

### Unlicensed Taxi Driver

At a hearing on 12 December 2006 West Allerdale Magistrates heard how investigations, following a complaint made to Allerdale Borough Council regarding the dirty condition of a hackney carriage licensed to Select Cabs of Silloth revealed that the driver of the vehicle, Robert Tinnion, 24, of Pica Cottages, Pica, Workington, was not licensed nor insured to drive a hackney carriage.

Over two days in April 2006, Council officers witnessed Mr Tinnion touting for taxi business and sitting in the driver's seat of a hackney carriage. When interviewed, Mr Tinnion admitted driving the vehicle as a hackney carriage whilst unlicensed and uninsured.

Mr Tinnion pleaded guilty to the charges driving a hackney carriage when not a licensed driver and driving a hackney carriage without insurance on 24 and 25 April 2006. The case was adjourned until 20th February 2007 for Mr Tinnion to produce his driving licence to the court.

Select Cabs are no longer operating.

### Solway Coast AONB Car Treasure Hunt

Report by: Graeme Proud  
Solway Coast Ranger Service

The car treasure hunt which was held on 23rd November from the Discovery Centre was not very well attended with only five cars.

It was organised in aid of the Silloth Lifeboat Station "train One, Save Many" Appeal. However, gifts and prizes donated by sponsors are being used as raffle prizes, with drawing tickets available from the Discovery Centre. There are some fantastic prizes to be won.

I would like to thank the following organisations from Silloth and Allonby who sponsored the event by donating gifts and prizes: Carrs Mills, Spar Shop, Bowman's Chemist, Thomson Roddick & Laurie, Serendipity, The Baywatch Hotel, Tom and Irene Brown. The eventual winners of the treasure hunt were Peter and Carol Yates of Allonby who received a fantastic meal for four, courtesy of the Baywatch Hotel, Allonby.

A cheque will be forwarded to the Lifeboat Station Appeal after the draw takes place in January.

### Abbeytown Church Fair

Report by: Gladys Temple

The Annual Christmas Fair was held in The Assembly Rooms, Abbeytown. Father Christmas attended and spoke to the Toddlers who got a present from him.

Rev David Tembey drew out the various competitions with the winners being The Cow - Phyllis Dockeray. Santa Andrew, Hamper - Jane Sim, Prizes on the Abbots Stall - Fay Batey, Brooke Steel, Freda Garner, Jars of Sweets - Angela Garner, Naomi Foster, Find the Sixpence - Angela Garner, Blanket - Amy Williamson

Whiskey Angela Garner, Port Mary Mattinson, Sherry Margaret Mynes and Wine Jean Armstrong.

The large Draw winners were: Maureen Gibson(2), Malcolm Atkinson, Barbara Hurst (2), Eileen Todhunter(2), Jean Armstrong, Audrey Harrison (2), Dorethy Hodgson, Elsie Donald, Naomi Foster, Elaine Atkinson Mavis Graham, Chris Dixon, Noeline Foster, and Phyllis Dockeray.

Rev Tembey thanked all the providers of the lovely items for sale, the stall holders and everyone for coming. The Fair raised £600 for the Abbey Church.

### Rogue Traders

Report by: PC Robertson  
Silloth Community Officer

Rogue traders charged a woman £1,350 for roof repairs to her house after giving her a quote of £250. They even took her to the bank to make sure she withdrew enough money to pay the bill. Now police are hunting the culprits who used a transit sized van marked "UK Plastics".

Silloth Community officer PC Andy Robertson said "This was a vulnerable victim who was taken advantage of and the people who prey on the elderly and vulnerable like this are the lowest of the low".

The work was carried out at the victim's home in Silloth. Now PC Robertson believes that others in Silloth may have been victims also, as there have been two other incidents in the town, and urged anyone to contact him on 0845 33 00 247.

He advised people always to be wary of cold callers and use legitimate traders. Genuine traders would not cold call and people should get work carried out by asking around and going by recommendations from friends or family and people who have had work done. Everyone in Silloth should keep an eye out for their neighbours.

### Trinity Methodist Church

Report by: Pam Blaylock

On Thursday 7th December Trinity Methodist Church members hosted "A Taste of Christmas".

There were sandwiches (turkey and stuffing, cheese savoury and egg), mince pies or shortbread and tea or coffee. The room was decorated with a tree and a lit up snowman which added to the festive atmosphere. The winner of the quiz sheet was Mrs Barbara Randell. There was also a raffle with the winners of the prizes being: Dorothy Wallis, Margaret Marr, Pam Blaylock, Madeline Tyson, Mrs Thompson, Doreen Carruthers, Isobel Dockeray, Audrey Winter, Ann Winter, Edna Keaverny, Gladys Temple and Diana Wallace.

A magnificent total of £366.72 was raised for Church funds. A big thank you to all who helped and especially to those who turned out in the winter weather.

### Postal Voting

Act now to prevent postal vote fraud. Changes in the law to prevent postal vote fraud mean that electors who wish to vote by post in any election, are now required to provide their date of birth and a sample of their signature to Allerdale Borough Council.

Forms asking for these personal details are currently being posted to the 14,250 Allerdale residents who have stated that they would like to vote by post or by proxy. Residents need to return the forms no later than 28th February 2007.

### Arthritis Support Group

Report by: Peggy Bray, Secretary

At the December meeting old Wigtonians and Incomers too, were fascinated by slides of Old Wigton and the informed commentary which Mr Leo Holden presented.

At their monthly meeting held at Loveday House members and some of the House Residents were privileged to have a third visit from Leo. It was greatly enjoyed, with many of the members recalling buildings of the town now demolished and areas now redeveloped. Thanks to Leo and his colleague, Brian, were given by Mrs Dorothy Walson.

Chairman Mrs Edna Marper then spoke about improved medical treatment and equipment for arthritis sufferers.

The drawing was won by Mr Fred Wilson.

January saw the Annual New Year Party, this year held at The Joiners Arms, Newton Arlosh, 28 members enjoyed a lovely three course meal. Chairman Edna Marper thanked everyone for coming to the Meetings last year and wished all Members a Very Happy New Year.

She thanked the staff at the Joiners Arms for the efficient service then Anne Graham played the part of Father Christmas and distributed the parcels everyone had brought making sure that none received the same parcel they had brought.

The next Meeting will be held at Loveday House on February 2nd at 1:30pm.



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