

# Five things you need to know today

## The Asian Art Awards 2024

The Asian Art Fund Scotland is a charity which champions Asian artists and art forms in Scotland. Their main purpose is to manage the awards which are made each year during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe – and they are seeking entries and also applications from anyone who wishes to become a judge.

[Read more about the charity here.](#)



## Douglas Ross – MSP no more?

The leader of the Scottish Conservatives has confirmed he will step down as an MSP and as Scottish Conservative Party leader if he is successful as a candidate in the Aberdeenshire North and Moray East Westminster constituency. This is a change from what he said only last week in Edinburgh when he announced he would run in the General Election.

[Read more here.](#)



## Polwarth roundabout

The council has replaced the railings at Polwarth outside Margiotta with much the same set up as before.

This is despite input from locals including the community council. It appears that the lack of any redesign at the junction is due to lack of funding. In February Merchiston Community Council advised that Sustrans are not running their Street Design programme in 2024.

The community council said: "This is because of negotiations between The Scottish Government, Transport Scotland and Sustrans about how to move towards higher levels of investment in active travel from 2025-26. For us, this is a setback: Sustrans had shown real interest in our proposals and had encouraged us to see the Design programme as a way to develop them into a credible and operationally viable proposition. That will not now happen."

This is what the roundabout could look like...eventually.



Full

report

– <https://merchistoncc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/POLWARTH-PAVEMENT-PROJECT-Roundabout-FINAL-REPORT-updated-March-2024.pdf>

More

info

– <https://merchistoncc.org.uk/projects/the-polwarth-pavement-project/>



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# the Edinburgh Reporter

June 2024

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



Thomas Hayward Photography

## Trams are 10

By **PHYLLIS STEPHEN**

**IT IS NOW TEN YEARS** since Edinburgh Trams began running the passenger service

from Edinburgh Airport to York Place. Actually on the first day the service began at the Gyle Stop with many people trying to be the first passengers to get on board.

Edinburgh Trams have now carried more than 60 million passengers in the last decade on a fleet of 27 trams and employ around 300 people in Edinburgh. Except during Covid

tram income has risen year on year. In 2014 the half year income was £4.782 million and this rose to £23.9 million in 2023.

[More about Edinburgh Trams on page 7](#)

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## Road closures next week

Scottish Water have announced that they will close Leith Street, Calton Hill, Waterloo Place and Calton Road at various times for investigation work on the sewer network from next

Monday.

Emergency vehicle and pedestrian access will be maintained.

[Read more here.](#)

*Today's featured image is to remind you that it is New Town Art Month. [Find out more here.](#)*