

# St Brandon's Church

## Brancepeth



**Newsletter: December 2020**

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



The Annual Brancepeth Spectacular ...  
The Not-to-be-Missed ...  
**VILLAGE CHRISTMAS SHOW!**



**Saturday 5th December 6.30pm**

A selection of turns from previous shows including the Children's Pantomime 2019, there are also some gems from the far distant past. Can you spot yourself, do you even recognise yourself?

Put on your Christmas Jumper, get your buffet ready for the interval and get your tickets.

**So, here's how to watch it!**

Please put £5 in an envelope - (enclose a 4GB memory stick if you wish an upload)

Put your name/ address/ email address / tel number on the envelope

Pop it into the Village Hall post box **no later than 3rd December**

Or

Email - [brancepethca@gmail.com](mailto:brancepethca@gmail.com) and drop your money into Village Hall post box

You will receive a DVD copy delivered locally - add £2 postage if outside the Parish

The zoom code will be sent to you a few days before the show.

**On The Night**

6.30pm - Start watching

7.30pm - suggest 15 minute interval and enjoy your home made buffet and drinks

8.30pm - Zoom into the chat rooms and show off your Christmas Jumpers / Santa hats etc!

**You will also be entered into the fabulous raffle drawn on the night**



All Proceeds to Brancepeth Community Association

With thanks to Mark and Rosemary Monument, Peter Burdess, Jo & James Dalton.

## 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	Rev'd Sabine Tenge-Heslop (01388 730855) <a href="mailto:rev.sabine@durham.anglican.org">rev.sabine@durham.anglican.org</a>
Lay Reader	Geoff Moore – co-opted member of P.C.C. (3735674)
Church Wardens:	Hester Higton (5974675) James Morgan (4476520)
Secretary	Carol Beeby (3847431), (07592 975002)
Treasurer	Mike Higton (5974675)
Deanery Synod	Caroline Middleditch (378 1400)

### Other members:-

Amy Gooding (07753606115) Janette Foxe (07587 225 200).  
Tom Hobbs (07857437860) Sue Morgan (3781172)  
Jean Hodgson (3780289) Robert Scott-Biggs (3735907).  
Steve Hodgson (3780289)

Prayer Team	Amy Gooding (07753606115), Alison Hobbs (378 9670), Deborah Hodge (01388 745455), Sue Hope, Alison Moore (373 5674), Myrleen Stewart (378 0862).
Sunday School	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Messy Church	Rev'd Sabine Tenge-Heslop (01388 730855)
Organist	Richard Hird
Sacristans	Carol Beeby (3847431), Valeria Dietz, Lucy Hodge (07891867181).
Safeguarding Officer	Geoff Moore (3735674)
Flower Guild	Lynne Hastie (3781871)
Churchyard	Edward Staines (3780858)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (3735674), Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Worship Team	Rev'd Anna Brooker, Janette Foxe, Richard Gooding, Hester Higton, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Geoff Moore, Sue Morgan.
SMD Team:	Evelyn Aitken, Anna Brooker (ex-officio), Carys Funnell, Richard Gooding, Alison Hobbs (ex officio), Tom Hobbs, Martin Peacock, Sally Scott-Biggs.
Fabric:	James Morgan (chair), Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs, Steve Hodgson, 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 15th**

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

Dear friends

### ***An Open Door***

As this exceptional year draws towards its end and we prepare for a very different festive season, I'm reflecting on key moments in 2020, in both senses of the word 'key'. The key to St Brandon's is by far the largest I have ever had in my care – helpful because its weight makes it very hard to lose!

One stand-out day this year was 22nd March, when I locked the door and put the sign on it to say that church was shut due to pandemic: something I never expected to see. The building closed but church continued, we learned new ways to connect, care and worship and grew stronger as a result.

By contrast, I had the joy of re-opening St. Brandon's in June for private prayer, initially for two days per week but quickly extending this to every day. I am thankful to say that the door has remained open ever since. When I unlock the church in the mornings now, I give thanks each time for an open door, an image which speaks powerfully to us all in this season.

Opening the door of St Brandon's, one of the first things you see is the canary yellow food bank, currently being filled almost every week. Please do make use of this to help local families: it's way of opening the door of our lives to others. Similarly, thank you for supporting the shoebox appeal last month- those gifts are now on their way to families in Eastern Europe, for whom the boxes open a door for hope and compassion in a very difficult year. Closer to home, we are partnering with the Salvation Army in Langley Moor for their Christmas Present appeal and asking for gifts to be brought to church on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec- details in this newsletter. Let's open the doors of our hearts to neighbours as well as family, near and far.

I hope and pray that this image of the open door will characterise our festivities, whether or not we can be physically together. At Christmas we celebrate two open doors that still speak to us today. Firstly, there's the open door of a humble stable, which shepherds entered to find the angels' message was true, in the form of the baby who is our Saviour. Secondly, this Saviour opens the door of eternity to all who believe, so we're no longer shut out from God, but welcomed home into his loving family.

In response, let us open the doors of our lives to God and one another this Christmas, and as we do so, may we be blessed with God's love, hope and peace

With all good wishes

*Anna*

Anna Brooker, Priest in Charge

## St Brandon's December 2020 and January 2021– Services and readings

*When possible, our services are now 'blended': you can join in via Zoom or come to church.*

*In all cases, everyone is welcome!*

*Online service invitations are sent via NAVIGATOR, St Brandon's email link.*

*Please phone or email for further details*

*In addition to the services below, each day Monday – Friday,*

***Morning Prayer*** is shared in church and online at **8.15am**

and there is a ***Midday Eucharist*** from Brancepeth Castle at **12noon**.

### Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Dec Advent 2

Readings:	First:	Ken Howe	Isaiah 40: 1-11
	Gospel:	Caroline Middleditch	Mark 1: 1-8
		Richard Gooding	Intercessions
		Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13	

### Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Dec Advent 3

#### Parish Eucharist 10.15

Readings:	First:	Carys Funnell	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end
	Gospel:	Amy Gooding	John 1: 6-8, 19-28
		Martin Peacock	Intercessions
		Psalm 126	

#### Online Christingle 4.00pm

### Sun Dec 20<sup>th</sup> Advent 4

#### Parish Eucharist 10.15

Readings:	First:	David Eltringham	2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16
	Gospel:	Jean Hodgson	Luke 1: 26-38
		Geoff Moore	Intercessions
		Psalm 113	

#### Carol Service 6.00pm

*Readings and readers as arranged*

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

#### \*Crib Service 5pm

*Reading tbc*

*\*We expect the Carol Service and Crib Service to be popular. Please email or phone Hester Higton by 15 December to let us know if you would like to be in the church for them. Thank you. (hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop 0191 597 4675)*

**Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve****Midnight Communion 11.30 pm**

Readings: First: Nick Brooker Isaiah 52:7-10  
Gospel: Sue Morgan John 1: 1-14

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

Readings: First: Alison Moore Isaiah 52:7-10  
Gospel: Deborah Hodge Luke 2: 8-20  
Nick Brooker Intercessions  
Psalm 98

**Sun Dec 27<sup>th</sup> John, Apostle and Evangelist Parish Eucharist 10.15**

First: Jean Merrington 1 John 1  
Gospel: Jayne Cook John 1: 19b-end  
Robert Scott-Biggs Intercessions  
Psalm 117

**Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> Epiphany****Parish Eucharist 10.15**

First: Gillian Smellie Isaiah 60: 1-6  
Gospel: Richard Gooding Matthew 2: 1-12  
Sue Hope Intercessions  
Psalm 72

***Please wear a face covering when attending services in the church building.  
THANK YOU***

**Sidespersons****Flowers**

Dec 6 <sup>th</sup>	Sally & Robert Scott-Biggs & Bonny Bainbridge	Advent
Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Nesbitt, Nick Brooker & Jane Stout	Advent
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	Fiona & David Eltringham & Sue Morgan	Advent
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	Peter & Jayne Cook & Caroline Middleditch (Carol Service - 6pm)	
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>	Hester Higton, Tom Higton, Deborah Hodge (Crib Service – 5pm)	
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sally & Robert Scott-Biggs & Sue Morgan (Midnight Communion)	
Dec 25 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Nesbitt, Nick Brooker & Jane Stout	
Dec 27 <sup>th</sup>	Fiona & David Eltringham & Bonny Bainbridge	Guild
Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Peter & Jayne Cook & Caroline Middleditch	





## Advent Reflection and Prayer Group

We will be hearing and discussing well-known Christmas readings and carols, considering how the message of Christmas might shape our lives in these extraordinary times: good news of God's unfailing love for a world that is weary and hurting.

The *Comfort and Joy* booklets will be available in church.

The Advent Group meets online via Zoom on **Thursday evenings 3, 10 and 17 December at 7.30pm**. Invitations in the Navigator email or contact Anna. **All are welcome!**

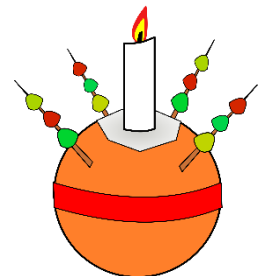
### \*\*\*Christingle 2020\*\*\* Sunday 13 December 4.00pm\*\*\*

This year's Christingle will be held online- so you can take part wherever you are, right around the world. It's not just for children and families- everyone is welcome!

For those living nearby, Christingle kits will be available to collect from church on Sat or Sun 12/13 Dec, or they can be delivered if requested. Please contact Sabine or Anna for more details.

As always, Christingle is run in aid of **The Children's Society**. There will be a donations box for this when you collect your kit or you can give online at [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)

Please support this exciting event and the vital work of the charity.



The Messy Church Christmas Party planned for Sun 13 Dec is postponed due to COVID restrictions.

Instead the Christingle will take place at this time and we hope all Messy Church members will join in.

Messy Church online resumes in January and we will have a party in church as early in 2021 as we are permitted to do so!

## ***Brancepeth Alive! for Advent***

**Brancepeth Community Association, the Parish Council and St Brandon's are teaming up again to deliver a Fairtrade chocolate Advent calendar, with an activity booklet, to every child (under 18) in the village or with links to St Brandon's.**

**Thank you to everyone who is making this possible.**



**Gini, Ted and Frankie have received theirs early!**



# Church of England National Christingle service for The Children's Society -

*Sunday 13 December at 9.00 am.*

You're invited to feel the magic of Christingle on a grand scale, by joining the nationwide online service. The service will be streamed onto Facebook and YouTube at 9.00.

## DH7 ADVENT COURSE

There will be an online **Advent Course** organised by churches together in DH7 based on the York Course '**Living in Hope**'

The sessions will be via Zoom on Friday afternoons:

**27 November, 4, 11 and 18 December from 2.30 - 3.30 pm**

If you would like to join please

- email Bill Offler for the link at [williamoffler@outlook.com](mailto:williamoffler@outlook.com)
- contact Mary tribe for a copy of the booklet on 0191 384 9133

For more information contact Deborah Hodge 01388 745455

## BLUE CHRISTMAS

Churches Together in DH7 are planning a **Blue Christmas** online event on the morning of **Saturday 19 December**. The event will be no more than an hour in length.

The purpose of 'Blue Christmas' is to help folk for whom Christmas is not an easy or a jolly time to mark the hope of God coming among us in Jesus Christ. Christmas is not an easy time for many and this year may be more difficult than most.

For more information please contact Deborah Hodge 01388 745455/07791 241 608  
[deborah.hodge@hotmail.com](mailto:deborah.hodge@hotmail.com)

***Do you know anyone who, for any reason, would appreciate a prayer or a friendly chat?***

**Please tell Alison Moore of the Prayer Team 0191 373 5674/07890 733757.**

**PRAYER REQUESTS** Please text to this dedicated number: 07598 600571 and your prayer requests will be included in our regular Friday morning service. Normally we would have been inviting you to leave a prayer on the altar, so this is the safe alternative!

## December - Prayer and Thanksgiving Diary

**‘And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us: we have seen his glory’ John 1: 14**

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

1 We remember all today who live alone and who have found lockdown hard  
2 Goodwell Lea south  
3 That we find ways to share the good news of the love of God in word and in deed  
4 Goodwell Lea north  
5 Stockley Grove, Bridge Road, Tanglewood

### **6 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent ‘Prepare the way of the Lord’: opening our hearts and lives to him**

7 For those who live and work in care homes, and those who give and receive care at home  
8 Village North, Station House, Railway Cottages  
9 We pray for all who are seeking God’s direction in their life, including to ordination  
10 Quarry Hill, the Cottages, Morley Farm, Littlewhite Farm, Goodwell Field  
11 For an increase in love and in care for one another in our communities across the nation  
12 Oakenshaw Road, Village South, Castle and Lodge

### **13 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent ‘We have seen his glory’: may we bear faithful witness to him**

14 That those who face ‘the dark night of the soul’ may find themselves strengthened  
15 Spring Farm, Wooley Grange, High Wooley, Weather Hill, South Brandon, Brawns Den  
16 We give thanks for the NHS and for all those who work in it  
17 We pray for wisdom and skill for all those who are working on the vaccine for COVID -19  
18 Village South, Castle and Lodge  
19 The Rectory, Rectory Cottages, Bridleway, Constable Meadows, Hoppy Acres, Thornberry Garth

### **20 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent ‘Be it unto me according to your will’: consenting joyfully to God**

21 That the light of Christ will illumine those for whom this year has been darkened by loss  
22 Scripton Lodge, Scripton Farm, Peppermires, Culmaran, Tudhoe Lodge, Nafferton Farm  
23 Holywell, East Parks, Durham Road and the Forge  
24 **Christmas Eve ‘In the dark streets shineth the everlasting Light’: for peace in the Holy Land**  
25 **Christmas Day ‘Joy to the World, the Lord has Come!’**  
26 Whitworth Lane, Black House

### **27 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas Jesus was born into a human family: we pray for family life**

28 Foxes Row, Russell Close, North Field View  
29 We thank God for John the apostle and evangelist: may we, like him, be courageous and truthful  
30 Golf Club, Park Lodge, Garden House, Nursery House, East Bothy  
31 Looking back with both lament and thanksgiving, ‘we press on towards the goal....’ Phil 3:13

*If you would like something included in the Prayer Diary, please contact Alison Moore,  
[durmoores@btinternet.com](mailto:durmoores@btinternet.com)*

## Brancepeth Youth Club

December 2020

*We'll meet by Zoom 6.00-7.30pm on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December.*

*On 13<sup>th</sup> December we'll be joining the Diocesan online Pulse event – further details nearer the time.*

*That will be our last event of the year, and we'll review how best we can continue meeting in January once we know what the Covid-19 restrictions are likely to be.*

*All young people in the Village (and beyond, and their friends) are warmly welcome. The age range is from 11 to 17 years inclusive.*

*If you haven't yet joined one of the Zoom meetings and would like to, then please phone or email Geoff for details.*

*Leaders*

Geoff Moore 373 5674 [durmoores@btinternet.com](mailto:durmoores@btinternet.com)

Martin Peacock 07503 242074

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

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### Sunday School

'Don't forget!

**Sunday School meets every week in the Neville Chapel when we meet in church  
(with suitable Covid Safe measures in Place)**

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### Shoe Box Appeal 2020

Hello Everyone,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to you all for your wonderful support for The Blythwood Shoe Box Appeal. We managed to collect 42 boxes which is no mean feat in the middle of a pandemic, and Blythwood are delighted. A huge thank you also to all those who donated online - invisible but certainly not unnoticed, and so much appreciated! Blythwood say they have been overwhelmed by such generosity. They were a bit dubious about the success of the Appeal this year but we have helped prove them wrong. Well done everyone for helping to make Christmas a happy time for at least 42 recipients!

Have a wonderful, joyful, peaceful Christmas.

Jayne Cook

## ***Brancepeth Box Holders***

A message to my wonderful Brancepeth Children's Society box holders. Thank you so much for getting you boxes to me. I am delighted to tell you that they raised a brilliant **£823**. Thank you on behalf of The Children's Society and the young people it serves. *Fiona Eltringham*

## ***The Yellow Bin***

I'm sure I don't need to remind you that food poverty is a big issue in these difficult times. So thank you to those who have supported the food bank.

Our church is still open, even if not for worship, so the please feel free to put goods in the yellow bin at the back of the church. If you haven't given before, there is a list of suggested goods on the bin, but we were also asked to major on long life milk and fruit juice, as when funds are low many turn to cereal. Thank you. *Fiona Eltringham*

### **Great North Air Ambulance Service**

Charities like this are finding fund-raising extremely difficult. They have not been able to do house-to house collections but we can collect within the village and arrange a single collection. I have already done 2 with the help of neighbours and Brancepeth Ladies and would like to have another in January. For those who are interested they collect the following items...

Clothes, handbags, belts, shoes, curtains, towels, bedlinen

Separate bag...books and CDs .....[More info in January](#)..... Allee Longstaff

### **Receiving the newsletter electronically – a reminder**

As we said in the September issue, there is now an option for village residents and members of the wider church congregation to receive a link to the electronic version of the newsletter, rather than a paper copy. Perhaps you might like to consider this as a way to reduce your environmental footprint.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically rather than on paper, please email me on [hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop](mailto:hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop). You will need to let me know your street address (so that it can be removed from the delivery rotas) and *all* the email addresses for people in the household who wish to receive the link to the newsletter. In accordance with GDPR regulations, these addresses will only be used for this purpose and will not be employed for sending you other communications. You can add further email addresses at any time, simply by dropping me a line.

You will also need to let us know if you move away from Brancepeth, so that we can make sure that a paper copy is delivered to the new residents, but we will provide a reminder about this in each monthly email.

Hester Higton

## A Christmas Appeal from the Salvation Army

A festive poster for a Christmas appeal. The top half has a red background with white and yellow text. The word 'Christmas' is in a white script font, 'PRESENT' is in large, bold, yellow block letters, and 'appeal' is in a white script font. There are two white silhouettes of Christmas trees on the left. The bottom half has a white background with red and black text. It includes a red Salvation Army logo on the left and a brown gift tag with the text 'Give a gift and light up a life!' on the right. The background of the white section features faint, stylized illustrations of various gifts like a hairbrush, a comb, a toy car, and a doll.

# Christmas PRESENT appeal

Could you help us make Christmas special for those who may have little or nothing under the tree on Christmas morning?

If so, please contact Lieutenant Ali Brooks on 0191 378 3813 to arrange either a collection or to drop your new, unwrapped gifts at Langley Moor Salvation Army 100 High Street North, Langley Moor, Durham, DH7 8JH

We help families and children of all ages, so toys and presents for all ages would be appreciated. (Suggestions: games, toiletries, footballs, hair clips, art and craft supplies, cars, dolls, gift sets for older children, stationery, etc.)

Thank you for your gifts and your generosity.

**THE SALVATION ARMY**

Give a gift and light up a life!

Registered Charity No. 294779, and in Scotland SC035569. - Social Trust, Registered Charity No. 201174, and in Scotland SC023189. - Republic of Ireland Registered Charity No. C0160305

*St Brandon's will be holding a collection for this appeal on **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December**. Please bring your gifts to the morning service or drop them off at church about 11.30am. We are told that large boxes/tins of sweets and biscuits are also most welcome! Thank you for your generosity.*





## Brancepeth Community Association

??? Autumn Quiz Results ???

Thank you and well done to all the brainy people who took part in the Autumn Quiz. Congratulations to the winning team, the Morley Misfits. (Gillian Smellie) Second were Merringtons - North And South. In third place were 'Family And Friends.'

Congratulations to Gillian and her team –enjoy!

□□Christmas Quiz □□

Check out the BCA Website to enter on line

[http://  
www.brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk](http://www.brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk)

and please donate £2 into Village Hall post Box

Prizes for 1st 2nd and 3rd places this time

Closing Date for entries 14th December

Many Thanks to Pete Hodge our Quizmaster!



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' in the Castle Chapel and/or on zoom as Covid regulations permit.



Tuesdays 1 & 15 Dec 2020 at 11:00  
Tuesdays 5 & 19 Jan 2021 at 11:00

For more information, and the zoom link,  
please email [alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk](mailto:alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk)

Rev. Alison, St Brandon's Church

**IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR LOCAL CHRISTMAS CARDS AND LOCAL PUBLICATIONS AS GIFTS, LOOK NO FURTHER**

**"Brancepeth Archives and History Group has a range of publications about local history, walks, recipes etc. - all of which make interesting Christmas gifts for friends who live away. We also stock four village Christmas cards.**

**You can view the publications and cards on the BCA website**

**<http://www.brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk/ArchivesHistoryGroup>**

**All are available from Vivienne Lowe on 378 0974.**

**Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a less troubled 2021 from Brancepeth Archives and History Group"**

### **Martin with his new wheelbarrow!**

**" I am really blown away with the continued kindness you have all shown towards me to replace my wheelbarrow which was stolen - I so appreciate it - Love Martin"**





## *‘Brancepeth Community Association*

*Peter and Liz Burdess are making Santas and Snowmen to help boost the Village Hall funds as at present there is no income from hall bookings.*

*If you wish to place an order they are £5 each - the snowman scarves can be done in various colours - to suit your football team perhaps!*

*All proceeds to The Village Hall*

*Many Thanks Peter and Liz!*

Contact [peterburdess@btinternet.com](mailto:peterburdess@btinternet.com), or Tel. 0191 378 3303. 2 The Forge, Brancepeth



## **Book Club**

Our December date is Friday 18th December when we will be discussing, ‘The Thursday Murder Club,’ by Richard Osman. We may still be on Zoom but it may be possible to use the Village Hall. Val will keep us posted!

This is a change from the original choice, ‘The Help Line,’ by Katherine Collette; we will be reading this book in January.

All welcome.

Val Gibbons.

## **Christmas Show Excerpts: PERMISSIONS needed**

It seems that I need written permission from parents to show footage from past Christmas shows.

Would the parents of Molly and Harry Stephenson, Ginny and Frankie Stephenson, Dominic Stephenson, Louis and Marnie Waiting, Bridget and Tom Higton, Emil and Timon Basu, Charlotte and Rebecca Jackson, the Thomas children, Hobbs children, Elisa Tindale, Ella Kella-Dawe, Beatrice and Susannah Smellie please write me a **signed** note saying that you give permission and put it through my door at 7, Goodwell Lea.

Thanks,  
Rosemary Monument.

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

Dec	5th	Sat	Village Christmas Show, 6.30pm, Zoom + DVDs
Dec	13th	Sun	Christingle (with Messy Church), 4.00pm, Zoom
Dec	18th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, Zoom or Village Hall
Dec	20th	Sun	Carol Service, 6.00pm, in church if possible
Dec	24th	Thurs	Crib Service, 5pm, in church if possible

### **Photos**

*Front cover ©Nick Brooker – Peace Banner in church*

*Inside front cover © Gillian Smellie - Village Show Advertisement*

*Back cover - © Bea Basu – Christmas Bauble Making Competition*

*Inside back cover - © Charlotte Brown – Brancepeth Living Advent Calendar Making*

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

***NB January newsletter entries no later than 15<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>
Anna Brooker	<i>Church Representative</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 (07843 343846) James Dalton – vice chair (3780771) Christine Jones (3789297) Jessie Brown (3782748) Sheila Chapman (3784408) Ian Stoker (3784986)
Parish Clerk	Geoff Smith 07986197346
County Councillors:	<a href="mailto:olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk">olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk">fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.brancepeth-parish-council.org">www.brancepeth-parish-council.org</a>





## Brancepeth Living Advent



Brancepeth will be turning into a Living Advent Calendar in December. Street-facing windows throughout the village will be decorated, unveiled, and illuminated from the 1st December.

A network of 24 windows have been identified throughout the village for display but there is no limit to the number of displays. We would love to see the village lit up in our countdown to Christmas. Please do get in contact if you would like to decorate a window. We will add all the displays to a map of the Living Advent on the Brancepeth Community Association website for the 1<sup>st</sup> December.

The only conditions for taking part are that participants: have a window that can clearly be seen from the street, are happy to keep the window illuminated each evening until after Christmas, and agree to having their address on the Living Advent map.



Looking for ideas and inspiration? There are lots of ideas online and there are some talented artists in the village who are very willing to help. Here are a few ideas to get started:

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/Lisaconroy84/living-advent-ideas/>

For more information please get in contact with:

Josie Armstrong 0788223318 [jo.arm@me.com](mailto:jo.arm@me.com),

Charlotte Brown (Castle) 07584218526 [charlotte.vye@gmail.com](mailto:charlotte.vye@gmail.com)

**'Let's light up Brancepeth this Christmas!'**



## Christmas Bauble Making



Feeling creative?! If you fancy decorating a wooden Christmas Bauble to be used to decorate the village, contact Bea by email on [be\\_arnab@ymail.com](mailto:be_arnab@ymail.com) or on 07714764203 and she will drop the number baubles required off. Children and grown ups welcome. Prizes to be awarded to the best entries. Deadline for returns 15th of December.