

Hub

...your free community magazine

Four wheel drivers on new territory

In This Issue -

Kankku changes gear

New premises for 4WDs - Page 2

Chewing the cud

The economics of gum-busting - P.3

Refreshed sports facility

Ace result for Windermere Tennis - P.5

Mayoral Swansong

Mayor Bill Smith says farewell - P.5

Windermere Credit Union

Ethical Personal Finance on the way? - P.6

A gem of a Bobby

New Community Sergeant for
Neighbourhood Policing Team - P.7

Local Libraries threatened

...as Council budgets feel the squeeze - P.7



New move for Kankku (see story on Page 2)

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Kankku on the move

THE DISTINCTIVE, BRIGHT ORANGE four by fours of local adventure driving outfit Kankku are even more unmissable now they've moved to new premises on Victoria Street, Windermere. The Hub went along on a 4WD excursion into the high fells to find out more about Kankku's latest move.

"We encourage our customers to drive these amazing vehicles responsibly and safely," said Kankku's Kate Fieldhouse. "With the extreme weather of the last two winters, we are getting more enquiries than ever from locals who want to know how to use their 4WDs with restraint, and become acquainted with just how effective they can be in getting you safely out of a scrape."

Kankku has an impeccable safety record, and on our trip we learned how to drive with the minimum impact on Lakeland's off-road routes. Despite being complete first-timers, we were able to cover some tough routes, safe in the hands of Kankku's expert guide, Ellie Leighfield.

"The move to new premises gives Kankku a higher profile and frees up space at our other business, Windermere Auto Centre; it also ensures our customers have a warm and comfortable reception" continued Kate.

The Hub knows that we all have to share our precious fells, so it's good to know there's a local company doing its bit to teach safe and courteous driving on these high-level, legal routes.

Got some news? Contact The Hub!

THE HUB is published four times a year by Let's Talk Shop Ltd, on behalf of the local community, and is grant-funded in part by Windermere Town Council. Sponsorship and advertising sales are vital to The Hub's continued publication. We are proud to be sponsored by:

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If you have any news, or are interested in sponsoring or advertising in The Hub, do please get in touch:

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Did You Know?

WINDERMERE BUMPS AND BABES is a breastfeeding support group for mums-to-be, mums, babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers. The group meets Fridays 9.30 to 11.30 am starting May 6th at Windermere Children's Centre (next to Goodly Dale School), term time only. Come along for advice, support, or simply to meet other mums! The group is registered with the Association of Breastfeeding Mothers. For more info contact Ann Bruce on 015394 42593, or email annlbruce@hotmail.co.uk

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL of Windermere and District raised £700 for St Mary's Hospice in Ulverston. Club President Anne Lewis (right) presented a cheque to Dr Helen Clayson, the Medical Officer of the St. Mary's Hospice.



FIFTEEN PRIVATE GARDENS will be open for public view, when the Troutbeck Garden Trail opens from 11.30am to 5.00pm on 30 May 2011, starting from the Troutbeck Institute. There will be plant and produce stalls, home-made refreshments and all proceeds go to local charities. Entry is £5 per person - under 16's go free!

BOWNESS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE welcomes new members to its meetings on the second Thursday of the month at The Marchesi Centre, Windermere at 12.30pm. The group enjoys talks, walks, singing and the theatre, coffee, cake and much more! Interested? Contact the secretary Maggie Stocks on 015394 42234 to find out more.

Local Trust folds

AFTER SEVERAL YEARS of operating successfully, Windermere-based South Lakes Development Trust has decided to call it a day.

As well as producing The Hub, the Trust was involved in a host of local initiatives to support local people. A question mark hangs over much of the community support work undertaken by SLDT - things like Gardenshare, community allotments, neighbour dispute resolution, parking problem advice, community networking, shopfront improvement grants and much more.

The Hub is set to continue - Let's Talk Shop Ltd will produce The Hub on a not-for-profit basis under the guidance of ex-SLDT chief executive Bill Smith.

The Hub remains a brilliant way to advertise your business or service to the local community, delivered free to every address in Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge four times a year - and read avidly. To advertise with us contact Let's Talk Shop Ltd on 015394 40020

Chewing gum: a taxing problem - and a costly one

CHEWING GUM IS EXPENSIVE STUFF. Not to buy, mind you - it's clearing the stuff up that is costly.

A piece of gum costs about 3p to buy, but over three times that amount to clear up.

Recently over £1,100 of taxpayers' money (that's your money and my money!) was spent blasting blobs of the chewy treat off the pavements of Windermere, Bowness and Ambleside. The Central Lakes Local Area Partnership agreed to spend the cash after the two local parish councils expressed concern about this littering problem.

The UK chewing gum market is worth a staggering £329 million, yet most of the product seems to end its days on our pavements, shoes, or front room carpets.

Dropping chewing gum in the street is illegal, and South Lakeland District Council is beefing up enforcement - you could get an on-the-spot fine of £75 or more if you chuck your chewy irresponsibly.

So think twice before you drop your chewing gum (or any other litter, for that matter) on our streets.

Stick your gum in a bin, or swallow it, or stick it behind your ear. But PLEASE! Don't drop it on our pavements, or you might find it costing you a packet!

Buy with Confidence



TRADING STANDARDS is looking for reputable traders in Cumbria to join the Buy With Confidence Scheme (BWC).

Buy With Confidence is an approved trader scheme which currently has 20 local authorities participating, making it the largest scheme of its kind nationally.

Local traders must agree to abide by the scheme's code of conduct which requires them to follow the letter and spirit of the law. With an increase in doorstep crime, it is hoped that BWC will help protect older and more vulnerable adults at risk from rogue traders who may approach them in their homes.

Traders who are interested in finding out more about this scheme can visit www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk or telephone 01539 713594. Likewise, customers who may know of a good local business, and would like to recommend them, can ring that same number.

BWC offers benefits to consumers and businesses and its logo will be the one to look for when searching for a reliable local trader.



Blasting the blasted gum off our pavements

Twinning - Students' visits

WINDERMERE DIESSEN TWINNING ASSOCIATION will be welcoming students from Carl Orff School in Diessen on a visit to Lakes School between 6th and 11th May - Lakes School Students will be making a return visit in July.

A number of individual students will be visiting us in May and June for work experience with various businesses, so please make them welcome!

The Twinning Association will also be holding its Annual Garden Party at the Fairfield Hotel, Brantfell Road, Bowness on Saturday June 25th between 2.00pm and 4.30pm. The usual mix of Pimms, strawberries and garden games ensures that this will be a sociable and relaxing afternoon so take your friends and family to join in the fun.

For more information on the Windermere Diessen Twinning Association, and all Twinning activities, contact Jenny Borer on 015394 44995.

The Best Kept Secret in Bowness - The Bar at the Yacht Club



Our Bar overlooks beautiful Bowness Bay

The Yacht Club can also offer its sparkling facilities for private party and function hire. You can also learn to sail with our fully-qualified instructors.

**Bar open Monday evenings June to September
5pm to 9pm—bring friends and family!**



Function room and party hire

Last year was the 150th Birthday of The Royal Windermere Yacht Club. To celebrate we will be opening our Club Bar on Monday nights to all. Enjoy sipping your evening drinks overlooking the Lake watching the Sun go down. Experience one of Bowness' BEST KEPT SECRETS. No noise, no fuss - just quiet enjoyment.



Sailing courses throughout the school holidays

How to find us

Between the Old England and the Stag's Head. We are 75 metres on the left - ample car parking

Royal Windermere Yacht Club

Fallbarrow Rd

Bowness on Windermere

Cumbria

LA23 3DJ

Phone: 015394 43106

www.royal-windermere.co.uk



Advantage Windermere!

WINDERMERE LAWN TENNIS CLUB is delighted that funding has been secured by local councillors to improve drainage around the two all-weather courts in Queen's Park, Windermere. The Club hopes the drainage work and courts re-surfacing will be completed before the start of the 2012 season.

The club is proud of its Under-16s team (pictured) who are the reigning Kendal & District Junior League champions. Club play is organised several times a week, in addition to regular league matches and coaching sessions. Funding for U14 and U16 junior team coaching is generously provided by the Windermere Taverners.



Tennis provides an excellent opportunity for both adults and children to enjoy fresh air and exercise in a sociable environment. So whether you are interested in joining in general club nights, playing in a team or

just playing at times convenient to you, why not join your local club and make use of this excellent local facility? Contact the club secretary for more information on 015394 31252 or email ritadavies@live.co.uk

Mayor's (Final) Missive

AROUND THIS TIME last year I announced I would be standing down as Mayor in May 2010. Shortly after I admitted men can change their minds having been re-elected Mayor for a third year!

This last year has been one of considerable activity within Town Council and it is pleasing to see that there has been increased interest from our community in becoming a Councillor. By the time you read this the newly elected Council will have met for the first time, and Windermere will have a new Mayor.

The year has seen challenges regarding the potential impact of the closure of public toilets and Town Council has been extremely active in partnership with the Bowness and Windermere Community Care Trust to seek a solution to help maintain provision of what we regard as an essential service within our community.

As I write, final proposals are being tabled by SLDC in response to pressure to find a route to retain the toilets. Hopefully these final negotiations will be successful and help to maintain ongoing provision of up to seven public loos. Trustees of BWCCT and Town Councillors have put in an enormous amount of voluntary time into the negotiations and I would like to thank all involved for their persistence in seeking a way forward.

We have seen the retirement of Brian Whittaker, Clerk to the Council for 25 years, and the recruitment of his replacement Tracy Fletcher. The Council is finally coming to terms with the internet and will shortly be launching a website helping ensure far better access

to, and distribution of, information relating to Council activities.

The year has also seen the development of the Central Lakes Local Area Partnership which is helping to bring representatives of all levels of local governance together to help make this area an even better place in which to live, work and visit. Hopefully the partnership will help deliver even more projects in the coming year that might not otherwise have been funded. This year it has funded a number of projects that will make a small but important impact on the communities in Windermere, Lakes and Skelwith Parishes.



Town Council meetings take place on the 2nd Wednesday and the 4th Monday of every month. The public are welcome to attend and can update the Council on issues that they wish to get off their chests. If appropriate the issues raised may be taken forward by the Council at a future meeting with the possibility that solutions will be found.

Thank you for your support over the last three years, it has been a pleasure representing Windermere as its Mayor and, even though there are still many who are surprised to find that such a role exists, awareness is certainly growing.

Reducing Crime & disorder

CUMBRIA POLICE, CUMBRIA FIRE AND RESCUE Service, Connexions, Young Cumbria, Cumbria County Council and members of Windermere Town Council, Chamber of Trade and SLDC meet quarterly to discuss issues relating to community safety and crime reduction.

The Partners have developed a Plan which specifically relates to Windermere and they share ideas and projects to help deal with problems and concerns in the community. Working together has made a real difference here.

Positive activities for young people by joint working are helping to build good relationships between young people and the Police, Fire and Rescue and Connexions.

Schemes to share information between hotels, bars and shops are helping to spread news of security issues quickly and reduce crime. Encouragement by the police to take good care of property and install CCTV in premises is also helping to reduce crime. Crime levels are falling in our area year on year.

Information on how to run a Neighbourhood Watch scheme with your neighbours is available from the police (contact PC Tracy Dodd 0845 33 00 247)

The Partnership has been funded to produce 100 Emergency Number Cards and these will be distributed shortly. If they are successful we will seek funding for a bigger print run.

Joan Stocker
Chair Windermere Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

Youth Project flourishes

WINDERMERE YOUTH PROJECT continues to raise funds to rent and equip rooms at the Phoenix so that youth clubs for Juniors and Seniors can be run each week as well as lots of holiday activities.

Windermere Youth Project youth workers are fully trained and managed by Young Cumbria. They also work in the Lakes School and with the police to run additional activities.

Windermere Youth Project is delighted that the Town Council, Windermere Taverners and Windermere Endowed School have all helped with funding this year. Thanks too, to the Cumbria Fire and Rescue Team who helped to run a Heart Start Course during half term. Look out for the next "Kick Off" sessions in Windermere.

Offers of help to work with the Windermere Youth Project committee and become Trustees would be welcome and requests to hire the rooms for organised activities can also be considered. (Ring 015394 44403)

Page 6

Ethical Saving & Borrowing



A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS are working towards setting up a Credit Union in South Lakeland for the benefit of local people.

Credit Unions are community-run cooperatives in which anyone can save or borrow money. They lend small amounts of money over short periods of time and are particularly useful for people on low incomes. The money will be used to make low-cost loans to people in the District and, in return, savers will receive a dividend and will know that their money is being invested locally and fairly.

To get the South Lakeland Credit Union off the ground we need people to make a non-binding pledge to save with us. If you would like to fill in a pledge form or would like more information drop into the upstairs meeting room at Windermere Library on Saturday 21st May for coffee and cake and we will be able to answer any questions and let you know more about the Credit Union.

Alternatively please see our website: www.southlakelandcu.org.uk email us at info@southlakelandcu.org.uk or write to us at South Lakeland Credit Union Study Group, County Offices, Bushier Walk, Kendal, LA9 4RQ.

Commonwheels Carshare

A NEW COMMUNITY CAR CLUB for Windermere has had a boost after a resident offered to lease her car to the club.

Owners who lease their cars have their insurance, MOT, repairs and servicing paid in exchange for making their vehicles available for booking through the car club. Car club members book a pool car (or van) for a minimum of half an hour, then use a smart card to unlock the car, drive away, return and receive a bill at the end of the month. Car clubs are great for people who don't use a car everyday, or who could save by doing away with a second car.

Towards a Community Transition Windermere and Bowness (TACT) member Debbie Binch said "A car club in Windermere and Bowness will enable us to share our resources and reduce the number of cars on the road."

Members can book cars for as little as £3.50 per hour or £30 for the day, plus a mileage charge. The club is run by social enterprise Commonwheels who will take bookings online, by phone or in the car. For more information see www.commonwheels.org.uk or phone 0845 6028030.

Are you interested in leasing your car or van to the club? Contact Ruth on 07851 719444 or email jennings_ruth@hotmail.com. If you drive on average less than about 15 hours a week, you could make significant savings by leasing your car to the club.

County Council seeking major savings

Central Lakes Neighbourhood Forum

The most recent Neighbourhood Forum heard from the North West Ambulance Service which is looking to form a Foundation Trust. Might you be interested in becoming a member? If so, call 0845 1120999 for more details.

A National Park officer then explained that it has identified which places across the Park are believed to have a need for affordable housing. A final shortlist of sites for possible new housing sites should be ready by this September, and consultation will take place at that point. If you would like to know more, call 01539 724555.

If you would like details of future meetings or a grant for a community group, please call Debbie Binch on 01539 713180.

Central Lakes Local Area Partnership

The Local Area Partnership is made up of Parish, District and County Councillors and in 2010/11 agreed awards

to local projects including pavement gritting machines; activities for young people, chewing gum removal and work on Queen's Park.

Bill Smith, Mayor of Windermere, agreed to approach the Westmorland Gazette about a possible feature on the twin problems of chewing gum and cigarette ends on pavements – both felt by the Partnership to be an unsightly nuisance.

Your County Councillors:



Jo Stephenson,
Hazel Bank,
Hazel Street,
Windermere
015394 45448



Jim Bland,
Oakridge,
Underbarrow,
Kendal.
015395 68576

Libraries under threat?

CUMBRIA'S LIBRARIES are important places to learn, socialise and relax and are very much valued by many people in the county.

Cumbria County Council has launched the first phase in a 'conversation' it wants to have with you about the future of the library service. A document has been published which gives some background to the review of libraries and invites your feedback. The document is available in libraries and online.

It highlights how council budgets are being stretched, and that, while more people are using online library services, fewer people are visiting our libraries.

The council's aim is to stop this trend and ensure libraries are fit for the future, providing the right services in the right places and making sure that the money spent benefits as many people as possible. The council says its aim is not to save money, but to ensure libraries offer the best value for the money invested in them.

If you value your local library it is essential you let the council know what you think - drop in to your local library and pick up a consultation document or contribute to the comment board; email the council at yoursay@cumbriacc.gov.uk or go online to the dedicated webpage via cumbria.gov.uk. You can also contact your county councillors direct.

In late summer, following this first phase of the consultation, the council's Cabinet will decide whether it wants to proceed to formal consultation on a set of proposals for changes to the library service. This is expected to take place between September and November 2011.

Policing changes

BUDGETARY PRESSURE has resulted in a rethink on police service delivery and local policing teams.

Windermere is now covered by the new Ulverston and Lakes Neighbourhood Policing Team, covering Grange and Cartmel, Central Lakes, High Furness, Ulverston and Low Furness. Police officers for this area are based at Ulverston and Windermere stations. Ambleside station remains available as a reporting centre.

You can contact the Neighbourhood Policing Team by ringing 0845 3300247 or by email to Ulverston&LakesNPT@cumbria.police.uk. Or simply stop and talk to neighbourhood officers and PCSOs in your area.

Compared to other police areas the risk of being the victim of a crime is low and the number of crimes reported across our area has fallen compared to this time last year, as has the number of anti-social behaviour incidents. With your help the police can prevent and reduce crime further by taking simple crime prevention steps like locking your house, shed and car each time you leave them. Did you know that half of all homes broken into in Cumbria are unlocked or unsecured? Look after your property and think of your neighbours. If you think a crime is in progress pick up the phone and ring 999.

Our Neighbourhood Policing Team is planning sessions where you can get to know your local officers and pick up some basic security advice. Details are on www.cumbria.police.uk

Ulverston & Lakes NPT Community Sergeant, Ken Jewell



Steamboat tours and volunteering

LAKELAND ARTS TRUST has promised to keep local people informed of progress at the Windermere Steamboat Museum, while conservation works on the boats commence and plans for the redevelopment of the site continue.

Last year the Museum held a number of guided tours (see picture) - these were so popular that the Lakeland Arts Trust has decided to organise some more in 2011. The next guided tour is scheduled for 10.00am on Wednesday 22nd June, tickets from £7.00 per person. Places are limited, so if you are interested contact the Museum on 015394 46139.

With efforts concentrated on conserving the precious collection and getting the site ready for re-opening, Lakeland Arts Trust is also seeking volunteers to assist with its Public Access Programme. This will enable the Museum to hold more guided tours. This is a great way to get involved with the project and all Public Access



Volunteers will be given training on how to deliver the tours including information on the historic collection, background information on the project and the logistics of welcoming large numbers of visitors onto the site.

If you are interested in being involved with the Public Access Programme, please contact Charlotte Upton on 015394 46139.

nine OAKS HOUSING TRUST
Contact:
Nine Oaks Housing Trust,
Phoenix Way, Windermere,
Cumbria, LA23 1BB
015394 44436
nineoakshousing@googlemail.com

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