

Five things you need to know today

Self-driving bus for the capital

A world first may come to Edinburgh as a self-driving bus is planned.

The world's first full-sized, self-driving bus service is among the projects being awarded funding from the UK Government.

The automated bus service will run along an 18-mile route in Edinburgh.

Read [more here](#).



Early closing for Spey Lounge

The Licensing Committee have decided that the Spey Lounge will have to close its doors earlier owing to ongoing disturbances including two occasions within four days in December when fighting broke out.

[Read more here.](#)

Westminster Hall debate on BBC cuts

Pete Wishart MP convened a Westminster Hall debate over the proposed cuts to BBC programming with the axe either poised or used on Jazz Nights, Classics Unwrapped and Pipeline.

Read more about musician Tommy Smith OBE meeting with the BBC to discuss the move [here](#).



Save Gorgie Farm Forever

Although the gates have been closed at Gorgie Farm and all animals moved off site, the council is continuing with negotiations with a third party operator. Meanwhile Save Gorgie Farm Forever, which does not want to run the farm but wants to represent the views of the public is conducting a survey [here](#) which will close on 5 February. SGFF want to be involved with the council in appointing a new operator – which may be as early as [next week](#). The council is still in legal discussions with LOVE Learning Ltd the charity which was running the farm for the last two years.

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the Edinburgh Reporter

February 2023

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



By **STEPHEN RAFFERTY**

FIVE PORTOBELLO rowers are finding their land legs after an epic 39 day 3,000 mile journey across the Atlantic which raised more than

£30,000 for young persons' charities. The crew of Atlantic Body & Soul completed the world's toughest rowing test, the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge, overcoming 20ft waves and an overnight power

outage when they had to hand steer the boat in pitch darkness. Sean Watters, Matt Callia, Ed van der Ven, Alec Martin and Cal MacAninch - all members of Eastern Amateur Coastal Rowing

Club - sailed into English Harbour in Antigua to a hero's welcome and the sound of the bagpipes - a fitting end to a six week journey from La Gomera in the Canary Islands. Overcoming physical and mental

exhaustion, the quintet and hundreds of supporters have raised much needed funds for two charities which support young people, Body & Soul and The Junction. *Full story page eight*

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