





HOUGHTON FEAST ROAST OX SARNIES

AVAILABLE ONLY FROM

RECTORY PARK

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, DH4 4BB



SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD 2026 FROM 12 NOON



THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT

www.oxsarnies.co.uk



TOGETHER WE FEAST



WELCOME to Houghton Feast 2026. The word 'feast' means so much more than simply eating food. To me, it brings to mind a whole range of experiences that make the Houghton Feast such a **special occasion**.

A **feast of colour** – from the vibrant costumes and creative displays to the many participants who bring our parades and events to life; a **feast of sound** – the excitement of the parade, the atmosphere of the fairground, and the music that fills our streets and venues; a **feast of smells** – tempting aromas from food stalls, candyfloss, toffee apples, hot dogs, and, of course, our traditional roasted ox sandwiches; a **feast of friendship** – the chance to meet old friends, make new ones, and enjoy spending time together as a community; or a **feast of memories** – rekindling treasured memories from years

gone by and creating new ones to cherish for years to come.

These are just a few of the thoughts that come to mind when I think of the Houghton Feast. Whatever the Feast means to you, I warmly invite you to come and **join us this year**, as your support helps make the Houghton Feast the success it continues to be.

This year's celebrations also mark something of a **feast of change**. The Houghton Feast is continuing its transition to a new way of operating. We are now in the second year of a planned process that will see responsibility for organising the festival transferred from Sunderland City Council to the Houghton Feast Steering Committee. While there will be changes behind the scenes, the Feast itself will remain the **much-loved community celebration** we all know and enjoy.

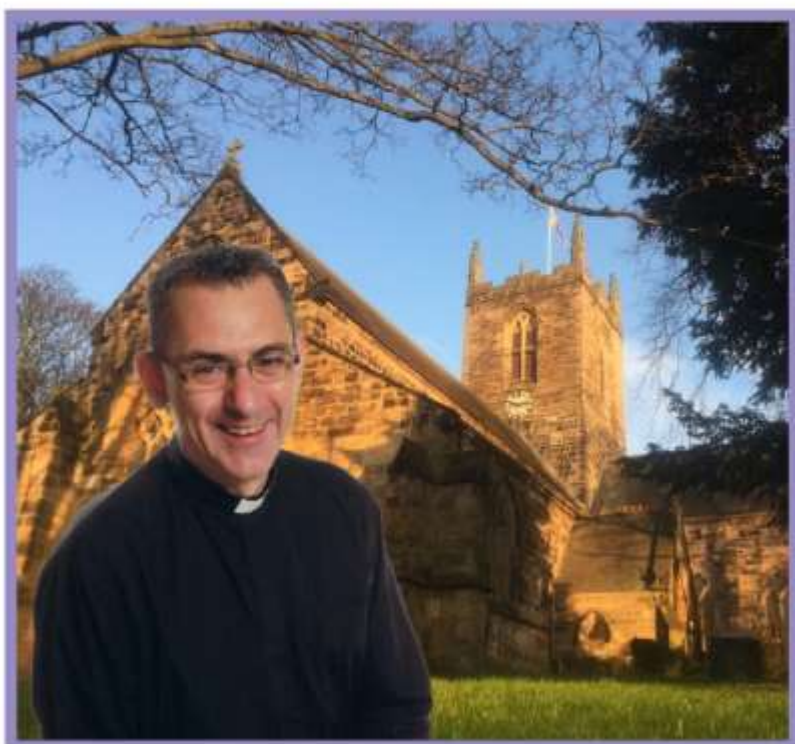
My sincere thanks go to all the community groups and volunteers who work so hard to organise events, and to you, the community, for your continued support of the Houghton Feast.

I look forward to celebrating with you.

KEVIN REILLY

**CHAIR OF
THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST
& VICE CHAIR OF
THE FEAST STEERING COMMITTEE**

DEAR FRIENDS



ON behalf of St Michael and All Angels Church, I am delighted to add my welcome to this year's Houghton Feast. This ancient festival finds its origins in the 1100s as the dedication festival for our Parish Church. Yet, all these centuries later, its **purpose** feels more **relevant** than ever.

We look out at a wider world that so often tells us to be divided, surrounded by voices that emphasize our differences and push us toward fragmentation. But here in Houghton-le-Spring, the Feast offers us a different path - a vital opportunity to genuinely **come together**.

This year's theme, '**Together We Feast**,' echoes the legacy of my historic predecessor, Rector Bernard Gilpin. In the 16th century, Gilpin regularly declared his rectory an 'open house', offering free food and warm **hospitality** to all who visited, regardless of their wealth or status. His radical inclusion was so moving his Rectory Garden was famously described as a "little slice of 'God's Kingdom.'"

Gilpin's spirit of unity challenges us today. We are a vibrant, evolving town where people from all walks of life have found a home here. When we gather for the Feast, we share in a joyful celebration that challenges voices that seek to divide us. By 'feasting together' as **a diverse community**, we build bridges and celebrate the beautiful tapestry of our region. May all find **a warm welcome** at this year's Houghton Feast.

With my prayers and warmest
of wishes.

REV'D JOHN BARRON

**RECTOR OF HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING
ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH**

A TRADITION EVOLVES



WE all love the traditions of Houghton Feast and, as a local historian, I am particularly passionate about keeping those traditions alive. For the past 26 years I have worked alongside fellow volunteers from the **Houghton Feast Steering Committee** and **The Houghton Feast Trust** to ensure that our Feast continues to thrive for future generations.

However, one of the great strengths of Houghton Feast is that it never stands still. Over more than 800 years, the festival has changed, evolved and adapted to meet the needs of the community. It is thanks to that ability to **embrace change** while preserving its heritage that the Feast remains such an important part of life in Houghton-le-Spring today.

One of the changes this year affects the annual **Ox Roasting**.

Roasted beef sandwiches will be served from **12 noon** on **Houghton Feast Saturday** in **Rectory Park**, close to the Old Rectory where, in the 16th century, Rector Bernard Gilpin would roast an ox every weekend between Michaelmas (Houghton Feast) and Easter to feed his hungry parishioners.

This year we will be roasting **joints of beef** rather than a whole ox, a method familiar to many Feast-goers from the years between 1998 and 2019. There is a silver lining too - this means that sandwiches will be available at a **lower price**, making the tradition more accessible for everyone to enjoy.

Funds raised from this year's sandwich sales, together with money raised last year, will go towards a new **custom-built ox-roasting oven**. This investment will help us return to the spectacle of roasting a whole ox in future years while ensuring the event remains sustainable for the long term.

The historic Ox Roasting can only continue with your support, so please come along, buy a sandwich and be part of this great Houghton Feast tradition. Let's celebrate our heritage, support its future and, most importantly of all, **feast together**.

PAUL LANAGAN

**OX ROAST CO-ORDINATOR
THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST**

2026 PROGRAMME

FOR THE DURATION

☐ HOUGHTON FEAST FUN FAIR

All the fun of the fair for everyone young and old, featuring the latest thrill rides, such as Dodgems, Waltzers, Jump 'n' Smile Frogs, Miami and Tagada, plus family favourites including Hook-a-duck, Hoopla and side stalls. The Houghton Feast fun fair is organised by Mr John Murphy of the Showmen's Guild (Northern Section) on Rectory Field for the duration of the Festival.

VENUE Rectory Field, Dairy Lane, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 5BH

DATE & TIMES

Fri Oct 2 nd	6:00pm – late
Sat Oct 3 rd	1:00pm – late
Sun Oct 4 th FAMILY DAY	1:00pm – 6:00pm
Mon Oct 5 th – Fri Oct 9 th	6:00pm – late
Sat Oct 10 th LAST NIGHT	1:00pm – late

CAR PARKS

Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH
Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA
Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
The Old Rectory (32 spaces), DH4 4BB

LESSEE Mr John Murphy
FACEBOOK /funfairmurphys



☐ PARISH CHURCH OPEN DAYS

The ancient church of St. Michael & All Angels will be opened daily during the Festival. The parish church is steeped in history and visitors are welcome to explore the many visual displays and discover the story of the Apostle of the North, Bernard Gilpin, our 16th century Rector. This year the church is using a range of interactive 'stations' around the church on the theme of 'Together We Feast' to help us find some space for reflection or prayer or simply to sit and enjoy the peace and sanctuary.

VENUE Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN

DATE & TIME Tue Oct 6th – Fri Oct 9th 11:00am – 1:00pm

ADMISSION Free

CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

ORGANISER St Michael & All Angels Church

WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk

FACEBOOK /stmichaelshls

TEL 0191 512 1769

FEAST LAUNCH DAY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2ND 2026



☐ TOGETHER WE FEAST: PRAYERS & REFLECTION

Our Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels' will be praying for Houghton Feast, our community and the wider world for the duration of the festival. In a world that often feels fractured, hurried, and divided, St Michael's are setting aside space and time for something different. Around church, there will be a number of interactive 'stations' themed around 'Together We Feast'. They are designed to help us engage in different aspects of 'Feast' not just with our minds, but with our hands! Come to reflect or, if it's your thing, to pray or simply come to sit in the quiet, rest, or be still in the presence of God. All are welcome: "The table is open, and there is a place set just for you."

VENUE Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Friday October 2nd 2026 10:00am – 2:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

ORGANISER St Michael & All Angels Church
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /stmichaelslhs

☐ HOUGHTON ART CLUB EXHIBITION

Day 1 of Houghton Art Club's annual exhibition of local artists' work in the hall of Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street. Art Club members will be on hand for advice and discussion. Some of the artwork is available for sale and light refreshments will be available. The exhibition continues on Saturday and Houghton Feast Monday.

VENUE Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
DATE & TIME Friday October 2nd 2026 9:30am - 4:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA

ORGANISER Houghton Art Club
WEB www.houghtonartclub.webs.com
FACEBOOK /Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029

OPENING NIGHT

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2ND 2026

□ OPENING CEREMONY 2026

At the time of printing, the Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony has not yet been finalised. Keep an eye on Sunderland City Council's social media for details.

VENUE

The Broadway, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB

DATE & TIME

Friday October 2nd 2026

Time TBC

ADMISSION

Free

CAR PARK

Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH
Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA
Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA

ORGANISER

Sunderland City Council

WEB

www.mysunderland.co.uk

FACEBOOK

[/VisitSundUK](https://www.facebook.com/VisitSundUK)



WHY IS OUR CREST A WILD BOAR?

The Rev'd **Bernard Gilpin**, known as the Apostle of the North and Father of the Poor, is Houghton-le-Spring's most famous Rector. His ancestors lived at Kentmere Hall, Westmorland, where **Richard De Gilpin** - "Richard the Rider" - gained renown for slaying the 'Wild Boar of Westmorland'. For this bravery he was rewarded with land, and King John granted the Gilpins a coat of arms featuring a black boar and crescent moon. Centuries later, in 1558, Bernard arrived in Houghton, remembered for his generosity and kindness. His arms were adopted by **Houghton-le-Spring Urban District Council** and became the emblem of the town's ancient festival, The Houghton Feast.

FESTIVAL DAY

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD 2026

☐ HOUGHTON HERITAGE PHOTO EXHIBITION

To mark this 20th anniversary exhibition, a 'feast' of rare and unseen vintage photographs of old Houghton-le-Spring will be displayed showcasing our local culture, our history and our traditions. The images will be erected outdoors on the railings of the Rectory Park in The Broadway and come from the vast collections of Houghton Heritage Society.

VENUE Rectory Park Railings, The Broadway, DH4 4BB
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 9:00am - 4:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA

ORGANISER Houghton Heritage Society
WEB www.houghtonlespring.org.uk
FACEBOOK /houghton.heritage
EMAIL info@houghtonlespring.org.uk

☐ 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 22 year-old Houghton Colliery banner is the town's 7th and was made in 2004 using funds raised by Patricia Simmons and the late George Rowe. It is paraded every year at Durham Big Meeting but this is your chance to see it up close in its home town. Free entry to the public.

VENUE Houghton Welfare Hall, Station Road, DH4 5AH
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 9:30am - 3:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA

ORGANISER Houghton & Lambton Banner Group
WEB www.houghtonfeast.co.uk
FACEBOOK /HoughtonFeast
TEL N/A

☐ HOUGHTON ART CLUB EXHIBITION

Day 2 of Houghton Art Club's annual exhibition of local artists' work in the hall of Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street. Art Club members will be on hand for advice and discussion. Some of the artwork is available for sale and light refreshments will be available. The exhibition continues on Houghton Feast Monday.

VENUE Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 9:30am - 4:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA

ORGANISER Houghton Art Club
WEB www.houghtonartclub.webs.com
FACEBOOK /Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029
TEL N/A

AN ANCIENT CUSTOM



TRADITIONAL OX SANDWICHES

Roast ox sandwiches, prepared by volunteers from The Houghton Feast Trust, will be served up in the grounds of The Old Rectory, near The Broadway, where the first oxen were roasted by Rector Bernard Gilpin to feed Houghton's poor in the 16th century.

The ceremonial first sandwich will be presented to the Right worshipful, the **Mayor of Sunderland, Coun. Robert Hutchinson**, at **12 noon** ahead of the tasty beef sandwiches going on sale to the public.

The beef sarnies are very popular and are therefore available strictly while stocks last. You can pre-purchase your sandwiches online at: www.oxsarnies.co.uk

Funds raised from the sale of sandwiches this year are being used to help purchase a new ox roasting oven, helping to make this historic event more sustainable.

VENUE

The Rectory Park, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB

DATE & TIME

Saturday October 3rd 2026 From 12:00pm

CAR PARKS

Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA

ORGANISER

The Houghton Feast Trust

PRE-ORDER

www.oxsarnies.co.uk

SUPPORTED BY

Asa James Smith
Simply Irresistible Catering
Acumen Community Buildings

PAYMENTS

Cash/Card/Apple Pay
(as always, cash is preferred)

HOUGHTON FEAST
ROAST OX SARNIES

AVAILABLE ONLY FROM
RECTORY PARK
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, DH4 4BB

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD 2026 FROM 12 NOON

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT
www.oxsarnies.co.uk



IN THE PARISH CHURCH

☐ COFFEE MORNING & MARKET

Step Into the Heart of Houghton Feast at St. Michael & All Angels Church. Discover the true historical heart of Houghton Feast as St. Michael & All Angels Church warmly opens its doors to all. Just a stone's throw from the bustling Broadway, the church offers a peaceful retreat where tradition meets community spirit. What's inside? A selection of local market stalls to browse at your leisure; warming hot drinks and tasty light snacks to enjoy, plus the chance to pause, reflect, and soak up the heritage of this beautiful landmark. Whether you're looking to recharge, catch up with friends, or simply enjoy the atmosphere, the church is the perfect place to take time out while still being at the very heart of the Feast.

VENUE	Houghton Parish Church, The Broadway, DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME	Saturday October 3 rd 2026 10:00am - 3:30pm
ADMISSION	Free
CAR PARK	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA

ORGANISER	St Michael & All Angels Church
WEB	www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk
FACEBOOK	/stmichaelshls
TEL	0191 512 1769



☐ TOGETHER WE FEAST: COOK BOOK LAUNCH

We know how food is brilliant at bringing people together and the theme of this year's Feast has inspired us to capture the favourite food recipes of the people of Houghton-le-Spring and surrounds. Some of these recipes may be traditional fayre or some newer recipes from members of our community who have moved more recently into the region. We'd love it if you have a favourite recipe that you want to share. Even if you don't have a recipe, you can still be a part of the project by creating some images and artwork. Come and join us and help us create a great resource for our community to learn new ways to 'feast together'!

VENUE	Houghton Parish Church, The Broadway, DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME	Saturday October 3 rd 2026 10:30am - 3:00pm
ADMISSION	Free
CAR PARK	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA

ORGANISER	St Michael & All Angels Church
WEB	www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk
FACEBOOK	/stmichaelshls
TEL	0191 512 1769

AT KEPIER HALL



FAIRGROUND MODEL SHOW

The John Murphy Fairground Model Show is a special exhibition of fun fair models and collectibles, named in honour of the late showman 'Big John' Murphy who supported Houghton Feast for 70 years. Now in its 9th year, on display will be working and static models, many of which have been skilfully made by local fairground enthusiasts. With grateful thanks to Acumen Community Buildings for continuing to support this event.

VENUE	The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN	ORGANISER	Houghton Heritage Society
DATE & TIME	Saturday October 3 rd 2026 11:00am - 4:00pm	WEB	www.houghtonlespring.org.uk
ADMISSION	Free	FACEBOOK	/houghton.heritage
CAR PARK	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	EMAIL	info@houghtonlespring.org.uk
SUPPORTED BY	Acumen Community Buildings (Houghton's Regeneration Charity)		

ARTS & CRAFTS FUN FOR KIDS

Call into the Kepier for a fun-filled arts and crafts fun session inspired by this year's festival theme of 'Together We Feast.' Children and families can get creative, make colourful festival-themed crafts and be a part of the community celebration. Free admission.

VENUE	The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN	ORGANISER	Acumen Community Buildings
DATE & TIME	Saturday October 3 rd 2026 11:00am - 4:00pm	FACEBOOK	/acumencommunitybuildings
ADMISSION	Free	WEB	www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
CAR PARK	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	EMAIL	info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.



BAXTER BUNNY & THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD

Support children's mental health and meet Mrs Glamour UK and author, Bethany Louise Hughes, at Kepier Hall where you can pick up a signed copy of her book, Baxter Bunny & the Weight of the World. This heart-warming children's story encourages young people to talk about their worries. £3.50 from every £5 book sold supports the charity YoungMinds.

VENUE	The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN	ORGANISER	Bethany Louise Hughes
DATE & TIME	Saturday October 3 rd 2026 11:00am - 4:00pm	FACEBOOK	/bethanyloupageants
ADMISSION	Free		
CAR PARK	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA		
SUPPORTED BY	Acumen Community Buildings (Houghton's Regeneration Charity)		

CARNIVAL TIME



23RD PRIMARY DASH ROAD RACE

Local primary schools will compete in the 23rd annual road 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 young 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
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 1:45pm
TO JOIN IN Schools should register by 30/09/26
CAR PARK Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA

ORGANISER Houghton Harriers & Athletics Club
WEB www.houghtonharriers.org
FACEBOOK /HoughtonHarriersAC
TEL 07849403313

THE CARNIVAL PARADE

The Carnival Parade is a highlight of The Houghton Feast so come along and watch this colourful community production managed and co-ordinated by Acumen Community Buildings with support from Sunderland City Council Events. Featuring children from local schools, community groups, pipes and drums, classic cars and motorbike enthusiast groups, vintage steam traction engines, carnival floats, the ZAZZ dancers, Stage Door Academy, costumed characters and more! The procession starts at the 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. Any donations collected during the parade will be used towards future Houghton Feasts.

ROUTE Station Rd/Newbottle St/The Broadway/Rectory Park
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 2:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA
SUPPORTED BY Sunderland City Council Events

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

HOUGHTON FEAST CAR SHOW 2026

A free classic and vintage car show will take place in the grounds of Kepier Academy, Dairy Lane, after the Carnival Parade, from around 2:30pm. You can view close at hand the vehicles which were in the procession and you can even meet the owners who will tell you the story of their favourite wheels!

VENUE Kepier Academy, Dairy Lane, Houghton, DH4 5BH
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 Circa 2:30pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

AFTER-PARADE FUN



☐ KIDS IN THE PARK

For the 5th year running, Houghton-le-Spring Residents C.I.C. is bringing the community together for a fantastic afternoon of fun in Houghton's Rectory Park. Free activities and games for children of all ages, food and family-friendly refreshments, entertainment to keep everyone smiling! Bring the whole family, join in the laughter, and make this year's Houghton Feast one to remember. Everyone's welcome!

VENUE The Rectory Park, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 3:00pm - 5:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA
SUPPORTED BY Acumen Community Buildings (Houghton's Regeneration Charity)

ORGANISER Houghton Residents C.I.C.
FACEBOOK /houghtonlespringresidents



☐ "A BIT OF A DO" IN THE PARK

The fun doesn't end when the Carnival Parade concludes! Make sure you visit the Rectory Park for an afternoon of entertainment consisting of bands, singers, dance and more. You don't want to miss this!

VENUE The Rectory Park, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 3:00pm - 5:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA
SUPPORTED BY Houghton Residents C.I.C.

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

☐ HOUGHTON FEAST RUGBY MATCH 2026

Support the Boars at the Dairy Lane ground at the Houghton Feast Rugby Match 2026. Come along and enjoy watching a skilled game played for the coveted Houghton Feast Trophy. The clubhouse on Dairy Lane has full social facilities including a bar, food, TV screens and car park. Houghton Boars will be playing against the Medicals from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Kick-off is at 3:00pm.

VENUE Houghton Rugby Club, Dairy Lane, DH4 5BH
DATE & TIME Saturday October 3rd 2026 3:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK At the venue
SPONSOR Houghton-le-Spring 41 Club

ORGANISER Houghton R.U.F.C.
WEB www.houghtonrugby.co.uk
FACEBOOK Houghton Rugby Club – Est 1873
TEL 0191 584 1460



FEAST SUNDAY



OCTOBER 4TH 2026

☐ HOUGHTON FEAST CIVIC SERVICE

A grand service of thanksgiving for community life at the parish church of St. Michael & All Angels. The service will be attended by civic dignitaries, public servants and the people of Houghton-le-Spring. The guest preacher is Rev'd Canon Dr Angus Ritchie, Director of the Centre for Theology & Community, whose influential work was described by Pope Francis as expressing "a politics of fraternity, rooted in the life of the people."

VENUE Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Sunday October 4th 2026 10:30am
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

ORGANISER St Michael & All Angels Church
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /stmichaelshls
TEL 0191 512 1769

☐ COMMUNITY HYMN SINGING

An opportunity to sing our favourite hymns in the parish church and rejoice at The Houghton Feast. This traditional Houghton Feast event was established in 1949 by Rev Oswald Noel Gwilliam who was also at the heart of the 1967 Houghton Feast Revival. This year, in the lead up to Houghton Feast Sunday, we will be inviting people to vote for their favourite hymn ahead of singing our 'Top 10' favourites - a contemporary twist on a great Feast tradition! Do we have your vote? Call into church ahead of Houghton Feast and fill in one of our voting forms (also available from the parish office).

VENUE Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Sunday October 4th 2026 6:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

ORGANISER St Michael & All Angels Church
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /stmichaelshls
TEL 0191 512 1769

❓ DID YOU KNOW?

Houghton Feast, also known as **Michaelmas**, traditionally falls on September 29th. But when the Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752, the people of Houghton-le-Spring refused the change and kept celebrating on October 10th under the old Julian calendar. The last time the Houghton Feast Sunday coincided with October 10th was 2021 – but this rare occurrence is happening again **next year!**

FEAST MONDAY

OCTOBER 5TH 2026

☐ HOUGHTON ART CLUB EXHIBITION

The final day of Houghton Art Club's annual exhibition of local artists' work in the hall of Houghton Methodist Church, Mautland Street. Art Club members will be on hand for advice and discussion. Some of the artwork is available for sale and light refreshments will be available.

VENUE Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH
DATE & TIME Monday October 5th 2026 9:30am - 4:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA

ORGANISER Houghton Art Club
WEB www.houghtonartclub.webs.com
FACEBOOK /Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029
TEL N/A



☐ CUPCAKE DECORATING

Join us at SPACE4 to decorate your very own cupcakes so we can all literally 'Feast Together'! Learn some simple cake decorating techniques and decorate three cupcakes which you can take home or, if you can't wait, have over a cuppa! The session is free but there is a suggested donation of £3 to cover the cost of ingredients. Spaces must be booked to ensure we have enough cupcakes for everyone to decorate.

VENUE SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF
DATE & TIME Monday October 5th 2026 11:30am - 12:30pm
ADMISSION Free (suggested donation of £3)
CAR PARK Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH

ORGANISER SPACE4
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /HoughtonSpace4
EMAIL space4.hub@gmail.com

☐ 'TOGETHER WE FEAST' CULTURE CLUB

Stories & Sharing at Historic Kepier Hall. Founded in 1574 by Bernard Gilpin and John Heath, Kepier was created as a place for learning, community, and lively discussion - values that continue to this day. Join us in celebrating that tradition as we come together to enjoy food, friendship, and stories of Houghton, both old and new. Led by Donna Thomas of Houghton-le-Spring Residents C.I.C., this is a wonderful opportunity to share your memories, discover others', and keep the spirit of community alive in the very place it was founded.

VENUE The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Monday October 5th 2026 1:00pm - 3:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
SUPPORTED BY Acumen Community Buildings (Houghton's Regeneration Charity)

ORGANISER Houghton Residents C.I.C.
FACEBOOK /houghtonlespringresidents
EMAIL houghtonlespringresidents@outlook.com

THE FUN FAIR: A SPECIAL OPENING

Children and carers from local Special Educational Needs & Disability schools will welcome the Right worshipful, the **Mayor of Sunderland, Coun. Robert Hutchinson**, to The Houghton Feast fairground for the official opening of the fun fair. This event was first held in 2001 and has since seen thousands of SEND pupils enjoying supervised free rides thanks to the generosity of Murphy's Fun Fairs (please see other event listing for opening times of the fairground for the general public). If you would like to involve your SEND school, please contact the organisers by e-mail no later than 27/09/26.

VENUE Rectory Field, Dairy Lane, Houghton, DH4 5BH

DATE & TIME Monday October 5th 2026

ADMISSION By invitation only

ORGANISERS Murphy's Fun Fairs &
The Houghton Feast Trust

FACEBOOK /funfairmurphys

EMAIL info@houghtonfeast.co.uk



FIREWORKS CAFE

Hot soup and bread buns will be available at the Bethany Church, Hetton Road, prior to the launch of the Houghton Feast fireworks. Everyone will be given a warm welcome by the Bethany team while awaiting the launch of the rockets. Free controlled parking for cars is available on site (subject to availability).

VENUE Bethany Church, Hetton Road, DH5 8PF

DATE & TIME Monday October 5th 2026 6:30pm

ADMISSION Free

CAR PARK At the venue

ORGANISER Bethany Church

WEB shorturl.at/iUX12

FACEBOOK /BCCHoughton

TEL 0191 512 1234

FEAST FIREWORKS MUSIC SPECTACULAR

At the time of printing, the Houghton Feast Fireworks Music Spectacular has not yet been finalised. Keep an eye on Sunderland City Council's social media for details.

VENUE Durham Road, Houghton-le-Spring, DH5 8NF

DATE & TIME Monday October 5th 2026 **Time TBC**

ADMISSION Free

CAR PARKS Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH
Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA
Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA
The Old Rectory (32 spaces), DH4 4BB
Burn Promenade (20 spaces), DH4 5AS

ORGANISER Sunderland City Council

WEB www.mysunderland.co.uk

FACEBOOK /VisitSundUK

TEL N/A

FEAST TUESDAY

OCTOBER 6TH 2026

☐ A FEAST FOR YOUR FEET (GUIDED WALK)

Join our friendly Tuesday Trekkers walking group, led by Graham Boyle, for a refreshing morning exploring Houghton-le-Spring. The walk sets off from Kepier Hall and will take you on a journey around the local area, offering the perfect chance to enjoy the outdoors and meet new people along the way. Afterwards, we'll return to the Kepier for some well-earned refreshments and a chance to chat with fellow walkers. Please dress for the weather and wear suitable footwear.

VENUE The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Tuesday October 6th 2026 9:30am - 11:30am
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
SUPPORTED BY Houghton-le-Spring Residents C.I.C.

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

☐ LINE DANCE AT THE FEAST

Come to our friendly, fun and relaxed Line Dancing Session. Led by Alison, no experience is needed! Learn easy routines step by step, enjoy great music and have a laugh! Whether you're a complete beginner, want to brush up on the basics or are a seasoned pro, everyone is welcome.

VENUE Kepier Hall, Church Street, DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Tuesday October 6th 2026 12:00pm - 1:00pm
ADMISSION Suggested donation of £3
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

ORGANISER SPACE4
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /HoughtonSpace4
EMAIL space4.hub@gmail.com



42ND HOUGHTON FEAST VARIETY SHOW

Step Right Up for the 42nd Annual Houghton Feast Variety Show! ZAZZ is thrilled to present a sparkling night of entertainment for the whole family! Join us for a spectacular variety show featuring music, laughter, and show-stopping performances. This long-running tradition has been delighting our community for over four decades, and your support keeps the magic alive! Doors open at 6:30pm. Tickets available from [BookingSorted.co.uk](https://bookingsorted.co.uk)

VENUE ZAZZ Theatre, Newbottle Street, Houghton, DH4 4AF
DATE & TIME Tuesday October 6th 2026 7:00pm
ADMISSION £8.00 per person
BOOK ONLINE <https://bookingsorted.co.uk/sales/zazztheatre>
CAR PARK Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH

ORGANISER ZAZZ
WEB www.zazz.co.uk
FACEBOOK /zazztheatre
EMAIL info@zazzuk.com

THE HOUGHTON FEAST QUIZ 2026

Join us at the Mill Inn for The Houghton Feast Quiz 2026 and an entertaining night hosted by Quizmaster, Mr. Adam Wheatley. Come early to enjoy the Mill's great food and wide selection of drinks, then put your knowledge to the test! There are cash prizes to be won and the winning team will also take home a fantastic prize courtesy of The Houghton Feast Trust.

VENUE The Mill Inn PH, Durham Road, Houghton, DH5 8NG
DATE & TIME Tuesday October 6th 2026 8:30pm prompt
ADMISSION £1.00 per person / £3.00 per team
CAR PARK At the venue
SPONSORED BY The Houghton Feast Trust

QUIZMASTER Mr. Adam Wheatley
WEB www.houghtonfeast.co.uk
FACEBOOK /HoughtonFeast
EMAIL info@houghtonfeast.co.uk



WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 7TH 2026

☐ BREAKFAST BUTTIES & QUIZ

Come along to our welcoming drop-in at the SPACE4 Hub for a cuppa and a light-hearted quiz (quiz starts at 11:30). Breakfast butties available to purchase (from £1.50 each).

VENUE SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF
DATE & TIME Wednesday October 7th 2026 10:00am – 12:30pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARKS Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH

ORGANISER SPACE4
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /HoughtonSpace4
EMAIL space4.hub@gmail.com

☐ HOUGHTON FEAST MEMORY CAFE

Come along to our friendly Houghton Feast Memory Café and enjoy a cuppa with cakes as we reminisce about the magic of Houghton Feast through the years. It's a lovely chance to share stories, spark memories, and chat about our town's historic festival in a relaxed and welcoming setting at the Kepier Hall (behind St Michael's Church).

VENUE The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Wednesday October 7th 2026 1:00pm – 3:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
SUPPORTED BY Houghton-le-Spring Residents C.I.C.

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk



THURSDAY

OCTOBER 8TH 2026



☐ SPACE4 BROTH & AUTUMN CRAFTS

Join us for an autumn themed craft session at the SPACE4 Hub on Newbottle Street. No artistic talent required, just a willingness to have a go! Please let us know if you're planning to come along so we can make sure we have enough materials for everyone to join in. We'll also be serving our delicious SPACE4 Broth (available from 11:30am, food priced £3.50).

VENUE SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF
DATE & TIME Thursday October 8th 2026 10:00am – 12:30pm
ADMISSION Free (suggested donation £3)
CAR PARKS Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH

ORGANISER SPACE4
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /HoughtonSpace4
EMAIL space4.hub@gmail.com

☐ CRAFTING MAGIC

Come to Kepier Hall and enjoy a relaxed, friendly session of creativity at our community craft group. Whether it is paper, textiles, or wool, you can try your hand at making something magical - no experience needed and all materials are provided. It's a free activity, with a warm welcome guaranteed, so just bring yourself and a little imagination!

VENUE The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Thursday October 8th 2026 1:00pm – 2:30pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
SUPPORTED BY Houghton-le-Spring Residents C.I.C.

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

☐ HOUGHTON FEAST YOUTH CLUB

After-School Magic @ Kepier Hall. Hey 11–16s! Come hang out after school 4 an aft packed w/ fun, mates & a bit of Feast magic! Games, crafts, activities & loads of free magical food 2 keep u going. Chill, try new stuff & make epic memories w/ ur friends old & new!

VENUE The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Thursday October 8th 2026 3:00pm – 5:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
SUPPORTED BY Houghton-le-Spring Residents C.I.C.

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 9TH 2026

PIES, PEAS & BINGO

We're celebrating another successful Houghton Feast week with a chance to 'feast together.' We're having an old-fashioned game of bingo at the SPACE4 Hub followed by delicious homemade pie and peas (pie & peas must be booked in advance by e-mailing: space4.hub@gmail.com).

VENUE SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF
DATE & TIME Friday October 9th 2026 11:00am - 2:00pm
ADMISSION £4.50
CAR PARKS Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH

ORGANISER SPACE4
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /HoughtonSpace4
EMAIL space4.hub@gmail.com

HOUGHTON FEAST CEILIDH

A ceilidh, which is Gaelic for "gathering" and is pronounced "kay-lee", is a Scottish tradition that involves dancing and fun. With music by the Seaham Music Academy Ceilidh Band, enjoy a night of live entertainment in Houghton's Parish Church. Licensed bar and food available to purchase. Tickets in advance from the Church Office (Tel: 0191 512 1769) during opening times (Tue & Thu 9am-3pm). This is likely to be a popular event so tickets in advance are recommended.

VENUE Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Friday October 9th 2026 7:00pm - 11:00pm
ADMISSION £10.00 adults / £5.00 under 16s
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

ORGANISER St Michael & All Angels Church
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /stmichaelshls
TEL 0191 512 1769



YOUTH CLUB FEAST SPECIAL

Pizza Feast Night. Hey 11-16s! Come celebrate all the magic of Houghton youth w/ an eve full of fun, mates & FREE pizza! Games, activities & loads of laughs while munchin' ur fave slices - perf 4 chillin', makin' memories & feastin' 2gthr!

VENUE Churchill Community Rooms, Chilton Moor, DH4 5PQ
DATE & TIME Friday October 9th 2026 7:00pm - 9:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
SUPPORTED BY Houghton-le-Spring Residents C.I.C.

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 10TH 2026



COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Your chance to share your ideas and thoughts about what is, or could be, ways to change the town of Houghton-le-Spring for the better. We want to hear from you about what you love about your town and community, what would make taking part in sports, movement or adult learning easier and what we do in next year's Houghton Feast. We can then take those ideas and put them into action together. Free food and activities for all the family.

VENUE The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Saturday October 10th 2026 11:00am - 2:00pm
ADMISSION Free
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings & Houghton Residents C.I.C.
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

ECHOES OF KEPIER HALL – ESCAPE ROOM

Step into the historic halls of Kepier and take on a spooky challenge the whole family can enjoy! Legend has it the old headmistress has returned from the grave to test today's young on the history of the building. Only by working together and finding her lost locket can you put her spirit to rest for good. Bring your team, solve the puzzles, and race against the clock! Come as a family and try your hand at our escape room. Four slots available at £5 per family of up to 4 children plus supporting adults. Watch our Facebook page for booking details.

VENUE The Kepier Hall (behind parish church), DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Tuesday October 10th 2026 10:00am - 2:00pm
ADMISSION £5.00 per family
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ
SUPPORTED BY Houghton-le-Spring Residents C.I.C.

ORGANISER Acumen Community Buildings
FACEBOOK /acumencommunitybuildings
WEB www.acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk
EMAIL info@acumencommunitybuildings.co.uk

☐ THE 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. The walk will end at the Wild Boar public house where many of the Society's archived photographs are displayed. Please dress for the weather with appropriate walking shoes. Places must be reserved by e-mailing: info@houghtonlespring.org.uk and the meeting point will be sent by return e-mail.

VENUE Houghton-le-Spring town centre
DATE & TIME Saturday October 10th 2026 1:00pm
ADMISSION £3.00 per person
CAR PARK The Old Rectory (32 spaces), DH4 4BB

ORGANISER Houghton Heritage Society
WEB www.houghtonlespring.org.uk
FACEBOOK /houghton.heritage
BOOK BY EMAIL info@houghtonlespring.org.uk



☐ HOUGHTON FEAST BRASS BAND CONCERT

Our Annual Houghton Feast Concert featuring Sunderland's leading brass band, Houghton Brass, with guest soloist Jimmy Hayes. The band returns to St. Michael & All Angels Church for the popular Houghton Feast Brass Band Concert under the musical direction of Aiden Hodgson. Tickets from the Band (message/Facebook) or the Church Office (Tel: 0191 512 1769) during opening times (Tue & Thu 9am-3pm). This is likely to be a popular concert so tickets in advance are recommended.

VENUE Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN
DATE & TIME Saturday October 10th 2026 7:00pm
ADMISSION £10.00 (adults); £8.00 (under 16s)
CAR PARK Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

ORGANISER St Michael & All Angels Church & Houghton Brass Band
WEB www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
FACEBOOK /HoughtonBrassBand
TEL 0191 512 1769



SUNDAY



OCTOBER 11TH 2026

HOUGHTON FEAST PET SERVICE

All-Age and All-Species Worship! As Houghton Feast 2026 draws to a joyful close, come together at St Michael & All Angels for a truly unique celebration. This special service welcomes everyone - two-legged, four-legged, feathered, furry, or even stuffed! Bring along your well-behaved pets or your favourite cuddly toy for a blessing, as we give thanks and praise to God for the wonders of creation. It's a heart-warming way to round off the Feast - fun, inclusive, and full of joy. From paws and whiskers to wings and wool, all creatures great and small are welcome.... just please don't bring the ox!

VENUE	Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN	ORGANISER	St Michael & All Angels Church
DATE & TIME	Sunday October 11 th 2026 10:00am	WEB	www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
ADMISSION	Free	FACEBOOK	/stmichaelshls
CAR PARK	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	TEL	0191 512 1769



DIARY DATE: HOUGHTON FEAST 60

Houghton Feast, the ancient festival of Houghton-le-Spring, will launch on **Friday October 8th** and will run until **Sunday October 17th 2027** as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Big Houghton Feast Revival of 1967 – let's make it one of the best!

WITH THANKS

A great deal of time is given with unfailing enthusiasm to create a varied programme of events and **thanks are extended** to the following organisers without whose assistance the **45 events** at The Houghton Feast 2026 would not be possible:

Acumen Community Buildings
Adam Wheatley (quizmaster)
Bethany Church
Bethany Louise Hughes (author)
Houghton & Lambton Banner Group
Houghton Art Club
Houghton Brass Band
The Houghton Feast Trust
Houghton Harriers & Athletics Club

Houghton Heritage Society
Houghton R.U.F.C.
Houghton Residents C.I.C.
Murphy's Fun Fairs
SPACE4
St Michael & All Angels Church
Sunderland City Council
ZAZZ Dance Academy



DISCLAIMER

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 event organisers with any queries before making plans to attend. Updates are also posted to the Houghton Feast social media channels when possible.

PUBLISHED IN 2026 BY HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY

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DESIGNED & EDITED BY PAUL LANAGAN

SOME DIGITAL ARTWORK HAS BEEN GENERATED BY A.I.

**THIS COLLECTIBLE PROGRAMME OF EVENTS HAS BEEN COMPILED, PUBLISHED AND DISTRIBUTED
BY UNPAID VOLUNTEERS FROM HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUALLY SINCE 2007.**

1ST EDITION

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KEY VENUES



- 1 Welfare Hall
- 2 Zazz Theatre
- 3 The Broadway
- 4 St Michael & All Angels Church
- 5 Kepier Hall
- 6 Rectory Park
- 7 Fun Fair
- 8 Rugby Club
- 9 Durham Road Playing Fields
- 10 Bethany Church
- Parade Procession Route
- [P] Car Park
- Bus Stop



BUS SERVICES

Houghton's town centre is well served by public transport with regular services from Durham, Newcastle, Seaham, Peterlee and Sunderland dropping off and departing from The Broadway. The regular bus stops are suspended during the road closures for the Opening Ceremony (Oct 2), Carnival Parade (Oct 3) and Fireworks Spectacular (Oct 5), with bus services temporarily serving Hillside Way, near the Lidl supermarket car park. For full details see: www.gonortheast.co.uk

CAR PARKING

Please park **safely, legally and considerately** when visiting the festival and check signage for rules before parking. Some event venues have their own car parks and the town centre has the following free parking places (space numbers are approx):

STATION ROAD

Behind the Library
93 spaces
DH4 5AH

IMPERIAL BUILDINGS

Near The Broadway
44 spaces
DH4 4DJ

BRINKBURN CRESCENT

Opposite the Welfare Hall
80 spaces
DH4 5HA

BACK NEWBOTTLE STREET

Adjacent to Lidl's private car park
8 spaces (Blue Badges only)
DH4 4AR

THE OLD RECTORY

Just off The Broadway
32 spaces
DH4 4BB

NEAR SUNRISE LANE

Close to Colliery Memorial
16 spaces
DH4 4AJ

POTTERY YARD

Behind Iceland & Wild Boar
48 spaces (inc. Blue Badges)
DH4 4BA

BURN PROMENADE

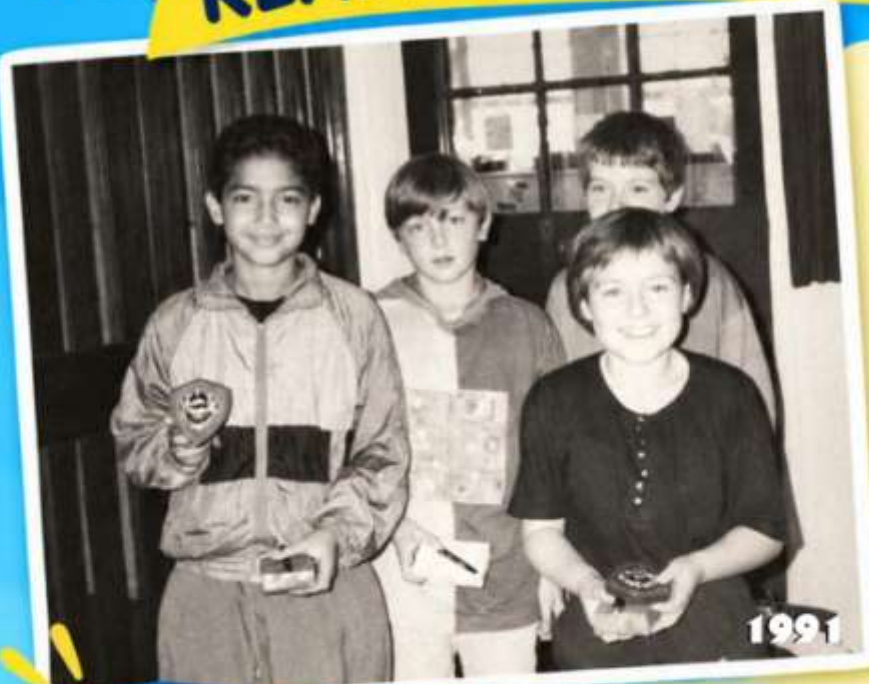
Unmarked bays
20 spaces
DH4 5AS



PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Portable public conveniences are located in The Broadway for the **Opening Ceremony** and **Carnival Parade**. Several Houghton businesses have toilet facilities which you are welcome to use if you give them your custom.

HOUGHTON FEAST BOOKMIND READING CONTEST 2026



IF YOU WERE A CHILD
OF THE 1980s AND 1990s
YOU WILL REMEMBER
THE ANNUAL HOUGHTON
FEAST BOOKMIND
READING CONTESTS
WHICH TOOK PLACE IN OUR
LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS,
WHERE YOUNG READERS
WERE QUIZZED ABOUT A
BOOK OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST
IS DELIGHTED TO REVIVE
THIS HISTORIC TRADITION
FOR A NEW GENERATION
IN THE **NATIONAL YEAR
OF READING 2026!**



The Houghton Feast Trust
will be providing some
fantastic prizes for schools,
plus a **trophy** for the
overall winner.



Local primary schools and academies are being contacted
in the Houghton-le-Spring area (DH4/DH5) with details of
how your pupils can take part.



THE HOUGHTON FEAST TRUST

You can find out more by emailing:
info@houghtonfeast.co.uk

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.

GO
ALL
IN.

★ REAL BOOKS ★ REAL READERS ★ A BRIGHTER FUTURE ★