action
with communities
in cumbria

NEWS RELEASE

Issued 19 April 2010

Tebay and Orton – Locally Distinctive

New 'Local Distinctiveness' project launched to work with the communities of Tebay and Orton, uncovering their stories and celebrating the distinctiveness that makes this neighbourhood special.

Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT) is delighted to announce the new project which aims to raise awareness of, and pride in the Tebay and Orton region. The project aims to work with local people to look at features such as farming traditions, archaeology, geology, local history, transport links, architecture, railway heritage, flora and fauna.

New Development Officer, Annie Hamilton Gibney, who has been managing the Living among the Monuments Project for Penrith and Eden Museum for the last 5 years, will now also be working with the communities of Tebay and Orton parishes to coordinate research into the cultural history, heritage, natural environment and farmed landscape of the area.

Annie will be recruiting volunteers to support the project, and hopes to find people from local groups, businesses, farms and the wider community who are enthusiastic about their local area and want to find out more about it and why it is so distinctive.

Annie said "I'm delighted to be joining the team at ACT and am very much looking forward to working with local people in Tebay and Orton to uncover the area's unique heritage and potential."

ACT, in partnership with the Churches Trust for Cumbria (CTfC), secured funding for the Local Distinctiveness project through the Fells and Dales Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). The CTfC will be contributing towards improvements in facilities at St James' Church in Tebay, to enable it to be used more widely for community activities, and to provide a display area for exhibitions.

Gina Dowding, CTfC Director said "This is a very interesting and exciting development for the people of Tebay and Orton parishes. I am delighted that funding has been given to support this type of bottom-up approach to assisting local people and which ensures that all parts of the community can work together"

This project will help to highlight the importance of this unique landscape to both resident and visiting communities, as well as providing training in research, fund raising, event planning, consultation and marketing.

If you have a story to tell, and would like to be involved in this project, please contact Annie by email: annieh-g@cumbriaaction.org.uk or telephone: 01768 869517.

- Ends -

Photo:

Annie Hamilton-Gibney, ACT Development Officer – Tebay & Orton Local Distinctiveness Project

Further press information available from:
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Notes to Editors:

Action with Communities in Cumbria
(Previously known as Voluntary Action Cumbria)

- ACT is Cumbria's Rural Community Council and a registered charity.
- ACT is working with people and communities to improve the quality of life in rural Cumbria.
- ACT is an independent organisation able to work with a wide range of partners on an open and equitable basis.
- Established in 1948, for over 60 years ACT has been supporting communities that are socially, economically and environmentally vibrant where the needs of all are considered.
- To find out more information, please visit ACT's website: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk

Churches Trust for Cumbria

The Churches Trust for Cumbria aims to help churches and their communities get their wonderfully unique and historic buildings into good repair and put to maximum use, while keeping their special role as places of worship.

We offer free help and support to all of Cumbria's churches and faith buildings through:

- **Our website** Advice, resources and links for those looking after churches on a range of issues such as maintenance, professional help, project management and funding
- **Consultancy and support** We can assist church communities in developing a long term vision for the use of their assets which meets the aspirations of local people.
- **Networking** We can help develop and implement plans in connecting people with new partners from the statutory, voluntary and business sectors.
- **Training courses** We organise a range of courses such as help for church communities improve their visitor welcome, improving their visitor literature, and in fundraising and project management.

We help put people and organisations in touch with Cumbria's churches through

- **Our church directory**- Lists and maps all of Cumbria's faith buildings and provides contact details
- **Contacts-** knowing who is who in the faith, voluntary and public sectors, we can put people in touch

Visit our website: **www.ctfc.org.uk**

Rural Development Programme for England and Wales

The Rural Development Programme for England is jointly funded by the Government and the EU through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas. Defra is the managing authority for RDPE which forms part of 'Solutions for Business', the Government's package of publicly funded support designed to help companies start and grow.

The Regional Development Agencies have been charged with managing the delivery of the RDPE and, in Cumbria, it is delivered by Cumbria County Council through two Local Action Groups covering the Cumbria Fells and Dales and the Solway, Borders and Eden area.

defra
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

Northwest
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas

LEADER