



A LETTER FROM LONGVIEW

www.longviewhouse.co.uk
email:longviewhousebandb@gmail.com
Tel : 028 2766 8071
Mob : 07538 292 303

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Note From Krissi & Chris Rochelle:

The Birds, the Horses and the Tigers too

Hello Dear Friends,

It's been a long time hasn't it ? Well actually it's been a very L O N G year, but it seems that there is light at the end of the tunnel, with the Government giving us a date of 21st June **at the latest** to open (watch this space because it could be sooner)! We have already taken two bookings for July and more for later in the year.

That doesn't mean however that our already high hygiene standards will fall short. On the contrary, we will still have our COVID Policies in place (full details are available on our website) www.longviewhouse.co.uk Chris and I have also had our first vaccine with our second booked in April.

What's New :

Inside: We have had new Karndean flooring laid in the kitchen. It makes such a difference to the tiles (which were here when we moved in almost 2 years ago). It looks so much better; it's warmer and much easier to clean. Plus it now matches the rest of the ground floor.

Outside:

10 of the 12 trees that we planted 18 months ago seem to be doing well and already have new leaves/catkins/blossom and we're very excited to see them in full bloom in a few months time.

You will also be able to see the four Silver birch trees we have planted at the side of the newly tarmac-ed lane, but they have had to have wide mesh frames built around them to protect them from the horses in the adjoining field who seem to have a penchant for Silver Birch in their diet !

You will also be able to see cows and their calves in the next field too. They are friendly and inquisitive and we love it when they come over to our fence to say hello.

The triangular shaped garden that we created last year is just starting to see some renewed growth, but we have no plans really for this part of the garden for this year. That area is saturated (very high water table) and so we want to leave it to see what shrubs/bulbs will actually come back from last year. That way we'll see going forward what we **can** plant and what won't survive.

Plans for the Spring:

The hornbeam hedge we planted a year ago (100 ft of it along our boundary) is looking good. This week, we plan to snip off the tops so that they grow bushy from the base. We don't want it to grow too tall so that it blocks out the stunning view you will see of the River Bann valley and the Sperrin Mountains.

Our house is surrounded by tarmac, allowing you to drive right around. However it was laid 20 years ago and so we are planning to have the same Contractor put a 'top coat' on to bring it up to the standard of the lane that he laid last year. We'll have some more outside lighting put in at the same time.

We are planning to create a second patio area this Spring too. This new area is ideal for you to enjoy breakfast or just a relaxing coffee with the morning papers as it gets the morning sun until around noon and is sheltered.

We have a lot of birds come visit us here – Murmuration of Starlings (always a pleasure to watch), Pheasants, Snipes, Wrens, Robins, Thrushes and even Bullfinches, Curlews and Seagulls from the Coast. We also have red hares in the field in front of the house. Bird books and binoculars are all readily available for you in our Guest Lounge.

We are so lucky to have this wildlife on our doorstep and yet we are just a short drive to the coast. Talking about wildlife – there are the **two tigers!** No, we're not joking. There was a Safari Park not too far away from us and when the Owners retired, they wanted to "re-home" the animals. A neighbour of ours took a rather poorly tiger and nursed it until it passed. Thereafter, as he had the Licence and a purpose-built enclosure he bought two more – (younger ones). One is the normal striped tiger and the other is pure white. You can see them sometimes at the top of our road.

Another wonder we have here is very little light pollution and so when the Space Station comes over this part of the world, as long as there is no cloud cover, you will be able to see it very clearly. It's magical and we never tire of going outside to see it. I do wave every time, but as yet, they haven't waved back..... Lol. You will also see the most amazing sunsets here too.

If you are planning a staycation this year, you can download the FREE publications from our website www.longviewhouse.co.uk

Finally, Just a reminder that we are a luxury B&B exclusively for adults. We are perfectly placed for the Causeway Coast, with 9 Blue Flag Beaches, The Giant's Causeway, 11 Game of Thrones filming locations and many Castles and Gardens and the Titanic Museum, The Ulster American Museum, the Mussenden Temple and Demesne, Bushmills Distillery and the Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge

With very best wishes from us both,

Krissi and Chris



Our aim is to exceed your expectations

Rave Review taken from our Testimonials

Having decided to spend some time exploring Northern Ireland, a place my wife and I had yet to visit, I did my research and read the the reviews and we elected to stay at Longview House.

We have just returned from a seven night visit all i can say is BELIEVE THE REVIEWS. Longview House is as near perfect as a B&B can be. It is truly luxurious.

Our large room (the Giant's Causeway suite) had top quality furniture and fittings including a hand made bed topped with the most comfortable mattress and high quality bedding.

The bathroom with separate claw foot bath and shower, deserves a review of it's own, but for brevity just take a look at the website, it's all as described.

The wifi is excellent and there is even an Amazon Echo for personal use.

The views are wonderful including from the dining room. You will soon realise where the name Longview House comes from. The outside areas are immaculately kept with giant chess and a double garden swing, also plenty of other seating which unfortunately we were too busy exploring to use.

As for food the breakfasts were superb with plenty of choice and top quality food cooked and served to perfection. Evening meals are also available on request, an offer we took advantage of and we were not disappointed.

All of the above is of course excellent but ideally needs to be topped off with the personal touch. Well the hosts and owners are Krissi and Chris who are two lovely people who can't do enough for you and really want you enjoy your stay and your Northern Irish location.

They were always ready with advice and directions, sometimes before we realised that we needed them!

Longview House is ideally located in scenic countryside but with easy access to the Causeway Coast, the Glens of Antrim and Belfast.

A few of the places we visited were the Giants Causeway, Portstewart and the Strand, Ballintoy and some small harbours. We also took a ferry to Donegal.

We started our holiday with a list of places we wanted to visit but now have a list of places we would like to revisit and places we have yet to see but would like to.

We therefore hope to return to Northern Island and when we do the only place we would consider staying is Longview House as guests of Krissi and Chris.

John & Linda Tams, Stoke-on-Trent Date of stay: September 2020

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