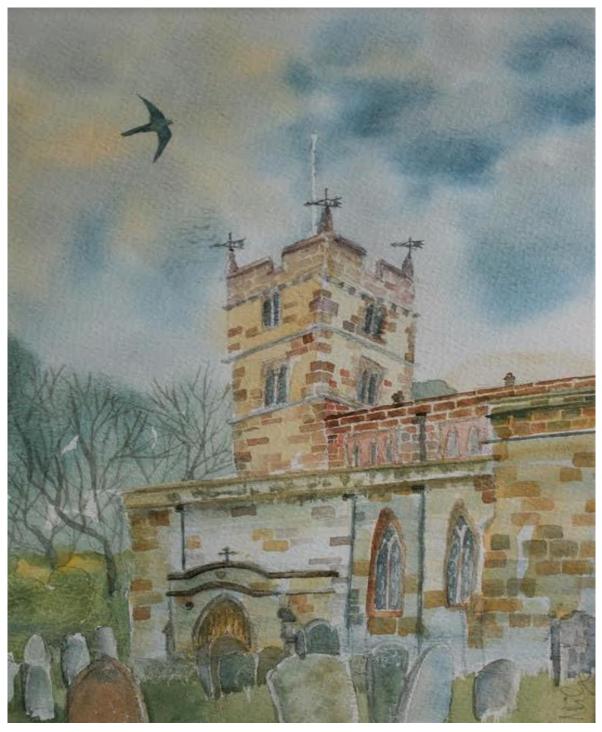
St Brandon's Church

Brancepeth

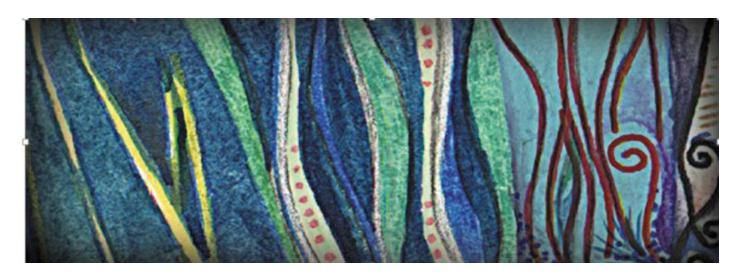


Newsletter: March 2022

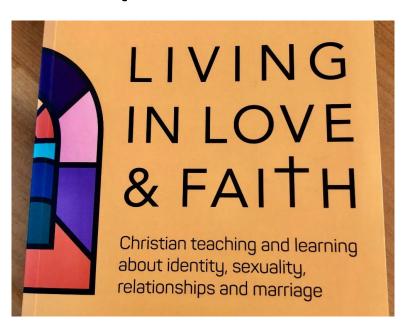
Also online at www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

Ash Wednesday

2nd March, 7:30pm



Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes



St Brandon's will be running the LLF course through March and early April.

EVERYONE is welcome, whether or not you are a 'regular' at church.

Please come to a 'no strings' Introductory **Session** in church on Sunday 6 March 11:30am -12.00 noon to find out more.

We hope to have several small groups, meeting in homes, at different times during the week

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

April Newsletter entries – no later than March 18th

Please send to Sue Morgan – <u>sueatpeppermires@gmail.com</u>

Have you got a minute?

Time is such a strange thing: sometimes a minute can be an awfully long time – as we wait for the answer to a difficult question, wait for a break in traffic at a junction; sometimes it's so short that sixty minutes can pass seemingly in the space of ten: we are engrossed in a conversation or activity, "Gosh, is that the time?" I heard a radio article on the perception of time, and it confirmed what I knew from experience, that familiar and routine activities pass faster, and leave less memories behind them. In contrast, think what it's like the first day of a holiday in a new destination, how long that first day can feel, and how the days pick up speed during the holiday as we get more familiar with our surroundings and new routines. How many memories we come back with.

I've been thinking about time and the perception of time as I think about how I might be approaching Lent this year. For starters, I enjoy Lent. Not because it's a miserable time of giving things up as it's often portrayed but because it's an invitation to enjoy being with God a whole lot more — if I can find the time ...

Applying the rules that govern our perception of time, joining God in a different place or way each day might create its own sense of expanding time, and stay with me more as memory. I know I'd lack the inspiration day by day so to do this, I'd need to start with a brainstorming and jot down a range of ways and places I might go to join with God: perhaps a poem, a specific short walk, a colouring-in picture, to scrutinise the ground for insects, to watch a candle in cut glass ...

Or I might just journey in my head: joining God in the scriptures, imagining the places and people and getting absorbed into the story threads and dramas, the conversations of Jesus (did you say that to me?).

We have opportunities of Lent groups to meet together and have conversations that will go wherever they go, looking to understand who we are, all made differently, and all made in the image of God, and made to seek God, and to find God, and to love God; yet all starting with very different bodies and outlooks and beliefs.

And when I have no time to dedicate to being with God as the activity in itself, I can try to do as the monk, brother Lawrence, demonstrated, of doing all the activities of the day for and with God, from peeling potatoes to preparing conferences. That was what St Paul meant in appealing to Christians to pray without ceasing.

Of course I won't succeed, I'll be grumpy and dull on as many days as not, and Lent will feel every bit of its forty day challenge. But the challenge is really just to find joy in the day, that lifting of the spirits that is the peculiar work of the Holy Spirit, that does not require us to

be happy, or coping, or quick-witted or even pious! But does require us want to seek Him and His joy, and finding Him, to Love Him.

Blessings and love this Lent, from Alison Hobbs

St Brandon's March 2022 – Services and Readings

Sunday services are at 10:15am every week.

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

We recommend that you 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

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

Thurs 3rd Evening Prayer via Zoom 7.30pm

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

March 13th Lent 2 Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First: Mike Higton Philippians 3: 17- 4:1

Gospel: Wilfred Foxe Luke 13: 31 -end

Psalm 27

Alison Moore Intercessions

Thurs 17th Evening Prayer via Zoom 7.30pm

March 20th Lent 3 Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First: Janette Foxe Isaiah 55: 1-9
Gospel: Carys Funnell Luke 13:1-9

Psalm 63: 1-9

Nick Brooker Intercessions

Messy Church 3-5pm in BRANCEPETH VILLAGE HALL for this month only

March 27th Mothering Sunday Parish Eucharist 10.15am

First: Caroline Middleditch Colossians 3:12-17
Gospel: David Eltringham John 19: 25b-27

Psalm 127: 1-4

Geoff Moore Intercessions

Thurs 31st Evening Prayer via Zoom 7.30pm

April 3rd Lent 5 Parish Eucharist with Baptism 10.15am

First: Alison Moore Isaiah 43: 16-21 Gospel: Ken Howe John 12: 1-8

Psalm 126

Carys Funnell Intercessions

Vestry Report

Baptism:

Margaret Christina Hobbs February 20th

<u>Sidespersons</u>	<u>Flowers</u>
Mar 2 nd (Ash Wed) Jean Hodgson & Nick Brooker	
Mar 6 th Josie Armstrong & Annette Johnson	1 st Lent
Mar 13 th Colleen Turnbull & Sue Morgan	2 nd Lent
Mar 20 th Caroline Middleditch & Jane Stout	3 rd Lent
Mar 27 th David & Fiona Eltringham	Mothering Sunday
	(Guild)
Apr 3 rd Pat Sharples & Iris Waggott	5 th Lent

<u>Coffee</u>	Tech Rota		
Mar 2 nd		Geoff & Alison Moore	
Mar 6 th	Geraldine Jennings	Caroline Middleditch	
Mar 13 th	Hillary Moss	Higtons	
Mar 20 th	Catrin Morgan	David & Fiona Eltringham	
Mar 27 th	Jean Hodgson	Geoff & Alison Moore	
Apr 3 rd	Annette Johnson	Caroline Middleditch	

Church Cleaning

March - Team B

Sue Morgan, Fiona Eltringham, Annette Johnson, Hillary Moss *April – Team C*

Carol Beeby, Vicki Jackson, Sarah Nicholson, Nick Brooker

Mothering Sunday 27 March

Mothering Sunday is on the horizon again.

As usual, we will be collecting good quality toiletry gifts for Durham Women's Refuge.

It would be lovely if you could bring your gift to the service at 10.15.

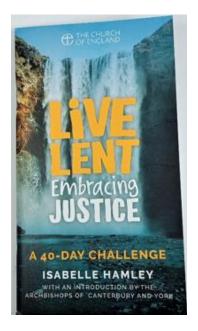
However, if you would rather leave it in church beforehand that would be fine too.

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

Thank you in advance.

Fiona Eltringham 07546384312

Lent Reading: Live Lent: Embracing Justice.



There will be copies of this pocket-sized book in church Please do take one – they contain a short reading and striking photo,

on a wide range of topics, for every day until Easter

An optional contribution of £2.50 per copy via the church donations box would be appreciated-thank you.

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 Youth Club March 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:

March 13, 27

April 10

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

Leaders

Geoff Moore 373 5674 <u>durmoores@btinternet.com</u>

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 8 & 22 Mar 2022 at 11:00 Tuesdays 5 & 26 April 2022 at 11:00



For more information, please email <u>alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk</u>
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

St. Brandon's Electoral Roll

Prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on May 8th 2022 this roll is to be updated by the 23rd April 2022.

A revision of the Electoral Roll took place in 2019 so many will already be on the roll.

However if you are new to the Parish you may wish to be added to the Electoral Roll. You will need to be over 16 years of age, baptised and a member of the Church of England.

Being on the Electoral Roll enables you to vote on church matters, attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

If you would like to be on the roll, then please contact carol21beeby@btinternet.com or speak to me in church, for a form.

Thank you Carol Beeby

Electoral Roll Officer.



March's Messy Church will be a Spring Party!

Sunday 20th March 3-5pm in Brancepeth Village Hall

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE for this month only

crafts Bible story songs games tea

ALL WELCOME - come and join in the fun

PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING DIARY March 2022

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

- 1 Give thanks that God's currency is love
- 2 ASH WEDNESDAY May we have a meaningful Lent matched by a renewed commitment to God's service
- 3 Pray for listening hearts and discerning spirits
- 4 Oakenshaw Road
- 5 Scripton, Peppermires, Nafferton Farm, Tudhoe Lodge, Holywell and East Parks
- 6 Lent 1 Pray to be rooted in God's Word as part of our daily nourishment
- 7 The Rectory, Thornberry Garth, Hoppy Acres, Constable Meadows and Rectory Cottages
- 8 Pray to be responsible stewards of God's creation
- 9 Foxes Row, Russell Close and North Field View
- 10 Pray and give thanks for medical and nursing staff in our hospitals and surgeries
- 11 Pray for Christians in North Korea living in fear because of their faith
- 12 Church members from outside the parish
- 13 Lent 2 Pray for churches worldwide where worship is difficult or dangerous
- 14 Goodwell Lea
- 15 Pray for victims of wrongful imprisonment
- 16 Quarry Hill, The Cottages and Goodwell Field area
- 17 ST PATRICK Pray for strength to be forgiving and patience to be understanding
- 18 Pray for those entrusted with leadership of this country
- 19 Littlewhite Farm, the cottages and Morley Farm
- 20 Lent 3 On our journey of faith may our commitment remain strong
- 21 The Village North, Station House and Railway Cottages
- 22 Pray for those trapped in abusive relationships
- 23 Durham Road and The Forge
- 24 Pray and give thanks for volunteers who staff support lines for those in distress
- 25 Pray wisdom and integrity for the leaders of this nation
- 26 Wooley Grange, Spring Farm, High Wooley, Weather Hill, South Brandon Farm and Brawn's Den
- 27 Mothering Sunday Give thanks for all mothers and for the joys and pains that are shared with them
- 28 Village South, The Castle and Lodge, The Bothy, Golf Club, Park Lodge, Nursery and Garden Houses
- 29 Pray for those researching to combat disease
- 30 Stockley Grove, Tanglewood, Bridge Lane, Whitworth Lane and Black House
- 31 Pray and give thanks for the police and those involved in the detection of crime

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

Church Events Notices:

Concert By the Bishop's Consort

20 March Bach St John Passion at 6:30pm

The Bishop's Consort, directed by David Stancliffe, is joined by The Dunelm Consort. Please note the early start time.

Unfortunately the event will require the church to be closed from 12:30pm

Looking ahead to April

2nd April Life Call, Durham:

the church will be closed between 9:00am and 4:15pm

Janette Foxe

COFFEE MORNING ROTA

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

Knit and Natter

Knit and Natter Group have changed the day we meet from Tuesday to a Monday. Our dates are as follows:

Monday 28th February

Monday 14th March

Monday 28th Marc



NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRANCEPETH ARCHIVE AND HISTORY GROUP WILL TAKE PLACE IN BRANCEPETH VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 23RD MARCH AT 7.00 FOR 7.30 pm.

Membership for the year is £5.00 per person and is due for renewal at this time. (Those wishing to join or renew their membership who live outside the Parish are also asked to pay the Brancepeth Community Association subscription - £5.00 if in receipt of a State pension, £7.50 for others.)

Social distancing is still recommended, hand sanitizers will be available and members may wish to continue to wear masks during the meeting except when speaking.

The meeting is open to anyone who is interested in the Group but only paid up members will be entitled to vote.

At the conclusion of the AGM we hope to have some general discussion as to how we go forward from here (assuming Covid settles down).

The BAHG Committee and Archive Room Trustees have had some thoughts about future events, activities and projects and would like to share these. However, it would be very helpful to have ideas from members and other interested people as to what they would like from the group in the year ahead.

As this will be the first opportunity for members of the Group to come together since February 2020 it seems appropriate for us to celebrate by enjoying a gentle social gathering as well, with wine and nibbles.

My Brancepeth House Through Time

Following the successful TV series, A House Through Time, the Archives Group would like to invite Brancepeth residents, young people particularly, to come and explore what information is available in the Archive for their own house. No previous experience is necessary, just come with a curious and open mind – but any information you may have about your house would be gratefully received into the archive. The Archive Room in the Castle is open on the morning of the first Saturday of every month, or at other times by prior arrangement.

Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

Lieutenant Ali Brooks advised us:

Our toy appeal went really well again and, owing to the generosity of yourselves and other members of the public, we were able to help 312 individual children and young people with gifts. In addition, we helped to provide food parcels to larger families, and individuals, including younger people.

What a wonderful result and congratulations to Ali and her team! Let's see if we can make our 2022 collection a bumper year.

Thank you all for responding in the true St Brandon's and Brancepeth village spirit.

Janette Foxe

Brancepeth Ladies & Guests

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

2.00 – 4.00 pm Golf Club dining room.

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

Book Club

Our next book will be, 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall,' by Anne Brontë. We meet on Friday 1 April 7.30 p.m. at Nick and Dawn Ellis's house, 24 Goodwell Lea.

All welcome. Val Gibbons

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Our meetings

The last meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 21st February 2022. Unfortunately this was too late to include any outcomes in this Parish Magazine but minutes will be available on the PC website. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7:30pm on Monday 21 March 2022.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) is an important document that will set out a shared vision for the Parish and its residents for the coming years. Currently, the over-arching objective of our draft NP is the development of a co-ordinated and sustainable response to the demands of climate change and to promote the health and well-being of all residents. We are at the early stages of identifying key objectives under the three required headings of economic, social and environmental development. These objectives, based on residents' responses to earlier questionnaires, are also still very much in draft form. We are now conducting further consultations, initially with key groups and organisations within the Parish. At the same time we continue to welcome ideas from individual residents. Anyone wishing to put forward their ideas should contact Kirsty, our clerk.

Litter Picking Reminder

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

the larder cupboard

The Larder Cupboard, a mobile minimal waste refill shop, set up by Kathryn, a Mum of 3 living in Lanchester, is aimed at those who wish to reduce their consumption of single use plastics and shop more locally.

"As a family, we've always tried to shop locally & make conscious choices where possible. However during lockdown, like most, the whole family was at home & we found that our recycling bin was still fast filling up. This didnt sit right. With the pace of life slowed down, we had more time to consider our shopping habits, but found the options for going plastic free, particularly for dry goods and non-perishables, were limited."



Sustainable - Accessible - Friendly

"I decided to set up the Larder Cupboard to allow for more people to have access to plastic free products on their doorstep, that didnt compromise on quality or affordability."

"Lives are busy and time is precious. There often isnt time to shop around & research every item picked up from the shelf. We've done the hard yards for you and worked to curate a selection of quality products which are largely organic, sourced sustainably & generate minimal waste through the supply chain. Our cleaning products are also cruelty free, vegan and made less than 100 miles away."

Work on the business started in November 2021. The shop is housed in a converted twinwheeled horse box trailer, and will make regular stops at locations across West Durham. Customers can choose to bring their own containers to refill or use the paper bags provided. Products range from pasta, pulses & grains, cereals, herbs & spices, nuts & seeds, baking supplies, coffee, oil and snacks, through to cleaning & laundry supplies,



cleaning accessories and personal care products. Local suppliers will also be showcased, for example coffee roasted in Langley Park & chutneys made in Burnopfield.

The Larder Cupboard is due to stop at Brancepeth Castle Friday mornings from early March.

"Thanks to the Hobbs family, as well as the trustrees at Brancepeth Castle for allowing me the opportunity to park in such a beautiful location! Look forward to seeing some of you soon."

Kathryn

Dates for the Diary:-

<u>Please check current Covid arrangements before assuming these</u> <u>events are taking place.</u>

Mar	Mondays -	Snooker, 7.30pm, Village hall
Mar	Mondays -	Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Mar	Mondays -	Knit and Natter 14th & 28th, Village Hall 2 - 4 pm.
Mar	Wednesdays -	Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall
Mar	Wednesdays -	Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am
Mar	Thursdays -	Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Mar	Sundays -	Youth Club, 13th & 27th 6.00 -8.00pm, Village Hall
Mar	12th Sat	Litter Picking, 9.30am, Castle Gates
Mar	20th Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm-5.00pm, Village Hall
Mar	20th Sun	Dunelm Consort & Players, 6.30pm, Church
Mar	23rd Wed	Archives & History Group AGM, 7.00pm, Village Hall
Mar	24th Thurs	Brancepeth Ladies & Guests, 2.00-4.00pm, Golf Club
Apr	1st Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, 24 Goodwell Lea
Apr	2nd Sat	Life Call: Durham, church closed 9.00am -4.15pm
May	14th Sat	Litter Picking, 9.30am, Castle Gate

Photos

Front cover - ©Nick Brooker – Watercolour of the church painted by Nick. It was presented to Bianca Allen, our longest resident, as a gift after leaving the village to be closer to family.

Inside front cover – ©Anna Brooker – Advertisements for Ash Wednesday Service at St Brandon's and for the Lent Course reading material.

Inside back cover – © Dunelm Consort & Players, concert with David Stancliffe.

Back cover – © Sue Morgan –Margaret Christina with parents Uli and Tom Hobbs, baptised 20th February.

www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

April newsletter entries no later than <u>18th March</u>

Please send to Sue Morgan at sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Brancepeth Community Association - Management Committee

Chairman Val Gibbons Subscriptions

Martyn Jones Vice chairman Geraldine Jennings Bookings & Garden Club

Jo Dalton Secretary (& Website) Jean Merrington

Ian Stoker Treasurer

Social Secretary

Anna Brooker Church Representative

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 Sue Morgan, Carole Reed & Liz Burdess

& Leisure Gardeners' Club 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

Philip Davison, Email: philipdavison000@btinternet.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

Dunelm Consort & Players

in collaboration with

The Bishop's Consort directed by David Stancliffe



J.S. Bach St John Passion

6:30pm Sunday 20th March St Brandon's Church, Brancepeth DH7 8DF

£15 Adult £5 Student Under 10's Free







Margaret Christina Hobbs with parents Uli and Tom after her baptism on 20th February 2022

