

taste CUMBRIA

For immediate release

NEWS RELEASE

Hello, hello, hello – what’s going on here then?

Gin in a former police station, Michelin-starred food where Wordsworth once trod, and national comedians looking for laughs – there’s plenty going on at the next Taste Cumbria food festival in Cockermouth.

The weekend starts on Friday September 28 with Michelin-starred dining in the lovely surroundings of Wordsworth House & Garden. Kevin Tickle, head chef at Forest Side in Grasmere, will be cooking for just 32 guests.

The festival’s comedy night is also back, with three great national names taking to the stage at Kirkgate Arts on the Friday.

New for this year is The Gin Station. On Saturday, September 29 and Sunday, September 30, Helen Askew from The Topsy Filly will be hosting a gin tasting and masterclass in the courtyard of Cockermouth’s old police station with help from Koppers café bar.

At Jennings Brewery on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday, there’s the Prosecco & The Pig Picnic, with fizz from The Topsy Filly and artisan meats from StoneHouse Smokery, as well as the ever-popular free-entry beer festival, courtesy of Workington’s Tractor Shed Brewing and Jennings.

The main event, on both days of the weekend, will see the Main Street producers’ market and demonstration stage, plus a hot food court in Market Place.

Allerdale Borough Council is the event’s headline sponsor. Council leader Alan Smith said: “Taste Cumbria continues to go from strength to strength, and after experiencing a record number of visitors at the flagship event in Cockermouth last year I am looking forward its return. There is always a real buzz in the town during the festival and it’s a great boost for our fantastic local businesses. There will be plenty going on throughout the town, including an accompanying beer festival, cooking demos and family activities, so be sure to come along to eat, drink and enjoy the fun.”

Tickets for the pop-up restaurant, comedy night, and Secret Gin Station are on sale now. For more information visit www.tastecumbria.com or call 01228 612000.

Our sponsors and supporters

The 2018 festival is organised in association with Allerdale Borough Council and Taste Cumbria and Cumbria Life magazines, its main sponsors are Cockermouth Town Council

and Jennings Brewery, and associate sponsors are Armstrong Watson, The Coffee Kitchen, Kirkgate Arts, Mitchells Auction Company, The Topsy Filly, and Wordsworth House & Garden.

The Pop-Up Restaurant

Wordsworth House & Garden, Main Street

Lunch - Friday 28 September – 1pm

Dinner – Friday 28 September – 6pm

Tickets - £125

Welcome reception plus a stunning six course meal with matched wines and award-winning fine dining in an unusual location. Michelin-starred chef Kevin Tickle, of The Forest Side, Grasmere, will cook for just 16 guests at each sitting.

The Secret Gin Station

The Old Police Station, Main Street

Friday, September 28 – 7pm

Saturday, September 29 – 2.30pm & 5.30pm

Tickets - £20

Our exclusive gin experience will be hidden away behind Koppers bar, through the historic archway. Helen Askew from The Topsy Filly will work her magic creating bespoke gin cocktails. Tickets include a welcome Gin Fizz, three gin cocktails and a selection of tasters, plus recipe cards.

Taste Comedy @ Kirkgate Arts

Kirkgate Arts, Kirkgate

Friday 28 September, 7.30pm

Tickets - £12.50

Get some laughs with three great comics from the UK comedy circuit, including host and Taste Cumbria favourite Mat Reed. Be quick, this event usually sells out.