

St Brandon's Church

Brancepeth



Newsletter: February 2022

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



CELTIC EVENING PRAYER

A REFLECTIVE SERVICE
WITH SILENCE, MUSIC AND
READINGS

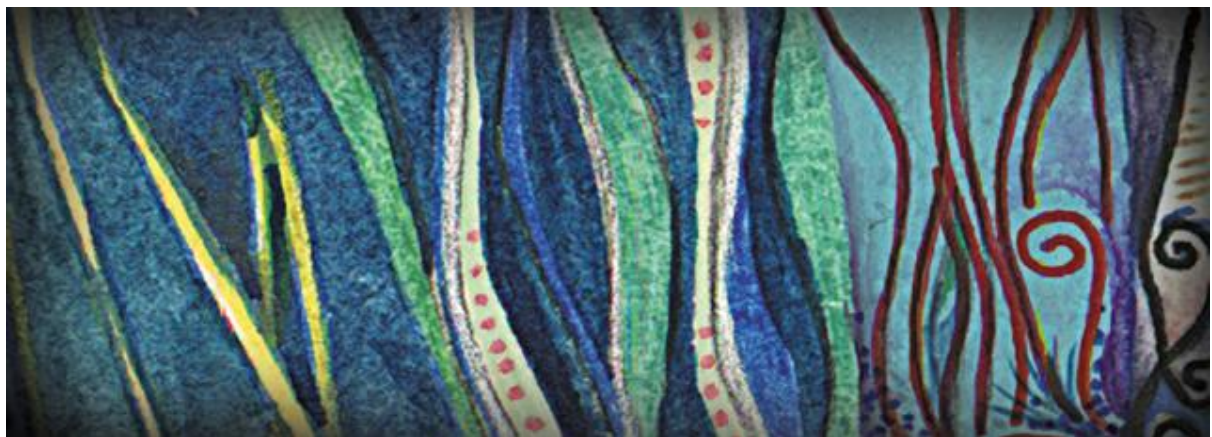
AND INCLUDING A FOCUS ON
ST BRANDON, OUR PATRON
SAINT

SUN 27 FEBRUARY 4PM

ALL WELCOME

Ash Wednesday

2nd March, 7:30pm



**Holy Communion with
the Imposition of Ashes**

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)
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:	Anna Brooker (ex-officio), Carys Funnell, Richard Gooding, Alison Hobbs (ex officio), Tom Hobbs, Martin Peacock.
Fabric:	James Morgan (chair), Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs, Steve Hodgson, Edward Staines.
Website	www.stbrandon.org.uk

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

Please send to Sue Morgan – sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Dear Friends

Last month Anna wrote about the ‘recycled cathedral’ builder, Justo Gallego Martinez, who had died at the age of 96. Continuing the theme, this month it seemed that I could do no other than to celebrate the life of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who died on Boxing Day aged 90.

He came to international prominence when he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984, and he became the key spokesman for the oppressed black majority in apartheid South Africa – the voice of the voiceless – both as Bishop of Johannesburg (1984), and then as Archbishop of Cape Town (1986). In 1987 he visited Durham, preached in the Cathedral against apartheid and Maggie Thatcher’s government’s policy against imposing economic sanctions (David Jenkins was Bishop), and was made an Honorary Freeman of the City.

Nelson Mandela was released in 1990, allowing Desmond Tutu to step back from being a political spokesperson. But he was then asked to chair the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 1995, probably the pinnacle of his lifelong quest for truth, justice and reconciliation.

But beyond racial justice, he was also a champion for the rights of women, the LGBTQ community, and human rights more generally.

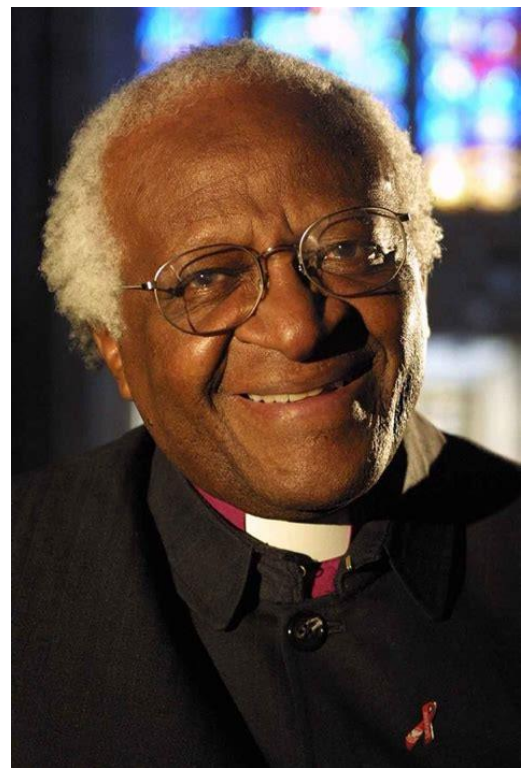
And, of course, all of this was motivated by his Christian faith. He was described by another bishop as a “pastor and prophet in close integration, undergirded by a remarkable ministry of intercessory prayer”.

And besides all that, we probably remember him too for his great sense of humour – almost as though he danced his way through life. One commentator described this as an “irrepressible gaiety that kept bubbling up from the inexhaustible well-spring of the Spirit within. Never had the Lord Jesus a less solemn witness to the gospel of the resurrection”!

What a remarkable man. And perhaps one not just to admire, but to seek to imitate.

With my best wishes

Geoff Moore



St Brandon's February 2022– Services and Readings

Sunday services are at 10:15am every week.

At the time of writing, services are in person, in church.

Everyone is required to wear a face covering unless exempt. Thank you.

*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** is held fortnightly on **Thursdays at 7:30pm** via Zoom.*

Everyone is welcome, please contact Geoff Moore or Anna

Please phone or email for further details

Thurs 3rd Feb Evening Prayer via Zoom 7.30pm

Feb 6th 4 before Lent Parish Eucharist 10.15
Accession of Queen Elizabeth II, 1952

First:	Alison Moore	1 Corinthians 15: 1-11
Gospel:	Sue Morgan	Luke 5: 1-11
Psalm 138		
	Richard Gooding	Intercessions

Feb 13th 3 before Lent Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First:	Tom Hobbs	1 Corinthians 15: 12-20
Gospel:	James Morgan	Luke 6: 17-26
Psalm 1		
	Simon Fern	Intercessions

Thurs 17th Feb Evening Prayer via Zoom 7.30pm

Feb 20th 2 before Lent Parish Eucharist with Baptism 10.15am

First:	Janette Foxe	Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-end
Gospel:	Ken Howe	Luke 8: 22-25
	Sally Scott-Biggs	Intercessions

Feb 27th next before Lent Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First:	Carys Funnell	Exodus 34: 29-end
Gospel:	David Eltringham	Luke 9: 28-36
Psalm 99		

Caroline Middleditch Intercessions

Celtic Evening Prayer 4.00pm

Readings as on service sheet

March 2nd Ash Wednesday Eucharist 7:30pm

First:	Jean Hodgson	Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17
Gospel:	Nick Brooker	Matt 6: 1-6, 16-21
Psalm 51		

March 6th Lent 1 Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First:	Richard Gooding	Deuteronomy 26: 1-11
Gospel:	Edward Staines	Luke 4: 1-13
Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-end		
	Geoff Moore	Intercessions

Sidespersons

Feb 6th Nick Brooker & Colleen Turnbull
Feb 13th David & Fiona Eltringham
Feb 20th Caroline Middleditch & Bonny Bainbridge
Feb 27th Jane Stout & Iris Waggott
Mar 2nd (Ash Wed) Jean Hodgson & Sue Morgan
Mar 6th Josie Armstrong & Annette Johnson

Flowers

Jean Hodgson
Nick Brooker
June Robson
Lynne Hastie

1st Lent

Coffee

Feb 6 th	Sue Morgan
Feb 13 th	Jeanette Metcalfe
Feb 20 th	Jane Stout
Feb 27 th	Alison Moore
Mar 6 th	Catrin Morgan

Tech Rota

Mike & Hester Higon
Bridget & Tom Higon
Geoff & Alison Moore
David & Fiona Eltringham

Church Cleaning

February – Team A

Alison Moore, Anne Elliott, Jane Stout, Sue Hope.

March – Team B

Sue Morgan, Fiona Eltringham, Annette Johnson, Hillary Moss

Vestry Report

Baptism:

Nadia Heslop 9th January

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 8 & 22 Feb 2022 at 11:00
Tuesdays 8 & 22 Mar 2022 at 11:00



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

Rev. Alison, St Brandon's Church



Come and join the fun.

Activities and stories from the Bible.

Every Sunday commencing on

9th January 2022

We get together after the first hymn and re-join the service for communion.

February's Messy Church will be on the theme of LOVE



Sunday 13th February 3-5pm in church

crafts games tea together

ALL WELCOME - come and join in the fun!

Brancepeth Youth Club

February to April 2022

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

We meet fortnightly in the Village Hall on Sundays 6-8pm. The dates are:

February 13, 27

March 13, 27

April 10

We will explore holding a film night as one of the meetings. If Covid restrictions are re-instated, we'll return to Zoom.

Leaders

Geoff Moore

373 5674 durmoores@btinternet.com

Martin Peacock

07503 242074

PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING DIARY February 2022

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

We pray for:

- 1 Woolley Grange, High Woolley, Weather Hill, South Brandon farm, Springwell farm and Brawn's Den
- 2 Candlemas: may we watch faithfully for signs of your light shining in the world.
- 3 Foxes Row, Russell Close and North Field View
- 4 Refugees recently arrived in DH7: a sincere welcome, thoughtful help & a happy start
- 5 Park Lodge, Nursery House, Garden House, East Bothy, Scriptor Lodge, Scriptor Fm
- 6 Accession of Queen Elizabeth II, 1952: Lord, bless her remaining sovereign years.**
- 7 Those whose movements are restricted, that their world may seem large enough.
- 8 Give thanks for the quality of music supporting our worship, & hopes for the choir.
- 9 Modern day prophets: on the international platform, & those we know who speak out.
- 10 The Village South, Castle and Lodge
- 11 Goodwell Lea
- 12 Durham Road and The Forge

13 That all who worship at St Brandon's may all feel included and valued.

- 14 Pray that God's unfailing love will sustain and inform all human life-partnerships.
- 15 Littlewhite Farm, Morley Farm, Quarry Hill, the cottages, and Goodwell Field
- 16 Whitworth Lane and Black House
- 17 Stockley Lane

- 18 Pray for our Parish Councillors: Hassall, Mary, Nick, Gilliam, Thomas and Michael.
- 19 Peppermires, Nafferton Farm, Tudhoe Lodge, Culmaran, Holywell, East Parks area

20 For all who have been baptised at St Brandon's over centuries, & Margaret today

- 21 Half-term, that staff may relax, & families find together-time stress-free & happy.
- 22 Rectory, Thornberry Garth, Hoppy Acres, Rectory Cottages, Constable Meadows, and Bridleway
- 23 Give thanks for all who have helped make the coffee morning a meeting of friends.
- 24 Stockley Grove, Bridge Road and Tanglewood
- 25 The pressure to ease on GP surgeries and for and all over-stretched medical workers.
- 26 The Village North, Station House and Railway cottages

27 Sunday before Lent: that with light hearts, we might start planning lent disciplines

- 28 The homeless & those with inadequate houses as we move into wet & windy March

If you would like something included in the Prayer Diary, please contact Alison Moore

durmoores@btinternet.com

The Reverend Jean Mayland RIP



It is with sadness that we have learned of the death in December of Jean Mayland at her nursing home in Hexham, aged 85 years.

Jean and her husband, the Reverend Canon Ralph Mayland, came to St. Brandon's in 1994 when Ralph took up the post of Honorary Curate after retiring from his position as Canon Treasurer of York Minister.

Jean had just been appointed to the Durham Diocese as Ecumenical officer. Throughout her life she strenuously campaigned for diversity and inclusivity within the Church; she was a patron and trustee of Changing Attitude, working for the full inclusion of the LGBTI+ community into the life and ministry of the Church of England.

Although Jean and Ralph were only in Brancepeth for a short time before retiring to Hexham, it turned out to be a hugely significant time for her. In 1979 Jean had become a founder member of the Movement for the Ordination of Women and was in the forefront of pioneering the issue for many years. She was seen as a prophetic, fierce yet gentle advocate for justice. It seems that large numbers of women, ordained and lay, became who they are because of Jean's strength, challenge and deep faith.

In 1994 the Church of England finally accepted the ordination of women. It was during her time here and with the sponsorship of St. Brandon's, that Jean was one of the first cohort of women to be ordained priests in Durham Cathedral in May 1994, by the Bishop of Durham, the Rt. Revd. David Jenkins.



As this picture shows, her first Eucharist was celebrated here at St.Brandon's - the eagle eyed amongst you will spot the familiar candlesticks – and it was indeed a historical day.

Her dear husband Ralph died in 2020 and we send our condolences to their daughters Sarah and Alex, and granddaughters Lauren, Rachel and Isabel.

Jean Hodgson

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!

Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club



The AGM of the Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club will take place on 20th February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. There is still time to hear from anyone who might be interested in taking on an allotment in 2022. Plots vary in size depending on the time and experience you have but we welcome anyone who is looking for a new, green and healthy challenge in the New Year!

The agenda, minutes and reports will be circulated to members by email in advance of the AGM. If you are not a member and would like to discuss possibilities please contact a committee member at baacommittee3@gmail.com (details on the back page of newsletter).

Carole Reed (Secretary)

COFFEE MORNING ROTA

2nd February	Rosemary Monument	3780456
	Sheena Murray	3781097
9th February	Margot Harrison	3784813
	Val Gibbons	3784200
16th February	Martyn & Christine Jones	3789297
23rd February	Vivienne Lowe	3780974
	Janiece Spence	4356357
2nd March	Joan Taylor	3783630
	Linda Larnach	3757554
9th March	Rosemary Monument	3780456
	Sheena Murray	3781097
16th March	Margot Harrison	3784813
	Val Gibbons	3784200
23rd March	Martyn & Christine Jones	3789297
30th March	Vivienne Lowe	3780974
	Janiece Spence	4356357

Please if any of these dates you are not available, please contact Martyn or Christine Jones on 0191 3789297.

If anyone else would like to volunteer to take a turn on the rota please contact Martyn or Christine.

Many thanks

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Our meetings

The last meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 17th January 2022. Minutes will be available in due course 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 21 February 2022.

Appointment of a Councillor

We were delighted to welcome Phil Davison to the Parish Council. Phil lived in Brancepeth Village for many years and, after a period away, is now living in The Forge. His co-option means that we have now reached our full complement of seven councillors.

Cricket Field and Allotments

Draft leases have now been sent to Castle Estates and we are hopeful that these will be signed and returned in the not too distant future. Meanwhile we have agreed the purchase of sturdy goal posts for the field. One or two of the trees in the field, close to the wall, are causing concern and will be part of an overall survey of trees in the village.

Neighbourhood Plan

We are continuing to make progress. Prior to the PC meeting, our working group held an informal meeting with Fraser Tinsley, Local Councillor for Willington and Hunwick, on neighbourhood planning. This was extremely helpful. We have now identified four or five key objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan and residents will be consulted on each of these in due course. Our next step is to apply to DCC for the funding that we are entitled to.

Road Safety

We have been unable to take further action on road safety as we are still waiting for a report from the Traffic Assets team leader at County Hall providing the costs of measures previously proposed to improve road safety in the village.

Platinum Jubilee

We agreed that we would like to continue the Parish Council tradition of planting a tree to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen.

Reminder: If you would like to join our litter picking group and take part in our first outing on Saturday 12 March (meeting at 9:30 at the castle gates) could you please inform a member of the PC or our clerk. We plan to get together afterwards for refreshments in the Village Hall. Please support us if you can.

Wellbeing Walks

Durham County new Wellbeing 90 min Walk.
Every Monday leaves 10am outside castle.
Go online at [Walk Durham](#) to book free place.
After walk Golf club is open for coffee.

Sheila Gardiner

Brancepeth Ladies & Guests

Thursday, 17th Feb.- Fiona Raeside will give a talk about the banner which was created and presented to Durham Cathedral.

Thursday, 24th March – Mike Thornton is the son-in-law of the Spennymoor artist, Norman Cornish, and his talk celebrates the 2019 Centenary.

2.00 – 4.00 pm Golf Club dining room.

Subscription - £12. Monthly charge- £3 / £5 for guests

GNAAS

Any contributions should be brought to 2 Foxes' Row during Sat. or Sun. 12th & 13th February. Ring 01913780707 beforehand so I can open the garage door.

All clothing, towels, curtains, sheets.

Separate bag – books CDs and DVDs Thank you, Allee Longstaff

NEW YEAR'S DAY, CHEESE & CHAT at the Castle was as enjoyable as ever, and a good turnout considering we were meeting outdoors. The weather was exceptionally kind to us and we raised £233.00. This will be divided as £116.50 for the Children's Society and £116.50 for Send A Cow. Thank you for all who joined us, and let's hope covid allows us to meet inside as usual next year.

Alison Hobbs

Afghan Refugees

Many thanks for all the contributions of toiletries and household items which have been so generously provided since the Autumn. They are much appreciated. It now seems that more refugee families will be coming to County Durham in the near future.

Thank you once again
Robert Scott-Biggs

Book Club

The next meeting of the Book Club will be on Friday 25 February, usual time of 7.30 p.m. to discuss "The Appeal" by Janice Hallett. Comes highly recommended. The hostess will be Anna Brooker at the Rectory. (Covid situation permitting – otherwise on Zoom).

Also a bit of forward planning - Friday 1 April 7.30 p.m. at Nick and Dawn Ellis's house, 24 Goodwell Lea. The book to look for is The Tenant of Wildfell Hall by Anne Brontë.

All welcome.

Val Gibbons

Lift to Durham on weekdays

My name is Cristina and I am new to Brancepeth. I work at the university and I travel to Durham every day. Normally I take the bus but if anyone is driving to the city centre between 7am and 8:30am then I would very much appreciate a lift!

Cristina 07719691897

Found

A One23 miniature bicycle pump on the pavement alongside the cricket pitch field.

Please contact Edward Staines 3780858

Kemmy (photo on back page)

Most people are used to seeing Kemmy walking Richard round the village to keep him fit but are not aware of her other life.

Kemmy is a Samoyed.

Her posh name is "Nikitta Katsh Me If You Can".

The mis-spelling is deliberate. Kemmy is her everyday name - amongst other (unprintable) things when she plays me up or goes into diva mode!

Here she is in her full show mode at the Darlington Championship event shortly before the pandemic. This lovely picture was taken by Eugene Purvis whilst she was waiting to strut her stuff. Whilst never yet reaching the full heights, in August she qualified again for next year's Crufts."

Dates for the Diary:-

Please check current Covid arrangements before assuming these events are taking place.

Feb	Mondays	-	Snooker, 7.30pm, Village hall
Feb	Mondays	-	Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Tuesdays	-	Knit and Natter 1st & 14th, Village Hall 2 - 4 pm.
Feb	Wednesdays	-	Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall
Feb	Wednesdays	-	Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am
Feb	Thursdays	-	Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Sundays	-	Youth Club, 13th & 27th 6.00 -8.00pm, Village Hall
Feb	13th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm-5.00pm, Church
Feb	17th	Thurs	Brancepeth Ladies & Guests, 2.00-4.00pm, Golf Club
Feb	20th	Sun	AGM Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	25th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, Rectory (or Zoom)
Mar	12th	Sat	Litter Picking, 9.30am, Castle Gates
Mar	24th	Thurs	Brancepeth Ladies & Guests, 2.00-4.00pm, Golf Club
Apr	1st	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, 24 Goodwell Lea
May	14th	Sat	Litter Picking, 9.30am, Castle Gate

Photos

Front cover - ©Sue Morgan – Winter aconites in the new church yard

Inside front cover – ©Anna Brooker – Advertisements for the Celtic Evensong and Ash Wednesday Services at St Brandon's

Inside back cover – ©Mabs Heslop – Nadia Heslop, baptised 9th January

Back cover – © Richard Jackson – Kemmy the Samoyed in Show mode

www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

March newsletter entries no later than 18thFebruary

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>Social Secretary</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	Christine Jones (3789297)
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

www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk



Nadia Heslop. Baptised at St Brandon's on January 6th

