



Dandelion reveal first line-up of artists and activity for major free festival in Inverness

- *Dandelion Festival, a free outdoor music and arts festival celebrating sustainability takes place Friday 2- Sunday 4 of September*
- *Line up includes King Creosote, Tank and the Bangas, The Lost Words and more!*

Following the success of this summer's inaugural Dandelion Festival Glasgow, organisers are delighted to announce the first acts to take to the stage during the Inverness festival this September will include Scottish singer/songwriter **King Creosote**, rock, funk, soul and hip-hop group **Tank and the Bangas** from New Orleans, and a celebration of music, literature, language and art from **The Lost Words** whose **Spell Songs** project, calls for us all to reawaken our love of nature and the wild.

There will also be performances from **Dallahan**, one of the most distinct forces in international folk music, **Sona Jobarteh**, Gambian kora virtuoso, singer songwriter **Nati Dreddd**, Nordic folksters **Dreamers' Circus**, former BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year **Hannah Rarity**, **The Ross Ainslie & Ali Hutton Trio**, **Scott Matthews** and folk musician **Hamish Napier** whose recent album *The Woods* is a tribute to the stories and heritage of his native Highlands, plus Scotland's **National Youth Pipe Band** and **Acibreira**, with some very special guests to be announced ahead of the festival.

The [festival](#) is part of [Dandelion](#), a dynamic creative programme following the arc of the growing season from April to September 2022, bringing together music and art with science and technology to inspire people to 'Sow, Grow and Share' music, food, ideas and stories. Commissioned by EventScotland and funded by the Scottish Government, Dandelion is part of UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK.

With the music line-up curated by the Creative Director of Glasgow's world-acclaimed Celtic Connections festival, the Scottish musician, composer, and producer Donald Shaw, visitors to the Inverness festival will see performances across two stages – the Pavilion of Perpetual Light and Dandelion stages. Presented in partnership with Celtic Connections these will be situated across a special festival site in Northern Meeting Park, Inverness.

Alongside the music programme, the Festival will feature talks by leading scientists, chefs, artists and activists on sustainability, climate action and food poverty, located in The Hothouse tent situated just outside the park in the grounds of Eden Court.

There will also be creative activities across the site in the bespoke Dandelion Potting Sheds, family activities including The Nursery area for under 5s, plus locally sourced food and drink available from

a range of sustainable vendors. The Festival opens on Friday morning with a day of programming dedicated to schools and young people.

Sitting at the heart of the festival site will be the spectacular 'Pavilion of Perpetual Light', a striking 10-metre-tall art installation and main stage. The Pavilion is created from sixty 1m x 1m accelerated growing cubes specially created for the Dandelion programme, brought together to form a giant structure with built-in stage, acting as a 'living' backdrop to performances.

Music Director for Dandelion, Donald Shaw said: "We can't wait to host the second instalment of the Dandelion Festival. The excitement not only within our team but also amongst the general public is very high, especially after the enormous success of the festival that took place last month in Glasgow where we welcomed 44,000 people into Kelvingrove Park.

"As before, all musicians who feature on our line-up have a passion for the values of Dandelion, sharing our beliefs in environmentalism and what individuals can do in the face of the climate emergency. It is such a great way to bring people together whilst also tackling important social and environmental issues.

"We're really looking forward to illuminating Northern Meeting Park with our 'Pavilion of Perpetual Light' whilst educating and entertaining everyone who stops by. It's set to be another fantastic weekend."

Marie Christie, Head of Development at VisitScotland said: "It's wonderful to see the first line-up of artists and activity revealed for the Dandelion Festival set to take place in Inverness this September. Following the success of the Glasgow festival in June, this presents another fantastic opportunity for both visitors and local communities to come together, explore the free creative programme on offer, and share memorable experiences.

"Scotland is one of the best places in the world to experience live events, and we are delighted to be supporting an inspiring, far-reaching project that not only brings together music and art with science and technology, but that also encourages us to think positively about how we can all play our part in shaping a sustainable future."

Martin Green, Chief Creative Officer for UNBOXED said: "It has been thrilling seeing Dandelion events roll out across Scotland over the past few months and the festival in Glasgow was wonderful, attracting large crowds throughout the weekend in June. The Inverness line-up looks just as good, from the music to the growing activities. With something for people of all ages, it will be a key part of a packed programme of UNBOXED activity taking place around the UK this September."

The Dandelion Festival is free to attend and non-ticketed. For further information on the festival or the full Dandelion programme visit dandelion.scot.

The full programme will be announced later in August.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Images available here to download: <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/Jw2mouhE6>

DANDELION FESTIVAL – NORTHERN MEETING PARK, INVERNESS

Friday 2 September 10.00 - 22.00
Saturday 3 September 11:00 -22.00
Sunday 4 September 11:00 - 18.00
(Subject to licence)

MEDIA CONTACTS

For further information on Dandelion and images please contact: dandelion@mucklemedia.co.uk / 0131 228 9713

ABOUT DANDELION:

- *Dandelion* is an ambitious creative programme running from April to September 2022 across Scotland, demonstrating the power of collective action in a major ‘grow your own’ initiative. The project aims to make growing your own food as easy and accessible as possible to people of all ages with events and activities taking place all over Scotland - from the remotest islands to the centres of cities – including festivals, music, and cooking, reaching audiences around the world through online films, and digital activities. In September these activities culminate in hundreds of harvest events across the country, reimagining this traditional celebration for the 21st century.
- *Dandelion* has been created by team members based across Scotland including Cosmo Blake, Sustrans; Fiona Burnett, Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC); Neil Butler, Wrap The World; Fiona Dalgetty, Fèis Rois; Angus Farquhar, Aproxima Arts; James Johnson, getMade Design; Pàdruig Morrison, musician, and crofter; Tanveer Parnez, BEMIS Scotland; Donald Shaw, Celtic Connections; Nicola Strachan, James Hutton Institute; Caroline Thompson, Inclusion & Evaluation Specialist.
- Commissioned by EventScotland and funded by the Scottish Government, *Dandelion* is Scotland’s contribution to *UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK*.
- For more information visit www.dandelion.scot and join the conversation on [instagram.com/dandelionscot](https://www.instagram.com/dandelionscot), [facebook.com/DandelionScot](https://www.facebook.com/DandelionScot), and twitter.com/DandelionScot.

ABOUT UNBOXED: CREATIVITY IN THE UK

UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK is a celebration of creativity taking place across the UK in 2022, designed to reach millions and bring people together. It features free large-scale events, installations and globally accessible digital experiences in the UK’s most ambitious showcase of creative collaboration. Produced by some of the brightest minds in science, technology, engineering, arts and maths, UNBOXED features ten major multi-site and digital creative projects that share new ideas and possibilities for the future. Events and activities take place from 1 March to 2 October 2022 – from the Outer Hebrides to Luton and from Omagh to Swansea, and across traditional and online media. UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK is funded and supported by the four governments of the UK and is commissioned and delivered in partnership with Belfast City Council, Creative Wales and EventScotland.

Other projects presented in Scotland in addition to Dandelion include [About Us](#) (which opened UNBOXED in Paisley on 1 March), [Dreamachine](#) (Edinburgh), [Green Space Dark Skies](#) (Cairngorms National Park) and [StoryTrails](#) (Dundee and Dumfries).

For more information about UNBOXED and the 10 projects, please visit www.UNBOXED2022.uk

ABOUT EVENTSCOTLAND

- EventScotland is working to make Scotland the perfect stage for events. By developing an exciting portfolio of sporting and cultural events EventScotland is helping to raise Scotland's international profile and boost the economy by attracting more visitors. For further information about EventScotland, its funding programmes and latest event news visit www.EventScotland.org. Follow EventScotland on Twitter [@EventScotNews](https://twitter.com/EventScotNews).
- EventScotland is a team within VisitScotland's Events Directorate, the national tourism organisation which markets Scotland as a tourism destination across the world, gives support to the tourism industry and brings sustainable tourism growth to Scotland.
- EventScotland has commissioned Dandelion on behalf of the Scottish Government.
- For more information about VisitScotland see www.visitscotland.org or for consumer information on Scotland as a visitor destination see www.visitscotland.com.

UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK is funded by:

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About Celtic Connections

- Celtic Connections began in 1994, when it offered 66 events at one venue. Since then, it's grown more adventurous, experimental and diverse each year and now offers hundreds of events in locations across Glasgow. www.celticconnections.com

Dandelion Music Partner:

