

"Keepin Ahad O Wor Tung"

Members' Newsletter, Number 80, November 2011

Next Happnin

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Yule Meet

Saturday 10 December
Morpeth Chantry Museum
2pm to 4pm

This is our annual winter-seasonal event. There will be stories, poems and songs from those present; a shared meal with food brought by everyone attending; our Northumbrian word game "Whe's Tellin Hoafies?"; and our Northumbrian Christmas Carol.

**Please remember to bring some money for the raffle,
to buy some of our books & CDs you may not have,
and ... for our brand new dialect posters and tea-towels!!**

Northumbrian Language Society

Charity Number 515179

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Wot's On

Friday 10 February 2012 : Gathering Fundraising Concert, Morpeth Town Hall at 7.30pm. Guest Artist – Alistair Anderson. Other artists to be confirmed. Ticket prices not yet agreed. More details later.

13-15 April : Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering – the north east's premier traditional heritage festival, held the weekend after Easter. Lots of indoor and outdoor events, activities, competitions, exhibitions, cavalcade. Please make a note of the dates, and come and support the dialect competitions on the Saturday afternoon.

Saturday 5 May : Northumbrian Language Society AGM, 7pm & Reed Neet 8pm. Venue to be confirmed.

20-21 October : National Dialect Gathering. More details in the article on this page.

Saturday 8 or 15 December : Yule Meet. Date to be confirmed. Venue – Morpeth Chantry Museum, 2–4pm

Silly Snippets

It was ever thus "The Northumbrians became drunk, as they tend to, and very cheerful they were when they left at evening." *Life of St Aethelwold, Chapter 12.*

Meg Wilson (from Cambridge) comments : Even in context, we're still the party animals. Just after Aethelwold founds Abingdon monastery, the king turns up with his Northumbrian thegns and dines with the Abbot. Then the mead container is never emptied – one of Aethelwold's more useful miracles! This story is removed from later editions of the work, either because it's insulting to the Northumbrians (who will come down and tell him so), or because he uses an unusual word ("suatim", meaning, "in one's own fashion").

Musician Neil Smith heard this one on a bus going from Durham to Newcastle :

Man, getting on bus : "D'ye gan through Birtley?"
Driver : "Aye, son, like a dose o salts!"

National Dialect Day 2012

Saturday 20 October

Morpeth Town Hall, Northumberland

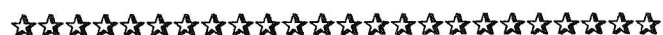


We are hosting this event next year. It will be the third in a series which was started by the Lancashire Dialect Society in 2010. This year's event was in Louth, Lincolnshire, and it's our turn in 2012.

The aim of the day is to celebrate and share the variety of dialects of English, and invitations go out to as many dialect groups as we know about. At the moment, we have contact details for dialect groups in Northumberland, Durham, Teesside, Yorkshire, Cumbria, Lancashire, Lincolnshire and the Borders. If you have contact details for any others please let us know.

We have booked the downstairs room in the Town Hall, where we held the lecture in October. The proceedings will probably start about midday with our annual lecture. This will be followed by some dialect competitions. After a break at about 5pm, we will restart at 7pm, probably in the ballroom upstairs, with a concert of dialect entertainment by the various groups attending. We're also thinking of holding a Dialect Church Service on the Sunday morning. Finally, we expect there will be stalls so the different dialect groups can display their wares.

This is a rare chance to get a lot of publicity for our wonderful dialects of English, and we're very keen to promote our marvellous Northumbrian dialect as well. So please let us know of anything you think will help us to do that. You can contact any of the Society's Officers whose details are on the front of this Newsletter.



Three New Fellows

At this year's AGM, three new Fellows were elected to mark their outstanding contributions over many years to the Northumbrian Language. The awards were made by our President, Katrina Porteous FNLS, to Kim Bibby-Wilson, Alex Swailes and Johnny Handle.

The names of the new Fellows will be entered in the Society's official records; each Fellow received a certificate of their election from Katrina; and each of them responded with a contribution to the Reed Neet, which followed immediately afterwards.

VoiceMale in Concert

*Northumberland's male folk
choir celebrates its 10th
birthday with a fund-raiser
for Morpeth's Admiral
Collingwood Statue Appeal.*



Supported by the
Border Directors band

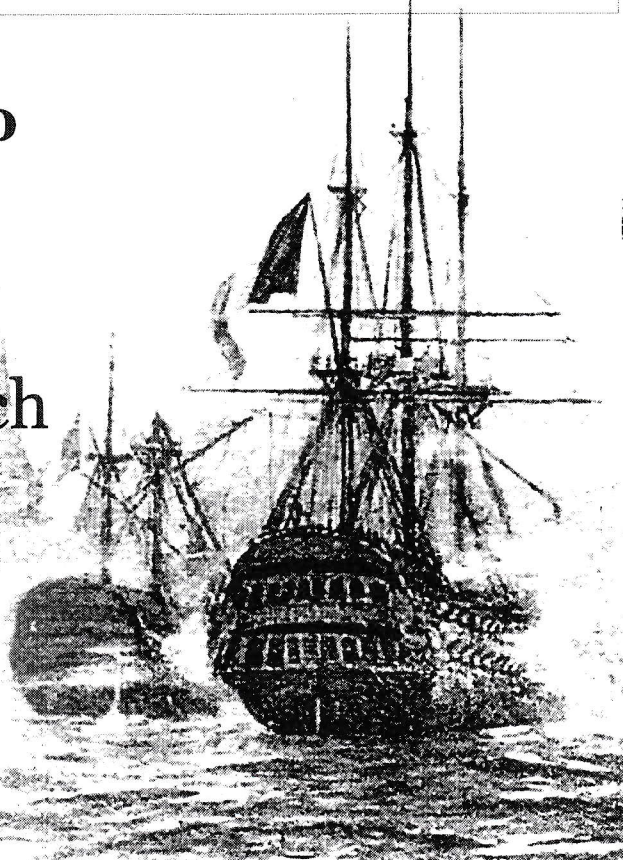
Greater Morpeth
Development Trust

Wed. December 7th

Adult £10.00 Child £5.00
Concessions £8.00

7.30 pm
Morpeth Methodist Church

Interval refreshments



JTB11

Tickets from Morpeth Chantry TIC 01670 525200. Queries to 512208