

Longhorsley Tree



The newsletter for the parish of St Helen's
June 2021 Issue 95

Newsletter website:

sites.google.com/site/LonghorsleyTree

or tinyurl.com/LonghorsleyTree

or Google "Longhorsley Tree"

Oh no what is happening to the world! It is bad and it is getting bigger now. It's called pollution. Do you know that I adopted a pride of lions, and I donated the sea 50 p. You have to help the animals before it gets worse especially the animals that are endangered. But what shall we do? We will pick up rubbish and recycle too.



Words and picture by Anastasia, year 1 of Longhorsley First School.
If you are of primary school age and want to submit an article, cartoon
or picture to Kids Corner, please email longhorsley.tree@gmail.com

June Tweets along Old Church Wood

When entering the wood by the pedestrian or vehicle entrance, look out for Whitethroat singing. There are two pairs holding territories along the boundary with South Road, and during June they will be in and out of the young trees collecting insects for their young. Whitethroat are very active birds and not shy of using a prominent perch while singing. Another pair have a territory on the east boundary near the bench seat. The east boundary is a regular breeding site for Reed Bunting too. The male is very boldly marked on the head and neck with black and white and will sit still in prominent perches, so well worth looking out for. It has a scratchy repetitive song and is another species relatively easy to see, either on the willow bushes or rushes growing in the ditch.

The burst of insect life, especially caterpillars during June, will attract Willow Warblers, Blackcaps and Chiffchaff. So even if you cannot identify their song, there is a fair chance of seeing them as they travel between their nest sites and the trees. And all three of these species can be heard along the path by South Road to the entrance gate. The resident breeders such as Thrushes and Blackbirds often bring their fledged young into the wood to make the most of the flush of insect life.

Andrew Brunt ☎ **788352**

For more information about birds in Northumberland, visit the Northumberland and Tyneside Bird Club website at 🌐 www.ntbc.org.uk

Neighbourhood Policing Team

We are having problems with off road bikers in the area - mainly at the weekend. We are working with other agencies to address this issue as it is a national problem and a lot of the riders are legally allowed on certain areas which creates the problem for us to deal with it.

There are also on-going poaching issues but some cars have been seized by Police when they have been stopped or abandoned following reports of poaching in the area.

As the lockdown continues to be eased we are hoping there will not be too many issues and most people have stuck to the guidelines to date.

Please report any issues with off-road bikes, poachers or breaches of Covid regulations to police via 101 or the 'Contacts' page of 🌐 police.uk

If you wish to report any incident please contact Northumbria Police on 101 or in an emergency 999 and for anything else I can be contacted.

Neighbourhood Beat Manager PC Andrea Teasdale
☎ 07736 193262 or 101 extension 61181
✉ andrea.teasdale.8603@northumbria.pnn.police.uk
Bedlington Police Station ☎ 101 extension 63526 8am-8pm 7days

COVID-19 Update (was Breaking News)

In the UK and Northumberland the cases rate, the number of patients in hospital and the death rate are all very low. At the time of going to press, in Northumberland there was only one Covid patient in hospital and there had only been one death from Covid since the beginning of April.

Step 4 of the Roadmap out of Lockdown will be June 21st at the earliest.

- No legal limits on social contact
- No legal limits on significant life events
- Remaining businesses such as nightclubs reopen

These changes are all subject to review. Concern about the transmissibility of the Indian variant could make it more difficult to move to step 4 in June. When details are confirmed we will post them on the newsletter website and leave cards in Millar's Village Shop and Longhorsley Village Hall.

Vaccination Update

By May 23rd 72% of UK adults (38 million) had received their 1st dose and 43% (23 million) had received their 2nd dose. We are on target to give the most vulnerable (groups 1-9) their 2nd dose within 8 weeks and to give all adults their first dose by the end of July.

The NHS will let you know when it's your turn to be vaccinated.

Do not phone your GP surgery.

You can choose to book online to be vaccinated at a vaccination centre or wait to be contacted by your GP surgery and go to a local site.

Vaccination centres now include 5 pharmacies in Northumberland.

Variants Update

As of May 20th there were 13 variants of concern or under investigation.

The number of cases of the Indian variant is increasing by 150% a week.

Home Testing Kits Available in Longhorsley

A van (with a gazebo) will be in the Shoulder of Mutton car park on

Wednesdays June 9th and 23rd from 9:30am to 11am.

Come along to collect your free home lateral flow testing kits and get advice about testing.

The **Longhorsley Tree** is edited and delivered by a team of volunteers organised by St Helen's Church. We are indebted to Longhorsley Parish Council for funding the publication.

July/August Edition The last date for submissions is **June 20th**.

You can email, phone or leave short articles in Millar's Village Shop.

If you leave an article in the shop, please include your phone number.

Alan & Sue Etchells ☎ 788847 ✉ Longhorsley.Tree@gmail.com

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Longhorsley Village Hall

Longhorsley Village Hall has re-opened but the majority of groups have decided to wait until September to restart. If you use the hall remember that Covid rules for face covering and social distancing still apply.

Mother and Toddler Group

The group meets from 9:30am to 11:30 am each Tuesday morning, during term time, restarting **June 8th**, in the Longhorsley Mission side hall.

Regardless of the title of the group, it is not restricted to mothers.

Fathers, grandparents and carers are always very welcome to come along with toddlers and, while the toddlers play, the adults can enjoy a chat, tea and coffee. There is no charge for attendance.

Contact **Win Pagan** ☎ **788263**

Walking Group

The walking group is running again, within the limits of the current Covid restrictions. There will be no car sharing and we will meet at the start point of each walk as specified by the walk leader. There will be no organised pub lunch after the walk, however where suitable there may be the option of a picnic lunch.

The walks are usually 4 to 6 miles long and it's a good idea to bring a drink and energy snack on the walk.

The planned walks for June are:

Monday 7th June: Blawearie and Old Bewick Church (about 4 miles), organised by **John and Liz** ☎ **01665 833757** in memorial of their daughter Sharon who passed away on the 1st January this year.

Thursday 17th June: Wannie Line from Scots Gap (about 6 miles), organised by **Elaine and David** ☎ **772225**.

For more information please contact **Jan & Sheena** ☎ **07801 005634**

Christian Vision for Men

The Christian Vision for Men group is looking forward to having its monthly breakfasts at the Angler's Arms again, now that lockdown restrictions are easing. Our first breakfast together will hopefully be on **Saturday 26th June** at 8.30am. This will be an opportunity for men to meet together again and share their lockdown experiences and their hopes for the future.

For more information and to book a place, please contact

Jim Cockburn ☎ **01670 510130** ✉ jim.cockburn@btinternet.com

Longhorsley Playgroup

Playgroup are open Mondays 10:30am till 6pm, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 7:30am till 6pm and Fridays 7:30am till 1:30pm



Everyone has been so excited at the arrival of Playgroup's ducklings. Using our 'minkcubator' as the children call it, we hatched out three ducklings - Quackerjack, Maximus and Daisy.

The children absolutely love them and have helped them settle into Playgroup's routine really well.

They are now making sure that the children are ready to go home at home time by checking that they have their coats and bags.

Maximus can escape through the bars and goes in search of all the children when they are getting ready to go home.

There was much excitement on Thursday 22nd when we made them a little pond using the guinea pig cage. They have started to show off their swimming skills and love splashing water everywhere. The children sit for ages watching them while dodging the sprays of water.

Contact **Fiona Leighton** for more information on ☎ **07522 486910**

Longhorsley WI

Our May speaker, Mike Hardy, from NIFCA gave 19 members a comprehensive insight into the work of this organisation which oversees the regulation of the inshore fisheries between St. Abbs Head and the mid-Tyne. It is also involved in marine conservation and projects such as the lobster breeding project in Amble.

This was followed by our AGM and members were again asked for suggestions for our Emily Wilding Davison Award for 2021 (given to a girl of high school age for contribution to the community). Any input from a member of the public would also be welcomed. Villagers may like to be aware that our W.I. places flowers on Emily's grave in Morpeth on **8th June** each year - the anniversary of her death in 1913.

We are continuing our meetings on Zoom for the time being with a complete change of direction on **Thursday 3rd June**, at 7.30pm Ailish Henderson will be demonstrating her art of "Stitched Collage Portraits". Ailish vocally and visually explores how she creates her pieces and how you, too, can create your own. Anyone who would be interested in joining us for this art/craft event, please contact me for your email to be added to the Zoom invite.

Best wishes, **Marian Chilvers**, Secretary ☎ **788351**

Exercise to Music

When weather permits, we are exercising outside in the MUGA, or via Zoom if rain is forecast. Monday mornings 9.15am. There won't be class on **31st May** or **21st June**. Sessions are in conjunction with Age U.K.

Mary Stephenson ☎ **788232**

Wingates Bridge Club



We're playing online via 🌐 www.trickstercards.com every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm.

Although we are cancelled for the time being we are sending out regular puzzles and tips by email.

Please contact me if you want to join in.

Neil ☎ **788 553** ✉ neildfowler1@aol.com

Wingates Reading Group



Wingates Reading Group are meeting online via Zoom every second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm.

If you would like to join us please contact me

✉ carolsfowler@yahoo.com

The forthcoming meetings and books are:

June 10th The Sparrow by Maria Doria Russell, chosen by Ben

July 8th The Snowman by Jo Nesbo, chosen by Shirley

Aug 12th A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving, chosen by David

Sept 9th Freeing Grace by Charity Norman, chosen by Laurelie

Oct 14th Shuggie Bain by Douglas Stewart, chosen by Louise

See the November to January books on the newsletter website.

Carol ☎ **788 553**

Covid Recovery Grant

Longhorsley Village Hall currently have the potential to apply for a Covid recovery grant and would like to use this grant, if possible, to aid the whole community as we come out of Covid.

Therefore, if anyone has any ideas on how this money might be used to benefit the whole village please get in touch with me with an outline of the idea and we can discuss the various suggestions at the next Village Hall Committee meeting.

Garry Ritchie, LVH Secretary ✉ longhorsley.hall@gmail.com

LOCAL EVENTS



As part of Adult Learners' Week w/c 14th June, the WEA are starting to get back into venues and have a range of Free Taster sessions across the region including Art, Crafts, Dance and History.

For more details and to enrol, go to wea.org.uk
Courses are free if you receive certain benefits or have a low household income.



and Wingates Village Institute Hall present

Thursday 3rd June
7.30pm

Oh La La! Fifi La Mer

A brilliant 2-person French-style cabaret act



For our journey into French music from Offenbach to Gainsborough. Your evening includes a complimentary glass of French wine or soft drink and a French-themed snack on arrival. There will be table-service from our licensed bar and we are now able to take contactless payments. Fifi is offering one of their CDs to the best French-style costume - but dressing up is not compulsory!

Places are limited and must be pre-booked, so please book early. You may book tickets for up to 6 people who are happy to sit together.

Adult - £12, Child - £7, Family (2+2) - £30, Concession - £10.50
Special Offer 2 for 1 tickets for 16-35 year olds.

Thursday 1st July
10.30am-2:30pm

An Introduction to Lino Printing

A half-day workshop with Liz Jones Studio



By the end of this session you will have designed, carved and printed your own lino block in a variety of single colours - which can then be taken home to continue printmaking. Tickets: £25 per adult.

You can book tickets for both events from ☎ 01669 620512, email ✉ famelton@rothbury.net or online at highlightsnorth.co.uk

See more details on the newsletter website.



St Helen's Church Sunday Services:

10am Holy Communion

You are reminded that you must not attend if you have any of the symptoms of Covid-19. Please remember to comply with social distancing rules and wear a face covering.

There are no other services or meetings in St Helen's until further notice.



St Helen's Contact Details

Vicar: Audrey McCartan ☎ 708806

✉ audreymccartan@btinternet.com

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com

Wardens: Mary Stephenson ☎ 788232

David Pringle ☎ 788283 (Treasurer)

Stephen Gibson ☎ 788711 (Secretary)

THANKS to the Longhorsley Playgroup Supporters

I want to say a big "Thank you" to everyone who nominated me for the Longhorsley Community Award 2021 and all the kind lovely things that everyone has said about playgroup and what we do for the children in our care. I couldn't have done it without the support of Sam who has worked alongside me throughout the whole pandemic.

We'd both like to say thank you so much to

- everyone who has supported us over the last year by donating food, nappies, toilet rolls, kitchen rolls, cleaning products and new toys for the children to enjoy.
- the parents who set up the fundraising page along with all the people who donated. We have been overwhelmed with all the support that we have received.
- the village hall committee who enabled us to be able to carry on providing childcare for the children who needed us the most throughout the pandemic.

Thank you all again, **Fiona, Sam** and the whole of the playgroup team x

Thought for the Month

Back in April, Reverend Audrey McCartan wrote about 'time for change'. Yet again, there is more change for the Faith Community in Longhorsley as Father Ian Hoskins retired on Easter Sunday and I was appointed Parish Priest of St Thomas' on Easter Monday. I introduced myself in the May edition of the Longhorsley Tree.

Change, whilst difficult, can also be a time of renewal, growth and learning. The parishioners at St Thomas' have to get used to a new priest after the many years of service from Father Ian, and especially in exceptional circumstances when not everyone has been able to attend Church. I have to get used to having two parishes twelve miles apart (I am also parish priest of St Aidan's, Ashington where I also reside). The parishioners at St Aidan's have to get used to sharing a priest with another Parish (they haven't had to do this since 1905!) All we can have is great courage and determination to make things work and to know that God will provide.

Two weeks ago, we celebrated the great feast of Pentecost - the birthday of the Church. The Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples gathered in the upper room where they were terrified. The gift of the Holy Spirit enabled them to be bold witnesses of the Good News and to have the courage to face the challenges that lay ahead of them.

In these strange and difficult times, we are invited to be bold and courageous. As the economy begins to open up once again, we may venture out cautiously to meet with family and friends in cafes, bars and restaurants. Many of us have already received one or two doses of the Covid vaccine, but we know we are still far from back to normal and we might ask what 'normal' may be moving forward. But then we could ask again, do I want to go back to 'normal'? Is normal good or do I want to change my life and get out of the rut I was stuck in? Pentecost is that such time when we fling wide the doors and windows to let in that fresh air and to begin again, whatever the challenges in life might be; to think outside the box and re-imagine what our life can be.

As St Thomas' begins this new chapter in their life (in their 180th Anniversary of the opening of the Church) and as we begin new beginnings emerging from lockdown restrictions, I pray that it will be a great time of grace for us all. I look forward to working with those in the local community. Although I might live twelve miles away, I will continue to do what I can to support parishioners and the people of Longhorsley as best as I can.

With prayers and good wishes to you all.

Father Shaun Purdy, Parish Priest - St Thomas of Canterbury.



St Thomas Catholic Church

Every Monday and Thursday ~ Mass at 12noon
Every Saturday ~ Vigil Mass at 4:30pm.

To book a place please phone or email
Frank Walker ☎ 01670 514849

✉ francis_edward_walker@hotmail.co.uk

Please comply with social distancing rules and
wear face coverings.

Contact **Fr Shaun Purdy** ☎ 01670 812 200

✉ longhorsley.stthomas@rcdhn.org.uk

🌐 www.stthomaslonghorsley.com

Post Office in Longhorsley Village Hall

Please remember to keep 2m apart when queuing.

Mon 9am-12:15pm ~ Tues 9:15am-10:45am ~ Fri 11:30am-1:30pm.

TAKEAWAY FOOD in LONGHORSLEY

The Shoulder of Mutton is open and offering takeaways every day

Sunday lunches 12-6pm ~ Monday to Saturday 5pm-8pm

See their menu at 🌐 shoulderofmuttonpub.com ~ phone 788236 to order

Pizzeria Padre at West Moor Farm (by Forget Me Not Country Park)

is open for collection every **Thursday & Saturday** 5pm - 8pm

Order by 5pm Tuesday for Thursday or 5pm Thursday for Saturday.

See the menu and place orders at pizzeriapadre.com

The Flying Fryer will be here every **Friday** in June from 4pm - 7pm

Advance warning - they won't be here **Friday July 2nd**

Facebook [The Flying Fryer](https://www.facebook.com/TheFlyingFryer) ☎ 07984 426 725

Mivesi Naan Truck is here **Wednesdays June 9th & 23rd** 4pm - 8pm

See their menu the [Mivesi](https://www.facebook.com/mivesi) Facebook page.

Pre-order by text to 07841 204532 or message them on Facebook.

Dou_h&co here alternate **Thursdays June 3rd & 17th** 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Pre-ordering only ☎ 07507 834 628 from Tuesday 9am each week.

See their menu on the [Dou_h & Co](https://www.facebook.com/Dou-h-co) Facebook page and www.Dou-h.co.uk

Monroe's Food Truck here **Sunday June 13th** from 4pm - 8pm.

See their menu on the [Monroes NCL](https://www.facebook.com/MonroesNCL) Facebook page.

Pre-order by text to 07568 096276 or message them on Facebook.

Mission Free Church



Sunday morning services continue at the Mission at 11am.

No further services are planned at present. Please remember to comply with social distancing rules and wear a face covering. You are reminded that you must not attend if you have any of the symptoms of Covid-19.

The Mother and Toddler Group restarts on Tuesday 8th June at 9:30am - see the Groups section for details.

Contact **Ian Pagan** ☎ **788263** ✉ idpagan@waitrose.com

Website: 🌐 www.longhorsleymission.org.uk

Your County Councillor

I am grateful and honoured to be voted in again.

As usual, get in touch anytime if I can help with anything -

Glen Sanderson 07730 979 737 glen.sanderson@northumberland.gov.uk

The 'Nextdoor' App (was Breaking News)

Longhorsley residents have been receiving invitations by email and letter inviting them to start using the 'Nextdoor' app. Although these letters appear to come from local residents this is not necessarily the case.

More details on the web version of the newsletter.

Alternatives to A&E (was Breaking News)

The NHS across the region is seeing an increase in the number of people attending A&E departments, many of whom could have sought advice from a service more appropriate for their needs.

Everyone is being asked to think about alternative services such as pharmacy, GP, 111 online/telephone or walk-in centres. Only attend A&E or call 999 if you have serious or life-threatening emergencies.

Longhorsley Village Hall Sweepstake – May Results					
1st Prize	£50	Fiona Sayer	3rd Prize	£15	Shirley Wood
2nd Prize	£25	Mr T Jones	4th Prize	£10	Sam Prescott
Garry or Janice ☎ 788986 or 07713 583311 ✉ garry7256@aol.com					

Longhorsley Parish Council

The next **Parish Council meeting** will be held on **9th June 2021** virtually via ZOOM, starting at 7pm, with a parishioner slot at 8pm.

Should any parishioner wish to attend, if they contact the Clerk, she will give out the meeting ID and necessary password in order to join the meeting.

Meeting notices are displayed on village notice boards, with minutes and other info found on the Parish Council website at:

 northumberlandparishes.uk/longhorsley

Contact details for the current members are detailed below:

Clerk: Gillian Turner, 4 Lowther Close, Seaton Manor, Ashington, NE630HY

 01670 812704 or email  parishclerk@longhorsley-pc.gov.uk

Chairman: Iain Elliott  788905  iain.elliott@longhorsley-pc.gov.uk

Councillors: Kirsty Bell, Peter Boyle, Norman Douglas, Penny Ford, Andy Hedman and David Pringle.

Councillor Roles

At the Annual Parish Council meeting in May, Councillor Iain Elliott was re-elected as the Chairman of the Parish Council with Councillor Penny Ford taking over the reins as Vice-Chair. Both are looking forward to the next 4 years of serving the community of Longhorsley.

MUGA Lighting

Our lighting specialist from Morpeth is to undertake the necessary works to completely refurbish the lighting cabinet - the works should be completed by 3rd June. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused users of the facility.

Litter Picking Equipment

We are pleased to announce that we have taken delivery of some litter pickers, gloves and black sacks, which were provided by Northumberland County Council. The equipment has been placed in the Village Hall and is available for any residents/groups wishing to use the equipment whilst out and about in the parish. In the first instance, if you could contact the Clerk for permission to use the equipment and then we hope to allocate this responsibility to a local community representative.

Last Call for Logs at the Moor

We have been carrying out essential works on the Moor of late, and have wood available for parishioners for a small donation of 50p per piece of wood. If you are interested, please contact the Clerk - details as above. Donations can be given to any of our parish councillors.

We propose to give any wood that is left to a local wood collecting charity - so please take advantage of the wood that is available before it goes.

Longhorsley Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report

Here are a few extracts from the Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Assembly. The report covers two years as no meeting was held in 2020. You can see the full report and reports for the Moor and Old Church Wood on the newsletter website.

Our biggest achievement during the last two years was getting the MUGA refurbishment completed, together with the installation of CCTV monitoring of both the playing area and the allotments to the north. The CCTV is aiding the continuing challenges of trying to reduce the problems of dog fouling around the village. We have had considerable problems with the life-expired token control system for the lighting, but have finally found a solution which will be completed shortly.

The Adamson Park play equipment has been updated, and a new small play area installed in Wilding Place. New picnic tables have been installed in both areas. Work has been done to create a less muddy way for cars to get onto the common during football events, although there is still more to do when funds permit. For Archie's Pond, a plan for refurbishment of the whole site has been created, and efforts are now being made to find grants and other funding.

The council is continuing to pursue the creation of a Scheme of Management for the Village Green. This will enable the council to have greater freedom in determining what can or cannot be done with areas of the Village Green.

The Council continues to provide assistance to voluntary organisations and charities in the form of grants and donations. During the year, we made donations to the Great North Ambulance Service, Community Action Northumberland, Citizens Advice Bureau and the Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering – all of which make a significant contribution to the wellbeing of the parish. The Village Day organising committee donated their funds to the Parish Council when they closed, to be used for a project to benefit the village. This has been used to purchase much needed new doors for the Village Hall, which are due for installation during the summer.

Our thanks as always go to Glen Sanderson, our County Councillor, for his continued efforts at County Council level to ensure issues from the Parish Council get the best possible attention. We also benefit greatly from the funding he is able to provide for projects around the village each year, which we would be unable to undertake from our own resources. The re-location of the 30mph northern boundary on the A697 a little further north, has now been completed. The next project is to add some passing places on the Smallburn Road, and to complete a pedestrian crossing north of the West/East roads junctions with the A697.

Government Funding for Ultrafast Broadband

As part of the Government's Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme businesses and residents in some of the hardest-to-reach places in the UK are eligible for funding towards the cost of installing ultrafast broadband to their premises when part of a group project.

Rural premises with broadband speeds of less than **100** Mbps can use vouchers worth up to £3,500 for each small and medium-sized business (SMEs), and up to £1,500 per residential premise to support the cost of installing new gigabit-capable connections.

Group projects are when two or more residents and/or SMEs get together to combine their vouchers towards the shared cost of installation.

Single connections are *not* eligible for additional funding.

There are 88 companies, including Openreach, who are participating in the Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme. Alncom is one of the few active in Northumberland.

Longhorsley village has superfast broadband - speeds over **30** Mbps.

The further from the exchange or cabinet you are, the slower the speed.

Many companies offer up to **66** Mbps to some parts of the village - details on our website. Residents outside the village get much slower speeds.

All companies currently use the same Openreach infrastructure of fibre to the cabinet and a copper land line to the house. A typical cost for **66** Mbps broadband, excluding the cost of phone calls, is £35pm.

Alncom is an Alnwick based company that would deliver ultrafast broadband (speeds over **100** Mbps) to Longhorsley using a full fibre to the property network which is independent of the Openreach network.

They offer packages from **100** Mbps for £25pm up to **925** Mbps for £90pm.

They intend to set up a hub in Longhorsley village and deliver ultrafast broadband to the village and surrounding areas. The cost of installation will be covered by the Government funding.

Alncom do not use the Openreach network so, if you still want to have a phone line, you will have to pay for this separately. For example, a BT land line is likely to cost from £13pm PAYG to £28pm with Anytime Calls.

For further details visit the Alncom website at [🌐 alncom.co.uk](https://www.alncom.co.uk) or you can contact their local co-ordinator Jim Weatherill 📞 075520 30702

✉ jim.weatherill@alncom.co.uk

If you decide you want to move to ultrafast broadband with Alncom then you can pledge your interest at [🌐 alncom.co.uk](https://www.alncom.co.uk)

Although you will not be signing up to a contract at that stage you would be expected to move to Alncom once all is fitted and your current contract with your current ISP ends.

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PoA's allow people you trust to deal with your affairs and make decisions for you in later life if you can't. Once you lose capacity it's too late to make a PoA.

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