

# Wonderful weddings



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# Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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## BRIEFING

### NEWS

**Electric vehicle ports coming to Langholm**



WORK is progressing to install electric charging points for vehicles on the Kilngreen in Langholm.

Full story: Page 7

### WHAT'S ON

**Glenfirra works its magic**



THE search for a company to repair a precious Border Fine Arts figurine, presented as a trophy to a world champion, has led to Langholm.

Full story: Page 15

### SPORT

**Primary curlers bring home trophy**



LANGHOLM primary school's curling team has won the Annandale and Eskdale Primary Schools Curling's Cool Festival.

Full story: Page 24

# Community rallies to support people at risk

Venues close and social events are off but help is offered freely

**COMMUNITY and business life in Eskdale and Liddesdale is grinding to a halt as the coronavirus COVID-19 tightens its grip on the UK and around the world.**

Venues are closing their doors and user groups are cancelling their meetings and community events, sporting events are being postponed (see our sports pages) and people are cancelling holidays and trips.

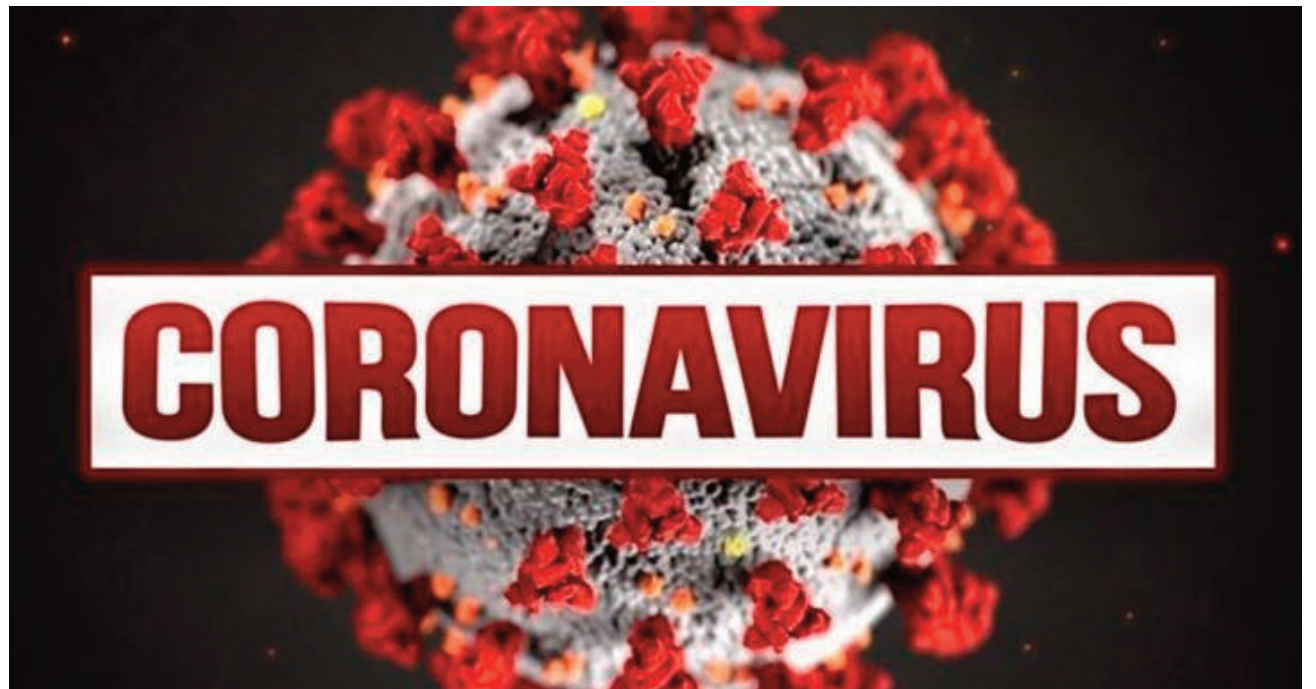
In Langholm a COVID-19 support site has been set up on Facebook. It will help to co-ordinate assistance to people who are self-isolating and can't do their shopping, get prescriptions, take part in other normal activities or just want a chat on the phone or online to ward off loneliness.

Within 48 hours the site got more than 600 members, with lots of people and groups offering their help.

Businesses providing goods and services to the area are using the site to post changes to their procedures to prevent the spread of the virus and many are offering deliveries which is really helpful.

The E&L Advertiser has printed some #viralkindness leaflets which can be picked up from its High Street office and completed by anyone looking to help others and posted through their neighbours' doors.

Langholm town hall has now closed but the mobile post office will be in Parliament Square tomorrow from 9am to 2.30pm,



next Wednesday from 12pm to 3.30pm and again next Friday.

Dalston Pharmacy in Langholm is experiencing extremely high volumes of prescriptions and people are asked to order repeat prescriptions in plenty of time. The minimum for most surgeries is two working days.

Gordon Winter, pharmacist, said: "If you bring a prescription into the pharmacy and the wait time is more than five minutes, please call back for it at the time given."

"This helps limit the number of people in the pharmacy at

any one time and reduces personal contact time.

"Please observe "social distancing etiquette" by keeping two metres away from staff and others.

"If you have symptoms of coronavirus (see NHS24 online for latest advice) do not attend a pharmacy, GP or the emergency department to be seen.

"Avoid touching anything unnecessarily such as counters or products you won't be buying. Consider using contactless for payments over £5."

Gary Collins, manager of the Co-operative Store in Langholm,

said the store was, like many others, experiencing huge demand.

He said: "If anyone has any questions I can help with about the Co-op, short stock lines or anything you're worried about, feel free to contact me."

"Like everywhere just now, we are experiencing huge demand and are stretched but we will do everything we can to get in the things you need.

"If things escalate in and around the town, we will put together a plan to help people as much as we can.

"Could I just ask that, if you

are shopping with us, you stick to the guidelines on hygiene; it would take only one member of staff to fall ill to potentially close the store down for a period."

The Langholm and Canonbie Schools Cluster has notified parents to prepare their children to work online from home and to contact the school if their children do not have internet access.

The Langholm Academy school office is not being staffed but can be contacted at gw08langholm@ea.dumgal.sch.uk

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