## Valentine's Day — Love could be in the air at Edinburgh Castle!

➤ Valentine's day is on the horizon and love is in the air. What could be more romantic than proposing to your partner in the iconic, historic location of Edinburgh Castle?

Edinburgh Castle has a proposal package to ensure that the special moment when you ask your partner to marry them is a memory to be treasured forever.

Kenneth Kibb came to Edinburgh on a three day trip from Ireland with his girlfriend Edel, having arranged with staff at Edinburgh Castle that he would use the visit there as an opportunity to propose to her.

He said:- "I searched high and low for the best proposal setting that wouldn't raise any suspicion from my long term girlfriend. I wanted an intimate and significant landmark location to create a memorable and surprise proposal setting.

"Having visited Edinburgh before, I knew how beautiful the castle is and how fantastic the views are from the castle overlooking the entire city and beyond. With the location idea in mind I contacted the Edinburgh Castle team to enquire if they facilitated marriage proposals at the castle grounds. The events team responded that they had numerous different options and locations throughout the Castle that are perfect settings for marriage proposals."

However the path of true love does not always run smoothly.

Lynn Paddock, Historic Scotland's Event Sales Manager added: "We had everything planned to make sure that Kenneth's proposal was just as he wanted, with exclusive access to the historic Argyle Tower, the upper part of the Portcullis Gate within Edinburgh Castle, with its beautiful window alcoves and views over the city and beyond.

"The one thing we couldn't control was the weather. Kenneth had arranged to propose to his girlfriend on the day when Edinburgh experienced the worst weather in decades and the castle was closed due to unprecedented high winds."

Kenneth said: "I was so disappointed when I realised that I would have to wait another day to ask Edel to become my wife, however the staff at Edinburgh Castle went out of their way to reassure me that everything would work out just as planned.

"Lynn was on hand to make sure everything went well and Edel didn't suspect a thing. When we entered the Argyle Tower the room was perfect. There was a beautiful bouquet of flowers, champagne already poured into two glasses presented on a tray of rose petals and the card I had previously posted over to Lynn two weeks before the event. The setup and scene was better than I imagined. While Edel was looking at the flowers and the card I asked her read, I got down on one knee and proposed. My girlfriend was completely surprised and thankfully she accepted my proposal.

"We are still getting a kick out from the reaction of our friends and family to our proposal story. The setup and location exceeded all my expectations. I cannot thank Lynn and all the Edinburgh castle team enough. It was the perfect day, the perfect location, the perfect setting and as my now fiancée describes it, the perfect proposal."