

Sound advice for dog owners

Canine physio gives some tips

SEE PAGE 10



Max takes the triples prize

Old Town's young bowler helps team to win

SEE PAGE 16



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Series 2 No. 8551

Established May 1848

Thursday June 6, 2024

www.eladvertiser.co.uk £1.00

Castleholm meeting sees positive public reaction

Upkeep and financial sustainability are the main concerns but everyone largely in favour of takeover



Roger Maxwell, the chairman of the interim board of the Castleholm Community Trust, welcomed around 60 people to the public meeting held in The Buccleuch Centre last Wednesday.

Roger stated that their role had been to work with Buccleuch to transfer the Castleholm to community ownership and present this opportunity to the people of Langholm.

He said: "The Duke of Buccleuch has generously offered to gift the Castleholm and some adjoining woodlands to the community. To represent the community, the Castleholm Community Trust (CCT) was formed. However, this transfer will only happen if the majority of Langholm residents support it."

The agenda for the meeting was:

- The background of the

project, including the land, bridges, and rivers involved.

- The formation and role of the Castleholm Community Trust.

- The responsibilities, financial challenges, and opportunities for developing the Castleholm as a centre for sport and recreation.

- How Langholm residents can support this project by becoming members of the Castleholm Community Trust.

Kenneth Pool then provided a brief history of the Castleholm, dating back many centuries, and its significance to Langholm.

The transfer will include the Castleholm from the Ewes up to the Ha-ha at the 'faraway end,' the woodlands opposite the Duchess' Bridge to the school, and the Ewes and Esk where they border with the Castleholm, along with the

Duchess' Bridge itself.

"With ownership comes responsibilities, but the opportunities far outweigh them. Let's make the most of this once-in-a-lifetime chance!" he said.

Delving deeper into the financial challenges associated with the Castleholm community takeover, Roger highlighted:

1. Maintenance Costs: As the new custodians of the Castleholm, the community will bear the responsibility of maintaining the grounds, bridges, and woodlands. Regular upkeep, repairs, and landscaping require funding. A sustainable financial plan will need to be established to cover these ongoing costs.

2. Infrastructure Improvements: While the Castleholm has historical significance, some of its infrastructure may be outdated or in need of enhancement. Upgrading facilities,

ensuring accessibility, and modernising amenities will require capital investment. Funding sources will need to be explored for these improvements.

3. Operational Expenses: Day-to-day operations, such as managing events, security, and administrative tasks, come with associated expenses. The Castleholm Community Trust will need to allocate funds for these essential functions.

4. Community Programs and Activities: To fully utilise the Castleholm's potential, we aim to develop it as a hub for sports, leisure, and recreation. Organising events, workshops, and community programs will require financial support. Again, securing funding or grants to make these activities accessible to Langholm residents will be required.

5. Long-Term Sustainability: While the initial transfer is a gift, the Trust must plan for the long term. Endowment funds, sponsorships, and community fundraising efforts will play a crucial role in ensuring the Castleholm's sustainability beyond the immediate transition.

Roger concluded by saying: "These financial challenges are not insurmountable. By working together and exploring creative solutions, the community can overcome them and create a vibrant, community-driven Castleholm for generations to come!"

> Turn to Page 2

INSIDE



D&G to host Lunar Symposium

An international cohort of 150 lunar scientists is to visit Dumfries and Galloway later this month. The annual European Lunar Symposium is to be hosted by the Open University of Scotland in Dumfries.

Delegates will also visit Langholm to see, first hand, the town's proud connection with Neil Armstrong.

Full story on Page 5

Family Announcements

Deaths

WALDIE, Iain

Peacefully on the 26th May at DGRI after an illness bravely borne, and surrounded by his loving family and friends, Iain aged 68 years, a much loved brother, brother-in-law and a loyal friend to many.

Funeral service will be held at Langholm Parish Church on Monday 10th June at 12:00 noon followed by interment at Langholm Cemetery. Friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Family flowers only, donations if so desired will be for the Alexandra Unit at DGRI. All enquires to Nicholson's Funeral Directors 01228 791098. Iain will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Thanks for Sympathy

BART-SMITH, Peter

Elizabeth, Hilary, Guy, Anna and Emily together with all the family would like to thank everyone who has sent letters, cards, flowers, and kind messages following the very sad loss of Peter. He would have been so touched by all this. We also thank everyone who was able to attend the service at Carlisle Crematorium. Your presence made such a difference and helped us all during this sad time.

Thank you for generously donating £766.00 which will be shared between Langholm Cricket Club and Alzheimer's UK.

A special thank you to Frank Davis who delivered a lovely service and to Nicola and Adam of Nicholson's Funeral Directors who guided us through the day.

We shall miss Peter very much and will remember him as the kind and caring man he was.

Thanks

Billy and Liz Young

would like to thank all those who sent cards, gifts and best wishes on their retirement from The Paper Shop.

They are very grateful to everyone who has supported them over the last nineteen years and hope they will continue to support Elizabeth and Kelvin in the years to come.



share the news of any...

- engagements
- marriages
- births
- christenings
- birthdays
- anniversaries
- congratulations

contact us on 013873 80012 | alan@eladvertiser.co.uk

Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Church Notices

CANONBIE UNITED & LIDDESDALE PARISH CHURCHES

Liddesdale and Canonbie Churches welcome you
Sunday 9th June Communion
 10am Liddesdale and 11:30 Canonbie.

Rev Morag Crossan
07448 606053
 or email mcrossan@churchofscotland.org.uk

LANGHOLM, ESKDALEMUIR, EWES & WESTERKIRK PARISH CHURCHES

Church Services
Sunday 2nd June
 Langholm 10am
 Westerkirk 1.30pm

Contact us for transport
0744 885 8818.

Tel: 013873 73755.

Charity no. SCO11946

Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

47A High Street, Langholm DG13 0JH

Contact us at the E&L: Office 013873 80012
 Editor Alan Weatherstone Features Editor Gilly Fraser
 All correspondence to: newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk

Backing Bailey



Langholm Common Riding 2024

Before heading off to Hawick for the Denholm Rideout, Cornet Bailey Donaldson was invited to pop in to Langholm Producers' Market last Saturday where he was presented with a canvas print by photographer David McVittie.

Pictured here are market organisers Michael Hogg and David McVittie making the presentation to Bailey



Karen & Stuart's Middlebie Wedding

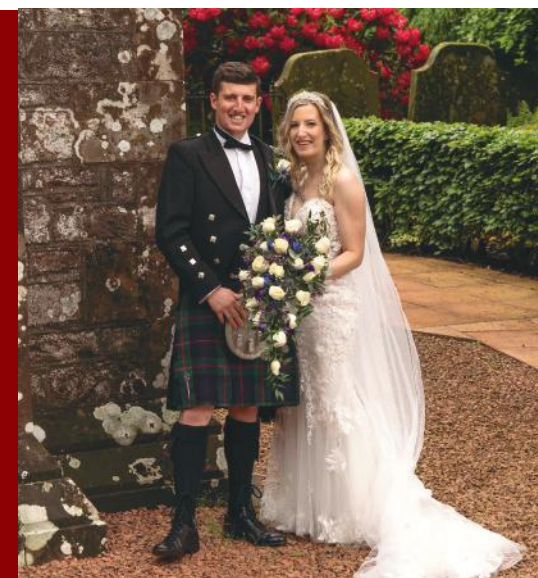
A recent ceremony, held in Middlebie Church saw the marriage of Karen Richardson of Middlebie to Stuart Murray of Langholm.

Karen was attended by Bridesmaid Shonagh Murray and Stuart's Best Man was Neil Fletcher.

In a lovely touch, transport to the wedding was by vintage car and vintage coach.

A reception was held at Skitby House in Smithfield.

We wish them both well.



Questions and suggestions

< From Page 1

Below is a list of concerns/questions raised by members of The public regarding the Castleholm takeover.

These will be noted by the interim board but then passed to the permanent board when it is formed at the AGM which will be held later in the year:

- Concerns regards the sewage running from the houses at top end of Castleholm to the Millenium Bridge;
- Concern regards the wood at the roadside at Holmwood and storm damage and its maintenance;
- Issues in the past with drainage and soil;
- Concern regards the users paying a service fee;

The chairman also asked the audience for any suggestions they might have as to how the Castleholm could be used in the future. Again, these would all be considered by the permanent board when in place:

- Need for proper roads and paths for disabled users;
- Fishing rights;
- Make a focal point of the castle;
- Market Gardens;
- Turn some of the woods into orchards;
- Music Festival;
- Art & Sculpture;
- Botanic Garden;
- Pottery Festival.

Please keep an eye on the E&L and social media for updates.



Still 'no' to hound trails on Blackburn and Hartsgarth

“ecological stewardship is often at odds with traditional views on land use”

The group which bought twelve thousand acres of Langholm Moor has described the work done by Tarras Valley Nature Reserve as “inspiring.”

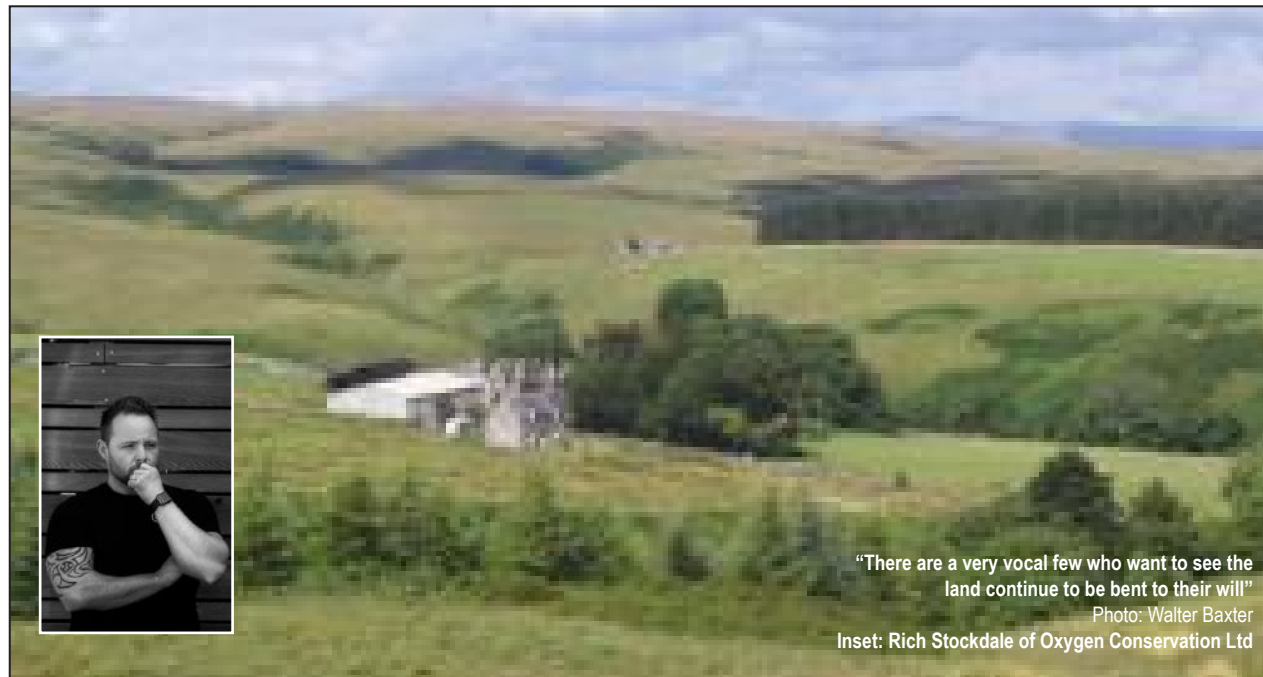
Writing in Oxygen Conservation’s regular newsletter, Founder and Managing Director Rich Stockdale says it’s all part of a remarkable transformation currently underway in Scotland as traditional estates evolve.

“This shift is not just about land management,” he writes. “It represents a profound change in values and a reimagining of the role these vast tracts of land can play in the 21st century.”

Inspiring

“Another inspiring story comes from Langholm Moor, where a community group successfully purchased a large area from the Buccleuch Estate. This initiative marked a significant shift in land ownership from private hands to community stewardship.

“The community’s primary goal is to manage the land for the benefit of both the local



“There are a very vocal few who want to see the land continue to be bent to their will”

Photo: Walter Baxter

Inset: Rich Stockdale of Oxygen Conservation Ltd

population and wildlife, emphasising sustainable practices like peatland restoration and woodland creation. This move towards a community-led approach to managing and benefiting from natural resources is a testament to the changing perception and value of land in Scotland.”

Mr Stockdale’s own plans for the former Blackburn and Hartsgarth farms have caused a degree of controversy, particularly over his decision to ban the locally popular sport of hound trailing on the land. He has also faced opposition in other estates now owned by the company.

Debates

“The concept of land ownership for ecological stewardship is often at odds with traditional views on land use, sparking debates over land rights and management practices.

“There are a very vocal few

who want to see the land continue to be bent to their will, grazed, beaten, and burnt to produce the patchwork landscape they want to see for hunting, giving little thought to the environmental, ecological, or economic cost of doing so.”

Initiative AGM well attended

The Langholm Initiative turns 30 this year and last week held its Annual General Meeting in the Buccleuch Centre. With a good turnout of members, staff gave presentations about the work they have been involved in over the year to create the Tarras Valley Nature Reserve and about work that lies ahead.

An update was also given about work related to the Townfoot sports centre and the Information Hub. There has been limited activity with the sports centre in the last year but there have been recent discussions with SEPA and the Council’s flood risk management team. The sports centre team is getting a costing for a flood risk assessment and once a price has been received a decision will be taken on a way forward for the project. The information hub continues to operate from the Kilngreen and more volunteers are being sought to offer two hour stints to meet and greet visitors to the town.

The Langholm Initiative is seeking new trustees and if anyone is interested in finding out about what this entails information can be provided by Joyce Ireland, Office Manager at the Initiative office – phone 013873 80914 or by emailing joyce@tarrasvalleynaturereserve.co.uk.



Langholm and Eskdalemuir history groups set to merge

Prior to their AGM on Wednesday 22nd May the Eskdale History group were treated to an enjoyable and insightful talk from Ian Lowes of Hawick, about the Border and Australian bush poet, Will Ogilvie. Ian spoke eloquently about Ogilvie. He quoted from a number of the poet’s works and also included a lovely tribute written to the great man, by former Langholm Cornet David Hyslop Pool.

AGM

Chair of the group, Margaret Pool, opened the AGM by saying that 2023/24 season had proved rather disappointing. Of the seven proposed talks/presentations it had set out to deliver, only three, including that evening’s had taken place despite the best efforts of the Secretary, Lavinia Vaughan.

She had found that many organisations closed down over the winter and speakers appeared increasingly reluctant to turn out on dark winter nights, in



uncertain weather, or to brave the hazards posed by our notorious potholed roads.

As a result of these and other issues a meeting had been held with representatives from the Eskdalemuir Hub earlier in the Spring to discuss a possible new direction for both groups.

The suggestion was made that working in partnership and rescheduling the talks, might go some way towards easing matters. Instead of programming

talks for the winter months, it could be considered holding them over the early Spring/Autumn with a break mid-summer for outings to sites of historical and archaeological interest which would hopefully prove more attractive to speakers.

Resignations

At the conclusion of the meeting Mrs Pool said that she, along with the Treasurer and Secretary

of the Eskdale History Group, would be retiring.

Having brought those present up to date with the situation, those present were delighted when Max Blake, a relative newcomer to Langholm, stepped forward to offer his services as Chair. This was accepted unanimously. His election was quickly followed by that of Marilyn Harris as Treasurer, Lara Porter as Secretary and Tracey Hughes as Media Manager.

It is hoped a committee will be formed very shortly and that in future meetings will take place alternately, in the Buccleuch Centre and Eskdalemuir Hub.

Further discussion will have to take place over the name of the newly amalgamated organisation.

It was explained that it had emerged after last year’s change of name by the Langholm group, that Banks and Building Societies do not welcome such changes and a reversion to something closer to the original title might have to be agreed.

Book your eyetest today
Personal care and attention from your first appointment with us.
Spectacles and Contact Lenses to suit all budgets

ERIC HAGAN
OPTICIANS
www.erichaganopticians.co.uk

Longtown
Tel: 01228 791664
Brampton
Tel: 016977 42703

To advertise in the E&L Advertiser, please contact us on 013873 80012 or email alan@eladvertiser.co.uk

Swallows & martins

Eskdale Wildlife Watch Group met on Saturday to look at migratory birds who come to Langholm from Africa.

These included martins, swallows and swifts. The group is a Scottish Wildlife Trust initiative and is led by Langholm-based Kirsty McHugh who is studying zoology at university, Kat Mayer who works on the Tarras Valley Nature Reserve and other volunteers. They take the children out around Langholm with the aim of generating a love for wildlife amongst local young people.

The young people are taken on nature walks, play woodland games and do arts in crafts outside. The activities take place on the last Saturday of the month from 10am to 12 o'clock. The sessions cost £1 per child.

Forthcoming activities are posted on the Eskdale Wildlife Watch Facebook page so if you have a child or grandchild who might be interested take a look on Facebook.



Community Council need to address complaints

Councillor Male updates meeting on some issues of concern

Monday evening saw the June meeting of Langholm, Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council in the Town Hall Chambers.

There was very little on the agenda this month and as there were no police in attendance, their written report was distributed. There was a report on the presence of fake £20 notes in the area and people should be vigilant. A car was damaged in Wapping Lane.

There was also a report of an abandoned caravan on the Lockerbie road just past Callisterhall.

The Fire Service consultation 'Shaping our Future Service - have your say' is open until 30th June. This can be accessed online at firescotland.gov.uk.

Councillor Denis Male reported on the following issues which he is either currently dealing with or has been informed about:

■ **School crossing**

Railings for the school will cost £2800 to £3000. He may enlist help from locals to install the railings.

■ **Road Issues**

Coun Male is chasing an update on Caroline Street, David Street and Arkinholm Terrace and is investigating pothole complaints from residents in The Benty and Douglas Terrace.

■ **Murtholm**

There will be a meeting, hopefully in June, with councillors about the Murtholm.

■ **Drove Road**

The appropriate Council Department has been asked to ensure that the hole in the Drove Road wall is protected before the Common Riding.

■ **Buccleuch Park**

The wall between Buccleuch Park and the church is in danger of collapsing. This has been reported.

■ **Parking**

Concerns have been raised about the state of the disabled parking areas in the Community Centre Car Park. Also other spaces are too tight resulting in cars being damaged.

■ **Market Place**

Support is being sought from the public by the Community Council for rubber parking stops outside First Bite.

■ **Rivers**

The Area Manager has been asked to organise a meeting with SEPA to get an update on the gravel removal situation and discuss the flood plain.

■ **A7 Main Road**

The need for the white box at the foot of Cemetery Brae to be repainted urgently, has been reported to BEAR Scotland. The state of the High Street pavements and a malfunctioning street light in the middle of the high street has also been reported.



HGVs: Residents of Caroline Street would like to see a weight limit imposed to save the road from deteriorating any further



Just two of the craters on Arkinholm Terrace



GAPING: The appropriate Council Department has been asked to ensure that the hole in the Drove Road wall is protected before the Common Riding.

Community Events coming for Tarras Valley

The Langholm Initiative are going to be running some community events during June. If you are interested in attending, there is some further information about each event below.

• **Restoring our Rivers**

The LI will be holding an interactive talk with Luke Scott, Habitats & Climate Resilience Officer from the Fisheries Trust all about how we can restore our rivers to help boost biodiversity, clean our water and help wildlife recover. It will also look at what opportunities might look like on the Tarras, which is a salmon river. This will then be followed by time for discussion.

The event will be held on Thursday 13th June 6-7pm at Langholm Social Club.

• **Why not Scotland? Community Film Screening**

Join the Langholm Initiative for a free screening of the

feature-length documentary, which accompanies Flo, a young Scot from Glasgow, on an intensely personal journey, as she seeks out examples of nature recovery around Europe. Like many of her generation, Flo is concerned by the state of nature and fearful about an uncertain future. However, during her travels, she discovers places where nature is making a spectacular comeback, breathing life back into the landscape and revitalising human communities. Encouraged by these stories of hope and renewal, she is prompted to wonder: Why Not Scotland?

The screening will be held on Thursday 27th June 6 -7:30 pm at the Buccleuch Centre. The event is free and tea/ coffee will be provided.



The BBC's Countryfile team filming the Canonbie Primary pupils

BBC's Countryfile visits Tarras Valley



The team at the Langholm Initiative received a call from the producers at Countryfile a few weeks ago asking if they could come and film their 'postcard' section for the up and coming episode based on the Tarras Valley and the community buy-out.

The episode is called 'Hidden Treasures' and the team were interested in hearing all about the peatlands and what was being done to restore them as well as other activities such as volunteering and schools sessions.

The pupils from Canonbie Primary made their debut appearance planting trees along the Tarras with Jenny Barlow and Mairi Telford Jammeh filmed doing peat sampling on the moorlands.

The episode will be aired on BBC1 to UK audiences in three week's time.

South of Scotland to host European Lunar Symposium

World-wide guest list will celebrate our connection to the moon

Scotland's Dumfries and Galloway region is preparing to welcome over 150 members of the international lunar science and exploration community later this month for the annual European Lunar Symposium (ELS), hosted by The Open University of Scotland.

Some of the world's most prominent lunar scientists will be in attendance, exchanging ideas and discussing the latest findings from their research in lunar exploration. High-profile speakers will include representatives from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the European Space Agency (ESA), the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the UK Space Agency (UKSA).

Professor Mahesh Anand, Professor of Planetary Science and Exploration at The Open University (OU) has co-chaired the symposium held at various locations across Europe since its inception in 2012, but this is the first time it will be held in

Scotland. The event is the premier Moon-focussed meeting in Europe attracting experts from across the world to discuss the latest developments in science and exploration of the Moon. It is a partnership between NASA Solar System Exploration Research Virtual Institute (SSERVI) and its European nodes.

The week-long event will take place from Sunday 16 – Friday 21 June at The Crichton in Dumfries.

Professor Anand said: "It is a real privilege to be hosting ELS 2024 in the South of Scotland and to acknowledge Dumfries and Galloway's existing connection with the Moon and lunar exploration. Everyone here is so proud of Neil Armstrong and the fact that he referred to the 'Muckle Toon' (Langholm) as home. I know that many ELS delegates are looking forward to hearing stories from the locals about their experience of Neil Armstrong's visit to the region in 1972 and learning more about

the local area."

Moreover, the sparsely populated and therefore hardly light polluted Galloway region is also known to have one of the darkest skies in Europe, making it an ideal place for stargazing. In 2009 Galloway Forest Park became the first area in Britain to be designated a 'Dark Sky Park' by the International Dark Sky Association, recognising its special status.



Neil Armstrong on top of Gilnockie Tower in 1972



Professor Mahesh Anand: 'Everyone here is so proud of Neil Armstrong'

A7 road closures

BEAR Scotland, Transport Scotland's operating company, is set to carry out resurfacing works on the A7 for a total of 10 nights, with works scheduled between Monday 10 – Monday 24 June. **A7 Mossypaul, Monday 10 June to Wednesday 12 June (19:00 – 06:00)** – Road closure with a signed diversion between Canonbie and Hawick. Traffic will be diverted off the A7 via the B7201, B6357, A6088 and A698.

This diversion will add approximately 7.7 miles and 20 minutes to affected journeys.

A7 North of Synton, Thursday 13 June (19:00 – 04:00) – Road closure with a signed diversion between Selkirk and Hawick. Traffic will be diverted off the A7 via the A698, A68 and A699. This diversion will add approximately 13.7 miles and 21 minutes to affected journeys.

Emergency services and other relevant stakeholders have been consulted in advance to make them aware of the plans.

Live traffic information is available from the Traffic Scotland website traffic.gov.scot and on Twitter at [@trafficscotland](https://twitter.com/trafficscotland).

All work is weather dependent and subject to postponement or cancellation in the event of adverse conditions.

Bunch of amateurs for 'A Bunch of Amateurs'

Following the laugh-out-loud success of 'Last Tango in Whitby' last year, the talented cast of LAODS will once again take to the stage for their Winter Play production.

This year's November offering will be "A Bunch of Amateurs", beautifully written by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman. The play follows the ups and downs of a fading lothario, American actor Jefferson Steel, whose agent secures him the prestigious title role of King Lear in the UK.

Happily, under the misapprehension that he will be performing with the Royal Shakespeare Company, Jefferson arrives in a sleepy, one-horse town where productions are rehearsed and performed in a barn, by an enthusiastic bunch of amateurs.

After the initial shock of realisation, his massive ego




Jenny Pike, Sarah Dhesi and Mag Ltimer in last year's LAODS hilarious play production - Last Tango in Whitby

ruffles a few feathers, giving rise to lots of comedy moments. At the same time, the relationships that develop throughout the play are heart-warming and uplifting and celebrate the true values of theatre and am dram.

A read-through of the play will take place on Monday 17th June, 7pm in the Telford Room, Town Hall, with the auditions on Monday 24th June at 7pm,

Regulars and new faces welcome!



Liddesdale wind farm public exhibitions

EDF Renewables UK will be hosting three upcoming public exhibitions for local residents and interested parties to view and give feedback on the latest indicative design for Liddesdale wind farm, a proposed development across two areas of commercial forestry within Wauchope Forest and Newcastleton Forest.


The events will take place as follows:

- Kielder Primary School, **Thursday 13 June 2024**, 5pm to 8pm
- Newcastleton Village Hall, **Tuesday 18 June 2024**, 3pm to 7pm
- Southdean Village Hall, **Wednesday 19 June 2024**, 3pm to 7pm

At these exhibitions an interactive 3D model will be available to view the proposed development from various viewpoints and locations. The exhibition material can also be viewed online, where feedback can also be given at www.edf-re.u/our-sites/liddesdale

EDF Renewables UK will also be attending the **Border Union Show** on **26 and 27 July 2024**.

For further information contact liddesdalewindfarm@edf-re.uk



To learn more go to www.edf-re.uk

Farming on the Border



In association with
C & D AUCTION MARTS - LONGTOWN & DUMFRIES



Farming with Gilly Fraser

AgriScot's new farming podcasts

A brand new title has joined the growing ranks of agricultural podcasts.

Talking Business has been launched by AgriScot to delve into crucial topics affecting UK farming businesses.

Producers of the podcast say the six-episode series will build on some of the valuable business insights enjoyed at the UK's largest indoor farm business event.

It will feature leading experts sharing insights on topical subjects, from succession and land ownership to financial management and wellbeing.

AgriScot Chair Robert Neil says the series is part of the group's commitment to inspire and stimulate the progress and sustainability of farming businesses in Scotland.

"We are looking forward to rolling these episodes out for farmers and agriprofessionals to enjoy in the lead up to the event on 13th November," he said.

The first in the series features Heather Wildman, who was awarded Advisor of the Year at

AgriScot
The Farm Business Event

the inaugural Scottish Agriculture Awards last year.

Nuffield Scholar Heather was brought up on a hill farm before working in industry and went on to study succession in Australia. She now guides family farming businesses and individuals through change.

"I am fascinated by the people side of succession, not just something that is driven by tax," she says. "Succession gets bad press and can seem scary. My advice would be, regardless of who you are in the business, or at what stage of your career, start that conversation, know where everyone wants to be, then do the numbers; and have ideas, but be open to others."

"At the moment, we are seeing real worry and disenchantment within agriculture that is wreaking havoc on finances and emotions, even in the most together of families. It's important to start and navigate the tricky conversations."

Barony conference

will include workshops on 100-year management plans

Landscape management, regenerative agriculture and peatland will all be high on the agenda in a conference being held at SRUC Barony on July 1 to identify future skills and training needs.

It's being organised by the SRUC along with South of Scotland Enterprise.

The South West Scotland Future Landscapes Conference will look at landscape management, future planning and integrating new technologies and research into land management, with a focus on planning skills and training to meet future needs.

It will include workshops on regenerative agriculture, peatland and carbon management, as well as 100-year management plans among others.

The event will also see the launch of the Natural Capital Innovation Partnership which aims to develop an entrepreneurial campus to address training needs and provide new economic opportuni-

ties for farmers and land-based businesses.

Davy McCracken, Head of SRUC's Integrated Land Use Department, says landscapes and land management practices will need to change if the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis is to be addressed effectively in Scotland.

"This conference will consider what that means for the south-west of Scotland," he said. "It will also seek to understand the skills that are required to deliver that land use change and help stimulate new business opportunities."

SOSE CEO Jane Morrison-Ross says delivering a net zero future requires strong partnership and an innovative and entrepreneurial mindset.

"The Scottish Government recognised the commitment of the South of Scotland to this agenda by designating us as the national Natural Capital Innovation Zone," she said. "In realising this designation,



SOSE is proud to be working in partnership with SRUC to explore how we can maximise the community, economic and environmental opportunities ahead of us."

Professor Davy McCracken is the Head of SRUC's Integrated Land Use Department

NFUS rolls out its diversity roadshow

NFU Scotland has turned its attention to diversity with the launch of a new research project which will explore ways in which it can involve a wider cross-section of people.

The project is being led by Caroline Millar who has just completed three years on the NFUS Board and Next generation Policy Adviser Lucy McGillivray, who says the union does embrace diversity and inclusion but recognises that it needs to do more.

"That is why our Board of Directors have made diversity and inclusion a priority, to ensure NFUS is a welcoming place for all as we work to support our members," she said. "I am looking forward to supporting Caroline with the Diversity Discussion project, including getting out into the regions all over Scotland in July to hear your views."

Caroline says public engagement is very important.

"It would be great to listen to the views about diversity from as many people as possible over the coming months," she said. "The views of NFU Scotland members will be a core element, but this project reaches wider than this. We are keen to speak to people who are not NFU Scotland members and people in the wider rural economy about this important topic."



NFU Scotland Policy Adviser, Lucy McGillivray.

The first stage of the project is open to all members of the public, regardless of their farming background.

Following this, the public, members, farmers and crofters have been invited to attend Diversity Discussions at a special roadshow with in-person meetings planned across all nine NFUS regions or they can participate online.

Woodland wader flourishes

The south of Scotland has bucked the national trend in numbers of Woodcock.

The population of the woodland wader has dipped sharply in its traditional stronghold in the north of Scotland where there's been a decline of nearly 50% between 2013 and 2023.

Conversely numbers have risen in the south of the country, where an increase of 37% was recorded over the same period.

Surveys were jointly carried out in both years by the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust and the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO).

Dr Greg Conway, Senior Research Ecologist at BTO says collecting robust survey data is essential for accurately monitoring the ongoing changes to the declining UK breeding Woodcock population.

Dr Chris Heward of GWCT says the once-in-a-decade survey provides a vital snapshot of the Woodcock's status.

"This time it has presented us with a conflicting message, predominantly of worrying declines but with small, tentative glimmers of recovery in some areas," he said.

Woodcock spend much of the day hidden away on forest floors, but in spring and summer the males emerge at dusk to perform distinctive display 'roding' flights over the woodland canopy, searching for females.

Dr Heward says it's believed the decline is due to reduction in suitable woodland habitats, along



The Eurasian Woodcock

with other external factors affecting breeding productivity and survival.

"Existing research suggest that there are specific types of woodland that are more valuable to Woodcock, and this may relate to woodland age and management. We suspect Woodcock populations are responding to the overarching, long-term patterns in woodland planting, and it's these complex relationships we want to unpick next."

Latimers of Langholm

Proudly serving since 1882

For Furniture, Carpets, Cookware, Hardware & Gifts



Harrison Spinks

The True Bedmakers



**SPECIAL OFFER
BETTER THAN HALF PRICE**

on Harrison Spinks Showroom Clearance Models

The perfect opportunity to upgrade to a supreme night's sleep

King Size Countess 16000 Spring divan set
with full length headboard in regular / firm dual tension
£4168 - £1995

King Size Jewel 13000 Spring divan set
with full length headboard and drawers in regular / firm
dual tension
£4508 - £2250

SuperKing Broadway 21300 Spring divan set
with full length headboard in medium / firm dual tension
£5698 - £2849

SuperKing Marquis 21000 Spring divan set
with headboard – made using Egyptian cotton, Yorkshire wool,
Herdwick wool, Cashmere, Mohair, Flax, Hemp
£6678 - £2950

51 High Street
LANGHOLM DG13 0JH

t. 013873 80265 | e. info@latimersfolangholm.co.uk | w. www.latimersoflangholm.co.uk

LATIMER'S OF LANGHOLM
Est. 1882



www.latimersoflangholm.co.uk

Stuart's brocante dreams at Welcome to Langholm

Fresh face in the Market Place brings a classy display of antiques to town

If you've strolled through Market Place in Langholm over the last couple of weeks, then you may have noticed something exciting taking shape in the old EWM "Welcome to Langholm" shop. Stuart Bruce-Gormley has brought 'Desire It Interiors' to our Muckle Toon.

Trading in decorative antiques and one of a kind finds from across the centuries, his business has grown from a background in the theatre acting and sourcing vintage clothing for the likes of Downton Abbey and BBC dramas including Call the Midwife to its present form selling, sourcing, and restoring antique furniture and garden statuary to private clients, interior designers and dealers throughout the UK.

Stuart also specialises in property and estate clearance following probate or when people come to downsize, which is one source for some of his fabulous finds.

Why come to our little Border town you may ask? "I have always had a pull to this place, perhaps since meeting my wife Naomi who started her photographic career here for the E&L" Stuart says.

"Every time we came to town somebody would stop her to recall the old days and being a Geordie with Scottish and Irish heritage, we're all

friendly and family orientated folk just like here.

"I've never bought into the idea that just because you're not born in a place you can't belong.

"Everyone that that has walked through the doors over the last couple of weeks has said the window display is amazing and how pleased they are to see something different come into town".

In the last twelve years since starting Desire It Interiors, Stuart has had a high street presence up until the Covid outbreak.

He then took the opportunity to move the business into the barn when they moved home to Millhill just outside Gretna Green.

"I've largely sold over the last few years by appointment, online via my Instagram page and by frequenting decorative fairs". Speaking of decorative antique fairs, Stuart will be closed over the weekend of 14-16th June as he is selling at the inaugural Antiques & Decorative Fair at Paxton House in the Scottish Borders close to



GOOD EYE: Stuart Bruce-Gormley welcomes antique hunters and, indeed, sellers



Berwick upon Tweed.

So if you're searching for some inspiration or advice on where to start when it comes to putting a room together or you're looking for that one of a kind piece of furniture or decorative item Stuart's advice is simple. See it, like it, buy it!

Good design be it 16th or 20th century is just that, good design. "The skill is being able to mix genres and create a room build around that one key statement piece".

Sustainable

Antiques are often cheaper than their reproductions and

are 100% sustainable. "Put it this way, nobody's going to be selling 400-year-old chipboard flatpack furniture in the future. You're lucky if it makes it through the first house move!"

The pop-up shop has come about with the support of The Stevenson Trust with the

mutual aim to help build a positive trading opportunity in Langholm and serve its population including the tourist visitor over the next month or so with the hope that with local support we can build longevity into this fantastic space in the heart of town.



CURIOS: Stuart with a selection of antiques and on offer in Langholm Market Place



Understanding Canine Physio

Enhancing Mobility and Reducing Pain

We welcome back **Mel Brown**, animal guru and physician

As our canine companions age, they often face challenges like arthritis and joint pain, impacting their quality of life. Joint pain in dogs is like a pesky villain crashing the party, with arthritis, cruciate ligament injuries, and hip dysplasia leading the charge. But fear not, for where there's a wag, there's a way! When your furry friend's joints ache, it's not just a physical hurdle—it might start showing

behaviour changes, these can include aggression and anxiety. If your dog lives in a multi-dog household, protecting their body from their friend, who may barge into their hips/leg/body and cause them pain, may lead to showing aggression or even anxiety and a need to get away from their friend!

Comfort

How happy would it make to know that you hold the power to transform your home into a haven of comfort and joy for your pooch, below are a few of my favourite simple tweaks that will have your dog

wagging its tail in no time.

Home Modifications for your dog:

Implementing these few home modifications can significantly make a difference for your dog's comfort and mobility, improve their quality of life—and yours too! You could help your dog navigate the home environment and make him/her more comfortable. Plus, it empowers you to play an active role in your dog's recovery and everyday life. Let's dive into some easy, yet impactful home modifications that will have your dog wagging its tail in no time.



1. Slip-Proof Floors

Picture this: your dog, enthusiastically chasing a toy, suddenly sliding across the floor like a canine ice skater. Slippery surfaces can be hazardous, especially for dogs with joint issues. Invest in non-slip rugs or mats to give your dog better traction. Plus, they come in handy for human foot traffic too—win-win!

2. Low Impact Play

Arthritis or joint pain does not mean the end of playtime, but it does call for an exercise modification. Opt for low-impact activities like gentle fetch, find the ball or treat, and interactive toys, or incorporate a few more targeted exercises, such as sit to stands, and figures of eight into your walk, as they occupy the brain, but do not require a lot of running or jumping. It keeps your dog's mind sharp and spirits high without putting unnecessary strain on their joints.

3. Warm Compresses

Imagine your dog enjoying a mini spa session at home. Applying warm compresses to sore joints can help relieve pain and stiffness. Just make sure the compress is warm and not hot—think cozy bathwater, not scalding tea. Hold it on the sore spot for about 15 minutes and watch your dog melt into relaxation.



4. Elevated Food and Water Bowls

Bending down to eat can be tough on a dog with joint pain. Elevated bowls are a simple solution, allowing your pet to dine at a comfortable height. For dogs with neck or shoulder pain, raised feeding stations can reduce strain on their joints. Ensure the bowls are at a comfortable height for your dog to eat and drink, preferably chest height. It is worth trying the height out first with some books as generic raised feeders may not be the ideal height for your dog. If your dog has his bowls on a slippery floor too, for added comfort, add a non slip rug for your dog and that way he can stabilise his body when eating.

5. Massage Therapy

Who doesn't love a good massage? Regular gentle massages can help alleviate your dog's joint pain and improve circulation. You don't need to be a professional to have an impact, just remember to be gentle and use long, gentle strokes and focus on joint areas that seem stiff.

I am Melanie Brown, a veterinary physiotherapist, and I love to help animals live better, pain-free lives. Seeing a dog's mobility and overall well-being transform is incredibly rewarding, not just for me but for their owners too. It's a huge relief knowing your pet is feeling better. Plus, providing dog parents with tips and advice which is essential for them to be involved in their dog's long-term care. It strengthens their bond and understanding, making for a happier, healthier pet.

For more information and detailed guides, visit my website Browns Vet Physio

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

POLICE SCOTLAND
Langholm101
Newcastleton 101

COUNCILS

Dumfries and Galloway Council
.....030 3333 3000
.....www.dumgal.gov.uk
Fault reporting (potholes/street-lights 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
.....0800 0778 778
.....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.bearsco.com

POST OFFICES

Newcastleton 013873 75361
Canonbie ...013873 71348
Rowanburn 013873 71542

HOSPITALS

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

DOCTORS

Langholm013873 83100
Newcastleton 013873 75100
Canonbie013873 71313
NHS24111

CHURCHES

Langholm, Eskdalemuir Ewes and Westerkirk Parish Churches
Session Clerks
Jackie Henderson/Alleen Cavers
07902 718985
Canonbie United Parish Church
Liddesdale Parish Church
Session Clerk. 013873 25255

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.

By
Gilly Fraser

Firefighters full of Eastern Promise

Indomitable 15-man team arrive in Copshaw

When a team of Scottish firefighters decided to undertake a cycle marathon to raise funds for two charities, they knew it would be a tough challenge.

Setting off from Tyntrum Community Fire Station in Stirlingshire to visit all 65 fire stations in the East of Scotland, they knew they'd be facing difficult terrain and lots of steep hills. They didn't reckon on thunderstorms and torrential downpours as well.

However nothing daunted, the fifteen-strong SFRS Eastern Promise team arrived at Newcastleton Fire Station on the second last day of the 600-mile epic bike ride, spurred on by the memory of a colleague, as DCO Stewart Nicholson explained.

"We decided to do this after one of our firefighters tragically took his own life. A group of our colleagues from Fife had walked the West Highland Way in full kit last year to raise money for the Firefighters Charity and for Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide (SOBS). We decided we needed an equal challenge and settled on this bike ride."

Station Commander Garry Douglas says the whole operation has called for a huge amount of teamwork behind the scenes and goodwill along the way.

"They've brought in sponsors, organised donations of food for



The Eastern Promise team get a warm welcome at Newcastleton Fire Station

us all because as you can imagine we had quite an appetite by evening and found places for us to stay along the way, like scout halls, fire stations and rugby clubs. And Scottish Borders Council have been really helpful. Their Emergency Planning Department gave us camp beds to sleep on."

When the going got tough, the cyclists depended on one another for support and encouragement.

"Physically the toughest stretch was probably coming to Newcastleton, but mentally the hardest was going through Edinburgh in driving rain which was really grim and we knew there were weather warnings and the bypass was blocked in both directions," Garry said. "You

could definitely say it was character-forming and we all had to pull each other through that day and keep going when we really didn't want to."

"We've been made so welcome at every fire station we've visited and even when the weather was really bad, a cup of hot coffee and a pie really goes a long, long way," Stewart added.

So far more than six thousand pounds has been raised by the intrepid cyclists, with more donations still coming in, so they have definitely smashed their original £5,000 target.

That money will be used to support health and wellbeing services for the hardworking and hugely appreciated fire service crews.

Copshaw residents encouraged to complete SEPA 'at risk' survey



Newcastleton endured serious flooding in 2020 and 2021

Newcastleton residents are being encouraged to take part in a survey by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) looking at areas considered to be at risk of floods.

The survey is part of a nationwide consultation on Potentially Vulnerable areas and the findings will be used to update flood risk management policies.

SEPA say they'd like everyone who has been affected by flooding to be involved in how they shape future flood risk management. They say feedback from communities and individuals is essential to ensure they have taken as much relevant information into account as possible.

The village was badly hit by flooding in February 2020 when the Liddel burst its banks and overflowed. Some residents

found themselves waist-deep in flood water in their own homes and had to be rescued by the Fire Service and members of the Resilience Group.

More than one hundred and twenty houses were affected and fifty adults and children had to be rehoused.

A year later, almost to the day, the village was flooded again. As a result, a 500mm high bund was created along the riverside as a first line of defence.

Newcastleton Community Council say the survey is open for all to complete and the more respondents from the village the better, especially with our recent history of flooding.

The SEPA survey can be completed online or by post and the closing date is June 24. Responses will be published on the SEPA website.

A walk round Kielder

It was definitely a case of best foot forward for a team of four who set out to walk round Kielder Water on Saturday.

It wasn't just a casual stroll for Copshaw couples Peter and Michelle Jackson and Laura and Euan Dinwoodie.

They had set themselves the challenge of completing the 26 mile walk in order to raise money for the NHS charity "The Difference".

Peter says the cause is close to their hearts because it aims to make a positive impact in the lives of those who need it most.

In January this year, Peter's Mum Linda was treated for pneumonia and sepsis in the Borders General Hospital and was in the Intensive Care



The team of four half-way into their marathon walk

Unit for seventeen days.

Peter says she received great care from all the doctors and nurses, who also looked after family members when

they spent hours at her bedside, making sure they were fed and watered.

With money still coming in, fundraising is well on

the way to reaching the target of £1,000 and the team say the kindness of all those who have donated makes the blisters worthwhile.

Writers Wanted!

To make the E & L a truly community and local paper we're looking for people willing to write on a wide range of subjects such as nostalgia ■ sport ■ farming forestry ■ cookery or whatever else is your area of expertise!

Please get in touch if you are interested in contributing by emailing us on: newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk or by phoning the office on 013873 80012

Eskdalemuir celebrates Centenary of ESMP Hall

NEWS IN BRIEF

Garden waste recycling

Dumfries and Galloway Council are preparing to introduce garden waste recycling as an opt-in scheme in early 2025.

Those who opt in to the scheme will be charged £40 per year for the service which will involve the introduction of another bin (brown). The scheme is likely to cost the authority £1.7m per year to run.

A bid was submitted to the Scottish Government's Recycling Improvement Fund on May 10, 2024 for 100 percent capital funding totalling £2.33m to cover the purchase of six refuse collection vehicles, 32,000 bins and improvements to two waste transfer stations.

Bridge results

N/S - 1 Nancy McLure & Anne Ferguson, 2 Derek Scott & Judy Pitchford, 3 Bob Francombe & George Graham.

E/W - 1 Phil Walters & Steve Miles, 2 Doreen Taylor & Lesley, 3 Sandra Ritchie & Janet Ivison.

A centenary celebration for Eskdalemuir's ESMP Hall was held last weekend.

Around 80 people attended, and they came from as far as Falkirk with many folk meeting up with old school chums.

To mark the occasion, a Commemorative Dry-Stone Wall Monument was erected with stone donated by David Moffat. The wall was built by John Wharton and the sign was made by John Johnston.

A time capsule was buried in the wall and if anyone still wants to put anything in, John will open up the wall for one last time to put some photos of our celebration day in. If anyone else would like to add something, please contact the committee or email mayreid239@aol.com as soon as possible.

The wonderful food, including a special cake, was made by Helen Boittier.

Pictured far right are the children of the valley, Eilidh Green, Erin Reid, Ewan Green, Skye Sinke, Felicity Wharton and Oliver Wharton. Felicity and Oliver cut the cake.



The Electoral Commission

YOUR VOTE MATTERS
DON'T LOSE IT



Register to vote now.
It's quick and easy,
just go to
gov.uk/register-to-vote



Scan to register





Looking back...

Langholm As it Was ...

... 'To see gif a' oor Marches they be clear'

The Common Moss

The Feu-contract of 1628 conveyed the Merk-lands of Arkinholm and Langholm to ten members of the Maxwell family. These tenants-in-common were to have certain privileges. They could, for instance, "win and lead stones of any part of the common quarries of the said lands of Arkinholm".

This right passed to their heirs and assignees and was conceded, likewise to burgesses of the town of Langholm. Originally confined to them, by long custom it has become the right and lot of all residents in Langholm, whether they reside on the Ten Merk-lands or in New-Langholm, which is not included therein.

Naturally, between 1628, the date of the contract, and 1759, when the Commonty was appointed amongst the holders, there had been not a few changes of ownership. Several of the Maxwells had sold, or otherwise disposed of, their Merk-lands to John Maxwell of Broomholm, whose mansion house was nearest thereto, or to other heritors.

In 1756 John Maxwell of Broomholm held an increase from one to five of the new Ten Merk-lands. He also purchased the rights and enjoyment of the Common, attaching to the Merk-land held previously by Simon Little, Knittyholm giving him one more, making the Maxwell holding six. John Little of Langholm held three and the Duke of Buccleuch One.

The Earl of Nithsdale had, however, in 1628, reserved to his own use "the woods and fishings". These rights, therefore, existed apart from the occupation or



Cornet James Ritchie and his followers en-route from Castle Craigs to Cronksbank, over the Common Moss in 2005

enjoyment of the Merk-lands, and seem to have been conveyed separately, for though the Duke of Buccleuch held only one of the Merk-lands he had acquired the right to cut and appropriate the timber upon the entire Commonty – a right which the Award of 1759 did not, and could not, affect.

Whita Hill

The approximate area comprised in the Ten Merk-lands was not that of the town of Langholm alone, but included virtually the whole of Whita Hill and the lands lying along the left bank of the Esk. It therefore consisted of town-land, arable land, woodland, hill pasture, the Common-moss and the Kilgreen.

It was not unnatural then, that with the different interests involved, disputes should occur between the owners, both concerning the extent or location of their particular

Merk-lands, and also concerning the extent and use of those rights and privileges which were held and enjoyed by them in common. To settle such disputes an Act had been passed, during the reign of William and Mary, by which all common lands, except those belonging to the Crown or the royal burghs, could be divided at the instance of anyone having an interest therein, by a process before the Court of Session, which could then determine the various interests and according to them, divide such common lands.

The Act also provided that these common lands included mosses which could not conveniently be divided, they should remain common, and that free passage to them should be preserved.

Maxwell of Broomholm who held five of the Ten Merk-lands and the Commonty rights of a sixth, appears to have attempted

to obtain a mutual arrangement and apportionment but the other owners refused consent. He thereupon, in 1757, brought an action in the Court of Session against the Duke of Buccleuch, then a minor, and his tutors and curators; John Little, merchant in Langholm, Simon Little in Knittyholm; and Archibald Little, feuar in Langholm, to have the Common divided according to the Act.

On his claim to sue being confirmed, Maxwell craved the appointment of a Commission who should perambulate the bounds and take proof of extent, limits, and marches of the Common, collect evidence and report, fix and determine as to such marches and lands, and then have the Common divided between those having interest, according to the valued rents of the lands.

This Commission was granted on 5th August 1757 and consisted of John Boston, chamberlain to the Duke of Buccleuch, Bryce Blair of Potterflats, Provost of Annan, with John Elliot clerk of the Baronies of Eskdale and Canonby, as their clerk. It met at Langholm on 9th November 1757 and took evidence on oath.

The Commission found that the ground lying within the boundaries with the exception of the Moss which was not to be divided, belonged to the pursuer and defenders and that the right of the Duke of Buccleuch to the growing timber still held good. The Kilgreen was not included in this Award and the Commissioners asked for a renewal of their appointment to complete the work relating to it. However, due to the illness and subsequent death of John Boston, the Commission had to be re-constituted and it wasn't until 25th October 1758 that this new Commission sat.

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report Thursday, 30th May 2024



PRIMESTOCK

C&D Auction Marts Limited had forward 6,505 comprising of 3,065 prime hogs, 285 spring lambs and 3,155 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 30th May 2024.

An improved offering of cast cows were forward to a competitive ringside of buyers, as always, more numbers are required on a weekly basis to fulfil demand. The sale topped at £1,651 for a Beef Shorthorn shown by D & T Bradley-Farmer, Wester Parkgate, Dumfries with Angus selling to £1,292 and £1,280 from WN Douglas, Catslackburn, Yarrow. Simmentals topped at £1,265 with Limousins to £1,265 from H Graham, Holme House, Walton and Galloways sold to £1,189 from Eskdalemuir Forestry, Clerkhill, Eskdalemuir. Top per kilo of 253p and 244p from Holme House with Shorthorns to 199p from Wester Parkgate and Angus to 194p from Catslackburn. 285 spring lambs forward to an increased ring of purchasers ensuring all classes surpassed and exceeded expectations. New season lambs sold to a top of 444p for Texel lambs from HM Martindale, The Land, Ecclefechan with Charolais to 435p from Messrs Wilson, Wood Farm, Thursty. Top per head of £218 for Suffolks from Beckfoot with Texels to £210 from HM Martindale, The Land, Ecclefechan and Charolais to £209 from Wood Farm. Overall average of 414.7 (SQQ 419.4p)

Plenty of demand about for all classes of lambs 37kg to 50kg + with numbers keenly sought after for the coming weeks sales. Many more are required as purchasers are left with orders incomplete. Trade is set to stay for next week's sale with numbers slow to come forward nationally. Please contact our auctioneers for further enquiries.

A smaller show of 3,065 hogs were forward. Well fleshed hogs still hung onto last weeks rates of return whilst lean and badly bred hogs sold to realisation. Top per head of £230 for Beltex hogs from G Johnston, Townhead of Culloch, Dalbeattie, who also topped the sale per kilo at 418p for Beltex hogs. Overall average 300.5p (SQQ 300.7p)

PRINCIPAL PRICES (PER KILO)

Beltex 418p, 411p Townhead of Culloch, 404p, 402p Snade, 392p Townhead of Culloch.
Texel 408p Shethin, 400p Gorthleck Mains, 388p Smerral, 381p Low Hall & South Port o Spittal.
Cheviot 372p, 368p Blackrigg, 358p Arllsgate Hall, 350p Blackrigg.
Suffolk 369p Low Hill, 358p Haregills, 356p South Port o Spittal, 351p Hoddontown, 350p Tredown.
Mule 363p Brewery House, 350p Archerbeck, 340p St Johns Kirk.
Blackface 357p, 351p Heathery Hall, 348p Thorney Knowe, 345p Heathery Hall.
Continental 343p South Port o Spittal.

North Country Cheviot 325p Tormore, 309p St Johns Kirk.

PRINCIPAL PRICE (PER HEAD)

Beltex £230 Townhead of Culloch, £222 Drumcairn, £220, £215, £212 Townhead of Culloch.
Texel £226 Smerral, £212 Aspatria Hall, £206 Smerral, £202 Hallees, £200 Shethin, High Glen Triplock & Lower Godsworthy.
Dutch Spotted £212 Todburn.
Suffolk £196 Shethin, £195 Low Hall, £192 Haregills & Hallees, £190 Hoddontown.
Cheviot £192 St Johns Kirk.
Mule £192 The Land.
North Country Cheviot £185 Shethin, £170 St Johns Kirk.
Blackface £160 Thorney Knowe, £154 Heathery Hall, £152 Thorney Knowe & Lower Godsworthy.
Oxford £158, £155 Todburn.
Swaledale £145 St Johns Kirk.

A larger show of 3,155 ewes were forward to a full ring of 19 purchasers ensuring all classes sold to a serious trade, all classes of cull ewes will be in huge, unseen demand for the next two weeks of trading and customers are urged to sell now when the market is at its peak. Please contact our auctioneers who will be pleased to take your calls.

The sale topped at £280 for Texel ewes from TC Whiteford, Tercrosset, West Hall, who's run of tremendous ewes went on to

average £267.

Suffolk ewes in huge demand topping at £250 for a monstrous Suffolk cross ewe consigned by Messrs Wilson, Wood Farm, Carlisle. Following close behind at £245 consigned by HM Martindale, The Land, Lockerbie was a pure bred lady carrying plenty of condition.

Mule ewes also selling to serious rates topping at £188 for a pen of 11 Scotch Mules consigned by Messrs Wallace, High Glen Triplock, Newton Stewart. More required.

Hill ewes sold to £142 for Kendal Roughs from BN & S Urwin, Lynnshield, Haltwhistle. Well fleshed lightweight ewes are wanted for the foreseeable and can be sold to vendor advantage here at Longtown.

Rams to £320 for the biggest Charolais ram that has graced Longtown in years, consigned by B Miskelly, Boulintogle, Caithness.

All classes of primestock are wanted here at Longtown on a weekly basis to satisfy an ever-growing demand. Primestock travel from all four corners of the United Kingdom to take advantage of the 19 active, competitive purchasers who operate on a weekly basis providing a very transparent and competitive marketplace here at Longtown. Haulage can be arranged easily and efficiently, so please do not hesitate to contact our auctioneers who will be pleased to take your calls and assist you and your business in any way possible.

John Walton 07880 527 066

(Prime Sheep Auctioneer)
Daniel Lynn 07584 200 489
(Prime Sheep Auctioneer)
Sam Hogg 07584 207 323
(Prime Cattle and Cast Cow Auctioneer)
Norman Douglas 07786 366 833
(Fields Person)
Helen Rickard 07741 313 029
(Fields Person)

HEAVY EWES

Texel £280 Tercrosset, £270 St Johns Kirk, Vale House & Low Hill, £260 Beckfoot, £255 Hawthornside, Hillside & Townhead of Culloch.
Suffolk £250 Wood, £245 The Land, £240 Marygate & Shethin, £235 The Land, £230 High Glen Triplock.
Beltex £220 Hillside, & West Mill Hills.
Charolais £210 Beckfoot, £205 Viewley, £198 Beckfoot, £195 Broomhills.
Blue Texel £202 High Barness, £200 South Port o Spittal.
North Country Cheviot £198 Lythmore, £180 Beckfoot, £178 Lythmore & Purdomstone.
Rouge £190 Haas Side.
Mule £188 High Glen Triplock, £175 Baryerrock, £168 Shaw of Dryfe, £165 Archerbeck.
Cheviot Mule £185 Craillloch.

LIGHT EWES

Kendal Rough £142 Lynnshield.
Blackface £140 Peela Hill, £135 Burnfoot, £131 Barron House & Toft House, £128 Achalone Croft.
Kerry Hill £140 Craillloch.

Cheviot £138 Branxholm Braes, £135 Mid Farm, £134 Burnfoot Hill, £126 Allfonaught.
Swaledale £130 Bayldon, £120 Toft House.
Lonk £128 Craillloch.
Herdwick £120 Pendicle, £112 Newtown, £110 Burnfoot Hill.

RAMS

Charollais £320 Boulintogle.
Texel £240 Barrogill Mains, £220 Lingey Field, £200 Galleywreay.
Blue Texel £205 Viewley.
Suffolk £200 High Barness, £198 Beckfoot.
Bluefaced Leicester £200 Peela Hill.
North Country Cheviot £185 Airyhassen, £180 Viewley, £178 Beckfoot.
Dorset £178 Beckfoot.
Swaledale £135 Thornhope.
Blackface £130 Burnfoot.

Averages:

Lambs
Standard to 426.0p (403.8p)
Medium to 444.0p (422.4p)
Heavy to 435.0p (411.5p)
Overweight to 335.0p (328.8p)
Hogs
Light to 438.0p (238.3p)
Standard to 402.0p (294.8p)
Medium to 404.0p (330.9p)
Heavy to 408.0p (324.4p)
Ewes
Light to £142.00 (£97.30)
Heavy to £280.00 (£164.65)
Rams to £320.00 (£142.98)

The E&L Gallery



Skye the Westie looking south from his vantage point at the top of Timpen. Photo by Eileen Beattie of Langholm

Camera: Samsung Galaxy A12 phone

REVIEW: With the Devil's Assistance

By Mairi Telford Jammeh

Dumfries and Galloway Arts Festival brought 'With the Devil's Assistance' to Eskdalemuir Community Hub last week and the play was a real treat. The play was essentially a one woman show with Shona Cowie leading the audience through the story about Maggie Osborne a woman from Ayr who was said to have been burned at the stake for working with 'Auld Nick'.

Accompanied on piano, accordion and with other sounds, Neil Sutcliffe lent atmosphere and colour to the piece. He was accomplished and supportive of Shona.

With it being Eskdalemuir, Neil was at times echoed by the peacock outside.

Cowie is a tremendous actor, and the story was told in both Scots and English. At the start of the play the audience starts to wonder if they have got the right night. Cowie kicks us off by asking us about high streets in general before taking us into a presentation complete with statistics and showing us photos of Ayr

high street in decline...

Then we are in the sixteenth century with 'the lassie' who works in Maggie's Osborne's lodging house cum inn. The story goes that Maggie created her inn over the course of one night with help from the Devil.

The way Cowie uses voice and her body to tell the tale of Maggie succeeded in enchanting the audience. She had few props and when 'the lassie' is serving in the inn and being 'touched' by everyone around her with demands coming from all of them, Cowie creates a real picture of a busy pub full of men on a stormy

night. The kind of night that Burns describes when telling the tale of Tam O' Shanter. The Ayrshire tongue that Cowie uses and the period in which the play is set, are reminiscent of Burns' writing.

The play is both moving and quirky and towards the end we discover that although Ayr high street is very run down these days the site of Maggie's Inn is now the location of Marks and Spencer so the building there is still successful. The

audience was asked what they bought recently from M&S and a little song and dance is presented around these items.

The play is essentially about entrepreneurial Maggie and about the repression of women. It is about how her skills challenged the social norms of the time and resulted in the accusations, condemnation and killing of her as a witch. Maggie urges 'the lassie' to stay away. Finally, we see on the screen a list of women who were killed for witchcraft in Scotland which is probably only a fraction of those murdered.

Great talent was on show and the Hub is lucky to be able to host quality plays such as this.



SHONA COWIE AND NEIL SUTCLIFFE PRESENT

WITH THE DEVIL'S ASSISTANCE

'An entertaining thrill... A purposeful examination of feminism, patriarchy and capitalism then and now.'

THE SCOTSMAN ★★★★★

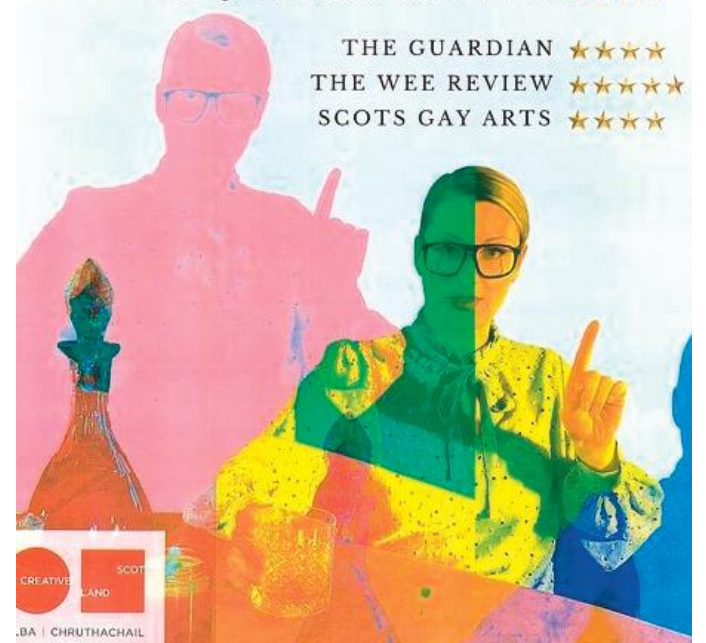
'This is full body storytelling'

THE QUINTESSENTIAL REVIEW ★★★★★

THE GUARDIAN ★★★★★

THE WEE REVIEW ★★★★★

SCOTS GAY ARTS ★★★★★



E&L CLASSIFIEDS

The Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser
47A High Street, Langholm DG13 0JH
013873 80012 • alan@eladvertiser.co.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

Post Office

LANGHOLM TOWN HALL
(inside)

WEDNESDAYS 10am - 3.30pm
FRIDAYS 9am - 2pm
Access through rear door

Post Office

RBS

ROYAL BANK MOBILE VAN
Day Centre car park
Thursdays
11:45am - 12:25pm

RBS

AUTO SERVICES

BORDER AUTO SERVICES

LIDDESDALE GARAGE • NEWCASTLETON
A VILLAGE GARAGE OFFERING A 21st CENTURY SERVICE!

MOT Tests Body Repairs inc Insurance Work
Servicing / Repairs • Quotations available
We can carry out services without affecting manufacturers' warranties.
Tyres • Exhausts • Batteries
Diagnostics • Air Conditioning.

Bert Leishman Phone: 013873 75341 email: robert.leishm@btinternet.com

CHIMNEY SWEEP

MARK FRASER

CHIMNEY SWEEP

Chimneys and Stove Flues swept.

Wood Burning Stoves Serviced

t. 01228 791617
m. 07810 023819

SCRAP METAL

CUMBRIA METALS

FARM SCRAP URGENTLY WANTED

Wire • Tin
Machinery • Lorries
Cars • Vans
and all other scrap metal
Big or small
we remove it all
Registered Dealer
Call Patrick: 07979 877391

BLINDS

DATS BLINDS

3 Blinds for £160
(70 x 50)

Your local manufacturer of top quality blinds
FAST EFFICIENT SERVICE

Special Offers on Conservatory Blinds
Perfect fit blinds ideal for tilt & turn windows

Vertical • Venetian • Roller • Roman • Blackout
Wooden Venetians • Pleated • Velux • Fly Screens

For a free, no obligation survey and to view our extensive range, call
01461 20 48 42 or
01461 20 61 48
or text your name and contact number to
077 382 192 88
www.datsblinds.co.uk

TO LET

OFFICES-STUDIOS-WORKSHOPS-STORAGE TO LET - LANGHOLM

- Ashley Bank House
- The Old Post Office
- The Old Bakery, Well Close
- BFA - Enquiries welcome

for further information, please contact
Gillian McCartney, Ashley Bank House, Langholm DG13 0AN
Tel: 013873 81066 | email: gillian@ashleybank.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Employers!!

- Do you have vacancies to fill?
- Are you seeking to expand your business?

We have a wide readership covering Langholm and Eskdale, Newcastleton, Longtown, Annan and Lockerbie and very competitive rates.

To discuss your employment needs contact us on 013873 80012 or email alan@eladvertiser.co.uk

Advertise in the E & L....
You'll be surprised how little it costs!

FUNERAL SERVICES

SHAUN TURNBULL 24 HOUR PROFESSIONAL CARE & SERVICE
LOCAL, INDEPENDENT, FAMILY

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

28 LANGHOLM STREET
NEWCASTLETON
TD9 0QX

PHONE: 07896 557 941
EMAIL: shaurnturnbullfuneraldirectors@outlook.com

ADVERTISING

Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Advertise in the E & L Advertiser you'll be surprised how little it costs!

An advert this size, 5cm x 2 columns, will only cost **£15 + VAT** each for 12 inserts. This can include your logo or other graphic and can be designed in-house.

Contact 013873 80012 for details.

ADVERTISING

To advertise in the E&L Advertiser please call **013873 80012** or email **alan@eladvertiser.co.uk**

Nicholson's

Funeral Directors
(Independent Family Run)

Bank House, Longtown & 33 High St, Annan

For a professional, compassionate and caring service
24 hours a day Telephone
01228 791098 or 01461 759214
Chapels of Rest
in Langholm, Annan & Longtown
Pre-paid Funeral Plans available

www.eladvertiser.co.uk

Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

www.eladvertiser.co.uk

Online Subscriptions to the E&L Advertiser available from only **£1** per week

A new way to read the 'Langholm Paper'. Published weekly and available to read anytime and anywhere using multiple devices from mobile phone to tablet and laptop.

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK W/C 10th June 2024			
Day	What	Time	Where
Mon	Scrap Store	12-2	CM Space
	Mending Monday	1-3	
Tues	After School Club	4-5:30	CM Space
	Langholm Evening In Stitches	6-8	
Wed	Welcome Wednesday & Scrap Store	10-3	CM Space
	Intro to Sewing <small>Fully Booked</small>	5:30-7	
Fri	Scrap Store	10-12	CM Space
	Langholm In Stitches	1-3	
Sat	Rose patchwork <small>Fully Booked</small>	10-4	CM Space

◆ Booking required - visit www.creationmill.org/2024-events

Langholm Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society

AGM

in the Telford Room, Langholm Town Hall on Thursday 13th June at 7.30pm

A large turnout of members is requested as there is a lot to discuss!

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

Advertise on the NOTICEBOARD this size 5cm x 2col only

£20 inc VAT

Contact: alan@eladvertiser.co.uk

WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

12th to 15th	Missing Lynx Exhibition	Newcastleon Village Hall
Thu 13th	Langholm Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Soc AGM	Telford Room, Town Hall 7.30pm
Fri 14th	Live Screening of Germany v Scotland	On the big screen The Buccleuch Centre 7.45pm
Sat 15th	Club 80s Live	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Mon 17th	Dementia Cafe	Langholm Day Centre 1.30pm to 3.30pm
Wed 19th	Hard of Hearing Clinic	Langholm Day Centre 1.00pm to 3.00pm
Wed 26th	Chapterhouse Theatre A Midsummer Night's Dream	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Fri 28th	Brew 'n Blether	Langholm Day Centre 10.30am to 12.00pm

The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2421 answers next week...questions submitted by a reader, many thanks

- Which strait connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic?
- What is the currency of Japan?
- How many sides are there on the base of a pyramid?
- Who created Jeremy Fisher and Peter Rabbit?
- How many spots are on a six-sided dice?
- What is noise measured in?
- Which saint built a church at Whithorn at the end of the 5th Century?
- In snooker, how many red balls are used?
- What is the name of the jelly-like substance which fills much of an eyeball?
- What do you get if you mix copper and tin?
- Who is the only British Prime Minister to have been assassinated?
- All Kinds of Everything was a Eurovision winning entry for which Irish singer?
- A supercentenarian describes someone who has reached what age?
- What relation was Queen Elizabeth II to Queen Victoria?
- Which city hosted the final of football's Euro 2012 tournament?
- What was the name of the police station in the drama The Bill?
- Which city hosted the 2014 Commonwealth Games?
- Celery, apples, mayonnaise and walnuts are the main ingredients in which salad?
- What school did Billy Bunter attend?
- What is the first day of Lent?



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

General Knowledge Quiz 2420

- Black
- Caledonian
- Hampdon Park
- Pumpkin
- Dove
- East & West
- 5.5
- Nelson Mandela
- On a penny
- Ganges
- Black & White vertical stripe
- 20
- 20 days
- Independence Day
- People
- 5
- Sight, hearing, taste, touch, smell
- 4 (a quarter)
- Cacti
- Daniel Defoe

1 _____

Crossword 2420

Across: 7 Veneer, 8 House, 9 Shearers, 10 Mind, 11 Nail, 12 Elected, 15 Scandal, 16 Hi-fi, 18 Opal, 20 Lingerie, 21 Upset, 22 Couple.

Down: 1 Mechanic, 2 Denationalise, 3 Order, 4 Thistle, 5 Sub-machine gun, 6 Bean, 13 Eligible, 14 Ballets, 17 Snack, 19 Plus.

Never a Crossword!

No. 2421...answers next week

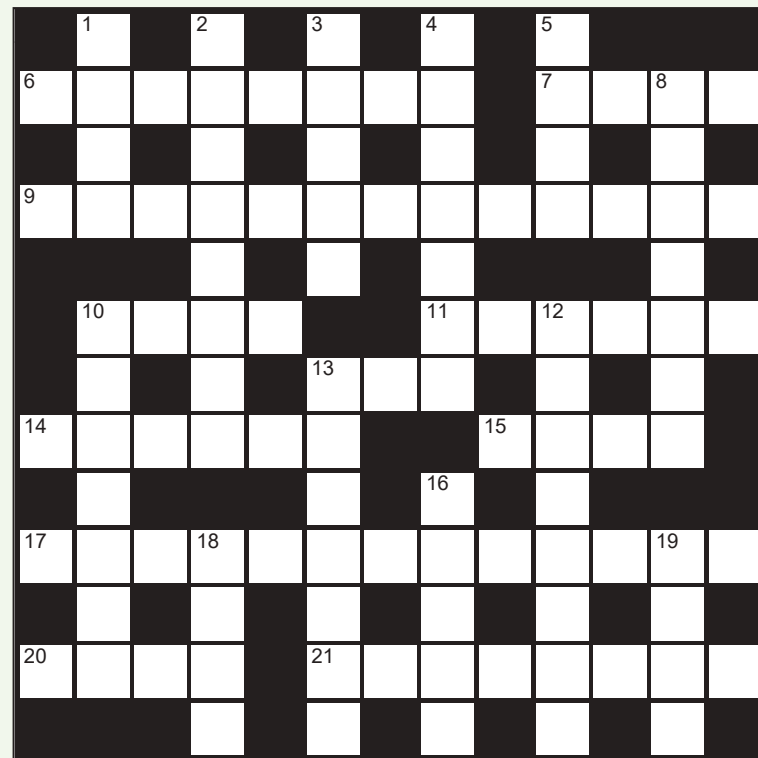
A wee mix of cryptic and general knowledge puzzles to get the grey cells moving!

Across

- Addictive substance (8)
- Old Peruvian (4)
- Liable to mishaps (8-5)
- Exclamation to express sorrow (4)
- Simpler (6)
- And not (3)
- Improvise (4,2)
- Mountains (4)
- Junior officer (3-10)
- Scene of Christ's first miracle (4)
- Sporting competitors (8)

Down

- Baby powder (4)
- Trigger (8)
- Yorkshire town on the Wharfe (5)
- Throw loosely about (7)
- Deceiver (4)
- Plead guilty (7)
- Sea north of Australia (7)
- Prevented from speaking (8)
- Feed container (7)
- Restless (5)
- Common church roof material (4)
- Want (4)





Sponsored by **KELSO RACES**

Lanercost brings LCC winning streak to an end

Premier League reality check for Langholm's 1st XI

Cricket

Report by Graham Park

After two wins in two weeks, Langholm 1st XI got a reality check that they are now playing in the Premier League with a 7 wicket defeat at the hands of high flying Lanercost.

Langholm won the toss and elected to bat on a typical green Castleholm wicket. Against some good bowling from Lanercost the openers struggled and Langholm soon found themselves in a bit of trouble at 12 for two with both openers Duncan Elliott and Tony Steele back in the clubhouse for 6 a piece. Wickets began to fall regularly with only Nicky Piszcykiewicz reaching double figures with 16. When he was bowled the score was 48 for 6. The Langholm tail could only muster another 9 runs before they were bowled out for 57 in the 34th over.



Match Sponsor Lloyd Johnstone and his admirers

With such a low score to defend it was always going to be difficult for Langholm but they stuck to their task and managed to pick up three wickets with Tony Steele continuing his good form from last week with 2 for 7 in 6 overs, the other wicket taker was Ryan Johnstone who dismissed Armstrong with Big Dunc taking a one handed catch behind

the stumps. Lanercost passed the Langholm total with ease though in the 17th over.

A disappointing result but if you had asked the Langholm players at the start of the season that they would have 2 wins from 4 being a newly promoted side I am sure they would have taken it. Next week Langholm are at home again taking on Carlisle 2nds.



Langholm Legion presentation night



WINNERS ALL: Dan Winter, Cole Hamilton, Brian Mattinson, Martin Thomlinson, Callum Ireland and Craig Cuthbert

Football

By Martin Thomlinson

LLFC players, coaches and WAGS rounded off the season with the annual awards night in the Douglas Hotel.

The club ended the campaign in seventh place in the twelve-team division A in what was a much needed steady rather than spectacular season.

Top scorer Brian Mattinson
Young player of the year
Cole Hamilton
Player of the year
Craig Cuthbert
E&L Player of the year
Daniel Winter
Players player of the year
Callum Ireland

Well done to all the lads who lifted awards and to the rest who run them very close indeed. The players attitudes and efforts are to be applauded and with such a small catchment area to attract and keep players, we do well to compete at the top level in Borders football.

As always, a huge thank you to all our sponsors, supporters and followers for their backing throughout the season and over the years.

On a personal level it's been an honour to have been the club's Manager again. Although it's been hard to combine it with family and other commitments, it's been an enjoyable and fulfilling time. Langholm Legion Football Club truly is a special club full of special people who will always have a very special place in my heart

Bowling



Langholm Old held their Open Triples on Saturday in brilliant sunshine.

The beaten semi-finalists were the S Dickson Trio and the R Redmond Trio. The eventual winners were S Barker, R Phillips and M Phillips who beat I Scott, A Aitken and D Ritchie seven shots to four.

Langholm Old Town met Hawick Buccleuch in the Borders Top Ten on Monday night.

It ended two matches each. The match was decided on overall shots with the homesters winning by 20 shots.

Old Town Triples Tournament



WINNING TRIPLE: Stevie Barker, Robert Phillips, Max Phillips with Karl Nawrocki.



LAUGHING: Karl Nawrocki with Runners Up Ian Scott, Duncan Ritchie and Alan Aitken

E&L SPORT

