



January 2025 local news - for you - by you - about you - free to you

# NEW YEAR HAP

# Events Diary for 2025

Silloth Green Day 25th & 26th May

Ragnarock X

late June

**Firebird Festival** 5th & 6th July

Silloth Vintage Rally

19th & 20th July

Soul on the Green **26th July** 

Solfest 21st to 25th August

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Silloth Carnival ??

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**Anything Else** Let Us Know?

Page 3 Santa in Abbeytown







Pages 8 & 9 Silloth Lights Switch On





Page 16 Come join the Parkrun





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

# The Twittering's

A monthly bird themed column from Jenny Wren & Albert Ross (words by Jen images by Bert) Having recently migrated up

the coast from Maryport we have decided to roost and made the Silloth area our home.

Over recent years we have both started to really appreciate the world of birds and now can't go anywhere without a pair of binoculars and a bird book.

We have been stunned by the diversity of birds we can see in the Cumbrian and Solway areas; we have loved watching birds coming and going as the seasons change and birds migrate in and out of the area. We have watched in awe as they have built intricate nests, laid eggs on the tiniest of cliff ledges or burrowed into sand dunes. Spent hours watching them hunt for tiny voles and shrews, digging for worms on the beach or catching the smallest of insects in flight. Neither of us can quite believe how we managed to ignore all this activity and all these fantastic birds for so many years.

What we will always say is that we are absolute beginners and even after four years would never dare to call ourselves fully fledged 'Twitchers' This column is not about teaching, telling, informing or advising it is all about sharing.

Each month we would like to share with you some of the wonderful photographs Bert has taken and to tell you about some of the birds we have been lucky to meet as we progress through the seasons. Bearing in mind that we

Motors

West Silloth



are beginners we are also really keen to learn from you too. We are likely to pose loads of questions and hope that you can help us out with local knowledge and birding insights. We will often get things wrong, and are by no means experts. We just want to share with you our love of the birds we see in our local area.

We are starting this month (January) with what we are calling the 'Curlew Conundrum'. We both love Curlews; their haunting calls, their winter gatherings on the Solway coast and the joy when we are lucky and they stay and nest inland locally over the spring and summer. We love that crazy bill that makes them such a unique sight when flying or probing for food in the wet sand as the tide goes out. We are honoured here on the Solway that we have so many visiting Curlews as it is now Britain's most endangered bird with half of breeding birds lost

since 2000.

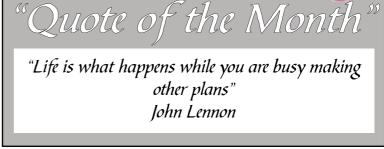
So, what is the Curlew Conundrum? Over the years that we have been watching Curlews in Winter we have endlessly wondered why some days the birds choose to base themselves on the beach feeding in the wet sand and other days we see them in farm fields beside the sea. We have never been able to work out what causes this change in feeding pattern? Is it all to do with tides and weather, do they simply fancy a change of scene, do they fancy munching on an earth worm rather than a lugworm, or is it something way more complicated? We look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Thanks for reading, we'll be back in February. In the meantime, don't forget to watch the skies, look in hedgerows or just out your kitchen window and see what you can see.

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# Abbey Christmas Fayre Raises an Amazing £5,095

Report by: Laura Sharp

On Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th November we held our annual Christmas Fayre. The Abbey was filled with a festive atmosphere and 21 stalls made up of local crafters and small businesses, where people enjoyed some Christmas shopping and some tasty homemade treats, washed down with a warm cuppa or mulled wine.

We also had a special visitor all the way from the North Pole whose reindeers waited patiently on the roof while Santa listened carefully to all the children's requests for Christmas Day with the help of his Elves Sophie and Abbie. The children left with a little treat and Santa had a very long list of presents to deliver!

We all had an amazing

weekend and special thanks go to all our lovely stall holders, everyone who supported us and to all our fantastic volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the weekend such a success.

Thank you also to both our Christmas cake raffle and main raffle winners, there were just too many prize winners to list individually!

We are pleased to announce that we raised an incredible £5,095.42 which will go towards the continued running and restoration of the Abbey.

We hope to see everyone next year!

Margaret Rees said "Holme Cultram Abbey Christmas Fayre is always a joyful occasion. I am constantly amazed by the creative talents of our local craft-workers -



Nancy, aged three and Ophelia, aged six, making corn dollies with Margaret Rees at the Christmas Fayre

and the Abbey's volunteers fed us royally. I make corn dollies: as one of the last

people making them, I like to encourage our lovely visitors to 'have-a-go' and make their own corn dolly to take home, and keep this fascinating 8,000-year-old tradition going for a bit longer.

Our littlest visitors this time were sixyear-old Ophelia and Nancy, aged three.



# Holme Cultram Abbey Christmas Munch Lunch Raises £2,851

Report by: Laura Sharp Photo by: Revd Canon Bryan Rothwell

On Thursday 5th December Holme Cultram Abbey held their annual Christmas Munch Lunch in the Abbey with takeaway Christmas dinners being served on Wednesday 4th December.

We prepared approximately 80 takeaways and 96 seated meals (we lost count of how many

meals we actually supplied plus all our volunteers enjoyed a meal afterwards too!)

The meal began with Grace being sung by all. It was lovely to see so many people from near and far and the atmosphere was lovely as everyone enjoyed a meal together. After the meal we sang a carol being played and led by Revd Canon Bryan Rothwell on the organ, finished off with a raffle.

was raised from all the meals and a raffle. Thank you to all those who supported and generously donated towards this delicious Christmas Munch and made it such a successful event. Thank you also to all our volunteers who worked tirelessly to prepare and serve all the meals we couldn't have done it without them. We wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year and look forward to seeing everyone in 2025.

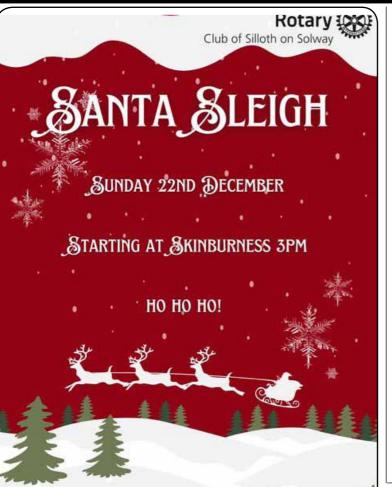








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# Blencogo Garden Club



Report by: Linda & Nick Wood Blencogo and District Garden club would like to give a big thank you to everyone who supported our Bingo night in aid of funds towards the purchase of the Village Hall.

Special thanks to our amazing members for their support and help and to everyone who came along on the night and donated prizes and cakes. Which meant all money raised went into the fund £727, plus a £100 which was raised during garden club meetings making £827.

A great time was had by all. We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to meeting up in the new year at Blencogo & District Garden Club.

# SANTA STOPS





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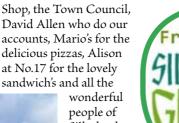
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# **FOG** Thank You For Your Support!

Report by: Caroline Turner Photos by: Judith Scott We are very grateful to all the organisations and companies who have supported us this past year, Silloth-on-Solway Community



Silloth who have visited our stalls throughout the year and donated.

All the money we raise is used to buy plants and equipment to keep the Community Garden looking beautiful and to support our wonderful volunteers.

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we are delighted to have been selected as one of the local causes supported by the Co-Op Local Community Fund. All Co-Op members

can vote for their local cause through the Co-Op App or via the membership web site and the more Co-Op members who vote for us the more money we will

receive which we will use to buy even more plants and support our volunteers! If you're not already a Co-op member for just £1 you can join in one of three ways...by downloading the Co-Op app from your App Store, on-line at coop. co.uk or in-store.

Also, we have registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 8,000 retailers, including M&S, Argos, eBay and ASOS will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

#### Support us through

easyfundraising

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at https:// www.easyfundraising.org.uk/ causes/friendsofsillothgreen Once again thank you for

all your support it is really appreciated and Happy New Year!





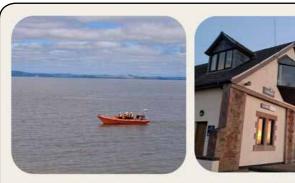


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# Slimming World for Men Too!



#### Report by: Michelle Blakely

Having lost over three stone to achieve his dream weight, Nigel's story is a powerful reflection of how transformative weight loss journeys can be. Before joining Slimming World, he struggled with clothes that didn't fit, low energy, and self-image issues. These are feelings many who battle with their weight can relate to. However, through Slimming World's food optimising plan, which lets you enjoy satisfying meals without extreme restrictions, things started to change.

Having his wife as his biggest supporter made a huge difference, as they bonded over cooking together and motivating each other. The results came quickly—more energy, feeling less bloated, and a noticeable shift in his health. Nigel highlights that the weekly group sessions are essential for ongoing support and accountability, while the encouragement from consultants keeps you going, even when you're unsure of yourself.

Today, Nigel has gone from

struggling to walk to embracing an active lifestyle. He's proud of his 34-inch waist and feels healthier, all from making sustainable changes. He wants people to know that Slimming World isn't just for women—it's for men too, anyone seeking lasting weight loss and a healthier life.

Why for men? Slimming World has traditionally been associated with women, but it's increasingly recognized as a place for men who want to lose weight and lead healthier lives. The program's flexibility, which focuses on sustainable weight loss through food optimising rather than restrictive diets, appeals to men who want to enjoy real food while getting results.

Many men, like Nigel, initially struggle with joining because of the perception that it's a "women's group." However, Slimming World welcomes everyone and tailors its approach to fit different lifestyles. The program's emphasis on hearty, satisfying meals makes it accessible for men who don't want to feel deprived or pressured to eat "diet foods." This focus on lifestyle changes rather than quick fixes makes it a great option for men looking for long-term health improvements.

Support from consultants and weekly group meetings helps build confidence, as well as accountability, something that is key in any weight loss journey. For men, having this network to talk about challenges and successes can be crucial, as they may not always feel comfortable discussing weight loss with friends or family.

With more men realizing the benefits, Slimming World is breaking down stereotypes and proving that it's a place for anyone—man or woman—seeking a healthier, happier life. The group environment, expert advice, and flexible eating plan give men the tools they need to succeed, whether it's losing a few pounds or making a complete lifestyle transformation.

Slimming world have the tools and over 55 years of experience to help anyone.





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#### Kiara Orchard Gains an International Award of the Year' by Sellafield Ltd, winner. Kiara says

A local girl from the small seaside town of Silloth winning a national award for project management excellence - last month Kiara Orchard was awarded 'Emerging Project Professional of the Year' at the prestigious Association for Project Management (APM) Project Management Awards in London. Which celebrates excellence in the project management profession and recognises her talent at a national level with entrants from across the globe!

Kiara is from Silloth, attended Silloth Primary School then the Nelson Thomlinson School in Wigton, having completed A-Levels in 2019, she started a Level 6 project management degree apprenticeship at Sellafield Ltd. During the four year apprenticeship, Kiara studied for a bachelor's degree in project management with the University of Cumbria, for which she achieved a First Class in her Dissertation and Distinction against the Level 6 apprenticeship standard the end point assessments. She graduated from the University of Cumbria in 2023, and from the apprenticeship and as a result was awarded 'Project Management Apprentice

of the Year' by Sellafield Ltd, another highly prestigious award. Since then, Kiara has

progressed to sub-project manager and owns key work packages across multiple projects and plays a leading role in several company initiatives as a committed volunteer. Kiara says 'Both of these are a considerable benefit in this early stage of my career; honing my project management skills and gaining a wider understanding of the business through delivery of outcomes which benefit the company and the individuals working within it'

Her day job involves leading on characterisation, ground investigations and leading the design for her project at Calder Hall - the world's first commercial nuclear power plant. Focusing on removing Calder's iconic Heat Exchangers, Kiara works alongside the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to drive savings and share her learning across all nuclear sites in the UK.

In July, Kiara found out that she was a finalist for the APM Awards event, for 'Emerging Project Professional of the Year' and on Monday 18th November 2024 she was announced as the 'I am absolutely delighted to have been recognised at a national level for my passion towards project delivery and commitment to the project management profession. I am so proud to have been shortlisted never mind taking home the trophy, and this is a testament to the support I have received at Sellafield to challenge myself and take on additional opportunities?

Alongside her day-job Kiara is actively working to make her organisation a more inclusive employer, Kiara is co-chair for the

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Sellafield Menohub, an employeeled network which aims to raise awareness and improve support for those experiencing the menopause. Developing and rolling out menopause awareness training for line managers, organising events and also establishing urgent access

Swim Slide



sanitary supplies across the site, very much a first for Sellafield, to support those who need it.

Outside of work Kiara is a town councillor for Silloth-on-Solway and a parish councillor for Holme Low. She is also a national champion cheerleader for Cheer Force Knights Maryport.

This is a fantastic achievement and a huge success for both Kiara and Sellafield Ltd. 'I am hugely proud to have achieved so much in my early career already. This is only the start and this award motivates me to continue to challenge myself even further, on my path to Chartership. I would like to thank every single manager, mentor and colleague who have supported me from my first day as an apprentice through to today, and of course, my family, who have been my biggest supporters and I couldn't have done this without them.



£5.50 per adult / £4.50 per child / Under 5's go FREE! (Available until 14th Feb 2025, excluding New Year Period)

#### LOCAL LEISURE MEMBERSHIPS

Join our leisure centre for unlimited use of or 5 star facilities! Open 7 days a week. January & February rates: - Adult (16-60yrs) – £35 per month. - Child (5-15yrs) – £25 per month. - Senior (over 60) – £28 per month.

Membership forms available from Stanwix park reception. Please bring a passport photo for your very special members card. Day passes are available to purchase online in advance or from reception on the same day - for the same day. <section-header>

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Wow what a day we had on the 23rd November in Christ Church. Thank you to everyone who

braved storm Bert and attended the Christmas lights event. With your help we raised £800 to go towards next year's event.

The church was full of festive cheer. And Santa was rushed off his feet in his new grotto.

Thank you to our five local craft stalls who attended the event. Thank you to Bryan and the church committee for allowing us to use the church. Thank you to silloth town council for allowing us to put two kiddie rides on the edge of the green and providing the power for the lights. Thank you to our two main sponsors Stanwix Park for the grotto presents and Ali Henderson from No:17 for the 20ft Christmas tree. Thank you to Mrs Wilson's,

Cath and Gerry's, the RAFA club, Wilmots, and fellow Rotarians for Raffle prizes. Humphrey Coffee and Donuts for sponsoring the refreshments. Wilmot Amusement

for providing the two kiddie rides f.o.c. Thank you to Silloth bowling club for their continued support with the lights. Thank you to Party Time Cumbria for the loan of the costumes. And thank you to Andrew Davenport for starting the count down.

This year we expanded the Christmas lights over to West Silloth, this was all made possible with the help from the following businesses. SOS Charity Shop for the grants which purchased the lights, Stanwix Park for providing the location and power f.o.c., and Wilmots amusements for collecting



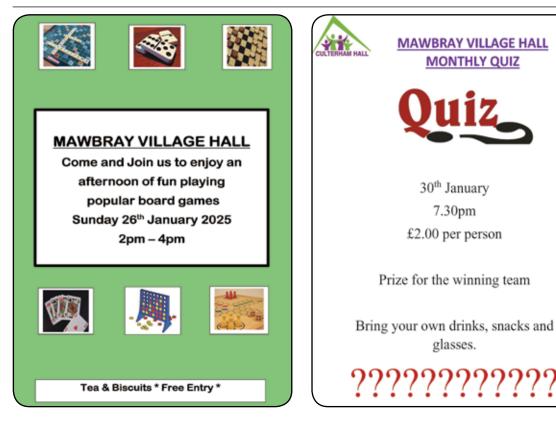
the lights from North Yorkshire f.o.c. It is nice when all the local business can work together and make this a community event.

And thank you to Thomas and Joe for spending hours in the cold putting up all the lights. And a BIG THANK YOU to anyone who I've missed and Everyone who attended.











Swimming Bee by Isla Brown from Holm Cultram Abbey School





# Silloth Christmas Lights Switch-On in Christ Church





Local Government Boundary Commiss

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- Reflects local communities

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#### Silloth Rotary Support Aspatria Switch-On



Silloth Christmas lights committee were proud to support Aspatria's Christmas lights switchon on the first of December. We turned the school hall in to a little winter wonderland, with over

twenty tree lights and Santa's grotto put up.

We also provided transport for santa to visit all the children in Harriston

Thank you for allowing us to be

part of your event and spreading Christmas cheer.

And thank you to Travis and Alex from Wilmots Amusement for you assistance and loan of the van and pick up.



A recent treat for Silloth ship enthusiasts was the visit of the Danish tanker ORANESS with the November delivery of molasses. The tanker has made previous calls at the port but always during unsociable hours, much to the frustration of photographers. Luck was on their side this time as the arrival coincided with a brighter day after a week of misty autumnal weather. Fingers were crossed for some interesting action photos.

ORANESS is operated by the Danish company 'Simonsen,' a family run-business with a history of more than eighty years in

# Silloth Tide Tables

JANUARY 2025 SI									SIL	LUIH
		HTS ABOVE NEW DOCK GAUGE (1.8m ABOVE CD)								
			High Water				Low Water			
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			Time	m	Time	m	Time	m	Time	m
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	6 M 2 7 TU 8 W 9 TH 10 F	•	03 57 04 52 05 56 07 09 08 20	6.3 6.0 5.7 5.6 5.7	16 20 17 18 18 26 19 38 20 48	6.7 6.4 6.1 6.0 6.1	10 41 11 33 00 11 01 15 02 27	- 0.1 0.1 - 0.1 - 0.0 0.1	23 16 12 33 13 44 15 01	-0.3 0.2 0.2 0.1
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shipping. Their small red tankers dominate the European market for the transport of edible oils, especially fish oils and molasses. ORANESS is one of a fleet of eleven ships all with the prefix 'ORA' in their name, which is Latin for coast. ORANESS was built in 1985, acquired by 'Simonsen' in 2001 who converted it into a speciality tanker. The shipping company's policy is to modernise existing ships rather than opt for newbuilds as this has become uneconomical for small vessels.

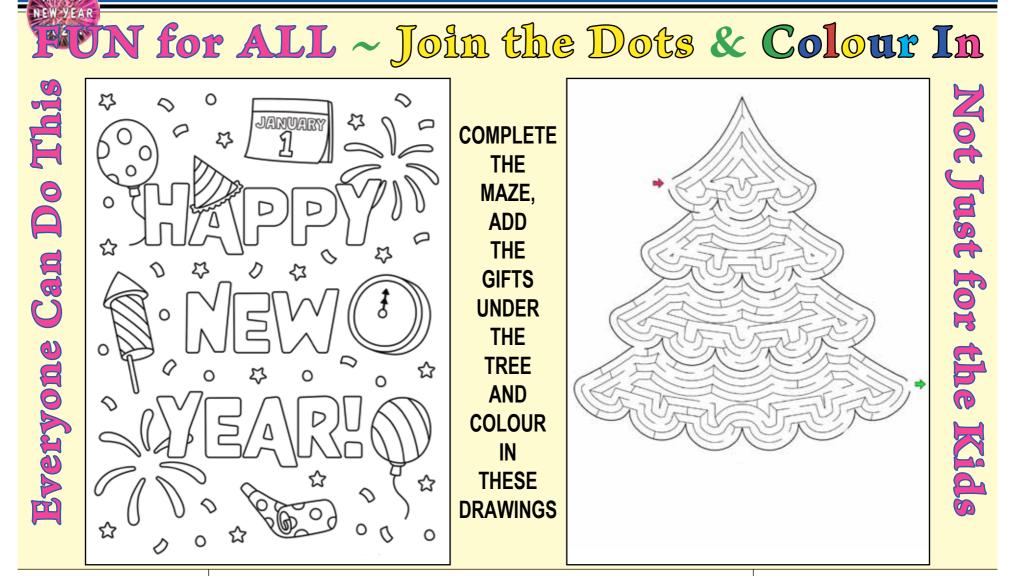
Our tanker had loaded 2,500 tonnes of liquid molasses in Bremen before reaching Silloth five days later. On the morning of arrival, the Silloth pilot had boarded the ship via the tug DERWENT out of Workington. The tricky sailing up the Solway proceeded smoothly with the ship arriving in good time to enter Silloth dock. The occasional appearance of the sun was appreciated by the crowd of onlookers gathered at the port entrance to watch the ship make its approach. ORANESS performed the usual pirouette manoeuvre before heading for the dock entrance on the midday tide. The ship was photographed as it passed by and while being turned in the dock and brought alongside.

It was a brief visit for ORANESS, and two days later she headed north for a circuit of Danish ports. Enthusiasts are hopeful that more of Simonsen's specialist tankers may call at Silloth in the future.



Who wants to drop in from there!

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# In Memory of Malcolm Wilson

Report by: Richard Wilson It is with a heavy heart that we pen these few words about our father, Malcolm Wilson, who sadly passed recently.

Many from an older generation would remember him from the garage (Silloth Motor Company) where he worked with our Grandfather.

He was a long-standing member of the Miramar lodge with over 50 year's association.

He was also an avid local historian with a wealth of knowledge about the area.

His passion was model making, in particular model ships. His attention to detail was second to none and would undertake hours of research before embarking on any new project. This would often entail tracking down original plans which he would then scale down to make an exact replica of the original.

He has left a rich legacy of model ships which are on display across the world including Liverpool and Greenwich maritime museums.

He will be greatly missed.



# Shipping at the Port of Silloth

Report by: Capt Tim Riley Harbour Master, Short Sea Pilot

Again, only two vessel calls to Silloth this month, the Oraness with Molasses for animal feeds and The Ayr with fertiliser for Origin. The Ayr was our second Vertom vessel this year and a third was also planned, however changed for another vessel at the last minute.

Our water pumping system on the beach has been pulled apart again by winds and tides and so needs rebuilding, in the meantime we will have to get a digger in to open the port up again prior to our next vessels.

Our Annual stakeholder meeting was held on the 19th in the Golf Hotel and was very well attended. We introduced our prospective New Owners, FoxJackson Ports, represented by Zowi Whittaker who gave a brief introduction and talk about the view ahead for the port. The current status of the port sale is that the Legal works are almost completed after which the details will be submitted to the Marine Management Organisation for approval through the Harbour Revision Order process, currently taking over a year to complete.

Have a great December and a fantastic Christmas.

September Visitors

16th Oraness from Bremen with a cargo of Molasses then on to Nakskov.
18th Ayr from Antwerp with a cargo of Fertiliser then on to sea for orders.



Silloth

The Postbox outside the Post Office is always very seasonal. Thank you Crafters.



And in February we have

our "birthday" tea - more on this

special event later.



Gamer Bee by Blake Tinkler from Holm Cultram Abbey School

Police are warning people across Cumbria to be on be vigilant to scam phone calls from fraudsters.

This follows a report made to police recently in which the victim was contacted by the fraudster claiming to be from her bank and that their bank card had expired, and she is due to be issued a new one. The following day a male attending the victims address in Barrow and introduced himself as a police officer who needed to carry out fingerprint checks on her cards. He also offered to take her jewellery for safekeeping.

The male left with the cards and later posted them back through the door after having made a number of transactions with the cards.

The scams fit the pattern of fraudsters pretending to be officials, such as bank fraud teams, police officers or HMRC officials. However, the scams can differ slightly from call to call. But

OPENING HOURS 10am - 4pm

n: 12pm - 4pm

is: 10am – 10m

Apart from:

the fraudsters often request bank details, money to be sent electronically, cash to be withdrawn at the bank for collection or expensive items to be bought for collection at a later time. Police and other agencies would never request this.

If you have any concern that the person on the phone may be a fraudster, put the phone down and call the police from a different phone on 101 for advice and guidance.

Officers are asking anyone who has been victim to such a scam to come forward. If you receive a call you're not expecting, you should be suspicious. The vital things to remember are that your bank, other agencies and the police would:

Never ask you for your bank account details or PIN number over the phone.

Never ask you to withdraw money and send it to them via a courier, taxi, bank transfer or by any other means. Never ask you to

send your bank cards or any other personal property to them via courier, taxi or by any other means.

If you have any doubts about the identity of the person that you are speaking with, put the phone down and attend the bank or police station in person, wherever possible, to discuss the call you have received, or call a trusted number for the bank or police using a different telephone than the one that you have been contacted on.

It's recommended you wait at least five minutes and make sure you can hear a dialling tone before you call, as there have been cases of fraudsters keeping the line open after a victim has hung up.

We ask that the public please share this information with any vulnerable friends or family.

If you think you have been the victim of a fraud you can report this to police on 101 and to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 - or by visiting their website at https:// www.actionfraud.police.uk/



#### Useful Phone Numbers

Age Concern Home Safety Scheme

Age Concern Home Safety Scheme								
	0800 678 1602							
Age UK	01900 844670							
Chemist, Silloth:	016973 31394							
Church Catholic	01900 814826							
Community Grants:	01900 325013							
Crime Stoppers:	0800 555111							
Cumberland Council	0300 373 3730							
Dentist, Alma Terrace:	016973 31270							
Dentist, Emergency:	01228 603900							
Doctor:	016973 31309							
Doctor CHOC service	03000 247 247							
NHS	111							
First Responders can only be called by the								
Ambulance service, call: 999								
Electricity Power Cut	105							
Gas:	0800 111 999							
Highways Hot Line	0300 373 3736							
Hospital:	01228 523444							
Holme St. Cuthbert School, May								
,,	01900 881242							
Holm Cultram Abbey CofE School								
Abbeytown:	016973 61261							
MP:	010010 01201							
Markus Campbell-Savours:	07733 330593							
Neighbourhood Forum:	01900 325013							
Police:	101							
Quakers, Wigton:	01228 523174							
Register Office, Wigton:	0300 373 3730							
Samaritans:	01228 544444							
Silloth Community School:	01220 011111							
Children Community Control.	016973 31234							
Silloth Library	016973 31944							
Silloth Nursery & Junior School:								
	016973 31243							
Silloth Post Office	016973 31323							
Silloth Town Clerk:	016973 31128							
Silloth Tourist Information Centr								
	016973 31944							
Solway Buzz:	016973 32180							
Paragon Vet:	010373 32100							
Millcroft Vet:	01220710200							
Waste Disposal Dept:	01900 702800							
Waste Disposal Dept. 01900 7020 Water LeakLine: 0800 3300								
Water & Waste Problems								
West Cumbria Carers	01900 821976							

Please, let us know what you want included



MOT

**TEA, COFFEE & SOFT DRINKS** 

AVAILABLE

sillothmotorcyclemuseum.co.uk

Informing & Listening to Communities



community \* Please continue donating

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

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



Issue 225 Solway Buzz Phone Book

07857 989358

016973 61231

07727 127000

016973 42635

016973 31245

01228 317373

07773 069856

016973 31155

016973 31224

07931 362163

07762 772208

016973 32452

07799 708465

016973 32666

016973 31696

016973 31836

016973 32833

016973 61242

01228 810404

Allerdale & Eden Roofing

Devonshire House Dentures

Fairydust Emporium

Golden Dawn Nurseries

Green View / Stella's

Harrisons Store Ltd

Ian the Electrician

J Hill & Sons Undertakers

Mike Taylor Plumbing

**PM Roofing Specialists** 

Seasoned Firewood Logs

Slimming World (Denise)

Upholstery, Irene Armstrong

**Advertisers** 

entries

are

always

**FREE** 

in

the

Phone

Book

Jill Glencross Funeral Director

Hair She Goes

Jaybees

Mrs Wilson's

S.O.S.C.S.

Stanwix Park

The Charity Shop

West Silloth Motors

Wheyrigg Hall Hotel

WW Windows UK

P Scott Carpets

AMC Scrap Metals

Christine's Taxis

D A Harrison

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 Please let us know

of any changes

within this section

For baptisms and other church

related business please

contact: Rev Bryan Rothwell

The Vicarage, Wigton Road Tel: 016973 31413

**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

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.

Wigton Theatre Club

Buy tickets via our website

www.wigtontheatre.org

or call the Box Office:

07977 835094

Silloth Tennis Club

For coaching information call

David Wise on 0742 547767

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** 

Email: office@solwaybuzz.co.uk

This is down to you, we can

When sending articles in,

requires clarification.

only publish items if you send

please supply a contact name

Published by: Peter McRobert

with the support of the whole

community and an army of

and number in case something

Proprietor:

Peter McRobert

Editorial Content

them to us.

volunteers

Skinburness, CA7 4RA Tel: 0750 180 5775

Barn Cottage

Cash Machines

China Painting

**Christ Church** 

COPY

Issue 225



Silloth & District

Silloth Nursing

Pensioners Coffee Morning in

Christ Church at 10am

Home/League Of Friends coffee morning in Christ

Ragnarock

Ragnarock

Firebird Festival on

Firebird Festival on

Silloth & District

Strawberry Tea at

Strawberry Tea at

Silloth Vintage Rally

Pensioners Coffee Morning in

19th Silloth Vintage Rally on the Green, all FREE

Christ Church at 10am

Holm Cultram Abbey

Holm Cultram Abbey

on the Green, all FREE

Church at 10am

Iune

14th

25th

27th

28th

July

6th

12th

17th

13th

20th

Silloth Green

Silloth Green

Copy date for the Feb/March issue is: 1st week January 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

Meet in the Abbey: Adult Choir Tuesdays 6-7pm Children's Choir Wednesdays 4:30-5:30pm All welcome!

#### **Banking Hub**

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

#### **Good Companions**

Have a coffee morning / fundraiser on the first Mondav 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

#### Family History Grp

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

#### 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

Abbeytown Badminton Club meet on Wednesday evenings check details on their facebook page. £5 per night

#### 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

# **Dates for Your Diary**

April

Silloth Town Council

Holme Low Parish

Silloth & District

Silloth Nursing

Dalston Male Voice

Children's Football

Meeting in the Community Hall

Council meeting at 7:30pm in

Pensioners Coffee Morning in

at 7pm, all welcome

Silloth Community Hall

Christ Church at 10am

Home/League Of Friends coffee morning in Christ

Choir & Gala Trio in Holme

Cultram Abbey at 2:30pm

Church at 10am

7th

12th

23rd

27th

May

Tournament

3rd

#### December

21st Open air Carols and warm drinks in Christ Church, 21st Criffell Street at 6pm

22nd Carol Service in Christ Church at 11am

24th Crib service for young families in Christ Church at 6pm

24th Christmas Eve Vigil in the Roman Catholic Church, on Solway Street at 6pm

24th Midnight Communion in Christ Church at 11:30pm

25th Holv Communion in Christ Church at 9am

25th Morning worship in the Evangelical Church at 10:30am

25th Christmas Lunch in the Rugby Club nnon to 2pm Book with Jackie 07860 374817

Charity Cold Water 26th Dip by Silloth Tigers in support of The Freedom Project

29th United Service in Christ Church at 10am

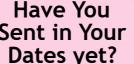
Evangelical Church 31st Bring & share meal and gettogether at 7:30pm

**Evangelical Church** Watchnight Service at 11:15pm

#### January 2025

1st Allonby Dook, take a dip in Allonby Bay, check facebook for Allonby Dook

7th in Blencogo Village Hall at



#### Silloth RNLI Shop

Shop Opening Times Closed until February Our Shop is staffed by Volunteers and may not be open at the advertised time. We apologise for any

#### Abbey Tots

term time only at Holme Cultram Abbey 10am to 11:30am, all welcome

#### Solway Woodcarvers

Every Monday and Wednesday evening at Silloth Community

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

#### January 2025

14th Holme Abbey Parish Council meeting in Abbeytown Community Sports Pavilion at 7pm

Holme Low Parish Council meeting at 7:30pm in

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

18th Film Club - see advert

30th Mawbray Village Hall - Monthly Quiz - 7:30pm - see

poster

3rd

19th

follow

March

February

at 7pm, all welcome

Christ Church at 10am

Home/League Of Friends coffee morning in Christ

Church at 10am

Children's Football 4th Tournament

10th Silloth & District Pensioners Coffee Morning in

at 7pm, all welcome

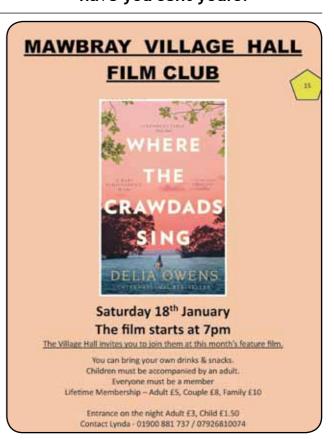
13th Council meeting with electors in Abbeytown Community Sports Pavilion at 6:30pm followed by AGM at 7pm

21st Silloth Nursing Home/League Of Friends coffee morning in Christ Church at 10am

26th

Silloth Green Day

We now have dates up to December,



8th Silloth & District Pensioners Coffee Morning in 8th Christ Church at 10am 11th Holme Abbey Parish Council meeting in Abbeytown Community Sports Pavilion at

7pm

19th

3rd

inconvenience.

We meet on Tuesdays during

Hall from 7pm onwards

14th

Silloth Community Hall 15th

Mawbray Village Hall

24th Wigton Theatre Club presents Lee Collinson. Details & times on Ticket Source

26th Mawbray Village Hall Games Afternoon 2pm - 4pm - see poster

Silloth Town Council

Silloth & District

Silloth Nursing

22nd Mawbray Village Hall Film Club - 7pm - Details to

27th Mawbray Village Hall - Monthly Quiz - 7:30pm

Meeting in the Community Hall

Silloth Nursing

Errors do occur in

Dates for the Diary

Please check before

attending an event

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.

Home/League Of Friends

coffee morning in Christ

Church at 10am

at 7pm, all welcome

Silloth Town Council

Meeting in the Community Hall

Pensioners Coffee Morning in

Christ Church at 10am

Silloth Town Council 12th Meeting in the Community Hall

Holme Abbey Parish

25th Silloth Green Day

have you sent yours?



coffee morning in Christ Church at 10am

Soul on the Green 26th 11am to 8pm on Silloth Green



Dundraw WI meet 1:30pm

Have You Sent in Your

# our Wonderful Buzzing Letters and Poems

Winter Sun on the Solway Firth by Frances Sherratt

Low in the sky, the winter sun lingers, Casting long shadows with amber fingers. It skims the chill waves, a pale golden glow, Kissing the Solway where cold breezes blow.

A shrimp boat drifts in the mirrored expanse, Its nets trailing lines in a rhythmic dance. The horizon hums with a quiet beat, Of wind over water, of salt so complete.

Frost tips the grasses, the marshes are still, The air holds a silence that time cannot fill. But the boat keeps its course, steady and true, Tracing the paths where old stories renew. The sun, like a watcher, its vigil does keep, Over brine-soaked horizons and depths that run deep. Its warmth is a whisper, fleeting and shy, A promise that winter will soon pass by.

"Pen to Paper" by Judy Rochester

Creative writing may seem a bore As memories of school come to the fore And in this day of keyboard and phone Who needs paper and pen you may groan !

But why not grab a notebook and find that pen, Become a secret writer, create your own Zen. Each word, each phrase, may touch the heart, *Just jot them down, just make a start!* 

The words will flow, just let them go, Thoughts from the shadows, from long ago. Memories of love and life, people you once knew, May bring sad feelings or give you a warm glow.

So let your words dance on the page, Worry not if they don't engage. Thinking on paper helps clear the mind Good for the soul ..... medicine of the best kind!

### **New Memorial Bench**

Dear Buzz,

On behalf of all the OAP's I would like to thank all the volunteers who gave up their time and energy to make the annual party such a roaring success.

To those that missed out this year for health reasons, keep well and warm and hopefully we will see you next year. Thank you.

The Whinge

The Gift by Sophia Lodhi

I recall, clearly, The whirling flakes of cold, white purity, Hurling in a frenzy Against the backdrop Of a deep, dark Indigo sky.

...I entered the blizzard As I tried to find my way home. Very soon, I was lost: Blinded by the thick, white flurry, Snow-dust making my lashes heavy, As dazzling, ice-chilled drops -Soft on soft -Quickly threw a pearlescent blanket Over my helpless form.

...Just as sleep began to take hold, I focussed my vision, as something bright Ánd vermillion red Caught my eye.

Dazed amidst the swirling sheets of snow, I imagined I was dreaming, But. no: Right there before me, Plain as day, I saw a sleigh, And with it, nine bright-eyed reindeer -All linked With strings Of fairy-lights And tinkling, twinkling bells -The first with a nose as red as a berry!

..And then, into my view Came an elderly gentleman With a beard almost as white *As the blizzard itself!* 

*"Come, help dig my sleigh out of this drift,"* He beseeched me, "So I might once more lift My precious gifts Up into the midnight sky!" ...Taking a deep breath, I stood up, shook off my quilt of snow, And did as I was told.

.So thankful was he For a kindred spirit true and bold -He promised me, Happily, That in his sleigh, He and Rudolf, and their team, Would gladly take me home!

#### 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)



The new memorial bench at the junction where you enter Abbeytown from Wigton



New Dentures Direct | FREE Consultations **Economical to Premium Range Dentures** All work carried out by the Clinical Dental Technician in the Denture Clinic

Tel: 01228 529128 Devonshire House Denture Solutions, 51 Spencer Street, Carlisle, CA1 1BB www.devonshirehouselab.co.uk

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

The Driven Snow by Sophia Lodhi

...How to describe The whitest, purest, dazzling white Of brightest, Twinkling Newly driven, virgin snow... Whiter than the whitest sheep Which crowd and weave In milky, woollen flocks Upon The glazed and glistening, wintry hills.

...Those driven drifts of dazzling, powdery falls: More radiant, in day's cool light, Than icicles Which line the frost-encrusted farmyard walls At dawn...

...Did, perhaps, "the Plough" descend From midnight's starry heavens, to lend It's precious, starlit gift so bright, Softly pushing into view Snowdrifts of the whitest white: Those of which, today, I write.

("The Plough" I write about is part of the constellation of Ursa Major or the Great Bear Constellation. It symbolises man's beautiful and harmonious connection to the land.)

#### LIBRARY HOLIDAYS

**Closed 24th Dec** until **Re-opens 3rd January** 

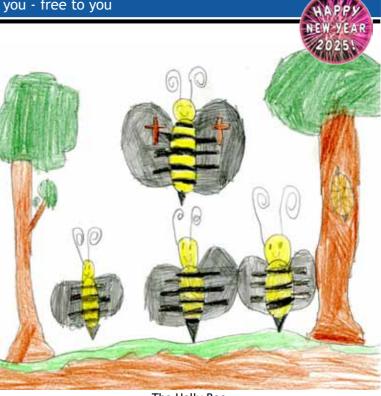


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Solway Buzz - local news - for you - by you - about you - free to you



Come to Silloth Parkrun on Saturday Mornings and have some FUN!



The Holly Bee by Dylan Humphreys from Holm Cultram Abbey School

