

Lairg Magazine

LAIRG & DISTRICT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



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Winterfest is back!!!

Lairg's annual 'Winterfest 2022' is taking place once again on Saturday 3rd December.

Now in its sixth year, (after a 2-year hiatus due to the pandemic) 'Winterfest' is a wonderful family day out that will get everyone into the Christmas spirit!

The day will kick off at 12pm with Church bells ringing to open the Festive Parade – come and see the real reindeer from Cairngorm Reindeer Centre pulling Santa's sleigh along the Main Street to the Community Centre (where the rest of the activities are based).

For more info about Winterfest see page 2 & the back page.

Santa will be in his Grotto within the Community Centre to greet children from 12.30- 4 pm. Children can also meet the reindeer at the back of the Community Centre throughout the afternoon.

There will be a Christmas Craft Fair with local traders and artisans selling their wares in the Community Centre. Perfect for picking up some unique Christmas gifts! Buttons & Bows will be playing traditional music during the afternoon too. There will also be a café selling refreshments and home baking provided by Lairg Crofters Show. Outdoors there will be a family funfair to keep the kids amused!



Further children's entertainment will be provided by the wonderful 'Mousetail Puppets' in Lairg Primary School at 2pm. Lairg Learning Centre are also putting on some fabulous festive classes throughout the day and there will be a bouncy castle in the School Gym. The Grand Raffle will be drawn at 4pm before the event closes at 4.30pm.

Kaye Hurrion, Chair of (LDCI), the organisers of Winterfest said, "We are delighted to be able to hold Winterfest once again this year after not being able to do so for the past two years. Winterfest has been made possible by generous donations from a number of local businesses who have either donated towards the event or have donated to our raffle which has some fantastic prizes. Winterfest is a really important event here in Lairg for our community and without their support we would really struggle to host the day. We'd also like to thank all the volunteers who help out, and we look forward to welcoming everyone on the day!"

Winterfest 2022 Programme

12 pm: **Opening Parade** of the **reindeer** pulling Santa's sleigh from the bottom of the Main Street up to the Community Centre.

12 – 4.30 pm: **Craft Fair** in the Community Centre (Main Hall, Kinvonvie & Shin suites) with **Buttons & Bows** playing traditional music.

12.30 – 4 pm: **Santa Claus** will meet children in his Grotto in the Conservatory within the Community Centre. £3 entry.

12 – 4.30 pm: **Café** provided by the Crofters Show in the Rifle Range (in the Community Centre). Tea/ coffee and home-baking.

12 - 4.30 pm: **Fun Fair & Hot food Van** outside.

12 - 4.30 pm: Bouncy Castle and Tombola stall in Lairg Primary School Gym (run by Lairg Primary Parent Council.)

Free festive classes at Lairg & District Learning Centre for Winterfest.

10am – 11am : Bottle Lights

10am – 12pm: Wreath Making in the Cabin

12.30pm – 1.30pm: Christmas Card Making

12.30pm – 2.30pm: Wreath Making in the Cabin

2pm – 3pm : Decorate your own Bauble.



Booking in advance is essential. Contact Lairg & District Learning Centre on admin@lairglearningcentre.org.uk or call 01549 402050 to book a place.

2 pm: **Mousetail Puppets** presents 'Oscar & the Highland Castle'. Fluorescent Glow in The Dark Puppet Show, Free admission. In Lairg Primary School, (GP Room)

4 pm: **Grand Raffle** Draw in the Main Hall with children's mini raffle first!

4.30 pm: Event Closes

1. What nationality is the actor David Tennant?
2. Which book begins: 'Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again'?
3. What is the longest running quiz show on British TV?
4. What is the only London Railway Station with a platform 0?
5. Which rugby player, married to Zara Philips, is to appear on I'm a celebrity this year?
6. Which British explorer journeyed around the world in 'The Golden Hind'?
7. Axilla is the technical name for which part of the body?
8. Betty Joan Perske was married to Humphrey Bogart, but what was her stage name?
9. What type of food might you serve in a tureen?
10. What was the first No 1 single for Elton John?
11. Staten Island is a borough of which U.S. city?
12. What happened in England between 3rd September 1752 and 13th September 1752?
13. What was the name of boxer Muhammad Ali before he changed it in 1964?
14. Who has become 'Chief Twit' of Twitter for \$44 billion?
15. What was the highest grossing film of the 1980's?
16. Hansen's Disease is also known as....?
17. In which Scandinavian country was the composer Edvard Grieg born?
18. 'Remember, Remember, the 5th of November' - but what year was the Gunpowder Plot?
19. What is the official summer sport of Canada?
20. The husband of the Speaker of the House of Representatives in America was attacked in October – what is her name?

Lairg Health Walks

We had a wonderful mild and sunny day for our last Health Walk in November - perfect for spotting some of the local wildlife! One of our walkers Mick Auvache took this photo of a colourful Siskin!

Our next Health Walk in December will take place at a different time and day than usual - we will meet on **Wednesday 7th December** - at 12.30 pm as we are going to join the Walking group from Tongue again. Afterwards we will go for hot drinks after at the Pier. All welcome - including first timers!



Primary 1,2,3 have been learning about different celebrations that happen around this time of year. They learnt about Diwali and made diya pots out of salt dough. They celebrated Halloween in school and got dressed up for the day! The children also learnt all about Guy Fawkes and why we celebrate Bonfire Night. The children wrote poems and made firework pictures to go up in the classroom.

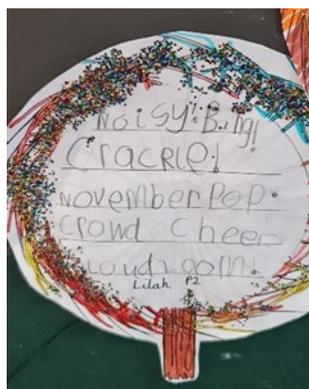
Making Diyas

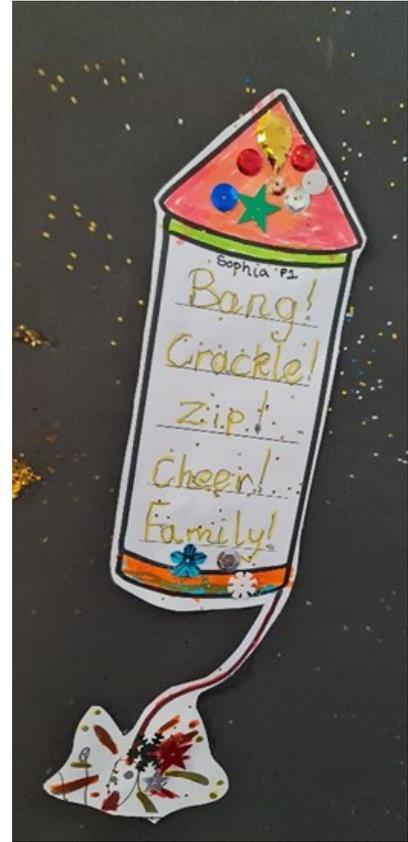


Hallowe'en



Bonfire Night





Ferrycroft Consultation

LDCI has had a very good response to our community consultation on the development of the playpark at Ferrycroft, and the closure and potential community asset transfer of the playpark at Ord Place.

There was overwhelming support (over 90% in both cases) for a new, all-abilities playpark at Ferrycroft, and for investigating a community asset transfer of the Ord Place site. Many people felt that developing an improved and upgraded playpark at Ferrycroft would complement the Visitor Centre, and thus attract tourists as well. Overall, the responses showed a strong public desire to provide modern play and recreation facilities in Lairg for children of all ages and abilities, including older children and young people.

Although there was regret that Ord Place would have to cease to be a playpark if Ferrycroft was to be developed, there were many suggestions as to what might replace it, including picnic tables, a wildlife garden, a community vegetable and herb garden, gym equipment, and so on.

LDCI will now be working with parents, carers and the Community Council, with the support and advice of Highland Council, to take the Ferrycroft project forward. We'll be contacting other local community groups who have managed successful playpark projects, to learn from their experience and best practice, and identifying possible sources of funding. We'll also be following up a community asset transfer of the Ord Place site, provided of course that it proves to be sustainable and financially viable.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to the consultation, and for giving us so many comments and ideas.





November the 25th 2022 marks 21 years of Lairg & District Learning Centre. LDLC was set up as a charity in 2001 to meet a demand for learning at local level. The disused school house was renovated and opened in April 2004. Since then, our learner numbers and our range of classes and workshops have expanded year-on-year. Through the pandemic we adapted our way of working and we now deliver a variety of classes and learning in-person, digitally and blended and deliver to communities across Sutherland as well as internationally. The types of learning we deliver vary from structured and accredited courses such as First Aid and employability support through to languages, growing and cooking, felting and sewing, health and wellbeing and everything in between. We exist as a result of our communities and we do our best to put on a wide and interesting variety of courses for everyone.

As 2022 is Scotland's Year of Stories we'd love to tell the LDLC's story and we need your help to do so! If you've got any stories of the learning centre you'd like to share with us please get in touch – it could be a memory of a class, a tutor, an event or the school house building. Contact us on the details below.

What's On?

30th November: Wax Wraps with Jo Henderson 11am – 1pm LDLC

Beeswax is more breathable than plastic—so it keeps your food fresher for longer. This will not only reduce your food waste, but it will save you time and money. Try wrapping a lemon, cheese, half of an avocado or onion—you won't be disappointed

4th December : Christmas Tree Shelf Woodworking 10am – 2pm LDLC

Graham will be showing you (and be there to help you!) how to build 3 tiered Christmas Shelf shaped as a Christmas Tree, with hooks along the bottom. It could be a great gift to someone you know or a decoration for your home. You'll learn how to measure and cut wood accurately and safely; as well as sanding, planing, drilling and sawing.

8th December: Eòin agus a'Ghàidhlig / Birds & Gaelic with Roddy Maclean

Roddy will explore the Gaelic names for, and heritage associated with, some of Scotland's best-known and most-loved birds. **7.30pm (online talk) with opportunity to join from LDLC.**

12th December: How to Set up Eventbrite 10:30am – 12:30pm LDLC

19th December: Online Safety 10:30 – 12:30 LDLC

Every Tuesday we have an IT Drop In from 9.30am – 11am and Maker Space 12 – 2 and 6 – 8. If you would like to participate in one of our online classes but require support to get online or a device and internet access to attend please get in touch.

Our programme of classes is updated on a regular basis via Eventbrite which you can find by searching **Lairg & District Learning Centre** or scanning this QR code or contact us on 01549 402050 or admin@lairglearningcentre.org.uk.



8th November 1847, first baby born with the aid of anaesthesia.

--oOo--

Sir James Young Simpson



Born 7th June 1811 - Died 6th May 1870

Sir James Young Simpson delivered the first child to be born with the aid of anaesthesia.

Born in Bathgate near Edinburgh, Scotland, he trained as an Obstetrician becoming Professor of Midwifery in the University of Edinburgh. He was the first to use ether in obstetric practice in the UK on the 19th January 1847.

Simpson, together with his assistants Matthew Duncan and George Keith, was in the habit of experimenting with chemicals in his dining room to see whether they had any anaesthetic effect. On the evening of 4 November 1847, they tried chloroform, a substance they had previously ignored as unpromising.

He first introduced chloroform on November 8, 1847, when delivering a child to Wilhelmina Carstairs.

In 1848, all three conferred with John Snow, possibly at the urging of Prince Albert who expressed interest in obtaining anesthesia for his wife, Queen Victoria. In keeping with most families of her time, Victoria and Albert had many children, nine in all.

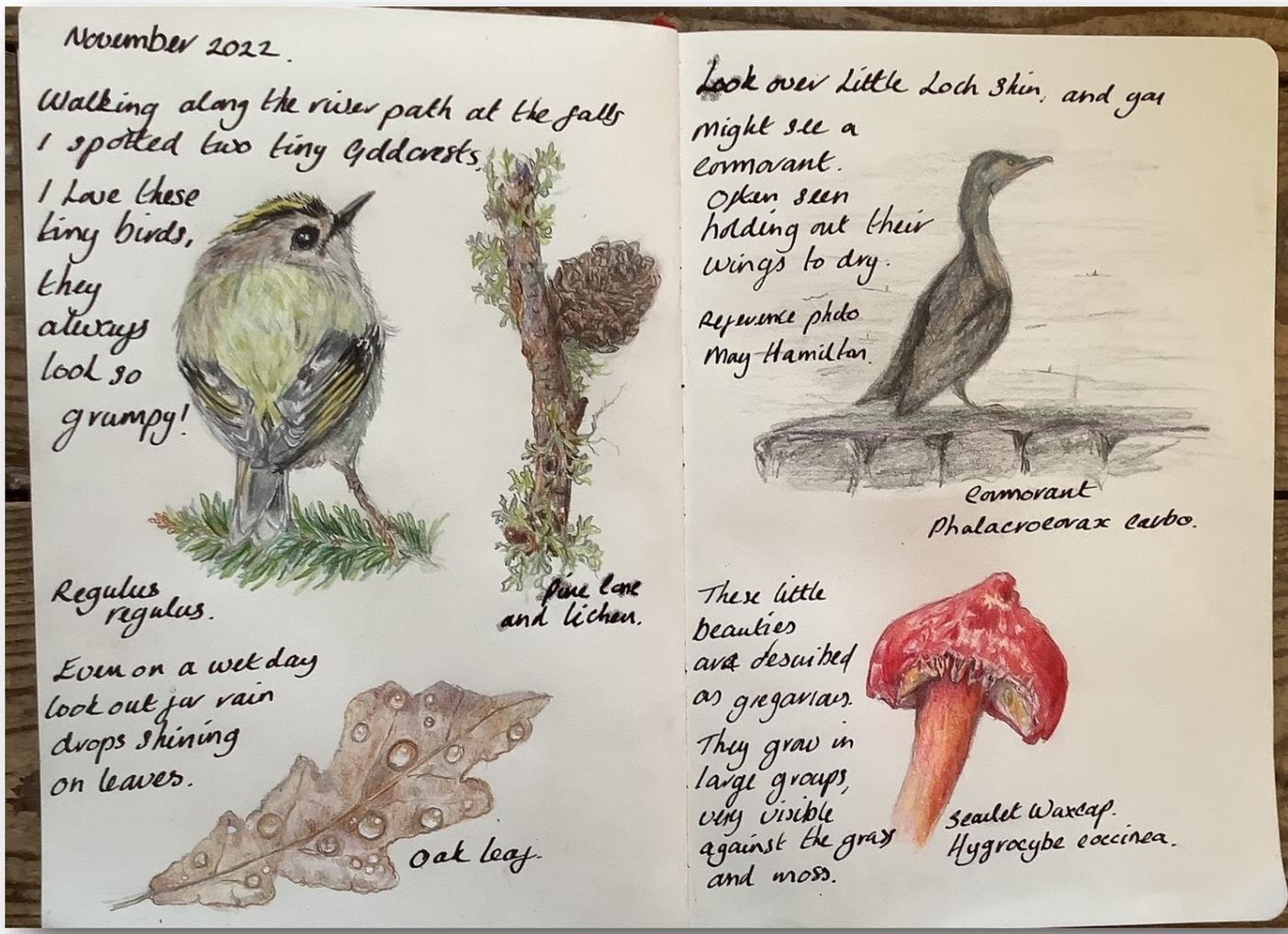
He was harshly attacked on moral rather than theological grounds for its use in relieving the pain of childbirth and it was not until Dr. John Snow administered chloroform to Queen Victoria for the birth of her 8th child (Prince Leopold) that the seal of respectability was set on the relief of pain in childbirth by anaesthetic drugs.

Simpson died at the age of 58 and the day of his funeral was declared a day of holiday in Scotland, with more than 100,000 people lining the streets of Edinburgh to see the funeral cortege pass by on its way to the family grave at Warriston Cemetery.



Thank you to local artist Jan Blackwell for allowing us to print excerpts of her illustrations and notes from her own nature journal. Here is November's diary entry. If you would like to see more of her work you can follow her on Facebook and Instagram. See:

www.facebook.com/janblackwellhighlandjournal/ and www.instagram.com/highland_journal_art/



LDCI Quiz Answers

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Scottish | 8. Lauren Bacall | 14. Elon Musk |
| 2. Rebecca | 9. Soup | 15. ET |
| 3. University Challenge | 10. Don't go breaking my heart | 16. Leprosy |
| 4. Kings Cross | 11. New York | 17. Norway |
| 5. Mike Tindall | 12. Nothing. The dates do not exist due to the change from Julian to Gregorian calendar | 18. 1605 |
| 6. Francis Drake | 13. Cassius Clay | 19. Lacrosse |
| 7. Armpit | | 20. Nancy Pelosi |

How did you do?

1-5/20	5-10/20	10-15/20	15-20/20
Poor	Okay	Good	Excellent

Planet Sutherland



Food Glorious Food!

We are delighted to announce that our next series of Carbon Cafes will be focussing on all things food: eating it; growing it; producing it; wasting it (or not!); cooking it; and buying it. After all, it's probably the one thing in this crazy world that we can all actually have more control over. The next one is at the start of December.

Christmas Glorious Christmas!

Shopping locally is a brilliant way to buy unique Christmas pressies, support local business and reduce transport money and miles. There are at least 3 xmas fairs on Saturday 26th (Rogart, Ardgay and Golspie) and others in the following weeks. Have a look at here - www.facebook.com/groups/PlanetSutherland where we've tried to collate them all.

Please also have a look too at Zero Waste Scotland's Sustainable Xmas Guide here - <https://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/SustainableChristmasGuide> .

Networks Glorious Networks!

As time passes, more and more people are doing things to help us all be as resilient as possible through whatever the climate crises brings. Look out for events from the North Highland Climate Hub; blog and vlogs from Highland Adapts; helpful info from The Highland Community Waste Partnership on composting, bikes, and reducing waste in general.



Lairg Community Centre

Lairg is host to many unsung heroes and fabulous individuals who give freely of their time and effort to the people of this area. The recent VOSCARS celebrated the achievements of volunteers across all of Sutherland including members of the community centre team being honoured with an award. We are grateful to everyone who gets involved to make good things happen in Lairg. If you would like to show your appreciation for a local volunteer, the Highland Heroes 2023 campaign is now open for nominations. Entries need to be in by 6th January. Ask us if you want to know more. What a great way to say thank you.

Lairg Community Market is just one of the many events which relies on the precious time of our volunteers.

Our last market seen a more than full hall of both stalls and visitors galore with our next Market looking even busier and festive.



The Christmas Market!....It's really that time of year again!

Monday 19th December

1.30pm - 4.00pm

See you then!

For more information or if you would be interested in holding a stall at one of our markets, we look forward to hearing from you!

Contact Ros our administrator at 01549 402 843 or lairgcommunitycentre@gmail.com .



WINTERFEST

Sat 3rd Dec 2022 | 12 -4.30 PM

Lairg Community Centre



At noon join the Opening Parade of real reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh from the bottom of Main Street to the Community Centre

MEET RUDOLF & HIS FRIENDS | SANTA'S GROTTO | CHRISTMAS CRAFT & ARTISAN FAIR | CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOPS | FUNFAIR | BOUNCY CASTLE | CAFE WITH DELICIOUS HOME BAKING | HOT FOOD VAN | RAFFLE | MOUSETAIL PUPPETS 'GLOW IN THE DARK' SHOW.

Lairg &
District
Community
Initiatives

FOR FURTHER INFO SEE: WWW.LAIRGINITIATIVES.CO.UK/WINTERFEST

FUNDED THANKS TO GENEROUS DONATIONS
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Thank you for reading issue 54 of the Lairg Magazine! If you would like to submit something to the magazine, please send it to: projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk.

Phone: 07961 372 427 or write to us at: Schoolhouse, Main Street, Lairg, IV27 4DD