LONGHIRST LEADER October / November 2021

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORIAL GROUP

- 1. Since the start of the pandemic the Leader has been distributed by e-mail to all those on the Parish data base, with paper copies going to the few who do not have internet access.
- 2. There are a number of advantages to this arrangement:
- 3. **Speed**. There is no delay for printing and distribution and a team of volunteers is not required for delivery to approximately 260 properties.
- 4. The **cost** is greatly reduced. Currently we are fortunate to have sponsors for the printing and this is more likely to continue if only a few copies are required.
- We restrict the number of pages to 8 to limit printing costs. With e-mail this is not necessary.
- We can include **colour photos** in e-mail versions. Printed copies can only be monochrome.
- It is better for the environment. A single print run for the Parish uses over 1000 sheets of paper.

For these reasons we suggest continuing to distribute the Leader by e-mail to all those who find this acceptable. If you do not currently receive a paper copy but would very much prefer to have one please contact Mo Dewar (w), Janet Quinn (q) or Carol Robson (f). If the number of paper copies increases significantly distribution will only be possible if enough volunteers can be found to deliver them.

NEW MEMBERS REQUIRED.

The Editorial Group meets for about an hour every other month primarily to discuss a draft of the next edition of the Leader. Individual members also act as a contact point for their area of the Parish and as a source of information. We invite anyone who is interested in joining us to contact any member of the Group (see back page) who will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Currently we do not have representatives from the Colliery or Longhirst Hall and would particularly welcome interest from these areas.

CONTRIBUTIONS WANTED.

The Leader is the main means of communication in the Parish and we hope you find it interesting and useful. We encourage everyone to feel free to submit a contribution on any subject that concerns Longhirst.

We would also be pleased to receive suggestions of how it could be changed, extended or improved.

Longhirst Leader Editorial Group

VILLAGE HALL NEWS



At the Longhirst Parish Association's Annual General Meeting on the 9th September, **Beryl Gibson**, **Keith Launchbury and Margaret Lediard** were re-elected as community Trustees and **Philippa Rickard** was elected as the fourth community Trustee replacing Elizabeth Dodds who stood down this year. The Trustees who are appointed by user groups are **Sandy**

Egan-Fowler (Arts & Crafts), Mo Dewar (Village Show Association), Alan Hardiman (U3A), Peter McKenzie (Music Society), Sibell Pigg (St. John's P.C.C.), Janet Quinn (Parish Council) and Carol Robson (Luncheon Club). At the Board Meeting that followed the AGM, Margaret Lediard was relected to serve as Chair and Mike Elphick and Linda Rudd were re-co-opted as secretary and treasurer.

The Trustees expressed their satisfaction with the redeveloped heating and hot water systems and the new suspended ceiling, lighting, Wi-Fi system and curtains in the large hall, all of which have contributed greatly to the comfort, acoustics, and general ambiance of the place.

The Longhirst Parish Association Trustees

It was suggested that the former sports hall should be renamed **The Elphick Room**, to acknowledge the valuable contribution made by both Jill and Mike Elphick to the Hall and the activities which take place within it.

The Parish Association, which is responsible for the upkeep of the Hall, has commissioned a name plaque to go over the door which will be displayed at 11am at the Coffee Morning on 9^{th} October and then be positioned over the door.

It would be lovely to have a good attendance for this event, so please come along, have a coffee and take the opportunity to view the improvements for yourself.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Margaret Lediard, Chairperson Parish Association

A PUBLIC MEETING TO EXPLORE WHETHER WE CAN RUN AN OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND IN 2022



It is proposed to hold a Public Meeting to discuss the possibility of running an Open Gardens Weekend in 2022. It will take place as part of the October Village Coffee Morning on **Saturday 9th October** starting at 11.30am. David and Audrey Jordan have agreed that we can use the hard standing beside the Brocks for car parking in the early summer of 2022 for which we are sincerely grateful.

We have a chair for the Steering Committee, three offers from people prepared to open their gardens and offers to lead on secretarial duties and signage.

We will need lead persons on gardens, catering, publicity, stewarding, the Church and finance together of course with at least 7/8 more offers of people willing to open their gardens if we are to run a successful Open Gardens Weekend in 2022.

Please attend the public meeting if you can and give careful consideration to what you can contribute to this event which, in the past, has been so successful. If you would like to be involved but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Mike Elphick (c) or Jill McManus (791536, jemcmanus@hotmail.co.uk).

BROTH & BEETLE EVENING

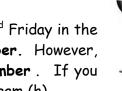
Please join us on 12th November for our broth and beetle drive at 7pm in the Village Hall! This is always an evening of delicious food and competitive hilarity and even includes prizes!

Tickets/booking available through Carol (f) or Dorothy (e) by 7th November please. Don't miss it!!

VILLAGE PUB NIGHTS



A massive thank you for all those who attended and supported our first Pub Night of 2021. It was a fantastic night and lovely comments about the atmosphere and Covid safe facilities.



Just a reminder that our Pub Nights are generally on the 3rd Friday in the month so the next one will be on Friday 15th October. However, November's is a week later than usual on Friday 26th November. If you would like further information please get in touch with the team (h).

Allison, Richard, Kathleen, Susan and Phil

JUMBLE SALE

FRIDAY 8th OCTOBER at 6pm in the VILLAGE HALL

We'd like to take advantage of the huge clear-outs everyone will have been having during lockdown! Please donate all your unwanted items (clothes, bric-a-brac etc.) and we can recycle them at the Jumble Sale.

You can leave your contributions in the larger room at the Village Hall between 6.30pm and 9pm on Thursday 7th October, or any time on Friday 8th October. If you would like items to be collected please contact Dorothy on 790491 and she will arrange this for you.

All proceeds will go to St John's Church.

THE DEFIBRILLATOR IN THE BUS SHELTER - TRAINING COURSES

It is proposed that initially, Richard Tordoff will run two short courses lasting about one hour in the Village Hall starting at 3pm on Friday 29th October and again at 7pm on Wednesday the 24th November. Anyone wishing to attend one of those courses should contact Mike Elphick (c) to book a place.

If you would like to attend a course but cannot manage either of those dates, please contact Mike who will endeavour to find a later date suitable for all those who could not attend one of the first two Mike Elphick

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We had a good turnout for the Coffee Morning which, together with generous donations from some who couldn't attend raised £550. Linda Rudd

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



At the meeting held on 2nd September the following items were discussed: Micklewood - Jon Mills and Janet Quinn reported that they had met with Sean McQuaid of Dere St Homes (developers of Micklewood Close). Mr Mcquaid confirmed that they will not be creating a path between Longhirst Village and Micklewood.

Longhirst Hall - Andy Robson noted there is only one flat remaining unsold on the development. Progress has been made with the work on the properties on Dairy Lane.

Meeting with the County Council Leadership - Councillors accepted the offer for a member of NCC Cabinet to attend a Parish Council meeting and agreed the most pressing issue was to maintain the special character of the Village, to integrate residents from Longhirst Hall and Micklewood, whilst protecting the Village from further development. (We have subsequently been notified that the Deputy Leader, Cllr Richard Wearmouth, will attend our next meeting on 4th November at 7pm).

Longhirst Wildlife Project - This will be community led. At present Peter Coates is the lead on this project and it is intended to hold a public meeting in the near future. Chris Marr and Peter Coates were meeting the Woodland trust to discuss the possible extension of the Millennium Wood into Domino's Field in the next few days.

Public Rights of Way - the rights of way survey undertaken by Jon Mills, Jenny Ames and Dave Wiggett has been given to the County Council who have agreed a meeting to discuss the priorities for improvements to the paths.

Potland Park update - Glen Fahy reported that the majority of work is completed, but the bridle paths and fencing require alterations and work appears to have stalled.

As Covid restrictions have eased a number of Village Hall activities have successfully restarted including the Luncheon Club, Coffee Mornings and Pub Nights.

The Cricket Club facilities are open to anyone, including non - members.

With the support of County Councillor David Towns the **Tennis Club** has secured funding from the County Council towards the replacement of three of their courts.

Northumberland County Council will be approached to ask for a mechanical sweeper to clear the overgrown pavements leading into the Village.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday 4th November at 7pm in the Village Hall. All residents are invited to attend.

Janet Quinn (q)

COLLIERY CORNER

Floral Arrangements with a Christmas Theme

A six week workshop of floral arranging to be held in Longhirst Colliery Recreation Room.

Starts **Monday 25th October**, 10.30am-2.30pm. Tea/coffee and biscuits provided. Tuition fee £30 If you'd like to join our very poplar floral arranging sessions please contact Elizabeth Reed on 07807 188629

Traditional Christmas Wreath Workshops

Longhirst Colliery Recreation Room. Fri 3rd /Sat 4th /Sunday 5th December

You will be provided with a hand mossed wreath shape, pins and wires and all the Christmas foliage you need to make a fabulous wreath. You need to bring your own embellishments, an apron, secateurs and scissors.

Light refreshments provided and a small Christmas Raffle. Cost £25.00

Please contact: Norah Dryden on 07590806827 to book a place. Limited to 12 people per day.

Norah Dryden

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN



The year seems to be passing very quickly - and what a year it has been so far. I've continued to be amazed by the work of local NHS staff and volunteers in delivering a world-class Covid vaccination programme right here in Northumberland and, as I write, the effects of this are clear to be seen. Whilst life will of course never return to "normal" for a lot of residents, we can all be very proud of what has been achieved locally to deal with the pandemic and to support each other through what have been very difficult times.

As the economy opened up over the summer, Northumberland experienced a huge influx of visitors and tourists. Whilst excellent for the local economy, this did lead to a number of issues with increased littering, disrespectful parking and speeding in the area. On the latter, I have been contacted by Northumbria Police over concerns about speeding through Longhirst village and I am continuing to work with them and the Parish Council to find solutions. However, the County and Parish Councils can only set the right circumstances to reduce speeding - we have recently worked together to design and implement a speed reduction scheme involving the 40mph buffer zone starting shortly after the Whorral Bank roundabout, clearer signage and road markings and speed indicator signs. Sadly, we cannot prevent drivers from wilfully ignoring speed limits and warning signs, and I have asked Northumbria Police to deploy extra resources in the Village to enforce the speed limits already in place. I have also asked Highways for a speed survey and I will share the results of that with the Parish Council and with residents once received.

I am also aware of the issues with some of the drains in the Village, and these have been attended to by the Council's gullies cleaner, with mixed results. I have asked that the drains are cleaned more regularly but please do let me know if you spot a backed-up drain which requires attention, as it is in everyone's interests that these are treated as soon as possible. I also continue to see what can be done about the path alongside Butcher's Lane. Unfortunately, there is no "quick fix" solution to this, but it is a top-priority for me and for the Parish Councils in both Longhirst and Pegswood.

I have recently supported both the Cricket Club and the Tennis Club at Longhirst Hall with assistance and funding towards their exciting development and growth plans - I would urge all residents to use and enjoy these facilities. The club house building is a large and welcoming facility and the clubs are working hard to put on interesting and fun events, the profits from which are all reinvested in the site. It is a very impressive facility and one we're lucky to have locally.

As ever, if you have any issues to raise with me, I can be contacted by email on: david.towns@northumberland.go.uk, by phone on: 07985 012012 or if you see me out and about please feel free to stop me for a chat. If you want more regular updates and you use Facebook, please "like" my page - "Councillor David Towns - Pegswood". I am always happy to come to see people at their convenience to discuss any matter and am here to help.

David Towns

WELCOME



We are pleased to welcome John and Heather Raftery to the Parish. They recently moved into Lawson Villas and Judith and David Pace will soon be living in Bramble Cottage at Old Moor.

We hope they will be very happy in their new homes and look forward to seeing them at future events.

TWO YOGA CLASSES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Every Wednesday 7.30 - 9pm. £7 per session.



Suitable for beginners and intermediates. All students must have had two Covid-19 vaccinations and complete a medical questionnaire.

Please bring your own mat, block, belt and blanket. Masks to be worn to and from mat, but not during yoga practice.

There will be a limited number of places due to social distancing.

Enquiries: Dawn Goodwill-Evans BWY level 4 teacher. Tel: 07963 497 565

A new Sunday morning session starts at 9.30am and is run by Emily Blackett. E:mail: pricey5583@googlemail.com for more information.

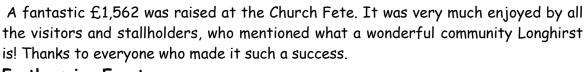
THE LONGHIRST HUNDRED CLUB

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

Month	1 st Prize (£60)	2 nd Prize (£40)	3 rd Prize (£20)
August	Ticket No. 82	Ticket No. 129	Ticket No. 161
	Brian Rudd	Sandy Eagan-Fowler	Alvaro Villabona
September	Ticket No. 201	Ticket No. 169	Ticket No. 173
	Vivienne Heskett	David Squires	Janet Quinn

Mike Elphick (c)

CHURCH NOTICE BOARD



Forthcoming Events

Jumble Sale - 8th October, 6pm in the Village Hall with donations being accepted on 7^{th} and 8^{th} October in the large room of the Village Hall (see page 3).

Broth & Beetle Evening - 12^{th} November in the Village Hall. Please book/obtain ticket from Carol Robson (f) by 7^{th} November (see page 3).

Christmas Coffee Morning - 4th December in the Village Hall.

October and November's Sunday services are:

Date	Morning Service	Evensong at 4pm
October 3 rd	9.30am Harvest Service at St. John's, Longhirst	St. Andrew's, Bothal
October 10 th	9.30am Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Bothal	St. John's, Longhirst
October 17 th	9.30am Holy Communion at St. John's, Longhirst	St. Andrew's, Bothal
October 24 th	9.30am Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Bothal	St. John's, Longhirst
October 31st	10.15am Service at St. Margaret's, Pegswood	
November 7 th	9.30am Holy Communion at St. John's, Longhirst	St. Andrew's, Bothal
November 14 th	9.30am Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Bothal	St. John's, Longhirst
November 21st	9.30am Holy Communion at St. John's, Longhirst	St. Andrew's, Bothal
November 28 th	9.30am Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Bothal	St. John's, Longhirst

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

November 14th, 10.55am - Act of Remembrance at Longhirst War Memorial

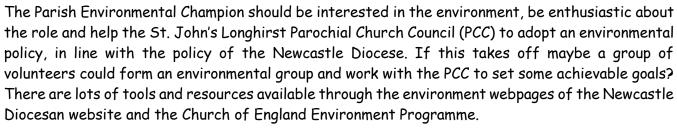
Dorothy Launchbury

VICAR'S LETTER

PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION

Newcastle Diocese is recommending that every church in the diocese nominates an individual as their "Environmental Champion". The role is to promote green issues and sustainability in the practical context of the parish and church. Some of the activities may include:

- · Working towards becoming a carbon neutral church and parish
- Environmental campaigning and action
- Raising awareness of issues such as low-carbon travel, recycling, and biodiversity
- Encouraging and promoting lifestyle changes
- · Cutting energy and carbon, water use and waste
- · Caring for wildlife and ecology in the churchyard and other places



If this interests you please contact Rev'd John (b).

ADVENT TOY SERVICE

Sunday 28th November is Advent Sunday and at St. John's Church, Longhirst we are intending to hold our annual Toy Service at 2pm.

As you may remember, last year we were unable to hold a Toy Service but parishioners were nevertheless very generous in contributing to a toy collection. All being well we intend to hold a service this year and for all who attend it is a wonderful way of anticipating Christmas through the singing of Advent Carols and blessing the Advent Ring. Children are especially welcome and we traditionally get a good turn out from the young peoples' uniformed organisations with their banners.

We have done this for many years now but for newcomers to the Parish who may not have attended before, the idea is very simple. Worshippers bring a wrapped Christmas present indicating on it whether it is suitable for a boy or girl and an approximate age. Presents for teenagers are also welcome.

During the service the presents are placed at the front of the Church and are later taken to North Shields where they are given to the Cedarwood Trust, a Church of England community outreach organisation, for distribution among less well off families in the Meadow Well area. This helps some children to have a much happier Christmas than they might otherwise have expected.

In past years it has been an enjoyable occasion for all and I look forward to seeing you.

Rev'd John Park (b)

LONGHIRST VILLAGE LUNCHEON CLUB NEEDS VOLUNTEER STAFF!

The Luncheon Club provides a 2 course meal for around 25 diners twice a month on a Wednesday and is very much appreciated by all those who attend.

Four teams provide this service and we really need more volunteers, so if you would you be willing to give 3 or 4 hours of your time on 6 occasions a year to help cook and/or set tables, serve the food and clear up please contact Mike Elphick (c).

Mike Elphick



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall	(i)
6pm Jumble Sale in the Village Hall	(e)
10am Litter Pickers meet at the Village Hall	(r)
10.15am Village Coffee Morning in the Village Hall	(n)
11am Naming of the Elphick Room	(†)
11.30am Public Open Gardens meeting in the Village Hall	(c)
7.30pm Pub Night in the Village Hall	(h)
11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall	(i)
3pm Defibrillator training course	(c)
British Summer Time ends. Clocks go back 1 hour	
	6pm Jumble Sale in the Village Hall 10am Litter Pickers meet at the Village Hall 10.15am Village Coffee Morning in the Village Hall 11am Naming of the Elphick Room 11.30am Public Open Gardens meeting in the Village Hall 7.30pm Pub Night in the Village Hall 11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall 3pm Defibrillator training course

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 3 rd	11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall	(i)
Thursday 4 th	7pm Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall. All welcome	(a)
Friday 12 th	Broth & Beetle Evening in the Village Hall	(f)
Friday 12 th	Deadline for Debcember / January Longhirst Leader	Ed.
	e-mail to clairecoates32@gmail.com	Group
Saturday 13 th	10am Litter Pickers meet at the Village Hall	(r)
	10.15am Village Coffee Morning in the Village Hall	(n)
Sunday 14 th	10.55am Act of Remembrance at Longhirst War Memorial	(b)
Wednesday 17 th	11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall	(i)
Wednesday 24 th	7pm Defibrillator training course	(c
Friday 26 th	7.30pm Pub Night in the Village Hall	(h)
Sunday 28 th	2pm Advent Toy Service at St. John's, Longhirst	(b)

REGULAR EVENTS

Everyone is welcome to.....

- Church services as detailed on page 6
- Pound Fitness Class in the Village Hall on Tuesdays, 6.45 7.30pm
- Yoga in the Village Hall on Wednesday at 7.30pm and Sunday at 9.30am (see page 6)

Mobile Library - 9.45am in the Village on 15th October and 12th November

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

FUTURE EVENTS

Christmas Coffee Morning - Saturday $\mathbf{4}^{\text{th}}$ December in the Village Hall

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)

County Councillor - David Towns 07985 012012 / e-mail : david.towns@northumberland.go.uk (g)

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@qmail.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)