

## Letters

Dear Buzz,

Through your highly valued newspaper, could I express my very deep thanks and gratitude to Mrs Johnstone of "Johnstone's Private Hire" for her great kindness to me when I desperately needed a taxi to take me to Carlisle Railway Station a few days before Christmas.

My train was due to leave at 3:03pm and the 1:32pm bus from Silloth was late arriving and then broke down completely with no chance of an early replacement.

On the advice of a kind lady fellow passenger, I went to Winter's Newsagents where they were more than helpful, the owner rang "Johnstone's" for me and Mrs Johnstone was there within minutes. We had a very good journey until we reached Carlisle, where the traffic was almost at a standstill.

However Mrs Johnstone got me to the station on time and not only did she insist on coming onto the platform with me to make sure I was alright, but because we were both short of change she waived part of my taxi fare. She really was quite wonderful. I have only lived in Silloth for a short time and I must say that Mrs Johnstone's great great kindness only endorses what has been shown to me by so many others since I came here.

I do not know the address of "Johnstone's" but through your pages may I wish them all a very happy and prosperous new year and a BIG "Thank-you" Mrs Johnstone.

Mrs J. Quinlan

**WEST VIEW GUEST HOUSE**  
**OPEN AS USUAL**  
**B & B**  
 OR  
**Room Only**  
 9 STATION Rd  
 Silloth  
 016973 31449  
 WESTVIEWQUESTHOUSE.CO.UK

Dear Buzz,

Yet again Sarah and her merry team of helpers did a marvellous job providing approx. 120 residents and friends with a full Christmas dinner. All for the price of a donation, no fixed price's here just sign the book and place a donation in the box.

The proceedings started with Charlie Rossumund playing the cornet in conjunction with taped carols, grace was said and lunch was served with all the trimmings. There then followed a nativity scene by Sarah and her team, which ended with Sarah thanking everyone for the support given over the past year and the donations received.

A vote of thanks was given in return by the Town Mayor Councillor Graham Wilkinson. Then to everyone's surprise in came two Santa's with a present for each person attending. Ending with three cheers for Sarah.  
 ps. Please support the effort made by the team every Tuesday 12:00 to 13:30pm.

G. Wilkinson

Dear Buzz,

Thanks to Bill Aymes and friends for all their work assembling the Christmas lights round Christ Church.

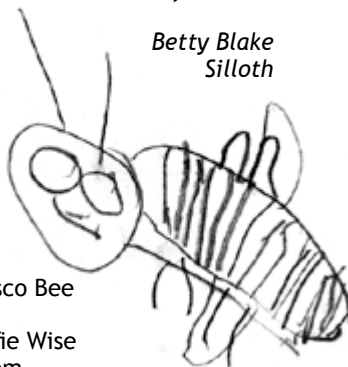
Lawrence Marshall

Dear Buzz,

Myself and my family would like to thank most sincerely all of my friends, neighbours, (and many others) for the beautiful Flowers, Cards, and Letters of sympathy I received, on the death of my Dear mother (Mary). Thank you also, to the Good Companions, the Nurses and Doctors who cared for her.

Betty Blake  
 Silloth

Disco Bee  
 by  
 Alfie Wise  
 from  
 Holme St. Cuthbert  
 School



Dear Buzz,

I would like to say a big thank you to all my clients for being patient and sticking with me after my recent accident, when I broke a bone in my hand and was unable to work. Sorry for the inconvenience it caused for everyone. Anyway, I'm back fully in the swing of things and looking forward to seeing you all in the new year. I now have a new home phone number, 01228 522283. But you can still contact me on my mobile 07754 523451. Thanks once again, and best wishes for 2008 to you all.

Clair Todd  
 Hair At Home

Dear Buzz,

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the members of the First Responders, for their prompt and excellent attention on the occasion of Ron's recent accident. Also special thanks to friends and neighbours for their great help and support.

Ron & Margaret Markley

Dear Buzz,

We would like to thank all who sent cards, flowers, gifts and good wishes on the occasion of our Golden Wedding, it was very much appreciated. We made a donation to Silloth Lifeboat Station as a thank you to our brave crew and staff for all their hard work.

Ted and Margaret  
 Studholme



Warbee  
 by Brendan  
 from Holme St. Cuthbert School

## Poem

**Editors note:**  
 I found this poem and story on the web site [www.PoeticExpressions.co.uk](http://www.PoeticExpressions.co.uk), where it is one of the most visited pages. I have tried to contact David Harkins who apparently now lives in Harraby looking after his disabled wife but couldn't find him.

Included by the Queen on the order of service for the Queen Mother's funeral on Tuesday 9th April 2002, the poem 'She Is Gone' was credited to 'Anon'. Her Majesty was said to have encountered the work at the funeral of the late "Dowager Viscountess De L'Isle, whose family had found the poem in a small anthology published in 1999.

After the Queen Mother's funeral much effort went into attempts to identify the author, with attributions going to, among others Immanuel Kant and Joyce Grenfell, before the author was discovered to be former Silloth baker David Harkins.

Following the Queen Mother's Funeral both the BBC and The Times contacted [www.PoeticExpressions.co.uk](http://www.PoeticExpressions.co.uk) but we were unable to help. We did have the poem of that title on our site from late 2001, but we had no idea at that time who had written it. We had found the

untitled poem on an order of funeral service sheet that a kind friend had sent in. We titled it 'She is Gone'.

As it turns out David Harkins had written the piece in the early eighties, though not as a funeral oration, but in homage to an unrequited love.

David Harkins wrote to The Daily Mail on Tuesday January 14th 2003 as follows: I was 23 when I first met Anne Lloyd, my inspiration for the poem I called Remember Me.

She was 16 and didn't know me, but I had seen her about and knocked on her door one evening in November 1981. Anne answered, and I introduced myself as a painter (painting was a hobby of mine back then) and asked her to pose. She agreed, and I returned on the Thursday evening, when I made feeble attempts to sketch Anne. This proved difficult as her mother was present throughout.

Anne posed for me about eight times, and we met regularly for a couple of years and talked a great deal, though we never

*She is Gone (Remember Me)*  
 by David Harkins, written 1981

*You can shed tears that she is gone  
 Or you can smile because she has lived  
 You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back  
 Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left  
 Your heart can be empty because you can't see her  
 Or you can be full of the love that you shared  
 You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday  
 Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday  
 You can remember her and only that she is gone  
 Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on  
 You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back  
 Or you can do what she would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on*

even kissed, which is probably why I poured all my feelings about her into my poetry.

I completed Remember Me in about March 1982, but until last year none of my poems received any recognition. Shortly afterwards I met Jayne, my wife, and I have not seen Anne since. My writing has dried up and I'm now a painter selling my works on the internet.

David said "I sent the original copy to Prince Charles and got a lovely letter of reply."

The reply from Prince Charles' then private secretary, Stephen Lamport, thanks Mr Harkins for providing the history of the "passage which captured the hearts of so many people when it was published as part of Queen Elizabeth's funeral service".

The reply from the Prince of Wales's office continued: "I have no doubt that it will be reproduced on many occasions over the years to come. The Prince of Wales has asked me to send you his very best wishes."

### Fruit Link Home Delivery

Local Produce  
 W'sale & Retail  
 Top Quality Fruit & Vegetables  
 Tel: 016973 61406, 07732 337078, 07923 326993



### Little Acre Care Home



82 Skinburness Road

Excellent Care for the Elderly  
 SINGLE EN-SUITE ROOMS

For further details contact:  
 Sarah Betsworth – 016973 32105

### Mark Hansford Computer Services

Repairs  
 Upgrades  
 New Computers  
 Software  
 Broadband  
 Home & Office  
 Wireless Networking  
 Printers



016973 32089

### Cumbria Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Launch of the North Allerdale  
 Business Forum

What can a business forum do for your business?

Come along to discuss how the Chamber's local business forum can help your business.

Wheyrigg Hall Hotel, Wigton  
 Tuesday 29th January, 2008  
 12.30hrs-14:30hrs

Registration from 12.30hrs with a free buffet lunch

To reserve your place/s please contact Anke Gross  
 Tel: 01946 592329, email [anke@cumbriachamber.co.uk](mailto:anke@cumbriachamber.co.uk)

