



THE CARGUNDIAN

Summer 2024

HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE



Last month's 150th Anniversary Ball marked the culmination of a hugely enjoyable programme of events to mark Cargilfield's 150th birthday across 2023-24.

While there was a fundraising element to these events, our major focus for the year was to re-connect with former pupils, families, staff and governors so that they felt part of our community. At a time when independent schools face a number of political threats, there is certainly strength in numbers.

I am aware that, despite our best efforts, we didn't manage to connect with everyone and so this newsletter is a further step in reaching out to as many people as we can who are proud to call themselves Cargundians. As well as the more formal events, we've enjoyed welcoming individual families, groups of school friends and former teachers and governors back to the School to have a look round and re-ignite memories.

Please do consider organising a reunion at Cargilfield (which we would be happy to host and support) or tell us your news so that we can share this with others. We hope you will share the newsletter with those who might be interested and encourage them to sign up to our former pupil database via the Cargilfield website.

Rob Taylor
**Rob Taylor,
Headmaster**

'OUTSTANDING' CARGILFIELD IS 'SECTOR LEADING'

A team of five inspectors from Education Scotland visited Cargilfield and published their report at the start of this academic year. During their five-day visit, the inspectors explored all aspects of the School's provision and engaged with staff, parents, governors and children. Their resulting report notes that, "the School's motto 'Where Learning is an Everyday Adventure' is evident in the exciting and motivating experiences for children". They described Cargilfield as "sector leading" and awarded us an outstanding report in all four inspection categories.

"I am extremely proud of our achievements as it reflects the quality that I see on a day to day basis at Cargilfield: the high quality learning in which I see your children engaged; the passionate teaching and pastoral care that I see delivered by my colleagues in and out of classrooms; and the committed support to the whole community from governors and other members of staff."

Rob Taylor



HAVING A BALL

The grand finale of our 150th Celebrations was the 150th Anniversary Ball on Saturday 1st June. The committee worked tirelessly to organise an outstandingly successful event for over five hundred former pupils, parents and friends. Guests were welcomed by our pipe band whose numbers were swelled by some special guests, including parents and former pupils. An auction, expertly run by old boy Henry Beeby, raised a fantastic sum for the Cargilfield 150th Anniversary Fund which will be used for bursaries and development projects.



D-DAY LINK

A recent assembly to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day prompted one current Cargilfield family to tell us about a fascinating link with wartime Cargilfield. During the Second World War, the school had been evacuated to Lawers House in Perthshire and the school buildings were taken over for military use. In 1944, Bea Herbert was serving in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF). She worked at RAF Turnhouse plotting plane movements and was billeted at Cargilfield. This photo shows her (bottom left) on the Headmaster's Lawn. Before her death in 2022, aged 98, she was able to tell her great grandchildren, current pupils Timothy and Sophie Aldridge, about her very different memories of Cargilfield.



CRICKETING SUCCESS

Cargilfield is the only school in Scotland to be included in The Cricketer 2024 Top 50 School Guide. They recognise our dedication to inclusivity and fostering a love of cricket in all pupils which is especially evident in our trail-blazing girls' cricket programme. All girls over the age of 11 are given the option to play hardball cricket and mixed cricket matches are played at the U9 level. Our 1st XI Girls' team have weekly coaching sessions with Owen Gould, Captain of Scotland's Under 19 team and have relished the chance to compete in the new Under 15 Cricket Scotland School's Cup.

Many congratulations to former pupil Chris Sole on being signed by Glamorgan CCC for the Vitality Blast T20 competition. Chris has recently returned from playing for Scotland in the T20 Men's ICC Cricket World Cup held in the West Indies and USA.



REUNIONS

The 150th Anniversary saw us host important reunion events in Edinburgh and London. Over 170 former pupils, parents and staff members as well as current staff and parents were welcomed by Cargilfield pipers to a party at Edinburgh's New Club. In London, Lord Dholakia hosted a wonderful reception for 160 former pupils, parents and friends at The House of Lords. We also enjoy hosting smaller reunions, such as the event for pupils from the 1960s organised by Mr Colin Liddell.

If you would like to organise a reunion or arrange to visit Cargilfield, please do contact us at formerpupils@cargilfield.com.

CHAPEL TALKS

We recently launched Cargilfield Chapel Talks with the aim of inspiring current pupils by inviting alumni to share their personal stories of overcoming challenges, achieving dreams, and exploring diverse life paths. We have been fortunate to host author, journalist, and European Adventurer of the Year, Mark Agnew, and Founder of The Big Hoof, Louis Hall, who is an enthusiastic rider, writer, and explorer.

All former pupils are invited to the next Cargilfield Chapel Talk on the afternoon of Wednesday 20th November 2024, when we will welcome former pupil, Poldy van Lynden. Poldy will be sharing stories of his incredible journey, "Arch to Arctic," in which he ran, swam, cycled, and rowed 5,000 km from London to the Arctic island of Svalbard.

If you think that you have a story that our pupils might like to hear, please do get in touch by e-mailing formerpupils@cargilfield.com.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Saturday 14th September

2pm-6pm Cargilfield Annual Golf Day at Bruntsfield Links Golfing Society.

To register please visit

<https://forms.office.com/e/3ZdBZkZENU>

Thursday 19th September

Cargilfield Foundation Day

Wednesday 20th November

Chapel Talk by Poldy van Lynden "Arch to Arctic"

Friday 22nd November, 9am

Friends of Cargilfield Christmas Fair

Friday 13th December, 2pm

Former Pupils' Hockey Match

KEEP IN TOUCH

If you know someone who might be interested in receiving future issues of The Cargundian, please share this issue with them. Anyone who would like to add, remove or update their contact details should fill in the form at

www.cargilfield.com/former-pupils/ or e-mail formerpupils@cargilfield.com

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR 150TH CELEBRATIONS

