

TODAY'S NEWS

Have I got old news for you?

1952

Mr Ian L. Struthers, a 46-year-old mineral water manufacturer and motor engineer, of Lochwinnoch, died of injuries received in a crash at the Scottish Sporting Car Club's hill climb at Bo'ness on Saturday. It was the first fatality at any organised motoring sports event in Scotland.

1888

A LOCHWINNOCH man has narrowly missed being the Glasgow bowling champion. The final tie in the Glasgow Individual **Bowling** Championship lay between Mr J. W. Davidson, Rutherglen, and Mr D. Davidson, Pollokshields, who belongs to Lochwinnoch, and resulted in the former winning the trophy. Mr D. Davidson received the second prize, value **two guineas**.

1879

A **petition** regarding the repair of Lochwinnoch **Manse**, which was built 1824, was then submitted for transmission the Church's Committee of Buildings. The petition stated that there were eight ordinary rooms the manse, and there had been, some time ago, considerable alterations made in the building at a cost of **£90**.

Lochwinnoch Glasgow Soiree 1875

The seventh annual soiree of the natives of Lochwinnoch held in Glasgow

Part of a speech by Henry Macdowall, of Garthland

A new Lochwinnoch has been founded by Lochwinnoch men in the backwoods of Canada. When I first heard of this new settlement, it consisted of about a dozen houses, to each of which was attached a considerable number of acres of land, and in connection with the settlement was a church and a good school house and teacher, and they appeared to want nothing except and opportunity to revisit once more the old town and parish.

With regard to the old town of Lochwinnoch, which you all know and remember, I believe that for the first 50 or 60 years of the century it was a rising and flourishing village, till the time of the cotton famine; but when that crisis came,



and it was found impossible to continue working the mills, many of the old workers in

1888

The **youths** of Lochwinnoch have caught the "**gowf**" fever, and these fine evenings they may be seen at the game on the nine-hole course recently formed on the hills behind the village. The putting greens are natural; but it is intended that these should give place to made greens at an early date. The ground is fairly well adapted for a "**cleek**" game; but the enthusiast who prides himself on his "**brassey**" shots will be sorely disappointed. There are several hazards in the form of hedges and dykes, and a good player should go round in **50**.

1899

Lochwinnoch had a **fair share** of the Trades Holiday young men and maidens last Saturday. The majority of them came in brakes; but the traffic by rail was also heavy. **Calder Glen** is not likely to have such a large number of visitors on one day till next Spring. I had a turn through the village in the afternoon. Calder Street was lined on one side with brakes, the holiday-makers were moving about the streets in small companies, and opposite the Liberal Club one could scarcely get along because of the crowd which had congregated around trippers, who were **dancing** to the strains of a melodeon. Yes, the village was a **bit lively** for my taste.

the village had to leave it and seek employment elsewhere. Then the flax trade took possession of the mills, but it did not give employment to many of the native inhabitants of the town, though it materially assisted the prosperity of the villagers. I regret, however, to say that we had the misfortune five years ago to lose one of the mills by fire, and this has a considerable extent diminish the prosperity of the place. Yet I think there is a bright future in store for the village. We have at our command an immense water supply, - a power which is becoming every day more valuable as we know how to apply it more economically.



Part of a speech by William Patrick

It has often said that the village of Lochwinnoch is on the decline - that its best days are over, and that the prosperity which it enjoyed in the past will never be enjoyed in the future. It is impossible for us to predict what the future of Lochwinnoch shall be; but I am sure of this, however, that we all desire that a new era of prosperity may dawn up on it. But whether this will be the case or not, of one thing we must all feel assured, that Lochwinnoch shall ever retain the strongest claims on our respect and esteem. I do not at present allude to the beauty of the scenery or of those natural associations by which it is endeared to every heart. But I refer to the fact that to Lochwinnoch a great measure we owe the education and training which we have received.