

Nuisance Helpline
Anti-Social Behavior,
Noise problems
Support and Advice
Every day 9am – 10pm
0800 169 1283

CHATTERBOX

www.lochwinnoch info
lochwinnoch no 136 June 2005

ASIST
Anti-Social Investigation Team
Office 8:45am – 4:45pm
Ask for David McLaren or
Sheila McFarlane
01505 325 030

Community newsletter produced by lochwinnoch publicity committee for locwinnoch cc

What's On

- **June Lochwinnoch Primary School Centenary Exhibition**—Village Library Mon-Wed-Fri— 2pm-5pm, 6pm-8pm
- **June 24th Official New Pedestrian Bridge opening**—Look out for more details nearer time
- **June 30th VE Day Special Tea Celebration.** Village Library 2pm-4pm
- **June — R S P B Events**—See Back Page.
- **June—Castle Simple Events**—See back Page

Community Council

The police reported an alarming vandalism figure for May. Normally the total crime figures for the month are around twelve.

This month's vandalism figures brought the total crimes committed in May to twenty-four, the highest it's been for a very long time.

The vandalism figures included an incident where a young man slashed the tyres of six cars. The police are pursuing positive leads to allow them to identify the man.

One committee member asked why there seemed to be so few arrests made in the village. The

man reported a rather serious incident of vandalism. The police attended immediately, spoke to those who had committing the crime then drove away. There appeared to have been no other action taken. The police spokesman said he could not comment until he obtained further details.

Another member noted that speeding drivers frequently ignore the traffic lights at Newton of Barr.

He added that the speed limit on this stretch of road to the station is seldom observed.

Someone asked why the council cannot give a set time to carry out a special uplift of household furniture.

The council do not specify which day the uplift will be made.

If you live in Church Street or High Street you cannot pile anything to be uplifted on the footpath and leave it for days until the council uplift it.

It was also asked why the council levy a £10:00 charge to carry out special uplifts. To avoid paying this many people drive to our many beauty spots and dump their rubbish there.

The Community Council will

write to Renfrewshire Council regarding these matters.

Library

To a lot of villagers the library is one of the social hubs of the village, to say nothing of its recreational and educational functions, yet it is a constant target for mindless vandals.

It's hard to see why vandals target the library when the building gives such a lot of pleasure to such a lot of people.

Someone asked if rather than constantly replace the windows it would not be cheaper to site cameras permanently around the perimeter of the building? Sad, though, that we should have to contemplate a measure like this in this civilised little village.

To advertise in Chatterbox

Tel: 07764 236 822

Or email

Chatterbox @lochwinnoch.info

Editorial for Chatterbox

Stories, notifications, information

Pop into the Chatterbox drop in box in the library or

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Modern Cookery

Hello Darlings!

The last time I wrote was on the subject of sausages. It created a huge response, my mailbox heaved with three letters. Don't know why but they all asked the same question, 'why are sausages bent?'

Well, darlings, it's all to do with gravity. As the meat is forced into the skin the weight of the meat causes the sausage to bend.

Under certain circumstances you can, as we ladies know, straighten sausages by either pulling them, or rolling them on the kitchen table.

Always take the skin off sausages before cooking, this way most of the fat escapes and you end up with a healthier sausage.

Darlings, have you ever tried red cabbage and frankfurters? Great food for students. Gently fry a chopped onion in oil. Finely chop an apple – any sharp tasting apple – and the red cabbage. (If the cabbage is big, just use half)

Add the cabbage and the apple to the fried onion. Add a good tablespoon of balsamic vinegar, a pinch of salt, a couple of teaspoons of brown sugar (optional) and a good knob of butter.

Cook for around an hour or until the cabbage is soft. Heat the frankfurters as directed on the pack and serve with the rich vinegary, buttery red cabbage.

Here's to a hot pan and a full oven!

Fenella Fishslice

Bumpy Footpaths

I had a letter from a couple who use electric wheelchairs. They complain that the conditions of the pavements and footpaths around the village make using an electric wheelchair extremely dangerous.

Potholes, high kerbs, uneven paving stones are some of the hazards wheelchair users encounter every time they leave the house.

The letter adds, 'the condition of the footpaths creates the situation where an accident is inevitable'.

While we are on about footpaths it might be worth adding that the roads throughout the village are in a pretty poor state.

The road at Newton of Barr to the Ayrshire border is awful, it serves to point out a contrast between an authority (Ayrshire) where attention is paid to roads to another (Renfrewshire) where none seems to be shown at all.

And what is happening about the bridge at the Main Street?

If the council took all the money they've spent on diversion signs and put it towards the cost of repairing the bridge it might be in working order by now.

Letters

Thanks

This letter comes from Karen Kelly:

I would like to thank everyone who sent me their best wishes after my car crash in March. The amount of cards, flowers, chocolates and kind gestures was overwhelming and helped me on the road to recovery (no pun intended).

Being surrounded by get-well messages as well as being visited by many friends lifted my spirits.

Special thanks to John and the girls for looking after me so well and to Jean and Kenzie for the delicious fare they appeared with!

Many, many thanks.

Waste

It's good to report that recycling is now a priority. Recycling our domestic pickles of waste might be like peeing in the sea, but faced with the disasters predicted to follow global warming, we should do something however small to alleviate the situation.

Recycling is now a 'must'.

The problem is, though, with all

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bins and recycling boxes piled around the garden who has room to create waste or grow for victory as we were urged to do during the last war.

If you want more information on landfill sites, waste and resource management, carbon sequestration or food quality and health you can check out the following websites.
livingsoil.co.uk
seercentre.org

Thanks to Graham who sent this information.

Village Website

During May the village website was visited 20,586 times, this shows how many people are interested in the comings and goings in the village.

Here are some of the new services available on the sites:

Roads and Lighting faults. You can now report roads and lighting faults directly to Renfrewshire Council using the form available online on the site. Don't forget to post to the Roads and Lighting thread in the Talkback Forum so that the Community Council can monitor how long it's taking Renfrewshire Council to repair the faults.

Assist. The contact details for the ASIST team are available in the Talkback Forum. Please report all incidents, even if the police have not been involved. This will allow an accurate picture to be built up of village nightlife.

Photo Gallery. The photo gallery has undergone a revamp and the entire site is being updated with the new website design in preparation for this year's Community Website of the Year Award. It's a lot of work for a free lunch.

I'd like to add that this village is immensely lucky to have people working as hard as they do to make the website the wonderful resource it is.

The website – yes, award winning website! – provides information on all aspects of village life it also provides a forum where villagers can air their views on a wide range of subjects and matters. Anyone can log on and join

in discussions on a diverse range of topics.

We should raise our hats and offer thanks to the geniuses whose knowledge allows them to fiddle about in the entrails of the Internet and make the whole thing happen. Thanks to you all.

Primary School Exhibition

Following the success of the Centenary Open Day exhibition it has been decided to display part of the exhibition in the library. The exhibition will run until mid August this year.

If you want to view the exhibition the library opening hours are:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 2pm – 5pm, 6pm 8pm.

Tuesday, Saturday – 10–1pm, 2pm – 5pm.

Burdz on the Run

The flock of Lochwinnoch burdz flew round the Woman's 10k run on Sunday, May 15.

Twenty burdz ran for various

charities and collected over £2000.

One of the burdz, Elizabeth Ramsay, ran fourth fastest in the over 70 contest. She came in 11,762 out of a field of 13,000 runners.

Everyone who took part had an extremely enjoyable day and you can be assured the burdz will fly again next year.

VE Day Celebrations

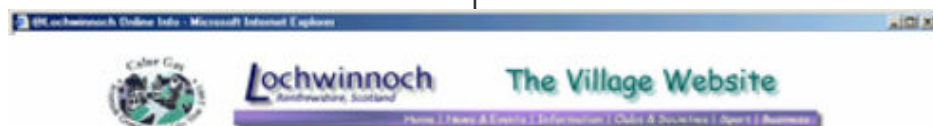
As part of the national VE Day celebrations Lochwinnoch Library will hold a special tea party on Thursday, June 30 between 2:00pm – 4:00pm – everyone welcome – come along and share your memories.

If you have any photographs from the war years and would like others to see them, please bring them along to the library and have them scanned for a special display.

We are particularly interested in photographs taken in and around Lochwinnoch.

All original photographs will be returned immediately after they have been scanned.

The deadline for photographs to be included in the display is Saturday, June 24.



WHAT'S NEW ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

WWW.LOCHWINNOCH.INFO

Many thanks to David Williams in Ottawa for sending me photographs and stories about his family who emigrated to Canada from Lochwinnoch. His great grandfather was William Crawford who owned the Calder Glen Mill and who married into the Orr family from Kaim. You can read about the mill and the family in the history section of the village website. Photographs are available in the photo gallery.

Road Faults – you can now report potholes, roads and lighting faults to Renfrewshire Council from the village website. Just fill in the online form which you will find linked on the front page or from the CC pages and click submit.

New search – a new search tool has been added to the village website. Google can be used from the home page to search either the village website or the entire world wide web. It should make finding things on the village website easier and quicker.

And finally, for a bit of fun, the Village Forum now offers readers the chance to award **karma points** to posters. Both good and bad karma can be awarded depending on what you think of the posters tone, message content etc.

contact barbara@lochwinnoch.info



RSPB News

Fri/Sat 1/2 July
8.30pm-late on Friday
and 10am on Saturday
Moth Night

A great chance to learn more about moths and see what species are found in Lochwinnoch. We will begin with a slide show and then set up various moth traps and see what they attract. Come back in the morning to see what has appeared overnight. In association with Butterfly Conservation. Please book in advance.

Tue 12 July 10-11 or 11.30-12.30 or 1-2pm

* **Mini-beast Safari**
Search for beasties in the grassland, woodland and the pond with our teacher-naturalists. Children of all ages welcome. Please book in advance. (£1 members, £2 non-members)

Sun 17 July 10-4pm
Optics Demonstration Learn all about scopes and bins.

Castle Semple Timetable

Sunday, June 19
BOUB Dinghy Tuition

Bring your own boat and learn how to love it. All aspects of human relationships with boats explored, from rigging to racing. Advanced (at least seven days in advance) booking essential. Call 01505 842882.

Saturday/Sunday, June 25,26
National Model Boat Championships

A rare opportunity to see amazing scale model sailing boats from all over the UK and beyond race on the loch. Races start both

days at 9:45am.

Saturday, July 9

Space Invaders

Take a walk and discover the aliens (plants) that have landed in our countryside and gardens over the years. Have we developed the means to repel these invaders? Find out at the Castle Semple Centre 1400 to1600. Call 01505 842882 to book.

Walk on the Wild Side

The first phase of the walk around the loch is almost finished. A small amount of work on the two smaller bridges has to be completed before you can walk to the station without having to set foot on the speedway track that doubles as the road to the station.

Two official openings are on the planning board. One of these opening is for politicians and officials the other will take the form of a fun event the entire village can enjoy.

This opening is provisionally scheduled for Friday, June 24 at 6:30pm. Further details will be announced, as they become available.

The plans for the next phase are nearing completion. This stage will run from the Calder Bridge to the Castle Semple car park. When the plans are complete they will be made available for public consultation.

I noticed the other day that kids walking along the outside ridge on the new wooden bridge across the Calder.

Kickjitsu

A new Kickjitsu gym has opened in Beith. Called Mack 1 it has opened up in 17 Wilson Street, Beith.

Local Lochwinnoch students who used to attend the regular Kickjitsu classes will be made very welcome.

Should students have other possible venues they would like the classes held in please give Mandy a call.

Mandy will be running a Kickjitsu Summer School again this summer. And would welcome the children of Lochwinnoch to take part. Parents should contact Mandy on 01505 502050.

So come on all you couch potatoes this is a great way to keep fit. Put that playstation down and enjoy yourselves

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