Café Royal ready to reopen after flooding issue

The Cafe Royal plans to reopen on Sunday at noon after a sudden closure due to flooding.

General manager Michael Eaton apologised to customers for the sudden unavoidable closure which was due to flooding in the cellar and gent's toilet area.

He said: "We think its a culmination of heavy rain over the last few days which has backed up drains and caused flooding.

"We are gutted for people who have booked and for our regular clients but we really had no option."

The historic bar is working with Scottish Water and City Council officials to identify the cause and to avoid further problems.

Only three days ago the pub was inviting regulars to vote for them in the inaugural Drink Awards Scotland in the Best Restaurant Bar category.

The pub opened first in 1863 and despite plans to demolish the Victorian building in 1969, it survived after a petition signed by more than 8,500 people who wanted to keep it open. The pub and its whole interior with its signature handpainted tiles was listed in 1970.

The building houses a pub, restaurant and rhe Voodoo Rooms upstairs but the music venue remains open. Richard from Doctors of Madness who are appearing there on Sunday evening confirmed to The Edinburgh Reporter: "Not affected. We are so looking forward to it. See you there!! Richard x''

Earlier this week The Jazz Bar on Chambers Street announced its immediate closure due to "the cost of living crisis coupled with operational challenges".



All photos Stephen Rafferty





