



"Keepin Ahad O Wor Tung"

Members' Newsletter, Number 81, Winter 2012

Next Happnin

**Gathering Fundraising
Concert**

**Friday 10 February
at 7.30**

Morpeth Town Hall Ballroom

MC : Alex Swailes FNLS

**See back page for details
of performers and tickets**

Northumbrian Language Society

Charity Number 515179

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Passionate about dialect

north east
england

Whaat's On

Friday 10 February : Gathering Fundraising Concert, Morpeth Town Hall at 7.30pm. Guest Artist – Alistair Anderson; MC – Alex Swailes FNLS. See back page for details of other performers and tickets.

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.

13 April- 5 May : "Close The Coalhouse Door" by Sid Chaplin (former NLS member). Classic north eastern drama comes home for an extended run. Don't miss it! PS : the early shows clash with the Gathering, and the last night is on the same evening as our AGM and the Reed Neet, so please go between these dates if you can. Venue : Northern Stage, Newcastle. Box Office 0191 230 5151, or look at the website : northernstage.co.uk

Saturday 5 May : Northumbrian Language Society AGM, 7pm & Reed Neet 8pm. Venue: Masonic Lodge, Witton House, Howard Terrace, Morpeth. There is car park on site, at the rear. Tickets for the Reed Neet will be £7 each. An application form for tickets will be included in the next newsletter.

20-21 October : National Dialect Gathering. More details in the article in this newsletter. This event will incorporate our traditional Roland Bibby Memorial Lecture on the Saturday, and a Dialect Church Service on the Sunday morning.

Saturday 8 December : Yule Meet. Venue : Morpeth Chantry Museum, 2-4pm

Morpeth Olympic Games at the Northumbrian Gathering

We need lots of Northumbrian dialect sporting terms that can be used at this year's Gathering to remind everyone of the celebrated Morpeth Olympic Games which were held every four years between 1870 and 1958. Anyone with memories or memorabilia of these events is asked to contact Kim urgently on 01670-518308. Please send any dialect sporting terms to wor Gaffor, whose contact details are on the front page of this Newsletter.

HADRIAN'S WALL IS SETTING FOR BBC RADIO COMEDY

A radio sitcom that started off life as an internet download has been snapped up by the BBC and will be broadcast in February.

It's Grim Up North, which follows the exploits of dodgy Roman auxiliary soldiers building Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland in AD126, has been penned by Ed Waugh and Trevor Wood, the Tyneside-based writers whose national and international comedy stage play hits include Dirty Dusting, Waiting For Gateaux, Son of Samurai and Maggie's End.

Supported by Sunderland University, the duo called on actor friends to record the pilot episode in July for their website, which Nigel Dyson, controller of BBC Cumbria, heard and commissioned the lads to write five six-minute episodes.

Starring Dale Meeks, Dean Logan, Gary Kitching, Mat Hobbs, Karen Traynor, Chris Connel and Jackie Fielding, who also directed the show, it features characters based around Drizzlewort, a milecastle on the wall: Britons from south of the wall, rebellious Picts and Roman auxiliaries from sunnier parts of the vast Roman Empire; hence their dislike of the constant rain in the wilds of Northumberland's picturesque but cold and wet moors.

Mr Dyson said: "I loved the idea, the setting, the script and the passion of Ed and Trevor when pitching this. It captures the imagination and uses our own region's history to suggest just what it might have been like to be a soldier when Hadrian's Wall was built!"

The duo, are delighted a home-grown comedy will be broadcast by the BBC. Trevor said: "Hadrian's Wall is a fantastic setting for a show and we hope people in radioland find it as funny as the positive responses we got from the website broadcast.

"Apart from further radio broadcasts, our aim is to add more episodes and tour the show along Hadrian's Wall as a live radio stagemat in a similar manner as we did with Son of Samurai when it was performed at the Latitude Festival and at north east venues."

For further information visit:
www.edwaughandtrevorwood.co.uk



45th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering



13th - 15th April 2012 Programme - details subject to confirmation **Edition 1**

Friday 13th April 2012:

9.30 - 5.00 **CRAFTS EXHIBITION** with refreshments; adult & junior craft competitions (entries received Thurs. 12th April 5.30pm - 7 pm). Displays/stalls: proggy mats, smallpipes, shepherds' sticks, T-shirts, cards, books, CDs *Town Hall Corn Exchange Small charge on door*
 10.00- 4.00 **OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT & STALLS:** Hautbois (Charles II music), Rent a Peasant, storytelling, Punch & Judy, Maximus the Centurion, *Market Place*
 10.00-1.00 **FAMILY ART WORKSHOP** with Elaine Porter. Drop in and make costume items inspired by the Olympics and the town's coat of arms *Market Place tent*
 11.00 - 12.00 **EARLY DANCE WORKSHOP** *Town Hall*
 12.00 -2.00 **CLOG DANCE WORKSHOP** *Tn Hall Free*
 2.00 **OFFICIAL OPENING** of Gathering by Mayor of Morpeth *Town Hall Exhibition Free*
 2.15 **BOOK LAUNCH** Bridget Gubbins on the old drove roads to Morpeth *Town Hall Ballroom Free*
 3.00 **MELODEONS FOR BEGINNERS** workshop with Ray Langton *Chantry Bagpipe Museum Free*
 3.00 **JUGGLING WORKSHOP** *Market Place*
 4.00 **STORIES FOR CHILDREN** Jim Grant *Library Free*
 7.30 **A CONCERT OF TWO HALVES** Music of Charles II and sporting heritage including the Blaydon Races. Johnny Handle, Fligarishon, Ray Alexander, VoiceMale, Bennett Hogg, community band (contact us for pre-Gathering workshops). *Methodist Church £8/£7*
 8.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** with Alasdair Turnbull, Keith Besford & friends *Tap and Spile Free*

Saturday 14th April: (10-4 Park & Ride at County Hall) *St. John Ambulance at rear of Town Hall.*

9.30 - 6.00 **CRAFTS EXHIBITION** as Friday *Town Hall*
 9.30 - 10.30 **MELODEONS FOR BEGINNERS** with Ray Langton *Town Hall Anteroom Free*
 9.45 - 10.30 **STORYTELLING FOR CHILDREN** including legend of Michael Scott, with Chris Bostock *Library Free*
 10.00-3.30 **OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT & STALLS** Punch & Judy, dance teams, Time Bandits, Jim Grant, Chris Bostock, historic characters, etc. *Market Place, the Park, Millennium Green Storytellers' Garden Free*
 Plus **LIVING HISTORY** with Sealed Knot and Rent a Peasant *The Park paddling pool area*
 10.00 - 10.45 **CLOG DANCE WORKSHOP** Bring flat hard-soled shoes. With Anne Walton. *Town Hall Free*
 10.00 - 10.45 **MEET THE NORTHUMBRIAN PIPERS** Drop-in session - all welcome *Bagpipe Museum Free*
 10.00 **RING O' BELLS** Clock Tower open afterwards
 11.00 **PAGEANT** Border piper, flags, Lord Greystoke's return from Otterburn, welcomed to Town Hall by Morpeth Gadgy and Mayor. Dancers, banners, Ellington Band, etc. *During this time (10.45 - 11.45 am) Market Place & town centre from Chantry roundabout to Manchester Street closed to traffic. Alternative route via Dark Lane/ Dacre Street/ Manchester Street.*
 11.45 - 1.00 **A GOOD SPORT** Keith Gregson on local sporting songs & pastimes *St Robert's Church Hall Free*
 11.45 - 12.45 **MOUTH ORGAN WORKSHOP** with Ernie Gordon (in key of C) *Bagpipe Museum Free*
 12.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** as Friday
 12.00 - 3.00 **SINGAROUND** Joiners Arms *Free*

Saturday Competitions: Passport ticket for entrants & audience £2.00/£1.50 includes free entry to Exhibition. Doors open 30 minutes before times given below to allow entrants to register. Refreshments at all venues except museum.

12.00 **CLOG DANCING** *Town Hall*
 1.30* **NORTHUMBRIAN PIPES & LOWLAND/ BORDER / HALF-LONG PIPES** *Bagpipe Museum *NB later start time*
 1.30 **SPEAKING** - dialect & stories *St Robert's Church Hall*
 2.00 **BANDS, ACCORDIONS, FIDDLES, OTHER INSTRUMENTS, DUETS** *St. George's Church (church ground floor, not the upstairs hall)*
 2.30 **WRITING RESULTS** and recital by entrants of this year's dialect prose & poetry. (Writing competitions closing date 24th March, juniors 31st March) *St Robert's Church Hall*
 3.30 **SINGING** including groups *Town Hall*

1.00 - 3.00 **BIRD & BATBOX** making *Old Bakehouse Millennium Green, Newgate St. Free (pay for materials)*
 2.00 - 2.45 **FAMILY SHOW** Professor Squeezijig's Songbook. Music hall to merriment - lots of instruments and audience participation *Methodist Church Free*
 3.00 - 3.30 **BATTLE** Sealed Knot and Time Bandits re-enact a Stuart skirmish *Park Bandstand area*
 4.00 - 5.00 **AN AFTERNOON WITH SID CALDERBANK** Lancashire dialect legend and founder of National Dialect Day *St Robert's Church Hall £2 or use passport ticket*
 4.00 - 5.00 **EARLY MUSIC CONCERT** with Jamie Savan and Renaissance Band plus Border pipers Matt Seale and Bill Telfer *Bagpipe Museum £3*
 5.00 - 6.00 **WILLIAM TURNER SOUNDSCAPE** Rachael Hales on her sound composition inspired by the William Turner Herb Garden in the Park *Bagpipe Museum*
 6.30 - 8.30 **WINNERS' CONCERT** 2011 open winners and guests. *Town Hall Ballroom £6/£5*
 7.30 **TWILIGHT TALES** with Jim and Chris Millen. *Gm*
 8.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** as Friday
 8.30* **BARN DANCE** Fiddler's Elbow plus guest spots. No stilletos! *St George's Ch. Hall £6/£5 *NB later start*

Sunday 15th April:

9.30 - 4.30 **CRAFTS EXHIBITION** as Fri. *Town Hall*
 9.30 - 11.00 **ORIENTEERING** event (prizes at 12) *Park*
 10.00 - 3.00 **OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT** Storytellers, Punch & Judy, living history, stalls *Market Place & Park*
 10.30 **CHURCH SERVICE** *St George's UR Church*
 11.00 **MELODEONS FOR BEGINNERS** with Ray Langton *Town Hall*
 11.00 - 12.30 **WALKING TOUR** of the Park's ancient woodlands. Meet in Park at William Turner Garden *Free*
 12.00 - 2.00 **MUSICIANS' SESSION** as Friday.
 1.00 - 3.00 **TOURS OF COUNCIL CHAMBER**, Mayor's Parlour, Civic Silver *Town Hall Free*
 1.30 - 3.00 **FAMILY CONCERT** Northumbrian Ranters harps & pipes, melodeon workshop members, 2011 clog winners, stories with Jim Grant *Town Hall Free/donations*
 3.00 - 3.30 **BATTLE** details as Saturday
 6.00 **THE MORPETH OLYMPIC GAMES** talk by sporting history expert Martin Polley, author of English Heritage's book "The British Olympics" *Town Hall Evening ticket £5*
 7.30 **ARCHIVE FILMS** Tom Temple's Morpeth Olympics sequences and other local sporting heritage films with Keith Hartnell *Town Hall Evening ticket £5*

M.N.G. Committee, part of Morpeth Antiquarian Society, Reg. Charity no. 507640, reserves the right to alter event details.

TICKETS: Morpeth TIC 01670 535200 **GATHERING OFFICE/QUERIES:** 01670 513308 www.northumbriana.org.uk

Northumbrian Concert



An evening of traditional music, song and stories

Alistair Anderson

Bob Bolam

Clock Tower Cloggies

Border Directors

Rachael Hales and

Nathan Armstrong

Bennett Hogg

Anita James and Ernie Gordon

M.C. Alex Swailes MBE

Friday 10th February 7.30pm

The Ballroom, The Town Hall,

Market Place, Morpeth, NE61 1LZ

Tickets £8.50 (Concessions £7.50)

from Morpeth Chantry TIC 01670 535200

or from Kim Bibby-Wilson 01670 513308

Interval refreshments available

***A fund-raiser for 45th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering 13th-15th April 2012
featuring music, dance, craft, dialect and sporting heritage events***