

# St Brandon's Church

## Brancepeth



**Newsletter: February 2024**

Also online at

[www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter)



# Ash Wednesday

14<sup>th</sup> February, 7:30pm

Holy Communion  
with the  
Imposition  
of Ashes



a quiet reflective service in church at the start of Lent

[www.stbrandon.org.uk](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk)

0191 378 0578

## **Parochial Church Council**

Priest in Charge	Rev'd Anna Brooker (0191 3780578) or <a href="mailto:rector@stbrandon.org.uk">rector@stbrandon.org.uk</a>
Associate Minister	Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (0191 3789670) <a href="mailto:alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk">alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk</a>
Lay Reader	Geoff Moore – co-opted member of P.C.C. (0191 3735674)
Church Wardens:	David Eltringham (07779938611) Carol Beeby (0191 3847431), (07592 975002)
Secretary	Colin Waterman (07713637128) <a href="mailto:colinwaterman069@gmail.com">colinwaterman069@gmail.com</a> )
Treasurer	Mike Higton (0191 5974675)
Deanery Synod	Caroline Middleditch (0191 378 1400)

### **Other members:-**

Janette Foxe (07587 225 200) Kenneth Howe (07710098705, 0191 3840589)  
Tom Hobbs (07857437860) Sue Morgan (0191 3781172)  
Catrin Morgan (0191 4476520)

Prayer Team	Alison Hobbs (01913789670), Alison Moore (0191 373 5674).
Sunday School	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Messy Church	Rev'd Anna Brooker
Organist	Richard Hird
Village Choir	Martyn Jones (0191 3789297)
Sacristans	Carol Beeby (0191 3847431), Valeria Dietz, Pat Sharples.
Safeguarding Officer	Geoff Moore (0191 3735674)
Events coordinator	Janette Foxe <a href="mailto:events@stbrandon.org.uk">events@stbrandon.org.uk</a> .
Flower Guild	Lynne Hastie (0191 3781871)
Churchyard	Edward Staines (0191 3780858)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (0191 3735674), Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Worship Team	Carol Beeby, Rev'd Anna Brooker, Janette Foxe, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Alison Moore, Geoff Moore, Martin Peacock.
AdminTeam	Carol Beeby, Rev'd Anna Brooker, Janette Foxe, Sue Morgan, Gillian Smellie.
PMC Team:	Anna Brooker (ex-officio), Nick Brooker, Carys Funnell, Alison Hobbs (ex officio), Tom Hobbs, Alison Moore, James Morgan, Sue Morgan, Jane Stout, Colin Waterman.
Fabric:	David Eltringham (chair), James Morgan, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs, Steve Hodgson, Edward Staines, Rev'd Anna Brooker, Nick Brooker.
Website	<a href="http://www.stbrandon.org.uk">www.stbrandon.org.uk</a>

***Newsletter entries no later than February 18th please.***

**Please send to Sue Morgan – [sueatpeppermires@gmail.com](mailto:sueatpeppermires@gmail.com)**

If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of this newsletter, please contact Hester Higton on [hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop](mailto:hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop).

Dear friends,

## ***Mungo the Merciful***

I write this on the day when the church remembers St. Kentigern, better known as Mungo, a Celtic Christian leader in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. I discovered that his nickname Mungo means 'darling' and read the legend which gave rise to the presence of a salmon on the civic coat of arms of Glasgow, whose cathedral is dedicated to St Mungo. Who knew?

In case, like me, you didn't, here is the story. Kentigern – Mungo- was offering pastoral support to an unfaithful but contrite queen, who had given the king's ring to her lover. The king, on discovering the queen's liaison, had thrown the ring into the sea and demanded that she find it in three days, or face his wrath. As Kentigern sat with her and prayed, one of his monks arrived, bearing a freshly caught salmon, inside which was the ring!

Make of that story what you will, it is refreshingly hopeful. Compassion and forgiveness are more powerful than anger and hatred; the seemingly impossible is not beyond the reach of God's mercy. And prayer makes a difference!

Our little prayer team at St Brandon's regularly and quietly prays for people in need and for situations which feel impossible. Visitors to church leave prayer requests in the Neville Chapel, others contact Alison Moore, who circulates these to the team confidentially. It is a privilege to bring requests to God in prayer, and we see many answers, sometimes in unexpected and amazing ways, other times in steady, almost imperceptible change and growth. Alison's details are later in this newsletter- do contact her, Alison Hobbs or me, if you'd like us to pray for a specific need, or if you'd like to join the prayer team.

As we embark on Lent this month, and look out for the first signs of spring, let's not rule out the seemingly impossible, but continue to pray and work for peace, justice and mercy in our lives and world. And as you savour a salmon steak or smoked salmon sandwich this month, remember Kentigern, whose compassion made him Mungo, beloved by his people, because he never stopped believing in the amazing, joyful mercy of God.

With best wishes,

*Anna*

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

## St Brandon's February 2024 – 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 in church/ online at **8.15am**  
and there is a **Midday Eucharist** in Brancepeth Castle Chapel at **12noon**.*

**Online Evening Prayer**  
**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*

### Sun 4th Feb

#### Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings	First:	Linda Waterman	Colossians 1: 15-20
	Gospel:	Gillian Smellie	John 1: 1-14
	Psalm 104: 26-end		
		Edward Staines	Intercessions

### Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Online Evening Prayer 7.30pm

### Sun 11th Feb

#### Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings	First:	James Morgan	2 Corinthians 4: 3-6
	Gospel:	Edward Staines	Mark 9: 2-9
	Psalm 50		
		Colin Waterman	Intercessions

### Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Feb: Ash Wednesday

#### Eucharist 7.30pm

Readings	First:	Sue Morgan	Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17
	Gospel:	Hester Higton	John 8: 1-11

### Sun 18th Feb Lent 1

#### Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings	First:	Mike Higton	Genesis 9: 8-17
	Gospel:	Jenny Lander	Mark 1: 9-15
	Psalm 25: 1-9		
		Nick Brooker	Intercessions

### Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb

#### Online Evening Prayer 7.30pm

**Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Feb Lent 2****Parish Eucharist 10.15am**

Readings

First:

Wilfred Foxe

Genesis 7: 1-7, 15-16

Gospel:

Ken Howe

Mark 8: 31-end

Psalm 22: 23-end

Hester Higton

Intercessions

**Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar Lent 3****Parish Eucharist 10.15am**

Readings

First:

Janette Foxe

1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

Gospel:

Steve Hodgson

John 2: 13-22

Psalm 19

David Eltringham

Intercessions

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Mar****Online Evening Prayer 7.30pm****Sidespersons****Flowers**Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Sue Morgan & Peter Bailey

Christine Dodd

Feb 11<sup>th</sup> Josie Armstrong & Jane Stout

Jean Hodgson

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wed) Nick BrookerFeb 18<sup>th</sup> David & Fiona Eltringham

1st Lent

Feb 25<sup>th</sup> Bonny Bainbridge & Pat Sharples

2nd Lent

Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> Jean Hodgson & Annette Johnson

3rd Lent

**Coffee****Tech Team**Feb 4<sup>th</sup>

Jean Hodgson

Higtons

Feb 11<sup>th</sup>

Diane Coles

David &amp; Fiona

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wed)

Geoff &amp; Alison

Feb 18<sup>th</sup>

Sue Morgan

Higtons &amp; Peter

Feb 25<sup>th</sup>

Jeanette Metcalfe

David &amp; Fiona

Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>

Jane Stout

**Church Cleaning***February – Team A*

Alison Moore, Anne Elliot, Pat Sharples, Jane Stout,

*March – Team B*

Sue Morgan, Fiona Eltringham, Hillary Moss, Annette Johnson

# FEBRUARY PRAYER SPACE

## WHAT IS PRAYER?

*A poet says: '... just pay attention, then patch a few words together ... this isn't a contest but a doorway' (Mary Oliver 'Praying' from 'Thirst')*

*Jesus says: 'Come to me all who are heavy laden and I will give you rest' (Matthew 11:28)*

## SUGGESTED PRAYER THEMES:

This month includes Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday, suggesting February prayer themes:

*Love - looking outwards, for Valentine's Day*

*Realistic self-appraisal - looking inwards, for Ash Wednesday.*

## SUGGESTED PRAYER FOCUS FOR FEBRUARY:

*In the parish, for good and forgiving relationships between families, neighbours, friends.*

*In the world, for truth and fairness in the many elections taking place around the world in 2024*

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 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024 at 11:00  
Tuesdays 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 11:00



For more information, please email [alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk](mailto:alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk)  
Rev. Alison, St Brandon's Church

**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 or 07890 733 757 or email [moorealisonm21@gmail.com](mailto:moorealisonm21@gmail.com)**



## Partnership for Missional Church – PMC

St Brandon's is now into the second half of the PMC process. The Core Team shared the findings of the first half at a Sunday service in November. The challenge at the end of 2023 was to decide on what to focus on this year - something that fitted with what we'd discovered, but didn't have an obvious solution. So, over the next few months we are following two strands:

Firstly, paying attention to the focus we identified – "How can we meet and connect generously with all who are newer to our village and church?" We guess that this is a challenge for all village groups, as well as individuals, and we look forward to learning from others and sharing ideas. You may yourself be 'newer', or recently arrived in church or village, and have good (or less good!) experience to contribute to the discussion. Don't be shy – let us know what you think!

Secondly, getting used to the habits, or practices, that have been introduced through this PMC process. So far, we have encountered: Dwelling in the Word (a very different way of engaging with scripture and listening to each other); Belonging in our Communities (being real about the context of St Brandon's); Seeking God's way together (a method of paying attention to where God may be leading, with everyone gathered together); Hospitality (less *offering* hospitality and more being open to *receiving* it from others – ie 'upside down' hospitality).

Watch this space . . .

Alison Moore (on behalf of the Core Team – Sue Morgan, Jane Stout, James Morgan, Tom Hobbs, Nick Brooker, Colin Waterman. Plus Carys Funnell, Anna Brooker and Alison Hobbs) [moorealisonm21@gmail.com](mailto:moorealisonm21@gmail.com)

## Sponsorship of Organ Voluntaries

As a means of both raising funds for the church and for giving parishioners an opportunity to mark events in their lives, our PCC has agreed to trial a process whereby the closing organ voluntary at Sunday services may be sponsored. Janette and I sponsored the first example of this in order to mark the feast day of the patron saint of musicians, St Cecilia, and our organist, Richard Hird, played a fughetta by Dietrich Buxtehude (c.1637-1707). Voluntaries are part of the church service and, when Richard had introduced the piece, he reminded all that it is inappropriate for the congregation to applaud; such was the enthusiasm for his performance, however, that the congregation burst into spontaneous applause at its conclusion.

If you are interested in sponsoring a voluntary please drop me an email ([wilfredfoxe@outlook.com](mailto:wilfredfoxe@outlook.com)) and I will liaise with Richard. Potential sponsors should contribute in accordance with their means; the amount remains confidential and will be known only to our Treasurer.

Wilfred Foxe

NEW YEAR CHEESE AND CHAT raised £160, half of which has gone to the Children's Society, and half to Ripple Effect (formerly known as Send-A-Cow). Thank you to all who came, and for the wide-ranging conversations.





**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 3-5pm in church**

**Bible story crafts activities songs tea**

**all welcome: please invite friends and neighbours....**

**Next date for your diary: 17<sup>th</sup> March**



Linda Waterman leading the singing at the Messy Church Christmas Party

### **Village carol-singing.**

Many thanks to all the singers, who turned out in record numbers; to the doughty bucket-bearers (Emily may be our youngest yet, at least of those travelling on their own two feet?); to the friends who boosted our flagging energy levels with their hospitality; and to everyone who so generously made donations. As a result we had £704 to divide between the two charities, so the Brandon & Langley Moor Salvation Army and Transform Trade (formerly Traidcraft Exchange) have received £352 each.

If we get a message back from either (or both) of the charities, I'll forward that for inclusion.

Many thanks

Elizabeth Dobson

# Brancepeth Youth Club

February to March 2024

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 11, 25

March 10, 24

## *Leaders*

Geoff Moore 07854 696664 [durmoores@btinternet.com](mailto:durmoores@btinternet.com)

Martin Peacock 07503 242074

## *Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club* *AGM –17th March, 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 2024. 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 17th March. If you are not a member and would like to discuss possibilities please contact a committee member at [baacommittee3@gmail.com](mailto:baacommittee3@gmail.com) (details on the back page of newsletter).

Carole Reed (Secretary)

## Events in March

We have a concert on the 1st March at 7pm given by Vox Populi. This group is new to St Brandon's but contains some old friends; Tom Edney, who leads the Durham Singers, and our own Sam Farquhar (Amy Gooding's son) will both be performing. Please do join us for a beautiful Lenten experience; there will be a retiring collection in place of tickets.

Vox Populi is a professional consort of classical singers based in Newcastle Upon Tyne, made up of graduate vocalists from the North East. The singers regularly perform a variety of repertoire, from early Renaissance works to modern arrangements of contemporary songs, and have developed a reputation in the North East for their engaging themed programmes and enchanting harmony. In their first concert at St Brandon's Church, Brancepeth, the choir presents a poignant Lenten programme, including the beautiful choral works of William Byrd, Francis Poulenc, Cecilia McDowall and Herbert Howells.

(Full details available on the poster on the back cover)

## Dare you?

..... become a member of **Team NE Tandem Skydive?**

The Children's Society is organising this event to raise money for this great charity.

**Date:** Saturday 16 March 2024

**Venue:** Durham Airfield

**Time :** tbc

Cost: you are asked to raise a minimum of £395.

If you are interested, please contact me at [davefi122@btinternet.com](mailto:davefi122@btinternet.com) or

Gill Dean at [gill.dean@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:gill.dean@childrenssociety.org.uk)

*Fiona Eltringham*

## Book Club

Our next meeting will be on February 16th and will be at Fiona & David Eltringham's home, The Granary, Stockley Farm and the book to read is, 'Me Cheetah', by James Lever.

The following meeting is on April 5th at Sue Morgan's home, Peppermires Cottage. The book is, 'Redhead by the side of the Road', by Anne Tyler.

All welcome

Val Gibbons



# Wednesday Coffee Morning

10:30-11:30am

Village Hall

7th Feb	Martyn & Christine
14th Feb.	Margot & Val
21st Feb.	Vivienne & Janiece
28th Feb.	Rosemary & James
6th Mar.	Martyn & Christine
13th Mar.	Margot & Val
20th Mar.	Vivienne & Janiece
27th Mar	Rosemary & James

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

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## **Men's Social**

**Village Hall**

**7pm**

**Friday February 23rd**

Fish Supper

Pay as you eat and drink

£2 admission for hall hire.

Domino and Snooker games

**Contact David Jackson**

**07711 648752**



## **TAI CHI GROUP**

The Tai Chi group has supported local and national charities as well as the Community Association with donations of £250 each.

The charities were chosen by a poll of the group's participants and were: - Cancer Research, Alzheimer's Society, Help for Heroes, and locally, Cheesy Waffles.

The Cheesy Waffles Project is a charity for children, young people and adults with additional needs from across County Durham.

A delegation came to accept the donation, and then thoroughly enjoyed coffee, orange juice, and of course, cakes and biscuits as guests of the Wednesday Coffee Morning.



Isabella and Peter present Cheesy Waffles with a cheque for £250

The Tai Chi Group meet every Wednesday at 9:30. (Extremely) gentle exercise for ALL ages and abilities is enjoyed by some 20—30 people. Contact Hassall Balshen (0191 3781295) for further details.



## **A double Baptism!**

Sisters, Annie and Elsie Webster were baptised at St Brandon's on Sunday 17th December.

Here they are with parents Rebecca and Adam and maternal grandparents, Mr and Mrs Alderson.

# BRANCEPETH GARDEN CLUB

## REMINDER

**The Garden Club Committee has arranged to hold its Post-Christmas Party on FRIDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2024 at Brancepeth Golf Club.** Last year was the first time we had arranged the event since Covid and we had around 25 people there. This year we hope more will be able to join us, both members and non-members.

Following the meal there will be a fun quiz to test both our general and gardening knowledge. We also hope the occasion will give members the opportunity to put forward any ideas for future events and visits or suggestions of topics that would be of interest to them. Perhaps a talk on Cacti and Succulents or on Houseplants; maybe a demonstration of the Art of Bonsai or How to Plant Up an Alpine Trough.

It will be really helpful to the committee to have suggestions from members when we are planning events for the year ahead so that we can offer things that you will enjoy. We can then find speakers to talk to us on those subjects.

The **amended** menu choices for the meal are listed below. If you would like to book, please would you email your name(s) and menu choice/es to me by **Friday 26 January 2024** at the address given below and either put a cheque or cash (**£17 for 2 courses and £19 for three courses**) in an envelope with your name(s) on and put it in the postbox at the Village Hall or alternatively, make a bank transfer. The Garden Club's bank account details are:

Name of Account Brancepeth Garden Club

Sort Code 08 92 99      Account No. 67318094

You will need to enter your name as a reference so that the Treasurer can identify your payment.

## MENU CHOICES

Starters: Pate, Prawn Cocktail

Mains: Chicken in a Tarragon Sauce, Salmon dish, Steak Pie

Desserts: Sticky Toffee Pudding, Apple Crumble, Cheesecake

## MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE

You can either make a bank transfer directly to the Brancepeth Garden Club Account or put a cheque/cash for £3.00 per person in an envelope in the Village Hall Postbox

Bonny Bainbridge

Garden Club Secretary

E mail: alisonbainbridge53@gmail.com

# **Opera Nova**

**Opera Nova is delighted to present**

**Partytime!**

**An afternoon concert featuring**

**a sparkling selection of songs from opera, operetta and musical theatre**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

**The Village Hall**

**3pm – 4pm (doors open at 2:30)**

**Tickets cost £10 (including light refreshments) – under 16s and students £1**

**Tickets available from Mary Coffield (tel: 0191 3780024/07936 080535 or email: [mary.coffield@gmail.com](mailto:mary.coffield@gmail.com))**

**Please book in advance if possible**

## **Willington patients' participation group (wppg)**

I have recently joined the wppg and would welcome your comments and feedback on the services delivered by the surgery. Please feel free to contact me @ [jimd1104@protonmail.com](mailto:jimd1104@protonmail.com)

James Dalton



## **Parish Council News**

January update following Parish Council Meeting Monday 15th January:

**Litter Pick** - we plan to run our first litter pick of the year **Saturday 10th February**. Please meet at the Castle Gates at 10am with refreshment at the village hall from 11am. Equipment provided and all welcome.

**Neighbourhood Plan** - the working group has met with the County Council's Spatial Policy Officer for advice on the current plan. Following this they are preparing a final draft which will be published for the public to view in due course.

**Christmas Tree** - the Parish Council has committed to exploring options for a permanent fixture to allow safe electric supply for the Christmas Tree lights at the cross roads. We are enquiring into grants available to support this cost.

**Cricket Field** - we still have no response from Castle Estates in reply to our proposal to negotiate a renewal to our lease or possible purchase. Our offer remains on the table and we are prepared to continue negotiations in good faith.

**Northumbria in Bloom & Beautiful Durham** - following our success in 2023 we have again entered Brancepeth in the aforementioned initiatives. Look out for further information to support our entry in the coming months.

Michael Stephenson

## **BRANCEPETH ARCHIVE AND HISTORY GROUP**

**AN OPEN MEETING (guests/visitors very welcome)**

**COME AND HEAR THE STORY OF “THE STORY”**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 7.30p.m.**

**Brancepeth Village Hall.**

**Carolyn Ball, the new County Archivist is coming to tell us about the new Record Office/Registry Office and the facilities that will be available.** Called “The Story”, it is being developed on the site of Mount Oswald in Durham. It promises to be an interesting evening and the meeting is open to anyone. You don't need to be a member of the Archives Group, or even to live in the village. Carolyn is keen to spread the word as widely as possible.

## **Dates for the Diary:-**

Feb	Mondays	-	Snooker, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Mondays	-	Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Monday	-	Knit and Natter, 5th & 19th, 30 Goodwell Lea 2-4 pm.
Feb	Tuesdays	-	Art Group, 7.00 – 9.00pm, Village Hal
Feb	Wednesdays	-	Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall
Feb	Wednesdays	-	Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am
Feb	Thursdays	-	Indoor Bowls, 10.00-12.00, Village Hall
Feb	Thursdays	-	Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Feb	Sundays	-	Capoeira Classes, 10.00 – 11.30am, Village Hall
Feb	Sundays	-	Youth Club, 11th, 25th 6.00pm -8.00pm, Village Hall
1st Saturday each month - Archive Room in Castle open between 9.00am – 1.00pm			
Feb	2nd	Fri	Garden Club Party, Golf Club
Feb	11th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm-5.00pm, Church
Feb	16th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, Me Cheetah, The Granary, Stockley Farm
Feb	22nd	Thurs	Ladies Group Lunch, Green Tree
Feb	23rd	Fri	Men's Social, 7.00pm Village Hall
Mar	1st	Fri	Vox Populi Concert, 7.00pm, Church
Mar	1st	Fri	Archive & History Group, open meeting, 7.30pm Village Hall
Mar	16th	Sat	Opera Nova, 3.00pm -4.00pm, Village Hall
Mar	17th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm-5.00pm, Church
Mar	17th	Sun	Brancepeth Allotment & Leisure Gardeners' Club, AGM, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Apr	5th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, Peppermires Cottage

## **Photos**

**Front cover** – ©- Jane Stout – Unusual 'Mother of Pearl' (nacreous) cloud formation over the church in January.

**Inside front cover** – © - Anna Brooker – advance notice of the Ash Wednesday Service.

**Inside back cover** – ©-Nick Brooker – invitation to try something different for Christian Aid

© -Jenny Lander – 'snowmen' being wrapped up at Messy Church.

**Back cover** – ©– Vox Populi poster for their, 'I heard a voice', concert

**Newsletter entries no later than February 18th please.**

**Please send to Sue Morgan at [sueatpeppermires@gmail.com](mailto:sueatpeppermires@gmail.com)**

**View newsletter on line at [www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter)**

**You can also join us on our Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/StBrandons>)**

## Brancepeth Community Association - Management Committee

Martyn Jones	<i>Chairman</i>	Val Gibbons	<i>Subscriptions</i>
	<i>Vice chairman</i>	Geraldine Jennings	<i>Garden Club</i>
Jo Dalton	<i>Secretary, Website &amp; Bookings</i>	Jean Merrington	<i>Social Secretary</i>
Ian Stoker	<i>Treasurer</i>	Anna Brooker	<i>Church Representative</i>
<a href="http://brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk/">http://brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk/</a> Tel: 0191 3783952			

## Parish Activities

Chairman B.C.A.	Martyn Jones, 32 Goodwell Lea (0191 3789297)
Secretary	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (07876 624626)
Treasurer	Ian Stoker, Castle Lodge (0191 3784986)
Membership	Val Gibbons, 3 The Forge (0191 3784200)
Hall Bookings	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (0191 3780771)
Archives & History	Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (0191 3780974)
Art Group	Jeanette Metcalfe, (0191 3781646)
Badminton	Sue Morgan, (0191 3781172)
Brancepeth Allotment & Leisure Gardeners' Club	Sue Morgan, Carole Reed & Richard Hobbs baacommittee3@gmail.com
Book Club	Val Gibbons (0191 3784200)
Drama	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Flower Guild	Jessie Brown (0191 3782748)
Garden Club	Edward Staines (0191 3780858) or Secretary, Bonny Bainbridge, (0191 3789304)
Snooker Bookings	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (07876 624626)
Wednesday Coffee	Christine Jones (0191 3789297)
Yoga	Lynne Hastie (0191 3781871)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (0191 3735674)

## Parish Council

Hassall Balshen – Chair (tel: 0191 3781295; email: [hassall.balshen@gmail.com](mailto:hassall.balshen@gmail.com))

Nick Ellis (tel: 0191 3782939; email: [n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk](mailto:n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk))

Thomas Hobbs, Email: [tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk)

Michael Stephenson, Email: [stephenson15@me.com](mailto:stephenson15@me.com)

Philip Davison, Email: [philipdavison000@btinternet.com](mailto:philipdavison000@btinternet.com)

Mike Lowe, (tel: 0191 3780974)

Parish Clerk Kirsty Charlton [clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk)

County Councillors: [olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk](mailto:olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk)

[fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk](mailto:fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk)

[www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk](http://www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk)

## 'Send me a postcard, drop me a line'... Fundraiser for **Christian Aid**

Calling all artists, any age, novice and established!

Would you create an image on a postcard on the theme, '**Hope**'? Donated postcards will be exhibited in St Brandon's Church and sold for Christian Aid in May. The artists are only revealed when cards purchased. Art groups, individuals and families are invited to create original images or words using any medium of choice.

There'll be a **free workshop** in the Village Hall next month. (Postcards and materials provided)

Further details and blank postcards from Nick Brooker



**Fun making snowmen at the Messy Church Christmas Party**





# VOX POPULI

I HEARD A VOICE

Featuring music by  
BYRD | McDOWALL | POULENC | TARNEY

Friday 1 March | 7pm  
St Brandon's Church, Brancepeth  
Free with retiring collection