



Digimon Bee  
by Cameron Jackson

# Solway Buzz

March 2002

local news – for you – by you – free to you – local news

**FREE PAPER**

Issue 6

## Silloth Action Plan A New Future

Most residents of Silloth will shortly be receiving a copy of the Silloth Action Plan. The Plan itself is self-explanatory in its aims and objectives. Please do find time to read it. Copies will be available from other locations while stocks last.

It is meant to be a realistic effort to move Silloth forward. Indeed it is already in operation. When you examine the Action Areas, you will see that, in fact, some of the targets have already been met or are presently being achieved. The intention is that all existing ventures and groups are supported in their efforts and encouraged to work together in a co-operative spirit. Existing organisations such as Silloth Tourism Action Group and the Silloth & District Business Association have a valuable part to play.

Some of the achievements already taking place are:

The refurbishment of some town centre properties with the assistance from the Allerdale Borough Council "Face-lift" scheme.

Various new events are taking place in addition to those already in existence:

The Beer Festival was a great success and was very well supported by both local residents and visitors alike.

The "It's A Knock-Out" competition went marvellously and showed a great level of enthusiasm by all concerned, in spite of anything but perfect weather conditions.

Other established events such as the Vintage Rally and the Carnival again took place.

It is planned that the Kite Festival will once again take place. Let's hope that the weather is kind!

There are plans for other events. Watch this space!

The St. Paul's Heritage Centre is now partially in use and will be in full swing early this summer. This should be a very valuable facility for both residents and visitors alike. It is hoped that the Silloth tourist economy will benefit from extra visitors. The further developments of the Solway Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with Silloth playing an important

role should be an additional benefit.

The Council Centre which deals with matters concerning Town, Borough and County Councils is now operating on three days a week.

Various sporting events and sports schools have taken place or are planned.

Improvements have been made to the Eden St. Play Area and further additions will soon be made. This will be a great attraction for local children and draws in visitors to the town - often on coach trips.

We are in the early stages of planning for a major upgrading of the all-weather sports facilities. Solway School are about to put in a preliminary bid for funding for a Sports/Community facility on its site. It remains to be seen what the outcome will be.

A feasibility study is soon to be carried out on the development potential of the Silloth Airfield site. Hopefully something positive will come from this.

Although no one could pretend that the road communications in the area are good, over recent years there have been considerable improvements in particular to the Silloth to Wigton road, which is so important to the area. Road safety schemes relating especially to schools, have been carried out. There has even been some improvements in road signing - by the side of the M6 and to Silloths West beach.

Very shortly there will be a brand new Community minibus in Silloth, specially adapted for wheelchair users.

An obvious and clearly successful example of progress with the Action Plan is in the production of this very local newspaper - the Solway Buzz. It is filling a real need for news and ideas sharing in the community.

It should be noted that the Town



Council has played an important part in helping to "kick-start" some of the developments mentioned by providing grants - money which has mainly come from local people through the payment of their council Tax.

Of course there are some projects where not much progress has been made. For example, there are still some areas of the town where evident dereliction is still a problem. Satisfactory solutions to such problems are by no means as easy to find as some people might imagine.

Also, some of the developments are likely to take longer to achieve - often because of the need to access very large sums of money. The forecast time scales in the Action Areas show this, of course.

The Silloth Regeneration Partnership is aiming to be a kind of co-ordinating and enabling body to achieve the goals of the Action Plan. With the help and involvement of local councils, various other organisations and most important of all - you, the people of Silloth and district, we should succeed in taking the community forward.