

Free programme of events



# Houghton Feast

4 - 13 OCTOBER 2024



celebrating local cultures



UPDATED 10/09/24



# 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.

<b>VENUE</b>	Rectory Field, Dairy Lane, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 5BH	<b>LESSEE</b>	Mr John Murphy
<b>DATE &amp; TIMES</b>	Fri Oct 4 <sup>th</sup> 6:00pm – 10:00pm Sat Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> 1:00pm – 10:00pm Mon Oct 7 <sup>th</sup> – Fri Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> 6:00pm – 10:00pm Sat Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> 1:00pm – 10:00pm	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/funfairmurphys
<b>CAR PARKS</b>	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		

## ☐ LIGHT UP HOUGHTON RECTORY PARK

Wrap up warmly and bring all the family to see the community illuminations in Houghton's Rectory Park. The lights and illuminations, which made a return to the park in 2021 after many years of absence, were funded by kind donations from the public. Bring a torch and be prepared for making magical memories with your children in our atmospheric park during its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year!

<b>VENUE</b>	The Rectory Park, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISERS</b>	The Old Rectory & Houghton Residents C.I.C.
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Daily from dusk	<b>WEB</b>	www.theoldrectory.co.uk
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/TheOldRectoryHoughtonleSpring
<b>CAR PARKS</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ The Old Rectory (32 spaces), DH4 4BB		
<b>FUNDED BY</b>	Public donations, community fundraising and The National Lottery Community Fund		

## ☐ 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 16<sup>th</sup> century Rector.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN	<b>ORGANISER</b>	St Michael & All Angels Church
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Tue Oct 8 <sup>th</sup> – Fri Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> 11:00am – 1:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/stmichaelshls
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	0191 512 1769

# FEAST LAUNCH DAY

## FRIDAY OCTOBER 4TH 2024

### ☐ 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 Monday.

<b>VENUE</b>	Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Art Club
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Friday October 4 <sup>th</sup> 2024      9:30am - 4:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonartclub.webs.com">www.houghtonartclub.webs.com</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029">/Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA	<b>TEL</b>	N/A

### ☐ 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, Councillor Allison Chisnall, 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 children 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 September 27<sup>th</sup> 2024.

<b>VENUE</b>	Rectory Field, Dairy Lane, Houghton, DH4 5BH	<b>ORGANISERS</b>	Murphy's Fun Fairs & Houghton Heritage Society
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Friday October 4 <sup>th</sup> 2024	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/funfairmurphys">/funfairmurphys</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	By invitation only	<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:info@houghtonlespring.org.uk">info@houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>

# OPENING NIGHT

## FRIDAY OCTOBER 4TH 2024

### □ FACE PAINTING & FUN

Gravity-defying stilt-walkers will be entertaining the crowds in The Broadway as we eagerly await the launch of The Houghton Feast! Fantastic face painters and a balloon modeller will also be around to occupy the children until the main show kicks off at 7pm.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Broadway, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Sunderland City Council
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Friday October 4 <sup>th</sup> 2024 6:00pm – 7:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.mysunderland.co.uk">www.mysunderland.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/VisitSundUK">/VisitSundUK</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH	<b>TEL</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Sunderland City Council, Coalfield Area Committee		

### □ THE GAVIOLI ORGAN

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 The Houghton Feast.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Broadway, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Sunderland City Council
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Friday October 4 <sup>th</sup> 2024 6:00pm - 8:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.mysunderland.co.uk">www.mysunderland.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/VisitSundUK">/VisitSundUK</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH	<b>TEL</b>	N/A

### □ OPENING CEREMONY 2024

“Be Our Guest” as the Festival of Houghton Feast is launched with a spectacular community show in The Broadway as Houghton Pipe Band, Zazz dancers, and The Houghton Feast Children’s Choir entertain the gathered crowds. At the conclusion of the outdoor show, the Houghton Feast illuminations will be switched on by the Right Worshipful, the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Allison Chisnall. This event is not to be missed: live entertainment by the community for the community - and best of all it is free!

<b>VENUE</b>	The Broadway, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Sunderland City Council
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Friday October 4 <sup>th</sup> 2024 7:00pm – 8:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.mysunderland.co.uk">www.mysunderland.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/VisitSundUK">/VisitSundUK</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH	<b>TEL</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Sunderland City Council, Coalfield Area Committee		

# FESTIVAL DAY

## SATURDAY OCTOBER 5TH 2024

### ☐ HOUGHTON HERITAGE PHOTO EXHIBITION

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.

<b>VENUE</b>	Rectory Park Railings, The Broadway, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Heritage Society
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 9:00am - 4:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonlespring.org.uk">www.houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/houghton.heritage">/houghton.heritage</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:info@houghtonlespring.org.uk">info@houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>

### ☐ 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 20 year-old Houghton Colliery banner is the town's 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Welfare Hall, Station Road, DH4 5AH	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton & Lambton Banner Group
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 9:30am - 3:30pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonfeast.co.uk">www.houghtonfeast.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/HoughtonFeast">/HoughtonFeast</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	<b>TEL</b>	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 Monday.

<b>VENUE</b>	Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Art Club
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 9:30am - 4:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonartclub.webs.com">www.houghtonartclub.webs.com</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029">/Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	<b>TEL</b>	N/A

## ☐ COFFEE MORNING & CRAFT MARKET

The historical heart of The Houghton Feast, St. Michael's Church, will be throwing open its doors and is the ideal place to take time out from the festivities in the nearby Broadway, as you peruse the craft market stalls and enjoy a hot drink.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Parish Church, The Broadway, DH4 4DN	<b>ORGANISER</b>	St Michael & All Angels Church
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 10:30am - 3:30pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk">www.stmichaels-hls.org.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/stmichaelshls
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	<b>TEL</b>	0191 512 1769

## ☐ 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 John Murphy who supported Houghton Feast for 70 years. Now in its 6th year, on display will be working and static models, many of which have been skilfully made by local fairground enthusiasts.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Old Rectory, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Heritage Society
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 11:00am - 4:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonlespring.org.uk">www.houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/houghton.heritage
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:info@houghtonlespring.org.uk">info@houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	The Old Rectory (Centre for Social Enterprise & Community Business)		

## ☐ THE 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 over 80 years.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Broadway, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Sunderland City Council
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 12:00pm - 4:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.mysunderland.co.uk">www.mysunderland.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/VisitSundUK
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	N/A
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	Sunderland City Council Coalfield Area Committee		

## ☐ DIGNITY CHARITY FAIRGROUND ORGAN

The Dignity Charity Fairground Organ, made by Dean Organ Builders of Bristol, will be making its second annual appearance at Houghton Feast. The organ will be playing at intervals throughout the afternoon in the Rectory Park. With grateful thanks to the team from Derek Moss Funeral Directors for bringing the organ along.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Rectory Park, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISERS</b>	Houghton Residents C.I.C. & The Old Rectory
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 From 1:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.theoldrectory.co.uk">www.theoldrectory.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/houghtonlespringresidents
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA		

# AN ANCIENT TRADITION



## ROASTING OF THE OX

A roasted whole ox, prepared overnight by volunteers from The Houghton Feast Trust, will be served up in sandwiches 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 slice of beef will be presented to the Right worshipful, the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Allison Chisnall, at 1 o'clock ahead of the tasty sandwiches going on sale to the public.

The sarnies are very popular and are therefore available strictly while stocks last. You can pre-purchase your beef sandwiches online at: [www.oxsarnies.com](http://www.oxsarnies.com)

The Houghton Feast Trust are proud that this event will be supporting the following local food banks:

**SPACE4 Food Store**

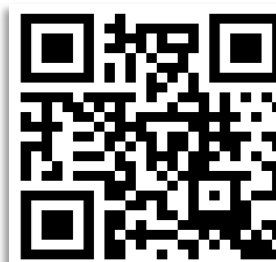
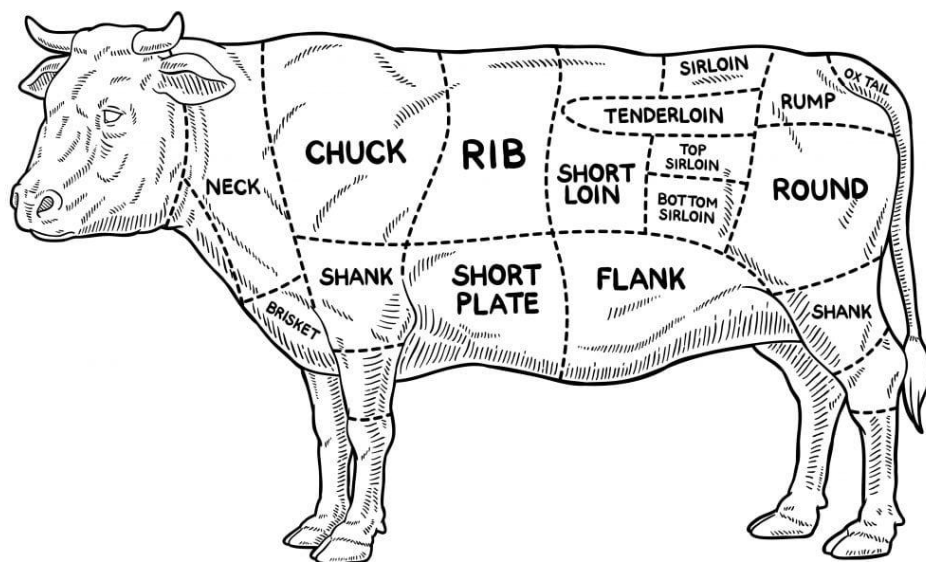
**Hetton Food Bank**

**VENUE** The Old Rectory, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB  
**DATE & TIME** Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> 2024 From 1:00pm  
**PAYMENTS** Cash/Card/Apple Pay on the day  
**CAR PARKS** Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ  
Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA  
Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA

**ORGANISER** The Houghton Feast Trust

**PRE-PAY ONLINE** [www.oxsarnies.com](http://www.oxsarnies.com)

**SUPPORTED BY** Sunderland City Council  
Asa James Smith &  
Simply Irresistible



# CARNIVAL TIME

## □ PRIMARY DASH ROAD RACE

Local primary schools will compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> 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. Schools wishing to register their involvement should contact Peter Dodsworth of Houghton Harriers no later than September 20<sup>th</sup> 2024.

<b>VENUE</b>	Newbottle Street / The Broadway, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Harriers & Athletics Club
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 1:45pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonharriers.org">www.houghtonharriers.org</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free for participating primary schools	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/HoughtonHarriersAC">/HoughtonHarriersAC</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	<b>TEL</b>	07849403313
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Houghton R.U.F.C	<b>E-MAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:padodsworth@hotmail.co.uk">padodsworth@hotmail.co.uk</a>

## □ THE CARNIVAL PARADE

Carnival time is a highlight of The Houghton Feast and will be celebrating local cultures. Come along and watch this colourful community production managed and co-ordinated by The Old Rectory and Houghton 41 Club. Featuring children from local schools, community groups, Ukraine dance group, the pipes and drums of Houghton Pipe Band, Houghton and Pittington brass bands, The Bangshees marching drum band, Darlington Dolphins jazz band, both classic cars and motorbike enthusiast groups, vintage steam traction engines, carnival floats, Billy Purvis the clown, the ZAZZ dancers and Stage Door Academy - plus costumed characters! 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.

<b>ROUTE</b>	Station Rd/Newbottle St/The Broadway/Rectory Park	<b>ORGANISER</b>	The Old Rectory & Houghton 41 Club
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 2:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.theoldrectory.co.uk">www.theoldrectory.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/TheOldRectoryHoughtonleSpring">/TheOldRectoryHoughtonleSpring</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA	<b>TEL</b>	0191 563 4401



## ☐ KIDS IN THE PARK FAMILY FUN

Brought to you by Houghton-le-Spring Residents, an afternoon of family fun in Houghton's beautiful Rectory Park after the Carnival Parade, funded by the community for the community. Everyone is welcome - bring the whole family for some children's crafts and activities and the best bubbles in town. The Puffing Billy train will be joining us to give rides around the park.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Rectory Park, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISERS</b>	Houghton Residents C.I.C.
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 From 2:30pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.theoldrectory.co.uk">www.theoldrectory.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/houghtonlespringresidents">/houghtonlespringresidents</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA		
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	Wonderful volunteers; The Ladies & Dale's Club; The Old Rectory (Centre for Social Enterprise & Community Business).		

## ☐ COMMUNITY GOT TALENT

The fun doesn't end when the Carnival Parade concludes! Make sure you visit the Rectory Park (car park) for an afternoon of entertainment consisting of song, music and dance. Last year we had some incredible performances from a medley of cultures - you don't want to miss it!

<b>VENUE</b>	The Rectory Park, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISERS</b>	Houghton Residents C.I.C.
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 From 2:30pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.theoldrectory.co.uk">www.theoldrectory.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/houghtonlespringresidents">/houghtonlespringresidents</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA		
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	The Old Rectory (Centre for Social Enterprise & Community Business) 41 Club of Houghton-le-Spring, community volunteers & Tim Cullingworth		

## ☐ HOUGHTON FEAST RUGBY MATCH 2024

Support the Wild Boars at the Dairy Lane ground at the Houghton Feast Rugby Match. 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 Durham University. Kick-off is at 3:00pm.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Rugby Club, Dairy Lane, DH4 5BH	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton R.U.F.C.
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024 3:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonrugby.co.uk">www.houghtonrugby.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/HoughtonRugbyClub">/HoughtonRugbyClub</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	At the venue	<b>TEL</b>	0191 584 1460
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Houghton-le-Spring 41 Club		

# FEAST SUNDAY

## OCTOBER 6TH 2024

### □ 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 will be the Rev'd Chris Howson, Associate Minister at Sunderland Minster. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN	<b>ORGANISER</b>	St Michael & All Angels Church
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Sunday October 6 <sup>th</sup> 2024 10:30am	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk">www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelshls">/stmichaelshls</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	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.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN	<b>ORGANISER</b>	St Michael & All Angels Church
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Sunday October 6 <sup>th</sup> 2024 6:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk">www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelshls">/stmichaelshls</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	0191 512 1769

### □ DID YOU KNOW?

The date of Houghton Feast fluctuates slightly each year! Houghton Feast, or **Michaelmas** as it is also known, is meant to be celebrated on September 29th, however in 1752 the people of Houghton refused to accept the introduction of the Gregorian calendar and continued to celebrate Michaelmas according to the Julian calendar, on October 10th, eleven days behind the new calendar. Houghton Feast 2021 coincided with Sunday October 10th, but it won't happen again until 2027!

# FEAST MONDAY

## OCTOBER 7TH 2024

### 📌 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.

<b>VENUE</b>	Methodist Church, Mautland Street, DH4 4BH	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Art Club
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Monday October 7 <sup>th</sup> 2024 9:30am - 4:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonartclub.webs.com">www.houghtonartclub.webs.com</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029">/Houghton-Art-Club-613535218708029</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Pottery Yard (48 spaces), DH4 4BA	<b>TEL</b>	N/A

### 📌 RAG WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

Join local textile artist, Julie Lane, and make your own rag wreath, a local tradition. Materials provided but feel free to bring along pieces of fabric from old clothes, blankets, sheets or other textiles. It's a great way to recycle your textiles or make a keepsake from sentimental clothing.

<b>VENUE</b>	SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF	<b>ORGANISER</b>	SPACE4
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Monday October 7 <sup>th</sup> 2024 10:00am - 1:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	N/A
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free but must be booked	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/HoughtonSpace4">/HoughtonSpace4</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH	<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:space4.hub@gmail.com">space4.hub@gmail.com</a>

### 📌 GILPIN'S OPEN HOUSE (COMMUNITY HUB)

A warm and welcoming space is on offer at the Old Rectory for Gilpin's Open House. Call in for free soup and a cuppa, plus free wi-fi, a place to charge your devices, along with fun things to do including: scheduled activities, books, magazines, toys and games. All ages are welcome.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Old Rectory, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	The Old Rectory
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Monday October 7 <sup>th</sup> 2024 1:00pm - 3:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.theoldrectory.co.uk">www.theoldrectory.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/TheOldRectoryHoughtonleSpring">/TheOldRectoryHoughtonleSpring</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	0191 563 4401
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	Sunderland City Council		



# FIREWORKS NIGHT

## OCTOBER 7TH 2024

### ☐ 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 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 6:30pm  
**ADMISSION** Free  
**CAR PARK** At the venue

**ORGANISER** Bethany Church  
**WEB** [shorturl.at/iUX12](https://shorturl.at/iUX12)  
**FACEBOOK** /BCCHoughton  
**TEL** 0191 512 1234

### ☐ FEAST FIREWORKS MUSIC SPECTACULAR

The must-see Houghton Feast Fireworks Spectacular choreographed with music! Rockets are being launched from the Durham Road playing fields and can also be viewed from Dairy Lane. Public announcement systems will be set up at both locations. 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 the local press or the Sunderland Council website.

**VENUE** Durham Road, Houghton-le-Spring, DH5 8NF  
**DATE & TIME** Monday October 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 7:30pm  
**ADMISSION** Free  
**CAR PARKS** Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ  
Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH  
Brinkburn Crescent (80 spaces), DH4 5HA

**ORGANISER** Sunderland City Council  
**WEB** [www.mysunderland.co.uk](http://www.mysunderland.co.uk)  
**FACEBOOK** /VisitSundUK  
**TEL** N/A

# FEAST TUESDAY

## OCTOBER 8TH 2024

### □ JEWELLERY WORKSHOP

Come and join us for a jewellery session – all materials provided. Doing crafts can help you relax, reduce stress, and improve your mood. You don't need any experience, just a willingness to try new things and have fun. Join us to enjoy the benefits of crafting for your wellbeing!

<b>VENUE</b>	SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF	<b>ORGANISER</b>	SPACE4
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Tuesday October 8 <sup>th</sup> 2024 10:00am - 12:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	N/A
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free but must be booked	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/HoughtonSpace4
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH	<b>EMAIL</b>	space4.hub@gmail.com

### □ GILPIN'S OPEN HOUSE (COMMUNITY HUB)

A warm and welcoming space is on offer at the Old Rectory for Gilpin's Open House. Call in for free soup and a cuppa, plus free wi-fi, a place to charge your devices, along with fun things to do including: scheduled activities, books, magazines, toys and games. All ages are welcome.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Old Rectory, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	The Old Rectory
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Tuesday October 8 <sup>th</sup> 2024 1:00pm – 3:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	www.theoldrectory.co.uk
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/TheOldRectoryHoughtonleSpring
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	0191 563 4401
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	Sunderland City Council		

### □ 40<sup>TH</sup> HOUGHTON FEAST VARIETY SHOW

ZAZZ is pleased to present the 40th Houghton Feast Variety Show, featuring professional cabaret dancers, adult tappers and performances of ZAZZ's Disneyland Paris and London Shaftesbury Theatre shows, plus a selection of special routines from ZAZZ's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration shows at the Firestation. Tickets at £8.00 per person can be booked online.

<b>VENUE</b>	ZAZZ Theatre, Newbottle Street, Houghton, DH4 4AF	<b>ORGANISER</b>	ZAZZ
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Tuesday October 8 <sup>th</sup> 2024 7:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	www.zazz.co.uk
<b>ADMISSION</b>	£8.00 per person	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/zazztheatre
<b>BOOK ONLINE</b>	<a href="https://bookingsorted.co.uk/sales/zazztheatre">https://bookingsorted.co.uk/sales/zazztheatre</a>	<b>EMAIL</b>	info@zazzuk.com
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH		

# WEDNESDAY

## OCTOBER 9TH 2024

### ☐ 75 YEARS OF THE RECTORY PARK EXHIBITION

A photograph exhibition showing scenes from Houghton-le-Spring's Rectory Park over the years. Some of the images are very rare and reveal how the Rectory evolved from the equivalent of a fortified palace into local authority offices and now a building at the heart of the community. The photographs will be on display on the Rectory Park's railings in The Broadway for the duration of the day.

**VENUE** Rectory Park Railings, The Broadway, DH4 4BB  
**DATE & TIME** Wednesday October 9<sup>th</sup> 2024 9:00am - 4:00pm  
**ADMISSION** Free  
**CAR PARK** Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ

**ORGANISER** Houghton Heritage Society  
**WEB** [www.houghtonlespring.org.uk](http://www.houghtonlespring.org.uk)  
**FACEBOOK** /houghton.heritage  
**EMAIL** [info@houghtonlespring.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonlespring.org.uk)

### ☐ SPACE4 STOTTIES

We will be serving ham & pease pudding stotties during our drop in session. Come along, have a cuppa and a chat and treat yourself to this local delicacy. If you can't make today's session, feel free to come along on Thursday Oct 10<sup>th</sup> at the same time.

**VENUE** SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF  
**DATE & TIME** Wednesday October 9<sup>th</sup> 2024 10:00am - 1:00pm  
**ADMISSION** Free / Pay as you feel  
**CAR PARK** Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH

**ORGANISER** SPACE4  
**WEB** N/A  
**FACEBOOK** /HoughtonSpace4  
**EMAIL** [space4.hub@gmail.com](mailto:space4.hub@gmail.com)

### ☐ YOUR SPACE WITH THE CULTURAL SPRING

Space4 Local Culture: Your Space with The Cultural Spring. Be inspired by the local green spaces to create something exciting to be displayed at Space4. Try out something new or just come for a chat.

**VENUE** SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF  
**DATE & TIME** Wednesday October 9<sup>th</sup> 2024 10:30am - 12:30pm  
**ADMISSION** Free  
**CAR PARK** Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH

**ORGANISER** SPACE4  
**WEB** N/A  
**FACEBOOK** /HoughtonSpace4  
**EMAIL** [space4.hub@gmail.com](mailto:space4.hub@gmail.com)



# THURSDAY

## OCTOBER 10TH 2024

### **SPACE4 STOTTIES**

We will be serving ham & pease pudding stotties during our drop in session. Come along, have a cuppa and a chat and treat yourself to this local delicacy.

<b>VENUE</b>	SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF	<b>ORGANISER</b>	SPACE4
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Thursday October 10 <sup>th</sup> 2024 10:00am - 1:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	N/A
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free / Pay as you feel	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/HoughtonSpace4
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH	<b>EMAIL</b>	space4.hub@gmail.com

### **HOUGHTON FEAST BRASS BAND CONCERT**

Houghton Brass Band is Sunderland's premier brass band. Formed in 1983 from players of the old Houghton Schools' band, the band has gone from strength to strength in recent years, which includes winning the national championships of Great Britain (third section) in 2015. The band returns to St. Michael & All Angels' Church for Houghton Feast with a packed programme of music featuring some of the band's talented soloists.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Parish Church, The Broadway, DH4 4DN	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Brass Band
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Thursday October 10 <sup>th</sup> 2024 7:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	N/A
<b>ADMISSION</b>	£8.00 (adults); £4.00 (under 18s) pay on the door	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	/HoughtonBrassBand
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	07707043395



## **DIARY DATE: HOUGHTON FEAST 2025**

Houghton Feast, the ancient festival of Houghton-le-Spring, will launch on **Friday October 3rd** and will run until **Sunday October 12th 2025**.

# FRIDAY

## OCTOBER 11TH 2024

### ☐ GILPIN'S OPEN HOUSE (COMMUNITY HUB)

A warm and welcoming space is on offer at the Old Rectory for Gilpin's Open House. Call in for free soup and a cuppa, plus free wi-fi, a place to charge your devices, along with fun things to do including: scheduled activities, books, magazines, toys and games. All ages are welcome.

<b>VENUE</b>	The Old Rectory, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	The Old Rectory
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Friday October 11 <sup>th</sup> 2024 9:00am - 12:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.theoldrectory.co.uk">www.theoldrectory.co.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/TheOldRectoryHoughtonleSpring">/TheOldRectoryHoughtonleSpring</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	0191 563 4401
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	Sunderland City Council		

### ☐ SPACE4 PIE & PEAS!

We'll be serving some traditional pie and peas and hosting a beetle drive and domino handicap. Please let us know if you want to join in the fun so we can make sure we have enough food for everyone (see contact details below).

<b>VENUE</b>	SPACE4 HUB, 74 Newbottle Street, DH4 4AF	<b>ORGANISER</b>	SPACE4
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Friday October 11 <sup>th</sup> 2024 2:00pm - 4:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	N/A
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free / Pay as you feel	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/HoughtonSpace4">/HoughtonSpace4</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Station Road (93 spaces), DH4 5AH	<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:space4.hub@gmail.com">space4.hub@gmail.com</a>

### ☐ HOUGHTON FEAST CEILIDH ("KAY-LEE")

A ceilidh, which is Gaelic for "gathering", is a Scottish tradition that involves dancing and fun. With music by the Seaham Music Academy Ceilidh Band, enjoy a night of live entertainment with broth and stottie included in Houghton's Parish Church. Licensed bar. Tickets are available from the parish office during the church's publicised opening times.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN	<b>ORGANISER</b>	St Michael & All Angels Church
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Sunday October 11 <sup>th</sup> 2024 7:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk">www.stmichaels-hls-org.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	£10.00 adults / £5.00 under 16s	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/stmichaels-hls">/stmichaels-hls</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	0191 512 1769

# SATURDAY

## OCTOBER 12TH 2024

### □ HOUGHTON COLLIERY REMEMBERED

To mark the redevelopment of the Houghton Colliery site into a new retail park, rare and unseen photographs showing the life of Houghton pit will be displayed outdoors on the Rectory Park railings in The Broadway. The images come from the vast collections of Houghton Heritage Society. You can find out more about Houghton Colliery online at: [www.houghtonlespring.org.uk/colliery](http://www.houghtonlespring.org.uk/colliery)

<b>VENUE</b>	Rectory Park Railings, The Broadway, DH4 4BB	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Heritage Society
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 12 <sup>th</sup> 2024 10:00am - 4:00pm	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonlespring.org.uk">www.houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/houghton.heritage">/houghton.heritage</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:info@houghtonlespring.org.uk">info@houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>

### □ 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. All places must be reserved by e-mailing: [info@houghtonlespring.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonlespring.org.uk) and details of the meeting point will be sent by return e-mail.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton-le-Spring town centre	<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Heritage Society
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 12 <sup>th</sup> 2024 11:30am	<b>WEB</b>	<a href="http://www.houghtonlespring.org.uk">www.houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	£3.00 per person	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/houghton.heritage">/houghton.heritage</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	The Old Rectory (32 spaces), DH4 4BB	<b>BOOK BYEMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:info@houghtonlespring.org.uk">info@houghtonlespring.org.uk</a>

### □ AN EVENING WITH THE GILPIN SINGERS

A musical evening with the Gilpin Singers in the Parish Church. Licensed bar. Tickets are available from the parish office during the church's publicised opening times or from members of the Gilpin Singers.

<b>VENUE</b>	Houghton Parish Church, Church Street, DH4 4DN	<b>ORGANISER</b>	St Michael & All Angels Church
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Saturday October 12 <sup>th</sup> 2024 7:00pm	<b>EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:stmichaels.hls@gmail.com">stmichaels.hls@gmail.com</a>
<b>ADMISSION</b>	£6.00 per person	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelshls">/stmichaelshls</a>
<b>CAR PARK</b>	Imperial Buildings (44 spaces), DH4 4DJ	<b>TEL</b>	0191 512 1769
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Sunderland City Council, Coalfield Area Committee		



# SUNDAY

## OCTOBER 13TH 2024



### **HOUGHTON FEAST THROUGH YOUR EYES**

As the festival comes to a close, tune in to the Houghton Heritage Society YouTube channel at 8 p.m. to watch a premiere video montage of this year's Houghton Feast plus scenes from years gone by. Produced by TV presenter and journalist Michael Adams, this will bring back many memories of the Feast – how many familiar faces will you spot?

<b>PLATFORM</b>	<a href="http://www.youtube.com/HoughtonHeritage">www.youtube.com/HoughtonHeritage</a>	
<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>	Sunday October 13 <sup>th</sup> 2024	8:00pm
<b>ADMISSION</b>	Free	
<b>ORGANISER</b>	Houghton Heritage Society	



## 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 without whose assistance the 43 events at The Houghton Feast 2024 would not be possible:

Bethany Church  
Houghton & District Piping Society  
Houghton & Lambton Banner Group  
Houghton Art Club  
Houghton Brass Band  
Houghton Harriers & Athletics Club  
Houghton Heritage Society  
Houghton R.U.F.C.  
Houghton Residents C.I.C.  
Mr Michael Houlden (Gavioli Organ)

Murphy's Fun Fairs  
SPACE4  
St Michael & All Angels Church  
Sunderland City Council  
The Gilpin Singers  
The Houghton Feast Trust  
The Old Rectory  
ZAZZ Dance Academy  
41 Club of Houghton-le-Spring

### **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.