



BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES

PARISH COUNCIL

QUARTERLY

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2016

Your Ward Councillors

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Salvation Army Toy Appeal

The Council was once again delighted to assist the local Salvation Army with their annual Christmas Toy Appeal. All six wards of the Council contributed a total of £800 to help to purchase toys for children from disadvantaged families in our communities at Christmas. Every child deserves to enjoy the excitement of opening presents on Christmas morning, so if you would like to help in any way you can donate **new toys and gifts** to the Salvation Army at Langley Moor or contact Lorna White on 0191 3783813/9298, email lorna.white@salvationarmy.org.uk

Assistance to community groups— the Council has also recently donated grants to Brandon Community Hall, Brandon Sports Club F.C., St. Patrick's School football team, Ushaw Moor Cricket Club Fireworks display and County Durham Stroke Club.

Brandon

The Annual Remembrance Service took place at Brandon Village War Memorial on Sunday 13th November and was attended by the Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Susan Nelson as well as other local council members, the British Legion, Police and community residents. Wreaths were laid to commemorate the many servicemen and women who lost their lives in the two world wars and in conflicts since. The Council arranged the services of Durham University Band who played to their usual high standard at St. John's Church and at the Memorial.

Brandon Carrside Youth and Community Project is proud to announce a brand new concept - the Little Free Library. This is a national initiative to establish open access provision in villages to enable free books to all. The little library is located in the grounds of the garden at Brandon Carrside and everyone is welcome to go long and browse the books inside available for loan. It is encouraged to replace books - so please feel free to swap, bring along books no longer required and return the books you have borrowed. So far people are very fond of the idea and have expressed interest in the books available.



Mid Durham AAP

A new scheme is helping people get established in their first six months of employment. Funded by Chester-le-Street, Stanley & Mid Durham Area Action Partnerships, with a £50,000 grant contribution for the North East local Enterprise Partnership, Wheels to Work aims to ensure travelling is not a barrier for those starting in their new role or training. Anyone aged 16 or over who has a provisional licence can hire one of 30 mopeds. People have the option to borrow either a 50cc moped for £25 a week or a 125cc for £30 a week. The cost will cover Compulsory Basic Training, protective clothing, a heavy duty lock, insurance, breakdown cover, servicing and maintenance of the moped. After the loan period there may be an option to buy the moped. For more information or to sign up, please visit www.wheelstowork.org/countydurham, e-mail info@wheelstowork.org or call 01629592975.

Let us help you to live a little more! ...do you need help to get to health appointments. Do you want to attend a regular social activity, but have no means to get there? With the support and funding from the Mid Durham Area Action Partnership, Supportive have set up a volunteer driving scheme to address the questions posed previously. Whether it's a tea dance, bingo, the doctors, dentist or church, we could help by providing a volunteer driver to give you door to door service. The Mid Durham AAP, after speaking with a lot of older residents across the area, felt that this was something that was missing which might help residents to get out more. Small charges do apply but range from £1.50 for 2 to 3 miles up to £5 for 9 or more miles. Supportive are keen to get more residents active by becoming volunteer drivers themselves and they offer training and a mileage allowance with the ability to become part of a caring and understanding team which seeks to improve the quality of life for all across County Durham. So whether it's being in need of a lift to get somewhere or just wanting to be a volunteer then contact Supportive on 01740 658881 or email them on rose.thompson@supportive.org.uk

Meadowfield and Langley Moor

St. John's Hall rebuild fund reaches £504,000.....

Congratulations to all those involved with fundraising for the new hall. Once the lease is finalised for the new building site investigations can begin and tenders prepared. In the meantime fundraising continues , Durham clothing bank are holding a Christmas Fayre on Sunday December 4th from 1pm at Brandon Community Centre. St John's Hall have a tombola and name the bear stall to raise funds and there are lots of local craft stalls and a raffle. Bikers from Sheffield are coming with toys and sweets for the clothing bank and all other proceeds are towards toiletries.

On Saturday Dec 10th there is a free Christmas community event to be held at Carrside Youth and Community Project from 2pm to 4pm, Funded by Durham City Homes grab a grant scheme there will be refreshments , animals, santa and face painting. Brandon Co-op store have a new membership reward card and 1% goes to charity and 5% to the card owner.



You can choose from St. John's Hall, Brandon Community Centre (welfare hall) or St. Andrews Youth Club to receive the 1% donation. Details are available in the store.

The Christmas tree lights switch on will be held on Sunday 4th December in Langley Moor. Local school children will sing carols from 4.30pm and Norman Alderson, well known local businessman will perform the switch on at 5p.m. Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be served in the Salvation Army Hall following the event.

New Brancepeth

War Memorial Awarded Listed Building Status.....the Parish Council are delighted to announce that the War Memorial located in the grounds of the Village Hall has been added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. Historic England has carried out an assessment of the Memorial and following their

recommendation, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has decided to add the War Memorial to the List The Memorial is now listed at Grade II.

Village Carol Service will be held on 18th December at 3pm at the Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome to go along.

Esh Winning & Waterhouses

Esh Winning Christmas Tree Lights Switch On will be held on 2nd December at 5.00pm. Children from Esh Winning Primary School and Our Lady Queen of Martyrs will be singing carols and seasonal refreshments will be served following the switch on.

Big Ol Youthy Awards....Three young people from Esh Winning Youth Club Drew Watson, Aaron Gates Lincoln and Jack Naylor secured £2000 from The Key to plan and deliver a young people's awards evening. The group organised everything from finding a venue, compiling a programme, designing trophies and certificates, sourcing judges, liaising with Councillors, The Mayor's office, local MP's, One point Management and other clubs and associations inviting them all to the evening, along with Youth Clubs from across North Durham. The group hosted the night with just over 100 in



attendance at Bowburn Hall with recognition given to all winners and runners up for their excellent projects, commitment and hard work. The group were congratulated and praised by all present on what an amazing job they had done. The Parish Council would like to add their congratulations to Drew, Aaron and Jack for their fantastic work.

Award for Miners MemorialThe Mining Memorial located in the grounds of Woodland Road Communal Hall was recently recognised at Durham County Council's Environmental Awards. The Memorial Group received a 'Highly Commended' Community Partnership award in recognition of the tireless fundraising efforts by the local community.

Ushaw Moor & Broompark

Winter planting has recently been completed throughout Broompark and Ushaw Moor in partnership with Durham County Council which will hopefully brighten up the dark days of winter.

The Official Opening of the New Sculpture in Ushaw Moor

was performed on 14th November by Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Susan Nelson. Children from the two local Primary Schools, local parish and county councillors, the AAP, community representatives and Ed Alder from Gleeson Homes were also in attendance as well as Graeme Hopper, the local sculptor who created the sculpture. The project has come to fruition following



many months of planning and consultation with the schools and local community. The sculpture depicts the mining history of the area but includes metallic poppies to commemorate those who lost their lives in the two World Wars. The area incorporates a permanent fixing for a Christmas tree so residents can hold festive community events, the first of which will be the **Christmas Lights Switch on event on Friday 2nd December at 3.30p.m.** Funding for the project came from Section 106 monies from Gleeson Developments and Taylor Wimpey from their housing developments in Ushaw Moor, Councillors David Bell, Anne Bonner and Jean Chaplow's AAP Neighbourhood budgets and from the Parish Council.

Dates for your diary:

.... Christmas Fayre at The Hut 17th December 2-4pm
...Community Carol Service at St.Joseph's School 12th December 6.30p.m.

The Chairman, Cllr. Susan Nelson, Members and staff would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Citizens Advice Bureau Outreach Sessions

Brandon Community Hall

11 am-12noon- second Thursday of month

11 am-12noon- fourth Thursday

Esh Winning Library

2-3pm-first Tuesday

New Brancepeth Village Hall

10-11am-first Thursday

The Silver Trees Centre, Ushaw Moor

11am-12noon-third Thursday

Credit Unions

Every Wednesday 10a.m.-11a.m in the Silver Trees Centre
Every Wednesday 9.30a.m-10.30a.m. St. Andrew's Church, Brandon

'Dog Pooh' bags available free from the Parish Council offices and various locations in the Parish

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Chairman: Councillor Mrs Susan Nelson

This newsletter is also available to view on the council's website.