

27TH FURNESS TRADITION FOLK FESTIVAL 11-13 JULY 2025 • ULVERSTON



Arthur Coates & Kerran Cotterell



Maddie Morris



Holly Clarke & George Sansom



Tumbling Tom Big Band



Throughout the cobbled streets of the
Cumbrian market town of Ulverston
between the Lakeland fells
& the sands of Morecambe Bay

furnesstradition.org.uk

WELCOME



FURNESS TRADITION 27TH FOLK FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Six dance sides, concerts from some of the finest traditional and contemporary singers and musicians of the folk and roots scene, a dance band and caller for you to dance to, plus storytelling, sessions and workshops

DON'T MISS: Intimate concerts from our guest artists, the free town centre concert and dance displays throughout the town. The big "Merry Neet" dance and concert party event on Saturday Night will be essential! Then wind down on Sunday with more dancing, song workshop, family storytelling and Festival Finale.

We asked Taffy Thomas as one of our Patrons for a quote here's what Taffy sent us (a little more than a line of course):

"J.R.R. Tolkien once wrote 'If folk valued good food, music and dance more than hoarded gold, the world would be a merrier place'. The folk who fashioned the Furness Tradition Festival well know this so join them and be a merry maker yourself"

Taffy Thomas MBE

Donations
are welcome at
all our free events
to help ensure the
future of the
festival

Traditional Dance | 12 July 10am



Buy tickets for 2 Coro concerts to earn 10% discount, 3 events – 15% discount, 4 events – 20% discount

Holly & George | 12 July noon



Maddie Morris | 12 July 1.45pm



Arthur Coates & Kerran Cotterell | 12 July 3.30pm



Big Merry Neet | 12 July 7.30pm - The Coro, Main Hall



Les Ord is our caller at the Big Merry Neet. Les has years of experience calling with many bands throughout the North West. His confident yet relaxed style and varied dance repertoire will ensure a great night of dancing

Dave Camlin | 13 July 1pm - The Red Rose



DANCE



Amounderness Ladies Morris started in 1988 and are a team of North West Morris dancers based in Preston. They are easily identified in their kit of purple dresses, green tights and shoes. They promote and perform traditional ladies North Western garland and stick dances.



Eccleston Heritage Clog are a community group promoting and developing clog dance as a local tradition. Led by Alex Fisher the dance team perform a variety of clog dance styles & traditions – from Lakeland Hornpipes, Competition Hornpipes & Waltzes to Street Clog Steps, Lancashire Irish steps & Music Hall Ragtime steps.



Flag & Bone Gang are based in Harrogate, and are a team that revives a largely forgotten tradition from the East Riding labourers. Some of the dancers waved flags whilst others rattled "nick-nack" bones from which comes the team's name. they are a wild looking bunch on the street – you won't miss them in town!



Furness Clog Dancers are our local dance side with clog stepping routines from the north of England accompanied by mandolin and flute. They have now been established for over 40 years.



Pateley Longsword Dancers were formed in 2004 and based in North Yorkshire. Their longsword dances are devised by themselves and bring a vitality and freshness to the tradition. They intersperse the longsword with other dances such as a Basque dance or a Border Morris dance. Yorkshire Long Sword dancing is a form of English ritual hilt-and-point sword dance from at least the 15th century.



Solway Morris Jig was founded in September 2002. We are based in North Cumbria, just north of the Lake District in a corner of England that looks across the Solway Firth to Scotland. We are currently a Cotswold Morris jig side. Solo jigs are usually performed by one dancer and one musician, although there are a few double jigs in the tradition.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

FRIDAY 11 JULY

8pm Music & Song Session

FREE

● Hope & Anchor

Led by Les Ord. Mainly English and European music, but all welcome. An evening of good beer, crack, music & song.

8pm Music Session ● Kings Head (TBC)

FREE

Traditional Music session from 8pm led by Ali Kyle. Mainly Celtic music, but all welcome.

SATURDAY 12 JULY

TOWN CENTRE

9.45am Grand Opening Dance Parade

FREE

● County Square to ● Market Cross

All dance sides will parade from The Coro to the Market Cross Stage for a formal opening of the festival at 10am followed by dance displays and performances around the town.

10am - 3.30pm Traditional Dancing

FREE

● ● Town Centre

Taking place between Market Street, New Market Street and County Square outside The Coro.

'Tom Bradley Stage' ● Market Cross

ALL FREE

10.40am Mike Willoughby & Rick Middleton

11.50am Lakeland Fiddlers

1pm Nick Marshall

Performing on the Market Cross stage area with dancers in between from 10am to 2.30pm.

Plus throughout the day, there will be a Makers Market and Community Arcade with traditional games.

PUBS

1pm Singers Session ● Hope & Anchor

FREE

Led by Hazel and Les Ord – come and join in or just enjoy the singing.

1pm Music Session ● Kings Head (TBC)

FREE

Led by Hugh Taylor, Peter Corkhill and Steve Tomlinson – come and join in or just enjoy the music.

10.30pm Round The Fire ● Hope & Anchor

Late night storytelling around the fire with Ian Douglas.

THE CORO

9.30am - 1pm The Big Coffee Morning

£1

● The Coro, Main Hall

Enjoy a cuppa, a cake and some traditional music and dance performances whilst browsing the craft stalls.

10am Storyfair

FREE

● The Coro, Supper Room

Storytelling event with children from Sir John Barrow School.

Acoustic Concerts ● The Coro, Supper Room

1 | 12 Noon

£12.50*

Holly Clarke & George Sansome

+ Mike Willoughby & Rick Middleton

2 | 1.45pm

£12.50*

Maddie Morris

+ Carolyn Francis

3 | 3.30pm

£12.50*

Arthur Coates & Kerran Cotterell

+ Nick Marshall

7.30pm Big Merry Neet

£18*

● The Coro, Main Hall

Featuring Holly Clarke & George Sansome, Maddie Morris, Arthur Coates & Kerran Cotterell and dancing to Tumbling Tom Big Band with caller Les Ord. This is where dance, music, song and stories all come together. Sample and celebrate all the festival in one place for one big party.

Buy tickets for 2 Coro concerts to earn 10% discount, 3 events – 15% discount, 4 events – 20% discount

SUNDAY 13 JULY

THE SPOT

10am Singing Workshop ● The Spot

£5

Led by Dave Camlin, bring your voice and together we'll find harmonious ways of exploring some Cumbrian folk traditions.

10am Stories & Shadows ● The Spot

FREE

Come join storyteller Ian Douglas and puppeteer Jo Douglas for an easy session of stories suitable for the whole family.

11am - 1pm Dance Displays

FREE

● County Square

Featuring Eccleston Heritage Clog, Pateley Longsword Dancers, Flag & Bone, Solway Morris and Furness Clog.

1 - 4pm Festival Finale

£12.50*

● The Red Rose

Featuring Dave Camlin, Harps North West Ensemble and Little Arrow String Band. † Buy at furnesstradition.org.uk

HOW TO GET HERE



HOW TO BOOK

EVENTS AT THE CORO

£1 Booking fees apply. Book online at thecoro.co.uk or scan the QR code ►

Book in person at The Coro or over the phone on **01229 820 000** (check website for opening times).



FESTIVAL FINALE AT THE RED ROSE

Book online at furnesstradition.org.uk or scan the QR code ►



Tickets will for all paid events also be available to purchase on the door from one hour before each event begins, subject to availability.

For more information call **07734 968 198** or **07791 760 908** or visit furnesstradition.org.uk

On the 12 July there will be a Festival Reception team at **The Coro, County Square, Ulverston LA12 7LZ**

MUSIC

12 July 3.30pm - The Coro, Supper Room

7.30pm Big Merry Neet - The Coro, Main Hall



Arthur Coates & Kerran Cotterell are carving out a name for themselves with their unique capabilities. While some of their music takes a clean, modern sound and carves elegant, crystalline structures that shimmer and dance in the light of contemporary trad, others hop aboard the blues train and take a whistle stop tour of the Québécois traditional music line. Their songs couched in complex harmonies range from complexly introspective and enigmatic, to exuding joy with an energy sure to get feet tapping and crowds singing. Beyond this, their showmanship, drenched in tall tales and comic touches is sure to keep all audiences entertained.

12 July 1.45pm - The Coro, Supper Room

7.30pm Big Merry Neet - The Coro, Main Hall



Maddie Morris is an artist who strives to make a difference in the world. Bold, insightful and refreshingly unique, they take traditional song in new directions to shine a light on contemporary issues, offering new perspectives about the world we live in today. Folk songs have always told stories, but how Maddie makes their mark is by turning this storytelling into action. Described by Jim Moray as “leading the next generation of socially conscious songwriters”, Maddie uses their work to highlight inequality, challenge viewpoints and provide an inclusive space for shared experiences.

12 July 12 Noon - The Coro, Supper Room

7.30pm Big Merry Neet - The Coro, Main Hall



Holly Clarke & George Sansome are a dynamic new duo of talented musicians and a must-see act for folk music lovers. Their shared passion for traditional songs and their remarkable stage presence quickly became apparent to those who had witnessed their first performance, that this was a duo in the making. As they pick their way through some of their favourite traditional songs, the duo are continually exploring innovative ways to arrange the music between their instruments. Their goal is to create arrangements that not only showcase their individual talents but also highlight the unique synergy and connection they have when playing together.

12 July 7.30pm Big Merry Neet - The Coro, Main Hall



Tumbling Tom Big Band have been one of the leading Ceilidh Dance Bands in Cumbria and the North-West for many years. They are now only doing a few select gigs a year and are happy to be here at the festival again with the Big Band, playing their robust blend of roots, rock, and reggae rhythms. Led by melodeon with guitar, drums, and bass, and joined by trumpet, alto and tenor sax to form the Big Band, their infectious rhythms will have you dancing the night away.

13 July 10am Singing Workshop - The Spot

1pm - Festival Finale - The Red Rose



Dave Camlin is a versatile singer / song-writer from west Cumbria, steeped in local folk traditions and the rugged landscape of the Lake District. From delicate ballads to full-on funkiness, his songs weave stories of joy, love, loss, peace, hope and freedom into a compelling commentary on the human condition.

12 July 10.40am - Market Cross

12 Noon - The Coro, Supper Room

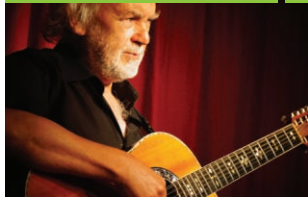


Mike Willoughby & Rick Middleton have played together for twenty-five years in Cumbrian ceilidh-roots band Striding Edge, and for fifteen years in roots-rock band Raving Rock. In their duo show, Mike Willoughby sings and plays melodeon, harmonica, guitar and bouzouki. Rick Middleton sings harmony vocals and plays double-bass, guitar, mandolin and banjo ukulele. The duo show features stirring songs that are firmly rooted in Cumbrian cultural history. There are catchy choruses so you may be tempted to sing along! In contrast with songs are lively dance tunes gleaned from the Cumbrian archives.

MUSIC

12 July 1pm - Market Cross

3.30pm - The Coro, Supper Room



Nick Marshall is a songwriter, guitarist and singer. In performance he has a calm stage presence and a delivery which displays a humorous self-deprecating manner. This combined with wit and a knowledgeable grasp of a wide range of topics makes Nick's content entertaining as well as informative. Nick has produced a number of albums in recent years which have been well received. The latest, *Another Fine Mess*, has had some very positive comments. He has also produced and added instrumentation for others, including Mik Mead and Close Quarters.

13 July 1pm - Festival Finale - The Red Rose



Little Arrow String Band play rip roaring bluegrass songs and tunes, country ballads, waltzes, a smattering of Cajun and some repurposed popular songs. Fiddle, mandolin, guitar, banjo, double bass, percussion and three-part harmonies!

12 July 1.45pm - The Coro, Supper Room



Carolyn Francis is a Lakeland Fiddler, well known for her research, performance and teaching of Cumbrian fiddle and border bagpipe tunes. She has made a career of producing a living, inclusive, culture of traditional music rooted in Cumbria, in particular with Striding Edge band and The Lakeland Fiddlers. With her new Solo project 'Loupe', Carolyn loops and layers favourite Lakeland tunes, with the addition of poetry, spoken word, fiddle-singing and lyrics, to create a soundscape reflective of the environment she knows, loves and works within. Search @lakelandfiddler1 on FB and Instagram.

13 July 1pm - Festival Finale - The Red Rose



Harps North West Ensemble are a small performance group from the regional Harps North West organisation. Their programme will be a mixture of traditional Celtic pieces and more contemporary pieces composed and arranged by a range of harpists.

12 July 11.50am - Market Cross 'Tom Bradley Stage'



The Lakeland Fiddlers are a community band with a fluid membership; formed 25 years ago out of an Adult Education class at Kendal's Brewery Arts Centre. Since then it has performed regularly at all manner of local festivals, fairs and galas. Its repertoire, naturally enough, focuses on – although not exclusively – fiddle tunes from the Lake District. They are led by Carolyn Francis, is known for her research, performance & teaching of Cumbrian fiddle & Borders bagpipe tunes. Her energetic style has developed over almost 50 years of playing various authentic traditional styles.

12 July 10.30pm - Round The Fire - Hope & Anchor

13 July 10am - The Spot, Stories & Shadows



Ian Douglas has had the great privilege of sitting at the knee of renowned storytellers such as Duncan Williamson, people who bring and pass on the stories from many generations and this is what Ian has continued – he says... "What I love about storytelling is its simplicity. Stories meet us half way and we, the audience, have to be complicit for them to be successful. The stories I like to tell are fun, inviting and light hearted – even the serious ones! I believe that storytelling has a unique ability to connect people, not only to each other but to the past, the future and to the world around us."

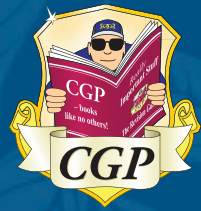


Furness tradition is made possible by our sponsors:



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Ulverston **BID**



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Furness Morris • Furness Clog • Hadfield Charitable Trust**
and all the private individuals who have sponsored
with both funds and time

We would also like to thank our patrons,
Phil Cunningham MBE & Taffy Thomas MBE

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