

Brancepeth Parish Newsletter



November 2024

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

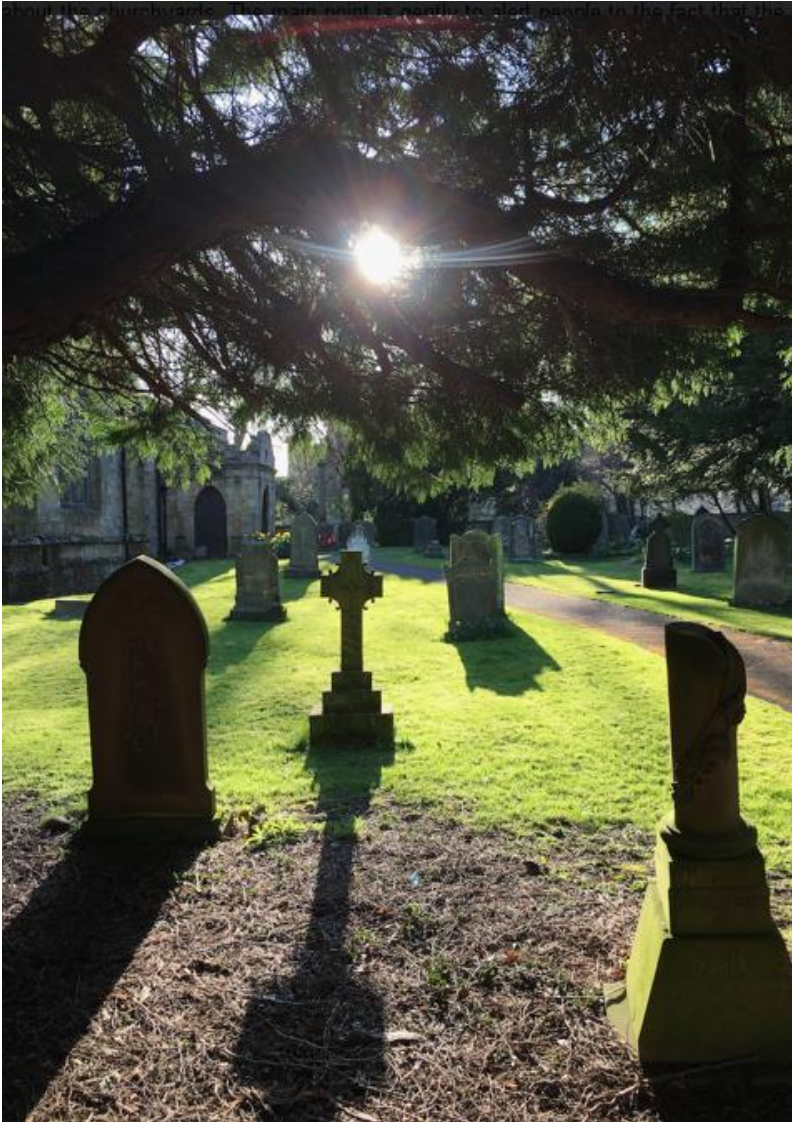
A Tale of Two Churchyards

The churchyard around St Brandon's has been in use since Saxon times. Burials have taken place there for more than a thousand years, and even the oldest of the

gravestones that stand there now are relative newcomers in that history.

For a long while now, we have had two different churchyards, each with its own character. The old burial ground immediately round the church is open and grassy, the very image of a traditional village churchyard. The new churchyard just to the north, with its orderly rows of graves, has a more secluded woodland feel.

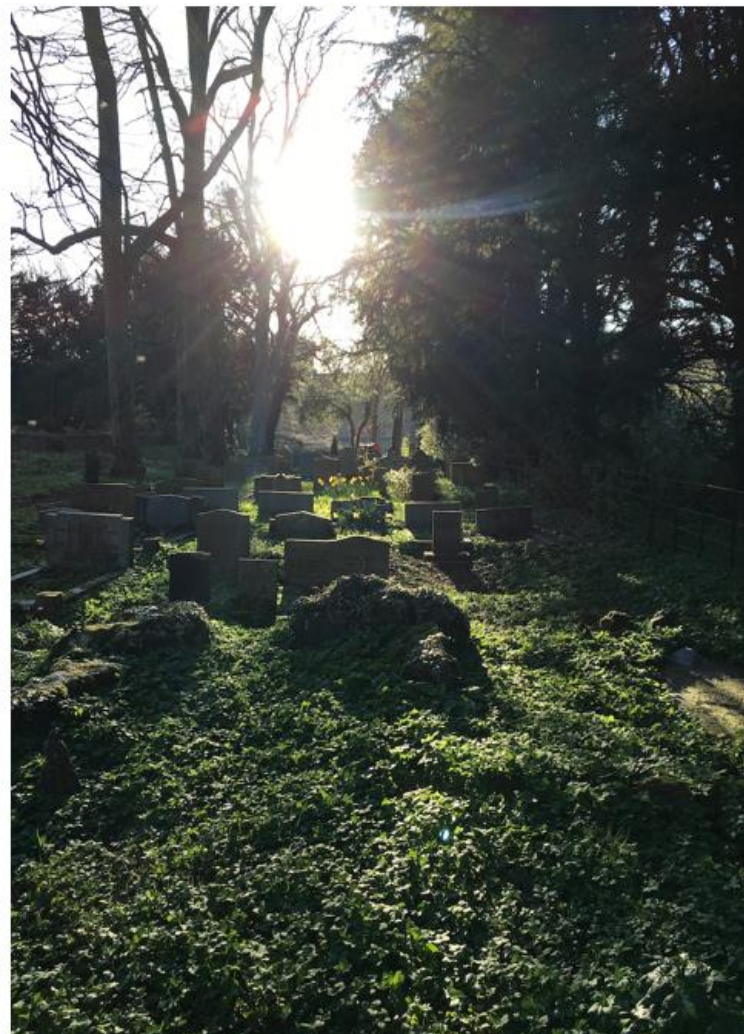
Sadly, we have long since run out of space for burials in the old churchyard, and there is almost no space left in the new. Very soon, we will only be able to accommodate burials where space has been left in an existing family grave.



The Circle of Remembrance in the old churchyard is, however, available for the interment of ashes, and we expect that to remain open for a very long time to come.

Both churchyards are maintained entirely by local volunteers. If you are interested in helping with this work, whether on a regular basis or on one of our occasional tidy-up days, please contact Edward Staines on 0191 3780858.

Mike Higton



Parochial Church Council

Priest in Charge	currently in vacancy
Associate Minister	Rev'd. Alison Hobbs (0191 3789670) alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk
Church Wardens:	Mike Higton (0191 5974675) Carol Beeby (0191 3847431), (07592 975002)
Secretary	Colin Waterman (07713637128) colinwaterman069@gmail.com
Treasurer	Vickie Jackson (0191 3783581) djacksonfarming@outlook.com
Deanery Synod	Jane Stout (0191 3860618) Peter Bailey (0781772896)

Other members:-

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

Lay Reader	Geoff Moore (07854 696664)
Prayer Team	Alison Hobbs (01913789670), Alison Moore (0191 373 5674).
Sunday School	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Messy Church	Carole Beeby (0191 3847431), (07592 975002)
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 events@stbrandon.org.uk .
Flower Guild	Lynne Hastie (0191 3781871)
Churchyard	Edward Staines (0191 3780858)
Youth Club	Geoff Moore (07854 696664) Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Worship Team	Carol Beeby, Janette Foxe, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Alison Moore, Geoff Moore, Martin Peacock.
AdminTeam	Carol Beeby, Janette Foxe, Sue Morgan, Gillian Smellie.
PMC Team:	Alison Hobbs (ex officio), Alison Moore, James Morgan, Sue Morgan, Jane Stout, Colin Waterman.
Fabric:	Mike Higton (chair), James Morgan, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs, Steve Hodgson, Edward Staines, George Rae.
Website	www.stbrandon.org.uk

Newsletter entries no later than November 18th please.

Please send to Sue Morgan – sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of this newsletter, please contact Hester Higton on hesterhigton@phonecoop.coop.

**Brancepeth Village Hall
Centenary Exhibition
Saturday 16th November
10am - 4pm
In the Village Hall**



You are warmly invited to an Exhibition exploring the rich history of Brancepeth Village Hall – from its inception and construction to its development and legacy in our community. Whether you have lived in the village for years, only recently moved in, or are just visiting, you will be very welcome.

The Hall is home to a variety of community groups. As well as the Exhibition, representatives of many of the community groups in the village will be on hand, offering an opportunity to meet, chat and learn a bit more about the activities that the village offers - whether someone wants to keep fit, knit and natter, drop in at a coffee morning, join the village choir, play snooker or badminton, join a youth group, chat about books or history or gardening etc. etc. etc..

If you have not yet ventured across the Hall's threshold, why not drop by anytime between 10am and 4pm and see for yourself what great facilities it offers, and what a wonderful building it is for family/charity/special events and celebration

Free entry, light refreshments available.

A new publication charting the history of the building and its users, compiled by the Community Association and Brancepeth Archives & History Group to mark the Hall's 100th birthday, and hot off the press, will also be on sale at the exhibition.

We hope to see you there!

Brancepeth is Well and Truly Blooming

Despite our village evening being titled Celebration and Commiseration, it was virtually all celebration with more than 40 people coming to celebrate our successes with cake, delicious savoury pieces and bubbles. Many thanks to Joan and Jean for the magnificent savouries to all the cake bakers and to those who donated wines.

After thanking the Local Heroes who have been helping lifting the village surroundings including Lester for his wilding the piece of land at the crossroads, the Monuments for their heroic litter picking activities, Phil Davison for his maintenance of the signposts and the benches, Jim Merrington for his attempts to clear the roadside footpath to Brandon single handedly, Nick Brooker for his wonderful work both inspiring us artistically and for the renovation of the bus shelters (which will hopefully be completed before he and Anna sadly leave us) and Sheena Murray for her breathtaking work at the Golf Club, particularly the part of Castle pleasure garden area which sits on the course.

When the evening's MC, Hassall, moved onto the Northumbria awards he revealed that Ian and Bev Stoker had taken a creditable Silver for their lovely Castle Lodge garden, followed by repeat golds for the Allotments and the Golf Course (which also took best in class) and the biggest cheer of the night was reserved for Saint Brandon's churchyard where Edward and his team moved to the gold standard.

Brancepeth overall went up a grade to get silver gilt, and Maud's garden went up two grades in the separate, but concurrent, It's Your Neighbourhood competition. The only disappointment being a bronze for the Forge development; particularly so after Phil Davison's inspirational work around the entrance and the bus shelter.

Everyone who created a tile for the bus shelter was presented with a certificate to commemorate their efforts and further thanks were made to others who have been so helpful to us, including Jo Dalton for making the Village Hall so welcoming, our excellent PC Clerk, Kirsty Charlton and the County Councillors Olwyn Gunn and Fraser Tinsley for their support and targeted funding.

Finally Hassall, asked if we were up for 2025. Thankfully, it was a unanimous, Yes!

To that end we are now in the planning stage for the spring visit. Part of this is to revamp a little bit how we are organised with new volunteers, with fresh ideas, coming onto the small lead group and some of the originals stepping down for a well-earned rest. We have loads of new ideas to take things to the final level and will be taking up a kind offer from our Lead Judge, Colleen, to provide some guidance and mentoring.

If you couldn't help before or wondered what it was all about please come and join us and have a lot of fun keeping Brancepeth the most outstanding village in Durham.

Richard Jackson

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

NB The deadline for the Newsletter fell before our PC meeting, so there is only a brief update here.

Brancepeth in Bloom:

With reference to Richard's wonderful summary of the Celebration Evening for Brancepeth in Bloom elsewhere in this edition of the Newsletter, the Parish Council is delighted that its significant investment in supporting this initiative is paying off so handsomely.

A Call to Local Photographers:

We plan to update the PC website with different photos of local landmarks and views. If any of you amateur enthusiasts have some nice pictures of the village, and indeed other parts of our beautiful Parish, could you send one or two to our Parish Clerk via the email below? Thank you!

Christmas Tree Lights:

You may have observed a small team from DCC preparing the site by the crossroads. This is so that we can safely run power to our tree decorations (instead of relying on the goodwill of Edward Staines and/or the dedication of a couple of our councillors in checking that things are working!). Subject to completion by the Electricity Board, we hope things will be in place for this December.

Cyber Scams:

This may be mentioned elsewhere the Newsletter, but we felt it useful enough to note it here too. Councillor Stevenson attended a coffee morning with a visit from a member of the Durham Constabulary Cyber Prevention and Protect team. Her name was Helen Garth and she shared advice on how to spot the latest scams and how to protect yourself from cyber criminals that target phones, emails and social media. Helen kindly provided some contact information:

Durham Cyber Team

Do you have any concerns or worries about anything cyber related drop us an email below and we'll be happy to give you advice!

Cyber Prevent, Protect & Prepare Team
Durham Constabulary

Email: cyberprotect@durham.police.uk

@DurhamCyber [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) |

   @DurhamCyber



Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:

Monday 18th November 2024 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public are very welcome to attend but it would be helpful if you could let our Clerk know in advance so we can manage seating.

Kirsty Charlton is available at: clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk

Website:

Updates and full details of PC meeting agendas and minutes, along with any new NP drafts and supporting documents can be found on our website: www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk

I wonder how many changes you have spotted in this edition of the Newsletter?

Supermarkets periodically frustrate those of us that like to go straight to our regular products by re-arranging all the displays, it makes us look at products we generally ignore, and, they say, it therefore promotes new sales. Sue Morgan, who has the unenviable task of assembling this newsletter announced she was going to try some of the same tactics. Not to frustrate us but encourage readers to see it anew. For lots of our would-be readers, church rotas are really of no interest and perhaps are such a turn-off that they do not discover the pages that might be of relevance and interest further into the magazine.

What inspired this revolutionary thinking?

Listening, and a desire to communicate and work better with other provisions in the village – other activity groups and facilities - because we are all in this together.

Looking at things afresh is another way of putting a positive spin on change, on embracing change. We are embarking on some enforced change at St Brandon's in the wake of Rev Anna Brooker's departure, which coincides with me, Rev Alison Hobbs, being away on training until Christmas, and Rev Fiona Eltringham moving away. Hopefully, instead of this causing consternation it will make opportunity for others to 'give it a go', to bring out the best and the creative in others, and a chance to try things differently.

Traditionally, this 'letter' slot in the newsletter has been the province of the church leadership team but for all the reasons above, I'd like to throw it open to a much wider penmanship, and perhaps, thereby, a much wider audience? If you would like to 'have a go' and contribute a reflective 'letter', do drop Sue Morgan an email (sueatpeppermires@gmail.com).

Finally, for those who like a bit more to chew, try this quote:

I used to think that things were real, and change was something that happened to them over time. Now I think that change is real, and things are events that happen over time. Change is the constant and things come and go, appear and disappear. —Brian McLaren, *Do I Stay Christian?*

Yours in Christ, Alison Hobbs

A few last words from Anna

THANK YOU...

Everyone, for all your very generous, beautiful, thoughtful gifts to mark Anna's retirement and our move from Brancepeth.

Thank you too for a wonderful Farewell Ceilidh in the Village Hall and cake and fizz in St Brandon's: what a send-off!

With our thanks, love and best wishes to you all, Anna and Nick.

Revd Canon Anna Brooker

Sunday 20th October 2024

Priest in Charge, St Brandon's Brancepeth, Durham. .



Wednesday Coffee Morning

10:30-11:30am

Village Hall

6th November.	Rosemary and Catherin
13th November.	Vivienne and Janiece
20th November.	Martyn and Christine
27th November.	Vivienne and Val
4th December.	Rosemary and James

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

BRANCEPETH GARDEN CLUB

Thank you to everyone who came to the talk on Woodland Plants on Thursday 10 October, given by Mala Janes. The talk was very well received and was followed by refreshments which gave everyone the opportunity to stay and chat over a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake. We hope to organise another talk in the Spring and if anyone has a suggestion for a topic that they would like to learn more about then please let a committee member know.

Bonny Bainbridge

Secretary

E mail: alisonbainbridge53@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2025

FRIDAY 31 JANUARY

Annual Supper at the Golf Club

SATURDAY 26 APRIL 2025

Spring Show

Champagne Tea Party Review

The Organiser

Josephine Armstrong had the inspiration and concept for this function and proceeded to work, organising it with much enthusiasm. At the twelfth hour she found herself dancing at 3am on the morning of the event at a wedding in Madrid. With sheer determination she was able to return to the Hall the same day to direct the proceedings - another glass of Champagne in hand, making sure all of her ideas came to fruition.

The Helpers

Jo Dalton undertook the publicity and the poster and on the day Jo with James Dalton Martin Peacock David and Vicky Jackson helped out with Edward Staines and Nick Brooker pouring the Champagne to start the party with a real fizz



The Tea Party



The tables were beautifully decorated, some having table cloths with embroidered flowers. There were fine china cups saucers and plates with impressive teapots. Two and three tiered cake stands and beautifully presented food gave a real afternoon tea party atmosphere presenting us with an abundance of delights for our edification.

Daintily cut sandwiches, selections of cream cakes, chocolate eclairs, butterfly cakes so light they nearly flew away, scones with cream and jams and an assembly of delights produced an extravaganza of a feast.

Tables were adorned with beautiful flower arrangements.

The winning table was that of Hanna and Dasha Pokhylko and mother Vera Melnets, our Ukrainian friends who had made an extra effort with a thoughtfully ornately decorated 100 year Celebration Birthday Cake

The Opening Ceremony

The Hall was opened by Lady Boyne in 1924. Her husband, Lord Boyne granted the building and site of the Old Castle Brew-House to the Village and added a gift of £100.00. Further because the villagers who had worked hard to raise money for the building ran a little short Lord Boyne loaned an additional sum of £600.00.





Lady Boyne graciously handed over the Hall to the Village which undoubtedly was to be a valuable asset to village life. Many prominent people from the Village and the City of Durham and District were present to witness the opening ceremony.

The men of the Village worked diligently in the construction of the building but they admitted the women worked hard as well - in particular making concrete blocks in order to keep costs down.

They knew their hard work was embodied in the walls of the building.

The Opening Ceremony was re-enacted with Martin Peacock as the narrator and the rolls of Lord and Lady Boyne were played by David and Vicky Jackson who were dressed in 1924 style - David in a white shirt with a winged collar and bowler hat and Vicki wearing a long blue dress with a fox fur coat and 1920's hat.

At the official opening ceremony Lady Boyne stated that she was impressed that such a fine building should have been provided by the voluntary efforts of so small a community and it was remarkable.

Lady Boyne was presented with a bouquet of carnations by the Rector's daughter and Arianna Brown performed the scene again by presenting a posy of flowers to Lady Boyne (Vicky Jackson)

Entertainment

The Village Community Choir conducted by Martyn Jones sang a beautiful arrangement of Fascinating Rhythm which was most appropriate as it was written one hundred years ago in 1924 by George and Ira Gershwin for the Musical Lady Be Good, and the ladies at the tea party were certainly very good indeed.

A magician Graeme Shaw performed magic at each table and then from the stage treated the attendees to an excellent quick talking manipulative exhibition of his art.

Sebastian Brown and James Ellis went onto the stage and assisted in a fine way to enhance the magical act

The Future

It is trusted that the Hall and its events and activities continue to thrive for the next 100 years

And for the drive enthusiasm and passion of Josie Armstrong in organising the event our most grateful thanks must be extended to her

Kenneth Howe



Annual Subscriptions 2024-2025

Subscriptions for Brancepeth Community Association (BCA) membership are now due. The village hall is a huge asset to our community, and we do hope that you will renew your membership or join for the first time. It represents excellent value for money and enables our village to boast a splendid village hall. Members of the BCA benefit from reduced ticket prices at BCA events and reduced hall hire charges. This year we have taken the decision to increase the subscription fee by one pound for each membership group. This increase marks the first for many years and we do hope you feel you can continue to support our wonderful village hall.

Prices are for the year are at the following rates:

- Adult members (18 years of age and over) £ 8.50
- Adult members in receipt of State Pension (concession rate) £ 6.00
- Family memberships (includes children under 18 living at home £16.00)

Last year we trialled a new method of collecting membership subscriptions by including an envelope for the purpose into the Parish newsletter. This worked very well and really aided our volunteer collectors. So, once again could we encourage you to pay by placing your membership subscription in the envelope provided and deliver either to 3 The Forge (Val Gibbons's house) or the village hall post box **ideally by December 30th**, if possible. Please mark your envelope with your name, address and how much you are paying so that we know whether it's a family or other membership. You may pay by cash or cheque (payable to: Brancepeth Community Association). Our volunteer collectors might also call but will aim to miss those houses who have paid by using the envelope. Please forgive us if you get a knock on the door! We are hoping most people will help us by using the envelope. If you can gift aid and have not yet completed a gift aid form, please contact Val Gibbons.

With many thanks for your continued support. www.brancepethcommunityassociation.co.uk

Golf Club Diary



DATES FOR
THE DIARY

FRI 8 NOV	LADIES PRESENTATION
SAT 9 NOV	MEN'S PRESENTATION
SAT 23 NOV	QUIZ NIGHT
SAT 7 DEC	CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT
SAT 21 DEC	BCGC CHRISTMAS PARTY
SAT 11 JAN	QUIZ NIGHT

St Brandon's November 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.***

Sat 2 Nov All Souls Service of Remembrance 7:00pm
Readings First: Geoff Moore Lamentations 3: 17-26, 31-33
Gospel: Judith Minto John 5: 19-25

Sun 3 Nov All Saints Parish Eucharist 10.15am
Readings First: Revelation 21: 1-6a
Gospel: John 11: 32-44
Psalm 24:1-6

Sun 10 Nov Remembrance Sunday Parish Eucharist 10.15am
with Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial from 10.55am
Readings First: Gillian Smellie Jonah 3: 1-5,10
Gospel: Richard Devonshire Mark 1: 14-20
Psalm 62: 5-end
Intercessions Edward Staines

Sun 17 Nov 2nd before Advent Morning Worship 10.15am
Readings First: Sue Morgan Daniel 12: 1-3
Gospel: Hester Higton Mark 13: 1-8
Psalm 16
Intercessions Wilfred Foxe

Messy Church 3-5pm

Sun 24 Nov Christ the King Parish Eucharist 10.15am
Readings First: Edward Staines Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14
Gospel: Tom Hobbs John 18: 33-37
Psalm 93
Intercessions Geoff Moore

DECEMBER

Sun 1 Dec

ADVENT SUNDAY

Parish Eucharist 10.15am

Readings

First:

Jane Stout

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Gospel:

Judith Minto

Luke 21: 25-36

Psalm 25: 1-9

Intercessions

Colin Waterman

Sidespersons

Nov 2nd Jean Hodgson

Nov 3rd Hanna Pokhylko & Vira Melenets

Nov 10th Sue Morgan & Bonny Bainbridge

Nov 17th Josie Armstrong & Peter Bailey

Nov 24th Pat Sharples & Jane Stout

Dec 1st Hanna Pokhylko & Vira Melenets

Flowers

Sue Knight

Remembrance Sunday

Eileen Crawford

Lynne Hastie

1st Advent Greening

Coffee

Nov 3rd

Catrin Morgan

Nov 10th

Jean Hodgson

Nov 17th

Diane Coles

Nov 24th

Sue Morgan

Dec 1st

Jeanette Metcalfe

Tech Team

David & Fiona

Hester & Mike

Peter

Geoff & Alison

Church Cleaning

November – Team A

Alison Moore, Anne Elliott, Pat Sharples, Jane Stout

December – Team B

Sue Morgan, Hillary Moss, Annette Johnson, Diane Cassap

VESTRY REPORT, October 2024

BAPTISM

13 October 2024

Anwen Elizabeth Ivy Funnell

INTERMENT OF ASHES

22 September 2024

Caroline Jane Middleditch

Events News: The church will be unavailable at the following times.

30th November 9am to 1pm

4th December 9am to 5pm

6th December from approx 2pm until a Concert at 7pm (see poster)

7th December 9am to 1pm

Thank you for your understanding.

Janette



Invitation



You are invited to

St Brandon's Church Brancepeth

Service of Commemoration on All Souls' Day

on Saturday 2nd November 2024 at 7.00pm

During the service we remember those who have died, and a list of their names will be read out. There will be the opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one. To add a name please write on the list in church or contact Alison Moore

07890 733757 moorealisonm21@gmail.com

Remembrance Sunday

10th November



Parish Eucharist 10.15am
with Act of Remembrance
at the memorial cross 10.55am

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!



STORIES FROM THE BIBLE WITH CRAFT ACTIVITIES

ALL WELCOME!

WE GET TOGETHER AFTER THE FIRST HYMN AND REJOIN THE SERVICE FOR COMMUNION

WE WILL BE MEETING EVERY WEEK UP UNTIL SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER.

**Brancepeth Youth Club
November to December 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 for this term are:

November 3, 17

December 1, 15

Leaders

Geoff Moore 07854 696664 durmoores@btinternet.com

Martin Peacock 07503 242074



Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

On Advent Sunday, 1st December, we will be collecting gifts in support of the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. These gifts are distributed to local families in genuine need and always a make tremendous difference to their Christmas celebrations. Please bring unwrapped gifts of toys, books, gifts for teenagers, sweets, and biscuits to church on Advent Sunday. If you need your contribution collecting speak to Janette in church or call 07587 225 200.

Thank you for your generous support.

Janette





this month is on

Sunday 17th November

3-5pm in church

newscrafts**Bible story**songs**tea**

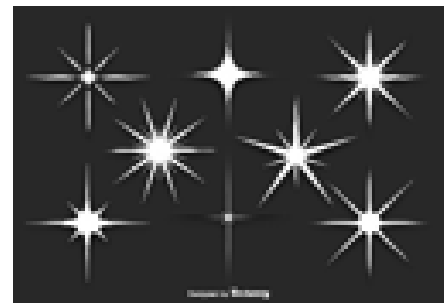
SAVE THE NEXT DATE:

Messy Church Christingle Sunday 15th December

also coming up soon...

Thursday 31st October 5.00pm - 6.00pm

The Light Parade



starts and ends at Brancepeth Village Hall

*****fancy dress parade *** treat trail*** hot chocolate*****

If you'd like the parade to call at your house,
please put this note in your window on 31st October,
speak to Charlotte Brown or call 0191 384 7431.

NOVEMBER PRAYER SPACE

November is associated with remembrance: we have Remembrance Sunday, honouring the memory of those lost in armed conflict; All Souls, honouring the memory of those we have lost personally; All Saints, honouring the Church's Saints and those we would recognise as saints. The season is one of looking back in love and loss, and all nature seems to be in step with that!

SUGGESTED PRAYER THEMES:

Memories and Legacy – Saddened by loss, we can also recall the blessings bestowed.

Sacrifice – The cost and rationale of lives given in the pursuit of good.

SUGGESTED PRAYER FOCUS FOR NOVEMBER:

Locally, for individuals struggling to come to terms with loss; for Cruise and other bereavement counselling services.

Globally, no shortage of reporting on conflict and loss! So notice where *compassion* is triggered by today's news & sit with that, then look for a flicker of *hope* and ask God to build further.

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

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.

Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 11:00
Tuesday 17th December 2024 at 11:00
Tuesday 7th & 21st January 2025 at 11:00



Alison will be on a residential training course learning about Leading Retreats from 4 October to 12 December. Rev Deborah Hodge will cover the 19 Nov service, **please check venue for 19 Nov with Deborah.**

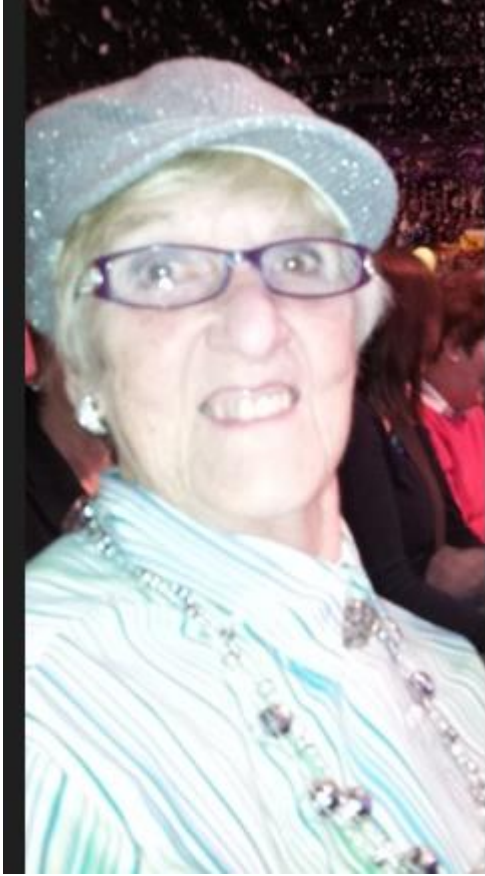
For more information, please email alison@brancepethcastle.org.uk or deborah.hodge@hotmail.com

Rev Alison, St Brandon's Church

Kath Currie 17.06.1936 - 13.10.2024

Kath had a very varied life framed by her passion for wanting to make changes for good in the world and being successful in all that she did.

For many years she was a keen sports woman & from the age of 21 where she won the table tennis championship in Manchester she went on winning, competing & coaching in tennis, squash, bowls, and golf. Sadly the onset of M.E put an end to much of her sporting activities and fatigue cast a shadow over many aspects of her life until the end.



She survived breast cancer twice with the same determination that enabled her to make things happen in the community. Her first project was setting up a battered wives home in Cockermouth and community projects, campaigning, committees and a desire to help people became her life. She became a parish and county councillor in Suffolk & sat on a plethora of committees. Her focus became more pointed towards health and she became one of the first chairs of the NHS trusts, meeting regularly with the secretary for health.

Moving to Brancepeth in 2001 her drive to be involved in organising didn't stop - she sat on many community and health committees including the Brancepeth community association.

Life for Kath changed considerably over the last 10 years when difficult family matters brought her engagement and passion to serve the community to a sudden full stop. Since then she has struggled very much mentally & physically.

Kath Currie Died peacefully in her sleep.

May she be at peace and rest now.

A celebration of Kath's life will take place at St. Brandon's Church on Wednesday 6th November 2pm Followed by refreshments at 12 Goodwell Lea, Brancepeth.

Kindly Beth

The Baptism of Anwen Elizabeth Ivy Funnell 13th October 2024

Anwen, after her baptism, is held by her mother Carys and surrounded by her father Matthew, brother Hugh and her Godparents.



Book Club

The next meeting will be on December 6th at Evelyn & Peter Aitken's home, Raygill Farm, near Lartington DL12 9DG. We will be starting at 11.30am in order to take advantage of short daylight driving hours. We will be reading 'The Raven & The Pine' by S A Catteroll.

In January the book to read is, 'Away with the Penguins', by Hazel Prior. We meet on Friday 17th January, at the home of Rosemary & Mark Monument, 7 Goodwell Lea at 7.30pm as usual.

All welcome

Val Gibbons

Brancepeth Ladies

'Secrets of the Attic' - Part 1 of 3

Monday, 25th November – 2 pm – Golf Club Dining Room

Our speaker this month is Tony Nicholson. Having moved into an old Edwardian house in Yorkshire renovations were needed. What did he discover in the attic? This is part one of the story and parts 2 and 3 will follow in due course so don't miss the start of it all. Anyone interested is welcome to come. Usual cost of £3.50 for members of the Brancepeth Ladies and £5.50 for guests including light refreshments. NB Christmas meeting will be 9th December

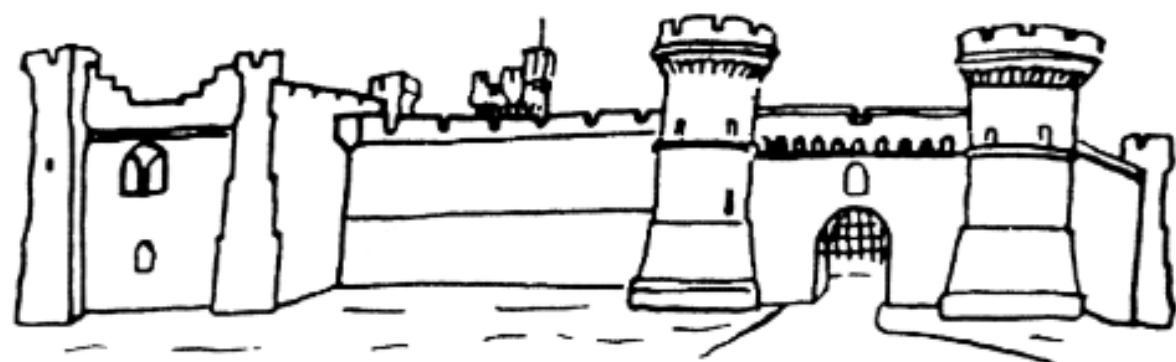
Wanted :

small house with big garden in Brancepeth

Paul and Janiece Spence are hoping to move into the centre of the village so if you are considering putting your house up for sale please contact us on 0191 435 6357.

Thank you.

BRANCEPETH CASTLE



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

22-24 November 2024

Fri, Sat 10am-5pm; Sun midday-5pm

Quality items and artisan products, direct from the crafters who designed and made them

Glasswork

Fine Art

Woodturning

Pottery

Clothing

Local Ales

Workshops

Cafés

Buy tickets at 'brancepethcastle.uk/book'
tickets also available on the gate

The First Hour: £5 (£4 Age 66+)

After First Hour: £4 (£3 Age 66+)

Accompanied Under 14: FREE



Dates for the Diary:-

Nov	Mondays	-	Snooker, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Nov	Mondays	-	Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Nov	Monday	-	Knit and Natter, 11th & 25th Village Hall, 2-4 pm.
Nov	Tuesdays	-	Art Group, 7.00 – 9.00pm, Village Hal
Nov	Wednesdays	-	Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall
Nov	Wednesdays	-	Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am
Nov	Thursdays	-	Indoor Bowls, 10.00-12.00, Village Hall
Nov	Thursdays	-	Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Nov	Sundays	-	Capoeira Classes, 10.00 – 11.30am, Village Hall
Nov	Sundays	-	Youth Club, 3rd & 17th 6.00pm -8.00pm, Village Hall
1st Saturday each month - Archive Room in Castle open between 9.00am – 1.00pm			
Oct	31st	Thurs	Messy Church, Light Parade, 5.00pm – 6.00pm, Village Hall
Nov	2nd	Sat	All Souls Day Service, 7.00pm, Church
Nov	11th	Mon	Parochial Church Council, 7.30pm, No 1 The Village
Nov	16th	Sat	Village Hall Centenary Exhibition, 10.00am-4.00pm, V H
Nov	18th	Mon	Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Nov	17th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm -5.00pm
Nov	22nd – 24th		Craft Fair, Brancepeth Castle
Nov	25th	Mon	Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Dec	6th	Fri	Vox Populi, 7.00pm, Church
Dec	6th	Fri	Book Club, 11.30am, Raygill Farm, Lartington DL12 9DG
Dec	7th	Sat	Village Christmas Show, Village Hall, 6.00pm
Dec	9th	Mon	Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Dec	15th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm -5.00pm
Jan	17th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30am, 7 Goodwell Lea
Jan	31st	Fri	Garden Club Annual Supper, Golf Club

Photos

Front cover – ©- Jane Stout. Anna & Nick receiving gifts at Anna's last service.

Inside front cover – © -Mike Higton. The Old and New Churchyards.

Inside back cover – ©- Vox Populi, Concert Poster

Back cover – ©– Jo Dalton. Christmas Show Advertisement

Newsletter entries no later than November 18th please.

Please send to Sue Morgan at sueatpeppermires@gmail.com

View newsletter on line at www.stbrandon.org.uk/newsletter

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

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 & Bookings</i>	Jean Merrington	
		Josie Armstrong	<i>Social Secretary</i>
Ian Stoker	<i>Treasurer</i>		<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 378 2818.)
Social Secretary	Josie Armstrong, jo.arm@me.com / 07882 233118
Membership	Val Gibbons, 3 The Forge (0191 3784200)
Hall Bookings	Jo Dalton, 1 Rectory Cottages (07876 624626)
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

Mike Lowe, Chair tel: 0191 3780974

Thomas Hobbs, Vice Chair: email: tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk

Hassall Balshen – tel: 0191 3781295; email: hassall.balshen@gmail.com

Nick Ellis - tel: 0191 380 3047; email: n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk

Michael Stephenson, email: stephenson15@me.com

Philip Davison, email: philipdavison000@btinternet.com

Catherine Stevenson: catherine@jamsey.net

Parish Clerk Kirsty Charlton clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk

County Councillors: olwyn.gunn@durham.gov.uk

fraser.tinsley@durham.gov.uk

www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk

A winter night scene with a church and houses under a starry sky. The sky is dark blue with a bright yellow moon and many stars. The church and houses are lit up with warm orange lights, and the ground is covered in snow.

VOX POPULI

IN THE STILLNESS

Choral music for Christmas

Friday 6 December | 7pm
St Brandon's Church, Brancepeth
Free with retiring collection



Brancepeth

Christmas Show...ho ho ho

Saturday 7th December 2024

Village Hall

Doors open 6pm – Show starts 6:30pm



Tickets

BCA members - Adult £8/Child £4
Non-members £10/£5

**Includes: entrance, a drink, interval
ice-cream & after show buffet**

Contact:

Josie Armstrong – 07882 233118 jo.arm@me.com
also available at Wednesday Coffee Mornings

