

North Shields 800 Provisional Events List (June 2024)

Remembering the Past

A year-long project utilising existing content via social media, pop-up exhibitions in empty shops and QR code boards around the town – plus a new element where the memories, opinions and voices of current North Shields residents are captured for a sense of the town in 2025.

Budget estimate: £5,000

The Story of North Shields

The Old Low Light will host a year-long exhibition telling the story of North Shields. Featuring permanent fishing heritage and WWI project strands, the exhibition will include a series of talks and events.

Budget estimate: £15,500

Parade of Sail and Blessing of the Fleet

The two most fondly remembered elements of the original Fish Quay Festival, a parade of boats will travel up the River Tyne and gather at the Fish Quay before a traditional blessing ceremony takes place.

Budget estimate: £25,000

Mouth of the Tyne Festival Fringe

The annual Mouth of the Tyne Festival takes place in and around Tynemouth Priory and Castle. This project will see some of the borough's best performers play on stages on the Quay and in venues during the event.

Budget estimate: £5,000

Fishing Industry Focus Week

This special week will put the spotlight on the current fishing industry with a range of events and attractions, led by the Fishermen's Mission.

Budget estimate: £1,000

Fiddler's Green Parade

This parade will feature hundreds of schoolchildren venturing between the Herring Girl and Fisherman at Fiddler's Green statues with a fun day of activities to follow.

Budget estimate: £7,000

Local History Month and North Shields Reads

Our libraries service will lead on celebrating the town, making it the focus of Local History Month. They will select an author from the town and encourage everyone to read one of their books.

Budget estimate: £1,000

Picnic in the Park

The YMCA will lead on a big community celebration in and around Northumberland Square.

Budget estimate: £3,000

North Tyneside Emerging

This event will support grassroots artists in the area, providing a platform for their musical talents.

Budget estimate: £5,000

Heritologists

With ideas for North Shields 800 at development stage, the Heritologists already have a great track record of delivering fascinating projects working with local schools. 'Safe Harbour' (working title) will feature the production of a short animation telling the story of North Shields as a place of sanctuary, projected onto the side of a building, with accompanying event.

Budget estimate: £10,000

Worldbeaters

North Shields-based Worldbeaters are the arts organisation behind Spark! – the internationally renowned performance group that combine vibrant illuminations with thundering drums. We hope to work with them on a significant event for the celebrations.

Budget estimate: £10,000

Northumberland Park

Northumberland Park celebrates its 140th anniversary on the 11 August 2025. A range of events and activities will be planned to mark the occasion and it will fit nicely in the town's year of celebrations.

Budget estimate: £2,500

Town Trail

We are exploring the possibility of a North Shields 800 trail app that will guide users around the many fascinating stories and locations of the town.

Budget estimate: £5,000

Murals

The murals project could see a number of building-end artworks installed and become a major attraction for the town in 2025.

Budget estimate: £10,000

Heritage Open Days

A chance for the town's venues to throw open their doors to the public for behind the scenes tours and special events.

Budget estimate: £0

North Shields Can Sing!

A mass community singing event featuring the Linskill Choir and more.

Budget estimate: £2,500

Schools

Efforts are underway to engage the borough's school children in a range of initiatives to make them an integral part of the year of celebrations.

Budget estimate: £5,000

Canny Shields book

An updated WW1 booklet made available to schools and community groups

Budget estimate: £7,500

Existing Events with a North Shields 800 Twist

10k Road Race, Newcastle Quays Funfair, Stone's Throw Festival, Mouth of the Tyne Festival, RNLI Day, Stride Out to the Lighthouse, North Tyneside Together, Trafalgar Day, Remembrance Sunday, North Shields Christmas Market and more.

Budget estimate: £0

Provisional budget total: £120,000

Recent proposals

Beth J Ross

32 flag art installation

Budget estimate: £25,000

Ronan Devlin Studios

800-piece art installation

Budget estimate: £15k - £40k

Ghosts of England

Dance performance on the Fish Quay

Budget estimate: £14,600

North Shields music event

A dance music event taking over a street or venue in the town

Budget estimate: £10,000

North Shields artworks exhibition

An exhibition of works from North Shields artists past and present

Budget estimate: £TBC

Helen Pailing window installation, working title 'Signal'

Salvaged Business Centre lights reimaged into a rope-style installation in the Business Centre window.

Budget estimate: £1,500

Provisional Calendar of Events

January

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields

February

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
Newcastle Quays Funfair

March

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
Fishing Industry Focus Week

April

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
North Tyneside 10k Road Race

May

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
Tynemouth Food Festival
Local History Month
A Stone's Throw Festival

June

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
Parade of Sail and Blessing of the Fleet (JUNE 20)
YMCA Picnic in the Park

July

Remembering the Past

The Story of North Shields
Mouth of the Tyne Festival / Fringe
RNLI Day

August

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
Northumberland Park Celebrations (11 AUGUST)
North Tyneside Together

September

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
North Tyneside Emerging
Heritage Open Days

October

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
Trafalgar Day
Worldbeaters
Safe Harbour

November

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
Remembrance Sunday

December

Remembering the Past
The Story of North Shields
North Shields Christmas Market

TBC

Murals
North Shields Can Sing!
Fisherman at Fiddler's Green Parade and community day