

LISTENING AND READING

The Loch Ness Holiday Centre

- 1 How long is the stay at *The Loch Ness Holiday Centre*?
_____ days
- 2 Apart from Scotland's geology, what else will the visitors learn about in the presentation?

- 3 On what page in the presentation can the visitors see a list of the meeting points?
on page (number) _____
- 4 What is the name of the 165-foot-high waterfall?
The Falls of _____
- 5 What activity is the three-hour boat trip organised for?

- 6 In what year was the oldest whisky in *The Whisky Shop* produced?
in _____
- 7 In *The Whisky Shop*, what can visitors taste if they pay extra?

- 8 What does the guide advise children to eat in *the Nessie Centre*?



NESSIE HUNTER

Steve Feltham is a 59-year-old Nessie hunter from South West England who has lived on the shores of Loch Ness since 1991.

Steve first heard about Nessie when he was seven. One Sunday, his parents decided to go on a family trip to Loch Ness, a famous lake in Scotland, the following weekend. Steve couldn't wait to go there and he kept telling his classmates about it all week. They told him that a monster called Nessie lived in the lake. But Steve knew that because his dad had already told him when he and Steve's mum decided to take the trip to Loch Ness. Steve immediately became interested in Nessie. On the way to Scotland, Steve's dad kept telling him stories about Nessie to pass the time in the car. In fact, Steve's mum had already started this the night before the departure when she told Steve a bedtime story about Nessie. When the family got to Loch Ness, they first visited Urquhart Castle with a guide. It was Steve's first time hearing that there were Nessie hunters living on the shore. He started dreaming of becoming a Nessie hunter himself one day.

However, it took Steve years to become a Nessie hunter. One evening in 1990, after a long day at work, he suddenly remembered the trip to Loch Ness and how much he wanted to film Nessie. So the following year, he quit his boring office job, ended his relationship with his girlfriend and decided to move to Scotland. As soon as he managed to sell his house, he bought an old van and left for Loch Ness. The first thing he did there was ask professional studios if he could borrow a video camera. One studio liked his plan to film Nessie and decided to lend him one of their old video cameras. Steve finally became a Nessie hunter.

To make money while waiting for Nessie, Steve started drawing pictures of the creature and hoped they would make him well-known and bring him money. He also started creating models of Nessie. However, nobody was buying anything from him. One day, Steve appeared on a BBC TV programme, which was seen by many people. They soon started arriving at Loch Ness and wanted to meet Steve. He offered them his models of Nessie and they sold out quickly. People wouldn't buy them from an unknown person but when the BBC made Steve famous, everybody wanted a model of Nessie. This programme also made journalists visit him. 'I've no idea how many magazine interviews I've given,' Steve says. 'And in the end, they took photos of me, my drawings and models of Nessie, and didn't forget to buy one of them from the famous Nessie hunter,' he smiles.

Journalists still come from time to time and Steve answers all their questions but in the end, they always ask: Is there a Loch Ness monster or not? Answering such questions doesn't bother him, but he wishes he also had a chance to explain why he chose to live the life he lives. But they never ask him questions about that and it makes him angry sometimes. Instead, they're more interested in his love life and money, which makes Steve laugh. 'I'm single and poor. It might be annoying to somebody to answer such questions again and again, not to me, though. I'm just glad they rarely ask me about my future because I don't want to think about it. My life is here and now,' says Steve, 'and I wouldn't change anything'.

(www.nessiehunter.co.uk, upraveno)

Who did Steve first hear about Nessie from?

- A) from a guide
- B) from his dad
- C) from his mum
- D) from his classmates

What did Steve not do before moving to Scotland?

He didn't:

- A) buy a van.
- B) sell his house.
- C) borrow a video camera.
- D) break up with his girlfriend.

What made Steve well-known?

- A) interviews in magazines
- B) his pictures of Nessie
- C) his models of Nessie
- D) a TV programme



Why is Steve sometimes annoyed by journalists?

Because:

- A) they don't ask him about his reasons for choosing his way of life.
- B) they keep asking him about Nessie, the Loch Ness monster.
- C) they keep asking him about his plans for the future.
- D) they don't ask him about his financial situation.

What is the best title for the article?

- A) A Man Gives up His Search for Nessie
- B) A Trip to Loch Ness Changed a Man's Life
- C) Want to Get Rich? Become a Nessie Hunter!
- D) A Nessie Hunter Regrets Ever Coming to Loch Ness