

**The Dangleberries:** are original pipe-rockers formed in September 2001, and have performed throughout Scotland at festivals including The Wickerman Festival, Wizard, Loopallu and the Tartan Heart Festival at Belladrum. They're here in Kirrie to play at the DD8 Concert on Saturday night. DD8 are a Kirrie-based organisation dedicated to involving everyone (though particularly young folk) in music, and are the force behind the Bon Scott Festival and statue. Get earlybird tickets and more info at: [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-dangleberries-the-kirrie-festival](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-dangleberries-the-kirrie-festival)

**Henry Douglas:** Cracking singer from Bonchester Bridge near Hawick. Henry has long been an institution at Common Ridings and other events in The Borders, and in recent years has travelled further north where his powerful voice and entertaining stage presence has seen him booked to perform at Muchty, FifeSing and Cullerlie Traditional Singing Weekend. He came to Kirrie last year as a normal person and this time he's back as a guest.

**Nigel Gatherer & Sam Gifford:** Nigel is best known as a mandolin player and teacher, and this year was inducted into the Scottish Traditional Music Hall of Fame. He's also a formidable whistle player and has compiled many books of tunes, starting in 1985 with the classic and very influential: Songs and Ballads of Dundee. Nigel will be joined on guitar by Sam Gifford from Aberfeldy.

**Sandy Mathers & Scott Carnegie:** Classic box and fiddle duo. From his base in Luthermuir, Sandy is a regular at festivals across the north-east. As well as the fiddle, he's a dab hand at the melodeon and moothie, and has been known to sing The Pirnie Taed Loon on occasion. Scott bides in Friockheim and used to play box with the celebrated An Teallach Ceilidh Band.

**Anne Nicol:** A great fiddler brought up on a farm near Insch in Aberdeenshire, Anne has been a regular prizewinner at Kirrie and other festivals. In 2010 she played the Festival as part of a ceilidh band, but this is her first time as a solo guest.

**Skirdechal:** Stemming from Angus Council's Youth Music Initiative, Skirdechal are a group of great young traditional musicians who are regulars at The Festival. They meet once a week at Carnoustie High School and are led by Skye/Balmirmer fiddler Katherine Liley. You can hear them at The Thrums Session on Saturday afternoon and at the concerts that night.

**Festival Office:** venue tbc, but it should be somewhere in The Square. We'll update the website and programme once we do know.

**Kirrie Venue Map:** Get this on our website, or pick one up from the festival office.

**Tickets can be bought from:**

**George Rennie (16 Roods) 01575 573292**

To find out any more about the festival contact:

**Festival Secretary:** Patrick Newman  
Rose Cottage, Cortachy, Angus.  
01575 540 261

**Email:** [info@kirriefestival.org](mailto:info@kirriefestival.org)

**Website:** [www.kirriefestival.org](http://www.kirriefestival.org)

The Festival has been made possible by the following sponsors (complete at time of printing):

**Joseph Aitken and Sons  
Kerymor Tavern**

**Saltire Society's Thrums Up: an art exhibition  
on at The Wendy House (16 High St.) during Festival  
And other Anonymous Donations**

We'd also like to thank all the performers, stewards, chair movers, judges, clerks and other helpers who give their time so generously to the festival. Kirrie Festival is a real labour of love for all concerned, and it's your support and the support of the audiences which make it possible.

If you'd like to become more involved with the festival or have any suggestions then please get in touch.

Also, if you'd like to join or find out more about the TMSA (Traditional Music and Song Association - of which Kirrie Festival is part) their website is [www.tmsa.org.uk](http://www.tmsa.org.uk)

**Next Kirrie Festival**

**7th, 8th & 9th September  
2018**

# 36th Kirriemuir Festival of Music and Song

Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd, Sunday 3rd  
September 2017

Ceilidhs, Concerts, Competitions,  
Singarounds, Street Entertainment, Sessions



**Performers include:**

Aileen Carr	Sandy Mathers & Scott Carnegie
Shona Donaldson	Anne Nicol
Henry Douglas	Skirdechal
Nigel Gatherer & Sam Gifford	The Dangleberries
Angus Strathspey & Reel	Angus Folk
Forfar Instrumental Band	Joe Aitken



## Friday 1st September

**Opening Concert** Airlie Arms Hotel, St Malcolm's Wynd Angus Strathspey & Reel, Aileen Carr, Shona Donaldson, Henry Douglas, Nigel Gatherer & Sam Gifford, Sandy Mathers & Scott Carnegie, Anne Nicol. MC: Joe Aitken  
**Starts 8:30pm Tickets £8**

**Sessions** Airlie Arms Lounge Bar ~7:30pm  
Kerymor Tavern 9pm

## Saturday 2nd September

**Competitions** Happen throughout the day on Saturday in the Old Parish Kirk Hall, and in the Kirk itself. Because competitor numbers vary from year to year many of the competitions are run consecutively (without definite start times) to keep things moving. Admission is free.

### Kirk in the morning

**Fiddle** Junior, Senior, Local, J.F. Dickie Cup **Starts 10:30am**

**Accordion** Junior, Senior, Local **Starts 11:30am**

**Ceilidh Band** follows accordion  
**Instrumental Pairs** follows ceilidh band

### Kirk Hall in the morning/afternoon

**Men's Singing** Junior, Senior **Starts 11am**

**Women's Singing** Junior, Senior *Singing classes are run together (alternating male / female)*  
**Bothy Ballad** *to let folk hear all the singing*

**Local Singer**

**Novice Singer**

### Kirk in the afternoon

**Mouthorgan** **Starts 1pm**

**Jews Harp** follows mouthorgan

**Tin Whistle** follows jews harp

**Melodeon** follows tin whistle

**Concertina** follows melodeon

**Oral Whistle** follows concertina

**Diddling** follows oral whistle

**Storytelling** Junior, Senior **Starts 2:30pm**

**Doric Verse** under 8, 9 - 12, 13 -15, Senior follows storytelling

**Chorus Cup** is held during the evening singaround in Masonic Hall

### **Forfar Instrumental Band 2 - 5pm** in The Square

**Sessions** Three Bellies Brae: Afternoon/Eve  
Rennie's Shop ~ All Day  
Thrums ~ 2:30pm  
Airlie Lounge ~ 3pm (singaround)

**Prizewinners Concert** Kirk Hall, The Square  
See the singers, musicians, and storytellers get their prizes and listen to them perform.  
**7 - 9pm Tickets £5**

## Saturday 2nd September continued

**DD8 Concert: The Dangleberries** Town Hall  
The band that started off the pipe rock phenomena. Anyone who's seen one of their legendary Belladrum performances (where they have basically become the house band) will know what a treat they're in for. Big tunes, originals and covers, and all played with true Scottish passion!  
**7:30pm - Midnight. Earlybird Tickets (£10)** online at: [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-dangleberries-the-kirrie-festival](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-dangleberries-the-kirrie-festival)

**Concert Ceilidh** Bowling Club, Brechin Road  
Aileen Carr, Angus Folk, Shona Donaldson, Henry Douglas, Nigel Gatherer & Sam Gifford, Sandy Mathers & Scott Carnegie, Anne Nicol, Skirdechal.  
**8 - 10:30pm Tickets £8**

**Concert Ceilidh** Airlie Arms Hotel, St Malcolm's Wynd  
Aileen Carr, Shona Donaldson, Henry Douglas, Nigel Gatherer & Sam Gifford, Sandy Mathers & Scott Carnegie, Anne Nicol, Skirdechal. MC: Joe Aitken  
**Starts 9:15pm Tickets £8**

**Singaround** Masonic Hall  
**Starts 11pm** No Bar. BYOB.

## Sunday 3rd September

**Kirk Service** The Glens and Kirriemuir Old Parish Kirk with Angus Strathspey and Reel Society.  
**Starts 11:15am**

**Angus Heritage Week Talk** Thrums Hotel, Bank Street  
Leading exponent Shona Donaldson talks about bothy ballads, their history and significance, and her involvement with them - She'll mebbe even sing a puckle tie.  
**12:15pm - 1:15pm Admission Free**

**Sessions** Three Bellies Brae: Afternoon  
Thrums: Afternoon

**Thistle Club Concert** Kirrie Thistle Club, Westview Park  
Performers include festival guests: Joe Aitken, Aileen Carr, Shona Donaldson, Henry Douglas, Nigel Gatherer, Sandy Mathers & Scott Carnegie, Anne Nicol. And, as ever, a wheen of quality songs and tunes from audience members who fancy doing a turn.  
**2pm—5:30pm Tickets £8**

**Closing Concert Ceilidh** Airlie Arms Hotel  
Featuring surviving guests and others.  
**Starts 7:30pm Admission Free**

## Music Sessions

These happen across town during the Festival. Regular venues include Kerymor Tavern (up from the campsite on Glamis Road), Three Bellies Brae (generally instrumental in the main bar, and singing sessions through the back) Roods Bar, Rennie's Shop (2 St Malcolm's Wynd) Airlie Arms (doonstairs lounge) and Thrums Hotel. We've put some of the main sessions in the programme to give everyone a better idea of what goes on most years. This is just a guide however, and visiting musicians are welcome to start an impromptu session wherever appropriate.

## Festival Guests

**Joe Aitken:** An excellent singer and MC, Joe's a very well travelled performer and is just back from representing Scotland at Rudolstadt Festival in Germany.

**Angus Folk:** A 20-strong singing group based in the town, Angus Folk perform throughout the county and host regular concerts in GKOP Kirk in The Square. Nowadays their regular tutor is Amy Lord from Dunblane.

**Angus Strathspey and Reel Society:** Long-established fiddle group, based in the town, will play at Friday's opening concert in The Airlie Arms and at the Kirk Service on Sunday.

**Aileen Carr:** was born and brought up in a musical household in Coupar Angus. She attended the first Blairgowrie Festivals as a teenager, and later those at Kinross. A great interpreter of traditional song, she has guested at festivals and folk clubs across the British Isles both solo, and as a member of the groups Ceolbeg and Palaver. This is her first time at Kirrie Festival in the 21st Century though.

**Shona Donaldson:** A leading light of the traditional singing and bothy ballad world, Shona is from Huntly originally and now lives in Tarland. She also represented Scotland at this year's Rudolstadt Festival in Germany, and the week before that at Willie Clancy Summer School of traditional Irish music, song and dance in County Clare. Shona will be doing this year's Angus Heritage Week Talk (Sunday lunchtime at The Thrums) about bothy ballads.

**Forfar Instrumental Band:** Great supporters of Kirrie Festival, this long - established band will be performing on Saturday afternoon in The Square assuming decent weather. If it's raining or offensively cold then they'll be in The Kirk Hall.

