

CHATTERBOX

www.lochwinnoch.info

lochwinnoch no 107 June 2002

community newsletter produced by lochwinnoch publicity committee for lochwinnoch cc

What's On

- **Sat, June 22 - Festival of Light: Druid Celebration of Midsummer at the Muirshiel Centre** 2:00pm - 4:00pm. Booking in advance 01505 842803
- **Sat, June 22 & Sun, June 23 - Scottish Canoe Polo Championships at the Castle Semple Centre.** Teams from all over the country compete to stand on the champion's podium. 10:00am - 4:30pm. Prizegiving ceremony on Sunday at 5 : 0 0 p m .
- **Sat, June 29 & Sun, June 30 -Adult Kayaking Course at the Castle Semple Centre** 10:00am - 12:00 and 1:00pm - 3:00pm both days. Booking essential call 01505 842 882
- **Sun, June 30 - Mountain bike course at the Castle Semple Centre** 1:30pm - 3:30pm. Booking essential, for more details call 01505 842882 .
- **Tue, July 2 - Community Council meeting - McKillop Institute** 7:30pm.

A new shop has recently

New Shop

opened at 8 Church St - always a welcome event. Get rid of another closed shop .

The new shop is called Now and Then. It is run by Colin Nicholson with help from his wife Sue.

The shop should provide a place where villagers can browse through everything from 500 million year old fossils to article that stand on the cutting edge of modern design .

Recently Colleen said: 'We have lived in the village for over twenty years. One of the few disadvantages we have found is having to travel outside to buy presents or something that little bit different .

'Most residents have to travel outside of the village for work, but businesses are being established in the village, more shops and restaurants are opening - all add to the amenities of the village.

I hope that villagers and visitors alike will recognise the increasing resources and give the local businesses their support - after all it saves in time, effort and petrol to shop in the village - it also helps the environment . '

The Now and Then opening hours are: 10:00am - 5:30pm Tuesday to Saturday,

11:00am - 4:00pm Sunday

I received a plea for in-

Lost Cat

formation on a missing cat. The cat was adopted along with its mother from the Cat Protection League. The mother is in distress now that her kitten has gone missing. It is important that the cat be found .

The cat is a female called Monkey and it was last seen in the Breahead, Ewing Rd/ Semple Ave area.

The description is of a small white and black/grey cat. She has a white head and tummy with black/grey striped patch on her back tail and legs. Monkey was wearing a blue collar with a magnet and brass name tag .

Any information will be greatly received and a reward for Monkey's return is being offered. If you have any information, please call Shona on 843788.

MATTHEW NEW & SONS

SLATERS - PLASTERERS - GENERAL BUILDERS

**Emergency Repairs, Storm Damage
Insurance Work, New Roofs, Flat Roofs
Roughcasting & General Building**

Tel No. 01505 843400

FMB Certification No 26366



Auld Simons Column

Picture a summer evening in the village. If you listen care fully mingling with the chirping of bird and the whining of a dozen lawnmowers you can hear the plaintive notes of the flipple flute, or as it is better known, the recorder.

Lochwinnoch has its fair share of recorder players. Or at least it has one I know of. Yes, Auld Simon himself. Yours truly. I play the tenor recorder. Much to Mrs Simon's delight it is a big one that sings in a low voice. Descant recorders, the most common kind, are fiddly, shrill and difficult to finger.

Sadly, I have to report, the recorder is a much maligned instrument. The novelist, and jazz enthusiast, Kingsley Amis took a swipe at it in his first novel Lucky Jim. Lucky Jim is at the moment up in Mrs Simon's bedroom. I don't dare disturb her or I would quote a few relevant passages.

The recorder has a long illustrious history. It is the forerunner of the modern traverse flute. The great JS Bach wrote for it in many of his cantatas, he also wrote parts for the flipple flute in two of his Brandenburg Concertos. But enough of this fascinating musical history. For me it's pen down, flipple flute out and a merry hour ahead.

Have a nice month.

Auld Simon

Gardening Club

The gardening club is now flourishing. During the last meeting interesting questions were raised on such diverse subjects as the sex life of worms, renewable energy and how to split dahlias.

The members of the club were given the opportunity to get a free compost bin - something very useful as you will see below.

The next meeting of the club is on at the museum on Monday, June 10 at 7:30pm. All gardeners - and non gardeners - are welcome to come along.

Compost

Compost is good stuff. It's good for the garden and it's good for the environment. If you make your own compost the chance is you will not use peat, therefore, you won't add to the depletion of the country's peatlands.

Also if you compost your rubbish it means less has to be incinerated or thrown onto a tip.

Making your own compost

saves you money. You won't have to buy soil improvers, fertilisers or mulches. Material for compost breaks down at different speeds. The quickest materials to break down are: comfrey leaves, grass cuttings poultry manure's and young weeds. Fruit and veg scraps, tea leaves and coffee grounds, old straw and hay and young hedge clipping will rot but will take a little time.

Don't compost fish or meat unless you have no sense of smell and a passion for flies. Don't compost cat litter, disposable nappies, old drawers or glossy magazines. Get composting! Green Finger

On Sunday, May 12 Ross

East Lochhead

and Janet Anderson of East Lochhead opened their gardens to the public. This year the charities chosen to benefit from the money raised were: the RNLI, the National Trust Gardens Fund and the Queen's Nursing Institute.

The Sunday dawned bright and clear. Visitors were able to enjoy the warmth and shelter of the courtyard and enjoy a cup of tea after a walk

Just £30 to advertise in this space .

**Tel Chatterbox on
07764 236 822**

to book for next months edition

around the gardens.

Also on display were exhibitions of paintings by members of the Anderson family and items of pottery created by a close family friend.

The event raised over £1400:00. Ross and Janet want to thank all those who made the effort to come along and all those lifeboat ladies who baked and served superb afternoon teas.

My Life Has Not Been the Same

Letters

This clarification letter comes from Neil Meighan from the USA who wrote to Chatterbox last year.

'I wish to clarify a situation that I may have caused in last November's Chatterbox. It concerns the poem, My Life Has Not Been the Same. A poem I thought all golfers would appreciate and identify with as much as I did. However, I made one serious error, I did not write Anon after the poem. Because of this some of my friends assumed that I had written the poem. Whilst I am grateful that some considered I was the author of the verse I have to own that I am not. I apologise if I have misled anyone in the village.

Neil Meighan

Ceilidh News

The Lochside Neighbourhood Watch Ceilidh - or Spring Fling - was another sell out on Saturday, May 18. Over £500:00 were raised for a couple of charities: Motor Neuron Disease and the local windsurfing club.

The next Ceilidh - the Fall Ball - will be on Saturday, November 2. Tickets vanish like hot cakes, so get your request in asap.

The charities supported will be the Garnock Boys Rugby Club, who need a new pavilion, and a friend of the band who was paralysed in a rugby accident.

Incidentally, Dr Rowena Murray one of the organisers of the Ceilidh organisers has just written a book. It is a must for all students and anyone else who plans to write a thesis. The book is called How to write a Thesis and it is published by the Open University Press.

Books - Books Books

Here is a selection of new books at the library.

Lyn Andrews	Love and a Promise
Lawrence Block	Hope to Die
Amanda Brookfield	Sisters and Husbands
Michael Connolly	City of Bones
Pamela Evans	Always There
Sue Gee	Thin Air
Rosie Harris	Turn of the Tide
Andrew Klavan	Man and Wife
Jim Lusby	A Waste of Shame
David Morrell	Long Lost
Edna O'Brien	In the Forest
Peter Robinson	Aftermath
Nancy T Rosenberg	Conflict of Interest
Robert Ryan	Early One Morning
Danielle Steel	The Cottage
Jessica Stirling	Shamrock Green
Nicola Thorne	A Friend of the Family

If any item you require is not available, our request system gives access to stock held in all public libraries within Renfrewshire. There is a 20p charge per item for this service.

Lochwinnoch The Village Website

New for the web this month...

- ◆ Read about the Lochwinnoch Heritage Forum and their plans to restore the Bridgend Falls.
- ◆ Chatterbox on the Web... read the online version of Chatterbox
- ◆ Community Calendar.... a section for Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park showing dates of events at the Castle Semple Centre and Muirshiel Centre.
- ◆ Forums... the RSPB grapevine keeping you up to date on the wildlife activity in the area

We are looking for help to build a history section for the website. Just think of a topic and write down on paper a few pages that we can take and use for content. eg. how many mills were there in the village at one time? Where were they? What did they do and how many people were employed? If you have anything you would like to contribute just hand it in to the Library or e-mail it to barbara@lochwinnoch.info if you have access to e-mail.

It's your website - use it

Teen spot

On Sunday the 26 of April a group of youngsters - including myself - raised a large amount of money for the youth club by taking part in a sponsored clean-up from the loch cycle track to the bridge. We had industrial gloves and bin sacks given to us by Renfrewshire Council.

A skip was supplied for the bags of rubbish. We came across lots of wrappers, bottles and other stuff. It was horrible, but we had a good laugh. Do us a big favour, though, and bin your rubbish in future. Anyway we cleared up a lot of mess, so, hopefully, our park and loch look a lot better.

Liz Nickerson, the leader of the youth club helped us out and took pictures of us in action. Two of the pictures are in the Johnsons and Linwood Gazette, a folder of them is in the old museum.

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came along and mucked in.

**Youth Club
Liz says:**

"The youth club has been well attended and everyone has been chipping in to get the resources young people want. The young people worked extremely hard at the clean up and raised around £300:00. I glad the young people are getting involved in their community."

Netball News

The Lochwinnoch Primary School netball team: Lauren

McIlroy, Rachel Holmes, Rebecca Colburon, Sophie Curran Helen Turner, Vickie Waddel and Mhari Collins won the Renfrewshire Netball Tournament, winning against 30 other brilliant teams, including Bushes Primary who were defeated in the final. This is a fantastic achievement for Lochwinnoch as Bushes remained unbeaten for many years before the tournament began. The team is wonderfully coached by Carolyn McIlroy. We wish them all the best in the Scottish National Tournament.

That's all for this month's issue of Teenspot. If you have anything you would like me to add I would be more than happy too, so just drop your information into the Chatterbox envelope behind the desk at the library and, hopefully, it will appear in the next Teenspot.



Liz's Patch

Just a wee update on how things are going on in the Sustainable Communities Project.

Gardening Group

The gardening group have met again and are busy going around admiring the blooming good gardens in Lochwinnoch. The next meeting has

been set for Monday 10th June at 7.30pm in the museum – door open to all weed pickers and prizewinners.

Youth Club

The youth club has been a winner with the local young people – a big thanks to everyone who supported them in their sponsor clean up, they raised a whopping £300. Needless to say, they are now enjoying a new pool table, music player and a range of arts and crafts materials.

Walking Club

I have been asked to find out if locals would like to set up a local walking club. It was hoped that the club would take up a few hours each week for locals to join together and take in the beautiful scenery in and around Lochwinnoch. If you are interested, a meeting has been set for **Tuesday 11th June at 7.30pm in the museum.** This meeting will provide the opportunity for locals to discuss what they would like to do.

If you want to discuss possible projects that you would like to be involved in or want more information about the sustainable project or the group above, give me a call or pop into the museum for a chat.

**Community Development Worker
How to contact
Liz Nickerson**

**Tel No: 01505 842 615
Mobile: 07776 123 950
Email: liz@lochwinnoch.info
Drop into museum on
Mondays : 2-5pm and 6-8pm**

Sales and Marketing Consultancy

Calder Marketing

Tel: 01505 842 681

Mobile: 07764 236 822

**Business Plans, Funding, Market Research,
PR, Company Newsletters**