



The Gargunnock Bugle



Issue 67 September 2021

GARGUNNOCK WI CAKE AND BAKE SALE



Thanks go to all those who baked and manned the Cake and Bake stall in the Rest Garden on the 24th July where we raised £550 for club funds. Heather McPhee gifted a patchwork doll to Name the Doll which raised £60 towards the grand total. We have decided to use the doll to raise further funds for our chosen charity Mercy Ships and hope to take her to the SCWP Federation event in November.

Our thanks go to all in the village who supported the Cake and Bake stall with this being the first village event since lockdown.



Anne Christie

Local News

News from
Clubs and
Groups

Shop Fire

Fund Raising
Successes

Local History

Unsung Hero

Farmlife

And so much
more...



Gala 2022—Can you help?

The Gargunnock Gala is a highlight in the village calendar – loved by young and old alike. This is the time of year that the Gala Committee get together and start to plan for next June's gala. As there is currently no Gala Committee, volunteers are needed in order for Gala 2022 to go ahead. Previous committee member Kimberly Hay is happy to share her wisdom with the new committee. E mail - kimberley.sinclair@yahoo.co.uk

Editorial

Welcome to September's Bugle! It has been an eventful few months since the last issue of The Bugle and there is a lot crammed into the 24 pages which make up September's issue. The shop has suffered a disastrous fire, both for the owners, Alistair and Violet, but also for the wider Gargunnock community who are getting used to life without a shop. As is often the case we see difficult times bringing out the best in people and we have seen Ray's pop-up shop providing for our sweet tooths (teeth?) while others have become errand boys and girls making sure those who can't just nip into town for their daily papers and messages. There is a bit more on the shop on page 3.

This is the first issue since Helen Hyland left the Editor's post and, as we are still looking for a replacement, it has been produced by a small team of volunteers from the Trust. The eagle eyed amongst you will notice that

some regular features are missing this month, including 'Meet your neighbour', the police update and Anne Marie's wildlife section. Don't worry these features will be back, we just ran out of time to include them this time.

The editorial team would like to say a huge thanks to all those who have contributed material to the Bugle, without you it really wouldn't be much more than a leaflet through people's doors, and it makes pulling it together all the easier. Contributions are always welcome and can be sent to gargunnockbugle@gmail.com, as can any feedback you may have (good or bad!). The deadline for the next issue is 14th November. Don't be shy!

If you fancy having a go at editing the Bugle and getting a small payment in return, please see the advert on page 5 for details on how to apply.

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Dates for the Diary

Thursday 30th September @ 7:30pm

Parent Council AGM

At the School

Monday 4th October @ 7:30pm

Community Council Meeting

venue TBC (see Facebook/Noticeboard)

Thursday 21st October @ 7:30pm

Gargunnock Community Trust AGM

At the Community Centre

Saturday 30th October @ 11am

Halloween Duck Race (see page 23)

At the bridge by the shop

Friday 3rd December @ 8pm

Playgroup Pub Quiz

At the Gargunnock Inn

Fire Hits Gargunnock Village Shop

In the early hours of Tuesday 6th of July disaster hit the local shop when it caught fire. The fire caused substantial damage to both the building and stock and is expected to be closed for some time. Our thoughts are with the



owners, Alistair and Violet Weir, who are said to be devastated by events.

The loss of the shop is a blow to the village with lots of members of the community left with nowhere to stock up on essentials or their daily paper. Several villagers have come forward to help, for example collecting and dropping off newspapers to those who are not able to travel to

Kippen or town themselves.

We have also been lucky to have Ray Nairn start her pop-up shop on Fridays and Saturday for those who are in need of something sweet. Thanks Ray!

The future of the shop is at this point uncertain with no indication as to when or if the shop will reopen. The Bugle contacted Alastair to ask for an update but at the time of going to press no response has been received.

There have been informal discussions about what the community could do to fill the gap, either temporarily or more permanently should the shop not reopen (note there is no indication that this is the case). More formally, the issue has been raised with the Community Council and is on the agenda for discussion at their next meeting on Monday the 4th of October. The venue is yet to be confirmed but it is expected to be a virtual meeting and details will be confirmed on Facebook and the village noticeboard 7 days prior to the meeting.

So, if you have any views or opinions on what the community needs in terms of a village shop, please attend the meeting and share them. Alternatively, you can share them via email—the Community Council can be contacted at gargunnockcommunitycouncil@gmail.com.

Photo courtesy of Michael Kay

Ray's Pop-up Shop

For all those villagers missing their visit to the local shop, Ray's Pop-up Shop has been a very welcome addition to the village.

Ray's delicious scones, tray-bakes and tablet have proven a hit with all who have visited her in The Square. The bags of sweets have proven incredibly popular with the children coming home from school on a Friday afternoon.

Ray is delighted with the response to her endeavour and wants to say a huge thank you to all who have stopped at her front door. Ray's Pop-up Shop is open on a Friday afternoon and on a Saturday. Exact times and details about what's for sale are posted regularly on the village Facebook page.

Ray Nairn



Gargunnock Walking Group

The Gargunnock Walking group has been able to continue with regular outings on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. The recent walks have been to the Whangie, Glen Lednock at Comrie, an ascent of West Lomond in Fife, the Fiddlers Path at Dunkeld, Glen Tarken above Loch Earn and most recently a local walk to the flag pole. We are fortunate in having access to such scenic walks within easy travelling distance from the village. All of these walks have been notable for their scenery or interesting features.

The objectives in choosing walks are for fine scenery, and historic or geological interest. We cannot guarantee fine weather for walks, but over time we have been very fortunate with weather and only had a few days when rain has been too heavy for comfort.

The most recent walk to the flag pole was the last meeting that Jeremy was able to be with us. As many will know, Jeremy and Liz are leaving Gargunnock and their company on walks will be greatly missed.

By the time this is published we should have done on 9th September a walk from the Falkirk Wheel along the Forth and Clyde Canal to Bonnybridge, and returning by the Antoine Wall. This is a very well-preserved stretch of the Antonine Wall and has proved to be of great interest on previous visits.



*Recent meeting of the Gargunnock Walking Group at the flag pole.
Thanks to Stuart Ogg for the photo.*

Glen Artney; we have done this walk a number of times in the autumn when the deer are rutting. We have never failed to spot stags roaring on the hill sides!

Devilla Forest Four Lochs; this is a fairly level walk of some six miles on forest tracks and takes in a number of lochs in the Devilla Forest.



*Cashell Forest Park – Stunning Views over Loch Lomond
Thanks to Steve for the photo.*

Further walks are planned as follows:

Beinn Inn and Glen Farg railway Tunnels; this walk is just over five miles and has an overall ascent of 650ft. The distinctive feature of this walk is that it takes in two of the railway tunnels on the old Glen Farg railway line. The walk will start and finish at the Beinn Inn where lunch can be taken.

Abyssinia Bothy in Glen Kinglas; this is a walk of some 8Km up a very picturesque glen to the Abyssinia Bothy. This is a bothy maintained by the Mountain Bothies Association and provides a useful objective when walking in this glen. There is a possibility that Golden Eagles can be seen in the glen. The last time we did this walk it was one of the wettest walks that we have done. This time we will seek a better day for the walk.

Brig o'Turk and Glen Finglas; a shortish scenic route in the vicinity of Brig o'Turk.dock Castle and remains of training trenches dating from WW1.

Mugdock Country Park; a number of interesting features are encountered including Mug

As usual we are always on the look-out for new and interesting walks within easy access of Gargunnock

We normally gather at 9:30a.m. or 10:00 a.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 through 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, - September 2021

Unsung Hero - Jeremy Wilkinson

It is not often that someone new moving into our village community quickly makes a significant impact. Liz and Jeremy Wilkinson moved into the village in October 2008. Jeremy initially working locally. However, this soon changed and Jeremy's working life took him overseas to China. Home visits were not too often and Liz made a few visits, quite challenging to someone who could not speak Mandarin.

Jeremy decided retirement was for him so from November 2016 we saw more of him on his trips to the shop, pub and elsewhere from their home in the Square. You may have seen him in the yellow Triumph TR6 driving out of the village with the top down.

He threw himself into many roles, some more visible than others.

He was Chairman of the Community Council for over two years.

Property Convenor of Gargunnock Parish Church, looking after the fabric of the building and getting in trades people when required to fix all sorts of problems.

As Secretary of the Gargunnock Community Trust he was instrumental in setting up many standard procedures that were required to manage the Community Centre effectively as well as undertaking the day to day activities as Trust Secretary.

He instigated litter picks along the road verges and filled up many bags himself to make our community look better.

Establishing the Glebe Park after many years of community deliberation on what to do with this area of land. We now have an area of woodland with a 130-meter path linking up with Ladies Walk and on to Gargunnock House. This path project was advertised for community volunteer support and Jeremy achieved a very healthy response from all ages in our community. Charles Loan path project has commenced under his direction and we now await Stirling Council to help us with bypassing the steps with



a sweeping curve of new path instead.

Would any of these projects have commenced and concluded without Jeremy's enthusiasm? Well some may have started but what we can say is that Jeremy had the drive and determination to take them on and drive them through when others would have given up. He has been a fantastic member of our community and will be leaving the village a better place than when he arrived. He has been a good friend to many in the village, especially to me. We will miss them both enormously and wherever they land it will not be long before Jeremy starts again.

On behalf of us all in Gargunnock we wish you bon voyage but do come back and see us again when you can.

Peter Rowel



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www.gargunnock.org



Interested in developing your desk-top publishing skills while helping Gargunnock?

Gargunnock Community Trust is looking for someone who is able to collate and prepare the Bugle, our local newsletter. It would suit someone who has a basic knowledge of 'Publisher' or similar software and can commit a bit of time each month to gather material and set it out so that it is print ready.

Up to 5 editions are published each year and most articles are prepared by representatives of local organisations and individuals keen to communicate what they have been doing and what they plan to do.

If you are interested then please email gargunnocktrust@gmail.com or speak to one of the Trust Directors/ Trustees. There is a modest payment available for this role.



Gargunnock Playgroup and Toddlers

Gargunnock Playgroup and Toddlers runs sessions weekly throughout the year for all children up to school age. If you are new to the village and have young children or are expecting a baby please do get in touch.

Gargunnock Playgroup runs every Monday and Thursday from 9:30-12pm during the school term in the Community Centre. Our qualified staff run a varied set of activities suiting all ages and interests. We are an independent Playgroup, registered with the Care Inspectorate, managed by parents and welcome children from 2½ yrs to pre-school. Please contact playgroup@gargunnock.com for more details.

Gargunnock Toddlers provides lots of toys, snack time and a warm welcome for parents-to-be, parents and children from 0-5, or their grandparents/childminders etc. Every Wednesday morning (10-11.30am) in the Community Centre. Sessions are £2.50/50p for siblings. Why not come along and see for yourself!

We are following all regulations and guidelines around Covid-19. At time of writing, Playgroup is up and running and the Toddler group is meeting inside(!) and outside at the Community Centre. Please contact us for the latest information!

If you want to get in touch at any time please contact;

Rea Gourlay (Playgroup Leader)
07851175815, playgroup@gargunnock.com,

Debbie Masson (Chairperson)
07779727209, debstarmasson74@gmail.com,

Mark Dickson (Toddler Representative)
07841212142, markardickson@gmail.com

News

We are thrilled to announce that our new wooden outdoor play structures from Caledonia Play have now been built, inspected and are ready for children to play on in the Community Centre garden. Children must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult. Gargunnock Playgroup or the Trust are not liable for any misuse of equipment.

Gargunnock Playgroup and Toddlers are so very grateful to the Gargunnock Trust for their support, Gargunnock Windfarm in helping to fund these structures, and everyone locally who has helped to support us with our fundraising efforts or who has expressed interest and

excitement at hearing about the plans.

We hope you will join us for the official opening following the Halloween Duck Race!

Our Duck Race is back. Saturday 30th October. Starts 11am from the rest garden and finishes just before the



school. Refreshments in the community centre garden after the for prize giving and showing of the new play equipment.

And finally, the Pub Quiz is back! Friday 3rd Dec, 8pm kick off. Teams of 4 £10, Raffle, and Heads or Tails for extra prizes!



Hand painted pet portraits by Gay Burt



Paths Group Update.

As reported in the June edition of the Bugle we were hopeful of carrying out running repairs on both The Ladies Walk and the path to the south of Watson House. Sadly, as some of you have experienced yourselves materials are still in short supply and so nothing further to report on that scheme.

Having heard nothing from Stirling Council we must assume that they too are experiencing material supply problems and so no progress to report on the Charlie's Loan upgrade

As soon as things improve with materials Peter Rowell will be looking for willing and able hands.

In response to the targeted mailing campaign that was mentioned in the June edition, with reference to The King's Highway project and the cycle path from here to Stirling we received extremely positive support from politicians of all parties, locally, nationally and Westminster, more on this to follow.

David King

Brownies and Guides

1st Gargunnoch Brownies and 1st Gargunnoch Guides were delighted to receive a donation from the Masonic Lodge in Aberfoyle and wish to extend their thanks to the members of the Lodge for their kind thought.

Girlguiding offers regular social interaction with girls from age 5 and the Gargunnoch branches of Brownies and Guides have a thriving membership providing weekly activities and social engagement with a focus on building confidence, wellbeing and friendship networks. If your daughter is interested in joining, please contact Karen on [07801065277](tel:07801065277) or have a look at www.girlguiding.org.uk for more information about what we do. Brownies is for girls aged 7-10 and Guides for age 10-14.

There is a Rainbows unit based in Kippen which is open to girls aged 5-7. We can provide you with contact details if you would like to get in touch.

Karen Anderson



Gargunnoch Playgroup

PLAYGROUP ASSISTANT

Gargunnoch Playgroup is currently looking for a Play Assistant to start immediately

Permanent Post

7 hours per week

Mondays and Thursdays 9-12.30

Term Time

Salary £8.91 per hour

We are looking for a caring, committed and enthusiastic person with previous experience working with children aged 2-5 years to join our team.

To work with us you must love working with children, have a flair for creatively educating them, as well as a genuine interest in how children learn and why they love to play.

Applicants must have previous experience in a relevant childcare environment, and either hold or be willing to work towards a qualification accepted by the SSSC.

This position is subject to Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme Membership. You will also need to be registered with SSSC.

For a full job description and application form please contact Debbie Masson at debstarmasson74@gmail.com

The Library Van is Back...

The van comes to the village every second Tuesday; next visit is September 21, followed by October 5 and 19. That is as far as the current schedule goes, I think they are experimenting at present to see how new timetable works out. The van will be parked in McLaren Park from 13.30 to 14.00 and outside pub on Main Street between 14.05 and 15.20. At the moment only two household will be allowed in van at any one time and if it is busy you will be allocated a ten minute visit (not ever seen it used).

For that special forever gift, perfect for birthdays, anniversaries or Christmas. Spoil yourself, or others, with a long-lasting keepsake artwork of a well loved pet. For further information, please email local artist Gay at glb44@btinternet.com



Bee News – Autumn 2021

What an amazing summer it has been for bees – the warm dry weather has created optimum conditions for them to be out foraging and, as a result of the abundance of pollen and nectar gathered they have thrived, multiplying in number and more prone to swarming than usual.

As we reach this time of year the bees' foraging opportunities are reduced, and they start to prepare for winter. A valuable late source of pollen and nectar is Himalayan Balsam which, although classified as an invasive species is popular with bees. We know that the Gargunnock girls like it as we can spot the tell-tale streak of white pollen down their backs as they return to the hives with their spoils! Ivy is a good secondary source of food at this time of year.



Beekeepers also have to make preparations, making sure that our colonies are strong and healthy, have enough brood to provide a supply of worker bees to support the queen through the winter months and are not burdened with high levels of disease. We need to think about providing sufficient food, and make sure that the hives are weather proofed so that they are as dry and cosy as possible. We recently united our two smaller colonies to boost their numbers and improve their chances of survival over winter. This means that we will take three hives through to spring.

September is the time to provide the bees with liquid feed to supplement their own stores – they take this down, dry it out and cap it just as they do with honey for use over winter. Later in winter it is best to feed solid sugar in the form of fondant – bees love sugar! "Hefting" is the process of gently lifting or tilting the hive from its base to gauge the weight and thus quantity of stores within the hive, without disturbing the bees by opening up the hive.

A bee colony in winter is entirely female - when autumn approaches and the temperatures start to drop any drones still in the hive will be forcibly ejected by the worker bees. This sounds a bit mean, but is necessary to help to conserve food stores over the winter months as by this time the boys are a bit redundant.

We have finally been able to take part in the hands on part of our beekeeping course with Dunblane and Stirling Beekeepers Association at their apiary at Stirling University. It has been great to meet other members face to face and learn new skills, hints and tips to help us with our winter preparations. We are learning that there is never just one way to do something, and that even experienced beekeepers can approach things in totally different ways and disagree with each other!

Finally, we are excited to let you know that our bees have been very busy making more honey so we will definitely have another batch of honey soon. Watch this space!

For regular updates and photos, join our Facebook page Gargunnock Beekeepers.

Gargunnock Beekeepers, September 2021.

Don't get in a tangle with your project....



If you are planning a Building Project

– a House Build, an Extension or Major Alteration, apply the benefits of 100 years construction experience to your project.

We have experienced and solved most of the problems which can happen on building sites of all sizes – so you don't have to.

We offer different levels of service to suit your requirements from Full Project Management where we look after everything from start to finish to a Project Advisory service which is a light touch advice service to help avoid delays and or extra costs developing in your project.

Our Fee will normally be covered by the savings we achieve in the day to day operation of the project and the savings we negotiate within the individual sections of work required.

We also offer a Contracted Building Maintenance service where six monthly or annual building inspections are required.

We are a locally based company
Give us a call or e mail to discuss your project.

CENTURY PROJECT MANAGEMENT

www.centurypm.uk

07833 280292

Community Council Update.

As of writing we are pleased to welcome David Millar and Mike Buckley to the Community council as co-option members. Charlie Fitches has since stepped down from the Community Council, we would like to thank him for his contribution to the Council especially for setting up the defibrillators in the Village.

We were asked to clarify the role of the Community Council, which can be summarised as follows: -

Community councils were introduced through the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. They are voluntary organisations. The Act defined the purpose of a community council as:

"to ascertain, co-ordinate and express to the Local Authorities for its area and to public authorities the views of the community which it represents, in relation to matters for which those authorities are responsible."

The main areas of responsibility lie in –

- **Running the Community Council effectively**, ensuring its work is fair and transparent, and within legal guidelines.
- **Engaging and discovering community views** – finding out what is important to everyone in the area and their opinions on issues and activities which affect them.
- Expressing those views by **representing the community** at meetings and events, commenting on planning and licensing applications and communicating with the Local Authority and other public bodies.

A Community Council may also decide to take forward activities themselves or in partnership with other groups, to benefit their community and meet community needs.

This means Community Councils can be involved in a wide variety of issues and activities from road improvements, youth projects, environmental projects, upgrading of amenities and community initiatives, both on their own and in partnership with other agencies.

They can act as a campaigning body in raising awareness of specific local issues and support local groups and initiatives through securing funding and passing on knowledge.

Legal Requirements

A Community Council is expected to act within the law such as in terms of equality and diversity, licensing, health and safety, data protection and other requirements related to their activities and projects.

The current GCC discussion items are :-

1) Application for an Anaerobic Digester at Mains of Boquhan

We were approached by members of the public with concerns about this proposal. The Community Council cannot submit objections on behalf of individuals, Community Councils can make a comment on any planning application that raises community interest. We have raised an objection about the process on the application as no external environmental or odour report was included in the application.

2) A811/Station Road Junction.

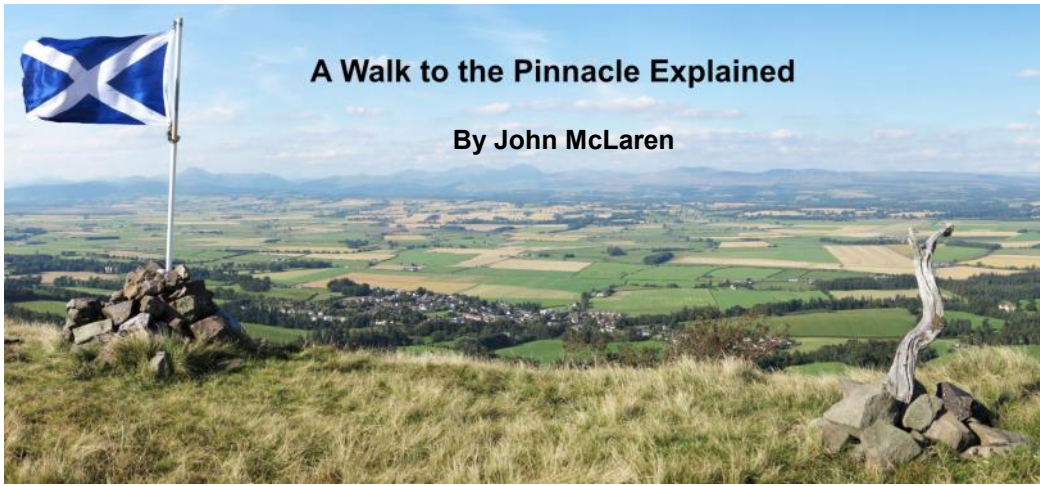
The petition to improve visibility at the junction is still ongoing, currently Stirling Council have voted to do nothing citing no accidents at the junction, if any near misses are observed please report it to Police Scotland on 101. Other options proposed by Stirling Council were to make Station Road one way – this was not supported by the Community Council.

3) Community Shop

Following the fire damage and current situation we have been approached by various members of the public asking if the shop will re-open and if not does Gargunnock community need a temporary shop or longer term a permanent one? The proposal is to discuss at the next Community Council meeting on October 4th at 19:30 (Venue TBC), please attend if you would like your opinion and suggestions heard.

Agenda for meetings will be posted two weeks in advance on the Village Noticeboard and on Facebook, Currently Stirling Council are still not permitting face to face meetings.

Gargunnock Community Council September 2021



A Walk to the Pinnacle Explained

By John McLaren

This popular walk passes through sheep farming land so please observe extreme caution in the early months of the year when sheep are pregnant or have lambs in Spring. If you have a dog keep it on a short leash and close all gates behind you. If you come across a shoot in progress, best to turn back. Common sense really.

We'll start at the Square and head eastwards up Manse Brae. Immediately on our right is the Rest Garden, formed from land donated to the village in the 1930s with gates added in 1953 at the time of the Coronation. Previously a cottage known as Klondyke sat here.

Just past the Rest Garden the road on the right was once named Duke St. It led to a small number of 2-storey houses, now it leads to the lower graveyard, constructed c1960. At the rear right-hand side of the graveyard, next to the burn are some walls which may be all that is left of a very ancient building. If only they could talk!

Further up the brae the church has the date 1774 on the east-most lintel at the top of the stairs. What happened then we don't know as there is almost no mention in the Session minutes. Complete rebuild? Upgrade? No idea but in 1974 the minister of the day decided it must have been a complete rebuild and so organised bi-centenary celebrations. Any excuse for a party!

At the top of the external stairs to the Belfry gallery is a view-plate which depicts the view and identifies all the mountains in the distance. Well worth a view and a photo on your phone for later in this walk when you are admiring the panorama from the top of the hill.

Opposite the church the cul-de-sac is called the Glebe because it was built on the Glebe land owned by the church and intended to be used to supplement the minister's stipend. The next house uphill on the right was the original minister's residence, the Manse, built in the 1700s and now called Dinning House.

At the top of the hill opposite Dinning House entrance, a pedestrian gate marks the start of the Ladies Walk which runs from here to Gargunnock House.

Until the 1950s the top of the hill here was the outskirts of the village, there being only 2 houses beyond this point, Viewfield and Shrub Cottage both of which bore witness to what was once a bit of a local dynasty in the 19th/20th centuries.

In the early 1800s a young carpenter from Blairdrummond married a local girl here and set up house in what is now

Viewfield but then was a single storey cottage similar to Shrub Cottage just up the road. Over the next 20 years they had a family of 12; 4 daughters and 8 sons, most of whom joined the business which expanded substantially. In later years they employed and trained additional men from the village and beyond to work in their workshop and a sawmill beside the house. Their work took them throughout the area, to houses great and small. The interior of the church as seen today was one of their

contracts.

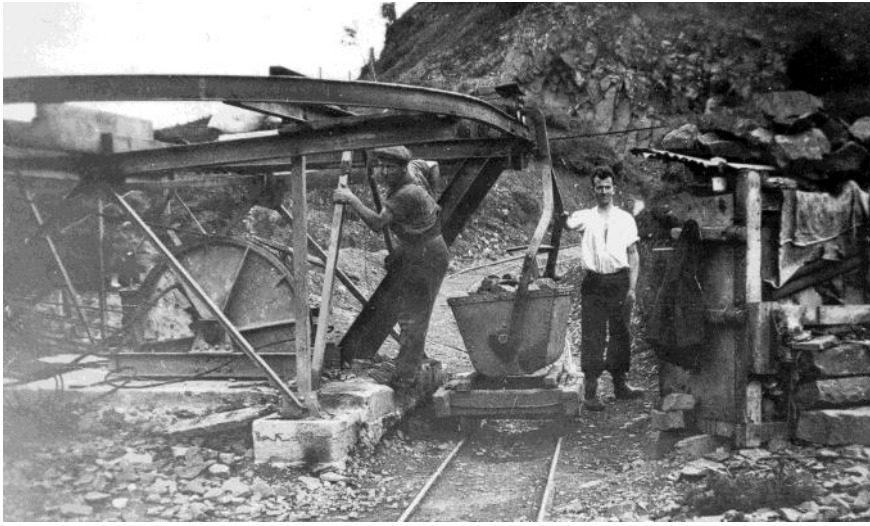
They were prominent in village and church affairs but as the 19th century wore on the surviving but ageing, bachelor brothers realised they had no successor to carry on the business after them. However one of the brothers who had left the village as a boy did have sons, so in 1881, at the age of 20, one of them, named John, was sent here from down south to be trained in the business.

That was successful and in time he married, set up house in Shrub Cottage in the 1890s and produced 2 sons and a daughter. Once the last of the original family had gone by 1908 and John had inherited, he rebuilt their house into the fine 2-storey one we see today, naming it Viewfield, and the dynasty continued, only finishing c1958 when the last of his 2 sons died and their sawmill, by then situated down at the railway station, changed hands.



Carpenter's House, above, was rebuilt and named Viewfield around 1911





The top end of the overhead cable transport system which carried rock from the quarry down to the crushing plant

Now the only traces of them left in the village are the name of the housing development behind Shrub Cottage, McLaren's Park, plus the author of this article and his sister, Mrs Miler, the church organist.

Continuing on past Viewfield and Shrub Cottage we now turn right up Quarry Brae, so-called because it leads eventually to the old quarry visible up on the hillside. The field on our left was once known as Courthill, perhaps an indication of one use to which it was put in bygone days. Within a short time we come to an area with 2 houses which once was a storage area for quarried rock processed in a crushing plant situated to the left of the top gate, hence the concrete abutments. The rock was carried down to it via an overhead wire cable system. The quarry ceased operations in the early 1930s and later a sawmill was set up down here which itself ceased operations in the 1980s/90s

Now we go through the top gate, closing it behind us if necessary. That field on your left was for a time the temporary location of Gargunnoch's football pitch, probably while Provost Park was having its original slope modified. Certainly a very scenic location.

Follow the road up to Dinning Wood & Millershill Wood by the village water header tank. Look out for red squirrels here. At the upper side of the wood another gate marks the start of the open hillside and the road forks here. Take the left fork towards the quarry. Soon you'll see marker posts for the oil pipelines which run from the deep sea port of Finnart on the West coast to Grangemouth refinery. On reaching the quarry entrance you'll see the concrete abutments for the machinery at the top end of that overhead cable transport system.

From here you should be able to see, on the skyline above, a flagpole marking your ultimate destination, or if not a stunted rowan tree just below the pinnacle.

If you wish you may make a short detour across to the prominent waterfall on your right but it's quite uneven ground so take care. Due to its prominence many call this waterfall Downie's Loup but that name is more correctly applied to the next waterfall downstream which is much less visible. Downie was a foolhardy young lad who, we're told, rode his horse over the waterfall once but perished during an attempt to repeat the feat. A soldier from the Duke of Cumberland's army in pursuit of Prince Charlie back in 1746 is also said to have perished here and his body was carried down to the church by his comrades.

From the quarry entrance make your way round to the top of the quarry then through the gap in the wall at the foot of the scree-slope and up to the first of the rock faces. Here you'll find a "balloch" or rough road through. Follow the path along to another balloch leading through a second rock face then continue up the burn for a while before heading diagonally up and to the left until you eventually spot the pinnacle flag.

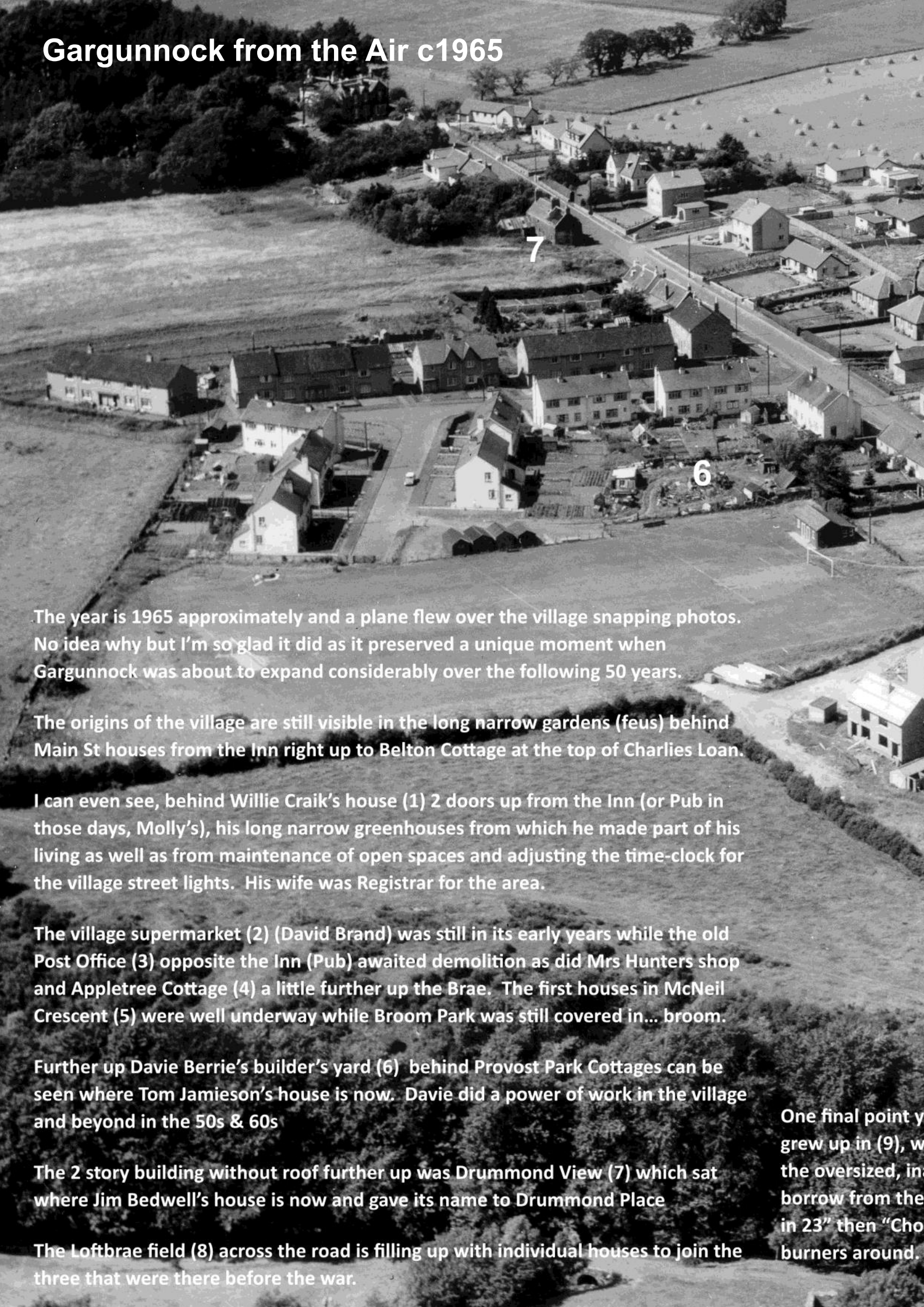
Arriving there you will find 2 small stone cairns, one with perhaps an old branch in it, the other with a metal flagpole. The smaller cairn is the original, placed there 150 years ago by local game-keeper William McNair, the other within the last 10 years by an enthusiastic group of young men from the village.

Now give yourself time to enjoy the view before you, stretching from the Arrochar Alps in the west to the three Forth bridges in the east (visible on a fine day that is) Considering the time taken and energy expended in getting here you'll not find better. How long does it take? Well that depends. If you're a fit and active superman/woman running in the annual hill race up to here on the day of the Agricultural Show you'll do it up and down in about 40 minutes but if you're just normal like most folks an hour should see you up there, however if you're into your eighth decade like me, I'll leave it to you to guess how long it took us the other day. Suffice it to say the joints are still complaining!

If you wish you may return to the village via a vehicular track 300m east of the Pinnacle which runs down through Hillhead farm to the Back Road/Manse Brae but as ever take great care if you find yourself near to any animals and keep dog(s) on a short leash please. Enjoy the walk



Gargunnock from the Air c1965



The year is 1965 approximately and a plane flew over the village snapping photos. No idea why but I'm so glad it did as it preserved a unique moment when Gargunnock was about to expand considerably over the following 50 years.

The origins of the village are still visible in the long narrow gardens (feus) behind Main St houses from the Inn right up to Belton Cottage at the top of Charles Loan.

I can even see, behind Willie Craik's house (1) 2 doors up from the Inn (or Pub in those days, Molly's), his long narrow greenhouses from which he made part of his living as well as from maintenance of open spaces and adjusting the time-clock for the village street lights. His wife was Registrar for the area.

The village supermarket (2) (David Brand) was still in its early years while the old Post Office (3) opposite the Inn (Pub) awaited demolition as did Mrs Hunters shop and Appletree Cottage (4) a little further up the Brae. The first houses in McNeil Crescent (5) were well underway while Broom Park was still covered in... broom.

Further up Davie Berrie's builder's yard (6) behind Provost Park Cottages can be seen where Tom Jamieson's house is now. Davie did a power of work in the village and beyond in the 50s & 60s

The 2 story building without roof further up was Drummond View (7) which sat where Jim Bedwell's house is now and gave its name to Drummond Place

The Loftbrae field (8) across the road is filling up with individual houses to join the three that were there before the war.

One final point y
grew up in (9), w
the oversized, in
borrow from the
in 23" then "Cho
burners around.



ou won't be surprised to hear me make. This was the village I
with wide, expansive views of hills and carselands unobstructed by
appropriate trees planted in small gardens back in 73/74 so to
campaign slogans chanted back then why don't we "Chop a Tree
p some More in 24." Heaven knows, there are plenty of log-

John McLaren



News From Gargunnoch Primary School

There are a number of new staff and pupils to welcome into our school. Our 6 P1s Calum, John, William, Tavish, Sophie & Amber have all settled in beautifully to school life as has Zach in P5. Welcome also to Miss Stewart who has joined us as class teacher to P6/7, to Miss Wilson who is teaching with P3/4/5 and to Miss Hoskins who has joined us as an SLA supporting across the school. I would also like to take the opportunity to say thank you to all the families from Gargunnoch for making my own arrival at the school so welcoming.

There is also a fond farewell for Iona Donaldson who has retired from her role as SLA to the school. Iona has been a firm favourite of the pupils during her time at Gargunnoch and we would like to wish her the best in her retirement.

Covid Update

We have all returned safely to school and are starting now to think about some of the mitigations that we had in place being reduced. To date we have removed the playground zones for pupils at play and lunchtime which allows them to mix and play together again. We are starting up lunchtime clubs with Miss Hoskins providing dance on a Tuesday, Mr Bruce on the music decks on a Wednesday and Active Stirling providing an activity session on a Friday. As you can probably see from the photos the pupils are enjoying being back together as they should be.

The school has also come back together in the lunch hall. Pupils are all eating together and P6/7 are showing great leadership by volunteering as lunch monitors. This is a big step in the direction of getting school back to some kind of normality and we are hoping that we can make further changes as the term progresses.



Learning Stars

Each week the class teachers are going to nominate a pupil within the class to be a star learner. This award will be presented to a pupil who has shown to be a Successful Learner, Effective Contributor, Responsible Citizen or Confident Individual. They will bring home a certificate, get the Learning Star trophy on their desk for a week and get their picture up in the hall of fame. Our first Learning Stars of the year are Amber D P1/2, Summer P3/4/5 & Kara from P6/7. Well done to all three and let's see who else can get this award throughout the year.

Pupil Council & House Captains

The start of a school year always provides opportunities for pupils to put themselves in a leadership role and this is something that we are always keen to encourage at Gargunnoch Primary. There will be a number of leadership opportunities throughout the year for pupils to engage in, for example leading lunchtime activities, being a buddy to a younger pupil, through our Skills Academies and through volunteering to be a litter picker in the playground to name but a few.

We have already elected our Pupil Council for this session and Tavish, Ada, Ida, Naim, Neleke, Peter and Ruairi are the class reps voted in by their peers. Well done to you all.

House Captain speeches were expertly delivered by our P7 pupils at a recent virtual assembly and after a whole school vote the following pupils were presented with their badges. Congratulations to all who took part, you were all amazing! House Captains and Vice Captains will now work with their houses promote and create community through activity, competition and regular meetings.

Isla Buchannan- House Captain Eagles

Charlie Conroy & Aiden McGowan – Vice Captains Eagles

Beth Jackson – House Captain Red Foxes

Maisie Campbell & Ruairi Peddie – Vice Captains Red Foxes

Evie Moseley – House Captain Wildcats

Ethan Hart – Vice Captain Wildcats



Morrisons It's Good to Grow Campaign

The school have signed up for this initiative and are collecting tokens that they can use for outdoor gardening equipment. Anyone who shops in Morrisons can support the school by downloading the app and selecting Gargunnoch from the list of schools available. The more tokens we collect the more we can buy so we would like to encourage as many people as possible to support us. You don't need to have pupils at the school to be part of this and even if you don't shop in Morrisons you can share this with friends and family further afield and ask them to support the school. The initiative is currently live so we'll let you know how we get on.

Gillian Orr, September 2021

Goodbye 'Mrs D'!

Gargunnock Primary School has said farewell to Iona Donaldson who retired after 20 years working within the school. "Mrs D." has had a huge influence to the school over the years, supporting and welcoming new P1s with her generous heart and kind words, doling out lashings of fairy dust over skinned knees and carefully packing baby teeth into sparkly envelopes to find their way safely home to the tooth fairy. Whilst based mostly in the younger class room she was however loved across the whole school, evidenced by the annual request by p7's for her to join their outdoor week at Dalguise activity centre to mark their transition onto high school.



The mark of her impact on the school and its pupils continues to be felt across the community as a whole – its not unusual for Mrs D to have been stopped in the street by previous pupils and families keen to share their 'grown up' news and progress and thank her for the kindness she showed to them. As Mrs D makes her own transition into a well earned retirement we send her all our love and fairy dust and best wishes for the future.



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Parent Council Update

It's been a good return to school for both our returning and new P1 pupils. Some of the covid restrictions of last session have been reviewed and the playground and dinner hall are now back to being accessible by all year groups which has been well received by the kids.

There have been some staffing changes over the summer as we said farewell to Iona Donaldson who retired after 20 years. She will be very much missed and we wish her all the best in her retirement. Elsewhere we have other staff changes having said Goodbye and Good Luck to our previous Head Mrs Rushton who has headed off the St Ninians. A huge Hello and Welcome to acting Head Mrs Orr, probationer Miss Wilson and Miss Stewart who joins us as cover for Miss Barrowman who remains on maternity leave. We look forward to having a great session with you all this year.

Parent Council is made up of parents and carers of children attending the school and all are welcome to join, or attend our termly meetings. Our objectives are:

- To promote partnership between the school, all its pupils and all its parents.
- To develop and engage in activities which support the education and welfare of all the pupils.
- To work in partnership with the school to create a welcoming school which is inclusive for all parents.
- To raise funds for the school which support the education and welfare of all the pupils.
- To identify and represent the view of parents on the education that is provided by the school and other matters affecting the education and welfare of all the pupils.

Our AGM is scheduled for 30 September with the first meeting of the new Council to follow in October.

There have been some staffing changes over the summer as we said farewell to Iona Donaldson who retired after 20 years. She will be very much missed and we wish her all the best in her retirement. Elsewhere we have other staff changes having said Goodbye and Good Luck to our previous Head Mrs Rushton who has headed off the St Ninians. A huge Hello and Welcome to acting Head Mrs Orr, probationer Miss Wilson and Miss Stewart who joins us as cover for Miss Barrowman who remains on maternity leave. We are also joined by SLA Miss Hoskins and Support for Learning Ms Stevenson. We look forward to having a great session with you all this year.

Alison Younger

Some Thanks Yous

We have a couple of thank yous that we have been asked to share...

Gargunnock Senior Citizens Christmas Gift Fund

As one of many small organisations which rely entirely on fundraising and donations, Covid has been a particularly difficult time for us so an unexpected donation from Lodge Baillie Nicol Jarvie in Aberfoyle was extremely welcome. Thank you very much for thinking of us.

To the Paper Boys and Girls

I would like to express my gratitude to the lovely band of men (and lady) who kindly deliver my paper every day.

Please accept my sincere thanks for the great job you do.

Dorothy Pitts

Update from Dean Lockhart, MSP for Mid Scotland & Fife.

It is a huge privilege to have been returned as a Mid Scotland & Fife MSP at May's elections. After the Summer recess the Scottish Parliament started back on 29 August. There are many important pieces of legislation to consider, including the controversial short term lets regulations that will effect so many small accommodation providers. Ensuring businesses, communities and our NHS are effectively supported as we recover from the public health crisis must also be a top priority for the Scottish Parliament.

Between 31 October and 12 November Glasgow will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26). These vitally important talks will bring together heads of state, Experts & campaigners to agree actions to tackle climate change. It is therefore a huge honour to be chosen as the Convener of the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee at the Scottish Parliament at this most crucial of times as we face this unprecedented challenge. The committee's role is to hold the Scottish government to account on their policies and I can promise you consistent and robust scrutiny.

More locally I have continued to voice my opposition to the bin collection cuts that Stirling Council stated would be introduced this September. This will mean your grey (landfill) and blue (recyclable) bins will only be collected every four weeks. I cannot support such cuts to a basic service that were imposed with no consultation or consideration of any other options. A 6000 signature petition to halt these cuts was ignored. The only other council in Scotland to have introduced a monthly collection is Falkirk and there we have seen recycling rates fall and flytipping increase. I will maintain my support for your local councillors who oppose these changes.



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Dean LOCKHART

Member of the Scottish Parliament
for Mid Scotland and Fife Region



Please contact me below with any issues you feel I may be able to help with

-  Dean.lockhart.msp@parliament.scot
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-  The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

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On the farm—update from Old Leckie

As we head into Autumn the farm begins to rest after what has felt like a busy summer. The grass slows down in the last of its growth, the frantic buzzing of the summer flies becomes a bit less intense and the sheds get a once over, ready to welcome their winter visitors as the cattle eye up a warm bed and easy feeding over the wet winter months. It's been a fabulously sunny summer – dry ground welcome under foot and stress free hay making. Tricky at times though with salad bolting in the heat and hens turning to water rather than feed having a knock on to smaller egg sizes.

Autumn brings regular weekly lamb sales, hopefully a successful harvest of spring barley, and for us at Old Leckie the annual sale of our suckler calves. We have highlanders out on

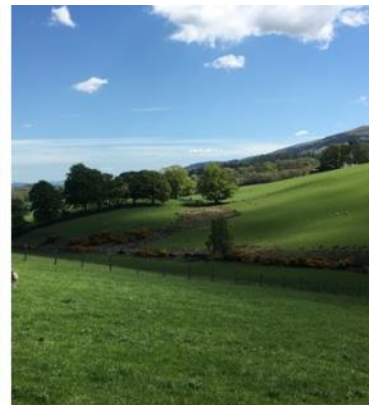
the back hill at Knock O Ronald, Hebridean lambs fattening well and the pigs greedily eyeing up this years tatties patch for their winter grazing. The online shop (<https://shop.oldleckie.co.uk>) for our farm produce is working pretty well and the home delivery service to the village helping to offset the impact of the village shop currently being closed.

Whilst most of the stock, including the humans, are winding down there is one group with its ears pricked and eyes bright. The male sheep, or tups, are beginning to prowl round the boundaries of their patch. They can sense that the annual cycle of breeding is approaching, with a month or so to go until they are back to work with our flock of ewes. We have been trawling the tup sales to find a few gents to join this small but fertile gang

of what we hope will be good genetics for next years lambs crop.

We've got a few fun things in the diary too... join us and the Inn at Kippen on 11 October for a live cookschool from the farm to celebrate the Forth Valley Food Festival. We're also proud to be hosting a get together of the Board and staff from the Royal Highland Educational Trust as they plan for delivering their awesome programme of Scotland wide school farm visits over the next year. Finally we are heading off to London as finalists in the Farm Diversification category for the UK Wide Farmers Weekly Awards – better get the glad rags dusted down from under the pile of overalls!

Alison Younger, September 2021



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- Self catering accommodation
- Farm tours

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Gargunnock Bridge Club

Gargunnock Bridge Club has been in operation for more than 40 years, but like all other groups has not been running over the last eighteen months. Unfortunately, during lockdown, we lost four of our Members, and we will miss them.

We are trying to re-start in mid October, if we can get sufficient support. At present our membership comprises a few village folk, but the greater number travel here from Stirling

Our aim is to maintain a friendly informal Bridge Club . You require to have a working knowledge of the game, but all levels are welcome. Unfortunately we cannot teach Bridge from starter level. We meet in the Community Centre on Thursdays, 7pm till 10 pm.

Enquiries welcome, speak to either :

Janette Wilson, President, tel. 860347, or

Pat Hendry, Secretary, tel. 475779.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Janette Wilson

GARGUNNOCK PARISH CHURCH

Over the last three years Jeremy Wilkinson has acted as our Property Convener, keeping the fabric of the buildings in tip top condition and calling on Pete Rowell for those occasions requiring 'another pair of hands' or when 'two heads are better than one'. As you will all know Jeremy and Liz are moving to the south coast of England and we in the Church's family will miss both for their dedication, hard work and supportive enthusiasm. Our Good wishes go with them as they travel to pastures new.

A worship programme from October until the end of the year has been prepared which allows for services at Gargunnock on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month with a few more over the Christmas Period. In making up the programme we have been mindful of the difficulties in acquiring preachers and the number attending.

Kincardine-in- Menteith church has a service on the 1st Sunday of the month and Kilmadock on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, to which we are invited. (Contact Audrey for availability)

Worship Programme

OCTOBER	10th	Family Service	24th	Communion Service
NOVEMBER	12th	Remembrance Service	28th	First Sunday of Advent
DECEMBER	12th	Third Sunday of Advent	19th	Family Christmas Service
	24th	Watchnight Service	26th	Joint Service at Kincardine-in-Menteith

These arrangements are dependent on the Coronavirus Protocol at the time.

We do hope that restrictions can be eased to make for a more 'normal service' but until the cases come down to lower levels we will keep to the following:

- Hands sanitised on entry and exit;
- Face Covering worn during the service;
- Physical distancing of 1 metre which means every second pew used;
- Contact details taken for Track and Trace.

If anyone is unsure as to whether they should return to gathered worship at this stage, please contact the District Elder or the Session Clerk so that an alternative can be provided.

We have been fortunate to have had the services of Ian Roy and Douglas Barr as they collaborated on the weekly Reflections to provide for our spiritual needs via Email. They are willing to continue to provide these particularly for those unable to attend in-person services.

A warm Welcome awaits you at the in-person services.

Audrey Birrell, September 2021

Keep Gargunnock Gorgeous!



Following a successful submission to the Windfarm Grants I have bought litterpickers, gloves and high vis vests. If you would like to help keep our lovely village and surroundings litter free, feel free to contact me for a set. All we ask is that you keep a simple diary of your litterpicking, times spent, area etc so that when I need to report back to the Trust we have an idea of their use.

The Litterpickers will be yours to keep – we bought foldable ones so they are more taken on your walk, you will also receive the risk assessment and checklist to give you the simple tips to keep you safe when out and about.

Kien has already been out and about – join him in keeping our countryside clean and tidy.

Gilly Bruce.



Windfarm Fund Update

Gargunnock is fortunate to receive approx. £25,000 per annum from FALK Renewables to distribute to local groups and projects. The volunteer Windfarm Panel is made up of people living within the community council area and our role is to consider applications, ensure they fit with the fund guidelines and allocate awards on behalf of the local community and FALK Renewables.



We haven't met since the last Bugle so no new awards to be reported but it's been great to see previous awards come to fruition e.g. the Beekeepers first jars of honey on sale, and the litter picking equipment now available for use by any volunteers.

To be eligible for an award an application must be for the benefit of residents of Gargunnock. Full details of the fund and how to make an application can be found on the Gargunnock Community Trust website. It's an easy process – we'd love to hear from you if you have an idea! The next round of awards will be considered at the end of September.

ArtBeat 2021

Michael Kay, who lives at Bridgend in the village, and Ros Macdonald, an artist friend from Tealing near Dundee held another successful ArtBeat event in July. ArtBeat has run for a number of years with the basic idea that artists and designers from throughout Forth Valley, over fifty of them this year, open their doors to give the public an idea of what they do and how they do it. ArtBeat produces a map with the participants marked, allowing those interested in all kinds of art to make a morning or a day of visiting workshops and studios.

Some people don't like the idea of visiting such events because they feel they would be under an obligation to buy, but of course that is not the case. Many people just come to look and chat and they are welcomed by the artists, who want to show their work.

Over the course of the two days, more than thirty people from Gargunnock and far beyond visited, enjoying the shows, the garden and the sunshine.



Michael Kay

Community Centre Zero Carbon Project



Given that the Community Centre is more than 150 years old it is going to be very difficult to retrofit the building to be completely carbon neutral. When we carried out the renovations eight years ago, we only had the money to go so far, improving insulation and installing the bio-mass boiler.

It is now time to move on to the next stage and really see how far we can get to Zero Carbon emissions from the Centre. We are currently applying for support through The Scottish Government's CARES: let's do net zero community buildings funding offer which is managed by Local Energy Scotland.

An expression of Interest has been made and this has led to the appointment of a technical consultant, free of charge through Zero Waste Scotland. Luths Services Ltd., an independent firm of consultant service engineers, have been appointed. A site visit has been arranged and we hope to be able to scope and specify the project over the next few months.

Once we have a detailed and costed project, we can then complete the CARES application for Scottish Government support.

It is unlikely that any grant through the CARES scheme will cover all the costs of the project and we are looking at other possible sources of finance.

Hopefully, we are on our way downwards towards carbon neutrality.

Douglas Johnston

Hamish's Kindling

Hamish's has an abundance of kindling available. If you would like some now that the nights are getting a wee bit cooler, then please get in touch.

£4 per bag with all proceeds going to Erskine charity.

Phone on 01786 860657, or contact Seonaid Muirhead on Facebook.



Gargunnock Community Trust Update

Time passes so quickly and here we are in the middle of September with Christmas racing towards us.

Prior to that of course we have The AGM on the 21st October to plan and look forward to. Please see the notice for this important date below and make a note to attend in person, not virtually we hope!

As mentioned in June's Edition Helen Hyland stepped down as Administrator leaving the Directors with a big hole to fill.

We decided to split the role into four and we are delighted to say that,

- Carol Macgregor has taken up the role of Website Administrator,
- Debbie Masson is in charge of Community Centre Bookings,
- Jackie Campbell is Administrator for the Windfarm Panel.

We were also looking to appoint a member to the Windfarm Panel who would represent the views of the younger members of the village community and are delighted to welcome Hope Brodie onto the Panel.

The more observant of you have by now surely noticed a change in this edition of your Bugle to that of previous months.

This is partially due to no-one applying for the role of Bugle Administrator and also we felt that the Bugle should have a more informative role as to events happening in the village. We hope that someone who is familiar with various publishing formats and who has a few spare hours each month to pull together all the regular articles from various contributors will come forward. Loads of help will be given to assist them in their induction period. In the interim Jon Park assisted by all of the Board has kindly stepped in.



We can report that the space in the Community Centre which used to be the Doctors' consulting room has now been let as an office. This has led us to examine the Drop in Centre building and whether this could also be converted into offices or other revenue earning opportunities.

Meanwhile we set ourselves a target of Zero Carbon by 2025 for the Community Centre.

Progress continues to be made on the planning of the Cycle path from here to Stirling as part of The King's Highway. Assistance has been given by the Community Council in raising the profile of the project within Stirling Council.

With regards to the shop we await communication from the owners as to their plans.

Finally, and most importantly we need new Directors to replace those standing down, notably Jeremy Wilkinson and Barbara Linklater who we thank for their many years of invaluable service and Paul James who has found another opportunity to serve.

David King, Chair



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Gargunnock Community Trust Ltd

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 21 October @ 7.30pm

Gargunnock Community Centre Garden Room

Come along to hear what the Trust has been doing on your behalf and to discuss how we might develop plans for the future to inform the work of the Trust, the Windfarm Fund and the actions of other organisations.

As we will have two vacancies on the Board we are also looking for new volunteers to become actively involved in the work of the Trust. Interested, then please drop an email to: Gargunnocktrust@gmail.com

Presentation of a book about the Gentlemen Gouffers of Gargunnock!

At the end of June, the Trust hosted a visit by Robert Hillery and his wife Molly. They were travelling across Scotland following the route taken four years previously in 2017 by six Gentlemen Gouffers from the USA who made an 'epic and unconventional golfing odyssey across Scotland along a cross-country route now known as the Rambler's Fairway'. In doing so they hit a golf ball from one side of Scotland to the other taking 3,555 strokes. For reasons explained here <https://www.gargunnocks.com/> they called themselves "The Gentlemen Gouffers of Gargunnock".

Since then Robert, based on two dozen pages of notes, reflecting the memories of each participant, were used to produce a permanent record of the event. The outcome was a book produced at the end of 2020.

After Robert and Molly had visited Gargunnock and other places the Gouffers had passed through he sent an email recording his travels so its best to let him tell the story.

"We arrived at the Centre (Gargunnock Community Centre) a few minutes before 10am and were indeed greeted by ten citizens of the village (900 population) and a coffee and cakes spread in the main hall. Everyone that we talked to was obviously aware of the events of 2017. Not surprisingly, perhaps, several people thought that I had been on the epic journey, but all managed to cover their disappointment at not meeting one of the heroes. We had some great conversation along with our snack and were then escorted to the bottom of the village where the US flag was flying in our honor. This was indeed a nice gesture, even when we learned that Gargunnock has the "flags of all nations" which they fly on appropriate national days. With July 4 just around the corner, I suggested that perhaps the US flag might fly for several days but was informed that it had to come down to make way for Canada Day tomorrow (July 1). So, the Stars and Stripes were indeed for us.....



"We presented copies of the book to Dave and to John McLaren, the local historian (and who was cited in the book in relation to events of witchcraft in the village that in many ways outshined the mythical Gargunnock monster stories created by Shep and Fraser), but we were surprised to receive a presentation of our own. The flag of Gargunnock—replete with drum and bugle—was now ours and, by tradition, should be flown on the first Saturday in June (if I remembered that correctly) and on New Year's Eve. Molly and I will certainly keep up our side of the bargain and proudly display the flag on those days (and those alone) but already our son-in-law has suggested that June 22 (the day the Gouffers passed through the village) should be on the list also—at least in the states of Ohio and Georgia in the USA."



"One last interesting aspect of our two hours in Gargunnock occurred when we were grouped around the flag. A young man who had not been part of the "reception committee" approached the group and introduced himself and opened his palm to reveal one of the GGG tokens. These poker chip sized tokens had been left along the route (as well as many other parts of the United Kingdom) for lucky citizens to find and perhaps use the data on them to enter for prizes and make contributions to the sponsored charity. Clearly, word had spread that today was a follow-up to the epic journey and he had taken the trouble to look out his token and show it off to the visitors. We can only assume that he must have dined at the Gargunnock Inn either on the day in 2017 or subsequently. I was so stunned by the incident that I didn't ask! We just recall that everyone in Gargunnock was extremely pleasant and seemed genuinely interested in the journey and the book-making process. It was a great visit."



Stuart Ogg

THE GARGOYLES OF GARGUNNOCK

"All good things come to an end" as the old saying goes and how true that is for Liz and Zoe and me. Liz joined us in 2011 and since then we have sung all over Scotland, with different members, and finally for the last 7 years as a trio, have performed over 60 times at a huge variety of events. We've helped to raise funds for various charities and to support charity events. One that sticks in my mind was in 2014 – the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn which was attended by around 30,000 people! The same year we performed at the Bruce Festival in Dunfermline to around 10,000 people! I loved singing in the Holy Rude, just us, standing in front of the altar. It felt very special! We've appeared far and wide from Hawick to Inverness and Lanark to Glasgow and Edinburgh. We've appeared at historic buildings like Kinneil House and Traquair House, in Museums like The Burrell Collection and Scotland's Museum of Musical Instruments. Nearer to home we've sung at The Smith Art Gallery, Stirling Farmer's Market, The Woodhouse and Smiddy, Callander, the wonderful Cambuskenneth Abbey and many others. It was very special to sing at the Remembrance Service for the 100th anniversary of the start of WW1 in 2014 and also for the end in 2018. Bannockburn House was our last booked event and we appeared on the first 2 nights of the Mark Leslie Photographic Exhibition at the beginning of September. But our actual last appearance was at Traquair House the following weekend when we asked if we could go down and just sing for ourselves. We all love that place and we had our first real performance at the Medieval Fayre in May 2010, when Liz wasn't one of the singers but came along as a chauffeur and tea and sandwich provider! She also loaned us a dress that she'd worn when she sang at Medieval banquets in the '70s in Cardiff Castle (that's 1970s!). The Gargoyles of Gargunnoch will be no more when Liz leaves, as it's better to quit while you're ahead, and Zoe and I have decided not to carry on. There's so much more to say and not enough space here. It's been a truly



magical time for all of us and we'll miss it all terribly. But most of all we'll miss Liz.

Helen Rowell

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GARGUNNOCK FLOWER SHOW

Well, because nothing much has happened over the last 18 months or so, there's nothing much to report!! Nothing about the world-renowned Quiz Night of which 2 have been cancelled, and nothing about the Flower Show itself which we have missed during the past 2 Augusts.

So what CAN I report? Well, walking round the village I've seen that many of you have been spending a lot of time working in your gardens. The flower displays have been stunning and the generally good weather has brought out the very best colours of the plants. And you see that the wildlife has been taking advantage of the gardens too.

I do hope you have enjoyed, and are continuing to enjoy, the half barrels which are displayed around the village. Many thanks are due to all the individual teams who planted them, first of all with the Spring bulbs and then the bedding plants, and of course we excelled ourselves with our Easter themes. So well done everyone.

Looking ahead, will next year be any better? Hope so/ surely/must be/ back to normal/of course it will. So the Committee will soon be getting together to decide what we intend to do and updates will be provided in forthcoming issues of the Bugle. Meantime start getting your gardens tidied up and ready for next year's bumper event.

Maitland Clark

GARGUNNOCK WI

I trust you have had a good summer and been enjoying the sunshine in your gardens.

Hopefully most people will have had their 2 vaccines which allows us more freedom although I appreciate many of you will have concerns about meeting in larger groups.

Member Johan Mailer has had a fall and broke her hip. We wish her a speedy recovery. Good news regarding Fiona Johnson's recovery and she thanks everyone for their good wishes when she was in hospital for her heart operation.

Dee Guidery is making good progress after her stroke and pneumonia and attended our last committee meeting in the sunshine.

We have decided to resume our meetings, the first of which is in September on Zoom Tuesday 20th September where members will be able to have an opportunity to tell us what they have been up to over the Summer.

October sees Gargunnoch WI celebrating 75 years and we hope to have a group meeting dependant upon government guidelines.

We are delighted to say that the Expert Talks, Skill Share sessions and Craft & Chat events will continue online for the next year so please join the friendly, welcoming group when you can. You can see on www.thswi.org.uk to find out what's on each month. Zoom sessions will be hosted on the Womankind by SWI Zoom platform. You can access these easily.

We look forward to meeting up in the Community Centre for our group meetings subject to government guidelines.

If you would like further information and to join Gargunnoch WI please contact myself Anne Christie on annechristie1958@gmail.com or Secretary Anne Muirhead on mrshamish@outlook.com

Anne Christie

Halloween Duck Race!

Raising money for Gargunnoch Playgroup.



Saturday 30th October 2021

11am - bridge next to shop

Ducks £2 each. Purchase duck numbers from

Debbie Masson

07779 727 209 or Nina Coy 07788 416 331

Cash prize for 1st place.

**Followed by: Prize giving, refreshments
and opening of new play equipment at
community centre**



The next issue of the The Bugle will be published at the end of November. If you have any pictures, articles, letters, or adverts that you would like to be included please submit them to gargunnochbugle@gmail.com by the 14th November 2021.

Charity Walk Fund Raising

Thanks to the fantastic efforts of all those involved in the recent West to East charity walk. Lodge Bailie Nicol Jarvie No:1036 received a cheque for £500 from Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire West. After we added funds received due to the fantastic piping efforts of IPM Bro John Muir, this enabled us to donate to local charities nominated by our members.

Gargunnoch Guides and Brownies continue to develop the young kids in and around Gargunnoch where many of our lodge members reside. With fund raising activities curtailed over the past 18 months, both Guides and Brownies received a cheque for £50. This gave them a vital financial boost to continue the great work they are doing. Pictured below receiving a cheque for £50 on their behalf each for both 1st Gargunnoch Guides and 1st Gargunnoch Brownies are Lynda McCowan and Sarah Oswald, presenting the cheque on behalf of Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire West is Duncan Kinloch (PJC) and on behalf of Lodge Bailie Nicol Jarvie Robert Hay (WJW).

Gargunnoch Senior Citizens Fund is another fantastic organisation who raise funds to hold events, clubs and meetings for the Senior Citizens ensuring that they are never



forgotten. Pictured below receiving a cheque for £100 on their behalf is Ann Muirhead from the Gargunnoch Senior Citizens, and presenting the cheque on behalf of Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire West is Duncan Kinloch (PJC) and on behalf of Lodge Bailie Nicol Jarvie Mark Kane (Treasurer).

Trossachs Search and Rescue do a fantastic job maintaining, replacing and installing defibrillators throughout the area, as well as coming to the rescue of those in need when outdoors. As a voluntary organisation, this donation will allow them to continue this great lifesaving work throughout the year.

Pictured below receiving a cheque for £500 are Jan Chesham, Heartstart Co-Ordinator for Trossachs S&R with Joanne Ballantyne, Heartstart Treasurer. Presenting the Provincial cheque and on behalf of Lodge Bailie Nicol Jarvie John Gault (RWM).

Mark Kane



And More Fantastic Fund Raising...

Gargunnoch SWI members Kathleen Sinclair and her daughter Kimberley Hay, along with 10 year old granddaughter Emma Hay, decided to host not one but two Afternoon Teas on behalf of Breast Cancer Now, after seeing their Advertisement in the



Women Together Magazine.

Breast Cancer has affected two generations of their family and they wanted to help raise some money for this very worthwhile charity.

With the very generous support from Gargunnoch SWI members, family, friends and neighbours with donations of baking and raffle prizes, raffle ticket sales and donations to the charity, the total accumulated was a wonderful £1311.

Kathleen Sinclair



The Bugle

Is a free community Newsletter published five times a year by Gargunnoch Community Trust Ltd. Its aim is to provide news, views, information, and entertainment for the residents and friends of Gargunnoch and the surrounding area.

Editor:

gargunnochbugle@gmail.com

Deadline of next issue

Articles, letter, photographs, adverts & submissions may be made anytime up to and including **14 November 2021.**

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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If you would like to help with distribution, please contact the editor (gargunnochbugle@gmail.com).

Compliments or Complaints:

Contact the Trust at gargunnochtrust@gmail.com

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