

**Bandstand  
no more!**

**Few tears shed over loss  
of Kilngreen edifice** SEE PAGE 4



**Halloween and  
Langholm's Big Bang  
preview**

SEE CENTRE PAGES



# Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Series 2 No. 8616

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## BT phone changes will seriously hinder emergency communication

Recent incident faced in Eskdalemuir could have acute repercussions in our many rural communities

The Eskdalemuir resilience group is concerned about communication with local people if there is an emergency such as a storm that knocks out the electricity for days. BT are removing copper wiring for phone communication and if there is no electricity or no Wi-Fi for days at a time the community will be unable to communicate.

If there is a serious emergency where someone requires an ambulance or other service people will be unable to call them out. In remote environments people sometimes use satellite phones but the price of these is prohibitive. Nobody seems to be able to answer the questions that community members have on this. They are hoping to raise it with local politicians and talk to other very rural communities to find out what plans they have in place.

Lara Porter development officer who is part of the resilience group said

"We have a resilience group, and it has become very apparent that our community is going to be extremely vulnerable during power outages due to the changes to VOIP and the move away from copper phone lines. Although BT is providing 24hr batteries to some people, this is not done for everyone. We have had to



A recent crisis in Eskdalemuir highlighted the problems with relying solely on digital communications

Photo by Peter McDermott

support an older member of our community set up her phone and batteries. 24 hours is not long enough, especially to run Wi-Fi and a phone.

"Eskdalemuir is not unique. This is going to be an issue all over the country and will affect the rural communities the most. In the past power outages, we did not just lose our electricity, we lost our phone, our Wi-Fi and we do not have mobile reception in our building, in the middle of Eskdalemuir. To compound issues, the mast was unable to get diesel, and the mobile mast became useless for the wider community who can normally get mobile. This

issue is making a fairly resilient community which has put effort into coordinating efforts and upgrading our building into a very vulnerable one in times of severe weather and power outages. We as a community organisation want to improve this.

### No access to medicines

"We have had an incident when a person having a heart attack had to wait for an ambulance as it got lost, due to the sat-nav not working.

Then the ambulance staff could not access the correct medicines due to them being locked in a case. They have to call a doctor to access this,

and they had no mobile reception. They used a local person's phone to call for the meds and the air ambulance.

In the last two years we've had to call for an ambulance 3 times one of which was during a power outage, and we still had a copper wire to one phone line, which has now gone. We have around 125 houses in Eskdalemuir Parish, and if each one were to be given a battery to ensure they had at least 3 to 4 days access to emergency services in a power outage it would cost £37,500. We feel that this is a very important problem that needs urgent attention prior to this winter."

### INSIDE



## Autumn gardening with Helen Knowles

**O**ur monthly gardening column, by guru Helen Knowles, tells us that even though the clocks are about to change, there is still lots to do in the garden.

See page 11

# Family Announcements

## Thanks for Sympathy

### FAWKES, John (Jock)

Peacefully on 9th October at Westfield Care Home age 87. Loving Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. The family would like to thank the staff at the Thomas Hope and Westfield Care Home and also thanks to family and friends for their kind words and messages.

A graveside service will take place on Thursday 30th October at Langholm Cemetery at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if desired will go to Friends of the Thomas Hope.

Refreshments will be served in the Langholm Masonic Hall. All friends and family warmly invited.

### MacDONALD, John

Suddenly at home in the presence of his family on the 7th October. Much loved husband of Barbara loved Dad of Sandra, Steve, Valerie and father-in-law of Una. Loving Grandad and Great Grandad.

A graveside service will be held at Canonbie Churchyard on Monday 27th October at 11am. All friends and family are respectfully invited. Family flowers only. Refreshments thereafter at Crosskeys Hotel.

## Funeral Services

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## Birthday Thanks

**Caroline Murray**  
and family  
would like to thank everyone who  
donated to the Bowel and Ovarian  
Cancer charities  
at her 90th birthday party  
on 18th of this month.  
The amount raised was £400.

## Church Notices

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

Welcome to worship  
Sunday 26th October  
We welcome

Probationary Minister,  
Andrew Johnstone, to  
lead at: -  
**NEWCASTLETON**  
11am  
**CANONBIE 9:30am**

Worship Group led ser-  
vices: -  
**LANGHOLM 10am**  
Contact us for transport  
to Langholm service  
Tel. 07989168299

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

Rev Morag Crossan  
Tel: 07861 736071  
or email  
mrossan@  
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

## Hallpath flooding petition

A petition and letter from the residents of Hallpath and Townfoot has been sent to Dumfries and Galloway Council's Chief Executive about the recent flooding event. The petition requests an urgent on-site meeting with Council officers to address the seriousness of the issue. The flood during Stormy Amy overwhelmed a blocked storm drain and was allegedly made worse by the lack of maintenance to road drains on Hallpath.

We reported the flooding that occurred a couple of weeks ago in the paper showing photos of the impact it had on the A7 with a team from BEAR Scotland having to clear blocked drains. A resident was able to partially clear the blocked storm drain. One of the nearby residents was very concerned that a serious road accident could have occurred with fatal consequences as a



result of the flooding.

The letter has also been sent to the Council's Director of Economy and Infrastructure and has been signed by local people as well as the Chair of the Langholm, Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council. It is fully supported by Councillors Male and Dryburgh. We'll continue to follow up the situation and the outcome in future editions of the Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser.

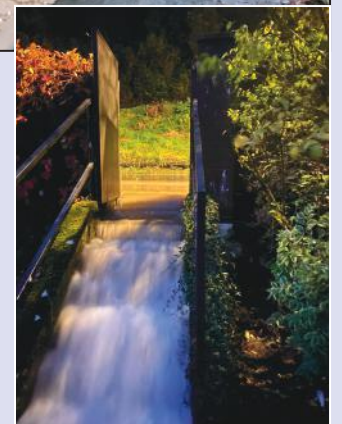


Photo evidence of the flood caused by Storm Amy

# Town bus times meeting



The Chair of Langholm, Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council, Stuart Clement along with Councillor Denis Male are meeting with a representative of SWestrans today along with someone from Telfords Coaches and Andersons of Langholm. They will be

discussing improvements to the timing of town bus services in Langholm. In particular they will be focusing on how to enhance connections and scheduling between Meikleholmside and Holmwood and the south end of the town including the Co-op.

## Border Buses X95

### New Timetable from 20th October

#### Langholm – Carlisle (the Courts)

Monday to Friday	Saturday	Sunday
07.10	07.10	----
09.10	09.10	10.33
11.40	11.40	----
13.40	13.40	13.33
15.40	15.40	----
17.40	17.40	16.33

#### Carlisle – Langholm

Monday to Friday	Saturday	Sunday
08.07	08.07	----
10.07	10.07	11.32
12.37	12.37	----
14.37	14.37	14.32
16.37	16.37	----
18.37	18.37	17.32

# Council consults on its budget for 2026/27



Dumfries and Galloway Council is facing difficult financial choices in the years ahead. Rising costs and increasing demand for services mean every pound must stretch further, while funding isn't keeping pace.

Their budget consultation 26/27 is now live – giving everyone across Dumfries and Galloway the opportunity to explore the challenge and share views before councillors set the budget in February 2026. People can take part in several ways:

- Complete the Budget Consultation survey – open now until Sunday 23 November.

- Try the Budget Challenge simulator – an interactive tool that shows how savings and income generation might help balance the council's budget.

- Join a Community Conversation – local drop-in sessions across all 12 Council wards in the coming weeks.

Every view helps councillors understand what matters most to the people and communities of Dumfries and Galloway before decisions are made at the meeting of Full Council in late February 2026. To take part follow the link below:

<https://dumfriesandgalloway.gov.uk/budgetconsultation>

# DECBG launches review of its funding activities

Many local organisations have benefitted

A local charity which distributes windfarm community benefit funds across Eskdale and south Annandale has just launched its first review report. Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group (DECBG) has been distributing funds from Ewe Hill windfarm since 2017 and Solwaybank windfarm since 2021. The total funds distributed between 2017 and 2024 was £2.4 million.

The Southern Uplands Partnership which administers the funds on behalf of DECBG was asked to undertake a review and sent a questionnaire to previous applications and other stakeholders as well as interviewing people and carrying out desk top research.

The aim was to find out what is working well, what could be done differently, what is missing and how the process could be improved. The report can be found on the DECBG website or by requesting a copy from [decbgscio@gmail.com](mailto:decbgscio@gmail.com).

Also included in the report are six case studies on local organisations whose projects have benefitted from the funding and which outline the difference it has made to their

communities.

These include Canonbie Community Enterprise Ltd which took over the management of the village shop and post office in July, the Xcel youth trust which created an outdoor space and the Langholm Initiative which investigated how to make one of their properties as energy efficient as possible. DECBG would like to thank everyone who took time to participate in the review as well as their trustees, the Solwaybank panel, and the fund donors.

The findings from the review will help improve the processes for the future.



CANONBIE  
COMMUNITY  
ENTERPRISE



## Spring forward Fall back

CHANGE  
YOUR  
CLOCKS



The clocks change at 2am on Sunday 26th – they 'fall' back one hour

It officially marks the end of British Summer Time bringing darker evenings. However, we do get an extra hour in bed!

## Canonbie Over 60s

Canonbie Over 60s Club has just started their season of weekly lunch clubs and have some other exciting things going on. The club received grant funding that is paying for a new cooker to be installed in the village hall. A second grant has been awarded towards expanding the services the club provides and they're busy organising those. They're starting with a fortnightly mini bus into Langholm to the Kate's Kitchen pop up and are also planning some monthly events in the village.

# Mark Hallam presents Mountain Adventures



Local Rotarian/adventurer's talk will raise funds for Buccleuch Centre

At 7.30pm on Wednesday 12th November Mark Hallam will be presenting alpine journeys on foot, crampons, paraglider, via ferrata, skis - and music. Organised through Langholm Rotary, all proceeds will be going to the Langholm's show-piece Buccleuch Centre, which warms the heart and soul of the region as well as the local community. Cost is £10 on door or via [buccleuchcentre.com](http://buccleuchcentre.com)

Through slides and some short slide sequences set to alpine music, the first half starts in Bernese Oberland of Switzerland Then follows three easier mountain climbs in the heavenly setting of Oeschinensee, before taking the audience south to harder and higher ascents around Zermatt, including of the famous Matterhorn. Then the difficult traverse of Täschhorn and Dom, and finishing with the three day 'Traverse of the Gods' across Monte Rosa, the second highest mountain in

The Alps. Fitted in around these alpine ascents comes a paraglider descent, a winter ski mountaineering ascent, with a brief look at the largest interconnected ski area in the world, and a tour of easy to difficult via ferrata climbs. This starts with 'traditional' in the Italian Dolomites, before moving southwest across the Alps to modern day 'sport' via ferratas including a surprisingly easy route on the edge of infamous Eiger north face and much harder one, with scary overhangs, back in the Oeschinensee area, nearby.

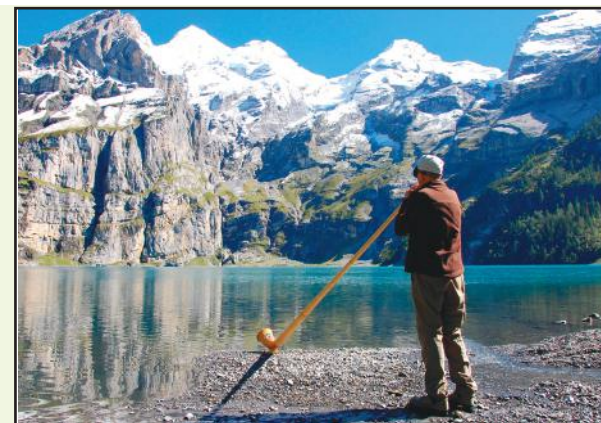
### Mont Blanc

The second half features a 30 year exploration of Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in the Alps. This will include several routes of ascent of varying difficulty, combined with some illustration of the dangers including high altitude and cold, rock-falls in infamous Grande Couloir and avalanches with tragic consequences. A main highlight will

be around a traverse of the mountain from Italy into France, including a night spent on the summit, with objectives to observe sunset and sunrise from the highest place in Europe. The arrival of a thunderstorm and two terrifyingly close lightning strikes put paid to the former. Nevertheless the second objective was achieved and the somewhat contrasting experience of perfect high altitude sunrise will be shared through another slide sequence of beautiful vistas set to a fitting musical 'Benediction'. Other features will include a brief exploration of the world famous Valley Blanche ski descent plus a challenging paraglider flight from a neighbouring peak.

With the show being an exploration of Alpine music as well as adventure, it will start and finish to the sweet tones of the Swiss Alphorn, including a bit of audio-visual heaven actually donated for the show by Lisa Stoll, one of Switzerland's top Alphorn

Players. More will be said about this in a subsequent piece to be featured in next week's E&L, just two weeks before the show.



## Letters to the Editor

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

### Christmas Lights Shop dates

Once again, I am planning to open the Christmas Lights Shop this year.

Unfortunately, the Old Post Office is booked by someone else from the 28th of November until the 8th of December.

I am hoping to open the Christmas Lights Shop on the 11th of November until the 21st of November, I know it is earlier than usual, but I hope we will have the usual great support that we normally have.

Please note we will not be in the Old Post Office for the Switch On of the lights which is the 6th of December.

Betty Harkness  
Chairman

Langholm Christmas Lights Committee



President, Nicola Donald welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Christine Batey who demonstrated bead making. Some made bracelets, necklaces and spectacle cords. It was very interesting but took quite a bit of concentration. Thank you Christine for introducing so many of us to a new craft. Competitions: Edible Necklace - 1st Catherine Lithgow; 2nd Diane Hope. Costume jewellery: 1st Lynda Stagg; 2nd Liz Walters



# Bandstand gone to be but a memory

The Kilgreen bandstand has finally gone. Council staff spent Saturday dismantling it and some further work is being done to clear up the stumps. The base of the wooden frames was rotten in places. The bandstand was erected as part of a project led by American TV star Ty Pennington who led an 'extreme makeover' of the Kilgreen in 2009 which was done in seven days. The work was mostly done by local volunteers who gave of their time and materials. At the same time the playpark was upgraded with new equipment, the decking at the kiosk was done and a new accessible path on the Castleholm was created.

When Dave Baines of the production company TwOfour Productions visited Langholm in 2009 to see if it was suitable for a makeover, he was overwhelmed by the community spirit and hospitality he experienced on a wet Monday morning in March. According to Dave

"When the rain cleared and a rainbow appeared over the town, I knew we were onto something special. Bonnie Langholm, the Pipe Band, Town Band, Langholm Playcare, Dumfries and Galloway Council, the Community Council, Buccleuch Estates, the Common Riding committee and many other



organisations had representatives there to welcome me. The film footage taken on that day was sufficient to persuade the UK and US team to select Langholm, against stiff competition to receive the Ty Pennington treatment."

The bandstand was damaged by one of the recent storms and was in a precarious condition and had been surrounded by heras fencing for some time. Unfortunately, the bandstand has not been used much over the years and was probably not sited in the best position on the Kilgreen. It was designed by Dumfries and Galloway Council and could be described as a bit wonky in that its roof was of an unusual shape. Whether or not Langholm ever gets another bandstand remains to be seen.

## Scottish Veterans' Fund

A veterans' support fund is now open for applications in Scotland. The Scottish Veterans' Fund is awarded to projects that help improve the lives of veterans and their families including providing financial support, funding projects to address mental and physical health challenges and employment.

Next year the fund will, for the first time, be split into two funding streams. One will welcome bids for projects for up to three years which focus on supporting veterans and their families, and the other will prioritise small-scale, one year projects, particularly those which bring together veterans and serving communities.

Since the Scottish Government created the Fund in 2008 over 220 individual projects have been supported, receiving more than £2.8 million. This year 14 organisations across Scotland have shared £460,000 in funding.

For more information on applying to the fund see the website <https://www.gov.scot/news/scottish-veterans-fund-opens-4/>



## Please wear a poppy

Please buy a Poppy, the lady said,  
And held one out, but I shook my head.  
I stopped and watched her standing there,  
Her face was old and lined with wear,  
Beneath the scars, the years had made,  
Remained a smile that did not fade.

A boy came whistling down the street  
Bouncing along on carefree feet.  
His smile was full of joy and fun,  
"Lady" said he, can I have one.  
She pinned it on, and he turned to say  
Why do we wear a Poppy today?

The lady smiled without a flaw,  
"For all the boys who died in war.  
Because they did, we are free  
So, we wear this Poppy, you see."  
I had a boy about your size  
With golden hair and big blue eyes.

He loved to play and jump and shout  
Free as a bird, he would race about.  
The years went by, he learnt and grew,  
As, in time, you will too!  
When war broke out, he went away,  
All I could do was wait and pray.

His letters told of the awful fight,  
Which, I can see, in dreams at night.  
Tanks and bombs and cruel barbed wire,  
Bullets and mines, screams and fire.  
The fields were gone, the land all bare,  
Yet seedlings spouted from their lair.

The Poppy grew and flowered red,  
And breathed sweet perfume upon the dead.  
The soldiers saw this sight with awe  
Which gave them strength to fight the war.  
Until at last, the war was won,  
"That's why we wear a Poppy, son".

"The small boy turned as if to go,  
Thanks Lady", I'm so glad to know,  
That sure did sound an awful fight  
Was your son safe, and so alright.  
She shook her head but didn't speak  
A tear rolled down each faded cheek

I slunk away, so full of shame,  
If you were me, you'd do the same.  
Our thanks in giving is oft delayed,  
Our freedom bought and thousands paid.  
So, when you see a Poppy worn,  
Reflect upon the burden borne.  
By those who gave their very all  
When asked to answer, country's call.

So, buy a Poppy for all who died,  
And show it clearly with great pride.

## Langholm Poppy Appeal

Langholm Poppy Scotland Appeal will be launched this coming weekend until 11th November. The team will be at Wattie's Arch this Friday in the morning. They will be selling poppies in the pop-up shop on Saturday from 9am to 12pm, at the Co-op on 31st October and at the producer's market on 1st November.

We wear our Poppy with pride in Remembrance and respect of all Armed Forces who made the ultimate sacrifice in times of War. This has been the symbol for over 100 years.

We also remember those veterans who gave all in modern conflicts and those who returned with disabling injuries. Poppy Scotland supports our Scottish Armed Forces community when Governments don't or can't.

# Vets respond to adverse comments from Watchdog

**British Veterinary Association responds to competition watchdog's provisional decision and welcomes call for vet practice regulation. The British Veterinary Association (BVA), which represents more than 19,000 vets across the UK, has responded to the Competition and Markets Authority's (CMA) 'provisional decision' following its market investigation into UK veterinary services for household pets.**

The report, which was published on Wednesday 15th October 2025 was clear that 'veterinary professionals work hard, act ethically, and put animal welfare first'. It also set out 21 measures that it believes will improve 'information on prices, treatments, medicines and ownership; introduce a price cap on written prescriptions; deliver a new comprehensive price comparison website; and highlights that the current regulatory system

is not fit for purpose and must be modernised to keep pace with commercial practice and ensure pet owners are protected.'

Responding to the CMA's provisional, decision, British Veterinary Association President Dr. Rob Williams said:

## Transparency

"At first glance, there's lots of positives in the CMA's provisional decision that both vets and pet owners will welcome, including greater transparency of pricing and practice ownership; reform of the outdated regulatory framework; and support for our calls for regulation

of vet businesses. The CMA also recognises that vets and vet teams are highly professional, and 'work hard, act ethically, and put animal welfare first'. However, we do have concerns that some of the measures outlined will impact how services are delivered. In particular, we need clarity on the proposed introduction of comprehensive price lists, because how vet care is delivered is varied and complex and unless the CMA gets this right, it could end up creating greater confusion for consumers, which in turn could have a negative impact on animal welfare."



# BBC's 'Debate Night' held in Lockerbie



**Denise Smithers who lives in Langholm took part in BBC Scotland's Debate Night last week. The programme goes out weekly, live from different locations, and last week the location was Lockerbie town hall.**

Denise had to apply online to be able to take part. She also had to be vetted beforehand presumably for security issues. Stephen Jardine the presenter led the debate and last week the panel included MSPs Emma Harper SNP, Finlay Carson Scottish Conservatives, Monica Lennon Scottish Labour, Reform UK's Thomas Kerr and podcast host Sean McDonald.

Denise was keen to take part in the programme because of her interest in local and Scottish politics. There was a warm up man who was very entertaining in a Billy Connolly sort of way she said and, although there

were sound issues initially, these were fixed. Prior to the televised debate commencing there was a discussion about pupils having smart phones in schools and whether not they should be removed from them.

Topics covered in the debate included a discussion about the SNP proposal to create drop-in services to be staffed by GPs and nurses as well as the NHS in general. Immigrants were discussed and those taking part seemed well informed about numbers and there was a feeling of positivity towards them.

There was also debate about the referendum proposed by First Minister John Swinney if the SNP win a majority at the election in May. Denise enjoyed the debate and would recommend it to anyone thinking of putting their name forward in the future. The debate can still be seen on the BBC iplayer.

# Kilngreen kiosk shut

The visitor information centre at the Kilngreen kiosk has now closed for the Winter. The Langholm Initiative which runs it will be recruiting volunteers once again in the Spring.

# Bridge results

1, George & Brenda Bullamore, 2, Nancy McLure & Anne Ferguson, 3, Bob Francombe & George Graham, 4, Doreen Taylor & Aileen Graham, 5, Sandra Ritchie & Anne Hislop, 6, Ann Smart & Jim Muir.

# Bowling club thanks

Langholm new town bowling club was thrilled to receive a cheque from Langholm, Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council to enable the purchase of a new sprayer for the green. This will be a well used piece of kit and the club wishes to thank the Community Council.

# Keep an eye out for Winter heating scams

**The Scottish Government is once again warning people to be aware of payment scams related to winter heating payments. Social Security Scotland's winter heating payments helped over half a million families warm their homes last year.**

Winter Heating Payment, Child Winter Heating Payment and Pension Age Winter Heating Payment are automatic payments for almost everyone who is eligible and most people do not need to apply for these benefits.

Scam text messages are from criminals often pretending to be Social Security Scotland or another Government department. They tell people they are missing out on financial help and ask them to click a link to update their details or to apply for benefits.

Social Security Scotland will never ask for personal or financial details by text or email or ask people to reply by text or email. Information about Social Security Scotland's benefits is available on official channels, such as its website and social



The Scottish Government is once again warning people to be aware of payment scams related to winter heating payments

media accounts. People can also phone the helpline if they have questions.

## Tips to identify scam messages:

- be suspicious of messages asking you to send money or share personal information such as passwords or bank details
- scammers try to create panic by setting a time limit or saying something frightening
- stop and think before giving out information

- don't follow links in suspicious emails or download files
- check phone numbers and email addresses on the official websites
- use 'contact us' sections to access information and services

If you think you have been the victim of fraud, contact your bank immediately.

Report fraud to Police Scotland by calling 101.

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# Farming on the Border



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C & D AUCTION MARTS - LONGTOWN & DUMFRIES



Farming with Gilly Fraser

## Listen to the older folks

The huge contribution older people make to Scottish farming is being celebrated in a major new initiative by the country's foremost agricultural charity.

RSABI's Ploughing On campaign comes at a time when many older farmers say they're feeling particularly anxious about the future, not least because of the proposed Inheritance Tax changes.

It will run throughout the winter, a season which RSABI CEO Carol McLaren says can be really difficult for older people.

"Agriculture can be a lonely business at any age, but those in their more senior years can be particularly vulnerable to the impact of isolation especially during the winter months," she said.

"So, over the coming months we'll be celebrating the more senior people in our community and all they have contributed over the years. We'll be sharing memories and encouraging friendships to rekindle and new friendships to be forged among our senior farming folk."



The initiative will call for volunteers to work with RSABI throughout Scotland to arrange festive lunches for senior people, with a view to developing a network of Plough On groups across the country.

RSABI will also be releasing a series of videos highlighting the contributions made by farming folk who have dedicated their lives to working on the land and are sharing their love of farming to inspire and encourage younger people.

There will also be an opportunity to nominate senior people to receive an official certificate from RSABI to recognise and acknowledge those who have given exceptional contributions through long service in farming and crofting.

## Ellie forges impressive likeness of prizewinner

Graiggoch Rambo immortalised in steel for posterity

A bull who broke all records when he went under the hammer at a special breeds sale in Carlisle three years ago has been immortalised as a stunning piece of art.

The Limousin bull Graiggoch Rambo sold for a phenomenal 180,000 guineas and inspired Cumbrian sculptor Ellie Barden to capture his likeness for posterity.

The sculpture will grace the new roundabout at Brisco at the start of the new Carlisle Southern Link Road.

Ellie first spotted the magnificent animal at Whinfellpark, near Penrith, on her daily drive to her Grace Forge at Brougham Hall, near Penrith.

When she was commissioned to craft two new sculptures for Cumberland Council, she had no hesitation in choosing the bull as one of them.

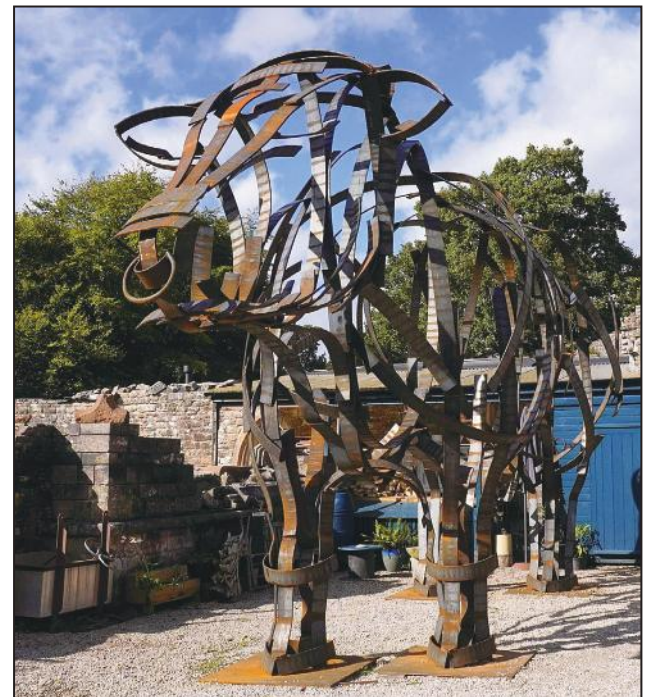
The completed work stands five metres high and in time the steel will weather to an orange tone, like the Limousin coat.

Ellie has been working as a Blacksmith and metal fabricator for over eight years, in some of the UK's most prestigious metal studios.

The real-life bull is now owned by AW Jenkinson Farms' Whinfell Park, who say it's a privilege to see that one of their animals has inspired such an incredible piece of art.

"Ellie and her team have captured the power and presence of the Limousin breed beautifully," the company's spokesman said.

"We're proud that Graiggoch Rambo and the Whinfell Park herd have played a small part in bringing this magnificent sculpture to life – it's a wonderful celebration of the region's farming heritage."



Immortalised forever – Graiggoch Rambo

Photo by A.W. Jenkinson

## Iron deficiency leads to tiredness and low energy

Almost half of Scottish women say they're not confident that their regular diet provides them with enough iron to ensure their energy levels and overall good health.

That's the finding of a new survey commissioned by Make It Scotch, the ambassador programme launched by Quality Meat Scotland earlier this year.

The average intake of red meat in Scotland is now below the daily 70g limit set by government experts and women have been shown to eat significantly less than men.

In the survey, 93% of women said they recognised tiredness and low energy as key signs of iron deficiency but were less familiar with some of the other possible symptoms such as shortness of breath, headaches and brain fog.

### Oxygen

The campaign is out to raise awareness that iron enables the body to release energy from food, supports the production of red blood cells that transport oxygen around the body, and helps keep the immune system functioning effectively.

Scotch Beef is a rich natural source of iron which the researchers say is more easily absorbed by the body than iron from plant sources.

Scottish swimming star Lili Mundell says she



80% of Scots are unaware that they need an equivalent of 2kg of broccoli daily to meet their iron needs

Photo by Pexels

knows about the importance of iron in the diet from personal experience.

"This campaign is about showing that small changes to your diet can have a big impact on your energy and performance," she said.

"Every young girl and woman should have the vitality to enjoy the things they love - whether that's chasing a personal best time or making it through a busy training session with a smile."

## Fire strategy needed

Scotland needs a country-wide Integrated Fire Management Strategy to protect rare species and habitats.

That's the call being made by Scottish Land & Estates which says wildfires are becoming more common in Scotland.

SLE Director of Moorland Ross Ewing, says the fires pose a significant risk to rare native species and nationally important habitats.

"It is important to acknowledge that firefighters, gamekeepers and other rural workers put their own safety on the line by tackling these vast blazes," he said.

"Given the size and scale of the private-sector response to recent wildfires, it is vital that the views of estates, gamekeepers and land managers are taken into account as Ministers consider how to combat the growing threat of wildfire."

"An Integrated Fire Management Strategy for the whole of



Photo by Anne Burgess, CC BY-SA 2.0

Scotland should be the priority, with a clear focus on risk reduction, readiness and response."

SLE has made a series of recommendations to Ministers. This includes investment in a bespoke or retained Scottish Fire & Rescue Service aerial capability and enhanced authority for commanders to mobilise private helicopter assets.

The group also wants to see provision of bespoke all-terrain

vehicles for the SFRS, with suppression and containment capabilities.

"We are on the cusp of a decisive change in our approach to wildfire preparedness and response. A strategy for fire management will help better protect landscapes, nature, property and communities and will put Scotland among a growing list of countries who are working hard to confront the growing risk posed by wildfire."

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

## Contact us

Visit our website: [nationalgrid.com/cbc](https://nationalgrid.com/cbc)

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

Email us: [crossborderconnection@nationalgrid.com](mailto:crossborderconnection@nationalgrid.com)

Write to us: FREEPOST NATIONAL GRID CBC

# Halloween first and then **The BIG Bang!**

Of ghoulies and ghosties, full is this town!

**H**alloween is coming round once again, and some local parties are being organised. Langholm Social Club's Halloween party is on Sunday 25th October at 2pm with prizes for best fancy dress, games and a tuck shop. It costs £3 per child.

**E**wes Hall is holding a spooktacular Halloween party on Friday 31st at 4pm and it costs £2 per child and adults are welcome to make a wee donation to hall funds.

**L**ook out for spooks and ghouls out guising on Halloween itself. It's great to see this tradition still being carried out locally although nobody has turnip lanterns these days as pumpkins are a lot easier to carve.

**O**n 30th October at 7.30pm there's to be a celebration of Samhain at Eskdalemuir Hub with drumming, stories and poems led by Helen Towers. Samhain is one of the four seasonal Gaelic festivals traditionally celebrated on 1st November. It marks the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter or the darker part of the year.

**T**he Buck is having a Halloween themed DJ night on Saturday 1st November with Living Deckheadz for those adults looking for a creepy night out. Entry is free.

**I**n Canonbie the community enterprise group has organised a Halloween party at the Cross Keys which starts at 5.30pm with prizes for fancy dress and decorated pumpkins. Tickets cost £1 per child and can be bought from the post office shop.

**B**illy Young will be holding more of his Muckle Toon Ghostly walks on Friday 31st and Saturday 1st November. These are guided tours around the sinister and spooky sites and buildings of the Muckle Toon and all proceeds go to charity. please book at The Paper Shop or by emailing: [billyyoung58@gmail.com](mailto:billyyoung58@gmail.com)



**G**ilnockie Tower is joining forces with the award winning Mostly Ghostly team on Saturday 22nd November for a night of history, mystery and ghostly encounters. At Gilnockie there might be whispers from a family and their loyal dog to stories of the eerie yin leggit ghost. There are limited places for this event so booking is essential via the website. <https://gilnockie.co.uk>



Thousands expected at fireworks spectacular



**F**olks are really looking forward to Langholm's Big Bang, the best firework display in the region. It takes place on Sunday 2nd November with a parade led off by Langholm Pipe Band at 6pm starting from the Town Hall.

On arrival at the Kilngreen the bonfire will be lit which this year will include a generous donation of wood from James Jones. There will be catering by Claire Johnstone, the Pizza Wagon, and a crêpe bar as well from Eskdale Pony Club who are raising funds.

There will be buckets going around so please support the event with donations as costs to stage the event rise annually. The event is supported by Ashleybank Investments.

Everyone is hoping for a dry night to appreciate the wonderful spectacle that will be created from the Castleholm.

Photo by Veronika Zolotoverkha

...Liddesdale Lineup...

By Gilly Fraser

# St Kilda's sheep 'protected'; Langholm Moor goats 'feral'

## Scottish Government accused of "muddled thinking"

The Scottish Government has been accused of "muddled thinking" by the Newcastleton-based Wild Goat Conservation Trust and following the government's decision to rebut calls by vets for sustainable management of Soay sheep on St Kilda.

There are fears that the animals are starving but the Government insists they are wild and protected under statute.

That seems to contradict their stance on the goats which roam freely on the moors between Newcastleton and Langholm which the Government has branded as feral, non-native and invasive.

David Braithwaite, Chairman of The Wild Goat Conservation Trust says the Government needs to sort this out.

"There appears to be scant regard for the broader ecology of the islands in the face of over grazing by the non-native sheep that are now starving," he said. "Whereas we are working to better understand how the wild goats of the Langholm and Newcastleton Hills can continue to make a positive contribution to the biodiversity of this upland landscape where they have roamed for centuries."

The TWGCT points out that in 2011 the Scottish Nature Conservation Agency stated that -

"... ensuring both the survival and genetic integrity of the Langholm-Newcastleton goat as a distinct population will require recognition, protection and sympathetic



A herd of Soay Sheep, Village Bay, St Kilda

Photo by Mike Pennington

management ..." yet 14 years later this still has not happened.

### Science-based

Gail Brown, TWGCT Vice-Chair and Secretary says the goats are being culled by both Oxygen Conservation and Tarras Valley Nature Reserve. She says such uncoordinated management of the goats in this way threatens their very existence.

"We are calling for an overarching

science-based Herd Conservation Management Plan covering the full 30,000 acres of uplands," she said.

"The only way to compel landowners to cooperate in long-term sustainable herd management is to grant these important goats protected status."

The public petition [PE2151] calling for protected status is under consideration by the Scottish parliament. It has already amassed over 13,000 signatures and remains open.

## Newcastleton Craft Fayre

Christmas has begun in Copshaw. Well maybe not Christmas itself but the Craft Fayre is underway and that's the next best thing, offering as it does all manner of perfect presents and gorgeous gifts.



The Fayre is on in the Village Hall from today (Thursday 23rd) till Sunday 26th featuring stalls packed with every conceivable kind of craft.



And if the very idea of Christmas shopping makes you feel tired, the hall's Supper Room has been transformed into a very fine tearoom for the duration, offering the tastiest of homebaked goods and traybakes.

That's surely enough to make even Scrooge feel festive.



## New bistro will fill evening meal void

There are fears that Newcastleton could lose its reputation as a favourite tourist destination now that nowhere in the village is offering evening meals.

For many years people had the choice of eating at the Liddesdale Hotel, the Grapes Hotel or Copshaw Kitchen on most evenings.

However, the Liddesdale has once again seen a change in management and is not currently serving food, the Grapes is only providing meals for its residents, and although the Olive Tree Café is enormously popular, it closes at 3.30pm every day.

This is a huge blow for people staying at Lidalia Caravan Park, Riverview Holiday Park and the village B&B's who now have to travel miles to get evening meals.

Some regular visitors have said they won't be back unless the situation changes.

Fortunately, there is one bright light on the horizon. The Copshaw Kitchen which has been closed since former owners



Newcastleton's Copshaw Kitchen will re-open soon as Mollie's Café and Bistro

Robin and Linda Thompson sold it after twelve years of serving up top-class meals, will reopen its doors soon.

The business has been taken over by Mollie Turnbull, whose family also operate Spar and Legends in the village. It will be renamed as Mollie's Café and Bistro.

They released a statement in response to the local concerns. "The cafe is under a full

refurbishment and unfortunately will be closed for a while, but the good news is that the actual kitchen is just about ready, a couple of weeks hopefully and we will be able to start takeaways.

"The aim is to get that going, then as we get the refurbishment done the cafe will open first and progress to evening meals, but obviously these things take time, please bear with us."

## Contact John Lamont MP

Member of Parliament for Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk

✉ [john.lamont.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:john.lamont.mp@parliament.uk)

☎ 01450 375948

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

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

✂ @John2win

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

🌐 [johnlamont.org](http://johnlamont.org)

Sign up to my monthly e-newsletter



**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

**POLICE SCOTLAND**

Langholm .....101  
Newcastleton ..... 101

**COUNCILS**

Dumfries and Galloway Council  
.....030 3333 3000  
.....www.dumgal.gov.uk  
Fault reporting (potholes/street-lights etc.....030 3333 3000  
Langholm Town Hall/Library  
.....013873 80255  
Dumfries and Galloway bus timetables  
www.dumgal.gov.uk/timetables  
Scottish Borders Council .  
0330 100 1800  
out of hours01896 752 111  
Scottish Borders bus timetables  
.....www.scotborders.gov.uk

**UTILITIES**

Scottish Water  
.....0800 0778 778  
.....www.scottishwater.co.uk  
Scottish Power  
.....105  
.....www.scottishpower.co.uk  
Scottish Gas emergency ..  
0800 111 999  
National Rail enquiries .....  
03457 484 950  
.....www.nationalrail.co.uk  
Floodline SEPA  
.....03000 996 699  
.....www.sepa.org.uk  
BEAR Scotland (A7)  
.....0800 0281414  
.....www.bearsco.com

**POST OFFICES**

Newcastleton013873 75361  
Canonbie ...013873 71348  
Rowanburn 013873 71542

**HOSPITALS**

D&G Royal Infirmary  
.....01387 246246  
Cumberland Infirmary  
.....01228 523444  
Borders General Hospital  
01896 826000  
Thomas Hope Hospital  
.....013873 80417

**DOCTORS**

Langholm ..013873 83100  
Newcastleton013873 75100  
Canonbie ..013873 71313  
NHS24 .....111

**CHURCHES**

Langholm,Eskdalemuir Ewes and Westerkirk Parish churches  
Session Clerks  
Jackie Henderson/Aileen Cavers  
07902 718985  
Canonbie United Parish church  
Liddesdale Parish church  
Session Clerk..013873 25255

**SCHOOLS**

Langholm Primary  
.....013873 80900  
Langholm Academy  
.....013873 80418  
Newcastleton  
.....013873 75240  
Canonbie  
.....013873 71336

**CHEMISTS**

Davidson Chemist, Langholm  
.....013873 80220  
Monday to Friday  
8.45am -1pm; 2pm-5.30pm.  
Saturday 8.45am-12.30pm.  
Boots Pharmacy, Longtown  
.....01228 792859  
Monday-Friday 9am - 6pm.  
Saturday 9am-5pm.

# Clocks change but still lots to do in the garden

Autumn gardening with our resident expert, Helen Knowles of Tinnisburn

The clocks change at the weekend and bring the longer, darker evenings so for many of us gardening does come to an end at this time of year but there is still so much to do; and enjoy in our gardens at this time of year.

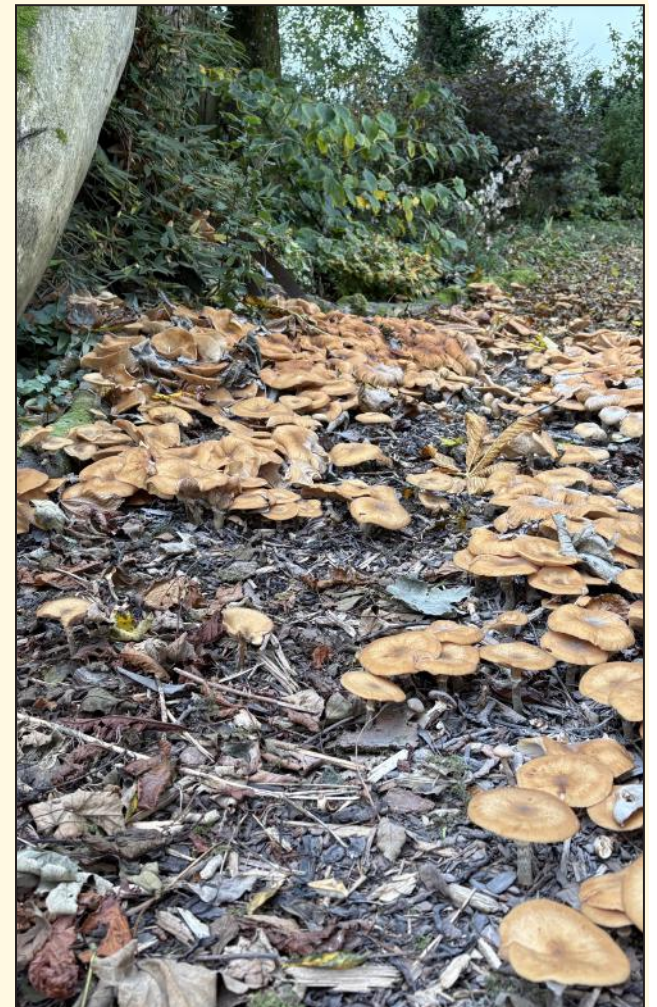
The display of Asters (now Symphyotrichum but I still struggle to spell it never mind say it) has been fabulous this autumn and the plants are still looking great, attracting bees and the last few butterflies when days are warm enough. A star performer this year has been Symphyotrichum laeve 'Calliope' with its dark stems and foliage that show off the profusion of lilac-blue flowers. Some of the Asters have a bad reputation for being very prone to powdery mildew but it's not the case with this particular species. Symphyotrichum novi-belgii (New York Aster) are most likely to suffer from mildew but this can be prevented by growing the plants in full sun, ensuring that they have plenty of moisture (add lots of organic matter to the soil and use a mulch to help retain moisture) and allow space around the clumps for air to circulate. These will ensure that that the plants stay healthy and disease free.



Acer



Symphyotrichum 'Little Carlow' (3)



Honey Fungus

**Arwen**

One disease that isn't so easy to deal with is Honey Fungus and this is the time of the year that the fruiting bodies of Armillaria mellea appear. An unfortunate legacy of Storm Arwen is the root plates of some very large trees brought down in the garden here. Hind-sight is a wonderful thing and in an ideal world those stumps, and root plates would have been removed from the garden but short of getting in some heavy machinery it just wasn't an option, so we now have a unbelievable crop of 'mushrooms' as the fungus feeds on the dying wood of those big trees and unfortunately spreads through the garden. A Ribelt's getting a little late in the season for lifting and dividing perennial plants but we're entering 'bare-root' season, and many trees and shrubs can be safely lifted and shifted to new sites in the garden if required as well as it being the time to start planting newly bought bare-root plants. (flowering currant), Cotinus (Smokebush) and Acer

have succumbed already and some more Acer palmatum are under attack. All I can do is remove the roots of the smaller trees and shrubs that are affected and hope for the best. When shrubs and trees are killed it's ok to replant the area with annuals and perennials as these aren't affected and eventually it may be possible to replant with woody plants but certainly a 'fallow' period for these is advisable.

**Resource**

There are too many jobs to do in the garden at this time of year, a good distraction from the fungus infestation. The trees have suddenly decided to drop an awful lot of leaves, and these are too good a resource to waste. If you don't have a compost heap, simply put them in black bin bags, old compost sacks or even dumpy bags. Tie the tops, punch a few holes in them and leave the contents to rot down for a year or so and you'll have the most wonderful mulch/soil

conditioner. Well-rotted leaf mould is also a great additive to compost mixes for growing on your seedlings and cuttings.

**Mulching**

Catching up with the weeding and mulching now really will give you a head start in the spring and once you start to tidy the borders at this time of year it's always surprising just how many weeds have been hiding away amongst all of that summer growth. It's getting a little late in the season for lifting and dividing perennial plants but we're entering 'bare-root' season, and many trees and shrubs can be safely lifted and shifted to new sites in the garden if required as well as it being the time to start planting newly bought bare-root plants. Roses, fruit bushes and fruit and ornamental trees are all so much cheaper when bought this way so it's well worth considering and while the bare-root season runs from November to March the sooner you get your plants in the ground the better.



Aster 'Calliope'



# Lang Syne in Eskdale

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

Looking back...

The familiar grey cap of the Souter Stane was entirely covered by the angry flood which flung its spray over the low stone wall skirting George Street. On the opposite side of the river only the stone base of the iron railings seemed to prevent the water from flooding the roadway down below Reid & Taylor's Mill.

At the Suspension Bridge, less than a couple of feet separated the footway from the seething waters and the danger of its being swept away seemed so imminent that few took the risk of crossing the bridge.

Nearby, the river Wauchope had risen so high that the arches of the stone bridge which spans it at the junction of the Esk were scarcely visible. The walled enclosure on which the Parish Church stands, was for a time completely surrounded by water, presenting a singularly unique picture of grim isolation.

Farther down the river the sight of the vicinity of the Distillery, where the mad rush of the torrent as it plunged and roared amidst the rocks of the Skippers Pool was indeed an impressive spectacle and drew hundreds of town-folk to witness the scene.

During the afternoon of the day of the big flood an incident occurred which threw the inhabitants into a flutter of excitement. A report spread through the town that the Souter Stane had gone! - and when at last the flood subsided, it was found to be only too true. The greater part of the historic stone had been shattered by

the violence of the floating debris, and the old landmark of past centuries had succumbed.

On the other side of the Esk, almost opposite to the Souter Stane, was the old "smiddy" of Robbie Anderson - Langholm's first Common Riding Cornet from the New Town. It is said that when Robbie looked out on the morning following the flood, the old man, evidently with a feeling akin to having suffered a great personal loss, went back into the "smiddy" and, sitting himself down on the anvil, wept copiously.

A pen picture of Langholm valley 150 years ago, given by the parish minister of that day, himself an "incomer" is worthy of portrayal here.

### Inspiration

Langholm Lodge, the residence of the Duke of Buccleuch, had only recently been built and, if we are to read between the lines, the writer would appear to have been enjoying an afternoon stroll along what we now know as the Lodge Walks, when he received his inspiration. After describing the handsome mansion, which he says is built of stone from



© Langholm Archives

Langholm Lodge was designed by architect James Playfair who also designed Melville Castle near Edinburgh

Langholm hill, and is greatly admired by travellers for its elegant simplicity and fine situation, standing in the midst of a delightful valley, he continues ...

"The verdant hills beautifully skirted with wood, which shelter it on the East and West, the Esk o'erhung with woods, gliding gently along, the town appearing through the intervening trees, and the hills and woods at a distance

(assuming a semi-circular form) terminate this charming landscape; a landscape of which, as containing an assemblage of rural beauty, and romantic scenery, it baffles the happiest efforts of imagination to give an adequate description. In summer the woods which extend along the banks of the Esk are vocal with the tuneful warblings of thrushes, blackbirds, linnets etc. which, together with

the cooing of the wood pigeons, form a fine chorus to regale the ear of the delighted traveller as he passes through these enchanted groves."

With this delightful glimpse into the past daydream delineating the wondrous beauties of nature, our heritage bestowed by an all-wise and unfailing Providence, we reluctantly turn to the everyday life of our honest town-folk.

## C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report Thursday, 16th 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 10,080 sheep comprising of 4,649 lambs and 5,429 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 16th October 2025.**

### PRIME LAMBS

A very mixed show of 4,649 prime lambs sold to recent rates of return with hard fed lambs in big demand and receiving a premium whilst grass fed lambs proved harder to place. Any lambs that are under finished are far better sold in the very buoyant and competitive store market held here at Longtown on a Tuesday. For all enquiries and advise on how best to market your stock, please do not hesitate to contact our auctioneers and fields personnel who will be pleased to take your calls.

Top Price per Kilo went to a single Beltex reaching 420p from Irving, Braehead.

Top Price per Head today went to a single Beltex from Roots, Kinford Croft and a single Suffolk from Cavers, Ashley Park reaching £190.

Overall Average 297.02ppk SQQ 300.83ppk

### Principal Prices (Per Kilo)

**Beltex** - 420p Braehead, 413p, 404.3p & 400p Kinford Corft  
**Texel** - 365p Lingey Field, 347.7p Corneyside, 343p Middle, 342p Corneyside, 340p Lingey Field  
**Dutch Texel** - 325p Crumhaughhill  
**Ryeland** - 321.1p New Hummerbecks

**Roussin** - 315.9p Cubbyhill  
**Lley** - 311.4p The Height  
**Dutch Spot** - 309.5p Chestnut Cottage  
**Charollais** - 307.9p River View  
**Cheviot** - 305p Borthwick Brae, 303.2p Byres

**Cross** - 305p Dalbhraddan

**Easycare** - 303p High Trehwitt  
**Suffolk** - 303p Bethesda, 303p Rowanburnfoot, 302.6p The Ha', 302.4p North Corrieland, 302p North House

**Hampshire** - 300p Corncockle

**Shetland** - 293.8p Cronklea

**Cheviot Mule** - 292p Raggatsyke, 291p Kilnford Croft

**Romney** - 292p Rammerscales

**North Country Cheviot** - 291.7p Earlisde

**Badgerface** - 291p Woodside of Chapelton

**Half-Bred** - 290p Earlisde, 286p High Moat

**Kerry Hill** - 286.7p Borthwick Brae

**Zwartble** - 285.1p South Riddingwood

**Dorset** - 284.8p Whinney Brow

**Blackface** - 282p The Crew, 281p Bankend, 280p Ulzieside

**Border Leciest** - 278.3p Arhcerbeck, 276.5p Mouldyhill

**Oxford** - 278p (x2) Guards

**Blue Texel** - 275.9p South Bogbain

**Principal prices (Per head)**

**Beltex** - £190, £186, £184 & £180 Kinford Croft

**Suffolk** - £190 & £170 Ashley Park,

£170 Jethart

**Texel** - £180 (x2) Whitehall, £177 Raggatsyke, £174 31 Larel, £174 Cressfield Hotel, £174 Woodhouse, £174 Gy-ratesmyre

**Cross** - £170 Mouldyhill, £150 Grindon Hill

**Dutch Spot** - £164 Midtown

**Blue Texel** - £160 Morison

**Cheviot** - £156 Galleywreay, £141 Jethart

**Dutch Texel** - £156 Crumhaughhill

**Cheviot Mule** - £154 West Millhills, £152 Raggatsyke

**Lley** - £152.50 & £149 The Height

**Charollais** - £151 Mison, £150 Justenlees, £146 Rowanburnfoot, £144 Howard House, £140 Basco Dykehead

**Hampshire** - £148 South Bogbain

**Half-Breed** - £146 High Moat, £142 Earlisde

**Dorset** - £142 High Crubasdale

**Border Leicester** - £141 Mouldyhill

**North Country Cheviot** - £140 Earlisde

**Roussin** - £139 Cubbyhill

**Badgerface** - £134 Woodside of Chapelton

**Zwartble** - £134 South Riddingwood

**Croft**

**Ryeland** - £132 & £127 Staffler

**Kerry Hill** - £129 Borthwick Brae

**Oxford** - £128 (X2) Guards

**Easycare** - £118 High Trehwitt

**Blackface** - £113 Muirfield House, £110 Bankend, £110 & £104 The Crew

### CAST EWES AND RAMS

Another very large show of 5,429 cast ewes and rams sold to another buoyant trade. As other centres see a reduction Longtown stands firm with customers keen for supplies and numbers handled with ease.

Heavy ewes topped at £315 for a pair of Texels from Jamieson, Woodhead

Light ewes topped at £150 for a single Cheviot from Higgs, Meikledale

Rams topped at £460 for a Texel from Bell Kinninghall with a further 5 realising over £300

**Heavy ewes**

**Texel** - £315 Woodhead, £300 Burnside, £290 Crumhaughhill, £285 Windyhill, £280 Crumhaughhill, £275 Road Side

**Suffolk** - £270 (x2), £255 Findowrie, £205 Crumhaughhill, £202 Balgreen, £200 Beckfoot, £200 Kirkton of Kingoldrum, £200 Road Side

**Beltex** - £225 Reathwaite, £210 Drumreach, £185 Woodhead

**Cross** - £192 Newton, £184 Amott, £180 Greengatehouse

**Cheviot Mule** - £182 South Field, £182 & £172 Amott

**Hampshire** - £175 Drumreach

**Romney** - £175 & £130 Marygate

**North Country Cheviot** - £172 Aucharua, £165 Ballinloan, £155 Town-foot, £155 Road Side

**Charollais** - £170 Road Side

**Blue Texel** - £168 Becton Hall, £150

North Corrieland

**Blue Leicester** - £165 2 Farnham Park

**Lley** - £140 Dalmakethar, £132 2 Farnham Park, £128 (x2) Dalmakethar

**Zwartble** - £120 Belvedere

**Light ewes**

**Cheviot** - £150 Meikledale, £130 Falnash, £120 Gillesbie, £118 Unthank, £118 Millholm, £118 St Johns Kirk

**Easycare** - £142 & £114 South Fields, £114 (x2) West Drummoddie

**Blackface** - £140 Millden Agri, £136 Laverhay, £129 Buteland, £128 Lane-head

**Goat** - £125 & £115 Cleughhead

**Swaledale** - £118 Laverhay, £108 Wydon Eals, £105 West Newlands, £102 Muirfield

**Kerry Hill** - £114 Borthwick Brae, £112 Woodhead, £110 Bowertower Mains, £110 & £104 Birsca

**Cheviot** - £110 & £100 Cleughhead Cot-tage

**Herdwick** - £110 Moss Side

**Jacob** - £96 Swaites

**Shetland** - £84 Blackriggs, £78, £69 & £66 Belvedere

**Rams**

**Texel** - £460 Kinninghall, £350, £330 & £310 Falla, £300 Road Side

**Suffolk** - £350 Falla, £250 Cambeckhill, £200 Tercrosset

**Romney** - £250 Burnside

**Dutch Spot** - £217 Hillend, £215 Midtown

North Country Cheviot - £205 Jethart

**Charollais** - £195 Birsca

**Zwartble** - £195 Midtown

**Cheviot** - £190 Wardlaw, £185 Sunhope, £165 Potholm.

**Blue Texel** - £180 Chapelton of Menmuir

**Lley** - £180 Beckfoot

**Blue Leicester** - £150 Westernhopeburn

**Blackface** - £138 Marygate

**Swaledale** - £135 Garretshiels

**Valais Blacknose** - £105 Whitehall

**Beltex** - £100 Lords Lot

### Averages:

**Lambs**

Light to 303.2p (216.55p)

Standard to 344.7p (302.47p)

Medium to 420.0p (301.52p)

Heavy to 404.3p (293.46p)

Overweight 311.1p (290.59p)

**Ewes**

Light to £170 (£79.92)

Heavy to £315 (£139.37)

Rams to £460 (£125.14)





## The E&L Gallery

The boatwire at Irvine House, captured on an Autumn day by Stan Wilson

Camera: Sony RX10

# Calum McPhail brings his popular brand of music to the Langholm Stage

**S**cottish singer, songwriter, and accordionist Calum McPhail is coming to the Buccleuch Centre on 30th October. Calum is making waves with his vibrant fusion of traditional Scottish folk and Irish music and is an exciting new presence on the Celtic live music scene.

He first made his mark at just 16 when he founded the award-winning folk band Hò-rò, touring internationally and captivating audiences with his high-energy performances. He grew up in Fort William and later moved to Inverness learning his craft from some of Scotland's best accordionists. He is part of a wedding and function band called Highland Fire Ceilidh.

Now, Calum brings to Langholm his latest theatre show alongside his talented band, fresh from the release of his acclaimed album 'High-



lands to Heartlands', featuring the fan-favourite single 'Bonnie Wee Jeannie.' In the past two years, Calum has built a loyal fanbase through sold-out performances, including standout shows at the Eden Court Theatre in Inverness and appearances at the pres-

tigious Royal Highland Show. His growing reputation has also led to support slots for some of Ireland's biggest stars, including The Tumbling Paddies, Nathan Carter, and Derek Ryan and a couple of days after Langholm he heads to play in Ireland.

*The E&L Gallery*

Send us your photographs.....  
we'd be happy to publish them

Email them to [alan@eladvertiser.co.uk](mailto:alan@eladvertiser.co.uk)  
or drop a printed copy into our office at  
47A High Street, Langholm.

Photo by: Tom Hutton

# E&L CLASSIFIEDS

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- **Sat 25th October** (74 High St)  
Langholm Poppy Appeal
- **Thu 30th October - Sat 1st November** (74 High St)  
Twice as Stylish
- **Thu 6th & Sat 8th November**  
Victoria B Creations
- **Mon 10th - Sat 15th November** (74 High St)  
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- **Mon 10th - Sat 22nd November** (Old Post Office)  
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*Eskdale & Liddesdale*  
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born in 1848 .....and still going strong!

# LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

**WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**  
**CREATION MILL** W/C 27th Oct 2025  
Connect | Inspire | Create

Day	What	Time	Where
Mon	Quilters group	10-12	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Tots Textiles	10-12	
	Mending Monday	1-3	
Tues	After School Club	4-5:30	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Langholm Evening In Stitches	6-8	
Wed	Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
Fri	Langholm weekly In Stitches	1-4	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
Sat	Langholm Producers Market	10-1	The Buccleuch Centre, DG13 0AW

**Scrap Store is open Monday - Friday 10-3**

Booking required, please visit [CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS](http://CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS)

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Contact: alan@eladvertiser.co.uk

# The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2539 answers next week

- How was Skara Brae discovered?
- In which decade was Scottish Ballet formed?
- Which king banned golf and football in 1457?
- What was a 'leister' and what was it used for?
- What is the Scottish Blackface?
- Name the Scot who made the first ascent of the southwest face of Everest.
- Which two Scottish brewing firms merged in 1931 to form Scottish Brewers?
- In which Scottish industry was the Egyptian water wheel once used?
- Why was one Scottish locomotive nicknamed 'the Diver'?
- In which area of the world of music has Ian Hamilton made his name?
- Who designed the bridge at Dunkeld?
- What invention by James Dewar has brought warmth to many a cold outing in Scotland and elsewhere?
- Which Scottish medical pioneer, knighted in 1944, won a Nobel Prize in 1945?
- Name the Scottish author of Ice Station Zebra.
- Through which mountain range does the Lairig Ghru run?
- When was the Tay Road Bridge opened?
- Where in the west of Scotland was Nobel's British Dynamite Factory located?
- Which nationalistic poet has been called 'the voice of Scotland'?
- Which eminent Scottish bacteriologist worked as a shipping clerk before taking up medicine?
- With which two famous historic characters is the song 'Over the Sea to Skye' associated?



# Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

## Quiz 2538

- The 19th century
- Newcastle, Berwick, Stirling & Perth
- James Bruce
- The Scottish Home Rule Association
- The SAS
- Kenny Dalglish
- The SFA
- The King's Own Scottish Borderers
- Commander-in-chief in Scotland
- The 18th century
- Berwick Rangers
- Ayr
- A riverside plain
- St Andrews
- Queen Street and Central Stations
- A windowless one-room thatched cottage
- Galashiels
- James (Jim) Clark
- In the graveyard of the Church of St Michael in Dumfries
- Billy Connolly

## Crossword 2538

**Across:** 1 Images, 5 Sickly, 8 Florida, 9 Afar, 10 Bomb, 11 Regulate, 12 Tore, 13 Fee, 14 TASS, 16 Bacteria, 20 Iran, 21 Soon, 22 Illegal, 23 Statue, 24 Shrewd.

**Down:** 2 Mafioso, 3 Goodbye, 4 Skier, 5 Spangle, 6 Crawl, 7 Least, 13 Fertile, 14 Trigger, 15 Swallow, 17 Adopt, 18 Tenet, 19 Atlas.

# NEVER A CROSSWORD!

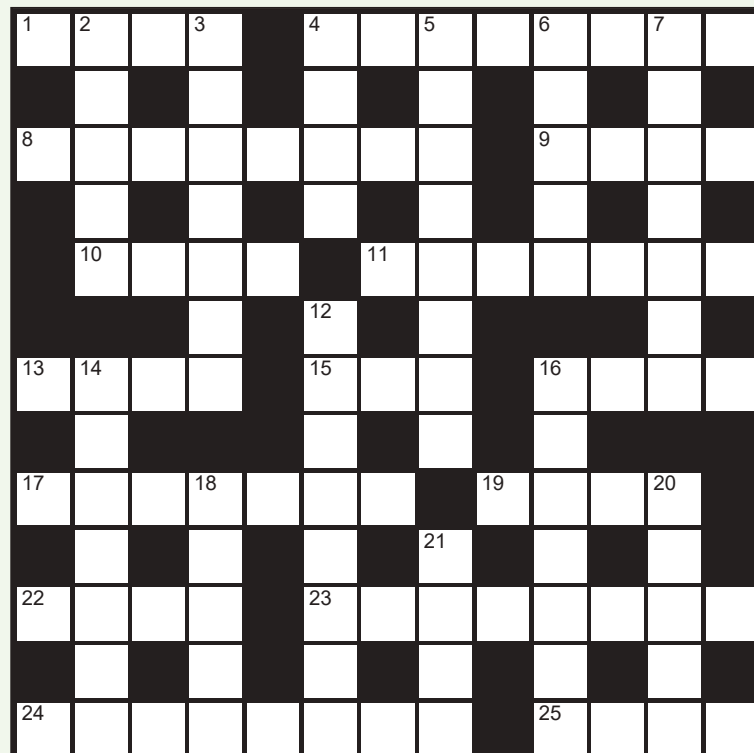
No. 2539 answers next week

### Across

- Sound of a bell (4)
- Most precipitous (8)
- Not manufactured by machine (8)
- Sailors (4)
- Parched (4)
- Nightclothes (7)
- Showing unusual talent (4)
- Tavern (3)
- At what time (4)
- Try (7)
- Junkie (4)
- Engineering qualification (1,3)
- Event (8)
- Not defeated (8)
- Christmas (4)

### Down

- D-Day beach (5)
- Opponent of new technologies (7)
- Fly (4)
- All of us (8)
- Middle Eastern bread (5)
- Superficial area (7)
- Typo (8)
- Among (7)
- Laundry time (7)
- Two under par (5)
- Pertaining to the kidneys (5)
- Scrutinize (4)



## WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

24th to 26th	Autumn Craft Fayre	Newcastleon Village Hall 11am - 4pm
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
Sun 25th	Open Mic Session Soup Kitchen & Table Top Sale	Eskdalemuir Hub 2pm - 5pm
Wed 29th	Langholm Ladies Burns Club Please NOTE change of date	The Buccleuch Centre 2.30pm
Thu 30th	Eskdale Gardening Club Trip to Barton Grange Christmas Garden	Coach departs Canonbie Hall 9.30am 07799 600042
	Canonbie Community Enterprise Halloween Party	Cross Keys Hotel 5.30pm Tickets from Post Office by 29th
	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



# One of highest scores at Milntown for many years

## Langholm team in total control over Dalkeith

### Rugby

By Kenneth Pool

Langholm RFC welcomed Dalkeith Rugby Club to Milntown on Saturday for the 6th East League 1 fixture of the season. With only 1 away defeat so far Langholm were keen to ensure that their 100% home record was maintained.

Although there were a number of changes to the Langholm team, they started with purpose and took control of the early encounters. Ellis Dirom made a good break to score the opening try. Jamie Gormley skipped in for the second try before a brace of tries from Donaldson stretched the home lead further and secured a try bonus point. Donaldson was on target converting all 4 first half tries. Dalkeith kicked 3 well taken penalties to make the score at half time 26-9.

In the second half, the home side were in total control, and the large Langholm support were treated to a veritable try fest. The backing up and support play was excellent which led to 7 second half tries being secured. Jamie Gormley scored his second try, Ellis Dirom added another 2 tries to complete his hat trick and further tries were scored by Aidan Wilson, Callum Jeffrey, Brady Wilson and Jay Gordon. Bailey kicked six of the seven conversions. Dalkeith added a consolation



Ellis Dirom on the break

Photo by Stan Wilson

try. This led to one of the highest scores seen at Milntown for a number of years, Langholm 75, Dalkeith 14.

Langholm remain in 3rd place in East League 1 on 25 points, 2 points behind joint leaders Haddington and Dunbar RFC.

This Saturday sees the squad on the road, heading for the capital to take on 4th place Murrayfield Wanderers in what is likely to be a tough match.



# Edinburgh Gin Chase Day at Kelso Races

### Horseracing



By Gordon Brown

The first and second from last year are set to clash again in Saturday's £50,000 feature race at Kelso.

Nick Alexander-trained Elvis Mail and Nicky Richards' Famous Bridge, separated by three-lengths twelve months ago, are among the entries for the Edinburgh Gin Chase (A Limited Handicap) over 3m 2f.

"We'll probably go down the same route again this season with him," Richards said. "It is likely to be a couple of nice handicap chases and then the National Trial at Haydock in February.

"It usually all falls into place and, given that he races for Hemmings Racing, it would be lovely to get him high enough up the handicap to have a crack at the Grand National. Fingers crossed that we can keep him healthy and hopefully we will have plenty of fun with him along the way."

Rivals to last year's one-two include Tom Lacey-trained Imperial Alex, who has been raised 3lbs for his win at Perth in early September, and Grozni, fourth in April's Scottish Grand National for James Owen, and now with Sandy Thomson after changing hands at the May Sales for £24,000.

Aeros Luck, like Grozni, will be making his debut for Thomson's Lambden stable after previously being with Gavin Cromwell in Ireland where his final run was August's seventh place showing at Killarney.

His owner Ray Green saw his colours come second in the corresponding Kelso race last year with Gold Des Bois.

Donald McCain has booked Theo Gillard for the mount on Whiskeywealth. Another formerly trained in Ireland, he was a close third on his first run for his new connections at Southwell just over three weeks ago.

# As season starts, try Carpet Bowling

### Carpet Bowling

By Luke Tolson

The winter sport of Carpet Bowling has seen a huge surge in popularity around Langholm over recent years.

Langholm and the surrounding area has several clubs all of which welcome new members. These include Langholm Social Club, Benty, Canonbie and Ewes.  
**Monday night** - Ewes Hall Bowling - 7:30pm start  
Benty Hall bowling - 7:30pm start



**Weds & Sat night**  
Newcastleton Bowling Club  
7:30pm start.  
**Thursday night** -  
Langholm social club  
bowling - 7:30pm start  
**Friday night** -  
Canonbie hall bowling -



# E&L SPORT

