Jimmy
by
Tom Holm Cultram Abbey SchoolSolo for Solo for Solo

Page 2 Very Happy Santas



Page 3 Open Door Xmas Lunch



Page 6 Ruby is a Winner



Page 7 Eric at the C & W



Page 8 All I want for Xmas is a....



Page 9 Were you at the switch-on



Page 15 Lauren has got it all











Page 16 Adam is a Winner





The Solway Buzz is a FREE community paper with a circulation of 5,000 copies for the area around Abbeytown, Skinburness, Silloth-on-Solway and Mawbray

Forget Me Not Flowers



Happy customers enjoying the hospitality at Forget Me Not Flowers

The open night at Forget-Me-Not Flowers was a big success.

It was lovely to see customers old and new, who were offered warm mulled wine and mince pies to help keep the chill out from the cold night air.

The new range of personalised printed

gifts which were on show are proving to be very popular. In the new year they are launching a new service where you will be being able to shop online using their new website. The address is: www. forget-me-not-flowers. co.uk.

Everyone at Forget-Me-Not Flowers would

Arthritis Support Group

Report by: Gladys Temple

Mary Peile welcomed members and Jean Mason, a visitor, to the December meeting.

As Leo Holden and Brian Murray needed no introduction their slides of 'Old Wigton' began. The first slide was of St. Mary's Church which is the third church built on this site and some of the stones were used from the old church, which had been built with stones from the Roman Fort at Old Carlisle. The corn market on the front of the church has W O B set in the cobbles denoting Wheat Oats and Barley that were sold there when it was a market. Slides from all over Wigton showing us how it looked before and sometimesmodern ones to see how some places had not changed while other were different. There

was Hospital Cottages, The Congregational Church, and The Old Norman Window in St. Mary's churchyard and Proctors Row where many could remember going to the Clinic to see the Dentist. There was a photo of Robert Smirk who was born in Wigton and became a famous architect. There was a bust of him at the Mechanics Institute, which is now in the National collection. The Methodist Church built in 1927 with the pinnacles that were blown down in a storm. Westmorland House, several of High Street at various periods, lots of carnivals and parades, The Blue Bell Hotel, King Street, Station Road, Union Street, The Baths and lots more

like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year, we see you all more as friends rather than just customers.

Auction of Promises



Initially, this is to raise money for an information system for the entrance hall in Solway Community School.

It is being organised by the PTA and held in the Golf Hotel at 7:30pm on

and enjoys his audience giving him feedback. Gladys Temple thanked Leo for his talk and Brian for showing the slides. He was asked to come back next year and show different slides. Mary Harrison served refreshments and Jack Bray helped wash the dishes.

The next meeting is the New Year Lunch at Wheyrigg on Friday 15th January 1:30pm the

Pensioners Pre-Christmas Tea



Report by: Pat Froggatt

On Saturday November 7th Silloth & District Pensioners held their pre-Christmas tea in St. Andrew's Church Hall. Diane

They would very

These can include:

a tour of a place you

know, a meal for two,

music lesson, hair cut,

painting or decorating,

club membership, a

food hamper for two,

holiday accommodation,

Sport coaching, a lift

Shaw welcomed everyone and called on Lawrence Marshall to open the event.

The hall was bursting at the seams with everyone determined to have a good time and to savour the warm and friendly atmosphere. The whole afternoon was highly successful.

Raffle winners were Bill Allen, Dot Davidson, Mrs. Marshall, Margaret

car valeting or washing, hobby lesson, dog walking or pet care, man with a van / help with moving furniture, a dinner party, gardening, cake baking, computing help, an introduction to a foreign language, bike or

Marr, Ann Bean, Ann Lea, John Hope and Pat Froggatt.

The event raised approximately £274. There was also a cheque for £300 from Silloth Charity Shop for which the Committee offer their thanks. They also wish to thank everyone who attended and made the afternoon such a ray of sunshine on a rather dismal day.

car service, swimming lesson, fresh flowers or vegetables, a golf lesson, ironing or housework or even being a slave for the day!

Promises must be made by an adult due to child protection laws!

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES and LEARNING at SOLWAY COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

Sports Hall Activities

Solway Community Sports Hall currently offers a wide range of activities for all age groups. These include:

- Tennis Coaching (From ages 4-14)
- Football Coaching (U8 Men)
- Hockey (Primary School Age) Badminton Coaching (All Ages)

Boxercise (16+)

Netball Coaching (14+)

Yoga (16+)

Tai Chi

These include

But we are very happy to consider others of interest - please let us know.

After School Activities

Ever considered trying something

different but never got the chance?

now offers Adult Education Classes.

Singing for Pleasure

Solway Community Technology College

Leo is obviously an expert in his subject

WINTERS POST OFFICE

Newspapers Magazines Sweets, Rock Novelties Greetings Cards Postcards Gifts, Toys Faxing & Photocopying

Eden Street, Silloth-on-Solway Shop: 016973 31323 PO: 016973 32957

Community Bus will pick up at Loveday House.

Forget Me Not Flowers Flowers for all occasions

FANCY DRESS

Vampire, Nurse, Devil Lady, Marilyn Monroe and more, take a look

BALLOON MANIA

If you want it, we've got it, just ask!

Personalised Gifts & Printed Ribbons

10A Eden Street, Silloth, tel: 016973 33030

Why not come and give an activity a go!

Roller Disco

You may remember that Solway Community Sports Hall ran Roller Disco sessions earlier on this year on Friday evenings and Sunday evenings. This proved to be very popular.

If we get enough interest again, we would like to start the Roller Discos once more, but probably only on the weekend.

But we need to know if you are interested - please ring the Sports Hall or the School main number and tell us what you think!

Future Ideas?

As a small community it is important that our facilities are enjoyed by everyone. So it is essential for us to know what activities you would like us to offer. We are currently considering running:

- **Belly Dancing**
- **Pilates**
- **Genealogy Classes**

If you are interested in participating in any of the activities listed above or have any other ideas regarding what you would like to see offered, please let us know.

If you are interested in any of the activities or would like to know more information please contact the Sports Hall on 016973 32229 or Solway Community Technology College on 016973 31234

Allerdale BC Christmas Arrangements

Allerdale Borough Council's closure and refuse collection arrangements for the Christmas and New Year period are as follows:

Office closure dates: Customer Services Centre, Workington -Closed from 4pm, 24 December 2009 (last cash payments taken at 3.30pm), re-opens 4 January, 2010 (8.45am to 5pm).

Allerdale House, Workington and Council Customer Service Centres at Wigton, Keswick, Cockermouth and Maryport - Closed from 4pm, 24 December 2009 (last cash payments taken at 3.30pm), re-opens 4 January 20010 (8.45am to 5.15pm).

Tourist Information Centre, Solway Coast Discovery Centre, Silloth – Closed from 4pm, 24 December 2009, re-opens 4 January 2010 (10am to 4pm).

Museums:

Maritime Museum, Maryport – Closed from Monday 21 December 2009. Re-opens 10am Monday 4 January 2010. Helena Thompson Museum, Workington – Closed from 4pm on Tuesday 22 December. Re-opens 10am Monday 4 January 2010. Keswick Museum -Closed (Winter season).

The Wave Centre, Maryport - Closed from 24 December (except for "Christmas in a box" meal collections and pantomime rehearsals). Open for pantomime dress rehearsal only on 26 December). Open 27 to 30 December from 12noon to 10pm and 31 December from 12noon to 5pm. Closed 1 January (except for removal of pantomime scenery). Re-opens at normal hours from Saturday 2 January 2010.

Domestic Refuse Collection Service There will be no garden waste collections during the weeks commencing 14 December, 21 December, 28 December and 4 January. Refuse and paper recycling collections due on Friday 25 December will be completed on Sunday 27 December. Refuse and paper recycling collections due on Friday 1 January will be completed on Saturday 2 January. Refuse and paper recycling collections will be as normal for all other dates. Please

try to put waste out on the correct day. Check your recycling calendar if you are in any doubt or call 01900 702800 for more information. The telephone line for domestic refuse and recycling enquiries, 01900 702800, will be open from 9am to 2pm on 29 December, 30 December and 31 December 2009. Allerdale Borough Council's website can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week from the comfort of home by logging onto www.allerdale.gov.uk. The website has a secure online facility for making payments as well as reporting problems, such as fly tipping and noise pollution, and finding useful information, for example the bin collections over the Christmas period.

For urgent enquiries during office closure, please contact Allerdale Borough Council's emergency out of hours number on 01900 871080.

Allerdale Borough Council would like to wish all its customers a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Open Door Christmas Lunch



Report by Peter Mair Chairman 'Open Door'

This years "Open Door Group" came to an end with our annual dinner and celebration.

On 1st December, more than 110 people sat down to be served Christmas dinner of turkey and all the trimmings, followed by mince tart, tea and coffee. The program that followed included a beautiful trumpet rendition by Charly Rosema, and a number of Christmas Carols by the "Ladies Praise Choir" from Whitehaven.

Mr. Bill Asbury brought a short message based on the Christmas story, with reference to a painting done especially for "Open Door" by a local artist, of the Shepherds and Wise Men coming to worship the Babe in the manger "Jesus, the Reason for the Season". Wise men still seek Him. As each person left, they received a gift from Mr and Mrs Santa.

Many thanks are due to all the volunteer helpers who make the event so successful.

Guess the box contents prize was won by Joe Blaylock, the answer was 'A Keyring'. "Open Door" will

re-open from 12 to 1pm on 9th February.

We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a Blessed New Year.



SARAH HARDING's Posh Shag

Have you seen Sarah Hardings new look, her version of Victoria Beckhams posh pag (posh shag), by the way it is not the first hair cut to be called a shag. We all adore the look on Sarah and Victoria, we are sure Sarah's pag was styled with a jumbo tong and we think Victoria's much

A

fuller pag was set on large Velcro rollers and blast finished with Clynol Fizz, we love Fizz you must try some. **SUSAN BOYLE's**

Hair Zone 4U

Bad Hair Days What a

transformation, doesn't her hair look good now, Susan has had forty eight years of bad hair days, she must love the way her hair looks and feels now. After so many years of waking up to mayhem on her head every day, actually it's not that uncommon for women in their 40s 50s 60s to have Susan Boyle bad hair days, they either stick a hat on it or think no one will be looking at them; believe me everyone will be looking at them. But it doesn't have to be like that, like Susan you can

banish bad hair days for good and you don't have to have Susan's millions to do it. We have been promoting colour gloss and natural gloss for the past four months in the salon £20 including blow dry, you can't get better value for your money than that.

Sammy & Carly Cover girl Megan Megan's all night up her colour is fusion of autumn fruits blended at the salon by Sammy and Carly to give Megan a colour that is unique to her. You can have an



individual colour blend that would be just yours alone, a nice way to start the New Year.

Sammy & Carly

Cooking Bee by Molly Nattrass from Holme St. Cuthbert School

All Night Up Do's Night Up Do's Party Hair 4U Colours 2 di 4 Seasons Greetings from Peter, Sammy, Carly & Emily Modelled by Megan, Hair by Sammy, Photography by Peter

OAP's Developed AP's AP's AP's AP's do is a timeless classic 'Audrey Hepburn up do',



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11th

12th

14th

14th

16th

21st

22nd

28th

29th

supper

1st

3rd

Forum

Hebruary

all welcome

9am to 11am

Silloth Library

Opening Hours:

opening nours.	
Monday	2 p m - 6 p m
Tuesday	closed
Wednesday	11am-1:30pm
	2:30pm-5pm
Thursday	11am-1:30pm
	2:30pm-5pm
Friday	11am-1:30pm
	2:30pm-5pm
Saturday	10am-12noon

Books for all ages including children's and large print, and talking books Reference and Information Storysacks Also available for a small fee: Videos and DVD's, Audios CD's Photocopying Computers with Internet access (concessions apply - please ask) Membership is free to everyone Please call in or telephone (016973) 32195

Sfilloth RINILI Shop

Shop Opening Hours

Sunday Only 11am to 3:30pm

The shop will close mid December and reopen at Easter Many thanks to all those who supported the RNLI during the year. We look forward to seeing you again in 2010.

Silloth Tots & Totkilers

Silloth Tots & Toddlers meet in the Childrens Centre. Silloth from 14th January and is open to all children aged from 0 to 4.

Sessions are on: Wed: 10pm to 11:30am and Fridays: 1:30am to 3pm term time only Entry is £1 per family and this includes refreshments All Welcome Call in for a friendly chat

Abbeytown Library

Abbeytown mobile library will stop outside the Wheatsheaf Inn at 1pm for an hour every Monday

Abbeytown Bowls

Abbeytown Indoor Bowls every Monday @ 7pm in the Assembly Rooms beginners welcome.

Broduction Team

Children's Centre

Monday: 1pm - 4:30pm Tuesday: 9:30am - 2:30pm Wednesday: 9am - 12noon Thursday: 9am - 12noon Friday: 1pm - 4:30pm

Opening Hours:

We are also flexible if people wish to use the centre out of the opening hours. If you wish to use the centre at other times, please call Pam Armstrong on 016973 22771 or Jenny Lunney on 016973 22777 at Aspatria Children's Centre. We are more than happy to show people around, chat on a one to one basis or for a group of people wishing to enquire about the centre.

Useful Tel Numbers

Age Concern Home Safety Scheme 01946 68986 016973 31394 Chemist, Silloth: Community Bus Dave 016973 31785 Com'ty Bus Lawrence 016973 31257 Community Grants: 01900 325013 0800 555 111 Crime Stoppers: 01228 603620 Dental Emergency: Dentist, Buchanan: 016973 31270 Dentist. Steel: 016973 32042 Doctor 016973 31309 First Responders can only be called by the Ambulance service, call: 999 Gas: 0800 111 999 Highways Hot Line 0845 6096609 01228 523444 Hospital: Holme St. Cuthbert School 01900 881242 Mawbray Holm Cultram Abbey CofE School 016973 61261 Abbeytown: MP, Tony Cunningham 01900 65815 016973 32195 Silloth Library: 01900 702898 NAP Neighbourhood Forum: 01900 325013 Police: 08453300247 Quakers, Wigton: 01228 523174 Register Office, Wigton: 01228 223447 01228 544444 Samaritans: Silloth Community School: 016973 31234 Silloth Nursery & Junior School: 016973 31243 016973 31128 Silloth Town Clerk: 01900 702702 Allerdale B. Council Silloth Tourist Information Centre: 016973 31944 016973 32180 Solway Buzz: Johnstones Private Hire:07999 934555 Solway Private Hire: 016973 32310 Able Taxi: 016973 31508 Vet 016973 20242 01900 702800 Waste Disposal Dept: 0800 33 00 33 Water LeakLine: This section is for your convenience, so please, let us know what you want included, also any changes to numbers.

> Please note that articles, letters and virtually all content

Dates for the Diary DATES FOR 2010 EVENTS ARE REQUIRED NOW!

_January cont'd

Lights Committee AGM in the

Silloth Community School from

1:45pm to 3:45pm, all welcome,

Trinity Methodist

STAG meeting

Crunch Service

Trinity Methodist

Hearing Drop-In at

Trinity Methodist

RNLI SOS Day

Mary Pigg 016973 31553

Church Pop-In 11:45-1pm

in the Golf Hotel @ 6:30pm

Skinburness Road Car Park

Church Pop-In 11:45-1pm

Wigton Local Links Office

from 10am to Noon for

replacements, advice &

cleaning, 01228 562691

Church Pop-In 11:45-1pm

Quiz Night in the Golf Hotel

Meeting in Community Hall

@ 7:30pm, Tickets £3.50 inc

Albion Inn @ 7pm

Silloth Christmas

Criffel Tea Dance in

December

18th Town Carol Service at 8pm in Christ Church

20th **Christmas Praise** with Carols at 10am in Christ Church then Lessons & Carols at 3pm in St. Pauls Church

20th Santa Sleigh tour by Silloth Rotary from Dicktrod Lane, Skinburness at 3pm to the Crofts, West Silloth giving presents to the children

24th Christmas Eve Crib Service at 6pm in Christ Church then Midnight Holy Communion at 11:30pm in Christ Church

25th Christmas Day Holy Communion at 9am in St. Pauls Church then Holy Communion at 10am in Christ Church

January

7th **Trinity Methodist** Church Pop-In 11:45-1pm

11th Silloth Town Council Meeting in Community Hall

Arthritis Support

Wigton Area Arthritis Support Group meet on 1st Friday each month at Loveday House, South End, Wigton @ 1:30pm, details from Gladys 016973 43964

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

_ Bootball Training_

Silloth Football Club

Times 2009/10 in Silloth Sports Hall

Under 8's Wednesday 4:30pm to 5:30pm Contact Emma Oliver 32112 Under 10's Monday 5pm to 6pm Contact Melanie Irving 32850 Under 12's Friday 5:30pm to 7pm

Contact Kevin Dixon 31954 Under 14's

Wednesday 5:30pm to 7pm Contact Derek Wallace 32050

Men's

March

1st Silloth Town Council Meeting in Community Hall

4th Trinity Methodist Church Anniversary Sandwich Pop-In 11:45-1pm

Crunch Service 6th Skinburness Road Car Park 9am to 11am

Cumbria Rural Choirs 13th 60th Anniversary Concert in the Sands Centre @ 7:30pm

April

12th Silloth Town Council Meeting in Community Hall

16th Trinity Methodist Church, Whitehaven Male Voice Choir @ 7:30pm

May

Trinity Methodist 6th Church Network Sandwich Pop-In 11:45-1pm

10th Silloth Town Council Meeting in Community Hall

June

7th Silloth Town Council Meeting in Community Hall

19th Vintage Rally on Silloth Green

19th Wigton Choral Society Summer Concert in St. Mary's Church, Wigton @ 7:30pm, tel 01900 881095

20th Vintage Rally on Silloth Green

July

Trinity Methodist 1st Church Summer Sandwich Pop-In 11:45–1pm

Silloth Town Council 5th Meeting in Community Hall

8th Trinity Methodist Church Summer Sandwich Pop-In 11:45-1pm

10th A New Event on Silloth Green!

A New Event on 11th Silloth Green!

Trinity Methodist 15th Church Summer Sandwich Pop-In 11:45-1pm

July

25th

22nd **Trinity Methodist** Church Summer Sandwich Pop-In 11:45-1pm

24th Kite Fest

29th Trinity Methodist Church Summer Sandwich Pop-In 11:45-1pm

Kite Fest

August____

6th Trinity Methodist Church Summer Sandwich Pop-In 11:45-1pm

14th Greenfest

15th Greenfest

_September__

Silloth Town Council 6th Meeting in Community Hall

9th Silloth Music & Beer Festival 10th Anniversary

10th Silloth Music & Beer Festival 10th Anniversary

Silloth Music & Beer 11th Festival 10th Anniversary THE ROLLIN' CLONES

12th Silloth Music & Beer Festival 10th Anniversary

October

4th Silloth Town Council Meeting in Community Hall

November_

1st Silloth Town Council Meeting in Community Hall

5th Trinity Methodist Church "The War Years" show

Trinity Methodist 6th Church "The War Years" show

December

2nd Trinity Methodist Church 'Taste of Christmas' Pop-In 11:45-1pm

5th Trinity Methodist Church Evening Carol Service @ 6pm

6th Silloth Town Council Meeting in Community Hall

Tel: 01900 706009 **Trinity Methodist** 4th Church Pop-In 11:45-1pm **Crunch Service** 6th Skinburness Road Car Park 9am to 11am

Solway Community 6th Technology College PTA Auction of Promises at 7:30pm in the Golf Hotel

Mawbray Village Hall 17th Geronimo @ 7:30pm for tickets tel Rick 01900 881215

18th Mawbray Village Hall Geronimo @ 7:30pm for tickets tel Rick 01900 881215

Mawbray Village Hall 19th Geronimo @ 7:30pm for tickets tel Rick 01900 881215

20th Mawbray Village Hall Geronimo @ 7:30pm for tickets tel Rick 01900 881215 Skinburness 25th Residents Association AGM in the Golf Hotel @ 7pm

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

Neighbourhood

Silloth Town Council

Proprietor: Peter McRobert Barn Cottage Skinburness, CA7 4RA Tel: 016973 32180 Fax: 016973 32133 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.

We will accept letters, faxes or emails, but we do prefer emails as we do not have a typist to type your articles out. Published by: Peter McRobert with the support of the whole community and an army of volunteers.

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.

Copy

Date

Tuesday 7:30pm to 9pm in the Sports Hall Thursday 6:30pm to 8pm at the Playing Fields Contact Colin Baty 31297

Over 35's Matches on Mondays at 6:30pm Contact Stephen Hart 31517

Open to boys and girls. Membership forms available from all coaches.

Copy date for the February/March issue If your organisation has an event to promote or you have something to say, please note that the next copy date is: 1st January 2010

Masthead Winner

Carlisle Embroidery are generously donating a Solway Buzz embroidered sports shirt to the winner. This is in addition to the usual Winners Certificate and £5 Gift Voucher. So, come on kids, get drawing, the Buzz is always

sports shirt from Carlisle

Embroidery could be yours.

This month the winner is Tony Mitchell from Holm Cultram Abbey School looking for more imaginative with a bee bees and yours might be the called "Jimmy". next winner. Send them in to Well done! the address on this page and a quality Solway Buzz embroidered

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 receive your bee drawing, just tell us your name, where you are from and where you are staying. You will find our address on page 4.

Silloth Health Matters

Silloth Health Matters group was set up a few years ago to assist the community with funding for groups to stage health related events.

So far, they have helped provide healthy eating, baby massage, arthritis, childcare, open door and many more events.

If there are any existing groups or you are starting up a HEALTH RELATED group you can apply for assistance. We hold regular meetings. For more information contact: Nan Aird 016973 31430 or Mary Hillhouse 016973 32235

Delivery Volunteers Required

Standby volunteers are required to deliver the Solway Buzz around the Silloth area when our regular deliverers are unavailable.

Please contact Kath on 016973 32133 or email to your details to kath@solwaybuzz.co.uk.

Caravan Care

A full range of **Sea Fishing Bait** is now available

Stockists of all your Caravan and Camping Spares and Accessories

Now also catering for all local anglers Hook, Line and Sinker

13 Station Road, Silloth 016973 33090 www.caravan-care.info

RNLI SOS Quiz Night

RNLI SOS day is the charity's biggest fundraising day and it's a great way to raise funds for our dedicated volunteer lifeboat crews.

With this in mind, the Silloth & District Funding Branch of the RNLI are holding a Quiz night in the function room of the Golf Hotel, Silloth on Friday 29th January. Doors open 7pm, quiz starts at 7:30pm.

Supper of soup and sandwiches is included in the price of £3.50 per person.

Please come along and support the RNLI for what should be a fun sociable evening.

Monday Club at the Lowther Arms

Report by: Jean Howes

The Monday Club is run by a group of customers and friend of The Lowther Arms, Mawbray.

We set up the club to try and co-ordinate the fund raising efforts of Dawn. We had a Treasure Hunt in July and Scavenger Hunt

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Sandra Hickebottom MCFHP DipFHT MAFHP Tel 016973 61440 Mob 07951 312513

Wigton MU

Report by: Gladys Temple

Helen Armstrong

Stella Fisher led the

Jean Key played the piano

for the singing of 'What

a friend we have in Jesus'.

The theme of this year

is Relationships so Rev.

Bill Asbury took this as

He spent 22 years taking

the news of the Gospel to

South America and began

by living with the people

of the shanty towns and

learning how they exist in

very poor conditions but

remain full of hope. He

pointed out that no two

people are exactly alike

and that the 'soap operas'

on TV do not show real

to believe life should be

There are 'soap operas'

here and many people

watch them believing

to do was to learn the

in August. Then in

in Brazil just as there are

they are true to life. One

of the first things he had

September we took over

that Dawn had run. With

the co-operation of Dawn

has become a great event

with many people joining

the Monday Fun Quiz

and her Mum Mary, it

us each week. We have

donated money to the

The Childrens Friday

Culterham Village Hall.

life but bring some people

like that and relationships

breakdown when it is not.

the theme for his talk.

November Meeting.

prayers with the Bible

reading by Vera Irving.

language and as he lived with the local people he welcomed everyone to the soon began to do this.

He met his wife before he went to Brazil but met her again on the boat going over, they married in Brazil and had three children. He showed us a piece of stone he had been given which looked just rough stone on one side but when turned over was full of beautiful precious crystals reflecting lots of shades of purple. He told us not to take people on first sight but to get to know them and find the good inside. Bill is a very accomplished artist and showed us some of the drawings and paintings he did while he was in Brazil and also ones he has done since he retired to Skinburness. He exhibits at various places in the area including The Gincase.

Ann Poole thanked Bill for a very interesting and enjoyable talk. Helen, Elizabeth and Jean served the refreshments while Bill answered lots of questions.

Club and £250 to the Flood Relief Fund.

We are looking forward to starting the Quiz again on January 11th when we look forward to a lot of fun and raising a lot more money for many good causes. Plus there will be other events in the Spring and Summer.

Abbeytown MU

Report by: Gladys Temple

Lynne Tembey led the prayers and prayed especially for Rev David Tembey who is to head the fundraising for the Abbey, which was devastated in the fire and still needs lots of money to bring it back to life as a Parish Church.

The roof is back on and the builders are in doing the plaster work but all the furnishing and fitting will cost more than the insurance will cover so we pray that people will be generous.

Noeline Foster read an invitation from Wigton Mothers Union to their meeting on Tuesday 16th March when Doug and Pauline will update everyone on the Dewode Project, which has been supported by Wigton people for several years. Maureen Gibson went to the Deanery meeting and reported that the new Diocesan President is Shirley Paynes, Deanery Leader Mary Banks, Secretary Barbara Simpson and Treasurer Sheila Rowe. The Diocesan Trip on 19th May will be to Liverpool.

The Community Officer who was supposed to be our Speaker did not come so Lynne Tembey told us of her visit to Chennoi (formerly known as Madras). Four people went from this Diocese, Bishop James, Rev. Peter Strefield, Carol Marsden and Lynne. They were

made so welcome wherever they went and Cornellius who was the Diocesan link welcomed them all with a shawl making them feel very special. £6,000 had been sent from the Carlisle Diocese to help towards 'The Lite Centre' where they were shown around. There are meeting rooms that can be let out for occasions such as weddings that bring in welcome income. Bishop James blessed all the rooms and each of them cut the ribbon for the room they were to stay in. The rooms were basic but each had an ensuite. Lynne was fit and well all the time but the others all were ill at various times. The Diocesan Council meet every two years and everyone meets. The local hospital was visited and Bishop Goodwin School Head provided an ambulance in memory of her son and they saw it at work. They visited a School for the Deaf who did a prayer for the safety of all their visitors. There are lots of schools and there is a passion to learn. They visited a School for Special Needs where the money raised through the Harvest for the Hungry was sent this year. There is a skill centre to teach them to be able to make a living wage for themselves. Gladys Temple thanked Lynne for a really interesting talk.



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Mayors | Primary School

Report by: Graham Wilkinson

The Chairman stated that letters of support had been sent to the Mayors of Keswick, Cockermouth and Workington offering the Town Councils support following the serious flooding.

Report

Over the past month the Chairman has attended six official events plus three meetings.

The Chairman gave notice that as from May 2010 he would not be standing as Chairman/ Mayor, having held the post for five years he stated it was time for a change at the top.

Annual reports from the Rugby Club and Football Club were taken. The Rugby Club has received the seal of approval from the RFU. The Football club has been awarded Charter Club of the year, over the past year eight teams have taken part although there has been a lack of support by parents. Jointly, along with the Town Council plus outside funders it was agreed to look into flood lighting the playing areas as this is now a regulation. Plans are being drawn up for an Astra Turf practice ground. It was agreed that ground rents be left as previous in these hard times.

Correspondence: An invite to the town carol service. A thank you letter from the crew of 'HMS Biter' who attended the Remembrance Day service and were provided with accommodation and lunch. A letter regarding the letting of allotments, this was discussed at length by the full council and matters will be addressed. Cumbria County Council re changes in the way

Silloth Primary School **Children In Need Events**



A proud Ruby Allen with Pudsey wearing her strip

Report by: Mary Hillhouse

Plans for children in need day at the primary school had to be cancelled as the school was closed because of the floods in surrounding areas. One of the fundraising events was for the pupils to design a football strip for

social care and support is organised. Cumbria County Council a leaflet which is being widely circulated in regard to future funding of Secondary Schools. Allerdale Borough Council a further letter of complaint regarding advertising banners within the town. The Town Council noted the comments and agreed that it was Allerdale Borough Councils responsibility to police this matter not the Town Council. Questions were asked, do other towns get Pudsey Bear. The winners in each year group were given a Pudsey pin.

The overall winner was Ruby Allen aged 3 from nursery whose design was made up and she received the Pudsey Bear wearing the football strip she had designed.

regard to banners?

Planning matters noted were those agreed by the planning committee of the Town Council and those of Allerdale Borough Council, plus notification of an appeal at the Solway Village.

Reports covered: the Primary School not having any further details regarding Mr Dennison. Joint Advisory with AONB's AGM on 11th December in the Golf Hotel. Regeneration with an update on the HLF bid for The Green,

Motors

Visit for Free



Visit the Past ... See the Future ... Understand the Present

Residents of Silloth and outlying areas are invited to visit the Solway Coast Discovery Centre's

consultants Southern

Green reported a good

attendance at the Golf

hoped to be held in the

Library. North Allerdale

further displays are

Development Trust

transfer of property

going through. Health

matters some requests

for funding are deemed

not relevant and it may

Allerdale Borough

Mayor changes are going

point of increased parking

Cumbria County

County may have to take

over the duty of parking

carried out by Allerdale

other councils within the

Executive is now in office.

County. The new Chief

Major funding fears are

ahead, following the loss of so many bridges and

damage caused by the

The Town Clerk

reported on budgets for

2010/11 which must be

set prior to Christmas,

these will be discussed

prior to Christmas at a

special meeting. Requests

floods.

Council reported the

attendants currently

Borough Council and

be time to rethink the

Council reported the

through plus the sore

groups outlook.

charges.

say things are now on a firm footing with the

Hotel on 27th November,

10,000 Years Heritage Exhibition. This is free of charge until the end of January.

for funding came from the Christmas Lights



the new lights which have been erected. This was agreed and a vote of thanks should be given to the group for working in such bad conditions. Finally a request from The North West Air Ambulance based in Lancashire, we have already donated £500 in June this year to the Great North Air Ambulance, this request was not supported.

Refurbishment and

updating took place in the

Spring of 2009 so check it

out now.

Sporty Bee by Anna Middleton from Holm Cultram Abbey School

Want to be in the Know

Want to Be In The Know? Then come to the next Silloth Tourism Action Group (STAG) meeting on the 14th

January at 6:30pm in the Golf Hotel. Join this dedicated friendly group and help them organise events in Silloth.



the same treatment as we appear to have with

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Offers valid throughout December & January only

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Free Parking Days

After the floods Allerdale Borough Council is offering even more free parking days in all its car parks to help boost Christmas shopping for local traders.

The Council has given the extra days of free parking to town councils across the borough in addition to the free days already made available. This means it will now be free to park in Allerdale Borough Council's car parks on the following days:

 Cockermouth: 12th, 19th & 24th December and 2nd January 2010 Keswick: 12th, 19th & 20th December Maryport:

12th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th December Wigton: 18th, 19th, 22nd, 23rd & 24th December

• Workington: 13th, 19th, 20th & 24th December

Councillor Tim Heslop, the Leader of Allerdale Borough Council, said: "We're pleased to help out wherever we can with keeping the borough on the road to economic recovery and overcoming the devastating effects of the floods. The Christmas trading season is probably the most important time for local traders and we hope that by offering extra days for shoppers to

come and visit our towns without having to pay to park we can encourage even more people to see for themselves that Cumbria is open for business". Allerdale Borough Council, in partnership with Park Safe, can now

offer a service to residents in communities north of the River Derwent. Rather than face the traffic on the A595 and A66 every day, if they have to drive to work south of the river they can use the rail service or the footbridge and leave their vehicle parked securely overnight in the multistorey car park between 5:30pm and 8am for the discounted rate of £1.

Permits are available from the Flood Support Team based at Northside Community Centre.

People in possession of the permit who require the discounted rate must go to the office to get their entry/exit ticket cleared, rather than using the pay machines. If they use the pay machines the full rate will be charged. For anyone parking in excess of the 5.30pm to 8am period, standard hourly charges will be added to the £1 tariff.

In Cockermouth, long stay (all day) parkers are requested to use Riverside Car Park, where ticket machines are still out of commission following the flood.

Since the flooding

Estate gents **PROPERTY WANTED** SILLOTH AND SOLWAY COAST

Owing to numerous recent sales, we still have active enquiries for property in Silloth and coastal areas. These range from requests for quality houses and bungalows, cottage property and houses with land, to enquiries for town and terrace property in Silloth, particularly if in need of modernisation.

For further details and a free appraisal, contact Richard Johnston on 016973 32018

Road * Silloth * CA7

emergency last month, Allerdale Borough Council has been taking a relaxed approach to car parking enforcement in the affected areas, both on street and in car parks.

Whilst the Council is aware of calls for unlimited free parking after the floods, it cannot meet this request for two reasons:

Firstly, the Council simply cannot afford to lose the income from its car parks, which would result in a reduction in services and its capacity to respond to the emergency. Secondly, a charging regime is the most effective way of ensuring that there is a regular turnover of parking spaces that increases footfall in local businesses.

From Monday 7th December, Allerdale Borough Council are recommencing normal working practices and will be enforcing waiting limits on car parks and on single and double yellow lines. Where there is obvious recovery work going on, the Council's civil enforcement officers will be as flexible as possible and only ask vehicles to move if there is an obstruction to traffic.



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£1,650 for Charity

Presenting the cheques are Wilma Armstrong, Eric Stanwix and Liz Nichols

Twice a year at Stanwix Park they hold a Country and Western weekend. During the recent event in November the cowboys and cowgirls ran several fund-raising events for local charities. Even although the

majority of these people come from all over the UK they always make a point of ensuring that the money raised is used to benefit charities in this area. This year they raised an amazing £1,650 which was split between the Air

Ambulance and Cancer Care. The next Country and Western weekend at Stanwix Park is being held on the weekend of 5th, 6th and 7th March 2010. For more information tel: 016973 32666.



During the Country and Western weekend at Stanwix Park there are five dress themes, one of which is Gamblers and Tarts. Pictured above are a few of the Tarts and below are some of the Gamblers.

These people really know how to make the most of a weekend of entertainment.



Bling Bee by Joe Ratcliffe



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Silloth Santa Dash & Auction Raises £1,800

Report by: Johnston & Hayley Forster

Yet again there was a awesome turnout for Cumbria's longest running Santa Dash on the 22nd November.

The weather was not at its best, however all of the Santa's that turned up to support this rapidly growing annual event were in high spirit's. They set off walking round the streets with most of the kids knocking on doors to a warm welcome from those generous people who answered. Then onwards through the town to the sound of festive music. The Rugby Club was our next stop for one of the best buffets we've ever had, many thanks go to Alison, Moyra and the rest of the hard working people in the Corner Cafe.

The blind auction was an amazing success with many fantastic prizes. These were all donated buy local businesses, without their support this event would not happen, so a massive thanks goes to every one of them.

Jazzy Jim came up trumps once again by making Michael Jackson do one last performance using Joyce's body and you got to admit it was awesome. There were loads of fantastic singers and a few not so good one's, but who noticed. The main prize in the raffle was won by Ryan Orchard. The grand Lights Switch On went without any mishaps and the committee thought Max Allison made a marvellous job of switching the festive illuminations on. The 'switch on' honour was one of the items bid for at the Auction. This was followed by the awesome band Stella Evolution. The committee hope you all had a great night and they thank everyone for supporting this magnificent event. Lastly, from Silloth Christmas Light Committee, they want to give a massive thanks for all your support. An even bigger thank you goes to Jack and Tracy Graham who are stepping down from the committee, we will miss them tons. On the 11th of January there is the Silloth Christmas Lights Committee AGM, if anyone is interested or got any complaints just turn up and have your say in the Albion Inn at 7pm.































Jazzy Jim and Grandad Bill Allison helping little Max switch on the lights



Friends of the Green

Heraclitus of Ephesus, a Greek philosopher (c.535 BC -475 BC) said "The only constant is change" and this old photograph of the Baths and Victorian shelter show just how true this is.

Even more change is hopefully coming with Lottery funded improvements to Silloth Green being planned.

As part of the plans for the regeneration of Silloth Green and to allow the local community and visitors to the area to become involved in its future management, Silloth **Tourism Action Group** (STAG) is forming 'Friends of the Green'.

Why have a Friends of the Green? To work for the enhancement, maintenance and use of

the Green in the future To work in partnership with the Green management To protect the



Guided walks

- - Maintaining

membership lists Producing and running a website Collecting and holding archive material

In order to start off a fund for future improvements and to cover administration costs, it is proposed to ask for a membership fee starting at £6 per annum. None of this is to cover wages as everyone involved is a volunteer. This will enable you to make a contribution to the Green's future. Larger contributions are of course very welcome. We are starting with no funds whatsoever so all larger donations will be very gratefully received. Other funds will be sought through sponsorship and grants.

Some of you may be wondering why we need

to ask for a membership fee and look for other funding in the future when a significant amount of money is hoped to come from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This major funding will be available for a one off project to bring about the regeneration of the Green. It will not provide funds for ongoing improvements after that.

It is hoped that by having 'Friends of the Green' there will be continuous improvements to the facilities and infrastructure so that the Green will always be the Jewel in Silloth's crown.

This is your opportunity to be involved in the future of what is arguably the most important environmental feature of our beautiful town.



L to R: Clara, Hannah, Katie, Emily, Ashleigh, Adele, Sam, Tabby, Georgia & Rachel





facilities of the Green and help improve them To provide facilities for recreation and leisure time enjoyment To raise funds for maintaining and improving the Green To ensure that local people are involved in the

future of the Green What does this mean practically?

gardening support Surveys – concerning

visitors and other monitoring activity Seasonal planting

Events

What happens behind the scenes? A regular newsletter

Seeking sponsorship Holding regular

meetings

Friends of the Green MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please enrol me as a 'Friend of the Green' and keep me informed by newsletter of all developments and plans for the future of Silloth Green and dates of 'Friends of the Green' meetings. Membership fee for 2010 is £6 which includes a regular Newsletter by email, or £12 to receive a printed Newsletter by post.

Name:

Address:





Children's Centre Activities

Our courses begin again in January, where we have 'Triple P' (Positive Parenting Programme) for 7 weeks from Tuesday 12th January 10am till 12 noon. Offering parents support and advice with children aged 2 to 11 years.

Next up is 'Healthy Living' starting Wednesday 13th January 1pm till 3pm for eight weeks, then followed by an eight weeks exercise class. For those of you who want to keep up with the healthy New Years Resolutions, this is ideal for you.

Aspatria is continuing with the 'Numeracy' and 'Paediatric First Aid' courses and over at Wigton, the 'C.V and Confidence Building' course.

Limited crèche places are available for all these courses, so please book as early as possible to avoid disappointment, children need to be over 6 months and under 5 to access our crèche.

We are now looking for further ideas for other courses and groups to run in Silloth Children's Centre. If you would like your idea put across please contact either Jenny or Pam on 0845 543 6909 / 016973 31230 at Silloth or on 016973 22771 / 22777 at Aspatria. Alternatively there is a 'parent's forum' on Thursday 28th January at Silloth Children's Centre from 6:30pm till 8:30pm where everyone is welcome to come along and express their opinions and views of what to expect from the Children's Centre.

Later on in the year is 'Tatty Bumpkins,' a 5 weeks yoga movement and music session with your children. This starts Tuesday 20th April 1:30 till 2:30pm, following this



starting on Tuesday 8th June 1:30pm till 2:30pm which is 'Mini Movers.'

Our 'Dad's Group' is still continuing once a month on a Saturday morning 10am till 11am and is rotated around the three Children's Centres (Aspatria, Silloth and Wigton). This is a chance for dads, granddads and male carers to enjoy an hour of fun with their children as well as meet other dads and male carers. Dates for January are: 30th January at Wigton Children's Centre 27th February at Silloth Children's Centre 27th March at Aspatria Youth Wing/ Dreamscheme venue. We currently run a 'Childminders' drop in session for any registered childminder and children in their care to meet fortnightly on a Monday morning at Fletchertown 9:30am till 11am. These drop in sessions allow childminders and children to interact and socialise with others from across the area. It also gives childminders a chance to swap ideas and gain new skills.

'Childminder' dates for the New Year are Monday 11th January and 25th January and Monday 8th February.

'Playschemes' are also planned for February half term at Aspatria Community Centre on Monday 15th from 10am till 11:30am and at Wigton, The Bower on

Tuesday 16th from 10am till 11:30am and 1pm till 2:30pm. 'Playschemes' are for children aged 5 to 11years where parents can leave their children for an hour and a half of fun! Also during

February's half term are 'Family Fun Sessions' available for children of all ages with their parents / carers. Monday 15th is held at Harriston Village Hall 1:30pm till 3pm. Wednesday 17th is held at Abbeytown 10am till 11:30am and Thursday 18th is held at Silloth Children's Centre 10am till 11:30am.

'Fresh Fruit, Salad and Vegetable Bags' are still available from our Children's Centres. They can be delivered to Tots 'N' Toddlers (term time only) on a Wednesday morning session.

Toy Library catalogue is also still available to any child under five from Silloth Children's Centre. There is a one off membership fee of £1. Bargain!

The 'Jobs in Cumbria' newspaper is still available and updated every Monday afternoon and the 'kiosk' (Parent Information Points – PIP's) in

Silloth Children's Centre provides free internet access and is ideal for any parent or families out there looking for employment opportunities.

Please feel free to drop into the Children's Centres at any time and use these kiosks. As always, if you would like to find out more about what is happening in our Centre, please call in.

We are now open every day, our opening times are: Monday: 1pm to 4:30pm Tuesday: 9:30am to 2:30pm Wednesday: 9am to 12noon Thursday: 9am to 12noon Friday: 1pm to 4:30pm

So please call in during any of these times to see a member of staff about future events or even just a look around the centre, parents and children are always welcome. (Times and days may change due to staff holidays, training, meetings, trips and courses etc however we will try to provide you with as much notice as possible). We look forward to meeting you Jennifer Lunney and Pam Armstrong.

Benefit Fraud

Allerdale Borough Council has prosecuted a Silloth man for fraudulently claiming more than £20,000 in housing and council tax benefits.

On Friday 13th November 2009, North Allerdale Magistrates heard how Terence Low, 64, of Golf Terrace, Silloth, had stated on a benefit application form in February 2004 that his only income was from Incapacity Benefit and Industrial Injuries Benefit. As a result of this information, Mr Low was awarded housing and council tax benefits.

A review form received in December 2004 stated that Mr Low's only source of income was Incapacity Benefit and Industrial Injuries Benefit. A further application form was received in September 2006 where the only income declared by Mr Low was Incapacity Benefit, Disability Living Allowance and **Industrial Injuries** Benefit.

Information received in March 2009 by the Council from the National Fraud Initiative indicated that Mr Low may be in receipt of an army pension.

Following investigations it was established that Mr Low had been in receipt of an army pension since



Copies of bank statements were subsequently received and these showed that Mr Low was also in receipt of an occupational pension from the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority which he had failed to declare to Allerdale Borough Council.

At court, Mr Low pleaded guilty to failing to inform the Council of his true income, which resulted in an overpayment of housing and council tax benefits of £20,509.84. Allerdale Borough Council has made arrangements to recover the money.

Mr Low was given a four-month curfew order requiring him to remain at home seven days a week between the hours of 9pm and 7am.

If a member of the public suspects benefit fraud is being committed, they can call Allerdale Borough Council's 24-hour Benefit Fraud Hotline in confidence on 0800 169 5119.

Alternatively they can complete, anonymously, an online form by visiting the Council's benefit fraud page at www.allerdale.gov.uk/ benefitfraud.



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9am-11am 1pm-8pm



Low Water

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SILLOTH

Afternoon

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Time

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22 06

22 43 23 32

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19 45



Ba Bee by Rachel Mary Harrison from Holm Cultram Abbey School



17. Polyglot 20. Holster 22. Osmium 23. Ass 24. Wager 27. Onset 30. Lea 31. Ague 32. Tramp 33. Errol 34. Copperhead

Rigsby Bee by Sadie Henderson from Silloth Primary School

> Art Bee by Ellie Tremble from Holme St. Cuthbert School

18. Lima 19. Thesleep 21. Exe 25. Grave 26. Rapid 27. Ogee 28. Sark 29. Talc

"Be careful of the roads today" "It's been a night of frost, you know" "Take care now, mind how you go".

Imaginel - standing by a pool Of deep dark water, now, keep the rule, Dive in and glide - still deeper Deeper, through the tangled water creeper.

At last I burst the surface - see the sun, A bright day has just begun. I quickly rush along and cry "It's spring" "I've beaten winter" - That's the thing!"

Here is the season that I love, The snowdrops come, call of the Dove The air smells sweet, and I can sing I'm here again! and it is spring.



References available

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Report by: Gladys Temple

President Audrey

Jerusalem and thanked

Best wishes were

Dockeray who are both

in hospital and sympathy

extended to Mary Briggs

Freda Garner read

a record of the October

Meeting and items from

the County News were

read. Orders were taken

for those wishing to take

the County News next

year. Letters of thanks

were read from Thursby

and Westnewton after

their enjoyable visit last

month. Margaret Mynes

has finished a list for the

read them out. Festive

*s*peakers for next year and

food for the buffet supper

was requested and some

Beauty Queen Bee

Holm Cultram Abbey School

Mary Williamson

by

from

and Margaret Ackerley

for their sad loss.

Harrison welcomed

Elsie Donald for the

lovely flowers on her

expressed to Mavis Graham and Phyllis

everyone to sing

table.

Causewayhead WI

Report by: Jean Vorley and Pat Bell

The November meeting was held in St Andrews Church Hall, Silloth.

Vice- President Olga Hetherington welcomed the members and our visitors from Abbeytown, Dundraw and Newton Arlosh. Olga announced that our members wished that the proceeds from the raffle be used to help provide parcels to send to our troops in Afghanistan.

President Pat Bell then told us that past member Mrs G Donaldson had tragically died, she had served as President, Secretary and Treasurer during her years in our WI; before moving to Kendal to be nearer her family.

After a short business meeting, Olga introduced our speakers, Joyce Donaldson and Olwen Hill.

Joyce spoke first, telling us, after seeing a demonstration at her WI; how she became hooked on making fabric boxes from then on. A square fully opening box has 25 components; she

showed us the different shaped boxes that she makes including diamond, octagonal, round ones made from plastic canvas and a pyramid box containing a clown that she brings out at Christmas. Joyce is very willing to share her passion with anyone who would like to learn how to make fabric boxes and very kindly donated a box as a raffle prize. She was thanked by Brenda Dowdell.

Then it was Olwen's turn, to demonstrated a Christmas flower arrangement, after seeing Christmas wreaths being made when she was 7 years old, Olwen decide that was all she wanted to do when she grew up. She did however branch out into flower arranging. After getting married and bringing up her family she found she missed her flowers, so decided that she would have a go at teaching flower arranging. She told us funny anecdotes about her work, gave us tips on the do's and don'ts of flower arranging as she worked, producing four beautiful arrangements in fresh and artificial flowers and foliage. She very kindly gave two of the fresh arrangements for the raffle. The vote of thanks was given by Diana Shaw.

After supper and the social half hour the raffle was drawn. We are delighted that £95 was raised for our service personnel.

Abbeytown WI

poems or a quiz was also promised.

The Silloth First Responders was the subject of Lorna who has been a responder for nine years. Her husband called a meeting to set up the First Responders after coming across an incident where he was unable to help and the ambulance took too long to arrive. The first meeting did not have much response but undeterred he called another to which nineteen people came. January 2001 saw the training begin and a very intensive programme led to fundraising to buy the equipment needed. There are twelve members now and each has a pager to be on call twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, then they need walkietalkies, which are more efficient for their work than mobile phones. They receive lots of help from the ambulance service but still need to provide their own defibrillators. The first one the Rotary Club paid half for and The Golf Club helped to buy one while the ambulance service have loaned one as well. The

first one cost £3,000 but now they are down to £1,700. The rubber gloves and oxygen are supplied by the ambulance crew but it can take up to forty five minutes for an ambulance to arrive so the First Responders are doing a very important job covering from Mawbray to Abbeytown from Silloth.

Freda Garner thanked Lorna for a very interesting and informative talk.

The refreshments were served by Isabel Hurst and Muriel Mattinson while the competition winners were: Pill Box 1st Joyce Wilson 2nd Gladys Temple, Flower Margaret Moore 2nd Freda Garner and the raffle winners were Muriel Mattinson and Margaret Brown.

Elinor Roper's Group organised card bingo.

The next meeting will be on 12th January when Gilly Fraser will talk about when she helped bring heavy horses down from Northern Scotland to South Cumbria. The competitions will be a Christmas cake and a Christmas card.





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Solway Community School Prize Giving 2009



Tony Markley with Head Boy Tom Booker, Head Girl Jade Woodford, Guest Speaker Caroline Hamilton, Capt Chris Puxley and Mayor Graham Wilkinson



Darren Dixon



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Declan Marshall

Headteacher Susie Shepherd said "Congratulations to the class of 2009. For the second year in succession records were broken at Solway Community Technology College.

The school recorded its best ever GCSE results, with over 66% of students achieving the top grades. 51% of students achieved 5A* to C grades including English and Maths.'

Every student in 2009 achieved five A* to G grades. Students are delighted with their results and almost all have now been accepted onto the next stage of their career. Many students exceeded their personal targets. Jade Shaw achieved the highest achievement award, gaining a massive 115 points more than her estimated point score. Lauren McMaster achieved the highest attainment in the year with all of her GCSE grades being either A* or A grades. Lauren achieved Level 2 qualifications in another five areas so that she achieved fourteen level 2 qualifications in total. 93% of students gained at least one level 2 or A* to C grade this year.

Headteacher Susie Shepherd commented "the class of 2009 were hardworking and committed to their

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Hannah Smith

studies. The results were a testament to the hard work of students, the support of parents and the professional commitment of staff. The students in Year 11 all got on very well with each other. They had a very positive attitude and I am sure that this helped them to achieve such good results. We know every student individually and we are able to offer tailored support to each of them. This year over 90% of the students beat their personal target. We are very proud of them".

> All the presentation photographs will be available to view on www.SolwayBuzz.co.uk



James Harrison



James Gribbon



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Lauren McMaster receiving her award from Caroline Hamilton

Patrick Brough

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Christmas Tit Bits

Robins appear frequently on Christmas Cards, but why are these pretty little birds always associated with Christmas?

Just after the birth of Jesus, Joseph went to find fuel for the fire in the manger. While he was gone some little brown birds fanned the fire with their wings to keep it alight. The fire scorched their breasts while they were so close to the fire.

The Virgin Mary noticed this and decreed that for evermore Robins should have bright red breasts, in memory of the service they performed for the baby Jesus.

The children's Christingle service is now popular in Britain but has been customary

in Scandinavia and other European countries for over a century.

Each child is given an orange pierced with four thin sticks bearing sweets, and a candle to symbolise the light which Christ brought to the world.

Christmas Eve was traditionally the time to bring in the Yule Log. Now that so many have wood burning stoves this is a tradition which could be revived.

The log, (usually Ash in England or Birch in Scotland) was lit in the hearth from a piece saved from the previous year. It was a custom for the lady of the house to keep the kindling piece under her pillow, as a belief it gave precaution against fire in the home. No wonder so many women complain of headaches at night!

We sing about the twelve days of Christmas, who knows what the twelve days of Christmas really are? The twelve days of Christmas is the period from the day after Christmas to Epiphany, or January 6th. Epiphany is, traditionally, the date when the Wise Men arrived to give their gifts to the baby Jesus. Many countries, especially in Europe and South America, do not give gifts on December 25th; they wait until twelfth night, January 6th, the 12th day of Christmas.

Probably the most popular tradition which hangs on in there regardless of modern living, is the mince pie. We have a custom that you make a wish on the first one of the season. After that you try to eat at least one for every day of the twelve days of Christmas, which will then bring you good fortune for the twelve months until next Christmas. Another custom is to offer and accept a mince pie in each house you visit over Christmas. Not to offer these is bad manners, and was at one time thought to be so inhospitable as to bring bad luck on the house for the rest of the year! To refuse them when offered was to turn away good fortune.

Badminton



In October, Adam Story registered his first tournament victory in a Cumbria Schools Badminton under 13's competition held at Kendal Leisure Centre.

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