NORTHUMBRIAN CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION

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AGM AND ANNUAL LECTURE

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

The Literary & Philosophical Society, 23 Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1SE

The evening's timetable will be as follows:

6.00 pm Annual General Meeting

6.30 pm Substantial finger buffet (provided by Guest Wines)

7.30 pm Annual lecture given by Professor Brian Ward (Northumbria University)

Martin Luther King in Newcastle upon Tyne, 1967



This year's annual lecture reveals the circumstances surrounding Martin Luther King Jr's remarkable trip to Newcastle upon Tyne in November 1967 – his last trip outside the United States before his murder in April 1968 and the only time he visited anywhere in the UK outside London. Along the way, we will encounter bureaucratic incompetence, mistaken identity, and a catering crisis, unravel the mysteries of the local security arrangements, and see how King's visit fitted into a long, largely forgotten history that connects the North East of England to the African American freedom struggle in the US.

Brian Ward is Professor in American Studies at Northumbria University. Having started his career in the North East teaching at the Universities of Durham and Newcastle, Brian went on to hold chairs at the Universities of Florida and Manchester. His ten books include *Just My Soul Responding: Rhythm and Blues, Black Consciousness, and Race Relations* (1998) winner of an American Book Award and the Organization of American Historians' James A. Rawley Prize for the best book on US Race Relations, and *A&R Pioneers: Architects of American Roots Music on Record* (2018: co-authored with Patrick Huber) which won the Belmont Prize for the best book on country music. He is also author of *Martin Luther King in Newcastle upon Tyne: The African American Freedom Struggle and Race Relations in the North East of England*, praised as "The most detailed historical account of race relations in the North East yet written." Brian is currently completing *She Loves Y'All: The Beatles and the American South* for publication in late 2024.

To sign up, please complete the form below and send by Friday, September 15th, 2023 to: Mrs Susan Austin, 116 Queen's Road, Whitley Bay NE26 3AU. Tel.: 0191 2531269; Email: susanmaustin@hotmail.com

For the payment of £24 per person, cheques should be made out to Northumbrian Cambridge Association (full title; not NCA, please). Direct payment should be to: account name: Northumbrian Cambridge Association; Lloyds sort code 30-98-97, account number 87980962. Please also include identification e.g., AGM/YOUR SURNAME. Bookings will be acknowledged by email when an email address is given, but if you would like to be notified by mail, please include a stamped, addressed envelope.

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