

Wemyss Bay Village News

222nd Edition

September 2008

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

Community Centre

Thinking of starting a new group in the area?

Well! Now that Wemyss Bay Nursery has moved permanently back into the school the Community Centre now has some free slots in its' busy life. We have had three new groups start after the summer break already.

What about an over 50's social group or arts and crafts or even ballroom dancing????.....If you have an idea call Kirsty on 520738 for more information.

What's on In the Community Centre?

For more information on any of these groups you need to get in touch directly with the relevant organisation.

Monday	6.15 – 7.30pm	Bible Club (P1 – P6) Run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries
	7.45 – 9.30pm	Youth Group (P9 – S6) Run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries
Tuesday	9.30 – 11.30am	Tiny Tots
Wednesday	10.00 – 11.30pm	Yoga (commencing 17th Sep)
	7.30 – 9.00pm	Judo
Thursday	9.30 – 11.30am	Tiny Tots
	4.45 – 5.45pm	Tae Kwon-Do
	7.00 – 8.15pm	Youth Club (P4 – P7)
	8.30 – 9.30pm	Ladies Self Defence
Friday	1.00 – 1.30pm	Jo Jingles
	6.30 – 8.00pm	Judo
Saturday	10.00 – 12.00pm	Graffiti Dance
	2.00 – 3.00pm	Karate
Sunday	10.30 – 11.30am	Sunday School
	12.00 – 4.00pm	Ardgowan Football Development
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Dance Class with a Difference

For information regarding Guides, Brownies and Rainbows please contact them at:
girlguidingwemyssbay@yahoo.co.uk

Saturday and Sunday afternoons after the Karate and Football are largely reserved for parties – sorry we are unable to fit them in between lets mid-week due to the time required at the end to tidy up or take the bouncy castle down. It is possible however to shoe-horn a few more lets into the calendar in the spaces between or after the current regular lets. If you are interested in booking the centre for a one-off or regular let contact Kirsty on 520738.

Bible Club and Youth Group (SBM)

Bible Club and Youth Group will be starting again on Monday, 15th September, 2008. If your child would like to come along to either of the clubs, they meet on a Monday evening in Wemyss Bay Community Centre. Bible Club is from 6.15pm to 7.30pm and is for children in P1 to P6. Activities include songs, games, Bible stories, competitions 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 would like further information, please contact Stephen Renton on 01505 355994.

Welcome Home Wemyss Bay Primary School

I'm sure everyone in the village is delighted to see the school kids back. It was awfully quiet in the village without them! The kids had a wonderful time at King's Glen and a lot of them will miss the bus journey as many a story was told. The school looks fantastic and everyone is happy. As you can imagine the teaching staff have been so busy preparing the school for the kids returning that there has been no time for an update. We look forward to next month's edition to catch up on the goings on at our new school.

PTA

Hello from the PTA. Well that is another summer over and here we are back to school, which can only mean that the PTA is back, and as always we are looking for new members. We will be organising lots of events over the school year that will raise money for things that the school needs. The only way we can do this is with the help of parents who come along to the meetings and help out at the events. We will be meeting in the school and the meetings are informal, fun and usually only take about one hour. Please come along to a meeting and help us help the school. Look out for the date of the next meeting in school bags and come along.

Thanks Donna Galvin

Wemyss Bay Community Association

As you are aware we are the team that bring you your Gala, Christmas light switch on and also oversee the day to day running of the Community Centre.

We have informal meetings once a month and are always looking for new faces and fresh ideas and would welcome anyone in the community to come along.

Our next meeting is our AGM and will be held in the Community Centre in October, the date will be in October's Village News.

If you are interested please come along or telephone Kirsty on 520738 if you would like a chat beforehand.

We look forward to an excellent turnout.

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 October edition will be Friday 19th September at 6.00pm.

Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church

WRW

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Come and join us on 28th September at 11am. If you have not been to Church before or not been for a while you we look forward to seeing you and will be made most welcome.

Our Sunday Club classes are starting again after the summer period. Children of any age are welcome from 31st August onwards. We are planning a film night in September and other events so come along and join us - bring a friend if you can. A new group for secondary school ages starts on 14th September so you 12s to 17s, come along and help decide the activities! These are all at the same time as Sunday services: 11:00 am.

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

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New Activities Starting In Our Already Busy Community Centre

Tae Kwon - Do

This new fitness and self-defence class is now on every Thursday in the Community Centre from 4.45-5.45pm for children (5years +) and Adults. For more information and to reserve your free trial lesson call 01786 821594.

Jo Jingles, the Music & Movement Experience

Jo Jingles gives young children a fun introduction to music, singing and movement.

- Percussion Instruments
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- Well-known Children's Songs Rhythm Games

Starting in the Wemyss Bay Community Centre on Friday 29th August

- 1pm for 2-5years
- 2pm for 6months-2years

For further details call Yvonne Galbraith on 0845 055 1678
www.jojingles.com/renfrewandinverclyde

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.

New Dance Class with a Difference

Love watching 'Dancing with the Stars' and 'Strictly Dancing'?

Well now is your chance to learn.

There will be informal classes in Modern Jive, West Coast Swing and Lindy Hop starting Sunday evenings 7pm -9pm at the Community centre.

The aim of the class is to prepare absolute beginners for a series of all day Swing Dance Workshops that will be taking place in Greenock in November.

The first class takes place on the 7th September

For more information please call 520084.

Yoga Class

A new yoga class will commence in the Community Centre on Wednesday 17th September 10am-11.30am with instructor Joanna Reilly Syta (Reg).

Beginners welcome.

For further information on how to register please contact 528778.



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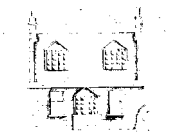
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71st Ayrshire Scout Group & THE BAY Explorer Unit - Iain Carmichael (ESL)

Explorers

All sections are now back in action! Further information will be in next months Village News.

The Unit has already planned a number of day hikes and over night camps with a few of the older Explorers already booked to attend the Cally-Rally in Inverness in October. Also this year sees a few of the older Explorers, and founding members of the unit, move on to become Leaders in the Group and the Unit. This is great for both the Group and the Unit as it shows tremendous commitment from the young adult's.

Please contact Iain Carmichael on 01475 520697 or Email "The71stAyrshireScoutGroup@Yahoo.co.uk" for further information concerning the Group or any of the sections.

Yours in Scouting
Iain

Iain Carmichael
ESL THE BAY Explorer Unit

Bat Walks

What is the most common British bat? What size is it, what does it weigh and what does it eat? How do you use a bat detector? You can find out the answer to these and any other questions you may have by joining Wemyss Bay Woodland Association on one of its Autumn Bat Walks. The walks will take place on Saturday 13th and Saturday 20th September and will leave the Community Centre car-park at 8pm. Spaces are strictly limited and therefore booking is essential. To reserve a space contact Eila Roberts on 529375. As previous walks have been fully booked, please get in touch early.

The walks take place around Wemyss Bay and through the local woodland therefore sensible shoes and a torch are essential. The walks last for a maximum of two hours and finish after dark, so make sure that you wear warm clothing. There is a charge of £1 per head which helps towards the costs of the equipment.

Woodland Association

The Woodland Association will be holding work sessions on Sunday 5th October and Sunday 9th November. We start at 9.30am each day and work till around 2ish, stopping for coffee etc in the morning and lunch. We have all the necessary gloves, tools etc and provide the refreshments. Children are welcome to come along and help (we have gloves to fit) but they must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

In addition to the normal rhododendron clearance in the terraced area, we also need to spend a bit of time clearing up Cliff Terrace Road - the ditch needs cleared and some of the overhanging vegetation needs a bit of a haircut!

We have a very small but committed band of volunteers but our numbers are dwindling. We would really like to get the work finished and it will only take another few sessions to get it done if we get a little additional help. You don't need to commit yourself to a whole day – an hour or two would really make a difference. If you are able to help out on either, or both, of these dates, please contact Eila on 529375 in order that we can cater for the appropriate numbers.

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P4 - P7 Youth Club

The P4 – P7 Youth Club will resume on the first Thursday following the September weekend. The club meets in the Community Centre on Thursday evenings during term time from 7.00 - 8.15pm. 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.

Strathspey & Reel Society

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

Attic Players

AUDITIONS for our next production, the classic, hilarious black comedy "Arsenic and Old Lace" are on Weds 10th and Thurs 11th September at Skelmorlie Community centre at 7:30 pm. Please come also if you're interested in any other aspect such as backstage. No experience necessary!

The show is on 28th and 29th November and tickets will shortly be on sale - check www.attic-players.co.uk or email tickets@attic-players.co.uk

Inverclyde Council - Foster Carers Needed

Please come along to an information evening being held on Thursday 4th September 2008 between 6pm and 8pm in the Tontine Hotel, Union Street, Greenock.

Wemyss Bay Steering Group

Since hearing about the great news that Wemyss Bay shall be acquiring an Astroturf pitch the Steering group have had a meeting with Inverclyde Council Officials to find out what the next step is in regards to the park being built. Nothing concrete has been decided yet as the size of the pitch has still to be determined but the pitch should be of the highest standard with floodlights.

There will be further meetings throughout the year to discuss the details in which the Steering Group shall have an active part in.

The group also asked about the Bond money that has still to be used for a play area. The company responsible for holding the money are asking for this to be used for a Community Play park and the Steering Group and Community Association would like to see the money used for a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) which the company says does not conform to being a play park?

The Community Association and Steering Group are working hard to try and deliver a new play area for the Community and shall keep you informed of any new developments regarding both issues.

Waste collection

Your black bin will be collected on Tuesdays the 2nd, 16th & 30th September. Your blue and brown bins will be emptied on Tuesdays 9th June & 23rd September.

Your new food waste will be collected weekly and the first collection will start in the week beginning the 1st of September on your normal collection day.

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David Cairns MP

SAVE OUR CUSTOM HOUSE

At times I wonder people carrying out public consultations are thinking on. Take the case of the current consultation by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). Greenock has a magnificent Grade A listed Custom House. This beautiful, historic building was designed by the well known Scottish Architect, William Burn, and is considered to be the finest of its type in Britain. It is the last fully operational Custom House in Scotland and has plenty of room for expansion.

But does any of this matter to the HMRC Workforce Change team? No - of course not. It's on their hit list and there is a real possibility that this outstanding building could be closed and staff moved out of Greenock. Such is the arrogance of HMRC management, that they have refused to meet me to discuss the future of the Greenock Custom House ahead of the actual decision being made. I was so outraged by this that I made a formal complaint to the Customs Minister, the Rt Hon Jane Kennedy MP, and I will be meeting with her as soon as the Parliamentary recess is over.

There is over 100 staff working in the Greenock Custom House, some of whom live in Wemyss Bay. Our local economy can't afford to lose these jobs. Young people coming out of school should have access to good quality Civil Service jobs with decent pay and conditions but, if the Custom House closes, this option will be severely reduced. And despite what HMRC say, it is not just a simple case of relocating people to Glasgow or surrounding areas. I know from talking to the staff that many of them have caring responsibilities for children or elderly relatives, and some do not have cars so travelling to other offices may not be a viable option.

The Custom House is jewel in crown of Greenock's Waterfront redevelopment, and it is staggering that HMRC want to close it down when the surrounding area is being regenerated. New flats abound and there are plans for shops, offices, small business units and a marina. The Arts Guild are moving to the Waterfront and who knows what other organisations might be attracted into the area. Despite all this being known before the consultation started, the Greenock office was still targeted for closure. It simply doesn't make any sense.

I have put in a very strong submission to the consultation saying that I believe their plan is ill-thought out and does not best serve the needs of HMRC. In my view it will break up a centre of excellence, be detrimental to the overall level of service provided to customers and is likely to result in experienced staff leaving. I am also sceptical that it will deliver the claimed savings that are being claimed for this move. Disruption to the office could also have dire consequences for the country's finances, as the Greenock Custom House is responsible for taking in £1.8 billion in tax from the UK gambling industry.

Rather than taking jobs away from the Greenock Custom House, I believe we should be expanding it. The building is certainly big enough to house other HMRC units and Greenock's central location makes it an ideal base to travel to other parts of the country. I will continue to fight to retain these jobs in Inverclyde and I'll keep you updated with progress through the pages of the Greenock Telegraph.

Contact Details:

David Cairns MP
20 Union Street
Greenock
PA 16 8JL

Tel: 791820 Fax: 791821
Email: cairnsd@parliament.uk

Duncan McNeil MSP

Summer “Holidays” WEMYSS BAY NEWS EDUCATION

Every good parent wants the best for their children and education is at the top of their agenda.

We want to see them in good schools, with good teachers and getting good grades that will hopefully lead to successful lives and create a successful economy.

Of course, it's never as simple as that. That is why educational policy is such a big political issue.

Many people would have been attracted to the policy of cutting class sizes in our primary schools to 18, one of the key pre-election promises by the current Scottish government.

As we have since found out, what is promised in opposition and what is delivered in government are two very different things on this front.

The recent case of parents and councils battling it out in court to decide on placements that conflict with this policy have only heightened the debate.

It's unacceptable to see the class size issue determined by sheriffs forced to intervene because the Scottish government is refusing to act.

Class sizes should not be decided by Scottish courts but by the Scottish government. We are in now in a position that the courts are having to making decisions that politicians should make.

It's no way to run an education system in my book.

So we come up with an education policy that is both workable and affordable to give our children the best possible future.

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

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

Dog Poo

We have had a few calls from angry residents again this month who are infuriated with the amount of dog poo which is not being cleaned up as per the law. If this is a problem in your street please call.

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

Ardgowan Football Development

Ardgowan held its registration day on Sunday 17th August, over 100 kids new and old registered for the new season. We expect over 170 kids to register this year again but we have had to start waiting lists for Primary 2, and Primary 3 sessions as we are limited to 25 kids in the hall and have reached our limit here.

AFD have now 18 coaches on their books who have all been disclosed and are at various stages in their SFA training.

Martin Thompson has now started an U13 team who will play in the P & D league (U12's from last year) with Kenny Lynn running the U12's team.

If you are interested in joining or would like information regarding the club then please contact Ardgowan Football Development by calling the club mobile on 07791964277 or come in and talk to us from 12 to 4 on a Sunday at the Wemyss Bay Community Centre.

Our website is www.ardgowanfd.co.uk

Adult Association

Autumn/Winter Programme to be held in Wemyss Bay Primary.

Classes on Offer:

Monday

Pilates 6.30-7.30pm

Guitar Group 7-8.30pm

Art Group 7-9pm

Tuesday

Yoga 7.40-9.15pm

Cross Stitch 7.30-9.30pm

Wednesday

Yoga 7.40-9.15pm

Thursday

Book Club 7.30pm

New Classes on offer:

Belly Dancing, Conversational Spanish, Card Making, Rug Making

The dates and times have still to be arranged for the above classes. Classes will only go ahead if there is sufficient interest.

For further information please contact Morag Wilson on 521626.

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 October edition will be Friday 19th September at 6pm.



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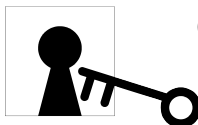
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Ross Finnie MSP

There was a welcome outbreak of common sense in the last few weeks with the announcement that the birthing unit at Inverclyde Royal was to be retained. There are many reasons for welcoming the decision but, as I have said in previous editions, for Wemyss Bay it is an important element in the attractiveness of the village to younger people setting up home,

Sticking with health matters, it is good to see the extension of the GP Surgery making such good progress which should aid the delivery of health care in the village.

It has been a disappointingly wet summer but the bright spark for the village at the end of August is the reopening of the refurbished primary school. Pupils, parents and staff are to be congratulated for their patience and forbearance for just over a year during the disruption and bussing to King's Glen whilst the work was being carried out. The end product with enclosed classrooms and the nursery being incorporated into the school should make a huge difference to the village.

I have welcomed the opportunity the parliamentary summer recess brings to visit individuals in the village to discuss problems but it will soon be back to Edinburgh for three days a week for the new session.

Contact Ross Finnie MSP at:

54 Kelly Street, Greenock PA16 8TR

email ross.finnie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Tel: 01475-805020 Fax: 01475-805021

website www.rossfinniemsp.org.uk

Stuart McMillan MSP

Since I last wrote in the Village News I have been out campaigning in Glasgow East, visiting community projects throughout the West of Scotland and of course stopped for a holiday. The summer recess is a busy time where MSP's take time to visit projects within their constituency or region. Recently I was able to spend an evening with Inverclyde Community Wardens and witness first hand the excellent work they do in patrolling our communities. The wardens act as a visible presence throughout the community which helps reassure the public that something is being done to combat violence, vandalism and anti social behaviour.

Alongside this, I was able to participate in Inverclyde's community football programme alongside Craig McPherson who is the football development officer for Inverclyde. The programme was aimed at 3 to 12 year olds, and used Wemyss Bay Primary School as one of its venues, and provided a fun way of engaging our young people in physical activity and working in a team environment.

Many readers of the Village News will have recently heard the good news that maternity services at IRH are to be 'saved'. My Village News column in June highlighted the reasons why I believed the services should be saved and how I believe those working in the Community Maternity Unit (CMU) do a tremendous job. I agreed with the Independent Scrutiny Panel's (ISP) suggestion that the CMU should remain open for a further three years alongside a Community Education Programme. The Health Board have it now seems listened to these recommendations which I believe is good news for the people of Inverclyde. Congratulations to everyone in campaigning to save this vital service for Inverclyde.

Contact:

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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.

The Country Club

Advance notice is hereby given that the opening meeting of the above club will be held on Wednesday 1st October at 2.30pm when the speaker will be well known local lady Miss Carrie Gibson on the subject of "An Everest Expedition" which is based on her own experience.

This is a non-political and non denominational Club which was founded over 20 years ago for all in Wemyss Bay and district aged 50 years and over and is held on alternate Wednesday afternoons in the attractive setting of the Function Room at the Chart Room, Kip Marina, Inverkip.

Speakers have been arranged covering many varied subjects and the afternoons are always rounded off with a welcome "cuppa" and a chat! Two social events are also held during the session and a summer outing.

The annual subscription is £10 with visitors paying £1 per meeting.

We are keen to increase our Membership and extend an invitation to all who have some time to spare to come along and join us. You will be made most welcome.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary Mrs Ann Haig on 522316

85th Greenock District - 1st Wemyss Bay

Hope everyone had a fantastic holiday are ready to start back.

Our Scouts this year spent a week in Great Tower, at Lake Windermere, and judging by the website photos, everyone had a fantastic time caving and mountain climbing.

Our website address is www.inverkipscouts.co.uk.

There is a change to the dates and we won't start back now until the 18th September.

The times are also changing and Beavers will be from 6:15pm to 7:15pm and Cubs are from 7:15pm to 8:30pm. There is also a change of venue and we are delighted to have secured a place in the school.

Scouts will start up on the 12th of September from 7 to 9pm, again at the school.

We have plenty of spaces for both Cubs and Scouts, so why not come along and join in our fun. Beavers are almost full and we only have a couple of spaces left.

We are still on the lookout for anyone willing to volunteer a couple of hours a week to help out. Please give me a call on 520932 and I can add names to our list or just answer any queries.

Liz Roders, Beaver Leader

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FRI PM Wemyss Bay Comm Centre

1.00pm 2 – 5 years • 2.00pm 6 months – 2 years

Classes also on Wed am @ Funworld, Greenock
Call Yvonne on 0845 055 1678/jojingles@hotmail.co.uk
www.jojingles.com/renfrewandinverclyde

Kid's Puzzles

History Jokes

Now that school is back why not try these jokes out on your school friends.

Why did the knight run about shouting for a tin opener?

He had a bee in his suit or armour!

Why were the early days of history called the dark ages?

Because there were so many dark knights!

How did the Vikings send secret messages?

By norse code!

SUDOKU

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

Having a Birthday?
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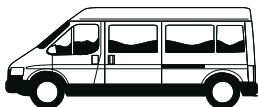
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