



Hub



...your community magazine

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Windermere, Bowness and Beyond



2015 was a successful first year for Windermere Information, welcoming over 125,000 visitors. The centre has enjoyed working with and appreciated the support of many local businesses and attractions. Footfall has been increased by new extra services on offer, such as the convenient and secure luggage storage service, which costs just £5.00 for a large locker.

Mountain Goat, who run the centre, strongly believe that it is essential for visitors arriving in Windermere to have a friendly information centre that can help them make the most of their time in the local area. In light of the disastrous flooding that hit the area in 2015, Mountain Goat believes it is more important than ever for tourists to be encouraged to visit to the area, helping to spread the message that Cumbria is open for business.

Advertising opportunities have helped to promote a range of accommodation providers in the area, last year the centre's booking service took more than £70,000 worth of bookings for local providers.

Another service which is supporting businesses is the sale of attraction tickets, currently on sale are Windermere Lake Cruises, Dove Cottage, Blackwell Arts and Craft and Theatre by the Lake. There are still opportunities available if you wish to get involved for the season ahead.

The centre is looking forward to a busy 2016 with plans to work with Made in Cumbria, selling a range of local produce and crafts. This year will also see the relaunch of The Hungry Goat Café, focusing on a new style of service with fresh coffee and light bites, ideal for both locals and visitors.

The Hub is sponsored by:



Focus on Community Care



From Samba drumming to Windermeals, The Phoenix Centre to Public Toilets, there is far more to the Bowness and Windermere Community Care Trust than may first meet the eye.

A visit to their website, www.bwcct.co.uk identifies the many activities that take place at The Phoenix Centre, the home of the Windermere Youth Project, Heathwaite

Junior Football Club, Windermere Sea Scouts and the Windermere Weight Training Club. The main activity hall is available for a variety sporting activities and makes an ideal venue for children's parties, there is even space to put up a Bouncy Castle. There is a small kitchen area equipped with microwave, fridge and ready supply of boiling water. A lift also gives access for the disabled or infirm to the first floor facilities utilised by the Youth Project.

You can find out about their weekly luncheon club, held on Tuesdays at the Carver Church Hall, and information about their drop in which until recently was held at The Methodist Church on Main Road, Windermere. Whilst temporarily suspended it is hoped that a new volunteer will shortly be in place to supervise activities following retirement of the two stalwart volunteers, Gladys and Sylvia who had looked after the drop in for many years.

BWCCT also took on the challenge some years ago of maintaining the delivery of the public conveniences across Windermere and Bowness and are shortly investing in a major refurbishment of the toilets located at Quarry Rigg.

Recently the Trust funded a music project delivered by the Brewery Arts Centre at St Cuthberts School. Twenty children were given an opportunity to learn to play Samba drums with the music department from the Brewery over a 10 week period. This culminated in a performance by the drummers at Lakeland on Saturday 12th December, joining the rest of the school who were carol singing in the store. Peter Harrison, head teacher at St Cuthberts wishes to thank the Trust for giving his children a wonderful opportunity to play something different, to Lakeland for allowing them to showcase their skills and the staff of the Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal, for their expertise. Following the success of the Samba project a second phase funded by BWCCT will involve the children at Goodly Dale School and will start after February half term.

Residents at Alexander Court in Windermere took the BWCCT Windermeals project a step further. They requested if Windermere School, who now cook and package the fresh meals for distribution, could make a traditional Christmas lunch for 20 residents and have them delivered to Alexandra Court on one of the days on the run up to Christmas. The result was amazing, 20 residents enjoyed a lovely meal including all the trimmings made by the school. Jane Tamang the manager commented that the event was brilliant!

On Friday 18th December, Windermere School hosted a Christmas Lunch organised by BWCCT for some of the residents of Goodly Dale Cottage Homes and a number of other local community groups. The event was a great success and it is hoped that further social activities will be hosted at the School by BWCCT.

The Windermeals project currently operates two days a week. The meals cost just £5 and are available to local residents who are aged 60yrs or over and who might not otherwise benefit from a regular cooked meal. Every meal is delivered by BWCCT volunteers to the customer's own house in special heat retention containers. The result is a piping hot and affordable three course meal. BWCCT are confident that there are more local residents that could benefit from the scheme and are asking if church or community groups can help identify residents who would benefit. A sample menu is always available to help whet the appetite.

BWCCT are actively researching other project ideas that will encourage community cohesion with specific involvement from young people and the older generations. If anyone has any suggestions regarding project ideas that they would be keen to discuss or would just like to find out more please contact Simone Backhouse on 07849 080709 or via phoenixwindermere@gmail.com

Some of the current ideas involve projects working with local authors, musicians and chefs so we are certain that future editions of the HUB will contain some interesting news about future projects.

Photo showing activity hall at The Phoenix Centre.



Holocaust memorial day

A moving tribute to Alfred Huberman, one of the remarkable child Holocaust Survivors who came to the Lake District directly from the concentration camps in 1945, played a central role in Holocaust Memorial Day 2016 commemorations in Windermere.

Over 700 children and staff at the Lakes School saw the launch of the Alfred Huberman Writing Award for schools as part of the HMD 2016 commemorations. A powerful introduction to the Holocaust and Genocide by Deputy Head Teacher Mick Gallop was followed by meaningful words from Sylvia Emmott, Chair of South Lakeland District Council.

Trevor Avery, Director of Lake District Holocaust Project and recent recipient of the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours List 2016, offered a compelling description of the special significance of the connection between The Lakes School site and the three hundred Jewish orphans who arrived in August 1945.

The school was built on the former site of Calgarth Estate, a wartime factory workers' housing scheme, and it was to this estate that the children came and stayed for what was described as the beginning of their "recuperation".

Trevor Avery spoke of the essential importance of Holocaust Memorial Day and Holocaust Education and how the lessons that we can learn from the horrors of the Holocaust can help us all as we face up to challenges of the present day. He held up the inspirational example of the Jewish children who arrived without anything other than hope, and how the young people of today carry that hope into the future.

Alfred Huberman's wife Shirley and their daughter Caroline travelled from Brighton and were at the event. Caroline spoke movingly of her father and of his time both at Windermere and afterwards. The family has been very supportive of the Alfred Huberman Writing Award initiative and see it as a perfect way to continue Alfred's work. The school children were incredibly attentive, appreciative and a credit to themselves, the school and to the area. A further ceremony was held at the home of the Lake District Holocaust Project in Windermere and was attended by people from far and wide. Photograph Left to Right - Sylvia Emmott, Mick Gallop, Caroline Spencer, Shirley Huberman and Trevor Avery.



All aboard...

Windermere Lake Cruises has welcomed one of the Lake District's most iconic names – Grasmere Gingerbread – to its premises in Bowness.



Since being created in 1854 it has been sold exclusively from The Grasmere Gingerbread Shop and following the floods a pop-up shop opened outside the flagship Lakeland store in Windermere.

Windermere Lake Cruises has now offered a retail space on Bowness Promenade to give the company a further helping hand. Joanne Hunter, third-generation owner says, "A massive thank you to Windermere Lake Cruises! Their offer came out of the blue and is a heart-warming gesture of support and solidarity. Storm Desmond was terrifying in its power but afterwards it also brought out the best in people. By working together we can make Cumbria stronger."

Jennifer Cormack, Sales Manager for Windermere Lake Cruises, says, "It's been a challenging time for a number of businesses and we're pleased to be lending our support. We hope customers visiting Bowness may be tempted by the unmistakable aroma of Grasmere Gingerbread, including our international passengers who are always looking for traditional Lake District gifts. We're delighted to welcome Grasmere Gingerbread on board!"

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Twinning News

The Twinning Committee would like to express their thanks to those families from St Martin and St Mary C of E Primary School who ventured out following the storms to attend the Advent Event at the Marchesi Centre. Mrs Williamson and her choir managed to lift spirits with music and carols beautifully sung by the children. The provision of traditional Bavarian Advent biscuits and Gluhwein helped start the Christmas season successfully.

The committee is looking forward to 2016. From 13th - 17th March, 42 students and their teachers from the Carl Orff School in Diessen will spend time at The Lakes School, where they will meet up with students going to Diessen on the exchange visit in July. Other activities include a trip on the lake, and a day exploring the area and lower fells with a guided walk.

Members of Diessen's brass band, the Blasergruppe, will be visiting from 14th to 16th May and playing at various venues. The main event will be a concert held at St Herbert's Church 15th May at 7.30 pm; entrance £5.00 incl. refreshments. The Blasergruppe members will also be performing with the children of St Cuthbert's School who are learning to play Glockenspiels, during their morning assembly on Monday 16th May.

The Twinning AGM is 28th April at 7.00pm at the Marchesi Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend for a pleasant evening, a short meeting and the opportunity to learn more about our twin town of Diessen and our various interests, activities and exchanges.

Please contact **Jenny Borer** (Chairman) on **015394 44995** or email jsborer@fiscali.co.uk

Probus re-united

Bowness Probus Club and the Windermere Probus Club have re-united and merged with effect from 1st January 2016 under the original name 'Windermere Probus Club'.

The 'Windermere Club' was established in 1968 and was the second Probus Club to be formed in the UK. Its success attracted so many members that it was necessary in 1972 to form an additional club in the area - namely 'Bowness Probus'.

Probus Clubs are for men and women who have retired or semi retired from their business or profession and wish to maintain a social network with others who have similar interests without the involvement of raising funds or taking part in charitable work. Fellowship is a prime aim.

Meetings will continue to be held on the second and fourth Tuesday each month at the Wild Boar Hotel, Crook.

The clubs' Chairmen / President Brian Jowett and Michael Kemp are sharing the Presidency until the first AGM in March.

New members will be most welcome and for further information please contact either **Brian Jowett on 015394 48711** or **Michael Kemp on 015395 64642**

Flood support

On the 15th December 2015 the Marchesi Centre, Windermere held a Donation Day to support families affected by the floods in the local areas.

The generosity of the local community was overwhelming. Presents, toys, food, cleaning materials were just some of the items donated by the box load! Local people gave their time to help sort through the donations and wrap the copious amount of Christmas presents received.

The local Brownies sorted and bagged a donation of four boxes of mini toiletries that had been sent from Peterborough and other donations received from Leeds. Local businesses, McClure's, Hill of Oaks Caravan Park and Impact International sent people and vans and they were kept busy all day. Mountain Goat were on standby. Gear in Kendal took two pallets of 'gifts' that had been sent from a company in Burnley and are selling the items to continue to raise money for the Flood Appeal.

Bridget Wood, Administrator at The Marchesi Centre wishes to send thanks to each and every person who made the day possible and for all the generous donations.

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Dirty dawg's

Our streets and green areas are still being blighted by the persistent actions of a minority of dog owners. If you decide to walk your dog, or someone else's then you are responsible for cleaning up after the dog! It is no one else's responsibility. PLEASE be considerate to everyone.

If you wish to take action against a dog owner for 'not scooping the poop' you should report the matter to the SLDC Customer Contact Centre on 0845 050 4434 and provide the following information:

The name and address of the person in charge of the dog, if possible, a description of the dog and when and where the offence took place. The evidence will be considered with a view to prosecuting the offender. See SLDC website for further information.

Blues in Bowness

THE FIFTH BOWNESS BAY BLUES WEEKEND, 18-20 MARCH 2016

Bowness Bay Blues has built a reputation as one of the most enjoyable music festivals in the Northwest. The organisers have some very special musical treats in store this year, including a Twilight Blues Cruise and a brand-new pub trail in Windermere (in addition to all the usual venues in Bowness).

There will be over 20 great acts to enjoy over the weekend, with music ranging from top-notch acoustic blues (from the likes of Al Hughes and Chris James) to scintillating electric blues-rock from outstanding performers like Paul Rose, John Verity and Simon Honeyboy Hickling. Previous festival fans will recognise some names, such as Tommy Allen, Christian Sharpe, Dean Newton and Tin Pan Alley, as well as local favourites, the Elderly Brothers.

One act that deserves special mention is the incredible Xander and the Peace Pirates, fronted by Keith Xander, who was born without a right hand and plays the guitar using a plectrum held in a split metal hook. The Pirates have shared stages with many big names, including Bon Jovi, Buddy Guy and Joe Bonamassa. Now signed to V2 Records, they have been recording their eagerly awaited debut album in Amsterdam. Look out for them on Friday 18th March.

Details of all the participating acts can be found at www.bownessbayblues.co.uk

It's also good to know that blues musicians share everyone's concern about the damage caused by the 2015 floods. Cumbrian/Scottish band Redfish, who will be appearing at Bowness, recently raised an amazing £700 by playing gigs for Cumbrian Flood Relief.

Organised by the Rotary Club of Windermere, the funds raised by this year's festival will be going to several local charities, including St Mary's Hospice, Ulverston, and the Lake District Calvert Trust.

Tickets are great value: only £55 for the full weekend, £15 for Friday, £35 for Saturday and £25 for Sunday.

Book now, at the Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal: www.breweryarts.co.uk/lakes-tickets/category/bowness-bay-blues-festival

Telephone **01539 722833**



Town Council

In January, the Town Council set its budget for the forthcoming year. This decision determined the amount that each household will pay in Council Tax towards Town Council expenditure. This year the Town Council will cost a total of £115,900 and will charge each household an average of £2.36 per month. It is considered extremely important to resident councillors that the cost is kept as low as possible, whilst enabling the very local services delivered to continue and develop.

The Council also decided on its main priorities for the year. Highlights include planting of derelict flower beds with sustainable year round colour, extending the duties of the Town Steward (Gary) to carry out more litter picking and cutting back of over-grown hedges that impinge on footpaths. You may see Gary out and about wearing his Windermere Town Council High Visibility jacket – feel free to have a word and make suggestions. Town Councillors want to build on the success of Windermere in Bloom and have recently appointed a new contractor to provide the 108 hanging baskets erected around town.

Full details of the updated Community Plan for Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge which helps guide projects delivered by the Council can be found on the Town Council website at www.windermere-tc.gov.uk

In addition the website carries information about the range of activities undertaken by Windermere Town Council together with minutes of meetings and contact details for Councillors. There are also 6 Parish notice-boards (including one in the library), which display latest agenda and items of local interest.

Local residents are very welcome to attend meetings and there is a public speaking slot for raising issues.

Unless otherwise advertised meetings take place on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at Langstone House, Broad Street. All meetings commence at 7.00pm.

Contact details for the Council are as follows:
Julie Wright - Clerk to Windermere Town Council
Email: clerk@windermere-tc.gov.uk
Phone: 07951 402372

Goodly Dale Cottages

The Trustees of the 21 cottages that form Goodly Dale Cottage Homes are seeking others from our community who may be interested in becoming involved as a trustee of these local Almshouses.

To find out more details or express an interest please contact **Neil Slater**, Clerk to the Trustees via neil@tr-w.co.uk or phone **01524 64187**

Truncator

Following a back injury, Richard Bowness, a retired builder from Langdale, came up with an initial idea to develop a saw horse which saved time and strenuous effort whilst log cutting for his own needs. After being convinced of its benefits, and following 2 years of development, the Truncator Saw Horse first arrived on the market in 2013.



Richard Bowness and Steve Tonkin

The business is now celebrating after receiving a patent for its unique award-winning product following a staggering five-year wait.

Richard commented "Receiving the patent was a bit like winning the lottery. **Truncator** has grown significantly in the last three years both in the UK and overseas and having the patent means we are totally protected against copycats here in the UK. Not only does it give us peace of mind, but also we can rest assured that our product will remain totally unique." He went on to say "From developing our first product, appearing on BBC Dragon's Den, being awarded the Made in Britain Marque to achieving growth in turnover of over twenty-percent year-on-year our journey has been incredible. And now with the patent firmly in our hands, we are extremely confident about the future." For more information visit www.truncator.co.uk

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Cameo day

The CAMEO Day Care Service club at The Marchesi Centre is changing from March 2016.

The current co-ordinator is stepping down and Anita Baxter, former Social Worker, will be taking over at the helm with support from Nigel Kelly, Fiona Wilkinson and their wonderful volunteers Joan, Beryl and Kath. The club will continue to run from 10am to 3pm on Mondays and Fridays, but they are hoping to increase provision to 3 days a week from June 2016. The club is open to local residents over 55 years old and members are welcome to drop in for a morning, lunch or afternoon session or stay all day.

Transport is provided by a local tax firm and available to all their social care members. In addition members can register themselves on the 'occasional users' transport list and take lifts to or from the club if the weather is poor or they are feeling unwell.

What CAMEO offers:

- a programme of stimulating activities
- a warm, safe and comfortable environment
- trained staff and volunteers
- a freshly cooked lunch
- a door-to-door transport service
- professional experience of supporting older people
- advice / information on support services
- ongoing reviews of each individual needs
- respite for carers
- experience of caring for people with early dementia

All enquiries should be directed to **Anita Baxter** on **07874009808** , alternatively call in on a CAMEO day and say hello.

20mph not enough

Following the feedback received during the consultation about whether or not Windermere Town Council should lobby Cumbria County Council for the introduction of 20mph zones in Windermere and Bowness the decision has been taken not to pursue the matter further.

Many relevant and useful comments were received during the consultation which prompted 95 responses, of which 52 were in favour. However, in making their decision not to pursue a campaign, consideration was given to the fact that those expressing the majority desire to see such a scheme represented less than 1% of the adult population of the town and that this did not provide a true mandate to pursue a scheme that would involve considerable expenditure of public funds.

Town Council would like to thank those that participated and expressed their views on this matter.

WWII veterans

The HUB was recently contacted by a lady resident of Bowness who was active in the forces herself in World War II. She asked whether the HUB was aware of any other lady veterans of the war living in the area, unfortunately we were not able to help.

However, we happily agreed to make this plea for any ladies who were involved to pass on their contact details so that we might help bring together members from our community wishing to share memories of their wartime roles with others who were similarly engaged. We will not publish details of individual names and addresses but will use the information to help bring people together, and maybe even rekindle some wartime friendships.

If you were involved, or know someone that was, who would be happy to make contact with others, please call the editor on 015394 40022 or email editor.hubnews@gmail.com

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Scoping future opportunities

An Economic Scoping report commissioned by SLDC from Douglas Wheeler Associates last year was published in December.

Responses to five key issues about the future of Windermere & Bowness were sought:

- What are the likely future local economic drivers?
- What is the vision for the Bowness & Windermere local economy?
- How complementary are Bowness & Windermere:
- Is there value in a more specific study on economic potential for the Lake?
- What is the best vehicle to coordinate local economic development across the public, private and third sectors in the local area?

The clear conclusion that emerged from the research is that Bowness and Windermere would benefit from having a succinct Economic Action Plan in place for all public, private and third sector stakeholders and not just the public sector.

To effectively address the issues identified requirement for new and strong local commitment in helping develop the future of the economy of Bowness and Windermere was proposed, one that delivers a transparent approach building trust with a focus on delivering agreed priority projects and requiring action based coordination, strong leadership and a consensus on priorities.

In essence the conclusion is that Bowness and Windermere needs 'one economic development team' drawn from elements of the public, private and third sector.

SLDC Councillor Giles Archibald attended Windermere Town Council's meeting on 13th January when the report was discussed. It was agreed with Councillor Archibald that SLDC should take forward implementation of the proposal to establish a 'Short Life' Coordinating Group' to help develop the recommendations made within the initial report and find resource to organise/commission an Economic Action Plan to develop and test the themes identified in the original report.

Contact the Hub!

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Cakery bakery

Interior designer Alison Tordoff took first prize in the Lake District Valentine's bake-off contest at the Cedar Manor Hotel in Windermere.

Alison, who runs Fidget Design, proved that she could apply her talents to edible art in the competition organised by Windermere and Bowness Fairtrade group.

Her entry, a lemon ricotta gluten-free cake with a "glowing heart", took the honours from 16 entries in front of a crowd of more than 80 baking enthusiasts.

The cakes were "blind" judged by the hotel's owner Jonathan Kaye and sous chef Michael Vango who also gave two baking demonstrations during the event.

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