

**FOLK FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS 2025**

DAY	START	FINISH	WORKSHOP	TUTOR	Cost	Max no	LEVEL	Venue	DESCRIPTION
Friday	10:30	12:30	Accordion	Gary Innes (Manran)	£15	20	Intermediate / Advanced	Community Centre	Highland born accordionist and MG Alba Scots Trad Awards 'Instrumentalist of the Year' winner, Gary Innes has been performing and composing music for over two decades. Born in the village of Spean Bridge in the North of Scotland, Gary is one of the founding members of Manran. He picked up an accordion for the first time at the age of 8 and has never looked back.
	10:30	12:30	Fiddle	Ewen Henderson (Manran)	£15	40	Intermediate / Advanced	Community Centre	Over the last few years, Ewen has amassed a great variety of professional recognition and awards including five Scots Trad Music Awards in five years and the MacDonald of Sleat Prize for Gaelic poetry. When not touring and performing live, Ewen is in demand as a session musician, has composed soundtracks for film and television, and has enjoyed working as the musical director of live concerts and television series.
Saturday	10:00	12:00	Song Workshop	Joss Cameron	£10	60	All Abilities	St Bridget's Hall	Joss's Sea Shanty workshops are not just about music, they're about learning and understanding our maritime culture. She's honed the art of creating a lively and engaging atmosphere for everyone. Every workshop is designed to be welcoming and entertaining, but also to provide valuable insights into our maritime history.
	10:30	11:30	Barins Scots Song	Pauline Cordiner	£2	30	n/a	Community Centre	Get ready to sing your heart out at the Singing For Kids Workshop led by Pauline Cordiner. Children and their families are invited to discover the joy of traditional Scottish songs. From traditional work songs to modern classics - Ill-tricket coos, noble ships and essential footwear! So grab your grown-ups, bring your singing voices, and join us for a workshop that's sure to leave you smiling from ear to ear. No prior musical experience necessary - just a love for Scottish tunes and a willingness to have fun!
	10:30	12:30	Whistle	Lorna McLaughlin (Henry Girls)	£15	40	Beginner / Intermediate	Community Centre	Enhance your Irish tin whistle skills in this beginner-to-intermediate workshop, covering basic techniques, ornamentation, and popular session tunes.
	10:30	12:30	Fiddle	Karen McLaughlin (Henry Girls)	£15	40	Beginner / Intermediate	Community Centre	Covering basic fiddle techniques, ornamentation and bowing with a particular focus on the style and repertoire from North West Donegal.
	10:30	12:30	Mandolin	Joleen McLaughlin (Henry Girls)	£15	20	Beginner	Community Centre	Learn the basics of Irish Mandolin playing in this beginner-friendly workshop, covering essential techniques, common session tunes and traditional ornamentation.
	10:30	12:30	Guitar [Song Accompaniment]	Pete MacCallum	£15	20	Intermediate	Community Centre	Singer, song writer and guitarist Pete MacCallum has a love of both traditional and somewhat more contemporary Scottish folk songs. As a purveyor of the "Bothy Jazz" genre of music and with a love of a good going chorus song, he'll give you some tips for song accompaniment. A good knowledge of basic chords and prepared to look at some new chord progressions further up the fretboard.
	11:30	12:30	Stories for Kids & Families	Pauline Cordiner	£2	30	n/a	Community Centre	Gather round, children of all ages, along with your grown-ups, as local storyteller Pauline Cordiner embarks on a journey weaving stories from the streets of Stonehaven, to the myths and legends of Scotland, to the far reaches of the globe. Suitable for all ages.
	13:30	15:30	Fiddle [Old Traditional Tunes]	Jonny Hardie (Old Blind Dogs)	£15	40	Intermediate	Community Centre	Jonny has performed with/arranged or produced over 50 CDs in his career, recording and performing with artists as diverse as Kylie Minogue and The Chieftains with Ry Cooder. Jonny teaches fiddle at Aberdeen City Music School and is looking forward to going back over some old traditional tunes with you.
	13:30	15:30	Percussion Ideas [with Mike Katz on melodies]	Donald Hay (Old Blind Dogs)	£15	40	Mixed Abilities	Community Centre	Donald Hay is a drummer/percussionist with an exceptional ability to play with power, empathy, delicacy and drama. Over the last 20 years he has become one of the most highly sought after percussionists on the Scottish and English folk scenes. This will be an action-packed Workshop, with Mike Katz on melodies.
	13:30	15:30	Cittern/Bouzouki [Accompaniment]	Aaron Jones (Old Blind Dogs)	£15	20	Intermediate	Community Centre	Aaron is a first class Cittern/Bouzouki player and has appeared on numerous recordings. He continues to work regularly with some of the biggest names in traditional music, both as a performer, and more recently, as a producer. He is a permanent member of Old Blind Dogs and plays with a number of others eg Rachel Walker, Alistair McCulloch Band. Aaron's workshop will be both informative and great fun!
	13:30	15:30	Flute	Tom Campbell	£15	20	Intermediate	Community Centre	Tom grew up on the West Coast of Scotland, surrounded by traditional music and began playing the bagpipes at the age of eight, shortly followed by the tin whistle. At age 14, Tom studied whistle, flute, pipes, and bodhran at Plockton Music School before spending time on the Isle of South Uist, completing an HNC in traditional music. He then moved to Glasgow, where he has been a part of the traditional music scene for several years. Tom is motivated to teach and support players of all levels to excel in their chosen areas. Playing music with others is one of his greatest passions, and he aims to share this ability with people in a supportive and encouraging manner.
	13:30	15:30	Clarsach	Irene Watt	£15	30	Mixed Abilities	Community Centre	Irene is an accomplished harpist and singer from North East Scotland. She is also a Composer, Musical Director, and Teacher. Her relaxed and fun approach encourages learners to progress their playing and she always offers options to cover different levels of confidence and playing ability. So, expect a fun class where you will learn a lot and with the odd surprise or two. Beginners welcome - Clarsachs can be provided

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Sunday	10:00	12:00	Song Workshop [Burns Songs]	John Morran	£10	60	All Abilities	St Bridgets Hall	With his richly expressive, subtly poignant voice, John Morran is widely recognised as a leading exponent of Scots song. He hails originally from the Ayrshire ex-mining community of Muirkirk, deep in the heart of Burns' kintrie. John's approach is about song learning and rhythm, linking the rhythm aspect to Burns's letters - to show that Burns knew exactly what he was doing. John is a lifetime honorary member and former Director of the Traditional Music and Song Association of Scotland (TMSA). John appeared at the Festival in 1995 with Def Shepherd!
	10:30	12:30	Fiddle Masterclass	Chris Stout / Kevin Henderson (Fiddlers Bid)	£20	40	Advanced	Community Centre	This will be a very exciting Masterclass - don't miss it! Born and brought up in the Shetland Islands, <b>Chris Stout</b> has, over the last few years, become nationally and internationally recognised as one of the most exciting and dynamic fiddle players and composers of his generation. <b>Kevin Henderson</b> is a fiddler who draws on the rich fiddle music tradition of his native Shetland and his experience with leading bands including Boys of the Lough, Fiddlers Bid, Session A9 and Nordic Fiddlers Bloc to create an expressive and adventurously individual musical style.
	10:30	12:30	Guitar	Jenn Butterworth	£15	20	Intermediate	Community Centre	Jenn is a highly respected educator with extensive teaching experience, ranging from one-on-one sessions to leading large ensembles. She has collaborated with organisations such as Fèisean nan Gàidheal, the National Youth Folk Ensemble (EFDSS) and many more. As a member of the Traditional Music Department at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, she works as Creative Producer and was honoured with the 'Outstanding Contribution to Teaching' award at the RCS Student-Led Awards in 2024.
	10:30	12:30	Bodhran	Callum Convoy (Tom Campbell Trio)	£15	20	Mixed Abilities	Community Centre	Callum is a Bodhran player and percussionist from Balquhider in Highland Perthshire. Playing since he was 8 years old, Callum is a skilled session musician. Callum has been successful in the world of competition bodhran playing, having won a total of 14 gold medals and 3 silver medals in 3 years of competing for various regional, national and international competitions. Callum is a graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland where he studied Traditional music.
	10:30	12:30	Clarsach	Catriona McKay	£15	30	Advanced	Community Centre	Catriona McKay is a diverse musician who pushes one of Scotland's traditional instruments - the Scottish harp, to its limits. Through her composition and performing worldwide she is widely recognised for her unique style, inventiveness and daring rhythmic use of the Scottish harp. This is one for more advanced players.
	13:30	15:30	Mandolin	Calum McIlroy	£15	40		Community Centre	Calum McIlroy is a guitarist, mandolin player, and singer from Aberdeenshire. A graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, he was nominated for the City Finlayson Scots Singer of the Year Award at the MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards in 2021. In 2024, he won the coveted title of BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician 2024.
	13:30	15:30	Fiddle	Chloë Bryce	£15	40		Community Centre	As a teacher, Chloe endeavours to cater for all ages, abilities and needs. Her teaching approach is individual-centred and based on the belief that anyone can benefit from learning music. Nurturing individual creativity and self-expression is at the heart of her teaching practice. She believes in challenging and re-assessing conventional notions of ability.
	13:30	15:30	Guitar [Shetland Style]	Pete MacCallum	£15	20	Intermediate	Community Centre	Shetland guitar style is a unique style of playing the guitar that incorporates jazz, swing, and ragtime with the local "vamping" style. Pete will demonstrate this style, which is known for its syncopations, improvisations, and colors. A good knowledge of basic chords and prepared to look at some new chord progressions further up the fretboard.
	13:30	15:30	Whistle	Kenny Hadden	£15	20	Intermediate	Community Centre	
	13:30	15:30	Puppet Workshop	Pauline Cordiner	£2	20		Community Centre	Step into the magical world of puppetry at the SFF Puppet Workshop led by local storyteller Pauline Cordiner. Join her for two hours of creative fun, perfect for children (age 6 and up), families, and adults. Explore storytelling with your puppet, characterisation, using voices, and the technicalities of puppet performance. Bring your own hand puppet or borrow one from Pauline's collection!