

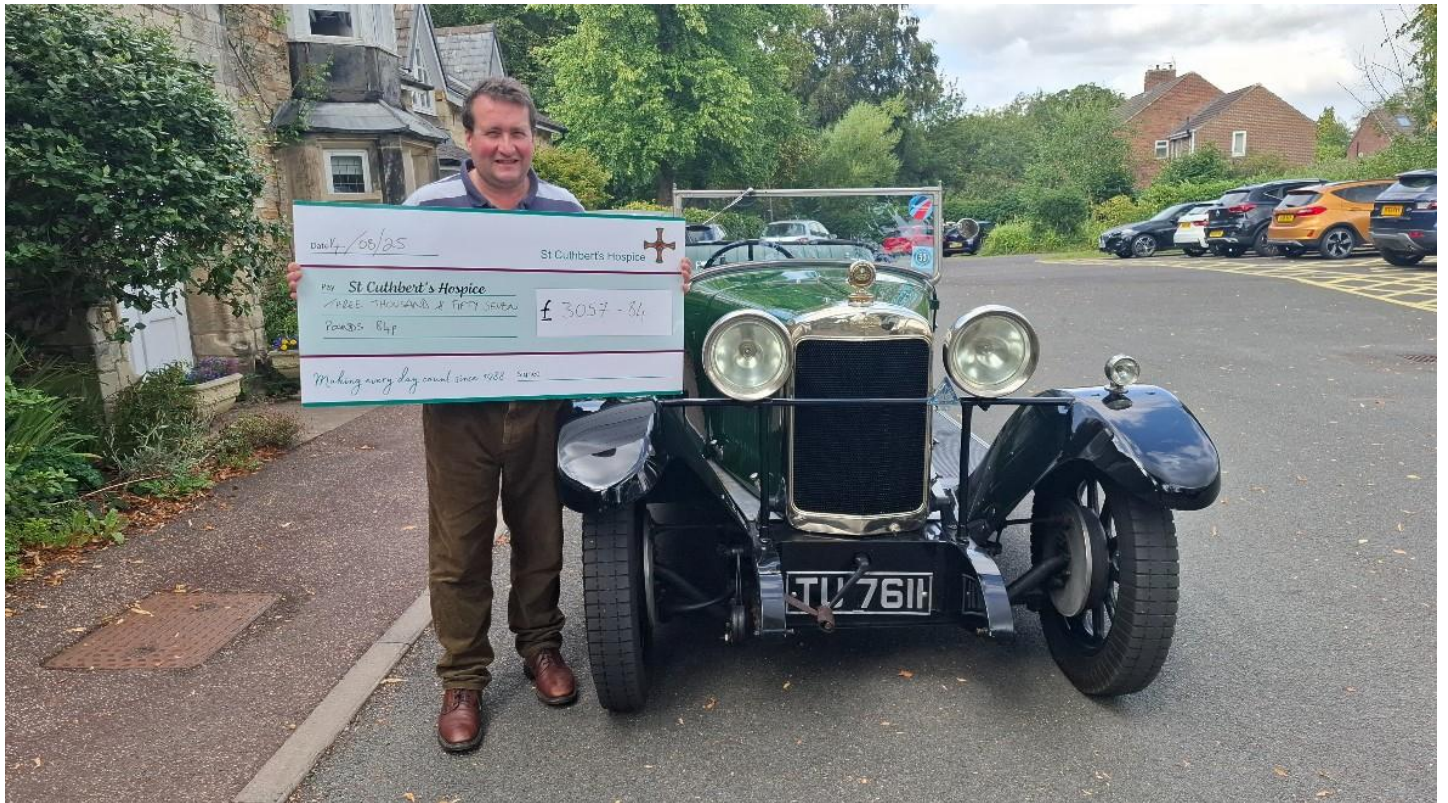
# Brancepeth Parish Newsletter



**September 2025**

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





Robin Wills with the cheque of £3,057.84 raised for St Cuthbert's Hospice



Jim's Emporium at the Classic Car Event

## Parochial Church Council

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

### Other members:-

Janette Foxe (07587 225 200) Kenneth Howe (07710098705, 0191 3840589)  
Alison Moore (0191 373 5674), Catrin Morgan (0191 4476520) Hannah Pokhylko (07392958934)

Lay Reader	Geoff Moore (07854 696664)
Prayer Team	Alison Hobbs (01913789670), Alison Moore (0191 373 5674).
Sunday School	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Messy Church	Carol Beeby (0191 3847431), (07592 975002)
Organist	Peter Downey
Village Choir	Martyn Jones (0191 3789297)
Sacristans	Carol Beeby (0191 3847431),
	Valeria Dietz, Pat Sharples.
Safeguarding Officer	Geoff Moore (07854 696664)
Church Hire coordinator	Janette Foxe <a href="mailto:events@stbrandon.org.uk">events@stbrandon.org.uk</a> .
Electoral Roll Officer	Jean Hodgson ( <a href="mailto:jean.hodgson33@gmail.com">jean.hodgson33@gmail.com</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, Janette Foxe, Hester Higton, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Alison Moore, Geoff Moore, Martin Peacock.
	Carol Beeby, Janette Foxe, Sue Morgan, Gillian Smellie.
AdminTeam	Alison Hobbs (ex officio), Alison Moore, James Morgan, Sue Morgan, Jane Stout, Colin Waterman.
PMC Team:	
Fabric:	Mike Higton (chair), James Morgan, Rev'd Alison Hobbs, Tom Hobbs, Steve Hodgson, Edward Staines, George Rae.
Website	<a href="http://www.stbrandon.org.uk">www.stbrandon.org.uk</a>

***Newsletter entries no later than September 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,

My radio alarm used to wake me up each morning to the *Today* programme on Radio 4, until I realised that I was starting each day cross. Interviewers who badgered without listening and interviewees who pontificated without answering were a bad welcome to the day. I had to switch radio stations so that I could be woken up more calmly by the news headlines, the weather, and music.

More recently, however, I have taken to setting my alarm just three minutes later, so that I can skip even the headlines. I find I need my breakfast, and above all my coffee, before I can hear or read the latest about Sudan, Gaza, Ukraine or Myanmar, or about much that is going on in the United States and even here in the UK. I need my little haven of peace at the start of the day.

Here in Brancepeth, I realise that I live in another kind of haven. Since arriving a decade ago, I have found both village and church to be safe, friendly, welcoming communities – more so than anywhere else I have lived. When I'm pottering about on our allotment, or strolling through the churchyard, it's easy to put everywhere else out of my mind. Only the noise of the A690 serves as a reminder that the world is still out there.

I enjoy this peace, and I am thankful for it. I know, however, that it's a privilege to live somewhere like this, and that only a long series of happy accidents has brought me here, and allowed this place to be so safe. I know that I can't simply turn my back on all that is happening elsewhere.

I am reminded of this each week when, in our services at St Brandon's, we pray for the wider world, focusing our attention for a time on all those conflicts and disasters that we might prefer not to think about. I am reminded of it when I see how many in the church and the village raise money for charities working in the world's most dangerous places. I am reminded of it when I see people's efforts to welcome, as best they can, those who have had to flee violence, persecution, and the destruction of their homes. I am reminded that the peace that we enjoy here is a gift – and that it is a gift given to us for sharing.

Best wishes,

Mike Higton (Churchwarden)

## **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

### Parish council membership

There is still a vacancy on the PC. If you are interested in contributing to your community, please do not hesitate to contact our Clerk or have a chat with any of the current councillors or, indeed, pop down to the next PC meeting.

### County councillor

We were pleased to welcome Emma Hunt, one of our two new Durham County councillors, to the July PC meeting. Emma provided some useful input on several of the issues raised below.

### State of the village

Tree work has been undertaken on the allotment site: however, the workers sent to do the job were rather overzealous and did more than their prioritised tasks. This appears to be due to some miscommunication between the PC and the contractors. We recognise that this left allotment holders quite upset, and for this we apologise. We shall ensure that communications between with any such contractors, as well as between the PC and BLAG are better handled in the future.

The Beautiful Brancepeth working group presented a summary report. This included updates on operating structures, plans for future events, village tidy ups, and Northumbria in Bloom. The PC is grateful for the commitment shown by the working group and its members.

As part of the report, it was noted that the main path on the Village road continues to be a hazard to pedestrians due to its poor state of repair. The PC along with our county councillors are exploring how best to address this by liaising with the landowner, as well as the possibility of the path being adopted as a public right of way by the County Council.

### Mobile phone survey

Armed with data from our survey, our county councillors are attempting to follow this up with the Digital Durham team at DCC, as well as locating further sources of advice to parishioners. This remains challenging however, not least because the number of households across our parish is relatively small, and so operators are less keen to invest in new infrastructure.

### Road traffic

This issue was brought into stark relief by the recent fatal accident on the A690 near to the Little White Farm entrance. At the other end of the village, residents have raised their concerns over the speed of traffic entering the village from Willington. This is a particular issue for people attempting to enter/exit Stockley Grove. The PC discussed with Emma the rationale for the speed limits in the parish, with a view to asking Durham Constabulary about moving the 40mph limit further South down the



road and stretching the 30 mph zone to further along the A690, e.g. to Whitworth Lane, as well as the merits of introducing a 40 mph hour zone on the entrance to the village from the North. These discussions, however, are in their infancy.

### Neighbourhood plan

Progress continues to be made with the submission of the NP. We have now assembled a list of responses to all the comments we received during the second consultation exercise and are working with our consultant to complete all the necessary documents. As an adjunct to this process, we have written to Castle Estates to reopen negotiations for future access to the cricket field.

### Date of next Parish Council meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025** at 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: [clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk)

## From the Archive this month

A poster.

One of many items found  
under the floorboards of  
The Constable Tower in  
Brancepeth Castle.

A reminder of the presence  
of the army in the castle  
during the Second World  
War.



This is just one of the items which can be seen in the Archive Room in Brancepeth Castle. Open on the first Saturday in every month 9am-1pm.

## BRANCEPETH GARDEN CLUB GAZETTE:

Helen Todman <[helen.todman@googlemail.com](mailto:helen.todman@googlemail.com)>

### SUMMER BLOOMS INTO AUTUMN EXCITEMENT!

#### **\*\*Fellow Garden Enthusiasts\*\***

Summer's vibrant energy has infused our club with activity, and the coming months promise even more gardening adventures! From show-stopping displays to festive creations, there's something for everyone in our growing community.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



#### **AUTUMN SHOW SPECTACULAR - 13TH SEPTEMBER**

**\*\*Transform the Village Hall into a celebration of nature's bounty!\*\*** Showcase your prized fruits, vegetables, flowers, home creations, and photography in our streamlined categories. Our NEW online entry system makes participation easier than ever—but day-of entries are still welcome! After admiring the displays, join us for a sizzling BBQ at the allotments to celebrate our community's green thumbs. Entry details will follow!



#### **FESTIVE WREATH WORKSHOP - 30TH NOVEMBER**

**\*\*Get your holiday spirit blooming early! \*\*** Create stunning door decorations while enjoying lively conversation with fellow garden enthusiasts. Perfect timing to prepare your home for the advent season with personally crafted holiday charm!

More activities will follow; the above is just a taster of what we are all about.

### **SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS: WHAT YOU MISSED**

#### **BURN HALL GARDEN TOUR - 28TH JUNE**

Members were treated to an extraordinary afternoon exploring professionally landscaped grounds brimming with rare and fascinating plant specimens. Set against the backdrop of historic architecture, our £10 donation was rewarded with delightful refreshments served in a magnificent listed Orangery.

## **JULY WALKABOUT: GOODWELL LEA GARDENS & GOURMET EVENING - 4TH JULY**

A record 45 members and guests wandered through the gardens of North Goodwell Lea and Station House before gathering for an unforgettable dining experience at the Village Hall. The evening earned rave reviews, with special appreciation for our dedicated committee, generous garden owners, and talented culinary contributors.

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GREEN-THUMBED HEROES!**

A heartfelt thank you to all Garden Club members, Peter Storey, Alison Young, Fred and Bonnie Bainbridge and Edward, who generously donated plants, time, and expertise to make the stall at the 9th August Vintage Car Show a blooming success—your contributions not only beautified the event but also helped grow our club's presence in the community!

.....

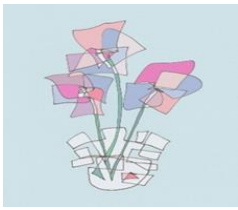
## **Play Your Way To Wimbledon 2025**

Ten thousand hopefuls, five thousand boys and five thousand girls, entered a national tennis competition to 'Play your way to Wimbledon – under 14s'. Of these, forty of each made it to the finals to play at the hallowed ground so just to get there was a major achievement. Sarah Keithley (10), late of Brancepeth and Edward Staines' granddaughter was one of the girls. In the event, Sarah was knocked out at the initial round robin stage but, nevertheless, acquitted herself very well taking two of her three matches to three sets.

Edward – proud grandfather!







## Beautiful Brancepeth

The Beautiful Brancepeth group would like to thank all residents for supporting Brancepeth's entry into Northumbria in Bloom once again this year. The Northumbria in Bloom judges visited the village on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June. The village and all our special entries, (The Allotments, Churchyard, Golf Club and the Bainbridge's front garden) looked magnificent!

The outcome of the visit will be announced on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

The next **Village Tidy Up Day** is organised on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2025**.

***We need your help to keep Brancepeth beautiful.***

If you can spare an hour to litter pick, weed paths or plant up tubs/verges etc, please meet at the Village Hall at 9.30am on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October.

Refreshments will be available afterwards at 11.30am at 1 The Forge.

We also plan to have a regular monthly event where we focus on different areas of the village, whether that a verge, a border or planter which requires attention. More on this and how to be involved will be in future newsletters.

Thank you

If anyone is interested in joining the ***Beautiful Brancepeth*** group, please contact Karen Davison [k.davison1960@hotmail.com](mailto:k.davison1960@hotmail.com)

---

## **An enormous THANK YOU from the Brancepeth Archive and History Group and Brancepeth Archive**

to everyone who helped with the recent exhibitions in the Castle - the VJ. 80 Commemoration and Celebrating Local Amateur Football - and to all those who kindly shared, not only memories but precious family items, and gave their time, energy, food etc. Both exhibitions seem to have been very well received and have certainly been well attended. We are truly grateful to everyone and hope they feel their time and contributions were worthwhile!

The next events will be welcoming two speakers in the autumn - Chris Lloyd on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October and Martin Roberts on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November.

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!



IS BACK ON SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2025!

ACTIVITIES AND STORIES FROM THE BIBLE.

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

---



**Welcome back - it is Harvest!**

**Sunday 14th September**

**3-5pm in church**

**news\*\*crafts\*\*Bible story\*\*songs\*\*tea**

**SAVE THE NEXT DATE:**

**Sunday 12th October 2025 3pm - 5pm**

You will see in the newsletter that St.Brandon's collects tinned goods, cereals, toiletries and non-perishable goods to donate to DASH (Durham Action on Single Housing). Please feel free to bring donations along to Messy Church.

# **HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ST.BRANDON'S, SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> September 10.15 a.m.**

Most of you will know that for many years, as part of our parish Harvest thanksgiving, we have donated our gifts to DASH – Durham Action on Single Housing – a non profit making organisation which developed from the Cyrenian Shelter in Durham ([dashorg.co.uk](http://dashorg.co.uk)). The Charity supports single homeless local people of all ages with food and emergency accommodation, and then they are eventually helped to progress through various different types of supported accommodation to independent living.

The Charity is always extremely grateful for the goods donated by St.Brandon's, which they then make up into packs for new and existing residents.

The following items are particularly welcome:

- Any items which have a long shelf life and can be kept until needed  
such as any tinned goods (particularly meat, tuna, soup, baked beans, tomatoes, fruit) long life milk, boxes of cereals, tea, coffee, sugar, rice and pasta.
- shampoo, soap, toilet rolls and toothpaste
- and any treats such as jams, biscuits, cakes and sweets!

Fresh items such as fruit and vegetables can also be used for demonstrating to the residents how to cook soups and stews. These meals are often then shared in a communal lunch for those residents housed in the Dash accommodation in Churchill Square.

Thank you for all your support in the past, and we hope you will be able to give generously again this year.

Jean Hodgson

# St Brandon's September 2025 – 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 for those services which are livestreamed (shown by \* below), or to view the recording later, at <https://www.facebook.com/StBrandons>*

<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Climate Sunday</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	Timothy Elliott	Deuteronomy 30:15-20
	Gospel	Jean Hodgson	Luke 14:25-33
	Psalm		1
Intercessions		Alison Hobbs	
<b>*Sun 14<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Morning worship</b> (special order of service with set readings and intercessions)	
Readings	First	Helen Elliott	Isaiah 32:14-18
	Second	Colin Waterman	Philippians 3:5-7
	Gospel	Alison Moore	John 14:15-17
	Psalm		148:1-13
Intercessions		Wilfred Foxe	
<b>Sun 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	Gillian Smellie	Amos 8:4-7
	Gospel	Sue Morgan	Luke 16:1-13
	Psalm		113
Intercessions			



<b>*Sun 28<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>15th Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	Edward Staines	1 Timothy 6:6-19
	Gospel	James Morgan	Luke 16:19-end
	Psalm		146
Intercessions			
<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>16th Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	Linda Waterman	Habbakuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
	Gospel	Mike Higton	Luke 17:5-10
	Psalm		37:1-10
Intercessions			

### **Sidespersons**

Sept 7<sup>th</sup> Josie Armstrong & Peter Bailey  
 Sept 14<sup>th</sup> Diane & Gordon Cassap  
 Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Bonny Bainbridge & Jean Hodgson  
 Sept 28<sup>th</sup> Annette Johnson & Pauline Caygill  
 Oct 5<sup>th</sup> Sue Morgan & Steve Hodgson

### **Flowers**

Annette Johnson  
 Harvest Festival -Guild  
 Lynne Hastie  
 Eileen Crawford  
 Gerry Jennings

### **Coffee**

Sept 7<sup>th</sup> Diane Coles  
 Sept 14<sup>th</sup> Sue Morgan  
 Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Gerry Jennings  
 Sept 28<sup>th</sup> Jean Hodgson  
 Oct 5<sup>th</sup> Alison Moore

### **Tech Team**

Hester & Mike  
 Geoff & Alison

### **Church Cleaning**

*Sept – Team B*

Sue Morgan, Hillary Moss, Annette Johnson, Diane Cassap

*Oct – Team C*

Carole Beeby, Vickie Jackson, Janette Foxe

## **Churchyard Mowing Rota**

1<sup>st</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> September      James Dalton / Edward Staines

15<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> September      James Morgan / David Wilkes

29<sup>th</sup> Sept - 12<sup>th</sup> October      Martin Peacock / Edward Staines / Michael Lowe

### **Events news**

The church will be unavailable on Saturday 27 September between 9am and 4pm whilst a private event takes place.

Thank you for your understanding

Janette

## **CONFIRMATION & BAPTISM DISCUSSION GROUP**

Wednesdays 24 Sep, 8, 15, 22, 29 October

6pm – 7.30pm, in the castle.

Would you like to join a small group of adults for five short evenings of learning, laughing, and – of course, - eating together as we consider what this elusive thing, 'Faith' looks like? What did Jesus teach, and do for us? What can we personally believe in, and what does the Church believe in on our behalf?

We will start each time with some supper to make it friendly for those coming straight from work and then move into discussion and see where we are led. It will not be academically challenging or require homework (!) but will focus on our personal sense of faith and the questions we all want to ask. Why not come on the 24<sup>th</sup> September and see if it's for you.

Contact me if you are interested: you are not committing to anything by attending, just have fun, and see where it might lead you.

Alison Hobbs [alison@brancepethcastle.uk](mailto:alison@brancepethcastle.uk) or catch me for a conversation.

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 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2025 at 11:00**  
**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025 at 12:00**

*From October, the service moves to a new day and time: 12 midday on a Wednesday. We will typically have two services per month: please note no service on 2 September.*

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

## Prayer Space September 2025

### *September*

Month of new starts. . . young people, teachers, students. Possibilities and excitement.

### *September*

Month of sad anniversary . . . 9/11. Ongoing polarised conflict and hatred round the globe.

### *September*

Month of ripe fruit and turning leaves. . . This dry year, August has taken September's place. Climate change and challenge.

*God opens new ways forward. . .*

## Brancepeth Youth Club

### September - December 2025

*The Youth Club is an Open Club run by the Church, and 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 at 6-8pm, although we may finish earlier when numbers are low. The dates for this term are:

September 7, 21

October 5, 19

November 2, 16, 30

December 14

#### Leaders

Geoff Moore	07854 696664	<a href="mailto:durmoores@btinternet.com">durmoores@btinternet.com</a>
Martin Peacock	07503 242074	

### Book Club

On 5th September we will meet at the home of Suzanne Bradley, 38 Albert Street, Durham. DH1 4RJ. Travel shares can be arranged. We will be reading, 'The Silent Women', by Avril Joy. The author lives near Bishop Auckland and uses her experience working at Low Newton to inform her writing about the incarceration of women in Asylums in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

On October 10<sup>th</sup> we meet at Evelyn & Peter Aitken's home, Raygill Farm, Lartington at 12.30pm. Once again travel shares will be arranged.

The book to read is, 'The Rose Code', by Kate Quinn



It might seem like a long time since Christian Aid Week, back in May, but we just wanted to say a VERY BIG THANK YOU to all who delivered and/or collected envelopes. The total amount raised from our collections was £1,123.10 and with Gift Aid added £1393.87. Also, many thanks to those of you who donated online. Thank you for helping to continue the work Christian Aid do to try and create a world where everyone can live a full life free from poverty. Carol Beeby and Jane Stout.



# Stuart Smellie 28 August 1960 -20 July 2025

Stuart died at home on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

Stuart was many things. A husband, a father, a doctor and a translator. He was a lover of old buildings, gruesome thrillers, seventies and eighties rock and Scottish and Irish folk music. He was a passionate fisherman on both land and sea. Whilst he loved to travel and adored the planning as much as the journey itself, he was at heart a homebody and loved nothing more than to potter around Morley planning what to do next to make the family home a little more special.



Born and brought up in Glasgow he won scholarships to Glenalmond and later St John's College Cambridge. He was low key about his professional achievements preferring to show off his family rather than his career but he left his mark in the field of biochemistry as well as in Brancepeth. The move down south to Durham was only ever intended to be temporary and it is testament to his love of the area and the friends he made that we were still here 31 years later.

We would like to thank everyone for their kindness over the past month. We also owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Brancepeth Secret Army who pulled out all the stops to ensure we were able to give Stuart the send off we, and we hope he, would have wanted. He is now walking on the waves.

Love Gillian, Eloise, Bea and Susie

## **A letter of thanks to the organisers of the Classic Car Event**

I would like to express a word of thanks, to you and your fellow volunteers, for the wonderfully organised recent Brancepeth fund-raising event. There was something for everyone. The extensive old car display featured a wide range of makes and models. We enjoyed the live organ and band music in the churchyard. The selection of food available in the church itself was mouth watering and delicious. Everyone involved was helpful and welcoming. A splendidly organised event in a delightful setting.

David Warren Tow Law

*Brancepeth Ladies*  
*Autumn Term Subscription - £10*

**15<sup>th</sup> Sept 2.00pm Golf Club dining room – Dr John Ridley**  
**was ‘A Village Headmaster’**

for 21 years before moving on to other aspects of Education and now gives entertaining talks to raise money for charity. All our meetings are open to anyone who may be interested. Cost with refreshments £4.50 for members or £6.50 for non members.

**NB. 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. - Tony Nicholson-’Secrets of The Attic’ Part 2**

**17<sup>th</sup> Nov. - ‘Show and Tell’**

**8<sup>th</sup> Dec. - ‘The Cardiac Dodgers’**



**Wednesday Coffee Morning**

10:30-11:30am

Village Hall

3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Catherine and Janiece
10 <sup>th</sup> September	Margot and Val
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Margot and Val
24 <sup>th</sup> September	James and Catherine
1 <sup>st</sup> October	Martyn and Christine

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



BRANCEPETH CASTLE  
— GOLF CLUB —

# QUIZ NIGHT

*SATURDAY 20TH  
SEPTEMBER*

Menu:

BBQ Pulled Pork  
Sandwich

BBQ Jackfruit  
Served with Chips

7.00pm : £10 P.P

Asking the  
Questions:  
Peter Jobey

Book your place at the clubhouse bar or call 0191 378 0075.

?

# Quiz Night

?

## Village Hall

Friday 26th September ?

?

7.15pm

Teams 2 - 8

*(Come on your own and join a team!)*

Children welcome if they can entertain themselves

*Pie and Pea Supper (including Vegetarian)*

*(bring your own drinks)*

£8      BCA Members

£10     Non Members

Children £5 pizza & ice cream

Tickets from Josie Armstrong [jo.arm@me.com](mailto:jo.arm@me.com)

0788 22 33 118

Proceeds to Brancepeth Community Association



## Dates for the Diary:-

Sept Mondays - Snooker, 7.30pm, Village Hall  
Sept Mondays - Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall  
Sept Monday - Knit and Natter, 1st, 15th & 29th Aug, Village Hall, 2-4pm.  
Sept Tuesdays - Art Group, 7.00 – 9.00pm, Village Hall  
Sept Wednesdays - Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall  
Sept Wednesdays - Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am  
Sept Thursdays - Indoor Bowls, 10.00-12.00, Village Hall  
Sept Thursdays - Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall  
Sept Sundays - Capoeira Classes, 10.00 – 11.30am, Village Hall  
Sept Sunday - Youth Club, 7th & 21st, 6.00pm -8.00pm, Village Hall  
1st Saturday each month - Archive Room in Castle open between 9.00am – 1.00pm

Sept	5th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, 38 Albert Street, Durham. DH1 4RJ
Sept	13th	Sat	Garden Club Autumn Show Spectacular, Village Hall
Sept	14th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm -5.00pm
Sept	15th	Mon	Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall.
Sept	15th	Mon	Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Sept	20th	Fri	Quiz Night, 7.00pm, Golf Club
Sept	26th	Fri	Quiz Night, 7.15pm, Village Hall
Oct	4th	Sat	Village Tidy Up Day, 9.30-11.30am, Village Hall
Oct	10th	Fri	Book Club, 12.30pm, Raygill Farm, Lartington
Oct	12th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm -5.00pm
Oct	17th	Fri	Archive & Hist. Group, Chris Lloyd talk
Oct	20th	Mon	Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Nov	17th	Mon	Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club
Nov	21st	Fri	Archive & Hist. Group, Martin Roberts talk
Nov	30th	Sun	Garden Club, Festive Wreath Workshop
Dec	15th	Mon	Ladies Group, 2.00pm, Golf Club

## Photos

**Front cover** – ©- Josie Armstrong. The car is a 1907 Armstrong Whitworth from Beamish.

**Inside front cover** – ©- Laura McKenzie & Josie Armstrong

**Inside back cover** – ©- Josie Armstrong & William James Photography

**Back cover** – ©– William James Photography <https://www.williamjamesphoto.com/>

The full portfolio can be viewed at:

<https://www.williamjamesphoto.com/portfolio-collections/my-portfolio/brancepeth-vintage-classic-cars>

**Newsletter entries no later than September 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/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</i>	Jean Merrington	
	<i>&amp; Bookings</i>	Josie Armstrong	<i>Social Secretary</i>
Val Gibbons	<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	Val Gibbons, <a href="mailto:valmgibbons@gmail.com">valmgibbons@gmail.com</a> (0191 3784200)
Social Secretary	Josie Armstrong, <a href="mailto:jo.arm@me.com">jo.arm@me.com</a> / 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	Sue Morgan, Richard Hobbs, Liz Burdess
& Leisure Gardeners' Club	<a href="mailto:baacommittee3@gmail.com">baacommittee3@gmail.com</a>
Book Club	Val Gibbons (0191 3784200)
Drama	Martin Peacock (07503242074)
Flower Guild	Jessie Brown (0191 3782748)
Garden Club	Helen Todman (Chair) <a href="mailto:helentodman@googlemail.com">helentodman@googlemail.com</a> or Secretary, Martin Welsh <a href="mailto:m.welsh@reflex-technical.com">m.welsh@reflex-technical.com</a>
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

Thomas Hobbs, Chair: email: [tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk)  
Nick Ellis - Vice chair; tel: 0191 380 3047; email: [n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk](mailto:n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk)  
Philip Davison, email: [philipdavison000@btinternet.com](mailto:philipdavison000@btinternet.com)  
Catherine Stevenson: [catherine@jamsey.net](mailto:catherine@jamsey.net)  
Julie Daneshyer: [jh.daneshyer@hotmail.com](mailto:jh.daneshyer@hotmail.com)  
Martin Welsh: [m.welsh@reflex-technical.com](mailto:m.welsh@reflex-technical.com)

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

County Councillors: Cathy Hunt & Emma Hunt [www.brancepeth-parish-council.org](http://www.brancepeth-parish-council.org).





### *Hannah & Dasha Pokhylko helping in the church 'Tea Room'*

Hospice chief executive, Laura Barker said:  
“The Hospice would like to thank Josie and Robin and all the volunteers who helped make this event a great success.

Robin said: “We had a great turn out of cars on the day thanks to the support of vintage car enthusiasts from across the north east. And I would like to thank our sponsors, Durham Stoneacre Motor Group, Josie Armstrong and all the volunteers from the Brancepeth community who worked tirelessly to help make the event happen.

### **Vintage and Classic Sports Car Day**

This past year has been one of the most challenging in St Cuthbert’s Hospice history. Like many hospices across the UK, they have faced unsustainable rising costs, increased financial pressures due to the cost-of-living crisis, and a growing reliance on donations because government funding hasn’t kept pace with the rising cost of the provision of care services.

This is why the hospice is so grateful for the support of the Brancepeth community in organising a brilliant fundraiser - the Vintage and Classic Sports Car Day which raised just over three thousand pounds for the hospice. The event was the brainchild of Josie Armstrong and Robin Wills, a local car enthusiast, who using his regional contacts, brought together a fine collection of vintage and classic cars, with the magnificent Brancepeth Castle providing the backdrop.





‘£6215.68. Raised for St Brandon’s and St Cuthbert’s Hospice’

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this possible



The organisation was superb thanks to the dedication and commitment of all the local volunteers who were involved. “The hospice was delighted to receive a donation of three thousand pounds. The local community helped to create St Cuthbert’s

The 1970 Jaguar E Type won Mayor’s Favourite car. It was driven by David Wheatley of Stockley House Farm

Hospice over 30 years ago, and it is communities like Brancepeth that help us to continue to care each and every day.

It was a great day out and visitors were entertained by a brass band, a choir and an organist whilst sampling a range of homemade cakes and other delights in a pop-up tearoom in St Brandon’s Church.



Other activities included table top stalls and family fun activities. *Sheila Chapman, 1 Goodwell Lea Volunteer, St Cuthbert’s Hospice and former Trustee*