

Five things you need to know today

Edinburgh's Hogmanay begins today

The 30th anniversary celebrations begin on Friday 29 December with the **Torchlight Procession** returns for the first time since 2019 with up to 20,000 participants blazing a trail through Edinburgh, creating a river of fire through the Old Town led by Shetland's South Mainland Up Helly Aa' Jarl Squad.

The procession begins in the Meadows for the first time, with family-friendly entertainment from fire performers, street theatre, pipe bands and drummers all taking place before the procession heads off – culminating with participants extinguishing their torches through an Avenue of Fire on Castle Terrace.

More events will take place over the next few days and we have a day by day listing for you to keep you right.

[Read more here.](#)



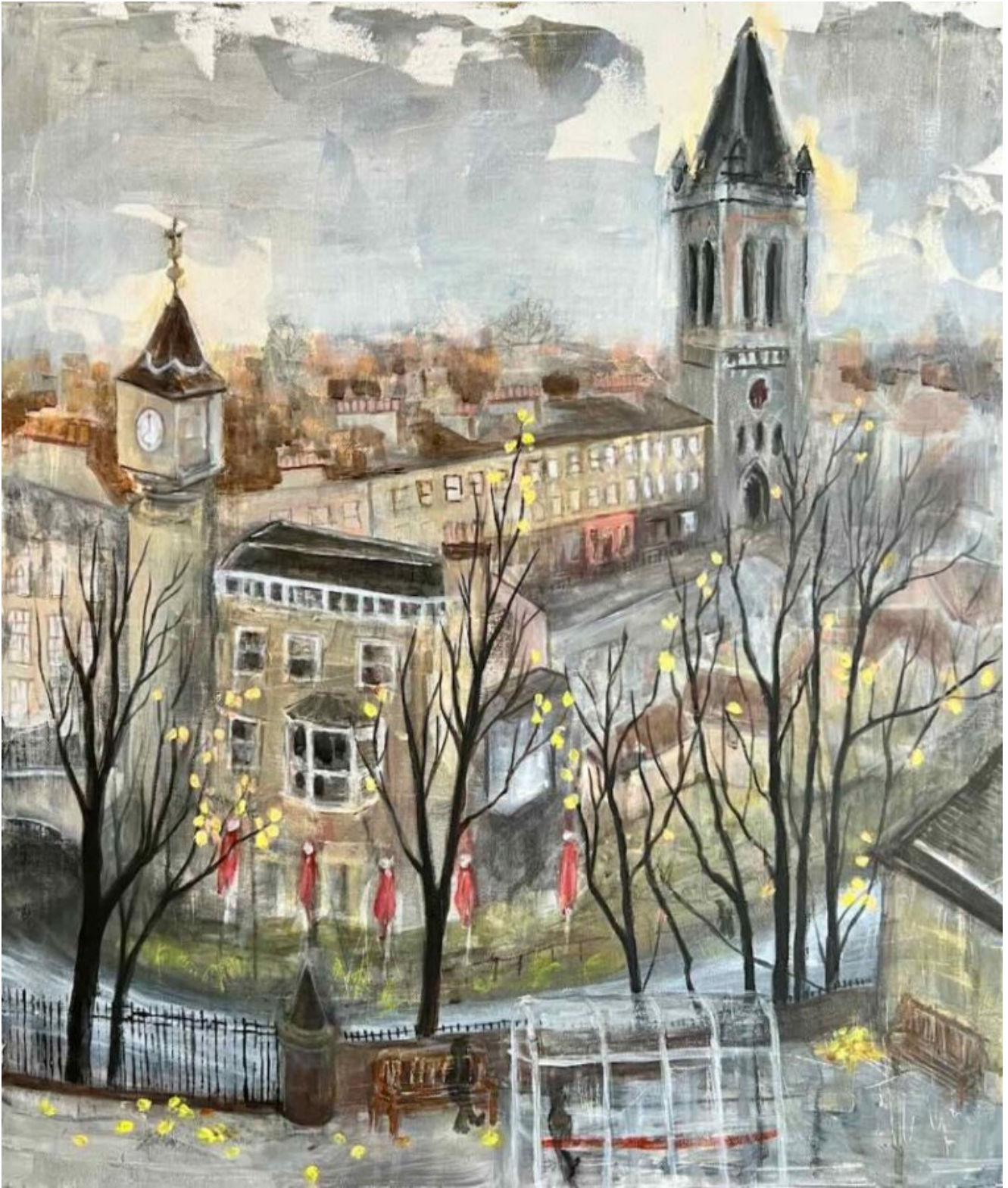
L-R Rachael Swinton of Cloth, Aidan O'Rourke of Lau who is one of the curators of the line up for First Footin' on New Year's Day in Edinburgh, Paul Swinton of Cloth and DJ Hayley Zalassi. PHOTO ©2023 The Edinburgh Reporter

Art in the Library

At Stockbridge Library there is an ongoing exhibition Around Stockbridge of artworks by a local artist, Julia Galante, which runs until 30 December.

Opening hours are Thursday 10am to 5pm Friday 10am to 5pm and Saturday 10am to 5pm.

But if you can't make it then [have a look at her paintings here.](#)



Little Green Van

The Little Green Van will be open to serve coffee and pastries on Portobello Prom this weekend Saturday and Sunday.

Ok, yes, we know, we really should have posted this days and

days ago. But hey. Marketing was never our strong point. When we find out what that is we'll let you know.
pic.twitter.com/fPVD522W03

– Little Green Van (@LittleGreenVan1) [December 26, 2023](#)

Adult cycle training

Gift idea – buy a subscription for someone you love

A timely gift suggestion – buy someone a subscription to our monthly newspaper – we deliver by mail in compostable envelopes, and the subscription helps us to keep on publishing the news on a free to access basis. Click on the image below to sign up for yourself or as a present.

So far this year we have produced twelve issues and have already produced the January 2024 edition which will be delivered to our subscribers and stockists by 1 January.

And if you have any stories then do get in touch.
editor@theedinburghreporter.co.uk

City wonderland

Snapper Craig lights up festive city
Page 3

Bar Brouhaha

Pub boss's secret past exposed
Page 5

Hogmanay

Thirty not out for capital New Year celebrations
Page 12-13

Leith PRide

Wordsmiths win double gold
Page 14

Racing cert

Musselburgh is set for a packed NYD meeting
Page 20

the Edinburgh Reporter

December 2023

EDINBURGH'S FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER... A TO Z FINISH



Hooked on panto

Peter Pan tale gives Allan Stewart the chance to dress like a dame for the 25th year

By **PHYLLIS STEPHEN**

IT IS ALL about swashbuckling adventure and high flying at the Festival Theatre where the

Pantomime Adventures of Peter Pan will play until Hogmanay.

The boy who never ages appears in a new telling of an old tale complete with special effects,

stunning sets, colourful costumes and a lot of laughs and fun.

The trip to Neverland is one which will enchant audiences of all ages with the usual double

entendres sprinkled throughout the script. The cast includes Allan

Stewart appearing in his 25th panto as the dame Mrs Smee. Grant Stott as the big bad Hibs loving Captain

Hook and Jordan Young as Smee with the returning Clare Gray and Britain's Got Talent finalists Flawless as the Pirate Crew.

Read more on page 8

SHEZAN
INDIAN CUISINE

25 UNION PLACE,
EDINBURGH EH1 3NQ

PRE-THEATRE DINING

BOOK YOUR TABLE ONLINE AT
WWW.SHEZANEDINBURGH.COM

T: 0131 557 5098
OPPOSITE EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE

**10% OFF
YOUR MEAL**

PRESENT VOUCHER
TO YOUR SERVER