It's Christmas in Edinburgh!

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You would be forgiven if you think it is a bit early to talk about Christmas but there is so much organisation in the events which make Edinburgh the place to be that they had already started thinking about it last January.

The Christmas Wheel will be back, there will be an ice rink, but it will be in St Andrew Square, and the Spiegeltent will be back with a burlesque show by the guys from Briefs as well as a circus show straight from Australia called Scotch and Soda. The Star Flyer will be moved to East Princes Street Gardens so you will have to go there for your thrills this year!

Ed Bartlam and Charlie Wood from Underbelly Ltd are well known in Edinburgh as they now run the Christmas events and some events during the Fringe, such as the Festival Wheel. Santa and the cast from Briefs were on hand to help launch another bigger, better but also more affordable Christmas in the Capital.

The council are delighted with Underbelly's organisation of the events over the festive period as was clear from the warm words from Festivals Champion, Councillor Steve Cardownie at the launch this morning. The council are one of the main sponsors of the event along with Essential Edinburgh and Marketing Edinburgh, Heineken UK, Diageo, Drambuie, Transport for Edinburgh, Yplan, Aggreko, Edinburgh Evening News, Forth One and Two, Edinburgh Airport and The List.

One of the main aspects of this year's events is that if you live in Edinburgh you will get a discount on tickets! As well as this there will be some cheaper tickets for the family area in the lower part of East Princes Street Gardens.

Ho Ho! More news about other events on St Andrews Day and the lead up to Christmas in the next few days.