

The Eskdale Experience

Preview of Common Riding exhibition

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Good Luck to Aoiffion in Dublin

Everyone is behind you!

SEE PAGE 16



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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Langholm to Dumfries bus service a possibility

ACTS is looking for vital feedback from potential users

Annandale Community Transport Services (ACTS) is exploring the possibility of introducing a new 7 day a week bus service connecting Langholm – Gretna – Annan – Dumfries with stops serving our local hospitals. Before they take this idea further, they would like to hear from people.

Would you, or someone you know, use this service? Whether it's for hospital appointments, visiting family or friends, work, shopping or connecting with other transport, your feedback will help ACTS understand whether there is enough demand. If there is sufficient interest, they would also be looking to recruit drivers to help operate the service, creating new employment opportunities within the local community.

The organisation is looking to find out if you would use the service? What stops would be most important to you? What times or days would you be most likely to travel? All feedback will help the organisation assess whether this service is viable and helps support future funding opportunities so it's really important that you have your say. Whether you are a commuter, a student, an older resident, a healthcare worker or someone who regularly travels for appointments, your views will help us develop a service that meets local needs.

This could be very exciting for our area as the current services to the rest of Dumfries and Galloway are poor and often require bus changes or don't run at the right time. It



OPENING UP POSSIBILITIES: One of the existing Annandale Community Transport Services buses

might benefit many people in and around Langholm to access work, health appointments or for leisure activities and give people more opportunities to visit friends.

Annandale Community Transport Services are a local charity and company limited by guarantee, which provides accessible minibuses, community cars, hospital transport, and much-loved day trips, all supported by dedicated staff and amazing volunteer drivers. The organisation started in 1999 and has a base in Lockerbie. Following discussions with Dumfries and Galloway Council the organisation realises the transport challenges people face in the Langholm area. The new service if it goes ahead would not rely on

volunteer drivers.

Alongside plans for the new bus service, Annandale Community Transport Services continues to provide its valued Community Car Scheme, helping people who have difficulty accessing transport to attend medical appointments, collect prescriptions, go shopping and reach other essential destinations. The ACTS vehicle stays in Langholm and is used most days supporting those living in Langholm and the surrounding areas

To continue offering this important service, ACTS are looking for more volunteer drivers. Volunteer driving is a flexible and rewarding way to support your local community. Even a few hours each month can make a

real difference to someone who might otherwise struggle to travel. If you enjoy driving, meeting people and helping others remain independent, we would love to hear from you.

If you would like to comment on the proposed bus service or find out more about becoming a volunteer driver for the Community Car Scheme, please contact Annandale Community Transport Service.

Please contact us Annandale Community Transport Services on Facebook, on the phone on 01576 203053 or by email to admin@actsbus.org.uk "Together, we can build better transport links, improve access to healthcare and employment, and help ensure that no one is left isolated because they cannot get where they need to go."

INSIDE



Guy Martin drops in to Copshaw's Olive Tree Restaurant.

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Langholm Cricket Club continue their winning streak with nine wicket defeat of Temple Sowerby.

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Family Announcements

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by worship teams

NEWCASTLETON
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10am

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



Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser

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

More local graduates



Lorelei Beckett graduated from the Liverpool Theatre School last week after three years of study. She was also awarded the Musical Theatre Graduate of the year. Rebecca is the daughter of Jackie and Alisdair Becket. She will be appearing in this year's Muckle Toon Panto at Christmas and, next term, will be teaching dancing and musical theatre at Carlisle Dance Academy and be promoting her Wands & Wishes kids' party business.



Last week's article about Rebecca Hall's graduation should have read 'Glasgow Caledonian University' – the wrong university was referred to in the paper. Rebecca's parents and the rest of her family are very proud of her achievements. She has worked very hard throughout her studies. Rebecca has been working for a podiatry firm for the last six months and continues to work there.



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- The Ainslie Charitable Trust
- The BGS Cayzer Charitable Trust
- Arthur Bell Trust Bowman Little Trust
- Ewe Hill 16 Community Benefit Fund
- The John Hammond Charitable Trust
- Solwaybank Community Benefit Fund
- Stoneypath Trust
- The Stevenson Trust
- Walter Higgs Charitable Trust



A wee reminder of home in Namibia

A Canonbie couple visiting Namibia came across The Langholm Hotel. Julie and Gordon Hull were delighted to see it and sent us these pictures.

They're not sure of the origin of the name but it was located in an Afrikaans speaking area and as that language shares most of its vocabulary and roots with Dutch, it is likely that it derives from that language rather than being named after the Muckle Toon. However it's nice to see that like our Langholm it's also a legend.



Invasive plants cause riverbank hazards

Council to tackle hogweed

We've run a couple of articles recently about invasive non-native species. The banks of the River Esk in and around Langholm are covered in three non-native invasive plants. Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam – the plant with the pink flowers and Japanese knotweed can all be easily seen.

In Scotland, all non-native species are covered by Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The Act makes it an offence to release or allow to escape from captivity any animal to a place outwith its native range, cause any animal outwith the control of any person to be at place outwith its native range or plant or otherwise cause to grow any plant in the wild outwith its native range.

Responsibility for controlling invasive non-native plants lies with the landowner. People can consider reporting sightings to the landowner and ask them to take action to prevent their spread. Nature Scot recommends that people record sightings of invasive species.



Giant Hogweed Photo Kim Jones

Depending on the species there are different ways to do this: <https://www.nature.scot> and search for 'non-native species'

Denis Male now tells us that Dumfries and Galloway Council are going to deal with the giant hogweed. This is probably the most dangerous of the invasive plants as contact with its sap can result in severe skin reactions such as large blisters, ulcers and even blindness if it comes into contact with the eyes. The sap is especially harmful when exposed to sunlight. People who use the riverbanks should be aware of this danger.

Borders Council moves rail project to consultancy stage

Scottish Borders Council has completed the tendering process to appoint specialist consultants to support the first stage of business case work for the proposed extension of the Borders Railway to Hawick and Carlisle.

Following an evaluation process that has taken place over the past few weeks it's been confirmed that the consultancy group WSP has been successful in winning the two packages of work that were recently advertised.

This work includes a transport appraisal which will help us to develop a shortlist for a preferred option for the corridor and some high-level associated feasibility work; and a growth prospectus which will look at other economic related opportunities in the area that will help to develop the strongest case possible.

This work will contribute to the first stage of the business case process, the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC). This is the first of three stages which will help to evaluate the potential benefits of developing better transport provision in



Southern Scotland and Northern England.

The SOBC work will take approximately 18 months to complete and is funded by both the UK and Scottish Governments through the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal.

Councillor Scott Hamilton, Scottish Borders Council Executive Member for Economic Growth and Developing the

Borders

"This appointment marks another important step forward in the work to develop the case for extending the Borders Railway. The support from WSP will help ensure the Strategic Outline Business Case is thorough, evidence-led and focused on the long-term benefits for communities and economic growth across the region."

Seismic Array

David Mundell MP forwarded information to us about the consultation pertaining to the seismic array at Eskdalemuir: 'Updated approach to managing onshore wind turbine interference with the Eskdalemuir seismic array'. Additional material was published on 7 July and is available on the Government consultation website and on the Scottish renewables website. To allow sufficient time for consideration of this new information, the consultation has been further extended until 5 August 2026. This provides a full 4 weeks for consideration of the additional annexes. People are asked to note that the platform for the consultation submissions is limited to 25MB and if attachments exceed that limit they should be sent separately to onshorewind@energy-security.gov.uk

K-F OutReach Meeting

Following up on last week's front-page story about broadband we had an email from Maureen Sharp from Kirkpatrick Fleming Community Council. She tells us that OpenReach are holding a meeting in the village hall on Thursday 13th August 11am – 2pm.

Canonbie Brig parapet crushed



A reader from Canonbie got in touch to tell us about an incident outside their front door on Monday.

The trailer of an articulated lorry caught the stone parapet on the village side of the bridge turning it to rubble.

Lucky there was no one on the bridge at the time.

Byreburnfoot in beautiful bloom

Following the success of the open day last August at Byreburnfoot House, Canonbie, under the Scotlands Gardens Scheme, the garden will once again be open to the public on Sunday 2 August from 1-5pm. This year the proceeds will be divided between Canonbie Community Enterprise and the Scotlands Gardens Scheme.

What better way to spend a summer Sunday afternoon than wandering round a beautiful garden. Some people may have seen Byreburnfoot House garden when it was featured on ITV's 'Border Life' programme at the end of last year. Visitors will have the opportunity to wander round the gardens and the orchard, relax in one of the varied seating areas, enjoy refreshments and home-made



cakes, and purchase plants at the plant stall. Those who visited last year will be able to see the recent additions to the site, including ornamental raised beds, statues, a fountain, and new planting in the orchard.

Admission is £5 (under 16s free) and parking is on the quiet lane leading to the property.

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Last week we published a letter from Diana de Gruyther and this week we are publishing a letter that she received from Craig Hoy, MSP.

Dear Diana,

Thank you for your email.

Previously, I have written to the First Minister calling for a moratorium across South Scotland on new applications for onshore wind, battery storage and solar developments.

I made my appeal amid growing concerns over the cumulative impact of renewables development which arises because of the Energy Consents Unit and Scottish Government routinely over-riding local planning authorities' decisions and their regular disregard of the views of local community groups. I believe it is no longer acceptable to give consent to isolated projects in areas such as Dumfriesshire, and I have urged ministers to give full consideration to the combined effects of multiple developments on the region's landscape, ecology and sense of place and community.

I have asked the Scottish Government to put in place a moratorium on new applications until a clear and transparent energy policy is developed. This would mean that all new applications for onshore wind, solar, and battery projects in Dumfries and Galloway – or connected to the community- should be paused until there is a robust, coherent national energy policy that clearly set out how Scotland's renewable goals will be balanced with local planning priorities and community welfare.

I have also asked that future policy places a greater emphasis on the views of local communities. Many constituents feel that their voices have been unheard, their local environments undervalued, and their local representative bodies sidelined during the present consenting process. To reverse this erosion of community confidence and trust I ask that the Scottish Government provides resources and support to local councils and community councils to participate effectively in decision-making to avoid regular "David versus Goliath" scenarios developing.

The balance has clearly shifted

away from communities and towards developers, a moratorium while a full review is undertaken would provide the opportunity for a reset before untold damage is done to the rural landscape, the environment and to the nearby communities.

Unfortunately, the First Minister has not agreed to my calls for a moratorium but I was pleased that during First Minister's Questions on 26th June, John Swinney did suggest that the Scottish Government may need to give consideration to developing planning guidance for data centres and I hope this might be expanded to cover other renewable energy developments.

Please be assured that I will continue to closely monitor any proposed developments within the constituency.

Please ask if you have any questions.

Kind regards,
Craig Hoy MSP
Member of the Scottish
Parliament for the
Dumfriesshire Constituency

Make Mischief with a FREE BEANO

TGJones has partnered with beloved children's comic Beano to launch an exclusive issue which will be available free in all stores between Thursday 16th and Thursday 23rd July. The exclusive edition of Britain's longest-running comic has a 'Summer of Sports' theme and will feature exciting new adventures from Dennis the Menace and his dog Gnasher, guest appearances from famous sporting faces, as well as several vouchers for readers to enjoy in their local TGJones store.

In a special four-page story, Dennis and Gnasher's school Sports Day is transformed into a hilarious Summer of Sport spectacular, where they meet National Year of Reading Team Go All In captains including Joe Wicks, Tim Henman, Georgia Stanway and Jodie Cunningham, with legendary commentator John Murray joining the action. Packed with Beano humour and sporting mischief, the story celebrates how reading can help kids discover even more about the sports and heroes they love.

The vouchers will allow fans of the comic to get a future issue of the Beano with £1.50 off, a 40% discount on its usual price of £3.75, whilst jokesters who enjoy Beano's humour will be

able to pick up the official Beano Joke Book online for just £2.99 using the code BEANOJOKE, a 50% discount on its usual price of £5.99.

There will be a total of 50,000 issues available as part of the giveaway, available in every TGJones store. The giveaway in partnership with Beano has been formed to support the National Year of Reading 2026, the biggest campaign in a generation designed to inspire everyone to discover a passion for reading and embed it into our everyday lives. A Department for Education initiative Beano supported by the National Literacy Trust, the National Year of Reading is delivered with the support of major sponsors and partners, including TGJones.



Eskdale History Group

The Eskdale History Group is hosting Judith Hewitt, Curator of Dumfries Museum on Friday 17th July at 7pm at the Eskdalemuir Hub. She will be showing off artifacts found in and around the local area. Tickets are £4 on the door and everyone is welcome to go along.

On Saturday 8th August at 7pm Dr John Reid of the Trimontium Trust will be at the Hub talking about what it would have been like to live with the advancing Roman empire on your doorstep.

This is part of the Selgovae reenactment weekend.

Cyanotype Workshop

A small number of places are available for a cyanotype print-making workshop to be held at Eskdalemuir Hub on Sunday 16th August from 10am – 4pm. Eskdalemuir Expressive Arts is hosting Catriona Orr of Esk Collected, who will work with participants to create beautiful botanical prints using the art of cyanotype. This process is an early photographic printing process that creates the most stunning deep blue images. Places can be booked online through Ticket Source.

20 years of



Summer Trips

The Xcel Project is celebrating twenty years of offering trips for local young people during the summer school holiday period.

The Xcel Project started in September 2005 and in the Summer of 2006 worked in partnership with the Eskdale Sports and Leisure Centre to deliver a 'Summer of Sport' which included four trips.

The young folk enjoyed trips to Murrayfield, Ibrox and Celtic Park and to do paintballing. The Xcel Summer programme has become a regular opportunity for youngsters and every year a visit from the Cornet along with his right- and left-hand men has become a tradition.

On average the trips engage between 100 and 150 every Summer.



Some photos of the young folk enjoying the football trips organised by the Xcel Project over the last 20 years



Benty Show Garden Competition



The Benty Show garden competition is now open for entries.

Have you been busy planting, pruning and perfecting your garden this year? Now's your chance to show it off. This year's competition features two main classes: best flower garden and best kitchen garden. The show committee will also be awarding a selection of special prizes, so there are even more chances to be recognised for all your hard work. Whether your garden is large or small, they'd love to see what you've

created. The competition is open to all ages in the Westerkirk, Eskdalemuir and Ewes parishes. Judging will take place at the end of July/beginning of August. Trophies, special prizes and, of course, local bragging rights are all up for grabs. To enter, simply send us a message on Facebook or speak to any member of The Benty Show committee who can't wait to see the wonderful gardens our community has been nurturing this year. Good luck to everyone entering.

67 species of bird in Tarras Valley

Comprehensive ecology surveys underway

Ecology surveys in the Tarras Valley have commenced with breeding bird, mammal field sign, butterfly, herbivore impact assessment, vegetation, reptile and amphibian surveys underway. Hydrology, bat and otter surveys are also planned for later this year. In addition to the surveys, camera traps and bioacoustic devices have been installed across the reserve to non-invasively monitor species diversity, and general activity, of both mammals and birds.

The data collected this year, both from the surveys and devices, will provide an insight into the current species diversity, abundance and habitat condition of the reserve. The view is for the data to be collected annually, as part of an ongoing monitoring framework, enabling any ecological changes to be tracked over the long-term. With the exciting restoration projects on the horizon, including the river



restoration project, it will be exciting to monitor the changes that occur!

So far, a total of 67 breeding bird species have been recorded. The highlights include the confirmation of breeding barn owl, merlin, hen harrier, cuckoo, pied flycatcher, whinchat, curlew and grasshopper warbler. Woodcock, goshawk, green woodpecker, and spotted flycatcher are also notable sightings and probably breeding.

Notable invertebrates, observed either during the butterfly surveys or as incidental sightings, have included painted, emperor moth, common sexton beetle, leopard slug, and woodland dor beetle, a common dung beetle. Adder, slow worm and common lizard continue to be regularly found. The lower Tarras ponds have been awash with tadpoles, with both froglets and toadlets recently emerging.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe

A month from now Edinburgh's fringe festival will begin offering over 3600 shows in what seems like every venue possible in Auld Reekie. The festival is always fun and shows span every genre and include theatre, circus, cabaret, comedy, dance, musicals and everything in between. This year's programme is online, so you have time before the opening day on 17th August to browse it, pick out, and book a few of the shows.



Over the years I have seen some excellent theatre just by chance and sometimes you just need to make the leap and go for it. There are shows from all over the world such as Lord of the Zings from New Zealand and shows that feature unknowns as well as those that include well-known actors and comedians. Some of us just like to hang about on the Royal Mile and take in the buskers as the atmosphere is always great but it's good to take in a few shows.

Cheaper vet charges ruled by ombudsman

It's understood that millions of pet owners will benefit from the most significant overhaul of veterinary regulation in six decades, as the UK government last week published its White Paper setting out its vision for a thriving and fairer veterinary sector. New measures will radically modernise the industry, delivering better protections for households and greater transparency around prices - helping pet owners understand what they are paying for, avoid unexpected costs and choose the best value care for their pets.

Vet practices will be required to publish price lists for common treatments and be transparent about options and changes, allowing pet owners to choose the best treatment for their animals. This will be supported by an enhanced 'Find a Vet' service and a £21 cap on written prescription fees. Knowing key prices beforehand helps owners to choose the best value.

A new independent veterinary ombudsman is also being considered to give pet owners a



Pet owners will benefit from the most significant overhaul of veterinary regulation in six decades

clear and straightforward route to redress when complaints cannot be resolved directly with their practice. With the power to make binding decisions, the ombudsman will ensure disputes are resolved more quickly and fairly, increasing confidence across the sector.

Statutory regulations

The White Paper includes new

proposals for veterinary businesses to be subject to statutory regulation, including a mandatory licencing system, inspections and published compliance reports to improve accountability and choice. Greater transparency around prices and practice ownership will be mandated for the first time, so pet owners can make genuinely informed decisions about their care.

Contact John Lamont MP

Member of Parliament for Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk

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The costs of this publication have been met out of parliamentary resources.

Farming on the Border



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Farming with Gilly Fraser

Pig producers to get £2m support

A £2 million emergency financial support package for independent pig producers has been welcomed by NFU Scotland, but the union says it's unlikely to go far enough to address financial pressures currently facing the sector.

The support, which is being provided by the Scottish Government, will be backdated to March and will run till the end of August.

NFU Scotland President Andrew Connon says it follows weeks of intensive lobbying by the union.

"We've been clear throughout that emergency financial support was needed to help businesses through this crisis," he said. "But it cannot be the end of the conversation. The real problem is the persistent gap between the prices Scottish producers receive and the true value of the pigs they produce. Until that imbalance is addressed, we're simply treating the symptoms

rather than fixing the cause."

NFU Scotland's Pigs Committee Chair, Jamie Wyllie, says the package will provide welcome relief but is unlikely to bridge the losses many businesses have been carrying for months.

"We remain concerned that the level of support won't reflect the true scale of the losses many independent producers have experienced," he said.

"Financial support is important in the short term, but our members ultimately want to earn a fair return from the marketplace, not rely on government intervention. That's where the long-term focus has to remain."

The Union will continue working with the Government as the scheme is implemented and reviewed, while intensifying discussions with retailers, processors and policymakers to secure a fairer, more resilient and profitable future for Scotland's pig sector.

Centre of Expertise for Water gives climate warning

Climate change is going to lead to longer and more frequent spells of dry weather for farmers and growers in Scotland.

That's the warning from the Centre of Expertise for Waters which is based at the James Hutton Institute and funded by the Scottish Government.

Its research has shown that even in traditionally rainy Scotland, water can no longer be taken for granted.

CREW Director Dr Miriam Glendell says farmers are already seeing the impacts of climate change.

"Research has shown that by 2050, we can expect to see drought affecting river flows twice as often as we are used to," she said. "It's therefore important for businesses and individuals to prepare for these more frequent dry periods and plan for resilient water supplies."



Dr Miriam Glendell
CREW Director

CREW has issued a booklet of advice and guidance for farmers called Planning for Water Scarcity.

It's been developed in partnership with SRUC, The James Hutton Institute, the University of Aberdeen and SAOS, and brings together vital information on the changes to water

availability, as well as options for alternative and supplementary water supplies.

It also helps farmers to work out how likely they are to experience water shortage and explains what can be done in advance to protect both livestock welfare and crop yields.

The practical advice on water

use and irrigation included in the guide is supported by real-life case studies, and explains how farms are already improving water storage, strengthening management practices and building resilience.

First Milk's first prizes

Representatives of the Cumbrian-based farmers' co-operative dairy First Milk came home from the world's biggest cheese show laden with trophies.

First Milk scooped no less than 26 awards at the International Cheese and Dairy Awards which is held annually at the Staffordshire County Showground.

The company was up against stiff competition with this year's event attracting the highest number of entries in several years.

Nonetheless the haul of top results included eight gold, eleven silver and one bronze medal along with six major trophies. Four trophies were awards for Best Creamery Block Cheddar, one for Champion Double Gloucester and the Past Masters Trophy which was open only to previous Supreme Champion winners.

Four of the medals were awarded to cheeses in First Milk's Golden Hooves brand, which showcases the co-operative's emphasis on regenerative farming.

First Milk Customer Quality Manager Jack Eade says the awards reflect the dedication, expertise and passion of everyone involved in producing the cheese.

"To receive recognition across so many categories at one of the world's most respected cheese competitions is something everyone at First Milk



can be enormously proud of," he said.

"While our grading team selects and prepares the entries, none of these achievements would be possible without the commitment of our farmer members producing exceptional quality milk, and the highly skilled teams at our creameries transforming it into consistently award-winning cheese."

The company says the results reinforce its reputation for producing consistently high-quality British cheese across a wide range of recipes and styles.

2045 Net Zero goal

Scotland Food & Drink has strengthened its commitment to achieving Net Zero by 2045 by appointing a new Programme Manager to its team.

Louisa Coursey has been involved in the sector for seventeen years and in her previous role at Zero Waste Scotland, she led on the circular economy business support programme, providing practical support and guidance to businesses of all sizes.

She was also part of the Scottish Government's Food Waste Reduction target to cut food waste by 35%.

Prior to her time at Zero Waste Scotland, Louisa was the Small and Medium Wind Development Manager at Renewable UK.

Now she will be helping to support Scotland's 17,000 food and drink businesses to achieve the sector-wide target.

The £19 billion industry is comprised overwhelmingly of SMEs (96%) and external support is critical to unlock funding, share knowledge, and connect businesses.

She says she fully understands the challenges the sector faces, primarily round funding, resourcing and knowledge gaps.

"The food and drink sector is integral not only to the Scottish economy, but to every person in the country, so it's a real privilege to help tackle the climate emergency and to support our domestic



Louisa Coursey

producers in their mission to operate more sustainably," she said.

Iain Clunie, Programme Director at the Scotland Food & Drink Partnership's Net Zero Commitment, says she will be a great asset.

"Louisa has been at the forefront of many of Scotland's key sustainability initiatives and her expertise will be a vital resource for our food and drink businesses."

Scottish-based heart research

Heart specialists based in Scotland are set to play a leading role in a new 'once in a generation' international research programme aiming to transform how heart disease is diagnosed and treated in women. The three-year programme, led academically by the University of Glasgow and sponsored by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, will begin in July. Clinical research will be delivered at NHS Golden Jubilee in Clydebank, Scotland's national centre for heart and lung services, which will act as the lead cardiac site.

Overall, 10 heart centres will take part across the United Kingdom. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in women worldwide, with around one in three women affected. Despite this, many women experience persistent chest pain and undergo tests, only to be told their heart is "normal". In reality, many of these patients are living with angina with no obstructive coronary arteries (ANOCA) - a condition that is difficult to diagnose using standard tests. Research shows that 2 out of 3 women undergoing



investigation for angina do not have blocked arteries, meaning their condition can remain undetected and untreated.

The Wellcome Leap VISIBLE programme, co-funded by the British Heart Foundation and Pivotal, aims to change this by improving diagnosis and treatment for women with ANOCA, including conditions such as microvascular angina and vasospastic angina.

Professor Colin Berry, Consultant Cardiologist at the Golden Jubilee University National Hospital and Professor of Cardiology and Imaging at the Uni-

versity of Glasgow, said: "This programme represents a major step forward in improving heart care for women. "For too long, many women with chest pain have been told their hearts are normal when, in fact, the underlying problem has simply been harder to detect.

"At NHS Golden Jubilee, we have spent many years working with patients and partners, such as the British Heart Foundation, to better understand these conditions. Being named the lead cardiac centre for this international programme reflects the strength of our work."

Apex support available to all



Apex Scotland supports people with experience of the justice system to overcome barriers, realise their potential and engage positively with society.

Through guidance, advocacy, skills development and person-centred support, the organisation helps individuals take control of their lives and contribute to their families, workplaces and communities.

Its vision is of a Scotland where every individual, regardless of their past, has the opportunity, support and confidence to build a positive future. This work is underpinned by

If you need help or have any questions please get in touch

the organisation's values of "believe", "respect", "empower" and "support".

In Dumfries and Galloway, Apex Scotland delivers services across the region for anyone aged 16 and over through an outreach model, meeting people where support is needed.

Self-referrals are welcomed, and joint appointments with referring agencies can be arranged where this supports engagement and transition. For referral information or enquiries, contact: dgregferrals@apexscotland.org.uk

'Walk for a cure'

Alzheimer's Research UK is holding a 'walk for a cure' in Holyrood Park, Edinburgh on Sunday 26th July at 11am. Those taking part are asked to raise £150 or more to help fuel life changing dementia research. The 5km circular route will begin at the Parade Ground adjacent to the Palace of Holyrood House. From here walkers will head clockwise past St Margarets Loch and climb up past Dunsapie Loch. They'll then continue a 360 degree circuit of the park, with views of Arthur's Seat, and panoramic views of the coastline, Edinburgh Castle and the city itself before crossing the finish line to claim their well-deserved medal.

People can sign up on the [walk.alzheimersresearchuk.org](http://www.walk.alzheimersresearchuk.org)



Young people should get MenB jab

A Glasgow mum is urging young people to come forward for vaccination against meningococcal group B (MenB), after her son became critically unwell with meningitis in 2023. The MenB vaccine, which helps to protect against meningitis and sepsis (inflammation throughout the body) caused by meningococcal group B bacteria, is now being offered for young people in clinics across Scotland.

The programme aims to protect young people who are at higher risk of infection, especially those who are preparing to start university or college in the 2026/27 academic year, where close contact and shared living arrangements can increase the risk of meningococcal disease.

Gaynor Simpson, mum to Ross who fell ill with meningitis during his first year at university in 2023, said:

"Ross became critically unwell after just feeling a bit under the weather. It quickly

escalated into a situation where it was unclear whether or not he would survive. To see your healthy, thriving 18-year-old child go from feeling a bit off colour to fighting for his life in ICU within the space of a few hours is a feeling that we, as parents, will never forget. We are immensely grateful that despite the severity of the infection, he is still with us. It is a very long road to recovery from meningococcal disease and as we have seen from recent outbreaks in the UK, others are not so lucky. It is a cruel and unforgiving disease that takes effect at terrifying speed. Given our experience, I can't stress enough to young people and to their parents how important it is to take up the full two-dose offer of the MenB vaccine. It could save your child's life."

The MenB vaccine is being offered to young people born between 1 March 2008 and 28 February 2009, and any others who were in S6 during the 2025-26 academic year,



regardless of future education plans. It's essential to receive two doses of the MenB vaccine, at least 28 days apart, for full protection. Ideally, both doses should be completed before starting college or university.

All health boards in Scotland are offering the vaccination by either appointment or drop-in clinic, or a combination of these.

To find out how to get your MenB vaccine in your area, visit www.nhsinform.scot/menb-youngpeople

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Trailing Tommy as Toddlers teach The Three a thing or two!!



30 children came along to Langholm Baby and Toddler Group's annual Common Riding party on Wednesday 8th July at the Studio.

The event was a great success, with plenty of smiles, laughter and excitement throughout. The children enjoyed taking part in a variety of fun games and activities, with one of the highlights being our very own Cornet's Chase, pictured left.

It was wonderful to see everyone joining in and having such a fantastic time. A special thank you goes to Cornet Hope and his Left- and Right-hand Men for taking the time to attend and help make the occasion so memorable for the children. Their presence was greatly appreciated by all who came along.



Kick-on Cornet



Bella is happy to meet the Cornet but sister Mabel is a bit less so!



2001 Benty Rideout minus the horses



Twenty-five years ago, the Castle Craigs rideouts had to be cancelled because of the foot and mouth epidemic. A walk to the Benty was organised on what would have been the Benty rideout day. About 80 walkers set off from the Kilgreen on what was a miserable wet day. The walkers with semi jubilee Cornet John Murray and Right-Hand and Left-Hand Men Steven Hotson and Darren Irving to the fore, headed over the Langholm Bridge and up the Westerkirk road on what would be the 41st visit to the Benty.

The bedraggled group who was absolutely soaked had each given £10 which was donated to the Benty Hall fund. The walkers were welcomed to Bentpath by the Westerkirk WRI which was hosting the Castle Craigs Club for the 40th time.

Margaret Sanderson of the WRI made a surprise presentation of a bottle of whisky and tankard to ex-Cornet Cyril Johnstone who had ridden to the Benty for the past 40 years and walked on this occasion. The toast to the Benty was given

by Ex-Cornet David Pool and Robert Charters from Hawick said a few words. Singers included Colin Barnfather, David Devlin, Ian Scott (Hawick), Larry Martin and Kenneth Pool.

Special presentations of baskets of flowers were made to longest servicing WRI members Margaret McCrindle and Bertha Bell by Billy Park and John Murray. Mr Tweddle handed over a £900 cheque to the Benty hall chairman Wull Little, who thanked the Castle Craigs members for their generosity.



Jubilee Cornet Billy Park presents Margaret McCrindle, and Semi-Jubilee Cornet John Murray presents Berta Bell both of Westerkirk WRI



The Eskdale Experience Exhibition Preview

Langholm heritage enthusiasts have curated an excellent Common Riding showcase

The Eskdale Experience's exhibition focusing on Langholm Common Riding opens in the old post office tomorrow at a private launch. Cornet Tommy Hope will be there to help kick things off.

The exhibition has brought together the story of Langholm's great day and combined it with photos old and new and various Common Riding related memorabilia including Alan Miller's wonderful collection which we have highlighted in a previous edition of the E&L Advertiser. One of Langholm's Ex-Cornets, Billy Young, is behind the exhibition and his passion for everything Langholm shines through.

Billy is well known as a raconteur, expert on local heritage and performer of Burn's poetry and is keen to share his knowledge of the Common Riding with everyone. He's had help in putting the exhibition together from Ian Rose, Alan Miller of Yarns to Yearn For and David McVittie. Many people have contributed to it with photos and knowledge, and Billy is keen to thank all those who have helped in any way at all, however small. They include the trusts that make up Langholm Fun-

der's Forum, the Stevenson Trust, the Langholm Alliance staff, the Langholm Library Trust, lenders of artefacts, and the volunteers who are involved, including those who will staff the exhibition.

The exhibition opens to the public on Saturday 18th July at 10am and runs daily until August except for Common Riding Day itself. This is likely to be the first of many ventures for the Eskdale Experience which aspires to the creation of a heritage centre in Langholm, and we look forward to future events.



KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE: Organisers Ian Rose, Denis Male, David McVittie and Billy Young



Archibald 'Bauldy' Beattie



Billy and the logo



One of the numerous display boards exhibiting captioned photographs



WELL-DESIGNED: Information boards telling the illustrious history of Langholm Common Riding



The Boys' Common Riding Flag



INTERESTING: For locals and visitors alike, the well-curated exhibition is well worth a visit from Saturday 18th

...Liddesdale Lineup...

By Gilly Fraser

TV celebrity pays a visit to The Olive Tree

Copshaw folk were given the chance to do a bit of stargazing last week when a celebrity dropped by to visit.

TV Presenter Guy Martin was in the area with a crew doing some filming, though he stayed tight-lipped on the actual locations.

The Grimsby-born former motorbike racer is well-known for his love of speed, high-risk racing events and breaking Guinness World Records, including the fastest speed on a wall of death, the fastest soapbox, and the fastest lawnmower.

However, he managed to slow down long enough to enjoy the hospitality of The Olive Tree.

He also took time out to chat with quite a few starstruck villagers, and even to sign one fan's motorbike helmet.



Guy Martin and the Olive Tree staff



Signed motorbike helmet

Show schedule shows its face

Attention all Holm Show fans – the schedules for this year's event are now available.

They can be found in local shops or can be downloaded from the Holm Show website – www.holmshow.com

There's a wide section of classes with something to suit just about everyone, from tiny toddlers right up to the oldest members of the family.

Whether it's baking, stick-making, photography, art, lego creations, painted eggs, flowers, vegetables or even animals made out of vegetables, the Industrial section has something for you, not to mention the myriad of classes for livestock, horses, dogs and Cumberland Wrestling.

Conveners for all classes and sections are standing by, hoping for a bumper crop of entries. If you're planning to enter, please be kind to them and don't leave it till the last minute.

Meanwhile if you're still hanging on to last year's trophy, the organisers would be very grateful if you could return them so they can be polished and prepared for this year's winners.

They can be handed in to Harbro in Hawick, Tynedale in Longtown and Martin's Garage in Langholm or to any of the committee members in Newcastleton.



Council help for Tour de France

Scottish Borders Council has announced a scheme to help communities like Newcastleton benefit from the Tour de France when it comes through the region next July.

The Community Grand Départ Activation Fund will help to support towns and villages along the route and businesses with a link to cycling activities. The council says it wants to boost participation, celebrate local identity, strengthen communities, support tourism and promote health and wellbeing.

SBC Leader Euan Jardine says the council has already received many great ideas and plans to celebrate the event.

"It is great that many people are so engaged already and we are committed to working alongside them to make the most of

this once in a lifetime opportunity, delivering not only an amazing experience for our communities and visitors but a long-term legacy. This funding will support those efforts and will be open to applications soon," he said.

"With two-thirds of Stage 1 in the Scottish Borders, and so many communities along our part of the route, there are lots of opportunities and I'd urge people to get their thinking caps on and we'll do what we can to help make it all possible.

"It is quite incredible to think that this time next year we'll have hundreds of thousands of people stretched along more than 100km of road in the Scottish Borders watching the world's best road cyclists competing for the iconic yellow jersey."

On yer bike for 10km trail

Trail runners have warmly welcomed the news that a brand new event is to be based at Newcastleton.

The 10km trail race is being staged by Mayer Active a company which has been specializing in off-road running, mountain biking, and multi-stage endurance events across the UK for more than fifteen years.

The new challenge will take place on Saturday August 15th, with runners setting off from Rock UK.

Entrants are being told to expect twisting forest trails, technical downhill sections, stunning scenery and flowing woodland single tracks.

The race will be run completely off road.

The company says it's designed for runners who love getting off the beaten track and showcases some of the very best trails the area has to offer.

"With no cut-off times, the Newcastleton 10km Trail Race welcomes everyone from experienced trail runners to those who prefer a run-walk approach.

"Take on the course at your own pace and enjoy the adventure. Whether you're chasing a personal best, looking for a new trail running challenge, or simply want to enjoy a great day out in the Scottish Borders, this event is for you."



Walk-in Clinics trial

A walk-in medical clinic being operated on a trial basis in Hawick is now available to Newcastleton patients.

The clinic is set in Hawick Community Hospital and is open from 12noon till 8pm every Tuesday till Friday.

The service was first launched at the end of April with the aim to improve access for urgent primary care needs. It has already catered to nearly four hundred patients.

The walk-in clinic complements existing GP and community health services, and offers care for new, short-term health issues that need to be seen as soon as possible but are not emergencies.

...Liddesdale Lineup...



JOHN LAMONT MP

Member of Parliament for
Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk



RACHAEL HAMILTON MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for
Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire Constituency

SUMMER SURGERY TOUR

John Lamont MP and Rachael Hamilton MSP are holding their annual Summer Surgery Tour across the Borders this July. If there is an issue you would like to raise or discuss, please get in touch to arrange an appointment.

SATURDAY 18 JULY

Jedburgh	Heiton
Glendouglas	Ednam
Edgerston	Leitholm
Oxnam	Birgham
Hownam	Coldstream
Morebattle	Swinton
Yetholm	Duns

SUNDAY 19 JULY

Ettrickbridge	Lilliesleaf
Ettrick	Ancrum
Cappercleuch	Bowden
Yarrow	Newtown St Boswells
Yarrowford	St Boswells
Selkirk	Maxton
Ashkirk	Roxburgh
Midlem	

TUESDAY 21 JULY

Abbey St Bathans	Gordon
Cranshaws	Smailholm
Longformacus	Makerstoun
Gavinton	Stichill
Greenlaw	Kelso
Westruther	Sprouston

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY

Newcastleton	Bonchester Bridge
Hermitage	Chesters & Southdean
Teviothead	Denholm
Roberton	Lanton
Hawick	Crailing
Burnfoot	Eckford

THURSDAY 23 JULY

Cockburnspath	Foulden
Grantshouse	Paxton
Ayton	Hutton
Reston	Whitsome
St Abbs	Allanton
Coldingham	Chirnside
Eyemouth	Preston
Burnmouth	

Appointments are needed, book now at JohnLamont.org/SummerSurgeries or get in touch with John or Rachael

GET IN TOUCH WITH JOHN

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i @johnlamontborders

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Looking back...

Common Riding Chatter from 1976

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

The Banna

Here is an interesting Common Riding – what might be termed as a coincidental statistic. At the Banna Testing in 1946, Cornet John Murray had as his chairman the then Fair Crier, John Elliot. 30 years later Cornet John Murray, motor mechanic, the 1946 Cornet's son, had for his chairman, Arthur Elliot, the 1946 chairman's son. Also present was the present Faircrier, John Elliot, the 1946 chairman's other son – a fine example of Langholm Common Riding consistency and continuity.

The Simmer Fair Nicht festival preliminary known to those privileged to attend as "the nailing-on-o'-the-banna", took place as usual in that emblem-bearer's home and – again as usual – everything went according to plan. This, of course, includes the trite remarks made by some good-natured critic as to the selection of the anna and the hering – there is always a choice between two – the pleating of the ribbons and the placing of the heather in the pole immediately below the platter. These "critics" could well be described as "back-seat drivers" and their comments were as naïve and as witty as ever.

There was one change however. In the room where the ceremony takes place there is a little sort of alcove wherein there used to be a perfect colour reproduction of

Leonardo da Vinci's "La Gioconda", better known as the "Mona Lisa". In fact it was said of Walter's picture that it was that she had witnessed so many nailing-on-o'-the-banna ceremonies that that gave her that famous inscrutable smile. However, it was noticeable on Thursday that she had been relegated to somewhere else in the house and had been supplanted by a beautiful picture of the Auld Stane Brig. Take your choice.

Visitors

Talking about choice. We talked to Malcolm Carmichael on the Common Riding Day who once again flew over from Canada to attend the Festival. We said to him that we were rather surprised to see him present as we thought he would have preferred to take the short trip to Montreal to see some of the Olympic Finals but we were told that he had his priorities in proper perspective and, of course, his presence indicated what came first for him.

And we met a man from the Principality of Wales who for the past three years has attended the Simmer Fair Nicht preliminary. Gwyn Lewis from Cross Keys, a real dyed-in-the-wool Taffy who says emphatically that he'll come up to Langholm Common Riding until the end of the chapter.

Attending the Annadale & Eskdale District Council breakfast



John Elliot Crying the Fair in 1970

in the Eskdale Hotel on the Common Riding morning immediately after the gallop up the Kirkwynd was Jubilee Cornet Bobby Irving who, when he sat down, was handed a cable message. This was from Betty Little and her daughter, Jane, in Nairobi, Kenya, offering their congratulation on Bobby attaining the 50th anniversary of his cornetship. Husband, Alan Little, of course was "here in the flesh" – he flew over from Nairobi last Saturday and gave his congratulations to Bobby in person and, incidentally, took his place in the Flute Band.



Cornet Robert Irving 1926

In memory

Requiem! An interesting, a solemn and rather emotional function took place in a little room in the Crown Hotel on the Simmer Fair Nicht in memory of that great Common Riding enthusiast, Matt Ewart, who died so tragically and so suddenly a couple of months ago. Many a time and often in years gone by at pre-Common Riding functions, Matt sung his favourite song – "A Tall Stalwart Lancer" and, in the words of the song, "Then bring me six whiskies and sodas and set them all down in a row and get me six lancers to carry me with steps solemn, mournful and slow".



Matt Ewart in 1944

Needless to say those present numbered six; the requisite number of whiskies and sodas were produced, and the six, in tones solemn mournful and low, sung Matt's song. The closing of the door of this little room excluded the sounds of revelry and mirth that prevailed in the hotel on such a night. And with the faint strains of Langholm Town Band playing in the Market Place, faintly audible, the sextette paid a tribute to one who loved Langholm and its Common Riding with all his might, and as the song has it "drank to the buffer below, wrapped in his old stable jacket". It was as Matt, himself, would have wished it.

C & D Marts (Longtown) Primestock Report Thursday, 9th 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 4,649 sheep comprising of 1,407 prime lambs and 3,242 cast ewes & rams at their weekly sale at Longtown Mart on Thursday 9th July 2026.

PRIME LAMBS

A larger show of 1,407 lambs forward to the same competitive ring of purchasers ensuring all classes sold to increased rates of return. A shortage of numbers nationwide ensured Longtown customers were rewarded.

Well fed lambs continue to be wanted for the coming weeks, still being sold to vendor advantage. Top price per head of £236 for Texels from AM & L Sutherland, Carran, Thurso. Top per kilo of 465p for Beltex lambs from JA & LA Thompson, Woodhead, Scaleby. Overall average 399.1p (SQQ 402.2p)

Principal Prices (Per Head)

Texel £236 Carran, £230, £219, £218 Knock, £218 Bygate, £216 Knock.
Suffolk £221 Knock, £217 Collie Law, £215, £213, £211 Knock, £211 Bygate.
Beltex £216, £212 Woodhead, £203 Baurch, £200 Woodhead, £198 Dykehead, £195 Baurch.
Blue Texel £211 Tercrosset.
Oxford £197, £193 Guards.
Dutch Spotted £191 Solwaybank Cottage.
Dorset £181 Brae Edge.
Charollais £179 Skiprigg, £177 Hallburn.

Principal Prices (Per Kilo)

Beltex 465p Woodhead, 447p East House, 441p Woodhead, 431p Windyknowe & Shawhill.
Texel 452p Collie Law, 442p The Land, 440p Collie Law, 434p Cubbyhill, 432p Staffler.
Dutch Spotted 434p Solwaybank Cottage, 428p Carse, 414p Chestnut Cottage.

Charollais 426p Skiprigg.
Suffolk 417p Shawhill, 415p Knock, 411p North House & Thornington, 410p Gallowberry, 409p Thornington, 408p North House.

Berrichon 405p Carse.
Hampshire 398p Steel Hall.
Blue Texel 397p Romanway, 390p Tercrosset.

CAST EWES AND RAMS

Another similar entry of 3,242 cast ewes and rams were forward to a full ring of 15 active purchasers ensuring all classes sold to biblical rates of return, those who chose to sell ewes at Longtown today were dually reward as some customers quote being £10-£12 up on other centres. The prices really do speak for themselves. Keep the numbers coming for premium returns.

Texel ewes sold to a top of £360 for Texel ewes from J Runciman & Sons, Allanshaws, Stow. Light ewes selling to £178 for

Blackface ewes from HS Mactier & Son, Bog House, Newton Stewart. Rams topped at £305 for Texels from J & E Walby, East House, Newcastle.

Heavy ewes

Texel £360 Allanshaws, £345 Fearn, £315 Beckfoot, £310 Allanshaws, £300 Beckfoot, £295 Collie Law & Plenderleith, £290 Fearn.

Charollais £290 Beckfoot, £265 Primside, £235 Larel, £230 Drumreach.

Suffolk £235 Beckfoot, £232, £230 Thornington, £232 Smalholm Mains, £230 Drumreach.

Bluefaced Leicester £235 Raggetsyke, £220 Bog House.
Blue Texel £222 Edendales.

Goat £220, £212, £208, £205, £200 Castlehill.

Cheviot Mule £212 Allanshaws, £210 Hartbush & Thornington, £204 Hartbush & Allanshaws.

Mule £212 Drumreach, £206 Staffler, £202 Upper Tinwald,

£195 Falla.

North Country Cheviot £210, £200 Allanshaws, £198 Beckfoot, £198, £197 Allanshaws, £192 Longoe.

Light ewes

Blackface £178 Bog House, £170 Garvilland, £151 Plenderleith, £142 Barron House.
Cheviot £174 Drumreach, £170 Garvilland, £156, £144 Drumreach, £144 Wood Farm.

Shetland £150, £140 Sorrowlessfield Mains, £128 Burnside, £127 Sorrowlessfield Mains.

Easycare £146 Drumreach.
Swaledale £140, £130 Batey Shield, £120 Parkdale & Knarr.
Herdwick £122 Kirranrae, £120 Moorside Parks.

Rams

Texel £305 East House, £280 Bog House, £265 Allanshaws & East House.

Suffolk £265 Fearn.

Blue Texel £252 Orthwaite Hall.

Bluefaced Leicester £250 Knarr.
Aberfield £248 Fearn.

North Country Cheviot £230 Biggin, £205 Allanshaws.
Beltex £220 East House, £210 Fearn.

Charollais £220 Bog House.
Cheviot £200 Garvilland, £175 Falnash.

Lleyn £192 Auchmacledddie.
Blackface £176 Bog House, £168 Garvilland.

Herdwick £155 Orthwaite Hall.
Swaledale £140 Knarr.

Averages:

Lambs
Light to 400.0p (398.1p)
Standard to 431.0p (399.2p)
Medium to 465.0p (403.1p)
Heavy to 441.0p (398.3p)
Overweight to 407.0p (367.2p)

Ewes

Light to £178.00 (£121.17)
Heavy to £360.00 (£189.45)
Rams to £305.00 (£203.20)

LOCAL NOTICEBOARD



CREATION MILL

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK
W/C 20th July 2026

Mon	Quilters Group	10-1	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
	Summer Craft Club - Eskdalemuir	10-2	The Hub, DG13 oQJ
	Make it Monday (come with a project you need help with)	1-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
Tues	Summer Craft Club - Langholm	1 FULLY BOOKED	
	Evening In-Stitches	6-8	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
Wed	Welcome Wednesday	10-3	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
Fri	Langholm weekly In Stitches	1-4	Creation Mill, DG13 oES
Sat	Scrap Store open	10-1	Creation Mill, DG13 oES

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WHAT'S ON IN JULY		
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
Mon 20th	Dementia Catch-up Group	Langholm Day Centre 1.30 - 3.30pm
Fri 24th	Hard of Hearing Grp Brew 'n' Blether	Langholm Day Centre 10.30 - 12 noon
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. 2629 answers next week

- 1

What word prefixes the names of the two Lincolnshire towns of Market and St James?
- 2

What word completes the two Welsh place names of Llandrindod and Builth?
- 3

Which theme park is located near to the town of Tamworth?
- 4

Of what was LBC Britain's first?
- 5

By what title is the Crown's chief law officer in England and Wales known?
- 6

Which British organisation's motto is "Nation shall speak peace unto nation"?
- 7

What measurement did Henry III define by laying down three barleycorns in a straight line?
- 8

In which city was the first sub-four minute mile run?
- 9

Which county is the largest – Surrey, Berkshire, Hampshire or Dorset?
- 10

To what was Tony Blair referring when he said "There isn't a more famous English pub"?

11

What name is given to an Act of Parliament that has not yet received Royal Assent?

12

Which major British rugby trophy is made from melted down coins?

13

To within one either way, how many single measures of whisky are needed to fill a pint glass?

14

In winning the Grand National, how many times would a horse clear a fence?

15

In which year did North Sea gas hit our shores?

16

To which group of islands do Lewis and Harris belong?

17

Where in London would you find Poet's Corner?

18

What is the easternmost point of Britain?

19

Which city has the largest population outside London?

20

Which river forms part of the border between England and Scotland?



Crossword & Quiz Solutions from last week

Quiz 2628

- 1

Santander, Roscoff and St Malo
- 2

Bristol Avon
- 3

Avocet
- 4

North York Moors
- 5

Tottenham Court Road
- 6

Sloane Square
- 7

Manchester
- 8

White-knuckle thrill rides at theme parks
- 9

River Dart
- 10

Scarborough
- 11

Scrumpy
- 12

Coypu
- 13

Tartans
- 14

Fort
- 15

M4
- 16

Kent, Dorset and Norfolk
- 17

Waterfall
- 18

Public executions
- 19

Haddock
- 20

Kent

Crossword 2628

Across: 1 Gibbon, 5 Sicker, 8 Use force, 9 Mot, 10 Mice, 11 Hailsham, 12 Bats, 13 Peg, 14 Darn, 15 Pitfalls, 18 Gait, 19 Nez, 20 Diplomas, 21 Play up, 22 Red-eye.

Down: 2 Inspirational, 3 Buffets, 4 North, 5 Seeping, 6 Combs, 7 Extraordinary, 13 Piled up, 14 Dog food, 16 Fuzzy, 17 Super.

NEVER A CROSSWORD!

No. 2629 A mix of general knowledge and cryptic clues think. Answers next week

- Across

7

Central part (4)

8

Hangs, perhaps (8)

9

Amusing person (4)

10

Gland for the Establishment? (8)

11

Social science (6)

13

Was not convicted (3,3)

15

"The ---" (2001 Nicole Kidman film) (6)

17

Experience anew (6)

18

Greenhouse operation (8)

20

"Mary Poppins" chimney sweep (4)

21

According to the Shadows, stars fell on it (8)

22

Fail or misplace (4)
- Down

1

Faithful supporter (8)

2

Feat (4)

3

Largo and lento, for example (6)

4

South Vietnamese delta (6)

5

Entire quantity (3,5)

6

"It's a warm wind, the --- wind ..." (Masefield) (4)

12

Dilapidated fence fit for practical purposes (2,6)

14

Excited (8)

16

Southampton team (6)

17

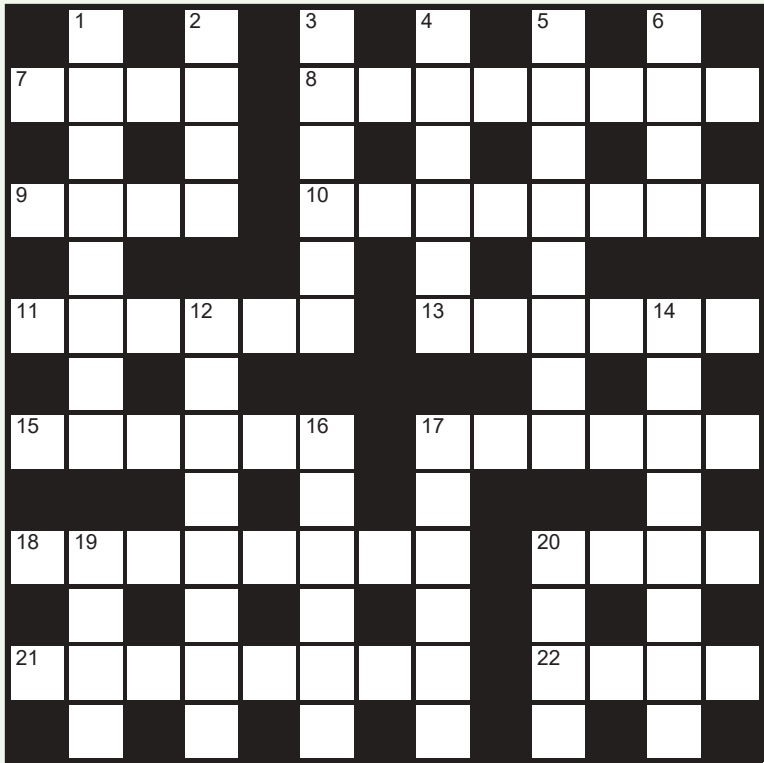
Stand-in ruler (6)

19

Boring routines (4)

20

Loudness units (4)



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 - **Thu 6th - Sat 8th Aug** (74 High St)
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Footsteps from the past

We have a swift look at a couple of summer sports events from 25 years ago



Zander Turnbull, left, presents the J A Turnbull trophy to Bill Swanston, centre, with vice-president Paul Warwick

There were forty entries in the Old Town Open Bowls Tournament 25 years ago.

After a keen day's competition, the winner was Bill Swanston of Melrose who fought off the challenge from Robin Thorburn of Gretna in the final.

The J A Turnbull Challenge Cup was presented to the winner by Zander Turnbull who gave the silverware to the club a few years ago. The only local to reach the semi-finals was Ian Henderson of the host club, who went out to Robin Thorburn. In the other semi-final Bill Swanston knocked out his friend Bill Nicholson, who he had partnered to win the pairs tournament at the same green only a few weeks ago.



The successful touch rugby team members line up for a victory photo-call

The fun touch-rugby tournament on Friday evening at Milntown proved to be a great success with five teams of 10 players taking part, plus a number of replacements being used.

The teams were a mixture of senior players, Colts, Mini and Midi players plus several females.

There was plenty of action, but it was a good idea to keep moving as the midgies were out in force.

The winning team comprised Gregor Hepburn, Mark Grieve, Steven Devlin, Ray Eagleson, Stuart Bell, Laura Basnett, Richard Sagar, Jamie Little, James McVittie, James Ritchie, Alix Bell and Martin McGimpsey

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

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Legion players' Awards Night

Football



ALL WINNERS: Rory McLean, Dan Winter, David Borthwick, Danny Hotson and Craig Cuthbert

Langholm Legion awards night saw the following players receiving the awards for the 2025/26 season: Top Scorer Daniel Winter; Young Player of the Year Danny Hotson; E&L Player of the year Rory McLean; Player of the Year Callum John; Players' Player of the year Craig Cuthbert.

The members wished Alistair Little all the best for the season 2026/27.

Legion played a pre-season game against Hawick Waverley last Thursday night in the Brian Hope memorial game at Wilton Lodge park. Legion came out on

top with the final score at 7 goals to 2. The next friendly game is against Eaglesfield Thistle away on 19th July. That's followed by a game against Annan Town FC on 4th August at home.



Jack and Paddy win at Copshaw

Bowling



Newcastleton Bowling Club held their Sponsored Pairs Tournament on Saturday, kindly sponsored by Robert Robson.

24 pairs took part.

Runners up were Kevin Irving and Wayne Irving winners were Paddy Laing and Jack Irving.

Well done to Jack on winning his first tournament at 11 years old, beating his Dad and Grandad in the final. Thank you to all club members for helping on the day

Best of luck to Aoiffion

Athletics

As Aoiffion McVittie Brangan heads off to Belfast this weekend to compete in the Schools International Athletic Board track and field international games on Saturday we wish her all the best. The SIAB organises elite junior athletics competitions and she will compete against runners from Scot-

land, Wales, England and Ireland.

Athletes are selected based on their performance in national competitions and as we have seen Aoiffion has won so much already this year she earned her place. We look forward to hearing the results and hope to share these with you next week.



Langholm New Town Bowling Club took on Langholm Old in their annual friendly match last week. The eventual winners were the new town club with a score of 82 -38. David Goodfellow, (above) the youngest member of the club was presented with the shield.

For an entry to the open Castle Craigs' pairs bowling competition on Saturday 25th July contact Luke Tolson or Paul Warwick on Facebook.



LCC power on with nine-wicket haul

Cricket

Langholm continued their winning streak with a comprehensive 9 wicket defeat of Temple Sowerby 2nds. Corey Park was the star of the show taking his first ever 5 wicket haul as the visitors were bowled out for 50. Langholm easily knocked off the runs in 8 overs.

The Temple Sowerby skipper won the toss and elected to bat. Dave Steele and Corey Park opened the bowling and Park soon made inroads into the visitors. First to go was Reay caught behind by John Bell for 2. Park took a wicket

in his next over clean bowling Nugent for 4 leaving Temple Sowerby 16 for 2. A brief stand of 12 by Bellas and Clemson was brought to end when he bowled Bellas for 12. Wickets in each of Parks next two overs saw him reduce the visitors to 30 for 5. Tony Steele soon got in on the wicket taking act bowling McGenn for 0 then having Clemson caught by Chris Stewart for 16. Leaving Temple Sowerby 41 for 7. The tail managed a further 9 runs before Jaimie Ashton-Smith and Chris Stewart rapped up the last three wickets with the score on 50. The bowling figures were Park 5 for 17, Stewart 2 for 0, Tony

Steele 2 for 8 and Ashton Smith 1 for 3.

Langholm wasted little time in knocking off the runs. Graham Park and Chris Stewart added 24 before Stewart fell for 3. Scott Norman joined Park and the pair saw Langholm home in 8 overs with Park 27 not out and Norman 9 not out.

A run of the mill victory for Langholm against a young side. Next week the 1st XI are at home on Benty rideout day looking for revenge on Nunwick which is the only side to beat them. The night before sees a Langholm Select take on a Langholm Legends side in a T20.



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