



Piping
Live!



9TH - 14TH AUGUST 2026

WWW.PIPINGLIVE.CO.UK

WILLIAM GRANT
FOUNDATION

PEOPLE
MAKE
GLASGOW

PNC NATIONAL
PIPING CENTRE

 SCOTLAND


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Festivities!



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WELCOME TO THE 23RD EDITION OF PIPING LIVE!

It's incredible to celebrate over two decades of our festival, in this the National Piping Centre's 30th anniversary year. Piping Live! is just one of an amazing array of projects and events that the National Piping Centre has developed over its 30 year history, I'm extremely proud to be producing what is now a major cultural and musical event for Scotland.

This year, our Festival Site returns with an upgraded layout outside the National Piping Centre at McPhater Street, giving you a fantastic place to watch live music. Our drinks partner Belhaven Brewery will be providing two bars and we will have a new look food offering.

Our packed programme will also feature pipe bands on Sauchiehall Street, an array of evening concerts including our big Friday night gig - CBAD - at Glasgow Art School Assembly featuring MAL and the Nexus Project. There is a special strand of Ceol Nua programming across the week this year, supported by The Scottish Government's Expanded Festivals Fund through Creative Scotland. This avant garde, minimalist programme pushes boundaries of the instrument and its repertoire. Make sure you join us in the Barrowlands for In C // 20 Pipers and more programming across the week.

The team here at the National Piping Centre have been working tirelessly to deliver the festival this year - and across the 30 years of our history. Please purchase tickets, please donate what you can and please encourage others to come out and enjoy the world-class performances we will be showcasing this August. A huge thanks to all our sponsors, funders and supporters without whom Piping Live! would not be possible. All that remains to say is that I look forward to seeing you at this year's festival and I hope you enjoy yourselves!

FINLAY MACDONALD

Artistic Director
Piping Live! 2026



**BOOKING
YOUR
TICKETS**

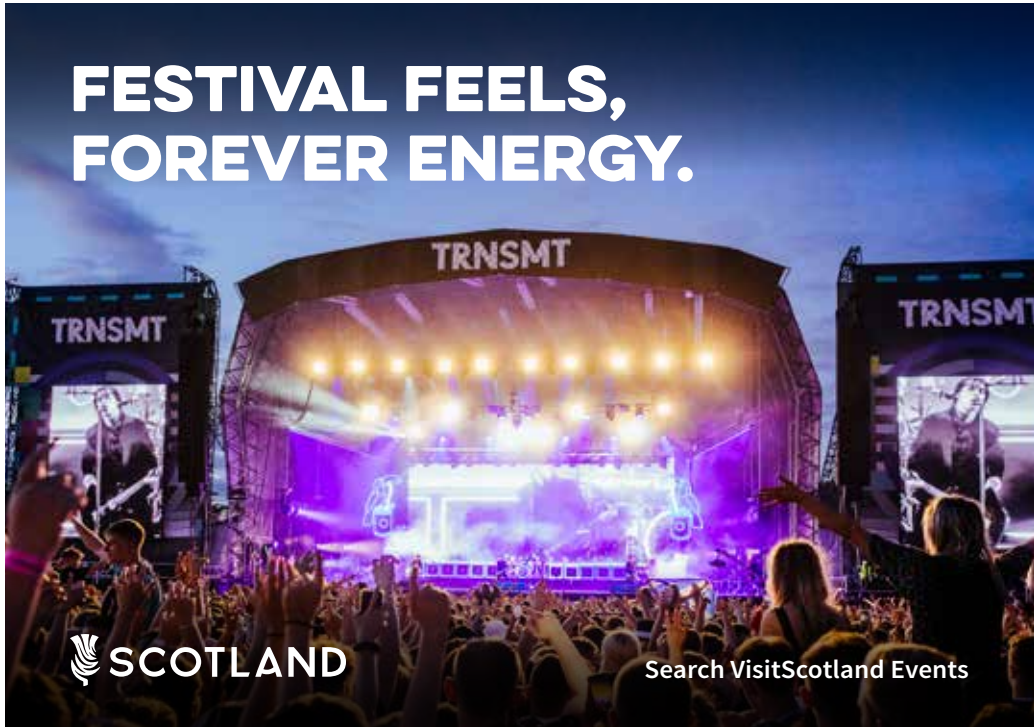
The easiest way to book your tickets is through our website
www.pipinglive.co.uk

Tickets will also be on sale at the **National Piping Centre** during the festival, but it is best to book in advance to guarantee your place!



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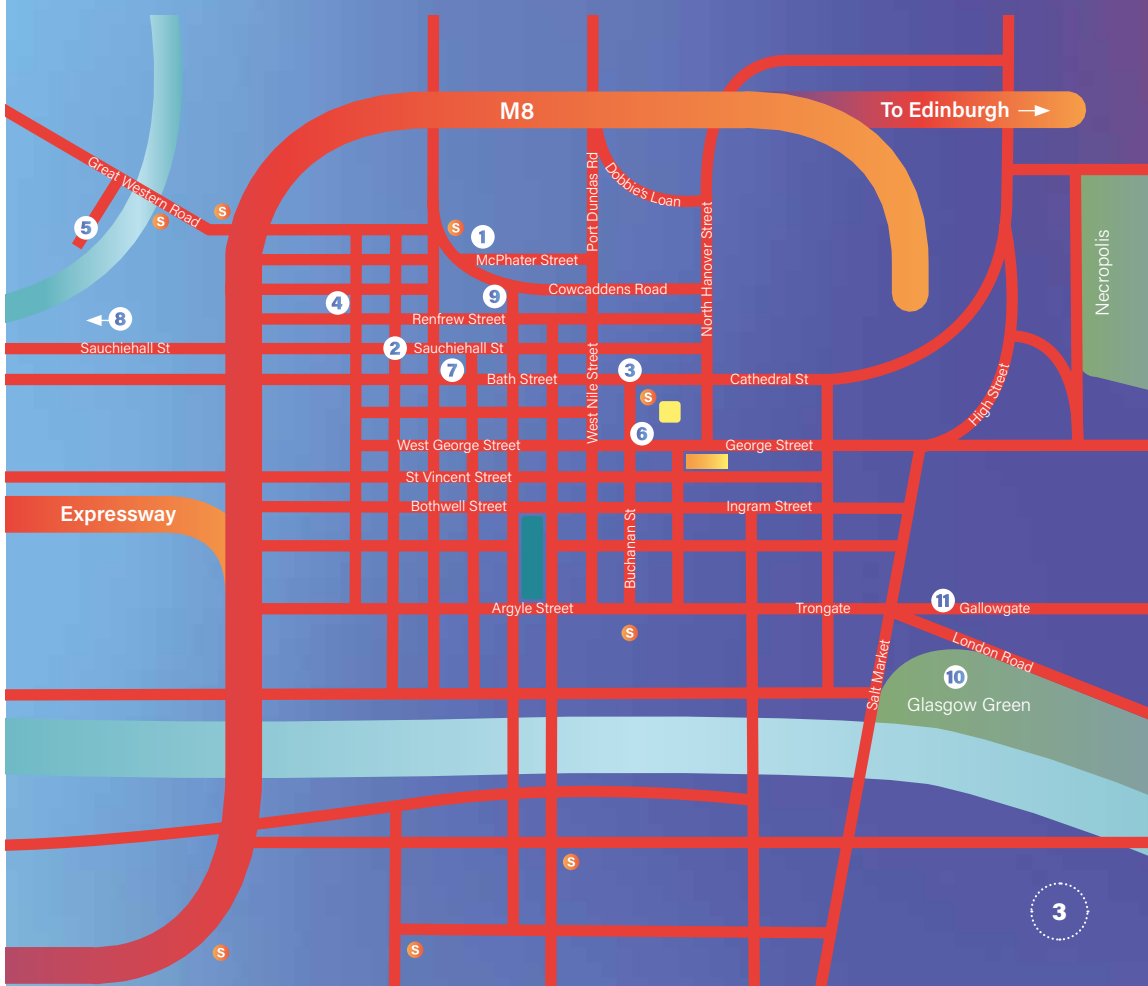
SCOTLAND

Search VisitScotland Events

OUR VENUES

1 National Piping Centre, Festival Site and Museum of Piping 30-34 McPhater Street, Glasgow G4 0HW 0141 353 0220	4 Glasgow Art School Assembly 20 Scott Street, G3 6PE	8 Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum Argyle Street, G3 8AG
2 Sauchiehall St Band Stop 197 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow	5 The National Piping Centre Otago Street 16-24 Otago Street, G12 8JH	9 MacConnell's Bar 335 Hope St, G2 3PT
3 Royal Concert Hall Steps 2 Sauchiehall Street, G2 3NY 0141 353 8000	6 Waxy O'Connors 44 West George Street, G2 1DH 0141 354 5154	10 Glasgow Green Greendyke Street, Glasgow, G1 5DB
	7 The butterfly and the pig 153 Bath St, G2 4SQ	11 Barrowland Ballroom Gallowgate, Glasgow, G4 0TT

■ Queen Street Station
 ■ Central Station
 ■ George Square
 S Subway Stations





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CitySightseeing
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Good luck to everyone
performing and competing at
this year's **Piping Live!**

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CELTIC ARTS FOUNDATION

*Sponsoring, encouraging and promoting Celtic culture
through events and educational activities*

The Celtic Arts Foundation, one of North America's
premier Celtic cultural organizations, is proud to sponsor
the 2026 Piping Live! Lunchtime Recital Series

CelticArts.org

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www.gordons.school

YOUR TICKETS: YOUR FESTIVAL



This year, you will need a ticket to join us at our new Festival Site. This gives you access all day to the live music on the Centre Stage and The Bothy tent as well as non-ticketed events across the National Piping Centre. In the programme, events included in your Festival Site ticket are marked with the **TICK**



There are events in the National Piping Centre Auditorium that require a ticket in addition to your Festival Site ticket.



Evening Concerts that don't require a Festival Site ticket, but are ticketed separately are marked with +



There are events that don't require a ticket at all and are outwith the Festival Site. These are marked **F**



For the event at the Barrowland Ballroom, tickets are free but must be claimed on the Piping Live! website in advance. These are marked **F+**



The R.G. Hardie & Co. Masters Solo Piping Competition events and Pipe Idol: Grand Final - will both be livestreamed.
Find out more at:
www.pipinglive.co.uk/pages/faq

TICKET PRICES

Festival Site Day
£10 Std / £9 Over 65s / Free U16s

Festival Site Week Pass
£40 Std / £36 Over 65s / Free U16s

Festival Site Week + All NPC Events
£149 Std / £134 Over 65s / Free U16s

NPC Day Events
£10 Std / £9 Over 65s + U16s

Gordon Duncan Memorial Competition
£15 Std / £13 Over 65s and U16s

Evening Concerts
£22.50 Std / £20 Over 65s + U16s

Piping Live! Whisky Walking Tour
£65 / Over 18s Only

All tickets subject to booking fee.

08:30

THE R.G. HARDIE & CO MASTERS SOLO PIPING COMPETITION: PIOBAIREACHD

NPC AUDITORIUM (+ ▶)

The best competing pipers of this generation take part in the annual Masters Solo Piping Competition. Join us early for the Piobaireachd section taking place throughout the day. The full draw and tune selection is available on the Piping Live! website.

Sponsored by R.G. Hardie & Co Bagpipes

17:00 approx

THE R.G. HARDIE & CO MASTERS SOLO PIPING COMPETITION: MARCH, STRATHSPEY & REEL

NPC AUDITORIUM (+ ▶)

The best competing pipers of this generation take part in the annual Masters Solo Piping Competition. The MSR section will start at approximately 5pm, on conclusion of the Piobaireachd section. The full draw and tune selection is available on the Piping Live! website.

Sponsored by R.G. Hardie & Co Bagpipes

CENTRE STAGE ✓

11:00 - 12:30

PIPE IDOL - HEAT 1

Heat 1 of our prestigious U21 Solo piping competition. Today's competitors are:

1. Douglas Baird, Scotland
2. Colin Richdale, Canada
3. Liam Nicolson, Australia
4. Maggie McConnochie, New Zealand

Sponsored by Fred Morrison Pipes

13:00 - 13:45

DRUM CORPS SERIES: SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY PIPE BAND DRUM CORPS

Led by J. Reid Maxwell, Simon Fraser University's drum corps is one of the most decorated in pipe band history known for their musicality, clarity, and innovation.

14:00 - 14:45

EMERGING TALENT: SPINDRIFT

Drawing from rock, pop, and pipe band roots, Spindrift delivers a vibrant, cross-genre sound

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

15:00 - 16:00

INTERNATIONAL SESSION: ALMA MENOR

Join Portuguese duo Alma Menor - accordionist Tiago Marques and bagpiper Tiago Morais who bring their distinct sound from the Portuguese traditional music scene.

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

16:15 - 17:00

ST COLUMBA'S SCHOOL PIPE BAND

Hear one of Scotland's leading youth music initiatives with an impressive competitive pedigree including 'Pipe Band of the Parade' during Tartan Week in New York this year!

Sponsored by ES Session Chanters

17:30 - 17:15

AILIS SUTHERLAND BAND

A new leading light of the trad music world will headline Centre Stage on Monday!

THE BOTHY ✓

10:45 - 11:30

CEILIDH TOTS

Come and join us for a mini Scottish traditional music concert for young children and their families. All ages welcome- from young to old!

11:30 - 12:15

NPC COMMUNITY PIPING CLUB SHOWCASE

The NPC Community Piping Clubs are excited to showcase the talent of some of our young learners from piping clubs across Glasgow, Leith and Aberdeen.

12:30 - 14:00

A CARTOGRAPHY OF PIBROCH

Kirsty Gunn, David Graham, piper Eala McElhinney and the Pibroch Network explore how pibroch evokes an 'ancient sense of being at the centre of the world, rather than remote from it'

Supported by the Pibroch Network

14:15 - 15:15

LORNE MACDOUGALL

Lorne brings a mix of new material alongside old favourites from across his repertoire.

15:30 - 16:30

BOOK LAUNCH: THE CÀIRDEAS SESSION TUNEBOOK

Join us for the official launch and an all-comers session celebrating The Càirdeas Session Tunebook: 101 Tunes for Scottish Pipes (and Everyone Else).

16:45 - 17:45

MAKET COLLECTIVE SHOWCASE

Join Ambassadors from the Maket Collective for an hour of great performances!

✓	INCLUDED	See p.9 for all ticket information
(NPC)	NPC TICKET	
+	EVENING CONCERTS TICKET	
(F)	FREE TO ATTEND WITHOUT TICKET	
(F+)	FREE TO ATTEND, TICKET REQUIRED	

OTHER VENUES

09:00

THE CLASP WORLD AMATEUR SOLO PIPING COMPETITION (GRADE 3 & 4)

NPC OTAGO STREET (F)

The grade 3&4 amateur pipers compete in person.

11:00 - 12:00 & 15:00 - 16:00

MUSEUM TOUR

MUSEUM OF PIPING ✓

Join leading bagpipe historian Professor Hugh Cheape for a fascinating tour through the development of the bagpipes

12:00

PIPING LIVE! BIG BAND (F)

Come to the West End as the 200 strong Piping Live! Big Band will parade from Mansefield Park in Partick to the concourse outside the iconic Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum in support of My Name'5 Doddie Foundation.

12:00 - 13:00

COME AND TRY PIPING

NPC LIBRARY ✓

Try your hand at playing the bagpipes yourself.

12:30

PIPE BAND PERFORMANCES

SAUCHIEHALL STREET (F)

12:30 Balerno Schools Pipe Band, Scotland

14:00 East Ayrshire Caledonia Pipe Band, Scotland

15:30 Stuart Highlanders Pipe Band, Canada

Sponsored by The butterfly and the pig

12:30 - 13:30

LUNCHTIME RECITAL: BRUCE GANDY

NPC AUDITORIUM (NPC)

Join one of the world's leading competing solo pipers for today's lunchtime recital.

Sponsored by Celtic Arts Foundation

14:00 - 16:30

PIPING LIVE! WHISKY WALKING TOUR WITH SCOTTISH ROGUE

LOCATION CONFIRMED ON BOOKING (+)

Enjoy a guided city walking tour of Glasgow with three dram stops, finishing at the Festival Site. Over 18s Only. Please drink responsibly.

14:30 - 16:00

BOOK LAUNCH: ROYAL REGIMENT OF SCOTLAND PIPE MUSIC COLLECTION

NPC AUDITORIUM ✓

This is a landmark publication marking the 20th anniversary of the Royal Regiment of Scotland. Formed in 2006, the regiment has since forged a powerful musical identity, and this new volume brings together its full collection of regimental and battalion tunes for the very first time.

19:30

THE RAASAY/THE RESTITUTION COMPETITION RECITAL

NPC AUDITORIUM (NPC)

Passionately reconnecting Piping with its Gaelic Roots. Join four previous winners - Ailis Sutherland, Angus Nicolson, Decker Forrest and Ciar Milne as each player will a selection of their winning tunes from the event.

Sponsored by Isle of Raasay Distillery

20:00

CEOL NUA

NICE 'N' SLEAZY (+)

Taking its title from the innovative concept, Ceol Nua (New Music) is a dedicated space for the avant-garde, the experimental, and the electronic. This year it will feature Erwan Keravec, Harry Gorski-Brown and Flynn Butler Fraser.

CENTRE STAGE

11:00 - 12:30

PIPE IDOL - HEAT 2

Heat 2 of our prestigious U21 Solo piping competition. Today's competitors are:

1. Lachlan Rennie, Scotland
2. Magnus Stone, USA
3. Xavier Luzar, Australia
4. Annabel Charlton, Scotland

Sponsored by Fred Morrison Pipes

13:00 - 13:45

DRUM CORPS SERIES: SHOTTS & DYKEHEAD CALEDONIA PIPE BAND DRUM CORPS

Under the direction of David Henderson, Shotts and Dykehead's drum corps continues a formidable legacy.

14:00 - 14:45

EMERGING TALENT: PLUCKIN' ABOUT

Today's performers Pluckin' About masterfully weaves traditional Irish reels and jigs with modern, innovative influences.

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

15:00 - 16:00

ROSS MILLER BAND

The Ross Miller Band brings a set to the Centre Stage that is full of infectious passion and technical flair with a powerhouse line-up. The band creates a lush, driving sound that pushes traditional tunes into "exuberant overdrive."

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

16:15 - 17:15

PRESTON LODGE HIGH SCHOOL PIPE BAND

Supported by the Scottish Schools Pipes and Drums Trust and the Colonel James Gardiner Memorial Fund, this band brings together talented young players from the Prestonpans area to showcase the hard work, community pride, and bright talent of their school programme.

Sponsored by ES Session Chanters

17:30 - 18:45

GARY INNES & EWEN HENDERSON

Join two of the most well-known faces - and voices - for a fantastic end to Tuesday on Centre Stage!

THE BOTHY

10:45 - 11:30

CEILIDH TOTS

Come and join us for a mini Scottish traditional music concert for young children and their families. All ages welcome- from young to old!

11:30 - 12:15

BOOKBUG AND PEOPLE'S PALACE AT PIPING LIVE!

Join Glasgow Libraries and Glasgow Museums for a special Book Bugs session and Museum Objects from the People's Palace!

Sponsored by Glasgow Museums & Glasgow Libraries

12:30 - 14:00

VITAL SPARKS: MINING MUSICAL TREASURES

Take a deeper dive into the Pibroch Network archives for hidden treasures featuring piper John Mulhearn.

Supported by the Pibroch Network

14:15-15:15

WILL POUND & JENN BUTTERWORTH

This virtuosic duo's roots lie in the English and Scottish folk music traditions, but they draw on inspiration from blues, gypsy jazz and folk traditions across the globe.

15:30 - 16:30

PIPING CLUB - LIVE!

Step into the studio for an afternoon of live music and candid conversation as the Bothy stage transforms into the set of the popular online show, Piping Club.

16:45 - 17:30

KMQXBP

kmqxbp is the bagpipe and snare drumming duo of Bradley Parker and Kerr McQuillan. The duo creates a distinctive sound that combines rich traditions with a modern, innovative sound.

	INCLUDED	See p.9 for all ticket information
	NPC TICKET	
	EVENING CONCERTS TICKET	
	FREE TO ATTEND WITHOUT TICKET	
	FREE TO ATTEND, TICKET REQUIRED	

OTHER VENUES

09:00

THE CLASP WORLD AMATEUR SOLO PIPING COMPETITION (GRADE 2)

NPC OTAGO STREET 

The grade 2 amateur pipers compete.

10:00 - 12:00

MAKE YOUR OWN HEBRIDEAN FEADAN (PRACTICE CHANTER)

NPC AUDITORIUM 

Craft a Highland practice chanter using natural materials. Register at www.pibroch.net

10:30 - 12:00

LEARN@LIVE! : VOICING SCOTLAND WITH GARY WEST

NPC AUDITORIUM 

Join acclaimed broadcaster and musician Gary West as he explores the rich, tapestry-like traditions shaping Scotland's musical identity.

11:00 - 12:00 & 15:00 - 16:00

MUSEUM TOUR

MUSEUM OF PIPING 

Join leading bagpipe historian Professor Hugh Cheape for a fascinating tour.

12:00 - 13:00

COME AND TRY PIPING

NPC LIBRARY 

Try your hand at playing the bagpipe.

12:30

PIPE BAND PERFORMANCES

SAUCHIEHALL STREET 

12:30 Tynecastle Schools Pipe Band, Scotland
14:00 Heidelberg Pipe Band, Germany
15:30 Celtic Pipe Band, New Zealand

Sponsored by The butterfly and the pig

12:30 - 13:30

LUNCHTIME RECITAL: FIN MOORE

NPC AUDITORIUM 

Join one of the world's one of Scotland's most versatile pipers and master craftsmen

Sponsored by Celtic Arts Foundation.

13:45 - 15:30

"WELLNESS IN YOUR ART": A MAKET COLLECTIVE PANEL

NPC AUDITORIUM 

This panel will explore how to build your art into your life. With a Community Meet-up after.

14:00 - 14:30

GIG IN THE GALLERY: ALMA MENOR

KELVINGROVE GALLERY & MUSEUM 

Portuguese Duo of accordion and bagpipes perform in Centre Hall.

14:00 - 16:30

PIPING LIVE! WHISKY BAR WALK WITH SCOTTISH ROGUE

LOCATION CONFIRMED ON BOOKING 

Enjoy a guided city walking tour of Glasgow with three drams. *Over 18s Only. Please drink responsibly.*

15:45 - 17:45

ENJOY YOUR PIPING LISTENING PARTY: LIVE 'N' WELL

NPC AUDITORIUM 

Gather together to hear Live 'n' Well, an album that fundamentally shifted the landscape of pipe band music.

19:30

G1 REEDS INTERNATIONAL QUARTET COMPETITION

GLASGOW ROYAL CONCERT HALL 

Join 6 of the world's top pipe bands as they to battle it out to be crowned champions for 2025.

Sponsored by Celtic Arts Foundation.

19:45

AN EVENING OF INTERNATIONAL PIPING WITH THE EAGLE PIPERS

SCOTS GUARDS CLUB, EDINBURGH 

Join the Eagle Pipers Society for their club night featuring Anna Kummerl w and Alma Menor.

20:00

IN C // 20 PIPERS

BARROWLANDS BALLROOM 

A mesmerizing performance reimagining Terry Riley's minimalist masterpiece, In C, arranged by Erwan Keravec.

22:00

LATE NIGHT AT THE PIPERS' TRYST

THE PIPERS' TRYST 

Come and join us for music and drinks.

CENTRE STAGE ✓

11:00 - 12:30

PIPE IDOL - HEAT 3

Heat 3 of our prestigious U21 Solo piping competition. Today's competitors are:

1. Charlie Mack, Scotland
2. Flora Stone, USA
3. Kai Hay, Scotland
4. Sam Foote, New Zealand

Sponsored by Fred Morrison Pipes

13:00 - 13:45

**DRUM CORPS SERIES:
INVERARAY & DISTRICT
PIPE BAND DRUM CORPS**

Led by Steven McWhirter, Inveraray and District have redefined modern pipe band drumming combining technical brilliance with musical drive.

14:00 - 14:45

**EMERGING TALENT:
CALUM MACASKILL TRIO**

Fresh off the launch of their debut EP, the Calum MacAskill Trio bring an exciting, contemporary edge to traditional Scottish music.

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

15:00 - 16:00

THE FORCE DRUM MAJORS

The Force, Display Team of Champion Drum Majors will perform to some well known tunes and are joined by several pipers and drummers from the pipe band world. The Force will showcase synchronised routines, solo performances, and deliver an arrangement of traditional and modern flourishes and drills.

Sponsored by ES Session Chanters

16:15 - 17:15

**INTERNATIONAL SESSION:
BAGAD CAP CAVAL**

Join one of Brittany's top Bagads and their innovative leader Hervé Le Floc'h for a fantastic performance.

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

17:30 - 18:45

FRAS

A thundering five piece from na Garbh Chrìochan of box, flute, pipes, guitar and drums. FRAS blend old melodies and original tunes to create a crashing wave of highland music to close Wednesday's Centre Stage

THE BOTHY ✓

10:45 - 11:30

CEILIDH TOTS

Come and join us for a mini Scottish traditional music concert for young children and their families. All ages welcome- from young to old!

11:30 - 12:15

KIDS CREATE!

Your wee ones can get creative with our kids craft corner!

12:30 - 14:00

THE BIG SING 2026

The Pibroch Network's family-friendly, full-immersion take on community canntaireachd returns for its third year. Sing together to learn the Lament for the Laird of Arnaboll.

Supported by the Pibroch Network

14:15 - 15:15

**CONAL MCDONAGH &
ROBBIE GREIG**

Conal McDonagh & Robbie Greig will draw on repertoire from the musical traditions of the Highlands of Scotland and Ireland with some contemporary and original compositions.

15:30 - 16:30

**PIBROCH UNCHAINED:
MELODIES, PHRASES
AND RHYTHMS**

Allan MacDonald and Thomas Zoller discuss how one can re-interpret the Piobaireachd Society scores, dramatically facilitating the learning and retention of the original melodies and rhythms through phrasing and understanding of rubato.

16:45 - 17:45

**TUNESANGS: GARY WEST
& ANNIE GRACE**

Two long time pals and stalwarts of the folk scene, come together to explore the fascinating connections between pipe tunes and songs in the Scottish tradition, past and present.



INCLUDED

See p.9 for all ticket information



NPC TICKET



EVENING CONCERTS TICKET



FREE TO ATTEND WITHOUT TICKET



FREE TO ATTEND, TICKET REQUIRED

OTHER VENUES

09:00

**THE CLASP WORLD AMATEUR SOLO
PIPING COMPETITION (GRADE 1)**

NPC OTAGO STREET (F)

The grade 1 amateur pipers compete in person.

10:00 - 12:00

**MAKE YOUR OWN HEBRIDEAN
FEADAN (PRACTICE CHANTER)**

NPC AUDITORIUM (NPC)

Craft a Highland practice chanter using natural materials. Register at www.pibroch.net

10:30 - 12:00

**LEARN@LIVE! :
WHAT JUDGES HEAR:
PIPE BAND ENSEMBLE MASTERY**

NPC AUDITORIUM (NPC)

Join Ross Walker for an inside look at what truly defines effective pipe band ensemble.

11:00 - 12:00 & 15:00 - 16:00

MUSEUM TOUR

MUSEUM OF PIPING (✓)

Join leading bagpipe historian Professor Hugh Cheape for a fascinating tour through the development of the bagpipes.

12:00 - 13:00

COME AND TRY PIPING

NPC LIBRARY (✓)

Try your hand at playing the bagpipes yourself.

12:30

PIPE BAND PERFORMANCES

SAUCHIEHALL STREET (F)

- 12:30 Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Pipe Band, Scotland
14:00 St Andrew's College Pipe Band, New Zealand
15:30 Peel Police Pipe Band, Canada

Sponsored by The butterfly and the pig

12:30 - 13:30

**CABADAICH LE CEÒLAS -
SCOTTISH GAELIC TASTER SESSION**

NPC COLLINSON ROOM (✓)

Learn the basics of Gaelic with Ceòlas - a conversation-focused session for beginner level.

In association with Ceolas

12:30 - 13:30

**LUNCHTIME RECITAL:
MURRAY HENDERSON**

NPC AUDITORIUM (NPC)

Join one of the world's most successful solo pipers in history for his first ever Lunchtime Recital at Piping Live!

Sponsored by Celtic Arts Foundation

14:00 - 17:00

**GORDON DUNCAN MEMORIAL
RECITAL CHALLENGE 2026**

NPC AUDITORIUM (NPC)

To celebrate Gordon Duncan's life and work, pipers from Scotland, Ireland, Brittany and Overseas will battle it out over 3 sets of Scottish, Irish and Breton tunes to be crowned Champion Piper for 2026.

Sponsored by the Gordon Duncan Memorial Trust

14:00 - 16:30

**PIPING LIVE! WHISKY BAR
WALK WITH SCOTTISH ROGUE**

LOCATION CONFIRMED ON BOOKING (⊕)

Enjoy a guided city walking tour of Glasgow with three dram stops, finishing at the Festival Site. Over 18s Only. Please drink responsibly.

14:00 - 14:00

GIG IN THE GALLERY

KELVINGROVE GALLERY & MUSEUM (F)

Piping Live! Are delighted to welcome the Armagh Pipers Club back for more Irish tunes!

17:45

**CEOL NUA:
8 PIPERS FOR PHILIP GLASS**

NPC AUDITORIUM (✓)

Erwan Keravec and 5 Breton pipers playing a mix of bagpipes and bombards as they perform 4 early pieces by Philip Glass, one of the most influential composers of the late 20th century. For Two Pages, six Scottish highland pipers will join Keravec's ensemble.

Supported by The Scottish Government's Expanded Festivals Fund through Creative Scotland

22:00

LATE NIGHT @ THE NPC

NPC AUDITORIUM (F)

Come and join us for music and drinks into the wee hours.

CENTRE STAGE ✓

11:00 - 12:30

PIPE IDOL - HEAT 4

Heat 4 of our prestigious U21 Solo piping competition. Today's competitors are:

1. Grace Kelman, Scotland
2. Christopher McCartan, Scotland
3. Luke Baltrusaitis, Canada
4. Andrew Zhao, USA

Sponsored by Fred Morrison Pipes

13:00 - 13:45

**DRUM CORPS SERIES:
ST LAURENCE O'TOOLE
PIPE BAND DRUM CORPS**

With Stephen Creighton at the helm, St Laurence O'Toole's drum corps is celebrated for its creativity and distinctive musical voice.

14:00 - 15:00

**THE BIG RAB SHOW LIVE!
500TH EPISODE!**

The Big Rab Show returns to Piping Live! in spectacular style, marking a massive milestone: 500 episodes of the hit podcast.

15:15 - 16:00

**EMERGING TALENT:
STEALL**

STEALL are an exciting new trad band bringing together four young musicians with deep roots in the Scottish traditional music scene.

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

16:15 - 17:15

**INTERNATIONAL SESSION:
BAGAD PLOUGASTELL**

Hear the sounds of this traditional Breton musical ensemble from Plougastell-Daoulas, near Brest.

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

17:30 - 18:45

**CALUM STEWART, SOPHIE
STEPHENSON, LUC MCNALLY**

This fantastic trio of Uilleann Pipes, Bouzouki and percussive step dance will close out the Centre Stage on Thursday!

19:00 - 20:00

PIPE BAND OPEN PRACTICE

Livingston Caledonia will hold an open band practice.

THE BOTHY ✓

10:45 - 11:30

CEILIDH TOTS

Come and join us for a mini Scottish traditional music concert for young children and their families. All ages welcome- from young to old!

11:30 - 12:15

KIDS CREATE!

Your wee ones can get creative with our kids craft corner!

12:30 - 14:00

**PUIRT MHÓRA ON
WHISTLE AND FLUTE**

Epic new puirt mhóra – big tunes, grand solo pieces – for whistle and flute, prompted by the pibroch inheritance. by the eclectic pantheon of Dougie Pincock and Ivan Steele, with the Pibroch Network.

Supported by the Pibroch Network

14:15 - 15:15

**DONALD WG LINDSAY
AND ROO GEDDES**

Piper, singer, songwriter and instrument designer Donald WG Lindsay is joined by acclaimed fiddler Roo Geddes for an intimate duo performance centred on Scottish smallpipes, fiddle, voice and piano.

15:30 - 16:30

**FRASER FIFIELD & ROSS AINSLIE:
THE ARDOCH SUITE**

Inspired by the quiet landscapes of Glen Gairn and the story of Jean Bain—the last speaker of Deeside Gaelic—the suite is a musical reflection on land, language, and the history of the former Upper Deeside Gaeltachd for soprano saxophone and Highland bagpipes.

16:45 - 17:45

WOMEN'S VOICES IN PIPING

Susy Klinger and Anna Kummerlów's lecture explores the legacy of famous female bagpipe players throughout history, beginning with the period of the MacCrimmons.

A Maket Collective Event

18:00 - 19:30

**BUILDING SAFER TRADITIONAL
MUSIC & PIPING COMMUNITIES
WORKSHOP**

This presentation and discussion explores the barriers that women and gender minorities face in traditional music and piping. Designed predominantly for men who want to better understand these experiences, this event will offer practical insights into active allyship.

In association with The BIT Collective and Maket Collective

OTHER VENUES

10:30 - 12:00

**LEARN@LIVE! : FINE MARGINS:
THE INNER DRIVE OF
THE ELITE SOLO PIPER**

NPC AUDITORIUM ^(NPC)

Join three of the world's most decorated solo pipers - Willie McCallum, Murray Henderson and Callum Beaumont - as they lift the curtain on what it takes to perform—and remain at the pinnacle of solo piping.

11:00 - 12:00 & 15:00 - 16:00

MUSEUM TOUR

MUSEUM OF PIPING ✓

Join leading bagpipe historian Professor Hugh Cheape for a fascinating tour through the development of the bagpipes.

12:00 - 13:00

COME AND TRY PIPING

NPC LIBRARY ✓

Try your hand at playing the bagpipes yourself.

12:30 - 13:30

**LUNCHTIME RECITAL:
SEONAI DH MACINTYRE**

NPC AUDITORIUM ^(NPC)

Join this celebrated piper and multi-instrumentalist from Loch Carnan in South Uists whose Gaelic community influences his style which is deeply rooted in the Hebridean tradition.

Sponsored by Celtic Arts Foundation

12:30

PIPE BAND PERFORMANCES

SAUCHIEHALL STREET ^(F)

12:30 Governor MacQuarrie Memorial
Pipe Band, Australia

14:00 Gordon's School Pipe Band, England
15:30 Rose and Thistle Ladies Pipe Band,
International

Sponsored by The butterfly and the pig

14:00 - 15:30

**CEOL NUA:
CONTINUUM FOR BAGPIPES**

KELVINGROVE GALLERY AND MUSEUM ✓

A brand new experimental work for pipers playing only drones.

Supported by The Scottish Government's Expanded Festivals Fund through Creative Scotland

14:00 - 16:30

**PIPING LIVE! WHISKY BAR
WALK WITH SCOTTISH ROGUE**

LOCATION CONFIRMED ON BOOKING ⁽⁺⁾

Enjoy a guided city walking tour of Glasgow with three dram stops, finishing at the Festival Site. Over 18s Only. Please drink responsibly.

14:00

**NPC 30TH ANNIVERSARY
WHISKY LAUNCH**

NPC AUDITORIUM ⁽⁺⁾

Join Brian Kinsman, Master Blender at William Grant and Sons for a unique tasting of the single cask special bottled Glenfiddich Single Malt to celebrate the National Piping Centre's 30th Anniversary.

16:00 - 18:00

PIPE IDOL GRAND FINAL 2026

NPC AUDITORIUM ⁽⁺⁾ ^(▶)

Over 4 heats our U21 solo pipers have battled it out and now the four finalists will compete once more to become Pipe Idol Champion for 2026.

Sponsored by Fred Morrison Pipes

19:30

**MCCALLUM BAGPIPES P/M
ALASDAIR GILLIES MEMORIAL
RECITAL CHALLENGE**

GLASGOW ROYAL CONCERT HALL ⁽⁺⁾

Five top solo performers play a 25 minute recital to win the title!

Sponsored by McCallum Bagpipes

22:00

LATE NIGHT IN THE PIPERS' TRYST

PIPERS TRYST ^(F)

Come and join us for music and drinks into the wee hours.

CENTRE STAGE ✓

11:30 - 12:15

EMERGING TALENT: KICK

United by a shared love of the session scene and the thrill of live performance, KICK will deliver a driving blend of Scottish and Irish traditional music.

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

12:15 - 13:15

JACK SMEDLEY AND DAVID FOLEY

These founding members of RURA are back at Piping Live! with their stripped-back sound perfect for a Friday afternoon!

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

13:30 - 14:30

PADRUIG MORRISON

Presenting tunes from his debut solo album hear his reflections on our relationship to land, place, culture, ecology, colonialism, and the Gaelic language.

14:45 - 15:45

**INTERNATIONAL SESSION:
THE ARMAGH PIPERS CLUB**

Piping Live! welcomes back their friends from the Armagh Pipers Club to Centre Stage.

Sponsored by Belhaven Brewery

16:15 - 17:15

ST ROCH'S BIG BAND

Based in the heart of Glasgow, St Roch's has been a powerhouse of traditional music for decades. Their "Big Band" format brings a massive, wall-of-sound experience to the Centre Stage.

Sponsored by ES Session Chanters

17:45 - 19:00

DÀIMH

Forging the sound of the New Tradition, Dàimh are West Highland Music's proudest exponents. Close out Friday at Piping Live! with an unforgettable headline set!

THE BOTHY ✓

10:45 - 11:30

CEILIDH TOTS

Come and join us for a mini Scottish traditional music concert for young children and their families. All ages welcome- from young to old!

11:30 - 12:00

KIDS CREATE!

Your wee ones can get creative with our kids craft corner!

12:00 - 13:30

BIG SESSION

Bring your instrument and join Finlay MacDonald in the Bothy for the Big Session!

13:45 - 14:45

**THE BOTHY MANDOLIN SESSION:
MODERN PIPE TUNES**

Join Laura-Beth Salter (Kinnaris Q & The Shee) as she teaches you a modern pipe tune that pipe bands have been playing this year - a tune close to her heart - "Knees Up in Hanoi" by Calum MacCrimmon. Come with your mandolins in standard tuning to join in! This session is for intermediate + players, but all are welcome to join.

15:15 - 16:15

ÒRAIN IS AMHRÁIN

Experience an afternoon of Gaelic music and songs from Scotland and Ireland, celebrating the rich musical traditions shares between the two Gaelic cultures featuring multi-instrumentalist Allan Henderson, uilleann piper Leonard Barry, and singers Màiri MacMillan and Diane Canon.

16:45 - 17:45

GAOL NAN GAEL

Experience a powerful musical meeting of Scotland and Ireland with Gaol nan Gael, a presentation of the shared music, language, and culture of the Gael with Allan MacDonald (Glenuig), Uilleann piper Tiarnán Ó Duinnchinn and master harper Laoise Kelly

OTHER VENUES

09:00

**WORLD PIPE BAND
CHAMPIONSHIPS: DAY 1**

GLASGOW GREEN (+)

Day one at the World Pipe Band Championships is a chance for upcoming talent to take centre stage. Following initial performances by our Grade 1 bands, it's over to our young people competing for world glory in the youth competition followed their prize-giving celebration, ensuring a memorable, inspiring experience for competitors and spectators alike.

A ticket to Friday's event gives access to the whole of Glasgow Green, including the Grade 1 arena, so why not come along and experience the future of piping?

Tickets available from www.theworlds.co.uk

10:30 - 12:00

**LEARN@LIVE! :
UILLEANN PIPES MASTERCLASS**

NPC AUDITORIUM (NPC)

In this immersive masterclass for intermediate to advanced players, internationally renowned player Calum Stewart will guide you through a select repertoire, focusing on his masterful approach to traditional ornamentation and emotional phrasing.

11:00 - 12:00 & 15:00 - 16:00

MUSEUM TOUR

MUSEUM OF PIPING ✓

Join leading bagpipe historian Professor Hugh Cheape for a fascinating tour through the development of the bagpipes.

12:00 - 13:00

COME AND TRY PIPING

NPC LIBRARY ✓

Try your hand at playing the bagpipes yourself.

12:30 - 14:00

**LEARN@LIVE! RHYTHM & MOTION:
THE SCOTTISH STEP DANCE
EXPERIENCE**

NPC AUDITORIUM (NPC)

Discover the raw energy and percussive rhythm of traditional Scottish step dance in this comprehensive, two-part masterclass led by the dynamic Sophie Stephenson.

Part 1 - 12:30 - 1:15pm
Warm-Up & Introduction to Step Dance.
Open to all ages and experience levels.

Part 2: 1:15pm - 2:00pm
Intermediate to Advanced Sequences.

Your ticket allows access to both sections and you are welcome to stay for both sections.

20:00 - 02:00

**CBAD - MAL WITH THE NEXUS
PROJECT + CAIN + BAILE/BAILE**MUSEUM OF PIPING AT
NPC MCPHATER STREET (+)

Closing Piping Live! in style are clarsach-led five-piece MAL, supported by The Nexus Project with DJs Cain and baile/baile taking you into the wee hours.



INCLUDED

See p.9 for all ticket information



NPC TICKET



EVENING CONCERTS TICKET



FREE TO ATTEND WITHOUT TICKET



FREE TO ATTEND, TICKET REQUIRED

GLASGOW GREEN

08:30

WORLD PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS DAY 2

GLASGOW GREEN (+)

Day two is when the main competition really heats up.

Inveraray & District Pipe Band are going for a spectacular 'three-peat' as they aim to add to their back-to-back World titles in 2024 and 2025.

Catch live performances across the green or soak up the atmosphere at our dedicated food and traders village, where Scottish and world foods add to the experience.

A fantastic day ends with the announcement of the 2026 World Pipe Band Champions, a crowning moment and one not to be missed!

Tickets available from www.theworlds.co.uk



Glasgowlife



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theworlds.co.uk



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The Raasay Piping Competition 2026

'Passionately reconnecting piping with its Gaelic heart and soul'

'The Raasay' returns for a 3rd year - the most exciting piping, and the most generous prizes on the competition circuit.

Raasay House Hotel, 5th September 2026, 10 am

The Format

Competitors will play a slow air/sean nòs style or a piobaireachd song and a selection of Dance Music (Strathspeys, Reels and Jigs) to be played with a tempo and rhythm suitable to be danced to by a hard shoe percussive Scottish step dancer.

The Pipers

Ailis Sutherland, Angus MacColl, Angus Nicolson, Ciar Milne, Decker Forrest, Finlay Cameron, Fionnlagh Mac A' Phiocair, Gary West, Hazel Whyte, James MacKenzie, Rachel Gray

The Judges

Allan MacDonald, Sandra Robertson and James Graham

The Prizes for 1st Place

Dance Music – Small Cask of Raasay Malt Whisky, generously donated by the Isle of Raasay Distillery

Piobaireachd Song/Slow Air – Set of Highland Pipes in A, a copy of the 1785 Black Set of Kintail, donated by Hamish Moore



Tickets available here: www.tickettailor.com/events/pipersclubofscotland/2243708

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MAKE A DONATION

It is no secret that the past few years have been difficult for the events industry, and Piping Live! has been so grateful for all your support.

We hope that you will consider donating to Piping Live! to help keep the festival coming back bigger and better in future years.
We hope to see you all back here at the Festival in 2027 and beyond!

HOW TO DONATE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.pipinglive.co.uk/pages/support-us

OR SCAN THE QR CODE



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