# ST. BRANDON'S CHURCH BRANCEPETH



# NEWSLETTER: October 2018

Also online at: <a href="http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter">www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter</a>

#### Parochial Church Council

Priest in Charge	•				
Associate Minister	Rev'd. Alison Hobb	s (3789670) or			
		alisonhobbs@stbrandon.org.uk			
Lay Reader	Geoff Moore – co-c	-	P.C.C. (3735674)		
Church Wardens:	Hester Higton	(5974675)			
	James Morgan	(4476520)			
Secretary	Mike Higton	(5974675)			
Treasurer	Geoff Knott	(01833 627094)			
Deanery Synod	Robert Scott-Biggs	(3735907).			
	David Eltringham	(01388 746058)			
	John Jackson	(3782392)			
Other members:-					
Jayne Coo	k (01388 731417)	Jeanette Metcalf	e (3781646)		
Peter Cool	< (01388 731417)	Sue Morgan (378	1172) – co-opted		
Jean Hodg	son (3780289)	Isabel Rae	(9039145)		
Steve Hod	gson (3780289)	John Roberts	(01388 748287)		
Pastoral Assistant	Deborah Hodge (01	L388 745455)			
Prayer Team	Deborah Hodge (01	L388 745455), Ali	son Hobbs (378 9670),		
	Alison Moore (373	5674), Myrleen S	tewart (378 0862).		
Sunday School	Martin Peacock (07	/503242074)			
Messy Church	Gillian Smellie (373	9420) & Liz Thom	nas (3784465)		
Organist	Richard Hird				
Music	Jean Merrington (3	780952)			
Sacristans	Carol Beeby (38474	431), Deborah Ho	dge (01388 745455),		
	Jean Hodgson (378	0289), Valeria Die	etz.		
Safeguarding Officer	Geoff Moore (3735	674)			
Flower Guild	Lynne Hastie (3781	.871)			
Churchyard	Edward Staines (37	80858)			
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (3735	674), Martin Pea	cock (07503242074)		
Worship Team	Hester Higton, Rev'	'd Alison Hobbs, I	Rev'd Fiona Eltringham,		
	Deborah Hodge, Jea	an Hodgson, Jear	Merrington, Geoff Moore,		
	Sue Morgan.				
SMD Team:	Hester Higton, Alis	on Hobbs, Alison	Moore, Martin Peacock.		
Fabric:	Jayne & Peter Cook	k, Steve Hodgson,	John Jackson,		
	James Morgan, Joh	n Morgan, John F	Roberts, Robert Scott-Biggs,		
	Edward Staines.				
Website `	www.stbrandon.or	<u>rg.uk</u>			

**November** Newsletter entries - no later than **October 20th** Please send to Sue Morgan - <u>sueatpeppermires@gmail.com</u> Hello Readers,

A long time ago, I was at party, not far from here. One of the other guests asked me what I did. When I said I was a prison chaplain, she said she didn't think she could talk about that and walked off. So this letter comes with a health warning. If you don't want to hear some of my thoughts about prisons **don't read this**.

**Prisons Week**, which has been running now for 40 years falls this month and this year runs from **14-20 October**. Its aim is to raise awareness of our prisons: often forgotten places. It is a time to reflect on, and, if it is your way, to pray for those who are in prison, for their families and for those who look after them on our behalf.

There has also been quite a lot in the press recently about prisons. In mid-August, the Prisons Minister, Rory Stewart, announced a new project to tackle the worst problems facing 10 of the most challenging prions in our country; funded by £10, 000,000. A lot of those problems are caused by the increase of illegal drugs in the system. And you may have seen, over the summer, two fly on the wall documentaries about our own HMP Durham on Channel 4: filmed over 7 months and highlighting issues of drug abuse and mental health. Then, later in August, the government removed HMP Birmingham from the hands of G4S claiming there was "violence, rat droppings and an overpowering smell of drugs" within its walls.

Now here's the thing. Most of us don't really want to think about prisons. Of course we don't like crime and so it suits us to forget those who commit it. Most prisons are out of the way, some ridiculously hard to get to on public transport, and of course we can't see what goes on inside (slightly more difficult for us to forget them as here in Durham there are 3 prisons!). However Dostoevsky once said "the degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons". I fear we fall flat at that hurdle.

When I joined the Prison Service in 1993 there were just over 44,000 in prisons in England and Wales. In August 2018 that figure was 83,017. The huge increase in numbers is partly due to more people being given custodial sentences and those sentences themselves being longer. In spite of these increases, governments have cut back on prison staff and services. Many prisoners are sharing in cells built for individuals and many prisoners now spent the majority of their day in those cells. We still have the highest prison population in Western Europe. Why is that?

Why are we looking at the end of the problem rather than the cause? There is often a direct link between those who have been brought up in bad relationships or had poor education and those who find themselves in prison. Perhaps we should be looking not just at how our prisons are run but about who we send to them. So, we should think about our sentencing policy and see if there is a better way for some of those offenders to pay for what they have done. If other countries can do it, so can we.

And, of course, it is the failed criminals who end up inside. The successful ones are still out there. A 17<sup>th</sup> century rhyme reminds us.....

The law locks up the man or womanWho steals the goose off the commonBut leaves the greater villain looseWho steals the common from the goose.

Prisons Week also remembers the children of prisoners, who go through their own kind of sentence. In August 2018 there were 94,275 children with a parent in prison. Those children have another parent or family member struggling to bring them up. It can often be difficult for these children to get to see their parent.

Spare a thought too for prison staff, whose jobs seem to get some and more difficult and more dangerous.

I don't expect you all to rush off at this point and apply for jobs in prisons! But spare a thought for those who may have had a bad roll of the dice: those who may be mentally unwell and not be so fast to condemn them. Think too of those who might actually be innocent, as well as all those who turn up every day to work in our prisons. Whoever they are and whatever they have done they are worthy of our thought or/and prayers.

The prayer for Prisons Week this year echoes the words of the Old Testament prophet Micah, bidding us to...

"Act justly, love mercy and to walk humbly together with Christ."

So be it.

Fiona Eltringham

P.S. I hope you'll speak to me at parties!

### St Brandon's October 2018 – service and readings

7th October, Trinity 19		Parish Eucharist – 10.15		
Readings:	First:	Evelyn Aitken	Genesis 2:18–24	
	Second:	Jayne Cook	Hebrews 1:1–4; 2:5–12	
	Gospel:	Mark 10:2–16		
	David Eltringham Inte		Intercessions	
Followed by po		st-sermon discussion (30 mins).		
14 October, Trinity 20		Parish Eucharist – 10	.15	
Readings:	First:	Peter Cook	Amos 5:6–7, 10–15	
	Second:	Robert Scott-Biggs	Hebrews 4:12–16	
	Gospel:		Mark 10:17–31	

Followed by post-sermon discussion (30 mins).

Sally Scott-Biggs

Intercessions

21st October, Trinity 21		Parish Eucharist – 10.15		
Readings:	First:	John Roberts Isaiah 53:4–1		
Second: Gospel:		James Morgan Hebrews 5:1–10		
			Mark 10:35–45	
		Geoff Moore	Intercessions	
	Followed by post-sermon discussion (30 mins).		ו (30 mins).	

#### 28th October, Bible Sunday Parish Eucharist – 10.15

Readings:	First:	Ulrike Hobbs	Isaiah 55:1–11
	Second:	Hester Higton	2 Timothy 3:14–4:5
	Gospel:		John 5:36b–47
		Alison Moore	Intercessions
	Followed by post-sermon discussion (30 mins).		

2nd November, All Souls All Souls' Service – 7.00 pm

#### 4th November, All Saints' Day Parish Eucharist – 10.15

Readings: First: Second: Gospel: Mike Higton Wisdom 3:1–9 Wilfred Foxe Revelation 21:1–6a John 11:32–44

Gillian Smellie Intercessions

# ALL SOULS DAY 2<sup>nd</sup> November



On **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.00pm** there will be a service of commemoration at St. Brandon's Church, Brancepeth. **All are welcome**.

During the service a list of names of the departed will be read out as we remember loved ones who have passed away.

Please add any names you wish to the list (available on the table at the back of the church) or contact Deborah Hodge on 01388 745455 or 0779 124 1608





# WEEKDAY SERVICES IN BRANCEPETH

Weekday mornings, 08:15, St Brandon's Church: Morning Prayer Weekdays at midday, 12:00, The Chapel, Brancepeth Castle: Midday Eucharist Monthly on a Tuesday, 11:00, 3 Russell Close: Holy Communion

You are very welcome to come to any of these services as a one-off, occasional, or regular attender; whether you are local or visiting the area – it's lovely to see you.

If you would like more information, contact Alison Hobbs, 378 9670 or 07504489089

### **Sidespersons**

### **Servers**

Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Nesbitt & Hester Higton	Tom Higton
Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	Maud Oliver & Iris Waggott	Bridget
Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	Steve Hodgson & Pat Sharples	Tom Hobbs
Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>	David Eltringham & Bianca Allen	Jonny
Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Myrleen Stewart & Bonny Bainbridge	Tom Higton

	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Coffee</b>
Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Hillary Moss	Jeanette Metcalfe
Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	Maud Oliver	Alison Moore
Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	Joan Taylor	Evelyn Aitken
Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>	Ronnie Moles	Norma Taylor
Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Knight	Sue Morgan

### **Church Cleaning**

October: Carol Beeby, Jenny Marr, Jean Robinson.

Sarah Nicholson, Norma Taylor.

*November: Bill Curry*, Anne Elliott, Denise Jackson, Martin Peacock.

### St. Brandon's Church – Grass Cutting Rota 2018

### **Church enquiries**

For baptisms, weddings and funerals, please contact Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (3789670) or <u>alisonhobbs@stbrandon.org.uk</u> (Please use Alison's new church email for church business) For church bookings, please contact Jean Hodgson (3780289) For all other enquiries, please contact Hester Higton (5974675

### **VESTRY REPORT**: funerals; baptisms & weddings.

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018, the baptism of Harry Fairfax Cook, son of Lucy Jane Cook and Alexander Morrison Cook.

6<sup>th</sup> September 2018, the funeral of Pamela Abel, RIP.

# Brancepeth Youth Club

October - December 2018

Sunday club nights are from 6.00 – 8.00pm in the Village Hall

All young people in the Village (and beyond, and their friends) are warmly welcome. The age range is from 11 to 17 years inclusive. Dates for this term are as follows:

7 <sup>th</sup> October	4 <sup>th</sup> November	2 <sup>nd</sup> December
21 <sup>st</sup> October	18 <sup>th</sup> November	16 <sup>th</sup> December*

\*This is likely to be the Carol Service, in which case there will be no Youth Club, but everyone is encouraged to come to the service. We'll confirm as soon as we know.

### Leaders

Geoff Moore 373 5674 Martin Peacock 378 4268

Sam Wilkes, Jonny Dobson, Tom and Alison Hobbs will also be helping to lead.

Do you know anyone who, for any reason, would appreciate prayer, a visit, or perhaps to receive communion at home Please tell Deborah Hodge, Authorised Pastoral Assistant, and she will get in touch. 01388 74545 If you would welcome a short time of Christian worship with friends and neighbours, we would love to see you.

You are invited to join us for a small and friendly home Eucharist service at **3 Russell Close** 

Tuesday 9th Oct 2018 at 11:00am

Tuesday 13th Nov 2018 at 11:00am

Tuesday 4th Dec 2018 at 11:00am



Rev'd Alison, and Deborah, St Brandon's Church

# SAMARA'S AID APPEAL FOR SYRIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

#### www.samarasaidappeal.org

13.1 million people in Syria are in desperate need of humanitarian help, and also need to know that, even if so many of us are powerless to stop the fighting, we care and want to help in any way we can. Winter is approaching and babies, children and vulnerable adults will die in the camps for lack of the means to keep warm.

For the past few years, many people in this village and their friends have supported this appeal and I wonder if anyone would be interested in donating items for it once again? This year the emphasis is on clothing, shoes, blankets, towels, sheets and baby bedding – items in very short supply and not generally provided by the larger Aid agencies. Locally the collection is organised by Kate Tarling, the wife of the Vicar at Whitworth and St. Paul's in Spennymoor. It is very important that all donated items are in excellent condition; polished shoes, no missing buttons etc. If you would like to contribute, please contact me on 3780974 for details of what is needed etc. The deadline for getting donations to the collection point for packing in Spennymoor is 7<sup>th</sup> October. Financial donations to help with the transport costs are also gratefully received.

Thank you – Vivienne Lowe

### **Book Club**

In October we'll meet at 7 Goodwell Lea, home of Rosemary & Mark Monument, at 19.30. This month's book is 'The Museum of You,' by

\_.\_....

Carys Bray. All welcome.

Val Gibbons



Sunday mornings 10.15am. During Eucharist Service

Suitable for school age children. Bible stories, crafts, games. Leaders fully DBS checked.

Opportunity for children to worship informally with or without their grown ups, then re-join for the end of the Eucharist service.

Wriggly church area in Neville Chapel available for pre-schoolers to enjoy with their grown-ups. Speaker relay to overhear Eucharist Service

### Sunday School October 2018

'Thy Kingdom come...' sessions based on the gospel reading

October 7<sup>th</sup>

Martin Peacock and Carol Beeby

Martin Peacock and Valeria Dietz

**Receive the Kingdom like a child** Mark 10:13-16

October 14<sup>th</sup> Metcalf

Martin Peacock and Jeanette

Things that get in the way Mark 10:17 - 27

October 21<sup>st</sup> Martin Peacock and Deborah Hodge

Be a servant

Mark 10:35-45

October 28<sup>th</sup>

I want to see

Mark 10:46-52

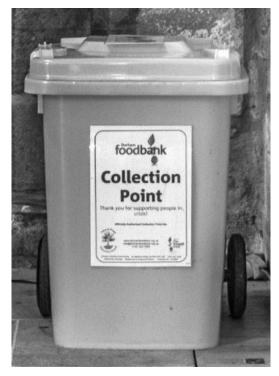
No Messy Church in October – next

meeting Nov 4th

### STOP UK HUNGER

This is the tagline for the Trussell Trust. This morning David and I took the contents of Brancepeth's foodbank bin to the Trussell Trust's foodbank centre at Chester le Street.

Normally we take it to the food bank at Brandon, where there is also a lunch club laid on by the trust. But last Tuesday we had something else on. The benefit of the Chester le Street centre is that they weigh our donation. So on 12 September Brancepeth donated 46.16 kg of goods, which is apparently the equivalent of 58 meals. **Thank you** so much to everyone who puts stuff in our bin.



The food packs provided by the food banks

provide 3 days of nutritionally balanced tinned and dried food donated by the local community to those in need.

To obtain one of these packs, it is necessary to have a voucher from a frontline professional such as a doctor or a social worker.

Between 1st April 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, the Trussell Trust's foodbank network distributed 1,332,952 three day emergency food supplies to people in crisis, a 13% increase on the previous year. 484,026 of these went to children. This is a higher increase than the previous financial year, when foodbank use was up by 6.64%. Figures of which, I think, we should be ashamed.

For the first time, new national data highlights the growing proportion of foodbank referrals due to benefit levels not covering the costs of essentials, driving the increase in foodbank use overall. This too is surely appalling.

So, may I take the liberty of reminding you about the lovely yellow bin that sits at the back of church waiting to be filled? We were asked to try and give UHT milk and fruit juice, as apparently those in food crisis often make ends meet by eating breakfast cereal, but there is a list in the bin of other goods that are welcome.

Fiona Eltringham

#### PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING DIARY October 2018

You are invited to use this diary to share in the prayers offered daily in church This month the focus is on our deanery as it looks to 'reshape' itself so as to serve God as best it can using all available resources 1 Pray for our Area Dean Heather Murray as she leads the 24 churches in our Deanery into a period of change

- 2 Whitworth Lane and Black House
- 3 Oakenshaw Road

4 Pray for the Deanery Leadership Team as it seeks to engage with churches in the Deanery to discuss possible scenarios for the future

5 Quarry Hill and cottages, Morley Farm, Littlewhite Farm and Goodwell Field

6 Pray for St Brandon's to be open to consider new ways of serving God in our community and Deanery

#### 7 Pray for the Diocese of Durham as it seeks to bless communities in Jesus' name

- 8 Station House and the Village North
- 9 Foxes Row, Russell Close and North Field View

10 Spring Farm, Wooley Grange, High Wooley, Weather Hill, South Brandon Farm and Brawns Den

11 Goodwell Lea North

12 Pray for the central Durham churches in our deanery - St Giles, St Margaret, St Nicholas and St Oswald

13 Goodwell Lea South

# 14 Pray for Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu. For wisdom encouragement and joy

- 15 Stockley Grove
- 16 For church members outside the parish
- 17 Durham Road and The Forge
- 18 Peppermires, Culmaran Tudhoe Lodge, Nafferton Farm,
- 19 Pray for the smaller village churches in the Deanery Esh with Hamsteels, Shincliffe, Kimblesworth, Kelloe, Pittington, Bearpark and Brancepeth
- 20 The Rectory, Rectory Cottages, Bridleway, Constable Meadows, Hoppy Acres and Thornberry Garth

#### 21 Give thanks for all lay readers and lay leaders in the Diocese

- 22 The Village South
- 23 The Castle and Lodge

24 Pray for some of the larger villages in the Deanery - Witton Gilbert and Sacriston, Waterhouses, Ushaw Moor, Coxhoe, Langley Park, Cornforth and Ferryhill, Shadforth and Sherburn

25 Give thanks for all those who serve or have served as Deanery Representatives

26 We pray for all carers who are feeling the weight of their burdens for the strength and courage to carry on

27 Park Lodge, Garden House, Nursery House, East Bothy, Scripton Lodge, Scripton Farm

#### 28 As the clocks change give thanks for the seasons in our year and in our lives

29 Pray for the more urban areas in our Deanery - St Cuthberts Durham, Newton Hall, Nevilles Cross, Brandon, Belmont, Chilton

- 30 Holywell and East Parks
- 31 As children prepare to enjoy Halloween pray for their protection

### Wednesday Coffee Morning Village Hall 10.30 – 11.45

All are very welcome – plus family & friends, any age!

More volunteers are needed if we are to continue with the <u>weekly</u> coffee mornings. If you can spare a couple of hours once every 6 weeks or so please call Joan on 378 3630. If you would like to help but are unable to bring a cake, scones or some biscuits please still call as we have volunteers willing to bake but unable to help on a Wednesday morning. Please think about helping out and if there is someone you'd like to bring along to help you even better. Although you will be included in the rota published each month it is always possible to change when dates aren't suitable.

Oct	$3^{rd}$	Christine Jones & Rob Waggott
Oct	$10^{\text{th}}$	Evelyn Aitken & Bill Currie
Oct	$17^{\text{th}}$	Linda Larnach & Joan Taylor
Oct	$24^{\text{th}}$	Pat Allatt & Vivienne Lowe
Oct	31 <sup>st</sup>	Jean & Jim Merrington
Nov	$7^{\rm th}$	Josie Armstrong & Gillian Smellie
Nov	$14^{\text{th}}$	Lynda Blakesly & Stephanie Stephenson
Nov	21 <sup>st</sup>	Christine Jones & Rob Waggott
Nov	$28^{th}$	Evelyn Aitken & Bill Currie
Dec	5 <sup>th</sup>	Sheena Murray & Linda Larnach

If your turn is unsuitable please swap with someone else. Josie Armstrong,

or Pat Allatt may be able to help.

Please let your partner know: -

Pat Allatt 3780454	Linda Larnach 375 7554.
Rob Waggott 3783592	Sheena Murray 378 1097
Evelyn Aitken 3789908	Vivienne Lowe 3780974
Josie Armstrong 01388 748902	Jean Merrington 3780952
Bill Currie 3783414	Janiece Spence 4356357
Christine Jones 3789297	Joan Taylor 3783630
Lynda Blakesly & Stephanie Stephenso	n 07788420930
Gillian Smellie 3739420	

# **Brancepeth's got talent!**

By popular request, the Christmas Show is back on the calendar. Please contact us if you would volunteer to do a turn, singing, dancing, acting, telling jokes, reciting.....Acts should be 3 to 5 minutes long, unless a lot of people are involved. Please, no longer, as a lot of people want to be included. I hope all the usual performers will be on stage, as well as some new faces. The show will be on the 8th December, with a dress rehearsal on 2nd, or a time that suits you.

Martin Peacock 0750324074

Rosemary Monument <u>mwmonument@gmail.com</u>

#### GARDEN CLUB The Village Show Results

There were 15 participants this year which was down on previous years and the total					
	number of entries was 136.				
	Winner	s of each section we	ere,		
Vegetable and Fruit.	Most points	Josie Armstrong.	Best exhibit.	Paul Spence	
Flowers.	Most points.	Alison Young.	Best exhibit.	Alison Young	
Containers. Maud Oliver					
Flower Arrangement	s Most points.	Christine Jones.	Best exhibit.	Janiece	
Spence	-				
Home Produce.	Most points.	Evelyn Aitken.	Best exhibit.	Josie	
Armstrong	-	·			
Photography.	Most points	Peter Hodge.	Best exhibit.	Peter Hodge	
	1	C		C	

Overall 1st place. Janiece Spence 2nd place. Evelyn Aitken 3rd place. Josie Armstrong



#### Future events.

**Friday 5th October**, visit to Halls of Heddon (the Dahlia experts) West Heddon Nursery Centre, Heddon on the Wall, N'land. NE15 0JS. Meet there at 5.30 pm or leave from Castle gates 4.30pm. Anyone requiring a lift, please speak to Peter Aitken 3789908 a few days before, and he will make the arrangements. After the visit, a meal at The Manor House, Carterway Heads.

**Wednesday 28 November**. Village Hall, 7.30pm. Talk by Martin Fish. Tickets from Monitors, Peter Allatt 3780454 or Peter Aitken 3789908, £5 to include a glass of wine and nibbles. Entry by ticket only. Martin, experienced gardener and radio broadcaster will talk with his wife Jill on the subject of *Gardening on the Menu*. Martin and his wife talk about how to get the best from your fruit and veg plot and how to make the most of your harvest in the kitchen. You can sample some of Jill's recipes and take home a recipe sheet. (see also <u>https://www.martinfish.com/</u>)



# 7th October 2018 *Fresh – Fantastic – Local!*

2 x courses (main & dessert followed by tea/coffee) £9.50 per person (£10.50 non-BCA members)

Village Hall, 2pm

 (under 5s no charge, under 13s £7 – numbers limited to 20 people, bring own drinks)

Bookings in advance: Josie Armstrong: <u>jo.arm@me.com</u> / Peter Aitken 378 9908 / Jo Dalton: <u>jdalton2103@gmail.com</u> (proceeds to BCA)

# **BCA CINEMA CLUB**



# Wednesday, October 3rd at 7.30pm 'JERSEY BOYS'

Biographical musical drama of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons 2h 14mins

Wednesday, October 17th at 7.30pm 'THE LIVES OF OTHERS'

Academy & BAFTA Award winner for best foreign language film 2h 17mins in German with sub titles.



Festive Charity Fundraising Bash



A not so Silent Night!



Retro Speakeasy Jazz night featuring....

# 'The Post Modernaires'

# Friday 14th December 2018

# 8pm, Village Hall

Black Tie/Band/Casino

### Tickets £22

(includes: a glass of fizz on arrival & light supper - bring own drinks for table)

If you wish to host a table for 8-10 people please contact Josie Armstrong: <u>Jo.arm@me.com</u> / 0788 22 33 118

The Post Modernaires has a tremendous following - check them out on you tube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yWAWt6Knfd0



### <u> TAI CHI EXERCISE CLUB – VILLAGE HALL</u>

The Tai Chi Exercise Club, established over a year ago, continues to thrive. We meet every Wednesday at 9.30-10.30 to practice our Tai Chi, which is suitable for everyone including those with restricted movement. We each contribute £2 to cover the hire of the hall and any excess is used at the discretion of members.

We now find ourselves with a surplus of funds and have decided to donate £700 equally between 7 charities – including the BCA. If you know of any local charities that would benefit from a donation, please let me know.

If you or your friends would like to come along to Tai Chi or would like to know more about our club please get in touch. Afterwards, you may also like to pop in to the Coffee Morning at the Village Hall from 10.30-11.30.

Deborah Chapman

Tel: 0191 3781409 / deborahmchapman@btinternet.com

### **Village Seat Restoration Project**

With the successful 'Vote 100' ballot, the Parish Council noted the views expressed and have initiated through the Area Action Plan, restoration of the very sad looking village seats. These were once on the station platform and presumably Victorian in origin. Now the seat next to the Castle gates has been restored, in traditional 'Brancepeth Estate red', by Dave Armstrong, Jim Merrington and Ian Stoker. Dave commented 'I've enjoyed doing it. It was like restoring an old car, except there were no wheels, engine or electrics. Now to move onto the one at the cross roads, but I must do my window frames first, dig the compost heap, cut the grass........'. Residents do look after some parts of the village outside their homes but there are still other things that could benefit from a tidy up if you want to help. Go and test drive the restored seat!

Friends of the Field.

We are looking for people who are interested in being part of a team who will organise events etc on the village field. If you are interested please contact any member of the Parish Council or James Dalton, <u>idalton2103@gmail.com</u>

# DLI – 50th Anniversary

On 9th September, the Castle played host to men and women and close relatives of soldiers who had been stationed in the village while the Army were in based at Brancepeth.

The event was organised by the Dobson family with displays etc. by the Archives and Steve Gregory. About one hundred guests came for the afternoon, shared memories, roamed around the public rooms and enjoyed afternoon tea.

This year marks the 50th anniversary since the Durham Light Infantry ceased to exist as a separate regiment and was incorporated into the Light Infantry, so it was a particularly significant time for so many.



Chelsea pensioner, Colin Thackeray, cutting a special DLI cake made by Richard Jackson.

# <u>'100 Club'</u>

Many thanks to all who have participated in this over the last 3 years. The last draw was in August and it's time for a rest. I'm pleased to say that we have raised over £1800 in total for the Community Association and that £1350 was paid out in prizes. Allee Longstaff

#### Dates for the Diary:-

Oct	1 <sup>st</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup> 29 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	Snooker Club
Oct	1 <sup>st</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup> 29 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	Yoga
Oct	2 <sup>nd</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Knit & Natter
Oct	contact Jean Merrington	Tuesday	Choir
Oct	3 <sup>rd</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup>	Wed	Exercise Class
Oct	3 <sup>rd</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup>	Wed	Coffee Morning
Oct	3 <sup>rd</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup>	Wed	Art Class
Oct	4 <sup>th</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Badminton
Oct	7 <sup>th</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday	Youth Club

#### Please confirm dates with leaders

Oct	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Wed	Cinema Club, (Jersey Boys), 7.30pm, VH	
Oct	5 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	Garden Club visit to Hall's of Heddon	
Oct	7 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Sunday Lunch, 2.00pm. Village Hall	
Oct	12 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm. 7 Goodwell Lea	
Oct	$17^{th}$	Wed	Cinema Club, (The Lives of Others), 7.30pm, VH	
Nov	4 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Messy Church. 3pm-5pm, Church	
Nov	11 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Bishop's Consort, Bach Cantatas with David Stancliffe	
			7.30pm, Church	
Nov	$28^{th}$	Wed	Garden Club, talk by Peter Fish, 7.30pm, VH	
Dec	8 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	Christmas Show, Village Hall	
Dec	$14^{th}$	Fri	Festive Charity Fundraising Bash, 8.00pm, VH	
Villago Hall: plags contact Garalding Jannings -				

Village Hall: please contact Geraldine Jennings –

gerryjennings5@googlemail.com or tel. 3781583

Front cover © Elizabeth Metcalfe– South tower Back cover © Jean Cotton – the refurbished village bench, 2018

www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

### November Newsletter entries no later than 20<sup>th</sup> October Please send to Sue Morgan at <u>sueatpeppermires@gmail.com</u>

#### **Brancepeth Community Association - Management Committee**

Building coordinator George Gibbons Chairman Phil Davison Vice chairman John Morgan Alison Hobbs Church Geraldine Jennings Bookings Peter Aitken Secretary Subscription Margot Harrison Treasurer Joan Taylor Jo Dalton Website & Fundraising Jean Merrington Choir Joan Taylor Wednesday Coffee James Dalton ΙT Social Events Josie Armstrong

http://brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk/ Tel: 0191 3783952

#### **Parish Activities**

Chairman B.C.A. Secretary Treasurer Membership Hall Bookings Archives & History Badminton Brancepeth Allotment	George Gibbons, 3 The Forge (3784200) Peter Aitken, The Copse, Foxes Row (3789908) Margot Harrison, Downsgarth (3784813) Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (3780974) Geraldine Jennings, 5 Goodwell Lea (3781583) Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (3780974) Peter Hodge, (01388 745455) John Morgan, (3781172)			
& Leisure Gardeners' Club baacommittee3@gmail.com				
Book Club	Val Gibbons (3784200)			
Choir	Jean Merrington (3780952)			
Drama	Martin Peacock (07503242074)			
Flower Guild	Jessie Brown (3782748)			
Garden Club	Barry Dickinson (3782398)			
Snooker Bookings	Geraldine Jennings (3781583)			
Wednesday Coffee	Joan Taylor (3783630)			
Yoga	Lynne Hastie (3781871)			
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (3735674)			
Parish Council				
Chairperson	Christine Jones (3789297)			
	Dave Armstrong (01388 748902)			
	Jessie Brown (3782748)			
	James Dalton (3780771)			
	Michael Lowe (3780974			
	Jim Merrington (3780952)			
	Philip Pickles (07785998431)			
Parish Clerk	Geoff Smith 07986197346			
County Councillors:	olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk			
	<u>fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk</u>			
	www.brancepeth-parish-council.org			

