



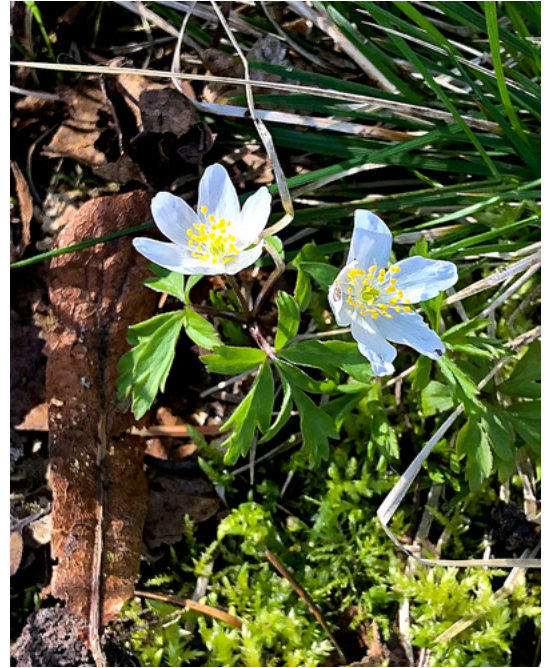
Woodland Plants in the Glebe Park

The trees that have been planted in the Glebe Park are growing well, but if you look around in a natural woodland you will also see dead wood (which many insect larvae and fungi need) and a wide range of smaller plants. All of these together create a woodland ecology, attracting birds, insects and other animals. We've already added some woodpiles and wooden hibernaculae (overwintering structures for amphibians, insects, etc) among the trees, and this spring began a search for woodland plants.

We'd like to thank the Gargunnock House Estate, Leckie Estate and Old Leckie Farm for permission to take plants from their woodlands, and for tips on where to look. Five small areas in the Glebe Park were first trimmed (thanks to Douglas and Stuart) and covered in weed-suppressing membrane to give us areas to plant into. We then spent a few days this April collecting plants and putting them into these prepared areas and elsewhere under the trees.

We collected 28 species. Jane and Douglas also added some snowdrops and ramsons, giving a total of 30. Of these, 14 are strongly associated with woodlands, and of these 14, seven are associated with ancient woodlands. Of the woodland-associated species that we collected, only lesser celandine was already present without having been introduced into the Glebe Park (it probably moved in from the small woodland bordering the Glebe Park). Many woodland species do not disperse well, so we hope that the ones we have moved will establish and do well, adding to the range of flowering plants already established around the ponds and in the wildflower meadow.

Dave and Christine Penman, and Barbara Linklater



Wood Anemone



Pink Purslane



Primrose



Comfrey

Editorial

Welcome to the May/June edition of The Bugle and thank you to everyone who sent in articles and photos. It has been a tricky edition - too much content for 16 pages and not enough for 20 pages (printed Bugles need to be set in multiples of 4 pages) and it has meant that some photos have been left out, which I am very sorry about. If you look on the opposite page there is a challenge to see how far The Bugle can travel. An idea sent in by John McLaren. If there are lots of photos then the next edition will surely be a bumper 20 pages.

All contributions and feedback can be sent to gargunnockbugle@gmail.com. The deadline for the next issue is 31st August 2025, the day after The Flower Show.

Louise Crawford, May 2025

Bite and Blether

We had another successful day on Wednesday 7th May. In fact, we nearly ran out of pea and parsley soup!! Once again we were busy so thank you all for coming and supporting us. It really is much appreciated.

Next B and B is on Wednesday 4th June and then we are off for our "Summer" break in July and August.

We will resume on Wednesday 3rd of September so put the date in your diaries (please!)

In the last Bugle I was so busy thanking all our wonderful bakers I forgot to mention Lorna who does such a good job taking orders and keeping everyone happy!! So here she is, smiling as usual. Sorry Lorna.

Jill Patrick



Community Trust May 2025 Update

We continue to work with Mike from the Community Council and Jackie from the Windfarm Panel to help upgrade the village website, working alongside Inspire (the website design company). We have been gathering images of the village, past and present and updating the text with particular thanks to John McLaren who has prepared text for the Home page. Jackie has supplied all the Windfarm documentation which will allow applicants to apply online once the site goes live. This on its own will help improve the efficiency of the fund's administration. The aim is to relaunch the website later in the summer when we know it will be a much-improved resource for the community and visitors. Thanks to the Community Council for initiating this project. The Trust has also provided an input to the Community Council's redraft of the Local Place Plan questionnaire.

Thanks to the Woodland Trust we have planted some additional rowan, silver birch and wild cherry trees in the Glebe Park with help from Douglas, Jane and Dave. Dave and Barbara have also locally sourced and planted woodland wild flowers under some of the trees which will spread. The oaks and beech trees planted along the Beeches path all look as if they have taken, and thanks to John More who gave us permission to undertake the work.

The Trust's cycle rental scheme will be launched at this year's Gala. We know that those who have borrowed the bikes during the pilot phase have found it to be a valuable resource so watch this space!

We have been working with Business Energy Scotland to review how we heat the community centre with a view to investing in a more reliable system. We know that customers will appreciate this given the previous problems with the existing system. This will take a bit of time as we need to raise the funding and then commission the installation of the new system. Also, the partitions in the Community Centre have recently been cleaned and serviced. We will be arranging a short training session for regular users on how to use them safely.

We have commissioned an electrician to fix the electrical supply to the defibrillator in the telephone box. Thanks to Christine of the Gargunnock Community Shop Ltd for allowing us to take a supply from the shop and to the Windfarm Panel for funding this work. Once complete trust volunteers will then refurbish the telephone box itself.

We are still looking for one more trustee to help with the work of the trust so if you are interested, willing and able we would love to hear from you, please email gargunnocktrust@gmail.com.

Stuart Ogg

How Far Can The Bugle Travel?

We all know The Bugle keeps us connected here at home - but how far can it go?

In time for the summer holidays, we're launching a fun challenge to see just how well-travelled our village newsletter can become!

Whether you're heading off on holiday, going away for work, or simply visiting family and friends, why not take The Bugle along for the ride? Snap a photo of yourself with it in an interesting or unusual location - whether it's a famous landmark, a hidden gem, or even somewhere close to home with a twist.

From Barcelona to Bognor, Sydney to Suffolk, we'd love to see where The Bugle ends up. Send your photos to gargunnockbugle@gmail.com and we'll feature them in future issues and maybe even map The Bugle's global adventures!

So next time you pack your bags, don't forget to tuck a copy of The Bugle in with your passport. Let's see just how far it can travel!



Shop Update

The new awnings are in place, and looking fabulous and the patio area behind the shop now has some lovely chairs and tables. Business is reported as being brisk, and certainly the Praveen curries are delicious, as is the take-away coffee, Skinners pies and the tasty bread baked in store.

The sloped area has been planted, and a number of new trees added to replace the diseased one that had to be removed.

For any correspondence regarding the shop please contact any of the committee members or shopcommittee@gargunnock.org



- 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



Geoff Fishwick of Broom Park submitted these photos which he shows to visitors when they ask why the village has a Station Road. The reason is of course that there was once a railway line running through the valley called the Forth & Clyde Junction Line running from Stirling to Balloch with a branch to Aberfoyle. Opened in 1856, in its heyday it was fairly busy, serving the needs of the population at the time until developing road transport removed a lot of its custom. Originally planned to carry coal from the Fife coalfields to the Clyde it was never a complete commercial success. It closed to through passenger services in 1934 and to goods in 1964.

Gargunnoch station was at the junction of the Kirk Lane (B8075) & Dumbarton Road (A811). The signal box sat right at the end of the present day deceleration lane leading into the Kirk Lane.

The line crossed quite a few farm access and public roads on the Carse, many with a gate-house where someone was charged with opening the gates in time to allow the train through, or if not the engine crew had to do so themselves.

The signalman at Gargunnoch Station was a Mr Purvis who lived in the Meiklewood railway gatehouse (now Meikle Loan) and one local resident here, Kate Muirhead, recalls a childhood memory of him lifting her up to the footplate of an engine for the ride from there along to his work.

An interesting snippet of information is that at one time the bridge over the river Forth there was a suspension bridge and adjacent to it was the Suspension Bridge Inn both owned by the railway company. Part of the Inn was used as a railway booking and toll office. Only "certain poor people", children and church-goers on a Sunday, were allowed to cross the bridge free of charge.

Photos

Top left - The station in its heyday, spick and span with the booking office on the platform to the right.

Top right - The signal box sat near the junction with the A811, just to its right.

Left - A goods train steaming out of Gargunnoch heading westwards.

Bottom - Near the end of its life the line was looking decidedly overgrown and unloved.

Gargunnock SWI

As I write this article the Rural is just about at the finish of another years diverse programme with just our AGM to be held later in May at Briarlands with a local Ukulele Band entertaining our members.

March was a fun night with Anne Marie Stewart from Gargunnock demonstrating how to make beautiful Easter Wreaths using little squares of material and a polystyrene ring. Then our members each made very varied and beautiful wreaths. Everyone completed their wreath and enjoyed a very sociable evening.

Towards the end of March there was a display of crafts in Gargunnock church by the five local Rurals – Gargunnock, Kippen, Buchyvie, Ruskie and Drymen. It was to celebrate the Centenary of Stirling, Clackmannan and West Perth Federation of which Gargunnock is a member. The displays were stunning with an amazing array of crafts from embroidery to patchwork, paintings, bead work, knitting and much more. The display was very successful with a large number of visitors suitably impressed.

As Easter approached we decorated a few trees in the village with colourful eggs and decorations to brighten the village.

In April we had two speakers from the Blood Bikes charity. What fantastic volunteers giving a free of charge transport system to the NHS. They take a huge range of items ranging from hospital records, blood, specimens and other miscellaneous items between hospitals where they are urgently needed. They save the NHS thousands of pounds with all their efforts. They even brought along a motorbike for members to pose on.

It was also the Easter pairs competition in which the majority of our members competed. Earlier in the year names had been randomly paired, then each pair had one member baking an entry and one crafting an entry. The results were really good with tremendous effort going into the competition. First prize with a beautiful wreath with crocheted flowers - May Rankin and a cake bouquet of flowers – Stacey McFarlane. Both were stunning.

Gargunnock had three teams in the annual area quiz at Polmont on another very sunny evening in April. Although we didn't win we did come 3rd, 4th and 5th and enjoyed our evening.

The Federation Spring Meeting at Bridge of Allan proved to be another very successful meeting for competitions for Gargunnock. In the Morton pairs competition Jane Currie and Beverley Mountford won with a pretty embroidered needle case and a courgette and lemon drizzle cake. Cathy Rowley and Jessie Wyllie were Very Highly Commended. Grace Smellie received Highly Commended with her knitted booties in the Newforge Trophy competition.

Our annual outing was to Bo'ness Steam Trains for afternoon tea. We were meant to be going on a steam train but this changed due to the government rules in case it caused a fire. The weather was lovely unlike a previous year when it had poured. We all enjoyed our afternoon tea as we chugged through the countryside.

After our AGM there is a break until September. Meetings resume on Tuesday 16th September at 7.30pm at Gargunnock Community Centre. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Beverley Mountford – President Gargunnock SWI



Scotland's Gardens Scheme 2025

Sunday 15th June - Gartmore Village, Main Street, Gartmore FK8 3RW. 1.00pm - 5.00pm

Several attractive and interesting medium and small gardens will be open in and around this beautiful peaceful village with splendid views. They will showcase a wide variety of planting with shrubs, roses and herbaceous borders, water features, also some vegetable gardens and fruit trees. Admission £6.00.

Other details: Maps and tickets will be available from the Village Hall, where there will also be a plant sale. Homemade teas will be available from the Black Bull. Please check the website for more information. Given relatively limited parking place availability, please park with consideration for the houses in the village.

Sunday 13th July - Oakmore, Blairhoyle, Port of Menteith, FK8 3LF. 2.00pm- 5.00 pm

This three and a half acre garden was just a field 10 years ago. The owners have created a wonderful new garden with herbaceous borders, shrubbery, rose garden and much more. Plant enthusiasts will enjoy this work in progress and see the Summer flower displays. Teas and plant stall will be available. Admission £5.00.

Sunday 27th July - Mollan House, Thornhill, FK8 3QJ. 12.00 pm - 4.00 pm

A new garden to visit with stunning views over the Carse of Stirling.

Mollan is a large 3 acre garden set in softly rolling farmland. The garden is designed as a series of smaller interlocking gardens, each with a distinct character, packed with rich, colourful planting, meandering paths, a formal lawn, a wild flower meadow, two ponds and a productive kitchen garden.

Teas available and there is a plant stall. There are artworks to enjoy in the garden too.

Opening for Thornhill Primary School. Admission £5.00. Children free.

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Sat. 7th June to Sun. 15th June 2025

For more information and a PDF map to download, go to
<https://scenestirling.com/open-studios-stirlingshire>

COME JOIN US



GARGUNNOCK TODDLERS

At Gargunnoch 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
- £3 per child

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:

HCM22MOORE@GMAIL.COM

You shop, brands donate

It won't cost you any extra!



Renantis

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

ACTIVITY CLUBS



FTER MIND THE GAP EFORE

At Gargunnoch Primary School

Mon-Thurs 8am – 9am

Mon-Thurs 3.15pm – 5.15pm

£4.50 per child Before and £9 After School



You shop, brands donate

It won't cost you any extra!



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

For bookings and information email:
gargunnochvillagechildcare@gmail.com



COME JOIN THE

GARGUNNOCK PLAYGROUP

At Gargunnoch 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
- £11per session, £6 for siblings

For further information please contact:

GARGUNNOCKPLAYGROUP@GMAIL.COM

SUPPORT US WHEN YOU SHOP WITH EASY FUNDRAISING. SCAN THE BARCODE BELOW

You shop, brands donate

It won't cost you any extra!



Renantis

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

Gargunnoch Local Place Plan Questionnaire 2025-2035



SCAN ME



Help Shape the Future of Gargunnoch

Local Place Plans (LPPs) are a new tool introduced under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, giving communities like ours a formal voice in shaping the future of our local area. The Local Place Plan is a legal document registered with Stirling Council and in place for 10 years. Once submitted and registered with the local authority, an LPP must be taken into account when preparing the Local Development Plan—ensuring that community priorities are considered in future planning decisions.

This is a valuable opportunity for residents of Gargunnoch to set out shared aspirations, identify key priorities, and highlight areas for improvement or protection. The resulting Local Place Plan for 2025-2035 will guide how our village grows and evolves over the next decade—covering housing, transport, open space, local services, and more.

Your views are essential. The more people who respond, the stronger and more representative the final plan will be. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey—your input will help shape the future of Gargunnoch for years to come.

Gargunnock Primary School



We love it when we get the opportunity to work alongside others at the school and this term we have had lots of opportunities to do this. It really helps us to understand our purpose for learning and enhances our learning experience. In March, we successfully released our trout fry into Gargunnock Burn, reported in the February Bugle, with the help of Forth Valley River Trust. Hopefully they are thriving and enjoying their freedom.

This term we are being creative, working with the Carse of Stirling Partnership to highlight awareness of the effects of climate change across the Carse and beyond. P5/6/7 enjoyed a poetry workshop with 'The Stirling Makar' to create their own poems about Climate Change and an art session with local artist Jessica Langford to illustrate their poems. A selection of the finished works will be part of an art exhibition in Gargunnock Community Centre in June to launch the Carse Climate Action Initiative.



We also worked with Green Routes, who helped us to prune our apple trees properly in preparation for the growing season. Hopefully this will create a good crop as we are planning an apple day in the Autumn and harvesting our fruits into apple juice.

As if that were not enough we are also planning to work with another artist, a wood printer called Thomas Scott, to create a print of the cross section of a tree trunk. All pupils will be involved in this and the finished work will be used as part of The Printers Guild exhibition in August up at Stirling University. Families will all be offered free tickets to this exhibition and we will be gifted the original framed artwork to have in school. Tom's work can be viewed at the following link <https://www.tomscott.uk/about-1> and if our work turns out anywhere near as good we will be delighted.

Parent Council Spring Clean

After having to rearrange our first day in April due to poor weather conditions, we were luckier the second time round with our Spring clean of the playground in May. Thanks to Gargunnock Parent Council and school families who came along to support this event. We managed to get our play equipment painted, our boundary fence repaired, a new raised bed installed, the tarmac weeded and swept and a large branch that came down during Storm Eowyn chopped up. Our school grounds are beautiful and a great place for our pupils to enjoy, but are hard work to maintain. The hard work put in by our families was very much appreciated and demonstrates what a great community Gargunnock is.





Bring and Buy Plant Sale

Our gardening group at school are planning a bring and buy plant sale towards the end of term. Could we ask that if anyone is sowing or planting out this month to bring any spare plants down to the school polytunnel and we will either use them in our own growing projects or include them in our sale. Many thanks in advance.

Our polytunnel and growing area continues to thrive with this years crops including tomatoes, cucumber, peppers, lettuce, carrots, potatoes, French beans, courgette, onions and cauliflower. Please feel free to come down and have a look at our progress.

Digital Wellbeing Event

At the end of last term we invited our families in to see how our digital skills were developing and impacting on our learning experiences. We had lots of fun sharing our camera trapping from the playground in our 'Wildlife hide', showing parents our learning around coding and the apps we use in school to help us with literacy and numeracy. Our Green Screen station was very popular with pupils being transported to Antarctica as part of Shackleton's Expedition to the South Pole. We also had Stirling High in with their Lego Robots, and Kirsti from Inspiring Communities to help share the word around cyber resilience, digital safety and the importance of parental controls.



Gillian Orr, Head Teacher, Gargunnock PS



Cathedral City Estates



Dunblane estate agency, Cathedral City Estates, has been named as one of the best estate agencies in the UK.

The family run agency, which has both sales and letting offices in Dunblane, has been recognised by the Best Estate Agency Guide with a Gold Award for their 'Exceptional' Sales service and a Silver Award for their 'Excellent' Lettings service in addition to being recognised with a Gold Award for placing in the top 500 agencies in the UK.

Markus Beher, Director at Cathedral City Estates, said, "We are absolutely delighted to have been recognised by the 2025 Best Estate Agency Guide. The multiple awards are testament to the knowledge, effort, care and passion of our team who constantly strive to provide our clients with the highest standard of service.

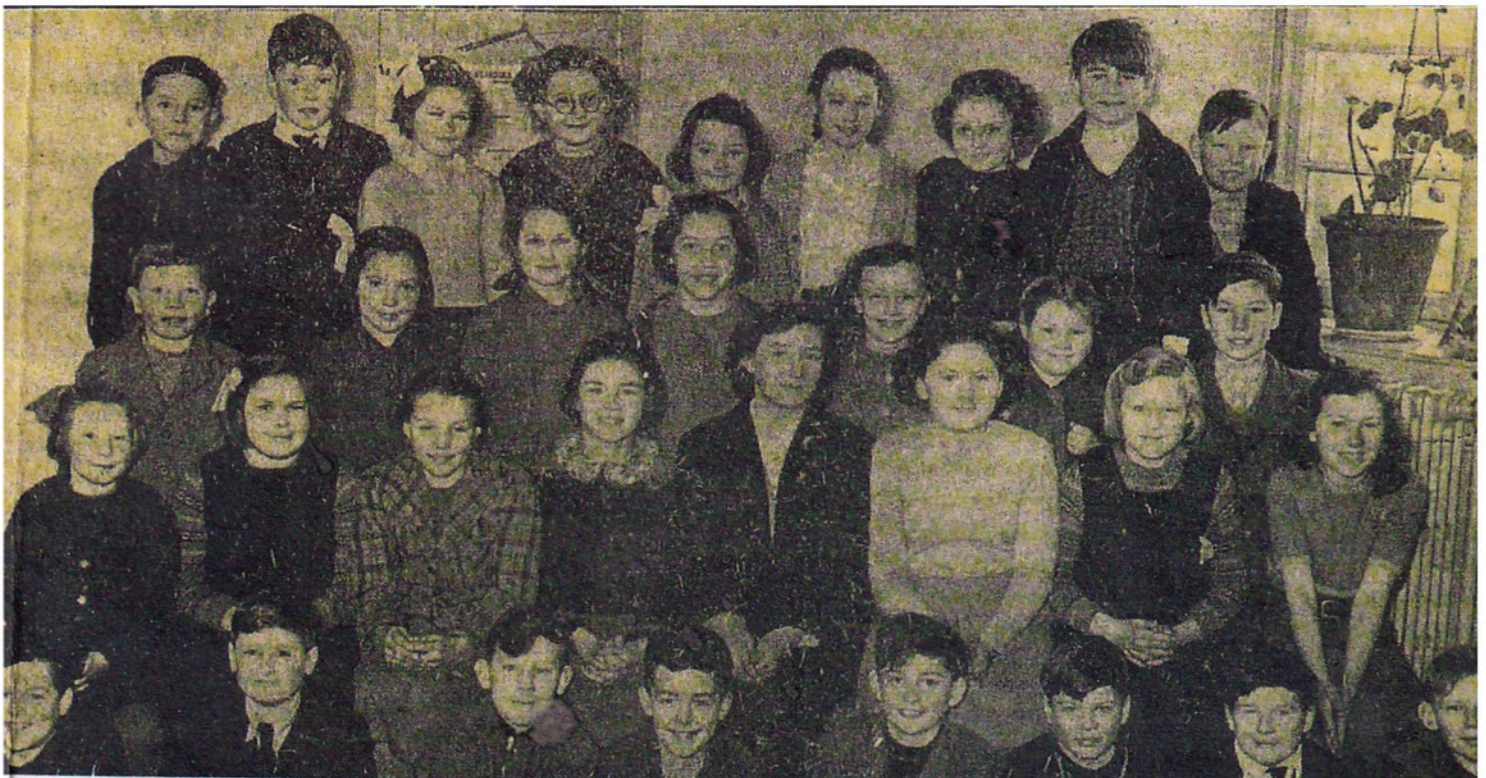
"If you're thinking about your next move then get in touch – we're always happy to help with some expert advice to help you on your property journey."

Call us on **01786 821012** to arrange an in-person property appraisal of your home.

Back Row - 1?, Robert Petrie, S. McCallum, 4?, David Armstrong, Graham Donaldson
 2nd Row - Hugh Ferguson, Peter Petrie, Cecilia McFarlane, Marion Rutherford, Pat Wallace, Helen Watson, John Birrell,
 John McLaren
 First Row - H. Armstrong, Isobel Muirhead, Lexa Quinn, Anne Atkinson,



**A BLAST FROM THE PAST? PHOTOS SUPPLIED BY ISOBEL MUIRHEAD TAKE US WAY BACK TO THE EARLY 1950s AT
 GARGUNNOCK PRIMARY - ARE YOU THERE?**



Back Row - 1?, Kenneth McCallum, Suzanne Wilson, Catherine Blair, Ina May Atkinson, 6?, 7?, William Brown, 9?
 3rd Row - Jimmy Hill?, 2?, Marion Wilson, Lexa Quinn, Isobel Muirhead, 6?, Eric Brown?
 2nd Row - Catherine Hill, 2?, Jane Christie?, Anne Brown, Teacher?, Cecilia McFarlane, ? Johnson, Hilda Armstrong
 1st Row - Peter Petrie, Drew Brand, David Armstrong, 4?, Bobby Simpson, Douglas Reilly, Hugh Ferguson, Alex Hill

Flower Show Annual Quiz

Another very successful evening was held on 21st March when 19 teams got together to fight for the honour of winning this world-renowned competition. And it really WAS tight, with only one point between the winners and 2 joint second places. After a lengthy check by the judges Anne and Sandra, the winning team - the 4 PBs retired - were declared worthy winners. Team photograph shows members Mike Kay, Edmond Mansion and Steve and Rowena Barnet. The booby prize was "won" by team Jelly Jars, whose members have rightly opted for anonymity!!



There is usually one question which puts The Professor under pressure and this year's was "on a packet of crisps, what day of the week is the best before date". Well, on all the packs pre-checked the answer is Saturday. But immediately a smartass produced a pack of M&S crisps where the day was Tuesday. The Professor, being a decent guy, decided not to suspend the team for illegal googling but rather opted for a severe reprimand and a promise that The Professor's minor error would never be mentioned again. (I can imagine that many Bugle readers will already be checking out this answer for themselves!!)

The Flower Show Committee wish to express grateful thanks to all who attended and for amazing donated raffle prizes. The net sum of £ 416 was raised which will keep the Flower Show, a valued village event, going.
Maitland Clark

Janet's Farewell to Flower Show Committee

Janet Iffla has been a stalwart of the Flower Show Committee for many years and is now stepping down. In paying tribute to this long and faithful service, Maitland, President presented her with a beautiful rose appropriately named "Garden Glory" along with a suitable planter and compost as a lasting memento. When discussing the length of her involvement with the committee, both as a member and as a long term secretary, Janet couldn't remember the exact length of time but was aware that it started when the Flower Show was held in the old church hall in Station Road i.e. pre community centre days.

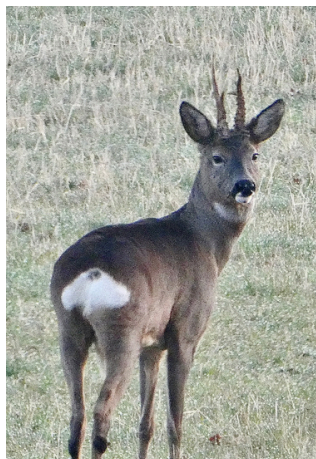
Best wishes were expressed for a long and happy retirement, spent in the garden of course!.

Although retired, she still intends to contribute to the Show by providing as many entries as she possibly can.

Maitland Clark



Photos by Anne-Marie Stewart





The Gargunnock Inn

GOOD FOOD, GOOD BEER, GOOD TIMES

What's on

Every Wednesday

2 For 1 Fish and Chips (sit in)

Every Thursday

Steak Night - 2 Steak meals (8oz fillets)
and a bottle of wine £51.50

1st Friday of Every month

Fundraising quiz night

Coming Soon

Saturday 7th June - Gargunnock Show day (book early)

Sunday 15th June - Fathers day (book early)

The Annual Gargunnock Beer Festival

Sunday 10th August

Fun for all the family, Live Music, Street food

Book online, or call 01786 860333.

www.gargunnockinn.co.uk





Windfarm Fund



Latest grants awarded - since our last update, we are delighted to share that there have been another eight successful grants awarded by the Windfarm Panel,

- £800 for Apple Press and Scrater.
- £500 to support young person on work placement overseas.
- £500 to support young person on an overseas scholarship.
- £500 to local artist to work with school on a tree printing project.
- £4,097.50 to Community Council to engage with a consultant to work on Local Place Plan.
- £673.94 for this year's village Gala.
- £300 to Carse of Stirling Partnership funding part of a community climate action event that includes Stirling Makar working with pupils at primary school.
- £470 to repair electricity supply at the shop phone box.

263 people also took advantage of the £10 voucher that was in last edition of Bugle, which was funded by the windfarm.

The panel was pleased to support these applications and would like to encourage continued applications from across the community.

We are currently working with a web developer, and hopefully later on in 2025 we will be able to accept online windfarm applications, in the meantime continue to use the downloadable forms currently on the village website.

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

As a reminder we made the following changes in January:

- Individuals are now able to apply for grants up to £500 (previous level was £300).
- Quotes are now not required for individual and group grants up to £500 (previously £300).
- 1 Quote should be included with grant applications between £500 and £999.
- 3 Quotes need to be included for grant applications £1,000 and over.

The next deadline dates for applications are 11th August and 10th of November, but if you have something you would like to apply for between now and then please do drop us an email at windfarmpanel@gargunnock.org

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

Jackie Campbell

The Welcome Team - Gargunnock Parish Church

The Welcome Tea, of Gargunnock Kirk invite you to come to these charity talks the as follows:

21st September - Scotland Beneath the Surface by Bruce Keith

"a Subterranean odyssey, exploring the natural and man-made heritage beneath our feet"

19th October - An Afternoon of Antiques by Gordon Foster

Gordon will bring some of his own items to talk about then will talk about any antiques brought in by the audience.
Charity - Start Up Stirling

2nd November - Title or subject not known yet - Rebecca or Duncan McEwan from Arnprior Farm

All talks begin at 2pm and are for about 45 minutes, with questions at the end, the entry is free except for a donation to the chosen charity, all in Gargunnock Kirk.



THE CARSE
OF STIRLING
PARTNERSHIP



CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE CARSE OF STIRLING

HOW WILL IT AFFECT US AND WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP - ALL WELCOME

JUNE 21st 2025 - 9.45am - 1.00pm

GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY CENTRE

Kevin P Gilday, Stirling Makar will open the exhibition and event.

Artwork and Poetry Exhibition (with a focus on the Carse) by children from
Carse of Stirling Primary Schools.

Speakers:

Cath Preston - Carse of Stirling Partnership

Simon Smith - Forest Land Scotland

Clara Shade-Poulsen - Forth Rivers Trust

Creative Observations:

Kevin P Gilday - Stirling Makar

Michael Prince - Photographer

Charlie Gracie - Poet

Workshop discussion: What can we do about Climate Change?

Refreshments provided.

Limited parking space in car park, otherwise please park on one side of the street only.



Gargunnock Community Council Project Updates

Fountain Clean Up

As you'll have seen, the wonderful and historically important fountain that is the centre point of the Square has had a long awaited and much needed clean up and repointing. Again, many hours of volunteer time has gone into researching the necessary permissions and Stirling Council have been very supportive in this.

Thanks to funding from Wind Farm Panel and Gargunnock Community Trust, we've been able to employ Alex Milne, of Impressions in Stone, our local specialist in this field. Alex told us that he'd been asked about the possibility of cleaning the fountain several times over the last 25 years, so it's rather nice that it's now looking so nice and clean.



Will it ever have a water supply again? Well, maybe. Who knows?

Website Development

We have been able to appoint a web developer to progress this and expect to have a first draft of what the new website will look like very soon. We've been working collaboratively with our colleagues in WFP and GCT as to what the layout and functionality will look like, and it's looking very good so far. Keep an eye on Facebook for news on this.

Local Place Plan

We've been very busy working in partnership with WFP and GCT developing the types of questions to help us represent the views of the community as we work on this important document. A second stage questionnaire will have been distributed by the time you read this, building on the work of the initial one.

Thanks to WFP funding, we've been able to engage a consultant to help us with this important project, and that builds on the many hours the Community Council team has already invested in the work.

To recap, the LPP is required by Stirling Council as part of the national planning framework from Scottish Government. So, it's a proposal by a community body to reflect what the wider community would like to see preserved within the village, and to suggest how we would like to see the village develop over the next ten years, while noting the areas we would like to preserve. The aim is to improve people's engagement and involvement in the planning system. The LPP is a way for communities to achieve change in their local area by proactively feeding into the overall development planning process, and as it's a legal document it is important that we have contributions from as many of you as possible. Gargunnock Community Council has been working hard to ensure that the voice of the community is at the centre of the LPP. There will continue to be extensive consultation with residents as we move towards the final version.

Please contact us via gargunnockcommunitycouncil@gmail.com with comments and suggestions.

Members

Mike Buckley took over as Interim Chair at the end of March and we're also delighted that we can welcome Martin Harrick to the Community Council. We are also keen to co-opt some additional members so if you'd like to join the team that is working to support our community with projects like these, do get in touch with Mike on 07967 830144 or any Council member, for an informal chat. Or contact us via gargunnockcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

We also have still have an opportunity for a minute taker. This is a funded role, and pays £40 per meeting. There are 6 meetings a year.



Gargunnock Walking Group – May 2025

The Gargunnock Walking Group has continued to meet at regular intervals enjoying new walks and repeating old favourites. Our most recent walk was a charming walk along the banks of the Endrick Water between Balfron and Killearn on a fine sunny day in May. This compares with a very wet walk in Kirkton Glen in March. However, for most walks we enjoy fine weather and the wet walk was an exception!

The dates for walks in June will be Tuesday 10th June and Thursday 26th June.

As usual these walks will depend up 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



Wet day in Kirkton Glen



Enjoying the sunshine beside the Endrick Water

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.

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Deadline of next issue: Articles, letter, photographs, adverts & submissions may be made anytime up to and including 31st August 2025.

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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