

Wemyss Bay Village News

187th Edition

May 2005

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Gala Weekend

This year the annual Gala Weekend will take place from Friday 17th till Sunday 19th June.

Breaking with the tradition of a ceillidh, this year on Friday night we are holding a Barn Dance. With a popular Country & Western band, and a buffet including chilli & baked potatoes and hot dogs, we have still managed to keep the ticket process the same as last year! Tickets are priced £5 for adults and £3 for under 12 year olds, with the under 5s getting in free. We are also offering a family ticket which will admit two adults and two children for £15. The marquee will be decorated with a Wild West theme and we will have cowboy hats, Red Indian head-dresses and other fun items on sale on the night. It would be great if everyone coming along could enter into the spirit of the evening so dust off those cowboy boots, look out the checked shirts and reach for your Stetson! To prevent some of the confusion about where you are able to get tickets, this year we are operating a box office. From Monday 6th June until Thursday 16th June the Community Centre will be open every evening from 6.00 – 7.30pm for ticket sales. Remember that every year so far we have run out of tickets well before the night so it would be better to get your tickets early. There are strict limits on how many people we can let into the marquee so unfortunately if you do not have a ticket you will not get in.

The events on Saturday start at 12 noon when this year's Gala Queen, accompanied by her attendants, will officially open the Gala. There will be a variety of stalls run by local organisations including the Brownies, Lending Library, PTA, Mums & Tots and Woodland Association. Once again the youth clubs will be running the tuck shop and the burger stall – last year all the burgers were sold by 1.30pm so, although Liz has ordered even more for this year, you will still have to be quick. Ardgowan Football Development will be repeating their popular pie and Bovril stand. The Community Centre will be given over to the Guides tearoom – always a popular attraction with all the lovely home-baking.

Gala Day would not be complete without all the rides for the young and young at heart. This year they will be even bigger and better than before. There will still be the Bouncy Castle, Children's Carousel and the Giant Bouncy Slide for the younger visitors. In addition there will be some aimed at older children, teenagers and adults. Laser Quest is back again this year at popular request along with Equaliser and for the first time there will be a Giant Inflatable Assault Course which could develop into a competition for the whole family and is sure to provide loads of laughs. Stephen hopes that he will not be covered in quite so much mud this year in Beat the Goalie. Arrangements are ongoing to try and bring the Animal Man to Wemyss Bay – he and his staff bring a range of animals along to allow children to see and pet so, fingers crossed, let's hope that this can be confirmed. On Saturday night entertainment continues in the main marquee with music and a karaoke special. There is no charge for this and everyone is welcome to come along and have a go. There will be prizes for the best singers and of course a booby prize for the worst. A lot of people think that they would never take part in something like this but it is great fun and after a couple of visits to the beer-tent your inhibitions will slip away and you will be belting out your favourite songs.

For the first time last year we had a soup kitchen and this proved so popular that this year we are running it again. If you are flagging a bit on Saturday night between 7.00 – 9.00pm or if you just want to line your stomach a bit before your next visit to the beer tent, pop into the Community Centre for a choice of soups made by the Seaview Café.

This year once again, the beer-tent will be providing a wide range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. Spirits, wine, canned and bottled drinks will appear side by side with "Helga's Big Jugs" from Houston Brewery.

Each year, the Community Association has to gamble on the success of the Gala. Even if there is a poor turnout the marquees, bands, rides, beer etc. still have to be paid for. Over the years there have been many generous sponsors who help fund specific items or donate prizes to the raffles. Sponsors are still required for this year's event – would your business be prepared to help or can you provide a raffle prize? Contact **Ann Marie** on **522998** if you can help.

Bible Club

The Bible Club has now resumed following the Easter holiday. The club meets on Mondays at the Community Centre from 6.15pm to 7.30pm. All Primary School children are very welcome and activities include games, songs, competitions, Bible stories and other activities. Please note that the club is off on the following holiday dates:

Monday 2nd May and Monday 30th May.

The club is on every other Monday and will hold their summer party and prize-giving on Monday, 20th June. Contact Stephen Renton for more information on 01505 355994.

PTA Car Boot Sale

Wemyss Bay Primary PTA is once again holding its very popular Car Boot Sale in the grounds of the school. Why not take this opportunity for a clear out before the Summer!

DATE: Saturday the 14th May 2005
TIME: 11am until 1pm. (Pitches will be available from 10am, to set-up only)
COST: £5 per pitch
TO BOOK: Call - Gillian (521509) or Susan (522120)

If your energy is flagging, TEA, COFFEE, HOT-DOGS and HOME-BAKING will be available.

Thank You

The Community Association Car Boot Sale, held on Saturday 9th April, raised over £450. This money will be used to offset some of the costs involved in running the Gala Weekend. The Association Committee would like to thank everyone who came along and supported the event.

Woodlands Association

The Association plans to hold an Open Day on Saturday 4th June. Members of the Association will be available to explain about the work undertaken so far and to answer any questions you may have. This will also give an opportunity to find out about what is planned for the next phase of the work, including possible provisions for cyclists. In addition to this there will be guided Bird

Walks to identify some of the inhabitants of the wood, a chance to find out about How a Woodland Works and activities for the younger members of the family. Come along to the main entrance to the wood on Ardgowan Road anytime during the day and join in.

During the summer holidays the Association plans to run three activity mornings for young people on Saturdays 16th and 30th July and 13th August from 10.30 – 12noon. One morning will be dedicated to each of the following: Treasure Hunt; Mini-Beast Safari; Artworks in the Wood. Look out for confirmation of the date of each in the next edition of the Village News or contact Eila on 529375 for more information. We also plan holding a Fungi Forage later in the year and hope to hold a Bat Night around Halloween although this may have to be brought forward if we have a cold autumn as the bats will start hibernating earlier. If you would be interested in giving a hand on these days please contact Eila.

Work sessions are continuing in the Terraced Garden area although these are being scaled back to once every four weeks for the summer. Dates for the next few weekends are Saturday 30th/Sunday 1st May, Saturday 28th/Sunday 29th May and Saturday 25th/Sunday 26th June. We work from 10.00am – 3.00pm each day. Gloves, tools and refreshments are provided and new faces are always welcome. Children really enjoy helping out and, provided they are accompanied by a responsible adult, they are very welcome to attend, so why not make a family day of it and all come along and try out something different. Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances our World Earth Day event had to be postponed. It will now take place on Sunday 8th May from 10.00am. We will be joined on the day by staff from Timberland UK's Glasgow store. Why don't you come along and join in on the day.

For information about any of the work of the Association contact **Eila** on **529375**.

71st Ayrshire Scout Group

The Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Scouts are holding a Pre-Jumble Disco at 7.30pm on Saturday 14th May in Skelmorlie Community Centre. In addition to the disco there will be a Fun Quiz, Raffle and Finger Buffet. Tickets cost £5 and can be obtained by calling **521091** or **520687**.

Charity Night

There will be a 60s/70s Charity Night in aid of Ardgowan Hospice Sunshine Club on Saturday 7th May from 7.30pm – late in Port Glasgow Town Hall. Tickets are £6, including a buffet, and are available by calling **714750**.

Councillor Eric Forbes

Waste Recycling - the system is now well on the way and, to a lot of us, it is about educating and disciplining ourselves to separate the waste into the respective bins. There have been a few initial hiccups but these are being addressed. If you do have a question about the system you can

either contact me by the various means below, or the Waste Strategy Unit on 01475 - 715901.

Litter - I have had a few complaints about litter on the main A78 and some other places in Wemyss Bay and I have had them attended to or they are being addressed. Littering is a disease which affects all areas and is the result of someone dropping or placing litter on the public road or grass verges. People have to be responsible and not drop litter because the recovery has a price tag not just in monetary terms but in the visual appearance of an area. Please help here.

Wemyss Bay Primary Extension - the extension and refurbishment of the school is now on the drawing board and soon we will be able to produce indicative drawings as to the planned extension and internal change. I can say that a new gym hall will be included and this negates the need to use the existing hall as both a gym and a dining hall. We can look forward to this.

Contact Me: I would like to remind everyone that, if you have a problem or query which you think I may be able to help with, I can be contacted at the Municipal Buildings **Tel: 717171 Fax: 01475 712976 or e-mail: Eric.Forbes@inverclyde.gov.uk** Out with office hours I can be contacted at **home: 520012** or on my **mobile: 07747 006725**. I believe that rather than waiting several weeks for a surgery, it is better for my constituents if I am available at the end of a telephone at any time. Thereafter, if necessary, I can arrange a suitable follow-up meeting.

Duncan McNeil MSP

There was, if not a bit of history, certainly a first in the Scottish Parliament the other week. The Parliament's debating Chamber was filled, not with MSPs, but with experts, campaigners, officials and professionals from the world of healthcare.

This diverse and knowledgeable group, in which Inverclyde was well represented, was at Holyrood to debate both how the NHS could be reshaped to better meet patients' needs and to explore possible solutions to some of the difficulties it faces.

Complete with a Deputy Presiding Officer in the Chair, the Parliamentary-style debate was organised by the Health Committee and focused on our NHS workforce planning report. This, as you'll doubtless be aware, was called after Health Boards across the country – not least Argyll and Clyde – sparked outrage by pushing forward with unpopular centralisation plans.

Having become something of an anorak about health policy in my time as an MSP, I found the debate fascinating. The most significant thing to emerge, in my view, was that the attendees from the professions finally accepted that local difficulties are national problems and need to be addressed as such.

There was also an acknowledgement that they must now listen to the people. At last, there is the realisation that change must take place with the public's support.

Duncan can be contacted at the Parliamentary Office, 20 Union Street, Greenock PA15 8JL, by E-mail:

duncan.mcneil.msp@scottish.parliament.uk or via his website: ***www.duncanmcneil.com***

Mobile Phone Scam

If you receive a phone call and your mobile phone displays (ACE) on the screen don't answer the call. END THE CALL IMMEDIATELY. If you answer the call, your phone will be infected by a virus. This virus will erase all IMEI and IMSI information from both your phone and your SIM card, which will make your phone unable to connect with the telephone network. You will have to buy a new phone. This information has been confirmed by both Motorola and Nokia. There are over 3 million mobile phones being infected by this virus all around the world. You can also find this information on the CNN web site.

Do your friends a favour. Forward this information to everyone you know with mobile phones.

Thanks to Martin Burrows for this article.

Help!!!

Each year the Gala depends on the work of a small group of volunteers for its success. In order to have a fantastic weekend this year help is still needed. Are you artistic? Perhaps you could help out with the face-painting. The Bouncy Castle requires a

minimum of two supervisors at all times – can you help out here? Or do you fancy pouring pints – bar staff are required throughout the weekend. Ideally, with enough volunteers, everyone would only have to cover an hour or two and could then have the rest of the time to enjoy themselves at the stalls and rides. If you are able to help out over the weekend, even for a couple of hours please contact Ann Marie (Tel: 522998) as soon as possible in order that she can work out the rotas.

Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church

Every Sunday, 11.00am MORNING WORSHIP, Sunday School and Crèche
Every Thursday, 1.15-2.45pm NOAH'S ARK

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK (15/21 May) is a week of fundraising, prayer and action for the world's poorest people based on the theme: We believe in life before death.

Our congregation supports the work of Christian Aid with a special collection during Christian Aid Week and around Harvest time in October; our Bridge Cross Sponsored Walk at Erskine last month also raised money for this worthy charity.

The main purpose of Christian Aid is to help poor people in the world's developing countries help themselves. The charity also supports the "Make Poverty History" campaign, the relief of world debt, and Fairtrade goods from developing countries, particularly in Africa.

You can support this essential work either by making a contribution to Christian Aid either directly or through our Church; or by lobbying politicians to relieve world debt, particularly as we approach the G8 Summit at Gleneagles; or by including Fairtrade goods in your shopping list.

David Cairns MP

The next few weeks will be crucial in the battle to retain vital services at Inverclyde Royal Hospital. At a time when all of the political parties have been stressing their differences, it is worth reflecting on the extraordinary degree of cross-party support that the fight for IRH has had. MPs, MSPs, councillors and community activists have set aside disagreements to present a united front to Argyll and Clyde Health Board and I believe that this solidarity has been crucial in achieving the progress that we have seen so far. But the crunch time is approaching. Very soon we shall see the results of the review led by Professor David Kerr, the Oxford expert who has been looking at the NHS across the whole of Scotland.

Dr Kerr has been to Inverclyde twice during his review and on both occasions he has been enormously impressed by the passion and knowledge of local people. On his first visit we took him to the hospital where he met staff and patients. The second time he met with community representatives, as well as doctors from other hospitals in the area, before paying a visit to Greenock Health Centre to talk with GPs. I am hopeful that this input from Inverclyde will help shape his thinking in our favour. Another potentially significant development may be the abolition of the actual Health Board itself. If newspaper reports are to be believed, (a big if!) then the Scottish Health Minister, Andy Kerr, may be about to pull the plug on Argyll and Clyde Health Board. Whilst no-one in Inverclyde will shed any tears over this, I have always said that I am more interested in services than structures. In other words, whatever it takes to retain those services at Inverclyde Royal will receive my support and, if that means radical reform of the health board structure, then so be it. Either way we should find out soon whether we have won our fight, or whether we need to re-double our efforts until final victory is assured.

David Cairns holds surgeries on the first and third Friday of the month from 10am – 12noon at his Parliamentary Office, 20 Union Street, Greenock Tel: 791820. Alternatively you can phone the office for details of his next surgery in Wemyss Bay.

**** Please note that this edition of the Village News went to the printer before the general election when David Cairns was MP.**

This may change on 5th May, in which case we will ask the new MP to provide a regular article and give contact details in future editions.

Car Boot Sale

An Indoor Car Boot Sale will take place on Sunday 5th June at Vikingar in Largs from 10.00am – 3.00pm. Entrance is 50pence with kids getting in free and a donation is being made to the Scottish Autism Society. If anyone needs to book a space, contact Shona on 07950 874320.

We Love Inverclyde Council!!!

Last month Inverclyde Council's Grants Committee awarded grants of £5245 to the Community Association to help with the running costs of the Community Centre and to offset some of the costs of this year's Gala Weekend. This is the largest amount we have received yet and recognises the value of one of the busiest Community Centres in Inverclyde and the way in which the Gala has been extended over a three day period to cater to as many members of the community as possible. Special thanks must go to Councillor Forbes for his help and support in obtaining these grants.

The Grants committee also awarded the Woodland Association £515 to help towards the costs of insurance, purchase and maintenance of tools, training of volunteers and general running costs. Once again, thanks go to Councillor Forbes for his help.

Tenemental Inspection Service

It is planned that the introduction of a Tenemental Inspection service to Inverclyde by Inverclyde council will provide advice and assistance for owners and encourage them to be proactive in maintaining their properties. The service is not one with punitive powers and instead aims to prevent properties falling into disrepair through support, advice and assistance.

A full non-intrusive survey of the property can be requested to be carried out, by an experienced member of staff with a report produced which will outline the general condition of the property, highlight any necessary repairs, recommend any required action and will prioritise repairs. The report will be discussed in full with the commissioning owner, with a follow up visit arranged to review progress and identify any specific issues that may arise.

Having a tenement inspected means that the risks of facing a large repair bill in the future is reduced by the identification of minor repairs before they deteriorate into major repairs. Evidence of regular property maintenance could also increase the properties market value.

The service costs a very reasonable £40 plus VAT per tenement and can be commissioned by any owner within the property.

The service can be contacted at **01475 712541** or **ian.munro@inverclyde.gov.uk**

Having a Party?

If you are thinking of having a party, why not hold it at the Community Centre? Although it is pretty busy, party bookings are still available outwith the regular lets. Even better, why not theme your party? When placing your booking just say if you would like a Bouncy Castle Party or would like DJs "Disco Divas" to provide your entertainment. A 2-hour Bouncy castle Party costs £52,

while a 2-hour Disco booking only costs £50. To make your booking or for more information contact Kirsty on 520738. Remember that if you are having food at your party, the centre's kitchen was refurbished last year and is available for your use.

General Election

The UK will go to the polls on May 5th and here in Wemyss Bay our polling centre, for the first time, will be in the Community Centre. Sorry kids, but it does mean that you won't get a day off school this time! There are five candidates for the Inverclyde seat at the General Election. They are (in alphabetical order): David Cairns (Labour); Gordon Fraser (Conservative); Douglas Herbison (Liberal Democrat); Davy Landels (Scottish Socialist Party); Stuart McMillan (SNP).

The Inverclyde seat is made up of the old Greenock and Inverclyde seat, along with the addition of five wards from the old West Renfrewshire seat, and now covers all of the Inverclyde Council area.

In some countries it is a legal requirement that you vote in elections and although that is not the case here there is certainly a school of thought that it should be. Whether you agree with this or not you have to remember that winning the right to vote, in particular for women was a long and hard fought battle. Indeed in 1913 Emily Davison died at the Derby when she ran out in front of the King's horse to highlight the women's suffrage movement. It was not until 1928, within living memory for some of our older members of the community, that women won the right to vote on the same basis as men. Think of this before you choose to sit at home on Thursday 5th.

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.

New Kerbside Recycling Scheme

Inverclyde Council has introduced a new kerbside recycling scheme to allow you to recycle your waste at home. By now everyone should have received two new wheelee-bins and the first couple of collections have taken place.

Your **blue bin** should be used for recycling the following materials: Cans (aluminium / steel food & drinks cans) which after collection are recycled to produce new cans; Clean cardboard (cardboard with no food residue) is recycled into new chipboard materials; Paper (newspapers, brochures, catalogues, junk mail, magazines, office quality paper, telephone directories) which is pulped and recycled into newsprint and other paper products; Plastic Bottles (those marked as HDPE/PET Type 1 or 2) which are separated and recycled into a variety of products such as compost bins, garden furniture and fleece clothing; Plastic food containers (margarine tubs, yoghurt pots) which are recycled in the same way as plastic bottles; Textiles (blankets, towels, handbags, old clothes, shoes) which are recycled into industrial cloth.

Your **brown bin** has been provided to allow you to recycle your garden waste including grass cuttings, garden weeds, hedge trimmings, leaves, twigs, flowers and plants. It should not be used for stones, rubble or earth. As a rule of thumb, if it grew you can recycle it. Garden waste is collected and taken to a central composting facility where the compost produced will be used for a variety of purposes. It is essential that you do not put any plastic bags or flower pots into this bin as these cannot be composted.

It is important that only the correct materials go into your blue and brown bins. Any bins contaminated with the wrong materials will not be collected. A sticker will be left explaining why your bin was not collected and what to do – basically you will have to go through it and sort it properly. Your bin will then be collected on your next collection day.

Your residual waste, i.e. all other materials which cannot go into either of your recycling bins, should be put in your normal **black bin**. This material will end up in a landfill site.

Your recycling bins will be emptied fortnightly, on your normal collection day, with your residual black bin emptied on the alternative weeks. You should place your appropriate bins on the kerbside for collection by 7am or at least 30 minutes before the collection vehicle arrives. As the new system comes into operation you should be prepared for slight changes in time of collections so get your bins out as early as possible.

During May and June your residual bins will be collected on your **normal collection days** during the weeks beginning 2nd, 16th & 30th May and 1st, 13th & 27th June. Your recycling bins will be collected on your **normal collection day** during the weeks beginning 9th & 23rd May and 6th & 20th June.

Should your bin be lost or stolen do not worry – each bin is fitted with a microchip and, when a bin is found, Inverclyde Council can use this to determine who it belongs to. Isn't new technology wonderful!!!

The recycling initiative aims to ensure that, by 2010 we are recycling 25% of our household waste in line with government targets and European legislation. Similar schemes are being implemented across Scotland to ensure that everyone plays their part and levels are met. For many years similar schemes have existed across many European countries where recycling is something which is just a way of life and not something people even have to think about.

As Inverclyde currently recycles only 6.4% of its waste there is a long way to go to meet European targets, but the new bins and recycling sites, as well as an ongoing education campaign in Inverclyde schools, should make it a lot easier for us all to play our part in turning Inverclyde green!

If you have any queries about the new scheme or would like to find out more please call Inverclyde Council's Recycling Helpline on **715901** or visit **www.inverclyde.gov.uk**

Finally, if you are concerned about the implications for staff at Greenlight who previously collected recycling from our doorstep let me put your mind at rest. Although council staff collect our refuse, Greenlight are still involved in sorting and processing the recyclable materials so not only are jobs secure but they are likely to expand their staff to cope with the additional work generated.

Greenlight

Greenlight will be continuing with their fortnightly kerbside collection for residents of flats who do not have their own individual recycling bins, with uplifts on Mondays 2nd, 16th, & 30th May and 13th & 27th June. They collect newspapers & magazines, plastic bottles & milk cartons, food & drinks cans, rags and carrier bags. Please make sure that your bags are placed out by the kerbside early in the morning, ready for collection.

Village News

The success of the Village News relies heavily on the army of volunteer distributors who deliver each edition to every home in Wemyss Bay. Many of the distributors have been helping for years. We would like to thank them all for their efforts every month.

We currently require a few new distributors - if you have an hour to spare once a month and would like to help with deliveries please contact **Ann Marie on 522998**. The more distributors we have, the smaller each area requires to be and the less time it takes for distribution, so you could really make a difference. Children love helping out – perhaps you could turn delivering the Village News into the opportunity for a family walk.

Very occasionally we hear of problems with someone not receiving their copy. If you experience any difficulties please let Ann Marie know.

What Would You Like To See In The Village News?

Since taking over editing the Village News we have listened to a number of suggestions and tried to include them where possible, however we are aware that many people may be sitting at home with great ideas about how to improve things. Perhaps you would like to contribute to the newsletter on a regular basis – if so get in touch and we can chat about how you can contribute. Contact Eila Tel: **529375** E-mail: eilaroberts@care4free.net or leave your suggestions in the Village News folder behind the counter in Spar.

Finally

That's all for this month. **The closing date for any articles or adverts for the June edition of the Village News is the 20th May.** This is an absolute deadline and cannot be extended under any circumstances! If you would like a reminder let us know and we will add you to the e-mail list. If you have anything which you would like included please send it to **Eila Roberts, 14 Brueacre Drive, Wemyss Bay PA18 6HA Tel: 529375 e-mail: eilaroberts@care4free.net** or place it in the Village News folder, which is kept behind the counter in Spar.

Kid's Stuff

This month James asked us for a wordsearch about animals so we had a think about some of the mammals and reptiles which you may see in the Wemyss Bay area if you watch very carefully. Remember that you have to be very quiet and very patient if you want to see any wildlife and if you do come across anything you should not pick it up and take it home – its house and family are probably near where you found it. How many animals can you find?

C	O	M	M	O	N	L	I	Z	A	R	D	B	R	N	L	N	P
O	O	G	D	B	T	L	E	R	R	I	U	Q	S	Y	E	R	G
M	I	M	I	C	S	T	K	R	G	W	R	E	E	D	E	O	R
M	T	T	M	G	O	A	E	F	A	R	D	W	C	T	Y	L	E
O	R	X	I	O	S	D	I	R	C	N	A	R	T	A	O	J	Y
N	O	N	P	H	N	E	R	Q	E	V	U	A	R	B	A	I	S
F	N	W	R	E	S	T	D	L	U	I	B	F	M	D	K	C	E
R	O	E	G	G	L	S	O	T	R	E	E	I	I	E	P	B	A
O	W	T	F	D	M	V	N	A	L	O	N	J	H	R	G	D	L
G	R	E	R	E	S	W	I	L	D	W	T	O	H	A	R	E	A
T	S	R	O	H	M	C	E	L	O	E	O	D	U	E	R	U	E
K	N	I	M	F	L	R	C	O	T	A	N	I	I	G	A	P	S
I	B	O	L	A	T	E	D	O	A	S	S	R	T	N	B	T	N
C	L	I	R	S	C	M	T	D	O	E	B	U	R	O	B	D	O
E	T	N	I	S	O	D	N	S	T	L	A	A	C	L	I	V	M
F	M	P	L	U	M	P	A	N	S	M	T	E	R	B	T	X	M
R	I	A	S	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	M	O	U	S	E	W	O
P	S	E	G	H	O	U	N	T	W	E	N	N	O	M	M	O	C

COMMON FROG
COMMON LIZARD
COMMON NEWT
COMMON SEAL
COMMON TOAD
DAUBENTON'S BAT
FOX
GREY SEAL
GREY SQUIRREL

HARE
HEDGEHOG
HARVEST MOUSE
LONG-EARED BAT
MINK
MOLE
OTTER
PIPISTRELLE BAT

RABBIT
RAT
ROE DEER
SHREW
STOAT
VOLE
WEASEL
WOOD MOUSE

WORDFINDER

P	O	N
N	E	L
E	S	R

Try and find as many words as possible using the letters below. Each letter can only be used once and every word must contain the letter in the middle square. No plurals, names or hyphenated words are allowed. There is at least one 9-letter word.

20 words – at least you're trying!
40 words – well done!

30 words – good!
50+ words – brain-box!