

# Brindle Voice

October 2026



**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his love endures for ever.**

**Psalm 107:1**



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



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# APPLES OF GOLD

Harvest is a big deal where we live. Harvest celebrations can run from August right through to the end of October. Villages gather for harvest suppers, church services and all sorts of competitions.

But behind the fun, harvest is serious business. Different crops ripen at different times, and farmers spend weeks watching the weather, hoping to get everything safely gathered in. This year, the heat and prolonged dry weather have brought real anxiety. What looks like wonderful summer weather from the garden can be a very different story from the cab of a tractor.

So harvest is about more than putting up a display of vegetables in church. It is a chance to give thanks for food, to remember those who produce it, and to pray for all who work on the land.

It is also a reminder that harvest is never entirely within our control.

The Bible knows this. God's people were told: "In ploughing time and in harvest you shall rest."

**Exodus 34:21**

Even at the busiest time of year, they were to stop, give thanks and remember where their provision ultimately came from.

But Jesus gives harvest another meaning. When he sent his disciples out, he told them:

"What a huge harvest! And how few the harvest hands. So on your knees; ask the God of the Harvest to send harvest hands."

**Luke 10:2**

Jesus was not talking about wheat or barley. He was talking about people.

That makes harvest a challenge as well as a celebration. We rightly give thanks for the food that fills our tables, but Jesus reminds us that God is also looking for people who will help gather a different harvest: people discovering faith, hope and new life in Christ.

So this harvest, let's celebrate. Let's give thanks for the people who work so hard to feed us. Let's pray for farmers facing uncertainty and for the land on which we all depend and remember the role we have to play in caring for God's creation.

And let's not forget the harvest Jesus asks us to join in: sharing the good news of God's love and helping others discover the life he offers.

We'll be celebrating Harvest together at our **10.30am service on Sunday 4 October**, and everyone is warmly welcome. If you can, please bring a tin or two to help support the fantastic work of Over Darwen Foodbank.

Happy Harvest!

Jon.



## PARISH ROUND-UP: COME AND SEE

A few weeks ago, we were invited to do something very simple: **Come and See**.

Those three words became the theme of our centenary mission weekend, and they capture something of what we hope St James can be: a place where people can come as they are, meet others, ask questions, discover something of faith, and simply see what happens.

The weekend began with a school assembly, celebrating 100 years of St James in Brindle and, more importantly, the hundreds of lives woven into that story.

Then came our Fun Day, with games, food, laughter and plenty of conversation. Familiar faces mixed with people we had never met before, which was particularly lovely.

On Sunday, our Songs of Praise brought the weekend to a joyful conclusion, with choir, organ and Brindle Brass Band filling the church, alongside prayers, readings and stories from our community.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the weekend possible, and especially to everyone who came along. Whether you have been part of St James for years or stepped through our doors for the first time, you helped make it what it was.

The invitation does not end with the centenary weekend. **Come and See** remains our invitation to the whole village and beyond. You'd be welcome to join us in worship, at our 'Come & Pray' group or our 'Come & Explore' group - details below.

Come and see what happens when people gather to pray, sing, celebrate, grieve, ask questions and support one another.

And, ultimately, come and see Jesus.

**The doors are open. You are welcome. Come and see.**

## BRINDLE ST JAMES Church Services ~ October

|                        |                                                                                                                             |                           |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>4th</b>             | <b>Harvest Celebration<br/>All Age Holy Communion<br/>&amp; Sunday School</b><br><i>** Sunday School Meets In Church **</i> | <b>10.30am</b>            |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Holy Communion (Said)<br/>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Trinity 19</i>                                                        | <b>9.00am<br/>10.30am</b> |
| <b>14th</b>            | <b>Praise Service</b>                                                                                                       | <b>6.30pm</b>             |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Trinity 20</i>                                                                                  | <b>10.30am</b>            |
| <b>25<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Morning Praise<br/>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Trinity 21</i>                                                               | <b>9.00am<br/>10.30am</b> |
| <b>28th</b>            | <b>Praise Service</b>                                                                                                       | <b>6.30pm</b>             |

**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

No life events to report this month, but perhaps that's about to change!

If you're thinking about getting baptised or married, why not consider Brindle St James? We'd love to help you celebrate your life event in this beautiful church, surrounded by family, friends and the people who matter most.

Contact Jon on 07483 948 380

# Come & Pray!



First Tuesday of every month, 7.00pm at church:

\*1st Sept | \*6th Oct | \*3rd Nov | \*3rd Dec



Prayer gives us space to **pause**,  
**be still** and bring the things that matter to God.



Together, we can find peace in the midst of busy lives,  
bring our worries and hopes before God,  
and discover that we don't have to face life alone.



More details from Elaine:

[elaine@drcourtney.co.uk](mailto:elaine@drcourtney.co.uk)

≡ Everyone Welcome! ≡

# Come & Explore

Come and explore the Christian faith **together**.



Third Thursday of each month, 7.00pm at church:

\*17th Sept \*22nd Oct \*19th Nov...



...leading into our **Advent Course**

\* (19th Nov) \*26th Nov \*3rd Dec \*10th Dec



A place to ask questions and explore faith together,  
discover more about Jesus through the Bible,  
and reflect on how faith shapes the way we live each day.



More details from Rana:

[ranashihadah@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ranashihadah@yahoo.co.uk)

≡ Everyone Welcome! ≡

**OCTOBER 2026**  
**FROM THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN,  
THOSE WE LOVE BUT SEE NO MORE**

**1<sup>st</sup> FRANK SHUTTLEWORTH 2020**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> DOROTHY BETTLEY 2019**  
**6<sup>th</sup> LILIAN JONES 1990**  
**6<sup>th</sup> STEPHEN GEORGE GUTE 2020**  
**11<sup>th</sup> ETHEL JOAN ISHERWOOD 1999**  
**12<sup>th</sup> DOROTHY ELIZABETH STOTT 1994**  
**12<sup>th</sup> RONALD BLACKBURN 1996**  
**17<sup>th</sup> STANLEY KERSHAW 2007**  
**20<sup>th</sup> GEORGE FREDERICK BRADFORD 1996**  
**20<sup>th</sup> JACK MILLS 1999**  
**24<sup>th</sup> LEONARD HINDLE 1975**  
**27<sup>th</sup> LENA HACKETT 1992**  
**28<sup>th</sup> JOHN CHARNLEY 2006**  
**29<sup>th</sup> FRANK WARING 2013**  
**30<sup>th</sup> HELEN PATRICIA PETER 2019**

**If you would like enter a name in the Book of Remembrance,  
please ask for a form from one of the Church Wardens.**

**CHURCH FLOWERS**

**THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH FOR OCTOBER  
ARE IN CELEBRATION OF HARVEST**

**4<sup>th</sup> HARVEST**  
**11<sup>th</sup> HARVEST**  
**18<sup>th</sup>**  
**25<sup>th</sup>**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR FLOWERS FOR A  
SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY OR MEMORIAL?  
ALL THE NAMES ARE MENTIONED IN  
THE MAGAZINE EACH MONTH.**

**FOR DETAILS, CONTACT  
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## A Little Bit Of Extra Help

At Brindle St James' Church we are committed to making everyone feel welcome and included at all our services.

We recognise that some people might have sensory needs or find it more difficult to be engaged all the way through a service.

We offer calm bags for children (please ask anyone at the back of church for one) that include headphones and activities.

Also reading overlays are available on the top of the desk next to the font to use with service and hymn books. (Please return after the service).

There are also small hand held crosses at the end of each pew for anyone to use.

Please feel free to chat to Jon, the church wardens or myself if there is anything else you need.

Rosalyn Eastwood



## All Hallows

As adults and children, we still encounter many of the traditions associated with All Hallows' Eve, or Halloween. But its roots are much older, and distinctly Christian. All Hallows' Eve begins a three-day Christian festival, followed by All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

The word 'hallow' means 'holy' or 'saint'. This remains a time when Christians gather, pray and remember those who have gone before us: the saints whose lives inspire us, and the family and friends we have loved and lost.

Even some of the familiar customs, such as carving lanterns and going from door to door, have their origins in these older traditions of prayer and remembrance.

At its heart, All Hallows' Eve points us towards the Christian hope that death does not have the final word.

We remember with gratitude, pray with love, and trust in the light of Christ, which shines even in the darkness.

The Christian message of 'shining a light in the darkness' is also reflected in the familiar pumpkin lantern. As we remember that Christ's light shines even in the darkest places, we'd love to see your lit pumpkins.

**\*\*PLEASE SEND US A PHOTO  
FOR THE NEXT EDITION! \*\***

[brindle.voice@gmail.com](mailto:brindle.voice@gmail.com)

# The Brindle Village Show

The 50th Brindle Village Show was a great success with an increased number of exhibitors, including a record 22 children. In past years the Show has been organised by Brindle WI and we have a copy of one of their schedules from 1992 where it is described as the Fifteenth Flower and Produce Show.

At some point it was taken on by members of St James Church Brindle and the name was changed to Brindle Flower Produce and Craft Show. A new committee was formed to organise the event in 2009 and it then became Brindle Village Show. The committees set up over the years have varied but the current committee consists of seven members.

Usually about a month after any Show we meet to evaluate how things went, analysing the finances with income and expenditure. Every item is accounted for.

The income arises from the exhibitors' fees, entry on the day, raffle tickets and café. Against this we have the hire of Brindle Community Hall, refreshments and lunches for the judges, stewards and committee, gifts for the judges, rosettes, schedules, certificates, replacing the children's trophies which they keep, their 'Well done' medals, paper plates, bowls, stationery, café supplies, raffle prizes.

We are also very grateful for the support of Brindle Parish Council who have awarded us a grant each year.

Another meeting leads to decisions on any changes to the schedule for the coming year, usually with much deliberation over the set recipes, preparation of advertising posters and exhibitors' cards. Invitations are sent out to judges many of whom we are grateful to welcome back each year and we discuss who might present the trophies. Other local people are invited to be stewards.

More time is then spent on proof reading the revised schedule and no matter how carefully this is done we always anticipate at least one error being overlooked. This is not usually significant unless it relates to a set recipe, as has happened.

These are tried and tested beforehand, with samples brought for approval, or not, to a meeting but when going into print an ingredient has been known to be omitted.



Next time we meet everything has been collected from the printers and certificates are given out to be filled in with the information of each class – 300 in total plus spares. Orders will have been placed for rosette and medals, quantities agreed for catering, raffle prizes secured.

The judges are then sent a copy of the schedule and any additional information they may require. Posters are prepared and displayed, schedules are made available in different locations and an outline of the schedule is included in Brindle Voice and on our Facebook page. There is now a lull until the countdown of the week before the Show.

Anyone who has not entered by post, ie nearly all the exhibitors, comes to Brindle Community Hall on the Tuesday evening to pay their 50p fees and receive exhibitors' cards. This is the first time we become aware of how much support there is for the Show. We tally all the entries in each class to know how much space will be needed.

On Wednesday evening everything needed for setting up, which is stored in the loft, is brought down and the focus on Thursday evening is to erect the boards and display the art work. Extra volunteers support committee members in achieving this. The tables are also set out in the main hall and café area.

On Friday afternoon all the committee are present to organise and divide the space on the tables to accommodate all the entries with large items like quilts being hung over the rails near the ceiling to display them. Tables are frequently moved around until eventually we decide no more can be done. This often takes up to 3 hours before we are satisfied.



Saturday morning at the hall begins for us by 8am. Exhibitors may arrive earlier than the 8.30am stated but we still need that time to be organised. The café is prepared for the judges' arrival, food is collected for their lunches, some exhibitors need to pay their fees and others need replacement cards because they've lost theirs since Tuesday. There is an exciting atmosphere in the hall as everyone sets out their exhibits and by 10am they have all gone. We have the opportunity to view the hall ourselves and are always amazed at the talent and creativity of what is displayed.

We have a little breathing space after checking that all the items are in the right space and then leave it all to the judges. The results from the judges' record sheets, filled in by the stewards, then have to be entered into a computer

programme before numbers can be identified as names and added to the certificates.

The judges then confer over each of these to determine which exhibits qualify for Children's and Adults' Best in Show. After this a list of all the names of people receiving a trophy is completed in preparation for the prize giving. The judges and the rest of us have lunch and the judges leave. Another check of the hall takes place before people arrive at 2pm.



After the presentation of trophies exhibitors are able to claim their belongings and we begin to dismantle everything in the hall whilst the kitchen is also being cleared away. We have more able bodied volunteers to return things to the loft and we leave when everything has been put in place. By this time we just want to go home and put our feet up!

If anyone has information about the Show over the past 50 years we would be glad to hear it, and we always in need of volunteers to do some of the heavy lifting. Any suggestions for changes to classes would also be considered. Please if so get in touch with our Chair, **Susan Burgess, on 07930 134288** or our Secretary, **Jenny Evans, on 07831 738399**.

*Lynn Packer*



## Congratulations!

**To our very own Jane Wright who entered the show with flowers grown and cut from the church gardens and won the Brindle Flower Show trophy on behalf of the church!**



A big Thank You to everyone who entered and helped to make the show a success.  
Please see below for the list of trophy winners!  
Jenny Evans

|                                                                                   |                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Brindle Flower Trophy<br>Flower section. Most points awarded in classes 1-        | Brindle St James Church c/o Jane Wright  |
| Tony Lindsay Trophy<br>Floral art section. Classes 11-16, item judged the         | Jacqui Greenbank                         |
| Kerfoot Trophy<br>The best exhibit of vegetables in classes 17-22                 | Mark Sloan                               |
| Harvest Trophy<br>Most points awarded in classes 17-27                            | Mark Sloan                               |
| Windmill Trophy<br>Most points awarded in classes 28-41                           | Susan Norris                             |
| Scott Trophy<br>Item judged best in class 42, the all comers' set                 | June Leeland                             |
| Arthur Kerfoot Trophy<br>Item judged best in class 43, the men's set recipe       | Stuart Hammond                           |
| Baker's Trophy<br>Item judged the best in class 100, the children's               | Lily Watson                              |
| Jiaranai Poulson Trophy<br>For most points in classes 44-53                       | Elaine Shuttleworth                      |
| Calvert Cottage Trophy<br>Classes 44-53, the item the judge would most like       | Lorraine Mellodey                        |
| Aspinall Trophy<br>Item judged best in classes 54-55                              | Pat Fleming                              |
| Artist's Palette Trophy<br>Exhibit judged best in classes 56-61                   | Linda Quinn                              |
| Egg Trophy<br>The best exhibit of eggs in classes 62-66                           | Charlotte Hoyles                         |
| Wardens' Plate<br>The photograph judged Best in Section in adult                  | Mike Hopcraft                            |
| Photograph Frame<br>The photograph judged Best in Section in                      | Lily Watson                              |
| Children's Award up to 6 years<br>Most points in classes 82-87                    | Lily Berentzen                           |
| Children's Award 7-10 years<br>Most points in classes 88-93                       | Amelia Berentzen and<br>Benedict Whelton |
| Children's Award 11-15 years<br>Most points in classes 94-99                      | Felicity Isherwood                       |
| Linda Booth Children's Trophy<br>Most points in Show, children's section, classes | Felicity Isherwood                       |
| High Cop Plate<br>Most points in Show, adults' section, classes 1-61              | Susan Norris                             |
| EEB Trophy<br>Children's Best in Show                                             | Emma Milnes                              |
| Brindle Parish Council Trophy<br>Adults' Best in Show                             | Linda Quinn                              |



# Brindle Historical Society

At the Brindle Historical Society's first meeting following the summer break, members were treated to an absorbing account of the men who built two of the reservoirs in the Burnley area.

At the start of the meeting, Catherine Rousseau asked us to consider our preconceptions of navvies: who were they, how were they viewed and where did they come from? She suggested that people often make sweeping generalisations about navvies – that they were single Irish men who lived hard, short lives, drank heavily and moved from place to place. In other words, not perhaps the sort of chaps you would immediately invite round for tea.

In the first part of her presentation, Catherine cast doubt on these broad assumptions, drawing on the information recorded by Elizabeth Garnett, who became a British missionary to navvies and a leading figure in the Navy Mission Society. Garnett's accounts provide a rather more complicated picture of the men.

It was true that navvies often travelled together, and men would sometimes 'join the ranks' and form, in effect, a mobile workforce. Some were heavy drinkers and some died young in accidents, but this certainly did not apply to all of them.



The nature of their work, particularly the construction of canals and railways, meant that the workforce frequently moved on. Even when building reservoirs, if work stopped or was delayed, men might move elsewhere to find alternative employment. Living in temporary encampments close to the workplace could mean cramped and sometimes insanitary conditions, with illness a constant threat. Contemporary accounts describe overcrowded huts and serious problems with disease.

Drunkenness was frequently reported in the press, although such reports naturally tell us more about the incidents considered newsworthy than about the behaviour of the entire workforce. Violence and premature death were also features of some navvies' lives, but not all deaths were work-related. And, contrary to the popular image, not all navvies were Irish, although there was certainly a significant Irish presence with contemporary reports even recording disputes between Orangemen and Catholics.

Discovering exactly how such men lived in this period is difficult because they did not consistently describe themselves as 'navvies' in official records. Depending on the work they were doing at the time, they might simply appear as labourers, excavators or even farm workers.



# Brindle Historical Society

In the second part of the presentation, Catherine focused on two specific reservoirs – Churn Clough near Sabden and Hurstwood close to Burnley. Churn Clough Reservoir was constructed in the late 19th century and was built to provide an additional water supply for the local population, whose existing sources were increasingly vulnerable to contamination.

Little archaeological evidence has been found to show where the navvies actually lived, so the precise location of their encampments – or 'huts', as they were described in contemporary newspapers – remains uncertain. They were probably somewhere on the higher ground above the reservoir.

Excavations in one location uncovered pieces of Accrington brick embedded in a track, dating the feature broadly to the period between 1887 and 1914. Some shallow post holes provided evidence that a wooden structure may once have stood there, while other finds included clay pipes, a button and the heel of a boot. It is a modest collection, but together they provide tantalising glimpses of people who otherwise left remarkably little behind.

Hurstwood Reservoir was begun in the early 20th century and was eventually completed in the 1920s after engineering difficulties and the disruption caused by the First World War. At the same time, mechanical excavators – rather wonderfully known as 'steam navvies' – were introduced which threatened to replace some of the manual labour on which the men depended.



There is, once again, surprisingly little archaeological evidence of the workers themselves. Some of the huts were subsequently sold for use as allotment buildings, while some of the workers settled locally. Others moved on to the next project, finding employment on roads, tramways and other infrastructure.

So, who were the navvies? In the end, there is no simple answer to the question. The stereotypical navvy – an itinerant, hard-drinking Irishman with a shovel over his shoulder – tells only part of the story. They were probably ordinary working men trying to earn a living in difficult circumstances. They travelled where the work was available, endured unpleasant living conditions and performed physically demanding work that transformed the landscape of Britain.

They may have left remarkably little personal evidence behind, but the reservoirs, railways, canals, roads and other structures they helped to create are rather more difficult to overlook. And, as Catherine's talk demonstrated, sometimes the challenge for the historian is not discovering what people built but finding out where the people who built it actually went.

The next meeting of the Society is on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October** when Frances Raftery will present a talk on **"Florence Nightingale: Her Life and Legacy."**

Historical Society members get in free and it's just £5.00 for guests which includes tea or coffee, biscuits and a chat. For more details, please visit our website:

**[HTTPS://BRINDLEHISTORICALSOCIETY.CO.UK/](https://brindlehistoricalsociety.co.uk/)**

## CALL FOR FRONT COVER PHOTOS!

We would love to see any photos of the church, Brindle and the surrounding area. Please also say if you would like your name to appear under the image so we can credit you  
Thank You



Please send any photos to  
[brindle.voice@gmail.com](mailto:brindle.voice@gmail.com)  
by the 21<sup>st</sup> of each month.

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## THANK YOU!

# Community Directory

|                           |                              |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rector                    | Rev Jon Price                | 07483 948 380<br><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<br>Ann Greenland | 01772 323 267<br>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<br><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<br><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<br>Darren Cranshaw     | <a href="mailto:clerk@brindleparishcouncil.org.uk">clerk@brindleparishcouncil.org.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:Darren.cranshaw@brindle-pc.go.uk">Darren.cranshaw@brindle-pc.go.uk</a> |

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