

Five things you need to know today

Royal visit to the City Chambers

TRH The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh visited the City Chambers on Monday evening to find out about some of the community events planned for Edinburgh 900 – the programme of events to celebrate the capital being a royal burgh.

[Read more here.](#)



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the Edinburgh Reporter

May 2024

EDINBURGH'S CAPITAL PAPER...A CAPITAL READ FROM START TO FINISH

Trew gent

By **GEORGE HAIN AND PHYLIS STEPHEN**

HIS SELFLESS ACTS OF GENEROSITY raised more than £1 million for charities, and the late Tom Gilman, MBE, was much loved and well known in the capital.

Now, an 'Our Willie' themed statue, in the image of the late Scots war veteran and charity fundraiser, has been unveiled on the spot where he used to break his lunch during his long days spent in the city centre collecting tins for charities. The life-size sculpture, a replica of one auctioned during an 2019 fundraiser, is now in place outside Gordon's Tearooms on The Royal Mile which was his regular lunch spot. For more than 20 years Tom could be seen tuffing his collecting tin, wearing his trademark tartan trousers and medals in the city centre.

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Scottish Ensemble concerts in June

Scottish Ensemble have built a devoted following for their Concerts by Candlelight in the Midwinter, and they now present a series of concerts reveling in the long days and abundance of natural light around the Summer Solstice. Light-filled venues will resonate to the sounds of vibrant, uplifting music, performed with Scottish Ensemble's characteristic zest and warmth.

From the 17th to the 21st of June, Concerts for a Summer's Night will celebrate that magical juncture when daylight outlasts the night, filling the air with the promise of endless possibilities. Performances will take place in The National Museum of Scotland.

Audiences can expect a treat as the ensemble blend classical and contemporary works for string orchestra into a joyful sonic summer cocktail. From familiar works by Elgar and Mendelssohn to the innovative sounds of Tunde Jegede and Sigur Rós, the programme promises to transport listeners through centuries and musical styles, focusing on themes of joy and connection.

Tickets range from £9 – £22.50 and are free for under 16s. Tickets are available from <https://scottishensemble.co.uk/programme/2023-24/concerts-for-a-summers-night-2/>



Model Railways exhibition

the Edinburgh and Lothians Miniature Railway Club (E&LMRC), will be holding their first model railway exhibition for many years in the Senior School Assembly Hall at George Watson's College, Colinton Road, Edinburgh, EH10 5EG on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 June 2024. This new exhibition will be open between 10 am and 5 pm each day and will feature 13 layouts from across Scotland in five different scales/gauges. Six traders and two societies are also supporting this new venture. The club's secretary

said, "I'm grateful to all our traders for their support and confidence in helping launch this new exhibition in Edinburgh. This has allowed us to create a fun day out for collectors, enthusiasts, and families alike, with something on offer for all

ages and interests". Two of those traders are Linlithgow based Rainbow Railways and Dunfermline based Lathalmond Models.

Colin Rae, one of the directors of Rainbow Railways, said: "it's been a very busy few years for us building up our business

in Linlithgow and expanding our local and national show calendar, which we support and attend.

"The number of Model Rail Exhibitions in central Scotland has never been stronger, with great exhibits on show for those looking for a

fun day out. It's also great to see an exhibition return to Edinburgh and we are very pleased to be a part of this return"

Ross Cameron, owner of Lathalmond Models, said: "it's great to be able to support the Edinburgh & Lothians Miniature Railway Club to bring a great hobby nearly back into the centre of the city and show that it's for all ages and can suit all

budgets and levels of modelling. The friendships built and memories from these shows is priceless, seeing smiles on faces from the elderly to the young.

"This is just how I felt when I was young, and this hobby is still very much alive. My

advice would be to join a local club, there are many throughout Scotland, and all are looking to help and inspire our new

modellers. As a trader we have a selection of models to suit all ages and budget, so please come along, enjoy the layouts, and speak to the clubs who will be more than happy to help."

Tickets can be purchased on the day at a cost of £8 for Adults (16+), £3 for Children (5-15), and a Family ticket (2+2) will cost £18. However, advanced tickets can be purchased on-line at a discounted price through

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/elmc> until 31st May 2024.



Local heroes needed for The Scottish Parliament

A search for local heroes from communities across Scotland is underway as the Scottish Parliament announces plans for a special commemorative anniversary event to take place on Saturday 29 June.

Every Member of the Scottish Parliament is being asked to nominate one of their constituents who have made an

extraordinary contribution to their communities, their local hero. They will be invited to attend the event on the Saturday 29 June alongside their MSP.

The event will mark almost 25 years to the day since the Scottish Parliament was officially opened on 1 July 1999. Taking place in the Debating Chamber, the day will mark the achievements of the Parliament over the last 25 years as well as being a celebration of Scottish culture.

Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament, Rt Hon [Alison Johnstone MSP](#) said: "As we prepare to mark 25 years of the first sitting of The Scottish Parliament, it reminds us of the significant political journey that the Scottish people have been on and the progress that's been made since 1999.

"Our event in June is an opportunity for people from across Scotland to celebrate with us. To reflect on the role that MSPs and the Parliament have had over the past 25 years and the importance of continuing our commitment to our founding principles.

"A cornerstone of this commemorative event will be recognising the extraordinary contribution people from across Scotland make to their communities.

"I look forward to welcoming people from all over Scotland for a day of reflection and celebration."



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