

Wemyss Bay Village News

197th Edition

April 2006

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Thank You Evening

Did you help at last year's Gala weekend? Even if you only helped for a short time or offered to help, the Community Association would really like to thank you. Please come along and join us for a drink on Saturday 6th May at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

Last year's gala was one of the best yet and this was the result of a lot of hard work by a lot of people. Despite the work it was a lot of fun. Would you like to take part in helping to run this year's gala? An hour or two of your time over the weekend Friday 16th – Sunday 18th June would really make a difference. Come along to the thank you evening on 6th May and find out about how you can get involved

2006 Gala Weekend (Friday 16th – Saturday 18th June)

As you can see, this year's Gala Weekend will be held from Friday 16th – Sunday 18th June. As usual the success of the Gala depends entirely on having enough volunteers to help out with the preparations and to ensure that everything runs smoothly over the weekend and this year is no exception. With Ann Marie having retired as Gala co-ordinator and no-one willing to fill her shoes, it is even more vital that this year we have more volunteers. We require bar staff, face-painters, people to run the Association's stalls, helpers at the bouncy castle, people to sell tokens for rides, staff for the soup kitchen, raffle ticket and balloon race sellers, furniture removers, tent erectors, cleaners, dish-washers, litter-collectors. There is something that everyone could do, so if you want to be involved in helping your community enjoy a great Gala weekend and are available over the course of the event, even if only for an hour or two, then please phone Kirsty on 520738. Believe it or not, it is fun!

The Attic Players

The Attic Players present : It Runs In The Family by Ray Cooney. In Skelmorlie Community Centre on Friday 7th & Saturday 8th April.

Do not worry you are not suffering from déjà vu or groundhog day syndrome, this article has appeared in a previous Wemyss Bay News. In November last year we performed 2 One Act Plays instead of It Runs In the Family. Ray Cooney's farce "It Runs in the Family" is set in the doctors' common room of St. Andrews Hospital. It's 10:45 a.m., three days before Christmas. Dr. David Mortimore sits polishing the most important speech of his life - a speech he will deliver at noon before 200 distinguished colleagues, a speech which will surely earn him prestige and promotion and probably a Knighthood. What could possibly go wrong? Well everything imaginable. To begin, Mortimer's ex-mistress pops back into his life after having disappeared mysteriously eighteen years (and nine months) earlier. She's not alone. She's brought Dr. Mortimore a Christmas surprise - a son he didn't know he had sired. Mortimore has been married 20 years, but not to Miss Tate. The surprise, a son, has a drinking problem, and a very bad attitude. And he's looking for his father, whom he knows to be one of the doctors on staff. Meanwhile the clock is ticking, and Mortimore is harassed by, Sir Willoughby Drake; pestered by his suspicious wife; interrogated by a determined police sergeant; stalked by a syringe-toting, amorous matron, and distracted by a very confused patient. So he does the only thing possible. He lies. He pins paternity on his best friend, Dr. Hubert Bonney, and he concocts desperate lies to explain each new complication. But the devil's in the details. And inevitably he's confronted by the cop, the son, the mistress, the wife, the colleague, the supervisor all of whom have been told slightly different stories.

So far we have had a fantastic response from our mailing list - with more than 50% of tickets gone in the first few weeks. Tickets priced £6.0, including a complimentary glass of wine & Christmas Cracker are now on general sale at Wemyss Bay Pharmacy, Skelmorlie Spar & Medical Hall, Skelmorlie. Also available by phone on 522366 or e-mail tickets@attic-players.co.uk

Wemyss Bay web site

If you run a group in Wemyss Bay or the surrounding area, you can now add details of your group to the web site and keep those details up to date through an online control panel. Go to the following address to add or update details of your group: <http://wemyssbay.net/todo/>

There are also various new polls on the web site, issues include wind-farms, celebrating Britishness, skateboarding and speed cameras. Vote here: <http://wemyssbay.net/news/polls.asp>

Finally, a new message forum, with a lot more features and functionality than the old message board, has been added to the site: <http://wemyssbay.net/wbayforum/>

Wemyss Bay Primary PTA

We are holding a Ladies Cheese and Wine and Pamper evening on the 27th of April at 7.30pm. Tickets will cost £2.50 each (inclusive of a glass of wine) and will be available from the school, nearer the time.

This event will primarily be a social evening and a night out. However, we are hoping to organise a number of local willing volunteers to give up their evening to offer us a taste of various therapies i.e. Reiki therapy, hand massage, Indian Head Massage etc. These taster sessions will be available for a small donation and will be on a first come first served basis. Further details will be advertised nearer the time.

WEMYSS BAY PRIMARY PTA 50/50 CLUB

Congratulations to our recent 50/50 club winners. Due to the unprecedented numbers which we have in the club this year, with many still joining, we recently gave out £40.50 each to the winners of February and March. Not a bad return for a £1 per month!

There are still a few numbers left so let's see if we can get the prize fund up to £50 per month. Please contact Mrs Morton in the School for further details. As always, all profits are put straight into maintaining our prize-winning garden.

David Cairns MP: Inverclyde Benefits from Criminals' Cash

Inverclyde is set to gain £250,000 seized from the ill-gotten gains of major criminals, thanks the Proceeds of Crime Act. This Act is a good example of what can be achieved when the UK and Scottish Parliaments work closely together, to tackle the major problems experienced by our communities. The UK legislation enables the Scottish Parliament to seize assets, which criminals can't account for, and distribute the money to areas suffering from high crime rates. And this is exactly what the Scottish Executive Justice Minister, Cathy Jamieson MSP, has done.

The days when the 'Mr Bigs' of crime could prey on our communities, while living in large houses and driving nice cars are gone. They can no longer distance themselves from the criminals acting on their behalf, and if they can't show that they have acquired their assets legally – they will be seized and put to good use helping the communities they tried to ruin. The message to any up and coming criminals in Inverclyde is simple; crime doesn't pay.

The £250,000 coming to Inverclyde is part of the £2million confiscated from drug dealers and other criminals throughout Scotland. It will be used to fund activities for youngsters to help keep them off the streets and make sure they don't take that first step along the road to a life of crime. Although no final decision on how to spend the money has been taken, top priorities are likely to include after hours clubs at schools, sports activities and youth work targeted at those thought most at risk of offending.

We all know that much of the crime in Inverclyde is drug related. Addicts break into homes, steal cars and even mug people in the street to feed their habit. Low level street dealers sell their poison to our children all over Inverclyde and, while it is important to catch these people, it is not enough. We need to target the crime barons behind them and confiscate the huge profits they are making from their criminal empires. The Proceeds of Crime Act helps us do this, so Inverclyde's major criminals better watch out – not only are you going to jail, but there will be no cushy lifestyle waiting for you when you get out.

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, Fax: 791821, or alternatively you can phone the office for details of his next surgery in Wemyss Bay. These details, along with other information, appear on his website: www.davidcairns.com

Country People's Club

The last meeting of the above club for this session to be held at 2:30pm in The Chart Room, Kip Marina, Inverkip is as follows: Wednesday 5th April: Mrs Jennie Jack on the subject of "Breakfast with the President".

Meetings for the new session will commence in early October and will be advertised in the Village News.

All members, old and new, and visitors will be made most welcome, The Subscription is £9 per annum and £1 for visitors.

Further details may be obtained from the Secretary Ann Haig on 522316

Waste collection

Your blue and brown recycling bins should be collected on Tuesday the 11th & 25th April and the 9th & 23rd May. This means that your residual black bin should be emptied on Tuesday the 4th & 18th April and 2nd, 16th & 30th May.

Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church - HOLY WEEK and EASTER

The celebration of Easter is characterised generally by chocolate eggs, cuddly bunnies and holidays.

To Christians, Easter is central to the Faith. Without the resurrection of Jesus there would be no Christian Faith.

Good Friday is the day on which Christians meditate on the crucifixion of Jesus, who gave his life in love for all humanity.

On Easter Day, Christians will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the sign to his followers in every age that only the power of love can conquer the most impregnable stronghold which is the human heart.

Join us as we meditate and celebrate during Holy Week and on Easter Day.

HOLY WEEK and EASTER SERVICES
Sunday 9 April, 11.00am - PALM SUNDAY
Thursday 13 April - MAUNDY THURSDAY
Holy Communion at 7.00pm
Friday 14 April – GOOD FRIDAY
Service at Inverkip Church, 7.00pm
Sunday 16 April - EASTER SUNDAY
Sunrise Service at Meigle Beach at 7.00am
followed by Breakfast and Holy Communion at the Church
Easter Praise at 11.00am

Every SUNDAY at 11.00am
Morning Worship, Sunday School and Creche

Every MONDAY at 3.15-4.45pm
Out of the Ark – for Parents and early years school children
in Skelmorlie Community Centre

Every WEDNESDAY at 7.30pm
Scottish Country Dancing

Every THURSDAY at 1.15-2.45pm
Noah's Ark – for Parents and Toddlers

Every FRIDAY at 12.15-1.30pm
Friday Lunches

Every SATURDAY at 1.30-4.30pm
Junior Badminton in Skelmorlie Community Centre

COUNTDOWN TO CELEBRATION

The congregation will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its formation on Sunday 4 June – that's only 2 months away.

Interested in Advertising?

1500 copies of the Village News are produced each month. Over 1200 homes in the village receive a hand-delivered copy and the remainder are placed in the doctor's surgery and local shops. In addition copies of the adverts are displayed in the Community Centre for one month.

<u>Advert Size</u>	<u>Dimensions</u>	<u>Price</u>
1/8th page (standard)	64mm x 45mm	£12/issue
1/4 page	128mm x 45mm <u>or</u> 64mm x 90mm	£24/issue
1/2 page	128mm x 90mm	£45/issue
Full page	180mm x 128mm	£90/issue

(Dimensions are approximate, width x height)

If you would like to discuss taking out an advert in the Village News, either as a one-off or on a regular basis, why not contact **Ken** at eila@wemyssbay.plus.com or phone: **529375**. Ken can advise and help with the lay out of your advert and any artwork.

Councillor Eric Forbes

I am still dealing with village issues such as road repairs, litter-picking and others. However, I am going to change the direction of my article this month and introduce a topic that is of interest Inverclyde wide.

I refer to the visit of not just one but three Scottish Ministers namely Jack McConnell, Nicol Stephen and Malcolm Chiscolm to Inverclyde on 28 February 2006 to make a regeneration statement regarding the granting of "URBAN REGENERATION COMPANY (URC)" status to Inverclyde's Riverside Inverclyde initiative. Glasgow and Irvine Bay were also granted similar status.

What does this mean?

Well, a partnership with Scottish Enterprise Renfrewshire has been formed and this is to facilitate a 10 year masterplan being drawn up to develop the Waterfront / A8 corridor from Broadfield in the east to Campbell in the west.

Riverside Inverclyde addresses important issues such as population decline, the remediation of land, the development of key sites and most important the improvement of Inverclyde's image.

The development framework identified a public sector partnership that could deliver up to £94 million worth of projects within the initiative area and these in turn have the potential to attract £340 million of private sector investment.

Such investment will bring much needed employment to Inverclyde and it takes on a more important role in view of recent job losses in the area.

It is obvious that by showing Inverclyde in a more positive light and looking to the future investment will be encouraged, people will want to come to this area, jobs will be created and consequently the quality of life for us all will benefit in some shape or form.

Riverside Inverclyde is a massive plus for this area and all those involved in getting us to this stage have to be congratulated and with the commitment of the Council now and in the future then success will follow.

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.

SBM Bible Club and Youth Group

The Bible Club and Youth Group, run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries (SBM), meet on a Monday evening at the community centre. The Bible Club is from 6.15pm to 7.30pm and all children in Primary School are welcome, from P1 to P7. Activities include games, songs, competitions, Bible stories and other activities. The Youth Group is from 8.00pm to 9.30pm and is for young people in P6, P7 and high school, with activities suitable for that age, including games and a tuck shop. This is a new club that started in September. Contact Stephen Renton for more information on 01505 355994.

Please note, the Bible Club and Youth Group will be off on the 3rd, 10th and 17th April, and will resume on the 24th April.

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council

The Community Council meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Inverkip Hotel.

Changes to Advert Billing

From April it will be necessary to pay for Village News adverts in advance. Most advertisers continue with regular adverts and therefore, to save work all round, will be billed on a three monthly basis in advance. It will still be possible to place adverts on a one-off basis, however they will require to be paid for when they are placed. If anyone has difficulty with this, they should contact the community Association Treasurer, **Stephen McFeeley** on **07782 323501** to make suitable arrangements. Please contact Stephen and not the editor.

Hire of Furniture

At Christmas the Community Association was approached by someone, who was having a family gathering, to see if they could hire a table and chairs. It has been decided to offer this facility to anyone requiring it. If you need to hire furniture, a table and eight chairs cost £10. In addition, it is necessary to leave a £50 deposit which is returnable when the furniture is returned to the centre in good condition. If you are interested in this service, please contact **Kirsty** on **520738**.

GirlGuiding Wemyss Bay

We had a Beetle Drive fundraiser to help Alison Carmicheal's trip to Malawi and raised £100. Alison would like to thank everyone who came along and also all the girls and parents who have filled pencil cases for her.

For anyone who hasn't heard Alison is going out to Malawi for three months teaching children and we are so proud of her.

Also at the Beetle Drive Alison who was 21 last week and Amy who was 18 last week were given gifts and flowers from the girls. Kirsty Carmicheal who has been a wonderful friend to Girlguiding for so many years always turning up to help and starting the girls in country dancing was presented with the Guide "Thanks" badge, and very well deserved.

Find out more by contacting: girlguidingwemyssbay@lycos.co.uk

Duncan McNeil MSP

After years of the words “unlucky” and “Scotland” being seemingly inextricable when describing almost any international sporting contest, our half-decent performance at the Commonwealth Games certainly made a refreshing change.

And our representatives should also get an extra medal for helping to dispel the image of Scotland as a nation of pie-scoffing, beer-guzzling, fag-smoking couch potatoes. But, while the best of Scotland might have been showcased in Melbourne, we can't deny that too many Scots, especially here in the west, still conform to this unhealthy stereotype.

Just think, then, what a successful Glasgow bid for the 2014 Games could do for us.

Getting local young people fully involved in the Games, and making it easy for them to go along and see the various athletes in competition could make the Games the ideal springboard for them to get serious about their sport. It might also help people who have been inactive for a while take some exercise again, with all the health benefits that entails.

And it wouldn't do our bank balance any harm either.

Sports Minister, Patricia Ferguson, has stated that the whole country could share the social and economic benefits of a Glasgow Games and Inverclyde would be well-placed to benefit.

We would, for a start, be an ideal base for visiting sports fans. It would be a great benefit to our economy – not just during the Games themselves, but in subsequent years as Commonwealth fans returned to see our breath-taking scenery, or enjoy our hospitality, or trace their genealogy, or play one of our three golf courses.

If we can send a message that the whole of Scotland – not just Glasgow – backs this bid, we stand a better chance of winning and reaping the benefits. And that's why I'm urging everyone in Inverclyde to back Glasgow to win gold.

Duncan can be contacted at the Parliamentary Office, 20 Union Street, Greenock PA15 8JL, Tel: 01475 791820, Fax:

01475 791821, by Textphone for the hearing impaired: 01475 791824, by E-mail:

duncan.mcneil.msp@scottish.parliament.uk or via his website: www.duncanmcneil.com

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.

What Would You Like To See In The Village News?

Since taking over editing the Village News two and a half years ago we have listened to a number of suggestions and tried to include them where possible. We are very aware however that many people may be sitting at home with great ideas about how to improve things. If you have any suggestions please contact me and I will do my best to implement them. 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: eila@wemyssbay.plus.com or leave your suggestions in the Village News folder behind the counter in Spar.

Woodland Association

The Association would like to thank everyone who took the trouble to complete the council's recent questionnaire regarding the future of the woods. The results, which showed a massive support of the work done by the Association, along with the desire for future improvements to both the wood and the terraced garden area, mean that the council really has something to think about. The Association will continue to work with Lower Clyde Greenspace and Inverclyde Council to pursue the wishes of the community.

The Woodland Association's next working weekend will take place at Easter Weekend, Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th April.

We are continuing to work in the area approaching the terraced gardens so enter through the gate in the wall on Ardgowan Road, opposite the end of Castle Wemyss Drive. We work from 9.30am – 3pm and provide all the necessary gloves, safety glasses and tools. In addition we stop for coffee/tea and biscuits in the morning and provide soup and hot sausage rolls at lunchtime. Children are welcome to come along (we do have gloves to fit) however they must be accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. If you have not yet visited the terraced gardens and would like a guided tour giving some of the history of the area, this is an ideal time to come along as members of the association will be available to help you.

The following working weekend will take place on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th April. The usual arrangement, as above, will apply.

The Association has a number of bush-saws, bush-hooks and loppers which are available to hire, for a reasonable cost. To date these have been borrowed by two residents' associations who were carrying out work in their local area. If you would be interested in hiring the tools please contact Eila on 529375.

Woodland Future Consultation

The questionnaire distributed in last month's Village News generated over 140 replies which is around 14% of the households in Wemyss Bay. Along with the turnout at the Public Meeting on 21st March, this was a satisfactory response for Lower Clyde Greenspace, part of Inverclyde Council. The consultant, engaged by the council, will now draw up a report for submission to the council. This report will be available for public scrutiny.

A draw took place for Spar vouchers from those who took part in the survey. Mr & Mrs Barbour, Mrs Hope and a resident from Greenock Road were successful and the vouchers have been delivered to them.

The drawing competition for children was also judged and 8 youngsters won art materials. The successful children were: Gina Allan; Scott Bellew; Reece Cairns; Callum Forsyth; Katrina Gregory; Kieran Hannah; Scott McFarlane and Nadina Valenti. Well done to everyone.

Recycling

As you know there is a glass recycling point in the car park next to the community centre and a new glass point at the Inverkip Power Station access road. However, the council would welcome suggestions from residents for an additional recycling point in Wemyss Bay. This point would be for separated glass recycling and possibly dry recyclates. If you have any suggestions please contact Allan Walker at Inverclyde Council on 717171.

Let Changes

The cost of hiring the Community Centre has remained the same for a number of years. It has become necessary to review these costs and, with effect from April, the cost of hiring the centre will be £5 per hour for community groups and £10 per hour for commercial lets.

Oops!

In last month's Village News the article about this summer's Gala contained the wrong dates. Sorry!
Thanks Hayleigh for pointing this out.

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

The closing date for submission of articles and adverts for the March edition of the Village News is the 20th March at 6.00 pm. Send your information to **Eila Roberts, 14 Brueacre Drive, Wemyss Bay** Tel: **529375** E-mail: **eila@wemyssbay.plus.com** or drop it into the Village News folder in Spar. Adverts should be sent to Ken at the same address. If you wish to discuss an article for inclusion or if you have any questions about advertising please feel free to phone us on **529375**.

Wordsearch

Did you watch the Commonwealth Games last month? This month's wordsearch contains some of the sports which took place along with the city and country in which the games were held. Good luck!

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

AUSTRALIA
BASKETBALL
BOWLS
BOXING
Commonwealth
DECATHLON
DIVING
GYMNASTICS
HEPTATHLON
HIGH JUMP
HOCKEY
JAVELIN
MARATHON
MELBOURNE
POLE VAULT
NETBALL
RUGBY
SHOOTING
SWIMMING
TRIPLE JUMP
Weightlifting

WORDFINDER

C	I	U
T	E	R
N	A	D

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 are over 75 words and at least one 9-letter word.

20 words – at least you're trying!

40 words – shows promise

30 words – good

60+ words – brain-box!!

SUDOKU

			6		4			
	6			1			4	
4	5			9			2	7
		3	1		9	5		
2	7						1	3
		6	4		2	9		
1	8			2			3	6
	3			4			8	
			8		3			

Sudoku is straightforward once you get the hang of it and relies on logic to solve it. Place a number from 1-9 in each empty square so that each row, each column and each 3x3 block contains the numbers 1-9. (This means that no number can appear twice in any row, column or 3x3 block.) Good Luck