

ST. BRANDON'S CHURCH

BRANCEPETH



NEWSLETTER: May 2017

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

Parochial Church Council

Priest in Charge Rev'd. Rick Simpson (3780503)
Curate Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (3789670)
Lay Reader Geoff Moore – co-opted member of P.C.C. (3735674)
Church Wardens: Steve Hodgson (3780289)
Hester Higton (5974675)
Secretary Mike Higton (5974675)
Treasurer Geoff Knott (01833 627094)
Deanery Synod Evelyn Aitken (3789908)
David Eltringham (01388 746058)
John Jackson (3782392)

Other members:-

Rev'd Fiona Eltringham- co-opted (01388 746058) James Morgan (4476520)
Carolyn Knott (01833 627094) Isabel Rae (9039145)
Jean Merrington (3780952) John Roberts ((01388 748287)
Jeanette Metcalfe (3781646) Robert Scott-Biggs (3735907)

Pastoral Assistant Deborah Hodge (01388 745455)
Prayer Team Deborah Hodge 01388 745455, Alison Hobbs 378 9670,
Alison Moore 373 5674, Myrleen Stewart 378 0862.
Sunday School Gillian Smellie (3739420) & Liz Thomas (3784465)
& Messy Church Richard Hird
Organist Jean Merrington, Thornberry Garth (3780952)
Music Carol Beeby (3847431): Deborah Hodge (01388 745455)
Sacristans Jean Hodgson (3780289): Carolyn Knott (01833 627094)
Safeguarding Officer Ronnie Moles (01388 768908)
Flower Guild Lynne Hastie (3781871)
Churchyard Edward Staines (3780858)
New Churchyard Bill Currie, 12 Goodwell Lea (3783414)
Youth Club Geoff Moore (3735674) Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Worship Team Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Rev'd Fiona Eltringham, Deborah Hodge,
Jean Hodgson, Jean Merrington, Geoff Moore,
Sue Morgan, Rev'd Rick Simpson
SMD Team: Rick Simpson; Alison Hobbs; Alison Moore; Martin Peacock
Fabric: Jayne & Peter Cook; Stephen Hodgson;
John Jackson; Jean Merrington; John Morgan;
James Morgan; Edward Staines
Parish Office Tel: 0191 3782866: Website www.stbrandon.org.uk

June Newsletter entries - no later than May 18th (earlier if possible)

Please note earlier date – editor's holiday!

Please send to Sue Morgan - sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

At the Conservative Party Conference in October a Sky News reporter called Darren McCaffrey intercepted Boris Johnson. He asked him to sign an over-sized cardboard cheque for £350 million, made out to the NHS. The Foreign Secretary declined. Mr McCaffrey asked him why, and Johnson replied, “Because you’re doing a pointless stunt, that’s why.”

McCaffrey’s logic in proffering the cheque for Boris’ signature, however, was that this was the sum Johnson and others had said would be free to reassign to the NHS every week if Britain voted to leave the European Union; McCaffrey was now giving the Johnson the chance to demonstrate his commitment to that oft-repeated campaign pledge. But Boris put him firmly in his place: this was a “pointless stunt”. Silly Mr McCaffrey.

Obviously, we must surmise that, back in May, during the referendum campaign, it had *not* been a pointless stunt when Mr Johnson had dressed up in orange factory gear in Dorset, used an angle-grinder to engrave “£350,000,000 per week!” on sheets of British steel, and posed for the press with the result. Nor, when he donned a hard hat, helped to forge a huge metal £350 million cheque, and made the most of his photo op with that, was that a pointless stunt either. Nor was burning a large cardboard £350 million cheque made out to the EU in Staffordshire. And nor was it a stunt, let alone a pointless one, to drive around in a bus with the words, “We send the EU £350 million a week; let’s fund our NHS instead; vote Leave”, painted all over it. However, a journalist asking Johnson in October if having voted Leave would indeed mean additional NHS funding (and using Johnson’s own symbol of the big cheque to do that) – well that, as we can all no doubt appreciate, was a “pointless stunt”.

Hello?!

Now, this incident obviously particularly annoyed those who voted Remain, as it looked like a pledge was used to win support, only to be dropped instantly without explanation or apology. But while Cheque-gate will stick in the craw of one side in the referendum more than the other, my point is that what it represents ought to really trouble us all: for the

£350 million ploy did look utterly cynical, a particularly blatant case of saying something to gain votes without any real concern about whether it is true, nor any real intention to deliver on the promise. It bears the post-truth hallmark boldly. (And, of course, if Remain campaigners knowingly tried to mislead voters with any of *their* pledges, they too should be equally ashamed.)

My reason for raising this is to ask, as we now approach a General Election, are we satisfied with this level of political discourse and behaviour? I really hope not. If politicians of all parties are allowed to think that they will be forgiven for any and all tactics they employ as long as they win, we will have a truly terrible election campaign this May. It is often said that the first casualty in war is truth, and the more warlike our politics become, the harder it seems to be to have a sensible debate about what really is the case, and what the effects of different possible ways forward might actually be in shaping in our country's future. To some extent we get the politicians we deserve; if we care more about our party winning than about the integrity of all those seeking our votes, what we deserve may not look very pretty.

Long ago, one head of state, after he realised he had been violent and deceitful, wrote this as part of a prayer of confession: "Behold, thou desirest truth in the inmost parts" (King David, Psalm 51 v. 6). I will be praying for our politicians and the integrity our nation's political life, and about who to vote for and why.

With my very best wishes, as ever,

Rick

Thank you.

Many thanks, people of Brancepeth, for the amazing quantity of lovely toiletries that you donated to the women's refuge for Mothering Sunday. I shall have to buy a lorry soon!

Fiona Eltringham

Readings and Services in May 2017

May 7th – Easter 4

Parish Eucharist 10.15

Readings: First: Martin Peacock Acts 2. 42-47
Second: Carolyn Knott 1 Peter 2. 19-25
Gospel: John 10. 1-10
Alison Moore Intercessions

May 14th – Easter 5

Parish Eucharist, 10.15

Readings: First: David Eltringham Acts 7. 55-60
Second: Jean Hodgson 1 Peter 2. 2-10
Gospel: John 14. 1-14
James Morgan Intercessions

May 21st – Easter 6

Parish Eucharist, 10.15

Readings: First: John Jackson Acts 17. 22-31
Second: Jean Merrington 1 Peter 3. 13-22
Gospel: John 14. 15-21
tba Intercessions

May 28th – Easter 7

Parish Eucharist, 10.15

Readings: First: Steve Hodgson Acts 1. 6-14
Second: Rachel Lunney 1 Peter 4. 12-14; 5. 6-11
Gospel: John 17. 1-11
Geoff Moore Intercessions

June 4th – Pentecost

Parish Eucharist, 10.15

Readings: First: Alison Moore Acts 2. 1-21
Second: Deborah Hodge 1 Corinthians 12. 3b-13
Gospel: John 7. 37-39

Sidespersons

Servers

May 7 th	Jayne & Peter Cook	Bridget
May 14 th	Maud Oliver & Iris Waggott	Martin
May 21 st	Pat Sharples & David Eltringham	Jonny
May 28 th	Fiona Eltringham & Stewart Allen	Tom Hobbs
June 4 th	Joan Nesbitt & Jean Merrington	Tom Higon

Flowers

Coffee

May 7 th	Hilary Moss	Jeanette Metcalfe
May 14 th	Sheila Craggs	Alison Moore
May 21 st	Jean Hodgson	Evelyn Aitken
May 28 th	Ruth Pickles	Norma Taylor
June 4 th	Norma Taylor	Iris Waggott

Church Cleaning

May: *Evelyn Aitken*, Carolyn Knott, Jean Merrington,
Myrleen Stewart, Iris & Bob Waggott.

June: *Carol Beeby*, Jenny Marr, Jean Robinson.
Sarah Nicholson, Norma Taylor.

***Do you know anyone who, for any reason, would appreciate prayer,
a visit, or perhaps to receive communion at home?
Please tell Deborah Hodge, Authorised Pastoral Assistant, and she
will get in touch. 01388 745455***

VESTRY REPORT: funerals; baptisms and weddings

2nd April 2017, the baptism of George Michael Pickering, son of Michael Derek Pickering and Victoria Pickering.

17th April 2017, the marriage of Joshua John Hart and Susannah Mary Ambrose.

We published the banns of marriage for Jonathan Michael Galloway of the parish of St Paul's Spennymoor, and Charlotte Megan Smith, of the parish of St. Paul's Spennymoor, marrying at St Brandon's on 1st July 2017, by qualifying connection.

Brancepeth Youth Club

May - July 2017

Sunday club nights are from 6.00 – 8.00pm.

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

Sunday	14 May	Normal club night
Sunday	28 May	Normal club night
Sunday	11 June	Normal club night
Sunday	25 June	Normal club night
Sunday	9 July	BBQ*

** The BBQ will take place at The Rectory. We'll work out details nearer the time.*

Leaders

Geoff Moore 373 5674

Martin Peacock 378 4268

Rick Simpson, Rachel Lunney, Sam Wilkes, Jonny Dobson, Tom and Alison Hobbs will also be helping to lead.

Geoff Knott's Cycle Challenge for Amnesty International

On 5 April I completed this ride from Ovington (on the Tees) to York in 6 hours. My pal Kev Wilson kept me company and Carolyn served as our valuable backup (providing tea and sandwiches at two rest points en-route). Most importantly with the support of many friends at St Brandon's and Durham Musical Theatre Company, family and relations a total of just **over £1600**, including Gift Aid was raised for Amnesty, an organisation so needed with human rights abuses seemingly on the rise across the world.



I was overwhelmed at the level of support this event received from sponsors and I would like to express my sincere thanks to all.

Here are some pictures taken, at the start and at the finish outside York Minster.



Geoff Knott



May 7th - Prodigal Son

3-5pm

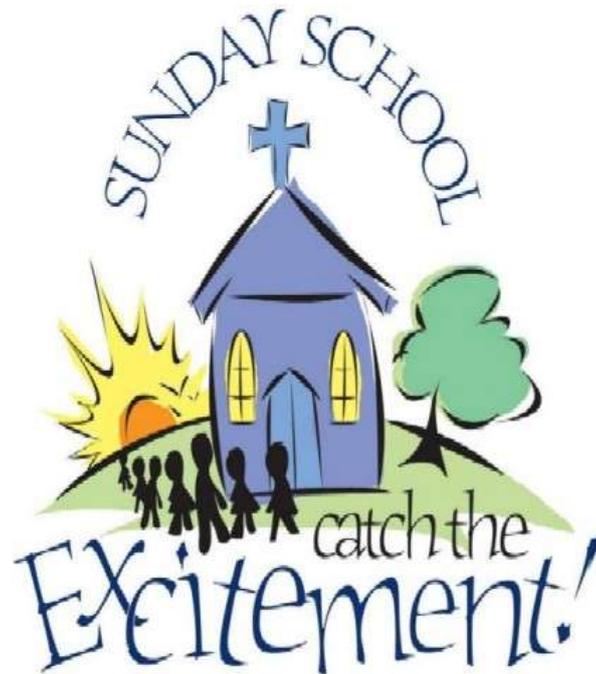
IN CHURCH.

All ages welcome

We love to see new faces & guarantee you a warm and friendly welcome & tons of fun!

Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult

<http://www.messychurch.org.uk/church/st-brandons-messy-church>



Sunday mornings

10.15am

St. Brandon's Church

During Eucharist Service

School Term time in May (check dates with leaders)

Suitable for school age children

Bible stories, crafts, games

Leaders fully DBS checked.

Opportunity for children to worship informally with or without their grown ups, then re-join for the end of the Eucharist service.

Wriggly church area in Neville Chapel available for pre-schoolers to enjoy with their grown-ups.

Speaker relay to overhear Eucharist Service.

PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING DIARY May 2017

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

- 1 Give thanks for the opportunity to step out of our daily routines today.
- 2 Scampton, Peppermires, Holywell and East Parks area.
- 3 Bring to God the needs of those whose lives are shadowed by suffering, sickness or loneliness.
- 4 Goodwell Lea.
- 5 Pray safety for people of all colour or creeds who share this land.
- 6 The Rectory, Thornberry Garth, Hoppy Acres, Rectory Cottages and Constable Meadows.

- 7 Give thanks that Jesus' love is not performance related.**
- 8 Foxes Row and Russell Close.
- 9 Pray for Christians in the Middle East, the birthplace of Christianity.
- 10 Church members outside the parish.
- 11 Pray that every individual be given the freedom to choose their own faith.
- 12 Give thanks for the growth and move of God in China despite strong state opposition.
- 13 Quarry Hill, the Cottages and the Goodwell Field area.

- 14 CHRISTIAN AID WEEK. Give thanks for this charity working to alleviate poverty and campaigning for a fairer world.**
- 15 Littlewhite Farm, the Cottages and Morley Farm.
- 16 ST BRANDON'S DAY. Give thanks for our patron Saint and pray for a very blessed celebration in His honour in September.
- 17 Oakenshaw Road area.
- 18 Pray that the Prison Service be adequately resourced.
- 19 Pray for Churches divided over issues of doctrine and all that denies unity in Christ.
- 20 Village north of crossroads, Station House and Railway Cottages.

- 21 Give thanks for our interesting and insightful weekly sermons.**
- 22 Durham Road and the Forge.
- 23 Pray for a practical care of heart and hand for one another.
- 24 Wooley Grange, High Wooley, Weather Hill, South Brandon and Brawns Den.
- 25 ASCENSION DAY. Give thanks that although our Lord is enthroned on high, His presence is also amongst us.
- 26 GLOBAL WEEK OF PRAYER. Archbishop Justin Welby has asked Christian communities to pray that their friends, families and neighbours come to know Jesus Christ.
- 27 Village South, the Castle, and Lodge.

28 Give thanks that in the joys and sorrows of our lives God is always there sustaining us.

29 The Bothy, Golf Club, Park Lodge, Nursery and Garden houses.

30 Give thanks and pray for all in the medical profession.

31 Stockley Grove, Bridge Lane and Whitworth Lane.

For June requests please contact Alison Moore (0191 373 5674).

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 at 5 Russell Close

Tuesday 16th May 2017 at 11:00am

Tuesday 13th June 2017 at 11:00am



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2017

Christian Aid week this year runs from **14 – 20 MAY**.

The familiar red envelopes will be available in church from Sunday 7 May.

If you are a regular collector, I hope you will feel able to do some again this year – if you have never collected before please give it a thought! It can be a mixed experience, but I have never failed to be blessed by the generous people I meet. And it is truly a worthy cause.

Deborah Hodge

01388 745455





30th Year Anniversary

Progressive Supper

Saturday, 20th May

This year is the 30th anniversary year for Brancepeth Village's Progressive Supper evening – so, we would like to make it extra special this year to celebrate such a long running, traditional and fun event!

If you are new to the village or have lived here for a long time, and not attended many village activities before, this is a great evening in which to participate. You meet for different dinner courses with different groups of people throughout the evening and agree to host one of the courses (you get to know the week before which 'course' you're hosting, and for how many guests) – it really is a lot of fun!

The evening begins at the village hall for drinks and canapes where you will be given your first envelope informing you of where to go for your first course then you 'progress' to different houses for main course and pudding, meeting with different guests along the way, (individually addressed envelopes are given to you at each course telling you where to go for your next course) and finally, everyone meets up again at either the village hall or a house for cheese, port and coffee. You don't have to be cordon bleu cooks to participate (M&S, et el., do great food!)

It would be lovely to see both old and new faces. If you live on your own, and/or if you feel you can't 'host' a course this year we can join you with others so that everyone feels welcome. If you're a 'newbie' to this we try and arrange for you to host either a 'starter' or a 'pudding' course – or join with others who like cooking - so it's not too scary at all!

*Please complete the attached form and return it ASAP – or email the information to jdalton2103@gmail.com - **but no later than Thursday 4th May**. It takes us approximately one week to complete the planning and logistics for the evening and we will inform you of which 'course' you're catering no later than Saturday 13th May 2017*

Please complete this form ASAP or no later than Thursday 4th May (or email the information to: jdalton2013@gmail.com)

Name:
.....

Address:.....
.....
.....
.....

Tel No:
.....

Email
address:.....

I/We could drive guests to their starter venue
.....

I/We could cater for 6 people – including
ourselves.....

I/We could cater for 8 people – including ourselves
.....

I/We would like to participate but cannot
host.....

Do you have any dietary requirements e.g. vegetarian or a food
allergy?
.....
.....

**Please return your form, together with cash or a cheque for
£5 each, payable to 'Brancepeth Community Association' to:**

Val Gibbons, 3 The Forge or **Jo Dalton**, 1 Rectory Cottage (or email
jdalton2103@gmail.com – you can pay by cash or cheque at a later
date)

It time to open your box!

May is the time when I get busy counting the change that you so kindly donated to **The Children's Society**, through the box giving scheme.

Please would you let me have your box or give me a call and I will be happy to pick it up. Many thanks for the wonderful work you do. I now have 30 box holders on my list-great. However there is always room for more!

'Your change brings change'

Fiona Eltringham 01388 746058

THANK YOU FROM THE FLOWER GUILD



The Flower Guild would like to thank everyone who contributed towards the cost of the Easter flowers. We greatly appreciate your help and look forward to your continued support in the future.

KNIT AND NATTER

The group meets on alternate Tuesdays 2 – 4pm in the village hall committee room. Anyone who knits, sews or just wants to chat is welcome. The Knit and Natter Group would like to thank Jean Cotton for her generous donation of wool and other knitting items. All will be put to good use by the group for the benefit of the Christmas shoe box appeal and other local charities

The dates for May are 2nd, 16th and 30th.

Cleanliness is next to Godliness!

So John Wesley is recorded to have said in 1778.

Here at St. Brandon's we try to keep our Church clean for our congregation who attend our regular services; for our families attending Messy Church, for our many visitors who just happen to be passing and wish to enjoy the tranquility of our beautiful building; for visitors attending baptism, marriage and funeral services and for a range of events including concerts, retreats and marriage preparation.

In order to do this we have Lynn who attends on a monthly basis to thoroughly clean our Church.

To ensure the Church is kept 'up to standard' from a cleanliness point of view there are four teams of volunteers. There are between four and six people in each team. On a rota basis each team covers the last three weeks of each month i.e each team is responsible for helping to keep the Church 'up to standard' every four months. For many years the teams have cleaned to a very high standard and we thank those people responsible.

HOWEVER many of the present volunteers, for various reasons, are wishing to relinquish their cleaning responsibilities.

You've guessed it! The purpose of this entry is to ask for some new volunteers. As, I hope I have explained, it is a way of volunteering that is not too onerous in our busy lives. Everyone is welcome to volunteer.

If you are interested please contact me on:

carol21beeby@btinternet.com

078952 975002

0191 384 7431

I look forward to hearing from you.

Carol Beeby



SON ET FLEUR

A FLOWER FESTIVAL

with music retracing the
epic voyage of
St. Brandon
the Navigator to
Paradise

St. Brandon 1500

in St. Brandon's Church,
Brancepeth Village,
Durham

The Son et Fleur will consist of twelve wonderful displays, each representing an episode in the epic voyage.

Each display is offered for sponsorship from individuals or companies for £100.00 each, (or more!)

For further details and information about the exclusive sponsorship packages available, please contact Richard Jackson (0191) 378 3271

St. Brandon 1500

Brancepeth History and Archive Group has planned a weekend festival to celebrate the c.1500th anniversary of the Voyage of Saint Brandon - a seafaring expedition in search of Paradise which ended up in America - a thousand years before Columbus!

Save the weekend of September 15th, 16th and 17th to learn about why Brancepeth has the only church in the country to carry the name of Saint Brandon, using the ancient spelling, and how his shrine was established in the village after the Romans left the area!

Trace his voyage depicted in flowers and set to music in a "Son et Fleur Festival" in the church which will contain over a dozen magnificent displays with individual accompaniments!

Follow the history of the village church from its beginning - uniquely depicted through the eyes of a yeoman resident - at an illustrated exhibition to be staged in the Hall!

Get your copy of a new Archives Group book telling of "Why St. Brandon" and the famous Rectors of Brancepeth who played a role in the very history of England!

Go on the epic voyage as told in a photo/video lecture by Tim Severin, the famous adventurer and author from Ireland, who recreated Saint Brandon's flimsy leather clad boat and sailed it to America proving the journey could have been done!

.....and what is our connection with the US Navy?

A detailed programme will be published later but it is not too early to think about volunteering to help members of the Group in setting up and running the weekend or helping with some sponsorship.

Wednesday Coffee Morning Village Hall 10.30 – 11.45

All are very welcome – plus family & friends, any age!

May	3 rd	Janiece Spence & Joan Taylor
May	10 th	Deborah & Bob Chapman
May	17 th	Jean & Jim Merrington
May	24 th	Stewart Allen & Vivienne Lowe
May	31 st	Christine Jones & Rob Waggott
June	7 th	Linda Larnach & Sheena Murray
June	14 th	Evelyn Aitken & Bill Curry
June	21 st	Janiece Spencer & Vivienne Lowe
June	28 th	Deborah & Bob Chapman
July	5 th	Pat Allatt & Joan Taylor

If your turn is unsuitable please swap with someone else. Josie Armstrong, or Pat Allatt may be able to help. Please let your partner know: -

Pat Allatt 3780454

Stewart Allen 3780871

Evelyn Aitken 3789908

Josie Armstrong 01388 748902

Deborah Chapman 3781409

Bill Currie 3783414

Christine Jones 3789297

Linda Larnach 375 7554.

Rob Waggott 3783592

Vivienne Lowe 3780974

Jean Merrington 3780952

Sheena Murray 378 1097

Janiece Spence 4356357

Joan Taylor 3783630

VISIT BY MID-DURHAM AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP 14 JUNE

The AAP will be leading a discussion at the Wednesday coffee morning on 14 June. They will be asking for ideas for future plans on the general subject of “what can we do for Brancepeth and the people who live there?” More details next newsletter.

BCA Cinema Club



“ZULU”

Friday, May 5th at 7pm

(please note earlier time and don't forget your cushion!)

The Cinema Club is open to all BCA members on payment of a small annual fee of £3 per adult/£1 per child (5-16).

Fees can be paid with BCA and/or Garden Club subscription or at any film showing with proof of BCA membership.

The Cinema Club, and all other activities within the Community Association, relies on volunteers. If you can help and would like to volunteer please contact one of the BCA members listed in the newsletter. Thank you.

Book Club

The next meeting of the Book Club is Friday 26 May, 3 The Forge, Val Gibbons's house at the usual time 7.30 pm. The book for discussion is The Versions of Us by Laura Barnett, available as paperback and on Kindle.

Looking forward to seeing everyone. If you haven't been before please come along and don't worry if you haven't finished the book!

Val Gibbons

GARDEN CLUB

Spring Show

An impressive 91 entries – one of the largest ever. Results: - Overall winner Bonnie Bainbridge. (Pictured below with Barry Dickinson) Second, Evelyn Aitken.(pictured below with Peter Cook) Third Edward Staines. Best exhibit, Peter Aitken, for tulips from Bloms Bulbs. Winner of the Morrie and Pam Cook trophy for the best vase of daffodils was presented by Peter Cook to Evelyn Aitken. Egg decorating: our thanks to Messy Church for organising these creations. The winners were Lucy and Lily. Trophies for the under and over 7s categories will be presented at Messy Church.

We greatly miss our Distinguished Life Member Tom Hawkins, who sadly died last autumn. This would have been his 27th Spring Show. Over the years he has always entered almost every class, and his name justly appears on our trophies more times than anyone else put together.

AGM. The current committee were re-elected; the accounts were discussed and approved; the programme for the year ahead described; thanks were given to all who have helped make this another successful year.

Future events.

Friday 19 May Plant exchange and sale, Brancepeth Village Hall, 7.30. Please let a Monitor know if there are any specific plants you are looking for. Net proceeds will go to St Cuthbert's Hospice.

Friday 9 June 2017. Walkabout – Foxes Row. Meet at the castle gates at 6.30. The hall will be open from 6pm to allow you to deposit bottles etc. There will be a dinner in the hall at 8pm. Tickets will be available from monitors from the 8th of May.

Saturday 9 September . Annual Show .

Friday 29 September, visit to Halls of Heddon.

Save the date :- Wed. 8 November. As with the last two years, we will be having a Nationally known gardening expert to give us a talk. More details nearer the time.



Brancepeth in the Past

Four hundred years ago, from the records of the Durham Quarter Sessions, 30th April 1617:-

Memo that John Calverley Esq., Marmaduke Blakiston, subdean of Durham and Robert Cooper Esq. being three JP's at the petition of Clement Colemore LL.D. , Rector of Brancepeth, went to a messuage called Quarrell Hill in Brancepeth where the magistrates found Charles Hackforth, John Hackforth and Christopher Robinson of Brancepeth, labourers and Mary Sanderson wife of Henry Sanderson of Brancepeth gent., Jane Sanderson his daughter and Mary Hackforth of Brancepeth, spinster, in forcible possession. All were arrested for their trespass and held in Durham gaol until being brought before the kings justices. Dated at Brancepeth.

One hundred years ago, from the Vestry accounts Easter 1916- Easter 1917

Receipts

To Balance in hand	13	14	02
Church offertories	47	17	10
Viscount Boyne towards organist's salary	15	00	00
Messrs Straker's and Love in lieu of voluntary rate	06	00	00
Messrs Bell Bros.	08	00	00
Voluntary church rate	13	18	02
Total	104	10	02

Expenditure

Visitation fees		18	00
Church choir – member's payments	06	15	09
Surplice washing	01	06	00
Organist	20	00	00
Organ – tuning £3.3.0, blowing £2.18.0	06	01	00
Bell ringers	09	00	00
Sexton	14	00	00
Insurance – fire £3.4.6, accident 11/-	03	15	06
Church cleaning - £6.0.0, materials 12/10 + 5/7	06	14	01
Church heating	09	12	00
Church lighting	03	01	00
Jones & Willis (2 surplices) 14/5 10/9			
– Wm. Gray repairs etc.	01	05	02
Balance in hand	21	17	04
Total	104	10	02

CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BISHOP AUCKLAND?

**COME AND HEAR ALL ABOUT THE PLANS FOR
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT**

**TUESDAY 6TH JUNE
7.30 p.m. in BRANCEPETH VILLAGE HALL.**

Lee Brownson from the Development Team will be outlining the proposed plans for the Castle, its multi-million pound restoration and the redevelopment taking place in the Market Place, as well as plans for new art galleries, eateries and much more.

Admission £1.50 to help towards hire of hall. All welcome

Organised jointly by the Parish Council and the Archives Group.

BRANCEPETH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Sponsorship from the Co-operative Group.

You will be pleased to know that Brancepeth Community Association has been chosen for this round of the Co-op Local Community Fund allocations.

The funding for this cause will come from Co-op Members. The Co-op gives 1% of everything their members spend on Co-op branded products and services to the local cause they choose – and they'll be able to choose Brancepeth Community Association from 9 April to 7 October 2017.

The more members that choose this cause the more money BCA will get. Co-op members have a password and via a link to their own postcode which will already be in the Co-op system, the causes closest to DH7 will come up. Click on Brancepeth Community Association and watch the sponsorship money grow.

OPERA NOVA



will be returning to Brancepeth with a semi-staged version of
Bizet's

CARMEN

Saturday 3 June at 7:30 pm

in St. Brandon's Church, Brancepeth

Tickets are available now from Mary Coffield (07936 080535 or email:
mary.coffield@googlemail.com)

Adults £12 (£10 concessions). Students and U16s tickets £1.

Please come along and support us.

PARISH COUNCIL.

SPEEDING CONCERNS.

As you know, Ron Hogg the Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner visited our Wednesday coffee morning last month. As with previous meetings with him, the main topic was road safety, and speeding on Wolsingham Rd and the A690 in particular. The following week, his office wrote :-

“In follow up to Ron attending the Brancepeth Village coffee morning last week, he had spoken to the Chief Constable and organised for the Cleveland & Durham Specialist Operations Unit police bikes to be deployed to the village in order to catch speeding drivers.

They managed to give out five warnings, two of these were given to local residents. “

Since that first visit, this unit has attended to make checks on 31 March, 4, 6 and 10 April issuing several warnings and 5 tickets.

The report in the last newsletter of the Neighbourhood Community Speedwatch initiative has resulted in 6 villagers volunteering to take part.

Parish Council Elections – 15th June 2017

As there were only 2 nominations for the Parish Council elections, the Council is not quorate. The Returning Officer will have to hold a new election for the remaining four seats on 15th June (the date was set before the date of the General Election was known). The Notice of election will be posted on 10 May and nomination papers will be available after that date. The deadline for the return of nominations is 4pm on 18 May by hand at County Hall. There will only be an election if there are more than four nominations.

Additional Community Association Members

as at 20.4.17

Mr. & Mrs. Wilkes, Dr. Martin Peacock (apologies – both missed from earlier list)

Garden Club:- Mr. J. Leighton, Mrs. M. King (both missed from earlier list.)

Dates for the Diary:-

May	1 st 8 th 15 th 22 th 29 th	Monday	Snooker Club
May	1 st 8 th 29 th	Monday	Yoga
May	2 nd 16 th 30 th	Tuesday	Knit & Natter
May	tba	Tuesday	Choir
May	3 rd 10 th 17 th 24 th 31 st	Wed	Coffee Morning
May	3 rd 17 th	Wed	Art Class
May	4 th 11 th 18 th 25 th	Thursday	Badminton
May	14 th 28 th	Sunday	Youth Club

Please confirm dates with leaders

May	4 th	Thurs	County Elections
May	5 th	Friday	Cinema Club, Zulu – Village Hall
May	6 th	Sat	Table Top Sale – cancelled
May	19 th	Friday	Garden Club, plant exchange & sale – Village Hall
May	20 th	Sat	Progressive Supper 30 th Anniversary
May	26 th	Friday	Book Club – 3 The Forge
June	3 rd	Sat	Opera Nova – Carmen, 7.30pm Church
June	6 th	Tues	PC /Archives Group Talk - Village hall
June	9 th	Friday	Garden Walkabout
June	14 th	Wed	Mid Durham AAP visit – Village Hall
June	15 th	Thurs	Parish Council Elections – Village Hall
Sept	9 th	Sat	Annual Show – Village Hall
Sept	15 th , 16 th & 17 th		St Brandon's 1500 Weekend
Sept	29 th	Friday	Garden Club visit – Halls of Heddon
Nov	8 th	Wed	Garden Club talk – Village hall

Village Hall: please contact Geraldine Jennings –

gerryjennings5@googlemail.com or tel. 3781583

Front cover © Elizabeth Metcalfe-Paschal Candle 2017

Back cover Geoff Knott – Easter Dawn Vigil

Other photos Geoff Knott & Peter Aitken

June Newsletter entries no later than **MAY 18th (earlier if possible)**

Please note earlier date- editor's holiday!

Please send to Sue Morgan at sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Brancepeth Community Association - Management Committee

George Gibbons	<i>Chairman</i>	Phil Davison	<i>Building coordinator</i>
John Morgan	<i>Vice chairman</i>	Alison Hobbs	<i>Church</i>
Peter Aitken	<i>Secretary</i>	Geraldine Jennings	<i>Bookings</i>
Margot Harrison	<i>Treasurer</i>	Vivienne Lowe	<i>Subscription</i>
Jo Dalton	<i>Social Events</i>	Rosemary Monument	<i>Choir</i>
James Dalton	<i>IT</i>	Joan Taylor	<i>Wednesday Coffee</i>

Parish Activities

Chairman B.C.A.	George Gibbons, 3 The Forge (3784200)
Secretary	Peter Aitken, The Copse, Foxes Row (3789908)
Treasurer	Margot Harrison, Downsgarth (3784813)
Membership	Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (3780974)
Hall Bookings	Geraldine Jennings, 5 Goodwell Lea (3781583)
Archives & History	Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (3780974)
Badminton	Peter Hodge, (01388 745455)
Brancepeth Allotment & Leisure Gardeners Club	John Morgan, (3781172) baacommittee3@gmail.com
Book Club	Rick Simpson, ricksimpson300@btinternet.com Val Gibbons (3784200)
Choir	Jean Merrington (3780952)
Drama	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Flower Club	Jessie Brown (3782748)
Garden Club	Barry Dickinson (3782398)
Snooker Bookings	Geraldine Jennings (3781583)
Wednesday Coffee	Joan Taylor (3783630)
Yoga	Lynne Hastie (3781871)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (3735674)

Parish Council

Chairman	Michael Lowe (3780974) Jessie Brown (3782748) Peter Aitken (3789908) Christine Jones (3789297) Philip Pickles (07785998431) David Thomas (3784465)
Parish Clerk	Geoff Smith 07986197346 Lynne Rowland 07800516127
County Councillors:	olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk

www.brancepeth-parish-council.org

Easter Dawn Vigil

