





...your community magazine

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Bowness Bay Blues



Headliners 'Midnight Train' at The Hydro Hotel

The third **Bowness Bay Blues Festival**, organised by the Rotary Club of Windermere, took place on the weekend of 11th to 13th April. The venues were packed, the beer flowed and the bands played their hearts out. Musicians and punters alike clearly appreciated the beautiful backdrop of Windermere and the friendly welcome offered by pubs, hotels and restaurants in Bowness. Fortunately, this year the organisers had no snow to contend with and the sun even put in the odd brief appearance!

Attendance was no doubt improved because Paul Jones mentioned Bowness Bay Blues on his influential Radio 2 Blues Show in early April. The standard of music was extremely high and the festival has already been hailed by the 'Blues in the Northwest' website as 'a flagship for the very best of British Blues'. The headliners, Midnight Train, Sean Webster and Marcus Bonfanti, played brilliant gigs and the rest of the bands all went down extremely well with audience members.

Excellent ticket sales, sponsorship and generous donations ensured that over £6000 was raised for this year's chosen charitable cause - Automated External Defibrillators for the Windermere First Responders Team - and other charities supported by the Rotary Club of Windermere. The Rotary Club were delighted with this year's festival, and hope to make it an annual event, during the weekend before Easter, for the foreseeable future. 27th - 29th March 2015 are the dates for next year!

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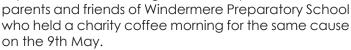




Caroline runs...

A Windermere hotelier who wants to run a half marathon before she's 50 is in training. Caroline Kaye, who owns the Cedar Manor Hotel with husband Jonathan, has a place in this September's Great North Run.

Caroline is fund-raising for the charity Lupus UK. She's being assisted by



Lupus is a rare and complex condition and Caroline's 21 year old daughter Natalie is a sufferer. "She was diagnosed when she was 15, but it had taken two years to identify from when she first showed symptoms. That's not unusual as the condition is very difficult to identify. We are helping the charity in their attempts to research the causes and possible treatments for Lupus."

Younger sister Elizabeth, 7, is playing her part by helping Caroline's training efforts – she goes alongside on her bicycle when mum goes for a run. "Though she's not too keen on the hills!" Caroline's sponsorship page can be found at www.justgiving.com/CarolineKaye
For more information about Lupus visit www.lupusuk.org.uk

Contact the Hub!

Published four times a year on a not-for-profit basis, the HUB is supported by Windermere Town Council and compiled by Let's Talk Shop Ltd.

The deadline for the next issue will be the beginning of July with distribution from mid-August 2014. Keep an eye on Twitter @HUBWindermere for more details!

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Call to ACTION

Recent changes in the delivery of local services, concerns over increasing rural and social isolation, the difficulties experienced by those suffering with dementia and the lack of nursing home provision in our immediate area are some of the key issues that have been identified in a plan developed by The Central Lakes Local Action Partnership.

In addition, the opportunity to support and promote intergenerational projects and support healthy lifestyle choices for young people have also been included in the plan which would like to see local schools and colleges developing career qualifications to encourage young people to take a caring and rewarding role within the wider community.

The partnership has evolved from the original Central Lakes Local Area Partnership and brings together elected representatives from ALL layers of our local governance, including South Lakeland District Council, Cumbria County Council, Lakes Parish Council, Skelwith Parish Council and Windermere Town Council. Recent changes in focus of the Partnership reflect its desire to develop its role as a strong and credible voice capable of taking action to motivate positive reponses to address issues impacting on us all.

One of the immediate priorities is the development of our local area to become a Dementia Friendly environment to help raise awareness, understanding and removal of the stigma that surrounds the condition.

At it's most recent meeting the impact of on street parking charges to those using local services such as libraries, community development centres and even shops in the towns themselves was discussed. Genuine concern was expressed that paying for on-street parking to those using our towns would materially impact on many of the most vulnerable members of our community, adding to their costs and those of the volunteers helping address their needs. Those present at the meeting voted unanimously in their opposition to the implementation of on-street parking charges.

The Partnership would like to hear your views on these issues, please email: **j.draper@southlakeland.gov.uk** who will pass on the information to The Partnership.

Keep on running!

On Sunday May 18th it was Brathay's fundraising Windermere Marathon and Family Fun Day.

, the iends MARATHON

We hope that the runners, the supporters, family and friends waiting to cheer runners across

the marathon finish line enjoyed the Fun Day events, the picturesque setting and (hopefully) good weather!

Twinning news

Langstone lives?



In the Spring issue of the Hub we asked if anyone had any alternative ideas concerning the future use of Langstone House in Windermere other than providing opportunity for conversion to affordable



homes. Here are a few of the suggestions...

Between 4th and 10th April over forty students with their teachers from the Carl Orff School in Diessen spent some days sampling our rather wet weather whilst visiting places of interest in the Lake District. These included Keswick Pencil Museum, Honister Slate Mine, Bowness and Windermere, and eventually braving the weather for a walk above Troutbeck where the photograph was taken.

The final day of their stay was spent in class at The Lakes School with an evening social event supported by Twinning where they took part in various activities whilst making friends with our Lakes School students who will be taking part in the return cultural exchange visit to Diessen in July, where they will be able to meet up again with their new friends.

For further information please contact Jennifer Borer on isborer@tiscali.co.uk or Tel 015394 44995

converted to offer a wide range of training possibilities.

Alternatively its use as a meeting 'HUB' for local youngsters (11-18) as a safe, social space was suggested by younger representatives from our community. The opportunity to meet up with friends, do their homework, learn new skills, play games and

It could be used as a community/adult training space

similar to the very succesful Community Development

Centre at Ambleside Library. It already has disabled

access and ground floor space that could easily be

meet new people being some of the potential activities that could take place. It would help ensure that larger groups of children/teens would not be seen to be 'loitering' but actually be involved within a creative, friendly and supportive environment.

When not being used by the young people of Windermere it could deliver family workshops, parenting classes, a play group, parent support group, a toy library - ultimately all for the benefit of our future generations.

The basement at Langstone House holds workshop potential – for ventures such as 'Men in Sheds' type projects or a base for the bench repair work being carried out in co-operation with our excellent local police community support team.

As a whole the building offers tremendous ongoing potential to support community activities and the Town Council will actively be pursuing discussions with South Lakeland District about its future.

If you have any further suggestions for the future use please contact **editor.hubnews@gmail.com**

On line at last

Bowness & Windermere Community Care Trust will shortly be launching its new website: www.bwcct.co.uk

The website will detail information about the Trust and its range of activities which includes operation of The Phoenix Centre, a weekly Luncheon Club and Drop-In, Windermeals and our local public toilets.

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Superfast Broadband

Superfast Broadband Comes to Troutbeck, Wray and Outgate. The villages of Troutbeck, Wray and Outgate will soon be benefitting from superfast broadband at speeds of up to 50 Meg.

The new high speed internet service is being provided by Kendal-based Kencomp Internet and will allow residents of these areas to watch iPlayer, use Skype, do homework and run home based businesses more effectively.

Unlike most other internet services Kencomp broadband doesn't use phone lines. Instead Kencomp's broadband uses microwave radio technology so there's no long term contract and line rental cost. You don't even need a phone line!

Kencomp Internet is a Kendal based company providing superfast broadband to towns and rural communities throughout South Lakeland. Over the last year their service has further expanded to provide superfast broadband to Windermere, Bowness,

Ambleside, Far Sawrey, Cartmel Fell and most of the Cartmel Peninsula. If you'd like faster broadband with a cost-saving phone service at work or at home:

Call us on 01539 898145 or onsales@kencomp.net. [advertorial]





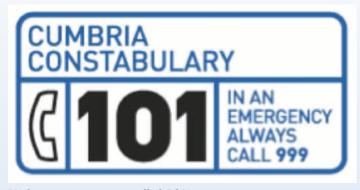
Advertise in the HUB

The HUB is directly delivered by Royal Mail to over **5800** homes across the LA23 postcode area. We offer a range of advertising opportunities and will gladly supply a rate card and details of our specially priced 'support your local independent' feature in the next edition. Just contact **editor.hubnews@gmail.com** or telephone **015394 40020** for details.

Windermere and Bowness have recently seen a number of shops become vacant.

In Windermere, the closure of Oak Street Bakery, Simpson's Newsagents, Motorworld, the Thai Brasserie and the recent disappearance of the Marsden Building Society have removed some of the vitality from the town.

Following alterations to some of the properties it is hoped that new tenants will soon be found and the retail choice extended once again.



Not an emergency, dial 101.

If you wish to speak to the police but it is not an emergency, contact them on their Non Emergency Number: 101

This Non Emergency telephone number is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call 101 if:

- There is no immediate danger to life
- A crime is not in progress
- The offender is not nearby

Example:* if your car has been stolen;* if your property has been damaged;* where you suspect drug use or dealing;* if you want to report a minor traffic collision;* if you want to give the police information about crime in their area; or* To talk to your local Neighbourhood Policing team or Officer.

In an emergency, dial 999.

999 is for emergencies only – an emergency is something that needs an immediate response.

Millerground gets TLC

Millerground on the eastern lake shore of Lake Windermere is one of the oldest public access points around the Lake. It offers a peaceful natural environment providing pleasant and enjoyable recreation for everyone. Many years ago it was an open area enjoyed by residents and visitors offering stunning views of the lake. It provided recreational facilities for boating, canoeing, bathing, taking a pleasant lakeshore walk, having a picnic on the hill or generally just enjoying the scenery.

Over the last few years, despite best efforts, it has become run down. Shrubs and trees have become overgrown, pathways and steps have eroded, signage is unclear and general easy access has deteriorated. In an attempt to restore its former splendour, the Windermere and Bowness Civic Society has started a community project.

Millerground Enhancement Group aims to involve local students and residents in practical tasks to improve the area under the guidance of the National Trust and

SLDC. This will involve resurfacing pathways, treating and repairing woodwork, litter picking, clearing brush and brambles, planting wildflowers and general maintenance tasks.



So far they have had five working sessions at Millerground with students from Windermere School coming along to help. Members of the Civic Society, Town Council, National Trust, SLDC and the public also participated. To date they have worked on pathways, gate access and planted over 2000 native bluebells!

If you are interested in helping with the project they would be delighted to hear from you. Please email millerground@windermerebownesscivicsociety.org.uk or ring John Saunders on **015394 43164.**

Sounds of twinning!

Windermere – Diessen Twinning Association presents a Band Concert featuring THE BLÄSERGRUPPE from DIESSEN and 'TAKE 4' SAXOPHONE QUARTET.

> St Mary's Church, Windermere. SUNDAY 8th JUNE 2014 at 7.00pm (Doors Open 6.30pm)

Tickets are £5.00 (incl. refreshments) and they are available to buy from Brambles Tearoom in Windermere, Huttons Chocolates in Bowness or St Mary's Church Office (Mon – Thurs).

A limited number of tickets will be available on the door.

Extra parking will be available at St Mary's Surgery.

For the record

Windermere Oral History Society have been awarded £5,500 by the Heritage Lottery Fund through the Sharing Heritage programme which means that they can begin the exciting challenge of interviewing, recording, transcribing and preserving local people's stories.

The Society works with older residents who have valuable memories which they hope to record for posterity. This will provide insights into the work and lives of local people. Interviews will be kept in Windermere Library and in the Archive Records Office in Kendal. Records will be accessible by the public both online and in hard copy. Chairperson, Penny Henderson "We would love to hear from anyone who would like to be involved in any way."

Please contact Penny on 015394 42377

Red squirrels

In early April the Phoenix Centre in Windermere provided an excellent venue for a talk given by the Westmorland Red Squirrel Society. The return of red squirrels to our area provided plenty of lively discussion and everyone returned home reassured that, with continued help from local residents, these much loved animals will once again be able to live in our woods and gardens.

Increasing numbers of red squirrels are now being seen in our area and it is vital that their numbers are recorded! Please let the society know if you spot one. Tel **07817 171 275** or email **squirrels@homewoods.co.uk**

Please visit the Westmorland Red Squirrel Society's Facebook page to find out even more!

Year of celebration!

The Inner Wheel Club of Windermere is celebrating a 50th Anniversary this year and to celebrate the Club is holding a Charter Birthday lunch at the Hydro Hotel in Bowness. It is also the 90th Anniversary of Inner Wheel in this country, and all Clubs are providing a



service in their community based on the theme of "Wheels". Windermere Club chose to donate tricycles to each of the local Primary Schools to enhance their outdoor play.

Any person who would like to be a member of the Windermere Club is welcome to join. We help to serve the community, raise funds for charities both local and international and are part of a worldwide social network. Please contact Secretary Pat Black on 015394 43137

Mayor's message

This article is the final contribution during my second year of office, coming as it does shortly before our annual meeting when posts and committee positions are decided. Whether I remain as Mayor next year, or not, is yet to be decided so consider this as my end-of-term round-up!

Looking back over the year we've had some noticeable highs, including the Royal Visit at the start of summer and miserable lows, such as the emergency work we had to carry out at the War Memorial to rectify a collapsing culvert and a whole range of business-as-usual events in between.

History is repeating itself too, as this time last year I was lamenting the departure of our then Town Clerk and sadly have to report that our present Clerk will shortly be leaving us too. I'm beginning to think it must be me despite assurances to the contrary, but you've got to wonder...

We are looking forward to exciting times as we steadily forge closer and stronger links with other tiers of local and regional government and outside agencies which, I hope, will result in a lively and prosperous community in which to live. The Millerground Enhancement scheme has blossomed from a small inauspicious bud to a remarkable partnership involving county, district and town councils, the Civic Society, LDNPA, Cumbria Police, Age UK and GoLakes Travel (sorry if I've missed anyone out). I look forward to seeing the fruits of their efforts over the coming months and years.

Other projects – the Food Group, Elleray Wood maintenance, the Bench Refurbishment project – are all progressing steadily and contributing to the enhancement of the town and its environs; it might not seem much, but by heck, we'd miss them if they weren't there!

Allan Winrow Town Mayor

Details of Council meetings and previous minutes are on our website **www.windermere-tc.gov.uk** or follow us on Twitter **@windermereTC**

Calling all Wombles...

The Windermere Reflections project aims to help improve the water quality in the Windermere water catchment area. This includes the Langdales and Dunmail Raise right down to Newby Bridge. Hub readers can help!

They are requesting the help of local modern-day Wombles to help keep litter at bay! If you have a regular walk to school or maybe a dog walk and don't mind picking up litter when you have the time, then we can supply you with a litter-picker, some gloves and bags. Please get in touch! Call **Vikki Senior on 01539 724555.**

Green fingers

The way that you pursue your gardening activities can either help or hinder the aim to improve local water quality. Some fertilisers consist of up to a third phosphate in their



chemical composition and can lead to lake pollution if they run off gardens and into streams and lakes. Here are some 'green' gardening tips:

- Check the weather before applying fertiliser or manure so it's not applied before heavy rain
- If your land borders a stream or lake, consider a fertiliser-free margin as a further precaution
- Soil also has phosphate in it, so try to stop it washing into watercourses where it can also contribute to sedimentation issues. Keep all your precious soil in your garden!
- Use peat-free composts we need to conserve our dwindling peat supplies as they serve valuable functions in the environment including conserving water and locking up carbon
- Recycle the phosphate in urine! This approach may be going too far for some green-fingered readers, however urine is full of phosphate and if diluted 1 to 10 with water it can provide free and nutritious plant feed!
- Look at organic alternatives to pesticides they kill beneficial insects as well as the pests

There is a wealth of information available about how to replace chemical and phosphate-based fertilisers and pesticides with organic equivalents. You can look on the Garden Organic, Soil Association and RHS websites.

Growing for gold

After great success over the past two years in the Britain in Bloom contest we can now concentrate on making our local area the best and most beautiful place by focussing our efforts on a successful Windermere in Bloom competition.

To celebrate Britain in Bloom's 50th anniversary the RHS is encouraging community groups across the UK to plant golden pollinator-friendly flowers in public spaces this year. So as people start planting for the Windermere in Bloom competition it is hoped that a golden theme may be used!

Also, with the RHS "IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD" scheme, the local RHS representative Adrian Faulkner would like to hear about any neighbourhood projects, email: adrian@wbcoft.org.uk

Judging of Windermere in Bloom is in August. If you would like your garden to be entered please contact Sandra at **sandralilley241@btinternet.com** to ensure you are judged this year.

Celebration party and Presentation of awards will take place at the Hydro at 7.30pm on September 25th 2014.

Backgammon anyone?

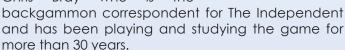
The Lake District backgammon championship is set to be an annual event after a highly successful inaugural tournament. The contest was staged at Windermere's Cedar Manor Hotel and attracted entrants from all over Britain. Hotel owner Jonathan Kaye was thrilled with the response and has already received expressions of interest for next year. He said:

"It was great to see so many players coming to the Lakes, it was a very enjoyable day, and the start of things to come. People were arranging to meet and play again, or even form clubs in the area. Backgammon is very popular on the internet and it was good to see people enjoying the game in the real world!"

Kate Watton, 16, reached the semi-finals but was defeated by the reigning Midlands open champion lan Hesketh. Hesketh then lost in a close and thrilling final to Newcastle's Graeme Turner. Turner took up serious competition only a year ago, had knocked out current British open champion Martin Barkwill in an earlier round. Also reaching the semi-finals was Samantha Wilkinson. Staveley's Robbie Altinyollar reached round two while his father, Farit, was beaten by Ian Hesketh in the opening round.

Graeme (right) won £100 in prize money, a free weekend at the Cedar Manor, and a signed copy of The Wind of Change, by backgammon journalist Chris Bray.

The contest was supported by the UK Backgammon Federation, and was promoted by journalist Chris Bray who is the





New connections!

At the end of January 2014 the committee for Windermere and Bowness Winter Lights, under the Chairlady Sharon Wright stood down. A massive thank you must go to Sharon and her team from all who have enjoyed the Winter Lights in the past years; it's been a sterling effort!

A new committee has now formed to continue to run the Winter Lights project and they are looking for new volunteers, new ideas, shop and business owners and local residents to help out and support this event.

Do you have any thoughts or ideas about the event?

Are you interested in helping to ensure a bright future for the Windermere & Bowness Lights?

If so, please email **bramblestearoom@hotmail.co.uk** or pop in and have a chat with Kev at Brambles Tea Room in Windermere.

Curtain call!

Little Performers 2014 Summer School!!

Running from Monday 4th August to Friday 8th August (+Performance Saturday 9th) at the Windermere Methodist Church, Main Road, Windermere.

Open to ages 4-10 years.

For more details please contact **Kirsty Brooksbank** email **kirsty_bb@hotmail.co.uk** or Tel **07854666478**

Locally produced

Ambleside Country Market is held every Friday between 10.00 and 12.00. Discover an extensive range of traditional home produced goods such as preserves, seasonal vegetables, plants, homemade cakes and biscuits and original crafts. Refreshments are available, FREE entry. Venue: St John Ambulance Hall, Ambleside. New providers are being sought, call Lindsay on 01539448227

Spare time? Like driving?

The Voluntary Car Scheme needs you!

The Voluntary Car Scheme provides transport to members of the community of any age who cannot make their journey by public transport. Volunteer drivers use their own cars to provide journeys which are co-ordinated locally. Expenses are reimbursed.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver and would like to have an informed chat, please contact **Katy.Wood@cumbria.gov.uk**

Thank you

The Hub is funded by income from advertisers, sponsors and Windermere Town Council. We are grateful for the continuing support of our main commercial sponsors in 2014.



Meals on Wheels!

Following removal of the support given by Cumbria County Council to the **Meals on Wheels** service in Windermere the service has been revamped.

From 1st April 2014, the County Council disposed of the service to CAMEO Day Care for the Elderly. It is still to be run from the Marchesi Centre on Holly Road Windermere and will continue to operate on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the days that the new Windermeals service does not operate.

Unlike the traditional Meals on Wheels Service there will be no petty restrictions on eligibility and this is an opportunity to ensure that individuals who might otherwise go without a hot meal can now benefit from a hot, home delivered meal, Monday to Friday.

If you would like to be included in the new and improved **Meals on Wheels** service on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, please call Nigel Kelly either at the Marchesi Centre **015394 43411** or his mobile **07874 009 808**.

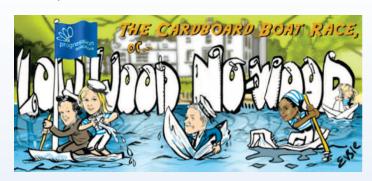
For Windermeals on Tuesdays and Thursdays call Angela at The Elleray Hotel **015394 88464**

No wood at Low Wood

The success of the first ever Low Wood No Wood boat race in 2013 has seen the event return this year with a splash!

By the time this Hub is delivered those clever or crazy cardboard boat makers who took part on May 17th will have dried off and had time to reflect on the success or otherwise of their innovative or just plain silly designs!

Partners in this year's event are Progression Solicitors, Low Wood Bay, Lakeland Radio, Nurture Lakeland and the event will have again raised money for The Calvert Trust. In 2013, the event raised almost £700 for the Trust which enables people with disabilities, together with their families and friends, to achieve their potential through the challenge of outdoor adventure in the countryside.







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Not another pothole?

With the weather over the winter blamed for the increasing presence of potholes and other road and pavement defects it is not always possible for Cumbria County Council to keep track of new problems as they arise. You can help ensure that they are made aware of any new problems by telephoning:

Highways Hotline **0845 609 6609**

Alternatively you can report a problem online via the Roads and Travel link on www.cumbria.gov.uk



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