

Five things you need to know today

Celebrating St Giles' Cathedral 900th birthday

A motion has been laid in The Scottish Parliament recognising St Giles' Cathedral as “a prominent part of the life of Edinburgh and Scotland for 900 years”.

It commends the “iconic” cathedral, which was probably founded by King David I in 1124, for “its various projects, designed to reach out to people of all ages, backgrounds and faiths across the city”.

The citation continues stating that “1.5 million people from around the world visited St Giles' in 2023, underlining its status as a dynamic centre celebrating Scotland's heritage and culture, as well as being an active place of worship”.

The motion was laid down by Miles Briggs, a Lothian MSP, and will now be circulated for other MSPs to sign.

Rev Dr George Whyte, the interim moderator of St Giles', said:

“We very much appreciate the recognition given by the Scottish Parliament and we remain committed to continued service in the years ahead.”

To find out more information about the 900th anniversary, check for updates on the [St Giles' website](#).



The ceiling in St Giles' Cathedral PHOTO ©2024 The Edinburgh Reporter

LNER timetable for Friday

In spite of strikes by by ASLEF drivers on Friday LNER are still running almost a quarter of their trains.




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International Women's Day

The actual day is 8 March but Edinburgh Tool Library are holding a DIY basics session over the weekend which is free and which they are opening to women and non binary people to learn basic skills and develop confidence with power tools. It is billed as a day for learning, a day to celebrate all the women and non binary makers who have used their workshops over the years.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/diy-basics-how-to-put-up-a-shelf-international-womens-day-tickets-851615072607?fbclid=IwAR1kkP-tGMmwi5r5B90AhXxz0tiyz0vGQzNJalXjhZqF8UUR142GKaA6RQ0>

Tina – The Tina Turner Musical

One for next year's diary with the announcement that The Tina Turner Musical will come to Edinburgh Playhouse in November 2025.

This will be part of the first ever UK and Ireland tour of the show which has been running for five years in the West End at the Aldwych Theatre.

Producer Tali Pelman said, "Tina Turner played to packed out arenas across the UK and Ireland throughout her extensive career. We're thrilled to now be able to bring her extraordinary story to stages across the UK and Ireland for the first time with TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL, celebrating the life and times of a truly inspirational woman whose story continues to move and elate audiences around the world every night."

TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL is the story of legendary artist Tina Turner who died in May 2023, the twelve-time Grammy Award winning Queen of Rock 'n' Roll. Set to the pulse-pounding soundtrack of her iconic hits, including The Best, What's Love Got To Do With It?, Private Dancer and River Deep, Mountain High, the musical is an inspiring true story of a woman who dared to dream fiercely, shatter barriers and defy the bounds of age, gender, and race to conquer the world against all odds.

Tuesday 11 – Saturday 22 November 2025

Playhouse Theatre, Edinburgh

<https://www.atgtickets.com/edinburgh-playhouse>

ON SALE SOON – Tuesday 5 March 2024

Our February issue

Our March issue is officially published tomorrow although some of our stockists will already have copies – delivered to them by the lovely crew from Farr Out on their distinctive cargo bikes. The new paper is filled with more local news, although here for the last time we show you last month's front cover.

We are really pleased to be nominated for an award for our newspaper which will be announced in March.

If you wish to buy a copy and have it delivered to your home or business then [please subscribe here.](#)

Dashing deeds

Student flats appeal has council on hop
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Pavilion pallava

Budget cuts deepen eye hospital crisis
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Shawfair shock

New gym not fit for purpose claims
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Chief cosies up

More questions for Police Scotland boss
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Centre Stage

Liam Rudden joins The Edinburgh Reporter
Pages 18-19

the Edinburgh Reporter

February 2024

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



Year of the Dragon

Bringing success and opportunity

By PHYLIS STEPHEN

THERE WILL BE a full programme of events in the capital to herald the start of the Year of the Dragon and celebrate Chinese New Year 2024.

The entertainment in Edinburgh firms the largest celebration of its kind in Scotland and it runs from 3 to 13 February. There is a wide range of activities including the Official Chinese New Year Concert at Usher Hall which has become an annual fixture in the civic calendar.

The programme includes dragon and lion dances, a bilingual ceilidh, tai chi sessions, calligraphy and tarot card reading, all of which help to promote local businesses and to reinforce the links between Scottish and Chinese culture.

The Dragon is a significant emblem in Chinese culture symbolising power, nobleness, honour, luck and success, and it is predicted that the new year will bring opportunities, changes and challenges.

The festival in the capital is supported by Heriot-Watt University and Hainan Airlines, and is coordinated by Edinburgh Tourism Action Group (ETAG). This forms a large part of the group's China Ready initiative and ETAG will hold their annual conference during the week at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre with training sessions and industry meet-ups.

For a full run down of this month's events to celebrate turn to page seven

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