

# LONGHIRST LEADER

## August / September 2018

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### WOULD YOU PREFER A PAPER COPY OF THE LEADER?

A number of residents have said that they are more likely to read the Leader when paper copies are delivered. We approached North East Grains and our other sponsors and they very kindly agreed to print sufficient numbers to make this possible. Therefore, if we don't hear from you, the October / November Leader and subsequent issues will be delivered to your door.

If you would prefer to continue to receive a copy by e-mail please contact Mike Elphick on [mike.elphick1@gmail.com](mailto:mike.elphick1@gmail.com).

We should like to thank all those who do the deliveries for their efforts throughout the year and for their willingness to take on the extra work. We still need a few more volunteers so if you are willing to help with deliveries to a dozen or so homes in your area please contact Jill Elphick on 790764 or [jill.elphick1@gmail.com](mailto:jill.elphick1@gmail.com).

The Editorial Group

### THE VILLAGE SHOW



It's nearly here! This year's Longhirst Village Show will be held on Sunday 2nd September starting at 2pm in the Village Hall and to make it as much fun as possible, please get involved - even if you are an absolute novice. The Show really isn't a Show without you. We love to attract visitors to our Village to enjoy the Show and need lots of exhibits (successes and failures!) for them to see. There is a great choice of classes to enter in each of the various sections of vegetables, flowers, arts & crafts, cookery and photographs. You will find a schedule with this edition of the Leader. Copies are also in the Village Hall or can be obtained from Carol Benbow (p).

If you would like to know some do's and don'ts and get some easy to follow common sense advice with helpful pictures, the Garden Association has purchased the RHS book "Great British Village Show" which is available on loan from Carol Benbow (p). Here are just a few hints and tips from the book:-

**Fruit:** Apples - cut with secateurs to leave the stalk intact

Plums - do not wipe clean because the judges like their natural 'bloom'

**Vegetables:** Cauliflower - leave a stalk of 75mm (3") and trim back the leaves so that they are level with the surface of the curds (i.e. the creamy white heads). Cover with a tissue to prevent discolouration but remove immediately before judging

Courgettes - leave the flowers attached because they indicate freshness and try your best to present them uniform in shape and colour

**Flowers:** Dahlias - judges like the blooms to be full, but not overcrowded and the foliage should be fresh with no sign of disease or damage

Sweet Peas - should have long, straight stems with unblemished fully open blooms

**Cookery:** Victoria Sandwich - this should be a golden, evenly risen sponge with a light texture and be decorated on the top with caster sugar. Don't be mean with the jam but make sure it doesn't drip down the sides. The cake should not be filled with cream or buttercream.  
Jams - the judges score highly for properly set jam with a fresh fruit flavour in well-sealed, clean, nicely labelled jars.

Entry forms can be found at the back of the schedule and can be submitted by e-mail to [show@petercoates.plus.com](mailto:show@petercoates.plus.com). Paper copy entry forms can be left in the box marked Village Show Entries in the foyer of the Village Hall or posted in the letter box on the Village Hall gate. Entries can be submitted between Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

Exhibits can be set up on the Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning of the weekend of the Show.

We would be very grateful if you could make a cake or tray bake that we can serve to visitors at the Show. Any cakes that aren't used for the Afternoon Teas will be sold at the auction to raise extra money. If you think you can help please contact Allison Tordoff on 790364 or [wadders40@gmail.com](mailto:wadders40@gmail.com).

Carol Benbow

CAROL ROBSON invites you for

## AFTERNOON TEA

at Rose Cottage, Ulgham Lane

on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2.30 - 4.30pm**

Tickets £6 from Carol (f) or Dorothy McMillan (d)

All proceeds to St. John's Church

### MORPETH HERITAGE OPEN DAYS - ST. JOHN'S STEEPLECHASERS

For the first time St. John's, Longhirst will be open between 10.30am and 3.30pm on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September** as part of this Heritage Weekend. Please take this opportunity to visit our beautiful Victorian Parish Church where we have had a new servery built using re-cycled pews. Light refreshments will be available.

To coincide with this Weekend, on the Saturday our incredible Steeplechasers are once again going to see how many Churches in Northumberland they can visit and will be seeking your generous sponsorship.

Jill Elphick (e)

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



At the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July it was noted that as yet we have **no replacement Councillor** for Gill Featonby and it was stressed that we would welcome any interest from persons living within the Parish especially the south or east of the Village as at the moment those areas have no representation on the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the grant for the **maintenance of the churchyard** would continue at £600 per annum. Our current bank accounts are held at TSB and we have been experiencing difficulties accessing information and moving money from one account to another. It was decided to explore the possibility of changing banks and the Clerk agreed to look into it.

There appears to be little progress with the **footpath from the Longhirst Hall estate to the Village** and it was decided that the Clerk should ask Cllr. Townes to get an update from the Planning Department and to find out how they think the access for the new houses on Dairy Lane will work as the Lane has already been considered unsuitable by a Highways officer who visited in January.

The Highways Department has been collecting **traffic data** in the Village for several weeks. The results were unsatisfactory and showed that 85% of the traffic did not exceed the speed limit. Cllr. Townes is going to assist in helping reduce the problem. We are still hopeful of obtaining new, more effective speed signs. The Clerk will ask the Highways Department to clean the road signs and trim the overhanging branches which are obscuring them. Concerns were expressed at the dangers and difficulties for older residents wanting to cross the road to the Village Hall when traffic entering from the north is often exceeding 30mph. This problem has been expressed to the Highways Department.

The **next meeting** will be at 7pm on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September** in the Village Hall. All residents are welcome to attend.

Catherine Farrell

## PARISH BROADBAND WORKING PARTY NEWS

According to iNorthumberland at County Hall, Openreach are still planning to install fibre broadband for the Ashington numbers by the end of September. This exercise requires Northern Power Grid to erect 22 telegraph poles and Openreach have missed previous targets so it might be advisable not to hold your breath just yet!

Unfortunately the decision has been taken that the Fibre to the Premises scheme promised for Morpeth number properties around Fawdon and The Grange is no longer affordable. iNorthumberland staff are willing to meet the residents concerned and advise on alternative solutions. Please let me know if you would like arrangements for such a meeting to be made.

Peter Coates (I)

## VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS

The monthly Village Coffee Mornings will take a break in August and the September one is cancelled due to the Baptism Exhibition at St. Andrew's, Bothal (see page 6). We will resume our usual pattern of meeting on the second Saturday of each month on the 13th October from 10.15am in the Village Hall when all are welcome to drop in for a coffee and a chat.



Jill Elphick (e)

## VILLAGE HALL NEWS



The Trustees are pleased to confirm that, thanks to the generosity of Longhirst Garden Association, we have been able to purchase ten new tablecloths to fit the large tables and twelve matching cloths for the smaller tables, together with six folding net cake covers for the kitchen.

Thanks also to Brian and Linda Rudd, we have a new metal fly-screen for the rear kitchen door. The soil reinforcement mesh that we put down in the middle of the rear car park has proved very successful and as a result the Trustees have approved the purchase and installation of more netting. This will be laid in the near future.

Plans are in place to redecorate the walls and woodwork of the Sports Hall, the Foyer and the Reading Room. The Trustees are considering whether a change from the current 'magnolia' for the walls and blue for the woodwork might be appropriate and they would be pleased to hear your views on the matter. The redecoration is being planned for weekends during late October, November and early December.

The Longhirst Parish Association Trustees

## LIVE THEATRE AT THE VILLAGE HALL

On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of September, the Northumberland Theatre Company returns to Longhirst Village Hall with a performance of 'Heartspur', a new play with music by Bob Shannon. The story is about Harry Hotspur and the battle of Shrewsbury, set in gangland Newcastle in 1963; a sort of 'Henry IV Part 1' meets 'Get Carter' meets 'Six-Five Special': a jukebox tragedy!

Using the very best of Shakespeare's words alongside modern dialogue and truly memorable songs from the girl bands of the sixties, this new play from North East writer Bob Shannon has a terrific plot, fiery characters, marvellous music and plenty of humour and drama.

Suitable for everyone over 13, this show will start at 7.30pm with tickets available from Mike Elphick at £10 per adult with accompanied 13 to 18 year olds free. There will be a bar.

We need a good sized audience in order to cover costs: otherwise we will not be able to book theatre performances in the future, so please come and support local theatre if you can.

The Longhirst Parish Association Trustees

## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The annual Macmillan Coffee Morning will be held in Longhirst Village Hall on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September**. Further details will follow or contact Val Thompson (a) nearer the time.

## THE MILE OF PENNIES APPEAL

Since the last time I reported on progress towards the 2 mile post, I have received the largest and heaviest pile of coins I have ever been offered with the result that we have now raised £1,517 for the Village Hall and the Church and this equates to 1 mile and 1,696 yds. That means we have only 64 yards to go before we reach the 2 mile line. Not bad Eh!!!

If you have a number of pennies and two-pences (or any other coins including foreign currency), just let me know. I will be happy to come and collect them, count them and ensure that your contribution is receipted and recorded.



Mike Elphick

### **PONIES IN FIELD NEXT TO CHICANE**

It has come to my attention that there has been a lot of gossip and complaints about the welfare of the ponies currently in my rented field. It has to be accepted that some owners are not as diligent as others and despite being told on numerous occasions there has been no improvement. So there are two choices, we either accept the situation and those concerned ensure that they have adequate water or if I receive another complaint I tell them to take the ponies elsewhere where they will probably be put in a field away from prying eyes and be looked after the same as now. It's up to you.

Catherine Farrell

### **RED SQUIRREL CONSERVATION**

My name is Allan Scott and I've just moved to Longhirst Colliery with my partner. Some residents of Longhirst Parish already know me as I have previously carried out Red Squirrel conservation in the area being part of the Morpeth and District Red Squirrel Team MADRS (see their web site [www.madredsquirrels.com](http://www.madredsquirrels.com) for more information). As I am now local I would like to expand the work I carry out around the Parish. Any sightings, red or grey, can be reported by phoning 07570 897979 or e-mailing [enquiries@redsquirrels.com](mailto:enquiries@redsquirrels.com). All sightings are relayed to me and are vitally important so we can act to try and preserve the red squirrel population in our area. Local residents have already played an important part in the conservation with great results recorded.

Thank you kindly,

Allan Scott, MADRS Ranger

### **LONGHIRST COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL REUNION**

On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, almost 53 years after Longhirst School closed, 44 ex-pupils and their guests met in the Village Hall to reminisce and to renew old friendships. The Hall was filled with displays about the history of the Village provided by Ian Thompson, along with excerpts from the private diaries of the headmistress, Elizabeth Robinson. A lot of those attending had brought along treasured mementoes of their own including photographs, reports, wallpaper covered exercise books and books given as class prizes.

Many of the ex-students had travelled a considerable distance and the oldest student had started school in 1943, while the very last student to be enrolled in January 1965 was also present. The threatened rain never materialised so we were able to walk down to the school for photographs.

We were fortunate to go to school in an age where we were unencumbered by fashion, politics, satellite TV and social media. We had nature rambles along the Brocks burn. We were taken into Miss Robinson's house to watch Schools Programmes in her lounge. In the last year we would be given the important role of taking the entire school's dinner money down to bank at the Co-op store at the Colliery, something you can't imagine now.

As we walked back from the school on Saturday we talked about how, on hot summers days, we would walk up the road bursting the tar bubbles. The sun shone straight through us, a lucky generation.

It is a testament to the school governors and the two teachers, Miss Robinson and Miss Jackson, that so many people felt compelled to take part in this happy event. Thank you to everyone concerned with the running of the Hall, and who knows, if the demand is there we may do it again.

Alan Moore

## CHURCH NOTICE BOARD



Our Church Fete and Grand Raffle raised a total of £1,457 and we thank you all for your continued help and support. This money goes into the general account and helps with the running costs of the building. We offer you a warm welcome to join us at our combined services at St. John's Longhirst, St. Andrew's Bothal and St. Margaret's Pegswood which are as follows:-

5<sup>th</sup> August - Holy Communion 9.30am at St. John's, Healing service 4pm St. Andrew's  
 12<sup>th</sup> August - Holy Communion 9.30am at St. Andrew's; Evensong 4pm at St. John's  
 19<sup>th</sup> August - Holy Communion 9.30am at St. John's; Evensong 4pm at St. Andrew's  
 26<sup>th</sup> August - Holy Communion 9.30am at St. Andrew's; Evensong 4pm at St. John's  
 2<sup>nd</sup> September - Holy Communion 9.30am at St. John's, Evensong 4pm at St. Andrew's  
 9<sup>th</sup> September - Holy Communion 9.30am at St. Andrew's; Evensong 4pm at St. John's  
 16<sup>th</sup> September - Holy Communion 10am at St. John's; Evensong 4pm at St. Andrew's  
 23<sup>rd</sup> September - Holy Communion 9.30am at St. Andrew's; Evensong 4pm at St. John's  
 30<sup>th</sup> September - Combined service 10.15am at St. Margaret's; Evensong 4pm at St. John's

### **Forthcoming events:-**

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August - **Afternoon Tea at Rose Cottage** (see page 2)  
 Friday 7<sup>th</sup>/Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September - **Celebration of Baptism at Bothal** (see below)  
 Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September - **Morpeth Heritage Open Days and Steeplechase** (see page 2)  
 Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October - **Ceilidh and Harvest Supper** at St Andrew's, Bothal  
 Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October - **Harvest Festival service** at St. Andrew's Bothal  
 Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October - 6pm **Jumble Sale** in Village Hall, please start saving now!!

Jill Elphick PCC Secretary (e)

## CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM AT ST. ANDREWS BOTHAL

For the Deanery Mission Weekend Bothal Church will be open on **Friday 7th and Saturday 8th September** between 11am and 4pm, with a Messy Church session on Saturday between 11am and noon. The Exhibition will close with renewal of baptism vows at 4pm on the Saturday. The event is free, coffee, tea and cake will be available and if people wish to make a donation it will go to the Cedarwood Trust in North Shields. For more information please contact Revd Lee Cleminson (j). There will be no Village Coffee Morning that Saturday.

## THE LONGHIRST HUNDRED CLUB

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

Month	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize (£60)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize (£40)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize (£20)
<b>June</b>	Ticket No. 124 <b>Dennis Hodges for Grace</b>	Ticket No. 214 <b>Sylvia Welbury</b>	Ticket No. 82 <b>David Jordon</b>
<b>July</b>	Ticket No. 096 <b>Linda Rudd</b>	Ticket No. 108 <b>Myra Jackson</b>	Ticket No. 232 <b>David Flemming</b>

Mike Elphick

**TRADESMAN RECOMMENDATION - CORRECTION**

In the last issue John Phizacklea was recommended as an electrician. He no longer has a landline. He can be contacted on 07842 008540 or [phizgarden@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:phizgarden@tiscali.co.uk).

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**AUGUST**

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall	(i)
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10am Litter Pickers meet at the Village Hall	(r)
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall	(i)
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	2.30-4.30pm Afternoon Tea at Carol Robson's	(f)
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Longhirst Amblers walk in Northumberland	(l)
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Final date for submission of Show entries	(p)
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Late blue bin collection after Bank Holiday	

**SEPTEMBER**

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	2 - 5pm Village Show Exhibits can be set up in Village Hall	(p)
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9 - 11am Village Show Exhibits can be set up in Village Hall	(p)
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>2pm Longhirst Village Show in the Village Hall</b> <b>3.45pm Auction of Produce</b>	<b>(p)</b>
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall	(i)
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	7pm Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall, all welcome	(a)
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10am Litter Pickers meet at the Village Hall	(r)
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Deadline for items for October/November Longhirst Leader</b> <b>e-mail to <a href="mailto:claire@petercoates.plus.com">claire@petercoates.plus.com</a></b>	<b>Editorial Group</b>
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am-3.30pm St. John's Church Longhirst open for	(e)
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Morpeth Heritage Open Days - light refreshments available	
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Northumberland Theatre Company Village Hall see page 4	(c)
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	2pm Mothers' Union Tribute meeting at St. Margaret's Pegswood	(g)
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm Junior Activities Club (7-14 yrs) restarts in the V. Hall	(f)
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	11.45am Luncheon Club in the Village Hall	(i)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12noon Macmillan Coffee Morning in Longhirst Village Hall	(a)
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.15am Combined service at St. Margaret's Pegswood	(b)

**REGULAR EVENTS**

Everyone is welcome to.....

- Church services as detailed on page 6
- Badminton in the Village Hall on Tuesday at 8pm [please contact Claire Coates (k)]
- Yoga in the Village Hall on Wednesday 7.30pm

Mobile Library 10am in Village/4pm in Colliery 10<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> August and 7<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> September

**FUTURE EVENTS**

- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October - Ceilidh and Harvest Supper at St Andrew's, Bothal
- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October - Harvest Festival service at St. Andrew's, Bothal
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October - 6pm Jumble Sale in the Village Hall

## CONTACT DETAILS

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

**Parish Council Clerk** - Ian Thompson 791851 / e-mail : [ianoflonghirst@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ianoflonghirst@hotmail.co.uk) (a)

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

**Assistant Curate** - Rev. Lee Cleminson 519398 / e-mail : [Revleecleminson@gmail.com](mailto:Revleecleminson@gmail.com) (j)

**Churchwardens** - Dorothy McMillan 518375 / e-mail : [dorothymcmillan23@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dorothymcmillan23@yahoo.co.uk) (d)

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

**PCC Secretary** - Jill Elphick 790764 / e-mail : [jill.elphick1@gmail.com](mailto:jill.elphick1@gmail.com) (e)

**Mothers' Union** - Angela Mason 517872 / e-mail : [angela148@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:angela148@hotmail.co.uk) (g)

**Longhirst Parish Association** - Ian Thompson 791851 / e-mail : [ianoflonghirst@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ianoflonghirst@hotmail.co.uk) (a)

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

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

**Badminton** - Claire Coates 791088 / e-mail : [pandc@petercoates.plus.com](mailto:pandc@petercoates.plus.com) (k)

**Junior Activities Club** - Mike Elphick 790764 / e-mail : [mike.elphick1@gmail.com](mailto:mike.elphick1@gmail.com) (c)

Carol Robson 07773738442 (f)

**Longhirst Amblers** - Peter Coates 791088 / e-mail: [pandc@petercoates.plus.com](mailto:pandc@petercoates.plus.com) (l)

**Garden Association** - Carol Benbow 790194 / e-mail : [carol\\_benbow@hotmail.com](mailto:carol_benbow@hotmail.com) (p)

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

**Parish Voluntary Litter Clearance** - Chris Lediard 790268 / [chris.lediard@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:chris.lediard@tiscali.co.uk) (r)

**Village Coffee Mornings** - Jill Elphick 790764 / e-mail : [jill.elphick1@gmail.com](mailto:jill.elphick1@gmail.com) (e)

**Longhirst Colliery Recreation Hall** - Maureen Carrick 458674 / e-mail : [maureencarrick@talktalk.net](mailto:maureencarrick@talktalk.net) (m)

**Village Website** - [www.longhirstvillage.co.uk](http://www.longhirstvillage.co.uk) - (u)

**Village Facebook page** - [https://www.facebook.com/longhirstvillage/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/longhirstvillage/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)

**Church Website** - [www.longhirstchurch.btck.co.uk](http://www.longhirstchurch.btck.co.uk) (b)

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**This issue was kindly sponsored by**

**The Mulan Chinese Restaurant**

Woodlea, High Stanners, Morpeth, NE61 1QL Tel:01670 503288

Opening Times:

Sun -Thurs: 18:00-22:00, Fri-Sat: 12:00-14:00 + 18:00-23:30,

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