


Five things you need to know today

 **Caltongate – Pre-Theatre menu at The Scotsman Hotel – Today at the Filmhouse – At the National Museum of Scotland – Edinburgh Drawing School**

A few years back it was the hole in the ground in Castle Terrace which caused people in the city to complain about lack of progress with a prominent city centre site, and now it is the area of land at Caltongate which has attracted the same kind of attention more recently.

This site is on the east side of the council's own building at Waverley Court right next to the main east coast railway line, and the new planning application by Artisan REI is for seven parallel applications for various permissions. The development encompasses hotels, commercial, community uses and leisure along with alterations to the public realm. This is expected to include a new square around which there will be 400 hotel rooms, 28 shops, and around 200 homes with some of these being affordable homes.

When the new developer took over the site from the failed Mountgrange which collapsed in 2009, the company announced that the 640,000 square feet site would now be developed by South African investors who hoped to “breathe new life into a project that has been dormant for more than a decade.”

All planning papers relating to application numbers 13/03407/FUL and 13/03406/FUL can be viewed on the council planning portal [here](#). The council's planning committee was given general information about the forthcoming plans back in February.



The Scotsman Hotel North Bridge Brasserie are launching a new pre-theatre menu from 2 September 2013 onwards which will be a permanent addition to their offering. The new pre-theatre menu is available any day of the week, between 5:30pm to 6:45pm.

North Bridge Brasserie Pre-Theatre Menu

3 Courses for £21.50 per person

Starters

Chilled Summer Gazpacho, compressed Melon salsa

Potted Ham hock terrine, topped with a garden pea panna cotta,
cornichon salad,

toasted sour dough bread

Clava Brie tart with smoked raisins, saffron pickled onions,
butternut squash

Mains

St Mungos beer battered fish of the day, served with chunky chips and tartare sauce

Gordal olive polenta, aubergine caviar, pine nuts, feta and coriander pesto

Slow cooked leg of duck, pancetta, braised peas, gem lettuce and royal kidney potatoes

Desserts

Sticky toffee pudding, butterscotch sauce and clotted cream ice-cream

Hot dark chocolate mousse with toasted marshmallow ice-cream and crunchy milk rocks

Home-made ice-cream of the day

Available any day of the week, between 5:30pm to 6:45pm.

Diners arriving after 6:45pm (even if reserved for that time) cannot take the menu

Sides & drinks not included

Menu items subject to change

Today at the Filmhouse you can watch Alan Partridge in a film...

Alan Partridge has had many ups and downs in his life. National television broadcaster. Responsible for killing a guest on live TV. Local radio broadcaster. A nervous breakdown in Dundee. His self-published book, 'Bouncing Back',

subsequently remaindered and pulped. *Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa* portrays the events of the greatest low-to-high-ebb spectrum in his life to date – specifically how he tries to salvage his public career while negotiating a potentially violent turn of events at North Norfolk Digital Radio.

[Booking details here.](#)

Amazing Amber is one of the exhibitions at the National Gallery of Scotland.

It runs until 8 September 2013

Exhibition Gallery 2, Level 3

Free

This breathtaking exhibition explores the many facets of a beautiful and versatile material that had been treasured for thousands of years: amber. Bringing together for the first time highlights of National Museums Scotland's collection, *Amazing Amber* reveals the origins, properties and use of this precious substance – from million-year-old insects preserved in the resin, to contemporary jewellery.

Fancy yourself as a bit of an artist? Then enrol now at the Edinburgh Drawing School on one of their courses which begin on 23 September 2013.

All the classes take place at their premises at 13a Great King Street and the full details of dates and prices are [here.](#)



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