

Galoshans Festival

A celebration of creativity with community at its heart

17th - 30th October 2025

www.galoshansfestival.co.uk

Vince Vir 'POPI' - Image by Ruth Armstrong



LEAD PARTNERS

ORIG **FERAL**

FUNDED BY



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Galoshans Festival



Inverclyde's cherished Galoshans Festival is back for its 2025 edition and 11th year! Prepare to be enchanted! This year, our festival brings a spellbinding blend of art, culture, and Halloween fun to the community. Join us for an unforgettable experience designed to entertain locals and visitors alike, all while showcasing the rich heritage and vibrant spirit of Inverclyde.

2025 welcomes 11 years of Galoshans Festival, which will take place from 17th October – 30th October, centred around Halloween traditions and its aim is to celebrate the wealth of art and culture that Inverclyde has to offer. This year's lead partners are RIG Arts and Feral Arts. Programming and Street Party support comes from The Beacon Arts Centre. With additional support from Inverclyde Libraries, Kayos – Inverclyde Youth Theatre, Travelling Gallery, The Wyllieum, Waterfront Cinema, Theatre School of Scotland and Oi Musica/YMI Youth Band, facilitated by Inverclyde Council

Funded by Creative Scotland, Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund, The National Lottery Community Fund, Creative Scotland Youth Music Initiative and Film Hub Scotland, Our festival is your invitation to immerse yourselves in a world of art, culture, and entertainment, featuring everything from stunning installations and engaging theatre to lively street performances and incredible live music. The celebrations will culminate with the return of our cherished Galoshans Street Party, a true festival highlight showcasing the very best of street bands, live performances, and captivating street theatre!



ACCESS INFORMATION + KEY

Galoshans Festival endeavours to make the festival as welcoming and easy to engage with as possible. If there is anything we can do to make your experience more enjoyable, please don't hesitate to get in touch at info@rigarts.org, and we will try our best to help. Detailed access information for each event can be viewed on our website

<https://www.galoshansfestival.co.uk/access-information>

All events in our programme are marked with a clear Access Key, which identifies any access provisions that are in place:

AD: Audio Described

SB: Sound Based

BSL: British Sign Language Interpreted/Integrated

C: Captioned

T: Transcript

V: Highly Visual / No or Little Text

R: Relaxed Performance

TT: Touch Tour

SP: Sub Pacs

*Please refer to the website for full access terms.





BLOOM STEP DANCE WORKSHOP BY KAE SAKURAI

Friday 17th October 2025 | Beacon Arts Centre | 4pm

Free and ticketed

Join the Bloom Team for a taster workshop in Scottish Step Dancing. Step Dancing is a traditional style of Scottish dancing that is lively, energetic and good fun. Usually danced in hard-soled shoes, it can be done anywhere and in your own everyday clothes.

Access: V

BLOOM BY KAE SAKURAI AND MONIKA SMEKOT

Friday 17th October 2025 | Beacon Arts Centre | 7:30PM



Bloom Performance: 35 minutes. Interval: 30 minutes. Ceilidh: 45 minutes

Paid and ticketed

Part performance part ceilidh; BLOOM charts the personal journey of dancer Kae Sakurai from Japan to her new home in Scotland. Blending traditional step dance, mesmerising video projection and live music BLOOM is a story about people and place, community and change, and the joy of dance. After the show join us for a fun-filled evening of Ceilidh dancing!

Access: V

beacon
arts centre





Image Credit: Joseph Dalton

FLOCK BY BEX ANSON

Saturday 18th October 2025

Port Glasgow Library, Fore St, Port Glasgow PA14 5EG

Timings: Workshop: 12.00pm - 1pm. Performance: 1.10pm - 1.30pm

Free and ticketed

FLOCK is an enchanting live dance poem transforming Port Glasgow Library into a vibrant, temporary artwork. Celebrate our connection to nature and community as you draw and dance with giant chalk alongside a ballet dancer. Inspired by bird murmurations, this all-ages event explores collective harmony and personal expression. Join our pre-show workshop for creative fun, then help us sculpt a beautiful visual poem in motion!

Access: V/R



Image Credit: Ruth Armstrong

POP! BY VINCE VIRR DANCE COMPANY

Saturday 25th October 2025

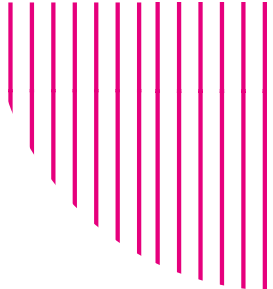
The Wyllieum, Greenock Ocean Terminal, Custom House Way, Greenock PA15 1EG

15-minute performances at 12.30pm and 2.30pm

Free and unticketed

Pop! is an eye-catching, energetic and uplifting dance duet that will surprise and ignite your beat. Expect a colourful, dynamic and visually vibrant dance duet exploring adolescence. Having premiered at Edinburgh International Children's Festival, these performances of Pop! are completely free, and will leave you and your family energised.

Access: V/R



CIRQLATION ENSEMBLE PRESENTS: JOURNEY BY DELIGHTERS

Sunday 26th October 2025

**Inverkip Community Hub, Kip Park Main
Street, Greenock PA16 0FZ**

Time 2pm

Paid and ticketed

JOURNEY is an emotionally resonant contemporary circus experience from Cirqlation, Scotland's travelling ensemble. Each vibrant performance showcases thrilling acts by top artists and features a local guest act — with a fresh mix of aerial, dance, and storytelling, all united by movement, emotion, and the journeys we share.

Access: V



THE TASTE OF GALOSHANS BY HAMSHYA RAJKUMAR

Tuesday 28th October

South West Library & Drying Green

159 Inverkip Road, Greenock, PA16 9HG

11am - 1pm

Free and ticketed

At the time of Galoshans, what seeds would we love to harvest filled with flavour that we love to eat? Led by artist Hamshya Rajkumar, this workshop will explore how seed saving over many years can carry flavours that we cherish.

Access: R





Image Credit:
Thingumajig Theatre
Barn Owl



BARN OWL BY THINGUMAJIG THEATRE

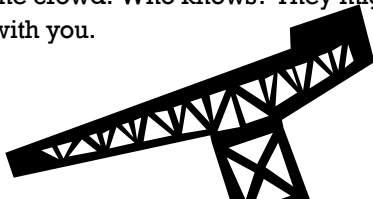
(as a part of Galoshans Street Party)

Thursday 30th October 2025
Custom House Quay | 6pm - 8pm

Free and unticketed

Enter the gentle world of the silent bird and her human guide as they make their way through the Galoshans Street Party. With a majestic 5-metre wingspan, the Barn Owl is sure to create a stir with her impressive fly-past. The barn owl glides above the heads of the crowd whilst the caller encourages her to stop to share words of owl wisdom, and greetings with the crowd. Who knows? They might have their own special dance that they can share with you.

Access: V/R





GALOSHANS FESTIVAL MINI PARADE & STREET PARTY BY RIG ARTS

Thursday 30th October 2025

Parade start point: Custom House Way 5:45pm

Street party: Outside Beacon Arts Centre | Custom House Quay | 6pm - 8pm

Join us for the return of the Galoshans Street Parade and Party! Join the mini parade from Custom House Way to Custom House Quay, where we'll kick off the street party! Following this, you will be able to enjoy all the usual Galoshans fun! Prepare to be captivated by a magical mix of art, music, street theatre, live performances, and Halloween excitement, all celebrating the distinctive Galoshans traditions of Inverclyde. Come along and join RIG Arts' Galoshans Giants for a fun-filled celebration of culture and community. All activities are free and family-friendly.

Access: V/R 



YMI STREET BAND BY WHERE'S THE ONE? & OI MUSICA

Thursday 30th October 2025 | 5:45pm
Custom House Quay & Custom House Square

Free and Unticketed

The Galoshans Street Band will provide a spooky musical soundtrack to the opening of the annual Street Party, featuring drums and brass playing from Port Glasgow primary school pupils

Access: V/R





HERE BE MONSTERS II BY BEACON ARTS CENTRE

Thursday 30th October
Custom House Quay | 6pm-8pm

Free and unticketed

Following last year's successful takeover of the Beacon by lots of little monsters, we will be inviting local schools to contribute their scariest designs to be turned into large scale projections which will fill the exterior walls of our building during the Galoshans street party.

Access: V/R **beacon**
arts centre



DJEMBE DRUM CREW PERFORMANCE BY EWA ADAMIEC

Thursday 30th October
Custom House Quay | 6pm-8pm

Free and unticketed

Bringing the heartbeat of West Africa to the streets of Greenock, this dynamic drum crew led by Ewa Adamiec delivers high-energy rhythms and infectious grooves. Expect powerful djembe beats, joyful connection, and community spirit in this vibrant 15-minute set celebrating rhythm, culture, and collective joy.

Access: V/R **RIG**



MEMENTO VIVERE BY JANE MCINALLY

Thursday 30th October
Custom House Quay | 6pm-8pm

Free and unticketed

Memento Vivere

Upon Death, it turned out the whole of life had been a dream. Artist Jane McNally presents a new sculptural work, commissioned for Galoshans, in the spirit of Samhain.

Access: V/R **RIG**



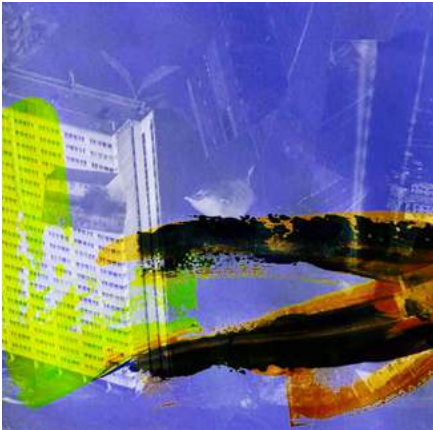
IN ANOTHER REALM BY TRAVELLING GALLERY

**Thursday 30th October
Custom House Quay | 6pm-8pm**

Free and unticketed

Travelling Gallery, a contemporary art gallery in a bus, will be parked in Greenock with its latest exhibition *In Another Realm*, a group exhibition developed with Sculpture Placement Group including the work of Laura Aldridge, Nick Evans, Louise Gibson, Aimee Lax, Aniara Omann & Daisy Robertson

Access: S/C/T/V/R



WREN HUNT BY LIZZIE HUDSON

**Thursday 30th October
Custom House Quay | 6pm-8pm**

Free and unticketed

Join us as we go from house to house in hunt of the surprisingly fearsome wren! Will we succeed in lifting the wren's curse? Featuring props made by local children. Bring your best dancing shoes or a favourite poem!

Access: V/R/TT 



BEACON ARTS CENTRE CREATIVE RECOVERY & SURGE STREET THEATRE

**Thursday 30th October
Custom House Quay | 6pm-8pm**

Free and unticketed

Creative Recovery at The Beacon participants are delighted to partner with Surge to present a Galoshans-inspired street theatre performance.

Access: V/R 



TREACHEROUS THEATRE TOURS BY BEACON ARTS CENTRE

Thursday 30th October | Beacon Arts Centre 4pm and 5pm

Free and [ticketed](#)

Explore the Beacon's no-access areas and learn about theatre lore, superstitions and our resident ghosts

Access: T



beacon
arts centre





THE THEATRE SCHOOL OF SCOTLAND CHOIR

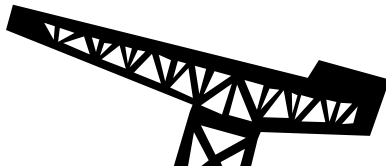
Thursday 30th October 2025

Custom House Quay | 6pm - 8pm

Free and unticketed

Prepare for goosebumps and ghoulish harmonies as the Theatre School of Scotland's Spooky Choir haunts the streets of Greenock for Galoshans! Featuring ghostly vocals, chilling costumes, and fang-tastic flair, this young and talented ensemble will bring a frightfully fun twist to your Halloween celebrations. Expect eerie melodies, seasonal classics, and a performance that will enchant audiences of all ages. Join us... If you dare!

Access: V/R



PERFORMANCE



ON THE DOORSTEP BY SALLY CHARLTON

Friday 17th October | Broomhill Gardens and Community Hub | 7pm

Free and [Ticketed](#)

On the Doorstep is a new performance film created with residents of Broomhill's tower blocks. Inspired by Inverclyde's history of housing regeneration and Galoshans traditions of doorstep performances, the work follows a route of stories and exchanges between neighbours. This one shot film will be captured on-site in Broomhill and screened nearby at Broomhill Gardens and Community Hub.

Access: R  RIG





GIG @ RIG BY RIG ARTS

Friday 17th October | RIG Arts Studio | 7PM

Free and ticketed

Join us at the RIG Arts Studio, Tobacco Warehouse, on Friday 17th October for GIG@RIG! Enjoy live performances by Inverclyde's best new musicians and Rock School bands in a spooky Galoshans setting.

Entry is free but limited—book in advance to save disappointment.

Access: SB/V 



PERFORMANCE



Image Credit: Lost Haven Art



SAVE THE PORT: A LIVE DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS PERFORMANCE CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF PORT GLASGOW BY INVERCLYDE COUNCIL.

Tuesday 21st October | Newark Castle | 7PM

Free and ticketed

Port Glasgow has been overcome by a devastating storm, shutting down the town and causing havoc, but something is not right. Join our adventurers in Newark Castle on this epic adventure as they attempt to discover the truth and save Port Glasgow from the evil Lord Maxwell.

Access: S/V/R



Image Credit: Amy O'Brien



CARRIE THE MUSICAL BY INVERCLYDE YOUTH THEATRE (KAYOS)

Friday 24th October and Saturday 25th October | Pirrie Hall, Old West Kirk 7:30PM

Paid and ticketed

Carrie is a teenage outcast who longs to fit in. At school, she's bullied or virtually invisible. At home, she's dominated by her loving but cruelly controlling mother. What nobody knows is that Carrie has a special power and if pushed too far she's not afraid to use it.

Access: N/A



WORKSHOPS & PARTICIPATION



SOUND BATH WITH INDIAN CLASSICAL SITAR BY EWA ADAMIEC

Every Tuesday from 16th September -
21st October | Rig Arts Main Studio
11:30am-12:30pm

Free - refer to website for ticket links
Sound Bath with Indian Classical Sitar - just relax and breathe, gentle guided meditation with live Indian music.

Access: SB/R 



WORLD DANCE CLASSES BY EWA ADAMIEC

Every Tuesday from 16th September -
21st October | Rig Arts Main Studio
4:30pm - 6pm

Free and ticketed - refer to website for ticket link
Join our Weekly World Dance Classes and explore a new global dance style each session—from West African and Indian to Capoeira and beyond. Open to all levels, these vibrant classes celebrate rhythm, culture, and connection. Move your body, lift your spirit, and dance your way around the world!

Schedule:
Tue 16th Sept 16:30 - 18:00
Capoeira with Grzegorz

Tue 23rd Sept 16:30 - 18:00
Capoeira with Grzegorz

Tue 30th Sept 16:30 - 18:00
West African Dance with Stuart

Tue 07th Oct 16:30 - 18:00
Indian Classical Dance with Oxana

Tue 14th Oct 16:30 - 18:00
West African Dance with Raquel

Tue 21st Oct 16:30 - 18:00
Indian Classical Dance with Oxana

Access: SB/R 





FIDDLE & PIANO TASTER LESSONS 1:1 BY EWA ADAMIEC

Every Tuesday from 16th September - 21st October | Rig Arts Main Studio | 1:30 - 3pm

Every Wednesday from 17th September - 22nd October | Rig Arts Main Studio | 9:30am - 11am

Free and [ticketed](#)

Taster Fiddle & Piano Lessons – Scottish Traditional Style - Book a Private 30 min Lesson with Ewa

Access: SB/R 



DJEMBE DRUM CREW BY EWA ADAMIEC

Every Tuesday from 16th September - 21st October | Rig Arts Main Studio | 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Every Wednesday from 17th September - 22nd October | Rig Arts Main Studio | 11:30am - 1:30pm

Free and [ticketed](#) (Tuesday)

Free and [ticketed](#) (Wednesday)

Learn West African rhythms on djembes and duns and get ready to perform as a drum crew at the Galoshans Street Parade! Open to absolute beginners and experienced drummers alike—something for everyone. Drums provided. Come connect, play, and feel the power of rhythm!

Access: SB 



FAMILY PROP MAKING BY RIG ARTS

Every Sunday from 14th September - 19th October 2025 | Rig Arts Main Studio | 10am - 12pm

Free and [ticketed](#)

Celebrate imagination, sustainability, and Galoshans community spirit at RIG Arts FREE Family Prop-Making Workshops! Guided by local artists, families will transform recycled materials into colourful Halloween props for the Galoshans Festival Parade, Street Party, or for their own celebrations. All materials are provided. Open to all ages, but children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Spaces are limited so booking in advance is essential.

Image credits - Steve Elliot

Access: V/R 





DOUGLAS SKELTON: YOU THE JURY BY INVERCLYDE LIBRARIES

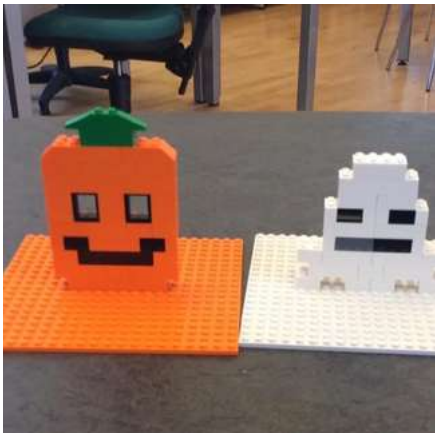
**Thursday 23rd October | Port Glasgow
Library | 5:30pm - 6:30pm**

Free and ticketed

Join crime author and journalist Douglas Skelton in a unique, interactive event where you, the audience, will step into the shoes of a jury! In this engaging experience, Douglas will present true crime cases that challenge your moral beliefs versus the legal system.

Can you, using the factual evidence presented, confidently find the accused parties guilty or not guilty?

Access: SB



LEGO GALOSHANS CHALLENGE BY INVERCLYDE LIBRARIES CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**Thursday 30th October and Saturday 1st
November | Inverclyde Libraries**

**Thursday 30th October | 5 pm - 6 pm at
Greenock Central & Kilmacolm**

**Thursday 30th October | 3.30 pm-4.30 pm at
Greenock South West**

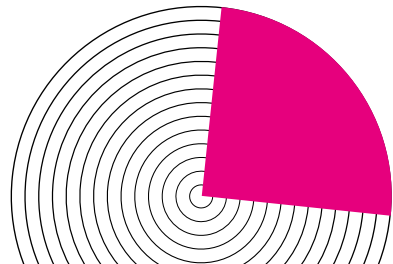
**Saturday 1st November | 11am-12pm at
Greenock Central, Gourrock, Port Glasgow,
Inverkip & Wemyss Bay****

**Lego Club at Inverkip and Wemyss Bay is split into two sessions – 10am-11am Lego for 5 years + , 11am-12pm Duplo for 18m+

Free and unticketed

Take part in spooky challenges at all Inverclyde Libraries Lego Clubs during Galoshans. Build a haunted house or zombie playground. Lego for 5 years+ and Duplo from 18m+. No need to book just drop-in.

Access: N/A





NOT TOO SPOOKY BOOKBUG BY INVERCLYDE LIBRARIES CHILDREN'S SERVICES

W/C 27th October | Inverclyde Libraries

Free and Unticketed

Monday

Gourock Library | 11.15am. Port Glasgow | 6pm. South West | 6pm

Tuesday

Greenock Central Library | 12pm. Inverkip & Wemyss Bay Library | 1pm

Wednesday

Greenock Central Library | 10.30am -11am

Thursday

Gourock Library | 11.15am. Kilmacolm Library | 11.15am

Friday

Port Glasgow Library | 10am & 11am.

South West Library (Barr's Cottage) | 1.30pm

Saturday

Greenock Central Library | 11.30am. Watt Institution | 10.15am

Join Inverclyde Libraries for a Not Too Spooky Bookbug session at one of our scheduled Bookbug sessions during Galoshans week.

Access: N/A

INSTALLATION & EVENTS

GALOSHANS MINI FILM FESTIVAL BY RIG ARTS

Friday 24th, Saturday 25th, and Sunday 26th | Waterfront Cinema

Refer to ticketing site for timings

Paid and [ticketed](#)

The Galoshans Mini Film Festival features 12 films curated by RIG Arts' youth and adult volunteer curator panels, focusing on horror, heritage, and homegrown talent. The festival offers a unique cinematic experience, expanding cultural horizons alongside the more commercial Halloween screenings at the Waterfront Cinema Greenock.

Access: N/A



Image Credit: George Munro



RIG ARTS
Mini Film Fest



STORYTELLING GATHERING BY BEACON ARTS CENTRE AND GREENOCK BURNS CLUB

Thursday 30th October | Beacon Arts Centre 6pm

Free and ticketed

Gather around the campfire in our forest clearing to hear spooky tales from Inverclyde's finest storytellers

Access: SB/T/R/TT



Galoshans Festival

A celebration of creativity with community at its heart

Image Credit: Thingamajig Barn Owl



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