

TODAY'S NEWS

Have I got old news for you?

Lochwinnoch early 1800's

1856

The **Annual Bonspiel** of the 12th Province of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club took place on Lochwinnoch Loch.

There was a large attendance of curlers and a great crowd of onlookers.

The top prize, the Royal Medal, was won by Garnock of Kilbirnie Club

1824

The **Pastures** around Lochwinnoch have a fine appearance. The farmers state that "every field is like a meadow, and the grass is as good as ever grew out of the earth"

1889

The **third class** rail ticket to Lochwinnoch from Glasgow for the month is £1 7s whereas an annual ticket costs £10 5s [the monthly tickets are too expensive]



There are three fairs held in this Parish in the course of the year. The oldest called the Fair of Hill, from the place where it originally met, viz., on the Market Hill. It has been held from time immemorial, on the first Tuesday of November, old style but has met for a long time past in the village of Lochwinnoch. Originally, a great variety of clothes, shoes, etc., were sold at this fair, at present it is only a market for cattle, and a time for meeting and settling Martinmas and other accounts. The May Fair or Trades' race is held on the second Tuesday of May, old style. It was begun about the year 1743 or 1750. The Trades had originally a parade, which has long been discontinued but there is still sometimes a race of one kind or another. There are some cattle in the market in the course of the day, and many meet in the afternoon to settle their Whitsunday accounts. The Farmers' Parade is held on the first Tuesday of July. At one time the farmers from all parts of the Parish mustered for this parade but for some time those on the south side have withdrawn.



1861

Calderpark Cotton Works for Sale. Presently occupied by Messers Ewing, Neilson & Coy.

Water Wheels, Steam Engine and whole Machinery and Utensils within the Mill. Also the Manager's House and Picking House.

1844

At **Johnshill, Lochwinnoch**, there was presented to the view of the passerby, a beech hedge, which surrounds a garden, with newly formed and healthy looking leaves of considerable size.

In another garden was to be seen on different bushes, a number of small but fresh green gooseberries, about the size of common peas,

1903

Continued The **trout hatchery** has proved successful and last week-end instalment of 2,000 beautiful trout, many of them two pounders were put into the stream, and a mount hence upwards of 100,000 fry will be put into tributaries of the loch. To be continued @pbthecairn

INNS 1800s

There are 24 inns in this Parish, which are too many, and do an incalculable amount of mischief without being balanced by almost any good. The institution of Temperance societies led to an inquiry into the quantity of ardent spirits and other liquors used here, and the melancholy and astounding fact was forced upon us, that in this, as in the neighbouring Parishes, three or four times more money is expended in this manner than is required to support both our churches and schools, and all our charitable and religious institutions.



FUEL 1800s

There are two coal pits in the Parish - one in its eastern, and the other in its western extremity. There was one lately in its centre, near the village of Lochwinnoch, and there are beds of coal in various other places. Quarrelton is only a mile or two beyond our eastern boundary, where there is one of the most remarkable beds of coal in Great Britain, if not in Europe; and there are coal pits equally numerous and valuable in the opposite direction, beyond our western boundary. A load of coals is sold at 7d., eight of which make an ordinary cart.