






# Newcastle mela 2023

**FREE TWO DAY FAMILY EVENT  
(12 noon till 8pm)**

**27th & 28th August 2023  
Exhibition Park, Newcastle**

**Activities / Funfair / Food & Drink  
/ Music / Children's Activity**

**[www.newcastlemela.co.uk](http://www.newcastlemela.co.uk)**

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# ABOUT THE

## Newcastle

# mela

Newcastle Mela is a vibrant, multi-cultural and family-friendly event which takes place in the heart of Newcastle upon Tyne, in Exhibition Park, during the August Bank Holiday weekend – in 2023 it takes place over two days on Sunday 27th and Monday 28th August.

Newcastle Mela is a free event, based around Pakistani, Bengali, Indian and other South Asian cultures, and is open to anyone who wants to learn more, be entertained and meet new people as well as enjoy different music, art and food in the heart of Newcastle upon Tyne.

The event is a long-standing cultural event in the city's calendar and possibly the longest running arts event within the North East. The event is significant for the cultural and community landscape of not only the city, but the region and across the UK, being one of a series of Mela's that takes place nationally in major UK cities each year. The Newcastle Mela is the only Mela that takes place during a Bank Holiday.

The programming includes contemporary Asian music acts, as well as traditional displays of music and dance, with a range of stalls selling food and crafts. Newcastle Mela appeals to all ages and races, with everyone welcome to come and enjoy the event in a relaxed atmosphere.

# What's On **AT A GLANCE**

This year, we have an enormous range of things to do, see and taste! On the Main Stage we have some amazing international acts that are huge on the south Asian music scene. We also have some incredible contemporary artistic performances that are guaranteed to entertain our audiences with their colour, daring and talent.

We also have our Community Stage, where anyone from the local and not so local area are being welcomed to show off their skills to the crowds.

Across the site, you will find a huge range of delicious food, clothes and jewellery stalls making the event an excellent place to buy gifts for loved ones or to treat yourself! Look out for William Clark's Fairground, which adds to the fun each year!

We are also presenting masses of free activities to keep the whole family entertained during the Bank Holiday, like henna tattoos, face painting, a circus workshop, bhangra workshops and a British Army assault course.

Newcastle United Foundation will be delivering football skills workshops on both days.


**Event Opens 12pm**

**Food, Stalls & Free Activities From 12pm**

**Community Stage From 12 – 3:30pm**

**Performances (Main Stage) From 3.30pm**

**Event Closes 8pm**



**LOOK  
THROUGH OUR  
PROGRAMME  
TO FIND  
OUT MORE!**





Newcastle Asian Arts & Music (NAAM) is a voluntary organisation formed in April 1993 which organises the Newcastle Mela. Its aim is to promote arts, music and culture within Newcastle and the North East region.

## **NAAM's committee consist of:**

- **Taj Mohammed** **Chairperson**
- **Mumtaz Sanam** **Treasurer**
- **Farhana Ahmed** **Secretary**
- **Mohammed Yaqoob** **Member**
- **Yawar Hussain** **Member**

If you would like to be a member of NAAM please visit the website [www.newcastlemela.co.uk](http://www.newcastlemela.co.uk)

A special mention, as always, has to be made to Karen McKenna.

The committee would like to offer their thanks to Newcastle City Council, Freeman of Newcastle, Unison, Virgin Money, Urban Green, Army, NE1 & Arts Council England for their sponsorship and to the other partners and sponsors who have made this event possible.

# official map





# Health & Safety

We always have health and safety at the heart of Newcastle Mela. Excel Medical Solutions will be in attendance, we have a site office where you can come and talk to us if you need some urgent help and our officials on standby across the site to help where needed.

Exhibition Park is accessible for wheelchairs on the paths and we have accessible toilets on site.

If you are coming to the event with a big group of people or young children, it's always best to make a rendezvous point where you can meet if you get lost from one another.

# mONEY

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# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## Sunday

**12:00PM**

Spice FM Roadshow  
& Community Stage

**4:05PM**

Arma



**4:25pm**

Punjabi Roots



**4:50PM**

Rameet Sandhu



**5.25PM**

Raafay Israr



**6.00PM**

Sehar Gul Khan



**6:35PM**

Navin Kundra



**7:10PM**

Jassi Sidhu



## Monday

**12:00PM**

Spice FM Roadshow  
& Community Stage

**3:30PM**

Shams Tammana



**4:15pm**

Punjabi Roots



**4:40PM**

Muki & Haseeb



**5.15PM**

Sona Walia



**5:45PM**

H Dhami



**6:20PM**

F1stman



**7:00PM**

Tahir Nayyer



Hosted by:  
Spice FM



## Rameet Sandhu

Rameet Sandhu, is an British Asian singer, actress, hailing from Glasgow, Scotland the former winner of the 'Miss India Scotland' title in her teens.



## Raafay Israr

Raafay Israr is a Pakistani Singer, music composer and song writer. His debut song Sajni was released by Zee Music Company and second track Beliya released by T-Series.



## Sona Walia

Sona Walia is undoubtedly a talented female artist in the Punjabi music industry and certainly one of the best artists residing outside of India. Sona Walia has made a name for herself over a span of 10 years.



## Tahir Nayyer

Tahir Nayyer is one of the most popular folk/punjabi artists in Pakistan. His songs are popular all around the globe. Tahir sings in a number of regional languages.



## Navin Kundra

Navin Kundra is an extraordinarily talented singer, gifted songwriter, exceptional actor and an electrifying live performer. His name is synonymous with excellence, having earned the respect of his peers, industry critics and fans alike.



## F1rstman

F1rstman is a musician from the Netherlands with Pakistani roots. His real name is Hassan Syed, born on 30-07-1992 and at the age of 3 moved to the Netherlands. Raised in a multicultural Society with many Caribbean Surinam Moroccan and Turkish influences.



## Shams Tamanna

Shams Tamanna is a popular Bangla artist/band, better known with the songs: "Matal Hawa"



## Jassi Sidhu

Jassi Sidhu is a British-Indian Bhangra singer and the former lead singer of bhangra band B21.



## H Dhami

Hartinder Dhami better known as H-Dhami is a British-Indian Bhangra artist.



## Muki & Haseeb

Muki & Haseeb are singers, songwriters and a recording artist based in Birmingham.





Outside Catering & Events

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## Official Partner

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# FREE ACTIVITIES!



## **The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, British Army**

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers will be at Newcastle Mela with their free climbing wall, paint ball alley and assault course! The Fusiliers will be on hand to show you the ropes and encourage your children – or your inner child – to give the activities a go!

## **Bhangra and dhol workshops**



## **Workshops**

Various workshops throughout both days

## **Henna tattoos, arts and crafts**

A range of free activities to keep everyone entertained for hours!





Henna Tattoos



Arts and Crafts



Face Painting

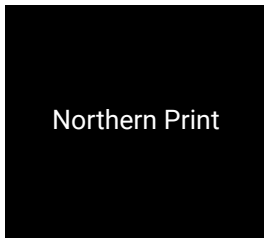
# FREE ACTIVITIES



Nufoundation - football skills



The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers - climbing wall, assault course, paint ball target, hang on the bar competition



Northern Print



**Sunday**

## Princess & Chickpea

Once upon a time, in a rich and marvellous land far away, a handsome prince embarked upon a journey to find a bride...a 'true princess', whatever that means...

In this technicolour reimagining of Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairytale, we are transported between 16th century Mughal India and modern day South East London. Featuring puppetry, Kathak, live music, a sprinkling of humour and a bewitching narrative, this brand new outdoor show is suitable for all ages. Princess and the Chickpea reunites outdoor arts companies Nutkhut and Cirque Bijou, who have been collaborating for over a decade. Co-commissioned by Bula Festival, Camp Bestival Shropshire and Newcastle Mela, it is supported by the Mela Partnership Arts Council England and 101 Outdoor Arts.



## Highly Sprung 'Castaway'

Highly Sprung's CastAway is a stunning outdoor performance that explores the impact of today's throwaway society on our waterways. Featuring a unique gyroscopic flying machine, it presents a brand new approach to aerial theatre.

**Sunday & Monday**

The all-female cast immerses audiences in an underwater world where performers dive, twist and float over 26 feet in the air to delight, inspire and captivate audiences of all ages.





## Let's Circus

Let's Circus are the international circus from the West End of Newcastle. Hosting aerial circus, street theatre, outdoor arts and great family entertainment at this year's Newcastle Mela on Sunday 27 and bank holiday Monday 28 August, you can expect something for everybody.

**Sunday & Monday**



## Mr Vita (Spain)

Master of object manipulation, Mr Vita is a classic juggler and variety artist extraordinaire! Taking time out of his Edinburgh Fringe season to present exclusive performances for Newcastle Mela, his fun, high skilled show is not to be missed.

**Saturday & Monday**



## Got Your Nose

Got Your Nose is a fun-filled family-friendly outdoor dance performance by TIN Arts

Featuring an inclusive cast, Got Your Nose includes audience participation alongside dynamic choreography all performed in stunning costumes.

**Sunday**



**Monday**

## Junkoactive Wasteman & his Tinphonic Orchestra (UK)

The Junkoactive Wasteman plays chopped up samples and live breakbeats from discarded food cans and oil drums.

Whether you describe the music as old metal or remixed rubbish, one thing is for sure - this part human, part robot, tinphonic orchestra is 100% unique!



## Sublimit Circus (Japan)

Stunning skills and exquisite presentation, Sublimit Circus present 'Japanese Circus' for the first time ever on Tyneside. A bento box of tasty tricks, the show combines martial arts, parasol twirling, spinning tops and acrobatics. A truly unique show - not to be missed!

**Saturday & Monday**



# Pakistan Mango Festival

  
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# Newcastle mela 2023

The Mela is a free event, based around Pakistani, Bengali, Indian and other South Asian cultures. The event is open to everyone and encourages visitors of all ages and backgrounds to come and enjoy this grand annual festival over two days. The Mela is a true display of cultural diversity within our region. People come from far and wide to enjoy free family activities, incredible food, music, dancing and special performances.

**All this for free and on your doorstep!**

**Thank You To Our Funders / Sponsors & Partners**



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