

"Keepin Ahad O Wor Tung"

Members' Newsletter, Number 77, Spring 2011

Wot's On

Friday 29 April to Sunday 1 May - 44th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering. The Northumbrian Language Society events are on the afternoon of Saturday 30 April, starting at 12 noon in St Robert's Church Hall. Please support if you can. Full details in the brochure enclosed with this newsletter.

Saturday 7 May - NLS Annual General Meeting and Reed Neet - Morpeth Comrades Club. The AGM starts at 7pm, and the Reed Neet at 8pm. The Comrades Club has been completely relocated since the last time we were there. The entrance is in the corner of the Market Place, and there is now a lift as well as the stairs to the first-floor Club.

Sunday 7 August - Third Dialect Church Service, starting at 2pm - St Andrew's Parish Church, Newgate Street, Newcastle. Please put this date in your diary now. A good turnout would be very much appreciated. Please tell your own churches about this unique event. Full details will be available nearer the time.

Saturday 15 October - Roland Bibby Memorial Lecture - Morpeth Town Hall, starting at 2pm, doors open at 1.30. This year's lecture will be given by Karen Lowing from Newcastle University, who will report on a project studying the dialect use of youngsters in the borders. More information will be available later.

Saturday 22 October - English Dialect Day in Louth, Lincolnshire. This event is part of a campaign by several dialect groups to preserve our distinctive English dialects. There will be people from all over the English speaking community there. We hope to be represented. Perhaps our members living in the Midlands, and in Lincolnshire, can get to this very interesting event. Please let Kim know if you hope to attend so we can notify the organisers. Don't forget that we are hosting the Dialect Day in 2012!

Saturday 10 December - Yule Meet, our seasonal, pre-Christmas event, starting at 2pm in the Chantry Museum in Morpeth. More details later.

Northumbrian Language Society

Charity Number 515179

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NLS News

British Library Language Events : You will remember that we advertised a while ago some events being organised by the British Library. They were to do with the modern use of language, including local dialects. Well, the events happened in February, and we were involved in some of them. The official regional launch was held in Newcastle on 18th, and we were represented by our Chairman, Peter Arnold. The following week, two of our members, Hazel Dickson and Alex Swailes, took part in a dialect evening at the new City Library. Hazel read some dialect poetry, and Alex told dialect tales, and sang some local songs. Both were very well received. And on the same evening, the 23rd, Kim Bibby-Wilson, our Secretary, went to London to the British Library to see the national exhibition, and to attend a lecture where one of the speakers was NLS member Joan Beal.

Dictionary : Work is progressing slowly. We now have a dictionary in two parts - Northumbrian into Standard English, and English into Northumbrian. The easy bit is over. It's now the slow task of going through all the words to make sure we've got the right ones in, to try and decide which part of the language community they come from, and giving examples of how the words are used. You probably won't hear much about it for the next few months, but work is still going on.

Subscriptions : These are due on 1st April, and we've included a renewal form for you to use. There is no change to the level of subscription. Please renew as soon as possible.

AGM/Reed Neet : If you're coming to the AGM and the Reed Neet, you can use the form enclosed to order your pie and peas supper. Again, if you are coming along, please order as soon as possible so we can order the right amount of food. Please don't leave it to the last minute!

Dialect Church Service : We are hoping there will be a good turnout for this event. It is being held in the oldest parish church in Newcastle, St Andrew's on Newgate Street. It's an afternoon event, at 2pm, so that as many people as possible can get to it. If you are a member of a church, please help to publicise this service now.

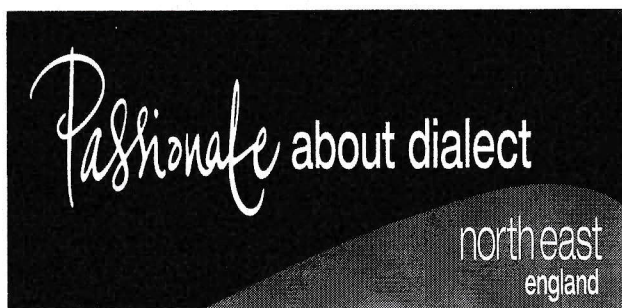
Newcastle Mystery Play : Did you know that Newcastle had a cycle of medieval mystery plays like York and Chester? We didn't until a few months ago when we were sorting through some old NLS papers. We came across the only text that survives from the full cycle of twenty-five plays. These were put on by the craft gilds each year at the Feast of Corpus Christi in the summer. The surviving play is called "Noah's Ark". So guess which gild put it on? The Shipwrights, of course!! Our Chairman has started work on producing a Northumbrian version of the play, with some additions to bring it up to date. If anyone knows anything about this play, please get in touch with Peter Arnold. The hope is that we might be able to put it on as part of next year's Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering.

The Gathering : a full programme of events at this year's Gathering is included with this newsletter. There's something for everyone interested in all things Northumbrian.

Of special interest to us, in addition to the Speaking competitions at 1.30, and the dialect recital at 2.30, is the "Taalk of the Toon" session at 12 noon, where Adam Mearns from Newcastle University will be talking about their 40 year project on Tyneside English. This is at St Robert's Church Hall, the same place where our Language Society competitions happen, so you could make an afternoon of it, and attend all three events!

And then, at 4pm there is an event called "Encounters in the Republic of Heaven" which is in the Methodist Church Hall in the basement. Full details of this event are printed in the programme. It sounds very different, making a "musical" event out of the accents of Northumbrians. This will be a shortened version of Trevor Wishart's work. You can see the whole thing at the Sage in Gateshead either on Wednesday 4th May or on Saturday 14th May. Contact the Sage for further information.

NB : The "Taalk of the Toon" event is free, and there are small charges for the others.



Northumbrian Language Society

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Subscription rates from 1st April 2011

Individual members: £10

Joint members: £15

Concessions: £5

(unwaged adults and young people under 18)

Name: Memb. No:

Address:
.....
.....

Postcode: Phone:

Email :
(Giving us your email address helps us keep costs down by making it possible for us to contact you quickly)

NB: Please note that your membership details will be held on a computer database for NLS use only, and will not be made available to any other organisation without your consent.)

Please make your cheques/postal orders payable to :
"Northumbrian Language Society"

Please return this form to:

Mr John Davidson
10 Burnhouse Road
Wooler
Northumberland
NE71 6EE

Reed Neet Ticket Application Form

(return this part of the form with your payment)

Date : Saturday 7th May 2011 at 8pm

Venue: Comrades Club, Market Place, Morpeth

Tickets : £6 (including stottie cyek, pie & peas supper, tea or coffee)

Name :

Address :

Postcode : Phone:
(in case we need to contact you urgently)

No. of tickets required : Meat Pie Vegetarian Pie

Please return this form to:

Mr John Davidson, 10 Burnhouse Road, Wooler,
Northumberland, NE71 6EE

NB : Closing date for ticket applications is Tuesday 3rd May
(Phone John Davidson on 01668-281462 for late applications or queries)

Reed Neet Ticket

(Please cut out this part of the form and bring it with you –
it is your ticket for the event)

Make a note of the number of suppers ordered : Meat Vegetarian

Saturday 7th May 2011 at 8pm
Comrades Club, Market Place, Morpeth.
(Preceded by the NLS AGM at 7pm in the same place)

Late News Late News Late News

Hello! My name is Andy Mark Simpson and I am writing to tell you about an award-winning North East independent film which you might be interested in. 'Young Hearts Run Free' is set in a Northumbrian mining village during the miners' strike in 1974 and it celebrates our region's heritage. It was filmed around the Ashington area using some of the North East's best new talent. It has a strong local flavour with some dialect speech and the music blends traditional folk and Northumbrian smallpipes with cool 1970s styles. It has won awards at festivals around the world and is now finally being released in UK cinemas. We've got some dates at the Tyneside Cinema in Newcastle (I'm trying to add more) and we'll also be arranging screenings in other North East areas including Hexham, Darlington, Durham, Sunderland and Teesside. I'm personally doing a director Q&A after the screenings to talk about how the film was made and to discuss the mining history.

Could you please pass this information on to your friends and group members? I would be very grateful.

View Trailer and ticket prices: <http://www.tynesidecinema.co.uk/whats-on/films/view/young-hearts-run-free>

'Young Hearts Run Free' screenings and director Q&A - Premiere and launch of national UK cinema tour:

Tyneside Cinema, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle

Sun Apr 3rd 3:10pm

Mon Apr 4th 12:00pm (over 60s only)

Tue Apr 5th 12:45pm

More screenings to follow if these do well.

Film lasts 94 mins then Q&A follows. BBFC certificate 12A.

Early booking is recommended (starting to fill up a bit) and it also helps us to negotiate more dates and bigger screens.

SYNOPSIS

'Young Hearts Run Free'

Community, Friendship, First Loves, Rebellion!

1974; during a violent miners' strike in a quiet North East village a teenage artist falls in love with the new girl from London but their attempts to escape cause him to betray his family, community and best friends so he is forced to choose between his old friends and his new love.

A coming-of-age story set against the backdrop of community bonds strained under a crumbling economy; the 1970s setting is very relevant for today. This low-budget indie film has authenticity from being made in the heart of Northumberland's former mining communities but it's main themes are universal; community, friendship, first loves and teenage rebellion.

Award-winning indie film 'Young Hearts Run Free' involves some of the best new acting and film-making talent in the North East and is an uplifting and soulful mix of cool 1970s styles, warm-hearted romance and gritty social realism.

The film is beginning a national tour of UK cinemas. The screenings are followed by a Q&A session from director Andy Mark Simpson and sometimes other cast and crew so audiences can meet the team, learn how the film was made and discuss the recurring economic situation and the mining history. There is a new educational website launching this week which has preview scenes, more details about the film and a page about the mining history where people can add their own opinions and memories. See www.youngheartsrunfreefilm.com

Winner 'Best Feature Film' Bootleg Film Festival, UK

Winner 'Platinum Award - Best Low Budget Feature' Houston Worldfest, USA

Winner 'Outstanding Actress Award' Stepping Stone Film Festival, India

'Official Selection' Salford Film Festival, UK

'Official Selection' Zero Film Festival New York, USA

For more information on the film and screening dates at other venues see www.youngheartsrunfreefilm.com or www.bedefilms.co.uk

Thank you. Yours sincerely,

Andy Mark Simpson

Director and Producer 'Young Hearts Run Free'

Bede Films Ltd

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