

# events

September to December 2011



## September

### Power From the Past

From horse power to steam power and everything in between! A host of fascinating machinery on display and in action.

**WHEN:** 1 - 4 September

**WHERE:** Beamish Museum

### Peterlee Show

A host of family entertainment including stage and arena events, a fun fair and even an ice rink!

**WHEN:** 3 - 4 September

**WHERE:** Helford Road Playing Fields, Peterlee

### Twilight Evening with the Birds of Prey

See the birds when they are at their most active... in the dark! Watching them flying at night is very exciting and you will also get an eerie guided tour of the centre. Make sure you bring a torch and wrap up warm.

**WHEN:** 4 September

**WHERE:** Beamish Wild, Beamish Hall Country House Hotel

### Crook Hall by Candle Light

Explore this rare example of medieval, Jacobean and Georgian architecture by atmospheric candle light.

**WHEN:** 4 - 6 September

**WHERE:** Crook Hall, Sidegate, Durham City

### Heritage Open Days

Your chance to view interesting properties for free, or take part in special events and activities that focus on local architecture and culture.

**WHEN:** 8 - 11 September

**WHERE:** Over 40 properties or activities across Durham to choose from

### A Night at the Opera

London Festival Opera presents a programme of works by Verdi, Puccini, Mozart, Bizet and more.

**WHEN:** 14 September

**WHERE:** Gala Theatre, Durham City

## Shildon to York Steam Shuttles



Steam and diesel shuttles will be running between Locomotion: the National Railway Museum at Shildon and the National Railway Museum, York. Pre-booking essential.

**WHEN:** 17, 18, 24 and 25 September

**WHERE:** Locomotion: the National Railway Museum at Shildon

## Reflections

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Duncan Smith exploring various aspects of modern life in Durham.

**WHEN:** 19 September - 7 October

**WHERE:** Bishop Auckland Town Hall

## October

### Concert: The Chanterlands Players

This trio's repertoire covers a wide span, from the Baroque to the present day.

**WHEN:** 8 October

**WHERE:** The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle

### Durham Book Festival



The biggest book festival in the North East of England, with events from all genres of writers.

**WHEN:** 17 - 23 October

**WHERE:** Venues across Durham

## Durham City Food Festival

A celebration of food from home and abroad. Gourmet Food Marquee on Palace Green, plus Local Chef Demonstrations, events and entertainment (Sat-Sun). Also Farmers' Market (Thurs) and Continental Market (Thurs-Sun) in the Market Place, plus German/Belgian Beer Keller (Thurs-Sun) in Millennium Place.

**WHEN:** 20 - 23 October

**WHERE:** Durham City Centre

## Broomstick Making Workshop

Hand craft a broom from local birch in time for the witches' flying season.

**WHEN:** 22 October

**WHERE:** Hamsterley Forest Visitor Centre, Redford

## Haunting Half Term



Lots of Halloween inspired activities for children - make a scarecrow, design and carve a pumpkin lantern.

**WHEN:** 22 - 30 October

**WHERE:** Hall Hill Farm, Lanchester

## Magnificent Minerals

The Pennine Jewels is a fantastic collection of minerals to view alongside the Magnificent Minerals exhibition.

**WHEN:** Until 30 October

**WHERE:** Killhope: The North of England Lead Mining Museum

## Palace Green Library Treasure Trail

Pick up one of our specially designed children's trails and learn more about what Durham looked like in the past.

**WHEN:** 22 - 31 October

**WHERE:** Palace Green Library, Durham City

## November

### World Heritage Site Celebratory Weekend

Concerts, talks, tours, family activities and more, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the inscription of Durham as a World Heritage Site.

**WHEN:** 4 - 6 November

**WHERE:** Durham World Heritage Site, Durham City

### Fireworks Display

One of the biggest fireworks displays in the area.

**WHEN:** 5 November

**WHERE:** Aykley Heads, Durham City

### Remember, Remember the 5th of November

Make a bonfire night lantern and firework picture.

**WHEN:** 5 - 6 November

**WHERE:** Old Felling Mill Museum of Archaeology, Durham City

### Raby Castle Christmas Shop and Tearooms

Shop early for Christmas! Gift ideas, venison and game from the Raby Estate, plus an outdoor ice rink 12 - 13 November.

**WHEN:** 12 Nov - 23 Dec

**WHERE:** Raby Castle, Staindrop

### The Nutcracker

A delicious, enchanting treat for the whole family, performed by the State Ballet Academy of Minsk.

**WHEN:** 15 November

**WHERE:** Empire Theatre, Consett

### Lumiere



The four-day light festival returns to Durham featuring a breath-taking series of artworks, transforming the landmarks, streets, river and bridges of the city.

**WHEN:** 17 - 20 November

**WHERE:** Durham City

### East Durham Food and Craft Market

An opportunity to buy some delicious home produced food, local brews and creative crafts from local suppliers.

**WHEN:** 19 November

**WHERE:** Dalton Park, Murton

### Christmas at Beamish

Enjoy a whole season of Christmas activities at Beamish. The Town and Pit Village take on a festive feel with period decorations from the early 1900s.

**WHEN:** 19 November - 2 Jan 2012

**WHERE:** Beamish Museum

### Traditional Crafts Weekend

Silversmith Les Howe and his wife Vivienne, an artist and card designer, will be demonstrating their skills.

**WHEN:** 26 - 27 November

**WHERE:** Botanic Garden, Durham City

## December

### Jack and the Beanstalk

A 'home-grown' family pantomime filled with mayhem, magic and live music.

**WHEN:** 1 December - 7 January 2012

**WHERE:** Gala Theatre, Durham

### Durham Christmas Festival

Festive family fun, entertainment and shopping with over 160 stalls in the Craft Marquee on Palace Green, and a Local Food Producers Market in the Cathedral Cloisters (Friday and Saturday).

**WHEN:** 2 - 4 December

**WHERE:** Palace Green, Durham City

## Santa Weekends

Meet Santa in his Woodland Grotto and see the animals in their winter stables.

**WHEN:** 3 - 18 December (weekends)

**WHERE:** Hall Hill Farm, Lanchester

## Hiver 1911 - A Centenary Celebration

The story behind this rare evening dress 'Hiver 1911' by the French designer, Madame Paquin, will be told.

**WHEN:** 3 December - 5 February

**WHERE:** The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle

## Carols of Light

A spectacular evening of music and readings with a host of celebrity guests and the Cathedral Choristers - a joint event promoted by the Sunderland Association Football Club Foundation and Durham Cathedral. Pre-booking essential.

**WHEN:** 8 December

**WHERE:** Durham Cathedral

## Santa Special

Train ride, magic show, craft activity, music and more - with a quality gift for every child.

**WHEN:** 10 - 11 & 17 - 18 December

**WHERE:** Locomotion, Shildon

## Christmas with Durham Cathedral Choir



A candlelit concert with an array of Christmas Carols and seasonal music. Joined by Prince Bishops Brass. Pre-booking essential.

**WHEN:** 17 December

**WHERE:** Durham Cathedral

To find out about all these events and more, visit:

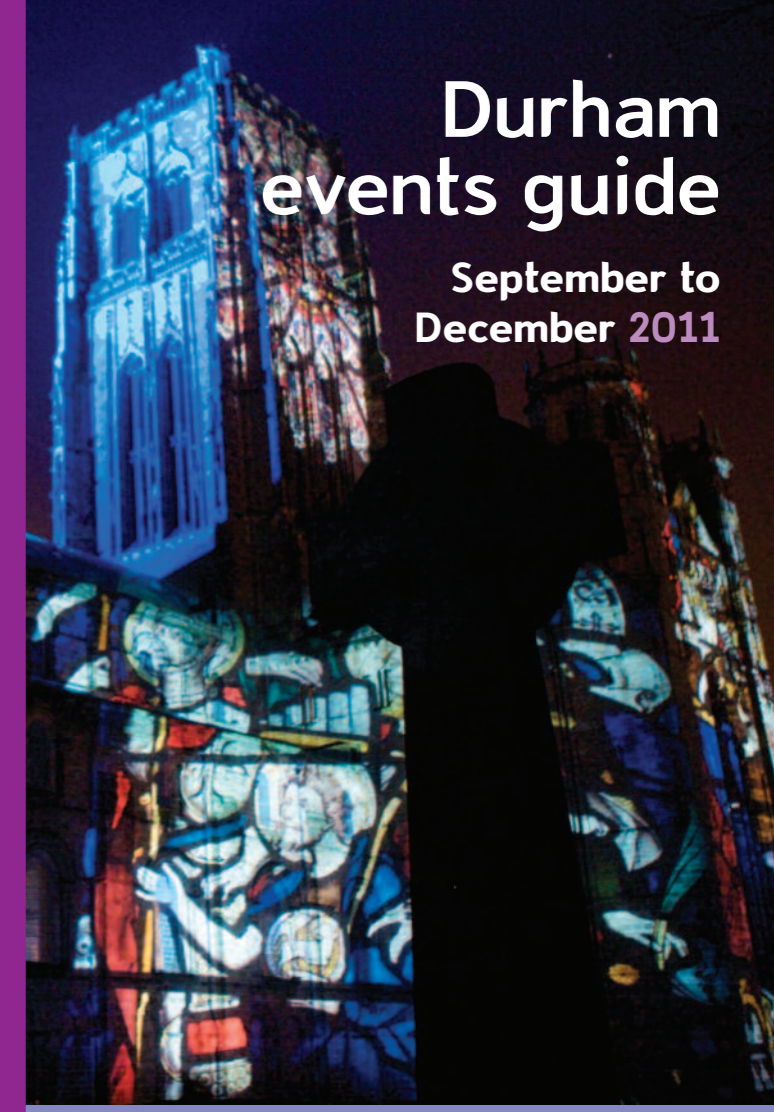
[thisisdurham.com/events](http://thisisdurham.com/events)

All information correct at time of going to press. You are advised to check before travel.



# Durham events guide

September to December 2011



## This is durham

## Tourist Information Centres

### Barnard Castle

Please note that this Tourist Information Centre is currently changing location.  
Tel: 01833 696356

### Bishop Auckland

The Town Hall, Market Place, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL14 7NP  
Tel: 01388 602610 / 604922

### Durham City

Tel: 03000 26 26 26

### Middleton in Teesdale

10 Market Place, Middleton in Teesdale, County Durham DL12 0QG  
Tel: 01833 641001

### Peterlee

4 Upper Yoden Way, Peterlee, County Durham SR8 1AX  
Tel: 0191 586 4450

### Stanhope

Durham Dales Centre, Castle Gardens, Stanhope, County Durham DL13 2FJ  
Tel: 01388 527650 / 526393

The provision of tourist information across Durham is undergoing change. Please note new contact details.

Lumiere picture credits:

Cover: Crown of Light, by Ross Ashton, Robert Ziegler and John Del Nero. Lumiere 2009.

Photo by Matthew Andrews courtesy of Artichoke

Inside: Flux, by Creatmosphere and Starry Night, by AirVag. Lumiere 2009.

Photo by Matthew Andrews courtesy of Artichoke

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[thisisdurham.com/events](http://thisisdurham.com/events)

# Have an eventful time in Durham

Durham's packed year-round events calendar means there's bound to be something for you to enjoy whenever you visit. From theatre and live music to major cultural and sporting events - Durham offers something for everyone.

Don't miss your chance to experience some of Durham's best-loved buildings as they open their doors for Heritage Open Days 2011. Some of the Durham attractions taking part include Killhope: The North of England Lead Mining Museum, Durham Town Hall, the Oriental Museum and the historic Anglo Saxon St Mary the Virgin Church.

The annual Durham Book Festival - a celebration of all things book-related, features a host of household names and includes book-based discussions and interactive events in various venues across the county.

Durham City Food Festival - the City's first food and drink festival, celebrates all that is good about food and drink, bringing together some of the finest produce in the North East as well as a wide range of Continental foods.

The skies light up in November with a massive bonfire and fireworks display at Aykley Heads. And the biennial Lumiere festival returns to Durham with bigger, brighter and bolder artworks transforming the landmarks, streets, river and bridges of the city across four magical evenings.

Get into the festive spirit with a range of period Christmas activities at Beamish Museum. The Durham Christmas Festival weekend offers family entertainment, shopping, carol services and much more in the city. Plus children can enjoy a traditional pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk, at the Gala Theatre, a magical Santa Special train ride at Locomotion, or meet Santa and assorted animals on Santa Weekends at Hall Hill Farm.

This guide gives just a selection of events taking place across Durham. Find out more at [thisisdurham.com/events](http://thisisdurham.com/events)

## Further afield

A taster of the great events happening in North East England.

### NewcastleGateshead, Sunderland, North and South Tyneside

#### International Print Biennale

The International Print Biennale celebrates printmaking with a range of exhibitions, workshops and activities across NewcastleGateshead.

WHEN: 17 Sep - 19 Nov  
WHERE: Northern Print, Newcastle

#### Bupa Great North Run Weekend, Great City Games and Great North Run Culture

Experience the entire weekend of Bupa Great North Run events, including the Great North City Games, cultural programme and junior races.

WHEN: 17 - 18 September  
WHERE: NewcastleGateshead Quayside

#### Bupa Great North Run

31st Great North Run with over 50,000 runners.

WHEN: 18 September  
WHERE: NewcastleGateshead - South Shields

#### The Turner Prize at BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art

Exhibition by nominated artists for this year's prestigious Turner Prize.

WHEN: 21 Oct - 8 Jan 2012  
WHERE: BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead Quays

## Northumberland

#### Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival

Explore a land of make-believe and the enchantment of fairy tales on film. Films, activities, workshops and a Mad Hatter's Tea Party.

WHEN: 23 - 25 September  
WHERE: Berwick upon Tweed

### Northumberland Music Festival

Enjoy nationally celebrated classic, operatic and traditional musicians at the beautiful Doxford & Eschott Halls.

WHEN: 28 October - 6 November  
WHERE: Doxford Hall, Belford and Eschott Hall, near Morpeth

### Electric Estate: Fantasy Forest

Northumberland Lights returns to Cragside. An illuminated trail through Cragside's famous trees, the iron bridge, cascades and the house itself.

WHEN: 10 - 20 November  
WHERE: Cragside House, Gardens & Estate, Rothbury

## Tees Valley

### Darlington Rhythm n Brews Festival

The 32nd festival of R'n'B music and real ale at locations throughout the town.

WHEN: 15 - 18 September  
WHERE: Darlington Arts Centre, Dolphin Centre, Market Square and local pubs

### Spo0-Quay

A spoo-quay evening, including magic, creepy crawlies, storytelling, music, circus skills and ghosts and ghouls crawling around the quayside.

WHEN: 28 October  
WHERE: Hartlepool's Maritime Experience

### Stockton Sparkles Christmas Market

A traditional log cabin village selling seasonal gifts alongside a festive programme of music and street theatre.

WHEN: 1 - 4 December  
WHERE: Parish Gardens

More event and destination details available at:  
[newcastle Gateshead.com](http://newcastle Gateshead.com)  
[visitnorthumberland.com](http://visitnorthumberland.com)  
[visitteesvalley.co.uk](http://visitteesvalley.co.uk)

