

# LONGHIRST LEADER

## December 22 / January 23

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*We wish you all a Merry Christmas  
and a Very Happy New Year*



### LONGHIRST VILLAGE HALL

## GRAND CHRISTMAS FAIR AND COFFEE MORNING

In aid of St. John's Church



**Saturday 10 December**  
**10.30am – 2pm**



### Christmas Hamper Raffle

**Stalls with watercolour prints, local honey and beeswax products,  
knitted toys, hand printed glass, homemade cakes and produce.**

**Enjoy our bacon butties and cake**

Admission to include Tea /Coffee and mince pie £3 (Children 50p)

All Welcome. Please come and support us.

### PUBLIC MEETING - BUTTERWELL DISPOSAL POINT

N.B. Clark have accepted the Parish Council's invitation to hold a public meeting to explain their intention to open a **materials recycling centre at the former Butterwell Disposal Point on the Linton Road**. A copy of the application can be found on the NCC Planning Portal (ref: 22/02869/FUL).

Residents are invited to attend the meeting at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 6 December** in the Recreation Room at Longhirst Colliery. Some parish councillors and residents from Linton have also been invited.

### VILLAGE CHRISTMAS PUB NIGHT



Our **Christmas pub night** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall will be on **Friday 9 December** (a week earlier than usual).

There will be plenty of festive spirit to share so come along and help us celebrate.  
Who will be wearing their Christmas jumper?



Allison (h), Richard, Kathleen, Susan and Phil

## CAROL SINGING



We will be going around the Village on **Tuesday 13 December** and at Micklewood and Lawson Villas on **Thursday 15 December** and will be collecting for the Air Ambulance.

We will meet at the Village Hall at 6.30pm. Please come to help us sing or join in when we come knocking on your door. Everyone is very welcome and we need your support.

Carol Robson (f)

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKE



Many congratulations to Mike Elphick who recently celebrated his 80th birthday. Very best wishes Mike and continued thanks for all the work you do for the residents of the Parish.



## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

By the time this issue of the Longhirst Leader goes out, the Reading Room will be back in operation but we will have to wait a few weeks for the curtains to be chosen, made and fitted.

The Photo-voltaic cells have now been installed on the rear roof and are already generating some of our electricity. One of the battery packs has failed but this will soon be replaced and we should be able to keep the Hall warm and lit for at least a few days in the event of a power failure.

The Fresh Air Ventilation System will have to wait until next August but concerns we had about the eventual cost due to inflation have been greatly reduced due to a further award of funds from the National Lottery.

The Longhirst Parish Association Trustees



## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to all who attended and helped at the Macmillan Coffee Morning. This convivial occasion raised £300 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Linda Rudd

## SAD NEWS

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Betty Potts in November. She was a well-known resident of the Village having lived here for nearly 70 years. She will be greatly missed by her friends and family.

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



The meeting held on 3 November was attended by three residents from Lawson Villas who raised the issue of the **"hole in the wall"** leading onto Dairy Lane. The construction of the new houses is now complete and the hole is overdue for closure. The Clerk will contact NCC to chase this up. They also reported that the **Residents Management Committee** was up and running and that four meetings with Kingston Developments had

taken place. Jon Mills commented that the Micklewood residents' shares had not yet been transferred and consequently their Management Committee has still been unable to meet.

PCSO Potts, from Northumbria Police, has advised that if anyone is struggling with the cost of living then a **subsidised grocery purchase scheme** is available at Stobhill Community Centre in Morpeth.

Our County Councillor was unable to attend the meeting but reported that he was pressing for action by NCC on the **Ashington Road flooding site** and the obstructed **Rights of Way at Potland Park**.

It was noted that the threatened road closures by **Network Rail** at the crossing had proved to be less of a problem than they had led us to expect.

Peter Coates thanked the Council members and all the residents who attended the Planning Inspector's Enquiry at Morpeth Town Hall to consider the developer's appeal against NCC's refusal of the planning application for five houses in **Domino's Field**. At the time of writing the outcome is still awaited and any news will be circulated immediately.

A resident of Longhirst Hall has used the Freedom of Information Act to obtain a copy of the Conservation Officer's report recommending refusal of the planning application for an extension to **The Old Pavilion**. (NCC planners refused to provide a copy when requested to do so by the Parish Council). The application has been withdrawn.

The Parish Council requested that N.B. Clark hold a public meeting to explain their proposals for a recycling plant at the former **Butterwell Disposal Point** on the Linton Road. N.B. Clark have subsequently agreed to this and details are given on the front page.

At the meeting it was agreed to raise the lack of action by NCC (as highway authority) and Advance Northumberland (as landowner) to prevent **flooding of the Ashington Road** at the forthcoming NCC Castle Morpeth Area Committee meeting. Subsequently the ditch has been cleared so the item was withdrawn from the agenda for the time being.

Richard Tordoff reported that the **footpath** on the main road along the front of the cricket pitch at Longhirst Hall has at last been **cleared** by NCC Highways. The news was warmly welcomed!

The **next meeting** will be held at 7pm on **Thursday 5 January** in the Village Hall and all residents are welcome to attend.

Peter Coates (k)

## COLLIERY CORNER

Mary Climson (j) is now secretary of Longhirst Colliery Residents Association and should be contacted for recreation room bookings and any other business.

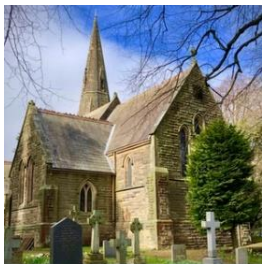
## LONGHIRST / MORPETH TENNIS CLUB



Morpeth Tennis Club at Longhirst is always keen to encourage new members of all ages and standards and they play throughout the winter months. For anyone interested please find out more by visiting their website at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/MorpethTennisClub>

Watch out for further updates in the Longhirst Leader for the new season next year and in the meantime if you fancy socialising and music in the bar then they have regular **Open Mic Nights**, the next one is on the **8 December** from 7 - 9.30pm. Come and play/sing or just come along for a drink at the bar and enjoy the live music. Everyone is welcome and all levels are accepted. Hopefully this month there'll be a few Christmas songs to kick off this year's festive season. Any questions about our Open Mic nights please contact Ian Robinson (Morpeth Tennis Club) on 07866 937670.

## CHURCH NOTICE BOARD



We had another thoroughly enjoyable Broth and Beetle evening in October and raised £240 for Church funds. Many thanks to the chefs who made the broths and crumbles and to all those who came along and made it such a successful evening.

The **Grand Christmas Fair and Coffee Morning** in aid of the Church will be on **Saturday 10 December** and the carol singing on **Tuesday 13 and Thursday 15 December** will be in aid of the Air Ambulance (see pages 1 and 2 for details).

December and January's services are:-

Date	Time	Service
4 December	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. John's, Longhirst
	11.00am	Holy Communion at St. John's, Ulgham
	4.00pm	Evening Service at St. Margaret's Hall, Pegswood
11 December	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Bothal
	4.00pm	Evening Service at St. Margaret's Hall, Pegswood
18 December	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. John's, Longhirst
	11.00am	Holy Communion at St. John's, Ulgham
	3.00pm	Carol Service at St. Margaret's Chapel, Pegswood
24 December	6.00pm	Carol Service at St. John's Church, Longhirst
	11.30pm	Midnight Holy Communion at St. John's Church, Longhirst
25 December	9.30am	Christmas Day Holy Communion at St. John's Ulgham.
1 January	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. John's, Longhirst
	11.00am	Holy Communion at St. John's, Ulgham
	4.00pm	No Evening Service
8 January	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Bothal
	4.00pm	Evening Service at St. Margaret's Hall, Pegswood
15 January	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. John's, Longhirst
	11.00am	Holy Communion at St. John's, Ulgham
	4.00pm	Evening Service at St. Margaret's Hall, Pegswood
22 January	9.30am	Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Bothal
	4.00pm	Evening Service at St. Margaret's Hall, Pegswood
29 January	10.15am	Joint Holy Communion at St. Margaret's Chapel, Pegswood

Every Wednesday morning at 9.30am there is a church service in St. Margaret's Hall in Pegswood.

## VICAR'S LETTER



The most popular bible reading chosen by wedding couples for their church wedding is St. Paul's "Hymn of Love". Many of you will be familiar with it.

"If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels but do not have love, I am but a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal ... if I give away all I possess ... but do not have love, I gain nothing ... love is patient, love is kind. Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude ... it does not insist on its own way and is neither irritable nor

resentful ... love hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends ... now faith, hope and love abide these three; and the greatest of these is love."

These striking verses lay out the contours of holiness through the high hopes and ideals they express for our relationships with one another which accounts for their popularity among couples in celebrating their big day. Here however, is a Christmas version of St. Paul's "Hymn of Love" to help us look forward to celebrating Christ's birth and guide us safely through the weeks ahead.

"If I decorate my house with beautiful bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny baubles, but do not show love to my family, I am just another decorator. If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of mince pies, roasting a perfect turkey, and lay a magnificent table, but have no love for my guests, I am just another cook. If I work at the food bank or sing carols in the hospital and give all that I have to charity but do not have compassion in my heart for those in need, it profits me nothing. If I decorate the tree with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes and attend any number of parties but do not remember the birth of Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops cooking to hug the child. Love sets the tree decoration on one side to give a hand with the washing up. Love puts the Christmas present shopping on hold to run an elderly neighbour to the doctor. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love does not envy another's home that has more expensive presents or even coordinated Christmas china and table linen. Love doesn't yell at the children to get out of the way but is glad they are there to be in the way. Love doesn't only give to those who can give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, even irritating relatives. It believes all things and encourages teenagers to aim high for their future. It hopes all things, endures all things, even a family member who is depressed about their job prospects and the cost of living crisis. Love never fails other people. Computer games will crash, even cashmere jumpers will wear out and golf clubs will get lost. But the gift of love will endure forever."

Happy Christmas.

John Park (b)

## THE LONGHIRST HUNDRED CLUB

The winners of the October and November 22 'Hundred Club' draws were:-

Month	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize (£60)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize (£40)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize (£20)
<b>October</b>	Ticket No. 177 Philippa Thornton	Ticket No. 72 Linda Rudd	Ticket No. 50 Peter Coates
<b>November</b>	Ticket No. 81 Brian Rudd	Ticket No. 48 Bill Wake	Ticket No. 11 Carol Robson

Mike Elphick (c)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### DECEMBER

6	Tuesday	7.30pm Recreation Hall, Longhirst Colliery. <b>Public meeting</b> with NB Clark about their intentions for Butterwell Disposal Point (see page 1)	(a)
7	Wednesday	11.45am Lunch Club in the Village Hall	(i)
9	Friday	9.45am Mobile Library in the Village 7.30pm Christmas Pub Night in the Village Hall	(h)
10	Saturday	10.00am Litter pickers meet at the Village Hall <b>10.30am – 2pm Christmas Coffee Morning and Craft Fair in the V Hall</b>	(n) (r)
13	Tuesday	6.30pm at V Hall for Carol singing around the Village	(f)
15	Thursday	6.30pm at V Hall for Carol singing around Micklewood and Lawson Villas	(f)
21	Wednesday	11.45am Lunch Club in the Village Hall	(i)
24	Saturday	6.00pm Carol Service at St. John's , Longhirst	
30	Friday	Late blue bin collection	

### JANUARY

4	Wednesday	11.45am Lunch Club in the Village Hall	(i)
5	Thursday	7.00pm Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall. All welcome	(a)
6	Friday	9.45am Mobile Library in the Village Late black bin collection	
<b>13</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Deadline for February / March Longhirst Leader</b> e-mail to <a href="mailto:clairecoates32@gmail.com">clairecoates32@gmail.com</a>	Ed. Group
14	Saturday	10.00am Litter pickers meet at the Village Hall 10.30am – 12noon Coffee Morning in the Village Hall	(n) (r)
18	Wednesday	11.45am Lunch Club in the Village Hall	(i)
20	Friday	7.30pm Pub Night in the Village Hall	(h)

## REGULAR EVENTS

- Church services as detailed on page 4
- Tai Chi in the Village Hall on Tuesday at 9.30am (o)
- Yoga in the Village Hall on Sunday at 9.30am
- The Fish Van stops at the War Memorial every Friday between 8.30 and 9.00am
- Mobile Post Office in De Walden Terrace, Pegswood every Thursday from 11.45am – 12.45pm

## 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](mailto:longhirstpc@gmail.com) **(a)**

**County Councillor** – David Towns 07985 012012 / e-mail : [david.towns@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:david.towns@northumberland.gov.uk) **(g)**

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

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

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

**PCC Secretary** – **(e)**

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

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

**Longhirst Wildlife and Community Trust**- Kim Woolhead 07749 811937 / e-mail : [kim.woolhead@gmail.com](mailto:kim.woolhead@gmail.com) **(y)**

**Lunch Club** – Linda Rudd 790116 / e-mail : [barnacre@btinternet.com](mailto:barnacre@btinternet.com) **(i)**

**Longhirst Village Show 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** – Helen McCabe 790494 / e-mail : [mccabe\\_paul1@sky.com](mailto:mccabe_paul1@sky.com) **(n)**

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

**Tai Chi** - Margaret Lovering - 794927 or 07814494337/ e-mail:[margaretlovering@gmail.com](mailto:margaretlovering@gmail.com) **(o)**

**Longhirst Colliery Recreation Room bookings** – Mary Climson 07727 198108 / [maryclimson@icloud.com](mailto:maryclimson@icloud.com) **(j)**

**Red/Grey Squirrel Sightings** – MADRS 07570 897979 / [enquiries@madredsquirrels.com](mailto:enquiries@madredsquirrels.com) **(s)**

**Village Website** – [www.longhirstvillage.co.uk](http://www.longhirstvillage.co.uk) - Chris Marr 790196 / e-mail : [chrismarr@btinternet.com](mailto:chrismarr@btinternet.com) **(u)**

**Village Facebook page** - [https://www.facebook.com/longhirstvillage/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](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](http://www.longhirstchurch.btck.co.uk) **(b)**

### **Longhirst Leader Editorial Group:**

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