

# Five things you need to know today

## Assisted Dying Bill

Liam McArthur MSP will launch his Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill today in The Scottish Parliament.

The bill was first lodged at parliament in September 2021 followed by a consultation and then the right to introduce the Member's Bill was secured following support from MSPs of all parties.

[Follow the progress of the bill here.](#)

## Hopetown Coffee

Edinburgh's new not-for-profit safe space café raising awareness of mental illness and mental health in Scotland has opened on Broughton Street..

National mental health charity Change Mental Health and its new enterprise arm is behind Edinburgh's first coffee shop raising awareness of mental illness and mental health. The café also provides the highest quality coffee and food. The hops is to allow people to purchase their daily coffee and cake knowing that their money is going directly to helping people affected by poor mental health.

Nick Ward, CEO at Change Mental Health, said: "Hopetown Coffee is everything that Change Mental Health is about: providing hope and support in communities in a non-stigmatising way. When creating Hopetown Coffee, we wanted to shift the dial on what a not-for-profit coffee shop should be like. We won't

compromise on quality of coffee, food or ambiance and every single penny made will be reinvested back into helping people across Scotland who are needing support with their mental health.”

[www.changemh.org/hopetowncoffee](http://www.changemh.org/hopetowncoffee)

Where  
there are  
conversations  
there is  
hope.



# Funding for Oxgangs

National Lottery funding has been secured for Oxgangs Neighbourhood Centre, which was founded in 1995. The charity awarded the sum of £150,000 from their Community Fund in Scotland.

Sue Webber MSP has tabled a Parliamentary motion congratulating the Centre and thanking The National Lottery.

Ms Webber said: "I know Oxgangs Neighbourhood Centre very well and have attended many good events there from Quiz Nights to celebrations such as the Coronation.

"But more importantly, it is a vibrant hub in Oxgangs which provides a place that is welcoming to those in our community who may feel vulnerable, isolated, or lonely.

"It really does live up to its motto as 'A Centre For All' and I am pleased that The National Lottery has generously recognised this by their support."

Centre Manager, Dom Heslop, said: "This is a truly great achievement to receive this funding. It wouldn't have happened without the hard work of my staff and volunteers who dedicate so much of their own time to making such a success that the Centre is for the community."

Local Councillor and Chair of the Centre, Jason Rust, added: "The National Lottery has given our Centre a much-needed financial boost, so we are very grateful for that, especially as we receive no funding from local or national government. It is a tribute to the volunteers who have clearly impressed our funders."



## Cycling by numbers



Omni Centre PHOTO ©2023 The Edinburgh Reporter

Ed Tissiman has answered our question about the number of cyclists using Leith Walk cycle lanes – even in the recent wet weather which Cllr Joanna Mowat [wondered about out loud here.](#)

[Read more of his analysis here.](#)

## Support The Edinburgh Reporter

Our new April paper is taking shape and will be with stockists by the 1st of April. If you can then please support The Edinburgh Reporter by taking out a subscription here on Ko-Fi where you can also make a small donation. We appreciate all of you who are subscribers or who donate to us.

**Hopeful Hilda**

Ninety-nine-year-old supports charity boss  
Page 3

**Bross rebrand**

Over her skis but not offski  
Page 8

**Ritchie revival**

Late author's play to be staged  
Page 9

**Eating out**

March madness of foodie discounts  
Pages 12-13

**Cut the mustard**

Rugby stalwart's retirement celebration  
Page 22

# 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.

Full story on Page 7

**SHEZAN**  
INDIAN CUISINE

25 UNION PLACE,  
EDINBURGH EH1 3NQ

PRE-THEATRE DINING

BOOK YOUR TABLE ONLINE AT  
[WWW.SHEZANEDINBURGH.COM](http://WWW.SHEZANEDINBURGH.COM)

T: 0131 557 5098  
OPPOSITE EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE

**10% OFF  
YOUR MEAL**

PRESENT VOUCHER  
TO YOUR SERVER