



Members' Newsletter No 97 Winter 2016

"Keep Ahad O Wor Tung"

Next Happnin

Saturday 3rd December at 2pm

Yule Meet

upstairs in the Morpeth Chantry Museum

Come and join us for our traditional Yuletide celebration

Bring some simple food for the shared meal, enjoy some of Hazel's seasonal punch, bring some pennies for the raffle and the merchandise, and don't forget your own contributions to the entertainment. Be amazed at "Whe's Tellin Hoafies?" and join in the singing of our own Yuletide carol.

NLS Contacts

If you want to get in touch with us about any of the items in this Newsletter, or about a dialect query, or to volunteer to help, contact:-

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www.northumbriana.org.uk

Dates For The Diary

Saturday 3rd December - Yule Meet upstairs in Morpeth's Chantry Museum, starting at 2pm. There's a lift to the first floor room.

21-23 April 2017 - 50th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering

Next year's Gathering will mark an important milestone, and there will be lots of exciting and interesting extra events. If you have never been, or have missed recent events, you really should make a special effort to get along to next year's special celebration. Programme details will be available soon, so look out for the publicity.

Saturday 6th May - AGM and Reed Neet our annual celebration of the birthday of wor bard, Fred Reed; an evening not to be missed!

Saturday 14th October - Roland Bibby Annual Lecture in Morpeth Town Hall. There are likely to be two lectures at this event!

Gathering Entries

Important Date Change

As Easter next year is in late April the organisers of the writing competitions have decided to revise the closing date to **Saturday 18th March** for all entries.

This change applies to 2017 only.

NLS News

James Tait has a new book of dialect poetry, "Coquet Ramblings", available to buy on his new website designed by Ian Hall of Wanney Books. Go to www.jamestait.co.uk for more information.



Multilingual Library - you can find this new facility in Newcastle in the upper level of the Eldon Gardens Shopping Centre. It's a charity run by The Kittiwake Trust. They have contacted us to see if we can provide them with some dialect books that members of the library can borrow. We are in the process of discussing how we can help them. In the meantime, why not pay them a visit the next time you're in the Toon, and see what they have on offer?



Did You Know? - In Ripon they have a tradition of a local official blowing a horn three times a day. We're not quite sure what this ceremony represents (so if anybody does know, please get in touch), but the interesting thing from our point of view is that the horn comes from a former member of the herd of Chillingham wild cattle!

National Dialect Festival - The photo below says it all. For five years in a row, the Northumbrian Language Society has come away with a trophy from this prestigious national celebration of dialect.

This year, the Festival was in Yorkshire, and Kim Bibby-Wilson and Johnny Handle teamed up to put on a show of our musical and dialect traditions in the Saturday evening concert.

As you might suspect, when these two got together their performance was judged to be the most entertaining of the night, and the photo shows them receiving the trophy they won.

We understand that next year's Festival will be in Cornwall. We'll keep you posted as details are announced.



Roland Bibby Memorial Lecture -

This year's Lecture was given by Johnny Handle, and a large audience was richly entertained as Johnny talked about his varied life. His lecture was punctuated by some of the songs and music he wrote following his experiences, particularly of his time as a miner, and later, as a teacher. He explained that, even though he did not use a great deal of dialect, his work was full of the north-eastern accent, and the colour of the local history and traditions of our region.

