



## May What's On in Highland Perthshire

[www.explore-highland-perthshire.com](http://www.explore-highland-perthshire.com)

May 2009  
 Explore Scotland Ltd  
 01796 473335  
[www.explorescotland.net](http://www.explorescotland.net)  
[www.hpwhatson.net](http://www.hpwhatson.net)  
[www.cyclehighlandperthshire.com](http://www.cyclehighlandperthshire.com)

Why not take the space below at a small charge to enhance your Event?

E.mail [James@explorescotland.net](mailto:James@explorescotland.net)

Or Tel 01796 473335

### NEXT MONTH

**Saturday June 6th 7.30pm**

**Travellers, Traditions – Storytelling & Song- a celebration of Yellow on the Broom**

**Bell; Blair Athol Distillery**

Join us for an evening of “guid craic” at with Jess Smith, Essie Stewart, Claire Hewitt & guests.

As the dark, dreich nights are past and the broom is covered with yellow buds, we could all do with a story and a song. To celebrate Homecoming 2009 and our entry into Britain in Bloom, Pitlochry in Bloom invite you to help them celebrate our “Local Roots”, in an evening of whisky, water, wildlife & walking. Join us by the fire w/ a dram and hear the spinning of a yarn or two. And whether you have a tale or a song to share or no, you will be most welcome.

Tickets priced £5 will be available at Pitlochry TIC from mid May onwards. Numbers are limited. Evening starts at 7.30pm, **and free distillery tour for those who want to go round at 6.30pm**

**Pitlochry Festival Theatre** see website for details.

A selection of 3 plays including;

**Whisky Galore** - A Musical! (World Premiere starts 15th May) adapted from Compton Mackenzie's novel

**What Every Woman Knows** (Starts 21st May) by J.M. Barrie (A subversive Edwardian comedy)

**Good Things** by Liz Lochhead (Starts 28th May) (A modern romantic comedy) call 01796 484 626 or book online [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

17, 24 and 31 July; and 7, 14 and 21 August. Admission - £11 per person Tel: Tel 01796 481207 Email:

[rebeccam@atholl-estates.co.uk](mailto:rebeccam@atholl-estates.co.uk)

Web [www.atholl-estates.co.uk](http://www.atholl-estates.co.uk)

**Saturday 2nd May - 27th May Remarkable Encounters 3D Paintings & Drawings by Iain Brady (Exhibition) The Birnam Arts Centre, Birnam Dunkeld.**

Tel 01350 727674 [www.birnamarts.com](http://www.birnamarts.com)

**Monday 4th May 11am-4pm Fun with Fibres**

**Scottish Crannog Centre Kenmore**

This spinning, weaving and dying gala day is inspired by underwater discoveries of ancient rope and textiles. Try your hand at rope making, stick-weaving, make a dye-bath, spin colourful yarns or grasp the nettle to make string. Hands-on fun for all ages.

Admission tbc Tel 01887 830583

Email: [info@crannog.co.uk](mailto:info@crannog.co.uk) Web

[www.crannog.co.uk](http://www.crannog.co.uk)

**Monday 4th May 10am - 5pm Artwork for Sale!**

**Explorers Plant Hunters Garden (Pitlochry Festival Theatre)**

Workshop artists' work alongside others will be available to admire and purchase throughout the day - sculpture, planters, baskets, willow hurdles and more. Tel 01796 484626 [www.explorersgarden.com](http://www.explorersgarden.com)

**May**

**Dawn Patrol Safari**

**Highland Safaris, The Safari Lodge, Aberfeldy, Perthshire. PH15 2JQ**

Capture the magic of the Highland dawn chorus as the moors & glens come to life with this early morning Land Rover Safari. Delicious Farm Shop Café Breakfast included. For bookings and details contact Highland Safaris on 01887 820071 Email: [info@highlandsafaris.net](mailto:info@highlandsafaris.net) [www.highlandsafaris.net](http://www.highlandsafaris.net)

**Saturday 2nd May 12noon Behind Closed Doors (Blair Castle Attics)**

**Blair Castle Blair Atholl**

A special interest tour of the attics of Blair Castle. This 90 minute tour starts at 12noon. Please note that this tour involves many flights of spiral stairs and is only suitable for the fully able. Spaces are very limited, so booking is essential by contacting the castle on 01796 481207. Tours take place on 4, 11, 18 and 25 April; 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 May; 6, 13, 20 and 27 June; 3, 10,

**Monday 4th May 1.30pm**  
**Rocket Building Ages 8 - 12 years**  
**Birnam Arts Centre, Birnam,**  
**Dunkeld**

Mission Control - Calling all rocket scientists! Pupils build their own rocket creations and learn about friction, forces and motion as they prepare for the final countdown. This is the appliance of science on a cosmic scale! Tickets: £5 Tel 01350 727674 [www.birnamarts.com](http://www.birnamarts.com)

**Monday 4th May 11am to 4pm.**  
**Fun With Fibres**  
**The Scottish Crannog Centre Kenmore.**

This spinning, weaving, and dying gala day is inspired by underwater discoveries of ancient textiles. Try your hand at rope-making, simple weaving, make a dye-bath, spin colourful yarns or grasp the nettle to make string. Discovery & Hands-on fun for all ages. Normal admissions apply. Tel. 01887 830583. e.mail: [info@crannog.co.uk](mailto:info@crannog.co.uk)  
[www.crannog.co.uk](http://www.crannog.co.uk)

**Tuesday 5th May 7pm**  
**Race Night for Heartland FM**  
**Craigvrack Hotel Pitlochry**

Everyone welcome - come and support Heartland FM.

**Every Tuesday May 9pm - 11pm**  
**Cabaret Duo**  
**Fishers Hotel, Atholl Road,**  
**Pitlochry**

Cabaret Duo playing a diverse amount of modern songs. Free admission - Tel: 01796 472000

**Wednesday 6th May 10am-12noon**  
**Heather, Hills & Hamish**  
**Blair Castle Trekking Centre Blair Atholl**

Take a trek on the Atholl Ponies following old drover tracks. Spot wildlife and chat with Hamish an Estate Ghillie. Booking Essential. Treks take place on 15, 22, and 29 April; 6, 13, 20 and 27 May; 3, 10, 17 and 24 June; 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 July; and 5, 12 and 19 August. Admission - £39 Victoria Bogan Telephone - 01796 481568 Email: [vicki@blaircastletrekking.co.uk](mailto:vicki@blaircastletrekking.co.uk)  
 Web [www.blaircastletrekking.co.uk](http://www.blaircastletrekking.co.uk)

**Thursday 7th May 8.00pm**  
**On Our Way to Lisbon**  
**Pitlochry Festival Theatre Ben-y-Vrackie Bar**

It's 1967. Dust off your passport and join us for this hilarious two man play - with a cast of thousands - as they recreate the story of the immortal Lisbon Lions, when Celtic steam-rolled over the best teams in Europe. Tickets £12.50

Tel Box Office 01796 484626 E/Mail [boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk) Web [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

**Thursday 7th and Friday 8th May**  
**JUNO - Heartland Film Society**  
**The Locus Centre, Aberfeldy**

One of the brightest, funniest comedies of 2007, Juno's smart script and direction are matched by assured performances in a coming of age story with a 21st century twist. When Juno discovers she's pregnant, she is forced to grow up fast as she tries to find adoptive parents for her quickly growing child. Juno has many strengths but it's the screenwriting debut of writer Cody Diablo that makes this such a winning film for all ages. USA/Canada 2007 Certificate 15, 96 mins Tel:01887 830307 [www.heartlandfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.heartlandfilmsociety.org.uk)

**Every Thursday May 9pm - 11pm**  
**Swing of the Kilts Scottish variety show/dance**

**Fishers Hotel, Atholl Rd, Pitlochry**  
 Accordionist and compere Tommy Newcomen, with singers, dancers and musicians. A full show with general dancing. Free admission Tel 01796 472000 e.mail [tommynewcomen@hotmail.com](mailto:tommynewcomen@hotmail.com)

**Friday 8th May 7.30pm.**  
**Molteno Hall, Fortingall**  
**James MacLaren Society Annual Lecture 2009:**

John McKean, Professor of Architecture at the University of Brighton on "Was Mackintosh Different?". All welcome.

**Friday 8th May 8.00pm**  
**Rab Noakes**  
**Pitlochry Festival Theatre Ben-y-Vrackie Bar**

Join singer songwriter Rab Noakes for an evening of catchy melodies, tight guitar and gritty lyrics. Rab has collaborated over the last thirty years with Stealers Wheel, Lindisfarne, Gerry Rafferty and Deacon Blue to name a few! Tickets

£12.50

Tel Box Office 01796 484626 E/Mail [boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk) Web [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

**Friday 8th - Sunday 10th May**  
**7.30pm**

**Music in Blair Atholl**  
**Lude House Blair Atholl Concerts**  
 A series of delightful chamber concerts given in informal surroundings. Artists taking part: The John Tunnell Trust - Some of Britain's finest young professional chamber musicians with their Professors, William Bennett (flute), Neil Black (Oboe), Richard Deakin (Violin) & Clifford Benson (Piano) Tickets £15 Contact - Lavinia Gordon Telephone - 01796 481216

Email: [info@musicinblairatholl.com](mailto:info@musicinblairatholl.com)  
 Web [www.musicinblairatholl.com](http://www.musicinblairatholl.com)

**Saturday 9 May**  
**Strathtay Ramblers**  
**Amulree to Aberfeldy Distance: 9 miles Start grid ref: NN898365**

Along Loch Freuchie then over moorland tracks to Loch Hoil, and through the forest tracks before descending to the Birks. Note: Dogs possible; consult with leader.

Contact phone: 01887 840324  
 Meeting Info: OLD CHURCH CAR PARK, CRIEFF ROAD, ABERFELDY. at 9.30 a.m. or Amulree village hall CP at 10.00 a.m. Local grade: B

**Saturday 9th May 10am to 4pm.**  
**Braveheart – Conservation in Practice**

**Pitlochry Scout Hut, East Moulin Road, Pitlochry.**  
 A Rocha, a Christian environmental organization is hosting a conference in Pitlochry Scout Hut on The day will explore the conservation challenges that we face today and how to respond. Speakers will include Mark Adderley formerly CEO of NTS and Ewan Aitken, Council Secretary of the Church and Society Council. Lunch will be "bring-and-share" though tea and coffee will be provided. Admission is £5.00 . Please contact [Victoria.deschampsneufs@arocha.org](mailto:Victoria.deschampsneufs@arocha.org)  
 Tel: 07980 566448 if interested in attending.

**Sat 9th May 10.30am - 12noon  
Coffee Morning in aid of Pitlochry in Bloom**

**Strathgarry Restaurant, Pitlochry.**  
Admission £3 to include coffee/tea and cakes.

**Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th May  
10.30am - 4.30pm  
Scottish Colourists Painting with Colin Christie Two Day Workshop, £88**

**Pitlochry Festival Theatre**

A great chance to learn from accomplished Art Lecturer and artist Colin Christie. This workshop will focus on the style and techniques of The Scottish Colourists incorporating use of oils and acrylics, and developing methods to mix the colours that one sees – especially those tricky neutrals! Tel Box Office 01796 484626 E/Mail [boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk)  
Web [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

**Saturday 9th May 12noon  
Behind Closed Doors (Blair Castle Attics)**

**Blair Castle Blair Atholl**

A special interest tour of the attics of Blair Castle. This 90 minute tour starts at 12noon. Please note that this tour involves many flights of spiral stairs and is only suitable for the fully able. Spaces are very limited, so booking is essential by contacting the castle on 01796 481207. Tours take place on 4, 11, 18 and 25 April; 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 May; 6, 13, 20 and 27 June; 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 July; and 7, 14 and 21 August. Admission - £11 per person Tel: Tel 01796 481207 Email: [rebeccam@atholl-estates.co.uk](mailto:rebeccam@atholl-estates.co.uk)  
Web [www.atholl-estates.co.uk](http://www.atholl-estates.co.uk)

**Sunday 10th May 11,30am  
Christian Aid Service at Strathtay Church**

followed by a Soup and Sandwich lunch in the John Kyd Hall.

**Wed 13th May 10am-12noon  
Heather, Hills & Hamish  
Blair Castle Trekking Centre Blair Atholl**

Take a trek on the Atholl Ponies following old drover tracks. Spot wildlife and chat with Hamish an Estate Ghillie. Booking Essential. Treks take place on 15, 22, and 29 April; 6, 13, 20 and 27 May; 3,

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Web [www.blaircastletrekking.co.uk](http://www.blaircastletrekking.co.uk)

**Wednesday 13th May 7pm  
Plant Sale**

**Aberfeldy Town Hall**  
Perthshire Highland Horticultural Society Plant Sale, plus Cake & Candy and Tombola. (Bring your own bags). In the refurbished Town Hall.

**Thurs 14th May 11am to 1pm All ages**

**Spring Forth**

**Weem Woodland Car Park - Weem Forest Walk**

Spring has sprung, enjoy this ancient woodland as the buds begin to burst. Aberfeldy is the nearest town or village. Take Castle Menzies entrance then right to car park from B846, one mile west of Aberfeldy. Adults: £3.00, children: £1.00 Just turn up Dogs Allowed: Peter Fullarton Recreation Forester  
Tel 01350 727284 e-mail: [peter.fullarton@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:peter.fullarton@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
[www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)

**Friday 15th May 8pm.  
Fiddle Tree event: Hans Theesink plus Christian Johnstone in concert.  
Birnam Arts Centre, Birnam by Dunkeld.**

Hans Theesink has become one of the most sought-after artists of the international blues scene. He is more or less constantly "on tour" and plays an average of 200 concerts a year - a modern day troubadour and entertainer who keeps on spellbinding audiences all over the world with his rich and emotional sounds. Supported by young Dunkeld-based singer and songwriter Christian Johnstone. Tickets £10 (£8 in advance). Under 18s £3 or two for £5  
Contact - Birnam CD Telephone - 01350 727158 Email: [info@thefiddletree.com](mailto:info@thefiddletree.com)  
Web [www.thefiddletree.com](http://www.thefiddletree.com)

**Friday 15th May 7.30pm - 9pm  
Cyclists talk, featuring top adventure cyclists,  
Aberfeldy Watermill**

Karen Darke – 'From Wheels to Wheels...'

An illustrated talk on the Friday eve of Etape Caledonia, by inspirational cyclist and adventurer Karen Darke. When she was 21, Karen was paralysed from the chest down in a climbing accident. Since then she has hand-cycled across the Karakoram mountains, traversed the Greenland ice-cap and kayaked in Patagonia. 'I've had to challenge my own physical and mental barriers, completing many trips that others, including myself, believed impossible; from marathons and triathlons, to kayaking, sit-skiing and hand-cycling in some of the most inhospitable places on the planet.' Karen will also be signing copies of her book 'If You Fall...'

Tickets £4 from The Watermill

**Saturday 16th May Events  
Perthshire Cycle Festival (11am - 4pm)**

**Victoria Park, Aberfeldy  
Entry free to all.**

Emma Birtles and Sally Murray from Aberfeldy have put a huge amount of effort in to organising this event, there is something there for everyone, cyclists, non cyclist, families and grannies too...Perthshire Cycle Festival details

**Saturday 16th May evening  
Cyclists Film**

**Aberfeldy Watermill**

Details to follow.

**Saturday 16th  
Between Two Bridges Fun Run**

This is a charity fun run, being run on the path network between Aberfeldy and Kenmore Bridges.

[info@perthshirecyclingfestival.co.uk](mailto:info@perthshirecyclingfestival.co.uk)  
[www.perthshirecyclingfestival.co.uk](http://www.perthshirecyclingfestival.co.uk)

**Barbeque at Kenmore Courtyard**

On the Saturday after all the runners have reached Kenmore there is a barbeque and other activities organised at the Courtyard.

**Saturday 16th May 10am - 2pm  
Country Market**

**Mill of Logierait Farm beside the A827 just off the A9 at Ballinluig**

Local produce, crafts, collectibles. Music, refreshments, free parking and toilet facilities.

For more info contact the project officer on 07958 531 980 or [info@hpcp.co.uk](mailto:info@hpcp.co.uk)

**Saturday 16th May 10.30am -4pm  
Perthshire Cycling Festival  
Victoria Park, Aberfeldy**

FREE Event for all the family. It is great news that Perthshire Cycling Festival will this year be held in Aberfeldy on the weekend of Etape Caledonia – Saturday 16th May. The event is really aimed at families, new or rusty cyclists and people who want to find out more about cycling but there will be something for everyone! The event will be a really fun day with a stunt demonstration and competition, funny bikes to try, circus skills, obstacle courses, dress up your bike competition, science of bikes workshop, trade stands, information stands, kids races, climbing wall, music, food and lots more. For more information contact Emma Burtles on [dashbash@freenetname.co.uk](mailto:dashbash@freenetname.co.uk) or Sally Murray on [sm@lurganfarm.demon.co.uk](mailto:sm@lurganfarm.demon.co.uk)

**Drop at the Top – Highland Safaris**  
can whisk you and your bike up the top of a nearby hill for you to whizz down. How perfect! Distances vary and pre-booking essential.

Hand powered guided bike rides – join a highly experienced hand cyclist for a guided ride (various distances)

Guided bike rides for 10 – 16 year olds. Join us for a fun hour long guided ride – mountain bikes preferred.

Cycle Treasure Hunt – get out on the lovely Highland Perthshire roads – stop in some local cafes and shops, pick up 5 cards, complete the word and a fabulous prize awaits you in Kenmore (distance about 7 miles one way on quiet roads). Self guided.

For more information contact Emma Burtles on [Emma@perthshirecyclingfestival.co.uk](mailto:Emma@perthshirecyclingfestival.co.uk) or Sally Murray on [Sally@Perthshirecyclingfestival.co.uk](mailto:Sally@Perthshirecyclingfestival.co.uk)

**Saturday 16th May  
Castle Family Friendly Days  
Blair Castle, Blair Atholl**

Every Saturday throughout April, May (excluding 23rd) and June. Every Friday throughout July and August (excluding 28th August). Tractor and trailer rides, storytelling, children's tours of the castle and nature-themed treasure hunt in the castle grounds. Free to families as part of the standard castle admission price.

Tel 01796 481207 Email: [rebec-cam@atholl-estates.co.uk](mailto:rebec-cam@atholl-estates.co.uk) Web [www.atholl-estates.co.uk](http://www.atholl-estates.co.uk)

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**Sunday, 17th May 11am to 4pm.  
Annual Festival of Nettles  
The Scottish Crannog Centre Kenmore.**

Special range of exhibits, hands-on crafts, and foods celebrating the multi-talented nettle plant. Learn how to process nettles to spin the fibres. Waste not, want not! From string to soup, soap and shampoo, free facts and recipes, this event offers something for everyone. Normal admissions apply. Tel. 01887 830583. e.mail: [info@crannog.co.uk](mailto:info@crannog.co.uk) [www.crannog.co.uk](http://www.crannog.co.uk)

**Sunday 17th May  
Etape Caledonia starts at 7am from  
Pitlochry.**

Pipers have been organised to play at various vantage points around the route. Those of you who have not witness the race it is well worth while seeing it. Get to your local vantage point and enjoy Britain's only closed road cycle event.

**Sunday 17th May 7am-5pm  
Etape Caledonia Pitlochry approxi-  
mately**

The Etape Caledonia is an 81 mile cycle challenge taking place on traffic-free roads in the stunning scenery of Highland Perthshire. The event on 17th May 2009 is open to individuals between the ages of 18 and 80. To ensure that the roads are reopened to the schedule agreed with the authorities, participants will need to maintain an average speed of 13-14mph around the course. This gives at least 6h 15mins to reach the

finishing line within the closure window. Even if you are unable to meet this average you can continue on open roads and complete the full circuit. Spectators are welcome to come along and join in the fun and celebrations at the finish line. Spectators free, Participants £54 Registration Contact - Etape Caledonia Tel: 0871 384 9920

Email: [info@etapecaledonia.co.uk](mailto:info@etapecaledonia.co.uk) Web [www.etapecaledonia.co.uk](http://www.etapecaledonia.co.uk)

**Monday 18th May  
Pitlochry School mini Etape**

where pupils will cycle a quarter of the Etape route – still no mean feat! A new bike club will be set up in the school too. Breadalbane Academy are currently looking at ways they can promote cycling in the school.

**Tuesday 19th May 8.00pm  
Maggie MacInnes Trio  
Pitlochry Festival Theatre - Ben-y-  
Vrackie Bar**

An acclaimed singer and clarsach player, Maggie will perform alongside Brian McAlpine Session A9 (keyboards & accordion) and Anna Massie Capercaillie and Kate Rusby Band (guitar & fiddle). Together they give Maggie's haunting, expressive singing a sympathetic and exciting edge. Tickets £12.50 Tel Box Office 01796 484626 E/Mail [boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk) Web [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

**Wednesday 20th May 10am-  
12noon  
Heather, Hills & Hamish  
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**Wednesday 20 May 11am-1pm**

**Bluebell Woods**

**Craigvinean Car Park by Dunkeld**

Come and see the bluebell woods of Criagvinean. A relaxed stroll for young and old.

Adults £3, Children £1 Contact - Forestry Commission Telephone - 01738 710399

Email: [chris.ford@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:chris.ford@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

Web [www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)

**Wednesday 20th May 8.00pm**

**Southpaw**

**Pitlochry Festival Theatre -**

**Ben-y-Vrackie Bar**

From the Highlands of Scotland to the Prairies of Americana. If you like Creedence Clearwater Revival, Steve Earle and Reckless Kelly then Southpaw are for you. A guaranteed evening of feel-good country rock music and guitar mastery. Yeehaw for Southpaw! Tickets £12.50 Tel Box Office 01796 484626 E/Mail [boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk) Web [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

**Friday 22nd May 9.00pm**

**Old Blind Dogs**

**Live @ McKays, Pitlochry**

*"A major force to be reckoned with...a source of continual surprises...firmly establishes their position as one of the most exciting Scottish bands around, bar none."* - folk roots UK

[www.myspace.com/oldblinddogs](http://www.myspace.com/oldblinddogs)

Tickets £10. Booking highly recommended. Live @ McKays, McKays Hotel, 138 Atholl Rd, Pitlochry. 01796 473888

[www.McKaysHotel.co.uk](http://www.McKaysHotel.co.uk)

**Saturday 23rd - Friday 29th May**

**Pitlochry Golf Course - Pitlochry Golf Week**

**Pitlochry Golf Club Pitlochry**

Pitlochry Golf Week was established in 1979 and includes various organised competitions, tuition and evening entertainment throughout the week. Participation conditional on staying at a tournament hotel. Admission - Prices on application Contact - Derek Smail Tel: 01796 472862

Email: [pro@pitlochrygolf.co.uk](mailto:pro@pitlochrygolf.co.uk) Web

[www.pitlochrygolf.co.uk](http://www.pitlochrygolf.co.uk)

**Saturday 23rd May 12noon**

**Behind Closed Doors (Blair Castle Attics)**

**Blair Castle Blair Atholl**

A special interest tour of the attics of Blair Castle. This 90 minute tour starts at 12noon. Please note that this tour involves many flights of spiral stairs and is only suitable for the fully able. Spaces are very limited, so booking is essential by contacting the castle on 01796 481207. Tours take place on 4, 11, 18 and 25 April; 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 May; 6, 13, 20 and 27 June; 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 July; and 7, 14 and 21 August. Admission - £11 per person Tel: Tel 01796 481207 Email: [rebeccam@athollestates.co.uk](mailto:rebeccam@athollestates.co.uk) Web [www.athollestates.co.uk](http://www.athollestates.co.uk)

**Saturday 23 May 2009 2.30pm**

**ATHOLL HIGHLANDER'S PARADE**

**Blair Castle Blair Atholl.**

Annual parade and inspection of the Atholl Highlanders and their pipe band by the Duke of Atholl.

Adults £2.70, Senior Citizens £2.70 & Children £1.40 Tel: Blair Castle Telephone - 01796 481207

Email: [office@blair-castle.co.uk](mailto:office@blair-castle.co.uk) Web [www.blair-castle.co.uk](http://www.blair-castle.co.uk)

**Saturday 23rd May 7.30pm**

**May Bank Holiday Madness Ceilidh**

**The Birnam Arts Centre Birnam Dunkeld.**

with the Kinnaird Ceilidh Band. Come in your posh shoes or your old boots, but come to party! Stovies included in price, £8 Adults, £4 Kids Tel 01350 727674

[www.birnamarts.com](http://www.birnamarts.com)

**Sunday 24 May**

**Strathtay Ramblers**

**Dunkeld Hermitage Circular Distance: 7 miles** Start gridref: NO015422

An easy ramble through the Hermitage along the river Braan crossing at Rumbling Bridge, and returning via Dundonacchie. Note: Dogs possible; consult with leader. Contact phone: 01887 840324 Meeting Info: OLD CHURCH CAR PARK, CRIEFF ROAD, ABERFELDY. at 9.30 a.m. or Hermitage CP at 10.00 a.m. Local grade: C

**Sunday 24 May 2009 1.15pm**

**Atholl Gathering and Highland Games Blair Castle Blair Atholl**

The Atholl Gathering and Highland Games will take place at Target Park, Blair Castle,

Blair Atholl, on Sunday, 24th. May 2009 commencing at approximately 1.15 pm. The games will be opened by John Murray, 11th. Duke of Atholl, in the time honoured way by beating his sword four times on his shield. There will then followed an afternoon of traditional heavy-weight competitions and races including the Atholl Highlander's Race, run in full regimental regalia. Admission :- Adults £5.00; Seniors £3.00; Children £2.00. Contact : [bookings@blair-castle.co.uk](mailto:bookings@blair-castle.co.uk) Tel. No. 01796 481 207.

**Sunday 24th May 12 noon-5.00pm**

**Atholl Highland Games**

**Meet the NTS Rangers**

Join the Countryside Rangers for some children's activities at the National Trust for Scotland stall.

Free after entry to games Tel 0844 493 2192 [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk)

**Every Monday from 25th May to**

**7th September 7.45pm gates open 7pm**

**Highland Nights**

**Recreation Ground Pitlochry**

(Robert Wiseman Dairies Vale of Atholl Pipe band). Follow the parade from Fishers Hotel at 7.30p, to the Recreation Ground. Highland and Scottish dancing, songs and music. Venue - Drive into recreation ground, watch from your car or from the terracing. If wet, venue - Pitlochry Town Hall, Adults \$5, Concessions £4. Children free.

Tel: - G McNab 0773 315 2223 e.mail [gmcnab00@aol.com](mailto:gmcnab00@aol.com) Web [www.highlandnight.com](http://www.highlandnight.com)

**Tuesday 26th May 8.00pm**

**Daniel Smith**

**Pitlochry Festival Theatre - Ben-y-Vrackie Bar**

A huge welcome back to Scotland's answer to Jools Holland. Daniel can boogie, swing and slam out slow blues like an old master. Always crisp and note perfect, his adventurous approach makes him one of the best blues pianists on the circuit today. Tickets £12.50

Tel Box Office 01796 484626 E/Mail [boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk) Web [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

**Tuesday 26th & Wednesday 27th  
May 10.30am - 4.30pm**

**Watercolours with James Murdoch  
Two Day Workshop, £88  
Pitlochry Festival Theatre**

Whether you're just starting out or want to improve existing skills, experienced teacher and regular exhibitor at PFT, James Murdoch, will lead you through a variety of watercolour techniques in this popular workshop. capacity: 20 Tel Box Office 01796 484626

E/Mail [boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk) Web [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

**Wednesday 27th May 10am-  
12noon**

**Heather, Hills & Hamish  
Blair Castle Trekking Centre Blair  
Atholl**

Take a trek on the Atholl Ponies following old drover tracks. Spot wildlife and chat with Hamish an Estate Ghillie. Booking Essential. Treks take place on 15, 22, and 29 April; 6, 13, 20 and 27 May; 3, 10, 17 and 24 June; 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 July; and 5, 12 and 19 August. Admission - £39 Victoria Bogan Telephone - 01796 481568 Email:

[vicki@blaircastletrekking.co.uk](mailto:vicki@blaircastletrekking.co.uk)

Web [www.blaircastletrekking.co.uk](http://www.blaircastletrekking.co.uk)

**Wednesday 27th May 8.00pm  
Tam White**

**Pitlochry Festival Theatre - Ben-y-  
Vrackie Bar**

Tam is the godfather of blues in the UK. Described as a blues singer, rock, R+B, funk, country and jazz all play a part in the totality of his style. Tam's other credits include being the voice behind Robbie Coltrane's Big Jazza in Tutti Frutti and playing Clan Chief MacGregor in Braveheart! Tickets £12.50 Tel Box Office 01796 484626 E/Mail [boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@pitlochry.org.uk)

Web [www.pitlochry.org.uk](http://www.pitlochry.org.uk)

**Thursday 28th May 11am  
Ranger lead walks**

**Loch of the Lowes Visitor Centre  
2mils from Dunkeld on A923**

"Join one of our rangers as they lead you on a guided walk from the historic village of Dunkeld to Loch of the Lowes." £5 for non-members and £2.50 for SWT members. Booking is essential. Contact the Visitor Centre on Tel: 01350727337 or [lochoft-helowes@swt.org.uk](mailto:lochoft-helowes@swt.org.uk)

**Thursday 28 May 11am - 1pm  
Bud Busting**

**Weem Woodland car park**

Spring has sprung, enjoy this ancient woodland as the buds begin to burst Adults: £3, children £1 For events information contact 07801 827986. No booking required

**Saturday 30th May  
Castle Family Friendly Days  
Blair Castle, Blair Atholl**

Every Saturday throughout April, May (excluding 23rd) and June

Every Friday throughout July and August (excluding 28th August)

Tractor and trailer rides, storytelling, children's tours of the castle and nature-themed treasure hunt in the castle grounds. Free to families as part of the standard castle admission price.

Tel 01796 481207 Email: [rebeccam@atholl-estates.co.uk](mailto:rebeccam@atholl-estates.co.uk) Web [www.atholl-estates.co.uk](http://www.atholl-estates.co.uk)

**Saturday 30th May 12noon  
Behind Closed Doors (Blair Castle  
Attics)**

**Blair Castle Blair Atholl**

A special interest tour of the attics of Blair Castle. This 90 minute tour starts at 12noon. Please note that this tour involves many flights of spiral stairs and is only suitable for the fully able. Spaces are very limited, so booking is essential by contacting the castle on 01796 481207. Tours take place on 4, 11, 18 and 25 April; 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 May; 6, 13, 20 and 27 June; 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 July; and 7, 14 and 21 August. Admission - £11 per person Tel: 01796 481207

Email: [rebeccam@atholl-estates.co.uk](mailto:rebeccam@atholl-estates.co.uk) Web [www.atholl-estates.co.uk](http://www.atholl-estates.co.uk)

**Sunday 31st May 2pm**

**The Weatherman an interactive  
music concert for all children aged  
6-11yrs and their families  
Birnam Arts Centre, Birnam,  
Dunkeld**

Sunshine, Rain, Snow - you name it, there's music for it! The Weatherman is in charge of the music for the weather... everywhere. His job is getting increasingly difficult, what with global warming and everything...

Developed by Giant's Musician in Residence Dave Boyd, The Weatherman concert uses live musicians, dance, and video to explore a wide range of musical genres and exotic instruments. The concert is interactive and fully participatory with a 'Recycled Rhythm' section finale that has the entire audience playing! Music making, earth caring fun! Tickets £5. Tel 01350 727674

[www.birnamarts.com](http://www.birnamarts.com)

**If you have an Event you would like to advertise Free of Charge  
e.mail [eileen@explorescotland.net](mailto:eileen@explorescotland.net) with Date/Time/Event/Venue/Price**

**NB We try to make sure all the information we post is accurate, but please check directly with the venue concerned before committing yourself.**

**NB. If you would like to discuss a small advertisement on these pages please e.mail [james@explorescotland.net](mailto:james@explorescotland.net) or phone 01796 473335**