

A sure sign of Spring
New face at Cooms farm

SEE PAGE 3



One boy and his dog
Leo and Jupiter win debut show

PAGE 4



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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Movement at Murtholm

After four years, delight as work finally starts on 200-home development



...but expect six months' A7 disruption before first bricks are laid, folks!

WORK OF ART: How access to the new Murtholm site – complete with pedestrian bridge could look, as imagined by Loreburn Housing's design team. Work on phase one is expected to be finished by the end of 2024

It may be a while before we see the idyllic scene envisaged above by the artist's impression...

But with a roar of heavy machinery, the first phase of the long-awaited Murtholm development on the outskirts of Langholm finally got underway this week.

It's nearly four years since the land was purchased by the Loreburn Housing Association – and at times residents in the town can be forgiven for thinking that building work on a proposed 200 affordable homes would never happen.

On Monday, however, contractors began preliminary work on 35 "extra care" bungalows.

But it also promises to herald months of disruption to traffic using the A7 where it crosses the Esk to the south of Langholm. Long before

the first bricks are laid, enabling works will be undertaken to create a site access point, utility diversions and the formation of an access road onto the Murtholm site itself.

This is expected to take up to six months to complete. Only then will work commence on the houses, and a new pedestrian footbridge over the river, linking the development with the town.

The homes themselves – which will be bungalows designed with access to care and support on site – will not be ready to be occupied until the end of 2024, when work is due to begin on phase two of the development.

"The work is the culmination of four years of planning, from the purchase of the site in 2019, through the detailed design process and submission of planning applications

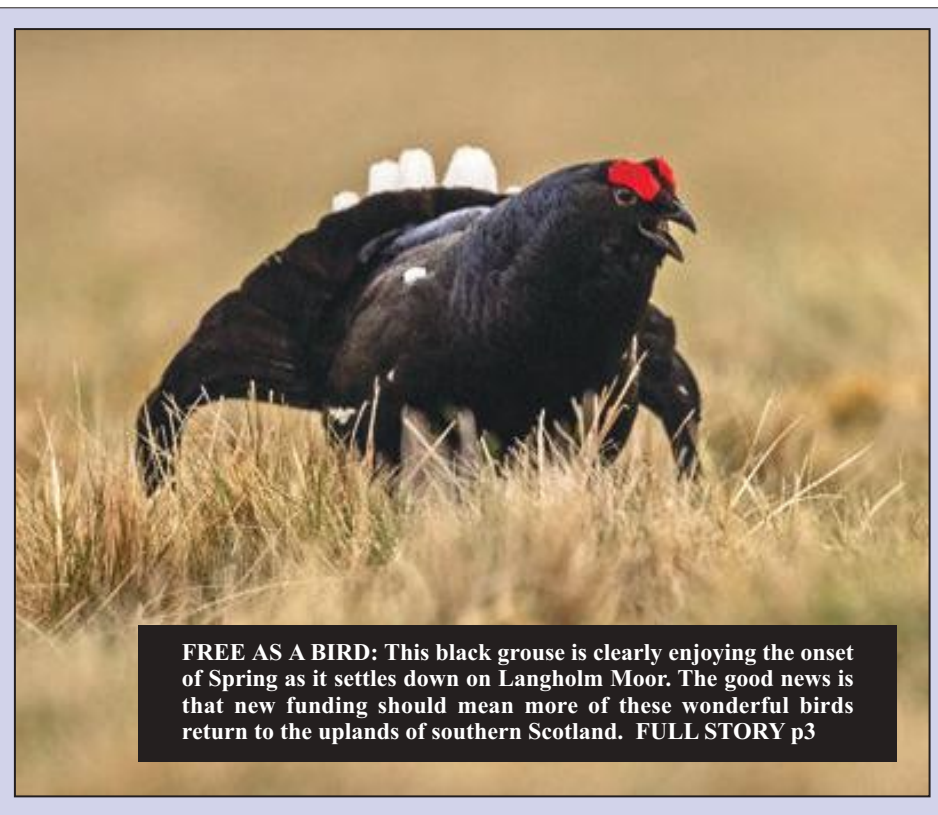
for the enabling works, the properties, as well as the new bridge," said Graham Robertson, Loreburn's head of development.

"The project has been a huge challenge but with the collaboration from partners, including the Scottish Government, Dumfries & Galloway Council, Transport Scotland, Sustrans, the Health and Social Care Partnership for D&G and Buccleuch Estates, we're finally seeing our shared commitment come to fruition."

The start of work has been welcomed by Langholm councillor Denis Male, who described it as "tremendous news" for the community.

"It should go a long way to solving the issue of residents ending up in care homes many miles from the town," he said.

>Turn to p2



FREE AS A BIRD: This black grouse is clearly enjoying the onset of Spring as it settles down on Langholm Moor. The good news is that new funding should mean more of these wonderful birds return to the uplands of southern Scotland. FULL STORY p3

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Don't be cross – there's always oor crossword!

When we're sitting, fuming, in traffic tailbacks on the A7 for the next six months, it will be hard to appreciate the benefit of the new Murtholm housing development.

But after four years, the fact that work is finally starting on this major project should be a cause for celebration. Phase one, especially, will see 35 in-care bungalows built – which will not only provide much needed accommodation for those in the town that need it, but help to staunch the slow bleed-out of care professionals in Langholm.

Meantime we recommend you buy a copy of the E&L every week – the crossword is great way to pass the time.

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Conehat & Co do it again

A Canonbie fundraiser, famed for her distinctive cone hat, is about to take part in a 14-mile Kilt Walk.

But Catherine Lithgow won't be alone as she marches from Clydebank to Loch Lomond next month in aid of the MS Society – she'll be joined by two pals with reasons of their own to take part in the annual charity event.

Kirsteen Davies and Lois Lane are walking to raise money for Marie Curie and MacMillan respectively. The charities provided invaluable support when Kirsteen's late husband Alistair was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and Lois herself was told she had breast cancer.

Catherine's husband Malcolm was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis several years ago, and the MS Society funds research into a finding a cure, treatments to help alleviate symptoms. "Each of us is walking for a different



FUNDRAISING FRIENDS: Lois Lane, Kirsteen Davies and Catherine Lithgow are setting off on their latest Kilt Walk challenge

charity, with different motivations and stories, but we will be plodding along together clocking up the miles," said Catherine, who is often

spotted walking around Langholm and Canonbie decked out in orange, with a cone hat, and pulling along her trusty tartan trolley, blinged with balloons, bunting and its own jazzy kilt.

A week before the walk, Kirsteen is going to have her hair cut off and head shaved, while this is the fifth walk Lois has attempted – including a virtual Kiltwalk around Canonbie and around Langholm during Covid. As well as sponsorship, Lois sells eggs from her back garden hens, and all the proceeds go towards her fundraising.



The Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser is part funded by

Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group

and charitable trusts and individuals from the community of Langholm.



Work to start as Loreburn tenants get extra funds

"As well as the benefit to our disabled and elderly, new jobs will be created and this is a tremendous opportunity for young people leaving school to work in the care sector."

Work on phase one comes as tenants of existing Loreburn properties in Langholm have been told they are to receive financial support to help deal with the cost-of-living crisis.

Eligible tenants benefit from a share of £25,000 from the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations winter hardship fund. This will be issued as supermarket vouchers, helping almost 400 families across the region to meet food and household bills.

An earlier bid by Loreburn to the Association secured a total

of £112,000, which was used to provide targeted support to tenants including direct financial support and a range of practical help, from essential warmth items such as winter duvets to low-cost cooking equipment and slow cookers.

"We know the support is having a positive impact on those we've been able to help," said community team manager Clare Burns. "We've supported tenants of all ages and are pleased to have been able to help every one of our households with children aged 17 and under, in one form or another."

Loreburn's tenants will not need to claim the vouchers. Anyone eligible will be contacted directly.



DIG IT: The arrival of heavy machinery at Murtholm is a welcome sight, although traffic disruption is also predicted for the next six months

Moor funding is nowt to grouse about!

Award will improve iconic birds' wild Langholm habitat

A project to restore upland habitats, including Langholm Moor, for black grouse and other iconic upland species has been awarded a share of £7.6m from the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund.

"Undoing the Silence of the Uplands" has been awarded £33,000 to develop the project theme of improving habitats for black grouse.

It's one of 31 projects that NatureScot has approved to receive funding as part of a national drive to transform nature in Scotland. The development phase will complete in May 2023 with a significant funding bid for a multi-year delivery project being submitted and hopefully started in Autumn 2023.

Other areas to receive a share of the money are Galloway Forest Park, Lowther hills, Tweedsmuir/Moffat hills, and Moorfoot hills.

Managed by NatureScot, the Fund supports projects that help Scotland's species, woodlands, rivers and seas, as well as improving the health and wellbeing of local communities.

Darren Flint, Southern Uplands Partnership project officer said: "After a few years of partnership working with landowners and stakeholders across southern Scotland seeking to improve the outlook for the increasingly scarce black grouse, it is wonderful to receive this support from NatureScot.

"We look forward to the day when the distinctive call and wildlife spectacle of lekking males will once again be a frequent sight across our uplands."

Chair of NatureScot, Mike Cantlay added: "Large-scale nature restoration projects are vital to help us tackle the twin crises of



biodiversity loss and climate change. If we are to have any chance of saving nature, then we must do everything we can to halt its decline now.

"The Nature Restoration Fund supports ambitious action to put Scotland's land and seas, and all the wild species that inhabit them, back on the road to recovery.

"Projects like this one will make a real and

positive difference and we're excited to see how it progresses. With the Nature Restoration Fund, we are helping Scotland to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and reverse it by 2045."

Since its launch in July 2021, the Nature Restoration Fund has awarded £17 million to 127 projects across Scotland through its Helping Nature and Transforming Nature funding

Storm over council lay members

Unelected members of the public could become part of a watchdog scrutinising the work of Dumfries & Galloway Council.

Councillors have been asked to consider the appointment of lay members to the audit, risk and scrutiny committee.

The committee serves to keep check on the performance and proper running of the local authority, and is typically made up solely of councillors and chaired by the leader of the opposition political group.

However, new UK-wide guidance has come out from CIPFA, the standard-setting body for UK public finance, which recommended that "co-opted independent" members be considered for a place on the council committee alongside elected members.

But some councillors remain sceptical of the idea.

Labour group leader Archie Dryburgh said: "It would be very difficult to go through a lay members recruitment process. It's elected members from Dumfries & Galloway Council that should be on the audit, risk and scrutiny committee."

And Cllr Katie Hagmann said: "How would a lay person be appointed? What would the impact assessment be? What are the risks to maybe not having full member oversight?"

Councillors agreed to wait for a further report on the matter to be brought back to the committee after the summer recess.

Baa-by, you're looking good!

Lamb's arrival a very early sign of Spring at Cooms

Spring has already arrived at Cooms Farm – with the very unexpected early arrival of a lamb last week.

Both mother and baby are doing well, despite being over two months early.

The rest of the ewes on the farm are expected to lamb in mid-April, which is the usual expected time for sheep on the harsher upland ground like the Upper Tarras.

Since Cooms transferred over to the Langholm Initiative from Buccleuch last November, following the community land buy out, it has been all systems go to continue with all the daily tasks involved with looking after over 1000 hefted Cheviot sheep including scanning, feeding, medications, paperwork and sales.

Two home bred ewes from Cooms recently sold for over 750 gns at the South Country Cheviot in-lamb sale at Longtown, going to new farms at Catslackburn, Selkirk and the other all the way to Inverness.

Jenny Barlow, Estate Manager at the Tarras Valley Nature Reserve said: "Taking over an agricultural business such as Cooms



Farm has been a big learning curve for us, with so much to learn and we really couldn't have done it without the experience of shepherd William Nixon, who is such an asset to our team."

ARRIVAL: This little feller wasn't expected to make an appearance until mid-April

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Quiz answers

Quiz - 23/02/23

- 1 Stanley Matthews
- 2 Creutzfeldt-jakob disease
- 3 Crosswords
- 4 Ringo Starr
- 5 Vera Lynn
- 6 Fred Astaire
- 7 Culottes
- 8 Azerbaijan
- 9 The Antarctic Desert
- 10 Admiralty Arch
- 11 Eye to eye
- 12 1970s
- 13 Preston North End
- 14 Literature
- 15 Israel
- 16 Samuel Pepys
- 17 Copper
- 18 Harold Wilson
- 19 Run 5000m
- 20 Alias Smith and Jones

Bridge results

1 Avril Bannatyne & Tony Parker, 2 Bob Francombe & George Graham, 3 Elspeth Clarke & Lorraine Morton, 4 Lesley McCartney & Doreen Taylor, 5 Derek Scott & Judy Pitchford, 6 Aileen Graham & Louise Grierson.

Leo proves he's top dog

Youngster lands debut win in canine competition

Newcastleton youngster Leo Page got off to the best possible start in the highly competitive world of dog showing – by winning his very first class.

Leo, nine, made his debut performance in the 6-11 Young Handler class at the Border Terrier Open Show in Jedburgh – and aced it.

In front of the eagle-eyed judge Peter Lothian, Leo had to demonstrate his handling skills with five-year-old Border Terrier Ellemcella Sedum (Juniper to her friends), walking her in a triangle to show her movement and demonstrating his knowledge of the breed by answering questions.

Leo's Mum Caroline, who has competed at Crufts with Border Terriers, says he was very shocked to win but highly excited and is already looking forward to the next challenge.

"I have been teaching him at home and he's planning to do many, many more shows. Juniper is really my dog but I think he has high hopes of stealing her to qualify for Crufts 2024."

The Border Terrier Championship Show is being held next month and Leo will be back in action with Juniper then – so watch this space.



HIS MASTER'S VOICE: Young Leo Page impressed the judges with his Border Terrier Juniper



All photos by Caroline Blackie



Brush-up for Wattie

Work has started on the refurbishment of Wattie's Arch.

And the first job is scrubbing years of accumulated gunk from the paintwork, prior to a well-earned facelift for the Langholm landmark.

That task fell this week to James Scott, who works for local company Maxwell's Builders.

Armed with a stiff brush and plenty of elbow grease, James is doing a cracking job – and hopefully the Arch, which is named after former High Street shopkeeper Walter "Wattie Wumpie" Wilson, will soon be looking as good as new.

It's part of a series of projects aimed at giving the Muckle Toon a spruce in time for the summer tourist season.



Fans of Clarkson's Farm

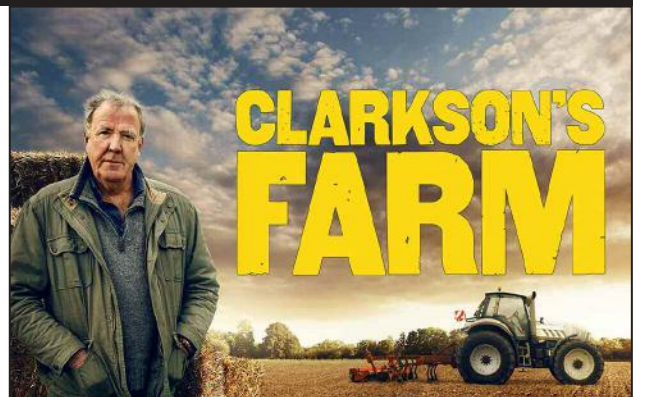
Television presenter Jeremy Clarkson has won an army of fans in the Eskdale and Liddesdale farming community who believe he has given people a real insight into the industry.

He has built up the fans with his show Clarkson's Farm which follow the many trials and tribulations of life on his thousand-acre Diddly Squat farm in the Cotswolds.

He's been seen attempting to cope with all sorts of issues and difficulties well known and understood by farmers – with everything from runaway sheep to cows and calves with scant respect for boundaries, and of course the inevitable mountains of red tape and regulations.

Eskdalemuir hill farmer Hamish Waugh says Clarkson is a master of humorous communications who can hold the attention of his audience without honeycoating the facts.

"Clarkson puts farming to his audience from a totally practical



FOLLOWING: He puts across the good and the bad in agriculture in a way everyone can understand."

angle, both the ups and the downs," he said. "Explaining that it's not just working on the land but dealing with bureaucracy in order to achieve the end result of feeding a hungry nation.

"A nation who very largely take it for granted that when they go to a shop food will be there for them and give no thought as to how it got there or what levels of expertise

ensured it was there."

Gill Elliot who farms at Burnfoot with husband Andrew feels the same way. "We completely agree," she said. "He puts across the good and the bad in agriculture in a way everyone can understand."

The second series of Clarkson's Farm is now available on Amazon Prime and a third season is being filmed.

High Noon at the Eyesore

As Erskine campaigners finally met with the council last week, the E&L's NICK BROWNLEE was there to witness a very civilised showdown

It was a cold, clear day in Langholm, and the deputy leader of Dumfries & Galloway council was looking decidedly uncomfortable.

Maybe it was the posse of local residents gathered to meet him outside the Erskine Church that was making him edgy.

Or maybe, as he gazed up at the scaffolding and the crumbling stonework, he'd just realised that there was a very real prospect of the steeple falling on his head.

If so, then the residents had scored a victory even before they presented Cllr Richard Brodie with a hefty petition calling for the council to do something about the ugly old ruin.

Because they've been on edge and nervous for the last 20 years, just waiting for a high wind, bolt of lightning, or some other act of God to bring the Victorian building crashing down.

More immediately, they have felt mounting frustration that, despite repeated appeals for action, successive generations of councillors and planners have steadfastly dodged the issue.

Today, at least, something was happening.

The petition was organised by Denise Irving-Lang, an expat-Langholmite whose mum Anna lives within touching distance of the church.

As a girl, Denise and her pals used to play hide-and-seek in its blasted interior before it was declared a safety hazard and boarded up. After that, contractors came and erected scaffolding and safety nets – but it didn't stop slates and masonry falling into Anna's back yard.

And last year, when Denise heard the sound of water gushing deep in

the Erskine's bowels, she decided to take matters into her own hands.

"God knows what's going on in there," she said. "It just makes you fearful about what – if anything – is keeping the steeple up."

The meeting with the deputy leader last week was the culmination of a concerted online campaign which has involved bombarding the council with Freedom of Information requests. It was, as far as anyone could remember, the first time a senior elected council representative had bothered to visit the church.

Civilised

The Press were there, perhaps expecting fireworks. But as show-downs go, it turned out to be a very civilised affair. Around 30 people had turned up, shivering in the February chill as they waited to see what would happen next.

They included Jock and Irene Corrie and their friend Avril Green, who spoke for everyone when they said they were just sick of the sight of the Erskine dominating the Langholm skyline.

"It needs to come down," Avril said.

"Aye – before it falls down," Jock added. "It's a bloody eyesore."

The fact that Cllr Brodie was there was largely due to the persuasive skills of Langholm councillor Denis Male, whose efforts behind the scenes should not be underestimated. And, to his credit – or perhaps because he was surrounded – the deputy leader did not duck the media grilling.

"It's the story of a lot of derelict buildings in the region," he said, sounding resigned. "The owners of



SENDING A MESSAGE: Denise Irving-Lang hands the petition to Cllr Richard Brodie outside the Erskine Church, watched by Langholm councillor Denis Male and local residents

these properties don't look after them, they let them get into disrepair, and there's very little action that the council can do.

"We need more powers. At the moment all we can do is act to keep the building safe."

Did he know who the owners were? Cllr Brodie glanced at Cllr Male and admitted he didn't. But then not many people do – and therein lies the problem, perhaps. In fact they are a development company, based in the far north of Scotland, who seem to have little or no interest in developing the Erskine.

Dodging the HGVs thundering down the A7, the gathering crossed the street for the ceremonial presentation of the petition and some pictures for the newspapers. Again, it was all very civilised – although the tight-lipped expression on Denise's face as she shook hands with Cllr Brodie was a reminder, should he need it, that this would not be the end of the story.

"It was good of him to come today, but we still need answers," she said. "Hopefully the petition will show him the strength of feeling here in Langholm about the state of the church, and that he'll pass the message along to his colleagues at the council."

With that, the showdown was at an end and the gathering went its separate ways. The petition had made a point, but whether a few hundred signatures will hasten action remains to be seen. Nobody is holding their breath.

Meanwhile the steeple of the Erskine Church continues to loom over the Muckle Toon, its tarpaulins flapping gently in the breeze and the late winter sun glinting on its scaffolding.





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Forestry Grant Scheme survey

A public consultation has been launched to find out how farmers and other interested parties feel about future forestry grant support in Scotland.

The current Forestry Grant Scheme began in 2015 and has supported nearly six thousand projects, amounting to nearly 70,000 hectares of new woodland.

Now Scottish Forestry wants farmers, crofters, forestry companies, communities, local authorities and other environmental organisations to give their views on how the scheme can be invigorated to improve biodiversity and strengthen Net Zero targets.

Around half of the current woodland grant applications are for small scale projects, mostly from farmers who are integrating trees into their businesses.

Environment Minister Mairi McAllan says woodland provides multiple benefits for Scotland's people, environment

and economy. She believes it's important to get the right trees in the right place and for the right reason.

"Farmers, crofters and community woodland owners are all very important in achieving our woodland creation targets," she said. "I would encourage all those with an active interest in creating and managing woodlands to feed-back their views on future forestry grant support."

The consultation, which runs until May 17, poses a wide range of questions including how the grants can evolve to better tackle the climate emergency. It also wants to hear about measures which would help reduce any current barriers stopping farmers and crofters who want to integrate trees into their business.

The Scottish Government is increasing its woodland creation targets year on year, with a target of 18,000 ha of new woodland each year by 2024/5.

Empty shelves described as 'tip of the iceberg'

Empty supermarket shelves and shortage of fruit and vegetables may not just be a temporary situation.

That's the warning from NFU Scotland President Martin Kennedy who says it's time for a reality check for UK consumers and a reset on our priorities.

His words echo NFU leaders south of the border, who have described the situation as the "tip of the iceberg".

Many supermarkets are now limiting the number of vegetables each customer can buy, blaming bad weather in Spain and Morocco for a shortfall in the amount of produce coming in to the country.

Mr Kennedy says the weather is certainly one factor, but points out that supermarket shelves across Europe continue to be well stocked, because they are prepared to pay a decent price for the produce. In contrast, shoppers in the UK have grown accustomed to cheap prices, which can't be sustained in the



SCARCE: NFUS president, Martin Kennedy says it's time for a reality check

long term.

"In the UK, we spend just 14% of our income on food," he said. "That's the lowest in Europe and the third lowest in the world.

Meanwhile the already slender

profit margins of many producers have been wiped out by escalating costs. Some growers have seen energy costs increase from around £140,000 annually to more than £800,000.

"We have a far greater ability

and capacity to grow fruit and veg year-round than used to be possible," Mr Kennedy said. "But energy costs have ramped up so high it means growing just isn't feasible for producers unless they get a far better return."

At the beginning of the 1990's, the UK was around 85% self-sufficient in indigenous foods. That total has been falling steadily ever since and now stands at less than 60%. Mr Kennedy says the government needs to step in.

"The government should be intervening over public procurement. We should be using home-grown produce in schools, hospitals and every part of the public sector.

"Instead we've got products coming in from other parts of the world that are undermining our own ability to produce food."

He ended with a stark warning.

"Farmers don't go on strike. They simply stop producing."

Vlogger competition time

Auctioneers Harrison and Hetherington have launched a new competition in a bid to convince the younger generation of the benefits of dairy products.

The company has decided to hold a Young Farming Vlogger competition, with the main theme of showing primary school children where their milk comes from.

They say they've chosen this method because of the growing popularity of social media channels and outlets among the farming community and especially its younger members.

It comes following a rise in the number of vegans and other consumers turning to a variety of plant-based milks.

Harrison & Hetherington Auctioneer and Dairy Expo Event organiser, Glynn Lucas says he's expecting a spectacular response.

"Right now, with farming facing such a challenging future, it's never been more important for us to educate the public on



HERD'S MEDIA provides promotional videos, Global Livestream's, Land & Property material as well as classic professional photography

the importance of British farming as the country's main food producers," he said, "and that includes the top-quality milk they buy in the supermarkets."

Alastair Herd, director of Herd's Media which is sponsoring the competition, says he's amazed by the number and quality of videos made by people in farming, and covering every possible aspect of farming life.

"This is opening up a window

that gives the public a close-up view of real farming," he said. "I'm delighted to help encourage the next generation of young vloggers to keep showing people how important farming is to the country's future."

The competition is part of the Borderway UK Dairy Expo being held in Carlisle on March 10 and 11. Entry forms and instructions can be downloaded from H&H's Facebook page.

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Stunning tribute to homeland

Veronika's Ukraine artwork exhibited in top Cumbria gallery



STUNNING: Veronika's installation takes pride of place at Tullie House

An art installation created by a Ukrainian refugee living in Langholm has taken pride of place at one of Cumbria's premier galleries.

Veronika Zolotoverkha came to the UK in April last year after fleeing her war-torn homeland. She was one of a group of theatre directors at a venue in Luhansk – until bombs reduced the once beautiful structure to a shell.

Having already exhibited her photography locally, Veronika received funding from Carlisle City Council to create a piece in the city's Tullie House Gardens.

The result is a sculpture that Veronika says encapsulates the Ukrainian spirit, with prominent feature of the white stork, or Bird of Happiness, a symbol of hope for Ukrainian people.

Called 'Voice', it shows quotes from Ukrainians, anonymously speaking about their fear, insecurities, and stress amid the turmoil of war.

"This project will grow, it will change location as well," Veronika said. "The main symbol of this piece is the Bird of Happi-

ness, a Ukrainian traditional amulet – we believe it can bring good fortune to you.

"The project is named Voice because our country has many people, faces, and voices, but now we're talking about Ukraine all the time and we think all the time about it."

Veronika's theatre directing job in Luhansk came to a devastating end upon the building's destruction.

"It was very hard because all your life is broken, you worked, you had a dream, you had a plan, you love this place, but now it's just history, it cannot be rebuilt," she said.

Voice was shown over the weekend, but Veronika says the council is keen to move it to another venue soon.

"Next time I hope to have a portrait of refugees in this country, and it will give Ukrainians an opportunity to voice words they would not normally say in public... what you're feeling," she said.

"I want to take people's portraits and have their quotes alongside."

Teachers' strike

Schools across Dumfries and Galloway were closed for two days this week due to strike action.

Youngsters returned to classes on Monday after the mid-term break – but were back home on Tuesday and Wednesday as members of the Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS) walked out due to a pay dispute.

They're calling for a six per cent pay increase in 2022/23 and a further five and a half per cent in 2023/24.

Local EIS president, Julie Irving, said: "It is with great disappointment teachers are being forced to strike again. Quite simply, the system is near breaking point and teachers striking want the best for every young person in our schools.

"Education needs investment, it needs to be an appealing career to attract the best graduates and that includes having a salary comparable to other graduate professions."



ACTION: Teaching staff in the region manned picket lines this week.



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Find out more at: [ScottishWater.co.uk/Charges](https://www.scottishwater.co.uk/charges)



DAMAGED: Russian bombs have taken their toll on Luhansk theatre



1923 *A Play for Today and the last 100 years* 2023



If you thought Langholm Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society was all about singing, then think again.

This collection of archive photographs show that when it comes to treading the boards, the troupe who make up LAODS have plenty of acting and comedy chops.

This year, LAODS is celebrating 100 years of performances – and while the majority have been classic musicals, they've also delighted audiences by staging plays such as Last Tango In Whitby, Thark, and Albert – Make Us Laugh.

Prior to Covid, every November a highlight of the Langholm entertainment scene has been the LAODS winter play, which brings hundreds of people to the Buccleuch Centre.

We hope you enjoy this trip down memory lane – and we're sure you'll recognise a few familiar faces!



'The More the Merrier' - 1950s



'The Lady from Edinburgh' - 1949



Alan Weatherstone and Melanie Hair in the 2011 production of 'Last Tango in Whitby' in 2004



Maureen Borthwick, Alex Pool and Nicole Weatherstone in the 1994 production of Noel Coward's 'Present Laughter'



Lord Arthur Saville's Crime - 1992
Back: Bob McLure, Bobby Morrison, Alan Weatherstone, Sarah Dhesi, Alex Morrison and Alex Poll
Front: Sharon McDairmant, Maureen Borthwick, Jane Lodge and Marion Pool



Tony Roper's 'The Steamie' was first performed as part of Langholm and Eskdale Music & Arts Festival in August 1998



The cast of 'One o' Clock from the House which was staged in November 1988



Albert, Make us Laugh - 2014 with Les Murray, centre, in the title role

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

POLICE SCOTLAND

Langholm 101
Newcastleton 101

COUNCILS

Dumfries and Galloway Council
.....030 3333 3000
.....www.dumgal.gov.uk
Fault reporting (potholes/streetlights etc.....0800 042 0188
Langholm Town Hall/Library
.....013873 80255
Dumfries and Galloway bus timetables
www.dumgal.gov.uk/timetables
Scottish Borders Council .
0330 100 1800
out of hours 01896 752 111
Scottish Borders bus timetables
...www.scotborders.gov.uk

UTILITIES

Scottish Water
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.....www.scottishwater.co.uk
Scottish Power
.....105
...www.scottishpower.co.uk
Scottish Gas emergency ..
0800 111 999
National Rail enquiries
03457 484 950
.....www.nationalrail.co.uk
Floodline SEPA
.....03000 996 699
.....www.sepa.org.uk
BEAR Scotland (A7)
.....0800 0281414
.....www.bearscoot.com

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Rowanburn 013873 71542

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D&G Royal Infirmary
.....01387 246246
Cumberland Infirmary
.....01228 523444
Borders General Hospital
01896 826000
Thomas Hope Hospital
.....013873 80417

DOCTORS

Langholm ..013873 83100
Newcastleton 013873 75100
Canonbie ..013873 71313
NHS24111

CHURCHES

Langholm, Eskdalemuir Ewes and Westerkirk Parish churches
Ms Joy Lunn
Session clerk 07584 357180
Canonbie United Parish church
Session Clerk..013873 25255
Liddesdale Parish church
Session Clerk..Glynis Cambridge
07469 397065

SCHOOLS

Langholm Primary
.....013873 80900
Langholm Academy
.....013873 80418
Newcastleton
.....013873 75240
Canonbie
.....013873 71336

CHEMISTS

Davidson Chemist, Langholm
.....013873 80220
Monday to Friday
8.45am -1pm; 2pm-5.30pm.
Saturday 8.45am-12.30pm.
Boots Pharmacy, Longtown
.....01228 792859
Monday-Friday 9am - 6pm.
Saturday 9am-5pm.

DENTISTS

Mark Buddy 013873 80521
Emergency - outside opening hours

01461 202508

Take time for a stroll round Copshaw



GAVIN GRAHAM enjoys a leisurely exploration of Demainholm

I found this walk in an old publication of Visit Newcastleton – and the trees will have grown considerably since it was first published!

The land is owned by Buccleuch Estates and part of it is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

From the car park, turn left up the track into the forest. This is a good forest road and easy to walk and follow.

After about 400m, and just past a fenced pond on your right, you come to another forest road on your left; so follow this road which is clearly marked with the orange markers.

This forest road continues for about 1km and then eventually peters out and becomes a path that at times is not very clear, but there are still way markers to keep you on the right route. The walk goes straight ahead on a rough terrain.

Keep going along the trail to reach a point overlooking a small burn and on its far side a stone dyke. Turn left here and walk between the young and older trees until you reach an area of fine old trees. The Tinnis water is on your right beyond the dyke.

After about 300m a sign directs you left on a rough track that climbs steeply. At the top of the slope, it swings left and becomes grassy, running on for about 400m to return you to the main track. Turn right and walk back to

the main car park.

As it is so well signposted you can easily follow the route without looking too much on these notes – and because the trees ensure you cannot enter the places you are not supposed to go.

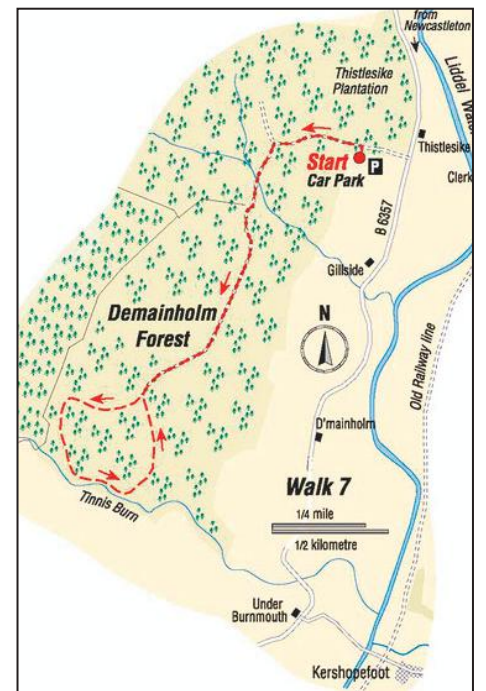
It's a very attractive walk and during spring and summer months there should be plenty of bird life to see, and if you are lucky there will also be deer.

When you finish your walk, which should take about 90 minutes, why not head into Newcastleton for a coffee or a bite to eat?

Distance: 5km/3 miles
Start/Finish: Demainholm Forest Car park on the west of the road 2km south of Newcastleton.

Terrain: Forest road and paths with some areas rough and wet at certain times of the year. The route is well signposted, and you follow the orange markers. There have been a few trees blown down during Storm Arwen and Buccleuch Estates have not cleared them yet but although they look to block the track or path there are easy detours round them that don't take you far from the path. Boots or strong shoes recommended.

Toilets: None on route, nearest in Newcastleton.
Total Elevation: 255ft.
Map: OS324 Liddesdale & Kershope Forest.



Illegal dumping hits the tipping point

- 600 cases of fly-tipping recorded in D&G region last year
- Taxpayers face massive £186m bill for rubbish clear-up



DISGRACE: Fly-tipping is a blight on the land, and costs millions to clear up. Across Scotland there have been more than 60,000 cases of illegal waste dumping in the last 12 months

Nearly 600 cases of fly-tipping were recorded in our region in the 12 months to January.

The shock figures for Dumfries & Galloway were revealed in a nationwide survey, which also showed that across Scotland there were around 60,000 cases of illegal waste dumping.

It's part of a problem which cost taxpayers and land-owners

an estimated £186 million every year to investigate and clear up.

The survey of all local authorities was carried out by the Scottish Conservatives.

Unacceptable

Local MSP Finlay Carson described the situation as "wholly unacceptable" – and had called for tougher measures.

"It is horrifying to think that some people find fly-tipping as being acceptable despite the misery and problem it often causes," he said.

"They seem to believe they can just dump it wherever they like and simply pass on their mess for someone else to clean up.

"In particular, if the rubbish is dumped on private land it is

left to the owner or possibly even a farmer to sort it out.

"Sometime in the case of hazardous materials, they are putting the lives of others at risk because the fly-tippers do not want to deal with it themselves."

Mr Carson added: "We need to deal with this urgently and bring in a raft of measures to discourage this behaviour. Tough

action needs to be taken and quickly before the situation gets even worse."

A Member's Bill on fly-tipping, being brought forward to Holyrood by Murdo Fraser MSP, has secured cross party support.

If passed it would strengthen the law and toughen punishments for breaching it.

Makers' Market

A brand-new Makers' Market gets its first outing in Newcastleton Village Hall on Saturday, providing a new regular outlet for local craftspeople and producers.

The initiative has come from Emma McLellan who runs the community interest company ReCloth in the village, which upcycles old fabrics to give them a new lease of life. She believes there's a wealth of skill and talent in the area, but a shortage of good venues to showcase them.

"There's a huge lack of retail space in Newcastleton and I realised there was a gap there," she says. "We have loads of really good makers and producers locally and I felt it would be great to give them a regular marketplace."

Newcastleton already stages a very popular annual Craft Fayre which draws in visitors and customers from many miles around. Emma says her version will be more of a Farmers' Market but with crafts as well.

The first one will include a rich variety of stalls, running from Fishmonger to Photographer, and from honey to home cooking with lots more besides.

Emma's also keen to encourage other people who enjoy making things but have never ventured into marketing them.

"We could have a regular guest table for people to see how it goes," she says.

The plan is to run the Makers' Market on the first Saturday of every month. Emma's aware that Langholm's Farmers Market runs on the same day but firmly believes the two can work in tandem rather than in competition.

Just take a look at oor new logo!

Alliance reveals new branding for Langholm

Langholm Alliance has unveiled a new logo and branding as part of its efforts to support the economic regeneration of the town.

The new logo, developed by web and graphic design agency Creatomatic, draws inspiration from the town's values, community spirit and heritage – and the Alliance hopes it will also help to attract new visitors to the area.

Tourism officer Sharon Tolson said: "The logo itself embodies a sense of community, drawing on Langholm's history with textiles and taking influence from the unique Muckle Toun Tartan, which in itself takes cues from the town's history and geography.

"With so much focus on tourism in the South of Scotland driven by industry experts, the need for

a unique brand identity is key for Langholm to be recognised as a destination for visitors who play an important part in contributing to the local economy.

"Creatomatic were a delight to work with, and designer Paul knew exactly what we wanted in a dynamic, modern logo with a nod to our rich heritage using the colours of our Muckle Toun Tartan.

Paul Gardner, designer at Creatomatic, said: "Being a local lad it was great to be asked to design a new logo and brand identity for the town.

"We've seen this kind of work really lift small towns like Langholm in past projects by helping them stand out from the crowd and showcasing all that's unique about them. We hope the new logo is something the local community can be proud of."



LANGHOLM
EXPLORE AND DISCOVER

BRAND NEW: Langholm's new logo is based on the colours in the Muckle Toun tartan and the new flags on the High Street add a new dimension



Looking back...

HOUSEWIVES—
here's a
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As soon after April 5th as existing shop stocks of 10d NEW RINSO have been sold this large packet of NEW RINSO will be sold at 9d.

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Here is a Royal recipe for Popular Pudding. It is specially prepared and tested, so there's no fear of failure.

RECIPE: 5 oz. plain flour; 3 level teaspoons Royal Baking Powder; 1 level tablespoon dried egg; 2 oz. sugar; 2 oz. margarine or suet; about $\frac{1}{2}$ pint warm milk and water; jam. **METHOD:** Sift together the dry ingredients, then rub in the fat. Add liquid and mix to a stiff batter. Place jam at bottom of a greased basin, add mixture, cover with greased



FREE!

UP-TO-DATE RECIPE BOOK
Send a postcard or letter (postage 2d.) to Marjorie Thornton, The Cookery Advice Bureau, Standard Brands Ltd., Aldwych House, London, W.C.2. She'll also help with any cookery problem.

paper and steam for two hours. Remember, Royal makes all baking lighter, and yet it never leaves a baking-powder taste.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER

YOUR EMPTY JAM JARS ARE WANTED!

Jam manufacturers are desperately short of jars, and will soon be in need of a supply for the new season's jam. Last year, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides collected about 7 million jars. This year we want to do even better. W.V.S. have kindly agreed to be the central organizers for the jam jar collection; in each area, after the various youth organizations have collected the jars, W.V.S. will arrange to receive them at a local depot and will pass them back to the manufacturers. This scheme, whose purpose is

to ensure your jam ration, deserves your full co-operation. Will you please help by looking through your "empties" and setting aside as many as you possibly can for the collector who will call.

Milk bottles, too, please

It's easy to forget to put out milk bottles at holiday time. But milk bottles are very, very scarce, and the milkman can't give you milk without them! This coming weekend, try hard to remember to put out the empty bottles every day.

Advertisements from Yesteryear

The Chief Scout says —

Forty years ago when Sir Robert Baden-Powell was writing the Law for the Scouts, he wrote as the 9th Law "A Scout is thrifty," because he knew the sense of independence that something in the bank could give. Many million boys throughout the world have been started on the right road to success by these words. But to-day this is far more than a personal need. If our country is to turn the corner, we must see that everybody saves all they can, not only in money but in goods too, for every bit of waste means men and materials employed in replacement, which could be used for making goods to exchange for food and raw materials from abroad. We are engaged in a new Battle of Britain; let's all play our part as in 1940, for only so can we win the Peace.

Rowan.



Photo by Karsh Ottson

ISSUED BY THE SCOTTISH SAVINGS COMMITTEE

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report Thursday 23rd February 2023

C&D Auction Marts Limited had forward 8,552 sheep comprising of 4,030 prime hogs and 4,522 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown on Thursday 23rd February 2023.

Cast cows continue to sell at recent high rates of return with all buyers keen to purchase. More numbers are required on a weekly basis to satisfy demand. The sale topped at £1,581 for a Beef Shorthorn from JDM Thomson, Newlands with top price per kilo of 186p again for Beef Shorthorns from Eaglesfield.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sam Hogg 07584 207323 who will be pleased to take your calls.

A smaller show of 4,030 prime hogs were forward. Lightweight hogs and export hogs proved very good to sell whilst heavier commercial hogs met some resistance. Lightweight and export weight hogs are in demand and are keenly sought after for next weeks sale. Please don't hesitate to contact our auctioneers for further enquiries.

Top price per head of £156 for Beltex hogs shown by DS & RC Taylor, Easter Ochtermuthill, Perth.

Top per kilo of 375p for Beltex hogs from JW Vevers, High Stennies, Waterbeck.

Achieving an overall average 237.0p (SQQ 242.9p)

PRINCIPAL PRICES (PER KILO)

Beltex 375p High Stennies, 372p Maulscastle, 357p, 354p, 352p Easter Ochtermuthill, 347p Carse of Clary, 343p Station Yard, 342p Carse of Clary.
Texel 321p The Flatt, 276p Nether Albie, 275p Torrax, 267p Causey View, 263p East Kirk, Longrigg & Tails of Watten.
Cheviot 278p Glendearg, 266p Beltonhill, 258p Lurgan, 253p Cleughbrae & Pendicle, 252p Lurgan.
Dutch Spotted 265p Maulscastle.
Suffolk 264p Maulscastle, 258p Gartvaigh, 253p High Dalrioch, 245p Nether Tofts & Donrentin.
Hampshire 257p Rowanburnfoot.
Charollais 256p Hepplecleugh, 244p Ryehills.
Cheviot Mule 250p Thornshipp.
Blackface 246p Mid Harrietsfield, 244p Cleuchhead, 239p Pasture House, 238p Roughet Hill & Chapel.
Kendal Rough 241p Cleuchhead.
Herdwick 241p Longrow.
Millennium Blue 240p Howard House.
Mule 239p Thornshipp, 238p, 237p Orchardbank, 237p High Lovelady Shield, 232p Ottercops & Killeonan.
North Country Cheviot 239p Myrelandhorn, 235p Haster.
Romney 234p Donrentin, 228p

Pearsby Hall.
Swaledale 220p Ottercops, 216p Woodhall, 214p Westernhopeburn.

PRINCIPAL PRICE (PER HEAD)

Beltex £156, £150 Easter Ochtermuthill, £150 Carse of Clary & High Stennies, £149 Maulscastle, £147 Carse of Clary, £144 Station Yard & Drumcain.
Texel £148 Easter Ale Moor, £135 East Raffles, £132 Easter Ale Moor & Station Yard, £130 East Raffles.
Suffolk £134 Gartvaigh, £128 Guardsmill, £125 West Glengyre, £124 Gartvaigh, £120 Hallburn Croft.
North Country Cheviot £128 Guardsmill, £124 Slealands.
Dutch Spotted £121 Maulscastle.
Dorset £120 Lowfield House.
Cheviot Mule £114 Westernhopeburn, £110.50 Station Yard.
Mule £112 Killeonan, £109 Gartvaigh, £106.50 Finnierness.
Cheviot £110 High Mossthorn, £108.50 Westernhopeburn, £108 Station Yard.
Charollais £110 Braes of Enzie.
Blackface £109 Chapel, £106.50, £106 Fingland.

A smaller show of 4,522 cast ewes and rams forward. All classes sold to improved rates and can be sold to vendor advantage on a weekly basis

as purchasers flock to Longtown to take advantage of the numbers available. Ewes wanted for the coming weeks sales as trade looks set to maintain or improve further on this weeks high rates of return.

Texel ewes topped at £275 from Craig Farm Co., Craig Farm, Langholm. Hill ewes to £108 for Blackfaces from A Carruthers & Son, Peela Hill, Bewcastle.
Rams sold to £172 for Texels from A & J Richardson, Sheepriggs, Alston.
As ewe numbers have eased nationally, trade is warming up nicely and quantities of all breeds and classes of ewes are actively sought after for the coming weeks sales. Please do not hesitate to contact our auctioneers, who will be pleased to take your calls for all further enquiries or entries.
John Walton 07880 527 066
Nick Woodmass 07854 200 489
Sam Hogg 07584 207 323
Norman Douglas 07786 366 833

HEAVY EWES

Texel £275, £260 Craig Farm, £250 Beckfoot & Carran, £235 Viewley, £220 Lakeside & Viewley.
Charollais £212, £192 Southdean Lodge, £180 Beckfoot, £178 Maryholm, Chaseside & Viewley.
Beltex £208 Maulscastle, £195

Carse of Clary, £180 Easter Ochtermuthill.

Rouge £200 Viewley.

Suffolk £176 Viewley, £170 Maulscastle, £160 Murnells, Thuster Mains & Guardsmill, £156 Chaseside.

Blue Texel £155 Morwood, £148 Lawston.

North Country Cheviot £144 Whins, £135 Haster, £133 Whitton, £130 Wynholm & Mains of Machermore.

Bluefaced Leicester £144 Holme Head, £138 Arnicle, £134 Holme Head.

Cheviot Mule £122 Becks, £118 Mains of Machermore, £116 Allfor-naught.

Lleyn £122 The Height.

Mule £121 Dairy Barn, £116 Killeonan & Whitton, £115 High House, £114, £113 Marygate, £112 Thuster Mains.

LIGHT EWES

Blackface £108 Peela Hill, £88 Towiemore, £87, £86 Fingland, £87 Viewley, £86 Gibblaston, £84 Peela Hill.
Cheviot £107 Allfor-naught, £102 Cleuchhead, £100 Kinnelcutty, £98 Towiemore & Trezibbet, £96 South Bogbain, £94 Becks.
Easycare £88 Nether Firth, £77 Cockburn.

Swaledale £80 Whitton, £76 High Parkfoot, £69 Whitton.

RAMS

Texel £172 Sheepriggs, £170 Beckfoot, £165 Heatherglen, £158 Dairy Barn, £155 Beckfoot.

Berrichon £170 Lakeside.
Suffolk £160 Harehead, £148 Viewley, £140 Wilseydown.

Charollais £158 Deuchrie, £150 Chaseside.

Bluefaced Leicester £130 Tecket.
North Country Cheviot £120 Harehead.

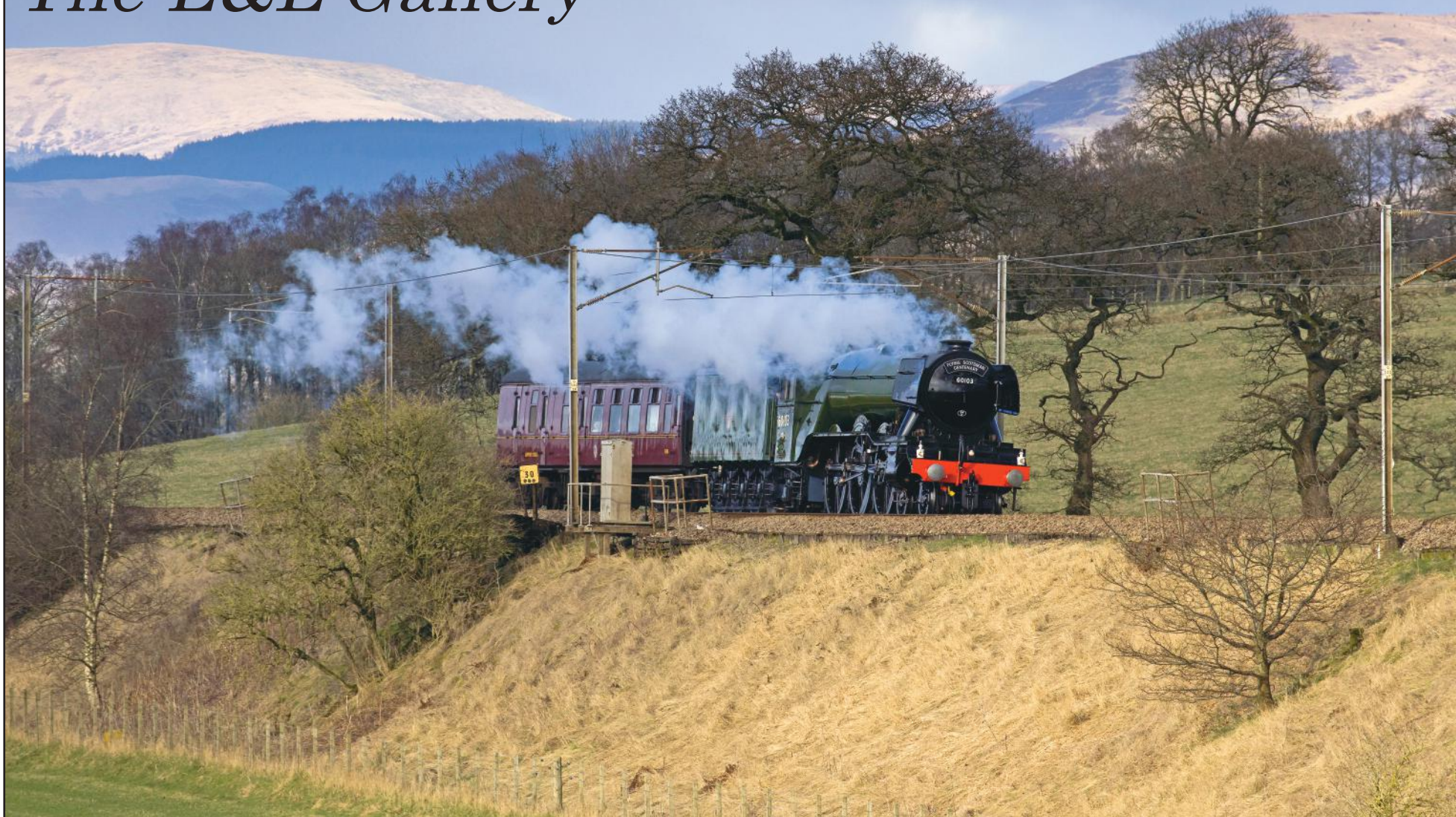
Blackface £120 Barron House.

AVERAGES:

| Hogs | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Light to | 284.0p (240.2p) |
| Standard to | 347.0p (239.2p) |
| Medium to | 375.0p (245.8p) |
| Heavy to | 297.0p (223.8p) |
| Ewes | |
| Light to | £108.00 (£58.96) |
| Heavy to | £275.00 (£114.70) |
| Rams to | |
| | £172.00 (£109.83) |



The E&L Gallery



The Flying Scotsman flew through the region on Friday as part of its 100th Anniversary celebrations. Alistair Moulstone of Eaglesfield captured this brilliant shot of her in all her glory.
Camera: Canon R5 with a 100-400 mm lens



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 the email address below. Let us know what camera or phone you used.

Email them to alan@eladvertiser.co.uk or drop a printed copy into our office at 47A High Street, Langholm.

Photo by: Kenneth McLean

Eskdale & Liddesdale
Advertiser
born in 1848 and still going strong!

Langholm Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society

A Century of Song

In celebration of the Society's 100th Anniversary

Wednesday 22nd to
Friday 24th March
7.30pm
£15 concs £12

LANGHOLM'S
LONG-ESTABLISHED
am-dram society is celebrating
an impressive anniversary this year!

It is 100 years since their first performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's 'The Mikado' in 1923. In celebration of this achievement, LAODS will stage a centenary concert in The Buccleuch Centre with excerpts from shows performed in those 100 years. With everything from The Mikado to The Wizard of Oz you can be assured of another quality performance from Langholm favourites, LAODS!

100

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013873 83101
Aileen Cavers aileen.cavers@nhs.scot
013873 83102

Closing date for applications Monday 6th March 2023

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PLANNING

The applications, associated plans and documents can be viewed on-line by following the ePlanning link on the Council's website at www.dumgal.gov.uk/planning. Written comments may be made to Head of Economy and Development by email to Planning@dumgal.gov.uk or via the Council's website, as noted above, by 16.03.2023 (Type A).

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 as amended
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, Reg 20(1) (A)

| Ref No/Type | Address/Proposal |
|----------------|---|
| 23/0086/FUL(A) | Meikleholm Cottage, Holmwood Drive, Langholm - Change of use, alterations and erection of extension to abandoned cottage to bring back into use as a dwellinghouse |
| 23/0088/FUL(A) | Land North Of Meikleholm Cottage, Holmwood Drive, Langholm - Erection of dwellinghouse |

www.dumgal.gov.uk Dumfries & Galloway COUNCIL

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March 2023

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WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

contact alan@eladvertiser.co.uk to be added to the What's On

| | | |
|------------------|--|--|
| Sat 4th | Love Langholm Local Market | The Buccleuch Centre 9am-1pm |
| | Copshaw Makers' Market | Newcastleon Village Hall 10am - 2pm |
| | Bob Drury's Viva Neil Diamond | The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm |
| Mon 6th | Langholm Golf Club AGM | Golf Clubhouse 7pm |
| Wed 8th | Painting for Pleasure | The Studio, Maxwell Place 1-3pm every Wednesday |
| | Conversational Café & re-launch of Citizens Advice | Langholm Social Club 6.30-8.30pm |
| | Eskdale History Group Speaker: Dr John Reid | The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm |
| Wed-Fri 22-24 | LAODS A Century of Song | The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm |
| Wed 29th | James Ketchell 'It's All Mental' | The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm |
| Thu 30th | Newcastleon LLAGS Borders Distillery Tasting Evening | Newcastleon Village Hall 7.30pm |

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

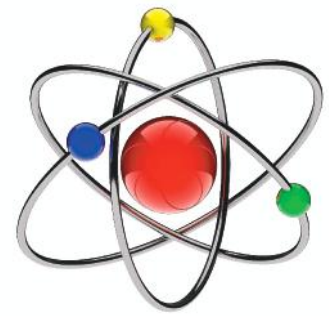
LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

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The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 233...answers next week

- 1) Which politician famously said 'Ich bin ein Berliner'?
- 2) In chemistry what is the smallest part of an element that can take part in a chemical reaction?
- 3) Which football team has the nickname of the 'Trotters'?
- 4) Which American president became known as 'Tricky Dicky'?
- 5) What does the acronym ASH represent in terms of wellbeing?
- 6) Which 'C' is an ornamental moulding running around the walls of a room near the ceiling?
- 7) What is the name of the prison housed on the Isle of Wight?
- 8) The Chinese year 2023 is represented by which animal?
- 9) The song 'White Christmas' by Irving Berlin won the Best Original Song oscar in which film?
- 10) True or false, before becoming a famous actor Matt LeBlanc worked as a carpenter?
- 11) Orthodontists, Endodontists and Pedodontists are experts within which medical field?
- 12) Andy Weir's novel The Martian is set on which planet?
- 13) The only wild monkey population in Europe can be found in which British Overseas Territory?
- 14) Scarlett Alice Johnson played Vicki Fowler in which TV soap?
- 15) Chroma is the measure of purity of what?
- 16) Sheer, Satin, Matte or Glossy are all finish types of which makeup item?
- 17) French, German and which other language is officially spoken in Belgium?
- 18) Which Italian Baroque composer was known for his work 'The Four Seasons'?
- 19) Darren Gough represented England in which sport?
- 20) What is the name of the narrator in the film Moby Dick?



Langholm lads make their mark



FAB FOUR: Will Donaldson, Jake Park, Brady Wilson and Ryan Wood

Langholm's Magnificent Four were in rugby action once again as Hawick Youth U18s travelled to Portadown in Northern Ireland to continue their friendship with the club.

Will Donaldson, Jake Park, Brady Wilson and Ryan Wood all played their part in a thrilling match.

The hosts were quick out of the blocks with an early try, but Hawick battled back to take a narrow lead into half time. In the

second half, Hawick's strength and fitness came to the fore, as they ran out victors by a score of 27-5.

The tireless Will Donaldson even had the energy to turn out for Portadown U16's the following day, against a strong Clogher Valley team. The Hawick boys showed their fighting qualities and started to gel with their colleagues, resulting in a great comeback to win 24-21.

A great weekend was had by all with many memories made.

Never a Crossword!

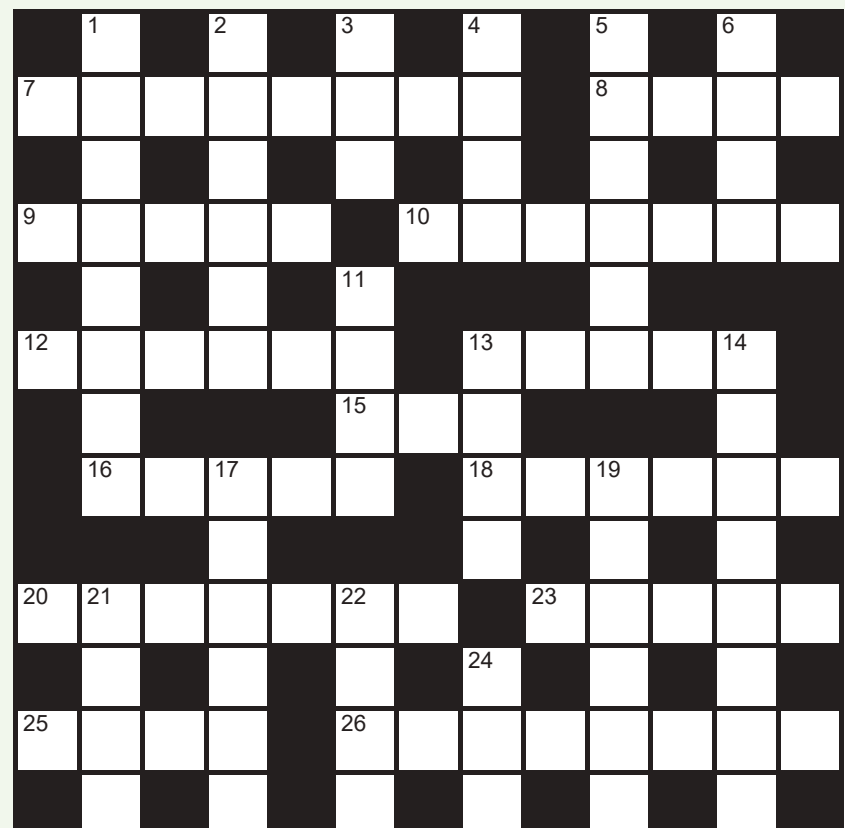
No. 232...answers next week

Across

- 7 Provided with protective covering (8)
- 8 Speck (4)
- 9 Gather (5)
- 10 Boat race (7)
- 12 Type of variable electrical control (6)
- 13 Embarrass (5)
- 15 Stimulus (3)
- 16 Expiry (5)
- 18 Yield post (6)
- 20 Wool fat (7)
- 23 Crowbar (5)
- 25 Hardens (4)
- 26 Pertaining to a school (8)

Down

- 1 Quivered (8)
- 2 Israeli intelligence agency (6)
- 3 Illustrative craft (3)
- 4 Verge (4)
- 5 Largest desert (6)
- 6 Wood (4)
- 11 Mischievous (4)
- 13 Relating to aircraft (4)
- 14 Sanitary (8)
- 17 Excite (6)
- 19 Scandinavian kingdom (6)
- 21 Second son of Adam and Eve (4)
- 22 Formerly Mesopotamia (4)
- 24 Grass (3)





Business as usual for Milntown men

Champions Langholm cruise to win in scratch fixture

Rugby

Langholm 30 Annan 7

By Kenneth Pool

With Hawick Linden not being able to fulfil the last league match of the season, a friendly match was arranged at Milntown between a Langholm select and an Annan select on Saturday.

Before the match there was a minutes silence in memory of Bryan Rae, life member and a great supporter of the club.

But despite its scratch nature, the match – played in front of a good crowd in dry, breezy conditions – proved to be an entertaining one with plenty of action from both sides.

In the first half both had their share of possession and both created chances – but neither team could make a breakthrough and, remarkably, there was no score at half time.

But in the early part of the second half it was Annan who took the lead with a breakaway try scored between the posts,



CRUNCH TIME: The Langholm and Annan packs size each other up during their clash at Milntown on Saturday

which was converted.

It wasn't long however before the home side struck back with a try by scrum half Andy Allison.

Langholm now started to dominate the play and put together some good moves that stretched the Annan defence. Calum Henderson was prominent in attack, and winger Jay Gordon scored following a

good run from the ball which was whipped along the line.

Langholm had certainly picked up the pace and another good move saw the other winger, Jamie Gormley, in at the corner.

More pressure from the Milntown men brought another try from Steve Nicol, quickly followed by a second try from the predatory Calum

Henderson. The scoring was completed in the dying moments of the match when Euan Patterson crashed over for a good try.

A big thanks was expressed to Annan RFC for helping to arrange the fixture at such short notice – and a good afternoon (and evening!) was had by all at Milntown.



Conan: another race another medal

Athletics

Langholm running star Conan Harper's latest race outing saw him in action at the Lindsays scottishathletics National Cross Country Championships in Falkirk at the weekend.

Still only 17, Conan was competing in the U20s race – and finished third in a highly competitive field.

Both athletes ahead of him were English, but studying in Scotland which meant Conan was the first Scottish runner across the line.

The two runners ahead of him were 20 and international hill runners. This is a big improvement on previous years, and will qualify him for the British Inter-Counties XC championships in Loughborough, where he will be looking to get a medal in the U20 category.

He also received a silver medal as part of the Giffnock North team.

Bowled over by great weekend

Carpet Bowling

Another great weekend of indoor bowling kicked off on Friday night, when 50 bowlers attended the annual Canonbie singles tournament.

Wullie Mair was the winner, with Matt Hall a close second.

On Saturday, 14 bowlers under the age of 18 from Langholm attended the Scottish carpet Bowling Association's junior singles tournament. The club have had success in this tournament for the past four years.

Aaron Wood, 13, from the Potholm was the champion after defeating Kerr Gordon of Langholm in the final. The beaten semi-finalists were Aidan Lockhart from Kirkcudbright and Corey Park of Langholm.



WESTRUTHER WINNERS: Ally Hall, Danny Hotson, Matt Hall and Ian Hall

The club are super-proud of all 14 youngsters for representing themselves and the club in this prestigious competition. Ian Hall was a joint sponsor along with Shelagh Hogg who dedicated the competition to the late Bruce Jeffrey.

On Sunday the local team of Ian, Matt & Ally Hall and Danny Hotson

on the Berwickshire rinks tournament, held at Westruther village hall.

The tournament had 18 rinks entered and the winners beat a strong rink made up of David Orchiston, Derek Murray, Mick Currie & Gary McColm in the final.

Curling ends in style



WINNERS: Derek Plumstead, Marilyn Muir, Anne Vevers and Norman Elliott.

Eskdale Curling Club concluded the league for the Duncan Baddon Cup – kindly donated by Mrs Pat Baddon in memory of her late husband Duncan, a past member of the club.

After a double round robin league, the eventual winners were the team of Marilyn Muir, Anne Vevers and Norman Elliott, skipped by Derek Plumstead.

The cup will be presented at the annual dinner later in the year.

E&L SPORT

