

# *Northumbrian Language Society*

"Keepin Ahad O Wor Tung"

Charity No: 515179

## **Members' Newsletter No 56 - March 2006**

Patrons: Their Graces The Duke & Duchess of Northumberland

## *AGM & Reed Neet*

Saturday 6 May 2006 - AGM at 7pm; Reed Neet at 8pm

**Venue: Craik Park**, the home of Morpeth Football Club, High House Road, The Common, Morpeth (Approaching from the south - take the Whalton Road, to the left, signposted to Kirkley Hall - there's a bus stop just beforehand - then after a few twists and turns the road straightens out towards the "pill" factory - turn right just before the road passes underneath the A1, signposted to Mitford, and go a short distance along a narrow, twisty road until you see the sign for Craik Park - the drive's entrance is on the right)

The **agenda** for the AGM is as follows:-

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the last AGM
4. Executive Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Officers

The election will be for the following posts:-

President  
Vice- President  
Chair  
Vice-Chair  
Secretary  
Assistant Secretary

Treasurer  
Bibliographer  
Newsletter Editor  
Press & Publicity Officer  
Audio/Visual Officer  
Auditor

In addition, there will 5 posts  
for ordinary members of the  
Executive to be elected as well

Tickets for the Reed Neet (including a pie and peas supper with tea/coffee) are £4.50 each. To order your tickets, please fill in the attached form, including your membership renewal, and return it at least seven days before the event.

Speakers for the Reed Neet:-

Toast to the Bard: Katrina Porteous  
Reply on behalf of the Bard: Allan Wood  
Toast to the Stotty: Ernie Coe  
Reply on behalf of the Stotty: Raymond Reed

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## *Meetins An Happnins*

**21-23 April : Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering** at various venues in Morpeth town centre - please see the enclosed brochure for all the details. Of special interest to Language Society members are the Saturday afternoon competitions for Fine Northumbrian Speech and Storytelling, followed by the Dialect Recital and Prize Giving of competition categories judged beforehand. Please make every effort to get to these events if you don't have a lot of time to spare. The Society is sponsoring these parts of the programme this year, so YOUR support for the Society at them is really important.

**6 May : Northumbrian Language Society AGM and Reed Neet Supper** at Craik Park, High House Road, The Common, Morpeth. Please see earlier item and attached slip for details.

**14 October: Roland Bibby Memorial Lecture** in Morpeth Town Hall, starting at 2pm

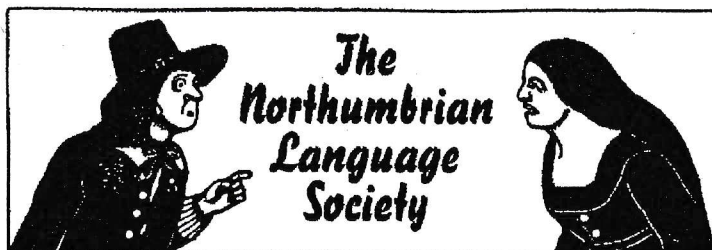
**2 December: Yule Meet** in the Chantry Bagpipe Museum, starting at 2pm (to be confirmed)

Please put these dates in your diary now. Details of other events we're involved in will be published in the next newsletter.

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## February 2006

Production difficulties mean a proper newsletter is delayed, but meanwhile here are details of forthcoming events run by ourselves and our sister organisation, the Morpeth Gathering.

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2006** 7.30 pm Morpeth Town Hall

**Grand Northumbrian Concert** of music, songs, dance, poetry with

Alistair Anderson, Border Directors, Clock Tower Clogs, **Raymond Reed, Alex Swailes**, Margaret and Andy Watchorn, Ann Wilkinson. Adult ticket £6 Concessions £5 – available from Morpeth Chantry TIC 01670 500700 or ring Kim on 01670 513308 – advance booking recommended.

**39<sup>th</sup> Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering**

**Friday to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> –23<sup>rd</sup> April 2006**

Festival of Northumbrian music, crafts, dance, dialect and traditions, in 2006 celebrating the area's international links. To add to the mix, the Sunday of the festival sees special English events for St. George's Day! Guests will include MacUmba (Highland pipes with drums), Italian dance musicians Banda Brisca, English bagpipe orchestra Zephyrus, Irish and Northumbrian piper Becky Taylor, and Canadian Baba Brinkman who presents his Rap Canterbury Tales, a hit at the 2004 Edinburgh Fringe - which could lead to an interesting meeting between the North East's traditional rapper sword dancers and the North American modern rapper! Event details (all subject to confirmation) shown overleaf.

**Writing & Composing Competitions** – judged in advance – for dialect poetry & prose, short stories, history, plays, songs and tunes. **CLOSING DATE: Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006**

The specifically dialect-related competitions are summarised here:

**B3a: NOVICE VERSE:** for an original poem in a Northumbrian dialect of up to about 5 minutes' recitation time; manuscripts judged on literary and dialect merits and traditional verse forms.

**B3B: OPEN VERSE:** as for Class B3a.

**B4: JUNIOR DIALECT VERSE:** for children aged under 14 on Gathering Saturday

**B5: DIALECT PROSE:** for an original prose piece in a Northumbrian dialect

**B15: JUNIOR DIALECT PROSE:** entrants as for Class B4; entry, an original prose piece in a Northumbrian dialect of up to about five minutes' recitation time.

**Speaking Competitions (held on Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup> April at St Robert's Church Hall, Oldgate) 1.30 pm**

**C18: FINE NORTHUMBRIAN SPEECH:** one entry per entrant; a recital of up to 4 minutes' duration, of all or part of any piece of Northumbrian verse or prose, by any writer; entrant to supply judge with a copy of text before reciting; judged on understanding of text, oral delivery and quality & consistency of Northumbrian accents & vocabulary.

**C22: STORYTELLING:** a story set in Northumberland; by the entrant or another person or traditional; up to 5 minutes; dialect as appropriate; judged on presentation, atmosphere, character, dialect quality & use of memory.

Followed by:

2.30 Writing Awards & Dialect Recital (St. Robert's)

Presentation of writing awards interspersed with live performances of entries to verse & prose.

**Full competition details, entry forms and updated programmes from Westgate House, Dogger Bank, Morpeth, NE61 1RE 01670 513308 or on website [www.northumbriana.org.uk](http://www.northumbriana.org.uk) in due course.**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2006 - evening**

**NLS AGM and Reed Neet Supper** - Craik Park Football Club, Morpeth (price to be fixed)

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2006 – afternoon**

**Roland Bibby Memorial Lecture** on an aspect of dialect - Morpeth Town Hall – free.



# 39th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering



21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April 2006 Programme - all details subject to confirmation Edition 2

## Friday 21st April:

9.30 - 5.00 **CRAFTS EXHIBITION** with refreshments; adult & junior craft competitions (entries received Thurs. 20th April 5.30pm - 7 pm). Displays & stalls: proggy mats, smallpipes, shepherds' sticks, Lord Collingwood's waistcoat replica. T-shirts, cards, books, CDs on sale *Town Hall Corn Exchange (level access) 50p/30p*  
10.00 - 4.00 **OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT** Haut-bois (medieval music duo + wagon), Mike Wray (Punch & Judy), Lesley Bentham (costumes). *Market Place Free*  
**SHOP & OFFICE** window displays during weekend  
11.00 **OFFICIAL OPENING** of Gathering by Chairman of Morpeth Town Council *Town Hall Exhibition*  
11.00-3.00 **DANCE WORKSHOPS** Italian, French and Circle dancing *Bagp. Mus. Free*  
2.00 - 3.00 **STORIES OF THE WORLD** for children *Morpeth Library Free*  
3.30 - 5.00 **THE RAP CANTERBURY TALES** workshop presentation by Baba Brinkman *Town Hall £3/£2*  
7.30 **MUCKLE MINGLE** an evening of dance music, tales & piping Banda Brisca (Italy), Sedayne, Shonaleigh, etc. : finale - a chance to dance *Methodist Church £6/£4*  
8.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** with Alasdair Turnbull, Keith Besford & friends *Tap and Spile Free*

## Saturday 22nd April (Park & Ride at County Hall)

9.30 - 6.00 **CRAFTS EXHIBITION** as Fri. *Town Hall*  
10.00-4.30 **PARK & RIDE** from County Hall *Free*  
10.00-3.30 **STREET ENTERTAINMENT** inc. Rent a Peasant, Ellington Band, Addison Rapper, Iain McNicol & His Cabinet of Curiosities, living history, school dance groups, Baba Brinkman, Sedayne, Inner State, Hexham Morris, MacUmba, Michael Wray *Mkt Place, Back Riggs, Millennium Green, Turner Garden, Park Bandstand*  
10.00 - 10.45 **STORIES OF THE WORLD** for children *The Library Free*  
10.00 - 10.45 **CLOG DANCE WORKSHOP** Bring flat hard-soled shoes. With Anne Walton. *Town Hall Free*  
10.00 - 10.45 **SINGING WORKSHOP** with members of Werca's Folk choir *St. Robert's Church Hall Free*  
10.00 - 10.45 **MEET THE INTERNATIONAL PIPERS** Drop in *Bagpipe Museum Free*  
Daytime **STORYTELLER'S GARDEN** *Old Bakehouse Millennium Green, Newgate St.*  
10.30 **RING O' BELLS** from Clock Tower; open to public later - entrance at rear. Admission charge.  
11.00 **PAGEANT** Border piper, flags, Lord Greystoke's soldiers recreating return from Otterburn, welcomed to Town Hall by Morpeth Gadgy & civic heads. Pageant of performers, community groups, historic figures. *St. John Ambulance at rear Town Hall.*  
*During this time (10.45 - 11.45 am) Market Place & town centre from Chantry roundabout to Manchester St. closed to traffic. Alternative routes via Dark Lane/ Dacre St./ Manchester St. or Chantry Place/ Newmarket/ Oldgate.*  
12.00 **EVENT** *St Robt's Ch Hall*  
12.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** as Friday  
12.00 - 2.00 **SINGAROUND** Fred Brierley Joiners' Arms

## Competitions: entrants & audience welcome.

Passport ticket £2.00/£1.50 includes free entry to Exhibition. Doors open 30 minutes before times given below to allow entrants to register.  
12.00 **CLOG DANCE** (child & adult) *Town Hall Ballroom*  
1.00 **NORTHUMBRIAN PIPES & LOWLAND/ BORDER /HALF-LONG PIPES/ETC** *Bagpipe Museum*  
1.30 **SPEAKING** (dialect reciting & story-telling) Refreshments available *St Robert's Church Hall*  
2.00 **BANDS, ACCORDIONS, FIDDLES, OTHER INSTRUMENTS & DUETS** including Junior Band comp. Refreshments *St. George's Church Hall*  
2.30 **WRITING RESULTS** and dialect recital by entrants of this year's dialect prose & poetry. Results of writing competitions (judged in advance: closing date 1st April, children 8th April) Refreshments *St Robert's Church Hall*  
3.30 **SINGING** incl. groups & concert bands *Town Hall*  
2.00 - 2.45 **FAMILY SHOW** with Inner State theatre company *Methodist Church Free*  
2.00-4.00 **BIRD & BATBOX making** *Old Bakehouse Millennium Green, Newgate St. Free (pay for materials)*  
3.00 - 4.00 **TUDOR SKIRMISH** Re-enactment groups portray English and Spaniards *Park Bandstand area Free*  
4.00 - 5.00 **AMAZING MUSIC** concert of weird & wonderful instruments. Sedayne & Friends *Bagp. Mus. £3/£2*  
6.30 - 8.30 **WINNERS' CONCERT** Becky Taylor plus 2005 open winners *Bagpipe Museum £4/£3*  
8.00 **BARN DANCE** Fiddlers' Elbow Band; caller Robin Dunn. Guest spot by Banda Brisca. Bar. No stilettos! *St George's Ch. Hall £5/£3*  
8.00 **NORTHUMB'N PIPERS** session *Old Red Bull*  
8.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** as Friday

## Sunday 23rd April

9.30 - 4.30 **CRAFTS EXHIBITION** as Fri. *Town Hall*  
10.00 **COFFEE MORNING** *St Robert's Church Hall*  
10.00 - 3.00 **OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT** includ. Inner State's St. George & Dragon, Peasants and living history camp in the Park, Monkseaton Morrismen & Ampleforth Mummers' Play, premiere of new Dougie Pincock tune by Morpeth Pipe Band *Mkt Place & Park*  
10.30 **CHURCH SERVICE** *St. George's URC*  
Daytime: **WAREHAM COURT LEETS** medieval weights & measures tests re-enactments in town pubs  
11.00 **AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 TREES** tour of Carlisle Park looking at global diversity of its trees from Far East to Americas *Meet at Turner Herb Garden Free*  
11.30 **ORIENTEERING** event (prizes at 2 pm) *Park*  
12.00 - 2.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** as Friday.  
2.00 - 3.30 **FAMILY CONCERT** Keith Gregson, Border Box, Wilkinson School clog, etc. *Town Hall Free*  
2.00 - 4.00 **TOURS OF OLD COUNCIL CHAMBER**, Mayor's Parlour, Civic Silver *Town Hall Free*  
3.00 - 4.00 **TUDOR SKIRMISH** battle as Sat'day  
5.30 - 6.30 **THE RAP CANTERBURY TALES** (time & venue to be confirmed) performance by Baba Brinkman *Town Hall £4/£3*  
7.30 **ZEPHYRUS** - the English Bagpipe Orchestra - modern music for medieval pipes *Methodist Ch. £6/£3*

M.N.G.C., a member of Morp. Dist. Arts Trust & a standing committee of Morp. Ant. Soc., Reg. Char. 507640, reserves the right to alter event details.

**TICKETS:** Chantry TIC tel. 01670 500700 and during Gathering at Town Hall. **PATRONS:** 01670 790465. **PARK EVENTS:** 01670 500777. **DETAILS:** tel. 01670 513308; [www.northumbriana.org.uk](http://www.northumbriana.org.uk)