



*Keepin Ahad O Wor Tung*

Charity No: 515179

Patrons: Their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland

**Members' Newsletter No 64 - Spring 2008**

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## **Next Happnin**

**41<sup>st</sup> Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering  
Friday to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

**Our annual Northumbrian Festival promoting our  
traditional music and culture, this year with sixty  
different events, and with special events on a  
"Crossing Borders" theme, and a celebration of the  
500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of William Turner**

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*Passionate* about dialect

north east  
england

## **St Cuthbert's Day Dinner**

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Newcastle, Councillor Peter Arnold (wor ain Gaffer nee less!) and his wife Barbara (an NLS member) hosted a dinner at the Mansion House in Jesmond to celebrate St Cuthbert's Day.

Around two dozens members of the Northumbrian Association and the Northumbrian Language Society met for an entertaining evening of good food and fellowship.

The Gaffer made a short speech (aah divvent believe it!!) and after reading a couple of Fred Reed's poems, he began the meal by reciting "The Stotty Cyek Weesh" written by Kim's dad and NLS founder, Roland Bibby. After the meal there was the loyal toast to the Queen, and a second one to St Cuthbert.

After the toasts, the Gaffer then made another short speech (will miracles never end??!!??) and read another pair of Fred's poems. This was followed by a speech by the Chairman of the Northumbrian Association, Mike Tickell (another well-known Northumbrian personality and performer) who recited some poems in wor tung. And then he persuaded wor Secretary Kim to giv wuh a sang, an wuh aal joined in the choruses.

There was a bit mair crack efter this and then the Gaffer ended the proceedings by reciting Fred Reed's "Bennydictshun".

The hope is that wor Gaffer has started a tradition that will be followed by future Lord Mayors of Newcastle, but if he hasn't, then us'll hev ti think on hoo wuh might be ebble ti dee it for worsels.

## **Subscriptions**

This is a reminder that subscriptions for 2008/9 are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. Fees are £5 for adults and those in work, and £2 for those under 16, over 60, or not in work. Please fill in and return the subscription sheet enclosed in this mailing.

## **Annual General Meeting**

Our AGM will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, starting at 7pm in the Riverside Social Club, High Stanners, Morpeth. (The Club is underneath the new Mulan Chinese restaurant over the bridge at the end of Oldgate).

The business of the meeting will be to receive the Executive's Report, to approve the accounts, and to elect the Officers for 2008/9.

## **Reed Neet**

This traditional celebration of the birthday of our Poet Laureate, Fred Reed, will follow the AGM at 8pm in the Riverside Social Club.

Theor will be the tradeeshnal peypin in ov the muckle greet stotty, the sarrimoanyil forst hack, the stotty cyek weesh, the tradeeshnal suppor, the addresses an reepleys ti the stotty an the baard, the bits an peeces hoyed in bi them wot's willin, an endin wi the bennydictshun.

The cost of the Reed Neet will be £5 per person, and please will you fill in and return the enclosed order form so that we can get the right number of meals arranged.