

Silloth & the Royal Navy

SILLOTH HARBOUR MASTER EATS HUMBLE PIE!

Report by:
Capt. Chris Puxley

Prior to the recent and very successful visit of HMS "BITER" to Silloth Docks, (19th/20th March), I stated that this RN ship visit was to be the first since WW2. I had scanned through our numerous dock log-books and asked a few people who I thought might know, all with a negative response. Thus armed, I stuck my head over the parapet and made that rash statement!

Well wouldn't you believe it? Almost as soon as the newspapers were on the shelves, I had a call from a Mr Geoff Bland telling me the error of my

ways! He produced newspaper cuttings to inform me that HMS "CRICHTON", a "Ton" Class minesweeper, called for a brief overnight stop in August 1976. (Just a mere 29 years ago). Thankfully there was just time enough for me to relay my gaffe the Commanding Officer of the "BITER", before he commenced what would have been his equally erroneous broadcast on TV and talk with the press.

On Sunday morning (20th March), whilst "BITER" was lying at Silloth Docks, Mr Paul Gibbons gleefully showed me a photograph of the "CRICHTON" in New Dock, way back in 1976. He was grinning and I was sunk.....! So my humble apologies to all your readers for this error, and thank you to Geoff for the informative piece of pie and also to Paul for the gravy! (It is now in my port records).



Queen Bee
by
Amy Armstrong
aged 7
from
Holme St. Cuthbert School

Brownies Spring Cheer



Brownies Entertained the Residents in the Nursing Homes



Jimmy Donald conducting the singers

Emma Wins Trolley Dash



Emma Oliver during her 60 second Dash

To celebrate the opening of the totally refurbished SPAR shop, everyone who spent over £10 was entered into a prize draw with the chance to win a 60 second trolley dash.

The winner was Emma Oliver from Fell Close who managed to fill her trolley with a wide range of products with a total value of £85.10

Emma was pleased to win and delighted with the items she managed to get, except for the tin of cat food she had promised her Gran, in the rush she ended up with dog food!

Stan and Judith Foster wish to express their gratitude to all their customers for giving the new store such a busy start, it has been beyond their best expectations.

They also want to thank everyone for being so forgiving about the inevitable teething troubles they had with some of the new equipment, especially the tills. Thankfully, almost all the bugs have now been sorted-out and the whole shop is working very well, with the exception of their power supply. They are still waiting on the utility company to provide the uprated supply which was ordered, and in the meantime are augmenting their power needs with the use of a large generator situated beside the store.

Stan said "The strain on everyone to re-open the shop on target has been immense, however the contractors and all of our staff have been absolutely wonderful. Even better has been the response of our customers who have been totally loyal and very enthusiastic about the final result of our investment in Silloth SPAR. We are now in a position to give the service our customers expect for years to come.



Owner Stan Foster congratulates Emma

Allerdale Community Fund

Solfest, the Solway's music festival, has been awarded a grant of £2,500 by the Allerdale Community Fund.

Solway Festivals Group was awarded the grant which will be used to increase community involvement in the festival. As well as developing the post of a Community Liaison Officer, who will enable the festival to be part of and support the local community, the grant will also be used to pay for a range of arts and educational workshops open to all festival-goers. The festival will involve a wide range of community organisations and services as well as supporting local businesses.

Councillor Pat McCracken, Chair of the Allerdale Community Fund, said: "Allerdale Community Fund is an excellent opportunity. It enables local groups to apply for money without too much red tape. Some of the groups could not continue without funding."

Solfest takes place at Tarns, Silloth, on 26-28 August 2005. Solfest was first held in Silloth in 2004. Artists include: Shane MacGowen & The Popes; African and Celtic crossover band, Baka Beyond; and up and coming singer songwriter Karine Polwart. For more information visit www.solwayfestival.co.uk

Other projects given funding by the Allerdale Community Fund include:

- £900 to Wigton Youth Association Football Club for IT equipment;
- £500 to Silloth Carnival for the cost of bands;
- £2,500 to All Saints Church Cockermouth for central heating repairs;
- £2,500 to Cockermouth Army Cadets for new equipment;
- £1,500 to Loweswater Village Hall to rebuild the bell tower;
- £1,000 to Northern District Young Farmers Field Day;
- £385.52 to Moorclose Campus Community Workshops for vehicle insurance;
- £500 to Stainburn Football Club to help with start-up costs;
- £480 to Wigton Amateur Rugby League Club for new equipment;
- £499 to Workington Southfield Junior Football Club to pay for a trip to Holland to compete in a football tournament.

The Allerdale Community Fund is available for groups throughout Allerdale. Applications for funding should be made to the Cumbria Community Foundation on (01900) 825760.



The new layout in SPAR provides brighter, easier to use gondolas with well laid out chilled and fresh displays

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