Wemyss Bay Village News

229th Edition May 2009

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

Wemyss Bay Community Association

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Inverkip Hotel. If you are interested in finding out what is going on in the village or the upcoming events we are organising please come along. We are a friendly group who make all our visitors most welcome. Our next monthly meeting will then take place on Wednesday 3rd June, at the Inverkip Hotel, 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 June edition will be Friday 22nd May at 6.00pm.

Gala Weekend

The Association has started the preparation for this year's Gala. It will take place on the 12th and 13th of June. As always we require a lot of help from the villagers to make the weekend the success it always is. If you can help out in any way please let us know by attending a meeting or approaching a member of the Association. We will be having a Gala meeting in the Rogues Room at the Inverkip Hotel on Wednesday 20th May 2009 at 7.30pm.

Wemyss Bay's Got Talent

After last year's success, Wemyss Bay's Got Talent returns to this year's Gala. We are looking for Wemyss Bay's greatest talent, so whatever your age, whatever your talent, this is the contest worth entering.
Cash prizes to be won.
Application forms will be available in the Spar Shop from 1st - 26th May.

Waste collection

Your black bin will be collected on Tuesday the 26th May. Your blue and brown bins will be emptied on Tuesday 19th May.

Remember your food waste collection will be collected every Tuesday.
Helpline 715901
Enviromental Services 717450/714766

The Station Bookshop

Extended opening hours from 10.00 -4.00, Mondays - Saturdays.

We have installed new shelving recently, which has greatly improved the appearance of the shop, and allows us to display our stock much better, and more of it. Donations of books, CDs and DVDs will always be welcome. Bring them along, and buy others in their place - we've lots of very attractive bargains. We would also like to hear from anyone who can spare a couple of hours on a weekly basis to help man the shop.

The Friends of Wemyss Bay Station have learned recently that Network Rail intends to repair the damages in the middle room of our premises in the near future, possibly June. Once this is complete we will be able to do much more in the way of exhibitions and events. Meantime, we are planning to extend the scope of the planting at the Station, with the addition of troughs of plants in front of our shop and the Station Cafe.

We would like to hear from anyone who has photographs or stories of the station and pier. Our aim is to compile a collection of these, and have it printed as a book. Please get in touch with us either at the bookshop, or by telephoning Nancy Cameron at 01475 520535.

Duncan McNeil
WBVN – housing adaptations

A new scheme was launched recently that I believe it could have a very positive effect on Scotland's ageing population.

It allows people with disabilities or problems getting around the house to claim a grant for necessary adaptations to their privately-owned home.

This will mean you can claim at least 80 per cent of the cost of the improvements for adaptations such as replacing the bath with a walk-in shower, constructing a ramp to help getting into the home, or fitting lower surfaces to make the kitchen easier to use.

Of course, this could make a world of difference to people who are disabled or elderly.

And if our population is getting older and people are going to continue living in their homes, these changes are going to be necessary.

So I am delighted that help is out there and I would encourage anyone who is finding it tough getting about the house to make a call and see if they can benefit from an assessment.

If anyone needs more details, I would be happy to supply them with leaflets and information from my office.

Where possible, disability shouldn't be a barrier to everyday tasks around the home.

www.duncanmcneil.com

David Cairns MP - REAL HELP FOR FAMILIES IN WEMYSS BAY

Families are facing tough times right across the world, including here in Wemyss Bay. But in April the Government introduced new measures aimed at giving you real help now and putting more money in your pocket just when you need it most.

Child Tax Credits rose by £150 per year, an increase of 7.2%. Most village parents will qualify for this, as it is paid to all middle and lower income families. Child Benefit also increased by almost 6% per week and, if you are a mum-to-be, you will now get a Health in Pregnancy Grant of £190. Children are precious so it's only right that we acknowledge this and protect them during these difficult economic times.

Not everyone has dependent children but most of us do pay tax. And the good news is that the personal income tax allowance has increased by 7.3%. Basic rate taxpayers in Wemyss Bay will see a cut worth £145 per year and some lower paid workers will now pay no tax at all.

Pensioners in the village also got a boost when the state pension rose by 5% on 6th April. Pension Credit increased too and single pensioners are guaranteed a weekly income of £130, rising to £198 for couples. Our senior citizens have contributed enormously to society and they deserve to be looked after in their old age.

People were left behind in previous recessions. I am determined to see that this does not happen again.

Contact Details:
David Cairns MP
20 Union Street
Greenock
PA 16 8JL

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

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Ross Finnie MSP

Everyone in Wemyss Bay must have been as disgusted as I was to learn that after 36 years the League of Hospital Friends tea bar service at Inverclyde Royal is to be terminated by NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde and replaced by an Aroma style café.

When the Health Secretary was asked by the Greenock Telegraph to justify the decision she replied: "It is important that the NHS takes the lead in making it easier for staff, visitors and patients to enjoy healthier foods at affordable prices. We are currently piloting the concept of Aroma Cafes. Run by the NHS these cafes will focus on providing healthy choices.. They will also put profits straight back into hospitals, benefiting patient care and in many cases creating new NHS jobs"

Just one problem with that "big brother knows best" and "one size fits all " approach: the League of Friends Tea Bar does all of that and more.
For 36 years the League of Hospital Friends has provided the Tea bar service for the benefit of patients, their visitors and the staff.
The service provided by a rota of 60 volunteer workers supplies tea, coffee, rolls etc. (including a healthy eating option as advised by ite medical adviser Dr Semple) at very affordable prices.
The League funds all the furniture and fittings and the latest upgrade at a cost of £30,000 is nearing completion.
Since its formation it has raised just over £1 million purchasing new medical equipment for the hospital and supporting medical related causes,
The League also funds the expenses of the team of volunteer drivers who use their own cars to supplement NHS transportation to clinics in Paisley and Glasgow,

Quite simply NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board have got it wrong. I hope you will add your support to the League of Friends by signing the petition at Inverclyde Royal and/or writing to Andrew Robertson, Chair, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board, Dalian House, PO Box 15329, 350 St Vincent St., Glasgow G3 8YZ, and/or Nicola Sturgeon, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh

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

Congratulations

On Sunday 19th April a sponsored swimathon was held at the Vikingar Pool in Largs in aid of Marie Curie. Roy Herdman, 71 of Ryan Road Wemyss Bay, is a member of the Largs Masters and also Greenock Masters he swam breast-stroke 200 laps (3 miles) in 2 hours 22 mins and 22 sec and raised £460.00. Roy is dividing his sponsonsership donations between Marie Curie and Ardgowan Hospice.

His wife Mae, his family and friends wish to acknowledge Roy's achievement.
Thanks to everyone who sponsored him.

Car Wash – In Aid of Leukaemia Research

Wemyss Bay girls in Primary 5 had an absolute ball washing the cars that arrived in the school park. A big huge thanks to those people brave enough to leave their cars and also to the donations that the girls received at the school entrance. They raised £172.

Unfortunately a certain Mr Robin Thomson encouraged the girls to have a water fight at the end, oh and they did, and Mr Thomson was nowhere to be seen, typical man.

Huge thanks to everyone.
Well done girls!!!!!

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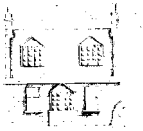

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Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay Parish Church: Diary of Services

Come celebrate with us on…

May 17 11.00am Divine Worship: The Minister

May 24 11.00am Divine Worship: The Minister

May 31 11.00am Divine Worship: Pentecost Incorporating Sacrament of Baptism
The Minister
Preceded by a brief Service of Prayers for the Sick in the side aisle of the church at 10.15am.

June 7 11.00am Divine Worship: The Minister

Faces of the Future

It was a great joy and delight on Mothering Sunday to welcome the families of children baptised within the past three years. We enjoyed a good time together in the church and at the party afterwards.

Here are the names of the children we welcomed back on the day:
Cameron McDaid, Emma McIntosh, Thomas Goodwin, Lois Herdman, Fraser Waters, Bruce Armitage, Cameron McKechnie, Ross Watson, David Pollock, Ellis Pollock, Dominic Daisley, Adam Daisley, Cameron McNeil, Charlotte Peacock, Robert Weir, Jamie Campbell, Juliet Cunningham and Elizabeth Hulme.

Hospital Visits – please note that as hospitals are no longer in a position to furnish ministers or chaplains with patient lists it is imperative that the minister is informed of the name, date of admission and ward number of anyone wishing a pastoral visit

Bible Club and Youth Group (SBM)

Youth Group enjoyed an outing to Lazer Planet in Clydebank at the end of April - congratulations to top gun Alisdair who was top scorer over the 2 games! Both clubs also enjoyed Easter parties at the end of March as we remembered Jesus' death and resurrection. Bible Club is from 6.15pm to 7.30pm and all children from P1 to P6 are welcome. Activities include games, songs, competitions, Bible stories and other activities. 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 (such as dodgeball!) and a tuck shop. The clubs are run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries (SBM) and there are no fees for either club. New young people are always welcome. If you would like further information, please contact Stephen Renton on 01505 355994.

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.

Calling all Bingo Lovers – Sunday 24th May

Why not come along to the Community Centre from 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm and take part in the first bingo evening for a long time. There will be cash prizes and also prizes of home baking.
Tea and coffee will be provided.
Anyone willing to lend a helping hand will be made most welcome.

Contact David Adams on 520223.

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Woodland Association

Terraced Gardens

For the last six years the Woodland Association has been raising concerns with landowners, Inverclyde Council, about safety in the Terraced Garden area, particularly with reference to the cliff wall and the ruins of the fernery.

Following our most recent concerns, the council has moved to fence off some of the more dangerous areas – we would strongly recommend that you make no attempt to climb or circumvent the fenced areas as they are there for everyone's protection.

The Woodland Association has always worked in areas specified by the council and carried out tasks designated and approved by them.

Ardgowan Road

The Woodland Association has been contacted by a couple of local residents concerned about the condition of the wall bordering the woodland on Ardgowan Road. As with the terraced gardens, this is an issue which we have been raising for over six years. The land, and therefore the wall, is owned by Inverclyde Council. Although they accept this, there is disagreement within the council about which department should bear the cost of repair. We have again passed on our concerns and suggest that residents should contact Roads Department, Grounds Maintenance, Lower Clyde Greenspace and their three local councillors in the hope that someone will agree to repair this.

Spring into Action

The Woodland Association is working alongside BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers), BBC Breathing Spaces, Lower Clyde Greenspace and Inverclyde Council in running a Spring into Action event as part of Scottish Biodiversity Week.

Join us on Saturday 16th May between 10am and 3pm at Wemyss Bay Woodland. There will be a variety of activities on offer throughout the day including Bug Hunts; Biodiversity Identification (with a bee, wasp and fly expert from Bug Life); Clearance Works; Habitat Creation(making bee hotels and frog homes) and Tree Management. There will be something to suit all ages throughout the day with several activities running alongside each other throughout the day.

If you are involved in running any community group and would like the Woodland Association to tailor-make and run a walk or activity session for your members contact Eila for information.

Eila Roberts 529375 email eila@wemyssbay.plus.com

Ardgowan Football Development

For the second year in a row Ardgowan Thistle took two teams U13's and U11's for a week to Barcelona to play in a local tournament. Hundreds of clubs from all over the world took part which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The standard was very high and both sets of teams did not reach the next stage. The U11's did come back with the fair play trophy. Testament to AFD's ethos as it is the second year in a row a team from Ardgowan has done this.

All ATFC training sessions for U9's 11's 12's and 13's are back at Wemyss Bay for the summer months.

Well done to the U12's for their first victory last month.

AFD

All AFD training sessions have restarted for the final run in before the Gala day on 14th June.

Sponsorship

Ardgowan would like to thank Caledonian MacBrayne, CIGNA International and The Abbey Group (First Group Contracts) for their help in sponsoring the club this year.

WEMYSS BAY GALA 2009

WEMYSS BAY'S GOT TALENT

Singing. Dancing. Comedy. Whatever talent you have.

Saturday 13th June 2009

Cash prizes to be won!

Application forms available from the Spar Shop, Wemyss Bay from 1st-26th May.

For more information please contact Lynsey at lynsey.halliday@yahoo.co.uk

WEMYSS BAY'S GOT TALENT

Application Form

Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Talent: _____

_____

Stage Name: _____

Completed application forms should be returned to the box in the Spar Shop, Wemyss Bay.
Closing date for applicants: Monday 26th May.
For more information please contact Lynsey at lynsey.halliday@yahoo.co.uk

1st Wemyss Bay Guides

Congratulations!

6 of the Guides, Lisa, Elaine, Kirsty, Chantelle, Kirsty B and Florence all received their Baden Powell award (the highest award available to a Guide) in Edinburgh Zoo at the beginning of April from the Scottish Chief Commissioner Dinah Faulds. Even though the weather wasn't great, the girls showed their Guiding spirit by standing out in the wind and rain to receive their awards beside the penguin enclosure. Dinah congratulated the girls on their achievements and particularly on their ability to work as a team to achieve such success. Alison, Jane and Amy and all the girls in the unit are very proud of all 6 girls and are looking forward to working with them as young leaders.

Also at the Zoo we celebrated 5 Guide promises. Zoe, Katie, Megan, Olivia and Saskia made their promise in front of the unit and Dinah. Amy also re-newed her promise as an adult leader, as part of her Leaders qualification.

Also at the Zoo we managed to see lions, chimpanzees, baby baboons and the infamous penguins! All the girls took part in our own Zoo challenge which saw them taking a variety of photographs all over the Zoo.

At the end of April we had our annual Beetle Drive, this year raising money for Barnardo's. This is our units chosen "Change the World" project. These projects are all part of Girlguiding UK's pre centenary challenge for as many units as possible to help in any way towards changing the world for the better. 1st Wemyss Bay Guides are hoping to raise some more money by selling some of our Barnardo's Bags at the Gala Day, so make sure you don't miss out!

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

Group Jumble Sale

Our annual jumble sale will take place on Saturday 6th June at 2pm in the
Skelmorlie Scout Hall & Community Centre
Donations are very welcome
Collection dates: - 27th 28th May and 3th 4th June
To guarantee an uplift please call: 520687 or 520807
Please note we will not be collecting : Clothes, Fridges, Freezers and Gas Fires

THE BAY Explorer Unit

March and early April have seen the Unit's programme move towards outdoor activities,
with the first of the years overnight hike camps, where the weather was bright but cold!!.
Also during this time we have managed to complete a number of single day hikes which will count towards our "Hikes Away" badge along with putting our navigational skills to practical tests

The end of April sees the unit helping at our district cub badge day running the IT stage II badge for an expected 100 cubs ... what have we let ourselves in for!!

If you wish any further information about the group in general or any section in particular please contact Iain Carmichael on 01475 520697 or one of the section leaders.

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.

Stuart McMillan MSP

I recently had the opportunity to meet with Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council (IWBCC) to discuss the two consultations I ran on the A78 trunk road. I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet with the community council and present the findings of both consultations. The response rates I have received from both villages have been highly encouraging and I hope this strength of feeling within residents will make the relevant authorities take action and improve road safety on the A78. Alongside this, in the Scottish Parliament I had the opportunity to ask a question regarding road safety in Scotland. In my follow up question to the Minister I was able to raise the A78 issue. It's vital that action is taken on the A78 sooner rather than later to ensure road safety is maintained and residents concerns are met.

I am pleased to see the recent announcement by the First Minister that almost £95 million in European funding will help boost Scotland's economic recovery. This will be implemented through programmes to develop our workforce, safeguard and create jobs, and regenerate our communities. This announcement comes at the same time as the Scottish Government are to introduce an army of 600 new hospital cleaners throughout Scotland which is an investment of over £5 million extra in cleaning.

Lastly, I wanted to make Village News readers aware that I recently met with representatives of the League of Friends Tea Bar. I had a good and lengthy discussion with some of the volunteers and witnessed first hand the excellent work they are carrying out in the Inverclyde Royal Hospital. This is why I have offered my support by signing the petition and I have spoken to the Minister for Public Health to raise the issue. I hope that the tea bar can be saved and the League of Friends can continue their excellent service.

Surgery: I plan to hold a surgery at Wemyss Bay Station on Friday 29th May. Please contact my office for further details.

Contact: Stuart McMillan MSP
Unit 27, Sir James Clark Building, Abbey Mill Business Centre, Seedhill Road, Paisley, PA1 1TJ
Tel: 0141 889 9519
E-mail: Stuart.McMillan.MSP@Scottish.Parliament.uk
www.stuart-mcmillan.net

Wemyss Bay PTA

Another busy few months coming up for the PTA and were counting on your support...again.

We are hosting a Pampered Chef evening on Thursday 14th May. It's a Can't Cook Won't Cook evening. Please come along from 7 - 9pm in the school. Tickets cost £5 and include a glass of wine. There will be brochures available to order the Pampered Chef merchandise but you can also check out www.pamperedchef.com

As yet we have to confirm what the PTA plans will be at the Gala. But we are proposing to have a bingo / stand-up bingo session during Saturday 13th June. Watch this space for more info....

The school Leavers Dance should be on 22nd June. This will be the first time in two years we haven't had to supervise the children as they travel from Wemyss Bay to Kings Glen. I'm sure the children...or maybe young people...will be as well turned out as usual. It's a great evening enjoyed by pupils, staff and PTA members.

A few months ago we mentioned the first aid training. We have a few options available to us and it's hoped that along with several other community groups we will have parents trained in paediatric first aid skills allowing improved skills available at organised events

Jill Pearson, Secretary PTA

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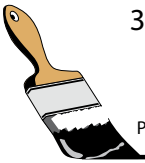

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	6			8			1	
2			6		7			9
		6					5	
			3		9			
	4					9		
3			8		1			2
	1			6			3	
		9				1		

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.

SUDOKU

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

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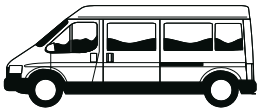

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