



57th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering



25th–27th April 2025 Programme (details subject to change) Edition 4

Annual festival of Northumberland's music, dialect, crafts, traditions, family events - with Bob Fox & Stu Luckley, Real to Reel, Jez Lowe, Shonaleigh, Voice Male, Ellington Colliery Band, local dance teams, etc.

Before the Gathering: Pop-up Folk Ensemble Music

For advance details/scores: www.phoenixfolk.co.uk/morpeth

Many free events. Prices: adult /school age. Under 5s free. Sorry no card/phone payments – please bring cash/ cheque. Festival office: Fri/Sat - Town Hall; Sun - Chantry front shop

Friday 25th April:

During today performers will visit local care homes

9.30 - 5.00 **CRAFTS EXHIBITION** + refreshments; craft competition entries (rec'd Thur. 24th April 5.30 pm–7 pm), craft displays, stalls, CDs, books, posters, archive photos *Town Hall 50p at door/ accompanied under-12s free*

10.00– 4.00 **OUTDOOR ENTERTAINERS** Punch & Judy, music, song, history *Market Place, Arcade Free*

10.00 – 4.30 **DANCE WORKSHOPS** 10.00 –11 Historic dances from 17th/18th centuries; 11.30–12.30 Clog (bring flat shoes); 1–2 Maypole; 3-4 Longsword *Town Hall Ballroom £3/£1 at door per session*

11.00 **HAVE A GO BORDER PIPES WORKSHOPS** for beginners - David Faulkner supported by Bagpipe Soc. Limited places, either 11.00-11.40 or 12.20-1.00 *Bagpipe Mus'm £10 advance booking: kim@northumbriana.org.uk*

1.30 – 2.30 **SHANTIES IN THE CHANTRY** Singalong with Ian McKone *Bagpipe Museum £3/£1 at door*

2.00 **OFFICIAL OPENING** of Gathering by the Mayor of Morpeth, Cllr Betty Bawn *Town Hall Exhibition*

2.15-4.00* **TOWN TREASURES** Tours of Mayor's Parlour, Council Chamber, civic silver, portraits, etc, with Mayor & councillors as your guides *Town Hall Free (*change of date)*

3.30 – 4.30 **DULCIMER SESSION** Sing/play-along (any instrument) with Sandie & Ken Hudson - slow & steady arrangements for guitar, hammered & Appalachian mountain dulcimers *Bagpipe Museum £3/£1 at door*

4.30– 5.30 **FAMILY STORIES** with Jim Grant *Library Free*

7.30 – 9.45 **VOICE MALE** Concert for the choir's 25th birthday with special guests Werca's Folk MC David Wilson *Methodist Church £12/£6 ticket*

8.00 **SINGAROUND** led by Sam Dodds *Black & Grey Coach House Free (donations welcome)*

8.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** *Tap & Spile (donations)*

Saturday 26th April: 9-4 Park & Ride from County Hall

9.30 – 4.30 **CRAFTS EXHIBITION** as Friday *Town Hall*

9.45–10.30 **FAMILY STORIES** - Shonaleigh *Library Free*

10.00– 4.00 **OUTDOOR ENTERTAINERS** Punch & Judy, music, Ellington Colliery Band, local morris, clog and rapper teams *Market Place, Park, Bakehse Millenn Green*

10.00 – 4.00 **MORPETH CASTLE OPEN DAY** history, stories & music. Arranged with Landmark Trust *Free*

10.00 – 10.45 **MEET THE NORTHUMBRIAN PIPERS** Drop-in to hear the small pipes *Bagpipe Museum Free*

10.00 – 10.50 **POP-UP FOLK ENSEMBLE** Prepare for tonight's concert spot (see above) *St Robt's Hall (donations)*

10.15 **RING O' BELLS**; Clock Tower tours from 12 approx

11.00 **PROCESSION** Gadgy's Welcome at Market Place

12.00– 4.00 **STORYTELLER'S GARDEN** Stories & music for 25th birthday *Old Bakehouse Yard Millenn Green Free*

12.00 – 1.15 **JEZ LOWE** songsmith & novelist with Life Writing – Songs & Stories *St Robt's Ch Hall £6/£3 ticket*

12.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** *Tap & Spile (donations)*

12.00 - 3.00 **SINGAROUND** *Joiners Arms (donations)*

12.00-1.00 **CLOG DANCE GET-TOGETHER** Demos & chat led by Lynette and Sue *Town Hall Ballroom £2/£1.50*

Saturday Competitions: Passport ticket for entrants/audience £2.00/£1.50 includes free entry to Exhibition. Doors open 30 minutes before times stated below to allow entrants to register. NB NO CLOG DANCE competitions – see 12.00 Ballroom slot

1.45* **SPEAKING & WRITING:** dialect, stories, results of pre-judged written items-deadline 22 Mar.*St Robt's Hall(*new time)*

1.45* **NORTHUMBRIAN PIPES & LOWLAND/ BORDER /HALF-LONG PIPES** *Chantry Bagpipe Museum (*new time)*

2.00 **BANDS, ACCORDIONS, FIDDLES, OTHER INSTRUMENTS, DUETS** *St. James Centre, Wellway (new venue)*

3.30* **SINGING** *Town Hall (*NB change to last year's time)*

1.30 – 2.30 **FAMILY SHOW** silly song spots from Ken Patterson and Jim Eldon *Town Hall Ballroom £3/£1 at door*

4.00 - 5.00 **MORPETH POETRY GROUP** heritage characters in costume & verse *St Robt's Ch Hall £3/£1 at door*

4.00 - 6.00 **SLOW & STEADY** session led by BITS NE for beginners & intermediate players *White Swan (donations)*

4.00 – 5.15 **BORDER PIPES CONCERT** David Faulkner with Iain Gelston & Matt Seattle *Bagp Mus'm £5/£2 ticket*

6.00*– 7.30 **WINNERS' CONCERT** 2024 winners + Pop-up Ensemble *Town Hall Ballroom £9/£5 ticket (*new time)*

8.00 – 9.15 **BOB FOX & STU LUCKLEY** Special reunion concert by legendary duo *Town Hall Ballrm £15/£8 ticket*

8.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** *Tap & Spile (donations)*

8.00 **NORTHUMBRIAN & BORDER PIPING SESSION** *Conservative Club, Newgate Street Free (donations)*

8.30 – 11.00 **BARN DANCE** Real to Reel Ceilidh Band + Hexham Village Mummies, Hadrian Clog. Bring own drinks *Town Hall Corn Exchange £9/£5 ticket (new venue)*

Sunday 27th April: Sorry, no Sunday Crafts Exhibition this year

10.00–4.00 **MORPETH CASTLE OPEN DAY** as Saturday

10.30 – 2.30 **OUTDOOR ENTERTAINERS** Punch & Judy, musicians, maypole dancing *Market Place*

10.30 – 12.30 **MORPETH HERITAGE WALK** guided by James Boyd from Chantry c. 2 miles - limited places, book in advance via 01670 513308 *Free (donations)*

11.00 –12.00 **BAGPIPE ALLSORTS** sharing session for all pipes led by David Faulkner *Bagp Mus'm £3/£1 at door*

11.15 – 12.30 **CHURCH SERVICE** with dialect hymns & readings from Gathering performers *St James Church*

12.00 - 3.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** *Tap & Spile Free*

12.30–1.30 **THE MYTH OF MORPETH** Shonaleigh retells her Millennium project story *Bagpipe Mus'm £5/£2 ticket*

1.00 – 1.50 **WHERE IS MY BOY TONIGHT?** Megan Wisdom and Mossy Christian's show on the East Coast Fishing Industry *St James Centre £5/£2 at door*

2.00 – 3.00 **DROP-IN DULCIMER WORKSHOP** Nonsuch Dulcimer Club 'Come and Try' session on hammered and mountain dulcimers *Bagpipe Museum £3/£1 at door*

2.15 – 3.15 **NORTHUMBRIAN RANTERS** The county's youth folk ensemble *St James Centre £5/£2 at door*

4.00-5.00 **DAVID HALDANE** Illustrated talk by celebrated Morpeth-based cartoonist *St James Centre £5/£2 at door*

M.N.G. Committee, part of Morpeth Antiquarian Society, Reg. Charity no. 507640, reserves the right to alter event details.

DETAILS/UPDATES: www.northumbriana.org.uk QUERIES: 01670 513308 TICKETS: Morpeth TIC 01670 623455