

Festival Results 2026

Wednesday 25th February, 6.00pm in Ryton Methodist Church

Class SS1 – SACRED SONG – Any Voice (16 years and under on 31st August 2026)

Trophy: Major James Scott Kinghan RE Memorial Trophy

1st Elizabeth Murray, South Moor

2nd Melody Chan, Stanley

Class 14 – VOCAL DUET (18 years and under on 31st August 2026)

Trophy: The Raymond Willans Cup

1 Iona McLeod, Durham and Elizabeth Murray, South Moor

2 William Straughan, Morpeth and Oliver Hall, Longframlington

Class D3 - INSTRUMENTAL DUO (not Recorders) (12 years and under on 31st August 2026)

Trophy: A Festival Cup

1 Charlotte and Elizabeth Murray, South Moor

2 Grace Ratnanayagam, Durham & Elizabeth Murray, South Moor

Class 35 – GIRLS' SOLO (18 years and under on 31st August 2026)

Trophy: The Stanley Davison Memorial Trophy

1 Melody Chan, Stanley

Class B2 - SOLO INSTRUMENT (BRASS)

(16 years and under on 31st August 2026) Trophy: A Festival Cup

1 Oliver Griffiths, Newbiggin by the Sea

Class S2 - SOLO INSTRUMENT (STRINGS including Classical Guitar)

(16 years and under on 31st August 2026) Trophy: The James Knaggs Trophy

1 Thomas O'Hare, Wynyard

Class 28 – BRITISH FOLK SONG Any Voice – Open

Trophy: The Angus Marshall Memorial Cup

1 Jacqueline Jordan, Cramlington

2 Pat Nelson, Distington

Second Session

Thursday 26th Feb 6.15pm at Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 44A Pianoforte Solo- Open class

- 1 Timothy Jeffers, Callerton
- 2 Geoffrey Shang, Sunderland

Class W2 Woodwind 16 & under

1st Chloe Wong Piano

Class 45 Pianoforte Solo Grade 7 or 8.

1st Geoffrey Shang, Sunderland

Class 40 Pianoforte Duet Open.

1st. Joy Bradley, Burnhope and David McRae, Stanley
2nd. Anne Porter and Claire Lowery, Low Fell

Class 44B Jennifer Reid Memorial Piano Solo Class

1st. David McRae, Stanley
=2nd Alan Bowers, Gosforth
= 2nd Geoffrey Shang, Sunderland

Third Session

Friday 27th February at 6.15pm Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class46 Pianoforte Solo Grade 5 & 6

1st Aidan O'Brien, Durham
= 2nd Alexander Cash, Blaydon
= 2nd Rhys Appleby, Bedlington

Class B1 Solo Instrument Brass

1William Straughan, Morpeth

Class W1 Solo Instrument Woodwind

1 Josie Ellery, Ellington

Class 17 Operatic Aria Female Open-

1st. Sophie Poole, Grimsby
= 2nd Isabel Moloney, Newcastle
= 2nd. Imogen Forsyth, Blyth

Fourth Session
Saturday 28th February at 9.15am Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 48 Pianoforte Solo Grades 1 & 2

1 Phoebe Fisher, Greenside

2 Natalia Kozarek, Bartley

Class 42 Pianoforte Duet 15years and under

1 Guruguhan and Shivasudan Balasubramaniam, Hull

2 Annabelle Bradley, Burnhope and Chloe McRae, Kibblesworth

Class 49 Pianoforte Solo Initial Grade

1 Florence Richardson, Beamish

2 Ethan Loi, Gateshead

Class W3 Solo Instrument Woodwind

1 Shivasudan Balasubramaniam, Hull

2 George Halford, Durham

Fifth Session
Saturday 28th February at 2.00pm Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 47 Pianoforte Solo Grades 3 & 4

1 Ioanna Proukaki, Newcastle

2 Katie Einbeck, Durham

Class 43 Pianoforte Duet 12 years and under

1 Archer and Penny McRae, South Pelaw

2 Annabel Forster, Houghton le Spring and Florence Richardson, Beamish

Class S3 Solo Instrument Strings

1 Charlotte Murray, South Moor

=2 Jayden Wang, Gosforth

=2 Annabelle Forster, Houghton le Spring

Class 12 Vocal Trio or Quartet

1 Glitz Trio, Whickham

Class 26 British Composer Class – Any voice Open

1 Vanessa Turpin, Whitehaven

=2 Daisy Clemens, Gosforth

=2 Michael Gardner, Shiremoor

Sixth Session

Saturday 28th February at 6.30w pm Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 27 French Composer Class Any Voice Open

1 Isabel Moloney, Newcastle

2 Gavin Jarvis, Maiden Law

Class 16 Lieder Any Voice Open

1 Gavin Jarvis, Maiden Law

2 Michael Gardner, Shiremoor

Class 30 Song Class - Male Voice Open

1 Ben Gardner, Shiremoor

Class 22 Aria from Oratorio or Sacred Work – Female Voice Open

1 Gillian Rothery, Whitehaven

2 Vanessa Turpin, Whitehaven

Seventh Session

Friday 6th March at 6pm Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 72 Duologues 16 yrs and under

1 Isla Farren and Seren Robson, TTSS

2 Jessica Robinson and Poppy Lamb, TTSS

Class 68 Solo Acting 16yrs and under

1 Ben Percy, Blaydon

2 Evie Atkinson, TTSS

Eighth Session

Saturday 7th March at 9.30am Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 53 Verse Speaking 11yrs and under

1 Elija Wotton-Lidster, Murton

2 Anae Katani, Durham

Class 71 Duologues 12 yrs and under

1 Nella Atkinson and Gabrielle Howe, TTSS

=2 Alica Davies and Arav Bharathan, TTSS

=2 Tanay Patel and Raania Lally, TTSS

Class 67 Solo Acting 12yrs and under

1 Seren Thomas, TTSS

2 Scarlett Brannigan, TTSS

Class 55 Verse Speaking 13yrs and under

1 Mohitha Bonam, Newcastle

Ninth Session

Saturday 7th March at 2pm Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 51 Verse Speaking 9yrs and under

1 Autumn Dalton, TTSS

2 Seren Thomas, TTSS

Class 59 Sonnets 16yrs and under

2 Dexter White, Fenham

Class TC2 Television Commercial 14yrs and under

1 Alexander Cash, Blaydon

Class SR2 Sight Reading 14yrs and under

1 Isabella Linsley, Newcastle

2 Tanisha Shaikh, Newcastle

Class 70 Solo Improvisation 16yrs and under

1 Alexander Cash, Blaydon

Class 56 Verse Speaking 16yrs and under

1 Dexter White, Fenham

=2 Tanisha Shaikh, Newcastle

=2 Isabella Linsley, Newcastle

Class 79 A Prepared Reading 16yrs and under

1 Tanisha Shaikh, Newcastle

Class 66 Bible Reading Open Class

1 Jennifer Craig, Low Fell

Class 74 Public Speaking 16yrs and under

1 Jocelyn Ng, Gosforth

2 Thomas Jarman, South Shields

Tenth Session

Saturday 7th March at 6.30pm Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 78 A Prepared Reading Open Class

1 Jennifer Craig, Low Fell

2 Pete Barrett, Prudhoe

Class SR3 Sight Reading Open Class

1 Jennifer Craig, Low Fell

Class 73 Duologues Open Class

1 Colette Knowles, Whickham and Matthew Melone, Gateshead

2 Cate Wootton and Tillie Purvis, TTSS

Class 69 Solo Acting Open Class

1 Nate Pink, TTSS

2 Collette Knowles, Whickham

Eleventh Session

Wednesday 11th March at 6.00pm Ryton Methodist Church

Class 37 Girls Solo 12yrs and under

1 Indrakshi Chatterjee, Durham

2 Elizabeth Murray, South Moor

Class 39 Boys Solo 11yrs and under

1 Sacha Gunn, Whitley Bay

2 Benedict Richardson, Hartlepool

Class 36 Girls Solo 15yrs and under

1 Melody Chan, Stanley

2 Alicija Carlin, Blaydon

Class 37DS Disney Class any voice 14yrs and under

1 Alicija Carlin, Blaydon

=2 Elizabeth Murray, South Moor

=2 Anae Ketani, Durham

=2 Oliver Rayson, Chester-le-Street

Twelfth Session

Thursday 12th March at 6.00pm Emmaville Hall, Crawcrook

Class 38 Boys Solo Open Class

1 Alexander Cash, Blaydon

2 Kit Damle O'Leary, Durham

Class 35N Vocal Solo Any Voice 18yrs and under

1 Sasha Gunn, Whitley Bay

2 Nico Blyth Poblet, Whitley Bay

Class 35MT Light Opera Any Voice 18yrs and under

1 Melody Chan, Stanley

2 Sasha Gunn, Whitley Bay

Class D1 Instrumental Duo Open Class

1 Dylan D'Silva, Felling and Yu-Chen Chiu, Gosforth

Class S1 Solo Instrumental Strings Open

1 Chloe Wong, Lobley Hill

2 Thomas O'Hare, Wynyard

Thirteenth Session

Friday 13th March at 1.15pm St Anne's RC Church Winlaton

Class 8 Junior Children's Choirs Song Class Test Piece

1 Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation Junior Choir

2

Class 8 Junior Children's Choirs Song Class Own Choice

1 St Andrews School Senior Choir, Heddon

2

Class 10 Junior Children's Choirs Hymn Singing Class

1 Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation Junior Choir

2 St Andrews School Senior Choir, Heddon

Class 7 Senior Children's Choirs Song Class Own Choice

1 Royal Grammer School Intermediate Choir

2 Whitley Bay High School

Class 7 Senior Children's Choirs Song Class Contrasting Own Choice

1 Royal Grammer School Senior Choir

2 Whitley Bay High School

Fourteenth Session

Friday 13th March at 6.30pm Emmaville Hall Crawcrook

Class B3 Solo Instrumental Brass 12yrs and under

1 Ben O'Hare, Wynyard

2 Sophie Albusel, Consett

Class E2 Instrumental Ensemble 10yrs and under

1 Royal Grammer School Ceilidh Band

2 Royal Grammer School Brass Ensemble2

Class E3 Instrumental Ensemble 18yrs and under

1 The Merton Trio, Gateshead.

2 The Can Dec String Quartet, Durham

Fifteenth Session

Saturday 14th March at 9.45am Emmaville Hall Crawcrook

Class 29 Song Class Female Voice Open

1 Lynne Bloxham, Whickham

2 Gillian Rothery, Whitehaven

Class 25 Prize-winners Class Over 18yes of age

1 Michael Gardner, Shiremoor

2 Vanessa Turpin, Whitehaven

Class 18 Operatic Aria Male Voice Open

1 Ben Gardner, Shiremoor

2 Gavin Jarvis, Maiden Law

Sixteenth Session

Saturday 14th March at 2.00pm Emmaville Hall Crawcrook

Class 23 Aria from Oratorio or Sacred Work Male

1 Eden Webley Morpeth

2 Michael Gardner, Shiremoor

Class 20 Victorian / Edwardian Parlour Songs any Voice Open

1 Lucien Nicholson, Gainford

2 Eden Webley, Morpeth

Class 15 Vocal Duet Any Voice Open

1 Ben Gardner, Shiremoor & Imogen Forsyth, Bedlington

2 Michael and Ben Gardner, Shiremoor

Class 19 Light Opera Any Voice Open

1 Vanessa Turpin, Whitehaven

=2 Eden Webley, Morpeth

=2 Daisy Clemens, Gosforth

Seventeenth Session

Saturday 14th March at 6.30pm Emmaville Hall Crawcrook

Class 1 Male Voice Choirs

1 Voicemale, Morpeth

Class 4 Ladies Voice Choirs Own Choice

1 Low Fell Singers

2 Dark Sky Voices. Corbridge

Contrasting Piece

1 Dark Sky Voices. Corbridge

2 Low Fell Singers

Championship Oratorio / Opera Class

1 Sophie Poole, Grimsby

Championship Solo Song Class

1 Vanessa Turpin, Whitehaven

Special Awards Winners 2026

Singer of the Year – Isabel Moloney, Newcastle

The Sutcliffe Shield Piano – Elizabeth Murray, South Moor

The Ryton Festival Photocall Trophy Piano – Annabel Forster, Houghton-le-Spring

James K Nicholson Music - Sasha Gunn, Whitley Bay

James K Nicholson Speech and Drama – Seren Thomas, TTSS

The Harry Guildford Trophy Solo Instrumental- Thomas O'Hare, Wynyard

The W A Mears Memorial Trophy Children's Choirs - Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation Junior Choir