

Press Release from

Save Gillies Hill

As it moves into its second year, the fight to Save Gillies Hill gets a double boost.

Firstly, the Scottish Parliament's Petitions Committee met again last Tuesday (20 February) to further consider the future of this historic and environmentally important Hill. Specifically, it focussed on responses it had sought from various public bodies, including Stirling Council, to the Committee's concerns over its possible destruction through quarrying. The Committee decided that further clarification from these bodies was now required in the light of Stirling Council's admission that an Environmental Impact Assessment should have been carried out when quarrying permission was extended in 2002, and its intention of now seeking that EIA. It was also agreed to seek a further response from the Scottish Government on its response to the Historic Environment Advisory Council for Scotland report and what action it will be taking and the timetable for this; when it will consult on its proposed Heritage Bill and how both of these will be relevant to this petition; and on the decision for an environmental impact assessment to be carried out. It also agreed to seek a further response from Historic Scotland on the outcomes and actions from its consultation on the Scottish Historic Environment Policy on protection of historic battlefields and how this, and other recently published SHEPs, will be relevant to this petition

| These organisations have been asked to respond by 11 April

And secondly, top-class Scottish folk music comes to help save Gillies Hill next week (Friday 29th) when *Gaberlunzie* appears at Cambusbarron Social Club (Alan/Gregor: some background in attachments)

Tickets, £8, are still available from Susan at Stirling 461305, or from Harry at 07791 599419.

Meanwhile, campaigners are gearing up to consider *SGH's* input to the hoped-for EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) This is a major undertaking, and much additional help – from expert and layperson - is required here from any sympathisers, members or not: full details on our revised website: savegillieshill.org.uk (e- mail: gillieshill@hotmail.co.uk)