

Five things you need to know today

Edinburgh Arena

The most interesting planning application of the whole year has been lodged by the international entertainment group AEG which runs the O2 Arena in London. The pre application notice (PAN) is for an 8,500 seater arena designed by American architects HOK at Edinburgh Park.

The development will include restaurants and cafés, public realm, landscaping, parking and infrastructure. No doubt there will be questions asked about why there is any need for parking at Edinburgh Park which is so well served by public transport.

Until now Edinburgh has not had a large scale indoor venue like this, despite murmurings of an arena out at Straiton at one time.

Alex Hill, President and CEO of AEG Europe told The Scotsman: "AEG is thrilled to announce this spectacular new arena for Edinburgh.

"It's a location with immense potential, amplified by Parabola's transformative development and regeneration of Edinburgh Park.

"The much needed 8,500-capacity arena will bring world-class live music and entertainment to Edinburgh, further cementing its reputation as a destination for culture and global tourism.

"We look forward to this development becoming an integral part of the local community and complementing one of the best

cities in the world for the arts and live entertainment.”

There will be pre application events at 1 New Park Square – the Parabola building next to the tram stop at Edinburgh Park Central – on 4 December and 9 January when plans will be displayed and questions answered by the developers. The dedicated website is www.edinburgharena.com which does not appear to be live just yet.

The application relates to plots EE1 and EE1b for which there is an existing consent for office space, an aparthotel, retain and a cinema.

The site is “bounded by a railway line and the Edinburgh Park Rail and Tram Station to the south, a hotel to the west, scrubland to the north and an electricity substation to the east.

Corstorphine Community Council, Ratho & District Community Council, Sighthill Broomhouse and Parkhead Community Council and Currie Community Council will be consulted on the proposals.

Council Leader Cammy Day said: “Great to see plans for an Edinburgh Arena at Edinburgh Park. Great opportunity for Edinburgh. Looking forward to the consultation and plans being submitted.”

Parabola the company which is creating a cultural quarter here in Edinburgh is run by Peter Millican. Mr Millican hopes the new arena will put West Edinburgh on the map as a new cultural destination.

Already Parabola has created the bones of a “new urban quarter, a cultural destination and creative campus for Edinburgh”. Millican describes it as one of Edinburgh’s most important masterplans. Homes are included in the mix including private homes, and those for mid-market rent and affordable homes. There is also a plan for a 150 seat conference

facility.

Stop the Quarry

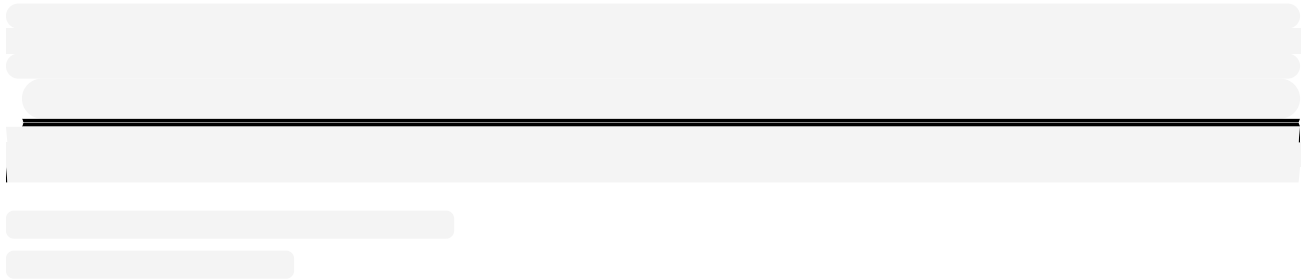
Jupiter Artland, the art and sculpture park at Wilkieston, is proactive in helping to gather objections to the planning application to expand Bonnington Quarry and site a large recycling plant there.

The arts centre ran a poster and placard making session last weekend and then took photos in a field off Wilkieston Road to highlight the objections to the application by Breedon.

[A petition is running here](#) set up by residents who feel it is their “duty to protect and maintain the beautiful countryside”. Their petition page here states: “We are objecting to the extension of Bonnington Quarry, Bonnington Ratho – situated alongside the B7030 and the Wilkieston Road. If planning is granted this will impact on air quality, wildlife, increased heavy lorry traffic, noise, and dust, together with a loss of agricultural land and a significant impact on the landscape.”



[View this post on Instagram](#)



A post shared by Jupiter Artland (@jupiterartland)

Jupiter Artland said: “9-92 year olds came out to protest against the planning application for doubling the size of the quarry near Jupiter and on their doorsteps. Jupiter threw open its doors to help make placards and chat about the concerns of our community. The reasons for protesting were very personal. One little girl said “I have asthma and I am nine . I want to be able to breathe.” Another nonagenarian gentleman quietly wanted to continue living peacefully for the rest of his life in his home where he had been for over 40 years. The local farmer worried about the already dangerous road and the huge increase in lorries. Others feared that the doubling of the quarry would open the way to an asphalt plant and recycling. Others worried that the blasting already shaking their houses would be so much worse.”

Breedon are planning to lodge a full planning application for the development following a period of public consultation which has now ended. [Read more here.](#)



**STOP
THE
QUARRY**

Save Western Harbour Ponds

A meeting will be held on Sunday to discuss the next steps in the campaign to save the area, which has become important for wildlife during the last decade or so, from development for housing.



Save Western Harbour Ponds PUBLIC MEETING

2.30pm Sun 26 November
Heart of Newhaven - Anchor Room

The Ponds and adjacent woodland are under threat of development - come and support the campaign to keep them as wild open space.

The land is currently owned by an offshore company which has put it up for sale for housing development. One developer is about to apply for planning permission for the wooded plot, prior to deciding whether to buy it for housing, including tower blocks of flats. There is potential for them then to repeat the process on adjacent plots, including the Ponds.

The land was originally zoned for housing more than 15 years ago, but has since grown into a valuable natural and social resource, providing habitats for plants and wildlife, and a much-valued open space in an area of high-density housing.

Friends of Western Harbour Ponds is a newly-constituted community group to bring together people to campaign to for these plots to remain wild, rather than being developed for housing.

Come along to our public meeting and find out more about the campaign, and what you can do.

Keep in touch!

Scan QR code
to join our mailing
/membership list



westernharbourponds@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/groups/westernharbourponds
www.twitter.com/SaveWHPonds

This is a reclaimed area of land covered in vegetation and trees. A Tree Protection Order is in place.

And today the Development Management Committee meeting of the council will hear about Plot 1 at Western Harbour View which developers FM Developments Ltd want to turn into a brownfield residential development. They always planned this but the plans lodged in 2008 for 109 flats and 13 townhouses were interrupted firstly by the economic crash of 2008 and secondly by Covid. The developers lodged a Proposal of Application Notice 23/06110/PAN for the 0.5 hectare site and now the developers are bringing that to the attention of planners for any comment ahead of a full planning application being lodged.

There are two applications on the Development Management Committee meeting agenda today for change of use to short term letting which are recommended for approval while others are recommended for refusal.

And one application for approval of the plans to use a site at Newbridge for industrial use has attracted some criticism from the local councillor.

[Read more here.](#)

[The papers for this meeting are here with details of how to watch the live broadcast from 10am.](#)



Devolution reminder

As the Chancellor prepares to deliver his Autumn Statement later today, the UK Government in Scotland has published a reminder that it is a quarter of a century since the Scotland Act 1998 was passed introducing devolution to the country.

[There is an explainer page here which is a useful ready reckoner of what devolution means and which areas are supposed to be reserved and which are not.](#)

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this year we have produced these ten issues.

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Helter skelter Friends stand firm to save playground favourite Page 3	Wild at heart Artist beats critics to host solo show Page 6	Hay makers Indy cateries serve top terrace delights Page 12-13	Busy bees Buzzworks flying high with restaurant openings Page 14	Leith legend Gray gears up for Man United testimonial match Page 21
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the

EdinburghReporter

October 2023

EDINBURGH'S FREE LOCAL NEWS...A CAPITAL REVEALED...START TO FINISH



It's Picture Perfect

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

Twice as much Scottish art for everyone to see

By PHYLLIS 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."

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Dalry richards

Fundraising to support cemetery court case

Page 4

Graining favour

Royal Society get curious about barley

Page 8

Bagel bother

Sandwich firm try to fill hole in accounts

Page 12

Picture perfect

Best foot forward for annual art walk

Page 18

Liddell tribute

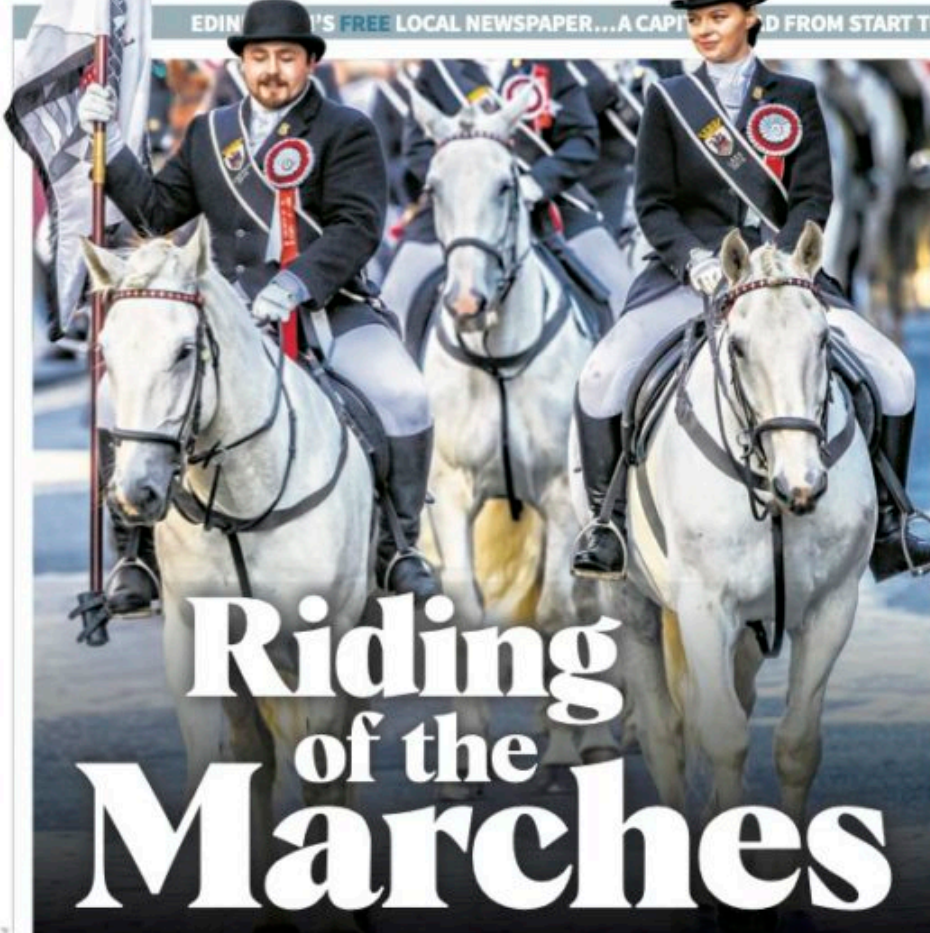
Gym named after Olympic legend opens

Page 23

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."

Turn to page eight

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Fallen heroes

City tours commemorate
capital's war dead
Page 4

Porty pictures

George Cinema bid launched
by local residents
Page 7

Botanic bonus

City scientists confirm new
species of begonia
Page 12

Fringe benefits

Kerry's tips on conquering
Festival shows
Page 20

Voice of sport

Lothian looks over local
sports heroes
Page 22-23

the Edinburgh Reporter

August 2023

EDIN

CAPITAL READ FROM START TO FINISH



Edinburgh Reporter 2023

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

Page 6

Tuscan turmoil

Edinburgh Pisa passengers
face Ryanair chaos

Page 7

Slum dog diets

Experts reveal menu options
for city poor in 1901

Pages 12-13

Flour power

Flour power Fast rising bakers
move to new home

Page 14

Lothian Lift-off

Sports writing legend Bill
joins our team

Page 21

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
Page 5

We salute you

Scots Guard Anthony's last castle parade
Page 6

Ship shape trams

Ocean Terminal bonus from tram extension
Pages 12-13

Culinary capers

Meet Kerry our new food and drink columnist
Page 17

Go a Warrender

Swim centre reopens after major investment
Page 23

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 PHYLLIS 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."

Turn to page three

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Last dance

Tollcross's Cavendish calls last orders

Page 7

A tragic loss

Brave firefighter lost in Jenners blaze

Page 9

Love is in the air

Valentine's Day tugs at the heart strings

Pages 12-13

Labour of love

Secrets behind charming city home

Page 20

The third force

Jambos set sights on top three finish

Page 22

the Edinburgh Reporter

February 2023

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



Porty team cut through 40 days of Atlantic waves to complete the 3,000 mile voyage

By **STEPHEN RAFFERTY**

FIVE PORTOBELLO rowers are finding their land legs after an epic 39 day 3,000 mile journey across the Atlantic which rained 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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It's a tall story

Party residents on a high
after mast ruling

Page 3

Rigged out

New Amazon series is a
first for Edinburgh

Page 6

Aid for Ukraine

Cash is better for the
nation's economy

Page 7

Juliet eats out

Everything she wants at
Chinese buffet

Page 17

The finest ever

Turnbull's Tornadoes
fifty years on

Page 22

the Edinburgh Reporter

January 2023

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



Down the line...

Robert Burns has pride of place in Leith

By **PHYLLIS STEPHEN**

THE FINAL PIECE of track has now been laid completing the length of tramline where trams will begin to carry passengers in spring this year.

Two-way traffic will run up and down Leith Walk this month following a short delay due to the cold snap just before Christmas, but all main infrastructure is now complete and testing and commissioning will begin soon.

We are told to expect to see trams running on the line any minute, although passengers will have to wait just a little longer until

Edinburgh Trams begins its new service from Newhaven all the way through the city centre and on to Edinburgh Airport.

The 125-year-old statue of Rabbie Burns will become even more of a focal point as the tram passes him as it goes down Constitution Street. Rabbie was given a spruce up during the tramworks and returned to his rightful place in January last year complete with a new time capsule concealed in the plinth.

This month it will be time to celebrate the Bard's birthday with four days of Burns&Beyond events at Assembly Rooms.

Read more on Page 18

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