

The world beats a path to Morpeth!

For three full days on 26th to 28th April, the weekend after Easter, the 52nd Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering celebrates the area's folk music, crafts, dance, dialect and heritage, with concerts, street shows, have-a-go workshops, story-telling, puppets, competitions, pub music, Living History, family activities and a grand procession featuring a giant figure of a Northumbrian piper.

This year's special *Ower the Watter* theme brings international musicians such as Baltic Crossing (NE England and Scandinavia), Brian McNeill (Scotland) Topette!! (Anglo-French supergroup) and Robert Helgert (German zither player), to mix with leading local performers including Fiddler's Elbow, Northumbrian piper Chris Ormston, poet Katrina Porteous, and young bands Folkestra and the Northumbrian Ranters.

For the full programme see updates on the website www.northumbriana.org.uk or call in for tickets and leaflets at the box office, Morpeth Chantry, 01670 623455. General queries to Kim on 01670 513308.

Gathering supporters Dan and Diane of the Wylam Boathouse Sessions say:

"For anyone who may not be too familiar with this annual event – it is probably the best three day festival to learn, understand and take part in remembering the past, knowing the present and looking to the future of Northumberland's cultural heritage. It has traditional music and dance. Pageants, that remind us of past significant events and people who influenced local life and politics in the past and into the present. Local dialect, music and crafts competitions that interest people here. There are concerts and a barn dance / ceilidh. Street entertainment and pub sessions, both traditional music and also singing. So, take a look at the programme and have a great, full and enjoyable weekend getting to know what Northumberland is all about!"