

Golf at Silloth

Silloth-on-Solway, one of the North's premier golf clubs, has just published its illustrious history, more than 100 years after its foundation in 1892. The North British Railway Company first introduced golf to Silloth in 1892 as part of its ambitious plans to develop the Victorian port and resort. A succession of great Victorian champions graced the links as early attraction to new members and visitors.

The club soon produced its own great champion in the person of Cecilia Leitch, daughter of the local doctor. After bursting on to international championship golf in 1908 at the age of only 17, Cecilia went on to win numerous international titles, became the best player in the world, and revolutionised women's golf.

Since then, the Silloth-on-Solway Golf Club has dominated Cumbrian Golf, supplying a stream of champions that continues into the modern era. More recently, it has achieved prominence as the home club of the late Viscount Whitelaw, an eminent golfing figure in his own right. But perhaps the greatest glory of Silloth is its wonderful links land course, laid out with traditional Cumberland turf in the sandhills west of the town, touched by some of the greatest of the early golf architects, but mostly moulded by Nature herself.

The history mirrors that of golf itself and has been written by club members John Pearson and Peter Cusack. Copies are available in hardback with an attractive dust wrapper, from: The Secretary, Silloth-on-Solway Golf Club, Silloth, Wigton, CA7 4BL, Tel: 016973 31304, at a price of £20 plus posting and packaging. Members can purchase the book at the club at the preferential price of only £15.



On the Waterfront by Tommy Legs

June was a wet and miserable month livened up by a visit from the sailing vessel PHOENIX and the trawler race. Apart from these events the port was quiet with only four commercial ships visiting.

The first ship was the KLAZINA'C with a cargo of fertilizer from Ijmuiden, Holland followed by the KORELLE with wood pulp from Antwerp.

The BEN MAYE then loaded a cargo of cement from Ireland and finally the AMAVISTI discharged a cargo of wheat from Rostock, Germany.

On Wednesday 26th the sailing vessel PHOENIX visited Silloth from Whitehaven. A brisk S-W'ly wind ensured that she arrived off the port one and a half hours before high water having averaged more than 8 knots under two lower topsails from Workington pilot station.

The vessel entered Silloth harbour rapidly under engine

power only half an hour before high water observed by many people who had braved the poor weather conditions.

The PHOENIX stayed in Silloth harbour for 24 hours being visited by many people young and old, before sailing at 12:45pm Thursday down the firth to Maryport marina.

Fortunately, the wind conveniently shifted direction to blow from the NW, still quite brisk, which allowed the vessel to proceed under sail at sufficient speed to berth in Maryport on the same tide.

On Saturday 29th the annual trawler race was held for local boats and despite the very poor weather was enjoyed by all involved, the winning boat being BOY BAILEY skippered by Paul Bennett.

On the dock itself rapid progress is being made on the construction of the two new molasses tanks which hopefully, will bring the port some extra trade.

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