

# The Bugle

Magazine for Gargunnoch  
and the surrounding area

Issue 56  
April 2019

[www.gargunnoch.org](http://www.gargunnoch.org)



## GARGUNNOCK GALA DAY – SATURDAY 15TH JUNE

Gargunnoch's popular Village Gala will take place on Saturday 15th June from 1.45pm. The Gala will start off in the Park and then make its way to the Community Centre on Leckie Road.

The theme this year will be 'Heroes' and the event will feature plenty of entertainment for all ages. Some of the planned attractions include a fancy dress parade, a tea room, stalls, kids entertainment and a talent show.

There will be drinks at the bar from 5pm, including gin and tonic, sparkling prosecco, cool beers and an array of soft drinks.

There will also be a BBQ and traditional afternoon tea in the shade, and ice cream and cake stalls.

Well-known band 'Heavy Load' who were so popular last year will also be back performing a range of Rock Music.

The event has all the ingredients for a fabulous day out and has gone from strength to strength over the years thanks to the support of the local community, businesses and visitors to the area.

The organisers expect 2019 to be no exception so make sure you come and join us. Admission and parking is free.

We are a bit short of organisers this year so if you can help in any way between now or on the day or donate some baking then please contact: Nathalie Kane (07935 897597) or Louise Heron (07895 752491).

PRE-GALA WARM UP - THURSDAY 13TH JUNE FROM 7PM IN THE PARK  
Following the success of last year's pre-gala fun we will hold a Kids v Adults football game and Tug of War competition. It is open to all so please come along and join in the games. Hot dogs and tea/coffee will be available on the night for a small donation.

## GARGUNNOCK PARISH CHURCH

**Vacancy:** Due to the staffing situation within the Church of Scotland, the Presbytery of Stirling is in consultation with the Office Bearers of the churches on the Carse of Stirling to consider the way forward with fewer Ministers of Word and Sacrament to serve the present number of charges. Slow progress is being made so the vacancy of our linked charge remains sisted.

We are grateful to our Interim Moderator, Mrs Valerie Rose, who has been guiding us and preparing a worship programme which allows all three churches, within the linked charge, to have a weekly service. Rev. Lynne Mack continues to provide Pastoral Care including Hospital and Home Visits, Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals. Please inform your District Elder or the Session Clerk, Audrey Birrell, of pastoral care required within the parish bounds. Audrey is available on 01786 860321, with answerphone. We thank Rev Lynne and Mr Ian Roy for conducting the weekly Sunday Services at 10.30am. ALL are WELCOME at these services.

Special Services over the next three months:

On Sunday 7th April the Annual Stated Meeting takes place after the service. This is an opportunity for members to be updated on church business, including the presentation of the Annual Accounts.

### Holy Week Services:

Sunday 14th April - Palm Sunday Service at 10.30am

Thurs 18th April - Maundy Thurs Service at Kilmadock Church, Doune, at 7pm

Friday 19th April, Good Friday, 2.00pm - Reflections at St Modoc's Church, Doune, 7.00pm - Service at Gargunnoch.

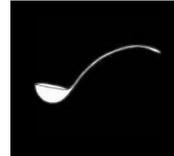
Sunday 21st April - Easter Sunday Service at 10.30am

Joint Services will take place on the last Sunday of April, May and June as follows:

April 28th - at Kilmadock Church at 6.30pm. It is an evening service as the Stirling Marathon is being held that day, causing travel difficulties.

May 26th - at Gargunnoch Church at 10.00 am. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated during the service.

June 30th - at Kincardine-in-Menteith Church at 10.00am.



## Bite and Blether

The next Bite and Blether will be on Wednesday 3rd April in the Community Centre from 11:00 - 2:00. Everybody is welcome to come and enjoy delicious homemade soup and baking.

## Gargunnoch Primary needs you!

We're fundraising for ipads for our Digi-Den. The ipads will be used to enhance our learning across the curriculum, for lunchtime clubs (e.g. coding), for transition projects (e.g. with the playgroup) and we'd also like to hold information sessions for older members of our community.



# ROCKET FUND

Help us by supporting our project on  
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# Gargunnoch Community Council and Community Trust Updates

## Gargunnoch Community Council

### Beeches Walk Survey Results

Enclosed with the February edition of the village newspaper – The Bugle – was a short questionnaire, issued by the Community Trust, which asked for residents' views on their usage of, and proposed improvements to, the Beeches Walk. Eighty-two questionnaires were returned, by the closing date at the end of February, which represents a response rate of slightly under 30%. It is considered that this level of response is sufficiently high to be considered as representative of village opinion. Of the 82 responses, 73 (89%) answered "Yes" to Question 1 about support for path improvements; 7 (9%) answered "No" and 2 (2%) answered "Don't Know". The "Don't knows" were reserving their position until they knew more about the details of the proposal. This was also a factor influencing the "Noes" but they also were concerned that the rural character might change and that more bikes might be encouraged to use the path. According to the answers to Question 2, which asked how many people in the household generally use the Beeches Path there is a high level of usage amongst respondents to the survey, with a fifth using it every day and nearly two-thirds of respondents using it on at least a weekly basis. This clearly indicates the importance of the path to the village. In addition to the answers to the specific questions, 58 respondents also attached additional comments to their response. The most frequent comment (30%) was that the proposal was a great idea and was very much supported. Just over a fifth of responses (22%) expressed hopes and concerns that the essential woodland/rural character of the walk would not be adversely affected by improvements and in particular that they would be carried out sensitively. The full report can be viewed on the village website.

## Gargunnoch – Stirling Cycleway Feasibility Study

Several village consultation exercises have highlighted the desirability of an off-road, cycle/footpath link between Gargunnoch and Stirling. In February the Community Trust applied for and secured a Community Links grant of £15000 from Sustrans to carry out a feasibility study on such a link. Following a competitive tendering process the Trust has appointed Sweco to carry out the study, which will look at the technical, economic and social issues associated with two possible routes: [1] the former railway line and [2] a line adjacent to the A811, and recommend a preferred option. It is anticipated that the work will be completed by mid-May, following which, a public meeting will be arranged by the Trust to discuss the findings with the village.

## GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY CENTRE CARETAKER/JANITOR



Gargunnoch Community Trust is looking for a local person to help with the day-to-day management of the Community Centre.

The key areas of work required will include:

- Ensuring users have access to the Centre;
- Periodically checking on condition of the building;
- Checking on the boiler and ensuring it is functioning properly;
- Contacting contractors and arranging access when required;
- Reading meter and noting electricity consumption;
- Checking the boiler fuel and ordering when required;
- Assisting with stage and sound system set up;
- Carrying out minor repairs as required;
- Making sure paths and car park are in a safe condition;
- Reporting any defects to the Community Trust; and
- Being available to respond to user enquiries.

You should be resourceful, have some practical skill and be available in the village during the day.

The post is on a free-lance basis at £10.00 per hour. Number of hours to be agreed with Gargunnoch Community Trust

If you wish to express an interest please email  
djohnston@thehaven.eu or jeremywilkinson@live.com

## Wind Farm Funding - can you make an impact?



## Funds Available!

Funds for Gargunnoch Village based projects available.  
For application information go to [www.gargunnoch.org](http://www.gargunnoch.org)

The following groups were awarded funds to support their projects from the Gargunnoch Wind Farm Fund from the last round of applications in February. Forth Valley Orienteers awarded £450 towards producing an orienteering map of Gargunnoch.

Gargunnoch After School Club awarded £2000 to assist with increasing costs.  
Gargunnoch Primary Parent Council awarded £4000 towards setting up a digital hub for the pupils.

Gargunnoch Curling Club awarded £1750 towards marketing costs and trophy purchases.

Gargunnoch Community Trust awarded £12,671 towards the procurement of a sound system to meet various community needs.

Gargunnoch Old Kirkyard awarded £175 towards the production of local interest leaflets.

Gargunnoch Brownies awarded £242.25 towards the procurement of support materials for the new girl guiding badges.

Gargunnoch SWI awarded £300 towards the cost of transport for a trip to Glamis Castle.

## Fruit Tree Planting



With the end of term and end of the planting season rapidly approaching it was time to get digging in the new Glebe Park. It had to be all hands to the spades to get the ground prepared. Once again two faithful villagers were "volunteered" into preparing the ground for the fruit trees, and some of the Criminal Justice Team got stuck into digging for victory in the wild flower garden adjacent to the picnic bench.

Then the whole of the school, 60 pupils, teachers and assistants expertly organised by Mrs Rushton, the head teacher, were split into groups representing their school houses, and in some atrocious weather set to and within a couple of hours nine fruit trees and hundreds of wild flower seeds were planted and sown. It was remarked upon by John Hancox "The Apple Man" how well behaved the children were, a credit to the school and the village.

Work on The Glebe park has been funded by the Falck Renewables Kingsburn Windfarm Community Fund, managed by the Gargunnoch Community Trust. Work has been supported by the volunteer efforts of the community working with charitable organisations such as "On the Verge" and "The Woodland Trust".

## CONTACT EMAILS

Bugle Email: [gargunnochbugle@gmail.com](mailto:gargunnochbugle@gmail.com)

Community Centre Email: [gargunnochCC@gmail.com](mailto:gargunnochCC@gmail.com)

Community Trust Email: [gargunnochtrust@gmail.com](mailto:gargunnochtrust@gmail.com)

Community Council Email: [gargunnochcommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:gargunnochcommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

## MP SEEKS REPORT ON A811 BECOMING A TRUNK ROAD

Stephen Kerr, MP for Stirling, is continuing to campaign for the important A811 road to be upgraded to Trunk Road status and become the responsibility of Transport Scotland. This would mean more attention and prominence for this vital artery for rural Stirlingshire.

To kick the campaign into a new gear, Stephen has written to Michael Matheson, The Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Transport, asking that a formal appraisal be sought from Transport Scotland on the upgrade of the road. Making that upgrade would bring about more investment and ensure the road is maintained to a high standard. Stephen has also written to over two hundred businesses located along the route, national haulage companies and the community councils concerned. "I firmly believe that this heavily used and important route is a clear contender to become a Trunk Road and join the A84 and A85 as recognised linking routes across the area. I very much hope a formal appraisal is carried out and this issue progresses."

Stephen Kerr

## On The Buses

The return of the C12 evening buses to their direct route finally started on the 18th January. All evening buses now go via Dumbarton Road. The times have been altered so please check before you travel. First Scotland East have produced a new booklet timetable, albeit 6 weeks after the service started. For anyone who has still not managed to get a copy they are sporadically available on some buses and local shops. In January, Buchlyvie Community Council wrote to the Environment and Housing Convener requesting that a Sunday Service on the Balftron to Stirling route now be considered a priority. This letter was supported by Gargunnoch, Balftron and Arnprior (Kippen Community Council had yet to be formed). There is no further update on this but we are hoping that both Stirling Council and First Bus will work together to address this matter and make this route accessible 7 days a week.

Unfortunately, the Friday, Saturday early evening pilot buses are not being supported. We hope to see a rise in numbers now that the bus is going the direct route via Dumbarton Road. However, if patronage does not improve there is a strong possibility these two buses will be withdrawn.

The condition of the Balftron Buses continues to cause concern with yet another winter of no heating and water ingress on these old vehicles.

There is no sign of the upgrades promised to Bruce Crawford MSP in June last year. The one fully refurbished Balftron bus still had no heating and water ingress after its upgrade. Other than a repaint, passengers failed to notice the vehicle had been refurbished at all! We are hoping that the new rules surrounding emissions in Glasgow will in turn force First to finally improve the quality of the vehicles operated out of the Balftron Depot.

Val Brand

## Word of the month

SNAFU (n) : a confused or chaotic state: a mess e.g. overheard in the Gargunnoch Inn " From now on, this establishment is a Brexit-free zone. We're aw sick and scunnered with one snafu after another, and things getting worse aw the time."



## Old Leckie Farm Spring Update

Spring has now officially sprung as the spring equinox heralds that lovely day when we have more daylight than darkness. Not that's it been a bad winter on the farm - drier and less snowy than the year before, scientifically measured by the depth of sticky mud on my wellies as I haul hay bales out to feed the sheep through the months when the grass doesn't grow.

The warm front in February saw first early potatoes being optimistically planted and the salad beds in the poly tunnel being prepped for another busy growing season. Calving has started in the sheds as the cows start eyeing up the grass in the fields, willing it to start growing so they can get back out to fresh pasture.

If you're walking through the farm at the moment you'll see the pregnant ewes in the fields nearer to the main farm sheds as lambing beckons. They're fed with sheep 'nuts' in the morning as well as hay to keep them nutritionally balanced and in good health as their pregnancy develops. We take the single and triplet ewes into the sheds to lamb, leaving the twins to lamb outside.

Please keep dogs in close and under control as you walk through the farm so as not to spook the sheep and their newborns.

Looking ahead we're really excited to be helping the Gargunnoch Farmers Club celebrate their 225th anniversary this year and will be co-hosting a charity Barn Dance on the farm on Saturday 29th June. Keep the date free for an evening of good dancing, good food and good company - tickets will be on sale soon! Alison Younger

www.oldleckie.co.uk, www.facebook.com/oldleckiefarm

**Dean Lockhart MSP**  
Member of the Scottish Parliament  
For Mid-Scotland and Fife

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Tel: 0131 348 5995

Email: [Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot)  
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The 3F Group meets in Kilmadock Church, Doune, on the last Tuesday of the month for nine months and has only two meetings of this session to go.

The topics for the two meetings are:

Tues. 30th April: Lynn McLeish will talk on 'Alternatives to Plastics'.

Tues. 28th May: Visit to Stirling Tea followed by Supper at The Woodhouse. ALL WELCOME

If you have any questions, please contact:

Jessie Wyllie Tel. 01789 860550



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## Police Report

**Community Engagement and Reassurance** -PC Steven Graham and PC Gary Martin are based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at 101 or ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk. It is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact.

**Social Media** - 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. Our Facebook and Twitter pages can be found at [www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision](http://www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision), [www.facebook.com/policescotland](http://www.facebook.com/policescotland), [www.twitter.com/stirlingpol](http://www.twitter.com/stirlingpol), [www.twitter.com/policescotland](http://www.twitter.com/policescotland). 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 has been very minor acts of anti-social behaviour. An act of minor vandalism and an argument between neighbours since the last article.

**Sheep Worrying** - This time of year presents the problem of sheep worrying. Dog owners are being warned their animal could be killed if it is found to be in the presence of sheep, even if it has not physically attacked them or chased them. A dog attacking, chasing or even being at large in a field where sheep are kept can lead to significant injury and often leads to the sheep being killed or destroyed. Such attacks have a financial and emotional impact on the farmer and cause immense suffering to the animals and are avoidable if dog owners follow some simple steps. The vast majority of livestock worrying incidents involve sheep and can occur when a dog attacks, chases or in the case of sheep, is at large (not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field where livestock is kept. The effects of a dog attack are evident and cannot be overstated but significant damage can also be caused by a dog simply being present in a field. Pregnant ewes can abort their lambs or lambs can be separated from their mothers. The advice to dog owners who live in rural areas or anyone walking and exercising their dogs in the countryside is to ensure they are under control at all times and avoid going into fields where livestock is grazing. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code says dogs shouldn't be taken into fields where there are lambs or other young farm animals. We will be looking to enforce the legislation and any reported cases of sheep worrying will be investigated and offenders reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

**Domestic Abuse** - There has recently been an advert on tv highlighting a campaign about Domestic Abuse. Domestic abuse can exist in all types of relationships between partners and ex partners. There is a common misconception that domestic abuse is just physical abuse. This is not the case. Domestic abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional or mental abuse. The abuse may be committed in the home or elsewhere including online

**Hate Crime** - This year's hate crime campaign focuses on people who work in the night time economy, for example taxi and private hire drivers, those working in late night retail stores and takeaways. Research shows that these individuals are more likely to be victims of hate crime, and we aim to raise awareness of the problem and encourage reporting of incidents to police. A hate crime is "any crime which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated (wholly or partly) by malice and ill-will towards a social group". Perpetrators of hate crime focus on targeting individuals on the basis of actual or presumed:

•Disability •Race •Religion/Belief •Sexual Orientation •Transgender Identity

**#StopItNow** - A new campaign, #StopItNow, aims to prevent the online grooming of children and young people in preparation for contact offences by directing offenders and potential perpetrators to Stop It Now! Scotland. Between April 2018 and February 2019 nearly 1600 crimes were recorded where an individual communicated with a child for sexual purposes, this resulted in nearly 70 per cent of the perpetrators being arrested and charged. Working with Stop It Now! Scotland, we have developed a campaign that taps into the biggest fear of perpetrators, that their families will find out and that they will face public exposure for their offences.

**Road Safety** - The Central Scotland Safety Camera Partnership and Police Scotland have continued to perform speed enforcement and hi-visibility patrols in and around Gargunock. These resulted with fixed penalty tickets for speeding but also a vehicle being uplifted as the driver was driving with no insurance. We will continue to carry out such patrols and checks over the coming months. There has been reports of inconsiderate parking by motorists within the village. This will be monitored and if appropriate offenders will be dealt with.

**Theft** - There have been no incidents of theft in the Gargunock area since the last article however local residents are reminded of the importance of being vigilant and reporting any suspicious activity to Police no matter how trivial it may seem. When we receive these reports they are investigated and the appropriate action taken. Such reports are always encouraged and welcomed.

## GARGUNNOCK VILLAGE STORE

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Thank you for your warm  
welcome and support  
Alistair and Violet

## Gargunnoch Flower Show News

A good night was had by all on Friday 15th March when the Flower Show held their annual quiz night. Over 60 people participated and the winning team, by one point, was Peter & Clair Gill, Fiona Campbell and Grace Smillie. It was a very close contest with only three points separating the top 3 teams. We had visiting teams from Kippen, Cambusbarron, and Blair Drummond, who were made particularly welcome. Thank you to all who helped in any way, especially our quiz master Willie Campbell and Robert & Liz Petrie for compiling the quiz. This is only event we hold during the year to raise funds to continue with the annual flower show, and the committee would like to thank everyone who attended for supporting the event.

The Flower Show is being held again this year on Sunday 25.8.19. The schedules, which are available from the shop, have been tweaked with items being added/deleted and hints and tips added to help assist those who enter. The judging of the gardens competition is being held again in July, date to be confirmed. Applications will be available from the village shop for those who wish to enter their garden, or nominate their neighbour's garden, with their approval.

## Stirling City Choir Spring Concert

Sunday 27th April at 7.30pm in the Holy Rude. The choir will be performing two beautiful choral works by French composers, Gabriel Faure and Maurice Durufle, conducted by our half French musical director Michael Segaud! Ooh la la!! Ian Boulter, our wonderful accompanist, will be accompanying on the Holy Rude's organ. Tickets will be available from choir members and on the door.

## Gargoyles of Gargunnoch

The Gargoyles of Gargunnoch will be performing at Doune Rural Hall at 7.30pm Sunday 11th May and also at Traquair Medieval Fayre weekend, near Peebles, the last weekend in May. There are other events in the pipeline but nothing confirmed yet.

## Kippen Surgery

Thank You to Kippen Drama Club for the generous donation that allowed us to buy blood pressure monitors, cardiac monitors and an examination lamp.  
Kippen Medical Centre

## Save the Dates!

### Upcoming Events at the Community Centre



#### Bite & Blether

Wednesday 3rd April, 11am-2pm  
(and every first Wednesday of the month)

#### Defibrillator Training

Sunday 14th April, 2-5pm

#### Retro Bingo Night

Saturday 27th April, 7-11pm

#### Great Gargunnoch Clothes Sale

Sunday 12th May, 2-4pm

#### Stirling Council Councillor Surgery

Monday 13th May, 7-7.30pm

#### Community Council Meeting

Monday 13th May, 7.30 - 9.30pm

#### Jazz Night

Friday 24th May, time tba

#### Mindfulness Course

Starts 29th May for 5 weeks

#### Drawing Horses Classes

Sat 8th June & 13th July, 9.30am - 4pm

#### Gargunnoch Gala

Saturday 15th June

#### Gargunnoch Flower Show

Sunday 25th August, 1.45-5pm

#### Pig Race Night

Sat 21st September, times tbc

Diary of events and how to book the Community Centre can be found at [www.gargunnoch.org](http://www.gargunnoch.org)



# Thank You

from Miller Academy of Irish Dance

It's always nerve wrecking holding fundraisers, especially when it's something totally new like a St. Patrick's day cafe. But the sleepless nights were in vain, when the Gargunnoch community flocked to attend the cafe and see six of the village girls showcase their Irish dancing.

Thank you for attending, being so positive about the baking and Irish stew, but most importantly the positive feedback you gave to the girls - they were genuinely overwhelmed by your enthusiasm and generosity.

Only a few weeks to go now til Gargunnoch lassies take on the worlds in Eindhoven, we feel confident we will represent Gargunnoch and Scotland with passion and commitment.

Thank you again for attending

Sophie, Heather, Hope, Holly, Stella and Dayx



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# Presenting the Gargunnoch Primary School Junior Journalists!



## World War 2 Studies

This term primary 6/7 have been studying World War 2, in this topic they have been learning about Anne Frank, Jane Haining and other hero's. Primary 6/7 have been doing lots of activities like comparing food today and food in the 1940s, painting pictures of the Holocaust and making gas masks out of paper. Primary 6/7 went to the war museum in Edinburgh on the 7th of March they got to see lots replicas of things what were around in the 1940s we did a workshop on World War 2 and got to see the one O clock gun go off.

**By Kyle Heron, P6**



*On Friday 29th March at 2:30pm Primary 6 and 7 are sharing their learning in an assembly at school for their families. Members of the community are also welcome*

## Folding for Fund

Hamish Webber wanted to raise money for endangered animals. He told his class about it. His teacher Mr Webster helped Hamish organise an origami session. Loads of people went during their Golden time. They raised over £200 for the Highland Wildlife Park. **by Eilidh Sellar, P5**



## Lari Don's visits Gargunnoch!

On the 8th of March 2019 Gargunnoch Primary celebrated World book day and got a visit from an author called Lari Don. Lari shared lots of facts about what it's like to be an author. She read them a picture book about her favourite mythical animal called the Secret of the Kelpie, she even let them make up a story of their own a bit like an Old Italian story called Petrocinnella. For the story the children made up they got to use people, monsters, and helpful things for the happy ending every part of the story was their choice. It was a very fun and exciting activity. The pupils also got told about some of Lari Don's books e.g. Spell Chasers which is about a girl whom been cursed by an evil witch and tries to find a way to break her curse however she meets some other children just like her on the way also trying to break their own curse. At the end every child got a piece of paper with Lari Don's signature on it and she told them that she was in the middle of writing a new story. All of the children, even the teachers, enjoyed that experience! **By Louise Crawford, P6**



## Burns in Gargunnoch

Gargunnoch Primary were learning about Robert Burns all through January. We learned about Burns for Robert Burns day, which celebrates his life as a talented poet on his birthday. As is the case every year, our school held a competition throughout the classes to see who could recite scots poetry the best. Classes voted on who they thought deserved to go to the finals and two children from each year went forward. The finals were judged by Mrs Rushton and Mrs Lamond who chose Louise Buchanan from P1-3, Ruairi Peddie from P4-5 and Ruby Conroy from P6-7. The winners then went on to perform their poems at the Primary 6-7 Burns Supper. The Robert Burns Federation donated 3 trophies, which were won at the finals by P5, Jasmine Haddow, P6, Ruby Conroy and P7, Salma Sheikh. The Primary 6-7 Burns Supper was a huge success, complete with ceilidh dancing, haggis, an address to the lassies and a reply to the lads. P6 pupil, Ruby Conroy attended the Stirling High School Burns Bonanza to represent Gargunnoch Primary and to perform the Burns' poem, 'Address to a Toothache'. **By Ruby Conroy, P6**



## Digi-Den

Gargunnoch Primary's 'Digital Destroyers' are fundraising for a Digi-Den with 25 chromebooks and 10 ipads. They received a grant of £4000 from the Windfarm Trust which everyone was so excited about. The Digital Destroyers have also launched a Rocket Fund which is a crowdfunding project live for the month of March. People can donate or share the link with others. We interviewed Jasmine who is in the Digital Destroyers to see how she liked the idea. "It'll be great to have more ipads and laptops. The laptops are going to be faster. It's going to be much easier because if two classes are working on the laptops they won't have to wait so long for a turn." **By Nina MacGregor, P6**

## World Book Day

The 'Chapter Chasers' organised a fun filled week of book activities for us to celebrate World Book Day. We started off doing 'Rug and a Read', a rug and a read inspires children to enjoy reading. Our plan was to read in the very own outdoor learning zone, but it was a bit wet outside so we decided to stay inside our learning lounge. We even had hot chocolate and a biscuit! We read for an hour, it was fun! There was a book challenge around the school for all the pupils to take part in. Sophie Tucker, Ruairi Peddie and Ellen won the prizes (the prizes were books that they got to choose themselves). Our fabulous catering staff rustled up a book themed lunch complete with 'Ratburger' (David Walliams) and 'Worms on Toast (The Twits)! On Friday we had our dressing up for our world book day 99% of the school dressed up which was good. Even the teachers dressed up! Mrs Hamilton looked brilliant as Cruella DeVil, Mr McDonald became Mr Bump, Miss Wishart was Gangsta Granny and Mrs Rushton was Katie Morag. In the afternoon, we were so lucky to be treated to an author visit, her name is Lari Don. We all knew Lari's stories as we had been reading them in our classes. It was great to listen to her as she brought her stories alive. It was a really fun week!

**By Zahra Sheikh, P6**



## Mandarin

This year Primary 6 and 7 have been learning some Mandarin! We have learned how to say numbers, greetings, time, tones, colours, characters, family members, food and drink, clothing items and loads more. Our amazing teachers are Miss YuLāoshī (Mandarin) and Mrs Lawson. We recently attended three sessions in the Confucius Hub in Braehead Primary School. In our house groups we created a play in Mandarin, painted Beijing opera masks and made delicious dumplings. We also watched some Beijing opera! **By Sophie Kane, P6**



## COME AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF GARGUNNOCK!

An invitation to a free Open Day in the Kirk on Saturday 11th May, with teas and home baking, a village history display plus guided walks around the old kirkyard, will drop onto your doormat in the next month, along with a new leaflet about the Gargunnoch Old Kirkyard. The invitation will have details of the opening and walk times. The background to this is that, 2 years ago, Rev Andy Campbell invited a few of us to form the Welcome Team, the purpose of which was to think of ideas for the Church community to engage more with the village community. Currently, we are Douglas Barr, Mairi Jackson, Libby MacPhee, Rev Lynne Mack, Jeremy Wilkinson, and me, Helen Rowell. We came up with several ideas and one of the more memorable was when Dr Murray Cook came to speak to a packed church about our local history and archaeology, and a guided walk of Keir Hill, last year.

Douglas and I were then tasked with producing a couple of leaflets of interest for visitors and locals. Our first and most important task was to rope in John McLaren to help, and his expertise and knowledge have been invaluable. With the help of Windfarm funding we now have the first of the two leaflets as previously mentioned. They will also be distributed through farm shops, cafes and Information Centres.

Another significant experiment will be to have the church regularly open to the public at weekends and one mid week afternoon, day and times yet to be decided. This is a follow up to what happened last year, when visitors and those who wished the solitude of a time of reflection benefitted from access to the church. At these times there will be a volunteer available to guide, offer coffee/tea and provide general help, based in the Ross Anderson Room.

Although the process was started by others, the Welcome Team have finally succeeded in obtaining and installing a sign from the Commonwealth Graves Committee, relating to the one war grave in the old Kirkyard. You'll probably have seen it under the Church notice board,

Another initiative is to develop a Facebook page for the Kirk, which will enable further community engagement and allow us to tell you about what the Welcome Team have been up to. The 21st century has arrived! Put the 11th May in your diaries – we hope to see you there! **Helen Rowell**



### Season Review

The first full season of curling for Gargunnoch in almost 60 years was a great success. The club, playing on a Sunday evening, already boasts more than twenty active members and is growing. In September we kicked off with another four coaching sessions run by Olympian Michael Goodfellow. The first Gargunnoch league competition, 'The Bugle', ran from October to December with the eventual winners being Gavin Fleming, Robert Hay, Stuart Campbell and Fraser Maclean. Two more training sessions were held in January followed by a second league competition, 'The Drum', running February to March. This event was dominated by the team of Gordon Webber, Matt Stevenson, Jackie Stevenson and Pauline Evans. The club marked the end of the season by holding a Closing Bonspiel; a fun event which was won by the pairing of Jackie Stevenson and Gavin Fleming. A great time was had by everyone playing in these relaxed Sunday sessions whilst learning tactics and improving skills.

Gargunnoch also participated in the more competitive Forth & Endrick Province competitions. Given we are new club of mainly beginners it was a fantastic first season. Gargunnoch reached the low road semi-final in the 'Carswell Knockout', playing on Thursday evenings, and achieved a top-half finish in the 'Forest Hills League', playing on Friday evenings, beating some established clubs along the way. In the province bonspiels Gargunnoch really excelled finishing 2nd of eight clubs in two of these events and winning the third, 'The Province Medal', bringing home the first silverware to the village!

### Province Medal, Final Results

Team	Total Ends	Shots up	Total Shots
Gargunnoch	11	+15	23
Balfroon	10	+20	25
Buchlyvie	9	-1	14
Strathendrick	8	+4	16
Drymen	7	-4	12
Castle	6	-4	12
Port of Menteith	6	-10	8
Fintry	4	-20	2

Thanks to a generous grant from the Windfarm we are now looking to invest in some trophies for the club competitions for next season. In addition, further 'come and try' coaching events will be held after the summer that will be FREE for anyone able to come along and give it a go! For more info please contact Pauline Evans talline.evans@gmail.com.

Members are now looking forward to the first club Dinner, AGM & Prizegiving to be held at the Gargunnoch Inn on Sunday 23rd March.

Good Curling!  
Gavin Fleming

## GSSCGF Spring "Sweets" Quiz

Congratulations to Hope and Niamh Brodie, winners of the Sweets Quiz. Thank you to everyone who took part and returned their sheets. There were several all correct, but the winner was picked out of a hat.



Stirling Members' Centre  
supporting the National Trust for Scotland

Sandy and Margaret Moreland, Joint Secretaries Tel: 01259 761700  
Email: stirlingsnts@gmail.com

### SUMMER PROGRAMME 2019

All Day Trips start from Forthside Car Park near Gabe's Diner (Timings are approximate)

**Thursday 16th May 2019** Depart 10.30am Return 5.45pm Day Trip to Arniston House (Organiser Sandy Wilson)

**Wednesday 17th July 2019** Depart 9.00am Return 6.00pm

Day Trip to Monteviot House and Gardens (Organiser Bob McKean)

**Wednesday 18th September 2019** - Depart 10.15am Return 6.30pm  
Day Trip to Pitlochry Theatre – "Blythe Spirit"

Brightons Praise Group & Gargunnoch Songsters are joined by Perthshire Brass to bring you a night of music and song.

# MUSICALS AND MORE!



ALBERT HALLS, STIRLING

Tickets £10

available direct from all choir members  
or by emailing brightonspraisegroup@gmail.com  
or gargunnochsngsters@gmail.com

Friday  
MAY 3  
2019  
7:30PM

Proceeds to  
Christian Aid



## CPR and Defibrillator Familiarisation

Gargunnoch Community Council have arranged for the Trossachs Search and Rescue Team to run the above Course in the Village Community Centre

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April from 2 pm to 5 pm

This Course will cover action to be taken in the event of anyone collapsing due to either stroke or heart attack.

Such actions can often result in the saving of a life.

Our Village defibrillator was called into action before last Christmas when two of the participants of last April's Course were able to attend.

We seriously do need more Villagers to undertake this training – our ambition is to place further defibrillators at strategic points in the Village to achieve better access.

If you are interested in taking part please contact:-

Charlie Fitches, 12 Drummond Place

Tel 01786 860440

Email c.fitches@btpenworld.com

The Course will be restricted to a maximum of 15 participants

Closing date for applications 9<sup>th</sup> April

## **Support Worker**

**Stirling Rural**

**Days, Evenings and Weekends**

**Salary £8.75 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've got 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 our local recruitment team on 01259 768615

### **Incentive Schemes**

**PVG are paid for by Mears for every candidate**

**New to care-£250 welcome payment, once a 12 week retention period is completed**

**Experienced carers-£300 welcome bonus in your first pay if you have 12 months current work experience in care.**

**Refer a friend scheme-£250 bonus once your refer a friend has completed 480 hours of work**