



Coastival II – Yorkshire goes to the Seaside!

Media Release

English traditions revived for Coastival

Sword and clog dancing hits Scarborough

Visitors to this weekend's Coastival event in Scarborough will see two quintessentially English traditions revived.

Clog and sword dancing have been added to the Coastival line-up for the first time.

And not only will people be able to enjoy a breath-taking show featuring both dance arts, they will also be able to try them out for themselves.

Clogs and Swords is a show put together by award-winning clog and sword-dancing teams **Black Adder Rapper and Step** and **Black Swan Rapper**.

The show, at the Stephen Joseph Theatre on Saturday evening at 7.30pm takes the audience on a whistle stop tour through the history of both these fine English traditions right from their humble beginnings to the present day.

Clog dancing, originally from Yorkshire and Lancashire mill workers, is a percussive dance done in wooden soled, leather clogs.

Rapper Sword Dancing came from the workers of Northumberland, namely the miners and the rapper sword itself is an implement from those pit working days.

Running throughout the show will be an accompaniment of expertly played music and also the occasional song from the musicians, with most being played on the traditional instruments of fiddle and melodeon.

Black Adder will present an array of clog dances, old and new.

Based mainly in Yorkshire, they have been together since 1990 dancing at various festivals and events country wide.

Black Swan are a premier rapper sword dance team from York, described as "fine purveyors of the fast and furious rapper dance and credited, amongst other things, with several step changes and developments in rapper".

Both teams will also be sharing their traditions in two workshops.

The clogging workshop will be held at the Stephen Joseph Theatre from 2pm to 3pm on Saturday afternoon for those aged eight and over and then the rapper sword dancing workshop follows at the same venue from 3.30pm to 4.30pm, for people aged 14 and over.

Both workshops cost £3 each. Tickets for the evening performance are £8.

Coastival organiser Wendy Clews said: "Coastival prides itself on providing something different and something for everyone.

"By bringing these two incredibly talented dance groups to the festival we are reviving traditional dance techniques that are not seen nearly as often as they should be.

"As an extra special bonus, the two workshops will allow people to learn more about these art forms and have a try themselves."

Coastival runs from Friday 18th to Sunday 20th February and will feature more than 100 attractions, many of them free.

Events range from music to comedy from Count Arthur Strong, Shappi Khorsandi and Jon Richardson, world music, jazz and a vast array of other attractions, events and installations, as well as events for children in Rollercoastival. An Essential Guide is available giving full details of all the acts, events and attractions that will feature. It is on sale now for just £2 (£1 when bought with tickets online).

The Essential Guide is available from Scarborough Library, the Tourist Information Centres, Woodend Creative Industries Centre, Scarborough Arts Gallery, The Rotunda, MOJO's music café and also by contacting Coastival on 01723 384545 or via www.coastival.com or by email at info@coastival.com

Website visitors can also sign up to receive the latest updates on Coastival during the build-up to the festival.

You can also sign up to follow Coastival on twitter via

<http://twitter.com/#!/coastival> or join the fun on Facebook at

<http://www.facebook.com/?ref=logo#!/group.php?gid=32161078693> or
by searching for Coastival from within Facebook.

In 2009 a total of more than 9,000 people attended the 96 events that were held during the first ever Coastival, bringing an estimated £175,000 boost to the local economy at a quiet time of the year.

Ends

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