



Members' Newsletter No 98 Spring 2017

“Keep Ahad O Wor Tung”

Next Happnin Gathering Fund-Raising Concert

**Friday 17th February at 7.30pm
Ballroom, Morpeth Town Hall**

See the details of performers, and ticket information,
on the back page of this Newsletter

Dates For The Diary

Friday 17th February - Gathering Fund-Raising Concert

To be held in the Ballroom of Morpeth Town Hall at 7.30pm. See the separate publicity details on the back page of this Newsletter.

21-23 April 2017 - 50th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering

This 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 an effort to get along to this 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; with a pie and peas supper, and entertainment - an evening not to be missed!

Thursday 5th October - National Poetry Day

We hope to be able to put on some dialect poetry events for this UK wide celebration this year. What would YOU like us to do? Ideas Please!

Saturday 14th October - Roland Bibby Annual Lecture

In Morpeth Town Hall. There are likely to be two lectures at this event!

Saturday 21 October - National Dialect Festival

This is scheduled to be in Cornwall this year. Check out the NDF website at www.dialectfestival.co.uk

Saturday 9th December - Yule Meet

We meet upstairs in the Morpeth Chantry Museum at 2pm. Please put this date in your diaries now!

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:-

Peter Arnold

33 Hackwood Glade, Hexham,
Northumberland, NE46 1AL;
phone: 01434 608230;
email: pja13@phonecoop.coop

Kim Bibby-Wilson

Westgate House,
Dogger Bank, Morpeth,
Northumberland, NE61 1RE;
phone: 01670 513308;
email:
kim@northumbriana.org.uk

or visit our website at:-
www.northumbriana.org.uk

Gathering Entries

REMINDER

As Easter this 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 applies to 2017 only.

The Competition rules are now on the Gathering website at
www.northumbriana.org.uk

HOAFIES AT THE 2016 YULE MEET

Can you guess, or do you know, which of the definitions of these genuine Northumbrian words is correct? These words were used in our world-famous word game “Whe’s Tellin Hoafies?” at the Yule Meet in December. For the first time in a long time, the audience won!

1. HOLY-BIZEN = a sieve

1. HOLY-BIZEN = a spectacle, a conspicuous show, an over-dressed person

1. HOLY-BIZEN = a busy-body “Divvent heed wor Nelly – she’s a reet holy-bizen”

2. HOIST = a cough; the related expression “kink hoast” is the term for whooping cough

2. HOIST = a bad smell: “Mind hoo ye gan doon bi the Quay – theor’s a terrible hoist roond the fishmarket”

2. HOIST = to toss in the air, to juggle

3. LAIRDED = folded, wrinkled; an expression coming from a deliberate action, as in pleating a garment or sewing layers of cloth together

3. LAIRDED = praised, applauded, complimented

3. LAIRDED = stuck in mud, caught in a bog or “lair”

4. CROGGY = suffering from a cold

4. CROGGY = weak in the legs, applied to a horse with poor forelegs

4. CROGGY = a small Scottish cow, brought to the cattle market by the drovers over long distances from the Border farmlands

5. SHAFFLE = to shatter, to break into fragments

5. SHAFFLE = to move in a clumsy manner, to struggle

5. SHAFFLE = to restrain, to shackle

6. KNOTTY-TOMMY = a poorly made crowdie (porridge) which is full of lumps or knots

6. KNOTTY-TOMMY = the cloudberry or mountain bramble whose fruits resemble knots

6. KNOTTY-TOMMY = an irregularly-shaped, knotted walking stick

7. BRUZZLED = trimmed with fine Belgian lace at the collar or cuff

7. BRUZZLED = bullied, beaten, defeated, downcast, “nooled”

7. BRUZZLED = over-cooked, over-roasted

NLS NEWS

In the last Newsletter we gave you some news about the Kittiwake Trust's Multilingual Library which is on the upper level in the Eldon Gardens Centre in Newcastle. They have sent us details of a series of local history talks they've organised during February and March. Here are the details:-

An informal introduction to the evolution of Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Four talks on local history by Tom Butler

24 February: An overview of the Tyne

3 March: Pandon, Pons Elli, Monkchester

10 March: The beginning with William Rufus

17 March: Newcastle from town to City

All talks start at 3pm in the Kittiwake Trust Multilingual Library, Upper Level, Eldon Gardens, Percy Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Free Entry

Tom Butler shares his prodigious knowledge of local history in plain local language on four consecutive Friday afternoons in February and March.

His down to earth style brings history to life, even for those who fell asleep in history class at school.

The talks span a broad period of time and Tom hopes that they will encourage his audience to continue their own research to discover more.

There will be ample time for questions, and a cup of tea.

Facebook: Kittiwake Trust Multilingual Library

Email: kittiwake@multilinguallibrary.org.uk

Aah Divvent Knaa!

We've had a request from a writer with north east connections for help in finding dialect words to use in a novel he's working on.

The particular words he wants to use are don't, won't, can't, doesn't, couldn't, wouldn't.

Most of us will recognise "divvent" for don't; but what about the others? Is won't "willent"? And is can't "canna"? We've heard of "cudna" for couldn't, "wudna" for wouldn't, and "disna" for doesn't; but what would you use in your part of Northumberland?

If you think you can help, please contact the writer, Chris Todhunter, by email at chris@todhunter.wanadoo.co.uk with your suggestions, or send them to Wor Gaffor, Peter Arnold, whose address is on the front page of this Newsletter.

Who Wrote This Poem?

We've had another request for information.

Kaye Hodson in New Zealand, has contacted us to ask if we knew who wrote the poem on a tea towel she bought in Alnwick Castle in 1981.

The poem is called "In This Northumberland". It has twelve verses, and the first one is:-

As you go passing, bide awhile, and take a friendly hand,

Then fondly I will guide you on, to my Northumberland.

We'll venture by secluded hills, by forest, land and plain,

And where the ballad castles rise, to climb each terraced lane.

If anyone knows the author of this poem, you can email Kaye with the answer at lanezend@extra.co.nz or you can let Wor Gaffor, Peter Arnold, know. His contact details are on the front page of this Newsletter.

Northumbrian Concert

An evening of traditional music, song and stories



Alistair Anderson

Bob Bolam

Border Directors

Colin Bradford

Robin Dunn and

Fiddler's Elbow

Ann Wilkinson

Anita James and Ernie Gordon

M.C. Alex Swailes MBE

Friday 17th February 7.30pm

The Ballroom, The Town Hall,

Market Place, Morpeth, NE61 1LZ

Tickets: Adult £10; OAP £9; Under 18 £8
from Morpeth Chantry TIC 01670 623455
or from Kim Bibby-Wilson 01670 513308



Interval refreshments available

*A fund-raiser for the 50th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering 21st-23rd April 2017
(music, dance, craft, dialect, stories, re-enactments for the Golden Gathering,
plus events for St George's Day and Shakespeare's Birthday)*