

# Wemyss Bay Village News

233<sup>rd</sup> Edition

October 2009

Email: [villagenews@wemyssbay.net](mailto: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](mailto:villagenews@wemyssbay.net) or placed in the village news folder in the Spar. The closing date for the November edition will be Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

## New 3G Astro turf

As the new Astro turf is now up and running it is important to make parents aware that there are still kids climbing the fence to get in and using the facility when it is closed.

Kids will be kids, however if anyone injures themselves within the pitch, then there would be no access to attend them. This is because they have jumped the fence and it would take some time to have a key holder available to open it up. The key holders are Inverclyde council.

Please also note that the pitch is being monitored by CCTV, so any damage to the facility will be recorded and handed to the authorities.

***We have a fantastic facility here. Please use it but do not abuse it.***

## Wemyss Bay Nursery and Primary School PTA

We held a very successful family bingo night on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September. There was a great turn out of adults and children and the night raised nearly £450.

Our next event is the school Halloween disco for P4-P7 on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October. There will be a prize for the best costume.

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November it's our Christmas Shopping night from 7pm-10pm in the school. Some of you may have already seen the tea towel that we are selling. An order form will come via the school and tea towels can be purchased by orders only. There are currently no plans for them to go on general sale. Our next meeting is Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 7pm in the school. Please come along.

Jill Pearson Secretary PTA

## Wemyss Bay Bible Club and Youth Group

There will be no Bible Club or Youth Group on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October or Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October due to the school holidays. We are planning a Youth Group outing in October however, find out more at the club! The clubs resume as normal on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. If your child would like to come, we meet on Monday evenings in Wemyss Bay Community Centre. Bible Club is from 6.15pm to 7.30pm and is for children in P1 to P6. Activities include competitions, songs, Bible stories, games 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 and a tuck shop. The clubs are run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries and there are no fees for either club. If you would like further information, please contact Stephen Renton on 01505 355994.

## Waste collection

Your black bin will be collected on Tuesdays the 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October. Your blue and brown bins will be emptied on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October.

## AFD Sessions 2009 – 2010

The 2009/2010 Session is now fully underway with the majority of sessions full, there are still some places in P2 and P7, but P1 and P3 have waiting lists.

|           |               |                     |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------|
| Primary 1 | 12:05 – 13:20 | Tom & Sammy         |
| Primary 2 | 13:25 – 14:40 | Rio & Sammy         |
| Primary 3 | 14:45 – 16:00 | Graham T & Kayleigh |
| Primary 4 | 12:45 – 14:15 | Iain & Martin       |
| Primary 5 | 12:45 – 14:15 | Graham A & Pat      |
| Primary 6 | 14:30 – 16:00 | John Rush & John A  |
| Primary 7 | 14:30 – 16:00 | Merv, Kenny & Lee   |

## AFD Calendar 2009 - 2010

| August                                             | September              | October                                                    | November | December                                                                                     | January                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Registration Day<br><br>AFD Restarts               |                        | AFD AGM<br><br>Oct Holidays<br><br>No AFD 18/10 and 25/10. |          | Christmas Fun Day 6th December<br><br>Xmas Holidays<br><br>No AFD on 13/12, 20/12 and 27/12. | No AFD 06/01<br><br>AFD Restarts Sunday 13/01 |
| February                                           | March                  | April                                                      | May      | June                                                                                         | July                                          |
| £1,000 Draw<br><br>AFD Race Night<br>Saturday 27/2 | AFD Coaches Conference | Easter Holidays<br><br>No AFD 4/4, 11/4 or 18/4            |          | AFD Gala Day<br><br>Tournaments                                                              | Tournaments                                   |

Further information on the Christmas Fun Day will be issued in November.

## Astroturf Pitch

Following nearly 9 years of coaching & playing on red blaes and a grass field we are delighted that the new 3rd Generation Astroturf Pitch is now ready for use. Local kids have already started using the new pitch and for AFD this should put an end to the 'Outdoor Sessions Cancelled' sign, that too often appeared last year, and provides us with a perfect surface for football coaching. It will also allow ATFC Squads to train in Wemyss Bay in the evenings during the winter months.

We have lobbied for better community facilities for years and have worked closely with the Community Association, the Steering Group and other Community Groups to help make this happen. Too often Councils, and Councillors, only receive criticism for what they don't do but, although this new facility is long overdue, we would like to congratulate the Council and everyone involved for what they did do in providing a state of the art facility in Wemyss Bay.

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## **Adult Association**

The following classes will be held in the school from September - December 2009.

- MONDAYS** - ART GROUP - 7-9pm  
GUITAR GROUP - (Beginners) 7-8pm  
(Advanced) 8-9pm
- TUESDAYS** - CROSS STITCH - 7-9pm
- WEDNESDAYS** - CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH - 7-8.30pm  
YOGA 7.40 - 9.15pm

Unfortunately the PILATES class will not go ahead as it has been impossible to find a Pilates Instructor.

For more information, please contact Morag Wilson on 521626.

## **The Friends of Wemyss Bay Station**

The Friends of Wemyss Bay Station are very pleased to announce the publication of their first book, 'The Caledonian Railway's Wemyss Bay Station', by Jim MacIntosh, for sale at £5. It contains many of the official Annan photographs of the building of the station and pier in 1903, and gives a concise and interesting early history of the station.

Since opening our bookshop at the station we have become very aware of the need for just such a book for visitors and admirers of the station, and this one fits that purpose very well, and for a very reasonable price. One of our main aims as a group is to provide information about the history of the station and pier, and we have been very fortunate to bring out such a fine book so soon. Available at the Station Bookshop, or by postal orders should be sent to Mrs N. Cameron, Station Bookshop, The Station, Wemyss Bay, PA18 6AR. Cheques (£6 including p + p) should be made payable to 'Friends of Wemyss Bay Station'.

Nancy Cameron,  
Chairman, FoWB.

## **Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council - Thursday 1st October 2009**

Business Meeting was held in the Inverkip Hotel at 7.30pm

### **AGENDA**

1. A/Chairman's welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Police Matters
4. Presentation by Louise McVey, Inverclyde Council's Community Safety Team Leader
5. Minutes of Business Meeting held on Thursday 3rd September 2009. Matters arising
6. Secretary's Report and Correspondence
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Planning Matters
9. Date and time of next meeting (Thursday 5th November 2009)
10. Any other business



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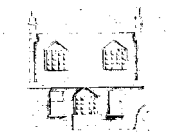
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## **David Cairns MP**

## **Wemyss Bay Station Gets Friendly**

We all know we should take a pride in our community but how many of us really do? Step forward the Friends of Wemyss Bay Station and take a bow. This dedicated band of volunteers has been slowly, but surely, transforming the station and restoring it to its former glory.

The current station was designed in 1903 and the A listed building was refurbished in 1993, but over the years it's suffered from a lack of TLC. So when Scotrail launched their Adopt a Station scheme, local people set up the Friends of Wemyss Bay Station.

Anyone passing through the station can see how hard they have been working. Beautiful tubs and hanging baskets adorn the concourse and on a warm day you can smell the scent from the flowers.

But the volunteers aren't stopping there and they have big plans for the station. They have already opened a bookshop and published a book on the station's history, which I am looking forward to reading. There's even been art exhibition and they are pressing First Scotrail, Network Rail and the Railway Heritage Society to help them make further improvements.

Scotrail also recognised their hard work and named them the most promising new group of the year. Thanks to their efforts, Wemyss Bay Station is now a pleasanter more welcoming place for the thousands of people who use it every year.

Well done Friends of Wemyss Bay Station. You're doing a great job and our community would benefit greatly if more people followed your example.

Tel: 791820                      Email: [cairnsd@parliament.uk](mailto:cairnsd@parliament.uk)

## **Country Club**

Club Meetings to be held in October/November at 2.30pm in The Chart Room, Kip Marina, Inverkip are as follows:

Wednesday 7th – Mr Tom MacDougall on the subject of "Special Relations between Britain and America - How Special?"

Wednesday 21st – Mr Duncan Stevenson on the subject of "20 years with the National Trust: Bats, Badgers, Naturists and Jacobites"

Wednesday 4th – Mrs Elizabeth Murdoch on the subject of "Gourock Walking Backwards"

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 tel. 522316.

## **Wemyss Bay Primary School**

## **SAFE KIDS**

Another new year at Wemyss Bay Primary and we have already been doing lots. Here is a short report about the Primary 7's experience at Smart Kids. There will be a report on the McMillan Cancer Coffee afternoon next month.

On the 10th September 2009 Primary 7 went to Safe Kids at Finlaystone Estate near Langbank. The class worked with Police, Fire Fighters, Road Safety and the drug awareness team.

There were different scenarios and we had to work out how to get out of those situations. At one of the stations we had to wear glasses which give you the effect that you are drunk. While wearing these glasses we had to do different puzzles such as walking in and out of cones and putting shapes in a shape sorter box. There was also one where you were in an internet bus and they were explaining how to stay safe on the internet.

We all really enjoyed the experience and learned a lot.



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## **1st Wemyss Bay Guides**

Guides started back with a bang when we attend the County Centenary Launch party at The Lagoon in Paisley on Sunday 6th September. The girls were able to dance and sing along with lots of great entertainment, see how Guide uniforms have changed over the years and Emma, Nicola, Siobhan, Mhairi and Orianne all had a mountain top moment when they made their promise at this once in a lifetime event. Everyone received a souvenir Renfrewshire Centenary mug and badge.

1st Wemyss Bay are being well represented at Guidespell (the Greenock Guide version of a Gang Show) with Kirsty B, Kirsty M, Chantelle, Rachel, Mhairi B, Jayne, Olivia and Mhairi M all taking main parts in sketches, dances and singing parts. Guidespell tickets are available and you can get more information from [www.guidespell.co.uk](http://www.guidespell.co.uk) Make sure you don't miss out!

20 girls, 4 young leaders and 4 adult leaders attended the unit camp at South Newton on 18th-20th September. Our theme was the circus and all the girls attempted to learn to juggle with lots having great success. Girls also cooked their own breakfast, dinner and each patrol had a chance to make either 11's, 3's, lunch or dessert! Although it was a cold Saturday night we managed to enjoy a great campfire with some excellent patrol entertainment provided by the girls. After striking camp early on the Sunday morning the girls were all presented with their Performing Arts, Circus Skills and Camp badge which were all well deserved. A huge thank you to Kirsty B, Kirsty M, Chantelle and Elaine who excelled in their role of young leaders!

1st Wemyss Bay Guides are full to the brim, so if you are 10 and would like to join or are nearly 10 please contact Alison Carmichael (520697) to put your name on the waiting list.

## **Ross Finnie MSP**

It is not that long ago that I and Wemyss Bay residents welcomed the decision of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde to abide by the decision of the Review Group and retain a mid-wife led Community Maternity Unit ("CMU") at Inverclyde Royal. I think the majority agreed that it did not make sense for every expectant mum to have to travel to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley. In addition the Health Board agreed to carry out a community education programme to publicise the benefits of the Unit.

Now we learn that despite these undertakings the Board is to change the operation of the CMU to an "on call" basis after 5 pm and at week ends. The board claims this will make no difference to the service which begs the question: in that case could the CMU operate satisfactorily 24/7 on an "on call" basis? Every reader, if not the Health Board knows the answer: no it could not!

It may be news to the Health Board but babies don't know that they are expected to arrive between 9 am to 5 pm. pregnant women are entitled to know that a maternity unit will be fully operational 24/7. I fear this is a cynical move on the part of the Board to put local women off using the CMU and in a few months it will tell us the CMU is underused and has to be closed.

I'm getting increasingly fed up with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's attitude to people in Wemyss Bay and Inverclyde. They have to understand we are entitled to the same level of service as people living in Glasgow or Paisley. We don't accept their post code lottery.

Contact Ross Finnie MSP at:

54 Kelly Street, Greenock PA16 8TR

Tel: 01475-805020 Fax: 01475-805021

email [ross.finnie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:ross.finnie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

website [www.rossfinniemsp.org.uk](http://www.rossfinniemsp.org.uk)

## **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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## **2nd Wemyss Bay Brownies**

The Brownies had a 100th birthday party.

We did nearly all the things that the girls wanted. We had a pyjama party with a bouncy castle, a disco, hotdogs (instead of a barbeque) and as we couldn't have fireworks we had sparklers on their cakes.

Some of the Brownies and Ruth and Marilyn went on an outdoor activity weekend at Netherurd. The girls had a ball. They went canoeing, zip lining, climbing, went on a ropes course and did archery. The cows came to watch them firing their arrows and the cow is fine now as the arrow bounced off it! At night we had a ceilidh and lots and lots of activities the next day. They had obviously used up lots of energy as most of them fell asleep on the way home.

We celebrated at church too as Mr Coule included us in a service to mark our 100th birthday and then went to Skelmorlie community centre where the Friends of Guiding gave us a party - and this is just the start of our celebrations. I think we will need 100 years to fit it all in.

## **W.E.A. (Workers' Educational Association) Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Branch**

Our winter session is now underway with another programme of talks on a wide variety of topics. There is no subscription, just pay on the day and you will be made most welcome.

We meet on Wednesday mornings in the Reading Room above the Library at Skelmorlie Community Centre from 9.45 until 11.30 approximately. Each talk costs £2.50 (£2.00 conc.) if you would like further information or help with transport please phone Jenny McGee 521090.

7th October - "Capitalist Revolution in Romania" One man's personal story of a changing economy by Michael Clark.

14th October - "John Paul Jones" The story of the man often referred to as the father of the American Navy. Brian Searl.

21st October - "Welcome Wee Cumbrae" An historical look at this island gem in the Firth of Clyde. John and Noreen Steele.

28th October - Outing to Biggar for a special performance of "When Nessie met Morag" by the unique and magical Purves Puppet Company, set in their Miniature Victorian Theatre. Lunch included and a chance to visit the adjoining Puppet Museum.

4th November - Rush Washbrook gives a talk on the Scottish Film Archive accompanied by sample films of local interest.

11th November - "Sightseeing in Paris" From the unforgettable to the often overlooked. Dr Ronnie Scott.

18th November - "Mohammed, his successors and the Holy War" A look at the origins of Islam and its rise as a political and military force. Dr Oliver Thomson.

25th November - "The Botanics" The history of Glasgow's famous Botanic Gardens and some of its rare species. Paul Matthews.

2nd December - Sherry, Shortbread and a Surprise!

**Stuart McMillan MSP**

**E-mail: [Stuart.McMillan.MSP@Scottish.Parliament.uk](mailto:Stuart.McMillan.MSP@Scottish.Parliament.uk)**

**A78:**

As Village News readers are aware I have been campaigning for road safety on the A78 for sometime. Those constituents in Wemyss Bay who responded to my consultation will now be aware that Amey have reported back after their three month review of Inverkip junction. I have made copies available to constituents but if you have not received a copy of the document and would like one then please do not hesitate to contact my office.

While I am pleased that Amey have undertaken a review of the Inverkip junction, after the weight of feeling shown in the local consultation I undertook with residents, I am disappointed that they are recommending the cheap option of addressing the line and road markings, rather than taking drastic action which is required. Since receiving the document I have, again, written to Transport Scotland to ask for a further meeting to discuss Amey's proposals of upgrading the line and road markings.

**Inverkip Power Station:**

I recently visited Inverkip Power Station site see first hand the scale and size of the site and what Scottish Power are proposing in their outline application to Inverclyde Council. I felt the visit was very helpful and gave me more of an understanding as to what Scottish Power is proposing to Inverclyde Council. Many constituents believe the development of some 780 properties on the site will only exacerbate the traffic issues on the nearby A78 road infrastructure and that any development of the site should include adequate leisure and recreational facilities. I will be highlighting the concerns of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay residents when I make a submission to Inverclyde Council on the outline application submitted by Scottish Power

**Duncan McNeil**

**[www.duncanmcneil.com](http://www.duncanmcneil.com)**

The results are in from the long-awaited survey into road safety of the A78 at the junctions with Inverkip.

After raising this with the minister more than a year ago, I gave this safety review a cautious welcome when it was announced earlier this year.

And I expressed disappointment that this important work excluded a full public consultation with the communities of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay.

Talking to the people who live in this area and travel on the road every day may have resulted in a common sense solution coming forward.

Instead we now have a low cost - or should I say no cost - plan that has failed to convince anyone I have spoken to that it will improve the efficiency and safety of these junctions in the road. The fact that they didn't take on board the views of local people indicates to me they weren't taken this matter seriously.

It is certainly a serious matter for those people who are regularly stuck in traffic there every morning or run the risk of an accident because of the difficulty in manoeuvring from the junctions.

This community has been patient for action on this road and will rightly be disappointed by this missed opportunity for road bosses to put things right.

**And Now For the Small Print**

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## KIDS PUZZLES

### SUDOKU

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

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

Any articles, information or queries should be directed to [villagenews@wemyssbay.net](mailto:villagenews@wemyssbay.net) or placed in the village news folder in the Spar. The closing date for the November edition will be Friday 23rd October at 6pm.

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