

# Blyth Celebrates FESTIVAL OF ENERGY PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 5  
TO SUNDAY 8  
MARCH 2026



**Blyth**  
CELEBRATES

**FREE EVENTS**  
Everyone's welcome

[www.blythcelebrates.co.uk](http://www.blythcelebrates.co.uk)

Produced by



WALK THE PLANK

**Blyth Celebrates presents**

# FESTIVAL OF ENERGY

**THURSDAY 5 TO SUNDAY 8 MARCH 2026**

Commissioned by Northumberland County Council.

Programmed and Produced by Walk the Plank.

In partnership with Port of Blyth, the Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Catapult, Energy Central Campus and Newcastle University.

**Welcome to the first Festival of Energy in Blyth, a free four-day celebration of creativity and innovation, showcasing Blyth as a world leader in renewable energy.**

The festival will transform the town through a creative programme for the whole family, featuring large-scale public artworks, performances and immersive experiences inspired by energy, the environment and Blyth's maritime heritage. Highlights include an incredible world-first joint presentation of Luke Jerram's *Museum of the Moon* and *Gaia, Whale Song*, which transforms the mouth of the River Blyth with a life-sized humpback whale brought to life through

water, sound and projection, and Walk the Plank's spectacular *Tower of Light* show celebrating Blyth's maritime history and bright future through light, sound, fire and special effects.

Visitors can also enjoy a programme of free events, films, workshops, community performances, and seven brand new local creative commissions exploring energy, light and transformation.

The Festival of Energy marks the grand finale of Blyth Celebrates, part of Energising Blyth – a major regeneration programme that's transforming our town and placing creativity at its heart.

**More information:**

**[blythcelebrates.co.uk](https://blythcelebrates.co.uk)**

Programme subject to change. please check the website for up to date information.

We encourage audiences to travel to events on foot or by public transport wherever possible.

For those who need to travel to Blyth by car, please park responsibly in Blyth town centre car parks, all of which are only a short walk from the event locations.

Please note that key quayside event areas will have road restrictions and closures in place over the weekend.



PUBLIC  
EVENT  
- BOOK

BOOK

THUR 5 TO SUN 8 MARCH

## Gaia & Museum of the Moon A world first in Blyth

Luke Jerram's famous artworks have graced some of the most prestigious buildings around the globe. In a world first, *Gaia* and *Museum of the Moon* will be exhibited together in ORE Catapult's extraordinary state of the art 100 metre offshore wind testing facility.

### About Gaia

This internationally renowned artwork measures seven metres in diameter and was created from detailed NASA imagery of the Earth's surface. It provides the extraordinary opportunity to see our planet floating in three dimensions, creating the Overview Effect, a common experience of astronauts. *Gaia* reveals the interconnection of all life, inspiring viewers to reflect on their relationship with and responsibility for the Earth.

### About Museum of the Moon

Throughout history the moon has evoked passion and exploration, inspiring poets, musicians, scientists and lovers. The moon is the creator of immense tidal power, a timekeeper, a calendar, a source of light and aids night-time navigation. *Museum of the Moon* prompts you to consider its mystery and beauty alongside questions around moon science.

**VENUE:** Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult, National Renewable Energy Centre, Blade Testing Hall, Albert Street, Blyth NE24 1LZ

**WHAT3WORDS:** custom.gone.usual

Thursday 5, 1pm-9pm  
Friday 6, 11am-9pm  
Saturday 7, 9am-9pm  
Sunday 8, 1pm-5pm

**FREE**



BOOK

SCHOOL  
EVENT

THUR 5 MARCH, 9.30AM TO 12 NOON

## Meet an Astronaut Helen Sharman CMG OBE in conversation under Luke Jerram's *Gaia* and *Museum of the Moon*.

An out of this world event to open the Festival of Energy.

In May 1991 Helen Sharman became the first British person in space. She was chosen from over 13,000 people to train as an astronaut. Following 18 months of training in Russia, she blasted off from the Earth in a Soyuz TM-12 rocket.

After her pioneering space flight, Helen became a science communicator and speaker, winning many prizes for her inspirational presentations alongside radio and TV programmes. In Blyth she will share details of her training including how weightlessness feels, what it's like living and working in space and how she re-adjusted to life back on Earth with an invited audience of 300 local school children.

We have limited VIP places available for local adults who would love to attend this once-in-a-lifetime event at the Festival of Energy.

To apply for a ticket, please email [getinvolved@walktheplank.co.uk](mailto:getinvolved@walktheplank.co.uk), providing your postcode and telling us why you would like to attend. 20 local residents will be chosen at random. Applications are limited to one ticket per person.

## NEW COMMISSION

Local poet John Challis has created a new poem responding to the festival themes which will be read under Gaia.

His poems have appeared on BBC Radio 4, as well as in many journals and anthologies.



Access to *Gaia* and *Museum of the Moon* is strictly limited. Free tickets are available at [blythcelebrates.co.uk](https://www.blythcelebrates.co.uk). Booking is essential. All tickets are non-transferable.

**Find out more and book at**  
[blythcelebrates.co.uk](https://www.blythcelebrates.co.uk)

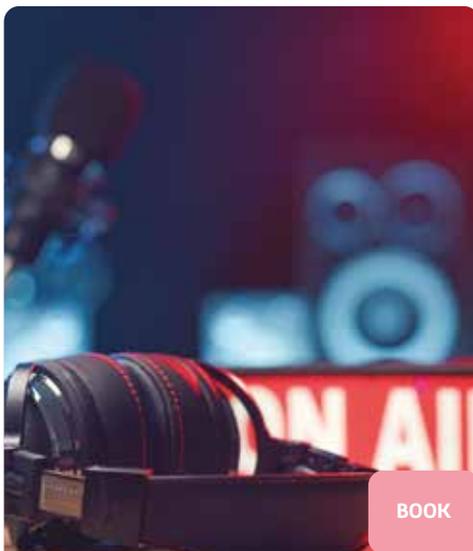


**THUR 5 MARCH, 7AM TO 10AM**

## **The Breakfast Show on Koast Radio**

### **Live from the Festival of Energy!**

A special live broadcast in Blyth of this interactive request show, which usually broadcasts from Ashington every weekday between 7am and 10am. Hosted by Director, Jeff Pattison, the show will provide an entertaining mix of banter and enjoyable music along with all the upcoming festival news, event times and dates. Koast Breakfast broadcasts on 106.6 FM and DAB. Don't forget to phone in your requests to 07701 300749.



**BOOK**

**THUR 5 MARCH, 9.30AM TO 3PM**

## **How to Make a Radio Programme Workshop with Koast Radio**

We're looking for 10 volunteers aged between 10 and 99, who are available between 9.30am and 3pm on Thursday 5 March in Blyth to create a one hour radio programme that will be broadcast on Koast Radio. This enjoyable one-day course is designed to improve self-esteem and confidence.

The course is free, but you would need to bring your own lunch and cover your travel costs. Email [getinvolved@walktheplank.co.uk](mailto:getinvolved@walktheplank.co.uk), and say why you'd like to take part.

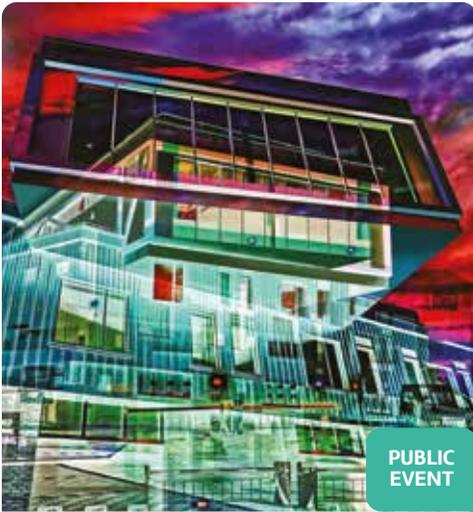
### **VENUE:**

Energy Central Learning Hub,  
Blyth Quay Rd, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

rider.charm.rocket

### **FREE**



**THUR 5 TO SAT 7 MARCH, 10AM TO 4PM**

## **Future Energy Film**

### **NEW COMMISSION**

Experience Blyth-based artist Dex Hannon's brand-new immersive film in the Energy Central Learning Hub's dedicated room. This 360° projection will surround you and extend across the floor beneath your feet. Commissioned for the festival, the film celebrates the new building and mirrors Blyth's transformation, capturing the town's dynamic energy.

Created from just three photographs taken in the early morning light, this film is driven by music composed by the artist's alter ego, Skin Vehicles. The soundtrack matches the film's pace and points towards a frenetic, exciting future for Blyth!

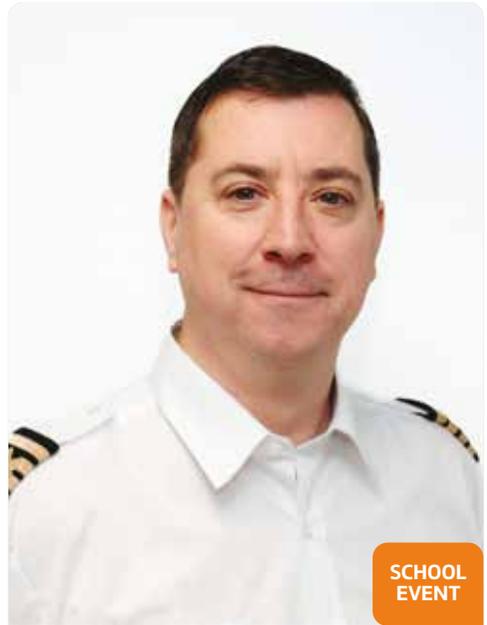
#### **VENUE:**

Energy Central Learning Hub,  
Blyth Quay Rd, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

#### **WHAT3WORDS:**

rider.charm.rocket

**FREE**



**THUR 5 MARCH, 1.30PM TO 2.15PM**

## **Meet The Harbour Master**

Meet Blyth's Harbour Master, Ed Dick who has been working on the River Blyth since 2007. From starting at sixteen in the Merchant Navy to overseeing the safe arrival and departure of over 500 vessels into the harbour each year, Ed will share his story with 250 students from local schools. They will hear about his life on the high seas and in port, and answer questions about making a career in the maritime industries. Inspiring Blyth's young people towards future employment. This is a closed event for local school children.

#### **VENUE:**

Energy Central Learning Hub,  
Blyth Quay Rd, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

#### **WHAT3WORDS:**

rider.charm.rocket

**FREE**



SCHOOL  
EVENT

**THUR 5 MARCH, 2.30PM TO 3.15PM**  
**Working Today to Build Tomorrow's Workforce with ORE Catapult**

Join Danielle Portsmouth, ORE Catapult's Skills Foresighting Manager, as she shares how the company actively encourages young people into STEM careers. Supporters of the Energy Central Campus in Blyth, ORE Catapult directly collaborates with institutions including Bede Academy and Northumberland Skills, ensuring vocational courses and T-levels are industry-led. Real-world, hands-on experience and training with future skills foresight from robotics to floating offshore wind technology are integral to their programmes. Danielle will share these career opportunities with an invited audience of 250 local students.

**VENUE:**  
Energy Central Learning Hub,  
Blyth Quay Rd, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

**WHAT3WORDS:**  
rider.charm.rocket

**FREE**



PUBLIC  
EVENT

**THUR 5 TO SUN 8 MARCH, 10AM TO 4PM**  
**The Big Chill**

Did you know Antarctica was discovered by Captain William Smith on board *The Williams*, a tall ship built in Blyth? Over 200 years later, a team of scientists are uncovering the secrets of Earth's polar and frozen regions. From the depths of the oceans to the inner edge of space, learn how they study whales and walrus from satellites, go fossil hunting in the snow, watch elephant seals, count emperor penguins and voyage on the RSS Sir David Attenborough. You might even find out what it's like being a chef in Antarctica through our specially curated series of films courtesy of The British Antarctic Survey. All free at our *Arctic Film* drop-in at the studio of the Market Pavilion.

We will also be showing our brand-new commission - *Future Energy* by local artist and filmmaker Dex Hannon, which is also showcased at the Energy Central Learning Hub throughout the festival.

**VENUE:**  
Market Pavilion,  
Market Street, Blyth  
NE24 1BQ

**WHAT3WORDS:**  
else.boat.bumpy

**FREE**



**THUR 5 MARCH, 5.30PM TO 7.30PM**

## **Blyth Together: A People-Centred Green Energy Town**

Come and be part of the conversation! Explore with us how renewable energy and creativity are shaping Blyth's future in this engaging panel discussion. We're gathering industry innovators, community champions and academic experts from Newcastle University, Blyth's renewable energy sector, Blyth Culture Network and we want to hear your voice too.

Brought to you by: Newcastle University School of Arts & Cultures, School of Geography, Politics and Sociology, School of Natural and Environmental Sciences and the School of Engineering.

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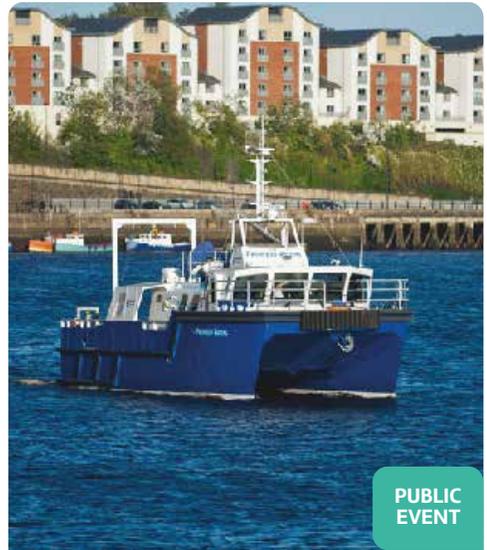
### **VENUE:**

Energy Central Learning Hub,  
Blyth Quay Rd, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

rider.charm.rocket

**FREE**



**THUR 5 MARCH, 12 NOON TO 5PM**

## **Open Afternoon at the Marine Station**

The Newcastle University Marine Station and Emerson Cavitation Tunnel will be open to visitors, offering insights into marine research, the *Pride in Our Seas* photo exhibition and a chance to win a guided trip on Friday 6 March aboard the research vessel Princess Royal to the North Sea wind turbines. Drop in and find out all about their vital work!

Brought to you by: Newcastle University School of Arts & Cultures, School of Geography, Politics, and Sociology, School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, School of Engineering.

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### **VENUE:**

The Marine Station,  
Quay Road, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

status.sports.spoon

**FREE**



**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**THUR 5 MARCH, 2PM, 5.30PM & 6.30PM  
SUN 8 MARCH, 5.30PM**

## Spark!

Renowned international street theatre group *Spark!* will deliver an electrifying performance alongside *Bubbles of Love*, Walk the Plank's impressive fiery *Mechanical Marvel*, combining powerful drumming with vibrant LED lighting, dynamic choreography and striking costumes. Produced by *Worldbeaters Music*, the show promises thrilling entertainment for all ages, transforming the Market Place into a rhythmic, glowing spectacle.

### **VENUE:**

Market Place, Blyth  
NE24 1BQ

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

else.boat.bumpy

**FREE**



**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**THUR 5 MARCH, 6PM**

## Sobralia

### NEW COMMISSION

A newly composed choral music piece by Reemer Bailey and Stuart Collingwood which celebrates the themes of the festival. *Sobralia* will be performed by an intergenerational choir of over 100 people recruited from local choirs and schools from South East Northumberland who have come together for an incredible one-off performance.

### **VENUE:**

Market Place, Blyth  
NE24 1BQ

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

else.boat.bumpy

**FREE**



**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**FRI 6 MARCH, 5.30PM & 7PM**

## **The Energies of Everworld** **NEW COMMISSION**

The moth folk are space punks, drawn to the energy of the moon and stars, solar and lunar light. The gentle strange Eye-Eyes love the dark, sonic places and live in the Purple Forest. They have opposite energies, and a battle ensues. Can they create peace and harmony and restore light to the Great Moth? Using lanterns and a huge illuminated puppet, this is a dance and walkabout performance searching for a better, brighter cleaner future.

Headway Arts, an inclusive dance company have created this new adventure in their sci-fi *Everworld* series to celebrate energy and Blyth's future. *The Energies of Everworld* is drawn from an original story created by learning disabled artists.

**VENUE:**

Market Place, Blyth  
NE24 1BQ

**WHAT3WORDS:**

else.boat.bumpy

**FREE**



**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**FRI 6 MARCH, 5PM, 6PM & 7.30PM**

## **Northern Monkey Brass Band**

*Northern Monkey Brass Band* is a collective of drum and brass players from the North East of England, bringing New Orleans-inspired rhythms to the *Festival of Energy*. Blending driving percussion and rich brass, their performances bring a lively, welcoming atmosphere to the evening programme.

**VENUE:**

Market Place, Blyth  
NE24 1BQ

**WHAT3WORDS:**

else.boat.bumpy

**FREE**

**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**SAT 7 MARCH, 10AM TO 4PM**

## Discover Energy Central Campus: Open Day and Family Workshops, with the Port of Blyth

A free open day at the Energy Central Learning Hub where you can discover the clean-energy innovation taking place in Blyth and across the North East.

Explore the Clean Energy Visitor Centre and discover more about the careers available in offshore wind, renewables, and STEM industries. Experience real industry kit such as a subsea cable section, a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) and other cutting-edge offshore technology.

Join us for a free hands-on engineering workshop where young people can help build a real Greenpower Goblin electric car and explore science, engineering, and technology through practical, engaging activities. Learn how gravity, friction and air resistance affect speed, apply basic electrical principles to real engineering, interpret technical manuals to organise parts and streamline the build process just like real engineers. Drop in, get hands on and discover the power of engineering!

### **VENUE:**

Energy Central Learning Hub,  
Blyth Quay Rd, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

rider.charm.rocket

**FREE**



Bubbles of Love, Market Place

**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**SAT 7 MARCH, 12 NOON**

## Parade of Sail

Don't miss a flotilla of Blyth's Royal Northumberland Yacht Club (RNYC) vessels as they sail down the river in celebration of the Festival of Energy and the power of the wind.

The RNYC is based in south harbour Blyth. Their headquarters are a converted lightship, one of three remaining wooden light vessels, part of the National Historic fleet. Their pontoon system can cater for 120 yachts with 24/7 access and membership of approx 650.

The club boasts sailing all year round, a travel hoist and boatyard. They are also a centre of excellence for RYA training inc Radio, first aid and navigational courses.

### **VENUE:**

Dun Cow Quay,  
Quayside, Blyth  
NE24 2AS

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

chips.meals.number

**FREE**

PUBLIC  
EVENT

FRI 6 & SAT 7 MARCH, 6PM TO 9PM

## Whale Song

Dive into a magical world of light, water and sound with *Whale Song*, a captivating spectacle for families and curious minds of all ages. Projected onto a shimmering waterscreen, this beautiful show tells the story of whales in the North Sea and how nature has inspired new ways of creating cleaner energy.

Through stunning maritime imagery and an immersive soundtrack, audiences are invited to see how the shape of whale flippers has influenced wind turbine designs. Created by LCI Productions with an additional soundtrack from John Challis and Ru Brooks featuring local voices, *Whale Song* is a must-see rare experience, seen only a handful of times in the UK. The show runs on a 20-minute loop and can be viewed numerous times during the evening.

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### VENUE:

Dun Cow Quay,  
Quayside, Blyth  
NE24 2AS

### WHAT3WORDS:

chips.meals.number

**FREE**



**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**SAT 7 MARCH, 10AM TO 4PM**

## **Pallas Family Flyers** Free Family Kite Making Workshop NEW COMMISSION

The *Pallas Family Flyers* from Blyth have designed and built kites which have been flown at festivals around the country.

This new commission is a Japanese-inspired Edo kite featuring a turbine blade arriving on the River Blyth aboard the *Abis Calais*, alongside a completed wind turbine.

Come along to a free drop-in workshop and make a kite of your own and fly it in Ridley Park alongside this fabulous new commission.

### **VENUE:**

Energy Central Learning Hub,  
Blyth Quay Rd, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

rider.charm.rocket

**FREE**



**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**SAT 7 MARCH, 10 AM TO 3 PM**

## **A New Mural** at Blyth Tall Ship Open Day NEW COMMISSION

Blyth Tall Ship has been working with local artist Frank Styles and the community to create a striking mural celebrating the region's boat-building and maritime heritage. Painted on their 40ft container overlooking the Blyth Estuary, the artwork charts the story of wooden boat building on the River Blyth from the early 1700s to date.

Come along to their open day and mural unveiling at 11am. Enjoy shore-based, family-focused activities, live entertainment and a series of heritage talks, including the building of the *Zulu Herring Drifter* - the first vessel designed and built in Blyth in 138 years - as well as the *Gansey Project* and the *World Shipping Society*.

### **VENUE:**

Blyth Tall Ship Apprenticeship Workshop,  
Quay Road, Blyth  
NE24 3PA

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

timed.booth.actual

**FREE**



**PUBLIC  
EVENT**

**SAT 7 MARCH, 3PM & 7PM**

## **Sea Shanty** with an Evening Performance from Blyth Valley Samba

### **NEW COMMISSION**

*Sea Shanty* by Aria Arts is a thrilling water and aerial performance incorporating stories, and myths from local people. Arrive early to take pictures with our mermaids and read some of the writing from our creative workshop or sing a shanty before watching this spectacular show. There will be something for all ages!

## **Writing Blyth:** **Festival of Energy Workshop**

If you would like to share your sea stories and local memories in an informal workshop contact [info@ariamovement.com](mailto:info@ariamovement.com). Any tales of mermaids are also welcome.

### **VENUE:**

Market Place, Blyth  
NE24 1BQ

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

else.boat.bumpy

**FREE**



**BOOK**

**SUN 8 MARCH, 10AM TO 12 NOON**

## **International Women's Day** **Celebration Breakfast**

This very special event will celebrate 200 local women who make a difference in Blyth and Northumberland. It could be your neighbour, carer, cleaner, teacher, doctor, nurse, industry leader, academic, community champion or good friend.

To nominate your local heroine, and accompany them to this special, free breakfast held under Gaia and the Museum of the Moon, contact [getinvolved@walktheplank.co.uk](mailto:getinvolved@walktheplank.co.uk), telling us your name and contact details, the name of the woman you are nominating and a few sentences about why she inspires you. You and your nominee will be invited to the event. Spaces are limited, so do send your nominations in as soon as possible.

### **VENUE:** Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult,

National Renewable Energy Centre,  
Blade Testing Hall, Albert Street,  
Blyth NE24 1LZ

### **WHAT3WORDS:**

custom.gone.usual

**FREE**

PUBLIC  
EVENT

SUN 8 MARCH, 8PM

## The Tower of Light

Don't miss *The Tower of Light* by Walk the Plank — a spectacular outdoor finale for all ages with fire, light, sound and breathtaking pyrotechnics.

Watch the life-sized lighthouse spring to life, inhabited by three hapless lighthouse keepers who may arrive by land, yacht or river, symbolising Blyth's past, present and future.

The performance celebrates the town's rich maritime heritage, from the days when lighthouses guided safely into ports, through eras of coal, fishing and shipbuilding, to the vital role played today by the River Pilots and the Port of Blyth. With pre-show entertainment from renowned illuminated drummers, *Spark!*, this is a festival finale not to be missed.

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### VENUE:

Dun Cow Quay,  
Quay Road, Blyth  
NE24 2AS

### WHAT3WORDS:

levels.cattle.keep

**FREE**



## VENUE

1

2

3

4

5

<p><b>Thursday 5 March</b></p>	<p><b>9.30am–12 noon</b> Helen Sharman CMG OBE in conversation under Luke Jerram's Gaia and Museum of the Moon. <b>1–9pm</b> Gaia and Museum of the Moon.</p>		<p><b>10am–3pm</b> The Big Chill, Arctic films drop-in. <b>2pm, 5.30pm &amp; 6.30pm</b> Spark! <b>5–9pm</b> Bubbles of Love Fire Installation <b>6pm</b> Sobralia super choir.</p>	<p><b>7–10am</b> The Breakfast Show on Koast Radio. <b>9.30am–3pm</b> How To Make A Radio Programme workshop. <b>10am–4pm</b> Future Energy film. <b>12 noon–5pm</b> Open Afternoon at the Marine Station <b>1.30–2.15pm</b> Meet the Harbour Master Ed Dick. <b>2.30–3.15pm</b> Working Today to Build Tomorrows Workforce. <b>5.30–7.30pm</b> Blyth Together: A People-Centred Green Energy Town</p>	
<p><b>Friday 6 March</b></p>	<p><b>11am–9pm</b> Gaia and Museum of the Moon.</p>	<p><b>6–9pm</b> Whale Song.</p>	<p><b>10am–3pm</b> The Big Chill, Arctic films drop-in. <b>5pm, 6pm &amp; 7.30pm</b> Northern Monkey Brass Band. <b>5–9pm</b> Bubbles of Love Fire Installation <b>5.30pm &amp; 7pm</b> The Energies of Everworld by Headway Arts Inclusive Dance Company.</p>	<p><b>10am–4pm</b> Future Energy film.</p>	
<p><b>Saturday 7 March</b></p>	<p><b>9am–9pm</b> Gaia and Museum of the Moon.</p>	<p><b>12 noon</b> Parade of Sail. <b>6–9pm</b> Whale Song.</p>	<p><b>10am–3pm</b> The Big Chill, Arctic films drop-in. <b>3pm &amp; 7pm</b> Sea Shanty' aerial show by Aria Arts. <b>5–9pm</b> Bubbles of Love Fire Installation <b>6.30pm &amp; 7.30pm</b> Blyth Valley Samba</p>	<p><b>10am–4pm</b> Future Energy film. <b>10am–4pm</b> Discover Energy Central Campus: Open Day. <b>10am–4pm</b> Pallas Family Fliers. (Flying in Ridley Park).</p>	<p><b>10am–3pm</b> Open Day &amp; Public Mural.</p>
<p><b>Sunday 8 March</b></p>	<p><b>10am–12noon</b> International Women's Day Celebration Breakfast. <b>1–5pm</b> Gaia and Museum of the Moon.</p>	<p><b>8pm</b> Tower of Light spectacular outdoor finale.</p>	<p><b>10am–3pm</b> The Big Chill, Arctic films drop-in. <b>5–9pm</b> Bubbles of Love Fire Installation <b>5.30pm</b> Spark!</p>		

See the detailed brochure listings for audience information (schools or public) and booking details, where required.

# FESTIVAL OF ENERGY VENUES

For more information  
please scan this QR code



- 1

**Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult,**  
National Renewable Energy Centre, Albert Street, Blyth, NE24 1LZ
- 2

**Dun Cow Quay**  
Quayside Blyth NE24 2AS
- 3

**Market Place**  
Market Street Blyth NE24 1BQ
- 4

**Energy Central Learning Hub & The Marine Station**  
Quay Road Blyth NE24 3PA
- 5

**Blyth Tall Ship Apprenticeship Workshop**  
Quay Road Blyth NE24 3PA

## OUR PARTNERS

We are grateful for the support of festival partners who have enabled an ambitious programme to be realised.

### ORE Catapult

Powering the Future of Offshore Energy. The Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Catapult is the UK's leading technology innovation and research centre for offshore renewable energy. They play a key role in delivering the UK's largest clean energy growth opportunity, and use our unique facilities, as well as their research and engineering capabilities, to bring together industry and academia to drive innovation in renewable energy. Their National Renewable Energy Centre in Blyth is a unique and nationally important facility, accelerating the development of innovative cutting-edge technologies, from next-generation wind turbines to advanced sub-sea systems. It has helped to fast-track many of the technological solutions which have allowed the UK to take a globally leading position in the growth of offshore wind, helping them transition towards a clean, affordable, and secure energy supply for the future.

The facility also acts as an important part of the local and regional economy, by helping to secure the North East of England's place at the heart of the energy transition. It forms an important part of a robust ecosystem of skills, training and supply chain companies, for Blyth, the larger North East region and the wider UK.

They are delighted to support the Festival of Energy.

### Port of Blyth

The Port of Blyth is the port operating division of Blyth Harbour Commission, an independent statutory trust established in 1882. Operated for the benefit of stakeholders, including all port users, employees, the local community and the wider subregion. Located on the East Coast of the UK, the Port is seen as a leading offshore energy support base, an important hub for the movement of a range of project, containerised, dry bulk and break bulk cargoes, as well as a key location for offshore decommissioning. A single day's drive from all mainland destinations, the Port is used as a strategic hub by many shippers looking to serve northern England and Scotland.

The Festival of Energy is grateful for the support of the Port, Harbour and Deputy Harbour Master in the delivery of this programme.

### Newcastle University

Newcastle University is a world-leading university with a strong commitment to making a difference to people's lives through our education and research. Through collaboration, creativity and community engagement, they are contributing to the ambition to make the North East the home of the green energy revolution. They are proud to have a physical presence in Blyth and to be working with partners and the local community to turn this ambition into reality. By working alongside organisations based in Blyth and beyond, we help turn leading-edge research and education into real-world benefits – from supporting local jobs and skills development to inspiring young people to see a future for themselves in the green economy.

Their strengths in culture and the arts underpin these commitments. Supporting community groups and creative practitioners in Blyth, the University's contribution to the Festival aligns with its wider commitment to culture-led regeneration across the North East. Working in partnership with local authorities and arts organisations, Newcastle University looks to transform spaces and create opportunities by connecting communities with culture, nature and the region's heritage.

They are proud to play a part in Blyth's energy story and to support the Festival of Energy.

### Acknowledgements

The Festival of Energy is programmed and produced by Walk the Plank, delivered with Northumberland County Council and supported by our partners. We are grateful to a group of local Positive Friends who have met regularly to support the programming and promotion of the Festival.

Blyth Celebrates is part of Energising Blyth funded by:



Funded by  
UK Government

