

Five things you need to know today

Planning matters

Given the controversy over some of the historic Christmas events in Edinburgh, you might have expected some discussion of the planning applications to stage rides and spiegel tents on George Street and in St Andrew Square.

But there was none. You can watch the coverage of the Development Management Sub-Committee meeting [here](#) but don't blink. The applications for both were simply approved on the nod.

The committee spent almost all of the 1 hour and 20 minutes to discussion of a Protocol Note about the development of land next to and around Madelvic House in Granton where an exciting project is planned – and which excitingly includes plans for new allotments.

The area of land around will be opened up to the community in this way: **“The development of a sector-leading national centre for the care, conservation, research, storage, and distribution of Scotland's collection of artworks. Proposed visitor and community-led spaces will maximise public access and facilitate a programme of education and outreach programmes which make full use of benefits including active public realm spaces (incl. pop-up cafe use) and bio-diverse landscaping, new /improved access, parking, and all other associated works.”**

In the council report it is clear that the planning officers have welcomed the long-awaited project. The report states: “The proposal will make a positive contribution to the City's

Waterfront Area. The proposal is a well-designed and sustainable development. It allows for 20 minute neighbourhood principles and community benefits to be delivered. The impact of development on the setting of nearby listed buildings and the wider townscape has been considered and is acceptable in this regard. The proposal will improve the quality of public realm and increase permeability through the site and the wider area. The proposal is not considered to have a significantly adverse impact on surrounding residents and will provide indoor and outdoor amenity space for use by local residents. Landscape proposals include sustainable drainage and new planting that will provide an improved level of habitat creation on the site and create a positive setting for the building.”

And as for Christmas what has changed? Well for a start the company overseeing Christmas has actually applied for planning permission and discussed arrangements with planning officers. The previous organiser failed to do so until they made a retrospective application after a huge amount of damage had been caused to Princes Street Gardens with their extended footprint for the Christmas market.

The festivities at Christmas (and New Year) are now overseen by a completely different producer. UniqueAssembly are adamant that there is to be much more of a local emphasis on the market stalls which will be situated in Princes Street Gardens and also this year on Castle Street. Plans for these were submitted with the planning application. The stalls will be all cottages with gabled roofs facing forwards and pointed gables at the sides. The wood panelling will be “glazed dark brown” the roof panels will be red and there will be lattice windows.

The planning report said that changes were evident: “Dividing the event into four separate locations in the city has diminished the concentrated scale of the proposals. The impact on a single environment has been reduced from previous years

and consequently the impact on the heritage assets is not as profound.”



Star Flyer at Edinburgh's Christmas. Photo: Martin P. McAdam
www.martinmcadam.com

And the Star Flyer will be back – this time on George Street beside an ice rink with a clear roof so that you can admire the architecture above as you slide gracefully on the ice.

In spite of the detail in the application (which was recommended for approval by planning officers) The Cockburn Association lodged objections saying: “There is simply not enough information provided in the application to take an informed and meaningful view on a large number of highly relevant considerations.

“These include, but are not limited to, access arrangements, equal access provision, crowd management, actual or potential impacts on heritage and natural assets, consideration of use of soft landscaped area, missed opportunities to use nearby or existing hard standing, event creep, increased footprint,

impact on permanent retailers, impact of thoroughfares, noise, sustainable transport, waste management, carbon footprint and carbon mitigation and the cumulative impact of the Christmas 2023 applications: 23/04144/FUL 23/04199/FUL 23/04142/FUL 23/04143/FUL.

“This application is particularly disappointing given the controversies which have surrounded planning applications and the planning process for Christmas installations in the centre of Scotland’s capital year on year. The lack of any apparent move

to disseminate Christmas attractions to other residential centres across the city will disappoint the reasonable expectations of many citizens.”

Edinburgh World Heritage did not support the application either but gave no substantive reasons.

The sites on two parts of George Street at the western end as well as the northern section of Castle Street will be affected by arrangements for Edinburgh’s Christmas on these dates (and yes cyclists can access a modified cycle lane on the north side of the street throughout Edinburgh’s Christmas events.

- – Set up: 30 October – 17 November 2023;
- – Operational: 18 November 2023 – 6 January 2024;
- – Take down: 7 January – 19 January 2024.



Edinburgh's Christmas ice rink on George Street as it was in 2021.

Bikes for Refugees – can you help?

The charity Bikes for Refugees is trying hard to recover after a break in at their premises when bikes and tools were stolen. If you can help by donating a bike or cash then they would be glad to hear from you.



www.bikesforrefugees.scot

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@bikes4refugees

A little bit of Schubert

To celebrate the adoption of 100 pianos Pianodrome are having a musical afternoon on Saturday when there will be some piano sharing and a performance of Schubert's Trout Quintet by Tim Vincent-Smith and his guests.

At the Wee Hub (the old Debenhams store at Ocean Terminal) from 4pm to 7.30pm.

Edinburgh's Christmas – Winter Windows

The annual Winter Windows schools competition which will be even bigger this year as the number of winners has been doubled to 24 is back.

Schoolchildren in Edinburgh are encouraged to submit an artwork that represents their idea of winter and the festive season to be selected for display along walkways across the city. The winners' artworks will also be showcased on Edinburgh's Christmas social channels. Contact your school for more information on how to take part or take a look at the Edinburgh's Christmas website for more information.

And while you are there – and if you are looking for a seasonal job – [there are many jobs on the website](#).

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Helter skelter

Friends stand firm to save playground favourite

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Wild at heart

Artist beats critics to host solo show

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Hay makers

Indy cateries serve top terrace delights

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Busy bees

Buzzworks flying high with restaurant openings

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Leith legend

Gray gears up for Man United testimonial match

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the Edinburgh Reporter

October 2023



EDINBURGH'S FREE LOCAL NEWS... A CAPITAL REVEALED... 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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Fundraising to support cemetery court case

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Royal Society get curious about barley

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Picture perfect

Best foot forward for annual art walk

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Liddell tribute

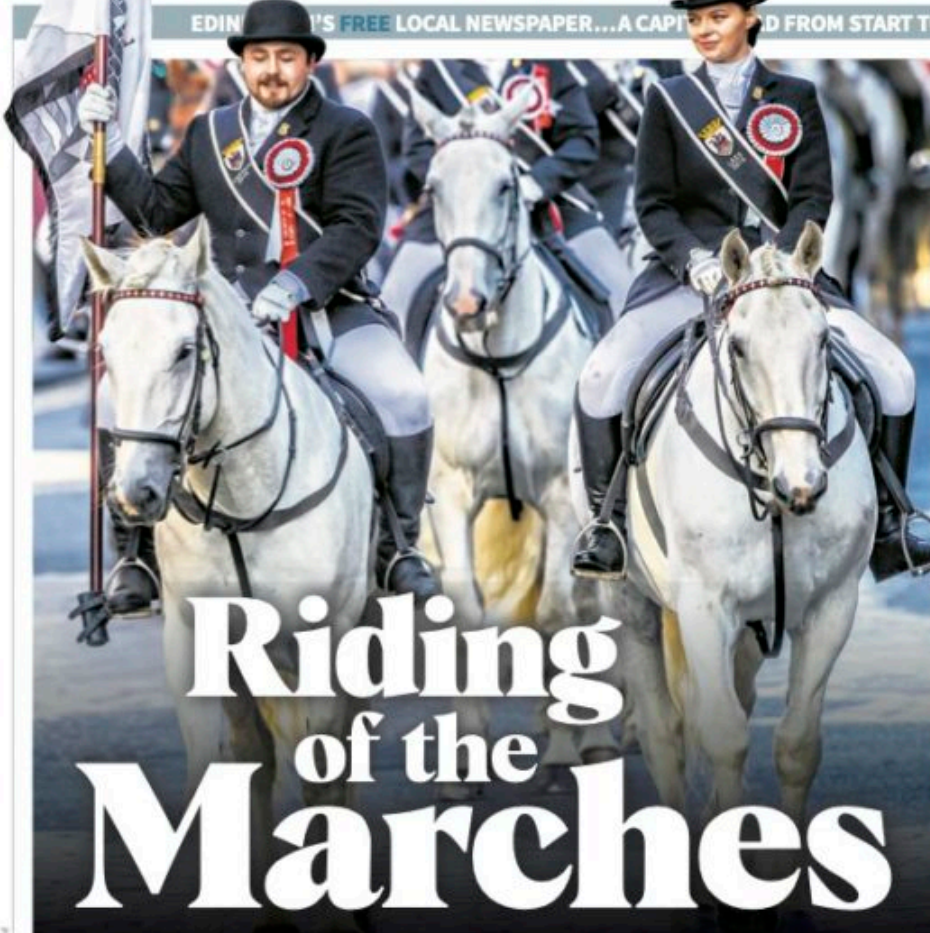
Gym named after Olympic legend opens

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the Edinburgh Reporter

September 2023

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



Riding of the Marches

Lord Provost saddling up in September

By PHYLLIS STEPHEN

THE EDINBURGH Riding of the Marches will take place on 10 September in a canter back to the Royal Mile after a three year gap, and this year the Lord Provost, the Provost Consort and the Council Leader will all be on horseback.

The spectacle is more than just a bunch of horseriders taking over the city centre. This is a reenactment of the ancient custom of marching the boundaries, a symbolic tradition of inspecting the Common Land of Edinburgh which dates back to at least 1579.

This year the entertainment on the Royal Mile will begin at 12.30pm with music and stunt performances. The riders will complete their morning of high-energy gallops, starting at the Drum Estate in the south of the city, before making their way through the streets through Holyrood Park and proceeding up The Royal Mile from Holyrood Palace at around 3.30pm.

And in a break from recent tradition, the Rt Hon Lord Provost and Lord Lieutenant, Robert Aldridge, who will be joining the event for the first time, will be making the journey up the Royal Mile on horseback, accompanied by the Lord Provost's Consort, Colin Cunningham, and by the Council Leader Canmy Day.

Clr Day admitted to bribing the horses with treats. He said: "I have been taking riding lessons. I have done a little horse riding more than 20 years ago so I would say I am a real beginner."

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Fallen heroes

City tours commemorate
capital's war dead
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George Cinema bid launched
by local residents
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Botanic bonus

City scientists confirm new
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Fringe benefits

Kerry's tips on conquering
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Voice of sport

Lothian looks over local
sports heroes
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the Edinburgh Reporter

August 2023

EDIN

DAILY READ FROM START TO FINISH



Ardagh/Corbis via Getty Images

Capital firm living the Barbie dream

By PHYLLIS STEPHEN

RACHEL HANRETTY started her business, Mademoiselle Macaron, in Edinburgh in 2013. Now some ten years later her trademark products - beautiful macarons - have a starring role in the very pink Greta Gerwig directed blockbuster movie of this summer, Barbie.

The pink delicacies were ordered in five flavours to be delivered to Warner Brothers Studio in Leavesdon, and not just as a perk for the cast, but to appear in a café in Barbie Land.

This was easy for the company based in Bonnington which produces more than 30,000 macarons each week. Rachel learned how to craft the sweet treat in Paris where she first tasted a vanilla macaron on the Champs-Élysées. She attended the Alain Ducasse cookery school in the French capital to perfect making the macarons which is now the centre of her business.

Mademoiselle Macaron products have been on screen before. They appeared on Strictly Come Dancing in 2021 during a dance based in a bakery when a tall tower of macarons appeared on the set. And there is at least one big name that can be revealed as a macaron lover. Courtney Love is a repeat customer who orders their vegan product - and no, we don't know how they make them - the recipe is secret. And in exciting news the business is commissioned to colour match the new Revlon lipstick range in just the right shade.

mademoisellemacaron.co.uk

CLAIMS BY LIB DEM LEADER ALEX COLE-HAMILTON ON COVID MEETING "SIMPLY INACCURATE" - See page 5

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Tragic tribute

City church service honours
Ukrainian hero

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Tuscan turmoil

Edinburgh Pisa passengers
face Ryanair chaos

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Slum dog diets

Experts reveal menu options
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Flour power

Flour power Fast rising bakers
move to new home

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Lothian Lift-off

Sports writing legend Bill
joins our team

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the Edinburgh Reporter

July 2023

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



Alan Thompson Photography

The King's Men

The Royal Company of Archers
competed in The Edinburgh Arrow,
displaying their skills as The King's
Bodyguard in Scotland

By PHYLIS STEPHEN

EDINBURGH USUALLY hosts events during Royal Week in early July, but this year the Royal Honours of Scotland will be presented to His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty Queen Camilla during their first visit to Scotland since the Coronation. Thousands are expected to line the Royal Mile on 5 July.

The Honours of Scotland consist of the Crown, the Sceptre and the new Elizabeth Sword crafted in memory of the late Queen. The State Sword is too fragile for public use, so a new one has been made. The Stone of Destiny will also be in St Giles' for the service which will be broadcast live on TV.

The Royal Company of Archers are the Sovereign's Bodyguard in Scotland and each year are invited by the Lord Provost to compete for the Edinburgh Arrow on Bruntsfield Links. Our photo shows archer Ian Davie taking his turn.

Alan Simpson, OBE, DL, is a captain in The Royal Company. He said: "The Edinburgh Arrow was won by Colonel Charlie Wallace which was very satisfactory as he is the Secretary who does all the work. He was central in organising all the parades in September last year for the Queen's funeral, then for the Coronation and he has been working flat out on the parades to welcome His Majesty to Holyrood Palace and to St Giles as well.

"Everybody was delighted that he won. The person who wins the most points wins the arrow and Charlie 'hit the clout' twice - which is no mean feat from 180 yards."

In total during Royal Week there will be around 250 archers on parade.

Full story on page three

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Sting in the tale

Artists in crisis as Dalry studio hived off
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We salute you

Scots Guard Anthony's last castle parade
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Ocean Terminal bonus from tram extension
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Culinary capers

Meet Kerry our new food and drink columnist
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Go a Warrender

Swim centre reopens after major investment
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the Edinburgh Reporter

June 2023

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



Here's looking at ewe

RHS artists find their inner sheep for show

By PHYLIS STEPHEN

IT'S JUNE AND that means it is time to get ready for the annual Royal Highland Show at Ingliston which is sponsored by Royal Bank of Scotland.

To publicise the event the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS) commissioned "Flock to the Show", a public art trail made up of fibreglass sheep sculptures which are on tour in Edinburgh and Lothians.

Rosie (photographed left) had incredible fun getting to know these two sculptures at Port Edgar marina.

On the left is Eaba designed by Central Scotland artist Anna Bilyk and sponsored by Galloway MacLeod. Anna said her inspiration came from a mixture of landscape and process. She said: "The images are all inspired from travels and surrounding landscapes brought together and merged into a type of visual story. The style of the design comes from the process and style I use to design images for lino printmaking."

On the right Davy Baa-wie was designed by Fife knitwear designer, Jennifer McHardy, and sponsored by Macklin Motors. Jennifer said she just loves David Bowie. She said: "he is a true music and style icon, the inspiration for my sheep design came from the iconic knitted jumpsuit designed by Kansai Yamamoto for David Bowie during the Ziggy Stardust era worn by him in 1974."

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