

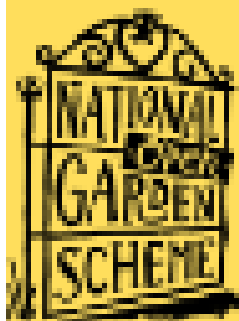
# Brancepeth Parish Newsletter



**The Right Rev'd Rick Simpson Bishop of Durham and Dr Rachel Lunney**

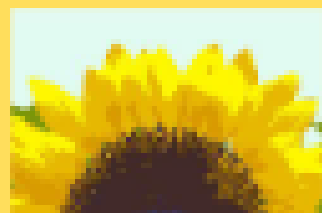
**June 2026**

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



# Brancepeth Village Open Gardens Event

Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
10am – 4:30pm



## Village Hall Tea Shop open throughout the day

Tickets available at the Castle Gates on the day

Adults £6 (free entry for children)

Car parking at Brancepeth Castle (courtesy of Brancepeth Castle)

Villagers' Open Gardens – map provided with ticket  
Aycliffe Bee-Keepers

St Brandon's Church grounds and building open

St Cuthbert's Hospice Plant Stall (proceeds to the hospice)

Northumbrian Pipers

Archives & History Group Display – *“Historic Gardens of  
Brancepeth Castle”*

Proceeds go to National Garden Scheme (NGS) charities and  
Brancepeth Community Association (BCA)



## 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) James Morgan (0191 4476520)
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:-

Carol Beeby (07592 975002) Diane Coles (07754958341), Timothy Elliot (0191 3896653, 07932 159548), Kenneth Howe (07710098705, 0191 3840589) Judith Minto (07905645674), Alison Moore (0191 373 5674), 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 (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	Diane Coles <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 3902304 or 07729855076)
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.
AdminTeam	Carol Beeby, Diane Coles, 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	<a href="http://www.stbrandon.org.uk">www.stbrandon.org.uk</a>

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

**NB The July/ August edition needs to cover all events up to the first week of September  
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@phoncoop.coop](mailto:hesterhigton@phoncoop.coop).

Dear Friends,

I am writing this in mid-May with the trees in their first flush of new leaves making each tree a different shade of greens, yellows, and pinkish tinges. Everywhere is new growth and in our church life, too!

This will not ring true if you equate growth with numbers: the 'bums on seats' count, that has not changed but if the real work of growth is considered: to change in stature and fruitfulness, in rootedness and endurance then I think we can see growth. And if we step back further and see change as an expression of growth, then we definitely see a lot of this happening in our church right now.

Last month, May, saw change in the governance of St Brandon's come with new appointments to roles of churchwarden, event managing, PCC membership and more. Some first-timers bravely prepared to step up and learn the ins and outs of church regulations and running, and some old hands prepared to return or remain in post for another term of office. These are folk prepared to stretch knowledge and grow in confidence, stepping out of their comfort zones a little.

The whole congregation was invited on St Brandon's day to a flight of imagination, imagining what we as church might grow into if we were truly and enthusiastically achieving what they perceive to be part of God's preferred future for us, 'magically' fulfilled five years hence.

This month, we look ahead with excitement to Ros's arrival, and Rick's installation, formidable undertakings on a personal level for both, and roles that we hope will stimulate growth locally and as a diocese. Roles that require Ros to be a good and sensitive gardener of this congregation; Rick commissioned to be shepherding a very large and mixed flock managed by often stretched and weary clergy.

Ros's arrival means opportunity for some change for myself, too, as I look forward to a six-month sabbatical in which to grow more the work of the Community of the Well and castle facilities, offering spiritual refreshment and growth.

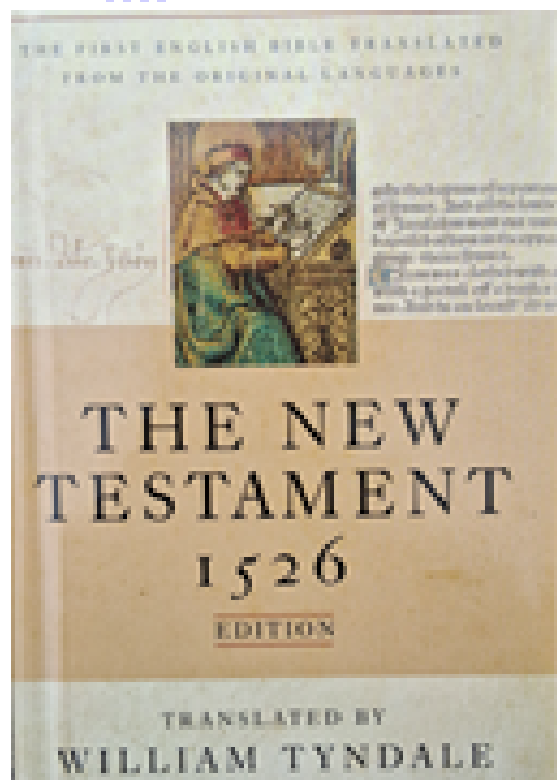
Change is inevitable and unavoidable in our lives, and not all change is predictable and useful but by God's grace, it can always be a springboard for something new to be learnt. An invitation to grow personally and collectively, in love and hope.

Love and blessings,

Rev Alison Hobbs.

# **BRANCEPETH ARCHIVE presents:**

**on 5<sup>th</sup> ,6<sup>th</sup> ,7<sup>th</sup> June 2026, in Brancepeth Castle**



*To commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival in England of the New Testament translated by William Tyndale.*

**An Exhibition in the Constable Tower and Archive Room about the man, his work, his lasting influence and much more.**

**Beginning with a Preview Party  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30 p.m.**

This will include wine and canapes, two short musical interludes featuring music of the period, together with a short talk about William Tyndale and an opportunity to view the Exhibition. Tickets limited  
**£10.00 per person.**

\*\*\*\*\*

The Exhibition will be open to the public on

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 9.00a.m. – 4.00p.m.  
and Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2.00 p.m.– 4.30 p.m.  
Admission free.**

For tickets or more information – contact 0191 378 0974.




## Tea Shop Helpers & Bakers Wanted!

**Saturday 20th June 2026 | 10:00am – 4:00pm**  
**Brancepeth Village Open Gardens Event**

The much-loved Open Gardens Event is back this June, and we'd love your help to make it extra special! We're looking for friendly volunteers to help run the Village Hall tea shop, as well as keen bakers to donate delicious homemade treats. Whether you can spare some time or whip up a cake (or both!), your support would be hugely appreciated.

If you'd like to get involved, please get in touch with: **Josie Armstrong**  
[jo-arm@me.com](mailto:jo-arm@me.com)  
07882 233118

Thank you for helping make this a fantastic community event! 

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## Beautiful Brancepeth June Update



Huge thanks to everyone who turned up to repaint the Village Hall garden railings. We hope you all agree they look fabulous again !

### **Date for your diary** **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

Ahead of the village being involved in the National Garden Scheme on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June, where a few of our residents kindly open their gardens to the public, we are planning another 'Village Tidy Up' morning on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June. We will meet at 9.30am at the Village Hall. There is a job for everyone!

***We need as many volunteers as possible so please consider coming along, together we can keep our village looking beautiful.***

## **Brancepeth Garden Club: Stockley Farm Garden Walkabout**

We're delighted to invite you to our summer walkabout on **3rd July 2026** at Stockley Farm. Join us for an evening of horticultural interest combined with good food and company.

### **Event Details:**

- **Date & Time:** 3rd July 2026, 6pm prompt start
- **Venue:** Stockley Farm, Stockley Lane
- **Tickets:** £17 (members) | £8 (under 14s) | £20 (non-members, includes annual membership)

**What's Included:** Enjoy a delicious meal featuring both meat and vegetarian lasagne, fresh salads, garlic bread, and seasonal puddings, with drinks also included.

**How to Book:** Spaces are limited, so we encourage early booking. Please email [bgcenquires@gmail.com](mailto:bgcenquires@gmail.com) with:

- Your ticket requests and number of guests
- Dietary requirements
- Full names and telephone numbers for all attendees

### **Important Information:**

- **Ticket sales close:** 25th June
- **Parking:** Spaces are limited. We encourage car sharing. If you'd like assistance with transport, please contact the committee—we're happy to arrange lifts from the village.
- **Dining:** The meal will be served outside under gazebos but please dress warmly.

We look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be a wonderful summer evening!

## *The Durham Singers*

### **Echoes of Puebla: Choral Music from Mexico**

The Durham Singers' summer concert will be on Saturday 27 June at 7.30pm. Our programme of vibrant and devotional music from colonial Mexico will take place in the evocative setting of St Brandon's Church, Brancepeth, Durham, DH7 8DF.

We bring to life the extraordinary sacred and secular music written by composers associated with Puebla Cathedral, one of the most important religious and musical centres of 17th- and 18th-century New Spain. The Cathedral was home to a flourishing musical tradition where European sacred styles met the energy and diversity of the New World.

The result is music that is both refined and full of life – soaring motets, joyful villancicos, and serene Marian hymns that once echoed through the Cathedral's vaulted ceilings. Featuring works by Juan Gutiérrez de Padilla, Gaspar Fernandes, Juan de Araujo and their contemporaries, our concert showcases music rich in polyphonic brilliance and rhythmic vitality, and filled with joy.

Join us for this unique musical journey, crossing oceans and cultures, set in the twilight of the beautiful and peaceful village of Brancepeth.

*Further information* [www.durham-singers.org](http://www.durham-singers.org)

## St Brandon's June 2026 – 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 7th June</b>	<b>1st Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	Alison Hobbs	Hosea 5:15-6:6
	Gospel	Timothy Elliot	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
	Psalm		50:7-15
Intercessions		Richard Fenwick	
<b>*Sun 14<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	Edward Staines	Exodus 19:2-8a
	Gospel	Wilfred Foxe	Matthew 9:35-10:23
	Psalm		100
Intercessions		Hester Higton	
<b>Sun 21st June</b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	Janette Foxe	Jeremiah 20:7-13
	Gospel	Kenneth Howe	Matthew 10:24-39
	Psalm		69:8-18
Intercessions		Wilfred Foxe	
<b>Sun 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>4th Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	Judith Minto	Philippians 1:3-6
	Gospel	Gillian Smellie	Matthew 10:40-end
	Psalm		89:1-4, 15-18
Intercessions		Edward Staines	
<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>5th Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>	
Readings	First	James Morgan	Romans 7:15-25a
	Gospel	Mike Higton	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-end
	Psalm		145.8-15
Intercessions		Colin Waterman	

## Sidespersons

Jun 7<sup>th</sup> Annette Johnson & Pat Sharples  
Jun 14<sup>th</sup> Sue Morgan & Richard Fenwick  
Jun 21<sup>st</sup> Vera Melenets & Hanna Pokhylko  
Jun 28<sup>th</sup> Diane & Gordon Cassap  
Jul 5<sup>th</sup> Peter Bailey & Josie Armstrong

## Flowers

Annette Johnson  
Jean Hodgson  
Joan Taylor  
Lynne Hastie  
Wedding (Guild)

## Church Cleaning

### *June – Team B*

Sue Morgan, Annette Johnson, Hillary Moss, Diane Cassop

### *July – Team C*

Carole Beeby, Vickie Jackson, Janette Foxe, Gillian Smellie

## Coffee

Jun 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Morgan
Jun 14 <sup>th</sup>	Annette Johnson
Jun 21 <sup>st</sup>	Jean Hodgson
Jun 28 <sup>th</sup>	Geraldine Jennings
Jul 5 <sup>th</sup>	Alison Moore

## Tech Team

Peter

## Churchyard Mowing Rota 2026

24 <sup>th</sup> May - 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Barry Dickinson, Michael Stephenson
7 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Tom Hobbs, Richard Hobbs
21 <sup>st</sup> June - 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Edward Staines, Martin Peacock
5 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> July	James Morgan, David Wilkes

### **Please note**

Lindisfarne College of Theology are holding a private event in church on Saturday 6th June and so the church will be closed between 1.30 and 6.30.

There will be “men” working in Church between 8th and 10th June carrying out work on the lighting system. The church does not need to be closed but please ‘be aware’.

## Upcoming events at church in June and July

27th June 2026

Durham Singers Concert, details in this newsletter

17th July 2026

A Choir! A Voice Concert by the Ladies Choir.  
Further details will be available nearer the time.

Both groups have held concerts at St Brandon's previously and return for 2026.

### Prayer Space June 2026

**'I don't know exactly what a prayer is.'**

So says the poet, Mary Oliver, and we probably agree with her. But she goes on to say **'I do know how to pay attention'**, and her poems brim with detailed and joyful and wondering observations of the natural world around her. In the beautiful month of June, we too should pay attention to the astonishing sight of the world flowering and greening and fruiting all around us.

This June is marked by the stark contrast between its peaceful and hopeful beauty and the current climate crisis, political turmoil, obscene violence and the appalling suffering of innocent victims around the world. We too may not 'know exactly what a prayer is', but we do know that, however we may describe our belief or unbelief, we share in longing for justice and we pray for peace to prevail.

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.

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 12:00**

Please refer to the board outside the castle for future dates



*Alison is on 6 months sabbatical starting 1 July, so the Russell Close service will not be happening for the remainder of 2026, however, there will be a Eucharist service in the castle chapel most Wednesdays at 12:00, please refer to the board outside the castle.*

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

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## Invitation to the Installation of the Bishop of Durham

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**Rick Simpson will be installed as Bishop of Durham on Sunday, 7 June 2026, 3.00pm at Durham Cathedral.**

**Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis until they run out.**

If you would like to attend the service, go to Durham Cathedral's website **from 12noon on Wednesday, 13 May**. Go to the 'Visits' page and then '**Concerts and evening events**', and scroll down to 7 June. Use the code **RICK2026** to apply for a maximum of two tickets.

You must bring your ticket(s) with you on the day and you will sit in unreserved seats in the cathedral as members of the congregation. Some of the seats will have a restricted view and there is no guarantee as to where you will sit.

Unfortunately there will be no parking at the cathedral, so you will need to park in a public car park in the city and make your way on foot. There are also Park and Ride facilities at Howlands Farm (DH1 3TQ) or Sniperley (DH1 5AA).

The Cathedral may be able to help or advise people with access needs who have a Blue Badge. Please contact [worship@durhamcathedral.co.uk](mailto:worship@durhamcathedral.co.uk).

The service will last approximately 90 minutes. It will be available to watch on the Cathedral's [YouTube channel](#) (either live or later the same day).

## Help us to “re-illuminate” our church.



We need to raise a substantial sum of money to have the lighting system repaired and the bulbs changed to be more sustainable.

After special services there are a lot of leftover candles which cannot be reused and it is a shame to throw them away. We have melted, cleaned and remoulded the wax into these candles.

By purchasing one of these candles made from the wax you can help us to reach our goal more quickly.

**Small candle £1.50**

**Medium candle £2.50**

**Large candle £4.00**

Order now at the very generous introductory price!  
Contact Diane Coles (07754958341), or order from church.

Many thanks for your support.

**Diane Coles**



## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### State of the village

Good news! The DCC have finally confirmed that, thanks to the funds released by County Councillor Cathy Hunt, and her fellow counsellor Emma, the project to replace the two decaying white gates at the Willington end of the village on the A690 has been approved. We are now awaiting a date from the Traffic Assets team for work to commence. The DCC have also agreed to replace the broken dog poo bin on Wolsingham Road with a mixed use one.

Volunteers from the Beautiful Brancepeth working group have painted the railings outside the village hall, as well as several benches. Thanks very much to all who took part – and let's hope we have even more folk to help at the next Village Tidy on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June!

### Noise Nuisance

Luckily, this is not usually a problem in our peaceful parish, but we note that this issue has been raised by some concerned residents. A quick reminder: it may be frustrating, but, legally, the PC can only advise individual parishioners to contact the DCC themselves about this. Information about the necessary steps to follow, including the likely use of a recording App, can be found on the DCC website under Environmental Issues and on the PC Noticeboard.

### Annual PC Meeting

As part of the monthly meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>, we also held the AGM for Brancepeth. The Chair's Annual Report was received. This report outlined the main achievements and challenges faced by the PC in the preceding year. It can be viewed on the PC website. The PC Chair, Tom Hobbs, and Vice Chair, Nick Ellis, were re-elected to serve another term in office.

### Vacancies for Councillors

There are still two opportunities for parishioners to become co-opted members of the PC to boost our numbers from five to seven. We are a friendly team who try to do our best to ensure that Brancepeth remains a lovely place to live; and we'd welcome you on board at our monthly meetings. The workload is not too onerous, honestly! If you'd like to know more, then please contact our Clerk or any of the current PC members. After all, local councils can only be as helpful and energetic as the people who contribute to running them.

### Annual Audit & Digital Governance

As part of the financial year end procedures the PC is responsible for completing its Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). We are pleased to report that our external auditor was satisfied that the PC is being run responsibly – largely thanks to the expertise of our Clerk, Kirsty Charlton – thank you! If you wish, members of the public have the right to inspect our detailed accounts in a 'window' from 3 – 15<sup>th</sup> June: just contact Kirsty.

Included in the AGAR is a series of Assertions which necessitate that we update our website and email communication systems. So, at some stage soon we shall have new contact information for the PC as a whole and for our Clerk – watch this space.

### Date of next Parish Council meeting:

Our next meeting is scheduled to take place on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2026** 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)



## Wednesday Coffee Morning

10:30-11:30am

Village Hall

3rd June	Margot & Val
10th June	Diana & Christine
17th June	Rosemary & James
24th June	Vivienne and Janiece
1st July	Margot and Val

A warm welcome to Nicola and Diane who have offered to join the coffee rota.

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

### **Book Club**

Next time we meet on Friday 5 June at Sue Bradley's house 38 Albert Street, Durham DH1 4RJ, 7.30 p.m. when we will be talking about *Blithe Spirit*, a novel by Charles Osborne based on Noel Coward's play. (Some of us have read the play itself; that's fine too!)

In July Peter and Evelyn Aitken will host us on Friday 17th at Raygill Farm, Lartington, Barnard Castle DL12 9DG. We will meet a little earlier than usual at 6 p.m. and will discuss *Conclave* by Robert Harris.

Val Gibbons

Mavis Henderson and her family would like to extend their appreciation for the generous support that they have received from friends and neighbours after the sad passing of Russell on the 24th March 2026.



**Come and join in the fun**

**Sunday 14th June**

**3-5pm in church**

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

**SAVE THE NEXT DATES:**

**Sunday 12th July 2026 3pm - 5pm**



**COME AND JOIN THE FUN!**

**ACTIVITIES AND STORIES FROM THE BIBLE.**

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

**Every Sunday at the 10.15 service until 19th July, when we have a break for the school holidays returning on Sunday 6th September.**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

**Brancepeth Youth Club  
June - July 2026**

*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 6.00-7.30pm, the dates for the rest of this term are:

June 7, 21

July 5, 19 – BBQ in the Castle grounds

*Leaders*

Geoff Moore

07854 696664

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

Martin Peacock

07503 242074

## From the Archive this month



**Original oil painting**

**Brancepeth Castle by Edwin Frederick Holt who exhibited his works in London from 1850-1865, 7 works at the Royal Academy, 12 at the British Institute and 36 at the Royal Society of British Artists.**

**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.**

## Dates for the Diary:-

June	Mondays	-	Snooker, 7.30pm, Village Hall
June	Mondays	-	Yoga, 7.30pm, Village Hall
June	Monday	-	Knit and Natter, 8th & 22nd, Village Hall, 2-4pm.
June	Tuesdays	-	Village Community Choir, 7.00pm -8.00pm, Village Hall
June	Wednesdays	-	Art Group, 7.00 – 9.00pm, Village Hal
June	Wednesdays	-	Tai Chi 9.30 -10.30, Village Hall
June	Wednesdays	-	Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall, 10.30-11.30am
June	Thursdays	-	Indoor Bowls, 10.00-12.00, Village Hall
June	Thursdays	-	Badminton, 7.30pm, Village Hall
June	Sundays	-	Capoeira Classes, 10.00 – 11.30am, Village Hall
June	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			
Jun	5th	Fri	Book Club, 7.30pm, 38 Albert Street, Durham. DH1 4RJ
Jun	5th	Fri	Archive & History Group, William Tyndale Exhibition Preview Party 6.30pm, Brancepeth Castle
Jun	6th	Sat	Tyndale Exhibition, 9.00am – 4.00pm, Castle
Jun	7th	Sun	Tyndale Exhibition, 2.00pm – 4.30pm, Castle
Jun	13th	Sat	Beautiful Brancepeth, Village Tidy-up Day, 9.30am. Village Hall
Jun	14th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm -5.00pm, Church
Jun	15th	Mon	Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall
June	20th	Sat	Brancepeth Village Open Gardens Event
June	27th	Sat	The Durham Singers, 7.30pm, Church
July	3rd	Fri	Garden Club Walkabout, Stockley Grove
July	12th	Sun	Messy Church, 3.00pm -5.00pm, Church
July	17th	Fri	A Choir! A Voice Concert, Church
July	17th	Fri	Book Club, 6.00pm, Raygill Farm, Lartington, DL12 9DG.
Sept	5th	Sat	Garden Club Autumn Show, Village Hall

## **Photos**

**Front cover –** ©- Hester Higon, The Right Rev'd Rick Simpson and Dr Rachel Lunney following Rick's Ordination and Consecration as Bishop of Durham at York Minster on 30th April 2026

**Inside front cover –** ©- Jo Dalton, Advert for National Garden Scheme, Brancepeth Open Gardens Event

**Inside back cover –** ©-James Dalton, Patient Participation Group (PPG) advert for Willington Medical Group

**Back cover –** ©– The Durham Singers, Concert Advertisement

***Newsletter entries for July/August no later than June 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>	Karen Watts	Annual Membership
Ian Stoker	<i>Vice chairman</i>	Karen Stoddart	<i>Social Secretary</i>
Val Gibbons	<i>Secretary,</i>	Peter Burdess	<i>Hall Bookings</i>
Jo Dalton	<i>Treasurer &amp; Website</i>	Jean Merrington	
	<i>Church Representative</i>		

[www.brancepethcommunityassociation.co.uk](http://www.brancepethcommunityassociation.co.uk)

Tel: 0191 3783952

## **Parish Activities**

Chairman B.C.A.	Martyn Jones, 32 Goodwell Lea (0191 3789297)
Vice Chairman	Ian Stoker, <a href="mailto:ian.stoker57.is@googlemail.com">ian.stoker57.is@googlemail.com</a>
Secretary	Val Gibbons, <a href="mailto:valmgibbons@gmail.com">valmgibbons@gmail.com</a> (0191 3784200)
Treasurer & Website	Joanne Dalton, 1 rectory Cottages, (07876 624626)
Social Secretary	Karen Stoddart, <a href="mailto:karistod@icloud.com">karistod@icloud.com</a>
Annual Membership	Karen Watts, <a href="mailto:k.watts8@talktalk.net">k.watts8@talktalk.net</a>
Hall Bookings	Peter Burdess –07748 158703 or <a href="mailto:peterburdess@btinternet.com">peterburdess@btinternet.com</a>
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	James Morgan (Chair), Richard Hobbs (Sec), Martin Welsh (Treas) <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: [tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tom.rhobbs@hotmail.co.uk)  
Nick Ellis - Vice chair; [n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk](mailto:n.t.ellis@durham.ac.uk)  
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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.uk](http://www.brancepeth-parish-council.org.uk)

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For further information please contact  
James Dalton via email

[jimd1104@protonmail.com](mailto:jimd1104@protonmail.com) to have an  
informal conversation to discuss the role further.



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