



Hub



...your free community magazine

Santa, Steamers and Sparkle!



Join Santa on board his special Santa Cruise for some festive fun this November! Santa has swapped his sleigh for a Windermere Lake Cruises Steamer and he will accompany you and your family on a magical cruise around the lake. Peter Rabbit and his storyteller will also be on board to read 'A Winter's Tale' and every child will receive a gift from Santa. This year there are two cruises on Saturday 30th November one at 10.30 am and one at 12 noon. After the cruise, the Royalty Cinema in Bowness is kindly showing a free cartoon for all, but you will need the cruise ticket for entry. Please note, no pushchairs will be allowed on the cruise.

In the afternoon, explore our two beautiful towns, take in some lunch or do some Christmas Shopping. At 3.30pm Windermere & Bowness Community Choir will be in Windermere Village to entertain you with some festive tunes. Santa and his sleigh will lead the Winter 'Sparkle' procession from Windermere Railway Station at 4.30pm with the Kookaburras Drummers accompanying him through the village. Santa will switch on the Winter Lights all the way to Queens Park for a Grand Firework Finale! Burgers, mince pies, mulled wine and soft drinks will be for sale at the park. Events are, as always, dependant upon the weather!

None of these events would happen without support from our community and local businesses so please dig deep and donate any spare pennies to this fantastic community event! We have already started to enhance last year's lights with all new LED lights. The Windermere TIC building has new lights, purchased with money donated from Windermere Traders, to welcome you as you arrive in the town. Plans for Bowness include lighting Quarry Rigg shopping parade amongst other ideas. We can only do this with your donations. The lights are run by local volunteers (grants from Windermere Town Council & Chamber of Trade). For cruise tickets go to: www.oldlaundrytheatre.co.uk online only. Visit our website www.windermerewinterlights.org for more information. To make donations towards the event, please contact sharon.wright22@btinternet.com

The Hub is sponsored by:



The Lake District Holocaust Project

The Lake District Holocaust Project reopened in June after some alterations to rooms on the first floor of Windermere Library. A permanent exhibition called "From Auschwitz to Ambleside" is on display and tells the story of the child Holocaust Survivors who came to the Lake District in 1945. Everyone is very welcome to come and share in a remarkable success story for Windermere.

The exhibition also includes the story of Calgarth Estate, where the children stayed, and how the history of the estate was closely connected to the history of flying boats on Windermere from 1909 through to the WW2 Short Sunderland factory at White Cross Bay.

During the summer the exhibition attracted many, many visitors from around the world including The US, Canada, France, The Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Israel, India, China and Taiwan. Some very special guests included some of the Jewish children themselves, and their family and friends.

The Lake District Holocaust Project is a charity and carries out a variety of work both in the exhibition / work space, in the library and in schools. There are plans to show films and put on more special events in the space and to work closely with the library to develop its potential as a vibrant community resource.

Volunteers are always welcome to help deliver the activities of the project. The help needed could be anything from being able to offer a couple of hours minding the gallery to serving cups of tea during events. If anyone can offer any help then please contact Trevor Avery on 07876433490 or email hello@anotherspace.org.uk
The Lake District Holocaust Project is open Mon - Fri 10am - 4.00pm (closed all day Wednesday) and Sat 10am - 1pm. Out of hours opening is possible by prior arrangement. Please call or email to check for opening details during Bank Holidays.

email: hello@anotherspace.org.uk

www.anotherspace.org.uk

The Lake District Holocaust Project is produced and managed by Another Space Limited, a registered charity and company limited by guarantee incorporated in England. Reg. charity 1122304 Reg. Company 6441350

Contact The Hub!

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The deadline for the next issue will be 31st January 2014 with distribution commencing 3rd March 2014. Keep an eye on Twitter @HUBWindermere for more details!

Production is also sponsored by:

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Going for a song



The number of Community Choirs in this country has increased greatly in the last few years. The emphasis is on singing for the sheer joy of it and having fun.

When you sing with others who also love to sing, there is nothing more validating or supportive. Singing in a choir makes us feel good and happy.

Windermere & Bowness Community Choir is open to all and meets every Tuesday 7.30-9.00pm at Windermere School (Music Room), Patterdale Road. They have a widely varied repertoire, taking in popular songs and ballads, music from the great Broadway and West End theatre shows, and some of the choral classics.

They are a relatively new choir, singers of all abilities and ages are always welcome, and they don't have auditions; the main qualification is that you want to sing and have fun. They are directed by Janet McCallum, Head of Music at Windermere School and accompanied by Ian Pattinson, a very talented organist and pianist.

They are a local resource and available to perform at local events. There are a number of events they are attending over the coming months and you can follow them on www.facebook.com/pages/Windermere-and-Bowness-Community-Choir/383091121706402 or contact Tracy on 015394 47394.

Red squirrels return!

The Westmorland Red Squirrel Society is working to control grey squirrels around our area and can report that numbers of Reds continue to increase at Windermere Common. One Red has even been spotted several miles away close to the golf course. Seeing Reds return to the busier areas of Windermere and Bowness will always be more of a challenge, so you can imagine how surprised and delighted the Society was to receive news of three recent sightings of a Red Squirrel close to the centre of Bowness (just off Rayrigg Road). The hungry little creature was apparently making short work of the peanuts in various bird feeders.



WRSS would like to thank everyone who contacted them after reading their feature in the previous Hub. They rely on information from the public about red squirrel sightings in order to map the spread and increase in numbers. They would ask anyone who spots a Red during the coming months to please get in touch. For more information, please go to: www.westmorlandredsquirrels.org.uk

Would you actively like to help encourage red squirrels to return to our area? If so, please email squirrels@homewoods.co.uk

"All change"

In 1844, the terminus of the Windermere Railway was planned to go from Kendal through to the Low Wood, near Ambleside. Objections to this route from landowners and William Wordsworth, plus high engineering costs meant the line never got beyond the hamlet of 'Birthwaite'. Having been forced to terminate the line, the railway company quickly realised the promotional value of the Lake's name and the town of 'Windermere' was born. After 170 years people still ask where the lake is!

The railway company believed that they would extend the line from Windermere to Keswick or Penrith, so Windermere station was designed as a 'through' station with buildings either side and not across the end. Abraham Pattinson built the station in 1847 along with The Windermere Hotel. The railway was a huge success and the station and town grew to accommodate the increasing numbers of people and trades. The first post office, bookstall and other retail outlets were to be found in the station. There was a Smithy and Farrier to help maintain the horses – some of this building exists today as the Golf Shop. Where Lakeland Ltd is now, there were warehouses to store dry goods and sidings to handle the huge amounts of coal demanded by local dwellings and the gas works. Local agriculture and industries used the railway to import fertiliser, livestock and machinery and to export farm produce, slate, gunpowder and timber.

Platforms were extended and sidings built to store excursion trains. Up to 17 excursion trains would arrive on a Sunday and others on weekdays along with a daily service to major cities. At one time this included four through trains from London, 'The Lakes Express' and as many as 14 local return shuttles between Windermere and Oxenholme. By 1885 it was estimated some 800,000 people had passed through Windermere Station in a year!

By the 1960's, railways were in a state of decline. Windermere suffered a fall in passenger numbers and goods traffic dwindled as the motor car and the lorry took over. The Windermere goods yard closed in 1969. Steam was replaced by diesel. In 1973, the rails from Oxenholme were reduced to a single track, with enough foresight to allow clearance under bridges thus allowing for conversion to electric power, an option currently being debated.

In 1980, the Windermere station buildings were sold and now form the core of Booths. In 1986, a new station was built along Platform 2. This arrangement not being without risk as in 2010 a maintenance train overshot the buffers in a rumoured attempt to breach the wall of the Wine and Spirits department!

www.windermerebownesscivicsociety.org.uk



Christmas Shoppers

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Superfast Broadband

Home owners and businesses in Windermere, Ambleside, Bowness and Storrs Park can now get connected with up to 50Meg broadband thanks to Kendal-based Kencomp Internet.

Locally based Kencomp Internet specialises in providing superfast broadband to towns and rural communities throughout Cumbria and North Yorkshire using microwave radio technology which is especially suitable for this purpose. A major benefit of this is that the Kencomp service doesn't require a phone line so it doesn't matter how far away from the phone exchange you live!

It also means the speed you'll get with the service is a lot faster than phone line broadband and you don't need a phone line so there's no line rental cost. And with a minimum service period of only 3 months you aren't tied into long-term contracts making it ideal if you own a second home or holiday home. Founded in 2003, Kencomp Internet provides superfast broadband and internet phone services - fast, local and secure -

to business and residential customers throughout Cumbria and North Yorkshire, and hosting services nationwide. Last year the service expanded to cover the Lyth Valley, Lindale, Sandside and Far Sawrey. For more information, call us 01539 898 145 or look at www.kencomp.net [advertorial]


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We are open Monday-Friday 7am-4.30pm and 7am-1.30pm on Saturday and offer a free delivery service in the Windermere area.

To find out more or to order call **015394 43071** or visit www.claytonsbutchers.co.uk or 'Like' www.facebook.com/claytonsbutchers to receive updates

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The HUB is directly delivered by Royal Mail to over **5700** homes across the LA23 postcode area and we know from feedback that it is well read.

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 Spring edition. Just contact editor@hub-news.org.uk or telephone **015394 40020** for details.



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 For appointment please telephone **015394 40030**

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Twinning news

The Windermere/Diessen Twinning Association Committee has been working together through the year with the Chamber of Trade and the Christmas Lights Committee in the hope that we would be able to invite some of our Diessen Twin Town crafts workers and traditional food providers to hold typical Bavarian Christmas Markets in Windermere and Bowness to add interest to the first weekend in December when the lights are switched on to brighten the villages for the festive season. Sadly, due to recent changes in our VAT laws, which could not be absorbed by their smaller traders, the idea has had to be shelved for this year.

However, I am pleased to say that there will still be our 'Advent Tea' afternoon at the Marchesi Centre on Sunday 1st December from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm to contribute to the weekend's festivities and everyone will be welcome to enjoy this community event. We will have the usual mix of traditional biscuits and refreshments and there will be Christmas music and carols, so please note the date, and bring family and friends along to join us for a very pleasant afternoon to start off the Christmas Season!

For more information about Twinning and events, please contact **Jenny Borer: 015394 44995** or email: jsborer@tiscali.co.uk

Calendar 2014

The Wainwright Society 2014 Calendar is now on sale! Once again, the format includes photographs taken by Society members, together with line drawings and quotations from the works of Alfred Wainwright. The calendar features twelve stunning landscape photographs of the Lake District. All profits from the sale of the calendar will be donated to Coast to Coast way marking projects and to the Mountain Rescue Teams, which is the Society's main beneficiary in 2013.

The calendar will cost **£10 including p&p**. This year the calendar can be purchased direct from the Society website using PayPal. Details are on the Society website: www.wainwright.org.uk/calendar/index.html.

The Coast to Coast Walk

This year is the 40th anniversary of the publication of Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk. Last year, The Wainwright Society secured permission to way mark the route and work on this project has been on-going throughout this year. To help raise the profile of the Walk, the Society has placed new information boards at each end of the route: at St Bees and Robin Hood's Bay. Money for these projects has come from the Society's annual Challenge and also sales of the 2014 Calendar.

Any remaining funds after completion of these projects will be donated to the nine **Mountain Rescue Teams** that provide invaluable emergency assistance along the line of the route.

Caring about change



Bowness & Windermere Community Care Trust are involved in developing a number of exciting projects to help ensure that our community is not left behind as pressure on the public sector impacts on service delivery.

Holding true to its objectives to *"promote the wellbeing of our local community by engaging, responding, caring and serving"* the Trust already provides the excellent facilities of The Phoenix Centre and Phoenix Field, manages the delivery of all 8 of our local public toilets, provides a weekly Luncheon Club at the Carver Church and a coffee morning style Drop-in at the Methodist Hall in Windermere.

In addition, the Trust has recently facilitated the introduction of **"Windermeals"** which, in association with the Elleray Hotel, can provide a three course meal for just £5.00 to anyone over 60. It is hoped that the scheme will help ensure that individuals who might otherwise go without a hot meal, but are not eligible for Meals on Wheels, benefit from this 'no strings' service delivered directly to them by volunteers. The service will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Alongside this, the Trust is working with a group of local people to investigate opportunities to ensure that **Queens Park** can continue to provide for the needs of those using it and continue to offer the range of excellent facilities needed to meet local demand.

The Phoenix Centre itself is increasingly being used as a venue for children's birthday parties as well as the venue for regular dance activities provided by Silver Web Academy of Dance and children's musical activities with Rhythm Time. The Centre is also home to the Windermere Weight Training Club, The Heathwaite Junior Football Club, Windermere Sea Scouts and the Windermere Youth Project.

The kitchen at the Phoenix has recently been upgraded and with excellent toilets and baby changing facilities and a large car park, the venue is ideal for sporting or dance events. The hall is even tall enough to accommodate a bouncy castle which makes it ideal for parties throughout the year.

If you would like to find out more about the Phoenix Centre or the range of activities undertaken by BWCCT, email info@bwcct.co.uk or telephone **015394 48415**.

If you would like to be included in the **Windermeals** scheme, please call **Angela** at the Elleray on **015394 88464**.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver for Windermeals please call **Gill Baines** on **015394 48415**.

Mayor's message

Do you care about your town? The Royal Visit and Britain in Bloom this summer have showcased Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge in a flattering light, thanks to the hard work and perseverance of a wide spectrum of people from County and District Council, the gardeners at Continental Landscapes, Town Council and its associated groups and committees, the Town Steward and countless unseen, un-named volunteers.

Now that all the fuss has died down it would be easy to forget all about what makes Windermere special and lapse into a "well, that was fun" slumber, but what about next year or the years to follow?

This is an appeal, readers of The Hub, to not leave things to someone else but to get involved in a project of some kind. For example, we have an active group led by Age UK and the Community Police whereby retired craftsmen are passing on their skills to young people and setting about refurbishing the benches around the town. Sound interesting? Well, they've done ten so far so only another 160 to go... (Incidentally, if you have workshop space they could occupy they'd be delighted to hear from you!)

If woodworking is not your forte, how about gardening? The Windermere Food Group are busy planting fruiting trees and bushes in our parks and open spaces for the benefit of the whole community – check out the apple trees in the Library garden or the rhubarb in Beresford Garden. It's free for anyone to pick. All they ask in return is that you'll keep an eye on things and give the plants some TLC when required.

Or why not get together with two or three friends and form a semi-formal "Friends of..." group? Residents of Birthwaite Road did just that to look after Birthwaite Gardens and were recognised for their efforts at the recent Windermere in Bloom Awards Evening.

Of course, if you want to become really involved there are vacancies on the Town Council. It isn't for everyone but if you think you might be interested, please come along to a couple of meetings and see what we get up to before deciding – it's nice to see members of the public at meetings and not just when someone wants to complain!

So I'll ask once again: Do you care about your town? Or will you care for your town?

As ever, details of Council meetings and previous minutes are on our website, and you can keep abreast of official musings by following us on Twitter @windermereTC or online www.windermere-tc.gov.uk

Allan Winrow

A natural selection

The **Ambleside Natural History Society** meets in a spirit of friendship and goodwill to share in all aspects of natural history, geology, the countryside, its scenery, its flora and fauna, its use, its buildings, its history, the activities of its inhabitants, etc. Almost nothing is excluded.

The Society meets through the winter months of October to March when talks and presentations are given. In the summer months, outings to places of interest are arranged.

Visitors and Members are always welcome. Annual Subscription of £11 for adults and 50p for under 25s is due each January. Attendance Fee per meeting is £1 for Members, £3 for Non-Members, under 25s are free.

Should more information be required, please telephone the Secretary, **Gillian Bell** on **015394 32730** or the Treasurer, **Anne McVey**, on **015394 42767**.

WINTER PROGRAMME 2013/2014

All meetings are in the Ambleside Centre, Vicarage Road (adjacent to St Mary's Church), Ambleside LA22 9DH at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated.

8 November 2013	The Creation of 'An Atlas of the English Lakes'
13 December 2013	Sick Trees: How big is the problem in Cumbria?
10 January 2014	Members' evening: AGM Jacob's – 7.00pm start
14 February 2014	Current archaeology Projects in the Lake District National Park
14 March 2014	Title to be announced – Speaker: Lord Judd
28 March 2014	Joint Meeting with the RSPB

CAB needs you!

Do you want to learn new skills while helping people resolve their problems?

The **Citizens Advice Bureau** are currently recruiting volunteers in Windermere to train as CAB advisers.

A free, one day a week training course starts soon.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer and would like more details then please contact them on **015394 47185** or email at:

support@cumbriarural.cabnet.org.uk

Thank you!

Jack and the Beanstalk!

It's the 19th year of the Lakes Players Panto and this year you can expect to see all the usual glitz and glamour. In January 2014 join them for the magical tale of Jack & the Beanstalk, with plenty of laughs and show stopping numbers! Come along and enter their world of magic, beanstalks and beans, whilst they take you on an adventure you will never forget!

With a cast of around 40, the Lakes Players start to rehearse in September to be ready in time for January. Bucket loads of hard work go in to every production. Stewart Hart (Director and Grand Dame) actually starts on the script and planning in February, it's his life's work! The productions wouldn't be as fantastic without the joint forces of the Maria Frances School of Dance, Purple Sheep lighting, The Royal Oak Pub & The Lakes School. Each production costs in excess of £15,000 and they are always on the lookout for help from the local community. If you would like to sponsor the production, please get in touch via email: info@lakesplayers.co.uk or tel: 015394 32710.

They are always looking for new people to join in, either on the stage, backstage helping the crew with props or front of house, even making cups of tea for the crew! Call in to Aqua Hair & Beauty in Bowness for more information. Our box office is now live www.lakesplayers.co.uk or available at The Royal Oak, Bowness. Evening performances Tue to Sat 7pm, Matinee performances Sat & Sun 2pm. Adults £9.00 Concessions £6.50 Family ticket (2 adults & 2 children) £28.00.



In touch, at home

Gatesfield Quaker Housing Association celebrated 30 years of Sheltered Housing in Windermere this year. In March, as part of their celebrations, they launched a brand new Community Outreach Project – **Gatesfield at Home**.

Gatesfield at Home is a Community Alarm Service for older people living in the Windermere and Bowness area.

What will make their service special?

Gatesfield has teamed up with St Gregory's Homecare and Broxbourne Community Alarms to provide a 24-hour emergency response, including a personal response from an experienced carer should there be an emergency through the night.

The service can also include a regular visit from a Gatesfield Warden and the option of a daily telephone call during short periods of ill health or when family are away on holiday.

Members can also access the community facilities at Gatesfield, including for a midday meal.

For more information, please contact Gatesfield Quaker Housing Association - **015394 45578** or email: enquiries@gatesfield.org.uk

www.gatesfield.org.uk

It's a date!

**BOWNESS
BAY BLUES
WEEKEND
2014**

Bowness Bay Blues Festival
will be on 11-13 April 2014.
Headliners: The Marcus
Bonfanti Band, Sean Webster
and Midnight Train.

More to be announced soon
on Twitter: @BownessBayBlues
www.bownessbayblues.co.uk

Product Recall!

The Range is recalling some of their **Fairy Lights** because there may be an unspecified safety issue with the lights flash controller.

The Fairy Lights affected by this recall are:
100 Rice Light Chain 7.95m
Product code – 605433

If you have the affected Fairy Lights from The Range, you should stop using them immediately. You should return them to your nearest The Range store for a full refund or store credit.

Floral efforts rewarded

The evening of 26th September witnessed another celebration of the tremendous effort undertaken by all participating in the Windermere in Bloom Competition 2013.

During the summer, the whole parish has reflected the innovation and expertise of all involved with some wonderful gardens and general floral displays provided in and around the town. The awards ceremony provided opportunity to recognise those involved from individual gardens to group entries.

Being the second year that Windermere has entered Britain in Bloom, there was added incentive to work that little bit harder but, regardless of the outcome, there can be few who did not recognise the wonderful displays that were created this year. It is not possible to list all that were awarded certificates at the ceremony so congratulations to all involved, including those sponsoring displays in and around the town.

Trophy winners this year included:

May Cottage - Windermere Town Council Pat Holmes Cup for Small Guest House.

Ravensworth - South Lakes Tourism Trophy Hotel for Large Guest House.

The Albert Hotel - Lakes Hospitality Trophy for Inns and Pubs.

#4 - Windermere Lions Trophy for Café or Restaurant.

Grey Walls - Chamber Of Trade Trophy for Hanging Baskets, Boxes and Tubs (Commercial).

Manuka - Tesco Trophy for Best Decorated shop.

Fallbarrow Caravan Park - Lakeland Ltd Trophy.

Quarry Rigg Shopping Parade - Windermere In Bloom Trophy for Contribution to Community.

13 Fairfield Road - Windermere In Bloom Trophy for Special or Outstanding Feature.

Rockwood & Lucerne - Staveley Crystal Trophy for Residential Open Category.

The Queens - Windermere Parish Trophy for One off Wow Factor.

54 Droover Drive & West View, Craig Walk - Rayrigg Motors Trophy for Most Colourful Display.

34 Thornthwaite Road - Windermere in Bloom Committee Trophy for Best All Year Round Garden.

19 Mill Brow - Leith Joseph Trophy for Domestic Tubs and Hanging Baskets.

Oldfield, Troutbeck Bridge - Windermere Parish Trophy for Terraced Garden or Back Yard.

5 Mill Beck Stock - Civic Society Trophy for Best Domestic Garden.

High Fells, Windermere Park - Soroptimists Trophy for Best Kept Garden.

Nine Oaks & Thornton House - AJHN Trophy for Alternative Gardening.

Quarry Rigg Garden - Tact and Sustainable Gardening Trophy.

Friends of Windermere - Walters Trophy for Public Amenity and Spaces

Girlguides need help!

Girlguiding is the largest female only organisation for girls and women aged 5-70 in the UK, and they need your help to keep our local units open.

Could you spare an hour a week to enable your local guides to have fun and experience new and exciting things all within the safe, supportive environment of Girlguiding? No experience is needed and full training will be given; they just need volunteers with a willingness to offer time.

To find out more email lakesdivision@yahoo.co.uk or phone **Marie** on **07811 017316**.

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Be part of the largest youth charity for girls and young women in the UK.
We have flexible opportunities to suit your lifestyle and responsibilities. Whether you want to volunteer regularly with a Unit, teach girls a skill or be a treasurer or advisor, we want you to get involved!





GIRLGUIDING LAKES DIVISION
The Lakes Division has Units across the beautiful areas of Ambleside and Windermere, including Hawkshead, Grasmere and Staveley.
We have 182 members across the Lakes Division and thanks to the dedication and support of our volunteers, they are given a space where they can be themselves, have fun and build brilliant friendships.

Visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested