



57th Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering

25th–27th April 2025 Programme (details subject to change) Edition 4

Annual festival of Northumberland's music, dialect, crafts, traditions, family events - with Bob Fox & Stu Luckley, Real to Reel, Jez Lowe, Shonaleigh, Voice Male, Ellington Colliery Band, local dance teams, etc.

Before the Gathering: Pop-up Folk Ensemble Music

For advance details/scores: www.phoenixfolk.co.uk/morpeth

Many free events. Prices: adult /school age. Under 5s free. Sorry no card/phone payments – please bring cash/ cheque. Festival office: Fri/Sat - Town Hall; Sun - Chantry front shop

Friday 25th April:

During today performers will visit local care homes
9.30 - 5.00 CRAFTS EXHIBITION + refreshments; craft competition entries (rec'd Thur. 24th April 5.30 pm–7 pm), craft displays, stalls, CDs, books, posters, archive photos
Town Hall 50p at door/ accompanied under-12s free
10.00– 4.00 OUTDOOR ENTERTAINERS Punch & Judy, music, song, history *Market Place, Arcade Free*
10.00 – 4.30 DANCE WORKSHOPS 10.00 –11 Historic dances from 17th/18th centuries; 11.30–12.30 Clog (bring flat shoes); 1–2 Maypole; 3–4 Longsword *Town Hall Ballroom £3/£1 at door per session*
11.00 HAVE A GO BORDER PIPES WORKSHOPS for beginners - David Faulkner supported by Bagpipe Soc. Limited places, either 11.00–11.40 or 12.20–1.00 *Bagpipe Mus'm £10 advance booking: kim@northumbriana.org.uk*
1.30 – 2.30 SHANTIES IN THE CHANTRY Singalong with Ian McKone *Bagpipe Museum £3/£1 at door*
2.00 OFFICIAL OPENING of Gathering by the Mayor of Morpeth, Cllr Betty Bawn *Town Hall Exhibition*
2.15–4.00* TOWN TREASURES Tours of Mayor's Parlour, Council Chamber, civic silver, portraits, etc, with Mayor & councillors as your guides *Town Hall Free (*change of date)*
3.30 – 4.30 DULCIMER SESSION Sing/play-along (any instrument) with Sandie & Ken Hudson - slow & steady arrangements for guitar, hammered & Appalachian mountain dulcimers *Bagpipe Museum £3/£1 at door*
4.30– 5.30 FAMILY STORIES with Jim Grant *Library Free*
7.30 – 9.45 VOICE MALE Concert for the choir's 25th birthday with special guests Werca's Folk MC David Wilson *Methodist Church £12/£6 ticket*
8.00 SINGAROUND led by Sam Dodds *Black & Grey Coach House Free (donations welcome)*
8.00 MUSICIANS' SESSION *Tap & Spile (donations)*

Saturday 26th April: 9–4 FREE Park&Ride at County Hall

9.30 – 4.30 CRAFTS EXHIBITION as Friday *Town Hall*
9.45–10.30 FAMILY STORIES - Shonaleigh *Library Free*
10.00– 4.00 OUTDOOR ENTERTAINERS Punch & Judy, music, Ellington Colliery Band, local morris, clog and rapper teams *Market Place, Park, Bakehouse Millenn Green*
10.00 – 4.00 MORPETH CASTLE OPEN DAY history, stories & music. Arranged with Landmark Trust *Free*
10.00 – 10.45 MEET THE NORTHUMBRIAN PIPERS Drop-in to hear the small pipes *Bagpipe Museum Free*
10.00 – 10.50 POP-UP FOLK ENSEMBLE Prepare for tonight's concert spot (see above) *St Robt's Hall (donations)*
10.15 RING O' BELL'S; Clock Tower tours from 12 approx
11.00 PROCESSION Gadgy's Welcome at Market Place
12.00– 4.00 STORYTELLER'S GARDEN Stories & music for 25th birthday *Old Bakehouse Yard Millenn Green Free*

12.00 – 1.15 JEZ LOWE songsmith & novelist with Life Writing – Songs & Stories *St Robt's Ch Hall £6/£3 ticket*
12.00 MUSICIANS' SESSION *Tap & Spile (donations)*
12.00 - 3.00 SINGAROUND *Joiners Arms (donations)*
12.00-1.00 CLOG DANCE GET-TOGETHER Demos & chat led by Lynette and Sue *Town Hall Ballroom £2/£1.50*

Saturday Competitions: Passport ticket for entrants/audience £2.00/£1.50 includes free entry to Exhibition. Doors open 30 minutes before times stated below to allow entrants to register. NB NO CLOG DANCE competitions – see 12.00 Ballroom slot

1.45* SPEAKING & WRITING: dialect, stories, results of pre-judged written items-deadline 22 Mar.*St Robt's Hall(*new time)*

1.45* NORTHUMBRIAN PIPES & LOWLAND/ BORDER /HALF-LONG PIPES *Chantry Bagpipe Museum (*new time)*

2.00 BANDS, ACCORDIONS, FIDDLIES, OTHER INSTRUMENTS, DUETS *St. James Centre, Wellway (new venue)*

3.30* SINGING *Town Hall (*NB change to last year's time)*

1.30 – 2.30 FAMILY SHOW silly song spots from Ken Patterson and Jim Eldon *Town Hall Ballroom £3/£1 at door*

4.00 - 5.00 MORPETH POETRY GROUP heritage characters in costume & verse *St Robt's Ch Hall £3/£1 at door*

4.00 - 6.00 SLOW & STEADY session led by BITS NE for beginners & intermediate players *White Swan (donations)*

4.00 – 5.15 BORDER PIPES CONCERT David Faulkner with Iain Gelston & Matt Seattle *Bagp Mus'm £5/£2 ticket*

6.00*– 7.30 WINNERS' CONCERT 2024 winners + Pop-up Ensemble *Town Hall Ballroom £9/£5 ticket (*new time)*

8.00 – 9.15 BOB FOX & STU LUCKLEY Special reunion concert by legendary duo *Town Hall Ballrm £15/£8 ticket*

8.00 MUSICIANS' SESSION *Tap & Spile (donations)*

8.00 NORTHUMBRIAN & BORDER PIPING SESSION *Conservative Club, Newgate Street Free (donations)*

8.30 – 11.00 BARN DANCE Real to Reel Ceilidh Band + Hexham Village Mummers, Hadrian Clog. Bring own drinks *Town Hall Corn Exchange £9/£5 ticket (new venue)*

Sunday 27th April: Sorry, no Sunday Crafts Exhibition this year

10.00–4.00 MORPETH CASTLE OPEN DAY as Saturday

10.30 – 2.30 OUTDOOR ENTERTAINERS Punch & Judy, musicians, maypole dancing *Market Place*

10.30 – 12.30 MORPETH HERITAGE WALK guided by James Boyd from Chantry c. 2 miles - limited places, book in advance via 01670 513308 *Free (donations)*

11.00 –12.00 BAGPIPE ALLSORTS sharing session for all pipes led by David Faulkner *Bagp Mus'm £3/£1 at door*

11.15 – 12.30 CHURCH SERVICE with dialect hymns & readings from Gathering performers *St James Church*

12.00 - 3.00 MUSICIANS' SESSION *Tap & Spile Free*

12.30–1.30 THE MYTH OF MORPETH Shonaleigh retells her Millennium project story *Bagpipe Mus'm £5/£2 ticket*

1.00 – 1.50 WHERE IS MY BOY TONIGHT? Megan Wisdom and Mossy Christian's show on the East Coast Fishing Industry *St James Centre £5/£2 at door*

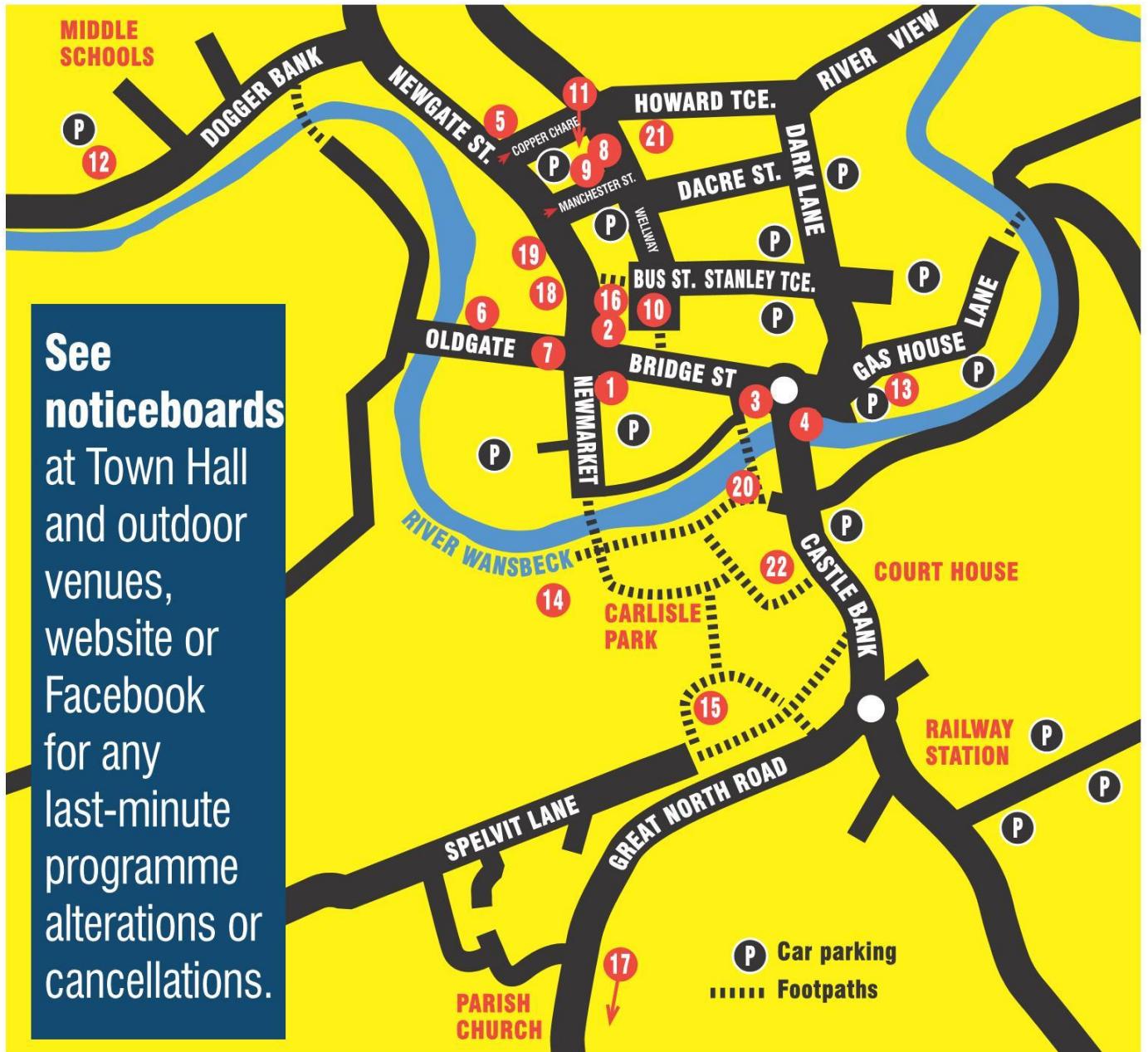
2.00 – 3.00 DROP-IN DULCIMER WORKSHOP Nonsuch Dulcimer Club 'Come and Try' session on hammered and mountain dulcimers *Bagpipe Museum £3/£1 at door*

2.15 – 3.15 NORTHUMBRIAN RANTERS The county's youth folk ensemble *St James Centre £5/£2 at door*

4.00-5.00 DAVID HALDANE Illustrated talk by celebrated Morpeth-based cartoonist *St James Centre £5/£2 at door*

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

DETAILS/UPDATES: www.northumbriana.org.uk **QUERIES:** 01670 513308 **TICKETS:** Morpeth TIC 01670 623455



- 1 TOWN HALL**
- 2 MARKET PLACE**
- 3 CHANTRY TIC AND BAGPIPE MUSEUM**
- 4 ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH**
(not in use this year)
- 5 BLACK AND GREY COACH HOUSE**
- 6 ST. ROBERT'S CHURCH HALL (Rear of Collingwood House)**

- 7 CLOCK TOWER**
 - 8 ST. JAMES' CENTRE**
 - 9 TAP & SPILE**
 - 10 SANDERSON ARCADE**
 - 11 ST.JAMES'S CHURCH**
 - 12 RUGBY FIELD**
 - 13 NEW LEISURE CENTRE & LIBRARY**
 - 14 CARLISLE PARK (Bandstand)**
 - 15 MORPETH CASTLE**
 - 16 WHITE SWAN (Upstairs room)**
 - 17 COUNTY HALL**
 - 18 OLD BAKEHOUSE MILLENNIUM GREEN**
 - * 19 CONSERVATIVE CLUB**
 - 20 JOINERS ARMS**
 - 21 METHODIST CHURCH**
 - 22 WILLIAM TURNER HERB GARDEN**
- * Staff Aided Access