

BLACKFORD GALA WEEK

In the village | By the village | For the village



7th — 14th June 2026



Come and join this wide range of events as we get out and about with family, friends and neighbours old and new. Follow the week on the Blackford Gala Facebook Page and in the Blackford Cares Facebook Group.



Welcome to the 2026 Blackford Gala Week!



Our Gala Week is put on through fundraising events such as the raffle, the Easter Duck Race, grants from the Blackford Community Fund administered by Foundation Scotland and support from local businesses, community groups and individuals.



**Foundation
Scotland**

We thank all those mentioned on the back page for sponsorship, venues, raffle prizes and other help.

Blackford Gala cannot be held responsible for any personal injury or loss of property, dignity, credibility or sense of humour sustained during the events of Gala Week. All participants join at their own risk to life, limb, standing and reputation and so help to create the fun that Blackford Gala Week brings us together to enjoy.

Children remain the responsibility of parents and carers (rather than the organisers) during Gala events. Our events are intended to be enjoyed together as families or with friends.

Why not join us to plan Gala Week 2027—our 50th Anniversary!

Anne-marie Carter, Betty Little, Gordon Roy, Marjorie Sloan, Stuart Smeaton, Sarah Thomas, Jan Thompson, Claire Tuck & Kirsty Tulloch

The Blackford Gala Week Art Competition

Our Art Competition theme is SPACE. This can be galaxies, rockets and planets, or you could also interpret it more broadly with “My Favourite Space” or simply a space that speaks to you.

The Art Competition is open to the following age groups:

Pre-school | P1-P4 | P5-P7 | Secondary | Adults

Entries can be in any art or craft medium (no AI-generated images please), and can be handed in to any of the Gala Committee or at any of the Gala Events up until the evening of Thursday 11th June. Please be sure that your name and age group is clearly attached ideally where the judges cannot see it. i.e. on the back!

**The Art Competition is sponsored by
Lorna and John Davidson**

John’s photo of a roe deer on Whitemuir is on the BBC website with this caption: "I see them regularly when I am there. They will often bark at me, annoyed at me sharing their space."





Sunday 7th, 10:00am Gala Church Service

The Parish Church has launched Blackford Gala since 1977. Our 2025 and 2026 Queens, Lucy and Kelisse, will be taking part in this all-age service and—like last year’s service — we’ll get in some cake to get the party started.

Sunday 7th, 2:00pm A walk to the ponds Meet at church



If you’ve never been up to the old curling ponds on the Whitemuir, swan along to the church this afternoon and join us as we head off into the fields, moor and paths in a 2.5mile round trip that finishes with refreshments back at the church.

Monday 8th, 6:30pm Basketball All Weather Games Court



Whenever you last played, come along for an hour’s basketball and “shoot some hoops” at the court behind Allanwater Gardens. We put up fresh nets every year and see how long they last. Hopefully it’s a drier night than last year. 6:30—7:30 Children and Families
7:30—8:30 Teens and Adults

Tuesday 9th, 4pm to 5:30pm An Introduction to Pickleball Moray Institute



Come and try this fun sport that “combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong.” This taster session is led by the coach from Auchterarder and all equipment is provided. You might just find an ongoing interest & club.

Tuesday 9th, 6:00pm Beetle Drive & Bingo Moray Institute



The primary school is bringing back an old favourite as they host us in the village hall for a Beetle Drive and Bingo evening. It promises competition and fun for everyone. Bring some cash as it’s a great chance to buy your Gala raffle tickets!

Wednesday 10th, 6:30pm Walking Treasure Hunt Bowling Club



Join us out in the streets with the perfect opportunity to stare at windows and across fences. Separate competitions for children and adults. Winning the adult treasure hunt is rewarded with the Willie McLaren Trophy and the responsibility of setting courses for 2027.

The Walking Treasure Hunts are sponsored by Gwen Turriff our **Avon Local Rep**. Contact her on 07871 989888 or visit www.cosmeticreps.co.uk



There is also the option to complete the treasure hunts in your own time earlier in the week. The questions will be available from the Blackford Gala Box by the noticeboards at the Moray Institute from 1:00pm on Sunday until 5:00pm on Wednesday. Entries must be returned for judging by Wednesday evening. Instructions for how to do that will be on the sheets.

**Thursday 11th, 12:15pm Senior Citizens' Outing
Leave from the Moray Institute**



This year we're heading to ride the Falkirk Wheel connecting the Forth and Clyde Canal with the Union Canal as the world's only fully rotating boat lift.

En route home it's a Chippy Tea again at the Allanwater Café in Bridge of Allan.

**Names by 6pm, Wednesday 3rd June to the clipboard in Blackford Village Store (01764 682245).
Coach space may be limited.**

**Thursday 11th, 6:00pm Family Games Night
& Walking Football
6:30pm Highland Games field**



We'll kick off our outdoor games with football, nukemball and rounders for all ages before leaving the football goals to the new Walking Football event for adults

and secondary age. We'll see where the other, all-age games take us for some fun in the sun with bats, balls, family and friends. Don't send the family—bring them!



Friday 12th, 9:30am Toddlers Group Moray Institute



Join the weekly Toddlers Group for a Story, Song and Crafts Day over their regular 2 hour slot. Bring your own snack please (helps with allergies etc) Cost is £3.00 per family.

Friday 12th, 7:00pm Car Treasure Hunt Bowling Club



Bring a car and a team name and you'll get a set of clues to follow around the roads and lanes of the area. The winners receive the Julie Shankland Trophy and set the 2027 course.

Our sponsor is Shiona Walker, Beauty/Holistic

Therapist, of **Bliss Beauty at Home** Contact: 07724 450585 / 01764 682808



Saturday 13th, 10:00am Magic Pete Parish Church



This hour of magic has been a regular success for primary aged children and for any younger ones who you've been told to bring along as well to get them out the house.

We'll have tea and coffee on tap for the adults and water & crisps at our 11am finish for the children.

Saturday 13th, 7:30pm Family Quiz Night Moray Institute



The quiz is for families or teams of four with some questions aimed at children. Sign up on the night. Enjoy the evening regardless of who wins the trophy knowing that Sarah will hopefully be running it again next year. Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

The Family Quiz Night sponsor is **Craigossie Groundworks Contractors**. Contact **07568 083098** or steviecgc@gmail.com or find them on yell.com.





Gala Day 2026

1:30pm Floats & Fancy Dress Parade
Leave Moray Institute to go down Moray Street and up
Stirling Street led by the Doune Pipe Band



Floats can be entered by families, neighbours or village clubs and organisations with prizes and a trophy for Best Dressed Float. If you'd like help getting a trailer, ask around, including through the Blackford Cares Facebook Group.

Our Floats competitions and prizes are sponsored by **The Sinclair Partnership**, Accountants. Contact: 01764 682562
info@sinclair-partnership.co.uk



Our Fancy Dress competitions and prizes are sponsored by **Head Roof Cleaning**
Contact: 07538 067772
headroofcleaning@yahoo.com

Come on! Get in the parade this year!

There are cash prizes for individuals and groups of all ages, plus the John (Jock) Aitken Trophy for the "Best Individual Fancy Dress"



If you are preparing a float and the weather is bad, phone 07540 353399 or check our Facebook page for judging information. The Crowning of the Queen and the judging of remaining costumes would then be in the Moray Institute.

Sunday 14th June

2:00pm Arrive back at the Highland Games Field.

**Blackford Gala Queen 2025,
Lucy Reid crowns
Kelisse Telfer (centre)
Blackford Gala Queen 2026
with her attendants:
Dakota McDonald (right) and
Belle Stephen (left)**



Let the games begin

Races and competitions for cash prizes across the ages. Tugs-of-War and maybe a few silly games will find the winners of the Village Trophy (right) between the “north” and the “south and suburbs” sides of the village



Our Gala Day races are sponsored by one of our local families—Team Little.

Free children’s inflatables. Free tea/coffee/juice.
Prize Raffle Draw—tickets on sale in the village during Gala Week and in the Games Park on the day (cash only).
Please support the local businesses who donate prizes.

Sunday 14th

6:30pm

Bowling Competition

Blackford Bowling Club



The final event of Gala Week. Enter free as a bowler or a non bowler (Age 16+) by submitting names to the Bowling Club or Village Shop by Sunday morning or at Gala Day. Pairs will be set by the Bowling Club. Flat shoes only—no trainers. And there's a trophy for the winners too.

Please thank our supporters, sponsors and raffle prize donors

