



CARMUNNOCK HERITAGE SOCIETY

CHAIR'S REPORT 2024

The Carmunnock Heritage Society has a long history of not only protecting and preserving our places and areas of interest around the village but also protecting and preserving the heritage of the village as a whole. We've recognised that we will not be able to fight every planning application that comes in with sheer might, so we have organised ourselves in a way that hopefully builds on our history and celebrates our village in the hope that it goes some way in preserving the tiny bit of greenbelt that remains.

To this end, this year especially, the committee have worked on a number of initiatives to help grow awareness of Carmunnock in the wider community of Glasgow and beyond:

ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES IN 2024

The Phrase: I'm hoping you will now be starting to recognise a phrase that we coined to help not just build that awareness but also demonstrate Carmunnock's vulnerability in this world of mounting pressure for councils to build and produce affordable housing for its communities. We've started to add this phrase to everything that we can and we have asked all our other societies to use it if they think it would be appropriate for them too.

Logo: We've also upgraded our logo. We wanted not just a strapline but an image that represents our historical importance and also the contemporary nature of Carmunnock and our current population. This logo is also being adopted by the other societies and committees and if you are involved in anything that you feel could use it too, then we would be more than delighted to see its adoption elsewhere.

Merchandise: We have produced a number of different items that you will see for sale at village events, that help spread the word and also help raise funds for the Society. We love them all; the mugs, the bags etc but I think we are particularly delighted with the reproduction of Bea Herbert's drawings of Carmunnock that we have made into cards and are now available to buy.

Carmunnock Community Forum (CCF): We've also been very active this year in working alongside representatives from our other main committees such as The Community Council, The REC, The Castlemilk Hall, the Church etc The idea is, if we work together on initiatives and fund raising, we all benefit for the greater good of the village as a whole, as well as our individual initiatives that are so important to each society too. An example of this is the recent Glasgow's Open Doors Festival, where the CCF, came together and designed a programme of events that allowed us to showcase this incredibly special little place to visitors from all over, as part of this bigger Glasgow Festival. The organisers were so happy to have us involved, we had a slow and steady trickle of visitors on the day that gave us such positive feedback. We've made a start and hope to build on this formula for next year and beyond.

Another initiative designed and created by the CFF that we have been heavily involved in is the **Carmunnock Experience, A Village Survey** and hope to have the results available to share with you very soon. Thanks to everyone who took the time to add their thoughts and comments to the survey, it really does help gain insight into what's important to villagers and help us prioritise our activities as committees and societies on the things that matter to you most. This initiative also helps us in our quests for funding for our various village projects.

PROJECTS

The Heritage Trail: We are so proud of the work that Anne and the team have done over the last year or so, in both designing and making our vision of a fully interactive village trail become a reality. It was a huge amount of work, with involvement from many different societies and villagers and of course, we couldn't have produced such a quality representation of our village without the love and dedication of Paul Hughes of Solid Media, a resident of Carmunnock himself.

Thanks to everyone who came to the sold out 'Film Night' where we launched the Trail back in April this year and a huge thanks to everyone who has gone round and enjoyed the trail with visitors and family. We have now had a total of 1142 views to the videos on the trail and a whopping 33,000 views to our promo trailer video on Facebook, which we are so proud of. If you haven't already done so, please please please can I encourage you to go and take a tour, the numbers of people using the trail will go a long way in helping us prove the success of this project and help us receive the last and final funding promised by Glasgow City Heritage Trust for the project.

Please note that the Society is also responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the village signposts, heritage plaques, the doo well and much more around the village. We also own the Glebe as a group of trustees on behalf of the village. If you see anything that needs attention, please let us know so that we can add it to the list.

To help support us in our continued work, we would love more villagers to join us as members of the Heritage Society and be willing to contribute to an ongoing annual subscription of just £10/person, which helps give the Society a little funding but also helps us to keep you informed of the work that we are involved in.

FINAL WORDS

I cannot finish this year's report without the recognition of the sad passing of our past Chair, Mr Ken McCready. Ken was a highly active member of not only this society but many committees across the village for many many years, sometime more than one at a time. He worked tirelessly and passionately for the good of Carmunnock and villagers and is a very sad loss to us all. Our love to Ken and all his family.

On a similar note, our dear friend Margaret Toppin, after a lengthy stay in hospital, finds herself in the Balmoral Care Home on Mearns Road. She is doing well and on a recent visit from some villagers Margaret expressed her desire to have a wee visit or two at anytime from anyone who would like to pop in to see her.

Tracy Crawford
Chair Carmunnock Heritage Society

