

THE HOPPINGS NAME

THE HOPPINGS, which has been known over the years as the *North of England Temperance Festival*, the *Town Moor Fair*, and the *Race Week Festival*, takes its name from an old word meaning 'to dance', however it was not until the 1950s that the Hoppings became the universally recognised title of this Tyneside institution.



Some have suggested that the origins lie with the lice-covered clothing worn by travellers (the itching made you hop or jump), but this is known to be very much untrue, particularly as showpeople are renowned for their unique and exquisite dress sense, even in the old days, as vintage photographs are testament to.

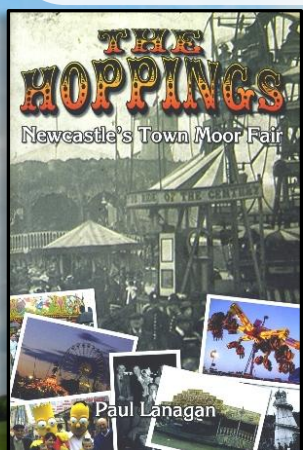


In 2007, Paul Lanagan, the Hoppings historian, discussed with Albert Austin, who was the then Hoppings Surveyor and former Fairground Manager, whether the word 'HOPPINGS' was singular or plural. For example:

The Hoppings were very successful in 1951.

The Hoppings was blighted with inclement weather at the 100th anniversary in 1982.

They agreed that as the word refers to a single event and therefore must be singular, however the word is still often used as a plural. It should be noted that it is not unique to the Town Moor event; other fairs in the area, including the Big Market and Swalwell, have been known as the Hoppings.



KEY: FAIRGROUND | FAIR MANAGERS | TOWN MOOR FAIR SCHOOL | FREEMEN

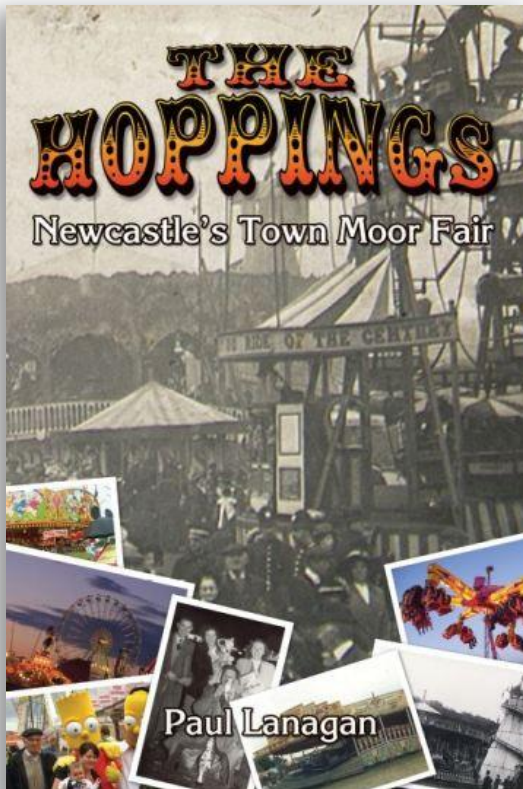
FIND OUT MORE IN THIS BOOK!

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THE HOPPINGS BOOK



THE HOPPINGS

Newcastle's Town Moor Fair
By Paul Lanagan

ISBN: 978-0-9555059-0-4

PAGES: 136 colour & sepia

RRP: £12.00 + P&P

Chronicling the history of the Hoppings, from the 1882 Temperance Festival through to the present mega-fairground. Containing hundreds of colour and vintage photographs covering the Victorian steam machines and modern Millennium thrill rides.

The book features rides, machines, sideshows, faces from the people who make the fair what it is, plus an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at how the Hoppings is set up.

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