



Over 150 years of culinary craftsmanship and heritage come together in Baxters' hand-packed hampers. Filled with Scottish delicacies, they make unforgettable gifts for clients, colleagues and loved ones alike.

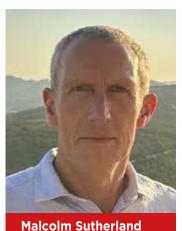
Named Day Delivery | Free Delivery Over £100

WWW.BAXTERSOFSCOTLAND.COM

#### **SHOP HAMPERS**



# LOCH NESS MARAPHON



CEO. Loch Ness Marathon

# WELCOME

We look forward to welcoming you to the 2025 Baxters Loch Ness Marathon & Festival of Running. We have participants coming from all over the world and we hope you enjoy your visit to this stunning part of the world.

We would like to thank Baxters Food Group, who have been with us as title sponsor from the very beginning in 2002. Their incredible support has helped us make the event what it is today.

Thank you to our sponsors and partners: High5, Run4lt, Erdinger, Coopah, Marathon Tours, Yellow Jersey and Caledonian Logistics.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Highland Council, Police Scotland, Alba Traffic Management, Scottish Ambulance Service and other agencies and organisations for their invaluable support and advice with the planning of the event.

A huge thank you is extended to the local residents, communities and businesses along the event routes for their support and cooperation; and a special mention for the many individuals, charities and organisations who volunteer over the event weekend for their amazing support.

We would like to wish you all the very best with your final weeks of training and look forward to seeing you in Inverness!



**Audrey Baxter Executive Chairman** & Group CEO, **Baxters Food Group** 

It is hard to believe it's that time of year again when we welcome participants from Scotland, the UK and all over the world to the magnificent Scottish Highlands for the iconic Baxters Loch Ness Marathon and Festival of Running!

We are proud to continue our sponsorship of this wonderful event for another year. It perfectly complements our long-standing ethos and desire to 'be different, be better', which was beautifully demonstrated last year by our own team of runners, The Jam-tastics, who took top spot in the highly competitive Corporate Challenge.

With its stunning setting along the banks of Loch Ness and unrivalled atmosphere, the Baxters Loch Ness Marathon and Festival of Running is an event like no other and we know that whatever your drive or ambition to participate this year, you will also take the opportunity to 'be different, be better'.

We look forward to the excitement and buzz the occasion brings to the area as participants and their supporters gear up for greatiness' and we wish each and every one of you all the very best for event day. We'll see you at the finish line!



# CONTENTS

Event Weekend Timings	7
Plan your Trip	8
Parking	9
Registration & Event Pack	. 11
What to expect at Event Village	12
Transport to the Start	13
What to expect at the Start	14
What to expect along the route	15
What to expect at the Finish Line	
Don't miss out!	18
Event day check list	19
Run for Charity	20



#### **TO OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS**



For nearly 160 years, Baxters has been one of the UK's best-loved food producers. From humble beginnings as a small, family run grocery store in Fochabers in Moray in 1868, the company has grown into a global organisation, renowned for its leading brands and products, including soups, preserves, condiments, beetroot, pickles and chutneys.

Baxters is extremely proud of its Highland heritage and ethos to 'be different, be better'. The company is delighted to have the opportunity to celebrate both through its long-standing association with the iconic Loch Ness Marathon.

#### www.baxters.com



**HIGH5** are a UK leading Sports Nutrition Brand that specialise in endurance sports. We have a range of trusted gels, drinks and bars which help you to be at your ultimate best, any day. At HIGH5 we're passionate about making sure you achieve your goals, however big or small they may be; whether you're a new starter or an elite professional. We've been on the Sports Nutrition scene for over 20 years and love constantly looking for new ways to make our products perform better, taste better and be more convenient. HIGH5 are committed to creating nutritious products with amazing natural flavours.



**Run4lt** are delighted to support this year's Loch Ness Marathon and are offering participants a 15% discount to help get their training off to the best possible start. Run4lt pride themselves on offering great products, quality customer service, and expert, honest advice to help improve your running experience! You can use your 15% discount voucher in Run4It's 7 shops across Scotland or online at run4it.com. In store, Run4It offer a free analysis and shoe fitting service called +runlab, and can recommend models best suited to your running style and needs.



Is **ERDINGER Alkoholfrei** one of your rituals? Do you lay out your kit the night before a race, put your left sock on first or have a certain play list that you listen to? We all have our own rituals before we do any activity, but ERDINGER Alkoholfrei should always be your ritual after sport! Isotonic refreshment at its best and the only recovery drink your body needs - Cheers!



Meet Coopah, The Run Coaching App Beat your running goals, guaranteed! Coopah are proud to be the official training partner for the Baxters Loch Ness Marathon, along with some of the UK's biggest running events. Coopah is the personal run coach in your pocket. They provide personalised training plans that are bespoke to you and your goals. Just tell them what event you're training for, what your goals are and they will do the rest! And what's more, with the code LOCHNESS2 you can get a 2 week free trial to try it out for yourself.

























# **BAXTERS LOCH NESS MARATHON 2025 EVENT WEEKEND TIMINGS**

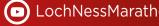
#### **Saturday 27 September**

10.00 - 18.00	Registration open	Event Village, Bught Park, Inverness IV3 5SQ			
10.00 - 18.00	Sports Expo & Runners Café open Event Village, Bught Pa				
Sunday 28 September					
07.00 - 07.30	Marathon participants arrive at bus departure point in Inverness	Inverness Ice Centre, Bught Drive, IV3 5SR			
07.30 - 07.50	Buses depart Inverness for the marathon start See page 12 for bus pick up locations & times around Loch Ness	Inverness Ice Centre, Bught Drive, IV3 5SR			
09.00 - 16.00	Event Village open – Expo, street food, kids' activities, live music	Event Village, Bught Park			
09.30	Start of Baxters River Ness 5K	Bught Park			
09.45	Start of Wee Nessie Bught Park				
10.00	Start of Baxters Loch Ness Marathon	Near Whitebridge, South Loch Ness			
10.30	Start of Baxters River Ness 10K & Corporate Challenge	Culduthel Avenue, Inverness, IV2 6RE			
11.45	10K/Corporate Challenge presentation	Event Village, Bught Park			
14.00	Loch Ness Marathon presentation	on Event Village, Bught Park			

### Share your Loch Ness stories & photos with us







#runlochness #lochnessmarathon



# Plan your trip

The Event Village is in Bught Park, Inverness, IV3 5SQ, approx. 1 mile from Inverness city centre, bus and train stations, and 11 miles from Inverness airport.

#### TRAVEL TO INVERNESS

Please visit our website for information on getting to Inverness and where to stay.

#### WHERE TO STAY, WHAT TO SEE & DO

For accommodation, where to eat and what to see and do, visit www.visitinvernesslochness.com.

#### **CAR HIRE**

Our official car hire partner is Arnold Clark Car & Van Rental. Arnold Clark is offering all participants and supporters a 20% discount off their best web rate on car rental. To book, visit arnoldclarkrental.com quoting promotional code BAXT or call 0141 567 0561. Terms and conditions apply.







# **Parking**

#### **Saturday 27 September**

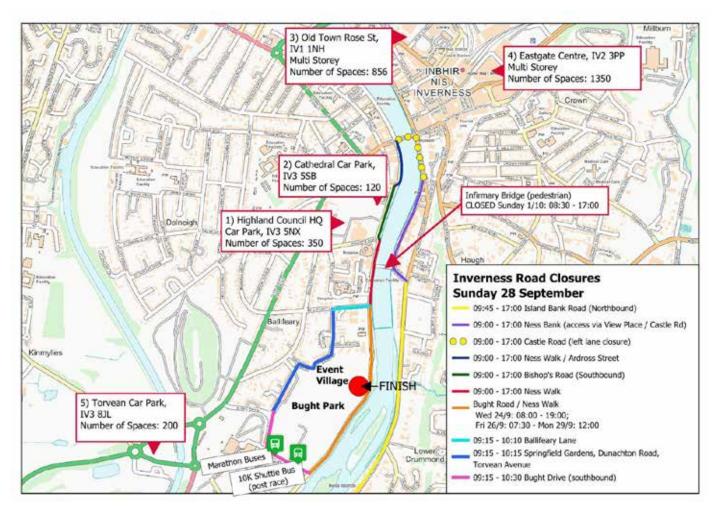
**Event Village, Bught Park:** there is **NO** parking available at Bught Park. Parking is available in public car parks, refer to the map below. Parking charges may apply. Where possible we recommend car sharing, using public transport or walking to the Event Village.

#### **Sunday 28 September**

Marathon participants: There is NO parking at Event Village, Bught Park (location of bus departure point) or at the Ice Centre, Leisure Centre, Archive Centre or Whin Park. Please consider walking where possible. Parking is available at the following public car parks, please note parking charges may apply.

- Highland Council HQ Car Park, IV3 5NX
   (10min walk to marathon bus pick up point)
- Torvean Car Park, IV3 8JL accessed from roundabout opposite Premier Inn, Glenurquhart Road (5min walk to marathon bus pick up point)

A drop off point is available on Bught Drive, please follow marshals instructions.



#### Parking for supporters coming to Event Village

There is **NO** parking available at Bught Park. Parking is available at public car parks (refer to map on page 8), parking charges may apply.

Disabled parking is available on Bught Park, please note this is located 200m from the Event Village. Follow signs to 'VIP Parking'.

There is NO access or parking available at the Inverness Ice Centre, Inverness Leisure or Highland Rugby Club car parks.

Please be considerate towards local residents and businesses when parking around the Event Village.

#### **TEMPORARY TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS**

On Sunday, road closures will be in place along the event routes and around the Event Village - please allow extra time. Bught Road is the only road closure in place on Saturday. Please refer to our website.









# Registration & Event Pack

#### REGISTRATION

You are required to attend pre-event registration at the Event Village, open from 10.00 to 18.00 on Saturday 27 September, to collect your bib number. Please bring photo ID and check our website in advance to find your bib number.

If you are not able to make registration, a friend may register on your behalf. They are required to bring their photo ID as well as a signed letter or email from you (template available here) confirming permission to collect your event pack.

#### **EVENT PACK**

Your Event Pack contains your bib number with timing chip attached to the back, detachable baggage label (to attach to your kit bag) and safety pins to fix it to your top.

#### **BIB NUMBER**

- Complete the emergency contact and medical information on the reverse of your bib number.
- If you have a medical condition, provide as much information as possible on the back of your bib number and put a red cross on the front so medical teams are aware of any medical condition should you require assistance on the course.
  - Attach your bib number to the FRONT of your top so it is visible at all times and not obscured by a hydration vest.
- If you opted to donate to the John Muir Trust Wild Woods and Peatlands Appeals instead of receiving a finisher's t-shirt, your bib number will have a green band.





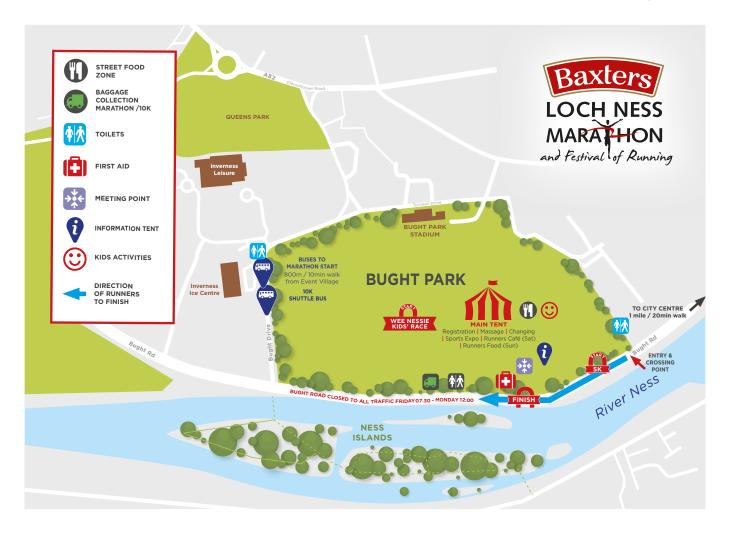


Please add the Event HQ numbers to your phone: 07512 791602 and 07598 780779

These numbers will be operational from 06.30 on event day and are to be used in an emergency ONLY.



# What to expect at the Event Village



There is lots going on at the Event Village all weekend for participants and supporters.

Whether it's some new gear to run in, some fuel to get you around, something to help you recover or some last minute running essentials, you'll be spoilt for choice at the Expo.

> Come along to the Runners Cafe on Saturday and tune in to our guest speakers or chill with some live Scottish music.

> There will also be street food, pop-up bars, family fun activities, local bands and pipes & drums.

#### **DOGS**

Dogs are welcome in the outside areas of the Event Village at Bught Park. Assistance dogs only are permitted inside the tents and marquees. Please be aware the Event Village will be very busy over the event weekend which can create a stressful environment for dogs.

We recommend that you leave them at home where possible.

# Transport to the Marathon Start

#### FROM INVERNESS

All marathon participants are transported by bus to the marathon start from Inverness Ice Centre on Bught Drive IV3 5SR. This is a 10-minute walk from the Event Village. Please arrive between 07.00-07.30. Buses depart from 07.30-07.50. Please note you do NOT need to pre-book your place on the bus from Inverness.

Portable toilets are located at the bus departure point and at the start. The journey from Inverness takes around one hour and buses will not stop after leaving Inverness.

There is strictly no spectator or vehicle access to the marathon start due to traffic restrictions and logistical and safety reasons. It is not possible for participants or spectators to make their own way to the marathon start.

#### LOCH NESS PICK-UP LOCATIONS

For those staying around Loch Ness, buses will pick-up from the following locations. Pre-booking is essential. Please e-mail info@lochnessmarathon.com by 21 September to book your place. Return transport is not provided to these locations after the event.

North Loch Ness	08.15	Loch Ness Hub, Drumnadrochit IV63 6TX (off A82)
	08.40	Fort Augustus village car park, PH32 4DF (off A82)
South Loch Ness	07.40	Dores (opposite Dores Inn, IV2 6TR)
	07.55	Inverfarigaig (junction of Inverfarigaig Pass/B852)
	08.05	Lower Foyers (junction with B852)
	08.10	Foyers Stores, Foyers IV2 6XU
	08.25	Junction of B862 & B852
	08.35	Whitebridge Hotel, Whitebridge IV2 6UN







## What to expect at the start

When you arrive at the start, our marshals will guide you to drop off your kit bag and to take your place at the start line. Please refer to the start layout below.

There are portable toilets at the start. Please be considerate to those around you, we do not tolerate antisocial behaviour.

#### **DROP OFF YOUR KIT BAG**

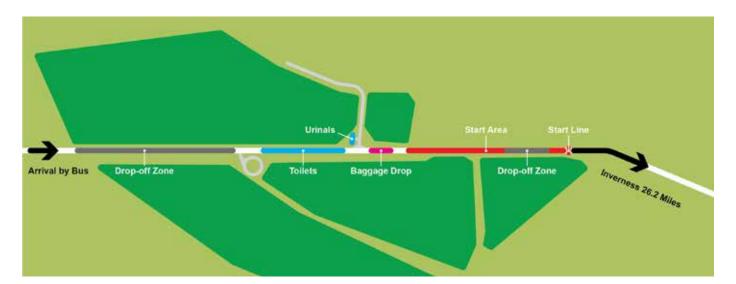
- > On arrival at the start, you can drop off your kit bag in one of the baggage vehicles.
  - Make sure your baggage label (this is attached to your bib number) is securely attached to your kit bag.
  - Only small kit bags such as a daysack or sports bag will be accepted.
    No suitcases or loose items. We recommend placing items in a waterproof bag within your kit bag to protect contents from the weather.
  - > We recommend having some warm dry clothes to change into at the finish.
  - > Do not put any valuables or anything flammable or sharp in your kit bag.

#### **KEEP WARM & DRY!**

Weather conditions can change very quickly in the Scottish Highlands and you should bring appropriate clothing to keep warm and dry at the start in case of adverse weather. We recommend wearing some old clothes or 'throwaway' layers to keep you warm whilst waiting to start. All discarded clothing will be collected and donated to local charities.

#### Think layers!

It's easier to take a layer off if you're getting too hot rather than the discomfort of feeling cold.



## What to expect along the route

#### THE ROUTE

The Marathon starts at 10.00 between Fort Augustus and Foyers on the B862 (grid ref: NH460120; what3words: node.range.relieves) and finishes at the Event Village, Bught Park in Inverness.

We have priority on all roads along the route, however please keep to the left hand side of the road at all times so that emergency and official vehicles can travel along the route if required.

The final section of the route is northbound closure only from the village of Dores to the finish where traffic will be travelling on the opposite carriageway. Take extra care on this section and keep in the left-hand lane at all times.

We reserve the right to alter the route if operationally required.

#### **WATER & GEL STATIONS**

Being well hydrated and drinking little and often is essential for achieving your best performance. Stop for drinks as you have planned in your training - remember you don't need to drink at every station, forcing yourself to drink too much water during an event is as dangerous as drinking too little.

There are 7 water stations and 4 gel stations providing High5 Energy Gel Aqua along the marathon route. Water will be provided in 330ml recyclable plastic bottles.

Try not to alter direction suddenly at water and gel stations and steer a course for a table where there are fewer participants.

Our decision to use plastic water bottles at water stations is based on a combination of participants' welfare, the importance of hydration during an endurance event and the environmental impact.

We have therefore chosen to work with Highland Spring because their water bottles with sports cap are made from 100% recycled plastic and the full bottle is recyclable including the cap and label.

#### **TOILETS**

Portable toilets are available at the start and at every water station along the marathon route. There are also portable toilets at the Event Village and bus departure point in Inverness.

#### **USE OF HEADPHONES OR EARPHONES**

Only bone conductor headphones are allowed in the event, standard headphones, earphones or earbuds are not permitted.

#### **DOGS**

For safety reasons, NO dogs, including assistance dogs, are permitted on any of the event routes.



#### LITTER & RECYCLING

#### PLEASE DO NOT DROP WATER BOTTLES OR LITTER ANYWHERE ON THE COURSE APART FROM AT LITTER DROP ZONES OR WATER/GEL STATIONS.

- Recycling and general waste bins are provided at the start, at each water and gel station along the route and at the Event Village. Please do not litter and take care to put your waste in the correct bin.
- Litter drop zones with recycling bins are located every mile between mile 3 and mile 25 where you can discard your water bottles, gel wrappers and other waste.
  - When using these zones, take care to discard your litter at the LEFT edge of the road to reduce the risk of hazard to participants behind you.
    - Keep your rubbish in your pockets and get rid of it at these locations.
    - Only clean water bottles can be recycled, those thrown into the verges and hedgerows cannot.
- > We aim to recycle every plastic bottle used at the event however plastic bottles can only be recycled if they are empty, so please remember to #DrinkDrainDrop.
- It is a privilege to run alongside Loch Ness and through Inverness and we encourage all participants and everyone coming to the event to dispose of their rubbish responsibly and recycle where possible.

#### **CUT-OFF TIME**

Our aim is to support every participant, whatever their pace, from start to finish and provide the best possible experience.

The Marathon starts at 10.00 and the cut-off time is 7 hours at 17.00. In the interests of safety and to minimise the disruption to the local community and residents, roads along the final 3 miles in Inverness start to re-open from 16.30 and the finish line and Event Village start to be dismantled from 17.00. If you think that you will take longer than 6hr 30min, we ask you to use the pavement through Inverness. Our team will be there to support you to the finish line.

#### RETIRING

For those participants who can no longer continue, a sweep bus follows the rear of the field and will take you back to the Event Village in Inverness.

Please notify a marshal or one of our medical team at the nearest water or gel station if you wish to retire, and then indicate to the bus as it passes that you wish to be collected. For safety reasons, please do not leave the course without informing an event official.

#### FIRST AID & MEDICAL CARE

First Aid will be available in both static and mobile units along the course. First Aid will be located at the start, every water station, at the finish line and the Event Village. Should participants not be allowed to continue for medical reasons or require hospital treatment, Event HQ will be notified.

We hope your training has gone well and would like to remind you that if you have recently had a bad cold or have been ill it is important to seek medical advice prior to the event. Also if your training has not gone to plan, we ask you give serious consideration to your ability to run the marathon.

# What to expect at the finish

#### THE FINISH

The Finish line is at the Event Village at Bught Park, Inverness. Once you cross the finish line, please keep moving to make space for other participants.

Once you've collected your finisher items, please head to the baggage collection area.

All finishers receive a medal, t-shirt (unless you opted to donate to John Muir Trust), fruit, Erdinger Alkoholfrei beer and a fantastic goody bag.

Baxters soup and roll is available for all finishers in the food tent.

#### FIRST AID & MEDICAL SUPPORT

First Aid will be available at the finish line and Event Village, please notify a marshal if you or a fellow participant feel unwell or require medical treatment.

#### MEETING YOUR SUPPORTERS

The finish area is secure and extremely busy, with no access for supporters. They will be able to wait within the Event Village to meet up with you.

#### **CHANGING TENT**

A changing tent is available in the Event Village. We are sorry there are no showers available. Please note that showers/changing are NOT available within Inverness Leisure Centre.

#### **MASSAGE**

Massage and taping will be available during Registration on Saturday and after your event on Sunday.

#### **SPECTATORS**

The final 4 miles through Inverness provide the best vantage points for spectators. Please note the Infirmary Bridge will be closed to pedestrians and cyclists 08.30-17.00 on Sunday. For safety reasons, it is NOT permitted to accompany any participants by bike or to cycle along any section of the route.







## Don't miss out on...

#### **RESULTS**

Results will appear on our website by the end of event day and you will also receive a text with your official time.

Please note results and prize giving are based on the information provided by you at the time of entering.

#### **PRESENTATION**

The Loch Ness Marathon presentation takes place at 14.00 on the podium in the Event Village. It is not possible to post prizes overseas, please contact the Events Team to arrange collection.

#### **OFFICIAL PHOTOS**

Your official photos will be going LIVE from the moment you pass a MarathonPhotos Live photographer around the course. Share your bib number with your friends and family and they can register here to be notified as soon as your first photos are available online. Share your photos and event day experience on Facebook and Instagram.

#### **ITAB**

Official times will be provided to iTAB and you will receive yours in the post soon after the event. If you would like to order an iTAB, please head to our online shop.

#### **OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE**

Our exciting range of official merchandise, featuring t-shirts, hoodies, running caps, buffs and keyrings will be available to purchase at the Expo.











- Get dressed in tried and tested gear.
- ✓ Pin your bib number to the front of your top before leaving home or your accommodation, and check it is not obscured by a water belt or vest.
  - Attach your baggage label to the top of your kit bag.
  - Allow plenty of time to get to your bus departure point on event morning as buses cannot wait for late arrivals. If you miss the bus, it is not possible to make your own way to the marathon start.
- ✓ Go to the toilet before getting on the bus! Portable toilets are located at the bus. departure point in Inverness. The journey from Inverness takes around one hour and buses will not stop after leaving Inverness.
- Please be aware that weather conditions can change very quickly in the Scottish Highlands and bring appropriate clothing / layers to keep warm and dry at the marathon start in case of adverse weather.

# Helping our environment

We are committed to making the event as sustainable as possible and to minimise the event's environmental impact. Please refer to our website for some of the ways we are eliminating waste and reducing the environmental impact of the event however we do need your help.



## **RUN FOR CHARITY**

Make your marathon miles count by fundraising for one of our official charities. There are lots to choose from, all doing incredible work to help others and improve lives. Take a look below and check out www.lochnessmarathon.com/run-for-charity/

# MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT













































































# CRUNCH THE MLES WITH

Baxters



Our gherkins are hand-picked at peak freshness for the perfect crunch





# GET YOUR NUTRITION RIGHT ON RACE DAY

During a marathon, more than two thirds of your energy come from carbohydrate but as the miles tick by, your stores get depleted. With your energy levels low, you will find it harder to maintain your early pace. You could even hit the dreaded 'wall'. But with the right nutrition strategy, you can keep your energy levels higher. HIGH5 are passionate about helping you achieve your goals and have put together a guide to fuel your marathon to help you get the most out of your race and enjoy your time on course.

Get your nutrition plan now



The on course nutrition:

**Energy Gel Aqua** 

**ZERO** 

Orange and Berry

Citrus

Product Info

**Product Info** 



**OFFICIAL**RETAIL
PARTNER

# trunlao

**EXPERIENCE** 

Matching shoes to runners since 2004.

Get your running kit sorted with

15% OFF\*

in Run4lt shops or run4it.com using code:

LNM2515

until 28th September 2025



















7 shops across Scotland



free +runlab shoe fitting service













# JOIN US AT THE

**SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 10AM-6PM** & SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 8.30AM-5PM

Event Village, Bught Park, Inverness IV3 5SQ

Enjoy exclusive offers on running essentials from leading sports brands









Rawvelo



# Join Team Macmillan

Use your place in the Loch Ness Marathon to fundraise for Macmillan Cancer Support and make the miles count for the 3.5 million people living with cancer in the UK.



# Why Team Macmillam?

At Macmillan, we do whatever it takes to support every person living with cancer in the UK, whoever and wherever they are. But we can't do it without your support.

To join Team Macmillan, visit our webpage here. You'll receive a complimentary post-run sports massage, top and goody bag, as well as the loudest and proudest cheer on the course!

Just £17 could provide a session of emotional support to a person living with cancer with a Macmillan buddy.









## You're amazing!

Progress is only made possible by the extraordinary efforts of people like you.

Thank you to all of our supporters - you're powering research!

It's not too late to join our team and help beat cancer. Sign up today at: <a href="mailto:cruk.org/team">cruk.org/team</a>

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1089464), Scotland (SC041666), the Isle of Man (1103) and Jersey (247) © Cancer Research UK 2024 Thank you



Together we are beating cancer





Make a difference for people living with dementia, their carers, and their families across Scotland.

We are Scotland's leading dementia charity, and we believe that nobody should have to face dementia alone.

When you run and raise funds for Alzheimer Scotland, you help us prevent dementia now, provide care today and work towards a cure for tomorrow.

We'll be with you every step of the way and we'd love to send you a free Alzheimer Scotland t-shirt or vest to wear on the day.

Make every step count. Find out more <u>here</u>. Contact Lauran Farmer at events@alzscot.org or call 0131 243 1453.



Alzheimer Scotland – Action on Dementia is a company limited by guarantee, registered in Scotland 149069. Registered office 16C Dundee Street. Edinburgh EHII 1DO. It is recognised as a charity by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, no. SC022318

# MY NAME'5 DODDIE FOUNDATION

My Name'5 Doddie Foundation has a clear vision of a world free of motor neuron disease (MND).

The charity was founded in 2017 by rugby legend Doddie Weir OBE, following his diagnosis with MND. From the outset of his diagnosis, Doddie was driven to help others living with MND and seek ways to further research into this, as yet, incurable disease.

To date, My Name'5 Doddie Foundation has committed £19.5 million to MND research, plus £2 million to support people living with MND

To find out more about our events contact our Community and Events Fundraiser Finlay on finlay@myname5doddie.co.uk









Around 166,000 people live with Parkinson's in the UK. Parkinson's is on the rise. In the UK today, someone is diagnosed every 20 minutes.

Fundraisers like you power everything we do, from supporting people with Parkinson's and their families to funding groundbreaking research into new treatments. We can't do it without you.



