

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh!



Edinburgh Trams

Comedy Club

Christmas Sweaters

Jawbone Arch

Ice Hockey Competition

The news about trams yesterday was twofold. First of all the council approved a spend of up to £400,000 for a report on whether the tramline should now be extended.

Secondly it became apparent that the Tram enquiry into what happened at the beginning of the tram project was almost put off the rails by potential witnesses being difficult. Lord Hardie who is in charge of the enquiry explained that some key figures just refused to give evidence to him.

The enquiry has now changed as it has been deemed a statutory enquiry and anyone who does not cooperate could be compelled to give evidence.

There is now a [website](#) where you can follow the proceedings as they unfold.

In January the multi-award winning Irish comedian, Dylan Moran, will headline the inaugural Gilded Balloon Comedy at The Studio at the Festival Theatre, a new monthly comedy club for Edinburgh.

Thirty years after first opening its doors to present the best Scottish, UK and international comedy talent to the people of Scotland, The Gilded Balloon announced this week that it is bringing a brand new monthly comedy club to The Studio at the Festival Theatre, Edinburgh, from Saturday 10 January 2015.

The Gilded Balloon Comedy at The Studio at the Festival Theatre will be staged in the intimate and welcoming studio space once a month and kicks off with headline act Dylan Moran – “Jokes as sharp as barbed wire and a comedy brain quicker than a steel trap” (The Scotsman). Lucky Edinburgh comedy fans can expect both buzz and hilarity in equal measure as Dylan Moran test-drives the new material he has earmarked for his forthcoming 53-date UK tour, scheduled for theatres throughout the country from March to May 2015.

Joining Moran on the bill for the first night are the supremely funny and truly loveable Edinburgh based Geordie, Kai Humphries, and the 2013 Scottish Comedian of the Year, Larry Dean. The evening will be compered by one of the most trusted comperes and respected headliners on the Scottish circuit, Raymond Mearns.

Karen Koren, Artistic Director of The Gilded Balloon, said: “The Gilded Balloon is delighted to be staging a regular monthly comedy club in The Studio at The Festival Theatre. It is an exciting, intimate and flexible space, perfectly suited to stand up. We’re looking forward to a long association with The Festival Theatre and bringing regular comedy to The Studio’s annual programme.”

Curated by Karen Koren, Artistic Director of The Gilded Balloon, this new monthly club features a line-up of popular Scottish, UK and international comedic talent including Aisling Bea, Paul Tonkinson, Justin Moorhouse and Jarred Christmas.

The three act shows will run from 20:00 – 22:00 (doors open

19:30) on the first Saturday of the month (from February 2015). The shows will be expertly hosted by some talented comperes including Katie Mulgrew, Ray Bradshaw, Raymond Mearns and Scott Agnew.

Duncan Hendry, Chief Executive at the Festival and King's Theatres, said: "We're looking forward to working with Karen and the Gilded Balloon on this exciting new venture. The Studio is a perfect venue for comedy gigs and we're sure the public will love the opportunity to discover a new space for comedy in the city."

Tickets (from £10.50) for Gilded Balloon Comedy at The Studio at The Festival Theatre are on sale from 10am on Friday 5 December through Festival Theatre Box Office – 0131 529 6000 | www.edtheatres.com/festival

For further information on Gilded Balloon Comedy at The Studio at The Festival Theatre go to <http://www.gildedballoon.co.uk/>.

Players from the Scotland women's team and Edinburgh men's team will be helping out at Save the Children's Stockbridge shop this morning until noon to raise awareness of the charity's Christmas Jumper Day.

The players will be wearing their Christmas jumpers, helping out in the shop and handing out leaflets outside.

The Save the Children's Living and Giving shop is at 34a Raeburn Place, Edinburgh EH4 1HN

And of course we would love to have your photos of your Christmas sweaters. Send them [here](#)!

Edinburgh World Heritage have issued their report explaining that the Jawbone Arch was carefully removed from the Meadows

in July, and taken to storage to allow the bones to dry out and stabilise.

“The archway of whale jawbones has been a feature of the area since 1886, when it was brought to Edinburgh by Shetland and Fair Isle knitters, as part of their display for the International Exhibition.”

Now money is needed for the restoration of the iconic arch.

Help secure the future of the Jawbone Arch

For those who may wish to make cash donations to the fundraising appeal for conservation work to the Arch, this can be gifted:

Online: [Just Giving](#) – You can give by credit or debit card and if you are a taxpayer your tax can be reclaimed.

By cheque: Please post or hand in to Edinburgh World Heritage, 5 Bakehouse Close, 146 Canongate, Edinburgh, EH8 8DD. Please mark the envelope ‘Jawbone’.

Follow the campaign on Facebook: [Save the Jawbone Arch](#)

We have a competition to win a couple of pairs of ticket for the ice hockey on Saturday evening. If you would like to win then head over [here](#)!

The ice hockey club think they have a good chance of being in the points: “Edinburgh Capitals have a big opportunity this weekend to edge in front of some of their closest rivals in the Elite league table. Home wins against Coventry Blaze on Saturday and local rivals Fife Flyers on Sunday would see the Capitals move into 6th place and provide some breathing space between the Capitals and a number of other clubs fighting for play-off places.”