

# Five things you need to know today



- Royal Visit to Edinburgh
- New charity shop
- Stobo Castle Ladies Day at Musselburgh Racecourse
- Fort Kinnaird
- Fracking film at North Edinburgh Arts

The Countess of Strathearn visited three Edinburgh schools yesterday during her first solo visit to Scotland. The Edinburgh Reporter was at St Catherine's RC Primary School in Gracemount to meet those involved with a school based charity project.

Place2Be has been in Scotland for fifteen years and works in 28 schools across the country. It is the UK's leading mental health charity providing in-school support and expert training to improve the emotional wellbeing of pupils, families, teachers and school staff.

[Read more here](#)

Her Royal Highness then went on to visit The Art Room at Wester Hailes Education Centre and to have a tennis lesson with new grandmother Judy Murray at Craigmount High School.

***Sign up here for a daily email from The Edinburgh Reporter***

[mc4wp\_form id="169103"]



There's a new charity shop on Dalry Road which just opened

this week. The new shop will raise money for St Columba's Hospice and was opened on Tuesday by one of the charity's volunteers, Hazel Lannan.

This shop has a bright new look and is the sixth across Edinburgh and the Lothians.

Lesley Christie, director of fundraising at the Hospice said: "We are delighted to officially open our sixth charity shop, which will raise funds for the Hospice to care for patients and their families. The Hospice's shops are an incredibly important source of fundraising for us, and we rely on the generosity of the public to fill our shops with donations, and of the volunteers to keep the shops open. This new shop will mean the people who shop locally around Haymarket, Dalry and Gorgie can pick up some gorgeous items at a bargain price and support the work of the Hospice."

The new shop is open Monday – Saturday from 10am – 4pm at 74 Dalry Road. Donations of good quality goods are welcome during the shop's opening hours.





☒ Later this year one of the biggest events at Musselburgh Racecourse is the Stobo Castle Ladies Day on Saturday 11 June 2016.

But it is sure to be even more attractive now that the celebrity host Vernon Kay has agreed to be the VIP host for the day.

Vernon is on TV show All Star Families and it is expected that he will be the centre of the after racing party at the Stage Marquee on the racecourse.

Sarah Montgomery, Senior Operations and Commercial Manager at Musselburgh Racecourse, said: “As guests go, Vernon is a real thoroughbred.

“Not only is he one of the best-known faces on British TV, but he has the perfect fashion credentials to fully appreciate the riot of style and colour that is Stobo Castle Ladies Day.

“He always has a smile on his face, which we’re sure will make him a hugely popular choice with the women who turn out in such large numbers to make the day such a huge success.

“We are delighted to officially confirm Vernon will be joining and very much look forward to welcoming him for a fantastic day of racing, fashion and socialising.

“Stobo Castle Ladies Day is a sell out success every year, and with tickets selling fast, we are already on track for the same result this year. We are encouraging those looking to

attend to purchase their tickets now.”


For more information on the full list of fixtures, including a number of seasonal highlights, and to book tickets visit: [www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk](http://www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk)



The number of shoppers at Fort Kinnaird has grown by 12% in the last year.

The shopping centre has attracted thousands of new customers, mainly by adding new restaurants, shops and the first major cinema for the east of Edinburgh in many years.

Names like Fat Face, Simply Be, Primark, Chiquito, Ed's Easy Diner, Five Guys, Frankie & Benny's, Nando's, Pizza Express and TGI Fridays all add up to attractions that Edinburgh shoppers seem to love.

 Liam Smith, Centre Manager at Fort Kinnaird, said: “This has been an incredible, busy, exciting past 12 months here at Fort Kinnaird, with the arrival of fantastic popular restaurants, more leading fashion brands and our very own cinema.

“We’ve also worked hard to listen to customer’s needs and, in response, extended our opening hours to provide more convenience and flexibility.

“The rise in footfall tells us we have got it right – by increasing the offering and making Fort Kinnaird more than just a shopping centre, but a great leisure experience where anyone can enjoy a day or evening out.

“We’re also thrilled that this success has created jobs and is really helping the local economy. We now look forward to continuing to welcome new customers in 2016.”


North Edinburgh Arts is to show the film Groundswell Rising on 4 March 2016 at 7:00pm.

The film, which is all about fracking in the USA, has witness accounts from those who have been affected by the method of oil and gas extraction.

**Dr Richard Dixon, Director of Friends of the Earth Scotland** will introduce the film. He will be joined by **Prof Andrew Watterson, Director of the Centre for Public Health and Population Health Research, and Head of the Occupational and Environmental Health Research Group, School of Health Sciences, University of Stirling** for discussion after the screening.

**Dr Richard Dixon said:** "Scotland has to learn from the communities that have already had to live with fracking. Seeing the reality of having this dirty industry as a neighbour should persuade anyone that it's not something we want here. For the sake of the climate and local people, fracking and unconventional fossil fuels are the last thing Scotland needs."

**North Edinburgh Arts**, 15a Pennywell Court, Edinburgh EH4 4TZ.

 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.

