

Five things you need to know today



Edinburgh Trams and cycling – Plant a virtual poppy – Edinburgh Dungeon will scare you! – Dusherra on Calton Hill – Portobello art exhibition

West Maitland Street at Haymarket has been reopened to traffic but cyclists are warned not to try crossing the tram lines at anything less than a decent angle, even if you have fat tyres.

We spotted this video from Tuesday on [Spokes website](#) where you can get more information about cycling safety.

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We saw the first poppies being worn by someone in a city centre supermarket yesterday. If you want to support PoppyScotland you can also plant a virtual poppy as well as wearing one... [More details here.](#)

In 2012 £2,586,788 was raised by PoppyScotland thanks to the Scottish public and a dedicated army of volunteers.

This is how they describe their work:-“Combined with our other year-round fundraising, we are able to provide financial assistance to thousands of ex-Servicemen and women as well as helping to fund specialist services such as long term care, housing and employment.

“We were established in 1921 as The Earl Haig Fund Scotland but adopted our current name and logo in 2006 to reflect our revised fundraising activities and charitable services work.”

Forget the clichéd ghouls and gremlins, witches and wizards that are synonymous with Halloween as this year the Edinburgh Dungeon will be revisiting the authentic roots of the annual celebration with a dark and mysterious new show steeped in the Pagan festival of Samhuinn.

On Halloween, the time when the veil between the living and the dead is said to be at its thinnest, pagans historically hosted a Dinner for the Dead, where an extra place was set to try and summon back their loved ones. And so, this Halloween, the Edinburgh Dungeon will be extending their table too...only the visitor from beyond is going to be an altogether nastier soul.

The new themed show ‘Home of Halloween: Dinner for the Dead’ will feature ethereal tales from ancient history, mystic predictions and terrifying visits from spirits looking for sacrificial lambs of the human variety. From the 10th to 31st October visitors can expect to be thrilled and frightened by this spectacular show at what is truly the Home of Halloween.

Johnny Campbell, general manager at the Edinburgh Dungeon said:- “The Edinburgh Dungeon comes to life at Halloween; it’s a time for our dark side to permeate the capital and the Dinner for the Dead is perhaps our most chilling show yet.

“As the 31st October draws closer the dungeon will become the Home of Halloween once again, guaranteeing visitors less treats and more tricks of the spookiest kind. In the coming weeks, we will also be unveiling some fearsome additions to the Halloween line up. Keep an eye on the website and on the Edinburgh Dungeon Facebook page and Twitter @EdinDungeon for updates.”

The 'Home of Halloween: Dinner for the Dead' show is all part of the unforgettable journey delivered at Scotland's top attraction for scary fun. A host of grim characters lead visitors through 1000 years of the country's darker history, with non-stop action and hilarity delivered by 11 live-actor shows, state of the art special effects, 360° theatrical sets and two heart stopping rides during the 80 minute tour.

Tours will be running from 10am till 5pm every day, with extended opening hours on the 26th, 27th and 31st October (10am-8pm). For more information and tickets visit www.thedungeons.com/edinburgh

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AN EXHIBITION of photographs by blind artist Anne Dignan goes on display in Portobello Library, 14 Rosefield Avenue, on 22 October 2013.

Entitled 'Infinite Harmony', the exhibition includes visual, tactile and audio representations of photos depicting the world as seen through the eyes of the artist who has sight and hearing loss.

"My photos include cobbles and pebbles as well as birds and trees,"

explains Anne, a former primary school teacher in Edinburgh who lost her sight to macular degeneration ten years ago.

“It’s a multi-sensory exhibition because as well as the photos there are tactile reproductions of them on display, so people with sight loss can touch the outlines of the images. Audio and braille descriptions of them are also available. I have hearing loss as well so I wanted the exhibition to be accessible to everyone.”

Anne joined the arts and photography group at sight loss charity RNIB Scotland after she lost her sight. “I have found that engaging with your creative side is good for your wellbeing and lifts your spirits. That’s what I hope I have managed to get across with my exhibition.”

The exhibition runs until November 11.

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