

# Five things you need to know today

**The new UK Parliament will begin work today as members of both Houses return to Westminster following the general election last Thursday.**

Business begins at 2.30pm when members of both Houses will attend the Lords Chamber to hear a Royal Commission from the King to hold the new Parliament.

The House of Commons will then proceed to elect a Speaker, while members of the Lords begin to take an oath of allegiance or make a solemn affirmation to the Crown.

Business continues on Wednesday when the '[Royal Approbation](#)' ceremony for the Commons Speaker-elect is expected to take place followed by oath taking by members of both Houses.

The State Opening of Parliament will take place on Wednesday 17 July. The King's Speech, written by the government, will be read from the Throne in the House of Lords chamber. Members of both Houses then get straight down to work debating the contents of the speech over several days.

Our five Edinburgh MPs going to Westminster include Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat), and four Labour politicians – Scott Arthur, Tracy Gilbert, Chris Murray and Ian Murray who is also the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Scott and Chris travelled with Lumo, Tracy with LNER, Ian by plane with other members of the Cabinet and, mainly since she

hasn't tweeted about it, we are not sure how Christine travelled to London.

<https://twitter.com/cllrscottarthur/status/1810016808541302979?s=46&t=TCNORMNSY2aPK4BywP9B0g>

*Setting off to Westminster for the first full week of a Labour government!*

*Time to make Edinburgh East & Musselburgh's voice heard (but I do need a coffee first). [pic.twitter.com/LlcQGvUDbY](https://pic.twitter.com/LlcQGvUDbY)*

*– Chris Murray MP (@ChrisMurray2010) [July 8, 2024](#)*

<https://twitter.com/tracygilbert72/status/1810195371164926442?s=46&t=TCNORMNSY2aPK4BywP9B0g>

## **Big Noise Wester Hailes**

If your children are in P3 to P5 at Sighthill Primary School then they could join Big Noise Wester Hailes at Clovenstone Primary School every day this summer – more information below. Big Noise is a method of teaching young children to play an instrument and then play in an orchestra – and most of all have some fun doing it.



Big Noise Wester Hailes and the RNSO performed at the Usher Hall Edinburgh.

All images © Stewart Attwood Photography

## Thistle Street shop closes

The lovely shop Covet which sold handbags and scarves and all sorts of accessories for 14 years has now closed on Thistle Street. Earlier in the year one of the co-founders, Blaise, stepped back and now the other co-founder, Anna Somerville – who is also an artist – has decided it is not possible to continue on her own. She will however continue to sell her art and her scarf and bag designs online.



**Support                      local                      independent  
journalism**

Please support us and buy a monthly newspaper or book your advertising with us by clicking on the image below.



**Timely tribute**

Floral Clock marks two centuries of life saving

Page 3

**People's choice**

Exhausting electioneering is almost over

Page 4

**Royal mural**

Chris creates lasting memory of Edinburgh 900

Page 5

**Show stoppers**

Liam laments dearth of July activity before the Fringe

Page 18-19

**Olympic hopes**

Local hockey players heading to Paris 2024

Page 22

# the Edinburgh Reporter

July 2024

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



## Gold Standard

The Eric Liddell Community

### City marks the centenary of The Flying Scotsman

By PHYLLIS STEPHEN

**IT WILL BE 100 YEARS** this month since athlete and missionary, Eric Liddell, won an Olympic gold medal in Paris. The story of his victory was the real-life inspiration for the film, Chariots of Fire, and he was not only a sprinter, but also a rugby player, winning seven caps for Scotland and working as a Christian missionary in China.

While he studied at the University of Edinburgh he also played sport for his country - although he had been born in Qing China where his Scottish parents were missionaries.

At the 1924 Olympics he would not run in the heats for the 100 metres race as these were held on a Sunday when he did not play sport. He then competed in the 400 metres heat held on a weekday, and - even though this was not "his" distance - he won.

His name has been given to The Eric Liddell Community (ELC) at Holy Corner which will celebrate the life of their namesake with a series of events this month. ELC is a registered care charity based at Holy Corner where they provide specialist dementia care and help people to overcome loneliness and isolation. The charity, which has HRH The Princess Royal as patron, has begun a fundraising campaign during this year to help them continue with their important work.

Read more on page 5

## PRE-THEATRE DINING

Edinburgh Playhouse official partner. Join us for a delicious 3 course Indian meal.



OPPOSITE EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE  
25 Union Place,  
Edinburgh EH1 3NQ

Call or book online

0131 557 5098

[www.ShezanEdinburgh.com](http://www.ShezanEdinburgh.com)



**SHEZAN**  
INDIAN RESTAURANT

**10% OFF YOUR MEAL**

PRESENT VOUCHER TO YOUR SERVER

## West End Fair

This month there is a fair set up in the grounds beside St John's Church. It opens on 29 July and will be open 11am to 6pm every day until 25 August.

# WEST END FAIR

ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN FAIR



venue  
127

**29 JULY - 25 AUG 2024**  
**11 - 6 Daily**

St John's Church, c/o Lothian Road and Princes Street,  
Edinburgh, EH1 2AB

Over 100 stalls, each with their own handmade work