

# LONGNIDDRY CHURCH MAGAZINE

## SEPTEMBER 2019

### *Services for September are as follows:*

1 <sup>st</sup> September	9.45am: All-age Communion: Robin Hill 11am: Traditional Communion: Robin Hill 6.30pm: Contemplative Evening Communion: Robin Hill
5 <sup>th</sup> September	12 noon: Thursday Thought and Midweek Communion: Robin Hill
8 <sup>th</sup> September	9.45am all-age service for Guild Week: Robin Hill 11am traditional service at Gladsmuir: Robin Hill
15 <sup>th</sup> September	9.45am all-age service: Ewen Glen 11am traditional service at Gladsmuir: Ewen Glen
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	9.45am all-age service: Robin Hill 11am traditional service at Gladsmuir: Robin Hill
29 <sup>th</sup> September	9.45am all-age service: Mr Jim Couper 11am traditional service at Gladsmuir: Mr Jim Couper

### **THROUGH THE YEAR WITH ROBIN**

Just over a year ago, the Swedish teenager Greta Thunberg pulled no punches in organising a strike of school students in Sweden – a simple act which would inspire many others around the world to do the same. This was no mere excuse for dodging double maths, but a conscientious effort to make adults see why young people are so passionate about our planet and the waste of resources which is threatening life on earth.

Global ecology is a massively complex issue which we will be exploring in church this autumn. Why? Because in our consumption-driven economy, the world's affluent nations have become blind to the pressing need for urgent action, with most of us enthralled by our easy comforts and our destructive lifestyle choices, the knock-on effects of which are only now being identified with any real clarity.

Many long-established institutions have struggled to come to terms with the need for long-overdue action. Sadly, this includes the Church of Scotland, which only a few months ago decided against divesting itself of investments in carbon-based energy producers. Arguments abound on all sides of this debate, but the longer the procrastination continues, the more threatened our planet becomes. Our amazing home, so gloriously made and so lovingly sustained by God, is under real threat.

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 11.30am, a huge march will set off from The Meadows, heading for a rally outside the Scottish Parliament. This will not be organised by Scotland's politicians, but by Scotland's young people, who recognise something which so many older people choose to ignore: "Our house is on fire – let's act like it."

Robin Hill

## **SESSION CLERK'S CORNER**

Most of us will have had our summer holidays and now we return to our daily routine refreshed. Talking of refreshment, at our last Kirk Session one of the things we considered was refreshing our work groups. These groups consist of elders and other members of the congregation. Each group is responsible for leading the work of Longniddry Church in a specific area. They report to the Kirk Session and get final approval from that body.

The new work groups are:-

**Communication.** The focus of this group is on external communications: Church notices, magazine, welcome letters, website, directory. They would make sure we actively update our social media accounts, so we have a strong, vibrant social media presence. The group would work closely with others to ensure information is sourced and posted.

**Community.** This would be where much of our outreach and pastoral care would be considered and developed. The focus (as now) would be not just on Church members but on the wider community in the village. Support for folk would be key. This group would work to make everyone in the Church and community feel welcomed and valued.

**Discipleship.** This group would look at how everyone in Longniddry Church can be enabled to explore what following Christ means for them. The Lent and autumn study courses would be the sort of area this group would be responsible for. The Path of Renewal development would be the responsibility of this group.

**Fabric & Finance.** This group would continue its current role of responsibility for our properties and finances. They would consider how we might improve our stewardship of these over time.

**Peace & Justice.** This group would look at how the congregation can engage with the fight for justice for the poor and marginalized in our society and across the world.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about any of these groups or would like to contribute to one, I'd love to hear from you.

## **REV GRAHAM BLACK MEMORIAL**

At the time of the Restoration in 2006 the area now known as the Gathering Space was assumed to be only a corridor whose function would solely be to transport people from the Sanctuary through to the Halls. However due to its bright, airy and cheerful appearance and its links with the past (the old Choir chairs, old Communion Table and bits made from the old Pulpit) it rapidly became probably the best-loved part of the Church after the Sanctuary itself – used as it is as a meeting place for a considerable number of small groups as well as a place to meet, and lay magazines etc. out on a Sunday morning.

The Kirk Session has been pondering how best to remember the long and much valued ministry of the late Graham Black, and it has decided that it would be most appropriate to dedicate the Gathering Space to his memory and mount a plaque on one of the walls to that effect.

Because Graham was such a well-loved minister of Longniddry village and not just Longniddry Church, it was decided that as many people in the village as possible, not just Church members, should be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the plaque, being made and engraved by the Grassmarket Community (responsible for the new Church noticeboard at the gate), *on an equal basis*.

We are therefore asking for donations of *no more than £5 per person* which can be made throughout September to Douglas Clarke, 52 Douglas Road, Gordon Smillie, 11 Glassel Park Road, the Manse or to the collector in the Gathering Space after each service in September.

With the donations we hope to also purchase a tree to be planted in the Church grounds in Graham's memory, and any monies left over will be donated to Scottish Autism in Alloa where Graham's younger son David is currently looked after. Many thanks in anticipation of your generosity.

## **REMEMBERING ARETHA FILM PIC PLEASE**

Longniddry Film Club returns after its summer break with an amazing music documentary showing the remarkable talents of the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin, who died last year.

The film spans two nights of singing back in 1972, when Aretha came to the New Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Los Angeles to perform with a top gospel choir. In addition to a massive congregation, the Oscar-winning film-maker Sydney Pollack was there with a camera crew, ready to record the spectacle for posterity.

Due to technical difficulties experienced at the time, it took a full 46 years to arrive at a finished product. Thanks to the wonders of digital technology, the film is now in circulation, serving as a lasting testament to this great hero of American music, whose influence continues to be felt after her death.

Passion, energy, joy and power all combine to make this a never-to-be-forgotten cinema experience, as we hear great hymns and spiritual songs delivered with real excitement. With good reason the New York Times has described this as "one of the great music films".

All are welcome at this screening, which takes place in the church at 7.30pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Admission free. Refreshments served.

## **GOSPEL CHOIR**

If your experience of Aretha Franklin at the Film Club has inspired you to try gospel singing for yourself, you've come to the right place! The church has its very own Community Gospel Choir, meeting every Thursday evening from 7-9pm.

Led by choral expert Lindsey Shuttleworth, singers are coached with great fun and humour, with the prospect of a big and beautiful sound by the end of each night.

The cost of choir membership is only £5 per meeting, with singers of all ages and abilities very welcome.

## **SECOND SATURDAY COFFEE COFFEE CUP PIC PLEASE**

The usual coffee morning will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September, from 10am-12noon, in the Church Hall. All welcome. Books will also be for sale.

## **GUILD WEEK SERVICE**

The Church of Scotland Guild will be celebrating “Guild Week” from 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September. Kicking off the celebrations will be a special morning service on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 9.45am, when Longniddry Guild members will be helping to lead worship.

This service will offer an opportunity to learn about some of the special projects being supported both here in East Lothian and by Guild members all around the country.

## **WELCOME FATHER BASIL**

In late September and early October, Robin will be visiting our Roman Catholic friends in Tranent and Musselburgh, while Gladsmuir and Longniddry will enjoy a visit from our local priest.

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September (when Jim Couper will be leading worship here) Robin will be preaching at St Martin of Tours Church, Tranent, and Our Lady of Loretto and St Michael’s Church, Musselburgh. The following week, on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October, Robin will be delighted to welcome Fr Basil Clark to our services.

This exchange is part of the preparations for this year’s One World Night at Longniddry Church, when our congregations will get together for an evening of global interest on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October – more details to follow next month.

## **PROBUS CLUB**

Probus restarts at 10am on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October with a talk on ‘US foreign policy in the Cold War’ to be given by Dr Fabian Hilfrich, Head of History at the University of Edinburgh. The club meets every second and fourth Tuesday morning at the Longniddry Inn till the end of April. The club is open to gentlemen who are retired or are preparing to do so. If you would like to see the programme, or wish to find out more about the club, please contact the Honorary Secretary, Jim Jamieson, on 852068.

## **CHURCH GUILD**

The opening meeting of the Guild will be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. This will be a joyful musical evening with music and slides by Frank Prior. Everyone welcome. For more information please contact Liz Neil, telephone 852073.

## **DEMENTIA FRIENDS**

90,000 people in Scotland are living with dementia. Alzheimer Scotland will be holding two Dementia Friends sessions at Longniddry Community Centre on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 3pm – 4pm or 7pm – 8pm. If you would like to book a place on one of the sessions please visit [www.alzscot.org/DFLongniddry](http://www.alzscot.org/DFLongniddry) The Alzheimer Scotland Memory Bus will also be available in the Car Park for people to have a chat and get some advice or support from one of the Dementia Advisors. You do not have to be registered for a Dementia Friends session to come along and visit the Memory Bus. For further queries email [externalevents@alzscot.org](mailto:externalevents@alzscot.org) or call 0141 418 3930.

## **HELP COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Longniddry Community Council are looking for local residents to join the Community Council, and also a new Chairperson as the present Chairman is looking to stand down. Our meetings are held once a month on a Monday evening in Longniddry British Legion. If anyone would like to help out, our contact e-mail for enquiries is longniddrycommunitycouncil@gmail.com. Thank you.

## CHURCH DIARY

### CHURCH DUTIES

September 1<sup>st</sup> – Communion. September 8<sup>th</sup> – A Ferguson, Mrs Morrison, Mrs Barron. September 15<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Cunningham, Mrs P Hardy, M Jones, Dr Lucietti. September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mrs Condie, I Coutts, F Elliott, Mrs Jones. September 29<sup>th</sup> – D Clarke, Dr George, Miss Hume, Mrs Jamieson. October 6<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Coutts, J Jamieson, Mrs Peart, Dr Reeks.

### CHURCH FLOWERS **FLOWERS PIC PLEASE**

September 1<sup>st</sup> – Mrs B Ingram. September 8<sup>th</sup> – Mrs J McGregor. September 15<sup>th</sup> – Mrs J McCormick. September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mrs C Farnish. September 29<sup>th</sup> – Mrs M Currie.

### MAGAZINE DEADLINE

All contributions for the October issue of the church magazine should be given to the editor, in writing or by email, by **SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER.**

## VILLAGE ROUND UP

### SAVE THE DATE

The annual quiz night, to raise funds for Christian Aid, will be on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November, at 7.30pm. Teams of six. More details next month.

### LIBRARY EVENTS **NOTE DATES IN BOLD ITALICS**

What a quick summer it has been! We have had lots of children and families participating in our Library Challenges over the summer. Many of them completing all three challenges and receiving certificates at the Library and medals which were presented at school. Well done to all the children on their endeavours.

During the month of July Longniddry Library issued a total of 1,975 items to junior and adult borrowers, mainly books but also audio books and DVDs. If these were to have been purchased by our borrowers it would have cost a whopping £24,483.14!! This is a huge saving for the people of Longniddry. If you still buy books why don't you consider browsing the Library to see what we can offer and save some money!

There is lots going on in the Library.

***Mondays, 2-4pm*** Craft Café, part of East Lothian Council's Active Arts programme. The tutor Georgina introduces a variety of crafts. There is a small weekly fee but it does include a cuppa.

***Tuesdays, 11am-1pm*** Knit and Natter, a lovely way to meet people. Even if you don't knit, crochet, or sew come along for a cuppa and a natter.

***Thursdays, 2.30-4.30pm*** Art Group, offer tips and encouragement for all abilities.

***Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 10.30am*** Storytime for Tots – stories for under 5's.

***Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 5-6pm*** Our Book Group meets for lots of chat, some about the books!

***Fridays 10.30am*** Bookbug sessions for babies and children up to 4 years, songs, rhymes and good fun.

***Fridays 3-4pm*** Lego Club, let the imagination run wild with Lego! Under 8's must to be accompanied by an adult.

Chatterbooks Book Group meets on alternate Saturdays 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September, 10.30-11.30am, for children 7-10 years. If your child loves reading then our Group is for them. We have lots of book related activities and crafts.

During the month of September we are having an exhibition by Roger Urquhart of items made by woodturning. Do pop in for a look. Just a reminder that the Library will be closed for the September weekend Friday 13<sup>th</sup>-Monday 16<sup>th</sup> inclusive.

On **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**, 2-4.30pm we are holding a drop-in event in the library with East Lothian Archives Service and Edinburgh University. They are working on a project studying life across East Lothian. A team of volunteers are recording oral histories about living and working in the County. Come along and listen to some of the recordings and look at images from the collections. Also a chance for you to share your memories and your photographs. We would love to see photographs if you have them.

## VILLAGE DIRECTORY

You should find your copy of the 2019 edition of the 'Longniddry Village Directory' enclosed within this issue of the Church Magazine. There is an on-line version on the Church website. Extra paper copies of the Directory are available from the Library, and the Church Hall vestibule.

## S.W.I.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September, at 7.30pm, in the Church Hall. The topic is Vintage China, and Louise Pickering from Cherish Vintage Tearoom and Emporium will be speaking to us. The competition is an Aster or Morning Glory flower in any medium.

## THANK YOU

The family of the late Mrs Frances Inglis would like to thank all friends in the village for their kind support in recent times. At the service of thanksgiving for Frances in the church last month, a figure of £502 was raised to benefit the work of St Columba's Hospice.

*Bert Gilchrist and family would like to express their sincere thanks for all the kindness and support given, not just since 8<sup>th</sup> June when Kate passed away, but for over the many years of her failing health. The generosity and help of our village friends have been truly appreciated. John Ch3 v16.*

## CHURCH CONTACTS

<b>Minister</b>	<b>Rev Robin Hill</b>	<b>853195</b>
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<b>Session Clerk</b>	<b>Abigail Morrison</b>	<b>853467</b>
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<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Douglas Clarke</b>	<b>853017</b>
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<b>Transport</b>	<b>Sheila Jamieson</b>	<b>852068</b>
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	<b>June Condie</b>	<b>852136</b>
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<b>Hall Bookings</b>	<b>Robin Cuthbertson</b>	<b>852919</b>
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<b>Magazine Editor</b>	<b>Nicola Clarke</b>	<b>853017</b>
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**[www.longniddrychurch.org.uk](http://www.longniddrychurch.org.uk)**