



# Hub



...your free community magazine

## Sweet Charity - Windermere Senior School Musical



Photograph courtesy of Richard Burt

A musical extravaganza hit Windermere School's Crampton Hall when students staged 'Sweet Charity' as the Senior School's Christmas production. This is the first time the School has performed this musical. Set in New York in 1966 the story is about an optimistic young woman, Charity, who not only wears her heart on her sleeve but has had it tattooed on her arm.

Madeleine Sidi played the lead character, Charity Hope, and said "The rehearsals have been hard work for everyone, we have learned so much, not just about the musical but about ourselves too."

The students have been led by Mr Williams, Head of Drama, along with the musical direction of Mrs McCallum-Hartley, Head of Music. Thanks must also go to Marsden Building society who sponsored the production.

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## **New Year's resolution is...**

.....to help others.

Citizens Advice is the largest advice charity in the UK. Last year they helped more than 2 million people with 7 million problems across the country. Most of the advisers are trained volunteers helping people with their problems – would you like to join them, their training is free?

If Advising isn't for you, then why not get involved in other essential roles such as fundraising, publicity, campaigning and trusteeship?

Each bureau is a separate registered charity and needs to find the money each year so they can continue to offer help to people in our local area. They're looking for all sorts of people with different backgrounds and skills. Volunteering is worthwhile, fun and hugely rewarding.

For more information on any of these volunteering roles contact **015394 46464** or email **support@cumbriarural.cabnet.org.uk**

Free, confidential advice and help is available from the Citizens Advice Bureau on any aspect of debt, benefits, employment, and any other problems. You can contact the Grange or Windermere Citizens Advice Bureau by phone or in person. Call 015395 33100 / 015394 46464 or .www.cumbriaruralcab.org.uk

## **Contact The Hub!**

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## **Britain in Bloom needs YOU!**

A public meeting is to be held at 7.00pm on the 9th February when RHS Judge Ray Beckwith will be available to help identify how Windermere can make the most of its entry into Britain in Bloom 2012.

If you are interested in helping Windermere do well in Britain in Bloom 2012 your attendance and ideas would be greatly appreciated.



The venue is **The Marchesi Centre, 7.00pm on 9th February 2012.**



## Best dressed Christmas Window-mere!

The Windermere & Bowness Chamber of Trade's Annual Christmas Window Dressing Competition was judged in December 2011. This year more shops than ever had dressed their windows, so helping attract customers and the general public to the shopping areas in Windermere and Bowness.

The Judge found the standard to be higher than ever and all traders are to be congratulated and commended for the efforts made with their shop windows.

The winner of the Best Dressed Christmas Window was awarded to:

**Beaulea's Cake Studio, Lake Road, Bowness-on-Windermere**



The award was presented at the Windermere & Bowness Chamber of Trade monthly meeting on 3rd January 2012.

Pictures of the winning window and news of other local events and attractions can be found on the Chamber of Trade's website at: [www.wbcoft.org.uk](http://www.wbcoft.org.uk)

## Full steam ahead at Museum



The Lakeland Arts Trust are delighted to announce that the award-winning architects, **Carmody Groarke**, have been selected to develop the designs for the redevelopment of the Windermere Steamboat Museum.

The Trust ran an RIBA managed design competition during 2011 receiving 114 expressions of interest at the first stage. The expert panel put together to judge the competition whittled the submissions down to a shortlist of eight teams who were invited to submit concept design proposals. The panel members felt that Carmody Groarke had produced a memorable and sensitive set of design proposals, which responded well to the landscape and effortlessly resolved the approach from land as well as from water, whilst demonstrating an excellent understanding of the multi-faceted nature of the Brief and the Trust's requirements.

The Trust will now begin working with the architects to develop the designs for the museum facilities and create an active and engaging museum to house the historic collection and bring the stories surrounding boating on Windermere to life.

The conservation programme has been given a boost with the appointment of a new Conservation Assistant. Shona Meiklejohn is a fully qualified boat builder who has joined the Trust from Lochbroom in Scotland.

It is hoped that Osprey will be re-launched during 2012 and will once again be seen steaming on Windermere. Adrian Stone and his growing team have been restoring the vessel and have now completed fitting additional grown frames into the hull to provide additional strength.

A replacement stem and keel have also been fitted and the team is now working on replacing some of the teak hull planking. A team of skilled volunteers has also undertaken the restoration of the steam engine that will power Osprey. The engine has been stripped down, refurbished and is currently being re-assembled ready to be placed back into the vessels hull.

The fundraising campaign to raise the £2 million funding required to match the £7.4 million Heritage Lottery Funding will continue throughout 2012. The Trust has been working hard to engage with potential major donors and a number of trusts and foundations to meet this target.

This is a huge challenge but initial feedback has been very positive and the Trust will be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in this unique collection of boats and would like to make a donation or sponsor part of the project, such as the restoration of a particular boat or an aspect of the new building, docks and conservation work.

Visit the museums website [www.steamboats.org.uk](http://www.steamboats.org.uk) to see all the latest news.

## Posting the changes

After almost 6 years in his role as Postmaster January 5th 2012 saw the retirement of Alec Wheeler, and his wife Joan, from Windermere Post Office.

Alec and Joan have asked that their thanks be passed on via the HUB to everyone that has supported them over that time and they both wish all their customers the very best for the future.

After a short break Alec and Joan are intending to move south where they will be seeking warmer and drier weather.

I am sure that you will all join me in wishing Alec and Joan all the very best for the future, and that they find the weather they are looking for.

The 5th January saw the new Postmaster, Mr Jason Priestley, take over the Office so helping ensure the ongoing delivery of this important facility serving our resident, business and visitor community.

## Remember '101'



You are now able to **dial 101 to report non-emergency issues** to Police such as minor traffic collisions, criminal damage, or if you want to speak to your Local Neighbourhood Officer about an issue affecting your community.

Calls to 101 will cost 15p per call, no matter what time of day it is, or how long the call lasts. This means everyone calling the Police will know exactly how much a call will cost them, whether they're calling from a landline or a mobile phone.

You should continue to call **999 in an emergency** - when a crime is in progress, there is danger to life or violence is being used or threatened.



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## Park for free whilst Glebe Road closed

Visitors to the Glebe have been enjoying free parking since January 9 courtesy of United Utilities. Engineers are temporarily footing the bill at Glebe Road Car Park so that people will keep visiting the area while work is carried out in the roadway near the Bowness Bay Information Centre.

The temporary road closure will be lifted later this month (Feb) and has been absolutely vital for United Utilities' important £5m project to alleviate flooding in this area. The road closure is allowing engineers to connect the existing sewer pipe to a new underground pumping station which is taking shape behind the adjacent hoardings.

Work is going well and United Utilities is still planning to remove its site works and restore the area for the summer season by the end of March. By then, the underground concrete structure will be in place and covered over, but engineers will need to return in September for the second phase of their scheme. This will include building a pipeline across the Glebe and installing the pumps.

Free parking will remain in place at Glebe Road Car Park only until the road closure is lifted. It does not apply at Braithwaite Fold Car Park, which is unaffected by this work.

### United Utilities community projects – deadline Feb 28

There's still time for applications for a United Utilities' community grant. The company is offering grants of up to £500 to community groups in Bowness for projects

which address a community issue or provide a long-term community benefit. The deadline for applications is February 28. Decisions will be made by a panel of United Utilities and community representatives in March. Any money awarded should be spent within three months of receipt. Application packs are available from Joan Stocker at Windermere Town Council or can be downloaded from United Utilities' website at [www.unitedutilities.com/lakedistrict](http://www.unitedutilities.com/lakedistrict). Good luck!

### Local communication = Better highways

Cumbria County Council has made changes to its Highways Hotline to make it quicker, more resilient in an emergency and more cost effective.

Changes will also enable call handling by people with local knowledge rather than being remotely handled at Council offices in Carlisle.

**0845 609 6609**

remains the Highways Hotline number

Currently the new service operates Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5.00 pm with the out of hours service remaining the same.

This is the number to ring to make sure that Cumbria County Council is aware of problems affecting our roads and footpaths, from pot holes to lighting.

## Message from our Mayor

In the Autumn of each year we look at the work that needs to be done in the coming year and try to decide what income we need to pay for that work. Various members of the community wanted to see the toilets kept open, allotments developed, Langrigge Play area maintained and improved, Elleray Woods managed to ensure we can all enjoy our walks there and, of course, the War Memorial Gardens looking clean and smart.

WTC are also supporting the Britain in Bloom through the work of the Windermere in Bloom Committee and developing a website to aid communication as well as helping to fund the Hub.

We pay a Town Steward to maintain the woods and do odd repairs for us, a gardener for the War Memorial, contractors to do grounds maintenance. You can imagine all of this activity in addition to the meeting organisation and letter writing to other organisations on behalf of WTC on issues you bring to our attention requires a number of man-hours. Town Councillors work for free but we have a clerk and Community Development Worker to help keep on top of it all.

The precept per average household has stayed the same for the last four years but to meet rising costs and additional workloads, WTC voted unanimously to increase the precept to £23.11 per year for the average household. All of this money is spent in WTC area on delivering services for people in the Community.

Look for the notice for the *Community Conference* on page 6 and try to come along on March 17th .

Remember, we meet on the second Wednesday and fourth Monday at 7pm at the Broad Street Council Chambers. There is a public slot for anyone to speak on a community issue of interest to them. We often have vacancies on WTC due to retirements, so why not come to a few meetings and get to know what we do.

**Joan Stocker**

Mayor, Windermere Town Council.



# Windermere and Bowness a Fair Trade town!



TAKE THREE STEPS TO FAIR TRADE:

**STEP 1:**

LOOK FOR THE FAIR TRADE LOGO

**STEP 2:**

VISIT LOCAL SHOPS WHO SELL FAIR TRADE

**STEP 3:**

VISIT LOCAL CAFES AND RESTAURANTS WHO SERVE FAIR TRADE

Come and meet your local fair trade group at Booths Supermarket on Friday 24th February to learn more about Fair Trade in Windermere and Bowness  
NATIONAL FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT IS FROM 27TH FEBRUARY TO 11TH MARCH

## Twinning news - 2012

Firstly, very many thanks to all who came to our truly splendid Advent afternoon at the Marchesi Centre where we enjoyed excellent seasonal entertainment from the Windermere Church of England Junior School Choir and traditional festive biscuits made by the German students at Windermere School.

Now it is time to look ahead and we wish everyone well for 2012, which promises to be a busy year for Twinning. We will be having another Coffee Morning at the Windermere Methodist Church room on Saturday 11th February from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Everyone is welcome, so please join us for a chat over coffee or tea and biscuits.

Between 25th May and 1st June we will be having visits from several Diessen students for work experience, and a number of our friends from Diessen are coming over to stay locally for a cultural trip, taking part in a Mountain Goat tour of a variety of our important

Historic Houses and Gardens. Also, Diessen's brass band, the Blasergruppe, will be joining again with Burneside Brass and Kendal Concert Band for another 'Three Band Concert' at the Lakes School on the evening of 28th May. This will be a fantastic event, not to be missed, as everyone who came to the inaugural concert in 2010 will remember. So, put the date in your diary and watch out for further information!

From Windermere our usual school exchange visit will be later in the year, and some people are hoping to go to Diessen for the famous annual 'Potfest' to be held earlier in May. Other Members are hoping for a possible return cultural visit in September. We would be delighted to hear from anyone who may be interested in joining in with any of our activities or potential visits and further information can be obtained by contacting the Chairman – Jennifer Borer on Windermere 44995 – so please get in touch!

## Community Conference

Join Windermere Town Council on **Saturday March 17th at the Marchesi Centre from 10:30-3:30pm** to meet with the wide range of voluntary organisations operating in our local area.

Information will be on show about the work of these organisations so pop in for a coffee between 10:30 and 11:30 to meet with them and find out more about their activities. You might even want to volunteer to help or you might find someone who can help you with a problem.

Between 11.30 and 3.30pm time is being allocated to reflect on how our Community "ticks" and look at how the participating organisations might work more closely to help meet the needs of our community into the future.

The meeting will be led by support workers but there will be lots of chance to contribute and bring your ideas to the table and there will be a light lunch.

We look forward to seeing you there. Contact **clerkwtc@live.co.uk** or ring **014394 44403** to register your interest in attending.

## Investing in Convenience

After taking over the management of 7 public toilets across Windermere & Bowness in September 2011 the Bowness & Windermere Community Care Trust (BWCCT) has now successfully negotiated the transfer of the Bowness Bay toilets on The Glebe from SLDC.

BWCCT will now be taking forward £250,000 of major refurbishment to four of the 8 toilet blocks in time for Easter and intends that the improvements will help to maintain future operating costs whilst generating revenue from the 20pence entry fee towards to help sustain the delivery of the toilets and provide for future investment in the other facilities.

BWCCT is working closely with Windermere Town Council on this project and both organisations recognise the importance of providing accessible, clean and well managed toilets that meet the needs of our whole community.

# Update from our County Councillors

'**Connecting Cumbria**' is being led by Cumbria County Council in partnership with groups of active and enthusiastic residents, parish councillors, public sector organisations, businesses and many others who want to benefit from better broadband.

Already local people are getting involved and having their say on what they want and expect from a superfast broadband network. '**Broadband Hub Co-ordinators**' – local people who have an interest in getting better broadband - have been recruited across the county. They have been working with their neighbours to look at different ways of bringing superfast broadband to their communities.

Currently, the county council is in the process of choosing a contractor to build the infrastructure needed to make superfast broadband possible. Our aim is that by 2015 at least 90 per cent of properties in Cumbria will have access to a connection of 25 megabits per second (Mbps). Where this isn't possible, properties will have access to an internet connection of at least 2 Mbps.

We are currently recruiting a *Hub Co-ordinator* for the Windermere area. If you would like to find out more contact Lorraine Smyth at Cumbria County Council on 01539 713 435.

Find out more about the Connecting Cumbria at [connectingcumbria@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:connectingcumbria@cumbria.gov.uk)

## Projects for Young People

Budding young sportstars will benefit from a variety of schemes which are to be provided locally through the Westmorland County FA. Your County Councillors have supported a number of projects for young people and funding has been secured from South Lakeland Local Committee. If you are interested in getting involved or

would like to know more please get in touch with Adam Panter – [Adam.Panter@WestmorlandFA.com](mailto:Adam.Panter@WestmorlandFA.com)

## Meadow Beck Flood Relief Scheme

The Local Members' Scheme allows each county councillor a £12,000 budget to spend on projects that will benefit their local community. This year Councillor Jo Stephenson opted to contribute towards the Meadow Beck Flood Relief Scheme which involved working closely with both the local Flood Action Group and the Environment Agency.

## Supporting Local Communities

Cumbria County Council makes grants available in your area through the Central Lakes Neighbourhood Forum. The next forum is on 29th February, 7pm at the Kelsick Centre, Ambleside. If you would like details of future meetings or a grant for a community group, please contact Kelly Alty on 01539 713447 or [Kelly.alty@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:Kelly.alty@cumbria.gov.uk)

## Your County Councillors:



Jo Stephenson  
Hazel Bank,  
Hazel Street  
Windermere  
015394 45448



Jim Bland  
Oakridge  
Underbarrow  
Kendal  
015395 68576

## But there's nothing to do!

**Windermere Youth Project** is a local Charity supporting our local youngsters through the youth club held at the Phoenix Centre, a project helping to provide much needed activities for local youngsters.

A lot of people remember fondly youth activities they attended at the old Phoenix Centre, or a local Church and the need today is as great as it was then. Unfortunately, however, many young people and their families complain that there is not enough for the young to do and the youth project is seeking ways to ensure that this need can be addressed and facilities provided that help keep our youngsters entertained, to provide the support they need and to help to keep them out of trouble.

To help us achieve this we need additional Trustees who are willing to do practical things like mend equipment, keep the decorating up to scratch, maintain our accounts, apply for grants or even volunteer to help on club nights (subject to appropriate checks etc). In fact we need new Trustees just to make the whole thing more vibrant!

If you care about our youth and have a minimum of four evenings a year to spare, or more if you are able to take on an active role, please contact **Joan Stocker (Chair) 015394 44403**

# Linking Lakes, Landscapes and Lives

## Windermere Reflections :

**Sunday 25th March** will see the public launch of the Windermere Reflections Programme.

Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund this is a three year programme of 19 projects is looking to increase understanding of environmental issues within the Windermere Catchment, and to work with the community to improve things.

The 3 main issues behind this programme are high phosphate levels, the amount of sediment getting into the lake, and non-native invasive plant species like Himalayan Balsam.

### The projects are split into 4 groups:

- Practical improvements' like tree planting and river bank repairs.
- Encouraging us all to make choices to reduce our impact on the environment, like buying phosphate free dishwasher detergent.
- Celebrating repairing and recording our beautiful landscape and its heritage through art, music and literature, and hands on work e.g. improvements to the Roman Fort at Ambleside.
- Training courses on leading and managing volunteers, and about the environmental issues affecting the catchment.

Many projects also help preserve, restore and protect important natural habitats and there are lots of opportunities to get involved! You can learn new practical conservation skills, help us with events and posterings, become a local ambassador, help with our schools education programme, do some research, run pub quizzes to go with our new beer or just help us in the office.

### Want to know more or get involved?

If you want to know more call **Liz Davey (Project Manager)** or **Amanda Hancock on 015394 34401**, pop in and see us (we're next to the Armitage Museum) in Ambleside, or see [www.windermere-reflections.org.uk](http://www.windermere-reflections.org.uk) To volunteer get in touch with **Debbie Binch on 015394 34401 / 07917 263789** or [debbie.binch@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.binch@environment-agency.gov.uk) (Wednesday – Friday).

In addition to the Heritage Lottery Fund the projects funding partners are the Environment Agency, National Trust, Lake District National Park Authority, and University of Cumbria. We're also working with South Cumbria Rivers Trust, Friends of the Lake District, Nurture Lakeland and Windermere Rotary Club.

Look out for further information closer to the time or visit **[www.windermere-reflections.org.uk](http://www.windermere-reflections.org.uk)** for the latest information.

## The Hub Online

**[www.hub-news.org](http://www.hub-news.org)** has been relaunched to provide the latest information about what is happening across Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge between the quarterly printed newsletter.

If you have information about ANYTHING that is happening in the area that you would like to be considered for inclusion in EITHER the online or printed version please forward it to:

**[editor@hub-news.org](mailto:editor@hub-news.org)**

The deadline for information to be included in the NEXT Printed Hub Newsletter is **31st March 2012** with distribution from 30th April.

ADVERTISING: If you would like to advertise in either version please contact **Bill Smith** on **015394 40020**

## Looking to spend a penny?

Alongside the major refurbishment of four of our local toilets the Bowness and Windermere Community Care Trust is seeking sponsorship from local businesses to help sustain the high standards they're working to provide.

If your business is interested in having it's name associated with this exciting project please contact [bill@sldt.co.uk](mailto:bill@sldt.co.uk)

## Blues in Bowness



**March 30th - April 1st**

Bowness will reverberate to the Blues Beat at venues throughout the town during this BRAND new music festival featuring some of Britain's Best Blues musicians.

Visit **[www.bownessbayblues.co.uk](http://www.bownessbayblues.co.uk)** or follow on twitter @**[@bownessbayblues](https://twitter.com/bownessbayblues)**

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