

# CHATTERBOX

www.lochwinnoch info  
lochwinnoch no 131 January 2005

Community newsletter produced by lochwinnoch publicity committee for lochwinnoch cc

## What's On

- **February 4th**, Golf Club Burns Supper
- **February 5th** Lochwinnoch Primary School Centenary Open Day 1am-5pm.
- **February 5th** Lochwinnoch Primary School Centenary Former Pupils' Disco. McKillop 8pm. Tickets £5
- **February 6th** Lochwinnoch Primary School Centenary Open Day 1pm-5pm.
- **February 18th** Celtic Concert, Parish Church, Tickets £5 Family £12
- **February 19th** Ceilidh., McKillop 8.30pm
- **February 26th**, St Winnoch Singers, Burns Supper, 7.30pm McKillop. Tickets £12.

## Congratulations

**To Father Eoin Patten, who, at the end of last year, was ordained as a priest in St Mirin Cathedral in Paisley.**

## Community Council

**There were 22 crimes committed in the village during December. A considerable increase in previous month's figures.**

Around the holiday a gang was reported roaming through the village vandalizing cars and breaking windows.

Apparently they carried out their activities at a leisurely pace. Among other crimes the Spar was robbed - again.

The poly tunnel in the community garden was set alight causing £3000 damage and a feeling of disenchantment among those who worked to make the garden a success. Two elderly folks were robbed by bogus workmen, a particularly odious crime and the Christmas tree remained unlit throughout the holiday as a result of vandalism.

A leaflet setting out details of crime reporting procedures is being prepared by the community council.

Morag Thow has suggested that Lochwinnoch should 'twin' with a similar sized village in the tsunami struck region. The suggestion was enthusiastically received and endorsed. Lochwinnoch has a lot of people with skills, ideas and energy to put to good use. If you want to get involved let us know. Contact the Community Council (via Dave Mellor, 29 High St or tel. 842 099) or keep an eye on the village website for further details.

The secretary has written again to Renfrewshire Council about repairs to the bridge on Main Street. The planning sub-committee convenor has met the new director of planning and transport outlining the CC's interest in the conservation policies for the village. The CC has been invited to nominate roads and pave-

ments for inclusion in the roads department repairs budget programme. Efforts are ongoing to increase the number of dog waste bins in the village.

**Congratulations to Dr Morag**

## Congratulations

**Thow who was awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours List for her contribution to healthcare. Morag is well known as the co-organizer of village dances and keep-fit classes.**

Recently, Morag presented the Community Council with the idea that Lochwinnoch should adopt a village of similar size in the stricken earthquake region of the Far East. The idea was met with enthusiasm by the Council who agreed to offer any help they could.

## Mindless Morons

**Is it not sad that when we are celebrating the ordination of a priest from Lochwinnoch we also have to report the mindless vandalism of the local Chapel?**

Morons broke in and just trashed the place. Why?

If you know anything about this or have heard anything on the grapevine please contact the police without delay.

## **MATTHEW NEW & SONS**

**SLATER - ROOFING - BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

**Emergency Repairs, Storm Damage  
Insurance Work, New Roofs, Flat Roofs  
Roughcasting -UPVC Cladding-Guttering**

**Tel No 01505 843400**

**FMB Certificate No 26366**

## Modern Cooking

Hello darlings.

**My mind is never far from puddings in this chilly winter weather. I just love rounding off a divine dinner a deux with a hearty warming pudding.**

Blanche, my sister, is a member of a pudding club somewhere in England. She told me of an unfortunate incident that befell her at the club's Christmas dinner this year.

She wore a strapless dress with a long bow right down the front. It looked great, but had a built in pitfall.

When she rose to toast the semolina she stood on the bow and, voila, the front of the dress stripped off like a banana skin.

Glasses dropped into puddings, moustaches bristled as the older gentleman of the club were presented with more than a bread pudding.

Which brings me to the nub: presentation is vital when serving pudding. A couple sprigs of mint placed carefully on top of a sorbet, a cherry on top of a summer pudding, a few curled slivers of lime rind add a touch of class to the most mundane of puddings. Happy cooking, darlings.

*Fennella Fishslice*

## St Winnoch Singers in Concert

The St Winnoch Singers gave a first class Christmas Concert in the Parish Church at the end of the year. The concert opened with spirited singing by the youngsters of the Junior Choir. It's always a treat to see youngsters abandoning nerves and singing in front of a large audience.

The St Winnoch Singers were joined by Betty McKellar who recited her poem 'Sanctuary' to a wonderful string accompaniment

written by the choir's conductor Gordon Rigby. The piece featured a moving, beautifully written violin solo which was beautifully played by the orchestra's leader Susan Henderson.

Gordon Rigby also set to music Betty McKellar's spooky poem *Wriggle of Mist*. To put a great big dollop of icing on a rich cake the choir were joined by talented village piper Greg Miller in a performance of the latest Scottish anthem *Highland Cathedral*. Och aye!

Greg, who, has as big a personality as the sound of the pipes, was this year's winner of the Ian Elphinstone Scholarship. An award made by the Lochwinnoch Music Society to a promising young musician from the village.

This spring the choir will revive their performance of *Carmina Burana*. On 9 September they will perform *The Armed Man* by Karl Jenkins in the Glasgow Concert Hall. The performance, in aid of the Hope for Homes charity, will be conducted by the composer.

Incidentally, this computer's spell-check gives *Winos* as the first alternative to *Winnoch*. I'm saying nothing!

## B's indeed.

**Has anyone ever noticed that every morning at the height of the rush hour one or more JCBs trundles along the A737 creating a massive tail-back?**

JCBs are wonderful machines. Invaluable if you want to flatten your garden or dig to Australia. But if you are in a rush to get to work and are caught behind one moving at the speed of a tortoise they ain't so hot.

Is there not a law that says they should move aside where convenient and let the traffic built up behind them pass?

## Get Walking

**Get walking with the Renfrewshire Walking Network. The group meets at the McKillop every Tuesday for a 40 to 60 min walk.**

Come dressed for the weather, bring along a friend and share knowledge and experiences of Lochwinnoch as you go.

All walks are led by Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park Rangers and

## Tutoring Available

- Maths and Physics
- Standard Grade, Higher and Higher Still
- £12 / Hour
- Available weekdays after 6pm, all day weekends
- Call Euan on 07903 560 333 after 6pm or Email: [ecf82@hotmail.com](mailto:ecf82@hotmail.com) for further info.

Lochwinnoch Parish Church

## CELTIC CONCERT MUSICAL EVENING

*By Local Artists*

*Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2005. 7.30 pm*

*Tickets £5.00 Adults £12.00 Family*

For tickets phone : Norma Bell 01505 842558: Calum Duncan 01505 843393

Or any committee member

and trained Volunteers. Time 11.00am 11:50am from the McKillop Institute. Contact Judy McCready (842882) for more details.

## Community Garden

**We will soon be starting our new season of activities.**

A new crop of committee members/activists is needed and a special open meeting is being planned for Wednesday, February 15th at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

If you want to join in this valuable village project come along to the meeting or contact the group through sue6@totalise.co.uk or speak to Suzanne Crosson, Gordon Nicholl, Tom Begg, Dave Mellor or any of the other gardeners.

Now's the time for all new or experienced gardeners to get together and talk fertiliser.

## New Years Dance

Again this year's New Years Dance in the McKillop was a great success. Over 100 people danced as the first night of the year slipped into history.

Three hundred pounds was collected during the dance for the Tsunami Disaster Fund.

## Charity Auction

**Staff and patron's at the Brown Bull raised over £2000 at the charity auction just before Christmas. The money will go to the Lochwinnoch Gala Day fund.**

# SRANI

**Walk Around the Loch The SRANI core group has been working hard to make the path round the loch project successful.**

An information / consultation leaflet was delivered to Lochwinnoch households recently and so far we have had approximately 350 replies of which 90% have been overwhelmingly in favour of the whole project.

Renfrewshire council, in conjunction with other organisations, has given funding towards the project and work

on the section of path from the railway station to Lochlip Road will be starting in the next few weeks.

We have also been awarded significant funding from Forward Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to start in April 05 and this will be used towards continuing the path along Lochlip Road towards Castle Semple Visitor Centre. It is very important that all views are taken into consideration and there are a number of ways of contacting the group: email [srani@lochwinnoch.info](mailto:srani@lochwinnoch.info); call Zul Bhatia, manager at the RSPB tel 01505 842663 or Charlie Woodward, manager of Clyde Muirshiel Park, tel 01505 614791

## Nu Nails

**Nail Extensions - Nail Art Manicures - Pedicures - Waxing - Facials.**

### Weddings - Night Out

Why not book now for a lovely relaxing Mini Facial

A Mini Manicure to make fingers sparkle, and a deeply beneficial Spa Pedicure, so our feet are ready for dancing the night away.

Book Your Appointment Now to avoid disappointment

**01505 842550**

Ask about NuNails Gift Tokens for that special gift.



Lochwinnoch  
Renfrewshire, Scotland

The Village Website

### Christmas Lights

Thanks to everyone who entered the Christmas Lights Competition and to Gibb Stuart Hardware for supporting the event. I hope you have been taking advantage of the sales to stock up on decorations for next year!

1st Place - 21 Glenpark Road

2nd Place - 28 Station Rise

Commendation - 64 Calder Street

### Broadband Survey

We are interested to hear about the take-up of broadband within the village. How many people have signed up to broadband, what supplier have you opted for, what speed. It will help to have some background info when we are trying to decide on web layouts, new web projects etc. If you could take a few minutes just to click on a few boxes that would be appreciated. The form can be found from the home page [www.lochwinnoch.info](http://www.lochwinnoch.info)

### Reindeer Run

Villagers were out in force again on Saturday, December 18, to join in the fun as Lochwinnoch hosted Santa's Reindeer Training Run. Members of *Lochwinnoch Outlandish Events* (remember the wheelie bin grand prix?) wanted to help people get into the festive spirit and at the same time help the reindeer get back into shape after eating grass all year. People made sleighs and dressed as reindeers to pull Santa through the village. Prizes were awarded to the best Santa, reindeer with best leadership skills (reddest nose) and the best sleigh. Hotdogs, mulled wine and carol singing all set the scene for Christmas. All money raised on the night went to the Youth Space project.

<http://www.lochwinnoch.info/albums/album22/graeme.sized.jpg>

[http://www.lochwinnoch.info/albums/album22/RR1\\_006.sized.jpg](http://www.lochwinnoch.info/albums/album22/RR1_006.sized.jpg)

thanks -Barbara



## RSPB News

### Lochwinnoch Nature Reserve Events for January/February 2005.

#### Sun 16 Jan 10-4pm Optics Demonstration

On the third Sunday of every month, from 10-4pm, try out our comprehensive range of binoculars and telescopes in the comfort of the visitor centre. Free expert advice on hand.

#### Wed 19 Jan 7.30-9pm

Talk-time: Ringing and Raptors in New Mexico. Hear about Dave Grant's bird ringing trip in New Mexico with a particular focus on the raptors that he encountered. Please book in advance.

Sat 22 Jan 10am-12 noon  
Get ready for the Big Garden Birdwatch!

Come along and learn more about the birds that might visit your garden and get tips on how to take part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch (29 and 30 Jan). Free event.

#### Sat 29 and Sun 30 Jan

Big Garden Birdwatch  
We'd love you to take part in Big Garden Birdwatch 2005! All you need to do is spend one hour watching the birds that visit your garden, local park or RSPB reserve and record what you see. Visit or phone the reserve to get a form (or see [www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch](http://www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch) <<http://www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch>>).

If you're already an RSPB member you'll get a form in your 'Birds' magazine.

February Sat 5 Feb 10am - 12 Noon

Introduction to Birdwatching:

#### Winter birds

A guided walk around the reserve with guidance for beginners to birdwatching. Binoculars and telescopes will be provided. Please book in advance.

#### Wed 16 Feb

7.30-9pm Talk-time: Arctic Russia

Come with us on a journey to Arctic Russia....Gordon Jamieson, a regular volunteer at the reserve will entertain us with slides of his birdwatching trip. Please book in advance.

#### Sun 20 Feb 10-4pm

Optics Demonstration  
General Information RSPB Lochwinnoch Nature Reserve is ideal for all the family, as the trails and hides and the visitor centre are all easily accessible. You can enjoy refreshments in the visitor centre or browse in the RSPB shop, which specialises in optics, natural history books and wild bird care products.

There is free entry for all to the visitor centre that has a ground-level viewing area complete with seating, binoculars and telescopes. The viewing tower offers panoramic views

over the Aird Meadow and features informative displays and interactive children's display panels. There is a small charge for non-RSPB members to access our two nature trails and birdwatching hides.

The reserve is open at all times, and the visitor centre is open daily from 10am to 5pm (closed 25th/26th December and 1st/2nd January).

EVENTS UPDATE BY E-MAIL:

To receive monthly updates of our events, please e-mail [Lochwinnoch@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Lochwinnoch@rspb.org.uk) Reserve:

RSPB Lochwinnoch Nature Reserve, Largs Road, Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire, PA12 4JF. Telephone 01505 842663/Fax 01505 843026 or email [lochwinnoch@rspb.org.uk](mailto:lochwinnoch@rspb.org.uk) <<mailto:lochwinnoch@rspb.org.uk>>[www.rspb.org.uk/scotland](http://www.rspb.org.uk/scotland)> Regional Office: RSPB Scotland, South and West Regional Office, 10 Park Quadrant, Glasgow G3 6BS

● PAINTING ● PAPERHANGING ● TILING ●

PAINTER & DECORATOR

JOHN A. KILBURN

TEL: 01505 842 395 MOBILE 07931 952 257

● FREE ESTIMATE ● NO JOB TOO SMALL ●

Sales and marketing Consultancy

Calder Marketing

Tel: 01505 842 681

Mobile: 07764 236 822

Email: [cfraser@fsmail.net](mailto:cfraser@fsmail.net)

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