

Bitesize Newsletter

Snippets from BNA & Outside Source

James Love of Knowes 1865

Another of the 'old familiar faces' has disappeared from among the parishioners of Lochwinnoch. Another well known 'landmark' of longstanding has just been removed from the parish. Mr James Love, of Knowes, died at his residence there on the evening of Monday, 21st August, in the 79th year of his age, after an illness of about two days. Mr Love's death shortens by one other link the chain that binds 'old Lochwinnoch'—or the town and parish of the last century—to Lochwinnoch as it stands at present.

Born at Knowes, the home of his father, a pleasant patrimony, situated on the southern side of the parish, in the old barony of Auchengown Stewart, at least 14 years before the close of the eighteenth century, Mr Love must have witnessed many changes in the history and circumstances both of the village and district.

In the course of that time Lochwinnoch had risen from the position of a mere 'clachan'—or Kirktoon—a few straggling houses lying around the old pariah church, to be a very considerable village. Mr Love's lifetime comprehended the period which marks what may be called 'The Rise, Progress, and Decline' of Lochwinnoch. He saw his native place in its great prosperity, and from that flourishing position descend to its present condition of depression and adversity.



Jack & Annie Orr

Contributed by Amanda Mackie



The Big Freeze

Dec 23rd 2009



Willie Storey

Barber

1897

LOCHWINNOCH CHRISTIAN
ENDEAVOUR SOCIETY

FIRST ANNUAL FESTIVAL
WAS HELD IN THE FREE
CHURCH AND A PLEASANT
SOCIAL GATHERING WAS
HELD

1805

PETITIONS TO
PARLIAMENT FROM BEITH
AND LOCHWINNOCH
AGAINST THE PRESENT
CORN LAW HAVE BEEN
TRANSMITTED TO MR
MCDOWALL, M.P. FOR
RENFREWSHIRE

1907

J.P. COURT LOCHWINNOCH

WILLIAM BARCLAY WAS
CHARGED WITH
DISORDERLY CONDUCT
AND FINED £1 OR 14
DAYS.
HE WENT TO PRISON

Mr Love, when but a young man, obtained a commission as an officer in the old 22nd or Renfrewshire Regiment of Militia. The 'Old Renfrew' was then under the command of a succession of gentlemen connected with the county, famous as disciplinarians, such as Colonel William Mure, of Caldwell; Colonel James Dunlop, of Househill; and Colonel Laurence McDowall, of Castlesemple; and in this famous old regiment of militia Mr Love served through most of their multifarious duties, and many hard marches in Scotland, England, Wales, and Ireland, till the disembodying of the regiment after the peace which succeeded the battle of Waterloo in 1815. Soon after this Mr Love returned to his native pariah, married Margaret, second daughter of Robert Barr, Esq., merchant, Beith, and resided in the locality all the remaining years of his life. For many years he acted as a Justice of the Peace, and in this capacity he was generally respected both by his fellow commissioners and by the public. In politics he was moderately conservative, and as a churchman he was devotedly attached to the Established Kirk of Scotland.

When the disruption came in 1843, Mr Love was one of the heritors that left the establishment along with their faithful and respected minister, and joined the Free Protestant Church of Scotland. At the setting up of the Free Church congregation of Lochwinnoch, Mr Love was chosen and ordained an elder, and ever after, till his death, he continued to act as a most consistent, faithful, and efficient office-bearer of the Free Church.

When Dr Smith and his congregation, after retiring from the parish church, found themselves in a position to 'arise and build,' Mr Love had the honour of laying the foundation stone of the Free Kirk. This interesting ceremony took place on the 29th August, 1843, the Rev. Duncan McFarlane, D.D., Renfrew, preaching the appointed sermon, Dr Smith presiding, and the 'Laird of Knowes' 'putting his hand to the work,' and finishing the proceedings of the day by laying the foundation stone.

On Saturday, 26th August, his body was laid in its place of rest in Lochwinnoch churchyard, next to his wife and others of the family who had gone before him.



1923

Lochwinnoch was en fete yesterday, the occasion being the fifth annual sports carnival on behalf of the Infirmaries Fund. As befitted a town whose chief industry is cabinet-making, the principal prizes were useful as well as handsome pieces of furniture.

The unique selection of prizes brought forward a galaxy of competitors, while the attendance of spectators at Nursery Park was up to its usual. The weather was all that could be desired. An incident while the sports were in progress was the cheer that went up when the megaphone man announced Eric Liddell's success in the British Championships.

