

Brindle Voice

March 2026



You, Lord, keep my lamp burning;
my God turns my darkness into light."

Psalm 18:28



www.facebook.com/stjamesbrindle



instagram.com/brindlestjames/

Produced for the community by Brindle St James Parish Church



CROSTON PLUMBING & HEATING

www.crostonplumbing.co.uk

- ✓ Boiler Upgrades
- ✓ Central Heating
- ✓ Complete Bathroom Installations
- ✓ Project Managed Throughout
- ✓ Installation, Service & Repair
- ✓ Powerflushing of Radiators



T: 01257 452879
M: 07956 100084

John Charnley & Sons **Tractors**



Specialist Agricultural Engineers

Shop Open:
Monday-Friday 8:30-18:30
Saturday 9:00-12:00

Stocking agricultural and automotive parts,
hand and power tools, oils and paints.

Also a wide range of overalls, jackets, hats
and boots for all ages.

And diecast models in McCormick, Nuffield
and many more.



01254 854103 | 01254 852122
www.chnarleys.com



Charlotte Stansfield

Equine Sports Massage & Rehabilitation Therapist

- Routine maintenance massage
- Pre and post competition massage
- Massage to promote healing from injury
- Low level laser therapy

- £35 per massage treatment, including travel costs
- £45 per massage treatment including low level laser therapy, including travel costs
- Discounts for more than one horse



☎ 07860 922811

✉ charlotteannstansfield@gmail.com



Charlotte Stansfield Equine Sports Massage and Rehabilitation Therapist



APPLES OF GOLD

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade."

Charles Dickens, Great Expectations

March is a funny old month. It can't quite make up its mind. One day you're squinting into unexpected sunshine, full of good intentions about the garden. The next you're back in your winter coat, being rained on sideways. Everywhere is muddy. The dogs are muddier. Nobody can even remember what colour the car is under all that agri-spec coating.

And yet – oh joy! – something is happening. Snowdrops giving way to spring flowers. Hedgerows getting greener. Lambs appearing as though they'd arrived overnight, scattered across the fields. Everything looks a bit scruffy and a bit hopeful at the same time.

Which, if I'm honest, is exactly how I often feel by this point in the year. And perhaps that's why Lent sits well here. Not in the sparkle of Christmas or the full glory of Easter, but in the muddle. In the in-between. As I mentioned last month, Lent is about making room for God's grace to do its work.

A bit less clutter. A bit more kindness. A prayer with your morning tea. Checking in on someone who's had a long winter. Nothing heroic. Just small, seed-sized things. Jesus seemed to trust those small things a great deal – seeds, yeast, slow growth. The kind of change you almost miss because it looks so ordinary. Which means most of our lives are probably holier than we think. God at work in the ordinary weave of things – in muddy boots and busy days, in kitchens and offices, in chance conversations and shared pints. Nothing dramatic, just life turning quietly toward the light.

This year, though, that muddle of seasons also sits alongside heavier realities. It is four years since the escalation of conflict between Russia and Ukraine – four years of loss, fear, courage, and endurance for millions of people. It can feel strange to notice spring bulbs and newborn lambs while, elsewhere, families live with uncertainty and grief. And yet faith has always lived in that tension: sorrow and hope side by side. Lent reminds us that prayer is never wasted, compassion is never small, and even in the darkest landscapes, God is still quietly at work bringing life where we cannot yet see it.

So, if you feel slightly scruffy and slightly hopeful, you're doing just fine.

That's spring. That's Lent. That's grace.

May your boots be muddy, your heart be hopeful, and may you know God be close beside you.

Love & Prayers,
Rev. Jon.



There's a wonderful opportunity this season to explore and grow in faith through our Lent course *Journeying with Jesus*, reflecting on his encounters on the road to Jerusalem and how they can inspire our own faith today.

More details can be found later in this edition of the Brindle Voice.

BRINDLE ST JAMES PARISH ROUND-UP

February began with our Christingle service, when our Sunday School helped us reflect on Jesus as the “Light of the World.” It was a joyful and thoughtful start to the month, and a lovely reminder of the hope and light Christ brings into our lives.

Lent then began with our Ash Wednesday service. As always, it was a special and reflective time as we gathered to pray and receive the mark of ashes. There is something deeply meaningful about beginning Lent together in this way – pausing, remembering who we are in God’s love, and setting our hearts on the journey ahead.

February also saw the Mothers’ Union AGM, a lovely opportunity to give thanks for a year of fellowship, friendship and service. We are especially grateful to Carolyn for her faithful work as MU Treasurer over recent years, and we welcome Cherry as she takes on the role.



It was a joy to hold our first Parade Service of the year, welcoming our local uniformed organisations. The Beavers helped us thoughtfully explore the story of Jesus being tempted in the wilderness and what Lent means for us today.

Behind the scenes, pastoral ministry continues, safeguarding remains a priority, and preparations for our centenary move forward. Our work in school through assemblies and regular visits also continues – a valued and important part of our parish life. There is much to give thanks for as we journey through Lent together.

BRINDLE ST JAMES CHURCH SERVICES ~ MARCH

1st	Holy Communion & Sunday School Lent 2	10.30am
8th	Holy Communion (Said) Holy Communion Lent 3	9.00am 10.30am
11th	Praise Service	6.30pm
15th	Holy Communion (Sunday School will be in the church) Mothering Sunday	10.30am
** There will be a cake sale after the service to raise funds for the Mothers Union.**		
18th	Praise Service	6.30pm
22nd	Morning Praise Holy Communion & Lenten Hunger Lunch Lent 5	9.00am 10.30am
** Join us for a Lenten Hunger Lunch in the community Hall, soup and a roll, after church. Proceeds to support nominated charities.**		
29th	Holy Communion Palm Sunday	10.30am

You’re warmly invited to join us in worship!

Everyone is welcome—whether you come every week or it’s your very first visit. For more details, please visit our website.

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11478/service-and-events/events-all/>

You can also contact our Rector, Jon:

rector@brindlestjames.co.uk

**BRINDLE ST JAMES
BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

MARCH

2nd	ELLEN STOTT	1971
	HARRIET ESME SANDS	2018
5th	THOMAS CHARNLEY ANDERTON	1990
8th	ROBERT COLBOURNE	2000
10th	RONALD VINCENT CLOUGH	2000
	ENID SHUTTLEWORTH	2019
11th	GRAEME JOHN MIDDLEHURST	1996
12th	HAROLD ECCLES	1978
14th	JUDITH LILIAN NEWTON	2016
15th	LOIS KATE LINDSAY	1990
16th	COLIN WESTON	2012
20th	MILDRED MARY BRADFORD	2016
21st	PATRICIA CHOLLET	2004
22nd	PHILLIP RICHARD STOTT	1985
25th	DOREEN WILLIAMS	1996
28th	PAMELA MARY BULLOUGH	2007
31st	PETER BELL	2022
	DAVID MICHAEL PACKER	2024

If you would like to have a loved one remembered in the Book of Remembrance, please ask one of the Church Wardens for a form to complete.

**“Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.”**
Psalm 23

**BRINDLE ST JAMES
FLOWER ROTA**

MARCH

The flowers in church for March are in loving memory of ***Ronald Clough and Colin Weston.***

The altar flowers are kindly provided by:

1st **LENT**

8th **LENT**

15th **MOTHERING SUNDAY**

22nd **LENT**

29th **LENT**

Would you like to sponsor the church flowers to mark a special anniversary or event?

As part of your dedication, your name would be included in The Brindle Voice.

For details please contact
Joan Hopcraft ~ 01254 854 465



JOURNEYING WITH JESUS

THURSDAYS IN MARCH, 7:00PM:

5TH, 12TH, 19TH, 26TH

ST JAMES CHURCH

AS PART OF OUR LENTEN JOURNEY,
JOIN OUR FOUR-WEEK LENT COURSE
AS WE WALK WITH JESUS ON HIS WAY TO JERUSALEM.

LOOKING AT LUKES GOSPEL TOGETHER,
WE'LL EXPLORE HOW JESUS TEACHES, LISTENS,
CHALLENGES, AND ENCOURAGES THOSE HE MEETS.



BRINDLE SAINT JAMES MONEY MATTERS



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT !

We are deeply grateful for your financial support.
The God-given vision and ministry of St James' Church
is made possible through your generous giving.

WAYS TO GIVE

Standing Order (preferred)

Fee-free and helps us plan sustainably.

Payee: St James Church Brindle

Sort Code: 40-37-25

Account: 71898175

Online

Give securely via **Give A Little:**

Give A Little - St James Brindle.

In Church

You can give during services via the offertory bags, by placing cash in the plate at the back of church, or using the contactless card machine.

Gift Aid

UK taxpayers can increase their gift by 25% at no extra cost.
please consider completing a [Gift Aid form](#)

THANK YOU!



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

AT BRINDLE ST JAMES

**2ND
APRIL**

MAUNDY THURSDAY | 7:00pm

HOLY COMMUNION & STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

**3RD
APRIL**

GOOD FRIDAY | 10:00am

AN HOUR AT THE CROSS

**3RD
APRIL**

GOOD FRIDAY | 3:00pm

ON THE ROAD TO GOOD FRIDAY

Meet at St James Primary School

An outdoor session for all ages where we follow a rope path together,
reflecting on Jesus as he walked towards the cross,
and end by sharing a hot cross bun.

**5TH
APRIL**

EASTER SUNDAY | 10:30am

EASTER CELEBRATION ~ HOLY COMMUNION



Annual General Meeting & Display Of Artefacts

Mr Bernard Kellett

There was an encouragingly large turnout of members for the Annual General Meeting of the Brindle Historical Society on Monday 16th February. In giving a summary of the society's year, Henry Stone mentioned that, whilst the membership of 37 remained unchanged from 2024, the numbers of people attending meetings was boosted by a total of 85 visitors during the year. New members are always welcome and at just £16 for nine talks it's much cheaper than a streaming subscription and far more likely to involve tea and biscuits.

Whilst important, AGMs can sometimes be dry affairs, but in an heroic feat of efficiency this one was completed in just over half an hour and was followed by a fascinating evening where several members displayed some of the "old stuff" they'd found in their attics.

Members were encouraged to bring any historical artefact that had been passed down through the generations and provide a brief history of the story behind it. These ranged from an old milk kit from the 1930s bearing the family name engraved on the lid to a magnificent 'Freedom Casket' and accompanying scroll which was presented upon receiving the Freedom of the Borough of Chorley. Other items included:

- An antique Waddington's board game similar to Monopoly
- A beautiful memory quilt made from various materials collected over time
- Five very pretty antique wooden dolls, possibly originating from Asia
- Medals and memorabilia from a great uncle who died in the 1st World War
- A signed Temperance Booklet dating from the 1930s
- A well-loved and cared-for China doll won in a raffle to raise funds for injured soldiers in 1943
- Plates commemorating Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887

The oldest item displayed was a jug dating from the early 19th century, but it was the fascinating stories behind the artefacts that attracted most interest.

One member explained the provenance of a leather bag given to him by his uncle who had acquired it in the Middle East during the 2nd World War and in displaying various items from 1955; another described how, before she was born, her family had emigrated to Australia under the 'Ten Pound Poms' scheme but returned at great expense after just seven months presumably when they realised that British rain is preferable to Australian spiders.

Many thanks must go to Kathy Whyte who organised the exhibition and produced an information card accompanying each item.

If any newcomers to the village would like to know more about the fascinating history of this area, please get in touch with either Henry (01254 854290) or Bernard (07505 409289) who will use their knowledge and contacts to answer any queries.

The next regular meeting of the Society will be on **Monday 16th March** when Adrian Taylor will chart the development of British theatre from the Middle Ages onwards. He will specifically concentrate on the story of the Lancaster Grand Theatre which opened in 1782 and describe some of the many and varied acts that have performed there over the years.

We'd love to see you there. Historical Society members get in free and it's just £5.00 for guests which includes tea or coffee, biscuits and a chat.



BRINDLE VILLAGE SHOW 50th ANNIVERSARY

~ Saturday 5th September 2026 ~

THE SHOW SPUD SPECTACULAR!

This year we are celebrating 50 years of the Show.

Some of you may remember that for a time we held a potato growing competition in addition to the rest of the schedule and we have decided to reintroduce it for this year with sponsorship from Peter at The Old Oak Farm Nursery on Bells Lane, Hoghton.

A limited number of containers, compost and seed potatoes will be available during April for anyone who would like to participate on a first come, first served basis. Instructions will be provided and the results will be judged on the day of the Show by weighing the potatoes. This is open to all ages and participants will be asked to sign up with their name and contact number at the time of collection.

More details will be given, including when and where to collect the potato kit so please look out for further announcements in April.





Brindle Charity Cuckoo Walks



Will take place on
Saturday 18th April 2026

Six routes are offered between 3 & 12 miles on the lanes and paths around the area. One of the shorter walks is fully accessible.



Check in from 9am
Brindle Community Hall, PR6 8NH



Book your place now at
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/99637>

Entry fees if booked in advance:
Adults (16 years+) £18 Juniors £8
(Rising to £25 and £10 for entries on the day)

Babies in prams/pushchairs on the accessible walk are free
The price includes a two-course hot meal at the end
Dogs are permitted on three of the walks



All profits donated to local charities



Brindle St James' CE Preschool

Bookings already taken for
September 2025, 2026 and 2027

TO BOOK A TOUR PHONE 01254 852379 OR
EMAIL H.SMITH@BRINDLE-ST-JAMES.LANCS.SCH.UK

OPEN FROM
7:45AM UNTIL 6PM
3 year olds can join from the year before they start School/ Reception.

15 and 30 hours funded places available.



TEACHER LED

Outdoor learning
Beautiful rural setting
Local to Houghton, Whittle-Le-Woods and Clayton-Le-Woods
Experienced and highly trained staff
Nurturing home-like environment



Charity Coffee Morning

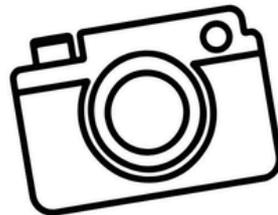
Saturday 25th April 2026
10am-1.30pm
Samlesbury War Memorial Hall

Once again, we are holding our Charity coffee morning. The charities we have chosen to support this year are
Breast Cancer Now
Guide Dogs
Two worthy charities that need Our support.

We are looking for tombola and raffle prizes therefore if anyone has any prizes, they would be happy to donate, they would be gratefully accepted.

Please call Julia on 07411 888040 or another member of the coffee morning team.

We look forward to seeing you there!



CALL FOR FRONT COVER PHOTOS BRINDLE VOICE

The Brindle Voice is inviting photo submissions for a future front cover.

We'd love to see your best shots of local life, landscapes, buildings etc.

Entries are welcome from both children and adults.

Please send your high-resolution image, along with your name and contact details, to Sally, the Editor.
sally.price07@gmail.com

Selected photos will be featured on the front cover.



Community Directory

Rector	Rev Jon Price	07483 948 380 rector@brindlestjames.co.uk
Church Warden	Roger Parr	rogerparr10@aol.com
Church Warden	Elaine Courtney	07957 561 151
Church Treasurer	Richard Howarth	07713 390 722
Sunday School	Catharine Cummins	01772 316 745
Pastoral Visitors	Lynn Packer Ann Greenland	01772 323 267 07973 726 608
Bell Ringers	Stuart Crosby	01257 265 542
Mothers Union	Rana Shiadah Dvaidson	07801546254
PCC Secetary	Julia Dixon	07411 888 090
Weekly Notice Sheet	Lynn Packer	01772 323 267
Cubs/Scouts/Beavers	Ann Hardman	gsl@bsjscouts.co.uk
Guiding/Brownies/Rainbows	Sam Eccles	07749 383 888 1stbrindle.guides@gmail.com
Community Hall Bookings	Susan Horrocks	01254 852 173
W.I.	Susan Burgess	07930 134 288
St James Players	Stuart Lockhart	01254 852 522
Historical Society	Henry Stone	01254 854 290 henry.stone.t21@btinternet.com
Brindle Art Group	Shirley Stone	01254 854 290
BOFFS (55+)	Wyn Tagg	01772 312 447
Gardening Club	Barbara Woods	bwoods@talktalk.net
St. James primary School	Head: Mrs Austin	01254 873 379
Brindle Parish Council	Clerk Darren Cranshaw	clerk@brindleparishcouncil.org.uk Darren.cranshaw@brindle-pc.go.uk

AK JOINERY
& maintenance

ALAN KINNAIRD



mob. 07857 122901

email. alan@ak-joinery.co.uk

No Job too Small

www.ak-joinery.co.uk



**Advertise
your
business
here!**

Contact Julie Pawson Tel: 07714 285699
email: juliebawson@outlook.com

ITMEDICS

COMPUTERS • INTERNET • WIFI • MOBILES

*computer freezing or running slowly?
computer won't switch on or start up?
issues with your internet, wifi or mobile?*

call us on 01254 851111

REPAIRS • SERVICING • UPGRADES

Logs & Kindling

Trailer loads or Bags
Delivered to your door
Tree Surgery Service



Tel: 01254 854238
01257 273718

**P. Hitchen
Traditional Plasterer**

Internal & External
Re-Skims over Artex
Waterproof Sand & Cement
Rendering

All Damp Problems

All property repairs:-
Pointing, Roof Repairs
Ridges, Chimneys

01257 268950

07768 997688

LCC Safe Trader Registered

DAVID RICHARDSON

PLUMBING AND HEATING ENGINEER

All aspects of plumbing and heating services



Gas Boiler/Fire Installation,
Service and Repair

Over 35 years of experience

Friendly, low cost and reliable service

Free no obligation quotes

No Job too small



4 Warwick Road, Ecclestone, Chorley, PR7 5SQ
T. 01257 452223 M. 07779 016095

