## Greater Grassmarket BID announces spring/summer events programme

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A range of free events will run in the Greater Grassmarket from May — September

The Greater Grassmarket Business Improvement District (BID) has announced a range of free visitor events taking place in the area from May to September 2017.

Events returning due to popular demand include; the Vintage Weekend featuring a vintage market, fashion show, classic cars and vintage variety shows; Grassmarket Unplugged featuring a selection of musicians and singer-songwriters performing acoustic music sessions; the Circus Weekend featuring an acrobatic travelling circus show in association with Let's Circus; and the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival Mardi Gras featuring a host of bands performing live music. Two new events will also be launched this year — Blue Grassmarket, an Americana music festival, and Pitch, an event showcasing the talents of street performers.

These events are the latest in a range of free activities set out by the Greater

Grassmarket BID in order to attract visitors to the Greater Grassmarket area.

Last year's Vintage and Circus Weekends were a huge hit, with the Vintage

Weekend alone increasing footfall by 61%.

Norrie Stewart, Grassmarket BID Project Manager, says: "We are excited to launch our spring/summer programme of events and showcase what the area has to offer. As well as welcoming

back our popular Vintage and Circus Weekends, we're also pleased to announce two brand new events for 2017.

"We hope this will attract not only tourists to the area, but locals too. Where

else can you find so many great quality, free family friendly events in Edinburgh? We have a unique outdoor events space with the backdrop of the

castle and something to suit everyone's taste."