St Brandon's Church Brancepeth



Newsletter: February 2023

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

February's Messy Church is all about MUSIC



Sunday 12th Feb 3-5pm in church





ALL WELCOME: if you play an instrument, please bring it with you!

Choral Worship at St Brandon's

Coming Soon: Sun 29 Jan 3pm: Sung Evensong for Candlemas. St Brandon's Choir will lead us all in singing this beautiful service, with music provided for the congregation to join in. Come and sing or come to listen and pray. Followed by tea.

Sun 19 Feb 3pm: Choral Evensong, remembering George Herbert St John's College Chapel Choir will sing Evensong, with readings and anthem remembering the priest poet George Herbert, who is commemorated by the church this month. Followed by tea.

Sun 2 April (Palm Sunday) 6:30pm Crucifixion

Music by John Stainer, words by W J Sparrow Simpson. With St Brandon's Choir and soloists. Further details next month.

Lent Groups

Lent begins on 22nd February and is a great time to focus on exploring faith. There will be several small



groups meeting weekly to follow a Pilgrim Course and everyone is welcome. More details in church or from Anna.

Priest in Charge Rev'd Anna Brooker (3780578) or

rector@stbrandon.org.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: David Eltringham (07779938611)

James Morgan (4476520)

Secretary Carol Beeby (3847431), (07592 975002)

Treasurer Mike Higton – co-opted member of P.C.C. (5974675)

Deanery Synod Caroline Middleditch (378 1400)

Other members:-

Janette Foxe (07587 225 200) Steve Hodgson (3780289)

Tom Hobbs (07857437860) Ken Howe (07710098705, 01913840589)

Jean Hodgson (3780289) Sue Morgan (3781172)

Prayer Team Alison Hobbs (378 9670), Sue Hope, Alison Moore (373 5674).

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 Carol Beeby, Rev'd Anna Brooker, Janette Foxe, Richard Gooding, Rev'd

Alison Hobbs, Alison Moore, 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

Newsletter entries no later than February 18th please.

Please send to Sue Morgan - sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of this newsletter, please contact Hester Higton on hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop.

Dear friends,

Music matters! Music therapy is recognised as a powerful tool in aiding mental and physical health; everyday, homespun music is good for us too. From a favourite tune on the radio to the singing of sports fans, the uplifting song of birds heard on a winter's morning or our favourite hymn, music enriches our lives. It's a way in to the adoration and worship which are part of our humanity.

This month at St Brandon's, we'll enjoy our usual varied selection of hymnody each Sunday morning. In addition, Messy Church will be singing, making musical instruments and learning about music in worship, which promises to be a great session! The following week we will enjoy that most beautiful of Anglican services, Choral Evensong, sung by St John's College Chapel Choir. Whether or not you're a church regular, do come and experience the glorious liturgy and music in the stunning setting of St Brandon's.

Choral Evensong is timed to commemorate the priest poet George Herbert (1593-1633), who was also a keen musician and hymn writer. For Herbert, as for many of us, blending words and melody enabled him to express and deepen his faith: we still sing several of his hymns today. As we approach the forty days of Lent, traditionally a time of prayer, fasting and reflection, let's remember these words of George Herbert, or maybe sing them?

Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n I will praise thee; in my heart, though not in heav'n I can raise thee. small it is in this poor sort to enrol thee: e'en eternity's too short to extol thee.

With best wishes,

Anna

Anna Brooker, Priest in Charge, St Brandon's Church

St Brandon's, February 2023 – Services and readings

Sunday services are at 10:15am every week.

If you are unable to come 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 in church/ online at 8.15am

and there is a Midday Eucharist in Brancepeth Castle Chapel at 12noon.

Evening Prayer for Epiphany is on alternate 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

Feb 2 ^{na}	Thursday	Online Evening Prayer 7:30pm

Feb 5th 3 before Lent Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings First Colin Waterman 1 Corinthians 2: 1-end

Gospel: Gillian Smellie Matthew 5: 13-20

Psalm 112: 1-9

Emily Bagg Intercessions

Feb 12th 2 before Lent Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings First: Edward Staines Romans 8: 18-25

Gospel: Sue Morgan Matthew 6: 25- end

Psalm 136: 1-9, 23-end

Geoff Moore Intercessions

Feb 16th Thursday Online Evening Prayer 7:30pm

Feb 19th next before Lent Morning Worship 10.15am

Focus on Church Action on Poverty

Readings First: Tom Hobbs 2 Peter 1: 16-end

Gospel: James Morgan Matthew 17:1-9

Psalm 2

Carys Funnell Intercessions

Choral Evensong 3pm with St John's College Chapel Choir, commemorating George Herbert.

Readings and readers tbc

Feb 22nd Ash Wednesday Eucharist 7:30pm

First: Psalm 51: 1-18 read together

Gospel: Hester Higton Luke 15: 11-32

Feb 26th Lent 1 Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings First: Mike Higton Romans 5: 12-19

Gospel: Wilfred Foxe Matthew 4: 1-11

Psalm 32

James Morgan Intercessions

March 2nd Thursday Online Evening Prayer 7:30pm

March 5th Lent 2 Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings First: Janette Foxe Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

Gospel: Ken Howe John 3: 1-17

Psalm 121

Judith Minto Intercessions

<u>Sidespersons</u> <u>Flowers</u>

Feb 5th Nick Brooker & Iris Waggott

Feb 12th Pat Sharples & Bonny Bainbridge

Nick Brooker

Feb 19th Jane Stout & Jean Hodgson Lynne Hastie

Feb 22nd (Ash Wednesday) Sue Morgan

Feb 26th David & Fiona Eltringham 1st Lent
Mar 5th Josie Armstrong & Iris Waggott 2nd Lent

<u>Coffee</u> <u>Tech Rota</u>

Feb 5th Jean Hodgson Higtons

Feb 12th Sue Morgan Geoff & Alison Moore

Feb 19th Jeanette Metcalfe Higtons

Feb 22nd (Ash Wednesday) Higtons

Feb 26th Jane Stout David & Fiona Eltringham

Mar 5th Alison Moore

Church Cleaning

February – Team A

Alison Moore, Anne Elliott, Jane Stout, Sue Hope

March - Team B

Sue Morgan, Fiona Eltringham, Annette Johnson, Hillary Moss

NB Please bring your own vacuum cleaner.



Ash Wednesday

22nd February, 7:30pm

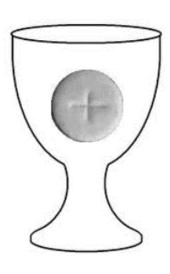
Holy Communion
with the
Imposition
of Ashes



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.

Tuesday 3, 17*, 31* Jan 2023 at 11:00 Tuesdays 14 & 28 Feb 2023 at 11:00 *Alison away: tbc by Anna or Deborah



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

Rev. Alison, St Brandon's Church

St Brandon's Partnership for Missional Church (PMC): Timeline Event on 7th November 2022

Thank you everyone for your contributions to our timeline event held in church at the start of November. For those who are unaware of the event, it was a chance for people to record their thoughts and memories concentrating on three subheadings, positive events, negative events and hopeful, signs for the future.

There is a lot to cover, and it would take up a few pages to say it all here! We will put a summary in the Church shortly, however, here are three main things we thought stood out across the timeline.

- 1. <u>Misfortunes</u> The 1998 fire and 2019-2022 pandemic brought everyone closer together as a worshipping faith community.
- 2. <u>Energy</u> The atmosphere of an open, welcoming community, blending beautiful old traditions with innovative change.
- 3. The body, not the building Whilst the Church building is inspirational and precious, the body of the Church Community is more than stones and mortar. The combined skills, talents and abilities point to a bright future if we listen, discern, and follow where Christ is leading us.

Do you know anyone who, for any reason, would appreciate a prayer or friendly chat? Please tell Alison Moore of the Prayer Team on 0191 373 5674/07890 733757 or

email moorealisonm21@gmail.com

Brancepeth Youth Club February to March 2023

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 5, 19

March 5, 19

Leaders

Geoff Moore 373 5674 durmoores@btinternet.com

Martin Peacock 07503 242074

Prayer and Thanksgiving Diary

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

- 1 We pray for East Africa where many millions are suffering from starvation due to drought
- 2 For those in our local communities who are struggling with paying for food and fuel
- 3 For those who live in Village North, Station House, Railway Cottages
- 4 We give thanks for the signs of Spring and pray for the renewal of our lives in faith and hope

3rd Sunday before Lent 'You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?' Matthew 5:13

- 6 For those we know who are suffering the pain of grief and loss
- 7 Castle and Lodge
- 8 That we may learn the ways of patient and loving service
- 9 All who live in Quarry Hill, the cottages, Morley Farm, Littlewhite farm, Goodwell Field
- 10 For family life parents, children, grandparents, siblings
- 11 For the Stockley Lane area, Village South, Castle and Lodge

12 2nd Sunday before Lent 'Christ himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together' Colossians 1:17

- 13 For Stockley Grove, Bridge Road, Tanglewood
- 14 For those we know who live alone
- 15 Goodwell Lea
- 16 The Rectory, Rectory Cottages, Bridleway, Constable Meadows, Hoppy Acres, Thornberry Garth
- 17 That we may be filled with the joy of knowing Christ, and of walking with him daily
- Peppermires, Holywell, East Parks, Tudhoe Lodge, Nafferton Farm

19 Sunday next before Lent 'This is my Son, the Beloved: listen to him! Matthew 17:5

- 20 For the leadership of the Church local, diocesan and national
- 21 Whitworth Lane, Black House

22 Ash Wednesday 'If we have food and clothing, we will be content with these' 1 Timothy 6:8

- Wooley Grange, High Wooley, Weather Hill, Springwell Farm, South Brandon Farm, Brawns Den
- The first anniversary of Russian's invasion of Ukraine: we pray for an end to the war and for peace
- 25 Durham Road and the Forge

26 First Sunday of Lent 'Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, to be tempted by the devil'

Matthew 4:1

- 27 George Herbert, priest, poet, 1593-1633 *'He that lives in hope danceth without musick.'*
- 28 All who live in Foxes Row, Russell Close, North Field View
- 29 Park Lodge, Garden House, Nursery House, East Bothy, Scripton Lodge, Scripton Farm
- 30 For those who believe they have lost their faith
- 31 For all in need of healing body, mind and spirit

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

Salvation Army Christmas Gift Appeal

On 4 December we held our annual collection in support of the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal Many generous gifts were brought forward and placed around the Altar during the service



Yet more donations including money were delivered throughout the day making it a challenge to fit everything into the car!



On 6 December the gifts were delivered to the Salvation Army Church in Langley Moor which Lieutenant Ali Brookes and her team were delighted receive. Ali asked that her appreciation was shared with all who supported the Appeal.



Well done everyone and thank you for sharing the joy of Christmas with those in need. Janette



Come and join the fun.

Activities and stories from the Bible.

Sundays during term time

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



Wednesday Coffee Morning

10:30-11:30am

Village Hall

1st Feb Vivienne and Janice

8th Feb Sheena and Rosemary

15th Feb Margot and Val

22nd Feb Joan and Linda

1st March Martyn and Christine

8th March Vivienne and Janice

15th March Sheena and Rosemary

22nd March Margot and Val

(Please contact Martyn or Christine - 0191 378 9297 - if you need to swap your rota date. Thank you).

Book Club

Friday 3 March. We will meet at Audrey and Dick Dumbledon's house, 19 St Monica Grove, 7.30 p.m. when we will discuss "Clochemerle" by Gabriel Chevalier. A satire written and set (in a French village) during 1920s, it's different from anything we've done before. I'm looking forward to it.

All welcome. Val Gibbons

Brancepeth Ladies & Guests

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 16th February at 2.00 pm in the Golf Club dining room. Details and menus for our lunch were available at January's meeting and orders were taken then.

New members are very welcome and we are especially keen to have volunteers to help with the organisation and running of the club. It is not at all onerous.

Allee Longstaff

MEN'S SOCIAL NIGHT

Village Hall

Friday February 24th 7pm

Beer – Snooker table games – Fish Supper

(supper orders rung in at 7.30pm - so please be there by then)

NO TICKETS – pay as you eat and drink – Admission £2

For further information contact **David Jackson** 07711 648752





Village Hall

Friday 3rd February 2023, 7pm start

£7 members / £9 non-members

Teams of 2-10 people

book as a team or individuals and we will create a team for you!

Pie & Peas Supper

vegan and vegetarian options available - please let us know

Bring your own drinks

Contact Ian for tickets: ian.stoker57.is@gmail.com

(proceeds to the BCA - charity no: 504318)

Village Hall - Regular Weekly Activities

Group/Activity	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
Art Group	Tuesday	7-9pm
Badminton	Thursday	7:30-9:30pm
Coffee Morning	Wednesday	10:30-11:30am
Capoeira (Fitness Class)	Sunday	10-11:30am
Knit & Natter	Monday (fortnightly)	2-4pm
Snooker	Monday	7-10pm
Tai Chi	Wednesday	9:30-10:30am
Yoga	Monday	7:30-9pm
Youth Group - St Brandon's	Sunday (fortnightly)	6-8pm
*Warm Wednesdays	Wednesday	9:30am – 4:30pm

*open all day...pop in for free wi-fi, use of a media device and refreshments

Please refer to back page for group contact details. For casual ad-hoc bookings including meetings, snooker, badminton, soft-tennis & table-tennis please contact:

Garden Club

We are privileged to announce that David Charlton, an enthusiastic alpine grower, exhibitor and judge is to present an illustrated talk on

"Mountain flowers of the Dolomites and how to grow them in your garden"

at the Golf Club on Tuesday 14th February 2023 at 2.00pm.

The price is £3.50 to cover teas/coffees and cake.

David has guided many groups on tours in the Picos and Dolomites and given talks not only in the UK but also the USA. He is the joint author of "Mountain Flowers."

Garden Club members are requested to contact Bea, secretary, with their annual subs of £3.00 each and their email addresses if they have not already done so.

Alison Young

Village Photo.

The electronic copies were sent out with a covering note on 12th Jan. We are now collating information for the hard copy printing and distribution.

We did, however, have some difficulty deciphering e-mail addresses from the forms collected on the day so if yours did not arrive, please let me know via rjpinetops@icloud.com.

Richard Jackson

Creative Craft Workshops at Brancepeth Castle

Workshops in February are:

Creative print workshop with fine artist and printmaker Jackie Stonehouse

Saturday 18 February 2023 from 10 – 4pm

Whittling and Spoon Carving with creative Wood Carvers Wilson and Benn

Sunday 19 February 2023 from 10 – 4pm

Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club AGM – 26th February, 7.30pm Village Hall



In advance of our AGM the Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club is keen to hear from anyone who might be interested in taking on an allotment in 2023. 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 which will take place on 26th

February. 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)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The last meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 16th January 2023. The next meeting will be on Monday 20th February at 7:30 in the Village Hall.

Budget

We are pleased to announce that a draft budget for 2023-24 has been agreed and that there will be no increase in the precept for the coming year.

Cricket Field Survey

We would like to thank all those residents who took part in the cricket field survey where 40% of residents returned questionnaires to us. This is a very good response rate for a survey of this kind and even higher than the last local elections and previous parish surveys.

The majority of respondents made purchase of the field as their first preference (61.2%) with 65.4% of respondents putting obtaining a new lease for the field as their second choice. A minority of respondents (10.5%) were in favour of letting the field revert to Castle Estates.

There was majority support for designating the cricket field as a Local Green Space (84.9% in favour) and registering the cricket field as an Asset to the Community (89.4% in favour). The Parish Council has already started the process of applying to register the field as an Asset to the Community.

We would like to thank those residents who added comments about what they liked about the field and how it could be improved. We also noted people's concerns and the less favourable comments relating to maintaining access to the field. These concerns, even though they were expressed by only a small minority of respondents, will be taken into account as we explore in more detail how we might achieve residents' wishes. An Open Meeting will be held to discuss our options in more detail once we have obtained more information about costs and procedures involved in meeting residents' wishes.

Parish Council Vacancy

The PC agreed to co-opt Mike Lowe on to the PC. Many residents will know Mike who has lived in the village for over 40 years. Now retired, he was a local government officer for Durham County Council for many years and has acted as both Parish Clerk and Parish Councillor in the past. We look forward to welcoming him to our next meeting.

Brancepeth in Bloom

Plans are in place to apply for the Northumbria in Bloom competition. We hope that this will provide an opportunity for residents young and old to join together make Brancepeth an even more attractive place to live and work. More information to follow.

Brancepeth Parish Council

Dates for the Diary:-

Feb	Mond	lays -	- Snooker, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Mond	lays -	Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Mond	lay	- Knit and Natter, 9th & 23rd, Village Hall 2 - 4 pm.
Feb	Tuesc	lays -	- Art Group, 7.00 – 9.00pm, Village Hall
Feb	Wedr	nesdays	- Warm Wednesdays, 9.30am -4.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Wedr	nesdays	- Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall
Feb	Wedr	nesdays	- Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am
Feb	Thurs	days -	Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Sunda	ays -	Capoeira Classes, 10.00 – 11.30am, Village Hall
Feb	Sunda	ays -	Youth Club, 5th & 19th, 6.00pm -8.00pm, Village Hall
Feb	3rd	Fri	Quiz Night, 7.00pm, Village Hall
Feb	12th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm-5.00pm, Church
Feb	14th	Tues	Garden Club Talk, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Feb	16th	Thur	Brancepeth ladies, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Feb	20th	Mon	Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	24th	Fri	Men's Social Night, 7.00pm, Village Hall
Feb	26th	Sun	Allotment Club AGM, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Mar	3rd	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, 19 St Monica Grove
Mar	12th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm-5.00pm, Church

Photos

Front cover - ©Sue Morgan – New churchyard; aconites and snowdrops **Inside front cover** – © Anna Brooker- Messy Church & forthcoming events **Inside back cover** – ©Anna Brooker – Messy Church Christmas Party **Back cover** – © – Richard Hobbs – Exhibition by Mike Davies - Poster.

Newsletter entries no later than <u>February 18th</u> please www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

Please send to Sue Morgan at sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Brancepeth Community Association - Management Committee

Martyn Jones Chairman Val Gibbons Subscriptions

Vice chairman Geraldine Jennings Garden Club

Jo Dalton Secretary, Website

& Bookings Jean Merrington Social Secretary

lan Stoker Treasurer Anna Brooker Church Representative

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

Parish Activities

Chairman B.C.A. Martyn Jones, 32 Goodwell Lea (3789297)

Secretary Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (3780771)

Treasurer Ian Stoker, Castle Lodge (3784986)

Membership Val Gibbons, 3 The Forge (3784200)

Hall Bookings Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (3780771)
Archives & History Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (3780974)

Art Group Jeanette Metcalfe, (0191 3781646)

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 Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (3780771)

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)

Thomas Hobbs, Email: tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk

Michael Stephenson, Email: stephenson15@me.com

Philip Davison, Email: philipdavison000@btinternet.com

Mike Lowe, (tel: 3780974)

Parish Clerk Kirsty Charlton <u>clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk</u>

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

fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk

www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk



Messy Church

Christmas Party



BRANCEPETH CASTLE EXHIBITION

4TH TO 19TH MARCH 2023





STAINED GLASS AND SMALL PAINTINGS,

BY MIKE DAVIS

Mike Davis has exhibited worldwide and has work in the collections at the V & A and Royal Scottish Museums. Commissioned work includes St. Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle, South Kensington, London, Barbados, and here at Brancepeth Castle.

Opening hours: 10 am to 2 pm Wednesday - Sunday closed Monday and Tuesday

FREE ENTRY

DONATIONS AND PROCEEDS OF SALES WILL GO TO MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT