

Five things you need to know today

Transport and Environment Committee

The council's Transport and Environment Committee (TEC) will discuss three possible options for resolving the Meadows to Greenbank Quiet Route – particularly through the Braid Estate where the previous Spaces for People measures have become controversial.

The three options have given rise to much comment online during this last week and several deputations will present their views at the meeting when it convenes at 10am this morning – Blackford Safe Routes (verbal submission), Residents of Braid Avenue (verbal submission), The Whitehouse Loan Group (written submission) and Spokes South Edinburgh (written submission).

The two written submissions [are available to read in full here](#) but The Whitehouse Loan Group say they did not have any advance notice of the report on the consultation last October coming to this TEC, and Spokes the Lothians cycling campaign group is most worried about the effect that any expenditure in this area (Option 3 comes with a £400,000 price tag) will have on other active travel plans.

The Whitehouse Loan Group say that the Revised Option 2 plan is a “plan with obvious flaws” and that local residents will be inconvenienced and so more consultation is needed.

The Transport and Environment Committee will also open a discussion about [the death of 11-year-old Thomas Wong](#) on Whitehouse Road last week. This may seem premature but it is an essential step for the council. Transport Convener Cllr

Scott Arthur said: “What happened on Friday was awful, and I can’t stop thinking about it. In such a small city we all feel the impact of this tragic death, and must now work to ensure it is not repeated. We all share the desire for children to be able to walk or cycle safely to school and must work together to achieve that.

“The Council is still awaiting information on what happened, and at the Transport and Environment Committee on Thursday we will put a process in place which means we can respond quickly and robustly to the incident report. I will work to ensure budget is not a barrier to addressing any actions arising from this process. In the meantime, I am happy to work with local the local community and Ward councillors on interim measures.”

[The papers for the Transport and Environment Committee are here along with details of how to watch the meeting online either live or as a recording.](#)

The Briggers

To mark the anniversary of the opening of the Forth Bridge on 4 March 1890, Museums & Galleries Edinburgh published a book online listing all the accidents that took place during the early phase of construction of the Bridge in the 1880s.

The book is an account not only of the lives of the men, known locally as the ‘Briggers’, working on the bridge and the dangers they faced, but also how they were treated by the earliest ambulance services in Scotland. It records 197 accidents, including nine fatalities, over a 32-month period from 1883 to 1886.

[Read more here.](#)



Review of Community Right to Buy

Many of our city buildings have been acquired by community groups using the Community Right to Buy process, which the Government is now going to review.

The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Mairi Gougeon visited Heart of Newhaven where the community bought the building from the council using statutory powers. Read more about [Heart of Newhaven here](#). It is open every Wednesday and Saturday for knit and knatter (the group is busy making a huge Christmas tree with knitted squares at present) or just a cup of tea and a chat.

[Read our full report here.](#)



Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs Mairi Gougeon during a visit to Heart of Newhaven and their Victorian schoolroom

Family bike ride

The Bike Station in conjunction with the council is organising a cycle on Saturday which begins at 10am and is intended as a social family ride in celebration of International Women's Day.

The route will follow some of the newest well lit cycling infrastructure in the city which can be used as an alternative to the off road network. The ride begins from The Bike Station – Edinburgh, 250 Causewayside, Edinburgh, EH9 1UU and booking is essential although places are free.

[More details here](#)

Subscribe to our newspaper

Our monthly newspaper is out now. Please pick up a copy from any of our stockists or [subscribe here](#) to have your own copy delivered to your door.

This month's paper celebrates the 100th anniversary of Sir Eduardo Paolozzi's birth in 1924.

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the Edinburgh Reporter

March 2024

EDINBURGH'S FREE LOCAL NEWS PAPER A CAPITAL READ FROM START TO FINISH



Leith artist carves out new look for Athletic

By **STEPHEN RAFFERTY**

THE LEGACY OF world famous artist and Leither Eduardo Paolozzi is helping to support the work of a local football club for which it is believed members of his family played.

The eye-catching special edition Paolozzi football shirt was launched to increase community awareness of Leith Athletic and to raise funds for the launch of girls and women's teams.

The initial run sold out immediately and a new edition - produced on the 100th anniversary of Paolozzi's birth on 7 March - is being shipped worldwide as fans and collectors from as far away as Australia, Brazil, America and The Netherlands, snap up the shirt.

Paolozzi, widely credited as the father of pop art, was born in Leith in 1924 to Italian immigrants and after graduating from the Edinburgh School of Art, became established as a sought-after sculptor, designer, printmaker and in later life, a teacher and academic.

Knighted in 1989, Paolozzi later donated a large body of his work and the contents of his studio to the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. Members of Leith Athletic's fledgling girls' squad (left) visited the Modern Two gallery on Belford Road to experience the "Paolozzi at 100" free exhibition which runs until Sunday 21 April.

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