

### COMPETITION WINNER ENJOYS WEEKEND IN ARNSIDE

The Trust are pleased to announce the winner of the Arnside Tourist Information Leaflet Competition.

The lucky winner was Mrs Gill Marsden from Scarborough. Gill and husband Alan have been visiting Arnside for the last 5 years and love overlooking the sea and estuary. They also like birdwatching and on their visits always go to Leighton Moss.

Gill and Alan enjoyed a two night bed and breakfast break at the Willowfield Hotel.



Mrs Gill Marsden, with husband Alan, from Scarborough, winner of the weekend in Arnside Competition

### ARNSIDE PARISH PLAN TRUST

- Maintain our shops and services*
- Improve our roads and public transport*
- Increase our opportunities for learning and leisure*
- Conserve the character of our village and its green spaces*
- Ensure our streets and homes are safe and secure*

These are some of the aspirations expressed in the survey that gave rise to Arnside's Parish Plan . You can help us realise these hopes by joining the Trust as an action group member. As a contributor to one of our five action groups, you will meet around five times a year and share responsibility for bringing the aims of the Parish Plan into action. The groups focus on the following issues:

Business and Tourism	(Alan Taylor	762611)
Education and Communication	(Rachel Dutfield	762573)
Environment, Safety and Security	(Aline Parkes	761955)
Planning and Housing	(Ian Hill	762312)
Traffic, Parking and Transport	(Geoff Ellis	762213)

If you are interested, please contact the group leader or one of the Trust's co-ordinators: Hilary Wilson, 761309 and Brian Walker 761949.

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## ARNSIDE MESSENGER

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### A SAFE GUIDE CROSSING THE SANDS



For those of us who live in Arnside the sight of large groups of people gathered at the end of the Promenade waiting for their guide to cross the sands is not unusual. The crossing from Arnside is one of the most popular ways to walk across the sands of what is the largest continuous intertidal area in Britain. Fed by the Leven, Kent, Keer, Lune and Wyre, the bay has extensive areas of salt marsh as well as deadly quick sands.

Cedric Robinson MBE is the Queen's Guide to the Sands entrusted with leading walkers across these dangerous channels. Cedric has held this unusual post since 1963 and lives in the Guide's 700 year old cottage, a Crown property, between Grange and Kents Bank.

To cross the bay without him is ill-advised as he has grown up around these shores, learning his trade as a fisherman from his father, (now 101 years old and living in Flookburgh) and at the same time learning, over the last sixty years, how to read the notorious sands, which are quite capable of giving with one hand and taking with the other.

Cedric explains that the walk across the bay is approximately 8 miles but this can vary for the path across is never the same twice. The journey can take two to three hours and he ensures that the group always keeps moving. He keeps the tide times printed on his hand as a constant reminder.

As the tide comes in so the banks and sands change: "The day before a walk I go across the bay and plot out the channels. The river channels are the most dangerous so you always have to test them particularly the Kent" he says. "People don't understand that the sands change every day, even in fine weather, they change with every tide. I use laurel bushes to mark the crossing".

As a young boy with his father Cedric would fish the bay using horses for shrimp, cockles, and muscles: "My father told me that I had to learn to be a horseman as well as a fisherman" he recalls remembering how the horses loved the water.

Expertise and skill such as Cedric's comes the hard way – through years of experience. Having recently acquired a camera – the real kind not a digital one – he now hopes to take some stunning photography as he crosses the bay.

Cedric can be contacted on 015395 32165 if you want him to lead a walk.

## AONB MATTERS

*by David Askew, AONB Officer*

Much has been happening at the AONB office over the past few months. The AONB published its first ever guide and handbook to the area. Called 'The Bittern' the A5 booklet was distributed to as many households in the AONB as it was possible to reach using our volunteer 'posties'.

The booklet has information about all the active partners within the AONB who work to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area.

The Limestone Heritage Project has now managed the rebuilding of over 5000 metres (some 3 miles) of walling and has recently let several major walling contracts which over the coming 9 months should add a further 2,671 metres to the total.

The volunteers have also been venturing out regularly of late to keep the footpaths and bridleways clear of the rapid growing vegetation that often causes problems at this time of year.

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to issue No.5 of the Arnside Messenger. The Messenger is produced by Rachel Dutfield and Sandy Felton members of the Education and Communication Action Group of the Arnside Parish Plan Trust.

If you want to publish an item in the Messenger please contact us at our email: [messenger.arnside@tesco.net](mailto:messenger.arnside@tesco.net)

Once again our thanks to all our volunteers who help deliver the Messenger.

Members of the Arnside Parish Plan Trust recently took part in a sponsored bay walk, led by Cedric Robinson MBE, to help raise money for APPT projects. Well done to all those who took part. It is hoped the final sum raised will be over £500.

## ARNSIDE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The society was formed at an inaugural meeting at the W.I. in November, 2004. Meetings have so far been held in March, April and May and a programme of lectures and other events is being arranged for the autumn and winter.

Please contact the chairman Stephen Caunce on 762601 or Membership Secretary Len Smith on 762264, for further details.

## WANTED

Have you experience of **sound systems?**

If so the Education & Communication Group of Arnside Parish Plan Trust need your help. If you would be willing to volunteer please contact Rachel Dutfield (762573).

### ARNSIDE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE

The closure of the New Curiosity Shop has opened up new opportunities at the E.I. The former "Ladies Room" of the Albion pub (see the engraved glass panel in the door), now renamed the "Cumberland Room", is available for bookings for meetings and group activities. It has new carpets, a smart mini-kitchen, six tables and twenty-eight chairs and is adjacent to the new E.I. office. Further details can be obtained from Sue Gibson on 762828.

## ARNSIDE BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Arnside baby and toddler group meets every Monday at the studio in the E.I. 9.30am until 11.30am. It is open to all babies and toddlers from the village, Storth and Beetham areas.

Parents, grandparents and carers are all welcome to come along and join. Babies are free of charge up to the age of 6 months then £1 for the first child and 50p for each other child.

This price includes tea/coffee and a drink and biscuit for each child. There are toys appropriate for babies and toddlers, which can keep them busy for a couple of hours whilst mums have a well earned rest!

Children can come along and meet other families and hopefully form friendships with other children who might later attend the same nursery or school. It is also an opportunity for parents to meet. The group is not government funded and therefore raise all income themselves via various jumble sales, coffee mornings, quiz sheets, easter egg hunts and also through donations.

The committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have donated over the past year or contributed in other ways.

The group will have a stall at the local village market which takes place in November, 2005.

A jumble sale has been provisionally booked for 11th February 2006 and coffee morning for 11th May 2006.

The committee is keen to recruit new members to carry on this wonderful and worthwhile local facility for the children. There are places available at Playgroup sessions from September (for ages two and a half) and anyone interested in



*A lively group enjoy playtime*

Playgroup or Toddlers, please contact Catherine Crossman on 762426 for information.

## VILLAGE MARKET

Don't miss the **Village Market** organised by Arnside Parish Plan Trust to be held at the W.I.Hall on Saturday **3rd September** between 10am and 4pm

### OUR SPONSOR

This edition of the Messenger has been sponsored by the Educational Institute and we thank them for their continued support. If you would like to sponsor a future edition, or make a donation towards production costs of the Messenger, please contact Rachel Dutfield on 762573.