

Boulmer Howick & Longhoughton

BRIDIE BENNETT *an Inspiration to us all*

Bridie Bennett of Longhoughton completed her 31st half-marathon run at the end of this year's Great North Run. Her first was in 1996, and she has not missed a year. Bridie is an inspiration to us all, showing great endeavour and dedication. In addition she has always taken on sponsorship for a whole range of beneficiaries, including cancer charities, homeless people, dog rescue, and mountain rescue. This year's sponsorship was split between Hospice Care Northumberland in Alnwick, a military veteran's charity; and a breast cancer charity, after suffering from this illness herself last year, and after losing her mother to this disease. Bridie modestly says that she is not a great runner but believes it is about taking part, finishing and generating benefit for others. She runs in fancy dress, currently as a bee, to make people smile.

Born in North Yorkshire, Bridie was an RAF nurse for 26 years and served in many countries and conflicts. She is the epitome of selflessness and modesty and has great compassion for people and her three dogs.



THURSDAY TOGETHER

Thursday Together will start again on Thursday 5 November 2026 and will take place weekly (except for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve) until Thursday 25 March 2027. Each week there will be a talk or presentation on a whole range of topics, and each session will include refreshments and a homemade soup lunch made and served by our volunteer teams. It takes place at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre from 11.30 am to 1.30 pm each week. **Included with this newsletter is a single-sheet programme giving full details of the talks and presentations.** Everyone is welcome, irrespective of where you reside.



Longhoughton Parish Council

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR **Boulmer Ward**

Adrian Hinchcliffe (Chair)
01665 572888

One vacancy

Howick Ward

Ian Knox 01665 572939
Mary Calam 07740 435069

Longhoughton Ward

Peter Bromley 01665 577071
(Vice Chair)
Carole Green 01665 572610
Hannah Horsley 07733 338487
Michael Nichols 07771611332
Laura Rowberry 03001 658427
Peter McEwen 01665 572735

RAF Liaison

Laura Rowberry 03001 658427

County Councillor

Wendy Pattison 07779983072
wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

Elizabeth Taylor 01665 830040
clerk@longhoughton-pc.gov.uk
Please contact the Clerk about the parish councillor vacancy.

Websites

<https://longhoughton-pc.gov.uk>
www.longhoughtonndp.co.uk

Newsletter Editors

Adrian Hinchcliffe
adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com
Chris Thomas (Design)
chrismelaythomas@gmail.com

Newsworthy items for the next edition before the **deadline on 13 November**, 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

INFLUENZA AND COVID VACCINATIONS IN LONGHOUGHTON

At the request of Longhoughton Parish Council, the Shilbottle Chemist K-Chem has agreed to hold a vaccination clinic in Longhoughton for Influenza and COVID on Monday 12 October. The clinic will take place at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre from 10.30am to 4.30pm. You will qualify for a free NHS vaccination if you turn 65 years of age by 31 March 2027. There are also other qualifying categories. This will save the residents of Longhoughton Parish from travelling to Alnwick or further afield.

To book a time slot for the vaccination, use the link below by putting it into your phone or browser to get to the booking calendar. Move the calendar to 12 October and select the time slot that you wish to book. Complete the information requested.

<https://calendar.app.google/uUuV3AYLRbUaZ7yE7> or Phone 01665 581313

POP IN FOR A FREE MINI HEALTH MOT AT LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY CENTRE!

Want to know a bit more about your health and wellbeing? Come along for a quick and friendly Mini Health MOT with our Health Trainers.

We'll check:

- Weight and BMI : waist measurement
- Blood pressure : diabetes risk
- Physical activity levels
- Carbon monoxide (CO) reading
- Alcohol screening (AUDIT-C)

It's a great chance to have a chat about your health, ask questions, and get advice and support to help you stay healthy and feel your best.

Where: Longhoughton Community & Sports Centre, Park Road, Longhoughton, Alnwick NE66 3JH

When: Wednesday 21 October 2026

Time: 3:30 pm to - 6:30 pm

To book a confirmed time slot call 01670 623 840, or email healthtrainers@northumberland.gov.uk or just show up on the day.

Small changes can make a big difference, so why not take 15 minutes to find out more about your health and wellbeing?

No judgement, no pressure, just friendly support for your health and wellbeing.

AN UNKNOWN CALLER AT YOUR DOOR WHAT IDENTIFICATION DO YOU ASK FOR

If someone you do not know knocks on your door – beware, it could be a scam.

How can you protect yourself from doorstep scams?

Remember, you don't have to open the door to anyone you don't know. If you are opening the door to a stranger, always think - **Stop, Lock, Chain and Check.**

- **Stop:** Are you expecting anyone?
- **Lock:** If not, lock any other outer doors before answering the front door, as some scammers work together.
- **Chain:** Put the door chain on – but remember to take it off again if people with a key, such as a carer or cleaner, need to be able to get in. Look through the peephole to see who's there.
- **Check:** Ask for an identity card and examine it carefully. If you're still unsure, phone the company the person says they're from. Get the number from a bill or your phone book, not them. Don't worry about leaving someone waiting; if they're who they say they are, they won't mind. If you're being pressured or feel unsafe, contact friends, family or the police.



The autumn migration is upon us here on the Northumberland coast, and it's a fantastic time to get out with your binoculars! Northumberland is home to internationally important numbers of shorebirds between September and March due to the coastline providing some of the best feeding sites in the country.

There is a huge variety of different birds to see, but they can be a tricky group to identify. To help, we are running free events at various locations along the coast over the autumn and winter! During each event, we will give tips on how to identify species, as well as tell stories about their incredible lives.

A list of our upcoming events can be found on our website:

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

www.spaceforshorebirds.co.uk/upcoming-events

More events will be added throughout the year, so be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to be the first to hear the latest news!



Bar-tailed Godwit

THE VAMPIRE SWIM IN AID OF MYELOMA UK and in memory of Ted Brixey

Join us on Seaton Point beach at 9:30 am on Sunday 1 November. If you're a seasoned hardcore winter swimmer, join us in the sea. If not, just come and watch us.

There'll be cake, and if you'd prefer to make a cash donation to MyelomaUK in exchange for a slice of cake, that would be greatly appreciated too.

Fancy dress is optional, and if you're up for it, we'd love to see your scariest ghoulish Halloween attire.

Donate a pint of blood if you are able, or donate to MyelomaUK <https://www.justgiving.com/page/jane-hardy-24>

The above link will send you to the JustGiving page.

BOULMER BEACH FIND by Paula McEwen

Boulmer Beach is so interesting because of what can be found there and I often enjoy an hour wandering along looking for 'treasure'! I was thrilled recently to find this intriguing fragment of 'beach china' and wondered what its story is

and where it came from. I wonder if this is part of a lid from a covered bowl of some sort? The clues it offers tell me that Livonia is an historical region on the eastern shores of the Baltic Sea and, since 1918, has been split between Latvia and Estonia. The word 'faience' is the general English language term used to describe fine tin-glazed pottery, a surface suitable for painted decoration.

Did it come off a ship? There have been several ships named *Livonia*, including yachts, cargo steamers and sailing vessels involved in racing, commercial shipping and wartime service. Several of these ships were sunk around the coast of the UK. Or is it perhaps from a souvenir piece of pottery from Livonia which has been discarded?

I would love to find the rest of it one day – unless someone has already found it and I have the missing piece!



The 'Livonia' fragment. Does anyone have the other bits? If so, please get back to Paula via the editors.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

FRAGMENTS AND BEACH FINDS

Paula's fascinating find at Boulmer (page 3) has prompted a short follow-on from me, since I am also one of the many local beach combers, fascinated by the ceramics and glass to be found on our beaches, and their mysterious histories. My research led me in a different direction.

In 2009 there was a major exhibition of art made from 'found' ceramics at MIMA in Middlesborough. It was hailed as a new approach to making ceramics with regard for the planet. 'Why not use existing ceramics to make art, rather than burn lots of carbon to make new ceramics?' was the idea. It was called *Possibilities & Losses: transitions in clay*.

Coincidentally, I bought a very cheap and wrecked kiln in lockdown and restored it, which enabled me to fire and fuse my finds together with charity shop china. I was just beginning to feel pleased with myself when I came across the work of Bouke De Vries, which put my small efforts in the shade. He has made an art of fixing broken china together into sculpture. He learnt the ancient Japanese art of Kintsugi, and takes it to another level. See below. Red-faced, CT

Below: Clare Twomey's installation 'Monument' 2009

Right: Chris Thomas' detail from 'The Tea Party' 2021

Far right: Bouke De Vries 'Accumulation' (undated)



WEEKLY FOOTBALL KNOCK-ABOUT FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 11 AND 16

The weekly Friday knock-about will take place each Friday at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm. The knock-about, which is funded by the Ballinger Charitable Trust, will take place on the newly surfaced Astro turf floodlit pitch, and the session will be supervised by a qualified coach. This is a splendid opportunity for young people to do some physical activity after a hard week at school.

There are no charges and the session is organised by the trustees of the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Parish Council meetings are as follows:

19.10.26 At Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre starting at 7.30 pm.

16.11.26 At Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre starting at 7.30 pm.

LONGHOUGHTON NEWS

COMMUNITY GARDENERS

Our annual bulb planting day is here! Join us on Sunday, 11 October and help plant thousands more bulbs around the village, bringing vibrant colour to Longhoughton next spring. Everyone is welcome. Simply turn up on the day. Bring gloves and a trowel if you have them, although we do have some spares. We'll meet at 10:00am at the Community Orchard before heading out to plant.

Afterwards, the Longhoughton & Boulmer WI will be serving delicious soup and cakes in the Community Centre, so there'll be plenty of opportunity to warm up, have a cuppa and enjoy a chat.

In other news, have you seen the sunflowers in the Orchard? Planted earlier this year by our volunteers and the Longhoughton Rainbows and Brownies. We think you'll agree they've put on a magnificent display!

Thanks to a kind donation from a Longhoughton resident, we've added another bench to the Orchard, giving visitors another spot to sit and enjoy the space. We've also installed two more planters at the Co-op on the corner of Burnside, bringing a welcome burst of colour to a previously gloomy spot.

We look forward to seeing lots of you at the bulb planting day. New volunteers are always very welcome!

Follow us on social media [@longhoughtoncg](#) or email longhoughtoncg@gmail.com.

LONGHOUGHTON AND BOULMER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Walking the Way of Pilgrims

Longhoughton and Boulmer have long had an affinity with Lindisfarne. Boulmer rests on the St. Oswald's Way, and Longhoughton nestles on the pilgrimage route between Lindisfarne and Durham. The School Green monument reminds us of this and the link that the area has long had with Celtic spirituality.

In August, a group of WI walkers set out to tread in the footsteps of saints and pilgrims over the centuries. They were blessed with both fine weather and safe crossing times as they ambled across the sands to Holy Island. Our WI encourages us to try new things, to explore new avenues and to embark on new ventures. Our first meeting in September taught us to make cards of all sorts, ably led by the talented Sally.

One of the aims of the WI is to promote lifelong learning and to empower each of us as individuals, looking after our individual wellbeing as well as being a force for good in our local community.

You'll find us every first Tuesday in the Community and Sports Centre for our meetings. Speak to us as we support the Local Community Gardening group in their bulb planting endeavours on Sunday October 11. Jayne Knight will happily supply more details (07341 446665).

Returning to our walk, one of our newest members expressed the experience beautifully:

'Thank you for a wonderful experience, something I've wanted to do for a long time but never thought I would.' Come and join us and find out what new experiences, skills and talent you possess; you'd be very welcome.



LONGHOUGHTON NEWS

PICK UP YOUR REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS IN LONGHOUGHTON

Alnwick Medical Group offer a service of handing out repeat prescriptions at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre. This takes place every Tuesday and Thursday between 1.30 pm and 2.00 pm. When ordering your repeat prescription, specify that you want to pick it up at Longhoughton. It saves a trip to Alnwick.

ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S CHURCH LONGHOUGHTON

The **harvest festival service** will be on Sunday 11 October at 9.15am. Everyone will be most welcome.

LONGHOUGHTON INDOOR CARPET BOWLING CLUB

WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The Club meets every Wednesday at Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre from 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm in the main hall.

Newcomers are especially welcome - Come along and have a go. Later in October, we will be having friendly matches with clubs from other villages.



LONGHOUGHTON WELLBEING WALKS

The walks are going very well, and the number of people on the walks has increased to an average of eight. This makes it more of a social walk. The walks are every Wednesday, starting at 11.00 am from the Community Centre car park. Each walk is around Longhoughton on different safe routes and lasts for one hour. No special footwear is needed. Come and join us; you will be very welcome.

LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Community Lunch takes place on the last Wednesday of each month starting at 12 noon at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre. It is a great social occasion. The average attendance is between thirty and forty. It consists of a three-course lunch at the incredible price of £5. We are indebted to the nine volunteers who cook the lunch and serve it.

LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY FEAST

The Organising Committee for the Feast met recently to review the way that this year's event went and any changes that need to be made for the event in 2027. One thing that came up was the name 'Feast'. Apparently, not many people understood what this meant, even though our ancestors had used it over a century ago. So, it is proposed that we change the title to 'Longhoughton Show'. The need for other changes was noted, and it is intended to implement these so that the Show on Saturday 10 July 2027 will be better than ever.

BROKEN LITTER BINS

Broken litter bins at Tedder Place and School Green are to be replaced.



LONGHOUGHTON NEWS

LONGHOUGHTON QUARRY PLANNING APPLICATIONS THE STATUS OF BEACH ROAD

The latest estimate we have received is that the planning application for the extension of Longhoughton Quarry is likely to go to the Planning Committee in October 2026. For the restoration of the western quarry, the application will not be available until the first quarter of 2027.

HOWICK QUARRY

The site is going to be restored, and the restoration plan is being worked on.

Longhoughton Parish Council has long advocated changing the status of this lane so pedestrians and cyclists have equal status with motor vehicles. The Parish Council has even suggested that the speed limit should be reduced to 20 mph, but that has also been turned down by the County Council. This discussion is not over, and further proposals are being made to ensure the safety of pedestrians, including children, parents with pushchairs, joggers and cyclists who use this popular lane.

LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE

A Special 'Thank you!'

A special thank you to Richard Hodgson for clearing the undergrowth around the Westfield Park site. It is much appreciated by all who use it and look out onto it.

Special Events

9 October	Bingo. Doors open at 6.45 pm, Eyes down at 7.30 pm
23 October	Halloween Quingo. Eyes down at 7.30 pm
06 November	Bingo. Eyes down at 7.30 pm.
20 November	Bingo. Eyes down at 7.30 pm.
28 November	Craft Fair. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.
4 December	Bingo. Eyes down at 7.30 pm
5 December	Music Night with Charcuterie
12 December	Kids Christmas Party 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Regular Activities

What is on at the Community Centre:

Monday	AM Monday Matters: Liz Wood. lizwood1950@btinternet.com PM Pins and Needles: Jenny Cant. jenny.cant@gmail.com PM Longhoughton Film Club
Tuesday	PM Prescription Pick-Up. 1.30 pm to 2.00 pm. PM Dance 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm fusionfitnessbysophie@gmail.com PM Pilates 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm fusionfitnessbysophie@gmail.com PM Women's Institute (First Tuesday in Month. Jayne Knight. jayneknight111@gmail.com
Wednesday	AM Morning Yoga. Deb Swift. info@debyoga.co.uk AM Wellbeing Walk. 11.00 am to 12 noon. adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com PM Community Lunch. (Last Wednesday in the month). Pat Ellis. PM Indoor Carpet Bowls. Sheila Abercrombie. sheilaabercrombie195@gmail.com PM Longhoughton Scouts. Mike Keith and Carrienne Field.
Thursday	AM Thursday Together (from 05.11.26) adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com PM Prescription pick-up 1.30 pm to 2.00 pm. PM BALLEANCE. 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm fusionfitnessbysophie@gmail.com
Friday	PM Events Group. See separate announcements. PM Football kick-about for 11 to 16 years of age. 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm. Adrian Hinchcliffe. PM Football for Over 45s.

NEW TRUSTEES

All eight trustees are now registered with the Charity Commission and Companies House, and the Centre organisation is much improved with the larger number of trustees and volunteers who are taking on responsibilities. **There are still four vacant positions for trustees if anyone wishes to get involved.**

Bookings for the Community and Sports Centre, including the Astro-turf pitch Can be done online at <https://www.longhoughtoncommunitycentre.org>. Or email Email: enquiries@longhoughtoncommunitycentre.org or Call 01665 572315.

BOULMER NEWS

Boulmer Memorial Hall

Pop-up Cafes and Craft Fairs

Sunday 25 October - Pop -up Café

Sunday 22 November Craft Fair and Pop-up Café

Both of the above dates are the last opportunities in 2026 to taste those delicious home-made sandwiches and cakes.

Booking for the Memorial Hall

Hire the Memorial Hall for your celebrations. Booking or information from Nancy Robinson by email to tommum@icloud.com or send a message via the Hall's Facebook page.

Vandalism in Boulmer Beach Car Park

Three signs in the car park were defaced by the use of spray paint. Two of the signs have been repaired.

Boulmer Wildflower Meadow

Enormous thanks to Howick Estates for cutting the grass, turning it to dry and for baling the cut grass. In all 54 mini-bales were produced. The bales have been given away to smallholders and others who can use them for feed or other purposes. The Meadow is to be reseeded before the end of September with Yellow Rattle.

Speed of traffic on Beach View

Complaints have been received from residents on Beach View about the speed of some vehicles both entering and leaving the village in the direction of Lesbury. There is no doubt that many (but not all) are well exceeding the 30mph limit. The Police have been informed and are being asked to take action against those who are causing the problem.

HOWICK NEWS

Film Club

Please email John Roper: johnroper1@btinternet.com to join the club mailing list and find out which films are showing and the dates. Donations are suggested at £5.00 per film.

Craft Club

For details call Audrey Jamieson on 01665 577797.

Howick WI

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.00 pm. Contact Jeanette Archbold on 01665 577384.

Village Hall Bookings

Contact Jane Doleman on 01665 577801.

Howick Art Group

We welcome new members. We meet on Monday mornings in Howick Village Hall, 9.45 am to approximately 1.15 pm. Our annual subscription is £90, which includes rental of the hall, running of two exhibitions per year (one

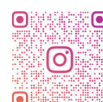
in early May Bank Holiday and one over the August Bank Holiday), visiting tutors, workshops and refreshments. If you would like to join our group. Contact us via our website www.howickartgroupnorthumberland.com



'Bamburgh' in oils by Jane Gowland

LONGHOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Search for Longhoughton Parish Council on Facebook, and Longhoughton pc on Instagram.



PROUDLY
SUPPORTING
THOSE WHO
SERVE.