

Wemyss Bay Village News

226th Edition

February 2009

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

Wemyss Bay Community Association Need a Hall we've Got It All!

**Birthday Party
Wedding Anniversary
Leaving Party
Band Practise**

**Christening
Family Get Together
Works Night Out
School Prom Night**

Are you over the next year thinking of having a get together like this? Why not take a look at our Community Centre. As well as all the activities we already have going on we still have space for new ones. Over the last few month's we have had disco's, leaving parties and even a Prom evening, all of which went exceptionally well. If you would be interested please contact Pauline Jackson on 522523 between 9am and 5pm please.

Delivery of the Newsletter

We have had a few complaints over the last few months from residents who are not receiving their village news at all. Jill does a fantastic job distributing them to all the fantastic helpers. If for any reason you feel that you have taken this on and it is a problem, please let us know. At our last AGM we had a few volunteers who were willing to help distribute the news letter.

Our next meeting will take place in the Inverkip Hotel on Wednesday the 4th of March at 7.30pm.

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 March edition will be Friday 20th February at 6.00pm.

Do you Enjoy Bingo? - Sunday Evening Bingo Night

We have a volunteer who has come forward and is very interested in starting a Sunday evening bingo session in the Community Centre.

If you would like to attend or even help out please contact David on 520223.

Stuart McMillan MSP Forthcoming Consultation

I was delighted with the response I received from a consultation in Inverkip on the A78. The consultation was launched following contact from constituents about the junction between Main Street and the A78. I felt it appropriate to write to all residents asking for their views and if they felt there was an issue and what could be done to rectify things. Over 800 constituents responded to make their feelings known on this matter. I have already written to Transport Scotland, the Transport Minister and Inverclyde Council with these results.

I will soon be launching a similar consultation for residents in Weymss Bay concerned with the A78. I look forward to seeking your views on the best way forward to ensure a safer road.

Contact: Stuart McMillan MSP

Upcoming surgery: Friday 6th February – Kip Marina, Boardroom – 13:00 – 13:45

Duncan McNeil MSP

Regulation of Bus Services Bill

As my mailbox shows, many of my constituents feel there are failings in the bus services serving Inverkip & Wemyss Bay. Making your way to hospital or doctors appointments isn't always easy if you are relying on public transport.

There is currently a consultation before the Scottish Parliament on a proposed "Regulation of Bus Services Bill". This proposed Bill would strengthen local authorities powers and would help improve services if introduced.

The Bill can only proceed if the Scottish Parliament receives evidence from members of the public supporting its proposed measures. If you want to know more about the Bill, you can contact me via e-mail at duncan.mcneil.msp@scottish.parliament.uk or in writing to me at The Parliamentary Office, 20 Union Street, Greenock PA16 8JL and I will ensure that you receive the appropriate information.

Ross Finnie MSP

Sadly, the recession is worsening fuelled by the worst credit crunch in living memory. The phrase "It's the economy stupid!" has been replaced by "It's banking stupid!" No one in Wemyss Bay can escape some aspect of the downturn. .

Politicians, like me, have to play our part by ensuring that policies are being directed to give the maximum support. In the Scottish parliament I have been pressing the government to ensure, for example, that there is the maximum legal protection available to those facing repossession of their homes and to ease personal cash flow that schemes such as mortgage to rent and mortgage to equity are adequately funded.

At Westminster, my colleague, Vince Cable, has been consistently arguing that support for the banking sector must be on terms whereby we the tax payers not only underwrite the liabilities but share in the profits on recovery.

Finally, I don't know about you but I think what has happened at RBS, HBOS and at other financial institutions amounts to fraud. Whilst for the moment we must concentrate on stabilising the economy and mitigating the worst effects of the recession I would like to see an enquiry established to investigate just exactly how the executive and non executive directors, all of the advisers and the auditors of the banks managed to defraud the shareholders and the taxpayers of such vast sums of money.

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

Adult Association Classes

The new programme for 2009 is as follows:-

MONDAY ART GROUP -	7.00-9.00 pm
GUITAR GROUP	
(Beginners) -	7.00 - 7.45 pm
(Intermediate) -	7.45 - 8.30 pm
TUESDAY PILATES -	7.00 - 8.00 pm
CROSS STITCH -	7.00 - 9.00 pm
WEDNESDAY YOGA -	7.40 - 9.15 pm

All classes take place in the school.

For further information please contact Morag Wilson on 521626.

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W.E.A. Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Branch. (Workers' Educational Association) Spring Programme.

The new session has already commenced, but here are the remaining talks. We meet in the reading room of Skelmorlie Community Centre from 9.45 until 11.30 approximately on Wednesdays and there is no annual subscription - you just pay for whatever talks you decide to attend. Everyone is welcome and if you would like further information or help with transport, please phone Jenny McGee 521090.

4th February - "Landscapes of New Zealand" - a geologist's view of the land of the long white cloud. Julian Hill.

11th February - "Travels in Nepal" - An illustrated talk on this fascinating Himalayan Kingdom, which was closed to the outside world until the early 1950's. Jan Marshall.

18th February - "The Temperance Movement" - a powerful social movement. Anne Williams.

25th February - "Propoganda" - The 12 greatest communicators in history. Dr. Oliver Thompson.

4th March - "A Day in the Life of a Journalist" - The one-time sub-editor of The Glasgow Herald takes a humorous look at his 35 years in journalism. Cameron Simpson.

11th March - "Countryside Walks in North Ayrshire" - Jackie Wilson.

18th March - "Waltzing Round the World" - Glyn Bragg makes a welcome return and looks at waltz music in ballet, opera, musicals, and concert halls.

23th March - "Forensics" - the work of a scene of crime examiner. Alec Lochrie.

Wemyss Bay PTA

Hello from all at the PTA where we are busy organising fund raisers for 2009. We got off to a great start with our 'Lose Weight and Laugh' workshop which Jean Kerr ran. All the ladies who came along had a fun night. Another course could be arranged if we had enough people interested, let PTA members know if you would like us to run another one.

We are doing a Hot Dog Day in February, always popular with the children and there will be a Valentines Disco on Friday 13th February - the times will be printed in the school news letter, but on an important note we need the children dropped off and picked up by an adult at the end of the disco.

We still have some numbers left for our 50/50 club. If you join the 50/50 club you will be entered into a monthly draw for a cash prize which is half of the total amount, the other half goes towards getting the garden back to the prize winning form. Mr Glass and the children work on the garden and need our support, so if you haven't got a number please join, it only costs £1 month.

We are planning lots of other fund raisers, so keep watching the Wemyss Bay News and the school news letter for all details. As always you are welcome to come along to our meetings in the school, usually the first Monday of the month, and give us a hand.

Thanks Donna Galvin

Central Heating Programme

I would urge all residents in Weymss Bay or any family and friends elsewhere in Inverclyde who are eligible to apply for the Scottish Government's Central Heating Programme. The current Central Heating Programme ends in March this year so it's important that those who qualify apply as soon as possible. Call the freephone number 0800 316 1653.

Under the scheme, pensioners in Weymss Bay who have broken or inefficient systems could benefit from a replacement system, and a more efficient system could help to cut energy bills.

It's a simple application form taken over the telephone and anyone aged 60 years or over who owns or privately rents their home may qualify if they have never had a central heating system.

Contact: Stuart McMillan MSP

Parliamentary Office, 14 William Street, Paisley, PA1 2LZ Tel: 0141 889 9519

E-mail: Stuart.McMillan.MSP@Scottish.Parliament.uk www.stuart-mcmillan.net



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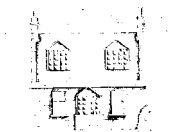
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Woodland Association

Work Sessions

The Woodland Association holds work sessions every four weeks – our next sessions will take place on Sunday 1st March and Sunday 20th March. We will continue to clear the remaining material stacked near the old reservoir and will thereafter concentrate on the top level of the terraced gardens, near the Victorian fernery. We will work from Cliff Terrace Road and will base ourselves initially at the Ardgowan Road end. – this is where you can collect your tools and gloves however if you join us after 10.30am, you can collect everything from where we are working, just walk along Cliff terrace Road till you find us.. We work from 9.30am – 3pm and provide all the necessary gloves, safety glasses and tools. In addition we stop for coffee/tea and biscuits in the morning and provide hot sausage rolls and soup at lunchtime. Children are welcome to come along (we do have gloves to fit) however they must be accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. We have a small, but dedicated, band of volunteers but it would really make a difference to our work if a few more people were to join us, even for an hour or two.

Membership

Membership of the Association runs from January till December and we welcome new members. It costs £3 for a family membership or £2 for individuals. Membership money helps towards our insurance and day to day running costs.

Bulb Fund

The Woodland Association has planted over 5000 bulbs throughout Wemyss Bay Wood but, in order to help reintroduce native species this is a drop in the ocean. Again this year we are looking for your help. We are working in an area of almost 18 acres so we need a lot of bulbs and wildflowers. If you are buying bulbs for your garden why not add an extra pack or two for the woods? We are specifically looking for Native British Bluebells, Snowdrops and Wood Anemones. We have already had several hundred daffodil bulbs donated and at present do not need anymore of these.

In addition we are looking for a variety of wildflowers including Bugle, Primroses, Ragged Robin, Devil's Bit Scabious and Kidney Vetch. As it is against the law to dig up wildflowers these will all have to be purchased from specialist suppliers. We can buy these in bulk to reduce costs (we can also buy bulbs in this way). As an example 50 Wood Anemones will cost us £14 while 50 primroses will cost £28.50 and the same number of scabious £37.

If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the bulbs and wildflowers please make a cheque payable to Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association and send it to Eila Roberts, 14 Brueacre Drive, Wemyss Bay. You will be very welcome to come along and help plant the bulbs.

If you have bulbs to donate please contact Eila Tel: 529375 to arrange uplift. Again, if you would like to, you can help with the planting.

Help us to make sure that we have a very broad selection of native wildflowers in the Woods – in this way we can encourage a large variety of insects, birds and animals, so that they too can enjoy our local greenspace.

Wemyss Bay Judo Club

The Kelly and Craig family would like to thank Wemyss Bay Community Association for the kind donation to help fund Darren and Paul's recent trip to Belgium. The boys attended an International training camp in Belgium. The boys felt that they gained a lot of experience from training and fighting with players and coaches with different styles and techniques. Darren and Paul were housed in a local hostel and enjoyed the antics of the older group members.

Their coach Suzi Kilpatrick would also like to pass on her thanks to the Association.

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.

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HELLO - FROM WEMYSS BAY PRIMARY!

Back at school after a fun-filled Christmas holiday. We hope you all enjoyed Christmas because we did.

Here are three reports of just some of the things we were doing before Christmas. Reports by David Gillies, Rhian Hunter and Rachel Murdoch, Primary 7, Chloe Campbell and Saskia Mulholland, Primary 6, and Nicola Anderson and Sophie McDougall, Primary 5.

RUGBY

In September Primary 6 pupils had some rugby training from coach Jamie Smyth. The training lasted four weeks. In December Jamie selected ten pupils from Primary 6 with the help of Mrs Dorman to take part in a rugby tournament. The pupils were Euan Benjamin, Chloe Campbell, Greg Gourley, Katrina Gregory, Emma McQueen, Saskia Mulholland, Katie Sutherland, Craig Thomson, Graeme Wilson and Dario Zavaroni.

On Monday 8th December the competition took place in the Greenock Sports centre. We all did a fun warm-up so we were all ready to play. We played lots of games and only lost one. When it came to the final we were all very excited. The school we were against was Newark Primary. It was a tough match because we were drawing for a while. Then Wemyss Bay scored the last shot right before the whistle. The final score was 2-1 to us! At the end of the tournament all the schools were presented with certificates to show that we all took part.

X FACTOR

On 23rd December 2008 we held the finals of our X-Factor competition. After four long weeks of auditions the judges had decided on the final ten acts which included solo singers, dance groups and even a karate act. The judges on the day were Miss Giambattista, Miss Mitchell, last year's winner Euan Benjamin, and Pupil Council members Jack Craig and Priya Das. Family and friends of the finalists gathered in the school hall with the pupils and staff to watch all the terrific acts.

After everyone had performed everybody went into the dinner hall, class by class, to vote. Everyone was excited and could feel the tension building as Mrs Buchanan led the carol singing while we waited for the result. After a short wait which seemed like ages for all the acts Mrs Buchanan got up on the stage to announce who was going to be the X-Factor winner. She asked for a drum roll and everyone in the audience stamped their feet and Mrs Buchanan said, "The winner is Rachel Murdoch." Mrs Irvine presented Rachel with the trophy and she sang her song again.

It had been a fantastic morning and a great way to finish school for the Christmas holiday.

NATIVITY

In December we held our Christmas service in the school hall. This was exciting for Mrs Irvine as it was her first Christmas at Wemyss Bay. All the parents came in for the service which included violinists playing and brass instrumentalists. Mr Coull, the new minister, made a speech and Primaries 1 to 3 participated in a Nativity called It's a Baby.

The boys and girls in the nativity were all amazing. Mrs Irvine, the teachers, the whole school and their parents were all very proud of them. Well done to Primaries 1 to 3.

After the nativity Primaries 4 to 7 sang two songs called Midnight and Unto us a Child is Born. We then heard the brass group playing Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and Jingle Bells and the violinists played Winter Wonderland, Frosty the Snowman and Jingle Bell Rock.

Everybody enjoyed the Christmas service and we hope that Mrs Irvine enjoyed her first Christmas at Wemyss Bay Primary.

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a.harrison677@ntlworld.com

David Cairns MP

The global recession is now affecting the UK and I know that some families in Wemyss Bay are worried about how they will cope over the next year or two. But help is at hand.

I know most villagers have mortgages and keeping up the payments can be a real worry if you lose your job. That's why the Government introduced a new Homeowner Mortgage Support Scheme. This will help families who experience a significant temporary loss of income as a result of the economic downturn. Borrowers can defer some of their interest payments for two years to give them a chance to get back on their feet.

Should someone be made redundant, there is improved support to help them back to work. If a person is unemployed for more than six months employers could be eligible for £1,000 Golden Hello. There is also money available if you want to set up your own business and training to improve your skills.

And there's help for local businesses too. Viable firms are finding it hard to get finance, so the Government launched a packet of measures to help them. Money is available from the Working Capital Scheme, the Enterprise Guarantee Scheme and also the Capital Enterprise Fund and I am encouraging local businesses to apply for it.

Investment is key to getting out of the current financial crisis. And by investing in people, homes and companies in Inverclyde - we will weather the storm.

Contact Details:

David Cairns MP
20 Union Street
Greenock
PA 16 8JL

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

P4 - P7 Youth Club

The P4 – P7 Youth 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 and 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 Needed

The P4 – P7 Youth Club desperately needs some additional adult leaders. You only need to enjoy the company of children for an hour and a half a week and previous experience is not required as the youngsters will soon knock you into shape!! We meet in the Community Centre on Thursday evenings during term time from 7.00 - 8.15pm where we have a range of activities including ball games, board games, arts and crafts, pool and table-tennis. If you are interested in getting involved you **MUST** be prepared to be vetted through the Disclosure Scotland scheme. If you are interested contact Eila on 529375 or drop in and visit us any Thursday evening.

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71st Ayrshire Scout Group Launch 70th Anniversary Year

2009 marks a major milestone for the local scout group, as they start a year of celebrations to mark their 70th anniversary. The very first scouting group was started in 1939 for the villages of Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay. Over the intervening years, the group growing steadily and now boasts a membership of well over 100 boys (and girls now) from the two villages. Look out for lots of special events and activities from the 71st Ayrshire Group this year.

Great Chieftains of the Scouting Race

The anniversary year got off to a glorious start with a Burns Supper on Friday night. More than 80 beavers, cubs, scouts, explorers and leaders packed into the local scout hall, where they were treated to a traditional supper of warm reekin haggis, tatties and neaps. There were also some rousing renditions of favourite poems and songs of the bard, including Address to a Haggis, To a Mouse, Tam o' Shanter and Auld Lang Syne!

Special thanks to the Bowling Club for the use of their cooking facilities and to Alice Smith and Joan Hutchison who very kindly prepared the tatties and neaps!

Eyes Down For Bingo Night - Friday 13th February - 7.30pm to 10.30pm

The first fund-raising event of 2009 is a bingo night to be held in Skelmorlie Community Centre from 7.30pm prompt. All money raised goes directly to support anniversary activities, as well as the annual cub summer holiday. You may think that bingo is 'not your thing', but the evening is fun and it is always good to try something a little bit different . . . you never know, you might even win a prize! Tickets are only £1 and include tea and cakes. We would love to see the hall packed with mums, aunties, grannies and friends from both villages . . . so, go on, get your legs eleven along and support your local scout group.

Country Club

Club meetings will be held in The Chart Room, Kip Marina, Inverkip at 2.30 pm.

February meetings are as follows:

Wednesday 11th – Mrs Brenda Johnstone on the subject of “Marie Curie Cancer Care”

Wednesday 25th – Mr Douglas Easton on the subject of “Historical Buildings of Largs”

All members, old and new, and visitors will be made most welcome. The subscription is £10 per annum and £1 for visitors. Further details may be obtained from the Secretary Ann Haig on 522316.

Waste collection

Your black bin will be collected on Tuesdays the 3rd & 17th February. Your blue and brown bins will be emptied on Tuesdays 10th & 24th February.

Remember your food waste collection will be collected every Tuesday.

AFD Annual Race Night

On Saturday 28th February Ardgowan FD are staging their annual Race night and £1000 Raffle in the Community Centre at 7.30. Tickets for the night have almost sold out although if you would like to buy raffle tickets please contact one of the coaches or committee members for details.

Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay Church - Diary Of Services

All services conducted by the Minister

Feb 1	11.00am	4th after Epiphany
Feb 8	11.00am	5th after Epiphany
Feb 15	11.00am	6th after Epiphany
		Incorporating the Sacrament of Baptism
Feb 22	11.00am	7th after Epiphany

Preceded by a brief Service of Prayers for the Sick in the side aisle of the church at 10.15am.

All are welcome.

The Kirk Session meets on Thursday 26th February at 7.45pm in the Upper Hall.



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KIDS PUZZLES

NUMBER SEARCH

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

Try and match the numbers below in the grid. They may be horizontal or vertical.

16177
16395
33899
37269
38494
46437
48484
58483
63437
67484
76373
77428
83362
89448
97987
98877

SUDOKU

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

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.

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 March edition will be Friday 20th February at 6pm.

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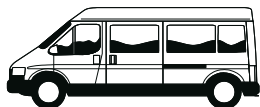
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