

# Brindle Voice

April 2026



*This months cover photo was taken by **Rosalyn Eastwood***

**He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.  
Come and see the place where he lay.  
*Matthew 28:6***



[www.facebook.com/stjamesbrindle](http://www.facebook.com/stjamesbrindle)



[instagram.com/brindlestjames/](https://www.instagram.com/brindlestjames/)

*Produced for the community by Brindle St James Parish Church*



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# APPLES OF GOLD

Dear Friends,

I was talking to someone recently, and it turned out she's a cello player.

As far as I know, I've never met a cello player before. So I asked her, first of all, why she chose the cello of all the instruments she could have picked. After all, it's enormous and difficult to carry around! I also asked her what the role of a cello is in an orchestra or a band.

She told me that the job of the cello is to hold everything else together. While the other instruments – the pianos, guitars, violins, and flutes – go off and do their own thing, play melodies, and head off in different musical directions, it's the cello that keeps a steady, reliable rhythm and holds the whole tune together.

Life at the moment, the world at the moment, can feel like it's heading off in all sorts of different directions, can't it? In some of those directions, we don't really know what's going to happen.

We don't know how things will turn out. And so having a steady, reliable heartbeat, something or someone that can hold it all together even when life feels insecure, is incredibly important.

This year Easter Day falls on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April, and for Christians, it is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ that gives us that promise. There is a steady rhythm, a reliable beat of love, of God's presence, of grace, and of mercy in our lives.

On the days when everything is going well, and on the days when it feels all appallingly difficult, when the world seems solid and secure, and when it feels shaky and uncertain, Easter reminds us that Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, says there is a steady, dependable rhythm of love in all things.

This Easter, I pray that each of us will know that reliable presence of God, feel the love of God in our lives, and see it reflected in the world around us.

May you have a very happy and blessed Easter.

Take Care & God Bless,  
Jon.

He is before all things,  
and in him all things hold together.

*1 Colossians 1:17*



## BRINDLE ST JAMES PARISH ROUND-UP

March has been a meaningful and joy-filled month in the life of our church, as we journeyed together through Lent and shared in fellowship, worship, and service.

We were delighted to celebrate Mother's Day together, marking the occasion with a wonderful bake sale organised by the Mother's Union. There was a fantastic selection of homemade treats, and it was a joy to see so many people coming together in support. We are pleased to share that £232.31 was raised, which will go towards supporting the Mother's Union caravan in Morcambe. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make the day such a success.

Our Hunger Lunch was another special time of fellowship. Gathering over simple but delicious soup and cake, we shared not only food but also a sense of purpose, raising £208 for our two charities, The Trussell Trust and DEC. Thank you to all who attended, prepared food, and supported this important cause.

Throughout the month, many took part in our Lent course, where we explored Luke's Gospel together. As we reflected on Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, it was a valuable opportunity to deepen our faith, share insights, and walk more closely with Christ during this season.

We also ended the month on a high note with a joyful Palm Sunday service. Holding our palms high, we remembered and celebrated Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. It was a vibrant and uplifting time of worship as we prepared our hearts for Holy Week.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the life of the church this month. Your presence, generosity, and fellowship continue to be a blessing to our community.

We look forward to all that April will bring as we continue our journey together.

## BRINDLE ST JAMES CHURCH SERVICES ~ APRIL

5th	<b>Easter Holy Communion</b> <i>(Sunday School activities in Church)</i> <i>Easter Day</i>	10.30am
8th	<b>Praise Service</b>	6.30pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Holy Communion (Said)</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <i>Easter 2</i>	9.00am 10.30am
19th	<b>Holy Communion</b> <b>&amp; Sunday School</b> <i>Easter 3</i>	10.30am
22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Praise Service</b>	6.30pm
26th	<b>Parade Service</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <i>Easter 4</i>	9:00am 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](mailto:rector@brindlestjames.co.uk)

### LIFE EVENTS

#### Baptism

We welcome  
**Betty Whittle**  
into our church family.  
May your baptism  
be the beginning of a life  
filled with faith, love,  
and God's blessings.

**BRINDLE ST JAMES  
BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

**APRIL**

<b>1st</b>	<b>WILLIAM ALFRED RILEY ALBERT ROY PETER</b>	<b>1995 2007</b>
<b>2nd</b>	<b>JOHN JAMES KING</b>	<b>1993</b>
<b>3rd</b>	<b>BRENDA SUSAN WARD</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>5th</b>	<b>SARAH SMITH</b>	<b>1998</b>
<b>9th</b>	<b>JOSEPH WHITTLE</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>10th</b>	<b>JOHN BICKERSTAFFE</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>11th</b>	<b>MARY ANN CHARNLEY EILEEN ELIZABETH BANISTER</b>	<b>1977 2020</b>
<b>14th</b>	<b>JOAN MARY CROASDALE</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>15th</b>	<b>JUDY SCOTT</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>18th</b>	<b>JOHN ROBERT STOTT LENA TAYLOR EARNEST TAYLOR</b>	<b>1952 1994 2000</b>
<b>19th</b>	<b>WILLIAM LINDSAY</b>	<b>1957</b>
<b>29th</b>	<b>WILLIAM DYSON</b>	<b>1979</b>
<b>30th</b>	<b>PETER McDADE</b>	<b>2022</b>

*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**

**APRIL**

THE FLOWERS IN APRIL ARE IN CELEBRATION OF EASTER AND IN MEMORY OF JIM & EUNICE RIGBY.

- 5<sup>th</sup> EASTER FLOWERS**
- 12<sup>th</sup> EASTER FLOWERS**
- 19<sup>th</sup> SUSAN HOTHERSALL**
- 26<sup>th</sup> SUSAN HOTHERSALL**

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**





# 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



# 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!



# Curtain up! Theatre History

*Mr Bernard Kellett*

In one of the most fast-paced and fascinating presentations at the Historical Society on Monday 16th March, presenter Adrian Tayler kept his audience enthralled throughout the 75-minute talk. Although theatres existed in ancient Greece and Rome, theatre in the UK only began to flourish from the late 1500s, led by figures such as William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe and Ben Jonson. Early theatres were based in London, while travelling groups, known as strolling players, performed at venues elsewhere around the country. These performers had a poor reputation and were often described as rogues and vagabonds.

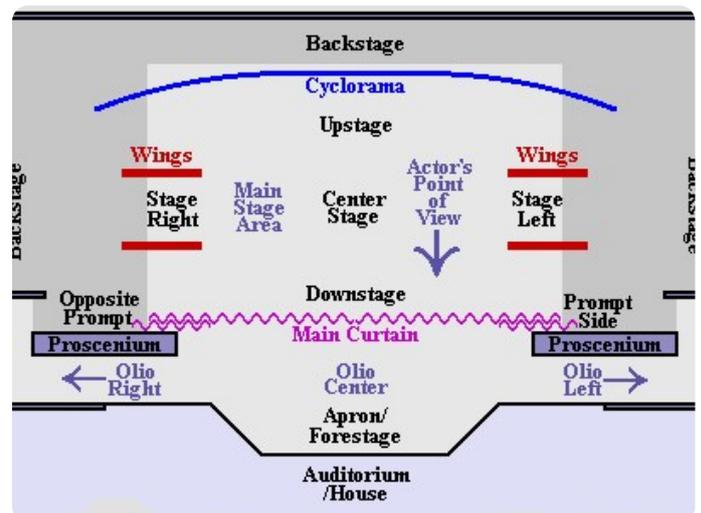
Theatres were closed in 1642 by Oliver Cromwell's puritan government and only reopened in 1660 under King Charles II. For the next 75 years theatres developed organically, but by 1737 some comedy plays were considered to be very rude and uncomplimentary of public figures. Sir Robert Walpole sought to end this by bringing in the Theatre Licensing Act whereby all plays needed to be vetted by the Lord Chamberlain, a system of censorship that lasted until the 1960s.

The second half of the talk focused on the Lancaster Grand Theatre, which opened in 1782. Despite changes in ownership and periods of difficulty the theatre remained open but passed through many different owners until Henry Wilkinson bought the building in 1884. He presented many excellent performances and was even one of the pioneers of film presentation (which were then called animated photographs). In 1908 a fire severely damaged the auditorium but the interior was completely refitted in just five months for £4,000 (perhaps £600k today) and the results can still be seen today.

After 1930, the theatre became a cinema, although amateur productions were also performed there. In 1951 when closure was proposed, local drama groups raised funds to buy the building, and it remains owned by a charitable organisation, the Lancaster Footlights.



Towards the end of the talk, Adrian explained many theatrical terms which have now entered common parlance such as 'upstage', 'on cue', 'in the limelight' etc. and went on to describe key features of theatre design such as the proscenium arch, fly tower, and fourth wall leaving the audience very well informed and with few questions.



## Conservation Studios Visit

Just two days later, nine members of the society visited the Lancashire County Council Conservation Studios in Preston. The studios are appropriately housed in a converted church in the city centre and whilst the exterior is unchanged, the interior has been specifically designed for conservation work. The team of conservators works on behalf of museums and galleries across the region, restoring and repairing all manner of historic items.

During this fascinating visit, we learned what the experts are currently working on, including the careful cleaning of a marble bust, extensive repairs to a huge painting from Manchester Town Hall, and the restoration of some botanical models by Robert Brendel. These latter pieces were exquisite, handcrafted papier-mâché structures formerly used to teach botany at universities - delicate, detailed, and beautiful. [Click here to see examples.](#)

We were also shown several recent arrivals: a very fine Waring and Gillow linen press, a Bond mini car (made in Preston), and a stuffed polar bear, - yes, really. The car and bear are awaiting restoration - no doubt each providing very different challenges - while the furniture was about to move to a new location.



Although the studios primarily do work for corporate bodies, they will also quote for the restoration of items from private individuals.

## Next Meeting

The Society will next meet on **Monday 20th April** when we will hear the history of the **Horwich Loco works** which provided employment for almost 100 years. It was one of the most important loco works in the country and over the decades, 1,830 steam locos were built and over 50,000 were repaired. Our speaker, **Derek Cartwright**, started work at the site in 1978 and was one of the last millwrights to be employed there.

Historical Society members get in free and it's just £5.00 for guests which includes tea or coffee, biscuits and a chat.

### CUKOO WALKS - UPDATE

The group organising the annual Cuckoo Walks would like to thank everyone who has booked onto this year's walks on Saturday 18th April. Some spaces are still available on the three-mile walks, but all the other walks are fully booked, and sadly it will not be possible to book tickets on the day.

If anyone would like to book onto the shorter walks, please go to:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/99637>

We look forward to seeing you In April.

## SPRING TERM AT BRINDLE ST JAMES' C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has been a very busy term in school and even though the half terms have been shorter we have packed so much into our time in school! It has been nice to get outside more and enjoy the spring sunshine whilst enjoying the lighter mornings and seeing all the bulbs popping up around school!

### Story Telling Week

In February we took part in Story Telling Week when we shared our love of books and reading with our friends in school. The children mixed classes to share a story using their oracy skills and we were treated to hot chocolate in the hall when parents and carers came into school to read with their children. Thank you to all the adults who gave up their time to support this event.



### Children's Mental Health Week 2026

In February we joined in with Place2be to support CMH week in school. Place2be are a charity who support children in primary school and colleges with their mental health and have an amazing website which offer many resources to support teachers and parents too.

We held a wacky hair day in school to raise money and we managed to raise £55 which will go directly to the charity. The focus for this year was 'This is my place!' The theme was discussed in school and talked about on the playground with our Mindful Minis interviewing their peers. There was lots of responses including the park, school, home, Beavers group and the school library.

### Brindle Bake Off

In February we held our annual 'Brindle Bake Off' competition organised by Mrs Cann and our school council. The children paid a fee to enter and the cakes were ruthlessly judged and tasted by our judges who had a difficult choice to make! There was an overall winner and a winner from each class who won a voucher of their choice. We were astounded by the level of creativity and design that went into each cake and the children enjoyed tasting all the cakes afterwards! Well done to everyone who entered!

We are very proud to have an established and positive focus on mental health and wellbeing in school that has grown over the years focussing on support for our children and staff. The children who need any extra support attend a 6 weekly nurture group run by Mrs Eastwood which can be 1:1 or group work. Also, we have our Mindful Minis who volunteer their time to support their peers on a termly rota basis. <https://www.place2be.org.uk/>



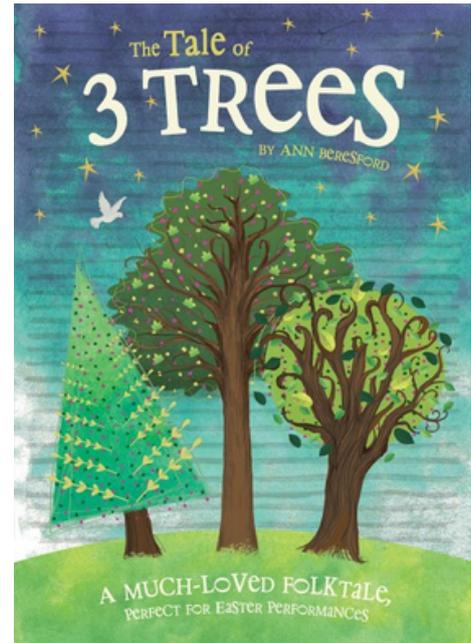
## Extra-Curricular Activities

In school we have a variety of extra-curricular activities that the children can enjoy. We always have a sports club and competitions throughout the year but also the children in Class 2 have been lucky to learn clog dancing taught by our expert Mrs Culshaw. The children are provided with authentic clog dancing shoes and learn all the steps and names for them too!



## Easter

The children from Class 2 presented a wonderful Easter play this year, The Three Trees. The play beautifully told the story of how the wood from the trees became an important part of Jesus's life – from the manger, to the fishing boat, and finally the cross. All the children played their parts brilliantly, taking on roles as narrators, woodcutters, soldiers, fishermen, and of course the Holy Family. It was a moving and memorable retelling of the Easter story, and we are very proud of them all.



Wishing everyone a happy and peaceful Easter from all the staff and children at Brindle St James' C of E Primary School.



## WABS

In school our Worship At Brindle Group meets weekly with Rev Sam to talk about their faith and how they can share it with their friends in school. The children plan and deliver their own assemblies when we invite our church community into school to watch. Please see the church weekly notices for our next assembly when you all are welcome to join us!



# BRINDLE VILLAGE SHOW 50<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:H.SMITH@BRINDLE-ST-JAMES.LANCS.SCH.UK)

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## Charity Coffee Morning

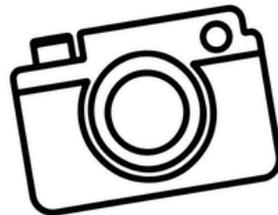
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
10am-1.30pm  
Samlesbury War Memorial Hall

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](mailto:sally.price07@gmail.com)

Selected photos will be featured on the front cover.

# Community Directory

Rector	Rev Jon Price	07483 948 380 <a href="mailto:rector@brindlestjames.co.uk">rector@brindlestjames.co.uk</a>
Church Warden	Roger Parr	<a href="mailto:rogerparr10@aol.com">rogerparr10@aol.com</a>
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	<a href="mailto:gsl@bsjscouts.co.uk">gsl@bsjscouts.co.uk</a>
Guiding/Brownies/Rainbows	Sam Eccles	07749 383 888 <a href="mailto:1stbrindle.guides@gmail.com">1stbrindle.guides@gmail.com</a>
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 <a href="mailto:henry.stone.t21@btinternet.com">henry.stone.t21@btinternet.com</a>
Brindle Art Group	Shirley Stone	01254 854 290
BOFFS (55+)	Wyn Tagg	01772 312 447
Gardening Club	Barbara Woods	<a href="mailto:bwoods@talktalk.net">bwoods@talktalk.net</a>
St. James primary School	Head: Mrs Austin	01254 873 379
Brindle Parish Council	Clerk Darren Cranshaw	<a href="mailto:clerk@brindleparishcouncil.org.uk">clerk@brindleparishcouncil.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Darren.cranshaw@brindle-pc.go.uk">Darren.cranshaw@brindle-pc.go.uk</a>

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