

Lairg Magazine

LAIRG & DISTRICT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



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Lairg 'Aire' Project

Opportunity to create better infrastructure for overnight vehicles.

Lairg & District Community Initiatives (LDCI) has recently been awarded a design grant from Visit Scotland's Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund, and from the North Highland Initiative to explore the feasibility of options to develop an 'Aire' in Lairg.

What is an Aire?

An 'Aire' is a small parking site with a motorhome waste disposal point where motorhome/campervan users can responsibly dispose of their chemical waste and fill their tanks up with fresh water. Most sites also have some electric hook up points so that campervans may park overnight for a small fee. More on page 3...

Recipe of the week

Peanut Butter Chicken

Ingredients

2tbsp vegetable oil
8 skinless boneless chicken thighs, cut into chunks
1 onion, finely chopped
3 garlic cloves, crushed
2 red chillies, finely sliced (deseeded if you don't like it too hot)
2tsp fresh ginger, grated
2tbsp garam masala
100g smooth peanut butter
400ml coconut milk
400g can chopped tomatoes
Coriander leaves roughly chopped,
Roasted peanuts, to serve



Method

STEP 1

Heat 1 tbsp of the oil in a deepfrying pan over a medium heat. Brown the chicken in batches, setting aside once golden. Fry the onion for 8 minutes until softened. Then add the garlic, chilli and ginger and fry in the other 1 tbsp oil for 1 min. Add the garam masala and fry for 1 min more.

STEP 2

Stir in the peanut butter, coconut milk and tomatoes, and bring to a simmer. Return the chicken to the pan and add the chopped coriander. Cook for 30 mins until the sauce thickens and the chicken is cooked through.

STEP 3

Serve with the remaining coriander, roasted peanuts and rice, if you like.

* For people with peanut allergies—why not try substituting with cashew nut butter & cashews?

Lairg Health Walks

As mentioned in the previous issue, LDCI plans to set up a new social walking group in Lairg. The walks will be suitable for all abilities, and at the end of the walk there will be the opportunity to socialise with others and have a cup of tea or coffee! If this is something that you would be interested in coming along to please let us know. The Volunteer walk leaders are taking part in training next week so we hope to hold our first walk starting at the Ferrycroft Visitor Centre in September. If you would like to come along - please get in touch (with your telephone number) so we can have an idea of numbers and so that we can contact you with the date or if we need to cancel due to adverse weather.

THINK NATURE HEALTH WALKS

Lairg Health Walks



The Benefits

The benefits of having an 'Aire' within the village is that it may encourage people to stay for longer (rather than just passing through) and increase business for the shops, petrol station and restaurants.

Why is this needed?

Over the past few years, and particularly since Covid struck there has been an increase in people visiting the Highlands in campervans. There is not sufficient infrastructure across Sutherland to meet this demand and this has created problems – leading to the irresponsible

dumping of waste in the countryside and in waterways, and also in public toilets. This has in fact led to the closure of the public toilets in Lairg due to the pipes being blocked. It has also been reported that waste has been tipped into little Loch Shin by the slipway, and that a motorhome entered the cemetery to fill up with water from the tap there.

For a number of years now, people have been choosing to 'wild camp' close to Ferrycroft and little Loch Shin. By providing formal facilities for motorhomes, we hope that the problems we have seen recently can be avoided.

Please note that LDCI initially checked with Dunroamin Campsite to ask if they would allow the disposal of waste at their site, however, they are not accepting touring campers and the site is for static caravans only.

The nearest campsite that accepts waste is Woodend Caravan and Camping site which is five miles north of Lairg. Falls of Shin Visitor Attraction which is about five miles south of Lairg currently operates an 'Aire' style facility which is full almost every night. LDCI aims to work with these other local operators as well as Pondsides Campsite to promote these sites so that visitors new to the area are aware of the other options available.

What next?

Please note that the Lairg Aires project is in early development stage and no further funding has been confirmed yet. Following completion of the design stage of the project, LDCI in partnership with the Highland Council will submit a Stage 2 application to the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund. This is where LDCI needs your help...

We need your support!

We would like to invite members of the community to add your support for the project – this will help strengthen our application. To do this you can go to our website to fill in an online form.

See www.lairginitiative.co.uk/aire-project

If you would prefer to write a letter of support – you can do so by emailing projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk or writing to:

Lairg and District Community Initiatives, Schoolhouse, Main Street, Lairg, IV27 4DD

Please send us your feedback by Friday 27th August.

We will continue to keep you informed as the project progresses.

Lairg Aire Project

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!



**SUPPORT US TO CREATE BETTER
INFRASTRUCTURE IN LAIRG FOR OVERNIGHT
VEHICLES - TO BOOST TOURISM AND HELP
PREVENT ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION &
CLOSURE OF PUBLIC TOILETS**

PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS BY
FILLING IN THE ANONYMOUS ONLINE FORM



(Answers on page 6)

1. From the last 20 Prime Ministers of Britain, name the 2 whose surname begins with a letter in the second half of the alphabet?
2. What links a character from Dad's Army and a spear-like weapon used by infantry in the late Middle Ages to early 18th century?
3. "Ding Dong! The witch is dead" is a song from which musical?
4. What is the American highest military award called?
5. What is the medical term for an excessive inward curve of the spine?
6. Who would study a Storm Petrel?
7. In a 1997 disaster film, what threatens the community of Dante's Peak?
8. What is fermented to make soy sauce?
9. In the novel by Anna Sewell, what was the name of Black Beauty's mother?
10. "We can neither confirm nor deny that this is our first tweet" was whose debut message on Twitter?
11. Complete the sentence from the 1966 FIFA World Cup, said by Kenneth Wolstenholme - "They think it's all over...?"
12. Nessun Dorma comes from which Puccini opera?
13. Which are the 2 letters in Scrabble with a value of 8?
14. Which of these distances is the longest - 2 Kilometres, 4 Miles or 6 Furlongs?
15. When did Big Ben come into service?
16. What is an antechamber, hall or lobby next to the outer door of a building called?
17. In the bible, how many older siblings did Benjamin have?
18. Instituted in 1943, what bronze medal is awarded to military animals displaying conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty, equivalent to the Victoria Cross?
19. Which word is used in radio call signs for the letter Y?
20. What was the name of Ed Sheeran's first UK number one single?





Bradbury Centre - Sign up for training to drive the new Community Bus

The Bradbury Centre have been successful in their bid to the Beatrice Fund for a community bus. They will be organising free MIDAS training at the centre so that groups can get drivers trained to drive the minibus. The training will be a one-day course held during a weekend. The format is as follows: theory work in the morning in the 'classroom' and then a drive after lunch. Drivers must hold a D1 on their license - this is usually by virtue of age so anyone who passed their driving test before January 1997 usually has one. If you would like to take part in the training on behalf of your community group please contact Lorraine Askew by emailing: bradburydaycare@btconnect.com or call 01863766772.

Church Hill Woods

As part of our ongoing maintenance programme for the Church Hill Woods, LDCI has replaced the visitor information signs in Church Hill woods, which had become rotten and were starting to fade. We'd like to thank Lairg Wind Farm Ltd for this funding.

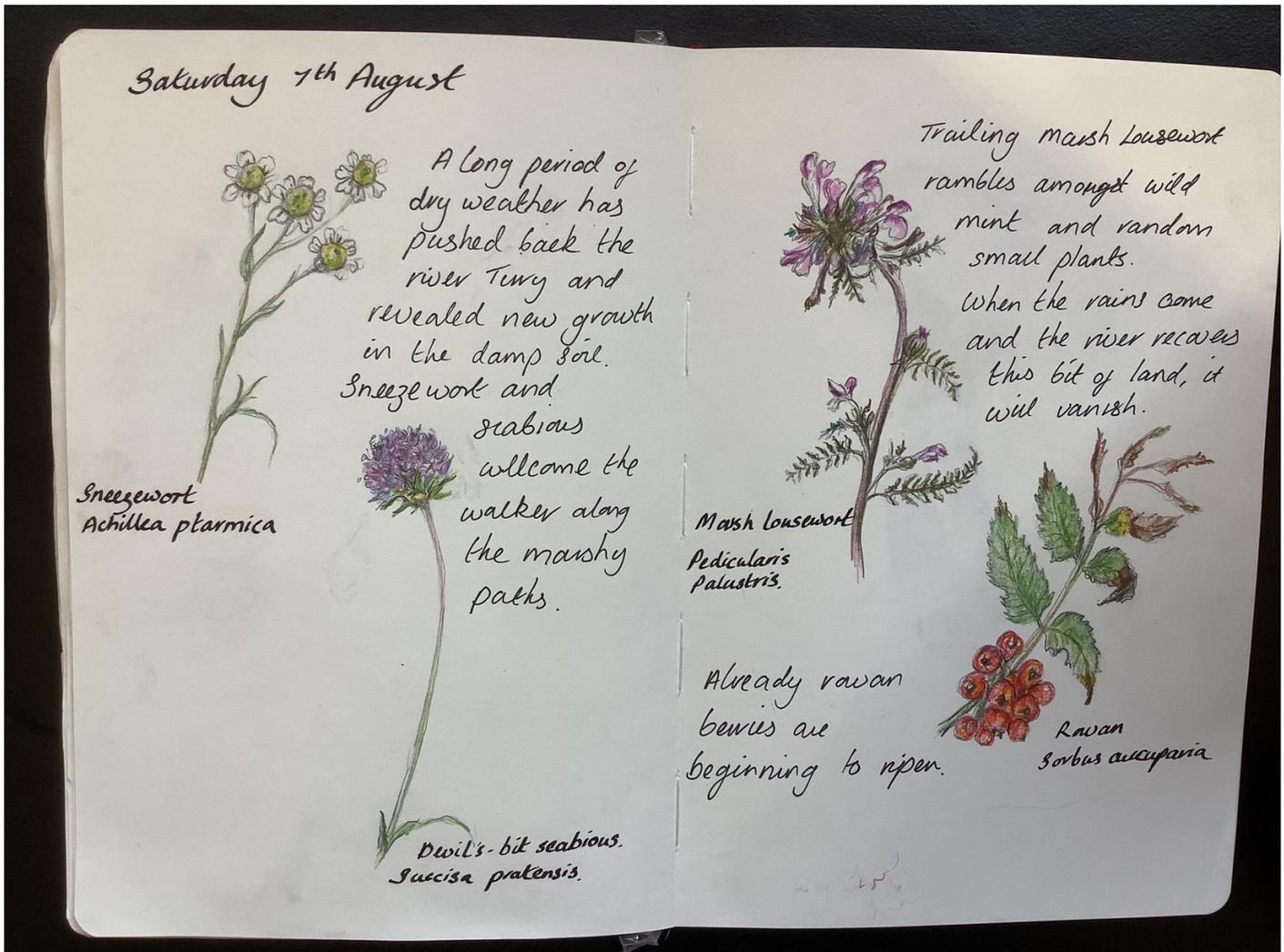
After being rained off a few times, the community payback team have also attended to oil and clean the carvings to help preserve them for the future. Further work may take place on Saturday 21st August (weather permitting.)



Lairg Helping Hand Fund

A reminder that the Lairg Helping Hand Fund is still open for eligible households who need help to pay for either energy bills or for a new energy efficient white good. LDCI can provide a grant of up to £250. Please see: www.lairginitiative.co.uk/helping-hand-fund for more info.

Thank you to local artist Jan Blackwell for allowing us to print excerpts of her illustrations and notes from her 'Highland Journal'. Here is August's diary entry.



LDCI Quiz Answers

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Wilson and Thatcher | 8. Soybeans | 15. 1859 |
| 2. Pike | 9. Duchess | 16. Vestibule |
| 3. The Wizard of Oz | 10. CIA | 17. 12, 11 brothers & 1 sister |
| 4. Medal of Honor | 11. It is now | 18. Dickin Medal |
| 5. Lordosis | 12. Turandot | 19. Yankee |
| 6. Ornithologist | 13. J and X | 20. Sing |
| 7. A volcano | 14. 4 Miles | |

How did you do?

1-5/20

Poor

5-10/20

Okay

10-15/20

Good

15-10/20

Excellent



Our facebook group has been very active this month with topics ranging from food, plastic, bees and banking. Here's a wee summary.

Bees and pollinators. It's been very interesting watching the seasons change and following the coming and going of flowering plants and bushes, from flowering currant in April to Buddleia and Potentilla in August. We've got a wee project on the go now to look at what grows best here throughout the seasons for our

very important insects. Planning ahead is crucially important to ensure that we keep them fed right through the seasons. And we're all looking forward to receiving our autumn planting bulbs from our cooperative order.

Plastic free continues to be discussed, adding in new recipes for home made cleaning products like dish washer and clothes washing.

Food miles - Shopping locally and eating in season is truly one of the simplest ways to reduce our impact on the planet. We get fresher food, packed with more nutrients and avoid plastic. In our recipe sharing recently we discussed how avocados can easily be replaced by courgettes and broad beans to make a delicious guacamole. It's also worth considering planning ahead for next years growing, and think about what we could each grow plenty of including: potatoes, kale, cabbage, garlic, onions, carrots, beans and of course more lettuce! Every plateful we make from our gardens reduces our carbon footprint and plastic use. (For even more ideas, do check out the LDLC Cookery and Growing Clubs). Interestingly rice has 10 times the carbon foot print of potatoes so having home made naan bread or bombay potatoes with our curry can really help too.

Super Quick Eco changes - Wouldn't it be great if we could just make 1 tiny easy change every couple of weeks to gradually reduce our carbon footprint? Our recent discussions here have included changes in the bathroom, thinking about the most eco-friendly banks, using napkins and hankies instead of paper, and using Ecosia.org as a default web browser (which plants a tree for every 45 searches).

Joining Us

As always, we're keen to work with any community groups, businesses, food producers and individuals to help reduce Sutherland's carbon footprint. All are welcome to join our regular working group meetings which discuss and progress new projects and ideas. You can join us or get in touch via the many options here – <https://planetsutherland.com/join-us/>. Or, please feel free to contact anna@planetsutherland.com with any questions, thoughts or ideas.





Lairg & District Learning Centre is looking forward to reopening on Monday 23rd August. We are doing a phased return for our classes and we will be available by telephone from Monday – Thursday 9am – 2pm or by emailing admin@lairglearningcentre.org.uk. We will not be open on Fridays for a while yet.

Things are a bit different than before; people should wait outside and call us or knock and wait and we will come down to get you checked into the building; bookings are being done online and we can help anyone who is unable to book online will be helped by one of our staff to get booked in; we have gone paperless as far as possible; we aren't able to offer use of our kitchen and masks must be worn at all times unless you are exempt or are eating or drinking.

There will be some small price increases for some of our classes and groups in order to cover the additional cleaning costs but we are keeping this as low as possible. We are focusing on offering IT clinics & digital skills classes as well as welcoming back our regular groups. Look out for leaflets and posters locally and check out our social media accounts to see what we've got coming up over the next few months.

LAIRG & DISTRICT learning centre WE'RE HIRING!

Gaelic Tutor

Woodworking Tutor



Do you speak Gaelic?
Want to work remotely?

Gaelic Tutor

We are looking for someone who

- Speaks Gaelic
- Has the ability to work online

Teaching experience is preferable



Woodworking or similar experience?
Want to work flexibility?

Woodworking Tutor

We are looking for someone who

- Has woodworking, handyperson, or similar experience

Formal qualifications are not required

This post is based in our centre in Lairg.

Please email natalie@lairglearningcentre.org.uk for an application pack.

Glasgow, 25 August 1819:

**Birth of Allan Pinkerton, founder of Pinkerton Detective Agency Chicago in 1850.
The Agency foiled an attempted assassination of President-elect Lincoln in 1861.**

Allan Pinkerton

Pinkerton was a barrel maker in the McCauley Cooperage Works, Glasgow. He was active in the Scottish Chartist Movement that sought political and social reform and this resulted in a warrant for his arrest. After marrying Joan Carfrae in 1842 they fled to the United States and settled in Chicago. He built a log cabin, started a cooperage business, sending for his wife when the cabin was completed.

In 1843 while wandering through the wooded groves around Dundee Township, Illinois, north-west of Chicago on the Fox River, looking for trees to make barrel staves, he came across a band of counterfeiters.

After observing them for a time he informed the local sheriff who arrested them. Pinkerton was then appointed as the first detective in Chicago in 1849.

In 1844 Pinkerton worked for Chicago abolitionist leaders and his Dundee home was a stop on the route for those on the Underground Railroad Network of secret houses during the 19th century, used by slaves to escape to the free states or Canada.



Pinkerton with Lincoln

Pinkerton served as head of the Union Intelligence Service during the first two years of the American Civil War and prevented an alleged assassination plot in Baltimore, Maryland, while guarding Abraham Lincoln on his way to Washington, D.C. His agents often worked undercover as Confederate soldiers to gather military intelligence. Pinkerton himself ran several undercover missions as a Confederate soldier using the alias Major E. J. Allen.

Pinkerton Detective Agency eventually became the Pinkerton National Detective Agency in 1850. Pinkerton died 1st July 1884, Chicago, Illinois.

The American Civil War in the United States was from 12 April 1861 to 9 April 1865 between northern states loyal to the Union and southern states that had seceded to form the Confederate States of America. The principal cause of the war was the status of slavery in the United States.

Lairg Cemetery clean-up day

Saturday 28th August

10 am - 1 pm

Meet at the Cemetery gate.

All welcome!

Please bring lawnmowers, strimmers, hoes for weeding, and your own gardening gloves.

Please continue to follow Scottish Government rules regarding outdoor socialising ...



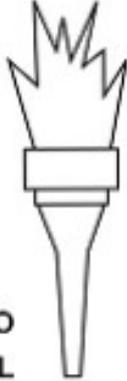




Tokyo Olympics 2021

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 EELTMAJAUPS YLFGDHANDBALLE
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Name _____ Date _____

AQUATICS BADMINTON BASKETBALL CYCLING FIELD GOLF KARATE SAILING TENNIS WEIGHTLIFTING		ARCHERY BASEBALL BOXING EQUESTRIAN HOCKEY GYMNASTICS PENTATHLON SURFING TRIATHLON WRESTLING		ATHLETICS SOFTBALL CANOEING FENCING FOOTBALL HANDBALL ROWING TAEKWONDO VOLLEYBALL CLIMBING
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Created using Word Search Machine at www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Technology-Integration-Depot

This magazine is funded by:



Thank you for reading issue 38 of the Lairg Magazine! If you would like to submit something to the magazine, please send it to: projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk.

Phone for Chair Kaye: 07500453301, Vice Chair Norman: 07742025719 or write to us at:

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