

# St Brandon's Church Brancepeth



## Newsletter May 2024

Also online at [www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter)





*Village Hall Centenary  
Champagne Tea  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
3pm*



**Glass of fizz on arrival, entertainment,  
music & magician for all ages**

**Host your own table or sit with others. Bring your  
own cakes, sandwiches,  
teapot and china. Prize for the best dressed table.**

**For further info & tickets contact Josie:  
[jo.arm@me.com](mailto:jo.arm@me.com) / 07882 233118**

**Tickets: £5 members / £7 non-members  
children half-price / under 5s free**

**Raffle, proceeds to the BCA**



## Parochial Church Council

Priest in Charge	Rev'd Anna Brooker (0191 3780578) or <a href="mailto:rector@stbrandon.org.uk">rector@stbrandon.org.uk</a>
Associate Minister	Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (0191 3789670) <a href="mailto:alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk">alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk</a>
Church Wardens:	David Eltringham (07779938611) Carol Beeby (0191 3847431), (07592 975002)
Secretary	Colin Waterman (07713637128) <a href="mailto:colinwaterman069@gmail.com">colinwaterman069@gmail.com</a> )
Treasurer	Mike Higton (0191 5974675)
Deanery Synod	

### Other members:-

Janette Foxe (07587 225 200) Kenneth Howe (07710098705, 0191 3840589)  
Tom Hobbs (07857437860) Sue Morgan (0191 3781172)  
Catrin Morgan (0191 4476520)

Lay Reader	Geoff Moore (07854 696664)
Prayer Team	Alison Hobbs (01913789670), Alison Moore (0191 373 5674).
Sunday School	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Messy Church	Rev'd Anna Brooker
Organist	Richard Hird
Village Choir	Martyn Jones (0191 3789297)
Sacristans	Carol Beeby (0191 3847431), Valeria Dietz, Pat Sharples.
Safeguarding Officer	Geoff Moore (07854 696664)
Events coordinator	Janette Foxe <a href="mailto:events@stbrandon.org.uk">events@stbrandon.org.uk</a> .
Flower Guild	Lynne Hastie (0191 3781871)
Churchyard	Edward Staines (0191 3780858)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (07854 696664) Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Worship Team	Carol Beeby, Rev'd Anna Brooker, Janette Foxe, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Alison Moore, Geoff Moore, Martin Peacock.
AdminTeam	Carol Beeby, Rev'd Anna Brooker, Janette Foxe, Sue Morgan, Gillian Smellie.
PMC Team:	Anna Brooker (ex-officio), Nick Brooker, Carys Funnell, Alison Hobbs (ex officio), Tom Hobbs, Alison Moore, James Morgan, Sue Morgan, Jane Stout, Colin Waterman.
Fabric:	David Eltringham (chair), James Morgan, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs, Steve Hodgson, Edward Staines, Rev'd Anna Brooker, Nick Brooker.
Website	<a href="http://www.stbrandon.org.uk">www.stbrandon.org.uk</a>

***Newsletter entries no later than May 18th please.***

**Please send to Sue Morgan – [sueatpeppermires@gmail.com](mailto:sueatpeppermires@gmail.com)**

If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of this newsletter, please contact Hester Higton on [hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop](mailto:hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop).

Dear Friends,

Did you see the Northern Echo's post last month (3 April), headlined 'Picturesque County Durham village named among poshest places to live in the UK'? It was referring to the Telegraph's list, ranking the country's 48 poshest villages. The accompanying photograph to illustrate this was, predictably, the church and castle set amongst gorgeous parkland (golf course), the village nestled adjacent. Brancepeth got the same accolade in 2023 and 2022. Last year was Brancepeth's first entry in the "In Bloom" competition which secured several silver and gold awards. Mmmm, is that how we see ourselves? Poshest? Prettiest?

Speaking from the perspective of a castle-dweller, it may not surprise you that, despite outward appearances, neither of those two adjectives fit my definitions. It certainly is a privilege to live in the castle, with fabulous architecture and wonderful views but if you are a fan of comfortable living, and a la mode décor, it is definitely passé. However, what is always new and renewing, are the people. Those who come as visitors, whether it is simply to look or enjoy a coffee, or whether they are hosting or taking part in an event, they bring the building alive, and make it theirs for the day. Many relate to something here and go away taking something intangible with them, sometimes that brings them back, and they build on the sense of belonging.

It is a peculiarly 'personal' castle; that surely must originate with, and emanate from, those who have bravely or romantically made it their home. Castle residents are from a broad range of backgrounds and ages, some reside for a few months but most are long-term and settled. It is the warmth of relationships across this community of residents that creates the heart of the castle and makes the greatest difference to the enjoyment of living here.

We are not unique at the castle in enjoying this quality of community, it is replicated in different ways all through the village of Brancepeth. It is a village that is both 'alive' and has a 'heart'.

Usually when referring to the heart of a village it would mean a particular building or facility. The village hall, church and golf club form three such centres. We have an amazing two-dozen fitness, leisure, and learning activity groups operating from the village hall, and a lively church frequently thanked for being so welcoming. In themselves, they could add up to an excellent selling point if we were looking to commend the facilities to a prospective buyer. But I would like to suggest that the true heart of Brancepeth is fostered through the links people make across and in these different activities.

If you were to draw a circle for each Brancepeth activity group and put the names of each person within the circle, and then arrange the circles so each person's name only appears once (this is called a venn diagram) there would be an awful lot of overlap: a lot of people span several groups. Add in other informal activities like dog-walking, and neighbourliness, and we see a network that forges strong links right across the community.

By and large, these links rooted in common interests create an awareness, respect, and compassion for the well-being of the other, and lead to a genuinely caring community. This is what I would say is the value of Brancepeth, it is precious beyond measure, and it has nothing to do with being posh or picturesque.

Alison Hobbs

## St Brandon's May 2024 – Services and readings

**Sunday services are at 10:15am every week.**

*If you are unable to join in person, you are welcome to join online, or to view the recording later, at <https://www.facebook.com/StBrandons>*

*In addition to the services below, each day Monday – Friday, **Morning Prayer** is shared in church/ online at **8.15am** and there is a **Midday Eucharist** in Brancepeth Castle Chapel at **12noon**.*

**Online Evening Prayer** is on alternate Thursdays of the month at **7:30pm** via Zoom. Everyone is welcome, please contact Geoff Moore or Anna

### Sun 5 May      Easter 6      Morning Worship with Baptism of Ferne Tolley

Readings	First:	Colin Waterman	Acts 10: 44-end
	Gospel:	Tom Hobbs	John 15: 9-17
		Edward Staines	Intercessions

### Thurs 9 May Ascension Day      Holy Communion 7:30pm

Readings	First:	David Eltringham	Acts 1: 4-11 <i>in service booklet</i>
	Second:	Hester Higton	Daniel 7: 9-14 <i>church Bible p.860</i>
	Gospel:	Alison Moore	Luke 24: 44-end <i>church Bible p.97</i>

### Sun 12 May      Easter 7      Parish Eucharist – 10.15am *Christian Aid Week begins*

Readings:	First:	James Morgan	Acts 1: 15-17; 21- end
	Gospel	Janette Foxe	John 17: 6-19
	Psalm 1		
		Intercessions	Nick Brooker

### Sun 19 May      Pentecost      Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings	First:	Kenneth Howe	Acts 2: 1-21
	Gospel:	Carys Funnell	John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15
	Psalm 104: 26-36; 37b		
		Intercessions	Alison Moore

### Thurs 23 May      Online Evening Prayer 7.30pm

**Sun 26 May Trinity Sunday Parish Eucharist 10.15am**  
***Celebrating 30 years of the ordination of women priests in the Church of England***

Readings	First:	Jo Weir	Isaiah 6: 1-8
	Gospel:	Jean Hodgson	John 3: 1-17
	Psalm 29		
		Intercessions	David Eltringham

**Sun 2 June 1<sup>st</sup> after Trinity Parish Eucharist 10.15am**

Readings	First:	Steve Hodgson	Deuteronomy 5: 12-15
	Gospel:	Nick Brooker	Mark 2: 23- 3: 6
	Psalm 81: 1-10		
		Intercessions	Wilfred Foxe

**Thurs 6 June Online Evening Prayer 7.30pm**

**Sidespersons**

May 5<sup>th</sup> Jane Stout & Nick Brooker  
May 9<sup>th</sup> (7.30pm) David & Fiona Eltringham  
May 12<sup>th</sup> Josie Armstrong & Bonny Bainbridge  
May 19<sup>th</sup> Peter Bailey & Jean Hodgson  
May 26<sup>th</sup> Vira Melenets & Hanna Pokhilko  
June 2<sup>nd</sup> Annette Johnson & Sue Morgan

**Flowers**

June Robson  
  
Nick Brooker  
Annette Johnson  
Jean Hodgson  
Gerry Jennings

**Coffee**

May 5<sup>th</sup> Alison Moore  
May 9<sup>th</sup> (7.30pm)  
May 12<sup>th</sup> Catrin Morgan  
May 19<sup>th</sup> Diane Coles  
May 26<sup>th</sup> Gerry Jennings  
June 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeanette Metcalfe

**Tech Team**

Higtons  
Geoff & Alison  
Higtons & Peter  
Geoff & Alison  
David & Fiona

**Church Cleaning**

*May – Team A*

Alison Moore, Anne Elliott, Pat Sharples, Jane Stout

*June – Team B*

Sue Morgan, Fiona Eltringham, Annette Johnson, Hillary Moss

**St. Brandon's Church – Grass Cutting Rota 2024**

29<sup>th</sup> Apr – 12<sup>th</sup> May James Morgan, David Wilkes

13<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May James Dalton, Nick Brooker



**Ascension Day**  
**Holy Communion**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May**

**7:30pm**



*All welcome*

[www.stbrandon.org.uk](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk)

0191 389 0578



## MAY PRAYER SPACE

*This month concludes Easter season with the Ascension, when the risen Christ ascends to heaven, and celebrates the coming of The Holy Spirit at Pentecost, experienced in tongues of flame and as a moment of comprehension across all languages. The days between these two festivals - 9 May to 19 May – are adopted by the Archbishop of Canterbury as ‘Thy Kingdom Come 2024’: a worldwide call to prayer: google this for videos and resources.*

### **SUGGESTED PRAYER THEMES:**

*Unity* – starting with our own prejudices and preferences.

*Co-operation* – better together.

### **SUGGESTED PRAYER FOCUS FOR MAY:**

*Locally*, for churches working together, and across denominations. Good communication within our homes and work places.

*Globally*, where differences of faith are at the root of conflict; and for displaced people where language is a barrier.

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’ in the Castle Chapel.

Tuesdays 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 11:00  
Tuesdays 11<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 11:00



For more information, please email [alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk](mailto:alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk)  
Rev. Alison, St Brandon's Church

**Do you know anyone who, for any reason, would appreciate a prayer or friendly chat? Please tell Alison Moore of the Prayer Team on 0191 373 5674 or 07890 733 757 or email [moorealisonm21@gmail.com](mailto:moorealisonm21@gmail.com)**



# Brancepeth Youth Club

May to July 2024

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

We meet fortnightly in the Village Hall on Sundays 6-8pm. The dates are:

**May 12, 26**

June 9, 23

July 7\*

\* Annual BBQ – location to be confirmed

*Leaders*

Geoff Moore

07854 696664 [durmoores@btinternet.com](mailto:durmoores@btinternet.com)

Martin Peacock

07503 242074

## Sponsored organ voluntaries - reminder!

The 'Voluntary' is the music the organist plays at the end of the service.

If you would like to mark a special occasion, happy or sad, present or past, you can sponsor a voluntary. It's very easy!

- Contact Wilfred Foxe, to talk over what sort of music you would like and when [wilfredfoxe@outlook.com](mailto:wilfredfoxe@outlook.com)
- Richard Hird will choose a piece to play on that date
- You or the service leader will announce in the notices what is being played and why
- The congregation is invited to listen to the music before heading for coffee
- You make a donation, small or large, to St Brandon's

### Update on PMC (Partnership for Missional Church)

At St Brandon's the PMC process continues. . .

*Connecting with newcomers and each other*

The church is just one of the many different village groups and interests. We think we share a lot of values and aims as well as challenges in this post Covid world. So we're organising a gathering of people from all the groups, in the hope that we can hear each other's experiences. This will be in the Village Hall on Friday June 14<sup>th</sup>.

*New habits and practices*

We've added 'Announcing the Kingdom' to the cluster of practices we're learning. This phrase sounds a bit unintelligible, but it simply invites us to reflect sometimes on what God is doing, and say what we see. This is much wider than just 'churchy' - God is around in all parts of our lives and environment.

# Ukraine - Remember Boyan Ensemble of Kyiv on Tour?

Those of us who hosted choir members remember them with fondness and in their suffering now we think of them. Carolyn and I hosted the twin conductors, Yuri and Volodymyr but we also formed a friendship with two others, Leonid Koberskiy and Stanislav (Stas) Kolotov. We exchanged greetings each Christmas but when the full Russian invasion struck we began daily message exchanges. We have supported them since that time. They are the inspiration for this reflective event on **Thursday 9th May 2024** in St Mary's Church, Barnard Castle where we now worship.

The music, vocal and instrumental and poetry will reflect aspects of life that have been interrupted and also aspects of our humanity that become central to survival.

It would be lovely to see you at the event.

*Carolyn and Geoff Knott*



St Mary's Parish Church, Newgate, Barnard Castle

## Ukraine



### Reflection through Music

Thursday, 9th May, 2024

Doors open 6.30 p.m. Bar.

Programme begins 7.00 p.m.

Entry free.

Donations gratefully received in support of:

**UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)**

.....

### **THANK YOU BRANCEPETH**

Many thanks for the abundance of gifts you donated to Durham Women's Refuge for Mothering Sunday. As always, your generosity was astounding and I'm sure will be much appreciated by the women. I have received a letter of thanks from the Chief Executive.

*Fiona Eltringham*

.....

### **THANK YOU FROM THE FLOWER GUILD**

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the cost of the Easter flowers. The arrangements were much admired and we appreciate your continued support.

Jessie Brown  
Chair

# BRANCEPETH GARDEN CLUB

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## ANNUAL GARDEN WALKABOUT – FRIDAY 5 JULY 2024 FOXES ROW

The Annual Garden Walkabout will take place on Friday 5 July. More details in June Newsletter

## VILLAGE GARDENS OPENING FOR THE NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME

SATURDAY 20 JULY 2024 11.00 a.m.- 4.30 p.m.

## AUTUMN SHOW, SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

The Annual Autumn Show will take place on Saturday 14 September 2024. More details in a later newsletter.

---

## VISIT TO THE HIMALAYAN GARDEN, NEAR RIPON – THURSDAY 9 MAY 2024

Alison Young has arranged a visit to The Himalayan Garden, near Ripon on Thursday 9 May 2024. The trip is for Garden Club members and if you have not booked but would like to go on the trip, please contact Alison Young by E mail on [gfamyoung@gmail.com](mailto:gfamyoung@gmail.com) You can view the Himalayan Garden at: [himalayangarden.com](http://himalayangarden.com)

Finally, if anyone would like to become a member of the Garden Club, you can join in two ways. The first way is to make a bank transfer of £3.00 to the Garden Club Account, the bank details are as follows: Bank: Co-op, Sort Code: 08 92 99, Account No. 67318094. You will need to enter your name as a reference so that the Treasurer can identify your payment. Alternatively you can put a cheque for £3.00 or £3.00 cash in an envelope in the Village Hall post box.

Bonny Bainbridge,  
Garden Club Secretary  
E mail: [alisonbainbridge53@gmail.com](mailto:alisonbainbridge53@gmail.com)

*Chairman of the Garden Club, Edward Staines presenting Bonnie Bainbridge with the cup for Overall Winner of the Spring Garden Show on 20th April.*





## Retreat Offering: Becoming Still

exploring different pathways into silent prayer

May 11 2024

This Spring the *Community of the Well* at Brancepeth Castle offers an invitation to retreat from the busyness of daily life; to spend a day in a peaceful setting exploring different ways of praying silently.



Heather and Scott will begin the day by grounding us in God-centered mindfulness. We will go on to think about the ways in which we pray.

We'll then explore the use of religious art, the Bible and our imagination as well as poetry in prayer. The day will include built-in breaks for coffee and lunch, time to enjoy the beautiful

surroundings in prayerful contemplation and, if desired, an opportunity to share our experiences.

Date: Saturday, 11th May 2024 from 10am-4pm

Venue: Brancepeth Castle, Durham, DH7 8DF

Coffee, tea and lunch will be provided.

Cost £40 (including food)

Please let us know about any dietary and accessibility requirements when booking. **For more details and to book a place, please use this [form](#).** Or email Heather at [becomingstillretreats@gmail.com](mailto:becomingstillretreats@gmail.com)

Scott McKenna is a Church of Scotland Minister. Heather Mole is training in Spiritual Accompaniment at St Antony's Priory, Durham.

[www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter)





## **Brancepeth in Bloom Update and an Appeal**

By the time you read this, we will have had our Spring Judging visit for the Northumbria in Bloom Competition. We shall not know the results until later in the year but expect some feedback so we can polish our plans to be awarded a plethora of Gold Medals in the Summer.

A massive thank you to those who helped tidy the village in poor weather conditions just before the visit – you are heroes. If you missed your occasion to contribute your labour this time, there will be another opportunity later .

For those excited by our efforts to help Brancepeth's campaign to win gold but have no interest in the horticultural aspects, you may be able to help in different ways.

Firstly, fundraising Our efforts are being financed by grants from the various bodies as well as generous gifts from private individuals. This is not sustainable long term; especially to facilitate the improvements suggested to us by villagers. Consequently, we need to set up a fund raising team to support our gardening and other efforts. If you have any experience in working to raise money for good causes we would love to hear from you. The benefits to you are cake, wine (other sustenance available), a lot of fun and the satisfaction in knowing you have contributed to making Brancepeth the best village in Northumberland and Durham.

Secondly, we would like to provide a simple website to enable us to demonstrate our progress, report our successes, give details of events, highlight our sponsors, etc, etc, etc. If you have any experience of building websites, please get in touch ... and the benefits to you are, naturally, the same as above.

Interested? Then please call Richard Jackson (378 3271)  
or Hassall Balshen (378 1295) for a chat.



## Quiz of the month!

Who is this and what is he doing?

Hint: For the past forty-ish years he has been walked by a big white fluffy dog throughout the village.

...and what is he doing? He is finishing off his draft for one of the ninety six tiles which will make up the design of an artwork which is to be fitted to the rear wall of the Durham bound bus shelter.

This will be a collage of the four main areas of Brancepeth.

Brancepeth Art Group, under the guidance of Nick Brooker, are leading on this and would like as many villagers as possible to paint at least one tile.

Artistic expertise is not necessary as Nick will help and guide you and we provide the tiles, the paints and brushes, etc. Finally, your work will be glazed and fired before it is mounted.

If you would like to leave a permanent memory of your time in Brancepeth which you can share with loved ones and friends, a certificate of authentication, and it will not cost you a penny contact Nick at

[nick.brooker@icloud.com](mailto:nick.brooker@icloud.com)

or

0191 378 0578

# **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

## **State of the village & Brancepeth in Bloom**

Thanks to an army of volunteers throughout the parish, the village is looking increasingly smart and ready for its initial inspection by the Northumberland in Bloom judges. People have been diligently clearing litter from the roadside, clearing footpaths, restoring and repainting sign posts, and cleaning roadside furniture. The Parish Council is grateful for everybody's efforts and we look forward to seeing how we perform in this year's competition after last year's great success. Of course, keeping the village looking good is an ongoing challenge, and so we'll be grateful for any further volunteers for jobs throughout the year. If you feel you can help then please get in touch with Richard Jackson or Hassall Balshen.

## **Christmas tree**

We are pleased to announce that, thanks to generous funding from County Councillors Olwyn Gunn's and Fraser Tinsley's neighbourhood budgets, we will be able to display a fully lit Christmas tree each year near the village crossroads. This is because money has been found to extend a permanent electricity line safely and securely from existing power sources.

## **Neighbourhood plan**

Progress continues to be made, although rather more slowly than we had hoped. We are having an initial meeting with an expert planning consultant in the next month in order to establish what areas of the draft document need to be enhanced before returning to further discussions with the County Council.

## **Vacancy on Parish Council**

We continue to function with a gap in our ranks! There is still a vacancy for a further parish councillor to join our team. When we share the load of responsibilities across the council, this is not too onerous a task; and meetings are generally enjoyable affairs, and always interesting! So if you'd like to influence what we do with our parish funds, please speak to our Parish Clerk, Kirsty Charlton.

## **Date of next meeting**

Monday 20th of May at 7:30 in the Village Hall



## Wednesday Coffee Morning

10:30-11:30am

Village Hall

27th March.	Martyn and Christine
3rd April.	Margot and Val
10th April.	Vivienne and Janiece
17th April.	Rosemary and James
24th April.	Martyn and Christine

(Please contact Martyn or Christine - 0191 378 9297 - if you need to swap your rota date. Thank you)

### **Book Club**

Our next meeting will be on Friday 31st May at the home of Audrey & Dick Dumbledon, 19 St Monica Grove, Crossgate Moor, Durham. The book to read is, 'The Night Manager', by John Le Carre.

The following meeting will be on 5th July at the home of Sue Hope, 14 Sunderland Bridge, DH6 5HD

The book on this occasion is, 'The House of the Spirits', by Isabelle Allende.

All welcome

Val Gibbons

### Dalton Moor Farm

Monday, 20th May, 2.00pm Golf Club

The ladies are pleased to be welcoming Jenny Connor as their speaker. She bought the 400 yr old farm in 1992 and extra land in 2011 and 2015. Her vision has produced an award winning Vegan Fruit Farm and shop supporting and regenerating the natural environment within a diverse habitat and ecosystem. Please come and hear her story. Anyone interested is welcome. Ladies' Club members £3.50 / Guests £5.50

NB Next meeting is on 17<sup>th</sup> June. Speaker – Chris Lloyd



## **Dates for the Diary:-**

May	Mondays	-	Snooker, 7.30pm, Village Hall
May	Mondays	-	Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
May	Monday	-	Knit and Natter, 13th, Village Hall, 2-4 pm.
May	Tuesdays	-	Art Group, 7.00 – 9.00pm, Village Hal
May	Wednesdays	-	Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall
May	Wednesdays	-	Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am
May	Thursdays	-	Indoor Bowls, 10.00-12.00, Village Hall
May	Thursdays	-	Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
May	Sundays	-	Capoeira Classes, 10.00 – 11.30am, Village Hall
May	Sundays	-	Youth Club, 12th, 26th 6.00pm -8.00pm, Village Hall
1st Saturday each month - Archive Room in Castle open between 9.00am – 1.00pm			
May	1st	Wed	BCA –AGM, 7,00pm, Village Hall
May	9th	Thur	Garden Club, Himalayan Garden Visit
May	19th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm-5.00pm, Church
May	20th	Mon	Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall
May	20th	Mon	Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club
May	31st	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, 19 St Monica Grove
Jun	14th	Fri	Village Groups Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
Jun	17th	Mon	Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Sept	14th	Sat	Garden Club Autumn Show, Village Hall
Sept	22nd	Sun	Champagne Tea, Village Hall

## **Photos**

***Front cover*** – ©- Sue Morgan – Messy Church's flower tub planted for Brancepeth in Bloom

***Inside front cover*** – © -Jo Dalton Advert for Champagne Tea to Celebrate the Village Hall's Centenary

***Inside back cover*** – ©-Nick Brooker – invitation to try something different for Christian Aid & © Anna Brooker - advert for Messy Church

***Back cover*** – ©– Dean Maynard – Golf Club Centenary Year 'Family Day' Poster

***Newsletter entries no later than May 18th please.***

***Please send to Sue Morgan at [sueatpeppermires@gmail.com](mailto:sueatpeppermires@gmail.com)***

***View newsletter on line at [www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter)***

You can also join us on our Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/StBrandons>)

## **Brancepeth Community Association - Management Committee**

Martyn Jones	<i>Chairman</i>	Val Gibbons	<i>Subscriptions</i>
	<i>Vice chairman</i>	Geraldine Jennings	<i>Garden Club</i>
Jo Dalton	<i>Secretary, Website &amp; Bookings</i>	Jean Merrington	<i>Social Secretary</i>
Ian Stoker	<i>Treasurer</i>	Anna Brooker	<i>Church Representative</i>

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

## **Parish Activities**

Chairman B.C.A.	Martyn Jones, 32 Goodwell Lea (0191 3789297)
Secretary	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (07876 624626)
Treasurer	Ian Stoker, Castle Lodge (0191 3784986)
Membership	Val Gibbons, 3 The Forge (0191 3784200)
Hall Bookings	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (0191 3780771)
Archives & History	Vivienne Lowe, 17 The Village (0191 3780974)
Art Group	Jeanette Metcalfe, (0191 3781646)
Badminton	Sue Morgan, (0191 3781172)
Brancepeth Allotment & Leisure Gardeners' Club	Sue Morgan, Carole Reed & Richard Hobbs baacommittee3@gmail.com
Book Club	Val Gibbons (0191 3784200)
Drama	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Flower Guild	Jessie Brown (0191 3782748)
Garden Club	Edward Staines (0191 3780858) or Secretary, Bonny Bainbridge, (0191 3789304)
Snooker Bookings	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (07876 624626)
Wednesday Coffee	Christine Jones (0191 3789297)
Yoga	Lynne Hastie (0191 3781871)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (0191 3735674)

## **Parish Council**

Hassall Balshen – Chair (tel: 0191 3781295; email: [hassall.balshen@gmail.com](mailto:hassall.balshen@gmail.com))

Nick Ellis (tel: 0191 3782939; email: [n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk](mailto:n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk))

Thomas Hobbs, Email: [tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk)

Michael Stephenson, Email: [stephenson15@me.com](mailto:stephenson15@me.com)

Philip Davison, Email: [philipdavison000@btinternet.com](mailto:philipdavison000@btinternet.com)

Mike Lowe, (tel: 0191 3780974)

Parish Clerk Kirsty Charlton [clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk)

**County Councillors:** [olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk](mailto:olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk)

[fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk](mailto:fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk)

[www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk](http://www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk)



## 12-18 May 2024 Collections

This year, envelopes will be delivered and collected in one visit. If you are not in, kindly drop in your donation to St Brandon's Church or The Rectory.

Alternatively, donate online at:

<https://give.christianaid.org.uk/donate/A002958>

### Seven days, so many ways to make a difference...

As well as the traditional collections, we are selling original art postcards. So far we have over 50 available in exchange for a minimum donation of £5 each. (You'll discover the artist when you buy cards!)

Where to see the Postcards exhibited:

- **Sunday 12th** (12 to 3pm) in **St Brandon's Church**
- **Tuesday 14th** (afternoon) at **The Golf Club**
- **Tuesday 14th** (7 to 9pm) in the **Village Hall**
- **Wednesday 15th** (10.30 Coffee Morning) in the **Village Hall**

**Thank you** for your generous support.

Nick Brooker



## May's Messy Church will be on the Feast of Pentecost -



**Sunday 19 May**  
**3-5pm in church**  
*crafts songs*  
*Bible story games tea*

**ALL WELCOME -**

**come and join in the fun**  
**as Messy Church continues**  
**to bloom and grow:**  
**just like our village tub!**





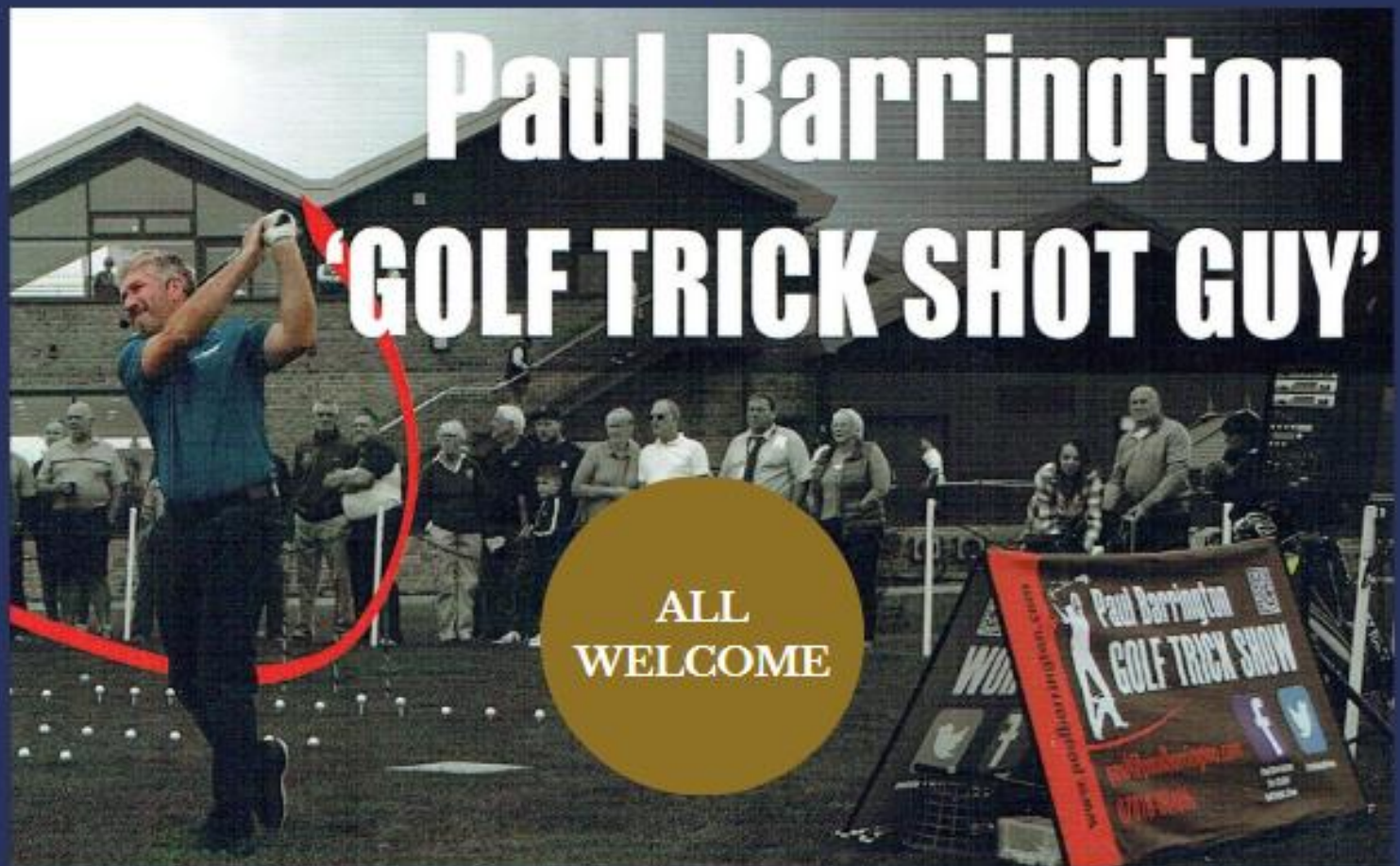


BRANCEPETH CASTLE  
— GOLF CLUB —

# Centenary Year Family Day

## Paul Barrington

### 'GOLF TRICK SHOT GUY'



ALL  
WELCOME

MONDAY 27TH MAY | 12 - 4PM |  
£5 ADULTS | £2 CHILDREN (UNDER 16)

CRAZY GOLF, CHILDREN'S CHIP SHOT CHALLENGE, CHIP AND PUTT  
COMPETITION, GOLFER/NON-GOLFER ON THE COURSE AND AN  
OPPORTUNITY FOR NON-GOLFERS TO TRY OUT THE GAME ON OUR  
DRIVING RANGE.

Get your tickets at the clubhouse bar or call 0191 378 0075 to reserve.