

Hexham Library Presents



World Concertina Day Concert

Thursday 6th February, 2025

Hexham Library, Queen's Hall, Hexham

6.30pm Informal presentation

Concertinas: History, Types and Uses by Vic Gammon & Friends

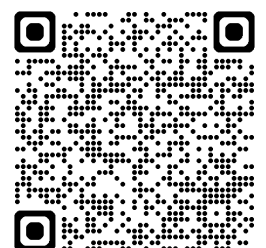
7.30pm Grand Concertina Concert of Instrumental Pieces & Songs

featuring some of Tynedale's outstanding players:

Alex Wade, Rob Say, and Stephen Fry (English Concertinas) and
Vic Gammon (Anglo-German Concertina)

The concert will end with two pieces played by the performers
and members of the audience who bring their concertinas - music
available in advance from Hexham Library

**Pay-as-you-like tickets are
available via Eventbrite or
direct from Hexham Library
01670 620450**



The performers:

Alex Wade (Riding Mill) is a musician and teacher and an outstanding performer on the English concertina. She has taught at national concertina events, played in dance bands and for dance display teams. She has twice won the Best Music award at the Dancing England Rapper Tournament. She has a Masters in musicology from Durham University and performs on and teaches various kinds of woodwind instruments as well as the concertina. Alex has a website at alexwadeconcertina.wordpress.com.

Rob Say (Wall) is from a family steeped in music and has been playing since he was a teenager. A highly accomplished Northumbrian piper as well as an English concertina player, his repertoire and musicality is firmly grounded in the vibrant traditional music of the North East of England. He plays solo and with the Wall Star Village Band. He also composes some excellent material. His professional interest in computers led him to develop the 'Northumbrian Small Pipes Simulator'. He has a website at milecastle27.co.uk/rob/.

Stephen Fry (Hexham) mainly uses the concertina for song accompaniment, focussing on the performance of local and music hall songs as well as his self-penned material. He also plays the mouth organ and melodeon. He previously played in a ceili band for over 30 years and is a member of the very popular Hexham-based group, The Cherry Pickers. He has a Soundcloud page at soundcloud.com/highford where you can hear some of his songs.

Vic Gammon (Hexham) has tried all types of concertinas, but for the last thirty+ years has specialised on the Anglo-German concertina (the 'anglo'), as well as the melodeon and banjo. He has worked professionally as a musician, having played with Shirley Collins and the Etchingham Steam Band and other groups. He retired from Newcastle University in 2010, having been director of the folk and traditional music courses there, and in 2011 was awarded the Gold Badge of the English Folk Dance and Song Society 'for unique or outstanding contributions to folk music'. Much of his academic work is online at newcastle.academia.edu/VicGammon and he has recently developed a sound archive at archive.org/ (search Vic Gammon).

If you would like to bring along your own concertina and join in with the final two pieces please contact Hexham Library for the music
hexham.library@northumberland.gov.uk

A 'pay what you want' collection will be taken at the event to make a contribution to the International Concertina Association.