

LONGNIDDRY & BLINDWELLS NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Issue 9

Welcome to the spring addition of our Longniddry and Blindwells newsletter. I am sure we are all appreciating the colours of spring arriving through bulbs and extended daylight!

The PSG Area Partnership hosted Hargreaves at their last meeting in January, discussing issues such as works at Bankton, bus routes, post boxes and the active travel path between Blindwells and Prestonpans. We are delighted to have active engagement from the Tenants and Resident Association and remain committed to supporting them with the issues residents are raising.

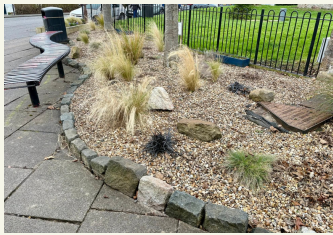
At the end of January we hosted an East Lothian Climate Hub Green Futures Festival, which Ben, Area Partnership Chair opened with words about the impacts on our community. It was great to see representatives from three communities in PSG; Longniddry, Prestonpans, Cockenzie and Port Seton. We also heard compelling words shared from our PSG Youth Community Champions about their concerns about the planet and took part in sessions looking at food growing and sustainability.

In February we had a busy half term with holiday clubs taking place in Longniddry, Cockenzie and Port Seton and Prestonpans for children across our primary schools. These groups are now deep in planning for the upcoming Easter and Summer holidays and the Area Partnership has just closed their funding round for holiday hunger support.

Lastly a reminder that if you have a project to support the community which also addresses priorities communities have raised in our Area Plan, we have our funding round opening between **30th March and 15th April**. Get in touch for more information psg-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk

LONGNIDDRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Welcome signs of Spring have arrived and the Longniddry in Bloom team have been out and about refreshing our planters, as well as clearing and tidying the public areas around the village centre. By the time you're reading this, they will have built new raised beds for the Community Centre too.



The Christmas lights team organised a hugely popular switch on at the end of November and have now been removing, testing and storing lights ready for next time around. Thanks to the Community Centre and Longniddry Church too for all their hard work.

The Gala organisers have been running fundraising events and planning for Longniddry Gala Week which kicks off on **29th May** with Gala Day on **6th June**. This year's theme is "Legends of Scotland" and you can follow their Facebook page to keep up with events.

Longniddry Players have just set up at the Longniddry Inn and will be putting on their first play in March. The Community Council was happy to support them with a small amount of start up funding and looks forward to their productions.

These are just some of the volunteer-run activities which make our community a great place to live and we are indebted to all those who give their time and support. Volunteers often say they get out as much as they put in and it really is a fantastic way to get to know people and make friends. New recruits are always welcome - either by contacting the groups directly or via the Community Council.

Full details of our monthly meetings and Minutes are posted on the noticeboard at Longniddry Post Office and we can be contacted at longniddrycommunitycouncil@gmail.com.

LONGNIDDRY COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

As you maybe aware, East Lothian Council are undertaking an Asset Review of their community buildings. A progress report will be presented to council in December 2026 and will include the engagement and progress with community groups over the year.

We are keen to strengthen our Community Centre Management Committee and are therefore looking for new committee members to join.

Do you have any knowledge or skills which would benefit us in this time of change?

Do you have time to commit to meeting once a month / every six weeks?

Are you passionate about continuing the work that our Community Centre does?

We are currently looking to fill the position of Chair and Vice Chair.

Please get in touch with Lorna / the Centre

Lorna Robertson, Secretary longniddryccmc@gmail.com or contact the Centre on telephone number 01875-852933 or longniddrycc@eastlothian.gov.uk

First Buyers Move into Firth View, Blindwells

We were excited to welcome our first families to Firth View this month, we've had great feedback since they've moved in and it's lovely to see a buzz around the development. Work continues around Firth View with new homes coming to market in this stylish new development at Blindwells.



Progress is being made across the development with a variety of new properties being made available across our range Cochrane, Wood, and Blyth. These 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes are the perfect place for families on the East Lothian coastline. If you haven't already pop down to speak with our sales team in the sales site.



Learn More:



placesforpeople/firthview

Places for People Community Coffee Morning at Firth View

As part of our commitment to supporting the local community we ran two coffee morning at the start of February. This was a great opportunity for the team to meet with potential customers but also for the local community to find out more about the development. We had a good turn out and look forward to hosting more events on site over this year so keep an eye out for upcoming plans.



Longniddry Phase Two

Work continues at Longniddry Village, our stunning East Lothian development. It's been another busy few months with new homeowners finally getting the keys and moving into their properties. We are now in the process of developing our second phase, so if you'd like any additional information on the development scan the QR code below to find out more.



Learn More:



placesforpeople/longniddryvillage



Longniddry Community Support (Foodbank Drive)

The last couple of months have been a busy period across the site, but this hasn't stopped the team doing their part to support the community. Over the festive period the office and our site team managed to raise a brilliant total of £260 for the Edinburgh NE Food Bank as part of a wider Places for People Christmas fundraising effort.



LONGNIDDRY CHURCH

Longniddry Church and our sister church in Gladsmuir are looking forward to Holy Week and Easter – please come and join us.

We have our regular services of worship at 9.45am every Sunday morning with Communion on the first Sundays of March, June, September and December. Details of Holy Week and Easter services will be on our website (www.longniddrychurch.org.uk) as is much more information about us - but are also below.

- 29th March Palm Sunday services 9.45am Longniddry Parish Church, 11am Gladsmuir Parish Church
- 2nd April Maundy Thursday service with Communion 7pm Longniddry Parish Church
- 3rd April Good Friday service of reflection 11am Gladsmuir Parish Church
- 5th April Easter Sunday early morning outdoor (weather permitting! We move indoors if it's raining) Communion service 8am Longniddry Parish Church. Bacon rolls and hot drinks afterwards
- 5th April 9.45am Easter Day service Longniddry Parish Church
- 5th April 11am Easter Day service Gladsmuir Parish Church

We hope everyone will find something they enjoy or appreciate. We would love you to come to share this special time with one another in our lovely Church.

Other regular events include:

- The Church is open on the first and third Tuesdays from April to June and then September to December from 2pm to 3pm for a time of quiet prayer and contemplation.
- New Age (indoor) Kurling each Tuesday afternoon from 2pm – 4pm. All ages and levels of physical ability most welcome.
- Wednesday Club is a friendly and welcoming group for senior citizens, meeting every Wednesday in Longniddry Church Hall, Room 2, 2.30-4pm. There is lively and varied entertainment to be enjoyed amongst cheery company, followed by tea/coffee and cake. It really is a lovely way to spend a Wednesday afternoon! Please do come along. For further details contact wednesdayclub@longniddrychurch.org.uk.
- Thursdays we have our Sporting Memories group from 10.30am to noon. Listen and share sporting memories with other older sports fans.
- Longniddry Church's Community Art Group meets from 2-4pm on Thursday afternoons and is currently taking as its theme, "Spring Comes to Longniddry". This will involve silk painting and iPad art. Come along to Longniddry Church's Room 2 and join the fun, which comes free of charge. More details from Robin Hill (see below for contact details).
- Longniddry Church Guild is a movement within the Church of Scotland which meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm in the Church Hall. The meetings run from January to April/September to December with a varied programme which has included a talk on working as a Sign Language Interpreter, Around the World in Christmas Stamps and a speaker from the Scottish Bible Society: Bibles for Bairns. Longniddry Guild supports the National Guild projects and also donates to local charities. All are very welcome.

If you want to find out any more about what we get up to, or if you just need to speak to someone, please contact the minister, Robin Hill [on rhill@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:rhill@churchofscotland.org.uk) 01875 853195 or the Session Clerk, Abigail Morrison, abimor1808@gmail.com 01875 853467.

At the heart of Cockenzie, Port Seton, Blindwells and Longniddry, our Day Centre continues to be a cherished hub for older people living independently. It's more than a place—it's a community. A space where friendships flourish, confidence grows, and every day brings opportunities to stay active, engaged, and youthful.

We offer a wide range of activities that help people:

- Learn new skills and rediscover old hobbies
- Enjoy a nutritious meal in a warm, welcoming environment
- Socialise with new and old friends

Our Centre is designed with comfort and dignity in mind, and the feedback from those who attend speaks to the value of what we offer.

As part of our evolving partnership with **Health and Social Care Partnership – East Lothian**, we're proud to have expanded our services through **Outreach Support**. This new initiative allows us to reach older people in their own homes or local community spaces—offering flexible care, companionship, and meaningful engagement for those who may prefer not to attend the Centre in person.

Outreach Support also provides vital respite for family carers, giving them peace of mind while ensuring their loved ones receive compassionate, personalised attention.

Together, we're building a future where older people feel connected, supported, and valued—wherever they are.

☎ To learn more or refer someone, please contact us at 01875 815 886

✉ Email: bellanydaycentre@btconnect.com

🌐 Visit: <https://johnbellanydaycentre.org.uk>

Thank you to those who have placed adverts which allow us to continue making printed copies available and to Longniddry and Cockenzie & Port Seton Church volunteers for delivering to the residents in Blindwells. Printed copies are available at the Community Centre, Co-op, Bowling Club and Golf Club. You can also be added to the mailing list by emailing connect-psg@eastlothian.gov.uk



A recent photo by Marilyn Young of part of the new development at Longniddry South.

One Stop Shop Information Event in East Lothian

Information Hub Events provide you with the opportunity to meet multiple organisations face-to-face, gaining information, advice, support and guidance regarding everyday living concerns and enquiries on a wide range of topics including:

Benefits > Carers > Children & Families > Climate Community Safety > Emergency Food > Employment Health Services > Housing > Leisure Activities



SCAN ME!

www.volunteereastlothian.org.uk/information-hubs

In partnership with



LONGNIDDRY AND DISTRICT ROTARY CLUB

An update from Longniddry and District Rotary Club.

1. The Rotary clubs of Longniddry and District and Musselburgh are delighted to tell you that our 'Angel Tree' appeal for 2025 raised £9,700 worth of vouchers, gifts and cash. An amazing amount with the donations of gift vouchers, gifts and donations going to local, less fortunate children and teenagers. It really does make a difference.

2. I would also like to tell you about the work that Longniddry and District Rotary Club carried out in the final 3 months of 2025.

We held a charity golf competition at Kilspondie Golf Club which raised £5,000 to go to local and national charities

We held a Charity Curling Bonspiel which raised over £3,000 for Carers in East Lothian

We held a Community Concert with Newtongrange Silver Band in Port Seton Community Centre for an audience of 200

Finally we held our Angel Tree Appeal

So nearly £18,000 raised for various good causes.

We look forward to working with our communities over 2026.

We would love more members, the more of us there are, the more we can do!

Contact. Secretary_Irotary@btinternet.com

Or visit us on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 7pm at the Longniddry Inn



LONGNIDDRY COMMUNITY CENTRE

**JAN - MAR
2026**

MON

Babies & Toddlers
9am - 11am

Mindfulness Group
10am - 11am

Gentle Yoga
11:15am - 12:15pm

Table Tennis
all levels welcome
1:30pm - 3pm

**Youth Club
(P1 - P3)**
3:30pm - 5pm

**Gymnastics
Beginners**
5:30pm - 6:30pm

Senior Drop In
(Longniddry youths only)
7pm - 8:30pm

TUES

Badminton
9am - 10am

Line Dancing
10am - 11am

Social Drop In
1:30pm - 3pm

**Picasso Club
with Terez**
3:30pm - 4:30pm
To book contact
teca.szilvia@gmail.com

**Pickleball
(advanced)**
6:30pm - 8:30pm

WED

Babies & Toddlers
9am - 11am

Knit & Natter
11am - 1pm

Zumba Gold
11:30am - 12:15pm
figaroroo@yahoo.co.uk

Chair-based Yoga
1pm - 2pm

**Developing Watercolour
& Mixed Media**
1.30pm - 3pm
leigh446@hotmail.co.uk

Craft Group
2pm - 4pm

Games Club
3pm - 5pm

Pickleball
7.15pm - 8:30pm

THURS

Table Tennis
9am - 11am

Pickleball (beginners)
11.30am - 1.30pm

Needles & Pins
1pm - 3pm

**Longniddry Walkers &
Talkers**
Leader led walks
(SHORT WALK ONLY)
1:30pm start

**Youth Club
(P4 - P7)**
3:30pm - 5pm

FRI

Body Conditioning
9:15am - 10:15am

EVENTS

Easter Holiday Club

Tuesday 7th April - Thursday 9th April
Monday 13th April - Thursday 16th April

CAFE OPEN TIMES

Mon 9am - 3pm / 5.30pm - 7pm
Tuesday 9am - 4.30pm
Wednesday 9am - 4.30pm
Thursday 9am - 3pm
Friday 9am - 11.30am
closed Saturday/Sunday





CONNECTED COMMUNITIES UPDATE

Stay and play



Our stay and play (0 to 3 years) has been moved to a **Tuesday 10am – 11.30am** at Blindwells primary school during term time. We are encouraging new Blindwells residents/parents to drop in and meet their neighbours and find out more about the school! We are keen to find out what other things parents would like to take part in!

For more information please get in touch with Jordan Irvine Community Development Officer
jirvine@eastlothian.gov.uk



East Lothian Mums Club

We know its important for parents to have multiple things to do locally, so we have been working with East Lothian Mums Club to explore what else we can put on for parents locally around Blindwells. If you have suggestions or would like more information do get in touch. eastlothianmumsclub.co.uk

Hedgerow Restoration Project

Recently the East Lothian Hedgerow Restoration project has been busy this end of the county, working with the Tranent Wombles to help restore a section of the Waggonway hedgerow in Tranent with 500 hedgerow saplings planted by over 25 volunteers from across East Lothian.

There may well be opportunities for further hedge planting and restoration locally later on in the year (autumn and winter). If you'd be interested in finding out more please get in touch with jo@eastlothianclimatehub.org



Youth Work

Youth clubs are an important step for parents/ families to have their children engage more with peers and neighbours. We are currently exploring setting up a youth club at Blindwells school and we are looking for feedback from parents. If you live locally could you complete the survey below to help us with shaping this to meet the needs of the community.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QXKWZ73>



Clubhouse BLINDWELLS

Join our friendly Mums Clubhouse for a warm cuppa, a chat with other lovely mums, and the chance to learn a craft with Meg or enjoy a relaxed chat with Sarah in a welcoming, supportive space.

Blindwells Community Portacabin

Mondays & Tuesday
10:00 – 14:00
[@elmc_cic](https://www.instagram.com/elmc_cic)





LONGNIDDRY

PLAYGROUP

**SPACES AVAILABLE
NOW!**

**09:20AM TO 11:50AM
MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

Preschool Playgroup for 2 to 3 year olds. Our play-based sessions take place outside in our garden. We welcome applications from when your child turns 1.

**CONTACT
ADMISSIONSLP@GMAIL.COM**

LONGNIDDRYPLAYGROUP.WORDPRESS.COM

LONGNIDDRY CHRISTIAN AID

Last year, over £6,700 was raised for Christian Aid. A huge 'thank you' to everyone who supported or helped at the various events.

This year's fundraising started with a coffee morning in Longniddry church on **Saturday, 21 March (10am to 12 noon)**. Thanks to all who came along and enjoyed the delicious home baking on offer.

Christian Aid week starts on Sunday, **10 May** quickly followed by our annual plant sale in Longniddry on **Saturday May 23** at 10am and in Blindwells on **Sunday 24 May** at noon. Look out for more details nearer the time and news of all our other 2026 events.

For further information about Christian Aid, please call 07508 846007 or email: longniddryCA@outlook.com.

Thank you again for your support.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 18th Information Hub Wednesday March (6-8pm) - Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre
- 21st March Coffee morning at Longniddry Church
- 29th March Palm Sunday services 9.45am Longniddry Parish Church, 11am Gladsmuir Parish Church
- 30th March Area Plan funding open (closes 15th April)
- 2nd April Maundy Thursday service with Communion 7pm Longniddry Parish Church
- 3rd April Good Friday service of reflection 11am Gladsmuir Parish Church
- 5th April Easter Sunday early morning outdoor (weather permitting! We move indoors if it's raining) Communion service 8am Longniddry Parish Church. Bacon rolls and hot drinks afterwards
- 5th April 9.45am Easter Day service Longniddry Parish Church
- 5th April 11am Easter Day service Gladsmuir Parish Church
- 7th - 9th April first week of Longniddry Community Centre Easter Holiday Club
- 7th - 10th April Port Seton Centre Easter Holiday Club
- 11th April (1-3pm) Information Hub at The Ridge, Dunbar
- 13th - 16th April second week of Longniddry Community Centre Holiday Club
- 14th May (11am-1pm) Information Hub at North Berwick Community Centre
- 23rd May 10am Annual Plant Sale at Longniddry
- 24th May 12pm Annual Plant Sale at Blindwells
- 29th May Longniddry Gala Week
- 30th May Port Seton Gala Day
- 6th June Longniddry Gala Day
- 13th June Prestonpans Gala
- 24th June (12-2pm) -Information Hub at Fraser Centre, Tranent
- 24th July (6-8pm) Information Hub at Port Seton Community Centre
- 5th August (10am-12pm) Information Hub at North Berwick Library