

ARNSIDE MESSENGER

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS MARKET SUCCESS

A highly successful Christmas market was held in the W.I. and Village Hall on 27th November.

The event attracted 14 stallholders who offered a wide variety of local crafts and produce. They were delighted at the turnout. Milnthorpe Steel Band entertained during the afternoon and got everyone in the festive spirit.

The refreshments and mulled wine proved popular and there were plenty of gift ideas for Christmas shopping as well as plenty of goodies for the larder.

Arnside Parish Plan Trust, (APPT) who organised the event, hope to plan more in the New Year. The markets are certainly gaining in momentum and are proving very popular in the Village.

OUTREACH VETERINARY CLINIC

The veterinary clinic organised by Arnside Parish Plan Trust has been well attended throughout the year by local pet owners.

The next clinic will be the last Thursday in January 2005 - 2 p.m. till 3 p.m. at the W.I. hall and from then on a monthly basis.

Please note normal veterinary charges apply for procedures carried out on your pet.

WELCOME FOR NEW MINISTER

The Rev'd David Cooper, his wife Caroline and their three daughters will be coming to live in the Vicarage at St James around Christmastime.

At present David is Team Vicar in the Wolverhampton Central Team with responsibility for Urban Spirituality and he is also Diocesan Inter-Faith Officer there.

David will begin his ministry here following his licensing by the Right Rev'd James Newcome, Bishop of Penrith at St James Church on January 27th.

We look forward to welcoming David and his family to our community

LAUNCH OF CEMETERY CHAPEL APPEAL

The Cemetery Chapel Development Fund was started during the summer of 2004. After a successful calendar of events during 2004, it currently stands at approximately £22,600.

Work on the installation of electricity, water and a sewerage connection is planned for early 2005. The total project cost is expected to be around £60,000. A formal appeal fund will be launched in early 2005.

In the meantime other fundraising events will be taking place over the winter months. These events will be advertised around the village.

Donations to the CCD Fund will be gratefully accepted by Pete McSweeney. Tel: 761113 or by the Treasurer of Arnside Parish Council.

THE ARNSIDE GATEWAY

This website is now one year old and is regularly accessed by both locals and visitors. It has been designed to be an access point for all the on-line resources related to Arnside and its immediate area.

Following a recent request from a newly-arrived resident in the village, some time was spent tracking down an on-line version of the local bus timetable. Thanks to the efforts of several local people and help from Cumbria County Council, information can now be accessed on three sites.

If you know of any other links that you feel should be added, please let the webmaster know about them at info@wm-johnston.com.

NEW LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

A new Local History Society has been formed in Arnside.

At the inaugural meeting it was agreed that the Society's area of interest will be the ecclesiastical parish of Arnside, including Carr Bank, Hazelslack, Sandside and Storth.

A presentation was given by Dennis Bradbury in which he covered various aspects of the village's history.

The committee will be arranging a programme of talks and other activities during the year.

Stephen Caunce, was elected Chairman, Secretary Ann Gibson, Treasurer Stewart Platts and Membership Secretary Leonard Smith.

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary on 762855.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Part II of Hilary Wilson's article on Affordable Housing,

There are three types of scheme for providing affordable housing:

Firstly, houses can be built for sale at a discount to people who meet SLDC criteria as "local" occupiers.

Buyers must be in need of affordable housing and are generally first-time buyers. Such homes are commonly built by developers as a condition of planning permission for a larger development of private houses on the same site. Previously, planning controls did not prevent these "affordable" homes being sold on at the full market price. Legal agreements with SLDC now require that the house is always ("in perpetuity") sold on at a discount to people who are "local".

When former council houses are sold on, they do not have to be sold at a discount but do have to be sold to people who meet SLDC's "local occupancy" criteria.

Secondly, low-rent, locally-occupied homes are built, owned and managed with legal controls from SLDC. Housing associations commonly provide such homes, usually with some public subsidy. SLDC then have the right to put forward people in need of local housing to occupy some or all of the homes.

Thirdly, "shared ownership" provides houses which are part-owned by the occupier and part-owned by a housing association or similar landlord.

Ideally, affordable homes should be built on land where local authority planning controls allow housing

development. There are rare exceptions. For example, the houses at the top of Briery Bank, were built on land protected as open space in the local authority plan. In Arnside we have little land available for new affordable housing when equally we wish to conserve the village's open spaces.

Both Cumbria C.C. and SLDC's plans for future development emphasize that, for settlements such as Arnside, affordable housing is a priority. Our problem is where? The Parish Council and our County and District representatives are seeking sites and liaising with the Planning and Housing Group of the Parish Plan Trust. The Group welcomes your views and suggestions. Why not get involved by joining the Planning and Housing Group. Contact Hilary Wilson on 01524 761309.

ARNSIDE YOUTH PROJECT

The Arnside Youth Project (AYP) was set up in January 2003 to improve the facilities and activities in the village for young people aged 8-18 years.

The senior and junior groups are now up and running. The AYP is affiliated to Young Cumbria and £9,000 of funding has been raised.

AYP are currently looking at potential opportunities to achieve their aim to have their own youth centre premises.

AONB Matters

Dave Askew has been appointed AONB Officer, to assist the Manager, Ian Henderson. His former post as Officer of the Limestone Heritage Project has now been filled.

Opposition has been expressed to the 'Bridge Across the Bay' project, on environmental grounds. But, more positively, the Unit has supported the new experimental Sunday bus service, the 'Limestone Line', which is of obvious value to residents as well as visitors, picking up at regular stops but also operating on a Hail and Ride basis. It is expected to continue in 2005.

When you collect details from the Station Office, also buy a copy of the Landscape Trust's 2005 calendar, which uses photos from the successful photographic competition in August.

Tony Riden has compiled a list of all of the countryside management tasks carried out by volunteers over the past six months or so, in Arnside and elsewhere.

Terry Keefe

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB BIG SUCCESS

Since it opened in September 2003 "Arnies" after school club has proved a hit with both parents and children. There are currently 25 children on the roll. The children regularly update their displays of art work in the E. I. hallway with a different theme each time for villagers to see. The children are very enthusiastic about their club so much so that they wrote their own report, reproduced below.

"Arnies was set up by some mums who needed someone or somewhere to look after us because they were at work when we came home from school. Arnies is good and we do lots of cool things like competitions, computer, cookery, junk modelling, topics, arts and crafts, games and we have good food.

We have circle time so we can talk about what we like and what we don't like and Sue writes it down so that she can fit it in the activities. We like getting Arnie points because you get a star and everyone claps and if you get the most points you get a prize. When its your birthday you get a present and when you're ill you get lots of cards from your friends to cheer you up. The staff are kind and if you have a problem

they will help you and they are really funny at karaoke.

*We don't know what we would do or where we would go if we hadn't got Arnies, probably Asda or a friend's house. Those of us who go to Arnies every day don't get to go to our friends house very often so sometimes are friends come to Arnies and they think its cool too. **THANK YOU FROM ALL THE CHILDREN AT ARNIES***

Arnies is run by professional staff but we still welcome volunteers to assist with activities e.g. flower arranging, story telling, playing the guitar, so if you feel you can help ring Sue Shaw on 07817 998113.