

## Have You Returned Yours?

Residents in Allerdale are reminded they need to return their electoral registration information this autumn, if they want to vote in next year's elections.

Allerdale Borough Council sent out Annual Canvas forms in July and, whilst there has been a good response, more people need to reply if they are to have a voice in the European and county council elections, taking place next year.

Many people have already confirmed their details using the more cost-effective methods of telephone, SMS text and internet registration. The Council is promoting this approach through the social networking website Facebook as it is more environmentally-friendly and also saves the council money, with postage and processing costs greatly reduced.

Results have been positive with responses so far totalling 28,426 (62 per cent) – a five per cent increase on figures for the same time last year. The number of reminder forms needing to be sent out by the Council has dropped by 2,257.

Of the number responding, 12,338 people have already used telephone, SMS text or internet registration – with the system looking set to smash last year's final total of 13,499.

The Council is offering telephone, SMS text and internet registration,

using a two-part security code printed on the top of the form, if people have no changes to make to their details. Those who need to change the information on the form can do so by returning it by post with a signature.

Full instructions to help residents register their information are provided with the registration forms. The new register will be published on 28 November 2008.

However, if responses have still not been received by October, canvassers will have to visit individual households to check information currently held on the electoral register is correct, causing unnecessary expense to the taxpayer.

Sheila Brown, Allerdale Borough Council's Democratic Services manager, said: "Sometimes parents just send the electoral registration forms back without adding their children's names to it because they forget they will have turned 18 by the time of the next election and will be eligible to vote. We're trying to reach out to the next generation of voters through the internet and text messaging to ensure they don't miss out on their right to have a say in democracy.

"However, it is also wrongly assumed that the only reasons for registering are so that

## Mayors Report

The Chairman has attended seven events in the past two months there having been no meeting during August.

The Police Report highlighted several incidents of anti-social behaviour within the housing estates along with criminal damage, several people have been arrested. Our community police support officer Lyndsey Noblett has returned to full duty following maternity leave.

Correspondence dealt with included an invitation to enter Cumbria in Bloom 2009.

you can vote or so that the council can send you a council tax bill. Many residents find they cannot get a contract for a new mobile phone or get a loan or a mortgage, because they are not on the electoral register."

For further information or help on completing the forms, contact Allerdale Borough Council's Democratic Services team on 01900 702550 or log on to the Facebook site at: [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=19716192879](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=19716192879)

If no changes are needed, you can confirm your details by calling freephone 0800 025 0966 (24 hours a day), logging on to: [www.ElectorRegistration.co.uk/allerdale](http://www.ElectorRegistration.co.uk/allerdale) or text message: 07797 898 766. Check your registration form for more details and how to amend your information by post.

A letter of complaint re the persistent lack of respect of drivers who constantly park cars at road ends blocking the disabled crossing points, this matter has been passed to the Police and Highways Authority. Please take note, do not block these vital means of access or you may find you have been booked.

Letters were received from Allerdale Borough Council, Cumbria County Council and the Police relating to Environmental Services, Radioactive Waste, Safety/Local concerns. Allerdale also confirmed our objection to the removal of the phone boxes at Skinburness Drive and on Skinburness Road had been included in the Borough response to B.T.

Councillor Angus Emmerson was appointed to the Town Council representative as a Governor of Solway Community Technology College.

Allerdale councillor's reported that work on the replacement of the cemetery bridge was due to start in mid September.

The County Council report gave news that the area of carriageway recently refurbished at Calvo had failed inspection and would require remedial work in future at the cost to the contractor and not the rate payer. The new Highways Steward Scheme is in operation and complaints should be forwarded via your town or parish clerk or direct via the highways hot line 0845 6096609, which is manned 24 hours.

Concerns have been raised that several allotments are not being used correctly and fully utilised, as the council have a number of people on a waiting list. A site meeting will be taking place with representatives so as to bring the land into full use.

## Poem

*A Long Time Ago  
We worked and we married a long time ago  
We worked for long hours when wages were low  
No TV, no wireless, no bath - times were hard  
Just a cold water tap and a walk up the yard  
No holidays abroad, no posh carpets on floors  
But we had coals on the fire and we did not lock our doors.*

*Our children arrived "No Pill" in those days  
And we brought them up without any state aid,  
They were quite safe to go and play in the park  
The old folks could go for a walk after dark  
No Valium, no drugs, no LSD,  
We cured most of our ills with a nice cup of tea  
But if you were sick, you were treated at once  
Not fill in a form and come back in six months.*

*No vandals, no muggings - there was nothing to rob  
And we were quite rich with a couple of bob  
People were happier in those far of days  
Kinder and caring in so many ways  
Milkmen and paper boys used to whistle and sing  
A night at the pictures was our one mad fling.*

*We all got our share of trouble and strife  
We just had to face it, that's the pattern of life  
But now I look back through the years  
I don't think of bad times, the trouble and tears  
I remember the blessings our home and our love  
And we shared them together  
I thank God above.*

## Letters

Dear Buzz,

*I wish to thank Silloth Festivals and volunteers for their outstanding work in making The Silloth Music and Beer Festival such a success.  
I was so delighted to be part of this fabulous event once again for a second year, to entertain the Silloth pensioners at their Saturday Tea Party along with the Nightriders.  
We all had a great time.  
Many thanks,*

Pete Hoban



Christ the King  
by  
Melissa Rankin  
from  
Hylton Caravan Site

## Computer Training FREE

Drop in sessions  
Funded by UK Online  
at

Silloth Primary School  
Wednesdays 10.00 - 12.00

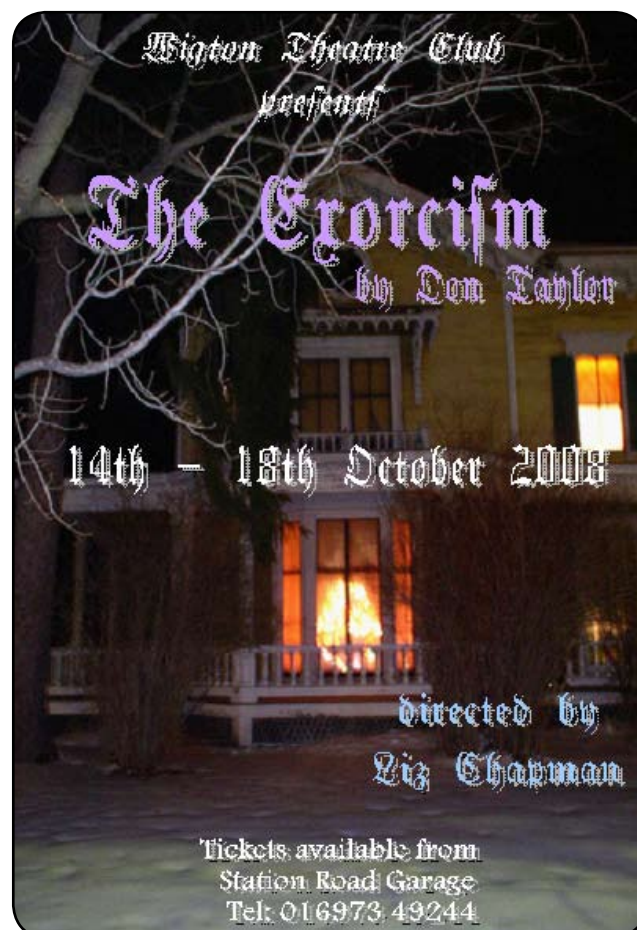
Abbeytown Primary School  
Mondays 12.30 - 2.30

- Aimed at absolute beginners
- Provides assistance and reassurance to make sure people's first steps onto the internet are a positive experience
- Gives users a free, easy-to-use email account and search facility
- Short courses relating to internet and email, using digital photography, public services etc

or

- Get 1-1 help with
  - Word Processing
  - Internet and Email
  - Digital Photography
    - Databases
    - Spreadsheets
    - Desktop Publishing

- Advice and guidance on your learning



## Sudoku Prize Competition

Sponsored by Johns Plaice

Rules:  
Complete the grid so that every row, every column and every box contain all the digits from 1 to 9.

9	2			4				
			6					
5		7	3					2
	1			3	6			9
		6	8		2	4		
	8		1	7				3
	4				3	8		5
				4				
			7					4
								2

Entries must be in before the copy date for the next issue shown on page 4.

Congratulations to the winner of last months competition: Mrs F.M. Fell from Wigton.

Prize:

The winner will receive free Fish & Chips for two from Johns Plaice, Silloth.

To enter send the completed Sudoku to: Johns Plaice, 12 Solway Street, Silloth-on-Solway, CA7 4AR.