



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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Official plans submitted for Irvine House Holiday Lodges

After local enthusiasm for the project, last year, Buccleuch have taken the vision to the next stage of development

Buccleuch Group have, last Thursday, confirmed that it has submitted its planning application for holiday lodges at Irvine House.

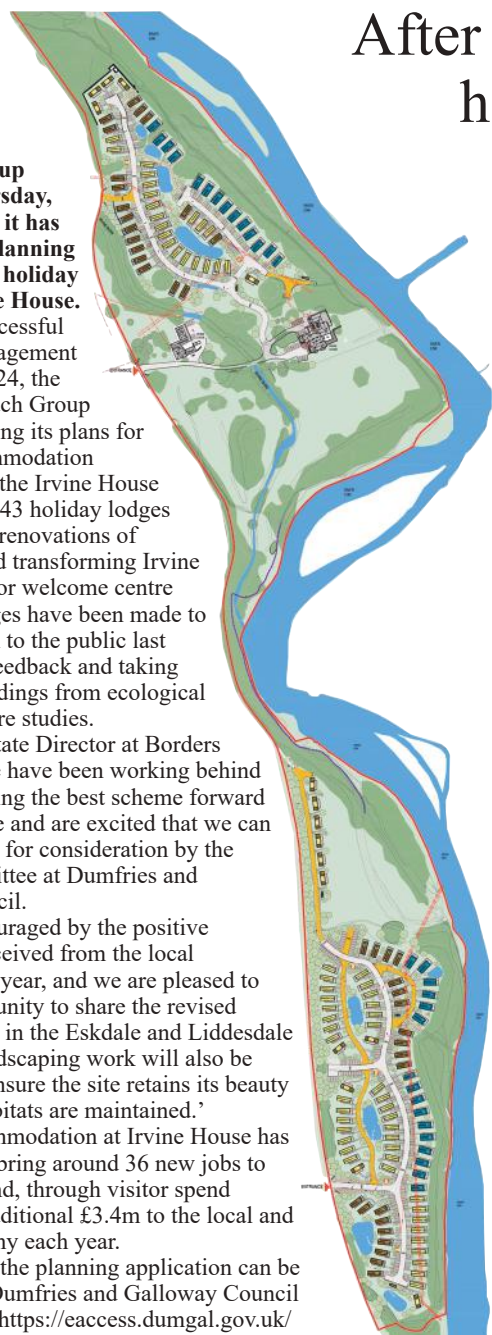
Following successful community engagement at the end of 2024, the team at Buccleuch Group have been refining its plans for a holiday accommodation development at the Irvine House site, including 143 holiday lodges and designs for renovations of outbuildings and transforming Irvine House to a visitor welcome centre and café. Changes have been made to the plans shown to the public last year to reflect feedback and taking into account findings from ecological and infrastructure studies.

Ed Morris, Estate Director at Borders Estate said: 'We have been working behind the scenes to bring the best scheme forward for Irvine House and are excited that we can now submit this for consideration by the planning committee at Dumfries and Galloway Council.

We were encouraged by the positive feedback we received from the local community last year, and we are pleased to have the opportunity to share the revised plans with them in the Eskdale and Liddesdale Advertiser. Landscaping work will also be undertaken to ensure the site retains its beauty and existing habitats are maintained.'

Holiday accommodation at Irvine House has the potential to bring around 36 new jobs to the local area and, through visitor spend contribute an additional £3.4m to the local and regional economy each year.

Full details of the planning application can be viewed on the Dumfries and Galloway Council planning portal <https://eaccess.dumgal.gov.uk/>



ARTISTS IMPRESSIONS: An example of one of the lodges planned for the site



ARTISTS IMPRESSIONS: How a refurbished Irvine House is planned to look as part of the new development

Family Announcements

Deaths

MURRAY, Alexander (Alex)

It is with deep sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Alexander on the 11th September, Alexander aged 55 years. Devoted son of Ethel and the late Alex, much loved brother of Fiona and Caroline, cherished uncle and friend to many. Funeral service to be held at Langholm Parish Church on Tuesday 30th September at 11:00 am followed by interment at Langholm Cemetery. Friends are respectfully invited to attend. Family flowers only, donations if so desired will be for The Scottish Air Ambulance. All enquires to Nicholson's Funeral Directors

Thanks for Sympathy

HARVEY, Robbie

Anne, Jacqueline, David and family would like to thank everyone for the kind expressions of sympathy following the loss of Robbie. We are especially grateful to the doctors and staff at the Thomas Hope for their outstanding care and compassion. Thanks to Shaun Turnbull funeral directors for their help and guidance, Vikki Jo Pounder for her lovely tribute, Langholm social club for the refreshments and lastly for the donations made in memory of Robbie going to the Friends of the Thomas Hope and Irish setter rescue.

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-  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 28th September

Rev Morag Crossan lead services: -

NEWCASTLETON 11am
CANONBIE 9.30am
 Harvest Festival and Communion

Worship Group led services
LANGHOLM 10am
 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

Wedding Bells a-ringing

Beautiful Shetland wedding for Langholm Doctor

Drs Mark and Claire Phillips would like to announce the marriage of their son Dr Alasdair Terence Phillips to Miss Rhona Jane Polson, daughter of Arthur Polson and Yvonne Anderson.

The couple were married on June 27th 2025 in Symbister Hall, Whalsay, Shetland. The wedding was officiated by Irene Simpson and followed by a reception at Symbister Hall.

Best man was Ralph Phillips; Maid of Honour Charlotte Hutchison; Groomsmen David McAuley and Ash Allman; Bridesmaids Katrena Anderson and Chelsea Kulizhka; Flower girls Freya, Ruby and Hazel Polson.



“It can only be seen as a good thing for Langholm and Canonbie”



Ridgewood D5 Engineered Siding Colours:



Buccleuch Estates Ltd

project
 Irvine House
 Canonbie
 DG14 0XF

drawing
 Lodge Type 'A' Context Elevations

the date
 25/09/2025

sheet reference
 25 1312 P203

issue status
 PLANNING

original by
 EMS

checked by
 MAG

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Further impressions of lodge types proposed for Irvine House

The future of Making Tax Digital



Making Tax Digital



The government has set out plans to introduce legislation to require customers to submit their tax return through their Making Tax Digital for Income Tax software. Tax was originally meant to go digital from April 2024, but this was postponed, and this is now to commence from April 2026. It will be mandatory for self employed businesses and landlords to submit tax information digitally from that date.

The self-assessment tax return will be replaced by five new reporting obligations made during and after the tax year. From 6 April 2026 those earning £50,000 from self-employment or property income will need

to start making quarterly submissions to the tax man. This is part of HMRC's shift towards digital record keeping and Making Tax Digital.

From 6 April 2026, some sole traders and landlords must use this based on their total annual income from self-employment and property.

The individual or their agent, if you they have one, will need to use software that works with Making Tax Digital for Income Tax to create, store and correct digital records of self-employment and property income and expenses; send quarterly updates to HMRC; submit a tax return by 31 January the following year.

Transformation is not optional, it's essential

Report highlights potential amount of £12.5m

A WARNING of record deficits and deepening pressures dominated today's meeting of Dumfries and Galloway's Integration Joint Board (IJB).

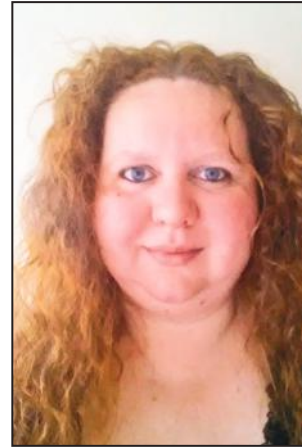
At a meeting this afternoon, members were told that while the accounts for 2024/25 balanced this was only achieved with emergency funding. Looking ahead, the picture is bleaker still - a £58 million deficit is forecast for 2025/26, with savings of more than £30 million yet to be found.

Newly-appointed IJB Interim Chief Officer Gareth Marr said: "Our staff and communities continue to show remarkable resilience, but the pressures on health and social care are mounting.

"Without urgent renewal, we will struggle to keep pace with the needs of local people."

The accounts confirmed a break-even position for 2024/25 was only made possible only by extra funding from the Health and Social Care Partnership's statutory partners - £22.6 million extra from the NHS and £1.8 million from the Council.

Even then, reserves fell sharply from £8.8 million to £4.1 mil-



Kim Dams, Chair of Dumfries & Galloway Integration Joint Board

lion, with every penny tied to specific projects such as winter planning and mental health recovery.

Mr Marr said: "We are not just facing a financial gap - we are facing a fundamental test of how we deliver care. Transformation is not optional; it's essential."

The financial strain is being mirrored in services across the region. Demand for emergency care is rising, hospital discharges are delayed, and waiting lists for planned treatment are growing - even though the Board's performance compares well with



other areas. The pressure is system-wide, with social care facing more people waiting for support at home and fewer residential places available.

In the face of this challenge, the IJB's operational arm, Dumfries and Galloway Health and Social Care Partnership, is pushing ahead with work developing four of its cottage hospitals as community hubs and introducing new pathways such as 'Discharge to Assess'.

Early results show that almost half of those leaving hospital through this scheme regained full independence within weeks.

Xcel's 'The Boardroom' Gaming Club

The Xcel Project is starting a new gaming club called 'The Boardroom' for young people of S1 and above on Tuesdays at 7.30pm. They will have the chance to explore exciting worlds through board games, tabletop adventures and strategy classic. From epic quests in 'Dungeons and Dragons' to tactical battles in Risk or Warhammer and even trading cards like Pokemon. The aim is to create a relaxed welcoming space where seasoned players alike can roll dice, share stories and discover new games.



Bridge results

1 = Bob Francombe and George Graham and George and Brenda Bullamore, 3 = Derek Scott and Judy Pitchford and Lorraine Morton and Jim Muir, 5 = Louise Grierson and Christine Burton, 6 = Lesley McCartney and Anne Ferguson.

Spoz the poet visits the Academy

Having honed his art in front of footballers and his mum

By Mairi Telford Jammeh

Spoz, a well-known poet from Birmingham visited Langholm Academy last week to run workshops with students. Spoz is the pen name of Giovanni Esposito who was funded to come to the school by the Bowman Little Trust.

He has been running poetry and poetry slam projects in the UK and abroad for many years and got into writing from music.

He is an award-winning performance poet, singer / songwriter, film maker, playwright and was the poet-in-residence at Birmingham City FC. He has performed at the Glastonbury Festival, Shambala

Festival, Larmer Tree Festival, Cheltenham Literature Festival, Oxford Literature Festival, Warwick Words Festival, Ledbury Poetry Festival, Wenlock Poetry Festival and in front of his Mum.

RAP

When the E&L visited the school, he was working with a group of pupils in the hall talking a bit about poetry, including RAP (rhythm and poetry), reciting one of his poems about his parents' migration from Italy to England and involving the students in a rhyming game. Three groups had to write down words that rhymed with education, inspire and create. Two



SPREADING THE WORD: Birmingham wordsmith with some of the Academy's senior pupils

groups at a time were then invited to read a sentence with one of the words at the end with the second group following on until one group ran out of words and was knocked out. In forty five minutes Spoz had

captured his audience of young people and involved them in a poetry activity that was fun. There were smiles all round and there is no doubt that some inspirational learning and creation had taken place.

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The NEXT EDITION of the E&L will be on THURSDAY, 9th OCTOBER

There will be no E&L Advertiser published on 2nd October | Full coverage of Langholm Show on the 9th

If you have any stories, letters, or comments, please continue to send them in to newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk

Many thanks to all our readers, advertisers, contributors and volunteers for your continued support

Community Link Workers visit Langholm Groups

Langholm recently welcomed a visit from the NHS Community Link Worker (CLW) team, which spent the day meeting with organisations to see first-hand the important work being carried out in the town to support health, wellbeing, and community connection.

The visit, facilitated by The Langholm Alliance, included stops at:

- **Tarras Valley Nature Reserve** – where the group learned about how conservation and nature projects are supporting community health and wellbeing, as well as opportunities for volunteering and outdoor engagement.

- **Creation Mill** – a creative hub bringing people together through craft, design, and learning opportunities, helping tackle isolation and boosting skills.

- **Langholm Playcare** – offering essential childcare support for families, enabling

parents to work or train while children enjoy a safe and stimulating environment.

- **Langholm Day Centre** – providing a welcoming space for older people and those in need of companionship, helping to reduce loneliness and offer vital social contact.

- **Xcel Project** – delivering activities and support for young people, giving them safe spaces to build confidence, learn new skills, and develop positive futures.

- **Blueheart Counselling** – offering counselling and mental health support, ensuring that local people have access to professional guidance during challenging times.

Community Link Workers support people aged 16 and over to connect with local services, activities, and resources that improve quality of life – whether that's help with money and benefits, access to training, volunteering,



or joining social groups. They recognise that people may have non-medical concerns that are having an impact on health and wellbeing. For example, caring responsibilities, worries about the cost of living or feeling isolated.

Reflecting on their visit, members of the CLW team praised the Langholm community spirit:

“There is a clear sense of community – all organisations working together within a shared commitment to improve the health and wellbeing of people living within their

Michelle – Langholm Alliance for arranging the day – it was informative, relaxed and enjoyable. From an NHS perspective this has helped build connections and relationships within the Langholm community and will support a co-productive way of working.”

The Langholm Alliance, who brought together the programme for the day, highlighted the importance of connecting local services with wider regional support:

For more information about NHS Community Link Worker support, call 030 33 33 3001 or speak to your GP or health professional about a referral.

communities. There is a huge emphasis on volunteering within all of the organisations – highlighting everyone has something to give.”

The day ended with thanks to The Langholm Alliance for coordinating the programme: “A huge thank you to



MSP calls for halt on renewables

Chris Hoy MSP has written to First Minister John Swinney to call for a moratorium across the south of Scotland on new applications for onshore wind, battery storage and solar development.

He's also calling for a pause on the current application for the proposed large scale cross border pylons. He says he is voicing concerns about the cumulative impact of renewables development saying the Energy Consents Unit and Scottish Government over ride planning decisions made by local authorities. He asks ministers to consider the combined effects of multiple developments on the landscape, ecology, sense of place and community. He says that local communities' views should be given far more influence in the overall planning process.

He wants a review to assess the regionwide impact of environmental, social and landscape impacts of new and existing renewables projects across the south of Scotland.

Langholm dividend from Center Parcs?

Tourism boost hopes on meeting agenda

TALKS are due to take place today (Thursday) to assess any employment and economic benefits for the Langholm and Canonbie areas from a major tourism development in the Borders.

The main focus of the online meeting will be on Center Parcs' proposals for a 700-lodge holiday park at Huntlaw, near Hawick, which, subject to approval, could eventually create an estimated up to 1200 permanent jobs.

Although the location is 28 miles from Langholm, the development could offer job opportunities and a tourism boost to the Eskdale area as well as increasing traffic on the A7 trunk route and other local roads.

This has prompted Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale MP David Mundell and local councillor Denis Male to arrange the online discussion which will be attended by two senior executives from Center Parcs.

Proposed Lakeside Lodge



They are also inviting representatives from the Langholm Alliance, local authority, community council and South of Scotland MSP Craig Hoy to the virtual event.

Significant impact

Mr Mundell said: “The Centre Parcs project has potential to have a significant impact across a wide area of southern Scotland and I think it is prudent at this early stage to examine the opportunities and any issues there might be for the Langholm and Canonbie areas.

“I'm equally aware of the proposals by Buccleuch Estates for more than 140 lodges as part of a new holiday park at Irvine House, Canonbie, which could also create

jobs and economic growth.”

Cllr Male said: “It is important with both these projects that we seize what opportunities are available to see if we can use them to advance the much-needed regeneration of the valley.

“Langholm community organisations are very much on board and it is important that our young people looking for employment and other job seekers are made aware of any opportunities.

“I will also be raising the prospect of increased traffic as a reason for further trunk route investment by lobbying the Transport Minister through the A7 Action Group which meets on Thursday evening.”

Eskdalemuir Update

On Thursday 18th and Friday 19th September, ‘The Wee Social’ brought together people from 11 local authority areas for two days of learning, sharing, and connection in Dumfries and Galloway. The event was held at Eskdalemuir Hub. The Hub's new and developing Meeting Centre opened its doors to welcome 45 members from across the country, showcasing activities and taking part in valuable knowledge exchange across the network. Meeting Centres Scotland (MCS) said

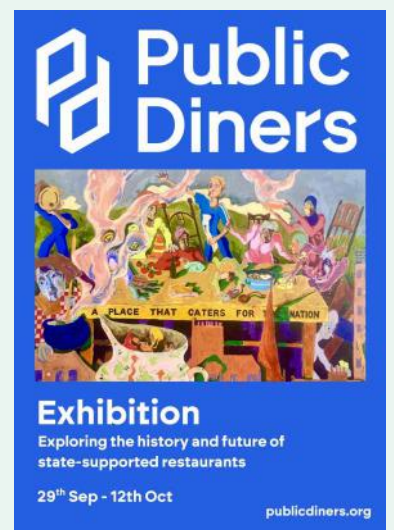
“We were reminded of the challenges of rural travel – from single-track roads to motorways – and how even the simplest of journeys can be significant.”

The programme of activities, chosen by people living with dementia and their families was full of joy and variety and included some of the following: Fairground fun: A visit to the Dark Space Planetarium; Gin tasting (or soda/lemonade!); Sound baths and a trip to the Samye Ling Buddhist Temple. The event sparked new partnerships and friendships, with plenty of energy for future collaborations.

MCS gave a heartfelt thank you to their wonderful partners – Age Scotland Dementia, Summerhill Community Centre, Eskdalemuir Community Hub & Old School Café, and The Johnston in Kirkcudbright – for making this gathering truly magical.



Public Diners exhibition: Eskdalemuir Hub. In the UK, we have public healthcare, public transport, public libraries — even public Wi-Fi. So why not public diners? This exhibition uncovers the forgotten history of state-supported restaurants in the UK, and current international examples of public dining. Public diners are state-supported restaurants that sit alongside other core public infrastructure. They're every day eating places serving good food at prices everyone can afford. During the Second World War and into the 1960s, the UK had a national network of over 2,000 public diners including 90 in Scotland. Around the world today, governments are investing in their own versions of public diners. Created by ‘Nourish Scotland’ and 60 community researchers, this exhibition asks the question: at a time of rising food costs and hectic modern lives, could public diners make a comeback and be a solution we all crave?



Umbrella Walkers to step out for big Rotary event

Since it's inception, the sponsored walk has raised over £390,000

The Umbrella Walk has been running successfully since its introduction in 1998 by the late Alastair Davies, who was at that time the Rotary Club of Langholm Community Convenor. Alastair went on to become Club President and Rotary District Governor of District 1020 in 2009/10.

Thanks to Alastair's initial foresight, initiative and enthusiasm the Umbrella Walk has gone on to facilitate local organisations by raising a total of £390,000 since its inception.

The participating organisations find their own sponsors using the Sponsorship Forms provided by the Rotary Club, who then collate the entries. Being a Registered Charity, the Rotary Club applies for Gift Aid from HMRC for those who are eligible.

We are also very fortunate in the Town in having generous Trusts which support the Walk, they are The Jock and Mary Elliot Memorial Trust; The Arthur Bell Trust; The Ainslie Charitable Trust; The Bowman Little Trust; the Stoneypath Trust and the Stevenson Trust and we are very grateful for their generosity and support. The Trusts add to the sponsorship raised

by the organisations depending on the number of walkers they have, along with the number of sponsors and the funds raised by sponsorship.

The Rotary Club are responsible for facilitating the Walk on the day by providing signage, controlled start and finish points and Safety Marshals along the routes. However, for the second time they have had to ask participating organisations for help with a request for support from volunteer Safety Marshals among their ranks. A very big thank-you to those that have volunteered this year.

Finally, there will be a presentation evening on Thursday 27th November where invited representatives from the organisations will join Rotarians for a meal in the Eskdale Hotel, as their guests, and on completion each organisation will be



SUNSHINE: Here's hoping for the same weather as last year

presented with a cheque for their funds.

Last year's walk had 32 par-

of £16,202; Trusts topped this up with another £13,500 and Gift Aid added a further £3,222.

This year Rotary expects around 35 participating organisations, each of which will be given an allocated start time and location, and Rotary are hoping for a record-breaking amount raised for the benefit of each. They said

"Considering the population of Langholm and Canonbie combined is in the region of 3000 people, we should all be justly proud in this terrific local initiative."



ticipating organisations, with 145 walkers and 2034 sponsors. As a result walkers raised a total

Canonbie SWI 'Keep Safe'

Canonbie SWI had their first session of the new season on Thursday 18th. Liz Walters presented the badges to the new President Nicola Donald. The talk on 'Scams and Keeping Safe' was given by P.C. Lee Barnfather who has served in the police force for 18 years. He gave a very interesting talk on all types of fraud from cold callers by phone and at the door to online scams and romance scams. AI (artificial intelligence) is becoming so sophisticated now, making it difficult for many to differentiate between a genuine caller and scammers. His advice was to always be vigilant, never sharing banking details, and not be polite. If anything happens that you're not happy about either hang up or close the door.

Competitions were Stay Safe Poster and a key ring; Poster: 1st Catherine Lithgow; 2nd Diane Hope. Keyring 1st Pauline Greener; 2nd Elizabeth Kinstrey.

The evening concluded with a quiz relating to TV detectives and the phonetic alphabet.

Next meeting is October 16th when Christine Beaty is giving a hands-on beading class.

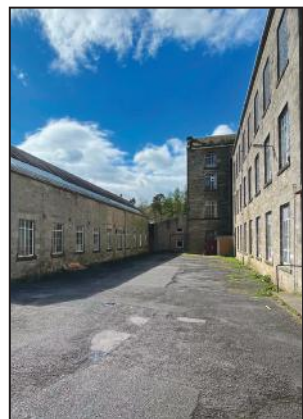
Compulsory purchase system to be modernised

New laws to make improvements simpler

A consultation by the Scottish Government on compulsory purchase orders has just kicked off with the aim of trying to modernise the law on compulsory purchase, to make it easier and simpler to improve land and buildings.

The proposals would update laws dating back almost two centuries, making them more useful for public bodies, while also being fairer to property owners. Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) help deliver essential projects to meet local and national needs. They can support the transformation of disused or dilapidated land and buildings which blight communities. And they can contribute to tackling the housing emergency by accelerating the delivery of new homes and bringing empty properties back into use.

Views are being sought on how the current rules – which are widely recognised as confusing and outdated – should



be changed. The Scottish Government is also exploring whether powers to require disused property to be sold or leased would be helpful. The reform programme addresses findings from the Scottish Law Commission, which concluded that current legislation "does not work effectively in a modern context" and the consultation is a programme for Government commitment. The consultation document explores issues

including: whether authorities should have the power to seek more limited rights over land, or secure temporary possession, rather than seeking full compulsory purchase; allowing authorities to confirm their CPOs where there are no objections; digitisation of paper-based systems; providing greater clarity and certainty about decision-making timescales; better early engagement between authorities and property owners; simplifying procedures for transferring ownership; updating how compensation is calculated to ensure property owners receive fair payment; incentivising swifter settlement and payment of compensation claims, to help people put their affairs in order and whether Compulsory Sale Orders and Compulsory Lease Orders would provide helpful alternatives to compulsory purchase. The consultation is on the Scottish Government website and runs until 19th December.



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Craig Hoy MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for South Scotland region



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Farming on the Border

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Profitability review with Baroness Batters

NFU Scotland chiefs met with Baroness Minette Batters, former head of the NFU south of the border, who is now leading the ongoing Farming Profitability Review.

Baroness Batters also took part in a dedicated session with representatives of the Food and Agriculture Stakeholder Taskforce (FAST), chaired by NFU Scotland President Andrew Connon.

NFU Scotland President Andrew Connon it was a timely and important meeting given the urgency of improving farm business profitability across the UK.

"Scotland's farmers and crofters are delivering not just high-quality food, but vital economic, environmental and community value," he said.

"However, margins remain under relentless pressure. Profitability must be front and centre if we are serious about sustainable farming.

"This review comes at a pivotal moment. We thank Minette for

making the trip and for listening closely to Scottish concerns. NFU Scotland is fully committed to working with her and the review team to ensure that profitability – the foundation of any sustainable agricultural future – is properly understood and prioritised."

Baroness Batters said she appreciated the open and insightful dialogue, and noted the unique perspectives brought by Scottish stakeholders.

Neil Wilson, Chair of FAST, said he welcomed the opportunity to be involved in the exchange with Baroness Batters.

"Farm profitability underpins everything: from investment in innovation to the delivery of environmental and community outcomes," he said.

"It's vital that this review reflects the diversity of farming systems across the UK – including the distinct challenges and opportunities here in Scotland, and any recommendations must be both practical and impactful."

SRUC's £21m project has a new Director

Pauline has supported innovative projects from concept to delivery

The Digital Dairy Chain has appointed a new Programme Director.

Pauline Murray has been Innovation Broker Project Manager within the £21 million project, which is led by SRUC from the Barony Campus, for the past three years, supporting industry-led innovation projects from concept to delivery.

She has more than twenty years of experience in project and programme management with a strong background in higher education, delivering research, health and manufacturing projects.

SRUC Principal and Chief Executive Professor Wayne Powell says Pauline will provide leadership and strategic vision for the Digital Dairy Chain.

"This project drives innovation at its core, fostering entrepreneurship, creating new market opportunities, enhancing workforce skills, and laying the groundwork for more productive



PROMOTION: Pauline Murray becomes Programme Director for Digital Dairy Chain

regions," he said.

"All of this supports our critical journey towards net zero and ensures the industry remains competitive and future ready."

Pauline says she's looking forward to building on the excellent work of predecessor Stuart Martin who had held the post since 2023 and continuing to grow

the reach and impact of the Digital Dairy Chain.

"As Programme Director, I lead the strategic direction of the entire programme, guiding a team of work package leads across critical areas including infrastructure, skills, innovation, and investment," she said.

"I will also continue to oversee

the Innovation Fund, ensuring that our funding priorities are closely aligned with long-term impact for both industry and academia.

The Digital Dairy Chain is supported by government funding provided through UK Research and Innovation's flagship Strength in Places Fund.

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Charity's Scone Palace challenge raises £80k

RSABI's first ever Great Scone Palace Challenge has raised a whopping £80,000 to support Scottish farmers and farmworkers.

The brand-new event was held over a weekend at the Palace and Perth Racecourse and streamed live on RSABI's Facebook page, with viewers tuning in from Norway, Holland, Australia and the US.

People taking part also had the chance to mingle with some famous faces as the Emmerdale cast and crew members joined the Friday night welcome party.

Saturday saw teams of five battle it out in a series of activities, including a tractor pull and an obstacle race featuring a round bale push.

Brains were tested as well as brawn in a quest mission in the

palace grounds, ending up in their famous maze.

RSABI Head of Fundraising Pauline MacMillan says the charity were thrilled with the success of the Challenge and the dedication shown by all who took part.

"The incredible total raised will make a huge difference in supporting RSABI to provide emotional, practical, and financial support to people in Scottish agriculture," she said.

Lois Newton of headline sponsor Gillespie McAndrew said they had been thrilled to support RSABI with their flagship fundraising event for the third year in a row.

"As longstanding advisors to the sector, we are familiar with the challenges facing people in Scottish agriculture and just how invaluable the work of



RSABI is in providing support," she said.

"Our congratulations go to RSABI, the participants, volunteers, and supporters who made it all possible."

RSABI's inaugural event reaches global audience, generating over a million Facebook views

Photo RSABI

Probus hears about doctor's interesting career

Mark Hallam at 'Forward Leeds' Drug Service

Last Wednesday the club welcomed Marc Hallam to speak about his work as a doctor specialising in drug issues. Mark came to Langholm about four years ago after a varied career in medicine which took him as far away as New Zealand, although, he spent the major part of his career as clinical director of a drugs unit in Leeds.

His talk began by mentioning how inexplicable addiction can even effect people who seem to have it all such as George Best or Amy Winehouse. They sadly, both died prematurely but others survived and recovered such as Buzz Aldrin, Ernest Shackleton, Lady Gaga and Antony Hopkins. Betty Ford was given a special mention as she became the First Lady in US and founded a series of rehab clinics.

Mark went on to say how addiction has been with us since history began and all societies



Dr. Mark Hallam

have had to live with it. He listed four major factors which predisposed people to it: genetics, personality, availability and trauma. The connection with trauma has been fairly recent discovery and Mark described how patients could be helped by talking through their traumatic experiences. Also, alcohol has always been avail-

able but drug availability, both prescription and illegal, has increased greatly in recent years. Furthermore, there has been an explosion in synthetic drugs such as spice or fentanyl which are much more powerful and can kill with limited exposure.

Then Mark went on to talk about how addiction can be overcome although he suggested that there is no one silver bullet. Recovery is a slow painstaking process involving many different disciplines - pharmacists, social workers, doctors and peer support can be very important. Surprisingly, prison can be a turning point for many if sufficient time is given to the addicts' problems. If not managed properly coming off drugs suddenly can sometimes be fatal.

All in all, this was a very informative talk by a person who had experienced the problems of addiction at close quarters and had contributed to the alleviation of those problems.

£500k more for access to services

The Scottish Government has announced additional funding of £500,000 to strengthen access to essential services and projects that disabled people rely on.

It comes as a result of dialogue with Independent MSP Jeremy Balfour on the best way to support disabled people's organisations and follows his tireless campaigning on behalf of disabled people throughout this parliamentary session. The additional investment will support the government's Improving Access Fund, announced earlier this year as part of the Scottish Government's Disability Equality Plan. This brings the total funding available in the fund to £1.5 million.

Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Shirley-Anne Somerville said:

"We made it very clear when launching our Disability Equality Plan that disabled people are a priority for the Scottish Government. In order to deliver lasting change, we must

improve access to vital support and services. That's why the Scottish Government is boosting the amount available via the Improving Access Fund. This means we are committing to invest £3 million to support the overall Disability Equality Plan and improve the lives of disabled people across Scotland.

Independent MSP Jeremy Balfour said:

Solid step

"I am proud to have worked with the Scottish Government to deliver new money for disabled people in Scotland. This funding is a solid step in the right direction, but it must not be the last step. I believe a wider debate needs to take place on how best to support disabled people across into the next parliament. Delivery of a multi-year funding deal is a welcome commitment."

The Improving Access Fund will open for applications in autumn this year.

Hub's Expressive Art Class

Eskdalemuir Expressive Arts is holding an art class on Thursdays at 3pm – 4.30pm. Sally Barrett who lives locally will be teaching people how to keep a sketchbook of the garden through the winter.

Everyone is welcome to attend the class at Eskdalemuir Hub – there's no need to book.

Care provision review

Members of the Council's Enabling and Customer Services Committee were asked to note that the Chief Executive of the Council, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee have agreed to allocate £447,000 from the Change Fund to support a review of care provision across complex care services. This decision was made quickly to progress the work to address the projected overspend of budgets delegated by the Council to the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board. The work will require the appointment of five social workers for a period of 18 months. The target savings from the review are £7.2 million a year.

Bus travel is FREE in Scotland for those under 22 and over 60

Scan the QR code or visit getyournec.scot to apply

Langholm Show...what rural life is all about!

GILLY FRASER speaks to the new Chair of the society, Aileen Cavers, who brings a wealth of experience to the role



When Aileen Cavers became Chair of Langholm Show this year, she did so with one regret. She can no longer take part in the longest nettle and biggest docken class in the Industrial section, as it's traditionally judged by the Chair.

Aileen brings a wealth of experience to her new role, having served as Industrial Secretary for an amazing 30 years plus five on the committee.

Livestock

She says entries overall are looking good this year, especially for the livestock, while the horse section has been given a great boost with the return of Working Hunters for the first time in many years.

Industrial classes are open right up to Show Day, so their final numbers aren't yet known. The classes usually attract well over a thousand entries between them, and Aileen says the entries are coming in apace for them as well.

"The Preserves classes are really good this year, I think because it's been a fruity year. Baking entries are coming in, but flowers tend to be at the last minute when people see what they've got and what hasn't been battered by wind and rain.

"We're expecting a lot of dogs as well. I know some other shows with dog classes have been really busy and we already have a lot entered, but again people can enter on the day.

"Our Young Handlers classes always have big

numbers because we have the final of the south-west Scotland Championship, so the young handlers who have qualified at the other appropriate shows will be there and they come from as far as Stranraer. We often find as well that they bring entries with them for other classes, like maybe vegetables they've grown, because they want to take part in other bits of the Show."

Entertainment-wise, Aileen says there's a packed and varied programme, with some tried and tested favourites but also lots of new faces and activities as well.

Steel Bonnets

"The Steel Bonnets are coming back, they were very popular last year, and we've got the Horse Log-

gers again as well, people really liked seeing them last year.

"New this year we've got Laser Clay Shooting, and we've got a lady who does horse archery but will also give people the chance to have a go at normal archery as well.

Aileen says she's confident local Shows have a bright future. And in Langholm, you're never too young to take part.

"The school here is really good. They get the children to do things like handwriting and painting so they can enter the classes, and we also get a heap of entries from the Mums & Toddlers and the Nursery and that also encourages folk to come on the day to see what their children and grandchildren have been doing."



A selection of photos from the 2024 event

...Liddesdale Lineup...

By Gilly Fraser

Much-loved music festival has new team at the helm

Fresh committee have lots of ideas to carry the event forward

When a new team got together to take over the running of Copshaw's Traditional Music Festival, they promised they had big plans to expand on the much-loved event while still staying true to its roots.

They've already made good on that promise with the announcement of a special show to be held in the Village Hall on Hogmanay night.

Called the Copshaw Hootenanny, it will raise funds for the Festival. If anyone's not sure what the term means – one dictionary definition has it as "an informal gathering with folk music, often involving audience participation. It typically features folk singing and instrumental performances."

Details of the evening are yet to be disclosed, but since it's being held in Copshaw, it's a fair bet that shenanigans will also be part of the evening's entertainment.

It's great news for the Festival which at 56 years old is believed to be the oldest event of its kind in Scotland,

but looked to be in real danger of folding when organisers said they could no longer continue.

The former committee did not have a single local person on board, and some of the members lived many miles away, so even holding in-person meetings proved a major problem.

Now though, local people have stepped up to take the helm and hopefully it's full steam ahead for the Festival, which for this year at least will start on New Year's Eve.

News of the Hootenanny has clearly delighted villagers who have responded with enthusiasm and excitement, saying they're looking forward to it already.

More details as they become available.



Newcastleton Music Festival's new committee (above) have announced that they will hold a special show on New Year's Eve in the village

Hawick's Western End to sing for the Holm Show

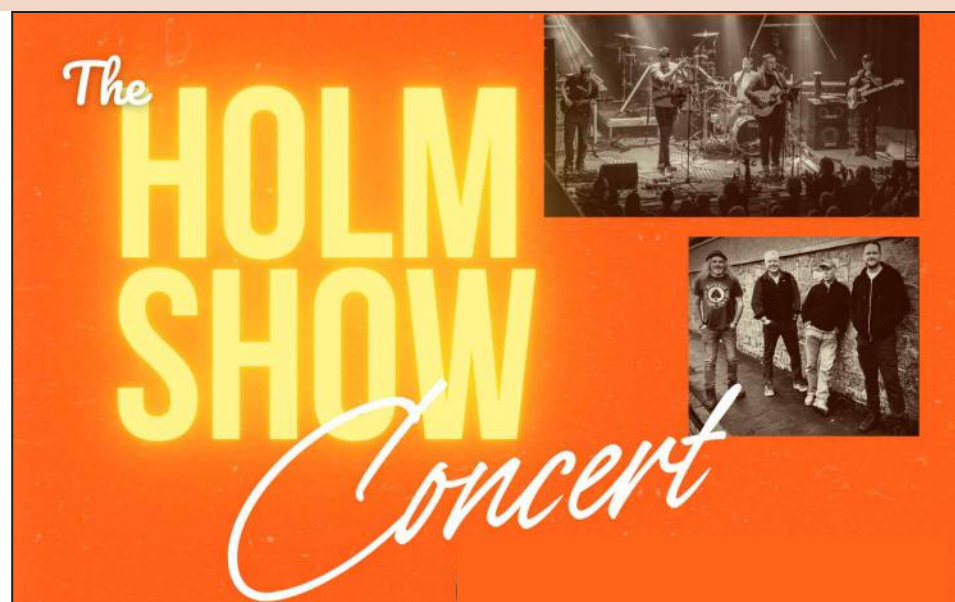
The nights are starting to draw in and thoughts are turning to cosy evenings by the fire, but Copshaw folk have two new bright spots on the horizon which will go a long way towards lightening the Winter gloom.

The Holm Show has for many years worked on a policy of spreading the fun beyond the big day itself, with Coffee Mornings, dances, sponsored horse rides and dog walks and of course the popular annual Quiz dotted throughout the year.

But the committee decided they could do still more to keep the village entertained – so they started to look for bands and singers. And they found a great band practically on the doorstep.

Western End are a five-piece band based in Hawick. They say they take Scottish contemporary and traditional music and add to it an energetic Celtic and Folk style to give it a modern take.

Earlier this year they opened for the legendary Skerryvore,



playing to a seven-thousand strong crowd at Floors Castle, and they also won many new fans at Edge Fest in Jedburgh.

Now they're bringing their sound to Copshaw on November 8th.

They'll be supported by a duo called The Creaky Blinders who say their music is a fusion of genres from rock anthems to soulful ballads.

Tickets cost £10 and are available in local shops.

Hawick's Western End sing for The Holm Show on November 8th

Writers Wanted!

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

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

The wondrous, woven magic of Berber rugs

Stuart Bruce-Gormley brings us these timeless delights from the Atlas Mountains and how to style them into today's living spaces

At the time this article goes to press, I shall be indulging myself in the medina in Marrakech. A densely packed, walled medieval city that dates back to the Berber Empire. A maze of alleyways where thriving souks sell traditional textiles, pottery and jewellery, an antique dealer's paradise.

I suppose it's no great surprise then that some of my favourite items that I like to find are pieces of tribal art, be that small, handcrafted trinkets or larger items including rugs.

The Berber rug of Morocco is more than just a useful item; it's a symbol of the culture and history of the Berber people, also known as the Amazigh. These indigenous tribes of North Africa have inhabited regions such as Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya for thousands of years. Their nomadic lifestyle, and their relationship with the natural environment surrounding them has shaped the way they created and used these rugs.

In centuries past the Berber people needed durable, versatile items to suit their nomadic lifestyle. A Berber rug ticked many boxes!

It was a warm bed covering during cold mountain nights, a soft floor mat, or even a saddle blanket for their animals, complemented by its intrinsic artistic value, weaving became a means of storytelling and cultural preservation, similar to most ancient cultures.

Each rug reflects the environment in which it was made. For example, tribes in the Atlas Mountains often produced thicker, high-pile rugs to combat the cold, while those in desert regions created lighter, flat-woven styles better suited to warmer climates. The diverse array of Berber tribes ensured a wide variety of rug styles and techniques, with each tribe contributing its unique depiction of the craft.

Every detail of a rug, from its colours to its patterns, carries meaning. Symbols like diamonds, lines, and crosses often represent universal themes such as fertility, protection, and the natural elements. These motifs allow the weavers to encode their experiences, beliefs, and aspirations into each piece.

Antique rugs can not only add warmth and character to your home, they can often be purchased for a fraction of the cost of a modern one. Not only can you guarantee an antique rug to be 100% natural product such as wool or silk, unlike the myriad of modern synthetic ones, you can almost guarantee to never see another one the same as yours.



So how do you style a Berber Rug?

They are incredibly versatile, easily complementing a wide range of interiors.

Modern Home looking for a Scandinavian Aesthetic?

Then look no further than a Beni Ourain rug, with their soft, high pile wool and simple geometric designs, they are the perfect choice for Scandi, minimalist, or contemporary interiors.

Their neutral colour palette makes them an elegant yet understated addition to modern spaces.

Pair with light wood furniture such as oak, birch, or whitewashed wood. Keep the colour scheme neutral and complement with white, grey, and soft earthy tones.

Looking for a bohemian, artistic interior? Then colourful Berber rugs bring warmth, vibrancy, and a sense of individuality to a space.

Berber rugs are ideal for layering with other textiles, creating a cosy and visually interesting space. Whether placed over hardwood floors, concrete, or even other rugs, they add depth, warmth, and texture to the room.

Layer over jute or sisal rugs. Pair with modern leather sofas or marble tables to create a balanced look.

Use a smaller Berber rug as an accent. Drape it over a bench, layer it under a coffee table, or place in front of a fireplace.

Whatever style of home you have I'm willing to bet you've got a

rug. But be bold and brave. Enjoy the search. Don't go for the easy option and buy the mass-produced modern equivalent. Get down to your local antiques store and grab something desirable and unique.



Lang Syne in Eskdale

...David J. Beattie: Corn mills, the daily grind!

Eskdale farmers appear to have been amply provided with the necessary facility for the grinding of the produce of their harvest fields, for old records mention at least two other corn mills, one at Westerker and the other at the farm of Knock.

In our cursory review of the rise and development of local industry one branch of it is deserving of notice as it reaches the centenary of its birth.

The present tannery in Elizabeth Street owes its inception to the enterprise of a young man who arrived in Langholm about the middle of the last century. His name was Walter Scott. He hailed from Hawick and covered the twenty or so miles down the Ewes valley on foot.

Soon after his arrival in the town Walter Scott commenced business as a skinner. Several adventurers before him had tried to build up the same kind of business but failed, and there were not wanting prophets who said of Walter Scott, "Puir soul, he'll no' be lang tae!". But it was soon observed that the incomer was a man of sound judgement and by dint of application and tact he built up a concern which prospered beyond expectations.

Since Walter Scott's day the tannery has been considerably improved and is still in full operation and production. On the death of the founder in 1899, the business

passed into the hands of his nephew (who at that time was manager of the works), under the title of Charles Paisley and Sons, and is now in the third generation of that family.

But Walter Scott had many interests outside of business and is remembered as the principal founder of the Evangelical Union movement on the Border. It was the bark-house used in Mr Scott's tannery business that provided the first EU Kirk in Langholm and when in 1870 the new church up the Kirk Wynd was opened for worship, he was the first elder ordained and he held the office until the close of his long and useful life. Though Mr Scott was devoted to the EU cause he was no sectarian, hence other religious movements in the town benefited by his co-operation and benevolence. Indeed, all questions affecting the welfare of the community had his sympathetic attention. A self-made man, his upward climb was no mean feat, nor was he ever ashamed of his humble start in life, and any form of affectation was foreign to the benign nature of Walter Scott, tanner, in Langholm.

Wages a Hundred Years Ago

The rate of wages for country artisans 100 years ago provides interesting reading and is given as under:

In summer joiners were paid 1s 9d to 2s per day; masons 2s to 2s



Langholm's Skin Yards in the foreground, originally founded by Walter Scott of Hawick and was later passed to the hands of his nephew under the title of Charles Paisley and Sons

Photo Courtesy of Langholm Archive

6d; tailors received 1s 6d and victuals as it was common at that time for them to go to the houses of those who employed them; day labourers viz dykers, ditchers etc. 1s 6d; ploughmen with board for the half-year, and other full-grown male farm servants £7 to £8; female servants for agricultural purposes with board from £3 3s to £4.

In harvest for the space of five weeks a man received £2 5s; a woman for the same period from £1 10s to £2; females for hoeing turnips, potatoes or making hay 9d per day. Shepherds were generally allowed the grazing of 50

head of stock, a free house and certain quantity of meal with the pasture of a cow.

Monotonous

One can well imagine that the daily routine of the working classes must have been somewhat monotonous. Toiling the same number of hours on Saturdays as on other days in the week, they had little time or facility provided for physical or mental recreation. Hiring Fairs, Langholm Common Riding and weddings were the main events in the social calendar of both artisans and tillers of the soil.

No comparison can reasonably be made between wages and living then and now. The needs of our forebears appear to have been relatively few and their mode of living of a frugal and simple form. The purchasing value of a sovereign – although it would be a rare occasion that the wage earner received that golden coin in his wage packet – must indeed have been high.

Beef sold at about 4d per pound and mutton at 3d; fowls were 8d to 10d; geese eightpence or 2s; butter was 6d to 7 1/2d per English pound; eggs were 3d to 4d a dozen and meal 2s a stone.

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report

Thursday, 18th September 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 7,433 sheep comprising of 3,275 lambs and 4,158 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 18th September 2025.

PRIME LAMBS

A slightly smaller show of prime lambs forward on the week, trade jumped by 20ppk to last week's returns. Well-fed lambs in short supply and highly sought after. Heavy lambs in high demand with a shortage of heavies on offer.

Again, more can be sold and are actively sought after on a weekly basis to satisfy demand.

Averages

Sale Average- 320p
SQQ- 317.05p

Principal prices (Per kilo)

Beltex – 362p Linnhead, 356.5p Broomhills, 356p Landehead, 355.6p Pretoria Road

Texel – 354p Byreburnside, 350p Lords Lot Farm, 346p Carsegowan, 345p Minsca Farm
Suffolk – 346.2p Lords Lot Farm, 345p Shandford, 343p Lords Lot Farm

Berrichon- 343p Northsceugh
Roussin- 340.9p Cubbyhill
Hill Cheviot – 334.1p North House, 333p Kirkton, 331.8p North House, 328.9p North House
Mule – 332.6p Chapel Farm, 332p Burnfoot Farm, 331p Greensburn
Easycare – 318.2p, 311p, 310.8p East Fortissat

Cheviot Mule – 321.6p Thornship
North Country Cheviot- 317p Thornship
Half-Bred – 316p, 313p Earlside
Charollais – 310p Brocklebank Farm

Blackface – 306p (x2) East Fortissat, 304.7p Greenfield, 302.9p Kilmichael Farm, 300p East Fortissat
Border Leicester- 297.9p Mains Roxburghshire

Welsh- 282.9p Westhotbank
Jacob – 271p Rhoin
Swaledale- 246.5p Highside

Principal prices (Per head)

Texel - £220 Beechwood, £217 Carsegowan, £215 Belzies
Beltex - £198 Burnfoot Hill
Suffolk - £193 Grindon Hill
Jacob - £168 Rhoin
Mule - £167 Rhoin, £158 Greensburn

Cheviot Mule- £164 Thornship
Berrichon- £158 Northsceugh
Border Leicester- £150 Mains Roxburghshire
Blackface- £150 Greenfield
Roussin- £150 Cubby Hill
North Country Cheviot- £146 Thornship
Half-Bred - £143, £137 East Fortissat
Welsh- £116 Westhotbank
Swaledale-£106 Highside

CAST EWES AND RAMS

A strong entry of 4,158 cast sheep forward with leaner sorts dearer on

the week. Heavy ewes maintain last weeks high rates of returns. All ewes of all classes very competitively bid for with a ring full of purchasers looks for numbers.

Heavy ewes to £310 for Texels from Linnhead, light ewes topped at £218 for Badger Faces from East Ingliston with rams to £220 for Charollais from Baillie Farm.

Heavy ewes

Texel- £310 Linnhead, £285 Kirk Cottage
Suffolk - £240 Mossburnford
Beltex- £230 Braehead
Charollais - £228 Beckfoot
Cheviot Mule- £196 High Brae
Mule - £196 Kirk Cottage, £192 Copperthorns
Blue Faced Leicester – £170 West Deanraw

North Country Cheviot - £168 Wellhead, £164 Beckfoot, £160 Earlside
Zwartbles- £168 Galleywreay
Dutch Spotted- £142 Maiden-

coats
Wensleydale- £125 Little Fithie
Dorset- £120 Maidencots
Oxford- £105 Guards Farm

Light ewes

Badger Face- £218 5 East Ingliston
Hill Cheviot- £155 Highside
Kendal Rough - £139 Church View
Kerry Hill- £135 Woodhead
Easy Care- £134 East Fortissat
Blackface - £130 Millden Agri, £128 Fernoch Farm, £128 Millden Agri
Romney- £126 Hilton of Aldie
Lleyn- £118 Galleywreay
Swaledale- £108 Millden Agri
Shetland- £108 Copeerthorns
Herdwick - £84 Longrow
Goat- £75 Monk Farm

Rams

Charollais- £220 Baillie Farm
Cheviot- £205 Sorbietrees
Bletex - £200 Buteland
Texel – £195 Wellhead

Dorset- £165 Beckfoot
Blackface- £150 Shitlington Hall
Easycare- £145 East Fortissat
Blue Faced Leicester - £135 Baillie Farm
North Country Cheviot - £116 Rodenhurst

Averages:

Lambs
Light to 296.9p (262.73p)
Standard to 356.0p (304.26p)
Medium to 355.0p (325.22p)
Heavy to 361.0p (328.31p)
Overweight 347.2p (317.49p)

Ewes

Light to £184 (£86.94)
Heavy to £310 (£130.61)
Rams to £220 (£125.20)



Looking back...



The E&L Gallery



"Almost as loud as the Beatles concert!" Tom Hutton of Langholm caught this Robin in full song

Camera: Panasonic Lumix FZ100

The Eskdalemuir Blues

Langholm E&L reader Wull Little came across this poem amongst his belongings.

It was given to him by two Economic Forestry Group workers and was written forty-six years ago in 1979.

We thought it might hit home with some of our readers employed in the forestry business!



Photo by Chris Eilbeck, geograph.org.uk

I woke up this morning with a sickle in my hand
I've got the tree weeding blues, now can you understand?
There are thistles in my thumb
And nettles up my bum
Here in Eskdalemuir.

I woke up this morning, my hair was falling out
I've got the fertiliser blues, of that there is no doubt
I'm soakin' to the skin
And you can smell where I have been
Here in Eskdalemuir.

I woke up this morning, my back it ached like hell
I've got the drain digging blues and I'm sure you all can tell
There is mud inside my boot
And my spade is no damn use
Here in Eskdalemuir.

I woke up this morning in a green rubberised suit
I've got the heather spraying blues and I'm looking really cute
I wear a proper mask
To empty bottles 'tis a task.
Here in Eskdalemuir.

I woke up this morning the sky was full of rain
I've got the wet time blues, sitting in the van's such a pain
The midges are everywhere
And I sure do get my share
Here in Eskdalemuir.

I woke up this morning, why can't I stay at home?
I've got the grouse beating blues, over moors I've got to roam
A grouse I've still to meet
And now I have wet feet
Here in Eskdalemuir.

I woke up this morning with trees all o'er my bed
I've got the Sitka spruce blues, I can't get them out of my head
They are planted on every hill
And a couple on 'Big Wull'
Here in Eskdalemuir.

I woke up this morning, EFG is all I hear
I'm going down to the pub to cry into my beer
I'm sick of all these trees
And grovelling on hands and knees
Here in Eskdalemuir.

J D Pollard and S S Robinson 1979

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LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK
CREATION MILL W/C 29th Sept 2025
Connect | Inspire | Create

Day	What	Time	Where
Mon	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Tots Textiles	10-12	
	Mending Monday: Focus on A Stitch in Time	1-3	
Tues	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Transformation Challenge ✨	10-3	
	After School Club	4-5:30	
Wed	Scrap Store & Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Sewing Machines for Beginners ✨	2-3:30	
	Langholm Evening In Stitches	6-8	
Thurs	Scrap Store	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Embroidery Mending ✨	6-8	
Fri	MacMillan Coffee Morning	10-12	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Scrap Store	10-3	
	Langholm weekly In Stitches	1-4	
Sat	Fashion Reimagined Film Screening ✨	6-9	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Climate Cafe	12-3	

✨ Booking required, please visit CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS

SCOTLAND'S CLIMATE WEEK

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

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LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

Advertise on the NOTICEBOARD this size 5cm x 2col only **£20**

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

Fri 26th	Hard of Hearing Group Brew & Bletcher	Langholm Day Centre 10.30am-12 noon
Sat 27th	Eskdale Agricultural Show	Castleholm, Langholm
Sun 28th	Accordion & Fiddle Club Matthew MacLennan Trio	Langholm Social Club 2pm - 5pm

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Sat 4th	Canonbie Community Enterprise Soup Kitchen	Canonbie Public Hall 10am - 12.15pm
Mon 6th	Short mat bowling - new members welcome	The Studio, Langholm 2pm
Tue 7th	Langholm & Canonbie Schools S3 Coffee Morning	Langholm Academy Hall 10-11am
Sat 11th	Event Horizon, classic rock	ESMP Hall, Eskdalemuir 8pm
Wed 15th	Hard of Hearing Group Hearing Aid Care	Langholm Day Centre 1-3pm

The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2536 answers next week

- After which battle in 1644 did Montrose take Perth?
- What did HIA stand for in politics?
- Which Scot was made chairman and chief executive of British Telecom in 1985?
- Which Scottish prison faced closure in 2000?
- Which Scottish soap featured Mrs Mac?
- In which century was the Scottish Fisheries Commission established?
- Where was the first purpose-built mosque in Scotland built?
- Where did boxer, Jim Watt, become world champion?
- In the 1970s 'I found it at Bruce's' was the slogan for what kind of business?
- In which decade did Scottish miners finally become free men?
- In the 19th century, which Scottish university had the largest number of students?
- Who went on strike throughout Scotland in 1812?
- Which political activist was tried for sedition in 1918?
- With which author is the character of 'Wee Jackie' associated?
- With which island is the name of St Molaise associated?
- When is St Andrew's Day?
- What other ingredient is put in Scottish broth apart from vegetables and stock?
- What is the verdict unique to Scots Law?
- What difference between Scottish and English Law brought people running across the Border to Gretna Green pre-1969?
- With which Scottish newspaper is Oor Wullie associated?



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2535

- The Royal Botanic Garden
- Norman Lamont
- Neward
- Malcolm II was Duncan I's son
- The Nobel Prize for Medicine
- As a soprano
- Alexander III
- 1998
- 2000
- Gordonstoun
- Colin McRae
- David I
- The 17th century
- Duke of York
- Eric Liddell
- A Viking longship
- August
- The birthday of Robert Burns
- At Hallowe'en
- Peebles

Crossword 2535

Across: 6 Bora, 8 Twilight, 9 East West, 10 Kant, 11 Kilns, 12 So what?, 14 Nephew, 16 Icing, 18 Char, 20 Cochlear, 21 Time to go, 22 Tess.

Down: 1 Part and parcel, 2 Steed, 3 Bistro, 4 Milk chocolate, 5 Then, 7 Ovarian, 12 Sew, 13 Ten days, 15 Escrow, 17 Scion, 19 Haig.

NEVER A CROSSWORD!

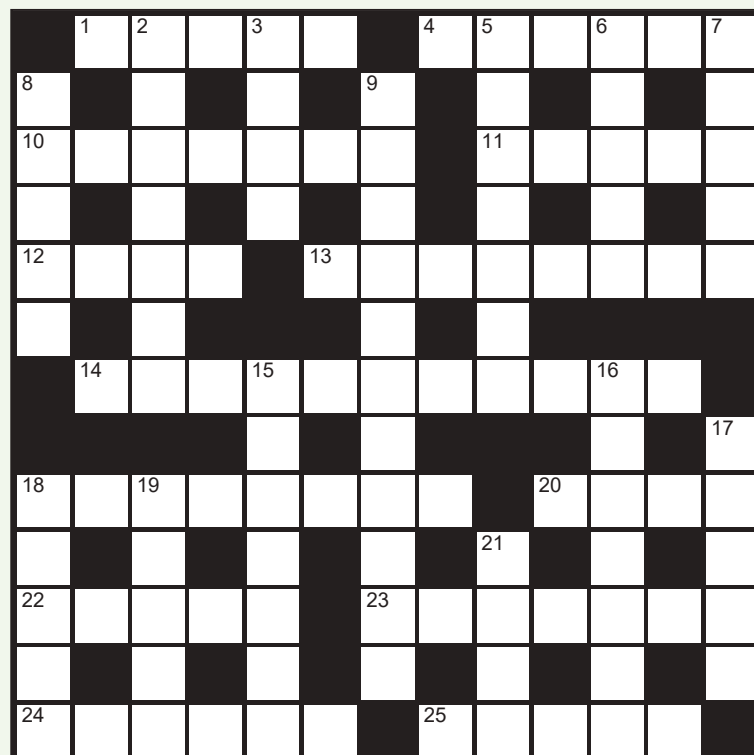
No. 2536 answers next week

Across

- Thin soup (5)
- Aided (6)
- Efflux (7)
- Cram (5)
- Set down (4)
- Turned around (8)
- Murder (11)
- Unusual (8)
- Applications (4)
- Pale pinkish-violet (5)
- Arousing intense feeling (7)
- Renter (6)
- Forest god (5)

Down

- Keeps (7)
- Scrabble game piece (4)
- Oriental (7)
- Saint ---, Wren's masterpiece (5)
- Welsh county (5)
- Ponds (5)
- Lottery (11)
- Resident of e.g. Cape Town or Cairo (7)
- Bear witness (7)
- Ait (5)
- Set apart (5)
- Thermoplastic yarn (5)
- Couch (4)





Local Derby sees a win for Harlequins

It was looking good for Langholm until last minute penalty

Rugby

By Kenneth Pool

Langholm RFC took on Hawick Harlequins in round 1 of the national shield competition at Milntown on Saturday. Having beaten East League leaders Dunbar RFC the week before hopes were high that the home side would come out on top in this "local derby".

However, the Quins had other ideas, and they proved to be a hard side to handle, and Langholm had to defend for much of the first half as the visitors had the majority of the ball. With Langholm forced into giving away a number of penalties, the Quins slotted a couple to lead 0-6 at half time.

The second half saw the home side unable to settle into any real rhythm and this was not helped by several mistakes which prevented a number of scoring opportunities.

The Quins were happy to run the ball whenever they had possession, and it was to Langholm's credit that their defence held firm. Quins were awarded another penalty which they kicked to extend their lead to 0 - 9. With the match into the final quarter Langholm now upped the pace and finally

started to put some promising moves together. Captain Chris Tait managed to break through the defence and passed the ball to Ellis Dirom who scored a good try. Calum Jeffrey converted, and the score was 7-9. With the home side now putting on the pressure, they were awarded a penalty which Jeffrey narrowly missed, the ball coming off the upright. Two minutes later they got another penalty which Jeffrey slotted, and Langholm were in the lead 10-9. With time almost up it looked like Langholm had sneaked a victory. The ball was kicked into the Langholm 22 and was not cleared, and Quins were awarded a penalty. With what turned out to be the final move of the match scrum half Adam Hall slotted the kick and the ref blew for full time. Final Score Langholm RFC 10 Hawick Harlequins 12.

It's back to East League 1 action this Saturday when Langholm travel to North Berwick to try to maintain their unbeaten record in the league.



Try scorer Ellis Dirom in action during the match

Photo by Stan Wilson

The Navigator reaches home under Maggs

Horseracing



FLYING HOME: Charlie Maggs and The Navigator at Kelso last week
Photo courtesy of Grossick Photography

By Gordon Brown

Dianne Sayer landed the £25,000 2m 5f feature race at Kelso for the third time in five years when The Navigator made all the running under Charlie Maggs.

Sent off at 11/2, the Cumbria raider saw off Divilabother by four and a quarter lengths in the Paul Ferguson's Jumpers To Follow Handicap Hurdle.

"A lot of the credit should go to my dad as he has been telling me to make the running with this horse!" Sayer reported. "He's really clicked with Charlie and he's holding his form really well."

The Sayer yard completed a double when Heart Above, bred by her daughter Emma, shouldered top-weight to victory in division one of the Abbey Fine Wines Handicap Hurdle.

Wag wins at Spittal

Bowling

By Luke Tolson

Great day of bowls yesterday with 41 Bowlers taking part in the Hunt Wilkinson Open Singles at Spittal.

The winner in a last end decider was Alan "Wag" Warwick from Langholm New. Runner up was Susan Lee. Losing semi-finalists were Kirsty Holding & Norman Clark A big thankyou to yesterday's sponsors JM WINDOWS and BELHAVEN BREWERIES their support is appreciated.

There was another good turnout of 10 entries from Langholm who travelled to the tournament which was also much appreciated!



Alan Warwick (Wag) on winning the open singles tournament at Spittal Bowling Club

Clinical Chirnside pull off win against Legion

By David Borthwick

After a 2-week break the Legion were back in action at home in the league on Saturday where we faced Chirnside wearing our brand new kit sponsored by Northern Gamefeeds, a match where we hoped to put some much needed points on the board. .

It was the visitors that took the lead early in the first half and quickly added a second. We managed to pull one back when Danny Hotson got on the end of a Finley Dell flick on.

We went in at half time 2-1 down and were determined to turn the game around.

We did create some chances

but it was Chirnside who were more clinical and extended their lead, going 4-1 up. Legion responded through new signing Callum Summerbee who dribbled his way into the chirnside box and found the back of the net with a very good strike. 4-2.

As we pushed more players forward to try and get another goal the visitors again took advantage scoring two more before the match finished. 6-2 to Chirnside.

Thanks to those who came to support the boys today and to Rab Blyth for officiating and to the Douglas for the after match hospitality.

This weekend we face Langlee at home.

E&L SPORT

