

# Solvay Buzz www.solwaybuzz.co.uk

September 2025

local news - for you - by you - about you - free to you

FREE PAPER

Issue 232

# Bowling Club Charity Night Donates £1,250



Report by: Andrea Gibson Secretary SBC L-R: Julie Wallace Treasurer SBC, Christine Ray, Melanie Irving Silloth Youth Club, Owen Martin Silloth First Responders & Andrea Gibson

Silloth Bowling Club had a Charity Race Night at Silloth Bowling Club to raise money for Silloth First Responders and Silloth Youth Club. The night was sponsored by Molson Coors Brewery and races were sponsored by Jaybees, Trophies Sport & Leisure, Bessies, Royas, Stanwix Park, Enkey, Alan Whitham and Malcolm Wilson. It was all hosted by Graham who was absolutely fantastic, thanks to the generosity of everyone who attended we raised £1,250 which was split equally between both causes.

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FoTG enjoy productive effort



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The Solway Buzz is a FREE community paper with a circulation of up to 5,500 copies for the area around Abbeytown, Skinburness, Silloth-on-Solway and Mawbray

## Silloth Scout Group



Report by: Kathryn Shires

The Beavers Cubs and Scouts of Silloth have been out and about every week this term!

Back in June we made our own kites and didn't make too bad a job of flying them. The following week we tried our hand at Tomahawk throwing – we loved that and want to do more of it.

Next, we hiked around Grune Point. You may have seen us at the end of June playing rounders on the green.

In July we visited Clip & Climb at Maryport. That was well worth the visit and I'm pretty sure the Beavers Cubs and Scouts were once monkeys the skill they had at climbing!

We were then treated to a visit to Brownrigg Farm, the home of some of our members where we met all their animals – we even had a cuddle with the emus!

As always, we finished the summer term with water games on west beach. It was the only week in term when the weather was a bit dodgy but as we were getting wet anyhow it didn't really matter. For the first time ever, the leaders came out of the water fight victorious – I'm sure they won't let us get away with that twice though!

If you would like to join in and experience all this fun and adventure, give us a call. We have room for boys and girls aged 6 to 13 and especially for 6 and 10 year olds. Kathryn 07803 000216 or email: kathryn.shires@cumbriascouts.org.uk









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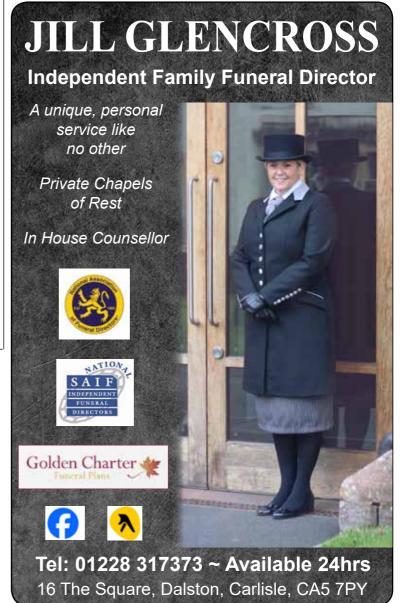
Whatever your furnishing needs, ring Irene on 016973 31836 or 07902 805196, Email: armstrongi@btinternet.com

## Yes, We Still Want Bee Drawings!

You can get the Bee Drawing form from Silloth Library.
You can then take the form home or sit down in the peace and quiet of the Library and create your masterpiece there.
Don't forget to print your name and other details clearly.
Please return the completed form to the Librarian.



Flower Bee by Ella-Rose Carruthers from Silloth Primary School



## Slimming World

Report by: Michelle Blakely Slimming World Consultant

In October 2022, I took a leap—not just into a new career, but into a new purpose.

When I lost 3 stone with Slimming World, despite living with health conditions like fibromyalgia, I discovered something powerful: real food, real support, and real transformation are absolutely possible, no matter your starting point. Food Optimising means nothing is offlimits. I didn't have to give up my favourite foods or feel deprived. It was all about changing my habits with lots of support from other members as well as the consultant. I was still able to socialise, enjoy holidays and

takeaways and still lose weight. It's not about restriction—it's about making choices that fuel your body, shift your mindset, and support long-term wellbeing.

That mindset shift is key. Yes, it focuses on food—but it also focuses on you:

your confidence, your habits, your self-worth. And when I combined that with the encouragement of a warm, welcoming group, it created something magical that helped me all the way to my Personal Achievement Target.

Now, as a Slimming World Consultant, I help others unlock that same potential every week—and the results speak for themselves. One of my amazing members has gone from being house bound and being told by the doctors that they were crushing their lungs to losing over 10½ stone, doing regular exercise and enjoying days out with friends and family, completely transforming their life. Another new member recently lost 9 lb in their very first week, by cooking their favourite meals but without fat, oils or spreads, and many see an average first week weight loss of 5 lb. Would you love to be half a stone lighter in just two weeks, feeling more confident, healthier, and happier? It's absolutely achievable.

At Slimming World, we eat real food. Favourite family meals like lasagne, burger and chips, Sunday roasts and even a Friday night curry are still firmly on the menu—because any food can be food optimised. You'll never go hungry or feel deprived.

And the support? It's second to none. Whether you're nervous about walking through the doors alone or need help tackling a specific challenge, we're right there with you. We pride ourselves on being a welcoming, judgement-free

space and we even have a laugh along the way! Many members join on their own and leave with lifelong friendships often feeling they have found a second family. Whether you're new to Slimming World or returning, you'll be welcomed with open arms.

We also understand that everyone's journey is unique. Whether you're losing weight through lifestyle changes, weight loss surgery, medication or jabs, our support is for you, wherever you are on your path. Our only focus is helping you feel better, inside and out.

We've recently introduced a brand-new format for our Image Therapy sessions, giving members

even more personal support, inspiration, and celebration of success. Plus, we encourage an all-round healthy lifestyle with Body Magic awards for physical activity, that you enjoy at your pace and when you are ready for it, helping you feel

stronger and more energised.

And yes—you can still go out with friends, enjoy meals out, celebrate birthdays and still lose weight. Myself and my members love how we can still socialise. enjoy food and life—and make progress. We're here to help you navigate every situation with confidence.

I'm also incredibly proud that our group has recently received a Bronze award—a testament to the positive, uplifting, and supportive environment

we've built together. The Saturday morning group has put healthy weight loss on the map in Silloth.. Together, they've lost an amazing 111 stone this year.

"The number of people living with obesity is at record levels and as well as the emotional difficulties this causes, obesity is linked to many serious health conditions such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease, strokes and several types of cancer. So I'm extremely proud to be supporting people in our community each week to lose

## Ed Blackburn Turns 80



Report by: Trevor Grahamslaw

Ed Blackburn the "Franz Beckenbauer" of Silloth's Monday afternoon "Walking Football Team" has turned 80.

The Silloth born cultured defender was for once wrong footed when presented by a soccer themed birthday cake marking this

wonderful milestone.

After marshalling the defence superbly in an 8-4 victory. Ed and the teams retired to Christ Church as usual for tea and biscuits, where Ed was surprised with a rendition of Happy Birthday and a cake baked by Cheryl Fairholm wife of fellow walking footballer David.

For ever the team man Ed insisted on sharing his birthday spoils with his fellow teammates.

Whether you are resident in Silloth or just passing through you are welcome to join us on Mondays: 1pm to 2pm beside the tennis courts for a friendly game of walking football. Just turn up.

## "Quote of the Month"

"To walk in nature is to witness a thousand miracles"



weight by eating more healthily and adopting a more active lifestyle for the long term. The healthy influence of Slimming World stretches right across families, too, with 75% of members reporting that they have influenced their family and friends to make healthier food choices."

On August 9th, we moved to our lovely new venue at Caldew Hall, and I'd love to welcome you. If you're ready to take that first step — to feel healthier, happier, and more in control — come and join us. We'll be with you every step of the way.

Real food. Real support. Real results.

I've lived it. Now let me help you live it too.

Michelle Blakely
Slimming World Consultant –
Silloth Group
New Venue from 9th August:
Caldew Hall, Silloth
Call: 07984 998946
Group Times: Saturday 8:30am
and 10am
Find us on Facebook:
Slimming World with
Michelle 07984 998946



Wigton Bowling Club Mondays 3:30pm, 5:30pm & 7pm Tuesdays 7am, 9am & 10:30am

Contact: Denise on 07799 708465

Silloth RUFC Saturdays 8:30am & 10am From 9th August Caldew Hall

Contact: Michelle on 07984 998946

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## Silloth Creates!



Report by: Judy Rochester

"Silloth Creates!" in Silloth Library on Friday 29th August 2pm - 4pm

Whether a painter or potter, poet or photographer, gardener or craftworker, tucked away in Silloth and surrounding area are many creative people quietly working away at their own craft.

As a follow-up to the National Creativity Day meeting in Silloth Library recently we are inviting you along to the library on Friday 29th August to meet up with likeminded creative people to share ideas and maybe offer advice to those wishing to start a new hobby.

We hope to have a demonstration by one or two local craftspeople and a display of local crafts. Do bring along a sample of your work to display if you wish.

No need to book - just pop in between 2pm and 4pm. Refreshments will be available.

Contact library if you need more information.



## Silloth Craft Group Raise £173 in Memory of Edna



Report by: Kate Barkway

The Wednesday Craft Group had a table at the Silloth Summer Craft Fayre held at Caldew Hall on Saturday 15th July, selling items made by the talented ladies from the group.

This was to raise funds for the Silloth Convalescent Home Amenities Fund, in memory of one of our members, Enda Keveaney, who passed away in March.

We raised £173, which was wonderful. Many thanks to all those who made items and those who bought them at the Fayre.

We meet every Wednesday at the Silloth Community Hall beside the library, from 1pm till 3pm. All welcome.



Edna Keveaney

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## Friends of The Green Are Planning for Autumn

Report by: Pat Robinson Photos by: Caroline Turner

The volunteers, as usual, have been busy weeding, cutting back and doing general maintenance jobs trying to keep the Community Garden flowering as long as possible and preparing for Autumn. Two volunteers took the opportunity to tidy up the area under the Port Sign while it is away for a bit of TLC. We're now trying to decide what to plant under the

sign that can deal with the tricky conditions. It has shallow soil and catches all the wind and therefore drys out quickly. Watch this space!

The Geraniums in the raised beds have been successful during the Summer bringing colour, diversity of foliage and scent to the Community Garden for people to enjoy. We have had many positive comments from residents and visitors which is really appreciated. Hopefully the Geraniums will last

until the end of September when we are planning an orange, yellow, blue and white scheme of Tulips, Hyacinths and Polyanthus for the Autumn and Winter.





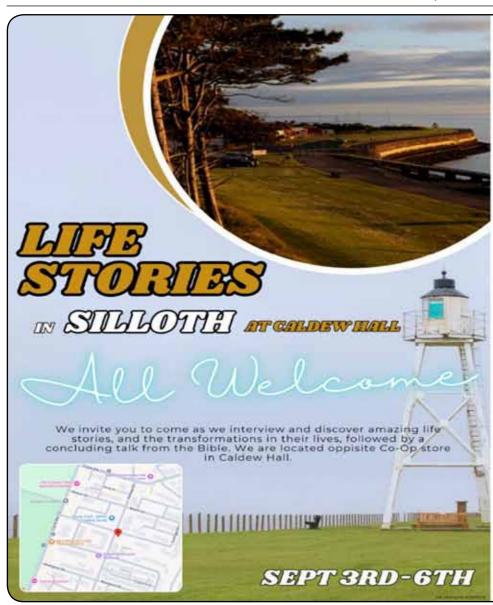




If you would like to join us as a volunteer, no experience required and all tools supplied, pop down to the Community Garden, opposite the Golf Hotel, on Wednesdays at 10 o'clock. And it's not all

gardening, afterwards we enjoy a craic and a cuppa! Do join us!

Happy Gardening and thank you to all our volunteers and supporters.





## Wigton and the Solway. Times of Change

Trevor has been photographing and writing about the Solway Firth required and you can just turn up. As followsfor over thirty years. His latest publication is a comprehensive Georgian history of the region.

Spanning the early 18th century into the 19th century the book details a time of upheaval as agricultural progress and industrialisation swept away a centuries old lifestyle totally transforming Cumberland.

Split into chapters covering local institutions, events and entertainments the book uses local sources, documents and particularly anecdotes supplemented with over 250 illustrations to illustrate this "Times of Change" book.

The launch is at Wigton Cornerstone Church on the 20th September at 7:30pm, when Trevor will discuss the book with local author and journalist Sue Allan. Please see the poster for details. Tickets are £5 obtainable direct from Trevor (mobile 07484 829018).

The launch is expected to be sold out, but other talks have been arranged where tickets are not

"Tales from the Tearoom" on Thursday 25th September 7pm at Fletchertown Social Club. When Trevor will be in conversation with Caroline McKenzie. No admission charged, but please bring a donation

Wigton Cornerstone Church on Saturday 11th October at 7:30pm. Trevor's powerpoint talk "Dear Jane" will discuss the inspiration for the book - the letters sent by Jane Matthews of Wigton Hall between 1791 and 1820 to her friend Jane Clark. Admission is £5.

West Cumbria Archaeology Society on Friday 14th November 7:30pm at Fletchertown Social Club. Repeating the "Dear Jane" talk. Admission payable to Society.

The book "Wigton and the Solway. Times of Change" is expected to be available in bookshops and other outlets from late September. It is 304 pages long, A4 and colour throughout costing £30 a copy. The book price at any of the events listed above will be just £25.

## **Creative Writing Workshop**





#### **Creative Writing Workshop** The Saltmarsh Experience September 27th Saltmarshes (merses) occupy

the boundary between land and sea, a special margin with shapeshifting structures, and unusual sights, sounds and smells.

Would you enjoy finding out more? And how would you write about the marshes? On Saturday September 27th, 10am-4pm, join Ann Lingard for a day's writing workshop at the RSPB Campfield Reserve near Bowness on Solway, to immerse yourself in 'the saltmarsh experience'.

We'll have a wander on the saltmarsh, and indoor sessions in the Solway Wetlands Centre. Donations of £10 for the RSPB on the day, please. Hot drinks and snacks will be provided, but bring your own lunch. (Warm clothes and waterproofs might be a good idea too!).

There is more about the saltmarshes in Ann's book, The Fresh and the Salt, the story of the Solway – especially in chapter 4 https://thefreshandthesalt.co.uk/ chapter-four/

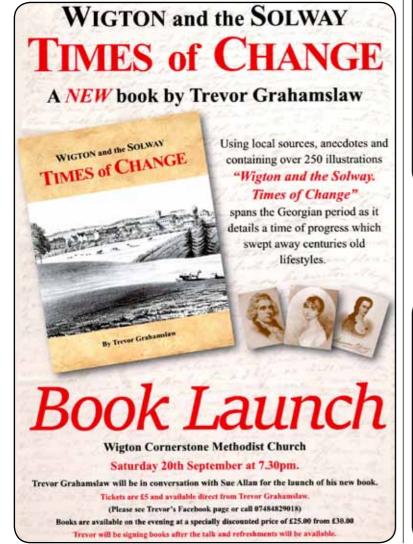
For more details about the writing day, and to book your place (essential, please), contact Ann through The Fresh and the Salt website https://thefreshandthesalt. co.uk/contact/



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## £500 for Silloth First Responders



Report by: John Leiba

Miss Minnie Parr handing over a cheque for £500 to Owen Martin for the Silloth First Responders.

The money was raised by

Minnies parents Karen and Stephen Parr who organised a 90s Rave party.

A big thank you to everyone involved and donated.

## Blencogo & District Garden Club

Report by: Linda Wood

On the day of our visit to RHS Bridgewater members came well equipped with waterproofs and umbrellas as the weather forecast for the day was wet and windy, but we were all determined to have a great day.

On arrival we were greeted with a warm welcome and thankfully the weather held with just a short shower. For lunch we visited the on-site pizza cafe which was delicious.

The gardens were beautiful and the highlight for me were the hydrangeas and the Chinese garden.

Our next garden visit is to Threave House and Gardens (National Trust). We are leaving Blencogo village hall at 9am on Saturday September 27th. Entry to the house & garden will be £9.90 and the cost of the coach will depend on how many travel. At the moment the cost for the bus will be £20.

If you would like to join us please contact Nick or Linda on 07582 856392 to book your seat.







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## The Great 2<sup>nd</sup> Firebird Festival Held

Report by: Simon Keel Photos by: Mark Williams

The 2nd Firebird Festival got under way on Saturday 5th July, over two days of extremely changeable weather.

Saturday morning looked quite promising during the set up until the clouds started crawling in and brought the rain before start up. This set everything back a good half hour before the show was able to begin.

The first band on were The Misfitz, who were segregated into two groups, with the brass section under the awning of the Rolling Pub Co', due to the stage being just too wet to walk on. Despite this the band flew through a variety of Soul, Rhythm and Blues numbers including some surprise well known chart hits, leaving the stage well received.







Next on stage after a little more drizzle from the skies were local Rock trio, Slagbank, Guitarist Buzz and the boys always put on a good show and this was no exception, plowing through many Rock Classics, some of which do not get an airing from other bands as standards, and were well performed and enjoyed by all.

Next up during another wet lashing of rain, The Woftones took to the stage hammering out a barrage of their own top quality Rockabilly style numbers, chasing the rain away for a while early in the set, these boys had the stage literally bouncing in unison.

Then followed the headliner





for the day, the great Cash band, a tribute to the Man in Black himself, Johnny Cash, including his own June Carter to enhance the performance. This band fired through a blazing set of classic numbers including, Walk the Line, One Piece at a Time and Ring of Fire, prompting the healthy crowd to join in and sing along whether they were young or old, or whether they were Cash fans or not as the clouds sailed off and brought out some sunshine for most of the superb set. A fine ending to a great

selection of bands for the first day. Sunday started well with sun hanging high in the sky, seemingly promising a fine day, but as start up neared the clouds came across threatening the show once again, and through a light showering early in the set, The Flute Inspectors from Carlisle, who are ex members of the sadly split Slaves of Venus, took to the stage with a blistering array of classic New Wave and Rock songs from the 70's through the 80's and beyond, a great new band that get better and better every time they

Next up were the young Wigton band, The Antics playing out a set of their own Indie style numbers to great applause, these young lads play well and seem a promising act to look out for.

Early afternoon and on stage are The Faithful Departed, rocking out an impressive array of classic Cranberries songs, which had the crowd clapping, dancing and singing along in the sun. This band are so very close to the sound of the original, and it must be noted that with Cumbria Event Solutions doing such a great job producing the best sound we've ever had right from the start of this event everything just fell into place.

Last band to hit the stage were the tribute to one of the most iconic bands in rock history, an integral piece of the movement named Punk Rock, emerging in the mid seventies during an era of

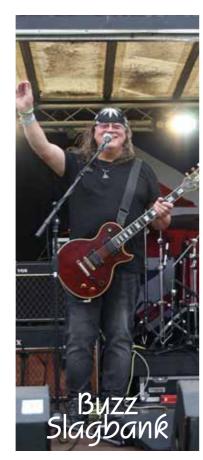


## on Silloth Green during 5th & 6th July



economic decline, streets piled high with rubbish, and disillusionment with the various musical genres of the day. This was a new breed, and one that still lasts today long after it's end in one form or another. This band are The Sex Pistols Expose, and they produced an atmosphere akin to stepping into a Tardis and travelling back to 1977 to see the real band in action. All the favourites and more were performed, Pretty Vaxant, God Save the Queen and New York, including a couple of hit singles released by Sid Vicious before his unfortunate demise at the tender age of 21. Along with the in between comedic banter including numerous, and hilarious literary duels between the singer, (who seriously looked like John Lydon's doppelganger!), and local lad Sean Spark, amongst others, the band brought the 2nd Firebird Festival to a grand and explosive close, VERY rare they perform in Cumbria, and a definite 1st time experience for Silloth Green.

As announced at the event,



this years Firebird Festival was dedicated to the lovely Jenna Henderson, Proprietor of Big Mam's Bottom Drawer in Eden Street, Silloth, who very sadly passed away just a couple of weeks before.

The Committee would like



to thank, Andy Neen and Crew of Cumbria Event Solutions for the fantastic production, Annie McKay for the catering, Joyce Fletcher and Family, and Maddison McKay and Crew for all the Fairground equipment, Phil Guest at G Business Solutions for our website design, Owen and Jimmy at XL Design for managing the website, Kevin Irwin for his time taking the hundreds of fantastic photos of the event, providing an everlasting array of wonderful memories for everyone.

Pete Long our priceless volunteer for Website, Facebook and Advertising management, Thomas Wilmot for essential construction work for the Stage, Special thanks to Vicky Hope and The Fairydust staff for their very kind and generous supply



and set up of the lovely buffet for all the performers, Stephen Stanwix for the use of Stanwix Park's accommodation for several of the performers, Davison's Ice Cream Factory, Ken and Staff at Silloth Motor Co, Harrison's Skip Hire, Gary Brooker who supplies our chairs tables and transport of essential equipment, Brian Harris at Parakeet Design for our Banners, Jason and Staff from the Rolling Pub Co, Rusty Firmin ex SAS member for bringing along his stall and books....and for storming the Iranian Embassy

in 1980. All the stall holders and vendors who added to the event by selling their merchandise on site, all the people who posted the great online comments during and after the event, and last but not least all the attendees who came along and braved the several soakings we all had time and again by the ever returning rainfall, including anyone who came along and helped in any way.

Let's hope we can return again in 2026 to put on yet another great show.





## Soul on The Green Gave Everyone a Fantastic Day of Free Entertainment and Fun Yet Again!

Report by: Denis Peacock Photos by: Kev Irwinn, Andrea Gibson, Helen Stables, Jamie Bell, Josh Green & the Buzz.

What a day it was on the green, the turnout was magnificent, I think we made about £3,000, thank you all for you're support and very kind donations, you're help in cleaning up, etc. Also the DJs on the day, too many to mention lol, all sets were outstanding. Ronnie, Norma Lawson and my good lady Hillary Peacock for putting up with me all weekend and keeping me sane. Once again a massive thank you to everyone who made soul on the green special, best

A massive thank you to all who helped us, and some very kind donations. I will start with the





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his knowledge and help with the sound system, and of course the continued donation from DA Harrison naulage and storage for the skips.

Could we have a big shout out to Donna Collin who had the unenviable task of cleaning the brick toilets on Sunday, after the Soul on The Green event. Thanks very much Donna, from all the Soul on The Green

Phew, I hope I didn't leave anyone out.

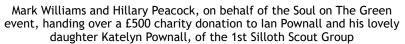






Mark Williams, Simon Keel and Hillary Peacock handing over a cheque for £500 on behalf of the Soul on The Green crew to Liam Wilson and son Zak representing Silloth Junior Football Club







Hillary Peacock and Mark Williams on behalf of the Soul on The Green event, handing over a charity donation of £500 to Mavis Baty and the children of Silloth on Solway Sports Association





Silloth on Solway Festivals committee, Mark Williams, Simon Keel, Peter long, John Peacock and Kev Irwin for the support and hard work from you all.

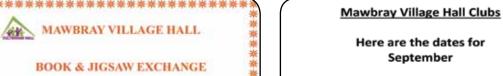
Martyn Nixon who supplied us with the portaloos plus his all-round help. David Hart and mark Cole for the lend of the barriers. A big thanks to you all. All the very kind donations that help us set up this event, Stephen Stanwix, Annie who owns Mrs Wilson's, all the funfair owners, the rolling pub, all the stallholders and the

Vicky Hope and her lovely staff from the fairy dust. Andy Neen of Cumbria







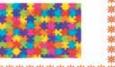


1st & 3rd Thursday of every month 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Why not drop in and see if anything catches

Have a chat whilst you are here and swap





Craft & Chat 2pm - 4pm

**Pool Club** 

2<sup>nd</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>

7pm - 9pm

**Book & Jigsaw Exchange** 3.30pm - 4.30pm



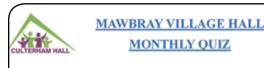




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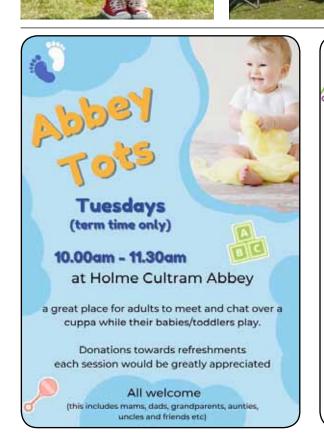


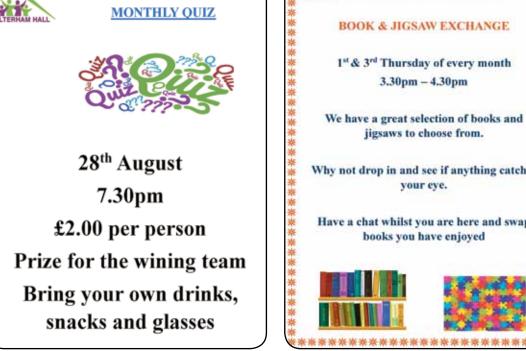


7.30pm £2.00 per person Prize for the wining team Bring your own drinks, snacks and glasses

The last Thursday of every Month







MAWBRAY VILLAGE HALL



## Your Wonderful Buzzing Letters and Poems

Dear Buzz,

I never recall seeing so many people at the Soul weekend, all along the prom the fitness equipment was being used and the 'Big Fella' made lots of new friends both young and old. I would have liked a pound for every time he had his photograph taken. Now the negatives. I actually seen someone in a safety jacket taking photographs of the holes and dents in Criffel Street. How can you define the depth of holes and unevenness from a photo, I do not know? Being the sceptic that I am I thought he had just come to Silloth for an ice cream and a day in the sun. We shall see what develops.

Them poor visitors to the area

the diversion signs all over the

place, or is it Cumbria's answer

to the 'Magical Mystery Tour'?

must be dizzy following all

Happy days The Whinge

My son Roderick and I were introduced to the wonderful 'Solway Buzz' by my sister Mrs Margaret Peach, whilst she was a patient at the Convalescent

Sadly, we will miss it as she's now passed away.

I was sorry to no longer see copies with the 'Solway Buzz' insects (Bees).

They really were inspiring and many with great originality. There is certainly plenty of talent in your part of the world. Obviously the teachers were enthusiastic to inspire their

I wish you well for the future, perhaps with a new idea.

> Yours sincerely Mrs Pauline Hood



When I was a girl of about nine

I saw, for the first time in my life, In a verdant country park in Fife, A White-throated Dipper perched On a sunlit riverbank rock.

"Cinclus cinclus" is the Latin name. ...With feathers of chocolate brown and milky cream, He flew under the diamond-clear Waters of the summer stream

To catch a darting fish, His form a moving, Fractured mosaic Beneath the rushing, swirling waters.

Emerging victorious, Water bouncing off his Waxen wings Like broken strings Of glass beads,

He once more found rest On his riverbed rock. I always wish I had taken my camera with me On that magical summer day, But with those images stored in my mind, I have written this little poem instead, Many years from when I was only nine or ten.

An Ode To The Man In The Yellow Jumper by Sophia Lodhi

In a verdant pasture, fresh and green, There lived a flock of pure white sheep, Whiter than the driven snow...

Except for one named Buttercup, Who had the strangest shade of fleece: A fleece of brightest, dazzling yellow!

The farmer thought that Buttercup Would bring him fortune and good luck... "Yellow wool's not cheap", he thought!

But no-one wanted yellow yarn, So he threw the balls into the barn... ... Years rolled on...until, once more

Yellow clothes were popular! ...So one bright day In the month of May

Buttercup's curious eyes were drawn To a man in a jumper which was made With her very own shade of yellow yarn...

She asked his name, And he replied: "I am William Whatsname!"

#### Cumbria Singers invites you to join them for the BIG SING of Mozart's Mass in C minor

and two of Haydn's works: Insanae et Vanae Curae and the Te Deum at Carlisle Cathedral in April 2026. Led by the internationally renowned and inspirational conductor Matthew Owens, rehearsals begin on 20th September at Ullswater College at 10am. No auditions required. Try one – pay later! Don't delay- find out more today!

cumbria singers

Contact Ann: annbishop22@gmail.com 07597 363739 visit www.cumbriasingers.org.uk

## Volunteer Deliverer Needed for the Free 'BUZZ' community paper in the following area:

Due to house sale we are now looking to replace our volunteer deliverer in the following area:

16 Houses at Barracks Bridge

We look forward to your call Contact Peter or Kath on 0750 180 5775

#### Do You Get the Buzz?

If the Buzz paper does not fly through your letter box in the areas we cover, it is because we have not found a volunteer.

If you would like to join our hive of volunteers we would be pleased to hear from you, call Peter on 0750 180 5775 for more info.

The Pink Bike by Sophia Lodhi

The gorgeous pink bike is a sight to behold -But behind it, a complex tale unfolds... Between Christmas to January 2024, I couldn't even take it outside my front door!

In my kitchen, it stood upside down, Making me growl and my poor dog frown! Brakes disconnected, and pedals loose, Handlebars off...not fit for use!

...But then, one sunny Thursday, A helpful man from Thursby Arrived: drove it away. Returning it to me in just a few days!

Now the bike is fixed: back in one piece again... And many happy cycling hours I hope to spend... But taking corners slowly is something I must learn, Or the pink bike might finally send me 'round the bend!

#### Do you have a poem or letter for the Buzz?

We welcome all entries, there is no charge.

Please remember to include your contact information.

Remember - you can join the library, search the library catalogue, renew and request books online at cumbria.gov.uk/libraries Visit Silloth Library in the Discovery Centre

#### Silloth Library Opening Times

Monday 10am to 4pm Wed 10am to 4pm Friday 10am to 4pm

Sunday closed

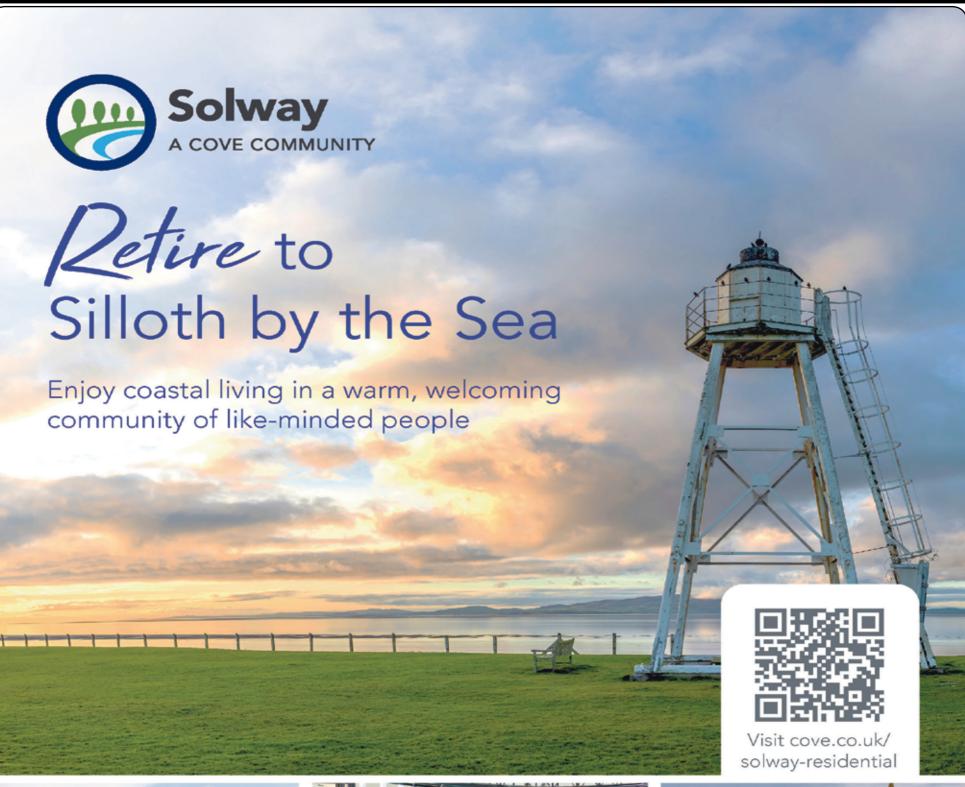
Tuesday CLOSED **Thursday CLOSED** Saturday 10am to 1pm

Tel: 016973 31944

#### **Non-Commercial Tourism Websites**

solwaybuzz.co.uk sillothgreen.co.uk silloth-on-solway.co.uk sillothgolfclub.co.uk vintagerally.co.uk sillothmotorcyclemuseum.co.uk silloth-on-solway-tc.gov.uk visitcumbria.com/wc/silloth solwayplain.co.uk/silloth1.htm facebook.com/sillothgreen facebook.com/silloth-carnival facebook.com/groups/soldiersinsilloth

facebook.com/groups/121042258051545 (Silloth Today)









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Please let us know of any changes within this section

#### Christ Church

For baptisms and other church related business please contact: Rev Cornelia Noghiu, St Mary's Vicarage, Church St, Maryport, Tel: 07448 285263.

#### Civic Amenity Sites

Operated by Cumbria County Council. Tel: 01228 606060 Maryport Tip, tel 01900 66922 open daily 8am to 6pm Wigton Tip, tel 016973 45617 open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday, 8am to 6pm

#### China Painting

Every Friday at Silloth Community Hall. 2pm to 4pm. All welcome

#### Mawbray Nia Group

Every Thursday from 2 to 4pm in Culterham Hall, £4 per session includes refreshments. Just come along.

#### Family History Grp

Tuesdays at Silloth Community Hall from 6 – 8.30pm. Bring along your own research and meet fellow genealogists

#### Silloth Tennis Club

For coaching information call David Wise on 0742 547767

#### Cash Machines

Are available on Solway Street at both the Spar and CO-OP supermarkets. Cash is also available at Winters Post Office

#### Blencogo Art Group

Every Monday from 1:30-4:30pm in Blencogo Village Hall where members help each other. Refreshments provided. regular outings, tel 016973 61158 or 61327

#### **Production Team**

Proprietor: Peter McRobert Barn Cottage Skinburness, CA7 4RA Tel: 0750 180 5775 Email: office@solwaybuzz.co.uk

**Editorial Content** This is down to you, we can only publish items if you send them to us.

When sending articles in, please supply a contact name and number in case something requires clarification. Published by: Peter McRobert with the support of the whole community and an army of volunteers.

Copy date for the Oct/Nov issue is:

1st week September If you have an event to promote or you have something to say, please note the next copy date.

#### Silloth Library

Open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10am to 4pm Saturday 10am to 1pm 0303 333 1234 cumbria.gov.uk/libraries

#### Abbeytown Choir

A fun friendly community choir Meets Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm All welcome, no experience necessary. For details please check Facebook page or contact Michelle on 07495 197543

#### Banking Hub

Maryport Banking Hub is operated by the Post Office on Senhouse Street as follows: Monday: NatWest Tuesday: HSBC Wednesday: Halifax Thursday: TSB Friday: Barclays

#### NatWest Mobile

The NatWest Bank mobile van will be here on Fridays only, outside Silloth Community Centre from 9:45am - 10.45am

#### Good Companions

Have a coffee morning / fundraiser on the first Monday each month from 10:30 to 11:30am £2 entry for refreshments plus tombola, raffle and cake sale

#### Monday Craft Club

Silloth Community Hall 10 -11:30am every Monday. Bring your current project, exchange ideas, chat and have a cuppa

#### Sewing Group

Every other Thursday at Silloth Community Hall. 12 – 4pm. All abilities welcome.

#### Silloth Parkrun

Meet on the Promenade beside the Tennis Courts at 9am every Saturday morning

#### Badminton

Abbevtown Badminton Club meet on Wednesday evenings check details on their facebook page, £5 per night

#### Abbey Tots

We meet on Tuesdays during term time only at Holme Cultram Abbey 10am to 11:30am, all welcome

## **Dates for Your Diary**

#### August

21st Solfest 22nd Solfest

23rd Solfest

24th Silloth Carnival

24th

25th Silloth Carnival

25th

29th National Creativity Day meeting in Silloth Library from 2pm to 4pm, come along to meet like-minded people

#### September

Silloth Town Council meeting in the Community Hall

Pool Club in Mawbray Village Hall from 7pm to 9pm

Life Stories at Caldew Hall by Faith Mission, see advert

Please tell us when your group starts or stops, so we can let everyone know

#### Solway Woodcarvers

Every Monday and Wednesday evening at Silloth Community Hall from 7pm onwards

#### Scrabble Club

Meet in Silloth Library on Fridays 10:30am to 1pm

#### Backgammon Club

Meet in Silloth Library on Wednesdays 1:30pm to 3:30pm

#### Widows & Widowers

Wigton Widows and Widowers Meets every 3rd Sunday of the month 1pm-3pm in Cornerstone Methodist Church Wigton. Join us for a light lunch and entertainment. For information please visit our Facebook page or contact Michelle on 07495 197543

#### Wigton Theatre Club

Buy tickets via our website www.wigtontheatre.org or call the Box Office: 07977 835094

#### Silloth RNLI Shop

Shop Opening Times weekdays 1-4pm weekends 1-4pm Our Shop is staffed by Volunteers and may not be open at the advertised time. We apologise for any inconvenience.

#### September cont'd

Life Stories at Caldew Hall by Faith Mission,

Life Stories at Caldew Hall by Faith Mission,

**Annual Produce Show** in Blencogo Village Hall

Life Stories at Caldew Hall by Faith Mission, see advert

4th Book & Jigsaw Exchange in Mawbray Village Hall from 3:30pm to 4:30pm

**Annual Produce Show** in Blencogo Village Hall

RNLI Charity Night at 7pm in Silloth Rugby Club with Live music from Holly Goodger & disco, tickets £5 available from Silloth RNLI Shop, Silloth Rugby Club or Lesley: 07753

Abbeytown Quizzers in Wheatsheaf Inn at 7pm

Craft & Chat in 10th Mawbray Village Hall from 2pm to 4pm

Silloth & District Pensioners Coffee Morning in Christ Church at 10am

18th Book & Jigsaw Exchange in Mawbray Village Hall from 3:30pm to 4:30pm

Pool Club in Mawbray Village Hall from 7pm to 9pm

Handbagged at The John Peel Theatre wigtontheatre.org/tickets.php

Handbagged at The 25th John Peel Theatre wigtontheatre.org/tickets.php

25th Mawbray Village Hall Monthly Quiz at 7:30pm, £2 per person

26th Handbagged at The John Peel Theatre wigtontheatre.org/tickets.php

Blencogo & District Garden Club trip to Threave Gardens & Castle, 07538 027936

Creative Writing 27th Workshop, The Saltmarsh Experience at RSPB Campfield from 10am to 4pm. Book at: www.thefreshandthesalt. co.uk/contact

Handbagged at The John Peel Theatre wigtontheatre.org/tickets.php

Pool Club in Mawbray Village Hall from 7pm to 9pm

> Errors do occur in Dates for the Diary Please check before attending an event

Do you have an event in the area bounded by Abbeytown, Mawbray, Silloth, Skinburness, if so please let us know

#### October

Coffee Morning with Silloth & District Pensioners in St Andrews Hall, 10am to 11am

Abbeytown Quizzers in Wheatsheaf Inn at 7pm

Silloth Town Council meeting in the Community Hall at 7pm

11th Silloth & District Pensioners Coffee Morning in Christ Church at 10am

RNI I Pie & Peas Night with Allonby Ukes in Allonby Village Hall at 7pm, tickets £8 from RNLI shop or 07753 720221. Please say if you have dietary requirements when booking

Holme St Cuthbert Church Harvest Festival 9am to 12pm in the Glebe Field, Service 10am to 11am in the

Playing Board Games in Mawbray Village Hall from 2pm to 4pm with tea & biscuits, free entry

Holme St Cuthbert Church Harvest Festival Auction of produce in Mawbray Village Hall at 7:30pm, tea, coffee, biscuits & raffle

Holme Low Parish Council meeting at 7:30pm in Silloth Community Hall

Blencogo & District Garden Club meeting in Blencogo village hall at 7:30pm 07538 027936

Silloth Nursing Home/League Of Friends coffee morning in Christ Church at 10am

#### October cont'd

BlenScare-Crow Trail

BlenScare-Crow Trail at Blencogo

BlenScare-Crow Trail at Blencogo

BlenScare-Crow Trail

BlenScare-Crow Trail at Blencogo

BlenScare-Crow Trail at Blencogo

BlenScare-Crow Trail at Blencogo

#### November

Cumbria Beekeepers Area Association Honey Show in Bothel Village Hall 10:15 to 4pm, see article

Abbeytown Quizzers in Wheatsheaf Inn at 7pm

Silloth Town Council meeting in the Community Hall at 7pm

Silloth & District Pensioners Coffee Morning in Christ Church at 10am

Please note that articles, letters and virtually all content of the Solway Buzz are contributed by YOU, the local community. The Editor reserves the right to control what is included, however, no responsibility whatsoever for the content of the Solway Buzz can be accepted by the Editor, or the Publishers.



Colour Me In

## 962 Measles Cases in NW in Just 4 Months

Children and young people in Cumbria are again being encouraged to get protected against measles following

County Council

a rise in cases in the region. Although Cumbria has seen only one case of measles confirmed so far this year, other parts of the North East and North West continue to be the worst affected in

Figures published today by Public Health England show numbers of confirmed measles cases in across the whole of England are still high with 288 cases in April, bringing the total number so far in 2013 to 962.

This continues the upward trend seen since early 2012 with monthly totals around the highest recorded levels seen since 1994.

Cumbria County Council is supporting a catch-up programme (run by Public Health England, NHS England and the Department of Health), which aims to prevent measles outbreaks by vaccinating as many 10-16 year olds as possible. This age group is the most at risk of measles due to the fall in coverage of MMR that occurred in the late 1990s and early 2000s when concern around the discredited link between autism and the vaccine was widespread.

Despite high take-up rates of the vaccine in Cumbria, several thousand teenagers in Cumbria will be unprotected because they were not vaccinated as children.

Measles is an infectious viral illness that is spread when infected people cough or sneeze. It can have serious complications and in some

cases prove fatal. The most common symptoms are fever, cough, sore eyes and a rash that develops three or four days after the

onset of illness, starting with the face and head and spreading down the body.

Doses of the MMR vaccine are usually given at 13 months and between the ages of three and four. However children of any age, right up to young adults, should consider



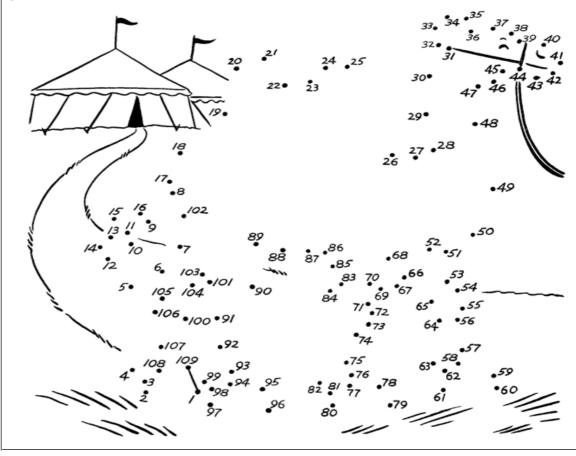
vaccination if they missed out at the recommended ages.

Councillor Patricia Bell, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities at Cumbria County Council, said: "Measles is highly infectious and can lead to serious complications. If you are unsure whether your child has been vaccinated, contact your local GP surgery."

Dr Rebecca Wagstaff, Acting Director of Public Health for Cumbria County Council, said: "The worst affected areas of the country for measles this year are in the North East and North West. For children and young people living in Cumbria, It's not too late to get vaccinated."

Anyone who is concerned or wants more information on how to get themselves protected should speak to their GP, Health Visitor or Practice Nurse.

Join The Dots



## Waver Wine Circle Raise £330 for Blencogo Village Hall

Report by: Janet Stukins

Blencogo Village Hall Waver Wine Circle Acrostic Quiz Answers 2025. An acrostic is a saying made from the first letters of the first words in the answers, Congratulations to the Winners drawn by Bill Henderson:

£20 Margaret Fitch, Biggleswade 1st. 2nd. £10 Lis Chapman, Wigton Joanne Bell, Newton Arlosh

Thank you to all who have taken part in the quiz and to all the distributors and the sellers.

Answers:

1. A Diamond Is Just A Chunk Of Coal That Did Well Under Pressure

2. Diamond

3. Iolanthe

4. Aragon

5. Magpies

6. Over 7. Naturalist

14. Tony Blair MP (PM) 15. At arms length 16. Chunk 17. Hair 18. Uruguay

8. Dogs

9. Indiana

11. John

12. Uluru

13. Sisters

10. Seventeen

19. Night 20. Kings

21. Over the moon

22. Fountain

23. Coal

24. Osier 25. A gentleman

26. Lettuce

27. Teal

28. Holiday 29. Aberdeen 30. The cockroach

31. Donkey

32. Indigo

33. Dwarfs

34. Whisky

35. Eleven

36. Letters of the

alphabet

37. Lapis lazuli

38. Utopia 39. Neil

40. Danielle Steel

41. Electric

42. Romeo and Juliet

43. Pressure

44. Romania

45. Edward Teach

46. Spain

47. Statue of Liberty

48. Upset it

49. Ragged rascal

50. Edinburgh











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## £4,568 Funding for Silloth Military Trail

VISITORS to Silloth will be able to find out more about the town's military history thanks to investment from a Community

The Fells and Solway panel, which channels Cumberland Council's community investment, has given Silloth Tourism Action Group £4,568. The money will be used to buy five information boards for a Military Trail. They will be placed at Grune Point, The Green, Causewayhead Cemetery, West Beach and Mawbray Banks, enabling visitors and locals to explore the area's military history.

The panel's Chair, Cllr Tony Markley, said: "It is fantastic to be able to help bring history alive in the lovely town of Silloth. Many visitors may be unaware of its historical links so this is a great addition to the attractions of the town. One of the panel's priorities is about pride in our local area and this project supports that admirably."

Cumberland Council's Community Panels give local people a real voice in shaping their neighbourhoods.

By encouraging people to get involved, the panels help ensure decisions reflect what matters most to their communities.

The Fells and Solway Community Panel covers the wards of Dalston and Burgh, Solway Coast, Thursby, Aspatria and Wigton.

The application deadline for the next round of Community Panel support for the Fells and Solway area is 19 August. Organisations looking for support should email fellsandsolway@ cumberland.gov.uk for more information, or visit Community Panels | Cumberland Council





The Old Reading Room Lancaster St Tel: 01228 810404

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## Come to Blencogo Produce Show



Report by: Judith Wood

The traditional annual Produce Show is to be held on Saturday 6th September at the Blencogo village hall and is open to all. Categories of entries are flowers, kitchen garden, drinks, bakery, handicrafts, children's categories. Entries are to be submitted between 10am and 11.30 then the hall is open for viewing and refreshments from 2pm with trophies presented at 3.30 followed by an auction of produce.

The schedule is available on Blencogo Village Hall Facebook page or contact: info@blencogo.com

Everyone is welcome to join in the fun of the



## S.O.S.C.S. Silloth on Solway Community Shop

- \* Local people working for local
- \* All proceeds go back into the community
- \* Please continue donating

Open every day 10am to 3:30pm Tel: 32452



S.O.S.C.S. 12 Criffel Street, Silloth

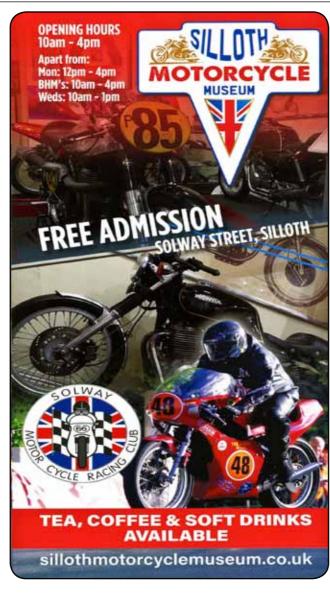
#### THE GOOD **CAUSES** CHARITY SHOP

1 Oueen's Court, Criffel Street, Silloth

Contact: Denise Poland on 07999 752713

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Please help us to help them



## Solway Buzz Phone Book

This section recognises those whose financial help keeps the Solway Buzz going. If you wish to contribute in this way without taking an advert, please contact the Buzz, it costs only £52 a year.

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016973 315533

016973 31743

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07727 127000

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016973 31245

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#### Useful Phone Numbers

Age Concern Home Safety Scheme Age UK

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Ambulance service, call: 999 **Electricity Power Cut** 0800 111 999 0300 303 2992 Highways Hot Line Hospital: 01228 523444

Holme St. Cuthbert School, Mawbray: 01900 881242

Holm Cultram Abbey CofE School 016973 61261 Abbevtown:

Markus Campbell-Savours: 07733 330593 Neighbourhood Forum: 01900 325013

Quakers, Wigton: 01228 523174 Register Office, Wigton: 0300 373 3730 Samaritans: 01228 544444 Silloth Community School: 016973 31234 Silloth Library 016973 31944

Silloth Nursery & Junior School:

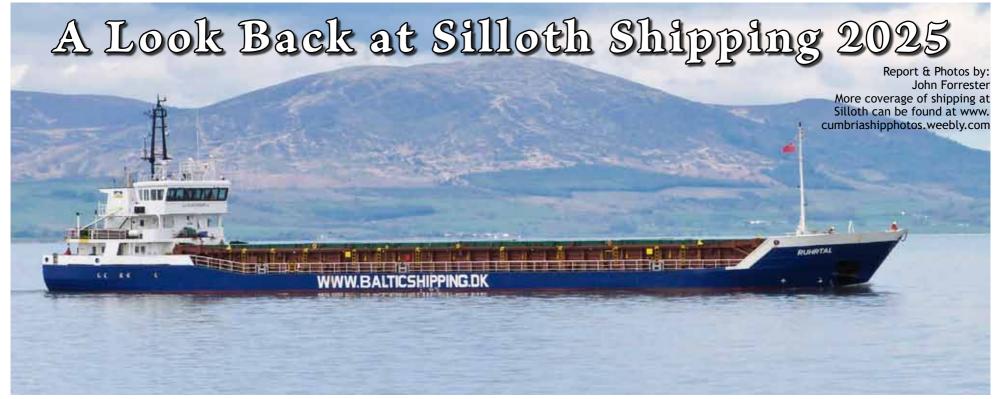
016973 31243 Silloth Town Clerk: 016973 31128

Silloth Tourist Information Centre: 016973 31944

Solway Buzz: 0750 180 5775 Paragon Vet: 01228 710208 Millcroft Vet: 016973 23898 Waste Disposal Dept: 01900 702800 Water LeakLine: 0800 330033 Water & Waste Problems 0345 6723723 West Cumbria Carers 01900 821976

Please, let us know what you want included

016973 31696 **Timbercare** 07453 984590 Upholstery, Irene Armstrong 016973 31836 **Advertisers** entries are always **Free Phone Book** 





Recent weeks have been quiet at Silloth for ship spotters so it's an opportunity to look back at ships which visited earlier in the year, all are new to the Buzz.

Ideal days out for ship spotters are seeing ships arrive in fine weather allowing clear bright photos to be taken. Unsurprisingly, that's not always possible, in fact some ships just don't play ball, and arrive and depart under the cover

of darkness. In that case a daytime dockside shot may be possible capturing the action of unloading.

Despite these setbacks, ship spotting at Silloth is still an attractive hobby. On some occasions the mood is lightened by a wave from arriving crews as they pass by just metres away. Here's a few recollections from earlier in the year.

The freighter RUHRTAL arrived during the Easter school holidays with a cargo of fertiliser from Belgium. The classic Silloth photo was taken as the ship passed Criffel on a bright afternoon in calm conditions. Families with youngsters were gathered to watch the ship approach and enter the dock. The captain responded to the excited youngster's waves with a blast on the horn.

The Madeira registered ship had last called at Silloth almost exactly twelve months ago. Its name translates from German as Ruhr Valley, the river in the west of the country. It displays the logo of the Danish company 'Baltic Shipping' along the hull and is one of ninety vessels operating under charter.

A search for the ship's unique identification number in the records showed the ship was first seen at Silloth more than ten years ago when it was named SUDERAU. The twenty year old ship now has new owners and livery. On this year's visit only part of the cargo was unloaded for local suppliers. The ship departed twenty four hours after arrival for the short sailing to Ayr where it completed unloading the shared cargo.

Amongst the first

ships of the year to call at Silloth was JEKERBORG which bears the colourful livery of 'Wagenborg Shipping. The visit was eagerly anticipated, however, this was one of those night arrivals and departures. Not to be beaten, photos of this new visitor were taken as it was unloading. Such disappointments are soon forgotten when happier moments are captured, such as friendly waves from crew members.

Sometimes the most stern-looking characters can surprise with quite an acceptable wave, an example being the first mate aboard CM NEPTUNE.





## Silloth Tide Tables

SEPTEMBER 2025 SILLOTH										
HTS ABOVE NEW DOCK GAUGE (1.8m ABOVE CD)										
		High Water				Low Water				
Date		Morning		Aftern	Afternoon		Morning		Afternoon	
		Time	m	Time	m	Time	m	Time	m	
1	М	04 58	4.7	17 47	4.6	11 45	0.9			
2	TU	06 34	4.3	19 23	4.6	00 28	1.0	13 17	1.0	
3	W	08 16	4.5	20 41	5.1	02 05	0.8	14 44	0.8	
4	TH	09 23	5.1	21 36	5.8	03 21	0.4	15 49	0.4	
5	F	10 09	5.8	22 18	6.5	04 21	- 0.0	16 43	-0.1	
6	SA	10 47	6.5	22 56	7.1	05 14	- 0.5	17 30	-0.4	
7	SU 0	11 22	7.0	23 32	7.5	06 00	- 0.8	18 14	-0.8	
8	M	11 57	7.3			06 43	-1.1	18 56	-1.0	
9	TU	80 00	7.9	12 33	7.5	07 24	- 1.3	19 38	-1.1	
10	W	00 46	8.0	13 10	7.6	08 03	- 1.3	20 17	-1.1	
11	TH	01 26	7.9	13.51	7.4	08 40	- 1.2	20 54	- 0.9	
12	F	02 08	7.6	14 32	7.0	09 16	-0.9	21 32	-0.6	
13	SA	02 53	7.1	15 18	6.4	09 53	- 0.5	22 15	-0.3	
14	SU (	03 46	6.4	16 15	5.8	10 36	- 0.0	23 11	0.2	
15	М	04 56	5.6	17 39	5.3	11 38	0.5			
16	TU	06 32	5.1	19 18	5.2	00 37	0.4	13 14	0.7	
17	W	08 09	5.2	20 40	5.6	02 16	0.3	14 49	0.5	
18	TH	09 23	5.8	21 41	6.3	03 37	-0.1	16 03	0.1	
19	F	10 14	6.3	22 27	6.8	04 41	-0.5	16 58	-0.2	
20	SA	10 53	6.7	23 04	7.1	05 31	-0.8	17 42	-0.5	
21	SU .	11 27	7.0	23 37	7.3	06 11	- 0.9	18 19	-0.6	
22	M	11 58	7.1			06 46	- 1.0	18.51	-0.7	
23	TU	80 00	7.3	12 26	7.1	07 17	-0.9	19 21	- 0.7	
24	W	00 37	7.2	12 54	7.0	07 46	- 0.8	19 50	-0.6	
25	TH	01 06	7.0	13 24	6.8	08 11	-0.6	20 18	-0.5	
26	F	01 36	6.7	13 54	6.5	08 36	-0.4	20 45	-0.3	
27	SA	02 07	6.3	14 26	6.2	09 02	- 0.1	21 16	-0.0	
28	SU	02 39	5.9	15 00	5.7	09 31	0.2	21 51	0.4	
29	M D	03 18	5.3	15 46	5.2	10 07	0.6	22 36	0.7	
30	TU	04 12	4.7	16 56	4.8	11 01	0.9	23 48	0.9	

## Cumbria Beekeepers Annual Honey Show

Report by: Margaret Riches

Cumbria Beekeepers Area Association Honey Show is from 10:15am to 4pm on Saturday 1st November at Bothel Village

Hall. Enjoy a day out! It's more than a honey show!

All are welcome! 9am Open for staging exhibits

The Honey Show can be entered by non beekeepers as well as beekeepers. Classes include the opportunity to bake honey flavoured products (recipes supplied) and display photographs of bees in action.

10:15am Welcome and presentations

- 'The Science of Varroa Resistance' by Prof. Stephen Martin (University of Salford)
- Encaustic art : Creating pictures with wax. (Lorraine Priestley)
- Bees wax candles : Suzie from the Northumberland Honey Company

12:30pm Lunch and other practical activities

• Bring your own packed lunch or order lunch from 'Heavenly Fish and Chips' (Vegetarian and other options available)\*

- Have a go at making a wax picture:
- Watch a demonstration of candle making;
- Try the pollinator quiz and enter a prize draw;
  - Visit the Northern Bee Books stall
  - 2:15pm to 4pm Pollinator quiz
  - results: by Cumbria
    Wildlife Trust
  - Honey Show prizes :presented by Peter Lewis, Honey Show

Judge

• 'The Characteristics of Propolis' by Jenny Roberts (University of Lancaster)

The Honey Show Exhibit Schedule and the 'Heavenly Fish and Chip' lunch menu are available from www.cumbriabeekeepers. org/honey-show-2025.
Cost: Adult: £25 / U.18 £12 'Heavenly Fish & Chip' Lunch: £5 deposit required (balance to be paid when the meal is selected)

Tickets must be purchased in advance from www.ticketsource. co.uk/honey-show-2025. Tel: 0333 666 3366 They are non-refundable unless the event is cancelled by CBK A A

Closing date for reservations: Thursday 30th October 2025.

## Tim is Our Local Artist & Author, Plus Now Radio DJ

Silloth-based Tim Stead has started to present the 'drivetime' slot on Enjoy Radio UK on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Tim hit the headlines last year after getting 90s music royalty 'Right Said Fred' to write a catchy song for his new children's book, called 'Dinoshakes and Bellyaches'.

Inspired by the catchy songs listened to by his young step daughter
Anntonia. Tim reached out to the group who agreed to pen a song which would 'drive the adults crazy'.

During the recording process, Right Said Fred got in touch and asked if any local children would like to be on the track and Tim's step daughter and two of her classmates and neighbours from Silloth are featured.

Despite little radio experience, Tim has now begun to record his shows from his house in Silloth. "It's all a little bit crazy," said Tim. After Right Said Fred recorded the song, I thought it would be cool if we could get it played on the radio.

I contacted various people, and I said, 'Could you play the track on the radio'? And the guys at Enjoy Radio said 'Yes, that's not a problem'.

After just over a few conversations with the producer he just said one night, 'Do you fancy having your own show?' which blew me away. So I just replied, 'I'll think about it!'

I thought about it, and
I had a meeting with the
PR for the company, and
they said, 'We think you'd
be really good on your
own show.' So I just went
ahead threw myself in at the deep
end.

Because I was the new kid on the block, I thought I'd get the graveyard slot of two or three o'clock in the morning, but the producer came back and said that I'd be on at 4pm till 6pm... so no pressure."

Tim is currently prerecording his shows in Silloth, entitled 'Bangers and Smash Hits with Extra Groovy Gravy' which go out on Enjoy Radio UK on Tuesdays and Fridays.







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## Summer Twitterings Are Starting to Leave Us!

Report by: Jen Photo by: Bert

#### Summer visitors pack up and leave Silloth

We're well past Midsummer's Day now and many of you will have noticed that the days are just that bit shorter and the nights a wee bit chilly. Lots of the birds in our spring and summer skies feel the change and start to pack their bags and fettle their flying feathers for their long journeys home.

Britain is the summer destination for thousands of Spring and Summer visitors. What is it that attracts all these feathered tourists? It certainly isn't the endless sunny days or the spectacular theme parks. Put simply, what they come here for are the long hours of daylight and the chance to feast on all the tasty flies and bugs that fill our skies, crawl around our hedgerows and munch away at our prized fruit and vegetables. This plentiful food supply is key to successfully raising their young and giving them the best start in life.

Migrating or flying to new Summer or Winter destinations is a common way of life for the birds we see in Britain, with over 40% of all known bird species migrating at

some point during the year or over the course of their life.

Our Summer tourists start to arrive in March with the bulk flying in during April and May. The first to arrive in March are swallows (although it was the 10th April before I saw my first at Skinburness this year), after that come house martins in late April and in May swifts and hundreds of tiny tuneful warblers. April and May also sees the arrival of the mighty Osprey and the enigmatic Cuckoo.

Lots of the birds visiting our shores travel some crazy distances, with even the smallest flying all the way from Africa. The tiny swift with its beautiful curved wings weighs in at just 45g (less than a slice of bread) but has one of the longest migrations. They are known to travel up to 22,000km, covering as much as 500km a day.

Whilst most birds like swifts and swallows travel through daylight hours some of our smaller more vulnerable birds that are a risk of being hunted by larger species will travel under cover of dark. This also has the advantage of being cooler and less windy, using less of the tiny bird's energy.

Its not just the huge distances



they travel that I marvel at but also their ability to navigate their way across inhospitable landscapes, over sea and through enormous urban areas; often returning to the very spot where they were hatched the spring or summer before. It's not always clear how different birds navigate these huge journeys. Some use the stars or the position of the sun, others rely on natural landmarks like coastlines or even manmade structures like motorways.

Researchers also think birds have an ability to sense magnetic fields; their own internal compass facility. This ability is further enhanced in some birds who appear to have specialist cells in their eyes that can help them see the magnetic fields.

The cuckoos have already left us; swifts started to head off in July. Swallows, house martins and warblers will soon be joining them on the late summer exodus. So, over the coming days spare a

thought for all those lovely birds that fill our spring and summer with song, with cute fluffy fledglings and amaze us with their acrobatic aerial displays as they feed in the evening. They will all soon be setting of on their epic journey home with thousands of miles to travel, hardships to endure, hostile weather, lands and predators to contend with and only a memory of a glorious bucket and spade, seaside holiday in Silloth to keep them going.

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