

# Five things you need to know today

## Today at the council

The Housing Homelessness and Fair Work Committee meets on Tuesday and one of the items on the agenda is to hear how the council has been dealing with damp, mould and condensation in council homes.

This was first discussed in May when an improvement plan for dealing with these issues was agreed amid a zero tolerance approach to damp and mould.

The council has set up a new dampness team but is having difficulties recruiting new staff to join them, although £1.24 million has been set aside for 25 new posts.

By the end of September 62% of the 53 actions in the improvement plan had been completed and the reasons for delay on the remainder was due to lack of staff. But the council hopes that by December around 88% of the actions will be completed.

Some of the issues have been addressed with practical steps. Dampness sensors have been installed in 499 homes with data fed back to the council to allow investigation and early action to be instructed. 40% of the cost of this has been paid for by the European Regional Development Fund through the Smart City Programme. The council is clear that there is a better line of communication with tenants, and work is being done more quickly with weekly review meetings to ensure each case is receiving attention.

[All the papers are here and you can watch the meeting from 10am online or afterwards as a recording.](#)



Edinburgh City Chambers. © 2023 Martin McAdam

## Choose Dodgeball

New players are wanted for the mixed junior dodgeball teams at the Wardie Residents Club 125 Granton Road EH5 3JN.

Scan the poster below to sign up.

**NEW  
DODGEBALLERS  
WANTED!**



**£2.50  
a week**

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TO SIGN UP  
ON SPOND**



**MIXED JUNIOR DODGEBALL**

**6 - 11 years 6.25pm-7.25pm**

**11-15 years 7.30pm - 8.30pm**

**AT WARDIE RESIDENTS CLUB  
125 GRANTON ROAD EH5 3JN**



**#CHOOSEODGEBALL**

# Harvest Ceilidh in Portobello

There will be a Harvest Ceilidh at St Mark's Portobello on 7 October from 7.30 until 10pm. The fundraiser is to pay for the next phase of the renovation project.

[info@stmarksportobello.org](mailto:info@stmarksportobello.org)



# Harvest Ceilidh

with finger buffet

Saturday 7 October

7.30-10pm

St Mark's Portobello

Tickets £10 (under 12's -£5)

Available in advance from St Mark's Office

(Tues, Wed, Thurs 9.30-12) or  
[info@stmarksportobello.org](mailto:info@stmarksportobello.org)

Soft drinks provided but BYOB welcome

In aid of Church Funds, including the next  
Phase of our Renovation Project.



*Scottish Charity No: 01737*

# Christmas in Queensferry

An appeal has been launched by a group of volunteers who wasn't to ensure that there are Christmas lights in South Queensferry this year. Click on the image below to send an email if you can help.

# CHRISTMAS IN QUEENSFERRY



HELP US  
DELIVER  
CHI Q  
2023



**Christmas**

Lights

Switch On

Thurs 23rd

Nov 5:45pm - 7pm

Christmas in Queensferry is a voluntary group of local people who supply and install the Christmas Lights in the town. All funding comes from the community, local businesses and sponsors. Aside from the lights we arrange the switch on show on the High St with school choirs, brass band, various performers, Santa's Sleigh parade, culminating in a countdown to the switch on and a fireworks display. Please support us with a donation, if you are able. If you would like to sponsor one of the High St decorations, either as a business or as a dedication to a loved one, please talk to us.

[ChristmasInQueensferry@gmail.com](mailto:ChristmasInQueensferry@gmail.com)

Thank You ❤️

[www.christmasinqueensferry.org](http://www.christmasinqueensferry.org)

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## the Edinburgh Reporter

October 2023



EDINBURGH'S FREE LOCAL... A CAPITAL RE... START TO FINISH

### Twice as much Scottish art for everyone to see

By PHYLIS STEPHEN

**THE NEW SCOTTISH** galleries at the National have just opened to the public with more art on display than ever before.

This marks the completion of a complex seven year building project costing £38.62 million, during which time the National Gallery remained open, but was in large part a building site, especially when the excavation on the south of the site was being carried out. The complexity of the site, below two Grade A listed buildings and above the three tunnels on the Edinburgh to Glasgow railway line was considerable.

Display space has doubled in the dozen galleries showing artworks from the national collection. The Monarch of the Glen has taken up its rightful position in the new space, along with works by William McTaggart, Anne Redpath, Phoebe Anna Traquair, Charles Rennie Mackintosh and the Glasgow Boys and the Glasgow Girls.

Director-General of National Galleries Scotland Sir John Leighton said: "For the first time, there are logical routes through the complex, a natural flow, no more dead ends, no more retracing your steps. We wanted to transform the experience for visitors to make it more accessible and we wanted to make it easier to circulate through a complex set of buildings and levels, but absolutely key to this project was to be able to show the Scottish collection with pride and ambition. And we feel we have achieved those aims."

# It's Picture Perfect

Twelve new Scottish galleries at the National have just opened to the public

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