

Five things you need to know today

Firefighter dies following Jenners fire



Firefighter Barry Martin who has died following a large-scale fire in the former Jenners building
Barry Martin, the 38-year-old firefighter from Fife who was among the 100 or so firefighters tackling the blaze at the

former Jenners building last Monday has died from his injuries.

Minister for Community Safety Elena Whitham MSP said: “I am absolutely devastated to hear of the tragic loss of a brave and courageous firefighter. My deepest sympathies and condolences are with Barry Martin’s family, friends and colleagues.

“We’re lucky to have our valued firefighters who every day put their personal safety at risk to protect our communities and save the lives of others. Their sheer bravery and professionalism is second to none and must be commended.

“I would ask that the privacy of Barry’s family, friends and colleagues is respected at this time.”

Tributes were left outside the building from Saturday morning.



Tributes to firefighter Barry Martin outside Jenners today.
Photo: © 2023, Martin P. McAdam www.martinmcadam.com

Work begins on Green Corridor



Work is due to start on Monday on creating the Green Corridor between Roseburn and the Union Canal.

This will create a 'green corridor' and cycleway and bringing disused areas back into public use.

Construction on the £12.5 million Roseburn to Union Canal Active Travel Route and Greenspace Improvements project will begin on 30 January, when site preparation starts, and is expected to last until April 2024.

[Read more here.](#)

Moving around Edinburgh

All of the many papers for the council's monthly Transport and Environment Committee meeting are online [here](#). The council has big plans for transport policy including a £1 billion spend on active travel. Sadly that will not include the estimated £20 million it would take to reinstate Edinburgh's cycle hire scheme.

Read more [here](#).

Help needed

Edinburgh TUC has commissioned a banner to mark the TUC/STUC Day of Action on Wednesday 1 February 2023.

The banner is 5 metres long and is 1 metre in height. The idea behind it is to convey to the public the trade union determination to fight the UK Government's intention to curb workers' right to strike. The TUC believe that if the proposed Bill becomes law it will be an abuse of a fundamental human right.

The banner is meant to be hand held.

Des Loughney, Secretary [Edinburgh TUC](#) said: "We would like volunteers to help us display the banner (by holding it up) on the 1st February, We wish to display it at the PCS Rally in the Mound at noon on 1st February. PCS members in Edinburgh will be on strike that day across the city. We then wish to display it at the Princes Street end of the Mound pedestrian precinct at the end of the PCS rally at 1pm. This display will be for half an hour.

"Weather permitting there may be a further display of the banner at the East End of Princes Street (Wellington Statue) during the rush hour between 5pm and 5.30pm."

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Today we are putting the finishing touches to the February edition of The Edinburgh Reporter. We have a goal this year to recruit 500 new subscribers. This support would secure the publication of the newspaper for this year. Please do have a look at our shop if you can help us get nearer to the target.

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Porty Festival

Seaside shenanigans
over two days

Page 4

Ukraine convoy

Politicians drive
five ambulances

Page 6

Building bridges

Lego exhibition
to the Forth

Page 9

Theatre thrills

Liam Rudden's
stage round-up

Pages 18-19

Bowie brilliance

Hibs starlet's
Euro focus

Page 22

the Edinburgh Reporter

May 2025

EDINBURGH'S FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER...A CAPITAL READ FROM START TO FINISH



Colin Hetherington

Restless Natives RIDE AGAIN

By **PHYLLIS STEPHEN**

THE CLOWN AND THE WOLFMAN are revved up and raring to get on the road next month. *Restless Natives: The Musical* is in Edinburgh from 7 to 22 June in the first production at Leith Theatre since 2018. It begins a three month summer long programme of theatre, music and film which *Restless Natives* producers Andy

Paterson and Wild Yak Productions will be curating along with the Leith Theatre Trust. The musical is based on the 1985 film and the motorbike above is a replica of the bike used then in locations from *The Mound to Wester Hailes* and on stake-outs in the Highlands.

Olivier-nominated Kirsty MacLaren will play tour guide Margot, Kyle Gardiner is Ronnie and Finlay McKillop is Will in this first stage

adaptation produced and directed by the same team behind the film along with Perth Theatre.

Writers Ninian Dunnett, Michael Hoffman and Andy Paterson along with composer Tim Sutton are behind the "not to be missed" production inspired by the songs of Big Country. Lynn Morrison, Chief Executive of Leith Theatre Trust, said: "We are absolutely delighted to announce Leith Theatre as the Edinburgh

venue and to work in partnership to deliver this incredible three-month summer season. Despite the challenges posed by our building's health, we remain committed to being at the heart of cultural life in Leith. This theatre adaptation blends theatre, film and music which is everything we love, and we couldn't be prouder to welcome this exciting crossover and summer opportunity to our venue."

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