



MEDIA RELEASE

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[Scotland's King's Baton Relay Activity Revealed](#)

Baton to tour the country in the build-up to the Glasgow 2026 Opening Ceremony

The King's Baton will visit gatherings across Scotland with 23 days of activity ahead of the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony.

Starting on 1st July at the Team Scotland Team Camp in Glasgow, the Baton will attend over 50 events and festivals to celebrate Team Scotland, Scottish sport, the Commonwealth, Scottish culture and the Games.

This year the King's Baton Relay (KBR) has been reimagined to make it easier for communities to get involved. Rather than travelling continuously through streets, the Baton will use a hub-and-spoke model, bringing it to selected events across Scotland every day.

Highlighted events include:

- 4th July: Luss Highland Games
- 5th July: Glasgow Mela Festival
- 8th July: Scottish Open
- 11th July: Orkney, One year celebration of the International Island Games
- 16th July: HebCelt Festival
- 19th July: British National Mountain Biking Championships

These major events will be complimented by a series of community events across Scotland, while a series of plastic clean-ups are also scheduled to contribute to the Commonwealth Clean Oceans Plastics Campaign in partnership with the Royal Commonwealth Society, which aims to prevent one million pieces of plastic from entering Commonwealth waterways and oceans.

Team Scotland gymnast Pavel Karnejenko was on hand with Glasgow 2026 mascot Finnie and Glasgow school kids at Dumfries House to announce the KBR activity. Dumfries House will host the King's Baton on Day 2 of the Relay.

Glasgow school kids were gathered to celebrate the culmination of the Schools' Baton Relay, with the 34 learning communities across the city of Glasgow challenged to take on a creative design brief, developing a unique artistic identity for their Baton before sending it on its own sustainable journey around the schools and nurseries within their community.

Pavel Karnejenko, Team Scotland gymnast, said: "It's always a privilege to compete for Team Scotland knowing that you could be entertaining and inspiring the next generation of athletes."

"Competing in a Home Games is something special, and the King's Baton Relay will help build the excitement across the country ahead of the Opening Ceremony."

"As an athlete, knowing the whole country is behind you gives that extra motivation in training and competition, and hopefully the Baton will help feed that anticipation and support."

Sport Minister Maree Todd said: *"I'm very pleased that, as part of a spectacular summer of sport, Scottish Government funding of £245,000 will help bring the King's Baton Relay to communities across the country – celebrating on a global stage what makes Scotland unique."*

"As well as the major events, the free community events which complement them are a real opportunity for people to show their support for Team Scotland and the Games, as they gather to get active, connect with others, and improve wellbeing across the country."

Martin Reynolds, Deputy CEO, Commonwealth Sport, said: *"The King's Baton Relay is one of the most iconic traditions of the Commonwealth Games, bringing people together in celebration of sport, community and the shared values of the Commonwealth."*

"As the Baton travels across Scotland this July, it will build excitement for Glasgow 2026 while also shining a light on important initiatives such as the Commonwealth Clean Oceans Plastics Campaign, using the power of sport to inspire positive change."

"We're delighted to see communities across the country come together as we count down to what promises to be a spectacular Commonwealth Games in Glasgow."

Jon Doig OBE, Chief Executive of Commonwealth Games Scotland, said: *"The Scottish sector of the King's Baton Relay is a key milestone in the build-up to Glasgow 2026."*

"With athletes coming from all parts of the country, we cherish the responsibility of representing the whole nation through Team Scotland, and the KBR gives us the opportunity to bring the Games out to communities across Scotland."

"We look forward to visiting a host of wonderful gatherings in the build-up to the Games' Opening Ceremony."

George Black CBE, Chair at Glasgow 2026, said: *"The King's Baton Relay is a really special moment on the road to Glasgow 2026, and this reimagined approach means we can connect with more communities than ever before. By bringing the Baton to major festivals, events and community initiatives across the country, we're giving more people the chance to feel part of the Games in a meaningful and memorable way."*

"The strong focus on sustainability and youth engagement throughout this final leg of the King's Baton Relay is particularly powerful, reinforcing the positive legacy not only of the Baton itself, but of the Glasgow 2026 Games as a whole."

Jacqueline Farrell, Executive Director, Education at The King's Foundation, said: *"It has been wonderful to host students and athletes at Dumfries House for the closing ceremony of the Schools' Baton Relay and the announcement of The King's Baton Relay route around Scotland."*

"As the headquarters of The King's Foundation, we are proud to support young people being active and spending time outdoors in nature at Dumfries House – which makes this such a fitting event for us to host. We are so excited the Games are taking place a stone's throw away in Glasgow and look forward to welcoming the Baton for its official stop at Dumfries House on 2nd July."

Notes to the Editor

Free-to-use photography is available [here](#)

Image captions:

[Group photo]: Scotland's leg of the King's Baton Relay was announced today at Dumfries House.

[Seated photo]: Team Scotland Gymnastic Pavel Karnejenko and Finnie join school children at Dumfries House.

[Seated photo with Pav and Finnie standing]: School children from St Saviours Primary school, St Patrick primary school, Quarry Brae Primary and Bellahouston Primary joined Team Scotland Gymnastic Pavel Karnejenko and crowd favourite Finnie to announce the Scotland Leg of the KBR.

About the King's Baton Relay

The King's Baton Relay began at Buckingham Palace on Commonwealth Day, Monday 10 March 2025, when His Majesty The King placed His Message to the Commonwealth that will be carried as part of the Relay into Scotland's Baton.

The King's Baton Relay is a tradition that celebrates, connects and excites communities from across the Commonwealth during the build-up to the Games and the journey to Glasgow 2026 will take 500 days and reach every corner of the Commonwealth.

All 73 other nations and territories have taken part in the relay celebrations as it has travelled across the Commonwealth. Each has decorated a baton and created special moments to celebrate its journey towards the Games and all that it represents.

More information can be found [here](#).

About the Scotland leg

The Scotland leg of the King's Baton Relay will commence on the 1st July at the Team Scotland Team Camp in Glasgow. Further information on media access that day will follow shortly.

The Baton will visit a host of communities, events and festivals to celebrate Team Scotland, Scottish sport, the Commonwealth, Scottish culture and the Games.

This year the Relay has been reimagined to make it easier for communities to get involved. Rather than travelling continuously through streets, the Baton will use a hub-and-spoke model, bringing it to selected events across Scotland every day.

Opportunities for the public to engage with events will be promoted by individual event-owners.

Highlighted Events:

Date	Region	Event
04/07	Argyll and Bute	Luss Highland Games
05/07	Glasgow	Mela Festival
08/07	Edinburgh and East	Scottish Open
11/07	Orkney	One year celebration of the International Island Games

16/07	Western Isles	<u>HebCelt Festival</u>
19/07	Dumfries	<u>British National Mountain Biking Championships</u>

*Dates and details are subject to change.

More information can be found [here](#).

About Commonwealth Games Scotland

Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS) is one of 74 Commonwealth Games Associations who are members of Commonwealth Sport.

Commonwealth Games Scotland is the lead body for Commonwealth sport in Scotland, and is the organisation responsible for selecting, preparing and leading Team Scotland at the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Youth Games.

Scotland has competed in every Games since the first Empire Games in 1930 and has hosted the Games three times, twice in Edinburgh 1970 and 1986 and most recently in Glasgow in 2014.

Scotland's most successful Games were at home at Glasgow 2014, when Team Scotland won a record 53 medals (19 gold, 15 silver and 19 bronze) to finish fourth on the medal table, closely followed by Birmingham 2022 with 51 medals.

Working closely with Scotland's national governing bodies of sport and the **sport**scotland institute of sport, Commonwealth Games Scotland aims to have the best prepared team possible at every Games, creating the right performance environment and giving athletes every opportunity to excel at the Games, as part of a world class sporting system.

Commonwealth Games Scotland and its member sports rely on investment, including National Lottery support, from **sport**scotland, the national agency for sport. CGS also actively seeks additional support for team preparations from commercial partners, fundraising activities and the Commonwealth Games Endowment Trust.

About Glasgow 2026

Glasgow 2026 promises an altogether brilliant Commonwealth Games, paving the way for a new era of Commonwealth Sport.

Taking place from 23 July to 2 August, Glasgow 2026 is an 11-day celebration that combines world-class sport with a future-focused vision, built and delivered by the vibrant spirit of Glasgow.

Set within a concentrated, eight-mile corridor that brings the Games closer to the fans than ever before, Glasgow 2026 will deliver:

1. A record-breaking Para sport programme – 47 events across six sports
2. The biggest Track Cycling, Swimming and 3x3 Basketball competitions seen at a Commonwealth Games
3. Groundbreaking events like the return of the Commonwealth Mile in Athletics

10 exhilarating sports across four of the city's iconic venues; from Scotstoun Stadium to the Scottish Event Campus (SEC), the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome and Arena, to Tollcross International Swimming Centre.

Glasgow 2026 will see 3,000 volunteers, alongside thousands of fans, and communities from across the city join together to welcome 3,000 athletes from 74 nations and territories to the city.

Led by Chair George Black CBE, an independent Board and Chief Executive Officer, Phil Batty OBE, Glasgow 2026 Limited is the Organising Company (OC) which will deliver the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow next summer.

Based in the city centre, the OC will directly employ around 160 people and is privately funded, securing its income through Commonwealth Sport, corporate sponsorship, broadcast rights, global partnerships and ticket sales, which will see almost £150 million local spend into the city of Glasgow, with no cost to the public purse to deliver the sporting competition.

About Commonwealth Sport

Commonwealth Sport is the organisation with responsibility for the direction and control of the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Youth Games, and for delivering the vision of the Commonwealth Sport Movement: 'Our Commonwealth, united through sport'. Our mission is to deliver inspirational and impactful Games; to excite and empower Athletes and young people; and to drive equality in sport and society across the Commonwealth.

Established in 1930, the Commonwealth Sport Movement brings together 74 independent nations and territories creating a diverse Commonwealth community of over 2.5 billion individuals, representing one-third of the world's population. Together we stand as a beacon of unity, diversity, and equality, completely integrating Para athletes, driving gender equality and advocating for legacy and social change through sport.

About Longines

Based in Saint-Imier in Switzerland since 1832, the watchmaking company Longines wields expertise steeped in tradition, elegance and performance.

With generations of experience as official timekeeper of world championships, and as partner of international sports federations, Longines has built strong and long-lasting relationships in the world of sport over the years.

Known for the elegance of its timepieces, Longines is a member of Swatch Group Ltd., the world's leading watch manufacturer. The Longines brand, with its winged hourglass emblem, is established in over 150 countries.

Website: [longines.com](https://www.longines.com)

About Dumfries House

The Dumfries House estate in Ayrshire, Scotland, is the headquarters of The King's Foundation charity, founded by His Majesty King Charles III.

The Foundation delivers life-changing education programmes and health and wellbeing initiatives on the estate and is responsible for opening Dumfries House to the public. Each year, an estimated 170,000 people enjoy the estate grounds, with 10,000 students of all ages taking part in The King's Foundation education programmes which are offered on site.

Dumfries House itself attracts around 20,000 visitors every year to experience one of the largest collections of Chippendale furniture in the world, which is on display throughout the historic residence. To find out more, visit <https://dumfries-house.org.uk/>.

About The King's Foundation



The King's Foundation is a charity founded by King Charles III and was first formed in 1990.

Inspired by the vision and values of His Majesty, the Foundation builds and supports communities where people, places and the planet can coexist in harmony. The charity offers education courses for almost 15,000 students annually, health and wellbeing programmes for nearly 2,000 people every year, and spearheads placemaking and regeneration projects in the UK and overseas to revitalise communities and historic buildings.

The King's Foundation is headquartered at its flagship regeneration project, Dumfries House in Ayrshire, Scotland, and acts as custodian of other historic Royal sites including the Castle of Mey in Caithness, Scotland, and Highgrove Gardens in Gloucestershire. The Foundation also carries out its work at educational and cultural hubs in London, based at The King's Foundation School for Traditional Arts in Shoreditch, Trinity Buoy Wharf on the River Thames and the Garrison Chapel in Chelsea. In addition to its UK presence, the Foundation delivers programmes and projects in over a dozen sites worldwide. For more information, please visit www.kings-foundation.org/ or email media@kings-foundation.org.

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