

Wemyss Bay Village News

220th Edition

June 2008

Email: villagenews@wemyssbay.net
Community Centre Tel: 521955 <http://wemyssbay.net/>

Gala Weekend Friday 13th June - Sunday 15th June

Well once again the Friday evening has been a sell out with tickets being snapped up in a very fast 55 minutes!! We are looking forward to the night which will be compared by Radio Clyde's very own Bill Smith.

WHATS ON IN THE GALA MARQUEE

Saturday 14th June 2008

12.00 pm	The Grand Opening of the Gala followed by: The Crowning of the Gala King and Queen, compared by John Scott from Real Radio. Also on hand is Radio Clyde and Wemyss Bay's very own Dr Proctor
12.45 - 1.15	The Brownie Country Dancing Team Display**
1.30 – 1.50	Graffiti Dance Troupe Display**
2.00 – 2.30	Jo Jingles (Children's Music and Movement Class 6 months – 5 years).
3.00 – 4.00	Raffle, Stand Up Bingo and Gardening Competition winner announcement.
4.00 – 5.00	Wemyss Bay's Got Talent (Still time to enter by calling Kirsty 520738)
5.30 – 6.00	Wemyss Bay's Got Talent Grand Final
6.00 – 9.00	Party on in the Marquee with Real Radio's John Scott

** Please support the kids in the Marquee as they have practised hard for this day and look forward to displaying their skills.

We will have our usual attractions such as Quadsports ever popular Laser Quest, giant inflatable rides for the smaller children, magic teacups, bouncy castle, tattoos, face painting, the animal man, portable ceramics studio and much, much more. In addition to this we will be visited by the local fire brigade, police and coast guard. The entertainment will be compared throughout the day when you will have the chance to win some great prizes in our raffle and stand up bingo. After last years success and by popular request, Saturdays' event will now run until 9pm when the bar will be closed and those who are still standing are more than welcome to join us in a clean up.

Sunday at 11.00am, as usual is turned over to the Ardgowan Football Development for their annual presentations.

As usual we are looking for volunteers to help in any way they can, including helping to set up the marquee on the Friday, building gazebos on the Saturday morning, working behind the bar (no experience necessary), manning stalls and general clean up duties. Please contact Denise on 521437 if you can spare some time. Any other gala enquiries contact Ann Marie on 522998.

Wemyss Bay Garden Competition 2008 – still time to nominate your friend or neighbour

Enter your own garden or nominate another.

Entries will be judged from the 1st - 10th June 08. Winners will be announced on the Gala Day and in the Village News

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Entries by phone: Sandy on 520738 e-mail: sandy66@talktalk.net Conditions supplied on enquiry.

1st Wemyss Bay Guides

After a longer than expected Easter holiday, Guides are back and busy as ever! We began the summer term with a disability awareness evening, which the girls who are working towards their Baden Powell Challenge arranged for us. Our County Disability Advisor came and spoke to us and we completed different challenges, having to use only certain hands, or no eyes. It was really difficult and made us all understand other peoples' perceptions a lot more.

Summer time means lots of outdoors activities and we ensured this by having a walk to Everton from the community centre via the old Guide Campsite, Bettyburn (that the old Guiders remember!) When we got to Everton we took part in outdoor cooking and a Jacobs's ladder challenge! Everyone had a great evening and look out for our pictures the next time you are at the community centre. Many thanks to Greenock District Scouts, for letting us use their site and providing us with instructors!

We also had a day trip to Climbzone at Xscape and some shopping at Braehead during May. After an early start we were able to hit some shops before stopping to catch up on the latest trends at the Braehead Fashion show. We quickly managed to get some lunch before going to Xscape where girls took part in a mix of climbing, skypark and the fan drop activity. Katie, Amy, Dominique and Holly had a "mountain top" moment at the top of the climbing wall, where they all made their promise.

During all of these fun events we also squeezed in some Go For It's including Passion for Fashion, which let us design and make some cool t-shirts that we wore when we took part in the fundraising Ghana Fun Run. Those who took part were led in a warm up by our very own fantastic runners Nynke and Saskia who put us through our paces and then led us off on two laps around Battery Park. Well done and a huge thank you to those who took part.

You wouldn't think we could have fitted anything else into this months Guiding activities in Wemyss Bay, but we also managed to take part in the Division challenge. A patrol of six girls devised their own business called "Cakes to Go" selling cakes both at Guides and at Wemyss Bay Primary School. The girls raised £78.32 in just two weeks! They have chosen to donate the money to Lilybank School in Greenock to help them to buy some new equipment that we learned cost so much at our disability night. To finish the challenge the girls had to do a presentation with patrols from across Inverclyde taking part, to explain what they had done to raise their money. The competition was very fierce with everyone putting in a wonderful effort. Wemyss Bay Guides were lucky enough to be the WINNERS of the Division challenge and have won the trophy for another year! Well Done to Katie, Amy, Rachel, Louise, Nicole and Kirsty we are all very proud of you! (A huge thank you to Mrs Ritchie and the staff at Wemyss Bay Primary for letting the girls complete their challenge at school, it clearly paid off!)

We are set to continue with our busy spell by a number of Guides supporting the Fun night at Fun World that is exclusive to Greenock Division Rainbows and Brownies and Wemyss Bay Guides. We are sure all the girls will have a fun filled evening and a huge thank you to Fun World who are supporting us in this fundraiser!

Just when we thought there was time to relax, it is time for preparations for the Gala Day to be made! The Guides will all take part in making cakes and sweets to sell at our cake and candy stall which is inside the Community Centre (just beside our tea room!) We will also be having our annual coconut shy, ball in a bucket and other outside games that we have. Please stop and have a shot or taste our delights when you are at the Gala Day as this is one of our biggest fundraisers. All of the money here will be directly used to provide wider and greater opportunities for the girls of Wemyss Bay.

June looks to be a busy month with so much going on at Wemyss Bay Guides, but if you would like any more information about how you could join or assist with our unit, please contact Alison Carmichael 520697 or girlguidingwemyssbay@yahoo.co.uk

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Bible Club and Youth Group (SBM)

The clubs will resume on Monday, June 9th, and the week after that we will be holding our summer parties and prize giving on Monday, June 16th. The Bible Club will then be going on their annual outing to Funworld on Monday 23rd June which should be a lot of fun as always! We will also be doing Beat the Keeper at the Gala Day on Saturday 14th June, please come along and support us at that.

If your child would like to come to either of the clubs, they meet on a Monday evening at Wemyss Bay Community Centre. Bible Club is from 6.15pm to 7.30pm and all children in Primary School are welcome. 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 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. If you require further information, please contact Stephen Renton on 01505 355994.

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Strathspey & Reel Society

A recent "Telegraph" article suggested the Strathspey & Reel Society "helps hold the community together". I'm not sure how it could do that, but it does two things:

If you play any instrument, at any standard, you can have a lot of fun and enjoyment playing traditional (and other) music.

If you run a club or social group of any kind and would like us to play for a fund raising event, ceilidh, or whatever, we can.

Phone Bill on 520095, or Margaret on 01505 502663, or email ccsrs@tiscali.co.uk for info.

PTA

Well that is us at the end of another school year and it has gone by very quickly. The PTA has had a busy year doing events to raise funds and they have all been very well supported so a big thank you to everyone who came along. We are still busy organising the P7 leavers dance and getting ready for returning to the new and improved school, like everyone we are all really looking forward to seeing how the school has changed.

We will be back in August and as always we are looking for new members, the more people come along to support the PTA, the more money we can raise and that goes right back to the school and the children, so please come along to a meeting, they take place on a Monday night and are quick, fun and informal.

All of the PTA hope that everyone has a great summer holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone back at Wemyss Bay Primary in August.

Thanks Donna Galvin.

Kip McGrath
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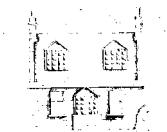
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Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church

On Saturday 21st June at 10.00 – 12.00 we have a car Wash / Coffee morning - so come along and enjoy coffee and cakes while your car gets a wash and brush-up in the car park!

WRW

CHURCH DIARY

Sunday Worship – every Sunday, 11.00am.

Sunday Club for youngsters – every Sunday, 11.00am

Prayers for the Sick – last Sunday of every month, 10.15am

Bible Study – every Monday, 7.30pm

Ballroom Dancing – every Tuesday, 7.00pm

Country Dancing – every Wednesday, 7.30pm

Men's Fellowship – fortnightly on Thursdays, 7.30pm

Friday Lunches – every Friday, 12.15-1.30pm

Woodland Association

Activity Sessions

Once again this year, the Woodland Association is running a number of walks and activity sessions during the summer months. There is a £1 charge for each event, unless indicated, and they run from 10am – 12noon each day. The meeting point for all the events is the Car Park at the Community Centre.

For more information, or to book a space phone 529375 or email: eila@wemyssbay.plus.com

Details of the August activities will appear in next month's Village News.

Sat 12th July Wombling Morning: Join us for a morning tidying up the wood. Gloves and litter-pickers supplied. * No charge*

Wed 16th July Treasure Hunt: A morning of clues and activities for the young and the young at heart.

Wed 23rd July Mini-Beast Safari: Things which are too small to notice can be the things which make a woodland work. Get up close to a selection of creepy crawlies and slimy beasts

Wed 30th July Artworks: Join us and take part in a range of art and craft activities including petal dying, leaf painting and making shapes and designs from natural materials.

Membership

Membership of the Woodland Association is open to anyone living in Inverclyde or North Ayrshire and costs £2 for individuals or £3 for households per year. Money raised from membership is used to keep the association running and is spent largely on insurance, both for work sessions and to cover all the walks and activity sessions run by the group. If you, or members of your family, use the wood or join in any of the association's activities please consider taking out membership. Send your name and address, along with a cheque, made out to Wemyss Bay Woodland Association, to Wemyss Bay Woodland Association, c/o Eila Roberts, 14 Brueacre Drive, Wemyss Bay PA18 6HA

Treasurer Wanted

The Woodland Association is looking for someone to take on the role of Treasurer. A knowledge of Quickbooks would be an advantage. The job is not particularly onerous and will take between one and two hours per month. If you would like to discuss the vacancy and the work involved, with no obligation, please contact Eila on 529375.

Waste collection

Your black bin will be collected on Tuesdays the 10th & 24th June. Your blue and brown bins will be emptied on Tuesdays 17th June & 1st July.

Wemyss Bay Community Association

Our next meeting will be announced in the July edition along with the Minutes of the AGM.

Any articles, information or queries should be directed to villagenews@wemyssbay.net or placed in the village news folder in the Spar. The closing date for the July edition will be Friday 20th June at 6.00pm.

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Ardgowan Football Development

AFD Sunday Sessions

Following the recent spell of bad weather, all AFD Sunday Sessions are now operating normally and we would encourage all kids to attend as we prepare for the Gala Day. The session times are as follows:

Primary 1	12:05 – 13:20
Primary 2	13:25 – 14:40
Primary 3	14:45 – 16:00
Primary 4	12:45 – 14:15
Primary 5	12:45 – 14:15
Primary 6	14:15 – 15:45
Primary 7/Girls	14:15 – 15:45

Gala Weekend

Saturday 14th June:

The world famous AFD Pie & Bovril Stall will return at this year's Village Gala Day and the Old Crocks (Some now the wrong side of 50) will play a friendly match against a local team at 12:30pm.

Sunday 15th June:

11:30	AFD Parade
11:45	AFD Coaching Sessions
12:45	Presentation of Awards & Certificates in Marquee
13:45	Buffet
15:00	Close

Trip to Soccer Circus

To compensate for the number of times we have cancelled the outdoor sessions this year, due to a combination of bad weather & poor facilities, we have organised a trip to Kevin Keegan's Soccer Circus. This free trip, for the P4 – P7/Girls Sessions, will take place on Sunday 22nd June and any kids in these sessions wishing to go on the trip must attend on a Sunday to speak to their coach.

www.ardgowanfd.com

Ross Finnie MSP

Residents in Wemyss Bay get understandably upset when people get drunk and then cause a nuisance or resort to vandalism as a result. That sort of behaviour is unacceptable and the Government is shortly to bring out a new strategy to tackle alcohol abuse

I wonder however, how many residents realise that with changes to drink strengths and sizes of measure they could quite inadvertently be drinking more than is good for their health. The report by NHS Health Scotland: How much are people in Scotland really drinking? Published on 27 May is a very worrying read.

I had certainly not appreciated how far things have changed. When units of alcohol were first introduced, for example, a glass of wine counted a 1 unit equivalent to 125 ml at a strength of 8%. Today, wines typically range from 11.5% to 14.5% in alcoholic strength and in licensed premises 175ml and 250ml glasses are more common. At these strengths and sizes a glass of wine will contain between 2.0 and 3.6 units of alcohol. Similarly a pint of normal strength beer was classes as having 2 units of alcohol but many popular beers now contain 3 units per pint.

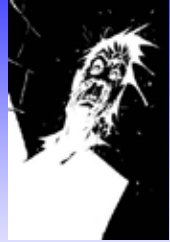
So at a Scottish Parliament level we need to take the necessary steps to protect communities like Wemyss Bay from alcohol misuse but at a personal level we need to be vigilant if we are not to damage our health through inadvertent alcohol consumption.

Contact Ross Finnie MSP at:

54 Kelly Street, Greenock PA16 8TR Tel: 01475-805020 Fax: 01475-805021
email ross.finnie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk website www.rossfinniemsp.org.uk



Wemyss Bay GALA WEEKEND



FRIDAY 13TH – SUNDAY 15TH JUNE 2008



FREAKY FRIDAY DISCO NIGHT

7:00PM – 10:30PM in Marquee

Licensed
Bar

With Bill Smith from
Radio Clyde

PRIZES FOR
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OUTFITS



GALA

12noon till 8:30PM

Gala King and Queen, Bouncy Castle, Tattoos, Giant Inflatable Slide and Assault Course, Equaliser, Sumo Wrestling, Ceramic Painting, Internet Bus, Emergency Services Vehicles, Animal Farm, Dancing Display, Mini Fairground, Tombola, Coconut Shy, Stalls, Cream Teas, Burgers, Hot Dogs, Pies and Bovril, Licensed Bar, Beer Garden, Wemyss Bay's Got Talent – The Grand Talent Show



ARDGOWAN FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Tournament, Prize Giving and Events

FOR MORE GALA INFO CALL 01475 522998

HELLO - FROM WEMYSS BAY ON THE HILL!

We're back and we are still on the hill, things are great and there's lots going on from Primary 1 to Primary 7.

Story written by Primary 6 pupils Eilidh Black, Amy Freel, Rachel Murdoch and Daniel Gregory and Euan Benjamin in Primary 5.

Wemyss Bay Primary Health Week

From 12th to 16th May Primary 6 organised a Health Week. We invited in different organisations, e.g. Friends and Feeling Team, Fire Safety, Tobacco Awareness, street dancing, healthy eating and skipping instructor. We had lots of fun and learned interesting facts too. They taught us how to enjoy ourselves but still be healthy, how to keep positive thoughts in your head and how to be safe by the road.

We also organised a competition for the upper school to design a dream toothbrush. Lewis McLeod (P.4), Dario Zavaroni (P.5), Aidan Morrison (P.6) and Niamh McLaren (P.7) were the lucky winners of some fun and healthy games.

Primary 3 helped Primary 6 by organising a competition for the younger pupils and a healthy tuck shop for all primaries. At the healthy tuck they sold corn crisps and fruit. The winners of the Primary 3 competition were Harry Lyne (Nursery), Isla Roberts (Nursery), Mia Kelly (P. 1) and David Hendry (P.2).

On the first day of the Health Week everybody took part in our Monday Mile which involved pupils and staff walking or running around the top playground eight times. At the end of the week all pupils and staff received a certificate for participating in the Monday Mile.

On Wednesday afternoon we held a Health Fair in the school's Assembly Hall. We invited parents/carers to come and talk to the different organisations about health and health matters. This was a great success and we would like to thank all parents/carers for their support.

We also had our Potted Sports, organised by Mrs Dorman, during Health Week, which was really great fun.

Wemyss Bay Primary would like to thank everybody who came in to talk to us about being healthy and we hope everyone enjoyed Health Week.

We hope everyone will stay healthy.

An Afternoon of Song

On 24th April four pupils from primaries 5 & 6, Euan, Dario, James and Daniel, went to St. Kenneth's Primary to meet the famous conductor Christopher Bell.

Christopher Bell has conducted many choirs and orchestras including the RSNO Junior Chorus and The National Youth Choir of Scotland.

While we were at St. Kenneth's we were taught two different songs, Drunken Sailor and Bounce, Catch, Pass and Pass, a song which included a ball game where you had to do as the song told you. In the game we were paired up with pupils from Inverkip Primary. We won just about every round even though we were all over the place!

We all had a great time and learned a lot from Christopher Bell. We would go back again if we could.

Show Racism the Red Card

On 29th April ex football player, Derek Ferguson, came to Wemyss Bay Primary to speak to Primary 6 about racism in football. He also brought a video about racism which we watched. It taught us that racism has been worse in the past, e.g. people getting made fun of because of the colour of their skin, but it is gradually getting better. So we are trying to show racism the red card all together. At the end of the video Derek gave us a quiz on what we had just seen. David Gillies, James Hamilton, Laura Francis, Dominique Mitchell and Amy Freel all got the highest score and won prizes.

After the break Derek took us for a short football session. He taught us lots of new football skills, including how to get up in the fastest way possible after a tackle. Then we played a very competitive funny and enjoyable game of football.

Derek gave us magazines, posters and autographs for which we were very grateful.

It was a very enjoyable and fun morning.

Pupils of the Week:

Week Beginning: 21st April

Pr1: Joshua Rasmussen & Danae Lavery, Pr2: Rebecca McConnachie, Pr3: Amy Donnelly & Greg Scotland, Pr4: Lewis McLeod, Pr5: Madeline Coxshott, Pr6: James Hamilton, Pr7: Sophie Leighton
House of the Week: Bute

Week Beginning: 12th May

Pr1: Sophie Elliott, Pr2: Adam Bissett, Pr3: Alan Devlin & Adam Galvin, Pr4: Sophie McDougall, Pr5: Natalie Roberts & Zoe McCallum, Pr6: Katie Donnelly, Amy Freel & Rachel Murdoch, Pr7: Richard Mutter
House of the Week: Cumbrae

Week Beginning: 19th May

Pr1: Andrew O'Donnell, Pr2: Hayleigh McDonald & Kiera Cannon, Pr3: Ayley Pyper & Lauren Hodge, Pr4: Emma Smith & Nicola Anderson, Pr5: Rory Wilson, Pr6: Emma Thomson, Pr7: Ross Benton
House of the Week: Iona

Compiled by Iona Roders, Primary 7, and Rachel Murdoch, Primary 6

Stuart McMillan MSP

The tragic disasters in Burma and China have shocked the world. More than one and a half million people have been left homeless in Burma and around 71,000 people in China are dead, buried or missing. The need for aid and support is vital and I would hope that all 'Tele' readers can give what they can to the DEC appeal at www.DEC.org.uk or call 0870 60 60 900.

During my time as a West of Scotland MSP I have been taking a close interest in developments on the River Clyde. In particular I have become concerned with the dispute currently taking place between the Clyde Pilots and Clydeport. This has led me to raise the matter in the Scottish Parliament with the First Minister. It is my firm belief that through constructive dialogue using the facility of Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) both parties can find a mutually agreeable position which will ensure safety on the Clyde is of paramount importance at all times. This is why I have offered the Clyde Pilots the opportunity to come to the Scottish Parliament to highlight their concerns to MSP's and journalists. I am sure the people of Wemyss Bay and the whole of Inverclyde will wish for a quick resolution to the dispute. After all, the river is used by many people on a daily basis, for commuting and leisure purposes.

Contact: Stuart McMillan MSP, Parliamentary Office, 14 William Street, Paisley, PA1 2LZ,
Tel.: 0141 889 9519 E-mail: Stuart.McMillan.MSP@Scottish.Parliament.uk

Next Surgery:

Saturday 10th May – Wemyss Bay Community Hall – 9am – 9.45am

Gardening Tip For June

- It is now ok to remove the yellow foliage from spring flowering bulbs. If lifting peel off roots deal leaves and skins when dry and store in a shallow box in a well ventilated area of your garage or shed.
- Raise height of cut when mowing during very dry weather.
- Continue to watch for pests, aphids can multiply daily and moulds and mildews spread fast.
- Ensure tall herbaceous plants are securely staked for the coming summer.
- Re-check ties on other plants and make sure they are strong and there is enough room for growth.
- Increase watering, as plants transpire more and soil dries out quicker.
- Apply appropriate rates of fertiliser.
- Remember to water all your house plants and move them to a shady area if you are going on holiday. If you have someone checking your house, gather them all in one room to make checking and watering easier, and ask a neighbour or friends to water your borders, hanging baskets and tubs.

Duncan McNeil MSP

Summer "Holidays"

As we cast our eyes to the heavens, wondering whether we're going to get a summer worthy of the name, or launch a crash diet to get our beach-body ready for when we hit the sands, parents, and indeed grandparents, of school-aged children are looking forward to six glorious weeks of summer holidays.

Holidays, that is, for the kids. I'm not sure there's anything particularly restful about the constant demands to be fed, watered and entertained.

Before we were let out of primary school for our summer holidays, I remember the headmaster giving us the same stern lecture about not getting run over, drowned, electrocuted or hit by a train.

Today's summers, however, are fraught with other perils. Because, as the school term finishes, so does the parliamentary session, leaving MSPs free to roam the streets, pouncing on unsuspecting constituents.

This summer recess gives me the time and (usually) the weather to get on with some of the best parts of my job. Roving surgeries, for example, offer me the perfect excuse to get out of the office and into the fresh air.

Not only are these surgeries good for body and soul, they let me hear what people are saying; their concerns and ideas. They also underline that you don't need to have a specific problem to talk to your local politician. Moreover, it's rare that I don't come back with a good horticultural idea or two, picked up from one of the more impressive gardens I've had the chance to admire along the way.

I would, to be frank, have a cheek to call this work. But in an age when people feel divorced from their politicians, elected representatives need to make every effort to be as accessible as we can.

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

Youth Club

The Youth Club will stop for the summer on Thursday 12th June and resume after the September weekend.

The club meets in the Community Centre on Thursday evenings during term time from 7.00 - 8.30pm. Entrance costs 75p and is open to any child in primaries 4 - 7. There are a variety of activities on offer including football, dodge-ball, rounders, basketball, table-tennis, pool, badminton, board games, and music. We have two Nintendo Wii consoles, Sony Playstations and assorted games. Over the past few months we have also done some arts and crafts including ceramic painting, scratch art bookmarks, mug painting glass art. A tuck shop is available during the course of the evening selling a range of drinks, crisps and sweets.

Leaders are vetted through the Disclosure Scotland scheme and first aid cover is also provided. If your child is interested in joining or for more information contact Liz on 520205 or Eila on 529375.

Help Wanted

The P4 - P7 youth club is seeking two additional adult leaders who must be prepared to be vetted through the Disclosure Scotland Scheme. For more information contact Eila on 529375

Inverkip & Wemyss Bay Community Council

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council meet on the first Thursday of each month in the Rogues Room at the Inverkip Hotel at 7.30pm. You are welcome to attend any of the meetings or alternatively find out what is going on by logging on to: www.inverkip-wemyssbaycc.co.uk



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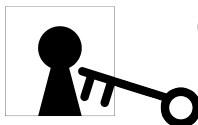
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David Cairns MP

Many people in Inverclyde are concerned by the trail of destruction left by Cyclone Nargis after it hit Burma on the night of 2nd May. And a number of you have contacted me asking what the UK Government is doing to help the people in the low lying Irrawaddy Delta, the region most affected by floods and high winds. It is no secret that our efforts to help the stricken people of this region have been hampered by the stubborn attitude of the Burmese Generals who control the country. Their actions are turning a natural disaster into a humanitarian catastrophe, and there is no justification for their refusal to allow aid workers into the country or for their reluctance to accept help from foreign governments.

Burma is a closed society and reliable estimates of the damage are hard to come by, but aid agencies estimate that around 2 million people are homeless and up to 128,000 are dead, making this one of the worst disasters since Tsunami of 2006. As soon as the cyclone hit, the Department for International Affairs contacted the Burmese authorities with offers of aid. The UK Government has pledged £17 million in aid, but there are difficulties ensuring that this is delivered. Our aid is not going directly to the Burmese military but is being channelled through well known and respected agencies such as the Save the Children, the Red Cross and the United Nations.

Several flights carrying aid have already landed at Rangoon Airport. Among the items sent are temporary shelters, high energy biscuits, plastic sheeting and boats to navigate the inland waterways. It's been confirmed that all the supplies have been unloaded, cleared customs and have now been received by the intended recipients. HMS Westminster is also stationed off the Burmese coast and will remain there as part of the UK's humanitarian contingency plans. Our Government can and will do more, if they can persuade the Burmese authorities to accept our help. Some aid is arriving, but it is nowhere near enough and it needs to be distributed much more quickly.

The obstacles put in the way of international relief workers, who are expert in dealing with situations like this, is nothing short of disgraceful. There has been a suggestion that we get round this by just dropping aid into the area, and this has not been ruled out, but it is far from ideal. Experience shows that air drops are largely untargeted and ineffective without good quality ground co-ordination. Aid pallets are large and fall from planes at high speed running the risk of killing those heading towards them; they often fall into the wrong hands; and they can sink into rivers and swamps. They are far from ideal and not something which Oxfam recommends.

Our Foreign Minister, Lord Malloch Brown, was eventually allowed into Burma and had a meeting with senior Burmese officials. He is hopeful that the Burmese Generals may accept more international help, but they might insist that it comes via countries which they see as their allies such as China, India or Thailand. All we as individuals can do is give whatever we can to charities who are trying to help, while our Government will continue to press for unfettered aid access with the Burmese Generals, the United Nations and through our ambassador in Rangoon.

David Cairns MP, 20 Union Street, Greenock, PA16 8JL
Tel: 791820 Fax 791821 Email: cairnsd@parliament.uk

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.

Inverkip Bowling Club

Inverkip Bowling Club is currently hoping to recruit new members. If you are interested in participating in an enjoyable social pastime, whether you are an experienced bowler or a complete novice, young or old, male or female you will be extended a warm welcome if you visit us at the bowling green at Bridgend, Inverkip.

If you would like any more information you can telephone Alex Anderson 521581 or Willie Gibson 521425.

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

Fiona Riddell has agreed to be the new leader for the 71st Ayrshire Beavers colony. Fiona has been helping the group over this school year and will take over from Paul and Janice Scouler in September. Paul and Janice have done a fantastic job for the young boys of Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay for the past five years and the group would like to offer their thanks for all the commitment and hard work. A new team will be in place for September and it goes without saying that the more leaders and support we have, the better! If anyone would like to offer their help for an hour on a Monday night, please give Fiona a call on 522901.

CUBS

Both the Eagle and Tiger packs hosted a Father & Cub night in May where everyone enjoyed all the games and activities. The last day of May saw the cubs on their annual outing to Glasgow where the cubs enjoyed a number of visits.

Sunday 1st June saw "Akela" Alistair B Wyllie at Dunfermline Abbey to receive his Bar to the Silver Acorn in recognition of his distinguished service to the Group.

Scouts

May saw the Troop at the Highland Games Camp where the Scouts enjoyed the many different challenges on offer including that of how to cope with the vagaries of the Scottish weather. In true West of Scotland fashion it was glorious for two days and then came from the heavens in time to come home with soaking wet tents!

Explorer Scouts

The Unit eventually had some dry outdoor activities this past month including a visit to Skelmorlie Fire Station where a stand in crew from Port Glasgow hosted the visit. The boys received an introduction to fire safety along with a demonstration of the biological/chemical suits. One of the boys was given the opportunity to try this suit out for size. The boys were shown how to strap one of their own into the stretcher before then being given the opportunity to use the various pressurised hoses used on the fire engine.

The unit would like to express their thanks to the fire officers for a very enjoyable and educational evening.

This session also saw four boys complete their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and have now moved on to the Silver with great enthusiasm. This brings to eight the number of boys now participating in the Silver Award with the four older boys due to finish with their expedition in September. It is hoped that these boys will then begin their Gold Award.

The Group would like to thank everybody who donated in any shape, size or form to the Annual Jumble Sale without all your help this event would not be the success it is.

Yours in scouting Iain Carmichael

Female Only Martial Art Class

Due to popular demand Billy is offering a Martial Art Class for ladies. This will take place in the Community Centre on a Thursday evening between 8.30pm – 9.30pm. If you are interested please contact Billy Harrison 790370.

Dog Poo

If you want to report an irresponsible dog owner call 01475 714200.

85th Greenock District - 1st Wemyss Bay

Wemyss Bay Beavers and Cubs are coming to the end of their second summer session and what a great year it has been for us.

Everyone had a tremendous weekend at camp and the weather held out for us and helped all the kids enjoy themselves. Sadly it was the leaders that took a week to recover!! But nonetheless next years camp has been booked and it will be just as great as this years.

We recently had our Founders Day Parade and all kids looked smart in their uniforms. We are the only group in the Greenock District who's Cubs wear kilts and they all looked fantastic. It goes without saying that they all behaved themselves and all the Leaders were very proud of them.

The Beavers have achieved almost all of their badges and are working towards the last remaining challenge badges with only a couple to get. We have had loads of new Beavers join us and sadly some leave us, but only to go to Cubs.

The Cubs, whom we started in September, are growing fast and they too have worked towards lots of badges, the most recent ones being their DIY, Road Safety and Outdoor Challenge Badge. We have a mixed group of Cubs, who all work well together both in their badgework and playing. The girls are just as competitive as the boys when it comes to badge work and games.

Sadly now we only have a couple of more weeks left before we break for the summer holidays and we finish up with the Beaver and Cub activity days at Everton.

Cub activity day is on the 14th of June and the Beaver activity day is the 15th, unfortunately the same weekend as the Gala day, but then I didn't organise it!

I am pleased to announce that we have a new scout leader in Wemyss Bay, thanks go to Roddy McCaskill for volunteering. He will start the Scouts in September, so we will be recruiting between now and then for all boys and girls aged between 10-14 years. Some of our Cubs will be going up to Scouts then, so come along and join in our fun.

We will also have more spaces for Beavers, as some of them will move up to Cubs after the summer.

The 85th group are also part of Inverkip and we have spaces for Beavers in there too, so if there is anyone you know who would like to join, please call me about that.

Beavers are aged between 5yrs, 9mths and 8yrs, Cubs between 8 and 10yrs and Scouts between 10 and 14 years.

If there is anything you would like to ask me about any of the groups please do not hesitate to phone - 888751

Finally, thanks go out to all the parents, for getting the kids to come along, driving them to our events and also up that road at Everton, and a big thank you for sewing on all badges!

Liz Roders,
Beaver Leader
1st Wemyss Bay

We're back and we are still on the hill, things are great and there's lots going on from Primary 1 to Primary 7.

Final Thought

Listen In

Only when we find the quietness in our own minds can we begin to hear our inner teacher, so that we may receive some in-tuition. Only when we are ready to recognise and value the wisdom that we carry at the core of our being will we turn our attention inwards and 'listen in'. But it's been a long time since we truly listened, so a little practice and patience will be needed. Sit down, be quiet and listen in at some point today and you might be surprised at what you hear. Then do it again tomorrow. All you need to do is remember that you are the listener and not the noise.

Kid's Puzzles

Ant Jokes

Where do ants go their holidays?

Frants

What do you call an ant in space?

An astronant

What do you call a greedy ant?

An anteater

What medicine would you give an ill ant?

Antibiotics

What do you get if you cross some ants with some ticks?

All sorts of anticks

SUDOKU

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

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.

And Now For the Small Print . . .

While we are happy to print anonymous articles we must have a note of the persons name and contact details. 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.

Any articles, information or queries should be directed to villagenews@wemyssbay.net or placed in the village news folder in the Spar. The closing date for the July edition will be Friday 20th June at 6pm.

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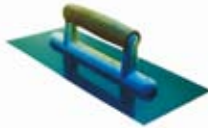
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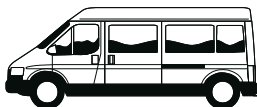
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