

TODAY'S NEWS

Have I got old news for you?

BRIDGEND

1834

Honesty. A Lochwinnoch gentleman dropped a parcel of bank notes, which was immediately picked up by a boy and handed to him. Encouraged by his honesty he presented the boy with twopence halfpenny saying "it's a' the sma' change I have"

1836

A massive **silver basin** brought home by Captain Hunter, Lochwinnoch, on his last voyage from Lima, was presented to the Parish Church of Lochwinnoch.

1897

Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Arrangements are well underway. Brass Band, Pipe Band. Athletics. Refreshments and buns will be served.

1898

Continued ...Shares in the **Lochwinnoch Angling Association** have been taken up. Capital is £1,500. Divided into 1500 ordinary shares of £1

To be continued @ pbthecairn



BRIDGEND BRIG. This is one over the Calder Water, a little distance northwest of the Town of Lochwinnoch. It is unquestionably of very considerable age, and much the oldest in the district. The lands which lie at the west end of it are called Bridgend, while those at the east end were at one time named Bridge-lands. The prior existence of a bridge here, whether the present structure or not, must have originated the name Bridgend; and we know that this name occurs in a Rental of the Abbey of Paisley as early as 1525. It is built of freestone, and consists of one arch. The masonry is excellent, and rather ornate. It is very narrow, not being more than 8 feet in breadth originally, and until widened several feet by the Road Trustees in 1814. Owing to the form of the arch, old people often call it the Bow Brig, and ascribe its erection to the Pechs

1886

Continued ...What has become of the **Lochwinnoch Water Supply Scheme?** I hear of Primrose Leaguers in the Parochial Board still acting as obstructionists - high price of land - land offered gratis and refused. What is kept back the introduction of good gravitational water to Lochwinnoch for so many years.

To be continued @pbthecairn

1836

A **highland servant** on a farm near Lochwinnoch was sent to cut some fern for bedding for the cattle. Unfortunately a bull in the field was a bit displeased. Using his scythe to defend himself when the bull came thundering toward him. The scythe went in one direction, he in another. The bull have split his enemies decided to attack the scythe. Sadly for the bull, the blade cut the sinews of his own leg and brought it to his knees. The servant seized the opportunity and made off.

"He who fights and runs away,
may live to fight another day"

1886**Early Hatching, Lochwinnoch**

Mr James Porteous, blacksmith has a hen of last year's hatching which had a brood of chickens, six in number, on 30th Jan. and notwithstanding the cold weather, all are doing well.

or Picts. Others say that it was erected by the Romans, or Romanised Britons of Strathclyde, within which kingdom, at one time, district it lies, because they think it is much the same with the bridge, said to be of Roman construction, over the Duntocher Burn at Kilpatrick, which is of two arches, each having a span of 12 feet, and being 8 feet in width. This bridge is said to have been on the line of road leading from the Roman Camp at Paisley, called Vanduara (Wen-dur), and also on that from Kilpatrick ford on the Clyde into Ayrshire.

Montgomerie, of Weitlands, Kilbarchan, and Schaw, of Greenock, writing in 1650, mentions this bridge. In Blaeu's Atlas, published in 1654,



it is delineated; and in a Charter by James VI of the Lordship of Paisley, in 1621, it is also referred to. It was the conjecture of old James Brodie that it was erected by order of the Regent Murray, when the lands and whole Barony of Bridgend were, from 1558 to 1573, in the hands of the Crown, by forfeiture of the owner, James Glen of Barr, who appeared at the Battle of Langside, in 1568, on the side of his lawful Sovereign, Queen Mary. But this conjecture must be dismissed as not well founded, from the name Bridgend having been given to the lands long before that period.