

# LONGNIDDRY CHURCH MAGAZINE

## MARCH 2020

1 <sup>st</sup> March (Lent 1)	9.45am: All-age Communion service (Robin Hill) 11am: Contemplative Communion service (Robin Hill) 6.30pm: Evening Communion service
4 <sup>th</sup> March	12 noon: Wednesday Thought and midweek Communion (Robin Hill)
8 <sup>th</sup> March (Lent 2)	9.45am: All-age worship (Robin Hill) 11am: Traditional service at Gladsmuir (Robin Hill) followed by Stated Annual Meeting of Gladsmuir Parish Church
15 <sup>th</sup> March (Lent 3)	9.45am: All-age worship (Robin Hill) followed by Stated Annual Meeting of Longniddry Parish Church 11am: Traditional service at Gladsmuir (Worship Team)
22 <sup>nd</sup> March (Lent 4)	9.45am: All-age worship (Robin Hill) 11am: Traditional service at Gladsmuir (Robin Hill)
29 <sup>th</sup> March (Lent 5)	9.45am: All-age worship (Robin Hill) 11am: Traditional service at Gladsmuir (Robin Hill)

### THROUGH THE YEAR WITH ROBIN

The season of Lent, as mentioned last month, is meant to prepare us for Holy Week and Easter, through reflection and spiritual practices which focus our minds on the most important season of the Church year.

Ever since 2004, Gladsmuir and Longniddry Parish Churches have used Lent to help other people through our “Jar of Grace” appeal, which takes almost worthless coppers and turns them into a big cheque for a good cause. Simply by collecting loose change and dropping it into a jam jar each mealtime, together we make something good a little more possible.

This year our partner charity is the Scottish agency, the Refugee Survival Trust, which was set up in 1996 by a group of people who felt deeply concerned by the destitution facing refugees and people seeking safety in Scotland as a result of the asylum system.

Our penny and two pence coins will enable mums-to-be to have travel passes that will take them to all sorts of appointments in hospitals, health centres, benefits offices, shops and so much more. And once their babies arrive, the need for immediate access to reliable transport will grow even more important. Again, the travel pass will be there for them at that crucial point.

This is a real example of community action making a massive difference to the lives of refugees in Scotland. If our community can raise £1,000, RST tells us that 80 more mums-to-be will benefit from travel passes. So grab a jar and get collecting in time for the grand arrival of the coins on Easter Day.

Robin Hill

### SESSION CLERK’S CORNER

In late January I attended the Annual General Meeting of East Lothian Foodbank. This is an organisation well supported by both Longniddry and Gladsmuir churches. In the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019 our two churches donated 803kg of food (and the Foodbank staff particularly want to thank John Reeks for lugging most of that 800kg up to them in Tranent – thanks from us too, John). This would provide 149 parcels (each of which feeds someone for three days) or 1,339 meals. We should be proud of the help we give. But to put it into perspective, in the same year the Foodbank gave out 47,403kg of food, feeding 5,912 people (nearly

40% of whom were children under the age of 16). The Foodbank does more than just provide emergency food supplies though. They are involved in raising awareness of the issue of poverty and food and in improving people's ability to eat better for less money. If you want to find out more about their work there are some copies of their annual report in the magazine rack in the halls and you can check out their website at [www.eastlothian.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.eastlothian.foodbank.org.uk).

Attending the Foodbank or its AGM is a salutary reminder of the inequalities that still exist in our society. East Lothian is, relatively speaking, a wealthy county and Scotland a well-off country. Yet thousands of people every year still struggle to feed themselves and their families. Helping provide food for them is one way we can help. But there may be others. What else could we do here in Longniddry to alleviate the struggles of so many people? Food for thought.

## **CHOCOLAT STUDY GROUP**

Our five-week Friday morning Lent study course gets under way at 10.30am on 6<sup>th</sup> March in the church's gathering space. Focusing on the film *Chocolat*, it shadows the story of Jesus' journey to the Cross.

All are welcome. We hope that some kind participant might be kind enough to bring a week-by-week supply of *chocolat* with them ... purely to keep things authentic for the group. Honest.

## **STATED ANNUAL MEETING**

This year's congregational Stated Annual Meeting (effectively our church AGM) is set for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March, after the 9.45am service. At the meeting, our yearly financial report will be presented, along with discussion of various areas of congregational activity.

In the interests of curbing needless paper usage, the Church Yearbook will be placed on the congregational website, [longniddrychurch.org.uk](http://longniddrychurch.org.uk), with A4 copies available on request from the session clerk. If you have internet access, please use that. If not, please feel free to get in touch with Abigail or your district elder.

## **SECOND SATURDAY COFFEE**

The usual Second Saturday coffee morning will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March, in the church hall, from 10am-12noon. All welcome.

## **FILM CLUB'S ROYAL ROMP**

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm, Longniddry Film Club will be screening the cinema debut of that long-running ITV series set in the stately home of Robert and Cora, the Earl and Countess of Grantham.

The film (certificate PG) takes the familiar "upstairs downstairs" scenario of gentry and servants and adds a royal twist with the arrival of the King and Queen at the Abbey. The cast features many familiar faces, headed up by Hugh Bonneville as the Earl and Maggie Smith as his indomitable mother, the Dowager Countess Violet.

Inevitably, there will be intrigue; there will be romance; there will be tea and biscuits served afterwards in the church gathering space (though not by a team of liveried footmen).

Admission free. All welcome. Tiaras optional.

## **FAIRTRADE BREAKFAST**

The Longniddry Church Fairtrade breakfast will be held in the church hall on Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>, from 9.30-11am, where bacon rolls will be served. All are welcome. We will be very pleased to see you.

This year the Fairtrade Fortnight starts on February 24<sup>th</sup> and runs until March 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **V.E. DAY COMMEMORATIONS**

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May from 2-4.30pm in the church we will have afternoon tea, and music from the era. We also hope to have a display of people's family memories of the Second World War. If you have items that you would like to be displayed please let Sheena know and either hand them to her, arrange for them to be collected or deliver them to the church on the week before the 8<sup>th</sup> (please label all the items) We will also be showing a short film of local villagers' memories of the war.

Please let either Sheena ([sheenamunro18@gmail.com](mailto:sheenamunro18@gmail.com)) or Frances Cunningham know if you would like to join us.

## **CHURCH GUILD**

The next Guild Meeting is on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, when Pam Cairns will talk about “Seema’s Project, Free to Live”, which is one of the current projects of the Church of Scotland Guild. All are welcome and further details from Moyra Wilson on 852071.

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

The World Day of Prayer Service this year takes place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm in Aberlady Church when the theme is RISE, WALK AND TALK from the Gospel of St. John with the women of Zimbabwe. All very welcome to this service.

## **GUILD COFFEE MORNING COFFEE CUP PICTURE PLEASE**

The annual Coffee Morning is on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March from 10am-12 noon in the Church Halls. There will be Tombola, Crafts and Home Baking Stalls and Coffee/Tea served with home baking.

Entry is £2 for adults, children are free. Please come along and support us in our only fundraising event of the year as all monies go to worthwhile charities at home and further afield.

## **ROTARY CONCERT**

The Rotary Club of Longniddry and District are holding their annual Senior Citizen concert morning at Chalmers Memorial Church Hall, Port Seton, on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, at 10am. This is a most popular event in the Club’s calendar for the senior citizens of Longniddry, Port Seton, Cockenzie and Prestonpans. The morning consists of tea, coffee, sandwiches, scones etc followed by musical entertainment and of course great fellowship and chat!

If you know of anyone who might like to attend please let them know of the concert. Transport can be provided where necessary including a mobility bus for those less able. If you would like further information please do not hesitate to contact Tom Shearer MBE, Club Vice President, on 852105 or any Rotarian to whom you might like to speak.

## **LONGNIDDRY GOLDEN GALA**

2020 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Longniddry Gala. Our committee have planned lots of events over the coming months and we hope that everyone can join in the celebrations. Our gala week will run from 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> June, with our Gala Day on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June. Our annual Dance, with a DJ playing ‘music through the ages’, will be held that evening, so pop it in your diaries now!

Golden memorabilia – The library has kindly offered to display memorabilia from the last fifty years of Longniddry Gala. We would love to use some of your old photographs etc from over the years. If you have anything you would like to share, please hand in to the library, or email the Gala Committee (carolineeunson@gmail.com). We can’t wait to see some of the old pictures from the last fifty years!

Greenfingers Competition – To celebrate fifty years of Longniddry Gala, we would love to make the Village look ‘Blooming Marvellous’. Get creative with flowers and foliage, fruit and veg... whatever takes your fancy. You can plant in anything you like – traditional planters, wheelbarrows, wellies....an old canoe!! We’re delighted to announce that George Anderson from TV’s Beechgrove Garden has agreed to judge the entries. Please have your displays ready for June 8<sup>th</sup>. Open to all!

Gala Quiz – Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>, Scout hall, at 7pm. Back for another year, we have our fundraising ‘through the decades’ quiz. Tickets available soon.

Swap Party – Friday May 1<sup>st</sup>, in the Church hall, 7pm. Time to spruce up your wardrobe! Bring along your preloved high-quality dresses, shoes and bags for a dress swap party! Full details on our Facebook page, Longniddry Gala.

## **WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS**

We would love to welcome more retired men and women to our friendly group on Wednesday afternoons. We meet weekly in the church hall from October to April, from 2.30-4pm, We have a variety of entertainment followed by tea and cakes. It’s an opportunity to meet new people or old friends. If you are interested just pop in and try us or ring Chris Farnish on 852932 for more details. Transport can be arranged

for those needing assistance to/from the hall.

### **PATIENT PARTICIPATION AND YOU**

The Harbours Medical Practice, through its surgeries in Cockenzie and Longniddry, provides Primary Health Care Services to many individuals and families within the village. Over the past approximately seven years the Practice has had a Patient Participation Group comprising a broad spectrum of patients with many and varied levels of interest and expertise.

Membership of the PPG has remained fairly static for some time and includes two students from Preston Lodge High School. The Group would greatly benefit from attracting new members. If you are a patient of the practice and have an interest in matters relating to health, in one or more of the many subjects which encompass the provision of your Primary Health Care, we would be delighted to welcome your contribution to the work of your PPG. You can contribute either as a full member of the PPG or as a Virtual member. We have a particular requirement for someone with IT skills to assist in running and maintaining our various electronic communication media.

The Group meets every two months on a Tuesday evening at the Cockenzie Health Centre.

You can contact the PPG by several means:- by speaking to the Practice Reception, directly via e-mail at [harboursppg@gmail.com](mailto:harboursppg@gmail.com), our Facebook page @HarboursPPG.com or by phoning the Secretary Sheila Chambers on 01875 812410.

### **CHURCH DIARY CHURCH FLOWERS**

March 1<sup>st</sup> – Mrs H Cuthbertson. March 8<sup>th</sup> – Mrs J Smillie. March 15<sup>th</sup> – Mrs K Brogan. March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mrs L Neil. March 29<sup>th</sup> – Mrs H Medine. April 5<sup>th</sup> – Mrs E McRaid.

**THE PRAYER GROUP** will meet at 11am in the Gathering Space, in the church on Wednesdays, until 8<sup>th</sup> April. All welcome.

### **MAGAZINE DEADLINE.**

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

### **CHURCH DUTIES**

March 1<sup>st</sup> – Communion. March 8<sup>th</sup> – A Ferguson, Mrs Morrison, Mrs Barron. March 15<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Cunningham, Mrs Hardy, M Jones, Dr Lucietti. March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mrs Condie, I Coutts, F Elliott, Mrs Jones. March 29<sup>th</sup> – D Clarke, Dr George, Ms Hume, Mrs Jamieson. April 5<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Coutts, J Jamieson, Mrs Peart, Dr Reeks.

### **CHURCH CRECHE**

Creche facilities are available in church. Duty elders have a list of creche staff who are delighted to help when required.

### **VILLAGE ROUND UP**

### **NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER**

On 19<sup>th</sup> March our topic is 'Australia and New Zealand', with ex-residents and visitors saying why they love them. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> we will sample mock cocktails and a range of cheeses.

We have a busy year as it is 60 years since NWR started. There will be a day conference in Dundee on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, and the national conference will be in Birmingham in September. We meet on Thursdays fortnightly at 7.30pm. Phone Noreen on 853404 for more information or visit the website [www.nwr.org.uk](http://www.nwr.org.uk)

### **LIBRARY EVENTS**

The opening hours of the Library are changing on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March. We will no longer be open on a Thursday but have full day opening the rest of the week while Saturday hours remain the same. Our new hours will be Monday and Tuesday 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm, Wednesday 10am-1pm and 2pm-6pm, Friday 10am-5pm and Saturday 10am-1pm.

The Art Group will continue to meet on Thursday afternoons 2.30-4.30pm up until 26<sup>th</sup> March, thereafter the group will meet on Monday mornings 10.30am-12.30pm. This may be a good opportunity to come along and join in.

For anyone who likes to knit, sew, crochet and natter please join us on Tuesday mornings 11am-1pm.

The next meeting of the Book Group will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 5-6pm. The Group will be discussing 'Try not to Breathe' by Holly Seddon, and 'Homegoing' by Yaa Gyasi.

The Craft Café, part of ELC Active Arts programme, is on every Monday in March 2pm-4pm. This drop-in session is a great way to try something new with our tutor Georgina.

Councillor O'Donnell will only have one surgery in March - 25<sup>th</sup> 5-6pm in the Library.

There is an exhibition of Fused Glass by Jo throughout March.

Our storytime for tots is the first Tuesday of each month, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 10.30am.

We are having a Saturday craft session for children on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 11am-12 noon, Viva Mexico!! Bring the children along for some Mexican inspired crafts, great fun is guaranteed!

Bookbug sessions for babies and children up to 5 years are held on Friday mornings at 10.30am – lots of songs, rhymes and stories.

Lego Club is on Friday afternoons, 3-4pm. We have lots of Lego and display everyone's models for a week.

### **TENNIS CLUB AGM**

The Longniddry Tennis Club AGM is on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm in the church hall. If you would like to find out about the club then please come along.

### **ART FOR HEALTH'S SAKE**

Until 10<sup>th</sup> May, at the John Gray Centre, Haddington, there is an exhibition that 'showcases work from people who have direct experience of art making a difference in their lives, and those who facilitate the process'. Open Monday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturdays 10am-4pm, Sundays 1-4pm. Closed Wednesdays and Thursdays until 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**LONGNIDDRY PLAYGROUP** is looking for a Committee Treasurer to replace our present post holder.

Perhaps you are retired and looking to continue serving the community? Or are members of your family attending the playgroup? However tenuous the link if you think you can help us and would like to volunteer do please get in touch. We are a friendly team so come and join us as we cannot continue to function without filling this vital role of treasurer. Pop into the playgroup in the Church Halls and speak to Rose or get in touch via email at [longniddryplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:longniddryplaygroup@gmail.com).

**FRANK'S FOLK NIGHT** will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, at 7.30pm, in the Longniddry Inn. All are welcome, with or without an instrument.

**FUN QUIZ NIGHT** on! Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, in the Longniddry Community Centre at 7.15pm.

Come in teams of up to six people. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Tickets £6 person from Ros Stewart (852003). All proceeds to Inner Wheel Charities.

### **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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	<b>52 Douglas Road</b>	<b>(Email <a href="mailto:Nicolaclarke52@btinternet.com">Nicolaclarke52@btinternet.com</a>)</b>
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