

**Council officials
check out golf
course flood drains**

SEE PAGE 5



**Carpet Bowling Club
holds end of season
presentations**

SEE PAGE 15



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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First hurdle crossed but many more still to jump!

Langholm Alliance is delighted with progress on school takeover but much work still to be done

Following our report in last week's paper about the old primary school the Langholm Alliance (LA) has sent the following comment along with photos from inside the property.

"As many will know following last week's article, The Langholm Alliance has a community asset transfer application for the Old School site currently going through the lengthy D&G Council processes.

On the 25th of March we were delighted when the Area Committee of the Council recommended the CAT (community asset transfer) proceeds to Economy & Infrastructure Committee for final decision at the end of June. The favourable decision of the Area Committee means a hurdle crossed but several more lie ahead before the LA can be assured their project can go forward.

"The project consists of two elements, Affordable Housing reserved for the use of the people of Langholm, Ewes and Westerkirk and a Community focal point in the Old Dining Hall. In addition to affordable housing units there will also be a small number of units for rent at commercial rates to subsidise the affordable housing. The intention is that the build will produce state of the art net zero accommodation.

"The condition that the school has been allowed to fall in to has meant that it was placed on the Derelict Buildings Register in 2016. Sadly, without any sort of council action to prevent further deterioration the building is now in a depressing state and will require a radical overhaul to achieve our



The condition of the old primary school is rapidly deteriorating and the building has been listed in the Derelict Buildings Register since 2016

aims. This will be expensive, but we remain committed to bringing the project to a successful conclusion and do our bit to alleviate the affordable housing crisis.

"We will provide regular updates as our plans progress the first of these will be at our AGM in July. There will also be public consultations along the way, and we look forward to hearing the community's views."

The minute from the Annandale and Eskdale Area Committee about the old school states the following

"AGREED to recommend to Economy and Infrastructure Committee Option 2 being the approval of a Community Asset Transfer of Langholm Old School, Thomas Telford Road, Langholm, DG13 0BL as outlined in Appendix 3 of the report for the sum

of £1 with the additional condition that in the region of £500K of the required capital funding is secured within 12 months."



INSIDE



Spectacular spectacle by Langholm Musical Society

Audiences were absolutely blown away with the concert staged, last week, in The Buccleuch Centre by Langholm Musical Society. The quality of the singing and the production was "phenomenal!"

Full review and more photos on centre pages.

Family Announcements

Thanks for Sympathy

DICKSON, Margaret

The family of Margaret Dickson would like to thank all relatives, friends, and neighbours for their kindness, support, and expressions of sympathy following their recent loss. Grateful thanks to all who attended the service, sent cards, flowers, and messages of condolence. Special thanks for the generous donations received in memory of Margaret to Langholm Day Centre. Your thoughtfulness has been a great comfort at this difficult time.

Church Notices

ESKDALE & LIDDESDALE PARISH
linked with
CANONBIE United Parish Church

Welcome to Easter worship

Services led by Rev Morag Crossan
Thursday 2nd April
Newcastleton 7pm
Communion

Good Friday
3rd April
Canonbie 2pm
Langholm 7pm

Easter Day
5th April
Langholm Monument 8:30am
Langholm Church 10am

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

Services led by worship teams
Canonbie Church
Easter Day 11am

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

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Editor Alan Weatherstone Features Editor Gilly Fraser
All correspondence to: newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk

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An Easter Message from

Rev Morag Crossan

As Easter approaches, many of us begin to notice small signs of change around us. The days are stretching a little longer, light returns to our mornings and evenings, and there is a quiet sense that winter is loosening its grip. In gardens and fields, new life is beginning to show—often gently, almost unnoticed at first.

Easter speaks into that same pattern of life.

At its heart, Easter is not just a story from long ago, but a message that still has meaning for us today. It begins in darkness—with uncertainty, loss, and grief. The first Easter morning was not filled with celebration, but with confusion and sorrow. Those who loved Jesus believed the story had ended.

And yet, that is not how the story ends.

The message of Easter is simple, but profound: life can come where we least expect it. Hope can rise, even when things seem beyond repair. The stone is rolled away, and a new beginning is revealed.

For many of us, life carries its own share of challenges—worries about the future, pressures of daily living, or the quiet weight of things we carry privately. Easter does not ignore those realities. Instead, it speaks directly into them, offering a different perspective: that even in the hardest moments, God is at work, bringing renewal, restoration, and new life.

In the Gospel story, the risen Jesus meets people not in grand or dramatic settings, but in ordinary places—on a road, in a garden, in conversation. That is perhaps one of the most comforting aspects of Easter: that God meets us where we are, in the midst of everyday life.

Easter invites us to look again—at our lives, our communities, and our world—and to notice where signs of hope might already be appearing. It encourages us to believe that new beginnings are possible, even if they start small.

As we celebrate Easter, whether in church or in the quiet of our own reflections, may we hold onto that hope. And may we find, in our own lives, something of that Easter promise: that light overcomes darkness, and life has the final word.

You will be made most welcome at any of our Easter services:

Liddesdale on Thursday 2nd April at 7pm, Canonbie on Friday 3rd April at 2pm, Langholm 3rd April at 7pm and Easter Sunday services at 8:30am at the monument at Langholm and Langholm Church at 10am.

Wishing you a peaceful and hopeful Easter.

Rev Morag Crossan

share the news of any...

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

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Cycling and the Highway Code

With better weather there are more cyclists on the roads now so here's a reminder of what the Highway Code says about cycling. Cyclists should use reflective clothing and lights at night, but it is recommended by several cycling organisations that people should wear bright clothing at all times so that they are visible.

An update to the Highway Code in 2022 made a few fundamental changes: drivers must give extra consideration to cyclists; cyclists may ride in the centre of the lane in certain conditions and vehicles turning must not cut across cyclists going straight ahead.

The biggest day-to-day impact came from junction priority. When

a cyclist is travelling straight on, and a driver wants to turn across their path, the cyclist now has priority. Lane positioning rules were also clarified. Cyclists were encouraged to ride in the centre of the lane on quiet roads, at junction approaches or when a lane was too narrow for safe overtaking. The Code also acknowledged that cyclists can ride two abreast when it improves visibility or safety, something that had always been legal but often misunderstood.

Finally, the 2022 update strengthened the message around overtaking. Drivers were reminded to leave at least 1.5 metres when passing a cyclist at lower speeds, with more space needed on faster or more open roads. In 2025 an



update reinforced that drivers must give cyclists enough space even when traffic is slow. It also clarified that cyclists may pass slow-moving traffic on either side when it is safe.

Drivers received new reminders about turning near cyclists, especially at junctions where protected lanes or cycle tracks are present. This follows several high-profile collisions. Courteous group riding was also highlighted. Cyclists were advised to ride in a way that keeps them visible, commu-

nicates intentions clearly and does not create unnecessary confusion. This did not restrict group riding but clarified how best to apply existing rules. Advice to cyclists is that you have the right to use the space you need to stay safe, clear signalling and steady lane choice helps drivers interpret your movements, riding centrally in the lane at the right moment protects you from unsafe overtakes, and know that drivers are expected to give you enough space but may not always do so.

Langholm's common good assets update



Langholm's Buccleuch Park is one of the town's common good assets

Elected members of Annandale and Eskdale Area Committee were last week given an overview of Langholm's common good assets in a report. The local authority holds legal title to common good land and property, however what the authority can do with it is subject to a system of statutory control.

Common good property is administered under rules that relate to the interests of the people who live in the former Burgh. The Council has a legal obligation to have regard to the interests of the inhabitants of the

area to which the common good is related when making any decision about this land and property.

The current assets include the former tennis courts at Maxwell Road, the park at Eldingholm – often known as the Buccleuch Park, the playpark and gardens on Rosevale Street, The Buccleuch Centre, the town hall, public toilets and customer service centre, the car park and public toilets at the Kilgreen and land adjacent to the sewage works on Glenesk Road. The Buccleuch Centre and the former tennis courts are let to tenants.

Place plans for Langholm and Canonbie approved for publication

Place plans for Langholm and Canonbie were presented to the Annandale and Eskdale Area Committee last week. The Langholm Alliance led on the development of these plans and a Council report recommends that they be now registered on the local place plan register on the Council website.

The report says that the community engagement process for the place plans built upon previous work done on the Langholm community plan and on the five-year action plan for the Tarras Valley Nature Reserve. The plans identify a number of areas for their focus including housing, health and social care, business and economic development,

tourism, infrastructure and energy, nature and environment, heritage, sports leisure and outdoors and art and culture. The plans acknowledge the context in Langholm and Canonbie including a sense of rural isolation, population decline, aging demographics, limited economic diversity and aging infrastructure.

We received an update about the Place Plan from the Langholm Alliance which led on its development

"The Langholm Place Plan (LPP) has been approved for publication through DG Council, we were officially informed of this last Friday. The Council are now in the process of publishing the LPP. Once, and only

once the Council have published and given us the go ahead (approximately 2 weeks) will we be able to share the link and update our members and the community accordingly. Our original plan was to write full articles on both the school and the Place Plan in the lead up to our AGM and next public consultation. We now cannot do that for the school but fully intend to do so for the LPP."

There are 15 local place plans being developed across Dumfries and Galloway with four of these being in Annandale and Eskdale. The plans will be taken into account when creating the Local Development Plan 3 by Dumfries and Galloway Council.

Tax-free Childcare

HMRC is advising parents, who are eligible, to sign up for tax free childcare. They say that 36,120 families in Scotland saved on their child care bills in December. Working families who sign up for tax free childcare can make yearly savings of £2000 off their childcare costs for each of their children up to the age of 11 and £4000 for disabled children up to the age of 16. Families could be eligible if they have a child aged 11 or under and/or if their child has a disability.

If the parent and their partner earn or expect to earn at the least, the national minimum wage or living wage for 16 hours a week on average, earn no more than £100,000 a year and do not receive universal credit or child care vouchers.

To check eligibility and to register you need to go to the Gov.UK website.

No place for abuse at May's Scottish Government elections

The Electoral Commission is calling for the Scottish Parliament Election on May 7 to be free of abuse and intimidation. In recent elections, candidates have faced unacceptable behaviour while campaigning, including harassment, threats and physical intimidation. Following the UK Parliament General Election in 2024, Commission research found over half (55%) of candidates felt that they had some kind of problem with

harassment, intimidation, or abuse, with one in ten (13%) reporting it as a serious issue. This led to more than half (56%) of respondents avoiding some kind of campaign activity due to fear of abuse. Women were also found to be twice as likely, and ethnic minorities three times more likely, to report serious abuse.

Security of MPs

The Commission has published a set of principles to guide

campaigning at the May elections, with a focus on maintaining respect, safety and honesty during robust debate. Created in response to recommendations made by the Speaker's Conference on the security of MPs, candidates and elections, the principles build on common themes across parties existing codes of conducts, and aim to put in place a common, minimum standard of behaviour, to make sure that campaigners feel supported and protected.

Bridge Results

1, Alison Mullock & Jim Muir, 2, Bob Francombe & Anne Hislop, 3 = Doreen Taylor & Pat Watson and Louise Grierson & Tom Stothart, 5, John Packer & Nancy McLure, 6, Derek Scott & Judy Pitchford.

Thanks from the doctors

Langholm Medical Partnership thanks everyone for their continued patience as they get used to their new clinical computer system. Ordering prescriptions can now be done by email on dg.langholm@nhs.scot. Alternatively you can complete the re-order slip and post it through the letter box on the railings at the health centre.

People can sign up to new online patient facing services and this can be requested via reception. You will need to provide your email address. If you previously used EMIS access this will no longer work. The health centre has not yet re-enabled their appointment reminder system via text messaging but hope to have this up and running soon.

Many of us get blood tests at Langholm Health Centre.

Staff there are now advising what will happen with the results. If your results need action, you will be contacted by phone or text and this may be to book an appointment, discuss treatment and/or to arrange further tests. Most results are available within 5 – 7 days though some tests may take longer. You will only be contacted if your results require follow-up.



NHS 24 Easter health advice

NHS 24 is reminding families across Scotland to plan ahead for the Easter holidays, highlighting the use of NHS inform as the first port of call if they have questions or concerns about their health.

The message comes as NHS 24 launches the spring phase of its Powered by People campaign, highlighting how trusted NHS digital services can help people get the right advice quickly and confidently during public holidays, when GP and pharmacy opening hours may change.

Public holidays are traditionally a busy time for NHS 24's 111 service. Many of the questions people have during these periods, from coughs and colds to stomach bugs, rashes, minor injuries and medication queries, can be answered safely online by using NHS inform. NHS

inform provides NHS approved health information, symptom checkers and advice on local services, helping people decide what to do next without needing to phone 111.

Families are also being encouraged to prepare for the spring period by keeping basic medicines and first aid supplies at home, and by checking they have enough prescription medication to cover the Easter weekend and spring public holidays. By supporting people to self care where appropriate and guiding them to the right services, NHS 24 helps ensure urgent care remains available for those who need it most.

For spring and Easter health advice, visit www.nhsinform.scot/spring

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Langholm's Got (a lot) of Talent



Langholm primary school held a 'Langholm's Got Talent' competition last week at the end of term. Auditions were held and the school said a well done to everyone who took part in those. The judges had a very challenging job to judge the final. 1st was Alfie singing 'My Lighthouse', 2nd

P1 girls singing and dancing to 'Golden', 3rd Elsie playing the tongue drum. Highly commended were Annie, Kayla, Luna and Lily. By all accounts there was a lot of talent on show.

Judges and competitors enjoyed taking part in Langholm's Got Talent



D&G Arts Festival coming to the Hub

Dumfries and Galloway Arts festival has just published its programme for 2026 with a couple of events taking place at the Eskdalemuir Hub. On 21st May Sand, Silt, Flint with Fiona Soe Paing will draw audiences into places and stories behind each song which are contemporary reworkings of north east Scottish ballads which sit alongside innovative compositions inspired by folklore and landscape. Fiona is based in Aberdeenshire and she combines vocals with a soundscape built from field recordings and archival material as well as music from Scottish instrumentalists Paul Anderson and Alice Allen. It also includes visuals by artist Isla Goldie.

On 11th June Firelight Trio will be entertaining in Eskdalemuir with European folk music that is evocative, inventive, wide ranging and exciting. It will include a tapestry of Swedish polkas and Scottish



Sand, Silt and Flint with Fiona Soe Paing

reels, lilting French waltzes, toe tapping klezmer and original tunes. The band, includes Dumfries and Galloway based award winning musician Gavin Marwick on fiddle, accordionist pianist Phil Alexander of Moshe's Bagel and Ruth Morris who has played on Outlander.

The programme utilises venues across the region and brings the famous 'Pie Pint and a Play' from Oran Mor to Stranraer, Dumfries and Moffat with a play called Members Only described as a laugh out loud Glaswegian comedy about a game of bingo that threatens to

disrupt everything. BBC Scotland described it as 'a theatrical phenomenon'.

The Dumfries and Galloway based 'Oceanalover' well known for incredible costumes, music and storytelling will present 'The Sailmaker's Palm' at Annan harbour on 30th May run in partnership with Annan Harbour Action Group tells the story of Scotland's sailmakers. Performances by this company are mesmerising.

The festival starts on 21 May and runs until 14 June. For the full programme see www.arts-dg.org.uk

Langholm Probus: Seven Memorials and a Murder

Past President of the club, Alan Williams, gave an illustrated talk entitled 'Seven Memorials and a Murder'. His inspiration came from an account on the Nicholforest parish website of the murder in 1891 of a local farmer, William Forster, by a notoriously dangerous poacher, James Armstrong.

The aftermath gave a stark contrast between present-day police responses and procedures and those of 1891. Having read the account, Alan wanted to delve deeper into this story and discovered that a monument near Greenrigg on the B6318 was erected soon after the murder by public subscription. It is in fact on the precise spot that William Forster was shot dead. Nowadays, because of forestation, it is very difficult to reach.

The next challenge concerned William Forster's grave in Nicholforest churchyard. On the reverse are commemorations to two of his sons killed in the First World War. But the initial



The memorial to William Forster

mystery was why they do not appear on the Nicholforest war memorial in the same churchyard. This turned out to be because William Forster's widow took her children to live in New Luce, Galloway, from where she originated. And in 1924 it was Mrs William Forster who was invited to officially open the New Luce War Memorial Hall, which is in use to this day.

The next twist was that the two war casualties, Private Andrew Forrester Forster and Lieutenant William Forster, served not in the British Army but in

the Australian Infantry, having emigrated to that continent. Thanks to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission records and Australian military personnel records of the period, which are accessible through the Australian National Archives on the internet, Alan was able to trace their service and ultimate sacrifice. Andrew was killed at Gallipoli in 1915 and William, whose body was never recovered, at Bullecourt on the Western Front in 1917.

The final memorial described in the talk is the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, where between sunset and sunrise the names of 103,000 dead are projected in turn on to the façade of the Hall of Memory. William Forster's name will next appear on 29th April and Andrew's on 30th March.

So, this sweeping talk had taken us from a murder at Nicholforest in September 1891 to what will occur in Canberra at the end of this month, by way of New Luce, Gallipoli and the Western Front.

Canonbie Probus: Balmoral floating oil platform

Jack Rae of Langholm was the very welcome guest speaker at last week's meeting of Canonbie Probus Club. The retired engineer who has also worked for Young's Seafoods as well as at Chapelcross explained that the title of his talk was 'Balmoral' but not the castle rebuilt in 1852 nor the Balmoral beret but the Balmoral Floating oil platform positioned midway between Norway and the UK in the North Sea. Jack who had been working in the Middle East was appointed commissioning engineer for the new floating platform built in Gothenburg in Sweden with one pontoon in one dry dock and the second in the adjacent dry dock.

The production platform built on top of the two pontoons linked them. When towed to its position in the North Sea the structure was tied to sea bed anchors and proceeded to process crude oil and gas from neighbouring drilling rigs. Jack explained the continued need for oil and gas production in the modern world and how the platform provided the base for 120 workers, divers, production

engineers, maintenance and safety teams, as well as medical, household and catering personal. The role and training of all workers was addressed in the talk which held its audience captive throughout.

When production began in 1986 the price of oil was \$20 per barrel. The platform processed 30,000 barrels a day giving a return of \$220 million per year at the outset. It quickly paid for the cost of building and servicing the platform. The platform was decommissioned in 2020 before being towed to Denmark where it was scrapped. After the thoroughly entertaining and interesting talk Paul Williams gave a vote of thanks before the President closed the meeting.



No football holiday for council

Dumfries and Galloway Council has decided not to grant an extra bank holiday to its employees on Monday 15 June 2026 for the World Cup.

Councillors considered the matter at the Full Council meeting on 26 March and decided not to designate 15 June as a bank holiday for council staff.

This means Monday 15 June will be a normal working day for employees across all council services.

Post Office Easter hours

Canonbie community enterprise will open the post office and shop over Easter weekend with hours as follows: Good Friday 8am – 1pm; 3pm – 6pm; Saturday 8am – 1pm; Easter Sunday 9am – 11am no post office; Easter Monday 9am – 11am no post office.

The Langholm Paper shop will be open as follows over Easter: Good Friday 5am – 5pm; Saturday 4th April 5am – 1pm; Easter Monday 5am – 1pm. The post office will be open from 7am.

Joint flood-related walkround with Council and residents

BEAR Scotland absent from golf course drain inspections

By Mark Hallam

On Monday 23 March, Council Officers from the Roads and the Flood Team, together with Councillor Denis Male, local residents, and representatives of the Golf Course and Buccleuch Estates, undertook a detailed inspection of the Golf Course and surrounding areas. The purpose of the visit was to assess how surface water run off from the course contributes to ongoing drainage pressures on Hillside, Hallpath, and the storm drain systems at Ashley Bank and Burnside, which in turn feed into the recurring and hazardous flooding on the A7.

Although BEAR Scotland is responsible for the A7, representatives were again absent, despite having recently addressed a further blockage caused by silty water flowing from Hallpath.

Prior to the main walk around, Councillor Male accompanied

Roads Officer Ian Dalrimple to several Whitaside properties that lie directly below the Golf Course and are regularly affected by floodwater. These locations were not reached during the earlier walk around on 20 February, when officers mapped drainage routes down to the A7 and examined the extent of debris, silt, and flooding—further evidenced around the former EWM Sports Centre and at Holmfoot House, where the cellar was inundated.

During the visit, attention was given to the still blocked road drains on Hallpath and Hillside Crescent. Mr Dalrimple confirmed that a programme of clearance works was already scheduled to begin within days, supported by a newly acquired suction machine. Once completed, the Roads Team will progress to other council-managed drainage systems. The group also examined a concrete drainage runnel beside upper Kirk Wynd, which is performing



Roads and Flood Team check drains on Langholm Golf Course

effectively. It was noted that similar engineered solutions may be required at lower Hallpath, where ongoing erosion caused by uncontrolled surface water poses a threat to the roadside bank and contributes to repeated silting of the A7's trunk road drains—issues that BEAR Scotland must then address, often over several days.

The walk around of the Golf Course focused on culverts, run

repaired ponds and increasing the use of vegetation to slow water flow before it enters the drainage network.

Looking forward, the timely completion of roadside drain clearance works must be followed by a consistent programme of maintenance and structural improvements, including the installation of additional concrete gulleys where needed. Crucially, direct and ongoing dialogue is required between Dumfries & Galloway Roads and BEAR Scotland, as BEAR's mapping of A7 drainage and run off routes is vital to ensuring coordinated planning and effective long term solutions.

A third walk around is now being arranged with another senior council officer to examine the land above the Golf Course. It is anticipated that practical and achievable modifications in this area could significantly reduce or slow the volume of water entering the course and the wider drainage system.

Painting for Pleasure

The Painting for Pleasure Spring art exhibition will be held in the pop-up shop in Langholm from 7th – 10th April from 10am – 3pm daily. There will be original works of art and cards for sale. Cash only.

Final Poppy total

Kate Turk, area organizer for Langholm area for the Poppy Scotland appeal, received a final total for last year's collection as digital donations have now been added. The final total was a fantastic £2,714.74 the highest it has ever been for this area.

Easter colouring

Young folk are invited to visit the Buccleuch Centre and create their own masterpiece in an Easter colouring competition. The competition started on Monday and ends on Friday 10th April so there's lots of time for people to take part. The competition will be for under 5s and Ages 6+. There will be a winner from each age group and they will receive an Easter egg. So be in it to win it!

Cllr Male's transport motion is carried

Last week we reported on Councillor Male's motion to Dumfries and Galloway Council about public transport to Langholm. The motion, seconded by Councillor Drysdale was voted unanimously through the committee and a request will now be made to the Economy and Infrastructure team for them to look at options for improving public transport for this area. The issue was highlighted by Luke Graham, a youth councillor who lives at Gretna, at a recent joint youth council/Dumfries and Galloway council meeting. He had said the following

"The town of Langholm and its surrounding villages have always had great difficulty in actually getting into the rest of Dumfries and Galloway as no direct transport exists. In the past, when the X95 service from Galashiels to Carlisle was an hourly service, a bus could be taken south of the border to Longtown or Carlisle and then from there to Annan. A long arduous journey but if appointments were timed right then it could work.



"Now since Covid the X95 is a two hourly service and trying to get to Annan, the DGRI or any other facilities cannot be done in a day by public transport. Border buses have been lobbied by Council, MP, MSPs, Community Councils and local councillors but will not change their stance even though as many as 12 customers can be standing when the afternoon bus reaches Langholm. Youths trying to get to day-release at DG College have been very badly affected. If parents can't

take them then it is a massive opportunity lost.

"Adults going to hospital, dental services, job centre, leisure centre etc have to hope that ACTS transport is available or pay a taxi. Cost to Annan £40 – to DGRI £90. That means appointments are regularly cancelled. Carlisle hospital, fully accessible by buses, used to be used by Esk valley residents but now, because of health service changes it is to DGRI residents are sent except in exceptional cases."

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Rural Support Plan welcomed

The Scottish Government's new Rural Support Plan has been welcomed by Scottish Land & Estates (SL&E).

The rural business organisation describes the plan as a constructive starting point for the next phase of agricultural reform, but says Ministers need to build on it with stronger investment and clearer communication.

Agriculture Minister Jim Fairlie has described it as a major milestone in the development of agricultural support.

"Agriculture is vital to our economy, the lifeblood of our rural communities and the lynchpin in our food security, and we need to take the steps now to ensure we are better prepared for challenges, such as more extreme weather events," he said. However, SL&E raises concerns that timelines have slipped and points out that the plan maintains a flat cash budget, meaning there could be a reduction in funding.

The group's Senior Policy Adviser Eleanor Kay, says the



plan is a useful foundation, but has reservations.

"The transition to a new support system appears to have slipped beyond the original time-frame, with limited change expected before 2030," she said.

"At a time when the sector is under increasing pressure to deliver on climate, nature and food production, that delay is concerning.

"There is also a clear tension between rising expectations on land managers and the tools available to deliver them. If we want to see meaningful progress, the sector must be properly supported to adapt and innovate."

"The success of this plan will ultimately depend on how well it is communicated and implemented."

Farming unions address Middle East concerns

The situation in the Middle East is causing increasing concern to farmers and farmers leaders from the UK's four agricultural unions who held a special meeting to discuss the growing impact on the industry.

In a joint statement, the four unions said farm businesses in the UK are facing increasing pressure due to global events beyond their control.

"Volatility in fuel and fertiliser markets is creating real uncertainty at farm level, with implications for food production, supply chains and ultimately consumers," the statement read.

"Of particular concern is the lack of transparency in how prices for key agricultural inputs are set. Many farmers are being asked to commit to purchases without clear or timely information, making it extremely difficult to plan and manage already tight margins.



NFUS President Andrew Connon, NFU Tom Bradshaw, UFU William Irvine, and NFU Cymru Abi Reader.

The unions want all four governments to work together to improve transparency in the pricing of red diesel and fertiliser, to ensure fair market practices and to generally strengthen resilience within the sector.

"Global political tensions are increasingly exposing the vulnerability of UK food

production to external shocks. It is essential that governments work with the industry to build resilience and ensure that farmers are not left bearing disproportionate risk.

"A stable and sustainable farming sector is essential for the UK's food security, economic stability and environ-

mental goals, but this can only be achieved if farm businesses are profitable. Profitability underpins everything.

"We are ready to collaborate constructively with governments to tackle both the immediate challenges and the longer-term implications of this crisis."

As 'dam' fine builders, beavers bring benefits

Beavers have a way of dividing opinion right down the middle. To some they are destructive pests, which chew their way through trees and plants, while others regard them as the true architects of the animal world with a particular prowess for dambuilding.

Now scientists are pitching in on the beavers' side after new research revealed the significant ecological benefits the animals bring to wetland habitats.

The work has been carried out at the University of Stirling which has found that far from being destructive, beavers are actually great allies of biodiversity.

Study lead Dr Alan Law, a Lecturer in Nature-Based Solutions, says humans depend on biodiversity for essential resources such as food and clean water and that species such as beaver which restore our environments for free should be welcomed with open arms.

"We need to learn to live alongside beavers again, accept that parts of our environment are under new hydrological management by an experienced engineer, and provide time and space to fully realise the wider benefits that come from this," he said.

Study co-author Professor Nigel Willby says the planet is currently experiencing a biodiversity crisis and the beavers can play a huge part in



Photo by Klaus Mächtel

restoring natural processes.

"Beavers physically reshape landscapes by selectively felling trees, digging canals, grazing plants and building dams on small streams," he said.

"The unique combination of shallow water, dead or fallen trees, woody dams and grazing or digging by beavers themselves makes their wetlands ultra-biodiverse, but also impossible to mimic."

Next Generation Herds

Cash prizes are up for grabs for Scotland's superstar shepherds of the future at this year's NSA Scotsheep event.

They will be taking part in the Next Generation Shepherd of the Year contest which has a total prize fund of £1300. The overall winner will also have the opportunity to represent Scotland at the UK finals held at the national event held in Malvern in July.

Texel Sheep Society Chief Executive John Yates says the Society is excited to sponsor the Scottish leg of the Competition, being held at Wedderlie Farm in Berwickshire in June.

"The standard in these competitions continues to improve year on year, with exceptional young talent being showcased, demonstrating the high skill levels which exist in the Scottish sheep industry," he said.

"The Society's support of this competition is one of a number of activities the Texel Society



Photo by Veronica White

undertakes to support the younger generation. The enthusiasm these young people have for sheep farming must be supported and nurtured to ensure we retain the best talent available within the UK sheep sector as the industry evolves in the coming years."

Competitors will have to complete two compulsory elements, namely demonstrating husbandry skills, such as

handling, vaccinating and dosing, and completing a health and flock management questionnaire.

They also have to carry out three other tasks which they can choose from a list of options including prime lamb selection, shearing two sheep (competitors must hold a British Wool Blue Seal Certificate), ATV handling on a set course, and sheepdog handling (competitors must bring their own dog).

The 'Together Alliance' march attracts locals to London protest

“Hatred and fear grow when good people do nothing”

Four local residents attended the 'Together Alliance' march in London on Saturday 28th March against the far right in which approximately half a million people took part. This is what two of them, Jane Gifford and Idris Griffiths said about the march.

I understand that you took part in the anti-far right march at the weekend. What prompted you to do so?

Jane: It was a march for inclusion and democracy. The alliance says: “Hatred and fear grow when good people do nothing”. In these troubled times it is worth making a small effort to be part of something positive and together make a statement that we don't want divisions and war.

Idris: I worked for the NHS for nearly 40 years. Its staff are diverse and I worked alongside people of all faiths; people originally born elsewhere in the world; first and second generation British people and individuals of all races. We were all united in providing the best health care possible and it was a privilege working alongside them. They represented the best in humanity and without that diverse workforce the NHS simply wouldn't exist. Recently many NHS staff have come under increasing racist abuse. Some people seem to think that it has become acceptable to taunt and intimidate people simply because they're not white British. I wanted to be a part of showing that their views are in the minority and that racist abuse and discrimination is totally unacceptable.

How do you feel about the rise of the far right?

Idris: I remember the 1970s with the National Front, and the British National Party in the early 2000s. People of colour were regularly beaten up and hatred was widespread. My extended

family includes Jews, Hindus and Sikhs. Whilst I'm white British the far right are attacking my friends, my old work colleagues and my family. It's just heartbreaking. Whilst going on a march doesn't change anything directly, it shows that people care and that we will fight against injustice - I think this is a very British thing to do! Jane: Terrified.

Was there any violence at the march that you were aware of?

Both: Non whatsoever. It was a very friendly atmosphere with music and dancing along the way!

Did you manage to hear any of the speakers and if so who were they and were they inspiring?

Idris: We were lucky to be near the front of the march, so we saw quite a few speakers - the speakers had all finished by the time the ones at the back arrived! The leader of the National Education Union was excellent, as was the Chief Executive of Friends of the Earth. Particularly memorable was Sonny Green of Britain's Got Talent fame who performed his poem 'What England Means to Me' - it was a real 'golden buzzer' moment!



Over 500,000 anti-far right protesters took part in the march in London

As one of the marchers what kind of experience did you have?

Idris: It was a very positive experience, walking along the streets of central London, in the sunshine with crowds of people from every age, race, religion and everywhere, all of whom wish the world to be a fairer, safer place for all.

How hopeful are you that marches such as this can make a difference top public opinion?

Idris: One day alone, no matter how many people were involved, will change anything. But it shows that people will stand up to the far right, and it gives strength to those who are taking action, and it shows support to those who suffer

discrimination and hatred just because of the colour of their skin. I believe public opinion will strengthen in its resolve to fight off the far right, as it did decades ago.

Is there anything else you'd like to say?

Idris: I met people there who'd never been on a demonstration before, but they were so worried that they felt that they had to do

something. However, most people don't go on marches - and I wouldn't expect them to! In reality, the important thing is that we treat all our neighbours with respect, and if we encounter racism, we challenge it so that our children and grandchildren inherit a world where kindness and compassion are paramount rather than hatred.

ACT driving volunteers

Annandale Community Transport is looking for volunteer drivers from Langholm and Canonbie. Do you have a few hours to spare and want to help people in your community? ACT is looking for friendly volunteer drivers to support our community transport service. What you'll do: Drive local residents to appointments, shopping and social activities, help people who can't access public transport; be a friendly face and make a real difference.

What ACT offers: Drive only when it suits you, Use the ACTS vehicles - no need to use your own car, full training will be provided and expenses covered. It will also give you an opportunity to meet new people and support your community.

Whether you can give a few hours a month or more ACT would love to hear from you. Get in touch on 01576 203053 or email admin@actsbus.org.uk

Hub times

Eskdalemuir old school and community hub and cafe will be open daily now from 10am - 4pm with its pool and pint night still held on a Friday evening from 7.30pm. Last food orders are at 2.45pm. Sunday lunches continue and booking is essential.

OBITUARY

Scots Guardsman Edward Middlemass

We recently heard from Betty Harkness that her brother Edward Middlemass has died. Edward was a Sergeant in the 2nd Battalion of the Scots Guards. Known as Eddie or Ted he was born in May 1945 died March 2026.

He joined the Scott's Guards regiment when he was 19 along with his mates Billy Wightman and Billy Scott. During his time in the army he travelled to many parts of the world including 3 tours of Ireland. He married in 1974 and raised a family with his wife Liz and the whole family travelled to various parts of the world.

He was promoted to sergeant, and enjoyed his time in the army and always kept in touch with his army buddies. Sadly both of the Billies died a number of years ago leaving Ted the only one left of the three who joined up together.

When he retired from the army he went to work at Heathrow airport as security guard on the aeroplanes, often travelling with various members of the Royal Family and different prime ministers. From there he retired to Edinburgh with his wife enjoying every day and often still catching up with his ex army mates. Ted lived his life the way he wanted to live it and he was always happy. He died with his family by his side, he will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Hundreds of messages have been sent to his wife telling her that he was a legend and his service to his country has been outstanding.



Eddie relaxing while off duty (above)



Guardsman Welsh of Carlisle receives instructions from Sergeant Middlemass in Belfast



LMS's 2026 production was indeed spectacular

Mairi Telford Jammeh reviews show by musical society with a fresh name and a fresh approach

All photos by Glen Cavers

Oh, what a circus, oh what a show! are the opening lines of a song from Evita, one of the early numbers sang with great emotion by Stuart Bruce-Gormley (BG) in Langholm Musical Society's 'A Musical Spectacular'. And indeed, what a show this was! We went along on Thursday night and the songs took us through every emotion in the book. From the heart-rending Gethsemane from Jesus Christ Superstar sang with such poignancy by Sam Berg to the fun numbers from Matilda with a fabulous cast of young people. The youngsters really seemed to enjoy themselves with their shirt tails 'hingin' out' and ties skew wiff.

Songs from South Pacific made us smile or reminisce about 'Some enchanted evening' while a song from Hamilton, a musical I'm not familiar with, by 'King George' in reality Thomas Chandley singing 'You'll Be back' was a lovely way to close the first act.

After the interval we were off to Skopelos for Mamma Mia with fun songs and the lovely 'Slipping through my Fingers' sang so beautifully by Fiona Evans. Georgie Swale and Rebecca Plant gave us 'For Good' from Wicked which was excellent and then we were into Shrek. Three women of different ages sang Fiona's song 'I know it's today' representing her never ending search for her fairytale man. The whole company came together to do 'I'm a believer', also from Shrek, written by Neil Diamond and of course originally sang by the Monkees. Leona Mason who is apparently having a baby any day was superb with the song 'She mine' from Waitress. She has a voice and emotion of well. Back to songs from Dolls all of which were well choreographed and sang. I liked 'Sit down you're rockin' the boat'. And then the fabulous 'We both reached for the gun' from Chicago with Stuart BG and Georgie Swale as his puppet.

We had a fantastic finale with songs from Les Miserables Master of the House was Billy Young with his wife Alison Aston giving us great entertainment in their inn with the chorus joining in. Francis Laidlaw then sang the heart-rending song 'Bring him home' about a man's prayer for his nephew to return from conflict alive. And finally, the whole company performed the stirring 'Do you hear the people sing?'. It was superb. And just when we thought we had finished we were treated to a lovely encore.

From the start of the show, we were reminded that Langholm Musical Society was formerly LAODS and that it was founded 103 years ago. Old photos, chat and memories added lovely touches to the show. And the narration kept the show running along nicely and brought it together. There is one thing for certain and that is that Langholm's Musical Society has a very bright future. The musical arrangements were so well done, and the musicians made the whole evening a showcase. This spectacular must have taken an enormous amount of work to put together and Judith Johnson, as Director and Graeme Brownlee, as musical director should be given much of the credit. But also to all the backstage people and supporters, chaperones and everyone who made it happen a big WELL DONE.



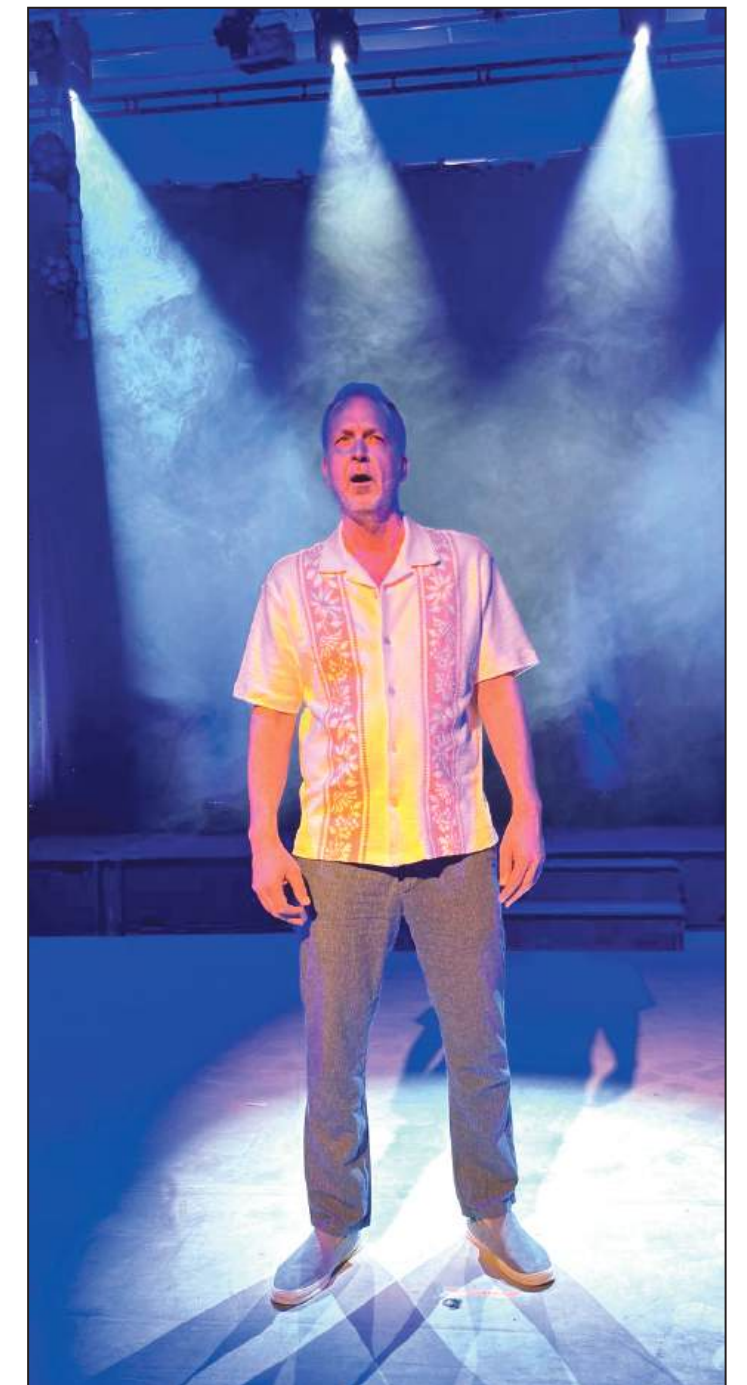
NOTHING LIKE A DAME: from South Pacific



REVOLTING CHILDREN: from Matilda



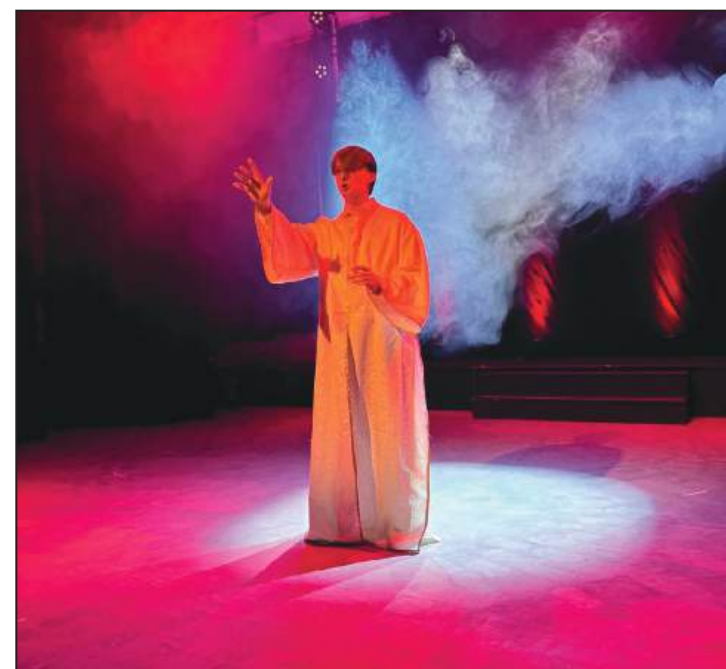
TELL ME ON A SUNDAY: Nicole Weatherstone



SOME ENCHANTED EVENING: Stuart Bruce-Gormley in the South Pacific



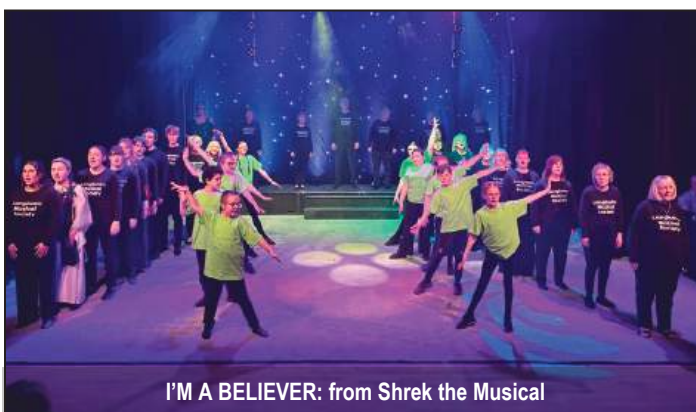
FANTASTIC FINALE: Do you hear the people sing? from Les Misérables



GETHEMANE: from Jesus Christ Superstar sung by Sam Berg



MASTER OF THE HOUSE: the redoubtable Billy Young sings from Les Misérables



I'M A BELIEVER: from Shrek the Musical



MAMMA MIA: here they go again!



YOU'LL BE BACK: Thomas Chandley sings as King George in Hamilton



DOES YOUR MAMA KNOW?: Alastair Rennie is the subject of the Mamma Mia song

By Gilly Fraser

Wildlife crime's top man to meet goat campaigners

Campaigners fighting to protect and preserve wild goats on Langholm Moor are to meet with one of Scotland's top wildlife figures to discuss the situation.

Police Scotland have agreed to put up their wildlife crime co-ordinator D.S. David Lynn to meet with Wild Goat Conservation Trust Chairman David Braithwaite.

David, who has been spearheading the fiercely fought local campaign to save the wild goats from mass culling, says it's an important step forward.

"Detective Sergeant David Lynn will be able to tell us about Scottish law and the ways it can protect wild goats against wildlife crime, so we're really interested to hear about that. We're also really grateful to Police Scotland for giving us a wee bit of time to help us understand the situation better."

D.S. Lynn is already a well-known figure in the Borders for the work he has done in



Police involvement!

investigating crimes against Golden Eagles and other birds of prey,

It's a timely boost for the campaign which suffered a major disappointment earlier this year when the Scottish Government rejected a bid to give the wild goats protected status, despite receiving a 22,000-strong petition.

The Petitions Committee

Chair reluctantly made the decision because government agency NatureScot insisted the goats were non-native and therefore not eligible for the status.

Convenor Jackson Carlaw expressed the frustrations of many MSPs when he said a widely supported view from the local community had been set aside in favour of a rule book.

High notes promised for festival



This year's Newcastleon Traditional Music Festival already looks like it's hitting all the right notes as the first details emerge of planned events.

One of the oldest events of its kind in Scotland, the Festival had come perilously close to closing down altogether through lack of local organisers and support but is now enjoying a whole new lease of life thanks to a brand-new village-based committee.

Now it's been announced that the musical shenanigans will begin on the evening of Friday July 3rd with a ceilidh in the Village Hall. This will be followed on the Saturday with a show by popular Newcastle artist Jason Arnup and his band.

Sunday will see the much-anticipated Chorus Cup, but in between all of those scheduled shows and events, musicians of all genres will be making the rafters ring in the village's pubs and bowling club throughout the weekend.

The new committee say they're keen to ensure the festival is family-friendly with something for all ages to enjoy and they're really looking forward to welcoming everyone for what promises to be a fantastic weekend.

Further details about timings and activities will be shared soon, so keep an eye out for updates on this page as well as on the festival's Facebook and Instagram.

Copshaw sculptor, Christine, and Hoolio make renowned publication

The work of Copshaw sculptor and artist Christine Robson has won a place in an internationally renowned publication.

Two of her creations are featured in the book, "Women Artists on the Rise" published by The Woman Artist Award which focuses on finding, celebrating and promoting female artists from around the world.

Christine says she first heard about the award through a friend.

"One of my artist friends contacted me and told me about this great company and a competition that she thought I should enter.

"I just submitted a write up about myself, and another one on the pieces and pressed the button.

Christine says she thought it was "a long shot" that she'd hear any more, but a few months later, an email arrived with the great news that she had made it into the 2026 edition.

It's easy to see why her work caught the eye of the judges – her animal sculptures are vibrant,



Hoolio

lifelike and full of character.

Christine says her passion for Art began when she was a child and led her to take a Fine Art degree at college.

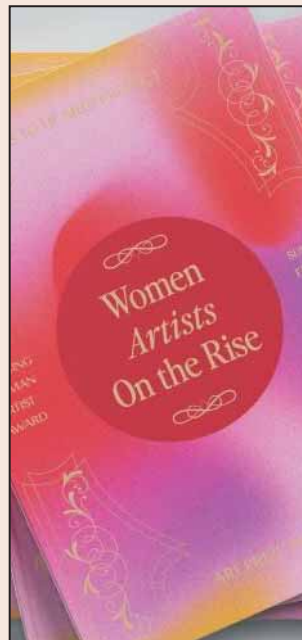
However, life got in the way with a growing family and a demanding career in the corporate world, leaving her very little spare time for anything else.

But after learning the skills of

throwing and handbuilding clay, she installed a wheel and kiln in a shed in the back garden and really got to work.

Initially she made one-off bowls and platters, each one unique and carrying her distinctive style. Then she learned how to sculpt with clay and that unleashed her other great passion – animals.

A highly realistic gorilla called Hoolio is one of the two animal works to be featured in the book, and he looks certain to win Christine a whole new legion of fans worldwide.



Writers Wanted!

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

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

D&G leads the way on nature recovery



Dumfries and Galloway is set to become a national leader in landscape scale nature recovery as two major regional projects – SCAMP Landscape Connections and the Galloway Fisheries Trust’s Flowing Forward – Restoring Galloway’s Rivers Project – have been jointly selected by the Scottish Government as one of only nine exemplar projects across Scotland.

The announcement comes following approval by the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy and recognises the projects as among the most ambitious and innovative in the country for landscape and seascape restoration. As official exemplars of the Scottish Biodiversity Delivery Plan, both

initiatives will now receive priority access to agency expertise, coordinated support from organisations including NatureScot, SEPA, Scottish Forestry, Forestry and Land Scotland and Scottish Water and increased help in attracting future nature based investment.

Together, SCAMP and the Restoring Galloway Rivers deliver a unique catchment wide, ‘source to sea’ approach, connecting upland river systems with the Solway coast. This integrated method aims to accelerate ecological restoration, support climate resilience, improve water quality, enhance fish and wildlife habitats and strengthen natural flood management.

SCAMP Landscape Connec-

tions is a 10 year programme spanning 210 miles of the Solway coast, bringing together seven partnership organisations and delivering 35 nature restoration initiatives across seagrass, native oyster reefs, saltmarsh, coastal woodland and sand dunes. The project is designed to restore habitats, protect biodiversity, engage communities and schools and open up new pathways into green jobs.

The Flowing Forward – Restoring Galloway’s Rivers Project, led by the Galloway Fisheries Trust, focuses on restoring aquatic biodiversity, improving river health, supporting native fish populations and tackling practical land and water management challenges across Galloway’s iconic river systems.

Mundell has Panic Attack



CHARITY BET : David Mundell MP chooses ‘Panic Attack’ for his charity bet at William Hill’s Annan branch. Looking on, left to right: Melissa Graham, Annan branch team leader, and Ruth Healey, regional cluster operations manager

MP David Mundell’s horse-racing choice this week triggered light-hearted banter and surprise. He was making his annual charity bet pick for this spring’s wide-open Randox Grand National at Aintree and opted for 20/1 shot ‘Panic Attack.’

The Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale representative joined staff and customers at the Annan High Street branch of William Hill, the bookmakers, as part of an annual national effort to support good causes organised by the Betting and Gaming Council (BGC).

Mr Mundell said: “It is always a hard-to-predict race, but I do

like Panic Attack’s memorable name, and I’m told that, like so many others, she may have a reasonable chance. Regardless of how Panic Attack performs, a £50 donation will go to charity and that figure will, of course, be much larger if she wins.”

The 10-year-old Irish-bred mare is trained at Dan Skelton’s Warwickshire stables, and the big race takes place on Saturday April 11 at 4 pm.

Mr Mundell plans to pass any proceeds from the charity bet to Dumfries and Galloway Sands, which provides support to anyone affected by the death of a baby.

Eskape to Eskdalemuir on your bike

Eskape Active Travel is a new project of the Upper Eskdale Development Group and is based at the Old School Hub and Café. It’s launching in Eskdalemuir on Saturday 4th March at the Hub at 3pm. This project is about encouraging active travel and with both walk and bike leaders trained and E bikes available to hire from the Hub, it promises to offer both local people and visitors opportunities to be more active and enjoy the area.

10 maps have been created by Al Green at ADG Design and Consultancy, and 10 walking maps are in development. The walks and bike rides offer a way to enjoy the various trails around the Eskdalemuir area including round the Black Esk reservoir. The routes have been risk assessed by project managers Al Green and Simon Hansel. Most of the bike routes are on gravel utilising the many forestry tracks in the area although some such as the prehistoric trail, are on road. A logo and branding have also been created by Al Green and merchandise will be available at the launch. A group of people have been walking and riding the trails for

some time and have enjoyed each other’s company and being able to enjoy the area together. They would welcome more people to join in and get involved. They are also offering bike rentals and guided rides on the bikes and walking. Eskape Active Travel is on social media and a Whatsapp group allows members see what rides and walks are taking place when.

Upper Eskdale Development Group is grateful for the funding from the Community Led Local Development fund and SWestrans for this project.

The group are looking to establish different bike rides on a regular basis and would welcome people to get in touch if they would like to get involved. They will be organising sessions for people that have not been on a bike for years, or would like to trial ebikes, to maintenance classes and sessions on how to change a tyre. The group is promoting responsible access to the countryside and will make bike users aware that they must adhere to the Scottish outdoor access code. As the first bike project of its kind in Eskdale here’s hoping that its a big success.



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.....0800 042 0188
Langholm Town Hall/Library
013873 80255
Dumfries and Galloway
bus timetables
www.dumgal.gov.uk/timetables
Scottish Borders Council
0330 100 1800
out of hours.....01896 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.bears Scot.com

POST OFFICES

Langholm.....013873 52022
Newcastleton.... 013873 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

Langholm013873 83100
Newcastleton.....013873 75100
Canonbie013873 71313
NHS24111

CHURCHES

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

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.

Lang Syne in Eskdale

...David J. Beattie on bogles and beasties!

...continued from last week

The desire and determination to resist the invader was perhaps such as never inspired our nation to the same extent before.

In testimony of this, it is interesting to read the following extract from the notes of this peace-loving pastor of one of the least likely to be invaded parishes in the Kingdom.

"The Volunteer system" he writes, "having been obliged to be limited and not one half accepted, the proportion of Eskdalemuir parish came to the twenty-two men, which, with a like number from Westerkirk and Ewes, formed a Company under Captain James Scott, Enzieholm; Alex Borthwick, Lieutenant, Sorbie; and Ensign Thomas Bell, Crurie. Indeed, the spirit throughout the nation is astonishing."

And here is given a summary of Britain's military strength "What a thrilling sight among 'a nation of shopkeepers' as the French contemptuously call us!" warmly comments the Doctor. "Are not these the stirrings of the divinity within us; and a sure omen that we shall not be left a prey to the barbarous invaders? ... What a novel sight to see our shepherds at drill, ad their masters learning sword exercise!" His words seem almost prophetic and are surely worthy of the earnest

attention of all students of history.

The Todshawhill Bogle

Dr Brown perpetuates the Gilpin Horner legendary story which furnished Sir Walter Scott with one of his characters in the "Lay of the Last Minstrel". The story runs to considerable length, with no apparent lack of what might seem to be confirmatory evidence, from which the following notes have been gathered.

One misty morning towards the close of the 17th century, while John Moffat, son of the tenant of Todshawhill, Eskdalemuir, along with a neighbouring farmer's son, were working their horses on the farm land, they heard a voice at some distance crying to them through the mist. Soon afterwards a creature came running towards them "having the appearance of an old woman above the middle and with very short legs and thighs".

So fearsome a sight made them run for the cow loan where the women were milking the cows. When the creature came to the women, they were as much afraid as the lads had been; but on one of the cows attempting to push against the strange being, the latter said "God help me, what means the cow?" With that they became less terrified for they imagined that if it had been an evil spirit it would not have mentioned the name of God in the



Author of our current nostalgia series, David J. Beattie, local historian

way it did.

This weird and mysterious creature remained in the neighborhood for little more than a week, making its appearance at odd intervals; and disappeared as strangely as it came.

According to one account, it was last seen sitting on a stone at the head of the Barm-pool, below Yetbyre (now Castle O'er) and according to another, it was observed on the top of a rick of hay that had been overturned somewhere between Twiglees and Sandyford.

Dr Brown informs us that the common belief among the hill-folk appeared to be that the little creature was a person who had been carried away by the fairies! "But" he writes "the proper explanation of the mystery probably is that some mis-shapen dwarf resuming on his unnatural appearance in an age when superstition held firm sway, made the simple rustics pay tribute for their ignorance. However, the idea of such a being caught the fancy of the poet, and he has invested it with a surrounding second to none of the great creations of his genius."

As for the name, Gilpin Horner, this seems to have been given to it afterwards. The persons who saw the mysterious thing, and those who handed down the story, refer to it as "The Bogle at the Todshawhill".

Looking back...

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report Thursday, 26th March 2026

CONTACT NUMBERS:

John Walton	07880 527 066
Daniel Lynn	07584 200 489
Nick Woodmass	07442 246 063
Sam Hogg	07584 207323
Norman Douglas	07786 366 833
Helen Rickard	07741 313 029



C&D Auction Marts had forward an entry of 8,747 sheep comprising of 5,767 hoggs and 2,980 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 26th March 2026.

PRIME HOGGS

Principal prices (Per head)

Texel - £270 Roxburgh Mains, £247, £242 Buttercup, £240 Roxburgh Mains, £230 Kilnford Croft, Roxburgh Mains, Harene and Corstane, £229 Station Yard.
Suffolk - £250 The Land, £228 Roxburgh Mains and Buttercup, £222 Cambeckhill, £216 Station Yard, £212 Kilnford Croft, £210 Branteth
Beltex - £240, £230 Kilnford Croft, £230 The Land, £228 Muirfold, £224 Milton of Gollanfield, £220 Finness, £216 Galleywreay and Finness.
Mule - £222 Kilnford Croft, £202 Finness and Camphill, £192, £187, £186 Wydon Eals, £185 Galleywreay.
Blue Texel - £214 Cardewlees, £202 Seat Hill, £194 Ashton.
North Country Cheviot - £214 Station Yard, £200 Monellie and West Montgarswood, £194 Buchtrig, £188 Guardsmill, £187 Station Yard
Badgerface - £210 Low Northsceugh.
Hill Cheviot - £208 Mainside, £207

Mount Benger, £199 Toftholm, £198 Newtonhill and Mount Benger, £196 North Shortcleugh and Catslackburn
Charollais - £200 Broomhills, £186 Newtonhill.
Blackface - £200, £195 Springhill, £194 Silloans, £192 Springhill and Toftholm, £190 Camphill, £188 Mount Benger.
Cheviot Mule - £200 Netherhill, £190 Newtonhill, £188.50 Stonehouse, £183 Corstane, £172 The Heugh.
Herdwick - £187 Orthwaite Hall, £186 Ashley Park, £182 Hunley Bank, £181 Netherwood, £176 Ashley Park.
Easy Care - £185, £172 Monellie.
Zwartbles - £178 Little Mark.
Lleyn - £177 Peithyll.
Dutch Spotted - £173 Little Mark, £168 Heathery Hall.
Romney - £173 Peithyll.
Dorset - £172 Woodside.
Swaledale - £166 Heddon, £162 Westernhopeburn, £149 Pasture House, £145 Westernhopeburn
Roussin - £158 Lane End.
Kerry Hill - £153 Gilnockie Tower Cottage.
Shetland - £134 Little Mark.
Principal Prices (Per Kilo)
Texel - 565.2p Marbrack, 463p Newtonhill, 461.9p Low Northsceugh and Miller Hill, 460p Milton of Gollanfield, 458.3p South Bogbain, 458p Baillie.

Beltex - 553p Finness, 541p Pasture House, 536.6p Finness, 514.3p Galleywreay, 495p Corstane, 492p Chapel Farm.
Blue Texel - 497.4p, 485p Ashton, 465p Cardewlees.
Suffolk - 493.3p Invercharron, 465.8p Outertown, 462p Baillie, 450p Newtonhill.
Hill Cheviot - 461p Achahuish, 460p Invercharron, 458.3p Dunrobin, 452p Baillie, 450p Unthank, 444.1p East Buccleuch.
Roussin - 451.4p Lane End.
Blackface - 443.3p Invercharron, 436.8p, 436p Westernhopeburn, 436p Kirkhouse, 435p Seat Hill, 433p Greenside.
Mule - 439p, 433p Westernhoeburn, 430.6p Invercharron, 423.8p Finness, 422p High Cattadale, 421.4p Invercharron, 420p Guardsmill.
North Country Cheviot - 437p Oswie, 407p Guardsmill, 405p West Montgarswood, 397.9p Station Yard, 394p West Montgarswood.
Easy Care - 428.2p Monellie.
Herdwick - 426.8p Orthwaite Hall, 425p East House, 418p Orthwaite Hall, 417.1p, 411p East House.
Dutch Spotted - 420p Heathery Hall, 393.9p Little Mark.
Charollais - 417p Broomhills, 396p Newtonhill.

Kerry Hill - 414p Gilnockie Tower Cottage.
Cheviot Mule - 409.8p Stonehouse, 404.8p Newtonhill, 397.8p Corstane, 390.9p The Heugh, 376p Baillie.
Shetland - 406p Little Mark, 379p Galleywreay.
Swaledale - 406p The Craggs, 395p Westernhopeburn, 394p The Heugh, 392.1p Pasture House, 392p Westernhopeburn.
Lleyn - 402.3p Peithyll.
Jacob - 386.2p Knock.
Romney - 360.4p Peithyll.
Badgerface - 350p Low Northsceugh.
Zwartbles - 342.3p Little Mark.

CAST EWES AND RAMS

A similar entry of 2,980 cast forward. Heavy ewes topped at £330 for Texel ewes consigned by Beckfoot Farms & RJ Burgess, The Bush, Hightae. Light ewes topped at £168 for Blackface and Cheviot ewes from E Astley, West Stobs Wood, Morpeth. Rams topping the sale at £280 for a Texel from AG Coulter, Woodside, Kirk-michael.
Heavy ewes
Texel £330 Beckfoot & The Bush, £325 Mainside, £315 Nether Tyne, £300 Mossband House & Roxburgh

Mains.
Blue Texel £300 Nether Tyne, £275 Knock.
Suffolk £260 Beckfoot, £252 Nether Tyne, £250 Chaseside, £235 Knock.
Charollais £250, £240 Beckfoot, £220 Chaseside, £215, £208 Nether Tyne, £208 Beckfoot.
Beltex £220 Nether Tyne, £212 Kilnford Croft, £205 Thornthwaite Close.
Mule £208 Moss House & Beckfoot, £190 The Bush, £179 Beckfoot, £175 Cambeckhill & East Mill Hills.
Cheviot Mule £204 East House, £190 Cambeckhill, £188 East Mill Hills, £180 Northway, East House & Falnash.
North Country Cheviot £200 Beckfoot, £172 Chaseside, £170 Drumreach.
Bleu du Maine £195 Drumreach.
Light ewes
Blackface £168 West Stobs Wood, £158 Burnfoot Hill, £154, £146, £144 Allfornaught, £145 Winterhope, £142, £140 West Stobs Wood.
Hill Cheviot £168 West Stobs Wood, £166 Falnash, £165 Kilnford Croft, £162 Allfornaught, £160 Northway, £158, £154 Broomlands, £154 Burnfoot Hill.
Easycare £162 Broomlands, £140 Northway.
Goat £152, £150 Easter Whitmuir.
Lonk £146 Zetland.

Swaledale £140 Allfornaught, £132 Spoutbank, £128 Northway.
Jacob £122 Old Hall.
Rams
Texel £280 Woodside, £265 Nether Tyne, £245 Robmar, £240 Beckfoot.
Charollais £245 Nether Tyne, £220 Chaseside, £215 Nether Tyne
Blue Texel £212 Cardewlees.
Cheviot £210 Mount Benger & Chaseside, £190 Mainside, £185 Skelfhill, £182 Mainside.
Dorset £210 Chaseside.
Bluefaced Leicester £202 Priesthaugh, £200 Northway.
Suffolk £198 Muirfold, £174 Priesthaugh, £170 Mossband House & Easter Whitmuir.
Lleyn £195, £182 South Bogbain.
Blackface £155 Chaseside, £150 Glenbeg, £145 Arnice.
Lonk £150 Zetland.
Swaledale £145 East Greenridge.

Averages:

Hoggs	
Light to 565.2p (425.8p)	
Standard to 553.0p (418.2p)	
Medium to 536.6p (414.7p)	
Heavy to 469.0p (382.7p)	
Ewes	
Light to	£168.00 (£123.55)
Heavy to	£330.00 (£179.23)
Rams to	£280.00 (£172.80)

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

CREATION MILL **WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**
W/C 6th April 2026

Mon	CLOSED FOR EASTER MONDAY	
Tues	Easter holiday club - Langholm 10-2	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Canonbie In Stitches 2-4	Village Hall, DG14 0UX
	Easter holiday club - Eskdalemuir 10-2	The Hub, DG13 0QJ
Wed	Welcome Wednesday 10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
	Kirkpatrick Fleming In Stitches 10-12	Victoria Hall, DG11 3AU
Fri	Langholm weekly In Stitches 1-4	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES
Sat	Free motion bird portraits 10-4	Creation Mill, DG13 0ES

Scrap Store is open Tuesday - Friday 10-3
Booking required, please visit CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS

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WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

Sat 4th	Eskape Active Travel Launch Day	Eskdalemuir Hub 3pm
Mon 6th	Easter Party call 07971 097090	Ewes Hall 2pm - 4pm
7th to 10th	Painting for Pleasure Art Exhibition	Pop-up Shop 74 High Street
Fri 11th	The Deacon Blue Experience	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Mon 13th	LEW Community Council Constituency Hustings	The Buccleuch Centre 7pm
Wed 15th	Hard of Hearing Group Hearing Aid Maintenance	Langholm Day Centre 1 - 3pm
Sun 19th	The Legends of American Country Show	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Mon 20th	Dementia Catch-up Group	Langholm Day Centre 1.30 - 3.30pm
Fri 24th	Hard of Hearing Group Brew and a Bletcher	Langholm Day Centre 10.30am - 12 noon
Sat 25th	LRFC Langholm Sevens Tournament	Milntown First Tie - 2pm

The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2613 answers next week

- On which river does Ellesmere Port stand?
- Which county does not border Wiltshire: Hampshire, Berkshire Gloucestershire, or Warwickshire?
- In which National Park would you find the notorious Snake Pass?
- Which London Underground line runs from Harrow and Wealdstone to Elephant and Castle?
- In which English county would you find the Market Rasen racecourse?
- Which London museum has its home south of the River Thames in what was once the Royal Bethlehem Mental Hospital?
- What is a capercaillie?
- On which island would you find Cemaes Bay and Cemlyn Bay?
- In which English county is Cannock Chase?
- In Scotland, what is a bothy?
- Where would you find the Duke of Wellington's tomb?
- What is the magnificent home of the Dukes of Devonshire that stands on the banks of the River Derwent?
- In which Lincolnshire town was Margaret Thatcher born?
- What is the second largest lake in the Lake District?
- Which famous golf course is located in Virginia Water, Surrey?
- Which royal residence is located on Deeside?
- Which town is the centre of the Scottish winter sports industry?
- Which English county would you associate with the Wolds?
- What range of hills can be found near Worcester?
- What is the southernmost point of the English mainland?



Photo: Paul Anderson



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2612

- Ravens
- Portsmouth
- Gloucester
- Carlisle
- Crummock Water
- Lancelot
- Rose
- William Caxton
- Derby
- Kennet and Avon Canal
- Cheshire, Cornwall, Cumbria and Cambridgeshire
- Winchester
- The French Lieutenant's Woman
- Cheshire
- Haweswater
- Redcar
- New Year's Day
- Roger Miller
- Vauxhall Bridge
- Llandudno

Crossword 2612

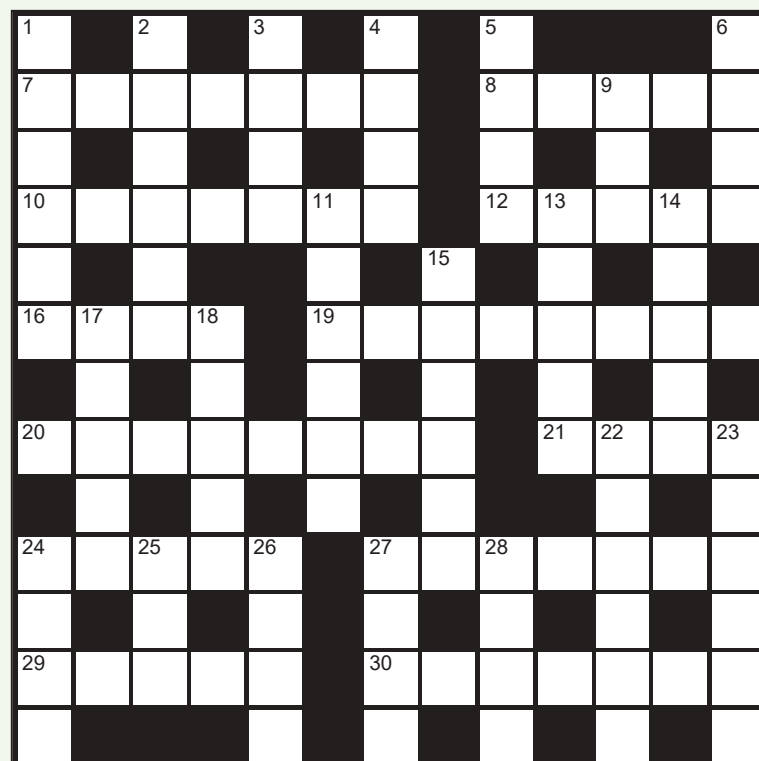
Across: 1 Orphan, 5 Assure, 8 Operated, 9 Sand, 10 Biff, 11 Sublime, 13 Walled, 16 Entomb, 19 Returns, 22 Apes, 23 Span, 24 Splendid, 25 Energy, 26 Dredge.

Down: 2 Replica, 3 Harmful, 4 Notes, 5 Audible, 6 Sushi, 7 Range, 12 Moo, 14 Lee, 15 Dare say, 17 Trainee, 18 Meeting, 19 Ripen, 20 Tenor, 21 Solid.

NEVER A CROSSWORD!

No. 2613 A mix of general knowledge and cryptic clues think. Answers next week

- Across**
- Pleasant feature (7)
 - A long time (2,3)
 - Observes (5,2)
 - Like a promenade on a wet day (5)
 - "Eh?" (4)
 - Alaska's --- Islands (8)
 - One who quarrels noisily (8)
 - Ice melter (4)
 - Fictions (5)
 - Does very well (7)
 - Enter (3,2)
 - Embassy specialist (7)
- Down**
- Accountant's concern (3,3)
 - "Romeo and Juliet" setting (6)
 - "Driving --- Daisy" (4)
 - Blue-green (4)
 - Uncovered (4)
 - Repudiate (4)
 - Smartphone download (3)
 - Mouthpiece of the gods, in mythology (6)
 - Fingerless gloves (5)
 - Dragnet (5)
 - Stirring up hatred for a serious shortage (6)
 - Hasten (5)
 - In old money, a florin to a quid (5)
 - It's easy to give but hard to take (6)
 - Predilections (6)
 - Talk-show clip-on (4)
 - Small dog breed (3)
 - Chinese dynasty at the time of the Norman Conquest (4)
 - Easing of tensions (4)
 - Memorisation by repetition (4)



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 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council has made the above named Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Details may be inspected between 26/03/2026 and 07/05/2026 online at www.tellmesotland.gov.uk or by arrangement (Tel – 030 33 33 3000). Any person wishing to challenge the validity of the Order on the grounds that it is not within the Statutory powers set out in the Act or relevant regulations, or that any requirement of the Act or relevant regulations has not been complied with may, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made, make an application for that purpose to the Court of Session.

THE DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COUNCIL (C75a CAROLINE STREET AND C75a ELIZABETH STREET, LANGHOLM) (ONE WAY STREETS) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2026
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council has made the above named Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Details may be inspected between 26/03/2026 and 07/05/2026 online at www.tellmesotland.gov.uk or by arrangement (Tel – 030 33 33 3000). Any person wishing to challenge the validity of the Order on the grounds that it is not within the Statutory powers set out in the Act or relevant regulations, or that any requirement of the Act or relevant regulations has not been complied with may, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made, make an application for that purpose to the Court of Session.



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 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
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 here's wishing you both all the love and luck in the world!



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Carpet bowling winners celebrate at end of season presentation night

Carpet Bowling

Luke Tolson tells us that last Thursday night was the final club night of the carpet bowling season held in Langholm social club. Paul Warwick gave a vote of thanking to the 50 members for joining the club again this year. Also thanks to those who contributed to our fundraising opportunities this year. Thanks was also given to our chairman Gavin Jeffrey for presenting all the prizes. It has been a good season and thoroughly

enjoyed by organisers and competitors alike. Following is the winners of the club competitions this season.

It's great to see so many people of different ages taking part in the bowling over the winter months. It's a great 'inter generational' activity. At the E&L we are always grateful to Luke for keeping us up to date each week with the local bowling. We hope that over the coming weeks we can continue to keep everyone up to date with the green bowling which gets under way shortly.



First pairs winners - Luke Tolson and Kevan Grieve



Rinks winners - Robert Phillips, Kyle, David Goodfellow, Mark Goodfellow



Points champion and junior points champion - Aaron Wood



Junior singles champion - Ally Hall



Singles champion - Luke Tolson



Second pairs winners - Ryan Wood and Kerr Gordon



Ladies Champion - Frances Jeffrey

Kelso today...

In-form local handler Sandy Thomson is looking for his good fortune to continue in the feature race at Kelso on Thursday.

The Greenlaw trainer, who recorded four winners, a second and a fourth in the space of three days recently, saddles Dedicated Hero in the £12,000 Let's Get Ladies Day Ready Handicap Hurdle over a trip of nearly 2m 5f.

Sent off joint-third favourite for the Morebattle Hurdle last time, he travelled sweetly for a long way but was a spent force when Danny McMenamin pulled him up before the final flight.

"It was his fourth visit to Kelso and the first time he'd been beaten there," Thomson said. "We knew he is a lot better than that so we've had his wind done to improve his breathing and hopefully that will make a big difference.

"He seems in good form at home and we're happy with him. All being well there could be other options for him later in the spring at various courses.

"We've had a terrific run of late and it was great to have four winners over the Go North Finals weekend. The yard had a winner

at both Musselburgh and Kelso followed by a fantastic double at Carlisle so it was a great lift for everyone involved."

Opposition to Dedicated Hero includes course and distance winners Sunset Hill and Feach Amach.

Susan Corbett-trained Sunset Hill romped home by 21-lengths on Borders National Day two years ago while Feach Amach, trained by Adam Nicol, scored in a mares' event on Ladies Day last May.

Having shed his maiden tag at the 22nd attempt, Burgundy Man attempts to follow up in the Racing TV Profits Returned to Racing Handicap Chase.

Mike Smith's Ayrshire raider has a 5lb rise to contend with for that chasing debut success at Perth in late October last year.

The Join Racing TV Now Handicap Chase sees My Lady Elektra attempt a breakthrough strike for Kinneston-based Nick Alexander.

She's done a lot of her racing at Kelso as five of her last seven starts have come at the Borders venue including a fine second over course and distance in November.

Parktool Pizza party with Bikeseven

Cycling

At last, ... another Bikeseven Event!

This Holy Week we are doubling up with events; Thursday 2nd April you are invited to the Bikeseven Parktool Pizza Party. From 17.00 to 20.00hr you will have a chance to have a look in our new workshop. Plus, we are celebrating yet another birthday of some old chap from the Holm! Hurray. You will be offered the wonderful pizzas from our friends at Romanos. Yummy. Hot and cold drinks on tap. Plus, we are having some games so you can win some nice cool prizes including a Parktool Pizza tool.

We hope to see you there - everyone welcome. Benvenuto and benvenuta!

The Bikeseven Cycle Jumble is **Saturday 4th April** from 9.00 - 13.00hr - See your stuff - grab a bargain! We support Macmillan appreciate anything you wish to contribute to that good cause however no pressure.

Sunday 19th April: BorderBlastv2 at 7Stanes/RockUK Newcastleton from 9.00 till 15.00hr. A FREE Bikeseven/Kona Cycle demo event. Ring 01228792497 to book you place.

More good news for Eskdale: Gillian and the team at Wilson Pets in Langholm now has a compact display with Cycling Essentials from Bikeseven for sale at attractive prices."



Sports News

Thursday April 2, 2026

Sponsored by **KELSO RACES**

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MONDAY 20th APRIL

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KELSO RACES
A WARM BORDERS WELCOME

Langholm lose out in Broughton double header

Rugby

By Kenneth Pool

With the previous week's match against Broughton RFC being postponed, the return fixture at Milntown on Saturday was classed as a "double header". The winner of the match would be awarded double the league points.

With Bailey Donaldson, Chris Tait and Jay Gordon all returning after long term injuries, Langholm took to the field with a much-changed side from the previous 3 matches. With Broughton still to play 5 matches this season, in line with East League rules, they were able to field a number of players from Heriots and Currie in their line-up.

Broughton started well and despite some good Langholm defence were soon on the scoreboard with a converted try. The home side battled hard against a solid defence and were unlucky to score before Broughton went over for another converted try. With the score 0- 14, Langholm upped their game and started to put together some good moves which tested the visitor's defence. With 35 minutes played, Bailey Donaldson gathered the



Bailey Donaldson crashes over for his, and Langholm's second try of the match

ball and crashed over for a good try which he also converted. On the stroke of half time, Broughton managed to score their third try (converted) and the half ended with the score Langholm 7 Broughton 21.

Pressure

Langholm had it all to do now and they started the second half with some good pressure

and were soon down on the Broughton line. Centre Ben Jardine crashed over for what looked like a good try but the referee was unsighted and blew up for a knock on. Langholm maintained good pressure and were awarded a penalty, kicked by Donaldson to make the score 10- 21. Langholm were winning much more ball now and further pressure saw them back

down on the visitor's line. The forwards won the ball, and it was passed to Donaldson who scored his second try right between the posts. He converted and Langholm were now within 4 points of Broughton. Another try would see Langholm ahead. With time running out, Langholm were camped on the Broughton line and tried their hardest to make the breakthrough, but Broughton's defence was good and despite 4 attempts to cross the line at close quarters, the visitors held on and the ref blew for the end of the match.

Final Score Langholm 17 Broughton 21.

Despite being beaten Langholm showed a lot of spirit and determination especially in the second half denying Broughton any further scores in the match. All credit to players who almost pulled off a win against a strong and well drilled Broughton side. Bailey Donaldson scored all 17 of Langholm points in a good display after a number of weeks off injured.

Langholm picked up two losing bonus points and are now 5th in the League with one more match to play. This is against North Berwick at Milntown on 11th April Kick off 3pm.

Aoiffion is now SprintFastest Champion

Athletics



SprintFastest is an exclusive, invitation only sprint competition designed to showcase the fastest young athletes in Scotland. It brings together the top sprinters from age groups U11 to U20.

The event took place on Saturday and offered a unique opportunity to compete in a high performance environment with electronic timing, professional officiating and electric atmosphere. U15 Girls 1st place went to Aoiffion McVittie-Brangan of Langholm with a time of 12.38. She was the fastest female over all the age groups. 14 other athletes from Edinburgh Athletic Club competed in the event.

Legion v Duns

Football

By Robert McLean

It was a fast start from the Legion which saw the boys go 1 and 2-0 up early doors, the first coming from Danny Hotson who worked the ball onto his right inside the Duns box to fire home (1-0). The second came from a Legion clearance which found space behind the visitor's backline. Dan Winter latched on and slid a low effort across goal - Greig Cartner made no mistake at the back post (2-0).

In true Legion fashion the 2-goal lead was short lived. A long ball into an awkward area proved very awkward indeed as a legion player (who shall not be named) nodded past Derek into the net (2-1). Duns then levelled midway through the half, after a spell of pressure the ball landed at the foot of a visitor at

the edge of the box. An assured strike brought them back into the game at 2-2.

A free kick before half time restored the legion lead. Craig Cuthbert drove a low cross into the box, which deflected to Fin Dell at the penalty spot, who swivelled and connected sweetly to send the home crowd into frenzy. Legion had to battle in the second half to protect the lead - and did so emphatically. The boys held their shape and veteran goalkeeper Derek Johnson was more than a match for long range strikes and in-swinging crosses. Eventually though, Duns equalised when a scramble in the box deflected in (3-3).

The game ended with spoils being shared. A fantastic night of football had in front of an encouraging crowd. The players can be proud of their efforts. A home fixture vs Hawick United awaits next weekend, we hope to see many of you there.

Netball champs

Netball



A Langholm Academy team has just become the Junior Regional Netball League champions. Well done to everyone who was part of the team.

E&L
SPORT

