Langholm Post Office officially open

Paper shop hosts new seven-day service SEE PAGE 3



Langholm Legion win Forsyth Cup

Delight as lads see off Jed in the final SEE PAGE 16



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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Ewan Patterson elected as Langholm's 2025 Cornet

Over 50% of the town turn out to vote as record number of voters is equalled



TOP TRIO: Ewan Patterson with his Right-hand Man Bailey Donaldson and Left-hand Man Christopher Tait beam for the camera after Ewan's election as 2025 Cornet

On a beautiful Spring evening, half of Langholm came out to elect their Cornet for 2025.

Such was the number of voters, that the previous record of 1,185 votes cast was equalled.

The sun shone, the sky was blue and Langholm's Pipe and Town bands were in perfect tune setting the scene for a busy and enjoyable start to the town's Common Riding season.

The Annual Public Meeting of the Common Riding was held at 8pm and a large number of local people attended.

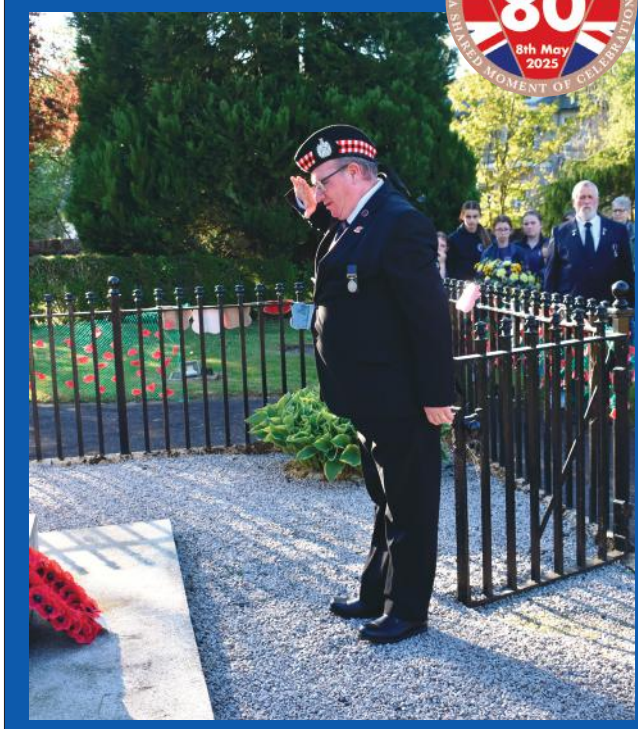
Chairman

New Common Riding Chairman, Kevan Hotson, acquitted himself perfectly in his new role with new Vice-Chairman Jamie Fletcher by his side.

For a full report on the meeting and some photos of the evenings activities, see the centre pages.

For a full report on the meeting and the night's proceedings, see pages 7 - 11

INSIDE



VE Day marked at War Memorial

On 8th May, the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe, a small but poignant service was held at 6.30pm at Langholm's War Memorial.

Full story on Page

Family Announcements

Thanks for Sympathy

IRVING, Eileen

Eileen's family appreciate the many visits, phone calls, flowers and cards received after Eileen's passing.
Thanks to Rev MacRae for her comforting service and to all who attended the church and generously donated over £800 to Cancer Research.
Thanks to Cochrane's for the beautiful flowers, the Eskdale Hotel for the refreshments and to Nicholson's Funeral Directors for their caring and professional help at this difficult time.

Funeral Services

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33 High St, Annan
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24 hours a day Telephone
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Church Notices

ESKDALE & LIDDESDALE PARISH linked with CANONBIE United Parish Church

Welcome to worship
Sunday 18th May
Rev Morag Crossan
led Services
Joint Service at
LIDDESDALE
CHURCH
at 10.15am

Contact us for transport to/from Langholm service
Tel. 07989 168299

No services at Canonbie and Langholm Churches

Rev Morag Crossan
Tel: 07861 736071
or email
mcrossan@churchofscotland.org.uk

Thanks

Callum Henderson

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ewan Patterson on being elected Cornet.
Thank you to everyone who voted for me and for all the good wishes and kind words received.
I'd like to wish Ewan, Dave, Fiona and Liam all the very best for the summer ahead.

Lloyd Johnstone

I would like to congratulate Ewan Patterson on becoming Langholm Cornet for 2025 and I hope you and your family have a fantastic summer.
Thank you very much to all of you who had faith in me but unfortunately it wasn't to be.
Many thanks again.

Thomas Hope

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations to Cornet Patterson on his election last Friday.
Thank you to all who sent cards and well wishes last week and to everyone that voted for me on Friday night, it is very much appreciated.
I'd also like to wish Ewan, Davy, Fiona and Liam all the very best for the summer ahead and a memorable Common Riding.

Ewan Patterson

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me on Friday night, and would like to wish Lloyd, Tommy and Callum all the very best for the future, your turn will come.
I hope everyone has a great summer.

Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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

Beekeeping brings a real buzz to Ewes SWI

Ewes SWI President Joan Cubbon welcomed members to the May meeting. Lorraine Priestley from Dornock near Annan gave members a very interesting talk on beekeeping and her creative work with beeswax. She has kept bees for twenty five years and after five years had learned the necessity of wearing a Sherriff bee suit. She showed a traditional skep and explained how it worked. Members were amazed at the hierarchy of the bees in a hive and the complications of swarms in difficult places.

Lorraine has travelled far and wide to bee keeping events and learned many ways of using beeswax, making candles, ornamental items and encaustic art. She outlined the dangers of Asian hornets to bees in Britain and also the problems of the varroa mite. After the vote of thanks from Tessa Lumley, a delightful supper was served by Kate Elliot and Cathy Jamieson.



Lorraine Priestley with her sheriff suit



Marjorie with trophy for most points

Lorraine judged the competitions as follows - Cinder Toffee - 1, Marjorie Pringle, 2, Maureen Brown and Candle - 1, Fiona Grant, 2, Joan Cubbon, 3, Maureen Brown

Arrangements were made for the outing to Santa Marina in June and Joan presented the cup for most points in competitions over the year to Marjorie Pringle. Runners up were Maureen Brown and Joan Cubbon with Anne Hannah receiving a prize for most entries. The AGM took place with accounts presented by Anne Wood. Joan was thanked for her sterling work over three years as President and Tessa Lumley stepped into her shoes. Marjorie Pringle accepted the post of Vice President and Anne Wood and Nancy McLure agreed to carry on as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

Save Warblaw exhibition

SAVE WARBLAW
Pop-up Exhibition

Pop in to the Pop-Up shop in the High Street to see Save Warblaw Action Group (SWAG)'s exhibition of maps, photos, information and press, covering James Jones' plans for Sitka spruce plantations on Warblaw and the community group's actions to try and stop it.

It will be open this week including Saturday 11am - 4pm, with someone from the group available to answer questions.

Come along on Thursday to a Bake Sale 11am - 2pm, kick-starting SWAG's fundraising campaign.



Well-wishers attend opening of Langholm's new Post Office

After months of work and training, Elizabeth and staff finally start their new venture

In what was a pleasant little ceremony, Langholm's new Post Office, located in the Paper Shop, opened its doors to the public.

The official opening and ribbon-cutting was carried out by Langholm's newly elected Cornet, Ewan Patterson and Semi-Jubilee Cornet Steven Hotson.

It was a grand affair, with a splendid buffet and drinks for the dry served by the staff. A good number of locals came by to wish Elizabeth and everyone all the best. Resident Sue Demartin was the first customer of the Post Office and she was followed by quite a few more even during the celebration.

It's been six years since Langholm had a full-time Post Office, but Scotby Post Office has provided an out-reach service in the interim and the town is very grateful for them being here to fill the void.

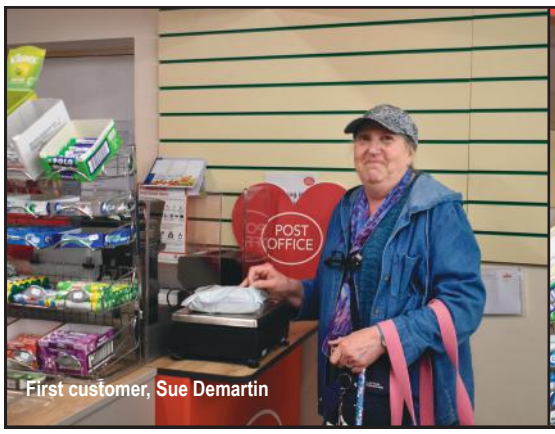
Elizabeth said "I'd like to thank the townsfolk for all their support from Pet Shop to Post Office and a special thanks to our lovely staff (and Kelvin of course), for their support and patience too"

The front of the shop has been spruced up and now sports a smart red and light-grey livery to tie in with the Post Office logo.

It is encouraging for the High Street that business people like Elizabeth and Kelvin see the potential in our wee toon and their new venture will hopefully encourage further investment by other businesses.



Cornet Ewan Patterson and Semi-Jubilee Cornet Steven Hotson cut the ribbon to declare Langholm's new Post Office open. Owners Elizabeth and Kelvin Wilson and Post Office officials Sam Williamson and Kenny Lamont held the ribbon



First customer, Sue Demartin



Cornet Ewan Patterson congratulates Elizabeth



The staff, Dougie, Carly, Shona and Liz

SEPA: Esk on alert

SEPA issued the following alert on 8th May. The river catchments of the Nith, Dee (Galloway), Cree, Doon, Irvine and Ayr and the Clyde have been raised to 'Alert'. The river catchments in our area of the Tweed, Esk (Dumfriesshire) and Annan remain at 'Alert'. Most of the rest of the country remains at 'Early Warning', with the Inner Hebrides remaining at normal conditions. Rainfall across Southwest Scotland was around half of the normal amount for April. Elsewhere there has been no recovery and most other areas remain at Early Warning. Significant rainfall in the next week is very unlikely.

Bridge results

N/S 1, Nancy McLure & Anne Ferguson, 2, George & Brenda Bullamore, 3, Bob Francombe & George Graham.

E/W 1, Lorraine Morton & Tom Stothart, 2, Alison Mullock & Jim Muir, 3, Sandra Ritchie & Anne Hislop.

Serious wildfire warnings

Public urged to avoid lighting any fires outdoors

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) issued a warning about wildfires at the end of last week and in conjunction with the Scottish Wildfire Forum, is urging the public to avoid lighting fires outdoors across all areas of Scotland during this period.

Wildfires have the potential to burn for days and devastate vast areas of land and wildlife; and threaten the welfare of nearby communities.

Area Commander Michael Humphreys is the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Wildfire Lead and said:

"We are asking the public to exercise extreme caution and avoid using anything involving a naked flame. At this time of year in early Spring, we typically have a large volume of dead, bone-dry vegetation across large areas of countryside. This essentially acts as a fuel for fire.

"There are currently vast areas that are tinder dry and vulnerable, which provides all the ingredients for fire to take hold and spread. Many rural and remote communities are hugely impacted by wildfires, which can cause significant damage. Livestock, farmland, wildlife, protected woodland and sites of special scientific interest can all be devastated by these fires - as can the lives of people living and working in rural communities.



DANGER TO LIFE: Dumfries and Galloway is at EXTREME risk of wildfires along with most of Scotland

Photo by Leslie Barrie CC

"Human behaviour can significantly lower the chance of a wildfire starting, so it is imperative we all act responsibly while enjoying the outdoors especially over the coming days of predicted sunshine. By following some simple but key advice, we can significantly reduce the risk of wildfire occurring."

SFRS advises people to always follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and has a range of safety advice for wildfire prevention. It's important not to leave glass bottles behind or throw away cigarette ends as both can start fires with disastrous consequences.

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Thoughtful VE Day ceremony held at Langholm's War Memorial

RAF Police Sergeant David Patterson led a poignant service at Langholm's War Memorial on Thursday evening to Commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. David said:

"We warmly welcome you all to this special gathering as we come together to mark a significant milestone in our shared history: The 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day.

"Across the United Kingdon, commemorative events have been taking place over the past few days – military and uniformed services parades, community tea parties, the ringing of church bells, and other heartfelt tributes. These moments of reflection remind us of the joy, relief and hope that marked the end of the war in Europe in 1945, bur they also remind us of the unimaginable cost at which that victory came.

"It is vitally important, on this day especially, to remember all those who paid the ultimate sacrifice – those who never returned home and were not there to share in the celebrations with their friends, families and comrades. Their courage, their sense of duty, and their loss must never be forgotten.

Remembrance

"And so, here tonight, as the community of Langholm, Ewes and Westerkirk, we gather in unity and emembrance.

"Through this short but meaningful ceremony, we pay tribute not only to the fallen, but also to all who served and endured the hardships of war so that we might enjoy the peace and freedom we enjoy today."

Wreaths were laid by a number of organisations in the town including the armed services, Langholm Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council, Langholm Alliance and Eskdale Pony Club.

The names of the fallen of World War II were then read out by three ex-service personnel: Judy Helling, Colin Dirom and Kathryn McVittie.

The Piper's Lament was played by Margaret Nordon and the Last Post was sounded by Nicole Weatherstone which was followed by two-minutes silence and Reveille.

To close the ceremony, David Patterson gave the Kohima Epitaph: *"When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today"*


Kathryn McVittie, Colin Dirom and Judy Helling read the WWII Roll of Honour


Donald Waldie of the KOSB paid his respects


Langholm's award-winning memorial


RAF Police Sergeant David Patterson


Members of Eskdale Pony Club laid a wreath at the War Memorial

Day Centre does VE Day justice

Afternoon Tea and a good old sing-along

Langholm day centre members had 'afternoon tea' for lunch last Friday to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE day. Everyone enjoyed a selection of sandwiches along with pies, sausage rolls and sausages, followed by an assortment of homemade cream scones, biscuits and cakes. The staff dressed up in 'forties' outfits and made it a memorable event. The lunch was followed by a singalong and everyone agreed it was a lovely afternoon.


Above: Day Centre members enjoyed a marvellous afternoon tea

Below: As ever, the Day Centre staff entered into the spirit of things



Primary, too does red, white and blue

Langholm Primary School pupils marked the 80th anniversary of VE last week with assemblies, group singing, street party lunches and by dressing in red white and blue.





Community Council says thank you

Through the courtesy of your paper, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave Patterson and my Community Council colleague, Rachael Donnelly, for their efforts in organising the VE Day celebrations last week.

Dave organised and led the wreath-laying ceremony at the war memorial. The fact that Langholm War Memorial was awarded 'Very Highly Commended' in the National All Category of the Royal British Legion Scotland Best Kept War Memorial Competition 2024 is a testament to Dave's efforts.

Rachael served as the Chair of the Community Council's VE Day working group. Together with others, she helped organise the free VE Day celebration event at the Langholm Social Club.

It was essential the Community Council did its part to honour and mark VE Day for the community.

Stuart Clement JP
Chair
Langholm, Ewes, and Westerkirk Community Council



COVID comparisons as Co-op shelves remain empty

Cyber-attack hits national supermarkets supply chain leaving shoppers without

It's hard to believe that our local shops can been impacted so badly by a cyber-attack but that's what has happened to the Langholm Co-op. Shoppers found lots of shelves were empty and were unable to purchase many goods with very little fruit or vegetables available last week. Customers were reminded of Covid times and were surprised to see the shop so empty of stock.

Cochranes at Longtown had been initially unaware of the issues at the Co-op but said they had experienced increased customer numbers purchasing fruit and vegetables. Reports are that people on many of the Scottish islands which only have the Co-op as their main shop have been struggling to get goods.

The Co-op has confirmed that the cyber-attack resulted in data theft on a significant number of customers after hackers breached its systems. This is what they have said.

"We now know that the hackers were able to access and extract data from one of our systems The accessed data included information relating to a significant number of our current and past members."

On April 30, 2025, the company was forced to shut down its IT systems after detecting unauthorised access, which occurred on April 22. A subsequent investigation determined that the unauthorised access resulted in data exposure. The Co-op apologised for the data theft of current and former members stemming from the April cyber-attack and says it leaked current and former members' details, including names and contact details, which puts them at risk of targeted 'phishing' attacks.

However, the data theft did not expose the victims' account passwords, banking and financial information, such as banking account and credit card numbers, and transaction information.

Nonetheless, the UK retailer urged impacted victims to take usual precautionary measures to protect their accounts from exploitation. So far, the Co-op has no evidence that the attackers have misused the stolen data.

Meanwhile, the United Kingdom's National Cyber Security Centre and the National Crime Agency are assisting the company to respond to the ongoing cyber-attack. The Co-op is continuing to experience sustained malicious attempts by hackers to access our systems. This is a highly complex situation, which we continue to investigate in conjunction with these national agencies. The company has also implemented additional security measures to prevent further unauthorised access and disruptions stemming from the cyber-attack.





COMPLEX: The situation has caused major headaches for the Co-op's chain of supermarkets and convenience stores

Award for memorial

Langholm War Memorial was given a 'Very Highly Commended' award in Legion Scotland's Annual Best Kept War Memorial competition. Archie Dryburgh MBE, Legion Scotland's Area Secretary for Glasgow, Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway area congratulated Langholm's war memorial group with a Very Highly Commended Certificate at the War Memorial on Friday 9th May 2025 for its entry in last year's competition.

The Area Competition had 34 memorials straddling the 9 categories. Archie said 'a huge well done to the participants who entered and worked on the memorial, out of 110 points Langholm received 104 points which is a fantastic accolade to those who made it ready for entry. The judges were very impressed with the entry and it was only 3 points away from winning the Area Competition in that category.'



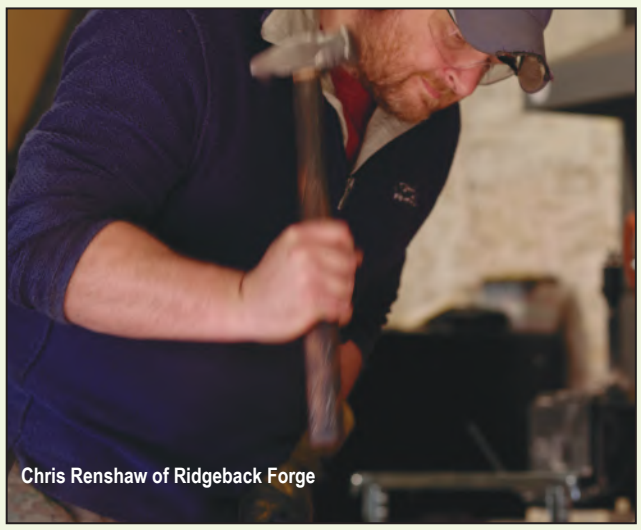
Red Route reduced but Spring Fling still among us

Spring has now officially sprung : and the annual Arts & Crafts Open Studio event, Spring Fling is just around the corner.

For the last 23 years talented artists from all over Dumfries & Galloway have opened up their studios to allow visitors to view what goes on behind the scenes – and why. There will be many reasons why there is such an abundance of talent locally, most often siting the beauty of the region and the local community. Split into 6 'routes', Langholm is on the eastern fringes and part of the Red Route.

Two 'well-kent' faces are opening their studios on Glenesk Road in Langholm (Studios 78 and 79)– Mike Dixon and Daniel Lacey.

Mike – familiar to many from taking part in the monthly Producers' Market - creates useful and beautiful household items such as chopping boards, bowls and spoons - from local timbers, drawing on his background in forestry and a lifetime's love of wood. His creative family draw, paint, make soaps and more, and all beautifully - and appropriately enough are based in Creation Mill for Spring Fling 2025.



Chris Renshaw of Ridgeback Forge



Langholm's Daniel Lacey

Fine furniture

Daniel, who lives and works in Langholm, has been part of Spring Fling since moving back to Dumfries and Galloway in 2010, and is a designer/maker of contemporary fine furniture - acknowledged by his peers as one of the finest makers in the country. Using local storm-downed timbers, Daniel specialises in bespoke commissions for personal and business. He too works with the natural beauty of the wood – spending hours hand finishing his pieces so that they feel like silk to the touch.

Slightly further afield, but still in the 'Red Route' is blacksmith Chris Renshaw (Studio 80) a handcrafter of knives, and from Moffat - jeweller Sonny Cooper and ceramicist Rebecca Woods.

Sadly, our talented local artist Gloria Newlan from Eskdalemuir has had to withdraw from Spring Fling 2025.

For the many who are unable to visit everywhere (after all the Studios range for miles from the Mull of Galloway all the way across to Langholm!) there are Virtual Studios on the Spring Fling Website

https://www.spring-fling.co.uk/studio-map/

Westerkirk SWI AGM

Westerkirk Scottish Women's Institute AGM and business meeting was held on Tuesday 6th May. Diana Stewart welcomed everyone present. Voting slips were collected and taken over to Peter Eyre who kindly agreed to count the votes. Diana reported on an enjoyable year of demonstrations and speakers. The financial report showed a healthy balance but there is always the need to fundraise to keep it that way.

Points trophy was won by Lib McNeil, 2nd Kay Kinstrey, 3rd Hazel Johnstone

The new committee is as follows: President - Diana Stewart; Vice President - Ann Hislop, Secretary- Lib McNeil, Treasurer- Beverley Eyre, Catherine Tod, Kay Kinstrey, Hazel Johnstone & Pauleen Innes complete the committee. A trip to Durham Cathedral & Museum is organised for 21st June. Competitions - Best Syllabus: 1st Lib McNeil; Gingerbread: 1st Ila Jackson, 2nd Lib McNeil. A cup of tea and a chat about upcoming events brought the evening to a close.

Farming on the Border

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

Farming with Gilly Fraser

Government must deliver on promises

NFU Scotland is calling on the Scottish Government to deliver on its promises for the rural sector.

The union says that although the 2025-26 Programme for Government, contains no new policies for agriculture, they nevertheless welcome the continued investment in rural support, food production, and the environment.

However, they are stressing the need for swift implementation.

President Andrew Connon says farmers and crofters need to see delivery, not delay.

"Reformed direct support must be the Government's urgent priority," he said. "We need clarity on how schemes will work and when they'll apply. Without certainty, there's no confidence to plan or invest. With it, we can deliver for food production, climate, nature, and the rural communities that depend on active farming and crofting."

The government has confirmed that the long-awaited Rural Support Plan will be published, alongside progress on direct support reform, investment in food processing, crofting law reform, and the Future Farming Investment Scheme, including capital support for new entrants.

NFUS welcomed these themes but warned that delivery must be shaped by those working in the sector and backed by a regulatory framework that supports viability, not just compliance.

On environment and biodiversity, the programme sets out targets for woodland and peatland expansion, further rounds of the Nature Restoration Fund, and new biodiversity baselining requirements.

Mr Connon says Scottish farmers are already playing a central role in climate and biodiversity delivery, but insists this must be recognised as part of a working rural economy.

Mary-Jane's Agricultural Adviser of the Year Award

Honouring the trailblazing women involved in farming

Pioneering work in helping to establish a Scotland-wide network of women involved in farming by SAC Consulting's Mary-Jane Lawrie has won her the title of Agricultural Adviser of the Year.

Now in their second year, the National Women in Agriculture Awards were established to 'honour the trailblazing, innovating, and leading women across the UK's agri-sectors'.

Mary-Jane joined SAC Consulting in 2011 and since then has supported more than 270 farm businesses across the Lothians and Peeblesshire, advising on agri-environment schemes, carbon reduction, business planning, and biodiversity.

She has also played a pivotal role setting up a nationwide network from the Borders to Orkney.

She says it was incredibly rewarding to have her work recognised.

"I am fully aware of the issues that women in agriculture face and this award signifies the importance and need to support the role of women across the sector and the exceptional qualities they bring to farming," she said.

In 2016, Mary-Jane established a network to encourage women to come together for knowledge exchange, peer-to-peer learning, and confidence building.

There are now 12 successful local groups established right across the country and last year Mary organised the first National Women in Agriculture Conference for FAS, held at Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh.


Mary-Jane Lawrie with her glittering award

Chloe McCulloch, Head of SAC Consulting says Mary-Jane thoroughly deserves this recognition.

"She has worked tirelessly not just in her role as a consultant, but to help create space for women to connect, grow in confidence, and take their place in shaping the future of Scottish farming and crofting."

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report
Thursday, 8th May 2025

CONTACT NUMBERS:

John Walton	07880 527 066
Daniel Lynn	07584 200 489
Norman Douglas	07786 366 833
Helen Rickard	07741 313 029
Joe Conley	07771 685 073

C&D Auction Marts had forward an entry of 6,859 sheep comprising of 46 Spring Lambs, 4,249 hoggs and 2,569 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 1st May 2025.

SPRING LAMBS

An increased entry of commercial spring lambs sold to a very competitive trade with more being required on a weekly basis to satisfy purchaser demand.

Topping the sale were 3 Suffolks realising £180 from HM Martindale, The Land.

Top price per kilo were 3 Texel lambs at 394.9p from SD Allen, Ellerslea.

Principal prices (Per kilo)
Texel – 394.9p, 386p & 374p Ellerslea.
Suffolk – 388p & 366.7p Ellerslea, 362.5p Basco Dykehead & 360.9p Ellerslea.
Zwartbles – 321p & 308p Holmlea.

Principal prices (Per head)
Suffolk - £180 (x2), £171, £169 The Land, £166, £164 & £163 Ellerslea.
Texel - £166, £161 & £154 Ellerslea.
Zwartbles - £154 & £151 Holmlea.

PRIME HOGGS

An increased show of prime hoggs sold to a reduced enquiry of purchasers because with all classes meeting some resistance.

Topping the sale was a Texel at £230 from Townhead of Culloch

Top price per kilo was a Beltex at 414.6p from Drumcairn

Overall average of 295.44p (SQQ 301.95p)

Principal prices (Per kilo)
Beltex – 414.6p, 409.1p Drumcairn, 393.8p Shethin, 391.5p Hillside, 378.7p Cardew Grange, 374p, 373p Uras,
Millenium Blue – 387.5p Lurgan.
Texel – 375.6p Uras, 368.8p Hillside, 359.4p Townhead of Culloch, 356p Greenside 348p Manfield Cottage, 346p Outertown.
Charollais – 347p Westernhopeburn, 307p Muirfield House, 305p Nether Cargen.
Suffolk – 341.7p Galleywreay, 340.4p Whins, 333p Outertown, 326.3p Third Farm, 323p Outertown, 322.2p Weeds.
Hill Cheviot – 328p South Bogbain, 326p Shethin, 320p Westernhopeburn, 319p Prior Rigg and Becks, 318.9p Greenside, 318p The Land.
Blackface – 326p, 320p Heathery Hall, 317p Fingland, 314p Hillside, 313p Muirfield House, 311.4p Shethin.
Cheviot Mule – 322p Tister, 304.4p Uras, 303.3p Kingside, 302p Parks, 300p Tister.
Roussin – 320.5p Coilamy **Blue Texel** – 311p Tercrosset,
Badgerface – 314p Shethin,
Herdwick – 311p Orthwaite Hall, 310.9p Hillside, 290p Cockley Beck,
Cross – 310p Muirfield House, 308p Weeds, 305p Muirfield House and Kingside, 300p Sonoma.
Welsh Mountain – 303p Pasture House.
North Country Cheviot – 302p, 293p Castle of Mey.
Clun – 295p The Inch.
Swaledale – 293p Westernhopeburn, 281p Hillside, 273p, 268p Cockley Beck, 256.1p The Craggs.
Shetland – 292.5p, 275p South Port o Spittal, 273p Weeds.
Dorset – 291.7p Weeds.
Easycare – 286.8p South Port o Spittal.
Woodland – 286p South Port o Spittal.
Zwartbles – 282.4p Hillside.
Half Bred – 280.8p Shethin, 276p Aimster.
Jacob – 257p Pasture House, 246p Parks.

Principal prices (Per head)
Texel – £230 Townhead of Culloch, £181 Torgornack, £175 Tercrosset, £170 Cambeckhill, Townhead of Culloch, Tercrosset and Crossgates, £169 Uras, £168 Torgornack, East Farm and Greenside.
Beltex – £184 Hillside, £180 Drumcairn, £178 Cardew Hall, £172 Uras and Townhead of Culloch, £170 Drumcairn, £168 Uras and Tercrosset.
Suffolk – £170 Greenside, £168 Shethin, £167, £166 Torgornack, £164 Galleywreay, £160 Whins.
Hill Cheviot – £165 Becks, £162 Kingside, £160, £158 Kirkton, £157 Drumreach, £153 Kirkton.
North Country Cheviot – £162 Torgornack, £160 Greenside, £154 Torgornack, £148 Kingside, £144 Castle of Mey.
Millenium Blue – £160 Oswie.
Hampshire – £159 Torgornack.
Charollais – £157 Heathery Hall, £152, £150 Nether Cargen, £147 Shethin.
Cross – £156 Greenside, £152 Muirfield House, £147 Sonoma, £144 Galleywreay, £134 Patties Hill and Hillside, £131 Kingside.
Badger Face – £150 Greenside, £135 Shethin.
Half Bred – £146 Shethin.
Blue Texel – £146 Tercrosset
Blackface – £144 Kingside, £143 Sonoma, £141 Heathery Hall, £140 Fingland, £134 Causey View, £130 Kingside and Fingland.
Zwartbles - £144 Hillside.
Herdwick – £143 Hillside, £141 Cockley Bank, £118 Orthwaite Hall, £113 Cockley Beck.
Roussin - £141 Coilamy
Border Leicester – £141 Greenside.
Cheviot Mule – £137 Uras and Westernhopeburn, £136.50 Kingside, £135 Tister.
Swaledale – £127 Low Stokoe, £123 Cockley Beck, £117 Westernhopeburn, £112 Hillside.
Woodland – £123, £120 South Port o Spittal.
Jacob – £118 Pasture House.
Shetland – £117 South Port o Spittal.
Welsh Mountain – £115 Pasture House.
Clun – £112 The Inch.
Easycare – £109 South Port o Spittal.
Dorset – £105 Weeds.

CAST EWES AND RAMS

A very mixed show of cast ewes and rams forward to the same full ring of purchasers. Heavy ewes would be easier on the week albeit still a big trade. Lightweight ewes continued at recent high rates of return

Heavy ewes topped at £330 for a pair of Texels from A&C Watson, Rowan Girth, Whitehaven.

Lightweight ewes topped at £158 for a pen of 5 Cheviots from J Halliday, Springwells, Johnstonebridge.

Rams to £240 for a pen of 6 Charollais from R Whittaker, Hundalee Pastoral, Roxburghshire.

Heavy ewes
Texel - £330 Rowan Garth, £315 Cambeckhill, £308 Rowan Garth, £305 Hassendeanburn, £285 Beckfoot, £280 Road Side, £275 Thackwood, £265 Townhead of Culloch.
Beltex - £276 Barrogill Mains, £250 Boulintogle, £245 Thackwood, £220 Crawthat, £200 Tercrosset, £200 Crawthat.
Suffolk - £230 Beckfoot, £225 Roadside, £220 Beckfoot, £218 Airyhassen, £212 Beckfoot, £210 Thackwood, £210 Torgornack, £210 Pilmore.
Cheviot Mule - £225 Uras, £198 Boulintogle, £190 North Corrielaw, £188 Beckfoot, £185 North Corrielaw, £185 Beckfoot, £180 Tister.
Charollais - £220 & £210 Thackwood, £210 Road Side, £208 Thackwood.
Cross - £215 Whiteside, £210 Pilmore, £210 Beckfoot, £200 Coiliamy.
Dutch Spot - £202 Pilmore, £165 Syke Head.
Oxford - £188 Guards, £120 Inch.
Lleyn - £185 Lustruther, £175 Swallowdene, £162 Huntly Lodge.
North Country Cheviots - £185 Road Side, £178 Tister, £172 Kingside, £168 Longoe, £168 Dalmakethar .
Bluefaced Leicester - £178 Pilmuir.
Border Leicester - £170 Pilmuir, £142 West Stobs.
Blue Texel - £155 Barrogill Mains, £140 Currie Inn.
Zwartbles - £165 Beckfoot, £158 10 Great Easton Drive.
Dorset - £134 Maidencots, £122 West Stobs.
Romney - £130 Huntly Lodge.

Light ewes
Cheviot - £158 Springwells, £155 Kilncroft, £145 Tister, £140 Currie Inn, £140 & £136 Drumreach, £136 Catslackburn, £135 Kilnford Croft, £134 Drumreach.
Blackface - £148 Whiteside,£132 North Corrielaw, £130 Drinkstone, £126 Kerfield, £124 Peela Hill, £122 Cassington.
Easycare - £140 Pilmore, £138 & £129 East Farm, £124 Tisterm, £120 Pilmore.
Swaledale - £130 Linton Bank Head, £124 Spoutbank, £102 Linton Bank Head.
Herdwick - £120 Pilmore, £120 Farlam Hill.
Shetland - £114 Auchlin, £100 Syke Head, 380 Gorthleck Mains .
Kendal Rough - £110 Lynnshield.
Jacob - £86 Brae Edge, £80 Syke Head.
Hebridean - £72 Huntly Lodge.

Rams
Charollais - £240 Hundalee Pastoral, £240 & £235 Pilmore, £230 Hundalee Pastoral, £220 Meadowside, £220 Pilmore.
Suffolk - £225 Pilmore, £222 Park Nook, £210 Falnash.
Texel - £222 Underwood, £210 Airyhassen, £205 Meadowside, £205 Fallaw.
Beltex - £220 Kilncroft, £190 Townhead of Culloch, £175 Dotland.
Cheviot - £202 The Ha, £145 Falnash.
Blue Leicester - £185 Meadowside, £185 Spoutbank, £170 Beckfoot, £165 Franzeal.
North Country Cheviot - £185 & £175 Tister.
Hampshire - £168 Linton Bank Head, £145 Cassington.
Lleyn - £160 Huntly Lodge.
Blackface - £148 Road Side.
Easycare - £145 Pilmore.
Herdwick - £98 Huntly Lodge.
Border Leicester - £90 Pilmuir.

Averages:

Spring Lambs

Light to	394.9p (358.76p)
Standard to	289.8p (289.83p)
Medium to	374.0p (370.63p)
Heavy to	327.0p (317.48p)
O/Weight to	291.0p (291.38p)

Hoggs

Light to	393.8p (259.14p)
Standard to	372.0p (302.14p)
Medium to	414.6p (306.75p)
Heavy to	391.5p (284.6p)

Ewes

Light to	£158.00 (£107.77)
Heavy to	£330.00 (£164.71)
Rams to	£240.00 (£175.20)

Ewan is our Cornet for 2025

Beautiful spring night brings voters out in their hundreds, equalling record

Langholm Common Riding Public Meeting

By Katherine Latimer

The election of Langholm Cornet was held on Friday the 10th of May. The results of the vote were preceded by the public meeting, during which the trustees of the Common Riding gave a report of the year.

Chairman ex-Cornet Kevan Hotson started by thanking retiring chairman ex-Cornet Tommy Morrison for his time in office. Tommy will be missed as chairman but remain as a member of the Common Riding. Chairman Hotson welcomed new trustees Ross Mabon, Michaela Maxwell and Lee Earsman to the meeting.

Cornet Bailey Donaldson was congratulated on the exemplary job he did in 2024, with trustees and members agreeing that he didn't put a foot wrong from the moment that he was elected. The Right- and Left-Hand Men, Christopher Tait and Ruairi Hotson were praised for their dedicated support of the Cornet. Chairman ex-Cornet Kevan Hotson then went on to mention that Cornet Donaldson was the first to carry the flag so generously donated by the Irving family and made note of how spectacular it looked on the day. He then went on to thank sponsors and donors for their generosity towards the Common Riding, without whom the event simply would not be possible.

Treasurer Joyce Bell then gave a report of the year's finances. The biggest increases in sponsorship came from both the sponsorships and the bar takings, with both rising by a significant eighteen percent.

Attendance at the field remains level with last year, however this was buoyed by the rentals of gazebo pitches.

However, it was noted that expenditure had increased by around 6%. Despite this, 2024 produced a similar surplus to that of 2023, leaving Langholm Common Riding in a strong financial position.

That being all, the financial report was approved by Colin Irving and seconded by Alison Aston.

Secretary Kenneth Hill then gave a report on events arising in the last year. The absence of the grandstand last year was noted but the picnic benches in its place were thought to be a great success, with an additional ten arranged for this year.

End of an era

He informed the meeting that this would be his last in the position, having succeeded his father, Dick Hill, in the role in 2010. Ross Mabon has agreed to take on the role of secretary after this year. Kenneth went on to propose a vote of thanks to Tracy Lowther for her diligent and thorough work assisting him throughout his years as secretary.

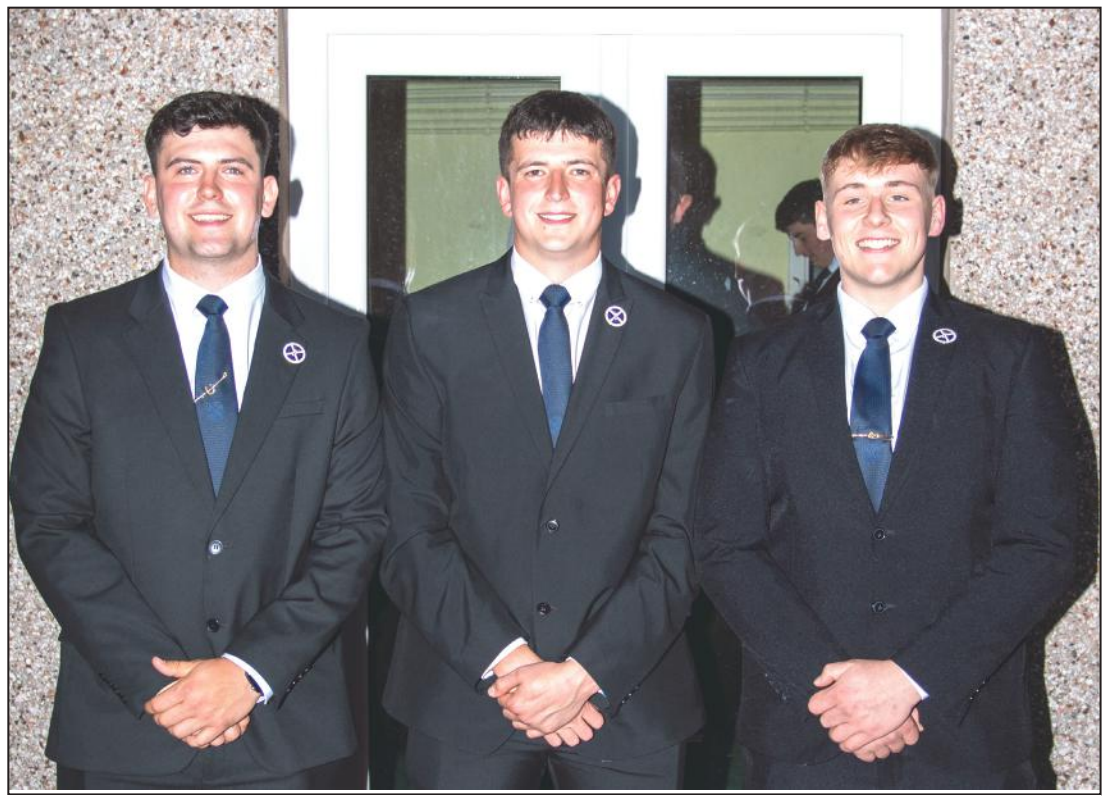
Kenneth concluded his report by saying that community spirit continues to thrive around the Common Riding, and that the younger generations now becoming involved secures the future of the Common Riding for many years to come.

The result of the election was then announced. Callum Thomas Henderson secured 233 votes, Thomas David Hope secured 337, Lloyd Johnstone secured 186, and Ewan Alexander Patterson secured 429 votes.

When the meeting was opened to the floor, Roger Maxwell raised the issue of the twenty signs that had been painted on the Kirk Wynd. This was something the committee would have to look at further and will discuss at the next meeting.

Colin Irving then proposed a vote of thanks to the Common Riding Committee and Trustees.

That being all, the meeting was drawn to a close.



SPEECHLESS: Ewan Alexander Patterson couldn't believe it when Bailey Donaldson and Christopher Tait brought him the news

All Photos by Katherine Latimer Photography

Everyone at
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all the very best for the Common Riding


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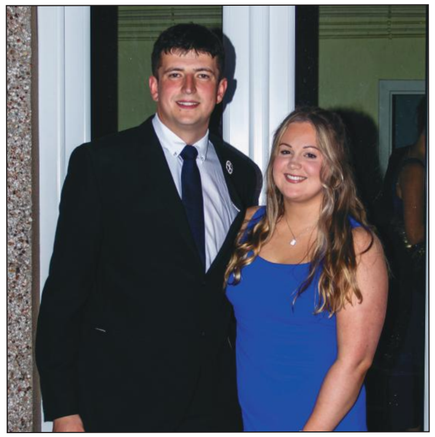
EWAN PATTERSON
on his election as
Cornet for 2025

‘The hour produced the man again’

Langholm Common Riding 2025



PALS: Ewan Patterson with his trusty vote-counter Ryan Johnstone



DELIGHTED: Cornet Elect, Ewan Patterson with his gilfriend Niamh Kerr



HAPPY FAMILY: Niamh Kerr, Margaret Scott, Ewan, Fiona, Liam, Nicole and David



PROUD: Brother Liam, Cornet Patterson, Mum Fiona and Dad David

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Congratulations to
Ewan Patterson
on being named the 2025 Cornet from all at Cullen Kilshaw, we wish you a fantastic year ahead.

We're with you every step of the way

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T: 013873 80482 www.cullenkilshaw.com

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Ewan Patterson
on his election to Langholm Cornet for 2025



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Ewan Patterson
on his election as Cornet for 2025
and wish him all the best
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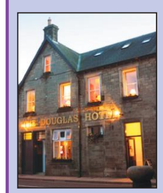
LIKELY LADS: The Cornet's friends and family photographed late on Friday evening

The Douglas Hotel
Congratulates Cornet Ewan Patterson on his election



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on his election as Cornet for 2025
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Everyone at the E & L Advertiser & the board of Muckle Toon Media would like to congratulate EWAN PATTERSON on his election as Langholm Cornet for 2025 and wish him all the best for his year in office.

Ewan takes to the hills

First duty of newly-elected Cornet: Lead the Young Riders to the monument

Newly elected Cornet Ewan Patterson led a troop of Young Riders up the Kirk Wynd on Sunday 11th May for their annual sponsored walk.

A group of over twenty-five enthusiastic youngsters took part, and raised in xcess of £2,000 for the Young Riders.

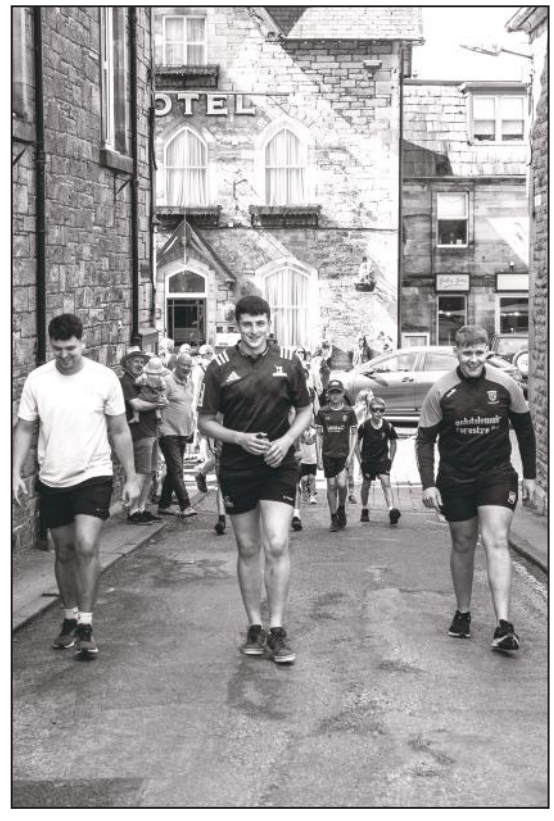
Ewan was flanked by his Right- and Left-Hand men, Bailey Donaldson and Christopher Tait.

The route took the group up the Kirk Wynd and along the Birnie Braes before following the road up to the monument. As per Common Riding tradition, the group circled the monument three times before heading back for the town down the face of Whita via Whita Well.

The youngsters were treated to an ice cream from Pelosis van on their arrival back in the Market Place.



READY TO ROLL: Langholm's new Front Three pose with the kids of Langholm Young Riders before tackling Whita Hill



STEPPIN' OUT: Bailey, Ewan & Chris lead-off up the Kirk Wynd

Chloe at La Belle
Congratulations to Ewan Patterson Cornet 2025



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Milntown, Langholm
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Roger & Geoff at
James Maxwell
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would like to congratulate
Ewan Patterson
on his election as Cornet for 2025
and wish him all the best

Contact:
Roger : 07702 733086
Geoff : 07789 984304

The Paper Shop

Elizabeth, Kelvin and everyone at **Wilson Pets** and **The Paper Shop** would like to congratulate
EWAN PATTERSON
on his election as Langholm Cornet for 2025
and wish him all the best

WILSON PETS
POST OFFICE



A great start to another great Common Riding





The committee, staff and members of
Langholm Social Club
congratulate
Cornet Patterson
on his election as Cornet for 2025

Ashleybank Investments Limited
Everyone at Ashleybank Investments would like to congratulate
Ewan Patterson
on his election as Cornet and wish him all the very best for Langholm Common Riding 2025
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The **Langholm Initiative**
Congratulations to
Ewan Patterson
on his election as Cornet from all at
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on his election as 2025 Cornet

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Congratulations to **Cornet |Patterson** from all the team at Rose's Wardrobe
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Art Corner Gallery AND FRAMING
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Opening times: Monday, Tuesday & Friday 10am - 4pm, Saturday 9.30am to noon
Janet Carson on 07969 559134 for framing/painting commissions

...Liddesdale Lineup...

By Gilly Fraser

The Holm's yellow river

A 'Liddel' more water would have helped the ducks along!

Liddel Water turned bright yellow as hundreds of rubber ducks took to the waves for their annual-ish race.

The event, held to raise funds for the Newcastleton School Partnership, was blessed with beautiful blue skies and bright sunshine, attracting a great audience of both local people and visitors.

It wasn't quite so blessed with the river which is running pretty low thanks to the current uncharacteristically dry spell.

As a result, the water wasn't flowing at its usual speed, so the original length of the race had to be shortened. As one observer commented, if they hadn't done that the ducks would still be swimming a week later.

Outgoing Tub Harvey Turnbull performed one of the last tasks of his year in high office by officially starting the race and sending the ducks on their merry way. Members of the village's Fire Service played their part by helping to usher them along, keep them off the rocks and stop them at the other end.

A number of actual ducks were witnessed watching the race with some puzzlement but fortunately none of them decided to take part.

The proceeds are still being counted up but should raise well over £600 which will go towards activities for the Primary and ELC pupils.



LIKE HERDING DUCKS: The start of the race



Excited locals line the banks of the Liddel to witness the spectacle



WORTHWHILE: £600 raised and the winner is declared

Two Tub nominees

Election fever hits Copshaw this weekend as the village goes to the polls to elect its new Common Riding Tub.

There are two contenders this year – Oli Downey is hoping to win the hearts of the electorate and follow in the footsteps of his Mum Paula who uniquely held the coveted post of Tub for three years running thanks to Covid.

Contender number two is Stevie Jackson who is throwing his hat into the ring for the first time.

The polls open at 6.01pm on Saturday and the winner will be announced at the Tub's Ball in Legends, when Tub 2024 Harvey Turnbull hands over the precious Pureous Bunkumus flag, and the shenanigans begin again for another year.



TUB HOPEFULS: Oli Downey and Stevie Jackson

Some new faces at Holm Show



The last Saturday in August may still be a few weeks away, but it's full steam ahead for all the hardworking Holm Show committee members as they put together this year's extravaganza.

The Show now has a new President – retired farmer and longtime supporter Ian Aitchison has been confirmed as the new main man.

The current Chairman David Nixon has agreed to carry on for a further three years with Ken Fordham providing great support as his Vice-Chair.

Long-serving member Jenny Nixon carries on as both Organising Livestock Secretary and Treasurer and Sarah Oliver as Industrial and Catering Secretary.

Sharron Harkness takes on the new role as Craft Tent Secretary.

At the recent AGM it was announced that an amazing £840 had been raised for Prostate Cancer Research in honour of former much-loved and much-missed Chairman Philip Hedley.

More vandalism

Vandals have damaged Newcastleton's newly refurbished playpark.

The refurbishment was part of a £4 million investment in play areas in the region by Scottish Borders Council, along with financial input from the Scottish Government.

It saw the area upgraded with new play equipment including a spectacular new train, the only one of its kind in the country.

A new surface was also laid to make the area safer for children.

Now however it appears that an attempt has been made to dig up parts of the surface, leaving unsightly and potentially dangerous holes.

It's the second time incidents of anti-social behaviour have been reported in the village in just a matter of weeks.

Parents of pupils at the village school reacted with anger to the news that pieces of play equipment and loose parts were taken from the grounds of the building.

At the time, Headmaster Andy Jones appealed to the culprits to respect the community and to remember that it is their community as well.

The school grounds are covered by CCTV. Now many local people are calling for cameras to be installed at the playpark as well.

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

W/C 19th May 2025

Day	What	Time	Where
Mon			
Tues	Canonbie In Stitches	2-4	Canonbie Hall DG14 0UX
	After school Club	4-5:30	Xcel Youth Club
Wed	Packing & Sorting Wednesday - All Welcome!	10-3	Creation Mill
	Kirkpatrick Fleming In Stitches	10-12	Victoria Hall DG11 3AU
Fri	Langholm weekly In Stitches	1-3	Social Club DG13 0DN

Please note - we have put a pause on our weekly sessions in our current space and we are not currently accepting donations until July to allow us to prepare for our big move! Thank you.

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The Buccleuch Centre

Sunday 18th May at 2pm

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The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2518 answers next week

1. By what word do the Americans know the season of Autumn?
2. Which two Mediterranean islands are separated by the Strait of Bonifacio?
3. With whom did Lord Nelson have a famous affair?
4. In which country does the river Danube rise?
5. Carousel was the second musical to be created by which duo?
6. What shape is the pitch in Australian Rules football?
7. Which comedian performed as The Pub Landlord?
8. Atlantic, chinook and sockeye are all varieties of which dish?
9. Who was one of only three men to serve in Cabinet continuousy from 1997 to 2010 including splells as Home and Foreign Secretary?
10. Fingal O'Flahertie Wills were the middle names of which Irish playwright and poet?
11. Which television drama series was set in the Cornish village of Portwenn?
12. Which tenor was the partner and close musical associate of composer Bejamin Britten?
13. Gumbo is a typle of soup from which US state?
14. Who became the leading points scorer in the history of the Ryder Cup at the 2018 competition?
15. Of what phrase is KISS a commonly used abbreviation?
16. In the world of Star Wars, what was the home planet of Anakin and Luke Skywalker?
17. In which century did Catherine de Medici, wife of King Henry II of France and mother of three Kings of that country, live?
18. Native to New Zealand, the kakao is a species of which bird?
19. The chemical symbols for which two elements can be combined to make a term for a female chicken?
20. Which cut of beef comes from the breast or lower chest of a cow?





Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2517

1. Julie Andrews
2. Devon
3. John Keats
4. Czechoslovakia.
5. Rob Reiner
6. Gardens
7. Low and Moo
8. Tangerine (from Tangiers)
9. African
10. George Orwell
11. On the back of the wing
12. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
13. Britvic
14. Malcolm Tucker
15. Thurso
16. Canada
17. Chicken Kiev
18. Spycatcher
19. A do
20. The Tyger by William Blake

Crossword 2517

Across: 7 Armoured, 8 Atom, 9 Amass, 10 Regatta, 12 Slider, 13 Abash, 15 Cue, 16 Death, 18 Resign, 20 Lanolin, 23 Lever, 25 Sets, 26 Academic.

Down: 1 Trembled, 2 Mossad, 3 Art, 4 Edge, 5 Sahara, 6 Holt, 11 Arch, 13 Aero, 14 Hygienic, 17 Arouse, 19 Sweden, 21 Abel, 22 Iraq, 24 Rat.

WHAT'S ON IN MAY

Sat 17th	Teviotdale Steel Bonnets Fashion & Medical Week	Gilnockie Tower 10.30am - 3.30pm
	The Wild Murphys	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Sun 18th	Langholm Concert Orchestra & Esk Singers	The Buccleuch Centre 2pm
	LLAGS presentd 'The Dolly Mixtures' Singers	Newcastleton Village Hall 2pm Tickets from 75325 or 75714
Mon 19th	Dementia Café	Langholm Day Centre 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Tue 20th	Bank of Scotland Community Banker	The Buccleuch Centre 1pm - 3.30pm - every Tueaday
Fri 23rd	Hard of Hearing Group 'Brew 'n' Blether'	Langholm Day Centre 10.30am - 12pm
23rd to 26th	Newcastleton Summer Craft Fayre	Newcastleton Village Hall 11am - 5pm each day
Sun 25th	Westerhall Gardens Open Day	Westerhall, Westerkirk 1pm - 5pm
	The Everlys & Friends	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm

NEVER A CROSSWORD!

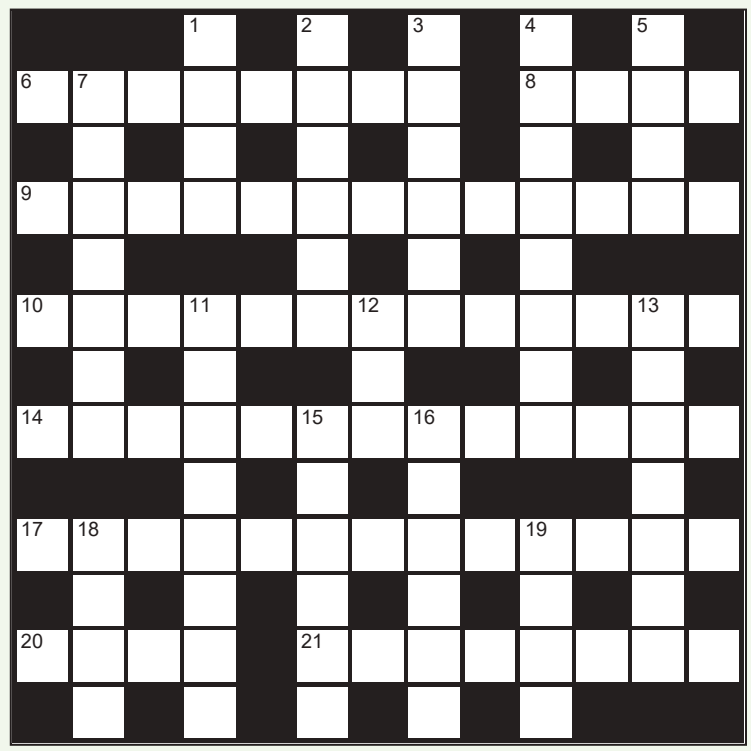
No. 2518 answers next week

Across

6 Relinquish a throne (8)
8 Tibetan oxen (4)
9 Mayonnaise (5,8)
10 Expert in atmospheric conditions (13)
14 Rebirth of the soul in a new body (13)
17 Meteorologist (13)
20 Unknown (4)
21 Freeze (8)

Down

1 Turkish currency (4)
2 Outlaw (6)
3 Breakfast food (6)
4 Power of vision (8)
5 Related by blood (4)
7 Blind system of writing (7)
11 Lack of variety (8)
12 Belonging to us (3)
13 Exhibitionist (4-3)
15 Prejudice against old people (6)
16 Baby's feeding bottle cap (6)
18 Sicilian volcano (4)
19 Clarets (4)



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Bitter taste left by Rockcliffe

Cricket

Langholm in their first home game of the season suffered a 48 run defeat at the hands of Rockcliffe. To say this one left a bitter taste in the mouth would be an understatement as Langholm had several chances to win the game. Prior to the game a minute's applause was held for former player Richard Watt who passed away at the end of last year.

Rockcliffe won the toss and elected to bat on the dry Castleholm track. Langholm struck in the second over when Graham Park took a running overhead catch off his nephew Jake to dismiss M Wharton to leave the visitors 1 for 1. This brought Jamie Whitehead to the crease to start what was to be the match winning innings. Initially he found sound support from A Mesa but he fell for 20 caught behind by Gregor Park off Tony Steele with the score on 57. Langholm now started to take regular wickets with Chris Stewart to the fore picking up three and Tony Steele one to leave Rockcliffe now 90 for 1 after 21 overs. The 23rd over proved decisive as Whitehead was dropped twice off Stewart's bowling. This would have given Langholm a great chance of wrapping up the Rockcliffe innings for less than 120, but alas Whitehead kept on and passed his 100 and when he was eventually run out for 124 by Danny Tait, Rockcliffe had reached 160. In the bowling for Langholm, Tony Steele had 3 for 24, Chris Stewart 3 for 38 and Jake Park 3 for 61.160 which was a decent total but on the fast Langholm outfield quite gettable.

Moon ball

Langholm lost Tony Steele for 1 early doors with the score on 15, square driving Nair straight to Freebairn. Chris Stewart looked in fine form as he and Skipper Bell took the score to 41 before Stewart succumbed to Bond's moon ball caught out in the deep for 26. This brought Nicky P to join his skipper, unfortunately Bell fell bowled by Aibhav for 12 with the score on 47. Gregor Park joined Nicky, and these two dangerous batsmen took the score to 72 before Park was bowled by Aibhav for 15. Langholm now began to lose wickets regularly with Nicky P watching from the other end. Eventually Nicky's rearguard action ended with the score on 112 with him being the eighth man out for 38 (passing 3000 runs for the club on the way). No more runs were added as Langholm lost their last two wickets and finished 48 runs short on 112.

Not a good performance but oh what might have been if a catch or two had gone Langholm's way. Onwards to Edenhall next week. Thanks must be given to the late Richard Watts family for both sponsoring and attending the game.

End of an era at Ewart Racing



Horseracing

In an announcement on Monday, James Ewart Racing said: "It is with very great sadness that James has decided to give up training. This has been largely due to financial pressures, but it does now give him the opportunity to spend more time with the family and follow a very different route which will be financially more secure." James has been a trainer since 2004. James' last runner, Lucky Manifest with Ryan Mania at Kelso is a Winner! .

Langholm athletes make their mark

Town well represented in Kilmarnock championship

Athletics

A number of young people were competing this weekend at The Scottish District Athletics championship. The district championships are a significant event in the athletics calendar with the North Championships held in Inverness, The East Championships in Dunfermline and the West in Kilmarnock.

Antonia Brockley: Antonia was competing in the U17 100m on Saturday in Dunfermline for Edinburgh Athletics Club and won her heat, her semi-final and the final to win the gold medal in a season's best time of 12.57 seconds.

Ava Bell Ava, who is competing in her first year at U17 was also competing in the 100m on Saturday in Dunfermline. She was representing Edinburgh Athletics Club but unfortunately missed out on the final by just two places and only 0.14 seconds with a time of 13.59 seconds.

Aoiffion McVittie Brangan: Aoiffion, competing in her first year at U15 level was also competing in the 100m on Saturday in Dunfermline representing Edinburgh Athletics Club. She set a new personal best time of 13.28 seconds running into a brisk head wind to win the silver medal, finishing behind Charlotte Thomas, the U15 Scottish Indoor Sprint Champion. On Sunday, Aoiffion was competing in the U15 200m and navigated the heats, semi-final and final, where she took nearly one second off her previous personal best time to win the bronze medal in a time of 27.11secs.

Evelyn Bell: Evelyn was competing in the U15 100m at the West District Championships in Kilmarnock on Saturday representing Annan & District Athletics Club. Evelyn navigated her heat and ran a time of 13.67 seconds into a head wind in her semi-final which unfortunately meant she missed out on a place in the final by one place. On Sunday, Evelyn was competing in the 200m. She ran a personal best time of 28.78 seconds in the heat to progress to the semi-finals, but once more narrowly missed out on a place in the fine by one place with a time of 29.39 seconds.

Mollie Phillips: Mollie was competing in the U15 100m at the West District Championships in Kilmarnock on Saturday representing Annan & District Athletics Club. This was Mollie's first race at 100m where she reached the semi-finals with a time of 14.27 seconds running into a head wind. Mollie was also competing in the 800m where she finished first equal in her heat, knocking eight seconds off her best time to finish in 12th place overall.

Jessica Cuthbert: Jessica, a first year U13 athlete, was competing in her first championship event at the West District Championships in Kilmarnock on Sunday representing Annan & District Athletics Club. In the U13 High Jump, Jessica jumped a new personal best of 1.31m but unfortunately missed out on a bronze medal due to the count back on the previous jump. She was also competing in the 1500m on the track for the first time and finished in 6th place with an excellent time of 5:34.90 seconds. All athletes have previously or currently, receive funding support through the

WELCOME to LANGHOLM
FUTURE CHAMPIONS AWARDS







Top: Antonia Brockley and Aoiffion McVittie Brangan

Middle: Evelyn Bell and Mollie Phillips

Bottom
Jessica Cuthbert and Evelyn Bell

Brown's Kelso review

Horseracing

By Gordon Brown

The new partnership of Paul Robson and Ryan Mania got off to a flying start with Our Girl Sal in the opening race at Kelso.

Their first official winner together, sent off at 9/2, scrambled home by a nose in a thrilling four-horse finish to the Every Race Live On Racing TV Handicap Hurdle.

Robson, who operates from the Hazelrigg yard in Northumberland formerly occupied by Rose Dobbin, said: "We're thrilled that Ryan is going to be our stable jockey as we've been working towards that aim for a month or two. He is excited about coming to a new yard bringing nice young horses through and he wants to be part of that and help us build the place."

The afternoon got ever better for Robson after Ed Austin scored aboard Away She Goes in the Watch The Replay At Racing TV Mares' Handicap Hurdle To complete 40/1 for the stable.

Mania himself completed a 15/1 double on James Ewart-trained Lucky Manifest in the Strawmax Novices' Hurdle while Iain Jardine struck in the concluding Racing TV Open Maiden National Hunt Flat Race with impressive winner Jentobello, ridden by Brian Hughes.

Kilmore Rock, trained by Susan Corbett, made virtually all the running under Nathan Moscrop to record his third win in-a-row in the K.O.S.B. Handicap Hurdle.



James Ewart's last winner, Lucky Manifest ridden by Ryan Mania
Photo: offthebit photography

Sports News

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A WARM BORDERS WELCOME

The Forsyth Cup Comes to Langholm

Legion make history by beating Jed Legion by 2-1

Football



CHAMPS: The Langholm Legion Squad become the first Langholm side to win the Forsyth Cup

By David Borthwick

On Saturday we travelled to Earlston by bus to face Jed Legion in the final of the Forsyth Cup, with a chance to make history and be the first Langholm side to win this trophy.

The sun was shining, and the gentle breeze was doing little to cool the boys down.

Determined to make the season a success and win some silverware for the club after a 7-year drought, we had a full squad of 18 players. Nothing but a win would do.

The game started and against the run of play it was Jed who scored first from a free kick. Thankfully it wasn't long before Langholm levelled after Lee got on the end of a Craig Cuthbert cross, rising above everyone to head it past the Jed keeper.

It was 1-1 and we were being allowed to play the ball around in our own half without any pressure in what felt a strange game. Alistair Little drove at the Jed defence and was fouled in the box. Daniel Winter stepped up to take the penalty and under immense pressure tucked it away in the corner.

The game ended 2-1 after a pretty uneventful second half.

Every player has done themselves and the club proud today and what a feeling to be part of this club. Lifelong memories were made yesterday by this incredible group of players.

A huge thank you to all those who came to support the lads today, it meant a lot to see so many of you there. Also thank you to the Swan for the hospitality to the refereeing team who officiated the game and to Jed Legion for making it an exciting final.

Langholm's British Lions

Rugby

With the announcement last week of the 2025 British and Irish Lions rugby squad, excitement is building for their tour of Australia starting at the end of June. The team sponsors, Howdens, have issued a plaque to every rugby club who produced and nurtured a British Lion. Langholm RFC was delighted to receive a plaque from Howdens commemorating the two Langholm players who were British Lions, Ernie Michie and Billy Steele.



Ernie took part in the 1955 tour to South Africa and although didn't play in any of the test matches against the Springboks, he took part in a number of the provisional mid-week matches in the team known as " the dirt trackers ". In the match against East Africa, he scored a try in the 39- 12 Lions victory. Ernie took his bagpipes on tour and piped the Test team onto the pitch.

Billy was part of the famous Lions squad that toured South Africa in 1974 and were named The Invincibles after winning 21 out of 22 matches and drawing the other match. Billy scored 7 tries during the tour and played in the first two of the 4 test matches. Billy is also credited for introducing Flower of Scotland to the Lions squad which became their tour song, long before it became the Scottish rugby anthem.

The plaque will take pride of place at Milntown as a tribute to two Langholm rugby greats.

Grieve family bowling match

Bowling

By Luke Tolson

An excellent day was had at Langholm New Town Bowling Club on Saturday, with 44 entries competing in the open singles competition in memory of Robert Grieve.

With glorious weather being the main player in the tournament which lasted from start to finish.

The worthy winner today was Alan Glendinning from Marchmount. He played well in every game, and it was great to watch.

The runner-up was Duncan Ritchie who was a worthy finalist and played consistently well in every game!

Beaten semi-finalists were - Paul Warwick and Ian Scott.

Beaten quarter finalists were - Booba, Chris Reid, Dougie Irving and Steven Barker.

Many thanks to the Grieve family who generously sponsored today's match. Avril presented the prizes. President David Pool made a vote of thanks.

Thanks to the kitchen and bar staff, and green maintainers for an excellent job of keeping things going ensuring it was a successful day.



Runner-up Duncan Ritchie, Avril Grieve, winner Alan Glendinning, President David Pool

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