CatStrand

Events Guide | June - September 2026

Est. 2007









Music : Performing Arts : Film : Exhibitions : Workshops

CATSTRAND CREATIVES

CULTURAL GLENKENS

Glenkens Community & Arts Trust

gcat.scot | 01644 420374

CatStrand Arts & Visitor Centre
Open 11am - 4pm Tuesday - Saturday

Box Office & Bookings
For booking enquiries / to book
01644 420 374 or www.gcat.scot

Glenkens Community & Arts Trust,
CatStrand, High St,
New Galloway, DG7 3RN
Reg Scottish Charity SCO32050

Like what we do?

See **gcat.scot/support-us** for details of our Legacy, Friends & Volunteering schemes.

VISITING

CatStrand bar opens 45 minutes before evening shows. Evening meals are normally available at the Lochinvar Hotel, Ken Bridge Hotel and Clachan Inn in Dalry. Please check their availability and opening hours directly – booking is advised.

There is a limited local bus service: www.glenkens.scot/transport has up-to-date information.

General parking is available in public car parks in New Galloway and on street in Balmaclellan. Charge Place Scotland 7kw EV chargers are available at Carsons Knowe car park, New Galloway. A free 7kw electric vehicle charging facility is available at the Smiddy, Balmaclellan. The CatStrand welcomes cyclists and has a free to use bike shed and tool station. The Smiddy also has a bike shed.

CATSTRAND CAFÉ & SHOP

Open 11am - 4pm Tuesday - Saturday.
Seating indoors and outdoors coffee & cake, licensed bar. Lunch served 11:30am - 2pm. Advance booking recommended.

ACCESSIBILITY

We offer a welcoming space for all visitors and audience members. Our events take place in fully accessible venues. We can offer additional support to facilitate your visit please visit: gcat.scot/access/ or email access@catstrand.com

ARTS PROGRAMME

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CatStrand

Creative Hub of a Cultural Landscape

Welcome to CatStrand – *'a wee gem of a venue'*

Serving up a brilliant mix of arts and live events in our warm, welcoming, and intimate space.

CatStrand is a premier performing arts venue in Dumfries & Galloway and the cultural hub of the Glenkens. It hosts an arts programme that plays an important role in the Scottish theatre and music touring circuit and is a mainstay of the region's cultural offering.

CatStrand is an essential part of the Glenkens identity, renowned for its warm welcome, appreciative audiences, and high-quality, diverse programme. It creates space for creative exploration of our heritage, landscape, and the issues facing our communities.

CatStrand is supported by Creative Scotland

CREATIVE SCOTLAND
ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



Sun 28 Jun 4pm

ALL MY SONS: NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

THEATRE ON SCREEN | CatStrand | £15, £10 UC & U26

Bryan Cranston and Marianne Jean-Baptiste star in Ivo Van Hove's acclaimed West End production of Arthur Miller's drama about family, guilt and the American Dream. (12A)



Sun 02 Aug 2pm

SCOTTISH ALTERNATIVE GAMES: FEATURING JOURNEY / CIRQULATION ENSEMBLE

EVENT| New Galloway Park | £6, £4 UC, £1 U26

Scotland's quirkiest games return to New Galloway! Gird 'n' Cleek, Snail Racing, Tug o' War & more. Plus Cirqulation's JOURNEY — a stunning, emotionally resonant circus show for all ages.



Sun 26 Jul 3pm

ARCANA / FAY GUIFFO

THEATRE | CatStrand | £12, £10 UC, £5 U26

Arcana is a poetic, music-led journey following a young composer's search for identity and freedom, blending classical and African traditions into a rich, immersive performance.



Image credit: Marc Brenner

Sun 9 Aug 4pm

THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD: NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

THEATRE ON SCREEN | CatStrand | £15, £10 UC & U26

At the edge of the earth, a stranger claiming patricide transforms village life. Synge's wild tale of identity, desire and rebellion unfolds on stage vividly.



Thu
20 Aug
7:30pm

ALI AFFLECK: NEW ORLEANS JAZZ

MUSIC| CatStrand | £16, £14 UC, £5 U26

Ali Affleck leads an international trio celebrating New Orleans and Harlem jazz, featuring Mathieu Meyer, Pablo Lopez, and Roy Percy in a vibrant, unforgettable night.



Wed
02 Sep
7:30pm

DEISEIL: DANCING IN TIME

THEATRE | Dalry Town Hall | £14, £12 UC, £4 U26

A powerful exploration of stepdance, Scotland's percussive dance, told through fiddle, feet, Gaelic song and story. Director Gerry Mulgrew, musician Amy Geddes and dancer Alison Carlyle.



Thu
03 Sep
7:30pm

DEISEIL: DANCING IN TIME – PANEL DISCUSSION

TALK | CatStrand | £10, £8 UC, £4 U26

Director Gerry Mulgrew, performers Alison Carlyle and Amy Geddes, joined by musicians Allan Macdonald, David Francis and Emily Smith — a discussion on the resurgence of tradition, stepdance, identity and belonging.



Sat
12 Sep
7:30pm

WE WILL HEAR THE ANGELS: MAGNETIC NORTH

THEATRE | New Galloway Town Hall | £14, £12 UC, £5 U26

We Will Hear The Angels explores melancholy through words, movement and music, with five actor-musicians, featuring songs by Hank Williams, Orange Juice, and Etta James, among others. Age 14+



Thu
13 Sep
4pm

LES LIAISONS DANGEROUSES: NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

THEATRE ON SCREEN | CatStrand | £15, £10 UC & U26

Among the glittering salons of the super-rich, patriarchy equals power, reputation is everything and for women, one misstep can mean ruin.



Thu
17 Sep
7:30pm

Naad-Hara

MUSIC | CatStrand | £12 £10 UC, £5 U26

A unique meeting of Indian classical and Scottish traditional music, creating a new soundscape through song, improvisation, and new compositions in a rich cultural dialogue.



Sat
26 Sep
2:30pm

ABSOLUTE CLASSICS: AN AFTERNOON OF BRAHMS & RACHMANINOV

MUSIC | CatStrand | £20, £4 U26

Clémence de Forceville, Benedict Kloeckner and Oxana Shevchenko — three internationally acclaimed artists bring world-class chamber music to an intimate CatStrand setting.



Sat
10 Oct
7:30pm

ALASDAIR ROBERTS

MUSIC | CatStrand | £16, £14 UC, £6 U26

'Quietly escalating towards Scottish national treasure status' – Mojo. Traditional Scottish songs and ballads delivered in his inimitable style.



Fri
02 Oct
2:30pm &
7:30pm

FRED MACAULAY: GOOD EVENING!

COMEDY | CatStrand | £20, £18 UC, £12 U26

Now in his fourth decade of stand-up, one of Scotland's funniest comedians returns to the stage — fresh material, same unstoppable appetite for live comedy.

N.B. 7:30pm sold out, 2:30pm show BSL interpreted.



Sat
17 Oct
2:30pm

ABSOLUTE CLASSICS: MANAMI SUZUKI

MUSIC | CatStrand | £20, £4U26

Multi-award-winning Japanese pianist Manami Suzuki — historic winner of the 2024 Hamamatsu International Piano Competition — performs Beethoven and Schubert in an unmissable CatStrand recital.



Sat
03 Oct
7:30pm

BLUE ROSE CODE

MUSIC | CatStrand | £20, £18 UC, £12 U26

Blue Rose Code blends Caledonian soul, folk and poetic song writing in a powerful, heartfelt live performance.



Fri
23 Oct
7:30pm

QUINES: THE BUBBLYJOCK COLLECTIVE

MUSIC | CatStrand | £12, £8 UC, £4 U26

Celebrating overlooked female Scottish composers and forgotten women from history — a bold new programme weaving rediscovered music with a newly commissioned song cycle bringing five remarkable lives back to light.



Wed 28 Oct 7:30pm

DO NOT PASS GO: JORDAN & SKINNER

THEATRE | New Galloway Town Hall | £14, £12UC, £5 U26

Award-winning theatre company Jordan & Skinner bring their irreverent physical theatre style to an epic true story of games, money, and the forgotten woman who invented Monopoly. Age 14+



Thu 31 Oct 7:30pm

BIRDVOX

MUSIC | CatStrand | £20, £16 UC, £10 U26

Sarah Hayes, Inge Thomson, Jenny Sturgeon and Charlotte Printer unite as Birdvox — debut album Shamming The Drama delivers political disco, skewed folk and joyful avian electronica.

CULTURAL GLENKENS • CULTURAL GLENKENS • CULTURAL GLENKENS • CULTURAL GLENKENS

CULTURAL GLENKENS

Cultural Glenkens is CatStrand Arts's programme designed to support and develop locally-led projects. It is a place-based, people-led programme which supports cultural and heritage activity by amplifying the huge volunteer enthusiasm for this subject.

It roots CatStrand Arts firmly in the Glenkens, bringing additional expertise through volunteers and partners, and providing a welcoming space for participation and engagement.

Cultural Glenkens projects respond directly to the needs and ambitions of our communities. They promote a sense of well-being, inclusion and engagement in the community, and encourage active





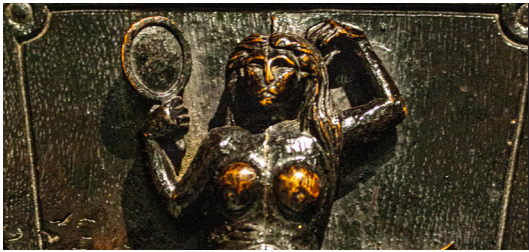
Image credit: Angus Hogg

Sun 12 Jul 10am

BIRD WATCHING IN THE GLENKENS

WALK | Dalry Town Hall | £6, £5 UC & U26

Guided bird walk which will follow the Donald Watson Walk, along the banks of the River Dee, with local expert, Chris Rollie.



Sat 18 Jul 3pm

MERMAIDS OF DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY: GALLOWAY CONVERSATIONS

TALK | The Smiddy | £8, £6 UC & U26

Stories and accounts of mermaids are often surprising – they can be caught on hooks by fishermen, negatively affected by pollution or act as healers and protectors of water supplies.



Multiple Dates
2pm

TRAD FOLK MUSIC SKILL BUILDING SESSIONS

MUSIC | The Smiddy | 26 Jul, 09 Aug | £16, £14, UC, £12 U26

Ever wanted to be on the inside of the trad music in the pub? Join friendly seasoned experts for core tricks, techniques and melodies of the Scottish and Irish music session.



Thu
10 Sep
7:30pm

THE SONG THAT CANNOT BE SILENCED: LARRY WINGER

LIVE LIT | CatStrand | £5

Author Larry Winger in conversation with Margaret Elphinstone. Larry's novel considers issues of voicelessness, identity loss, and bravery. Early readers have laughed and wept with the character's story.



Thu
27 Aug
7pm

GALLOWAY SHORTS FILM SCREENING

FILM | Dalry Town Hall | £3 (PG content)

Celebrate emerging voices at Galloway Shorts, showcasing amateur filmmakers through drama, documentary and animation screenings, with opportunities to connect, meet peers and share stories together.



Thu
22 Oct
2pm

ANDY GOLDSWORTHY IN CONVERSATION WITH ANDREW GRAHAM-DIXON

FILM & Q&A | CatStrand | £10, £8 UC & U26

This compelling film captures an exclusive, deeply personal dialogue between the world-renowned land artist and the acclaimed art historian, author, and broadcaster. Followed by a Q&A session with Andrew Graham-Dixon.



Sun
30 Aug
3pm

GALLOWAY CONVERSATIONS: JUDITH HEWITT ON DR WERNER KISSLING

TALK | CatStrand | £8, £6 UC & U26

From a life of great luxury in pre-World War One Germany, Kissling ended his days virtually penniless in Dumfries. Throughout his life, he took wonderful photographs showing an interest in everything and everyone.



Sun
25 Oct
2pm

STROANFREGGAN DIG FINAL UPDATE TALK

TALK | CatStrand

Join Carsphairn Heritage Initiative and Cathy from AOC to find out the final results of the post-excavation work on Stroanfreggan Craig fort and Smittons Bridge cairn.

DARK SKY JAZZ

CATSTRAND SEPTEMBER 2026

FRI 18 ALI WATSON QUARTET

NEW MUSIC BLENDING MODERN JAZZ, SCOTTISH FOLK AND 20TH CENTURY CLASSICAL - ALI WATSON (DOUBLE BASS), MATT CARMICHAEL (SAXOPHONE), FERGUS MCCREADIE (PIANO) AND GREG IRONS (DRUMS).

SAT 19 TAO

ROAN ANDERSON, BBC SCOTLAND YOUNG JAZZ MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR 2025, LEADS THIS GLASGOW BAND BLENDING JAZZ, ELECTRONIC AND AMBIENT SOUNDS - FESTIVAL STAGES, INTERNATIONAL SHOWS AND BEYOND.

SUN 20 NIMBUS SEXTET

SIGNED TO ACID JAZZ RECORDS AND CHAMPIONED BY GILLES PETERSON AND CRAIG CHARLES, THIS ELECTRIFYING BLEND OF JAZZ, WORLD AND DANCE MUSIC IS NOT TO BE MISSED. *"QUITE EXTRAORDINARY"* - JAZZ FM

Sunday Afternoon: RICHARD DAVIES - saxophones, electronics and textural percussion, blended with a composer's sense of pacing.

CREATIVES • CREATIVES • CREATIVES • CREATIVES • CREATIVES

CATSTRAND CREATIVES

Our aim through the CatStrand Creatives project is to ensure young people are empowered and supported through the Arts, Culture and Heritage Programme and wider GCAT projects to engage creatively with their communities and develop their own creative practices.

The CatStrand Creatives supports this engagement through a dedicated year round, youth-led programme. It provides opportunities to get involved in regular workshops, groups and activities for young people aged 4 - 12 and 12 - 18 as well as paid internship and work experience in the arts for ages 15-25.



csyoungcreatives.com



28 Jul
10am - 2pm

ECO ART

ART | Carsphairn Woods | Ages 6 - 12

Explore nature, make outdoor art and create with natural materials in a playful day of fresh air, imagination and ecofriendly creativity.



29 Jul
10am - 2pm

MUSIC, RHYTHM, DANCE AND MOVEMENT

DANCE | CatStrand | Ages 6 - 12

Move, dance, clap, drum and groove in an energetic music session designed to build confidence, rhythm, creativity and joy.



31 Jul
10am - 2pm

DRAMA AND STORYTELLING DAY

DRAMA | CatStrand | Ages 6 - 12

Step into character, make stories, dress up, play drama games and create mini performances full of imagination, confidence and fun.



08 Aug
10am - 3pm

DG AMPLIFY SONGWRITING ROUND TABLE: WRITE, SHARE, CONNECT

MUSIC | CatStrand | Ages 16+

Join musicians for an inspiring songwriting round table. Share ideas, develop lyrics, explore collaboration and gain feedback in a supportive creative space.



10 Aug
Morning & Afternoon

CREATIVE QUILLING WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP | Smiddy | 10am - 12noon age under 12 | 1pm - 3pm age 12+

A relaxing, hands-on quilling workshop where you'll learn to shape, curl and layer paper into beautiful creative designs.



10 Aug
4pm - 6pm

YOUTH PLAYERS/ CREATIVE CREW MEET - UP

MEET-UP | CatStrand | Ages 8 - 16

Come along to our first meeting and find out how you can get involved behind the scenes with the 2026 Youth Players Pantomime- whether that's on stage, sound, lighting, backstage support, set design.



11 Aug
10:30am - 3pm

MUSIC PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

MUSIC | CatStrand | Ages 10 - 16

Create beats, record sounds and build your own tracks in a hands-on music production session with a professional studio feel.

ART FUTURES BOOTCAMP
CREATIVE SKILLS. REAL FUTURES.
FOR YOUNG ARTISTS AGED 16-25

12 Aug
11am - 5pm

ART FUTURES BOOTCAMP

ART | CatStrand | Ages 16 - 25

A hands-on workshop for artists aged 16+ to find their voice, strengthen their work, receive feedback, write artist statements and plan next steps.



13 Aug
7am - 10pm

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE TRIP AND VISIT

TRIP | Meet at CatStrand | Ages 14+

Experience the magic of the Edinburgh Fringe with live shows, street entertainment and the atmosphere of one of Scotland's biggest festivals.

DG AMPLIFY

14 Aug
9:30am - 11am

DG AMPLIFY: FIND YOUR SOUND

MUSIC | CatStrand | Ages 16+

Discover what makes your music unique. This practical talk and workshop will help you explore style, identity, influences and your own creative direction.

14 Aug
9:30am - 11am

DG AMPLIFY: PROMOTE YOURSELF

MUSIC | CatStrand

Learn how to promote yourself as an artist, grow your audience, use social media confidently and present your music in a professional way.

14 Aug
1pm - 3pm

DG AMPLIFY: GIGS, LABELS, MANAGEMENT, MAKING IT WORK

MUSIC | CatStrand

A practical day for young musicians covering how to get gigs, promote your work, understand music managers, labels and the wider music industry.

14 Aug
1pm - 3pm

DG AMPLIFY: COPYRIGHT, BUSINESS AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT

MUSIC | CatStrand

Learn how to protect your songs, understand copyright, manage selfemployment, tax basics and build confidence around the business side of music.

Land Notes

Glenkens Festival of Land

Fri 21 - Sun 23 August 2026

CULTURAL GLENKENS

A weekend of art, live music, talks, poetry, film, and events celebrating our cultural richness, land connection, intangible heritage and treasured landscapes.

Fri 21

GROW YOUR OWN NATURE RESERVE: Wildlife is flourishing at Cuckoostone. John Wykes shares how it's done.
MOVING OVER TIME: Movements with, for, and about peatlands and discussion with Crichton Carbon Centre.

Sat 22

CITIZEN SCIENCE WATER PROJECT: From listening to action.
THE PEAT BOG EXPERIENCE: Walk the peat bog. Play 8,000 years.
SIX BOWLS / COLEMAN & HODGES: Creative collective thinking about place and ecology.
BURN AND THE ORQUIL BURN: John Wallace and Pete Smith celebrate small watercourses and screen The Orquil Burn.
GHOSTS AT PLAY / TOM POW & JO MILLER: Japan to Glenkens — a conversation around 'Hallowed Ground'.
THE LAND NOTES CEILIDH ft. WHIRLIGIG: Join us for knees-up shenanigans!

Sun 23

WATERSIDE HILL WALK: Angela Miller and Andy Kaye uncover the unexpected history and myths of this landmark.
LIVING LANDSCAPES: Challenging the narrative on rural depopulation.
WRITEON WRITERS & TIME SEEDS LAUNCH: Today's writers and the landscapes that inspire them.
BANNER PARADE: Join the Festival Banner Parade down to the Dee for a picnic and BBQ.
NATURE NETWORKS: An informal, interactive drop-in session on nature in the Glenkens.
FOLK SESSION: Jo Miller and friends lead the close of festival session.

CatStrand

gcat.scot/landnotes

Dumfries & Galloway Council

Heritage Fund

Creative Scotland

ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL





Image credit: Kim Ayres Photography



Our most up-to-date programme and fullest artist information is always available online.

Scan for the latest events, exhibitions, workshops and performances at CatStrand.

Scan for CatStrand Creatives events for children and young people

gcat.scot/arts





Image credit: Ted Leeming