



The Ringleader

www.ringleader.co.uk | bmr@ringleader.co.uk | 01896 758091

June 2026

ATV raffle for SAYFC at the RHS



The Scottish Machinery Ring Association (SMRA) with BMR are supporting the Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs (SAYFC) this year by launching a huge prize draw for a CF Moto C Force ATV at the Royal Highland Show.

The money raised will help toward the £1.6 million fundraising drive to secure a future home for Scotland's Young Farmers as part of the Big Build campaign to create a new permanent home for Scotland's

Young Farmers at Ingliston.

Cammy Wilson – social media and TV personality – will draw the winning ticket on 20 June at the Royal Highland Show.

The road-legal ATV package is worth nearly £7,500 and comes with a two-year warranty and includes a tracker, training, a helmet and dog basket. It will be on display at the show until Saturday evening, when the winning ticket is drawn.

The Big Build campaign has already raised £900,000 to replace the SAYFC's former building, which was recently demolished.

SAYFC chief executive Penny Montgomerie said: "We are hugely grateful for the support of Scotland's machinery rings as they back the Big Build.

This year's quad bike is supplied by Thomas Murray Agricultural Engineers and can be seen at the show on the SMRA stand 289, Avenue Q.

Tickets are on sale now and cost £20. Turn to page 10 to see our full preview of the RHS and find out how to buy your tickets to support the SAYFC.

Inside this issue...

Members News	2
Machinery & Vehicles	3
Training News	4
Feature: Fencing	6
RHET Update	8
What's Happening	8
RHS Preview	10
Community	10
Final Words	12

BMR members get a great deal with AF

BMR has had a close working relationship with AF Group (formerly Anglia Farmers) since 2002. With a purchasing power of £330m+ and over 3,000 members, being a partner of AF Group has its obvious advantages.

As a BMR member you can take advantage of the buying power of AF on a range of farm inputs and services including Ag-Chemicals, Seeds, Fertilisers, Livestock Inputs, Bulk Gas, Telecoms and Electricity Supply.

AF is independent and unbiased and will always look to secure the best deal for all its members.

For more information on how to make the most of our AF partnership please contact BMR on 01896 758091 or email bmr@ringleader.co.uk



NSA scots sheep
NSA SCOTLAND

Wednesday 10th June 2026

Wedderlie Farm, Gordon,
Berwickshire, TD36NW
By kind permission of the Tilson Family

For more information about this event please visit,
www.scotsheep.org.uk

MAJOR SPONSOR
THORBURN
GROUP

Extension build slashes costs

When member Martin Richards wanted to build an extension on his two existing cottages near Kelso, he turned to BMR for help in sourcing and providing a range of materials.

Mark Ross, our building supplies specialist, was able to help. Martin said that by using BMR he had saved thousands of pounds on this

project: "Mark used his expertise, guiding me in choosing materials and deciding on options."

If you are about to embark on a building project and are looking to source materials, contact Mark at the BMR office on 01896 758091 or mark@ringleader.co.uk



Big project savings for member

BMR member John Logan was about to start a large drainage project on his farm near Kelso and was looking for twinwall pipe supplies.

A timely email dropped into his inbox – a BMR Members Update – which mentioned that a local merchant was stocking 150 & 225mm twinwall pipe as well as perforated land drain pipe for members to purchase 'off the shelf'.

John called BMR to see if using our network of suppliers could benefit him in cost and availability; it turned out that we were able to help.

BMR managed to outsource the materials for John's project – including 150mm and 300mm perforated pipe – from our merchants and the order was placed and delivered to the farm within time and with a substantial saving on cost too.

Preserve your silage for longer

Silage preservation has always been a race against oxygen: from the moment forage is harvested and clamped, the aim is to create stable anaerobic conditions.

Agrisile uses Silo2Block Oxygen Barrier Film, an advanced 7-layer film technology incorporating EVOH (ethylene vinyl alcohol) a polymer

widely used in food packaging to eliminate oxygen ingress. The result is a cover that Silo2Block claims to be 50 times less permeable to oxygen than standard black polyethylene (PE) films.

Place your order via the BMR office to claim a 5% member discount.



Use **POWERSTART**
Instant Silage Additive
IMPROVE YOUR SILAGE
INCREASE YOUR PROFITS

Contact BMR for details
01896 758091
bmr@ringleader.co.uk



Ford pickup beats tax

Ford has introduced the Ranger Double Cab as a two-seater, offering a greater payload area and making it a good choice for anyone needing to carry more tools, equipment and goods.

The two-seater configuration should allow the Ranger to be registered and purchased as a commercial vehicle, qualifying for the 100% plant and machinery allowance and flat-rate company van benefit-in-kind (BiK) that was previously applied to double-cab pick-ups before the Government changed the legislation earlier this year.

Initially offered in Wildtrak specification buyers can choose between a PHEV plug-in petrol-electric hybrid or conventional diesel drivetrains, including a 3.0-litre V6 option for higher towing demands.

BASL gets a new name

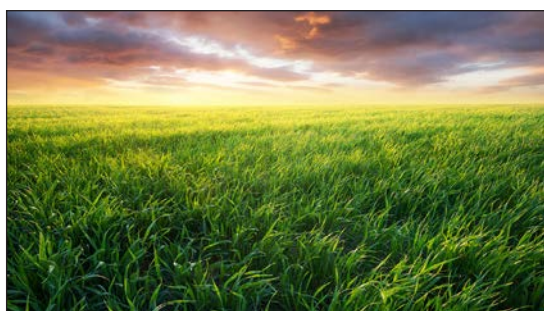
As part of the recent merger of BMR and Lothian Machinery Ring, we have changed the name of our subsidiary training company from Borders Area Services Limited to Lothian and Borders Training Services Limited.

This change of business name reflects the wider commercial operating area of BMR which now incorporates the Scottish Borders, Lothians, Lanarkshire and North Northumberland.

Grass seeds available

BMR members can order a growing selection of grass and forage seeds, catch crop and game cover mixes available through our exclusive catalogue.

To discover what we have on offer, go to www.ringleader.co.uk/farm-supplies where you will see a link to download a PDF of the BMR Grass Seed Catalogue.





Bobcat telehandler gets all agricultural

Bobcat has completed its agricultural telehandler range with the addition of three large high flow V-Drives models which provide the sort of performance that is demanded from the farming sector.

The TL34.65HF, TL38.70HF and TL43.80HF all feature Bobcat's 'V-Drive' continuous transmission system and are designed to offer more comfort and productivity.

Using dual hydraulic motors, Bobcat has been able to maintain the same performance as the current gearbox transmission. The V-Drive transmission allows operators to drive from 0 to 40kph without the need to stop the machine or think about changing the gear before starting. It also removes any jolts that might happen when moving from one speed range to another. The hydraulic tank has also been redesigned resulting in a higher capacity.

The V-Drive models also offer noise reduction inside and outside the cab which was achieved by suspending the hydraulic motor with four rubber mounts, resulting in a decrease of 60% in vibrations and eliminating the whistle sound of the transmission.

INEOS 4x4 sales up by 20%



Orders for the INEOS Grenadier 4x4 for the first quarter of 2026 jumped 20% from the same period last year, according to the manufacturer. Strong retail sales were bolstered by a significant increase in new fleet agreements.

"The grenadier has proven itself as a highly capable, durable and reliable 4x4," said Mike Whittington, Chief Commercial Officer at INEOS Automotive. "Not only is that continuing to appeal to new retail buyers around the world, but fleets – which are normally always cautious about new manufacturers – now have the confidence to start placing big orders."

INEOS has produced vehicles for three years, picked up multiple awards and delivered over 35,000 vehicles around the world.

MACHINERY HIRE

GET MACHINE AND MANPOWER... WHEN YOU NEED IT

With the high costs of ownership and operation of farm machinery, many businesses have opted to hire instead.

BMR has a range of suppliers meaning we can meet demands even peak season.

Our services include supplying a replacement if a breakdown occurs and short & long term tractor and telehandler hire.

01896 758091
bmr@ringleader.co.uk
www.ringleader.co.uk

Big Telehandler Deals

Wide range of sizes available:

- 7m
- 10m
- 12.5m
- 14m
- 17m

Exclusive rates available for BMR Members

All machines complete with forks and bucket attachments

Contact the BMR office for information
 01896 758091 or bmr@ringleader.co.uk

Straw Wanted

Baled or in the swath

Call BMR on 01896 758091

Take up a Mentoring opportunity in 2026

Our BMR Pre-Apprenticeship Scheme requires a series of mentors to help provide placements for a variety of young people (16-24 years) looking to gain experience in the land-based sector. But what exactly is expected of a mentor? And what are the benefits of becoming a mentor?

A mentor needs to be able to provide suitable support throughout the time a pre-apprentice is with them. The mentor does not have to be a manager or company owner; a suitable employee can be assigned for this purpose.

The role of a mentor is to provide realistic insight and guidance into the day-to-day business and offer the opportunity for young people to start a working career. It should be remembered that many of the entrants will have no agricultural background but will be keen and willing to learn.

A good mentor will help encourage key skills as well as develop personal and social skills. Providing work-related information will assist a young worker with their future career choices.

One of the key elements of mentoring is to offer good practical experience by 'doing and showing'. This method will allow the effective transfer of knowledge from mentor to pre-apprentice, encourage team working and better communication. It is essential that a mentor provides the best scope of duties and tasks available to allow a young person to gain experience in as wide a range of skills as possible.

It is also important to make certain that a pre-apprentice is allowed to take part in business-related events such as field and crop walking, agronomy visits, office activity, visits to markets, veterinary visits and attendance at shows.



Latest Pre-Apprentices start their journey

In February BMR had eight young people take up the challenge of taking part in our Pre-Apprenticeship Scheme which saw them complete two weeks of training at Borders College (including ATV training as pictured) before embarking on a six month mentoring work placement with farming business based throughout the Scottish Borders.

For information about our scheme see the BMR website.

Lantra next generation training funds available

The Next Generation Practical Training Fund aims to support those who have started on their agricultural path within the past five years and who are undergoing or have just completed formal sector-related education.

As some people get involved with farming at a very young age, Lantra has said that this five-year rule will only begin after the applicant has turned 18.

It has become clear that within the agricultural sector there is a clear need for more new entrants-focused training. There are a range of evolving issues and challenges in the sector, and it is key that those working in agriculture get the right training if they are to adapt to these changing requirements and if we are to meet our net zero and biodiversity targets.

It is particularly important that the next generation have access to improved knowledge, know-how and skills, as the challenges we face are not short-term.

The aims of the fund are to encourage more new, and prospective entrants as well as next generation entrants to take up training courses (with a particular focus on: climate change adaptation and mitigation practices, and biodiversity/habitats improvement, but also other equally important areas such as health and safety, equipment training, business efficiency and resilience).

It will also enable those less financially able to access key training, support, provide equal opportunities for those looking for jobs in the sector and support employability and a sustainable rural workforce.

For more information see the Lantra Scotland website.



Young tractor drivers make the grade

BMR has run several successful tractor driving courses recently aimed at 13-15 year olds which have taken place at Borders College, Newtown.

These courses, run by the college, have been very popular and instructor David Black has been surprised by the diversity of the youngsters taking part: "It was a great few days and a real pleasure to teach such enthusiastic young people. Their confidence grew significantly over the course, and by the second day, everyone was able to reverse and hitch equipment independently with minimal supervision."

"We're delighted to be working with BMR to deliver this essential tractor training," said Alex Reynolds, Head of Sector for Land-based and Rural Skills at Borders College.

For information on the next 13-15 year old Tractor Driving Course contact Jill Dickson on 01896 758091 or bmtraining@ringleader.co.uk

Could you become an instructor?



If you work in farming or other land-based industry, the idea of becoming an instructor probably feels like something “other people” do.

Yet across the sector, some of the best instructors are those who have gained practical experience with years of hands-on knowledge.

As the industry continues to face skills shortages, changing legislation, advancing technology and an ageing workforce, there’s never been a more important time to pass your knowledge on to the next generation. Becoming a Lantra Instructor offers the chance to do exactly that.

Training delivery can be flexible, allowing you to work around busy periods and existing commitments. As a freelance instructor, you benefit from being able to work the hours you want, when you want.

One common misconception is that you need previous teaching experience to get started. In reality, many instructors begin with strong technical and practical skills, then develop their instructional abilities. Lantra provides ongoing support, guidance and development



opportunities to help new instructors build confidence and competence in delivering training safely and effectively.

Equally, becoming an instructor is not about standing in a classroom delivering lectures. Good training is practical, hands-on and rooted in real-life experience.

Many existing instructors say the most rewarding part of the role is seeing confidence grow in learners. Lantra Instructor Thomas Greene describes the satisfaction of seeing “the moment something makes sense or clicks for the student”.

There is also a strong social aspect to the role. Farming can often be isolating, with many working independently or in remote areas. Some Lantra instructors highlight the camaraderie that comes with becoming part of the instructor community.

For those considering how to diversify their business, future-proof their career or simply give something back to the industry, becoming an instructor could be worth exploring. The sector needs people with genuine experience who understand modern farming, machinery, and who are willing to help others learn.

After all, every skilled operator person in the industry today learned from somebody. The next generation will need the same opportunity.

To find out more information about how to become an instructor, visit the Lantra website.

BMR Training Courses

Health & Safety

- Risk Assessment
- Dealing with spillages
- COSHH
- Manual Handling
- IOSH
- Safe working at Heights
- Fire marshal training
- Wildfire Danger Assessment
- Mental health training
- Abrasive Wheel
- First Aid at Work (+Forestry)

Pesticides

- PA1 Safe Use of Pesticides
- PA2 Boom Sprayer
- PA2F Weed Wiper
- PA4A
- PA4B
- PA6 Knapsack
- PASC, PA12, PA11

Chainsaw

- Maintenance & Cross Cutting
- Felling

Estate Maintenance

- Brush Cutter
- Hand-Held Hedge Trimmer
- Pole Pruner
- Wood Chipper
- Dry Stone Dyking
- Hedge Laying
- Fencing
- Welding

Pest Control

- Rodent control
- Mole Trapping

Machinery & Vehicles

- ATV: Ride in, Ride on, Skid Steer
- Forklift truck: Counterbalance, Reach
- Telehandler
- Digger & Dumpers
- Access Platforms
- Mobile Elevating Working Platforms
- Tractor Driving:
 - Novice & Experienced
 - Special courses for 13-15 year olds
- Animal Transport – Long & Short Journey
- Sheep Dipping

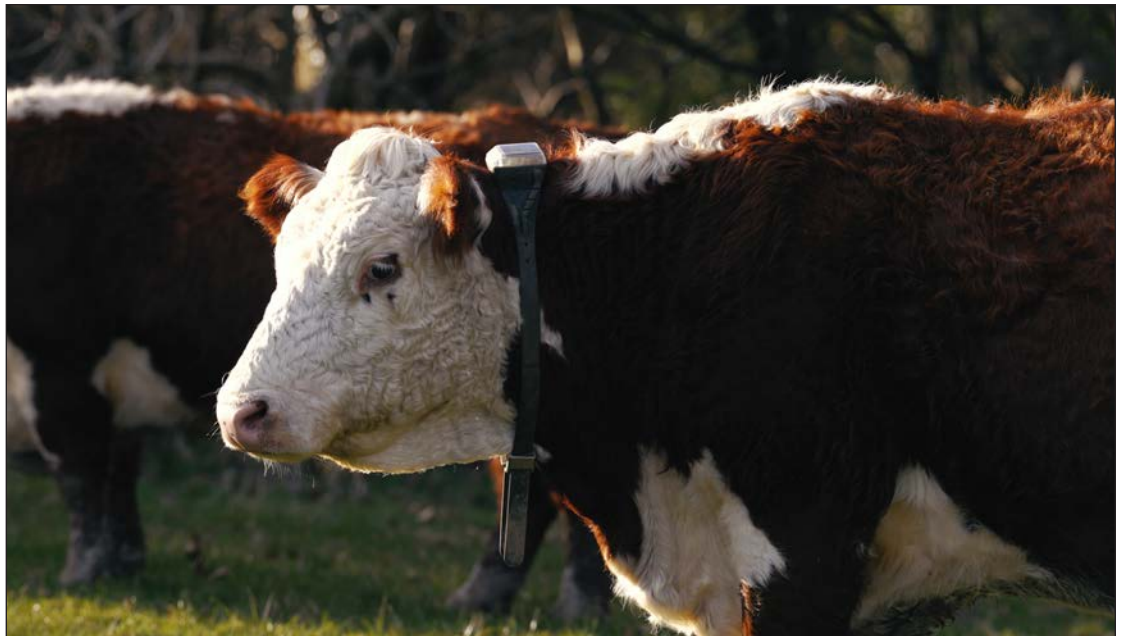
Other Courses

- Bookkeeping & Administration
- Photography for Business

www.ringleader.co.uk/training
Jill Dickson – 01896 758091
David Spencer – 0131 339 8730
bmtraining@ringleader.co.uk

Border controls

There are times when setting up a fence is just not an option. Even temporary electric fences take time to put in place and have to be checked and moved often, making the process time-consuming. But GPS technology can save you a lot of hassle...



The Monil phone app (above) shows the location of any of your livestock that are wearing one of the "comfy" GPS collars (below)

Traditionally, fences have been used to keep stock within the bounds of grazing fields. But there are times when erecting a fence just isn't possible. Luckily, technology has come to the rescue.

Monil's virtual fencing system offers farmers a practical alternative to traditional fencing, particularly in areas where building and maintaining physical fences is costly, time-consuming, or impractical. Using GPS-enabled collars, farmers can create and adjust grazing boundaries through the Monil app, giving them greater control over their livestock and grazing, without adding complexity to their daily lives.

Monil's system develops with the animal's natural behaviour and senses in mind. Cattle have a wide field of vision but limited ability to clearly see objects such as fence wires. At the same time, they have strong hearing and responsive to sound and they learn boundaries through experience, not necessarily sight.

By using sound as the primary signal, the collar (pictured, left) communicates the boundary in a way that aligns with how cattle naturally perceive their environment. As an animal approaches a boundary, the collar emits an audio cue. If the animal turns back, no further stimulus is given. If it continues forward, the signal intensifies, followed by a mild electrical pulse, only if necessary. Over time, animals learn to respond to the sound alone, significantly reducing the

need for correction and helping to minimise stress.

Monil's system is designed to make day-to-day livestock management simpler, more efficient, and less time-consuming.

Practical experience

One farmer that has first-hand experience of the Monil system is Alistair Morton who farms over 400 acres of land in Merrytown, South Lanarkshire with some fields adjacent to the River Clyde which can cause problems when it floods. This was one of the reasons that Alistair decided to use Monil's GPS collars on his herd of 40 beef cattle.

"There was no obvious solution to keeping the animals safe because the river would just wash away fencing you tried to put it up," said Alistair. "We wanted to be able to keep them away from the river when it started to rise and we also needed to keep them separate from neighbours animals too."

After looking at what was available on the market Alistair decided to opt for Monil's GPS collar system for a number of reasons: "I really liked the integration of the solar panel so I knew they would always be charged and the soft rubber collar was also important. I show some of my cattle and a harsh collar can rub away hair around the neck but the Monil collars are made of a really comfy rubber."

Using the Monil app, farmers can set and move grazing areas without physical fencing, monitor animal location in real time, receive alerts if animals leave the defined area and access data on activity and behaviour. This gives farmers greater control over grazing, a better understanding of their herd, and the ability to respond quickly when something changes.

"It is really easy to keep an eye on the herd and I can change the size of their grazing area from the comfort of my kitchen," said Alistair.



Can't have a fence? Get the app instead

What do you do when you need to manage 150 cattle across 8,000 acres of Highland hill ground where physical fencing is not possible? Don't worry, there's an app for that.

David Girvan farms at Corrimony Farm near Inverness and much of his land borders a nature reserve where physical fencing is discouraged so he turned to Nofence for a solution. The Nofence virtual fencing system for livestock features a lightweight, solar-powered GPS collar worn by each animal and a smartphone app.

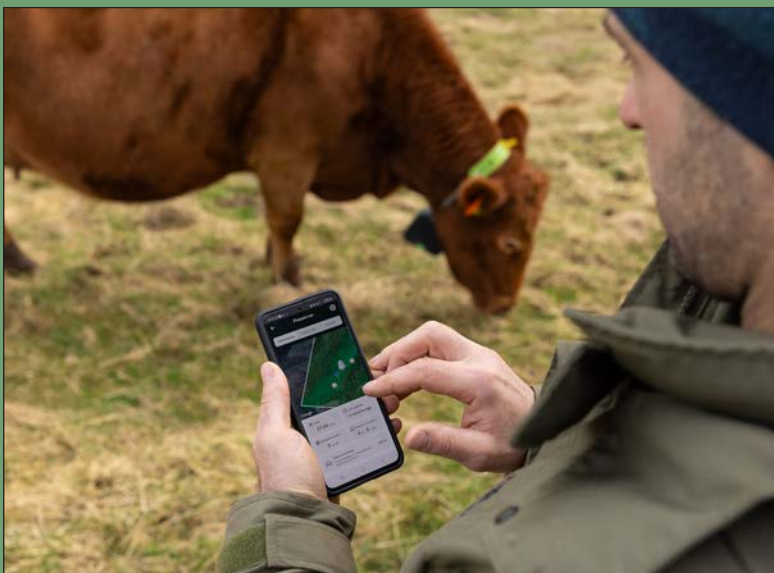


The system allows farmers to manage grazing without a single post or wire, drawing boundaries directly on their phone and moving them in seconds. As an animal approaches that boundary, the collar plays an escalating series of audio tones. If it continues forward, a brief, mild electric pulse – half the intensity of a traditional electric fence – is delivered as a last resort. Most of the animals learn to respond to the sound alone within five to ten days, and rarely trigger a pulse thereafter.

Nofence uses GPS satellites and the cellular network, with no base stations or buried infrastructure required. Boundaries can be adjusted, moved, or removed at any time from a smartphone. And using its HerdNet technology, Nofence collars communicate directly with each other via Bluetooth, meaning the system remains reliable even in remote areas with limited mobile signal.

"It means we can move them to areas where they can graze closest to water sources in the summer, which wouldn't have been possible before," says David.

As the land is grazed only once every few years, permanent fencing was impractical and expensive. With Nofence, David says he can graze the reserve when needed, confine cattle to specific areas within it, and remove all infrastructure when grazing is complete, leaving no trace on the landscape.



Who checks your electric fence?

An electric fence seems simple: as long as there is voltage on the wire, the animals stay in the field.

In practice, however, it is harder to tell whether the fence is working properly before the animals have escaped. Grass growing against the wire, wear and tear on connections and wires, or a damaged insulator can cause the voltage and reliability of the fence to gradually decrease. This often goes unnoticed until the animals discover the problem and take advantage of it.

So it is important to check the operation of a fence regularly, says Bart Otten, product specialist at Gallagher: "An electric fence only works properly if there is sufficient voltage. Minor deviations often occur sooner than you think. Through testing, you can spot those changes in time and take action."

The usual way to check a fence is to perform manual testing with a fence voltmeter. According to Otten, this is the main limitation. "Manual testing works as long as you keep doing it. In practice, it takes time and requires discipline."

Gallagher has developed the i Series system which allows you to continuously monitor what is happening on the fence and displays that information via an app.

The basis of the system is the i Series energiser. Unlike other devices, these units measure both voltage and current on the fence. "Many people only look at the voltage," explains Otten. "But that doesn't always tell the whole story. By also performing measuring operations on the current, you can better see what is actually happening on the fence and whether energy is being lost somewhere, whether suddenly or not."



Summer Report 2026

The warmer Spring temperatures are a welcome change for everyone as we head toward the summer months.

While farms begin to quieten down for a brief spell after a busy lambing, calving and sowing season, the BMR offices have been busy getting members and staff up to date with any training requirements before the summer season begins.

The wide range of courses we offer is listed within this newsletter. Our instructors' slots book up quickly so please plan ahead for any training needs so we can book you in.

Interviews have been taking place recently for our next cohort of pre-apprentices. The summer intake begins at the end of June with the two-week induction and training courses at Borders College prior to the six-month work placement.

We have secured funding for 15 spaces for 2026/27 year so if you know of a young person who may be interested or want to find out more about offering a work placement in the Borders, Lothians or Lanarkshire areas please get in touch.

We welcomed around 160 new members to BMR following our merger with Lothian Machinery Ring earlier this year. It is encouraging to see those members starting to make use of the wide range of services and member benefits BMR can now offer locally and we hope to meet some of you at the Scottish Machinery Rings stand at the Royal Highland Show this year.

Commodity markets remain very volatile as a result of the Iran crisis and restriction of oil and fertilisers passing through the Strait of Hormuz. Farm input prices, many of which are oil

or gas-based have seen significant inflation. We have been seeing huge variations in fuel prices between suppliers recently highlighting the benefits of sourcing through BMR to ensure you get competitive prices and availability.

Our fuel card offering through the AF Group continues to be very popular: members receive an email every Friday with a fixed price for the coming week. Savings are regularly 10-15ppl below pump prices.

Many of you will already be planning ahead for your silage and harvest requirements. So, if you are looking for tractor drivers, machine self-hire or need any contract work carried out please get in touch with a member of the BMR team at either our Earlston or Ratho offices.

Remember, we are here to help.

Come and visit the BMR team at the Border Union Show

The Border Union Show 2026 takes place at Springwood Park, Kelso on 24 & 25 July and is the highlight of the agricultural calendar for the Scottish Borders and, as usual, BMR will be present with its usual stand and Saturday Hog Roast supplied by Oink.

On Saturday the main ring attraction will be Joseph's Amazing Camels, a fast-paced, crowd-pleasing spectacle inspired by centuries of Middle Eastern tradition. Touring the UK since 2000, the professionally trained camels and colourfully dressed jockeys deliver excitement, energy and plenty of wow-factor!

There will also be various forms of entertainment for children including a fun fair which is the ideal place for the kids to blow off steam. Catering outlets with tempting treats including crepes and the ever popular fish and chips will be available and of course, it wouldn't be a good agricultural show without a bar or two.



ATV PRIZE DRAW

SUPPLIED BY
Thomas Murray
Agri Engineers

SCAN HERE TO ENTER

*YOU COULD WIN A CF MOTO C FORCE QUAD BIKE

£20 per ticket entry fee

Winner will be drawn on Saturday 20th June at RHS26

DON'T MISS OUT - GRAB YOUR TICKET NOW!

All proceeds go to SAYFC and the Young Farmers Big Build Campaign

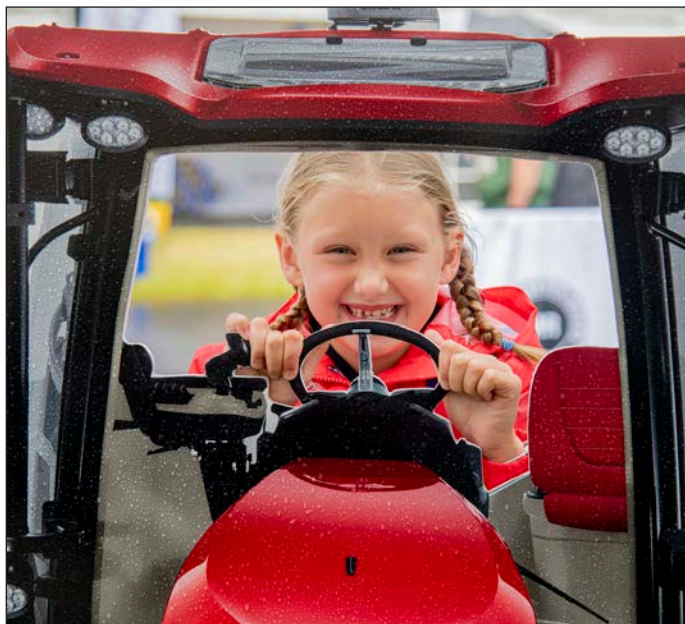
*Ringlink is the Lottery Organiser. Restrictions apply - see T&Cs



Enjoy the Royal Highland Show

Media star Cammy Wilson (The Sheep Game, Landward) will draw the winning ticket at this year's Royal Highland Show which will announce the lucky winner of a CFMoto CForce ATV.

BMR will join the Scottish Machinery Ring Association (SMRA) on Stand 289, Avenue Q and we are teaming up with the Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs (SAYFC) to launch this prize draw as part of the £1.6 million Big Build fundraising campaign



drive to secure a future home for Scotland's young farmers.

On the SMRA stand on Thursday at 11am we have "Mentors & Rising Stars". Come along and explore real career pathways in agriculture as former pre-apprentices and their mentors share how early hands-on experience opened doors, shaped careers, and delivered value for businesses.

This will be a focused, inspiring session for anyone interested in the future of agricultural talent.

Friday sees "Upskilling & Training": where machinery ring experts will be on hand to answer questions about training, highlight available courses, and explain funding options to support your development. If you've ever considered becoming a Lantra instructor, drop by to learn what's involved and how to get started.

And Saturday is Prize Draw Day with a last chance to grab your ATV raffle tickets. Cammy Wilson from The Sheep Game will announce the winner at around 6pm. Catch the big reveal live at the show or follow along online.

There will be plenty of other things to entertain and educate visitors to the stand including:

- Test your skills on the simulator and climb the leaderboard
- Pick up your ticket for the ATV prize draw
- Younger visitors can enter our Case IH colouring competition
- Enjoy tasty treats and refreshments throughout the show

Tickets for the Prize Draw are available now, and cost £20 with all proceeds (after the cost of the ATV) pledged to support the Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs' Big Build Campaign.

To buy a ticket scan the QR code on the advert opposite.

Case IH highlights rebate offer at RHS 2026

Case IH and the Scottish Machinery Rings share a long-standing partnership, giving members access to exclusive rebate opportunities across a range of Case IH tractors and machinery. Members will have the chance to explore the latest developments in the range at this year's Royal Highland Show, where Case IH will once again have a stand.

The Case IH team and their dealers will be available throughout the event to discuss how members can take advantage of rebate opportunities on eligible machines.

Visitors can enjoy complimentary refreshments on the stand.



The RHET Update

It's been a busy start to the year for our coordinators Lesley and Ann.

January saw the reintroduction of Crucial Crew, a fantastic safety event, held in Kelso, led by the Police. We had time with every P5 in the borders, over the three week event, talking about farm safety including closing



gates, cows and calves, electric fences and blind spots in tractors. Thanks to Loyds for lending us a shiny new tractor for the duration.

We've had a teacher training day at Tweedbank showing teachers what we can do to help them with their learning activities in school. Ann has also had numerous farm visits, including four with ESG Drysdale as part of their Neeps Rising campaign.

We took the students onto farms to see the swedes being harvested then followed the trailer to the factory at Cockburnspath where they watched them being washed, graded, topped and tailed and packed – a really insightful trip for all the children.



Teacher Gordon said: "The trip was one of the most significant the school had been on. The attendees felt it gave a very realistic impression of what is involved with modern vegetable growing. The field visit gave a better understanding of scale and the complexities of such a task.

"The factory visit opened pupils eyes to the complexities of mechanisation, staffing and attention to detail in satisfying a consumer. It also showed pupils an alternative and prosperous agriculture than they had experienced so far. Most felt that if they could drive they would be happy to work there in some capacity."

A big thank you to Drysdale's for initiating this collaboration. The funding we get from BMR to pay for school buses is absolutely invaluable and brings so many more visits than we would have if the schools were to try and find funds themselves.

On 24 March volunteers in the Borders assisted us with our online, live talk to a farmer week where we showcased both broccoli and swede production. Children from all over Scotland watched a 15 minute pre-recorded video and then asked questions directly to the farmer. These videos are uploaded to the RHET website and remain there for other classes to watch back at any time and prove extremely popular.

Looking forward, we have Countryside Day and two Estate Days at the Hirsell coming up in May, along with many farm visits and class talks and this year we will be pleased to welcome you all to our education shed at Scotsheep on 10th June at Wedderlie. If anyone would like to volunteer for a couple of hours in the morning please get in touch with Ann Redpath bordersassistant@rhet.org.uk (Tickets and lunch provided!) We are always indebted to all volunteers who offer to help at these big events, we truly can't do it without them.

Charity castle run

There are many ways you can help RHET but for one brave volunteer, Stephen Ball, running 100 miles, almost non stop, for fun, is his thing.

Stephen is running the Bamburg to Edinburgh Rat Race in July and RHET is looking for as many sponsors as possible to encourage him on his way.

Please see the poster above for a QR code link to the RHET Just Giving page

QMS Chair picks up award

Chair of Quality Meat Scotland (QMS), Kate Rowell, picked up the award as Agricultural Ambassador of the Year at the recent National Women in Agriculture Awards 2026.

Vet and farmer Kate was recognised for her leadership of Scotland's red meat sector through major challenges including Brexit and Covid-19.

As chair of QMS, she has promoted Scottish produce, influenced policy and supported greater public understanding of agriculture.



SEE YOU AT THE HIGHLAND SHOW!

Come and speak to our team about the exclusive rebate opportunities available to Scottish Machinery Ring Members when purchasing Case IH machines.

Plus! Find out about our 5+55 months @ 0%* retail finance package available on the Case IH Vestrum 120-130 series.

Offer valid until 30/09/2026. Terms and conditions apply. UK Business users only* REF26-010.



CASE IH

A.B.L. Agriparts

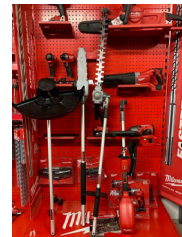
Kelso Superstore

A.B.L. Agriparts



Milwaukee Stockist

6 metres of the most popular items



SGS Gases - Rent Free Cutting & Welding.

Argon Co2 Mixes for Welding. Oxygen & Pro Fuel for Cutting

10,20 and 30 Litre Bottles

Initial Deposit Needed.

We keep large stocks of welders and welding consumables Compressors, Air Tools & Fittings including Impact Sockets Bucket Edges, Rat Poisons, Drainage & Water Fittings.

Tungsten Wear Parts are a Speciality

Agriparts Borders Ltd Kelso TD5 8DL - 01573 226 526.

Plastics Recycling



BMR can offer its members a discounted service for the recycling and processing of farm plastics and cardboard materials. We have suppliers to suit your location.

Make sure you comply with the latest Scottish legislation with a fully auditable paper trail as part of this service.

Materials that can be Recycled

We aim to give customers a complete agricultural recycling service and accept most farm plastics and cardboards:



- Spray cans
- Caps and foils from spray cans
- Cardboard Packaging
- Fertiliser and seed bags
- Silage wrap
- Net wrap and string
- Plastic trays and plant pots
- Woven polyprop floor cover
- Shrink wrap
- Tree guards and shelters
- Pallets



Liner bags to fit existing standard farm recycling bins can be purchased from the BMR office and can be booked in advance ready for collection

01896 758091

bmr@ringleader.co.uk

sunseeker elite

Enjoy Boundless Possibilities.

FREE LABOUR

Let your robotic mower mow for you

Sunseeker Robotic Mowers

RTK GPS - Wireless boundaries | All Wheel Drive | Multiple Mowing Zones

MODEL VARIATIONS

X5 2000m², Max Slope 60% **£1699 inc vat** In Stock & available

X7 3000m², Max Slope 70% **£2299 inc vat** In Stock & available

X7+ 6000m², Max Slope 70% **£2699 inc vat** In Stock & available

X9 12000m², Max Slope 90% **£4599 inc vat** Stock arriving July - Pre order now to secure

X9+ 24000m², Max Slope 90% **£5899 inc vat** Stock arriving July - Pre order now to secure

Call Ross on 01835 824555



Professional Installation available from £249 inc vat



St. Boswells Mowers
for a Sharp Service

The Borders largest independent hire company

Call 01835 824555 to book your next hire

Covering the Scottish Borders, Edinburgh, Lothians, Berwickshire & beyond



We also buy any used plant

BMR Benefits

• Fleet of 250+ Diggers, Dumpers & Rollers • Diggers & Dumpers ranging from 1-10 ton • 80, 120 & 135 Rollers available • Competitive hire rates • No account, no problem • 4m, 7m, 9m, 12.5m & 14m Telehandlers available

HONDA OFFERS



Save up to **£785**

Across the Honda range



IN THE FRAME: The McHale Fusion baler being demonstrated at the recent Silotite Bale Wrapping Roadshow held at AB Wight, St Boswells

Case Puma turns 20



The Case IH Puma may be 20 years old but its history goes back further than 2006 as the name first appeared in the 1980s on the legendary Steiger Puma 1000.

Since the first Case IH Puma series tractor was launched, it has

earned a reputation for reliability, power and economy that farmers and contractors all over the world have come to trust.

Born from a legacy of powerful machines and shaped by the real needs of farmers, Puma has grown into a tractor trusted around the

world for its versatility, balance and performance.

Check out the full range on the Case IH website and remember that BMR members are eligible for the Rebate Scheme.



JCB attempts record

JCB is targeting a new land speed record with a 32-foot car powered by its own hydrogen engines exactly 20 years after rewriting the record books with the JCB Dieselmax.

The company has spent five years developing hydrogen internal combustion engines as part of a £100m investment. JCB diggers powered by the technology have just started rolling off production lines.

In August 2006, JCB Dieselmax, driven by Wing Commander Andy Green OBE, set a world diesel land speed record of 350.092 mph – a record that still stands. In August this year, Green will once again take the wheel, driving the hydrogen-powered JCB Hydromax.

Latest SAYFC National Chair announced

SAYFC National Chair Jillian Kennedy has stepped down from her role at the recent AGM as Euan Bremner of Halkirk Young Farmers takes over the position for the coming year.

The association thanked Jillian for her hard work and dedication saying “she has been the perfect example of the YF spirit and a true driving force for the movement”.

Euan is excited to get ‘stuck in’ to his role. During his first speech as Chair, he highlighted his desire for transparency throughout the association.



Scottish Wool gets logo

British Wool has launched a Scottish Wool certification logo designed to verify products made from 100% Scottish wool.

The launch saw farmers, manufacturers, designers, and industry experts from Scotland’s wool supply chain celebrating the journey of Scottish wool from hillside to finished garment.

The certification logo gives brands and consumers a clear way to identify products made entirely from Scottish-sourced wool.



www.ringleader.co.uk
bmr@ringleader.co.uk

BORDERS OFFICE
 01896 758091

Manager
 Michael Bayne
 07968 224302
michael@ringleader.co.uk

Assistant Manager & Training
 Jill Dickson
 07866 538347
jill@ringleader.co.uk

Contracts & Training Support
 Fiona Marwick
fiona@ringleader.co.uk

Contracts, Fuels & Building Supplies
 Mark Ross
mark@ringleader.co.uk

Administration
 Jan Logan
jan@ringleader.co.uk

Accounts
 Sandra Hamilton
admin@ringleader.co.uk

Marketing & Communications
 Tony Meredith
tony@ringleader.co.uk
 Direct: 01896 802212

LOTHIAN OFFICE
 0131 339 8730

Member Services & Training
 Frank Maxwell
frank@ringleader.co.uk

Member Services & Training
 David Spencer
david@ringleader.co.uk

Borders Machinery Ring Limited
 Leader House
 Mill Road
 Earliston
 TD4 6DG

