

**Media Release: May 25, 2022**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# **FUNCASTER FESTIVAL OF FOOLS returns!**

**Daily 28th to 30th May 2022 Muncaster Castle**

**ROLL UP! ROLL UP! For a weekend of fun & frivolity, mirth & mayhem visit Muncaster Castle to kickstart celebrations for Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.**

The spiritual home of fools & jesters worldwide, ever since the legendary Tom Fool entertained or bemused visitors at Muncaster in the 17th century, Funcaster is the perfect place to forget the troubles of the last few years. Visit with family & friends to laugh, relax and make merry in the beautiful surroundings of the castle & gardens.



The Funcaster Festival of Fools at Muncaster Castle

Circus Sensible will be there with their mini big top to dazzle and entertain with a couple of shows daily. Brush up on your own circus skills in one of their regular workshops. Laugh at Professor Pumpernickel's zany antics as he wanders the gardens or burn off some energy on our giant inflatables or space hoppers.

For more cerebral or restful pursuits, there will be large garden games (Jenga, draughts, Connect 4) and Tom Fool's Tricks & Riddle Trail in the castle where you will also find two exhibitions; Her Majesty the Queen with memorabilia from her 1953 Coronation and the Roman Muncaster exhibition to continue celebrations commemorating 1900 years of Hadrian's Wall.

---

Returning on Monday 30th May, the reigning Fool of Muncaster, Gary Gacko Bridgens, ably accompanied by seasoned showman Lord Foppletwig, inventor & explorer extraordinaire and the

redoubtable Mr. Ian Douglas, the renowned raconteur of stories, will present their street theatre show THE GRAND EXHIBITION OF CONTRACTIONS & CURIOSITIES to end the Festival after 4pm with a bang.



All the extra entertainment will enhance Muncaster's more usual attractions of over 70 acres of wild, woodland gardens currently in full bloom, the historic castle as well as the Hawk & Owl Centre with amazing daily flying displays. There are food and drink stalls to keep your energy levels topped up and craft stalls offer a wide selection of interesting and unusual gifts.



Gates open daily at 10.30am and the fun will continue until 5pm each afternoon.

It is recommended to buy tickets in advance from [Muncaster Castle](https://www.muncaster.co.uk)

From the 31st May until the 5th June Muncaster will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee by encouraging visitors to picnic in the gardens with family & friends. The gardens and castle will be dressed with bunting and as well as all the usual Muncaster attractions & facilities there will be at least one walkabout act entertaining visitors in the middle of each day.

**ENDS.**

**Notes for Editors:**

1. For press enquiries please contact Peter Marshall [pmarshall@cumbriatourism.org](mailto:pmarshall@cumbriatourism.org) 07908 799623
2. Muncaster Castle has been the ancestral home to the Pennington Family since at least 1208 when ownership of the land was confirmed through a Charter from King John.
3. The castle sits majestically in 77 acres of wild, woodland gardens with breathtaking views of the Lake District Fells, including Scafell Pike, England's highest mountain. Reputedly haunted, the castle is home to fabulous collections of art, antique furniture & textiles and will reopen for ticketed tours on 15 July
4. Muncaster is home to the Hawk & Owl Centre which presents the amazing World of Owls flying display at 11.30am each day followed by the dramatic Sky Hunters display with free flying owls, eagles, falcons and vultures at 2pm. The wild herons are fed daily at 4pm.
5. General Muncaster opening times can be found at <https://www.muncaster.co.uk/plan-your-visit/opening-times/>

Directions to Muncaster – Follow signs for Western Lake District from the motorway

From the South

Leave the M6 motorway at junction 36. Follow the signs for Barrow-in-Furness on the A590, but before you get to Barrow, turn right at Greenodd onto the A5092 and follow this road for Workington and Whitehaven. This road joins the A595 which will bring you to Muncaster. The journey from junction 36 to the Castle will take you approximately an hour and a quarter.

From the North or East

From Carlisle (M6 Junction 44) follow the A595 for Cockermouth and then Whitehaven and Barrow. From Penrith (M6 Junction 40) take the A66 to Cockermouth then follow signs for Whitehaven A595. This road bypasses Ravenglass and goes straight through to Muncaster. The journey from Carlisle should take about an hour and a half.

The Main Gate and carpark is on the A595. For visitors to invited functions, coach groups, B&B guests or any visitor with mobility issues, please use the Church Gate Entrance which is near the top of the hill on the left (if coming from the south) and ¼ mile past the Main Carpark up the hill & round the corner if coming from the north.

[pressoffice@cumbriatourism.org](mailto:pressoffice@cumbriatourism.org)

Cumbria Tourism

Cumbria Tourism, Windermere Road, Staveley, Kendal, Cumbria, LA89PL

United Kingdom

'[pressoffice@cumbriatourism.org](mailto:pressoffice@cumbriatourism.org)'

If you would like to opt out of future emails, please [unsubscribe](#)