

# Five things you need to know today

## August issue out now

The August issue of our newspaper is out now. There are many new stockists this month with libraries all over Edinburgh asking for copies to be sent to them.

If you have a business such as a café then would you like to stock some copies? If so please get in touch. [editor@theedinburghreporter.co.uk](mailto:editor@theedinburghreporter.co.uk)

If you have already subscribed to receive our paper by post then your copy is on its way to you. [If not then you can sign up here.](#)

And here are the front pages from the last six months – what will August's paper look like? Wait and see!

**Timely tribute**

Floral Clock marks two centuries of life saving

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**People's choice**

Exhausting electioneering is almost over

Page 4

**Royal mural**

Chris creates lasting memory of Edinburgh 900

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**Show stoppers**

Liam laments dearth of July activity before the Fringe

Page 18-19

**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 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

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### McVey mauling

Councillor hits out at coalition stitch-up

Page 4

### Shaggy dog tail

Toy poodle Pepper back home at last

Page 9

### Fettes finale

Former police HQ bows out at 50

Pages 12-13

### Show stoppers

Rudden reviews May's best theatre shows

Pages 18-19

### 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

Page 3

### Class of 99

Boyack reflects  
on 25 years at Holyrood

Page 4

### Star struck

No negativity for snapper  
looking back on his life

Pages 12-13

### Looking ahead

The Royal infirmary has  
new lease of life

Page 15

### Job vacancy

Hibs could look close  
to home for new boss

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# the Edinburgh Reporter

June 2024

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



Thomas Haywood Photography

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  
Page 7

**Fringe benefits**

Adult learners lose out to new festival buzz  
Page 8

**Cinema calamity**

Art deco building at risk of demolition claims  
Page 6

**Full of beans**

Marchmont coffee shop worth the detour  
Page 11

**Rachel revvs up**

Go-kart star aims to make the grid  
Page 20

# 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 STEPHEN

TRADITIONAL DANCE will take centre stage during the Pongosa 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.

New dance commissions and workshops will be performed, with live music, poetry, and art and the festival invites audiences to take part in workshops, workshops (both in-person and live-streamed), tours, and talks about traditional dance.

Some of the highlights include a family day with a variety of activities for all led by Caroline Brockbank of Caribbids, and a mature showcase by traditional dance artists who are in residence at Edinburgh primary schools, and Bulgarian and Ukrainian language schools in the capital.

Shona Nordin, Festival Producer and Curator of the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland said: "It is so satisfying to see that the pongosa festival 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 Ian MacMillan that captured the zeitgeist."

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**Hopeful Hilda**

Ninety-nine-year-old  
supports charity boss  
Page 3

**Bross rebrand**

Over her skis  
but not offski  
Page 8

**Ritchie revival**

Late author's play  
to be staged  
Page 9

**Eating out**

March madness of  
foodie discounts  
Pages 12-13

**Cut the mustard**

Rugby stalwart's  
retiral celebration  
Page 22

# the Edinburgh Reporter

March 2024

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



## Paolozzi pitch perfect

### 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

Page 3

**Pavilion pallava**

Budget cuts deepen eye hospital crisis

Page 4

**Shawfair shock**

New gym not fit for purpose claims

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**Chief cosies up**

More questions for Police Scotland boss

Pages 12-13

**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 forms 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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Leith Collective looking for

# buskers

The Leith Collective have a pop up shop in Waverley Market and they are looking for buskers and local musicians to take to the stage to make some noise and let people know they are there.

## Deadline for XL Bully dogs runs out tonight

At midnight tonight the deadline runs out for owners of XL Bully dogs to apply for an exemption certificate or they will face penalties. From 1 August it becomes an offence to own this breed of dog without such a certificate and the penalty is imprisonment or fines up to £5,000.

Victims and Community Safety Minister Siobhian Brown said:

“The deadline is now very close for XL Bully dog owners who have not yet applied for an exemption. Public safety has always been the priority and the reason these measures were introduced.

“I would strongly encourage owners to apply now so they can continue to legally own their dogs. From 1 August 2024, it will be a criminal offence to own an XL Bully without an exemption certificate or not to have applied for one by that date.”

[Full details of the scheme here.](#)

## Sing in the City

Join the choir at the Mound on Friday 2 August at 5pm when the



capital's choir will be busking. [More information on their social media channels.](#) And the Aw Blacks – another member of the Sing in the City family will be performing at Brewhemia on [25 August](#).

## **Scotland's Gardens Scheme this weekend**

There are a couple of capital gardens to note this weekend when you can go and visit.

The garden at 39 Nantwich Drive will be open for charity on 3 August. The organic garden has a mini orchard, pond, greenhouse, secret garden, vegetable allotment, compost area, worm bin, a rotary bin, and mini woodland walks.

On 4 August the garden at 77 Kirk Brae will open to show how it has evolved from traditional and formal to informal and wildlife-friendly.

The garden has a stone wall and features mature as well as younger trees, herbaceous beds and borders. And the newest project is a small wildflower meadow.

[Full details on Scotland's Gardens Scheme.](#)



Photo by Leigh Patrick on [Pexels.com](https://www.pexels.com)

Our Five things you need to know today article will be paused for August – we will be back in September! Meantime enjoy everything Edinburgh has to offer in August.