

**A miscellany of
Spring photographs
from our regular
E&L snappers** SEE PAGES 8 & 9



**Unbelievable!
300/1 Kelso win
for Crokes Cross**

SEE PAGE 16



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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Full turnout of candidates for Parliamentary debate

Community Council event gives locals the chance to quiz the hopeful contenders

Residents across Eskdale and the wider area will have an opportunity to hear directly from Scottish parliamentary candidates next week as Langholm, Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council prepares to host a constituency hustings for Dumfriesshire.

The free event will take place on Monday 13 April at 7pm in The Buccleuch Centre, offering local voters a chance to put questions to those standing for election and to explore the issues shaping the campaign.

Voters will go to the polls on Thursday 7 May 2026 to elect the next Scottish Parliament. Each voter has two votes: one for their local constituency MSP, chosen on a first past the post basis, and a second for a regional list, which helps ensure proportional representation across the wider area. Dumfriesshire is one of the 73 constituencies that will return an MSP, alongside seven regional MSPs elected for the South Scotland region.

The Chair of the Community Council, Stuart Clement JP, said he hoped as many people from the area as possible would attend. Stuart said: "At the town meeting held in June 2025, residents were given a series of assurances which have yet to materialise, while receiving nothing of substance in response to concerns about the



Erskine Church, public transport, and matters falling within the remit of SEPA. Whoever becomes the constituency MSP - and a regional MSP - must be left in absolutely no doubt about the depth of frustration in this community; Langholm has been overlooked for far too long, and those in political power must stop paying lip service and start delivering."

Stuart added that the event is open to all members of the public and that any question may be put to the candidates. He stressed that questions do not need to be specific to Langholm; residents are equally free to raise wider issues such as the NHS, climate change, independence, immigration, or matters affecting the global community, including the conflict in the Middle East.

All declared candidates for the constituency have been invited, and all have confirmed their attendance. The candidates for the Dumfriesshire constituency are:

- **Paul Adkins**
Scottish Common Party
- **Linda Dorward**
Scottish Labour
- **Craig Hoy**
Scottish Conservatives
- **David Kirkwood**
Reform UK Scotland
- **Iain McDonald**
Scottish Liberal Democrats
- **Stephen Thompson**
Scottish National Party



Paul Adkins
Scottish Common Party



Linda Dorward
Scottish Labour



Craig Hoy
Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION DEBATE

Open Q&A session

Your **ONLY** chance to put **YOUR** questions on local issues to **ALL** The Candidates for the *Dumfriesshire Constituency!*

MONDAY 13th April, 7PM,
The BUCCLEUCH CENTRE
All Welcome



David Kirkwood
Reform UK Scotland



Iain McDonald
Scottish Liberal Democrats



Stephen Thompson
Scottish National Party

Family Announcements

Deaths

GREEN, Carol Mary

(née Anderson, ex of Crown Hotel, Langholm)

Died peacefully, after a long illness, on Friday 27th March. A dear Mum, Grandmother, Sister and friend to many.

A funeral service will be held at Brewsterwells Crematorium, St. Andrews on Tuesday 21st April at 10am to which all friends are cordially invited.

RICHARDSON, Jemima

Jemima Richardson, aged 85, of Newcastleton passed away peacefully on Sunday 29th March. A Graveside funeral service will take place on Monday 13th April at 10.30am in Castleton Cemetery.

Family flowers only donations if desired will be shared between British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research

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United Parish
Church**

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led by
Rev Morag Crossan**

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**LIDDESDALE
11am**

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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

From a distance...



EDITORIAL | Alan Weatherstone | 9th April 2026

This week has seen an extraordinary contrast that highlights two different forces shaping this planet we call home. One is full of hope, rooted in science, exploration, and progress for all of humanity. The other is grounded in political power, influence, and the arrogance and aggressive policies of the United States administration.

Artemis invites humanity to imagine a shared future among the stars; political movements remind us of the challenges we face here on Earth. Together, they illustrate the disparate nature of human endeavour—capable of both deep division and harmony.

I was deeply moved watching the launch and subsequent journey of the Artemis crew and thinking how one nation can bring about this monumental achievement on the one hand and on the other seek to obliterate a 7,000 year old civilization.

Artemis: Speed your journey home.

*From a distance,
the world looks blue and green
And the snow-capped mountains white
From a distance,
the ocean meets the stream
And the eagle takes to flight.*

*From a distance, there is harmony
And it echoes through the land
It's the voice of hope
It's the voice of peace
It's the voice of every man.*

*From a distance,
you look like my friend
Even though we are at war
From a distance,
I just cannot comprehend
What all this fighting's for.*

*share the
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of any...*

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- marriages
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- christenings
- birthdays
- anniversaries
- congratulations



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Relief as two-week ceasefire agreed and Strait of Hormuz to be opened

It's been a worrying time for everyone with the Straits of Hormuz in the middle east blocked and oil prices fluctuating daily.

For those who rely on heating oil and who needed to fill up their tank in the last couple of weeks the prices have been excessive and made us think about what we could do to install heat pumps or alternative sources of heat. And at the pumps some of us have experienced fuel shortages although we are told there is no shortage in the country.

It has certainly made us all think about our dependence on oil and shipping for the transport of vital goods such as the ingredients of

fertilizer. Some of us will remember the energy crisis of the 1970s when we were on a three-day week because of the coal strikes.

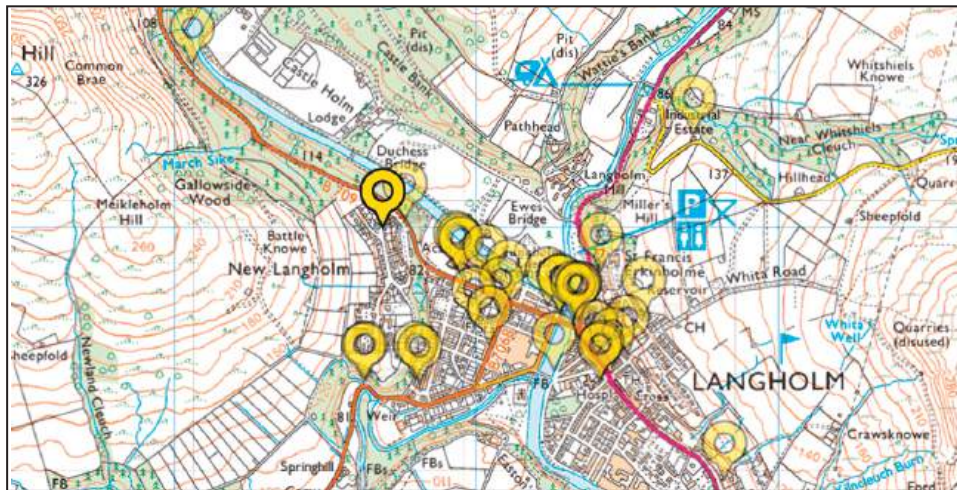
For those of us that can remember being at school at that time we thought it was marvellous but there were regular power cuts, candlelight, issues for businesses and TV programmes were curtailed.

What happens now following the announcement of a two-week cease fire and the re-opening of the Straits to shipping is anyone's guess. Hopefully it will hold and some deal can be put in place to prevent more war and more deaths and destruction and get the flow of goods moving again.



Photo by Irfan Sismar/Pexels

D&G introduces online pothole reporting system



Residents across Dumfries and Galloway now have a new, easier way to flag up potholes, damaged pavements and streetlighting faults, thanks to the launch of a region wide reporting system.

The service, known as FixMyStreet Pro, brings everything together in one place. Using a simple interactive map, locals can drop a pin on the exact problem spot, add photos and even check whether someone else has already reported the issue.

Residents can also sign up for

handy email updates, allowing them to follow progress without needing to chase the council directly. The platform works well on mobile phones too and can be saved to the home screen for quick access while out and about.

All reports submitted will appear on the map for the public to see, though not everything will be repaired immediately. Lower priority defects - classed as P4 and P5 - may not qualify for repair straight away, but they will still be logged and monitored through routine in-

spection.

The council is also reminding people that sending in multiple reports about the same fault won't speed up a repair, as work continues to be prioritised by safety and available resources.

A spokesperson said the new system has been introduced to make the reporting process clearer and more transparent, cut down on duplicate submissions and help residents see at a glance what is already being dealt with in their area.

Dumfries makes a bid to be 2028 Town of Culture



Dumfries Partnership Action Group has put forward a bid to enter the UK Government's Town of Culture competition. The closing date for expressions of interest was 31 March. The competition is designed to deliver on the government's Plan for Change, driving local economic growth and opportunity.

The competition is open to small, medium and large towns, with the winner delivering a vibrant cultural programme. Showcasing towns' local visions and voices - through new arts venues, performances, workshops and more - this competition brings local investment, creates a lasting sense of pride in towns, and opens doors to the arts for everyone.

Sir Phil Redmond will lead an expert panel, judging towns on the way they'll tell their unique story, how they'll bring everyone in a community together, and how towns will deliver on their vision. The strongest bids will progress to a shortlist, with each shortlisted town receiving £60,000 to help deliver their full bids for the competition.

Three finalists - one small, one medium, one large town - will be chosen. The winner will be crowned UK Town of Culture 2028 and receive a £3 million prize. The two runners-up will each receive £250,000 to deliver elements of their bid, from refreshed community infrastructure to electric music festivals. Decisions will be made in late Spring.

Community Wardens in attendance

Due to concerns raised by members of the community about dog fouling and anti social behaviour, Langholm, Ewes and Westerkirk Community Council has arranged for a Community Warden team to attend a meeting on Thursday 16 April at 5.30pm at the town hall to talk about their work and hear first hand the concerns of local residents. All are welcome to attend.

Thanks for the soup

Canonbie United Parish Church would like to thank all the soup makers, pudding makers helpers and customers for their support over the last five soup lunches.

The total made from the five was £2011 so thank you very much.

Bridge Results

1, Bob Francombe & Anne Hislop, 2, Alison Mullock & Jim Muir, 3, Lorraine Morton & Doreen Taylor, 4, Derek Scott & Judy Pitchford, 5, Alix Stevenson & Pat Watson, 6, Lesley McCartney & John Packer

Townhall toilet vandals will be flushed out!

Latest acts could jeopardise the future of public loos in town centre

The latest incident of vandalism by a small, thoughtless minority has left the Town Hall toilets in such a poor state that they must now be closed until repairs can be carried out.

Those responsible may not think this matters, but in reality many local groups are working hard to encourage visitors to stop, explore, and support the town.

One of the first things people look for when they stop somewhere is public toilets. With the town centre facilities now out of action, the nearest alternative is at the Kilngreen - recently reopened - on the edge of town.

It's important to remember that Dumfries and Galloway Council is not legally required to provide public toilets. Continued vandalism could lead to a decision to close them permanently. These facilities are not just for tourists - they are relied upon by many local residents too. This has to stop.

In the days since this happened, there have been many people looking for the toilets and having to be sent to the Kilngreen. Councillor Denis Male told the E&L that he is pushing to get the work. But another incident will be very hard to defend keeping them open.



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Musical memories stirred

Reading the report of the Society's recent presentation of numbers from musical shows triggered memories of my brief association with its predecessor, LAODS, appearing as a pageboy, with Drew Weatherstone in a similar role, in The Gondoliers in Milligan's Hall, the forerunner to Buccleuch Hall. I was pageboy to Flo Morrison, and I have a photograph of the entire cast on the garden steps of the Hope Hospital; how we all fitted onto the modest stage of the hall is a miracle. Drew and I would be about 8/9 years old at the time and my next association with public singing was with the Dumfries Academy choir. In those days we had to attend Dumfries Academy after 3rd Year, staying in a hostel.



LAODS' 1948 production of G&S' The Gondoliers

There was a long gap in my singing "career" thereafter, other than demob parties during National Service, but I joined the 70 strong Westerton Male Voice Choir 9 years ago, following the death of my wife Florence, and I am still with them, now the oldest member.

I was prompted to write as we are performing songs from shows at this year's Spring Concerts in April and one of

them is "Bring Him Home" which the LMS included.

I am pleased to see that the musical tradition is still thriving in Langholm, with plenty of younger people involved. Our choir is considerably more "mature" with one member in his late 40s and the rest of us 60 plus!

Jim Graham
Clydebank

Scotland's Finest Woods Awards '26

Entries are now open for all categories of Scotland's Finest Woods Awards 2026 and it has never been easier to submit a superb example of excellence in woodlands and forestry. With a new website – www.sfwa.co.uk – and easy to use online entry forms it could not be simpler to have your work championed on the national stage.

Entries opened earlier in the year for the Schools and Early Years categories and closed on March 31. Entries for all other categories are now also open, with a deadline of May 31.

Jean Naim, Executive Director of Scotland's Finest Woods, said: "We are delighted to launch a new website with a simple to use digital application form, making entering a straightforward process. We hope you like the new format. Scotland's Finest Woods celebrates outstanding achievement in woodland creation and management across a wide range of settings, including schools, farms, forestry businesses, community projects and urban woodlands.

Not only do winners gain recognition and publicity for



their dedication to caring for trees, there are cash prizes and one of the competition's prestigious trophies, presented at a glittering awards ceremony which will take place at the end of the year. For many entrants, the opportunity to host a visit from the judges is also a rewarding and inspiring experience. So why not enter your project this year and be in with the chance of winning?"

There are 10 competitions at this year's Scotland's Finest

Woods Awards covering Urban Forestry, Quality Timber, Farm Woodland, New Native Woods, Community Woodland, Schools and Early Years.

SFW

Scotland's Finest Woods is an independent charity which relies on the generosity of its sponsors and supporters to provide the resources needed to stage Scotland's premier woodland awards programme.



Canonbie Hall closure fears

Canonbie Hall had its AGM this month, it was extremely disappointing that only 6 people turned up, with 1 apology sent. Those attended were all over the age of 60!

In the past few years, the hall committee have worked hard to improve the hall under the Chairperson Janice Sheppard, with the support of Diane Badham, both have individually worked hard. Janice will be stepping down in 2027; Diane will be step-

ping down in 2028. A sad loss for the committee

Our hall is now over 100 years old and needs renovating, a new heating system being considered will be the costliest upgrade.

We receive no funding from the council; the running of the hall is paid by the income from the lets. Last year the lets just covered the running costs. Concerns about the price of oil will impact on the running costs too.

Come on! We need you!
There are only 4 meetings a year. The hall does not run on its own, we need support! Without this support there will be no toddler group, brownies, bowling etc, we think, sadly of all there will be no Flower Show!

Volunteers do not need to be a committee member; we need people who could help with maintaining the hall. For example, the gutters get blocked we could phone someone, painting gutters etc.

We do need committee members, especially people who have the skills to apply for funding which will be used to upgrade the hall.

We need younger members too, to give their input.

If anyone would like to volunteer either with keeping the hall maintained or to become a committee member please email

Janice.sheppard100@gmail.com

Signed
Canonbie Hall Committee

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D&G's 1,500 bridges need regular inspection

Checks in recent years have been hindered by staff shortages

A report to the Dumfries and Galloway's Council's Economy and Infrastructure committee last week set out the responsibilities of the Council's bridges and structures team to inspect the approximately 1500 bridges in the region. Most of the bridges are of the masonry arch design and cross watercourses but others cross railways including the west coast mainline and the Gretna to Kilmarnock line.

Inspecting these in recent years has been affected by staff shortages and the pandemic which disrupted the cycle for inspections and regular maintenance. The bridges and structures team is now aiming for the general inspections, which take place every two years and the principal inspections which take place every six years, to be up to date in 2026/27.

The closure of the bridge at Kirkcudbright put a lot of

pressure on the team of engineers and there has consequently been a knock-on effect on the regular inspections of bridges. The team is also challenged because it's managing ageing assets, concrete bridges which are deteriorating, such as the one at Kirkcudbright, has fewer resources including qualified staff, budgets and the increased costs of materials. There have also been changes in what is required in terms of 'scour assessments' which look at erosion around the foundations of a bridge.

As well as setting out the challenges and the process for managing the inspection task, the report states that there will be a review of the bridges and structures team to ensure it is still fit for purpose. A senior structural engineer has now joined the



team to assist with the structural reviews of the bridges, and a private consultant has been engaged to deliver on scour assessment work. This person will also help the team deliver assessments and train Council staff so that there is capacity within the

team to carry them out in the future.

Given the number of bridges in Eskdale that we all rely on, it is essential to residents here that assessments of our crossing points is done regularly and effectively.

The Langholm Bridge should be inspected regularly for its structural integrity and general safety for users

Happenings at the Hub

A nearly new clothes sale is taking place on Saturday 18th April from 11am to 3pm at Eskdalemuir old school and community hub. It costs £5 to have a table. To book one email Trudi on trudikg@eskdalemuir.com or phone 013873 73760.

At the same venue Hanna Casement is holding a yoga retreat from 10am – 4pm on Saturday 25th April. The day will offer relaxation and a time to ground, rejuvenate and rebalance. This can be booked at www.nurturingwellness-hannacasement.co.uk.

Be aware of lambing season

As most of us know we're now into lambing season and farmers are asking everyone walking dogs to keep them on leads and under control. Dogs chasing sheep can cause them to miscarry their lambs and cause huge stress to sheep and lambs and harm them resulting in fatalities.

Muirhall teams up with MND Scotland

Renewable energy developer Muirhall Energy has announced that MND Scotland has been selected by the charity team as its Charity of the Year for 2026/27. The partnership reflects Muirhall Energy's ongoing commitment to supporting causes that make a real difference to people living in Scotland.

The announcement follows a hugely successful 2025 fundraising programme, during which Muirhall Energy partnered with Glasgow's Children's Hospital Charity and Macmillan Cancer Support. Through a combination of team-led events and individual challenges - matched pound-for-pound by Muirhall Energy - the company raised over £9,000 for the two organisations.

The Muirhall Energy charity team has set itself a target of raising £10,000 by April 2027 and will be taking on a programme of fundraising events and challenges in aid of MND



Scotland - supporting the charity's work researching motor neurone disease and providing essential support services for those living with MND across Scotland.

Lynne Wiseman, Fundraising Lead, MND Scotland commented:

"As we mark our 45th anniversary, we welcome the support of Muirhall Energy and look forward to working with the team over the next 12 months. The money raised by Muirhall Energy will go a long way to helping make time count for people affected by this brutal disease. A sincere thank you to

everyone at Muirhall Energy for making an impact in the fight against MND"

MND Scotland is dedicated to directly supporting people in Scotland with MND, their families and friends, whilst also funding vital MND research. The funds raised will support people living with an MND diagnosis and will contribute to vital MND research. You can follow the team's fundraising journey on our social channels, support our activities and donate via


<https://www.givewheel.com/fundraising/13707/muirhall-energy-fundraiser-for-mnd-scotland/>

Contact John Lamont MP

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Farming with Gilly Fraser

Muller kills off dairy contracts

Up to 100 milk producers in Scotland and north Wales have been given the shattering news that their contracts with dairy giants Muller will end in March 2027.

The German multinational company which has been operating since 1896, has sent letters to an unconfirmed number of milk producers confirming that it intends to cut down its supply base.

In the letter, Müller agricultural director Richard Collins said the decision had been taken only after careful consideration but was necessary to protect the long-term position of the business and its wider supply chain.

"Recent adjustments in our contracted volumes mean the total amount of milk we are contracted to process for the UK market has changed," he said.

"To ensure we manage our supply of raw milk responsibly and maintain a sustainable balance between milk intake and processing demand, we have no choice but to make



adjustments to our supply base."

It's the latest blow to hit Scotland's milk sector which has seen prices drop sharply – down around 18% year-on-year to roughly 37-40ppl – while output continues to climb, driven by favourable conditions and higher yields.

Many producers are now being paid below the cost of production, which poses a severe threat to their viability.

It's believed many of those affected may be given the choice of moving on to an ingredients-only contract.

It's less than a year since Muller UK & Ireland announced a £45 million investment in its Skelmersdale site, a move which was warmly welcomed at the time by NFU Scotland.

Borderway Agri Expo is crème de la crème of shows

This year's Borderway Agri Expo is promising "an exceptional line-up of highly respected judges" from across the UK.

At the October event, the main commercial cattle classes will be judged by pedigree cattle breeder Boomer Birch, while Orkney's Balfour Baillie takes on the Baby Beef section. The sheep classes will be judged by Jack Smyth from County Tyrone.

Boomer has been competing at the event for more than ten years and has won several championships. He says he's honoured and excited to be asked to judge.

"To judge at an event like this is every stockperson's dream, and I'll be looking for stylish, correct cattle with real commercial value."

For Balfour Baillie, who runs 80-90 Limousin and Belgian Blue cross suckler cows on his



Pedigree cattle breeder
Boomer Birch
Photo: Cogent

family farm, it will be a debut appearance at Agri Expo.

"It's a big, big show that I've heard fantastic things about but

never managed to attend due to calving, so this is a great opportunity. I'll be looking for correctness, a strong top, good

legs, and something with a bit of flash that really stands out in the ring."

Jack Smyth has also enjoyed major show success, including interbreed championships at Balmoral Show, and bred the Baby Beef champion at Agri Expo in 2019. He says being asked to judge at Agri Expo is like being asked to judge a Royal Show.

"It is without a doubt the crème de la crème of shows, and I'll be looking for something well fleshed, balanced, and with real showing presence and style."



Entries sought for prestigious SRUC Award

Present and former SRUC students are being invited to enter a prestigious competition which endeavours to spread the word about agriculture.

The award bears the name of award-winning and groundbreaking journalist and farmer Fordyce Maxwell and is now in its fourth year.

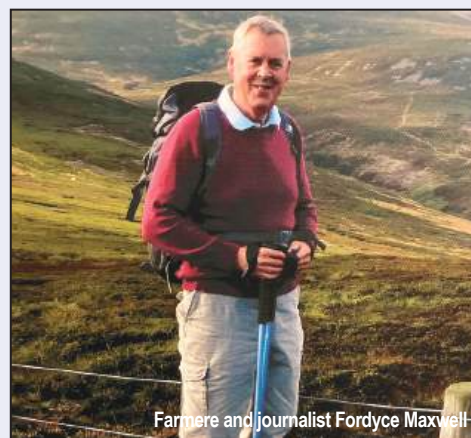
He was a great advocate for the farming industry, and he has a strong family connection to SRUC with his son Tom being the Chief Communications Officer.

Senior SRUC Lecturer Craig Davidson says the award encourages SRUC students to raise awareness about their chosen industry.

"In times of changing public perception and a decrease in general agricultural literacy, we aim to encourage those who have their wellies on the ground to spread the word about the food journey," he said.

"The Fordyce Maxwell Award for Agricultural Communications seeks to recognise SRUC students and alumni who demonstrate exceptional strength and determination in their efforts, large or small, to publicly spread the word about agriculture in order to showcase and promote its value to local, national, and international audiences."

Previous winners of the award include podcaster Wallace Currie, Knowledge Exchange Manager



Farmer and journalist Fordyce Maxwell

at UK Agri-Tech Centre; Catriona Brown, Competitions Manager at RHASS; and Junior Auctioneer John McCulloch.

It's open to current or former SRUC students who actively spread a positive message about agriculture through any form of communication. Any current student studying full-time, part-time, or through the micro-credentials courses is eligible to apply.

The winner will receive a trophy and £200 cash prize.

Calling upland women

A new initiative has been launched to support women who live and work in upland spaces.

It's the brainchild of the Heather Trust, which was set up to reconcile the conflicting needs of grouse and sheep farmers on moorland.

Now in its fortieth year, the Trust recognised the need for a forum to celebrate the contribution of women in shaping the UK upland sector and as a result established the Women's Upland Network.

A founding group was formed of ten members, with experience ranging from farming to conservation and rural enterprise, each member sharing a passion for ensuring upland landscapes thrive.

The group is now expanding to become country wide.

Organisers say WUN will celebrate the diversity and richness of women's contributions to the uplands, while facing head-on the particular challenges faced



in these remote and unique landscapes.

Events will range from informal gatherings to workshops and knowledge-exchange sessions, all designed to strengthen the voice of women in agriculture, conservation and rural industries.

Upcoming events include a get-together at Forum Books in Corbridge on Thursday April 23rd, followed by a reception at the Scottish Game Fair at Scone Palace in Perth on Friday

July 3rd.

Heather Trust Director Katrina Candy says it will become a valuable resource for women.

"We are so pleased to have received initial funding from the Scottish Government to get this project off the ground. What started as a conversation is becoming a reality and we hope that WUN will grow to become a valuable, meaningful resource for women who live in, work on or simply love our amazing upland landscapes."

The sheer pleasure of Painting for Pleasure

Langholm art club's pop-up exhibition

Langholm's Painting for Pleasure group is exhibiting in the Langholm pop up shop on the High Street this week. The exhibition opened on Tuesday 7th and runs until tomorrow Friday 10th April from 10am – 3pm.

There is an eclectic mix of artworks and handicrafts in the exhibition including ceramics. Most pieces are for sale and it's worth popping along to see what's available. The painting for pleasure group meets on Wednesdays from 1pm – 3pm in the Studio (not this week though) and everyone is welcome no matter their age or ability.

For anyone new going along, materials can be provided.



One swallow doesn't make a summer but...

..the house martin's here first



Last week I saw the house martins flying around near the Langholm bridge. These little birds always precede the arrival of swallows or swifts.

In fact, the swifts are normally the last to arrive. According to the RSPB the house martin is a small bird with glossy blue-black upper parts and pure white under parts. It has a distinctive white rump with a forked tail and, on close inspection,

white feathers covering its legs and toes. It spends much of its time in flight, collecting insect prey.

The bird's mud nest is usually located below the eaves of buildings. They are summer migrants and spend their winters in Africa. Although still numerous and widespread, recent moderate declines earn them a place on the Red List, meaning that they are at risk of extinction.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Expect delays on A7 at Longtown

Cable-laying over the bridge over the River Esk at Longtown will necessitate the installation of two-way traffic lights on the A7 from Monday 13th to Wednesday 22nd April.

Delays are expected and any updates on the work can be accessed on the Causeway One Network website at <https://one.network/en-gb>.

The swallows should be next so keep an eye out for them arriving too. They have a larger forked tail with thin 'streamers' and no white rump and have a red throat. It is lovely to see these migrants arrive every year in Spring and although it has been very cold and 'one swallow doesn't make a Summer' we know that warmer weather is on its way.

Mairi Telford Jamme

The Electoral Commission

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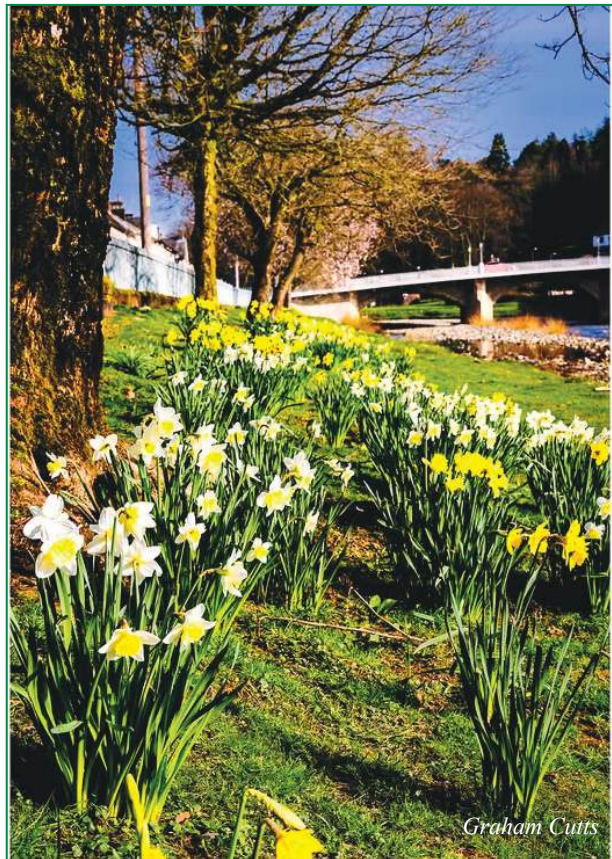
Scan to register



A photographic miscellany of Spring



Mairi Telford Jammeh



Graham Cutts



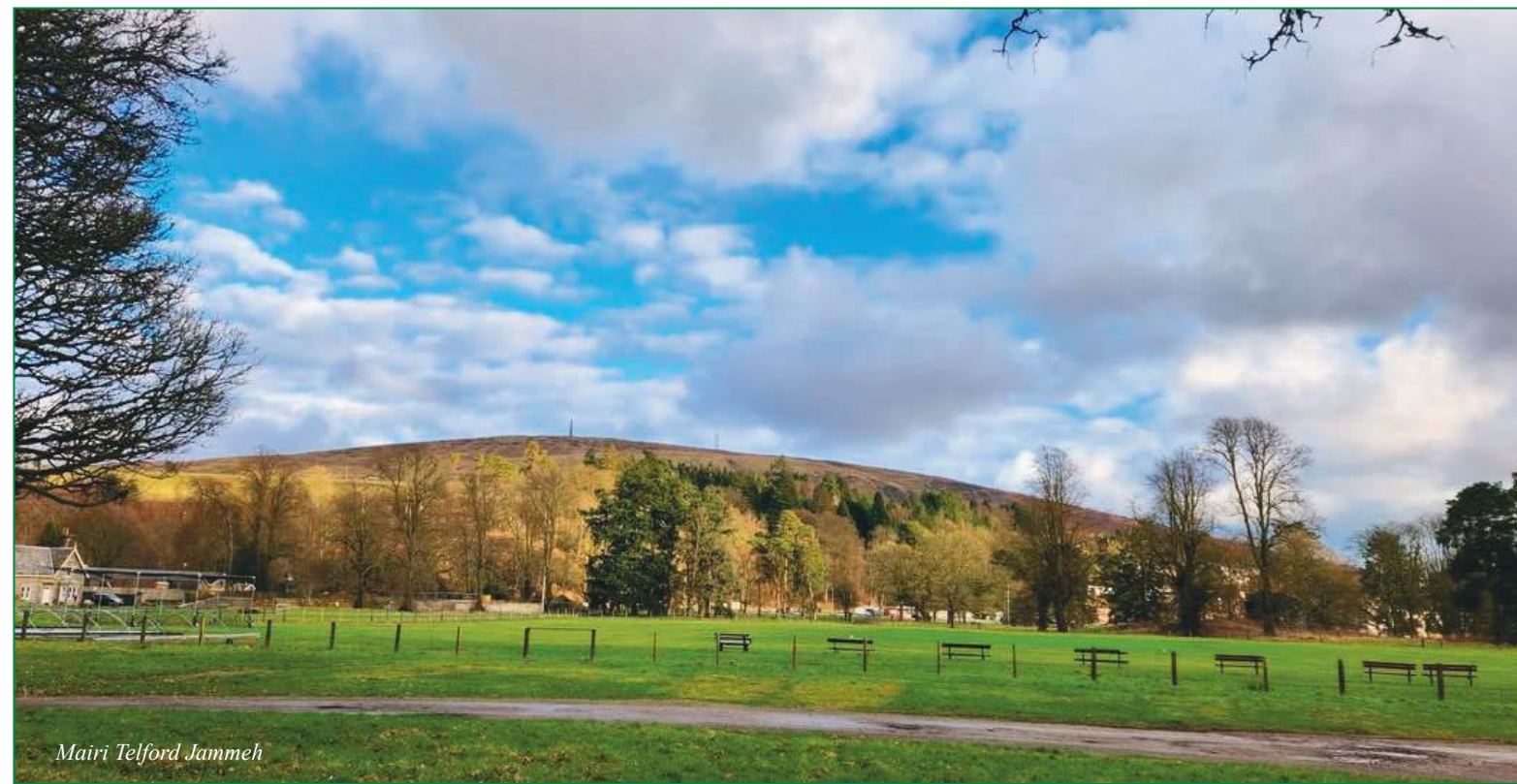
Tom Hutton



Anne-Marie Gregory



Chrissie Coburn Krzowska



Mairi Telford Jammeh



Mairi Telford Jammeh



Stan Wilson



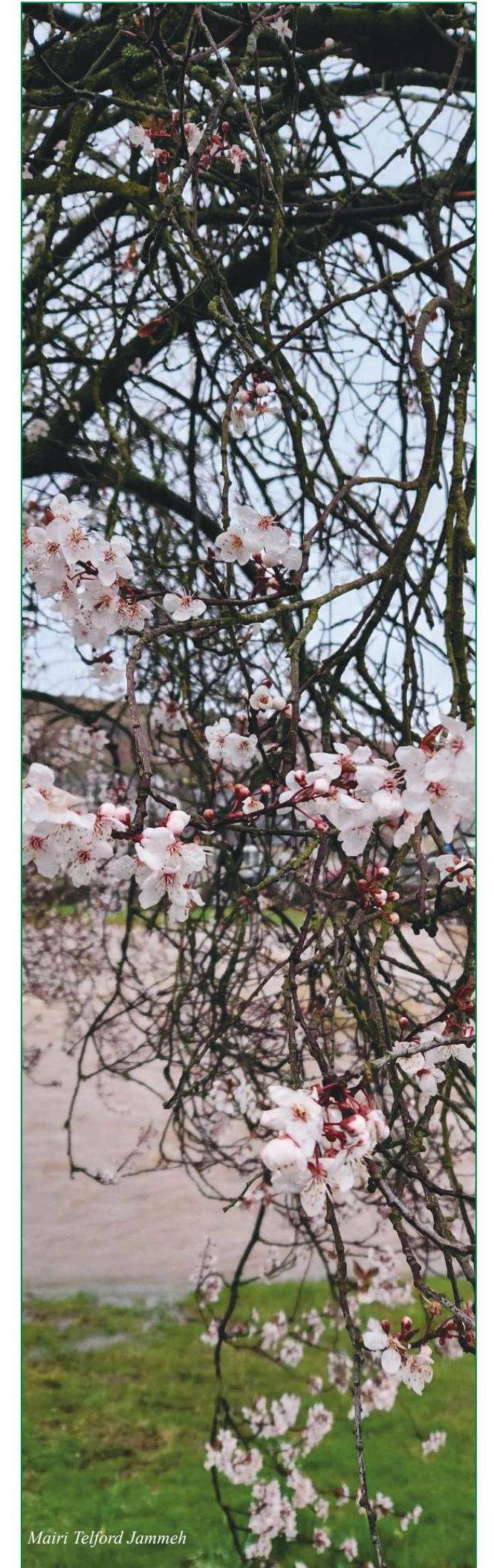
Chrissie Coburn Krzowska



Stan Wilson



Gavin Graham



Mairi Telford Jammeh

...Liddesdale Lineup...

By Gilly Fraser

The time has come the committee said to find a Copshaw Tub

It's that time of year again folks.

Copshaw Common Riding is on the lookout for its next main man or woman to take on the hallowed role of Tub 2026.

You don't have to wait to be nominated – just put your own name forward for the region's most prestigious – and definitely most fun – Common Riding role.

Committee members say the normal rules of engagement will apply:

- 1) You must be over 18.
- 2) Have a fully functioning pulse.
- 3) Be able to represent CCR at various functions and events throughout your year as Tub of the Holm.

Previous holders of the post all heartily concur that it's a wonderful way to both celebrate the community and welcome newcomers to enjoy our ancient modern traditions.

So if you would like to be the lad or lass carrying the precious Pureous Bunkumus flag around the boundaries and on to The Trap – just give your name to any CCR committee member and prepare to start campaigning in earnest.

Voting takes place on 16th May at Legends, postal votes only accepted from Copshaw residents who are house bound.



First phase of playground improvements

Copshaw fundraisers have once again come up trumps for the village Primary School.

Thanks to the hard work of the Newcastleton School Partnership, the LLAGS ladies and the Copshaw Clatter, the first phase of improvements to the school's playground has now been completed.

The work includes markings for different games as well as a roadway/racetrack, and a bright and colourful number snake for the ELC children.

The next phase will see the installation of a trim trail obstacle course in May.

The school has passed on its grateful thanks to all those who helped raise the cash.

Meanwhile fundraising is still full steam ahead for the children's residential trip to Edinburgh next month, with £200 going into the coffers following a raffle of two Easter hampers.



Playground with its new markings (Left) Snakes Alive!

An awful lot more than ten green bottles!

It may have looked like the aftermath of a wild party, but the sight of the overflowing bottle bank infuriated Copshaw residents.

The bank, which is situated right in the heart of the village is generally regarded as a useful facility.

But over the past couple of weeks, it has become not only an eyesore, but also a potential danger due to broken glass.

Normally the bottle bank is emptied on a regular basis, but this failed to happen due to a machinery malfunction.

The individual containers swiftly filled to the brim, and when it became impossible to put any more bottles in them, people dumped their empties on the ground.

After a few days the overflow had spilled out of the bottle bank compound and had to be fenced off with safety barriers.

Happily, the situation has now been resolved and the bottles removed, but it has caused great



concern and several residents have called on Scottish Borders Council and the removals firm to ensure it can never happen again.

Care worker fined and given unpaid work order

Former care worker Lindsey Cass has been ordered to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work and pay £500 in compensation after she admitted ill-treating and neglecting a pensioner in her care in Newcastleton last year.

At Jedburgh Sheriff Court, the 60-year-old was also given a six-month Restriction of Liberty Order, which means she has to stay in her home between the hours of 7pm and 7am during that period.

Cass had admitted at an earlier court hearing that she had repeatedly shouted and acted aggressively towards the 91-year-old woman who suffers from dementia. The Crown accepted a plea of not guilty to a charge of assaulting the pensioner to her injury.

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

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

CREATION MILL

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK
W/C 13th April 2026

Mon	Quilters Group Mending Monday	10-1 1-3	Creation Mill DG13 oES
Tues	FORGOTTEN FLEECE TALES Langholm Evening In Stitches	10-3 6-8	Creation Mill DG13 oES
Wed	Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill DG13 oES
Fri	Langholm weekly In Stitches WOOLLY GOOD GATHERING	1-4	Creation Mill DG13 oES Edinburgh Academy 42 Henderson Row, Edinburgh EH3 5BL
Sat	Pet Portraits	10-4:30	Creation Mill DG13 oES

FORGOTTEN FLEECE TALES
OPEN 10-3PM MON-SAT

Scrap Store is open Monday - Saturday 10-3

Booking required, please visit CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS

Castleholm COMMUNITY TRUST

AGM

Sunday
12th April 2026
at 2pm
in
The Buccleuch Centre
All welcome

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

9th to 10th	Painting for Pleasure Art Exhibition	Pop-up Shop 74 High Street
Fri 11th	The Deacon Blue Experience	The Buccleuch Centre 7.30pm
Sun 12th	Castleholm Community Trust Annual General Meeting	The Buccleuch Centre 2pm
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 Blether	Langholm Day Centre 10.30am - 12 noon
Sat 25th	LRFC Langholm Sevens Tournament	Milntown First Tie - 2pm

The E&L General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2614 answers next week

- Which one of the following lies outside the M25: Uxbridge, Chertsey, Egham or Cobham?
- For the creation of what was Vita Sackville-West noted?
- On roadmaps, what colour are general A-roads?
- Which two counties of England end in the letter K?
- Specifically, what at Dover Castle is believed to be Britain's oldest standing building?
- In which county is Foulness Island and Mersea Island?
- Of Reading, Luton and Maidstone, which is the furthest from Central London?
- Specifically, what was George I of England unable to do?
- Which crop covers the countryside with bright yellow flowers in the late spring and early summer?
- Which British mammal nests in a drey?
- Who said: "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life"?
- According to legend, who did Robin Hood marry?
- For the farming of which creature is Attleborough in Norfolk famed?
- In Wales, what is a "clun"?
- Which Scottish city gives its name to a rich fruit cake topped with almonds?
- In wildlife terms, of which type of creature is the noctule Britain's largest?
- How many motorways cross the M25 and continue in towards London?
- Which racecourse was the first to be converted to an all-weather surface?
- In 1994, a £2 coin was issued to mark the 300th anniversary of what?
- What is the highest denomination of postage stamp available?



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2613

- River Mersey
- Warwickshire
- Peak District
- Bakerloo Line
- Lincolnshire
- The Imperial War Museum
- A gamebird
- Anglesey
- Staffordshire
- A hut or hill-shelter
- St Paul's Cathedral
- Chatsworth House
- Grantham
- Ullswater
- Wentworth
- Balmoral Castle
- Aviemore
- Lincolnshire
- Malverns
- Lizard Point

Crossword 2613

Across: 7 Amenity, 8 An age, 10 Looks on, 12 Empty, 16 What?, 19 Aleutian, 20 Wrangler, 21 Salt, 24 Myths, 27 Thrives, 29 Key in, 30 Attache.

Down: 1 Tax law, 2 Verona, 3 Miss, 4 Cyan, 5 Bare, 6 Deny, 9 App, 11 Oracle, 13 Mitts, 14 Trawl, 15 Dearth, 17 Hurry, 18 Tenth, 22 Advice, 23 Tastes, 24 Mike, 25 Toy, 26 Sung, 27 Thaw, 28 Rote.

NEVER A CROSSWORD!

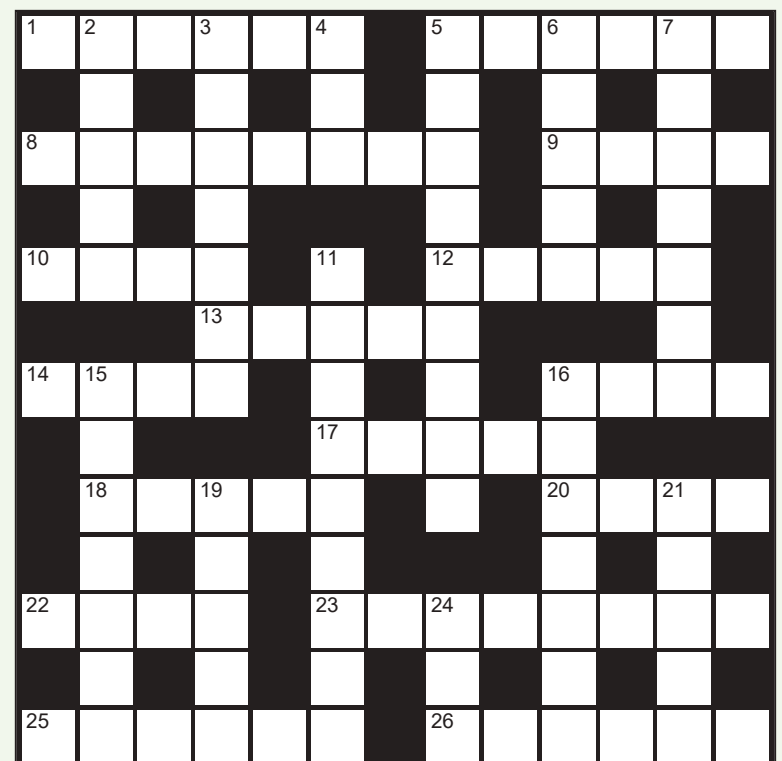
No. 2614 A mix of general knowledge and cryptic clues think. Answers next week

Across

- Jagged mountain range (6)
- Athens is ruined - quick! (6)
- Main vessel (8)
- Push a pawn (4)
- UNCLE's Napoleon --- (4)
- Kind of potato (5)
- Get to know (5)
- Set of changes (4)
- Prescribed amount (4)
- Former Egyptian President --- Mubarak (5)
- Prepares for publication (5)
- Potential measure (4)
- Observed (4)
- Accordance with the rules (8)
- Gazes fixedly (6)
- Free from liability (6)

Down

- Ice house (5)
- Soft toy (3,4)
- Exclamation of surprise (3)
- Joy (9)
- Land between Honolulu and Sydney (5)
- Turning green? (7)
- Tub additives blast hats off (4,5)
- Rudimentary component (7)
- Communicate (7)
- Hidden (5)
- Abate (3,2)
- "Turn to the right!" (3)



Lang Syne in Eskdale

...David J. Beattie with mair kirk stoories

Looking back...

One of the bygone relics of Eskdale is the 300-year-old bell which hangs in the church belfry of Westerkirk and still summons the dales-folk to worship. This unique bell weighs a little over nine and half stones and bears the inscription

*Jacobus Monteith me facit
Edinburgh, Anno Domini 1641*

The bell has survived earlier churches, for the present building was erected in 1880 and its predecessor in 1788. Writing in the Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser in 19801, my old friend and fellow scribe, the late Clement Armstrong, plays fitting tribute to its memory: "The bell that rang for the Presbyterian service one year, the next might ring for the detested prelatical ritual, the Presbyterian minister would have fled to the hills and moss-hags, giving place to the curate with his parish roll.

... The tones of this old bell would no doubt be heard at Westerhall by Sir James Johnstone, Douglas of Morton, and Claverhouse, after they returned from the killing of Andrew Hislop up at Craighaugh, and no doubt its ringing would often have served as a guide to

wandering men who had left their hearths and homes and become wanderers for conscience sake."

It was the mellow tones of this same bell reverberating up the Meggat valley, almost two centuries ago, that summoned Janet Telford and her fatherless boy Tam, to worship, as was their custom, at the auld kirk, a predecessor of the present sacred edifice. The story of Tam's boyhood and his conspicuous rise to worldwide fame has yet to be told in a subsequent chapter.

Westerkirk is a parish of many waters, for within its bounds no fewer than thirteen burns or rivulets from the hills on the south side and nine from those on the north side, besides the Meggat and Stennies Waters, fall into the Esk.

Handfasting Haugh

I mention this because I believe that few people, though they may have a general acquaintance with the neighbourhood, are aware of this remarkable circumstance. The Black Esk divides Westerkirk on the south from Eskdalemuir on the north for nearly a mile before it falls into the White Esk. The junction of the two waters forms the Esk



At the junction of the Black and White Esk, here there is a large holm known as the Handfasting Haugh.

river. Here there is a large holm known as the Handfasting Haugh.

A Fair, dating from the time of Robert II of Scotland was annually held at this spot to which young people of both sexes resorted in great numbers, amongst whom matrimonial engagements were made by joining hands. The connection thus formed was binding for one year, at the expiration of which time either party was at liberty to break off the engagement and for new ties or in the event of both being satisfied, the handfasting was

renewed for life.

In later times when this part of the country came under the jurisdiction of the Abbey of Melrose, a priest to whom they gave the name of "Book-i'-Bosom" – possibly because he carried under the folds of his monkish garb a Bible and a marriage register – made periodical visits to confirm such marriages irregularly contracted.

This place being comparatively short distance from the Roman camp at Castle 'er, Dr Brown suggests that the Fair may have been first instituted when the Romans resided

there and that the "handfasting" may have taken its rise from their manner of celebrating marriage.

Perhaps when Christianity was introduced into Eskdale this form of marriage may have been looked upon as imperfect without confirmation by a priest; hence one may have been sent to the neighbourhood from time to time for this purpose. It is said that Robert II himself was handfasted to Elizabeth More before his marriage to Euphemia Ross, daughter of the Earl of Ross.

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report Thursday, 2nd April 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 8,229 sheep comprising of 4,731 hogs and 3,495 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 2nd April 2026

PRIME LAMBS

Overall average 365.1ppk (SQQ 381.4ppk)

Principal Prices (Per Head)

Zwartbles - £190 Wallacetown

Principal Prices (Per Kilo)

Zwartbles - 381.4p Wallacetown

PRIME HOGGS

A slightly smaller show of hogs met a strong trade with over half of the offering weighing less than 38kg a vast proportion being around 29-34kg. Fed sheep sell with great ease and very short of purchaser's requirements.

Top price per head of £244 for a single Beltex hogg from A.D. Batey, Lane End

Top per kilo of 512.8p for a Beltex hogg from M. & J. Kennedy, Lurgan Please contact your auctioneers for further enquiries and entries.

Overall average 397.73ppk (SQQ 406.95ppk)

Principal prices (Per head)

Beltex - £244 Lane End, £230 Dalhaboch, £228 Lane End, £222 Sykehead, £220 Dalhaboch, £219 Dunjop and West Glengyre, £218 Hallhill

Suffolk - £228 Sykehead, £220 Plumpe, £220 Gillahill and Hartbush, £218 & £216 Beckfoot, £212 Balmaglester
Texel - £228 Beckfoot, £225 Little Tongue, £224, £221 Beckfoot, £220 Dunjop, West Glengyre, Sykehead and Low Closegill

North Country Cheviot - £212

Jethart, £189 High Brae

Charollais - £210 Kirkton of Kingoldrum, £200 Balmaglester

Blue Texel - £209 & £198 Gillahill

Dutch Spotted - £192 South Ridingwood

Hill Cheviot - £191 Kirkland of Longcastle, £190 Gillahill, £185

South Bogbain, £181 Plumpe, £180

The Shaw Cottage, Chapel and Culquhasen

Mule - £190, £186 South Bogbain, £184

Dunjop, £180 Barnakill

Cheviot Mule - £186 Haresteads, £180

Kirkland of Longcastle

Easycare - £185 Edingarioch, £178.50

Easter Denhead, £176 Barnakill and Denhead

Romney - £185 Sykehead, £183 Drumreach

Blackface - £184 South Bogbain, £180

Glendoe Estate

Swaledale - £184 Burn House

Herdwick - £177, £171 Bridge End, £169

& £166 East House, £164 Bridge End

Principal Prices (Per Kilo)

Beltex - 512.8p Lurgan, 508.3p Lane End, 500p Lurgan, 498p West Glengyre, 488.9p Dalhaboch,

486p Lurgan

Blue Texel - 475p, 463.4p Gillahill, 435.9p

Gorthleck Mains, 430.4p Gillahill, 425.6p

Cleughbrae

Texel - 471.8p Kimmeter Green, 458.3p,

449p Saddell Home, 447.4p

Balmaglester, 447p West Glengyre, 445.9p

Dalmore and Lane End

Suffolk - 450p Achacouie, 443p Torgornack,

434.6p Govals, 433p Olgrinmore,

429p Smallmuir, 424.3p

Haresteads, 421.6p Kimmeter

Charollais - 447p Kirkton of Kingoldrum

Hill Cheviot - 442.1p 2 Balmaglester,

441p Ardnaw, 438.5p Daill, 436p

Prior Rigg, 430.3p High Brae

Herdwick - 426p East House, 410p,

407.1p Bridge End, 400p East House

North Country Cheviot - 425p, 408p

Whitcroft Mains

Easycare - 415p High Trewhitt, 413p

Edingarioch

Mule - 418p, 417p Saddell Home, 410p

High Cattadale, 408p Culquhasen,

406.7p Corncockle, 405p

Culquhasen and Tangytavil, 400p

Haresteads

Blackface - 414p Arnicle, 410p Haresteads,

408.6p Culquhasen, 408p Haresteads,

407p East House, 406p Haresteads and Garchew

Dutch Spot - 408.5p South Ridingwood, 400p

South Slealands

Cheviot Mule - 405p Haresteads, 402p

No3 Baurch

Shetland - 396.7p Haresteads

Oxford - 395p Guards

Romney - 391p Sykehead

Hampshire - 393.2p Dykenook

Dorset - 379.5p Gillahill

Ryeland - 371.7p Donerentin

Swaledale - 364p Burn House, 362.2p

Nunsleugh

CAST EWES AND RAMS

Cast sheep jump to obscene rates of return with a larger show on offer proving many more could have been sold to vendor's advantage. 14 ewes reach £400 plus, and 64 cast sheep realise over £300.

Heavy ewes topped at £455 twice for Texel ewes from A. Tindale, Paradise Farm

Light ewes topped at £204 for a pair of Cheviots from J.A.S. McWhirter, Garvilland

Rams topping the sale at £290 twice for Texels from McNabney Bros, Barsalloch and R. Peterkin, 15 Barnyards.

Heavy ewes

Texel - £455 Paradise, £410 West Stobs Wood, £400, £395 Paradise, £395 West Stobs Wood, £390 Fallaw

Beltex - £420, £400 Paradise, £395 West Stobs Wood, £390 Dalhaboch, £355 Paradise, £325 Middle Farm, £300 Paradise

Blue Texel - £330 Edendales, £242 Low Closegill, £230 Shawhill

Dutch Spotted - £320 South Ridingwood, £248 Beckfoot, £242

Coxhill

Charollais - £295 Paradise, £252 West Stobs Wood, £252 Beckfoot

Suffolk - £288 Paradise, £280 22 Hillside, £268 Paradise, £268 Beckfoot,

£262 Marygate, £260 Skilmafilly, £258

Catslackburn

Blue Leicester - £260 Gartvaigh, £228

Corncockle, £228 Gartvaigh, £224

Paradise

Millennium Bleu - £252, £200 Braehad

Dorset - £242 Greenrigg, £212 Tetcott

Cheviot Mule - £228 West Stobs Wood, £225

Paradise, £220 West Stobs Wood, £215

Corneyside, £212 Broomlands

North Country Cheviot - £228 North Corrielaw,

£218 High Moat, £212 West Stobs wood

Mule - £226 The Bush, £208 Broomlands,

£200 Cowden Burn, High Crubasdale and Glenart

Oxford - £222 Guards

Romney - £208 Beckfoot

Valais Blacknose - £200 Hillside

Zwartbles - £198 Beckfoot

Merino - £142 Mains of Drumtochty

Light ewes

Hill Cheviot - £204 Garvilland, £196

Burnside, £188 Braehad, £178, £176

Broomlands, £174 The Shaw Cottage and Allfornaught

Goat - £194, £184 Newton of Fortheringham

Blackface - £192 8 Little Bank, £192

Lea Croft House

Easycare - £170 Coxhill, £170 Cot-

tage, £158 Barnahill

Herdwick - £148 Heugh, £122 Orthwaite

Swaledale - £148 Allfornaught, £136

Broomhills

Shetland - £144 Ballywillne, £134

1 Lingabo, £130 Northway

Rams

Texel - £290 Barsalloch, £290 Barnyards,

£285 Coreneyside

Beltex - £275 Glendoe Estate, £238

Barsalloch, £225, £220 Hallhill, £200

Lea Croft House

Blue Leicester - £270 Barsalloch, £255

Glendoe Estate

Dorset - £228 Kennels Cottage

Blue Texel - £228 Kennels Cottage

Charollais - £220 Beckfoot

Valais Blacknose - £200 Greenrigg

Cheviot - £192 & £180 Buccleuch Mill

Dutch Spotted - £190 Barsalloch

Suffolk - £180 Banks Head

Lleyn - £175 Caulside

Blackface - £168 Orchardbank, £148

Craigens, £142 Lea Croft House

Averages:

Hoggs

Light to 512.8p (410.41)

Standard to 498p (403.63p)

Medium to 508.3p (386.53p)

Heavy to 415.1p (358.73p)

Ewes

Light to £198 (£137.67)

Heavy to £455 (£207.14)

Rams to £290 (£217.35)



*The
E&L Gallery*

DAFFS IN THE PARK: A sure sign of spring. Lovely, sunny photo by Sharon Reid.

CAMERA: Samsung Galaxy phone

The ever-popular Country Legends Show

The Legends of American Country Show is back to the Buccleuch Centre this month. This show has won awards and features Keltic Storm, Joe Moore, Tracy McAuley and Anthony McBrien. The show will feature tributes to Dolly Parton, Johnny Cash, Don Williams, Patsy Cline, Hank Williams, Tammy Wynette and Kenny Rogers and new tributes to icons Alan Jackson, Shania Twain, Garth Brooks, The Chicks and the new kid on the block Luke Combs with countless other well-known singalong hit songs.

The show singers are all accompanied by a fantastic live band of musicians. Listen to the real authentic Tennessee sound coupled with an authentic stage set and state-of-the-art production that is guaranteed to transport you all the way, hand clapping and toe-tapping, to Nashville and back in one night on 19th April at 7.30pm. www.buccleuchcentre.com

LANGHOLM REGULAR: Tour organiser and performer James McGarrity



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PLANNING NOTICES

PLANNING
 The applications, associated plans and documents can be viewed on-line by following the ePlanning link on the Council's website at www.dumfriesandgalloway.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 23/04/2026 (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
 26/0442/FUL (A) Longwood, Langholm - Change of Use of agricultural land to form horse riding manege for personal use



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Register your club with CASC for tax relief

For local sports clubs every penny and pound counts. More than 8,000 clubs across the UK are getting a much-needed financial boost after registering as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) with HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). In doing so, they are able to claim a variety of tax reliefs including business rates and gift aid.

Tax reliefs for grassroots clubs means they can become financially sustainable, keep membership fees affordable and re-invest in their facilities so they can focus on delivering the best sports and social opportunities for local people.

With thousands of clubs already registered and receiving financial support through tax reliefs, Sandeep Ghelani, Senior Policy Advisor from HMRC outlines the benefits of the scheme and encourages other clubs to register today.

To be eligible for tax relief as a CASC, clubs must be based in the UK, provide facilities for eligible sports and encourage people to take part. The club must also be

set up with a governing document, open to the whole community with limited fees, organised on an amateur basis and to be managed by 'fit and proper' people.

After registering with HMRC, clubs will be eligible for a number of financial reliefs on income, gains and profit including: Business Rate relief, Gift Aid relief, Corporation Tax exemptions, Tax relief on fundraising events, Capital Gains exemption, Inheritance Tax benefits

You can find out more about the tax reliefs claimed through the CASC scheme on GOV.UK. Two of the most popular reliefs claimed are for business rates and gift aid. In 2025 alone, CASCs benefitted from £40 million in business rates relief and £3 million in Gift Aid relief.



HM Revenue & Customs

Season ends at the Ice Rink for carpet bowlers

Carpet Bowling

By Luke Tolson

The Sandy and Betty Sloan memorial carpet bowling pairs tournament was held in Lockerbie ice rink on Saturday. It was won by Aaron Wood and Ally Hall who beat David Orchiston and Rachael Simpson in the final. Semi-finalists were Ryan Wood and Eddie Stewart, Jack Murray and Ally Park. Well done to our young lads who are members of Langholm carpet bowling club.

The Sunday Singles was also held at the ice rink sponsored by Derek Delboy Cowan. The winner was Ian Hall who beat John Aitken in the final. Semi finalists were Ryan Simpson and Rory Sloan.

Langholm Social Club - Subscriptions are now due for 2026. New members always welcome to join. Subs are due by 30th April or members will have to re-apply to become a member.



Ally Hall and Aaron Wood receive the cup from



Ian Hall (r) is presented by Derek Delboy Cowan with John Aitken, finalist

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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Langholm101
Newcastleton 101

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.....www.dumgal.gov.uk
Fault reporting (potholes/street-lights etc).....0800 042 0188
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www.dumgal.gov.uk/timetables
Scottish Borders Council . 0330 100 1800
out of hours 01896 752 111
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.....www.nationalrail.co.uk
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Thomas Hope Hospital013873 80417

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NHS24111

CHURCHES

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Session Clerk - Jackie Henderson/Aileen Covers 07902 718985
Canonbie United Parish church
Session Clerk ..013873 25255
Liddesdale Parish church

SCHOOLS

Langholm Primary013873 80900
Langholm Academy013873 80418
Newcastleton013873 75240
Canonbie013873 71336

CHEMISTS

Davidson Chemist, Langholm013873 80220
Monday to Friday 8.45am -1pm; 2pm-5.30pm.
Saturday 8.45am-12.30pm.
Boots Pharmacy, Longtown01228 792859
Monday-Friday 9am - 6pm.
Saturday 9am-5pm.

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

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

It's a BOY!
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:
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Unbelievable! 300/1 win for Crokes Cross

Horseracing

By Gordon Brown

Dedicated Hero bounced back to form at Kelso in the £12,000 Let's Get Ladies Day Ready Handicap Hurdle over a trip of nearly 2m 5f.

Ridden by Danny McMennamin and trained by Sandy Thomson, the 7/4 chance saw off Guet Apens by a length and three-quarters.

"That was great and clearly the wind operation worked as you could tell he knew he could find more when Danny asked him," Thomson said. "He could run over hurdles at Ayr, with the trip he tackles depending on the ground, but he's still a lovely novice chaser to look forward to."

The card started with a record-equalling 300/1 victory for Stuart Coltherd-trained Crokes Cross, ridden by Jamie Hamilton, as she led home stablemate Changemyluck in the Every Race Live On Racing TV Novices' Hurdle.

There have been two win-



The Crokes Cross team celebrate its record-equalling win at Kelso last Thursday

ners sent off at the same price in Ireland while Blowers became the biggest priced winner in Britain when springing a 300/1 upset at Exeter last December.

Kelso was also the scene of the previous biggest priced winner in Britain when Equinoctial obliged at 250/1 in November, 1990.

"I'm obviously delighted but I've had such terrible

luck for so long that I didn't have on penny on her," said Selkirk-based Coltherd after his first jumps winner for over a year although he had a winner on the Flat last September.

There were other Scottish wins on the card courtesy of Gary Rutherford's Looking Splendid and Nick Alexander-trained My Lady Elektra.

Mark Hunter, chairman at

the Borders venue, is one of the owners involved with Take A Hike, who carried the colours of Ronald Barber to victory in the Racing TV Club Day Mares' Handicap Hurdle.

The eight-year-old was a first winner at the track ridden by Harry Atkins and she is trained nearly 300 miles away in Worcestershire by DJ Jeffreys.

A Summerbee hatrick in wintry weather

Football

By David Borthwick

Yesterday we faced Hawick Utd on the 3g in the league, in what was another must win game.

The conditions were pretty horrible, wet, cold and windy but for the first time in a long time we had 16 players available.

From the first minute the legion lads looked up for it, positive and on the front foot, for around 40 minutes the score remained level, mainly down to the Hawick goalkeeper who denied goals for several Langholm players. It was Callum Summerbee who broke the deadlock giving Langholm a well deserved lead when he got on the end of a Craig Cuthbert corner.

What happened next changed the game. After a bad tackle on Summerbee it all kicked off and 2 Hawick players were sent off.

The half ended 1-0 to Langholm.

Knowing that playing against 9 men would make for a very different 2nd half

the lads knew what they had to do, and it wasn't long before Callum got his second, then third. Kyle Anderson then laid the ball off for Craig Cuthbert whose clever finish looped over everyone in the crowded box making it 4-0, before Andrew Whittle was brought down in the box and Daniel Winter calmly converted the penalty.

An important win given our league position and it was great to get all 5 subs on, everyone played their part in getting the job done. Big thank you to those who came out and gave fantastic support in the horrible weather. Also to Rab Blyth for officiating and to The Douglas Hotel for the after match hospitality.

Next week we are back in action in the Waddell Cup where we take on Biggar in the quarter final.



Donaldson bros spread their skill

Rugby

Hughie and Bailey Donaldson both played big games at the weekend. Hughie had his debut playing for the South of Scotland against a Gala select on Saturday. Gala won that game 12 - 5.

Bailey turned out at Goldenacre in Edinburgh for the Co-optimists on Sunday playing in the Graham Wilson celebratory match against Heriot's Rugby. Graham Wilson played at Number 9 and has decided to retire after many years of scoring many points for Heriots so a match was organized to mark the occasion. Bailey played outside centre and a big crowd was there to see some fine free flowing rugby on display.

There were a number of ex-Scotland internationalists on the field. Heriots finally ran out the winners 31 - 19.

Well done lads for doing Langholm proud.



SQUAD! Rae Elliot, Hughie Donaldson, Billy Steele, Liam Steele and Bailey Donaldson

E&L SPORT

