

Magazine for Gargunnock and the surrounding area

Issue 63 - December 2020 www.gargunnock.org



New-Bees in town!

If you are wandering through Glebe Park in the coming months you may notice an enclosure taking shape, in preparation for the arrival of some hardworking new residents to our village!



All going well, Gargunnock will have its very own apiary complete with hives and a colony or two of honey bees by summer 2021.

A small group of villagers sharing an interest in bees got together and signed up to Dunblane and Stirling Beekeepers' Association (DSBA) Beginners' Course which commenced in January this year. We were fortunate to be awarded a grant from the Gargunnock Community Windfarm Fund to help buy the equipment needed to establish some hives, however Covid struck just before commencement of the "hands on" stage of the course so we had to re-think our plans to be up and running this year.

As novices, our first year will be a steep learning curve, and we are very lucky to have practical help and mentorship from DSBA (some

of whose members live locally and have their own established hives) to help us navigate the different stages of the beekeeping year. Although the project will be a slow burner initially, in time we hope to have a positive impact on the wider community and know that the beehives will enrich the lives of many villagers in different ways including bee-friendly gardening, increased awareness of the importance of bees and pollination, engagement sessions with the school and other village groups, potential additional hives and expansion of our numbers and production of honey and other wax products.

We hope you will enjoy reading updates here of our progress as the hives are established, as well as some interesting "bee facts" we learn along the way!

Gargunnock Beekeepers - Kirsty Baird, Gavin Fleming, Martin and Barbara Linklater, Jon and Morag Park

and a Happy Christmas to all ...

This year's splendid display comes to us courtesy of Mark Kane, Robert Hay and Lovat MacGregor. Thank you very much for putting up the Christmas Tree and Decoration at The Square..



(Re) introducing your new Bugle Editor – Helen Hyland

I can't thank Carol enough for all the work she has done over the years. Hers will be big boots to fill, but I'll give it my best shot.

I've lived in Gargunnock for most of my adult life. Over time I've come to realise that Gargunnock isn't just one community but many – which means that many of you will know me, but to others I'll be a complete stranger. One of my ideas for forthcoming editions is a new 'Meet your Neighbour' section. So I thought I'd start with myself, just to help us all to get better acquainted.

How long have you lived in the village?

Since March 1993. I moved into a cottage in the Main Street and then, as our family grew, we moved up the hill to Loftbrae Park.

What brought you here?

A crashed property market moved me here – I moved up from England to work for the Council's Inward Investment team. Gargunnock was a breath of fresh air after over 10 years of city living. I wanted somewhere quiet and safe for my cat. And I wanted to belong somewhere again too.

What do you like about living in Gargunnock?

It's a very special mix of community and scenery. I enjoy chatting to people I meet when out walking the dog and I still catch my breath at the sight of the mountains all around.



What is your day job?

I worked previously as Fundraising Manager for The ME Association. I am currently exploring how to turn my photography hobby into a business through a two year course at Forth Valley College.

What is your favourite part of the village?

The Avenue to Gargunnock House. I see something different to look at every time I walk there. The red squirrels there are keeping me amused at the moment.

Have you been involved with any of the village groups?

Just a few. I've competed at the Flower and Agricultural Shows and I've also taken a turn at Playgroup, Gala, Gargunnock Songsters, The School Board, The Church Board, the Community Futures Project, the Music Festival(s), Gargunnock Estate Gardens volunteers, the 'Rural', and most recently, Lois Simpson's Boot Camp.

How has the current situation affected you and yours?

I'm missing my family badly as three of our four children are living in England. It's so hard just seeing them on Zoom.

But, on the plus side, we've had time to appreciate where we live much more - and have got to know some of our neighbours much better too.

What's your next challenge?

Sometime around Spring next year, I have to produce a series of images for my college portfolio. I plan to take 'Community' as a working title and using my improving photoshop skills to bring people from this village together where I can.... If you have ideas of 'distanced' gatherings that I could include, do please get in touch.

And after that? I am aiming to focus on photo biographies, concentrating on landmark events in peoples' lives (retirement, big anniversaries, promotions....). Watch this space....

Helen

Village Treasure Hunt

Thank you to everyone who took part in the recent Treasure Hunt. The feed-back is that everyone enjoyed it, and a few found out things about the village that they didn't know before. !!

Initially it was produced as a syllabus item for Gargunnock WI (the Rural) but it was decided to open it out to the rest of the village. The winning WI "team" was Elizabeth and Edmund Mansion.

The overall winning team was the Jackson Five!! who won the food hamper, kindly donated by WI member Kimberley Hay. The prizes were handed over by Anne Christie, WI President.

Thanks are due to Alistair and Violet for selling the entries and displaying the prize hamper. The sum of £70 was raised for the WI chosen charity "Mercy Ships".

Treasure Hunt Answers

- 1. There are 16 parking spaces in CC carpark.
- 2. Gargunnock Community Hall Management Committee.
- 3. The number of "family" names on the bricks is 14 (It is only those bricks with the word "family" or "families" on them)
- 4. Juniper Ridge
- 5. There is only 1 bungalow on the South side of Leckiwe Road
- 6. You can pay contactless on the bus
- 7. Traffic has crossed the burn on that particular bridge for 56 years.
- 8. Jeanie Miller lived at Lilliehill, Dunfermline. (the answer is on the old fountain)
- 9. The number of sticky oot bits (or "through bricks" as I have





subsequently learned!!) is 13

(the answers were very varied so an independent auditor had to be commissioned!!)

10. The church symbol is the burning bush over the saltire . Also a plaque says "at this location" is a Commonwealth War Grave.

- 11. The sun dial was gifted anonymously.
- 12. Ben Lomond is 3192ft and 22miles away. (From plaque on church steps)
- 13. The dog fouling fine at the cemetery is £500
- 14. The crossword compiler's first name is Frederick (on his grave stone)
- 15. Every post box has its own identity number. Ours is FK8 158 (This can be found on the facing plate.
- 16. At the end of the footbridge there are 2 hydrants each showing WSW West South West
- 17. Everybody got 3 tails wagging the dog.
- 18. Alyn Smith and Bruce Crawford are working hard for the Stirling Community.
- 19. There are 3 houses on George Place.
- 20. Stirling Council, in their wisdom, spelt McNeill Crescent wrongly.
- 21. At Number 2 the date on the architrave is 1773
- 22. The Duo of Mango Sorbet costs £4.85. (Everyone got a "correct" mark as the menu which was on the Inn notice board was subsequently covered by a new notice.)
- 23. Manse View is "2nd left".
- 24. Charlie's Loan runs between Main Street and Leckie Road.
- 25. Colonel Sir James Stirling planted the tree at the official opening of the Community Centre. (When the treasure hunt was compiled, there was a plaque at the foot of the tree stating this, but it has now disappeared!! So no one got a "wrong" answer because of this

Gargunnock Women's Institute

I hope you are all well in these challenging times. Our thoughts are with committee member Dee Guidery who had to go to South Africa to look after her mother who has been in hospital. I am pleased to say her mother is now back to her home.

We wish Tina Peak a happy retirement as she has just recently retired from Arnold Clark contract division.

We wish Elizabeth Mansion a speedy recovery from her cracked collar bone and hope she will be out of her sling soon.

The Treasure Hunt round the village was a great success and was opened up to the village, raising £70 for the "Mercy Ships" our chosen WI charity from the £1 entries plus donations. The WI member winner was Elizabeth Mansion and the Jackson family were the overall winners of the food hamper, donated by member Kimberley Hay. Thanks go to Maitland Clark for compiling and marking the Treasure Hunt. Thanks also to Violet and Alistair Weir from the Village shop who displayed the hamper and entry forms.

We had such good feedback from our craft and bake sale in July that we had hoped to have a Christmas one on Saturday 5th December. The current lockdown restrictions have meant that this has had to be cancelled but hopefully we will have another in the Spring subject to Government guidelines. I know a lot of members have been busy crafting, knitting and making chutney and jam for Christmas sale but it will all keep for the next one!!

Our thanks go to Anne Muirhead who has co-ordinated the Advent windows in December for the 24 days prior to Christmas. This event will be round the village and everyone is encouraged to have a look at the decorated windows, which will provide some much needed cheer and sparkle. Thank you to all members who have agreed to participate. In these uncertain times please stay safe and take care. May I wish you all a healthy, happy New Year for 2021.

Kind regards **Anne Christie, President Gargunnock WI.**

Wildlife corner



Photograph of this timid Tawny Owl courtesy of our local wildlife expert/photographer - Anne-Marie Stewart

Home Based in Gargunnock

Tracy lafferty Beauty Therapy

Due to government guidelines, I am currently unable to carry out beauty treatments until we come out of Tier 4, hopefully on 11th December.

If you are looking for some pre Christmas pampering or relaxation or maybe a gift voucher for that special person please contact me.

I am City & Guilds certified and fully insured with Babtacl would like to re-assure clients that I adhere strictly to COVID government guidelines at all times and I have a current COVID 19

Barbicide Certificate.

If you are interested to find out more about treatments and prices, please contact me on 07974 718170



Gargunnock Senior Citizens' Christmas Gift Fund

with apologies to Gilbert and Sullivan

I have a little list, I have a little list
Are you on my list or have you been missed?
Oh dear, you have been missed,
Oh dear you HAVE been missed!
Please get in touch and I'll put you on my list
I'll put you on my list.
Are you on my list, are you on my list?
Want to come off my list, want to come off my list?
Please get in touch and I'll take you off my list
I'll take you off my list..

Anne Muirhead

Tel: 860 657

GSSCGF Quiz

Quiz sheets are now available from the shop.

This year's theme is Link Words. Please have a go and support this really good cause. You could win £20!!

Thank you.

Gargunnock's Alternative Christmas Card

Gargunnock's 'Alternative Christmas Card' has raised over £16,000 for various charities over the years and this year our chosen charity is Start Up Stirling.

People are referred to Start Up Stirling for a number of different reasons but all are experiencing financial hardship and have no means to provide the basics for themselves or their family. So many people are experiencing hardship at the moment: they may be caught in the revolving door of poverty; they may have had benefit sanctions or delays imposed on them; they may have lost their job; their family may have broken down; even an unexpected bill can leave some in crisis.

The 'card' has become a bit of a village institution and its beauty lies in its simplicity! It's really just a poster wishing everyone in Gargunnock a very Merry Christmas from everyoné who has donated. It's pinned to the notice board on Christmas Eve and will be included in the first edition of The Bugle in 2021. The easiest way to donate is online, where you can also post a more personal message to your fellow villagers on the Virgin Money Giving page. Many thanks for your continued support and I hope you all have a lovely festive season when it comes.

HOW TO DONATE:

Online: https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/VillageChristmasCard. (Please tick the Gift Aid box if applicable)

Or

• Cash: In an envelope through my letterbox at JUNIPER RIDGE, LECKIE ROAD (directly opposite the Community Centre path). NO CHEQUES PLEASE

When you leave your message on the online page, or on your note through my door, please remember to include everyone's name you'd like mentioned on the Village Christmas Card.

Thank you

O is for online learning and overwhelmed

,	
Jane Milne	
2020 Covid Alphabet	
A is for Amazon, anti-bacterial and anxiety	P is for Prime Minister, protests, panic buying, post
B is for Boris, bored and baking	viral
C is for Covid 19, Corona, cases and clapping for carers	fatigue and pandemic
D is for doctors, death and devastation	Q is for quarantine
E is for elderly, extra holiday and emotions	\boldsymbol{R} is for restrictions, rainbows, responsibilities and risk
${\sf F}$ is for face masks, furlough, family and fear	S is for sanitizer, social distancing and stay at home
G is for germs and grants	T is for travel, temperature, tiers, tears and toilet
${\sf H}$ is for home-schooling, hubs, hospitality and hospitals	paper
l is for isolation, indoors	${\sf U}$ is for unemployment, university, unprecedented
J is for jobs	${\sf V}$ is for virus, vaccine, virtual hugs
K is for kindness and key workers	${f W}$ is for working from home, worries and wipes
$oldsymbol{L}$ is for lockdown, lonely and laws	X is for Xs for people who we miss
${f M}$ is for medical, masks and medication	${\sf Y}$ is for youth, young and you can stop the spread
${f N}$ is for news reports,NHS, new normal and Nicola	Z is for zoom calls
Sturgeon	Anne Muirhead

Reproduced with kind permission of Primary 4 – 7

Kincardine in Menteith School

2020 at the Inn

We started 2020 enthusiastically looking forward to a great year ahead.



We planned themed evenings, monthly live music, two (yes TWO) beer festivals, and even some darts competitions to keep the darts-mad few happy!! Our first Theme evening (helped by 'My Thia') sold out and was a great success. We had also just booked a live music act to play in the bar at the beginning of April!!

The News started coming in! The advice started with 'don't visit pubs and restaurants'. Thanks for that!! - we weren't told to close, but people were encouraged not to visit us. Later that week the call came that we had to close. It was a bit of a relief to get some actual guidance, as none had been given before!! Then the realisation kicked in, how are we going to pay bills, more importantly how are we going to keep staff in a job! Furlough was a godsend, we probably wouldn't have lasted without it!



So, with Paul In the Kitchen and me on the phone taking orders, we started 'Gunnyroo'. A limited delivered menu on Friday and Saturday Evenings. We had some fantastic volunteer delivery drivers, Bron, Marion and Laura (hopefully it won't be too long before we can repay their efforts with the promised night out in Glasgow or Edinburgh). We streamlined the menu (because furlough meant we couldn't have any of the staff working with Paul in the kitchen) but changed it slightly each week with curries, chicken and haggis etc.

The weeks went on, thankfully support for the deliveries was good, but there seemed no end in sight! It did

give me time to get way more done in the garden than I could ever have imagined!

On July 5th we were allowed to re-open outside and 9 days later we welcomed everyone inside again. This period was very much a steep learning curve – serving outside means we needed more staff on shift. We continually tweaked how we worked to make things better for our guests, and less stressful for us. But it always seemed to be that you got a good system going and then there would be a change to the guidelines, thus putting you back to the start again.

When August hit we felt we were getting in the swing of things and had a bit of normality about the place (apart from the no music rule, which we hated!!). We had a fun couple of months, some crazy busy nights with the EOTHO scheme, and fun figuring out with the regulars in the bar who could sit at what table and still keep to the guidelines.

But then, in October covid cases started to rise again! We could see what was coming, another enforced closure, for 2 weeks, until the tier system kicked in on November 3rd. When November came being in Tier 3 was pretty much like working with both hands tied behind your back, we could open, but only until 6, and not sell any alcohol. We decided to open on the weekends only and for the 1st time, for Breakfasts. This proved popular and is something we will consider doing full time when we are back to normal. The american pancakes were a particular hit.



So this brings us to the morning of 20th November, as I am writing this, the day we enter tier 4 for at least 3 weeks! We're closed again, but 'Gunnyroo' is always available on Friday and Saturday evenings. We are hopeful we can open again in a meaningful way before and during Christmas.

What the future holds is anyones guess, our aim is to be here, with all our staff working again, and to be a productive part of the community for years to come. With your support we can do that!

Cheers 2020 for all you've taken away, but we're so much more looking forward to seeing what 2021 will give us!

Matthew Bedwell

The Gargunnock Inn

Good Food, Good Beer, Good Friends, Good Times

Winter 2020/2021

At time of this advert going live we are in the midst of our second lockdown and we cannot be guaranteed when and how restrictions will be eased.

When we can we will be open. In the meantime we

Day	Bar	Restaurant
Monday & Tuesday	TBC	TBC
Wednesday	TBC	TBC
Thursday & Friday	TBC	TBC
Saturday	TBC	TBC
Sunday	TBC	TBC

continue our takeaway and delivery service every Friday and Saturday Evenings

Takeaways and Deliveries

We offer a Takeaway and delivery service every Friday and Saturday evening, This offers favourite pub dishes alongside some changing specials every week. We also offer wine, beer and soft drinks to add to your order. (or just order some wine and we will deliver to your door). Orders are taken from 3pm every Friday and Saturday by phone (01786 860333) or you can order in advance at your own convenience on the link from our website (www.gargunnockinn.co.uk)

Christmas

We are still unsure what we will be able to open over Christmas. We will be offering drinks packages that we will be able to deliver to your door. This will include our current wine selection along with whiskies, gins, liqueurs etc. Perfect for Christmas at home.

There will also be some delivered meal options to include Christmas Day, to take the stress out of cooking and leave you with minimal washing up!! In a year like this you want to be able to enjoy the day as much as possible.

All of these items will be added to our online ordering service, and the menus will be posted on our notice boards when they become available. And you will also be able to order over the phone (01786 860333) or email (orders@cafealbert.co.uk)

Merry Christmas

Gargunnock Flower Show

As you will be aware the annual Gargunnock Flower Show, along with many other village functions, had to be cancelled due to the current circumstances.

The Flower Show Committee wanted to do something instead for the village so we decided to make a gift of six barrels, compost and plants to bring some cheer in these difficult times.

The barrels have been planted by the Committee members to give a bit of winter colour and placed around the village. They have also been underplanted with bulbs to bring some continued brightness in the Spring followed by Summer bedding plants later on.

We have had great feedback from the village so far and hope you continue to enjoy them throughout the year!

Gargunnock Flower Show Committee











12 Days of Christmas Lockdown

On the first day of Christmas Lockdown My true love sent to me.....

1 A virtual West Highland Way 2 half marathons 3 children home schooling 4 10Ks 5 locked down Crawfords 6 SD drinkers 7 P7 leavers 8 family birthdays 9 Move It classes 10 hospital visits 11 blogs I've written 12 Street Bingos

by Shona Crawford



Andrew Anderson & Sons

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"Stand Sure we will look after you & your family"

We are proud to offer a 24 hour caring and professional service to the local community.

A wide range of memorial stones are available.

We can also clean and add further inscriptions to existing family memorials.

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Golden Charter * STIRLING, 90 Drip Road, Stirling FK8 1RW, Tel: 01786 237480 Golden Charter

Email: info@anderson-funerals.co.uk • www.anderson-funerals.co.uk

Gargunnock Living Advent Trail

By Gargunnock Rural and Friends

Members and friends of Gargunnock Rural have started revealing their windows throughout the village. It was originally planned that the windows would be opened at 4pm each day, however it has been decided that they will be opened first thing in the morning, as would normally happen and hopefully the children heading to school will have fun finding the numbered opened windows...

Remember these are being randomly opened throughout the village, so we hope to see lots of puzzled faces "wandering" the listed streets looking for the windows....it's all for fun and to get us out an about during these trying

Happy searching....

GSSCGF Quiz

Quiz sheets are now available from the shop. This

year's theme is Link Words.

Please have a go and support this really good cause. You could win £20!!

Thank you.





CANCIPPECE ACTIVITIES

The first fifteen listed take place in the Community Centre, Leckie Stad, and many of the others in the Church Hall or electers.

Country Discling

Mothers & Toddlers Orana Club W.B.I.

"Medicaday Club" (Metized Ladies) Bridge Club Ploral Art Class Doctor's Surgery

Doctor's Surgery Chiropody Clinic Brownies Guides Regional Councillor

Clinic 5.30-6.30 p.m. (2rd Monday in Month)

7.30-10 p.m. Morday
7.00-9.30 p.m. The 6 Fri
9.30-11.30 a.m. Mrn. E. Dick. 4 Mill Brae.
Non. Wed 6 Thurs.
9.30-11.30 a.m. Thurs.
B p.m. Wed 8 Brn
7.15-9.15 p.m.
Hrs T Peck, "Chiltern", Lockie Pd
Hr. D. Spencer, The Square.
7.15-9.15 p.m.
Hrs T. Perguson, 10 Stark
Street. Mrs. Bathanan, Whiteleys, Main St.

7.15-11 p.m. Thurs.
7.30-9.15 p.m. Thurs.
2.00-2.30 p.m. Thurs.
2.00-2.30 p.m. Thurs & Frid Dr. Scott, Kippen 278
Frid. by Arrangement
6.15-7.15 p.m. Wed.
7.15-9.00 p.m. Wed.
8 Clinic Constitution

additional activities are programmed from time to time and any enquires at complice use should be made to the Centre.

THER GROUPS

unior B.B. coppany B.B. dult Badminton adies Badminton

Keep Fit Class Carpet Bowls

6.30-8.00 p.m. Mon. 7.30-9.30 p.m.

Mr G. McAllister, "Hillview" Main : Mr. W. Nicol, 5 Stevenson St. Miss 5. Gasble, 14 McNeill Cres. Mrs. K. Younger, Cakdene, Main St. Mr. J. McNie, Burnaide farm Cottage Blairdrummond. Mr. J. Herderson, 1 Moray Place Mrs.W.F.E. Forbes, Dinning House Mrs. T Peck, "Chiltern", Leckie Rt.

Mr. D. Spencer, The Square.





CHRISTMAS VIRTUAL CONCERT 2020 SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER 7,30pm

Christmas is a time of joy and wonder. The whole chair look forward to rehearsing our Christmas offerings from September to November then



performing in the superb setting of the Church of the Holy Rude in Stirling. This year our rehearsals have been on-line, shorter than usual and without the socialising with each other. But undaunted our Director, the ever-keen Michael Segaud, and our Assistant Director and accompanist, Ian Boulter, have put together a short Christmas selection that we will offer to you on-

We are indebted to Michael for getting us involved digitally and for the opportunity to enjoy ourselves. We hope you enjoy our concert too and that you will feel it worthwhile making a donation*.

The link to the concert will be posted on our website www.stirlingcitychoir.org.uk on the Upcoming Events page.

You can donate here at http://easydonate.org/2020XMAS

To donate £1, text 2020XMAS to 70201 To donate £3, text 2020XMAS to 70331 To donate £5, text 2020XMAS to 70970

To donate £10, text 2020XMAS to 70191

or by QR code



Stirling City Choir needs to raise funds for this and for other charitable

* Fundraising, payments and donations will be processed and administered by the National Funding Scheme (Charity No: 1149800), operating as DONATE. Texts will be charged at your standard network rate. For Terms & Conditions, see



Photographic Challenge

I'm looking forward to encouraging more and more photographs in The Bugle – from all ages and levels of expertise

I'm often asked, "What is the best camera?". That's simple – it's the camera that you have with you. You don't need to have an expensive DSLR to take good photographs. It's knowing how to compose an image – what to include, and what NOT to include – that can make all the difference.

This new 'Challenge' section will invite photographs from anyone, taken with all kinds of cameras – from mobile phone to DSLR. You can even send in scans of film images if you wish. We'll print a selection of them in forthcoming editions.

Challenge 1 - Fill The Frame

So many photographs fail because they do not get close enough. So here are a few suggestions:-



- Get close to your subject.
- Then get closer still. This will help you to lose much of any distracting back ground.
- Take your time to decide what is important in your photo.
- Make sure that everything you want is in the frame and exclude what you don't want.

Rules for submission

- The photograph must be your own work
- Keep it 'family friendly' re member that people of all ages read The Bugle
- High resolution images are best. Get in touch with me if you want more help here, but as a basic rule, set 'image size' as high as your camera will let you.

Please do NOT share images through social media as they are not likely to be of high enough quality for printing.



Happy snapping!

Please send your images to me at gargunnockbugle@gmail.com.

Helen Hyland

And a Happy New Year to all but sadly not at The Square...

It will probably come as no surprise that there will be NO New Year at the Square this year, for the first time since the "tradition" started. The Heid Bummer (Nicola that is, not Jeremy!!) has instructed

"Goany no dae that - jist goany no".

So goany no we have to.

(English language translation available on request!!)

Stay Safe All....



GARGUNNOCK VILLAGE STORE

OPEN 7 DAYS 01786 860703

Email address: aweir.gvs@gmail.com Monday-Saturday 7.30am-7pm Sunday 8am-5pm



Check out our new gin, beer and wine selection!

Skinners Steak Pies Leckie Produce - Eggs and Sausages Try out our new cold meat selection





Thank you for your warm welcome and support Alistair and Violet

The Bugle

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

Editor:

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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. Contributions will be attributed to the author. However, at the Editor's discretion, a contribution may be printed anonymously, but the author's name, address, and phone number must be supplied to the Editor.

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Distribution:

The Bugle is distributed to more than 336 homes in the village by volunteers (thank you) and is also available on the village website (wwwgargunnock.org).

If you would like to help with distribution, please contact the Editor.

Compliments or Complaints: Contact the Trust at:

Contact the Trust at: gargunnocktrust@gmail.com

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