

# **Rothbury Traditional Music festival Adult ( age 14+) open competitions Guidelines 2023**

Please complete an entry form at the festival Office between 9.30am and 12 (NB. late entries may still be considered if the forms haven't been sent to the venues yet, but can't be guaranteed – ask at the festival office)

FOR CHILDRENS COMPETITIONS RULES – SEE SEPARATE DOCUMENT

Musicians singers and poets aged 13 and under can enter the children's competitions in the URC church from 9.00. Young performers 14 and over are encouraged to enter the novice classes of the adult competitions listed below.

## **Contents:**

### COMPETITIONS SCHEDULE 2023

#### **Competition Rules**

Fiddle Solo

Accordion Solo

DUO OR BAND

Lowland Pipes Solo

Northumbrian Smallpipes Solo

Northumbrian Smallpipes - New Tune

Piping Pairs – Northumbrian, Lowland or Scottish Smallpipes

Highland Pipes Solo

Pipe Band Snare Drumming

Piping Pairs – Highland Pipes

Traditional Solo Singing

Original Composition – Song

Miscellaneous Instrument Solo

Original Composition – Tune

Northumbrian Dialect Poetry & Verse

Sean McGuire Trophy

# SATURDAY 15TH JULY

## Adult Competitions

Full entry guidelines at [rothburymusicfestival.co.uk](http://rothburymusicfestival.co.uk)

### Catholic Church:

Lowland Pipes	11.30am
Northumbrian Pipes	to
New Tune for Northumbrian Pipes	1.45pm
Piping Pairs	

### The Jubilee Hall:

Fiddle	12.00pm
Accordion	12.45pm
Duo or Band	1.30pm

### All Saints Church:

Traditional Singing	12.00pm
Original Composition Song	1.00pm
Miscellaneous Instrument	1.30pm
Original Composition Tune	2.15pm
Northumbrian Dialect Poetry	2.45pm

### Outdoor Stage:

Snare Drumming	Approx 4.45pm start
Highland Pipes	At end of outdoor stage concert!
Piping Pairs	



**The Sean McGuire Trophy will be awarded to the Most Innovative Performance in the adult competitions, and the Mary Bathgate Shield to the Best Overall Novice.**

# **Fiddle Solo**

12pm in the Jubilee Hall

- The committee encourages the inclusion of local tunes e.g. Northumbrian & the Borders
- Competitors entering more than one class must play different tunes in each class
- The Judge will pay particular attention to the following points: intonation, rhythm, style, appropriate tempo and choice of programme
- Awards for 16 and under and best local competitor
- Winner will be asked if they would like to perform their winning entry (up to five minutes) during the Afternoon Acoustic Concert 6.30-8pm in All Saints Church.

## **Novice Class**

- Two tunes one slow and one faster, each to be played twice through with repeats (if appropriate)

## **Intermediate Class**

- Two tunes one slow and one faster, each to be played twice through with repeats (if appropriate)

## **Open Class**

- Three tunes, one slow (compulsory) and two faster tunes

# **Accordion Solo**

12.45pm in the Jubilee Hall

- Competitors entering more than one class must play different tunes in each class
- The Judge will pay particular attention to the following points: accuracy, base change, rhythm and bellows control.
- Awards for 16 and under and best local competitor

## **Novice Class**

- Two tunes twice through with repeats (AA:BB) one slow tune and one fast tune

## **Intermediate Class**

- Two tunes twice through with repeats (AA:BB) one slow tune and one fast tune

## **Open Class**

- Three tunes, a slow tune twice through (compulsory) and two faster tunes of the competitor's choice

# **BAND OR DUO**

from 1.30pm in Jubilee Hall

- **Ensemble performance with two or more performers (including larger bands), playing acoustic instruments or voice.**
- **Can be either for listening or dancing (ceilidh)**
- **Judge will consider your ability to play together nicely as an ensemble, performance skills, choice of repertoire and arrangements. Local traditional repertoire is encouraged as with all our competitions.**
- **Performance to last up to approx 8 minutes**
- Duos or ensembles wishing to enter this class more than once with exactly the same combination of people must play different instruments for each entry.
- An individual may enter the class more than once playing the same instrument, as long as they are in a different duo or ensemble combination each time
- Additional award for 16 years and under.
- Any band wishing to use electric/amplified instruments must be responsible for providing all necessary equipment.
- Please note no extra time is allowed for setting up/sound checks during the competition. However, you may be able to set up earlier in the day – ask at the festival office.

## **Open (One Class)**

- Ensemble performance on two or more acoustic instruments. Selection of tunes to last no more than 4 minutes

# **Lowland Pipes Solo**

(part of piping comps from 11.30pm in the Catholic church)

- Additional award for best competitor 16 years and under

## **Open Class (one class)**

- Selection of traditional tunes. Please plan your performance to last up to around 6 minutes.

# **Northumbrian Smallpipes Solo**

(part of piping comps from 11.30pm in the Catholic church)

Competitors entering more than one class must play different tunes in each class

- The Judge will pay particular attention to the following points: tuning (chanter & drones) rhythm, fluency, accuracy, choice of programme, overall effect
- Additional Awards for 16 and under and best local competitor

## **Novice Class**

- One slow tune and one fast tune twice through each tune with repeats if appropriate

## **Intermediate Class**

- One slow tune and one fast tune twice through each tune with repeats if appropriate

## **Open Class**

- Slow air plus any two of march, hornpipe, jig, rant or reel, one of the tunes to have variations. Please plan your performance to last no longer than 6 minutes.

# **Northumbrian Smallpipes New Tune**

(part of piping comps from 11.30pm in the Catholic church)

Competitors restricted to a maximum of two entries

- Tune Competition
- Additional award for best competitor 16 years and under

## **Open (One Class)**

- An original composition for Northumbrian Pipes. To be played on the Northumbrian Pipes by the composer or their nominee.

# **Piping Pairs: Lowland, Northumbrian and Scottish small Pipes**

(part of piping comps from 11.30pm in the Catholic church)

- A duet of any of the following combination: Lowland, Northumbrian & Scottish small pipes.
- Additional award for best competitor 16 years and under

## **Open**

- Selection of tunes in the traditional style lasting no longer than 6 minutes.

# **Highland Pipes Solo**

from approx 4.45pm on Outdoor Stage.

PLEASE NOTE: if you've previously won a novice in another event/festival competition at Rothbury or elsewhere, you will need to enter Open class this time.

- Additional award for best competitor 16 years and under

## **Novice**

- A march of your own choice

## **Open**

Your own selection of pipe tunes to last no more than 6 minutes.

# **Pipe Band Snare Drumming**

from approx 4.45pm onwards on Outdoor Stage

PLEASE NOTE: if you've previously won a novice in another event/festival competition at Rothbury or elsewhere, you will need to enter Open class this time.

- Additional award for best competitor 16 years and under

## **Novice**

- One March

## **Open**

- One march a strathspey and a reel

# **HIGHLAND PIPING PAIRS**

from approx 4:45pm on Outdoor Stage

- Additional award for best competitor 16 years and under

## **Open (One Class)**

- A selection of traditional pipe tunes lasting no more than 6 minutes.

# **TRADITIONAL SOLO SINGING**

12pm All Saints Church

- Men and women judged separately.
- To be sung unaccompanied.
- Additional Awards for 16 years and under, and Best Local Competitor.
- Winner will be asked if they would like to perform their winning entry (up to five minutes) during the Afternoon Acoustic Concert 6.30-8pm in All Saints Church.

## **Open (one class)**

- One traditional song, from the British Isles, to last no more than five minutes.

# **ORIGINAL COMPOSITION – SONG**

1pm All Saints Church

- To be performed by the composer or their nominee.
- New lyrics to an existing tune are not allowed.
- Competitors restricted to a maximum of two entries.
- Additional Awards for 16 years and under and Best Local Competitor

## **Open (One Class)**

- New original song composition (music and lyric) in the traditional style.

## **Miscellaneous Instrument Solo**

1.30pm In All Saints Church

- Additional award for best competitor 16 years and under
- Open to any acoustic instrument not represented in any other solo competition including flute whistle and recorder

### **Open (One class)**

- One slow and one fast tune
- A solo performance on any instrument lasting no more than 10 minutes

## **ORIGINAL COMPOSITION – TUNE**

2.15pm All Saints Church

- To be played by the composer or their nominee.
- Competitors restricted to a maximum of two entries.
- The same tune cannot be entered in the New Tune Northumbrian Pipes Competition.
- Additional award for best competitor 16 years and under

### **Open (One Class)**

- An original instrumental piece in the traditional idiom.

## **NORTHUMBRIAN DIALECT POETRY & VERSE**

2.45pm All Saints Church

- Additional Awards for 16 years and under and Best Local Competitor
- Winner will be asked if they would like to perform their winning entry (up to five minutes) during the Afternoon Acoustic Concert 6.30-8pm in All Saints Church.

### **Novice & Open**

- Original poem(s) or recitation(s) in verse, to be read by the author and to last not more than 5 minutes.



# **SEAN McGUIRE TROPHY**

The Sean McGuire Trophy will be awarded to the competitor from any musical competition or class (including children's) that demonstrates the most outstanding and innovative performance in traditional music.