

### **\*Castle Loch Lochmaben Community Trust**

As spring shows its early signs, our 'to do' list is as full as ever with the need to keep the nature reserve habitats, visitor infrastructure and community engagement all top notch for the coming season. New for 2019.... We have improved access from the Lockerbie road car park down to the cottage, loch side seating and the start of the footpaths by removing all the trip hazards and putting in a new patio/driveway...we have now completed the purchase of an adjacent patch of woodland (Kirkhirst Plantation). Over the coming months the volunteers will be working hard to improve the habitat, put in a new footpath so we can move away from using the muddy shared track, and creating a safe outdoor play area. Finally, at the recent AGM, Board member Jack Wade and Chair, David Rose, stood down, having been with the project since 2013 when the community buy-out was merely an idea. Howard Baisden has now taken over the Chair, and a big welcome to John Reid and John Robson for volunteering their services to the Board.

**\*Volunteers are also needed**, for example,

-To help at the Lunch Club.

-To help control the invasive fringe water lily at the Mill Loch. Short season only.

-To help run the Lochmaben & District Community Initiative.

-To tend the planters and flower boxes around the town during the summer months.

**If you would like to help out, initial contact is through the Website- or speak to anyone on the Initiative.**

**\*Day of the Region** Dumfries & Galloway Council is again supporting Day of the Region. For Lochmaben to take part, a group willing to organise the project has to be identified. Contact the Initiative if you want to get involved in 2019.

### **\*For Your Diary**

In the coming months, look out especially for:-

- **Friday, May10** -- Dumfries Male Voice Choir/ Kings Grange Singers in Concert. 7.30pm at Lochmaben Church

- **Sunday, May12** -- Walk the Walk. 12 noon at Castle Loch. Raise funds for your Groups/causes

- **Sunday, May12**--Open Day-Sailing Club from 12 noon to 4pm.

- **Saturday, May18** --9.30 to 12 noon at Lochmaben Primary School Car Park. -- Plant Sale in Aid of Save the Children.

- **Saturday, June29--Gala Day**

- **Tuesday October1** 7.30pm--Fashion Show at the Church Hall. Proceeds to Castle Loch Lochmaben Community Trust.

**\*Don't miss out on Picnic in the Park--21st July** 2-6pm in Victory Park. A celebration of the Royal Burgh of Lochmaben- Past History and Present Vitality. Organised by members of Lochmaben Community Council. Offers and ideas very welcome. To discuss, phone 810439

### **\*Contact the Lochmaben & District**

**Initiative** on the Website [www.lochmaben.org.uk](http://www.lochmaben.org.uk) Or on the [Community Initiative Facebook](#) page.

Since the last Newsletter the top performing items on Facebook have been; Railway Observation Coach--2074 people reached, Remembrance Day--1610; Lockerbie Disaster Recall--2507; Christmas Lights--1110. Many thanks to all who support the website and make helpful comments. We would welcome any photographs old or new to add to our Flickr collection.

**Remember** we will publish our 'Keep it Local' leaflet again in 2019 with details of all local tradesmen and businesses who have supported our Website. The leaflet's a great way to get your business known. Contact the Website.

## Initiative News Sheet- Spring 2019



**\*There's plenty to do in Lochmaben.** At the Town Hall you'll find a number of leaflets which give details of what Lochmaben has to offer. Pick up a copy of the 'Town Trail' and learn about the town and its past. There are also details of 6 Walks you can do around the Burgh and a leaflet on the Castle Loch. On our Website a full weekly programme of Activities at the Community Centre is shown. Also there, are details of the many clubs like the Lunch Club and the Friendship Group, which meet on a regular basis. There's a fortnightly Coffee Morning at the Church Hall, a very successful Sing4Fun group which meets every Monday evening through the winter and a Craft Group which meets alternate Monday afternoons, also through the winter.

If you are new to the town or just want a bit of company why not get in touch? It's a great way to meet people and you'll be made very welcome. Give the contact person a ring.

You can also get in touch with some of the outdoor clubs which give you the chance to enjoy the fresh air and get fit at the same time.

Club	Contact
Bowling Club	Hazel Sloan 01387 811830
Tennis Club	Mary Park 01387 810627
Sailing Club	Bev Wilkinson 07762326711
Golf Club	Michael Dickie 01387 810713
Better4Walking	Karen Robertson 07704223564

**\*The Library is housed in the Town Hall and the Post Office in Pettigrew's shop (opening times later).**

### **\*Congratulations!!!**

-To **Campbell More**, who was placed first in the Violin Solo at 'Perform', a Dumfries & District Music Festival event held recently at Dumfries Academy.

-To **Brodi Chambers**, chosen to represent Lockerbie Academy as one of next year's Syracuse Scholars.

-To **Ava Simpson** who has retained the 50metre backstroke title at the Scottish National Age Group Swimming Championships.

-To **Lochmaben SWI**, celebrating its 80th birthday this year

-To **Rebecca Coles**, further enhancing a growing reputation in the sailing world

-To **Lochmaben Primary School's eco committee** for highlighting the problems caused by dog poo on our pavements

-To the **2019 Gala Principals**

Miss Lochmaben, **Makayla Geddes**; Attendant, **Freya Callander**; Flower Girl, **Alyssa Duff**; Princess, **Maisie Kerr** and Prince, **Reuben Duff**.

### **\*Lochmaben Voices**

This project was undertaken a couple of years ago when local residents were interviewed about their lives in Lochmaben. Records of these interviews were prepared in oral and textual form and provide a great insight to life in the Burgh in the past. Hard copies of these can be borrowed from the Library. The Initiative is planning to use YouTube to make the information more available to local residents and wider afield. Edinburgh University Press is currently preparing a book which will incorporate the information the Lochmaben Voices Project provided. The plan is for publication this year with a launch in Lochmaben, so watch this space.

### **\*Historical Articles on Lochmaben**

If you are interested in Lochmaben's past, look up the 'Articles' section of the Website. Some very interesting stuff to be found there.

**\* To all those out there who are lovers of Crolla's Ice Cream (and who isn't?). Life is going to get even better.**

A new ice-cream making machine is on its way from Italy which will provide the café with 10 new ice-cream flavours. Based on the very successful 104-year-old secret recipe, the new flavours will complement the original, will cater for all tastes and are sure to be a knock-out.

A few alterations to the counter will be required to fit in the new machine but it is expected to be up and running by Easter.

There was no more enthusiastic fan of 'the heavenly flavour of Crolla's ice cream' than **Davy Shankland**. Great that there's now a bench dedicated to Davy's memory in Victory Park. Relaxing place to enjoy a cone.

### **\*Update on changes to the Church**

All the pews have now been removed from the church and have been replaced by comfortable new chairs. Come along and check them out – why not put the 10<sup>th</sup> May date (over) in your diary?

### **\*Litter**



This spring's Litter pick, organised jointly by the Community Council and the Community Initiative, took place on Saturday 13th April.

With a good turn-out of volunteers, 16 sacks of rubbish were collected and Lochmaben was spruced up in time for Easter. If you missed this one there's another in October.

### **\*Library opening times**

Wednesday 9am-12noon: Thursday 2pm-5pm

Saturday 10am-1pm

**\*The RBS Mobile Bank** visits on Thursday mornings 9.55am to 10.25am at the Community Centre Car Park.

### **\*Your Community Needs You**

To enable the Community Council to continue the excellent work it does for the community, new members will have to be found this year. With several current members standing down at the next elections in October, there will be eight vacancies to fill.

Activities of the Community Council include - The Senior Citizens Christmas Party, Remembrance Day Parade, Lochmaben in Bloom competition, Lochmaben Planting and Bedding Initiative, School Painting Competition, Planning Applications, Managing Wind Farm Funding, Liaising with Dumfries & Galloway Council re local issues - Traffic, Parking, Street Cleaning, and Road Repairs.

The Community Council has expressed its concern recently over 2 developments currently taking place in the town. It is feared that the transfer of 800 patients from the Lockerbie Medical Practice to the one here may adversely affect the timescale for appointments for local residents and may add to current problems over traffic and parking through the High Street. Similarly, the CC has concerns that the plans to build another 29 dwelling houses on the former Hospital site and 16 at Laverockhall will further escalate parking and traffic issues and add to pressure on numbers in the local school.

If you are interested in issues like these which affect our community, why don't you come along to a Community Council meeting (meetings are held on the first Monday in the month at 7.30pm at Lochmaben Town Hall) and get involved? If the vacancies are not filled, the Community Council might have to fold, as there are strict statutory rules in place over the formation of all Community Councils.

### **\*Post Office opening times**

Monday 2pm-3.45pm

Wednesday and Friday 10am-3.45pm

