



Magazine for Gargunnock and the surrounding area

Issue 79

September 2024

www.gargunnock.org



Join Us Today - Invest in Gargunnock Community Shop Ltd

Dear Supporters,

We are thrilled to announce that the share offer for Gargunnock Community Shop Ltd is officially open! We invite you to join us in making a lasting impact on our village.

Having previously expressed interest in our community-led initiative, we would be delighted to have you involved in this next crucial step. By purchasing community shares, you'll play a vital role in revitalising a cherished resource in Gargunnock - a vibrant, environmentally conscious, community-owned store that has been the heart of our village for over a century.

Your investment will go directly towards the renovation and restoration of the shop building, ensuring it continues to serve residents, businesses, and visitors alike. With two major grants already secured, we are now raising the final **£60,000** needed to complete the project. This will cover essential elements like a new roof, interior fit-out, and necessary exterior works.

As an investor in Gargunnock Community Shop Ltd, you'll become a member with voting rights at our AGM and have the opportunity to join the management committee. Your support will help us achieve our goal of reopening the shop in December 2024, ensuring its long-term success.

The minimum investment for Gargunnock residents is £25 (25 shares), and for non-residents, it is £50 (50 shares). If you can invest more, we encourage you to do so, as every contribution brings us closer to our goal. We aim to offer up to **5% interest** from Year 2 (2025/26) and to start offering share withdrawals from Year 3 (2026/27).

To learn more and to invest today, please visit our website: www.gargunnock.org/about-5

If you have any questions you can email us at shopcommittee@gargunnock.org

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming you as an investor and a key part of our community's future.

Best regards, The Founding Gargunnock Community Shop Committee

****Please note that all investors and investment amounts will be kept anonymous, with data visible only to select committee members of GCS Ltd.****



Editorial

Welcome to the third Bugle of 2024, in this edition there is a lot about the Flower Show, and updates on how to buy shares in our village shop. There is also a handy insert to let you know what bins on what date!

Thank you to everyone who sent articles and ads for this edition as it is always a bit quieter after the summer holidays.

All contributions and feedback can be sent to gargunnockbugle@gmail.com.

The deadline for the next issue is 10th November 2024.

Louise Crawford, September 2024

Flower Show Report

It was quite remarkable that there was a Flower Show at all this year, what with the horrendous rain and winds we have experienced all Summer. Some vegetables were helped by all that water but most flowers took a real battering. Indeed, even on the Saturday night some were deemed suitable for showing, whereas by the morning of the Show they were ruined. However, Gargunnock growers are obviously made of sterner stuff than that, as the Show went ahead with a fantastic display of plants, flowers, vegetables and baking.

The new staging was on display for the first time and there were many complimentary comments. This was possible by the generous award from the Community Wind Farm (funded by Navara, the operator of the Windfarm).

The Show was well supported by the School, with a number of awards won by the pupils. The most points in the children's section was won by Amber Dunn, and runner-up was Annabelle Webber, and the best exhibit for her Creature made from any vegetable was by Zoe Hart.

A new category this year in baking was the Shetland Huffsie Loaf and this proved very popular with the school and it's new oven!!

It was also pleasing that the students at Green Routes had their hard work rewarded with prizes in the fruit, veg and flowers sections and that the organisation provided a stall for plant sales.

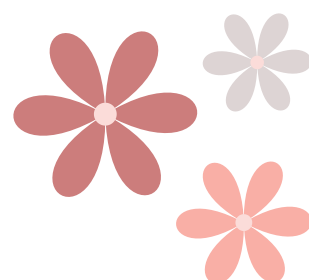
Most points for fruit, vegetables, flowers/plants was Bill Nicol and runner-up Anne Christie. Most points for baking, preserves, knitting and fancy work was Helen Graham and runner-up Anne Christie.

New exhibitors are always particularly welcome and Lucy McAllister, who has very recently moved in to the village won first prizes for Plant in flower and Mixed Herbaceous.

Thanks are again due to everyone who contributed towards a very successful event - committee and helpers, donations for the tombola, and the generous donors on entry. A particular thanks to all who attended on such a horrendous day - you all deserve a medal.

Already looking forward to next year!!!

Maitland Clark

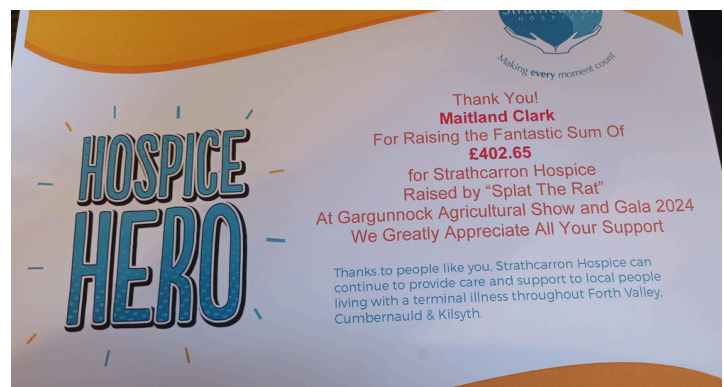




Splat the Rat

On 1st June, on the hottest day of the year so far, at the Gargunnoch Show, Splat the Rat made it's regular appearance. In raising funds for Strathcarron Hospice, great fun and many a laugh was had by all. A regular comment heard was "that can't be done". Well, the young lad in the photograph paid his £1, splatted the rat 3 times in a row and walked away with 3 coconuts - an achievement never been known before - so that put paid to the accusation of not being possible!! On the day £291.45 was raised. Then, 2 weeks later, the event moved on to the Gala and thanks to the Haddow family who kept the fun going, a further £111.20 was raised. So £402.65 was donated to a very worthwhile cause and the official certificate is shown. Thank you to everyone for their support.

Maitland Clark



Bite and Blether

First Wednesday of the month in the Community Centre from 11:00-2:00. Tasty hot soup, coffee, tea and mouth watering home baking!!
Don't miss it.

We're back!! After our Summer (what Summer?) break we'll be starting again in September in the Community Centre 11-2pm. Hope to see you all there!

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 2nd October
Wednesday 6th November
Wednesday 4th December





**HELP US KEEP A THRIVING
STORE IN OUR VILLAGE**

**GARGUNNOCK
COMMUNITY
SHOP LIMITED**

**INVEST IN COMMUNITY SHARES
OFFER OPEN :**

AUGUST 19 – SEPTEMBER 30

Note that you cannot invest beyond
September 30, 2024

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
WWW.GARGUNNOCK.ORG



**20
24**

One way the community can help is by buying shares in the shop

Gargunnock Church

After six years of vacancy (yes, Rev Andy Campbell retired on 30th June 2018), we now have a Parish Minister shared within the charge of Gargunnock linked with Kippen and Norrieston Churches linked with Port of Menteith. That is four parishes under the guidance of ONE Minister with the assistance of an Ordained Local Minister (OLM).



It was on Thursday 20th June that a Service of Linkage took place in Kippen Parish Church, arranged by Perth Presbytery as part of their Presbytery Plan for the Carse of Stirling. During the Service the congregations of Kippen and Norrieston united, after a linkage of many years, to become Kippen and Norrieston Churches; also Rev. Ellen Larson Davidson and Rev. Iain Armstrong OLM were introduced as the Ministry Team for this new charge. We must be mindful of the extremely heavy workload for the Team and offer our help and talents to ease their burden.

Going forward, Rev. Ellen and Rev Iain will each conduct Sunday Services twice a month in each of the churches. For Gargunnock this means a change to the starting time initially to 11.15am but this will be reviewed. There will be Joint Services throughout the Christian Calendar which will give us the opportunity to get to know the folks in our new neighbouring churches. **As ever ALL are WELCOME.**

Contact details:

Minister: Rev Ellen Larson Davidson 01786 871249 or mob. 07412578997 or elarsondavidson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Audrey Birrell 01786 860321 or aualbirrell@btinternet.com

We thank the team who helped and supported us during the six years of vacancy.

The First Joint Service of the Four Congregations will take place on **Sunday 29th September at 10.30am** in Gargunnock Church, when our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be celebrated. This year we are collecting Dried or Tinned food items for StartUp, Stirling Foodbank or a monetary donation to the Charity. Details of essential foods required by the Foodbank will be available from mid-September. All are Welcome.

Sunday Afternoon Charity Talks

The Welcome Team have organised a series of Talks to be held in the Church fortnightly from 8th September to 3rd November from 2.00pm for approx. one hour. Refreshments will follow the talks and there will be an opportunity to take a Graveyard Tour.

The Talk on 22nd September is titled 'Post Boxes – Innocent Hobby or Dangerous Obsession' by Colin Sinclair. The full programme of Talks is displayed on the Church Noticeboard.

A BLESSING, with words attributed to Thomas A Becket

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain
but by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
Not by making your path easy
but by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
but by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine
but by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant
but by showing you when people and their causes need you the most
and by making you anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you at all times!

Amen.

Audrey Birrell, Session Clerk

A New Rector for St Modoc's Episcopal Church, Doune

Reverend Aaron Moffat-Jackman has taken over the reins of St Modoc's Episcopal Church, Doune. He is Rector of St Modoc's and also of St Saviour's Episcopal Church, Bridge of Allan. He and his wife, Gemma, and their two children moved into the St Saviour's Rectory in January. He told us that although it is a very busy job, his calling to serve God is to support those who seek his help. He is in Doune every Thursday. At 12 o'clock he is in the church where he leads a short period of reflection, conversation and prayer. Every Sunday he leads a service with Communion which starts at 09.15, and on the **first Sunday of every month starting at 6pm** he also leads a twenty-minute evening service – which he describes as “saying goodnight to God”.

Veronica Bellers, Vestry Secretary
veronicabellers@gmail.com



Gargunnoch SWI



The summer appears a quieter time for Rural members but behind the scenes a lot has been happening.

At the end of May we had our annual outing venturing on a very rainy day to the Burrell Collection at Pollock Park, Glasgow. A big thanks goes to the windfarm for funding the minibus. The Burrell Collection did not disappoint, recently refurbished and modernised it was a fascinating collection of eclectic items including pottery, tapestries, paintings and furniture. Everyone enjoyed a visit to the cafes and found it easy to walk around with great accessibility throughout the building.

The day before our trip several of our ladies entered competitions at Drymen Show with great results. Stacey

MacFarlane won the Best in Community Work trophy with a beautiful cake. Gargunnoch Rural won the Community Work trophy with the theme 'Beltane'. Members of the winning team were Stacey MacFarlane with a cake, Kathleen Sinclair with a cocktail, Cathy Rowley with a cushion and canapes, Mary Findlay with a phone cover and Jane Currie and Grace Smellie with a scarf.

Congratulations also go to Jane Currie who won the Reserve Overall in the Handicrafts section at the Highland show with an elaborate embroidery. Mary Findlay was also successful at the show. She also came 3rd in the SWI Evelyn Baxter competition with a delicately embroidered Tamari Balls.

With only a few weeks to go until our first meeting on Tuesday 17th September the committee has been concocting a new programme for 2024-2025.

September's meeting is a 'Welcome and social' meeting allowing our members to have a good chat and catch up with one another. The committee are providing a buffet to add to the friendly atmosphere.

October Peter Mehta is visiting to talk about 'Clocks'. He has been recommended as a speaker so I'm sure it will be a very interesting meeting. The 'Make' competition will be to decorate a cup cake with a Halloween theme so expect spiders, ghosts and other scary things!

In November as Christmas will be fast approaching it will be a hands on Christmas crafts evening to get everyone in the Christmas mood. A trip to the Christmas pantomime 'Snow White' at the MacRobert is planned. Also in December we have our Christmas Dinner at the Gargunnoch Inn with plenty of games, fun and hopefully Santa appears.

If you are interested in joining Gargunnoch SWI please pop along to our meeting on Tuesday 17th September at 7.30 you will be made very welcome. If you would like more information please contact me on **07815 522 247** or email bmountford31@gmail.com We meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30 in the Gargunnoch Community Centre.

Beverley Mountford – President Gargunnoch SWI

The Rest Garden Update

For newbies to the village, who may not know, the Rest Garden is the area next to the cemetery. There are 4 plots in the garden and for years, Stirling Council have planted and maintained them. This year, however, the Council has let the village know that there is now no budget to keep this arrangement going. The alternative was either do nothing in which case the plots would be seeded over with grass and then be cut along with the existing grass, OR the village could take over the plot maintenance. It's good that the latter option has been accepted. Barbara Linklater, who has done a great job in planting and looking after her bee friendly plot is continuing to keep this going. Two plots have been taken over by the charity Green Routes ,(who are restoring the walled garden at Gargunnock House) and will plant out one in flowers and the other with herbs. The fourth one has been taken by Gargunnock Flower Show Committee. This plot has already been dug over, cleaned and planted with bedding plants. Pictured is some of the committee after the work has been done. Hopefully many people will visit the garden and see for themselves what progress is being made.



From the Welcome Team of Gargunnock Kirk - Talks in the Kirk

Sunday 22nd September at 2 to 3pm

Colin Sinclair, The Wikipedia of Post Boxes, - **"Post boxes – Innocent Hobby or Dangerous Obsession?"** Entry by donation to Alzheimer's Scotland. This talk is part of Stirling's Doors Open Days. The Kirk is open until 5pm.

Sunday 6th October at 2 to 3pm

Maren Dollman of Animals Asia **"Rescuing Moon Bears and other animals."** Entry by donation to Animals Asia

Sunday 20th October at 2 to 3pm

Alan Simpson, Lord Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk **"The Curious Life of a Lord Lieutenant."** Entry by donation to Start Up Stirling

Sunday 3rd November at 2 to 3pm

Alison Younger of Old Leckie Farm, **"This (old) Farming Life."** Entry by donation to Royal Highland Educational Trust

All talks have refreshments at the end with free guided walks of the Old Kirkyard available after each talk.

Community Engagement & Reassurance

PC Matt McCammon is the Ward Officer for the Forth and Endrick area, based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the office, on 101, or at **ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.police.uk**. It is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact however this should not be used to report crimes.

Please remember that we regularly publish useful information and updates on social media, including appeals for information, updates about road closures and crime prevention advice.

Road safety

A road traffic collision occurred on the A811 at the junction with the B8075 (Kirk Lane) after a car pulled out of the junction and collided with another vehicle. Fortunately, no one was injured as a result but the road was blocked until the vehicles were recovered.

Anti social behaviour

A dog bit a member of the public that had been out for a jog. This has been referred to the dog warden who have the means to deal with such incidents. Please remember to always keep dogs under control.

Old Leckie

For anyone trying to grow things this summer it's been a challenging year. It warmed up and then got cold again. Rained, then rained again. Sometimes it only rained a little bit. But still too much and too often to give a choice of reliable weather windows for hay making. When it came down to it there really was only one 4 day continuously dry spell the whole of the summer. Luckily we got our hay made then – and the shed is now satisfyingly full of both round and square bales. We were less lucky with our salad leaves. Early sowings were disappointing, and what we did get into the tunnel struggled with quality due to flea beetles and sporadic growth spurts. Our tatties have fared better – the yields are low but at least we have managed to get some out for sale, unlike the leaves.

It wasn't only the growing side that was difficult. Just as we hit peak egg sales our production dropped – numbers went down, sizing went down, shells got whiter and thinner and the yolks lighter. With the help of our poultry vet the final diagnosis was that our Leckie Layers had picked up some bronchitis – most likely from the wild bird population. Am pleased to report they have all responded well to treatment and the normal order (and quality) has been restored but it made for a bit of a stressful period.

It wasn't all bad though!

Alison Younger



- Leckie Free Range Eggs
- Leckie Meat: Beef, Lamb, Outdoor reared pork
- Leckie Leaves and Tatties
- Self catering accommodation
- Farm tours

Order online at www.oldleckie.co.uk

Local delivery every Friday



Windfarm Fund



Since our last update, we are delighted to share that there have been another four successful grants awarded by the Windfarm Panel, across a number of different community groups and individual projects.

Awards were granted in August for the following projects/groups:

- Restoration of village fountain,
- A defibrillator on Manse Brae,
- Fish in the Classroom project, and
- Gargunnock Village Childcare.

The panel was pleased to see such a range of applications and would like to encourage continued applications from across the community.

Our final meeting for 2024 will be on Monday 25th November all applications are to be in by Monday 18th November. The next cut-off date will likely be the end of February 2025 and will be published on the village website, the village noticeboard, and the next Bugle.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the application process or would like to discuss the potential for funding, please do reach out to Ashley Fleming or Jackie Campbell or email windfarmpanel@gargunnock.org

Renantis, the community fund owners, has now merged with Ventient Energy and are now known as Nadara <https://nadara.com/>. There are no changes to our terms and conditions and successful applicants will receive copies of the new logo and wording for any publicity materials in their award letters. There is no requirement to change any logos on existing material however, these should be updated as and when updates or refreshes occur.

The Windfarm Panel is made up of community based volunteers including representatives from the Community Trust and the Community Council. The Panel is responsible for making awards within the Gargunnock Community Council area from Nadara Renewables fund.

Application forms can be downloaded from village website

<https://www.gargunnock.org/wind-farm-applications>

If anyone would like to submit an application for something that is time critical please email us at

windfarmpanel@gargunnock.org

ALEXANDER STEWART MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for
Mid Scotland and Fife Region



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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- ☎ Regional Office: 01383 720 530
- ☎ Holyrood Office: 0131 348 6134
- ✉ Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot
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Before and After School Club

THANKS TO THE
SCHOOL AND THE
WINDFARM PANEL
FOR THEIR
SUPPORT THIS
YEAR

The Before and After School Clubs currently run Monday to Thursday 8-9am and 3.15 to 5.15. Please note timings may be expanded slightly depending on staffing.

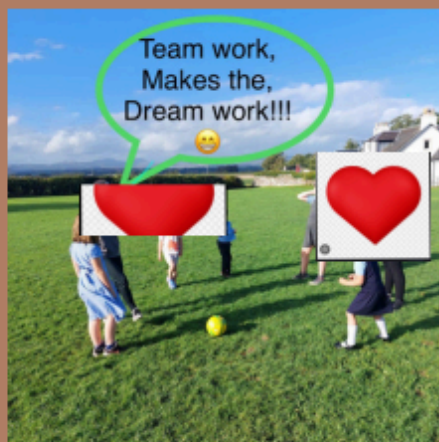
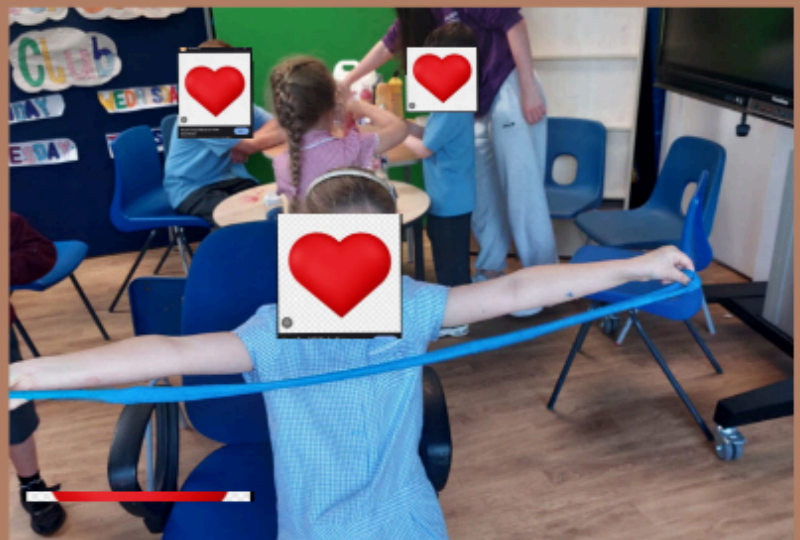
We are delighted to expand our provision to include a Friday morning and we will gauge interest in the afternoon.

We take regular bookings but we also happily accept ad-hoc bookings too. We are asking for bookings for the next academic session now.

We do provide a small snack for pupils if required.

We would also like to say hello! to the new P1 pupils who have joined the school.

Any questions, or if anyone would like to offer help or support to running a session at the after school club please email: gargunnockvillagechildcare@gmail.com



This year before school we have encouraged the children to have a quiet morning with crafting and quiet activities available with free choice too.

After school we give the children a chance to be outside everyday to ensure they have an opportunity to use the wonderful facilities we successfully helped to apply for which are used by the school and community. We have enjoyed themed afternoons and encourage a variety of crafting, reading and sports outside.

Gargunnock Playgroup Update

Our wonderful Playgroup has started up again for the new academic year and there are a few changes we would like to share with you. We have moved away from Care Inspectorate regulations to enable us to sustain the service, which means that the session has reduced to 2 hours. We welcome back our lovely assistant Hazel Pine who will be running Playgroup alongside our new manager John McLeod. (See 'Meet the Manager' below).

We have quite a few new attendees who are all settling in well. Places are still available on Mondays and Thursdays, so please do get in touch if you are interested. (See poster for more details). Help us to keep our Playgroup thriving!

Meet the Playgroup Manager

Hello my name is John, I am the new Playgroup Manager at Gargunnock Playgroup, I am also Playgroup Manager at Thornhill Playgroup.

I am daddy to Paul and Lillyanna, both started school in August this year and in the last few weeks we added a golden Labrador puppy to our family!

I am really looking forward to getting to know all of your children at playgroup and hope we will welcome some more new faces throughout the year. The most exciting part of my job is making the playgroup a fun and enjoyable experience for your children.




COME JOIN THE

GARGUNNOCK PLAYGROUP

At Gargunnock Community Centre
Term time Mondays and Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am



THINGS TO NOTE:

- For children aged 2 years and above - You can drop and go!
- Snacks provided
- £12.50 per session, £7.50 for siblings

For further information please contact:
GARGUNNOCKPLAYGROUP@GMAIL.COM

 **Renantis**
'Funded by the Renantis Kingsturn Community Fund administered by the Gargunnock Community Trust'


ACTIVITY CLUBS

FTER  **BEFORE**

MIND THE GAP

At Gargunnock Primary School
Mon-Thurs 8am - 9am
Mon-Thurs 3.15pm - 5.15pm
£3.50 per child Before and £7 After School
Sibling discounts available

'Funded by the Renantis Kingsburn Community Fund administered by the Gargunnock Community Trust'


 **Renantis**

For bookings and information email:
gargunnockvillagechildcare@gmail.com




COME JOIN US

GARGUNNOCK TODDLERS

At Gargunnock Community Centre
Tuesdays 10am - 11:30am
Fridays 9:30am - 11:30am



THINGS TO NOTE:

- For children age 0-5 years old
- Snacks and a hot drink provided
- £2.50 per child and £1 for each extra sibling

The group is a great opportunity for kids to play and parents to meet and chat - everyone is very welcome!

For more information please contact:
HC123MOORE@GMAIL.COM

 **Renantis**
'Funded by the Renantis Kingsturn Community Fund administered by the Gargunnock Community Trust'



Hamish's Fundraising Kindling



Kindling is available as usual. Inflation hasn't hit Hamish's kindling and it's still £5.00 per bag with all monies going to Erskine.

Hamish would like to thank Roddy Chambers for putting a new shaft in the overused axe, and thank all villagers who have donated old fences etc.

Mondays:

18:15 - 19:00 - Online Weights

Tuesdays:

06:30 - 07:00 - Online Cardio/Core/Strength

19:15 - 20:15 - Strength & Stretch Yoga, Gargunnock

Wednesdays:

06:30 - 07:00 - Online Cardio/Core/Strength

09:15 - 10:15 - Strength & Stretch Yoga, Gargunnock

18:15 - 19:15 - Bootcamp/Circuits, Gargunnock

Thursdays:

09:15 - 10:00 - Kippen 'toddlers' - pre-toddler session for Kippen Toddler & Playgroup parents & carers only

18:15 - 19:30 - Strength & Stretch Yoga, Gargunnock

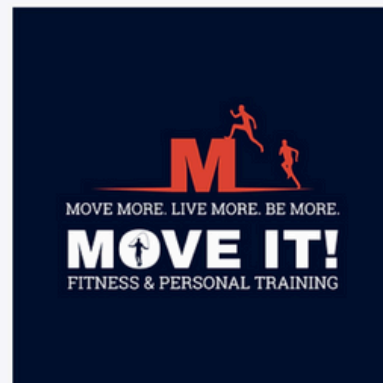
19:45 - 20:45 - Group Private Training, Gargunnock

Fridays:

06:30 - 07:00 - Online Cardio/Core/Strength

Saturdays:

09:00 - 10:00 - Bootcamp, Gargunnock, Outdoor all weather!



Classes suitable for all levels of fitness / experience

E: lois.spn24@gmail.com for more information

Prices

Online - £4.50 PAYG / £4.00 on a 10 class pass

Face to Face classes - £9.00 PAYG / £8.00 on a 4 class pass

Classes must be booked online via my booking system

<https://bookwhen.com/loismoveit>

The Bugle is a free Community Newsletter published quarterly by Gargunnock Community Trust Ltd. Its aim is to provide news, views, information and entertainment for the residents and friends of Gargunnock and the surrounding area.

Editor: Louise Crawford
gargunnockbugle@gmail.com

Deadline of next issue: Articles, letter, photographs, adverts & submissions may be made anytime up to and including 10th November 2024.

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.

We reserve the right to edit, shorten, or refuse to publish any article or letter submitted. Contributions will be attributed to the author. However, at the Editor's discretion, a contribution may be printed anonymously but the author's name, address, and phone number must be supplied to the Editor.



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