

**Prostate screening
for all over-40s**

**Alliance organises
clinic at Milntown**

SEE PAGES 5



**Derek Johnson
clocks-up 536
games for Legion**

SEE PAGE 15



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Series 2 No. 8615

Established May 1848

Thursday October 16, 2025

www.eladvertiser.co.uk £1.00

Concerns grow over town's road safety and gateway signs

BEAR representative tours problem sites on High Street, with Cllr Male pointing out issues



Still time to have your say on what our gateway signage should read

Following last week's article about potential new gateway signs for Langholm, several residents voiced strong opinions on what should be included. A recurring theme was the town's 20mph speed limit, which many feel is not being respected or clearly communicated.

One resident wrote: "Any 'Welcome to Langholm' sign should clearly state that the speed limit is 20mph, not 30. The current signage is confusing, especially near Thomas Telford Road by the schools, where outdated 30mph signs remain. These are remnants from when drivers were only expected to slow down during school hours. That's no longer

acceptable."

The letter also raised questions about responsibility for signage design, noting that Transport Scotland's contractor BEAR handles the A7 trunk road, while Dumfries and Galloway Council oversees the B7068 and B709. The writer asked:

"So, who will actually design these signs—Transport Scotland or the council?"

Concerns extended beyond signage to enforcement and infrastructure. The resident highlighted how other Borders towns like Hawick, Selkirk, Galashiels, and Stow have successfully implemented LED flashing speed signs, which have had a noticeable impact on driver behaviour.

"Why has nothing been done



The flashing speed sign at the Townfoot doesn't!

here yet?" they asked. "It seems hardly anybody in Langholm gives a damn about the 20mph limit. This toleration is shameful."

These concerns were echoed during a meeting held last Wednesday between Councillor Denis Male and a representative from BEAR Scotland. The meeting, which involved a walk-through from the Sawmill Bridge to the bottom of the town, aimed to address various road and pavement issues.

Among the issues raised were:

- The deteriorating pavement at the top end of the Kilngreen.
- The need for a drop kerb on the north side of the Sawmill Bridge.

- The worsening condition of the wall opposite the Kilngreen, which BEAR will discuss with the property owners to prevent collapse.

The 20mph speed limit trial was also discussed. Councillor Male expressed concern that the signs indicating the limit are placed too far from the town centre and are being ignored. The flashing speed sign at Townfoot was noted as non-functional, and BEAR committed to investigating the issue.

Other topics included:

- Persistent flooding and trip hazards on pavements.
- The need for updated white and yellow road markings.
- Safety concerns stemming from flooding near Hallpath, which affects both A7 travellers and local residents.

Councillor Male thanked the BEAR representative and stressed the importance of receiving a report with timescales for the issues discussed, as well as the final recommendations from the 20mph trial.

INSIDE



School Days: Update from the Cluster

We hear about the latest news from Langholm Academy, with news of Outward Bound trip to Winmarleigh, a business brunch and two trips to Glasgow for our students.

See centre pages

Family Announcements

Thanks for Sympathy

HOGG, Michael

Rose, Morag, Michael and their families would like to thank all family and friends who have supported us throughout Michael's illness. Thank you to all the nurses and staff at the Thomas Hope for their unfailing care as well as doctors, nurses and receptionists at the health centre for their care and patience. Thank you to Sean Turnbull for his guidance and care and to Vikki Jo Pounder for her compassion. Also, thank you to everyone for the lovely cards and flowers, the Eskdale Hotel for a lovely tea and to everyone who donated to Langholm Young Riders Club.

In Memoriam



STEELE Precious memories of JUSTINE

who died 15th October 2001
a much loved and missed daughter, big sister,
grand-daughter, great-grand-daughter,
niece and cousin

*"A special smile, a special face,
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xxx

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Happy 90th Birthday

Caroline Jardine-Murray



Happy 90th Birthday

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Church Notices

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Contact us at the E&L: Office 013873 80012
Editor Alan Weatherstone Features Editor Gilly Fraser
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Karen and OutPost Arts

Karen Solly, an artist who lives in Westerkirk has curated works by ten artists from OutPost Arts Collective members for an exhibition in Edinburgh at 103 Henderson Row.

The work will be displayed in the House of Smalls gallery and has been generated from continuous line pieces that both work individually, and as a unit, with a single line flowing through each drawing.

The work is part of a larger exhibition 'Beneath the Veil' which aims to give voice to artists as a means of expression, exploration, connection, release and recovery. Langholm based Denise Smithers also has her work included.

The show is on from 3rd October until 1st of November coinciding with world mental health day on 10th October. The OutPost Arts Collective is a group of creatives who completed the OutPost Arts art journal project in 2022. OutPost Arts' focus is on artistic practice and creativity for health and wellbeing. The continuous line is a practice that is used as an ice breaker when each group meets for the first time.



Artists Denise Smithers and Karen Solly

A7 yields 8 bags of litter



Langholm Rotary Club carried out a litter pick which covered both sides of the A7 outside the town from the High Mill bridge to south of the Skippers bridge.

Rotarians Mark Hallam, John Elliot, Roger Maxwell, Frankie Steele and Kenneth Pool collected 8 large bags of drink cans, paper cups, plastic bottles and other mixed litter during the pick on Sunday morning.



Rotarians Mark Hallam, John Elliot, Roger Maxwell and Frankie Steele (L to R)

Please roll up your sleeve



Thousands of people across Dumfries and Galloway are being urged to roll up their sleeves as the winter vaccination campaign kicks off - offering flu and COVID-19 jags to protect the most vulnerable.

Health chiefs are reminding residents that, in line with national guidance, COVID-19 vaccination this year is focused on adults aged 75 and over, care home residents, and anyone aged six months or older who have a weakened immune system. Meanwhile, the eligibility for flu jags remains the same as last year.

A report to NHS Board noted that to support equity of access residents will be able to attend adult mass vaccination clinics at locations across the region including in Canonbie. School

and pre-school children will be vaccinated in dedicated sessions, while care home residents receive visits from vaccination teams - with eligible staff able to get their jags at the same time.

Health officials say people will be contacted for their appointment according to their previously stated preference which could be via a text, email or letter with an appointment or a prompt to book. Appointment letters will arrive with clear NHS Scotland branding.

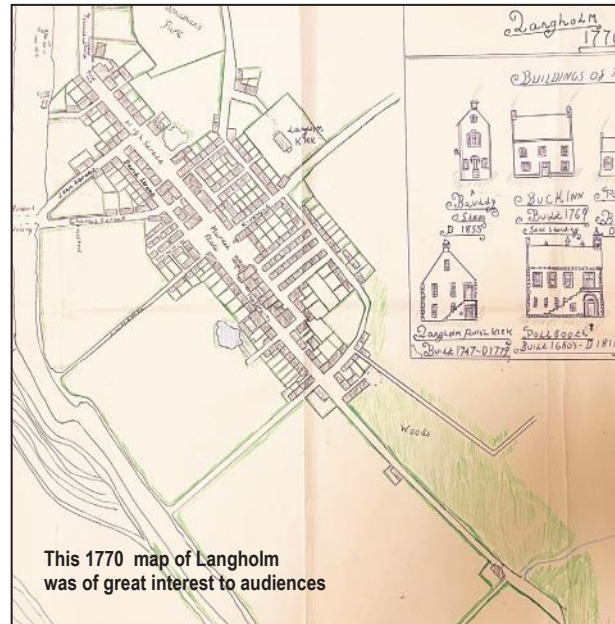
The campaign runs into December. People who believe they are eligible and have not been contacted by the beginning of November, are advised to phone our local immunisation call centre on 01387 403090.

Auld Langholm: Surely no the last yin!

Historical and hysterical duo wows audiences

The double act that is David McVittie and Billy Young entertained large audiences on Friday and Saturday night with their presentation on 'Auld Langholm'. The evening kicked off with a comic appearance by Bruce Park sweeping the stage and putting out seats for the performers. That made us all smile. They presented photos on all kinds of topics about the muckle toon and gave us lots of laughs and brought back many memories. Everyone loves to see the old photos and pick out people they recognise particularly when they were young. Deev and Billy had brought a huge number of images together and started the talk with a map of Langholm before the new town was even thought about showing how there was a loch where the Crown Hotel was and how small the toon looked back then.

They have their own style of presentation moving smoothly between broad Langholm and proper English which is a skill in itself. They definitely qualify as being bilingual. There was even a bit of audience participation when they asked people to put names to people in some



This 1770 map of Langholm was of great interest to audiences

very old black and white photos. Some people suggested names.

The event was to raise funds for the Buccleuch Centre to help to keep it running and the Chair, Deirdre Burnett staffed the raffle. On the Saturday night a lovely Reid and Taylors cashmere scarf was auctioned, having been modelled by Billy catwalking across the stage. It raised £70.

Although billed as the last 'Auld Langholm' ever, everyone was delighted to hear that there will be more of them in the future. That strapline was only used to get us all to get off the couch and come along. The evening ended on a poignant note with photos of Langholm folk who have died in the last few years. A sad but moving ending to what was a very good night out.

Cronksbank Cottage refurb

The Langholm Initiative has just been out to tender for the refurbishment of Cronksbank Cottage which means that an application to the Rural Housing Fund will shortly be submitted.

The organisation is aiming for a high standard of refurbishment, ensuring the cottage is as energy efficient as possible given the nature of the property. Alongside all the funding bids and other detailed work, the organisation has recently agreed a housing policy and is currently working on an allocations policy.

Hen Harrier sightings

The Tarras Valley team love to know where the Hen Harriers that fledge on the moor go after they leave this area. They got an incredible update from the RSPB recently that a male chick from 2020 has been spotted this summer in North Wales. This is the first sighting of the chicks from 2020 lockdown year so the team is delighted that he is still doing well and helping to boost populations of these wonderful birds nationally.

BEAR bags rocks for A7 banking



BEAR Scotland's crane on the Kilgreen with the bags of rock

A BEAR Scotland team of men who all hail from various parts of the Borders are fixing the Ewes river bank above Walker's hole to the north end of the town this week.

They're busy filling large net bags of hard core to shore up the banking to prevent further erosion and avoid the road being undermined. Once complete we'll be able to get rid of the traffic lights.

Your GP Practice: A whole team!

GP surgeries are now home to a whole team of healthcare professionals – not just doctors. Across Dumfries and Galloway, GP practices are evolving to make sure you get the right care, from the right person, at the right time.

This new way of working is part of a Scotland-wide move to modernise primary care. It brings together a multi-disciplinary team of professionals who support patients in different ways. Your first contact is likely to be with a receptionist trained to guide you to the right person.

Depending on your needs, you might be seen by a mental health nurse, advanced nurse practitioner, practice pharmacist, pharmacy support worker, practice nurse, advanced practice physiotherapist, or a community link worker.

These team members help with everything from managing long-term conditions to offering specialist advice. For example, you might be referred directly to a physiotherapist for joint pain, or to a pharmacist for

medication support. Urgent care is also available through your GP practice. Paramedics from the Scottish Ambulance Service or advanced nurse practitioners may carry out home visits for patients needing urgent attention – allowing GPs to stay in practice and continue seeing others.

Another key role is the community link worker, who helps connect people to local support services. This includes physical activity, reducing isolation, or accessing financial advice. Every GP practice in Dumfries and Galloway can connect you to this service. So next time you contact your GP, remember, you're engaging with a whole team working together to provide safe, effective, and person-centred care.



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Broomholmshiels Cottage purchase

The Langholm Initiative is delighted to report that it has been awarded £68,000 from the Scottish Land Fund towards the purchase of Broomholmshiels Cottage from Buccleuch.

The property will be retained as a home for the current tenant for as long as they want to live there. Should the property become vacant Langholm Initiative will look at what is the most appropriate use of the property at that point – it may be retained as a residential let or maybe short-term holiday rental. The house is located at the southern entrance to the reserve and the Initiative felt it was really important to make sure the property is retained to meet local needs.

Mairi Telford Jammeh, Chair of the Langholm Initiative said “We are very grateful to the Scottish Land Fund for awarding us this grant and I would also like to thank everyone who donated towards the purchase which we hope will take place in the



next few weeks.”

The Initiative has also been awarded a grant from the UK shared prosperity fund through Third Sector D&G and Dumfries and Galloway Council to upgrade

Broomholmshiels Cottage will be added to Langholm Initiative's property portfolio

the water supply to Cronksbank farmhouse. This will help improve its resilience in periods of drought.

Goldsworthy: RSA artist

By Mairi Telford Jammeh

Andy Goldsworthy is a landscape artist who lived in Langholm at one time, and who is based in Dumfriesshire. He worked on farms when a teenager and developed a passion for working with the land. The exhibition at the RSA in Edinburgh has been running since 26th July and is on until 2 November and covers fifty years of his career.

His early work dates from when Andy was a student in Preston Polytechnic when he was based near Morecambe Bay. The first exhibit that greets the visitor on arrival is a long sheepskin rug made of sheep wool covered in the markings used by farmers to tell which sheep is theirs and the marks made to distinguish if they're having singles, twins or triplets and the ones created by the ram after he's served the ewe.

Another 'sheep painting' exhibited was created by placing a canvas on the ground with a salt lick placed in the centre. The 'paint' is sheep droppings and urine and evidently several canvases were made before the right effect was achieved! The canvas is hung up vertically. Another of Andy's installations consists of pieces of stone collected from the heaps of stone assembled in the corner of graveyards around Dumfries and Galloway. A map and photographs show which graveyards the stone was taken from. This 'Grave-stone's' project is likely to be a test piece for a larger installation. Andy's art works are not for everyone but they do invite us to see patterns and art in the landscape. The exhibition is intended



to be an immersive experience and one of the most amusing exhibits on film for me was 'Snowballs' which showed what happened when Andy placed huge snowballs in parts of the city of London and recorded people's reactions to them, and the things that appeared from as they melted. If you like art that challenges your imagination this exhibition is well worth a visit.



President Diana Stewart introduced Sally Martin, the demonstrator for the evening. Sally is a member of Teviot-head and Newmill SWI. She introduced Jack, a catering student and her assistant for the evening. Sally spent 5yrs living in Korea and developed a passion for the food and now loves to share her passion.

After a brief presentation highlighting the main ingredients used, we had a taste session. Kimchi is a staple side dish with almost all meals. It is salted,

fermented vegetables, commonly napa cabbage. Considered very healthy with the fermentation process producing probiotics and a mix of vitamins. We looked, sniffed and then tasted. Who knew fermented cabbage would taste good.

Next Diana, Kay and Jack made gimhap (Korean seaweed rice rolls). Each chose their fillings from the ingredients provided. Those too were enjoyed. Sally made mung bean pancakes and it was agreed that they were delicious and a second batch

was made. Recipe sheets were provided.

Diana Stewart gave the vote of thanks and this was followed by a short meeting, a cup of tea and the drawing of the raffle.

Competition winners - Oriental ornament 1st Lib McNeil 2nd Hazel Johnstone 3rd Kay Kinstrey. Chocolate éclairs 1st Diana Stewart 2nd Lib McNeil 3rd Kay Kinstrey

Therefore, Diana is the first winner of a trophy, for baking, in memory of Winnie Kinstrey.



President Tessa Lumley welcomed members, old and new, to the October meeting of Ewes SWI, held in the Benty Hall due to the roadworks on the A7.

Several members were unable to attend because of the roadworks but those present enjoyed an evening of Christmas craft. Susie Grant showed members how to make beautiful Christmas cards and Tessa guided members on creating felt Christmas tree decorations. Kate Elliot entertained with a super quiz and also stand up bingo. Members enjoyed refreshments and the raffle.

The results of the competitions were as follows - Homemade Gift tag, 1st, Maureen Brown, 2nd, Anne Hannah, 3rd, Lorraine Morton. Brooch, 1st, Lorraine Morton, 2nd, Leila Hallam, 3rd, Maureen Brown.

All members who had entered competitions at Langholm Show were congratulated and special mention was made of Tessa, Marjorie, Joan and Morag who had won trophies. Those who had contributed to the Team Test were also thanked. Nancy McLure thanked Susie and Tessa for a very enjoyable evening.



Susie Grant (r) demonstrates some Christmas crafts for the Ewes SWI ladies

Prostate cancer blood tests available to men aged 40+

Langholm Alliance launches Scotland's first community-based tests

This initiative follows the success of The Langholm Alliance Man2Man sessions held in June 2025, where local men came together to share experiences and discuss men's health issues. Feedback from these sessions highlighted the need for greater prostate cancer awareness and accessible testing, prompting the development of this new opportunity.

The first testing event will be held at Langholm Rugby Club, Milntown, Langholm (DG13 0HG) on Saturday, 1st November 2025, from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm.

Thanks to funding support, the tests will be provided free of charge, but spaces are strictly limited to 80 appointments. Booking is essential – walk-ins cannot be accepted.

Bookings can be made online via <https://tla.mypsatests.org.uk> using the event code LRC25. Support is also available through the helpline on 01926 419959 (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm).

On the day, Prostate Buddies D&G, a peer support group for

men affected by prostate cancer, will also be in attendance. They will be available to offer information, reassurance, and share lived experiences with anyone who would like to learn more.

The Graham Fulford Charitable Trust was founded in 2004 by Graham Fulford, the Trust has worked tirelessly to raise awareness of prostate cancer and provide affordable, accessible PSA testing across the UK. To date, GFCT has helped facilitate over 150,000 PSA tests, identifying thousands of men at risk and ultimately saving many lives through early diagnosis. Their mission is to make testing widely available and to encourage men aged 40+ to take proactive steps in monitoring their health.

Why This Matters

- Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men in the UK, with 1 in 8 men likely to be diagnosed in their lifetime.

- Early detection can save lives – testing helps identify risks before symptoms develop.



- This initiative brings testing directly into the community, reducing barriers to access.

A spokesperson for The Langholm Alliance said:

“The Man2Man sessions made it clear that our community wanted practical action on men's health. By working with The

Graham Fulford Trust, we've created a pioneering model for accessible, local prostate cancer testing – the first of its kind in Scotland.

With funding support, we're able to offer these tests free of charge, but places are limited, so early booking is vital.”

Call to Action

Men aged 40 and over are encouraged to register for a simple PSA blood test at the Langholm event. Appointments are limited and must be booked in advance.

Book now at:
<https://tla.mypsatests.org.uk> or scan the QR code below

(Event Code: LRC25)



Initiative's Global Good Award

Langholm Initiative has been awarded a silver Global Good award in the category 'Wild World: Recover, Regenerate, Rewild' for its work in the Tarras Valley. The Gold award in that category for 2025 went to the Inga Foundation for work in Honduras. The National Trust were also given a silver award for their work on the Homicote estate in Exmoor.

Founded ten years ago the Global Good Awards reward businesses, NGOs, charities and social enterprises of all shapes and sizes around the world, that are blazing the trail for purpose-driven sustainability and ethical leadership. They recognise leaders who are achieving practical, real-world impact that is both scalable and replicable – and who have inspiring stories to tell. The award ceremony was held in London but most organisations, including the Langholm Initiative was able to attend the event online.

Bridge results

1, Bob Francombe & George Graham, 2, George & Brenda Bullamore, 3, Nancy McLure & Anne Ferguson, 4, Tom Stothart & Jim Muir, 5, Ann Smart & Anne Hislop, 6, Lorraine Morton & Aileen Graham.

Golfing author to appear at Westerkirk Library

Last year, two gentlemen living in the north-east popped into Westerkirk Parish Library for a visit. One of them was Robin Down. It transpired that Robin had self-published two books, *Golf in the Wild* (2014) and *Golf in the Wild – Going Home* (2022). We're delighted to say that following that chance encounter Robin is coming to the library for an informal chat on Sunday 19th October 2025 at 3pm. Robin came to golf later in life and through playing at his local club, Allendale, became interested in other 9 holes golf courses. The courses he visits and writes about with great fondness are ‘..generally quiet with honest boxes and they are all in beautiful settings.’

Robin travels from Allendale up to Durness, Cape Wrath and stops at 11 golf courses along the way including Selkirk. His return journey includes Newcastleton and two 18 hole courses at Reay and Reiss that otherwise satisfy the ‘...criteria – wonderful courses in spectacular



Robin's visit to the library to test out the projector

locations, with beautifully presented and, generally empty fairways.’ Robin did say that courses did depend on the route – and a suggestion was made that there may have to be an east to west journey that includes Langholm golf course as it more than fits the criteria! But Robin's writing is so much more than a homage to interesting and unusual golf courses, some of which are struggling to survive. He ‘diverges’ into anecdotes regarding the courses, their history

and the people who have played there as well as the journey mostly undertaken in a car with a Wankel engine. Robin's love of motor racing history, his family, relationships, literature and lyrics also add to the reader's enjoyment.

Please check Robin's website www.golfinthewild.org.uk for further information and email the library westerkirkparishlibrary@gmail.com to reserve a seat for what will be a very interesting afternoon.

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Farming with Gilly Fraser

Urgent question at Agri Expo

One of the biggest and most urgent questions in agriculture is to be discussed at this year's Borderway Agri Expo.

Harrison & Hetherington have brought together a high-profile panel to debate the topic of "Hungry Land, Hungry People – Can we feed the future?"

The discussion will explore how UK agriculture can balance sustainable production with environmental stewardship.

The panel will be chaired by H&H Group Director Scott Donaldson and will include Shadow Minister for the Environment Robbie Moore; Cambridge MP Daniel Zeichner; Cumbrian-based Regenerative Farmer Nicola Rennison; Julia Aglionby, Executive Director of the Foundation for Common Land and Consultant Land Agent, and Sion Williams, Director and Farms Manager at Bowhill Farming, Buccleuch Estate.

Scott Donaldson says Borderway Agri Expo has always been about celebrating the strength, innovation, and resilience of British farming, but it's also

about tackling the tough questions that will define the industry's future.

"This discussion will bring together voices from across the sector to explore how we can feed a growing population while safeguarding the land that sustains us. It's a challenge that unites everyone with a stake in farming's future," he said.

Co-exist

Nicola Rennison will share her experience in moving from a traditional upland livestock system to a regenerative model that integrates agroforestry, mixed grazing, and free-range poultry, to show that environmental goals and productivity can co-exist.

Sion Williams will offer insight into the practical integration of environmental standards within large-scale farm management, drawing on Buccleuch's involvement with LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming).

The seminar will take place in Ring 4 at 12.30pm on Friday 31st October.

Scotland's Rural College's first international students

"Scotland (and SRUC) has a strong reputation for agricultural research and innovation"

SRUC has welcomed its first cohort of international students, coming from countries including Nepal, India, Pakistan and Nigeria.

The rural college says the milestone represents part of its commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive learning environment. Last year, it gained taught degree-awarding powers for the first time and is actively expanding its international outreach.

The college, which specialises in a range of specialisms around the natural economy, is positioning itself as a leading destination for international students seeking postgraduate programmes in sustainability-focused business disciplines, including International Food and Agriculture Business, Business Consultancy, and Project Management.

25-year-old Muhammad



Postgraduate students Muhammad Gohar Abdullah and Muhammad Najeeb

Najeeb Ali, from Pakistan has enrolled in the MSc International Food and Agriculture Business programme.

"Scotland has a strong reputation for agricultural research and innovation, and SRUC of-

fers excellent resources and expertise in this field," he said.

"What I've most enjoyed about Scotland so far is the natural beauty, friendly people, and the rich culture. I appreciate the diversity and the wel-

coming community here."

SRUC Principal and Chief Executive Professor Wayne Powell, says he's delighted to welcome the intake of 65 international students and is sure they'll enjoy their time in Scotland.

"While sustainability remains a key focus, students are drawn to our strong business-oriented curriculum, underpinned by our own consultancy operations," he said.

"We are building on our commitment to creating a diverse, inclusive learning environment, offering students from around the world the opportunity to thrive academically and culturally in Scotland."



23 acres of Galloway peatland to be restored

A new project has been set up to restore 23 acres of peatland at Loch Moan in Galloway Forest.

It's being carried out jointly by Forestry and Land Scotland and Galloway Fisheries Trust.

They say restoration will improve surrounding watercourses and fish habitat and will also benefit the wider environment.

FLS Peatland Restoration Forester George Hemstock says peatland restoration is an integral part of sustainable land management.

"This includes returning some of our forest plantation sites back to their natural state of a bog where appropriate and beneficial for nature and in the efforts to tackle climate change," he said.

"FLS is working hard to restore and protect thousands of hectares of this valuable habitat and the ecosystems it supports. But to achieve this at a landscape scale, we need to work in partnership and alongside other organisations like the Galloway Fisheries Trust.

The work will involve stump flipping and smoothing any furrows created for the planting of trees to allow water to be held within the site.

GFT Nature Restoration Project Manager Kacie Jess says a healthy peatland ecosystem supports a wide variety of highly specialised flora and fauna, providing nesting grounds for birds and habitats for amphibians, mammals, and numerous rare insects.



Loch Moan in Galloway Forest

"By removing the stumps, blocking the drains, and flattening the site, water will be held within the peat which will allow it to re-wet. This will reduce the impacts of carbon loss which increases climate resilience to the area," she said.

"Restoring the peatland will also mitigate acidification within the surrounding watercourses which benefits aquatic ecosystems including invertebrate and fish populations."

Potential catastrophe

Scottish farmers are warning of a potential catastrophe unless the UK Government rethinks a decision which will block farms from recruiting skilled overseas workers.

The policy was introduced in July and leaves dairy, pig, poultry and horticultural producers struggling to fill vital jobs.

In Dumfries and Galloway alone, more than 25 dairy farms depend on staff from other countries to keep their operations running.

Rory Christie, who runs The Dourie Farming Company and is Chair of the Milk Supplier Association, SAOS and the Association of Dairy Producer Organisations is seeking cross sector assistance to bring the situation to the attention of policy makers and to consumers who will face price rises if it continues.

"Our family has employed local people for over 70 years, and we will always look to local



labour first," he said.

"However, the reality is that with rural depopulation there are insufficient skilled or indeed unskilled local people to fill the gap. This isn't about uncontrolled migration — it's about targeted, skilled people filling essential roles to keep food on our tables. The Government is naïve if it thinks its decision won't have a huge negative effect on food security and food prices."

NFU Scotland and the Scottish Association of Meat Wholesalers

have added their voices to the call for an immigration policy that enables skilled, willing workers across agriculture and food processing.

The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) has previously acknowledged that "domestic supply is insufficient to meet demand in key sectors with sustained vacancy pressures" and that employers have "undertaken significant efforts to recruit locally and upskill, but persistent shortages remain."



The Great Grid Upgrade

Cross Border Connection

nationalgrid

We want to hear your views

Public consultation: Wednesday 15 October to Wednesday 10 December 2025

National Grid invites you to give us your views on a new project called Cross Border Connection. It is a proposal to build a new overhead line between the England-Scotland border and the Carlisle area, a new substation in the Carlisle area and a connection from the new Carlisle substation to the network.

Cross Border Connection is a joint project between National Grid and SP Energy Networks. National Grid is developing the section of the project in England and SP Energy Networks is developing the section of the project in Scotland.

The project would play an important role in building a more secure and resilient energy system by reliably transporting affordable, home-grown renewable energy from where it is generated to where it is needed.



Learn more on our website

All of the information on our proposals can be found on our project website, including access to an interactive map. Scan the QR code above for our project website.



View our consultation materials

You can read paper copies of our key consultation materials at local information points or by contacting us to request a consultation pack. All consultation materials are also available on the website.



Join an online webinar

We will be holding a series of online webinar sessions to explain our proposals. You can find out more on the project website or by contacting us.



Provide feedback on our proposals

You can provide feedback on our proposals by submitting a feedback form – either online or using a paper copy – or by sending us an email or letter.

You can also attend one of our in-person public information events. Details for these are shown below:

Venue	Time and date
Crosby-on-Eden Parish Hall, Crosby-on-Eden, Carlisle, CA6 4QN	Saturday 25 October, 11am – 4pm
Nicholforest Public Hall, Warwicksland, Penton, Carlisle, CA6 5QD	Tuesday 28 October, 2pm – 7pm
Wetheral Village Community Hall, Cumwhinton Road, Wetheral, Carlisle, CA4 8HE	Saturday 1 November, 2pm – 7pm
The Rockcliffe Centre, Rockcliffe, Carlisle, CA6 4AA	Tuesday 4 November, 2pm – 7pm
Wreay Village Hall, Wreay, CA4 0RL	Thursday 6 November, 2pm – 7pm
Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre, Arthuret Road, Longtown, Carlisle, CA6 5SJ	Saturday 8 November, 11am – 4pm

Contact us

Visit our website: nationalgrid.com/cbc

Email us: crossborderconnection@nationalgrid.com

Call us on our freephone line: 0800 358 1781 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm)

Write to us: FREEPOST NATIONAL GRID CBC

SCHOOL DAYS: From Winmarleigh to Glasgow, the kids get around

School holds business brunch to encourage apprenticeships

Work placement scheme helps students into various career paths

Langholm Academy held a business brunch last week to talk to business owners and employers about foundation apprenticeships. These are qualifications offered through schools which require a work placement.

They can be offered in a range of sectors including creative and digital media, business, food and drink, hospitality, health care and children and young people. There are two parts to the qualification – the theory part which is taught in school and the workplace part. Pupils gain qualifications which are equivalent to Highers without having to sit an exam. They can help a young person move on to further or higher education or get into work. External assessors work with both the students and em-

ployers.

Lauren Mclean, Head Teacher at Langholm Academy said pupils from the school currently do get into positive destinations once they leave school, but these apprenticeships might help them get better jobs. Two staff from the Education Department, Sarah McKnight and Campbell Wilson provided more information about foundation apprenticeships and discussed barriers to employers taking a young person. They gave some more detail and showed a couple of case studies of young people who had benefitted from gaining these qualifications.

Last year a foundation apprentice gained business and office skills with the Langholm Initiative and staff there were happy to support the pupil to gain



experience. The young person has since gone on to university to do business studies. The Initiative is expecting another young person to begin shortly on a second foundation apprenticeship. Joyce Ireland of the Langholm Initiative said: "Our young person came

for a full school day, and he was quite confident in himself. We gave him tasks, and he would report back to us on what he'd completed. He found the experience useful, and he was an asset to the team, and we are doing it again this year."

Local business people met with teachers and pupils to discuss apprenticeship opportunities



Legal studies students make a court appearance in Glasgow...

Recently, pupils from the Legal Studies class visited Glasgow High Court and Glasgow Sheriff Court with Mr Clement to gain first hand insight into how the Scottish legal system operates. During their visit, they observed a murder trial and were pho-

tographed with Thomas Ross KC, the defence advocate representing the accused. Before heading to the Sheriff Court, the group met The Honourable Lord Scott, a High Court judge, who answered pupils' questions and spoke about his distinguished legal career.

He shared that he had previously acted as the defence advocate for Nat Fraser, who was convicted twice for the murder of his wife, Arlene Fraser, whose body has never been found. He had also presided over the high-profile Isla Bryson case.

...while travel and tourism visit city too

Langholm Academy pupils studying travel and tourism pupils enjoyed a trip to Glasgow on 8th October. They started the day interviewing staff at Hays Travel about job opportunities, customer service and travel trends. They then went onto the Radisson Blu hotel on Argyle Street where staff from various departments talked the pupils through their roles and also gave a tour around the rooms and events space. The highlight was seeing the Greece National Football Team who were staying the hotel. Finally,



Winmarleigh's a winner for our Cluster kids!



Langholm and Canonbie pupils from primary seven had a trip to PGL's Winmarleigh Hall in Lancashire recently. This adventure centre offers a wide range of outdoor activities so that pupils can work in teams, gain confidence, experience new activities and have fun. Winmarleigh covers fifty acres and has a giant swing, a lake for water sports, and lots of woodland for games. The school trip was part funded by the Bowman Little Trust.

Langholm and Canonbie pupils have been visiting the outdoor centre for many years now and many former pupils will have fond memories of their visit there. At a time when it is realised that there should be much more outdoor education for pupils in Scotland, the local primary pupils are fortunate that they have this within their curriculum. The young people are accommodated in dormitories in en suite rooms that are cosy and they usually enjoy the company of each other for their time at the centre. PGL is often said to mean 'Parents Get Lost' and perhaps the young folk enjoy being away from home most of all.



New staff member

We extend a warm welcome to a new member of staff to our school: Jacqueline Little, Supply Teacher of English

Lifelong Learning

At Langholm school we encourage lifelong learning for our staff team to ensure we are continually refreshing and developing our own teaching pedagogy.

We'd like to congratulate the following staff, who have undertaken professional learning in a range of areas over the last year: **Adam Barker**, Standard for Headship.

School holiday dates 2025/26

Monday 13th October –
Friday 24th October
Monday 22nd December –
Monday 5th January 2026
Thursday 19th February –
Friday 20th February
Monday 30th March –
Friday 10th April
Monday 4th May
Friday 29th May
2nd July – 19th August

Hard work brings impressive results for senior pupils

Pupils in our S4, S5 and S6 performed very well in their final SQA exams with some outstanding individual results overall. We are very proud of our young people and their achievements.

Our senior pupils have worked hard across the year and this dedication and commitment to their learning was reflected in the number of SQA successes achieved across the school.

We would also like to recognise all the hard work that goes on at home and in the community to help our pupils achieve so much and wish to thank you for your ongoing support. Having set ourselves such high standards, we must continue to work hard this year to build on what we have achieved, ensuring that every child and young person achieves their full potential.



...Liddesdale Lineup...

By Gilly Fraser

Oxygen Conservation expands to the Lost Forest

Local landowners increase their portfolio of land in the Highlands

The company, which owns the former Blackburn and Hartsgarth farms and land near Newcastleton, has now officially taken on the so-called 'Lost Forest' at Kinrara Estate near Aviemore.

The land has been bought from BrewDog after the Scottish brewing giant's plans to regenerate the country's ancient forest on the 745-hectare estate failed to come to fruition.

The company planned to plant a million trees, but it's estimated that around quarter of a million did not survive.

Scottish Woodlands say that was down to the exceptionally dry spring of 2023 but that the site is now thriving.

That claim has been backed up by Oxygen Conservation CEO Rich Stockdale who says his company will continue BrewDog's programme.

"We were blown away by the job that had been done - far better than we expected," he said.

"No woodland creation or environmental restoration project is without its challenges. Genuinely, we were astounded about the quality to which the estate's been delivered.

"We see Kinrara as a landscape of enormous potential: a place where thriving woodlands, restored peatlands, and healthy rivers can form the foundation of one of Scotland's most ambitious ecological regeneration projects."

BrewDog CEO James Taylor says he's delighted that Oxygen Conservation will be taking Kinrara into its next chapter.

"They are experts in restoring and protecting natural capital, with an exceptional track record in delivering projects of this scale," he said.

"Their expertise, and ambition mean the woodland creation and peatland restoration already underway will continue and grow over the coming decade."



LOST INDEED: The hopes are that Oxygen Construction succeeds where Brew Dog failed.

Photo: Kinrara Estate by Richard Webb

Mother and son photography duo

Wildlife photographers will routinely sit for hours waiting to capture the perfect shot. But sometimes luck can play a major part as well.

That was certainly true for Copshaw's award-winning photographer Caroline Blackie when she spotted a fox near her home.

"The fox was just walking along the wall and must have spotted a mouse and pounced on it I managed to catch the moment when she was in midair. As soon as I took it, I was like, YES!"

Caroline's 12-year-old son Leo has clearly inherited both her love for photography and is fast developing his own skills.

He was on a mission to photograph a local boatshed which he wanted to enter in a competition run by the Holm Camera Club, when he heard the sound of a frog calling.

Eager to get the best shot, he moved the little creature out of the long grass and onto a nearby wall.



MOTHER: Pouncing Fox by Caroline Blackie

The result won him first prize in Under 16 classes in local Shows and was also Highly Commended in the Open category of the Holm Camera Club's first competition for the new 2025/2026 season.



SON: Frog by Leo Page

'Gallon Walk' in aid of Dementia Research

Copshaw folk are being asked to put their best feet forward and take part in a Fun Day sponsored walk around the village.

The event's being held on Saturday October 25th to raise funds for Dementia Research and Selkirk's Riverside Healthcare.

It's been dubbed the Gallon Walk as everyone taking part will have the chance to drink a pint on every lap at either The Trap or the Liddesdale Hotel. The walkers can choose their own liquid - lager, beer, water, juice or coffee. Food will also be available for those taking part.

And if the walking isn't enough - people can also exercise their brains with a special Treasure Hunt en route, with several prizes up for grabs.

Organisers say that as it's all happening shortly before Halloween, walkers may choose to do their bit in fancy dress.

After the walk, people can carry on the fun at the Trap

with a Quiz and dominoes and there will also be a raffle.

The village Primary School children will also be taking

part, but they're doing their walk the previous day and anyone who can't make the 25th is welcome to join them.

A FUNDAY WALK IN AID OF DEMENTIA AWARENESS

THE GALLON WALK AROUND THE HOLM

Saturday 25th October
Route Around the Holm

Start at the Lidd or the Trap and drink a pint at alternating premises each lap.

8 pints = a gallon
Any drink acceptable

Sponsorship forms available at all local shops

£5.00 entry fee with all proceeds going to Dementia UK & Riverside Healthcare, Selkirk

Organiser: Val Collins, 25 North Hemmidge Street, Newcastleton

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

W/C 20th Oct 2025

Day	What	Time	Where
Mon	Tots Textiles	10-12	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Quilters group	10-12	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Mending Monday	1-3	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
Tues	Langholm Holiday club	10-2	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Canonbie In Stitches	2-4	Village Hall, DG14 0UX
Wed	Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Kirkpatrick Fleming In Stitches	10-12	Victoria Hall, DG11 3AU
	Canonbie Holiday Club	10-2	Village Hall, DG14 0UX
Thurs	Eskdalemuir Holiday Club	10-11:30	Eskdalemuir Hub DG13 0QJ
	- Ages 3-7	12-3	
Fri	Langholm weekly In Stitches	1-4	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
Sat	Patchwork Hot Water Bottle	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES

Scrap Store is open Monday - Friday 10-3

Booking required, please visit CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS



Autumn Craft Fayre

Newcastleton Village Hall

Thursday 23rd to Sunday 26th October

11am to 5pm daily

Refreshments

Adults 50p accompanied Children FREE

Raffle on Saturday

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER		
Thu 16th	Artie's Singing Kettle "Halloween Show"	The Buccleuch Centre 2.30pm
	Divergence Flute, Whistles and Clarinet	Eskdalemuir Hub 7pm
Wed 15th	Hard of Hearing Group Hearing Aid Care	Langholm Day Centre 1pm-3pm
Sun 19th	Golf in the Wild with author Robin Down	Westerkirk Library 3pm
Mon 20th	Langholm Dementia Café	Langholm Day Centre 1.30pm -3.30pm
Tue 21st	Razzamataz K-Pop Workshop	Buccleuch Centre 10am - 1pm & 1.30 -4.30pm
Fri 24th	Community Land Festival Tarras Valley Ceilidh	The Eskdale Hotel 7pm - 11pm
Sat 25th	Canonbie United Parish Church Soup Kitchen & Table Top Sale	Canonbie Public Hall 11.30am - 1pm
Wed 29th	Langholm Ladies Burns Club Please NOTE change of date	The Buccleuch Centre 2.30pm
Thu 30th	Calum MacPhail Live in Concert	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Fri 31st	Hard of Hearing Group Brew and a Blether	Langholm Day Centre 10.30am - 12noon
	Langholm Old Bowling Club Presentation Night	Club Rooms 7pm

The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

- No. 2538 answers next week
- 1

In which century was Barlinnie Prison built?

2

Where were the four quarters of William Wallace sent?

3

Which Scot found the source of the Blue Nile?

4

In politics, what did the initials SHRA stand for?

5

Which military unit was founded by Sir Archibald David Stirling?

6

Whom did Graeme Souness succeed as manager of Liverpool in 1991?

7

Which sporting organisation was formed in 1873?

8

Which Scottish regiment was raised by the Earl of Leven?

9

What title was General Wade given when he came to Scotland?

10

In which century were mail coaches introduced between London and Edinburgh?
- 11

What is the only English team in the Scottish football league?

12

Where is the Brig o' Doon?

13

What does 'carse' mean?

14

At which Scottish university did Prince William choose to study?

15

What are the names of Glasgow's two main railway stations?

16

What is a black house?

17

Which Borders town celebrates the Braw Lads Gathering every year?

18

Which famous racing driver grew up in the village of Duns?

19

In which churchyard is Robert Burns buried?

20

Which Scots comedian and musician played in the Humblebums?



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2537

1

Eat it (it is salted gannet)

2

Soay sheep

3

James I

4

Hallow'een

5

1974

6

700 years

7

The Countess of Mar

8

James VII

9

St Kilda

10

Kenmore, Perthshire

11

Celtic

12

The Battle of Solway Moss

13

Robert Fergusson

14

Ewan McGregor

15

John Jeffrey

16

A small, two-roomed house

17

June

18

James IV

19

Kenneth McKellar

20

A sunken German fleet

Crossword 2537

Across:

1 Skills, 4 Magnet, 9 Allegro, 10 Often, 11 Comma, 12 Sugary, 14 Perpendicular, 17 Eclair, 19 Epsom, 22 Maori, 23 Termite, 24 Saying, 25 Cyrene.

Down:

1 Seascape, 2 Islam, 3 Luggage, 5 Among, 6 Natural, 7 Tuna, 8 Considerate, 13 Premiere, 15 Rectory, 16 Clearly, 18 Alien, 20 Smile, 21 Xmas.

NEVER A CROSSWORD!

No. 2538 answers next week

Across

1

Likenesses (6)

5

Unhealthy (6)

8

South-eastern American state (7)

9

From a distance (4)

10

Explosive weapon (4)

11

Control (8)

12

Ripped (4)

13

Sum charged (3)

14

Russian news service (4)

16

One-celled organisms (8)

20

Formerly Persia (4)

21

Before long (4)

22

Forbidden by law (7)

23

Carved image (6)

24

Astute (6)

Down

2

Member of the Mob (7)

3

Farewell (7)

4

Snow sportsperson (5)

5

Glitter (7)

6

Move slowly (5)

7

Smallest (5)

13

Prolific (7)

14

Set off (7)

15

Devour (7)

17

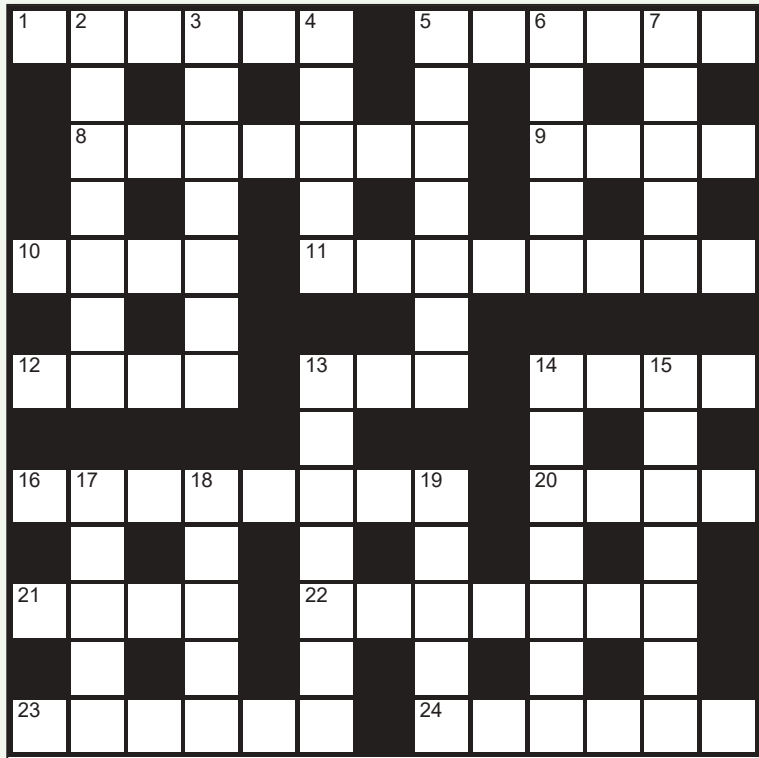
Take as one's own (5)

18

Dogma (5)

19

Collection of maps (5)





Looking back...

Lang Syne in Eskdale

...David J. Beattie Stray: Notes from an Exile's letter contd.

There may still be seen the stunted remains of the Souter Stane, which was broken up and swept away during the big flood of November 1898. From time immemorial this notable mass of whin rock at the riverside along George Street had been the gauge by which every known flood had been measured: its destruction was definitely a local sensation.

In his newsy letter, old Walter recalls the fearsome penalty contained in the Proclamation of the Langholm Fair, for all those who come "to molest this public Fair, shall be ta'en by order o' the Bailie and Toun Council, and his lugs nailed to the Tron wi' a twal'-penny nail". "I have still a recollection of the Tron" he says; "a strong oak post fixed at each side of the Cross with two cross nails at the top with cleeks, whereon hung the weighing scales; and the country people brought butter and cheese, tallow and raw hides, wool and skins of every description, and there you had justice done by the Tron weight, which ended all disputes. Jock the nailer and Rinnan Kerr were two journeymen nailers with George Graham, a respectable merchant and nail manufacturer in the town of Langholm."

As the Fair at that period was annually "cried" from the steps of he ancient Mercat Cross in the

Market Place (near the place where it has since been proclaimed from the back of a sturdy horse by our worthy townsman, John Elliot and his predecessors), the culprit who had been guilty of any Common Riding misde-meanour, paid the dual penalty of public exhibition with its attendant abuse and taunts of every passer-by, as well as the magnificent pin-prick of Jock the nailer's twal' penny nail "through the lug".

Bawbee

"At that time" says our amiable scribe "Hawick gardeners used to attend the Summer of Lamb Fair with loads of berries and creels on horses' backs. For a measure they had a little wooden keg with a false bottom and they used to cry 'Wha'll buy my cherry ripe greasels, spoutin' an' birstin'; twa fu's and a clert ower for a bawbee or Scotch ha'penny!',"

"I remember" he continues "when there was no cart in the town of Langholm, nor yet a road it could travel on save the street. The manure was all taken out to the fields on horses' back, and the peats were brought from the hills in the same way. Trail carts were used for gathering in the crops of corn and hay. The first cart that I can remember seeing was one brought from Hawick by Robin Beattie and it hardly deserved the name."



C. Elliot cries the Langholm Fair in 1910

As will have been gathered from the foregoing, Langholm at that time of which we write was still in a backward state. The cultivation of the humble potato was then in its embryonic condition. The few that were grown seemed to be of the long white kidney variety and it was only on rare occasions, such as Hallowe'en and other festive events that the native had the opportunity of indulging in so great a luxury.

Abnormal

Mention of the Souter Stane in

old Walter's letter recalls the big flood of 1898, already referred to, when the Esk rose to an abnormal height and in its fury swept away the notable landmark; this occurrence is still within the memory of the older inhabitants of Langholm. Throughout the night there had been a deluge of rain accompanied by a terrific wind, and by the time the mill workers turned out in the early morning, the swirling waters had swollen to fearsome proportions. During the night the rain registered 1.18 inches and this must have been

considerably exceeded in the upper reaches of the valley.

"Looking from the Langholm Bridge" says an eye-witness "the sight both up and down the river was magnificent in its terrible grandeur. The river Ewes was running level with the Little Kilngreen while the Esk was so big that the whole of the neck of land which usually marks the meeting of the waters was submerged. Below the bridge the river was a swiftly-running, turbulent volume of water".

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report

Thursday, 9th October 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 8,232 sheep comprising of 3,715 lambs and 4,517 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 9th October 2025.

PRIME LAMBS

A smaller show of 3,715 prime lambs forward to the same ring of competitive purchasers ensured all classes sold to vendor benefit. Albeit slightly easier on the week.

Well finished lambs were still in demand and under finished lambs are definitely better sold here on a Tuesday in the store ring which is flying.

Topping the sale was a Texel lambs consigned by M/s G Dinnie, Brigview realising 416.7ppk

Topping per head was a heavy weight Texel lambs consigned again by M/s G Dinnie, Brigview realising £200 per head.

Many more well finished lambs can be sold to vendor advantage here at Longtown where numbers are handled with ease in the most consistent market in the country.

Please do not hesitate to contact our auctioneers for further enquiries.

Overall Average 301ppk SQQ 303.8ppk

Principal Prices (Per Kilo)

Beltex – 416.7p Brigview, 400p Shethin, 395.7p Crawthat, 387p Crawthat
Texel – 360p Glenart, 350p Shethin, 335.1p Barnglies, 333p Barnglies, 331p Mansfield Cottage
Suffolk – 343p Whiteside, 328.9p

Barnglies, 325.6p Littlegill, 318p Netherthofts, 314p North House
Charollais – 343p Harley Rigg, 332p, 311p Shethin, 308.7p, 304p Swaites
Cheviot – 328.9p Evertown, 318.9p Scableugh, 316p Chapel Farm, 316p Sethorns, 313p Byers Farm
Mule – 311p Ettrickshaws, 304p Western-hopeburn, 300p Ettrickshaws, 296.2p Brownleazes, 296p Old Police House
Cheviot Mule – 302p Thornship, 300p Shethin, 296p Corriehills, 296p Southend, 295.6p Bankhead
Hampshire - 302p, 300p Newseat
Dutch Spotted – 301.8p Mossview
Romney- 296p Townhead Cottage
Kerry – 295.5p Thornship
Blackface – 295p Killipol, 295p Whiteside, 293p Wanwoodhill, 291p Scableugh, 288.4p Wanwoodhill
Mil Blue- 294p Brigview
Ryeland- 294p Steel Farm, 285p Beechwood
Lleyn – 289p Mossview
North Country Cheviot – 284.3p Shethin
Gritstone- 278p, 275p Zetland
Dorset – 277.8p Greenrigg
Border Leicester – 276p Corrow Farm
Easycare- 270.4p Stewartfield
Jacob – 255p Ellwood Croft
Swaledale- 251.4p Westerhopeburn

Principal prices (Per head)

Beltex – £200, £184 Brigview, £182 Crawthat, £178 Crawthat, £178 Kilnford Croft
Swaledale- £88 Westerhopeburn

Suffolk - £180 (x2) Mossview, £170 Wanwoodhill, £168 Townhead Cottage, £168 Hallburn
Texel - £177 Whiteside Farm, £174 Shethin, £167 Barnglies, £167 Steel Hall, (x2) £163 Roughet Hill
Cheviot Mule - £168 Townhead Cottage, £160 Thornship, £145 Townhead Cottage, £142 Pitland Hills, £141 Thornship
Dutch Spotted - £166 Mossview
Mule - £166 Auchlin, £157 Brownleazes, £153 Pitland Hills, £150 South Bogbain, £150 Brownleazes, £147 Wanwoodhill
Charollais - £156 Shethin, £151 Staffler, £151 Shethin, £150 5 Kirkandrews Moat, £146 Swaites
Hampshire - £153, £151 Newseat
Dorset -£150 Greenrigg
Mil Bue- £150 Brigview
Easycare- £146 Stewartfield
North Country Cheviot - £145 Shethin
Romney - £145 Townhead Cottage
Ryeland- £144 Steel Hall, £117 Beechwood
Cheviot - £144 Dalgare, £142 Lower Gills, £138 Kinninghall, £135 Townhead Cottage, £129 Bankhead
Border Leicester - £138 Corrow Farm
Lleyn - £134.50 South Bowerhouses, £127 Mossview, £127 South Bowerhouses
Kerry - £130 Thornship
Blackface – (x2) £129 Wanwood Hill, £124 Wanwood Hill, £124 Killipol Farm, £120 Hoscote
Gritstone- £125, £110 Zetland
Jacob - £102 Ellwood Croft

CAST EWES AND RAMS

Another substantial show of 4,517 ewes sold to the same competitive purchasers ensuring all classes were well bid for meeting another buoyant trade throughout. Numbers handled again with ease and are actively sought after on a weekly basis to satisfy demand once again.

Topping the heavy ewes sold to £320 for a pair of pure bred texel consigned by M/s J A Wilson, Bullions, Kilnpihill
Lightweight ewes sold to £148 for SCC ewes consigned from Uras.

Blackface ewes sold to £140 consigned from Cowden Burn

Rams sold to £500 for a Texel shearing ram consigned from Commonsides.

Heavy ewes

Texel - £320 Bullions Farm, £310 Mossband Hall, £295 Commonsides, £290 Bygate, £290 Mossband Hall
Charollais - £260 Harley Rigg
Suffolk - £230 Beckfoot, £215 Cambeckhill, £212 Kirkton of Kingdrolum, £205 Beckfoot
Beltex – £255 Dotland Park, £220 Woodhead, £205 Corstane, £205 Gillesbie House, £200 Corstane
North Country Cheviot - £235 Bankhead, £195 Dalmakethar, £190 Uras, £175 Commonsides, £170 Lower Gills
Cheviot Mule - £220 Uras, £192 Uras, £178 Drumreach, £160 Newseat of Tolquhon
Border Leicester - £192 Southend

Blue Leicester - £180 Morley Hill, £172 Morley Hill, £150 Beacon Rigg, £150 Crossdykes
Mule - £182 Kirkton of Kingdrolum, £180 Soilzarie, £180 Bygate, £170 Marygate, £170 Soilzarie
Zwartable - £165 Evertown, £146 Sheep Fields, £122 Stapleton Grange, £95 Sheep Fields
Half- £150 Mouldydhills, £145 Wallend Farm
Hampshire-(x2) £128 Cassington
Dorset - £122 Ellwood Croft
Romney - £128 Castletown, £118 Moss View, £116 Castletown, £84 Catletown, £50 Clyth Mains
Lleyn - £104 Lossit, £98, £90, £80 Dalmakethar, £72 Craighoyle
Wensdale- £80 Corriehills

Light ewes

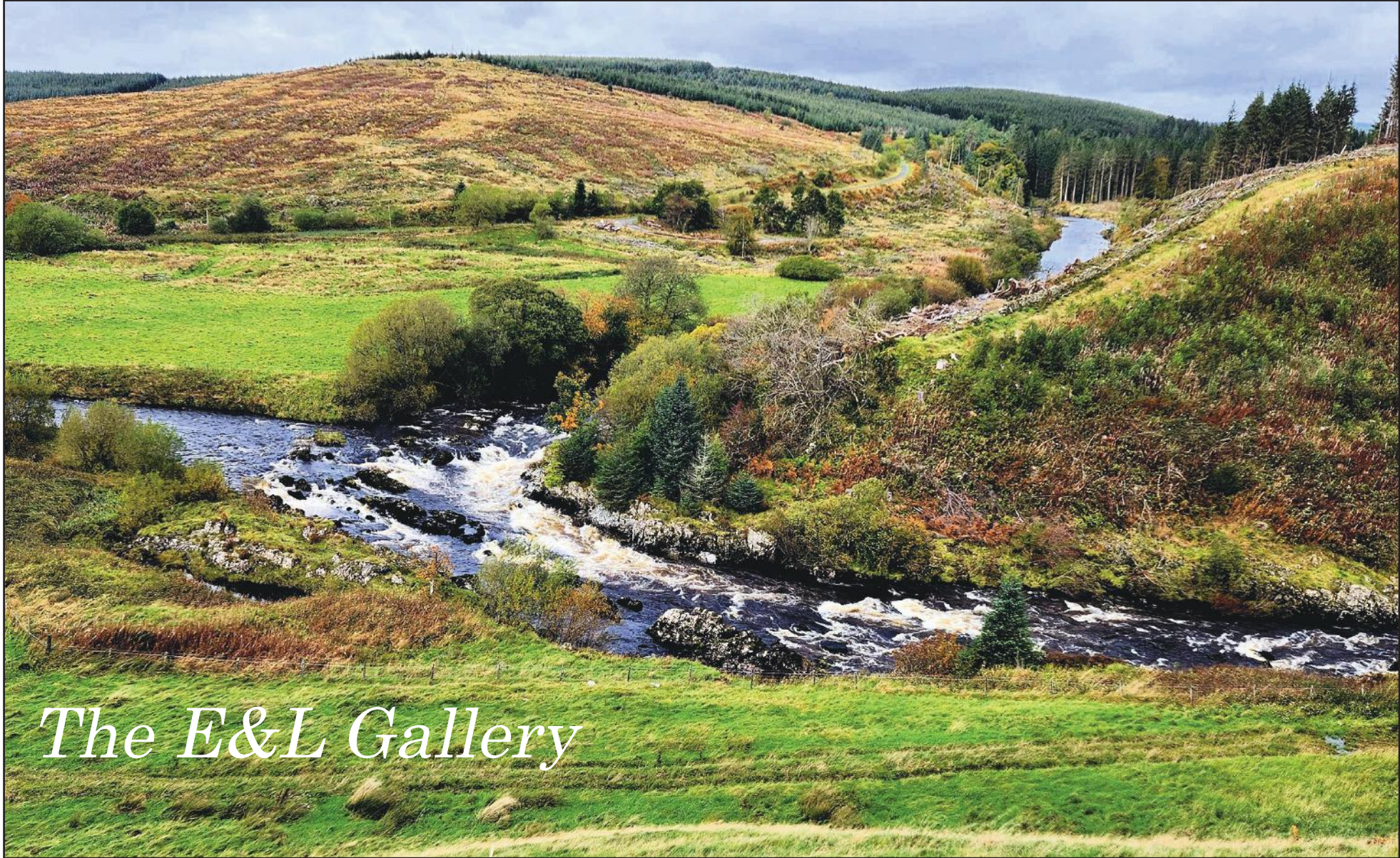
Cheviot - £148 Uras, £135 Corriehills, £126 Uras, £125 Uras, £108 Haas Side
Blackface – £140 Cowden Burn, £136 Wanwood Hill, £136 Whiteside, £136 Mouldydhills, £130 Brownleazes
Easycare - £132 Peddarhill, £110 Stewartfield, £108 Peddarhill, £102 Galleywreay, £72 Stewartfield
Kerryhill - £114 Woodhead
Swaledale - £102 Lilburn Estate, £100 Todskyehead, £88, £80 High Parkfoot, £78 Longlea
Jacob- £100, £70 Rhoin, £58 Haas side
Goat- £90, £85, £75 South Bogbain
Hebridean- £58, £48 Sandholm
Shetland - £28 Auchlin, £20 Soilzarie

Averages:

Lambs	
Light to	338p (297.22p)
Standard to	375.7p (305.5p)
Medium to	400p (303.52p)
Heavy to	416.7p (298.72p)
Overweight	340.7p (286.26p)

Ewes

Light to	£175 (£83.18)
Heavy to	£320 (£137.47)
Rams to	£500 (£159.09)



The E&L Gallery

WHERE TWO ESKS MEET: The King Pool in Eskdalemuir. Photo by Mairi Telford Jammeh

Camera: Samsung Galaxy S22 phone

The Laverock Rhymers Airports

The gateway to a far-off land
The door to the holiday we'd planned
A magic place that carries us away
To El Dorado within the day.

That's the vision that spurs us on
Even if the plane is still in Bayonne
Even if the crowds are treacle dense
And the regulations don't make sense.

We find the terminal to dump our bags
The queue is long with many zig zags
We trudge on, contemplating our fate
Worried our luggage will be overweight.

Then to the security area we trek
First comes the x-ray check
Put our chattels in a plastic tray
And watch them all being whisked away.

Hopping about without belt or shoes
Not the start we would choose
But we get it together, just about
And remember our coat on the way out.

After border control we'll be through
Then we encounter another queue
A stern man looks us up and down
And scans our passports with a frown.

That's it. We can sit down and relax
But we're ushered past shops free of tax
Luring us to buy an expensive perfume
Or something we didn't wish to consume.

Time rushes by, we mustn't be late
We'd better make our way to the gate
For Ryanair, it's at the end of the lane
We arrive and they're still unloading the plane.

A mumbled announcement, what did it say?
I think it means there'll be a delay
Departure time comes around
Unfortunately, we're still on the ground.

Our spirits rise as boardings commence
Is it real or just a pretence
We stand on the runway no movement ahead
Should we have gone to Devon instead?

But finally, we've reached our place
The pilot says "we're in a race
To make it to the next take-off slot
Fingers crossed but it's all we've got".

The engines roar, we feel elated
As the seven- three - seven accelerated
This is it, oh what fun
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PLANNING

(B7068 CAROLINE STREET) (TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER) NO.4 ORDER 2025

The Council has made an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to temporarily close B7068 near Blochburnfoot, Caroline Street, Langholm from 0930 to 1530 on 27/10/25. The closure is necessary to facilitate BT pole replacement. Alternative route available via B7068, A7, B6357, B7076, B722, B7068 and vice versa. Emergency access will be available if required. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

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 30/10/25 (Type A).

**Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 as amended
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)
(Scotland) Regulations 2013, Reg 20(1) (A)**

Ref No/Type Address/Proposal
25/1666/FUL (A) Irvine House, Canonbie - Change of Use of land to form Holiday Park incorporating 143 no. Lodges, alteration and Change of Use of Lodge to form staff accommodation and housekeeping and maintenance areas, alteration, extensions including formation of raised terrace and Change of Use of dwellinghouse to form Welcome Centre and guest accommodation with associated areas including guest areas, offices and shop, erection of laundry store, formation of landscaping, internal roads and parking areas, alterations to existing vehicular accesses onto U2a public road, installation of sewage treatment plants and pumping stations and associated works

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Teamwork, attitude and sportsmanship

School Rugby



Over the last two weeks the Langholm under 14s and under 16s have been in action, showing brilliant teamwork and determination.

The under 14s travelled to Annan and battled hard for a narrow, well-earned win with tries from Luke, Evan, Rudy, Jack and Darragh and conversions from David. The under 16s hosted Lockerbie and Annan at Milntown narrowly losing to Lockerbie. Annan was a big physical side. Tries came from Murray, Sam, Riley, Owen and Frederick. Huge thanks to Annan

and Lockerbie rugby clubs, Colin Dirom, Aidan Wilson, Mark Goodfellow, Ross Hislop and everyone at Langholm rugby club for their support. Special mention to Nicole Jancey for leading school training sessions this term for the secondary boys and girls and the primary school.

This was much appreciated by both the school and club. It was a fantastic effort from all the players – great teamwork, attitude and sportsmanship. Keep an eye out for new after school sessions following the October holidays.

Gordon brothers gaffe

Last week the E&L reported on Langholm Rugby Club's 59-12 win against Portobello at Milntown.

In that story it was reported that Jay Gordon scored a hat-trick for the home side but the headline states that it was his brother, Kerr, that scored the three tries. Apologies.

Auld folk are easy confused!



Jay Gordon was the hat-trick scorer for LRFC, not his brother Kerr!

Derek Johnson breaks Langholm Legion appearance record with 536 appearances for the club

Football

Last weekend, Derek Johnson made history by surpassing Martin Thomlinson's record of 535 appearances for Langholm Legion Football Club. With 536 games under his belt, Derek becomes one of only two players to reach over 500 appearances—a testament to his dedication and talent since debuting in 1999.

To celebrate this milestone, we caught up with the veteran goalkeeper for a quick Q&A.

Favourite Memory?
"I'll cheat and pick two! First, our Division B title win at Eyemouth in 2015—tough game, but we turned it around. Second, winning the cup last season after coming out of retirement. I thought those days were behind me!"

Best Manager Advice?
"Alastair Henderson at youth level always pushed me to be vocal and organised. He later managed the team and kept drilling that into me. I've definitely taken it on board—maybe too much!"

Ultimate Legion Player?

"Hard to choose, but here goes:

- Martin Thomlinson: a fearless defender and leader.
- Lee Irving: dominant midfielder with brains and brawn.



CONSISTENT: Goalie Derek Johnson celebrated playing 536 games for Langholm Legion

- Brian 'Bazil Brush' Mattinson: unstoppable striker with insane finishing.
- Stephen Lamb: versatile, clever, and a true warrior."

Must-Have Kit?

"Goalie gloves—obviously!"

Biggest Change in Border AFA?
"Fewer teams and leagues, which is worrying. Also, the game's less physical now."

Longevity Advice?

"I was told I'd never feel the same joy as winning with Langholm—and it's true. I've won plenty elsewhere, but nothing beats winning with your hometown club. Just keep playing while you can—you're a long time retired!"

Funniest Bus Companions?

"Alistair Little, Scott Collins, and Dan Daniel Winter—not for laughs, but to make me feel smarter!"

Will You Reach 600 Games?

"Never say never, but it's unlikely. Football's changed and so have people's priorities. I hope someone proves me wrong."

Motivation to Keep Playing?

"Helping the club and passing on wisdom to younger players. I still want to win for the town."

Advice to New Players?

"Be brave—physically and

mentally. Skills come with time, but courage is key."

Ever Consider Another Club?

"Sometimes I wish I'd tested myself at a higher level, but I love this club. I'm proud to have given nearly 26 years to Langholm Legion. There's no better feeling than winning with your mates."



24 pairs take up Roy's annual Cricket Club bowling challenge

Roy Park's Annual Langholm Cricket Club Carpet Bowling Tournament was held last Saturday with 24 pairs taking to the boards for a fun-filled evening of jumble pairs action!

Winners:

Ian Hall & Helen Shuttleworth

Runners-up:

Ryan Wood & Janie Hotson

Semi-finalists-

Aaron Wood & Robbie Gordon

John Kinstrey & Brian Jardine

A brilliant night all round - loads of laughs, great bowling, and fantastic company.

Thanks to everyone who joined in and made it such a success!



TOP TWOSOMES: Winners Ian Hall and Helen Shuttleworth, Roy Park and Runners-up Janie Hotson and Ryan Wood



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Top of the table clash for LRFC against Haddington

Rugby

By Kenneth Pool

Langholm RFC took to the road again on Saturday for East League 1 top of the table clash against leaders Haddington RFC. With both teams winning all of their first 4 league matches, the home side were just 1 point ahead due to an extra try bonus point.

In the first half, Haddington took an early lead with a try from their number 5 Aarron Thompson. Langholm struck back quickly with a Bailey Donaldson penalty. Haddington went in for their second try to make the score 10-3. A good move by the visitors saw Chris Tait crash over for an unconcerned try. With half time approaching and the score 10-8, Haddington ran in 2 quick converted tries and suddenly Langholm were 16 points behind as the half time whistle blew.

It was Langholm who were first to score in the second period from a well worked try by Jay Gordon. The difficult conversion was missed. Now back within 11 points of Haddington, the visitors tried to apply some pressure in an attempt to further narrow Haddington's lead. A good move from the forwards saw them right on the home sides try line and with Haddington appearing to transgress, Langholm felt they should have been awarded a penalty try. The ref however had other ideas and allowed play to continue. Haddington got the ball and ran the full length of the pitch to score. With the score now 31-13 it was Langholm who are now under pres-



Try-scorer Chris Tait in action against Haddington last Saturday.

sure. Haddington ran in 3 tries (2 converted) in quick succession to take the score to 50-13. With only a few minutes left Langholm threw everything at the home side. Aidan Wison took the ball and went over for a good try which Callum Jeffrey converted. With time almost up, Jay Gordon scored his second try of the match to secure a try bonus point for Langholm. Jeffrey converted and the match finished Haddington RFC 50 Langholm RFC 27.

A hard match against very tough opponents, with Langholm showing some very good attacking moves and all credit to them. They stuck in well to salvage a bonus point scoring twice in the last few minutes. Langholm drop to third in East League 1 on 20 points, 2 points behind Dunbar RFC. Haddington remain in top with 25 points.

This Saturday sees Dalkeith RFC at Milntown. Kick off 3pm

Lucy wins ultra gold

Ultra Marathon



GOLD: Langholm's Lucy Ash ran 57 miles from Glasgow to Edinburgh

Lucy Ash, daughter of runner Kirsty Ash of Langholm, took part in an ultra-marathon on Sunday running a distance of 57 miles from Glasgow to Edinburgh. Setting off at 6am she completed the course in 11 hours and claimed a gold medal. She placed 148th overall out of 530 runners and was the 21st female. This ultra is one of a number of GB Ultra

races that include the Race across Scotland. It starts from the Riverside Museum in Glasgow and passes the Falkirk Wheel and the Antonine Wall along the route. According to Kirsty, Lucy said immediately after the finish "I want to do more of these". Well done to Lucy and Kirsty for cheering her on along the way. A great achievement.

Royal Mail sponsors girls' new kit

Girls' Football

The programme was set up to allow employees to nominate sports clubs who they thought deserved to receive new sports kits funded by Royal Mail. Royal Mail stated when the programme launched that "we're thrilled to be supporting local grass-roots teams and helping young people get active in communities across the UK."

We were recently delighted to hear from parent and new committee member, Vera Robinson whose daughter plays for the Under 10 Team and, who is an employee of

the Royal Mail, that her nomination to the programme for Langholm Girls Football Club had been successful.

The club received 19 sets of full adidas strips (including one goalkeeper), 19 adidas training tops, and a kitbag to carry them in. Many thanks to Vera for the nomination, Royal Mail for donating the strips, and 3Q Sports for their help supplying them.

Pictured here unveiling the new kit is Elsie, Lexi, Vera, and Goalkeeper, Freya.



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