

## Rural Greens project 2007-08

### About the project

Rural Greens started in January 2007. We aim to build capacity within rural communities across the county in helping to protect, manage and enhance the green spaces in and around the places where you live, everything from village greens to play areas and riverbanks. We are based at the Friends of the Lake District offices in Kendal and are also supported by Defra's Rural Social and Community Programme. Jo Chaffer is the Outreach Officer leading the project activities.

We are working closely with

CALC, VAC and Cumbria County Council's Communities Department to make sure we reach as many people as possible.

We can provide training workshops, which are aimed at green spaces managers, such as Parish Councillors. They have a chance to update skills and knowledge on general green space management issues, particularly legal aspects.

**For further details contact Outreach Officer Jo Chaffer e-mail [jo-chaffer@fld.org.uk](mailto:jo-chaffer@fld.org.uk) or telephone 01539 720788.**



## New look for Longtown



Thanks to the enthusiasm of several key organisations in and around Longtown, the Swan Street commercial area of the town is about to undergo some long-awaited improvements. Carlisle City Council is managing and part funding the £¼ million project, which is principally funded through the Longtown Market Town Initiative (MTI)

by the Northwest Regional Development Agency, the European Regional Development Fund and English Heritage. The proposed works will include construction of new parking bays incorporating natural granite setts, sandstone paved pedestrian footways and landscaping including new trees.

Councillor Marilyn Bowman is the City Council's Rural Champion: "Carlisle City Council has been one of the MTI's principal partners since the beginning of its programme and we are taking

the lead in delivering these town centre improvements. The scheme will greatly improve the appearance of the conservation area and provide an attractive environment for local businesses to prosper."

Work on the improvements is scheduled to get underway this month with a finish date during January 2008.

**For further information about the work of the Longtown Market Town Initiative, go to [www.longtown.org/mti](http://www.longtown.org/mti) or call the MTI office on 01228 792778.**



## Eleventh Gets Quality Parish Status

Distington Parish Council in Copeland became Cumbria's eleventh parish council to achieve Quality Parish Status in August.

The village is the west coast borough's second Quality Parish, joining Lamplugh who were accredited way back in 2005. Here in Carlisle, only Irthington has made the grade so far, though several others are making great strides towards recognition. The Quality Parish scheme is the only mechanism for parish councils to be publicly and officially acknowledged as fulfilling their responsibilities in a range of fields including communications, financial management and electoral accountability. Although Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) three-year Quality Parish Initiative came to an end on 31 August, the scheme will continue to be supported and promoted by CALC's Parish Development team.

**You can find out more at [www.calc.org.uk](http://www.calc.org.uk) or by dropping an email to [chris.bagshaw@calc.org.uk](mailto:chris.bagshaw@calc.org.uk).**

## Crime in Cumbria

Crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, crime reduction and the fear of crime are some of the most important issues for local residents and businesses.

Carlisle City Council takes these matters seriously and has been a partner of the Carlisle & Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) for the past five years. Key agencies are also members including the Primary Care Trusts, the Police Authority and the Fire Service.

### Have your say

The CDRP will be producing a new assessment of crime and anti-social behaviour, misuse

of drugs, alcohol and other substance issues in Carlisle and District over the next few months.

**The CDRP wants to hear residents' views on which issues you feel should be a priority? Have your say by contacting the Carlisle & Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership on 01228 817011 or by emailing [info@carlisleandeden.cdrp.org.uk](mailto:info@carlisleandeden.cdrp.org.uk)**



## Cumbria Energy Efficiency Advice Centre (CEEAC)

Cumbria Energy Efficiency Advice Centre (CEEAC) has recently won the Ashden Award for sustainable energy for the UK in recognition of the work they do in Cumbria trying to help rural communities access information and grants about energy efficiency.

Hosted by Carlisle City Council, CEEAC provides a freephone service to all householders in Cumbria wanting information about how to make their homes more affordable to heat. Staff are happy to attend community events to give advice, make presentations to community groups and are always at the end of a phone to help with

any energy saving initiatives in your area.

**If you want to book a visit from the mobile unit, a talk from one of our experienced Energy Advisors or would like to set up a local community project and access the free low energy light bulbs then call Andrew Reed or Nikki Tattersall on 0800 512012.**



## Business growth and new jobs for the Longtown area

Longtown Market Town Initiative (MTI) has continued to exceed its targets for investment and business support in the past year with more than 30 jobs created and 19 new start-up businesses assisted in the past year.

To date, 52 different businesses in the Longtown area have benefited from Business Expansion Grants of up to 50% of project cost to a maximum of £5,000. So far, almost £200,000 has been invested into the area through this scheme in addition to numerous training grants that amount to over £5,000

and marketing support worth almost £8,000.

In total, more than £440,000 has now been spent or allocated in and around Longtown but funding is still available for business expansion, start up, marketing and training grants.

**Advice and assistance with the application process is readily available from Helen Sykes and her team with further information available online at [www.longtown.org/mti](http://www.longtown.org/mti) or from the MTI office on 01228 792778.**

## New Community Fund money available



Longtown Market Town Initiative (MTI) has secured an extra £10,000 of funding for community groups, in addition to the £15,000 Community Fund announced earlier last year. The Fund covers 13 parishes, from Arthuret and Askerton to Stapleton and Westlinton. Grants of up to £500 for organisations or up to £250 for requests from individuals are considered.

**Advice and assistance with the Community Fund application process is readily available from Violet Nelson with further information available online at [www.longtown.org/mti](http://www.longtown.org/mti) or from the MTI office on 01228 792778.**

## A New CVS for Cumbria



Bowen, its Chief Officer (pictured left).

The organisation will have improved and extended service delivery through existing local delivery points across Cumbria. All Third Sector groups throughout the county are warmly invited to join the new Cumbria CVS membership and are encouraged to keep in touch with their local Cumbria CVS offices.

**For further information please contact Cumbria CVS by e-mailing [enquiries@cumbriacvs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cumbriacvs.org.uk) or by telephone on 01768 242136.**

After two years of detailed research, planning and collaboration, Cumbria Council for Voluntary Service (Cumbria CVS) is now proudly up and running headed by Karen

## Rural Support Officer

Jeff Downham has now joined the Rural Support Team, he retired from Cumbria Police in 2006 with over 30 years service. When working for the police he specialised in partnership work, with both the statutory and voluntary sectors, covering the community safety agenda. His wealth of experience and more recent part-time work for Voluntary Action Cumbria covering rural

issues will stand him in good stead in his new role with Carlisle City Council covering Claire Rankin's maternity leave, after the birth of her son Noah on 15 August 2007.

**To contact Jeff please e-mail him at [jeffdownham@ruralcumbria.org.uk](mailto:jeffdownham@ruralcumbria.org.uk) or [jeffd@carlisle.gov.uk](mailto:jeffd@carlisle.gov.uk)**

## Carlisle Rural Neighbourhood Forums Proposed dates.

### Brampton and District

10 September 2007

7.00pm - 9.00pm

William Howard School

### Wetheral & Stanwix Rural

27 September 2007

7.30pm - 9.30pm

Linstock Women's Institute Hall

### Longtown & Bewcastle

3 October 2007

7.00pm - 9.00pm

Longtown Community Centre

### Dalston & Cummersdale

15 October 2007

7.00pm - 9.00pm

Venue to be confirmed

## Cumbria Community Awards

Cumbria County Council in partnership with Cumbrian Newspaper Group is launching the Cumbria Community Awards 2007. These have been developed with Cumbria Community Foundation in order to celebrate the amazing contribution made by volunteers in all aspects of Cumbrian life. Nominations opened on Friday 10 August

until Monday 24 September 2007, with the awards ceremony being held on Thursday 1 November.

**Full details of the awards can be found on the County Council Website by using the following link [www.cumbria.gov.uk/communityinformation/ccal](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/communityinformation/ccal)**

## Diary Dates

### Carlisle Parish Council

Executive, Longtown,

13 September 2007 at 7.30pm

### Carlisle Parish Council

Association Annual General Meeting, Brampton,

11 October 2007 at 7.30pm

## Wetheral Cemetery Chapel Reopened

The Wetheral Cemetery Chapel, which is sited within the cemetery on Ashgate Lane, Wetheral, was officially re-opened on Wednesday, 13 June 2007 at 6.30pm by June Carswell from Carlisle Bereavement Services.

several years to complete and included the installation of electricity, heating and lighting, the restoration of plasterwork, stonework, wooden flooring and pews and finally it was completely redecorated and cleaned.

The Chapel, which has not been in use for many years, has recently been refurbished by Wetheral Parish Council. The refurbishment, which is part of an ongoing programme of improvements to the cemetery and adjacent woodland burial ground, took

The Chapel, which is non-denominational, is now available for use and for the placement of memorial plaques, by arrangement with the Parish Council **for further information and enquiries please e-mail [wetheralpc@carlisle.gov.uk](mailto:wetheralpc@carlisle.gov.uk)**

