

Langholm athletes excel at Annan club awards

SEE PAGES 8 & 9



Colin and Lewis have played 200 matches between them!

SEE PAGE 16



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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SWAG concerned report will favour developers

Action group gives us an update on the state of the hill: but is still waiting for environmental statistics

Save Warblaw Action Group (SWAG) is still waiting to see a scoping report for the Environmental Impact Assessment, which Scottish Woodlands has offered to produce for Warblaw.

Environmental lawyers Richard Buxton Solicitors, acting for SWAG, have issued a warning to Scottish Forestry that the planning assessment of the forestry proposal's environmental impact must be conducted comprehensively and not be constrained by existing narrow policy. It must look at the real potential threats to the environment and to the hydrological, ecological and carbon implications of the proposal.

SWAG quote new English policy underlining the importance of peat as "home to our most precious wildlife, storing carbon and reducing flooding downstream" and "damaged peatlands



The Save Warblaw Action Group is keeping up the pressure on all agencies

also reduce tonnes of carbon into the atmosphere each year, rather than absorbing and storing it, undermining efforts to achieve our net zero mission".

Beyond remit

The concern is that the environmental impact assessment, which will be produced by the developers, will favour the development. Scottish Forestry whose role is to support forestry must think beyond their remit to meet planting targets and look at the whole picture.

If forestry is part of the net zero plan, it must then consider the true environmental effects likely to arise from the disturbance of peat, as well of course, as the damage to biodiversity and nature.

Save Warblaw Action Group, who support Scottish Forestry's goal for 'the right tree in the right place', remains adamant that Warblaw, an ancient peat bog and moorland with 'sensitive' status, adjacent to Langholm and opposite the Tarras Valley Nature Reserve, is not the right place for more commercial forestry.

INSIDE



Firefighter Joe again raises thousands

Popular local butcher and firefighter, Joe Kirkup has once again put himself through a huge physical challenge to ensure that ALL local children have a present to open on Christmas Day.

See centre pages



Family Announcements

Deaths

GRIEVE, Elaine

It is with deep sadness we announce that Elaine Grieve, aged 65 passed away peacefully at the DGRI with her family by her side on Saturday 15th November 2025.

Elaine was a much-loved Mum to Michelle, an amazing Sister to Janice, Ronnie, Chip, Tiger and Allan and a fantastic Auntie to Lauren, Nicola, Steven and many other nieces and nephews.

She was a dear friend to many and will be sadly missed by everyone who knew her.

Elaine will leave from her home on Henry Street at 11.40am on Tuesday 2nd December 2025 for a graveside funeral service at Langholm cemetery at 12 noon followed by a tea in the Buck Hotel, Langholm. Family flowers only and donations, if you so wish, can be made to the Critical Assessment Unit at the DGRI.

Please dress warm and cosy.

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



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Church Notices

ESKDALE & LIDDESDALE PARISH
linked with
CANONBIE United Parish Church

Welcome to worship
Sunday 30th November

Joint service at
LANGHOLM, 10am

No services at
Newcastleton
or Canonbie

Contact us for transport
to
Langholm service
Tel. 07989168299

Rev Morag Crossan
Tel: 07861 736071
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mcrossan@
churchofscotland.org.uk

Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Contact us at the E&L: Office 013873 80012
Editor Alan Weatherstone Features Editor Gilly Fraser
All correspondence to: newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk

Auchen Castle Wedding

A beautiful wedding took place at Auchen Castle, near Moffat on 18th September when Langholm lass, Shonagh Murray married her fiancé, Alan Jacobson of Newton Mearns.

Shonagh was attended by bridesmaids Rachael Young, Millie Bell and Beth Smith and Alan's Best Man was David Carson.

We wish them all the best for the future.



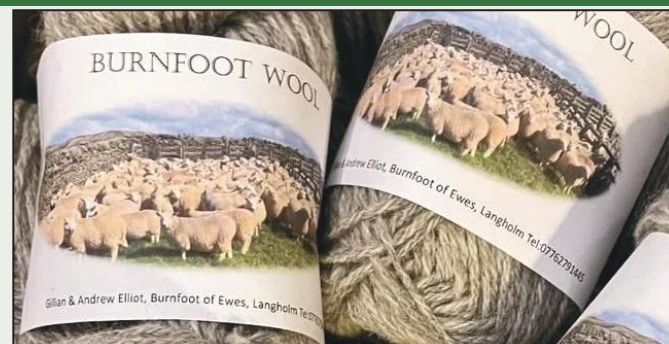
'Wool, Woven and Wild'

Creation Mill has just announced plans for a new festival called 'Wool, Woven and Wild' which will take place in Langholm at the end of February.

The festival will include stalls focusing on local wool, textiles and our natural landscape. There will also be talks about all things sheep, community workshops by textile practitioners, farm and business tours and much more.

The festival is funded by Dumfries and Galloway Council's Regional Cultural Fund. Creation Mill is a community interest company which opened its new premises in the former Buccleuch Mill earlier this year. The festival will take place from Friday 27th February until 1st March so save the date if this sounds up your street. It's fantastic to see Langholm's textile heritage, as well as its current textile, offer being celebrated.

So many folk in this area spent their working lives creating high quality textiles for the British and export market or supporting Langholm's industry in other ways. It's good to see that our future can also build on that heritage to move forward in the 21st century. Keep an eye on the Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser and on Creation Mill's social media for more information about this forthcoming event.



Windfarm windfalls for local organisations

Many applications for funding from Eskdale have been honoured

A total of £146,483 has been awarded by Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group (DECBG) to community projects from ScottishPower Renewable's Ewe Hill 16 Windfarm Community Benefit fund, in its most recent funding round. Applications totalling almost £200,000 were received, with 14 local charities and voluntary groups being successful in receiving grants to carry out projects and activities across Eskdale and south and east Annandale.

The largest award was of £30,000, over two years, to support a modern apprenticeship at the Buccleuch Centre in Langholm which will create a training opportunity for a young person. A grant of £16,500 was made to Annandale Community Transport for a new wheelchair accessible minibus.

£16,210 over three years was allocated to the Westerkirk Parish Library to support operating costs to act as a community hub and to ensure access to both its historic and current collection of books and documents. Lockerbie Drama Club received £12,000 to modernise the interior of The Little Theatre - a valuable but often overlooked local asset. £5,400 to Canonbie Green

Bowling Club for new green maintenance machinery; with £7,500 going to Langholm Old Town Bowling Club to refurbish their clubhouse and install solar panels. Outdoor learning and play facilities at Eaglesfield Primary School Parent Council were supported with a grant of £10,669, and a further £4,259 awarded to Kirtle and Eaglesfield Community Council to improve the childrens' play park in Kirtlebridge and for community notice boards.

An award of £9,800 was made to Muckle Toon Media while Langholm Producers' Market received £4,934; As reported last week in the E&L £3,707 was granted to the Canonbie Over 60's Club to install a new



Langholm's Buccleuch Centre received the largest award

cooker in Canonbie Village Hall. The Eskdale Foundation received £5,504 towards the costs of building a Changing Places disabled Toilet facility in Langholm.

Solwaybank Wind Farm Advisory Panel

approved grants to eight projects totalling £61,787 in its most recent funding round. A grant of £16,500 to Annandale Community Transport to purchase a new wheelchair accessible

minibus and the fund has supported the installation of solar panels and the refurbishment of the clubhouse at Langholm Old Town Bowling Club with a grant of £6,500. Eaglesfield Recreation Association was awarded £3,999 toward the purchase of a new mower to maintain the recently refurbished sports ground in the village.

Eaglesfield Primary School Parent Council was awarded £10,669 towards the construction of an outdoor play and learning

space and a further £4,259 was awarded to Kirtle and Eaglesfield Community Council to improve the play area in Kirtlebridge and to install community notice boards.

Cultural facilities were also given a helping hand with a grant to the Buccleuch Centre in Langholm of £4,740 to refurbish the auditorium and a grant of £5,320 to the Westerkirk Parish Library towards costs to enable it to serve as a community hub and ensure that its collection of historical and current books is accessible to local people and visitors to the region. Muckle Toon Media, which produces the Eskdale and Liddesdale Advertiser, were awarded £9,800 towards operating costs.

Due to the large number of applications supported in this round and the number of multi-year projects approved in earlier rounds, the Solwaybank Wind Farm Community Benefit fund has allocated all of its available funding for the next year. As a result, the fund will be closed until January 2027.

Body found in search for missing man

Last week emergency services were alerted to a missing person, named as Langholm man, Gary McMorran.

On Tuesday they sadly located a body south of the Skippers bridge and relatives were notified. The E&L wishes to extend condolences to the family.

Girls' Football correction

Last week, on the Sports Page we reported a story entitled "End of an Era for Langholm Girls FC". This has confused some readers into thinking that it was the end of the football club itself when, in fact, it was only the end for the U14 players who move on to other teams that offer an U16 side, as the Langholm club doesn't.

LGFC continues to thrive and welcomes new players from age

Bridge results

1, George & Brenda Bullamore, 2, Bob Francombe & George Graham, 3, Alison Mullock & Jim Muir, 4, Lesley McCartney & Doreen Taylor, 5, Sandra Ritchie & Nancy McLure, 6, Ann Smart & Barbara Addison.

Retired Firemen visit old haunts



Langholm fire station invited past crew members into the station on Tuesday night. The current crew demonstrated a pump and ladder and a road traffic collision extraction of a casualty drill. The 2025 crew then discussed the new equipment now carried on the engine and the guests were shown around the new appliance. Many old tales were told from the combined 150 years of service.

Wickerman at the Hub

Trevor Leat delivered a hands-on willow weaving workshop at Eskdalemuir Hub on Saturday with everyone creating a lovely piece of art.

Trevor is one of the foremost creators of willow sculptures in the UK. Using traditional techniques combining beauty with functionality, Trevor has been weaving willow to great effect for over 30 years. Although he creates baskets, garden furniture and even willow coffins, it is for his willow sculpture he is best known.

From life size or larger than life size animals and figures, through to giant willow sculptures spectacularly burned at festivals and events such as The Wickerman Festival which sadly is no more, The Edinburgh Hogmanay Celebrations and The Burns Light Festival in Dumfries. It was great to see the works that were produced during the day under Trevor's guidance. The workshop was organised by Eskdalemuir Expressive Arts.

TOP: Colin busy weaving
BOTTOM: one of the women taking part with her creations



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Poppy appeal appreciation

On behalf of our small band of volunteers, may I thank everyone in the Langholm Area (includes Ewes & Westerkirk) who kindly contributed to the Poppy Scotland Appeal 2025. The total collected, counted, verified and deposited to HQ on 17/11 was £2,557.41p.

The retiring collection from Remembrance Sunday Service was bank transferred Huge appreciation to all - £152.11.

This will be added to the final total for our Area Certificate together with any QR codes used by mobile banking apps before the 1st Feb.

Your generosity in our area will be a great support to our Scottish Veterans and families who need support from the horrors of war.

The Poppy will always mean Remembrance and we wear it with pride.

Finally, personally, I thank our amazing small band of dedicated collector friends who tirelessly knock on doors and those friends, young and old who helped me with the launch, the other fundraising days and for counting that huge amount!

Gratitude to all Businesses, Groups, Clubs, Schools. NHS and all who donated.

'Lest we forget'
Kate Turk

Langholm Area Organiser
Poppy Scotland Appeal 2025.



Invitation to join National Theatre technician course

The National Theatre has opened applications for its free Nationwide Young Technicians programme, offering Scottish young people hands-on training, expert mentorship, and insight into the wide range of creative roles that make theatre possible. The programme is designed to inspire and equip the next generation of backstage professionals, a crucial step in the NT's commitment to address the UK's growing skills shortage impacting the creative industry.

Open to 14-18-year-olds across the country, Nationwide Young Technicians is a virtual course that offers the chance to develop practical skills and learn about the variety of backstage and off-stage roles that exist within theatre. Running from 13 January – 24 March 2026, participants will attend weekly online sessions led by industry professionals to learn transferable technical skills, discover routes into the industry and get practical experience.

New government-commissioned research shows that although nearly one in three young people want to pursue a career in the creative industries, nearly half don't know what skills or qualifications are needed to work in the sector. The National Theatre Skills Centre, in partnership

with Bank of America, was created to close that gap by providing the broadest range of entry-level to mid-career training, reaching over 5,000 people each year.

Applications for Nationwide Young Technicians close at 10am on 1 December 2025. To apply please visit the website <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/whats-on/digital-nationwide-young-technicians-2026/>



Yee-ha! LMS Hoedown

Langholm Social Club will be buzzing on Saturday 29th November as everyone takes their partners for the Hoedown.

Organised by Langholm Musical Society, this fund-raising venture promises to be great fun and don't worry if you think you can't dance, Maz and John are professional dancers and will take you through the line-dancing steps.

Maz Burgess owns the Carlisle Just Dance Studio and, along with her partner John, have organised many similar events in other parts of the country.

The evening promises to be exciting and fun-filled and is open to everyone, including children (although under-18s must be accompanied by an adult).

Everything kicks off at 7pm and admission is £8 for adults and £2 for children on the door (cash only please).

So why not dust off your cowboy boots, grab your partner and get along to Langholm Social Club on Saturday night. Yee hah!!



BBC Radio cuts shows like the popular Iain Anderson

BBC Radio Scotland has announced lots of changes to its programming and has just launched a new weekday morning news programme, Radio Scotland Breakfast, which will replace the long-running Good Morning Scotland. The new flagship show, which began on Monday 24 November, is presented by Martin Geissler, host of Scot-cast, and Laura Maciver, a senior presenter on Reporting Scotland: News at Seven. BBC Radio Scotland's Phil Goodlad will present the sports news.

The late-night Iain Anderson music show has been axed as has Billy Sloan's programme which ends at the close of the year. The website Jockrock says "Shows including those hosted by Billy Sloan, Iain Anderson, Roddy Hart and Natasha Raskin Sharp will broadcast for the last time by the end of 2025, to be replaced by an easy listening show in an attempt to offer "broad mainstream appeal".

"Hart's departure will be felt most by indie and alternative music fans, as the former Lone-some Fire mainman's close con-

nections to local acts has meant valuable exposure for many

show has dovetailed neatly with the others with a sometimes-

cial Bauer network in May.

Jockrock says "There is a lot



Iain Anderson and Billy Sloan host very popular show on BBC Radio Scotland, but they fear they do not fit in with the ethos of the new regime



artists who would otherwise struggle to gain airplay. Billy Sloan's wide-ranging career has seen him champion many Scottish acts from across the eras, while Iain Anderson has long been a supporter of singer-songwriters in the folk, acoustic and indie-adjacent style. And Natasha Raskin Sharp's Friday

surprising line in alternative sounds."

Shake-up

The shake-up comes as part of changes made by new BBC Radio Scotland chief Victoria Easton-Riley, a former Radio One Breakfast Show producer who arrived from the commer-

of unhappiness amongst Scottish musicians about the changes to the music as both Iain Anderson and Billy Sloan have been broadcasting for more than four decades and like Hart and Raskin-Sharp, have proven to be reliable champions of Scottish music of all genres, old and new."

FESTIVE fun with National Trust

From frosty gardens to cosy cafés, National Trust for Scotland places in Dumfries and Galloway are offering a host of experiences and special events this winter season. A selection of the conservation charity's places in the region, including Threave Garden and Estate and Rockcliffe, will be open during the winter. Broughton House & Garden and Thomas Carlyle's Birthplace will be open on selected dates for festive events.

Christmas events are taking place across the region to get visitors of all ages and interests in the festive spirit, including festive shopping, carols and wildlife spotting. Festive cele-

brations make a grand return to Threave House, which will be open to visitors on weekends in the lead-up to Christmas. Visitors to Threave Garden & Estate can also enjoy seasonal afternoon teas and wreath making workshops using foliage gathered from the Threave gardens. Broughton House and Garden will open one day only on 11 December for its Christmas Fayre. Thomas Carlyle's Birthplace will open for one day on 4 December for the 230th anniversary of the influential thinker's birthday. Advance booking is essential for the Christmas Fayre and encouraged for all other events to avoid disappointment.

Visitors can make the most of the season at Trust places. From seasonal menus in the snug cafes to browsing for locally made gifts, there are many ways to get cosy inside Trust places throughout the winter season. These winter events provide opportunities for everyone to access and enjoy National Trust for Scotland places throughout the season, with a range of activities for all ages and interests.



“Too little, too late” damning indictment on Covid response

Devolved administrations were too reliant on UK government to lead

Last week the Chair of the UK Covid Inquiry, Baroness Heather Hallett, published her second report which concludes that the response to the pandemic by the United Kingdom's four governments was often a case of 'too little, too late'. The report also concludes that while the various lockdowns of 2020 and 2021 undoubtedly saved lives, they only became inevitable because of the acts and omissions of all governments. The devolved administrations were too reliant on the UK government to lead the response.

Baroness Hallett is calling for the prompt and thorough implementation of 19 key recommendations which must be considered during the development of all future pandemic preparedness

strategies. They include the need for urgent reform and clarification of the structures for decision-making during emergencies within each of the four governments.

Other key recommendations include ensuring that decisions and their implications are clearly communicated to the public. There should be greater Parliamentary scrutiny of the use of emergency powers as well as improved consideration in an emergency of the impact that decisions might have on those most at risk.

Key findings were that all four governments failed to appreciate the scale of the threat or the urgency of response it demanded in the early part of 2020. This was compounded, in part, by misleading assurances from the Department of Health and



Baroness Hallett

So - cial Care and the widely held view that the UK was well prepared for a pandemic. By the time the possibility of a mandatory lockdown was first considered, it was already too late, and a lockdown had become unavoidable. The lockdowns in 2020 and 2021 undoubtedly saved

lives but only became inevitable because of the acts and omissions of the four governments. The UK government introduced advisory restrictions on 16 March 2020, including self-isolation, household quarantine and social distancing. Had restrictions been introduced sooner, the mandatory lock-

down from 23 March might have been shorter or not necessary at all. This lack of urgency and the huge rise in infections made a mandatory lockdown inevitable. It should have been introduced one week earlier.

One of the recommendations pertaining to devolved governments is that each one should be asked to nominate representatives to attend meetings of SAGE (Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies) from the outset of any future emergency. There were other findings in relation to the way each devolved nation including Scotland, handled the management of the pandemic. Let us hope that recommendations will be taken on board by all of the governments so that the next pandemic that is experienced in the UK is managed more effectively.

Mind thy Neighbour

Police Scotland Dumfries and Galloway is encouraging people to sign up for neighbourhood alerts. These are a direct line from Neighbourhood Watch Scotland, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, local authorities and Get Safe Online. They provide timely updates on important issues in your community. From sharing crime prevention advice to issuing information on local incidents the alerts are tailored to where you live and what interest you have. You can sign up at <https://www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk>

Hub home of Holy Grail

Eskdalemuir Expressive Arts are screening 'Monty Python and the Holy Grail' on Sunday 7 December at 3pm. Pay on the door and enjoy a drink from the bar.



Beautiful Canonbie garden on small screen

Earlier this year, Paul and Julie Taylor, the owners of Byreburnfoot House in Canonbie received a request from TV presenter Fiona Armstrong for their gardens to be featured on the 'Border Life' programme on ITV Border. Fiona Armstrong, Lady MacGregor and Lord Lieutenant of Dumfries is a TV broadcaster, author and local celebrity, and a former owner of Byreburnfoot House.

It was partly out of curiosity that she wanted to return to see how the grounds have been developed since she sold the property. She was also aware that the grounds were open to the public under the 'Scotlands Gardens Scheme' during the summer.

Since purchasing the property five years ago, together with their son Stephen the current owners have set about developing the site. With his flair and knowledge, he brings years of gardening experience and design to the mix. He has collaborated with them to add expertise, creativity and colour to



Canonbie's Byreburnfoot House will feature on Border TV's 'Border Life'

the planting. Today the garden boasts several distinct areas, each with its own character. Besides flower gardens, seating areas, pergola, rose crown and raised beds, there is an orchard, vegetable beds and a polytunnel. Two luxury holiday lets, in the former stables block, each have their own private garden area. Attractive stone pots of various sizes have been used to great effect around the site, along with decorative gravel pathways and arches.

Since the filming of the gardens for 'Border Life', the Taylors have added fountain wall trellises, a raised bed garden and a set of four statues to the gardens. These will provide additional interest when the gardens are again open to the public under the 'Scotlands Gardens Scheme' on Sunday 2 August 2026. The TV episode in which Byreburnfoot House is featured will be aired on Friday 12 December 2025 on 'Border Life' on ITV Border.



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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Bill amendments

Amendments to the Natural Environment Bill currently being discussed by the Scottish Government could harm the very people fighting hardest for nature conservation.

That's the claim of rural business organisation Scottish Land & Estates which is urging MSPs to work with people in the countryside to reduce the impact of climate change.

Scotland is home to approximately 90,000 species, some of which are of national and international importance but are vulnerable to habitat loss and the impact of climate change.

Ross Ewing, Director of Moorland and Strategic Projects for SLE, says the Bill provides an opportunity for MSPs from across the political spectrum to join forces and recognise the outstanding conservation work which is taking place across rural Scotland.

"From ancient woodland to world-renowned rivers and stun-

ning moors, our members are protecting and enhancing some of the rarest and most beautiful landscapes in the world," he said.

Biodiversity

"Land managers and rural workers are committed to going even further to restore nature, and initiatives such as Wildlife Estates Scotland (WES) are proof that our rural estates can lead the world in delivering for biodiversity through land management. We need consensus and collaboration to ensure we keep moving forward to our shared goals."

The organisation has emphasised the need for detailed, evidence-based nature restoration strategies and improved feedback mechanisms to account for local conditions. They say this will be of particular importance when considering issues such as deer management, where there are significant regional differences.

Food and drink is Scotland's third largest industry

Yet producers remain under very high cost pressures

Food and drink has become the third largest industry in Scotland and has reached a turnover value of £19 billion.

This was revealed at a special Scotland Food and Drink reception in the Scottish Parliament.

Yet despite the figure being a new record, the organisation's Chief Executive Iain Baxter said he was "cautiously optimistic rather than celebratory."

"This has been achieved during some incredibly challenging times including the fallout from Brexit, the war in Ukraine, the Middle East Crisis and the global pandemic," he said.

"It shows how the power of perseverance, ambition, partnership and continued investment in one of Scotland's most valuable and resilient industries can ensure sustainable growth.

"Recent times also remind us of what is at stake, with global competition intensifying, in-



Scotland Food and Drink CEO Iain Baxter

creasing costs and the challenges of sustainability, availability of labour and workforce develop-

ment needs continuing to grow, and these figures show that the Scottish food and drink industry

has remained resilient in recent years despite these challenges.

And he continued, the challenges have not gone away.

"Food price inflation has undoubtedly played a part in the growth of our sector's value, but Scottish food and drink producers are under significant cost pressures arising from stubbornly high input costs.

"Persistently high input costs, labour shortages, infrastructure gaps, international competition, regulatory pressures and the urgent need to transition to Net Zero all demand coordinated action – action that, through our partnership, we are committed to taking.

He concluded his speech on a positive note by saying he's proud of the way businesses have met challenge after challenge, ensuring that food and drink remain one of Scotland's greatest success stories.

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SRUC report on decline of rural and island populations

Scotland's rural and island communities are finding it harder than ever to attract incomers or even to hang on to their native populations.

A new report by SRUC discovered the problems were caused or made still worse by shortages in housing, limited employment opportunities and inadequate services such as healthcare and transport.

They discovered in a survey that 37% of respondents said they were considering leaving their area and 70% believed their areas needed more incomers.

SRUC Research Fellow and lead author Dr Ana Winship, said the research confirmed the complexity of demographic change processes in rural and island Scotland.

"Access to housing, transport,

services and employment remains crucial but so too are the less tangible aspects of community life, like belonging, cultural heritage, and a sense of safety," she said.

"To effectively address depopulation, we need collaborative, locally tailored strategies co-designed by government, local authorities and communities themselves."

The 65% of respondents who said they wanted to stay said it was because of strong community spirit, family ties and overall quality of life.

The research team came up with a two-tier approach for Scotland – to retain and support local populations by improving housing, services and infrastructure – and to develop targeted migration programmes with appropriate integration support.



Dr Ana Winship

Dr Winship said community involvement and national support must go hand-in-hand.

"Effective population strategies rely on combining local knowledge with national frameworks. Empowering communi-

ties to shape their own demographic futures, supported by flexible policy and sustainable funding, is key to ensuring Scotland's rural and island areas can thrive."

Playcare kids learn about Remembrance

The children at Playcare ELCC have recently had lots of discussions about Remembrance Day, exploring special memorabilia and photos. They learned about why we wear a poppy and who we are remembering.

The children enjoyed hearing about the brave soldiers and the brave animals who helped during the war. We went on a walk to the Buccleuch Park War Memorial to see the lovely poppies that had been laid, as well as the new silhouette statue of the soldier, which looked very proud. The poppies inspired the children to make their own poppies — red for the soldiers and purple for the brave animals. We have placed these in our planter tubs at the entrance to Playcare. The children also watched the CBeebies film about poppies, which is a lovely way for younger children to learn the meaning behind the poppy. On Remembrance Day, the children took part in a one-minute silence with staff.



Above: At the War Memorial in the park



Below: Learning about history is important

Chapelcross announces new master plan

Potential for employment?

CX Power have been announced as the strategic developer to support the delivery of the green energy hub masterplan at Chapelcross, a programme set to transform the region. The privately funded, multi-million-pound, net-zero focused development, will generate several hundred high value jobs and attract skills and investment, driving growth in the local economy.

The wider master plan for the hub includes plans for hydrogen production, advanced manufacturing, and AI Enabled Data Centres.

The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has entered into Heads of Terms with CX Power, an entity comprising of GA Consultants and Global Mutual Properties Limited, bringing expertise in planning and private finance to help deliver the vision for the site. Chapelcross is the former nuclear power plant

which forms part of the NDA estate, the body tasked by the government with decommissioning the UK's earliest nuclear sites safely, securely and sustainably.

The focus of the CX Power development is 135 acres of the available land within the unlicensed landholding of the estate, adjacent to the former nuclear power site and wider nuclear licensed area. Their plans include potential for a 1GW data centre campus with a zero-carbon target in its energy operation. The scheme looks to harness the 3GW of renewable energy supplies within fifty miles of the site and the 1.2GW of planned and consented wind and solar developments in the region. In addition, the data centres would utilise advanced cooling technologies that don't place a burden on water resources and strive to achieve full water neutrality.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Camera Club

Langholm Camera Club will be holding its final meeting of 2025 in the Social Club on Monday 8th December at 7pm. There is no theme but if people would like to pick out some of their favourite pictures of the year that would be good. Tom Hutton is proposing to use the club's big TV screen so the pictures should come out well.

Borders College

Borders College which has campuses at Galashiels and Newtown St Boswells is having an open day on 28th January from 1pm – 6pm. Staff will be available to discuss the full range of courses on offer which you read more about on the website. The college offers qualifications including national and higher national level as well as Scottish Vocational and National Vocational qualifications. Anyone hoping to attend is asked to register online at <https://www.borderscollege.ac.uk/openday>

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Langholm's rising stars celebrate big wins at Athletic Club presentations



Penni Cubbon at full pelt



Jessica Cuthbert in action

Several young Langholm athletes received awards at a junior presentation night of Annan and District Athletic Club (ADAC) on Saturday 15 November which was held in Eastriggs. Nine young people from Langholm train with the club.

Evelyn Bell was part of the gold medal under 15 girls relay squad at the Cumbria league and the overall under 15 girls' bronze medallist. Grace Bell was part of the under 13 girls relay squad at the Cumbria league. Ava Cubbon was also part of a bronze medal under 13s girls' relay squad

at the Cumbria league, received a gold medal at the under 13s girls club championship in September and was the overall under 13 club champion. Her younger sister Penni received the under 9 years of age girls gold medal at a club championship in September and was the

overall under 9 club champion. Jessica Cuthbert was also part of the bronze medal under 13 girls relay squad as was Erin Grant. Erin also got a silver at the under 13's girls club championship in September and was the overall under 13 bronze medallist.

Alex Cuthbert achieved a gold medal at under 11 level at the club championships and was overall the under 11 boys silver medal-

list. He was also the 600 metre boys champion and received a special award from ADAC. Brother and sister Mollie and Ruairidh Phillips also did well. Mollie was part of a gold medal under 15 girls relay squad at the Cumbria league, was a silver medallist at the club championships in her age category, the under 13 girls' cross-country champion, the road race female champion and re-

ceived the ADAC coach award. Ruairidh was joint silver medallist in the under 11 age category at the September club championships, overall, under 11 boys' gold medallist and the under 11 boys cross country champion.

It's been a great night for Langholm and good to see such promising young athletes being rewarded for their efforts.

We may have another Olympian in the future.



Ruaridh Phillips front and Alex Cuthbert



Ruaridh Phillips with his awards



Mollie Phillips with her impressive haul of awards



Erin Grant making big strides on the Annan Track

Firefighter Joe raises nearly £11,000 to make Christmas special

Firefighter Joe Kirkup of Kirkup Butchers has spent the weekend running and cycling to raise money to make sure every child in his local area has a Christmas present to open on Christmas Day.

Starting on Friday 21st he did runs of 5 km every 5 hours with some of the runs taking place in Longtown and the others taking place in Langholm and Silloth. Joe also biked from Longtown to Silloth before running there and from Longtown to Langholm before his run there. All runs started at the fire stations in the area and on both the runs and cycles Joe had tremendous support with people biking and running alongside him. Joe is asking for a £10 donation through a go fund me page.

At the time of going to press £10,900 had been raised which is a tremendous effort. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/gux3d-helping-the-local-community>



GREAT EFFORT: Above: The man himself, popular butcher and firefighter, Joe Kirkup
Below: Joe's Langholm supporters turn out to join him on his run



...Liddesdale Lineup...

By Gilly Fraser

LLAGS ladies do it once again!

Christmas fundraiser is well attended

There was barely a seat to be had in Newcastleton Village Hall on Saturday for the LLAGS Coffee Morning.

Always a popular draw in the village, the queue was forming even before the event began.

LLAGS members were kept busy topping up tea and coffee cups and making sure all the tables were well stocked with the delicious home baking the group is famous for.

As well as an amazing array of raffle prizes generously donated by local people and businesses, there was also a sumptuous hamper made up by LLAGS. President Sandy Richardson presented the hamper to lucky winner Jane Kettle.

At the last count the amazing sum of nearly £800 was raised at the Coffee Morning, which will go towards the village's Christmas Lights and Nativity Display.

The tree will be put up on Saturday, allowing the LLAGS ladies to decorate it before the Big Switch-On on Saturday December 6th at 5pm.



TOP: Great turn-out for the LLAGS Coffee Morning
BOTTOM: Sandy Richardson presents lucky winner Jane Kettle with an overflowing hamper

Make-over for Copshaw's Christmas Nativity scene

The Nativity scene has been a much-loved part of Copshaw's Christmas for many years. The big switch-on in early December is always a time for the village to come together, to see the illuminated tableau with its lifelike figures of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus along with the three Wise Men, a sleeping Shepherd and of course a sheep.

Before the nativity came into being, festivities centred on a Christmas tree organised by the SWI and originally powered by electricity from nearby houses until the group bought the first electric box to run the lights.

In 1996 the SWI handed over the Christmas reins to LLAGS, and after members had seen and admired Longtown's nativity, the decision was taken that

Copshaw should have its own version.

The stable sheltering the figures was built in 1997 and has done sterling service over the years but latterly has been in need of some TLC.

Enter village Joiner – or perhaps that should be Carpenter – Ian Nichol. He has done a great job of refurbishing the stable which is now waiting to welcome back its annual guests.

LLAGS work hard every year to raise funds for the upkeep and maintenance of the lights, tree and nativity, as well as providing the mulled wine and mince pies which always go a long way to staving off the winter chill on the evening of the big switch-on.

This year the main event is on Saturday December 6th at 5pm.



Waiting for its guests – the refurbished stable



Waiting for its guests – the refurbished stable

Roger Albert Clark Rally



Don't blink or you'll miss it – rally car in Newcastleton

Anyone hoping for a peaceful weekend in Newcastleton was in for a big disappointment as the village played its part in hosting the Roger Albert Clark Rally.

The Rally, which sets out to recreate what it describes as the 'iconic RAC rallies from the 70s and 80s', took place between November 20-24, kicking off in Wales before heading north for stages in Kielder, Dumfriesshire

and Newcastleton.

This year for the first time, the rally staged its northern headquarters at Carlisle Airport.

Nearly 200 cars took part in the event, with Newcastleton featuring in both the Saturday and Sunday stages.

Many villagers enjoyed the spectacle and excitement of the rally cars but there were complaints too that many of the drivers seemed oblivious to the 20mph speed limit.

Hartsgarth wind farm



low
carbon
powering tomorrow

Plans for a new windfarm development on land owned by Oxygen Conservation near Newcastleton were put on display in an exhibition in the Village Hall.

The scheme, by a company called Low Carbon, would see 18 wind turbine generators with a maximum height of 220m on the former Hartsgarth farmland. The company is also looking into the feasibility of a Battery Energy Storage System which it says would enhance flexibility and maximise the site's overall energy export potential.

Low Carbon submitted a scoping report to the Scottish Gov-

ernment's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in October. This sets out to identify any significant issues likely to be encountered in the process of the scheme.

The next stage will see an Environmental Impact Assessment to look at factors such as landscape impact, possible effects on rare species such as Hen Harriers, and potential impacts on local infrastructure and water supplies.

Full details of the scoping report can be found on the company's website and Low Carbon say they still want to hear from local people who were unable to view the exhibition.

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Looking back...

Lang Syne in Eskdale

...David J. Beattie on Langholm Castle and education

Nearby Langholm Castle, a place on the tongue of land at the meeting of the two rivers used to be pointed out, where several reputed witches were said to have been burned two or three centuries ago.

The valley of the Esk is not without its stories of superstition and witchcraft, and whether the witches story is true or traditional it is difficult to say, but one hardly expected to hear of so barbarous a thing as a "bridle to gag scolding women" being at one time in use in Langholm, even in those bad old days. And yet it would appear from this old record in my possession that such an instrument was kept by the town's chief magistrate, ready when occasion demanded its infliction upon the first unfortunate offender.

This instrument of torture was in the form of a headpiece that opens and encloses the head of the culprit, while a sharp, chisel-shaped iron enters the mouth and subdues the unruly member within. "When husbands unfortunately happen to have scolding wives" says the writer "they subject the heads of the offenders to this instrument and lead them through the town exposed to the ridicule of the people."

Schools and Dominies

After this backward flight to that misty era when the history of our romantic dale was just taking shape, we will turn again to the

time when Langholm and "oor ain folk" were taking definite steps towards progress and the development of a more congenial community, with brighter hopes of better days to come.

Education, which today has almost reached high water mark, does not appear to have been neglected in these dales of ours a hundred years ago. There were in Langholm at that time two endowed schools - one the Parish school, situated on the Esk side of Buccleuch Square, the other the Broomholm school, at the south end of Drove Road The latter was under the stern rule of George J Todd, quite a noted dominie in those days.

Besides those, there were seven other schools of lesser note in the parish - four of which "were taught by females, where children of both sexes are instructed in the elements of reading". The parochial school in Buccleuch Square was conducted by Alexander Hannah, said to be a most efficient teacher.

High Standards

That the standard of teaching was not by any means in the category of the three R's is shown by the following note: "Six of his scholars are learning Latin at 6/- a quarter; one Greek at 7/6; three French at 10/6; English reading at 2/6; with writing 3/6 and arithmetic 4/6; pure and mixed mathematics 7/6; book-keeping



Todd's Schule in Buccleuch Square where George J Todd presided over 100 boys with little assistance

(complete system) one guinea".

The figure of 275 is given as the average number of scholars attending all the schools in the town. Considering the population of Langholm and the prevailing conditions at that time, one may suppose that this attainment would bring some measure of satisfaction to the pioneers of the teaching profession. It would appear, however, that the people in general were keenly alive to the benefit of education, and it was assumed that there were few in the neighbourhood above six years of age who could neither read nor write. "But" asserts our amiable scribe, and we can pic-

ture his complacent gesture as he flourishes his quill pen "if there should chance to be a melancholy example of one or two individuals who cannot read or write, they must have come into the parish in that state of ignorance from another country."

‘Todd’s Schule’

Even a brief survey of the "beginnings" in the history of Langholm's early educational life, would not be complete with the inclusion of what has already been set down in a former "volume; for it sheds some light on prevailing conditions, not unmixed at times with humour".

Particular mention is made of George J Todd. He commenced his teaching career over a hundred years ago at Broomholm School and afterwards became master of the Parish School. At that time the number of boys on the register at "Todd's Schule" (as it was popularly called) was nearly 100 and this large number he taught with little or no assistance. Unlike the average schoolmaster of those days, who troubled little beyond the three R's, the educational ideas of Mr Todd were of an advanced character, and this was shown by not a few of his old pupils in after years becoming men of mark in the world.

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report

Thursday, 20th November 2025

CONTACT NUMBERS:

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C&D Auction Marts had forward an entry of 8,523 sheep comprising of 5,326 lambs and 2,967 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 20th November 2025. PRIME LAMBS Another great entry of 5,326 prime lambs forward to a full ringside of purchasers ensuring all grades of well finished lambs were keenly sought after realising the dearest trade of the season. Well finished lambs of all weight categories sold at increased rates of return yet again being in big demand and way short of purchaser requirements. Many more are required for the next 4 weeks, which will be in big demand and sold to advantage. Many more fed lambs can be sold to vendor advantage at Longtown Auction. Numbers handled with ease if they're well finished and keenly sought after. Leaner lambs are better sold on a Tuesday in Longtown. Top Price per Head was a pair of Texel lambs from M/s K & M Jamieson, Woodhead reaching £220 Top Price per Kilo went to a pen of Beltex Lambs from M/s Roots, Kilnford Croft realising 460ppk/kg. M/s B Findlay, Easter Balagio, Forfar made the trip south to Longtown with 202 heavy, very finely tuned beltex cross lambs. This exceptional run of lambs topped at £214 achieving a fantastic overall average of £193.52 and 394ppk M/s G & W Halliday, Crowthall sold another exceptional run of 72 lambs topping at £208 for a pen of 26 Beltex lambs averaging just over £200. M/s Patterson, South Boreland, sold 14 heavy Suffolk lambs to average 60kg and £183 Heavy weight Mules topped at £166 for 54kg consigned by regular vendors M/s E & TN Ballantyne, Cowburnrigg, Haltwhistle. Heavy Blackface lambs consigned by noted producers M/s Ridley, Shittington Hall, Wark sold to a top of £157 for a pen of 10 tup lambs with this run of Mules and Blackface lambs averaging £153 and 49kg. Plenty runs of heavy lambs achieving averages north of £170 proving to be short of purchaser requirements and keenly sought after on a weekly basis to satisfy demand. Overall Average 332.87ppk (SQQ 334.96ppk) Principal prices (Per head)	Texel - £208 Easter Balgillo, £200 Wester Parkgate, £194 Easter Balgillo, £194 Kinninghall, £190 Wester Parkgate, £188 Easter Balgillo, £188 Kirkland of Longcastle, £188 The Land Charollais - £200 Kinning Hall, £172 Tinnishall, £163, £160, £154 Knowe Farm Half – Bred - £162 High Moat Suffolk - £200 South Boreland, £198 Powheads, £196 Cowburnrigg, £194 Leapsprigg, £188 South Boreland, £186 Drumburn North Country Cheviot - £147, £127 Carruthers Beltex - £216 Linnhead, £214, £210 Easter Balgillo, £208 Bombie, £208 Crowthall, £207 Easter Balgillo Dutch Spotted - £169 High Moat Cheviot Mule - £183 West Millhills, £168 Ragget-syke, £163 Pilmuir, £161 West Millhills, £154 Kinninghall, £153 Gartvaigh Mule - £166 Cowburnrigg, £157 Grindon Hill, £156 Cowburnrigg, £154 Shittington Hall, £153 Cairn-bowie, £153 Burnfoot, £151 Grindon Hill Cheviot - £158 West Millhills, £153 Cormack, £151 Corstane, £149 Grindon Hill, £147 Swanson, £146 Catslackburn, £145 Grindon Hill, £141 Catslack-burn, £139 Drumwalt Bluefaced Leicester - £200, £180 Shittington Hall, £178 Nunsleugh Lleyen - £134 Redgate Head Zwartble - £186 Stapleton Grange Roussin - £156 Rigg Garth Shetland - £116, £110 Burnhead, £106 Kimmeter Green Dorset - £145 Bridgestone, £131 Mid Banks Blackface - £157, £154 Shittington Hall, £150 Brennania, £150 Peela Hill, £149 Shittington Hall, £145 Brennania, £145 Grindon Hill Herdwick - £140 Carruthers Farm, £136 Farlam Hill, £131 Longrow Swaledale - £129 Westerhopeburn Easycare - £125, £120 Dunnichen Hampshire - £175 Kinninghall Oxford - £144, £140, £139, £135, £130 Guards Farm	29p Kilnford Croft Texel – 396p, 395.9p Easte Balgillo, 387p Crumhaughhill, 385.2p Easter Balgillo, 370.2p Highfield, 369p Easter Balgillo, 365.1p Muirfield, 364p Crumhaughhill Roussin - 355p Rigg Garth Suffolk – 353p Craigens, 352.9p Dunbeath Estate, 350p Shandford, 346p Foulshiels, 344.2p Leap-sprigg Charollais – 344p Tinnishall, 334.1p Hallburn, 328.9p Longrow, 321p, 320p, 313p Knowe Farm Hill Cheviot – 344p Ramseycleugh, 340p Moss View, 339.5p, 337.8p, 337.1p Catslackburn, 337p Carruthers Farm, 337p Sundhope, 336.8p Garheugh Farm Easycare - 338p, 333.3p Dunnichen Blackface – 335.1p Brennania, 331.6p Garheugh, 330p, 329p, 326.1p Brennania, 324.4p Tone Hall, 323.8p Brennania, 323.8p Shankston Mule – 332.3p Cairnbowie, 330p Peela Hill, 329.5p Gartvaigh, 328.6p Craiens Farm, 326.2p Garheugh Farm, 326p Westerhopeburn Cheviot Mule – 333p Leapsprigg, 328p Mansefield, 328p Braehead, 327.7p Kinninghall, 327p Crosslee, 326p East Rackwood, 323.9p Crosslee, 323.1p Raggetsyke, 320.5p Solwaybank Lleyen - 335p Redgatehead Herdwick - 335.9p Longrow, 325.6p Carruthers Farm, 324p Farlam Hill North Country Cheviot - 327p Mansefield, 326p Carruthers Farm, 306p Carruthers Farm Swaledale - 322.5p Westerhopeburn Bluefaced Leicester – 312.8p, 300p Shittington Hall Shetland - 331p Kimmeter Green, 323.5p Burn-head Oxford - 325p, 321.8p, 314p, 313p, 312.4p Guards Farm Dorset - 322.2p Bridgestone Dutch Spotted - 301.8p High Moat Hampshire - 291.7p Kinninghall Half- Bred - 289.3p High Moat Zwartbles - 269.6p Stapleton Grange	3,197 cast ewes and rams were forward. All classes of cast ewes and rams took a substantial lift on the week. They're a big trade and numbers tightening will result in another lift in trade. Keep the numbers coming for premium returns in the coming weeks. Numbers of all grades of cast ewes and rams are keenly sought after on a weekly basis to satisfy an ever-growing customer demand here at Longtown. Heavy ewes topped at £355 for a pen of Texel ewes from H Currie, Edendales BFL Topped at £225 for a pen of big ladies consigned from M/s Hindmarsh, Stooprigg. Mule ewes topped at £212 for a pen of huge Scotch bred ewes from M/s Brims, Thuster Mains Light ewes topped at £175 for a pen of Hill Cheviot ewes from M/s Hindmarsh, Stooprigg Blackface ewes topped at £150 for a pen of 21 northumberland bred ewes consigned by M/s Longlands, Tonehall	West Mill Hills, £160 Moss View, £160 2 Newton Cottages, £158 Damside, £158 Beckfoot, £152 Parks Farm, £150 Crowthall Hampshire - £175 Lowfield House Zwartble - £192 Beckfoot Romney - £222, £190 Lower Reiss Dorset - £200 Corsewall Castle, £198 Zetland	Averages: Lambs Light to 460p (306.4p) Standard to 410.5p (337.8p) Medium to 414p (322.7p) Heavy to 370.2p (311.1p) Overweight 349.2p (299.8p) Ewes Light to £155 (£91.56) Heavy to £335 (£132.57) Rams to £272 (£160.14)	LONGTOWN AUCTION MART THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025 CHRISTMAS SHOW CAST EWES AT 7AM PRIME LAMBS AT 10.30AM SCHEDULE CLASS 1 - 5 TEXEL EWES CLASS 2 - 10 TEXEL CROSS EWES CLASS 3 - 10 SUFFOLK EWES CLASS 4 - 10 MULE EWES CLASS 5 - 5 ANY OTHER CONTINENTAL EWES CLASS 6 - 10 HILL EWES CLASS 7 - PAIR OF LAMBS Sired BY BELTEX CLASS 8 - PAIR OF LAMBS Sired BY TEXEL CLASS 9 - PAIR OF LAMBS Sired BY ANY OTHER CONTINENTAL CLASS 10 - 5 TEXEL X LAMBS CLASS 11 - 5 BELTEX/BELTEX X LAMBS CLASS 12 - 5 ANY OTHER CONTINENTAL X LAMBS CLASS 13 - 10 SUFFOLK X LAMBS CLASS 14 - 10 NORTH OF ENGLAND MULE LAMBS CLASS 15 - 10 SCOTCH MULE LAMBS CLASS 16 - 10 NORTH COUNTRY CHEVIOT LAMBS CLASS 17 - 10 SOUTH COUNTRY CHEVIOT LAMBS CLASS 18 - 10 BLACKFACE LAMBS	Entries to the office by 5pm on Tuesday 2nd December
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LOCAL NOTICEBOARD



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK
W/C 1st Dec 2025

Day	What	Time	Where
Mon	Quilters group	10-12	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Mending Monday	1-3	
Tues	Canonbie In Stitches	2-4	Village Hall, DG14 oUX
Wed	Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Kirkpatrick Fleming In Stitches	10-12	
Thurs	Felt Christmas Decorations	6-8:30	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Scrap Store Late Night opening	open until 7pm	
Fri	Langholm In Stitches	1-4	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Dorset buttons Decorations	1-4	
Sat	Langholm Producers Market	9-1	Buccleuch Centre DG13 oAW

Scrap Store & Christmas Pop up Market is open Monday - Friday 10-3
Booking required, please visit CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS

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WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

Thu 27th	Langholm Fly Fishing Club First Meeting	Xcel Youth Centre, Henry St. 6.30 - 8.30pm
Fri 28th	Hard of Hearing Group Brew 'n' Blether	Langholm Day Centre 10.30am - 12pm
Fri 28th	Ready Steady 60s Show	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Sat 29th	Canonbie United Church Soup Kitchen & Table Top	Canonbie Public Hall 11.30am - 1pm
	Fun Bingo Night	Benty Hall 7.30pm BYOB
Sun 30th	Open Mic Session	Eskdalemuir Hub 2pm - 5pm

WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

Sat 6th	Langholm Producer's Market	The Buccleuch Centre 9am - 1pm
	Langholm Christmas Lights Switch-on	2pm at Buccleuch Centre Switch-on 4:45pm

The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2544 answers next week

- 1 In which year was Torness Power Station completed?

2 From which Scottish port did the Darien Expedition sail?

3 What was the main cargo of the Cutty Sark?

4 In which decade was the recipe for the drink, which was to become known as Im Bru, first developed?

5 Which agency is responsible for the upkeep of Edinburgh Castle?

6 Which pipe band played at Stella McCartney's wedding in 2003?

7 Which kind of monks lived at Jedburgh Abbey?

8 From which part of Scotland did Covenanter Alexander Peden come?

9 Who designed the steamship, Rob Roy?

10 How many islands are in the St Kilda group?
- 11 Who was the last monarch to be born in Scotland?

12 Where is the Scottish College of Textiles?

13 Which body owns the site of the battlefield of Culloden?

14 Which king built the Palace at Stirling Castle?

15 What is the name of Scotland's first national park which became fully operational in 2002?

16 How many arches are there in the bridge over the Tweed at Kelso?

17 Who wrote "Scots Wha Hae"?

18 What time of day is "the gloamin"?

19 What role did Sean Connery play in "Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves"?

20 When was the Battle of Bannockburn fought?



NEVER A CROSSWORD!

No. 2544 answers next week

- Across:

1 Puny one (6)

5 Breathe out (6)

8 Impaired (7)

9 Melody (4)

10 Of the highest quality (4)

12 Arable areas (6)

13 Surpass (5)

14 Cattle calls (4)

16 Spinning toys (4)

17 Flat floats (5)

18 Wishy-washy (6)

20 Twitcher's viewpoint (4)

22 Howls (4)

23 Fruits of one's labour (7)

25 Temporarily (3,3)

26 Reservation waster (2-4)
- Down:

2 Inflation protection (5)

3 Dwellers (7)

4 Wilbur in "Charlotte's Web," for example (3)

5 Care provided by hospices (3,2,4)

6 Saltwood Castle is here (5)

7 Queued (5,2)

11 Custodian of 12 Across (9)

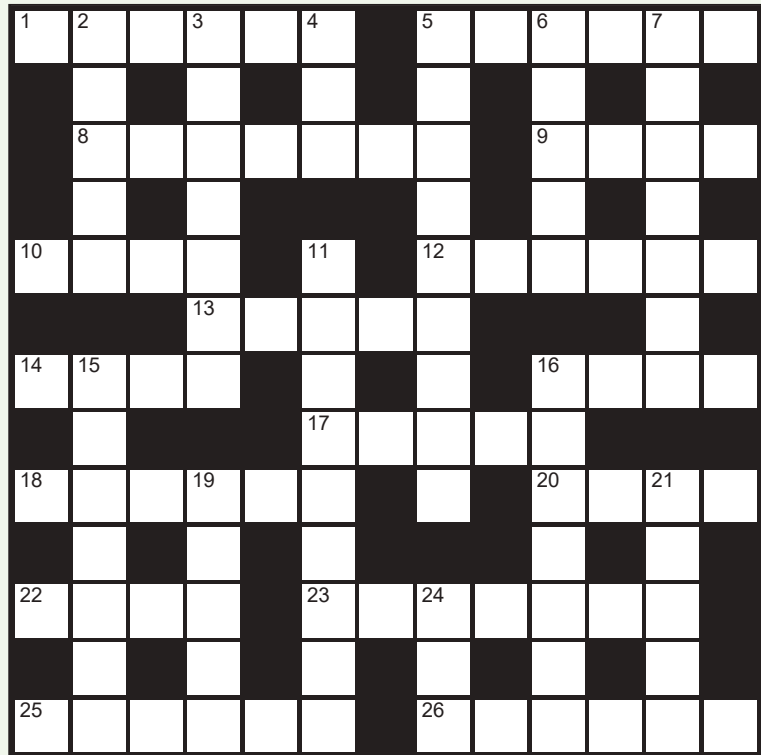
15 Wild marjoram (7)

16 Slogan-bearers, often (1-6)

19 Wild ox (5)

21 '70s dance hall (5)

24 Skin lump (3)



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2543

- 1 Coleridge

2 Nigeria

3 Curling

4 Herring fishing

5 Inverness-shire

6 James Keir Hardie

7 Juniper and Scots pine

8 Robert the Bruce

9 Andrew Carnegie

10 Off the west coast of Mull

11 The 18th century

12 Henry

13 Dundee Vale, Glasgow

14 JM Barrie

15 Bonnie Prince Charlie

16 Glencoe

17 Tom Conti

18 Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

19 Melrose

20 A toad or frog

Crossword 2542

Across: 1 Blooms, 4 Scour, 8 Attack, 9 Erased, 10 Reagan, 11 Sifted, 12 Gut, 13 Those, 15 Posse, 17 Hub, 19 Presto, 21 Rise up, 23 Shoals, 24 Credit, 25 My God, 26 Aspens.

Down: 1 Bathe, 2 Oranges, 3 Making, 5 Chaff, 6 Useless, 7 Beast, 14 Harshly, 16 Obscene, 17 Hoist, 18 Bricks, 20 SE A T O, 22 Units.

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November/December 2025

Fri 28th November (74 High St)
Langholm Shotokan Karate Club - Fundraiser

Saturday 29th (74 High St)
David McVittie

Saturday 6th December (74 High St)
Langholm Christmas Lights Committee

Mon 8th - Wed 10th (74 High St)
Dotty Hen

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PLANNING

PLANNING

The applications, associated plans and documents can be viewed on-line by following the ePlanning link on the Council's website at www.dumgal.gov.uk/planning. Written comments may be made to Head of Economy and Development by email to Planning@dumgal.gov.uk or via the Council's website, as noted above, by 11/12/2025 (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
25/2100/FUL (A) 28 Eskdale Place, Langholm - Erection of single storey extension and formation of raised patio area to south-east elevation of flatted dwelling

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Eskdale & Liddesdale
Advertiser

E&L JOB SPOT

The Eskdale Foundation

A Charity registered in Scotland No. SCO24602

Job Advertisement:

Part-Time Administrator and Development Assistant

About the Role

The Eskdale Foundation is a community development company and charity (SCO24602) based in Langholm. We are seeking a highly organised and proactive Administrator and Development Assistant.

Part-time: 9 hours per week (with the expectation that the successful applicant will be based for approximately 4 hours on each of Monday and Friday at the Foundation's office in Langholm);

Salary: negotiable.

Main Responsibilities

- Provide general administrative support
- Prepare and format documents, reports,
- Assist with fundraising and donor communications, including drafting correspondence.
- Support the Foundation's Board with research, grant applications, and reporting to funders and stakeholders.

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Excellent organisational and time-management skills
- Strong attention to detail and accuracy
- Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)
- Good written and verbal communication skills

If you are enthusiastic about supporting our mission and have the skills we are looking for, we would love to hear from you.

How to Apply

If you are interested in this position, please send your CV and a cover letter outlining your suitability for the role to secretary.eskdalefoundation@gmail.com by **15 December 2025**

We look forward to hearing from you!

CANONBIE
COMMUNITY
ENTERPRISE

Join us and put your stamp on the
Canonbie Post Office and Community Store

Canonbie Community Store is a community-owned, General Store and Post Office.

We are now inviting applications for the part time role of Post Office Counter Clerk and Shop Assistant.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and friendly person to join our small Post Office & Retail team. The ideal candidate must be able to show initiative being able to work conscientiously on their own whilst prepared to help colleagues who need an extra pair of hands. A good level of numeracy skills is preferable.

On the job training will be given where required particularly whilst becoming familiar with the Post Office systems and processes and the EPOS shop management system.

The hours for this role will be:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday afternoons, 3pm-6pm
and alternate Saturdays 7am-1pm.

CCE is a Living Wage Employer.

How to Apply:

Apply in writing to Whitlawside Cottages, Canonbie, DG14 0RT and include your CV or personal statement if possible, email to: canonbiecommunityenterprise@gmail.com including "PO Assistant" in the email subject line, or phone 07584 425690
Closing Date: Friday 12th December 2025, interviews w/c 16th December

Canonbie Community Enterprise is an equal opportunities employer. We encourage applications from diverse candidates.

PLEASE NOTE YOU WILL BE WORKING FOR
A COMMUNITY OWNED BUSINESS AND NOT
POST OFFICE LTD OR THE ROYAL MAIL.

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School Sport



School Rugby

Langholm under 16 boys rugby team played in a tournament at Lockerbie last week. They faced tough matches against St Joe's, Lockerbie and Annan and showed real team work and determination throughout their games. The 'man of the match' was Max with tries being scored by Lelan, Ally and Max.



School Netball

The S1/2 netball school team secured a 20-5 win in the Scottish Cup last week against Dumfries Academy.

Here we go, here we go, here we go!



The Muckle Toon Tartan Army celebrate after the game!

Scotland's historic qualification for the football World Cup has ignited celebrations across the nation, with Langholm's Muckle Toon Tartan Army proudly at the forefront. From the Market Place to the rugby ground, supporters are preparing to showcase

their passion on the global stage.

Known for their humour and warmth, Langholm fans have banners and chants at the ready to carry the roar of the Esk Valley far beyond the Esk.

For the local football community, this achievement is more than

sport—it is a statement of resilience and pride. As Scotland heads to the world stage, the Muckle Toon Tartan Army will ensure Langholm's spirit travels with them, proving once again that even a small town can make a mighty noise in the story of national success.

The Laverock Rhymers Ups and Downs

UPS

Disappointment no more
Failure no more
Play offs no more
What a way to score!

What a box of tricks
Bicycle kicks
Between the sticks
There's a history to fix!

For a moment in time
Scots in their prime
From the half way line
And it's Auld Lang Syne!

To the World Cup we come
A surprise to some
Let's beat the drum
The Tartan Army will have fun!

DOWNES

In a city, down the road
With the rugby code
In true Scots mode
They collapsed with overload.

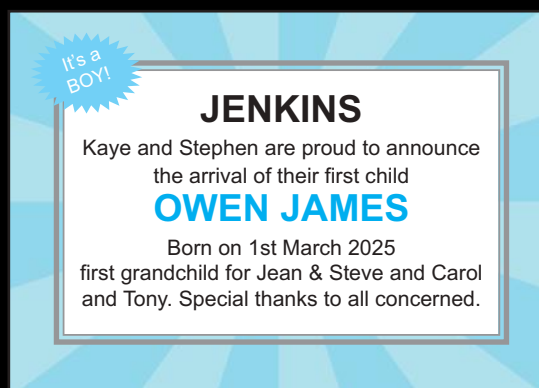
In a game they had bossed
Victory was tossed
Never should have lost
Now they're counting the cost.

Drama is our middle name
Igniting a feeble flame
Vainglorious to lame
We've only got ourselves to blame.

Special Occasion?.....tell the world!



**HAPPY
60TH!
GEORGE**
with love from
A, J, K & P



JENKINS

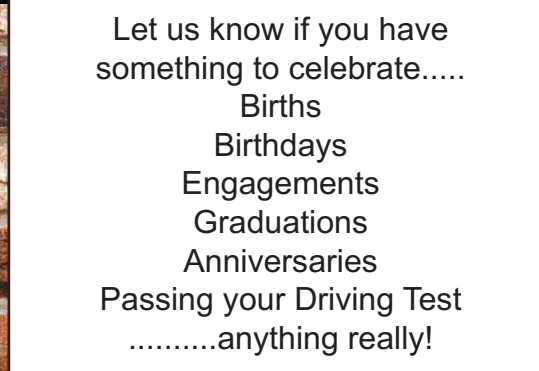
Kaye and Stephen are proud to announce
the arrival of their first child
OWEN JAMES
Born on 1st March 2025
first grandchild for Jean & Steve and Carol
and Tony. Special thanks to all concerned.



L
Congratulations
**ANDREW
BROWN**
on passing your
driving test
at last!!
love from
Mum & Dad



Happy Ruby Anniversary
Congratulations to
**JEAN & JOE
JAMIESON**
married in
Eskdalemuir Church
14th April 1985
love from all the family



Let us know if you have
something to celebrate.....

Births
Birthdays
Engagements
Graduations
Anniversaries
Passing your Driving Test
.....anything really!



Both families are delighted to
announce the engagement of
**CARLA JONES
& JOHN DEANS**
on 1st March 2025
here's
wishing you both
all the love
and luck in the world!

Send details to:
alan@eladvertiser.co.uk

Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

drop in to the office
or call us on 013873 80012



Double hat tricks power Langholm past Ross High



200 GAMES BETWEEN THEM: Colin Dirom and Lewis Miller

Langholm rugby club's victory over Ross High was also a notable day for two of their long serving players. Colin Dirom marked his 50th game for the club - with another hard working shift in the boiler house of the pack. The rumour is he is planning to play till his youngest son Rudy is also on the pitch with him and other son Ellis.

Lewis Miller, often known as Hen as there used to be another Lewis Miller in the junior squad when he first donned a pair of boots, marked his 150th game. The club said that this is fantastic commitment over the years - playing mainly in the back three and more recently into centre. Well done Hen here's to another 150.

Rugby

Match report by
Kenneth Pool

With the home match against Broughton RFC on 15th November postponed due to the Edinburgh club having no team, Langholm had not played in the league since the 25th October. Despite some hard frosts leading up to Saturday's match, Langholm were keen to get a game of under their belt and were pleased when the ground conditions improved and the match could take place. Before the kick off, a number of player sponsors and guests enjoyed a delicious soup and sandwich lunch in the club rooms courtesy of the tea ladies.

Langholm started the match strongly and with seven minutes played, Aidan Wilson scored a good try which Bailey Donaldson converted. Ross High was struggling to contain the home side, and it wasn't long before Donaldson scored Langholm's second try which he also converted. Ross High managed to get some ball and scored a converted try to make the score 14-7. With 32 minutes played Wilson scored his 2nd try which Donaldson converted. Half time

21-7.

The second half got underway, and Wilson was again on the scoreboard with his hat trick try which was unconverted. With 50 minutes played Ross High scored another converted try to make the score 26-14. Four minutes later it was prop Tommy Hope who crashed over for a try and again Donaldson was on target with the conversion. As the match entered its final quarter, Donaldson went over for his second try before converting. With the score now 40-14 Langholm looked well in control however much against the direction of play, the visitors crossed the Langholm line for their third converted try. With the match in its final few minutes, it was down to Donaldson to score Langholm's 7th and his 3rd try of the afternoon. He made sure of the conversion. Final Score: Langholm RFC 47, Ross High RFC 21. This was a high-scoring match with Aidan Wilson scoring 15 points and Bailey Donaldson with a total of 27 points. Langholm remain in 3rd place behind Dunbar RFC and Haddington RFC. Langholm's next match is due on 13th December and will be a hard away match against league leaders Dunbar at their Bleachingfields ground.

Legion's first win of the season against Jedburgh

Football

By David Borthwick

The lads were back on the road again, this time Jedburgh was the destination in the first round of the Waddell Cup.

We travelled with depleted numbers for various reasons and after the rain during the week a heavy pitch and a tough game was expected against the team we met in a cup final last season.

The best way I can describe this game; ugly.

There was the occasional moment of good football, our first goal, was one of those moments when two youngsters linked up to give us the lead, a clever ball from Ben Borthwick split the Jed defence to find a well-timed run from Danny Hotson who then calmly tucked the ball away. 1-0 Langholm.

It was Danny again who made it 2-0 with an excellent header from a Callum Summerbee corner. The score remained 2-0 at half time.

It was the home side who scored first in the second half, this turned the momentum of the game and shortly after they were awarded a penalty and drew level. 2-2.

Jed went down to 10 men after



their striker was sent off. We regained control of the match and it was Danny again causing problems for the home defence when his shirt was pulled in the box he was awarded a penalty and Jed lost another player. Daniel Winter finished on the follow up after the keeper saved his first attempt and put us back in front. 3-2 Langholm.

The final goal came from Greig Cartner whose pace helped him get on the end of a Chris Gardner pass and he tucked the ball away to make it 4-2 Langholm.

Thanks to Andy Rooney for officiating, Jed for hosting and to all those who came to support the boys yesterday.

1st win of the season, 2 games unbeaten, momentum building and 3 home games before Christmas, onwards and upwards.

Ryan and Layton win Nemo's Pairs

Carpet Bowling

Nemo's pairs tournament was played on Saturday night at Langholm social club with a good entry of 32 pairs.

Winners were Ryan Wood and Layton Foster. Well done boys - great achievement and you both played well! Runners up were David Orchiston and Rachael Simpson. Beaten semi-finalists were Ian Hall and Derek Murray and Wullie Mair and Jim Little. Quarter finalists Jack Hotson and Kyle Anderson, Mark and

Tracey Goodfellow, Jackie Murray and Ally Park, Ryan Simpson and Kenny Patterson.

There was a great atmosphere in the club as usual. We are very lucky to have such an excellent venue to host our carpet bowling in the toon. Thanks to the Campbell family for their very generous sponsorship and to everyone who came and travelled to our competition. We appreciate it very much, also to Ian Hall for umpiring the tournament - a great help. Thanks to Tracey Goodfellow for catering and running the raffle.



Nemo (centre) with winners Ryan Wood and Layton Foster(r) and runners-up Rachel Simpson and David Orchiston

E&L SPORT

