





New Year At The Square




The first Hogmanay/New Year celebrations at the Square were held in 2008. Since then there have been celebrations each year, other than during the Covid lockdowns. The basis of these events is simple - gather at the Square about 11.50pm, have a dram or two, get a few tunes from the bagpipes, a blow on a bugle (one on the village symbols), count down to the bells, (the church bell also brings in the New Year,) 2/3 minutes fireworks and finish with a mass rendition of Auld Lang Syne. (As a respect to dog and other pet owners the fireworks timing was restricted to 2/3 minutes).



Then back home/go first footing/finish up in the pub, whatever suits. All very simple but an enjoyable event which has become a tradition.

This year, however, there may be a change to the format. We have been advised by the police that it is illegal to set off fireworks in public spaces. To enable us to do this we will require to apply for a licence from Stirling Council, and this will be done. But the view is that we are unlikely to get this. But, whatever the outcome, **the event WILL go ahead.** Any new information will be put on Facebook.



GARGUNNOCK'S ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS CARD 2023

Gargunnock's 'Alternative Christmas Card' has raised over £23,000 for various charities over the years and this year's chosen charity is Parkinson's UK.

Parkinson's can affect anyone and, at present, there's no cure. Around 153,000 people in the UK live with Parkinson's and it's the fastest growing neurological condition in the world. It's a debilitating and very difficult condition to live with and can feel overwhelming, especially if you don't have the right information and support. So, Parkinson's UK is there to help people living with the disease feel more in control of their lives, and to support family members. Also, Parkinson's UK researchers are working hard to develop new and better treatments - and they're determined to develop a cure.

I'm going to be organising various fundraising events for Parkinson's UK over the next few months so I'm delighted to be kick-starting that with the Village Card. The 'alternative Christmas 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 everyone 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 2025. Donations are made online at <https://www.justgiving.com/page/gargunnock-xmas-card> - and do remember when you leave your message on the JustGiving page to include all of the names from your family that you'd like included on the Village Christmas Card.

Many thanks for your continued support and I hope you all have a lovely festive season when it comes.

Jane Milne

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/gargunnock-xmas-card>
(Please tick the Gift Aid box if applicable)



Editorial

Welcome to the last and busy Bugle of 2024, which is accompanied by a Christmas card from the Church and hopefully some additional information on the Local Place Plan.

Thank you to everyone who sent articles for this edition and throughout the year. It is really lovely to see an article from the Primary School. I hope everyone has a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year, and remember, something will be happening at the Square!

All contributions and feedback can be sent to gargunnockbugle@gmail.com. The deadline for the next issue is 16th February 2025.

Louise Crawford, November 2024

Flower Show Committee / Rest Garden

As you are aware, the Flower Show has "adopted" one of the plots in the Rest Garden and had planted some annuals, to flower over the Summer and Autumn. This programme will be continued by planting Spring bulbs (daffodils, crocuses, snowdrops etc) which will come up every year along with more annuals which should provide some colour over the Winter.

In addition, a new plot will be prepared for the planting of 6 fruit trees and 6 shrubs. All this work is planned for 17th November so it should be completed by the time you read this. Please visit the garden and let us have your opinions and suggestions for future development there.

Over all the seasons, help is needed to keep these beds tidy. Your assistance in lending a hand would be much appreciated. Please contact Sandra (Vice-President) or Anne (Secretary) 07977 441 108 for details.

Gargunnock Walking Group – November 2024

The Gargunnock Walking Group has been meeting at irregular intervals lately because of the reduced number of members available to join walks. One of our most recent walks was on Kinoull Hill near Perth, this was a short but very picturesque walk through woodland with very fine views over Perth and the River Tay. The next walk is our regular autumn walk is to Glen Artney where we expect to spot stags seeking mates.

At the time of writing the following walk will be on 28th November, and we will go to Beecraigs Country Park near to Linlithgow.

The last walk of the year will be on Tuesday 10th December and will probably be a local walk.

As usual these walks will depend up on the weather on the day. We want to maintain the tradition of walking on fine clear days when we expect to have stunning views of the surrounding countryside. And we are always on the look-out for new and interesting walks within easy access of Gargunnock

We normally gather at 9:30a.m. in the pub car park prior to starting our walk, and we always try to minimise the number of cars by sharing.

If you are interested in participating in our walks, call me on 01786 860608 or drop me an email to edmond.mansion@btinternet.com and I will put you on the circulation list for meets and send a copy of the Guidance Notes. Please note that one of the few rules that we have is no dogs. The primary reason for this is that we occasionally walk 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



Bite and Blether

The last Bite and Blether of this year is on Wednesday 4th of December. Everyone of all ages is very welcome so please come and join us for our usual fare of hot, tasty soup and delicious home baking. As always, a big thank you to our soup makers, bakers and "kitchen team" without whom it would be impossible!

Dates for 2025

Wednesday 8th January
Wednesday 5th February
Wednesday 5th March
Wednesday 2nd April
Wednesday 7th May
Wednesday 4th June
Wednesday 3rd September
Wednesday 1st October
Wednesday 5th November
Wednesday 3rd December



Gargunock Parish Church



Remembrance Service: Rev Iain Armstrong, our OLM, and the Kirk Session thank all who attended the Remembrance Day Service, when we remembered those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to the nation. This year Rev Iain, four Primary School pupils - Beth Brodie, Esme Fraser, Zoe Hart, Annabelle Webber - Jean O'Connor and Andrew Dallas all participated in the service.

The pupils read out the names of those from the Parish of Gargunock who fell for their Country in the Great War 1914 – 1918 and in the Second World War 1939 – 1945 and laid a Poppy Wreath at the Village War Memorial, within the church. Following the main Service a short Act of Remembrance took place at the Square when another wreath was laid by the pupils, on behalf of the Residents of the village, at the Gate into the Fountain Area. Andrew played the Pipe tune 'Flowers of the Forest'.

We thank all who participated in the Service and for the support of family and friends given to the pupils. A total of £123.20 was collected for the Poppy Scotland Appeal.

GARGUNNOCK CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday services from 17th November until early January 2025 will start at the later time of 11.15am., to enable all four churches in the charge to have a service every Sunday and for Revds. Ellen and Iain to drive safely between Thornhill and Gargunock after the 10.00am service at Norrieston Church.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES and EVENTS

There are special events and services during December in and around the Carse, which are open to all, and we invite you to attend one, some or all of them!

Services:

From 1st to 25th December there will be **Sunday worship at 11.15am in Gargunock** as we await the Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sun 1st Dec. the First Sunday of Advent; Rev Iain Armstrong will lead Worship.

Sun 8th Dec. Rev Ellen Larson Davidson will lead Worship.

Sun 15th Dec. Rev Iain will lead worship

Sun 22nd Dec. Family Service led by Rev Ellen

Tues 24th Dec. Christmas Eve is special so plan to visit Gargunock Kirk for the

Watchnight Service at 11.30pm, led by Rev

Iain, to welcome the first moments of Christmas morning.

Mon 25th Dec. Christmas Day - There will be **NO Service** in Gargunock but a 10.30am service will be held at Kippen Church to continue the celebration of Christmas.

Sun 29th Dec. A Joint Service for the four linked churches will be held at **10.30am in Port of Menteith Church** – Rev Ellen will lead worship when we will give thanks for 2024 and seek God's blessing for 2025.

Events:

Sunday 1st Dec. An Advent Evening Service will be held in Kippen Church at 6pm at which the Carse Churches Choir will be singing.

Friday 13th Dec. The Strathendrick Singers will present a concert in Kippen Church.

Wishing All God's blessings for the Christmas season and the coming year. God's peace to you all!

Audrey Birrell, Session Clerk

Excitement Builds as Gargunnock Community Shop Nears Completion!

Thank you, Gargunnock, for your incredible support and patience as we approach this final stretch. We look forward to opening the doors to a new, vibrant community shop that will serve our village for many years to come. Stay tuned for more updates, and see you at the AGM!

At the time of printing, we have yet to announce our grand opening date but are aiming for the end of November, pending final building completion certification from Stirling Council.



Gargunnock Community Shop LTD is pleased to report significant progress in the journey to reopen our village's much-anticipated community store. Following the success of our community share offer, which raised an impressive £65,415 from 259 investors, we are thrilled to move forward with the shopfitting, scheduled to begin on 11th November.

The landscaping of the shop's garden area (photo above) is now complete, and awnings will soon be installed to create a welcoming seating space for those enjoying takeaway hot drinks.

In partnership with Nisa, our tenants affiliate franchise, and their expert shopfitters, we're working hard to ensure the store retains its unique, local character. We're excited to announce that Stirling-based artist, illustrator, and graphic designer David Galletly is creating a custom, Gargunnock-inspired mural for the shop's interior. This artwork will honor the spirit of the village, adding a personal touch to the space and making it feel truly ours.

AGM Announcement for Shareholders

We're also delighted to invite all shareholders to our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **1st December at 2pm** at the Gargunnock Community Centre. This will be a great opportunity to come together, discuss our progress, and celebrate the shop's near-completion. Share certificates have been distributed via email to all investors. If you haven't received yours, please contact us so we can ensure you have your certificate.

The "OLD" Gargunnock Shop

We are, quite rightly, talking about our **NEW** shop and looking forward to the opening. But there has been a shop on that site since it was sold in the 1960s by the local branch of the British Legion who had been using it as a meeting/social hall.

I'm sure the locals have many reminiscences of the "old" shop. It would be good to hear from anyone with photographs or stories of memories from a previous era. Here's one

Prior to 1999 the shop exterior had large window panes and inside there was a straight counter behind which there were 2 steps which led up to an office behind a perspex wall. (The office used to be the stage where the band sat during the British Legion dance nights!!)

In 1999 it was decided to invest in the shop by completely renovating it. The office and counter were removed and the partition wall moved back so as to have more space in the shop rather than have a large storeroom. A new counter was installed, a false ceiling and a new floor. The old plate glass windows were replaced by smaller panes which gave it a lovely village feel. And the name of the shop was changed to Number One Main Street.

After the work was complete a special re-opening ceremony was held to which everyone was invited. The special guest was Viscount George Younger of Leckie (who, along with Lady Younger, were good customers of the shop.) In his opening speech he spoke in glowing terms of the value of a good village shop and then cut the ribbon to formally declare the shop open.

A buffet snack was provided and prosecco was served to everyone, including the large number of locals waiting to get in to the shop. A great afternoon/ evening was had by all!!!

So, if you have photographs or stories of your shop memories, (there were Santa events, seasonal displays etc) please let me have them and I could collate them in to a collection which could be donated to the village.

*Maitland (one of the previous shop keepers)
07763 098 247 or maitlandclark@btinternet.com*





Greenwich Meantime versus Gargunock Time at Hogmanay.

The church bells in Gargunock have rung for hundreds of years. When I was a boy we were told that the timing of the church bell, rung then at 10:30am for Sunday School and 12:30 pm for Church Service, was a reflection of ancient pre-Reformation times when the monks of Cambuskenneth held sway here.

Nowadays the bell is only rung once on a Sunday, precisely 10 minutes before the start of the service (that's if I'm there. If I'm not no one else can do it) I say precisely because I have one of those smarty-pants watches which keeps very accurate time thanks to the vibrations of a wee caesium atom somewhere deep in the heart of Europe and because I have a thing about precision.

On Hogmanay I ring out the old year for 1 minute precisely 3 minutes before midnight then a short time later welcome in the New Year bang on the GMT stroke of midnight.

Meanwhile, down at the Square a large crowd of happy folks are attempting to do the same thing only not quite as accurately (IMHO!)



But therein lies a wee long-standing difference of opinion between myself and Maitland Clark (above) Leader of the Pack of aforementioned merry-makers.

For the benefit of those of you who may be new to the area Maitland is a very well known and loved personality here. Ex-kindly (his words) village Shop-Keeper/Postmaster, compere at many a village concert, gala, flower show and numerous other events he's an all-round good-guy who can be found annually at the heart of the New Year festivities in the Square, usually festooned with many flashing lights plus a large clock hanging round his neck from which, he maintains, the real GMT is measured, or rather, he asserts, GmT, Gargunock micro Time!

Try as I might over the years I have been unable able to persuade him that my time is the correct one and the noisy count-downs, fireworks, drum and bugle are never quite as accurate ... pretty close, but innacurate. My arguments however have invariably fallen on deaf ears.

But hey, does it really matter? "Takes all kinds," as they say so till next year I'll continue on my pedantic way while Maitland and his

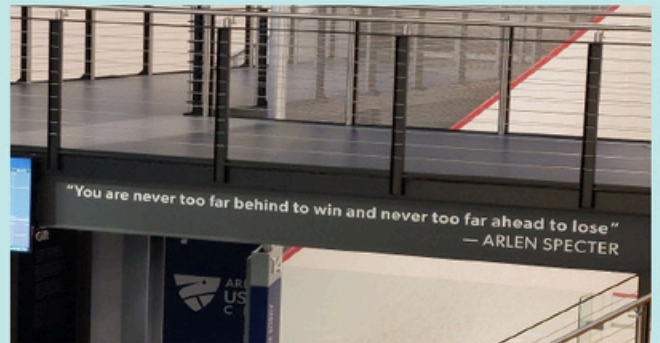
merry band do their own thing and why not. It's a village thing.

Meantime may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

PS. A wee thought has just occurred to me. Since the centre of the Square is actually 4 degrees 4 minutes and 58 seconds west of the Greenwich meridian then strictly speaking midnight won't actually arrive here till approximately 16 minutes 19.62 seconds after GMT. Just a thought!
John McLaren



A couple of old postcards of the Guest House as it was known then, Trelawney Cottage now, taken in the early 20th century. The sign says it provides teas, coffee, lemonades etc for the passing traveller, which it did until 1917. Careful inspection reveals that the original glass plate negative has been doctored to remove the figure in the lower one leaving only a ghostly smudge, long before the days of Photoshop.



Spotted this gem of advice when we visited the Arlen Specter US Squash Centre in Philadelphia in October. Can't go far wrong if you keep that in mind, can you.

For anyone into squash this place is an absolute dream. 18 courts including 2 all-glass ones in the centre of the building Watch a fly-through video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpuw-VTooY8>

COME JOIN US



GARGUNNOCK TODDLERS

At Gargunnock Community Centre
Tuesdays 10am – 11:30am
Fridays 9:30am – 11:30am



THINGS TO NOTE:

- For children age 0-5 years old
- Snacks and a hot drink provided
- £2.50 per child and £1 for each extra sibling

The group is a great opportunity for kids to play and parents to meet and chat - everyone is very welcome!

For more information please contact:

HCM22MOORE@GMAIL.COM



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



COME JOIN THE

GARGUNNOCK PLAYGROUP

At Gargunnock Community Centre
Term time Mondays and Thursdays 9.30am-11:30am



THINGS TO NOTE:

- For children aged 2 years and above - You can drop and go!
- Snacks provided
- £10 per session, £5 for siblings

For further information please contact:

GARGUNNOCKPLAYGROUP@GMAIL.COM



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

ACTIVITY CLUBS



At Gargunnock Primary School

Mon-Thurs 8am - 9am

Mon-Thurs 3.15pm - 5.15pm

£3.50 per child Before and £7 After School

Sibling discounts available

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



For bookings and information email: gargunnockvillagechildcare@gmail.com

Gargunnock Gala

The Gala committee would like to say a huge thank you to all who helped and came along on the day. Gala day was a great success, it was a delight to see the whole community come out for the parade and enjoy the 'G in the Park Festival'. We appreciated everyone who bought a raffle ticket, donated baking, had a go at splat the rat and the many who enjoyed the talents of local bands Platform C and The Driftwood Rule. We also want to thank the Windfarm for their support which allowed us to, amongst other things, fund the silent disco, Old Leckie for the wonderful food and also loaning us their BBQ and finally the school for their wonderful decorations for the community centre.

We are pleased to be able to offer donations to the School Parent Council, Gargunnock Village Childcare, Green Routes and Strathcarron Hospice. The funds raised over the last few years mean that the gala is in great position to carry on being a successful and enjoyable event.

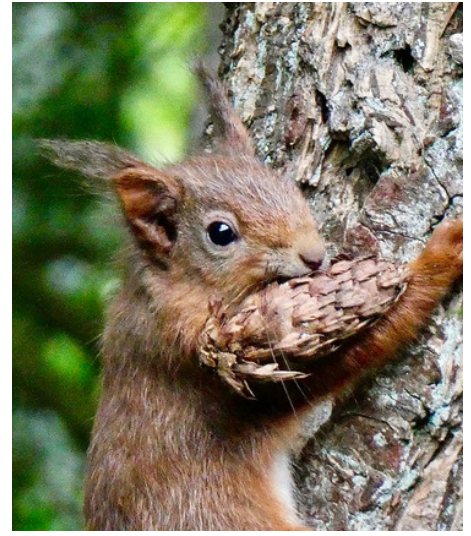
The committee has had a wonderful couple of years and we were so happy to bring the Gala back after a Covid induced hiatus. However, due to family and work commitments we are all stepping down this year. We are looking for a new committee to take on roles of Chairperson, Treasurer and committee members. The current committee will facilitate a handover and are all keen to help out in any way that we can.

If anyone would like further information in joining this wonderful committee please speak to Debbie Masson, Helen Hansom or Leanne Barker. Alternatively, send an email to debstarmasson74@gmail.com.

The Glebe park pond is a wonderful spot to see nature all year round. I was very lucky to spot Southern hawker larvae coming out of pond and emerging as dragonfly's. To be able to see the whole life cycle is very special. Looking forward to next year. (P.S. also some extra photos from around the village included).

Chat, Craft, Create
community Centre in the Garden Room.
Sunday 8th December
2pm to 4 pm.

Anne Marie MacGregor



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- Leckie Leaves and Tatties
- Self catering accommodation
- Farm tours

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Gargunnoch Primary School Update

House Captains

We were inundated with pupils looking to take on leadership opportunities at Gargunnoch this year with roles ranging from being a senior buddy, tuck shop, lunch monitor and librarian to helping run the polytunnel and representing their class at pupil council. It is hard work keeping on top of all these groups but worth it when you see what motivated children can achieve. Our House Captains for this year were involved in the recruitment process for their Vices through being on an interview panel with Mrs Orr. This was a great experience for them which they took on very seriously and maturely. So far our house leaders have excelled themselves in the way they have organised House Meetings, developed house anthems and worked with their Vices to establish a positive house ethos.



Wildcats Captain – Sula Clokie and Vice Captain – Nairn Fleming
Red Foxes Captain – Zoe Hart and Vice Captain – Beth Brodie
Eagles Captain – Isaac Trussler and Vice Captain – Fergus Marshall

Outdoor Learning Day

We love the outdoors at Gargunnoch and took advantage of the kind weather in October when we went on a whole school walk as part of our Outdoor Classroom Day. Thanks to Aston for helping with the route planning and going out in advance to cut back some brambles, and to the other parents who came along as volunteers and made hot chocolate for us all when we got back to school. Other highlights of the day were harvesting the polytunnel, making marble runs, stone painting, problem solving and parachute games. It's all in a day's fun at Gargunnoch!



Remembrance

We were proud to be invited by Gargunnoch Parish Church to take part in the act of Remembrance during their Remembrance Sunday Service. Annabelle, Esme, Beth and Zoe did the school proud by reading out the names of the fallen soldiers from both the first and second world wars, and by laying wreaths in the church and by the Fountain. We also did our own Poppy collection at school, a minutes silence on 11th at 11o'clock and Helen Rowell came to talk to the children in P3/4 about Remembrance and the lives of those who served from Gargunnoch.



A Christmas Invite

As Christmas approaches we are planning not one but two performances, our Nativity performance from P1/2 and this year a Pantomime performance from P3-7. An extravaganza not to miss! We would like to invite any of the older residents of Gargunnoch (retired folks) to come along to our dress rehearsal on Monday 9th December at 1.30pm, to provide a test audience for the children and to enjoy a cup of tea and mincemeat pie. If you would like to come along then please contact the school gargps@stirling.gov.uk or phone **860291** to let us know how many of you are coming so we can set out the correct tables and chairs. We look forward to seeing you!



Play based learning

We are looking for donations of good quality toys for our children in P1/2 to use as part of their play based learning. In particular we are looking for dressing up items, cars, Brio, farmyard or wildlife animals, play figures and construction toys, e.g. lego, Duplo and K'Nex. Any donation would be gratefully received at the school.

Gargunnoch SWI

This year we returned to our meetings in September with a social night. The committee produced a delicious spread of cakes and sandwiches which were enjoyed by all our members. It was good to see members catching up with each other after our summer break.

October's meeting had Peter Metha speaking about 'Clocks'. Peter has been repairing clocks for a number of years in the Stirling area. His talk was extremely interesting telling our members a lot about our heritage both local and worldwide, giving everyone a really in depth insight into clocks. Peter then judged the competitions. Our competitions were 'lift' a favourite watch won by Kathleen Sinclair and 'make' a Halloween decorated cup cake won by Janet Iffla. We also paired our members for the Easter Pairs competition. For this competition one member of the pair will bake whilst the other person will make an item all connected with the Easter theme. The competition will be judged in March.

Our next meeting in November is a fun craft night. Our members have the chance to make gift tags, Christmas tree decorations, origami and a return of the Snowmen back by popular demand.

Our members will be decorating their windows with a Christmas theme from December 1st so keep a look out for these colourful windows getting we hope the village into the spirit of Christmas.

Twenty two of our members are off to the MacRobert theatre to see the 'Snow White' pantomime ... Oh yes they areOh no they aren't....

In November it was the SC&WP Annual Business meeting held at Bridge of Allan. This year there were numerous competitions in which the talented ladies of Gargunnoch were very successful. The Community Work Competition with the theme Autumn Walk was extremely close. Ruskie came 1st with 66, Polmont with 65 1/2 and Gargunnoch came 3rd with 65 points. Fiona Campbell made a wreath and sweet potato and coconut soup, Elizabeth Brewer made a fruit gin, Johan Mailer knitted a neck warmer, Helen Graham made a Huffsie cake and Jane Currie a beautiful embroidery which also won 'Best overall item in show' and 'Best handicraft item in show'. The McClay Trophy - making an Autumn collage Fiona Campbell was 2nd, Janet Iffla 3rd and Mary Finlay Highly Commended she was also awarded the Broach Trophy Chairmans choice. The West Lothian Trophy was Millionaires shortbread with Cathy Rowley 1st, Mary Finlay 2nd and Jane Currie Highly Commended. Finally the Cath Byrne Trophy was a Peg doll with Jane Currie 1st and Fiona Campbell 3rd. A big thank you to Cathy Rowley for coordinating our Community Work. Congratulations go to all those who entered and the high standards of their entries.

New members and guests are always welcome why not come and join us. We meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30 in the Gargunnoch Community Centre. If you would like more information or interested in joining please contact me on **07815 522 247** or email **bmountford31@gmail.com**.

All our members would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Beverley Mountford - President Gargunnoch SWI



Winter Snow and Ice Clearing and Gritting Routes

The Community Council and the Gargunnoch Trust have been informed that as part of making significant cost savings, Stirling Council are proposing to reduce the winter maintenance and gritting services across the Council area. Two aspects of this affect Gargunnoch in particular.

Firstly, Stirling Council has set out their plan to engage **Community Winter Volunteers**, to clear footways and footpaths in their local area. Their proposal is shown below:

'Stirling Council Road Services would like to empower local communities to play an active role within their community during the winter period by offering a Community Winter Volunteer scheme. This will involve members of local communities, in their spare time, clearing snow from footways and footpaths not included in Stirling Council's Winter Service Plan. Those who apply to become a Community Winter Volunteer will be provided with safety clothing, the correct equipment and training to carry out the tasks and support them in their role.'

'As a Council, we have to prioritise where we concentrate our efforts during winter, and it would be impossible for us to grit every footpath and footway when snow or ice occurs. In winter we focus on gritting priority routes which pose the greatest risk to safety if not treated. By becoming a Community Winter Volunteer, this allows smaller communities to get the help they desire in winter. The areas that Community Winter Volunteers may clear include council adopted footways and footpaths. Volunteers must not clear footways and footpaths included within the Council's Winter Service Plan. Maps will be provided of areas that Volunteers may clear. This information pack includes all the relevant information for community volunteers to undertake their role as a Community Winter Volunteer and assist their community over the winter period.'

This proposal was discussed by both the Gargunnoch Community Council and the Trust at their separate meetings. Both organisations agreed that this was not an area they would formally like to engage with. It was felt that there would be too much of a demand placed on volunteers to deliver a service which has traditionally been the responsibility of the Council. Whilst appreciating the exceptional financial pressures faced by the Council, it was agreed that the responsibility and risk imposed on volunteers would be too great.

It was also noted that within Gargunnoch, volunteers have regularly offered exceptional support across the community when we have faced adversity, weather related or otherwise. The reduction and absence of routine maintenance around the village by Stirling Council has also been an area of discussion at meetings in recent years.

If any residents would like to comment or to have further information about Stirling Council's plans for Community Winter Volunteers, please email gargunnochcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

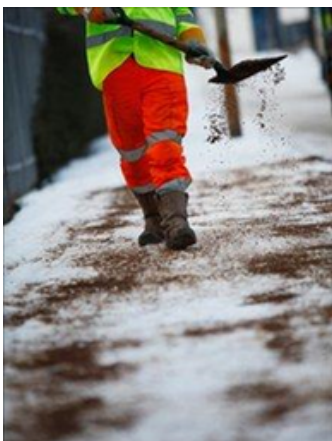
The second aspect affecting Gargunnoch this winter, is the planned changes to the gritting of Manse Brae and Main Street. These two roads used to be priority 1 routes, meaning any forecast of snow or ice would lead to them being gritted. Both roads appear to have been downgraded to priority 2.

The only P1 routes for Gargunnoch are now the bus route - Station Road and Leckie Road. Our understanding is that P2 routes will only be treated if ice or snow conditions are forecast to continue unbroken beyond 24 hours. Even then, the roads will only be gritted when treating them will not prove detrimental to treating P1 routes.

We are therefore unlikely to see gritters along Manse Brae and Main Street.

Gargunnoch Community Council is very concerned about this proposed change. The two hills in the village, especially Main Street, present a considerable hazard when there is snow or ice. Both roads lead to the main areas of habitation within the village and because of the way they are accessed from the Village Square, it is necessary to stop at the foot of both hills. The consequent loss of traction makes it very difficult to make progress up the hills in snow. Likewise, coming down the hills is hazardous, especially on Main Street, where the road is, in effect, a single lane. Emergency vehicles will have similar difficulties if these roads are not gritted. Other local villages do not have the same geography as Gargunnoch, which we believe is further justification for the continuation of the gritting of these two roads.

The Community Council has written to Stirling Council to request that these roads continue to be gritted, especially as any net savings to the Council appear to be minimal for two short, but essential sections of road.



Gargunnoch Community Council, gargunnochcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY TRUST NEWS

Conversion of Trust from Ltd Co to SCIO Following an application to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) the Trust has successfully converted to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). The reasons for converting are to help streamline governance processes. Having been through the conversion process the Trust will continue to have charitable status and limited liability.

Community Centre Over the summer the Trust arranged for the entrance to the Community Centre to be resurfaced so that now the 'drive in and out' is now considerably smoother than it was previously! We have also installed an 85inch presentation screen and video conferencing facilities in the Garden Room. Thanks go to Gregor MacCallum and his family helpers for the installation. There is no additional charge for the use of this equipment if you book the Garden Room. Training has been given to those who attended the evening sessions. However, if you require any help contact gargunnocktrust@gmail.com and we are happy to arrange additional sessions. Finally, following discussion with the Gargunnock Songsters, additional stacking chairs have been purchased to increase the seating capacity for any event held at the Centre.

Upgrade to the Community Centre entrance



Defibrillators The Trust has arranged for the installation of a third defibrillator on the side of Bobby McAllister's garage to serve the eastern end of the village. Thanks Bobby! Additionally, the telephone box next to the shop, housing one of the defibrillators will be cleaned and repainted as soon as we can make the necessary arrangements.

Gargunnock Bike Project You may have noticed the recent paving work done at the back of the Community Centre car park. This will soon be home to the workshop / storage shed for the Gargunnock Bike Project's bike 'library'. Many thanks to Nathan Anderton for getting the earthworks sorted. Thanks also goes to John Steele and Gordon Webber for progressing the project. An order for a bike workshop has been placed and we hope to have it installed before Christmas. With 15 bikes, ranging from balance bikes to e-bikes and a cargo bike to folding bikes we will soon be able to do an official launch of the bike 'library', including unveiling our online booking system. In the meantime, if you wish to borrow any of the bikes, please contact either Gordon Webber 07917 336197 or John Steele 07840 263788.

Trustees Having decided to stand down as a trustee, we would like to publicly thank Dan Williams for his contribution to the Trust particularly his input to the early work on redesigning the website, orchestrated in partnership with the Community Council, a process that continues.

During his time as a trustee, Dan has been an enormous support for all things IT, helping to fill a gap in the range of skills held by the trustees. Thankfully, Dan has agreed to continue to help support the redesign of the website.

With Dan's resignation we are looking for two new trustees who are interested in making a positive difference to village life by helping to support various activities. These include managing the Community Centre and Glebe Park, developing path projects, running Bite and Bletcher, raising funding for new projects, overseeing the work of the Windfarm Fund and Panel amongst other activities. There is also a Windfarm Panel vacancy. If you are interested, please drop an email to gargunnocktrust@gmail.com.

The table on the following page highlights the current scope of Trust activities and the range of local people involved. Vacancies are also highlighted. It also shows the various groups which operate under the auspices of the Trust and we welcome further volunteers interested and willing to take forward programmes.

MEET THE GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY TRUST TEAM

We hope new members will join the team at the Trust AGM on Tuesday 26 November in the Garden Room at the Community Centre.

	Role	Office holder	Notes
Office Bearers	Trust Chair Trust Treasurer Trust Secretary Meetings Secretary	Vacancy Gavin Fleming* Gill Bell* Stuart Ogg*	Chair meetings, approve agendas/ minutes, allocate tasks
Community Centre	CC Bookings Admin CC Caretaker CC Secretary CC Operations CC Buildings & Land	Debbie Masson Lee Masson Vacancy Crawford Gordon* Crawford Gordon*	Utilities, insurance, licences, marketing and grants
Communications	Communications Secretary Bugle Editor Website Manager	Mairi Jackson* Louise Crawford Dan Williams	
Programme Leaders	Bite and Blether lead Paths Group lead Pond Group lead Bike Group lead	Jill Patrick* Geoff Peart* Dave Penman John Steele*	
Windfarm Fund Panel (The Windfarm Fund Panel is independent decision-making entity)	Windfarm Panel Chair Windfarm Panel Admin Windfarm Panel members	Ashley Fleming Jackie Campbell Jane Arneil Steve Barnett* Niamh Brodie Mike Buckley Suzy Galloway Vanessa Payton Lee Masson John Steele* Vacancy	Attend up to 4 meetings per year. Review / approve applications

* Denotes current members of the Board of Trustees
Trustee not noted above: Nathan Anderton

If you are able to give up some time to join the team, please get in touch gargunnocktrust@gmail.com



Hamish's Fundraising Kindling



Kindling is available as usual. Inflation hasn't hit Hamish's kindling and it's still £5.00 per bag with all monies going to Erskine.

Contact Seonaid Muirhead or Jane Muirhead via Facebook Messenger, or just pop along to the house in Stark Street.

Gargunnoch Village Childcare Annual Duck Race

Gargunnoch Village Childcare (GVC) would like to thank all those who supported our annual Halloween Duck Race. Thank you to the local businesses who generously donated prizes (Please see below), thank you to those who donated baking, thank you to those who bought ducks, thank you to those who helped out on the day and thank you to everyone for bringing the FUN! The disco and BBQ proved to be a great success and so we hope to do this again next year. We managed to raise £1819 which will really help us to sustain our Toddler Group, Playgroup and Before and After School Clubs. These groups offer valuable support to parents and offer children in the community a safe, nurturing environment to learn, play and interact with peers. The GVC committee will endeavour to continue to offer these services, but we couldn't do it without your support – THANK YOU! If you are interesting in joining the committee or would like more information about Toddlers, Playgroup or School Clubs, please don't hesitate to get in contact with us. (See adverts below).

Local businesses who supported us:

- Old Leckie Farm
- Gargunnoch Gala
- The Gargunnoch Inn
- Duff Christmas Tree Farm
- The Woodhouse
- Alpaca Trekking Centre
- Edenmill Farm
- Stirling Old Town Jail
- The Entertainer
- Waterstones
- Briarlands
- Blairdrummond Safari Park
- Auchingarrich Wildlife Park
- Belles and Thistles



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ALEXANDER STEWART MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for
Mid Scotland and Fife Region



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The WELCOME TEAM OF Gargunnoch Kirk November 2024



The talk by Alison Younger of Old Leckie Farm was our final one of this year. Many thanks again to all of you who have come along to hear an excellent and diverse range of speakers. And especially thank you to our speakers, who have given their time to prepare and deliver our talks. Our talks this year have raised a total of £1,114.

Since we started the Talks in the Kirk last year, we are now at a grand total of £1,932 raised for 7 charities (plus £39 for the installation of our notice boards).

We hope to be back again next year. Please continue to support us and if anyone would be interested in giving a talk, or knows of any potential speakers, then please let us know.

Helen Rowell

Local Place Plan Update

The Gargunnoch Community Council (GCC) and Gargunnoch Community Trust (GCT) are delighted to share with you the latest draft of our Local Place Plan (LPP) which has been published with this issue of the Bugle. Electronic copies can be downloaded from the Gargunnoch Website: gargunnoch.org

This is your chance to shape the future of the village - The LPP will be taken into account by Stirling Council when they update the Local Development Plan next year which will say what new building and infrastructure investment can take place in the village over the next 10 years.

We invite you to review this latest version and get back to us with any comments or suggestions you may have.

This can be done by email to dwjmillar@gmail.com, in hard copy by marking up the copy you have and dropping to Dinning House, Manse Brae or you can provide your comments electronically via the QR code.

We will also be hosting a drop-in session at the Community Centre early December 2024 where members of the LPP development team will be available to gather your feedback and comments. More info will be shared on that in due course.

We plan to issue our final LPP to Stirling City Council early in the New Year so please provide your comments and feedback as soon as possible.

Thank you to all of you that have contributed to this plan to date. GCC and GCT are excited to get after the many projects in the LPP over the next 10 years to continue to make Gargunnoch an amazing place to live, work and visit.

Best wishes
David Millar
Chair
GCC



PREPARED BY:
Gargunnoch Community Council



Windfarm Fund

Latest grants awarded

Since our last update, we are delighted to share that there have been another two successful grants awarded by the Windfarm Panel,

- £250 for the sound bath experience
- £4,000 for Christmas lights expansion

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

We will be meeting at end of November to review another round of applications which we will report in first Bugle of 2025, if you would like to see what we have funded over the years a list of successful grants can be found on the village website.

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

Application process

The Village website is also where you can find our Fund Guidelines and our Grant Application Forms.

From January 2025 we are making some changes-

Individuals will be able to apply for grants up to £500 (current level is £250).

Quotes will not be required for individual and group grants up to £500 (currently £300).

1 Quote should be included with grant applications between £500 and £999.

3 Quotes need to be included for grant applications £1,000 and over.

Fund Guidelines and application forms will be updated and posted on the village website to reflect the changes, please always download the latest forms from the website.

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

Cut off date for application

The next cut-off date for wind farm applications is the 17th February 2025.

If anyone would like to submit an application for something that is time critical please email us at windfarmpanel@gargunnock.org

2025 Deadline Date - Windfarm Applications

Monday 17th February

Monday 11th August

Monday 10th November

download an application form at

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



Any questions please email

windfarmpanel@gargunnock.org

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: Louise Crawford
gargunnockbugle@gmail.com

Deadline of next issue: Articles, letter, photographs, adverts & submissions may be made anytime up to and including 16th February 2025.

Contributions: Letters & submissions may be made to the Editor (deadlines are shown elsewhere in the newsletter). We reserve the right to edit, shorten, or refuse to publish any article or letter submitted.

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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