

Putting the Record Straight

The Skinburness Hotel, an explanation by Peter Wise.

Back in February I attended the auction of the contents of the hotel, primarily out of interest and curiosity. However, whilst there the realisation occurred to me that this architecturally beautiful building, although bereft of many of its original features due to the earlier refurbishments of the 1980's was going to be lost forever.

On walking around the hotel it became apparent that the two main architectural features which remained were the two sets of stairs; the main cast iron staircase and an additional wrought iron staircase with a carved wooden hand rail. It didn't take long to realise that if these items were not bought and secured for the area they would be lost forever. It was due to this that I bid on and fortunately won both sets of stairs.

Right from the word go it was always my intention to keep hold of the stairs until a final

decision was made on the hotel. Therefore prior to the removal of the stairs every detail was documented, measured, catalogued and photographed in such away that they can easily be restored to their rightful place. As much care as possible was taken on the removal of the stairs under the circumstances as they were required to be removed on the final day before the hotel doors were boarded up. I can therefore assure all those concerned that the stairs are still in my possession and have not been sold on Ebay, auctioned at Sotheby's, nor are they in the Reading Rooms at Allonby, contrary to current speculation. I have however been approached by prospective buyers and several offers have been made, but in my opinion they belong in the hotel, as it is an integral part of the heritage of the town.

So once again, I'd like to reiterate to the community of Silloth and to the Save Our Skinburness committee that the stairs will

remain in my possession until a decision has been made about the future of the building. As a local business man, I am in full support of the growth and expansion of the town and believe that the loss of the hotel would be a loss for the community of Silloth.

If anyone has any queries or questions please do not hesitate to get in touch on 01900 881156 or 07732 690696.

Footnote from Peter McRobert, Chairman, Save Our Skinburness.

Immediately after the auction, Peter Wise came to me and said he successfully bid for the stairs. He said that he would remove them carefully and put them in storage until such time as they could be reinstated. Peter has kept in touch ever since, and I know he has refused some very profitable offers, but is determined to see the stairs restored. It is very disappointing that defamatory rumours are being spread when he has risked a significant amount of personal money for the sake of the local environment.

Opendoor Trip

Report by: Graham Wilkinson

On a fine autumnal morning Sarah gathered her supporters outside St Andrews Church Hall to await the arrival of the community bus, with Dave Nichol at the wheel.

After loading boxes and baskets 16 friends boarded for a day trip to Windermere, the sun shone brightly as we made our way down the coast to Maryport. Onward to Cockermouth then the A66 to Keswick travelling alongside Bassenthwaite Lake the autumn colours starting to show in the bright sunshine. Passing through Keswick to climb Nest Brow giving a lovely view of a mist capped Helvelyn then alongside Thirlmere lake now more visible since they felled a large amount of the trees between the road and Lake, over the top of Dunmail Raise to pass through Grasmere and Ambleside.

We arrived at Bowness-on-Windermere at 11.30am to have a wander by the lake and to look round the shops. Leaving at 1 o'clock we travelled back out of Bowness to Millers Road picnic area and it was now time to find out what was in the boxes loaded at Silloth. We seated ourselves around the tables and each received a picnic

bag, sandwich, sausage roll, crisps, apple and chocolate biscuits with tea or coffee served up as well, we all enjoyed the feed.

Then it was onward to Lakeland Plastics to wander around and make purchases, how time flies when your having fun, 4.30pm and we set off for home retracing our route arriving back in Silloth at 6.15pm. Everyone agreed it had been a wonderful day and praised Sarah for organising it. Please support the group on a Tuesday lunch time in St Andrews Hall, soup, sandwiches etc., all for a donation.

RNLI Donation

A long time visitor to the area who has had a caravan on Midtown Farm Caravan Park at Skinburness for the past ten years, has unfortunately died on 1st November.

Maureen Lees from Manchester had asked that donations were given at her funeral instead of flowers, as she wanted to support her favourite charities.

£500 was collected and as per her wishes £250 is being given to Silloth RNLI and the other £250 is being given to the Lancashire Air Ambulance.

Hair 4 U Zone

Colour Fade

You have a fantastic new colour for Christmas, it looks great, but will it last?

To minimise fade, first get your hair in the best possible condition before you colour, don't waste money buying the wrong conditioners, you could be making the colour fade problem worse by applying the wrong products. Get expert advice, don't expect the person on the market or corner shop to have a clue what is the right product for your hair type. If your hair is in poor condition you may well need an intense treatment, the best we have ever used is an American treatment called 'Nioxin Therapy'. It gives astonishing results, even on severely damaged hair.

After care is vital to guard against colour fade, using the correct colour care shampoo will make a massive difference to how long your colour lasts. The best results we have had are from Clynol Enrich shampoo or Nioxin No3, once you have tried them and seen the difference you will never want to use a standard shampoo and conditioner again.

Have a great Christmas & New Year
Peter, Dawn,
Sammy & Carly

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