

HOUGHTON FERST 50



OCTOBER 6TH - OCTOBER 15TH 2017





FIRST PUBLISHED IN 2017 BY HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAUL LANAGAN, DAVID ALLAN & ANNIE LEE
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WWW.HOUGHTONFERST.CO.UK



WELCOME

AS MAYOR OF the City of Sunderland I am delighted to welcome everyone to Houghton Feast 50 and its theme of 'Time Travel'. It is a great honour and privilege for me to open this year's Festival which dates back around 800 years and is such an integral part of the community here in Houghton-le-Spring. I hope to attend as many events as possible and support the 2017 Festival.

Houghton Feast 50 is a ten day festival, and as always, is jam-packed with events and activities to suit everyone. There will be a fairground, traditional ox roasting, church events, carnival parade, community events, exhibitions, talks and tours, fireworks and more!

Houghton Feast is truly an event we in Sunderland can all be very proud of and I do hope you are able to come along and join in all of the wonderful festivities and commemorations.

COUNCILLOR DORIS MACKNIGHT

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL

THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SUNDERLAND

HOUGHTON FEAST 50 is upon us and I am very pleased that so many dedicated individuals, groups, businesses and schools from across our Houghton-le-Spring communities have rolled up their sleeves and helped to plan or participate in our exciting programme which has Time Travel as its theme as we commemorate the 50th anniversary since the Great Feast Revival of 1967 as well as the 500th year since Houghton's famous Rector Bernard Gilpin was born.

Thanks must go to Sunderland City Council and the Coalfield Area Committee for continuing financial and practical support of the Feast. In times of unprecedented cuts to public sector budgets the Council has ensured that funding continues for this important community event. This year the Steering Group has spent time discussing how we continue to provide for and improve Houghton Feast going forward. These discussions culminated in the setting up of The Houghton Feast Trust. Look out for more information about the Trust at this year's celebrations.

Finally, I want to thank all members of the Steering Group who work hard throughout the year to ensure we can all enjoy Houghton Feast.

Enjoy this year's Feast!

COUNCILLOR ANNE LAWSON

CHAIR OF THE

HOUGHTON FEAST STEERING GROUP



HOUGHTON FEAST 50

IT IS MY great pleasure to welcome you to this the fiftieth Houghton Feast in modern times. It is most fitting we are also celebrating 500 years since the birth of the most famous Rector of Houghton-le-Spring, Bernard Gilpin.

This year we have been celebrating the life and example of Bernard Gilpin by focusing on three aspects of his life: Faith, Generosity and Service. Gilpin founded Kepier School, he fed the needy of the town every fortnight from Houghton Feast through to Easter by roasting an ox and he cared enough to travel throughout Northumberland to people, who had never known the care and support of the Church.

Not only have we wanted to shine a spotlight on this remarkable man but we have also sought to inspire the people of Houghton to undertake acts of faith, generosity and service to impact our community for the better. We have done this through a variety of special events in Church and the Kepier Hall, in working with our local schools and through our community project SPACE4 - look out for us in the Feast Parade! Our work at SPACE4 is directly part of the legacy of Gilpin who had a special regard for the needy people of Houghton; we seek to emulate his generosity by reaching out through SPACE4 - do take the opportunity this Feast Week to find out more about what we do.

The Feast is the culmination of all our celebrations – let's be inspired this year to continue Gilpin's legacy of Faith, Generosity and Service, so that our community is transformed. I hope you and your families have a wonderful time celebrating Houghton Feast 50 and commemorating the life of Bernard Gilpin.

REV CANON SUE PINNINGTON MBE

RECTOR OF HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH

WELCOME TO THE fiftieth anniversary programme of events where we will be taking a journey through time. The photographs in this edition's gallery have come from the vast collections in the Houghton Heritage Society archive and show visits to the Festival in years gone by – times may have changed but the Feast is still about the people of Houghton coming together. If you find the photographs of interest, you will be pleased to know that the Society has recently published a new book featuring a similar collection but with everyday scenes from around Houghton-le-Spring, including the shops, streets, trams, and Rectory Park to name but a few.

Houghton Feast 50 commemorates the revival of the Festival in 1967, when the local churches and community groups joined forces and established the format of events that we still enjoy to this day – including the Rotary Club's ox roasting and the 41 Club's colourful Carnival Parade. The Feast is, of course, much older than fifty years and has its origins over 800 years ago as Michaelmas, the patronal festival of St Michael & All Angels Church, but it wasn't until the sixteenth century when Houghton's Rector, Bernard Gilpin, started the ox roasting tradition in the first place to feed the parish's poor.

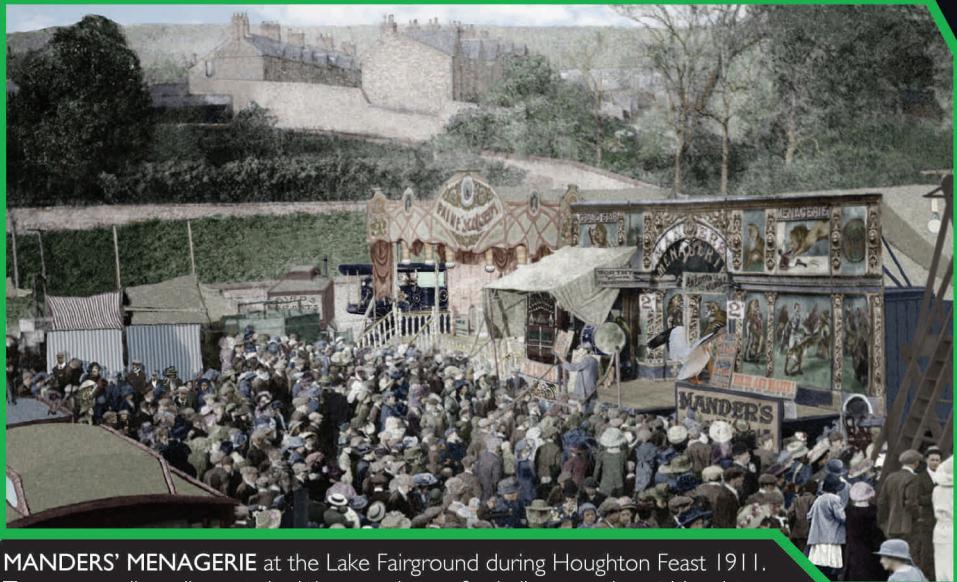
You can discover more about Gilpin's generous and kind hearted acts elsewhere in this brochure and you can even meet him during this year's Carnival Parade when a re-enactor will bring him back to Houghton Feast in a light-hearted nod to a man who made a difference to the lives of some of Houghton's neediest people.

I do hope you enjoy the full range of Houghton Feast 50 activities, and, as John Mawston, Chair of the Houghton Feast Revival Committee, said in October 1967: "Your support of these events, which provide something for everyone, will be warmly welcomed and will be an encouragement to us all in striving to make next year's Feast even more attractive and enjoyable."

MR PAUL LANAGAN BA HONS

CHAIRMAN OF THE

HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY



MANDERS' MENAGERIE at the Lake Fairground during Houghton Feast 1911.
Ten years earlier, a lion attacked the proprietor of a similar attraction at Houghton
Feast 1901 - much to the shock and amusement of the big crowd!



THE HOUGHTON FEAST fairground on the Lake site, 1912. Pictured are Mrs Baker's steam yachts, Harry Caris's gallopers, Edward Morley's circular steam switchback, Murphy's four-abreast gallopers, a lighthouse slip (helter skelter) and Relph & Pedley's motor car scenic railway.



CANDY FLOSS TIME at Houghton Feast 1952.



WHAT A CROWD! Thousands at the annual outdoor community hymn singing at Houghton Feast 1957. The event first took place in 1949 and at its height regularly attracted 8,000 attendees before it moved indoors in 1981.



A RARE VIEW of the first roasted ox at the Houghton Feast Revival 1967 when the sandwiches cost 1/6, about 7½ pence in today's money. In 2016 the sandwiches cost £3.00 each.



MAYOR OF SUNDERLAND, Councillor Thomas Bridges, carving the beast at the Houghton Silver Jubilee Feast in October 1977. Hidden behind the spit wheel is Rotarian Ron Young who has been involved with the event since 1972 and the main organiser since 1988.



CHARMING ILLUMINATION PIECES in the Rectory Park for Houghton Feast during the 1970s.



MR WARD AND members of the Ho'tonians Juvenile Jazz Band marching in the Carnival Parade at Houghton Feast in the late 1970s. The jazz bands were a popular part of the Parade and are a big miss.



PERZO THE CLOWN and the Sunshine Circus came to Houghton Feast 2000 for the special Millennium celebrations. The Big Top was erected in the Rectory Park.



BRENDA WEATHERBURN'S FLORAL version of the Gilpin Crest in St Michael's Church at Houghton Feast 2001. It took 10 hours to make and lasted 2 weeks.



GEORDIE DAVISON WITH Mr Ringmaster
-controlled by Rebecca Marsden - on
Newbottle Street at Houghton Feast 2001.



ROTARIAN FRANK COULTHARD and Houghton Feast Chairman John Mawston at the Rotary Club's ox roasting in October 2003.



ALL THE FUN of the fair with the Mayor at Houghton Feast 2006 when SEN children were given complimentary rides by the Showmen's Guild. This kind hearted tradition started in 2001 and continues to this day.

500 YEARS OF HERITAGE



WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE HOUGHTON FEAST

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2017

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

PRE-LAUNCH EVENTS

HOUGHTON FEAST OPEN BOWLS TOURNAMENT

The first rounds of the Houghton Feast Open Bowls Tournament will be taking place at Houghton Town Bowling Club at Houghton Sports Centre. The final will be held on Houghton Feast Saturday, October 7th 2017. Prospective participants must contact Kenneth Taylor before the day.

VENUE: Houghton Sports Centre, Station Road, DH4 5AH
ENTRY: Free for spectators
DATE: Sat Sep 30th 2017 **TIME:** 10:00
ORGANISER: Houghton Town Bowling Club
FURTHER DETAILS: 0191 584 7268
SPONSOR: Rotary Club of Houghton-le-Spring

HOUGHTON FEAST CYCLO-CROSS RACES

A series of cyclo-cross races will take place at Hetton Lyons Country Park, commencing 10am with youths and juniors through to women, seniors and veterans in the afternoon, ending around 3pm. This event is Round 5 of the British Cycling CXNE (Cyclo-cross Northeast) 2017 - 2018 series. The races will cover youths of all age categories, women only, veteran men, plus junior and senior men. Entry is free to the spectating public.

VENUE: Hetton Lyons Country Park, Hetton-le-Hole, DH5 9DT
ENTRY: Free for spectators
DATE: Sun Oct 1st 2017 **TIME:** 10:00-15:00
ORGANISER: Houghton Cycling Club
FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtoncc.com

QUEEN OF EVENTIDE AFTERNOON TEA

The traditional Queen of Eventide Afternoon Tea will be taking place in the Miners' Welfare Hall, Station Road. Doors open at 13:30 and admission is by pre-purchased ticket only. These are available from the Age UK office in Hetton Centre (Monday mornings) or the Metcalfe Centre or on the telephone number below.

VENUE: Welfare Hall, Station Road, DH4 5AH
ENTRY: £3.00 (pre-purchased ticket only)
DATE: Wed Oct 4th 2017 **TIME:** 14:00 (doors open 13:30)
ORGANISER: Age UK
FURTHER DETAILS: 0191 526 9274
SPONSOR: Sunderland City Council Community Chest

FOR THE DURATION

MURPHY'S FAIRGROUND

All the fun of the fair for everyone young and old, featuring the latest thrill rides, such as Waltzers, Jump 'n' Smile, Miami and Tagada, plus family favourites including hook-a-duck, hoopla, side stalls and coconut shy. The Houghton Feast Fairground is organised by Mr John Murphy of the Showmen's Guild and will operate for the duration of the Festival.

VENUE: Rectory Field, Dairy Lane, DH4 5BH
DATE & TIME: As follows-
Fri Oct 6th 18:00-22:00; Sat Oct 7th 13:00-22:00;
Sun Oct 8th Closed;
Mon Oct 9th 18:00-22:00; Tue Oct 10th 18:00-22:00;
Wed Oct 11th 18:00-22:00; Thur Oct 12th 18:00-22:00;
Fri Oct 13th 18:00-22:00;
Sat Oct 14th 13:00-22:00 (last night).
LESSEE: John Murphy (member of the Showmen's Guild)
FURTHER DETAILS: www.facebook.com/funfairmurphys

PROGRAMME SUPPORTED BY

Sunderland
City Council

BACK TO THE FUTURE: A COLLECTION

A selection of Back to the Future memorabilia and merchandise from the collections of Peter Corfield will be on display in the glass cabinets of Houghton Library for the duration of the Festival. This is your chance to see rare collectible versions of the DeLorean time travel machine plus Doc Brown and Marty McFly!

VENUE: Houghton Library, Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF
ENTRY: Free

DATE & TIME: During the Library's usual opening hours

ORGANISER: Houghton Heritage Society

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonlespring.org.uk/events

SPONSOR: Murphy's Fun Fairs

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 09:30-11:30

ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

THE FUN FAIR: A SPECIAL OPENING

The official opening of the Houghton Feast fairground will be performed by the Right Worshipful, the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Doris MacKnight. Children from local special educational needs schools will be given supervised free rides thanks to the generosity of the Houghton Feast showmen.

VENUE: Rectory Field, Dairy Lane, DH4 5BH

ENTRY: By invitation only **TIME:** 13:00

ORGANISER: John Murphy & Son

FURTHER DETAILS: www.facebook.com/funfairmurphys

SPONSOR: Murphy's Fun Fairs & the showmen of

Houghton Feast

NEW BEGINNINGS TODDLER GROUP

The New Beginnings Toddler Group meets every Friday afternoon in Houghton Methodist Church during school term time. Come along with your toddler to play, learn and socialise during this Houghton Feast week.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 13:30

ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

GAVIOLI ORGAN & CHURCH BELLS: A MUSICAL MEDLEY

The Gavioli 86 Key Trumpet Barrel Organ, which dates from 1886, will be in operation at intervals throughout the night giving the Broadway an old time musical atmosphere as we await the official opening of Houghton Feast 50 at 7pm. Plus - for the first time in many years - the Feast will be welcomed in with a peal of bells! The eight bells in St Michael's Church tower, including one which weighs 96 stone, will ring out loud across the Broadway, seeing a welcome return to this Houghton Feast tradition!

VENUE: The Broadway, DH4 4BB

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 18:00-20:00

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonfeast.co.uk

FEAST LAUNCH FRIDAY OCTOBER 6TH 2017

TIME FOR TEA: COFFEE MORNING

Hot drinks and biscuits will be served in Houghton Methodist Church in the heart of Houghton Town Centre (located next to Lidl). Everybody is welcome to visit – just pop your head through the door and a friendly welcome is guaranteed!

SUPER HEROES IN HOUGHTON!

With thanks to Mint Management Entertainment, our favourite heroic characters from over the years will be entertaining the crowds in the Broadway as we eagerly await the launch of Houghton Feast 50! Fantastic face painters and Buddy the Balloon Modeller will also be around to help you 'while away the time' until the main show kicks off at 7pm! Donations from this event will go towards The Houghton Feast Trust, helping to sustain the Festival for future generations.

VENUE: The Broadway, DH4 4BB

ENTRY: Free (Donations welcome) **TIME:** From 18:00

ORGANISER: Sunderland City Council

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonfeast.co.uk

SUPPORTED BY: Sunderland City Council Coalfield Area Committee

FEAST DAY

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1TH 2017

THE HOUGHTON FEAST OPEN GOLF COMPETITION

Tee times available from 7:30am. All competitors will be entered into a free draw for a complimentary four ball voucher. First nett prize of £300. For full terms and conditions, contact the Club prior to the event.

VENUE: Houghton Golf Course, Copt Hill, DH5 8LU

ENTRY: £40.00 per team (£36.00 for members)

TIME: 07:30-14:00

ORGANISER: Houghton-le-Spring Golf Club

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtongolfclub.co.uk or 0191 584 1198

SPONSOR: Elliott Westland Insurance Brokers

OPENING CEREMONY

HOUGHTON FEAST 50: JOURNEY THROUGH TIME LASER SHOW

It is time to experience the Houghton Feast Tattoo and Opening Ceremony with a mix of time travelling magic! Houghton Pipe Band will be performing along with dancers from Zazz as well as contributions from Tom 'Mouse' Smith, Houghton Area Youth Brass Band, Hetton Lyons School Choir and others! School groups will present their Doctor Who-themed lanterns led by large dancing puppet versions of The Doctor and the villainous Missy/Master! At the conclusion, the Houghton Feast illuminations will be switched on by the Right Worshipful, the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Doris MacKnight, followed by a laser show finale which will transport attendees across the Time Vortex! This event is not to be missed – and best of all it is free!

VENUE: The Broadway, DH4 4BB

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 19:00

ORGANISER: Sunderland City Council

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonfeast.co.uk

SUPPORTED BY: Sunderland City Council Coalfield Area Committee

THE WORLD'S BIGGEST EXHIBITION OF HOUGHTON HERITAGE PHOTOGRAPHS!

For one day only, celebrating the 500th birthday of Bernard Gilpin, over 500 photographs from the collections of Houghton Heritage Society will be exhibited around Houghton Town Centre. Old photographs from the history of Houghton-le-Spring will be on display showing scenes of Houghton's pubs, shops, theatres, tramways, sports, schools, the old Hillside Cemetery, Rectory Park and the 'Houghton at War' collection. A special selection will focus on Bernard Gilpin as well as Houghton Feast from years gone by as part of the commemorations for the 50th anniversary of the Great Feast Revival. Members of Houghton Heritage Society will be present in the Broadway to answer any questions you have about our town's history. Over 1,500 people viewed the photographs last year – can we beat that record?

VENUE 1: Rectory Park railings, The Broadway, DH4 4BB

VENUE 2: Houghton Blind Centre, Thornhill Street, DH4 5BE

VENUE 3: Houghton Methodist Church, Maudland Street, DH4 4BH

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:00-15:00

ORGANISER: Houghton Heritage Society

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonlespring.org.uk/events

SPONSOR: Murphy's Fun Fairs

MINI-FEAST AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

Tasty light lunches and hot refreshments will be served in Houghton Methodist Church. This is the ideal opportunity to have a rest from the festivities and view the exhibitions also taking place in the Church. Everybody is welcome and a friendly welcome is guaranteed.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
TIME: 09:30-13:00
ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church
FURTHER DETAILS: www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

DALEK MEET & GREET – LIVE!

Meet a terrifying DALEK or two in Houghton's Broadway and get a selfie - if you dare risk EXTERMINATION! The TARDIS might even materialise nearby. One of our Daleks appeared in the 1975 story 'Genesis of the Daleks' which featured actor James Garbutt who was born in Houghton-le-Spring (if the weather is inclement, this event will not take place).

VENUE: The Broadway, DH4 4BB
ENTRY: Small donation **TIME:** 10:00-12:00
ORGANISER: Houghton Heritage Society
FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonlespring.org.uk/events
SPONSOR: Murphy's Fun Fairs

GRAND DISPLAY OF MINING BANNERS

Members of Houghton & Lambton Banner Group will be on hand in the Welfare Hall to share their knowledge about the history of the many mining banners on exhibit there. The Houghton banner, which is the town's 7th and was made by Dr Aidan Doyle of Great Northern Banners in 2004 using funds raised by Patricia Simmons and the late George Rowe, will be on display before it is carried along the Parade route.

VENUE: Welfare Hall, Station Road, DH4 5AH
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:00-16:00
ORGANISER: Lambton & Houghton Banner Group
FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonfeast.co.uk
SPONSOR: Patricia Simmons

PARISH CHURCH: CRAFT & PRODUCE MARKET

The historical heart of Houghton Feast, St Michael's Church, will be throwing open its doors and hosting a variety of stalls which will be selling

crafts, fresh produce, cakes, fruit and vegetables. Refreshments will also be available. Everybody is welcome to have a browse, pick up some bargains and take in the historic surrounds.

VENUE: Houghton Parish Church, DH4 4DN
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:00-15:00
ORGANISER: St Michael & All Angels Parish Church
FURTHER DETAILS: www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk

HOUGHTON FEAST ART EXHIBITION DAY I

Houghton Art Club will stage a 3 day exhibition of local artists' work in Houghton Methodist Church (Sat, Mon and Tues), and their members will be available for advice and discussion. Pop in and see the artwork which has been created by the Club's talented members and look out for the time travel and Bernard Gilpin themed pieces. Most of the artwork may be purchased. Other events are taking place in the venue at the same time and light refreshments will be available.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:00-16:00
ORGANISER: Houghton Art Club
FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonartclub.webs.com

HOUGHTON FEAST MAKERS' MARKET & TABLE TOP SALE

A Craft and Table Top Sale will be taking place in Houghton Blind Centre (behind the Fun Fair) where local people will be selling their handmade gifts. This is the perfect opportunity to get an early Christmas present for your loved one or something special not found in the shops. Refreshments and light snacks available. Outside of the Feast, the Makers' Market takes places in the Welfare Hall, Station Road, every third Saturday of the month between February and December, 10am – 3pm.

VENUE: Houghton Blind Centre, Thornhill Street, DH4 5BE
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 11:00-15:00
ORGANISER: From the Heart Craft Fairs
TELEPHONE: 07890720718
FURTHER DETAILS: www.facebook.com/groups/434810676686127

HOUGHTON FEAST: 800 YEARS YOUNG!

Houghton Feast is Houghton-le-Spring's ancient festival at over 800 years old! This special outdoor photograph exhibition has been put together by The Houghton Feast Trust, a newly formed charity which aims to preserve and help to keep the Houghton Feast traditions, and features photographs of the ox roasting, fairground, carnival parade, fireworks and community events.

VENUE: Houghton Blind Centre railings, Thornhill Street, DH4 5BE

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 11:00-15:00

ORGANISER: The Houghton Feast Trust

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonfeasttrust.com/events

CORRIE: TV THROUGH TIME

Michael Adams, who has appeared on CBBC, presents his unique collection of props and memorabilia from the long-running TV drama Coronation Street which was first broadcast in 1960. Michael, who also famously created a Geordie themed Love Heart sweet, will be talking to visitors about his appearances on television and how the collection came about. Other events are taking place in the venue at the same time and light refreshments will be available.

VENUE: Houghton Blind Centre, Thornhill Street, DH4 5BE

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 11:00-15:00

ORGANISER: Houghton Heritage Society

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonlespring.org.uk/events

SPONSOR: Murphy's Fun Fairs

GAVIOLI ORGAN

The Gavioli 86 Key Trumpet Barrel Organ, which dates from 1886, will be in operation at intervals throughout the day giving the Broadway an old time musical atmosphere. The Organ is being presented by Mr Michael Houlden whose family has owned it for 80 years.

VENUE: The Broadway, DH4 4BB

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 12:00-16:00

PRESENTED BY: Michael Houlden

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonfeast.co.uk

BACK IN TIME AT THE OLD RECTORY

The Old Rectory (in the grounds of the Park) is hosting a community open day especially for Houghton Feast 50. The building, which dates from the 17th century, was home to several of

Houghton's famous Rectors and become home to the Council in 1949. Call in and take part in a wide range of activities and have a look around the ancient building including the former Houghton Urban District Council chamber!

VENUE: The Old Rectory, DH4 4BB

ENTRY: Free (**Donations welcome**) **TIME:** 12:00-16:00

ORGANISER: Acumen Community Buildings at the Old Rectory

FURTHER DETAILS: 0191 386 9785

THE PIPES & DRUMS – LIVE!

Houghton-le-Spring Pipe Band, ably led by Pipe Major James Hall, will be performing in the Broadway and along Newbottle Street as the pipers and drummers make their way to the Carnival Parade starting point. The band has been contributing to the Feast for decades and this is your opportunity to see and hear professional local musicians for free!

VENUE: The Broadway/Newbottle Street, DH4 4BB

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 12:30-13:30

ORGANISER: Houghton-le-Spring Pipe Band

FURTHER DETAILS: www.hlspb.co.uk

SPONSOR: Coalfield Area Committee

15TH PRIMARY SCHOOL DASH

Local primary schools will compete in a race along Newbottle Street for a trophy and medals. Racing of all kinds has always been a traditional part of Houghton Feast, so please show the participants your support and cheer them on along the course which will end at St Michael's Church archway in the Broadway.

VENUE: Newbottle Street/The Broadway, DH4 4BB

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 13:45

ORGANISER: Houghton Harriers & Athletics Club

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonharriers.org

SPONSOR: Houghton Rugby Club

CARNIVAL PARADE:

50TH ANNIVERSARY

It is carnival time at Houghton Feast 50! Come along and watch this colourful community production starring time travelling heroes and villains from Doctor Who and Back to the Future - plus our traditional favourites: local school children in fancy dress, the pipes and drums, classic cars, the King and Queen of Eventide, marching musical bands, Billy Purvis the Clown, Bernard Gilpin and the wild boar, Zazz dancers and vintage

steam vehicle. The procession starts at Houghton Library car park and will travel along Newbottle Street into the Broadway (where you can listen to the narration) before ending at the Dairy Lane entrance to Rectory Park. Please dig deep in your pockets as proceeds of the 41 Club's enroute collection will be donated to local charities.

VENUE: Newbottle Street/The Broadway/Rectory Park
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 14:00
ORGANISER: Houghton 41 Club
FURTHER DETAILS: www.facebook.com/houghton41club
SUPPORTED BY: Sunderland City Council

THE HOUGHTON FEAST CLASSIC CAR SHOW

A free classic and vintage car show will take place in the grounds of Kepier Academy, Dairy Lane, after the Carnival Parade. This is your opportunity to view close at hand the vehicles which were in the Parade – you can even meet the owners who will tell you the story of their favourite wheels.

VENUE: Kepier Academy, Dairy Lane, DH4 5BH
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 14:30+
ORGANISER: Houghton 41 Club
FURTHER DETAILS: www.facebook.com/houghton41club

HOUGHTON FEAST RUGBY MATCH

Your chance to support Houghton RUFC at the Dairy Lane ground at the special Houghton Feast Rugby Match sponsored by Houghton's 41 Club (former Round Table members). Come along and enjoy a skilled game played for the coveted Houghton Feast Trophy. The Rugby clubhouse has full social facilities including a bar, food, TV screens and car park.

VENUE: Houghton Rugby Club, Dairy Lane, DH4 5BH
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 15:00
ORGANISER: Houghton Rugby Club
FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonrugby.co.uk
SPONSOR: Houghton 41 Club

HOUGHTON FEAST OPEN BOWLS TOURNAMENT FINAL

The final round of the Houghton Feast Open Bowls Tournament will be taking place at Houghton Town Bowling Club at Houghton Sports Centre. The winner will be presented with a trophy by the Right Worshipful, the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Doris MacKnight.

VENUE: Houghton Sports Centre & Wellness Centre, Station Road, DH4 5AH
ENTRY: Free for spectators **TIME:** 15:00
ORGANISER: Houghton Town Bowling Club
FURTHER DETAILS: 0191 584 7268
SPONSOR: Rotary Club of Houghton-le-Spring

HOUGHTON FEAST SUNDAY SUNDAY OCTOBER 8TH 2017

HOUGHTON FEAST 50: CIVIC SERVICE

A grand service of thanksgiving for community life, attended by the Right Worshipful, the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Doris MacKnight; Bridget Phillipson, Member of Parliament for Houghton & Sunderland South; civic dignitaries; public servants; and the people of Houghton-le-Spring.

As part of the Houghton Feast 50 celebrations, the former Mayors of Sunderland have also been invited along in acknowledgement of their contributions to the Feast since 1974. This year's preacher is the Right Reverend Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham. Everyone is welcome to attend and refreshments will be served at the back of the church after the service.

VENUE: Houghton Parish Church, DH4 4DN
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:30
ORGANISER: St Michael & All Angels Parish Church
FURTHER DETAILS: www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk

MORNING WORSHIP

Morning worship and Junior Church will be taking place at Houghton Methodist Church on Mautland Street (next to Lidl). Why not come along and bring your children to Junior Church? We have children aged 0 - 18 and play games, make crafts, tell stories and have discussion. Everyone is welcome.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:30
ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church
FURTHER DETAILS: www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

COMMUNITY HYMN SINGING: GILPIN 500

A great evening of hymns and singing in St Michael & All Angels Church on the theme of Bernard Gilpin, commemorating the quincentenary of his

birth. This traditional Houghton Feast event was established in 1949 by Rev Oswald Noel Gwilliam who was also at the heart of the Houghton Feast Revival in 1967. This is your opportunity to sing and rejoice at Houghton Feast in the historic Parish Church.

VENUE: Houghton Parish Church, DH4 4DN

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 18:00

ORGANISER: St Michael & All Angels Parish Church

FURTHER DETAILS: www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk

HOUGHTON FEAST MONDAY MONDAY OCTOBER 9TH 2017

HOUGHTON FEAST

ART EXHIBITION DAY 2

The second day of Houghton Art Club's 3 day exhibition of local artists' work in Houghton Methodist Church. Art Club members will be available for advice and discussion. Look out for the time travel and Bernard Gilpin themed pieces. Most of the artwork may be purchased. Other events are taking place in the venue at the same time and light refreshments will be available.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:00-16:00

ORGANISER: Houghton Art Club

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonartclub.webs.com

CRAFT GROUP

A Craft Group will be taking place at the Methodist Church. Everybody is welcome to join in.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 14:00

ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

ROASTING THE OX: 50TH ANNIVERSARY

A roasted ox, prepared overnight by the Rotary Club, will be carved by the Right Worshipful, the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Doris MacKnight. The practice of roasting an ox was re-introduced at the Houghton Feast Revival of 1967 by the Rotary Club in commemoration of Rector Bernard Gilpin who would roast an ox or hog to feed

Houghton's poor in the 16th century. All proceeds from the sale of the tasty sandwiches will be donated to local charities. The event is very popular and the ox sandwiches do sell out quickly.

VENUE: Rectory Field, Dairy Lane, DH4 5BH

TIME: 16:00

ORGANISER: Rotary Club of Houghton-le-Spring

FURTHER DETAILS: www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=145

SUPPORTED BY: Sunderland City Council

FIREWORK CAFE (BROTH & BUN)

Hot broth and freshly baked buns will be available at the Bethany Christian Centre, Durham Road, prior to the launch of the Houghton Feast Fireworks. Everyone will be given a warm welcome by the Bethany team. Free controlled parking for cars is available on site.

VENUE: Bethany Christian Centre, Hetton Road, DH5 8PF

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 18:30

ORGANISER: Bethany Christian Centre

FURTHER DETAILS: www.bethanychristiancentre.co.uk

FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR

The must see Houghton Feast fireworks spectacular! Rockets are being launched from the Durham Road playing fields and can be viewed from the surrounds including Dairy Lane. If travelling by car, please park in an appropriate place in the town centre as there is no car parking at the launch site. Road Closures will be in operation (for full details see www.sunderland.gov.uk/roadworks or the local press). Volunteers from The Houghton Feast Trust will be collecting donations during the event to help sustain the Festival for future generations.

VENUE: Durham Road, DH5 8NF

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 19:30

ORGANISER: Sunderland City Council

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonfeast.co.uk

SPONSOR: Murphy's Fun Fairs & the showmen of Houghton Feast

TUESDAY OCTOBER 10TH 2017

TIME FOR TEA: COFFEE MORNING

Hot drinks and biscuits will be served in Houghton Methodist Church in the heart of Houghton Town

Centre (located next to Lidl). Everybody is welcome to visit – just pop your head through the door and a friendly welcome is guaranteed!

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

TIME: 09:30-11:30

ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 13:00

ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

HOUGHTON FEAST ART EXHIBITION DAY 3

The final day of Houghton Art Club's 3 day exhibition of local artists' work in Houghton Methodist Church. Art Club members will be available for advice and discussion. Look out for the time travel and Bernard Gilpin themed pieces. Most of the artwork may be purchased. Other events are taking place in the venue at the same time and light refreshments will be available.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:00-16:00

ORGANISER: Houghton Art Club

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonartclub.webs.com

SHOPPERS' SERVICE

A 'pop in' short service at Houghton Methodist Church. A warm welcome is guaranteed to anybody who comes along to the Methodist Church which is located in the heart of the town centre (next to Lidl).

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:30

ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

OUR WAR MEMORIAL, OUR FAMILY

Step back in time with Fay Judson and the members of Houghton War Memorial Group who will be giving an illustrated talk about their recent experiences of compiling family histories for each of the men listed on Houghton's cenotaph. Copies of their book will be available for sale at the event. Afterwards, the group will visit the cenotaph (weather permitting). Kepier Hall is a community facility located behind St Michael & All Angels Parish Church and has a car park with 20 spaces.

VENUE: Kepier Hall, Church Street, DH4 4DN

ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 10:00

ORGANISER: Houghton War Memorial Group

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.facebook.com/houghtonlespringwarmemorial

HOUGHTON BRASS BAND CONCERT

Houghton Brass Band will be performing their annual Houghton Feast concert in St Michael & All Angels Parish Church. Tickets are available on the door and refreshments will be available during the interval. The award winning band, which was formed in 1983 by local teacher Tom Gibson, performs an array of concerts throughout the year and has even toured many European countries. Do not miss this chance to see them performing live on your doorstep!

VENUE: Houghton Parish Church, DH4 4DN

ENTRY: £5.00 (concessions £3) **TIME:** 19:00

ORGANISER: Houghton Brass Band

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.facebook.com/HoughtonBrassBand or

www.houghtonbrass.com

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11TH 2017

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

A Women's Fellowship meeting will be taking place at Houghton Methodist Church. The group meets every week and has a guest speaker with a mix of religious and informative subjects.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

THURSDAY OCTOBER 12TH 2017

TIME FOR TEA: COFFEE MORNING

Hot drinks and biscuits will be served in Houghton Methodist Church in the heart of Houghton Town Centre (located next to Lidl). Everybody is welcome to visit – just pop your head through the door and a friendly welcome is guaranteed!

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
TIME: 09:30-11:30
ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church
FURTHER DETAILS:
www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

HOUGHTON FEAST: 800 YEARS YOUNG!

Houghton Feast is Houghton-le-Spring's ancient festival at over 800 years old! This special outdoor photograph exhibition has been put together by The Houghton Feast Trust, a newly formed charity which aims to preserve and help to keep the Houghton Feast traditions, and features photographs of the ox roasting, fairground, carnival parade, fireworks and community events.

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Centre railings, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 09:30-17:00
ORGANISER: The Houghton Feast Trust
FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonfeasttrust.com/events

FRIDAY OCTOBER 13TH 2017

TIME FOR TEA: COFFEE MORNING

Hot drinks and biscuits will be served in Houghton Methodist Church in the heart of Houghton Town Centre (located next to Lidl). Everybody is welcome to visit – just pop your head through the door and a friendly welcome is guaranteed!

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
TIME: 09:30-11:30
ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church
FURTHER DETAILS:
www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

THE HOUGHTON FEAST WILDLIFE WALK

Durham Wildlife Trust invites you to explore Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve on a guided walk ably led by one of their rangers. Rainton Meadows is home to the Trust's headquarters and has an excellent network of accessible pathways linked to viewing areas which look across the site's grasslands and wetlands. Places are free (donations welcome) but should be reserved online at: www.durhamwt.com/events

VENUE: Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve, Chilton Moor, DH4 6PU
ENTRY: Free (Donations welcome) **TIME:** 10:00
ORGANISER: Durham Wildlife Trust
FURTHER DETAILS: www.durhamwt.com/events

NEW BEGINNINGS TODDLER GROUP

The New Beginnings Toddler Group meets every Friday afternoon during school term time. Why not come along with your toddler to play, learn and socialise this Houghton Feast week?

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
ENTRY: Free **TIME:** 13:30
ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church
FURTHER DETAILS:
www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

THE GILPIN 500 DINNER

Celebrating the 500th anniversary of the birth of Houghton's famous Rector, Bernard Gilpin, a special dinner with entertainment is taking place in the Parish Church. The Cherry Pickers, a live folk band, will be providing the music and a licensed bar will be available. Tickets can be booked by calling 07917817879.

VENUE: Houghton Parish Church, DH4 4DN
TICKET LINE: 07917817879 **TIME:** 19:30
ORGANISER: St Michael & All Angels Parish Church
FURTHER DETAILS: www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk

SATURDAY OCTOBER 14TH 2017

TIME FOR TEA: COFFEE MORNING

Hot drinks and biscuits will be served in Houghton Methodist Church in the heart of Houghton Town Centre (located next to Lidl). Everybody is welcome to visit – just pop your head through the door and a friendly welcome is guaranteed!

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
TIME: 09:30-11:30
ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church
FURTHER DETAILS:
www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

THE GILPIN 500 HOUGHTON HERITAGE WALK

This guided walk around Houghton-le-Spring will be led by local historian Paul Lanagan and will visit many of Houghton's historical buildings and locations including some on bumpy terrain. Please dress for the weather with appropriate walking shoes. The walk will also look at the story of Bernard Gilpin, known as the Apostle of the North and Father of the Poor for his many good deeds. Starting point is the blue railings of Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, and will end at the Wild Boar pub where many of the Heritage Society's archived photographs are displayed.

START: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH

ENTRY: Free TIME: 10:30

ORGANISER: Houghton Heritage Society

FURTHER DETAILS: www.houghtonlespring.org.uk/events

SPONSOR: Murphy's Fun Fairs

VENUE: Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
ENTRY: Free TIME: 10:30
ORGANISER: Houghton Methodist Church
FURTHER DETAILS:
www.facebook.com/Houghtonmethodist

HOUGHTON FEAST VARIETY SHOW: TURN BACK TIME

Your final chance to see Zazz's 34th Annual Houghton Feast Variety Show. You will be taken through the centuries with song and dance performances by the pupils of Zazz, featuring many special lighting and laser effects. Tickets are available from Zazz Theatre or the Dance & Theatre Boutique, both on Newbottle Street, costing £6.00 each (£5.00 concessions). The Zazz Theatre is a 120 seat venue in the heart of Houghton-le-Spring. It has a licensed bar and refreshments will be available. Free parking to the rear on Station Road.

VENUE: Zazz Theatre, Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF

ENTRY: £6 each (concessions £5) TIME: 18:00

ORGANISER: Zazz

BOX OFFICE: 0191 584 0764

FURTHER DETAILS: www.zazzuk.com

HOUGHTON FEAST VARIETY SHOW: TURN BACK TIME

Zazz is pleased to present the 34th Annual Houghton Feast Variety Show which has been running every year since 1984. You will be taken through the centuries with song and dance performances by the pupils of Zazz, featuring many special lighting and laser effects. Tickets are available from Zazz Theatre or the Dance & Theatre Boutique, both on Newbottle Street, costing £6.00 each (£5.00 concessions). The Zazz Theatre is a 120 seat venue in the heart of Houghton-le-Spring. It has a licensed bar and refreshments will be available. Free parking to the rear on Station Road.

VENUE: Zazz Theatre, Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF

ENTRY: £6 each (concessions £5) TIME: 19:00

ORGANISER: Zazz

BOX OFFICE: 0191 584 0764

FURTHER DETAILS: www.zazzuk.com

THE BIG HOUGHTON FEAST QUIZ NIGHT!

Thanks to the magic of time travel, the Big Houghton Feast Quiz makes a welcome return to the Festival line-up after an absence of 6 years! This fun night is raising money for The Houghton Feast Trust, a charitable incorporated organisation, recently set up by local residents to help keep our Feast going for future generations. Rounds will cover general knowledge, sport, music, the news and all the rest – plus a special "How well do you know Houghton?" multi-choice round! So get a team together and come along for some great fun, amazing prizes (including a BIG CASH jackpot) and plenty of laughs – with a licensed bar, everyone is guaranteed to have a brilliant time while helping a worthy cause!

VENUE: Houghton Rugby Club, Dairy Lane, DH4 5BH

ENTRY: £1 per person (max 6 per team)

TIME: 20:00-22:00

ORGANISER: The Houghton Feast Trust

FURTHER DETAILS:

www.houghtonfeasttrust.com/events

SPONSORS: Gilpin's Gin; Dominos Pizza; Zazz Dance; Houghton RUFC.

ALL INFORMATION CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. THE RIGHT TO AMEND THE PROGRAMME CONTENT WITHOUT NOTICE IS RESERVED. PLEASE CONTACT THE INDIVIDUAL ORGANISERS WITH ANY ENQUIRIES.

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KEY VENUES

1. WELFARE HALL & SPORTS CENTRE
2. LIBRARY & ZAZZ THEATRE
3. METHODIST CHURCH
4. THE BROADWAY
5. ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
6. RECTORY PARK
7. FAIRGROUND & OX ROAST
8. KEPIER ACADEMY
9. RUGBY CLUB
10. BLIND CENTRE
11. DURHAM ROAD
12. BETHANY CHRISTIAN CENTRE

PUBLIC CAR PARKING SPACES ARE LOCATED AT STATION ROAD, BRINKBURN CRESCENT, IMPERIAL BUILDINGS AND POTTERY YARD. PLEASE PARK RESPONSIBLY. FOR ROAD CLOSURES PLEASE FOLLOW LOCAL SIGNAGE & BE AWARE THAT BUS SERVICES WILL BE AFFECTED.



HOUGHTONFEAST



HOUGHTONFEASTHQ



DH4 5BH



WITH THANKS

THIS BROCHURE HAS BEEN FUNDED ENTIRELY BY THE LOCAL BUSINESSES IN HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING AND WAS DESIGNED, COMPILED AND DISTRIBUTED BY VOLUNTEERS FROM HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY.

HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY IS GRATEFUL TO THE TRADERS IN HOUGHTON TOWN CENTRE WHO ARE ALWAYS HAPPY TO SHARE AND PROMOTE THE TOWN'S RICH HERITAGE. PLEASE SHOW THE ADVERTISERS YOUR SUPPORT WHEN YOU ARE IN HOUGHTON DURING AND AFTER HOUGHTON FEAST BY SHOPPING LOCAL. THESE BUSINESSES ARE THE BEDROCK OF OUR COMMUNITY AND OFFER US SERVICES AS WELL AS GIVING EMPLOYMENT TO OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

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BEHIND MURPHY'S FUN FAIR



**TABLE TOP
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FERST LASER LAUNCH

**THE HOUGHTON FEAST 50
JOURNEY THROUGH TIME
LASER SHOW KICKS OFF AT
7:00 PM ON FRIDAY OCTOBER
6TH 2017 IN HOUGHTON'S
BROADWAY.**

Come along and experience the Houghton Feast Tattoo and Opening Ceremony with a mix of time travelling magic! Houghton Pipe Band will be performing along with dancers from Zazz as well as contributions from Tom 'Mouse' Smith, Houghton Area Youth Brass Band, Hetton Lyons School Choir and others! School groups will present their Doctor Who-themed lanterns led by large dancing puppet

versions of The Doctor and the villainous Missy/Master!

At the conclusion, the Houghton Feast illuminations will be switched on by the Right Worshipful, the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Doris MacKnight, followed by a laser show finale which will transport attendees across the Time Vortex!

From 6:00pm, super hero characters, face painters, balloon modellers, the Gavioli Organ and a peal of Church bells will help you 'while away the time' until the main show starts! This event is not to be missed – and best of all it is free!

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CARNIVAL PARADE

THOUSANDS OF SPECTATORS WILL LINE THE MAIN STREETS OF HOUGHTON TO WATCH THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CARNIVAL PARADE ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 7TH 2017.

This colourful community production stars time travelling heroes and villains from Doctor Who and Back to the Future, plus our traditional favourites: local school children in fancy dress, the pipes and drums, classic cars, the King and Queen of Eventide, marching musical bands, Billy Purvis the Clown, Bernard Gilpin and the wild boar, Zazz dancers and vintage steam vehicles in the 50th anniversary Carnival Parade.

PROCESSION ROUTE

- Start - Houghton Library car park
- Station Road
- Newbottle Street
- Broadway
(where you can listen to the narration)
- End - Rectory Park at Dairy Lane
(walkers)
- & Kepier Academy car park (vehicles)

Along the procession route, members of Houghton's 41 Club (ex-Round Table) will be collecting donations to be given to local charities, so please dig deep and help this worthy cause.

EVENTS2GOGO

EVENTS MARKETING AND MANAGEMENT

Across County Durham, Wearside, Tyneside, Monthly and Seasonal Events

OCTOBER

- 1ST * SEAHAM TOWN HALL
- 7TH * CASTLE DENE SHOPPING CENTRE
- 15TH * TESCO ROKER SUNDERLAND HALLOWEEN
- 27TH * SUNDERLAND MARKET SQUARE

NOVEMBER

- 3RD * DURHAM TOWN HALL CURIOSITY
- 4TH * CASTLE DENE SHOPPING CENTRE
- 5TH * SEAHAM TOWN HALL
- 12TH * TESCO SUNDERLAND XMAS CRAFT FAYRE
- 18TH * SUNDERLAND MUSEUM WINTER GARDENS XMAS
- 24TH * SUNDERLAND MARKET SQUARE XMAS
- 24TH * A NIGHT OF FESTIVITIES FOR HETTON
- 26TH * SUNDERLAND STADIUM OF LIGHT XMAS

DECEMBER

- 2ND * CASTLE DENE SHOPPING CENTRE XMAS
- 3RD * SEAHAM TOWN HALL XMAS
- 8TH * TESCO SUNDERLAND XMAS EVENING
- 10TH * TESCO SUNDERLAND XMAS FAYRE
- 16TH * SHOTTON HALL XMAS FAYRE
- 22ND * SUNDERLAND MARKET SQUARE XMAS

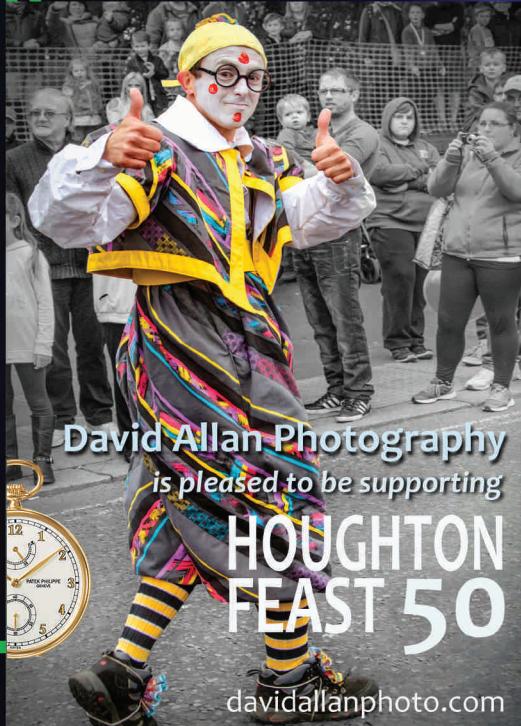
Newbottle St. Houghton, DH4 4AN

t: 0191 584 6500 m: 07769 352 637
e: stalls@events2gogo.com

Trader and venue enquiries welcome!

FOLLOW EVENTS2GOGO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ALL EVENTS



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ROASTING THE OX

ON MONDAY OCTOBER 9TH 2017, A ROASTED OX, PREPARED OVERNIGHT BY HOUGHTON'S ROTARY CLUB, WILL BE CARVED BY THE MAYOR OF SUNDERLAND.

The practice of roasting an ox was re-introduced at the Houghton Feast Revival of 1967 by the Rotary Club in commemoration of Rector Bernard Gilpin who would roast an ox or hog to feed Houghton's poor in the 16th century, and this year celebrates its very special 50th anniversary!

Houghton butchers Jack Kinmond and Bill Curry were in charge of the first event.

Councillor John Mawston, Chair of Houghton UDC, cut the first slice and it was served up to Rector Oswald Noel Gwilliam. Only once has the roasting not taken place - in 1996 when the spit mysteriously disappeared, but thankfully a new spit was made and ox roasting continued at Houghton Feast 1997. Rotarian Ron Young became the ox roast coordinator in 1988 and has overseen the event ever since.

This year, sandwiches go on sale from 4pm however the event is very popular and the ox sandwiches do sell out quickly.

All proceeds from the sale of the tasty sandwiches will be donated to local charities.



Colin & Debra are delighted to welcome you to The Nutmeg Tree, formerly Peppercorn Cafe in Newbottle Street, Houghton le Spring. Serving a wide range of quality home cooked food, from breakfast and light bites, to main meals, and a selection of hot and cold drinks.



We look forward to welcoming customers old and new, and hope to see you all again soon!

3 Library Buildings, 72 Newbottle Street
Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4GB 0191 512 6075

www.ZazzUk.com



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Zazz was established over 30 years ago providing Dance and Performing Arts tuition to all ages from children to adults.

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- Jazz
- Irish
- Drama
- !!New!! AcroDance !!New!!**



Empire House, Newbottle Street, Houghton le Spring 0191 584 0764



FUN FAIR & FIREWORKS

**THE HOUGHTON FEAST 50
FAIRGROUND IS BASED ON
RECTORY FIELD, DAIRY
LANE, AND IS ORGANISED
BY MR JOHN MURPHY OF
THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD
(NORTHERN SECTION).**

The fairground will operate for the duration of the Festival from Friday October 6th until Saturday October 14th 2017.

OPENING TIMES

WEEKDAYS	6PM - 10PM
SATURDAYS	1PM - 10PM
SUNDAYS	CLOSED

The fun fair features all the latest thrill rides, such as Waltzers, Jump eni Smile, Miami and Tagada, plus family favourites including hook-a-duck, hoopla, side stalls and coconut shy.

The must see Fireworks Spectacular takes place on Monday October 9th 2017 at 7:30 PM! Rockets are being launched from the Durham Road playing fields and can be viewed from the surrounds including Dairy Lane.

If travelling by car, please park in an appropriate place in the town centre as there is no car parking at the launch site. Road Closures will be in operation. Volunteers from The Houghton Feast Trust will be collecting donations during the fireworks to help sustain the Festival for future generations. Please show them your support and help us to keep the Feast.



Miss Nancy's

BISTRO

Who is Miss Nancy?

We all have, or have had, a strong woman in our lives, whether it be our mother, wife, sister, aunt or friend. Someone who we love and admire because they bare unique qualities. I have my mother and daughter who show inside strength and the kindest hearts.

Nancy Doyle was my husband's - his mother. A lady who, although she was not rich in belongings, found the wealth of life in laughter and love of her family.

Nancy's influence has greatly touched the bistro, with her cameo brooch being our logo, dishes inspired by her favourite recipes, and of course her name.

When your heart has been touched by a strong woman, their legacy lives on... just like Nancy's.



Miss Nancy's Bistro,
77 Newbottle Street, Houghton-le-Spring DH4 4AR
Tel: 0191 5849567



Miss-Nancys-Bistro



COMMUNITY EVENTS

**HOUGHTON FEAST HAS
ALWAYS – SINCE DAY ONE
OVER 800 YEARS AGO –
BEEN ABOUT OUR
COMMUNITY COMING
TOGETHER.**

This was recognised during the 1967 Great Revival when the community groups got together to put on that first programme of special events and it continues to this day.

A large selection of the Houghton Feast 50 events are organised by community and volunteer groups from across the local area. There is something for

everyone and these events have been put on by the community for the community.

Some of the events to look out for are:

- Queen of Eventide Tea
- Time for Tea Coffee Mornings
- Coronation Street Collection
- New Beginnings Toddler Group
- Character Meet & Greet
- Classic Car Show
- Art Club Exhibitions
- Craft Group meetings
- Wildlife Walk

And don't forget to visit the revived Big Houghton Feast Quiz Night!



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TUESDAYS 10:30 AM

COFFEE MORNINGS

• TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9:30 AM

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YOUR HERITAGE

**HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING
HERITAGE SOCIETY WAS
FORMED TO PROMOTE,
SHARE AND PRESERVE THE
LOCAL HISTORY AND
HERITAGE OF THE
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING
DISTRICT.**

Houghton Heritage Society actively records and shares Houghton's heritage and history, preserves and reintroduces local traditions and customs (such as this brochure), and supports schools and educational establishments in the Houghton district with the promotion of our local heritage.

Houghton Feast is the ideal time for us to celebrate our own unique cultural heritage and the following events are well worth a visit:

- The World's Biggest Houghton Heritage Exhibition
- The Gilpin 500 Houghton Heritage Walk
- Grand Display of Mining Banners
- Back in Time at The Old Rectory
- Houghton Feast 800 Years Young! Exhibition
- War Memorial Illustrated Talk



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DANCE & MUSIC

HOUGHTON FEAST 50 WILL BE BROUGHT ALIVE BY AN ENSEMBLE OF TALENTED MUSICIANS, ACTORS, PERFORMERS, AND DANCERS – MANY OF WHICH ARE HOUGHTON BORN AND BRED!

Performers from Zazz will be entertaining us throughout the Festival, maintaining a tradition which started in 1984 with dance school founder Anne Thompson. Pipers and drummers from Houghton Pipe Band will be present for the Feast Launch and Festival Day giving us our annual taste of highland music.

Please show the musicians and performers your support by attending as many events as you can. Musical highlights include:

- Gavioli 86 Key Trumpet Barrel Organ in the Broadway
- Bell ringing at St Michael's Church
- Houghton Area Youth Brass Band
- Hetton Lyons School Choir
- Tom 'Mouse' Smith singing live
- Houghton-le-Spring Pipe Band
- Community Hymn Singing
- Houghton Brass Band concert
- Houghton Feast Variety Show at Zazz Theatre

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BERNARD GILPIN



**HOUGHTON'S FAMOUS
RECTOR, BERNARD GILPIN,
WAS BORN 500 YEARS AGO
AND HIS GOOD DEEDS
HAVE BEEN CELEBRATED
AROUND HOUGHTON
OVER THE PAST YEAR TO
MARK THE ANNIVERSARY.**

Bernard Gilpin is often referred to as the 'Apostle of the North' or 'Father of the Poor' for his many good deeds throughout his lifetime, as well as during his incumbency as Rector of Houghton-le-Spring between 1558 and 1583. Today his tradition of feeding the parish's poor with a roasted ox between Michaelmas and Easter is still re-enacted each year at Houghton Feast.

Around 1566, Gilpin cofounded a school in Houghton with his friend John Heath,

a London merchant. The Royal Charter was signed in 1574 and the school became known as the Royal Kepier Grammar School. Today it is used as a community hub.

In February 1583, Gilpin was knocked down by an ox in Durham's Market Place. This left him in a weakened state and he died aged 66 years on March 4th 1583. He was interred the next day in a grave in the Parish Church and a large stone altar tomb was erected on the spot bearing his family crest, that of a wild boar, crescent moon and oak tree.

Many schools, streets and buildings in Houghton are named after Bernard Gilpin in tribute to his contributions to society.

You can find out more online at: www.gilpin500.com

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THE 1967 FEAST REVIVAL

HISTORY SHOWS US THAT HOUGHTON FEAST, BETWEEN THE 1820S AND THE 1930S, EVOLVED FROM A SPECTACULAR ANNUAL HORSE RACE MEETING INTO A HUGE DRINKING SESSION AND AN EXCUSE TO VISIT ONE OF HOUGHTON'S DOZENS OF PUBS AND CLUBS.

The emphasis had sadly swayed from the Feast's historic and ecclesiastical links with the Parish Church. However, in 1967 the then Rector, Rev Oswald Noel Gwilliam, teamed up with the Rotary Club, Round Table, Chamber of Trade, Houghton Urban District Council and other community groups to start the revival of Houghton Feast.

The Feast was billed as 'new style' and was extended from four days to ten, as the format that we know today was established. Events were publicised in a free programme of special events, which included a foreword by HUDC Chairman, John Mawston. Concerts were held in St Michael's Church and a spectacular carnival of colourful floats was added to the line up. The Rotary Club even roasted a whole ox and sandwiches went on sale for 1/6 (equivalent to about 77p today).

The local press reported that: "the 1967 Houghton Feast will go down in history as one of the most memorable and a forerunner to even greater festivals in the future."

It is to this legacy which the current organisers strive to match each year, despite the many challenges faced.

SUPPORT THE FEAST



HOUGHTON FEAST NEEDS THE HELP OF THE COMMUNITY

Dear Friends, we are all very aware of the limitations put upon local councils to cut costs and as such, the Festival of Houghton Feast is at risk from cuts to budgets. To help keep the Feast going, a group of residents has set up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, a kind of charity, called **THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST**.

2017 marked the 50th anniversary of Houghton Feast being revived as a community event but there has been a festival of sorts in Houghton-le-Spring for over 800 years - even before the famous Rector Bernard Gilpin roasted his first oxen in the 16th century to feed to the poor of Houghton!

We all have our favourite memories, be it the revived ox roasting, the fairgrounds, church services, carnival parade, pipe and brass bands, tea dances and dance shows, the illuminations...the list is endless - but if we don't start protecting what we have, we will possibly lose the much loved Houghton Feast!

We need to preserve the Feast for our children and the future generations to follow. If you can help in any way - financial, or volunteer time, or advice - please get in touch with the Trust.



Please send me further information about the work of THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST. My details are below:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

Slip should be returned to:

THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST
5 GILPIN STREET
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING
DH4 5DR

or contact us via:

E-MAIL: INFO@HOUGHTONFEASTTRUST.COM
FACEBOOK: /THEHOUGHTONFEASTTRUST





HOUGHTON FEAST - THE FUTURE

THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST IS A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION AND WAS SET UP BY THE RESIDENTS OF HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING IN MAY 2017 TO SAFEGUARD AND PROMOTE THE ANCIENT FESTIVAL OF HOUGHTON FEAST.

Like similar events, Houghton Feast faces funding cuts which could jeopardise the current format of the festival along with the Feast traditions we have all enjoyed for decades. Houghton Feast has been supported by the local authority for many years (Houghton Urban District Council from 1967 until Sunderland Council took over in 1974), however these traditional funding sources are at risk of no longer

being available so local residents set up the Trust as a proactive measure to help keep our Houghton Feast going.

The Trustees, who collectively have over 150 years of involvement with the Feast, are: Kevin Reilly (Chairman), Paul Lanagan (Secretary), Chris Thompson (Treasurer), Lesley Dowell (Vice-Chair), Alastair Bradley (Assistant Treasurer) and Anne Thompson (Assistant Secretary).

Please look out for the Trustees and their helpers who will be raising awareness of the Trust at this year's Feast.

An official photographer will also be at main events taking photos for next year's brochure!

**Find out more at:
www.houghtonfeasttrust.com**



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FEAST 16



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HOUGHTON FEAST 2018 LOCO COMPETITION

This year's Houghton Feast logo was designed by **JACK CRAINE** aged 7, from Dubmire Aim High Academy. Jack joins an exclusive group of young local artists who have had their wonderful designs made into logos for the Feast.

Could you be the winning artist next year?
There's only one way to find out!

Download the entry form which is on the Houghton Feast website at:

www.houghtonfeast.co.uk

The closing date is
October 31st 2017

Good Luck!



Jack



Jenny



Ashton



Ben



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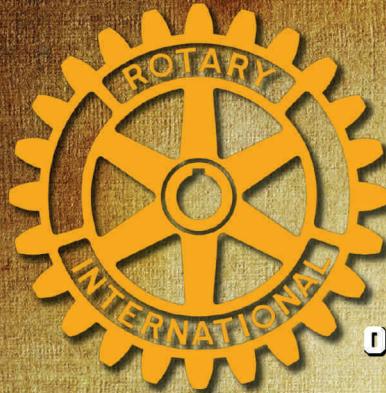
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