

Five things you need to know today

Edinburgh Trams pull an all-nighter

All-night trams will return to Edinburgh this summer as the city celebrates its legendary festival season.

Additional services will run into the early hours of Saturday and Sunday mornings for four weeks in August to help visitors and city residents make the most of late-night events and performances.

Sarah Singh, Head of Service Delivery at Edinburgh Trams, explained: "Once again, a packed programme of activities next month will see hundreds of thousands of people flock to the city, and we're all set to play our part in what has become one of the world's most famous celebrations of arts, culture and comedy.

"In addition to services from every seven minutes during the day and evening, after midnight on weekends between August 2 and August 25, trams will run every 20 minutes until 3.00am. There will then be trams every 30 minutes until the start of normal services at 6.00am.

In the past, this 24-hour weekend timetable has proved a huge hit with festivalgoers and it's sure to be as popular as ever this year."

As an added bonus for tram customers travelling from outside Edinburgh, the Ingliston Park and Ride facility will remain open overnight when the additional trams are scheduled to run.

Sarah continued: "With plenty of free spaces, it offers the ideal place for visitors to leave their car before completing

their journey into the city centre by tram, which continues to offer excellent value for money.

“Normal fares apply throughout the night, and a host of great travel deals and ticket offers are available for people staying over for a few days, or families travelling together as a group.”

Tickets can be purchased at tram stop ticket machines, online and by using the ET app, and a wide range of ticket options can be found [here](#).



Edinburgh World Heritage on the Fringe

The 12th Edinburgh Traditional Building Festival (ETBF) will take place this year at Edinburgh World Heritage’s historic offices at Acheson House, 5 Bakehouse Close, 146 Canongate from 20-23 August 2024.

The ETBF will be held to “Celebrate Edinburgh’s Traditional Buildings” with a series of free talks, demonstrations and tours to raise the profile of the skills, materials and knowledge required to repair and maintain traditional buildings so they can be enjoyed for future generations.

They will take place in the garden, and the neighbouring Museum of Edinburgh as well as around the Canongate over the week.

Please note that unfortunately Acheson House, built as it was in 1633, is not an accessible building, and though the garden is on the level, the only accessible toilet is in the Museum of Edinburgh (ground floor.) The Museum’s lecture room is also not accessible as it is on 2nd floor (stairs but no lift.) There is no parking nearby, but the no 35 bus does

[More details here.](#)

Doors Open Day

This takes place on 28 September and will include the very popular visit to Lothian Buses depot and bus wash. BUT there is a change of venue. It will be hosted at the Marine depot as Annandale Street are having a makeover.

A spokesperson for Lothian said: “Marine Garage was opened in December 1962 and had an initial allocation of 130 buses. The garage is located on Marine Gardens, previously a Greyhound Racing track opened in 1932. Before that, the site was a football ground used by Leith Athletic and Edinburgh City. During the Second World War, the site was used for military purposes. Marine was also used as the location for Riversea Buses, a fictional bus company in the CBeebies programme Me Too!

“Today, Marine is home to approximately 160 buses and more than 400 colleagues including drivers, engineers and a

catering team.

“As in previous years, there will be something for everyone at Lothian’s Doors Open Day. For those with an interest in our fleet, there will be a bus display including open-top tour buses and executive coaches. We’re delighted that many key partners will also be in attendance this year, including representatives from Royal Marines Reserves, Edinburgh Zoo and many, many more. We will also have vintage vehicles on display thanks to our friends at the Scottish Vintage Bus Museum. Wee ones can burn off energy in the Kids’ Zone with bouncy castles and other activities and our catering team will be on hand to keep you fully fuelled during your visit.

“Our Doors Open Day will take place on Saturday 28 September from 11am until 3pm – make a note in your diary now More details will follow in the coming weeks.”



Lothian bus on Princes Street PHOTO ©2023 The Edinburgh Reporter

Cycling with Mark Beaumont

At Bridgend Farmhouse there will be a Bike Barn Launch on 10 August when you can go cycling with Mark Beaumont the record breaking round the world cyclist.



BIKE BARN LAUNCH

Cycling
Scotland

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with

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Please support us and buy a monthly newspaper or book your advertising with us. Click on the image below. Our August issue is full of Fringe recommendations for you and will be on the streets soon.

Timely tribute

Floral Clock marks two centuries of life saving

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People's choice

Exhausting electioneering is almost over

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Royal mural

Chris creates lasting memory of Edinburgh 900

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Show stoppers

Liam laments death of July activity before the Fringe

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Olympic hopes

Local hockey players heading to Paris 2024

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the Edinburgh Reporter

July 2024

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



The Eric Liddell Community

Gold Standard

City marks the centenary of The Flying Scotsman

By PHYLIS 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

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McVey mauling

Councillor hits out at coalition stitch-up
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Shaggy dog tail

Toy poodle Pepper back home at last
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Fettes finale

Former police HQ bows out at 50
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Show stoppers

Rudden reviews May's best theatre shows
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Lothian at large

Local sporting heroes in the spotlight
Pages 20-21

the Edinburgh Reporter

May 2024

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



Trew gent

By **GEORGE MAIR AND PHYLLIS STEPHEN**

HIS SELFLESS ACTS OF GENEROSITY raised more than £1 million for charities, and the late Tom Gilzean, MBE, was much loved

and well-known in the capital.

Now, an Oor Wullie-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 for lunch during his

long days spent in the city centre collecting cash for charities. The life size sculpture, a replica of one auctioned during an 2019 fundraiser, is now in place outside Gordon's Trattoria on The Royal Mile which was his

regular lunch spot. For more than 20 years Tom could be seen rattling his collecting tin, wearing his trademark tartan trews and medals in the city centre.

[Read more on page 7](#)

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Northern delights

Awesome aurora was something to see
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Class of 99

Boyack reflects on 25 years at Holyrood
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Star struck

No negativity for snapper looking back on his life
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Looking ahead

The Royal infirmary has new lease of life
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Job vacancy

Hibs could look close to home for new boss
Page 22

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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Eco-nomy class

School pupils put learning into action
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Fringe benefits

Adult learners lose out to new festival hub
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Cinema calamity

Art deco building at risk of demolition claims
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Full of beans

Marchmont coffee shop worth the detour
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Rachel revvs up

Go-kart star aims to make the grid
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the Edinburgh Reporter

April 2024

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



Lift off at dance festival

Traditional dancers have spring in their step

By PHILIP DIXON

TRADITIONAL DANCE will take centre stage during the Pongopong Festival which showcases international dance on a teaching, learning and performing platform. The still new festival is on at The Scottish Storytelling Centre and other Edinburgh venues from 25-30 April.

Step-dance, cumbias and waltzes will be performed, with live music, poetry, and art and the festival invites audiences to take part in archery, woodwork, folk in person and live streaming, tours, and talks about traditional dance.

Some of the highlights include a family day with a craft fair all led by Gairne Brockbank of Caledonia, and a matinee showcase by traditional dance artists who are in residence at Edinburgh primary schools, and Bulgarian and Christian language schools in the capital.

Styren Nerliova, Festival Producer and Curator of the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland said: "It is so satisfying to see that the pongopong ruby seeds of traditional dance that we planted for the first time in spring 2022, once again blossom into Scotland's springtime festival for world traditional dance."

"In a new festival born in times of uncertainty, displacement and border restrictions, we were inspired by a poem by Lee Min-Hwan that captured the zeitgeist."

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Hopeful Hilda

Ninety-nine-year-old supports charity boss
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Bross rebrand

Over her skis but not offski
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Ritchie revival

Late author's play to be staged
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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

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Dashing deeds

Student flats appeal has council on hop
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Pavilion pallava

Budget cuts deepen eye hospital crisis
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Shawfair shock

New gym not fit for purpose claims
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Chief cosies up

More questions for Police Scotland boss
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Centre Stage

Liam Rudden joins The Edinburgh Reporter
Pages 18-19

the Edinburgh Reporter

February 2024

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



Year of the Dragon

Bringing success and opportunity

By PHYLIS STEPHEN

THERE WILL BE a full programme of events in the capital to herald the start of the Year of the Dragon and celebrate Chinese New Year 2024.

The entertainment in Edinburgh firms the largest celebration of its kind in Scotland and it runs from 3 to 13 February. There is a wide range of activities including the Official Chinese New Year Concert at Usher Hall which has become an annual fixture in the civic calendar.

The programme includes dragon and lion dances, a bilingual ceilidh, tai chi sessions, calligraphy and tarot card reading, all of which help to promote local businesses and to reinforce the links between Scottish and Chinese culture.

The Dragon is a significant emblem in Chinese culture symbolising power, nobleness, honour, luck and success, and it is predicted that the new year will bring opportunities, changes and challenges.

The festival in the capital is supported by Heriot-Watt University and Hainan Airlines, and is coordinated by Edinburgh Tourism Action Group (ETAG). This forms a large part of the group's China Ready initiative and ETAG will hold their annual conference during the week at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre with training sessions and industry meet-ups.

For a full run down of this month's events to celebrate turn to page seven

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A wee break

We are going to pause our Five things you need to know today articles for the month of August. It is such a busy time with all sorts of news and we are going to concentrate on bringing you as much other news as possible. Do keep reading – and these daily articles will be back on 2 September – but our final one of this month will be tomorrow.