



# Solway Buzz

Robber Bee  
by Archie Humphreys from Holm Cultram Abbey School

[www.solwaybuzz.co.uk](http://www.solwaybuzz.co.uk)

January 2024

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

**FREE PAPER**

Issue 215

## Merry Christmas & A Very Happy New Year



Photo by: Laura Sim

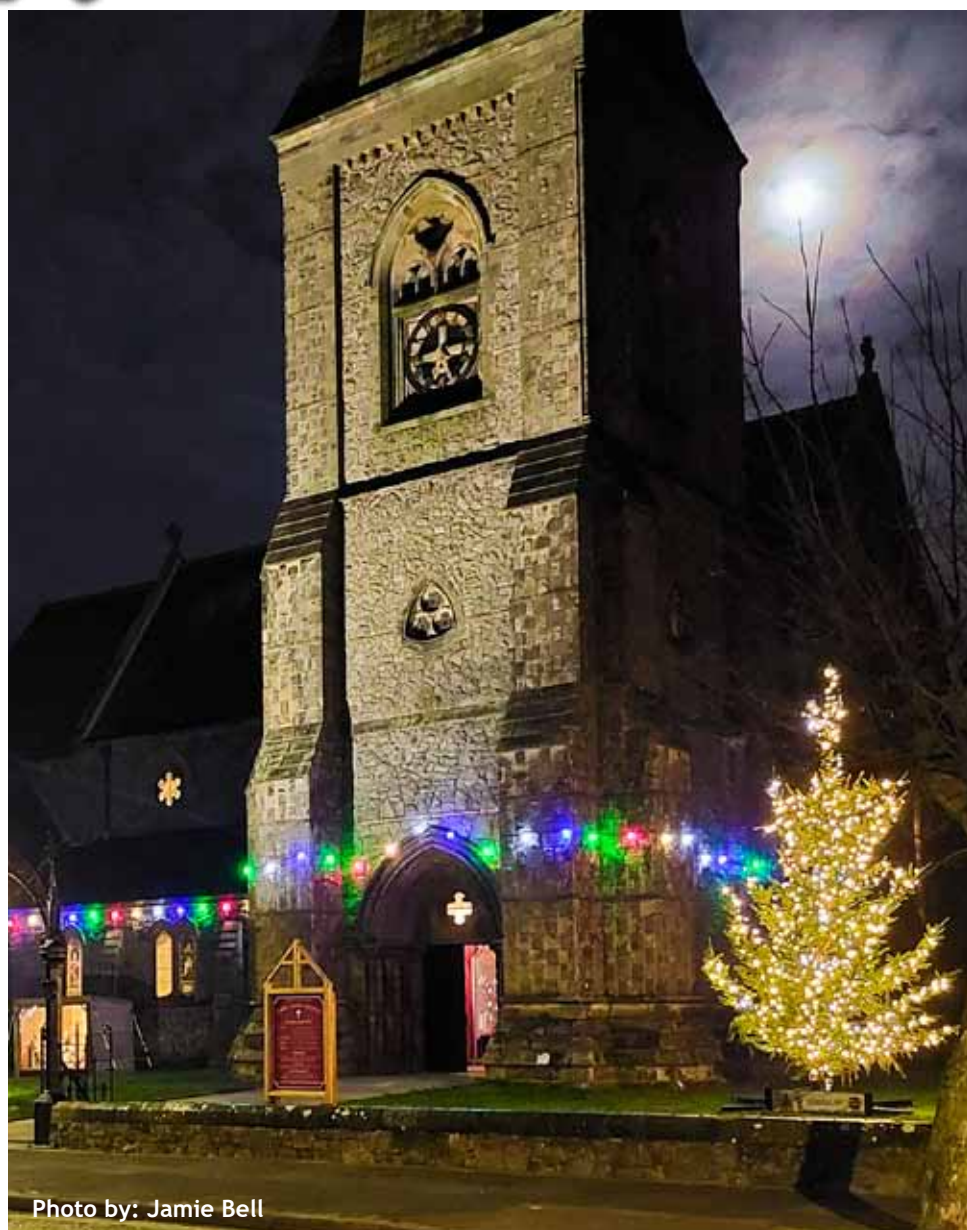


Photo by: Jamie Bell

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# Check the Carers Active Hub

The New Year is a time when many of us turn our attention to our health and wellbeing and resolve to make a fresh start come January.



For unpaid carers this can take much more than just willpower. They often find their days and nights chock-a-block with caring responsibilities, employment, family and housework. Even thinking about adding a new activity to a jam-packed to do list can seem overwhelming!

Help is available – requesting a Carers Assessment from Carer Support West Cumbria could help identify additional support, which may give you a bit of free time to do something for

yourself. Call 01900 821976 to self-refer to this service.

Carers UK have a “Carers Active Hub”, an online resource to help you to increase your activity levels and improve your health and wellbeing. It includes activity and wellbeing videos which you can do at home, as well as activity ideas, advice from experts and other carer’s active stories. To access the Carers Active Hub visit [carersuk.org/help-and-advice/your-health-and-wellbeing/carers-active-hub/](http://carersuk.org/help-and-advice/your-health-and-wellbeing/carers-active-hub/)

If you need any support with your caring role contact us on the number above or email [general@carersupportwestcumbria.co.uk](mailto:general@carersupportwestcumbria.co.uk).



## Now Where Will You Eat Today?



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016977 44567 Mrs Wilson's of Silloth  
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# Remembrance Day & Poppy Appeal Raises £3,250



Report by: Janine Nicoll

We would like to thank you all for supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, together we raised £3,250 with Silloth Primary School coming in top with £271.78! A massive thank you to all the children and teachers and support staff at the school. A special thank you to one very special little boy who emptied his money box with a great £6.70, all going to help veterans young and old.

Thank you to all who came to the Saturday and Sunday service, and to all who laid wreaths and carried the standards.

- |                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Royal British Legion     | Mrs S Nicoll     |
| Submariner Association   | Mr I Moore       |
| AAC                      | Miss J Nicoll    |
| RAFA                     | Mrs S Armstrong  |
| RNLI                     | Mrs J O'Connell  |
| Fire Service             | Miss T Provence  |
| Police Service           | SPC Nicoll       |
| CCC                      | Miss L Winter    |
| Town Council             | Mr O Martin      |
| Church Clr               | Mrs M Graham     |
| Scouts                   | Miss A Shires    |
| Brownies                 | Franki and Kate  |
| On behalf Mark Jenkinson | Mr C Searle      |
| Golf Club                | Mr N Freeman     |
| First Responders         | Miss F Henderson |
| Rotary                   | Mr J Scott       |
| Silloth On Solway Shop   | Mr D Catton      |
| Masonic Lodge            | Mr A Anderson    |



Silloth Nursing Home residents made their own poppy tree.  
Once again thank you all so much, Sheona and Janine.



## Gareth Lewis is Seeing Winter!



## A Beautiful Aurora Photo by Fiona Bell from Silloth Today



### Christmas Services in Silloth 2023

#### CAROLS AROUND THE CRIB

**Saturday 16th December at 5.00pm - All Welcome!**

Join us as we sing some favourite Carols outside Christ Church round the Christmas Crib scene followed by refreshments in the church

#### CHRIST CHURCH

SUNDAY December 17th	11.00am	CAROL SERVICE
CHRISTMAS EVE	6.00pm	CHILDREN'S CRIB SERVICE & Nativity Play
	11.30pm	MIDNIGHT COMMUNION
CHRISTMAS DAY	9.00am	CHRISTMAS COMMUNION
SUNDAY December 31st	10.00am	UNITED SERVICE in Abbeystown

Contact Revd Bryan Rothwell 016973 31413

#### OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

CHRISTMAS EVE	6.00pm	VIGIL MASS
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Contact Fr Paul Dadson 01900 814826

#### SILLOTH EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

THURSDAY December 14th	1.45pm	FRIENDSHIP HOUR followed by Christmas Tea
SUNDAY December 17th	10.45am	MORNING WORSHIP
	6.30pm	CAROL SERVICE
CHRISTMAS EVE	10.45am	MORNING SERVICE
NEW YEARS EVE	7.30pm	BRING & SHARE GET TOGETHER
	11.15pm	WATCHNIGHT SERVICE

Contact Averil Hodgson 016973 31711

#### GREENROW PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

SUNDAY December 17th	10.45am	WORSHIP with Communion
	6.00pm	CAROL SERVICE
CHRISTMAS EVE	10.45am	WORSHIP with Communion
	6.00pm	CAROLS & READINGS

Contact Margaret Gate 016973 32248

#### CORNERSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

For Methodist services being held at WIGTON CHURCH

Contact Revd Philip Jackson 016973 42468 philip.jackson@methodist.org.uk

## Stay warm and safe this winter

**WaterSafe**  
10 YEARS OF LOCAL APPROVED CONTRACTORS 2013-2023

As the clocks go back and temperatures drop, now's a good time to get our homes ready for winter. **It's important to think about how to stay warm and protect yourself against plumbing emergencies.**

**WaterSafe**, the UK's register of approved contractors backed by all water companies and drinking water regulators, works in partnership with the Met Office to share winter advice.



**WaterSafe Director, Julie Spinks**, said: "Every winter, our members see firsthand the misery burst pipes can cause. **But taking these five simple steps to get ready for winter now can make a big difference** when it comes to protecting your home.

Using a WaterSafe approved contractor means work will be carried out by someone who is competent and qualified."

#### Remember these five top tips to get ready for winter:

- 1) **Fit foam lagging on your pipes** and an insulated jacket on your outside tap to prevent the water inside freezing and bursting the pipes
- 2) **Make sure you can find and use your stop tap** to turn your water off in an emergency - it's usually located underneath your kitchen sink
- 3) **Find the number of your local WaterSafe-approved emergency plumber** and save it in your phone or stick it on your fridge - just in case
- 4) **Arrange a boiler service to help keep it running smoothly**, using an engineer registered with both WaterSafe and Gas Safe
- 5) **Keep an eye on your water use**; a third of energy costs come from heating water, so saving water means saving on your water and energy bills too.

#### Did you know?

**WaterSafe** provides a register of qualified, approved, plumbers and water contractors who are trained in the water regulations, are insured, and hold relevant professional qualifications. [Visit their website for more advice and guidance!](#)

# Border Concert Band Raised the Church Roof!



Report by: Bryan Rothwell

On Saturday 21st October the Border Concert Band raised the roof with a fantastic and memorable night of music

including favourite film scores and traditional marches to a very appreciative audience.

It was a welcome return for the band to Silloth.

The evening concluded with refreshments in the church.

Their autumn concert was repeated the following weekend in St James, Carlisle.

# Wendy Sharrock at Christ Church



Report by: Bryan Rothwell

On 17th September Wendy Sharrock, Mezzo Soprano singer from North Lancashire, with accompanist Alex Phillips-Yates on the piano, presented a selection of songs and arias that were favourites of Kathleen Ferrier.

Kathleen moved to Silloth when her husband Herbert Wilson became manager of the District

Bank.

After winning trophies at the Carlisle Music festival for piano and singing, her first professional engagement was at a Harvest Festival service in Aspatria, before becoming a national and international star. She died at the age of 41 in 1953 of breast cancer, bringing an end to her short but remarkable career.

# Harlequin Night in Aid of Silloth RNLI Raises £424



Report by: Lesley Hope  
Photos by: Lynne Shipley

On Friday 1st December the Harlequin Choir directed by Claire

Mattinson came to Christ Church to sing a variety of Christmas songs and carols. The audience were encouraged to join in singing some

carols and the fun actions for the twelve Days of Christmas. Despite the frosty weather a good amount of people attended.



Alongside the mince pies, stollen and spiced biscuits, we served warm mulled wine, including a non-alcoholic version this year, so the drivers could enjoy too. Once again, it was a great evening, a great way to start the festive period. After costs, the amount raised for RNLI Silloth branch was a fantastic £351, additionally the shop sales totalled £73.

A big thank you to Claire and all the choir for their continuous

support, to everyone who donated raffle prizes and everyone who came to support us on the night.

Our next fundraising event will be our Christmas Craft Fair on the 16th December in Caldew Hall from 1pm to 4pm with twelve stalls selling a good selection of homemade items. Santa will be arriving from the North Pole, we hope about 2pm, £5 to see Santa and receive a present. We hope to see you there and join us for some light refreshments.

# MacBeth: How to Entertain



Report by: Tim Barker  
Photos by: Trevor Grahamslaw

Great fun was had by all who went to see Wigton Theatre Club performing "The Scottish Play" at the John Peel Theatre in November. Their own writer, director and actor David Ross had imagined Shakespeare writing "Macbeth" not as a tragedy but "something closer to a pantomime or a farce." The result was a crazy dash through the basic story as the Bard told it but with jokes, visual gags, aggressive feminism and squabbling kids thrown in. The major change from the original was that everybody died but no character did the killing. (Don't ask!).

There were plenty of speeches from the original play plus quotes from eight other Shakespeare works (the programme claimed) and more than a nod at vintage American comedians with the witches as Three Stooges ripping off an Abbott and Costello sketch.

The cast were from all generations – I think the most ruthless would-be murderers may have been the youngest – and acted their socks off. Even the scene-shifters got plenty of laughs. Lots of energy and humour and clever characterisations. The scenery was inventive, the props, especially a bubbling cauldron, deserved their own round of applause. In every way the show was just the thing to get us into the mood for Christmas celebrations.

The club's next big home-grown production is their pantomime "Robin Hood" in

February. I know they'd like to have more men join them, merry or not.



# Silloth and District Pensioners Coffee Morning

Report by: Jean Day

We met for our final coffee morning for this year in Christ Church, on a beautiful sunny, but nippy, morning, Armistice Day 2023.

Coffee, scones and mince pies were on offer, and very welcome. The cake stall, though not as laden as we might have hoped, sold out quite quickly.

The raffle, so very well supported as always, had many lovely prizes to choose from. Winners today were, Linda MacCormick, Connie Anderson, Mary Eccles, Shona Nicol, Paul

Hesketh, Edna Allison, Oriole Hocking, Barbara Myers, Joan Wise, Chris Beverley, Terry Lewis, Lorraine Hodgson, Jean Day, Janice Fell, Theresa Hutchinson and Margaret McCartney.

We meet again for our first Coffee Morning of 2024 on Saturday, 10th February 2024. Seems an awful long way off but we look forward to seeing all our usual supporters then; hoping that they have all enjoyed a happy and peaceful Christmas season with their family and friends and are looking forward to a good New Year.

# Wigton Theatre Club are Celebrating 70 Years

Diary Dates:

14th December- Dragonfly Drama Group - The Cookie Inspector.

15th December - Christmas Special Virtual Open Mic Night.

16th December - Christmas Special Open Mic Night.

17th December at 2pm Derwentwater Drama Group - Away in a Stable.

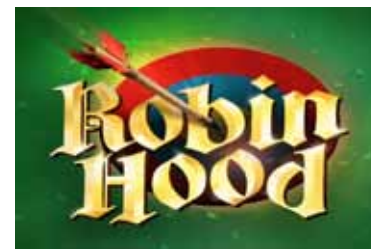
4th February 2024 - The Haar  
12th - 18th February 2024 - Robin Hood the Panto.



**Away in a Stable**

David Ross, who wrote the Scottish Play, directs the Derwentwater Drama Group in his own humorous and irreverent version of the Christmas Story. The play will be followed by songs and carols from Michelle Dodds of Cultram and members of Abbeytown choir, leading a sing-along to get you into the Christmas spirit!

The bar will be open for both performances. Tea, coffee and the usual alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks will be available as well as mince pies and mulled wine.



16th March 2024 - Damien Barber and Mike Wilson.

2nd May 2024 - Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman.

20th June 2024 - Bryony Griffith and Alice Jones.

Details and times from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre).

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# Causewayhead WI



# Is This A World Record? Sixty Years at a Single WI Branch

In October 1963 Jean Graham came home from visiting her parents and handed her four month old daughter to husband John and said "She is all yours tonight, I have been invited to the WI". (The baby survived!).

Jean felt really welcome so the next month, November 1963, Jean paid her first subscription to Causewayhead WI and has been a member ever since. Many of the members in those days were connected to the farming community but there were a few people from Silloth who were members. Silloth WI and Abbeystown WI both had many more members



than Causewayhead, but both of them closed a few years ago.

Jean believes the maximum at Causewayhead was 45-50 members.

During her sixty years Causewayhead has held its meetings in eight different venues and there have been eleven presidents, including Jean

herself. She has been a committee member for over thirty years and has held all of the officers jobs except secretary.

There have been speakers on many diverse subjects ranging from how to bone a chicken to talks and slides featuring many different countries and cultures and Jean remembers many educational visits.

Jean has represented the WI

in the Royal Albert Hall, London on two occasions (a wonderful experience) and many times at our own county annual meetings, and was in the darts team for many years.

Jean was also part of the team who recorded all of the inscriptions on the headstones in Causewayhead Churchyard and also part of the beach cleaning team.

Causewayhead WI had a reputation for performing for the general public in the 1990's to the 2000's, including shows like 'Stars in Their Eyes', 'Floppertunity Knocks' and 'Keep it in the Family'. there are still some current members who appeared in those shows.

Jean said "There have been some 'characters' over the years and memories of them will stay with her forever, she is very proud to be the first person to achieve sixty years as a member of Causewayhead Women's Institute".

Well done Jean Graham, world record or not this will be hard to beat!

Report by: Sarah Robertson

On Wednesday we were lucky enough to have the Harlequin choir join us and members from four other local WI's in Christ Church for a pre Christmas performance.

Our boots were certainly made for walking along with the Nancy Sinatra classic, and we thoroughly enjoyed the choirs versions of 'Kiss Me Honey Honey' and the Beatles 'Let it

Be' alongside 'Do Re Me' from The Sound of Music and 'Getting to Know You' from the musical The King and I. Our thanks go to Claire and the choir.

After the music we all enjoyed a well earned cup of tea and a selection of delicious cakes.

Causewayhead WI meets at 2pm on the second Wednesday of every month in Christ Church.

Visitors and new members are most welcome.

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**Did You Know?**  
The 6.5cm mono advert below cost just **£35.82 per month**

**Even in Colour they are just £42.99 per month**



Solar Bee  
by Rio Brown from Holme St Cuthbert School

**LOCK UP PREVENT CRIME**

- Lock all doors and windows before you go out and ensure your house and keys are secure before you go to bed
- Remove keys from locks and keep them out of reach and out of sight, not on a hall table
- Consider keeping a light or lamp on if you are out
- Make sure valuables are not stored in vehicles overnight
- Consider installing real or dummy CCTV

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Share, Care, Learn and Buzz Bee  
by Isla Carr from Holme St Cuthbert School

# Silloth CO-OP Supports Local Groups With £6,634



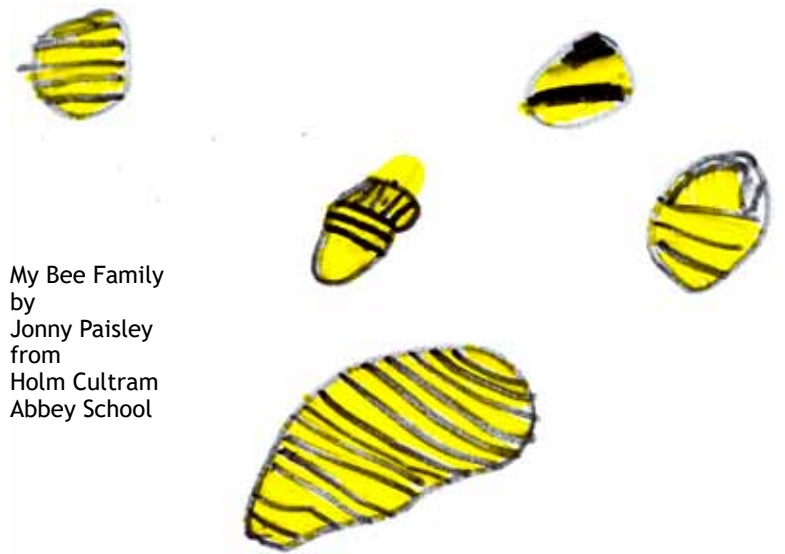
Silloth RNLI Lifeboat received £2,995



1st Silloth Scout Group received £1,881



Silloth Junior Football Team received £1,758



My Bee Family  
by  
Jonny Paisley  
from  
Holm Cultram  
Abbey School



Tennis Bee  
by Oscar Reynolds from Holme St Cuthbert School

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# Winter Scenes



Photo by: Denzil Bell



Photo by: Gareth Lewis

# Friends of Silloth Green

Report & Photos by:  
Caroline Turner

Happy New  
Year from Friends  
of the Green!

We are looking  
forward and  
planning for the  
year ahead...

In the allotment  
we have already  
refurbished  
the raised beds,  
removing the rotten  
wood, raising their  
height to make  
them easier to work  
and finally adding  
a coat of green preservative. They will be used in the  
Spring and Summer to raise the cut flowers for our hand  
tied posies and bouquets.



Royal Mansion  
by Summer Riddick from Holm Cultram School



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# Silloth Christmas Lights Switch-On at Christ Church on 26th November



Photo by: Jamie Bell



Photo by: Jamie Bell

Report by: Joseph Scott

On Sunday 26th November Silloth Christmas lights were switched on with the event being held in Christ Church, with Santas Grotto, stalls, kids crafts, entertainment and refreshments. It was great to see the church filled with so many people there to support the switch on.

The lights were turned on by Santa and Mayor Owen Martin.

We must say a big thank you to the following businesses and organisations for their continued support, without them it would not be possible. Silloth Town Council, Christ Church, SOS Charity Shop, Silloth Bowling Club, Wilmots Amusements, DA Harrison, Party Time Cumbria, Stanwix Park, Humphrey's Coffee & Donuts, John Cook Signs and B&Ms Maryport.

This year the selection boxes were sponsored by Stanwix Park and were wrapped by Julie from Wilmots Amusements, the Christmas tree was sponsored by Party Time Cumbria and the refreshments were sponsored by Humphrey's Coffee and Donuts

Thank You for your continued support.



**IN SILLOTH**

**CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023

from 1 - 4pm

in

**CALDEW HALL**

Solway Street

Get those last minute Christmas gifts

Many different Craft Stalls

£5 to see Father Christmas

includes a present

Everyone welcome ★★

Rotary Club of Silloth on Solway

**SANTA SLEIGH**

SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

SILLOTH 4.00PM

START SKINBURNNESS

WE WILL BE OPERATING SANTA STOP ROUTE SEE MAP.

**EVERYONE AT MAWBRAY VILLAGE HALL WISHES YOU**

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

MAWBRAY VILLAGE HALL MONTHLY QUIZ

**Quiz**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January

7.30pm

£2.00 per person

Prize for the winning team

Bring your own drinks, snacks and glasses.

????????????

**Silloth Crafters Are The Very Best at Post Box Decoration**

# Your Interesting Buzzing Letters and Poems

Dear Buzz,

On behalf of the pensioners in Silloth and district I would like to thank all the volunteers who made the annual Christmas Party a resounding success. Maybe our local councillors would like to take a leaf out of their book. They have just recently voted themselves a second substantial pay rise within a year. Or, am I wrong?

Not a bit of wonder they do not have any money to carry out regular maintenance work in the area. Just to dismiss any thoughts of a rebate after the recent bin strike, off hand, seems a little harsh and I foolishly thought the idea of changing districts was to save money and become more efficient. Three words I would like them to consider; Re-Election, Bankruptcy and Greed.

Merry Xmas  
The Whinge

Dear Buzz,

All the volunteers from the Silloth RNLI shop wish to extend their thanks and very best wishes to four very dear volunteers who are 'retiring' from the shop in December.

We will all hugely miss their kindness, support and all the hours they have given to the charity over their many years volunteering. So to Ann, Pat, Ann and Anne we send a very fond farewell to you and hope you will pop in and see us at the shop or at one of our fundraising events.

Your Volunteering  
Friends

*Where Have All The Flowers Gone?*  
by Judy Rochester

*A child in the year 2080  
When looking back through history,  
Would see a world once full of  
colour  
Enjoyed by family ancestry.*

*These people knew of global warming  
And that the climate was about to  
change  
But they didn't heed the warning to  
"Think Green"-  
(They thought that rather strange  
!)*

*Though the words rang loud and clear  
Across land and sea,  
Their apathy, greed and laziness  
Had cost this planet dear.*

*So, in 2080, trees and flowers are  
but dreams  
By thoughtless man destroyed,  
The world, now grey and bleak and  
sad,  
Childrens' lives no longer enjoyed.*

*They are now like little robots  
Devoid of fun and play,  
Shut in techno pods for their home,  
Never seeing the light of day.*

*So heed the warning now, today,  
Whilst the world is free;  
Plant trees, protect and nurture  
Our land, our sky, our seas.*

*On Giving Books Away*  
by Judy Rochester

*I love books.  
They line up along my walls like old friends,  
Always there when I need them.  
Books of poetry for quiet moments;  
Travel books when I feel restless;  
History books when looking for meaning to today's world  
And books of nature's miracles - the birds, trees and flowers.*

*But now I have to give them away.  
I have no room in my new home.  
Such memories as I sort them into boxes  
And I feel guilt at parting with them!  
Who will appreciate them as I do?  
But go they must.*

*I will, however, hoard away just a few of my special books.....!!!*

*Ice by Sophia Lodhi*

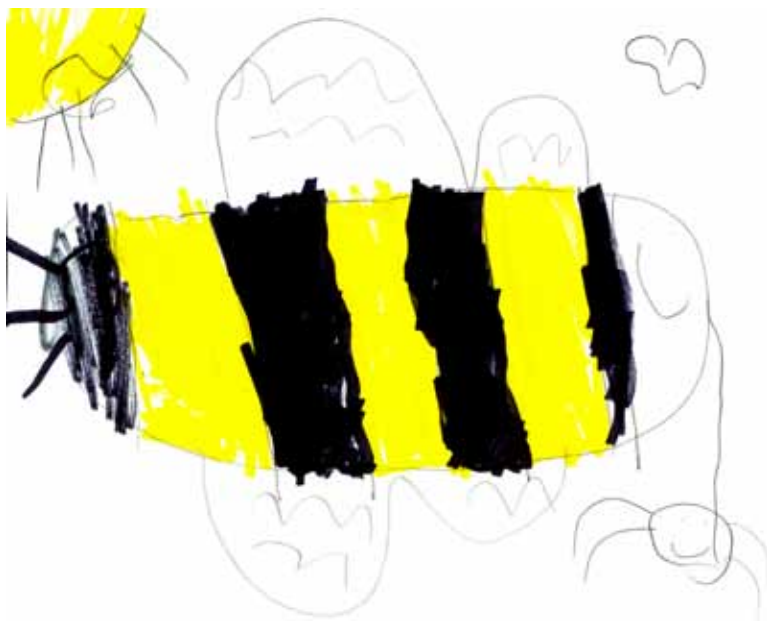
*Nature's diadem is made of ice:  
A winking halo of pearly beads  
Has formed around a  
Fallen, frozen  
Autumn leaf -  
Bronzed and scarlet-tinged;  
Now diamond-hard, immortalised:  
A jewel within a  
Crown of ice.*

*Nature's diadem is ice:  
The frozen loch,  
A mirror, now;  
Stilled in time,  
As silence awaits  
Morning's thaw...*

*Surrounding rings of proud, tall  
reeds  
Stand guard in whitest, blinding,  
Dazzled awe.*

*Ice forms Nature's diadem:  
Icicles on trees, suspend...  
Their branches wait  
'Neath Nature's whitest spell....  
Come first light,  
Ice will melt,  
And liquid diamonds form  
To play their tiny parts  
In Nature's diadem at dawn.*

*Intense, inclement  
Cool, chill, crystalline  
Entrancing, enthralling, enchanting*



Jude  
by Jack Milburn from Holme St Cuthbert School

## Do You Get the Buzz?

If the Buzz paper does not fly through your letter box in the areas we cover, it is because we have not found a volunteer. If you would like to join our hive of volunteers we would be pleased to hear from you, call Peter on 016973 32180 for more info.

**Do you have a poem or letter for the Buzz?**  
**We welcome all submissions, THERE IS NO CHARGE.**  
**Please remember to include your contact information.**

**Library closed 22nd Dec to 3rd Jan**

**Remember – you can join the library, search the library catalogue, renew and request books online at [cumbria.gov.uk/libraries](http://cumbria.gov.uk/libraries) Visit Silloth Library in the Discovery Centre**

### Silloth Library Opening Times

Monday 10-1pm 2-4pm	Tuesday CLOSED
Wed 10-1pm 2-4pm	Thursday CLOSED
Friday 10-1pm 2-4pm	Saturday 10-1pm
Sunday closed	Tel: 016973 31944

### Non-Commercial Tourism Websites

[solwaybuzz.co.uk](http://solwaybuzz.co.uk)  
[sillothgreen.co.uk](http://sillothgreen.co.uk)  
[silloth-on-solway.co.uk](http://silloth-on-solway.co.uk)  
[sillothgolfclub.co.uk](http://sillothgolfclub.co.uk)  
[vintagerally.co.uk](http://vintagerally.co.uk)  
[sillothbeerfestival.co.uk](http://sillothbeerfestival.co.uk)  
[sillothmotorcyclemuseum.co.uk](http://sillothmotorcyclemuseum.co.uk)  
[silloth-on-solway-tc.gov.uk](http://silloth-on-solway-tc.gov.uk)  
[visitcumbria.com/wc/silloth](http://visitcumbria.com/wc/silloth)  
[soldiersinsilloth.co.uk](http://soldiersinsilloth.co.uk)  
[solwayplain.co.uk/silloth1.htm](http://solwayplain.co.uk/silloth1.htm)  
[facebook.com/sillothgreen](https://facebook.com/sillothgreen)  
[facebook.com/silloth-carnival](https://facebook.com/silloth-carnival)  
[facebook.com/groups/121042258051545](https://facebook.com/groups/121042258051545) (Silloth Today)

## Masthead Bee Winner

Carlisle Embroidery are generously donating a Solway Buzz embroidered Kids Rucksack to the winner. This is in addition to the usual Winners Certificate and a £5 Gift Voucher from the Solway Buzz.

So, come on kids, get drawing, the Buzz is always looking for more imaginative bees and yours might be the next winner. Local children return your drawing to your school or post to the address on page 14 (large stamp) and a quality Solway Buzz embroidered Rucksack from Carlisle Embroidery could be yours. You don't have to be at school here to send a bee to us. If you are here on holiday we would love to have your bee drawing.

This month the winner is Archie Humphreys from Holm Cultram Abbey School with a bee drawing called 'Robber Bee'.

Well done!



# Abbeytown Christmas Fayre Raises £3,388!



Report & Photos by: Laura Sim

On Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th November we held our annual Christmas Fayre.

We had twenty 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. The children left with a little treat and Santa left with a big list of presents!

We all had a fabulous weekend and special thanks go to all our lovely stall holders, everyone who supported us and to all our wonderful 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 amazing £3,388.85 which will go towards

the continued running and restoration of the Abbey.

We hope to see everyone again next year!



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Closed Mondays

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**Silloth on Solway Community Shop**

- \* Local people working for local causes \*
- \* All proceeds go back into the community \*
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Open every day  
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S.O.S.C.S.  
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Silloth

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# Copy Date



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.

Please let us know of any changes within this section

## Christ Church

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

## Causewayhead WI

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday in each month at 2pm in Christ Church and visitors are 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 or call the Box Office: 07977 835094

## Silloth Tennis Club

For coaching information call David Wise on 0742 547767

## Cash Machines

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

Proprietor:  
Peter McRobert  
Barn Cottage  
Skinburness, CA7 4RA  
Tel: 016973 32180  
Email:  
office@solwaybuzz.co.uk

Editorial Content  
This is down to you, we can only publish items if you send them to us.  
When sending articles in, please supply a contact name and number in case something requires clarification.  
Published by: Peter McRobert with the support of the whole community and an army of volunteers.

## 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!

## Silloth RNLI Shop

Shop is now closed for the winter. We will be back!

## Silloth Parkrun

Meet on the Promenade beside the Tennis Courts at 9am every Saturday morning

## Solway Woodcarvers

Every Monday and Wednesday evening at Silloth Community Hall from 7pm onwards

## 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.

## China Painting

Every Friday at Silloth Community Hall. 2pm to 4pm. All welcome.

## Badminton

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

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

# Dates for Your Diary

## December

13th Silloth Nursing Home League of Friends Coffee Morning in Christ Church Silloth, at 10am

13th Causewayhead WI meeting in Christ Church with Christmas Fun

16th Christmas Fair in Caldeu Hall from 1pm to 4pm in aid of the RNLI. Lots of different stalls. £5 to see Father Christmas. See advert

16th Carols Round the Crib outside Christ Church at 5pm, all welcome

16th Mawbray Village Hall Film Club 'Mission Impossible - Dead Reckoning' - see poster for details

17th Carol Service in Christ Church at 11am

17th Santas Sleigh starts from Skinburness, see map on page 20

17th Derwentwater Drama Group presents Away in a Stable at 2pm, tickets £5 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

24th Children's Crib Service & Pop-up Nativity in Christ Church at 6pm

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

25th Christmas Family Communion in Christ Church at 9am

29th Mawbray Film Club presents 'The Nutcracker Christmas Ballet' at 2pm, see advert

## January 2024

1st Allonby Bay Dook in aid of Maryport Lifeboat, Check out Allonby Bay Dookers on facebook

9th Holme Low Parish Council meeting in Silloth Community Hall at 7:30pm

10th Causewayhead WI meeting in Christ Church with talk about Carlisle Navigation

13th Mawbray Film Club 'Miss Potter' at 7pm, see advert

25th Mawbray Village Hall Monthly Quiz 7:30pm

## February

3rd Silloth Charity Night Cabaret Spectacular in Stanwick Park at 7pm, tickets £10 see advert

4th Wigton Theatre Club presents 'The Haar' at 7:30pm, tickets £15 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

5th Silloth Town Council meeting in the Community Hall at 7pm

10th Silloth & District Pensioners Coffee Morning in Christ Church at 10am

10th Mawbray Film Club presents 'Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny' at 7pm

Do you have an event in the area bounded by Abbeytown, Mawbray, Silloth, Skinburness, if so please let us know.

## February cont'd

12th Wigton Theatre Club presents Robin Hood the Panto at 7pm, tickets £9/£5 www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

13th Wigton Theatre Club presents Robin Hood the Panto at 7pm, tickets £9/£5 www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

14th Causewayhead WI meeting in Christ Church with talk by Museum

14th Wigton Theatre Club presents Robin Hood the Panto at 7pm, tickets £9/£5 www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

16th Wigton Theatre Club presents Robin Hood the Panto at 7pm, tickets £9/£5 www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

17th Wigton Theatre Club presents Robin Hood the Panto at 2pm, tickets £9/£5 www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

18th Wigton Theatre Club presents Robin Hood the Panto at 2pm, tickets £9/£5 www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

20th Blencogo and District Garden Club Talk "A Rainbow of Dahlias" "Tubers will be available, in Blencogo Village Hall at 7:30pm, contact Linda on 07538 027936

29th Mawbray Village Hall Monthly Quiz 7:30pm

Errors do occur in Dates for the Diary. Please check before attending an event.

## March

4th Silloth Town Council meeting in the Community Hall at 7pm

9th Mawbray Film Club - The Great Escapers - 7pm

13th Causewayhead WI meeting in Christ Church with talk Flowers for Easter

16th Wigton Theatre Club presents Damien Barber and Mike Wilson at 7:30pm, tickets £16 www.ticketsource.co.uk/wigtontheatre

Send Your Bees to the Solway Buzz  
There is a Bee Shortage!  
We Need Yours!

Have You Sent in Your Dates yet?

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.

The Mawbray Film Club presents  
**The Nutcracker**  
**FRIDAY 29 December**  
The film starts at 2:00pm

Bring your own cushions, if you wish.  
Bring your own refreshments, cups/glasses. All rubbish to be taken with you when you leave at the end of the evening.  
Children must be accompanied by an adult.  
Please book using the contact numbers below to ensure you get a seat.

You must be a member to participate	
Lifetime Membership £5.00 per adult £8.00 per couple £10.00 per family	Film Night Charge £3.00 per adult £1.50 per child (under 16)

To join and/or to book contact Brian or Lynda: 01900 881737  
07542 781234  
07926 810074

The Mawbray Film Club presents  
**MISS POTTER**  
**SATURDAY 13 January**  
The film starts at 7:00pm

Bring your own cushions, if you wish.  
Bring your own refreshments, cups/glasses. All rubbish to be taken with you when you leave at the end of the evening.  
Children must be accompanied by an adult.  
Please book using the contact numbers below to ensure you get a seat.

You must be a member to participate	
Lifetime Membership £5.00 per adult £8.00 per couple £10.00 per family	Film Night Charge £3.00 per adult £1.50 per child (under 16)

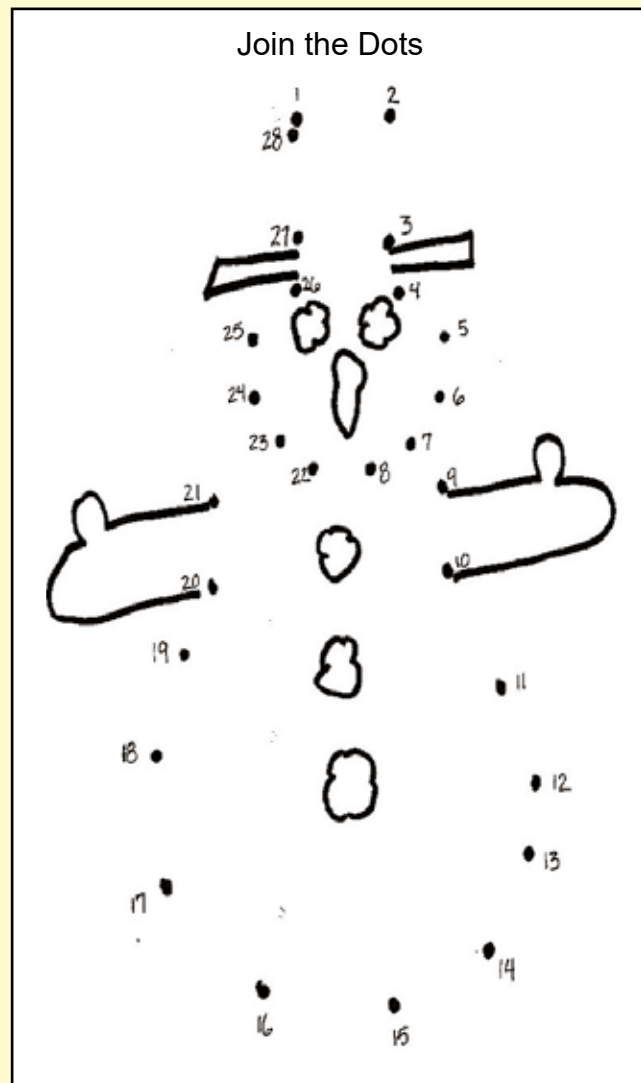
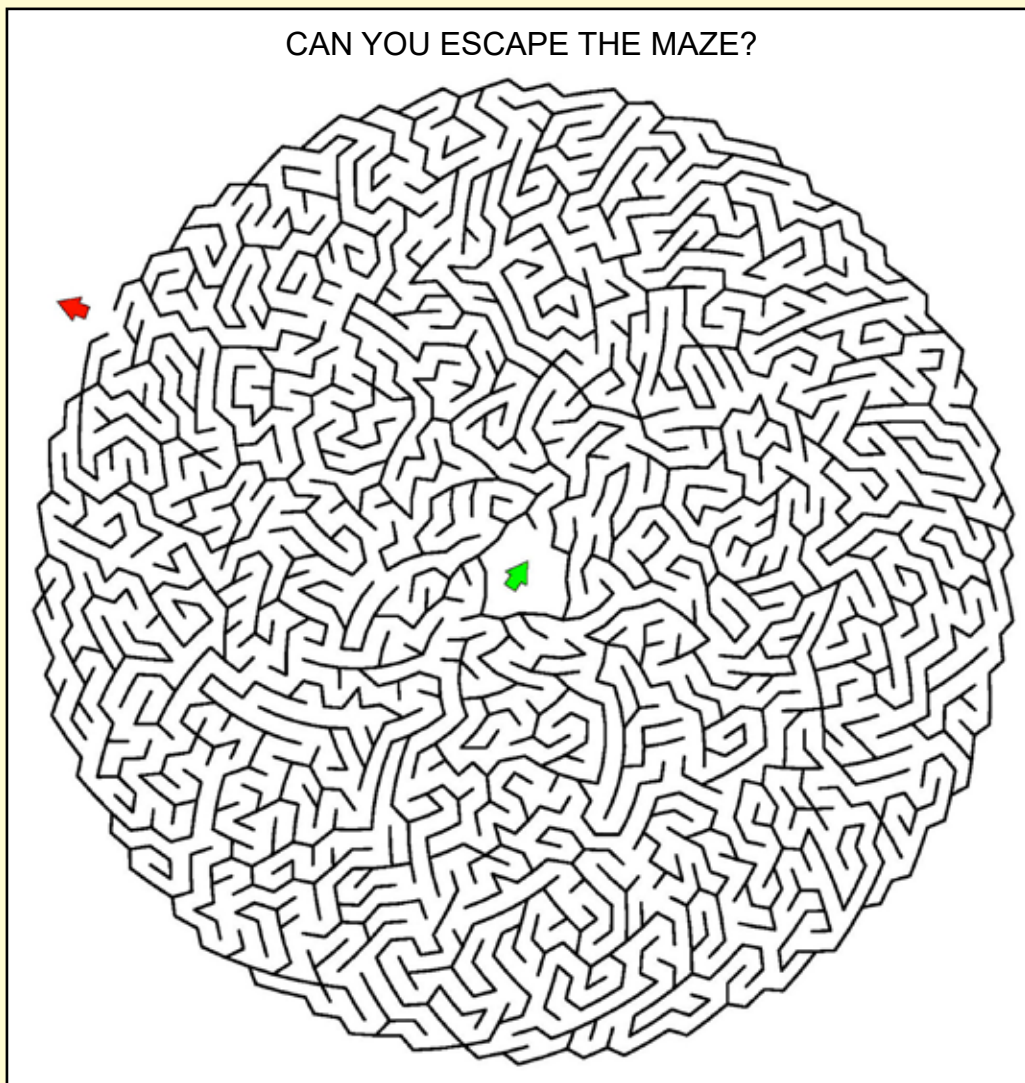
To join and/or to book contact Brian or Lynda: 01900 881737  
07542 781234  
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# FUN for ALL ~ Join the Dots & Colour In

Something for All Ages to Enjoy Everyone Can Do This

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Enjoy and Have Some Fun



**WINTER CROSSWORD**

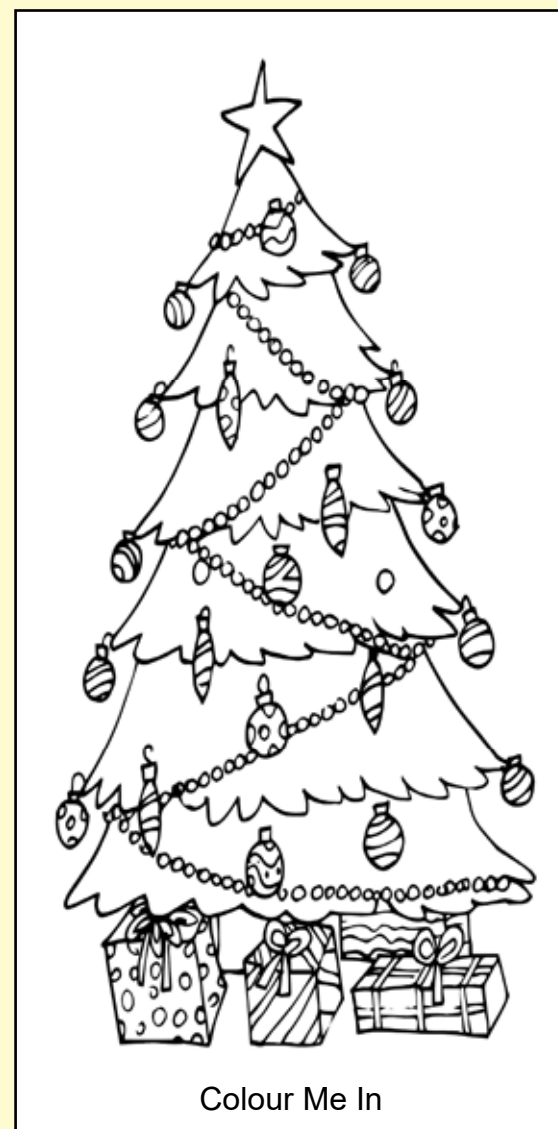
Across:

2. Knitted Top
6. Snowstorm with winds
7. Month that winter ends in
8. When the air moves
10. A sudden blast of wind
12. Shake from the cold
15. Tells how cold it is outside
18. Rather cold
20. Month that winter starts in
21. He might have a carrot for a nose
22. Keeps your neck warm

Down:

1. Turned to ice
2. It goes downhill fast
3. A short coat
4. What bears do in the winter
5. Opposite of summer
6. Shoes for snowy days
9. Frozen trickle of water
11. Ice crystal
13. Decemner 25th
14. Area around the North Pole
16. Used to warm a room
17. Winter hand warmers
19. Temperature (in Celsius) at which water freezes

**CROSSWORD ANSWERS ON PAGE 17**





# Local Tradesmen and Services

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Whitehaven: **01946 313103**

Mobile: **07518 454396**

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E: [scottsvaleting@hotmail.com](mailto:scottsvaleting@hotmail.com)

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Silloth, t: 016973 32208

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only **£358.20**

for a full year

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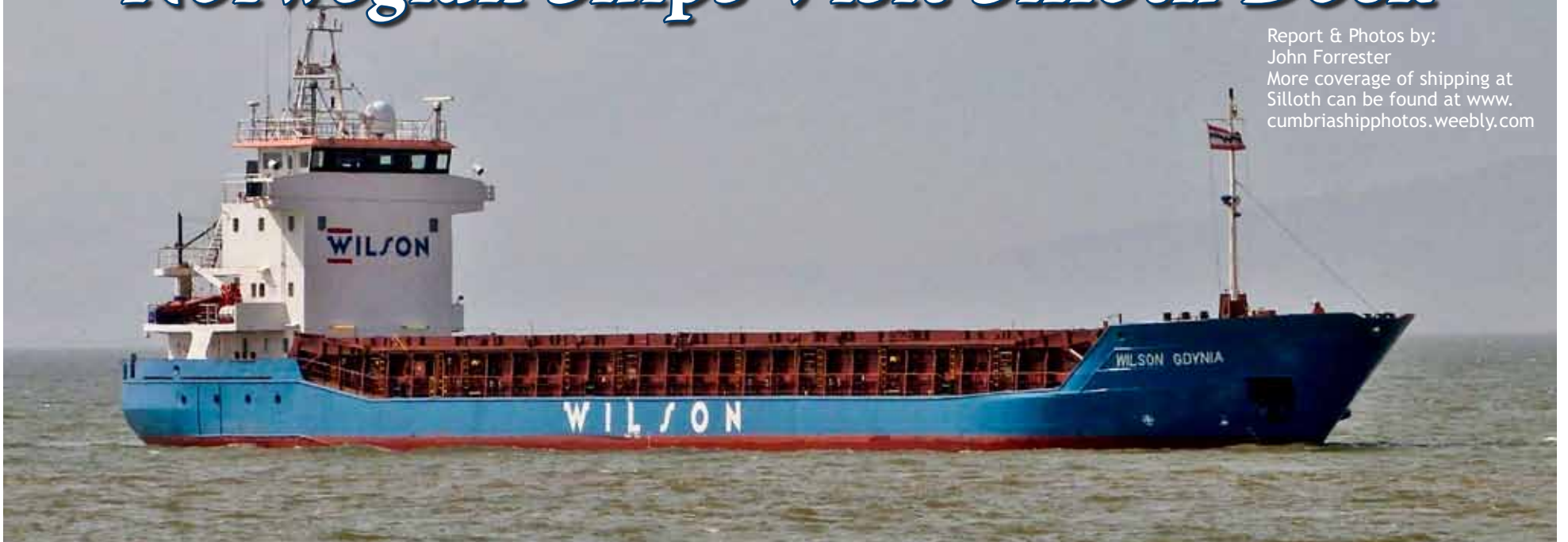


# Norwegian Ships Visit Silloth Dock

Report & Photos by:

John Forrester

More coverage of shipping at Silloth can be found at [www.cumbriashipphotos.weebly.com](http://www.cumbriashipphotos.weebly.com)



A quiet month for ship enthusiasts at Silloth so an opportunity to look back at busier times.

May and June provided plenty of activity including visits from two ships of the 'Wilson' fleet, WILSON GDYNIA and PLATO. The Norwegian company has a reputation for high standards in the maintenance of its ships and training of its crews. Photographers weren't disappointed as the well-turned-out vessels approached the port in fine weather.

PLATO is one of a small number of the large fleet of 130 ships without the 'Wilson'

prefix. It was built in 1989 and has retained the same name throughout. This is in contrast to WILSON GDYNIA which is of a similar age but was only acquired by 'Wilson' in 2005. On first sight, it might be expected that PLATO is the smaller vessel, but both are of similar length and have the same cargo capacity.

Both vessels were carrying raw materials for the local 'Origin Fertilisers' unit at Silloth. The port receives fertiliser from across mainland Europe and North Africa.

On this occasion PLATO arrived after spending ten days at sea sailing from Lithuania

in the Baltic. The route had taken the ship via the North Sea to the far north of Scotland before heading south. WILSON GDYNIA had a less arduous sailing once it had departed the Belgian port of Ghent. It took just four days to reach Silloth after sailing along the Channel and up the Irish Sea.

After discharging their cargos both ships departed for different ports in Northern Ireland to load for their onward sailings. 'Wilson' ships always get a warm reception from local enthusiasts and it is hoped the fleet will continue to be regular callers at the port.



## November Shipping at the Port of Silloth

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

### November

10th Runner with a cargo of Furness Bottom Ash from Kilroot then on to Troon.

November was one of those months that promised a lot and ended up with nothing. The Runner came back again with further Clinker Ash from Kilroot Power Station, this will be one of the last ones from that port as the power station is now being converted to Gas powered as a supposedly cleaner and cheaper fuel.

In future we hope to pick up some cargo of this type from Londonderry as that power station will continue to be run on coal.

Following a couple of months of good traffic from the fertiliser side of things, this has suddenly stopped, warehouses full, or more coming in by road than by ship!

We have been removing sand and silt from the port entrance for almost two weeks now, somewhere around 7,500 tonnes in all, this we simply move into the sluice channel utilising one of Harrison's diggers, and wash away with sea water from the dock, back into the river flow so that it is dispersed naturally.

We have a couple of ships due in December, but overall, we expect it to be a quiet month as well.

Hopefully very soon we will complete and agree on heads of terms for the new parking area which will be maintained by the town council, with easier access to and from it, more space, and a choice of routes to West Beach either scenic or following the coastal path...not as pretty.

Hope you all have an excellent Christmas and look forward to a prosperous New Year.



# Rural Crime Team Crack Down on Dog Owners

Cumbria's Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (DPFCC), Mike Johnson, Cumbria Constabulary's Rural Crime Team and National Farmers Union (NFU) are working together to raise awareness around livestock worrying and theft in Cumbria.



Since the introduction of the Rural Crime Team in Cumbria on 19th September 2023, Cumbria Constabulary have received nine reports of dogs worrying livestock where the dog owner was present. Within these nine reports, there were five incidents resulting in the injury of the animal and four resulting in a livestock death. In the same period, seven livestock thefts have taken place across the county.

Recently, the Rural Crime Team have been dealing with incidents of sheep worrying in the Coniston area and at Burghby-Sands. To combat these issues, alongside the wider rural concerns, the Rural Crime Team have worked with the Neighbourhood teams and reached out to the public on social media and by installing signage in areas targeted. This message has also been shared by the Lake District National Park. Cumbria Police recognise that a lot of people out with dogs in the County are there as visitors.

Dog owners who are found by police allowing their dog to be off lead and worrying animals can face a fine up to £1,000 and farmers are legally entitled to shoot dogs that are endangering their livestock.

There are some steps that farmers can take to reduce the likelihood of their livestock being stolen as well as increase the chance or return of livestock if they are stolen. These steps include: Making regular checks to fields to check on livestock and ensure perimeters are secure. In addition to ear tags, use branding or horn marking to make the livestock more identifiable. Secure gates and hinges to minimize access to fields and yards. Report suspicious behaviour to Police.

DPFCC Mike Johnson said: "Livestock is an incredible asset to farmers across Cumbria and the loss of animals can have a tremendous effect on their livelihoods. Farmers put a lot of care into ensuring that their livestock are healthy to keep their business viable and having

these animals stolen from them or carelessly killed due to a thoughtless dog owner really can impact them financially and psychologically. Cumbria is a mainly rural county which is why we introduced a dedicated Rural Crime Team to help tackle rural crime which includes livestock theft and worrying. The specialist, highly trained group of officers will support officers across the force responding to rural crimes. In addition to the Rural Crime Team, there is further dedicated training taking place across the Constabulary to ensure that when you make initial contact to report a crime that you receive the appropriate response. I would urge any dog walkers to follow the countryside code and make sure that their dog is on a lead when in a field with livestock – we don't want any animals to be put at risk unnecessarily. I would also urge all farmers to report anything suspicious to the Police on 101 or 999 in an emergency. They know their land and area more than anyone and can spot suspicious activity much easier and can be the eyes and ears for the Police. Together we can make Cumbria a safer place to live, work and visit."

Sergeant Amanda McKirdy, Cumbria Constabulary's Rural Crime Team, said: "Our Rural Crime Team work closely with the NFU and our farming communities, so we know only too well the impact which livestock worrying and theft can have on the farming industry in Cumbria. We do not tolerate criminals targeting livestock and we will do everything we can to identify offenders and hold people accountable for their actions. To assist us in preventing livestock theft, we need information from our rural communities. If you see something suspicious, please report it to us via 101 or for advice email us [atruralcrimeteam@cumbria.police.uk](mailto:atruralcrimeteam@cumbria.police.uk) so we can assess and investigate. Farming communities can also take steps to protect themselves by following the crime prevention advice we promote which includes ensuring

# New Book Set In Silloth



Local illustrator Tim Stead and a couple from Askham near Penrith, Dominic and Karen Brown, have collaborated on a new children's book, set in our lovely town of Silloth and also Pooley Bridge.

Tim says I was approached by Dominic to see if I would be interested in illustrating his second book in a series featuring Allan the Duck. When he explained that it was set in Silloth and I replied with well I actually live in Silloth! It sounded like a plan set into action. The other similarities are that Dominic is an HGV driver supplying fuel via the company Allan Stobart fuels and Tim driving part time as an HGV driver for Eddie Stobart.

Dominic and his wife Karen wrote the book and Tim illustrated it with his unique colourful fun style which is what initially attracted them both to asking him if he would work alongside them and create the book. The story itself is explained -

Flip Flop is a seagull living in the Cumbrian coastal town of Silloth. One windy day, he is blown



away in a storm. Allan, the once grumpy duck, finds Flip Flop in the village of Pooley Bridge but Flip Flop has lost his memory! Join Allan and his friends once more as they help Flip Flop remember where his home is.

Tim goes on to mention that it was an absolute joy to work on and that Silloth is such a pretty

town and has lots of local focal points of interest from sculptures to the sea front and the chippy!

All of which feature in the book.

The book itself 'Allan to the Rescue' is only available in Winters Post Office priced £8.99. Making it a fantastic Christmas present this year.

gates and hinges to fields and yards are in place, and in good working order. Livestock worrying is also a serious matter. I'd urge dog owners to ensure they follow the countryside code and that their dogs are under control and on leads when in a field or around livestock"

NFU County Adviser, James Airey said: "Highly organised gangs of criminals have continued to plague the British countryside, stealing expensive GPS equipment, livestock, high-value farm machinery, as well as trespassing on private land. It is good news that we have a dedicated Rural Crime team now in Cumbria to help combat these issues that cause disruption to important farm work, it places additional pressures financially and emotionally on farmers and their families."

## Silloth Tide Tables

JANUARY 2024							SILLOTH		
DEPTHS ON NEW DOCK GAUGE (1.8M ABOVE CD)									
		High Water				Low Water			
Date		Morning		Afternoon		Morning		Afternoon	
		Time	m	Time	m	Time	m	Time	m
1	M	02 38	6.1	14 51	6.3	09 15	0.1	21 54	-0.0
2	TU	03 18	5.8	15 32	6.0	09 51	0.3	22 31	0.2
3	W	04 01	5.5	16 19	5.7	10 32	0.5	23 13	0.3
4	TH	04 51	5.2	17 12	5.4	11 20	0.6		
5	F	05 50	5.0	18 16	5.2	00 06	0.5	12 19	0.8
6	SA	06 58	5.0	19 23	5.2	01 10	0.6	13 29	0.7
7	SU	08 02	5.2	20 28	5.4	02 19	0.5	14 40	0.6
8	M	09 01	5.6	21 25	5.8	03 23	0.3	15 45	0.3
9	TU	09 52	6.1	22 15	6.2	04 19	-0.0	16 44	-0.0
10	W	10 39	6.6	23 03	6.6	05 12	-0.3	17 37	-0.4
11	TH	11 24	7.0	23 50	7.0	06 01	-0.5	18 30	-0.7
12	F			12 08	7.4	06 50	-0.7	19 21	-0.9
13	SA	00 35	7.2	12 54	7.6	07 39	-0.8	20 10	-1.1
14	SU	01 23	7.3	13 42	7.7	08 25	-0.8	20 58	-1.1
15	M	02 12	7.2	14 31	7.6	09 10	-0.8	21 42	-1.0
16	TU	03 00	7.0	15 20	7.4	09 53	-0.6	22 27	-0.8
17	W	03 50	6.6	16 12	7.0	10 37	-0.4	23 12	-0.5
18	TH	04 43	6.1	17 09	6.5	11 27	-0.1		
19	F	05 44	5.7	18 14	6.0	00 04	-0.2	12 24	0.2
20	SA	06 55	5.4	19 25	5.7	01 04	0.1	13 32	0.3
21	SU	08 09	5.4	20 38	5.7	02 14	0.3	14 50	0.3
22	M	09 17	5.7	21 43	5.8	03 26	0.2	16 05	0.1
23	TU	10 13	6.0	22 38	6.1	04 31	0.1	17 09	-0.1
24	W	10 59	6.4	23 23	6.4	05 24	-0.1	18 01	-0.3
25	TH	11 39	6.7			06 09	-0.2	18 45	-0.5
26	F	00 00	6.5	12 14	6.8	06 48	-0.3	19 23	-0.5
27	SA	00 35	6.6	12 47	6.9	07 22	-0.4	19 57	-0.6
28	SU	01 06	6.6	13 19	6.9	07 53	-0.4	20 28	-0.5
29	M	01 38	6.6	13 51	6.8	08 23	-0.4	20 56	-0.5
30	TU	02 10	6.4	14 22	6.6	08 53	-0.3	21 24	-0.4
31	W	02 43	6.2	14 54	6.4	09 25	-0.2	21 54	-0.2



Sunny Bee  
by  
Annie Sessford  
from  
Holm Cultram Beetown School

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Rotary   
Club of Silloth on Solway

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