

WHAT'S ON

September - December **2026**

MUSIC

THEATRE

FAMILY

highlights

rural touring scheme

**Enriching lives with unmissable cultural
events across the North of England**



www.highlightsnorth.co.uk



BOB MARLEY: How Reggae Changed the World

Join Toronto based singer-songwriter **Duane Forrest** on an acoustic journey through the roots of reggae to the global influence of Bob Marley in this award-winning show.

Casterton Village Hall	LA6 2RX
Tue 22 Sep 7:30pm	07798 528210
Edmundbyers Village Hall	DH8 9NL
Wed 23 Sep 7:15pm	01207 255681
Brigsteer Village Hall	LA8 8AL
Thu 24 Sep 7:30pm	07771 737629
Lazonby Village Hall	CA10 1AQ
Fri 25 Sep 7:30pm	07580 386464

TENDERLY: The Life & Times of Nat King Cole



Award-winning artist **Duane Forrest** blends the timeless music of Nat King Cole with powerful storytelling in a captivating exploration of legacy, identity and quiet resistance.

Hepscott Parish Hall	NE61 6LN
Tue 29 Sep 7:30pm	07778 079260
The Hearth Arts Centre	NE15 0NT
Wed 30 Sep 7:30pm	07355 033904



HEBRIDEAN FIRE

Elsa Jean McTaggart and **Gary Lister**, from the Isle of Lewis, take us on an eclectic musical journey through the islands and highlands of Scotland, past and present.

Appleby Hub	CA16 6QR
Thu 15 Oct 7:30pm	07305 029911
Lazonby Village Hall	CA10 1AQ
Fri 16 Oct 7:30pm	07580 386464
Hamsterley Village Hall	DL13 3PZ
Sat 17 Oct 7:30pm	07821 517991
Barningham Village Hall	DL11 7DW
Sun 18 Oct 7:30pm	01833 621203



ROYAL NORTHERN SINFONIA: Out & About

Royal Northern Sinfonia call The Glasshouse home, but the music doesn't stop there. Bringing a small group of woodwind musicians to rural venues, this exquisite programme will include: Barber Summer Music (11'), Janeck Mladi (17') and Nielsen Wind Quintet (23').

Cotherstone Village Hall	DL12 9PH
Thu 22 Oct 7:30pm	01833 651923
Maulds Meaburn Village Hall	CA10 3HN
Fri 23 Oct 7:00pm	07383 391466
Wark Town Hall	NE48 3LG
Sat 24 Oct 7:30pm	07723 613826



INN ECHO

Award-winning Canadian trio **Inn Echo** craft a cinematic, high-energy sound rooted in Celtic traditions, blending fierce fiddle, grooving guitar and soaring cello.

Boldron Village Hall	DL12 9RF
Thu 05 Nov 8:00pm	01833 638210
St Cuthbert's Church, Norham	TD15 2LE
Fri 06 Nov 7:00pm	01289 382754
Murton Village Institute	CA16 6LZ
Sat 07 Nov 7:30pm	01768 351663
Wingates Village Institute	NE65 8RW
Sun 08 Nov 7:30pm	07443 435256
Wark Town Hall	NE48 3LG
Thu 19 Nov 7:30pm	07723 613826



SOUND ROOTS PRESENTS

Sound Roots brings a triple bill of wonderful musicians: **Ceitidh Mac** blends cello, electronics and striking vocals; Glasgow duo **Eleanor Dunsdon & Gregor Black** fuse harp, percussion and genre-bending influences; and **Something Sleeps** deliver boldly reimagined harmony-rich songs rooted in tradition.

Gilsland Village Hall	CA8 7BE
Fri 20 Nov 7:30pm	07944 994405
Dufton Village Hall	CA16 6DB
Sat 21 Nov 7:30pm	07305 029911
Community Hall at Grizebeck	LA17 7XH
Sun 22 Nov 7:30pm	07905 779584



DUANE ANDREWS & THE HOT CLUB OF CONCEPTION BAY

Juno award-winning musicians **Duane Andrews & The Hot Club of Conception Bay**, unite traditional Newfoundland music with the swing jazz of the legendary guitarist Django Reinhardt.

Newbrough Town Hall	NE47 5AR
Wed 25 Nov 7:00pm	01434 674315
Scarth Memorial Hall, Staindrop	DL2 3JL
Thu 26 Nov 7:30pm	01833 660802

Middleton & Todridge Village Hall

Fri 27 Nov 7:30pm	NE61 4RA
Ireleth Temperance Hall	LA16 7EG
Sat 28 Nov 8:00pm	07701 349060
Skirwith Village Hall	CA10 1RL
Sun 29 Nov 7:30pm	07980 821287

THEATRE



Theatre by the Lake brings an honest, uplifting and very funny play about mental health, resilience and the lengths we'll go to for those we love.

Newbrough Town Hall	NE47 5AR
Thu 01 Oct 7:00pm	01434 674315
Amble Parish Hall	NE65 0DX
Fri 02 Oct 7:30pm	07724 687107
Askham & Helton Community Centre	CA10 2PG
Sat 03 Oct 7:30pm	01931 712187
Gilsland Village Hall	CA8 7BE
Sun 04 Oct 7:30pm	07944 994405



Release your inner pirate in this joyous, interactive and entertaining play by **Ragged Edge Productions**. A comic radio play for all ages, presented live on stage. Arrrr!

Wingates Village Institute	NE65 8RW
Thu 08 Oct 7:30pm	07443 435256
Penruddock Village Hall	CA11 0QU
Fri 09 Oct 7:00pm	07881 760580
Allendale Village Hall	NE47 9PR
Sat 10 Oct 7:30pm	07468 528200
Whittingham Memorial Institute	NE66 4UP
Sun 11 Oct 7:30pm	01665 574384



An original play written by **Andrew Macmillen**, tracing the story of Danny McLure, from childhood football fanatic to middle-aged man reflecting on his experiences following Scotland at the 1978 World Cup and as a soldier in the Falklands war. A heartfelt mix of 1980s politics, sport and romance.

Felton Village Hall	NE65 9NH
Fri 16 Oct 7:30pm	07710 497088
Arnside Educational Institute	LA5 0DF
Sat 17 Oct 7:30pm	07980 077084
The Club, Kirkby Stephen	CA17 4QN
Sun 18 Oct 7:30pm	07770 533107



THE WAR OF THE WORLDS

In a gripping solo performance, with a haunting original soundtrack by Chris Bastock, **Gav Cross** immerses audiences in the terror and urgency of a world in chaos, consumed by the unstoppable force of a Martian invasion.

Grasmere Village Hall

Thu 22 Oct 7:30pm

Gleaston Village Hall

Fri 23 Oct 7:30pm

Middleton & Todridge

Village Hall

Sun 25 Oct 7:30pm

LA22 9TA

015394 35628

LA12 0QQ

07990 327047

NE61 4RA

07855 444719



BOG STANDARD

Rachel Pugh's true story about Lindow Moss, two murders 1500 years apart, and how an ancient bog man became a 21st-century eco warrior, with soundscapes combining harp, natural sounds, live looping and vocals by **Becki Luff**.

Bardon Mill & Henshaw

Village Hall

Fri 23 Oct 7:15pm

Dufton Village Hall

Sat 24 Oct 7:30pm

NE47 7DX

01434 344424

CA16 6DB

07305 029911



ROWAN MCCABE: HARD KNOCKS

Following the release of his new book, **The Door-to-Door Poet**, as well as a hit programme on BBC Radio 4, **Rowan McCabe** returns to the stage with **Hard Knocks**, a show of spoken word and comedy about community and connection.

Brigsteer Village Hall

Fri 30 Oct 7:30pm

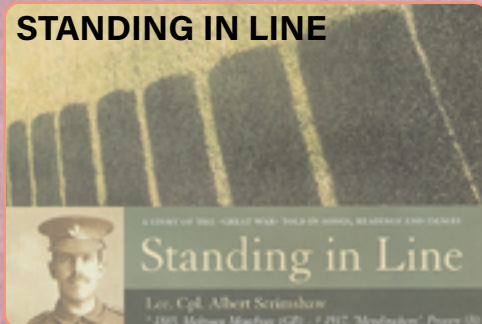
LA8 8AL

07771 737629



THEATRE

STANDING IN LINE



Standing In Line tells the poignant story of the Great War through Albert Scrimshaw, who died at Passchendaele. Blending **Lester Simpson's** songs with period music, the performance features powerful narration of poems by Owen, Sassoon, and Kipling.

Hepscott Parish Hall	NE61 6LN
Thu 05 Nov 7:00pm	07778 079260
Levens Village Hall	LA8 8NL
Fri 06 Nov 8:00pm	07810 216822
Humshaugh Village Hall	NE46 4AA
Sat 07 Nov 7:30pm	07979 758179
Amble Parish Hall	NE65 0DX
Sun 08 Nov 7:30pm	07724 687107

ROGUES' GALLERY



Fancy a good laugh and a great night out? Step into **Rogues' Gallery** - a smart, cheeky comedy celebrating the forgotten women of art history. Rogues' Gallery is a brand-new show from award-winning company **Black Liver** (BBC Radio 4 sitcom award winners).

Bardsea Malt Kiln Village Hall	LA12 9QT
Thu 12 Nov 7:30pm	07528 719642
Lowther Parish Hall	CA10 2HT
Fri 13 Nov 7:30pm	07837 066984
Frosterley Village Hall	DL13 2QW
Sat 14 Nov 7:15pm	07718 385646
Lesbury Village Hall	NE66 3PP
Sun 15 Nov 7:00pm	07534 653499

GEORGE & THE DRAG QUEEN



A new play by **Pipeline Theatre** that will take you on a provocative, darkly funny, but ultimately life-affirming theatrical journey. Trigger warning: contains scenes of empathy and mutual understanding.

Allendale Village Hall	NE47 9PR
Sat 28 Nov 7:30pm	07468 528200
Arnside Educational Institute	LA5 0DF
Sun 29 Nov 7:30pm	07980 077084



FAMILY



LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Pull up a seat by the fire and embrace the arrival of winter. Join the Cumbrian **Tatie Pot Collective** for a warming evening of stories and songs, celebrating winter in all its raw beauty.

Appleby Hub CA16 6QR
 Fri 04 Dec 7:30pm 07305 029911
The Cheviot Centre, Wooler NE71 6BL
 Sat 05 Dec 7:00pm 07834 655593
Bowes & Gilmonby
Parish Hall DL12 9HU
 Sun 06 Dec 7:30pm 01833 628343



GHASTLY STORIES FOR GRUESOME GREMLINS

Boggarts, ghosts & things that go burp in the night... **Gav Cross** brings a family friendly hour of nonsense and nastiness in this silly and spooky storytelling show!

Grasmere Village Hall LA22 9TA
 Thu 22 Oct 4:30pm 015394 35628
Gleaston Village Hall LA12 0QQ
 Fri 23 Oct 4:00pm 07990 327047
UTASS,
Middleton in Teesdale DL12 0SN
 Sat 24 Oct 2:00pm 01833 641010



SANTA'S CHRISTMAS CAKES

With comedy, songs, puppetry and some delightfully silly cookery, **Badapple Theatre's** joyful, family-friendly Christmas show will delight audiences of all ages.

The Hearth Arts Centre NE15 0NT
 Sat 05 Dec 2:00pm 07355 033904
Maulds Meaburn
Village Institute CA10 3HN
 Sun 06 Dec 3:00pm 07383 391466



Book early and save! Our EARLY BIRD OFFER
 runs from Tue 25 August to Tue 08 September

STANDARD TICKETS ONLY £12*

*usual price £15

book online!
www.highlightsnorth.co.uk

FAMILY



ANIMALS!

Something's got to be done, and it's going to be wild!

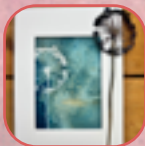
Fun, interactive and featuring original songs, **ANIMALS!** celebrates the amazing wildlife around us and makes big things feel possible.

Stainton Village Hall
Sat 07 Nov 4:30pm

CA11 0EP
07979 400523

CREATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Our programme of arts and crafts workshops brings regional artists into our rural communities from October 2026 to March 2027. You can find a full list of dates and venues online at www.highlightsnorth.co.uk.



OUR VENUES

Highlights works in more than 85 rural communities across Cumbria, County Durham and Northumberland each year.

For a full list of venues visit
www.highlightsnorth.co.uk



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