

Cumbria Rural Housing Trust Assessment of affordable housing in Arnside

There is a lot of discussion in Cumbria about the lack of affordable housing, especially in rural areas with the high price of houses and the resulting effect on rural communities.

South Lakeland District Council has asked Cumbria Rural Housing Trust to undertake a survey of housing needs in Arnside Parish. This is to enable an independent snapshot of affordable housing needs, which may be required in this area, giving details of what size and type of tenure and what is needed for families, young people and the elderly.

The survey is being carried out with the full cooperation and support of Arnside Parish Council. The survey will be sent out towards the end of November.

The results of the survey can be used by the community and the Parish Council, working with South Lakeland District Council and various other organisations and landowners, to investigate options for affordable housing in the parish.

The information given in the survey responses is carefully screened by Cumbria Rural Housing Trust to ensure no details in the report can be traced back to an individual, and all information is stored according to the Data Protection Act and it is not shared with any other organisations.

We are also keen to ensure that businesses in the parish pass the information about the survey on to their work colleagues, who may work in the parish but not be able to afford to live there.

Family members who have left the parish in the last few years and who may want to be able to return to live in the parish, are also encouraged to complete

and return the form, as they may be eligible for affordable housing under the criteria set by South Lakeland DC.

The survey questionnaire will be delivered with the Christmas edition of the Arnside Messenger. When you receive it could you please complete and return it as soon as possible, to provide the information to help your community, now and in the future.

For further information about Cumbria Rural Housing Trust, please look on our website – www.crht.org.uk

ALLOTMENTS PROPOSAL FOR WALLED GARDEN

The Trustees of the Barnes Trust are looking into the feasibility of creating a small number of allotments within the walled garden area of Ashmeadow Woodlands.

Further details will be available by the autumn but if you are interested in an allotment or want to find out more please contact either the Chairman, Pete McSweeney on 761113 or Sandy Felton on 762653.



**Arnside Parish
Plan Trust**

Village Market
Saturday 5th September
10am to 4pm
at the W.I. Hall, Orchard Road
Local produce, cakes, gifts, Fairtrade
stall, teas & refreshments
Come along and support your local traders.

New Play Equipment on the way

Work continues to raise funds to improve and renovate the children's play facilities on Arnside Memorial Playing field. £71,000 has been raised so far and there is another £10,000 still to raise.

The original project, started in 2007, was to simply refurbish the playground with like-for-like. This was reviewed in 2008 and, influenced by discussions with the AONB, it was decided that the whole emphasis be changed to one of sustainability and consideration of the wider environment.

A local landscape architect re-designed the play area in line with the natural contours of the land and his plan includes landscaping the site by the planting of trees, shrubs and wild flowers.

The AONB unit will be advising on the appropriate management of the landscaping and wildlife aspects of the project, in particular the ongoing development of the sensory garden. Local school children will be involved in this task. They will be able to use the sensory garden and wildlife parts of the playground to gain a greater understanding of green issues and their importance and impact on the local environment

The play equipment will be ordered at the beginning of September. There is a 12 week lead time for this and in the meantime the path through the site will be completed and top soil and grass will be laid.

The equipment and safety surfacing will be installed by the end of January and then additional landscaping and planting of trees,



Councillor Rachel Dutfield receives a cheque for £500, for the playground fund, from Angela Elgar, Manager, Moto Service Area, Carnforth.

shrubs and wild flowers in Spring 2010 will complete the project. Two of the three seats incorporated in the enclosing limestone wall have been installed. If anyone would like to sponsor these seats please contact:

**Rachel Dutfield on
762573
or
Sandy Felton
on
762653**

FAIRTRADE STATUS CELEBRATION

Arnside's status as a Fairtrade Village was celebrated at a Cream Tea and garden party in June, during which local MP, Tim Farron, presented the Village's Fairtrade Certificate to local group Chairman, Rev. David Cooper.



There was a splendid turn-out for the event at the home of Harry and Elfrida Warner and the organisers would

like to thank all those who contributed to make this such a pleasant and enjoyable afternoon in lovely surroundings.



Tim Farron, MP, presented Arnside's Fair Trade Certificate to Rev. David Cooper.

A Million Voices for Nature

Love Nature?
At Leighton Moss
Nature Reserve



September is a great time for seeing birds on the move and the arrival of some of the birds that spend the winter here.

Many different types of ducks and wading birds appear with some more unusual ones passing through. An ideal way to find out more about them is by coming on one of our guided walks - every Wednesday in September from 11 am - 1 pm we have a Wednesday Walkabout and on Friday 4 September we are helping to identify wading birds on 'What's that wader?' from 11 am - 12.30 pm (meet in the Allen and Eric Morecambe car park).

To see wildlife well it really helps to have a pair of binoculars that suit you - if you want some advice or to try them out, then we have a demonstration on Sat 5 and Sun 6 September from 10 am to 4 pm

- everyone is welcome!

We hope there will be some events that will be of interest to you. Please contact 01524 701601 for further information and to book on events. Please pay at the time of booking to secure your place.

For a full list of our events please pick up a 'What's on in 2009' leaflet or see our website:

www.rspb.org.uk/leightonmoss

The guided walks above cost: RSPB members: adults £2, children £1, family £4, non-members: adults £4.50, children £2, family £9. No need to book for these ones - just turn up!

The next edition of the Messenger will appear just before Christmas. If you have suitable material for that edition please email the Editor;

*Sandy Felton, email address:
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Our thanks to our deliverers and contributors.*



Age Concern
South Lakeland
*aiming to
put more money in older
people's pockets*

Age Concern South Lakeland estimates that something like 5,000 retired people in the district are entitled to Pension Credit but not claiming it. The average amount unclaimed is £26 per week. Even higher numbers are thought to be missing out on Council Tax Benefit, losing an average of £624 per year.

Last year Age Concern South Lakeland dealt with more than 6,000 enquiries from local older people and helped them get over £1.25 million in extra entitlements. Across the country it is thought older people are missing out on a staggering £5 billion a year.

Sonia Mangan, Chief Officer of Age Concern South Lakeland, is concerned that older people don't always claim what they are entitled to: "At national level there are billions of pounds

going unclaimed that should be in older people's pockets. As a result, many older people are struggling in poverty. We know that just a few extra pounds can make an enormous difference to someone's health and well-being. Even if you have been refused Pension Credit in the past it's worth trying again as the savings threshold has now been raised."

Age Concern are able to provide free confidential advice and expert information and want to encourage older people to get in touch to find out what they can claim.

It costs nothing to check and it could make a big difference in helping you cope financially. Pension Credit is an entitlement for people aged 60 or over which guarantees an income of at least £130.00 per week (single) or £198.45 a week (if you have a partner.) Entitlement is based on weekly net income (after deductions) and savings.

Older people can contact Age Concern using the free national helpline number on 0800 009966 or 01539 728180 to speak to Age Concern South Lakeland directly.

AONB APPLE DAY

Arnside and Silverdale AONB is this year celebrating Apple Day on Saturday 3rd October between 10am and 4pm. Come along and enjoy a day of fun learning for all the family. Admission 50p (free for children)

Building on the success of the previous Apple Days, we are returning to the 250 year old Westmorland Orchard on Briery Bank. The orchard's owner, Peter Goulder, will give guided walks round the orchard, where visitors can see - and taste - over 60 varieties of apple.

Apple experts, Hilary Wilson and Philip Rainford will be there to help people identify apples from their own gardens and

orchards. Visitors will be able to taste and buy varieties of apple which you don't see in the shops, gain advice on how to make the most of their apples and taste freshly pressed apple juice and apple crepes. Hincaster Honey will have a bee-keeping demonstration and there will be honey for sale, along with homemade jams and a range of apple-based and other products.

Children (and adults!) will be able to enjoy a range of orchard-based games, apple dunking and storytelling.

As part of the Apple Day, Ashmeadow Woodlands and orchards will also be open for guided tours from 11am to 3pm.