

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



- Noisy Nights
- COMAS invite you to a politics quiz with your Burns Supper
- Concert audiences raise funds for Barnardos Scotland
- Volunteer at a charity shop
- Edinburgh falling behind with recycling

Noisy Nights start on Monday 1 February 2016 at 8pm at Summerhall,

Noisy Nights are the place to hear emerging new musical ideas and voices: they're a place to meet music-lovers, curious minds, musicians, composers and artists in an informal space and hear some of the best examples of brand new music while having a beer. They're fun, free and your chance to listen to, and compose for, the musicians of Red Note Ensemble.

Red Note Ensemble Performers:

Flute Ruth Morley

Violin Jackie Shave

Trombone John Kenny

Tickets: Free!



Have I got Burns for you!

A Burns Supper with a difference takes place at 7pm on Friday

22 January 2016 at St Paul's Church Pilrig Street for the princely sum of £10. You will get Cock-a-leekie soup, haggis neeps and tattos and cranachan. (Vegetarian options available) And there is a fun politics quiz flung in for good measure. Buy your tickets [here](#).



L-R: Christopher Marshall, James Taylor, Craig Drummond, Irene Heggie, Minsu Go and Lina Bieliauskaite all from Usher Hall.

In the last four years over £18,300 has been raised for Barnardo's Scotland just from buckets being rattled at Christmas concerts held at Edinburgh's Usher Hall. Any spare change has been added to the grand total which is a huge help for the leading children's charity.

The events coordinator at Barnardo's Scotland Jordyn Armstrong recently accepted a cheque for nearly £4,000 which is the monies collected in December 2015 alone. Armstrong said: "The Usher Hall has been a huge supporters of Barnardo's Scotland for four years with very successful bucket collections. We are overwhelmed by their staff's time and effort, and the hall's kind visitors who have collectively donated over £18,000. This is a huge contribution to allow us to continue supporting some of the country's most vulnerable children and families and we would like to say a massive thank you! And we hope to continue working with Craig and his fantastic team in the future."

Craig Drummond, Front of House Manager at Usher Hall, presented the cheque stating: "Barnardo's Scotland is a great cause that obviously resonates with our audiences as they always dig deep for our bucket collections – we would like to thank them for their generosity and support. It's true what

they say – every little really does help and we are delighted that all that loose change has resulted in a significant amount of money towards the invaluable work this charity does.”



The two charity shops at Newkirkgate Shopping Centre in Leith are calling for volunteers to help them this year. The British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research stores have a variety of roles on offer both in the shops themselves and in their warehouse or helping with fundraising.

Pearl James, manager of the Cancer Research UK store at Newkirkgate Shopping Centre, said: “By volunteering with us, you’ll be joining a fun and diverse team and in return for some of your time, we promise to provide you with a rewarding working experience. You can also feel good knowing that you’re doing your bit to support such a great cause!”

Any willing volunteers will be able to decide how many hours they would like to commit to and how long they would like to carry out the role for. The posts will be unpaid.

If you are interested in volunteering with Cancer Research UK at the centre, please call: 0131 553 7086.

If you are interested in volunteering with the British Heart Foundation at the centre, please call: 0131 341 3023.



While there are a dozen councils in Scotland where household recycling has exceeded the EU target of recycling at least 50% of household waste by 2020, Edinburgh is said to be falling behind with a recycling figure of around 37% according to research by the GMB union.

In the 32 councils in Scotland, out of the total household waste of 2,459,559 tonnes some 1,053,249 tonnes were sent for

recycling, composting or reuse. That is 42.8%.

Gary Smith, Acting GMB Scotland Secretary, said: "It is a great credit to all those working in waste collection and recycling that such great strides have been made over the last decade to recycle more at the same time as increasing efficiency.

We are well on the way for many councils to meet the EU target for the UK to recycle at least 50% of waste generated by households.


Increased recycling has come at a cost. The waste sector is the most dangerous in the country to work in.

GMB's research tells us two things. First, we need a sharing of expertise and knowledge which is vital to bring the recycling underachievers up to the levels of their peers. Second, to raise recycling levels even further, and make this sector safer, requires more staff to be employed, more investment in vehicles and equipment and safer methods of working to keep those providing these vital service safe."

The table produced by the GMB union shows that Edinburgh only recycles around 37% of waste. Do you recycle? Do you find it easy to do?

		Generated (tonnes)	Recycled (tonnes)	Percentage Recycled (%)
	Scotland	2,459,559	1,053,249	42.8
Rank				
1	Inverclyde	28,458	16,171	56.8
2	North Ayrshire	65,064	36,743	56.5
3	Perth & Kinross	74,949	42,372	56.5
4	East Renfrewshire	46,224	25,950	56.1

5	Clackmannanshire	26,786	14,929	55.7
6	Moray	50,902	27,681	54.4
7	Falkirk	73,620	39,980	54.3
8	Fife	188,213	101,060	53.7
9	Stirling	40,565	21,551	53.1
10	Angus	58,892	30,879	52.4
11	East Ayrshire	56,392	28,381	50.3
12	South Ayrshire	55,477	27,751	50
13	Midlothian	40,726	19,111	46.9
14	Renfrewshire	80,858	37,658	46.6
15	Highland	131,228	60,471	46.1
16	West Lothian	73,485	33,715	45.9
17	South Lanarkshire	153,492	69,000	45
18	East Dunbartonshire	52,897	23,533	44.5
19	West Dunbartonshire	40,338	17,876	44.3
20	East Lothian	52,660	22,523	42.8
21	North Lanarkshire	150,309	62,528	41.6
22	Aberdeenshire	131,390	52,479	39.9
23	Aberdeen City	96,130	36,742	38.2
24	Edinburgh, City of	189,525	70,451	37.2
25	Scottish Borders	49,952	18,345	36.7
26	Dundee City	63,738	20,290	31.8
27	Argyll & Bute	52,359	15,655	29.9
28	Glasgow City	224,488	57,839	25.8
29	Eilean Siar	13,479	2,914	21.6
30	Dumfries & Galloway	76,454	15,940	20.8
31	Orkney Islands	10,568	1,831	17.3
32	Shetland Islands	9,942	899	9

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