Wemyss Bay Village News

210th Edition June 2007

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Gala Weekend – Friday 15th – Sunday 17th June

This year the annual Gala Weekend will take place from Friday 15th – Sunday 17th June.
This year, for the first time, we are holding a disco on the Friday night with a "Beach Party" theme. With a popular DJ and a buffet, the evening is sure to be popular. The marquee will be decorated with a beach theme and we ask that everyone enter into the spirit of the evening and dress appropriately so dust off your shades and look out your shorts! Just remember to use plenty of insect repellent! Tickets priced £7 for adults, £5 for children or £20 for a family ticket (2 adults and 2 children), go on sale on Monday 4th June at the Community Centre Box Office from 6.30 – 7.30pm and will be available at the same time every evening thereafter until they are sold out. Last year, we ran out of tickets within three days so make sure you get yours as soon as they go on sale or you will miss out on what is guaranteed to be a night to remember.
The events on Saturday start at 12 noon when this year's Gala Queen, Zoe, Gala King, Dale and attendants Mhairi and Robbie, will officially open the Gala. All the stalls will be run by local organisations or businesses and will include the Brownies, Guides, PTA, Mums & Tots and Woodland Association. Once again the youth clubs will be running the tuck shop and the hot dog & burger stall – last year they were sold out by 3.00pm so, although Liz has ordered even more for this year, you will still have to be quick. The Community Centre will be given over to the Guides tearoom – always a popular attraction with all the lovely home-baking.
For the first time this year, the Bible Club and Ardgowan Football Development are collaborating to run a "Soccer Circus" featuring loads of football related activities, games and competitions.
Gala Day would not be complete without all the rides for the young and young at heart. This year they will be even bigger and better than before. The Animal Man will be back again this year, bringing with him a selection of animals for the children to see and handle, including rabbits, guinea pigs, snakes and tarantulas! There will still be the Bouncy Castle, Children's Carousel and the Junior Inflatable Slide for the younger visitors. In addition there will be some aimed at older children, teenagers and adults. Laser Quest is back again this year at popular request along with the Giant Inflatable Obstacle Course and Giant Slide. There will also be displays from the Coastguard and Police and the Fire Brigade will be along with a tender, which is always popular with the little ones.
During Saturday afternoon, Ardgowan Football Development will take on Boca Bay Juniors in what has become a much coveted annual challenge. While we do not encourage gambling, there is a good chance of a couple of pennies changing hands.
This year once again, the beer-tent will be providing a wide range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. Spirits, wine, canned and bottled drinks will appear side by side with "Helga's Big Jugs" from Houston Brewery.
For the first time ever, Gala Day will wind up at 8pm; however there will not be an earlier break and entertainment will continue through to the end, with last orders at 7.30pm. Obviously, therefore, there will be no need for tickets for Saturday evening, although there is a limit on numbers in the marquee so, unless you secure a place earlier in the day, you will not get in. With an early close on Saturday night, there is bound to be more demand for Friday night tickets, so make sure that you don't miss out.
Ardgowan Football Development will host their Annual Open Day on Sunday 18th June at the Community Centre and Playing Field from 11.15am – 3.00pm. There will be displays of training sessions and games. Ardgowan Thistle Football Club will take on local guest teams. There will also be the annual presentation of certificates and trophies. This is a must for all parents, families and friends of youngsters attending AFD.
Each year, the Community Association has to gamble on the success of the Gala. Even if there is a poor turnout the marquees, bands, rides, beer etc. still have to be paid for. Over the years there have been many generous sponsors who help fund specific items or donate prizes to the raffles. Sponsors are still required for this year's event. If your business is prepared to help or you can provide a raffle prize, please phone 529375.

Power Station Development

An exhibition, run on behalf of Scottish Power by Turley Associates at the community centre last month, sought to canvass the opinions of locals about the proposed redevelopment of land at the disused Inverkip Power Station. The power station is scheduled for a phased demolition over the period from late 2007 until spring of 2209.
Several "master-plans" were presented as options for consideration and those attending the demonstration were invited to comment on which plan, or which parts of plans, they agreed with or opposed. Although, on the face of it very similar, each of the master-plans does contain subtle differences and you should read through them carefully. It is not necessary to either accept or reject the plans in total but you are invited to make comments about specifics parts of each plan which you like or dislike.
Master-Plan Idea 1:

1. Restoration of Brueacre Burn in a landscaped setting.
2. Coastal path.
3. Flats on former oil storage tank area.
4. Harbour village with restaurant/pub, terraced houses and flats forming a traditional streetscape.
5. Gateway area including local shop, business centre and market place.
6. Pedestrian and cycle links to Wemyss Bay and Inverkip.
7. Potential for bus-link to Wemyss Bay if an acceptable route can be found.
8. Low rise housing in waterfront development zone.
9. Lower density detached and semi-detached housing back from the waterfront.
10. Boatyard on land overlooking harbour.
11. Removal of oil transfer pier.

Master-Plan Idea 2:

1. Restoration of Brueacre Burn in a landscaped setting.
2. Coastal path.
3. Flats on former oil storage tank area.
4. Harbour village with restaurant/pub, terraced houses and flats forming a traditional streetscape.
5. Gateway area including local shop, business centre.

6. Pedestrian and cycle links to Wemyss Bay and Inverkip.
7. Mix of low density houses and some flats in waterfront development zone.
8. Lower density detached and semi-detached housing back from the waterfront.
9. Removal of oil transfer pier.

Master-Plan Idea 3:

1. Restoration of Brueacre Burn in a landscaped setting.
2. Coastal path.
3. Flats on former oil storage tank area.
4. Harbour village with restaurant/pub, terraced houses and flats forming a traditional streetscape.
5. Gateway area including medical centre, community hall, local shops, marketplace and potential new primary school.
6. Pedestrian and cycle links to Wemyss Bay and Inverkip.
7. Potential for bus-link to Wemyss Bay if an acceptable route can be found.
8. Flats and town houses forming streets and open spaces in waterfront development zone.
9. Lower density detached and semi-detached housing back from the waterfront.
10. New houses set within large gardens in woodland area and with access road to harbour.

In considering the above proposals you should be aware that flats will be up to 4 storeys high. Houses will be a mix of 2, 3, 4 and 5 bedrooms. There will be between 400 and 700 flats and houses, depending on their design. At present the suggested bus route will be from the power station land, along Whiting Road, Brueacre Road to Ardgowan Road and then along Lomond Road to the A78.

The proposals are at the consultation stage only. There has been no application, as yet, for any planning permission and, when this does happen, local residents will have a statutory right to submit objections. It may however be worth putting your tuppence worth in at this stage in an attempt to influence what proposals are submitted for planning approval.

You can make your views known by contacting Turley Associates, 80 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5UB E-mail: **inverkip@turleyassociates.co.uk**

Grand Gala Raffle

This year the Community Association is running a Grand Gala Raffle to help fund the weekend's events. With tickets only costing £1 each and a fabulous range of prizes including a full set of Karate gear, an LCD TV, £100 and many more great prizes, you really don't want to miss out on your chance to win. In last month's Village News we said that you could get tickets in advance from any committee member, this was a mistake and we apologise. The only person you will be able to contact in advance for tickets is Eila on 529375. In addition tickets will be available from the Gala Box Office. They can be purchased at the Friday Beach Party and during the course of Saturday's events with the draw taking place on Saturday evening.

The Association holds a Lottery Licence which allows door-to-door sales however anyone selling on behalf of the Association will have a letter of authorisation so please ask to see it.

Gala Weekend – Help Still Needed

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. As each year the Gala gets bigger and better, it is even more vital that this year we have more volunteers. We require bar staff, face-painters, people to run the Association's stall, 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 erecters, cleaners, dish-washers, litter-collectors. We need volunteers from 8.30am till 11pm on Friday, 8.30am till 8.30pm on Saturday and again on Sunday until around 5pm. In order to give everyone the chance to enjoy the weekend we are trying to draw up a rota so that everyone just has to do an hour or two's work over the course of the weekend – are you available? 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 for an hour or two, then please phone Eila on 529375.

Bible Club and Youth Group (SBM) – Stephen Renton

There will be no Bible Club or Youth Group on Monday 4th June due to the school holiday. Both clubs will resume the following week on Monday 11th June. The Bible Club is for children of Primary School age and is on from 6.15pm to 7.30pm at the Community Centre. Activities include games, songs, competitions, Bible stories and other activities. The Youth Group is from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and is for young people in P6, P7 and high school, with similar activities suitable for that age, including games and a tuck shop. The clubs are run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries (SBM) and there are no fees for either club. Contact Stephen Renton for more information on 01505 355994.

1st Wemyss Bay Beavers - Liz Roders (Beaver Leader)

Since February we have gone from strength to strength and we are now full, with both Boys and Girls.

Whilst we are delighted and pleased that so many boys and girls from Wemyss Bay and Inverkip wanted to join us, this is not good news for all the boys and girls that haven't joined us yet. Don't despair, we will open a waiting list, so please call and have your name added to it.

We have also discussed, with our DC David McCallum, the possibility of starting our very on Cub Group and are pleased to let you know that, from August this year, this will be happening. Again we will be the 1st Wemyss Bay Cub Pack, attached to Inverkip, but the only Cub Pack to have ever been in Wemyss Bay. This, along with the Beavers, makes us extra special.

To add your names to this list please call me on 528803, so far we have 4 Cubs, 3 boys and 1 girl.

Cubs will take place after Beavers, on a Thursday night; the times will go out nearer August.

This month, we invested 11 Beavers, who all recited their promise quite proudly. They also completed their Healthy Eating badge and we are pleased that, whilst they did thoroughly enjoy the chocolate fountain, all the boys and girls enjoyed the fruit salad and sandwiches they made.

Please call me on 528803, for further information or if you have any questions about the Group.

Community Association

Wemyss Bay Community Association meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Inverkip Hotel. The Association is responsible for running the Community Centre, the Annual Gala and Christmas Lights switch-on evening. If you are interested in becoming involved in the work of the Association, or even if you simply would like to find out a bit more about what is going on, you will be most welcome to come along to any of the meetings.

Watch Out, There's a Thief About

There have been a number of thefts recently from garages and gardens in the Brueacre Drive & Whiting Road areas. A garden bench was stolen from the front of house in Brueacre Drive, various items from a garage in Whiting Road and children's toys from a garage in Brueacre Drive. If you have seen anything or have any other information please contact the local police or alternatively phone Eila on 529375. In the meantime, everyone should make sure that their homes, garages and huts are securely locked.

Ingliston Equestrian Centre – Karen Shaw

New owners Paul and Karen Fraser are delighted to welcome friends old and new. They are committed to promoting the championship centre as a venue for all equestrian activity.
Under a new management team we aim to provide an efficient and friendly facility for all the family. A place to visit for everyone, from the spectator, through to the serious professional, Ingliston offers something for everyone.
Located to the West of Glasgow with breathtaking views over the Clyde Estuary to the historic Dumbarton Rock, Ingliston Equestrian Centre is situated in beautiful countryside half a mile outside the Renfrewshire village of Bishopton.
Surrounded by over 100 acres of prime land, Ingliston currently boasts some of the best facilities in Scotland.
Featuring a championship indoor arena, adjacent warm up area and an all weather outdoor arena, Ingliston can host premier size events, can stable up to 100 horses and now has its own Riding Academy with accredited instructor.
We have just launched our teaching academy under the guidance of accredited coached and are now taking bookings. Suitable for beginners to advanced we cover all disciplines from dressage, show jumping, eventing and showing. With a range of quality ponies and horses that are hand picked for temperament and ability to ensure your safety and enjoyment. Experience horsemanship without the hassle.
2007 will see exciting changes to the centre. We will be developing a completely new public facility consisting of a relocated centre entrance, leading to a staffed reception and management suite.
Next to this will be a retail shop/saddlery for all your equine needs stocked with a range of bespoke clothing. Opposite will be a newly designed, elevated 220 cover restaurant/lounge providing dual aspects to both our arenas, furnished with large comfy sofas for a plush relaxed atmosphere.
All to provide a safe and comfortable environment setting new standards for the equestrian sports person that can be enjoyed by the whole family.
It is our mission to build Ingliston into the living, breathing heart of equestrian life in Scotland.

Found

A child's watch was found recently on the beach at Wemyss Bay Road. If you have lost a watch please phone 529375 with a description and arrangements can be made to collect it.

Keys Lost

On Monday 30th April a set of keys went missing from the Community Centre. If you have any knowledge of the whereabouts, or have found keys, please phone Kirsty on 520738 and she will return them to the owner. There is a £20 reward for their return. Alternatively, you can call 07973 880309 if you cannot reach Kirsty.

Disco Parties

Is your child a bit too old for Funworld or a Bouncy Castle Party? Think of the expense of taking 8 or more youngsters to the cinema for the afternoon followed by a McDonald's. Why not consider holding a Disco Party in Wemyss Bay Community Centre. You can hire the centre, complete with disco unit and Tiffany and Amy, the resident DJ Bay-B's, for only £50 for a two hour party. Community Association volunteers open and lock up after your party and the DJ Bay-B's set up and run the disco. All you have to do is come along with your guests and have fun. You are asked to return the centre to the state you found it but a quick brush over is enough to tidy up. The centre's kitchen is available if you wish to provide hot food and there are plenty of tables and chairs.
For more information, or to make your booking, contact **Kirsty 520738.**

Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church – Rev W Armstrong

With the summer months stretching out ahead of us, thoughts turn to gardening, golf and holidays – but not necessarily in that order. In our Church life, organisations are taking a well-earned break from our winter routine, satisfying as it has been for most of us, to enjoy the freedom that provides opportunities for rest and re-creation.
The incessant demands of modern living mean that we have to make time for ourselves. Many people, including ministers, are at work or on call 24/7, as the jargon puts it. Perhaps we should take our cue from the Bible commandment which states emphatically, "For six days you shall labour and do all your word; but the seventh is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them, but rested on the seventh day…" For some, that means placing restrictions on what we are at liberty to do on our use of Sunday; for me it emphasises the need to make time for rest and re-creation.
Even to the non-religious, we know it makes good sense.
Have an inspiring and restful summer. *W Armstrong*
PS The Church is open for Worship and the Children's Club every Sunday at 11.00am throughout the summer months. We never close.

New council ushers in era of co-operation

It's all change at Inverclyde Council after the May elections. The Lib Dems, who previously had 13 out of 20 Councillors, have lost control of Inverclyde and the new Council is made up of 9 Labour Councillors, 5 SNP, 4 Lib Dems, 1 Tory and 1 Independent. No one political party has overall control in Inverclyde, which means that unpopular policies can't be pushed though in the teeth of opposition from other groups on the Council. There is also a change to the way people in Wemyss Bay are represented on Inverclyde Council. Previously, you had one councillor for the village; now there are three. And they represent a much bigger area including Braeside, Larkfield and Branchton, as well as Inverkip.
Although the Labour Group is the biggest political party on the Council, they don't have a majority and will form a minority administration. This means that they will have to seek consensus from others before they can make any major changes, and the

days when one political party (of whatever colour) could take decisions in isolation are long gone. Policies on issues like schools, leisure and community facilities will need to command cross-party support before they can be implemented.
Here in Wemyss Bay you now have one Labour Councillor, one SNP and one Liberal Democrat. You can choose which Councillor you want to contact about a particular issue or who you want to invite along to any local group that you are involved with. The Councillors all have equal status and no one person has the right to represent you more than another. For my part, I want to see each and every one of them representing you well and listening to your views. No group has the right to arrogantly ignore the wishes of the people who elected them, and the recent Council election results are a salutatory lesson to anyone who might be tempted to do so. Councillors, like all elected representatives, are there to reflect the wishes of their constituents and, if we ignore local people, we can't be surprised when we lose at the ballot box.
Proportional representation has had a dramatic effect on the local Council. The political landscape in the Town Hall has been altered forever and we are now entering an era of consensus politics. The Labour administration will need to aim for agreement with the other parties and individuals on the council, and build bridges where it can. For their part, some other parties have already indicated that they won't oppose just for oppositions sake and they will back proposals that are for the good of Inverclyde. This is the right thing for them to do and it will bring benefits to the entire area, including Wemyss Bay.
Wemyss Bay's three councillors will have to try and co-operate for the good of the village and, while nobody expects people from three different parties to agree about everything, the new system should help to ensure that Wemyss Bay has a stronger voice in the Municipal Buildings and that all shades of opinion get a fair hearing.
I am looking forward to working with your new Councillors and I can promise you that I will continue to fight for the village, regardless of who controls the Council.
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: wwwdavidcairns.com

71st Ayrshire Scout Group & THE BAY Explorer Unit - Iain Carmichael (ESL)

CUBS: This month saw the Explorer's invited to attend a Tiger pack meeting to demonstrate the various types of tents the unit uses for different types of camping, The Cubs then showed the Explorer's their skill at rounders as both sections enjoyed a game in early summer sun.
The Eagle and Tiger Packs outing in the middle of May saw 42 cubs and 10 leaders participate in their last big outing of the session. They started with a visit to Clydebuilt at Braehead where the cubs toured the exhibition and the MV Kyles puffer. After Clydebuilt the cubs were treated to a journey on the Glasgow underground from Shields Road to Kelvinhall with the underground staff explaining the safety rules of underground use, along with ensuring the cubs joined and alighted their train to Kelvinhall with little distraction. At Kelvinhall the group split in two for visits to both the Transport Museum and the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, The day ended with play time in Kelvin Park.
Both Cub Pack Leaders are now burning the midnight oil finalising the packed programme for their 21st consecutive annual week long Pack Holiday, this summer sees the Packs visit Hesley Wood Scout Activity Centre, where the cubs will participate in a programme of traditional scouting activities, with an interesting and fun time assured for all.
EXPLORERS: With the very good weather the Explorer Unit has enjoyed a number of out door actives both sporting and scouting with a number of Explorers enjoying an evening hike behind Largs, a new area of hiking for the unit. Now the Explorers are ready for Centenary Camp at Scottish Agricultural College, Auchincruive, by Ayr where we expect to join 1500 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers from our Scouting area. Activities organised for the Explorers include flights in light aircraft, quad biking and rifle shooting which we hope will lead to a very enjoyable weekend.
GROUP: At the time of writing the Scout Group is very busy collecting for our annual Jumble Sale which we are sure will be a success with the continued support of the residents of Wemyss Bay, Skelmorlie and further afield.
Please contact Iain Carmichael on 520697 or Email "The71stAyrshireScoutGroup@Yahoo.co.uk" for further information concerning the Group or any of the sections.

Bouncy Castle Parties

Not sure what to do for your child's birthday party? Think of the mess which a dozen or more small people can produce in your home. Looking for a solution? Then look no further than Wemyss Bay Community Centre. You can hire the centre, complete with Bouncy Castle for a 2-hour party for only £52. Community Association volunteers open and lock up after your party and set up the bouncy castle and put it away again. All you have to do is come along with your guests and have fun. You are asked to return the centre to the state you found it but a quick brush over is enough to tidy up. The centre's kitchen is available if you wish to provide hot food and there are plenty of tables and chairs.
For more information, or to make your booking, contact **Kirsty 520738.**

Dog Poo

We have had an increasing number of phone calls from people wishing to contact the local authority enforcement officers to report instances of owners failing to clean up after their pets. For the next few editions we will continue to print the direct phone number for complaints – remember that it is helpful if more than one individual makes a complaint. Let's try and clean up Wemyss Bay and put an end to irresponsible and anti-social behaviour of this type.
If you want to report an irresponsible dog owner call 01475 714200
On a personal basis and as a responsible dog owner who does clear up after my pets, I too am fed up with the mess left behind by irresponsible pet owners. I also get annoyed when responsible owners get blamed for the mess left behind by others. I always carry poo bags and am only too willing to pass them out if I see someone failing to clear up after their pet, or to phone the number above if they refuse to. Recently in Largs a campaign was started to try and enforce the legislation by challenging people to clean up or reporting them if they do not. It is certainly having an effect as the streets, grassy areas and prom are much cleaner. Perhaps we should try the same thing here. Let me know what you think on 529375 or email: eila@wemyssbay.plus.com

Waste collection

Your black bin will be collected on Tuesdays 12th & 29th June and 10th & 24th July. Your blue and brown bins will be emptied on Tuesdays 5th & 19th June and 3rd, 17th & 31st July.

"Bushisms" – real statements from the world's most powerful man

"Wow! Brazil is big." – George W. Bush, after being shown a map of Brazil by Brazilian president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, Nov. 6, 2005
"I can only speak to myself." -- April 28, 2005
"Either we'll succeed, or we won't succeed." – speaking on Iraq, Washington, D.C., May 2, 2007
"The best thing about my family is my wife. She is a great first lady. I know that sounds not very objective, but that's how I feel. And she's also patient. Putting up with me requires a lot of patience." --April 19, 2007
"The only way we can win is to leave before the job is done." – Nov. 4, 2006
"Justice ought to be fair." – Dec. 15, 2004
"We stand for things." --Aug. 5, 2004
"I'm honoured to shake the hand of a brave Iraqi citizen who had his hand cut off by Saddam Hussein." – May 25, 2004
"I think war is a dangerous place." — May 7, 2003
"It's amazing I won. I was running against peace, prosperity, and incumbency." — June 14, 2001, unaware that a live television camera was still rolling.
"One of the great things about books is sometimes there are some fantastic pictures." -- Jan. 3, 2000
"I think we agree, the past is over." – May 10, 2000
"It's clearly a budget. It's got a lot of numbers in it." -- May 5, 2000
"If this were a dictatorship, it'd be a heck of a lot easier, just so long as I'm the dictator." – Dec. 19, 2000

Woodland Walks

The Woodland Association will be starting up their programme of woodland walks and activities next months and further details will appear in the July Village News. Some of the more popular activities from last year, including the Bird Day (making bird boxes, bird feeders and a bird walk), Treasure Hunt, Artworks Sessions and Bat Walk will run again this summer and it is hoped that a few new activities will be included this year for the first time.
We are considering running a Bat Day this year to include making Bat boxes in the afternoon followed by an evening bat walk. We also hope to organise a Mini-Beast Safari again this year.
Dates and times will appear in the July edition but, in addition, we are looking for bright ideas for activities so, if there is something that you would be interested in taking part in, please contact Eila on 529375 or email: eila@wemyssbay.plus.com

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.

Advert Size	**Dimensions**	**Price**
1/8th page (standard)	64mm 45mm	£12/issue
¼ page	128mm x 45mm or 64mm x 90mm	£24/issue
½ 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.

Wemyss Bay web site

Do you run a group in Wemyss Bay or the surrounding area? Do you know that 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/

Largs Agricultural Show

This year the Largs Agricultural Show will be held in the Ardgowan Estate on Saturday June 9th. In addition to various agricultural competitions there will be a number of sideshows and a variety of entertainment.

Woodland Association

The Woodland Association will be continuing to run working weekends over the next couple of months – look out for posters in Spar giving dates or email eila@wemyssbay.plus.com to be added to the email contact list and receive regular notification and updates.
We anticipate that we should complete the clearance work by the end of the summer so you are running out of opportunities to join us and it would be a shame at the end of the day not to be able to say you took part. As we are nearing the end of the rhodi-bashing phase of our work it would really make a difference to see one or two new faces along to make a concerted effort to complete the rhodi clearance as soon as possible. We have a very few regular volunteers and their efforts over the last few years have really been outstanding. I am sure that you can't fail to have noticed the difference in the wood and hope that you feel that the area has improved, both from an access and safety point of view. If you use the woodland in any way at all, I would encourage you to come and join us, even for an hour or two, and "do your bit" to help our efforts. You do not need to stay for the whole day as any time you have to spare will be most welcome
We provide all the necessary tools, gloves and safety glasses. In addition we supply regular hot and cold drinks and provide hot soup and sausage rolls at lunchtime. Children are welcome to join us provided that they are accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult.

Hire of Furniture

The Community Association can rent out furniture from the community Centre at a very reasonable cost.
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**.

2007 Election Results (www.wemyssbay.net/news/politics)

Inverclyde Council Elections

From the 2007 election, Wemyss Bay is now part of the Inverclyde South West ward (Ward 6). Inverclyde Council was previously split into 20 wards but important changes have been introduced from the 2007 election. The number of wards within Inverclyde was reduced from 20 to 6. These wards will be known as 'multi-member' wards because there will be 3 or 4 councillors representing each ward, instead of just 1. All of the councillors serving in the same ward are elected on an equal level with no 1 of the councillors having seniority over the others. You can contact any of the councillors representing your ward if you wish to raise an issue with them.

The councillors for Wemyss Bay after the 2007 election on the 3rd May are **Gerry Dorrian** of the Labour Party, **Ken Ferguson** of the Scottish National Party (SNP) and **Ciano Rebecchi** of the Scottish Liberal Democrats.

After the 2007 election, the Labour party had the most councillors in Inverclyde Council with 9 councillors. The SNP came from nowhere to go into second place with 5 councillors while the Liberal Democrats were reduced dramatically in numbers to just 4 councillors. The Conservative party have 1 councillor and Independent candidate Ronnie Ahlfeld was also elected to represent Inverclyde West (Ward 5).

The total number of votes cast in Ward 6 was 4,157, a turnout of 52.21%. There were 58 rejected papers.

Scottish Parliament Results

The MSP for the Greenock and Inverclyde constituency is **Duncan McNeil** of the Labour Party who was re-elected at the 2007 election after first being elected in 1999 at the start of the Scottish Parliament. The turnout was 23,105. This is 51.75% of the electorate of 44,646 and is up 0.1% on the 2003 election, with a swing of 6.4% from LAB to SNP. The majority for Duncan McNeil was 3024 (13.1%).

Greenock and Inverclyde is part of the West of Scotland region and the regional MSPs, elected in the 2007 election on May 3rd, are: Stuart McMillan (SNP); Stewart Maxwell (SNP); Bill Wilson (SNP); Gil Paterson (SNP); Annabel Goldie (Conservative); Jackson Carlaw (Conservative); Ross Finnie (Liberal Democrats). The turnout on the regional vote was 268,179 which was 56.45% of the electorate.

Further details, along with contact details for each of our elected representatives, is available on the Village Website www.wemyssbay.net/news/politics

Skelmorlie Gala Day

Skelmorlie Gala Day will take place on Saturday 23rd June at Skelmorlie Community Centre and playing fields. The Gala will be opened by the Gala Queen and her attendants. In addition to the Beer Tent, Tea-Room and Burger Stall, there will be a variety of stalls, sideshows and entertainment throughout the afternoon.

Many Skelmorlie residents support Wemyss Bay Gala Weekend so why not pop up and join in their celebrations too.

Inverkip & Wemyss Bay Community Council

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council meet on the first Thursday of every month in the Rogues Room at the Inverkip Hotel at 7.30pm. If you have an issue which you think they may be able to help with, or you are interested in getting involved, then you will be made very welcome. You can contact the Community Council at www.inverkip-wemyssbaycc.co.uk

Village News - Can You Help?

We have a dedicated band of distributors who help out each month by delivering the Village News to homes in their area however we still require more help. In particular, we need more distributors to cover parts of Greenock Road and the Lighthouses. If you can spare an hour once a month please phone Eila on 529375.

Similarly if you are aware of any other areas in the village which do not receive regular copies of the Village News, please get in touch in order that we can rectify this.

Do you have some local news and are desperate to share it? Telephone Eila on 529375 or send your articles to eila@wemyssbay.plus.com

Anonymous Articles

While we are happy to print articles and withhold the sender's name, if requested, we must have a note of the person's name and contact details before we can print anything. This is to protect us, should someone later complain about an article. You will find that any publication will take the same position.

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.

With respect to articles, we reserve the right to edit as we see fit to prevent offence and / or inaccuracies. We also reserve the right to ask local groups / individuals to respond to any articles received.

Finally

The closing date for the July edition of the Village News will be Wednesday 20th June at 6pm. It is helpful if you send in any articles as soon as you have them rather than leave them to the very last minute – this means that we would have a little more time to put things together before having to get them to the printer. 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**.

Please note that there is no August edition of the Village News due to the holiday period, therefore, if there is an event during August which you would like publicised. Please ensure that information arrives by the July deadline.

Kid's Stuff

Guess what this month's wordsearch is all about – it's not really that hard to figure out that it must be about the gala. If you look hard enough you will find the names of some of the rides, sideshows, stalls and other treats which can be found on Gala Day. Hope the weather is good and that you all come along and enjoy yourselves. See you there!

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

ANIMALS
ASSAULT COURSE
BALLOON RACE
BEAT THE GOALIE
BOUNCY CASTLE
BURGERS
CANDY FLOSS
COAST GUARD
COCONUT SHY
DANCE
EQUALISER
FIRE BRIGADE
FUN
GALA
GALA QUEEN
GIANT SLIDE
GUINEA PIGS
ICE CREAM
KARAOKE
LASER QUEST
MUSIC
PUTTING
RABBIT
SNAKE
TARANTULA

WORDFINDER

D	E	N
I	N	T
R	U	A

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! 30 words – good
40 words – shows promise 60+ words – brain-box

SUDOKU

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

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