

# **ST. BRANDON'S CHURCH**

## **BRANCEPETH**



**NEWSLETTER: December 2019**

Also online at: [www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter)

## Parochial Church Council

Priest in Charge	Rev'd Anna Brooker (3780578) or <a href="mailto:rector@stbrandon.org.uk">rector@stbrandon.org.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:anna.brooker@durham.ac.uk">anna.brooker@durham.ac.uk</a>
Associate Minister	Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (3789670) <a href="mailto:alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk">alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk</a>
Curate	Revd Sabine Tenge-Heslop (01388 730855) <a href="mailto:s.u.tenge-heslop@durham.ac.uk">s.u.tenge-heslop@durham.ac.uk</a>
Lay Reader	Geoff Moore – co-opted member of 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 Roberts (01388 748287)
Other members:-	
	Jayne Cook (01388 731417) Steve Hodgson (3780289) Peter Cook (01388 731417) Sue Morgan (3781172) Tom Hobbs (07857437860) Isabel Rae (9039145) Jean Hodgson (3780289)
Pastoral Assistant	Deborah Hodge (01388 745455)
Prayer Team	Deborah Hodge (01388 745455), Alison Hobbs (378 9670), Alison Moore (373 5674), Myrleen Stewart (378 0862).
Sunday School	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Messy Church	Liz Thomas (3784465)
Organist	Richard Hird
Village Choir	Jean Merrington (3780952)
Sacristans	Carol Beeby (3847431), Deborah Hodge (01388 745455), Jean Hodgson (3780289), Valeria Dietz.
Safeguarding Officer	Geoff Moore (3735674)
Flower Guild	Lynne Hastie (3781871)
Churchyard	Edward Staines (3780858)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (3735674), Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Worship Team	Hester Higton, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Rev'd Fiona Eltringham, Deborah Hodge, Jean Hodgson, Jean Merrington, Geoff Moore, Sue Morgan.
SMD Team:	Hester Higton, Alison Hobbs, Alison Moore, Martin Peacock.
Fabric:	James Morgan (chair), Peter Cook, Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs, Steve Hodgson, Geoff Knott, John Roberts, Robert Scott-Biggs, Edward Staines.
Website	<a href="http://www.stbrandon.org.uk">www.stbrandon.org.uk</a>

**NB January Newsletter entries – no later than December 16th**

**Please send to Sue Morgan – [sueatpeppermires@gmail.com](mailto:sueatpeppermires@gmail.com)**

Dear Friends

### ***Coming Home...?***

We started in September, not too bad really. Many calls and messages later, by last week we'd done it! Agreed who's going where, and when, for Christmas. The annual December 'homecoming' ritual is still strong, the gravitational pull towards our roots, which drives thousands on to motorways and trains - and others to the airports to escape it all!

'Advent' means, literally, 'coming towards'. There may be times this month when we feel that a juggernaut is heading fast towards us, as the commercial pace speeds up and the shopping days count down - and that's without sensitive discussions over who's making trifle or how many mince pies are needed. This December, we will also be navigating a General Election! Our bishops have recently sent an open letter about this, extracts from which are included later in this letter, along with a prayer, both of which I hope you will find helpful.

These days we most often associate Advent with calendars full of chocolate, which tend to mask the church's season of preparation. Through December, we prepare ourselves for two things. Firstly, for when Christ returns as judge and King, when his kingdom comes fully, as we ask in The Lord's Prayer. Secondly, we prepare to celebrate the first coming of Jesus Christ as a baby in Bethlehem, as Emmanuel, God with us, who became a human being and entered into all the mess and suffering of life on earth. During Advent there will be prayer stations set out in church, a new one being added each week: do make use of them.

So what difference does it make that Jesus Christ is 'coming towards' us? Certainly, it reminds us that God is looking our way: he hasn't turned his back on the world, is not indifferent to evil and suffering – quite the opposite. As Christians we are called to pray and work for justice and peace in every corner of the world, starting with our own neighbourhood. And at times of pain and loss in our own lives Christ is not distant, but alongside, to give us comfort, strength and hope.

Importantly too, Jesus didn't enter the world as a boss but as a baby. He took on the frailty and vulnerability of human life, and with his earthly parents – a stepfather and a teenage mum- was a homeless refugee. He knows how it feels to be a victim, powerless, marginalized. He comes with compassion, not criticism, love, not lists of things we need to do.

There will be many opportunities at St Brandon's to celebrate Jesus' coming during the next few weeks and you are welcome to them all: full details are in the enclosed card. I am really looking forward to my first Christmas in Brancepeth and to sharing it with you.

With all good wishes

Anna Brooker

Priest in Charge, St Brandon's Church.

Dear friends

We write to encourage everyone in our church communities to engage as fully as possible in the General Election process. We hope this letter will also be widely shared so that we can encourage all who are entitled to vote to do so. We believe it is vital for our long term health as a democratic nation that everyone plays their part by voting. ... We want to highlight what we believe need to be core common considerations over these weeks of campaigning.

### **LANGUAGE, TONE & TRUTHTELLING**

Alongside many others, we urge everyone involved in campaigning to take care with the language that they use of those with whom they disagree, and whom they wish to defeat in the election.... We ask for truth-telling that is undertaken with humility and care for the other. Differing political views and policies are arrived at after considerable thought; so careful listening and critiquing are required from all of us....

### **CARE FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE AND NEEDY**

When assessing different policies, care... is always at the heart of a Christian response. Will the poor be raised up? Will the disabled be respected and supported? Will children be cared for and educated well? Will the elderly be valued? Will the asylum seeker and refugee be treated with welcome and hospitality? Will the sick and dying be cared for and respected? We can arrive at different judgments on what policies will be most effective...but they ought always to be at the centre of what a policy seeks to achieve.

### **THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE NATION AND WORLD**

The long-running debate on Brexit shows us that different people have very contrasting views on what is best for the nation. Nevertheless, this... must stay at the heart of our consideration though never seeking simply what is the best for our own nation at the cost of the wellbeing of our neighbours in other nations. This is also true as we consider the wellbeing of the planet. Climate change and how we respond as individuals and a nation should be a key area for us to consider in deciding how we vote.

### **PRAYER**

As Christians we believe that prayer matters, and that the God to whom we pray is active in our world. So we should be praying daily for all those seeking election and for the whole process. We should also hold whoever forms the next Government before God in our prayers... The Church of England has produced a prayer for the General Election and we encourage its use.

*God of grace and truth,  
send your Spirit to guide us  
as we discover your will for our country.  
Help us to discuss the issues before us  
with courtesy, truth and mutual respect  
and grant that all who stand for parliament  
will seek to serve the common good  
through him who came not to be served but to serve  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

May we all hold our nation deeply in prayer. May we find a way of moving forward afresh as a nation together committed to the common good of all in our land, and the common good of our entire world.

**In Christ Bishop Paul & Bishop Sarah**

## **St Brandon's December 2019 – services and readings**

### **1<sup>st</sup> December, Advent Sunday Parish Eucharist – 10.15**

Readings: First:	Ulrike Hobbs	Isaiah 2: 1-5
Second:	James Morgan	Romans 13:11-14
Gospel:		Matthew 24: 36-end
	Geoff Moore	Intercessions

### **Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Advent 2**

### **Parish Eucharist 10.15**

Readings: First:	Hester Higton	Isaiah 11:1-10
Second:	Wilfred Foxe	Romans 15: 4-13
Gospel:		Matthew 3: 1-12
	Alison Moore	Intercessions

### **Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Advent 3**

### **Parish Eucharist 10.15**

Readings: First:	Mike Higton	Isaiah 35: 1-10
Second:	Janette Foxe	James 5: 7-10
Gospel:		Matthew 11: 2-11
	Nick Brooker	Intercessions

### **Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> Advent 4**

### **Parish Eucharist 10.15**

Readings: First:	Anne Allen	Isaiah 7: 10-16
Second:	David Eltringham	Romans 1: 1-17
Gospel:		Matthew 1: 18-end
	Geoff Moore	Intercessions

### **Carol Service 6.00pm**

*Readings and readers as arranged*

### **Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve**

### **Christingle**

*Reading tbc*

### **Midnight Communion 11.30 pm**

Readings: *(as on readings sheet)*

First:	Peter Cook	Isaiah 52:7-10
Second:	Robert Scott-Biggs	Hebrews 1: 1-4 (only)
Gospel:		John 1: 1-14

## **Dec 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day      All Age Eucharist 10.15**

### **Readings**

First:	Nick Brooker	Isaiah 52: 7-10
Gospel:		Luke 2: 8-20 <i>Lectionary p.19;</i> <i>not as on readings sheet</i>
	tba	Intercessions

## **Dec 29<sup>th</sup> Christmas 1      Parish Eucharist 10.15**

First:	Carolyn Knott	Isaiah 63: 7-9
Second:	Martin Peacock	Hebrews 2: 10-end
Gospel:		Matthew 2: 13-end
	David Eltringham	Intercessions

## **Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Epiphany      Parish Eucharist 10.15**

Readings	First:	Jean Hodgson	Isaiah 60: 1-6
	Second:	Geoff Knott	Ephesians 3: 1-12
	Gospel:		Matthew 2: 1-12
		Liam Dietz	Intercessions

### **Sidespersons**

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Joan Nesbitt & Hester Higton  
Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Maud Oliver & Iris Waggott  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Pat Sharples & Bianca Allen  
Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> Myrleen Stewart & Bonny Bainbridge  
Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> Steve Hodgson & David Eltringham  
(Carol Service 6.30pm)

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Hester Higton, Tom Higton & Deborah Hodge  
(Christingle 5.00pm)

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Sally & Robert Scott-Biggs  
(Midnight Communion 11.30pm)

Dec 25<sup>th</sup> Fiona Eltringham & Sue Morgan

Dec 29<sup>th</sup> Carolyn & Geoff Knott

Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Jean Merrington & Steve Hodgson

### **Servers**

Tom Hobbs

Jonny

Bridget

Martin

Jonny

Tom Higton

Martin

Tom Hobbs



## Flowers

Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Advent Greening
Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Advent 2
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Advent 3
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Advent 4
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Guild
Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	

## Coffee

Alison Moore
Evelyn Aitken
Norma Taylor
Sue Morgan
Jeanette Metcalfe
Alison Moore

## Church Cleaning

**December:** *Sue Morgan*, Bonny Bainbridge, Fiona Eltringham, Deborah Hodge.

**January:** *Evelyn Aitken*, Carolyn Knott, Jean Merrington, Myrleen Stewart.

## **Brancepeth Youth Club**

December 2019

*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. The last dates this term are:

1<sup>st</sup> December

15<sup>th</sup> December

*Leaders*

Geoff Moore

373 5674

Martin Peacock

07503 242074

Jonny Dobson, Tom and Alison Hobbs and Sabine Tenge-Heslop will also be helping to lead.

VESTRY REPORT: funerals, baptisms, weddings and interments

The interment of ashes in the Circle of Remembrance.

Stewart John Hamilton Allen, on 17 November 2019. RIP

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 11th Dec 2019 at 11:00am

Tuesday 14th Jan 2020 at 11:00am

Tuesday 11th Feb 2020 at 11:00am

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

***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 745455***

### **Book Club**

The next meeting will be hosted by Dawn and Nick Ellis at 24 Goodwell Lea on Friday 29 November at the usual time of 7.30 p.m. We will be discussing *The Cockroach* by Ian McEwan. In this short political satire a giant cockroach is transformed into the Prime Minister. Totally believable!

All welcome,

Val Gibbons.

### **New Year's Day Invitation to the Castle**

Cheese and Chat at the Castle, midday to 3pm. Donations invited to Send A Cow or The Children's Society, all welcome, just turn up!





## Sunday School December 2019

Date	Topic	Leaders
1 <sup>st</sup> December	<b>Christmas characters 3 Shepherd</b>	Martin and Carol
8 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Christmas characters 4 Wise man</b>	Martin and Jeanette
15 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Christmas characters 5 Baby</b>	Martin and Sabine



### DH7 ADVENT COURSE

**A Course for Advent**, using the new York Course ‘Who are we praying to?’ – Fridays 2:00-3:00 at St John’s Meadowfield, details as below:

Friday 22 Nov – ‘Praying with perseverance’ 1 Cor 12:1-13

Friday 29 Nov – ‘Praying in the face of unanswered prayer’ Jn 11:1-57

Friday 06 Dec – ‘Praying for the marginalised’ Job 1:1-12, 11:1-20

Friday 13 Dec – ‘Prayer and Covenant’ Gen 12:1-7, Ex 19:3-8, Deut 29:1-15, Jer 11:31-34, Lk 22:14-23

Mary Tribe has copies of the course booklet – otherwise they should be available from the Cathedral Bookshop. Please contact Anna Brooker if you would like further information.



## **ALL AGE**

**If you've not been but want to come  
Then get yourselves along  
We'll all introduce ourselves  
And sing the Great Big God song!  
We'll show you that it's church alright,  
But not church as you know it!  
The best way for you to see God's love  
Is for us to share it and show it!**

**SUNDAYS 3-5 PM**

**St. Brandon's Church  
Brancepeth**

## **December 8th Christmas Party**

Further details of St Brandon's services can be found at  
<http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/worship/>

Further details of Messy Church can be found at  
<https://www.messychurch.org.uk/>

Further details of St Brandon's Messy Church can be found at  
<https://www.messychurch.org.uk/church/st-brandons-messy-church>

# Prayer and Thanksgiving Diary December 2019

*You are invited to use this diary and share in the prayers offered daily in church.*

**Advent prayer: 'Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light'**

- 1 Advent 1 Pray for the world, that we may live for light not collude with darkness**
- 2 Pray for those who live in Goodwell Lea
- 3 Village North, Station House, Railway Cottages
- 4 Whitworth Lane, Black House
- 5 Quarry Hill, the cottages, Morley Farm, Littlewhite farm, Goodwell Field
- 6 **St Nicholas** Pray for the generosity in the world to overcome the greed in the world
- 7 Village Show tonight. Give thanks for fun and community
- 8 **Advent 2 Messy Church today, give thanks for God's life, light and love**
- 9 Stockley Grove, Bridge Road, Tanglewood
- 10 Golf Club, Park Lodge, Garden House, Nursery House, East Bothy, Scription Lodge, Scription Farm
- 11 The Oakenshaw Road area, Village South, Castle and Lodge
- 12 Election Day. Pray for those who will be our MPs from tomorrow
- 13 **St Lucy**, the saint of light. Pray for enlightened attitudes, policies and decisions from our new government
- 14 Pray for peace and joy for those who are stressed or distressed by Christmas-tide
- 15 **Advent 3 Give thanks for friendship and pray for those who are lonely**
- 16 The Rectory, Rectory Cottages, Bridleway, Constable Meadows, Hoppy acres, Thornberry Garth
- 17 For any suffering coercive control or domestic abuse, for a way out of the darkness
- 18 Peppermires, Holywell, East Parks, Culmaran Tudhoe Lodge, Nafferton Farm
- 19 Foxes Row, Russell Close, North Field View
- 20 Durham Rd and the Forge
- 21 Wooley Grange, High Wooley, Weather Hill, Springwell farm, South Brandon Farm, Brawns Den
- 22 **Advent 4 The Carol Service, pray that it will draw us to the light of Christ**
- 23 Pray for those travelling at this time of year
- 24 Christingle service today. Pray for inspiration for adults and children alike
- 25 **Christmas Day 'your birth . . . draws us to wonder at heaven touching earth'**
- 26 **St Stephen** Give thanks for those who give their lives for what is right and true
- 27 **St John** Pray for those who help us to see what is right and true
- 28 **Holy Innocents day** Pray for children and young people as they challenge us
- 29 **First Sunday of Christmas For rest and restoration**
- 30 For the climate crisis; for all who are working to protect our world
- 31 Give thanks for three good things from 2019!

## Wednesday Coffee Morning    Village Hall 10.30 – 11.45

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

Dec	4 <sup>th</sup>	Josie Armstrong & Gillian Smellie
Dec	11 <sup>th</sup>	Lynda Blakesly & Stephanie Stephenson
Dec	18 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Taylor & Pat Allatt

*Happy Christmas*

*Happy New Year*

Jan	8 <sup>th</sup>	Christine & Martyn Jones
Jan	15 <sup>th</sup>	Evelyn Aitken & Rosemary Monument
Jan	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sheena Murray & Linda Larnach
Jan	29 <sup>th</sup>	Vivienne Lowe & Janiece Spence
Feb	5 <sup>th</sup>	Jean & Jim Merrington

If your turn is unsuitable please swap with someone else. Bonny Bainbridge or Hillary Moss may be able to help. Please let your partner know: -

<i>Pat Allatt 3780454</i>	<i>Linda Larnach 375 7554.</i>
<i>Bonny Bainbridge 3789304</i>	<i>Sheena Murray 378 1097</i>
<i>Evelyn Aitken 3789908</i>	<i>Vivienne Lowe 3780974</i>
<i>Josie Armstrong 01388 748902</i>	<i>Jean Merrington 3780952</i>
<i>Rosemary Monument 3780456</i>	<i>Janiece Spence 4356357</i>
<i>Christine Jones 3789297</i>	<i>Joan Taylor 3783630</i>
<i>Lynda Blakesly &amp; Stephanie Stephenson 07788420930</i>	
<i>Gillian Smellie 3739420</i>	<i>Hillary Moss 3789202</i>

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### **Knit & Natter**

There will be no knit & Natter meetings in December. They will re-commence on January 7th.

### **TAI CHI - CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR BREAK**

The Tai Chi Exercise Club will break for Christmas and New Year. Our last session will be Wednesday 18th December reconvening Wednesday 8th January. Merry Christmas and all the very best for the New Year.

Deborah Chapman  
(07485 026877)

# BCA CINEMA CLUB



As the release date for the **Downton Abbey DVD** has now been announced for January it will be included in next year's programme.

Instead on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm we will show the perennial Richard Curtis Christmas favourite.

**‘LOVE ACTUALLY’** 2hrs 15mins

A poster for Samaritan's Purse. It features a young boy wearing a grey beanie and a blue jacket, smiling and holding a red shoebox with white polka dots. The background is green with white chalk-like drawings of a pencil, a teddy bear, and the words 'Thank YOU' and 'SO MUCH.' in a banner. Below the boy, a red banner reads 'SAMARITAN'S PURSE SENDS Special thanks to'. Underneath, the name 'St. Brandon's Brancepeth.' is written in cursive. Below that, text reads 'for sharing love and joy in the form of a simple shoebox gift through Operation Christmas Child.' followed by 'Nick Cole' in cursive. At the bottom, it says 'Nick Cole, Director of Operation Christmas Child UK'. There is a logo for 'Samaritan's Purse OPERATION Christmas Child' on the left and the 'Samaritan's Purse INTERNATIONAL RELIEF' logo on the right. Small text at the bottom left says 'Visit [samaritans-purse.org.uk](http://samaritans-purse.org.uk) and learn how to bless a child overseas through a gift-filled shoebox, given in Jesus' name.' and 'UK Charity No: 5055049, Scotland SC038900, Company No: 2940207. ©Samaritan's Purse 2009.' and '7500018' on the right.



## **The Big Christmas Quiz ...ho ho ho...**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 7:15 Village Hall**

Teams 2-8

**Festive Pie & Peas (bring own drinks)**

advance order for vegetarain option please

**Raffle (proceeds to BCA)**

**Tickets BCA members £8 / non-members £9**

Contact: Josie Armstrong ([jo.arm@me.com](mailto:jo.arm@me.com)) & Peter Aiken(3789909)

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# **The Christmas Show**

In

The Village Hall

On

## **Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup>**

Doors open at 7pm. Show starts at 7.30. Party afterwards at 7 Goodwell Lea. Contributions of finger food for the interval, food and drink for the party gratefully received.

Tickets: Members of BCA £7 adults, £3 children. Non-members £8 adults, £4 children. Price includes 1 drink and snacks. Available at dress rehearsal or from Rosemary Monument, [mwmonument@gmail.com](mailto:mwmonument@gmail.com)

Proceeds to Brancepeth Community Association

Reg charity 504318



# SCHÜTZ

## CHRISTMAS STORY

### *Weinachts Historie*

*with motets and carols by Praetorius,  
Schütz and Vulpinus*

**Singers** – Philippe Durant, Rosanna Wicks & Phil Normand  
*Cornetti, sackbuts, dulcian, recorders, strings, organ and lute of*  
**The Bishop's Consort directed by David Standliffe**

*St Brandon's Church, Brancepeth*  
*7.30pm, Sunday 15th December*

*Admission by programme: £10, children free*



## **Parish Council update**

Thank you to all those who have adopted a village flower tub, including those who have been looking after a tub up to now. All the village tubs have now been adopted and we're funding some more tubs for those who want one. The winter violas and pansies followed by spring bulbs should bring some colour to the village streets.

Durham County Council have indicated that they intend replacing The Village street lighting in 2020 as previously consulted replicating the current installation with modern wall mounted antique style lanterns. They have also circulated a separate consultation to residents of Wolsingham Road. This was to replace the obsolete and potentially unreliable wooden pole mounted lights from the post box to the railway crossing with antique style lights similar to those at the junction with the A690. A new light would be at the post box and others mounted in the grass verge along the path side of the road to increase the illumination of the footpath.

The Parish Council continue to meet on the second Monday of the month. The next meeting is Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm, all are welcome.

Dave Armstrong (PC Chair)

### ***Village Carol Singing 23rd and 24th December***

If you enjoy singing Christmas carols, why not join us as we sing our way around Brancepeth? You'll be assured of many warm and hospitable welcomes on both evenings. Meet at the village crossroads at 6.30 pm. North of the crossroads on the 23rd; Stockley Grove and south of the crossroads on Christmas Eve. All ages and abilities welcome – just bring your enthusiasm! All proceeds go to charity.

## **Village Hall Clear Out**

Work is starting in January on the Back Stage storage area.

If you have anything stored here or in the snooker room that you wish to keep please claim it before it gets disposed of. Many thanks, BCA Committee.

# **BRANCEPETH ARCHIVES AND HISTORY GROUP**

## **The Rising of the North events**

**Thank you** to everyone who helped with and supported the various Rising of the North events that were held this autumn in the Castle. The Archives Group is very grateful and hope you enjoyed them and the chance to encounter a little more of Brancepeth's very interesting history.

If you didn't make it to any of the events, but would like to see the Exhibition telling the story of the Rising and Brancepeth's part in it, there will be another opportunity for this.

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2020**  
**in the Great Hall of Brancepeth Castle,**  
**the Exhibition will be on display**  
**10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. each day**



**FREE ADMISSION**

**Refreshments available to buy**  
**for those visiting the Exhibition.**

**Comfortable sofas and a**  
**log fire**



## **Dates for the Diary:-**

Dec	1 <sup>st</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Monday	Snooker Club
Dec	1 <sup>st</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Monday	Yoga
Dec	1 <sup>st</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Monday	PiYo
Dec	none (winter times -1pm – 3pm)	Tuesday	Knit & Natter
Dec	Check dates with Jean	Tuesday	Choir
Dec	4 <sup>th</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Tai Chi Exercise Club
Dec	4 <sup>th</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Coffee Morning
Dec	4 <sup>th</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Art Class
Dec	5 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup> 19 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Badminton
Dec	1 <sup>st</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Youth Club

### ***Please confirm dates with leaders***

Nov	29 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, 24 Goodwell Lea.
Dec	7 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	Village Christmas Show, 7.00pm, Village Hall
Dec	8 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Messy Church, 'Christmas Party' 3pm -5pm, Church
Dec	9 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
Dec	13 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	Big Christmas Quiz Night, 7.15pm, Village Hall
Dec	15 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Bishop's Consort Concert, 7.30pm, Church
Dec	18 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Cinema Club, 'Love Actually', 7.30pm, Village Hall
Dec	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun	Carol Service, Church, 6.30pm
Dec	23 <sup>rd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>		Village Carol Singing, Cross Roads, 6.30pm
Dec	24 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	Christmas Eve Christingle Service, Church, 5.00pm
Jan	10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup>	Fri & Sat	Archives & History Group Exhibition, Castle, 10.00am to 4.00pm

***Village Hall:*** please contact Geraldine Jennings –  
[gerryjennings5@qooqlemail.com](mailto:gerryjennings5@qooqlemail.com) or tel. 3781583

*Front cover © Elizabeth Metcalfe – Christmas tree – St Brandon's Church*

*Back cover © Steve Gregory – Durham University Student with dragon at the Muster for the Rising of the North*

*Internal photos of the muster provided by Sheena Murray & Peter Aitken*

[www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter)

***NB January newsletter entries no later than 16<sup>th</sup> December***  
***Please send to Sue Morgan at [sueatpeppermires@gmail.com](mailto:sueatpeppermires@gmail.com)***

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

Peter Aitken	<i>Chairman</i>	Ian Stoker	
Martyn Jones	<i>Vice chairman</i>	Jean Merrington	<i>Choir &amp; Church</i>
Jo Dalton	<i>Secretary (&amp; Website)</i>	Geraldine Jennings	<i>Bookings &amp; Garden Club</i>
Margot Harrison	<i>Treasurer</i>	Joan Taylor	<i>Subscription, Wednesday</i>
Josie Armstrong	<i>Social Secretary</i>		<i>Coffee &amp; Cinema Club</i>

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

### **Parish Activities**

Chairman B.C.A.	Peter Aitken, The Copse, Foxes Row (3789908)
Secretary	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (3780771)
Treasurer	Margot Harrison, Downsgarth (3784813)
Membership	Joan Taylor, 5 The Village (3783630)
Hall Bookings	Geraldine Jennings, 6 Goodwell Lea (3781583)
Archives & History	Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (3780974)
Badminton	Peter Hodge, (01388 745455)
Brancepeth Allotment & Leisure Gardeners' Club	Sue Morgan, Carole Reed & Liz Burdess 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	Dave Armstrong – chair (01388 748902)
	James Dalton – vice chair (3780771)
	Christine Jones (3789297)
	Jessie Brown (3782748)
	Michael Lowe (3780974)
	Sheila Chapman (3784408)
	Ian Stoker (3784986)
Parish Clerk	Geoff Smith 07986197346

### **County Councillors:**

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[fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk](mailto:fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk)

[www.brancepeth-parish-council.org](http://www.brancepeth-parish-council.org)



