

Five things you need to know today



- Edinburgh Community Cafes
- Grassmarket Fun Foodie Day
- Gordon Macdonald MSP
- D M Hall staff skydive for CHAS
- Holiday fun at Newkirkgate Shopping Centre

There are 43 community cafes in Edinburgh. Do you know where they are? Now there is a map on the website to show you exactly where they are. [Click here.](#)

As part of the Edinburgh Restaurant Festival The Grassmarket are hosting a fun foodie day for all the family on **Saturday 10th October**, featuring entertainment, demos and tasty offers throughout the day.

[Read more here.](#)



Gordon Macdonald MSP who represents Edinburgh Pentlands has scheduled his surgeries for the next few months. Click on the image to go to his parliamentary page.





They are masters of all they survey. But the surveyors and their colleagues from DM Hall LLP had a whole new perspective

last week-end when they hurled themselves out of a small plane at 10,000 feet for a charity skydive.

Their hearts were certainly in the right place, but they were also in their mouths as they lined up for an “only-the-brave” jump at Errol Airfield in Perth to raise funds for the Children’s Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS).

Nine staff from DM Hall, one of Scotland’s leading firms of independent chartered surveyors took part in the courageous leap with a target of £5000 for CHAS, the firm’s chosen community investment partner. So far the leap has raised almost £8,000 with funds still coming in.

The firm has raised tens of thousands since it entered into partnership with CHAS in March last year and partners and staff across its 25 Scottish offices are keen to keep the funds coming.

Heading the DM Hall Daredevils was Eric Curran, managing partner of DM Hall, whose track record of charity stunts includes doing a bungee jump dressed as BananaMan last July. In the event, however, the pilot of Eric’s aeroplane decided there was too much cloud cover for a safe jump. He will make a further attempt on Sunday 18th October.

But that did not stop DM Hall staff, Laura McNee, Toni Robb, Ken Topping, Julie Charles, Steven Graham, Paula Reilly, Michael McIntyre, Laura Stenhouse and Wallace Kidd making the leap of faith for CHAS.

Eric Curran said: “There can be no more worthy community cause in Scotland than CHAS and our staff have thrown themselves with enthusiasm into raising the huge sums of money CHAS needs to do its vital work.”

CHAS, a charity that provides the only hospice services in Scotland for children and young people with life-shortening conditions, supports more than 350 families in Scotland. It is funded mainly through the generosity of supporters who help to raise more than £9 million each year to permit it to provide its vital services.

DM Hall’s 250-strong team has participated in a huge range of fundraising events including the Aberdeen Kiltwalk and the Hell of the North road cycle race. Others have run half marathons, and the offices raise funds throughout the year.

CHAS chief executive Maria McGill said: “It is firms such as DM Hall and their committed and supportive staff who make it

possible for CHAS to continue to make young people's lives across Scotland just a little bit easier."

Anyone wishing to back the DM Hall Skydive team can access the group page at Just Giving for CHAS, <http://www.justgiving.com/teams/DMHallskydive>.

Looking for something spookily fun to do during the October school holidays? Visit Newkirkgate Shopping Centre to take part in two Halloween-themed activities!

On **Wednesday 14th October**, a Crackling Crafts workshop will provide a chance for youngsters to create Halloween pictures, face masks and accessories for their guising outfit.

On **Thursday 15th October**, the Newkirkgate Halloween B00tique will open its doors! Providing inspiration for guising outfits, visitors can try on different Halloween costumes, listen to Halloween stories, play Halloween-themed games and pick-up some tasty Halloween treats!

No need to sign-up. Events are drop-in, so attendees can pop along anytime during 12-3pm both days.

Visit <http://newkirkgate.com/> for more information or follow them on Twitter at @newkirkgateSC

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