





'Gargunock Goes Rio' Gala Review

Last weekend we enjoyed a taste of Carnival in Gargunock. Landing lucky with the only completely dry day of the last 2 weeks allowed us to make the most of the great stalls and activities on offer.

First up in the day was the Samba Drumming workshop led by Graeme and Les from the Drumming Workshop. The guys travelled all the way from County Durham and their efforts were very well received by young and old who attended the hour long session in the Community Centre. Our own village Samba band then assembled up in the park to lead the Samba parade along the usual route. Loads of noise and colour brought a terrific start to the day.

We then crowned this year's Queen and Laird, Morgan Wilson and Aaron Buchanan – who had been delivered in style to the venue. Aaron on a motorbike driven by Paul Smith and Morgan in a convertible driven by Grace Smellie. Both Morgan and Aaron carried out their duties well throughout the day and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They were both a credit to Gargunock.

The large hungry and thirsty crowd were then let loose on the wonderful tea room, organised and staffed by Gargunock After School Club. The cakes and treats went down extremely well this year and the queue was constant throughout the afternoon – testament to some great village bakers! Thank you.

The children also enjoyed fruit punch and fruit kebabs provided by the Gargunock Inn. This was a good healthy start to proceedings although they managed to secure a cake and sweet fix later in the day.

As ever the stalls were generously staffed by our various local groups and individuals – we had Face Painting, Mask Making, Tin Can Alley, Glitter Tattoos & Nails, Coconut Shy, Book and Bottle Stalls, Tombola, Raffle and a Superstars team event. Thanks to everyone again for their time and efforts!

We had some new additions to Gala this year – Cocktails provided by the excellent Scott and Sophie, which many of us enjoyed whilst listening to the very talented Ian Anderson playing some Jazz numbers on the piano. This was all ahead of the Talent Show – who knew we had quite so much talent in our little community? It was a close contest between the Gargoyles, Maitland, Eva Dallas and the rocking Mark Evans. In the end Junior Gunrock – Aaron Buchanan, Ben MacLachlan and Andrew Dallas – won the hearts and minds of the crowd with their rousing rendition of I Love Rock and Roll.

The BBQ was tremendous as ever and the guys did a phenomenal job keeping the lines moving – with the excellent produce supplied by Skinners and some local supermarkets. Well done to Lidl, Morrisons and Tesco for their assistance here! Delicious desserts were provided by Carolyn Rivers, Helen Weaver and friends.

No gala would be complete without the Reckless Vagabonds closing things out with a rousing set which went down well with the large crowds who had remained all day.

There are so many people to thank for their contributions both on the day and in the lead up to the event. From selling raffle tickets beforehand to last minute requests for some other poster (thank you Gordon!) to helping out on the day or just coming along and helping us make Gala the special community day for all that it is.

The Gala Committee would also like to thank David Fallow for his sterling job of organising the raffle and the following for donating raffle prizes: Eden Mansion, Briarlands, Camera Obscura, Dynamic Earth, Janette Wilson, Argaty Red Kites, Loch Katrine Experience, National Mining Museum, Falleninch Farm, Gargunock Village Store, Sportsters Falkirk, Birds and Bees, SGC Golf Pro, Royal Yacht Britannia, Corrieris, Spice Garden, Crail Golfing Society, Helen's Therapeutics, Bastion Property Management, Debbie Farquar and all the generous villagers who donated gifts.

We sincerely hope we haven't missed anyone. We really appreciate your help, advice, time and assistance.

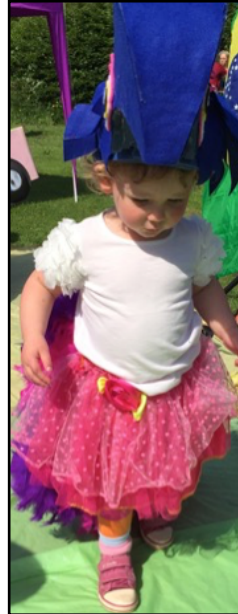
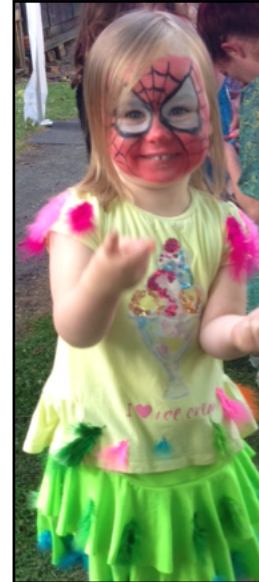
Obrigado por um grande carnaval!

Stuart Campbell, Committee Secretary

Quote from a villager who attended the Gala:-

"Huge thanks to the new Gala committee, led by Stevie Buchannan with Stuart Campbell, Mairi Taggart and Fiona James, who did the village proud with a Gala to remember. A visual and musical extravaganza bringing all the energy and fun of the Rio carnival to Gargunock, it was a non stop day packed full of entertainment and activities. Throughout the day, the Amazonian sized smiles on the faces of kids and adults alike said it all."





Some words from the Chairman of the Gala Committee:

"Well what a day! I don't even know where to begin when it comes to thanking people who helped out in this year's Rio Carnival themed Gala so I won't even try but they all know who they were!

From building gazebos and marquees on Friday to tidying up on the Sunday after the event there was just so much support from this very special wee village – the village that I have been privileged to have lived in all my life.

In my first year as Chairman it was a real eye-opener just how much work is put into the event and I would like to add my thanks to the previous committee for all their help in the transition.

As for the new committee, I can only say how much hard work, effort, time and laughter we have put in and it speaks volumes of the personalities involved. Stuart, Fiona and Mairi were the people who helped make this such a special gala day. For the committee members and their families – usual family life was put on hold for a time so I would like to also say thanks to the families for their patience with us all. Hopefully a great day made the sacrifices all worth it!

Having Aaron as the Laird made it an extra special gala for me Pauline and all my family. To see the sun shining on Saturday with all the kids and adults laughing and in great spirits made everything worthwhile.

It will take a big effort to top our first year but that's what we intend to do. I will be looking to extend the committee for next year as the workload is too much for 4 people and with lots of talented people in the village we'll be looking to make the most of your skills next year! So all those people who have told me either sober or a bit tipsy, be ready for the call!

Once again thank you and well done to all.
Stevie "Jerk" Buchanan



The fancy dress competition was taken very seriously with some fantastic costumes. Judged by Chrissie Phillips and Tracy Lafferty. Thanks to Kate Bovill for being a great compere. The winners of the various prizes were:-

Toddlers

- 1st - Zoe Hart
- 2nd - Joe Pine
- 3rd - Annabelle Webber

Playgroup

- Joint 1st - Orlagh McGookin/Natalie Mitchell
- Joint 2nd - Nairn & Peter Fleming
- 3rd - Ellen Younger

Class P1-P3

- 1st - Hamish Webber
- 2nd - Jasper Bovill
- 3rd - Finlay Campbell

Class P4-P5

- 1st - Scarlett Haddow
- 2nd - Naomi Irvine
- 3rd - Amy James

Class P6-P7

- 1st - Jessica Hay
- 2nd - Daniel Crawford
- 3rd - Heather Campbell

Adults

- 1st - Maitland Clark & Anne Christie
- 2nd - Kimberley & Rab Hay
- 3rd - Kristyna Sheikh

Groups

- 1st - Eva Beck, Sophie & Stella Anderson



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The Gala would like to thank the following people and organisations for their support:

Gargunock Groups: Parish Church, Playgroup & Toddlers, After School Club, Parent Council, Primary School, Guides, and members of the Football Club. Also, Stirling Council Community Pride Fund, Youth Services, Stirling Council, Gargunock Inn, Ian Anderson, Reckless Vagabonds, Jon Park, Kevin Brodie, Chris Campbell, Andrew James, Maitland Clark, Charlie McAllister, Gordon Webber, Jackie Campbell & all Bugle Volunteers, Kate Bovill, Debbie Farquhar, Steve & Marilyn Willett, John and Tracey Lafferty, Pauline Buchanan, Mark Kane, Paul Smith, Grace Smellie, Tracy Peddie, Pauline Evans, Carolyn Rivers, Helen Weaver, Louise Heron, Vicki Galbraith, Ally Orr, Helen Haddow, Bernadette Corbet, Liz Wilkinson, Lovat MacGregor, Sarah Hughes Hairdressing, Tunnocks, Lidl, Morrisons, Tesco, Stirling Rock School, Drumming Workshops, Leckie Layers, Briarlands Farm, Police Scotland, members of previous committee, France Farm, raffle ticket sellers, those important people who helped setup and clean up and all other helpers without which the Gala wouldn't happen.

Summer Camp 2016

Gargunock Community Centre	10am - 4pm
Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd August	
All ages welcome	£15 per day
<p>Unlock your creativity and join Impression Arts in our exciting 2016 summer camp. If you love to perform then come along and join us in a fun-filled day of DANCE, DRAMA and ART.</p>	
<p>For more information or to book your place please contact Moira on:</p>	<p>impressionarts_scotland@yahoo.co.uk or 07960536549</p>