

# Five things you need to know today



## **Doors Open Day – Spa Discount at The Scotsman – Books are my Bag – Alternatives to the housing bubble – Samaritan's Purse**

There is more to Doors Open Day on 28 & 29 September than just the possibility of visiting some otherwise private buildings around the city. There is a whole selection of talks and walks taking place during the week 23-27 September 2013 too. Full details here:-

[DOD 2013 Edinburgh Programme](#)

\*\*\*

The Scotsman Hotel and Spa are offering 35% discount off all treatments and products until 31<sup>st</sup> October giving you the perfect opportunity to treat yourself to a fantastic day of 5-star pampering.

[The Scotsman Spa & Health Club offers over 30 luxuriant treatments for both men and women. These range from massage therapy and manicures... to facials, hydrotherapy and invigorating scrubs.](#)

Subject to availability and cannot be used in conjunction with any other packages or offers.

To book, please call our Spa reception on 0131 622 3800 or email [spa-reception@thescotsmanhotel.co.uk](mailto:spa-reception@thescotsmanhotel.co.uk).

Please see here for a full list of the treatments at The Scotsman Hotel Spa – <http://scotsmanspa.com/spa-treatments>

\*\*\*

✘ The Edinburgh Bookshop wants you to go and join them this **Saturday** when, like bookshops all across the UK, they will be throwing a **Big Bookshop Party** to celebrate the launch of **Books Are My Bag** – a nationwide campaign that will celebrate books and high street bookshops. They explained:-

*BOOKS ARE MY BAG is a collaboration between publishers, bookshops and authors and is the biggest ever promotion of books and high street booksellers . We know how much you love to come into the shop, browse the shelves, talk to the staff and find hidden treasures. This weekend is an opportunity for everyone to celebrate this unique experience, come together and share their love of books.*

*As a special thank you – we will be giving **free**, iconic **BOOKS ARE MY BAG bags** away with every purchase this weekend.*

\*\*\*



*There will be a public meeting on Wednesday 18 September, 7.30pm at Summerhall.*

*Edinburgh Greens are hosting a talk by Tim Jenkins of the new economics foundation, looking at sustainable alternatives to the austerity/house price bubble approach of the current government.*

*Further*

*details*

here: <http://www.edinburghgreens.org.uk/site/events/what-sort-of-economy-for-our-future/>

\*\*\*

After delivering their 100 millionth shoebox last year, Samaritan's Purse is calling for help from churches, schools, businesses and individuals across Edinburgh and Mid Lothian to bring joy to another one million children this Christmas.

After 23 years, the global efforts of Operation Christmas Child have enabled Samaritan's Purse to surpass their goal of reaching 100 million needy children in 156 countries. Now the charity is hoping to send another 100 million shoeboxes within the next ten years.

Last year, in the depths of an on-going economic crisis, supporters of OCC in the UK contributed nearly one million shoeboxes for needy children around the globe. Now, with 'green shoots of recovery' emerging, Samaritan's Purse Area Coordinator for Edinburgh and Mid Lothian June Vasey is asking for help to continue this great work:

"We're so thankful that despite such challenging times people from a wide range of communities throughout Edinburgh and Mid Lothian generously contributed gift-filled shoeboxes and helped us deliver our 100 millionth shoebox last year. As international aid continues to be impacted by the global economic crisis, now more than ever the most vulnerable children around the world desperately need to know someone cares for them."

There are many ways people across Edinburgh and Mid Lothian can get involved this year:

Individuals and organisations, such as churches, schools and workplaces, can wrap and pack shoeboxes with gifts. Organisations can open their doors to the public and be

'drop off points' for people to take their gift-filled shoeboxes to

People able to drive can volunteer as drivers to collect shoeboxes from 'drop off points' and take to local processing centres. Other people can volunteer to check and seal shoeboxes in processing centres and pack cartons

To make it easier to get hold of shoeboxes, Operation Christmas Child can now provide decorative 'GO' boxes, available flat-packed in cases of 100. These boxes can not only be used by individuals finding it difficult to find shoeboxes, but they can also be shared with their friends, families and work colleagues – anyone who has a heart for children!

Samaritan's Purse UK Executive Director Simon Barrington concluded: "Reaching 100 million is a wonderful outpouring of generosity up and down the country. Times are hard in the UK, many people are finding things tough, but there are children who live in the poorest of situations, in refugee camps, and in orphanages, who have nobody to care for them, who've never received a gift in their whole life. So we're asking people to be generous once more."

Find out how you can be part of this year's Operation Christmas Child campaign go to:

[www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk](http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk) for instructions on how to complete a gift-filled shoebox in time for the November 18<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Harmony Ridge  
d e s i g n s

