

VJ Day in Langholm

Timothy McCracken tells
the story

SEE PAGE : 7



Athlete Aoiffion joins Edinburgh Athletics

First year with Under 15s
is going well

SEE PAGE 16



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Series 2 No. 8608

Established May 1848

Thursday August 21, 2025

www.eladvertiser.co.uk £1.00

Bus services review leaves passengers wanting better

From the Co-Op to Eskdalemuir, new timetable
has crucial holes in it that must be addressed

Residents of the Holmwood Area have voiced significant concerns regarding the current bus services. A petition, signed by over 250 individuals, highlights the challenges faced by the community, particularly the elderly, due to inadequate transportation options.

The petition, which could have easily doubled in a week, emphasizes problematic bus timings, especially between 10am–12:30pm and around 5pm. Elderly passengers struggle to access essential services, with the nearest Co-Op store located 1.5 miles away. One of the trips allows only 15 minutes for shopping, which is insufficient for many.

The design of the current buses is unsuitable for elderly passengers, featuring three narrow steps and a cramped corridor. An Electric Bus, introduced six months ago and reportedly functioning well, was withdrawn without clear justification.

The current bus service is frequently late, and pickup points have been changed, causing confusion and inconvenience. Residents from Bentpath and Westerkirk have also expressed dissatisfaction due to the



Councillor Denis Male hand the bus petition to Councillor John Campbell, Chair of SwesTrans

merging of Eskdalemuir and Langholm Town runs. The B709 forestry route, used in this merger, is particularly problematic during winter months.

Cost-saving exercise

Concerns have been raised that the new tendering process was primarily a cost-saving exercise, executed without public consultation. The community demands the reinstatement of two previously existing services that effectively served the region.

Langholm stands out as the only town in Dumfries and Galloway without proper

regional connectivity. Service cuts to Border Buses X95 post-COVID have exacerbated the situation, limiting access to essential services such as dental and health appointments in Annan and Dumfries. Without family support, residents are forced to rely on expensive taxis, with fares ranging from £40 to £90.

Anomaly

Interestingly, surrounding villages appear to be better served than Langholm, which is increasingly seen as an anomaly requiring urgent attention.



SHOCK: At electric bus withdrawal

INSIDE



Common Riding catch up

Some things we missed, some things that have happened since, and a few jottings to round-off our 2025 Common Riding coverage.

See centre pages

Family Announcements

Deaths

THOMPSON (nee Dunn), Ann

Ann passed away on 3rd August after a short illness at 56 years of age. Sadly missed by husband and two daughters and parents Robert and Elizabeth Dunn.

Funeral Services

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

28 LANGHOLM STREET NEWCASTLETON TD9 0DX

Chapels of Rest in Langholm & Newcastleton

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



Nicholson's Funeral Directors (Independent Family Run)

Bank House, Longtown & 33 High St, Annan

For a professional, compassionate and caring service

24 hours a day Telephone 01228 791098 or 01461 759214

Chapels of Rest in Langholm, Annan & Longtown

Pre-paid Funeral Plans available



share the news of any...

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

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



The Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser is part-funded and supported by the following charitable trusts, organisations and individuals from the community of Langholm.

- The Ainslie Charitable Trust
- The BGS Cayzer Charitable Trust
- Crossdykes Community Benefits Ltd, administered by Foundation Scotland
- Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group
- The John Hammond Charitable Trust
- The Stevenson Trust



Church Notices

ESKDALE & LIDDESDALE PARISH linked with CANONBIE United Parish Church

Welcome to worship Sunday 24th August

Rev Morag Crossan led services LANGHOLM 9.30am

CANONBIE 11am

Contact us for transport to/from Langholm service Tel. 07989168299

Worship Group led services LIDDESDALE 10.am

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

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



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

Childminder Sarah receives glowing report Service provides a 'home away from home'

Langholm childminder Sarah Phillips has recently received an inspection from governing body the Care Inspectorate. Sarah told the E&L: "My inspection took place on Monday June 23rd by two inspectors from the Care Inspectorate. They evaluated my service looking at four key areas - How good is the care, play and learning? - How good is the setting? - How good is the leadership? - How good are the staff team?"

"I was graded a 5, very good, in each area." 5 Key messages picked up during the inspection were - "Children experienced very good nurturing care and support from a highly skilled and experienced childminder" "Children were happy and having fun", "Children's learning and development were being well supported", "Children benefitted from a clean, tidy and secure environment", "Parents were very happy with the support and care their child received", "Parents spoke very positively of the childminder's relationship with their children.



One parent said "it really feels like a home away from home, my child loves their days with Sarah", "Children have access to a large, enclosed garden. One parent commented "they do lots of activities and outside

time. My child is like part of the family. Love the experience my child gets". Sarah has just registered her 62nd child in her 13 years of childminding. The full report can be viewed on the Care Inspectorate website.

OLENA YEREMENKO MATS NYSTAM LUISA BROWN LOUIS BINGHAM

THE GATHERING QUARTET

UKRAINE SCOTLAND ENGLAND SWEDEN

The Gathering Quartet – a European folk quartet is coming to Eskdalemuir community hub tonight, Thursday 21st August. The quartet is a brand-new European traditional string group with members coming from Scotland, England, Sweden and Ukraine. With the increasing pressures on communities across Europe, The Gathering Quartet

aim to use the force of their decade-long creative relationships to musically transcend cultural and political boundaries and inspire cross-cultural understanding. They hope to encourage others in peaceful exploration of their own common roots through traditional music, and how this has collectively shaped our cultures

Four Nations Quartet at Hub

across Europe. Having played together in various guises over the years, these musicians will come together in a special traditional string quartet line up to experiment with new arrangements of old tunes and their own compositions. Doors open for the concert at 7pm and people can book tickets by phoning Eskdalemuir Hub or by purchasing tickets on the door.

River Esk gravel problem raised at Council again

Removal of “60 tons every three years” won’t look at problem

Councillor Denis Male has raised the issue of the gravel in the Esk on the Elizabeth side of the river once again with Dumfries and Galloway Council officers and has received the following response:

“The retaining wall is inspected by colleagues in our Structures team, and any works identified prioritised based on risk. The wall was last inspected in May 2023 which noted vegetation but did not identify any issues.

“The sediment/gravel in the river, is a matter which has previously been addressed, having been extensively modelled and assessed by consultants. Removal of the gravel will not substantially reduce the risk of flooding, as a result the council will not be undertaking any works in this regard. However, we are aware the community received permission to remove some of this sediment/gravel in 2022.”

Denis’ response is as follows: “I am sorry, but this issue of



The gravel bank on the River Esk where it meets the Wauchope Water

gravel removal keeps coming up. It was 60 tons every three years. This will not look at the problem as it is 1000s of tons that need to be removed in three different locations.

George Street

“As for the George Street bank it reduces in size after every flood and the trees that are

growing above the steps are not native and have grown from seeds coming down the river. The trees removal is a request from the residents who live across the road from them. If the gravel bank across from George Street is looked at, it can be seen to have extended another metre into what was the middle of the river in the



George Street from the Suspension Bridge - the banking is being eroded

last few floods.

“What had been suggested most recently is that the gravel banks be pushed into the centre of the river and cover over all the exposed pipes and let the river sort itself. This used to happen in Town Council days when the river was one of the cleanest best fishing rivers in the UK.

“There is also a massive

growth of Japanese Knotweed growing just to the south of the suspension bridge so I hope treatment will start in September as it is supposed to. With the hard work done by Galloway Fisheries Trust over many years it would a great pity that this invasive plant is allowed to gain a foothold in the River Esk once again.”

Evertown forest plan

Buccleuch Woodlands is carrying out consultation this week in Canonbie about the renewal of the Evertown long term forest plan 2025.

Acting on behalf of James Jones and Sons Ltd, Buccleuch is consulting the community about all felling and restocking over a 20-year period divided into four five-year phases. The total plan area is 2105.18 hectares of which 66% are Sitka spruce. The plan is commercially driven to follow the Scottish Government’s Forest strategy.

The forest plan aims to increase production of local home-grown timber. Buccleuch Woodlands say that they would welcome any additional or specific features that the community might request.

Bridge results

8th August

N/S - 1, Sandra Ritchie & Anne Hislop, 2, Derek Scott & Judy Pitchford, 3, Tom Stothart & John Packer.

E/W - 1, Lesley McCartney & George Graham, 2, Jim Muir & Alison Mullock, 3, Lorraine Morton & Anne Ferguson.

15th August

N/S- 1, George & Brenda Bullamore, 2, Bob Francombe & George Graham, 3, Derek & Judy Pitchford.

E/W - 1, Nancy McLure & Anne Ferguson, 2, Lorraine Morton & Louise Grierson, 3, Jan Dunckley & Aileen Graham.

David Mundell MP

Member of Parliament for Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale

Craig Hoy MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for South of Scotland

Summer Surgery Tour 2025

all welcome...

22 AUGUST

ESKDALEMUIR

BENTPATH

EWES

LANGHOLM

GILNOCKIE

CANONBIE

EVERTOWN

To book an appointment please use the details below:

david.mundell.mp@parliament.uk or craig.hoy.msp@parliament.scot
01683 222746 (David Mundell MP) or 0131 348 6976 (Craig Hoy MSP)

Neil Armstrong and the Langholmites

Moonman and locals feature in screening at the Edinburgh Festival

“Out of the world and into Langholm” is a phrase well known to many travellers who have journeyed across the south of Scotland.

However, it provided the ideal headline for the hordes of scribes who gathered in Langholm on March 11th 1972, to capture a glimpse of a man who just a few short years before had addressed the world with one of the most famous lines of the 20th Century. For on that early spring Saturday, Neil Armstrong, arguably the greatest traveller of them all, set foot in the Muckle Toon to be proclaimed the first Freeman of Langholm.

It's a moment that is still fondly remembered by those who were there. Now, 53 years later, Neil Armstrong's day in the land of his ancestors is the subject of a short film which has been screened at the Edinburgh International Film Festival. Directed by Duncan Cowles, it has been described as a “wry, beautiful slice of Scottish life and a unique tale about one of America's most famous sons.” The film, which is just under 18 minutes in length, includes contributions from several locals who remember where they were on the day Armstrong came to town, while it also includes



Janice Nicol, Laidlaw as was, remembers Neil Armstrong's visit fondly

footage from inside the old Parish Church during the Freeman ceremony. The film's world premiere took place in New York in June at the Tribeca Film Festival. The Edinburgh Festival screenings were shown over three days earlier this week and generated a great deal of interest.

And the Bafta winning director felt the story of Neil Armstrong's visit had huge potential. he said: “I just thought it was a great way to shine a spotlight on a place and tell this unique story, one of the most famous names ever, Neil Armstrong. “And a lot of people know the lunar story going to the moon and

coming back, but this almost feels like the last chapter that they maybe haven't heard or, the epilogue or almost his real homecoming. Duncan continued: “We wanted to do justice to the historical side as well as to create an entertaining film, and although there has been a certain amount of news coverage and articles, we couldn't really find a proper account of the visit so part of the reason for making the film was to take the people through the day. We do get to show Langholm in all its beauty.” Duncan is aiming to arrange a screening of the 18-minute-long film in Langholm at some point in the future.

Letters to the Editor

Send yours to: E&L Advertiser, 47A High St, Langholm DG13 0JH
or email: newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk

Kirk Wynd incident brings back memories

I had a strange experience when standing on the Kirk Wynd as the horses were galloping up the hill.

Older readers will remember an incident many years ago when a horseshoe flew off a horse and struck Mrs Nellie Fletcher, wife of then Pipe Major Fletcher of the Langholm Pipe Band, resulting in her losing an eye.

I was talking to two men from Longtown and was about to tell them about this mishap when to my shock a horseshoe flew off and struck one of the men on

the side of the head, causing a large gash.

Fortunately, he must have turned to look up the wynd otherwise he would have been struck in the face by what was a large and very heavy shoe.

First aid personnel were quickly on the scene, and I subsequently made enquiries and understand that he was not too badly injured, which was a relief.

Jim Graham
Clydebank

Common Riding omission

We would like to amend our list of sponsors that appeared in the last edition of the E&L to include The Douglas Hotel as a contributor to the Innkeepers' Plate.

As always, the Common Riding members and trustees are immeasurably grateful for the incredible generosity of all our sponsors and donors.

Langholm
Common Riding



Longtown MU has new £98.5m Defence Storage Facility

Potential for 25 new jobs after massive construction project

One of Europe's largest and most advanced defence storage facilities has officially opened this summer at the Longtown Defence Munitions site, near the Scotland-England border. The Longtown Defence Storage Facility (LDSF) marks a major milestone in strengthening the UK's military supply chain and defence readiness.

Spanning the equivalent of 12 football pitches, the LDSF provides state-of-the-art, secure storage for non-explosive equipment, spare parts, and supplies for all three branches of the UK armed forces. The £98.5 million development was delivered by Scottish construction firm McLaughlin and Harvey and is expected to create 25 permanent jobs, while maintaining the site's existing workforce of 66.

Local MPs Julie Minns (Labour, Carlisle and North Cumbria) and David Mundell (Conservative, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale) toured the facility and received briefings from Ministry of Defence officials and project leaders. Julie Minns MP praised the LDSF



FACT-FINDING . . . neighbouring MPs David Mundell, Dumfriesshire Clydesdale and Tweeddale and Julie Minns, Carlisle and North Cumbria, were given a tour of the new Longtown Defence Storage Facility (LDSF)

as a vital investment aligned with the UK Government's Strategic Defence Review. “This facility reflects a new era in UK defence, securing skilled jobs and long-term opportunities for our communities in Carlisle and North Cumbria,” she said.

Turnaround

David Mundell MP welcomed the development as a vote of confidence in Longtown's strategic importance. “This marks a turnaround from past

closure threats. The MoD now recognizes the value of distributed, resilient infrastructure—and Longtown's central location makes it indispensable.”

The LDSF complements ongoing operations at the Longtown site, which continues to issue and maintain munitions for UK forces worldwide. With rising global tensions and increased defence investment, the facility is positioned to play a critical role in national resilience.

JMG MUSIC GROUP

The Keep It COUNTRY SHOW

FEATURING 4 OF IRELAND'S TOP STARS

PHILOMENA BEGLEY, OWEN MAC KATHY DURKIN, SHAUN LOUGHREY

ALL ACCOMPANIED BY THE FANTASTIC KELTIC STORM BAND

FRIDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2025
THE BUCCLEUCH CENTRE, LANGHOLM

TICKETS ON SALE FROM BOX OFFICE 01387 381 196
WWW.BUCCLEUCHCENTRE.COM

The Buccleuch Centre LANGHOLM

NHS D&G has new Chair

Health and innovation expert gets top job

Mark Cook, a seasoned leader in health, life sciences, and public service, has been appointed Chair of NHS Dumfries and Galloway. He officially began the role on Monday 4th August and has already been impressed by the region's warm welcome and the enthusiasm of its staff.

"There's a real energy here and a sense of pride in what people are doing," he said.

Originally from Aberdeen, Cook has built a distinguished career across Scotland in health, science, and innovation. He currently chairs the Scottish Public Pensions Authority and Life Sciences in Scotland and previously served as Vice Chair of the NHS pension scheme. His work with the Scottish Government and Chief Scientist Office has focused on health innovation, particularly in rural communities.

Cook steps into the role during a period of significant challenge. Like other health boards across Scotland, NHS Dumfries and Galloway faces financial pres-



New Chair of NHS Dumfries and Galloway Mark Cook

sures and difficulties in recruiting and retaining staff. However, he sees opportunity in the board's size and integrated model.

"This is a small board, but that's not a weakness — it's a strength," he said. "You have agility here, the ability to innovate quickly and do things that make a real difference to people's lives."

He is particularly focused on prevention and early intervention,

addressing chronic conditions such as obesity and heart disease. He also emphasises the importance of digital and AI technologies in improving access to care, especially in rural areas.

"We shouldn't accept that living in a rural area means receiving anything less," he said. "The key is finding innovative, digital solutions that give everyone the same standard of care."

Cook's early priorities include supporting Chief Executive Julie White and engaging with staff and communities across the region. He is committed to collaboration with public sector partners such as Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, South of Scotland Enterprise, and Dumfries and Galloway Council, a statutory partner in the region's Health and Social Care Partnership.

Looking ahead, Cook said: "I'm really looking forward to getting out, visiting sites across the region, and meeting the people who make this organisation what it is."

A7 road closures south of Canonbie 1-19 September

Transport Scotland's operating company BEAR Scotland is set to resurface 1.4 kilometres of carriageway on the A7 trunk road south of the B6357 Canonbie Junction.

To allow the works to be carried out safely, the A7 will be closed in both directions on Monday to Friday nights from 1 to 19 September, between 19:30 and 06:00 each night. No works will take place on Saturday or Sunday nights.

A clearly signed diversion route will be in place between the B720 Hollows Junction and the A7 at Longtown, via the B6357 to Kirkpatrick Fleming, the B7076 through Gretna, and the A6071. This diversion will add approximately 16 minutes and 10.1 miles onto affected journeys.

Emergency services will be given access through the works at all times and local access for residents within the closure points will be maintained when it is safe to pass through the work area.

Relevant stakeholders have been consulted in advance to make them aware of the plans.



Tommy Deans, BEAR Scotland's South East Network Manager, said: "These resurfacing works will improve safety and ride quality for road users on this section of the A7.

"It is essential that we close the road during the works to ensure the safety of the workforce and the public, however we'll do this overnight to minimise the impact.

"If you need to use this route during the works, our advice is to plan ahead and allow extra time for the diversion."

Live traffic information is available from Traffic Scotland at www.traffic.gov.scot or on X at [@trafficscotland](https://twitter.com/trafficscotland).

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

Love through generations

Exactly one century after her great-grandparents eloped to Scotland, Amber Chapell, 36, from Salisbury returned to Gretna Green with fiancé Benny de Garis, 36, to say "I do" on the same date. In 1925, Archibald and Isabella Bone rode north on a motorbike to marry in the village famed for runaway weddings. For over 260 years, Gretna Green has welcomed couples defying rules, distance, or disapproving parents—a place where love outruns all.

On 12 August 2025, Amber and Benny embraced that legacy with an intimate ceremony honouring her family's history. Their romance feels destined: though they knew of each other as teens and shared mutual friends, they didn't connect until years later via Tinder. By then, the coincidences were uncanny—they'd lived in the same cities, worked in the same shop at different times, and walked the same streets years apart.

Amber wore a handmade wedding dress first created by her grandmother and worn by three generations. Sophie Lytollis of Gretna Green said, "It's a living reminder of why this village endures as a symbol of love through generations."

Stoves and Fireplaces

- Multi Fuel Stoves in stock
- Fireplace design and installation
- Flue liner supply & installations
- Chimney sweeping
- Stove spares
- Electric and gas fires available

Contact us today for a free home visit or showroom appointment :-

07427 665068
lexandsuk@gmail.com
www.lexands.co.uk

Contact John Lamont MP

Member of Parliament for Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk

john.lamont.mp@parliament.uk

01450 375948

John Lamont MP
25 High Street,
Hawick,
TD9 9BU

[JohnLamontBorders](https://www.facebook.com/JohnLamontBorders)

[@John2win](https://twitter.com/John2win)

[johnlamontborders](https://www.instagram.com/johnlamontborders)

johnlamont.org

Sign up to my monthly e-newsletter

The costs of this publication have been met out of parliamentary resources.

Farming on the Border



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



Farming with Gilly Fraser

Kick in the teeth for Mossgiel milk

The award-winning Ayrshire-based Mossgiel Farm has come out swinging after a local council ended a four-year contract to supply organic milk to council run operations including schools, care homes and leisure centres.

East Ayrshire Council has instead awarded the work to the German-owned giant Muller.

Mossgiel Farmer Bryce Cunningham who had been supplying 150,000 litres of organic milk annually under the deal says it's a "kick in the teeth."

It kinda grates

On his social media post, he wrote, "When you fight for what's right then watch years of work done by amazing, passionate people once brave enough to say no to the norms, ultimately being over-powered by a closed mindset - it kinda grates."

In a statement, East Ayrshire Council said it remains com-

mitted to the ethos of providing the best quality school meals and has further committed to free and subsidised meals.

"The tender was judged on a '50% price 50% quality' basis so please be assured that children and young people will still be enjoying fresh organic milk, free range eggs, quality fresh meat, MCS certified fish, and fresh fruit and veg."

Mr Cunningham believes the council may save in the short-term but find the deal more expensive in the long-term. He says that on paper the council will save £6,500, but recycling costs alone could add up to £5,000 per year.

There are also fears that resulting job losses at Mossgiel will remove around £50,000 from the local economy.

Mossgiel is not the only local company to lose out. A nearby free-range egg supplier also lost its contract after 21 years.

Kelso Ram Sales look healthy despite virus

Extra rams forward despite extra red tape due to Bluetongue

Harrison & Hetherington says things are looking good for the upcoming Kelso Ram Sales despite the additional red tape imposed by Bluetongue.

The popular event which this year takes place on Friday September 12th will see more than 100 more rams being put forward than in 2024, taking the total to 1,644.

That total includes Suffolk, Texel, Blue Texel, Border Leicester, Beltex, North Country Cheviot and Cross-Bred as well as the lesser-known Dutch Spotted, Lleyn Berrichon and Hampshire Downs.

Adam Grieve, Senior Auctioneer & Mart Manager at H&H's St Boswells and Wooler Marts, says it's a measure of the health of the sheep industry as a whole.

"Last year we averaged around £1,000 per head for the 1,532 tups sold, and having seen many of those entered for this year, I believe the quality will be even higher."

He says there has been a resilient and enthusiastic response from vendors despite the Bluetongue restrictions which have reduced entries, particularly from Wales.

"A lot of English vendors are planning on pre-movement testing their stock to bring



Kelso Ram Sales

them into Scotland, and we're seeing a great response. We're around 100 tups up on last year, which, given the circumstances, is a really positive result for us.

"For our non-Scottish vendors, there's been some nervousness about Bluetongue

testing, but once their stock is tested and at Kelso, they have the best possible platform to sell, with buyers from Scotland, England, and Wales all present specifically to purchase. My advice is simple: get your rams tested as soon as possible."

SRUC's Antibiotic Resistance Study



SRUC scientists are to spearhead the world's first study of antibiotic resistance levels in pets to help reduce infection risks for animals and humans.

The research team will work with the UK Government's Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) to create the country-wide surveillance programme to look at the prevalence of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in healthy cats and dogs.

AMR can lead to infections becoming harder to treat or even untreatable and health officials say antibiotics should only be used when necessary.

The pilot programme will build on existing AMR surveillance programmes in animals, coordinated by the VMD. Up until now, samples have only been collected from a limited number of clinically unwell animals. This is the first time a country has developed a national surveillance system for AMR in the population of healthy dogs and cats.

SRUC already has significant expertise in this field as they have been involved in setting up animal health surveillance programmes in the UK and other countries. It's also been involved in other studies on AMR, which is considered by the World Health Organisation to be one of the top global public health and development threats.

John Berezowski, Professor in Disease Surveillance at SRUC's Rural and Veterinary Innovation



This is the first time a country has developed a national surveillance system for AMR in the population of healthy dogs and cats.

Centre (RAVIC) says the initiative is critical in the bid to reach a better understanding of the transmission and maintenance of AMR in pets.

"Our experts have worked hard to develop a practical AMR surveillance system," he said.

"We plan to follow a team approach, working with pet owners and their vets as we explore how best to collect samples throughout the UK."

The Missing Lynx Project

A consultation has found that a substantial majority of people support the reintroduction of the Eurasian Lynx to the UK. More than 70% of those who took part in the survey in southern Scotland, Cumbria and Northumberland gave the thumbs up to the controversial scheme.

The Missing Lynx Project ran the consultation, which included almost 10,000 visitors to its touring exhibition, as well as 100 stakeholder meetings and over 1700 questionnaires.

Although some farmers said they were open to the idea, others remain concerned about potential impacts on livestock, particularly sheep, and have called for strong safeguards to be put in place before any release.

In January this year, four lynx were illegally released in the Cairngorms National Park. All were eventually captured by wildlife authorities, but one died



shortly afterwards.

Dr Deborah Brady, project manager at the Lifescape Project, which undertook the consultation, said the findings show a clear mandate from the public.

"We will continue to work with local communities to consider how a reintroduction project could be managed to maximise benefits and reduce risks," she said. "We hope to apply for a licence but only once we have a plan that's collaboratively de-

signed with local people which sets out measures that are acceptable, feasible and can be implemented."

The research coincides with a new study which identified Kielder Forest as the only area of the country with sufficient continuous woodland for lynx to thrive.

The consultation is still open and organisers are urging people nationwide to have their say before any decision is made.

Eskdale & Liddesdale Graduates 2025

Eskdale and Liddesdale can take great pride as their young people graduate from university, marking the culmination of three or four years of dedication, growth, and resilience.

Whether they studied in bustling cities or quiet campuses, they've remained rooted in the traditions and support of their families and neighbours.

Their achievements reflect the strength of rural ambition and the power of encouragement from close-knit communities. As they step into the next chapter—be it careers, further study, or new adventures—the Eskdale and Liddesdale Advertiser stands behind them.

These young people are not just graduates; they are the future torchbearers of their proud heritage...and we dare say they've

enjoyed student life to the full too, and so they should! Well done to all.

If you or yours have recently graduated from college or university, the E&L would still be pleased to publish their photo.

Please send a photo and the details of their qualifications in to newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk



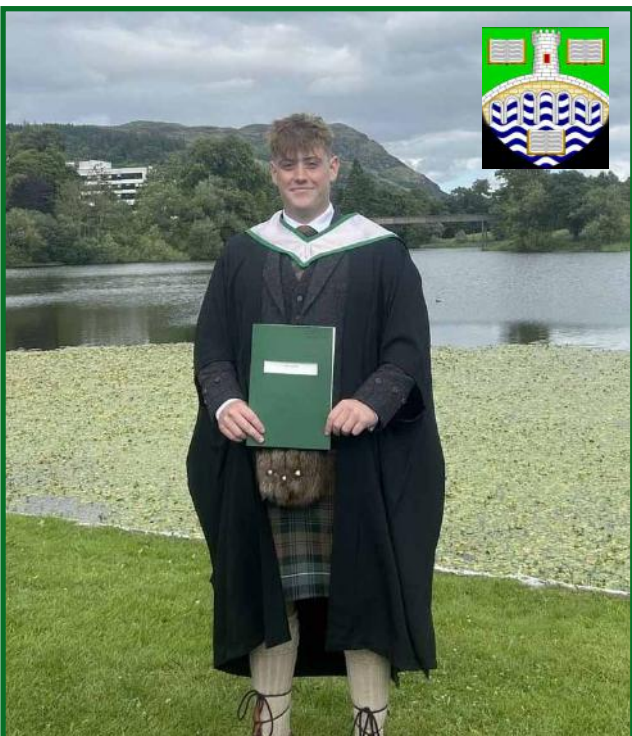
Langholm athlete, **LEWIS BELL**, furthered his career prospects in July, with a MSc from Queen Margaret University in Physiotherapy (Pre-Registration), with honours. Lewis is currently working at DGRI as a Band 5 Physiotherapist



HANNAH DALGLIESH, from Newcastleton, graduated this summer with a 2:1 Master of Arts in Architecture from Edinburgh University. Part of Hannah's course included a semester in Madrid.



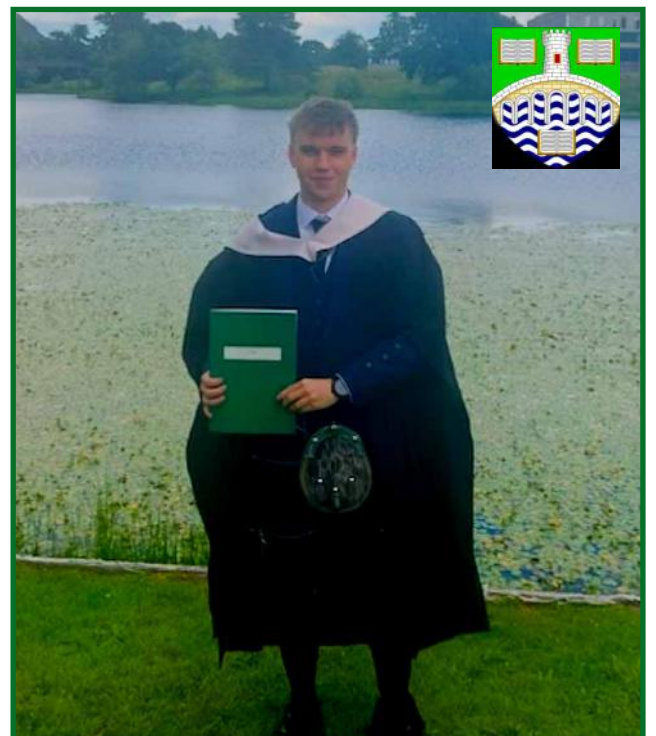
Langholm's **CERYS GOUGH**, attained a 2:1 in Politics and International Relations from the University of Aberdeen. Cerys is the daughter of Maureen Smyth and Michael Gough.



Langholm lad, **CALLUM JEFFREY**, graduated last month from the University of Stirling with a 2:1 Honours Degree in Sports Science and Exercise. Callum is using the summer to decide what his next move will be.



JULIET WEATHERSTONE from Langholm, graduated in July from Edinburgh Napier University with a BA in Journalism, First Class with Honours. Juliet starts a social media and marketing job in Edinburgh in September.



BEN WINTER from Langholm, graduated in July from the University of Stirling with BA in Criminology and Politics, First Class with Honours

Common Riding catch up 2025

Things we missed, things that have happened since, all CR related

Kind hearts and Cornets join in with the toddlers



A lovely day was had at Langholm baby and toddlers annual common riding party on Wednesday 9th July. We had the front three attend who all rose to the occasion and joined in with our singing, 'hobby horse' cornet's chase, races, corners, and musical statues. Cornet Patterson was presented with a personalised pocket watch to mark his pending special day. Great fun was had by all.

Front Three ride at Lauder Common Riding...



The Langholm Lads at Lauder, mounted and singing "A Wee Bit Toon" i



Common Riding Jottings 2025

by Bar Bree

Ewan Patterson The 194th Langholm Cornet

The question will, no doubt, have been asked, 'How many different Langholm Cornets have there been?' The answer to this is not as simple as it seems, as the count needs to take both World Wars, both Foot and Mouth outbreaks and the Covid Pandemic into consideration, when Ex-Cornets carried the flag instead of a newly elected Cornet.



Also there have been other instances when the same individual carried the flag more

than once, e.g. John Elliot in 1818 and 1819 and Robert Brown in 1822 and 1823. However recent work done by local genealogist, Christine Ewart, on the Cornets of the nineteenth century sheds new light on this. Christine hopes that this information will form the basis of a book which she will publish in the future.

Christine claims that 81 different Cornets carried the flag between the years 1817 and 1899. The number of different Cornets between 1900 and the present day is easier to ascertain at 113. This gives a total of 194 different Cornets but doesn't include the year 1816 when the Common was ridden unofficially by Archie Thompson (and possibly by Frank Beattie, John Irving and Bauldy Beattie). Up until then the marches were policed on foot by Archibald 'Bauldy' Beattie from circa 1765 to 1814 and in 1815 by Archie Thompson alone.

W. Pasley The first Langholm Cornet

Christine's work also sheds light on who the first Langholm Cornet was. According to the list which appears in the programme and various local books the first Cornet was W. Pasley, manufacturer; but who exactly was this person? Detailed on-line searches in local trade directories and in the census records of 1841 seem to suggest that he was William

Pasley, a cotton manufacturer who lived at 23 Kirk Wynd who would have been in his mid-fifties when he carried out this duty and was probably chosen because of his standing in the community.

The youngest ever Cornet

Another interesting fact to emerge from Christine's work is the identity of Langholm's youngest ever Cornet. It seems that Richard Wood, a surgeon, who was Cornet in 1838 holds this title. According to the memorial inscription records for Wauchope graveyard he died at North Shields on the 27th August 1844 aged 22 years old. This would mean that he was only 16 years old when he was Cornet!

Scotland Yet and the Laidlaw connection

When Eric Laidlaw sang the great ballad 'Scotland Yet' at this year's Banna Testing, few in the company would have been aware of the close family connection he had with its author Henry Scott Riddell. The chairman, Billy Young informed them that Eric is in fact descended on his father's side from this renowned poet who was born at Sorbie in the Ewes valley in 1798. Although Riddell wrote over two hundred poems and songs he is now solely remembered for this one great patriotic work.

...and Langholm contingent attend Coldstream



GREAT DAY OUT: Clockwise from top left: Billy Young entertains, The Coldstream Guards, Callum Henderson and Tommy Hope take part in the ride to Flodden Field, Ex-Cornets Kevan Hotson and Lee Earsman officially representing Langholm at Coldstream - Photos by Margaret Hudson



A piece of Langholm history available to you

By Stuart Bruce-Gormley

With the Common Riding behind us, I was lucky enough to have a visit from a kind local gentleman in the days before the big event.

He arrived with an unassuming carrier bag asking if I would like to display the contents in the shop window. Once I saw what had arrived I must say I couldn't really believe what I was seeing.

The battered picture frame and said picture he said had only recently been brought home to Langholm, after being away at a relative's home for nigh on forty years. I don't think he knew himself the exact worth of what he had in front of him. I'm not talking about its monetary value, more its historic value.

It was the original artwork (1835) showing the building of Langholm monument with the artist showing the measurements and the date when it was produced.

The first thing he said to me was "IT IS NOT FOR SALE"

And there were so many tourists and exiles asking about it that I thought why not produce some copies, obviously with permission.

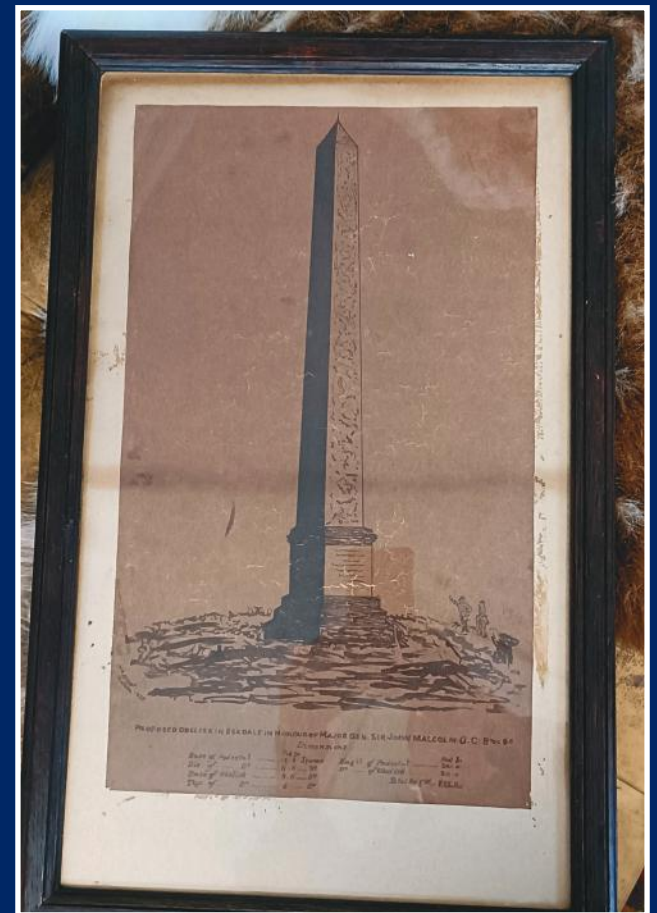
I didn't want to disturb the frame and backing, leaving everything in exactly the state that I received it. So we set about photographing and digitally remastering it and we have a limited number of copies of these available as FINE ART PRINTS - that you can frame yourself.

It's an amazing piece of Langholm's history ONLY £35

ORDER YOUR COPY WITHIN The WelcomeTo Langholm shop. Alternatively Stuart can be contacted on 07986 019536

We have said that we will donate a percentage of any sales towards the Christmas Lights and Langholm Young Riders.

So here is your chance to raise some funds for worthy Muckle Toon causes and give a wonderful Christmas or Birthday gift to your relatives and exiles!



The original framed document (top) and the print version of the 1835 artwork for Langholm Monument



Flourishing CANONBIE Flower Show

Canonbie Show 2025 is officially over, all the tents are down and stored till next year.

A huge thank you to everyone involved, far too many people to name individually but you know who you all are and we really appreciate all the help.

We had a huge 1244 entries in the main hall and around 90 vintage entries, great to see lots of new faces alongside the dedicated stalwarts.

The field was jam packed with activities, from the slow bike race, tug of war, tractor pull, dog show, zoobidoo, BJ entertainment, human sheepdog trials and lots, lots more. The sun kept shining and the fun continued into the evening with the the after party.

We are now onto planning Canonbie Flower Show 2026. Till next year!

Canonbie Flower Show Committee
More photos and results next week.
All photos by Stan Wilson



VJ Day in Langholm

Timothy McCracken writes on the end of World War II, 15th August 1945

Just over three months after VE Day, VJ Day was celebrated in Langholm.

The news of the end of the conflict was first heard on the Tuesday midnight radio news and by 1am on Wednesday 15th August 1945, Langholm was fully awake and aware of the news.

Explosions were heard from Langholm Lodge Camp, as soldiers let off munitions in celebration. Troops celebrated in the High Street and red, green and yellow Very Lights lit up the sky over Langholm. It was estimated over 1,000 civilians and soldiers were in the High Street at the height of the celebrations.

Langholm was decorated with flags and bunting; mills did not open and food shops only opened for a few hours in the morning.

Music was played from a van with loudspeakers in the Market Place. Last minute arrangements were made for a Victory Parade to be held at 11am.

Fireworks continued into the evening, there was impromptu dancing in the Market Place to accordion music and a free dance was held for civilians and soldiers in the Buccleuch Hall. Two large victory bonfires were lit on Mount Hooley and Scott's Knowe.

Sunday 19th August 1945 was observed as a day of thanksgiving for peace and victory. A service was held at the Old Parish Church at 11:45am. Soldiers from Langholm Lodge Camp joined the local community at the service. The collection, of over £28, was donated to the Thistle Foundation, which

planned to establish accommodation where seriously disabled ex-service personnel could live with their families while receiving treatment.

VJ Day allowed local people who had been interned as prisoners of war in the Far East to be released over the following weeks.

In early 1939 the Lanarkshire Yeomanry, a unit of the Territorial Army, held a recruiting event at the Kilngreen, Langholm. Consequently a number of local people volunteered to serve with the Lanarkshire Yeomanry. On the outbreak of the Second World War the Lanarkshire Yeomanry, a unit of the Royal Artillery, was mobilised. The unit was later to serve in the defence of Malaya.

Most of the unit, and several people from the Langholm area, were captured at Singapore on 15th February 1942. Those captured were to be prisoners of war until liberated following VJ Day. Many Lanarkshire Yeomanry prisoners worked at the Kinkaseki Copper Mine, Taiwan, and building the Burma-Thailand railway.

During the conflict three servicemen from Langholm, serving with the Lanarkshire Yeomanry, died whilst prisoners of war in the Far East: Alexander Sutherland Lawson Cavers, Frederick Seymour Lindley and Andrew Vere.

Local people suffered severe illness and injury during their time of imprisonment; survivors experiencing ill health long after their liberation.

Service held at War Memorial



A short Act of Remembrance was led by the Rev Morag Crossan at the War Memorial to mark the 80th anniversary of VJ Day.

The very newly appointed Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mr Paul Armstrong-Wilson attended at what was his first official event and spoke of the importance of VJ Day remembrance.

Mary Hudson, Vice-Chair of Langholm Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council and a former RAF officer spoke about the Far East War and the deaths of Lance Bombadier Fredrick Lindley and Gunner Andrew Vere from Langholm. Both had been members of the 155th Field Regiment (The Lanarkshire Yeomanry) Royal Artillery and were captured by the Japanese at the fall of Singapore on 15th February 1942.

Transported to Formosa (now Taiwan), they were used as slave labourers in the notorious Kinakseki copper mine. Both died there in the Spring of 1945.

The Rev Crossan spoke the Kohima Epitaph and David Jeffrey of Langholm Pipe Band ended the Act of Remembrance with a moving rendition of Flowers of the Forest.



Alexander Cavers. Photograph courtesy of the late Mrs Violet Cavers.



Norman Hall Copeland lived at 32 Henry Street, Langholm. Taken prisoner at Singapore; whilst a prisoner of war his leg was amputated without anaesthetic.

Lang Syne in Eskdale

.....David J. Beattie on The Pioneers of the Tweed Trade

Looking back...

The purpose and scope of this book permit only of passing mention of the various tweed mills which constituted Langholm in its heyday one of the leading manufacturing towns on the Border.

Among the noteworthy pioneers of the tweed trade in the town, the following names are still remembered: Andrew Byers, who had his factory in what is now the Buccleuch Hall; James Bowman, and his sons, George and Andrew, of Wauchope Mill; David Lightbody of Eskdale Mill; also, David Reid and his son Alexander, of Reid & Taylor's factory.

Besides those already indicated, reference should be made to the Ford Mill, which took its name from the nearby ford that crossed the Esk in the town's early history; this mill was built about 1868, passed through the hands of several manufacturers and after a not uneventful career ceased operations and was dismantled less than a decade ago.

Buccleuch Mill also, originally named Criterion Mill, was built by Scott and Erskine in 1878, and taken over by Arthur Bell in 1888. Since then, the works have been greatly extended and are now a centre of thriving industry, controlled by Major EJ Bell and his son, the third generation of the Bell family.



Langholm from Scott's Knowe, showing Wauchope Mills

Photo courtesy of Langholm Archives

Speaking generally, local mills were better known by the names of their owners rather than by their official designation. Thus, at the period of which we write, other mills in the town were Frater's (a building of three storeys Mill and flat), near the foot of the Laird's Entry, built in 1869 and destroyed by fire two years later; Lightbody's Mill, a short distance down the water-side, commenced in 1860 and closed seventy years afterwards; and MacKnight's Dyehouse (a notable adjunct to the manufacturing trade) which stood hard against the side elevation of the Meikleholm Mill, and ceased to exist

over thirty years ago.

The Bowmans

Wauchope Mill, already mentioned, was funded by the Bowmans about the middle of last century. At a later date it passed into the hands of Peter McLaurin, in whose possession it was when I first remember it a little over sixty years ago. In course of time other manufacturers took over the place, but the name "McLaurin" still remained with it, and I believe Wauchope Mill was still called McLaurin's Mill up to the time of the devastating fire in November 1896, which ended its

somewhat chequered career.

For six years the tall chimney stood like sentinel amid the ruins of the old mill, when one Saturday in November 1902, it was razed to the ground by James Elliot, a local mason. Thus, a link with what was at one time Langholm's principal means of employment was severed. Apart from this the chimney stack had an almost historic interest. When in the course of erection in 1856, and when about 70 feet high, it was about nine inches from the perpendicular line during a violent storm of wind and rain, the bricks and lime being quite green. Orders had been given to take it

down when William Irving, the builder ("Willie Ir'in", honest man, of Common-Riding fame), thought upon an expedient which he had heard of being successfully carried out in a similar case in Lancashire; on the opposite side of the bend, and gradually letting down the chimney to its proper position. Irving, however, took to the freestone base, chiselled out a wedge-shaped section about an inch wide at the opposite side of the bend, and tapering out at the other; meanwhile supporting the brickwork with strong iron wedges as he went along. When the brickwork was cut through, he pressed in a bed of lime, and then began to draw out the wedges, which he did very slowly. In the course of an hour or so it was let down and the chimney stood completely erect.

On the death of George Bowman, the mill passed into the hands of Peter McLaurin. He in turn ran it for some time, but with indifferent success, and after many vicissitudes Wauchope Mill was taken over by Gilchrist and Wilson. After the fire, the dyeworks, which escaped the disaster, were worked until the end of the lease by Turnbull and Son, Hawick, and although efforts were made to get the lease renewed, the state of the tweed trade at that time was not sufficiently brisk to encourage anyone to carry on the undertaking.

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report Thursday, 14th August 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 6,022 sheep comprising of 2,926 lambs and 3,096 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 14th August 2025.

PRIME LAMBS

A very pleasing entry of just short of 3,000 lambs forward. Well finished prime lambs of all classes still in good demand whilst a lot of lambs forward today carrying very little finish brought the averages down. More well finished, fed lambs are required on a weekly basis to satisfy customer demand.

Topping the sale was a pen of Beltex lambs realising 425ppk, consigned from Burnside

Topping per head was a hefty Texel lamb consigned by High Field Farming, realising £215.

Please make sure your lambs are well covered and properly finished before sending them on a prime day. There is an unprecedented demand for store lambs at the moment and these types of lambs are far easier sold on a Tuesday at Longtown.

For all further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact your auctioneers who will be only too pleased to help.

Overall average of 338.47ppk (SQQ 340.71p)

Principal prices (Per kilo)

Beltex - 425p Burnside, 414.3p Scobshaugh, 409.1p Morwood
Texel - 378p Brownrigg, 376.3p, 374p Moor side, 373.7p Causey View
Suffolk - 368p Crewburn Farm, 361p Causey View, 359.5p, 357.7p Smerral Farm
Charollais - 365p Burnside, 351p Mickley Moor, 348p Kimmeter Green
Dutch Spotted - 351.1p, 332p Midtown Farm
Roussin - 347p Burnside
Cheviot - 343p Cottage Farm, 336p Kirkton, 334p North House and Townhead Cottage
Mule - 343p, 334p Garheugh Farm, 332p Burnfoot Farms
Easycare - 340.5p High Trehwitt
Herdwick - 335.1p Halliday Hill
Rouge - 332p, 324.5p Carnochan Farm
Dorset - 332p Ellwood Croft
Half-Bred - 331.1p West Deloraine
Cheviot Mule - 329p, 322p Grindon Hill
North Country Cheviot - 327.3p Earlside
Oxford - 327p, 319p Guards Farm
Ryeland - 327.3p Cleughbrae
Blackface - 321p Syke Head
Border Leicester - 311p Shitlington Hall
Hebridean - 216p Sandholm

Principal prices (Per head)

Texel - £215 Highfield Farming, £201 Cleughbrae, £200 Moorside
Cheviot - £202, £160 Tushielaw
Suffolk - £200 The Land, £186 Smeral Farm, £185 Townhead Cottage, £183 The Land
Beltex - £186 Scobshaugh, £183 Cleughbrae, £180 Morwood and The Land
Border Leicester - £181, £177 Shitlington Hall
Ryeland - £180 Cleughbrae
Dutch Spotted - £176, £165 Midtown Farm
Rouge - £172 Carnochan Farm
Mule - £162 Shitlington Hall, £151 Garheugh Farm, £149 Nunsleugh
Charollais - £148 East Grange Farm, £146 Kimmeter Green and Burnside, £144 Mickley Moor
Roussin - £149 Burnside
Half-Bred - £149 West Deloraine Farm
Oxford - £149, £147 Guards Farm
Cheviot Mule - £145 Tangytail Farm, £145, £135 Grindon Hill
North Country Cheviot - £144 Earlside
Easycare - £143 High Trehwitt
Blackface - £141 Balliemore Farming, £125 Whiteside Farm
Herdwick - £124 Halliday Hill
Dorset - £123 Ellwood Croft
Hebridean - £72 Tushielaw

CAST EWES AND RAMS

Heavy ewes and best pure Texel ewes still met high rates of return with leaner ewes meeting a bit of resistance albeit still looking well sold. Many more wanted on a weekly basis to satisfy demand.

Heavy ewes were topped at £355 for a Texel ewe from HM Livestock, Shethin Light ewes were topped with a pen of 18 Cheviots from R Flintoft, Cocklawfoot at £170, J Hume & Son, Sundhope also sold Cheviots at £170
Rams to £265 for a pair of Blue Faced Leicesters from RH Bell, Roxburghmill

Heavy ewes

Texel - £355 Shethin, £340 Ryrie and Woodhill, £335 Glencairn, £325 Cleughbrae, £310 Woodhill, £305 Mossband House, £300 Middle Farm and Woodhill
Beltex - £292 Cleughbrae, £215 Sorbie
Blue Leicester - £260 Cleughbrae, £240 Carnochan, £222 Shethin, £200 Falnash
Charollais - £240, £208 Beckfoot
Suffolk - £228 Beckfoot, £222, £220 Mossilee, £215, £210 Carnochan, £208 Beckfoot, £200 Lords Lot and Mossilee
Mule - £220 Govals, £190 Bidlake,

£185 Shethin, £184 Mossilee, £180 Beckfoot and Grindon Hill
Cheviot Mule - £215 Beckfoot, £210 Shethin
Blue Texel - £210 Woodhill and Lower Moor, £200 Cleughbraemill
Border Leicester - £188, £180 Smailholm Mains
Hampshire - £186, £180 Guards
North Country Cheviot - £185 Crewburn and Galleywreay, £182 Linton Bank Head and Ruighe Beag
Romney - £182, £160 Overhowden
Dorset - £168 Beckfoot
Lley - £162 Woodhill and Coxhill
Dutch Spotted - £158 Coxhill
Zwartbles - £150 Galleywreay

Lightweight ewes

Cheviot - £170 Cocklawfoot and Sundhope, £168 Balure, £160 East Kirk
Blackface - £144 Ruighe Beag, £134 Whiteside
Kerry Hill - £135 Coxhill
Herdwick - £125, £102.3 The Moy
Swaledale - £123 Whitton, £109 Nunsleugh
Lley - £110 Whitchesters
Easycare - £108 Linton Bank Head, £104 Stickle Heaton
Jacob - £90 Tordale
Welsh - £68 Stickle Heaton
Shetland - £55, £50 Tordale
Badgerface - £48 Romanway

Rams

Blue Leicester - £265 Roxburghmill
Texel - £260 Roxburghmill, £215 Kirkhouse
Suffolk - £240 Govals, £190 Mossband House
Cheviot - £190 West Newlands
Dorset - £180 Ellwood Croft
Zwartbles - £171 Shethin
Lley - £170 Mossband House
Swaledale - £152 Whitton
Blackface - £130 Clashbenny, £116 Little Tongue

Averages:

Lambs
Light to 345p (299.2p)
Standard to 402.8p (337.75p)
Medium to 425p (342.37p)
Heavy to 374p (334.63p)
Overweight 357.1p (323.24p)

Ewes
Light to £170 (£96.37)
Heavy to £355 (£150.52)
Rams to £265 (£140.98)



...Liddesdale Lineup...

By Gilly Fraser

Copshaw celebrates its 500th Clatter

Community mag has been published since 1983

The Copshaw Clatter has reached an amazing milestone in its long and illustrious career with the publication of its 500th edition.

The very first Clatter hit the streets of Copshaw in July 1983, funded by the then Liddesdale Chamber of Trade.

Since then, it has had a number of Editors at the helm and is currently in the capable hands of husband-and-wife team Steve and Camille Juliff.

"We've celebrated that by producing 500 copies this month and they include a free prize draw. The community has rallied round – again – to donate more than fifty whopping great prizes, amounting to more than a thousand pounds worth," Camille says.

The Clatter isn't just a source of village news; it also publishes a comprehensive what's on diary of local events and meetings every month. It's also an essential catalogue of local trades and business as Steve and Camille discovered for themselves when they first moved here and needed work done on their new home.

"Whenever we talk to the advertisers, they always tell us that they have all got work as a



Steve and Camille Juliff and Ian Nichol with the first and 500th editions of the Clatter

result of the ads, so they're very worthwhile."

Money raised through sales of the Clatter goes back into the community with regular donations to groups and causes.

This week saw Copshaw Clatter committee Chairman Ian Nichol present a brand-new computer to the Heritage Centre which it's hoped will become a much-used resource.

"It's a tablet with loads of

memory plus a card which holds copies of every Clatter right from number one to the end of 2024," Steve explains.

It took Steve a couple of weeks to upload all of the historic copies onto the card, but he says the effort was definitely worthwhile.

"The idea is that young people who learn digitally and interactively will hopefully come to the Heritage Centre to use

this resource to learn all about Liddesdale."

Camille says giving the tablet to the Heritage Centre has been made possible by the advertisers, subscribers and regulars who buy and contribute to the Clatter.

"Without the sales and the ads, the Clatter wouldn't be here, so I'm not a fan of people who share theirs around," she says with a smile. "Every penny raised by the Clatter goes back to the community so it's obviously better when people buy their own copies."



Ian Nichol presents the new tablet to Heritage Centre Chairman David Hammond

No 8 Club latest

The fight to save Newcastleton's No8 Club from threatened closure goes on.

The building is on a list of places which could be axed by Scottish Borders Council due to a radical shake-up by Live Borders which runs sport, leisure and cultural facilities.

Last year it needed a bailout of £2.5m from the local authority - on top of a £4.8m management fee - to keep services operating.

As a result, it's looking at ways to cut its costs.

SBC representatives held a community consultation at the No8 Club as part of its ongoing review.

In the evening a drop-in was held for the community, and a focus group was staged with representatives from SBC, Live Borders, the No8 Club Committee, Resilience Group, Newcastleton Community Council, Innov8 and Newcastleton & District Community Trust.

These groups shared the value of their work with SBC, highlighting the important role the No8 Club plays in village life. Discussions also focused on the building's running costs and long-term sustainability.

For anyone who missed the drop-in session, there's still time to have your say, by using comment cards which can be found in the shops or through an online survey at www.scotborders.gov/jointreview until August 31.

Silver salver comes home



Frances Irving hands the silver salver over to Sarah Oliver

One hundred and twenty years after it was presented at the Holm Show, a beautiful silver salver has found its way back to Copshaw.

The salver was presented in 1905 to Mrs Irving of Toppin Castle in Cumbria for her prowess in butter making.

It was found by Mrs Irving's great-granddaughter Frances

when she was clearing out her late father's house.

Frances made a special trip up to Newcastleton to hand the salver into the safekeeping of the Show's Industrial Secretary Sarah Oliver.

It will have pride of place at this year's Show, then it's hoped it will go on permanent display in the Heritage Centre.

A Hundred Harleys hit the Holm



Liddesdale Hotel Mine Host Fay Smylie with some of the Support 81 Northumberland crew

Fans of the iconic Harley Davidson had a real treat when more than a hundred bikers visited Copshaw this week.

The group are all members of Support 81 Northumberland Hells Angels who raise funds for charity. They were taking part in their annual Reivers Raid ride-out.

They spent some time chatting to Copshaw residents, then were duly fortified with hot rolls and hotdogs at the Liddesdale Hotel before heading off to complete their multi horse-powered expedition.

VJ Day remembered



Robert Robson lays a wreath at Newcastleton War Memorial in honour of the 80th anniversary of VJ Day.

E&L CLASSIFIEDS

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

OPTICIAN

Book your eyetest today

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



Longtown
 Tel: 01228 791664
 Brampton
 Tel: 016977 42703
www.erichaganopticians.co.uk

PROPERTY TO LET

OFFICES-STUDIOS-WORKSHOPS-STORAGE TO LET - LANGHOLM

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

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

BLINDS

DATS BLINDS

3 Blinds for £160
 (70 x 50)

Your local manufacturer of top quality blinds
FAST EFFICIENT SERVICE

Special Offers on Conservatory Blinds

Perfect fit blinds ideal for tilt & turn windows

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

For a free, no obligation survey and to view our extensive range, call

01461 20 48 42 or
01461 20 61 48

or text your name and contact number to

077 382 192 88

www.datsblinds.co.uk



PLANNING

PLANNING

The applications, associated plans and documents can be viewed on-line by following the ePlanning link on the Council's website at www.dumgal.gov.uk/planning. Written comments may be made to Head of Economy and Development by email to Planning@dumgal.gov.uk or via the Council's website, as noted above, by or 11/09/2025 (Type B).

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

Ref No/Type Address/Proposal
 25/1278/LBC (B) Apartment 3, Riverside, Canonbie
 Late Listed Building Consent for installation of upvc windows



SUBSCRIPTIONS

Online subscriptions to the



are now available at
www.eladvertiser.co.uk

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

GREAT IDEA FOR A GIFT! STARTING AT £1 A WEEK



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

CHIMNEY SWEEP

MARK FRASER CHIMNEY SWEEP

Chimneys and Stove Flues swept.

Wood Burning Stoves Serviced

t. 01228 791617
 m. 07810 023819

SCRAP METAL

CUMBRIA METALS FARM SCRAP URGENTLY WANTED

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

ADVERTISE



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

An advert this size, 10cm x 2 columns, will only cost **£30 + VAT** each for 12 inserts. This can include your logo or other graphic and can be designed in-house.

Contact 013873 80012 for details.

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK
W/C 25th Aug 2025

Day	What	Time	Where
Mon	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Peg Loom Weaving ✨	11-3	
Tues	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Canonbie In Stitches	2-4	Village Hall, DG14 oUX
Wed	Scrap Store & Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Kirkpatrick Fleming In Stitches	10-12	Victoria Hall, DG11 3AU
Thurs	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
Fri	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Langholm weekly In Stitches	1-4	

✨ Booking required, please visit CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS

Langholm Musical Society Presents

GREASE SING ALONG

JOIN US AT THE BUCCLEUCH CENTRE

Friday 29th of August
At 7pm

Adults £10
Under 18s £5
Cash only on the door
Raffle and prizes for best fancy dress

WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

Fri 29th	Langholm Hard of Hearing Grp 'Brew and Blether'	Langholm Day Centre 10.30am - 12 noon
	Langholm Musical Society 'Grease' Singalong fundraiser	The Buccleuch Centre 7pm
Sat 30th	The Holm Show	Newcastleton Show Field
	Family Party - Silent Disco -	The Buccleuch Centre 6pm

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

Fri 5th	Keep it Country	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Sat 6th	The Benty Show	The Benty, Westerkirk
	Langholm Producers' Market	The Buccleuch Centre 9am - 1pm

The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2531 answers next week

- In which decade was education for all children between the ages of 5 and 13 made compulsory in Scotland?
- What crisis hit Scotland in 1622-23, particularly in the Highlands?
- During which king's reign was Mons Meg brought to Britain?
- What disease spread through Scotland around 1350?
- For what purpose was the Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery first built?
- In which century were potatoes first grown in Scotland?
- Where did George IV first wear a kilt?
- What is the EICC?
- What anniversary of Scottish history fell in April 1996?
- What was the name of the first lighthouse built in Scotland?
- Which Scottish nobleman was sued unsuccessfully by Oscar Wilde?
- Name Glasgow's second university which was established through the amalgamation of the Royal College of Science and Technology and the Scottish College of Commerce?
- Where is the Scottish home of Sir Paul McCartney?
- Where is David Livingstone buried?
- Who published memoirs entitled 'Roamin' in the Gloamin'?
- What is the name of the dancer who married Ludovic Kennedy?
- The first known film footage made in Scotland featured whom and where?
- For what purpose was the site on which the Dounreay nuclear power plant was built formerly used?
- What is the main ingredient of cullen skink?
- When is black bun traditionally served?



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2530

- 1971
- Peterhead
- Glasgow
- William Collins
- Scottish country dancing - the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
- Glasgow
- Lighthouse engineer
- Thomas Telford
- The 13th century
- Shipping
- The Scottish Cooperative Wholesale Society
- Rhododendrons
- The National Library of Scotland
- James Chalmers
- Greyfriars Churchyard
- The first decade of the 17th century (1603)
- Leith
- Lulu
- 30th November
- Loch Lomond

Crossword 2530

Across: 7 Gorilla, 8 Edict, 9 Annoy, 10 Alcohol, 11 Ditto, 13 Emerges, 15 Oil well, 16 Split, 18 Earshot, 21 Paced, 22 Adieu, 23 Bedsits.

Down: 1 Prenatal, 2 Slay, 3 Papa, 4 Teachers, 5 Wish, 6 Styles, 7 Grand, 12 Overhaul, 13 Eel, 14 Galactic, 15 Operas, 17 Tides, 19 Raid, 20 Tube, 21 Pods.

NEVER A CROSSWORD!

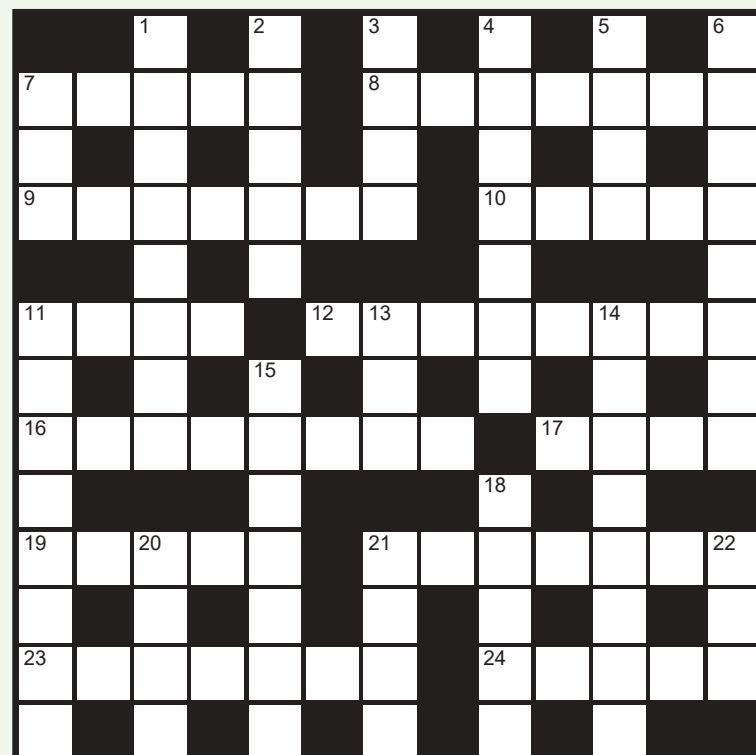
No. 2531 answers next week

Across

- Inexpensive (5)
- Adage (7)
- Make more enticing (7)
- Give consent (5)
- Female servant (4)
- Block (8)
- Reduce (8)
- Woodwind instrument (4)
- Such as floribundas (5)
- Cheering person (7)
- Frog larva (7)
- Disgusting dirt (5)

Down

- Vegetable with a knobby root (8)
- Malice (5)
- Competition for all comers (4)
- Faithfulness (7)
- Successor (4)
- No-show (8)
- Long-leaved lettuce (3)
- Chair (8)
- Common electrical conductor (3)
- Portable weather protection (8)
- Retirement income (7)
- Smell (5)
- Team (4)
- Storage shelter (4)
- Dashboard measure (1,1,1)





New season, great start for the Men of Milntown

Langholm triumphs against Hawick Quins in memorial match

Rugby



The Langholm team and Hawick Harlequins with Hector, son of the late Craig Rodgeron (front centre)

Photo Caitlin Weatherstone

Langholm RFC got the new season underway with 2 friendly matches against Annan on Wednesday evening (13th August) and Hawick Quins last Saturday.

In the Annan game, Langholm started to win more ball and scored two converted tries to make the final score 19-5.

Saturday's match against Hawick Quins was played for the Craig Rodgeron Memorial Trophy in memory of 'Dodger'

who passed away earlier this year. Dodger had many close friends at both clubs, so it meant a lot to those involved and it was only right that the match was kicked off by Craig's son Hector. This friendly match was played in glorious weather and in front of a large crowd and saw both teams move the ball and play some decent rugby.

In the first half Langholm started the scoring with 2 converted tries before Quins hit

back with a try of their own. Langholm had another converted touch down to extend their lead, but Quins came back with another converted try. Another converted try took Langholm onto 28 points but just before half time Quins hit back again to make the half time score 28-19. In the second half it was Quins who scored to come within 4 points of the home side at 28-24. Langholm then moved up a gear to score

3 more tries however it was Quins who had the final score of the day with 5 minutes left. Final Score Langholm 47-Hawick Quins 31. Langholm captain Chris Tait was prevented with the Craig Rodgeron "Dodger" Memorial trophy by young Hector Rodgeron.

With a disco and karaoke on after the match the large crowd partied well into the night. A great day at Milntown all round.

Athlete Aoiffion joins Edinburgh



Athletics

By Calum Graham

Last Sunday, 13-year-old Aoiffion McVittie Brangan from Langholm was competing for Edinburgh Athletics Club in the Scottish Final of the Youth Development League.

Following three rounds of fixtures across three separate leagues in Scotland, the top eight teams qualified for Sunday's Final in Grangemouth. Team competing included Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Giffnock North, Hermeny, Inverness Harriers, Team Ayrshire, Team North Lanarkshire, and Team South Lanarkshire.

The league brings the best young athletes aged Under 13 and Under 15 from the top eight clubs together into a final with the top scoring team progressing to the British Finals in Liverpool in September.

Competing in her first year as an Under 15 athlete, Aoiffion helped Edinburgh on their way to being crowned Scottish Champions with two gold and two silver medals on the day securing a total of 30pts out of 32pts for her team. She jumped 4.94m in the Long Jump to win gold, ran 26.29 seconds in the 200m to win silver, 12.81 seconds in the 100m to win silver and anchored the clubs 4 x 100m relay team home in a gold medal winning race.

Aoiffion who is supported by the "Welcome to Langholm" Future Champions Awards and The Holywood Trust will now be part of the Edinburgh Athletics Club team who travel to the British Youth Development League Finals on the 6th September at Waverley Stadium in Liverpool. She will also travel to Aberdeen next week to compete in the Scottish Athletics National Age Group U15 Championships.

Legion denied first points



Langholm Legion faced Gala Fairydean on the 4G last Saturday

Photo by Stan Wilson

Football

By David Borthwick

Today we faced Gala on the Scholars in the sunshine in our 2nd league game of this campaign.

We were hoping to secure our first points of this season, but sadly it wasn't to be, with visitors taking all 3 points.

After 35 mins in the first half we were 4-0 down, Al-stair Little forced a save with a long range effort just before the half ended.

There were marginal improvements in the second half and Chris Gardner came



close with a headed effort at the back post, with the Gala keeper pulling off a good save to deny the veteran striker.

The game ended 5-0.

Thanks to Gary Muir for officiating today and to all those who came to support us.

We go again next week when we'll face Duns away.

E&L SPORT

