

Boulmer Howick & Longhoughton

STORM ARWEN BRINGS OUT THE BEST IN PEOPLE

People say "the worst storm in living memory". Friday night 26th November and the early hours of Saturday 27th November were unforgettable. Frightening for all, but especially those who live alone. The Northumberland landscape has been changed with large numbers of trees brought down by the 98mph hurricane. Many homes have been damaged especially roofs and garden huts, fences and the like. Just about every family has had to endure extreme cold and hardship as the electricity supply has been off for three days and some are still off at the time of writing. Modern homes are built to run on electricity and without it we are vulnerable especially in winter when overnight Sunday/Monday we had to endure the coldest temperatures of the year.

It is at times like these when we see tremendous community spirit. People clearing fallen trees and debris, checking on the elderly and vulnerable, taking hot drinks and hot food around to those who need them and looking after one another - all tremendous acts of neighbourliness. We have to say enormous thanks to everyone involved, including the volunteers who opened Longhoughton Community Centre so that people could have warm shelter, hot food, hot drinks, charge phones and watch TV.

There will be lessons to learn from Storm Arwen so let's hope all the authorities and utilities take part.



Photo above Storm damage at School Green

Photo below Canon Christine Sindall

who conducted the Remembrance Day Service

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES

In early November embroidered and knitted poppies produced by local women were cascaded over the sculpture at School Green SS Peter and Paul's church gate to remember those local people who gave their lives in past wars and conflicts for future generations. This was a magnificent gesture to remember the sacrifice that was made by those who lost their lives fighting and indeed, for those who have died resulting from the present COVID pandemic. Animals who sacrificed their lives in conflict were also remembered with purple poppies. Thank you to all involved, a wonderful initiative.



Longhoughton Parish Council

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[Please contact the Clerk about the parish councillor vacancy.](#)

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Newsworthy items for the next edition, before the

deadline on 16 January 2022, please.

Disclaimer: The Boulmer, Howick and Longhoughton Community Newsletter is published by Longhoughton Parish Council. The views expressed represent the understanding of the editors or of any named person contributing to the newsletter.

Parish Council News & Views

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS FOR THE 70TH JUBILEE OF QUEEN ELIZABETH - THE BIG LUNCH

In February 2022 Queen Elizabeth II will have been on the throne for 70 years. This will be the longest period that any British monarch has reigned. To celebrate this unique occasion there will be an extended bank holiday in June 2022 from Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June. There will be celebrations throughout this four-day period and Sunday 5 June will be classed as the 'The Big Jubilee Lunch'. This is a wonderful opportunity for the parish community to come together to celebrate this milestone and share the occasion.

Longhoughton Parish Council is proposing a Parish wide celebration on Sunday 5th June 2022 as part of 'THE BIG JUBILEE LUNCH' and plans to spend up to £3,000 on facilities and infrastructure for the event. Agreement has been obtained to hold the event at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre on one of the playing fields.

The Parish Council would like this to be entirely a community event including the planning and organisation. Community Groups throughout the parish have been invited to be part of the organisation and **this is extended to any resident who would like to get involved. Please email Adrian Hinchcliffe**

to volunteer on email adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com or phone 01665 572888.



MEMORIALS TO THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES FIGHTING FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The recent remembrance services have raised the question of why the Parish does not have external memorials to remember those who died, like Alnmouth and Shilbottle. **YOUR VIEWS ARE INVITED. Please email to any of the Editors of this Newsletter.**

CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP

The recent Glasgow Conference and Storm Arwen have drawn attention to the importance of Climate Change and finding ways to deal with the issues. Much will have to be determined by the Government and Authorities but there is still a need for a local group. The Parish Council has been asked to declare a climate emergency and one of the first tasks for the Group is to consider what local advice and actions can be given if such a declaration is made. More members would be welcome especially younger people. If you are interested in joining the Group or finding out more please contact adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com.

VEHICLE PARKING ISSUES

The scheme to restrict vehicle parking at Longhoughton Beach is progressing and waiting for grant approval before it moves forward. The proposal for a car park at the south end of the Old Recreation Field is still under consideration. This would also be a site for a new car park for Longhoughton. A response from the County Council is awaited. Lacey Street has been experiencing some parking congestion since the opening of The Running Fox. The Parish Council has been working with the owner of The Running Fox to find solutions to the issue and they are doing all they can to avoid parking congestion for Lacey Street residents. The County Council has been asked to consider some form of a residents' parking scheme.

LONGHOUGHTON TRAFFIC REVIEW

Northumberland County Council has agreed to undertake a review of traffic measures in Longhoughton Village with the objective of reducing the speed of vehicles entering and traveling through the village. It will be the first of its kind as the review will take into consideration the emerging design code for the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. An initial design has been developed by the Highways Team and the Parish Council will be meeting with them in early December to review progress. Once a more detailed scheme has been developed, the community will be consulted. There is, however, a wider consensus that we need to reduce speeds through the village in order to keep it safe and pedestrian-friendly as traffic increases.

Happy Christmas Everyone!

Parish Council News & Views

HOWICK BURN BRIDGE

The PC had been getting final quotes from a number of potential contractors to install the bridge over the Howick Burn on the Permissive Footpath. This has been a long process for reasons that have been explained in the newsletter previously. However, we are approaching a critical stage and the AONB has been contacted to confirm the timing of any grants and also to check that we have gone through all necessary procedures. Once we have this confirmation, we can proceed to agreeing the final design and contractor. It is likely the bridge will now be installed next year to avoid trying to undertake difficult work in the poor weather over winter.



Winter is a great time of year to see shorebirds such as sanderling, dunlin and turnstone on the Northumberland coast. They must spend their time feeding and conserving their energy to keep fit and healthy, giving them the best chance possible of surviving the winter.

Repeated disturbance can seriously reduce the birds' ability to remain in good condition, and therefore have a negative effect on their survival. There are easy steps we can all take to help protect our precious shorebirds; please simply look out for the birds when you visit the coast and give them space to avoid causing them to fly away. Rangers Richard and Katherine are regularly at Boulmer showing visitors and local residents the wildlife we are privileged to have on our doorstep. If you see them on your visit, please stop to say hello! You can also visit our website for more information - <http://spaceforshorebirds.co.uk/>



A feeding sanderling at Boulmer

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION ON SETTLEMENT BOUNDARIES

The views of residents of Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick are invited on the Settlement Boundaries to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan. A separate consultation document is being issued with this newsletter. Comments on the proposed Settlement Boundary for Boulmer are welcomed. The sheet includes details of how to send in your views.

CITIZENS ADVICE

The CAB is a vital resource available to all residents for guidance and advice on a whole range of personal issues including Universal Credit, Debt and Money, Energy, MacMillan and Bridge referrals. To contact the CAB: Adviceline: 0808 2787944 9.00am to 4.30pm
Website: www.citizensadvicenorthumberland.org.uk



STOP LOAN SHARKS

Do not be conned into using loan sharks this Christmas. They prey on people who are in need at the most wonderful time of year often using illegal methods. Many families get trapped in spiralling debt and misery by loan sharks. If you have to borrow money check that the lender is reputable and find out what interest fees they charge. You can find out whether a money lender is authorised by checking the register on the FCA web site www.fca.org.uk

LONGHOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Longhoughton Parish Council has reverted back to face-to-face meetings but with social distancing. The next meeting will take place at Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre on Monday 17th January 2022 commencing at 7.35pm. The first 15 minutes is devoted to dealing with any questions or queries that residents may have. Alternatively residents can contact the Parish Clerk or any Parish Councillor at the contact addresses given at the front of this newsletter.

DOG POO - OWNERS PLEASE PICK IT UP

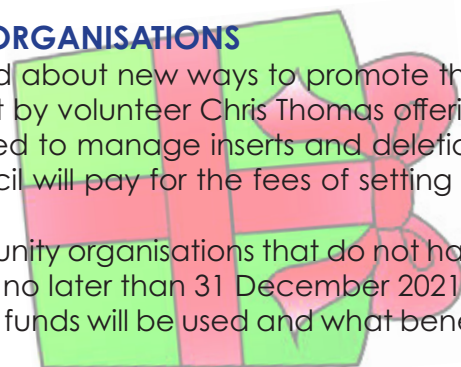
This is a continual plea to dog-owners – please pick up after your dog and place the poo bag in an appropriate bin. This message is not aimed at the vast majority of responsible dog owners who

always clean up after their dogs, but at the small number of people who do not. Dog owners can be fined up to £1,000 for not picking up and that applies anywhere in the open air. There are no excuses for saying it was long grass. There have been recent complaints about dog poo on the pavement in Boulmer. Please know where your dog is at all times and pick up after it.

PROMOTIONAL FACILITIES AND GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

All community organisations in the Parish have been contacted about new ways to promote their group as they come out of COVID. A new website is being built by volunteer Chris Thomas offering a page to each community organisation. Chris has even offered to manage inserts and deletions on a voluntary basis. Very many thanks, Chris. The Parish Council will pay for the fees of setting up and maintaining the website.

The Parish Council is also offering a grant of up to £100 to community organisations that do not have a constitution. Applications should be made to the Parish Clerk no later than 31 December 2021 to include a short statement of up to 100 words setting out how the funds will be used and what benefit they will bring.



News From Community Organisations & What's On

LONGHOUGHTON AND BOULMER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

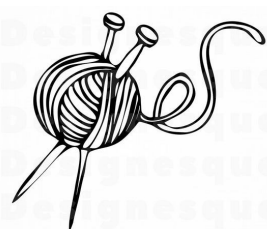
Autumn into Winter has been a busy time for the group. Starting with a talk by Adrian Jannetta discussing the search for exoplanets. Unfortunately the weather was terrible so there was no opportunity to view through his telescope. However, we are hoping to visit him at Hauxley Observatory next year. We also enjoyed a presentation by Elspeth Horsefield on silk painting and how it is the actual techniques of producing these beautiful scarves that gives her creative inspiration.

Much to our surprise and pleasure we came joint third in the regional quiz held by the WI - so well done ladies! Ladies saw *Jesus Christ Superstar* held at Alnwick Playhouse - with two of our members involved in the production.

Some of our members went on the *Murderous Newcastle* guided tour. A group of ladies attended brunch at The Running Fox in the village, with a view to making this a regular monthly event, possibly at different venues. We are looking forward to Christmas Carols at the Cathedral in Newcastle and a Christmas meal in December. If you are not a member and wish to attend or join, in particular any ladies with connections to the RAF, please contact Alison Anderson, Secretary, on 07837271882.

LOOSE NEEDLES DECEMBER 2021

During the periods of lockdown the Loose Needles sewing group were unable to meet. To ensure we were kept busy, member Sue Buchanan gave us weekly instructions to make patchwork quilt blocks, with a different one each week. Once we got back together the blocks were sorted and made into quilts. These were then gifted to certain people in our local community, including our three wonderful postmen. Lockdown has had some benefits! The Loose Needles Group meet at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre from 1.30pm to 4.30pm each Monday.



HOWICK ART GROUP

Howick Art Group welcomes new members. We meet on Monday mornings in Howick Village Hall from 09.45 to 12.15 with a longer session on the first Monday of each month. Our annual subscription at present is £70, which includes the rental of the hall, running of two exhibitions per year (one in the spring and one over the August Bank Holiday), visiting tutors, workshops and refreshments. Sadly, due to Covid-19 we haven't been able to run our exhibitions but hope to reinstate them in 2022. Also, we may not have enough funds this year to pay for visiting tutors, but again these should hopefully go ahead next year following our Spring exhibition. All abilities are welcome and we all help each other whenever possible. If you would like more information about the group please contact us via our website at www.howickartgroupnorthumberland.com. We're waiting to welcome you!



Happy Christmas Everyone!

News From Community Organisations & What's On

HOWICK FILM & LIVE MUSIC CLUB COMMUNITY FILM NIGHTS

Howick Community Film Club is based in the beautiful Howick Village Hall. Film nights are held every 3-4 weeks and typically alternate between Sunday evenings when we show mainstream or old classic films and Friday evenings when we show World Cinema films. 6pm is the normal film start time. We have a high definition projector, surround sound and a professional quality 4m wide screen which provide a truly cinematic experience.

While the influence of the pandemic remains we are limiting the attendance to provide social distancing so it is essential to reserve places in advance. It's a very relaxed and informal evening and new visitors are made most welcome.

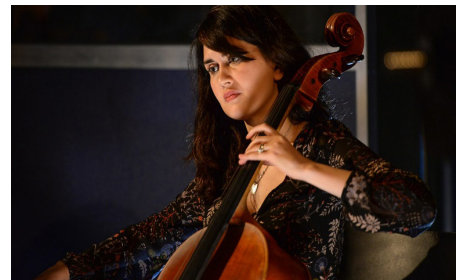
We have a cabaret style table layout so you can sit with your family and friends. Please bring your own drinks. During the winter we have a roaring log fire on the go. There is no admission charge but we do appreciate small donations to cover our running costs (suggested £4/head).

LIVE MUSIC CONCERTS

We aim to put on 2-3 live music concerts each year. In 2021 we had two events and, for reasons of the pandemic, held these outdoors over the summer in the beautiful setting of the stableyard courtyard at Fallodon Hall near Embleton. In July, the renowned Scottish singer-songwriter James Grant (ex frontman for Glasgow pop/soul band *Love and Money*) performed with cellist Maya Burman-Roy.) And in August we had the ever popular Martin Stephenson and his band *The Daintees*. Both artists are scheduled to return to Fallodon Hall in July and August 2022, and we are especially delighted that James Grant will be bringing his Hallelujah String Quartet.

It is hoped to also put on some indoor concerts in 2022. We are conscious that for indoor events the need for enhanced social distancing may remain with us for some time. It may therefore be necessary to hold concerts at other local venues that are larger than Howick Village Hall, to make them financially viable.

Receiving details of events: If you would like to be added to our email circulation list for details of our film nights and/or Live Music Concerts please contact John on 01665-576413 or email johnroper1@btinternet.com



Photos: James Grant
and cellist Maya Burman-Roy

LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY & SPORTS CENTRE

The centre is fully open for business both in the centre itself and on the Astroturf pitch. Trustees continue to be mindful of Covid-19 safety precautions and are still restricting maximum numbers using the facilities dependent on the event. At the time of writing, the UK government has made the use of facemasks mandatory once again in public and community facilities. Please be assured every reasonable precaution is taken to ensure the safety and comfort of all users.

For anyone new to the parish, information about activities in the community centre can be found on the noticeboards outside and inside the building and on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/longhoughtoncs>. Our website is currently being updated to www.longhoughtoncommunitycentre.org, where you will find an online booking system to book any of our facilities – all at very competitive prices. Two craft groups, 1st Longhoughton Brownies, Zumba, yoga and pilates classes, seated exercise class, indoor bowls, mindfulness are all provided on a weekly basis. Adult and youth football takes place throughout the week. Please telephone the Bookings Manager on 01665 572315 for further details. The centre is also available for private functions.

THANK-YOU FROM THE TRUSTEES

The **Monday Matters craft group** successfully held a craft fair on 13 November, which included demonstrations of matting. Displays of their beautiful work were also on show and starter kits were for sale. Our thanks go to the group for their very kind donation of £100 which will contribute to residents Christmas cheer parcels. Please contact Liz Wood on 07715 313989 if you'd like to join this friendly group which meets every Monday morning 9.30-12 noon.

A private donor also generously donated their winter fuel allowance to the Christmas cheer parcel project – it's not too late to donate to help fund the parcels – you can do this by Bacs transfer to our Warm Hub account Lloyds Bank **Sort Code 30-90-13 Acct no: 23282760**. We are a registered charity (no 1133597) and your kind donation can be Gift Aided if you are a UK taxpayer, allowing our charity to claim an extra 25p in every £1 you give – please help if you can spare a little!

The Co-op Community Fund presented trustees with a cheque for £1397.78 on Saturday 20 November to support the work of our charity. **Thank you to all those customers** who chose us to receive a percentage of the Co-op goods you purchased and to Longhoughton Co-op



Trustees receiving the cheque

for their kindness and support. Can we encourage you to do the same again this year please?! We really want to push on to raise funds for Film Club equipment so we can have monthly showings as well as special sports events and even host a Eurovision night in May 2022. It costs over £11,000 for all the audio-visual equipment, so please help us if you can by choosing us as your chosen charity. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CHEER

The Community Centre and Longhoughton Parish Council are jointly funding the distribution of 100 Christmas cheer parcels which will be delivered in the week of 13 December to those residents throughout the parish nominated to receive one by members of our community.

LONGHOUGHTON 'WARM HUBS' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Wednesday 15 December 12-2pm Warm Hub Christmas Community Lunch

Call 07766 110529 to book your place.

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING - FREE

Saturday 15 January 10.30-12.30. The Stephen Carey Fund, supported by Alnwick Medical Group, will be providing FREE defibrillator training at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre for any resident who would like to be confident in its use. Football and other sports coaches are also welcome to attend this free training. **Please call 01665 572315 to reserve your free place.**

ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER 2021 AT THE RAF BEACON COMMUNITY CENTRE

| Date | Time | Activity |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 01.12.21 Wednesday | 1000 - 1200 1930 - 2100 | Coffee Morning Military Wives Choir |
| 02.12.21 Thursday | 0930- 1130 | Weigh and GO |
| 03.12.21 Friday | 1000 - 1130 | Mini Explorers |
| 04.12.21 Saturday | | Metro |
| 06.12.21 Monday | 1730 - 2000 | Wreath Making |
| 07.12.21 Tuesday | 1000 - 1045 | Mindfulness and Mobility |
| 08.12.21 Wednesday | 1000 - 1200 1930 - 2100 | Coffee Morning Military Wives Choir |
| 09.12.21 Thursday | 0930 - 1130 | Weigh and GO |
| 10.12.21 Friday | 1600 - 1800 | Mini Explorers – Pizza & Film |
| 11.12.21 Saturday | | Christmas Jumper Day |
| 13.12.21 Monday | 1000 - 1200 | Monthly Mini Health Check |
| 14.12.21 Tuesday | 1000 – 1045 1900 Doors Open | Mindfulness and Mobility Bingo Metro |
| 15.12.21 Wednesday | 1000 – 1200 1930 - 2100 | Coffee Morning Military Wives Choir |
| 16.12.21 Thursday | 0930 - 1130 | Weigh and GO |

Items on offer – Computer Ink Cartridges – FREE to anyone who can use them.

EPSON DAISY PATTERN – Black and a full range of colours Contact 01665 577973

HP 301XL three double packs of Tri-colour. Contact 01665 572888