

Wemyss Bay Village News

253rd Edition

December 2011

Email: villagenews@wemyssbay.net or wemyssbaynews@hotmail.co.uk

Community Centre Tel: 521955

<http://wemyssbay.net/>



**Wemyss Bay Community Association would like to wish you all
a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.**

Your Community Association meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the Inverkip Hotel at 7.30pm. If you are interested in joining the Community Association, simply finding out what is going on in and around the village or want to lend a hand at our annual summer gala or christmas lights switch-on please come along. We are a friendly group who make all our visitors most welcome.

Any articles or information for publishing in future editions of Village News should be e-mailed to the Village News Editor or placed in the Village News folder in the Spar. The next edition of Village News will be February 2012 and the closing date for submissions is Sunday 22nd January 2012. If you have any queries about the Community Association or Village News then please don't hesitate to contact us via the e-mail addresses at the top of the page.

Station Gift Shop @ Wemyss Bay Station

In September of this year a group of creative people headed up by local giftware designer, Bobbie McCabe, held a craft fair in Wemyss Bay station.

Following on from its success the group decided to rent the gallery attached to the station bookshop for the month of December and turn it into a gift shop just in time for Christmas.

The shop will be selling a beautiful selection of pottery, jewellery, bags, gifts, paintings, knitwear, cards and decorations, all made in Scotland and mostly by local designers and makers. So instead of trailing to Gourrock, Greenock or even further you may be able to find exactly what you are looking for right on your doorstep.

The shop will be open from Thursday, December 1st from 9.30-4.30 daily, Monday to Saturday. On Saturday 3rd we will have a special 'Meet the Maker' event where the designers involved will be on hand to talk about their work. Come along and treat yourself or spoil someone special.

Get further details from Bobbie on (01475) 529512

Waste collection

In December your black bin will be emptied on Tuesdays the 6th and 20th. Your blue recycling bin will be emptied on Tuesday the 13th and Wednesday 28th of December. In January your black bin will be emptied on Wednesday 4th, Tuesday 17th and Tuesday 31st and your blue bin will be emptied on Tuesdays 10th and 24th.

Please note that the garden waste collection service has now been suspended will resume in early Spring 2012.

Reminders on 'which bin, which week' are 'Facebooked' and 'tweeted' each Monday to those who follow us on those social networks.

Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church

Services of Worship - Sunday Mornings at 11am to which all are warmly invited. Tea and Coffee in hall following Service - come along and be made very welcome. Children join us for the first 10 minutes before going to have their own time in Sunday Club in the Upper Hall.

Church Christmas Services

Sunday 18th December - 11.00am: Christmas Gift Service

Christmas Eve from 10.30pm - hot mince pies, shortbread, and Christmas drinks in the hall. Carol singing in the church from 11.10pm followed by the Watchnight Service at 11.30

Short Christmas Day Service - 11 am, the children can bring along one of their gifts to show.

Soup Lunches are available on Fridays at 12.15pm in the Church Hall. Please come along and enjoy a bowl of home- made soup and a filled roll.

A warm invitation is extended to all.

Ardgowan Football Development

Session times are noted below:

P1. 12:05 - 13:20 indoors

P2. 13:25 - 14:40 indoors

P3. 14:45 - 16:00 indoors

P4. 10:30 - 12:00 Astroturf

P5. 12:00 - 13:30 Astroturf

P6. 13:30 - 15:00 Astroturf

P7. 15:00 - 16:30 Astroturf

Our P1, P2, P3 and P5 Sessions are full and there are limited places available in our outdoor P4, P6 and P7 Sessions. If your child would like to join AFD please contact Iain Buchan on 07791 964277.

AFD Christmas Fun Day - Our Christmas Fun Day takes place in Greenock Sports Centre on Sunday 4th December from 1pm - 4pm. This is a family day, when our annual club photograph is taken, and brings our 2011 AFD session to a close. AFD 2012 Sessions will begin on Sunday 8th January.

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Coaching Assistants - We are delighted to have 7 young Coaching Assistants working with our Coaches this year. All of these boys are in 4th or 5th year at school and once they turn 16 will complete their SYFA Coaching Courses.

AFD £1,000 Draw - Our Annual £1,000 Draw will take place on Saturday 25th February 2012 and we will be issuing tickets to parents in December. As always, all prizes will be worth at least £50. Anyone wishing to donate a prize should contact John Reid on 522431 or reidbrueacre@btinternet.com

Bible Club and Youth Group

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone from Bible Club and Youth Group. We will be celebrating Jesus' birth with our Christmas parties on Monday, 19th December. We will then be off for two weeks before both clubs resume on Monday 9th January 2012.

The last couple of months have been a busy time for us. In October, Youth Group went to Paradise Island Adventure Golf and 10 pin bowling at Xscape. Well done to Lauren T. (golf), Zoë (bowling) and Jonathan (bowling) for being the top scorers! We also celebrated our 200th Youth Group in October and it was great to welcome back some of the young people who attended the very first Youth Group back in 2005. In November some of the young people attended a "Night of Champions" sports night in Barrhead and had a great time, while this month we are planning on returning to the In Bru Carnival.

Finally, we were delighted to hear in November that one of our leaders, Gillian, had announced her engagement to Robert.

If your child or young person would like to join Bible Club or Youth Group, we meet on Monday evenings in Wemyss Bay Community Centre. New faces are always welcome. Bible Club is from 6.15pm to 7.30pm and is for children in P1 to P6. Activities include competitions, songs, games, 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 (dodgeball, electricity and many others) and a tuck shop. The clubs are run by Strathclyde Bible Ministries (SBM) and there are no fees for either club. If you would like further information, please contact Stephen Renton on 01505 355994.

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council

The January Business Meeting of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council will be held at The Chartroom, Kip Marina, Inverkip at 7pm on Thursday the 5th of January 2012.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Business Meetings. Please let Community Councillors know of any concerns you may have or if you have suggestions, observations or just a general interest in the community contact the Community Council's website on www.inverkip-wemyssbaycc.co.uk



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Stuart McMillan MSP

Fuel Prices

I believe that an increase in fuel prices will have a further damaging effect on businesses and motorists in Inverclyde and have since raised the issue in the Scottish Parliament. Now more than ever this country needs a fuel regulator in order to stop these dramatic increases in fuel prices, alongside the scrapping of the proposed fuel duty increase in January 2012.

Ready for winter

The Scottish Government has this week started its campaign to prepare Scotland for the upcoming winter period. The Scottish Government's 'Ready for Winter?' campaign is being delivered in partnership with the British Red Cross. The campaign will offer information and advice on the simple steps that people, businesses and communities can take to reduce risks during winter. For more information visit www.readyscotland.org. Finally, I would like to wish all Village News readers Seasons Greetings and a happy and prosperous New Year!

Contact: Stuart McMillan MSP

Unit 3003, Mile End Mill, Abbey Mill Business Centre, 12 Seedhill Road, Paisley, PA1 1JS

Tel: 0141 889 9519

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

www.stuart-mcmillan.net

<http://twitter.com/StuMcMillanSNP>

Duncan McNeil, MSP

The Song of a Clyde is a tribute to a river so important to the wellbeing and prosperity of the people and communities who live on either side of her.

While the glory days may have gone, it is important to remember that our river is still one of the busiest in Britain and to a community like Wemyss Bay, it is an integral part of people's life, either in work or play. Whether watching the ferries crossing, the cruise ships arriving, the submarines exercising or goods being transported to and from the terminal, it is a buzz of activity.

The safe passage of all of this activity is ensured and managed by the coastguard services at the navy buildings in Greenock. Working along the longest coastline of any coastguard centre, the government's decision to cut this service bears no logic.

In many ways, it took the threat of closure before the Government realised the important work our coastguards do. Those coastguards, proud of the work they do, the knowledge and skills they have acquired and lives they have saved, have approached this adversity with great dignity. They put forward a compelling and forensic case for the retention of the Clyde Coastguard, exposing the myths and the political posturing at the heart of this decision. But it was all in vain as the Government played out a sham consultation.

If the gamble goes wrong, there will be serious repercussions for those who put cost-cutting over safety.

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Inverclyde Local Development Plan – Post-Main Issues Report

Additional Suggested Development Sites

This latest Development Plan consultation relates to those new suggested development sites that were submitted to the Council after publication of the Main Issues Report (MIR) in the summer of this year.

The MIR was published for consultation in May this year in order to generate discussion on the areas where the new Local Development Plan (LDP) is likely to differ from the adopted Local Plan. It set out reasonable options for change, including the Council's preferred option, and identified where development should and should not occur in Inverclyde. It included the Council's 'big ideas' for future development in the form of 'main issues', and these will shape the next stage of the LDP, the Proposed Plan. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CONSULTATION ON THE MIR HAS NOW CLOSED.

During the consultation on the MIR, a number of new development sites were suggested by land owners, most of which are located within the Green Belt. As none of these sites have had the benefit of a wider community consultation, a 6 week period is now being given to anyone who wishes to make representations on the Additional Suggested Development Sites document and its accompanying Addendum to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Included within this consultation are two particular sites which were identified as Suggested Development Sites in the MIR, but which have now been withdrawn from consideration for development.

The consultation will run from Friday 4 November until 4.00 pm on Friday 16 December 2011. Copies of the report can be viewed at all the public libraries in Inverclyde, the Customer Service Centre, Wallace Place and at Regeneration and Planning, Cathcart House, 6 Cathcart Square, Greenock, PA15 1LS (tel: 01475 712406) between 8.45 am and 4.45 pm Monday – Thursday and 8.45 am to 4.00 pm on Friday.

Alternatively the report can be viewed by going to www.inverclyde.gov.uk and clicking on the Post MIR button. Representations can be made by emailing ldp@inverclyde.gov.uk or completing a Comments Form and sending it to Regeneration and Planning at the above address.

In the interests of the environment, electronic correspondence should be used whenever possible.

On This Day In (Wemyss Bay) History

On the 9th December 2001 Ardgowan Football Development opened for registrations and held their first training session on 13th January 2002. Congratulations to AFD for everything they've achieved in those 10 years.

On 27th January 1974 a severe storm hit Inverclyde which saw the SS Captayannis drag it's anchor and collide with a tanker. The collision holed the SS Captayannis and the ship was deliberately beached on a sandbank to prevent her sinking. Unfortunately this was at high tide and when the tide went out later that morning the ship went over on it's side and has remained there ever since, becoming a ubiquitous sight on any river view from Greenock.

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Any articles, information or queries should be directed to wemyssbaynews@hotmail.co.uk or deposited in the Village News folder in the Spar.

The closing date for submission of articles for inclusion in the February 2012 edition of Village News is Sunday 22nd January 2012.





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