

Wemyss Bay Village News

231st Edition

July 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.

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 August edition will be Friday 17th July at 6.00pm. If any distributors think they may have problems doing deliveries over the next few months please contact Jill and let her know (hazelwalk@tiscali.co.uk).

Gala Weekend

What a success!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This years annual Gala Weekend was a huge success and that is all down to you, the community of Wemyss Bay.

The Community Association, the group who manage the Community Centre and organise the Gala every year would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who took time out to help make this years Gala "simply the best". By having the most helpers ever made it a lot less stressful and much more enjoyable for the committee, and for that they are actually looking forward to next year already.

We will be putting a flyer in the September edition of the Village News asking for your views on the weekend, ie what worked, what didn't and what ideas you may have for next year and we look forward to reading the replies.

Our first meeting back after the Summer will be in the Inverkip Hotel (upstairs in the Rogues Room) on Wednesday 2nd September at 7.30pm. We look forward to meeting anyone new wishing to come on board or just wish to see what we are all about.

Another huge Thank You! Is also extended to all those who sponsor the weekend and for all donations of prizes and services, without which we could not put on the weekend that it is.

Thank you Thank you Thank you.....

Wemyss Bay Nursery Focus Group

The Wemyss Bay Nursery Focus Group would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who supported our stall at the gala. We raised a wonderful £239.00 which will buy new children's books and arts and crafts items. We had a lot of fun meeting the children (and their parents!) who visited the stall.

If you are a local group who is looking to raise some funds we would strongly recommend the Wemyss Bay Gala as it offers a FUN way to raise funds.

Thanks Again!!

Waste collection

Your black bin will be collected on Tuesday 21st July. Your blue and brown bins will be emptied on Tuesdays 14th & 28th July.

Remember your food waste collection will be collected every Tuesday.

David Cairns MP

MORE HELP FOR THALIDOMIDE VICTIMS

The thalidomide crisis happened so long ago that it is tempting to forget about it and think that everything was resolved. Not so. There are still people in Inverclyde who need help to overcome the disabilities they were left with because of this terrible drug.

This was brought home to me recently when a local man affected by thalidomide ask me to support the Thalidomide Trust's campaign for more compensation. The Trust received funding from the UK Government and from the company responsible for making the drug. But now, as the thalidomide generation enter middle age and experience whole new range of problems, I think it is only right that we look again at the level of compensation.

I met the Thalidomide Trust in Westminster and I was impressed by the arguments they put forward. I have written to the Minister of Health asking what more could be done for the Thalidomide generation as they approach their 40s and 50s. I also raised the issue with the German Government, as the original drug was produced by a German company and signed an EDM asking for more compensation.

This really brought home to me that problems don't go away just because they fall out of the headlines. There are many people in Wemyss Bay and throughout Inverclyde who are struggling with all kinds of difficulties. One off fixes are never the answer, we need to constantly reappraise the help that we give to the most vulnerable in our community.

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

Duncan McNeil

Climate change

With the fleeting showers and the ominous black clouds that punctuate our summers, its not often we are thankful for the weather here in Scotland

But with 25 per cent of the total estimated wind and tidal power in Europe produced on these shores, harnessing and exploiting that renewable energy could be vital to our future. For that reason, a lot of work and effort is going into the current Climate Change Bill at the Scottish Parliament to ensure it becomes a significant piece of legislation.

While I would stop short of echoing the description of Scotland as 'the Saudi Arabia of the seas', there is certainly potential to set targets to reduce carbon emissions that would make us world leaders. I see no reason why Scotland should be looking to eclipse the 34 per cent reduction by 2020 that has been set in the UK.

Of course, the subject of climate change might not seem like a priority to many of us, with belts being tightened all over the country. But climate change it isn't all about melting ice caps and greenhouse gases, there are parts of the bill that could impact on you and your household budget.

For instance, energy efficiency packages and home insulation won't just help the environment; they will help you in the pocket by reducing your bills.

There are proposed incentives that will help people go green, such as tax breaks for those who embrace microgeneration. And there is prospect of hundreds of green jobs if investment is made in renewable industries, a welcome response to these times of economic uncertainty. That may be some comfort next time your stuck indoors because its blowing a gale outside.

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Wemyss Bay Adult Association

Why not have a look at our new Winter/Spring programme and try something new.

It has been distributed along with your village news. Our enrolment evening is on Tuesday 8 September from 7-9pm in the SCHOOL. Refreshments will be served and if you cannot manage along it may still be possible to enrol on the first evening of the class, or alternatively telephone one of the committee members on the back of the programme.

Wemyss Bay PTA

Hi from the PTA again. Can't believe that another school year has come to an end and as usual we had a great leaver's party for the P7. It was a lovely night. The boys and girls looked fabulous and they all had a great night.

A big thank you to all of the girls (and boys) who visited our Rainbow Nails stall at the Gala, there were a lot of glamorous nails on show and it helped raise funds for the PTA which will all go back to the school.

The PTA will be taking their well earned break for the summer and we will be back in August with a new Chairperson, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me in my 2 years as Chairperson, especially Jill, Kirsty and Pauline. I couldn't have done it without you all. I hope that the new Chairperson has as much fun as I have had.

I hope that everyone has a great summer holiday.

Donna Galvin, Chairperson

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

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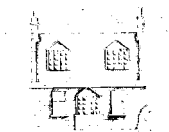
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71st Ayrshire Scout Group & THE BAY Explorer Unit - Iain Carmichael

THANK YOU !! once again the Scout Group must thank the local communities for their continued support at our recent Jumble Sale

EAGLE PACK

The Eagle pack have been very active over the last two months, which started with their annual Father & Cub Night with over 70 cubs and dads attending who all had a really great night. Thanks to all the dads. The cubs designed a new district badge for our new district of North Ayrshire & Arran and sent their entry's in for judging, (awaiting the results)

All the cubs have also been working on badge work at the pack meetings, where four new boys & girls were also Invested into the pack.

The cubs helped at the Group Jumble Sale in June. A big thanks to all the Mums & Dads for all your help and we look forward for all the new parents help next year at the Jumble.

The pack will finish our session with a water fun night and then it's off to Summer Pack Holiday in Bispham Hall Scout Estate, Billinge, Wigan.

Both the Eagle & Tiger packs enjoyed a great pack nights at the Meigle Beach last week cooking marshmallows and sausages over fires!!

Eagle & Tiger Packs Day Out

Both Cubs packs enjoyed their annual day out on Saturday the 30th of May. The cubs enjoyed a visit to the Scottish Museum of Agriculture and Country Life in East Kilbride. Where they enjoyed discovering all about new farm machinery and how people used to work the land. They were then treated to a tractor ride through the fields, filled with sheep and Highland cows. The destination - a working farm where the cubs met all kinds of animals including cows, pigs and horses. They also got to meet the latest born calf called Ebony. This was followed by a tour around the farm house and then an easy stroll down the path to the picnic area where we ate our lunch.

After lunch the cubs day continued with a visit to Summerlee, the museum of Scottish industrial life. Here they enjoyed a Tram ride around the park. We were then shown round different mining houses from different stages in history and enjoyed a walk along the river. We then explored the main building until ending up in the gift shop to spend their pocket money. The weather was beautiful with clear blue skies which just added the final touch to a great day. All the cubs enjoyed the trip and didn't want the day to end.

Have a great Summer and we will see you all again in August

Already we 149 seats have booked for this years pantomime outing on the 27th November to the Palace Theatre, Kilmarnock. The Panto is Sleeping Beauty.

Group Sunset BBQ

To mark the 70th birthday of the group we thought it would be a great opportunity to ask past, present members, friends and all parents, to get together and reminisce about the 'good old days' and look to the future of Scouting in the Group. We might also have a sunset sing-along

If you would like to join us, come along to Skelmorlie Mains Farm (Stirratts) on Saturday evening, 15th August from 7.30pm onwards. Just bring a bottle and a glass and we'll provide 'something on a roll'.

We hope you can attend the BBQ and to help us with the numbers please can you contact Akela Wyllie 520096 by 1st August with approximate numbers thanks.

The Group is looking for parents to join our Group Executive to help run the Jumble Sale, Bingo Nights and any other group activities (one meeting every three months) or if you wish to get involved as a leader please contact any section leader or Iain Carmichael on 01475 520697.

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Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church

Morning Services conducted by the Minister at 11.00am continue throughout July and August with a Short Communion directly after the Service on the last Sunday of the month.
All are welcome

1st Wemyss Bay Guides

We were very lucky to have 4 Guides at the County camp at the end of May. Olivia, Nicola and Emma enjoyed their first Guide camp experience and are eager to take part in the next Unit camp. Elaine was on hand as an experienced camper to help the girls out during the weekend. All the girls completed crate climbing, cycling, tile painting and lots of other activities. We are looking forward to having a Unit camp early in the next session.

1st Wemyss Bay had a very successful Gala making over £430 through their Tea Room, Cake and Candy, Coconut Shy and Higher and Lower card game. We would like to thank all the girls who took their turn at a stall, the parents who also took the time to help at a stall or who handed in home baking and of course to Mrs B, Kirsty and Mhairi who help out every year! This money will assist the Guides in being able to attend a number of different events that are planned to celebrate the Centenary year which is being launched in September 2009.

To finish the year 1st Wemyss Bay Guides will be having their annual BBQ hopefully at the beach (weather depending) where the girls will be making their own fires and cooking their own burgers and sausages.

Finally, we would like to thank all parents, families and friends of the girls and young women associated with 1st Wemyss Bay Guides for all your help and support over the year. We have definitely had a superb year! Have a great holiday everyone!

Wemyss Bay Brownies

We've had another excellent year. Our Brownies have done many badges and made promises, baked cakes and made sandwiches, gone to Guides and learned how to save the environment single-handed. And we would not have been able to do any of it without the support of the Brownies families and the hard work of Amy Newlands and Linzi Lynch. Amy is a young Guider and Linzi is a Mum who offered to help and is now there every week, wearing her GirlGuiding Centenary polo shirt! Both these ladies (some may call them mad!) give up some of their free time to work hard for the Brownies and we would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to both of them, we are really looking forward to working and having fun with you next year.

As many of you know, we had our usual bottle tombola at the Gala Day this year. What some may not know is that we also had a second-hand book stall as well. This was in support of Book Aid International charity, which GirlGuiding UK is supporting this year. All of the money we raised selling books is going to this charity, which buys books in Africa for children in their own language. And none of the books were wasted. The books we did not sell went to the Station Book Shop. As well as both these stalls, we were collecting socks for another GirlGuiding charity, which is collecting pairs of socks to give to the homeless, which, apart from a roof over their head, is what they would like to have, clean, dry socks, something we all take for granted. You can still donate to this charity, please contact one of the numbers below. You can buy a pack of 3 pairs in Primark for £2, not much to ask. Thank you to everyone who donated to our stall or charity, we can't do it without your help.

The Brownies would also like to extend a big THANK YOU to the Guide Guiders. Alison Carmichael has again trained the Brownie Country Dance team for the Inverclyde festival, which means she's giving up more of her free time. Jane Morris has been helping with out accounts, which she claims is easy, we still don't get it! Thank you so much for all you do. Brownies are 7-10 yrs old and if you have a daughter who is interested, please get in touch with Ruth on 07947-866664 or Marilyn on 520615.

All that's left to say is have a great summer holidays and we'll see you in August.

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Wemyss Bay Bible Club and Youth Group

The Monday evening Bible Club and Youth Group have enjoyed a really good year which was topped off with a busy month of activities in June. Early on in the month we took the Youth Group to M&Ds and thankfully the sun was shining which made it all the more enjoyable. At the Gala Day on the 13th June we ran our usual Beat the Keeper stall which helped to raise funds for the two clubs, thank you to everyone who came along and took part and a special thanks to all those who helped, especially Calum who was there for most of the afternoon! We then had the bouncy castle up for our summer parties and prizegivings. Prizewinners were Simon(x2), Victoria(x2), Connie(x2), Chloe, Amy, Nicola(x2), Sarah(x2), Emma M, Jonathan, Orianne, Natasha, Katie S, Niamh, Sophie, Grant and last of all Team Doughnuts! Bible Club also enjoyed their annual end of term trip to Funworld later in the month, while some of the children, young people and leaders will be away to summer camps during the holidays. The clubs will resume in September and we hope that all the children and young people have a great summer! The two clubs are run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries - Bible Club is for children from P1 to P6 and Youth Group is for young people in P7 and high school. For more information about joining the clubs after summer please contact Stephen Renton on 01505 355994.

Woodland Association – Woodland Walks

Wed 15th Jul	Treasure Hunt: A morning of clues and activities for the young and the young at heart.
Wed 22nd Jul	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 beasties
Wed 29th Jul	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.
Sat 8th Aug	Bird Walk & Bird Boxes: A morning finding out about some of the birds who live in the woodland and what they eat. Help our feathered friends by making a nest-box to go up in the wood.
Sat 15th Aug	Folklore of Plants: An insight into how many of the plants, which we now consider to be everyday ones, had former uses and powers which were, perhaps, less than innocent.
Sat 22nd Aug	Wombling Morning: Join us for a morning tidying up the wood. Gloves and litter-pickers supplied. * No charge*
Sat 29th Aug	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 beasties.
Sat 12th Sept	Family Bat Walk (8.00pm): Come for an evening walk and find out about our local night-time wildlife. Learn how to use a bat-detector.

There is a £1 charge for each event which run from 10 – 12 noon each day, unless indicated. The meeting point for all events is the Car Park at the Community Centre, Ardgowan Road, Wemyss Bay. For more information, or to book a space phone 529375 or email: eila@wemyssbay.plus.com

Wemyss Bay Steering Group

The group will meet Ian Dyer from Inverclyde Council next week to work out how we plan to manage the new Pitch arrangements.

The pitch work will go ahead during the school closure over the summer months although we have heard it may take longer to construct due to issues with the drainage. We shall keep residents informed either through the newsletter or on WemyssBay.net

Thanks & Regards Iain

Woodland Association

The Woodland Association, in consultation with Inverclyde Council, brought in specialists to conduct a detailed survey of every tree in the woodland to identify any dead or diseased trees which require to have work carried out to ensure the safety of woodland users. It is important to remember that dead trees have a vital part to play in all woodlands as they provide essential habitats for many birds and insects. Where it is safe to do so trees will be left in place or, where necessary, the minimum amount of tree surgery will be carried out to make them safe. It is however necessary to conduct some major felling work as some of the trees have reached the end of their natural life and, where they border footpaths, pose a risk to the public. Until the Woodland Association was formed there had been no maintenance carried out for over 50 years and therefore, although regrettable, this work is essential. Most of the work will be carried out in autumn at the end of the growing season; however as a safety issue some work has already taken place.

At the same time as the tree surgery, treatment will also take place of Japanese knotweed. This is a highly invasive non-native plant which is becoming increasingly problematic in Scotland. Underground rhizomes can spread for 40 – 50 metres and can undermine foundations and break through concrete and roads so it is imperative to deal with this as a priority. Further treatment of rhododendron re-growth will also take place at this time.

For further information about any aspects of the work of the Woodland Association please contact the secretary, Eila Roberts, 14 Brueacre Drive, Wemyss Bay. Tel 529375 or email eila@wemyssbay.plus.com

Woodland Association Treasure Hunt

Congratulations to Donald Sutherland of Morar Road who successfully guessed where the treasure was hidden at this year's Gala – he won a soft toy and £25.

P4 – P7 Youth Club

Thanks to everyone who supported the Youth Club's Burger and Hotdog stall at this year's Gala. After all the expenses and, having made a £100 donation to the local Down's Syndrome group, the club still managed to raise the magnificent sum of £350. This money will go a long way to funding the Arts and Crafts activities, new equipment and let fees for the next session.

A special thank-you to John Harkins of Bay Ices who funded the new barbecues. These will be available for the use of any community group. John has been a regular supporter of the Youth Club over the last few years and we are extremely grateful for all his help.

The Youth Club will resume after the summer break at the beginning of September – we will put information out via the school along with posters in Spar so watch out for details. We still require additional helpers – if you would be interested get in touch with Eila on 529375 or Liz on 520205 for more information

AFD Gala Day

Another successful day was recorded at Wemyss Bay on Sunday. 150 kids were paraded out to show their parents the skills they had learned over the last year. The kids were then presented with their trophies and certificates by Stuart Duncan (Morton Director). Brian Fulton from Ardgowan sponsor (Caledonian MacBrayne) awarded the Cal Mac Trophy to Daniel Anderson for his efforts over the last year. The marquee was full to bursting and parents and kids ended the day enjoying drinks and food in the sun. Thanks to all who contributed to the buffet and all who helped in making this a successful day.

AFD Registration Day.

All kids should reregister for the coming 2010/11 season
All new members are welcome to come along.

Sunday Aug 16th

12 noon to 2.00pm
2.00pm to 4.00pm

P1 - P3
P4 - P7

Stuart McMillan MSP

I recently contacted Transport Scotland to make them aware of further issues constituents have raised with me about the A78 Trunk Road. A number of constituents raised the issue that it's important the three month review does not take place during summer holidays. Therefore, I was pleased to get a response which indicated that the review will take into consideration any temporary or external influences such as school holidays or local diversions arising from works on the adjacent network. Alongside this, I have been in further contact with Transport Scotland about the A78 Safety Group which will meet in Ayr at the end of June. I have arranged a meeting with Transport Scotland to take place before the A78 Safety Group meets and I will pass on the concerns of those residents in the Inverkip and Wemyss Bay villages who have responded to my consultation and contacted my office. I hope this meeting will put added pressure on all relevant stakeholders to act and improve road safety on the A78 Trunk Road.

At the end of June MSP's debated the final stage of the Climate Change Bill. It is vital that we get this piece of legislation right, and I am pleased with the commitment to tough targets that the Scottish Government has made so far. If passed, this legislation will mean that Scotland will have one of the most ambitious pieces of climate legislation in the world. The Bill proposes an 80% reduction in emissions by 2050. This includes all greenhouse gases and it will also include Scotland's share of international aviation and shipping, making it stronger than the UK equivalent passed in London. The Bill also requires an action plan to be produced and the Scottish Government sees green energy and energy efficiency not only as central to creating a sustainable economy, but also as central to creating a thriving one. I look forward to this Bill being passed and the benefits it will bring to Scotland and the rest of the planet.

Contact: Stuart McMillan MSP

Unit 27, Sir James Clark Building, Abbey Mill Business Centre, Seedhill, Paisley, PA1 1TJ

Tel: 0141 889 9519

E-mail: Stuart.McMillan.MSP@Scottish.Parliament.uk

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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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SUDOKU

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

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

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

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 August edition will be Friday 17th July at 6pm.

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