

Five things you need to know today



- National Museum of Flight
- Edinburgh College's Panama links
- Edinburgh Food Heritage Trail
- MacDonald Hotels improve profits
- Build It! at the National Museum of Scotland

After months of planning, restoring and conservation, the new hangars of military and civil aviation at the National Museum of Flight will be unveiled on Friday 25 March.



National Museums Scotland have a Flickr account where you can see photos like the one above [here](#).



Edinburgh College hosted Panama's vice minister of education to show him the success of a project to train Panamanian teachers to deliver English-language learning in their own country.

The vice minister, Carlos Staff, and a government delegation visited the college's Sighthill campus to discuss the progress of the five-year Panama Bilingue scheme, which is supporting the growth of English-language learning in Panama. Edinburgh College is a partner in Panama Bilingue and is delivering the residential training in Edinburgh to visiting Panamanian teachers.

There are currently 44 teachers from Panama training at the

college, following the first three groups that came throughout 2015.



Edinburgh World Heritage has launched a new series of videos looking at the the city's culinary history, as part of the Edinburgh Food Heritage Trail.



The trail reveals some of the hidden links between the city's built heritage and its food traditions, encouraging visitors to explore the nooks and crannies of the World Heritage Site and discover its culinary traditions. [Find out more about the Edinburgh Food Heritage Trail...](#)



Macdonald Hotels Ltd, which runs Macdonald Holyrood Hotel in Edinburgh, is not only celebrating its 25th anniversary this year but has also recently announced increased profits and turnover for the last financial year.

The group, which has 55 hotels and resorts in the UK, Ireland, Spain and Portugal, recently published its annual results for the year to 2 April 2015 which showed:

- Group turnover up 7% (£10.2m) to £155.7m
- Total operating profit up 11% (£1.6m) to £16.9m
- Profit after tax up £2.5m to £6.1m
- Bank debt effectively reduced by over £96m at December 2015

Stuart Broomfield, Hotel Manager at Macdonald Holyrood Hotel said; "All of us at Macdonald Holyrood Hotel welcome this

news, which underpins Group plans to continue to invest in facilities for the thousands of guests we welcome each year. It's also a great way to mark the company's first quarter century which we continue to celebrate in 2016."

The chance to help build a 1.5 metre LEGO[®] brick model of one of the Lewis Chessmen and watch the construction of a 3.5 metre model of the National Museum of Scotland are two of the highlights of *Build It! Adventures with LEGO[®] Bricks*, a series of events and activities taking place at the Museum from now until 17 April.

Build It! Adventures with LEGO[®] Bricks also features a display of over 40 models created by the renowned 'artist in LEGO[®] bricks', Warren Elsmore and his team. This includes a model of a tenement in Edinburgh's Broughton Street, Mons Meg, the Angel of the North, the Empire State Building, the balcony at the 2011 Royal Wedding at Buckingham Palace, the Arc de Triomphe and the Colosseum.

The National Museum of Scotland LEGO[®] brick model will be constructed by Warren Elsmore and his team, who will work on their creation on Wednesdays and Fridays in February and March. The model will feature an intricate cross-section of the building to showcase the attraction's famous Grand Gallery and is expected to use over 30,000 LEGO[®] bricks.

During the half term break from 15-17 February, visitors will be able to assist with the building of a giant version of The Berserker, one of the Lewis Chessmen, which is one of the Museum's most iconic and popular objects.


Other interactive elements will be a Brick Bingo Challenge where families search for museum-inspired models hidden in the Museum's Natural World galleries, and a Play and Display area

where visitors can make their own LEGO[®] brick creations.

Stephen Allen, Head of Learning and Programmes, National Museums Scotland, said:

“For children and adults alike, LEGO[®] is more than just a toy – it makes architects, designers, sculptors and storytellers of us all. From watching an ‘artist in LEGO[®] bricks’ at work to helping us build a giant LEGO[®] Lewis Chessman, or enjoying making their own LEGO[®] brick creations, we’re greatly looking forward to showing our visitors the huge potential and versatility of these famous coloured bricks.”

Build It! Adventures with LEGO[®] Bricks is part of the Festival of Architecture 2016, which celebrates Scotland’s fantastic built environment, as part of the 2016 Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design celebrations.

 Sign up here for a daily email from The Edinburgh Reporter
! [mc4wp_form id="169103"]

If you are reading this article in print and would like to visit The Edinburgh Reporter website then simply scan the QR code here with a smartphone or tablet.

