

ST. BRANDON'S CHURCH

BRANCEPETH



NEWSLETTER: January 2019

Also online at: www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

Parochial Church Council

Priest in Charge

Associate Minister Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (3789670) or
alisonhobbs@stbrandon.org.uk

Lay Reader Geoff Moore – co-opted member of P.C.C. (3735674)

Church Wardens: Hester Higton (5974675)

James Morgan (4476520)

Secretary Mike Higton (5974675)

Treasurer Geoff Knott (01833 627094)

Deanery Synod Robert Scott-Biggs (3735907).

David Eltringham (01388 746058)

John Jackson (3782392)

Other members:-

Jayne Cook (01388 731417) Jeanette Metcalfe (3781646)

Peter Cook (01388 731417) Sue Morgan (3781172) – co-opted

Jean Hodgson (3780289) Isabel Rae (9039145)

Steve Hodgson (3780289) John Roberts (01388 748287)

.....

Pastoral Assistant Deborah Hodge (01388 745455)

Prayer Team Deborah Hodge (01388 745455), Alison Hobbs (378 9670),
Alison Moore (373 5674), Myrleen Stewart (378 0862).

Sunday School Martin Peacock (07503242074)

Messy Church Gillian Smellie (3739420) & Liz Thomas (3784465)

Organist Richard Hird

Music Jean Merrington (3780952)

Sacristans Carol Beeby (3847431), Deborah Hodge (01388 745455),
Jean Hodgson (3780289), Valeria Dietz.

Safeguarding Officer Geoff Moore (3735674)

Flower Guild Lynne Hastie (3781871)

Churchyard Edward Staines (3780858)

Youth Club Geoff Moore (3735674), Martin Peacock (07503242074)

Worship Team Hester Higton, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Rev'd Fiona Eltringham, Deborah
Hodge, Jean Hodgson, Jean Merrington, Geoff Moore, Sue Morgan.

SMD Team: Hester Higton, Alison Hobbs, Alison Moore, Martin Peacock.

Fabric: James Morgan (chair), Peter Cook, Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs,
Steve Hodgson, Geoff Knott, John Roberts, Robert Scott-Biggs, Edward
Staines.

Website www.stbrandon.org.uk

February Newsletter entries - no later than January 20th
Please send to Sue Morgan - sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Why is St Brandon's open?

What does a church give when it's empty?

People can drift in – sit with the building and its memories and drift out. Churches that stay open are open to the sorrows of humanity and the silence consoles by simply accepting.

Churches are '*serious houses on serious earth*' (Philip Larkin). They have heard it all.

Churches carry the knowledge of the helplessness of our failings – they are a haven for everyone. There is no reproach – they do not speak, they listen.

They do not try to change – they absorb weariness, failure, helplessness into the mercy of their silence – unearned, undeserved, unconditional acceptance. This is to hear the love of God.

They do not shut themselves against our need – we can slip in quietly and unseen

We feel in the silence the prayers that have gone before. Like monastic silence or the silence of a retreat, this is silence in which something happens.

Open churches give us the space . . . to be and to become, to set our lives in the context of eternity, to remember, to seek and to find.

This is a holy space where past generations have met in search of their encounter between seen and unseen; that has absorbed the words, thoughts, griefs and joys of countless people throughout centuries

The space speaks. There is language and there is silence. Words and the space between words.

The holy is reached in the ordinary, the light through the window, shadows, reflections. An openness to the future.

Space and stillness to wonder and listen.

That is why we have an open church.

We heard this and felt it described St Brandon's! Adapted with permission from a 'Sermonette' given by Mary Rose Kearney at St Oswald's Church Askrigg in October 2018. Alison Moore

St Brandon's January 2019 – service and readings

6th January, Epiphany

Parish Eucharist – 10.15

Readings: First: Ulrike Hobbs Isaiah 60:1–6
Second: James Morgan Ephesians 3:1–12
Gospel: Matthew 2:1–12
Geoff Moore Intercessions

13th January, Baptism of Christ Parish Eucharist, with baptism – 10.15

Readings: First: Evelyn Aitken Isaiah 43:1–7
Second: Jayne Cook Acts 8:14–17
Gospel: Luke 3:15–17, 21–22
Alison Moore Intercessions

20th January, Epiphany 3

Parish Eucharist – 10.15

Readings: First: Hester Higton Isaiah 62:1–5
Second: Wilfred Foxe 1 Corinthians 12:1–11
Gospel: John 2:1–11
David Eltringham Intercessions

27th January, Epiphany 4

Parish Eucharist – 10.15

Readings: First: Janette Foxe Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10
Second: Carolyn Knott 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a
Gospel: Luke 4:14–21
Doris Dobson Intercessions

3rd February, Presentation of Christ Parish Eucharist – 10.15

Readings: First: David Eltringham Malachi 3:1–5
Second: Jean Hodgson Hebrews 2:14–18
Gospel: Luke 2:22–40
Sally Scott Biggs Intercessions

Sidespersons

Jan 6 th	Carolyn & Geoff Knott
Jan 13 th	Jayne & Peter Cook & Jean Merrington
Jan 20 th	Joan Nesbitt & Hester Higton
Jan 27 th	Maud Oliver & Iris Waggott
Feb 3 rd	Steve Hodgson & Pat Sharples

Servers

Bridget
Tom Hobbs
Jonny
Tom Higton
Bridget

Flowers

Jan 6 th	Epiphany
Jan 13 th	Denise Jackson
Jan 20 th	Sarah Nicholson
Jan 27 th	Iris Waggott
Feb 3 rd	Christine Dodd

Coffee

Norma Taylor
Jeanette Metcalfe
Alison Moore
Evelyn Aitken
Norma Taylor

Church Cleaning

January: *Evelyn Aitken*, Carolyn Knott, Jean Merrington,
Myrleen Stewart, Iris & Bob Waggott.

February: *Carol Beeby*, Jenny Marr, Jean Robinson.
Sarah Nicholson, Norma Taylor.

Church enquiries

For baptisms, weddings and funerals, please contact Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (3789670) or alisonhobbs@stbrandon.org.uk
(Please use Alison's new church email for church business)
For church bookings, please contact Jean Hodgson (3780289)
For all other enquiries, please contact Hester Higton (5974675)

***Do you know anyone who, for any reason, would appreciate prayer, a visit,
or perhaps to receive communion at home
Please tell Deborah Hodge, Authorised Pastoral Assistant, and she will get
in touch. 01388 74545***

If you would welcome a short time of Christian worship with friends and neighbours, we would love to see you.

You are invited to join us for a small and friendly home
Eucharist service at **3 Russell Close**



Tuesday 15th Jan 2018 at 11:00am

Tuesday 11th Feb 2018 at 11:00am

Tuesday 12th Mar 2018 at 11:00am

Rev'd Alison, and Deborah, St Brandon's Church

Brancepeth Youth Club

January - April 2019

Sunday club nights are from 6.00 – 8.00pm.

All young people in the Village (and beyond, and their friends) are warmly welcome. The age range is from 11 to 17 years inclusive. Dates for this term are:

13th January – New Year Party*

27th January

10th February

24th February

10th March

24th March

7th April

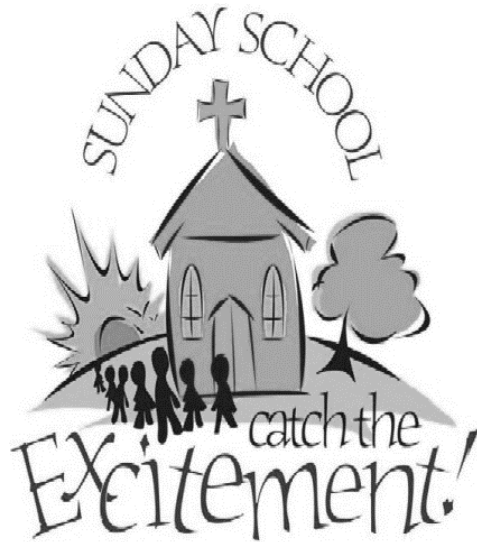
** The party will take the theme of 'S'. It's a requirement that you dress accordingly! Please also bring a plate of food (savoury or sweet) and games, ideally both also themed to the letter 'S'.*

Leaders

Geoff Moore 373 5674

Martin Peacock 378 4268

Jonny Dobson, Tom and Alison Hobbs will also be helping to lead.



Sunday mornings 10.15am. During Eucharist Service

Suitable for school age children. Bible stories, crafts, games. Leaders fully DBS checked.

Opportunity for children to worship informally with or without their grown ups, then re-join for the end of the Eucharist service.

Wiggly church area in Neville Chapel available for pre-schoolers to enjoy with their grown-ups. Speaker relay to overhear Eucharist Service

January 2019

Building Blocks of Faith

January 13th God comes to be with us Luke 2: 1 - 20

Martin Peacock and Jeanette Metcalf

January 20th God forgives us Luke 15: 1,2,11 - 24

Martin Peacock and Carol Beeby

January 27th God can really do that! Mark 6: 45 - 51

Martin Peacock and Deborah Hodge



**Dates for 2019 tba,
Contact Liz Thomas & Gillian Smellie for details.**

**3-5pm
IN CHURCH.**

**All ages welcome
We love to see new faces & guarantee you a warm and friendly welcome
.... & tons of fun!
Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult**

<http://www.messychurch.org.uk/church/st-brandons-messy-church>

PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING DIARY January 2019

'I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way"'

- 1 NEW YEARS DAY for good resolutions
- 2 Whitworth Lane and Black House
- 3 For all who suffer from seasonal affective disorder
- 4 Oakenshaw Road
- 5 Wooley Grange, High Wooley, Spring Farm, Weather Hill, South Brandon Farm and Brawns Den
- 6 **EPIPHANY thinking of the wise men 'from the east' pray against racism**
- 7 Quarry Hill and cottages, Morley Farm, Littlewhite Farm and Goodwell Field
- 8 Station House and the Village North
- 9 For those in debt
- 10 Goodwell Lea North
- 11 For the homeless
- 12 Goodwell Lea South
- 13 **EPIPHANY 1 give thanks for our church leaders lay and ordained**
- 14 Foxes Row, Russell Close and North Field View
- 15 Stockley Grove, Bridge Lane and Tanglewood
- 16 For the sick and their carers
- 17 Durham Road and The Forge
- 18 Pray for all those who work with children, for Sunday School Messy Church and Youth Club
- 19 For prisoners and prison visitors
- 20 **EPIPHANY 2 pray for welcoming and loving churches**
- 21 Pray for politicians
- 22 The Village South
- 23 The Rectory, Rectory Cottages, Bridleway, Constable Meadows, Hoppy Acres and Thornberry Garth
- 24 The Castle and Lodge
- 25 On the conversion of St Paul give thanks for second chances
- 26 For church members outside the parish
- 27 **EPIPHANY 3 for evangelists and teachers**
- 28 Peppermires, Culmaran Tudhoe Lodge, Nafferton Farm,
- 29 Holywell and East Parks
- 30 Park Lodge, Garden House, Nursery House, East Bothy, Scription Lodge, Scription Farm
- 31 Pray for our PCC and leadership teams.

For February entries contact Myrleen Stewart 0191 3780862

Wednesday Coffee Morning Village Hall 10.30 – 11.45

All are very welcome – plus family & friends, any age!

Dec	5 th	Sheena Murray & Linda Larnach
Dec	12 th	Janiece Spence and Vivienne Lowe
Dec	19 th	Jean & Jim Merrington
Dec	26 th	Boxing Day – no coffee
Jan	2 nd	Josie Armstrong & Gillian Smellie
Jan	9 th	Lynda Blakesly & Stephanie Stephenson
Jan	16 th	Joan Taylor & Pat Allatt
Jan	23 rd	Christine Jones & Rob Waggott
Jan	30 th	Evelyn Aitken & Bill Currie
Feb	6 th	Linda Larnach & Joan Taylor

If your turn is unsuitable please swap with someone else. Josie Armstrong or Pat Allatt may be able to help. Please let your partner know: -

Pat Allatt 3780454

Rob Waggott 3783592

Evelyn Aitken 3789908

Josie Armstrong 01388 748902

Bill Currie 3783414

Christine Jones 3789297

Lynda Blakesly & Stephanie Stephenson 07788420930

Gillian Smellie 3739420

Linda Larnach 375 7554.

Sheena Murray 378 1097

Vivienne Lowe 3780974

Jean Merrington 3780952

Janiece Spence 4356357

Joan Taylor 3783630

New Year's Day Invitation to the Castle

Cheese and Chat at the Castle, midday to 3pm. Donations invited to Send A Cow or The Children's Society, all welcome, just turn up!

Thank you

‘Thank you for all those of you who supported our recent Christmas
Band Night in The Village Hall

The proceeds of The Grand Prize Draw and Fun Casino have been sent to Cancer Research UK’

Thanks also to the small band of ‘Angels’ who turned up the next day to help clear up

Josie Armstrong

THE NEXT STEPS IN THE JOURNEY

A huge 'Thank You' to everyone who completed a shoebox last month for the Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child campaign! And an especially big 'thank you' to the talented Brancepeth Knit & Natter group who have been clicking away all year and were able to provide two large bags of beautiful hats, scarves, mittens and delightful hand puppets – they were very gratefully received and are much appreciated by the organisers at the local collecting point in Consett.

Deborah Hodge and I were fortunate to be able to be in a position to go and help there twice – firstly to deliver the boxes after our Service, and then in response to an SOS for extra volunteers to help finish checking the boxes. The arrival of the huge truck, which was taking 11,000 gifts from our area to Belarus, was imminent and the remaining boxes needed to be checked to make sure they only contained age appropriate and approved items and to ensure that as far as possible each child received a full and exciting box! The boxes were then individually sealed and packed into large cardboard cartons.

It was a very moving sight to see the large pile of cartons waiting to go on the truck - such an obvious display of people's love and care for others – and to know that when that box is opened again the contents will bring undoubted delight and joy to a child who may not be receiving anything else this Christmas time.

Merry Christmas and thank you again for your generosity!

Jean Hodgson



BCA CINEMA CLUB



**Wednesday, January 9th “Before I Go To Sleep” at
7.30pm**

Drama/Mystery From the book by S J Watson 1h 32m

Mens Social Night

Friday First February 2019

7pm

Beer Snooker.....Domino's

Fish & Chip Supper

(Order rung in at 7.30pm ...so please be there by then)

No Tickets - Pay as you eat and Drink

Contact Dave Armstrong for further info

07843 343846

?

Quiz Night

?

Village Hall

Friday 15th February

?

?

7.15pm

In upstairs hall

Pie and Pea Supper

(bring your own drinks)

£8.00

BCA Members

£9.00

Non Members

Tickets from Josie Armstrong jo.arm@me.com

or Peter Aitken 0191 3789908

*(Proceeds to Brancepeth Community
Association)*

?

?

?

Book Club

On Friday January 11th we will meet at Dawn Ellis's home, 24 Goodwell Lea at 7.30 p.m. to discuss the thriller "You let me in" by Lucy Clarke.

All welcome.

Val Gibbons



**BRANCEPETH ARCHIVES AND HISTORY GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2019
UPSTAIRS IN BRANCEPETH VILLAGE HALL at
6.30 p.m.**

The Meeting is open to members (who will be entitled to vote) and anyone who may be interested in joining. Membership for the year is £5.00 per person and is due for renewal at this time.

Please note the early start time. This is to accommodate the talk and films that will follow at 7.30 p.m. Details are in the item below.

"BRANCEPETH ON FILM"

The North East Film Archive is dedicated to finding, preserving and sharing the North East's rich moving image heritage collection. Recently Brancepeth Archives Group acquired from the Film Archive copies of two short films which both feature Brancepeth - one from the fifties and one from the sixties.

On 6 February, commencing at 7 30, we will show both those films presented by Julie Ballands from the Film Archive. She will talk about their Heritage Lottery Funded North East on Film project and give us the opportunity to see more film clips from the collection featuring Durham and the surrounding area. All are welcome. Admission is free. Drinks will be available.

Members are reminded that our Annual General Meeting will also take place on that same evening and will commence at 6 30p.m.

BRANCEPETH COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH UPDATE

Brancepeth Community and the Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) are continuing to work together to address complaints of speeding traffic on the A690 through Brancepeth Village and on Wolsingham Road.

Volunteers from Brancepeth have been observing and recording traffic behaviour since October 2017 and are starting to notice that more and more vehicles are observing the 30mph speed limit, especially during early week day mornings and in late afternoons when Speed Watch Teams have been most active.

On reflection, volunteers believe their activity is gaining greater support within the Village and surrounding area demonstrated by encouragement from the Police, motorists and the take-up of Speed Watch activity in neighbouring Villages.

As we approach Christmas and the New Year, the weather is changing which means Speed Watch Team observation will be significantly reduced but work will continue behind the scenes with the Police and the Parish Council to improve Road Safety in and around Brancepeth.

To ensure the good work is not lost during the Winter months, the Speed Watch Team ask for your continued support in observing local speed limits to set a good example to transient traffic. This action will have a traffic calming effect and reduce average speeds through the Village.

Going forward, the Speed Watch Team are planning more random observations during weekdays and weekends and need your help by either volunteering for Speed Watch activity and/or personally encouraging those who have given up their time for the benefit of the Community.

After training by the Neighbourhood Police Team at the Village Hall, which takes around half an hour, new volunteers are teamed up with experienced members. Once fully trained, volunteers are encouraged to take part in one session a month lasting no more than 2 hours from start to finish. If you could be interested in this worthwhile activity but are still not sure please contact Deborah Chapman on 0191 3781409 or any other members of the Speed Watch Team.

Parish Council News

Parish Councillor vacancy

From the resignation of Philip Pickles a vacancy is open on the Brancepeth Parish Council for a willing person living within or just outside the Parish boundary. If you're interested in helping improve the village and facilities for all residents apply to the Clerk Geoff Smith at towlawtc@hotmail.com

Defibrillator

The Parish Council working with the BCA have bought and installed a defibrillator mounted on the outside wall of the Village Hall just to the left of the front door. It is intended to follow this up with some general first aid and defibrillator awareness briefings for interested residents in 2019. BUT, be aware that training or previous experience is NOT necessary to operate the defibrillator. The manufacturer states that 'It can be easily used by laypersons or those who are not trained how to use the product'. All the necessary instructions are on the unit and you would be guided through what to do, step by step, after ringing 999. Let's hope the circumstances never arise.

Street Lighting

Street lighting within Brancepeth is reaching an age and condition such that the County Council need to replace them. Already residents in Goodwell Lea have been advised by the Council that work will get underway soon. This will replace the posts and lamps in the same places with modern units, virtually like for like. Old units mounted on wooden posts on Wolsingham Road between the railway track and Goodwell Lea are to be replaced with modern posts and antique lamps with down lighting LED's like those near the crossroads. Lamp 38 near the crossroads is not needed and is proposed to be removed. Lights along the A690, that were relatively recently installed, are to be unchanged along with the removal of a redundant corner lamp bracket from The Close. This work is scheduled for early 2019. Lighting in The Village street also needs replacement. The County Council, with the Parish Council, are seeking a solution that retains the character and street appearance of the existing lamps, particularly for these listed buildings in a conservation area, while complying with current Electricity and Building Regulations.

From the Parish Council

BRANCEPETH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME IS HERE AGAIN!

Subscriptions for 2019 are due from 1 January. ***Rates remain the same for the 11th year running!***

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	£15
ADULTS	£ 7.50
IN RECEIPT OF STATE PENSION	£ 5.00

Collectors will be calling to issue cards and take subscriptions but if you prefer, or think you may have been missed, please contact Joan Taylor at 5 The Village or 378 3630 who will be happy to take your money and issue cards.

Annual subscriptions are a significant part of the Community Association income. Your membership helps to ensure that the village hall is maintained as an attractive centre for the village activities for which Brancepeth is well known. Subscriptions also support the social, recreational and educational events organised by the committee and various clubs in the village. Additionally members enjoy reduced admission charges to many events and are able to hire items of equipment from the hall.

If you pay income tax and have previously signed a **Gift Aid** form, thank you. You don't need to complete another one. If you are a new member, or have not previously completed a form and would like the association to be able to reclaim the tax on your subscription, please ask your collector for a form. Please return completed forms to Joan Taylor at 5 The Village. Forms can also be collected from Joan. Thank you.

GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP

CINEMA CLUB MEMBERSHIP

As in previous years, collectors will also have membership cards for the Garden and Cinema Clubs. If you wish to renew your membership of, or to join either or both, please pay your collector who will issue cards. Annual subscriptions are:

GARDEN CLUB	£3	CINEMA CLUB	Adult	£3	Child	£1
--------------------	-----------	--------------------	--------------	-----------	--------------	-----------

Thank you. If you have any suggestions or questions relating to the BCA or associated clubs please contact any committee member listed in the newsletter.

Dates for the Diary:-

Jan	7 th 14 th 21 st 28 th	Monday	Snooker Club
Jan	7 th 14 th 21 st 28 th	Monday	Yoga
Jan	8 th 22 nd	Tuesday	Knit & Natter
Jan	contact Jean Merrington	Tuesday	Choir
Jan	8 th 15 th 22 nd 29 th	Wed	Exercise Class
Jan	8 th 15 th 22 nd 29 th	Wed	Coffee Morning
Jan	8 th 15 th 22 nd 29 th	Wed	Art Class
Jan	3 rd 10 th 17 th 24 th 31 st	Thursday	Badminton
Jan	13 th 27 th	Sunday	Youth Club

Please confirm dates with leaders

Jan	1 st	Tues	New Year Cheese & Chat. 12 noon -3pm, Castle
Jan	11 th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm. 24 Goodwell Lea.
Jan	9 th	Wed	Cinema Club, 'Before I go to Sleep', 7.30pm, VH
Feb	1 st	Fri	Men's Social Night, 7.00pm, Village Hall
Feb	6 th	Wed	Brancepeth Archives & History Group AGM, 6.30pm, VH
Feb	15 th	Fri	Quiz Night, 7.15pm, Village Hall
Feb	17 th	Sun	Sunday Lunch, 2.00pm, Village Hall

Village Hall: please contact Geraldine Jennings –

gerryjennings5@googlemail.com or tel. 3781583

Front cover © Elizabeth Metcalfe– The 3 Wise Men with their gifts.

Thanks to Soraya Taylor & John Morgan for making the crowns.

Soraya uses 'Powertex' with recycled & found materials to create the effects used.

Back cover © Peter Burdess – The Village Show audience 2018.

www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

February Newsletter entries no later than 20th January

Please send to Sue Morgan at sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

Brancepeth Community Association - Management Committee

George Gibbons	<i>Chairman</i>	Phil Davison	<i>Building coordinator</i>
John Morgan	<i>Vice chairman</i>	Alison Hobbs	<i>Church</i>
Peter Aitken	<i>Secretary</i>	Geraldine Jennings	<i>Bookings</i>
Margot Harrison	<i>Treasurer</i>	Joan Taylor	<i>Subscription</i>
Jo Dalton	<i>Website & Fundraising</i>	Jean Merrington	<i>Choir</i>
James Dalton	<i>IT</i>	Joan Taylor	<i>Wednesday Coffee</i>
Josie Armstrong	<i>Social Events</i>		

<http://brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk/> Tel: 0191 3783952

Parish Activities

Chairman B.C.A.	George Gibbons, 3 The Forge (3784200)
Secretary	Peter Aitken, The Copse, Foxes Row (3789908)
Treasurer	Margot Harrison, Downsgarth (3784813)
Membership	Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (3780974)
Hall Bookings	Geraldine Jennings, 5 Goodwell Lea (3781583)
Archives & History	Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (3780974)
Badminton	Peter Hodge, (01388 745455)
Brancepeth Allotment	John Morgan, (3781172)
& Leisure Gardeners' Club	baacommittee3@gmail.com
Book Club	Val Gibbons (3784200)
Choir	Jean Merrington (3780952)
Drama	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Flower Guild	Jessie Brown (3782748)
Garden Club	Barry Dickinson (3782398)
Snooker Bookings	Geraldine Jennings (3781583)
Wednesday Coffee	Joan Taylor (3783630)
Yoga	Lynne Hastie (3781871)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (3735674)

Parish Council

Chairperson	Christine Jones (3789297)
	Dave Armstrong (01388 748902)
	Jessie Brown (3782748)
	James Dalton (3780771)
	Michael Lowe (3780974)
	Jim Merrington (3780952)
Parish Clerk	Geoff Smith 07986197346

County Councillors:

olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk
fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk

www.brancepeth-parish-council.org

