

LOCH ARTHUR CREAMERY, FARM SHOP & CAFÉ

Loch Arthur Camphill Community

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Dear Friends,

Hard to believe that it's one year since I was sitting writing a newsletter confirming the opening date of our new farm shop and café on the 29th November 2012....

...and what a year it's been.

I think for most of you reading this newsletter, I won't need to say much about the shop because you'll have been, seen, enjoyed (hopefully) and come to know and appreciate the shop for yourselves. However, I will point out three predominant comments which I have heard repeatedly from people over the year and which are very heartening because they relate to (and reflect) three important elements of our ethos and aspirations at Loch Arthur.

- Firstly, people are astounded by the quality and beauty of the building itself, the materials used to build it and the layout and feeling of the produce within it. This feels to me like a reflection of our commitment to a sound economic endeavour, a 'social enterprise' of meaning and purpose.
- Secondly, people comment on the profound quality of calm when visiting the shop and café and the fact that they have the unusual experience of a retail environment which actually makes them feel relaxed. This feels to me like a reflection of our spiritual and cultural striving as a Community ... our efforts to imbue all things we do with a sense of purpose and meaning.
- Thirdly, people are astounded by the quality of the people who work in the shop and café ... their pleasantness, knowledge and enjoyment of the work they do. This feels to me like a reflection of our efforts to create a healthy social and human environment in all that we do at Loch Arthur.

For us, a lot of effort and commitment went into the planning and shaping of this new enterprise and it's very heartening to see that it is now reflecting our aspirations as a Community and as a Social Enterprise.

It is also incredibly heartening to see how well received it has been by the local community and how much it seems to have come to mean to so many people in such a short space of time.

So, once again, Christmas is looming and we look forward to welcoming you into the shop to socialise, eat, drink and revel in the wonderful offerings.

So, what's on offer in the shop ...

CHEESE ... CHEESE ... CHEESE ...

After our little cheese-making blip a few months ago, we are now back in full production and the quality of our cheese is premium! Our classic range of Loch Arthur Cheeses is complimented on the deli counter by a fine range of hand-picked cheeses from artisan producers.

...Or make your own

with our selection of **home cheese-making kits**. A perfect gift at just £20

- Mozzarella & Ricotta
- Crowdie
- Goat's cheese
- Kits for kids

CHRISTMASSY THINGS

.....The classics ... hand-made in our own kitchen.

- **Christmas puddings**
- **Fruit mincemeat**
 - **Mince pies**
- **Biscuits & Stollen**

THINGS TO READ

We have a wonderful selection of special books

- **Magical Children's books**
- **Delightful Foodie Books**
- **Interesting topical books**
(...yes, a book is still a special gift!)



CRAFTY STUFF

.....Simple but special.

- **Beautiful hand-made pottery**
- **Weavings and woodwork from Camphill workshops**
- **Fair trade crafts from exotic places**
- **Hand-made soaps**
- **Individual works of art and craft**
- **Toys, baskets, cards ..and more....**

A LITTLE SOMETHING SPECIAL TO DRINK

..... we now have a selection of: **Organic, Biodynamic and ethically produced wines** from around the world. We also have Organic and local beers and Ciders from the UK. We hope you enjoy exploring and sampling our choices.

... and, for the first time this year.. **CHRISTMAS TREES AND WREATHS** will be for sale outside our shop in the weeks before Christmas
Beautifully shaped Nordmand Fir Trees from £24.95
Naturally decorated wreaths ... from £12.50
... available to order or to take away on the day.

STILL STUCK FOR GIFT IDEAS??
Why not pick up a **Loch Arthur Gift Voucher**and make someone very happy.
Or let us make up a personalised hamper ... always appreciated!

FRESH BAKED BREADS DAILY FROM OUR BAKERY and some lovely new mouth-watering additions to our range.

- Baguettes
- Focaccia
- Olive Breads
- Spicy Fruit buns

Our Mail Order and Christmas Gift selection can be viewed and ordered on our website, www.locharthur.org.uk or at our shop or by phone. We offer a range of selected gifts and hampers, which can be collected from the Farm Shop or sent away for you.
And remember, we can make up, and send, very special, personalised hampers of all sizes to suit your needs.

LOCH ARTHUR CAFÉ
Beautiful, light, sunny surroundings.
Warm, welcoming, peaceful & relaxing.
Simple, hearty food made daily from the finest organic ingredients.
Classic organic coffees and teas served by people who love what they do.
..... why would you not want to spend time here??

COSMETICS & WELL BEING
We are well stocked with a range of natural and ethically produced cosmetics and beauty products.
Treat yourself (or someone else) to something special

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES
... all Organic ...all as local as we can find .. (yes, bananas do come from Equador!)
...all amazingly flavoursome and wholesome ... always plentiful.
We are very proud of our selection of Organic fruit and veg and always happy for the number of people who now choose to buy no other.
If you need a special order for Christmas, please let us know.

The Butchery ... has definitely been one of the most valuable additions to our offering here in the new farm shop. What a pleasure it is to have Douglas and Brian butchering all our own meat right here on our premises. Our own organic Haggis, Black Pudding, Sausages, Burgers..(even Pet Food!) Please place your orders soon for Christmas if you want to be assured of certain cuts.... And don't miss our fantastic Christmas Poultry (listed below)

SPECIAL MEAT AND POULTRY ORDERS FOR CHRISTMAS ...please place your orders by Saturday 14th December to avoid disappointment.

Turkeys ... the finest organic birds supplied by 'Garvald Farm' & 'Whitmuir Organics' at West Linton.

£11.20/kg.

They weigh between
3.5kg (8lb) - 9kg (20lb).

Geese ... these quality, hand-reared, free-range birds are grown right here in Galloway.

£13.20/kg.

They weigh between
3.5kg (8lb) - 6kg (13lb).

**Gammons, chipolatas,
bacon, rib roasts and
other specials** ... please enquire

at the butchery or call us on
01387 259669.

Ducks ... hand-reared, free-range birds supplied by 'Gartmorn Farm'

£8.95/kg.

They weigh between
2kg (4lb) - 3.5kg (8lb).

Our opening hours over the festive period will be as follows:

Sat 21st December:	OPEN 9am - 5pm
Sunday 22 nd December:	CLOSED
Monday 23 rd December	OPEN 9am - 5.30pm
Tuesday 24 th December	OPEN 9am - 1pm
25 th , 26 th , 27 th . Dec:	CLOSED
Saturday 28 th December:	OPEN 9am - 4pm
Monday 30 th December	OPEN 9am - 4pm

We will then be taking our annual break and the shop and cafe will re-open on
Wednesday 8th January 2013

And the final word.... On Friday 29th we celebrated our first anniversary of opening our new shop. Most businesses would judge the success of their first year by statistics. Clearly, our yardstick is different. I know this by the number of customers who spoke to me about what a special place we have created ... a place that adds a new dimension to, and enhances the quality of, their lives. I felt tears well up in my eyes. Thank you all ...

With best wishes *Barry Graham*