

Brancepeth Parish Newsletter



January 2025

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

The church is open in vacancy!



The baptism of Edward William Luke on Sunday 15th December 2024. Parents; Grace and Brendon and godparents, together with baby Edward.

A full church listening to Vox Populi in concert.



Rev'd David Cleugh cutting a very special cake (which he baked and decorated) representing all the churches that have been part of the Partnership in Missional Church initiative over the last 10 years.

Parochial Church Council

Priest in Charge	currently in vacancy
Associate Minister	Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (0191 3789670) alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk
Church Wardens:	Mike Higton (0191 5974675) Carol Beeby (0191 3847431), (07592 975002)
Secretary	Colin Waterman (07713637128) colinwaterman069@gmail.com)
Treasurer	Vickie Jackson (0191 3783581) djacksonfarming@outlook.com
Deanery Synod	Jane Stout (0191 3860618) Peter Bailey (0781772896)

Other members:-

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

Lay Reader	Geoff Moore (07854 696664)
Prayer Team	Alison Hobbs (01913789670), Alison Moore (0191 373 5674).
Sunday School	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Messy Church	Carole Beeby (0191 3847431), (07592 975002)
Organist	Richard Hird
Village Choir	Martyn Jones (0191 3789297)
Sacristans	Carol Beeby (0191 3847431), Valeria Dietz, Pat Sharples.
Safeguarding Officer	Geoff Moore (07854 696664)
Events coordinator	Janette Foxe events@stbrandon.org.uk .
Flower Guild	Lynne Hastie (0191 3781871)
Churchyard	Edward Staines (0191 3780858)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (07854 696664) Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Worship Team	Carol Beeby, Janette Foxe, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Alison Moore, Geoff Moore, Martin Peacock.
AdminTeam	Carol Beeby, Janette Foxe, Sue Morgan, Gillian Smellie.
PMC Team:	Alison Hobbs (ex officio), Alison Moore, James Morgan, Sue Morgan, Jane Stout, Colin Waterman.
Fabric:	Mike Higton (chair), James Morgan, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs, Steve Hodgson, Edward Staines, George Rae.
Website	www.stbrandon.org.uk

Newsletter entries no later than January 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.

Bring in the New Year

Join Yoga

BOOST YOUR FLEXIBILITY, STRENGTH & BALANCE

After the indulgence of Christmas it's time to make that New Year's resolution to keep fit and healthy and join a yoga class. Ours is right on your doorstep in the village hall on Mondays, 7.30 - 9.00pm, with no parking or petrol to pay; age range 18 - 80+ years.

All levels of experience are welcome and most yoga postures can be adapted to the individual's ability and clinical needs. We are a mixed gender group and the class is beneficial for flexibility, strength and balance. We have a core group of regular attenders but also those who attend whenever possible.

Our tutor, Kim, has over 20 years of teaching experience and her class is highly regarded by all. Come and join us for a session and see for yourself!

For further information contact Lynne Hastie (3781871); hastie.lynne@gmail.com.

Next session: Monday 6th January 2025

Take on an Allotment

Brancepeth Leisure and Allotment Gardeners' Club



Would you like an allotment in 2025? 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! If you are not a member and would like to discuss possibilities please contact either Sue Morgan (0191 3781172) or Richard

Hobbs (richardxhobbs@gmail.com)

Play Badminton

As with Yoga, badminton offers a chance to keep fit in a relaxed and enjoyable way. Ages from mid-teens to 80+! All abilities welcome, racquets available to start you off. 7.30pm – 9.00pm Thursday evenings in the Village Hall. Numbers are small so there is plenty of opportunity to play several games.

NEW YEAR'S DAY CHEESE & CHAT!

Brancepeth Castle Dining Room, 12.00 midday to 2.00pm on New Year's Day to share bread and cheese, and a cup of coffee in the Castle Dining Room: great conversations by the log fire!

There will be a contributions pot for 'what you will' for The Children's Society, and Ripple.

BRANCEPETH ARCHIVE AND HISTORY GROUP

Festive Season get together

Friday 24th January, 2025, 7.00 p.m.

in the Village Hall

No charge for members. Non-members, visitors and guests welcome but we would ask for a small contribution to help cover cost. If anyone is able to bring a plate of food, that would be much appreciated. Usual Brancepeth hospitality will be available!

A few members will be giving short illustrated presentations about an aspect of local history that interested them

Please let Vivienne know if you hope to be able to come (3780974) - to ensure we have sufficient refreshments.

Memberships fall due in January, still only £5.00 for anyone who lives in the village. For those who renewed or joined at the end of 2024 your membership covers you for the coming year. If you live outside the village, but are interested in local history, you are welcome to join but we would ask you to pay a Brancepeth Community Association membership as well. (ask Vivienne for details).

The Archive Room in the Castle will be open as usual on the first

Saturday in January 2025, 9-1, - all are welcome to call in to see what is on offer- Ancestry and Find my Past websites are available for those keen to explore family history.



An original blue and white platter by Enoch Wood & Sons. c1820. In the 'Grapevine Boarder' series. Printed on the underside within a banner *Brancepeth Castle, Durham* and impressed *Enoch Wood & Sons, Burslem*, over a spread-winged eagle. 19" x 14". Formerly the property of the First National Bank of Fremont, Indiana, USA.

This is just one of the items which can be seen in the Archive Room in Brancepeth Castle. Open on the first Saturday in every month 9am-1pm.



Wednesday Coffee Morning

10:30-11:30am

Village Hall

1st January.

No Coffee morning

8th January.

Vivienne and Janiece

15th January

Rosemary and Catherine

22nd January.

Margot and Val

29th January.

Martyn and Christine

(Please contact Martyn or Christine - 0191 378 9297 –

if you need to swap your rota date. Thank you)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - Updates since the last Parish Council Meeting

New Chair and Vice Chair:

Following the resignation of Co. Lowe, the PC now has a new Chair, Tom Hobbs and Vice Chair, Nick Ellis. We are grateful to Mike for his contributions over the last couple of years, including his input to the neighbourhood plan. This means we have vacancy for a new councillor: if you are interested please email our Clerk by 10 January if we are to co-opt a new member at our next meeting.

Christmas Tree Lights:

Uncertainties over completion of all the necessary works meant that the PC did not have time to organise a formal 'switch on' this year, but by the time this edition of the newsletter hits the streets, the parish should have enjoyed a fully lit Christmas tree at the crossroads. The installation has been designed so that our decorations can be rolled out quickly and in line with health and safety guidance in future years, when we shall definitely be holding a small celebration event.

Mobile Phone Survey:

To help us make a case to service providers and Ofcom regarding the need for improvements to the mobile phone signal in the parish, it is important to gather some data. Therefore, we have designed a mobile phone survey which we invite you to complete so that we can establish the extent of the problem, both in terms of phone signal and accessing the Internet. A link to the survey is provided below. This will also be available on the PC's website. We further intend to share it via local WhatsApp groups and at events like coffee mornings where we can provide advice for any residents uncertain as to how to complete the survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XGGTHWX>

State of the Village:

We are pleased to report that the path towards Stockley Grove has finally been cleared; and the PC has thanked the County Council accordingly. We are also delighted to see that the missing/faded white lines on the Village street at both the main road and golf course ends are now done. We are liaising over the build-up of leaves on the Wolsingham Road footpath, and the brightness of the street lights attached (often adjacent to bedroom windows!) to the houses along the Village.

Brancepeth in Bloom:

This working group of the PC continues to go from strength to strength. Co. Balshen was pleased to host last year's Northumbria in Bloom head judge who gave us advice on future entries. The PC agreed to appoint Karen Davison to take on some of the administrative aspects of running the group. We note that Co. Hobbs and David Jackson have kindly moved and levelled-up some of our planters.

Neighbourhood Plan:

The PC ratified the latest version of the draft NP at our meeting on the 18th November. The next stage is for us to notify any landowners affected by our proposals for designating sites as either Local Green Space or Protected Open Space. We will be writing to organisations and individuals shortly.

Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:

Monday 20th January 2025 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Members of the public are very welcome to attend but it would be helpful if you could let our Clerk know in advance so we can manage seating: clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk

Website:

Don't forget that updates and full details of PC meeting agendas and minutes, along with any new documents regarding the NP, can be found on our website: www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk

BRANCEPETH GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club is holding its Post-Christmas Party on Friday 31st January 2025, 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. at Brancepeth Golf Club and both members and non-members/guests are welcome.

Menu choices and payment details are printed in the December newsletter.

Bonny Bainbridge, Garden Club Secretary.

Brancepeth Ladies' Club & Guests

Monday, 20th January - 12.00 for 12.30 - Lunch at 'The Honest Lawyer'

If you have enjoyed any of our meetings, even as a guest, you are welcome to join us for this lunch. It is just one course with tea/coffee. Any drinks can be purchased separately from the bar. The choice of menu is gammon, scampi, salmon fishcakes, chicken tagliatelle, sausages & mash or falafel. Details and costs are available by phone 0191 3780707 or email 'jayell80@btinternet.com' and need to be in by 10th January. Do join us if you can.

PS .The next meeting will be on Monday, 17th Feb – 'A House built on Love and Chocolate'

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Polite Request

Please could all dog owners allowing their pets to roam in the churchyard ensure that any unwanted deposits are removed before they leave. A lady visiting the new churchyard had the unpleasant experience of returning home with a nasty cleaning job to undertake!

Diocesan Farewell

Since 2022, St Brandon's has been part of the diocesan-led 'Partnership for Missional Church'. Except for the title, (which has been a challenging mouthful and abbreviated to PMC whenever possible), this has been a broadly positive experience. Those who have attended the regular Clusters, gathering with other churches, have found it in turn interesting, challenging, mystifying, irritating, encouraging, mind-broadening . . . definitely thought-provoking. We come towards the end of this part of the journey with new ideas, new habits, and renewed partnerships with the rest of the village. Mission is not about 'doing', but about a way of 'being' that notices where God is active, where there is life and love and hope, and joins in.

PMC was launched in Durham Diocese 10 years ago, and at the beginning of December, St Brandon's was host to people from some of the 40 churches who have been involved over the decade. Together we marked the end of PMC in the diocese. Sharing symbols and stories we celebrated, gave thanks, and said goodbye. In many different ways, each church described how it had changed: from being anxious - focussing inwards, facing decline and irrelevance, to being expectant - focussing outwards, listening to what was actually happening in their communities, building relationships, and sharing in joint ventures. The journeys continue! (See celebratory cake photo on inside front cover)

Alison Moore

Book Club

The next meeting will be on Friday 17th January. The book to read is, 'Away with the Penguins', by Hazel Prior and our hosts will be Rosemary & Mark Monument at 7 Goodwell Lea.

Our following meeting will be on February 21st at the home of Dawn & Nick Ellis, 24 Goodwell Lea. We will be reading, 'Educated', by Tara Westover. We begin at 7.30pm.

All welcome Val Gibbons.

Men's Social

Village Hall

7pm

Friday January 31st

Fish Supper

Pay as you eat and drink

£2 admission for hall hire.

Domino and Snooker games

Contact David Jackson

07711 648752

Thoughts from our Church Warden.

Sometimes, the official language of the church doesn't reflect local realities. For example: since Anna's retirement as priest-in-charge back in October, St Brandon's church has been 'in vacancy'. To my ear, that makes it sound like the church is empty, or like the life of the church is on hold. Yet we continue to go about all our normal business – holding services, hosting events, offering pastoral care, providing baptisms, weddings and funerals, and all the rest. St Brandon's is very far indeed from being 'vacant'. (It could be worse: in older official language, this period would have been called an 'interregnum' – that is, as a period between two 'reigns' – which suggests a rather unhelpful way of thinking about the role of a vicar!)

It is true, though, that being without a priest-in-charge does make some differences to our life together. Some of our Sunday morning services during this vacancy will be services of 'Morning Worship', for instance, without a celebration of the eucharist. We have also had to cut down on the number of services that we live-stream on Facebook, because members of the tech team have too many additional duties at present – though we will still live-stream at least twice a month (and you can watch live-streams from the cathedral in the other weeks, if you want).

The vacancy is likely to last a while. The Parochial Church Council met in November with the Archdeacon of Durham, Libby Wilkinson, who explained what we can expect. The first step will be an audit, facilitated by the diocese, to help us work out exactly what kind of ministry St Brandon's needs for the next phase of our life together. There's a bit of a queue for that process, so it is not likely to start until the summer. Once that is done, the next step will probably be for us to draw up a 'parish profile' (effectively a job description for a new priest-in-charge), and move to advertising the post – and we know that it can take quite a while to get from there to an actual appointment. Our last vacancy, when Rick Simpson moved on, lasted fifteen months; this one may well be a bit longer.

In the meantime, though, St Brandon's is very much *not* vacant. You can expect the same welcome, the same experience of worship, and the same offer of care and support as always. The post of priest-in-charge may be empty, but the life of the church remains full.

Best wishes,

Mike Higton (Church Warden)

St Brandon's January 2025 – 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 for those services which are livestreamed (shown by * below), or to view the recording later, at <https://www.facebook.com/StBrandons>*

*Sun 5th January	Epiphany Sunday	Parish Eucharist 10.15am	
Readings	First	Carys Funnell	Isaiah 60: 1-6
	Gospel	Jane Stout	Matthew 12: 1-12
	Psalm		72: [1-9], 10-15
Intercessions		Colin Waterman	
Sun 12th January	Baptism of Christ	Service of the Word 10.15am	
Readings	First	Judith Minto	Acts 8: 14-17
	Gospel	Jean Hodgson	Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22
	Psalm		29
Intercessions		Geoff Moore	
*Sun 19th January	Epiphany 2	Parish Eucharist 10.15am	
Readings	First	Colin Waterman	Isaiah 62: 1-5
	Gospel	Alison Moore	John 2: 1-11
	Psalm		36: 5-10
Intercessions		James Morgan	
Sun 26th January	Epiphany 3	Parish Eucharist 10.15am	
Readings	First	Linda Waterman	Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10
	Gospel	Gillian Smellie	Luke 4: 14-21
	Psalm		19: 1-6
Intercessions		Edward Staines	
*Sun 2nd February	Presentation of Christ in the Temple	Parish Eucharist 10.15am	
Readings	First	Sue Morgan	Malachi 3: 1-5
	Gospel	Edward Staines	Luke 2: 22-40
	Psalm		24: [1-6], 7-end
Intercessions		Colin Waterman	

Sidespersons

Jan 5th Josie Armstrong & Jean Hodgson
Jan 12th Bonny Bainbridge & Pat Sharples
Jan 19th Sue Morgan & Jane Stout
Jan 26th Peter Bailey & Josie Armstrong
Feb 2nd Hanna Pokhylko & Vira Melenets

Flowers

Epiphany
Lynne Hastie
Lynne Hastie
Sarah Nicholson
Christine Dodd

Coffee

Jan 5th Diane Coles
Jan 12th Sue Morgan
Jan 19th Jean Hodgson
Jan 26th Jeanette Metcalfe
Feb 2nd Jane Stout

Tech Team

Peter
Hester & Mike
Alison & Geoff

Church Cleaning

January – Team C

Carole Beeby, Vickie Jackson, Sarah Nicholson, Janette Foxe

February - Team A

Alison Moore, Anne Elliott, Pat Sharples, Jane Stout

Brancepeth Youth Club

January – April 2025

The Youth Club is an Open Club run by the Church, and 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, though we may finish earlier when numbers are low. The dates for next term are:

January	12, 26
February	9, 23
March	9, 23
April	6

Leaders

Geoff Moore 07854 696664 durmoores@btinternet.com

Martin Peacock 07503 242074



Messy Church New Year's Party

this month is on Sunday 5th January 2025

3pm - 5pm in church

newsstory**songs****

SAVE THE NEXT DATE

Sunday 9th February 2025



COME AND JOIN THE FUN!

ACTIVITIES AND STORIES FROM THE BIBLE.

**WE GET TOGETHER AFTER THE FIRST HYMN AND REJOIN THE SERVICE FOR
COMMUNION.**

**Sunday school will restart on Sunday 12th January
2025**

PCC NEWS

The PCC met on Monday 11th November with Mike Higton as our Chair following Anna's retirement.

The Venerable Libby Wilkinson attended the first part of our meeting to explain the process by which St. Brandon's will proceed during vacancy. She emphasised that a period of vacancy is an 'important moment for prayer and reflection, in order that we might discern how God is leading us and what our future life together should look like'. She acknowledged that a period of vacancy can introduce frustration and extra pressures but that it is also a very precious moment to pray, take stock and to recalibrate. A small group will initially meet to undertake a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) concerning missional and financial prospects, the building, and the strength in our governance structures. We will then be allocated a facilitator who will help us to shape a Parish Profile to present to potential future incumbents. A wider consultation will take place with members of the congregation during this process.

Every year £800 is donated to each of the following charities:

- A Rocha UK
- Children's Society
- Durham Action on Single Housing
- Durham - Lesotho link
- USPG

In addition every year £800 is donated to a different charity and this year the PCC agreed unanimously to give to the Disasters Emergency Committee Middle East Humanitarian Appeal.

A role description for the Events Coordinator had been produced and our thanks were extended to our present coordinator, Janette Foxe, for her tireless work in supporting hirers and getting new ones. Events bring a substantial income into the church.

Our thanks were also given to Sue Morgan for the production of the newsletter in its changed format following the PMC (Partnership for Missional Church) initiative to encourage a wider readership.

The PCC will meet again on 20th January 2025

Carol Beeby
Churchwarden

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 7th & 21st January 2025 at 11:00
Tuesday 4th & 18th February 2025 at 11:00

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

Rev Alison, St Brandon's Church

Events News

On the 18th January between 8am and 6pm the church will become a recording studio.

The Durham Singers and Vox Populi will be joining forces to record a CD. Both groups have a great affection for St Brandon's and are delighted to be working together in the church.

Please try to remember the date so as to avoid making any noise or disturbance in the churchyard.

Thank you

Janette

Prayer Space January 2025 New Year

'Do not be afraid!' This is often the greeting when God is communicating with people. Angels say it, Jesus said it. Hear it for yourself.

Prayer theme: Looking into the new year of 2025, we may feel fear or we may feel expectation. Whichever you are feeling, you can talk with God about it.

Prayer focus: For those with anxiety . . .

For those fearing illness, loss, financial hardship . . .

For those working to bring hope, love, comfort . . .



Happy New Year to all Brancepeth Community Association (BCA) members! I hope 2025 is a great year for everyone. A big thank you for renewing your membership - and a warm welcome to our new members. Your support is vital and helps maintain our cherished Village Hall.

This past year marked a major milestone: 100 years of the Village Hall! We celebrated with centenary festivities, including a champagne tea event, a publication documenting the Hall's history, and an Exhibition that brought together village clubs, groups and organisations to showcase what they offer. It was heartening to see everyone come together.

To keep you informed, several key maintenance and repair projects took place this past year:

- Persistent damp patches in the upstairs hall were addressed by removing two chimney stacks which had been causing reoccurring problems for many years. Once the areas dry, it will be redecorated.
- To meet insurance and safety requirements, a full electrical inspection and necessary electrical upgrades were completed, though at significant expense.
- Broken chairs have been replaced in the Committee Room. Further replacements will follow as funds allow.
- In 2021, a green investment plan was developed to enhance insulation, reduce energy costs, and ensure the long-term viability of the Hall. Building on previous investments like the HIVE heating system and LED lighting, this past year saw the windows repaired and repainted to extend their lifespan. A report from Durham County Council's Energy Team highlighted these efforts and provided guidance for future energy efficiency focus. The next priority is replacing some of the old and non-convactor radiators, to prepare the infrastructure for low-temperature, renewable heating systems in the long term, while also improving energy efficiency and reducing energy costs in the short term. Grant opportunities are being sought.

The Village Hall continues to thrive, hosting regular and ad-hoc bookings. Thank you to all BCA sections, groups, and members for making significant use of the facility. Thanks also to Brancepeth Parish Council for their £3,000 annual grant, which helps offset the building's substantial insurance costs.

The BCA Committee is stretched, and we'd love to welcome new members to join the committee. If you're interested in helping, please get in touch!

Finally, a heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributes to the Hall's success - members, social event volunteers, cake bakers, and coffee morning helpers. Your efforts make it all possible.

Martyn Jones, Chair, Brancepeth Community Association

<https://brancepethcommunityassociation.co.uk>

Dates for the Diary:-

Jan Mondays - Snooker, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Jan Mondays - Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Jan Monday - Knit and Natter, 6th Jan, Village Hall, 2-4pm.
Jan Tuesdays - Art Group, 7.00 – 9.00pm, Village Hall
Jan Wednesdays - Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall
Jan Wednesdays - Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am
Jan Thursdays - Indoor Bowls, 10.00-12.00, Village Hall
Jan Thursdays - Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Jan Sundays - Capoeira Classes, 10.00 – 11.30am, Village Hall
Jan Sundays - Youth Club, 12th & 26th 6.00pm -8.00pm, Village Hall
1st Saturday each month - Archive Room in Castle open between 9.00am – 1.00pm

Jan 5th Sun Messy Church, 3.00pm -5.00pm
Jan 17th Fri Book Club, 7.30am, 7 Goodwell Lea
Jan 20th Mon Parochial Church Council, 7.30pm, No 1 The Village
Jan 20th Mon Ladies Group, 12.00 noon, Honest Lawyer
Jan 20th Mon Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Jan 24th Fri Archives & History Group, 7.00pm, Village Hall
Jan 31st Fri Garden Club Annual Supper, Golf Club, 7.00pm
Jan 31st Fri Men's Social, 7.00pm, Village Hall
Feb 9th Sun Messy Church, 3.00pm -5.00pm
Feb 17th Mon Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Feb 21st Fri Book Club, 7.30am, 24 Goodwell Lea

Photos

Front cover – ©- Sue Morgan. Churchyard in January.

Inside front cover – ©- Sue Morgan. Baptism of Edward Luke, ©- Jane Stout, Vox Populi Concert, ©- Colin Waterman, PMC Cake cutting.

Inside back cover – ©- Janette Foxe, Salvation Army Langley Moor and St Brandon's contribution to their Christmas gifts appeal.

Back cover – ©- Jo Dalton. Christmas Show Montage.

Newsletter entries no later than January 18th please.

Please send to Sue Morgan at sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

View newsletter on line at www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

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

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</i>	Jean Merrington	
	<i>& Bookings</i>	Josie Armstrong	<i>Social Secretary</i>
Ian Stoker	<i>Treasurer</i>		<i>Church Representative</i>

<http://brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk/> 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 378 2818.)
Social Secretary	Josie Armstrong, jo.arm@me.com / 07882 233118
Membership	Val Gibbons, 3 The Forge (0191 3784200)
Hall Bookings	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (07876 624626)
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 & 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

Thomas Hobbs, Chair: email: tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk

Nick Ellis - Vice chair; tel: 0191 380 3047; email: n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk

Hassall Balshen – tel: 0191 3781295; email: hassall.balshen@gmail.com

Michael Stephenson, email: stephenson15@me.com

Philip Davison, email: philipdavison000@btinternet.com

Catherine Stevenson: catherine@jamsey.net

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



Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

Our recent collection in support of the Salvation Army was a great success. Once again St Brandon's congregation and Brancepeth villagers demonstrated their care for those in need. The gifts were delivered to the Salvation Army church in Langley Moor to the delight of Lieutenant Ali Brooks and her team. Ali explained that both Social Services and local schools draw up a list of families in need of help. The gifts are parcelled up to be delivered by Social Services. It's good to reflect on the pleasure this work will bring to so many at Christmas.

Thank you all for your generosity

Janette



The collection from St Brandon's.



More than 80 people braved the stormy weather and watched the Christmas show - thank you to all performers who came and rehearsed - you were brilliant! Also to Tom Hobbs and Pete Bailey for tech support, Jim Merrington as chief bar manager and Vickie Jackson and her team for the most delicious catering and of course our pixies!

If you wish to have a recorded copy of the show for £5 please contact Peter Burdess

peterburdess@btinternet.com 0774 815 8703

We are now looking for next year's acts! Please get in touch with Martin or Josie