



BRATTON PARISH NEWS

Issue No. 597 March 2024



IT'S VILLAGE HALLS WEEK 17-24 MARCH

The Jubilee Hall and Church Institute will be co-ordinating events on **Saturday 23rd March** and we look forward to your support! The focus of our fund-raising this year is on energy efficiency and sustainability and both halls need all the help they can get to become greener and keep up with maintenance.

BRATTON CHURCH INSTITUTE

On **Saturday March 23rd** we have our village halls week event from **10.30 am**, incorporating a 'table top sale': £10 for a large table and £5 for a card table with a special rate for children. Why not sell your unwanted items and make some cash? Please book your table with Joan Martin our caretaker 01380 830 744 and 07576 851 267. Our Soup Kitchen serving home-made soup with fresh bread will be open at 12.00 pm, so come along and enjoy a light lunch or enjoy some coffee and cake.

We will have our collection of Toiletries and Cleaning Products for the Warminster Food Bank which has been so well supported on previous years. They are so grateful for your donations, thank you so much. We look forward to seeing you! Gill Humphrey Chair of Bratton Church Institute Committee 830 149.

BRATTON JUBILEE HALL

Window Restoration Fundraisers: we need to raise £900 to replace wooden frames and sills and even more for stonework and you can help! This is how:

March Breakfast Sunday 3rd March – book yourselves in for our delicious 3-course breakfast. Call 07897 011 887 or email jubileehall87@yahoo.com

"Back to School Bingo Disco" Saturday 16th March from 7pm. Booking deadline is by 6 March. Create your school uniform, enjoy an old-style 2-course school lunch (but better), play the bingo game and dance if you have the energy! Prizes galore, raffle, bar. £15pp contacts as above or book online at www.trybooking.com/uk/DDAE

Hall AGM - Tuesday 19th March at 7.30pm. We would love to see an audience; it's your chance as hall current and potential users to give valuable feedback and suggestions.

Village Halls Open Day – Saturday 23rd March. We will be showcasing some local organisations and classes – come along **from 10am** and find out more about what happens in the village; it's an opportunity to find out about groups, societies, classes and small businesses, to ask questions and enjoy coffee and cookies while you chat. We encourage you to explore and enjoy what's happening at both the Jubilee Hall and the Church Institute on this morning.

STRICTLY COMES TO BRATTON!

Would you be interested in learning some dance steps from old time to a tango? We are hoping to start a group on a **Friday afternoon from 2.30 pm to 4.00 in the Church Institute.** This would be aimed at mature people but open to everyone especially people with health issues. Contact Mary for more info 01380 830394, or come to the Coffee Pot on a **Thursday at 10.30am** to see Joan. We are looking for an Anton du Beke, or failing that someone who would be able to teach some basic steps. Refreshments will be available and there will be a small charge to cover costs.

BRATTON WI

Bratton WI were entertained by Neil Parkinson, a former Police Officer, talking about working with, and training, Police dogs. He brought along his chocolate lab who is an Assistance dog and spent the hour sleeping amongst members' feet! Neil told anecdotes of his days in the Force and of his beloved Police dogs; he brought along photos of them to show us. If you would like more information on our friendly WI, please visit: <https://wiltshire.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/bratton> -or pop along on the first Tuesday monthly at 2pm to Bratton Church Institute. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 5th March.** Chris Crosby Bratton WI Publicity

EASTER FUN

Join the Friends of Bratton School for their Easter Fair between **10.00 and 2.00** on **Saturday 16th March** in the Church Institute for an Easter Trail, Bouncy Castle, Games and refreshments. fobs@bratton.wilts.sch.uk

WHAT'S ON? DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

EVENT	DATE	TIME
Poppy Talk: Roy Zaman at the BCI	Saturday 2 nd March	6.00 pm
Breakfast at the Jubilee Hall	Sunday 3 rd March	8.30-10.00 am
WI meeting at the Church Institute	Tuesday 5 th March	2.00 pm
3 Villages minibus going to Devizes	Thursday 7 th March	8.45 am
Folk music at The Duke	Thursday 7 th March	8.00 pm
3 Villages minibus going to Salisbury	Saturday 9 th March	9.15 am
Leaf making at 6, Luccombe Terrace	Saturday 9 th March	10.00-1.00 pm
Quest at Edington Parish Hall	Saturday 9 th March	5.00 pm
Dauntsey's Choral Society	Saturday 9 th March	7.30 pm
Westbury U3a talk	Tuesday 12 th March	2.00 pm
Parish Council meeting	Tuesday 12 th March	7.15 pm
Mobile Library at The Duke	Thursday 14 th March	2.45 pm
Friends Of Bratton School Easter Fair at BCI	Saturday 16 th March	10.00-2.00 pm
Back to School Disco at the Jubilee Hall	Saturday 16 th March	7.00 pm
3 Villages minibus to Warminster	Tuesday 19 th March	1.50 pm
Jubilee Hall AGM	Tuesday 19 th March	7.30 pm
Tidy Bratton	Friday 22 nd March	10.00 am
Village Halls open day	Saturday 23 rd March	10.00 am
Bratton FC finals at Royal Wootton Bassett	Saturday 23 rd March	1.30 pm
Edington Arts	Saturday 23 rd March	7.00 pm
Bratton Community Brass Bands Concert	Saturday 23 rd March	7.30 pm
Service on the Village Green	Sunday 24 th March	9.30 am
Bratton Community Brass Bands Spring Concert Jubilee Hall	Sunday 24 th March	1.00 pm
BHA Talk by Phil Harding at the Jubilee Hall	Sunday 24 th March	4.00 pm
Good Friday Walk of Witness from the BCI to Piquet Hill	Friday 29 th March	10.00 am
Easter Egg & Scavenger Hunt at Bratton Baptist Chapel	Saturday 30 th March	10.00 am
Easter Communion and Easter Egg Hunt St. James' Church	Sunday 31 st March	11.00 am
Bratton Hilly run	Saturday 6 th April	11.00 am
Mobile Library at The Duke	Thursday 11 th April	2.45 pm
Poppy Talk: Jonathan Bailey BCI	Saturday 20 th April	6.00 pm
BHA Talk by Mike Manson at the BCI	Sunday 21 st April	5.00 pm

RNIB COLLECTION OF FOREIGN COINS

A very big thank you to everyone who responded to my appeal for foreign coins in order to increase my then current collection of 2.75 kilos to a minimum of 3 Kilos. What an incredible response from so many people, and after receiving two especially designed boxes and bubble wrap I was able to forward over 9 kilos to a company called Xchange Master who work with the RNIB, the boxes were collected by courier, the proceeds of which will be valuable to the work of the RNIB. Thank you. Gill Humphrey

MARQUEES FOR HIRE

The Parochial Church Council and the Recreation Ground Committee own four white marquees which are available for hire within Bratton. Two are 8 metres by 3 metres and two are 6 metres by 3 metres. Hire fees are £40 per marquee for an event up to two days. The Monday Gang will erect and remove them for a charge of £10. For bookings, please phone Mike Smith (830351) or Mike Manson (830 853).

LEAF MAKING

Calling all crafters! I am preparing to become "Jill in the Green" as part of the Bradford-on-Avon Green Man festival in May 2024. 'Jill' will have a new costume for 2024, for which we are crowd-sourcing textile leaves to sew onto the dress. Please help us in this endeavour. Leaves must be green and can be felted, knitted, crocheted, embroidered, or any other textile art you can think of. Please join Anya for a leaf-making morning on **Saturday 9th March 10.00-1.00** at 6, Luccombe Terrace. Tea, cake and materials provided. For more information including a template pack, please contact 07903 202 874. All leaves need to be with Anya by the end of March, please.

SPRING CLEANING THE VILLAGE

The Tidy Bratton Team will be meeting to give the village a good spring clean on **Friday 22nd March**. We will meet, as usual, in the Duke car park at 10.00 am. The village is beginning to look great, thanks to all those who meet for Tidying mornings and to all those who look after the village whenever they have a moment. Thanks also to whoever hangs dog-mess bags for others to use, it is much appreciated. If you haven't joined us before, why not come along and see what we do. It's actually enjoyable!

PUT YOUR THINKING CAPS ON!

The next quiz night at The Duke will be on **Sunday 31st March**. Good prizes and lots of fun guaranteed.

GET YOUR RUNNING SHOES ON!

Bratton Hilly – **April 6th, 2024** Please use the link below to register for our very popular run, The Bratton Hilly 11K and find all the info you may need: - <https://www.entrycentral.com/event/111817> (Entries close on **2nd April**)

FOOTBALL SUCCESS

Congratulations to Bratton FC who are through to the Wiltshire County F.A. Junior Cup Final after a 2-0 victory over Seend United. The finals will be on **Saturday March 23rd** against Bemerton Heath Harlequins at the Gerard Buxton Sports Ground at Royal Wootton Bassett Town's FC.

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

A bench and table has been installed on the Village Green in memory of the former landlady of The Duke who very sadly passed away before Christmas, far too young. The plaque on it reads 'Dedicated to Lou Hart 1980-2023, The Duchess, who brought joy to all who knew her.'

CALLING ALL BOOK LOVERS

The mobile Library visits Bratton once a month, parking in the Duke Car Park for half an hour between **2.45 and 3.15pm** on the following dates: **14th March, 11th April, 9th May, 6th June, 4th July, 1st August**. The van stocks books and magazines for children and adults.

BRATTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Contact the Clerk on 01373 864 127, email parish.clerk@brattonparishcouncil.gov.uk or the Chair on 01380 831 199, email parish.chair@brattonparishcouncil.gov.uk

If you have items to be included on the Parish website, please send to: editorial@brattonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Website: <https://brattonparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday, March 12th, 7.15pm in the Jubilee Hall. All are welcome.

BRATTON HISTORY ASSOCIATION

The BHA aims to provide all those curious about local history with an opportunity to meet, exchange ideas, and discover more about the history of Bratton and Wiltshire. ***Bratton Between Chalk and Cheese*** tells the story of Bratton from earliest times up to 1914 in a series of booklets. Individual booklets are available for purchase at a cost of between £3 and £6 each or a full set for £20 by emailing archive@brattonhistory.co.uk We are aiming to write the next part by recording the reminiscences of anyone who has lived in the village during the 20th Century. If you would like to contribute to this or donate any photos or documents to our archive please contact Mike Manson, our Archive Project Manager mpm1307@outlook.com

Our Spring 2024 Talks Programme:

Sunday 24th March @4pm: *Along the Line: My Life in Archaeology* by Archaeologist and TV Personality, Phil Harding at the Jubilee Hall. Due to anticipated demand and limited capacity, this will be a ticket only event available via: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/51465> Doors will open at 3.30pm and we encourage you to help raise funds for the repair of the Jubilee Hall's Victorian windows by arriving early to enjoy their refreshments.

Sunday 21st April @5pm: *Over 200 Years of Education in Bratton* by Mike Manson

Sunday 19th May @5pm: *Wiltshire Holidaymakers in the Past: What Were The Options?* by Allan Brodie

Held, as usual, in the Church Institute. Doors open at 4.30 pm. New members and guests are always welcome. Annual membership fee of £8 each, or £12 for a couple, plus £2 per member or £4 per guest per meeting (collected on the door). For more information on how to join, visit our website at brattonhistory.co.uk

ST JAMES' CHURCH

Easter falls relatively early this year, on the last day of March. From time to time people ask me why it changes from year to year. In recent years there has been discussion about fixing the date of Easter. You would think that might be relatively uncontroversial, but it isn't. In the early days of Christianity in this country, there was even a war fought about the date of Easter, as there was a different way of calculating when it should be between the Celtic church and the Roman Catholic church. Their differences were eventually settled at the Synod of Whitby in AD664, with the Roman date being preferred. However there are still differences today between the Gregorian calendar we have used since 1752 and the Julian calendar of the Orthodox churches. So in Greece, Easter this year is on May 5th! Clearly, further discussion will be needed to reconcile different opinions.

The reason Easter moves from year to year is because it is based on the lunar calendar, which Christians inherited from their Jewish heritage. Easter is the equivalent of the Jewish Passover, and so its date is determined by the phases of the moon. As the Passover is a celebration of the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt (literally a 'passing over' of the Red Sea, so Easter is a celebration of God leading us from slavery to sin and death to freedom and new life in his promised kingdom.

It is the most important festival in the Christian year, as we remember Jesus' death and resurrection. As we journey through this season of Lent, Christians focus more and more on the final journey Jesus took to Jerusalem, to his death on a cross and his rising again. Following Jesus, we find that life is a quest, or a pilgrimage of faith towards the promised new life that Jesus gives us.

We encourage one another along this quest. Some may be just starting out, while others may have journeyed far already. Meeting together and working out just what life means helps us all to travel further. In our parishes, one new way we are doing this is by inviting all who are interested to join a new monthly meeting called 'Quest'. Quest will start on **Saturday March 9th** in Edington's Parish Hall at **5pm**. It's for those of any faith or none, and will explore matters of spirituality and life for an hour once a month. At our first Quest meeting we will be discussing 'Good Food: Bad Food. Does it matter what we eat?' Everyone is welcome, and everyone's views will be respected. Our intention is to invite people to think about important issues and share ideas and challenges with one another. Differences of opinion will be welcomed, but respect for those differences is vital. We won't be trying to 'convert' anyone or tell them that they are wrong.

So, if you can, come and join us at Quest.

Andrew Sinclair Rector

BRATTON COMMUNITY BRASS BANDS

During February we staged two very successful film music concerts and there's one more opportunity to enjoy this programme of film music - see below for details.

During February the Silver Band have also been working hard preparing a test piece for the West of England Area Championships which is held on **10th March** in Torquay. The Brass Band and Brass Roots are rehearsing for their next concert too - see below for details.

* Film Music Concert - **Saturday 23rd March 7.30pm**, Thomas Arnold Hall, Warminster School

* Brass Roots and Brass Band Spring Concert - **Sunday 24th March 1pm** Jubilee Hall

Free tickets for these concerts can be booked on Ticket Source via our website or by calling 07983 144 183

Future diary date: On **Saturday 8th June 7.30pm** at Holy Trinity Church, Bradford on Avon, Bratton Silver Band will be performing a special concert commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings along with Warminster Military Wives' Choir. Tickets will go on sale at the start of March.

POPPY TALKS

The next Poppy Talk will be on **Saturday 2nd March**, starting at **6 pm** in the Church Institute, with doors open at **5.40 pm**. It will finish, after questions, by 7.30 pm. Roy Zaman, a retired Army officer, will speak about his experiences as the first British Army Support Officer in Fiji, from 2008 to 2011. Over 2000 Fijians have served in the British Army in recent years, many of them on operations. Roy will cover the cultural and spiritual differences of life in Fiji and the challenges of supporting families and Veterans.

As usual, entrance is by donation to the Poppy Appeal, with at least £5 suggested. Wine and soft drinks will be available before the talk, again for a donation. The following Poppy Talk will be on **Saturday 20th April**. Jonathan Bailey will tell us more about the results of his research into the Special Operations Executive in World War II.

BRATTON CRICKET CLUB

Indoor nets practice is starting: each Monday in March, 20.30pm at Warminster CC. Nick Cooper 07967 820 130

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Wiltshire Council's new family hub model will start on **1st April 2024**, this will enable families with a child or young person aged 0-19, or 0-25 where there are Special Educational Needs or Disabilities, to access an integrated multi-agency service for help and advice from both an online service and through community hubs.

The hubs themselves will be based in three flagship locations, County Hall in Trowbridge, Monkton Park in Chippenham, and Five Rivers Leisure Centre in Salisbury. In the Ethandune area these will be at Westbury Community Project, Eden Vale Road, and Westbury Library. Staff from different agencies will be available at these locations, working under the Wiltshire Council heading of 'All Together' which is supported by Wiltshire's online platform <https://wiltshiretogether.org.uk/AllTogether>.

Many services will be available including parenting classes, children's health services, early learning opportunities and one to one family support from a 'family hub practitioner'. A team of 'navigators' will also be on hand to support families to find and access other agencies and voluntary sector organisations, as well as providing practical advice in areas such as returning to work, accessing the Government's free childcare provision and finding volunteering opportunities.

Where a family needs more hands-on support, Navigators will be working with them in their own homes.

They will also be in different communities, identifying local needs and ensuring support and services are available in locations that are easier for families to access. The online offer will also include a 'virtual family hub' for families who are unable, or who choose not to access physical buildings. This will include help, advice and guidance resources, alongside the opportunity to take part in virtual services such as parenting skills and child/young person support.

This is an exciting and innovative way of providing services to the people who need them, and in the most convenient way for them. Family Hub staff will be in communities speaking to families, schools, childcare providers and healthcare professionals, and you will see lots of information about this service and a network of QR codes visible throughout the county. The QR codes can be scanned to get instant access to Wiltshire Council's All Together platform. The navigators will also become part of community groups and initiatives, helping communities to support themselves and, most importantly reaching and finding families where they already access services. Asking for help will be quick and easy, and always available whenever it is needed.

Best wishes, Suzanne Wickham, Wiltshire Councillor – Ethandune.

Email: suzanne.wickham@wiltshire.gov.uk

Tel: 07967 213 336

SAVE THE DATE!

The Bratton Jubilee Players are proud to announce our next production 'Eager Beavers' by Andy Bennison. The manager and staff must face life after a ramshackle charity shop is converted into a fancy boutique. **May 9th, 10th and 11th**. Tickets Available soon.

YOUR COMMUNITY MINIBUS- THE THREE VILLAGES MINIBUS (TVM)

We run regular return trips to Westbury, Devizes, Warminster and Salisbury and will pick you up at the bus stop (or elsewhere) and deliver you home to your door. You would be most welcome to join us, but please book your seat through Joy Fraser (tel: 830 426). All of these journeys accept concessionary passes and will return you to your door. These trips are open to **all** residents of our villages; we welcome everyone, of any age.

Shopping Trips starting at Bratton on

Destination	March	Start Time
Devizes - £3.20	7 th	8.45am.
Warminster - £2.80	19 th	1.30pm.
Westbury - £2.30	Every Thursday	1.30pm.
Salisbury - £5.00	9 th	9.15am.

FOUR VILLAGES LINK

For health, shopping or other trips, call the coordinator on 07852 256939 to request a service from one of our volunteers. We are happy to help.



BRATTON BABY and TODDLER GROUP

Our mother, baby and Toddler Group runs every **Wednesday** between **9.30–11.30am**, term time only, at Bratton Church Institute. £2.50 per child and 50p for each additional sibling. Come and have some stay-and-play fun with your little ones; parents, grandparents and childminders are all very welcome. A friendly relaxed place to chat and let little ones play. Rotation of toys, crafts and seasonal activities. Wonderful space in the garden when the weather permits! Tea and coffee for adults and snack table and drinks for little ones. Come and join us. Becky

BRATTON FOLK MUSIC SESSION

The folk music sessions continue on the first Thursday of the month at **8pm**. The next date is **7th March**. All instruments, singers, and audience welcome! For further details or to join the mailing list, please contact: daniel.loughran@gmail.com

LAST FEW TICKETS REMAINING FOR EDINGTON ARTS' CONCERT

There is still time to buy tickets for the Edington Arts concert on **Saturday 23rd March**, starting at **7.00pm**. The opportunity of hearing one of the world's greatest tenors performing in one of the great musical works of all time, with some of the most exciting interpreters of the music, in Edington Priory Church, is proving very exciting. Tickets for the Bach St John Passion, with soloists Mark Padmore, Florian Störtz and Ben Davies, and accompanied by the Oxford Bach Soloists and orchestra have been selling steadily since they went on sale at the beginning of January. There are still seats available from £12.50.

The Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Mrs Sarah Troughton, will be attending the concert, which is also a celebration of Edington Arts' first ten years promoting live classical music concerts in Edington Priory Church. Choose your seats, book and pay online from www.edintonarts.org, or phone Chrissy on 01380 81256 – but don't delay!

DO YOU LOVE TO SING?

Come and join a truly local choir and sing from the glorious repertoire of sacred music, ancient and modern, in the famous acoustics of Edington Priory Church. We are currently seeking keen singers in all voice parts.

What makes us different from other choirs? More singing!

We sing mostly in four part harmony. We rehearse **every Thursday evening from 7pm – 8.30pm** and regularly sing five times a month – three Sunday morning services at 9.30am and two evening services at 6.30pm. In addition we are also sometimes asked to sing at Weddings and Funerals or additional seasonal services.

There are no auditions, and whilst being able to read music would be very helpful, it is not absolutely essential, as learning resources are provided. A willingness to learn is more important. Unlike many choirs, we do not charge a joining fee, and in fact for weddings there can even be a small remuneration. All music and robes are provided.

We have a regular choir who sing at all the services, and we also welcome occasional singers who join us for special services, eg Christmas and Easter. If you are interested, please call Andrew King on 01380 831 227, and/or come to a trial rehearsal.

WESTBURY U3A

This month's informative Westbury u3a talk was given by Christine Mason, a volunteer at Salisbury Museum, who has been cataloguing information on the artist Rex Whistler. We learned of his brief life, his close connections with Wiltshire, and his home on The Close near the Cathedral. Rex was very prolific, needing to make a living from his art. Christine outlined some of his works and where to see them. At the outbreak of World War II Rex chose to join a tank regiment, rather than be a war artist, which led to his death in Europe.

Our next talk is at **14.00 on 12th March** by Sally Smith entitled Women Pioneers in Aviation. She has written "Magnificent Women in Flying Machines". New members welcome. We meet in the United Reform Church, Hospital Road, Westbury. Pauline Medhurst

DAUNTSEY'S CHORAL SOCIETY

Dauntsey's Choral Society and Senior Choir present Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms and Mozart's Requiem on **Saturday 9th March at 7.30pm** in the Memorial Hall, Dauntsey's School. Free entry, with donations on the door towards the Guide Dogs and Dauntsey's Choral Society.

ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH LENT LUNCHES 2024

Our very popular Lent Lunches began again on Ash Wednesday (14th February) and there will be one held every week until Easter. All proceeds from the lunches will go to the Trussell Trust. A list of hosts for these lunches will be in St James Church as it will be necessary for you to book a place. We look forward to you joining us.

THE CHURCH OF ST JAMES THE GREAT - CHARITY OF THE MONTH

Ocean Ward Southampton is a charity to support and help families with babies and children with congenital heart defects. The charity was set up in 2008 and has helped at least 2 families from this area in the last few months. They provide financial and emotional help to both long stay and emergency parents, for as long as needed. More details in the church.

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR ANNUAL EASTER EGG & SCAVENGER HUNT

We will be celebrating Easter with our Easter Egg and Scavenger Hunt at Bratton Baptist Chapel on **Saturday 30th March from 10.00 to 11.30**. Refreshments will be served and children of all ages are invited to take part. An Easter egg and Easter comic will be given to all children who attend. Everyone is welcome; there is no need to book! This is a free event. We look forward to seeing you there. Allison Smith

BRATTON BAPTIST CHURCH

We meet with people of all ages meeting **every Sunday morning at 11am** for worship and fellowship. Activities for both young and old are provided, and we finish each service with refreshments. We look forward to welcoming you! Details about services and events will also be on our Facebook and Instagram pages as well as our noticeboard outside the church and on the Bratton Parish Council website, on the 'About Bratton' page. **Activities for March:**

Messy Church: 4pm on Sunday 17th March. We warmly welcome you to participate in a time of creativity, exploring a biblical theme, through getting messy; a short celebration time involving story, prayer and song; and a traditional Sunday teatime meal. Messy Church is for all ages and all members of the community.

Tea-time Service, 4pm on Sunday 24th March. A short informal Sunday service, followed by tea & cake.

Revive Café is open every Monday afternoon in term time, 2.30 – 4.30pm @ the Chapel. Dates for March are 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. Pop in for a cup of tea or freshly brewed coffee and a slice of cake. Craft activities for the children provided.

Well-being Revive opens every Monday from 1 – 2.30pm. Enjoy a calm, welcoming and inclusive space to find refreshment for mind and soul. Mindful and creative activities provided in a space where it is ok not to be ok!

Early Bird Prayer every Wednesday, 7am at the Chapel.

Pickleberry Ladies every Thursday, come and meet upstairs at Pickleberry Coffee Shop from 11am - all ages welcome!

Connect: Thursdays 14th and 28th March, 2pm at the Chapel. Come and make friends, chat over coffee and study the Bible together.

Bratton Bugs Fridays 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd March at 1.45 – 3pm @ the Chapel. Bring your under 5s to enjoy a time of music making, singing and play. £1.50 per family.

Comets: Friday 15th March at 6.30pm. Comets is a club for children in school years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Each club night is themed, and the children engage in games and craft activities, and includes a refreshment break.

Fusion: A youth club for 11 – 14s, Friday 1st March, 6.30pm. A space to hang out, chat, have some fun and relax.

For support or information, please call Esther (Minister in training) or Allison (Children and Families worker) on 01380 830746 or contact by email: esther@brattonbaptistchurch.org.uk or allison@brattonbaptistchurch.org

ENROLMENT ON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTORAL ROLLS

Every year Parish Electoral Rolls are updated in time for the Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs) that take place in the Spring – planned dates are shown below and/or will be displayed in each Church. If you are a member of the Church of England you are entitled to attend the meeting and vote in elections for members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). You must be on the Electoral Roll to attend and vote. APCMs are the 'Annual General Meetings' at which an annual report and the annual accounts for each Parish are presented and discussed. If you enrolled last year your name will be carried forward unless you wish to make a change. If you are not a member now you can apply.

Notices about how to enrol are, or will be, displayed in all Benefice Churches. Application forms are available on request from Parish Electoral Registration Officers. Closing dates vary according to the date of each APCM.

Parish	Applications Close	APCM	Electoral Registration Officer
Bratton	25 th March	25 th April	Gill Humphrey aiglenicher@icloud.com
Edington	27 th March	21 st April	Hugh Hancock ero@edingtonpriory.church
Coulston	TBC	16 th April	Malvina Hicks rshicksLtd@talk21.com
Erlestoke	TBC	20 th April	Mike Mahoney mikemahoney1962@gmail.com

You may register with more than one Parish (Parish Council) but may only participate in one APCM. (Parochial Church)

THE BENEFICE OF BRATTON, EDINGTON AND IMBER, ERLESTOKE AND COULSTON

SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE – MARCH 2024

	Bratton	Edington	Erlestoke	Coulston
<i>1st Sunday</i> 3rd March <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	8.00 Holy Communion 11.00 Parish Communion	09.30 Parish Communion 18.30 Evensong		11.00 Parish Communion
<i>2nd Sunday</i> 10th March <i>Mothering</i>	11.00 Family Service 18.00 Sing Praise	8.00 Holy Communion 11.00 Family Service		
<i>3rd Sunday</i> 17th March <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	8.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Café Church <i>BCI</i>	09.30 Parish Communion 18.30 Evensong		11.00 Parish Communion
<i>4th Sunday</i> 24th March <i>Palm Sunday</i>	8.00 Holy Communion 09.30 Service on Village Green	10.45 Palm Sunday Procession <i>from the Parish Hall</i> 11.00 Parish Communion	16.00 Service at Erlestoke	12.00 Onwards Village Hall available for Shelter for Picnic Lunch 14.00 Palm Sunday Reflection
<i>5th Sunday</i> 31st March <i>Easter Day</i>	11.00 Easter Communion <i>followed by Easter Egg Hunt</i>	5.30 Easter Liturgy 9.30 Solemn Eucharist <i>followed by Easter Egg Hunt</i>	11.00 Easter Communion	11.00 Easter Communion

SPECIAL EVENTS

Holy Week Services

Monday 25 th March	19.30 Compline with Holy Week Reflection (AS)			
Tuesday 26 th March		19.30 Compline with Holy Week Reflection (AS)		
Wednesday 27 th March				19.30 Compline with Holy Week Reflection (AS)
Thursday 28 th March Maundy Thursday	19.30 Fellowship Meal & Special Reflection for Holy Week (BCI) (MW)	19.30 Maundy Thursday Eucharist with footwashing and Vigil (AS)		
Friday 29 th March Good Friday	10.00 Ecumenical Walk of Witness from Bratton Church Institute to Picquet Hill 19.30 The Cross of Christ (MW)	13.00 Good Friday Liturgy (AS)		
Saturday 30 th March	19.30 Compline with Holy Week Reflection (AS)			

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Public Morning Prayer Thursdays at 8.30am Edington

Evening Prayer 5.30pm at Erlestoke (Mondays), Coulston (Tuesdays), Edington (Wednesdays), the Vicarage for Imber (Thursdays), St James' Bratton (Fridays). *No midweek services in the week after Easter.*

ST. JAMES' CHURCH, BRATTON - Key contacts

For pastoral matters please call: Rector: Rev'd Andrew Sinclair 830374 Honorary Associate Priest: Revd Malcolm Wieck 830256; Revd Ann Ilsley 830651; Licensed Lay Minister (LLM): Andrew King 831227	Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPA) Lynn Noble 830036 Jill Forbes 830577 Chloe Watts 830600	For other matters please call Church Wardens: Kitty Cole 830869 or Marie Nunn 830505 Tower Captain (Bells): Dusty Millier 830696 Verger: Sandy Perry 830536 Organist: Brian Martin 830060 BCI Caretaker: Joan Martin 830744
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THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THE BRATTON PARISH NEWS ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF BPC

The Bratton Parish News is published by Bratton Parish Council

Please submit Items for the April issue of Bratton Parish News by Saturday, 16th March 2024 (THIS IS EARLY!!) to:
editorbratton@outlook.com (Font - Calibri 11points, if possible). Thank you.