

# Northumbrian Language Society

"Keepin Ahad O Wor Tung"

Charity No: 515179

Members' Newsletter No: 60 – March 2007

Patrons: Their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland

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## Next Happnin

**Friday - Sunday 13-15 April**

### **40<sup>th</sup> Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering**

(Full details contained in the enclosed leaflet)

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## Gaffor's Grummins

*Deor Reedor kinny*

It's thet time o thi year agin. It's thi 40<sup>th</sup> Gathering in Morpeth, an it's time ti hand ower yor munny fer the Language Society, an it's thi Reed Neet an aall. So theor's a greet load happnin, summat fer ivvryone. So Aa've got tiv ax yous aall – hev yu med yor minds up wat yo're gonna gan ti? It'll be greet gud if'n yous can gan tiv aall thi happnins, cos wu need yu theor to swell the onlookers like. So, if you've nivvor been ti thi Gathering or thi Reed Neet, noo's yor chance! An Aah hope yo're gonna pay ower yor subs ti thi Society an aall cos wu hev a lot ti dee, an it costs a fair bit o brass like. Theor's a form fer yu ti fill in fer yor subs, an tickets fer the Reed Neet, so git them filled in sharpish so wu've a bit ov an idea aboot how much cash wu've got fer the next year, an how many pie an pea suppas wu've got to order.

Gan canny.

*The Gaffor*

**PLEASE NOTE:** The enclosed leaflet from the Northumberland Writers does not mean that we necessarily support that organisation, but they have interests similar to ours, so we have agreed to distribute their leaflet to our members. We hope you don't mind.

## Society News

Subs Are Due! It's that time of year again! There's a form enclosed to help you do the decent thing – please renew your subscription as soon as possible. The form also allows you to order your tickets for the Reed Neet as well. Please remember to tear off and keep the bottom part of this form. It's your ticket for the event!

### Agenda for the AGM

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last AGM
3. Executive Committee Report
4. Treasurer's Report & audited accounts
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of the Executive Committee
7. Other Elections (if any)
8. Any Other Business

### Reed Neet Programme

1. Peypin in the Muckle Greet Stotty Cyek
2. Sarrimoanyil Forst Hack
3. The Stotty Cyek Weesh
4. Tradeeshnal Suppor
5. Address ti the Muckle Greet Stotty
6. Reepley on eets bihaaf
7. Address ti the Baard
8. Reepley on eets bihaaf
9. Bits an Peeeces
10. Fred Reed's Bennydikshun

## Meetins an Happnins

**13-15 April 2007** – Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering: the Language Society competitions are on the Saturday afternoon as usual. These are Fine Northumbrian Speech, and Storytelling. There are a whole host of other competitions over the weekend, and the closing date for entries to these are this Saturday 24 March. So, if you haven't got your application in, you better get a move on! You can get details from Kim, or from the website [www.northumbriana.org.uk](http://www.northumbriana.org.uk) Details of the Gathering weekend are in the enclosed glossy leaflet.

**Saturday 12 May** – Durham Family History Day, 10am until 4pm at County Hall. We've got a stall.

**Saturday 19 May** – NLS AGM & Reed Neet. AGM at 7pm; Reed Neet at 8pm. Craik Park, Morpeth.

**Thursday 4 October** – National Poetry Day: there will be events for you to support. More details later.

**Saturday 20 October** – Roland Bibby Memorial Lecture, 2pm, Morpeth Town Hall. More details later.

**Saturday 8 December** – Yule Meet, 2pm-4pm in the Chantry Museum, Morpeth. Not to be missed!!!!

### NLS CONTACT DETAILS

**Chairman:** Peter Arnold,

30 Chapel Grange, Westerhope, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 5NF. Phone/Fax: 0191 264-4811. Email: [pja@beeb.net](mailto:pja@beeb.net)

**Secretary:** Kim Bibby-Wilson,

Westgate House, Dogger Bank, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 1RE. Phone: 01670-513308.

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**Treasurer:** Miss Hazel Dickson,

95 Rosalind Street, Ashington, Northumberland, NE63 9BW. Phone: 01670-811697

Some time ago, readers may remember that there was an article asking members what their favourite Northumbrian poem is. Here's the one sent to us by member Joan Phillips from Cullercoats:-

### **Gone Oot by Bill Stoker**

"I shull i' coal" me mutha sayd  
When Ed lay asleep  
In his caad bed ,  
"I minti black ti warm thi hoos."

Aa drew thi bolt  
Tiv igyen thi neyt  
In crept with fear'd dileyt  
Iccross thi street.

Thi forst waas  
Locked in mey wheyte fyess,  
Thi coalhoos door ihint  
Thi gardin gyet.

Aa torned me seylint  
Steps iroond;  
I trustin neighba  
Must be foond.

Thrice Aa passed thru gardin gyet  
Wi heavy heart fo' teyme waas late.....

I thing brushed passed, I pale meun fyace;  
Fire'd gone oot.....Ed quit 'is place.

**Poet's Note:** Ed, a child, is dying. His mother asks for coal to warm the house. "i minti black" is a big lump of coal. An older child goes out to steal coal. He is unable to gain access to neighbouring coal houses and, before he can return home, is passed by the ghost of his brother.

### **And now for something completely different.....**

You will have seen in the leaflet about the Gathering that there's an unusual **FREE EVENT** taking place on the Saturday morning at 12 noon in St Robert's Church Hall. Composer Trevor Wishart is touring the country collecting examples of regional speech patterns and dialects. He intends to use some of these in a piece of music he is composing. What he's looking for are stories and reminiscences from people of all ages in the north-east to create new kinds of music out of the patterns of local speech. If you would like to be involved in this project, why not go along and take part.