



BATHGATE PROCESSION & COMMUNITY FESTIVAL CIC

2024 EDITION

17TH MAY - 1ST JUNE



**OUR
BATHGATE BAIRNS
ARE READY FOR THE
2024 PAGEANT**

DETAILS FROM
PAGE 30

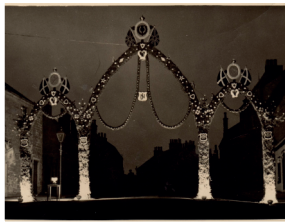
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**THE ARCH IS BACK
THANKS TO LINK AND C~URB**

DETAILS ON PAGE 23

A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION IN OUR HEARTS WE HOLD
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Happy Procession Day!



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Welcome to the 180th Anniversary of the first Bathgate Procession. Minor things like world wars and global pandemics may have stopped us occasionally but it's never away for long and I am proud to help continue our great tradition.

Not only is it an anniversary year but we are also very happy to have brought back the iconic Procession Arch! This wouldn't have been possible without the dedication and hard work of Mrs Arch, as we like to call her, with C-urb and Link who have been key to the phoenix like resurrection of the Arch. Thank you all!

On behalf of the Bathgate Procession and Community Festival Committee, whose tireless all year round work we should all be grateful for, please enjoy the 2024 Programme of Events.



Andrew Reid
Chairperson

SECRETARY'S DETAILS

Ruby Beattie
12 Ballencrieff Mill, Bathgate, EH48 4LL
bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com

THE COMMITTEE

OFFICE BEARERS

CHAIRPERSON

Andrew Reid

SECRETARY

Ruby Beattie

TREASURER

Niall Bell

MINUTES SECRETARY

Catherine Gegan

CONVENORS

ARCH

Linda Gibson

BAR & MUSIC

Lesley McGiffen

FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT

Pamela Menzies

FUNDRAISING

Vikki Samuel

Kirsti Waddell

MEDIA

Andrew Reid

Vikki Samuel

Lesley Semple

PAGEANT

Karen Redmond

Anne Sangster

PARK & ENTERTAINMENT

Ruby Beattie

PROCESSION

Nicole Evry

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Dave O'Neill



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Or find us on facebook - West Lothian Danceworld

180 Years of Bathgate Procession



Bathgate Procession began as a Founder's Day Parade on 17th April 1844, in remembrance of John Newland's contribution to the building of Bathgate Academy.



With the day designated as a holiday for the town, school pupils marched from The Old Academy on that day along Marjoribanks Street to The High Church (now Bathgate Parish Church). In 1849 after the service in the Parish Church, the pupils marched through the town and thus began the tradition of a parade.



Many changes occurred over the years including the addition of the historical pageant in which local school children had starring roles such as archers and guards. In 1924, the pageant introduced the roles of Princess Marjorie and Walter, Lord High Steward of Scotland, who are the main characters in the historical pageant to this day.



On Procession Day in June we not only celebrate the marriage of Princess Marjorie and Walter but also the amazing community spirit Bathgate has to offer.

Here's to the next 180!

Vikki Samuel

Bathgate Procession Committee

With special thanks to the Bennie Museum and the archives of the late great Ian Hossack.

FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT 2024

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

MAY
Friday 17th

Saturday 18th

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 "Sibcas Cup".

Sponsored by  in conjunction with 

Mile of Pennies and Street Fair


10am till 2pm
George Street, Bathgate

Add your spare change to make a mile of pennies outlining the iconic arch and help us to reach our fundraising target. Our Street Fair has a wide range of stalls from local businesses. If you are interested in having a stall please contact Ruby by email bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com.

Big Bathgate Busk

10am till 2pm
George Street, Bathgate

A first for Festival Fortnight that hopefully becomes a mainstay! The Big Bathgate Busk will allow local artists to showcase their musical talents. There will be set pitches for buskers to perform along George Street.

In association with 

Sunday 26th

Tuesday 28th

Coming in 2025!

Bathgate Steelyard Challenge

Steelyard, Bathgate


Brass band contest with a difference, promising a vibrant celebration of brass band music, community engagement and local talent.

Co-hosted by  **BATHGATE TOGETHER** 

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  in association with  **Xcite Bathgate** 

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  in association with 

FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT 2024

Sunday 19th

Car Treasure Hunt

2pm

Acredale Car Park, Bathgate

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

Sponsored by



Monday 20th

Inter School Potted Sports

6:30pm

Bathgate Sports Centre

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

Sponsored by



In association with



Bathgate

Wednesday 22nd

Inter School Swimming Gala

6:15pm

Bathgate Sports Centre

Come along and cheer on the swimmers.

In association with
Bathgate Amateur
Swimming Club



Wednesday 29th

Trivia Quiz

8pm

Bathgate British Legion

£10 entry per team (max 5 people). Who will win the coveted 2024 trophy! Please see eventbrite to register or email our secretary (details page 3).

Sponsored by

Maureen
Hamilton

in association with



Friday 31st

Oration Night

8pm

Bathgate Parish Church

Stephen Gallacher will deliver his Oration covering his memories of Bathgate. More details can be found on Page 14.

JUNE

Saturday 1st

Procession Day

8am till 5:30pm

Hip Hip!

Join us for the 180th anniversary of our Procession Day.

Timetable of events on page 17.

RECONNECT THEATRES

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Regal Theatre 01506 639000
Howden Park 01506 340700

 @reconnecttheatres
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 @reconnecthowdenpark





CHILDREN'S SPORTS PROGRAMME 2024



The children's sports event is sponsored by Link Housing

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 28th 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 16 years and over	100m	Mens 16 years and over
Ladies 50 plus	50m	Mens 50 plus
Distance under 9yrs	1 x lap	Distance under 9yrs
Distance age 9 to 12yrs	2 x laps	Distance age 9 to 12yrs
Distance age 13 to 15yrs	3 x laps	Distance age 13 to 15yrs

* 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.

RECOGNISING AND AWARDING OUR COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY HEROES

ASSEMBLE



Not all superheroes wear capes. They wear everyday clothes and walk among us in the town of Bathgate without us even noticing! These unsung heroes don't do what they do for awards or praise, they do it for the good of their community.

Last year we were inundated with names of those who have gone above and beyond in their selfless endeavours to help others and as always we celebrated these special people on Oration night during our "Community Awards" section.

OUR COMMUNITY AWARDS

JOHN HUNTER MEMORIAL AWARD

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

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.

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.

JOHN HUNTER MEMORIAL AWARD 2023

NOMINEE

Kelly Taylor from Taylor Roofs for her work with local schools on wider achievements and talks on running a local business.



NOMINEE

Jim Easton for his knowledge of the natural diversity surrounding Bathgate, his contribution to local planning issues and conservation.



NOMINEE

Deborah Gemmell for organising over 30 Christmas dinners and packages in 2022, bringing aid to those in need.



WINNER ★

Audrey Templeton for her unwavering support and coordination of the Balbardie Primary School Float since 2007. Even though she has no children left at the school she continues to give it her all year after year.



JOHN HARDY MEMORIAL AWARD 2023

NOMINEE

Joel Dwumah from St Columba's Primary School for his services to sport in his P7 year. He demonstrated leadership and sportsmanship, engaging positively with all participants across the Bathgate schools involved.



NOMINEE

Iona Colvin from St Kentigerns Academy for her immense contribution to her local foodbank over the past year, lending her efforts to the organisation of numerous appeals and completing an internship with the foodbank.



WINNER ★

Abigail Morton and Georgia Reid from Bathgate Academy both volunteered to plan and deliver a netball after school club. Their dedication had such a positive impact on the school community.



JIM WALKER MEMORIAL AWARD 2023

NOMINEE

West Lothian Litter Pickers, our previous winners from 2022. This group of amazing volunteers are doing their best to make sure West Lothian is litter free.



NOMINEE

50+ Network - a great team who are all about the community, they are making a massive difference in Bathgate.



NOMINEE

West Lothian Foodbank - The foodbank gives seven days of emergency food to families and individuals in crisis within West Lothian.



NOMINEE

Sing West Lothian - A free community choir that regularly sing for sheltered housing and nursing homes for free and also organise lots of fundraisers for local charities and groups.



WINNER ★

Bathgate Thistle Community Club - the list is endless for this local community group. They have done so much, including providing over 3000 free youth and adult places in community activity sessions and coordinating large donations to local foodbanks and engaging with other community groups.



This year we look forward to celebrating a new batch of superheroes at the Oration on Friday 31st May 2024.

Vikki Samuel

Bathgate Procession Committee

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A HOLE IN ONE FOR BATHGATE

I am delighted to announce Mr Stephen Gallacher as Bathgate Procession and Community Festival's Orator for 2024.

Born to Jim, a British Leyland worker and Wilma, a Nurse at Bangour where Stephen was born into a family whose sporting blood lines were strong.

His love of golf started from a very young age with his father putting his name down to be a member of Bathgate Golf Club at just a day old! At three years old, with a plastic club set, Stephen managed to hit a marble through his front window. He continues to follow his passion for his sport to this day albeit on a course rather than in his living room.

The family moved from Bathgate to Livingston and onto Aberdeen for Stephens dad's work during his primary school years, where his main hobby was football rather than golf. However, they moved back to their hometown where Stephen attended Bathgate Academy. He soon gave up football and attended Bathgate Golf Club after school and sometimes even when he should have been at school. He spent many a night using his first set of clubs at Polkemmet Driving Range. The clubs were bought by his great uncle Johnny Gallacher, who was a massive influence on his development in golf.

Vikki Samuel

Bathgate Procession Committee



"All I wanted to do was to be a professional golfer and Bathgate Golf Club was the platform for me to do it. Seeing Eric Brown and my uncle Bernard's portraits hanging proudly in the lounge at the club donning their Ryder Cup attire was what gave me my goal of emulating them playing in a Ryder Cup one day".

Stephen's long list of successes would take many pages to cover but here are some of the highlights. He won the Scottish Amateur Match Play, the Scottish Amateur Championship and the Lytham Trophy in a glittering amateur career which culminated in forming part of the victorious Great Britain and Ireland Walker Cup team at Royal Porthcawl in 1995.

Stephen claimed a European Tour card in his first attempt in 1995 and has since won four European Tour titles, including two at the Omega Dubai Desert Classic. He secured his first win for five years when he triumphed at the Hero Indian Open in March 2019. In 2014 Stephen fulfilled a lifelong dream

by playing in The Ryder Cup in his home country of Scotland, forming part of Paul McGinley's winning European side at Gleneagles Resort.

A renowned supporter and mentor to aspiring young Scottish golfers, he plays a hands-on role in the Stephen Gallacher Foundation which was launched in 2012. Its aim is to give all children the opportunity to learn and enjoy the game of golf in a fun environment.

Bathgate will always hold a special place in Stephen's heart as it's where he spent hours and hours honing his golf skills but most importantly where he met his wife Helen and had his children Jack and Ellie. Stephen moved to Linlithgow where his kids went to Linlithgow Primary and Academy but after 16 years, he moved back to

Bathgate to be closer to his mum, sister Jennifer, brother-in-law Paul and their children Oliver and Lily.

To Stephen the Procession is and always will be about family. He has fond memories of his family congregating at his Great Auntie Bella's house in Gideon Street to watch the Procession, come hail or shine and where a big family buffet would be tucked into afterwards.

Stephen said agreeing to be the 2024 Orator was an easy decision to make given that his wife Helen's mum Betty and her husband Robert helped build the Bathgate Community Centre float for years and for his love of his hometown.

"It's a big honour for me as a Bathgate Bairn"

Stephen will deliver his oration covering his love of sport and his hometown of Bathgate on Friday 31st May, 8pm at Bathgate Parish Church.

All are welcome to attend.



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Bathgate Procession

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2024

PROCESSION DAY

SATURDAY 1ST 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 trophy table on Marjoribanks Street, near the corner of Academy Place
- **10:30am Judging of decorated bicycles & fancy dress**
Entrants must report to the trophy table on Marjoribanks Street, near the corner of Academy Place
- **11:00am Principal 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**



Caoimhe McGlinchey Age 11



Sophie Brown Age 6

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 (Ruby Beattie) at bathgateprocessionsecretary@hotmail.com no later than 24th May 2024 with your details, as well as which competition & class/group you want to be considered for.

DECORATED PREMISES

Judging commences at 8am Saturday 1st 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 is 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 2nd & 3rd - Certificate

This competition is
sponsored by



SPRUCE COLLECTION

Those wishing to collect spruce for decoration are asked to meet at

Gardeners Lane carpark on
26th May 2024 - 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

DECORATED VEHICLES

Judging will commence at
10am on Saturday 1st 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 1st 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 is no different to any other in that 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:

1271 Bathgate Squadron ATC	British Legion Bathgate	Lothian and Borders Army Cadets	St Marys Hall Steins/1912
31st West Lothian Scout Group	Buchanan Skip Hire	Marion McLaughlin	Stevenson Bros (Avonbridge) Ltd
Alison Hossack	Conveyancing Practice	Maureen Hamilton	Stuart McLean
Arnold Clark	Coop Funeral Care	Michael Tugman	Taylor Roofs
Auntie Ally Blagg	Corrie Bar	Mortgage Advice Bureau	Tesco
Austin, Kyle, Luke & Jordan Gibson	C-urb	N&P Flooring	The Kilt Studio
Avril McLean	D & J Sibbald	Pauline Stafford	Turpie & Co
Awfy Braw	Dreadnought Rock	Peoples Ford	Vim and Vigor
Balbardie Hotel	Drummond & Miller	Property Connections	Wall to Wall Music Bathgate
Bathgate Amateur Swimming Club	EdenCroft	Property Webb	Wallhouse Gin
Bathgate Community Centre	EwartPark	Purdies Worldwide	Warrington Property
Bathgate Management Committee	GF Garden Services	RA Fire & Security	West Lothian Dance World
Bathgate EU Church	Girlguiding West Lothian	Railway Tavern	West Lothian Foodbank
Bathgate Parish Church	Glitz & Glam	Reconnect Theatres	West Lothian Litter Pickers
Bathgate Thistle Community Football Club	Greenshoots Financial	Richmack	Whitburn Galadady Committee
Bathgate Together	Hornes Pleasure Fairs	Rotary Club Bathgate	WLC Gala/Event Fund
Bennie Museum	Hugh Black and Sons	Saltire Roofing & Building Ltd	Xcite Bathgate
Billy Weir	Jewson Partnership Solutions	Shirley Mitchell	Apologies to anyone we've missed
	Kev Nisbet	Sibcas	
	Link	Sneddon & Morrison	
		Spring Solutions	

THE 2024 PROCESSION BANDS

Bathgate Band

The Cooperation Band

Kirkton Brass Band

Noise Committee

Peoples Ford Bathgate
& Boghall Caledonia
Pipe Band (& jr)

Rollin Drones

Sambalistic

Sea Cadets Band

Strathaven Pipe Band

Whitburn Band



Drawing by Shay O'Rourke & Lucas Dyet Age 11

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PART OF THE LINK GROUP OF COMPANIES

THE ARCH IS BACK

In 2023, the wonderful team at Link and C~urb agreed to bring the George Street Arch back for 2024. Little did anyone realise just how much work and organising this would take! Heading up the team on behalf of Bathgate Procession Committee is Linda Gibson or “Mrs Arch” as she is now known. Linda and the team at Link and C~urb have poured their heart and soul into bringing back the iconic arch and we cannot wait for you to see it in all its glory.

A massive thanks goes to Keith Sutherland for giving the go ahead, to Mark Higgins, Trade Supervisor from C~urb, who was responsible for project managing this mammoth task. Without any charge, he arranged for Jewsons to provide all the materials needed, including the new Oak legs for the structure and for Saltire Scaffolding to help with the erection of the structure. Mark convinced Arthur Davren, Alan Walker and Scott Forrest from C~urb, to help with this exciting project. Without Mark, the manual labour, help and the financial support from all the businesses involved, the arches would simply not have made a come back this year.



The cutting of the ribbon at the 2024 George Street Arch will take place after the Oration on Friday, 31st May. All welcome.

MORE KEY CONTRIBUTORS

THE DOTTE SQUAD

A HUGE thank you to the “Dottle Squad”, headed up by Carol Johnston for all the hours they have spent making Arch decorations and for Gordon Blair for being chief tea maker!

The rest of the team are Linda Gibson, Pamela Menzies, Catherine Gegan, Heather Kennedy, Vikki Samuel, Rachael Hossack, Kay Taylor, MaryIn Whitfield, Teresa Bell, Stephanie Turnbull, Hazel Ovens, Elaine Orr, Pamela McAllister, Angela Byrce, Audrey Willis, Kirsty McBride, Marlyn Forrest, Pamela Carlyle, Claire Keenan & Tracy Kerr.

Vikki Samuel

Bathgate Procession Committee

OTHER PEOPLE / GROUPS

We would like to say thank you to those previously involved with the Arch in some way and those who have passed on their knowledge, including Jim Armour, Ian Keith, Maurice Scott and Stewart Segrott. A special thank you from Linda to Nairn Pearson, West Lothian Council’s Business Improvement District (BID) and Town Centre Manager, the 31st West Lothian Scout Group for the use of their land, Brian Saunders for watering the Arch faithfully for two weeks and Duncan MacMillan for helping with the spruce.



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Fast forward to the summer of 2023. All the hard work over the years from all involved came to fruition when for the first time in the band's history Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band were crowned World Champions.

We are once again very honoured to have Peoples Ford Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band be part of Bathgate Procession and Community Festival.

On behalf of Bathgate we would like to offer massive congratulations!



Vikki Samuel

Bathgate Procession Committee

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SHARING OUR HISTORY WITH THE NEXT GENERATION

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



HALBERDIER: Billy Weir

PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS

King Robert The Bruce	Sean Mannion	13 Old Hall Knowe Place, EH48 2TW
Princess Marjorie	Grace Anderson	Lynedoch 14 Kirk Road, EH48 1BN
Walter Lord High Steward	Logan Lawson	52 Russell Place, EH48 2GF
Ladies in Waiting	Tatiana Krupiarz	301 Leyland Road, EH48 2UE
	Mandipa Kabanda	4 Plessey Road, EH48 2XP
	Rachael Muir	16 Irvine Crescent, EH48 2QS
Lord Lyon	Jamie McCabe	20 Belvedere Road, EH48 4AX
Earl of Moray	Duncan McCaig	13 Hope Park Gardens, EH48 2QT
Rainbow Queen	Alisha Neil	162 Whitelaw Drive, EH48 1RP
Flower Queen	Kelsey Hale	268 Leyland Road, EH48 2TS
Lady of the Court	Emma Mannion	13 Old Hall Knowe Place, EH48 2TW
Keeper of the Keys	Amelia Alexander	3 Elizabeth Drive, EH48 1SH
Abbot of Holyrood	Lincoln Reynolds	77 Charles Crescent, EH48 1JG
Heralds	Ollie McAllister	103 Marina Road, EH48 1TA
	Naomie Goldie	49 Andrew Ave, EH48 1JN
Page Boys	James McLean	11 Ashgrove, EH48 1LS
	Jack Jardine	77 Andrew Avenue, EH48 1JL
Captain of the Guard	Ollie Donnelly	29 Waddell Road, EH48 2XT

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHARACTERS

Balbardie Primary School

Bower Girls	Isla Kelly, Sophie Maclean
Flower Girls	Lyra Smith, Freyja Ward, Edith Rees, Elora Faichney
Rainbow Girls	Abigail Lock, Alyssa Sweeney, Emilia Hada-Shaw, Esme Donaldson, Bonnie Ross
Royal Guard	Lylah McNab, Riley Logan, Mason Haddow, Sarah Stewart

Boghall Primary School

Bower Girls	Charlie Duncan, Zoe Bainitabua
Flower Girls	Alice Domanska, Novah-Rose McAlpine, Olivia Ferris, Ailsa Wilson, Ava Anderson, Zoey Farrell
Rainbow Girls	Remi Murray, Lily Haggarty, Amber Goldie, Charley-Ray Fleming, Callie Gouck
Royal Guard	Max Barnes, Kyle Christie, Kacper Kantorski, Ceiladh Bennett

Simpson Primary School

Bower Girls	Hope Pirrie, Ruby Leslie
Flower Girls	Lily Synowiec, Olivia Hilson, Lilly Sibanda, Millie Handley, Iona Nugent
Rainbow Girls	Sarah Logan, Kamdyn Cserenyecz, Connie Burton, Isabella Downie, Freya Wallace
Royal Guard	Emilie Graham, Sadie Steven, Sajid Ghauri, Finlay Byron, Nathan Mairs, Hunter Ackhurst, Piotr Piatkowski

St Columba's Primary School

Bower Girls	Sophie Main
Flower Girls	Anna Futaki
Rainbow Girls	Willow Still, Charley Currie
Royal Guard	Nathan Malone, Julia Gniewek

St Mary's Primary School

Bower Girls	Caoimhe McGlinchey, Zuzanna Gladys
Flower Girls	Maya McKechnie, Skye McGregor, Chloe Wilson, Summer Docherty, Bella McGoldrick, Amelie Lynas, Maya Mohammad
Rainbow Girls	Calliesi MacMillan, Skye Miller, Maryanne Igbesoko, Rebecca Nagle, Elise Arthur
Royal Guard	Caroline Marshall, Nathan Eghosa Evbuomwan, Freya Brown, Emily Marshall, Abigail Whittlestone

Windyknowe Primary School

Bower Girls	Niamh Young, Olivia McGregor, Emily Waddell
Flower Girls	Robben Sibbald, Lacey Smith, Sophie Brown, Emily Ewing, Emma Bowman
Rainbow Girls	Afroditi Kalamakis, Lucy Wakely, Gracie Govan, Ellie Bostock, Carly McGuire, Lexi Millar, Emily Williams
Royal Guard	Eliza Bowes, Taylor Boyd, Rhianna Hutton, Flynn Tease, Mark Kean

Permission has been given by those involved in the pageant to print their names and addresses.

THE HALBERDIER

A GUARD WHO CARRIES A HALBERD AS A SYMBOL OF HIS DUTY

Not many have held the coveted title of “Halberdier” but those who have, have carried out their duty with honour and pride.

No real record of Halberdiers has been maintained over the years and much information has been dependent on memory. However, thanks to Rachael Hossack and the Bennie Museum we have managed to find some information on the role. We would love to know more about this role so if you are a budding historian and have any further information/photos/facts/dates etc we would love to hear from you.

The “Leader of the Procession” or “The Leader” was someone well known in Bathgate who had taken a keen interest in the Procession and carried a Mace on the Procession route. Historic leaders were Alex Flemming (1912) and A Strathern (1927). Unfortunately the Mace was extremely heavy so a Halberd was designed and manufactured giving this new title to the person who carried it - “The Halberdier”.

Halberdier Daniel Banks led the procession from approximately 1938 until 1954 when Jock Binning took over until 1967. Jock’s son Andra took over from his father until 1984. In 1984 Jock Pollock took on the role until 1990. In 1991 Wullie Steven (a well kent face in Bathgate) led the Procession until the global pandemic caused the cancellation of the Procession. In 2022 Billy Weir (a previous Bathgate Procession Committee member) proudly agreed to be the Halberdier and according to Billy he has a good few years left in him yet leading the Procession!



Jock Binning



Wullie Steven



Billy Weir

Vikki Samuel

Bathgate Procession Committee

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*All information above is approximate dates due to records and information available

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Grace Anderson

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Logan Lawson



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The 2023 Park Festival was a fantastic afternoon of celebration. It was great to see so many of our community enjoying the day.

2024 promises to be just as good, as we add 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 tribute band as well as debuts for two massive local artists who are making an impact nationally.

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.

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PROCESSION PARK FESTIVAL 2024

Let us entertain you on June the 1st! There's something for all the family

FAMILY ZONE & THE CHILDREN'S MARQUEE

2024 will be another great year for family entertainment, whether you want to learn circus tricks, have fun on wobbly bikes or be amazed by a magic show it's all possible in our Family Zone. In The Family Zone you will also find The Children's Marquee where even more fun will be taking place and remember it's all free of charge.

Alexander The Great

1:30pm & 3:30pm (60mins) in The Children's Marquee

Join Alexander The Great for a fun-filled magic show that involves all the children and encourages full audience participation! Each session will be finished off with balloon modelling.

ReptiZoo

Throughout the day in The Children's Marquee

Discover the wonderful world of wildlife at ReptiZoo Encounters filled with fun, excitement, learning experiences for all! Come along and meet our rescue animals from bearded dragons to chickens and snakes and even get that chance to meet a tarantula or chameleon up close!

Rock'N'Tots

2:30pm to 3:30pm (3 separate 15 minute Toddler sessions) in The Children's Marquee

Rock 'n' Tots bring structured musical sessions that provide fun, learning and the opportunity to bond for both parents/carers and children through the power of rock and roll! Toddler's from 18 months to 3 years.

Other Family Zone acts

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, juggling, plate spinning, and much more in this non-stop session for all ages.

Wonder wheelers - Activities all day between 1:30pm and 5pm

Weird and wacky bicycles, unicycles, Penny Farthings, bendy bikes, tall bikes, mini-bikes and mini-tandems, eccentric wheelers, circus bikes and more!

Gaming Van - Activities all day between 1:30pm and 5pm

The Gaming Van is an awesome new Multi player gaming experience packed with the latest consoles, gadgets and games for an amazing gaming experience.

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

There will be various additional drop in activities during the day such as face painting, hair braiding and even a coconut shy! Come along to the Family Zone to find out!





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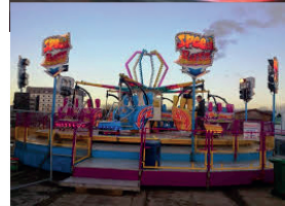
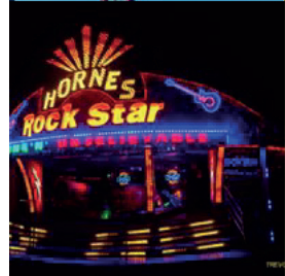
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PROCESSION PARK FESTIVAL 2024

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1:45pm

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Featuring the lead singer from Noel Gallaghers High Flying Carpets this show will have you singing from start to finish featuring hits from Oasis, Blur, Kasabian, James, Stereophonics, Ocean Colour Scene, Pulp, Courteeners, Primal Scream plus many many more



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SOLICITORS & NOTARIES



Mark Sharp & The Bicycle Thieves

2:45pm



Mark Sharp & The Bicycle Thieves are known for their electrifying live performances with an impressive track record on larger stages. They have graced the lineup of renowned festivals such as TRNSMT, Tenement Trail, and Party at the Palace while supporting notable acts like The Snuts, Kyle Falconer, and most recently, Lewis Capaldi. 2023 saw the release of their highly anticipated debut album, "Unmask The Circus", through Assai Records which went straight to Number 1 in the Scottish album charts.

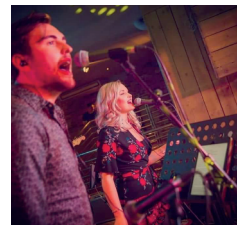
The White Doves

3:45pm

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2:10pm & 3:30pm (40mins)



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The Bands

4:10pm & 4:30pm (15mins)



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Drawing by Eliza Bowes Age 11

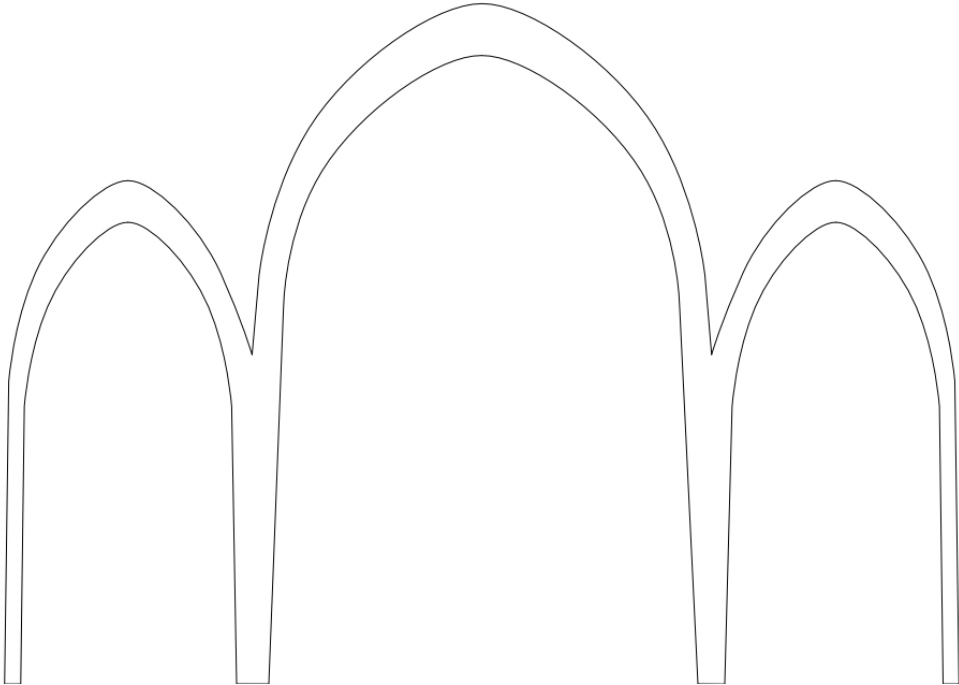
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O	T	G	W	U	M	M	E	P	I	P	A	Q	K	Q	G

- MEADOWPARK
- HIPHIP
- BRASS
- BICYCLE
- NEWLANDS
- WALTER
- MARJORIE
- PROCESSION
- SCOOTER
- FESTIVAL
- PENNIES
- ACADEMY
- PIPE
- FOUNDER
- TREASURE
- ORATION
- ARCH
- BAND
- PAGEANT
- FORTNIGHT

Decorate your own Arch

Design and colour your arch below or trace onto your own paper. Send us a photo of your design with name and age of the artist and we will display it on our website



THE 2023/2024 ART COMPETITION

At the end of 2023 we went out to the Community with a 2024 Procession Art Competition. The Theme was: What does Bathgate Procession mean to you?

We received a number of entries from local Primary schools and individuals that we have put to good use. Within the Programme we have incorporated images for the Procession Day Timetable, Procession Bands and the activities. We have also designed a new pop up banner for events that features some of the amazing artwork. Last but not least, some have been dotted throughout the Procession website and social media.

Thank you to everyone who entered, our community really is full of artistic talent! To see the winners and how their art was used, head to www.bathgateprocession.com/competitions



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