Wemyss Bay Village News

186th Edition April 2005

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Car Boot Sale

The Community Association is holding a Car Boot Sale at the Community Centre on Saturday 9th April from 10.30 – 12.30. There are still a couple of pitches left which can be booked for £5 by calling **Ann Marie on 522998**.
To add to the fun there will also be "Beat the Goalie", the bouncy castle and, to make sure that your energy doesn't flag, a tea-room with home baking. The Association is appealing for donations for the tearoom – if you can help you can hand your baking in the night before, between 7 – 8pm, or bring it along in the morning.
In addition the Community Association will be running a White Elephant stall for anyone who either doesn't have enough to have their own stall or who don't have the time to spend setting out and selling all morning. If you have anything which you would like to clear out, you can hand it in to the Community Centre from 7 -8pm on Friday 8th April.
All money raised will be used to fund this year's Gala Weekend. It costs several thousand pounds to run a successful gala and we are dependant, to a large extent, on good weather to recover this initial outlay. By supporting the car Boot Sale you will help ensure that arrangements can be made to make this year's gala the best yet!

Inverkip Marathon Man

Local hotelier, David Cushley, has been spending the last few months in heavy training, preparing for the London Marathon, a gruelling 26.2 mile run, which will take place on Sunday 17th April 2005.
David is undertaking this event in aid of the charity "The Scottish Cot Death Trust", so he will welcome any donations or sponsors to go toward this very good cause, which the Inverkip.com team think is so worthy, that they have pledged some cash for David's noble and gallant efforts.
The Scottish Cot Death Trust provides research into cot death, support bereaved families and provide breathing monitors for at risk babies. The trust is based at the Royal Hospital for sick Children, Yorkhill, Glasgow.
You can find out more about the trust by visiting the following site: **http://www.sidscotland.org.uk/**
For more information on how to sponsor David, or to pledge some money, you can contact him on 01475 521478, or simply pop into the Inverkip hotel to speak to him. If you would prefer to Email him, to ask a question, pledge support or simply offer encouragement, you can fill out the comment form at the following link: **http://www.inverkip.co.uk/contact.htm**
Thanks to John McWade for this article.

Community Association

The Community Association was established in 1987 and its constitution drawn up at that time. It has become obvious that a couple of minor changes are essential to bring it into the 21st century. As constitutional changes can only be approved by a Special General Meeting one will be held at the beginning of the next committee meeting at 7.30pm on Sunday 10th April in the Community Centre to deal with these issues. It is anticipated that it will last around 15 minutes. The SGM will be followed by the normal committee meeting. The Association is responsible for the management, letting and upkeep of the Community Centre and also organises the Gala Day, the Christmas lights switch-on and other community events. You are very welcome to come along to any of the meetings, whether you are interested in becoming involved or if you simply want to observe what goes on.

Recycling

Greenlight will be continuing their regular kerbside collections with uplifts on Mondays 4th & 18th April and 2nd, 16th and 30th May. They collect newspapers & magazines, plastic bottles & milk cartons, food & drinks cans, rags and carrier bags. Recycling couldn't be easier - do your bit for the environment.

Girlguiding Wemyss Bay

Did you read any of the articles in the newspapers (including the Telegraph) at the end of February about Girlguiding and 50K? This is a new project that we have started as there are 50 thousand girls on waiting lists to join Rainbows, Brownies, Guides or Rangers in the UK, but there are not enough leaders out there to allow them to join.
In Wemyss Bay we could do with a new helper in Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, and someone to run a Ranger unit (they'd only meet every couple of weeks), but apart from that we could use some other help.
Do you have a few hours to spare and a skill to share! Could you help with any of the following:-

- Doing our accounts
- Helping with fundraising (especially Webb Ivory)
- Setting up a web site
- Teaching a skill, knitting, computing, astronomy, aromatherapy or whatever you are an expert on
- Unit Helper, not a Guider, but someone really important who can help out here and there

If so, we'd love to here from you. Either e-mail us at our new address: girlguidingwemyssbay@yahoo.co.uk
or ask any of the girls to pass on a message.

What have we been doing?
Several Guides had a meeting in March, and are going to start working on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.
All of the Brownies have gained the Agility badge, 13 have gained the Cooks badge and Iona Roders has gained the Advanced Swimmers badge.
The Brownie country dancing team came in first at the Glasgow music festival (thanks Allison).
Congratulations to them all.
Please think about helping us, and make the 50K get smaller. It's fun, honest! Go on *surprise yourself.*
Volunteers do not go unpaid because they are worthless, but because they are priceless. ©
Thank you Brown Owl for this report on all the girls' activities.

Improvement Proposals by Cliff Terrace Road Residents

Last year, residents raised funds to lay a new road and clean up the common ground bordering Cedar Walk/Cliff Terrace Road, more work is required this year.
The residents met on the middle of March to discuss improvements and annual maintenance of verges etc. At this meeting and having listened to local opinion, it is proposed, [by donating funds and labour], to plant out the area, sensitive to the local wildlife [no, not the hoodlums] with indigenous wildflower bulbs, bushes and trees.
Currently discussions are under way to secure this work. By implementing this plan, we will assist and attract local wildlife and hopefully make the environment more attractive for everyone.
If this proposal is accepted by the residents of Cedar and Larch Walk, volunteers would be required to help further tidy and prepare this piece of land for planting on Sunday 17th of April.

In the past, the common ground was overgrown and unkempt; it looked as if nobody cared. Fly tipping and dumping of garden refuse onto the area led to rat infestation and misuse. Well, people do care and as these improvements come from residents and not council funds, any further tipping or dumping of garden refuse, or the theft of plants and vandalism, will be reported to the council. The Council endorses the resident's endeavours and have confirmed that they will act by fining or will issue Anti Social Behaviour orders.
We look forward to meeting those that care about this area and have an hour or two to spare on **Sunday 17th April** from 10am onwards.
Anyone who would like to assist in any way or give their opinion on our efforts, please communicate directly with the residents committee at the following address douglasbrands@aol.com.

Bible Club

The Bible Club resumes on Monday, 18th April following the Easter holiday. The club is also off for the May 2nd holiday but will resume the following week.
All Primary School children are very welcome. The club meets on Mondays at the community centre from 6.15pm to 7.30pm with games, songs, competitions, Bible stories and other activities. Contact Stephen Renton for more information on 01505 355994.

The Attic Players

The Attic Players are pleased to announce that tickets for their latest production "FAMILY PLANNING" are now on sale. This comedy by Frank Vickery is based around a misheard conversation with hilarious results. When young Tracy discovers she is pregnant she doesn't know how to tell either of her parents - solid, dependable Elsie and hypochondriac Idris - or her boyfriend, Bobby. Gran, permanently ensconced in bed (on stage), knows all and sees all, helps to pave the way for her announcement. Unfortunately, Idris - overhearing Tracy & Elsie - jumps to the wrong conclusion and believes he has a short time to live! The action takes place in a living room, hallway and upstairs bedroom and the Attic Players backstage crew have the almost impossible task of this all into the 22 foot wide stage at Skelmorlie Community Centre. The show will be performed on Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd of April with a complimentary glass of wine being served. Tea & coffee will also be available at the interval. As usual tickets are expected to go fast - the Saturday tickets of our last production, Murdered to Death were sold out 2 weeks before the show. Tickets for FAMILY PLANNING priced £6.00 are available from Spence the Chemist in Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay, the Skelmorlie Spar or by phoning Richard on 522366. Tickets can also be reserved on line on the Attic Players Website www.attic-players.co.uk

Councillor Eric Forbes

Parking Around the School: This very important issue has again been raised with me. There is concern that the movement of cars around the school gates etc. raises safety issues for the children making their way into school.
The question of road safety will be taken into account when the school extension and refurbishment is being designed and decided on and this will involve all the stakeholders.
In the meantime I would ask those parents, who transport their children to school by car, to consider parking away from the school and walking the short distance to it. I would crave your indulgence in this.

New System of Waste Uplift: By the time you read this newsletter the new bins will have been delivered and we will be in the business of separating our waste into the appropriate bins. It is a new way of treating our waste and, if there are any problems, these should be brought to our attention so that they can be addressed timeously.
This is the way ahead for the council to address the recycling of waste, in order that financial penalties are not imposed on us for failing to reach the targets laid down by the Scottish Executive.
I sincerely hope that you will make every effort to adhere to the instructions for use as in this way we can move forward.

Woodlands: I thank all the people who have spoken to me and sent e-mails about the vast improvements in the woods. It is now a much more user friendly place for all.
I have been approached however regarding the illegal practice of fly-tipping of garden waste and other rubbish in the woods. This is not very clever and means that all the good work done and the finance spent on the improvements will become a total waste of investment.
Fly-tipping is an offence and the penalties are high if anyone is caught doing it. If someone has the energy to gather up their waste or rubbish and take it to the woods then why not take it to the appropriate depository. *(At present at Kirn Drive, Gourock or Pottery Street, Greenock, although once the new bins arrive garden waste can be recycled in this way.)*
Help is still needed at the fortnightly working weekends run by the Woodland Association and new volunteers are always greatly appreciated.

Contact Me: I would like to remind everyone that, if you have a problem or query which you think I may be able to help with, I can be contacted at the Municipal Buildings **Tel: 717171 Fax: 01475 712976 or e-mail: Eric.Forbes@inverclyde.gov.uk** Out with office hours I can be contacted at **home: 520012** or on my **mobile: 07747 006725.** I believe that rather than waiting several weeks for a surgery, it is better for my constituents if I am available at the end of a telephone at any time. Thereafter, if necessary, I can arrange a suitable follow-up meeting.

Film Club

Are you a film buff? Many outstanding films from around the world get very little screen time unless they appeal to a mass market and, even when they do get shown, you have to travel to Glasgow to see them. Plans are underway to start a film club in Largs showing outstanding films from around the world. In order for it to be successful they are trying to establish if local people would be interested in attending as the costs involved mean that it would be prohibitive without local support. If you are interested please contact **Peter Allam on 674317**.

What Would You Like To See In The Village News?

Since taking over editing the Village News we have listened to a number of suggestions and tried to include them where possible, however we are aware that many people may be sitting at home with great ideas about how to improve things. Perhaps you would like to contribute to the newsletter on a regular basis – if so get in touch and we can chat about how you can contribute. Contact Eila Tel: **529375** E-mail: **eilaroberts@care4free.net** or leave your suggestions in the Village News folder behind the counter in Spar.

David Cairns MP - What the Budget means for you

This year's budget had a number measures to help pensioners, children and hard working families, but sometimes it can be difficult to work out what this will mean for you. So I thought I'd put together a quick budget guide so you can see, at a glance, how the changes will affect you.

Wemyss Bay families with children will benefit from increases in Child Benefit and Child Tax Credit. Most help goes to those on lower incomes, but families who have a joint income of up to £55,000 per year can now qualify for Child Tax Credits and some people will be better off by as much as £335 per year.

Young couples looking to buy their first house in the village will not have to pay Stamp Duty unless their home costs more than £120,000. Stamp Duty was previously payable £60,000, so first time buyers will save £1,200. This is a big saving for first time buyers and will mean that many young couples can buy a better first home.

Savers will also be happy to know that the Chancellor extended the life of Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) until 2010. There was speculation that the tax free limit of £7,000 would be reduced but the accounts were so popular – particularly the cash ISAs with their lower £3,000 annual limit – that Gordon Brown decided to keep the tax break for another few years.

Local pensioners over 65 will be pleased to hear that they are getting £200 to help them pay their council tax to Inverclyde Council. The £200 heating allowance will also continue and for pensioners, and for over 80s there will be an additional £100 to help out with winter fuel bills. Inheritance tax thresholds will rise steadily over the next few years to £300,000 in 2007, so families can pass more of their hard earned money on to their children and grandchildren.

If you would like more information on any aspect of the Budget just get in touch with my Union Street office and I will be happy to help.
David Cairns holds surgeries on the first and third Friday of the month from 10am – 12noon at his Parliamentary Office, 20 Union Street, Greenock Tel: 791820. Alternatively you can phone the office for details of his next surgery in Wemyss Bay.

Street Competition

For the last few years Rannoch Road has done it and this year Brueacre Drive are joining them. What am I talking about? The Gala of course. This year the Gala committee are urging streets to get together and take part as a group to help out for a couple of hours. All you need are a few willing individuals who can commit one hour (or more!) to staff the bar. It would be great if different streets covered the bar for the whole weekend. We need 16 streets to come forward and agree to do an hour each – is that too much to ask for? By limiting the time to an hour it means that everyone has time to enjoy themselves instead of the same people being tied up for the whole weekend.
Perhaps your group doesn't fancy bar work but is willing to spend an hour face-painting or supervising the bouncy castle on Saturday afternoon –that would be great too.
Everyone who takes part will be invited to a special Gala Volunteers Party in the Community Centre later in the year. An added bonus is developing more of a community spirit by getting your neighbours to pull together and have fun at the same time. What are you waiting for?

Having a Party?

If you are thinking of having a party, why not hold it at the Community Centre? Although it is pretty busy, party bookings are still available outwith the regular lets. Even better, why not theme your party? When placing your booking just say if you would like a Bouncy Castle Party or would like DJs "Disco Divas" to provide your entertainment. A 2-hour Bouncy castle Party costs £52, while a 2-hour Disco booking only costs £50. To make your booking or for more information contact Kirsty on 520738.
Remember that if you are having food at your party, the centre's kitchen was refurbished last year and is available for your use.

Woodland Association

We have received further reports of fly-tipping. On one occasion a resident of Linnhe Road was spotted dumping three barrow-loads of garden waste in the woods. This is illegal and carries heavy penalties. Local authorities have the power to impose fines and can even pursue the matter through the courts under the new Anti-Social Behaviour legislation. The woods are not a dumping ground and fly-tipping spoils other people's enjoyment. Illegal dumping doesn't just spoil the view, it endangers wildlife and affects your wallet – according to figures released by Keep Scotland Beautiful it costs taxpayers £11 million every year.
If you witness fly-tipping, or find a fly-tipping site, help keep Wemyss Bay Tidy by contacting Inverclyde Council on **717171** or by calling the new National Fly-tipping Stop Line on **08452 304090.**

We are now at the planning stage of phase 2. The disabled parking space, which was planned for phase 1, had to be put on hold due to land ownership problems and a shortage of funds and this will be addressed in the next phase. Similarly provision for a cycle path has already been discussed and we would anticipate including this in the next phase, subject to approval during the forthcoming public consultation and the agreement of Inverclyde Council, the landowners of the wood. We do however

require your input at this stage: is there anything which you believe should be incorporated into our plans, or is there something which you would definitely not want? The only way that we can be sure that we are taking forward the wishes of the community is if people let us know what they think so don't be shy!

We have put up some bird boxes and will be putting up more as well as bat boxes and hibernation chambers for ladybirds and lacewings, in order to encourage local biodiversity. In order to do this we first of all have to obtain the wood and make the boxes! Do you have any timber or plywood lying around that you do not need? The minimum width we require is 150mm and it must be at least 15mm thick. Although bird boxes can be treated on the outside with water-based preservatives, bat-boxes must be made from untreated wood. If you have the skills to make the boxes we can provide instruction leaflets to guide you.
We intend starting up our popular Guided Walks programme again this year now that the initial works have been completed. Previous walks including Folklore of Plants, Fungi Forage, Treasure Hunt, Mini-Beast Safari and How a Woodland Works will be included in this year's programme along with new topics such as Bird Identification. Dates for the walks will be publicised through the Village News and are open to both members and non-members.

Our Open Day will go ahead towards the end of April or beginning of May however the date has still to be confirmed – we are waiting for confirmation from the council before we can go ahead finalise things. We do however intend running a number of activities on the day to suit young and not so young alike. Look out for further details in the local press and Village News.
Finally our work sessions continue on a fortnightly basis, working on both Saturdays and Sundays from 10.00am – 3.00pm. We continue to work in the terraced garden area and the usual details apply. For more information about this or any of the work of the Association contact **Eila** on **529375**.

Seaview Café

The Seaview Café reopened recently following a ten-day closure for major refurbishment. Work included new flooring, panelling, counters, lighting, ventilation system and a complete refit of the kitchen and bakery areas, in addition to a fresh lick of paint all round. If you have visited since the changes, you cannot fail to have been impressed. The kitchen has now doubled in size and the bakery now produces over 80% of the café's range of cakes, and biscuits.

There are a number of special promotions available including the Early Bird Special (a cup of tea or coffee with a pastry from £1.39), Early Bird Special (a cup of tea or coffee with a hot filled roll from £1.69) and the Soup and Sandwich Special (a bowl of homemade soup and a sandwich from £2.99). In addition from Monday to Friday from 3.30pm, with every adult meal purchased you can receive one kid's meal for only 99p. One of the most popular promotions is the Coffee Club whereby whenever you purchase a cup of coffee you have your card stamp and your tenth cup is free – your card is then entered into a prize draw to win a kilo of premium coffee beans.

The recent changes along with plans for further improvements to come provide scope to expand the menu even more in the future. The one thing that has not changed is the warm welcome you receive from Loretta and staff and the choice and quality of the menu.

Situations Vacant

Operatives are required on a temporary, part-time and job-sharing basis to fill the following posts. All work will take place between Friday 17th and Sunday 19th June and successful applicants (there will be no unsuccessful ones!) will only be required to work for an hour or two at times to suit. For more information on any of the posts, or to register an interest, contact **Ann Marie** on **522998**.
Hospitality Staff: Can you cope with the demands of working in a busy beer tent without resorting to drinking the profits? No experience necessary. An ability to understand slightly slurred speech is essential!
Domestic Gods / Goddesses: Can you keep up with the demands of re-stocking the bar with glasses, clearing and cleaning tables and other general tasks? Put your cleaning skills to the test.
Construction Workers: This work is confined to Friday, all day, and Saturday morning and involves setting up the site, including the erection of gazebos, tents and awnings, and moving furniture. An ability to recognise a hammer from a screwdriver would be helpful.
Grounds Maintenance Workers: Clean-up crews are required throughout the course of the weekend. Gloves and litter-pickers will be provided. There is no lower age limit although parental supervision is essential.
Children's Entertainment Staff

a) Do you know one end of a paintbrush from another? If so, you have the skills required to turn your hand to face-painting. No previous experience required although it helps if you like kids!
b) Can you count and tell the time? If so, you are ideally suited to supervise the bouncy castle – count the kids on, give them five minutes or so, get them off again and replace with a new batch! Ideally suited to someone with a hearing deficit, otherwise you may find earplugs an advantage!!

Benefits: The above posts are unpaid, have no pension scheme, provide no sickness cover or holidays but you will be entitled to attend the party to end all parties later in the year!!!

Duncan McNeil MSP

How to improve access to NHS dental services – and how we get more people to actually use them when they're there – has been a long-standing problem for Ministers.
After years of investigation and consultation, however, the long-awaited overhaul of NHS dentistry services has now been published.
There's a lot in the package, which will be supported by additional investment of £150 million over three years. It aims to deliver over 200 extra dentists and have 400,000 more people registered with an NHS dentist by 2008. A range of recruitment and retention measures will also be introduced, including giving dental students a bursary if they agree to work for the NHS for five years after graduating. (An idea, incidentally, I think could be worth exploring for other medical professions.)
Alongside this, however, there is also much emphasis on prevention. Our oral health record – especially in the west of Scotland – is appalling and the plan aims to turn this round by getting the importance of looking after your teeth drummed into kids at a young age.

By March 2008, therefore, every child will have access to dental care on starting nursery – an extra 50,000 children every year. Scotland will also have the largest supervised tooth brushing programme in Europe, with over 120,000 children receiving free toothbrushes and toothpaste and taking part in daily brushing at nurseries and schools across the country.
A combination of past mistakes and the Scottish sweet tooth has led to this serious situation. The only way to address it, therefore, is through the government taking the right decisions and the rest of us taking a bit better care of our teeth.
Duncan can be contacted at the Parliamentary Office, 20 Union Street, Greenock PA15 8JL, by E-mail: ***duncan.mcneil.msp@scottish.parliament.uk*** *or via his website:* ***www.duncanmcneil.com***

The Bookworm Club

A joint venture between Wemyss Bay Nursery and its Parents' Focus Group has led to the setting up of a lending library called "The Bookworm Club". With some funding from the Scottish Executive and money raised through the group's own fundraising activities, the library was launched in the Community Centre on March 2nd. Author and storyteller, Tony Bonning, was there to entertain the children and adults.
The children visit the bookworm club every Friday, during Nursery time, when parents and staff can read to them in one of the three themed areas which are set up in the Community Centre each week. The children can then choose a book to take home and return it the following week. All parents are invited to come along and join in any Friday and avail themselves of the opportunity to read to their own little bookworm.
The Parent's Focus Group would like to thank all those who have contributed time, money and effort, especially the Community Association, the School's PTA and all who sponsored the children on their fun day. They will also be running a stall, with the nursery, at the Gala Day where Bookworm Club T-shirts will be on sale, in adult and children's sizes, along with gifts for Father's Day, home baking and lots more. *Thanks to Bobbie McCabe for this article.*

Toc H

The traditional feast of haggis, neeps and tatties was enjoyed in February by the Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay branch of Toc H to mark our appreciation, at the Burns Supper, of the help and encouragement given by many friends in our activities. Particular emphasis lies in the hard work involved at the Senior Citizens' Party and the sale of our calendars. Bill Cowie addressed the haggis while Ann Gaw proposed the toast to the Immortal Memory. High Brennan toasted "The Lassies" and this was replied to in her more light-hearted manner by Margaret Cook. Neil Nicolson was in the chair and obtained the collaboration of both members and guests. Peter and Frank McCamley sang a number of Scottish songs while Bill Armstrong also sang a song or two. There were recitations from Iona Dove, Martina Wyper, Maurice Dawson, Maria McGregor and Laura Armstrong, while Neil sang to us in both English and Gallic. Bill Cowie performed "Holy Willie" and, in proposing the vote of thanks, gave especial thanks to the ladies behind the scenes for their preparation, cooking and serving of the meal in traditional fashion.

The opportunity was taken to welcome Adele Hicks, of the professional staff, who has been transferred to the Leith Waterfront Project. Although reconstruction work is taking place as part of the project, there is much evidence of deprivation, rough sleepers and lack of spiritual life in the area.
Thanks to Maurice Dawson for this summary of events.

World Earth Day

World Earth Day is celebrated on the Friday 22nd April this year. This is an opportunity for people all over the world to take part, for a day, in environmental and conservation projects. Yes, one day's work is only a drop in the ocean, but it is a start. The Woodland Association is taking part this year by holding a special work day and is being supported by Timberland UK's Glasgow store. Timberland gives paid time off to its entire staff throughout its worldwide network to take part in conservation projects in the community they represent and this year staff at the Glasgow store have decided to help out here in Wemyss Bay. We are expecting around 12 staff to come along on the day and hope that members of the local community will come along to join us to show that the local community are also conserved about conservation in our local environment. Work will begin at around 10.30am. Lunch, tools and gloves are provided. If you would like to help out for a couple of hours join us in the terraced garden area – enter via the gate in the wall on Ardgowan Road, opposite the end of Castle Wemyss Drive and make your way up the path to the terraces.

Village News

The success of the Village News relies heavily on the army of volunteer distributors who deliver each edition to every home in Wemyss Bay. Many of the distributors have been helping for years. We would like to thank them all for their efforts every month. We currently require a few new distributors - if you have an hour to spare once a month and would like to help with deliveries please contact **Ann Marie on 522998**. The more distributors we have, the smaller each area requires to be and the less time it takes for distribution, so you could really make a difference. Children love helping out – perhaps you could turn delivering the Village News into the opportunity for a family walk.
Very occasionally we hear of problems with someone not receiving their copy. If you experience any difficulties please let Ann Marie know.

Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church

Every Sunday, 11.00are	MORNING WORSHIP, Sunday school and Crèche
Every Wednesday, 7.30pm	COUNTRY DANCING
Every Thursday, 1.15-2.45pm	NOAH'S ARK

The ERSKINE BRIDGE CROSS has become a permanent fixture in the Christian Aid calendar in the West of Scotland, an event in which Church members from the local Parish Church have joined dozens of others from Church in Greenock and Paisley in this energetic, yet enjoyable outing.
Last year the event raised £29,000 to help *Partners in Afghanistan*; the project this year is to support *Youth with a Mission*, a group of volunteers working with HIV/AIDS victims in Uganda.
You don't have to be a church member to take part. Just ask a few friends to sponsor you and turn up at the south end of Arsine Bridge at 2.00pm on Saturday 23 April.

Auction of Promises

Unfortunately there was a poor turnout at the Auction of Promises, organised by Wemyss Bay PTA last month, with only around 40 parents, friends and teaching staff turning up. Despite this it was a fabulous night, enjoyed by everyone who did attend. Over £2000 was raised for PTA funds – well done to all who items and promised their services for the auction. The money raised will be used for the benefit of all pupils so perhaps next time there is a fundraising event you will consider attending.

And Now For the Small Print……

Please note that we do our best to ensure that adverts are neither misleading or offensive, however the appearance of an advertisement in the Village News does not imply that either the editors or the Community Association endorse the advertiser and / or their products / services.

Finally

That's all for this month. **The closing date for any articles or adverts for the May edition of the Village News is the 20th April.** This is an absolute deadline and cannot be extended under any circumstances! If you would like a reminder let us know and we will add you to the e-mail list. If you have anything which you would like included please send it **to Eila Roberts, 14 Brueacre Drive, Wemyss Bay PA18 6HA Tel: 529375 e-mail: eilaroberts@care4free.net** or place it in the Village News folder, which is kept behind the counter in Spar.

Kid's Stuff

There are hundreds of countries all over the world. This month's wordsearch includes just a few of them. Have a go and see how many you can find. Afterwards play a game and see if you can think of a country starting with each letter of the alphabet – there are only a couple of letters which don't start the name of a country. What are they?

T	G	L	P	W	N	M	E	O	D	N	A	L	T	O	C	S
H	A	I	T	I	F	A	K	A	N	O	I	T	S	C	E	W
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S	N	I	Z	D	C	R	N	I	L	A	E	R	C	L	X	D
C	R	A	T	A	Q	I	Y	A	G	V	L	H	E	A	D	E
F	D	F	H	J	N	T	A	M	N	L	E	S	I	T	O	N
A	R	G	E	N	T	I	N	A	E	L	D	B	R	I	I	E
I	L	A	R	B	A	U	A	J	L	E	M	T	G	P	R	S
B	S	I	N	V	A	S	D	E	C	A	B	A	E	M	E	L
A	I	P	N	C	R	I	S	D	Z	G	C	R	S	T	L	P
R	E	L	U	D	E	C	L	I	T	H	U	A	N	I	A	A
A	M	O	N	G	O	L	I	A	M	U	B	G	C	A	N	I
I	W	A	V	A	I	S	S	U	R	J	A	B	R	U	D	N
D	Z	N	O	C	C	O	R	O	M	T	X	Y	O	M	G	A
U	N	I	T	E	D	S	T	A	T	E	S	D	E	O	R	M
A	S	H	Y	N	A	M	R	E	G	R	N	U	T	P	N	O
S	T	C	H	L	L	E	G	R	E	E	N	L	A	N	D	R

ARGENTINA
AUSTRALIA
CHINA
CUBA
ENGLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREENLAND
HAITI
IRELAND
ITALY
JAMAICA
KENYA
LITHUANIA
MAURITIUS
MONGOLIA
MOROCCO
PERU
QATAR
ROMANIA
RUSSIA
SAUDI ARABIA
SCOTLAND
SEYCHELLES
SWEDEN
TANZANIA
UNITED STATES
WALES
YEMEN
ZAMBIA

WORDFINDER

R	A	V
S	E	T
I	D	E

Try and find as many words as possible using the letters below. Each letter can only be used once and every word must contain the letter in the middle square. No plurals, names or hyphenated words are allowed. There is at least one 9-letter word.

20 words – at least you're trying!
30 words – good!
40 words – well done!
60 + words – brain-box!