

St Brandon's Church

Brancepeth



Newsletter: December 2021

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

ADVENT WINDOWS IN BRANCEPETH



After the success of last year's Advent Windows around the village, everyone is invited to make a display in their street-facing window from 1st December.

Thank you for taking part as we prepare for Christmas as a community.

We hope to include some photos in the next issue!



Christingle

Sunday 12th December
3-5pm in church

make your own Christingles

advent crafts Christingle service tea together

ALL WELCOME- whether or not you usually attend Messy Church



USPG⁺ PARTNERS IN GLOBAL MISSION

On Sunday 12th December we are delighted to welcome Revd Canon Richard Bartlett, Director of Mission Engagement for USPG, as our preacher.

Richard has a passion for growing partnership with churches around the world through prayer, giving and action. He will share his experience and host a discussion over coffee after the service.

*USPG is supported by St Brandon's through regular giving, agreed by the PCC.
You are also invited to contribute to a special collection on 12th.*

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:-

Janette Foxe (07587 225 200) Sue Morgan (3781172)
Tom Hobbs (07857437860) Robert Scott-Biggs (3735907).
Jean Hodgson (3780289)
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
Music Co-ordinator	Richard Gooding
Sacristans	Carol Beeby (3847431), Valeria Dietz, Lucy Hodge (07891867181).
Safeguarding Officer	Geoff Moore (3735674)
Events coordinator	Janette Foxe events@stbrandon.org.uk .
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

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

Please send to Sue Morgan – sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Dear Reader

'Get the booster and save Xmas (sic)', a newspaper headline read at the end of October.

As I write this, there has been a lot of chatter about the importance of saving Christmas. I, for one, wasn't aware that it needed saving.

Surely Christmas is there every year if we choose to acknowledge it. How we spend it is another matter. Of course, after last year's experience, we are all too aware that some of our usual plans, our traditions and our family get-togethers could once again be at risk. Last year, for the first time in over 50 years of marriage, we spent our first Christmas on our own: just the two of us.

Christmas was different. And I know it was a similar story for many of you. So it's naturally right to hope for something more like our traditional celebrations this year.

My preparations have already got off to a slightly challenging start. Since retirement, we have taken it in turns to spend Christmas with one of our 3 children and family. I am usually in charge of the Christmas cake, which I bake at home and take along with us. This year, as I was doing my on line grocery order to include ingredients for the cake, I typed into the search 'currants'. The only result that came up was a bottle of a well-known blackcurrant drink! So I found myself having to do a trawl of local grocers and had to add glacé cherries and mixed peel to my list as I sought out the right but suddenly rare ingredients. And as for baking of said cake....well ,don't ask!!

But however stressed I may find myself getting over Christmas preparations, I remind myself that Christmas is never cancelled. After all, the clue is in the name. The one thing that is never missing is its original meaning –the birthday of Jesus, the Christ child.

One thing we have learnt over the last 18 months or so is that Zoom is good but real life interaction is so much better. So that first Christmas gave the world the first real experience of God. Not the God of the scriptures, not the God of the prophets but God in human form. God with us.

'On that night in Bethlehem, God breathed our air for the first time' wrote Rich Mullins, an American Christian songwriter.

Maybe amidst your preparations and celebrations, you will find time to reflect on that Christ child and what his arrival has meant to countless generations.

Maybe you will find time in your schedule to spend some time in church as we worship him. You would be so welcome.

Whatever your plans over this Christmas time, I wish you every blessing.

'For unto you is born in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord'

Fiona Eltringham

St Brandon's December 2021– Services and readings

Sunday services are at 10:15am every week.

If you are unable to join in person, you are welcome to join online, or to view the recording later, at <https://www.facebook.com/StBrandons>

*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.***

Evening Prayer for Advent
is on the first three Thursdays of the month at 7:30pm via Zoom.
Everyone is welcome, please contact Geoff Moore or Anna

Please phone or email for further details

Nov 28th Advent 1

First:	Gillian Smellie	Jeremiah 33: 14-16
Gospel:	Sue Morgan	Luke 21: 25-36
Psalm 25:1-9		
	Geoff Moore	Intercessions

Thurs 2nd Evening Prayer for Advent 7.30pm

Dec 5th Advent 2

First:	Robert Scott-Biggs	Philippians 1: 3-11
Gospel:	Tom Hobbs	Luke 3: 1-6
Canticle:	The Benedictus (in place of the psalm)	
	Sally Scott-Biggs	Intercessions

Thurs 9th Evening Prayer for Advent 7.30pm

Sun 12th Advent 3

Parish Eucharist 10.15

Readings: First:	David Eltringham	Philippians 4: 4-7
Gospel:	Ken Howe	Luke 3: 7-18
Psalm 146: 4-end		
	Alison Moore	Intercessions

Messy Church Christingle 3.00pm

Thurs 16th Evening Prayer for Advent 7.30pm

Sun Dec 19th Advent 4

Parish Eucharist 10.15

Readings: First:	Janette Foxe	Micah 5: 2-5a
Gospel:	Carys Funnell	Luke 1: 39-55
Psalm 80: 1-8		
	Doris Dobson	Intercessions

Adult Baptism 12.00

Carol Service 6.30pm

Readings and readers as arranged

Dec 24th Christmas Eve

Crib Service 5pm

Midnight Communion 11.30 pm

Readings: First:	James Morgan	Isaiah 52:7-10
Gospel:	Sue Morgan	John 1: 1-14
Psalm 98		
	Geoff Moore	Intercessions

Dec 25th Christmas Day All Age Eucharist 10.15

Readings First: Martin Peacock Isaiah 52:7-10
Gospel: Nick Brooker Luke 2: 8-20
Edward Staines Intercessions

Sun Dec 26th Christmas 1 Parish Eucharist 10.15

First: Alison Moore 1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26
Gospel: Richard Gooding Luke 2: 41-end
Psalm 148
Robert Scott Biggs Intercessions

Jan 2nd Epiphany Parish Eucharist 10.15

First: Hester Higton Isaiah 60: 1-6
Gospel: Wilfred Foxe Matthew 2: 1-12
Psalm 72
David Eltringham Intercessions

Sidespersons

Nov 28th David Eltringham & Joan Nesbitt

Dec 5th Pat Sharples & Sue Morgan

Dec 12th Bonny Bainbridge & Caroline Middleditch

Dec 19th David & Fiona Eltringham

Dec 19th (Carol Service, 6.30pm)

Jean Hodgson & Josie Armstrong

Dec 24th (Crib Service, 5pm)

Fern & Jeanette Metcalfe

Dec 24th (Midnight Communion, 11.30pm)

Sue Morgan & Nick Brooker

Dec 25th Sue Morgan & Nick Brooker

Dec 26th Jane Stout & Joan Nesbitt

Jan 2nd David & Fiona Eltringham

Flowers

Advent Greening-Guild

Advent

Advent

Advent

Guild

Epiphany – Guild

Coffee

Dec 5th Jane Stout
Dec 12th Sue Morgan
Dec 19th Jeanette Metcalfe
Dec 19th (Carol Service, 6.30pm)
Dec 24th (Midnight Communion, 11.30pm)
Dec 25th
Dec 26th Alison Moore
Jan 2nd Jane Stout

Tech Rota

Geoff & Alison Moore
David & Fiona Eltringham
Robert & Sally Scott-Biggs
Mike & Hester
Bridget & Tom Higton
Geoff & Alison Moore
Sally & Robert Scott-Biggs
Caroline Middleditch

Church Cleaning

December – Team B

Sue Morgan, Fiona Eltringham, Annette Johnson, Hilary Moss.

January – Team C

Carol Beeby, Vickie Jackson, Sarah Nicholson, Nick Brooker.

Vestry Report

Thanksgiving for Marriage:

Megan Shirley and Michael Porter 24th October

Funerals:

Margaret Williams 21st October

Jennifer Marr 8th November

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!

Sunday School is on!



Come and join us every Sunday for a story, fun and craft activity.

We get together during the first hymn and return to the service for communion.

No need to book.

Come along with an adult who may have to fill in some paperwork if this hasn't been done previously.

We look forward to seeing you!

Brancepeth Youth Club December 2021

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

Our last meeting of this term is on December 5th, 6-8pm in the Village Hall.

Leaders

Geoff Moore

373 5674 durmoores@btinternet.com

Martin Peacock

07503 242074

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.



Tuesdays 7 & 21 Dec 2021 at 11:00
Tuesdays 11 & 25 Jan 2022 at 11:00

For more information, please email alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk

Rev. Alison, St Brandon's Church

CAROL SINGING

North half of the village **23rd December**

South half of the village **24th December**

meet **6.30pm** at the crossroads, all welcome.

Collecting for

The Salvation Army, Langley Moor

and

Traidcraft Exchange, Christmas Appeal traidcraftexchange.org

Bearing in mind the continuing situation with covid we will remain outside.

We won't spurn hospitality, but outside, please!

Deanery Event in Church

Darlington Deanery will be visiting St Brandon's on 4 December in order to hold their Advent Quiet Morning, which Bishop Sarah of Jarrow will lead. Owing to this, St Brandon's will be closed between 8:45am and 1:15pm. Thank you for your understanding.

SHOEBOX APPEAL 2021

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the 2021 Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal.

36 wonderful boxes and several bags of colourful hand-knitted hats, gloves and scarves (thank you, Knit and Knatter Group!) are now on their way to families in Eastern Europe where they will bring joy and hope at Christmas.

If you'd like to help organise next year's appeal, please get in touch.

Nick Brooker



CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL

organised for local families by Langley Moor Salvation Army

St Brandon's will be holding a collection for this appeal on



Sunday 5th December.

Please bring unwrapped gifts to the morning service or drop them at church about 11.30am.

Gifts for children and adults, large boxes/tins of sweets and biscuits are all most welcome.

Thank you for your generosity.

BRANCEPETH TAI CHI EXERCISE CLUB

This is to let everyone know the last Tai Chi Exercise Class for this year will be held on Wednesday 8th December from 0930-1030 in the Village Hall.

As you will know, the Club is run entirely by volunteers and all proceeds are donated to local charities. At lockdown we had a balance of funds of just over £740. This will now be split equally and donated between St Cuthbert's Hospice and Prostate Cancer UK before Christmas.

Since the Classes restarted on the 13th October 2021, we expect by the 8th December to have a raised around £230 which will be donated to Brancepeth Community Association.

Wishing you all a Very Healthy and Happy Christmas and New Year.

Deborah Chapman

Prayer and Thanksgiving Diary - December 2021

'The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light' Isaiah 9:7

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

- 1 We pray for all who live in Durham Road and The Forge
- 2 For the global scientific community seeking to grapple with issues of carbon capture
- 3 For those who live in Village North, Station House, Railway Cottages
- 4 On the day we remember the community of *Little Gidding* (17th c) we pray for a re-imagining of Christian community in our time
- 5 **2nd Sunday of Advent For the preparation of our hearts and minds for Christmas**
- 6 Village South, Castle and Lodge, The Bothy, Golf Club, Park Lodge, Nursery House, Garden House
- 7 For refugees, seeking shelter and safety, and for our government in its response
- 8 All who live in Quarry Hill, the cottages, Morley Farm, Littlewhite farm, Goodwell Field
- 9 For those who know they have 'messed up' - that they may meet Jesus, the Friend of sinners
- 10 Peppermires, Holywell, East Parks, Culmaran, Tudhoe Lodge, Nafferton Farm
- 11 For the Oakenshaw Road area
- 12 **3rd Sunday of Advent 'Rejoice in the Lord always! ... Do not be anxious but present your requests to God' Philippians 4:4-6**
- 13 For Stockley Grove, Bridge Lane, Tanglewood, Whitworth Lane and Black House
- 14 We pray for newcomers to the Parish
- 15 Goodwell Lea
- 16 May we receive whatever God has for us, with thanksgiving – today! 'Open our eyes, Lord...'
- 17 The Rectory, Rectory Cottages, Bridleway, Constable Meadows, Hoppy Acres, Thornberry Garth
- 18 For the work among young people and children in the parish
- 19 **4th Sunday of Advent For all who attend Carol Services across the nation tonight**
- 20 Those who live outside the parish
- 21 For those who are dying, and those who watch with them
- 22 Wooley Grange, High Wooley, Weather Hill, Springwell Farm, South Brandon Farm, Brawns Den

- 23 For all who will be on duty over Christmas – Fire services, Police, NHS, Carers.
- 24 **Christmas Eve** **May we tune our hearts to the angels' song: Peace on earth, goodwill to all**
- 25 **Christmas Day** **Thanks be to God, for the gift of his Son, Jesus, to the world**
- 26 **First Sunday of Christmas** **We give thanks for the joy of family and of friends**
- 27 For all who are struggling for whatever reason – physically or mentally
- 28 *The Feast of the Holy Innocents:* We pray for children across the globe who suffer as a result of war and persecution
- 29 All who live in Foxes Row, Russell Close, North Field View
- 30 Park Lodge, Garden House, Nursery House, East Bothy, Scampton Lodge, Scampton Farm
- 31 We offer ourselves anew to God, to be peacemakers, wherever and whoever we are

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

Great North Air Ambulance Services

Many thanks for all your contributions. The next collection is scheduled for Monday, 6th December. so I will need donations to 2 FOXES' ROW any time from Friday, 3rd until Sunday, 5th. I have GNAAS bags if anyone needs them. Please check the list of acceptable items..... Ring me before coming so that I can open the garage door.

PS. I can also arrange collections at other times if requested. Just ring me preferably at least a week before.

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 - 3780707

Music for an Autumn Afternoon - and for Long Covid

A heartfelt thank you to Mary and Frank Coffield and everyone involved in the beautiful Music for an Autumn Afternoon event on Sunday 24th October in the Village Hall.

We were treated to stunning performances by Mary and baritone David Curtis, accompanied by Richard Bloodworth, who ran through songs from operas, operettas and music hall, as well as local gem Wor Nanny's a Mazer. Such a lot of work and thought had gone into organising everything, from the beautiful table decorations, the fantastic raffle prizes, thriving bar, and no doubt lots of less visible organisation.

The event was to raise money for Long Covid, and they kindly allowed me to say a few words about the condition which has affected me and two of my three sons so dramatically since March 2020, as well as our work for Long Covid Support.

The event was originally to raise money for the British Lung Foundation, but I was moved to tears when Frank asked audience members if they were happy for the funds to go to Long Covid Support instead, and there was unanimous agreement.

Long Covid Support is a charitable organisation founded by people with the condition who met online through the Facebook group I set up in May 2020 (now with over 45,000 members in 100 countries!). In our private, tightly moderated, 24/7/365 peer support group we hold a range of online social and wellbeing events for people who may be bedridden or housebound by this debilitating condition, including the Long Covid Choir which I also co-founded, weekly Zoom chats, chair yoga and opera breathing.

Outside of the group, we were instrumental in driving adoption of the Long Covid term and campaigning for rehab, research and recognition, a mantra adopted by the World Health Organization and used to name the three webinars they have held on the subject to date.

We work extensively with researchers, policymakers and the media. Myself and colleagues sit on the NHS England Taskforce and the monthly Department of Health and Social Care Roundtables on Long Covid. We advise many of the large UK research studies, and helped organise December 2020's Long Covid Forum, the first international research conference on Long Covid, which was opened by the World Health Organization's Director General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

If you or anyone you know might be affected by this debilitating condition, information, links to our support group and details of how you can support our work are available at our LongCovid.org website.

Although we have been working hard since May 2020, we incorporated as a formal entity only fairly recently, and remain a group of ill, unpaid volunteers. We are at the stage of working to raise the £5000 needed to apply to the Charity Commission for recognition, which would allow us to be eligible for Gift Aid and to apply for wider sources of funding.

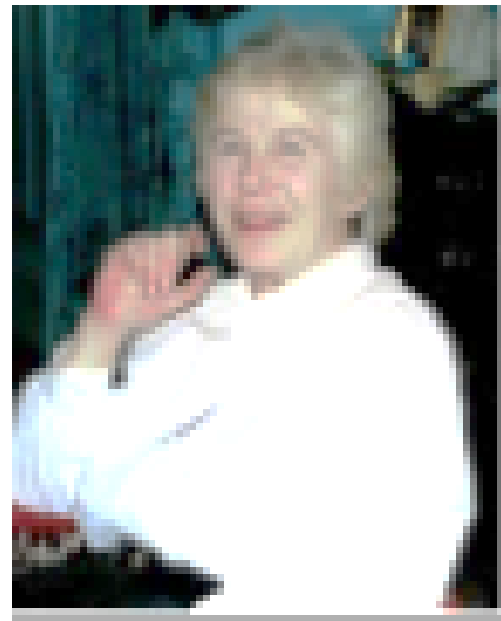
The staggering £400 raised by this wonderful event is a huge help, and very much appreciated by myself and my colleagues. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Claire Hastie

JENNIFER MARR 1939-2021

Family, friends and villagers filled St. Brandon's Church on November 8 to say farewell to Jennifer who played a major role in the life of Brancepeth, which she shared with her

JENNIFER MARR 1939-2021
Born Jennifer Gill in Bishop Auckland, where her family had a large home furnishings store, she had trained for a commercial career but also became something of an expert in pottery and ceramics enabling her to assist in the family business. She married James in 1964 who was making his way in his family business of building ships on the Wear in Sunderland where it had been operating for two centuries. The wedding was in Bishop Auckland but the wedding reception happened to be in a marquee in the grounds of Brancepeth Castle!



They had three children, Jamie, Lucy and Rory, who grew up in Brancepeth, having left Sunderland for Brancepeth in 1976 – first at High Wooley and then Peppermires. From the outset Jennifer became engaged in the community, church and social scene. Her entertaining and dinner party skills, developed in the heady days of international shipbuilding, were honed in supporting James in his duties as High Sheriff of Durham.

Over the years Jennifer took on numerous roles – Editor of the village and church newsletter, Treasurer of the Community Association and Village Hall management committee member, founder member and treasurer of the Brancepeth Archive and History Group. She was the quiet organiser behind many village events and fund raising activities including the splendid Macmillan Balls held in the Castle in addition to Ladies Lunches in the Village Hall. In addition she served with RUBKA – a charity supporting carers and still had time to set up the village coffee morning, continuing to this day 20 years later.

In 1998 after the church burned down she opened up her home at Peppermires as the office of the restoration and rebuilding team led by her husband James, who was church warden.

A person of many talents, Jenny to her friends, loved gardening and flower arranging but was also a mean DIYer, an accomplished home decorator, meticulous needlewoman and even tried her hand at bellringing! She loved her dogs and became a firm friend of fellow dog walkers in the area.

None will forget her gentle demeanour. She greeted you with a smile and said goodbye with a smile. She was the unsung hero behind many village events. Those who knew Jenny will miss her... those who did not know her simply missed out!

Part of the tribute written by Jim Merrington for the Memorial Service for Jennifer Marr on 8.11.2021

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.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Our meetings

The last meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 15th November. Minutes will be available on the PC website. The following is a summary of some of the main issues that were discussed. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7:30pm on Monday 17th January 2022.

Installation of Christmas Tree and Light Switch on Event

We are delighted to again be providing a Christmas Tree at the crossroads of the village. Details of the arrangements for lighting the tree on Friday 3rd December are to be found elsewhere in this Parish Magazine.

Road Safety

We were pleased to welcome Michelle McIntosh, Traffic Assets Team Leader, and her colleague Deborah Arnold from Durham County Council to discuss, amongst other things, measures to improve village signage, reduce traffic speed on Wolsingham Road and generally improve the appearance of the village and safety of residents. Work should commence on a series of measures early next year, once the worst of the winter weather is over.

Cricket Field

We are delighted to announce that we will soon have two brand new goal posts on the field for all those children, young people and adults who are still young at heart. Our lawyers are making steady progress with the Cricket Field lease and we are hopeful for a positive outcome in the near future. In the meantime we are organising a survey of those trees both in the field and in other parts of the village that may be causing concern.

Litter Picking

Thank you to those who have volunteered to join our litter picking group. Equipment has been ordered (both for adults and children). Please check our website and notice boards for litter picking dates in the New Year. It is not too late to join us!

What did you do in the Pandemic?

Thank you to those who have already given us their memories from the lockdowns. They have been (or are in progress of being) saved for posterity so that future villagers, researchers and others will be able to see just what happened in our village during the Great COVID-19 Pandemic.

One thing we are short of, however, are tales of people who used the time to do something different. If you learned a new language, took up an unusual hobby, returned to learning and gained previously not anticipated qualifications or skills, started a new business, retired, re-organised the garden, built an outdoor railway, moved house or anything else out of the ordinary, please, please do tell us about it.

Don't worry if you are not used to putting down words, just tell us the facts and we will draft your story up for your approval; and if you want to stay anonymous, that's no problem either.

Please drop a line to either Vivienne Lowe (17vivienne@gmail.com) or Richard Jackson (rjpinetops@icloud.com).

The Archives Pandemic Project Team will be delighted to hear from you.

Thanks,

The Brancepeth Archives Group Pandemic Team.

A message from Brian Iley – 8 The Village (0191 3780000)

After an overnight storm a few weeks ago, a rather fine garden umbrella came to earth in our back garden. It doesn't appear to have suffered for its travels - I thought that the Brancepeth grapevine would have got to the owner but no one has laid claim to it. If you have lost one and you think it might be yours, you can pick it up anytime!

BRANCEPETH ARCHIVE AND HISTORY GROUP

NEED SOME LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS CARDS OR SMALL GIFTS TO GO IN THE POST? OR LOOKING FOR SOMETHING WITH A LOCAL THEME?

The Archives Group has a selection of 4 cards showing images of the village with "Seasons Greetings" printed inside. These are sold in packs of 5 with envelopes – all the same or a mixture of images – you choose which ones you want. £2.50 a pack (coloured ones) or £4.00 for two packs. Black and white cards £2.00 per pack or £3.00 for two packs.

Looking for small local gifts that are easy to post? The Group sells a wide range of publications on aspects of local and village history including Brief Histories of the Church and the Castle. For details of these, visit the

Brancepeth Community Association website

<http://brancepethcommunityassociation.co.uk>

and follow the link to the Archive and History Group

All the cards and publications will be available from the Archive and History Group stall in the Archive Room during the Brancepeth Castle Craft Fair 26th, 27th, 28th November, and from the Archive Room which is always open on the morning of the first Saturday of each month, or ring Vivienne Lowe 378 0974, or Geoff Harrison 378 4813.

'The Phoenix Flyers'

Brancepeth Ladies are pleased to say that they have arranged for Frank Stephenson to give a talk about his charity.

Thursday, 13th January at 2.00 pm in the Golf Club dining room.

£5 including light refreshments (£3 for Ladies members)

The Christmas Show

In

The Village Hall

On

Saturday December 4th

Doors open at 7pm. Show starts at 7.30

Party afterwards at 7 Goodwell Lea

Contributions of food and drink gratefully received
for the party, finger food for interval.

Please come and support the glittering array of
talent on stage; if you are new to the village, this is
a great chance to meet everyone.

Tickets: Members of CA £7 adults, £3 children

Non-members £8 adults, £4 children

Available at dress rehearsal or from Rosemary

Monument mwmonument@gmail.com

Proceeds to Brancepeth Community Association
reg charity 504318

I would like to encourage the Xmas Show cast and audience to do a
Lateral Flow Test on the Saturday morning (4th Dec.). If positive I will
refund ticket money. I hope this will keep us all safe.

Rosemary.

Dates for the Diary:-

Dec	Mondays	-	Snooker, 7.30pm, Village hall
Dec	Mondays	-	Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Dec	There will be no Knit and Natter in December. It will commence again on Tuesday January 5th. Village Hall 2 0- 4 pm.		
Dec	Wednesdays	-	Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall
Dec	Thursdays	-	Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Dec	3rd	Fri	Village Christmas Tree Light Up, 6.15pm, Cricket Field
Dec	4th	Sat	Darlington Deanery Event, 8.45am – 1.15pm, church closed
Dec	4th	Sat	Christmas Show
Dec	12th	Sun	Messy Church Christingle, 3.00pm-5.00pm Church
Dec	19th	Sun	Carol Service, 6.30pm, Church
Dec	23rd & 24th		Thurs & Fri, Carol Singing, 6.30pm, Village Crossroads
Dec	24th	Fri	Crib Service, 5.00pm, Church
Jan	13th	Thurs	Brancepeth Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club

Photos

Front cover - ©Rick Simpson 2015 – An Interior view of the church at Christmas.

This is one of the images used for our Christmas card collection on sale in church at £4.50 for a pack of 5, or on request, from Jean Hodgson (0191 378289)

Inside front cover – ©Anna Brooker –Advertisements for events and appeals over Christmas

Inside back cover – A further selection of Christmas card images.

East end photos: © Mike Higton 2021

View from golf course: © Hester Higton 2021

Back cover – © Anna Brooker – The Light Party setting out from the Village Hall

www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

January newsletter entries no later than 16th December

Please send to Sue Morgan at sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Brancepeth Community Association - Management Committee

	<i>Chairman</i>	Val Gibbons	<i>Subscriptions</i>
Martyn Jones	<i>Vice chairman</i>	Geraldine Jennings	<i>Bookings & Garden Club</i>
Jo Dalton	<i>Secretary (& Website)</i>	Jean Merrington	
Ian Stoker	<i>Treasurer</i>		<i>Wednesday Coffee</i>
	<i>Social Secretary</i>		<i>Cinema Club</i>
Anna Brooker	<i>Church Representative</i>		

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

Parish Activities

Chairman B.C.A.

Secretary	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (3780771)
Treasurer	Ian Stoker, Castle Lodge (3784986)
Membership	Val Gibbons, 3 The Forge (3784200)
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)
Drama	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Flower Guild	Jessie Brown (3782748)
Garden Club	Barry Dickinson (3782398)
Snooker Bookings	Geraldine Jennings (3781583)
Wednesday Coffee	
Yoga	Lynne Hastie (3781871)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (3735674)

Parish Council

Hassall Balshen – Chair (tel: 3781295; email: hassall.balshen@gmail.com)
Mary Coffield – Deputy chair (tel: 3780024; email: mary.coffield@googlemail.com)
Nick Ellis (tel: 3782939; email: n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk)
Gillian Smellie, Email: gillian@smellie.com
Thomas Hobbs, Email: tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk
Michael Stephenson, Email: stephenson15@me.com

Parish Clerk Kirsty Charlton clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk

County Councillors: olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk
fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk

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