



GLENMORANGIE TAIN HIGHLAND GATHERING

Sunday 9th August 2026

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

CHIEFTAIN:
Mr John Scott



www.tainhighlandgathering.com





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GLENMORANGIE

TAIN HIGHLAND GATHERING

Sunday 9th August 2026

PROGRAMME FROM 11am

11am	Chieftans Parade Leaves Duthac Centre Local Male and Female Heavy Events Local Track and Field Local Highland Dancing Senior and Junior Piping
11:45am	Chieftans parade arrives Chieftans Speech Official Opening of the Games
1pm	Open Male and Female Heavy Events Open Track and Field
2pm	Open Highland Dancing
2:30pm	Open and Junior Cycling
3:00pm	Open and Childrens Races
Throughout the day there will also be pipe band displays, crafts stalls and childrens inflatables.	

CHIEFTAIN:

Mr John Scott

Chieftain's Parade will leave Duthac Centre at 11am

ADMISSION:

Adults	£12.00
School Children	£6.00
Toddlers	FREE
Car Park	FREE



www.tainhighlandgathering.com



GATHERING OFFICIALS FOR 2026

CHIEFTAIN: John Scott
(2025 Mr Jason Ubych)

PRESIDENT: Mr Gordon Forbes
VICE PRESIDENT: Mr Gordon Bannerman
SECRETARY: Claire Bannerman
TREASURER: Claire Bannerman

ANNOUNCER: Jimmy MacDonald, Dornoch
OVERSEAS TENT: Roddy Smith
GATES & CAR PARKS: Neil Bannerman
SPONSOR LIAISON: Carole Mackay
DUTHAC TENT: Karen Denoon
TRADE STANDS: Carrie Forbes

CONVENORS

Piping: Duncan MacGillivray
Dancing: Mary Watt MBE
Track & Field: Alasdair MacDonald
FIELD CONVENERS & HELPERS: Neil Bannerman,
Stuart Finlayson, Tom Robb, Morag Robb
HANDICAPPER: Alasdair MacDonald



*Derek Loudon (2023 Chieftain), Gordon Forbes (President),
Jason Ubych (2025 Chieftain), Gordon Bannerman (Vice-President)*

COMMITTEE MESSAGE

Welcome to the 31st Glenmorangie Tain Highland Gathering.

I would like to begin by paying tribute to our Secretary, Fiona Sutherland, who sadly and suddenly passed away earlier this year. Fiona, along with Murray Macleod and Wattie Louden, was instrumental in the reforming of the Tain Highland Gathering back in 1993, and she continued to serve as our Games Secretary right up until her passing. Fiona and her family had all been involved in the Highland Games circuit for decades. Her knowledge, passion, and commitment were always clearly evident in everything she did for the Gathering and the wider community. She will be sorely missed by all of us here in Tain and across the Highland Games community. Our thoughts remain with Fiona's partner Robert and the extended family.



We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to this year's Chieftain, local farmer John Scott. I am sure John will thoroughly enjoy his role, and he takes over from last year's Chieftain, Jason Ubych, who performed admirably. John, Jason, and previous Chieftains will be led around the field by The Royal Burgh of Tain Pipe Band.

This year we are pleased to introduce new Female Heavy events, which will run in parallel with the male competitions throughout the afternoon. We are delighted to see such a strong entry in these categories. Fiona was particularly passionate about encouraging its growth and in her memory we will introduce an annual trophy, ensuring her legacy continues to be celebrated each year. We're especially pleased to welcome those of you who've travelled from abroad – our Overseas Tent is ready and waiting to give you a warm Highland welcome!

We hope you find the programme of events throughout the day varied and interesting. Each year we strive to improve and provide an entertaining day for everyone and we welcome constructive comments, so if you have any ideas for improvement, please visit our website at www.tainhighlandgathering.com and leave us a message. You will also find us on Facebook and Instagram.

Thank you all for attending today - we hope you enjoy your day!

Gordon Forbes, President

CHIEFTAINS OF THE MODERN ERA

2025	Mr Jason Ubych	2012	Dr Bill Lumsden	2002	Mr David MacDonald
2024	Mrs Joanie Whiteford	2011	Mr Ian "Murd" Ross	2001	Mr David Robertson
2023	Mr Derek Loudon	2010	Mrs Mary Watt, MBE	2000	Mr Jamie Stone, MP
2019	Miss Kirsty McFarlane	2009	Mr Alasdair Rhind	1999	Mr Gordon Bannerman
2018	Mr Alastair Kennedy	2008	Mr Edward Mackenzie	1998	Mr Tommy Smart
2017	Dr Duncan Mackay	2007	Mr Steven Burgess	1997	Sir Fraser Morrison
2016	Mr George Patience	2006	Mr Forbie Urquhart	1996	Mrs Rosemary Mackenzie, MBE
2015	Miss Connie Ramsay	2005	Mr John Wynne	1995	Mr Ruairidh Mackenzie
2014	Mr Gregor Macleod	2004	Mr Gordon Forbes	1994	Mr Roddy Robertson
2013	Capt Iain Dunderdale	2003	Mr Murray Macleod	1993	Mr Wattie Louden

CHIEFTAIN'S WELCOME – John Scott

I have to admit when the call came in asking me to serve as Chieftain at this year's Highland games I was surprised. I had a big smile on my face for the rest of the day - as you do when something special comes along.

In the farming and indeed the livestock world it's like being asked to judge one of the big shows, the Royal Highland, the Great Yorkshire or the Royal Welsh, these opportunities don't come along often and when they do you have to grab them and make the most of them.

That's exactly what I plan to do as Chieftain, I'm really looking forward to the day, giving back to community which has looked after me and my family for generations.

Our family farms at Fearn, we enjoy what we do and take pride in looking after the land we farm, acting as custodians for the short time it is in our hands.

We produce food like our forbearers did before us, I often wonder what Tain would have been like as a bustling market town before the current transport links changed the way we live.

My involvement with the Highland Games to date, other than being a spectator, has been unique - we farm the land and need to make sure the field is ready for the organising committee to set up.

This process starts back in May when we shut the field off to let it grow so that just before the games we arrange for it to be cut for silage ensuring that the field is neat and tidy on the big day.

History is important, the older you get the more you realise just how important it is and of course tradition comes with that. The Highland Games gives us an excellent opportunity to come together as a community to celebrate our history with competitors and guests from far afield.

As we do that, let's also keep an eye on the future and ensure we find the resolve and resource to bring important projects like relocating TRACC to fruition.

Finally enjoy your day, best of luck to all competing and well done to the organising committee, days like this take a huge effort and I hope you all appreciate a dram together when it's all over.

Slàinte mhath

John Scott



TAIN HIGHLAND GATHERING: A HOMECOMING



THE CLAN
ROSS
CENTRE

For many people, the Tain Highland Gathering is a local tradition and a highlight of the summer calendar. Yet for others, it is something more. It's a link to home.

Every year, hundreds of visitors come to Tain from across Scotland and around the world to explore the places their families once lived. Many find their way to the museum in search of the stories of parents, grandparents, or ancestors who left these shores for Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, and countless other destinations.

While Tain has long been associated with Clan Ross, the story of the district belongs to many families. Rosses, Munros, MacCullochs, Vasses, Corbetts, Mackenzies, and countless others have carried the memory of this place with them across generations and continents.

The Tain Highland Gathering provides an opportunity for those connections to be renewed. It is a chance to return, to meet others who share the same roots, and to experience a tradition that has been part of the life of the town for generations. Whether competing on the field, marching in the parade, or simply enjoying the atmosphere, visitors become part of a living celebration of Highland culture and community.

For those who live here, the Gathering is a reminder of the town's proud traditions. For those returning, it is a reminder that although families may have travelled far, their connection to Tain and Easter Ross remains.

In that sense, the Tain Highland Gathering belongs not only to the people of Tain today, but to everyone around the world who can trace a part of their story back to this corner of the Highlands.

Jason Ubych



Returning to Their Roots

Rhett and Elizabeth Isbell travelled from Seattle, Washington, to Easter Ross with their daughters, Juliet, Skylar, Harper, Savannah, and Scottlyn. Elizabeth was born a Ross, and each of their daughters has Ross as a middle name. Their visit is a reminder that the ties between Easter Ross and its worldwide family remain as strong as ever.

Collegiate Church of St Duthac

The Collegiate Church of St Duthac stands at the heart of Tain, as Tain stands at the heart of Clan Ross Country. Each year, visitors from around the world return to renew their connection with the town and district their families once called home.



GLENMORANGIE TAIN HIGHLAND GATHERING – Sunday 9th August 2026

LOCAL HEAVIES at 11am

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Male									
1 Putting 16lb Stone	£25	£20	£15	£10	27 Highland Fling	£20	£18	£15	£10
2 Throwing 16lb Hammer	£25	£20	£15	£10	28 Sean Truibhais	£20	£18	£15	£10
3 Morangie Fling	£25	£20	£15	£10	29 Half Reel of Tulloch	£20	£18	£15	£10
4 Weight for Distance	£25	£20	£15	£10	30 Sailors' Hornpipe	£20	£18	£15	£10

Female

5 Putting 4kg Stone	£25	£20	£15	£10
6 Throwing 13lb Hammer	£25	£20	£15	£10
7 Morangie Fling	£20	£15	£12	£10
8 16lb Weight for Distance	£20	£15	£12	£10

JUNIOR PIPING

15 yrs and under

9 March	£17	£12	£10	£7
10 Strathspey & Reel	£17	£12	£10	£7

16-18yrs

11 March	£20	£15	£12	£10
12 Strathspey & Reel	£20	£15	£12	£10

18 yrs and under

13 Jig	£22	£17	£12	£10
14 Pibroch	£30	£25	£20	£15

LOCAL LIGHT TRACK & FIELD EVENTS at 11am

15 High Jump	£20	£15	£10	£5
16 Long Jump	£20	£15	£10	£5
17 90m Sprint	£20	£15	£10	£5
18 1600 Metres	£20	£15	£10	£5

LOCAL HIGHLAND DANCING at 11am

12 yrs and under

19 Highland Fling	£15	£12	£10	£7
20 Sword Dance	£15	£12	£10	£7
21 Flora MacDonald's Fancy	£15	£12	£10	£7
22 Scottish Lilt	£15	£12	£10	£7

15 yrs and under

23 Highland Fling	£18	£12	£10	£8
24 Sword Dance	£18	£12	£10	£8
25 Flora MacDonald's Fancy	£18	£12	£10	£8
26 Scottish Lilt	£18	£12	£10	£8

16 yrs and over

27 Highland Fling	£20	£18	£15	£10
28 Sean Truibhais	£20	£18	£15	£10
29 Half Reel of Tulloch	£20	£18	£15	£10
30 Sailors' Hornpipe	£20	£18	£15	£10

SENIOR PIPING at 11am

31 Pibroch	£80	£60	£40	£25
32 March	£40	£30	£20	£15
33 Strathspey & Reel	£40	£30	£20	£15
34 Jig	£40	£30	£20	£15

OPEN HIGHLAND DANCING at 2pm

12 yrs and under

35 Highland Fling	£18	£15	£12	£10
36 Sword Dance	£18	£15	£12	£10
37 Sean Truibhais	£18	£15	£12	£10
38 Sailors' Hornpipe	£18	£15	£12	£10

15 yrs and under

39 Highland Fling	£20	£16	£12	£10
40 Sword Dance	£20	£16	£12	£10
41 Sean Truibhais	£20	£16	£12	£10
42 Sailors' Hornpipe	£20	£16	£12	£10

16 yrs and over

43 Highland Fling	£25	£20	£18	£15
44 Sean Truibhais	£25	£20	£18	£15
45 Half Reel of Tulloch	£25	£20	£18	£15
46 Irish Jig	£25	£20	£18	£15

OPEN LIGHT FIELD EVENTS at 1pm

47 High Jump	£30	£18	£15	£10
48 Long Jump	£30	£18	£15	£10
49 Triple Jump	£30	£18	£15	£10
50 Pole Vault	£30	£18	£15	£10

OPEN LIGHT TRACK EVENTS at 1pm

51 90m Sprint	£30	£18	£15	£10
52 200 Metres	£30	£18	£15	£10
53 400 Metres	£30	£18	£15	£10
54 800 Metres	£30	£18	£15	£10
55 1600 Metres	£30	£18	£15	£10

OPEN HEAVY EVENTS at 1pm

Male

56 Putting 16lb Tain Stone	£40	£30	£20	£15
57 Putting 22lb Tain Stone	£60	£40	£25	£20
58 Caber	£80	£40	£25	£20
59 Throwing 56lb over Bar	£60	£40	£25	£20
60 28lb Weight for Distance	£40	£30	£20	£15
61 Throwing 16lb Hammer	£40	£30	£20	£15
62 Throwing 22lb Hammer	£60	£40	£25	£20

Female

63 Putting 4kg Stone	£40	£30	£20	£15
64 Morangie Fling	£40	£30	£20	£15
65 16lb Weight for Distance	£40	£30	£20	£15
66 28lb Weight over the Bar	£40	£30	£20	£15
67 Throwing 13lb Hammer	£40	£30	£20	£15

OPEN RACES

68 Relay	£28	£20
69 Handicap Tourist Race		

OPEN CYCLING

70 800 Metres	£35	£20	£15	£10
71 1600 Metres	£35	£20	£15	£10
72 3200 Metres	£35	£20	£15	£10
73 De'il Tak the Hindmost	£35	£20	£15	£10
74 Timed One Lap	£35	£20	£15	£10

JUNIOR CYCLING

75 800 Metres	£25	£18	£12	£10
76 1600 Metres	£25	£18	£12	£10
77 3200 Metres	£25	£18	£12	£10
78 Timed One Lap	£25	£18	£12	£10

Children's Race

79 Boys Under 5	£3	£2	£1
80 Girls Under 5	£3	£2	£1
81 Boys Age 6-10	£4	£3	£2
82 Girls Age 6-10	£4	£3	£2
83 Boys Age 11-14	£5	£4	£3
84 Girls Age 11-14	£4	£3	£2



**CHILDREN'S EVENTS
WILL TAKE PLACE
THROUGHOUT
THE AFTERNOON
EVENTS – PLEASE
LISTEN OUT FOR
ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

IMPORTANT NOTES:

All athletes participating must be registered with R.S.H.G.A.
Gender Equality tables will be used in all open track and field events to encourage female participation
The Organisers reserve the right to change any event/prize without prior notice
Competitors must make themselves available for drug testing

COMPETITORS PLEASE LISTEN OUT FOR EVENTS BEING ANNOUNCED OVER LOUDSPEAKERS

RULES OF THE GAMES

ALL Piping entries (junior and senior) report to the Piping Board by 10.30am.

ALL Local Dancing entries to Dancing platform by 11.30am.

ALL Open Dancing entries by 12.30pm.

ALL Open Heavies entries report to field by 12.30pm.

1. All Competitors must pay on entry to the field – this covers all competitions.
2. In all competitions, RSHGA Rules apply. All competitors should be registered with the RSHGA prior to competing where appropriate.
3. All competitors must be dressed in Highland costume in the Piping, Dancing and Heavy events.
4. In all events competitors must be ready when called, otherwise they may be disqualified.
5. No person will be allowed in the ring except competitors engages, officials, and authorised members of the Press.
6. For Championships in Field, Heavy and Track events, the athlete gaining the most points on aggregate in Open Events will be declared the winner.
7. The Committee reserves the right to make any alterations to the programme.
8. For Junior Competitions, "age" means to date of birthday only.
9. Birth Certificates should be produced to determine correct age group.
10. The decision of the Judges will be final.
11. Any complaints to be made to the Secretary with the deposit of £10. If the complaint is upheld, the money will be refunded.
12. No responsibility can be accepted for damage to equipment during competitions or practice. Cyclists should insure their own cycles.
13. No betting allowed on either course or tracks.
14. The Games to be holders and owners of all trophies in perpetuity.
15. Anyone resident in Ross-Shire or Sutherland will be eligible to compete in the local events.
16. All competitors must be prepared to be drug-tested if required.
17. Competitors to leave the field after the event.

RECORDS

MALE LOCAL HEAVY

Males Putting 16lb stone	51'5" / 15.67m	1999	Jason Young, Edderton
Males Throwing 16lb hammer	126'2" / 38.46m	1995	George Patience, Tain
Males Morangie Fling	95'7" / 29.13m	2004	Malcolm Cleghorn, Strathpeffer
Males Weight for distance	79'6" / 24.23m	1995	George Patience, Tain

LOCAL TRACK AND FIELD

High Jump	1.78m	1999	David Gill, Invergordon
Long Jump	19'10" / 6.05m	2017	Angus Mohun, Tain

OPEN TRACK AND FIELD

High Jump	6'3.25" / 1.91m	2012	Allan Smith, South Queensferry
Long Jump	21'11" / 6.68m	2017	Tony Daffurn, Wishaw
Triple Jump	45'2" / 13.78m	2024	Tony Daffurn, Wishaw
Pole Vault	2.72m	2014	Jamie Sinclair

MALE OPEN HEAVY

Putting 16lb Tain stone	58'3" / 17.75m	2013	Lucas Wenta, Poland
Putting 22lb Tain Stone - Glide	49'4" / 15.04m	2007	Gregor Edmonds, Glasgow
Putting 22lb Tain Stone - Standing	46'2" / 14.07m	2015	Sebastian Venta, Poland
Throwing 56lb Over Bar	16'4" / 4.98m	2006	David Barron, New York
28lb Weight for Distance	85'6" / 26.1m	2011	Scott Rider, London
Throwing 16lb hammer	144'10" / 44.15m	1999	Matt Sandford, Australia
Throwing 22lb Hammer	119'10" / 36.53m	1999	Matt Sandford, Australia

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We wish the Tain Highland Gathering all the best for the 2025 Games



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OUR THANKS

The Tain Highland Gathering Association Committee acknowledges with sincere thanks the assistance given in the preparation for the Gathering and on the day itself.

Police (Scotland); Duthac Centre; Tain Gala Association; John Scott, Fearn Farm; Carole Mackay, Glenmorangie; Bannerman's Garage; Stephen Mackintosh; Stuart Finlayson; Highland Fine Cheeses; Martin Ryan; Ellie Ferguson; all the volunteer gatekeepers; car park attendants; the Overseas Tent hosts; Karen and the ladies in the Highland Hospice Tea Tent and many others who make the day possible.

To all the competitors and judges whose skill and expertise fill the arena with an impressive array of Highland sport, music and dance. To the craft and trade stalls holders who offer us a tempting exhibition of local and Scottish goods for sale. To Tain Pipe Band - the Chieftain's Parade welcomes being led by our own local band, resplendent in their tartan and their playing throughout the day, keeping us all entertained.

But most of all, we wish to thank you, the public, for attending the Gathering and supporting us – whether from the Royal Burgh of Tain itself, the surrounding Counties of Ross-shire and Sutherland, or other parts of Scotland, United Kingdom or overseas, we welcome you and hope you enjoy your day with us!



OVERSEAS TENT

Willkommen – Bienvenue – Hi – G'Day – Benvenuto – Valkommen – Bienvenido – Witajcie – Bruchim habayam – Merhaba – Huan yin – Yo koso – Benn-windo – and of course, Fàilte...

Whatever language we use, the message is the same – Welcome to Scotland, Welcome to Ross-shire, Welcome to the Royal Burgh of Tain, but most of all, welcome to the Glenmorangie Tain Highland Gathering.

Overseas visitors are invited to visit our Overseas Tent where we will be delighted to offer you a dram of Glenmorangie malt whisky, some Highland Fine Cheeses and some fine Scottish tablet. But more importantly we will offer you a welcoming smile and a chat with some of our Tain folk. There will also be an opportunity to sign our Visitors Book We look forward to welcoming you!



2025 CHAMPIONS

Local Heavies Male
Open Heavies Male
Open Heaves Female

Sinclair Patience
Kyle Randalls
Emmerleigh Barter

Local Track
Local Field
Open Track
Open Field
Overall

Michael Macgillvray
Michael Macgillvray
Michael Macgillvray
Michael Macgillvray
Michael Macgillvray

PIPING

15yrs and under Champion
Overall Junior
Overall Senior

Rory Menzies
Rory Menzies
Angus Macphee

HIGHLAND DANCING

Local 12 and under
Local 15 and under Highland Dancing
Local 16 and over Highland Dancing
Open 12 and under Highland Dancing
Open 15 and under Highland Dancing
Open 16 and over Highland Dancing

Gracie Schofield
Eilidh Guthrie
Amy Macrae
Gracie Schofield
Eilidh Guthrie
Lily Kelman

Open Cycling Champion

Ross Easthaugh



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