

# LAIRG MAGAZINE



Page 2 - Recipe

Page 3 – Quiz

Page 4 – Readers’ Entry

Page 5 – Readers’ Entry/ Quiz  
Answers

Page 6 – Name These Faces

Page 7 – Lairg Learning Centre

Page 9— Activities

Welcome to Issue 7 of the Lairg Magazine! We are looking for stories, recipes, film/book reviews and craft/activity ideas to put in to our magazine. Please email Jodie at : [projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk](mailto:projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk) or call Chair of LDCI Kaye: 07500453301 or Vice Chair Norman: 07742025719.

If you need support/advice on accessing the various help and services available in the community, please do not hesitate to contact us on the details provided above– we will try our best to help you.



## *An encounter with James Bond*

Please turn to page 4 to read this amazing article written by Johnathan Brett Young where he recalls his experience in having a part in the fourth Bond film *Thunderball*. He wrote an article that was published in an obscure Australian magazine years ago. Enjoy!



We understand that in times like these, feeding yourself or your family may become a worry. LDCI have decided to include an affordable recipe each week in the magazine to help you. Our aim is to include recipes where people are likely to have the ingredients at home - without having to go out and buy. The recipes will be super easy and we encourage you to get the kids involved. That way, they are learning how to cook and will enjoy doing it with you.

## Creamy Tarragon Chicken & Potato Bake

Serves 6

60g unsalted butter £0.38  
 6 skinless boneless chicken thighs, cut into bite-sized pieces £3.20  
 2 large onions, sliced £0.18  
 40g plain flour  
 500ml chicken stock £0.13  
 3 tbsp finely chopped tarragon £0.18  
 2-3 tbsp wholegrain mustard £0.10  
 4 tbsp double cream £0.10  
 2 x 450g packs fresh prepared mashed potato £2.25  
 Total = £6.52

**Recipe of the  
Week!**

- Melt 20g of the butter in a flameproof casserole dish over a medium heat. Season the chicken and add to the dish. Fry for 5 mins until the chicken is browned and cooked through. Set aside in a bowl.
- Lower the heat, add the remaining butter and, when it starts foaming, add the onions. Cook for 10 mins until softened, then stir through the flour and cook for another 2 mins. Remove from the heat and slowly whisk in the chicken stock. Return to the hob, bring to the boil and cook for 5 mins. Stir through the tarragon, mustard and cream, followed by the chicken, and cook for another 5 mins until the sauce is thickened.
- Heat the grill to high. Heat the mashed potato following pack instructions, then spoon on top of the chicken filling in the casserole dish. Smooth and swirl the potato over right to the edges, drizzle with a little olive oil and put under the grill for 8-10 mins or until the top is golden and bubbling.

1. What did Dr John S Pemberton concoct in his backyard in 1886?
2. A normal keyboard is known by this name because of the first 6 letters on the top row, what are those letters?
3. The music for Swan Lake was written by whom?
4. Who is the actress best known for playing Dorian Green in the TV comedy 'Birds of a feather'?
5. Which necessary element in our diet is provided by kelp?
6. What is the capital of Pakistan?
7. Which musical features the song "Who wants to be a millionaire"?
8. What is the name of the computer in the film '2001: A Space Odyssey'?
9. Which ancestor of Noah is also the name of an oversized Champagne bottle that holds six litres?
10. Name the Scottish bacteriologist born 1881 known for one of the greatest discoveries in medicine in 1928 and one of the joint winners of the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1945?
11. Where would I find a caldera?
12. Who was the 20th president of the United States – the second president to be assassinated?
13. What is the study of wine called?
14. What kind of animal was Jeremy Fisher?
15. What colour is the cross on the Jamaican flag?
16. What does the chemical symbol Ar stand for?
17. The vacuum cleaner was invented in which year?
18. An E.E.G. measures activity in which organ of the body?
19. If you saw canard on a French menu, what type of meat would be on offer?
20. What is measured on the PH scale?

## An encounter with James Bond

In the 1965 James Bond film *Thunderball*, the villain, Emilio Largo, played by the striking Adolfo Celi, with his snow white hair and black eye-patch, is attempting his getaway in the hydrofoil *Disco Volante* when a British frigate appears from over the horizon and, with some accurate shooting disables the vessel causing it to hit rocks at high speed. But not before 007 and the beautiful Domino (Claudine Auger — a previous Miss France), escape by jumping off into the water to be hoisted up by a passing US Navy plane.

When the model of the *Disco Volante* was dynamited in this scene the explosion was so great that windows were broken in Bay St in Nassau some miles away.

But how did HMS *Rothsay*, a Royal Navy Type 12 frigate on the West Indies Station, come to have a bit part in the fourth James Bond film?

### "I can get you into movies"

It all started some weeks previously when one of the crew was talking to a girl in a bar in Nassau (as they do). She was a nurse and was on the film set of the latest 007 adventure which was being shot nearby. Would he like to visit the set? Would he! He did, and found himself talking to the legendary producers Albert "Cubby" Broccoli and Harry Saltzman, who immediately said "Let's write this ship into the chase at the end". Permission was given by the Admiralty (provided costs were met), which leaves one wondering what the going daily rate to hire a British frigate was in 1964.

### Reality meets fantasy

And that is why I, as Gunnery Officer, found myself on the Gun direction platform with a rather nervous Captain (he had just assumed command), and the Director, Terence Young. The Captain was conning the ship, which was doing 30 knots and weaving in between static camera barges and accompanied by a fleet of fast motor boats all firing machine guns and chasing the villain. And all this within three miles of land. Every now and then Terence Young would shout at me "Fire the guns NOW!", and I would order over the Armament Broadcast: "Four Fives – Engage".

It was at this point that reality and fantasy met head on. There was no way we could actually fire the shell: we could only fire the cartridge with the cordite propellant. There was therefore no gun recoil, necessary to eject the empty casing; and no air blast to send residue out of the barrel. These things had to be done by hand by the turret crew. There was however a very satisfying flash and clouds of yellow smoke including lots of unburnt cordite which covered the deck. As a spectacle it was all the Director could have asked for.

As in any film the Director required several takes, but after about an hour or so we had completed our filming and returned to Nassau where we were berthed amongst the cruise ships.

What the Admiralty made of the differing number of cartridges and shell used on our annual returns is not known. Normally they should correspond exactly.

### Sunday lunch

On the Sunday the ship entertained some of the cast to lunch. It was very informal, and in chatting to Sean Connery I learned that he had served in the Royal Navy as a gunnery rating. He said he would like to meet my sailors.

Sundays in harbour are a time of relaxation, and when I went down to check the gunnery messdeck it was a shambles. Kit lay everywhere; there were half-naked sailors in all states of undress lying around, all waiting to go ashore in the evening to sample the delights of this Caribbean island.

## “Get this tip sorted out”

Leading Seaman Reid was the Leading Hand in charge of the Mess, an amiable 6 ft 3 Irishman. (He was often an Able Seaman; he was regularly disrated for misdemeanours. )

I said to the sailors: “Sean Connery wants to meet you guys — get this tip sorted out. You've got five minutes.” I gave them ten, then said to Sean “Let's go and meet the gunnery division.” As we were leaving the wardroom, Claudine Auger said “Ooh! May I come too?”

I have said it was an informal gathering; 007 was in shorts and a shirt. However Miss France 1964 was wearing what can only be described as a very short towelling beach gown with not a lot on underneath as far as I could see.

As I descended the ladder to the messdeck I was reminded of those old photos of messdecks in WW I battle-cruisers, where the sailors are all seated in rows at the mess tables, all neatly dressed and immaculate in appearance.

Sean Connery followed me down the ladder then Miss Auger started down. Thirty pairs of eyes locked onto those shapely legs like our gunnery radar locking onto an approaching aircraft. There was an audible sigh round the messdeck. When we were all down there was dead silence. This was broken by Leading Seaman Reid saying “Would youse like a cup of tea?” After that there was lots of excited chatter and photos taken.

### Lipstick

The lipstick-stained cup that Miss Auger used was secured to the bulkhead afterwards as a trophy. (Sailors love trophies. Almost anything will do if it has history.)

*Thunderball* was released in December 1965, and for a period was the top-grossing film of all time. In terms of 'posteriors-on-seats' it still beats many blockbusters of more recent years.

When *Rothesay* returned to the UK, United Artists paid for a busload of the ship's company, with wives and girlfriends to go up to Pinewood Studios. They watched some of the interior shots being filmed, and were entertained to lunch.

Maybe I am biased, but I still think that Sir Sean Connery — as he is now — was the best Bond of them all. He is an award-winning actor, has set up a charity to help people in Scotland, and has never forgotten his roots — even all the way back to the gunnery messdeck.

Written by Jonathan Brett Young

- |                  |                           |                            |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Coca-Cola     | 8. HAL 9000               | 15. Yellow                 |
| 2. QWERTY        | 9. Methuselah             | 16. Argon                  |
| 3. Tchaikovsky   | 10. Sir Alexander Fleming | 17. 1876                   |
| 4. Lesley Joseph | 11. A volcano             | 18. Brain                  |
| 5. Iodine        | 12. James Garfield        | 19. Duck                   |
| 6. Islamabad     | 13. Oenology              | 20. Acidity and Alkalinity |
| 7. High Society  | 14. Frog                  |                            |

### How did you do?

1-5/20

Poor

5-10/20

Okay

10-15/20

Good

15-20/20

Excellent

We have received great feedback about the 'Name These Faces' page in the magazine, however, we are not having much luck with finding out who the people in the pictures are. We would like your help with naming the people in the photos and possibly tell us what year they were taken. Please email [projectofficer@lairinitiative.co.uk](mailto:projectofficer@lairinitiative.co.uk) or write to us at Schoolhouse, Main Street, Lairg, IV27 4DD





**My Rainbow Garden, an exciting new project for primary aged children.**

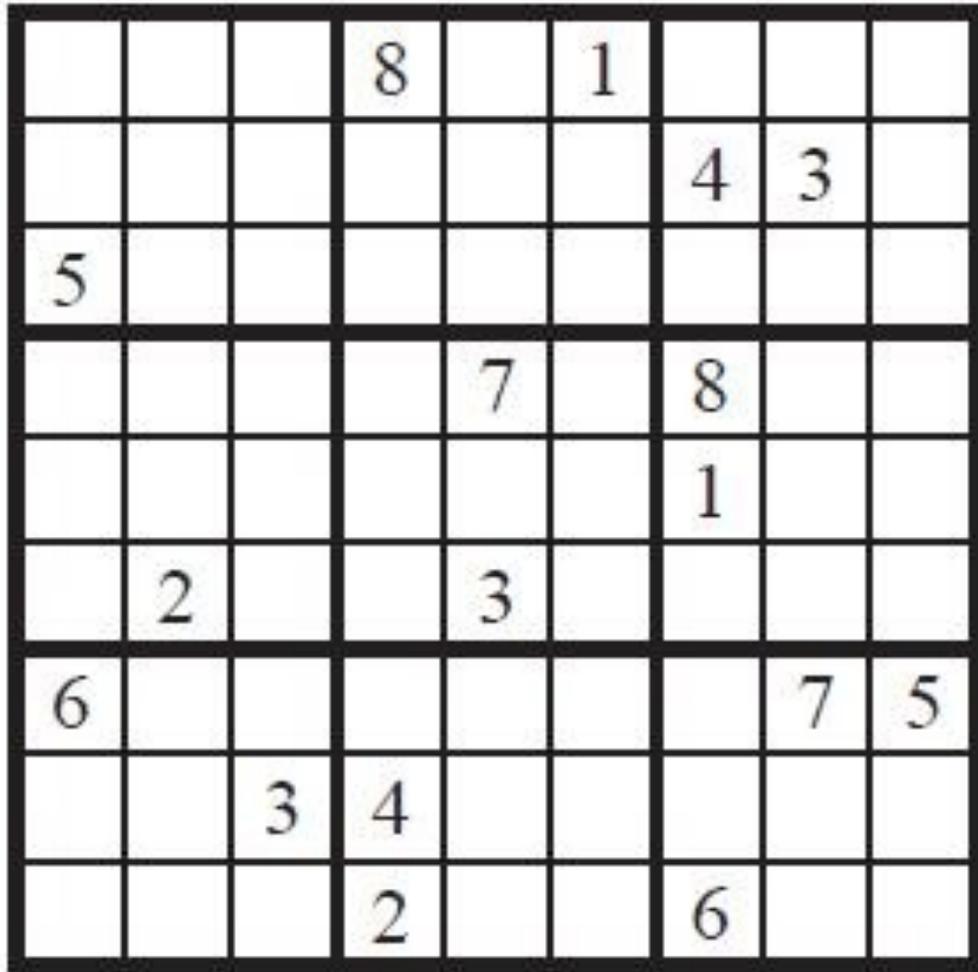
Rainbows have been popping up in windows around the world, as schools closed, and social distancing has been observed. They are a symbol of hope in many cultures and a sign of brighter times ahead once the storm has passed. There need to be water droplets in the air for a rainbow to be formed. Then light shines through those droplets at just the right angle, if this happens ... a rainbow!

The symbol of the rainbow has inspired Lairg and District Learning Centre's exciting new project, "My Rainbow Garden". This is part of The Learning Centre's two-year project "Seasons of Change", which is funded by Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund. The Project will offer primary aged school children living in the Creich and Lairg Community Council areas the chance to grow their own vegetables at home in their gardens, in pots or on windowsills.

Each family will be sent a small vegetable garden in a box with 20 ready-to-plant seedlings from Highland Seedlings in Tain. This will be delivered by post directly to the family home. There will be a mixture of salad plants and bigger plants including spinach, beetroot, broccoli and lots more colourful vegetables. There will be a regular newsletter with hints and tips on growing, instructions for making your own scarecrow and how to make a wind spinner or bird scarer from plastic. Families taking part will be asked to keep in touch with the Project Officer, Sarah Forrest, sharing their growing stories, from planting, harvesting, recipe ideas and family meals.

The project is limited to 20 families and is on a first come first served basis. If you'd like to take part, please get in touch with Sarah: [sarah@lairglearningcentre.org.uk](mailto:sarah@lairglearningcentre.org.uk)

Thank you to Coriolis Energy on behalf of Garvary Wind Farm Ltd for the funding they have given towards producing the Newsletter. More information on Garvary can be found by visiting [www.garvarywindfarm.co.uk](http://www.garvarywindfarm.co.uk)



Thank you for reading issue 7 of the Lairg Magazine! If you would like to put something in the magazine, please send it to the details below. We are very much open to ideas and suggestions, so please get in touch by emailing [projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk](mailto:projectofficer@lairginitiative.co.uk). Phone for Chair Kaye: 07500453301, Vice Chair Norman: 07742025719 or write to us at Schoolhouse, Main Street, Lairg, IV27 4DD

## Useful Numbers

**NHS 24** 111

**NHS The Health Centre, Lairg**

**Police Scotland** 101

01549 402007

**COVID-19 NHS advice helpline**

**Electricity Power Cuts** 105

0800 028 2816

**Highland Council Covid19 Helpline**

**Citizens Advice Bureau**

0300 30301362

01408 635218