

LONGHIRST LEADER

June / July 2021

AT LAST – A DATE FOR THE DIARY!

CHURCH FETE

Saturday 10th July

10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Longhirst Village Hall

AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!

We have stalls offering hand-made crafts, framed photos, fabric bags, cushions and accessories, local honey, beeswax products and bee-related handmade goods, home-made cakes and produce, plants, watercolour prints, coasters, tablemats, cards and lots more!

Delicious home-made refreshments available, including bacon butties and ice creams/lollies

Grand Raffle with lots of prizes

FREE ENTRY and all proceeds will be in aid of St John's Church

For more information, contact Dorothy (e)

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

We are pleased to report that the project to upgrade the central heating and hot water systems and to install a fully insulated suspended ceiling with new LED dimmable lighting panels in the Sports Hall is now complete. We have sent out the press release to all the local papers and submitted the final account to Suez and we understand the last tranche of funding will be in our account shortly.



We have also installed three additional electrical sockets in the Sports Hall, fitted a new projection screen purchased by the Village Show Association and hung new curtains and curtain rails with funds donated by a U3A member who has moved away from the area. We have also installed wi-fi thanks to the Parish Council and purchased the new Gazebo funded by the Village Show Association. There remains some work to provide storage and display facilities for the large amount of historical material left to us by Ian

Thompson and Gill Featonby. We hope this will be erected in the Library and decisions about this will be made soon.

The Longhirst Parish Association Trustees

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



The Parish Council annual general meeting was held on 18th May by Zoom and followed the local elections.

The new Council consists of Chris Marr, Janet Quinn, Jon Mills, Richard Tordoff, Glen Fahy, Peter Lovering and Peter Coates with Peter Coates being elected Chairman and Chris Marr Vice Chairman. Helyn Douglas is the Clerk to the Council.

The **Chairman's Annual report** referred to the effect of the Covid 19 pandemic including the unfortunate need to resort to Zoom meetings for a protracted period. Hopefully normal service can be resumed as soon as possible!

He thanked Diane Milmore, Fiona Smith and Kathleen Robson for providing their emergency shopping service for confined residents and the Longhirst Litter Pickers who have now provided a monthly service for 18 years. Also mentioned were Lawrence and Anne Carey who tend the flower tubs in the centre of the Village and, together with North East Grains, provide a printing service for the production of the Longhirst Leader. Other notable achievements included the NCC speed reduction scheme and the new Village nameplate signs, the successful introduction of the North East Grains liaison meetings and the rejection of the planning application for Domino's Field.

Outstanding issues include the flooding of the Ashington Road, the condition of the Butcher's Lane footpath and the lack of a pedestrian access between the Village and Micklewood Close.

David Towns was congratulated on his re-election as our **County Councillor** and he reported that he is to examine local highway problem sites with Martin King from NCC Highways including the Butcher's Lane footpath and the state of the gullies.

Andy Robson, on behalf of **Longhirst Hall residents**, described recent problems with the developers constructing the two new dwellings on Dairy Lane. Subcontractors installing a drainage system succeeded in bursting a water main, causing supplies to homes over a large area being cut off for several hours. Only efforts by local residents prevented one house from being flooded out. It is understood that the subcontractors have now been replaced but concerns over the general lack of progress remain.

Janet Quinn mentioned potential problems for disabled users of the proposed **Micklewood pedestrian access** and Glen Fahy highlighted the number of **obstructions to public rights of way at Potland Park** and Advance Northumberland's failure to respond to complaints about them.

Jon Mills is commencing his **inspection of public rights of way throughout the Parish** with the assistance of Jenny Ames and Dave Wiggett and Peter Coates intends to hold an open meeting to discuss the **Parish Wildlife Project** once Covid restrictions are lifted.

The **next meeting** of the Parish Council will hopefully be held in person in the Village Hall on **Thursday 1st July at 7pm**. As it was not possible to meet in the Village Hall for the annual meeting in May all residents are invited to come along and raise any matters that they wish including voicing any comments on the Parish Council 3 Year Strategic Plan which is published on the Council website (x).

Peter Coates (k)

NORTH EAST GRAINS/ LONGHIRST PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING

The meeting held on 23rd April was attended by Matthew Curry (MD for NEG), County Councillor David Towns and Parish Councillors Chris Marr and Peter Coates.

Matthew reported that NEG has no current proposals to proceed with the installation of the Anaerobic Digester as grain prices and the level of energy tariffs mean that such a plant will be uneconomic for the time being. They have also decided not to commission the required advance archaeological survey at this stage.

They are planning to employ one or two additional operatives shortly and the posts will be advertised.

The board of directors has agreed that for safety reasons all grain delivering trailers at harvest time will be required to have automatic tailgates by harvest 2022, this is something the cooperative have been working towards.

The Parish representatives asked that the wording on the sign "requesting" drivers of grain lorries to turn right out of the plant be changed to read "must turn right". This was agreed.

It was noted that NCC plan to spend £90,000 repairing the road between the Village and the plant in the next few months. David Towns agreed to speak to officers at County Hall to try to ensure that the work is carried out at a time that minimises NEG and other road traffic disruption.

Peter Coates (k)

COLLIERY CORNER

There is now has a defibrillator in situ at Longhirst Colliery Recreation Hall.

The following 'Simply Smallholding Crafting' workshops will be held at the Recreational Hall.

Make a Stained Glass Bee

Cost £40.00

Sat 22nd May 9.30 -13.30 and Sat 10th July 9.30 -13.30



Make a Highland Cow

A remarkable felting workshop.

Cost £40.00

Sun 13th June 9.30 -13.30



This is your opportunity to take part in an amazing crafting experience. All materials are supplied and expert tuition is provided. Light refreshments will be available.

All existing Covid-19 rules and regulations will be in place in regard to the number of participants. Please contact Barbara Scott on 07823407090 to secure your place in the workshop.

Norah Dryden

RESTORATION OF OUR TWICE MONTHLY LUNCHEON CLUB

Carol Robson and her team are hoping to restart the Luncheon Club on **Wednesday 21st July**. Clearly this will depend upon the Government removing the current restrictions as promised on the 21st June and, assuming they do, Luncheon Club will continue thereafter on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. We will confirm this in the July e-supplement and by phone to those who do not have an internet connection.

If there are any Parish residents who might like to join the Luncheon Club please contact Mike Elphick (c).

MOBILE LIBRARY IN LONGHIRST

The Mobile Library stops in the middle of the Village at about 9.45am every fourth Friday. The next visits will be on **25th June and 23rd July**. Books can be borrowed by any existing member of the Northumberland Library service or you can join in the van. If anyone in the Colliery is interested can they contact me on 791627 and I will ask the librarian if the van could call there as well.

This is a very useful service to have in the Village and we need more people to use it to ensure we don't lose it.

Linda Mowbray

CHURCH NOTICE BOARD



June and July's Sunday services are:

Date	Holy Communion
June 6 th	9.30am at Longhirst
June 13 th	9.30am at Bothal
June 20 th	9.30am at Longhirst
June 27 th	9.30am at Bothal
July 4 th	9.30am at Longhirst
July 11 th	9.30am at Bothal
July 18 th	9.30am at Longhirst
July 27 th	9.30am at Bothal

Morning Service Wednesdays at 9.30am in St. Margaret's Hall, Pegswood

Dorothy Launchbury (e)

CHANGES TO CHURCH WEDDINGS

On 4th May new rules around the registration of marriages came into force which have changed the system in place since the introduction of civil registration in 1837. This new system moves away from the familiar recording of marriages in the two bound registers which are signed by couples and their witnesses during the wedding service and which are currently kept in parish churches. Replacing the registers will be a single "marriage document" recording the couples' details and witness' signatures in much the same way as the registers did but which, after the wedding ceremony, is then sent to the local register office and that then forms the basis of a digital online registration of the marriage by the registry. Couples will then have to apply to their local register office for their wedding certificate.

What happens to the current registers? The registers currently kept in the parish church will be formally closed and then one of them sent to the local register office and the other one archived. This means therefore that anyone married before 4th May this year and wishing to obtain a duplicate copy of their marriage certificate, will in future have to apply to their local register office, as parish churches will no longer issue them.

These new arrangements will not affect in any way the content of the marriage service itself nor will it change the so called "preliminaries" so banns will still be read, or in some cases a marriage licence obtained and wedding preparation for couples by their minister will happen as usual.

John Park (b)

SAD NEWS

We are sad to report the recent death of Jim Lamont. Our thoughts are with Katherine and her family at this difficult time.

GOOD NEWS

The Stable Close gatepost that was dislodged by a delivery driver has been restored to its former glory thanks to Christine Thompson who masterminded the repair.



Mo Dewar

THE LONGHIRST HUNDRED CLUB

The winners of the last two 'Hundred Club' draws are:

Month	1 st Prize (£60)	2 nd Prize (£40)	3 rd Prize (£20)
April	Ticket No. 164 Alvaro Villabona <i>for</i> <i>Alejandro</i>	Ticket No. 20 Adrienne Dobson	Ticket No. 60 Sue Shirley
May	Ticket No. 63 David Jordon	Ticket No. 98 Doreen Hodges	Ticket No. 154 Andy Foreman

Mike Elphick

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

Friday 25 th	9.45am Mobile Library in Village	See P4
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JULY

Thursday 1 st	7pm Parish Council meeting, hopefully in the Village Hall	(a)
Saturday 10 th	10am - 3pm Village Fete in the Village Hall	(e)
Friday 16 th	Deadline for February / March Longhirst Leader e-mail to clairecoates32@gmail.com	Ed. Group
Wednesday 21 st	11.45am Luncheon Club hopefully restarts in the Village Hall	(c)
Friday 23 rd	9.45am Mobile Library in Village	See P4

The Fish Van stops at the War Memorial every Friday between 8.30 and 9.00am.

Everyone is welcome to the Church services as detailed on page 4.

CONTACT DETAILS

For more information about the various activities and events mentioned in this Newsletter contact:-

Parish Council Clerk - Helyn Douglas 826803 / e-mail : longhirstpc@gmail.com (a)

Vicar - Rev. John Park 510793 / e-mail : johnp2910@gmx.co.uk (b)

Churchwardens - Mike Elphick 790764 / e-mail : mike.elphick1@gmail.com (c)

Heather Jackson 07756 690027/ e-mail : siriusa1998@aol.com (d)

PCC Secretary - Dorothy Launchbury 790491 / email: launching1@outlook.com (e)

Longhirst Parish Association - Margaret Lediard 790268/ e-mail : margaret.lediard@tiscali.co.uk (t)

Village Hall Bookings - Mike Elphick 790764 / e-mail : mike.elphick1@gmail.com (c)

Luncheon Club - Linda Rudd 790116 / e-mail : barnacrelmr@aol.co.uk (i)

Longhirst Village Show Association - Carol Benbow 790194 / e-mail : carol_benbow@hotmail.com (p)

Longhirst Hundred Club - Mike Elphick 790764 / e-mail : mike.elphick1@gmail.com (c)

Parish Voluntary Litter Clearance - Chris Lediard 790268 / chris.lediard@tiscali.co.uk (r)

Village Coffee Mornings - Helen McCabe 790494 / e-mail : mccabe_paul1@sky.com (n)

Village Pub Nights - Allison and Richard Tordoff 790364 / e-mail : rtordoffs@gmail.com (h)

Longhirst Colliery Residents Association - Norah Dryden 817862 / e-mail : n.dryden@sky.com (j)

Longhirst Colliery Recreation Hall -- Bill Dryden 817862. / email : drydenx2@btinternet.com (m)

Red/Grey Squirrel Sightings - MADRS 07570 897979 / enquiries@madredsquirrels.com (s)

Village Website - www.longhirstvillage.co.uk - Chris Marr 790196 / e-mail : chrismarr@btinternet.com (u)

Village Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/longhirstvillage/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel (v)

Longhirst Parish Council Website - <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/longhirst> (x)

Church Website - www.longhirstchurch.btck.co.uk (b)

Longhirst Leader Editorial Group:

Peter and Claire Coates - The Old Farmhouse, Broomhaugh: 791088, clairecoates32@gmail.com (k)

Carol Robson - Rose Cottage, Ulgham Lane: 07773738442 (f)

Mo Dewar - 7 Stable Close : 791149, dewarms@btinternet.com (w)

Janet Quinn - 38 Micklewood Close : 790630, quinnjanet@sky.com (q)