

Five things you need to know today



Ads the Poet is on iTunes – Tour de France – Serious Assault – Leith Central Community Council – New York Concert

Adam Bojelian is a young boy with many challenges in his life, but the 12 year-old Edinburgh boy has written the words to a song called Christmas Gibbons which Tom Harrison has written music for and recorded, and now you can [download it on iTunes](#). From every download 50p goes to Childrens Hospice Association Scotland CHAS and will help them run their hospice called Rachel House where Adam is staying right now.

[Do read his own story about the song here on his own blog](#) which will explain that although Adam cannot speak he can communicate by blinking. [You can follow him on Twitter here](#) and you can learn more about the Christmas Gibbons [song here on Facebook](#).

Here is a taster with animation by Nikki Godley and Jess Connell from YouTube for you!

Please don't forget to [download the song from iTunes](#) though as Adam wants the song to be iTunes No 1 for Christmas!

The council decided yesterday to put in a bid to hold the Grand Depart for the Tour de France, which would commit the city to spending over £1m on the organisation, but which might result in as much as £50m being spent in Scotland during the staging of the most important event in the cycling calendar.

It is not yet a done deal, as there is a counter bid by Yorkshire, but the council believe that the city's scenery alone means that it has a good chance of winning the bid to bring the high profile event to the city. The council explained what might happen as early as 2014:-“The proposal focuses on Edinburgh hosting the presentation of the riders two days before the official start of the Tour, followed by a full programme of cycling and complementary activities for the public on the eve of the Grand Depart which would start from Edinburgh. Other UK destinations would then host the remainder of this stage and three further road stages of the Tour before it continues in France.”

The Green Party tried to add a further part to the decision by asking that the council spent the same amount on cycling infrastructure in the city, but that addendum was not approved. The Council's Transport committee has already committed to spend 5% of the Transport budget on cycling in the city. Despite pleas from the deputy leader Councillor Steve Cardownie, the Green Group would not be persuaded to drop the addendum so that the council would be seen to approve the Tour de France proposal unanimously, although the group did say that they gave it their full support, but wanted more for the city out of it.

You can follow our live blog of the council proceedings [from yesterday on our TERLive! section here.](#)

STOP PRESS! The event will not be hosted in Edinburgh now as Yorkshire have won the bid according to a report this morning in [The Edinburgh Evening News.](#)

The Council's Festivals & Events Champion gives his reaction to the decision to stage the 2014 Grand Depart in Yorkshire

Councillor Steve Cardownie, said: “We felt the British bid [which would have seen Edinburgh host the Grand Depart] was a

strong one, as demonstrated by unanimous council support yesterday and by the support of British Cycling, UK Sport and the Scottish, Welsh and UK Governments.

“The proposals are still live and we will continue to work with EventScotland and other partners to bring the event here at the earliest opportunity.

“There is no doubt that attracting an event of the Tour de France’s stature to Edinburgh would be a major coup and of huge value to the City.

“We will continue to compete for major international events to be staged in Edinburgh.”

A 38-year-old man has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal in connection with an alleged serious assault in Edinburgh.

Police responded to an address in Loganlea Drive on Thursday 13th December and a 72-year-old man was found with injuries to his face, back and torso.

He is currently within the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, where he continues to be treated.

Leith Central Community Council holds its last meeting of the year on Monday 17 December 2013 at 7:00pm at the Macdonald Road Library. [More details here.](#)

Edinburgh Napier University are sponsoring a major concert for ex-pats living in New York this weekend. It will be hosted by

child star James Robinson who appeared in Braveheart alongside Mel Gibson but Edinburgh musician James Ross will also be playing some of his own compositions for the very first time. There will also be a pipe band from California accompanying him! [Read more in our article here.](#)