

## **Cumbria Community Memorial Fund – Please Promote**

The Cumbria Community Memorial Fund has been created to support the people and communities affected by the shootings of 2 June 2010.

Andy Beeforth Director of the Community Foundation which is managing the Fund said "this is unlike any fund we've managed before. We need to be sensitive to the needs of the community and particularly those caught up in this terrible tragedy. We have created this fund so that people can demonstrate their sympathy and support for those affected."

"We have been contacted by people directly affected by the shootings and want very much to help them where normal public services cannot."

"Quite how much we can do depends on how much money we collect. We are very conscious that money is not people's main concern at times like this but there will be a range of practical needs that the Fund can assist with."

Donations can be made via the Community Foundation's website [www.cumbriafoundation.org](http://www.cumbriafoundation.org) or at any branch of the Cumberland or Furness Building Societies.

A committee led by Willie Slavin, Community Foundation Trustee and former Whitehaven headteacher and including representation from the church, police, health authority and Copeland Borough Council will meet on Thursday 17 June to take plans for the fund forward. We do know from previous funds created in communities like Dunblane that assistance was directed to dependants and to help those with long term support needs. We also hope to be able to fund those organisations which provide emotional support. We can respond quickly with immediate assistance now should it be needed.

Requests for immediate assistance can be directed to the Community Foundation. The local church in Whitehaven has created the Copeland Tragedy Fund which is also responding to immediate need. The two funds are working closely together.

The Cumbria Community Memorial Fund has been opened with the support of the members of the Cumbria Recovery Coordination Group.