

St Brandon's Church

Brancepeth



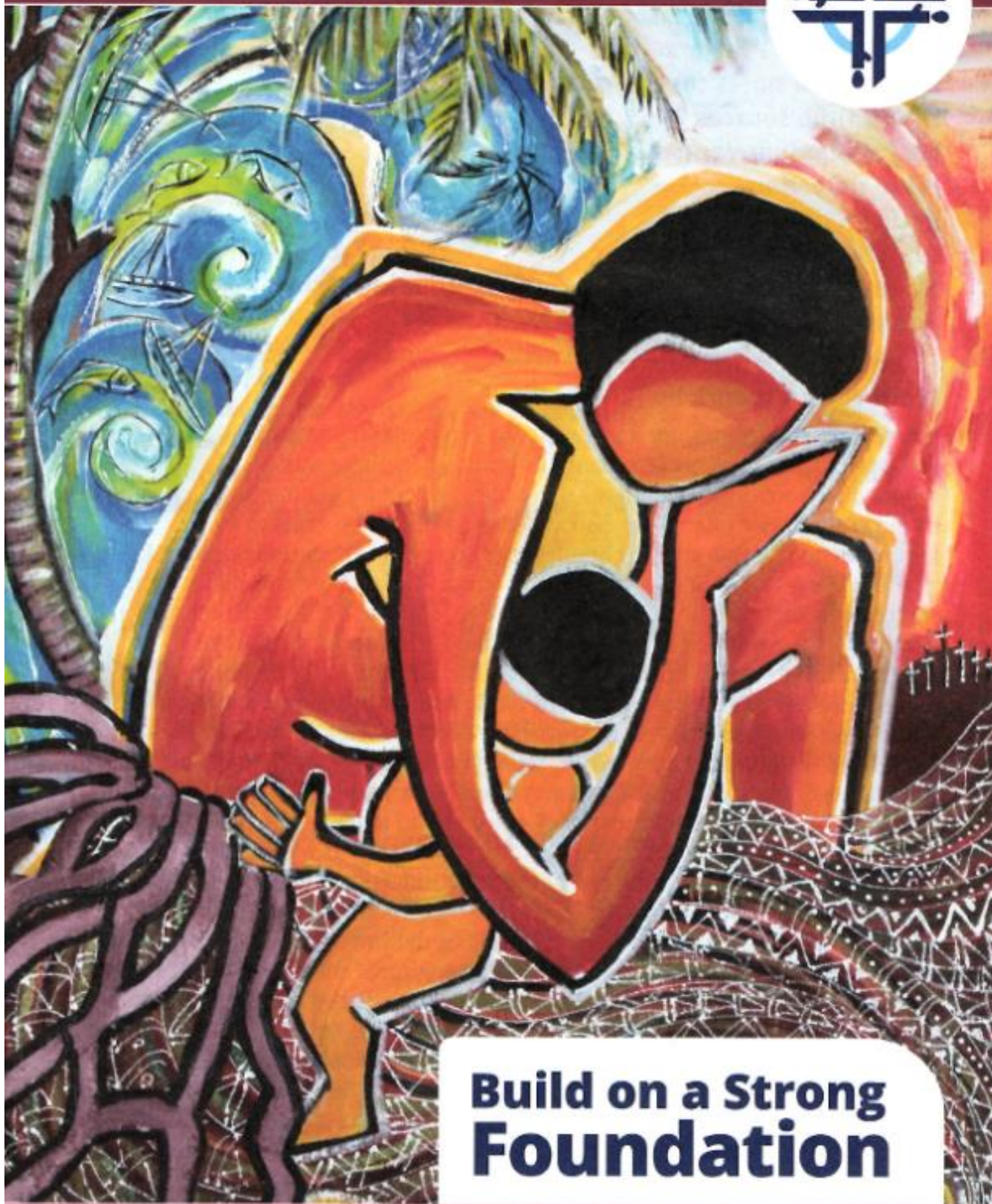
Newsletter: March 2021

Also online at www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

World Day of Prayer

A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT

5 March 2021



**Build on a Strong
Foundation**

PREPARED BY THE CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF **Vanuatu**

Parochial Church Council

Priest in Charge	Rev'd Anna Brooker (3780578) or rector@stbrandon.org.uk or anna.brooker@durham.ac.uk
Associate Minister	Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (3789670) alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk
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 Anna Brooker
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	www.stbrandon.org.uk

April Newsletter entries – no later than **March 18th**

Please send to Sue Morgan – sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Dear Friends

Now the snow has gone (at least at the time of writing!) the bulbs are starting to spring up energetically in our garden and around the village. We have the special joy of the Merringtons' daffodils all along the drive next to the Rectory: they are looking very healthy despite recent weather!

March brings the promise of Spring as we travel toward its official start on 20th. The same day, the church remembers St Cuthbert, most especially here in Durham. It was reading a book about him – *Fire of the North* by David Adam, highly recommended- and having a holiday on the Northumberland beaches with our young family, which first drew me to the North East many years ago.

Cuthbert lived in difficult times; no stranger to harsh, solitary conditions, he was known for his rapport with wildlife, notable eider (cuddy) ducks and the otters which reputedly dried his feet after his night time prayers, said standing thigh-deep in the North Sea! Perhaps there are resonances for us after this long, tough winter. Certainly the birds in our garden have become friends, a daily reminder of the wider created world we share.

Cuthbert was often called on to bring wisdom and grace in the monasteries and local communities where he served, at Melrose, Ripon and finally Lindisfarne. His gentle, steadfast trust in God somehow enabled those who disagreed violently to find reconciliation I find Cuthbert an inspiration as I seek to live wisely and at peace with others, especially those with whom I disagree.

This prayer of blessing says much about how Cuthbert lived, and traditionally is used on St Cuthbert's Day in Durham Cathedral:

Go in peace, with God to enfold you:

God in your speaking,
God in your thinking,
God in your sleeping,
God in your waking,
God in your watching,
God in your hoping,
God in your life,
God on your lips,
God in your heart,
and God in your eternity. Amen.

With all good wishes

Anna

Anna Brooker

Priest in Charge, St Brandon's Church.

St Brandon's March 2021– Services and readings

At present, Sunday morning services are all online. If this changes we will notify you via NAVIGATOR, St Brandon's email link. Online service invitations are also sent via this link.

Please phone or email for further details

*In addition to the services below, each day Monday – Friday,
Morning Prayer is shared online at **8.15am**
and there is a **Midday Eucharist** from Brancepeth Castle at **12noon**.*

March 7th Lent 3 Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First:	Richard Gooding	Exodus 20: 1-17
Gospel:	Alison Moore	John 2:13-22
	Sally Scott-Biggs	Intercessions
Psalm 19		

March 14th Lent 4 Mothering Sunday All Age Eucharist 10.15am

First:	Tom Higton	1 Corinthians 13: 1-13
Gospel:	tbc	John 19:25b-27
	Grace Hart	Intercessions
Psalm 27: 1-6, 16-17		

March 21st Lent 5 Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First	Gillian Smellie	Jeremiah 31: 31-34 (covenant written on hearts)
Gospel:	Sue Morgan	John 12: 20 -33
	Geoff Moore	Intercessions
Psalm 119: 9-16		

Messy Church via Zoom 4pm

March 28th Palm Sunday Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First:	Edward Staines	Zechariah 9: 9-12
Gospel:	Evelyn Aitken	Mark 11: 1-11
	Richard Gooding	Intercessions
Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-end		

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK – *full details to follow*

Monday 29th March	Evening Service 7.30 pm
Tuesday 30th March	Evening Service 7.30 pm
Wednesday 31st March	Evening Service 7.30 pm
Maundy Thursday 1st April	Eucharist 7.30 pm, followed by Vigil
Good Friday 2nd April	Service for all ages 10.15am Afternoon Service 1.30pm

April 4th Easter Sunday Dawn Vigil – 5.30 am

Readings: First to fifth as set in service booklet
Gospel: John 20: 1–18

All Age Parish Eucharist – 10.15am

Readings: First: Peter Cook Isaiah 25: 6-9
Gospel: Robert Scott-Biggs Mark 16: 1-8
Geoff Moore Intercessions

Flowers

Mar 7 th	3 rd Lent
Mar 14 th	Mothering Sunday
Mar 21 st	5 th Lent
Mar 28 th	Palm Sunday
Apr 4 th	Easter Sunday

RUSSELL CLOSE Holy Communion 'slot' will become a LENT GROUP meeting at 11:00 on Tuesdays 23 February, 2, 9, 16 and 23 March. Zoom ID 7504489089 passcode 123456789

We will use the Diocesan course looking at Racial Justice. It promises to be thought provoking, wide-ranging, and eye-opening, and it's been specifically produced for zoom ... come and join us!

PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING DIARY March 2021

You are invited to use this diary to share the prayers offered daily

'Obstacles are what we see when we take our eyes off the Lord,' anon

- 1 Give thanks for those who offer help and support to their friends and neighbours during this pandemic
- 2 Oakenshaw Road area
- 3 Scription, Peppermires, Holywell and East Parks
- 4 May God's living presence be our daily companion
- 5 World Day of Prayer from Vanuatu, a group of islands east of Australia in the Pacific Ocean
- 6 The Rectory, Thornberry Garth, Hoppy Acres, Rectory Cottages and Constable Meadows
- 7 Lent 3 May we commit ourselves more fully to God's service this Lent**
- 8 Foxes Row, Russell Close and North Field View
- 9 Give thanks and pray for all in the medical profession
- 10 Church members outside the parish
- 11 In a world of flux give thanks that God's Kingdom endures for ever
- 12 May we have tender hearts to forgive as we have been forgiven
- 13 Goodwell Lea
- 14 Mothering Sunday We pray and give thanks for all mothers**
- 15 Quarry Hill, the cottages and Goodwell Field area
- 16 Littlewhite Farm, the cottages and Morley Farm
- 17 St Patrick We give thanks for this fifth century saint of Ireland and his many missionary works
- 18 Give thanks that there is no expiry date on God's promises
- 19 The Village North, Station House and Railway Cottages
- 20 St Cuthbert We commemorate this Anglo-Saxon saint of Northumbria
- 21 Lent 5 Give thanks for the spiritual nourishment we receive each Sunday**
- 22 Durham Road and The Forge
- 23 May we share and conserve the world's resources, recognising that we are not owners but stewards
- 24 Wooley Grange, High Wooley, Spring Farm, Weather Hill, South Brandon and Brawns Den
- 25 Annunciation of Our Lord to the Virgin Mary We give thanks to God for our Lord's miraculous conception**
- 26 Village South, Castle and Lodge, The Bothy, Golf Club, Park Lodge, Nursery and Garden Houses

27 Stockley Grove, Tanglewood, Bridge Road, Whitworth Lane and Black House

28 Palm Sunday Today we commemorate Jesus' triumphant yet humble entry into Jerusalem

29 May this be a time of reflection, self-examination and renewed commitment

30 May we recognize the enormity of our Lord's sacrifice and deepen our discipleship

31 As we reflect on our Lord's journey to the cross may we walk faithfully on the path set before us

*If you would like something included in the Prayer Diary please contact Alison Moore
durmoores@btinternet.com*

LOCAL & GLOBAL WORSHIP WITH THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 5th March at 10:30 am

Zoom ID 7504489089 Passcode WDP (contact Alison Hobbs if you like a zoom link sending, and if you would like a service booklet. alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk)

Each year the World Day of Prayer focusses on a different country, this year it is Vanuatu in the South Pacific. St Brandon's joins with other churches in our area to share worship written by churchgoers in Vanuatu. Learn something of their hopes, dreams and needs, and participate in the same service as is being held in unison in churches across the world.
(See poster on inside front cover)

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!

Durham Diocese Lent Course :

online groups are happening near you!

The diocese has produced material based on the theme of ***racial justice***, and this will be discussed in two groups within the parish.

11 am on Tuesday mornings on 23 February and 2, 9, 16 and 23 March.

7.30 pm on Thursday evenings on 25 February and 4, 11, 18 and 25 March.

Please contact Alison Hobbs alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk (for Tuesday mornings)

or Geoff Moore durmoores@btopenworld.com (for Thursday evenings) if you'd like to join and they will send you the Zoom links.

If you've missed the first one or more, you can still join, and if you can only attend one or two, that's fine as well.



On **Sunday 7th March** our guest preacher in the morning service at St Brandon's will be **Revd Steve Muneza**. Steve is the Director of context-based training at Cranmer Hall in Durham and will be helping us think more about issues raised by the Lent course.

Mothering Sunday 14 March

Just a year ago, we were wondering whether we could give our usual presents to the women's refuge. As it turned out, we couldn't, so I stored what you had kindly given at home until they were happy to receive.

So where has that year gone? We thought by now things would be different. If only! However, I have contacted the refuge and they would be delighted to receive our gifts.

Just a reminder-we like to give good quality toiletry items or packs: the sort of thing that you would give a friend as a gift.

Obviously there will not be a church service for you to bring your gift to, but please leave it in church. I will leave a box there from Thursday 11 March till close of play on Monday 15 March.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like alternative arrangements.

Thank you in advance.

Fiona Eltringham



Messy Church online 4pm Sunday 21st March

The session will be held via Zoom and advertised in the Navigator and on the church Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/StBrandons/>

Details will be sent by email to regular attenders

Here is a picture of the Messy Church craft and cooking session, all shared online... you can guess what the theme was!

Thanks to Liz and Elsie Thomas for providing this.

Brancepeth Youth Club March 2021

We continue to meet weekly by Zoom, 6.00-7.30pm on Sunday evenings.

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

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

Leaders

Geoff Moore

373 5674 durmoores@btinternet.com

Martin Peacock

07503 242074

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)**

CAROL SINGERS DECEMBER 2020 – THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

It seems a long time ago that two groups of six sang around the village on our traditional route, and raised between them, the record (I think) total of £639.48 which was split equally between the two charities: £319.74 as a donation to Streetwise Opera, who work with the homeless in Gateshead, Newcastle, Middlesbrough, and beyond, raising morale and skill through singing workshops. And £319.74 as a donation to The Salvation Army at Langley Moor, who work hard to help provide the local community with basic needs, and combat poverty.

Hi Alison

Thank you for your email regarding the BACs transfer and for the amazing amount the carol singers in Brancepeth Village have donated.

Please could you pass on my thanks to all concerned.

Thank you once again, and God Bless.

*Kind Regards, Lieutenant Ali Brooks
Corps Officer – Langley Moor Salvation Army*

Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal

We have received an update on this appeal from Lieutenant Alison Brooks and she writes: "Please pass on both Sarah's and my thanks for the wonderful donation St Brandon's church gave us; without support such as yours we could not help people, so thank you. "

Altogether 306 children and young adults received a gift and 43 food parcels were provided to those struggling to cope at Christmas. At the end of a very dark year these gifts will have brightened so many homes and through your generosity shared God's love for us all.

Thank you.

Janette Foxe

Great North Air Ambulance Services

Thank you to everyone who is supporting this. The charity is very appreciative so I have decided to arrange another collection for 8.00 am, Wednesday 17th March. Donations can be any time from Sat. 13th until Tues. 16th but **MUST BE BROUGHT TO 2 FOXES' ROW.** Ring me (01913780707) before coming so that I can open the garage door for you to safely put your bags there.

1 Main bagClothing, handbags, belts, pairs of shoes, towels, curtains, sheets and pillowcases

2 Separate bag....books,... CDs (genuine original recordings) ...DVDs

3 Also separate....old mobile phones Allee Longstaff

BRANCEPETH GARDEN CLUB. NOTICE OF AGM.

DATE :- WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 2021. 7.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL.

We will try to stick to this date, and in the event that we will be unable to meet in the hall, we will hold the AGM via Zoom. Final arrangements, meeting options etc, together with the agenda, will be published in the April magazine.

J. B. Dickinson,

Chairman.

A Tribute from the Garden Club

Garden Club has lost two of our Distinguished Life Members this month - Jean Bradley and Peter Cargill. Both served as Garden Club committee members for many years and will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with Eddie and Liz and their families in their loss.

A Tribute from Brancepeth Archives Group

Peter Cargill

Brancepeth Archives would like to pay tribute to Peter Cargill, formerly of

4 Station Cottages, who sadly died in hospital on 18th February. He was a man of many parts –passionate gardener, skilled photographer and computer wizard to name just a few. He served as Chairman of the BCA (2001-2002) and as a Committee member of the Archives Group from its beginning until he and Liz moved to Durham in 2016. His computer skills and enthusiasm were invaluable. Thanks to Peter, the Archives holds a very significant collection of digital records of major village events, publications and notably the headstones in the old and new Churchyards. He continues to be greatly missed and our thoughts are with Liz and the family.



Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club

The AGM of the Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club will take place on Sunday 7th March at 7.30pm via Zoom. The agenda, minutes, reports and a Zoom invitation will be circulated to members by email in advance.

If you are not a member but would like to attend the meeting please contact the committee at baacommittee3@gmail.com (details on the back page of newsletter).

Carole Reed (Secretary)

Dates for the Diary:-

Mar	7th	Sun	BLAG Club AGM, 7.30pm, Zoom
Mar	12th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, Zoom.
Mar	21st	Sun	Messy Church, 4.00pm, Zoom
Apr	18th	Sun	Messy Church, 4.00pm
Apr	21st	Wed	Garden Club AGM, 7.30pm, V H or Zoom
May	16th	Sun	Messy Church, 4.00pm

Photos

Front cover ©Elizabeth Metcalfe- Snowdrops in the churchyard

Inside front cover – World Day of Prayer Poster

Back cover - ©Nick Brooker – Bruno in the snow; a photo to warm the hearts of all dog lovers!

Inside back cover – © Rey Trombetta -Street Wise Opera in performance and a thank you to the Carol Singers for their generous donation

www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

April newsletter entries no later than 18th March

Please send to Sue Morgan at 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 & Church</i>
Jo Dalton	<i>Secretary (& Website)</i>	Geraldine Jennings	<i>Bookings & Garden Club</i>
Margot Harrison	<i>Treasurer</i>	Joan Taylor	<i>Subscription, Wednesday</i>
Josie Armstrong	<i>Social Secretary</i>		<i>Coffee & 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) Geoff Smith 07986197346
Parish Clerk	olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk
County Councillors:	fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk www.brancepeth-parish-council.org



"It was one of the most pivotal opportunities to come along. The message Streetwise Opera put across, through their support, is that they believe in you."

Streetwise Opera performer

Dear Alison and the Brancepeth Village Carol Singers,

Thank you all for your gift of £319.74 to Streetwise Opera last Monday. We're so glad that you were able to find a way to sing together this Christmas. Your generous donation will help us to keep on offering singing and creative opportunities to those most in need. Thank you so much! Best wishes,

Catherine

STREETWISE OPERA
HELPING HOMELESS PEOPLE & VOICES

Registered charity number: 1092931 | Company number: 04370521

    @StreetwiseOpera

www.streetwiseopera.org

