



Magazine for Gargunnock and the surrounding area

Email: gargunnockbugle@gmail.com

Issue 49
September 2017



Playgroup is back after a great summer break with some exciting changes and a different group of children. We have said goodbye to lots of our children who have started at school in Primary 1 now and we are welcoming some new faces into our group.

We are also really sad to say goodbye to our Playleader Jane Bain who has worked at Playgroup for 13 years and was involved before that - since the birth of her eldest son who is now 25. Jane has looked after nearly all the children in Gargunnock Primary and was instrumental in starting up the Woodland Play sessions. Former colleagues have described her as an inspiration and parents have said how confident they always were that she was providing a safe and loving environment for their children. The Committee would like to thank Jane for all her hard work over the years. Pauline Harley has taken on the role of Playleader which is fantastic news. Pauline has been Play Manager at Gargunnock After School Club since 2015 and has recently moved into the village.

We have some really exciting events coming up to help us raise some much needed funds for Playgroup & Toddlers so we hope to see lots of you coming along - we always have a blast at these events! We will put up posters with more details before each event.

September & October 2017..... Pub Quiz at the Gargunnock Inn, Coffee Morning at the Community Centre, Casino Night & Halloween Party

Coming up later in 2017.... Pop-up Cinema at the Community Centre

Coming up in 2018.... Burns Night Ceilidh, Pub Quiz, Barrel Race, Sponsored Toddle and more!

For anyone interested in Playgroup, our sessions are held during term time at the Community Centre on Mondays and Thursdays 9am-11.30am. Woodland play sessions will be returning soon in the grounds of Gargunnock House.

Toddlers meets on Wednesday mornings 10am-11.30am at the Community Centre and runs throughout the year including school holidays. We have lots of toys, space to play and a cup of tea for parents, grandparents and carers.

If you would like to get in touch for enrolment in playgroup or with any queries please contact Kimberley Hay (Emma and Alexander's Mum): kimberley.sinclair@yahoo.co.uk, 23 The Glebe, 07823557923. Information can also be found on our website www.gargunnockplaygroup.com

KIPPEN SURGERY

Building work going smoothly and hopefully not causing too much disruption.

We are closed for staff training on Mon 9th October.

WIND FARM GRANT APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Gargunnock Wind Farm Grant are now being sought. For local small, medium or major projects please email: gargunnockCC@gmail.com for application forms and guidelines. All information also soon to be available on www.gargunnock.org.



WE WANT YOUR OLD WOOL!

camphill
blair drummond

living, working and growing together

Do you have wool gathering dust or cluttering up your cupboards? We would be happy to take it off your hands to help us complete our a pomtastic pom-pom wall hanging for our new Day Service area.

You can drop it off or send it to us at:
Camphill Blair Drummond
Blair Drummond House, Cuthil Brae
Stirling FK9 4UT



L'ETAPE DU TOUR

A Dead easy 120 mile cycle which included 2645 metres on vertical ascent in 32 degree heat! that'll take 4-5 hours. Job Done! Reality was quite a bit different!!

On 16th July, Andrew and Paul Bedwell cycled the l'etape du tour, the hardest stage of this years tour de France.

Leaving Briancon with 16,000 other keen cyclists and finishing at the top of Col d' Izoard (2360m above sea level, Ben Nevis is only 1345m). Much harder than either expected, they were exhausted but exhilarated. 4,000 of the starters did not finish.

Andrew took 10 hours and Paul 8 hours, closely followed by the oldest competitor an 84 year old lady, she got the biggest cheer.

Any challengers next year?
Please apply to the Gargunnock Inn



THE REV'S RESOLVE - UPGRADE?



Wow! Didn't that summer go quick? Up at GPC – (Gargunnock Parish Church) – we continued through the summer to enjoy an upgrade, recently installing video screens both in your church and Ross Anderson Room, so that activities there can now enjoy visual display, and very soon we'll also be connected to the Internet, thanks to Gregor's skill and willingness to help. I know some of our 'kirk-kidz' are already looking forward to that, and to teaching the minister how best to use it! We also had to do a bit of clearing out so that this could happen. Outside the kirk too, we hope to upgrade.

Undergrowth around the kirk has been cleared away and I hope soon that a bench or two will allow folk to sit and admire the view from the church's vantage point. Come and tell us what you think on "Stirling's Doors Open day", Saturday 16th September 10.00- 16.00hr.

Autumn's a great time to clear away some of the stuff we don't really need and is well past its sell by date, not just in a kirk, home, garage or shed – you can do it with life too. We don't always need to carry everything from our past forward; instead only take the best of your past with you into the future. Ditch those old resentments, the criticism others have laid on you and other stuff that just uses up your energy and space to no purpose in your living. You really don't need them, and they'll only hold you back. Figure out what's essential, what's enjoyable and who enhances your values and visions: then focus on them this autumn. This month, start that new activity you always promised yourself and like the kirk, get connected to the community around you. Don't wait for them to come to you – Go,... get involved! It could be a long winter otherwise.



Your Minister

Rev Andy

GARGUNNOCK SCOTTISH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Are you interested in craft work or learning new crafts or even just making new friends and admiring their skills?

Gargunnock Scottish Women's Institute, (SWI) meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from September to May at 7.30pm at the Community Centre.

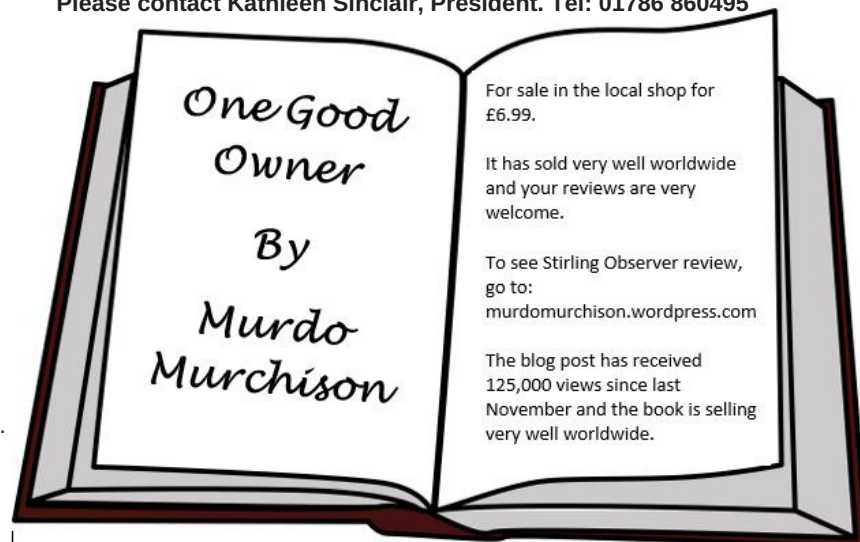
We have a wide variety of speakers and demonstrators each month and all of our members can participate in our competitions. There is a raffle and a lovely tea served at the end of each meeting which always includes delicious home baking and plenty time for a blether!

All for only £4 per meeting or annual membership of £25 for 9 meetings.

We compete in local and nationwide competitions for a variety of craft and baking competitions with great success. I am delighted that one of last year's new members, Fiona Edwards, won the novice trophy at this year's Doune & Dunblane Show. This is the third year in a row Gargunnock has won the trophy.

If anyone would like any further information on Gargunnock SWI.

Please contact Kathleen Sinclair, President. Tel: 01786 860495



GARGUNNOCK FLOWER SHOW



POTORAMA COMPETITION 2017

GROUP PRIZE

Overall Winner: "The Three Wise Monkeys"

The Sunday Club (Angus, Jimmy, Maitland and Trevor)

Special Mentions: "Hetty and Henry" - Kate and Karen McAllister

"Moon and Stars" - Helen Rowell

"Trio of Pots" - Gargunnock Primary School

INDIVIDUAL PRIZE

Overall Winner: "The Scarecrow" - Kathleen Sinclair

Special Mentions: "Butterflies" - After School Club

"Are We There Yet?" - Douglas Coupethwaite



Proud to be sponsoring Callander Cricket Club again in 2017

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THE GARGOYLES OF GARGUNNOCK

AT CAMBUSKENNETH ABBEY, 16TH SEPTEMBER!

We're very pleased to have been invited by Dr Murray Cook, Stirling Council Archaeologist, to perform at an Open Day at Cambuskenneth Abbey in a few weeks. This is what Murray says about the free event:

From Pictish Log-boats, to Bruce, Cromwell and James IVth, a rare chance to explore Cambuskenneth Abbey Tower with Dr Murray Cook, Stirling Council's Archaeologist on 16th September. Guided walks at 3:30 to 4:10, 4:10 to 4:40, and 4:40 to 5:10pm. Entertainment provided by The Gargoyles of Gargunnoch. Places are free but must be booked by emailing cook@stirling.gov.uk. If you have any problems booking then please contact Helen on 860630.

So far this summer, we a spent weekend in May at Traquair House Medieval Festival near Peebles, were invited to perform for the Stirling Town Friendship Group in Braehead and also the Rural Carers Group in Callander and then Kinneil House Open Day at Bo'ness last week. Our final summer appearance, before we start our Christmas fund raising, is at St Cecilia's Hall in Edinburgh on Saturday 28th October, taking part in an early music performance day, which will include musicians as well as singers and dancers, a very varied programme.



We love singing at Traquair medieval festival every May, especially because their brewery produces the wonderful Festival Ale especially for the occasion, a real thirst quencher!

We are sorry to say that Bite and Blether will not be reopening this session. Thanks to all our customers who visited our café over the years.

We had fun serving you and enjoyed all your blethers too. Thanks to the toddlers who didn't complain when we took over the garden room and it was great to see the children eating our soup and bread when they stayed for lunch. Special thanks to Edmond for setting up the equipment, tables and chairs etc. and to Douglas C , our faithful bread man extraordinaire and could turn his hand to any task required. To them and all our Loyal customers Thank you all.
Jane and Elizabeth

POLICE REPORT

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 - There have been no incidents of anti-social behaviour reported since the last edition.

Road Safety - Police have been carrying out speed checks in the village and will continue to do so and take enforcement action where possible. The Central Scotland Safety Camera Partnership has continued to operate on the A811 to contribute towards improving road safety.

Theft - There have been no reports of theft in the Gargunnoch area however that does not mean that residents should be complacent. Locals are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to Police Scotland or CrimeStoppers.

Community Engagement and Reassurance - PC Steven Graham and PC Scott Craigie are the ward officers for the Forth and Endrick area, which incorporates Gargunnoch and surrounding areas. Both are based at Balfron Police Office, and can be contacted at the office, on 101 or at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk.

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'.

As well as regularly high visibility patrols in the area by local officers, PC Craigie and PC Graham regularly visit Gargunnoch on routine patrol, carry out road safety duties including speed enforcement, assisting with local community issues and attend Gargunnoch Community Council meetings.

Your View Counts - Our online public consultation process 'Your View Counts' launched on Friday 4 August.

Members of the public are invited to help inform our policing priorities across the country by telling us what's important to you.

This is the second year we have run the 'Your View Counts' consultation. Analysis of survey results, together with crime stats and other community and partnership meetings are used to determine our priorities.

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation/>

The confidential survey only takes 15 minutes to complete and is open all year round meaning that if an individual's priorities change a survey can be re-submitted. The response to the consultation process will be continuously monitored and quarterly progress reports will be published on the Police Scotland website and the intranet.

THANKS WILLIE AND FIONA

Earlier this year, a number of 'Friends of Gargunnoch Gardens' were kindly invited by the Trustees of Gargunnoch Estate Trust to the retirement dinner of the estate gardener Willie Campbell and his wife Fiona (pictured).

The last 18 years have flown in. I can hardly believe that it was back in 1999 that this pair first moved over to the Stables Flat behind the big house and Willie started wreaking havoc around the overgrown estate woodlands.

Walks were cleared, trees felled, old stock pruned, and hundreds of his beloved rhododendrons were planted. Not content with Scottish varieties, he also travelled as far as the Himalayas looking for new specimens.

Although he was always busy with this or that venture, Willie always had time to stop and pass the time of day with any visitors to the gardens. He gained many new friends that way. The 'Friends of Gargunnoch Estate Gardens Group' came about through those friendships and many happy Sundays have been spent by village families clearing overgrown areas, planting thousands of bulbs, and feeding enormous bonfires.

And when he wasn't working at the estate, he was out speaking about his beloved gardens to any local group that was kind enough to invite him. Not content with that, he also threw himself into local organisations too – becoming a leading light at the annual flower show, but also pulling his weight in other new schemes for the village organised by the Village Interest Group. I believe that the 'Santa' at the school Christmas Party also bore a very close resemblance to him for some 10 years. Fiona wasn't backward either – joining the WRI, taking her turn on the committee and representing the village in art and golf competitions for many a year.

All good things must come to an end, but thankfully Willie was lucky in his choice of successor and Wendy Pizey has since ably taken on the mantle of Head Gardener.

We wish you both a long, happy and healthy retirement, full of laughter and gardening aplenty.



SUMMER ON THE BUSES

The summer months have been a turbulent time on our old B12 buses with lots of breakdowns. In light of this, passengers may like to know that First Scotland East have a "Customer Promise" which states that if your journey is delayed by 15 minutes or more by circumstances "within the control of First Bus" they will give fare paying passengers a whole days free travel and Concession holders will receive £5 of High Street Shopping Vouchers. Keep your ticket and claim online or by ringing customer services on the back of your timetable... ..and please keep reporting vehicle issues as First are starting to listen and are beginning to address these faults.

Good news, the company is now " Branding" 5 buses specifically to the Balfron Depot for the B10/B12 routes. This will entail a total refurbishment inside and out and I'm told suspension issues will also be addressed!! The process has already begun and you may have noticed a few dark blue buses passing through the village. These buses will eventually be branded with a new design logo specific to the local area.

The procedure will be done in stages and will take a few months to complete. These buses will then be permanently allocated to the Balfron Depot. If passenger numbers were to increase substantially, particularly on the B12 routewho knows what benefits there may be further down the line?? ...however that does really depend on local villages supporting this route.

Fares can be very expensive on our rural routes and increasing passenger numbers... particularly Concession Holders on the B12 route could perhaps result in making a case to have some form of discounted day or weekly tickets which are already available on the B10 route. In the meantime for young people there is "The Young Scot Card" which you can get via The Young Scot Website which gives travel discounts to 16-18 year olds, or full time volunteers under the age of 26. The Young Scot card will give you a 1/3 discount off the adult single fare on almost all local and long-distance buses in Scotland. Book in advance or just show your card when you jump on a bus.

A question often asked by both passengers and the public in general is why do we need Double Deckers? Double Deckers are used because Balfron Depot operates the High School contract. This is extremely important and is what safeguards jobs and makes the Depot commercially viable. It may come as a surprise but the overall cost between running a single decker and a double decker is negligible.

Finally, as many readers know major roadworks have been taking place to improve stretches of the roads surrounding various rural villages. This should also help to make our bus trips more comfortable providing Stirling Council don't decide to cover the newly laid carriageways with the dreaded rumble strips!! Hopefully, in time seeing all these changes coming to fruition will encourage more people to support their local buses and help safeguard the future of not only our B12 route but also the Balfron Depot.

3F

Faith, Friends & Fun

Over this not-too-inspiring summer, the planning team of 3F have not been idle. This Autumn will see Season 4 of the group, and we hope to welcome more ladies from Gargunock, as well as Blair Drummond and Doune. Our 3 Fs are Friends Faith and Fun, and we manage a good balance of all three. For Season 4 we have the usual mix of activities, speakers and seasonally-appropriate eating, which all helps friendships to grow and a bit of reflection on the important things in life. New for this season are two open nights to which ALL are invited (including the gents), so pin this Bugle up on your kitchen pin-board or fill in the dates for your diary - the last Tuesday of the month from September to May (no meeting in December) at 7.30pm in the comfortable church in Doune. If you've any questions, give me a ring : **Fiona Campbell Tel 860678** Here's the programme :-

3F Programme for 2017/18

**All meetings in Kilmadock Church,
43 Balkerach Street, Doune at 7.30pm
except 29 May 2018
Parking on street.
Tea/coffee & biscuits**

Autumn 2017

TUES 26 SEPT: **Kate Sankey : Activity - making a willow platter to take home. Materials supplied. This activity starts at 7.30pm sharp, so that we can finish the platter in one session.**

TUES 31 OCT: **Britta Schussler will speak on and lead an experience of Mindfulness.**

TUES 28 NOV: **St Andrew's Night: an evening of food & entertainment. Please sign up at Oct meeting. Menu is stovies followed by dumpling & icecream with coffee.**

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

Spring 2018

TUES 30 JAN: **Mary Young : demonstration of cake decoration plus an opportunity to 'have a go'.**

TUES 27 FEB: **OPEN NIGHT. Stephen MacDonald will give an illustrated talk on St Kilda.**

TUES 27 MAR: **Willie Campbell : Demonstration on how to fill a colourful hanging basket.**

TUES 24 APRIL: **OPEN NIGHT, All welcome. Rev Mike Goodison, Amy Chaplain will give an illustrated talk on his work at home and abroad.**

TUES 29 MAY: **Meet at Flanders Moss at 6pm for a guided walk, followed by buffet in The Woodhouse.**

All meetings £3 St Andrew's Night £5



The task at GASC'

GASC have a task
village friends we ask
our Committee members dwindle
..and we must re-kindle

the Treasurer is going
and numbers game is slowing
our Secretary's done a stint
minutes, prompts and print

to contemplate things folding, no!
we've worked so hard at moulding
a Club the kids enjoy
for every girl and boy

enthusiasm and a little time
even pub meetings (at nighttime)

Why not take a turn and do your bit
we got to make a go of it

that's all there is to know
to keep our GASC aglow

Dear Friends,

Gargunock After School Club (GASC) is now an established part of the overall support network for children and parents in the village. It is a club many families have and continue to rely on. Like other groups, being on the Board of Trustees is entirely voluntary, but without a functioning Board, GASC can't operate. It isn't a requirement to have children at school to be part of the Committee. If you would like to help out, please come along to the AGM at 7:30pm on the 26th September at the Community Centre drop in. Alternatively, contact Andrew James on 07827 224600 or andrewjames150@gmail.com

Finally....the kids have shown real interest in making more music recently and are particularly keen to play 'electric' instruments! We have just a few basic musical instruments at GASC, so if anyone has an electric guitar, keyboard, electronic drums (or even a ukulele) tucked away in a cupboard somewhere, not being used, please contact the GASC Manager Pauline Harley on 07778 509356 or PaulineH84@outlook.com.

15 SECONDS ON MAIN STREET"

As Bugle readers will know, we have a 20 mph speed limit on Main Street as well as everywhere else in the village. The painted 20mph road signs are visible to all but, writing as a resident of Main Street, it is clear to see that many drivers chose to ignore this limit. Cars, vans and even the odd lorry travel up and down at speeds which must, on occasion, even exceed 40 mph. These vehicles are both local and visiting. Some of the specifics which apply to Main Street do not necessarily apply to other sections of the village road network and they have a bearing on whether the 20 mph should be enforced by the introduction of "traffic calming" measures. For example, Main Street, being a high(ish) density residential area creates the very visible need for on street parking. The number of vehicles regularly parking on Main Street varies between 25 and 50 between the bridge / shop and Drummond Place. The reduction to a single carriageway over most of the road length is a fact we all live with and with which we all have no problem. Other sections have driveway access required by some of the properties fronting onto the street. All of this is part of village life but it does create a heightened road safety risk especially to schoolbags can be seen everyday traversing the road drivers also use the road. The "need for speed" on this could be moderated when one calculates that the at 35 mph and 20 mph saves around 15 seconds travel but on Main Street, Gargunock ? The enforcement of the that this is a maximum not a compulsory speed) is being road narrowing, some of which has been in place and accepted by all for years. It seems that to gain reasonable compliance with the overall 20mph speed limit, measures such as speed bumps will have to be placed at perhaps 3 or even 4 locations on Main Street to be effective, otherwise the limit is meaningless. It is appreciated that this topic has been aired at Community Council Meetings in the past but so far only paint has been applied to Main Street. It may be that things are happening in the background and of course budgets are tight but it would be good to see some progress if anything is going to be done.



the older and younger users of the Main Street. Walking sticks and attached to folk of all ages who depend on the responsible way that Main Street is perhaps part of the human condition but, perhaps difference in passing from one end of Main Street to the other time. 15 seconds may be important in the Olympic Stadium 20 mph maximum speed limit (and it should be remembered achieved in other areas of the village with speed bumps and

It seems that to gain reasonable compliance with the overall 20mph speed limit, measures such as speed bumps will have to be placed at perhaps 3 or even 4 locations on Main Street to be effective, otherwise the limit is meaningless. It is appreciated that this topic has been aired at Community Council Meetings in the past but so far only paint has been applied to Main Street. It may be that things are happening in the background and of course budgets are tight but it would be good to see some progress if anything is going to be done.

Perhaps there is other opinion in the village which does not support the 20 mph limit and the need for enforcement measures to ensure compliance for the benefit of all. If so perhaps the Bugle would be a good avenue for this to be expressed.

Resident of Main Street

HOME-START STIRLING

Home-Start is one of the leading family support charities in the UK

In Scotland there are 31 independent Home-Starts supporting over 3000 families with over 5800 children supported by 1440 volunteers including as home-visitors, group workers, trustees and fundraisers. (Across the UK 16,000 volunteers support 28,000 families and 60,000 children to transform their lives).

Families need support for many different reasons, family breakdown, postnatal illness, isolation, a child's disability, bereavement, or any other reason causing stress or crisis. With a flexible approach, meeting the individual needs of each family, volunteers help build the family's confidence and ability to cope.

Home-Starts also support families in groups, drop-in sessions, help access local services as well as lots of other support.

Home-Start Stirling has been providing this service and support to families since 2000 and has a proven, lasting, positive impact on the development of children and on the health and welfare of the family.

We are recruiting!

Do you have a few hours to spare each month and want to help make a difference? We need people with skills in Finance, PR and Social Media. Age is no barrier, from students through to retired people, if you have the skills, we would love to meet you.

If you would like to learn more please call or text **Jane on 07739160912** or email admin@homestartstirling.org.uk www.homestartstirling.org.uk



GARGUNNOCK VILLAGE STORE

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01786 860703

email address
aweir.gvs@gmail.com

Monday-Saturday 7.30am-7pm
Sunday 7.30am-5pm



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welcome and support
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Support Worker

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Rural Stirlingshire

Days, Evenings and Weekends

Salary £8.25 - £8.50 per hour

Flexibility towards shifts required

Do you want a rewarding career?

Are you looking for job satisfaction?

Would you like to work in your local community?



Throughout the rural Stirlingshire area, Mears/ILS provides care and support to older people and vulnerable adults. Whether we provide personal care, emotional support, domestic assistance or medical supervision, understanding and empathising with people is right at the heart of who we are. If you have good communication skills, care and compassion, we'll give you support and opportunities to develop. So you'll not only help to enhance the quality of life for people in the local community; you'll help to enhance your own prospects for the future too.

All posts are subject to PVG vetting procedures. Interviews will be held locally. Full training will be provided.

To apply please contact the recruitment line on 01259 768615 or e-mail craig.jardine@mearsgroup.co.uk



Stephen Kerr MP

Since being elected in June it has been an exciting, busy period. Please do get in touch with any problems or concerns you may have and we will ensure your issue is dealt with efficiently and professionally. I gave a commitment that, if elected, I would leave my current profession to concentrate my time and efforts on representing the people of Stirling without any distractions and I am pleased to say that this is now the case.

Finally, if you live in the Stirling constituency, have ever wanted to see the Westminster Parliament in session, and you are planning to visit London, why not get in touch with me to arrange a visit? Tell me when you are planning to come and, if possible, I could give you a tour of the historic building. I do also get a small allocation of tickets for Prime Minister's Questions. The tickets are in limited supply but I will do my best to get them for dates that suit you.

Next Gargunnoch Surgery:
Community Centre 3rd November @ 1pm

Stephen Kerr MP, 49 Borestone Crescent, Stirling, FK7 9BQ. 01786 475034.
Stephen.kerr.mp@parliament.uk
www.stephenkerr.org

GARGUNNOCK SONGSTERS

The Gargunnoch Songsters are back practising after their summer break and are looking forward to an up and coming performance for the Brightons Guild and then the Viewfield Church Guild in November, after which our attention will be turning to Christmas – we have already been practising some of our festive programme!

The Songsters meet on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Gargunnoch Primary School. New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining or booking the Gargunnoch Songsters and would like further information please visit our website at gargunnocksongsters.org.uk or contact **Lorna Rodger** on **07733227965**.

GARGUNNOCK WALKING GROUP

The last meeting of the Walking Group was on the 17th August when we walked round the Brig o' Turk Loop from the Glen Finglas Gateway Car Park across to Glen Finglas and back by the Brig o' Turk tea room. This was a very scenic walk giving fine views over the Trossachs Forest followed by an excellent light lunch at the Venacher Lochside café. The next two meetings are on 14th and 28th September. On both days we will meet at 9:30am at the Pub car park. As usual the walks will be dependent upon reasonable weather.

On the 14th September we plan to walk from the car park near to the Kelpies in the Helix Park to the Falkirk Wheel where refreshments will be taken, and then back to the Helix Park. The walk is on good paths and is about 4.5 miles in each direction with a slight rise towards the Falkirk Wheel.

On the 28th September we plan to walk round North Third Reservoir. This is quite a short walk of about 3 miles on mostly rough paths and taking on a small hill with superb views of the surrounding countryside. We can go to the Bannockburn Heritage Centre for refreshments afterwards.

Other walks we are planning in the near future include:

River Devon and Rumbling Bridge circuit, Glen Klinglass to Abyssinia Bothy, Dollar Glen, Carron Valley Forrest and Meikle Bin, Loch Drunkie Circuit.

We have had some discussion about taking the train to Corrour and walking round Loch Ossian. Willie Campbell (retired Head Gardner at Gargunnoch House) has suggested that the best time to do this is late May or early June when the rhododendrons are at their best. So we will put this walk on hold until next year.

A member of the group asked me if we will have walks during the winter. I think that in good weather, winter walks are most enjoyable particularly as you often have a different view of the landscape when trees have lost their leaves. Winter walks would be arranged at short notice so as to avoid bad weather and would also be dependent upon underfoot conditions.

Remember that these are sociable walks with plenty of stops to admire the views and a refreshment stop including in the itinerary!

If you would like to join us or suggest other walks, please get in touch. There will usually be two walks each month and usually on Thursdays.

Edmond Mansion

Tel: 01786 860608 Email: edmond.mansion@btinternet.com

FLOWER SHOW

Despite the wet spring, and summer masquerading as autumn, Gargunnoch put on a great show on Saturday. Entrants laboured over preparation of vegetables, flowers, baking and handcrafts giving the judges a hard task. The children's entries were amazing and thanks go to the local primary school for encouraging the children to enter; the wellies with wild flowers were fabulous. The small committee who run the show could not do so without the many friends and volunteers who give their help and those who support the show with their entries. The tea room was busy and as the sun made a very welcome appearance in the afternoon, tea on the patio was enjoyed by many. It was great to see new names on winning tickets along with the faithful few who regularly support the show.

CUP WINNERS

Youth Club Cup: Isla Edwards, **Rev. C Hepburn Cup:** Kyle Heron, **Nicola Cup:** Isla Edwards, **Mitchell Cup:** Janet Iffla, **Lawrence cup:** Anne Muirhead, **Strang Cup:** Dorothy Burman, **Gargunnoch Estate Cup:** Janet Iffla, **Garden Trophy:** Janette Wilson, **MacArthur Cup:** Gill Bell, **Bob Erskine Cup:** Anne Christie, **Bobby Simpson Trophy:** Liz Wilkinson, **May McPhate Rose Bowl:** Helen Scott, **Garden Trophy:** Helen Scott, **Bob McIntyre Trophy:** Bob Burman, **Milton Quaich:** Anne Muirhead, **Gary Gray Trophy, Touch Rose Bowl, Gargunnoch House Cup, Davidson Florist Cup, Carson Cup, D & J Imrie Cup, John Buchanan Cup, J&J Muirhead Quaich:** William Nicol

OVERALL WINNERS

Forbes Quaich: Anne Muirhead, **Gargunnoch Inn Shield:** Janet Iffla, **Committee Shield:** William Nicol



COMMITTEE, HELPERS & JUDGES

Isla Edwards, Willie Campbell vegetables judge and Walter Robertson flower judge.

Wild flowers in a wellie display entered by the children of the local primary.

The AGM is on 6.11.17 at 7.30pm in the Drop In Centre. Please do come along, we are always looking for helpers and new ideas.



THE GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY TRUST

Why is there a Community Trust?

The Gargunnoch Community Trust was established over 10 years ago by the Community Council to work on behalf of the whole village and provide a vehicle for fund-raising for projects which would benefit the whole village. The Gargunnoch Community Trust is managed by a Board of Directors acting on behalf of the villagers themselves through a membership scheme where anyone residing in Gargunnoch is able to become a member for the payment of a pound. The Gargunnoch Community Trust is similar to a whole number of bodies set up by communities across Scotland. The Development Trust Association for Scotland of which the Gargunnoch Trust is now a member supports over 140 Trusts across Scotland. Other local Trusts you might be aware of include the Kilmadock Development Trust in Doune, the Strathfillian Community Development Trust covering Tyndrum and Crianlarich and the Fintry Development Trust.

What does the Trust Do? - As mentioned the Trust is really a vehicle for things to happen in the village. A key function is in fundraising as in the case for the Community Centre. A few years ago the Trust successfully raised over £600,000 towards the refurbishment of the Community Centre and Drop In Centre as well as negotiated with Stirling Council to have the Centre ownership transferred from the Council to the Trust. The Trust now runs the Centre on behalf of the village.

The Trust also helped to establish the Bugle as the village newsletter to ensure that people could be informed on what is happening around the village. The Trust also runs the Gargunnoch Village website. Following the recent extension of the windfarm on the hills above the village the Trust has worked with the developers to access funding for the village through a specific community dividend scheme established by the Government to ensure that communities impacted by windfarm developments are suitably compensated. The Trust is now in the process of establishing a Windfarm Grant scheme to allow this money to be targeted at projects identified by the villagers themselves.

How is the Trust managed? - The Trust has a Board of Directors which is elected from the membership each year. These are all volunteers. Currently there are 12 Directors who are:

• **Iain Gulland (Convenor)** • **Douglas Johnston (Treasurer)** • **Jeremy Wilkinson (Company Secretary)** • **Stuart Ogg (Minute Taker)**
• **Edmond Mansion** • **Geoff Peart** • **Mike Pizey** • **Elizabeth Mansion** • **Jackie Campbell** • **Lovat MacGregor** • **Gavin Fleming** • **David King**

The Directors meet on a regular basis to discuss progress on activities. The minutes of each meeting are posted on the village website and an AGM is held each year which is open to all members and interested individuals. At the AGM the Trust presents the financial accounts for the year just past as well as gives a report on activities. The AGM is also the place where the Directors are elected for the year ahead.

Being a Member of the Trust - The aim of the Trust was to establish a vehicle in the village which was representative of the whole village and so a membership scheme was formed to ensure this. When the Trust was set up many people signed up to become members and paid a pound as required.

Membership of the Trust is critical to its success. Unless the Trust can demonstrate that it functions on behalf of a broad cross section of the community then its impact will be dulled. When applying for funding for things such as the Community Centre one of the questions asked by funders is how can the Trust demonstrate community support. Having a large membership base ticks that box. Being a membership organisation was also important when we were negotiating with the Council for the transfer of the Community Centre. It again demonstrated that we were speaking on behalf of the wider community. So if you would like to become a member of the Trust then please take a moment to fill in the enclosed flyer and pass it on to one of the Directors listed above making sure you enclose your £1 sub for life. You can hand it over personally or pop it through their door which ever is easier. Over and above being a member you can also get actively involved in the Trust if you wish. If you want to become a Director, attend meetings, suggest ideas, or offer assistance then please get in touch. There will also be times when we are looking for volunteers to help with Trust activities. As with most things in life, we will only get out of the Trust what we are all prepared to put in.



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