

Wemyss Bay Village News

243rd Edition

October 2010

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

Wemyss Bay Winterfest

Wemyss Bay What? Let's start at the very beginning.....

As you all know our Christmas lights switch-on happens on the evening of the first Friday in December each year. For many of us in the village it marks the official start of Christmas with everyone gathered around the tree singing carols. Followed by the usual squeeze into the Community Centre where we catch up with friends and neighbours, share a hot cuppa or a cup of mulled wine and the children queue up to get their first gift of the year from Santa. And this year will be no exception.

So mark your diaries and calendars with the following;

Christmas Light Switch on – Friday 3rd December at 7pm, Community Centre car park entrance.

More information about the Light Switch on will be included in next month's news.

In years gone by we have tried to have other elements running alongside the switch-on itself. There have been a few attempts to have a German Market of sorts and we were lucky that wasn't blown away by the wind and rain that is usually guaranteed for this occasion. We soon realised that we were trying to do everything at once and that we needed to use time differently. And so the Wemyss Bay Winterfest was born.

Wemyss Bay Winterfest

Saturday 4th December from 2-6pm, Community Centre

This year for the first time, the plan is to have a combined Craft Market/Gift Shop the day after the switch-on. Taking part will be some of the crafters who supported us at the Gala with some exciting newcomers.

For the children we will have a 'Make and Take' with Lianne Garven of Kass Ceramics. They will have an opportunity to make Christmas decorations and goodies with prices starting from £1.

For the Ladies we will have a selection of Jewellery stalls including our local Lynn McConnachie and Royal Gems from Gourrock. Both were big hits at the Gala. Another treat will be InBloom showing a beautiful selection of gifts including Nedholm candles, Lolita Glassware, gifts to treat yourself or someone special and lots of festive goodies. Margaret Hunter will be back selling her charity cards.

10% of all sales on the day go back into the community centre fund for future events.

If you would like a stall please call Bobbie on 529512.

Tearoom

And for anyone who might be bored, there will also be a tearoom.

Saturday 4th December from 2-6pm

We wish to thank Billy Harrison in advance for making the centre available during the time of his usual let.

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 November edition will be Friday 23rd October at 6.00pm.

End of an Era?

Since the community Centre opened in 1989 there has always been a youth club. Unfortunately now, due to ill-health, Eila cannot guarantee to be there every week. Despite a rota of parents, it is essential that there are several regular helpers in order that the club can run smoothly and safely. If Eila is unavailable this means there is only one adult and two young leaders.

Unless new adult helpers, available to attend every week, come forward, the club will close at Christmas. With over 60 youngsters attending regularly this will be a great loss, not only to the young people, but to the community at large.

If you know of anyone who would be interested in getting involved please contact Eila on 529375.

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council

The next meeting of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council will be on Thursday the 7th of October 2010 in Wemyss Bay Primary School, beginning at 7.30pm.

Stuart McMillan MSP

Village News readers will be delighted to hear the news that Friends of Wemyss Bay Station won the Best Station Adoption Group at the recent ACoRP Community Rail Awards ceremony held at Cliffs Pavilion, Westcliff-on-Sea. The Friends of Wemyss Bay Station, which was formed in March 2009, was praised for taking over the empty accommodation at the station and creating a bookshop and gallery. I was delighted to recently visit the station and meet with Nancy Cameron and fellow group members. The work the Friends have undertaken to help restore the station thoroughly deserves this award. I have since lodged a motion of support in the Scottish Parliament to recognise the achievements of the Friends of Wemyss Bay.

Crime rates fall:

The Scottish Government announced official statistics showing that recorded crime has dropped by 10% per cent in the last year to a new 32 year low. All eight police forces showed a significant decrease in the number of crimes recorded in 2009-10 compared to 2008-09. I am sure the 1,000 additional police officers on our streets have had a positive effect in preventing criminal activities.

P4 – P7 Youth Club

The P4 – P7 Youth Club meets in the Community Centre during term time from 7.00 - 8.15pm on Thursday evenings. Entrance costs 75p and is open to any child in primaries 4 - 7. There are a variety of activities on offer including football, rounders, basketball, table-tennis, pool, badminton, board games, and music. We have two Nintendo Wii consoles and assorted games. In addition, fairly regularly, we do a variety of arts and crafts including ceramic painting, scratch art, mug painting and glass art. A tuck shop is available during the course of the evening selling a range of drinks, crisps and sweets.

Until such time as we recruit additional leaders, parents are required to take part in a rota to help out.

Waste collection

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

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Hello – From Wemyss Bay Primary!

September has been a very busy month. Not only have we had our usual events such as potted sports and the McMillan Coffee afternoon classes have been taking part in lots of new and exciting activities. Reports on everything that has been happening at Wemyss Bay Primary have been written by Primary 5.

Malawi Days

Primary 7 organised activities for Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd September to help raise money for Malire Primary in Malawi. They made a puzzle book for the pupils which they sold for 50p and organised a walk to show how far the boys and girls have to walk to school in Malawi. Primaries 3 to 7 walked from the school down Lomond Road and back while the Nursery class and Primaries 1 and 2 walked round the school playground. One afternoon we had carousel lessons. This means Primaries 4 to 7 had four lessons in one afternoon, one in each class, and Primaries 1 to 3 did the same thing. Some of the things we did were stained glass flags of Malawi, African shields and paper weaving mats.

Glow Meet

From 6th to 8th September Primaries 4, 6 and 7 took part in Glow Meet lessons. Primary 4's lesson was on Roald Dahl and Primaries 6 and 7 took part in to lessons – one was in Science and the other was on the Young Samurai books. Primaries 6 and 7 won a signed set of the books because they were the first to answer a question correctly.

Glow Meet is learning on the internet. The teacher can be anywhere in Scotland, and schools from all over Scotland can join in. We ask questions by typing them on a keyboard. Everyone enjoyed the Glow Meet classes and think it is a fun way to learn.

House Helpers

Vice House Captains and Junior House Captains have been chosen.

Arran	Jamie Black, Primary 6	Sophie Elliott, Primary 4
Bute	Adam Galvin, Primary 6	Cameron Smith, Primary 4
Cumbræ	MacKenzie Smith, Primary 6	Laura Kavanagh, Primary 4
Iona	Lauren Hodge, Primary 6	Sophie Leitch, Primary 4

Green Charter Launch

Friday 24th September was a special day at Wemyss Bay Primary. As well as our annual McMillan Coffee afternoon we had the launch of our school's Green Charter.

The green charter is a list of promises for our school to achieve over the next three years so that we can get the top eco award which is a green flag. Everyone paid 20p to come to school on Friday wearing something green. This raised £24.70 for the Eco Fund. Instead of Mrs Irvine taking the assembly the Eco Action Team did. They told us about the seven targets in the charter and then they asked us to write out own promises on a paper leaf and colour them in. We hung our leaves on the Eco Tree which parents had made. In the afternoon the Eco Action Team made a presentation to the parents and our lollypop man Mr McNeilly cut a green ribbon that was around the tree to launch the charter. For a small donation parents were able to write a family wish on a leaf and add it to the tree and this raised £88.05 for the Eco Fund. The Eco Action Team handed out copies of the charter to the parents.

McMillan Coffee Afternoon

Each year we have a McMillan Coffee afternoon to raise money for McMillan Cancer Care. On the afternoon of Friday 24th September our parents and grandparents came and donated money for their tea or coffee and listened to the songs which were sung by every class from the Nursery to Primary 7. This year we raised £228.87.



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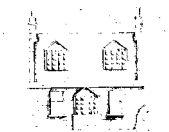
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Improve your CV

Thinking of a career in education, childcare, medicine, nursing, social-work? Considering applying for college or university? Looking for promotion?

Having the right information on your CV is vital. These days, employers are looking for more than just academic qualifications. Increasingly they look for applicants who are involved in voluntary work. In many cases, voluntary work can give you valuable skills which transfer over to the workplace. Working with others, patience, tolerance, problem solving, mediation, leadership skills – you will utilise all these every week at the p4 – p7 Youth Club. We meet in the Community Centre during term time from 7.00 - 8.15pm on Thursday evenings. With an average of 50 children each week, we desperately need new helpers and, in return, you add to your CV. If you are interested in getting involved call Eila on 529375.

Remember, if you are not available on Thursday evenings, there are plenty other local voluntary organisations crying out for help so get in touch with them directly.

Friends of Wemyss Bay Station

Recently two of us set forth for London, and Westcliff on Sea, to attend the annual awards ceremony of the Association of Community Rail Partnerships on 24th September. We had been shortlisted for two of the awards, and to our delight we won 1st place in the Best Adopted Station Category for 2010, and Sheena Inglis won 2nd place as Outstanding Volunteer Contribution. This is a considerable compliment for such a newly formed group, and it is very encouraging to receive this recognition from such an organisation. We were the guests of First ScotRail, who sponsored our travel and accommodation, and who are also delighted at the results.

In our gallery at the station, Dugald Cameron's recent exhibition of aviation paintings celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain has finished. It will be followed on Monday, 4th October by "Coastal Colours", paintings by Maureen McGeehan. This new exhibition will be on until 21st October.

Inverclyde Academy – Dates for your Diary

Friday 8th - Non uniform day, proceeds split between Children in Need and Chest, Heart, Stroke Scotland.

Friday 8th - School closes for October break at 2.55.

Tuesday 19th - School reopens at 8.50.

Thurs 21st / Fri 22nd - Primary 7 Induction Days - Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Primaries will attend on Thurs 21st.

Thurs 28th - School Cross Country Championships AM.

Bible Club and Youth Group

It has been great to see everyone back at Bible Club and Youth Group again after the summer break, along with all those who have just started coming. There will be no Bible Club or Youth Group on Monday 11th October or Monday 18th October due to the school holidays. Both clubs will resume on Monday 25th October at the usual times in Wemyss Bay Community Centre. Bible Club is from 6.15pm to 7.30pm and is for children in P1 to P6. Youth Group is from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and is for young people in P7 and high school. The clubs are run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries and there are no fees for either club, but remember there is a tuck shop at Youth Group. If you would like further information, please contact Stephen Renton on 01505 355994.

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Country Club

As advised in the September edition Club Meetings for the 2010/2011 session will commence on Wednesday 6th October at 2.30pm in The Chart Room, Kip Marina, Inverkip when the speaker will be Mrs Dorothy McMahon on the subject "The Life and Times of Agatha Christie"

The other speakers for October/November are as follows:

Wednesday 20th: Mr Gordon McFarlane on the subject of "An Antiques Roadshow"

Wednesday 3rd: Mrs Gail Allister on the subject of "The Warburton Story"

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.

Ivy Cottage Dental Practice - New Dental Registrations

Ivy Cottage Dental Practice is re-opening its list and are again registering both EXEMPT and non-exempt NHS patients.

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Duncan MacNeil

It landed with an ominous thud on my desk, hundreds of pages of doom and gloom.

It was the briefing 'notes' for a finance seminar I attended with Scotland's top economists, academics and number-crunchers.

They had pulled together to outline the hard choices facing politicians as we try to pick our way through these straightened financial times.

It posed many difficult questions but unfortunately give us very little in the way of answers as we enter into a dark period.

We need to think long term about what cuts are fair, what cuts are necessary to sustain services and what cuts will only lead to more pain in the long run.

In responding to these difficult challenges, we must ensure that the sick, the elderly and the working poor do not pay the highest price.

That is why I welcomed the announcement this week that Iain Gray is supporting the living wage campaign for workers on low pay.

At the same time, there was a pledge to introduce pay restraint for the highest earners in the public sector.

It isn't fair that there people have to survive on low pay while top earners enjoy generous bonuses.

Nearly half a million workers in both the private and public sector earn less than the Scottish Living Wage of £7.15 per hour while bankers get extravagant add-ons and nearly 1,000 public servants earn more than the Prime Minister.

We have a difficult task in tackling the many challenges that face us but we have to ensure that fairness is at the heart of these decisions

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 meesh_barrett@hotmail.com. The closing date for the November edition will be Friday 23rd October.

KIDS PUZZLES

SUDOKU

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

Why not test your brain and try this!

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

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.

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