

Five things you need to know today



- **ESPC to support SKFF**
- **Scottish State Coach**
- **Funding for RSA**
- **Royal Commonwealth Pool closing from this evening for renovation**
- **Edinburgh International Fashion Festival**

Property experts ESPC have announced that they will be supporting the Sick Kids Friends Foundation (SKFF) as their chosen charity for the next year.

Every year in June and July, ESPC chooses a new charity to support and the previous charity chosen by ESPC for 2015/2016 was Royal Blind.



SKFF supports the Royal Hospital for Sick Children (RHSC) and its current project is to create a smooth transition for when the hospital moves from its current position in Quartermile to Little France in 2017, and ESPC's contribution will go towards making the new hospital a more 'homely' environment for children to be in.

With ESPC providing expert local advice on moving home, and as an Edinburgh institution since 1971, this partnership with SKFF, another Edinburgh institution, they say that this seems like a perfect fit.

[Read more here](#)

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Image used in Royal Mews Guide Book

If you are passing Holyrood Palace next month then you may see the Scottish State Coach which will be on display there to mark Her Majesty The Queen's 90th birthday.

The carriage was built in 1830 for the Duke of Cambridge and was then used for his brother's coronation. It is still used by members of the Royal Family on ceremonial occasions.



The Royal Scottish Academy is planning a major exhibition in 2017 to reunite the RSA's collection with some key works transferred to the National Gallery six years ago.

For the first time the collections will use the whole RSA building to tell the story of the institution. Museums Galleries Scotland has offered funding of just under £40,000 to help make this possible. They will develop two touring exhibitions and run live demonstrations in the galleries with life teaching classes and artist led printmaking.

Sandy Wood, Collections Curator at the Royal Scottish Academy of Art & Architecture, said:

"The Recognition Fund is allowing our institution to make dreams become reality. In 2017 the Academy will mount an in-depth survey of its collections in the RSA building. The Ages of Wonder exhibition will be the first time in history the

entire building has been given over to collections alone, and the support of Museums Galleries Scotland is significantly helping us develop the exhibition to be as innovative and exciting as possible. The Recognition fund is a crucial avenue for Scotland's museums and galleries to enhance their Nationally Significant collections and develop projects that otherwise would be out of reach in today's difficult financial climate."

Joanne Orr, CEO of Museums Galleries Scotland, said: "The Recognition Fund allows Scotland's most important collections to create a better experience for their visitors. Many of the projects involve the creation of new jobs so our investment is bringing vital additional capacity to deliver projects that will bring long lasting benefits for the museums, their visitors and their communities."

This is one of five projects which will share a total of £335,000 of funding from Museums Galleries Scotland which is the national development body for museums and galleries in the country.



The doors to Edinburgh Leisure's popular gym at the Royal Commonwealth Pool will temporarily close for refurbishment at 20:30 this evening.

The gym is scheduled to reopen on Monday, 8 August at 05:30hrs. Brand new state of the art equipment (cardiovascular and strength equipment) will be installed including water rowers, skill mills and power mills. In addition, there will be a specially designed functional area featuring a new mini synergy unit, which is ideal for dynamic small group training, one on one personal training and for individual exercisers.

The gym will be given a new modern hard floor surface, replacing the current carpet and wall mounted televisions will be installed, displaying corporate offers, advertising and

sporting events.



Ross Collins, gym co-ordinator at Edinburgh Leisure said: “The Commonwealth Pool actually had a £37 million major refurbishment, which included the gym, in 2013, in time for the 2104 Commonwealth Games. However, as a not-for-profit organisation, Edinburgh Leisure is constantly reinvesting in our sites to give our customers an experience to rival that of any of our competitors, which includes the latest technology and equipment.

“Our customers already know that being an Edinburgh Leisure member means they are part of the biggest club in town, offering access to over 30 venues across the city, to Europe’s biggest climbing arena at Ratho, three soft-plays centres, six golf courses, 9 swimming pools, 14 gyms, 23 tennis courts, 140 pitches, 700+ fitness classes per week, and the largest community based programmes across the capital.”

The refurbishment of the gym at the ‘Commie’ follows closely on the heels of the gym refurbishment at Portobello Swim Centre. Drumbrae Leisure Centre is also undergoing a major refurbishment, which is due for completion in October. At the end of last year, Edinburgh Leisure had invested £1 million in fitness equipment in five of its 15 gyms.

For further information, visit: <http://www.edinburghleisure.co.uk/venues/royal-commonwealth-pool>



Gianni Scumaci

Edinburgh International Fashion Festival opens later today with [an event at Ocean Terminal.](#)

Fashion Festival Opening Reception Drinks, 6pm, all welcome

Gianni Scumaci Talk & 'Sink the Pink' Exhibition Preview, 7.30pm


Gianni Scumaci's approach to hair is as unusual as it is unique – see, it's not the hair that is primary to his creative process but understanding the character he is interpreting.

Captivated by hair from a young boy, he only later realized it was people who fascinated him more and his ability to connect and communicate on a deeper level had a seismic impact on his decisions and direction with hair.

This has been apparent in his extensive work across the 3 hair genres of Salon, Editorial and Education. From building an 11 clients-a-day (fiercely) loyal clientele, to his work with iconic fashion photographers Tim Walker & David Bailey and his emerging brand of education, his approach to discovering, creating or developing characters underpins his passion for teaching 'The Social Function Of A Hairdresser'.

Gianni will be opening the Edinburgh International Fashion Festival with a talk giving a rare insight into the creative process behind his approach and unveiling his latest work, a collaboration with the inspired movement 'Sink The Pink' which is being celebrated as an exclusive exhibition at Ocean Terminal.



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