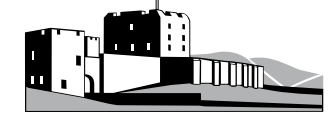


Rural Voice

September 2011

A Rural Voice for Rural Carlisle

CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL



www.carlisle.gov.uk



Future of Rural Voice

The future of Rural Voice is currently under discussion. We would welcome your thoughts on whether it should continue. Options for the future will be discussed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the Carlisle Parish Council Association on Tuesday, 4 October, at 7pm, at Talkin Tarn. In the meantime, if you would like to comment on the future of this publication, please contact Zoe Sutton on 01228 817312 or email zoes@carlisle.gov.uk



Homeshare Comes to Carlisle



Homeshare is a new, exciting and innovative scheme provided by Age UK for Eden, Cumbria. It's simple, its two people sharing a home. There have been several Homeshare schemes in England but Homeshare Eden is the only one which has covered an area this far North, and indeed, this rural. Homeshare Eden is at a very exciting stage; we have one match which has been going on for several weeks now.

A Homeshare short film is in pre-production and they have also moved the remit of the scheme to include Carlisle.

A Homeshare is very much a two-way relationship; both people gain equally from the arrangement; the homeowner gets the help and support they need; the homesharer finds a place to call home. Nobody should lose out financially by taking part in Homeshare.

Continues on page two...

Welcome to our latest edition of Rural Voice.

Thanks for all your comments on our newsletter and for your suggested articles.

Please continue to let us know what you'd like included within the Rural Voice, by emailing Carlisle City Council's Rural Support Officer, Zoe Sutton, at rural@carlisle.gov.uk or call her on 01228 817312.

In this edition, we've got a feature on [Taking to the Stage](#) and [Spotlight on Money Matters](#).

There are also our regular sections: [News in Brief](#); [Diary Dates](#) and [Quick Links](#).

Did You Know?

Homeshare has been proven to be a successful housing option in many parts of the world, including America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand

Continued from page one...

Homeshare comes to Carlisle!

As part of Homeshare, the first person is the householder - they are usually an older person who could use some help and company around their home. The second person is the homesharer, a younger person who needs somewhere to live and is willing to give help and friendship in exchange. The homesharer pays reduced or no rent and gives up no more than 10 hours of their time each week to help the householder. This help and support comes in the form of activities such as shopping, gardening, housework, and perhaps, transport. The process for interested parties is carefully managed by the Homeshare Co-ordinator who introduces compatible homesharers and householders to one another. An interview process takes place as well as references being taken up and a CRB check – this is alongside the homesharers meeting up with one another. To find out more, telephone **01768 863 618**, email dean.raine@accarlisleeden.org.uk or visit www.homeshare-eden-district.co.uk



Taking to the Stage



The Highlights Rural Touring Scheme is a brilliant organisation which brings high quality professional theatre, music, dance and craft events into village halls, schools and community centres. It operates across many parts of Cumbria (as well as Durham and Northumberland), including a number of Halls in the rural parts of Carlisle.

They source, organise and administer the acts for you. You get to choose what you want twice a year and have to work out how to fill your hall with an audience. They put your venue and show onto their website and brochure. You have to guarantee to pay back a certain proportion of your box office to fund the performance. They help train you as a promoter. You learn how satisfying it can be to put on a great evening's entertainment for your community.

They have helped breath some new life into Castle Carrock's Watson Institute. Getting new insulation, a new roof, new chairs, a new sound system and secondary glazing – it all helps justify applications for grants when you can also talk about events where people will benefit from improvements.

The beautiful 110 year old village hall holds 70 people. The Watson Institute has put on eight shows over the past three years. They don't have a stage (sometimes they borrow the school's), they don't have lights or a sound

system (the artists bring their own), and they don't have any guarantee of an audience (but by hook or by crook, they've sold out every time).

To find out more, visit www.highlightsnorth.co.uk



Spotlight on Money Matters

LEADER Funding

The Solway, Border and Eden RDPE LEADER Programme has funding available until **June 2013**. The programme can help fund capital and revenue costs which improve:

- The processing and marketing of primary agricultural and forestry products
- Infrastructure improvements for farms and woodland
- Economic and recreational development of woodland
- Farm diversifications
- Business development, tourism projects and investments that conserve and upgrade rural heritage features.

Grants are usually 40% of total cost of the project, but this can vary. To find out more, telephone **016973 49212**.



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Funding Strategies

Explore the key elements of a successful funding strategy at a course at Morton Community Centre, Wigton Road, Carlisle on **Thursday, 29 September**, between **10am and 4pm**. The costs, including lunch and refreshments, are £50 third sector organisations and £100 statutory organisations.

To find out more, telephone Monique Rebanks on **01768 800350** or email moniquer@cumbriacvs.org.uk

BT Community Connections

If you know of a community group which helps, or wants to help, people access the internet and improve their ICT skills, they could be eligible to receive 12 months free broadband from BT.

Silver surfers, after school and youth clubs, even 'IT for the Terrified' groups have benefitted from an award in the past and are now encouraging even more people to get online. The closing date for applications is **Thursday 15 September**.

To find out more, visit www.bt.com/communityconnections

Events in Focus

Sunday, 4 September - 1pm

Low Luckens Resource, Centre, Roweltown

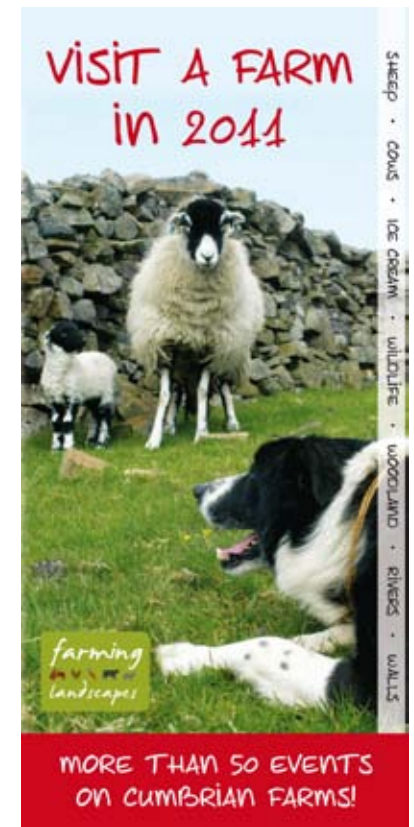
An education centre based on an organic farm, set in beautiful countryside, the farm is part of the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme. It includes hedgerow restoration, hay meadow and pasture management, footpath and educational access. For our Hedgerow Walk, Bryan Jeffrey will lead you along the farm hedgerows identifying the different trees and shrubs which make up the field and lane boundaries. There will be ample opportunity for sampling the hedgerow harvest. Bring a packed lunch. Booking is essential.

To find out more, telephone **016977 48186**, email lowluckensorc@hotmail.com or visit www.lowluckensfarm.co.uk

Thursday, 15 September

Growing Beef - Wheelbarrow Hall, Aglionby, Carlisle

Wheelbarrow Hall lies on the Eden valley flood plain east of Carlisle City. This 250ha farm grows a variety of crops and produces beef. Come and see calves being fed from just milk right through the different feeding process until they leave the farm. No booking required.



News in Brief

Planning – Joint Working Matters

A CPCA Executive Committee report, “Planning – Joint Working Matters” which examines parish councils’ concerns regarding several planning issues, has been discussed at an informal meeting.

The report addresses several issues including: the right to speak; use of video in place of site visits; consultation timescales; and the explanation of reasons for planning decisions. It was agreed that a series of further joint meetings be held between City Council and CPCA officers, with the ultimate aim of creating a new, planning specific, joint working protocol.

New Appointment

Jeff Twedde has joined Cumbria County Council’s Area Support Team in Carlisle. Jeff replaces Judith Gardiner as the Area Engagement Officer covering the rural areas of Carlisle district.

He has joined the Carlisle and Eden Area Support Teams following a restructure of what was the County Council’s Community Unit. Originally from the Longtown area, Jeff has previously worked as a Rural Project Officer for Northumberland County Council and has gained a wealth of experience supporting rural communities. You can contact Jeff on **01228 226474** or email

jeff.twedde@cumbria.gov.uk



Penton Exchange

The Penton Exchange is set to start. Their aim is to revitalise village life by involving people of all ages to have their lunch, socialise, seek advice and order goods, swop jigsaws and books and reduce isolation. The first event will be on **Wednesday 28 September**, between 1pm and 4pm, in the Nicholforest Village Hall. They will be serving soup and desserts, tea or coffee. To find out more, telephone **01228 577381**.

New Chief Executive for ACT

Ruth Willis is the new Chief Executive of Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT). She has taken over from Roger Roberts, who retired from ACT at the end of April.

She has joined ACT after 30 years in the public sector where she worked in a variety of roles in housing, partnerships and environmental services. Working in London, the Midlands and Cumbria and most recently with Copeland and Allerdale Councils where she co-ordinated work on their West Cumbria wide partnerships including the Local Strategic Partnership, Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and the two Neighbourhood Partnerships in South Whitehaven and South Workington.

To find out more about ACT, visit

www.cumbriaaction.org.uk or attend their ACT Annual General meeting on **Friday 23 September**, between **10am and 12 noon**, at Eaglesfield Village Hall, Eaglesfield.

Quick Links

Visit a Farm in 2011

The Farming Landscapes events guide for 2011 is now available. To find out more, visit www.farminglandscapes.com

Walking for Health

The new Walking for Health programme is now available. The walks take place at a variety of locations around the city and district in order to improve accessibility. To find out more, visit www.carlisle.gov.uk

Diary Dates

Cumbria CVS AGM

Thursday 22 September - 10am to 1pm
Forum 28, Barrow

ACT AGM

Friday 23 September - 10am to 12noon
Eaglesfield Village Hall, Eaglesfield

Carlisle Parish Council Association AGM

Tuesday 4 October - 7pm
Talkin Tarn Country Park, Brampton

ACT workshop for new Village Hall committee members

Thursday 13 October - 9.45am to 3pm
Mungrisedale Village Hall

To reserve a place please contact Claire Watters at ACT on **01768 869518** or email clairewatters@cumbriaaction.org.uk

Cumbria Association of Local Councils AGM

Saturday 12 November - 10am
Venue to be confirmed