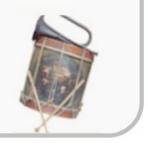


# Magazine for Gargunnock and the surrounding area

Issue 74 May 2023 www.gargunnock.org





#### Saturday 3rd June

#### **Main Ring Schedule**

There will be kids face paintings on a stall, available between 11am-2pm only.

We do not take pre entries for Pet Dog Parade or Children's Races.

We will welcome the first few Hill Race runners, back into the main ring - there will be a separate finish line thereafter.

Remember to stop by the Industrial tent to check out all of our school painting entries, plus photography, arts & crafts, floral art and baking!

### Andy & Ann Mayhew - A Card From The King

In the last edition of The Bugle we shared with you news about Andy and Ann Mayhew's Diamond Wedding Anniversary on March 6th. Since writing, Andy and Ann received a card from King Charles III and Queen Camilla congratulating them on their happy occasion. Andy and Ann are delighted to share some images from their special day and their beautiful card.







## **Editorial**

Welcome to May's Bugle. It's almost summer and that means we'll get to see the Farmer's Show and the Gala once again.

Thank you to all the contributors who sent in their articles, advertisements, and more, to update Gargunnock.

Good luck to all our P7's moving on to High School.

Also thank you to the distributors who go out their way to distribute the Bugle, and this time the Flower Show schedule too.

All contributions can be sent to <a href="mailto:gargunnockbugle@gmail.com">gargunnockbugle@gmail.com</a>, please send feedback for this Bugle edition. The deadline for the next issue is 13th August 2023.

Louise Crawford, May 2023

#### **Shop update**



The Gargunnock shop working group has applied to the Scottish Land Fund (SLF) for funding. We have received notification that we have been successful at stage 1 and invited to move forward to stage 2, the final application phase.

In parallel, we are also making an application to the UK Community Ownership.

We will let you know of future progress.

Mike Buckley
Gargunnock Community Council

#### Reminder - We're a 20mph Village



One of our residents in Main Street has been in touch to remind us that we are a 20mph village.

In Main Street they observe that cars and vans frequently exceed the 20mph limit as they pass up and down this very populated street.

But it's not just Main Street, all over the village drivers are forgetting to slow down.

Please be considerate of our village and remember to observe the speed limit.

## **Dates For Your Diary**

Thursday 25th May Sunday 28th May Sunday 28th May Tuesday 30th May Saturday 3rd June Tuesday 6th June Wednesday 7th June Saturday 17th June Thursday 22nd June Sunday 27th August Wednesday 6th September Sunday 10th September Monday 18th September Tuesday 19th September Saturday 23rd September Sunday 24th September Sunday 8th October

Walking Group - Cashel Forest

Pentecost Sunday

Chat-Craft-Create at the Community Centre UCI Drop -in Session at the Community Centre

Gargunnock Farmer's Show

Walking Group

Bite and Blether at the Community Centre

Gargunnock Gala Day

Walking Group

Flower Show at the Community Centre Bite and Blether at the Community Centre

Talks in the Kirk - Peter Rowell Windfarm Panel application deadline SWI resumes at the Community Centre

Kirk Open Day

Talks in the Kirk - Dr Murray Cooke

Talks in the Kirk - Ian Roy



Once again Anne Marie has sent in some of her beautiful photography for us all to enjoy!



#### **Chat -Craft-Create**

28th May 2-4pm Community Centre Adult Craft Group



I'm trying to start a group for like-minded crafters. Beginners to well experienced crafters.

After Covid I thought it could be a good way to get our community together. To meet new and old members in the village. We can reuse/ upcycle / repurpose items. Turning an unwanted shirt into an apron/tote or even a fabric wreath. A way to come together to make cards or jewellery. Learn a new craft or simply share ideas.

We have lots of talented crafters in the village.

Let's pass on skills and pull our resources together.

Free to come just bring a mug/cup for a tea or coffee.

I'd love it if you could bring an item you have made, or ideas on things you would like to make.

Anne-Marie MacGregor

#### **Gargunnock Hill Race**

Gargunnock hill race takes place on Sat 3rd June, as part of the Gargunnock Show.

Race starts: 12:30pm, with entries on the day open from 10:30am onwards at the show. £5 7.5km route up to the flag pole, with 300m of climb.

Home baking and refreshments as rewards.

Prizes for 1st 3 ladies and 1st 3 men and first Gargunnock local lady and 1st Gargunnock local man up for grabs! Everyone welcome!





Gargunnock Curling Club enjoyed another great season of curling at The Peak on Sunday evenings throughout the winter.

This year's 'Golden Touch' award goes jointly to Matt Stevenson and Anna Brand who were part of the winning teams in both Bugle and Drum competitions.

Unfortunately, neither was able to emulate Bobby McAllister's treble from last season. Will it ever be repeated?

Full list of the winning teams is as follows:

#### The Bugle:

- Matt Stevenson
- Graham Dingley
- Donna Fleming
- Anna Brand

#### The Drum:

- Ian Watt
- Gregor Baillie

#### Doubles:

- Pauline Evans
- Ashley Fleming
- Anna Brand
- Matt Stevenson





## **Gargunnock Primary School**

#### The Great Gargunnock Story



What a performance we managed to pull together in March for our production of 'The Great Gargunnock Story'. With the Parent Council providing the funding for our very own stage and Fiona James from the village making us our back curtain, all we needed to complete the look was a bunch of talented pupils and they did not disappoint! It was a really creative way to learn about the life and times in Gargunnock over the centuries and one that the children will hopefully remember for a long time. David and Jackie Smith from Tapsalteerie Theatre Company really knew how to get the best from the children and they certainly embraced their roles as actors, dancers and singers so well. We definitely have some future stars in the making within our school population. It was also great to see so many of the villagers who do not have children at the school supporting our efforts. Feedback has been great, and some of the villagers also had a great time looking at all the old photographs of past classes.









#### **Coronation Fun**

It's not often that we get to see a Coronation so we decided to mark the occasion on Friday 5th May ahead of the bank holiday weekend. We decorated the hall with bunting, made coronation crowns and had a special lunch to mark the occasion. We even had coronation cake and Charles and Camilla made an appearance too. Each class then planted a Magnolia in our Jubilee garden and we look forward to seeing them bloom for years to come.

#### **Samba Drumming**

P5/6/7 have been learning how to play the samba drums this term with the help of Liam and Rory. Drumming is harder than you might think and there is a lot of teamwork involved as well as the skills of concentrating and keeping rhythm. Our pupils have taken all of this on board and have really been enjoying the experience. They are now planning an end of term performance which we are all looking forward to.







## **Gargunnock Primary School**

#### A plea from the school



Our Outdoor Learning Zone is a great community resource, as are the school grounds, and people are welcome to enjoy the space after the school day or at the weekends. Can we please ask though that you take away any litter. Recently we have found cigarette butts and lighters in the OLZ and this is not what we want for our young pupils.

Thank you for your support in this.

#### **Transition**

We will be very sad to say goodbye to our 7 primary seven pupils at the end of June. They have been a credit to the school and are definitely ready for their new adventure in High School. We wish you all well and remember that you can come back to visit anytime.



## **Hand Painted Pet Portraits by Gay Burt**











For that special forever gift, perfect for birthdays and anniversaries.

Spoil yourself, or other, with a long-lasting keepsake artwork of a well loved pet.

For further information, please email Gay at glb44@btinternet.com











Stirling is set to host the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships in August – with drop-in sessions organised for communities impacted by the event.

The 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships will be the single biggest cycling event in history, involving more than 8000 athletes from 120 countries, with the 13 existing UCI Cycling World Championships brought together into one mega event for the first time.

The anticipated global TV audience will place the event in the top-10 most watched sporting events in the world, rivalling the Olympics and Commonwealth Games and placing Scotland and Stirling on the world stage as a destination for elite cycling and cycle tourism.

The Stirling area will stage the Individual Time Trials from Wednesday 9 August to Friday 11 August for all categories - Men Elite, Women Elite, U23 Men and Men and Women Juniors.

Covering up to 48km of roads, the Individual Time Trials will see riders set off from the King and Queen's Knot in the shadow of Stirling Castle, before heading out west into the countryside and looping back into Stirling's historic city centre, with a sprint finish through the city to the finish on the Castle esplanade.

Three of the Road Races will also pass through the area – Men Elite (Sunday 6 August), U23 Men (Saturday 12 August) and Elite Women (Sunday 13 August).

The Men Elite will start in Edinburgh and finish in Glasgow city centre, taking in the Carron Valley and Fintry, while the U23 Men and Women Elite will start in Balloch at the foot of Loch Lomond, before heading towards Drymen, Balfron and Fintry, with riders also crossing the line in Glasgow city centre.

More details about all the routes to pass through the Stirling area, including maps, can be found at www.stirling.gov.uk/ucichamps.

While the Road Races on 6, 12 and 13 August will only require short-term rolling road closures, to ensure the Individual Time Trials can take place safely, certain roads will be closed for extended periods.

Letters have been issued to residents impacted by the Individual Time Trials and relevant community councils and community groups have also been contacted. These communications have included information about the first round of community drop-in sessions.

Gargunnock Drop-in Session: Tuesday 30 May - Gargunnock Community Centre, 2.30pm until 7.30pm.

## Bite and Blether

Wednesday 5th of April's Bite and Blether was again a busy one helping us raise £256 for the Community Centre. Thank you to all who came and supported us again!

The next one will be on Wednesday 7th of June. We will be having a break in July and August before returning on Wednesday 6th of September. Hope to see you all then after the summer break.

A selection of some of the goodies which our wonderful bakers supplied us with. There were meringues as well!! Yet again we can't thank them enough for the range and quality of their baking.





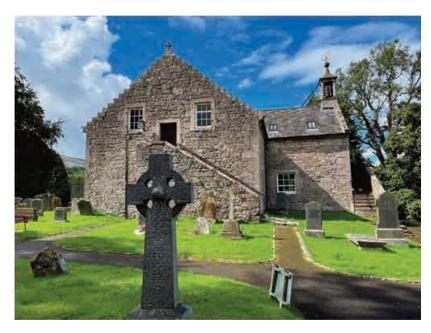
#### **GARGUNNOCK PARISH CHURCH - UPDATE**

The **Month of MAY** is a busy month for the Church with every week having a special SERVICE or EVENT.

**Sunday 7th May** - Rev Lynne Mack led worship at 10.30am and officiated at the Baptism of Millie Drummond. After the service, a 'Royal Frost' Tree was planted to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III the previous day. A report will be in the next edition of the Bugle.

14th to 20th May - Christian Aid Week when we can help dreams come true. The monies will help women in Malawi grow a crop which has amazing potential - Pigeon Peas – a hardy drought resistant crop – to raise funds to educate their children. Envelopes will be available from the Church on 14th May or by contacting the Session Clerk on 01786 860321. We are hoping to set up an online Just Giving page details of which will

be advertised by Poster on the Village Noticeboard or Facebook.



**20th to 25th May - General Assembly.** Representatives of Ministers and Elders from the various presbyteries of the Church of Scotland meet to hear and debate the Forum and Committee Reports presented to the Assembly. This year's Moderator of the General Assembly is Rev Sally Foster- Fulton a former Associate Minister at Dunblane Cathedral and presently the Head of Christian Aid in Scotland. The proceedings for the week can be followed on the webcast via the Church of Scotland website.

**Sunday 28th May – Pentecost Sunday** – known as the Church's Birthday. That day we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion conducted by Rev Ian Goring.

Good wishes to all within the parish.



Audrey Birrell, Session Clerk.

#### The WELCOME TEAM OF Gargunnock Kirk

Douglas Barr has left the group as he and Barbara have moved to Fishcross. He was a very active member of the Team and he'll be sorely missed. Now we are Hannah Vallance Emma King, Mark Dixon, Jean O'Connor and myself, Helen Rowell.

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!**

The next Kirk Open Day is on Saturday 23rd September from 10am to 4pm. There will be Kirkyard tours and the always popular home baking. We are developing other ideas too, watch this space! We have registered with Stirling Open Doors weekend and Archaeology month. We should also have a collection of items for the Food Bank in Stirling running simultaneously.

We have planned a series of Talks in the Kirk in September and October on Sunday afternoons at 2.30pm. So far, we have Peter Rowell, Area Officer for the MBA, on Sunday 10th September who will tell us about the past lives of some of the Mountain Bothies and who lived there; Dr Murray Cooke, Archaeologist, talking about the Jacobite Army and its passage through this area on Sunday 24th September and Ian Roy, Secretary of the Clydesdale Horse Association, who will talk to us about the Clydesdale horse on Sunday October 8th October. There will be a further talk on October 22nd but this is still to be planned.

The Old Kirkyard Tours began again at the beginning of May and are continuing throughout the summer, every Wednesday and Saturday at 2pm. Emma will lead the Wednesday ones and Helen will lead the Saturday tours. Each tour can take up to 8 people, last about 45 minutes and have to be booked in advance. The booking email is gkwelcometeam@gmail.com or telephone 860630.

All these events are by donation and these donations allow the Welcome Team to seek additional funding from the Windfarm Trust which in the past has covered the cost of printing leaflets and we hope in the future will help towards the cost of the new notice board.

We hope to be successful in our Windfarm Trust grant application to install an information notice board near the bench on the grass verge beside the Kirk and road. This will be dedicated to the Welcome Team work and have a graves map and information about the history of Gargunnock Kirk, as well as leaflet holders so that tourists and passers by can help themselves to the two leaflets that we have developed since we came into existence in 2017.

We are planning a Kirkyard tidy up before then which will involve weeding and scraping moss and general sweeping to make the Kirkyard more presentable. No date has been set for this yet.

For any more information about the Welcome Team and its work, please call Helen on 860630.

#### Model of the Beild Farm

So what did you do during lockdown to while away the extra time you had on your hands? Walking, gardening, reading, learning? Well, John More, farmer at the Beild, had something to hand to keep him fully occupied. Already taking a step back from full-time involvement in the farm before Covid arrived he had turned his hand to modelling his own farm to a scale of 1:32 up in the loft above the former dairy.

Initial trial results (one of the big sheds) were promising so he carried on to do another shed and another and the farmhouse and the bungalow and the carse fields etc and almost before he knew it the loft was full! Of course all that work did not go unnoticed by two smaller pairs of eyes, i.e. those of grand-children Jack and Holly, who also spied all the tiny models of farm machinery and animals so John had to carry on and build them their own walk-in playfarm in an adjacent room.

The huge model really must be seen to be fully appreciated. The attention to detail is incredible, the more you look the more you see. Brings a smile to your face.

On the other side of the passageway John has created a diorama of the fields south of the main road under seasonal cultivation, Spring, Summer and Autumn with appropriate models on display. Around the whole room Emma Rock has painted surrounding backdrops so realistically that you can identify hills and buildings; Piperland, Kepdarroch, Lomond View, the last house in the village, Tigh na Coille, and even a flock of her Dad's sheep up on the hill!

It's difficult to imagine just how many hours of work must have gone into the construction of this model. The measuring of dimensions, not all easily accessible, the subtle changes in gradients throughout the farm to be accomodated, the choice and sourcing of materials, all must have taken time and a great deal of thought.





Life-like views from the model.



As a farmer's son John was introduced to regular, time-consuming farm duties at an age when other boys would have been developing their own model-making skills. He didn't have that opportunity perhaps to the same extent but has certainly shown no lack of ability here.

"So what now? I asked if it might be dismantled and transported for display elsewhere but no, it wasn't built with that in mind so it will have to remain where it is. Who knows, perhaps in many decades time it will still be there as a testament to one man's love for his and his late Dad's life's work.

















The roof of the byre has been left off so that details within can be studied

#### Gargunnock Walking Group - May 2023

The Gargunnock Walking Group has continued activity in 2023 with two excellent walks in April. The first was from Forest Lodge near to Aberfoyle where we walked the Dukes Path which takes you in a circuit from the lodge through the forest to the Dukes Pass road, across the road, and around a path which leads you back to the spectacular Little Fawn Waterfall. The second walk in April was to Moncrieff Hill. This wooded hill near to Bridge of Earn provided a fine walk up to the ancient Pictish Hill Forts on the summit. Had the day been less misty we would have had fine views to the hills of Fife and down the River Tay to Dundee. Thanks to Geoff for recommending this walk.

The next walk will be Thursday 25th May – Cashel Forest walk overlooking Loch Lomond. The bluebells should be well out for this walk.

Further dates are planned as follows: Tuesday 6th June and Thursday 22nd June.

The walks will be decided nearer the time and will depend upon the weather.

Possibilities for further walks include visits to Glen Sherup off Glen Devon, Dumgoyne, and around Auchterarder. Repeat walks may be made to Abyssynia Bothy and to the Whangie.

As usual these walks will depend on the weather on the day. We want to maintain the tradition of walking on fine clear days when we expect to have stunning views of the surrounding countryside. And we are always on the look-out for new and interesting walks within easy access of Gargunnock.

We normally gather at 9:30a.m. in the pub car park prior to starting our walk, and we always try to minimise the number of cars by sharing.

If you are interested in participating in our walks, call me on 01786 860608 or drop me an email to edmond.mansion@btinternet.com and I will put you on the circulation list for meets and send a copy of the Guidance Notes. Please note that one of the few rules that we have is no dogs. The primary reason for this is that we occasionally walk though areas where livestock graze and I would not wish to be associated with anyone's dog however well-disciplined whilst in the vicinity of cattle. We also expect participants to be responsible for their own wellbeing and capable of going the distance of the walk.

**Edmond Mansion** 



#### Windfarm Panel Update - May 2023

The Windfarm Panel is made up of community based volunteers including representatives from the Development Trust and the Community Council. The Panel is responsible for making awards within the Gargunnock Community Council area from Renantis (previously FALCK Renewables fund). We haven't met since the last edition of the Bugle so we don't have any new awards to report on for this edition. Our next meeting will be in May and we have a good number of applications to consider.

The Panel was interested to hear from under 25 year olds about their experiences of living in the village - this age group is often under represented in applications for funding. We received 44 responses – 34% from P6/7, 50% from high school pupils and 16% from young adults. An initial analysis found High school pupils are the group that don't think there is enough for them to do in the village and some good suggestions were made. The results will be discussed in detail at our next meeting and the winner of the cinema voucher will be notified. A massive thanks to everyone who took the time to respond to the survey, and Jackie, Nathan and Hope for pulling it all together.

We are still on the hunt for a 16 – 25 year old to join the Panel as our youth rep. It's a great way to get some useful experience and contribute to the village and looks fab on a CV or Uni/ college application. If you would like more info, or know of someone who you think would be interested please get in touch: windfarmpanel@gargunnock.org

#### Next Deadline dates for this year is 18 September.

When submitting an application always download latest form from https://www.gargunnock.org/wind-farm-applications.

If you want to submit a time critical application before then please email windfarmpanel@gargunnock.org





## **Trust News Update**

#### New trustee/director

Recently, we welcomed Dan Williams as a new trustee/director. We now have a full complement of trustees/directors. Dan is a software engineer working at Natural Power, a renewable energy consultancy based in Stirling. In his own words, 'Originally from Dorset, but moved to Stirling in 2014 and to Gargunnock in 2020 with my family. We briefly moved back to Stirling in August last year but instantly realised we had made a huge mistake in leaving Gargunnock and moved back at the earliest opportunity in February this year'. Clearly someone very committed to the village and who wants to make a positive contribution through the trust.

#### **Community Centre**

After some initial work to install solar panels and battery, it was discovered that a better solution was to install panels which are an integral part of the roof. This has meant that additional funding from the Windfarm Fund Panel and CARES has had to be secured so the work will restart at the start of June.

#### Clubs and activities day?

Having seen a similar event held in Thornhill the trust is thinking about holding a day later in the year, probably in the autumn, to allow clubs and anyone running existing activities or interested in setting up something to be represented at an open day. The idea is to invite everyone from the village to come along to see what is on offer.

If you are interested in being represented at this type of event, please email stuartogg54@gmail.com to help us gauge the level of interest.

If you are interested in setting up a new club/activity then it is worth just checking with the trust as we have items from previous clubs stored in the community centre which might be useful.

#### **Defibrillators**

Having recently taken on responsibility for the two defibrillators currently in the village, the trust has considered the option of adding others, one closer to Drummond Place and another nearer McLaren Park. We will investigate the options as we need an electricity supply and a publicly accessible location. Any ideas welcome!

#### Bite and Blether

Bite and Blether, held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Community Centre, goes from strength to strength, attracting considerable support from the village. Importantly it helps generate an important contribution which helps keep the Community Centre going.

### STOP PRESS: BEECHES PATH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



The trust is extremely grateful to Paths for All, which has recently awarded £50k from the Ian Findlay Path Fund, to upgrade the Beeches Path, a project we know has lots of support from the village. We have applications with other funders to make up the total cost. Once we have the full package in place, we will let everyone know the timescales for implementation as the path will have to be restricted while the work is underway.



## **Gargunnock SWI**

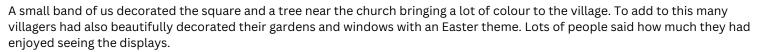
The Rural has had a very busy time since the last edition of the Bugle - especially in the last few weeks.

In February we had the Trossachs Mountain Rescue give a very interesting and well instructed first aid course which included using a Defibrillator. During part of the talk dummies were laid out for us all to try resuscitation and the defibrillator. It was amazingly strenuous doing the resuscitation on the dummies but both could prove to be invaluable in a life or death situation. We also raised £160 for the Earthquake Fund through our raffle.

Everyone was exceptionally generous.

March's meeting saw the very talented Janet Iffla demonstrating beautiful Easter flower arrangements which were then raffled off. She gave us lots of useful tips and masses of encouragement for having a go with our own displays.

April was been really busy!



The Area quiz was held at Drymen this year. We entered three teams with one coming 3rd. It was a very well organised and enjoyable evening. The winners were Ruskie and they will host the quiz next year.

Our April meeting was held at Kaleidoscope (Boquhan) where we not only saw quilting in action but had a very informative and interesting talk by Nancy.

On Saturday 22nd April we held a coffee morning with a cake stall, tombola and the addition of Green Routes selling plants. The fundraiser was in aid of Green Routes and our funds. Green Routes are the charity who are transforming the walled garden at Gargunnock House. Once the hall expenses have been paid we raised £215 each Green Routes and our own funds. A very big thank you to all those who helped, donated tombola prizes and home baking and to those of you who came along and enjoyed the day in the sun!

The end of our 2022-23 session is drawing to a close with just our AGM and annual outing left on the calendar.

Our AGM will be held at Briarlands on May 16th where members will have enjoy a picnic box supper (and a tractor ride if they are lucky!)

Many of us are looking forward to the outing to Scone Palace on May 28th. This includes a private tour and of course lunch. Hoping for a sunny day to enjoy the gardens!

We return on Tuesday September 19th at 7.30 in the Community Centre. Visitors and new members are always welcome so why not come along and enjoy our evening's entertainment, meet new friends and have tea, coffee and delicious home baking. We are a very friendly bunch! If you are interested in joining or would like more information please contact me on 07815522247 or email bmountford31@gmail.com.

Beverley Mountford – President Gargunnock SWI









#### <u>DigDeep - Kilimanjaro Charity Climb</u>

Now some of you may remember 10 years ago when I did a sponsored walk carrying 10kg of water around the village and doing a 24 hour silence to raise money for WaterAid in Kenya. Well you lovely people of Gargunnock helped 10 year old me raise over £300! 10 years later my passion for access to clean water in Kenya hasn't changed but I've got stronger and more resources to make a difference, so I thought why not times this challenged by TEN? I am aiming to raise almost £3,000 for a charity called DigDeep which aims to provide access to clean water, sanitation, and ethical employment in Kenya. This time I will be climbing Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest peak) to drum up some noise about the issue! There is no doubt that access to clean water is a fundamental human right. I hope that by raising this money and building these wells, toilets, and taps, more children can spend time in schools rather than fetching water and more adults can safely provide for their children through ethical employment. If you too, would like to make a difference you can donate to my page: <a href="https://dig-deep.enthuse.com/pf/julia-anderson-3aee5">https://dig-deep.enthuse.com/pf/julia-anderson-3aee5</a>

Another opportunity to make a difference where you win too is to 'link your loo' – what does that mean I hear you ask? Well for a £50 donation you can sponsor the creation or refurbishment of a clean and safe toilet facility in Kenya. <a href="https://www.digdeep.org.uk/link-your-loo">https://www.digdeep.org.uk/link-your-loo</a> if you add my name 'Julia Anderson' under the section that states " If you are supporting a current fundraiser through this Link Your Loo purchase please state their name here." Then it knocks £50 off my target and you get a certificate to place in your bathroom to show your contribution with a photograph of the toilet you helped sponsor! Similarly if you are a business owner – or know of one who would like to contribute you can donate to have your business logo on the t-shirt I will be wearing on my summit day (don't worry I'll get lots of photos), just email me if you would be interested in this at jpd.anderson23@gmail.com

Prior to signing up with this charity I paid a couple of maintenance fees that go towards the charity's advertising and the payment of their UK workers so you can be assured that 100% of your donation is going to those in Kenya who need it the most. The internet can be a bit tricky sometimes so if you would like to donate but not online then the old fashioned way is okay too – Mum and Dad will just pop it online for you so it can be dropped off at 20 Millbrae.

I would just lastly like to thank those of you who have donated already, I deeply appreciate it and you have made a difference.

Julia Anderson



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#### SCOTLAND'S GARDENS SCHEME 2023 - STIRLINGSHIRE

Some lovely gardens are open for charity in May.

On Sunday 21st May nine Bridge of Allan gardens are open for Yellow Book charities 1 pm – 5pm. A ticket with maps for all 9 costs £6 and is available at the Episcopal Church, Keir Street, Bridge of Allan. Teas and a plant stall will be located at the church. The gardens can be found on Charlton Road, Upper Glen Road, Pendreich Road, Henderson St. Westerton Drive and Mayne Avenue.

Lastly for May the garden at Shrubhill FK15 9PA, on the Hill of Row is open on Sunday 28th from 11am – 5pm. This is a 2-acre garden with informal planting of rhododendrons, azaleas and other trees and shrubs. The orders are full of late spring bulbs, meconopsis and primulas line the water feature. Admission here is £5 and again plants will be for sale. Full details and directions can be found on the Scotland's Garden Schemes website, and in the SGS Yellow Books.

Gardens open for charity this summer in Stirlingshire for Scotland's Gardens Scheme are listed below. Some are on a specific day and others open by appointment only through contacting the owners. Scotland's Gardens Scheme YELLOW BOOK has all the details and directions to reach the gardens. Look out for YELLOW posters with information on gardens in your area. These details can also be found on the website .....scotlandsgardens.org

Gargunnock House Gardens are open regularly on Wednesdays only 1st April to 30th September.

#### Gardens open on one specific day:-

Kilbryde Castle, 4th June, with a Plant Fair.

Thorntree at Arnprior, 18thJune.

Killearn Village Gardens, 30th July.

60, Greenhead, Alva. 6th August.

#### Gardens open by appointment:-

Kilbryde Castle Dunblane

The Gardener's Cottage Walled Garden, Ballochruin Road, Killearn from 16th June - 15th October.

Kilbryde Castle, till 30th September

Thorntree, till 31st October.

There is a charge for entry with 60% going to charities nominated by garden owners.

The garden openers and the district teams work hard all year to prepare these wonderful gardens for people to visit. Many have plant sales and teas and coffees available too. The main Plant Fair is held at Kilbryde Castle on the 4th of June.



Whatever the weather, why not visit some of these Open Gardens and enjoy the pleasure of walks in pleasant surroundings, and admire the wonderful flowers and foliage found growing in our part of Scotland.

Fiona Campbell





Water Boatmen mating in the Glebe pond.

Credit: Anne Marie MacGregor

#### **Snowdrops at Gargunnock House Gardens.**

It was good to see the local Estate gardens open again for the Snowdrop Festival and Scotland's Garden scheme. With cars parking down at the Lodge gates car park, and visitors paying into the honesty box. Walking up the drive, seeing the massed planting of snowdrops all the way up to the house gardens. Some off the early rhododendrons were flowering as well.



Many of the garden's ex volunteers will remember splitting and transplanting snowdrops in the green on many Sunday mornings in spring over the years. With the super show this year they must be pleased with their efforts. Next is the display of daffodils is coming along in April to May, then we can enjoy the fabulous masses banks of Bluebells.

The Snowdrop opening have raised £850.00 for charities including 20% for Gargunnock Community Council, Green Routes and the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group who have the Rhododendron planting in the East Glen, all local charities.

The Gardens are open again on Wednesdays 11.00 till 3.00 mid-April to End September again for Scotland's Garden Scheme.

Please see the local press for other gardens open in your area.













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**Contributions:** Letters & submissions may be made to the Editor (deadlines are shown elsewhere in the newsletter). We reserve the right to edit, shorten, or refuse to publish any article or letter submitted.

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