

Engaging with Ewan

Braw Lads' Gathering and Street Party SEE PAGES 8,9 & 11



Sporty becomes Golf Club life member

SEE PAGE 16



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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Unwanted changes coming to Langholm Town bus service

Lifeline local transport is in danger of having its operation reduced without any public consultation



The 120 Langholm Town bus service is seen as a lifeline for many

SWestrans, the South West Transport Partnership, 'a group set up by Transport Scotland to determine and deliver better transport, both locally and nationally, and to act as a catalyst for regeneration of the region's economy' seems to have awarded the Langholm town bus service contract to Telford's Coaches.

This a change from the previous service being run by Dumfries and Galloway Council. SWestrans met on 25th June to consider tenders to run the services in Dumfries and Galloway and in a report to the partnership it says that people will be given information about changes to services using on bus advertising, the Council website and social media. Award letters to service providers were issued on 23rd June. The report states that the SWestrans Board had been previously informed that there would be amendments to the bus network to 'introduce efficiencies and avoid duplication.'

Frequency

Many people in Langholm depend on this service and the E&L is trying to clarify the situation to understand whether the routes or frequency of the service will be impacted. We are unsure if the current bus driver who was driving the Council town bus will transfer over to Telford's or if he will be given other work by Dumfries and Galloway Council.

We recently reported about the SWestrans commissioned bus services in the region but were not aware of this change and neither was our local Councillor, Denis Male. We will contact a SWestrans representative for further information about this change in service provider and timetabling details but are unlikely to get any information before going to print. The town service is well used and is a lifeline in the community for older folk and people with limited mobility. Its yellow and red livery is well known around the town.

Combined services

According to a spokesperson for local service provider Anderson's, the contracts for services in Langholm and Eskdale have been awarded to Telford's Coaches. Andersons currently provide a driver to run the Council's yellow and red bus. The spokesman believes that Telford's will be 'combining both the 120 Langholm town and 124 Langholm to Samye Ling which will result in cuts in both services, new timetables will be issues in mid-July'. The E&L is seeking information of the changes and hopes to be able to inform readers of these next week.

If you might be affected by this change please email a comment to: newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk.

INSIDE



Lily scoops ice cream prize

Lily McCartney of Canonbie Primary has come up with an amazing new ice cream flavour and it sounds delicious!

Get a taste for it on page 2!

Family Announcements

Births

Hannah Dawn JAMMEH

We are delighted to announce the birth of Hannah Dawn Jammeh, a lovely daughter for Jessica and Saikou and a sister for Thomas. Hannah was born at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on 27th June. She is a granddaughter for Dawn Foggo, Mairi Telford Jammeh and Alieu Jammeh and a nephew for William Jammeh.

Deaths

ANDERSON, Stewart

Died 28th June 2025 Stewart Anderson (formerly of Murray House, High Street Langholm now 2 Mackerston Place, Largs) much loved son brother father and husband.

BOGG, Rita

Peacefully at home on 21st June aged 97 Loving Mother of Michael, Mother-in-law to Marion. Much loved Nana to Beanie and Brian. Special Aunt of Susan, Pauline and Peter Funeral service to be held in Roucan Loch Crematorium on Thursday 3rd July at 12 noon Refreshments thereafter in Legends, Newcastleton

Information from
Shaun Turnbull Funeral Directors 07896557941

In Memoriam

~ Neil Graham ~

Treasured memories of Neil, a dear son and brother who tragically died on 7th July 2005. Also John, much loved husband and father who died February 24th 2003. Always loved and remembered.

Frances, Alan and Stuart

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Church Notices

ESKDALE & LIDDESDALE PARISH linked with **CANONBIE United Parish Church**

Welcome to worship

Sunday 6th July

Rev Morag Crossan

led services: -

NEWCASTLETON 11am

CANONBIE 9:30am

including Annual

Stated Meeting

Worship Group

led services

LANGHOLM 10am

WESTERKIRK 1.30pm

Contact us for transport to/from Langholm service

Tel. 07989 168299

Rev Morag Crossan

Tel: 07861 736071

or email

mcrossan@

churchofscotland.org.uk

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

'Scot and Tarn' tickles the judges' taste buds

Lily's flavours came top of 119 schools

A Canonbie primary school pupil has invented a new ice cream flavour called 'Scot and Tarn'. It will be made available in the Glen Urr ice cream company shop in Castle Douglas very soon. 119 schools with a large number of individual pupils entered the competition.

Lily McCartney, who is in primary 5 at the school, invented her delicious creation and took great pleasure in explaining to her classmates what her ice cream flavour consisted of, and letting the whole school try it for themselves.

The Royal Highland Educational Trust's Dumfries and Galloway Countryside Initiative were amazed at the number of entries for their 'invent your own ice-cream' competition and Lily's came up tops. Her ice-cream combined delicious locally grown strawberries and raspberries with tablet.

Supporting local fruit growers and truly promoting Scottish



The judges were struck with the use of seasonal fruit and the delicious fresh taste that this ice-cream has.

farming, the judges Jane, Keith and Jess were struck with the use of seasonal fruit and the delicious fresh taste that this ice-cream has.

The Royal Highland Educational Trust (RHET) is a registered charity working with dedicated volunteers and teachers to provide every child in Scotland the opportunity to learn

about food, farming and the working countryside.

Through farm visits and learning resources RHET connects with over 70,000 children and young people each year with farmers helping create a wider understanding of the environmental, economic, and social realities of rural Scotland.

Well done Lily!

Roan rocks a new do!



Young Roan Jamieson of Langholm has been transformed this week for a very good cause. Roan has had his long locks cut off and his ten-inch-long plaits are now on their way to the Little Princess Trust who use the hair to make wigs for young cancer patients which also gives them hope. Roan is following in the footsteps of his siblings Iona and Glen who have also grown their hair and had it cut off for the same Trust. What a fantastic family.

To advertise in the E & L Advertiser please call 013873 80012

MSP launches consultation on his Commissioner for Older People in Scotland

Smyth urges those affected to take part

South Scotland MSP Colin Smyth is urging older people, carers, and organisations across Scotland to take part in a public consultation on his proposed Commissioner for Older People (Scotland) Bill.

The Bill seeks to establish an independent commissioner dedicated to promoting and protecting the rights and interests of people aged 60 and over. The proposed role would be responsible for raising awareness of older people's rights, reviewing relevant laws and policies, encouraging best practices, and investigating key issues such as social care and discrimination.

"This is a vital opportunity for older people and those who support them to shape what I hope will become a powerful new voice," said Colin Smyth.

"During the pandemic, their voices were too often absent from major decisions — from restrictions on care home visits to the withdrawal of support services. Even now, far too many older people are left without the care they deserve."

He continued: "But this Bill goes beyond Covid. Scotland is home to a rapidly ageing



population — something to be celebrated, not feared. Older people make invaluable contributions to our communities, economy, and public life, yet too often they face poor health, poverty, and prejudice. A Commissioner would ensure those voices are not just heard but championed." The public consultation, led by the Scottish Parliament's Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, marks the first stage in formal consideration of the Bill. The consultation runs until Friday 12 September 2025, with public evidence sessions expected later in the year. For more information and to participate, visit: <https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/s6/commissioner-for-older-people-scotland-bill>

Six weeks of invaluable Man2Man Sessions

Welcoming and supportive consultations for the men of Langholm

What a quick six weeks it's been for the Man2Man Sessions here in Langholm.

This much-needed initiative, developed through public consultations held by The Langholm Alliance, was created to offer a supportive and welcoming space where men could come together, speak openly about their experiences, or simply listen to guest speakers share their own journeys and insights into well-being.

Held at the Rugby Club every Friday evening from mid-May through June, the six-week programme tackled a wide range of key issues affecting men's physical and mental health.

The series launched on 16th May with Physical Health & Fitness, led by Chris Topping (NHS) and Thomas Scott, who also ran a mini strength training session. It was a great start establishing a relaxed and encouraging environment for the weeks ahead.

On 23rd May, the focus shifted to Substance Misuse, with an honest and impactful session delivered by Recovery Coaching Scotland. Attendees had the opportunity to hear real-life experiences and explore the challenges of addiction and the journey of recovery - all within a safe and non-judgmental space.



The session resonated deeply with many, and based on feedback, there is strong interest in running a similar session again - this time specifically for partners, parents, and grandparents, to help them better understand and support loved ones affected by addiction, through the powerful lived experiences shared by the group.

Work-Life Balance & Stress Management took centre stage on 30th May, with Richard Smith (NHS) and Malcolm Struthers (Hypnotherapy) offering practical

tools for coping with stress and maintaining wellbeing amidst life's pressures.

The session on 6th June addressed Prostate & Male Cancers, delivered by Male Health Scotland and Prostate Buddies D&G. It was a vital reminder of the importance of regular health checks and breaking the stigma around discussing male-specific health issues. Watch this space for a testing site coming soon.

On 13th June, things took a more holistic turn with Yoga for Men, run by Esk Yoga. This session introduced mindfulness, breathing techniques, and gentle movement - all with the goal of improving mental clarity and

physical wellbeing.

The final evening, held on 20th June, was a Social Evening hosted in partnership with Andy's Man Club, bringing the group together informally for nibbles, chat and connection. It was a fitting end to a programme that has built bonds, opened conversations, and helped break down barriers.

Future sessions are already in discussion - so watch this space for upcoming dates and topics.

We would like to thank our generous funders and sponsors: Muirhall Energy, The Funders Forum, Komatsu, and Telford's Coaches, whose support helped make these sessions possible and impactful.

For more information or to express interest in future events, please contact:

admin@langholm-alliance.co.uk



All change at Rotary Club



VP Mark Hallam, President Peter Forsyth, District Governor Brenda Waugh and IPP Neil Gass.

Langholm Rotary Club had its handover meeting last Thursday evening in the Eskdale Hotel. Incoming President Peter Forsyth received the chain of office from Immediate Past President Neil Gass. Mark Hallam takes over as club Vice President. The club members were joined by the new District Governor Brenda Waugh who praised the Langholm club for the work they have done over the past year especially for another very successful Umbrella Walk last October.



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Craig Hoy MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for South Scotland region



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Langholm raises a glass to the Muckle Toon



Erin Bullard, Guillaume, Justine Hazelhurst, Idy Davidson and John Galloway

There was a true sense of pride and celebration in the air on 26th June as the Eskdale Hotel played host to the official launch of The Muckletoon — Langholm's very own blended malt Scotch whisky.

Crafted especially for the town, The Muckletoon is the fifth release in the acclaimed Local Dram series, created by Nick Bullard of the Moffat Distillery. The blend brings together carefully selected Scotch whiskies from across the country, finished in a sherry cask and bottled at 46% to deliver a

rich, spicy dram with flavours of baked plums and cinnamon pears — a bold and memorable whisky to match the character of Langholm itself.

Guests were treated to a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the whisky, with Erin Bullard offering a warm and insightful presentation on the craftsmanship behind the blend. The evening was also enriched by a captivating talk from whisky author Justine Hazelhurst, who brought local history to life with stories of Langholm's whisky distilleries of the past: the Langholm

Distillery and Glen Tarras Distillery.

The event attracted both local residents and former residents from as far as Wiltshire!

Attendees enjoyed tastings, conversation, and the chance to purchase signed copies of Justine's book — a fitting souvenir from a night that blended community, storytelling, and exceptional Scotch.

The Muckletoon is not just a dram; it's a toast to Langholm's rich heritage and spirited future. Available to purchase at The Eskdale Hotel or online www.moffatdistillery.com

Fun in the sun with...



Great programme of activities

The Langholm based Xcel Youth Project is offering an exciting range of Summer holiday activities for young people.

This is a very positive source of family support for people locally as well as great fun for young people. The team at Xcel should be commended on their work to put the holiday programme together every year.

The activities kick off on Monday 7th July with a Dungeons and Dragons session for people in S1 and upwards. Thursday 10th July offers a trip to the Fusion trampoline park.

There are other trips across the school holidays as well as outdoor play and drop in sessions. The brunch club is on two days of each week and the party on the pitch will be held at Langholm cricket club on Tuesday 22nd July from 12pm – 4pm. Border party hire and G10 sports will be there to make this a great family day out. Priority for trips will be given to young people in the Langholm and Canonbie schools cluster and spaces are limited.

To book trips go to <https://www.xcelproject.com/activities/bookings>



Lightwater Valley Adventure Park

Games Night in

The ESMP hall in Eskdalemuir continues to run monthly games nights in the ESMP Hall at 7pm on the first Wednesday of the month but not this August.

Last month was the first with the table tennis tables and it was a great success with many people coming for a game. The bowling is still on or if folk just want to come and chat that's great too. Bring a drink or a snack, if you want. All ages are welcome.



There is also a raffle too, £1 a strip for very good prizes.

Shed says further thanks

The members of Langholm's Men's shed would like to thank John Reid, Emma Duncan at Creation Mill, Mark Hodgson, Chilli Club and all other private donations. All much appreciated.

Fleetwood Macnificent

Mark Hallam reviews Buccleuch Centre success

The visible five of the Go Your Own Way (GYOW), Fleetwood Mac tribute band, backed by their extraordinary support team produced a simply stunning auditory and visual spectacle at the Buccleuch Centre at Friday night's sell-out performance.

The original legendary, Hollywood Walk of fame, multi-award winning band themselves cannot have produced a better show than this present day recreation of them and their music... and for those of us blessed with living in Langholm, we only had to walk down the road to see the performance. Many however, came from much further afield and a sizeable proportion of the audience raised their hands to confirm they had seen the band perform previously.

The show started with a fairly gentle and merely pleasant ramble through a selection of many well-known Fleetwood Mac songs and bits of their at times,

turbulent and even sad history, as narrated by GYOW director and lead singer Sheena Becket.

The second half eased in somewhat eerily, on a darkened stage, with billowing clouds of slightly spicy smelling mist accompanied by the howling of wolves... and those who had not seen the show previously were to be in for something of a surprise! Then the five exploded into action to carry the audience through multiple layers of experience, each more astonishing than the one before.

Stunning

At some point Greg Ison, percussionist and 'Mick Fleetwood' of the show – up to now mostly hidden in his perspex cage – abruptly took control with a simply stunning drum solo, starting in his lair but then moving to front of the stage, armed with warrior glare and small 'tom-tom' - switching on instant and

total audience participation in the process. Then the other four smoothly eased back in to present a series of dazzling finale/encore displays, with spotlight moving from one to another - all the while the unseen support crew were providing a mesmerising visual display/light show...

Between encores they threw in a quick group photo, which appeared next day on GYOW Instagram and FB pages.

When they finally really finished there was an immediate standing ovation... and this astonishing show is down to do another 35 concerts between now and 28th November.

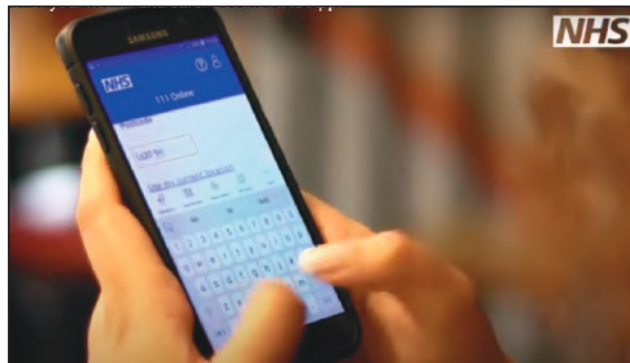
Heartfelt thanks to the GYOW Team for such a stunning/dazzling/wholly absorbing performance – and (as always) the Buccleuch team from whoever found this fantastic act and made it happen, right through to the duty team flawlessly supporting the event on the night.



Public urged not to ignore NHS text messages

People in Dumfries and Galloway awaiting medical appointments are being urged not to ignore important text messages NHS Dumfries and Galloway's General Manager for Acute and Diagnostics, Calum Ambridge, said: "We know waiting is frustrating. We're working hard to update our lists.

If someone no longer needs an appointment, we can offer it to someone who does — but no one will be removed if they still need care." As part of a national NHS Scotland effort to reduce waiting times, some patients may receive a text asking if they still need their appointment or surgery. Health services are under pressure, and this check-in helps make best use of appointments so care can reach those who need it faster. The message will come from the National Elective Coordination Unit (NECU) based within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. NECU is leading this nationwide



As part of a national NHS Scotland effort to reduce waiting times, some patients may receive a text asking if they still need their appointment or surgery.

project in partnership with trusted provider DrDoctor. If you've waited 40 weeks or more and given a mobile number, you may get a text from 07860 039092. It'll include a link to a short survey confirming if you still need your appointment, plus some questions to verify identity. The process follows NHS Scotland's strict data protection standards, and your information will be used only for managing waiting lists. Not everyone will re-

ceive a text — some people will be contacted by phone or letter instead. No one will be left behind due to lack of digital access. Mr Ambridge said: "We understand people may be cautious, but the text is genuine — and it's here to help. If you don't respond, you'll be contacted by phone, and if needed, a letter will follow. If you do receive the text, please respond — it could help speed up care for you and others."

Lockerbie doctors' team to manage Canonbie Practice

NHS Dumfries and Galloway has announced that the medical practice in Canonbie will be managed by the team from Lockerbie Medical Practice. Dr Kashif Ahmad and Dr Michael Ramsden have been successful in their bid to take over the contract for delivering services at Canonbie Surgery.

The current managers of the Canonbie practice, Dr Andrew Rose and practice nurse and business partner Gillian Rose, are preparing to step down.

Linda Bunney, Head of Primary Care Services at NHS Dumfries and Galloway said

"We're pleased that Doctors Ahmad and Ramsden will bring their experience and dedication to Canonbie Surgery. Their ongoing commitment to patient care in Lockerbie gives us confidence the community will continue to receive sustainable,

high quality services.

"We also wish to thank Dr Rose and Mrs Rose for their exceptional service and leadership. Their contribution has been greatly appreciated by the community."

Doctors Ahmad and Ramsden are committed to a smooth transition and to building on the very strong foundations already in place, while also continuing to deliver excellent care in Lockerbie. Dr Ramsden said

"We understand how important local health care is to the people of Canonbie and we're honoured to take on this responsibility. Our focus will be on maintaining continuity as well as supporting the community's wellbeing.

"By working closely with patients and staff and embracing a team-based model, we believe we can deliver care that is both effective and sustainable."



Current partners Dr Andrew and Gillian Rose are preparing to step down from running Canonbie Surgery

Canonbie man sentenced

"A 55-year-old man has been sentenced to 16 years for sexual abuse offences in the Dumfries area. Andrew Jackson from Canonbie was sentenced at the High Court in Glasgow on Thursday, 17 June, 2025. His offending spanned from 2002 to 2019 and included five victims, two of whom were children at the time. Jackson was arrested by officers in July 2022 and found guilty in April this year."

Detective Inspector Graeme Robertson from the Public Protection Unit at Dumfries said:

"It doesn't matter how long ago a crime was committed, we will use every available resource to ensure that those responsible are arrested and charged. Jackson is now behind bars, no longer able to inflict harm on anyone else.

"We know it is incredibly difficult for victims to come forward and relive the abuse they have suffered and I want to thank them for speaking with us. I hope this outcome helps them in some way as they continue to move forward with their lives."

They also added the following: If you or anyone you know is suffering at the hands of a violent abuser, please get in touch with us by calling 101. In an emergency, please call 999.

Strictly legend to bring his show to Langholm



DAHLING!: Craig Revel Horwood brings his one-man show to The Buccleuch Centre in June 2026

Craig Revel Horwood, best known as a judge on 'Strictly Come Dancing' will be stepping his way to the Buccleuch Centre next June. His one man show entitled 'Revelations – Songs Boys Don't Sing' promises to be a sellout. After starting as a dancer Craig working on some of the biggest musicals and went on to become a choreographer, director and

best-selling author. Craig is also a singer and to celebrate the release of his debut solo album and new book, 'Revelations' he'll reveal his own hidden talent during a fabulous night of fun. Craig will bring big songs, tall tales and glamour to Langholm as well as lots of laughs.

There will also be a cookery demonstration in the show which should be highly enter-

taining. Craig has been described as a national treasure and was born in Australia where he started his career in dancing before moving to London, and is the longest-serving judge on Strictly and the master of the Glitter Ball.

Tickets for the show on 24th June 2026, are already on sale at The Buccleuch box office on 013873 81196 or online at: www.buccleuchcentre.com

Contact John Lamont MP

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Farming on the Border



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C & D AUCTION MARTS - LONGTOWN & DUMFRIES



Farming with Gilly Fraser

Strawberries are a sweet bonus to Scottish economy

They're small, they're sweet and they're worth a whopping £200m to the Scottish economy.

Scotland's prowess in producing the very best of soft fruit including strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, gooseberries, tayberries, and honeyberries is already internationally recognised.

Now a new campaign has been launched to spread the message even further and to encourage shoppers, chefs and retailers to make more of these sweet treats.

In 2024 alone, 1,000 hectares of farmland in Scotland was dedicated to growing strawberries – that's the equivalent of 1,200 football pitches.

The campaign has been launched by Scotland Food and Drink, whose Chief Executive Iain Baxter says it's only right that the country should celebrate and champion its berries and the people who grow them.

"It's a tough environment for many of our Scottish farmers,

including berry growers, and it's right that we all work together with the berry sector, as consumers and across our partnership – to support local growers and celebrate Scotland's world-class berries here at home but also in the UK market and key markets overseas," he said.

Jim Fairlie, the Scottish Government's Minister for Agriculture and Connectivity grew up in Perthshire and spent his school summer holidays picking berries.

"That connection between town and country is brilliantly captured by the berry field stories right across Scotland," he said.

"The launch of this berry campaign is about that heritage, the stories, those connections and a celebration of the history and science that has given Scotland its richly deserved reputation for the superb quality of our berries and the folk who grow and pick them."

Ruth's Sustainable Small Farm of the Year Award

A book on regenerative agriculture made all the difference

A small, organic livestock farm near Dumfries has won this year's Sustainable Small Farm of the Year Award run by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust.

The farm is run by Ruth Ashton-Shaw who initially bought a 30-acre smallholding at Low Auldgrith when she moved up from Manchester in search of a better work/life balance. The land had originally been part of a much larger dairy farm but had lain disused for more than twenty years.

On the advice of a neighbour, Ruth began the new venture with a commercial flock of sheep. However, the work proved backbreaking and unrewarding to the point where she seriously questioned whether she should carry on.

Dirt to Soil

Then a book about regenerative agriculture called *Dirt to*



Ruth Ashton-Shaw with her Food & Farming Sustainability Award

Soil by Gabe Brown changed her outlook and her farming philosophy.

Changes began with a reduction in stock and the introduction of rotational grazing with

a new focus on native breeds such as Ryeland sheep. Later came Oxford Sandy and Black pigs, Scots Dumpie chickens and geese. Ruth believes all of the creatures play their part in contributing to the farm's natural cycles.

The farm is now supplemented by 50 acres of rented grazing land, where Ruth raises livestock for meat, eggs and wool to organic standards.

Trees and hedgerows have been planted to create new habitats, supporting wildlife and increasing forage for the livestock. Boggy bits of land are now nature-friendly wetlands and a pond has also been created.

Bird numbers have increased significantly, with finches, tits, woodpeckers, and sparrows making the farm their home. In 2022 curlews nested on the land for the first time in over a decade.

Dedication to agricultural education wins award

Former Barony College lecturer Wallace Currie has been presented with this year's Fordyce Maxwell Award.

28-year-old Wallace, who studied at SRUC before his four-year stint as Agricultural Lecturer at Barony, was given the honour for his "dedication to improving agricultural education globally, promoting understanding of global food systems, and fostering communication within the agricultural sector".

The accolade is named in honour of the late and much-esteemed agricultural journalist Fordyce, whose son Tom is Chief Communications Officer at SRUC.

The accolade was presented by Scottish Agriculture Minister Jim Fairlie,

"I just really enjoy speaking to people and helping to share their amazing stories," Wallace said. "Winning this award is a fantastic honour and I genuinely wasn't expecting it. It just means the world to me."

Craig Davidson, Senior Lecturer and Programme Leader for Agriculture, said he was a very worthy winner.

"Wallace is passionate about agriculture and a brilliant communicator. Being able to successfully communicate is an essential part of today's rural industries – that's why we have a brand-new designated course which focuses on bridging the



Wallace Currie receiving his award from Jim Fairlie

knowledge gap between the general public and those working in the natural economy."

Last year Wallace won a prestigious Nuffield Farming scholarship and his project

'Slamming Doors Open: Pathways into Agriculture Through Education, Youth Groups and Consumer Engagement,' took him to universities in Japan, Singapore, the Netherlands and Switzerland to study their approaches to agricultural education. He also hosts R2Kast, one of the biggest food and farming podcasts in the UK, where he interviews various individuals in the food and farming sector.

Scottish Government guilty of 'political neglect' of beef industry

A leading trade association which represents abattoirs, processors and butchers in the UK says the Scottish Government's inaction and failure to deliver a policy is dismantling the country's iconic suckler beef industry.

The Association of Independent Meat Suppliers has accused Holyrood of "political neglect" regarding the red meat sector.

Quality Meat Scotland recently launched a new campaign aimed at promoting unity and public commitment across the supply chain but AIMS executive director Dr Jason Aldiss says without meaningful policy and financial support, such initiatives amount to little more than "political theatre."

"AIMS argues that without firm policy, financial backing, and practical support from the Scottish government, such pledges are little more than political theatre," he said.

"Having spent years demanding



Dr Jason Aldiss

a significant reduction in livestock numbers to meet their precious climate goals, ministers may claim they do not support the Climate Change Committee's recommendation to cut livestock numbers — but their actions, or lack thereof, suggest otherwise." "Not one substantive programme exists to stabilise or rebuild the national beef herd. Instead, years of dithering, weak leadership, and disjointed policy have stripped confidence from pro-

ducers, who are quietly exiting the sector in droves."

He pointed to long-term investments made by beef processors in infrastructure, export markets, quality assurance schemes, and the PGI Scotch Beef brand — all of which are now under threat due to the decline in cattle numbers.

"Rather than standing idly by while farmers sell off cows and grasslands fall silent, the Scottish government must act," he said.

An offshore journey for Langholm Probus

Members hear about Jack Rae's working life on a North Sea rig

Last meeting's talk at the Langholm Probus Club was given by our treasurer, Jack Rae. Those of us who know Jack were somewhat bemused by the title – 'Balmoral', as he had never expressed an academic interest in historic buildings. Our suspicions were soon confirmed as the talk, rather than being about King Charles's residence in Scotland, was about Jack's experiences on an oil platform in the Balmoral Field of the North Sea.

The platform was not a typical fixed oil rig. It was built by Sun Oil in Gothenburg in 1985 as a floating oil drilling platform which could be moved to different areas although, because it was very successful, it never actually drilled anywhere except the Balmoral field.

The floating nature of the 35,000-ton platform posed several technical problems. Although it was anchored to the seabed at a depth of 142 metres, allowances had to be made for tides and waves to keep it stable

using flexible pipes, long anchor ropes and ballasting. It used GPS locating and engines on each leg to keep it directly above the well on the ocean floor.

Jack told us how he spent over a year in Gothenburg helping to fit and operate the control systems for the platform. Then came the training of the many different professions and tradesmen who would man the vessel – engineers, crane operators, drillers, divers chefs etc.

Hyperbaric chamber

All seabed work had to be done by divers who were highly skilled welders and fitters. Because of the depth they had to spend several days in a hyperbaric chamber to become acclimatised to the pressure. They breathed a mixture of helium and oxygen causing them to speak with squeaky voices, but this was processed electronically to make them sound normal.

Safety was of paramount importance and there were extensive exercises to simulate dangerous situations such as fire,



The Balmoral floating production platform

explosions or being struck by another vessel. All the workers were subject to sea survival

training, how to operate the lifeboats and how to extricate themselves from a crashed he-

licopter. Supplies were brought in by ship, but personnel were transported by helicopter

One thing that we often question about oil rigs is the apparent waste of gas by flaring it off but, Jack explained this was a safety feature as the whole system was flooded with gas to stop air getting in and producing an explosive mixture.

Production began in 1986 and from a reserve of 75 million tons they piped about 5000 tons per day of crude oil to Cruden Bay and then to Hound Point on The Forth. The platform was shut down in 2020 after it had changed hands several times

In a brickbat to the stop oil brigade Jack reminded us of many of the components crude oil has uses for, other than burning e.g. surfacing roads, lubrication and making plastics and chemicals. How would these be achieved without oil production?

This was an informative talk about a period of our history which played an important role in the economic development of Scotland

Stake your pitch for your gazebo

To book your space for your gazebo on the Castleholm for Common Riding Day, you need to rock-up to the Crown Hotel on Sunday 6th July at 12pm to reserve your space.

There will be two types of pitches, with those surrounding the Cricket Pitch priced at £20 each and paid for when booked and those elsewhere on the Castleholm are priced at £10 per pitch and money for these will be collected by a Common Riding official on the day.



Get in quick for Pipe Band Disco Tickets!

Tickets for the pipe band disco which will be held in the social club on Wednesday 23rd July will go on sale at the club on Monday 14th July at 7pm. This event is always hugely popular in the lead up to Langholm Common Riding. Tickets will be £5 each and they are limited to four per person.

The social club has restrictions on numbers for events and tickets also have to be sold to pipe band members who wish to attend, the Cornet and his right- and left-hand men as well as their partners and parents. Tickets will be sold by members of the pipe band along with a committee member of the social club.

Bridge Results

N/S - 1, Bob Francombe & George Graham, 2, George & Brenda Bullamore, 3, Lesley McCartney & Doreen Taylor.
E/W - 1, Sandra Ritchie & Anne Hislop, 2, Nancy McLure & Anne Ferguson, Jan Dunckley & Aileen Graham.

Much ado at Westerkirk Library

Westerkirk Parish Library has announced its programme for the second half of the year:

📖 Wednesday August 6th 2025: 7-6.30pm: Tom Hutton and an Introduction to the Langholm Archive with a focus on Westerkirk and the Thomas Telford Connection

📖 Saturday and Sunday September 6th/7th 2025: 10am -4pm: Doors Open Days: Heritage Buildings

📖 Sunday October 19th 2025: 3-4.30pm: A conversation with Robin Down, author of *Gone Wild*. His books are about golf and the history of some of the courses he has played.

📖 Saturday November 8th 2025: 2-3.30pm: Book Art – with Margaret Caldock and April Davey. A festive workshop using books creatively to make letter stands and decorations

📖 December 2025 and January 2026 tbc

📖 Wednesday February 26th 2026 7-8.30pm: A Conversation (and if we're



lucky a sample) with Andrew Emmerson from Solway Spirits

📖 Sunday March 15th 2026 3-4.30pm: Emma Tennant - A Creative Life in Art and Crafts

New Head Pupils 25/26



Logan Green and Hannah Jeffrey with Ms McGill

Langholm Academy head pupils for the coming school year have just been announced.

Logan Green and Hannah Jeffrey have been agreed in post with Finn McVittie and Glen Jamieson as depute head pupils.

Congratulations to all of these young people.

Miraculous sunshine for Ewan's Street Party

Henry Street and Moodlaw Point residents turned out in force to wish their Cornet all the best for the upcoming festivities

It's a wee while since Henry Street had its own Cornet. We've had a couple of Jubilee Cornets and even a Moodla Point Diamond Jubilee Cornet so all the neighbours were delighted when Ewan Patterson was elected as the main man for 2025.

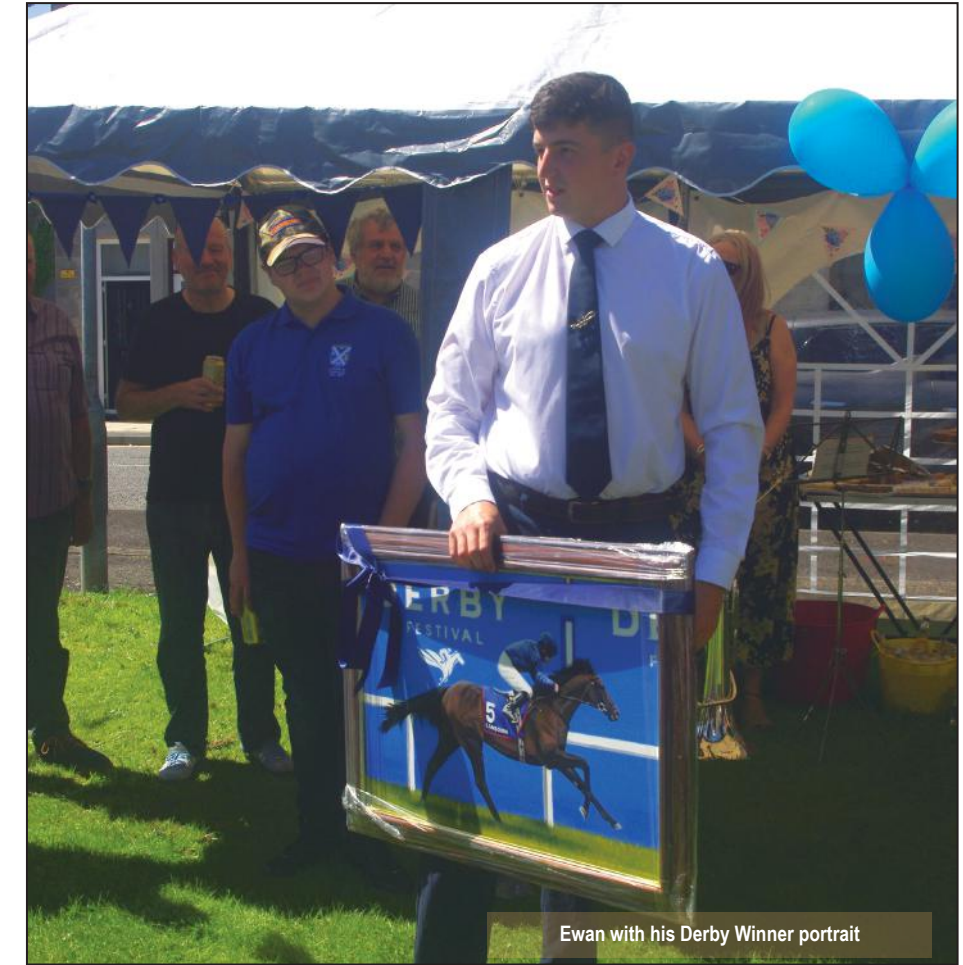
Soon after the Election in May, a small group of residents from Henry Street South set about organising the traditional Street Party where all the Cornet's neighbours can gather to make their well-wishes formal and present him with a gift to mark the auspicious occasion. A collection was made and this enabled the street to buy Ewan a portrait of the Derby Winner - Lambourn and his jockey Wayne Lordan. The painting was done by local artist Janet Carson and presented by Stevie Ellwood in his customary eloquent way and, needless to say, the Cornet was delighted.

The Cornet's family was invited to attend along with Semi-Jubilee Cornet Steven Hotson and his family. Both Langholm Town and Pipe Bands appeared to play a selection of much-enjoyed music and 'Jennety's Green' was resplendent with bunting and gazebos. A few libations were consumed as was a very nice buffet provided by the organisers.

All in all, a fine afternoon and a great start to a month of celebrations. Everyone on Henry Street and Moodlaw Point wish Ewan the time of his life in the lead up to and culminating in the Common Riding Day.



Fiona Patterson, Semi-Jubilee Cornet Steven Hotson, RHM Bailey Donaldson, Cornet Ewan Patterson, LHM Christopher Tait and Davie Patterson



Ewan with his Derby Winner portrait



Sunglasses were the order of the day



Flowers and a bottle for the Cornet's Mum, Fiona and Dad, Davie presented by neighbours Nicole and Pam



The smiling Front Three enjoying the sun and the attention!



The Steele family enjoying the proceedings



Langholm Pipe Band joined the party for a while

By Gilly Fraser

Pines Burn Windfarm Community Benefit Fund

Grants for charitable and sustainability projects are available

Groups and individuals in Newcastleton are being reminded that applications for grants from the Pines Burn Windfarm Community Benefit Fund are open until August 30th.

The grants can be awarded for schemes designed to contribute to the wellbeing and sustainability of the community by supporting charitable activities that make a positive difference to people's lives.

There's a list of areas deemed unsuitable for grant funding which includes the advancement of religion or party politics, anything regarded as anti-renewable energy or windfarm activities and any activities which would be likely to bring Pines Burn, the Community Council or Foundation Scotland into disrepute.

At the most recent meeting of the local Community Council, members heard that the suggestion of a bursary to the Elliot Clan to fund education requests has been mooted. Members agreed that the September meeting should be given over to discussing



applications.

The windfarm with its 210ft high turbines became operational in October.

Getting the turbines from Rosyth to their destination south of Hawick had sometimes proved a logistical nightmare for the operators who

had to cope with the vagaries of Scottish weather. Ironically the transport of blades had to be cancelled more than thirty times – due to high winds.

The slow and laborious journeys of the turbines inevitably caused considerable delays and frustration for local

drivers.

At one point the deliveries were halted temporarily following complaints that they had paralysed Hawick town centre.

On another occasion vandals caused around £20,000 of damage when they

attacked one of the special blade lifters used to transport the blades while it was parked in a layby just off the A7 south of Selkirk due to bad weather.

Police said about 20 tyres had been damaged in the incident.

Only 58 days to prepare for the Holm Show 2025!

Holm Show schedules will be in local shops and on the event's revamped website next week – so it's time to start planning which classes to enter.

If you choose to go for the paper version, it will cost 50p but that's redeemable when you send in your entries. The closing date for entries is Saturday August 10th.

Also, the schedule has a QR code which when scanned will take you to the website where an Entry Form can be downloaded.

At the Show's recent AGM the committee thanked Andrew Douglas for his term as President and welcomed his successor Ian Aitchison. At last year's Show, Andrew had the enjoyable task of accompanying star guest BBC Scot-

land weatherwoman Judith Ralston as she took on the onerous task of judging the Pony Fancy Dress class.

David Nixon is continuing in the role of Chairman which he has carried out so well over the past three years and he'll be ably assisted by Ken Fordham as Vice-Chairman.

The committee were delighted to welcome four new members on board, all with very different backgrounds, who will help to carry the show into the future.

They thanked LLAGS for their generosity in giving the show £500 towards the hire of a bouncy castle.

Members also paid tribute to one of their longest-serving and hardest working supporters - Jean Nichol who died earlier this year. Jean's daughter Jenny



Andrew Douglas and Judith Ralston

who has served for many years as Secretary, said her Mam loved the Show and everything that went with it. She served as Committee member, Baking Convenor, Show Secretary /Treasurer, Vice-President and ultimately President. Jean is a

sad loss to the community and is much missed by all who knew and loved her.

The Show will be held on the last Saturday in August – which this year falls on the 30th. New helpers and volunteers will be made very welcome

New proposals may affect fire services

Newcastleton could be impacted by proposals to downgrade Hawick's fire station from its current 24/7 cover to weekday daytime cover only.

That's the warning from campaigners fighting to save the service, who say the proposals could cost lives.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service says it's looking at options for more than thirty fire stations in 14 local authorities because it currently needs to spend more than £800m on dealing with a backlog of repairs in buildings and equipment. It says public safety will not be compromised and has opened a 12-week national public consultation to hear local views.

Local resident Kaymarie Hughes who is spearheading the campaign, says response times to emergencies will be massively increased if the

scheme goes ahead.

"In life and death situations every second counts," she said. "We can not allow this to go ahead."

She's calling on people living in Newcastleton and other villages near Hawick to make their views known on the consultation.

At a public meeting in Hawick Town Hall attended by more than a hundred people, local crew commander Greg McLeod said the issue was about much more than staff changes.

"This is about safety, this is about response times, this is about saving lives," he said.

A motion by Hawick and Denholm independent councillor Stuart Marshall at the recent full council meeting calling on the chief executive to seek an urgent meeting with Scottish Fire and Rescue won unanimous support.

Braw, braw lads o' Gala Water



Last Saturday Langholm Common Riding's front three took part in the Braw Lads Gathering at Galashiels. Billy Young describes the event as follows: "The Braw Lads Gathering is a "twentieth century bairn" born in 1930 when Provost Hayward and a group o' ither like-minded Gala men crafted "an annual event to be held within the town celebrating both the past and the future which would be a tonic to lift the hearts of all Galaleans at home or abroad".

The day's ceremonies are rooted in major events in the toon's lang and bloody past.

'For you John (The Braw Lad) are the spiritual descendent o' those brave Gala lads whie crushed a band o' English marauders in a grove of wild plum trees at the Englishman's Syke in 1337. And by mixing together the Red Roses of Lancaster and the White Roses of York by you Abbie, (the Braw Lass) are you not paying homage tae the product o' that union, Margaret Tudor, and the coming together of the Thistle and this Tudor Rose, in her marriage tae James IV of Scotland in 1503? This event would ultimately lead tae the coming together of Scotland and England as The United Kingdom 100 years later.'

As part of her dowry James gave Margaret part of the lands of the Ettrick Forest. In the ceremony of the 'Sod and the Stane', Ex-Braw Lad Robbie

Lowrie (the Bearer of the Sod), will symbolically hand over in the sod, the lands o' the Ettrick Forest, while Ex-Braw Greg Kelly (the Bearer of the Stane) will symbolically hand over in the stane all the buildings on it, as was the ancient custom in the feudal act o' sasine at a spot near at Netherdale known as "The Englishman's Syke."

Sour Plums

It was here in 1337 that a group of English marauders returning south after an unsuccessful siege on Edinburgh Castle, were slaughtered to the man by a group of local foresters. It seems that they had stopped to gorge themselves on the wild plums that grew nearby. The bodies of the English were thrown into this syke which ran red with their blood for three whole days. The jubilant local folk dubbed themselves the "Sour Plums o' Galashiels" for delivering "sourer fruit to the enemy than the wild plums they had been seeking," and in time the Sour Plum Tree made its way onto the town's seal and crest along with "a fox that sits upon it's hinder quarters." Each year at the Braw Lad's Gathering this skirmish is remembered when the Braw Lass and her attendants pin sprigs from a wild plum tree to the jackets of The Braw Lad and his attendants to commemorate the first recorded event in the town's history.



SMART AS A WHIP: Langholm's Front Three ride past Clapperton's statue of a Border Reiver in Gala's Cornmill Square

Photo by Della Bell



RIGHT AND LEFT: Bailey Donaldson and Christopher Tait were well-mounted for the Galashiels event

Photo by Della Bell



Galashiels Braw Lad - Cameron Brydon

Photo by Neil Renton

Lang Syne in Eskdale

...we start the serialisation of David J. Beattie's book



Looking back...

Towards the close of the eighteenth-century Langholm had a population of something over two thousand. Of this number 260 were weavers and 50 stocking makers, and one can readily visualise a foundation being laid which was to become the town's staple industry.

The building of about 140 dwelling houses in the New Town was soon afterwards followed by the erection of a cotton factory, "the machinery of which", according to the old record, "contains 3552 mule spindles, with other suitable apparatus." This business was carried on for some years by two brothers of the name of Carruthers, employing about 100 people. In later years cotton spinning in the town was for a time abandoned.

Hosiery

The building, which afterwards served the purpose of a flour mill up to the late eighties of the last century, and known as Meikleholm Mill, was demolished between forty and fifty years ago. About the time that the Meikleholm Mill was in full cotton spinning operation, a fresh industry commenced, giving employment to a number of hands, and by 1830 there were three stocking or hosiery factories in the New Town.

The principal one, owned by Alex Renwick, was in an old



Reid & Taylor, Ltd. 1880. 1st. bulding erected in 1854. Ext. in 1864. Final extension and clock tower erected in 1877/78.

building situated near the foot of the Factory Entry, now called William Street. It is said that some of the stones used in its construction were taken from the Auld Kirk up the Wynd Brae, presumably about 1779, when the Kirk was rebuilt.

Of the two other hosiery factories, the one in Charles Street was wrought by Andrew Byers; the other, belonging to George Chambers, stood in Henry Street near to what was known as the Dam Brig. Probably the last stocking frame to be operated in the town was that owned by Johnie Beattie, who lived in Irving's Close, a cul-de-sac of a "but-and-ben" cottage property running off the Market Place, now

occupied by the entrance to the Thomas Hope Hospital.

Reid & Taylor

I remember as a boy going to school, seeing the old weaver at work. Renwick's primitive building, subsequently taken over by those two pioneers of the Langholm tweed trade, Alexander Reid and Joseph Taylor, formed the nucleus of that one-time hive of industry, with its extensive buildings and familiar clock turret, which, unfortunately, were almost entirely destroyed by fire in the summer of 1933. It is said that long after the fire, people living in the neighbourhood, accustomed to regulating their everyday duties by the Factory

Clock, as well as those who daily crossed the Langholm Bridge, would quite mechanically turn their gaze upwards to see the time!

In the year 1812, cotton spinning, which had been discontinued in the town some years previously, was resumed in a four-storey building known as the High Mill, situated near the bridge over the Ewes on the road to Hawick, about a mile beyond Langholm.

Among the fragmentary items of information relative to this mill, which have been left on record, we learn of the long and wearisome hours of toil exacted from the workers. About fifty people were employed, and the

hours of labour were from 6am to 8pm, with a break at mid-day for dinner, and six days per week.

Disappeared

A large water wheel, driven by a dam laid from the nearby Ewes river supplied the power for the mill, which continued its activities brought its somewhat chequered career to a close. All trace of the factory and mill dam has entirely disappeared, and the friendly hand of nature has thrown its verdant covering over the peaceful stretch of ground by the side of the Ewes Road, which was once a lively unit in the town's industry. According to an old plan of the neighbourhood, the caul was constructed some distance up the Ewes water, and the dam, after fulfilling its function at the mill, continued its way parallel to the road for a considerable stretch, afterwards passing under the highway and ultimately emptying itself into the river.

At the same time as the High Mill commenced production, 137 years ago, a paper mill, employing about twenty workers, was in operation near the Skippers Bridge on the site where the Distillery once stood. Little can be learned of this new industry in Langholm, but its existence does not appear to have been a long or active one previous to the erection of the Distillery buildings.

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report

Thursday, 26th June 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 5,048 sheep comprising of 1,359 Spring Lambs, 833 hoggas and 2,856 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 26th June 2025.

PRIME LAMBS

Another strong show of lambs forward for the time of year. All classes again in demand and look well sold. More grass fed lambs forward which should be taken into consideration. Heavies proved to sell to increased rates, the dearest seen this season, as purchasers have now moved from hoggas to new season lambs in full force. Lightweight lambs were plentiful and a trade to match.

More lambs are required on a weekly basis. All major outlets are represented round the ring at Longtown Auction Mart represented by 13 purchasers ensuring a very competitive trade for all classes of lambs from start to finish.

Top price per head was at £217 for a single Texel lamb from R. Johnston, Kimmeter Green
Top price per kilo reached 423.3p for three Beltex lambs from Northway

Overall average of 366.1P (SQQ 365.7)

Principal prices (Per kilo)

Beltex - 423.3p, 402.9p Northway, 410p Kilnford Croft, 400p East House Farm
Texel - 397.1p Hightown, 395p Little Fithie, 393.2p Baurch Rigg, 390.1p East House Farm, 388p Kilnford Croft
Suffolk - 397p Paradise Farm, 393p Manfield Cottage, 391.3p, 391.3p Shandford Farm, 386.2p Northway, 386p Allergill Farm

Blue Texel - 379.2p Beckfoot
Dutch Spotted - 374.5p, 368.9p House Farm
Charollais - 373.9p Kimmeter Green, 357.9p Beckfoot, 351.7p Northway, 336.6p Staffler
Cheviot - 352.3p Raggettsyke, 351p Shandford Farm, 342.2p Dormansteads
Zwartbles - 367p, 350p Beckfoot
Cheviot Mule - 340.9p Dormansteads
Shropshire - 326p Haresteads

Principal prices (Per head)

Texel - £217, £206, £200 Kimmeter Green, £192 Drumreach Farm, £192 Ellerslea
Charollais - £204 Beckfoot, £172 Kimmeter Green, £138 Staffler
Suffolk - £194 Maulscastle, £190, £184 Staffler, £185 Manfield Cottage, £183 Kilnford Croft
Blue Texel - £182 Beckfoot
Zwartbles - £178, £169, £154 Beckfoot
Dutch Spotted - £176, £166 House Farm
Beltex - £175, £167 Kimmeter Green, £174 Fenton Farm, £160 Kilnford Croft
Cheviot - £155 Raggettsyke, £154 Dormansteads
Cheviot Mule - £150 Dormansteads

PRIME HOGGS

End of season show. Well fed still in good demand, everything else sold to realisation.
Top price per head at £210 for a pair of Texel hoggas from A. & H.C. Smith, Crumhaughhill
Top price per kilo reached 345p for a pen of Beltex hoggas from M Buchan, Torrax.
Overall average of 244.43p (SQQ 236.42p)

PLEASE NOTE

All hoggas will be sold within the cast ewe and ram section as of Thursday 3rd July 2025.

Principal prices (Per kilo)

Cross - 460p Burnhouse
Beltex - 345p, 340.7p & 340p Torrax
Texel - 333p Tailbert, 314p Cranberry Brow, 313.3p River Meadow
Charollais - 300p Mosslands
Millennium Blue - 300p Morison Farms
Suffolk - 300p Haresteads, 298p Morison Farms, 293.30p Upper Auquhadlie
Cheviot - 314p & 306.8p Balmaglester
Blackface - 298p & 286p Morison Farms, 283p Burnhouse
North Country Cheviot - 274p Harwood on Teviot
Shetland - 273.2p South Port O Spittal, 240p Borlum, 224p & 220.5p South Port O Spittal
Swaledale - 249p Morison Farms, 235p Burnhouse, 226.9p Drumreach
Border Leicester - 231p Morison Farms
Cheviot Mule - 229p Cassington, 224.2p Harwood on Teviot
Lleyn - 219.4p Castletown
Herdwick - 195.1p Mosslands, 192.9p Syke Head

Principal prices (Per head)

Texel - £210, £204 Crumhaughhill, £202 Roxburgh Mill
Beltex - £204, £184 & £180 Torrax
Millennium Blue - £180 South Bogbain
Suffolk - £180, £176 Upper Auquhadlie, £172 Maulscastle
Border Leicester - £164 Morison Farms
Cheviot - £158, £152 Market, £143

Yetholm

Lleyn - £158 Castletown
Cheviot Mule - £148 Harwood on Teviot
Blackface - £140 Morison Farms, £130 Whitcastles, £128 Roxburgh Mill, £122 Morison Farms
Cross - £138 Burnhouse, £116 Mallsgate Hall, £116 East Mains, £110 Partridge Ghyll
Charollais - £126 Mosslands
Swaledale - £118 Drumreach, £94 Burnhouse
Shetland - £112 & £86 South Port O Spittal
North Country Cheviot - £104 Harwood on Teviot
Herdwick - £80 Mosslands, £68 Drumreach, £60 Sykehead

CAST EWES AND RAMS

All classes of ewes still in demand. More freshly spained, hard working ewes forward which resulted in a lesser show.

Best ewes saw an increase in trade as more purchasers flock to Longtown to take advantage of the numbers on offer.

All classes looking well sold and vendors are advised to sell as and when the ewes are ready to go before numbers come out in force.
Heavy ewes topped at £315 by a Texel ewe from Messrs Taylor, Highside
Lightweight ewes topped at £168 for Easycares from J.C & H.A. Charnock, Cumcrook
Rams to £195 for a Suffolk from J. & D. Longlands, Tone Hall

Heavy ewes

Texel - £315 Highside, £310 Roxburgh Mill, £300 Mull of Galloway, £290 Roxburgh Mill, £285 Wellbank Mains, £280 Torrax
Mule - £198 Greenside, £180 Burnfoot Hill,

£175, New Farm, £172 Staffler Farms, £170 Beckfoot.
Beltex - £240 Torrax, £230 Drumreach
Texel - £235, £210 & £200 Thackwood, £195 Sunnyvale, £192 Beckfoot, £190 Highside
Suffolk - £224 Shandford, £222 Smallholm Mains, £220 Torrax, £210 Beckfoot
Cheviot Mule - £210 Beckfoot, £190 Merrick
Blue Leicester - £208 Laverockbank, £192 Drumreach, £180 Tinnis
North Country Cheviot - £198 Dormansteads, £182 25 Northway, £178 West Millhills £172 Kilnford Croft, £165 Drumreach, £154 Kilnford Croft
Zwartable - £172 Homea, £160 South Riddingwood, £155 Holmlea, £150 Roxburgh Mill
Badgerface - £168 Drumreach
Dutch Spotted - £165 South Riddingwood
Dorset - £162 Beckfoot.
Half-Bred - £144 Beckfoot
Blue De Maine - £135 Tetcott
Jacob - £128 Beckfoot
Ryeland - £122 Lowfield House

Lightweight ewes

Easycare - £168 Cumcrook, £140 Harwood on Teviot
Cheviot - £160 & £152 South Laggan, £150 Drumreach, £144 Kilnford Croft, £142 Supplebank
Blackface - £142 Newbigging, £138 Roxburgh Mill, £135 Newbigging, £134 Tone Hall, £132 Drumreach
Swaledale - £134 Whitton
Badgerface - £130 Lowfield House
Herdwick - £118 Mosslands, £108 Shieldhill, £100 Longrow
Kerry Hill - £118 Coxhill

Lleyn - £90 Tetcott
Jacob - £85 The Snab
Shetland - £80 Gorthleck Mains, £68 Shieldhill, £68 Syke Head
Goat - £70 Newbigging

Rams

Suffolk - £195 Tone Hall, £180 Sunnyvale, £178 Tone Hall, £175 Carnochan
Beltex - £190 Highside
Easycare - £190 Harwood on Teviot
Texel - £190 (x2) Gorthleck Mains, £185 Highside
North Country Cheviot - £165 Drumreach, £155 Beckfoot
Cheviot - £160 & £148 Shieldhill
Swaledale - £158 Whitton
Blackface - £145 Shieldhill, £142 Cranberry Brow
Blue Leicester - £138 Spoutbank
Ryeland - £130 Lowfield House

Averages:

Hoggs
Light to 345p (205.16p)
Standard to 314p (224.68p)
Medium to 345p (260.67p)
Heavy to 343p (258.99p)
Lambs
Light to 423.3p (366.8p)
Standard to 410p (370.3p)
Medium to 398.0p (363.8p)
Heavy to 391.3p (317p)
Over Weight 380.7p (346.1p)
Ewes
Light to £168 (£114.10)
Heavy to £315 (£168.79)
Rams to £195 (£146.53)

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK
W/C 7th July 2025

Day	What	Time	Where
Mon	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill Textile Centre, DG13 0ES
	Mending Monday	1-3	
Tues	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill Textile Centre, DG13 0ES
	Langholm Evening In Stitches	6-8	
Wed	Scrap Store & Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	LAST CHANCE BIG SALE	10-3	CM Old office space
Thurs	Gretna Amazing Summer club	10-2	Richard Greenhow Centre, DG16 5AQ
	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
Fri	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Langholm weekly In Stitches	1-4	

We have moved into our new space!
We are open all this week 10-3 for anyone who would like to pop in and take a look!

We are also back to accepting donations - thank you!

THE LANGHOLM ALLIANCE

AGM

14TH JULY

AT 6.30PM

THE BUCCLEUCH CENTRE

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND
New members are welcome, visit www.langholm-alliance.co.uk & sign up

013573 83838 www.langholm-alliance.co.uk Town Hall, Market Place, Langholm DG13 0JQ

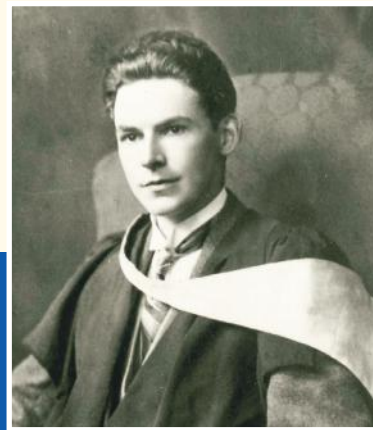
LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

-WHAT'S ON IN JULY-		
Sun 6th	Afternoon Tea - Christmas lights fundraiser.	Waverley house Hallpath 2pm - 5pm
Sat 2th	Benty Rideout	Depart Kilngreen 1.30pm
Sun 13th	Pony Club Games Pony Rideout and family fun day	11am Castleholm (games) 1pm leave Castleholm
Tue 15th	Ewes Valley rideout	Depart Kilngreen 6.30pm
Wed 16th	Hard of Hearing Group Hearing Aid Care	Langholm Day Centre 1pm - 3pm
Mon 21st	Dementia Café	Langholm Day Centre 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Wed 23rd	Langholm Common Riding Concert & Investiture	The Buccleuch Centre from 7.45pm
Fri 25th	Langholm Common Riding	Langholm from 5am

The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2525 answers next week

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Which Scottish news programme did Mary Marquis present?</p> <p>2 Which film star did a voice-over for an SNP party political broadcast in 1991?</p> <p>3 When was the Edinburgh Festival launched?</p> <p>4 When was the village of Forteviot rebuilt? (a) the 1690s (b) the 1920s (c) the 1860s</p> <p>5 In which year did entertainer Jimmy Logan die?</p> <p>6 What was the fictional name for the setting of the TV series Hamish MacBeth?</p> <p>7 To which powerful position was George Robinston appointed in 1999?</p> <p>8 Which city has a Camera Obscura?</p> <p>9 In which country did the trial take place of the Lockerbie bombing suspects?</p> <p>10 Which Scottish businessman bought the controlling share in Rangers Football Club in 1988?</p> | <p>11 With which political party is the name of Donald Gorrie associated?</p> <p>12 In which decade was the Special Unit set up in Barlinnie Prison?</p> <p>13 Where was the poet William Soutar born?</p> <p>14 When was 'the Rough Wooing'?</p> <p>15 Which Scots-born sailor fought against the British on the ship Bonhomme Richard?</p> <p>16 When was the Poll Tax introduced in Scotland?</p> <p>17 Who printed the first Encyclopaedia Britannica?</p> <p>18 Which Scottish field marshal founded the British Legion?</p> <p>19 Who took on the role of acting first minister in the Scottish Parliament while Donald Dewar was recovering from heart surgery in 2000?</p> <p>20 Which Scottish author spent much of his childhood at Sandyknowe in the Borders?</p> |
|---|--|



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2524

- 1 Edinburgh
- 2 Keir Hardie
- 3 1965
- 4 The Lordship of the Isles
- 5 The National Party of Scotland
- 6 1969
- 7 John Reid
- 8 It was carried from place to place by runners to call clansmen to battle.
- 9 1746
- 10 Doutelle
- 11 They were all friends or sweethearts of Robert Burns
- 12 1832
- 13 1964
- 14 David Tennant
- 15 The pine marten
- 16 Between Jura and Scarba
- 17 During the reign of Kenneth McAlpin
- 18 1297
- 19 Shinty
- 20 John Maclean

Crossword 2524

Across: 1 Dress, 4 Offal, 7 Baku, 8 Absorbed, 9 Psalter, 10 Cache, 12 Havana, 14 Anorak, 16 Psych, 18 Edition, 21 Rotarian, 22 Esau, 23 Romeo, 24 Rodeo.

Down: 1 Dead sea, 2 Equal, 3 Space-man, 4 Oust, 5 Farrago, 6 Leech, 11 Gardener, 13 Acclaim, 15 Avocado, 17 Scour, 19 Treed, 20 Kilo.



<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 12th July</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">THE BENTY RIDEOUT</p> <p>1:15pm - Pony Judging @ The Kilngreen 1:30pm - Depart Kilngreen 4:00pm - Arrive @ The Benty 6:00pm - Depart The Benty 8:00pm - Arrive @ The Kilngreen</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 17th July</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PEDEN'S VIEW RIDEOUT</p> <p>6:30pm - Pony Judging @ The Kilngreen 6:45pm - Depart Kilngreen 7:15pm - Arrive @ Peden's View 7:45pm - Depart Peden's View 8:45pm - Arrive @ The Kilngreen</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 13th July</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PONY RIDEOUT & FAMILY FUN DAY</p> <p>11am - Pony Club Games on The Castleholm 1pm - Rideout leaves The Castleholm 2:15pm - Arrives @ The Castleholm 2:30pm - Family Fun Day</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 19th July</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">CASTLE CRAIGS RIDEOUT</p> <p>12:30pm - Pony Judging @ The Kilngreen 12:55pm - Depart Kilngreen 1:00pm - The Kirkwynd 1:30pm - Arrive @ Castle Craigs 2:30pm - Arrive @ Cronksbank 3:30pm - Depart Cronksbank 4:30pm - Arrive @ Townfoot Toll Bar</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 15th July</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">EWES VALLEY RIDEOUT</p> <p>6:15pm - Pony Judging @ The Kilngreen 6:30pm - Depart Kilngreen 7:30pm - Arrive @ Hoghill 8:00pm - Depart Hoghill 9:00pm - Arrive @ The Kilngreen</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PLEASE NOTE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">the Castle Craigs Club Committee reserve the right to refuse any person from participating in these events.</p>

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL THOSE TAKING PART IN CASTLE CRAIGS CLUB RIDEOUTS

Whilst every care has been taken by the Committee and relevant landowners in facilitating these events, the Committee and the landowners will not be responsible for any injury to any person taking part, in any way whatsoever, in the event nor will they be liable for any damage resulting from any acts or omissions of any participants or spectators.



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Superb show by Academy at Regionals

D&G Regional Athletics

On Wednesday 18th June, Langholm Academy took a team of 34 athletes to the annual Dumfries and Galloway Regional Athletics Championship held at The David Keswick Centre at Dumfries High School.

On a very warm day, our team performed superbly and were successful in many events.

The pupils represented the school well both on the Track and through their respectful behaviour whilst spectating.

It was also an opportunity for the school to showcase our new athletics vests.

Some notable performances were as follows:

- S1 Girls 100m – Aoiffion McVittie Brangan – 1st Place
- S1 Girls Long Jump - Aoiffion McVittie Brangan – 1st Place (New Regional Record)
- S1 Girls High Jump - Aoiffion McVittie Brangan – 1st Place
- S2 Girls 400m – Mollie Phillips – 2nd Place
- S2 Girls 800m – Mollie Phillips – 3rd Place
- S3 Girls 100m – Evelyn Bell – 2nd Place
- S3 Boys Hurdles – Ally Hall – 2nd Place
- S3 Boys High Jump – Ally Hall – 3rd Place
- S3 Boys 400m – Findlay Fortescue – 3rd Place
- S4-6 Girls 100m – Antonia Brockley – 1st Place
- S4-6 Girls 100m – Ava Bell – 2nd Place
- S4-6 Girls Hurdles – Antonia Brockley – 1st Place
- S4-6 Girls Long Jump – Antonia Brockley – 2nd Place
- S4-6 Boys Javelin – Glen Jamieson – 3rd Place
- S1 Girls 4 x 100m Relay (Aoiffion McVittie Brangan, Poppy Bell, Ava Cubbon, Erin Grant) – 1st Place
- S2 Girls 4 x 100m Relay (Lauren Davidson, Isla Davidson, Mollie Phillips, Holly Irving) – 1st Place
- S4-6 Girls 4 x 100m Relay (Antonia Brockley, Ava Bell, Hannah Jeffrey, Evelyn Bell) – 1st Place



Senior Girls Relay 2025

Antonia Brockley, Ava Bell, Hannah Jeffrey, Evelyn Bell

Langholm Academy Sports Day 2025

Great performances, great spirit and great fun!

School Sports

Langholm Academy sports day took place on the 3G pitch on Friday 11th June and the results were as follows:

- S1 Boys Champion - Darragh Hogg;
- S1 Girls Champion – Aoiffion McVittie-Brangan
- S2 Girls Champion - Mollie Phillips;
- S2 Boys Champion - Rory Irving
- S3 Girls Champion – Evelyn Bell;
- S3 Boys Champion – Findlay Fortescue
- Senior Girls Champion - Hannah Jeffrey;
- Senior Boys Champion – Finn McVittie
- House Team Champions - Tarras



Langholm Academy Sports Day Champions 2025



House Team Champions - Tarras



Simon is club champ: Ian is a life-member

Celebrations all round at Langholm Golf Club

Golf

Langholm golf club would like to congratulate Simon Tweddle on becoming club champion for 2025. Some excellent golf was played at the weekend by both Simon and Derek Johnstone in fantastic conditions over 36 holes. Simon won 9 and 8.

After a very tight morning session Simon finished one up after some great golf with the morning session match going one way then the other. The afternoon session was a different affair with Simon stretching his legs straight from the off taking a commanding lead which he was able to build on hole by hole with some fine birdies and solid pars. Der matched him on a few holes but was unable to claw back Simon's lead.

All in all, it was a great day of golf to go with the fine weather and with the

course in great condition considering the rain there has been in the last few days. Andrew Paisley, President would like to say a big thank you to green keeper Doug Irving and well done to both players and caddies.

Also, congratulations to Brady Wilson who became B champion with a win over his Dad, Alan Wilson, winning 3 and 2. Well played to both and thanks also to the caddies.

Life membership for Sporty

Langholm Golf Club was delighted to present Ian Borthwick with a lifetime membership for his dedicated service and commitment to the club.

President David Latimer and Captain Andrew Porteous presented his certificate on Sunday morning before the Championship final.

Congratulations Ian!



Ian 'Sporty' Borthwick is presented with his Life Membership by Club President David Latimer and Captain Andrew Porteous

Junior coaching for young golfers



Annandale and Eskdale Active schools and community sport in partnership with Langholm Golf Club will be offering free golf coaching sessions for young people during the school summer holidays.

Supported by the Andrew Stevenson Foundation these sessions are offered free of charge. For dates and times go to <https://forms.office.com/e/5crBvMKvWq>



Old Town Bowling

Bowling

Open Pairs

Langholm Old held an open pairs competition on Saturday. Despite the dreadful weather the tournament was completed with C Spalding and P Smith from Hawick defeating A Elliot and R Blaikie from Copshaw, E Aitken and D Nawrocki (Old Town) and C McDougall and G Paterson (Wilton).

Club Triples

The weather was much better on Sunday when thirty players took part. The eventual winners were B Jardine, E Aitken and S Ellwood who defeated D Irving, C Reid and R Dunn by 6 shots to 5.



Mixed weather and mixed fortunes at Old Town tournaments



The Laverock Rhymers

Second Serve

You're only as good as your second serve
When you miss the court with a giant swerve
You must keep your balance in the heat
Get into position and move your feet
But most of all keep your nerve

When you're hit with the tribulations of life
When your daily work is nothing but strife
Remember how great the world can be
If only you could produce a plan B
Cut your losses, don't spare the knife

When your alternative plan comes up
trumps
You'll forget all those hurtful bumps
And now you can fully enjoy the game
With new horizons it won't be the same
You're no longer down in the dumps

You must hope it all doesn't come to a halt
Believe that with a grain of salt
You must never think it could end in tears
To get a plan C could take years and years
So take care not to double fault

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