



# BATHGATE PROCESSION & COMMUNITY FESTIVAL CIC

2023 EDITION

19<sup>TH</sup> MAY - 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE



**OUR  
BATHGATE BAIRNS  
ARE READY FOR THE  
2023 PAGEANT**

DETAILS FROM  
PAGE 28

FRONT PAGE PHOTO BY  
RACHAEL HOSSACK



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**PLAN TO BRING BACK THE ARCHES IN 2024  
THANKS TO C-URB & LINK**

DETAILS ON PAGE 5

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## Happy Procession Day!

from everyone at  
Drummond Miller Bathgate

## FOREWORD

I think we can all agree what a fantastic day last year's Pageant and Procession was – sun shining, streets lined and lots of happy people – what else could we ask for?

We asked for your feedback and that has been taken on board - the committee have been planning the 2023 festivities since August last year, and once again, we have a full schedule of events and music. Festival Fortnight includes all the events Bathgate bairns have come to expect and we are also looking at new opportunities to fill part of the void left by the Highland Games.

I want to personally thank our committee, because that's exactly what they are – the best bunch of committed people you could hope for! Extraordinary folk giving up their spare time to plan, manage and deliver the biggest event in Bathgate's annual calendar.

Of course, we couldn't do it all without the support of our community too. We are so thankful for this extra support - without this, none of the Procession and Community Festival events could take place. See page 20 for more details.

On behalf of the Bathgate Procession and Community Festival Committee, please enjoy the 2023 Programme of Events.

Hip Hip!!



*Ruby Beattie*

Ruby Beattie  
Chairperson

### SECRETARY'S DETAILS

Charles Kennedy  
Mill House, 2 Ballencrieff Mill, Bathgate, EH48 4LL  
[bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com)

## THE COMMITTEE

### DIRECTORS

Vikki Samuel  
Karen Conway  
Nicole Evry  
Ruby Beattie  
Niall Bell

### CHAIR PERSON

Ruby Beattie

### VICE CHAIR

Vikki Samuel

### SECRETARY

Charles Kennedy

### VICE SECRETARY

Heather Kennedy

### TREASURER

Niall Bell

### MINUTES SECRETARY

Lesley Semple

### CONVENORS

#### PAGEANT

Karen Redmond

Anne Sangster

#### FUNDRAISING

Kirsti Waddell

#### MEDIA

Lesley Semple

Nicole Evry

Vikki Samuel

### PARK & ENTERTAINMENT

Dave O'Neill

### PROCESSION

Nicole Evry

### FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT

Pamela Menzies

### GENERAL COMMITTEE

Harry Cartmill

Karen Conway

Catherine Gegan

Linda Gibson



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## Building LINKs & Arches with the Bathgate Community

In 2019 the Procession Committee took the very difficult decision not to erect the three span arch in George Street. This was mainly down to the lack of volunteers to take over from those who had selflessly given their time in years past. It also became apparent that we needed skilled people using the correct health and safety equipment (gone are the days that you could just climb up a few ladders tied together by rope). The "Save the Arches 2020" campaign was in full swing when the global pandemic hit and the cancellation of the 2020 and 2021 Processions meant this long standing tradition never managed to happen.

Since returning last year, the new Procession Committee faced the same issue, however, we are pleased to announce that the George Street arches will return in 2024!

The wonderful team at C-urb, a LINK Contractor, have agreed to undertake and deliver this project. One of LINK's core values is "to strive to ensure there is a positive social impact from our activities and work with others who share our aims", and what better way to make a positive impact within the local community than to bring back the arches. A sight that many in Bathgate have missed!

C-urb and LINK will use their dedicated team of skilled workers and are looking for members of the community to help where they can. Please join our Facebook group by scanning the QR code below or by emailing our secretary on [bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com) if you are willing to help in any way with the build, spruce gathering or decorations and we will pass your details onto LINK. We will continue to update our social media with the plans for 2024.

A massive thank you to LINK and we cannot wait to see the arches back!

Vikki Samuel  
Bathgate Procession Committee



c-urb  
Creating sustainable communities



# FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT 2023

# FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT 2023

Join us for some fun on the run up to the Procession day itself

## MAY

Friday 19th

**Scooter Racing**  
6:30pm  
Tesco Car Park, Bathgate

Open to all from pre-school to adults. Come along with your scooter and safety gear (if you have it) and try and win "The Tesco Cup"

in conjunction with  
**TESCO**

Saturday 20th

**Mile of Pennies**  
10am till 2pm  
George Street, Bathgate

Add your spare change to make a mile of pennies and help us reach our fundraising target

**Street Fair**  
10am till 2pm  
George Street, Bathgate

Come along and visit a wide range of stalls from local businesses. If you are interested in having a stall please contact Charles by email  
bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com

Sunday 21st

**Car Treasure Hunt**  
2pm  
Morrisons Car Park, Bathgate

Can you solve the clues and get back safely to base? Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place. Entry fee is £10 per car

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in conjunction with  
**Morrisons**

Monday 22nd

**Inter School Potted Sports**  
6:30pm  
Bathgate Sports Centre

Bathgate's six primary schools compete for "The Procession Trophy"

Sponsored by  


in conjunction with  


Wednesday 24th

**Inter School Swimming Gala**  
6:15pm  
Bathgate Sports Centre

Come along and cheer on the swimmers.

In association with  
Bathgate Amateur Swimming Club



Saturday 27th

**Kids Craft Afternoon**  
1pm till 4pm (drop in any time)  
Knighly Gaming, Bathgate

Come along and make a beautiful suncatcher to display in your window on Procession day. A range of designs will be available. Suitable for pre-school and above. An adult must stay with child. 100 available  
See Facebook for details

in conjunction with  
**LINK**

in conjunction with  



[bathgateprocession](https://www.facebook.com/bathgateprocession)

Sunday 28th

**5-A-Side Inter School Football**  
1pm  
Bathgate Sports Centre

Open to all primary school age children who live in Bathgate or attend a Bathgate school. Teams will compete for the "Link Challenge Cup"

Sponsored by  
**LINK**

in conjunction with  



Tuesday 30th

**Childrens Sports**  
6:30pm  
Meadow Park, Bathgate

The details for this one are so big they need a page of their own!

Full details can be found on page 9

Sponsored by  
**LINK**

in conjunction with  


Wednesday 31st

**Trivia Quiz**  
8pm  
Bathgate Golf Club

£10 entry per team. A prize for the top scoring team. Anyone wishing to enter a team should scan this code or email our secretary (details page 3)

  
SCAN ME

Sponsored by  
Maureen Hamilton

in conjunction with  


## JUNE

Friday 2nd

**Oration Night**  
8pm  
Bathgate High Parish Church

Dr David Brown will deliver his Oration covering his memories of Bathgate. More details can be found on Page 14

Saturday 3rd

**Procession Day**  
8am till 5:30pm

Hope you are as excited as we are!

Timetable of events on page 17

# RECONNECT Regal Theatre

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**CHILDREN'S  
SPORTS PROGRAMME**

**2023**



The children's sports event is sponsored by Link Housing

[www.linkhousing.org.uk](http://www.linkhousing.org.uk)

Monetary prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. All children who take part will receive a prize.

Order of events - from 6:30pm on Tuesday 30th May @ Meadow Park, Bathgate

GIRLS	DISTANCE	BOYS
Flat Race under 5yrs	25m	Flat Race under 5yrs
Flat Race age 5	50m	Flat Race age 5
Flat Race age 6	50m	Flat Race age 6
Flat Race age 7	50m	Flat Race age 7
Flat Race age 8	50m	Flat Race age 8
Flat Race age 9	50m	Flat Race age 9
Flat Race age 10	50m	Flat Race age 10
Flat Race age 11	50m	Flat Race age 11
Flat Race age 12	100m	Flat Race age 12
Flat Race age 13&14	100m	Flat Race age 13&14
PWD* under 10	50m	PWD* under 10
PWD* age 10-14	50m	PWD* age 10-14
Wheelbarrow Race age 7&8	50m	Wheelbarrow Race age 7&8
Wheelbarrow Race age 9&10	50m	Wheelbarrow Race age 9&10
Wheelbarrow Race age 11&12	50m	Wheelbarrow Race age 11&12
Wheelbarrow Race age 13&14	50m	Wheelbarrow Race age 13&14
Boot and Shoe Race age 7&8	50m	Boot and Shoe Race age 7&8
Boot and Shoe Race age 9&10	50m	Boot and Shoe Race age 9&10
Boot and Shoe Race age 11&12	50m	Boot and Shoe Race age 11&12
Boot and Shoe Race age 13&14	50m	Boot and Shoe Race age 13&14
Three Legged Race age 7&8	50m	Three Legged Race age 7&8
Three Legged Race age 9&10	50m	Three Legged Race age 9&10
Three Legged Race age 11&12	50m	Three Legged Race age 11&12
Three Legged Race age 13&14	50m	Three Legged Race age 13&14
Ladies 15 years and over	100m	Mens 15 years and over
Ladies 50 plus	50m	Mens 50 plus
Distance under 11yrs	2 x laps	Distance under 11yrs
Distance age 11&12	3 x laps	Distance age 11&12
Distance age 13&14	4 x laps	Distance age 13&14

\* Participant With Disability

All participants must compete in their own age group. Anyone competing in the wrong age group will be disqualified. All participants must be a Bathgate resident or attend a Bathgate school.



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

# LOCAL SUPPORTING LOCAL

## BATHGATE THISTLE COMMUNITY FC

Formed in 2013 by a group of existing Bathgate Football teams, the Club strives to include kids, youths and adults of both sexes, all ages, all abilities from all backgrounds in our community. This offers them the chance to learn, train, develop new skills and interests and grasp opportunities they might not otherwise have had. Their main objectives and aims are to promote the enjoyment of football for members in an environment that fosters fair play and participation for all, irrespective of gender, race, colour or religion and aims to encourage cooperation, respect for others, loyalty, acceptance of rules and decisions, personal responsibility, self-discipline and the need for teamwork.

For more information contact: [info@bathgatethistlefc.co.uk](mailto:info@bathgatethistlefc.co.uk)  
The club has once again agreed to help us out at numerous Festival Fortnight events this year. We really couldn't do it without them!

In 2022 the Procession Committee was fortunate to form new relationships with local organisations as well as build upon existing partnerships, all with the same aim to give back to the local community.

We wanted to highlight the following organisations who, like ourselves, are run by volunteers and who give their time to help and support the town of Bathgate.



**Bathgate Thistle Community FC**

**FREE Sunday Football**

**FREE for primary aged girls & boys who do not currently play in a club or team.**  
Every Sunday, 12-1pm  
5s cages, Xcite Bathgate

## BATHGATE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Bathgate Community Council meets every second Thursday of the month at 6pm at the Jim Walker Partnership Centre. They meet to discuss community council news, consultations, roads and transport and the environment. "We are here to serve the community" - they certainly have as the Procession Committee have been awarded funding, via Bathgate Community Council, to use towards a new stage in the Meadow Park this year.

## BATHGATE AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB



Bathgate Amateur Swimming Club (BASC) was founded in 1935, for the development of local swimmers. They currently swim out of Xcite Bathgate as well as other West Lothian venues. The club has strengthened over the years and is now one of the largest in West Lothian. It caters for swimmers from entry level to top class competitive swimmers, between 5 to 75 years old. If you are interested in joining a fun and inclusive club that could teach you essential life skills please email [BASCWaitingList@Outlook.com](mailto:BASCWaitingList@Outlook.com)  
BASC is a community club and local charity, run by a dedicated team of unpaid volunteers who have once again agreed to organise and host the Inter Schools Swimming Gala during Festival Fortnight. Thank you so much for your continued support.

## WEST LOTHIAN LITTER PICKERS



This voluntary group founded in 2019 has one aim - to clean up West Lothian and bring about a change in culture. Since the group began, they have collected over 30,000 bags of litter as well as many fly tipped items. This is a big problem in the UK and a costly one. Even with the large amount of money already spent tidying it up, without the help of volunteers like the West Lothian Litter Pickers, the environment would be in a much poorer state than it is today. For more information about the group please contact: [westlothianlitterpickers@gmail.com](mailto:westlothianlitterpickers@gmail.com)  
**ACT LOCAL THINK GLOBAL.**

A huge thanks for helping to clean up the Meadow Park after the celebrations of 2022 and agreeing to do it again this year.

The stage is an all weather unit and will aid the committee and volunteers to set up the park entertainment in a more timely manner. We encourage any other local groups to get in touch if they have a requirement to use the stage. For more information on the group please contact: [bathgatecc@gmail.com](mailto:bathgatecc@gmail.com)





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United Kingdom

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## A ROYAL WELCOME TO OUR 2023 ORATOR

Although I have not attended a Procession Day for some years, they were always a central highlight of my childhood and youth – let’s not say how many years ago that was!

Life has taken me away from Bathgate, first to St Andrews and Aberdeen for degree and PhD respectively, and, for the past twenty years, to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, where I have had the privilege of teaching a consistently fine cohort of UK and International Officer Cadets (including some royal representatives of both this and other states – Princess Marjorie is not my first brush with monarchy), as part of a career that has seen me deliver across the world, from conferences alongside aged Russian diplomats in Moscow to conflict analysis courses as far afield as Oman and Chile.

I never walked in the procession although I am looking forward to being driven along the route this year, and I never played a part as an archer, a clansman or as any of the Royal party. My memories are all from the side-lines, outside Avon Road, where my grandparents lived, opposite the Green Tree pub, a fortuitous spot for refreshments that I hear is still as busy on Procession Day.

**Dr David Brown**

2023 Orator & Senior Lecturer  
Department of Defence & International Affairs at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst



Like all good academics, as I sit in my office, surrounded by books (some written by me, most not) and lots of paperwork – as well as memories and mementos from foreign trips and of family occasions – I am racking my brains for recollections of Procession Days past. Bunting and arches, decorated streets, seeing the ‘shows’ being set up across from St Mary’s on the red ash park. Boxes for the children at the Creamery Park. Watching the procession, the pipe bands (scared of them as a child – not now), the occasionally mistimed majorettes, suffering float envy as Balbardie’s latest extravagant effort drove past.

However, it was my granny who best summed up the Procession Day experience.

She loved it, loved being once again the central hub of family life, both for the procession and for the pies and sausage rolls afterwards, where space was at a premium and you had to move quickly to even grab a spot on the stairs, let alone in the living room. She would, with her sisters, act as a cheerleading squad, dancing on the side-lines – occasionally in front of the oncoming procession – waving her flag and exhorting those walking to enjoy themselves a little more. She was even pictured in full flow in the Courier one year, named as ‘Local Bathgate woman

enjoying herself’, which she clearly was. Anonymous then, but let me name her now – my much missed granny was Agnes Slater, a Bathgate worthy, who I like to think will get as much of a kick out of me naming her in the official Procession programme as I am getting from being the 2023 Orator.

Here’s to a sunny and successful Procession Day this year.

**Dr David Brown**

David will deliver his oration covering the history, his life and love for Bathgate on Friday 2nd June, 8pm at Bathgate High Parish Church.

All are welcome to attend.



**@YoureAwfyBraw**

 34 Hopetoun Street,  
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# 2023 PROCESSION DAY SATURDAY 3RD JUNE

- 8:00am Judging of decorated houses**  
Both houses and frontages will be judged.  
More details on page 18
- 10:00am Judging of decorated floats**  
One entrant from each vehicle must report to the table with trophies on Marjoribanks Street, near the corner of Academy Place
- 10:30am Judging of decorated bicycles & fancy dress**  
Entrants must report to the table with trophies on Marjoribanks Street, near the corner of Academy Place
- 11:00am Principle characters parade**  
Parade starts from the EU Church and Scout Hall to the Old Academy
- 11:15am Historical pageant**  
Join us at the front of the Old Academy to watch our children do us proud
- 12:00pm The Procession**  
Leaves the Old Academy and parades the town by way of Marjoribanks Street, Drumcross Road, Torphichen Street, Waverley Street, Livery Street, George Street, South Bridge Street and Glasgow Road
- 1:15pm Procession arrives at Meadow Park**
- 1:30pm The Procession Park Festival**  
Come to Meadow park for an afternoon you won't forget. More details on page 43
- 5:00pm Massed bands parade**  
Parade commences from Meadow Park to George Street



Unfortunately due to lack of volunteers there will be no  
Torchlight Procession or Fireworks this year

## DECORATION & FANCY DRESS COMPETITIONS

We hold three competitions on the day of the procession. Advanced notification of entry is required for both decorated vehicles and premises. Please contact the Committee Secretary (Charles Kennedy) at [bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com) no later than 26th May 2023 with your details, as well as which competition & class/group you want to be considered for.

### DECORATED PREMISES

Judging commences at 8am Saturday 3rd June, winner announced on Facebook & prizes delivered

#### GROUP 1 - TRADITIONAL DECORATED HOUSE

##### Ian Hossack Memorial Trophy

Must include a spruced arch and spruced window frames. All decorations used on the arch and window frames must be made in the traditional manner with crepe paper. Garden decoration is allowed but no additional points will be awarded. Designs are allowed on the fabric of the building or garage and if made in the traditional manner points may be awarded. If such designs are not made in the traditional manner, no points will be awarded. This applies to the use of bunting.

Prizes 1st - Trophy & £50      2nd - £30      3rd - £20

#### GROUP 2 - DECORATED HOUSE

The form of decoration is entirely open (any material's valid). The only limit is your imagination.

Prizes 1st - Trophy & £25      2nd - £20      3rd - £15

#### GROUP 3 - DECORATED BUSINESS PREMISES

This competition is open to all types of business premise irrespective of the type of decoration used. This one is just for fun and the glory of being in the top three!

Prizes 1st - Trophy & Certificate      2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> - Certificate

This competition is sponsored by




### SPRUCE COLLECTION

Those wishing to collect spruce for decoration are asked to meet at Gardeners Lane carpark on

28<sup>th</sup> May 2023 - 9:30am

You will need to bring your own tools & transport to carry spruce

Please confirm details / time in advance by emailing [bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com)

### DECORATED VEHICLES

Judging will commence at 10am on Saturday 3rd June

#### CLASS 1 - ALL DECORATED MOTOR VEHICLES

1st Prize - The Lady Baillie Trophy & £50  
2nd Prize - Lothian Courier Trophy & £30  
3rd Prize - Procession Rose Bowl & £20

#### CLASS 2 - HAND CARTS, CARS, TRAILERS

and any vehicles not included in class 1

1st Prize - Andy Binning Trophy & £20  
2nd Prize - The Cairters Trophy & £15  
3rd Prize - The Balbardie Trophy & £10

#### MOST ENTERTAINING

##### Bathgate Town Council Trophy

The 150 Trophy will be awarded to the entry judged to be the most actively entertaining float in the parade across both class groups

This competition is sponsored by



### FANCY DRESS & BICYCLES

Judging will commence at 10:30am on Saturday 3rd June

#### INDIVIDUAL - UNDER 12

Any child under 12 from Bathgate can enter

1st Prize - £20  
2nd Prize - £15  
3rd Prize - £10

#### INDIVIDUAL - 12 & OVER

12 years & over from Bathgate can enter

1st Prize - £20  
2nd Prize - £15  
3rd Prize - £10

#### GROUPS

Where two or more people have the same theme / costume

1st Prize - £30  
2nd Prize - £20  
3rd - £15

This competition is sponsored by



No entries will be accepted after judging commences. The Procession Committee have final say on vehicle classification. Decorated vehicles are expected to choose a representative of each vehicle who will record the entry with the Procession Committee. Judging will be carried out by independent judges and their decision is final. The Procession Committee have no influence on the results.



# SPECIAL THANKS

This year the Procession Committee has been blown away by the support from local organisations, businesses and of course the wider Bathgate community. We know we say it every year but it is amazing to see our town rally round and get behind this wonderful event.

Whether it's young people offering to participate in the Pageant and Procession or walk with their various groups/schools; local businesses and organisations taking the time to offer sponsorship/donations and prizes as well as offer services and event spaces; local heroes who run stand alone events, often single handed or offer to help by performing at an event; local people contributing through various fundraising collections both in shops and door to door; volunteers that help us with collections, programme distribution and help with admin at events and the engagement from other groups in the town which has led to a funding award and the sharing of resources. We'd like to say a massive thank you to the following:

- |  |                             |                             |                                  |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 31st West Lothian Scout Group            | Bridge Cafe                 | Kirsten & Stephen Cameron   | Sibbalds                         |
| Alan Seggrott                            | British Legion              | Link                        | Sibcas                           |
| Alison Hossack                           | Brodies                     | Maureen Hamilton            | Sneddon & Morrison               |
| Auntie Ally Blagg                        | Buchanan Skip Hire          | Midnight Breakfast Club     | St Marys Hall                    |
| Andy Reid                                | Carol Johnstone             | Morrison's                  | Steins/1912                      |
| Army Cadets                              | Conveyancing Practice       | Mortgage Bureau             | Stuart McLean                    |
| Arnold Clark                             | Coop Funeral Care           | Napiers                     | Stuart Vance                     |
| Awfy Braw                                | Corrie Bar                  | Nashgate Fundraising Team   | Taylor Roofs                     |
| Balbairdie Hotel                         | Councillor Stuart Borrowman | Councillor Pauline Stafford | Tesco                            |
| Barrie Scott & Co                        | Daz the Van Man             | Peoples Ford                | The Hive Softplay                |
| Bathgate Community Centre                | Dreadnought Rock            | Planet Soccer               | Tickled Pink                     |
| Bathgate EU Church                       | Drummond Miller             | Property Connections        | Todd Joinery & Building          |
| Bathgate Golf Club                       | Edencroft                   | Property Webb               | Turpies & Co                     |
| Bathgate High Church                     | EwartPark Sales & Letting   | Purdies                     | Wallhouse Gin                    |
| Bathgate Rotary Club                     | GF Gardening Services       | RA Fire & Extinguishers     | Warrington Property              |
| Bathgate Amateur Swimming Club           | Glenmavis Bowling Club      | Rachael Hossack             | West Lothian Danceworld          |
| Bathgate Thistle Community Football Club | Hugh Black & Sons           | Railway Tavern              | West Lothian Litter Pickers      |
| Billy Weir                               | Ian Walker                  | Regal Theatre (Pete)        | Councillor William Boyle         |
| Bloom Room                               | Jacqui Houston              | Richmack                    | WLC - Gala/Event Fund            |
|  | Kaim Park Garage            | Screwfix                    | Xcite Bathgate                   |
|  | Kilt Studio                 |                             | Apologies to anyone we've missed |

A special message of thanks to Joanne Gibb and Babs Bell, who left the Procession Committee after last year's event. Joanne was highly dedicated and had a wealth of knowledge, having followed in the footsteps of Jim Walker. Babs's contribution to the pageant will not be forgotten.



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# THIS IS US THE BATHGATE PROCESSION COMMITTEE

We may be small in number but we hopefully make up for it with our spirit and determination. We have one goal and that is to deliver the best Bathgate Procession and Community Festival. Some of us have a few years under our belts (some quite a few) and some of us are in new roles but what we lack in experience we bring tenfold in enthusiasm and heart. We are constantly learning, adapting and taking on board feedback and suggestions about how we can do things better.



A massive thanks to Stuart Vance for capturing our best side for our team photo (he didn't even have to use photoshop!)  
4 members were unavailable

In order to make sure this event takes place year after year, we need help! We would love new members to join and help plan the 2024 event, even if you can't commit to every meeting, if you can come along and help when you can or volunteer to fundraise or coordinate events. If you are interested in joining our team please contact [bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com)

**Vikki Samuel**

On behalf of Bathgate Procession and Community Festival Committee

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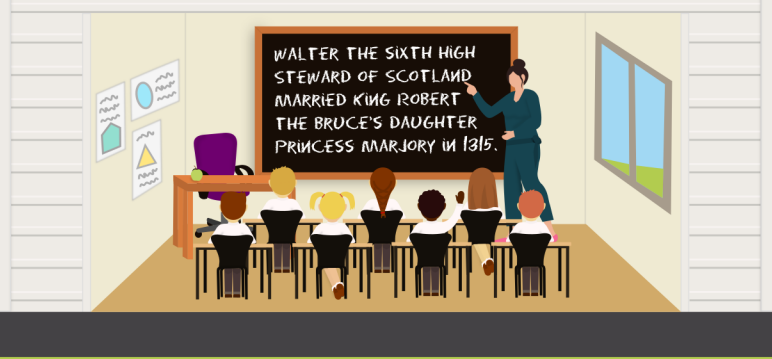


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# History with Harry

## An introduction to Bathgate's royal history

Written by  
**HARRY CARTMILL**  
 Local Councillor & Bathgate  
 Procession Committee Member

Our annual and treasured Procession allows all Bathgate bairns (native and adopted) an opportunity to celebrate our Royal History and the unique part Bathgate played in the formation of the Royal House of Stuart whose Kings and Queens ruled Scotland from 1371, before the whole of Great Britain in 1603 until 1714.

The honour of a young person being chosen to play Walter or Princess Marjorie in our Procession is the

ultimate accolade for any Bathgate family. So let's explore the fascinating history behind Bathgate's often forgotten and little told Royal Heritage.

Our town name derives from the ancient Cumbrian language once spoken locally, with the rough translation of the original name Bathgate as Batket, meaning "wood of the boar ". Bathgate is first mentioned in print in 1160, after King Malcolm instructs "Uchtred Sheriff of Linlithgow " to grant lands in Bathgate to the Monks of Holyrood Abbey for agricultural use and the building of a Church .

By the late 13th century, Bathgate boasted a Royal Residence with an impressive castle situated on what are now the 9th and 10th holes of Bathgate Golf club. Such was the prestige of our castle and lands, King Robert the Bruce, fresh from his triumph on the field of Bannockburn, bequeathed Bathgate

Castle along with the Barony of Bathgate to Walter the sixth High Steward of Scotland upon his marriage to Bruce's daughter Princess Marjorie in 1315.

Walter had served with distinction as one of Bruce's most able Deputies at Bannockburn. From there he was dispatched to bring Princess Marjorie back from incarceration at a Gilbertine convent in Watton Yorkshire, where she had been held captive since Bruce lost the Battle of Methven in 1306. A true love story unfolded and Bruce was by all accounts delighted to give his daughter's hand in marriage to Walter. Sadly Walter and Marjorie were only afforded just over two years together before her tragic death aged only 20 as a result of a fall from her horse near Paisley Abbey. In 1371 aged 55, their son became King Robert the second of Scotland, after Marjorie's half brother David the second died. On taking the throne, he adopted the name Stuart which is derived from his father's titles.

The future King Robert spent many of

his formative years living with his father Walter in Bathgate Castle before Walter's sad early death in 1327. Our castle seems to have been effectively abandoned soon after Walter's death but if you look from above, the foundations are still clearly visible 700 years later.

The Royal House of Stuart has its foundations firmly here in our treasured town. During the second Jacobite Rebellion of 1745 / 1746 it is documented the young Pretender himself, Charles Edward Stuart, spent three days lodging in Bathgate with the Norvell family at their Boghall Mansion. I'm sure the Bonnie Prince was curious to see the lands his illustrious forebearers inhabited .

So when you see Princess Marjorie , Walter the Sixth Lord High Steward and King Robert himself on Procession Day give an extra loud cheer for our young ambassadors filling these roles and remember Bathgate's integral part in the formation of the Royal House of Stuart.

## COMMUNITY AWARDS

Another way we celebrate our community is with our yearly awards, which will be presented to the winners at the Oration on Friday 2nd June 2023.

### JOHN HUNTER MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution towards the betterment of the community.

**WINNER 2022**  
**John Lockhart**

### JOHN HARDY MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented to a young person, 18 years or under who has made an outstanding contribution towards the betterment of the community.

**WINNER 2022**  
**Roisin Boyle**

### JIM WALKER MEMORIAL AWARD

A new award to be presented to a group who have made an outstanding contribution towards the betterment of the community.

**WINNER 2022**  
**West Lothian Litter Pickers**

Nominations for these awards have now closed. The Procession Committee take all nominations into consideration and select a winner for each.

# SHARING OUR HISTORY WITH THE NEXT GENERATION

THANK YOU  
TO THIS YEARS  
PHOTOGRAPHERS



STUART VANCE  
PHOTOGRAPHY

At 11am on the steps of the Old Academy, Bathgate bairns come together to re-enact a significant event in our history. With the exception of Robert The Bruce, children of primary and secondary school age who attend a Bathgate school or live in Bathgate are invited to take part in the pageant.

King Robert the Bruce's eldest child, Marjorie was married to Walter Lord High Steward and part of the dowry included the Barony of Bathgate and the Key to Bathgate Castle. The castle was in the grounds of today's Bathgate Golf club, but unfortunately there are no remains.

For more details on the re-enactment, please see our website [www.bathgateprocession.com/pageant](http://www.bathgateprocession.com/pageant)



SCAN ME

## PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS

<b>King Robert The Bruce</b>	Jim Allan	
<b>Princess Marjorie</b>	Caelyn Reid	59 The Green, EH48 4DA
<b>Walter Lord High Steward</b>	Stuart Gegan	41 Meadowpark Ave, EH48 2ST
<b>Ladies in Waiting</b>	Rosie Chalmers	18 Chapman's Brae, EH48 4LH
	Breaghannon McGee	
	Morgan McCormack	58 Marina Avenue, Boghall, EH48 1TF
<b>Lord Lyon</b>	Junior Boyd	63 Plessey Road, EH48 2XP
<b>Earl of Moray</b>	Duncan McCaig	13 Hope Park Gardens, EH48 2QT
<b>Rainbow Queen</b>	Eilidh Young	108 Inchwood Avenue, EH48 2EF
<b>Flower Queen</b>	Kelsey Hale	268 Leyland Road, EH48 2TS
<b>Lady of the Court</b>	Grace Marshall	57 Marjoribanks St, EH48 1AL
<b>Keeper of the Keys</b>	Rio McGuire	
<b>Abbot of Holyrood</b>	River Smart	4 Simpson Crescent, EH48 1BL
<b>Heralds</b>	Hannah McNamee	
	Jack Conway	
<b>Page Boys</b>	Adam Docherty	41 Traprain Crescent, EH48 2BA
	Fraser Garnett	
<b>Captain of the Guard</b>	Sam Henderson	32 Fisher Road, EH48 2QJ

## PRIMARY SCHOOL CHARACTERS

### Balbardie Primary School

<b>Bower Girls</b>	Amber Milligan, Isabella Dominguez
<b>Flower Girls</b>	Sophie Parkes, Harlie Finnegan, Julia Morgan, Darcie Brown, Harlee O'Connor
<b>Rainbow Girls</b>	Bonnie Smith, Martha Segrott, Remi Pollard, Emi Boyle, Chloe Watson
<b>Royal Guard</b>	Maksim Djakovs, Kyle Pettigrew, Olivia Swan, Ethan Bell, Evie Sandland, Aaron Swan

### Boghall Primary School

<b>Bower Girls</b>	Poppy Hutton, Lexi Brown
<b>Flower Girls</b>	Alessia Gard, Neve Antonelli, Esmé Lewis, Naeve Buchanan, Heidi Wong, Sophia Caraghiulea
<b>Rainbow Girls</b>	Lucy Ellis, Amirah Parker, Olivia Dunsmore, Ellie Turner, Rhona Cheek
<b>Royal Guard</b>	Kara Brown, Naomie Goldie, Zoe Bainitabua, Caisi Kidd, Brodie Baird

### Simpson Primary School

<b>Bower Girls</b>	Lily Ackhurst, Mia Duncan
<b>Flower Girls</b>	Sophie Brown, Emily Rust, Elise Telford, Ayla Corbett, Jessica Ozlanska, Ava Williams
<b>Rainbow Girls</b>	Amelia MacDonald, Isla Paton, Isla McRae, Liliana Krupiarz, Ivy Livingstone
<b>Royal Guard</b>	Emma Mannion, Stevie Egan, Keaton Davidson, Ruby Leslie, Emilie Graham

### St Columba's Primary School

<b>Bower Girls</b>	Rosie Ritchie
<b>Flower Girls</b>	
<b>Rainbow Girls</b>	Orlagh Gladwell, Nuala Watt
<b>Royal Guard</b>	Nathan Malone, Oliver Kaptur, +1

### St Mary's Primary School

<b>Bower Girls</b>	Sophie Kelly, Ruby Weir
<b>Flower Girls</b>	Aylah Young, Rosie Grant, Lucia Gillard, Daisy Fisher, +1
<b>Rainbow Girls</b>	Amy Kirk, Nieve Jamieson, Julia Bandelak, Caitlin Duthie, +1
<b>Royal Guard</b>	Ivy-May Lawler, Logan Bell, Louise Carroll, Sophie Boyle, Violet Feeney

### Windyknowe Primary School

<b>Bower Girls</b>	Beth Anderson, Jessica Wale, Olivia Boyd
<b>Flower Girls</b>	Emilia Stewart, Norah Flynn, Arabella Flannigan, Cara Reid, Rosie Kelly, Lois Keeble, Ava Brittain
<b>Rainbow Girls</b>	Robyn McLeary, Reeah Liddle, Myla Gibson, Zoe Patten, Olivia Laing, Isabel Davidson
<b>Royal Guard</b>	Lucas Afonso-Hay, Aadam Ullah, Lucy Dunbar, Jayden Laing, Jacob Thomson

Permission has been given by those involved in the pageant to print their names and addresses. Those who did not give consent or signed up later for parts are listed as +1, +2 etc.



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For all legal matters, please contact **Graham Ritchie** on **01506 635590** email: [gr@sneddons-ssc.co.uk](mailto:gr@sneddons-ssc.co.uk)

<b>PRINCESS MARJORIE</b> Caelyn Reid	<b>PAGE BOYS</b> Adam Docherty Fraser Garnett
<b>WALTER LORD HIGH STEWARD</b> Stuart Gegan	<b>ROBERT THE BRUCE</b> Jim Allan



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## Get ready for the SiBCAS Park Festival

The 2022 Park Festival was a fantastic afternoon of celebration, it was great to see so many of our community enjoying the day.

2023 promises to be even better, as we add more entertainment to the Family Zone and bring some new acts to our Main Arena. We're not stopping there; in our Music Tent we will welcome back a local superstar DJ, one of our local tribute bands is making their Bathgate Procession debut and a favourite of previous Park Festival will make a return.

I know we are all hoping for a day of glorious sunshine like last year, however if it isn't quite up to that standard don't worry, we have you covered (sort of). Please come along and enjoy the day, make the most of the entertainment on offer regardless of the good old Scottish weather.

We look forward to welcoming you all to the Procession Day Park Festival and would like to wish all Bathgate Bairns near and far, new and old, a spectacular Bathgate Procession Day.

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We want to hear from you, please provide us with your feedback and suggestions for future Park Festivals. If you have any suggestions, why not reach out to us on Facebook or Scan the QR code to complete a survey.



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## PROCESSION

## PARK FESTIVAL

## 2023



Let us entertain you on June the 3rd! There's something for all the family

### FAMILY ZONE & THE HIVE SOFT PLAY MARQUEE

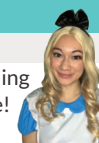


2023 will be the BIGGEST yet for family entertainment, whether you want to learn circus tricks, walk with dinosaurs or be part of a magic show it's all possible in our Family Zone. In The Family Zone you will also find The Hive Children's Marquee where even more fun will be taking place and remember it's all free of charge.

#### Forget Me Not – Alice in Wonderland Party

2pm (45mins) in The Hive Children's Marquee

Welcome to Wonderland, where the fun never ends! There will be lots for kids to do, including freeze game, musical statues, balloons, story time, bubble disco, parachute and much more!



#### Duelling DJ's – Conveyancing Practice Silent Disco

Various sessions throughout the day in The Hive Children's Marquee

The Conveyancing Practice



#### RED Light vs BLUE Light

A thrilling DJ battle will take place where you will be able to switch between channels at the touch of a button. Picture you and your family busting out a move to your favourite dance tracks on one channel, switching to timeless pop classics on the other – it's all possible! Who will win?

#### Other Family Zone acts

##### Van Buren Magic Show - 2pm & 4pm (30mins) & Circus Workshop - 3pm (30mins)

After five years performing around the world Andrew Van Buren returns to the UK with a brand new magical variety illusion show. Prepare to be magically baffled!

##### Circus Avago - Activities all day between 1:30pm and 5pm

Ever wanted to run off to the circus? Now's your chance to try walking the tightrope, riding unicycles, juggling, diabolo, plate spinning, stilts, Chinese ribbons and much more in this non-stop session for all ages.

##### The Dinosaur Invasion - 2:35pm & 3:35pm (25mins)

What would you do if you came face to face with a real live dinosaur? Well – it's time to find out! This interactive walkabout act with a life-size, life-like dinosaur will be a hit with your family.

##### Drop in activities (1:30pm til 5pm)

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# PROCESSION PARK FESTIVAL 2023

Situated in the middle of the park, you will not want to miss these acts!

## THE TAYLOR ROOFS ARENAS **taylor roofs** ...taylor made roofing

### Dangerous Steve

**Arena 1: 1:30pm & 3:15pm (30mins)**

A fast moving act with quad bike and trick motorbike riding. This dynamic act includes his unique and daring motorised mono cycle with the amazing one of a kind "roll over". Steve is the only person in the world performing this feat on a genuine mono cycle.

Get ready for an act full of sensations with his amazing blindfolded motorbike jump, giant unicycle and chainsaw stunts. Not to be missed!



### Little Nippers Racing

**Arena 2: 2:05pm & 3:50pm (30mins)**



Phill and Tracy Gibbons of Ridgeside invite you to see their fantastic dogs do what comes naturally to them!

Get ready for races, both over obstacles and at full speed chasing the electric lure. A fast, action-packed demonstration with lots of humour for all the family.

### The BMX Show

**Arena 3: 2:40pm & 4:25pm (30mins)**

Watch these expert riders fly through the air, performing the most breath taking tricks and stunts.

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# PROCESSION PARK FESTIVAL 2023

Yes sir, I can boogie but I need a certain song!

## The Reconnect Regal Music Tent

RECONNECT  
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### Dirty Harry

Sponsored by The Railway Tavern



2pm (1 hour)

Dirty Harry captures the rapture of Blondie and has not only the original sound, feel, attitude, and full back catalogue of the band but a look- a- like of Debbie to deliver the good stuff. Dr Sarah Kennedy is stunning as Ms Harry, backed by a group of Scotland's finest musicians. If a recap of some of the top tunes are required, lets remind ourselves; Heart Of Glass, Call me, Rapture, Sunday Girl, Dreaming, Atomic, Denis, Hanging on the telephone, Maria, One way or another. Dirty Harry do it all plus plenty more of the best chart toppers and fan's favourites.



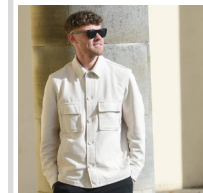
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### DJ Christian Rogers

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3pm (45mins)



West Lothian DJ Christian Rogers returns to his hometown by popular demand to play for us once again just weeks after being signed by Method, the same label which found the likes of Sam Smith & Disclosure

### Noel Gallagher's High Flying Carpets

Sponsored by Midnight Breakfast Club



3:45pm (1 hour)

Noel Gallagher's High Flying Carpets are a tribute to the music of Oasis and Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds. Their most recent gig was performing to over 5000 people in Manchester's famous Bowlers Exhibition Centre.

They also became the 1st tribute band in Scottish history to ever have a No1 single when their lead singer, Derek, sang alongside Ladbaby for the Christmas No1 in December 2022 with 'Feed The UK'.







## GET YOUR PROCESSION DAY GOODIE BAG

West Lothian Foodbank, in partnership with Tesco Bathgate and the Procession Committee, will be offering the chance for 500 children to buy a Procession day goodie bag.

Tickets available from Tesco Bathgate customer service desk.



## THE WHOLE £1.50 FOR EACH BAG WILL BE DONATED TO THE WEST LOTHIAN FOOD BANK



**We at the Food Bank would like to thank everyone involved for this kind donation**

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**Saturday - all day  
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