**Cultural and Creative Groups in Inverclyde**

**ARTS/CREATIVE**

* **ARTventurers**

Award winning art & creative play classes, parties, workshops and events for babies, toddlers and children of all ages!

cheryl@artventurers.co.uk

* **Arts and Mind**

This project uses art as a means of helping young people to maintain a healthy well-being. It is a safe and nurturing environment which promotes positive mental health!

info@rigarts.org

* **Greenock Art Club**

Art class held at the Old Stables in Gourock Park. Any adult can join the club and learn from other members.

greenockartclub@hotmail.com

* **Greenock Burns Club**

Greenock Burns Club was instituted in 1801. It is the oldest Burns Club in the world and is known as "The Mother Club".

<https://www.facebook.com/Motherclub1801>, @MotherClub1801

* **Greenock Philosophcal Society**

The Greenock Philosophical Society has held an annual series of lectures on cultural and scientific subjects since it was instituted in 1861. Lectures and illustrated talks are given on Friday evening's from mid Oct-early Dec & mid Jan-late Feb.

* **Greenock Writers Club**

We are a friendly writers’ club based in Inverclyde, open to anyone with an interest in developing their literary skills. Our members come from various walks of life with different interests and experiences, however, we all share a passion for writing.

Secretary - isobel.watt13@yahoo.co.uk

* **Hillend Art Club**

Hillend SC Art Club is an art club held for senior citizens in the Inverclyde area - however - we do take members under this age group - we do require 95% of our membership to be senior citizens.

elizabethsloan7@btinternet.com

* **Inverclyde Woodturning Club**

A club for men and women of all ages focusing on woodturning in the Inverclyde area.

secretary@inverclydewoodturning.co.uk

* **Kilmacolm Art Class**

A long established art class with tutor support. Members work in a variety of mediums, from beginners to the more experienced artist. An annual exhibition is held to display work produced over the year ready.

Kilmacolmartclass@gmail.com

* **Magic Torch Comics**

Magic Torch Comics CIC help schools and community groups to tell stories using comics. We have developed a specialism in working with marginalised groups to create bespoke comics projects, creating everything from historical fiction and superhero stories to explorations of social isolation and community action.

info@magictorchcomics.co.uk

**HERITAGE**

* **Custom House**

A Grade A listed building in the heart of Greenock. Mainly used for office space but holds the Greenock Burns Club Burns Exhibition and Archive. The exhibition is open every Saturday from 12 noon until 2.00pm.

* **Discover Inverclyde**

Discover Inverclyde is the brand name for Tourism Inverclyde, a not for profit company set up to promote the Inverclyde area of Scotland as a quality tourist destination for both short and longer term visits. Its members are made up from the tourism, retail, leisure and the arts sectors.

discover@tourisminverclyde.com

* **Finlaystone Country Estate**

A large country estate near Langbank, seat of the current Chief of the Clan MacMillan. Information on the gardens, woodlands and history.

* **Galoshans festival**

This local celebration of the Inverclyde tradition of going Galoshans for Hallowe’en fuses creativity with community, and all things scary and spooky. The festival programme includes a visual arts exhibition, audio visual & sculptural installations, street performance, creative workshops, live music, theatre and activities for young people across public spaces and venues in Greenock.

@GaloshansFest

* **Gourock Heritage and Arts**

A recently formed group to promote the Heritage and Artistic talent - Past, Present and Future - of the town of Gourock on the west coast of Scotland.

lynne.quinn@inverclyde.gov.uk

* **Inverclyde Gaelic Learners Group**

Inverclyde Gaelic Learners Group offers quality teaching in Gaelic language and heritage for both beginners and continuing learners. Classes are held in the South West Library on Friday mornings.

marymcglashan@yahoo.co.uk

* **Inverclyde Historical Society**

The Society meets on the second Wednesday of each month from September to May at the RAFA club in Robertson Street, Greenock, to hear speakers on a wide variety of history topics both local and global.

ford.hendry@ntlworld.com

* **RIG Arts**

RIG Arts is a multi-award winning, artist led, socially engaged arts charity based in Inverclyde bringing professional artists and the community together in a collaborative and creative way.

info@rigarts.org

* **Sugar warehouse, James Watt Dock**
* **Watt Institution**
* **Wyllie Foundation**

The George Wyllie Foundation is an independent, non-profit making charity. It was founded in 2012, following the death of the artist. A generous gift has made it possible for the George Wyllie Foundation to acquire key works from across George’s career. The Foundation aims to show these works through exhibitions and loans.

info@georgewyllie.com

**LOCAL GROUPS/VENUES**

* **Belville Community Gardens**

An accessible community garden and allotment space in Greenock with training kitchen & workshops. Free workshops on healthy eating, growing and the environment for work groups, parent and toddlers groups, schools etc.

laura@belvillecommunitygarden.org.uk

* **Broomhill Gardens and Community Hub**

Provide training, voluntary and work-related opportunities in catering, office skills, landscaping, ground maintenance and horticulture to people in our area who have experienced mental health issues or have experienced long term unemployment. The organisation provides a Garden Cafe, Community Hub and Training Rooms for hire as well as running community events in main hall and gardens.

info@inwork.org.uk

* **Friends of Wemyss Bay Station**

The group run a second-hand bookshop and gallery within Wemyss Bay Station, a Category 'A' listed Edwardian railway station, selling a selection of new local books, and merchandise promoting the Station. The gallery contains a range of historic photos, posters and artefacts. info@friendsofwemyssbaystation.co.uk

* **Inverkip Community Hub**

A vibrant focal point and interface for the community of Inverkip and its surrounding areas, contributing social, health, cultural, and recreational value to the lives of local people, inclusive of all social and age groups.

kevin@inverkiphub.org.uk

* **Parklea Branching Out Ltd**

Parklea aims to deliver their range of training, supported employment, work experience, recreational and social facilities to empower individuals with the skills and confidence to assist in their inclusion within the community.

admin@parkleaassociation.org.uk

**MUSIC**

* **Boogie Bugs**

Vibrant fun music and movement classes for community groups, nurseries and toddlers, designed to let little ones lead their musical learning whilst enhancing their development and creating musical memories along the way.

prominenceacademy@outlook.com

* **Brass Sounds Inverclyde**

A brass band comprised of 24+ players of all ages that plays a wide variety of musical styles ranging from classical to modern light rock /pop.

bsisecretary@outlook.com

* **Clydeside Singers**

The singing group are very proactive in and around Inverclyde providing music therapy to care homes, hospitals and at community events.

gcas1809@icloud.com

* **Compassionate Inverclyde Singing Group**

A group that has been set up for anyone who likes to sing for fun.

alison.bunce@ardhosp.co.uk

* **Greenock Light Opera Club**

A local amateur musical society.

greenockloc@gmail.com

* **Inverclyde Folk Club**
* Inverclyde Folk Club has been meeting weekly since 1990. There are currently around 30 members keeping Traditional Music & Song alive in Inverclyde. Members range in age from 18 - 80 with a wide and varied mixture of talents and musical tastes. Always encouraging traditional music and musicianship at all levels.
* **Inverclyde Juvenile Pipe Band**

Provide instruction in both Piping & Drumming to young people aged 9-18 throughout Inverclyde.

& **Lower Clyde Pipes and Drums**

The aim of the band is to sustain the growth of Scottish musical culture and continue to encourage youth development whilst spreading the joy of music through performance in both competitions and engagements. We currently have 30 members with ages range from 11 to 65.

info@inverpbs.com

* **Inverclyde Music Festival Association**
* **Inverclyde Voices Choir**

Local singing group that meets weekly.

@invvoices

**THEATRE**

* **Albany Arts Centre**

The Albany is several things in one unique package: A Bar, Cafe /Bistro, a Theatre/Live Venue and a Performing Arts Academy.

<https://www.facebook.com/TheAlbanyGreenock/>

* **Beacon Arts Centre**

The Beacon stages a vast array of performances from award-winning national companies like Scottish Opera and National Theatre of Scotland to large scale community musicals and amateur theatre. There’s also a year round exhibition programme and range of courses and classes for all ages and all abilities including Beacon Youth Theatre and a contemporary dance programme.

@thebeaconarts

* **Greenock Players Youth**

An amateur dramatic group for children aged 8-18.

greenockplayersyouth@hotmail.com

* **Inverclyde Youth Theatre/Kayos**

An Amateur Youth Theatre group based in Greenock with members from all over the Inverclyde area. There are three sub groups within Kayos; Kayos for 15-21 years of age, Total Kayos for 9 – 14 year olds and Absolute Kayos which is for 5 – 8 year olds. The groups meet weekly in the Central Greenock area and regularly stage performances at Inverclyde biggest arts venues.

admin@kayos-theatre.co.uk

* **Riverside Stage**

An amateur theatre company based in Greenock. We provide weekly workshops in Drama and Musical Theatre - including theatre games, acting, singing, dancing and much more.

riverstagestagecompany@gmail.com

* **Thistle Theatre Company**

Thistle Theatre Company is based in Greenock, Inverclyde. Established in 2004, we aim to produce two performances a year across styles and genre.

<https://www.facebook.com/ThistleTheatreCompany/>