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See Centre Pages



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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Broadband on Langholm High Street 'lacks fibre'

Businesses frustrated by the slow roll-out

Businesses and residents on Langholm High Street are still waiting for Full Fibre broadband, despite much of the UK benefiting from faster, more reliable connections. A check of Openreach's availability service currently shows the message: "We're planning to build in this area" – confirmation that Full Fibre is in future plans, but without any indication of when it will arrive.

For many local traders, broadband is now as essential as electricity or water. Card payments, cloud-based systems, video calls and on-line sales all depend on a reliable connection. Yet some premises in the heart of Langholm remain unable to access the gigabit-capable services that are increasingly available elsewhere

The frustration is not simply the lack of Full Fibre, but the lack of certainty. Openreach has committed to a nationwide rollout and says it updates its plans regularly, but for High Street businesses the phrase "planning to build" offers little reassurance when there is no published timescale.

At a time when rural communities are being encour-



High Street businesses have reported frequent reliability problems with their broadband connection. Langholm Initiative has expressed concern as they prepare to move to the old bank.

aged to attract investment, support home working and embrace digital services, modern broadband infrastructure should be a priority. Langholm's High Street is the town's commercial centre, and local businesses deserve the same opportunities as those in better-connected areas.

Planning is positive, but after years of promises, many in Langholm would rather see fibre cables in the ground than another message saying it's coming some day. The town is ready. The question

is: when will Full Fibre finally arrive?

Things you can do:

- Register interest with Openreach. Every household and business should use the Openreach Fibre Checker and sign up for updates. Openreach uses demand data to help inform roll-out priorities, and higher levels of registered interest can strengthen the case for deployment.

- The E&L will keep up the pressure on Openreach to make good on its promises along the lines of: "Langholm High Street is ready for Full Fibre. businesses, residents and visitors increasingly rely on fast, reliable broadband. We welcome Openreach's commitment to build in our area, but now need a clear timetable for delivery." Let us know if you have had any contact with Openreach.

Trailing Tommy



Rugby Club's presentation to Cornet

As one of his last duties as Chairman of LRFC, Kenneth Pool presented Cornet Tommy Hope with a gift from the club to commemorate his year as Cornet. He wished him all the best for the Common Riding from all at Langholm RFC

Family Announcements

Deaths

MUIR, Jim

Sadly at home on the 5th of July, Jim aged 78 years.
Devoted husband of Marilyn, loving dad of Colin and Lynsey, adored papa of Gracie, Lewis, Jamie and Tare.
Funeral service to be held at Carlisle Crematorium on Friday 17th July at 11:00 am.
Friends are respectfully invited to attend.
Family flowers only.

All enquires to Nicholson's Funeral Directors

Church Notices

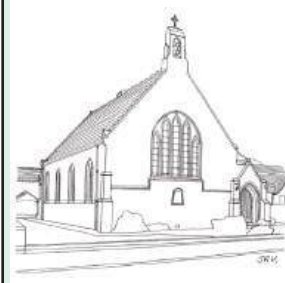
ESKDALE & LIDDESDALE PARISH
linked with
CANONBIE United Parish Church

Welcome to worship
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mcrossan@
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Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

Contact us at the E&L: Office 013873 80012
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All correspondence to: newsdesk@eladvertiser.co.uk

Graduation season brings three more luminaries

All excel receiving honours degrees



Katie Adamson from Newcastleton graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Imaging with first class honours.

Katie is the daughter of Julie and Grant Adamson and granddaughter of Dorothy and Jock Scott and Phyllis Martin. Katie starts her new role at Glasgow Royal Infirmary in August.



Rebeca Elizabeth Hall graduated from Strathclyde University with a Bachelor of Science in Podiatry with first class honours last week.

Rebecca is the daughter of Jacqueline and Elliot Hall of Langholm.



Regan Irving graduated from Strathclyde University with a Bachelor of Arts 2.1 in Marketing. She now goes on to start her career as a commercial graduate with Finsbury Foods in Hamilton. Her parents, Sharon and Scott Irving and her sister Peyton who live in Drove Road Langholm are very proud of her achievements.



Garden Party Guests

Ex-Cornet Ewan Patterson attended the King's Garden Party in Edinburgh last week along with his partner Niamh and his parents Fiona and Davie Patterson.

The King, Queen, the Princess Royal and the Duke of Edinburgh were all there and spoke to those attending the party. Fiona said that the gardens looked lovely and in full bloom. She said it was lovely to attend this event and all were delighted to be invited to be there.



Road Repairs and spruce up for town

Drove Road has still got a 'hole in the wa'



Who owns the wall on Drove Road?

Councillor Denis Male met the Dumfries and Galloway Council's roads manager recently to highlight issues in the town. Pot holes on the Langholm Bridge, David Street, the Kirk Wynd, Arkinholm Terrace and at the school were pointed out.

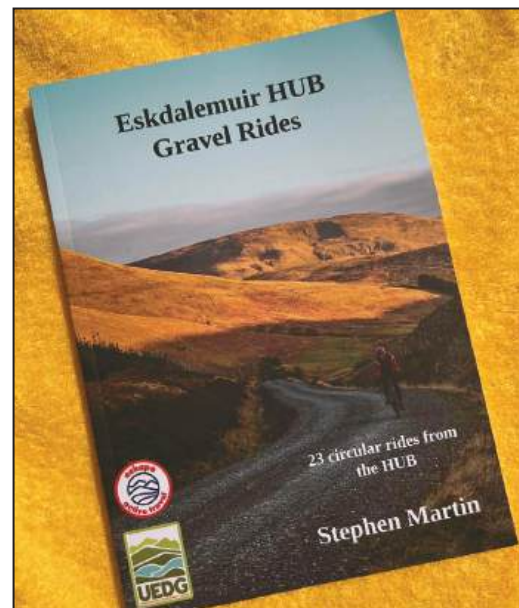
Denis wants the town freshened up before Langholm's big day and the 20mph signs on the Kirk Wynd painted out so that they don't frighten the horses. The river bank on the Kilngreen requires to be fixed. Caroline Street continues to deteriorate with the tarmac only a few centimetres thick and sinking and the lean of the railings. Denis asked for the active travel unit to be finished

before the Common Riding and for the fallen wall on Drove Road to be fixed. The Council are checking for owners.

The B709 above Holmwood where it is slipping is to be inspected and there are nasty potholes on that road which makes it dangerous for cyclists and motorcyclists who use that route. The Sorbie road is now dangerous and the grass needs to be cut at Townfoot. The Buccleuch Square wall is now cracked and needs to be fixed.

There are other general road repairs required around Waterbeck, Middlebie area and between Falford and Langholm. The road from the Hollows to Annan is in a dangerous state with large potholes.

Eskape Travel's new guide book



The Eskape Active Travel's brand-new cycling guide is now in stock Eskdalemuir Community Hub. Written by Stephen Martin, an Eskdalemuir resident, this fantastic guide features 23 circular gravel riding routes, all starting from the Eskdalemuir Hub.

With rides of varying lengths

and difficulty levels, there's a route to suit everyone – whether you're looking for a gentle scenic spin or a more challenging adventure. Each route showcases the stunning landscapes of the Esk Valley and beyond, making it the perfect companion for exploring this beautiful part of the country on two wheels.

Food Collection

Langholm's charity shop has announced that now that Kate's Kitchen no longer comes to the town any four food items can be collected for free from the shop.

Anti-racist education

The Scottish Government has committed £214,000 to fund anti-racism education in schools for 2026/27. The investment will allow Education Scotland to continue both the Building Racial Literacy Programme (BRL) and Anti-Racist Mentors Project. These initiatives teach educators how to address everyday racism.

The Building Racial Literacy Programme (BRL) promotes anti-racism as a professional skill and teaches how to identify and implement anti-racist behaviours in everyday work. It is available for education workers at all levels of work.

The Anti-Racist Mentors Project supports up to 30 BRL graduates to act as local and regional mentors to conduct anti-racist professional learning. Project participants will also contribute to developing anti-racist training within local authorities.

Creation Mill Textile Traineeship

Starting in September this year, Creation Mill CIC will be offering its first Textile Traineeship to three successful applicants. We spoke to Youth Co-ordinator Anna Watson, who will be running the program, about her own career journey so far:

"I knew from a very young age that I wanted to work in fashion and textiles, but finding a job in the industry can be incredibly difficult. After graduating from university, I applied to every job I could find in the UK which was remotely related to fashion - even interviewing for a receptionist position at a photography studio in the hopes it would lead to something more-relevant to my Fashion degree. Even with a first-class degree and three internships on my CV, I had no luck until I came across an advert for a brand assistant at Rose's Wardrobe and landed the job.

Although I started off working part time writing blog posts and creating content for social media, my job evolved massively over the next few years. I gradually re-learned a lot of what we had covered at



university and realised that real-world applications were very different from what I had learned in lectures. I was given the opportunity to do some sewing work, starting with labelling and accessory making before working my way up to designing, pattern cutting and constructing full garments. We started to take on commission work for other businesses and rebranded to RW Manufacture.

When my bosses Emma and Leanne Duncan founded Creation Mill in 2021, I began teaching my first sewing workshops. We very quickly moved on from running workshops after hours in our Rose's Wardrobe studio to taking on a dedicated office space and building our own textile centre. As the organisation grew, so did my responsibilities and by 2023 I was running our youth program, overseeing hun-

dreds of workshops each year. Working at Creation Mill introduced me to a host of new skills - I got to try weaving, machine knitting, fibre processing and any other area of textiles I was interested in. While I had been focussed on fashion my whole life, this opened my eyes to everything else that was happening in the industry and taught me the importance of working with people within other specialties.

As of 2026, I am now running RW Manufacture while also working as Creation Mill's youth co-ordinator. I could never have imagined how far I would come from my brand assistant job in 2021, but I am now more aware than ever of the importance of making the most out of every opportunity. I am so excited to be running our Textile Traineeship as it will give three young people the chance to try out a whole range of areas and hopefully lead to some amazing careers for them."

For more information about the Textile Traineeship, please email Anna at anna.watson@creationmill.org

APPLY NOW! Textile Traineeship

CLOSING DATE
17th Aug

Applicants MUST:

- Be aged 16-25
- Be able to commit to a 12-month program
- Be able to travel to Langholm 3 days per week
- Be independent and able to complete self-directed work
- Be passionate about textiles

What you'll get ...

- A full insight into the Textile Industry - including trips.
- Real living wage £13.45 - 16 hours a week
- Hands on work experience & supportive in house tuition
- Opt in workplace pension & holiday allowance

What you'll do ...

Complete a 12 month traineeship starting September 2026 - looking at the whole textile industry from fabrics & fibre to marketing & promotion at Creation Mill Textile Centre

This programme is proudly supported by



For full traineeship information and application form please email anna.watson@creationmill.org

Letters to the Editor

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

Riding Roughshod

Building more energy generation right now is a complete absurdity. Scotland is already a green energy powerhouse, regularly generating 113% of our annual domestic electricity demand—and over 200% on peak days according to the Scottish Government.

The blunt truth is that our grid storage and cross-border transfer systems are completely full. Because the B6 border pinch point, as it is known, along the England/Scotland boundary, cannot cope, wind farms are routinely paid to shut down, wasting over £1 billion a year in consumer-funded "constraint payments" [neso.energy]. To actually absorb and move this existing power, developers must build massive, industrial-scale grid and storage systems. The corridor running through Canonbie, Chapelcross and Evertown is facing an intense web of interconnected proposals.

We can see this destructive reality taking shape right on our doorstep at Chapelcross. The proposed CX Technology Campus AI site with vast demands on local water supplies

and the accompanying Wyseby Hill scheme plan to tear up our countryside for nine miles of solar panels, a Hydrogen Facility, sprawling battery storage and cooling back up complexes.

These developments feed off each other and thus form a textbook case for 'Cumulative Impact Objection'. It is illogical and unethical to destroy our rural landscape for new energy production when the grid cannot even hold or transfer the clean power already being generated.

We must demand a halt to this uncoordinated onslaught of proposals. Please email your local representatives directly to voice your opposition.

Let us follow the united example of the Lammermuir Hills communities and others under threat across the UK and beyond by demanding a moratorium on all applications. It is time to organise an unbiased public information meeting at The Buccleuch Centre Langholm to deliver an honest, balanced assessment for the justification of these proposals taken as a whole.

Let's protect our valley from this industrial, environmental, and financial chaos.

Diana de Gruyther
Langholm

More people should remain in their own homes

More people could be supported to remain independent in their own homes under plans designed to help secure the future of health and social care services in Dumfries and Galloway. Reports presented to Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board highlighted work underway to reshape services through stronger collaboration with the voluntary sector, expanded reablement services and greater use of digitally enabled care to help people remain independent at home.

Newly appointed Chief Finance Officer Sean Barrett said: "Health and social care services across Scotland continue to face very significant pressures, driven by increasing demand, rising costs and the increasingly complex needs of the people we support. Our focus is on making the best possible use of the resources available to us while continuing to improve outcomes for people and communities. That means investing in approaches which help people stay well, maintain their independence and receive support at the right time and in the right place."

Board members heard that financial recovery is being linked directly to changes in the way services are delivered, with a



growing emphasis on prevention, early intervention and supporting people to remain independent for longer. A key part of this work involves helping people remain at home wherever possible, supported by community services, the voluntary sector and new technology, while reducing the need for avoidable hospital admissions or lengthy stays in hospital.

The reports also highlighted the scale of the financial challenge facing delegated services. Members heard that NHS services ended 2025/26 with an overspend of £13.2 million, while council-delivered services recorded an overspend of £9.5 million.

Looking ahead, the Board faces a projected budget deficit of £22.5 million across delegated services during 2026/27, alongside growing demand for health and social care support.

30k increase in Scottish musical learners



The number of students learning an instrument has increased by almost 30,000 since the abolition of fees for music lessons in schools. A new report shows that annual investment of up to £12 million from the Scottish Government to fund free instrumental music tuition has seen participants increase to more than 70,000 since 2021.

Those involved in Scotland's Instrumental Music Service believed playing a musical instrument supported better attendance, attainment and behaviour in schools. The Scottish Government

funds Grant Aided Schools and all 32 local authorities to support free instrument tuition. The report identified some challenges, including waiting lists in certain local authority areas, lower representation from more deprived areas and fewer performance opportunities for young musicians in rural areas. The We Make Music Now report was part-funded by the Scottish Government and conducted between March 2024 and June 2025.

It included feedback from 485 participants including learners, parents, instructors and headteachers.

Barn owl bonanza



Photo by Bob Brewer @Unsplash

It's been a bumper year for barn owls on the Tarras Valley Nature Reserve with 23 chicks currently being reared by very dedicated parents in barn owl boxes. The team wish to say a big thank you to Cat Barlow who has been supporting the

area's barn owls for over 15 years. This includes annual checks, box maintenance and barn owl monitoring, all done under license. This all contributes to a better understanding of how the owls are doing.

Record foreign investment interest in South of Scotland

Major opportunities such as the site at Chapelcross

South of Scotland Enterprise has welcomed a new report highlighting that Scotland's foreign direct investment attractiveness is now at record levels – reflecting growing confidence from investors looking to come to the South.

The EY UK Attractiveness Survey 2026 has found that Scotland remains the UK's top destination for foreign direct investment outside London for the eleventh consecutive year. Investors cited Scotland's highly skilled workforce, strong infrastructure and overall business environment as core strengths.

One in three businesses planning to invest in the UK are now considering Scotland – up from 27% in 2024 to a record high.

The results align with the



growing confidence which we are witnessing in the South of Scotland, with the region being seen as the ideal investment location. Donna Marshall, South of Scotland Enterprise's Head of Investment Promotion, said: "The EY UK Attractiveness

Survey reinforces what we are seeing on the ground - growing interest from companies considering the South of Scotland as a place to invest, grow and create opportunity. We are seeing an increase not only in the number of potential investment

projects, but also in their scale and ambition. In 2024/25, SOSE supported 55 live projects from outwith the region that were interested in investing in the South.

"Major opportunities such as the transformative proposals at Chapelcross, Center Parcs development and the Mountain Bike Innovation Centre demonstrate the scale of ambition across the region and the potential to create significant employment, supply chain and community benefits.

"At SOSE, our role is to be a catalyst for responsible growth, working with investors and partners to help de-risk investment, unlock opportunities and ensure that the benefits are felt by businesses, communities and people across the South of Scotland."

First role for Center Parcs Advertised



One of the first roles for the new Center Parcs Scottish Borders village has been advertised - the beginning of what will ultimately become one of the largest inward investments our region has seen. The single vacancy for a Senior Conservation Ranger is the first of what is expected to be 1,200 year-round jobs at the new Center Parcs new development near Hawick.

In the heart of Scotland's Natural Capital Innovation Zone, Center Parcs will offer high-quality employment, training, career opportunities for people across the South of Scotland.

Donna Marshall, SOSE's Head of Investment Promotion said: "What excites us most is the

opportunity this creates for future generations. From apprenticeships and entry-level positions through to specialist and leadership roles, this investment has the potential to give many young people the chance to build rewarding careers without leaving the region they call home. This milestone is also a reminder of what can be achieved through partnership at both local and national levels.

"The first vacancy for a Senior Conservation Ranger is a fantastic opportunity for someone passionate about helping shape and protect the natural environment from day one. If you know someone who may be interested, please help spread the word by sharing this opportunity with your networks."

Apprenticeship opportunities with Council

Dumfries and Galloway Council is offering the opportunity to take the first step into a career in engineering with two new apprenticeships in the Roads Service. These four-year apprenticeships offer the chance to earn while you learn, working towards a fully funded Civil Engineering qualification (HNC or BSc) while gaining hands-on experience on real projects across the region. From day one, apprentices will play an active role in maintaining and improving the roads that keep communities moving.

One apprenticeship is in Roads Maintenance, supporting inspections, data collection and on-site maintenance and improvement works. The second is with in Roads, Safety and Development, helping to support road safety, traffic management and



development planning.

Apprentices will gain a well-rounded experience, combining site work, office-based learning and study, with a starting salary of £25,791+, rising as you progress. No prior experience is required – these roles are open to motivated, practical individuals with an interest in engineering or construction and a willingness to learn.

The Roads, Safety and De-

velopment position will be based in Dumfries, while the preferred candidate for the Roads Maintenance position will be based in their nearest depot – either Dumfries, Lockerbie, Castle Douglas, Stranraer or Newton Stewart. Interviews will take place between 13–17 July with start dates from the end of July.

Interested applicants can apply online via MyJobScotland for more information.

Hawick Paper ends publication

We hear that The Hawick Paper will be published for the last time on 30 July. The paper has been an important part of the Hawick community for more than 10 years and will no doubt be greatly missed. That's one less independent Scottish local newspaper. Jason Marshall the proprietor of The Hawick Paper gave us quite a bit of advice when we took on the Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser from Cumberland Newspaper Group and we wish him all the best for the future.

Indecent Assault at Cross Keys

According to reports comedian Hardeep Singh Kohli has been charged with sexual related charges including one of indecently assaulting a woman at the Cross Keys Hotel in Canonbie.

A total of three women are alleged to have been attacked including one at the BBC studios in Glasgow. Trial has been set for November.

Council response to Over Cassock range

Following last week's article about the planning application to create a shooting range at Over Cassock in Eskdalemuir we asked for the position on this from the Council and received the following reply.

"Dumfries and Galloway Council can confirm that planning application 22/2115/FUL, relating to the use of land at Over Cassock, Eskdalemuir, remains under consideration.

The application was originally submitted in 2023 and has been held in abeyance pending the submission of additional information from the applicant. During that time, a number of representations were received, both in support of and objecting to the proposal.

"Updated information was submitted by the applicant's agent in June 2026, and the application has since been re-advertised with a closing date



The Over Cassock application was originally submitted in 2023

for further comments of 9 July 2026. The revised proposals include changes to how the site would operate, with a shift away from a fixed rifle range using larger calibre firearms, towards smaller-scale, controlled training activities involving limited group sizes. These amendments are cur-

rently being considered as part of the ongoing assessment of the application.

"As with all planning applications, the council will take into account all relevant material considerations, including any further representations received, before reaching a decision."

David Mundell MP

Member of Parliament for Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Tweeddale

Local advice surgeries

For details of David's next local surgeries, please visit his website or telephone his office on the number below.

www.davidmundell.com

01683 222746

david.mundell.mp@parliament.uk



Farming on the Border



In association with
C & D AUCTION MARTS - LONGTOWN & DUMFRIES



Farming with Gilly Fraser

Clarkson loves The Borders

The south of Scotland has found itself a brand-new fan – in the shape of TV personality turned Farmer Jeremy Clarkson.

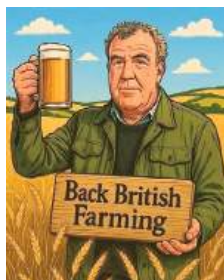
Perhaps best known as the long-running Presenter of motoring show Top Gear, Clarkson changed lanes entirely when he bought a thousand-acre farm in the Cotswolds and named it Diddly Squat.

His not always successful agricultural ventures featured in the hit TV series Clarksons Farm and won him whole new legions of fans in the farming community.

Recently he visited the Scottish Borders for a three-day long cattle buying trip and later waxed lyrical on his X-account.

He wrote: "I've always never been able to decide which is Britain's most beautiful bit: North Devon or the Yorkshire Dales. But I've just spent the last three days in the Scottish Borders and now I have an answer. God almighty, they're beautiful. Also, I bought some cows there."

The comment was viewed



more than a million and a half times and many agreed with him, including Scottish Conservative deputy leader Rachael Hamilton – who represents Ettrick, Lauderdale and Tweeddale who said: "Oh yes! The Scottish Borders is up there with the most beautiful places in the UK. It's underrated and sadly considered a drive through for those going North or South! Glad you spent time here to enjoy it"

Others piled in to make their pitch for the Highlands and the Lake District as contenders in the Most Beautiful contest.

His new cows will join the herd at Diddly Squat which at the moment is mostly made up of Beef Shorthorns.

Wastewater treatment systems under investigation

Researchers at The James Hutton Institute are testing a brand-new way to treat wastewater which could be much more efficient and cut down on greenhouse gases.

Right now, the UK's water sector creates about 2.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide every year. That makes up a whopping 33% of the country's industrial and waste-management emissions. To tackle this, groups like Scottish Water and the Hydro Nation Crucible series teamed up to find innovative, green solutions.

The James Hutton Institute came up with ElecTrickle.

Most UK water plants use traditional trickling filters which use a layer of bacteria to break down waste. It cleans the water, but the bacteria release a lot of greenhouse gases into the air.

The ElecTrickle system uses smart electricity-based chemistry to zap the waste instead. Laboratory research found this



Hutton team working on a control unit - Photo James Hutton Institute

new approach cut greenhouse gases by up to 90% and made the filtering process three times more efficient.

Testing

Scientists are now testing it at a Scottish Water plant to see if it works just as well in the real world.

If all goes well, ElecTrickle could upgrade old filters all over the country. Upgrading just 6,000 filters would cut 140,000 tonnes of carbon emissions every year which would be the equivalent of taking 95,000 cars off the road.

Dr Xavier Alexis Walter, a se-

nior researcher at the Hutton and leader of the project, says it's an exciting moment.

"If our collective efforts bear fruit in the real world, we will be thrilled to have identified and delivered a potential new solution for the UK's sustainability portfolio."

Scottish Smallholder Festival

Entries are now open for this year's Scottish Smallholding and Countryside Festival.

The event takes place at the Royal Highland Centre in Ingliston on Saturday October 17th.

Organisers say the festival is specifically designed for small farmers, new entrants, crofters, smallholders, small producers, growers, people with rural skills, or simply someone who enjoys the countryside.

They want it to be a celebration of the small-scale agricultural community, a place to learn, be informed, be inspired and meet others who share a common goal.

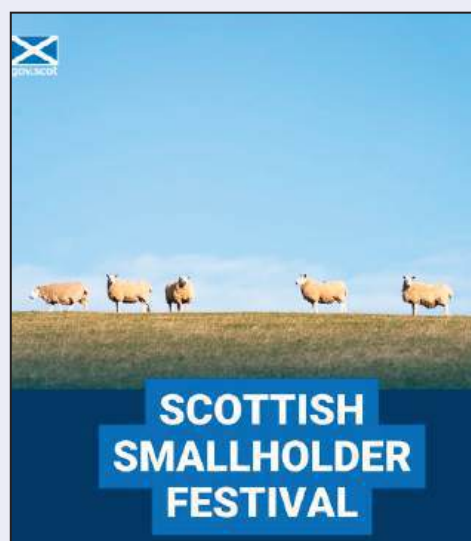
It has a range of livestock classes, including the only competitive pig show in Scotland.

This year the Sheep classes are being expanded to include more breed specific classes, the Goat section is generally strong and well represented and for the first time there will be an Alpaca Show, presented in association with the Scottish Alpaca Group.

It's hoped this year will allow the return of the Poultry Show after an absence of several years, but obviously this will depend on Avian flu status nearer the time.

The Rural Skills sector has been increased and now has the largest number of classes for many years.

Among the other attractions on offer will be



"Brunch with Wendy Barrie" in the Scottish Good Food Guide Theatre. Wendy is Founder and Director of the award-winning Scottish Food Guide and campaigner for finest local produce.

In this event, sponsored and supported by South of Scotland Enterprise, all ingredients will come from the South of Scotland or the Borders.

Global Burger Challenge

A Moffat Academy pupil came out tops in this year's Global Burger Challenge run in collaboration with Quality Meat Scotland and Food and Drink Federation Scotland.

Ellen Lauder won the S1-S3 category with her Pork and Pip Burger which took its inspiration from Roman cookery, with its balance of sweet and savoury through pork and apple.

The S4-S6 category was won by Zuzanna Lewandowska from Trinity Academy, with a Garlic Tastic Burger which brought together pickles, garlic and cucumber to create a Polish-inspired patty using locally sourced meat to reduce its carbon footprint.

The Global Burger Challenge was launched last year, initially calling on pupils aged 11 to 15 to create a burger inspired by global cuisine, while considering health, sustainability, cost, and marketing. This year's challenge extended the age bracket to give more youngsters the chance to take part.

They were asked to design and create burgers featuring 100g of Scotch Beef, Scotch Lamb or Prime Scottish Pork.

They then had to evaluate the burger based on nutrition, environment, production, marketing,



cuisine, careers and cost.

FDF Skills Manager Moira Stalker said the aim of the competition was to help young people understand where their food comes from and the career opportunities that are available across the food and drink industry.

"It's really important that we give these opportunities to young people because the Global Burger Challenge allows them to have free rein on designing a new burger product. It's not just about a teacher telling them what to do, they get to be really creative."

Pet shop on the move



Word reached the E&L last week that there's a move afoot on Langholm High Street. We understand that the pet food shop is going to be amalgamated with the Paper Shop and Post Office and stock and goods will be moved in here.

We spoke to owner Elizabeth Wilson about the move and she said that it is at the moment it seemed to be the most sensible decision for the business. She hopes that the move will be complete by mid August. There is currently building work going on in the Paper Shop to create additional space.

But the question is, what now for the large shop that will become vacant? We hope the shop won't be empty for too long as business on the high street depends on a variety of shops and goods on sale. And with the recent announcement of planning approval for the holiday village at Irvine House to the south of Langholm, there could be a real opportunity for someone to capitalise on the increased footfall in the town that is likely to take place in the future.

Ewe Hill 6 opens Community Benefit Fund for applications

Applications are invited to the latest round of Community Benefit Funds from ScottishPower Renewables' Ewe Hill Windfarm. Constituted Groups in South East Annandale and Eskdale can apply for between £2,000 - £30,000 for community projects that will benefit members of eligible communities. The closing date for applications is 31st July.

The last round, in January 2026, saw Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group (DECBG) distribute £144,338 in grants to 15 charities, voluntary organisations and community projects across Eastern Annandale and Eskdale. Some of the grants went to Eskdale organisations or those which serve the area. Half Morton Hall in Canonbie was granted £6,480 to carry out electrical works, replace heating and to redecorate the hall interior. Annandale Community Transport Services received £8,455 to complete the funding package required to purchase a wheelchair accessible electric vehicle. This is in addition to funding awarded in the previous round for an accessible minibus and recognises the current difficulties in access to transport in rural areas.

£10,030 was granted for a study to be carried out by the Hutton Community Initiative to investigate the feasibility of converting the former Boreland Primary School into community owned affordable housing. Village Halls play an essential role as venues for a broad range of community activities and were the subject of two successful applications. Mansfield Hall in Rigg was awarded £9,579 to renovate the roof and to treat dry rot and Canonbie Tennis Club was awarded £20,000 to resurface their tennis courts. Langholm Old Town Bowling Club was awarded £8,678 to insulate and replace internal doors in the final phase of a larger project to renovate and improve the Clubhouse to save energy, lower costs and create a more comfortable space to allow the clubhouse to be used for social events throughout the year. Last, but not least, the Langholm Alliance received £3,280 to support men's health with a project focused on testing for prostate cancer.



Eskdalemuir Scarecrow Festival

Eskdalemuir is holding a scarecrow festival in July and August and invites residents to display their creation for all to see. The hope is to bring the valley to life and the scarecrow theme is up to the maker. The winner will be announced on Sunday 16th August.

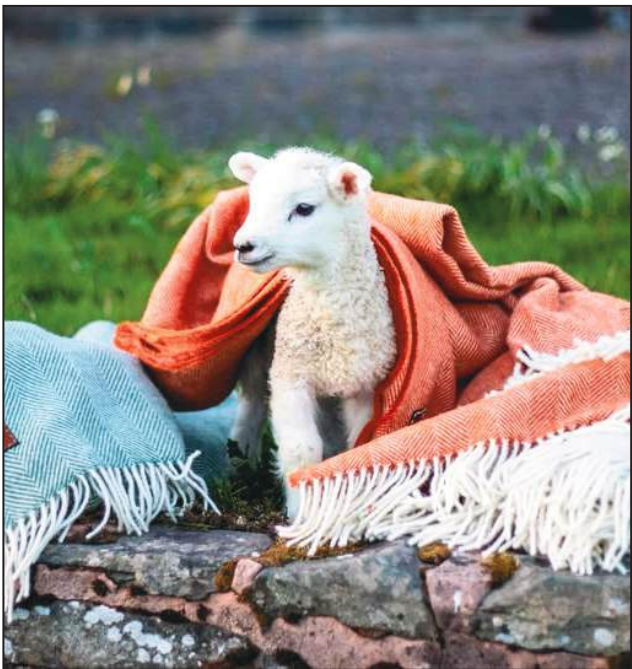
Cinema at The Hub

'H is for Hawk' is the film on offer at Eskdalemuir Hub on the evening of Friday 10th July. Doors open at 7.30pm. This film is based on Helen Macdonald's acclaimed memoir which is a beautifully told story of grief, hope and healing set in the British countryside. Launched in 2025 it stars Claire Foy and Brendan Gleeson and has had some great reviews. Prior to the film the community supper club will serve a home cooked meal from 6.30pm. Membership of the club is £3 a year. Meals must be pre booked by phoning 013873 73760 or by emailing trudikg@eskdalemuir.com

Burnfoot Wool 'knits' more connections

Local business Burnfoot Wool is to take part in the 'Director's Cut' which will replace the larger Scottish Yarn Festival this year. It's to be held in Perth on 12th and 13th September and is a smaller, more intimately and carefully curated yarn, fibre and textile craft marketplace event.

Burnfoot Wool is produced on a hill farm in the Ewes valley using South Country Cheviot x New Zealand Romney ewes and lambs, carefully managed by Andrew and Gillian Elliot. What began as a dream to create their own lambswool blankets grew in 2022 into a commitment to adding value to their home-produced wool. Burnfoot Wool now produces 4ply, Double Knit and Aran weight yarns alongside their lambswool blankets. They work closely



with FTS Dyers and Drove Weavers of Langholm.

Burnfoot Wool is proud to create natural and sustainable products rooted in the landscape of the Scottish Borders.

Tickets for the event are available from WeGotTickets.

CASTLE CRAIGS CLUB



2026 Rideout Timetable

Saturday 18th July THE BENTY RIDEOUT 1:15pm - Pony Judging @ The Kilngreen 1:30pm - Depart Kilngreen 4:00pm - Arrive @ The Benty 6:00pm - Depart The Benty 8:00pm - Arrive @ The Kilngreen	Thursday 23rd July PEDEN'S VIEW RIDEOUT 6:30pm - Pony Judging @ The Kilngreen 6:45pm - Depart Kilngreen 7:15pm - Arrive @ Peden's View 7:45pm - Depart Peden's View 8:45pm - Arrive @ The Kilngreen
Sunday 19th July PONY RIDEOUT & FAMILY FUN DAY 11am - Pony Club Games on The Castleholm 1pm - Rideout leaves The Castleholm 2:15pm - Arrives @ The Castleholm 2:30pm - Family Fun Day	Saturday 25th July CASTLE CRAIGS RIDEOUT 12:30pm - Pony Judging @ The Kilngreen 12:55pm - Depart Kilngreen 1:00pm - The Kirkwynd 1:30pm - Arrive @ Castle Craigs 2:30pm - Arrive @ Cronksbank 3:30pm - Depart Cronksbank 4:30pm - Arrive @ Townfoot Toll Bar
Tuesday 21st July EWES VALLEY RIDEOUT 6:15pm - Pony Judging @ The Kilngreen 6:30pm - Depart Kilngreen 7:30pm - Arrive @ Hoghill 8:00pm - Depart Peden's View 9:00pm - Arrive @ The Kilngreen	PLEASE NOTE The Castle Craigs Club Committee reserve the right to refuse any person from participating in these events

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL THOSE PARTICIPATING IN CASTLE CRAIGS CLUB RIDEOUTS
Whilst every care has been taken by the Committee and relevant landowners in facilitating these events, the Committee and landowners will not be responsible for any injury to any person taking part in any way whatsoever in the event, nor will they be liable for any damage resulting from any acts or omissions of any participants or spectators.

Pureous Bunkumus 2026 style!

Copshaw Correspondent Gilly Fraser reports from the heart of it!

A veritable ice cream parlour worth of former Tubs thronged Douglas Square on Saturday morning to support the latest esteemed citizen deemed worthy of the honour – Tub Nichol II.

The day was pretty grey but brightened considerably by fluttering waves of bunting, plus the ties, teeshirts and rosettes in the traditional Copshaw Common Riding colour worn by many of the supporters.

Festivities had actually begun earlier with the Hound Trailing, won this year by the Chisholm family's pup Let Me Try Again.

To celebrate his 21st anniversary of becoming Tub, Neil Cuthbert was presented with a tiara and really rocked the look.

Copshaw Common Riding is renowned for being friendly and welcoming, with shenanigans guaranteed and one couple were unexpectedly caught up in the fun. They had been on a cycle trip from Stranraer and heading for Melrose when they chanced upon the ceremony at the Monument and found themselves snogging the sod and supping the tequila like old hands. It's a sure bet they'll

be back next year.

American input

The honour of carrying the barley fadge always goes to a Common Riding first-timer (officially known as the CCR Virgin) and this year in spectacularly appropriate style – it went to an American visitor who had chosen to celebrate Independence Day here instead of at home. Who could blame him. Well done Jeremiah, you carried that fadge with style, even if it did fall off halfway along the street and had to be tied on again.

Later in the morning at the time-honoured Holm Brig Toblerone ceremony, former Tub Paula Downey was spotted demonstrating her trademark 'slide down the bannister' routine. In a very fetching plastic mac. The evening saw Barry Jackson chucking the broomstick skywards with his usual panache as he led Jedburgh Pipe Band and the CCR supporters to the Village Hall to entertain the Music Festival audience.

All in all, another memorable Copshaw Common Riding, always a shining jewel in the village's crown.



Striking photo of the procession as it heads up Langholm Street



The man himself, Tub Nichol II



Some random photos of a particularly well planned random event!



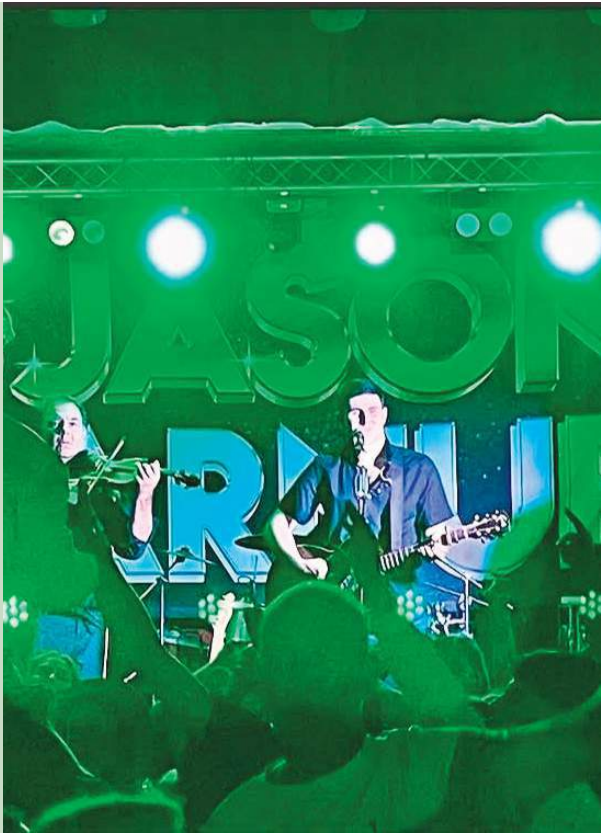
Moonlight flit casts shadow on revived festival

Copshaw's Music Festival got the village's Big Weekend off to a great start on Friday evening with a lively ceilidh, followed on Saturday by Jason Arnup and his band and rounding off on Sunday with a series of classes and competitions for musicians and singers.

It had been feared that the Festival might not happen this year after the previous committee decided they could no longer continue, but a hardworking team of villagers pulled out all the stops to make sure it could go ahead.

There was one discordant note however, when a number of festivalgoers arrived at the Liddesdale Hotel where they had previously booked accommodation, only to find it was – once again – closed down.

The open again/closed again situation of the Liddesdale is causing considerable concern, especially with the busy tourist season now upon us. There are real fears that it will reflect badly on the village and put potential visitors off.



Jason Arnup performed a great gig in the village hall



1514 Club Artists



Congratulations to the 1514 Arts Competition winners
P3:1st Katy, 2nd Amelia, 3rd Freya
P5:1st William, 2nd Penny, 3rd Lila
P7:1st and overall winner – Alfie;
2nd – Grace; 3rd James
Highly commended - Anna (P5)

Start spreading the news!

7th August sees 'The Rat Pack' spreading the news at the Buccleuch Centre. This production is said to accurately recreating the legendary performances of the pre-eminent entertainers of their time, featuring Britain's best tributes to the fabulous originals.

The acclaimed David Alacey (Lovejoy & Inspector Alleyn) stars as Frank Sinatra alongside West End favourite Tim Harwood as Dean Martin. They are joined by former Coronation Street and Hollyoaks star Ashley Campbell as Sammy Davis Junior in the original Rat Pack show, now celebrating its 25th record-breaking year.

Together the singers amaze audiences with their recreation of the music of Sinatra, Martin and Davis, in a fabulous show which brings the style and excitement of the Las Vegas heyday to vivid life. Including all the greatest hits – My Way, Mr Bojangles, New York New York, That's Amore, Come Fly With Me and more. The show perfectly captures not only the wonderful music and comedy of the



David Alacey, Ashley Campbell and Tim Harwood are "The Rat Pack"

original legends, but also the remarkable personalities of the stars who truly ruled the entertainment world. Highlights during the last 20 years include a performance for HRH The Princess Royal at a Royal Command Performance and an ap-

pearance in front of 35,000 people with their Orchestra as part of the VE Day celebrations. The show has played thousands of sell-out shows at prestigious venues around the world. Memories really are made of this.

Scottish Rural Parliament

An announcement that the Scottish Borders will be the host region for the 6th Scottish Rural and Islands Parliament, taking place in Autumn 2027 was made at the Royal Highland Show. The Scottish Rural and Islands Parliament brings together people from rural and island communities across Scotland to discuss the future of our places, influence policy, and strengthen the voices of rural and island people in decision-making.

Over the coming months, communities, organisations, businesses, and policymakers will work together to shape a programme that reflects the opportunities and challenges facing rural and island Scotland.

Bridge Results

1, Sandra Ritchie & Anne Hislop, 2, Brenda & George Bullamore, 3, Bob Francombe & George Graham, 4, Nancy McLure & Anne Ferguson, 5, Derek Scott & Judy Pitchford, 6, Tom Stothart & Doreen Taylor.

Craig Revel-Horwood was simply Fab-u-lous!

Review by Mark Hallam

Having wearied of Strictly sometime during the first decade and never having been a great fan of Craig Revel Horwood, lurking at the acerbic end of the judges panel... his show Revelations - Songs Boys Don't Sing, at Buccleuch Centre on 24th June, was not one I would normally choose to see. However, my wife Leila still is a Strictly fan, albeit also not overly keen on the maverick judge - so I bought tickets as a birthday present. We were both astonished to find the show (sorry to have to say it) Fab-U-Lous!

Supported by an equally talented musical director, Ben Goddard, the pair launched into a concentrated and wholly engaging hour and a half of what I can only describe as a variety show on steroids. Visual impact was supported by Ben at stage right pounding on his grand piano, Craig at stage left, reclining on a favourite posh red leather armchair alleged to be as old



Strictly star delights Langholm audience

as he is (61) - and large screen high centre, showing power point slides and short videos to illustrate bits of the story-telling.

Breakneck

At breakneck pace they belted through bits of story, starting from troubled childhood in south east Australia all the way up to national treasure in UK. Sad parts were off-set by a plethora of heart-warming anecdotes - and astonishing comedy, often

in the form of what sounded like spontaneous banter between the two, peppered by a few eyebrow raising asides from Craig, which could be said to be raunchy, rather than lewd.

There was lots of music: Ben on and off his piano; a surprisingly tuneful duet on (best of Amazon Prime) descant recorders, springing improbably out of a story of a tormented fat kid being reluctantly forced

to participate in an un-tuneful primary school play group... and both singing hearts out in extraordinary harmony, through all sorts of well-known songs, several from famous musicals.

As advertised, Craig did indeed abruptly transition to a mini-Master Chef cookery class, making peanut-butter cookies, ultimately shared with a few in the audience after health and safety warnings about allergy, but also lots of humour, again decorated with the odd raunchy aside.

Finally, Craig reverted to Strictly Judge - of the audience - inviting any brave enough, to ask him a question - any question, but which would then be judged, in a kind of mini competition. He then sat, slightly menacingly, in his red chair, fingering an outward facing "1" (out of 10) score-card. Nevertheless several emboldened themselves to ask questions, which were all pertinent and well delivered - and the winner was given an (allegedly nude) calendar of Craig RH images, in the spirit of famous Calendar Girls.

The Laverock Rhymers

Resignation

You climb to the top of the greasy pole
 But sooner or later you're not in control
 In Number 10 or on the pitch
 You will discover that life's a bitch.
 You feel that you can lead the team
 Take them to the place they dream
 But events beyond your power
 Lead to times where things go sour.
 There will be periods of success
 Despite the ever-present stress
 You've managed to keep the plates all spinning
 On the surface you seem to be winning.
 Then you're let down by someone you trust
 You take action, do what you must
 To make the situation right
 And try to avoid a stand up fight.
 The day to day becomes a grind
 Solutions you can barely find
 To problems which have grown and grown
 And all around the people moan.
 And thus the downs outweigh the ups
 No glory in the victory cups
 So slowly resignation looms
 Questions asked in smoke filled rooms.
 And finally there's no excuse
 The die is cast, they've cooked the goose
 The media are knocking at the door
 You say your piece and are no more.

Mane Attractions: The Most Charming Equine Collectibles

Stuart Bruce-Gormley examines the world of horsey treasures

With the spectacle of hundreds of horse hooves and the accompanying riders and spectators almost upon us, I thought I would take a look into the world of equine related collectables.

From the gleam of silver stirrup cups to the charm of a horseshoe brooch, equestrian antiques have long captivated collectors and design lovers alike. These equine collectables are more than just decorative, each carry a story from a bygone era of country pursuits, racing thrills, and local sporting culture. Whether you're attracted to the elegance of Victorian equestrian décor or the craftsmanship of antique equestrian memorabilia, these pieces continue to charm the serious and casual collector alike.

The deep bond between people and horses has shaped art, fashion, and design throughout history. But the popularity of equestrian-themed collectables rose significantly during the 18th and 19th centuries.

During the Victorian era, horseback hunting was not just a sport but a display of status and tradition, and the items associated with these flamboyant ride outs, from snuff boxes to stirrup cups, reflected this cultural and social status importance. This period gave rise to a wide array of equestrian antiques that now form the backbone of many private collections.

In Victorian hunting culture, every ride became an occasion,



dressage, and flat racing had grown in popularity, further influencing the production of antique sporting art and horse-related personal accessories. Today, many of these Victorian and Edwardian treasures, from prints and grooming kits to riding trophies, offer a rich insight into the social and sporting history of the time.

Few categories of equestrian collectables offer as much elegance and utility as antique silver equestrian pieces. In the heyday of the English country house, Victorian silver stirrup cups were often shaped like horses' heads or foxes. They were offered to riders as a traditional toast before the hunt. These are now among the most sought-after equestrian-themed silverware items in antique collections, especially when they bear crisp hallmarks and intricate detailing. Some fetching into the thousands.

Other highly sought after silver collectables include jockey themed snuff boxes, hunting flasks, and snaffle-bit napkin ring. While silverware provided

the grandeur that his lord and ladyship needed to show off immense wealth and status, equestrian jewellery brought subtle sophistication. Popular from the late 19th century onwards, these wearable antiques were designed for horse lovers who wanted to quietly signal their passion. Styles included antique brooches fashioned as

horses' heads, bridles, and riding crops, as well as horseshoes, which were often seen as lucky charms. You can often pick-up said pieces in most antique centres from as little as ten pounds.

In the Victorian period especially, items such as equestrian stickpins and cufflinks were commonly worn by riders and spectators alike. A Victorian



equestrian stickpin might feature a miniature crop or saddle, and horseshoe jewellery became a fashionable token of good luck, often gifted by an admirer or family member. Charm bracelets featuring miniature stirrups and horses' heads, remain especially popular with collectors. So if

you have a piece of jewellery that hasn't seen the light of day in years, then hunt it out and wear it for our Common Riding

Good luck to our Front Three and all the riders following them on Common Riding day



and each estate owner or laird would try to show off their immense wealth by incorporating objects such as silverware, jewellery, tack, and show off their recent commissioned artwork, each crafted with precision and pride. By the Edwardian period, equestrian pursuits such as polo,





Looking back...

Common Riding Chatter from 1966

...a look back at the jottings in the E&L archives

TOMMY TINNIE

In "Langholm As It Was" it is recorded how Tommie Tinnie, who gave his name to the town's canon, when in New York, suddenly remembered it was Langholm Common Riding Day and thereupon immediately mounted the top of an apple barrel standing at a shop door and cried the Langholm Fair to a lot of amused and bewildered Yankees who swarmed round him as he proclaimed the familiar words.

ON-BOARD FAIR

We heard of another incident when a Langholm man, who was serving aboard a ship commanded by Admiral Sir Pulteney Malcolm, also remembered it was Langholm Common Riding Day and did exactly the same as Tommy Tinnie. But he was arrested – in all probability the offices of the watch would imagine that he was inciting the crew to mutiny – but when the story reached the ears of the Admiral, well, what can you expect? The Langholm sailor got off and we would imagine there would be a tot of rum for him too.

NO ROSES

We have never heard so many appreciative remarks about the Crown. It was indeed a real masterpiece and all credit to Ex-Cornet Ian Murray for his efforts in this respect. Ex-Cornet Murray told us

that this was his second attempt at making a Crown. Well, it certainly did not look like a second time. "Aw like making it" he remarked. So there you are – that is the secret – a labour of love.

Last year rambler roses were unprocurable and consequently the Crown has to be fashioned out of Sweet William, but it was different this year when there was a plentiful supply of roses. There must have been because there were literally thousands of individual blooms on the Crown. When we mentioned this to Ex-Cornet Murray his remark was "Aw should think there is thousands – there were seven clothes-basketfuls onyway". Ex-Cornet Murray was also responsible for the growing of the thistle and, as everybody would no doubt notice, the 1966 specimen was well up to standard. It was well over seven feet high and carried a lot of purple headed blooms. But Ex-Cornet Murray informed us that "Thistle-growing is a hitty-missy business but I've got five young yins tae pick frae next year, so I'll juist keep my fingers crossed".

GONE TO AUSTRALIA

So far as the three bands are concerned we were pleased to see Arthur Tolson deputising as side-drummer in the Flute Band. He succeeds Innes Beverley who is now in Australia. Also in the same band was 10-year-old Neil Cowan who "operated" the big triangle I suc-



1966 Common Riding with Cornet Ronnie Hudson who celebrates his Diamond Jubilee this year

sion to his cousin Ian Robinson who is also away in Australia. Neil is indeed a real Common Riding enthusiast. Although he is only ten years old he was "word-perfect" so far as the Langholm Fair was concerned a gie lang time since.

UNWELCOME SOUVENIR

There can be few people in Langholm who have not a Common Riding souvenir of some kind or another and we saw one of these on the Common Riding Day which was there for anyone to see. It was worn by Mrs Tom Fletcher, Nursery Cottage, but was not fash-

ioned out of metal or anything of that nature. It certainly was fashioned by metal and is the mark above and below her right eye caused by a horseshoe cast by one of the horses during the gallop up the Kirk Wynd. A souvenir certainly, but one which will not be coveted by many.

MEETING OF GENERATIONS

At the closing ceremonies in the Market Place we were very much impressed at a meeting between the oldest and the youngest. We are referring to the incident on the plat-

form when Provost Grieve introduced the oldest Cornet to the youngest – Mr David Irving, who carried the burgh flag round the marches in 1897, and Cornet Ronnie Hudson of 1966. A great meeting.

EXILE'S RETURN

Among the "exiles" was one man who had not seen a Common Riding for 55 years. He was Mr Alan Mail who was born and brought up in Langholm but who emigrated to Canada in 1911. He later went to the USA and now lectures in medical entymology at the University of Arizona.

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report

Thursday, 2nd July 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 4,365 sheep comprising of 1,232 prime lambs and 3,133 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 2nd July 2026.

PRIME LAMBS

A similar show of 1,232 lambs forward to a more subdued enquiry of purchasers, with trade being slightly easier again on the week. Weight still in good demand and well finished best export lambs proved a joy to sell. Commercial grass-fed lambs met the most resistance. Well fed lambs continue to be wanted for the coming weeks, still being sold to vendor advantage. Top price per head of £250 for a Suffolk shown by I & J Barbour, Beechgrove, Annan. Top per kilo of 447p for Beltex lambs from CJ Roots, Kilnford Croft, Dumfries. Overall average 389.1p (SQQ 390.1p)

Principal Prices (Per Head)

Suffolk £250 Beechgrove, £224, £220 The Land, £220 Merkland, £218 Craigend.
Texel £240 Kilnford Croft, £238 Merkland, £221 The Land.
Beltex £188 Burnside, £185 Chapelton of Menmuir, £180 Kilnford Croft.
Dutch Spotted £181 Park House.
North Country Cheviot £179.50 Carruthers.
Zwartble £168 Park House.

Principal Prices (Per Kilo)

Beltex 447p, 439p Kilnford Croft, 437p Burnside & Woodhouse.
Texel 440p Thornington, 428p Milton Mains, 417p Errington Red House, Park House, Burnside & The Land, 416p Drinkstone.
Blue Texel 417p Briery Square.
Suffolk 403p Burnside, 400p The Land & Craigend, 398p Carruthers, 396p Craigend, 395p Cambeckhill.
Dutch Spotted 402p Park House, 397p Briery Square.

North Country Cheviot 398p Carruthers.
Zwartble 381p Park House.

CAST EWES AND RAMS

A larger entry of 3,133 cast ewes and rams were forward to a ring full of 15 active purchasers ensuring all classes sold to huge and unrivalled rates of return. Many more are wanted to fulfil purchaser demand for the coming weeks sales. Keep the ewes coming for premium returns. Texel ewes sold to a top of £340 for Texel ewes from K Smith & Sons, East Greenridge, Hexham. Light ewes selling to £178 for Cheviots from H Cockburn & Partners, Kingside, Leadburn. Rams topped at £300 for Dutch Spotted from Beckfoot Farms.

Heavy ewes

Texel £340 East Greenridge, £295 Beckfoot, £292 Shepherds

Cottage, £290, £282 Roxburgh Mains.
Beltex £268, £262, £252 Tercrosset, £245, £240 Kilnford Croft.
Suffolk £250 The Land, £238 Hallees, £228, £226 Roxburgh Mains, £222 Tone Hall.
Charollais £235 Beckfoot, £230 Bogrie, £224 Beckfoot.
Bluefaced Leicester £228 East Greenridge.
Blue Texel £215 Tercrosset.
Mule £208 Chaseside, £190 Burnside, Nether Cargen & Staffler, £188 Tone Hall, £187 Beckfoot, £186 Tone Hall.
Cheviot Mule £202 Beckfoot & Upper Huntly Wood, £192 Fell End, £189 Beckfoot.
North Country Cheviot £198 South Bogbain, £188 Humbleheugh, £178 Bankhead of Tinnwald.

Light ewes

Cheviot £178 Kingside, £164 Branteth, £155 Supplebank, £150 Totholm.

Kerry Hill £170 River Meadow.
Swaedale £166 Tone Hall.
Easycare £162 Hillhouse & West-hotbank, £158 Reddis Hall, £150 East Greenridge & Hillhouse.
Blackface £162 Mouldyhill, £156 Tone Hall, £152 Mouldyhill, £149 Tinnis.
Jacob £160 The Snab.
Herdwick £142 Collin Bank.

Rams

Dutch Spotted £300 Beckfoot, £255 Barn Croft.
Texel £270 Beckfoot, £245 East Greenridge, £230 Collin Bank.
North Country Cheviot £270 Humbleheugh.
Bluefaced Leicester £230 Chesterhall Parks & Mouldyhill.
Beltex £230 Tercrosset.
Charollais £210 East Greenridge.
Suffolk £190 Tercrosset & Grange.
Cheviot £170 Hermitage.
Blackface £160 Corsencon, £150 Tone Hall.

Averages:

Lambs

Light to ———p (———p)
 Standard to 447.0p (395.6p)
 Medium to 440.0p (387.9p)
 Heavy to 408.0p (386.6p)
 Overweight to 417.0p (371.2p)

Ewes

Light to £178.00 (£138.58)
 Heavy to £340.00 (£186.60)
 Rams to £300.00 (£179.20)



LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

**CREATION MILL**

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

Mon	Quilters Group	10-1	Creation Mill DG13 oES
	Mending Monday	1-3	
Tues	Summer Craft Club Langholm	10-2	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Canonbie In-Stitches	2-4	Village Hall DG14 oUX
Wed	Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Kirkpatrick Fleming In Stitches	10-12	Victoria Hall, DG11 3AU
Fri	Langholm weekly In- Stitches	1-4	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
Sat	Modern Weaving Workshop	10 -2	Creation Mill, DG13 oES

Scrap Store is open
Monday - Friday 10-3
& Saturday 10-1

Booking required, please visit
CREATIONMILL.ORG/EVENTS

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only
£15

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD

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NOTICEBOARD
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only

£20 inc VAT

Contact: alan@eladvertiser.co.uk

WHAT'S ON IN JULY

Wed 15th	Hard of Hearing Group	Langholm Day Centre 1pm - 3pm
Sat 18th for one month	The Langholm Common Riding Exhibition	The Old Post Office 10am - 4pm
Sun 19th	Pony Club Games	Castleholm 11am
	Castle Craigs Pony Rideout	Departs Castleholm 1pm
Sat 25th	Town Band Sale of Work	The Buccleuch Centre 1.45pm
	Castle Craigs Club bowling tournament	Old and New Town Bowling Greens
Tues 28th	Xcel's Party on the Pitch Family Event	Cricket Club 12pm - 4pm
	'A Night wi' the Banna'	Masonic Social Club 7.30pm
Wed 29th	Langholm Playcare Common Riding	Old Tennis Courts Rosevale Street

The E&L
General Knowledge Quiz

No. 2628 answers next week

- 1

Name one of the three mainland European destinations for ferries departing from Plymouth
- 2

Which river runs through the city of Bath?
- 3

What bird appears on the emblem of the RSPB?
- 4

In which National Park would you find Rosedale Abbey?
- 5

Which London street is known for shopping mecca for electronic and photographic goods?
- 6

Which square stands at one end of London's King's Road?
- 7

In which city would you find the G-Mex Centre?
- 8

What are 'Megafobia' and 'Oblivion'?
- 9

On which river is the Devon town of Totnes the furthest navigable point for sea-going vessels?
- 10

Which resort is often referred to as the 'Queen of the Yorkshire Coast'?
- 11

What name is given to the less refined cousin of the drink cider?
- 12

What is the largest rodent living wild in Britain?
- 13

Of what are the various patters more correctly known as "setts"?
- 14

Many Welsh place names begin with 'Caer'. What does 'Caer' mean?
- 15

On which motorway would you find the Leigh Delamere Services?
- 16

Name two of the three counties in which you will find a Gillingham
- 17

In Scotland what is a 'linn'?
- 18

What took place at Tyburn in Middlesex until 1783?
- 19

From which fish is the Scottish soup cullen skink made?
- 20

In which county would you find the Isle of Oxney?



Crossword & Quiz
Solutions from
last week

Quiz 2627

- 1

Islands in the Bristol Channel
- 2

Devon
- 3

Daphne du Maurier
- 4

Charles II
- 5

Ralph McTell
- 6

River Test
- 7

Humber Bridge
- 8

Harwich and Felixstowe
- 9

Peel
- 10

Granite
- 11

TE Lawrence's
- 12

Quarter days
- 13

Nowhere. Britain has an un written Constitution.
- 14

Lindisfarne
- 15

Warwickshire Avon
- 16

Hampshire, Surrey, East Sussex
- 17

Watercress Line
- 18

145
- 19

Oxford University
- 20

Blackpool

Crossword 2627

Across: 1 Fuse, 4 Pipeline, 8 Etchings, 9 Date, 10 Stalk, 11 Broncos, 13 Hers, 14 Yam, 15 Ma'am, 16 High-ups, 18 Braid, 20 Fuzz, 21 This is it, 22 Deployed, 23 Test.

Down: 2 Up to the minute, 3 Exhales, 4 Pant, 5 Pastrami, 6 Led in, 7 Nationalities, 12 Sympathy, 15 Marxist, 17 Hazel, 19 Kind.

NEVER A CROSSWORD!

No. 2628 A mix of general knowledge and cryptic clues think. Answers next week

Across

- 1

Roman Empire expert (6)
- 5

More likely to be off work (6)
- 8

Resort to violence (3,5)
- 9

Clever remark (3)
- 10

Five flew on Apollo 17 (4)
- 11

Lord —, Lord Chancellor 1970-74 and 1979-87 (8)
- 12

Crackers (4)
- 13

Off this, it's not made for you (3)
- 14

Fix socks (4)
- 15

Unforeseen difficulties (8)
- 18

Way of walking (4)
- 19

Parisian nose (3)
- 20

Surgery hang-ups? (8)
- 21

Cause trouble (4,2)
- 22

Night flight (3-3)

Down

- 2

Uplifting (13)
- 3

Help-yourself spreads (7)
- 4

Bridge hand (5)
- 5

Oozing (7)
- 6

Thoroughly searches (5)
- 7

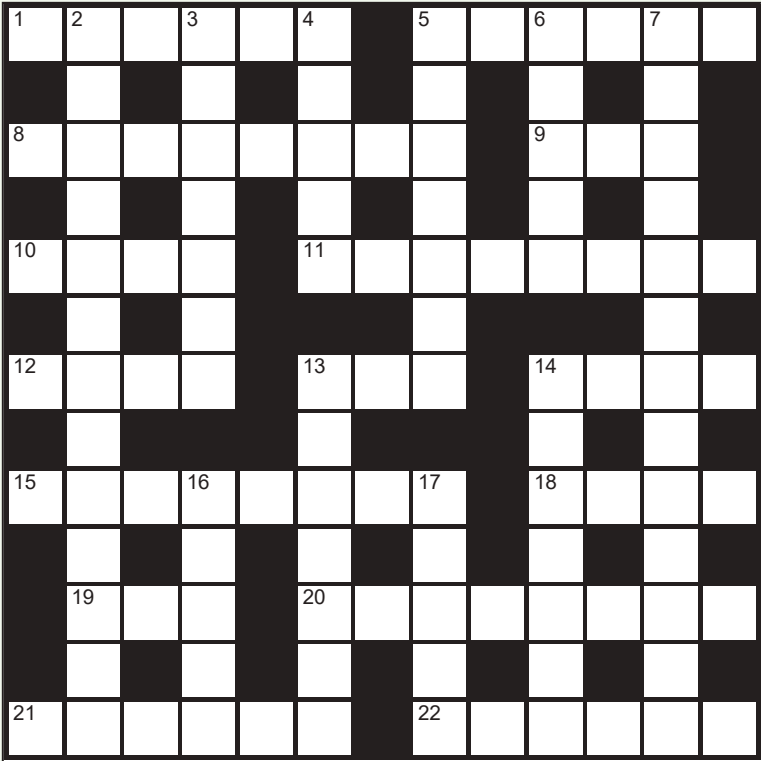
Remarkable (13)
- 13

Idle pup messing about in a heap (5,2)
- 14

Fuel for Rovers? (3,4)
- 16

Unclear (5)
- 17

The highest degree (5)



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PUBLIC NOTICES

(LANGHOLM COMMON RIDING RIDE-OUTS) (TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER) ORDER 2026

The Council has made an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to temporarily close roads around Langholm to accommodate Langholm Common Riding ride out events between 18/7/26 and 25/7/26. Drivers should expect minor delays for the duration of these events. Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times. Full details are available on www.dumgal.gov.uk or www.TellMeScotland.gov.uk

Dumfries and Galloway 

POP UP SHOP

LANGHOLM POP-UP SHOP July 2026

■ Sat 9th - Sat 11th July (74 High St)

Dovecote Designs, Samantha Edwards

■ Fri 24th - Sat 25th July (74 High St)

The Wild Goat Conservation Group

To book a space: Call Sharon Irving on 07862 67209
or email: sharon@ashleybank.co.uk

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Kenneth stands down as LRFC Chair

Langholm RFC held their AGM last Friday at Milntown. President Davy Patterson welcomed the members and thanked them for their attendance. He then handed the meeting over to chairman Kenneth Pool. The minutes of the previous AGM were read and approved. The chairman then gave a short report of the previous season. The 1st XV had finished up 4th in East League and were unlucky to miss out on third place after a good start to the season. The annual 7s was a great success and played in excellent weather. There was a good crowd with numbers well up on the previous year.

Club Treasurer, Michelle Grieve then gave the financial report which showed the club in a healthy position at the end of the season. Income from the 7s was well up on 2025.

The accounts were approved. As has been previously announced, the chairman said he was stepping down after 16 years in the job. He thanked everybody who had been involved over the years in making Langholm RFC such a good social and community rugby club.

The election of officials then took place. These are Hon. President J Scott, Hon Vice Presidents J Little, M Bell and D Beattie, President Davy Patterson, Secretary Catriona Bell, Treasurer Michelle Grieve, Fix-

ture Secretary Stuart Mabon and Membership secretary Katrina Mabon. The management committee and general committee were then confirmed along with life members and other positions within the club. The President, on behalf of LRFC, thanked Kenneth Pool (below) for his many years' service to the club and announced made that KP would become an honorary vice president.



Retiring LRFC Chairman
Kenneth Pool

Primary School Sports Day brings out the champs

Great fun and great sportsmanship from everyone

Langholm Primary School Sports Champions

P4: Penni and Sebastian
P5: Anna and Billy
P6: Ellie, Oliver and Finlay
P7: Ella and Cameron

Overall Sports Champions:

Ella (P6) and Cameron (P7)

Overall sports day winning house team: **Tarras**.



CHAMPS: Ella P6 & Cameron P7



CHAMPS: Tarras Team



Penni P4



Sebastian P4



Anna P5



Billy P5



Ellie P6



Finlay P6



Ella P7



Cameron P7

Well done to everyone who took part, winners or not!

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!

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Jake well remembered in memorial tournament

Bowling

Jake Reid memorial pairs tournament was played on Sunday with 44 pairs taking part.

Thanks to everyone who helped on the day and made the competition a great success.

Winners were Robert Carruthers and Alistair Service from Annan.

Runners-up were Steven Barker and Mark Grieve (Langholm Old and New)

Beaten semi-finalists were David Reid and Eileen Beattie (Langholm New) and David Pool and Mark Chambers (Langholm New)

Beaten quarter finalists were Jake McMillan and Abbi Orderly (Springside); Davie Oliver and Jimmy Renwick (Ancrum); Alistair Elliot and Drew Rutherford (Newcastleton); Steven Devlin and Kevin Irving (Langholm Old).

A special thanks to the three who travelled down from Springside bowling club in Ayrshire.

Thanks very much to the Reid family and friends for their very generous sponsorship for the tournament. Yet again great prize money of £900 was paid out. Prizes were presented by the Reid family and President of the club David Pool.

Great day - well done everyone!



Jake's family members, Booba, Scott and son Chris with the winners Robert and Alistair from Annan



Winners with runners-up Chis and Mark and President David Pool

Commonwealth Games opening ceremony

Commonwealth Games

Rehearsals have kicked off for the Glasgow 2026 Opening Ceremony, which will take place on 23 July in the iconic Hydro, officially lifting the curtain on 10 days of world-class sporting celebration in the city.

Volunteer cast members have gathered at one of the first rehearsal sessions as Glasgow 2026 prepares to welcome the world in 20 days. Organisers auditioned 800 ceremony hopefuls earlier this year before selecting a cast of 600. The show will be orchestrated by Glasgow-based theatre director Roxana Cole and choreographer Emily Jane Boyle. It will also feature a star-studded lineup which organisers are keeping under wraps. Speaking at rehearsals Roxana said: "It's all starting to feel very real now that rehearsals have started. We're currently rehearsing in a different venue with the staging marked out and the imagination is work-

ing hard to see the full vision, but in a rehearsal session this week I had goosebumps realising that we have the essence of an incredible show. I can't wait to take it into the space it's been made for - The Hydro.

"My favourite thing about these rehearsals is community. We've brought all these cast members together from all ages and backgrounds and there's a real sense of belonging. Glasgow has an extraordinary sense of warmth and acceptance and that will be a defining characteristic of this show."

The Opening Ceremony will take audiences on a kaleidoscopic journey through Glasgow, Scotland and the Commonwealth, with performances from major international artists, emerging talent and a cast of volunteers from across Glasgow, Scotland and beyond

Tickets for the games are now on sale online at www.glasgow2026.com.

Playing Oz in trans-global friendly

Cricket

On the 4th of July Langholm Cricket Club took on veterans from Australia and the Aussies won by 25 runs. It was a spirited chase by an inexperienced Langholm side.

It was a great game played in a fantastic way and cricket was the real winner. Two clubs from opposite sides of the globe came together, and while there was a result on the scoreboard, it quickly became secondary to the friendships that were made. Langholm Cricket Club wishes the Cricket Australia Veterans the very best of luck as they take on Keswick in their final match before heading to Edinburgh, and then home to Melbourne.

Thank you for your friendship,

sportsmanship and great company throughout your visit. You're a fantastic group of lads, and you'll always be welcome back at The Castleholm.

MORE LEGENDS OF 1976



This week we travel through the tunnel to face our old rivals Hawick in the Gordon Johnstone Memorial Trophy, played in honour of one of Langholm Cricket Club's greatest servants.

Gordon began his playing career in 1959 and represented the club with distinction for 44 years before retiring in 2003. The defining moment of that remarkable career came in 1976 when, as captain, he led Langholm to the Border League title, an achievement the club has yet to repeat. A calm leader and dependable batsman, Gordon always led by example, and the celebrations after that historic victory at St Boswells remain among the most cherished memories in the club's history.

Gordon continued to make his

mark throughout his career. In 1989, alongside Steve Carr, he set a Border League record opening partnership of 240 against Lanark, a testament to his consistency and quality at the crease.

Retirement from playing did little to slow him down. Supported by his wife Dorothy, Gordon devoted countless hours to the club in a variety of roles, earning Life Membership alongside her. Whether scoring, umpiring or helping behind the scenes, he remained a familiar and valued presence around the Castleholm.

One of the most emotional moments came in 2007 when Langholm defeated Gala to win the Border League Cup. Feeling unwell, Gordon had left before the match ended. Before beginning their celebrations, the team

piled into Geoff Maxwell's van and took the trophy to Wauchope Place, presenting it to Gordon in his living room. It was a moment few who witnessed it will ever forget.

Cricket was central to the Johnstone family. Gordon's four sons, David, Paddy, Stevie and Derek, all represented Langholm, while his brother Ronnie played alongside him in the 1976 title-winning side. Today, his legacy lives on through his grandson Ryan, the club's vice-captain. As Langholm continue their pursuit of a first league title in 50 years, Gordon's inspiration remains close at hand. His dedication, leadership and love for the club left an enduring legacy, and he is very much in our thoughts as we contest the Gordon Johnstone Memorial Trophy.

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