Caerlaverock Catch-up

A community round-up of news, information and events

August 2018



Lower speed campaign gathers pace!

Jean O'Toole's campaign for lower speeds through Glencaple continues. By the end of July, her paper petition had around 70 signatures, while the online version had the support of 149 people. There's still time to sign! Jean and CCA Chair David Gilbert, with input from the community, are collating information to draft a compelling document. It will be ready for discussion at the CCA meeting in August and will then be presented, along with the petition, to the Council.

Jean arranged a well-attended community meeting with South of Scotland MSP Joan McAlpine and Councillor John Campbell for 30th July. Thanks to everyone who attended and contributed (and to the Barbour Hall for providing facilities at short notice). Points made include the dangers due to the unique nature of the village - bad bends, blind corners and lack of pavements - which pose a risk to cyclists and drivers as well as pedestrians. There was also discussion on the general rise in traffic - especially large vehicles - on the roads around the area, which is increasingly popular with visitors. The building of the new housing development on the Shore Road will add to that again, with construction vehicles during the works and more cars/bicycles/pedestrians once occupied.

The campaign is calling for a 'pushing out' of the 30mph limit at all three entry points to the village, with countdown markers to alert road users before they reach the limit itself and rumble strips on entry. It's also asking that the current 30mph zone be replaced with a 20mph limit, since existing measures do not protect our community and particularly the most vulnerable within it: not only children, but also the elderly, visually/hearing impaired, those using wheelchairs or mobility scooters - anyone who can't get out of the way quickly.

We are now looking to compile your views and comments to place before the Council. It is more credible if we can include your name and area – or if you work/travel through/visit Glencaple – but if you'd rather your name isn't included, please let us know. We need to be able to show how important this matter is to the community. And, if you're able, please come along to the CCA meeting in the Nith Hotel at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th August.

Summer Round-up



Caerlaverock Church's Community Barbeque included a bouncy castle, face painting - and the chance to throw wet sponges at the minister! • Caerlaverock Castle hosted another weekend of jousting • Our local moth expert Alison Robertson found a moth never before recorded in Dumfriesshire: *Agonopterix yeatiana* was found (and safely returned!) by the road between Castle Corner and Fisher's Bush. Alison will be leading another NNR 'Moth Night' later this month. See overleaf for details (and the CCA website for the most amazing photos of some more moths found in the area) • And amongst many grateful to finally see some rain are those at the Wetland Centre, where it was reported to have been the driest it's been for decades...

www.caerlaverock.org.uk
www.facebook.com/caerlaverockcommunity
email: caerlaverockcommunity@gmail.com

Caerlaverock Community Association

Welcome to our new monthly digest sheet! Most people now head to the CCA Facebook page or website for community information and to post news. But we want to make sure that everyone - not just those who use the internet - can keep in touch with what's going on.

We will post every month's sheet onto all the parish noticeboards and leave some to pick up in locations including The Boathouse, The Nith Hotel, Caerlaverock Church and the bus shelters at Kelton and Bankend. Other suggestions welcome! The sheet will also be available on our website and Facebook page.

It would be great if you could print out or collect a copy for family/friends/neighbours who don't access the internet or who would like a paper copy to read at home.

If you'd still like a copy delivered, please get in touch and we'll make sure you get one. And if you've any news or events you'd like to tell the community about, please let us know.

Facebook or email us (see details on the left) or phone Hilary Roberts on 770147 (if it's the answerphone, please leave your name and number for a call back).

Ann and Jim's Greenhouse



Ann and Jim invited us in to see their fantastic greenhouse, bought with the money contributed by the community as a 'thank you' for their years running the old shop. Ann repeated how delighted and overwhelmed they were, and how they'd wanted to spend the money on something really special. They have been thoroughly enjoying choosing 'different' things to try out, and pottering around in the greenhouse… It was great to catch up and to hear how happy they both are, enjoying a stress-free, green-fingered retirement!

What's On in August...

• The next NNR Moth Night is on Friday 17th August. Meet NNR staff and local moth expert Alison Robertson at 8pm at Castle Corner. Bring warm/waterproof clothing and a torch/headtorch if you have one. Moth Nights are free events - just phone 0300 067 3200 to book your place.

• WWT Caerlaverock's summer events continue through August:

Bug Hunt, 11am-12noon every Tuesday
Pond Dipping, 11am-1pm every Wednesday
Small Mammal Trapping, 11am-1pm on Thursday 2nd
Dragons and Damsels, 11am-1pm on Thursday 9th
Worm Wonders, 11am-1pm on Thursday 16th
Messy Play, 11am-12noon on Thursday 23rd (for 5 and under)

There are *Stories in the Yurt* on Friday 17th (11am-12noon) and *Dusty's Wildlife Rangers* every day from 10am-5pm. For all of these events, normal admission charges apply (WWT members free). Elements of Harmony, an exhibition of acrylic paintings by Mary Carberry, runs throughout August. And there's an *Evening Wildlife Safari* on Friday 10th, 9.30-11.30pm (£10 adults, £7.50 Concessions, £5 Children. Booking is essential, tickets must be paid for in advance). To find out more about any of the events, contact the centre on 01387 770200 or info.caerlaverock@wwt.org.uk

• This year's Nith Raid race is on Saturday 11th August. The boats (sailing and rowing) leave Carsethorn at around 11am so look out for them heading up to Dumfries.

• School starts on Tuesday 21st August (teachers go back on Friday 17th!) All the best to everyone for the new session, especially new starts and those moving up to secondary.

• And don't forget the next CCA meeting: 7.30pm, Wednesday 29th, in the Nith Hotel.

...and looking ahead to September...

Hutton Hall Community Centre at Bankend are holding their Autumn Fayre on Saturday 8th September (2-4pm). Then dance to Wired that evening (doors open 7pm: tickets are £5, including a sausage or bacon roll for supper - and you get a free drink if you buy them in advance! Available now from Karen Grieve (karenkirkpatrick@btinternet.com or call 07496 495516) or Kelly Green (greenkellyanne@yahoo.co.uk or call 07584 932203).



And finally... The planters around the area have been lovely! Huge thanks go to everyone who's been helping out with planting and watering - especially over the long, dry, hot spell.

Thanks for reading! Don't forget to let us know if you need a printed copy delivered in future.

Caerlaverock Community Association

Our meetings are informal and last about an hour. The next is in the Nith Hotel at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th August. Please join us.

Address for correspondence:

David Gilbert (chair)
Cedrum, Kelton, DG1 4UA
email:
davidgilbert56@gmail.com
phone:
01387 770605 (before 9pm)

or

Chris Jackson (Treasurer)
Invernith, Front Row,
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Worth a look...

If you missed ITV's 'Border Life' programme on Caerlaverock, it's still available online. You can find a link on the CCA website (search for caerlaverock.org.uk/borderlife). The Castle, The Boathouse (just before opening) and the Canine Rescue Centre are featured, along with the NNR and WWT. If you have internet access and know a friend who would enjoy this, ask them round for a cup of tea and sit down together for 20 minutes to watch this beautiful feature all about our cracking little corner of the world…

