The Grade 1 listed medieval Brancepeth Castle is in the village of Brancepeth, some 5 miles south-west of the city of Durham. First constructed in the mid-12th century, it has a dynamic history, constantly changing hands and use.

The first castle built on this site was occupied by the Anglo-Saxon Bulmer family. It was expanded in the 14th century by the Neville family who also owned Raby Castle. There have been several other prominent owners since that time.

Most of the currently visible parts of the castle were built in the 19th century in a large restoration project commissioned by the Russell family and undertaken by the highly regarded architect John Paterson and his pupil Anthony Salvin. In modern times the castle has also seen use as a military hospital during the First World War and the regimental headquarters for the Durham Light Infantry during the Second World War. Now a family home, it is open to visitors on several days each year and for public events.

Meeting at 10.15am, we enter the castle grounds through the archway that leads to the church. There is ample parking available. Tea/coffee and biscuits will precede the tour of the castle - which will be led by a member of the current owner's family. Castle tours typically last up to 2 hours and look at both the exterior (weather permitting) and the principal interiors. Tours finish with an opportunity to buy postcards, guidebooks, and a small range of Castle merchandise. We have arranged for a light lunch (homemade soup & bread, cake & coffee/tea) to be available for those who want it.

The cost for the day, including tea/coffee on arrival, guided tour of the Castle, and lunch is £21.25 per person. The cost WITHOUT LUNCH is £12.25 per person.

To book for this event, please complete the form below and return [TO ARRIVE BY Friday, June 3rd PLEASE], either by email to susanmaustin@hotmail.com or by post to Mrs. Susan Austin, 116 Queens Road, Whitley Bay, NE26 3AU.

Please pay by cheque, made out to Northumbrian Cambridge Association, or via bank transfer to HSBC; account name: Northumbrian Cambridge Association; account 60618446 sort code 40-34-18. Please identify your payment by BRANCEPETH/YOUR SURNAME.

If you require confirmation/directions/parking information/map by post, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

BRANCEPETH CASTLE TOUR, Saturday, June 18, 2022

Name(s): .....................................................................................................................................
Address:.......................................................................................................................................
Telephone: ....................................  Email: ................................................................................
Guest(s) (if applicable):..................................................................................................................
No. of adults: ....................... No. of children: ................. No. of people for lunch: ..............
Special dietary requirements: ........................................................................................................
I would like confirmation: [ ] by post / [ ] by email
[ ] I would like directions/parking information/map

OR [ ] I enclose a cheque for £ ........... made out to Northumbrian Cambridge Association (full title please, not NCA)

OR [ ] I have paid by direct bank transfer to the account detailed above