

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



Mamma Mia

Carol singing in Leith

Edinburgh Direct Aid

Loud & Proud Concert

Our Fabulous Christmas Competition!



The world's sunniest and most exhilarating smash-hit musical **MAMMA MIA!** comes to The Edinburgh Playhouse for a 6 week run from Tuesday 29th November 2016 to Saturday 7th January 2017 as part of its first ever UK tour.

Booking for tickets opens today.



Throughout December, local primary pupils will be helping Leithers get into the festive spirit by serenading them with a variety of Christmas carol performances at the Newkirkgate Shopping Centre.

Taking place from today until Friday 18th December, over 300 pupils from eight different primary schools from in and around Leith will put on eight performances to entertain shoppers as the Christmas rush continues.

The carol singing performances have been organised by The Leith Festival Association.

Performances will take place on:

Monday 7th December: 2.00pm: Lorne Primary

Monday 14th December: 11.00am: Prospect Bank Primary

Tuesday 15th December: 11.00am: Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pairce

2.00pm: Victoria Primary

Wednesday 16th December: 11.00am St Mary's (Leith) Primary

2.00pm: Craigentinny Primary

Thursday 17th December: 1.45pm: Leith Primary

Friday 18th December: 1.00pm: Hermitage Park Primary

Scott Darroch, centre manager for Newkirkgate Shopping Centre said: "Carol singing at the centre is a long standing tradition and we are very much looking forward to welcoming the pupils along to entertain our shoppers once again this year. They do an absolutely fantastic job at helping get everyone into the festive spirit and we invite the local community along to join in the fun!"

Rita Crombie, one of the organisers of the performances for the Leith Festival team, said: "The pupils practice all year long as a choir and Christmas provides them with a chance to show-off their fantastic skills! Shoppers always thoroughly enjoy hearing the children perform and we hope that the carols go some way towards spreading Christmas cheer throughout Leith!"



Later this morning 12 tonnes of winter clothing and other

necessities will leave Granton for Edinburgh's twin city of Munich, the gateway to Germany, for hundreds of thousands of refugees who have travelled there from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan this year.

Local charity Edinburgh Direct Aid is helping Germany cope by sending donations from generous Scots in and around Edinburgh to Diakonia, a major charity tasked with providing for the enormous number of refugees settling in Munich this winter. The costs of this and other deliveries to refugees in Europe are being paid for from a grant of £10,000 made by the Department of External Affairs of the Scottish Government for this purpose.

The EDA truck will travel via the High Street and pause at the City Chambers for the Lord Provost the Rt Hon Donald Wilson to hand a message to the EDA volunteers manning the truck for delivery to his counterpart, Dieter Reiter, Lord Mayor of Munich (together with a bottle of single malt for seasonal good cheer).

The vehicles are scheduled to arrive in Munich next Wednesday and on Thursday 10th EDA chair Denis Rutovitz and vice-chair Jeanne Bell will join the drivers, David Reeks and Jaap Prins, in the city, where they will visit refugee accommodation centres, witness the unloading and initial distribution of the goods sent and be received by representatives of Diakonia and the City of Munich.



Loud & Proud, Scotland's LGBT Choir, celebrates its 10th birthday in 2015 – and it's rolling back the years to 2005 to offer tickets for its fizzing Festive Concert at just **£5 each!**

On Friday night at St Cuthbert's Church you can enjoy a selection of seasonal favourites, then join the choir for some

post-concert festive fayre.

Tickets may be purchased from **The Hub, Castlehill** in person, by calling 0131 473 2000 or online [here](#) (transaction fee applies). The concert begins at **8pm on Friday 11th December at St Cuthbert's Church, 5 Lothian Road.**




We have the best competition on the go at the moment – but you need to get your skates on and enter today.

There will be a drive in movie set up at Royal Highland Showgrounds Ingliston in a couple of weeks time and we have tickets for three separate cars to give away! They are showing all manner of Christmas films.

We went to the drive in there on Valentine's Day to watch Top Gun and it was fabulous fun.

Don't delay – enter today!

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