**The Longhill Burn**

**Heralding Document**

**Background**

**Thursday 25th May**

**HDM publish an article**

<http://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/news/hull-east-yorkshire-news/mystery-land-green-ginger-crate-73626>

A mysterious Land of Green Ginger crate has been unearthed in a pensioner’s allotment shed. Mrs Margaret Cranwell, of the Wansbeck Allotment Association on the Longhill estate, east Hull, was prompted to have a closer look after media coverage of the sudden appearance of similar crates across the city.

She said: “‘It’s been in my shed for years. I don’t know what the fuss is about really.

“I threw a tablecloth over it when I first got the allotment back in 1978 and I don’t think I’ve looked at it since. It’s been a handy surface for keeping tools on and the like.”

Mrs Cranwell decided to investigate further after reading about the Green Ginger crates in the Mail. She said: “I dragged the crate out last week and prised it open.

“I’m not one to hang about when I’ve got the bit between my teeth. I would like to say I found some treasure but it wasn’t quite like that.

“I pulled out what looked like a jar of ashes, a megaphone covered in ribbons and a document about something called The Guild of Commoners. It seems to be some sort of instructions about doing good work in the local community, bringing people together for the common good of the area. That’s why it’s called that.”

Mrs Cranwell is a well-known figure in Longhill, having been named community champion in the 2015 Neighbourhood Network Awards. She is now appealing to residents in Longhill to join her in re-instating The Guild of Commoners. She said: “It’s just something different and keeps us out of trouble. I don’t see what harm can come from trying to do a few good things around the area and it would be nice to have like-minded people to join in.”

There are 100 places available in The Guild of Commoners.

Anyone local to Longhill who is interested in joining should email theguildofcommoners@gmail.com to register and find out more.

**29th May**

**GGF publish a Facebook post:**

“Thanks to everyone for the messages about this Hull Daily Mail article, we weren't aware of it until this morning.

We're slightly surprised this went straight in the paper without us knowing anything about it, but we're pleased to say we're now directly in touch with Margaret and are advising her on looking after the crate properly.

Cheers, Allison”

**(Behind the Scenes Narrative}**

The Fellowship got in touch with Margaret and spent some time investigating the contents of the crate. The Fellowship, from their interest in rites and rituals, thought the jar of ashes might hold the key to this Act of Wanton Wonder so sent them off to a group called the Fire-Smiths who specialise in celebratory and ceremonial fire-making.

The Fire-Smiths investigated the ashes, scrutinised them under a microscope, poured water on them and tried lighting them. The ashes combusted and left a message burnt into the ground. The message read:

*“Hope can grow through fire and water.”*

Meanwhile, the Green Ginger Fellowship pored over the “constitution” document found in the crate and hunted through other historic sources, calling on our friends at the History Centre and the city archives, to uncover the meaning hidden within.

All the investigations have led the Fellowship and the Fire-Smiths to believe that they need to enact a Fire-rite on Longhill which will bring the community together in collective endeavour. The significance of Longhill is in the river names and the bringing together of fire and water – the synthesis of opposites.

Meanwhile Margaret’s gathering together of a group “The Longhill Hosts” (“we dropped the “Guild of Commoners” because it felt dated) has continued. She’s enlisted various people who are now helping the Fire-Smiths to create the Fire-rite, but more people can join in the week leading up to the event.

The Fire-Smiths will be asking the community to contribute the elements needed to bring this rite together:

* Water will be collected from the streets named after rivers
* Fire – any piece of wood, however small – a pencil, a wooden spoon, a chair – will be collected to add to the fire
* People will be asked the question: “What gives you hope?” All of the answers will be collectively burned so their combined power and energy is released.

**Wednesday 5th July**

The Green Ginger Fellowship post a distilled version of the backstory (above) on social media. This is couched in terms such as…

“We bet you thought we’d forgotten about the crate found in an allotment in Longhill, but we’ve been keeping this one up our sleeves and we’re really excited to reveal details of the next Act of Wanton Wonder.”

Simultaneously Event pages appear on GGF website, Hull 2017 website and Facebook.

HDM print article on same topic.

We will have an image of words burned into the ground.

Invitations from The Fellowship are posted to all Longhill residents’. They are invited to come together to enjoy the spectacle.

**Thursday 6th July**

Activity starts to be seen around East Mount Playing Fields

The Land of Green Ginger stamp is also seen around the estate (particularly around the greens where the prelim activity will take place).

A large crate appears on the estate, carrying the Land of Green Ginger Stamp and the title, time and location of the event.

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday 7th – 9th**

Building and rehearsals with Longhill Hosts

**Monday 10 July**

The Fire-Smiths along with Longhill Hosts set up on one of the green spaces on the estate. They knock on the doors of the houses nearby, collecting water, inviting residents for a cup of tea, collecting wood to be burned on the fire, playing games and asking them to write down their answer to the question “What gives you hope” and placing these inside the crate found in Margaret’s allotment. They collect words of hope and phrases for an anthem about Longhill.

**Wednesday 12 July**

The Fire-Smiths and Longhill hosts set up on another green, and repeat the same activities.

TBC - A shoal of fish is seen processing through the streets.

**Thursday 13 July**

The Fire-Smiths and Longhill hosts set up on another green. By this point the community are starting to get excited about the fire rite. There is a buzz about the estate and already a feeling of celebration.

**Friday 14 July**

A large stack of crates appears outside Eastmount Community Centre. People are seen rehearsing things.

**Saturday 15 July**

On Saturday 15 July, crowds gather at Eastmount Playing Fields. The crate containing the hopes of Longhill’s residents is carried along by a river of fish to the bonfire site. The audience are encouraged to move in a circle dance to create the energy for the burn. As they move the crate is hoisted up the side of the bonfire, when it reaches its resting place in the heart shaped hole of the fire, confetti canons are fired in celebration and the fire is burnt.

**Sunday 16 July**

The Fellowship rake through the ashes left from the bonfire, placing some in a jar to be left in Longhill in the same way that the ones found in the crate must have been.

Amongst the ashes they find a tiny crate, which they open to find that it contains the sound of voices…