

# Winter Warmer feature



AS THE SEASONS CHANGE, KEEP WARM BUT KEEP AN EYE ON THE METER: PAGES 8 & 9

# Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Series 2 No. 8425

Established May 1848

Thursday October 21, 2021

www.eladvertiser.co.uk 80p

## BRIEFING

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#### Kim donates her locks



A DONATION of hair has been made to The Little Princess Trust by one woman hoping to make her cancer diagnosis less traumatic

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AN update from our regular columnist councillor Archie Dryburgh

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#### Davidsons support young golfers



THANKS has been given to a life member of Langholm Golf Club for the continued support to his hometown golf club from afar

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The Listening to the Land walkers pause for a photo in Langholm as they make their way to Glasgow for the COP26 conference next week. Picture by LTTL. Read the full story on page 3.

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# Democracy must prevail

## MPs and councillors will continue to engage with constituents

WE live in a safe community and we must continue to engage with our constituents, local councillors and the region's MP have said.

However, they may have to become appointment only rather than drop-ins to ensure everyone's safety.

The statements come following the fatal stabbing of MP Sir David Amess at one of his constituency surgeries in Essex last Friday.

Sir David who had been an MP since 1983 and was married with five children was a long-time conservative colleague of Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale MP David Mundell.

He learned of the tragedy during his own constituency engagements and surgeries, had recently visited Qatar with the MP to hear first-hand about the impact of the Afghanistan situation, meet refugees and learn more about World Cup preparations.

Responding to the horrific events, Mr Mundell, said: "I just felt numb hearing

the news.

"It was a truly appalling, senseless and barbaric act of violence which has taken away a man who was kind, gentle, considerate to others but with a wicked sense of humour.

"I had an exchange of messages with Sir David on Friday morning and I still find what has happened absolutely unbelievable - my heart goes out to his family, his staff and friends."

He said while constituency surgeries were an important duty for MPs, lessons must be learnt.

"I believe MPs must be accessible to their constituents and be able to have face to face discussions," he said.

"Obviously, we must learn all the lessons we can from the circumstances of Sir David's murder, but I am determined to continue to have my regular surgeries, even if they may now need to be on an appointment only-basis rather than drop-ins that I have always done until now.

"It would undermine our democracy if constituents cannot see their MPs, that's what our democracy is founded on, but it has to be on a basis that MPs and their staff can feel as safe as possible."

MPs are currently protected by a specialist armed police department called Parliamentary and Diplomatic Protection when in parliament, but for most MPs this is not the same in their constituency.

Guidance is provided by parliament on security, including how to run safe constituency surgeries.

Annandale East & Eskdale councillor, Archie Dryburgh agreed with Mr Mundell that it was important to continue engaging with the community.

"It is tragic to hear about Sir David's death, you can't take anything for granted," he said.

"As a councillor we're told to let people know when we're holding surgeries, we're advised to let police know.

"At the moment for us the pandemic has really affected how we hold them but I truly believe we live in a relatively safe area and while there will be disagreements, it's about using your words, not violence."

Fellow councillor for the ward, Ronnie Tait said he also felt the community was safe.

"What has happened to Sir David is absolutely tragic, one cannot comprehend what his family is going through."

A 25-year-old man, named as Ali Harbi Ali, was arrested on suspicion of the murder of Sir David at a church in Leigh-on-sea.

This is the second murder of a serving MP in five years as Labour MP Jo Cox was killed outside a library in Birstall, West Yorkshire, where she was due to hold a constituency surgery.

Her murder in 2016 saw the spend for the security of MPs rise from £170,576 during that year, to £4.5m. two years later.

# Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

# Kim donates locks

## Little Princess Trust helps ease diagnosis

### Death

#### BETHUNE, Arthur David

Peacefully at home in Newcastleton on 15 October, aged 98, Dr Arthur David Bethune, beloved husband of the late Joyce, father of Andrew, Frances, David and Charles, greatly missed by his eleven grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. Funeral at Liddesdale Parish Church at 12 noon on Thursday 28 October, followed by burial at Etleton Churchyard. Family flowers only. All friends and family respectfully invited.

#### RYDE, Joan

Joan Ryde of Forgeholm, Canonbie, passed suddenly but peacefully on 13 October with her family around her at Cumberland Infirmary after an illness so bravely borne. Beloved wife of Harold, devoted mum to Sarah and the late Shaun, much loved nan to Lynsay, Carly, Freya, Christopher, Ross and Caitlin, a dear sister, sister-in-law, auntie and mother-in-law. Family flowers only, donations if so desired to Canonbie Surgery. Funeral details to be announced later. David Erskine F.D. 013873 81251

### Thanks for Sympathy

#### CAVERS, Violet

Joyce, Jim, Bill and families would like to thank everyone for the lovely flowers, cards and kind messages of condolence received following the recent sad loss of Violet (Vi). Special thanks to the ambulance crew and staff at the Cumberland Infirmary, David Erskine for his guidance and support, Jean Martindale for a lovely service and all the staff at the Eskdale Hotel. Thanks also for the generous donations to Langholm Day Centre.

#### FINDLAY, Archie

Lis and the family thank everyone who sent cards, letters and those who attended Archie's funeral. We have been overwhelmed by the response. 1 July 1968 turned out to be a very happy day when Archie and I arrived in Langholm to begin a new job with Buccleuch Estates and ended up staying forever in the wonderful caring community of Eskdale. Thankyou all.

### Church Notices

#### CANONBIE UNITED & LIDDESDALE PARISH CHURCHES

Liddesdale Church welcomes you to Worship on Sunday mornings at 10am and Canonbie Church at 11:30am. Worshippers will be required to adhere to Covid restrictions. If you are seeking pastoral support or wish to arrange a wedding or baptism please contact Rev Morag Crossan on 07861736071 or email [mcrossan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:mcrossan@churchofscotland.org.uk)

#### LANGHOLM, ESKDALEMUIR, EWES & WESTERKIRK PARISH CHURCHES

Church Services Sunday 24 October Langholm 10am  
Sunday Club meet at Masonic 10am  
Contact us for transport 0744 885 8818.  
Social Distancing will be observed. Please wear masks.  
Preacher: the minister.  
Tel: 013873 80859.  
Mobile. 07543 179469  
Charity no. SCO11946

**A DONATION of hair has been made to The Little Princess Trust by one woman hoping to make her cancer diagnosis less traumatic.**

Langholm resident Kim Hanson was diagnosed with invasive lobular breast cancer in June after going for a routine mammogram check-up.

After being told she would need chemotherapy and having discussed hair loss as a consequence, Kim decided to donate her hair to the LPT charity – a charity that provides real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer.

“I was told I had breast cancer in the summer after several mammograms, biopsies and more tests and it was quite a shock as I did not have a lump,” she said.

### Chemotherapy

“It was hard to process, especially when I was told I would have chemotherapy and lose my hair.

“Talking to the nurses at Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary and thinking about it for a while I decided to donate my hair to the LPT and do something with it before I have the chemotherapy.”

Kim, who is a senior lecturer in nursing at the University of Cumbria, had a mastectomy in August, following which she needed to have chemotherapy.

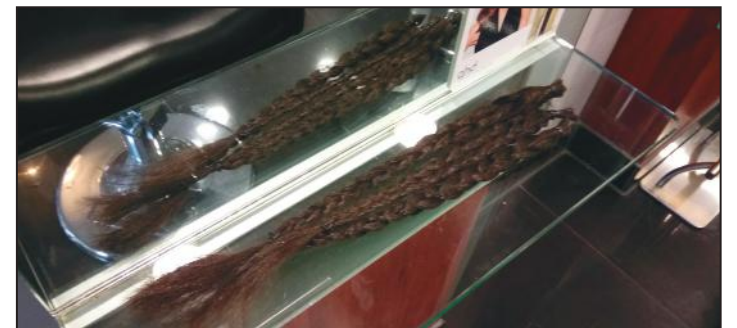
This is due to begin this week. “I was told losing my hair wouldn't be so traumatic if I donated it, so I thought some good could come of it,” said Kim.

“It's untreated and uncoloured and long and it'll be put to good use - for me, being able to donate it is a privilege.”

An anxious Kim went to hmc2 for her haircut, but after 30 minutes under the expert hands of hairdresser,



Kim Hanson of Langholm is donating her hair to make wigs for young people



Kim's tresses will be sent to the Little Princess Trust

Rhyan Hope, she was extremely pleased with her new short bob.

She thanked Rhyan for her support.

“I feel good and really pleased that I've done it and got my hair ready to donate,” she said.

“Putting it in an envelope feels weird but it's for a good cause.

### Awareness

“As well as donating my hair, I hope by telling people that I did not find out about my cancer by finding a lump that I can raise

awareness that you can still have cancer, we're lucky to live in a country that has breast cancer screening and I'd advise people to go to them when they can.”

Anyone registered with a GP as female will be invited for NHS breast screening every three years between the ages of 50 and 71.

Letters are automatically sent to anyone who meets these conditions.

• To find out more, visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/breast-screening-mammogram/>.

### In Memoriam

#### Robbie Hogg

*We thought of you today  
that is nothing new  
We thought of you yesterday  
and days before that too  
We think of you in silence  
and often speak your name  
All we have are memories  
and your picture in a frame  
Your memories are a keepsake  
from which we will never part  
God has you in his arms  
We have you in our hearts,*

*Love from David and Anastatia*



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Supported by the Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group which is funded by ScottishPower Renewables Ewe Hill Windfarm



Scottish Rural Development Programme



The Scottish Government



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas

# Engagement events to give community say on flood defences

## Community engagement event to take place next week in Buccleuch Centre

**DUMFRIES & Galloway council have released updated images for the Langholm flood protection scheme ahead of two community engagement events this month.**

Described as 'horrific' by the Ditch the Drain campaigners, the new images show glass panels and stonework up to 2.2m in height along the length of the River Esk running through the town.

Accompanying its release, the council have provided two dates for community engagement with the project team on the scheme next week – on Friday and Saturday at the Buccleuch Centre.

Further to this announcement, the Ditch the Drain Campaign released a statement.

"Make no mistake, this is not a consultation event, this is a statement of intent," a spokesperson for the group said.

"D&G intend to re-present their horrific, now glass encased, drainage ditch which they confirm will be driven forward for publication and approval next year."

They warned that if a flood order was secured, it would transfer statutory powers over both riverside homeowners and the entire population of Langholm to the council.

"D&G council are currently proposing to secure these significant and wide-ranging statutory powers, conferred by an unlimited flood order, based on unverified data, anecdotal evidence, no options appraisals, no detailed designs and no public consultation.

"Our offers to present and discuss the serious concerns of hundreds of residents, to both the D&G flood team and our community council, have been



Proposed defences on Waterside beside the dyeworks

refused without any satisfactory justification."

The group had asked the community council for a meeting to discuss the scheme, but the CC at their most recent community council meeting, said they felt they had nothing more

to add.

They said they supported a flood defence scheme and would not have anything to say otherwise, until the completion of an Environmental Impact Assessment on the scheme, which they did not know would

be when.

Campaigners questioned the legality of decisions made by D&G, as well as the 'negativity' of the community council in engaging with the community and drew attention to their well-attended recent public meeting which saw nearly a hundred members of the community discuss their concerns.

The engagement events with the council will take place next week on Friday 10am-8pm and Saturday 10am-4pm at the Buccleuch Centre.

The Ditch the Drain campaign is due to have objection letters available at numerous shops, including Latimers and Wilson Pets, to sign and for them to post next week.

The council's flood protection scheme was identified within the strategic flood risk appraisal carried out by the council in 2007.

It highlighted Langholm as one of the top five settlements in the region in terms of the number of properties at flood risk.

SEPA also published their National Flood Risk Assessment in December 2011 which identifies Langholm as a Potentially Vulnerable Area.

The Solway Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2016 imposes a duty on the council to deliver a flood protection scheme for Langholm.

D&G council intend to give notice of the proposed flood protection scheme for Langholm in 2022.

• **For background information on the scheme, visit <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/langholm/floodprotection>.**

• **Or contact the flood risk management team by email [LangholmFPS@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:LangholmFPS@dumgal.gov.uk) or phone on 030 33 33 3000.**

# COP26 pilgrimage visits Langholm

**PILGRIMS on their way to the COP26 climate change conference in Glasgow stopped off in Langholm last week to 'listen to the land'.**

The group of 20-plus people known as 'listening to the land' began their journey on the 4 September at Tower Hill in London and plan to arrive in Glasgow for the start of conference in November armed with an increased knowledge on what the earth means to local communities.

The group, which was been created by theatre company Kriya Arts and environmental community interest company No Planet B Initiative, have been walking 10 miles a day to get to the conference.

When they arrived in Langholm, they were 400 miles into their 500-mile eight-week journey.

Venturing into Scotland, they said they were met with a 'nice welcome' of tea and a place to stay in the church as with many other places during their pilgrimage, which has included fields, farms,

and even girl guiding sites.

"We have been walking from London to Glasgow in order to urge world leaders to recognize that nature is vital for all our survival and happiness," said one of the walkers, Sara Howell.

"Our plan has been to listen to the land and the landscapes and the communities along the way to have a better understanding of what it means to other people and we've learnt so much.

### Privilege

"We're really tired and have sore feet but very excited – it's a privilege to be able to do this."

So far, the group which consists of people from many walks of life and from all over the UK, including the Isle of Wight, Wales and Lancashire, have visited a number of cities, towns and villages – Stoke, Manchester, Oxenholme and Kirkby Lonsdale.

Now they are on their way to Billholm as they make their way to Edinburgh and



COP26 walkers left to right Zoe Allen, Rod Everett, Sara Howell, Gillian Cardwell-Hill, Heather Sanderson, and Joanna Robins

then Glasgow.

Along the way they have held community meetings, collected interviews and quotes, as well as visited community gardens, organic orchards, eco-churches and other groups to see how they are connecting the public to green spaces.

"This is a pilgrimage for nature and listening to people has made us realise what is happening in communities –

floods, droughts, weather changes – you don't hear about that for each town and each village, so doing this has given us first-hand knowledge of the impacts of climate change," said another walker, Zoe Allen.

"Everyone has been so kind and this journey has meant so much.

"To see the kindness of other humans despite a walk to highlight devastation is so

important, it shows me that there is hope for the future."

At the end of the walk the pilgrims and organisers will weave their newly found knowledge into a landmark piece of performance art and co-created 'charter' document to be presented to delegates at COP26 in Glasgow.

Funded by the Arts Council England, and Wildlife Works, members of the public's quotes will also appear on bespoke illuminated street signage all over the rooftops of the city during the conference.

The aim of the COP26 conference has been described as a chance to enable and

encourage countries affected by climate change to protect and restore ecosystems.

### Infrastructure

In addition to building defences, warning systems and resilient infrastructure and agriculture to avoid loss of homes, livelihoods and even lives.

Representatives from all the world's governments, plus people from non-governmental organisations, businesses, faith groups, scientists, and other groups such as Indigenous Peoples' delegations are due to attend the event which runs from 31 October-12 November.

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**IN BRIEF****LEWCC meeting**

LANGHOLM Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council will be holding a meeting on Monday 1 November.

It will take place in the Ewes Village Hall from 5.30pm.

The reason given for it taking place in Ewes is because LEWCC will be discussing the Fawside Wind Farm Development which will directly affect the Ewes valley residents.

**Ewes SWI**

EWES SWI welcomed 18 members and friends to this month's meeting in Ewes Hall.

The speakers this week were Emma and Leanne Duncan of Rose's Wardrobe who took time to explain their background in textiles and the origins of their company.

Members were interested to learn that their inspiration came from their grandmothers, Patricia and Rose and Emma's great-grandmother Edna and members were shown items from their collection for autumn.

Two competitions were judged by the pair, including a home-made headband which saw Joan Cubbon take first place, with Susie Grant in second and Maureen Brown and Anne Hannah in equal third.

The vintage photo competition saw Marjorie Pringle take first place. Kathy Irving came second and Joan Cubbon third.

**Vaccine passports enforced**

SOUTH Scotland MSP Colin Smyth has warned local people not to be caught out as Scotland's rules on vaccine passports start to be enforced.

The rules, which were instigated on Monday, mean venues now need to enforce laws that require people to prove they have had two doses of vaccine in order to enter many events.

It also applies to late opening pubs and clubs.

Although vaccine passports were required from 1 October, the Scottish government delayed enforcement until this week.

This has seen them advise that vaccine passports will be required for any premises with 'music, alcohol and dancing' that opens after midnight including many pubs.

# Not all residents have access to technology

## Consultation document to be made available in Langholm library

**RESIDENTS in the community will soon be able to access the 'Langholm Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan' documents at the Langholm library, thanks to the E&L Advertiser.**

The plan's aim is to help residents and the council to understand the history of an area and why it is special and further help shape future developments and planning policies.

It also gives residents an idea of what enhancements could be made.

A public consultation on the draft supplementary guidance does not come around

often.

The paper was made aware that elderly residents who may not want to use a computer to access the documents had been told that 'members of their family or friends may be in a position to help them look at it and scroll through it'.

However, this may not be possible for all elderly residents, say those who do not have family or friends or are isolating due to Covid.

They were also told by a member of Dumfries & Galloway's Economy and Development Services' Built Heritage Policy team that they had 'no print-

ing facilities' to provide a copy and were restricted in making printed copies, which are usually available at Langholm library, due to Covid.

This is despite the library being open for people to borrow books.

**Contact**

After the E&L contacted the D&G council about this, their response advised that a copy would be made available at the library.

A D&G spokesman said: "It is current Scottish government guidance under the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020, that we should

avoid placing paper copies of documents issued for consultation in libraries if this could be a significant risk of the transmission of coronavirus and electronic methods should be used instead.

"However, if residents of Langholm are having problems accessing the document online, we can make arrangements for a paper copy to be put in the library provided coronavirus measures, such as sanitising hands before and after handling the paper copy, are put in place.

"We have arranged with our print unit for a copy of the

document to be printed for a paper copy to be made available for public inspection."

The draft Langholm CACAMP will be available to view at the library, contact them first to check they have received it.

The public consultation is open until 8 November.

• **The document is also available to view online at [www.dumgal.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/consultations).**

• **For further information and to comment on the document, contact the Local Development Plan Team on 030 33 33 3000 or email [LDP@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:LDP@dumgal.gov.uk).**

## Tuesday treat for Latimers' staff

**ONE local business has turned its hand to baking up a storm to rival the creations on the Great British Bake Off.**

Latimers have each week produced a showstopper in time for the show's next episode's signature challenge.

Its aim is to not only advertise the business and its bakeware section by showcasing their bakes on social media, but also to put a smile on people's faces.

Katherine Latimer and her mum, Anne Latimer have been in the kitchen every week in a bid to be star baker at their shop, Latimers, and it is to the delight of its employees who get to scoff their tasty treats.

"It's all for fun really, with a little advertising mixed in because we sell some bakeware here," said Katherine.

"Nothing cheers folk up like baking and it makes people smile so why not share that enjoyment with our customers.

"The staff here all look forward to it every Tuesday too, as you can imagine, and we get to try new things, find out how hard they are to bake, and make mistakes along the way – it is good fun."

So far, the pair have made sourdough, owl flatbreads and skinnys for bread week, pavlova and chocolate cheesecake for dessert week, and even a patchwork sofa cake to match the sofas they sell for cake week.

The skinnys themselves were made using the family recipe from David Latimer's grandfather's bakery, W Murray & Sons.

"We watch the show every year and it's exciting waiting for the big reveal at the end so that we can plan what we're going to bake for the next week," added Katherine.



Latimer's lads Les Murray, John Murray, Neil Cuthbert, Stephen Rae and Stuart Murray really enjoy Katherine Latimer's enthusiasm for The Great British Bake Off

**Inspiration**

"I wait for inspiration before I make it - for bread week I decided to make sourdough as I'd never dared make it before and it was quite a challenge.

"The starter had to be cultivated a week before and you constantly have to check on it, it was great to make, if a little time consuming, there's so much involved."

Tom Henderson, who works at the business, did not complain.

"I look forward to it every week, it's something to admire and to eat," he said.

"My favourite was the sofa cake for sure, it was amazing, now I'm looking forward to next week's."

Next week it will be pastry week for the signature challenge.



A sweet suite for cake week

# D&G will take a total of 20 Afghan families

## Region will join the rest of Scotland in providing safety and shelter

**SIXTEEN Afghan refugee families are set to join four others being resettled in Dumfries & Galloway.**

Dumfries & Galloway's council's communities committee provided the update on the community planning partnership resettlement board's plans to welcome the additional 16 families to the region at their recent meeting.

It is part of the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme.

Under another scheme, the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy – which rescued staff previously employed by the UK government in Afghanistan – D&G council and other local authorities across the country had agreed to provide safety and shelter for Afghans fleeing the Taliban.

While it was unclear how many would be dispersed around the country, up to 20,000 refugees from Afghanistan were known to be potentially seeking

asylum in the UK.

The new scheme takes the resettlement of Afghan families total to 20 in D&G.

### 20 families

A report explaining the decision by the council's community engagement manager, Kirsty Peden, states: "Using the same population-based formula as was applied for the Syrian Refugee Scheme [Dumfries & Galloway having 3% of the Scottish population and Scotland taking 10% of the proposed total number of arrivals] and based on the current estimate of Afghan citizens arrivals, it is anticipated that this will result in a total of 20 families from across the two schemes.

"It is important to note however that the final number of people in the Afghan Citizens Relocation Scheme may change and so this number may vary slightly.

"The project board agreed that

around 20 families in total from both schemes could be resettled across our region."

The first family in the ARAP Scheme arrived last month and work is ongoing with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities' Migration Partnership for the remaining three families to arrive by the end of the month.

D&G council leader Dr Elaine Murray has previously given her full support of the refugee relocation scheme.

She said: "We would be pleased to welcome more refugees from Afghanistan.

**“ We would be pleased to welcome more refugees from Afghanistan ”**

"Dumfries & Galloway has offered a new home to 20 families from Syria since 2016 and now has 36 adults and 41 children living in our region as part of the Syrian Refugee Resettlement Project."

She said it would be possible provided funding is made available from the UK government.

All funding for the Afghan resettlement programme is being covered by the Home Office.

It includes health, education and integration support costs.

The evacuation of families follows the Taliban's return to power in Afghanistan.

This came as a result of the consequences of the statement of intent for a full US and NATO withdrawal from the country with a symbolic deadline of September 11 2021, the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, to do so.

Within 10 days and little resistance, from 6-15 August, the Taliban overtook pro-

vincial capitals, Kandahar, Mazar-e-Sharif and Kabul.

As the Afghan government collapsed, president Ashraf Ghani fled to the United Arab Emirates, the US embassy was evacuated, and thousands of citizens rushed to the airport in Kabul to leave the country.

The British combat mission ended with the handover of Camp Bastion to Afghan forces on 26 October 2014, however, some troops remained in a training and advisory role based in Kabul and Helmand.

### 15,000

The British Embassy in Kabul suspended all in-country operations in August, with the UK evacuating 15,000 people from Kabul in a fortnight.

This included 5,000 British nationals and more than 8,000 Afghans who worked for the UK, as well as their families, plus many highly vulnerable people.

## IN BRIEF

### Westerkirk Guild

WESTERKIRK Guild members were delighted to be back in the Benty Hall on Tuesday night for their first meeting of the new session.

President Betty Elliot welcomed everyone and gave a special welcome to Langholm parish minister, the Rev Dr Robert Pickles - his first opportunity since arriving in Langholm almost two years ago.

Members heard about the life of St Ninian who was credited as being the first Christian missionary to travel to Scotland.

### Recycling centre hours

WINTER opening hours come into effect last month for the 12 recycling centres in Dumfries & Galloway, including in Annan and Lockerbie.

Weekday opening hours move to 10am-4.45pm, from some late-night openings of 6.45pm.

During winter, weekend opening hours remain the same - 9am to 4.45pm.

Closure of sites for one or two days during the week will remain the same.

## First-ever ChilliFest



Tony Singh and Langholm's Jilly McCord will be having a 'chilli cook-off'



**CHILLIFEST comes to Langholm this weekend – the only known chilli festival in Scotland.**

Four years in the making, Saturday's event will see celebrity chefs, cook-offs, chilli-eating competitions, chilli-themed stalls, a chilli plant farm with more than 180 chilli plants, and even a space chilli lab.

Plus, there will be lots of non-chilli-themed stalls, bands, children's activities, including a bouncy castle and face painting, and the Tarras Valley Nature Reserve staff will be on hand to provide some moorland-based activities.

Langholm Chilli Club's founder, Mark Hodgson, who is one of the organisers, said there was lots to look forward to.

"There's so much going on, the town will be

lively with stalls and activities throughout, from the Kilngreen to the town and its pubs – the Crown Hotel and the Douglas Hotel – and the Social Club," he said.

"We've got chilli-inspired music and Tony Singh and Langholm's own Jilly McCord, having a cook-off alongside current resident Samantha Park of the Crown Hotel with their results put to a panel of judges from chilli-mad regions and countries – Mexico, Mauritius, Catalonia, and Texas, as well as our own Chilli queen Mags Wilson.

"Then we've got a chilli eating competition which already has lots of entrants, including a couple from Langholm."

• To find out more and see a schedule, visit <https://rb.gy/yr4lgi>.

**The E & L Gallery**

Send us your photographs!

Every week we publish a reader's photo on our Gallery page. This can be taken on a phone or a camera. Submit your photos to the Editor who will select the best for publication. Let us know what camera or phone you took it on.

Email them to [sharon@eladvertiser.co.uk](mailto:sharon@eladvertiser.co.uk) or drop a printed copy into our office at 54 High Street, Langholm.

Photo by: Caitlin Weatherstone

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# Farming on the Border

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## MP witnesses farmers working towards net-zero

**LOCAL MP David Mundell has witnessed efforts underway on a hill farm in his constituency in working towards net-zero.**

The Dumfriesshire Clydesdale and Tweeddale representative and former Scottish secretary will be amongst delegates at the forthcoming COP26 UN Climate Change conference in Glasgow.

As part of his research, he joined Kate and Ed Rowell on their tenanted upland farm at Hundleshope, near Peebles, where they have been taking part in the 'Farming for a Better Climate' initiative.

The scheme, supported by the Scottish government and involving organisations including Quality Meat Scotland and NFU Scotland, promotes ways of improving sustainability in agriculture.

Hundleshope, which extends to 750 hectares, includes sheep and a suckler cow enterprise and the couple have developed more sustainable, both economically and environmentally, ways of feeding livestock.

This includes their own high-quality two-cut silage, and caring for the land using fertiliser such as locally-sourced poultry manure.

They are involved in the Agri-Environment Climate Scheme in which they farm in



David Mundell with Kate and Ed Rowell on their tenanted upland farm at Hundleshope near Peebles

a manner designed to protect and enhance water quality, wading birds and ecosystems.

### Locally focussed

Former working vet Kate, chairwoman of Quality Meat Scotland, and Ed took the MP on a farm-walk and outlined their vision of a more locally-focused agricultural model where farming with the environment can prove a sustainable business featuring less bought-in feed.

After thanking the couple, Mr Mundell commented that, like a number of sectors, agriculture faced significant change and challenges as part of the response to climate change.

He said: "Kate and Ed have a well thought out strategy and whilst acknowledging every farm is different, their progressive approach and insight could prove a useful route-map as the industry adapts in the years ahead."

## Butchers' visas a welcome move

### But it is only a short-term solution

**THE UK government's announcement of temporary visas for butchers has been welcomed by NFU Scotland.**

Up to 800 butchers will be given temporary visas to work in the UK following warnings from farmers that as many as 150,000 pigs could be culled because of abattoir backlogs.

A shortage of butchers has already seen farmers destroy 6,600 healthy pigs due to the backlog, the National Pig Association has revealed.

The government made the announcement just last week to allow pork butchers from overseas the opportunity to apply up until 31 December for the visas that would allow them to work in the UK for six months.

NFU Scotland union were pleased with the progress, but added that more needed to be done long-term.

They said that there were labour shortages across all sectors of agriculture that were causing serious damage to the industry and this was something they and other stakeholders had constantly raised at the highest

level.

A spokesperson said of the decision: "We welcome the fact the UK government have at last listened to the concerns of the industry and recognised the problem.

"The temporary visas and private storage aid announced last night by DEFRA are a step in the right direction and will help alleviate some of the immediate concerns in the pig sector.

### Short-term

"However, the 800 visas announced do not address the 5,000 shortfall, and for only six months are a short-term solution."

Alongside the temporary visas, the government announced a package of measures for the industry, including allowing animals to be slaughtered and processed on a Saturday, longer working days, and 'private storage aid scheme' to allow processors to store slaughtered pigs for three-to-six-months.

In addition, nearly £1m. of tax on pig farmers and producers will be suspended in November.

The NFU Scotland added that there still needs to be a longer-term plan put in place to ensure that Scottish food producers could continue to provide the quality, sustainable food with high animal welfare standards.

### Expected

This was what was expected by consumers and not the reliance 'on imports that put our own animal health at serious risk'.

"It is important that retailers play their part in ensuring that British and Scottish produce is readily available on shelves," the spokesperson added.

"And on consumers to continue to support the industry by making informed choices to ask for and buy Scottish produce in restaurants, shops, or direct from source."

The industry blames the butcher shortage on factors including Covid and Brexit.

The temporary visa announcement for butchers follows a similar announcement for lorry drivers and poultry workers, as the government seeks to limit disruption in the run-up to

## Around the marts

### C&D Auction Marts had forward 5,000 breeding sheep last Wednesday.

A significantly large entry of breeding sheep of all classes sold to a large ring-side of buyers, with quality stock easily sold and second-rate stock selling at realisation, which has been the case all season.

With tups selling to £600 for a South Country Cheviot shearing from the dispersal of Elliston, St Boswells. Mule shearlings to £144 from Ridsdale.

### EWES

**Texel** £130 Harwood House, £125 Townhead of Culloch & Elliston, £123 Harwood House, £121 Elliston, £120 Ardcoil, £118 Townhead of Culloch.

**North Country Cheviot** £122 Priestthaugh, £118 Hownam Grange, £108 Windyhaugh.

**Mule** £122 Whitehill, £111, £107 Colinton Mains, £106 Whitehill, £104 Dyke.

**Swaledale** £105 Brewery House Barn, £80 Bayles.

**South Country Cheviot** £98 Shawhill, £96 Elliston, £90 Potholm & Mainside.

**ZWARTLENS** £92 Whitehill (Wilson).

**SHEARLINGS**

**Mule** £144 Ridsdale, £142 The Paddock, £140 Brewery House Barn, £138 Colinton Mains, £131 The Paddock, £130 The Paddock & Colinton Mains.

**Texel** £140 Ridsdale, £134 Townhead of Culloch, £132 Redden, £130 Colinton Mains, £128 Townhead of Culloch & Elliston.

**South Country Cheviot** £120, £102 Ellis-

ton. **Bleu Du Maine** £118 Colinton Mains. **Blackface** £115 Crowdieknowe & Miltonise. **North Country Cheviot** £110 Hownam Grange.

### EWES

**North Country Cheviot** £120 Shawhill. **Mule** £106 Upper Chatto, £99 Southdean, £96 Upper Chatto, £94 Fowrass, £93 Southdean.

**South Country Cheviot** £98 Parks, £94 Carlenrigg, £93 Elliston.

**Texel** £98 Ardcoil.

**Cheviot Mule** £94 Fowrass, £93 Famington, £90 Mains.

The mart had forward 9,403 sheep comprising of 4,435 prime lambs and 4,968 cast ewes and rams and 29 cast cows at their weekly sale at Longtown last Thursday.

A larger show of 29 cast cows were forward although very much a mixed entry. Best cows remain in demand with leaner types proving slightly easier as per the national trend. The sale topped at £1,071 and £1,040 for Angus cows shown by JA & E Dinwoodie, Archerbeck, Canonbie. Beef Shorthorns topped the price per kilo at 168p from JDM Thomson, Pilmuir, Hawick with others to 164p from E Wilkie, Shaw Cottage South, Lockerbie.

Another large show of 4,435 prime lambs were forward.

Heavy lambs were in big demand and sold to a fast trade from start to finish. A fantastic

run of first cross Suffolk and Texel lambs consigned by M/s Longlands, Tone Hall, Hexham topped at £156 and achieving an average of £130.78 for 64 sold. Several pens of heavies breaching £130. Heavy lambs topped at £157 for Beltex shown by CJ Roots, Klinford Croft, Dumfries.

Commercial export lambs were slightly easier on the week with fed lambs still receiving a premium and still very much in demand regularly achieving 230 - 240ppk.

A very mixed show of light lambs were on offer selling to another fast trade.

Best quality export lambs proved very good to sell Topping price per kilo of 307p achieved for Beltex lambs from G & W Halliday, Crawthat, Lockerbie.

An overall sale average of 235.7p (SQQ 234.4p) was achieved.

**PRINCIPAL PRICES (PER KILO):**

**Beltex** 307p Crawthat, 305p, 302p. 300p High Greenhill, 305p Whiteside, 298p Killocraw, 294p, 292p Outertown, 292p Barker House, 290p Thornthwaite Close & Copperthorns.

**Texel** 288p The Height, 276p Cambwell, 267p Crumhaughhill, 266p Copperthorns, 265p Errington Farm & Cambwell, 263p Elliston, 262p Desoglin, Barker House & Causey View.

**Bleu du Maine** 260p Hallburn.

**Cheviot** 256p, 254p Townfoot, 247p Auchlin, 245p Skelfhill, 240p Kirkton, 235p Desoglin.

**Charollais** 255p Ryehills, 246p Brisco

Meadows & Rigg Garth, 242p Archerbeck, 241p Rigg Garth & Ryehills.

**Herdwick** 253p Ashness, 243p Hallburn, 232p Causey View.

**Suffolk** 251p Chirdon, 250p Flex, 247p, 246p Tone Hall, 241p Grindon Hill, 240p Staffer & Tone Hall.

**Blackface** 246p, 238p Townfoot, 229p, 227p, 226p East Fortissat, 227p Chapel.

**Badgerface** 243p Westhotbank.

**Cheviot Mule** 242p Colmslie Hill, 239p Kirk House, 238p Grindon Hill.

**Half-bred** 239p High Moat.

**Shetland** 236p, 231p Cronklea.

**Mule** 234p Hundith House, 231p Langholm, Chapel, Tone Hall & Minsca, 228p Lawesknowe & Langholm.

**PRINCIPAL PRICE (PER HEAD):**

**Beltex** £157, £146, £144 Klinford Croft, £132 Crawthat, £130 High Greenhill.

**Texel** £156 Tone Hall, £155 Desoglin, £154, £152 Cambwell, £152 Kellah, £149 Shankbridge End.

**Suffolk** £150 The Snab, £140 Grindon Hill, £135 Flex, £134 Tone Hall & Grindon Hill, £133, £132 Tone Hall.

**Mule** £130 Whiteside, £124 Kellah, £115 Hundith House, £113 Archerbeck & Minsca, £110 Kellah.

**Half-bred** £129 High Moat.

**Charollais** £121 Brisco Meadows, £119 Archerbeck, £118 Ryehills.

**Bleu du Maine** £118 Howard House.

**Cheviot** £111 Brisco Meadows.

**Herdwick** £110 Causey View.

A large show of 4,968 ewes were forward to another increased ring of purchasers ensuring all classes sold to a brisk trade easily maintaining last week's high rates of return.

A very mixed show of sheep with best continental ewes were in short supply, and more continental ewes are wanted to satisfy customer demand.

Heavy ewes topped at £204 for Texel ewes from AR Bell & Son, Kirkton, Hawick.

Light ewes sold to £106 for Blackfaces from R & WD & SR Charlton, Whiteside, Halt-whistle.

Rams to £165 for North Country Cheviots from R King & Sons, Gospel Hall, Jedburgh.

**HEAVY EWES:**

**Texel** £204 Kirkton, £195 Viewley, £192 Dashwell Green, £190 Kikrton, £184 Flex & Mossband Hall, £182 Buttermere Close, £180 Beckfoot & Viewley.

**Charollais** £146 Upper Auchenlay, £136, £130 Beckfoot, £130 Rigg Garth.

**Beltex** £142 Upper Auchenlay.

**Suffolk** £132, £128, £123 Mossburnford, £128 Viewley, £126 Beckfoot.

**Bleu du Maine** £125 Viewley.

**Blueface Leicester** £122 North Middleton.

**North Country Cheviot** £111 Gospel Hall, £110 West Millhills & Kilberry Home, £108 Gospel Hall, £104 Ballinloan, £100 South Mausdale.

**Cheviot Mule** £108 Barglives.

**Mule** £99 Roanstree, £98 Marygate &

Kilnhill, £97 Westerhouses, £96 Craighead, £94 Balliemore & Miller Hill, £93 Haregills, Fowrass, Longrow & Causey View.

**LIGHT EWES:**

**Blackface** £106 Whiteside, £88 East Fortissat, £85 Whiteside, £80 Rawburn & Woolplaw.

**Lleyen** £98 Gatehousecote, £91 Pirntaton, £88 Gatehousecote.

**Cheviot** £97, £92 Lagalgarve, £92 Woolplaw, £91 Causey View, £89 Glendinning, £85 Crossdykes.

**Easycare** £89 Godscroft, £85 Chatton Park.

**Romney** £88 Meikle Richorn.

**RAMS:**

**Texel** £165 Rowan garth, £158 Flex, £150 Viewley & Crumhaughhill, £140 Heather-glen.

**North Country Cheviot** £165 Gospel Hall.

**Cheviot** £142 Crossdykes.

**Dorset** £128 Pirntaton.

**Lleyen** £124 Pirntaton, £120 Gatehousecote.

**Suffolk** £112 Pirntaton.

**Blackface** £110 The Lamperts, £100 Glens Cottage.

**AVERAGES:**

**Lambs:** Light to 263.0p (221.0p), standard to 305.0p (227.9p), medium to 307.0p (239.6p), heavy to 280.0p (236.2p), and overweight to 276.0p (238.4p).

**Ewes:** Light to £106.00 (£58.00), and heavy to £204.00 (£93.52).

**Rams:** £165.00 (£103.12).

# CivTech challenge winner to aid Tarras Valley engagement

Nature reserve will be helped by Highlands software company Ginger Land

**THE Tarras Valley Nature Reserve will benefit from a CivTech Challenge winning team platform that will encourage community engagement and crowdfunding.**

Earlier this year, the Scottish government's CivTech Accelerator programme put out 12 challenges to entrepreneurs and companies from across the UK and beyond.

Two of these were based in the South of Scotland and were co-sponsored by SOSE – Ginger Land and TPD Development.

As two of the CivTech winning teams, they will now aim to develop their ideas and provide digital solutions to various challenges faced by communities.

South of Scotland Enterprise welcomed the announcement.

"We have been working closely with our sponsor partners, the CivTech team and challenge bidding teams, and I am delighted to see the winning teams now announced," said SOSE chairman, Russel Griggs.

"I look forward to us working alongside these teams to come up with some innovative and exciting solutions to issues which affect all of our lives."

Ginger Land, a small software company based in Aviemore in the Highlands, were tasked with finding an innovative technological solution to tackle climate change through land use.

They came up with a platform that connects land managers, communities, individuals, businesses and government, enabling easy collaboration on projects relating to land management.

The platform will also seek to engage communities in land use decisions, with the ultimate aim of increasing carbon storage.

"We expect to be inviting beta testers on to the platform during the accelerator, which runs until the end of January," said Ginger Land's operational director, Zoe Russell.

"We're thrilled to be chosen to take part and are looking forward to working with our spon-



The Tarras Valley Nature Reserve will benefit

sors on a solution to the challenge."

Their proposal will now be piloted on the new 5,200-acre Tarras Valley Nature Reserve.

It was sponsored by John Muir Trust, the Langholm Initiative community development trust, rural development charity

Southern Uplands Partnership and SOSE.

SOSE also co-sponsored alongside social enterprise, Care Training Consortium, a challenge which aimed to help trainers assess skills and competence of learners within the care sector.

This challenge was won by TPD Development which cre-

ated a virtual reality innovation which simulates the full 360 care sector experience of training and assessment.

Its aim is to help trainers to assess the skills and competence of learners remotely.

CivTech will now provide the winning teams with an intense programme of workshops and

other support as they develop their products and businesses over a 15-week period.

Towards the end of the accelerator, the teams and challenge sponsors will have the opportunity to extend their relationship to further develop the solution and roll it out more widely, with up to £250,000 funding available for each challenge.

Dr Martin Valenti, SOSE's net zero director, added: "We need innovative and entrepreneurial thinking to make sure the journey to net zero – the point where greenhouse gas emissions we put into the atmosphere balances with the amount we are able to take out – is fair and creates a better future for everyone."

"The CivTech programme and in particular our co-sponsored challenge, looking at tackling climate change through land use at Langholm Moor, is a fantastic example of the thinking we need and I cannot wait to see how it progresses in coming months."

## New defibrillator



Left to right Neil Gass, Robert Dickson, Iona Davidson, Michele Lowe, Archie Dryburgh, Ian Donald and Jamie Fletcher

**A NEW defibrillator has been installed at the Buccleuch Centre.**

Every year, approx. 30,000 people in the UK have an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and Eskdale's newest Public Access Defibrillator has been installed to help save the lives of people in the community who may have one.

While administering CPR - chest compressions - immediately is vital, it is also vital to get a defibrillator to the scene as soon as possible.

PADs can detect an abnormal heart rhythm, administer electrical stimulus or a shock and restore a normal heart rhythm and it is vital they can be accessed quickly 24/7 in an emergency - on high-streets, in shopping centres, at sports facilities and businesses.

The newest device at The Buccleuch centre, funded by the Arthur Bell Trust and Ewe Hill 6 wind farm, is the tenth defibrillator in Eskdale and completes what has been a three-year project.

Ian Donald and Jamie Fletcher, two local Firefighters, co-ordinate them, along with 11 other guardians who were thanked for their work in carrying out regular checks to maintain their availability. "It is vital that the public are aware they can access the defibrillators before someone collapses," said Jamie. "This may just save the person's life if they go into cardiac arrest."

Training equipment was also purchased with the devices, including an electronic manikin.

Plus, Langholm's Jim and Sandra Thomson also purchased two baby manikins.

Ian said: "Unfortunately due to the Covid restrictions no CPR or defibrillator awareness sessions have yet taken place, but as the restrictions ease, we are hoping to arrange these sessions over the forthcoming months to cover each defibrillator location."

Eskdale now has 10 PADs - Chapelknowe, Glenzier, Canonbie, Rowanburn, Langholm Town Hall, Langholm Buccleuch Centre, the Craig, the Benty, Eskdalemuir, and Ewes.

The Eskdale defibrillators operate under the Community Heartbeat Trust, a UK defibrillator charitable trust.

**• To get involved in the project, and/or assist with the awareness sessions, contact [eskdaledefibs@aol.com](mailto:eskdaledefibs@aol.com).**

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# Keep warm this winter but keep an eye on the meters

The changing seasons and darker nights are drawing in. This means our thoughts turn to cosier nights at home and there are many ways to ensure your home is dry and warm throughout the winter months. Many businesses are promoting their products and services at competitive rates to suit all budgets.

**ESKDALE STOVES & FIRE-PLACES**, based near Eskdalemuir, cover Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders provides a comprehensive stove installation and fireplace construction service. Their engineers are HETAS trained so you are guaranteed to receive the best service available.

**M&H COAL LTD** is based at Rowanburn, Canonbie. A family business for the past nine years, Ian and Amanda offer a comprehensive service including coal and log sales and Calor Gas sales. They also supply Nordmann Fir Christmas Trees delivered to your door.

**MARK FRASER**, chimney sweep has been in business for more than 20 years. As well as sweeping chimneys, he sweeps stove flues and services multi-fuel stoves.

**HEATWRIGHT** is a local oil and heating engineer covering the Eskdale Valley and beyond. They are OFTEC registered, and offer a friendly and informative service to customers.

**BRAMPTON WOOD FUELS** is a family-owned business based in Brampton, Cumbria. They supply hardwood logs, wood briquettes and Biomass Boiler pellets. Committed to sustainable Bio Fuels that cause as little environmental impact as possible, they supply locally to north Cumbria and southern Scotland. They are proud members of the Woodsure 'Ready to Burn', meaning their wood products meet all the specification for the new DEFRA legislation introduced in May this year. Similar Scottish regulations are expected to follow.



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**Warm Home Discount Scheme**  
You could get £140 off your electricity bill for winter 2021-22 under the Warm Home Discount Scheme.  
The money is not paid to you - it is a one-off discount on your electricity bill, between October and March.  
You may be able to get the discount on your gas bill instead if your supplier provides you with both gas and electricity. Contact your supplier to find out.  
The discount will not affect your Cold Weather Payment or Winter Fuel Payment.  
**Eligibility:** There are two ways to qualify for the Warm Home Discount Scheme:  
• You get the guarantee credit element of Pension Credit - known as the 'core group'  
• You are on a low income and meet your energy supplier's criteria for the scheme - known as the 'broader group'  
How you apply for the Warm Home Discount Scheme depends on how you qualify for the discount.



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We deliver free within 30 miles of Brampton, including as far as Newcastleton and Langholm.  
We also sell from our warehouse in Brampton.  
We also stock BSL licensed biomass boiler pellets

**Brampton Wood Fuels on new legislation**  
Many of you will be aware that new legislation came into effect on 1 May covering solid fuels for stoves.  
It is aimed at reducing pollution levels and covers both wood-based fuels and coal. As we are a wood fuels supplier it is firewood and wood briquettes.  
Firstly the important thing is that the legislation is about what can be sold not what you can burn. As a retailer all firewood and briquettes we at BWF sell must, from that date, meet the new regulations. But if you cut down a tree in your garden and burn it that's not in the new regulations so you can still do so. I would advise you to store it somewhere dry for 18-24 months first though.  
Basically any firewood sold in quantities of less than two cubic metres must have a moisture content of less than 20%.  
It should also be licensed by the 'Ready to Burn' scheme from Woodsure.  
Every sale should have the license number (ours is ws272) and the name of the license holder (Brampton Wood Fuels). There are several other suppliers in the area as well as us with a license and very small suppliers who sell small amounts of logs have a further 12 months to comply with the regulations so a tree surgeon can sell logs he produces as part of his work without a license until 12 May 2022.  
Wood briquettes will also have to be licensed under the same scheme and all that we sell will do so by May.  
Finally, to qualify for the 'Ready To Burn' certificate we have to prove that all fuel comes from a sustainable source so it isn't contributing to overall deforestation.  
Put simply this legislation aims to reduce emissions, reduce deforestation and guarantee quality to the end user. It will provide good fuels that burn properly and efficiently and so be better value as you will use less for the same energy output as none is wasted. It will reduce how often you need your chimney cleaned and reduce smoke and pollution.  
Although most of this legislation is for England, the Scottish government are expected to introduce similar rules in the near future.  
• Further more detailed info is available at: <https://woodsure.co.uk/>  
[www.readytoburn.co.uk](http://www.readytoburn.co.uk)

# Councillor's comments



An update from our regular columnist councillor Archie Dryburgh

## The fight against poverty

Whilst many readers of the E&L will know me for being one of their elected members or Dumfries & Galloway's Armed Forces Champion, both jobs of which I feel privileged to do on your behalf, I also volunteer as often as I can with a not-for-profit furniture recycling organisation in Annan, Newstart Recycle. They cover the whole of Annandale & Eskdale.

It started out as a furniture recycling charity but very soon became so much more to many people. From homeless to abused women to those who are working poor and everyone else needing assistance. I am always worried about the amount of poverty in our area. The universal credit top-up being stopped or furlough finishing has been a nightmare for some families and it is thanks to organisations such as this, that there is a lending hand of charitable support out in our

communities.

I want to thank individuals and companies like Latimer's of Langholm for providing much needed furniture to them which enables that support to continue. There are many types of poverty, financial, fuel, transport to name a few, and there is poverty in every town and village in Dumfries & Galloway and we are all only one step away from it ourselves, so well done Newstart Recycle for what you do. They are much more than a furniture recycling place, disability aids are given out free of charge on loan to those who have perhaps had an accident and need support, free school clothing project delivered every year since that started, free winter clothes project every year since it started, support to Syrian and Afghan refugees, and to our military veterans who need help as well, thank you for giving me the opportunity to understand the needs of our area and of course I will continue to work with you to relieve that poverty.

## How much does democracy cost?

The tragic news of the stabbing to death of another MP has raised the issue of security of elected representatives again only a short time after Jo Cox's Murder, Sir David Amess was attacked and killed carrying out his duties. So, what can we as elected members do differently?

We need to be able to meet our constituents, we are no experts in security, we just cannot hide away from the public and as unlawful and unjust as these killings were, we have to be able to live with this danger to ourselves, as every other member of the public does daily, to not do this, would be too high a cost on democracy.

My, and I am sure every law-abiding citizen's, deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of both those MPs, I am sure however they would want us to continue having one of the safest democratic systems in the modern world.



Newstart Recycle is a furniture recycling organisation covering Annandale and Eskdale

# Letters to the editor

Have your say on the issues affecting our area. You can write to us at Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser, 54 High Street, Langholm DG13 0JH or email your comments to [danielle@eladvertiser.co.uk](mailto:danielle@eladvertiser.co.uk)

## Birthplace of climate change?

I suppose it was bound to happen, but not, we had hoped, at the start of Langholm's 400th anniversary year - the cancelling by the woke iconoclastic brigade of Thomas Telford as one of the recently modern world's greatest engineers.

Ironbridge Gorge, at eponymous Telford, Shropshire, where he masterminded the first-ever iron bridge is best known as 'the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution'. But the UNESCO world heritage site is also considering adopting the moniker 'birthplace of climate change'.

The head of the site's ten museums on the edge of Telford says he wants to teach visitors about Britain's role in global warming and showcase the district as an example of transition to clean manufacturing. In the Sunday Telegraph last, Ironbridge 'was the Silicon Valley of its day', said Nick Ralls, the chief

executive of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, and helped make Britain the leading economic power of its age.

The other side of that same coin is that the iron smelting experiments happening in the gorge really signalled the beginning of pollution. It was those early beginnings that led to pollution that's still happening today.

The museums are updating displays with descriptions of how the innovations pioneered in the area led to the modern economy and climate change.

That includes considering using the phrase 'birthplace of climate change'. He added: 'It's an evocative phrase to use and one which we're thinking through carefully (but) if we use (it) we need to follow it up with action'.

Mr Ralls does not specify what action - but it's fortunate that there is no statue to Thomas Telford in Langholm, or anywhere as far as I know, and I don't suppose that Westminster Abbey would allow him to be dug up, as King Charles II did Oliver Cromwell.

Otherwise, would far worse creators of climate change, for

example, the Wright brothers and M Bleriot be safe? But aeroplane passengers like their foreign holidays too much, and the governments make so much money from them for that to happen anyway, n'est-ce pas?

Richard Lennox  
Henry Street  
Langholm  
DG13 0AR



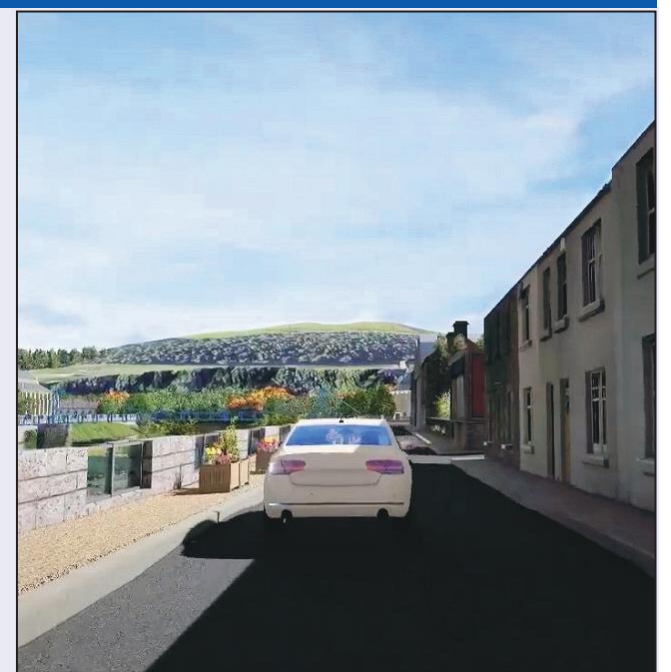
## Statement of intent?

Further to Dumfries & Galloway council's announcement of their engagement event at the end of October.

Make no mistake, this is not a consultation event, this is a statement of intent.

The council intend to represent their horrific, now glass encased, drainage ditch which they confirm will be driven forward for publication and approval next year. If they secure the flood order, it will transfer enormous statutory powers over both riverside homeowners and the entire population of Langholm to the council.

The council are currently proposing to secure these significant and wide-ranging statutory powers, conferred by an unlimited flood order, based on unverified data, anecdotal evidence, no options appraisals, no detailed designs and no public consultation. Our offers to present and discuss the serious concerns of hundreds of residents, to both the D&G



The proposed flood defences on Elizabeth Street, Langholm

flood team and our community council, have been refused without any satisfactory justification.

How has it been possible to reach this position where Langholm's residents, rivers, conservation area, regeneration prospects and entire way of life can be threatened in this manner

yet all the decisions have been made entirely behind closed doors by faceless bureaucrats? This is wholly unacceptable for a statutory process and residents are rightly furious as was demonstrated at our recent public meeting.

**Ditch the Drain Campaign**

# Scottish News...



## More firms collapse as energy crisis intensifies

Another 250,000 customers to be moved to alternative suppliers

**TWO more energy firms, Pure Planet and Colorado Energy, have ceased trading.**

Customers of both companies, Pure Planet who supplies around 235,000 domestic customers and Colorado Energy who supply 15,000, will be moved to new suppliers and will not lose any money owed to them.

They have ceased trading alongside more than 10 other gas supply companies, including Green Supplier Limited and Avro Energy.

Their collapse takes the number of customers affected by the energy company closures across the UK to around two million.

Scotland's national advice service Advice Direct Scotland, which runs [energyadvice.scot](http://energyadvice.scot), has advised con-

sumers not to do anything until they are automatically transferred to a new supplier chosen by regulator Ofgem.

Colin Mathieson, spokesperson for Advice Direct Scotland, said: "The collapse of two more suppliers will have an impact on thousands of Scots consumers, who will now be transferred to a new supplier.

"But there will be no loss of energy supply or money owed to customers.

"The key advice is to do nothing until Ofgem switches those customers to a new supplier."

### Do not panic

The service urged residents not to panic amid fears that more firms will go bust earlier last month.

Billpayers were advised

not to immediately switch should their supplier collapse.

However, with energy prices having risen, there are additional concerns about the overall financial impact on consumers.

The service, which provides advice on considerations before switching suppliers, and how to deal with complaints and disputes with an energy company, said they were on-hand to talk to.

### Worrying time

Their head of policy, Conor Forbes, said: "This is a worrying time for the energy market, with a number of firms in difficulty.

"But for households, the vital piece of advice to remember is not to panic.

"If your supplier collapses, you will not be left without

energy – Ofgem will switch you to a new supplier automatically and you will not lose any money owed to you.

"So, you do not need to immediately seek a new supplier.

"But there could be a wider impact from rising gas prices for many consumers, and those who are struggling to pay their bills should get in touch with us for free advice."

High European wholesale natural gas prices began to affect the UK in August – 250% between January and September and 70% rise in the month of August alone.

It saw a domino effect in which demand in Asia rose, supply from Russia diminished, as well as low stockpiles and a number

of nuclear power outages.

The impact on consumers, utility companies and businesses saw everyone affected.

Smaller domestic suppliers - who influenced by the pandemic's energy and gas price reduction due to overproduction and under usage, began selling fixed-term price gas for less money than it cost to buy to attract new customers - saw the brunt of the crisis.

**• Anyone in Scotland with concerns can contact: [energyadvice.scot](http://energyadvice.scot) for free, impartial and practical advice by visiting: [www.energyadvice.scot](http://www.energyadvice.scot) or calling 0808 196 8660 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.**

## IN BRIEF

### Child Disability Payment

CHILD Disability Payment opens in Dumfries & Galloway from November.

It will open for new applications from 22 November.

The full national roll-out follows a successful pilot launched in July across Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and the Western Isles council areas.

It is the first to be introduced nationwide by the Scottish government and replaces the UK government's Disability Living Allowance for children.

The payment provides financial assistance to help meet the additional costs associated with having a disability.

Families of children and young people with a disability or terminal illness can apply to the new benefit administered by Social Security Scotland.

Those already receiving Disability Living Allowance for children do not need to make a new application as they will be contacted ahead of their award being automatically transferred from mid-October until spring 2023.

**• For more information and to apply, visit [mygov.scot](http://mygov.scot) or by calling 0800 182 2222.**

### Youth awards

DUMFRIES & Galloway's Youth Awards return this year.

They will be held at Easterbrook Hall in Dumfries with a smaller audience but with a live stream for audiences to enjoy remotely.

The call for nominations for the event is open and D&G are asking the region's residents to put forward young people, youth workers or organisations here that deserve recognition.

The closing date for nominations is Sunday 7 November.

Categories include health and wellbeing, participation, equality, culture and the arts, sports award, environment champion award, youth work excellence, unsung hero, youth worker of the year, and young person of the year.

As well as the main awards, citizenship awards will be presented to young people in recognition of their invaluable contributions to helping in their community, school, charities, or undertaking exceptional activities in support of others.

**• To get involve, visit <http://dgyouthawards.wp-comstaging.com/>.**

## NHS workers light up Glasgow

**BUILDINGS in Glasgow lit up with messages from NHS workers of Scotland on Monday - all demanding world leaders to take urgent action to prevent further climate breakdown.**

Ahead of COP26 in Glasgow next month, which will see global climate talks, a message projected onto the Glasgow Royal Infirmary read 'Air pollution killed 354 people in Glasgow in 2020 alone' and 'The climate crisis is a health crisis'.

Dr Bridie Barnett, medical consultant in Highland, said: "As doctors, our job is to make a diagnosis and come up with the treatment.

"But the remedy to this crisis, the biggest health emergency this century, is not in our hands - it is in the hands of governments worldwide."

UK health worker organisation Medact and other organisations of health professionals from Scotland are demanding action from the UK government and world

leaders.

In a recent letter, they demanded decisive action to be taken to mitigate the wide-reaching health impacts of climate change.

They also made the demand of leaders to ensure climate justice, with acknowledgement that climate change disproportionately affects those most vulnerable, so policy must redress this.

### Decarbonised

Plus, the establishment of a green new deal to transition to a decarbonised society that must be fair and equitable and a removal of the influence of harmful pollutants from the conference of parties.

Dr Claire Gaughan, a GP based in Forth Valley, said all leaders needed to take swift and radical measures now.

"The UK climate change committee states the UK is on track to meet only a fifth of its emissions targets," she said.

"This, coming at a time where



NHS workers have demanded world leaders to take action on climate breakdown

our government has the responsibility of leading the world on reducing emissions, is sickening.

"It feels as though we are shouting but no one is listening and if they are listening, they are offering only platitudes."

Hundreds of health organisations and medical journals have recently highlighted the threat that climate change poses to human health and the urgency of acting, including the World Health Organisation and the British Medical Journal.

# Memories & Milestones

We continue our serialisation of Tommy Beattie's memoirs

## Growing up

### Silloth trip and Guy Hyslop's

We used to have days to look forward to. One was the train journey all the way to Silloth which was over forty miles. We had to go to Carlisle then on to Silloth for our Sunday school trip. We waded in the sea and went on a boat. We visited the fairground, then we had our lunch. We used to spend pocket money in Edgar's Toy shop on the seafront. There were plenty of ice-cream stalls to visit. The harbour was interesting because of the big ships. The owners of these ships were customers of mine when I was a Company rep and I realise the size of the ships were a lot smaller than my memory made them. One Sunday School trip is etched forever in my mind and it was not because the porpoise's were fewer in numbers or anything like that. I left my brand-new coat in the hall where our lunch was served. I was afraid what my mum and dad would say. You see it was bought the day previous to the trip, from James Green and Sons of Eaglesfield, and only the deposit had been paid. My parents were marvellous. The fact the coat was forced upon me and I did not want to take a brand-new coat like that on a Sunday School trip relieved me of any blame. Mum and dad wrote to the

Sunday School in Silloth but my coat was not returned. The best, and safest trips were the ones organised by Guy Hyslop. He washed his coal lorry and took us to Bessie Bells up Wauchope every year and supplied prizes for the sports we played.

We all took our own sandwiches and lemonade. It was great! There was a pool we played in and were safe. Sometimes we went another half mile to the Big Dowie which is not so big today, it being buried with every flood, but it is still some stone. There are still drill marks where someone once tried to blast it but could not. It was huge and was as much as we kids could do to climb on top of it. Strangest thing of all, it is granite. Where or how could a boulder of many tons get into any of our rivers where the rocks are white sandstone, grey whackie or basalt but not a grain of granite. The answer to that question comes from a local amateur geologist. A man who can give a very interesting talk on the subject, Mr Ronnie Mowbray. He says the rock was carried by ice-flow from the massive ice area of Crifel (just before my time)

### Leisure by the river

School days were good really and after all lessons and homework, oh yes, we got home work, not too much, but that was attended to before play. We spent hours outside, it kept us

healthy. We played football or rugby and with anything up to twenty aside. Jackets were laid on the ground as goal posts. One game would last from being let out of school till dark. (After homework and stick work was done.) Summer time was different, it was hunger which drove us home. I always had my jobs to attend to before play unlike a lot of my friends. I am not complaining it was good exercise and training. During the summer we would build islands in the rivers. On these islands we could be anything we wished, pirates or explorers whatever took our fancy that day. We always had a fire on our island and used to go home and get potatoes or eggs and cook them. Anyone can cook eggs, we had tin cans and plenty of water. We used to lie down like animals and drink out of the river.

Pollution was unheard of then. Whilst on our island we would stem the water for a better paddling pool or take turn about guddling. This is the art of catching trout with your bare hands. You don't see much of this today for two reasons, one is fish are not in the numbers they used to be and secondly, the waters are not as deep. Trees take a lot of water and there are far more of them that there used to be. A full-grown oak or beech takes about one hundred gallons each out of the ground per day, or so I'm led to believe.

...to be continued



Newcastleton Primary School won the primary 6 netball tournament in 1984 pictured with their trophy is: Stuart Adamson, Janie Davidson, Fiona Carlile, Margaret Dalgliesh, Marie Cuthbert, Clair Scott, Ian Welters, Isobel Foster, Karen Pearson, Nicola Davidson (Capt), Gillian Brannan and Wendy Schneider

## Times Past

### 100 years: Harvest Thanksgiving at Canonbie

The harvest thanksgiving service in Canonbie United Free Church was held on Sunday. Both morning and evening services were devoted to it, and the attendance at each diet was large. There was a fine display of flowers, fruit, vegetables and farm produce, and altogether the church presented a nice appearance. The preacher was the Rev J E McIntosh who took for his text in the morning Genesis viii.22 and in the evening Matthew vi.25. Addresses fitting to the occasion were given and rapt attention was given by all present. A pleasing sight was that of the Sabbath school children, who lined up and marched into the church, the girls on one side and the boys on the other. Each carried a large bunch of flowers, which they presented as an offering and these were taken from them by Mrs McIntosh and laid on tables. The choir, under Mr Steele, rendered four anthems, one in the morning and three in the evening, with great effect, and made a wonderful impression. The large quantities of flowers etc. were sent to Carlisle and Langholm hospitals.

### 75 years: The Fever Hospital re-opening

The Medical sub-committee of the County Council have recommended the discontinuance of Annan Hospital for the treatment of infectious disease cases, and the transference of the staff there to Eskdale Hospital, Langholm, and to adopt the Annan Hospital for use as a children's home. Langholm Hospital has been closed for the treatment of infectious disease cases for a considerable number of years and this caused much annoyance locally when parents of children suffering from such complaints were forced to travel to Annan and Lochmaben these journeys causing no little discomfort and expense. While no one wishes in the least to see any epidemic rife in any district in the county, the news that the hospital in Langholm is to be reopened will be welcomed locally.

### 50 years: Jenny's Pride

This is the name of Mr Jock Ellwood's homing pigeon which won for him the "Blue Ribband" of the Scottish Homing Union when it came in first from the Rennes race when thousands of birds from Scottish lofts competed. We mention "Jenny's Pride" because of the fact that the trophies she owns have been displayed on Messers Latimers window, and these have certainly attracted a great deal of attention from Langholmmites and visitors alike. First of all, there is the Scottish National Flying Club gold cup, valued at hundreds of pounds; the King George V cup – a massive trophy this – The Jubilee Cup and the British Homing World Cup. These Mr Ellwood will retain for a year but in addition he wins outright three lovely statuettes, which would grace anybody's sideboard. Incidentally, Mr Ellwood is the first member of the Langholm Homing Society to win this award – well done Jenny's Pride.

### 25 years: Having their cake at Eskdalemuir

A very successful Craft Fayre was held on Saturday in Eskdalemuir Village Hall. Organiser June Adgo said "The Fair was very busy especially between 1.30 and 3.30pm and it was so successful that I'm now planning to hold them four times a year." There were ten stalls at the fair ranging from flowers to ear-rings and painted flower pots to figurines. There was also an excellent selection of home baking, jam and marmalade. A jumble sale was held in conjunction with the event and the money raised will be sent to help the street kids in Nepal, India. "I'm planning to hold the next craft fayre in December and I'm planning to hold a raffle. The proceeds of this will go towards the Village Hall" said June.



Lisa Carter, Corry Taylor and Beryl Pretty were in charge of the cake stall at the Eskdalemuir Village Hall Craft Fayre in October 1996

# The E&L Gallery



Nature at its best in Galaside Wood. Photo by Katrina Kenny of Langholm

Camera:iPhone XS

## REVIEW

# Northern Contemporary Crafts

**Great Northern Contemporary Craft Fair  
Victoria Baths  
Manchester  
8-10 October 2021**

by Daniel Lacey

**W**HETHER as an exhibitor, seller or a visitor, it is always difficult to find an event with a wide range of quality British craft and artwork from talented artists and makers.

I had heard about The Great Northern Contemporary Craft Fair some years back, as my highly acclaimed tutor Robert Ingham from my college days at Parnham regularly exhibited there.

Based now in its new home of Victoria Baths, Manchester – after the inevitable gaps caused by the pandemic – it is certainly the first time that I and my fellow contributors have exhibited in a swimming pool. Or to be more accurate in three swimming pools – two of which still feature the slope and the original early 20th century tiling. No longer

filled with water, but with amazing light flooding the halls from the glazed ceiling, this lovely building provided the backdrop to over 150 art and craft workers displaying and selling their wares.

Even some of the old changing cubicles were utilised – supporting and showing the work from new graduates.

### Buzz

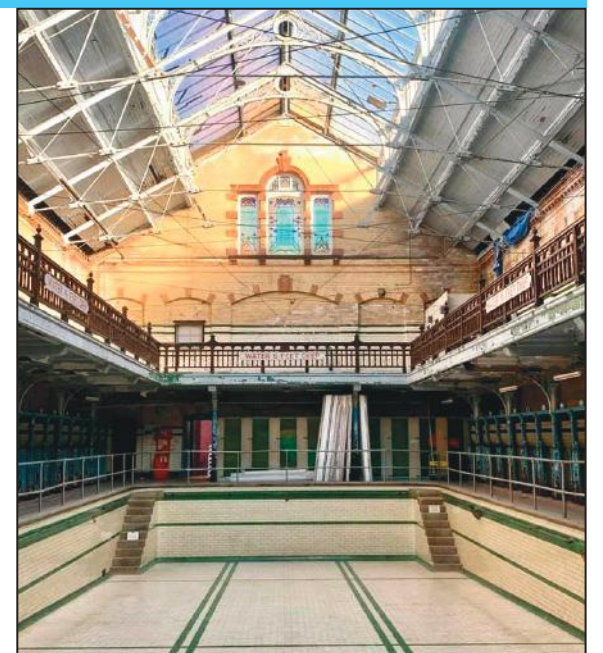
With so many booths and stands, there really was something to tempt every visitor to indulge. Whilst on-line events continue to become popular, and GNCCF have held their own successful versions – watch out for the next one in early December, they do not, and can never, have the ‘buzz’ of a live event and that interaction between maker and those looking to choose something really special for their home or their wardrobe.

Such a good feeling.

From my own point of view as an exhibitor – I need to have my furniture art out there – my pieces –



Daniel Lacey's stand at Victoria Baths in Manchester



Victorian splendour

which look clean, uncluttered and simple – are actually technically complex and at the end of completion require many hours of hand-sanding to get the silken finish to which I aspire.

The Great Northern Contemporary Craft Fair @gnccf is extremely well organised by Angela and Ann-Marie who care about the experience of both the visitor and the exhibitor, making it a happy place for

everyone.

It is held in Manchester each autumn, Covid-permitting, and is well worth the trip south.

You won't need to take your swimming costume.

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The company secretary, Muckle Toon Media,  
Ashley Bank House, Langholm DG13 0AN

## GOODS VEHICLE OPERATORS LICENCE

# GOODS VEHICLE OPERATORS LICENCE

COLOMER MUNMANY EUROPE COMPANY LIMITED  
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Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice.

Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice.

A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

# New Town Bowlers prize giving

## Bowling

**ON Saturday night the New Town Bowling Club held their 2021 prize giving ceremony at Langholm Social Club.**

President Paul Mitchell presented all the winners.

It included club champion, Ian Scott and runner-up, Duncan Ritchie.

Plus, Douglas Cup winner, Paul Warwick and runner-up, Duncan Ritchie.

The President Prize went to Paul Warwick, with the runner-up, Ian Scott.

Junior singles winner was Eric Goodfellow.

In the over 60's the winner was Roddy Innes, and the runner-up was Avril Grieve.

The Ladies Bell Plate saw Sue Roebuck take the prize, with runner-up, Carolle Warwick.

The Ladies Whitshiehouse cup was given to Nancy McLure, with runner-up, Carolle Warwick.

In the Mixed Pairs it was Nancy McLure and Melvyn Brown, while the Club

Pairs was Duncan Ritchie and Eck Christie.

Henry Graham saw John Ellwood and Duncan Ritchie take home the prize.

The Jumble points winners saw Paul Warwick in first place, Ian Scott in second, Roddy Innes in third, Booba in fourth, and Duncan Ritchie in fifth.

The team winners were Ian Scott, Robert Warwick, and Ian Hotson.

A vote of thanks was given on behalf of the club to members for their hard work this year.

It went to Paul Mitchell for carrying out his second year of presidency, the green keepers - Eric, David, Rob, Lawson, Melvyn, Pauleen and Margaret for catering, the club's bar volunteers, as well as Roy, Gregor, John, Rob, Luke, Lawson for laying flags to make way for new Locker room, and Roddy Innes for maintenance work around the club.

This was in addition to all their sponsors for donating money and banners and new members for joining and playing throughout the season.



Paul Mitchell presents the trophy to club champion Ian Scott



The Ladies Whitshiehouse cup was won by Nancy McLure



Paul Warwick is presented with the Douglas Cup

## Davidson family support will help Langholm's young golfers



Graham Davidson and family at home in Florida

## Golf

**THANKS has been given to a life member of Langholm Golf Club for the continued support to his hometown golf club from afar.**

Despite the thousands of miles, US open golfer, Graham Davidson, who has been resident in the USA for many years and has a young sporting family continues to support the club.

He and his family are helping to cover the costs of under 16 memberships.

Graham, who first got into collegiate golf, went on to play professionally in the USA which

enabled him to play in the US Open at Pebble Beach with the great Greg Norman and major winner Vijay Singh.

"They want to help local children gain access to golf at the club and gain the same opportunities to play and enjoy golf as he did in his younger years," said the club's Andrew Paisley.

"Who knows some youngsters may be able to follow in his footsteps into the professional game."

He said the next Annika Sorenstam or Tiger Woods could be in our midst and just needed the chance and

opportunity to get a start in golf.

"The Davidsons are adding their support with helping cover the costs of under 16 memberships going forward," continued Andrew.

"Youngsters are the future in any sport or organisation, so if we can help give someone access to the great game of golf, we are ready and willing to help."

• **To get involved in the sport, visit Langholm Golf Club's Facebook page, or speak to Cameron Archibald who is their junior convenor.**

## A Friday Night Victory



Langholm's Jamie Gormley wins at Newcastle on Friday on the Iain Jardine-trained Novak

## Horseracing

**LANGHOLM'S own Jamie Gormley won at Newcastle last Friday.**

Racing the Iain Jardine-trained Novak, Jamie took first place in a 13 horse seven-furlong race on standard to slow ground.

He beat the favourite Mueran by pushing along out the gate and increasing his tempo over two furlongs out and kept on towards the finish.

The first-place finish was the only one this week for Iain Jardine, but there was a number of second place finishes with Andrew Mullen, Conor O'Farell, and Kevin Brogan in the saddle.

They were on Haveyoumissedme, Gold Des Bois and Kavanaghs Cross respectively at Haydock and Carlisle.



# Legion FC victory in the South Cup

## Football

By Martin Thomlinson

### The South Cup

St Boswells 1-2 Langholm Legion FC

A Little (28')

L Irving (70')

THE Legion made the trip to St Boswells to tackle the Division C side in the first round of the South Cup on Saturday and were certainly given a very good run for their money.

The visitors edged their way through to the next round after a lacklustre start.

With Craig Cuthbert and Callum Ireland missing from last week's win against Ancrum, Andrew Paisley was brought into the side for his first start of the season along with Brian Mattinson returning from a two-match suspension.

The home side took the lead midway through the first half with a well struck penalty from Shepherd after Iain Little rashly fouled his opponent in the box.

This stirred a bit of a reaction from the away side and ten minutes later Alistair Little equalised with a lovely solo effort right through the middle of the pitch with a finish not too dissimilar to his goal the week previous.

The rest of the half was played out in



Langholm Legion FC prevailed over St Boswells at the weekend

much the same fashion with a lack of composure on the final ball and a fight to win the first and second ball clear to see.

### Formation

A change of formation was made at half time in an effort to bring more energy and width to the team but it was the home side who made the brighter start with Derek Johnson doing well to block an early St Boswells shot.

The Legion got their noses in front with twenty minutes left when Lee Irving got on the end of a Mattinson free kick to head home. It was a fully deserved goal for the captain after another all-action performance that dragged his side through.

A few more chances from corners

were squandered as the away side finally took the ascendancy before seeing out the match and easing through.

A huge relief to avoid an upset and while nowhere near their best, the Legion managed to find a way past their plucky opponents. Lessons should be learnt that matches are always won on the pitch and not by comparing league tables or placings.

The second round is a welcome home draw, again against Division C opposition, Tweeddale Rovers Colts on 20 November.

With no match this coming weekend, the next match will be a trip to Innerleithen to face Division B side Leithen Rovers in the first round of the Waddell Cup on 30 October.

# Jazzle is on Polaris' tail



Jazzle and Steph Lithgos with her nephew Kyle Montgomery, 3

## Hounds

By Marti Borthwick

**THINGS are hotting up in the Senior Championship with Polaris still out in front with only four trails left and Jazzle still in a position to catch him.**

Honours were even this week with both of them getting a win.

Last Wednesday at Spadeadam, Delta Scope led Polaris on to the finish but he stuck in to just get up in the last stride to win, and challenger Jazzle had to settle for third.

The tables were turned on Sunday when Jazzle led Delta Script home with Delta Scope running well for third.

Explore having already secured the Puppy Champi-

onship continues to dominate and was well in command at Spadeadam. He had to pull out all the stops to get back in contention at Sandale, but once in front there was only one winner. Delta Supreme ran well for the on-form Harper kennel to take second, with Mr Finnegan running well for third.

In the Senior Graded at Sandale, Castle Clansman and Bobby Moon had a good race all the way with Bobby Moon finishing well along the hill as Clansman ground to a halt allowing another four hounds to pass before eventually stepping over the line.

The in-form Lucky Charm clocked up another win in the Open Graded at Spadeadam when beating Matilda and Fire Lass.

# Disappointment at Dunbar

## Rugby

By Kenneth Pool

Dunbar RFC 45  
Langholm RFC 18

LANGHOLM made the long journey to Dunbar on Saturday for what turned out to be a bad day at the office.

The team were keen to maintain not only their unbeaten status in the league, but also top spot in East League 2. However, Dunbar has never been a happy hunting ground for Langholm over

the years so they knew the match would be a tough one.

It started well for the visitors and a try by Lewis Miller, converted by Adam Hall and two Hall penalties saw them 13-0 up after 25 minutes. However, Dunbar were guilty of continually killing the ball and this resulted in frustration for the Langholm forwards who felt the ref should take some action against the home side. This frustration finally resulted in Steve Nicol being red carded for what was deemed as being too aggressive in trying to clear the ball from a ruck.

With Langholm down to 14 men, Dunbar turned up the heat and made the most of their advantage by scoring three quick converted tries to make the score 21-13 at half time.

The home side started well after the break and increased their score to 28-13. Both Adam and Bryan Hall had to leave the pitch with injuries and further injury replacements disrupted the visitors play which meant they struggled to get back into the match. Dunbar played some good direct attacking rugby and scored another two converted tries to take the match



away from Langholm. A late Langholm try from Joe Kirkup was little consolation and with Dunbar adding another two penalties the match finished 48-18.

It was a disappointing and very frustrating match for Langholm.

It was their first defeat in East League 2 this season and with Leith RFC winning their match, Langholm also lost their top of the table spot



to the Edinburgh side.

This Saturday sees Leith come to Milntown in what should be one of the main matches of the season.

A win for Langholm would see them back to the top of the league, while a win for Leith would consolidate their position as league leaders. There is a lot to play for and another good crowd at Milntown should be guaranteed this Saturday.

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