

# Five things you need to know today

- **PoppyScotland needs you**
- **Community Councils**
- **The Ada Lovelace Lecture**
- **Cycling news**
- **Festival Chorus open rehearsal**

Poppyscotland needs you! Scotland's leading Armed Forces charity is searching for volunteers to help fundraise in Edinburgh for this year's Scottish Poppy Appeal.



Poppyscotland Head of Fundraising Gordon Michie explains: "We're looking for individuals, groups of friends, or community organisations to step forward help with this year's Appeal in Edinburgh. Last year, we had a very successful fundraising effort, but, without your help, we will struggle to emulate that.

"By volunteering for Poppyscotland you will be helping us transform the lives of Scottish veterans, those currently serving, and their families who are in need. The money raised from the annual Poppy Appeal enables us to provide life-changing support to those affected by many issues including poverty, mental health problems and disability. Our volunteers are at the heart of everything we do, and, without their vital support, we simply wouldn't be able to run the Scottish Poppy Appeal."

Mr Michie added: "Volunteering with us also offers some great benefits for you, too; our volunteers gain a real sense of achievement, immense pride and satisfaction by doing something

worthwhile. It's also a great opportunity to meet new people and have fun while giving something back, so, if this sounds like something for you, please do get in touch."

The Scottish Poppy Appeal raised more than £3 million last year thanks to the support of the public and the dedication of volunteers. For more information or to chat about this opportunity, please contact Sine Ward, Poppy Appeal Organiser East at Poppyscotland, on **0131 550 1552** or **07835 328 186**, or e-mail at [volunteer@poppyscotland.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@poppyscotland.org.uk).

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Are you part of a community council? You could get your meetings and events advertised on our Events Calendar for free. Just get in touch to arrange. [editor@theedinburghreporter.co.uk](mailto:editor@theedinburghreporter.co.uk)

The next New Town and Broughton Community Council meeting will be on **Monday 9 October** at 7.30pm, at the Drummond Room, [Broughton St Mary's Church](#), Bellevue Crescent. This is likely to be a busy event with discussions around Picardy Place and the RBS building on Dundas Street. The latter is still at the planning stage with new plans to be submitted in the next couple of months in light of 400 objections made to the first application .

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The Ada Lovelace Lecture 10 October 2017 |Lindsay Stewart Lecture Theatre|Edinburgh Napier University|Craiglockhart Campus, Glenlockhart Road| EH14 1DJ | FREE | [Tickets here](#)

Edinburgh Napier University and EQUATE Scotland are hosting a Lecture with Polly Purvis, OBE.

Polly Purvis, is the chief executive of ScotlandIS, the trade body for digital technology industries across Scotland and is

the chair of CodeClan, the skills academy for the digital technologies industry.

Starting her career working in banking, and then moving into economic development at Scottish Enterprise, Polly became involved in Scotland's growing digital industries and joined ScotlandIS in 2004.

Polly was awarded an OBE in 2017 for her services to the digital economy and will be joining us to talk about her passion for tech, why we need more women in the field and the legacy of Ada Lovelace.

Doors open at 6pm / Lecture begins at 6.30pm followed by a Q&A

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There is a lot of cycling in the news this week with plans for a revamped Picardy Place roundabout being given full discussion at the council's Transport and Environment Committee on Thursday. [Read more here](#)

And in other cycling news, further down Leith Walk the road layout will be changed to offer cyclists a safer way to cross the street.

[Read more here.](#)



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If you fancy starting something new this autumn then join the Edinburgh Festival Chorus at an open rehearsal on 24 October 2017. This is the chance for Edinburgh singers to perform with world class musicians.

Email Chorus Manager Jenny Searle [chorus@eif.co.uk](mailto:chorus@eif.co.uk) to book a free place.