Dalai Lama coming to Edinburgh this Friday

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A spectacular series of the <u>Edinburgh Lectures</u> will wrap up this Friday with a special talk from His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the Usher Hall.

This year's 20th anniversary series has enjoyed record ticket sales with almost all lectures sold out. Over 4,000 people have attended the ten programmed Edinburgh Lectures across the city between February and June.

Entitled 'Extraordinary Feats, Extraordinary People', the series featured various thought-provoking and illuminating talks, during a year in which many in the sporting world will attempt to push the boundaries of human endeavour.

On Friday, His Holiness the Dalai Lama will deliver the final Edinburgh Lecture of the series entitled 'Beyond religion: ethics for a whole world' presented in partnership with the Edinburgh Interfaith Association. He will be visiting Edinburgh as part of a UK tour in June.

The Rt Hon Donald Wilson, Lord Lieutenant and Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh, said: ""Since 1992, the Edinburgh Lectures have provided a platform for prestigious speakers to address major public issues in a national and international context.

"Over 20 years, the series has opened minds and horizons to many aspects of life and society, allowing a dialogue with speakers from all walks of life and corners of the globe.

"I am delighted to welcome His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Edinburgh and I will be very much looking forward to hearing what will undoubtedly be a fascinating and inspiring talk."

This year's programme has seen a host of illustrious speakers grace the stage, such as Kate Adie, Lord David Puttnam and Olivia Giles. The series has celebrated those who have achieved the extraordinary in their own field.

Previous Edinburgh Lectures have seen over 200 high calibre speakers from home and abroad provide insightful and stimulating contributions. They have included Stephen Hawking, HRH The Princess Royal, Mikail Gorbachev, Sir Jackie Stewart and First Minister Alex Salmond.

The Lecture series are organised in partnership with a number of organisations. For more information visit the Edinburgh Lectures website. (but be aware that the tickets for this sold out very quickly!)