



Lauder Common Riding 2022

SAFETY NOTICES

To all taking part in or observing Common Ridings and Festivals in the Scottish Borders.

Whilst every care has been taken by the organising 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 liable for any damage resulting from any acts or omissions of any participants or spectators.

It is the responsibility of those taking part, or their legal guardians in the case of minors, to ensure that participants have appropriate and adequate insurance cover for personal injury and third party cover and that they take all reasonable steps to ensure their own safe participation in the events. In particular in relation to equestrian events, they are advised to ensure both they and their mount are suitable and competent and that riders wear appropriate protective clothing, including approved headgear.

Please note that the organising committee reserve the right to refuse any person from participating in the event. Please follow instructions from foot and mounted Stewards. Safety of spectators, riders and horses is paramount.

Lauder Common Riding would like your help and assistance regarding spectator safety and car parking, in and around the Burgh during Lauder Common Riding 2022.

Wednesday, Fancy Dress Parade - No vehicles parked in The Avenue, Mid Row, Market Place and West High Street (except in lay-bys off A68).

Thursday, Preliminary Ride - No vehicles parked in The Avenue until after horses depart at 6.15 p.m.

Saturday - No vehicles parked in Mid Row, Market Place, West High Street, The Loan, The Row, Lower Back Road and Mill Wynd. All these areas will be marked with cones. At the Waterin' Stane vehicles are requested to park in designated areas under the supervision of Stewards.

Respect must be shown to all riders and pedestrians. Spectators are asked to stand a safe distance from the cavalcade at all times and do not try to cross the path of any horses.

In the event of any problem or emergency please immediately notify the nearest foot steward or mounted Steward.

Please tidy your litter, any litter should be deposited in the nearest bin or taken home.

Thank You

J F Threadgall, CHIEF MARSHALL

HORSE BOX PARKING

The Horsebox parking is once again in the grounds of Thirlestane Castle. Access will be at the main entrance to the Castle from the B6362

Horseboxes from the North should join the A697 at Carfraemill

roundabout and continue to the junction on the right, with the B6362 signposted Lauder.

Horseboxes from the South on the A68 should leave at the junction with the B6362 signposted Coldstream.

Horsebox parking signs will be in place and Stewards will be in attendance .

THERE WILL BE NO ACCESS TO THE CENTRE OF LAUDER FOR HORSEBOXES OR PARKING AT BURNMILL ON THE GALASHIELS ROAD

**PLEASE NOTE
- The Young Rider medals for Common Riding Day will be available to collect at the Waterin Stane**

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Well, after two frustrating years, I am delighted to have the privilege to be Chairman of my first "real" Common Riding! It has been a long hard period for everyone, but by the support which the rest of our Borders neighbours are getting, it feels like everyone has just got back into the swing of things! I am sure that Lauder will be no different, and the Royal and Ancient Burgh will be buzzing with excitement in the lead up to our big day in August.



It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to ensure the week runs smoothly, and I am indebted to office bearers – both old and new – committee members and indeed everyone in the community that helps and supports the smooth running of our weeks events.

Elliot Balson, our Cornet this year, has visited many of our neighbouring towns since his election in May, carrying out his duties with great enthusiasm, ably supported by his Right and Left hand men, Chris Purves and Chris Rogerson. The Ex-Cornet's Association has again made an excellent choice, and I wish Elliot and his Lass Connie, and their families a great day on the 6th of August.

I would like to congratulate our Silver Jubilee Cornet Ronald Wilson, and our Golden Jubilee Cornet, George Threadgall on reaching their respective milestones. Ronald and his family are keen riders and are "weel kent" faces across the Common Ride circuit. I know George has been re-acquainting old friendships across the area, and participating in many of the rides through the summer. Enjoy your Common Riding gentlemen!

Joyce Ker is our Lady Busser this year. She is a long standing member of our committee, and keeps our Exiles Association running very smoothly. She was Cornet's Lass to her husband Ross, and coincidentally presented the wreath to Cornet George Threadgall 50 years ago.

Our Wreath presenter this year is Cara Wilson, daughter of our Silver Jubilee Cornet Ronald. Cara is a very keen horse rider and has been collecting silverware

around the Borders Common Ridings, whether as a best turned out, or as a youngest rider. I am sure you two ladies will have a great Common Riding Day!

The Common Riding does need a lot of input both financially and practically from a lot of people. I am hugely indebted to those who have simply picked up the reins where they left off three years ago which makes things so much easier. That knowledge is invaluable to our Common Riding. We always need new faces, or have committee members step up to fill roles which require filling. We are always looking for new members and will listen to any suggestions that would help improve our event in anyway for participants or spectators alike. Our AGM is held in November each year to which all are welcome to attend, or alternatively contact us through the Common Riding website or Facebook page with any comments. Even if you don't want to commit to being on the committee, we are always very grateful for help in any way, whether it is stewarding our events, or delivering this programme.

Cornet Balson, your big day is fast approaching when the eyes of the people of Lauderdale and beyond will be on you. Carry the Burgh Flag with pride, but above all enjoy what will be a very special day.

To the people of Lauderdale, enjoy your week, and let's hope that "The sun rises sae rosy..." on Common Riding morn.

"Safe Oot, Safe In"

Ex-Cornet Michael Middlemiss



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*All the best to
Cornet Balson and
his Lass Connie –
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LAUDER CORNET AND STANDARD BEARER 2022

Elliot Balson

Even with two years for it to sink in, I'm still not quite used to being the Royal Burgh of Lauder's Cornet and Standard Bearer 2022. It's an incredible honour and privilege, and an unreal experience.

It's been somewhat surreal knowing this was coming but not quite sure when, all during a time that was strange enough for everyone on its own. So to go from lockdown to visiting other towns and principals in full swing was admittedly jarring, but has been a phenomenal time so far. It's been great to meet everyone, who are all infectiously excited for the summer celebrations.

I said I was most looking forward to the first ride-out, and Threeewood did not disappoint. I'd like to thank each Chris for their help and advice, Gregor Ker for showing me the route, and to Edinburgh & Lasswade's tutoring - together, it left me completely at ease and able to thoroughly enjoy my first ever ride-out (not just of the season!).

I'd like to offer my best wishes to Silver Jubilee Cornet Ronald Wilson, and to Golden Jubilee Cornet George Threadgall - the former of which having been a great help on my first visiting ride-out. I'm sure they're just as happy, if not more so, to see the Common Riding back; especially in time for their anniversaries.

I'd like to thank my family for their support - namely my Mum, Dad, and brother, Adam. Particularly Mum, who's had to ferry combinations of myself and



the other principals to early morning starts!

A big thank you to Michael Middlemiss and Iain Dick for their guidance and support since my election.

And of course a huge thank you to my lass and girlfriend, Connie. It's an amazing opportunity, but definitely one made better by being able to share it with her.

Which leads me back to both Chris Purves and Chris Rogerson, my Right and Left, who have been fantastic guides through all this. I couldn't ask for better supporters. Without these three's support in particular I'd be lost - I couldn't, and perhaps even wouldn't, have done it without them. I'd also like to thank Zoe Bruce and Caitlin Megahy for their support, particularly for Connie - especially Zoe's help in fielding invites!

After such a wait, August is fast approaching, and I look forward to carrying the Burgh flag on behalf of Bonnie Lauderdale on our Saturday. And it is ours - the day and week - as you've all had to wait just as long as me. Once again, I hope I can help make it worth the wait and do you all proud.

Safe Out, Safe In.

Elliot Balson



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SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

At last here we are finally writing our message for the Magazine after becoming Joint Honorary Secretaries in 2020 it's a relief to be here celebrating our Annual Riding of the Marches.



Our family is steeped in Common Riding history, Great Great Grandad was the Provost of Lauder for the first ever Common Riding. My grandad and Christine's dad Martin Bell, was previously Honorary Vice President and a member of the Committee for over 40 years before he passed away in 2018. Christine's sister and my mum Caroline Hughes was Cornets Lass in 1981 to Cornet Jock Threadgall.

We are pleased to be carrying on our family's involvement in the Common Riding traditions.

The first Saturday in August is a very special day in Lauder's calendar, it is a time to look forward to the Burgh coming together to renew old acquaintances, make new ones, and welcome others to join our celebrations.

There have been a lot of difficult decisions to make over the past two years and still the Common Riding Committee has worked tirelessly throughout to do what we can to ensure we still carried out our traditions through the pandemic.

Although fundraising has not been possible in its normal way, we look forward to getting events up and running once again.

We will be having our "Gig on the Rigg" on Common Riding afternoon at the park and can't wait for you all to join us.

We would like to express a sincere thank you to Committee Members and Volunteers for all their hard work in organising all the events through the year. There are too many people to thank individually but without the continued support from the local businesses,

organisations and the people of Lauder these events would not be a success.

We can assure you the Committee really appreciates your continued support.

On a personal note, we want to also thank the Committee for their much needed advice and help in our first Common Riding year as Secretaries. A special thanks goes to our previous Secretary Linda Wilson who has been a fantastic support. We would also like to thank Ian Brotherston as well as Chairman Michael Middlemiss and Treasurer Kevin Laidlaw.

Our best wishes go to this year's Golden Jubilee Cornet George Threadgall and Silver Jubilee Cornet Ronald Wilson. Ronald's daughter Cara is also presenting the wreath this year and we wish both your families a great Common Riding week. We also want to congratulate Joyce Ker on being chosen as this year's Lady Busser.

We would like to give our congratulations to this year's Cornet Elliot Balson and his lass Connie White. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity which we know you have been patiently waiting for over the past few years, we are sure you will take in every moment. Throughout the summer months you have been representing the Royal and Ancient Burgh at other towns very well. We hope you both have the most memorable week.

We hope the sun shines on our special week, and everyone has a fantastic Common Riding. **"Safe Oot, Safe In"**

Christine McGee and Rachael Hughes
Lauder Common Riding Committee

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CORNET'S LASS 2022

Connie White

It is an honour to represent the Royal Burgh of Lauder and Cornet Balson by becoming Cornet's Lass this year. My first memory of Lauder nine years ago, was seeing all the riders led by the Cornet down Edinburgh Road. I'd like to thank my right and left-hand lasses, Zoe and Caitlin, for their friendship and for introducing me to my role.



Congratulations, Elliot, on being elected Lauder Cornet 2022 and thank you for inviting me to share this exciting and historic chapter with you. I admire the confidence and enthusiasm with which you have risen to the role and carried out your duties. What an enjoyable summer it has been so far - meeting so many new people and singing our hearts out together.

I have enjoyed learning so much more

about the histories of the local towns and joining them in celebrating their traditions too. After a two-year halt at the height of the pandemic and the hardship it has brought, I appreciate even more that we have this opportunity to celebrate how these traditions bring communities and people together.

I am honoured to be your Lass. I feel so proud of you every time I see you on the rideouts with your right and left hand men. I wish you all the best for the upcoming rideouts this summer and for Lauder Common Riding Week.

Safe out, safe in.

Connie

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Best wishes to the Cornet
and his Supporters!
SAFE OOT, SAFE IN

PLEASE NOTE!

LAUDER COMMON RIDING

There will be

**NO ACCESS TO ANY HILL
GROUND ON THE COMMON
RIDING ROUTE FOR ANY
4X4 VEHICLES OTHER THAN
'OFFICIAL' VEHICLES**

*required for stewarding & medical
provision. This decision has been
made on safety grounds and your
co-operation would be appreciated.*



LEFT HAND MAN

Chris Rogerson

It's finally Common Riding week. After a two-year break (which I felt like no time at all) we are back with a bang. I have had a fantastic time in office over the last five years and it's with great sadness it is coming to an end. But I have had an absolute blast and would do it all over again if I could.

I'd like to thank the Ex-Cornets association and the Common Riding committee for all the support you have given me over the past few years. So much work goes on behind the scenes and the Common Riding wouldn't happen without everyone so a massive thank you again!

To my lass Caitlin, it's been an absolute pleasure to share my Common Riding experience with you. You've had to put up with a fair amount over the years so I'm sure you'll be glad you'll get a break

next year. Make sure you take it all in this Common Riding as it'll be over in a flash – as you'll no doubt know.

Elliot and Connie, you have been a great asset to the town of Lauder throughout the summer. I am sure you will have the time of your lives during your big week, try to savour every moment this week as you really only do get one shot.

I would like to thank my Family and friends for all the support you have given me, I appreciate it massively. A special mention must go to my girlfriend and taxi driver Jill. You have picked me up from lots of different towns and at all times of the day/night during the last few years, I'd also hate to think how many shirts you have ironed for me. I really appreciate all you do so a massive thank you must go to you.

Lastly I'd like to congratulate Golden Jubilee Cornet George Threadgall and Silver Jubilee Nod Wilson. I hope you have a fantastic Common Riding week and it brings back many happy memories for you both. Let's hope the sun shines sae rosy!

I hope all the towns folk of Lauder have a brilliant week and I'd like to ask you all to support Cornet Balson and his Lass Connie as much as you can. It's been a long time coming so let's make this year one to remember.

Safe oot, safe in

Chris



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RIGHT HAND MAN

Chris Purves



It has been a strange and very hard last few years for everyone with festivals and day to day life being put on hold due to the pandemic, so it is great for the whole town at last to be able to celebrate The Common Ridings and festivals once more.

Hard to believe that it was three years ago that I had the absolute honour and privilege of representing The Royal and Ancient Burgh of Lauder as Cornet 2019. The memory and overwhelming feeling of pride representing the town and carrying the flag is a feeling I cannot describe. One of the best moments of my life.

I have thoroughly enjoyed attending all the local towns festivals and ride outs. I have made many friends and memories on the way.

I would like to Thank Right and Left-Hand man Chris Rogerson and Hagen Steele for their advice and guidance which was mainly in the right direction most of the time in 2019. I will have been the best Taxi service you guys have ever had.

I would like to thank Zoe Bruce for being Cornet's Lass 2019, attending all the festivals with me and ensuring my dress code was correct and presentable at every function.

Also, massive thanks to the whole community and my family, of course, for all their continuous support – it is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations must go to Ronald Wilson on his Silver jubilee and George Threadgall on his Golden Jubilee, we will be lifting a glass in celebration to you this year. I am sure the festivities will bring back very special heartfelt memories.

I would like to finally congratulate my lifelong friend Cornet Elliot and lass Connie White – enjoy every moment guys, it will be over in a flash! It is a once in a lifetime opportunity so cherish every moment and take it all in.

We will be by your side as you carry the Flag around the Marches on Common Riding week.

Safe out, safe in!

Chris



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WREATH PRESENTER

What an honour to be asked to present the wreath to Cornet Balson. I am very excited!

I love the Common Riding and I am very lucky that I have been riding Lauder Common Riding (and all the rest) since I was a little girl and will be following again this year on my pony Mohammed Ali.



I would like to congratulate my Dad, Ronald Wilson on his Silver Jubilee and I promise to let you win one race on common riding day (well maybe)

Good luck to Cornet Elliot Balson and your lass Connie White, I hope you have an amazing week and I will see you at the War Memorial on Common Riding day.

Safe Out, Safe In

Cara Wilson

SILVER & GOLD JUBILEE MEMORIES –
*1997 Cornet Nod Wilson and
 1972 Cornet George Threadgall*

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LADY BUSSER

I was delighted and honoured to be asked by The Chairman to be Lady Busser for 2022. After a gap of two years it is lovely to see our traditions return.

I have lived in Lauder all my life and have been very much involved with the Common Riding from a very young age. My mum, May Nelson, was Cornet's Lass in 1953; my dad, Jim Middlemiss, was Cornet in 1954; my brother Ian in 1979; my daughter Anneka was Cornet's Lass in 2011, and my son Gregor Ker was Cornet 10 years ago in 2012. Uncles, cousins and nephew have also held this position. I was Cornet's Lass in 1980 when my now husband Ross was Cornet. So our family is very much steeped in Common Riding tradition.

It is all the more special to be asked this year, as exactly 50 years ago (*photo below*) I presented the wreath to Cornet George Threadgall. Hoping to meet up with him during Common Riding Week.

I have ridden the Common Riding on around 10 occasions but now very much leave it up to the rest of the family.

I took over as Secretary for The Exiles Association from Margaret Dick a few years ago. An association that my Mum along with a few others set up 45 years ago and enjoy meeting up with those who make it to our reunion.

To Cornet Elliott, Chris, Chris and Connie I hope the sun shines on the 6th of August. Have a great week and treasure every minute.

Safe Out ~Safe In

Joyce Ker



Nod Wilson

25 Years, Wow!!!!!! How did that happen!!

Being elected Cornet and Standard Bearer for 1997 was an amazing experience and a privilege. One I would tell every young lad from Lauder to grab with both hands and hold on tight for the best few months of your life leading to the first Saturday in August.

A lot has changed in those 25 years 3 Kids, 3 stone, loads of ponies and a couple of horses !!!!

After a bleak 2 years without Common Ridings, festivals and socialising I'm glad to hear the clattering of hoofs and of course the cheering crowds as you ride past. The common riding and festivals are back and I for one am more than glad they are.

All the common ridings and festivals have their own special events and memories from 25 years ago whether it be getting woken up at 5am by an elderly gentleman with 3 rum and milks at the caravan door because he knew the Lauder Cornet was in residence, to sitting in the hut, cantering up streets, bike rides, ceremonies and fancy dress parades. All were great fun at the time but most importantly making life-long friendships. I have enjoyed meeting up with other



Silver Jubilee Principals this summer.

To my Right and Left Hand men Bob and Mark, I hope you both eventually get to meet up with your 25 years Principals at some point this year.

I hope common riding week brings back many happy memories to my Lady Busser Margo Douglas and Rebecca Rudkin who presented the wreath.

To our Golden Jubilee Cornet George Threadgall and wife Pat, have a great common riding it was great catching up with you on horseback at Hawick and Gala.

I will be raising my glass to my very good friend and fellow Ex-Cornet A P Turnbull, who is sadly no longer with us. Sandy would have been cheering the loudest and have the biggest nip waiting for me down "The Row" on common riding morning.

I hope my kids Ryan, Jamie and Cara have a good week and let me win at least one race on Saturday!!!! Of course Cara is presenting the wreath this year so it is extra special for her.

Leigh, my groom, picnic maker, organiser and pant washer thanks for all you do for us and for letting me enjoy my 25th year in style! Will let you have Saturday off!

Silver Jubilee Cornet Nod Wilson

(contd.)

As Ex-Cornet J T Robson said on my common riding day. "Its no about me it's the Cornet's day". So Cornet Balson take your time, slow your horse down and have a look around you; it only happens once so take it all in !!! Elliot, we will be all right behind you, cheering you on, supporting you and secretly wishing for another shot of the flag. I hope you and your family have a very enjoyable week.

To the townsfolk of The Royal And Ancient Burgh of Lauder thanks for all the support over the years.

Ex-Cornet Ronald J Wilson (Nod)



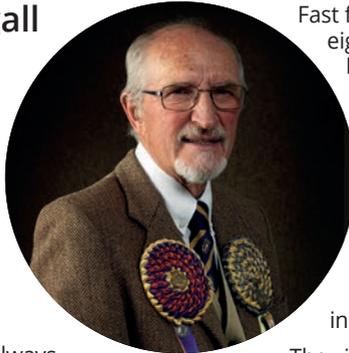
GOLDEN JUBILEE CORNET

1972

George Threadgall

Way back in 1956 as a wee seven year old boy, watching my father being carried towards the Town steps to be elected as Lauder Cornet, never in my wildest dreams did I think then that one day I would be following in his footsteps. Of course the Common Riding was always designed to be a huge part of our upbringing.

So much so that as youngsters during our School holidays, a group of us often played out the Riding of the Marches, not on horseback but with bicycles as our mode of travel. Each of us took our turn to be Cornet for the day and lead the calvacade along the back fields and around the grounds of the Castle, stopping off at the cross roads junction where we sang commn riding songs, drank our juice then returned to mums shop where she would dutifully down tools, come outside and act out her daily role as Lady Busser.



Fast forward to 1972 with only eight days to go before Election night and following some lengthy discussions between myself and the Ex Cornets I still had no thoughts of putting my name forward that year. However, my right and left hand men to be messers Dave Elrick and Ivor Jones were persistent indeed.

They invited me along with them the following evening to Selkirk and savour the atmosphere of an Election night. The very next morning Dave and Ivor came knocking at my door once again and this time I didn't hesitate to accept. Mum immediately brought out a bottle of whisky with a glass for each of us to seal the deal.

The fact I was working in Edinburgh at the time, living in lodgings through the week didn't deter me from many a mid week drive down to the Borders to attend the numerous functions with my Lass Pat at each respective town. Pat and I had a

(continued overleaf)

Golden Jubilee Cornet

George Threadgall *(contd.)*

proverbial ball that year and made many lifelong friends.

A point worthy of note is I was the first Cornet to use the current saddle cloth hastily made I may add, by my mother during Common Riding week to replace the old one after discovering to our horror on the Sunday that it was well beyond its "use by" date.

Each subsequent Cornet would take the well trodden path to Pegs house to collect it which usually included a blether with mum who always made sure to recall the story of how the new saddle cloth came about and the history behind the origin of its inner lining.

Of course she also made the Cornet well aware that it should be returned to her within a couple of days.

Alas with mum no longer with us the tradition of the Cornets visit to number 57 still lives on, with Jock or myself perpetuating the long standing family ritual.

My father was the oldest rider and 5 year old Miss T Craige from Stow the youngest rider with a young Joyce Middlemiss presenting the Wreath and Mrs Walker our Lady Busser.

Best wishes to Nod Wilson who is celebrating his Silver Jubilee. And on a personal note a special mention to Jim Middlemiss who was cornet the year I was youngest ride in 1954. Finally Pat and I would like to wish Cornet Balson and his Lass Connie all the very best for their big week. **Safe out safe in.**

Ex-Cornet George Threadgall

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**Best wishes to the
Cornet and his Lass**



FLAG FAIRIES!

Have you ever wondered how the flags get put up for Common Riding Week and how they are suddenly there for everyone waking up on the Kirkin' o' the Cornet Sunday morning? More illusive than the tooth fairy is our team of "Flag Fairies" who do a fantastic job putting up and taking down the flags every year.

We get up at 4.00am and start at the police station, working our way up to the garage on Edinburgh Road. There's great excitement with people that live on the High Street, leaving bottles of beer for the flag fairies going up the ladders on their window ledges. There's usually up to 10-15 ex cornets. The flags are up by 6.30am before anyone else is up and about. We then head to the Golden Bannock for a well-earned breakfast before we head to the Kirkin O' the Cornet in Lauder church.

Gregor Ker, Ex Cornet 2012



As well as putting up the flags under the cover at night we have so many other volunteers to thank whether its opening gates on ride outs or marshalling events we couldn't do it without them. If you would be interested in helping out in future Common Ridings, please get in touch with Elliot Landells or message our Facebook page for more information.

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COMMON RIDING COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD



Lauder Primary School have been working with the Common Riding Committee this year to introduce a new and exciting award, to be presented to one pupil from Primary 4.

This award is called the 'Common Riding Community Champion Award', and recognises someone who has demonstrated community values such as team work, responsibility, friendship and compassion to name only a few. Every member of staff was asked to make their vote and it certainly wasn't easy!

This year, the winner of the Common Riding Community Champion award for 2022 was James Leach (pictured below).



P4 pupil James Leach is the proud recipient of the new Common Riding Community Champion Award. Here he is pictured with Ex-Cornet and 2022 Cornet Elliot Balson's Left Hand Man Chris Rodgers



The new installation at Lauder Primary School ready to receive the names of those honoured annually for the Common Riding Community Champion Award.

Jim was presented with a book token by Cornet Elliot during his visit to our special Threeewood assembly, and received a newly created trophy that was inspired by the children of Primary 4. A new wall plaque in school will display Jim's name and will be added to each year, as this will now become an annual award.

It was lovely to welcome the Cornet and his supporters back into the school after such a long break. We want to say a great well done to Jim and we wish Cornet Elliot and everyone in Lauder a wonderful Common Riding Week.

*Louisa Scully
Depute Headteacher, Lauder Primary School*

A LOOK BACK ON THE COVID YEARS

2020 and 2021 provided significant challenges for us as a Committee – it tested our technological skills to the limit and beyond!

Despite the challenges we still managed to overcome and celebrate our week both years even if it was in a virtual fashion following the 2020 tradition of holding everything over zoom!

We managed to hold virtual messages from Lauder Church in place of the Kirkin O' The Cornet, the Ex Cornets in place of the dinner, we even managed a few socially distanced presentations to the 25th, 50th and 60th year Cornets. In 2021 we managed to hold some presentations for 25th year Cornet Mark Bryson. The Ex Cornets also produced a fantastic virtual concert held over Facebook.

The virtual fancy dress was a great opportunity for kids to get involved from the safety of their own back gardens and a few of the adult groups even joined in too!



Fun and Fancy dress in Lockdown 2020 - This entry was entitled 'Lauder does Tic-Toc'

The riding of the marches was still held on Common Riding Saturday in 2021 with our Cornet and his supporters, plus the Chief and Assistant Chief Marshall doing the honours.

After lots of us learning all these new skills we are however delighted to be going back to a normal way of celebrating our week and can't wait for you all to join us.

As we have said for two years "We look forward to 2022 which we hope will be bigger and better!" We're sure it will be.



Creativity canters on... 'To the Cairn!, July 2021'

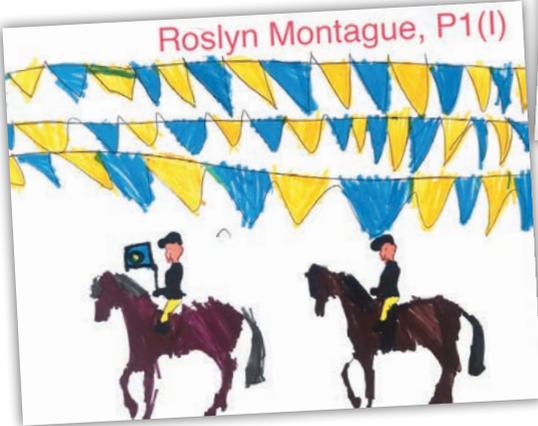


◀ The time the Common Riding came to them... 2020's Jubilee Cornets were presented with their Diamond, Golden and Silver awards on their doorsteps! (l to r) Diamond Jubilee Ex-Cornet Sandy Turnbull, Golden Jubilee Ex-Cornet Dave Elrick (Bill Elrick pictured here receiving awards on behalf of brother Dave) and Silver Jubilee Ex-Cornet Robert Millar.

COMMON RIDING POSTER COMPETITION

We had some fantastic entries submitted to the Common Riding Poster competition this year, all created under the theme of 'Thoughts of Common Riding'.

Our Cornet Elliot – a professional artist himself – had a tough time choosing the winners and said they were all excellent (we think he's a bit worried about some future competition for his job!).



The winners are:

Primary 4 - 6: Susannah Montague, P4

Primary 1 - 3: Roslyn Montague, P1(I)

Huge congratulations to Susannah and Roslyn - keeping it in the family!

Thank you very much to everyone who entered, and a massive well done for some awesome artwork!



Tradition holds true despite the pandemic – In August 2021 Michael Middlemiss, Chairman of Lauder Common Riding Committee, is assured that all within the Ancient Burgh of Lauder is safe and in good order according to the Head Marshall, Assistant Head Marshall, Cornet 2019 and his Right and Left Hand men who rode the boundaries as usual on Common Riding Day.

KIRKIN' O' THE CORNET



Lauder Common Riding week gets underway with Sunday's Kirkin' in Lauder Parish Church at 11.30am. The service, led by Mr Ian Brotherston and attended by Common Riding Committee, Ex-Cornets and townsfolk, serves to mark the traditional commencement of the week's timetable.

(Left) Kirkin' 2019: Right Hand Man Chris Rogerson, 2019 Cornet Chris Purves and Left Hand Man Hagen Steele head a line-up of Ex-Cornets and officials on Lauder Town Hall steps.

One for the family album
- Photographer Kenny White captures Cornet Chris Purves with his parents, Chris and Julie Purves outside the Kirk, at the start of his memorable week



I believe the Kirkin O' The Cornet is without doubt a very important part of our celebrations, giving our Cornet his supporters and the good townspeople of Lauder a blessing and also the good wishes from the Parish of Channelkirk and Lauder.

I was given the privilege in 2013 to conduct the Kirkin for Cornet Cameron McNeill and this year by kind permission of the Kirk Session I once again have the Honour of conducting the service and the Remembrance Service at the Memorial.

I trust and pray our Cornet and Standard Bearer Elliot Balson and his Lass Connie White and, his supporters have a memorable Common Riding. Safe Oot Safe In and God bless.

*John C Brotherston
Lauder Cornet and Standard Bearer 1965*

Kirkin' o' the Cornet





FAMILY FUN DAY



SUNDAY

The Family Fun Day (free for all!) will take place at Lauder Park from 2pm on Sunday 31st July. There will be children's races and other activities including a bouncy castle and inflatable assault course. You can have your face painted and try your luck at the tombola and don't forget there will be drinks and food available from the BBQ and Bar.

Lauder Common Riding has also teamed up with Lauderdale Youth Football Club to bring back the Lauder 5s football tournament. The family-friendly tournament makes a return to the programme for the Family



Fun Day. Entry costs £10 per team, with proceeds going towards the Lauderdale Youth Football Club. Mixed adults and children's teams are welcome, with a maximum of seven players per team and two adults.

Teams will have the chance to play for the Darren Ainslie Cup, in memory of the former player. Darren (pictured left) played football for Lauder from a young age and was playing for the amateurs when he became ill. He

was also a great supporter of the Lauder Common Riding and a popular member of the community, missed by his family, friends and everyone who knew him.

To enter the 5s tournament, please email Kate Ainslie kate_reed@live.co.uk or Amelia Strangeways aswhittaker@hotmail.com



Introducing
The Darren
Ainslie
Memorial
Cup

SUNDAY 31ST JULY

LAUDER 5S FOOTBALL

Lauderdale Football Club
come together with Lauder
Common Riding to bring back
Lauder 5s as part of Family Fun Day

Lauder Park
2pm

£10 per team with proceeds going towards
Lauderdale Football Club.

To register a team, contact Kate Ainslie
k_reed@live.co.uk or Amelia Strangeways
aswhittaker@hotmail.com

**FAMILY
FUN DAY**

SUNDAY 31ST JULY
LAUDER PARK
2PM

BBQ
ALL WELCOME
RACES
BOUNCY CASTLE & ASSAULT
COURSE
FACE PRINTING
BAR
TOMBOLA
ICE CREAM

AND INTRODUCING THE LAUDER
5S FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

THE APPRENTICE RIDE

"I did the apprentice ride for the first time when I was three. I am really excited that it's happening again this year and I am going to be able to ride my own pony Rosie. I hope there are lots of other boys and girls joining in too." - Toby Middlemiss

The Apprentice Ride leaves from Lauder Public Park at 10am and heads out onto the hill where you can choose between two routes. There is a half way stop with snacks where there is a sing song with the cornet, before heading back into Lauder around 12 noon.



Young Toby Middlemiss enjoying every minute of the Apprentice Ride 2019



THE EX-CORNETS' DINNER



*MC for the evening
Ex-Cornet Iain Dick*

The Ex-Cornets Dinner has long since been one of the main events in our week of festivities in Lauder. It is a chance for us Ex-Cornets to get together with guests and friends from Lauder and further afield.

We will be entertained on the night by speeches from Cornet Balson, Right Hand Man Ex-Cornet Chris Purves and Left Hand Man Ex-Cornet Chris Rogerson. We will have speakers and entertainers from within our Association, from our Royal & Ancient Burgh and beyond. The whole night is ably kept in order by our Chairman, Ex-Cornet Iain Dick.

To add to the evening we are entertained by excellent singers and musicians, as well as the eagerly anticipated songs from our visiting Principals from other towns.

The event will be held in the Lauderdale Hotel this year with tickets only available through Ex-Cornets. If you are lucky enough to get hold of one it is certainly one of the highlights in a fantastic week for the town.

*Ex-Cornet Chris Rogerson
Dinner Secretary*



*Lauder Common Riding
Committee wish Cornet
Elliot and his Lass Connie
a brilliant 2022 Common
Riding and hope all
townsfolk have a great week.
Safe Oot, Safe In*

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FAMILY CYCLE RIDE & LAUDER LIMPERS RUN

As well as the usual Tuesday Family Cycle Ride, the Lauderdale Limpers running group are holding a Trail Run for all who wish to join in.

The annual bike ride will again take place around the grounds of Thirlestane Castle on the Tuesday of Common Riding Week. This is a fun event and suitable for all the family. Thank you to Edward and Sarah for their kind permission to use the castle grounds.

Due to the continued success of the route, it remains with the same three parts which make it suitable for mixed ages and ability. However, as it's mainly off road, the route is not suitable for balance bikes and stabilisers. We ask that children under the age of 6 are

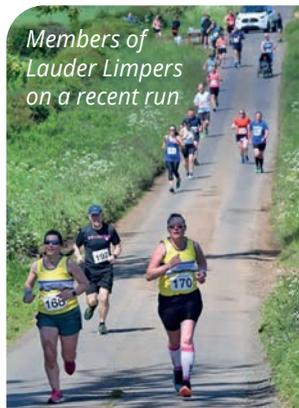
accompanied by an adult and helmets must be worn by all cyclists.

The event starts in the castle carpark at 6pm and refreshments will be available at the end of the ride.

RUN THE COMMON RIDING ROUTE!

In collaboration with Lauderdale Limpers Running Club, a chance to run the common riding route. Over 8 miles of trail running which should only be attempted by those experienced over this distance of demanding terrain.

Dress for the weather and run at your own risk. All must carry a fully charged mobile phone with an emergency contact. Meet ready to run at 18.30. The run will start and finish at the Lauderdale Hotel.



Members of Lauderdale Limpers on a recent run



Cornet Purves leads the 2019 Family Cycle Ride in the grounds of Thirlestane Castle

Wishing the cornet & his lass

Purple
Plum

Safe out!

Safe in!

14 West High Street,
Lauder TD2 6TE
01578 722591

EXILES' ANNUAL REUNION

Congratulations to our Cornet Elliot Balson and his Lass Connie White from all at the Exiles Association. We know both Elliot and Connie have been busy travelling across the Borders attending various Common Ridings and Festivals supporting other principals on their big day.



After two years of no Exiles Reunion, we are very much looking forward to a return to our usual format where we get to meet up and chat with people in person.

The Exiles Reunion is very informal and open to anyone – Exile or not so please come along and you will be made very welcome. It's an evening where young and old alike chat away which is always great to see.

The Reunion is held on the Tuesday of the Common Riding at 8pm in the Public Hall. The Buffet shall be provided this year by Maid by Marion from Melrose and the bar by the Ex-Cornets.

There will be the traditional presentations

to the Cornet, Silver Jubilee Cornet Ronald Wilson, and Golden Jubilee Cornet George Threadgall.

We are always happy to hear people's recollections and stories about the Common Riding so if you would like to share them at the reunion please get in touch with Joyce or myself.

If you know of anyone who would like to become a member of the Exiles or would like more information about the Association, then please get in touch with Joyce or Myself (contact details below).

We wish everyone a Happy Common Riding.

SAFE OOT – SAFE IN



Photos: Kenny White

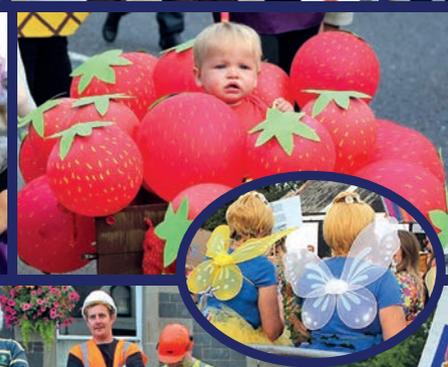
Joyce Ker –

Elmwood, Under Loan Park,
Lauder TD2 6TP
01578 722618

Kevin Laidlaw –

35 Curror Street,
Selkirk TD7 4HG
01750 725090

◀ 2019 Anniversary cornets
65, 50, 40 and 25 years:
Jim Middlemiss, Ian Anderson,
Ian Middlemiss and Michael
Middlemiss



LAUDER FANCY DRESS

Lauder Fancy Dress is always a highlight of events on Common Riding Week. It attracts all ages, young and old to get involved and dress up.

Fancy Dress always guarantees a great night so hunt out your best costume and come along or get involved in the fun!

Two new(ish) cups are included – The Wilrobway cup (for best vehicle) donated by the Wilsons, Robertsons and Strangeways families, and the Middlemiss cup for best adult group.

This year's Fancy Dress classes are;

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Boys under 5 years | 10. Girls 10-15 years |
| 2. Girls under 5 years | 11. Couples 10-15 years |
| 3. Boys 5&6 years | 12. Groups 10-15 years |
| 4. Girls 5&6 years | 13. Best Family Group |
| 5. Boys 7-9 years | 14. Best Dressed Lady |
| 6. Girls 7-9 years | 15. Best Dressed Gent |
| 7. Couples U-10 years | 16. Adult Couples |
| 8. Groups U-10 years | 17. Adult Groups |
| 9. Boys 10-15 years | 18. Best Vehicle |

Judging for the children takes place in the Avenue at 6.15pm followed by the adults at 6.45pm. All vehicles should be parked in Market Place prior to judging. After the judging, at approximately 8pm, come and join in the parade round the town led by Stow Pipe Band.

Fancy Dress Code of Conduct

1. All participants must follow the instructions given by Marshalls who are identified by high visibility clothing
2. The Lauder Common Riding Committee will inspect all floats prior to the parade and reserve the right to exclude participants for any Health and Safety concerns
3. Any participant found using foul and abusive language or creating a public nuisance will be severely dealt with and may be asked to leave the parade.
4. All children, especially those on floats must be supervised at all times
5. When participating in the parade, all children should remain seated when travelling on floats.

◀ *Fancy Dress 2019*



All photos Douglas Hardie



HOWDEN
PHOTOGRAPHY

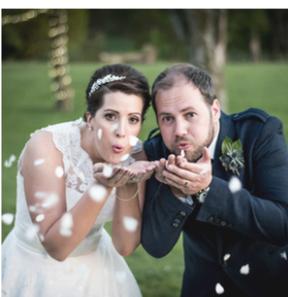
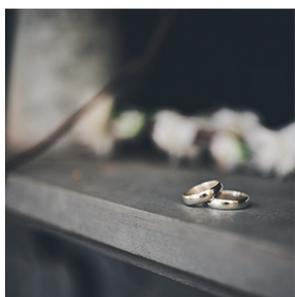


LUXURY WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY

Lauder - 07488265777

info@howdenphotography.co.uk

www.howdenphotography.co.uk



Best Wishes to the Cornet & his Lass
'Safe Oot, Safe In'

THURSDAY NIGHT RIDEOUT

Our preliminary rideout, traditionally held on the Thursday evening of our Common Riding was originally a practice ride for the Cornet and his Right and Left hand men. In the early years locals started to join the Cornet and the number of mounted supporters has continued to increase over the years. This has now become a regular event and is enjoyed by many locals and visitors alike who come to enjoy a relaxed friendly ride over our beautiful Lauderdale countryside.

All riders are made to feel very welcome. Times as follows:

- 6.00pm** Cavalcade muster in The Avenue
- 6.15pm** Cavalcade depart the town via East High Street, Mid Row, Mill Wind
- 6.30pm** Cavalcade proceed up the Golf Course
- 7.30pm** Cavalcade stops on the heather above the Waterin' Stane (20-30mins)
- 8.00pm** Cavalcade leaves the stop heading for Burges Cairn
- 9.00pm** Cavalcade returns to the town via Edinburgh Road *All times are approximate.*

Ex-Cornet Fraser Middlemiss Asst. Chief Marshall

Thursday Night Rideout 2019



All photos: © Chris Batchelor images

'NIGHT AFORE THE MORN' CONCERT



The Concert is back this year coming to you Live from Lauder School Hall. After two years of Virtual Concerts, it is great to be able to put on our traditional concert on the 'Nicht Afore the Morn'.

I would like to thank all those who starred and helped in putting together the last two Virtual Concerts. It was not easy trying to get a grip with the technology and edit all the pieces together – Spielberg I ain't! Therefore, last year we hired in a professional who made it look so easy resulting in a highly polished and slick production which I hope you managed to see and enjoy.



An informal evening, the concert will feature some local acts as well as some from further afield. There will be the traditional presentation of the Cornets Cup, Jubilee presentations, reading of letters/cards and presentations of flowers. It will end as always with the Cornet and supporters being joined by Ex-Cornets and the audience to sing the Lauder songs.

Everyone is welcome, hope to see you there.

Kevin Laidlaw

◀▼ *Principals and performers at the 2019 event.*



Photos: © Kenny White



Lauder Common Riding 2019

SATURDAY 6TH AUGUST:
COMMON RIDING DAY

COMMON RIDING WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday 31st July

KIRKIN' O' THE CORNET, Lauder Parish Church 11.30am
Committee and Ex-Cornets are asked to meet at 11.15am at the Town Hall.

LAUDER FOOTBALL 5s & FAMILY FUN DAY, Lauder Public Park... 2.00pm

Monday 1st August

APPRENTICE RIDE, Leaving from Castleriggis (Public Park)..... 10am

EX-CORNETS' DINNER, Lauderdale Hotel 7pm for 7.30pm

Tuesday 2nd August

BOWLING COMPETITION: Lauder B.C., Ex-Cornets vs Twenty10.... 11am

LAUDER LIMPERS TRAIL RUN (Common Riding Route, 8 miles) start and finish at The Lauderdale Hotel Meet ready to run at 6.30pm

FAMILY CYCLE RIDE Thirlestane Castle 6pm

EXILES ANNUAL REUNION, Lauder Public Hall..... 8pm

Wednesday 3rd August

FANCY DRESS PARADE

Participants on foot to The Avenue. Vehicles assemble in Market Place.

Judging commences: children 6.15 pm
 adults..... 6.45pm

- Classes:**
- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Boys under 5 years | 10. Girls 10-15 years |
| 2. Girls under 5 years | 11. Couples 10-15 years |
| 3. Boys, 5 & 6 years | 12. Groups 10-15 years |
| 4. Girls 5 & 6 years | 13. Best Family Group |
| 5. Boys, 7-9 years | 14. Best Dressed Lady |
| 6. Girls 7-9 years | 15. Best Dressed Gent |
| 7. Couple Under 10 years | 16. Adult Couples |
| 8. Groups Under 10 years | 17. Adult Groups |
| 9. Boys 10-15 years | 18. Best Vehicle |

PARADE will be led by Stow Pipe Band approx 8pm



COMMON RIDING WEEK AT A GLANCE

Thursday 4th August

- CORNET'S VISIT TO SOUTH GARDENS 11am
- CHILDREN'S SHOW, Leader Leisure Centre..... 2.30pm
organised by Lauder Common Riding Committee.
- PRELIMINARY RIDE, horses assemble at The Avenuedepart at 6.15pm

Friday 5th August

- DUCK RACE, Thirlestane Castle carpark..... 2pm
- 'NIGHT AFORE THE MORN' CONCERT, Lauder Primary School hall. 7.30pm
Cornet will be presented with the Cornet's Cup.
Admission: adults £4, O.A.P and children £1

Saturday 6th August, Common Riding Day

- CORNET'S MARCH7am
Departs from Lauderdale Hotel to Town Hall, led by Selkirk Silver band.
- RIDERS ASSEMBLE behind the Town Hall 7.30am
- PRESENTATION OF BURGH STANDARD TO
CORNET AND STANDARD BEARER BALSON 8.00am
Cavalcade will proceed along West High Street, The Loan,
Lower Back Road, Mill Wynd, Lauder Golf Course,
Crossing Muircleugh Road to the Waterin' Staneapprox. 9.50am
Leave the Waterin' Stane approx. 10.15am
- CORNET AND CAVALCADE arrive at war memorial 11.30 am.
- CONCLUSION OF CEREMONIES at the Town Hall 12 noon
- 'GIG ON THE RIGG' at Lauder Public Park, free entry..... 2pm - 6.30pm
- LAUDER COMMON RIDING BALL 7.30pm for 8pm
The Marquee, Lauder Public Park.
Admission by ticket only, see posters.



SATURDAY

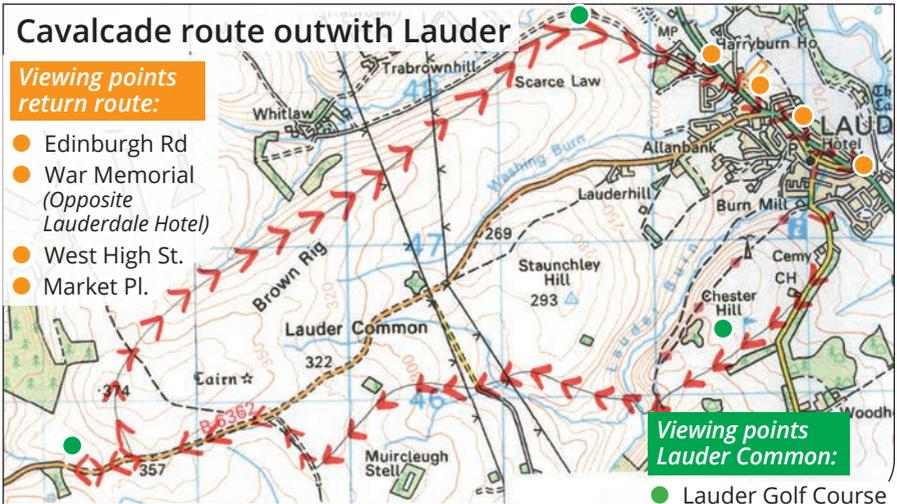
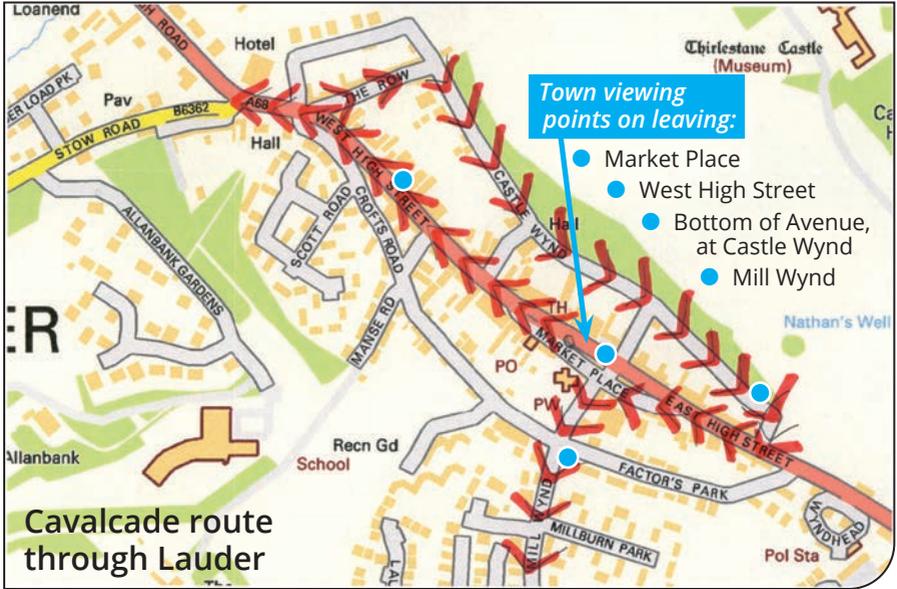


All photos: Lauder Common Riding 2019 © Kenny White



COMMON RIDING DAY

RIDEOUT ROUTES



PLEASE NOTE: Care must be taken whilst watching the cavalcade. Spectators should remain on pavements where possible and not cross the path of on-coming horses. They are also asked to adhere to instructions from foot and mounted marshalls. Cars to be parked in designated areas, out of the paths that emergency vehicles would use.

COMMON RIDING BALL 2022

After the Covid-19 pandemic Lauder Common Riding Ball is due to return, for the first time since 2019, to the marquee in the public park on Common Riding Day at 7:30pm for 8pm. The ball has been a huge success for several years and this year looks to be no different. In 2022 Lauder holds the distinction of being the very last Common Riding Ball of the summer festivities across the Borders.



Cornet Chris Purves and Zoe Bruce at the 2019 Ball. Photo: Jade Pringle

It is an incredible way to finish Common Riding Day, and of course the week, with friends, family, and The Cornet in a laidback party atmosphere! The Cornet, his right- and left-hand men, along with their lasses, are piped into the marquee which is followed by a hot two course buffet served with a range of fantastic desserts.

Many Ex-Cornets will be in attendance and with their partners and visiting principals from other towns will do the grand march led by our own Cornet. The remainder of the evening's entertainment is provided by the band, who make sure everyone

is on their feet and the dancefloor is never empty until the early hours.

The dress code is strictly formal evening wear; all dresses must be full length. The Ball is a fantastic event and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attends. We look forward to seeing you all there!

*Lauder Ball Co-conveners,
Greg Scott & Chris Rogerson*

Steve Fortune

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*Wishing the Cornet and
his Lass all the very best!*

PLEASE NOTE! - LAUDER COMMON RIDING RESTRICTIONS

Local Access to the centre of Lauder will be restricted from 7am to 1pm on Saturday 6th August.

■ Spectators wishing to view the riders at the Golf Course will

only be able to gain access from the South via Thirlestane Drive. Access to here for residents from the North will be via the A68 North to Carfraemill, A697 South to High Cross and B6362 to the South of Lauder.

■ Parking at the Golf Course is limited so it is advisable to park at Thirlestane Drive & walk.

■ There will inevitably be some inconvenience to residents for which the committee apologise.

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"ELLIOT ... DO LAUDER PROUD "

Elliot Balson - Royal Burgh of Lauder Cornet and Standard Bearer 2022 Well, that's something I never thought I would hear, read or say in a million years.

Your friendship with Chris Purves began all those years ago when we made our home in Lauder and never did, we imagine where that friendship would lead, so much so that I consider Chris my third son.

Elliot, you have grown into a wonderful young man, an accomplished animator and comic book artist and your twin brother Adam and I are so proud of you we could burst. You can probably draw a horse, but I have seen from your rideouts that you can also ride one very well, no mean feat considering the lessons had to be negotiated around lockdown rules. At one point I thought you would be known (or not known) as the Cornet that never was. Two years is a long time to keep that particular secret.

Do Lauder proud, carry out your duties with dignity, to your best ability, enjoy and savour every minute, and know I'm with you all the way (probably crying)!

Mum

I never thought I'd see myself as Cornet - or at least someone who looks like me as Cornet!

In all seriousness, I'm really pleased that Chris could have his wee pal from Lauder Primary join him as Lauder Cornet! I'm sure you and both the Chrises will have a great time representing Lauder.

The announcement was definitely a surprise, and it's funny and fitting it came on the joint 40th anniversary of Dad being Bearer of the Stone for Galashiels and the 50th of Uncle Tob being Peebles' Dux Boy!

For never having been on a horse before, you made leading the Threepwood Rideout look natural. I know you'll make everyone proud as Standard Bearer this year, but I'm especially proud to be able say I'm half the man you are.

Adam Balson



We are extremely proud of you being elected as Lauder Cornet and Standard Bearer for 2022.

What an honour and a privilege you have been granted.

This Summer is a time to make new lifelong friendships and to enjoy all the other Border Festivals that you are invited to attend. Take in all the different elements which make each town unique and use these experiences to make Lauder Common Riding 2022 your own, whilst upholding the traditions of The Royal Burgh. The townsfolk and Ex-Cornets are all behind you and your family are bursting with pride in anticipation of supporting you and Connie, your Cornet's Lass, during Common Riding Week. You are The Pride o' Lauderdale and much more.

SAFE OOT, SAFE IN.

Dad and Partner Rhona

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cares for yours*



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EX-CORNETS' MESSAGE

Iain Dick *Chairman, Ex-Cornets' Association*

The Royal and Ancient Burgh of Lauder can be very proud to call Elliot Balson it's Cornet and Standard Bearer for 2022. After a lengthy wait he has strode into the role with aplomb, fulfilling his duties so far to the required high standard.

I and the Association would like to wish Ex Cornets George Threadgall and Ronald Wilson all the very best in their Golden and Silver Jubilees respectively. These two men are real Common Riding stalwarts and are a great credit to Lauder, joining Cornet Balson on horseback on more than one occasion at our neighbour's Common Ridings and festivals. Gentlemen, I hope this year brings back many fond memories of your time in office and you get to catch up with old friends, relive cherished memories and make some more along the way.

I would like to thank Ex Cornet Shaun Hardie for his Chairmanship of the Association over the last few years and for his guidance since taking the role on. One of my favourite parts of Common Riding week is the Smoker, where the Cornet is presented with his Cornets' Medal. A relaxed get-together with some toasts, verse and song rounds off an excellent day and is an example of the kinship felt amongst all who have carried the Burgh Standard round our Marches. One of the toasts is to 'Absent Friends' where we remember those unfortunately no longer with us. Their names are taken to the Waterin Stane every year, a tradition started by our Golden Jubilee Cornet George Threadgall. This will be our first proper Common Riding without Ex Cornet A P (Sandy) Turnbull. A larger than life figure who is sorely missed, I'm sure his friends and family will be raising a glass somewhere along the way.

Cornet Balson, you and your Lass Connie have been great ambassadors for us so far this year so far but as you will know, the best is yet to come. Connie although not from Lauder has thrown herself into the role of Lass, joining in with the festivities like an experienced campaigner. Both of you, cherish every moment and have a blast.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Common Riding. **Safe Oot, Safe In**

*Ex Cornet Iain O Dick
Chairman, Lauder Ex Cornets Association*



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*Best wishes to Cornet
Balson and his Lass:
SAFE OOT - SAFE IN*



Wishing the Cornet & his Lass all the best! SAFE OOT. SAFE IN.

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Project specific management costs provided on agreement of level of involvement required. For practical advice and potential time and cost savings contact me to discuss your current or future project.

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A RICH AND COLOURFUL HISTORY

Lauder Common Riding is proud to be one of the original and oldest Border Common Ridings, with references to the festival dating back to the 1600s. The Lauder event originally had a religious basis, being related to the ceremonial blessing of the lands, crops, and affairs of the Burgh, and it was celebrated on Ascension Day.

This was highlighted in a BBC documentary that took place in March this year with Jill Halfpenny where Jock Threadgall was interviewed about the Riding of the Marches.

The Riding of the Marches (boundaries) points to a time when the Burgh Lands were not enclosed and was a serious business – failure to attend could result in a fine of 5/- in the early 19th century.

The Burgesses and Town Council assembled in front of the Old Tolbooth, where they pledged allegiance to their Sovereign Lord before setting off to ride round their territory, following largely the same route that we do today.

At intervals in the ride the Burgess Roll was called, and stones were carried in the pockets of the riders to be deposited at various cairns or landmarks on the route – this is a tradition still upheld by the Cornet today when he adds a stone to the last remaining original cairn, now known as the Burgess Cairn, high above the road from Lauder to Stow.

The Common Riding was ceased in the 1800s by order of the Town Council for reasons of public safety - excessive



Cornet Brodie, 1930

amounts of alcohol and galloping of horses down the high street seem to have been involved.

This excerpt from the Berwickshire Advertiser in 1937 shows how Common Riding mostly as we know it today was reinstated in 1911:

“Owing to the extraordinary success attending the March Riding instituted on the Coronation Day of King George V, June

1911 it was resolved to have the ancient ceremony resuscitated. There was a public meeting held, at which the under-mentioned gentlemen were appointed as a committee to carry out the ceremony. It was also resolved to have the Riding on the morning of the Annual Games August 17th. The Committee also arranged to procure and present to the town a “Burgh Standard”.”

Provost Cossar in accepting replied that the council agreed that the flag be kept in the safe custody in the private residence of the provost, and that the Council will annually appoint a Standard Bearer and cause him to carry the flag round the marches of the Royal Burgh.

There were even medals for the youngest and oldest rider – a tradition of oldest rider which is still upheld today.

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over the last couple of
years due to the high
volume of work.*

*Best Wishes to
the 2022 Cornet
& his Lass*



ABSENT FRIENDS

The popularity and continued success of our beloved Common Riding Week owes so much to those few stalwarts who work tirelessly from year to year whose unstinting efforts often go unrecognised by the general public.

There are however, many more people who are sadly no longer with us.

Bill Hardy, Bob Jolly, Ruby Strachan, Jake Scott to name but a few who have also made valuable contributions over the years gone by. The Absent Friends Plaque which makes an appearance at various prominent locations over the course of Common Riding Day. The Plaque lists all those Ex Cornets since 1911 who are sadly no longer with us.

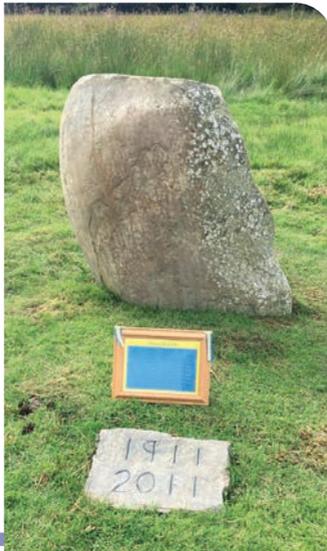
Their memory is toasted during our Ex Cornets Smoker on the Saturday evening, the Cornets Smoker is an emotional occasion with the toast to absent friends tugging a few heart strings. That said, a strong contender for the most poignant moment of the week has to be our ceremony at the War Memorial when our Cornet dips the Burgh Standard accompanied by the Selkirk Silver Band playing the Liltin. This service excellently carried out by Lauder Church rightly pays homage to those young men who perished during the two world wars.

Strength of character is what we Ex Cornets pride ourselves as having, but I can spill



the beans now there is never a dry eye to be seen from within their gathering at the foot of the Loan by the time our Cornet raises our Burgh Standard at the end of the Liltin.

Every local will have their own fond memories of "Lauder Worthies" alas, no longer with us who have contributed in no small manner in years gone by whose names and contributions are often brought up in discussions and reminiscing during our big week.



I ask each and every one of you to find a moment during our emotional service at the War Memorial to give a thought to those once close to you who are a huge part in our folklore.

"We can shed a tear because they are no longer with us, or we can smile because we are privileged to have known them".

I give you Absent Friends.

Ex Cornet George Threadgall (50th year 1972).



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LAUDER COMMON RIDING

Riders Code of Conduct

1. **MARSHALS WILL BE IN CHARGE** – Marshals will be clearly identified by Arm Bands and be positioned throughout the ride and will follow the direction of the Head Marshal. Foot marshals will be suitably attired and positioned, as required, at gates and crossings again all due respect should be given to their requirements and instructions.
2. **RESPONSIBILITIES OF HORSE RIDERS** – It is the responsibility of all riders taking part to maintain good control of their mount throughout the ride. If a rider becomes dismounted at any time it is their responsibility to either remount and re-join the ride or return their horse to the horsebox. It must be noted that while it is the role of foot or mounted marshals to advise and direct riders it is not their duty to control loose horses.
3. **DISCIPLINE AT GATES AND CROSSINGS** – A high degree of discipline and courtesy should be shown at all times by all riders at gates and crossings. It may be possible and in some cases preferable to pass through a gate or crossing and muster on the other side (marshals will advise).
4. **ROUTES** – The routes are pre-arranged between the Common Riding Committee, Farmers/Landowners and Police. Therefore all riders are required to adhere to the agreed route. If for any reason a rider has to leave the ride early a marshal must be notified.
5. **DRESS CODE** – To maintain our previous high standards, only smart, suitable riding gear will be accepted. This also applies to anyone joining the ride at any point. It should be noted that **SUITABLE PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR MUST BE WORN BY ALL RIDERS.**
6. **BASIC MANNERS AND COURTESY** – Should be shown to all fellow riders, marshals members of the public and the farmers/landowners who support and allow us to cross their land.
7. **TIMING** – All riders should be aware that it is essential that we maintain our current high standards of timekeeping for the Police who control and manage the time we spend on public roads, not least the public who enthusiastically wait on their Cornet's arrival (marshals will control).
8. **WALKERS** – To the requirements of farmers/landowners it is essential that all dogs must be kept on a lead at all times.
9. **EMERGENCY PROCEDURE** – In the event of any problem arising, be it damage to gates or fences, breakage of essential tack or injury to horse or rider, immediate contact should be made with either a mounted or foot marshal so that any necessary action be taken (i.e. first aid, veterinary help or help with spare tack). It is the owner's/hirer's responsibility for all costs incurred.
10. **GENERAL** – In an effort to retain some element of respect it should be noted that:
 - a. Any rider who is found to be under the influence of alcohol and to be incapable of controlling their mount, will, at the discretion of the Chief Marshal, immediately be excluded from the ride.
 - b. Riders MUST NOT mount the pavement for any reason whatsoever.
 - c. Any rider found using foul and abusive language or creating a public nuisance will be severely dealt with and may be asked to leave the ride.
 - d. All riders should assist both riding and foot marshals to address these problems.
 - e. Any rider who fails to keep up with the riding marshal may be requested to leave the ride.
11. **INSURANCE** - It is the responsibility of those taking part, or their legal guardians in the case of minors, to ensure that the participants have appropriate and adequate insurance cover for personal injury and third party liability cover and they take all reasonable steps to ensure their own safe participation in the events,
12. **YOUNG RIDERS** – It should be noted by all concerned that young or inexperienced riders should always be accompanied by a responsible and capable adult who should make themselves known to the marshal in charge.

Head Marshal (Jock Threadgall)
Contact No:- **07977 034 913**

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1911 – H P Webster	1957 – D S Thomson	1989 – R Wilkinson
1912 – W Watson	1958 – A D Whellans	1990 – A Gilchrist
1913 – I White	1959 – D M Wilson	1991 – J Fairbairn
1914 – D H Watson	1960 – A P Turnbull	1992 – A Strangeways
1923 – J M Graham	1961 – W T F Brown	1993 – D J Wilson
1924 – C O Cant	1962 – J D Murray	1994 – M Middlemiss
1925 – J M Paterson	1963 – W Middlemiss	1995 – R Millar
1926 – G Wilson	1964 – D S Waldie	1996 – M Bryson
1927 – T Shaw	1965 – J T Brotherston	1997 – R J Wilson
1928 – J Nivison	1966 – D N White	1998 – S W Smith
1929 – T H Scott	1967 – I H W G Scott	1999 – G A Gilder
1930 – J Brodie	1968 – C G A McHutchon	2000 – A Crombie-Smith
1931 – W J Shaw	1969 – I W M Anderson	2001 – T I M Fallas
1932 – A Brown	1970 – D A E Elrick	2002 – D Megahy
1933 – R T Landells	1971 – G I Jones	2003 – S Murray
1934 – J Watson	1972 – G Threadgall	2004 – S M Dick
1935 – G A Brown	1973 – M Johnston	2005 – S Threadgall
1936 – J C Delahunt	1974 – P R Riddell	2006 – L Wilson
1937 – J T Robson	1975 – G S Riddell	2007 – S Hardie
1938 – F Tocher	1976 – S Threadgall	2008 – J Threadgall
1939 – A Landells	1977 – G W Masson	2009 – M Alexander
1946 – A L Thomson	1978 – S R Gryczka	2010 – F J Middlemiss
1947 – R Redpath	1979 – I Middlemiss	2011 – I O Dick
1948 – W Johnston	1980 – R J R Ker	2012 – G R Ker
1949 – J Johnston	1981 – J F Threadgall	2013 – C McNeill
1950 – J B Dagg	1982 – R A Kerr	2014 – C Connell
1951 – J Mackison	1983 – S Thompson	2015 – D Simpson
1952 – J P Weatherly	1984 – J C Mc Neill	2016 – G Scott
1953 – D T Middlemiss	1985 – R E Landells	2017 – H Steele
1954 – J A Middlemiss	1986 – P F Middlemiss	2018 – C Rogerson
1955 – R S Landells	1987 – A Middlemiss	2019 – C. Purves
1956 – S Threadgall	1988 – D Wilkinson	

**LAUDER
COMMON
RIDING**



For more information on Lauder
Common Riding, visit

Website: www.laudercommonriding.com



Lauder Common Riding



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LODGE St. LUKE No. 132**250th. Celebrations.**

Lodge St. Luke No. 132 was formed and Consecrated on the 11th. Day of December 1772 and the Charter granted by The Grand Lodge of Scotland on that date.

Lodge St. Luke was formed chiefly by the effort and influence of the Rev: James Ford, D.D., who was licensed by the Presbytery of Edinburgh 26th. November 1746.

He was inducted as Minister to Lauder old Parish Church on the 27th. September 1753 where he served the Parish for 57 years until his Death in the year 1810 and was laid to rest in Lauder Church Graveyard.

As part of our celebrations on Sunday 23rd. October 2022 at 2pm. a Divine Service will be held in Lauder Old Parish Church by kind permission of the Kirk Session.

This Service will be conducted by the Rev: John Shields M.B.E.

This Service is not only for Freemasons but is open to all who wish to attend so please come along and join us.

On Saturday 29th October 2022 at 1pm. The Re-Dedication Ceremony will be held in the School Hall conducted by Bro: William Ramsay McGhee OStJ, D.L., Grand Master Mason of Scotland and Grand Lodge Office Bearers.

Following the Re- Dedication Ceremony a Celebration Dinner will be held in the Lauderdale Hotel at 3-30 pm.

Any other information required please contact myself Ian Brotherston R.W.M. on 01578 722469 or Derek Duncan Acting Secretary on 07796 928010.

Success to the Cornet from all at St.Luke 132.

FANCY DRESS? WELL FANCY THAT!

Having been asked by the Chairman to do "a wee article" on the origins of the Fancy Dress Parade I had to seek some sort of clarification from Ex-Cornet Jim Middlemiss as to when the Fancy Dress Parade actually started.

Jim doesn't actually remember when the Parade started but he can remember being in the Parade as a small boy before the outbreak of WW2, which makes our Parade nearly 90 years old! He was in as Wee Willie Winkie!

Much more recently, I have memories of The Ex-Cornets doing Up Pompeii! from the days when Frankie Howerd was on TV with the comedy show ...the individual names might not stand up to being aired in this article, so none mentioned!

Another entry on the Queen's Silver Jubilee, was "25 Years on the Throne" with every Ex-Cornet sitting "on the throne" in his own wee cubicle on the trailer!

Much later we did The District Council Fence - a tribute to the pailing fence which surrounded Jolly's shop before it was renovated - it seemed to us that things started happening soon after our entry in that year's Parade. Included in the fence was the First Post, the Last Post, the Straining Post, the Stroning Post, and the Minister was the Sunday Post!

The best one that I remember being in was "The Royal Burgh Variety Performance" on a trailer at the top of the Avenue - a variety concert with the likes of Gliff Richard, Birly Chassis, The Early Brothers, Stevie Blunder, Francie & Josie, and at the top of the bill of course were The Three Tenners - Ex-Cornets Bill Brown, Jock Murray and Sandy Turnbull as the famous Trio! I recall that the Ex-Cornets did a Royal Burgh Variety Performance later that year and in the following year in the Public Hall and raised funds for charity. It was great fun! Who could forget the Lauder Football

Club doing the "Red bArrows" formation team coming down the Main Street!

Another memorable one was "Lauder's First Exiles Reunion", with Harris Frae Paris, and Wull Frae Mull to name only two...

Ex Cornet Dave Thomson on his bike as Seth Armstrong the gamekeeper from Emmerdale...

Bathman & Robin was another great parade entry...

...or the Gorilla that stalked the streets of Lauder on Fancy Dress night only to disappear as soon as the Parade was over!

Ex-Cornet Stanley Gryczka





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GIG ON THE RIGG

Gig on the Rigg is returning once again from 2pm at Lauder Public Park. The event is free entry and guaranteed fun for all the family with Slater's funfair, Cover Monkeys Band and Stow Pipe Band.

There will be a cash bar run by The Golden Bannock, with a variety of gins, other spirits, and beers.



The traditional beating of the drum will be moved to the park at 6pm and all are encouraged to join in. Gazebos are welcomed to keep you sheltered from the sunshine and hopefully not the rain! **2pm-6.30pm!**



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The Patrons' Society gives folk of Lauder the opportunity to contribute to the yearly costs of the Common Riding. The society began in 2008 and we currently have 157 members. As in previous years we continue to look for your support, by joining the society for a minimum membership fee of £15 per year (only £1.25 per month). This would guarantee a substantial pot of money that can be relied upon each year to help meet the Common Riding expenses.

The Common Riding costs a staggering £12,000 to stage annually. We receive a grant of £3,300 from Scottish Borders Council and the remainder of money required is raised through donations and events held in our community.

These events are organised by the Common Riding Committee, a voluntary group of dedicated, hardworking and enthusiastic local people.

YOUR COMMON RIDING NEEDS YOU

JOIN NOW

LAUDER COMMON RIDING PATRONS SOCIETY

To join all you have to do is set up a standing order for £15.00 per year to:

Lauder Common Riding Patrons' Society

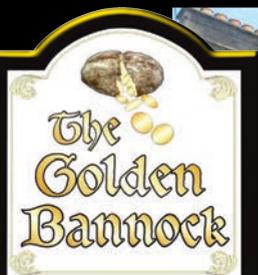
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By using internet banking or filling out a standing order form at your bank.

In addition please e-mail **lauderpatrons@hotmail.co.uk** with your name and address and we will deliver your Patrons badge to you. We need all your details so that all patrons are recognised in the Common Riding programme and we would not like to leave you out. You can also post your details to:

Janice McNeill, Castle Wynd, Lauder.



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Lauder

Telephone:
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Shaun, Selina & family wish
to congratulate Cornet Balson
& his Lass Connie White

**SAFE OUT
- SAFE IN!**

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M. Czajka	Ms R. Landells	Mr & Mrs Mike Scott
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Ex-Cornet Iain Dick	Ms. C. Mackie	Mrs Mary Sked
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Mr G. M. Dick	Ms Flora Marshall	Mr I. & Mrs E. Stevenson
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Mrs A.M. Doig	Ms Christine E McGee	Innes Strangeways
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Ex-Cornet S. Gryczka	Ex-Cornet J.A. Middlemiss	Miss Louise Wilson
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*Wishing Cornet Balson and his Lass Connie, 'Safe Out - Safe In'
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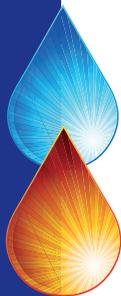
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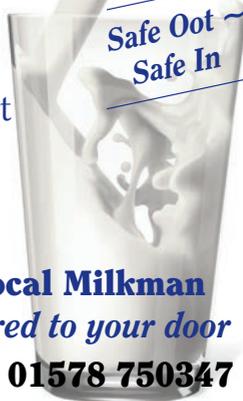
**Good luck to
Elliot and Connie –
'Safe Out, Safe In'**

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2018	Mrs Beth Middlemiss	Caitlin Megahy	Ellyn Wilkinson
2017	Mrs Mary Fallas	Ashleigh Scott	Sophie Millar
2016	Mrs Nancy Hardie	Jenni Cook	Anna Mirley
2015	Mrs R. Neil	Chevonne Ainslie	Jenna Wilkinson
2014	Mrs P Brotherston	Louise Wilson	Penny Threadgall
2013	Mrs. Isabel MacRae	Helen Middlemiss	Abigail Anderson
2012	Mrs. Joanne Watson	Sally Middlemiss	Hannah Dick
2011	Mrs. Pat Fairbairn	Anneka Ker	Beth Hardie
2010	Miss Rosemary Landells	Jan Baird	Kerrie Wood
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2008	Mrs. Anne Strangeways	Marianne Graham	Caitlin Megahy
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2006	Mrs. Janet Laidlaw	Jenny Riva	Katy Gilligan
2005	Miss Susan Landells	Hazel Threadgall	Tabitha Threadgall
2004	Mrs. Sheena Riddell	Michelle Wood	Amy Russell
2003	Miss Chris Mackie	Gillian Thornton	Lauren Watson
2002	Mrs. Barbara Whellans	Fiona Megahy	Fiona Laing
2001	Mrs. Grace Whellans	Liz Dalgleish	Louise Wilson
2000	Mrs. Dorothy Archibald	Amy Mclean	Erin Bonnar
1999	Mrs. Jean Brotherstone	Jenni Crombie-Smith	Rachael Hughes
1998	Mrs. Tessie Johnston	Ray Middlemiss	Kim Steele
1997	Mrs. Margot Douglas	Susan Wilson	Rebecca McNeill
1996	Mrs. Jean Brotherston	Gillian Bryson	Paula Steven
1995	Mrs. Maisie Gryczka	Judith Riddell	Anneka Ker
1994	Mrs. Helen Cranston	Claire Taylor	Helen Middlemiss
1993	Mrs. Jenny Wilson	Amanda Gryczka	Lauren Johnston
1992	Mrs. Venetia Scott	Suzanne Virtue	Emma McNeill
1991	Mrs. Irene Turnbull	Lyndsay Hogg	Jenni Crombie-Smith
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1989	Mrs. Elizabeth Stevenson	Lesley Brotherston	Emma Maitland-Carew
1988	Mrs. Myra Whellans	Gillian Hayes	Andrea Fallas
1987	Mrs. Jean Murray	Christine Hamilton	Janine McHutchon
1986	Mrs. Carol Brown	Elaine Middlemiss	Joanne Douglas
1985	Mrs. Dorothy McLaren	Shelagh Hogg	Lesley Middlemiss
1984	Mrs. Avril Wilson	Janice McNeill	Lesley Brotherston
1983	Mrs. E. Redpath	Irene Kerr	Elaine Scott
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1981	Mrs. Betty Bell	Caroline Bell	Lesley Hardie
1980	Mrs. Jean Landells	Joyce Middlemiss	Laura Halliday
1979	Mrs. R. Maitland-Carew	Susan Lees	Kay Baxter
1978	Mrs. Sara Dodds	Kathleen Middlemiss	Ishbel Megahy
1977	Mrs. Margaret Middlemiss	Fiona Seaton	Susan Brotherston
1976	Mrs. May Middlemiss	Pat Threadgall	Pamela Brown
1975	Mrs. Jeanette Waldie	Christine Riddell	Sandra Graham
1974	Mrs. Isa Walker	Sheena Riddell	Elaine Millar
1973	Mrs. Margaret Rhind	Marilyn Freebairn	Caroline Bell
1972	Mrs. Walker	Pat Rodger	Joyce Middlemiss

Bonnie Lauderdale

'Mid the splendour and the beauty o'
the bonnie woods and glens,
Where the Leader rins sae cheerie
as it winds aroon' the ben's
Ye may boast o' Tweed or Ettrick,
the Teviot or the Ale,
But gie tae me the Leader and my
Ain dear Lauderdale.

Chorus:

*Lauderdale! Bonnie Lauderdale!
Sae dear, tae me!
I will sing in praise where'er I go,
O' Bonnie Lauderdale.*

We hae bonnie lads and lassies an
we fear na ither toons,
Although we're kin o' wild a' wee
we're seldom oot o' boons
We're a jolly lot o' fellows,
aye heartie, true an' hale,
And proud we are tae be the sons
o' Bonnie Lauderdale.

Chorus:

When the Cornet is presented
on the Common Riding morm,
Wi' the flag his predecessors
have safe and proudly borne,
Let us all unite and cheer him,
Half-hearted nae but hale,
And let the laddie see he is the
Pride o' Lauderdale.

Chorus:

Composed by John Riddle.



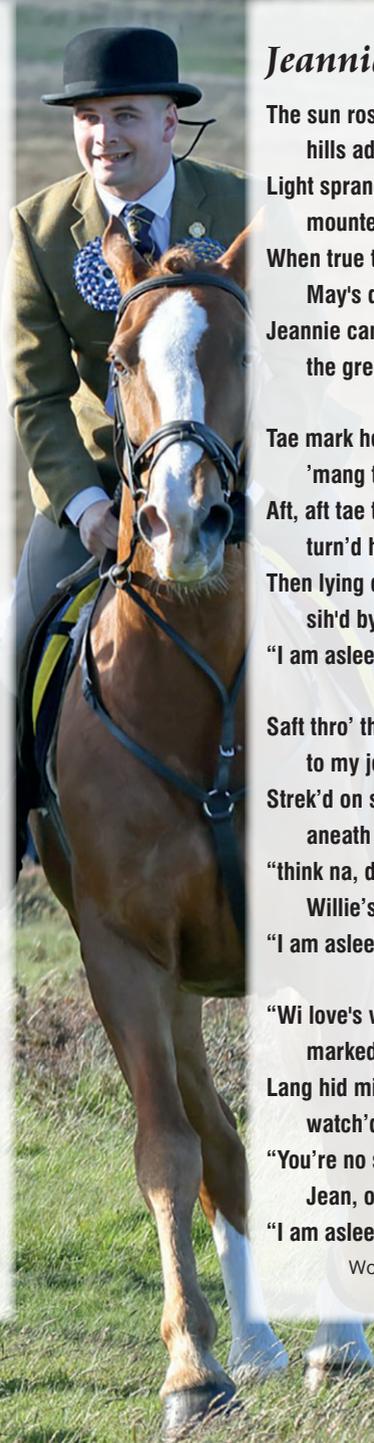
Scotland Yet

Gae bring ma guid auld harp yince mair,
Gae bring it free and fast,
For I might sing anither sang
E'er a' my glee be past;
And trow ye, as I sing, my lads
The burden o't shall be,
Auld Scotland's howes and
Scotland's knows
And Scotland's hills for me;
I'll drink a cup to Scotland yet
Wi' a' the honours three!

The heath waves wild upon the hills,
An foamin frae the fells,
Her fountains sing of freedom still,
As they dance doon the dells!
And weel I lo'ed the lands my lads,
That's girded by the sea
Then Scotland's vales, and
Scotland's dales,
And Scotland's hills for me,
I'll drink a cup to Scotland yet
Wi' a' the honours three!

The thistle wags upon the fields
Where Wallace bore his blade,
That gave her dearest foemens bluid,
To dye her auld grey plaid;
And looking to the lift, my lads.
He sang this doughty glee,
Auld Scotland's rights, and
Scotland's mights,
And Scotland's hills for me,
I'll drink a cup to Scotland yet
Wi' a' honours three!

By Henry Scott Riddell



Jeannie's Black e'e

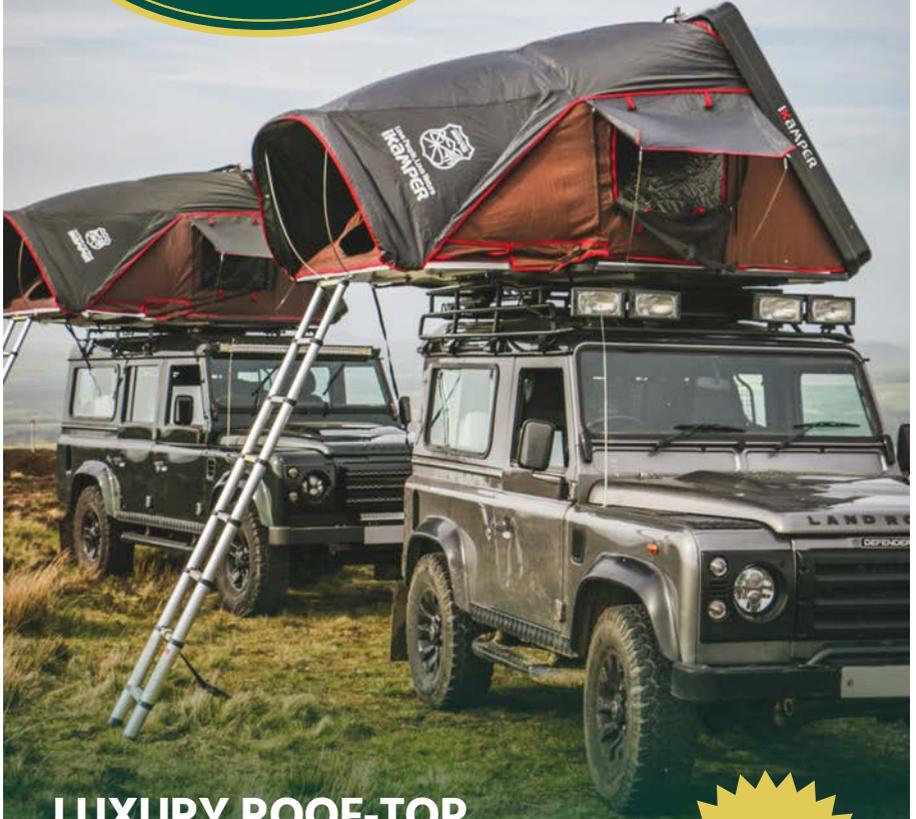
The sun rose sae rosy, the grey
hills adorning,
Light sprang the lavroc and
mounted sae hie,
When true to the tryst o'blythe
May's dewy morning,
Jeannie cam' linkin' out ow'r
the green lea'.

Tae mark her impatience, I crep'
'mang the brackens,
Aft, aft tae the kent gate she
turn'd her black e'e
Then lying doon sae dowlie,
sih'd by the willow tree
"I am asleep, dinna wauken me"

Saft thro' the green birks I stole
to my jewel,
Strek'd on springs carpet
aneath the saugh tree,
"think na, dear Lassie, that
Willie's been cruel"
"I am asleep, dinna wauken me"

"Wi love's warm sensations I've
marked your impatience,
Lang hid midst the breckans I
watch'd your black e'e"
"You're no sleepin, pawkin
Jean, open that lovely e'e".
"I am asleep, dinna wauken me"

Words by Hector MacNeill



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THANK YOU

Our annual Common Riding is nearly here and takes a lot of work every year by our dedicated committee members and volunteers. Without them the Common Riding would not be possible.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attends our fund-raising functions, those who make donations and support our Common Riding.

We would like to thank all advertisers, contributors and distributors of this programme. This brochure is produced in the Scottish Borders; all the content is provided by local people to Lauderdale. We would like to make special thanks to Kenny White, Phil Wilkinson, Ewen Forsyth, Joyce Ker, Corrine Scott, Chris Batchelor and Lawrence Johnston for the photographs they have provided

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And finally, special thanks to the people of Lauder who support the Common Riding and for your patience with various events happening on your doorstep. And for making the Common Riding what it is today.

Safe Out, Safe In.

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