 rounds when they got 10 out of 10. Well done indeed. Runners up were the Stitches and Bitches who gave the winners a good run for their money. and the booby prize yet again was the team comprising Jamesie, Sandra, Anne and Maitland (last names have been omitted to protect them from embarrassment). This is the 3rd time in the last 4 years that 2 of them have been recipients of this award.

Thanks go to all who participated in the organising of the event which raised £290 to enable the Flower Show to continue.



The difference between travelling 2 miles at 20mph and at 30mph is only 2 minutes

Gargunnock Songsters present

The Spring Show 2016

with Guest Soloist
Marion Wyllie

Saturday 21 May at 7.30pm

Gargunnock Community Centre

Tickets : Adult £8 : Children £4 including refreshment

RAFFLE

Tickets available from choir members
and Gargunnock Village Shop



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Saturday
30th April 4-6pm

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Choose From:

Vanilla
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Bring this ad along to the
Gargunnock Village Store and
claim your free ice cream cone.

Offer expires Sunday 15th May 2016

PILATES CLASSES AT COMMUNITY CENTRE

We are now moving into our second 6 week Pilates Block at the Community Centre and everyone who attended the first block has already reported an increase in their overall mobility and strength.

During the first block I introduced everyone to the key principles of Pilates - and how to apply these principles to some of the basic exercises. The Key Principles of Pilates are:- Concentration, Centering, Control, Breathing, and Flow. These principles are all used to perform one of the fundamental Pilates exercises which is Knee Fold.

Many of the Pilates key exercises involve being able to perform Knee Fold correctly as the exercise will help you find and work your deep core muscles and develop good pelvic stability. By learning how to perform this simple exercise you can learn how to move without tension and maintain length through the spine - therefore reducing the chances of injury.

The benefits of Knee Fold will give you smooth everyday movement patterns such as walking, climbing the stairs, bending and relief of back pain.

How to do Knee Fold

Alignment check:-

- Lie on your back with your legs bent, and feet hip width apart.
- Ensure feet are in line with your legs, toes pointing straight forward.
- Your neck should be long and relaxed.
- Shoulders should be dropped and your chest is open.
- Arms should be by your sides palms facing up.
- Your ribcage should be released onto the floor.
- Your spine and pelvis are in "neutral position" (not tucked in or arched).

The exercise:-

- Exhale as you lift your right foot off the mat and fold the knee upward to your body. Allow the weight of the leg to drop down into your hip socket. Remain grounded in your pelvis and long in the spine.
- Inhale and maintain the position, staying centred.
- Exhale as you slowly lower the leg back down and your foot on the mat.
- Repeat 5 times with each leg.



Jacquie Robertson is a Qualified Level 3 Mat Pilates Teacher

Pilates Classes are on at the Community Hall each Thursday morning at 9.30am.



WIND FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT

We are dismayed to have to tell you that we are still struggling to reach an agreement with the windfarm developers as to a fair division of the money. We met with them in March and found that their "preferred option" is equal shares for all 6 Communities involved. We believe this one size fits all approach is unfair to us for a variety of reasons, but chiefly the location of all but one of the the turbines is within our "territory"

They did promise to again review the detailed case that we have put forward and come back to us, this they have unfortunately failed to do. There is a problem in that the developers are under no obligation as to how they allocate Community Benefit. We will keep trying and it is to be hoped that with the commissioning of the new turbines due within weeks that the developers will see the need to finalise matters.

TRANSFER OF THE GLEBE GROUND INTO COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

The legal processes in transferring the ownership of this area into the ownership of the Community Trust is ongoing. The Trust and Representatives of the Village Interests Association are working cooperatively on this.

Once the legal stuff is complete we will move into a consultation with Villagers where everyone will be able to have an input on how this asset should be used.

A LIMERICK MYSTERY FOR THE RURAL

In January the competition set for members of the WRI was to write a limerick with the first line being "There was a cyclist called Jane".

The entries were submitted and judged by the members and, lo and behold, nobody knew who had penned the winning entry!

There was nothing on the piece of paper which could give any clue as to who the author was. The entry had mysteriously been put through Tina's door anonymously in the dead of night.

Examples of the entries

*There was a cyclist called Jane
Who when jogging was always in pain
So she took to her bike
And everything felt right
And was never seen jogging again*

*There was a cyclist called Jane
Caught speeding along in the rain
Her water was tested
And she got arrested
Cos her bottle was full of champagne*

THE WINNING ENTRY

*There was a cyclist called Jane
Who hit a pot-hole in Kirk Lane
And, boy, does she cuss it
Cos the seat pierced her gusset
So she'll never sit comfortably agane.*

So, that wonderful poet has still not come forward to claim the very valuable prize on offer - as well as the world-wide fame!!

*About the Rural limerick last week
Who's the unknown writer they seek
For the poem which was wrote
Got the members' top vote
But the mystery name will not speak
(Ed)*

SO CAN ANYONE THROW A LIGHT ON WHO THE AUTHOR IS ??? THE BUGLE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.



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blair drummond

living, working and growing together

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

June 2016 – Camphill Blair Drummond turns 40 in June! We have set a challenge to raise £40,000 to give the community a birthday gift of an equipped outdoor sports area for our residents, students, co-workers and staff to enjoy.

Please visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/40kBirthdayChallenge> to help us achieve our goal.

Saturday 11th June:

6pm – 9pm: Bike Safari

Year 5 of our popular Bike Safari! Will you take on the Ostrich Challenge of 10 laps around the Safari Park or will you be a Cheeky Monkey and do one lap? See our website for more details.

Sunday 12th June

3pm – 5pm:

Shona Gidney and friends return to Blair Drummond House for an entertaining afternoon featuring music for ensemble, piano, woodwind and voice. Refreshments included. Tickets available from the Appeal Office. Please call 01786 841573 ext.113 or email andrea.khan@camphillblairdrummond.org.uk

Saturday 18th June & Sunday 19th June: Birthday Celebrations!

There's something for everyone in our birthday programme – do come and join us (see reverse of the enclosed invitation for further details).

Saturday

10am – 5pm: Forth Valley Open Studios

Our Community is delighted to be taking part in the Forth Valley Open Studios event again. Our doors will be open from 10am to 5pm on Saturday 18th June and Sunday 19th June. We hope you can come and enjoy looking at the wonderful art and craft work we do here.

12pm – 4pm:

It's our 40th birthday! Come and celebrate with us at our Open Afternoon. Check our website for more details.

Sunday

10am – 5pm: Forth Valley Open Studios

1pm – 5pm: 'Scotland's Open Gardens'

Visit Park House on Cuthil Brae and enjoy an afternoon in the sunshine, exploring Jamie and Sue Muir's wonderful gardens. Then wander along the woodland trail to Blair Drummond House for a cream tea on our lawn. What a treat!

Admission £5, children free. Camphill receives 40% of the admission fee, with the remainder going to Scotland's Gardens beneficiaries.

Rev's Rant Show Support



Dear Friends,

Do you remember the 2015 Gargunnoch Agricultural Show? Not many will cos only the hardest of weather-proof folk ventured out on that June day of gales and lashing rain that blew away the beer tent and drove the WRI into the Community Hall for their competitions. Doune and Dunblane Show didn't fare any better a couple of weeks later on a Saturday which began with a huge thunder and lightning storm, but full marks went to the organising teams who managed to press on regardless. "The Show must go on," was definitely the cry that went up and these events will go down in the annals of Agri-Show history. Being honest they heralded a pretty awful summer and an even worse winter for all our farming folk across this area, and across the rest of Scotland and northern England with floods, destruction and despair. BBC TV has certainly given farming a boost over the past couple of months with programmes like "The Mart" and "This farming life", making stars of George and Sybil (I married them!), Bobby and Anne Lennox, Martin and Mel and the rest. We've all enjoyed watching them, but perhaps there is more that we can do for our farmers than just watch.

Make the commitment today to go to the Gargunnoch Show on 4th June. Decide now to make Doune and Dunblane Show a day out on 2nd July for you and the family, whatever the weather. Invite your friends – and show support for those who feed this nation, make the countryside look as wonderful as it does and whose livelihood is under threat more than ever this year. "Countryfile" reported this week that prices farmers are getting are down across the board – Dairy, beef, lamb, pigs, cereals. They worry too about the effects of the EU referendum and the Scottish elections. They are our neighbours and friends who are quick to lend a hand to the community when the snow falls and we need snowploughing done, or when we need a trailer or tractor to enable a village event to take place.

I've got faith in farming and I hope you will show that you do too!

God Bless, Rev Andy



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or just as an extra pair of hands for your own DIY project. Hourly and daily rates.

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email: balcarreshouse@gmail.com

You are invited to a coffee morning on Saturday 14th May at the Community Centre.

Money raised will support a trip to Ecuador in summer 2017 with Balfron High to help build a better life for children who are less fortunate than us.

There will be a raffle and the more money raised the better. It would be great if you could support me in this cause.

Many thanks, Lorna Farquhar



**Doune
&
Dunblane
Show**

**Saturday
2nd July 2016**

GARGUNNOCK PLAYGROUP & TODDLERS

Gargunnock Playgroup and Toddlers runs sessions weekly throughout the year for all children up to school age. If you are new to the village and have young children or are expecting a baby please do get in touch.

Gargunnock Playgroup runs every Monday and Thursday from 9-11.30am during the school term in the Community Centre. Our qualified staff run a varied set of activities suiting all ages and interests. We are an independent Playgroup, registered with the Care Inspectorate, managed by parents and welcome children from 2½ yrs to pre-school. The cost is only £6.00 per session. Ad hoc rates and discounts for more than one child are available. Please contact playgroup@gargunnock.com for more details.

Gargunnock Toddlers is aimed at children under 2½ but we happily welcome all children under school age along with their carers be they Mum, Dad, Granny, Grandpa, childminder etc. If you are expecting a baby it's a great opportunity to meet up with some of your contemporaries in the village. We provide lots of toys and a snack for the children, teas and coffees for adults. We meet in the Community Centre every Wednesday (10-11.30am). Why not come along?

NEWS -This year the committee introduced a new fundraising event with an Easter Party on Easter Sunday. Despite the inclement weather, the kids had a ball hunting for eggs, showing off their Easter Bonnets and generally eating far too much chocolate! We were pleased that the childcare first aid course we ran in March was well attended.

We would like to thank the Gargunnock Inn for their ongoing support for Playgroup and Toddlers; their hosting of our quiz nights is greatly appreciated (especially their delicious sandwiches!) and we were delighted to recently receive a £50 donation for our funds from them. Speaking of which, next in the fundraising diary is our ever-popular pub quiz - on the 13th of May at 8pm in the Gargunnock Inn. If you haven't been to one of our pub quizzes before, why not get a team together and pit your wits against your fellow villagers, it's always a fun night.

We will be holding our Playgroup & Toddler AGM in June (details will be posted on noticeboard and village website). It's a great opportunity to get to know other parents/grandparents and see what the kids have been up to over the last year. There's usually some pretty good refreshments too!

If you want to get in touch at any time please contact Ashley Fleming (Peter and Nairn's mum) Lomond View, Quarry Brae, Gargunnock; ginger3481@hotmail.com or call 07904650781.

GARGUNNOCK PRIMARY OPEN AFTERNOON

On Wednesday 30th March, the school was opened to parents and families to come in and see the recent work done by the children on their Rainforest topic.

Once the visitors had made their way through the smoky swamp, they were able to explore the various displays around the school.

Children were stationed at each display to tell their visitors about all the learning, and to test their knowledge of rainforests too!

It was a super afternoon, and the children loved having an audience for all their activities and displays.

They were given some lovely feedback from parents at the end, which the children were so proud to receive.

We'd like to share a few quotes from the visitor book:

"Wonderful work. Amazing to see all the beautiful artwork and writing. Well done everyone"

"Amazing - now realise how little I know about the rainforest, but have now improved my knowledge 3 fold! Love the forest wall and all the décor."

"The kids were so animated, great to see! Fantastic creativity!!"



Interested in Archaeology - Can you Help?

Keir Hill of Gargunnock is a 2000 year old fortified elite settlement, controlling trade between the Roman Empire to the south and the barbarians to the North, across The Fords of Frew.....would you like to help us uncover its secrets?

Dr Murray Cook, Stirling Council's Archaeologist is planning an excavation on the site in June and is looking for volunteers helpers!

Please contact Murray for more details
cookm@stirling.gov.uk

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Patients can now order their medication online, just speak with reception on how to register.

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GARGUNNOCK GALA

in good condition please.

Drop your contribution
anytime between now
and June with

Janene, 3 Broompark
Jackie, 2 The Glebe
Morag, 8 The Glebe



1st Prize £50, 2nd £30, 3rd £20

Saturday 28th May at 2pm

Ducks for Sale in the Village Store, Gargunnock Inn
or from any Gargunnock Football Club Player

Duck Race



Fun, friendly and interactive music classes for children aged newborn to 4 years

Come and play with our puppets, scarves, bubbles, pom poms, parachute and percussion instruments.

music bugs

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Gargunnock Community Centre
10.15am on Tuesdays
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NEW TERM STARTS 19th APRIL

POLICE REPORT

PC Raymond Murphy and PC Steven Graham are the ward officers for the Forth and Endrick area, which incorporates Gargunnoch and surrounding areas. Both are based at Balfour Police Office, and can be contacted at the office, on 101 or at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk.

The current ward priorities for the Forth and Endrick area are Antisocial Behaviour, Road Safety, Theft and Community Engagement and Reassurance. The following is a summary of local policing activity since the last edition of The Bugle.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

In January, a motor car was deliberately damaged in Main Street, Gargunnoch. One male was subsequently traced, charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal in relation to this.

In January, a search warrant was executed at a residential property in Gargunnoch. A quantity of controlled drugs were found within. Two males were reported to the Procurator Fiscal after being charged with drug supply and possession offences.

In January, one male was found to be in possession of Cannabis in Kirk Lane, Gargunnoch, and was charged with this offence.

Between Tuesday, 5th April 2016 and Wednesday, 6th April 2016, deliberate damage was caused to a motor car on Stevenson Street, Gargunnoch. Enquiry is ongoing in relation to this incident, but if anybody witnessed anything suspicious around that time, please contact Police Scotland or CrimeStoppers.

ROAD SAFETY

Since January, there have been two recorded road traffic collisions on the A811 near to Gargunnoch. One of the collisions resulted in serious injury, and a driver involved was reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

The Central Scotland Safety Camera Partnership and Police Scotland have continued to perform speed enforcement and hi-visibility patrols in and around Gargunnoch, resulting in a number of motorists being given advice regarding their vehicle or manner of driving, or prosecuted where appropriate.

The new 20mph speed limit throughout the village will undoubtedly contribute towards road safety and has been welcomed by local members of the community. Local ward officers, PC Murphy and PC Graham have carried out hi-visibility speed checks in the area to highlight the reduction in speed limit to motorists, and will continue to do so.

THEFT

Between Saturday, 5th March 2016 and Thursday, 17th March 2016, an attempt was made to gain access to a residential property in The Glebe, Gargunnoch. Enquiry is ongoing in relation to this incident, but if anybody witnessed anything suspicious around that time, please contact Police Scotland or CrimeStoppers.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT and REASSURANCE

Over the past few months, PC Murphy and PC Graham have carried out patrols of the area, engaged with local people and businesses. They have also visited Gargunnoch Primary School and introduced themselves to the pupils, as well as having a discussion with them about road safety.

We regularly publish information and appeals online. Our local Twitter feed can be found at @StirlingPol, and our local Facebook page can be found at 'Forth Valley Police Division'.

Police Scotland Public Consultation Survey - Your View Counts

The Police Scotland Public Consultation Survey was launched on Thursday, 7th April 2016. In previous years, the survey was paper-based and involved community officers delivering and collating the surveys from members of the local community. This year, the survey has been placed online.

The survey allows local communities to provide feedback to Police Scotland in relation to a variety of topics, including the views of local people and what they feel local policing priorities should be in their communities.

The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete, and everyone is encouraged to participate in it. The survey and further information can be found at www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts.

SHEEP WORRYING

A three month Police Scotland campaign was launched on Tuesday, 1st March 2016 to raise awareness amongst dog owners about the devastating effects of livestock worrying. Unfortunately, there have been several reported incidents of sheep worrying in the Forth and Endrick area, some of which have resulted in the death or injury of sheep, and the dog owner being charged. Owners are reminded to ensure that their dogs are under control in or around fields containing livestock. Full details of the campaign can be found at www.scotland.police.uk



Update – Safer Routes to Schools Project

We have received a response to a letter written to Stirling Council to express our profound disappointment and frustration at the work undertaken at the school entrance on Station Road. Initially, it appeared that the promise of a safer access/egress to the school at the Station Road entrance had only partially been realised.

The reply has stated that implementation of the full project had been delayed by the extremely wet weather experienced over the last few months. I have been assured that Stirling Council are committed to this scheme and are looking to have the first phase fully completed by the end of April 2016. Further funding is required to complete phase 2 of the project (wider scheme for rest of village) which has a proposal for a new shared pedestrian cycle path on Station Road ensuring the safety of those approaching the School from the east. A modified design around the school entrance to that proposed in the consultation is to be installed.

The alternative design, which will be highly visible and has allegedly proved effective as a speed reduction measure at other locations. This feature will cover the full junction width and better emphasise the school access and need to reduce speed. A similar detail will be used at the other crossing point on Leckie Road. Vehicle speeds will be monitored for a period after introduction of the scheme (phase 1) and if necessary the project will be revisited should it not prove successful. All other aspects of the project remain as previously proposed.

Please observe the new **20MPH** speed limit, it has been implemented to protect the children in the village.

Lovat MacGregor

For and on behalf of Gargunnoch Community Council

POTORAMA 2016

If you have a pot from last year and do NOT want to participate this year please let Maitland know 07763098247.

2015 participants keeping their pots can either use their existing designs or repaint the pot and try a fresh design, as there is no set theme.

If you are new and wish to participate this year and want a pot, please let Maitland know.

Closing date is 15th May.

(60 names are already registered so it should be a great show)



WORD OF THE MONTH: CINCHERS (n - American slang) brakes
CONDIGN (adj) well-deserved
eg. overheard in the shop "See noo that there's a 20 speed limit in the village, we'll need tae yase the clinchers specially comin doon Main Street and Manse Brae. If we dinnae we'll get caught and get a condign punishment."

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