

Vital sewer works about to begin

SEE UPDATED DIVERSION ROUTES AT END

Scottish Water will start upgrading the Victorian sewers in the city next month to keep the capital's waste water flowing, and you would be well advised to avoid the Haymarket area while they are doing so.



This is all a part of Scottish Water's programme of investment between 2015-2021 and £29.5m of water and wastewater infrastructure projects across the capital have been scheduled by agreement with The City of Edinburgh Council, residents and businesses.

The £2.5 m project at Haymarket is part of Scottish Water's on-going investment across the city which will significantly strengthen the infrastructure which serves Edinburgh and plays a critical role in ensuring the city functions effectively.

The modern sewer will be installed along Haymarket Terrace which will increase capacity and reduce the risk of flooding for properties and businesses in the area.

Scottish Water's alliance partner Amey Black and Veatch (aBV) will commence the work on 4 September to upgrade the original egg-shaped brick Victorian sewer which is at capacity and now requires upgrading.

The project comprises of four main phases to install a new 1.2m diameter storm storage sewer pipe, starting on Haymarket Terrace at the junction with Magdala Crescent and moving east towards Haymarket Station.

Traffic management will be implemented to ensure vehicles and public transport can flow during the period of the work, with other measures planned to allow residents and business to operate as normal.

James Weir, aBV project manager, said: "The works have been planned and discussed in detail with the City of Edinburgh Council. This is essential work which will build capacity into Edinburgh's sewer network and ensure the city's waste water cycle is fit for the demands and future development of a 21st century capital."

Scott Fraser, Scottish Water's corporate affairs regional manager, said: "Scottish Water is absolutely focused on providing our customers with excellent waste water services which meet their needs and which have the capacity to deal with demand on the network.

"The Victorian-era sewer network needs to be upgraded to meet the needs of a modern capital city which is constantly growing and developing.

"We have been liaising closely with aBV, and the City of Edinburgh Council to minimise the disruption to residents, businesses and commuters as far as possible.

"We are halting the works during the Christmas roads embargo period from 11 Dec 2017 – 12 Jan 2018 to support businesses during this vital trading period. We will ensure that all businesses in the area can operate as usual and will regularly visit all affected businesses to discuss concerns and ensure we are capturing their needs. We would also encourage the public to check Scottish Water's social media channels – Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for regular updates."

The work will be carried out in phases until the Christmas embargo in December, recommencing in January 2018 with completion expected by early summer.

During the work three lanes along Haymarket Terrace will be closed. One lane will remain open for traffic heading west out of the city. For inbound traffic a diversion route through Magdala Crescent, along Eglinton Crescent and down Palmerston Place has been agreed with the City of Edinburgh Council. Local access will remain open, though there will be some parking restrictions in certain sections and footpaths will remain open. Scottish Water will closely engage with the transport network in Edinburgh to ensure tram routes will be unaffected, bus route diversions are in place and taxis are accommodated at temporary ranks.

In advance of the road closure signs will be put in place in various locations, including on Traffic Scotland motorway gantry signs on the M8 and M9 into the city and within Haymarket train station to advise commuters of the works.

Scottish Water have issued an updated plan which you can see [here](#) and which does not have green arrows on West Maitland Street (where cars cannot travel westbound anyway)



Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – Forgive Us, Oh Father!

Forgive Us, Oh Father! is a brand new musical comedy about what it really means to be a man of God. Join us at theSpace@venue 45 this Edinburgh Fringe and meet Father Stephen-Peter as he defends his actions to the archangels in order to enter the kingdom of heaven.



Our character-led comedy celebrates humanity and the

mistakes one must make in life to learn the true meaning of forgiveness and acceptance.

11th-12th, 14th-19th August

16:05-16:55 (50 minutes)

theSpace@Venue 45 (Jeffrey St. EH1 1DH)

Box Office: 0131 510 2381

Tickets: £9.00 (Concessions £7.00)

Facebook: [@forgiveusohfather](#)

Instagram: [@forgiveusohfather](#)

Twitter: [@forgiveustweets](#)

Man jailed after heroin worth £500k recovered following car chase



A man pled guilty at Edinburgh High Court yesterday to the supply of controlled drugs and dangerous driving.

Paul Macaulay, aged 30 from the Newcraighall area, was sentenced to seven years and four months in prison for the offences and disqualified from driving for six years.

Road Policing officers signalled Macaulay to stop as he

travelled in his Vauxhall Insignia on Calder Road on Wednesday 7 June 2017.

As they approached him he drove off over a footpath onto Calder Road, then the wrong way around a roundabout.

He narrowly missed other road users, before he stopped and was detained.

His vehicle was searched and officers found a quantity of high purity heroin with an estimated street value of over £500,000 and £15,000 in cash.

His home address was also searched and associated paraphernalia was recovered.

Detective Inspector Bruce Coutts of Corstorphine CID said: "The large quantity of heroin, cash, mobile phones and other paraphernalia seized at Macaulay's address demonstrated his involvement in organised crime offences, including drug supply. He also went to great lengths, as shown in court, to evade arrest.

"His arrest and conviction came about through concerted efforts by road policing officers and detectives and shows that we continue to utilise all resources at our disposal to tackle serious and organised crime, bringing offenders to justice and making our communities safer.

"Information from members of the public is absolutely vital to our efforts to address drug crime and to keep people around Scotland safe and we encourage anyone who has information to contact Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – “PRÉVERT: PIANO & POETRY”

Original one-man show by a young French concert pianist

Come along to Edinburgh Festival Fringe, at Palmerston Place Church (10 Palmerston Place), from 14 to 18 August at 6:00pm (see attached poster).

Entry is free but tickets are required on:
<https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/prevert-piano-and-poetry-free>

This original one-man show entitled “PRÉVERT: PIANO & POETRY”, was created and interpreted by the 20 year old French concert pianist, Alexandre PRÉVERT. It is a concert-show played in English that combines major works for classical piano with poetry, staged in a simple fashion that is accessible to all audiences.

“PRÉVERT: PIANO & POETRY” is an invitation to go on a musical and poetic voyage through time, focusing on great composers such as Mozart, Liszt, Schubert, Stravinsky, Ravel, Fauré, Gershwin.

You can find all the latest news about Alexandre PRÉVERT on the social networks:

Youtube : <http://youtube.com/PrevertAlex>

Facebook : <http://facebook.com/PrevertAlexandre>

Twitter : <http://twitter.com/PrevertAlex>

Linkedin : <https://fr.linkedin.com/in/alexandreprevert>

And on the website: <http://alexandreprevert.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/PrevertAlexandre/videos/1797754253797>

Fringe by the Sea 2017



Get down to the seaside and enjoy the coolest festival in Scotland!

The full programme for Fringe by the Sea 2017 is on the website www.fringebythesea.com

Copies of the printed programme are now in tourist information points and libraries all round the county,

Tickets are now on sale.

Ticket times for the hut are published on the website and Facebook, but will normally be 6pm to 7pm all week, plus 12 noon to 1pm on weekends.

.....And why the fuss?

Well only the biggest and best line up the festival has ever had! Music of all genres, comedy, film, theatre, authors and exhibitions – plus a great children's programme and various 'one-off' bits of nonsense!

The star-turns this year are undoubtedly KT Tunstall, Chris Barber, Steve Harley, Eric Bibb, Zoe Lyons, Barry Cryer, Richard Herring and Jan Ravens. Add to that Michaela Strachan, The Honeycutters, Aly & Phil, Lucy Porter, The Rezillos, Tiff Stevenson, Bombskare and Tommy Smith & Brian Kellock – and you can see why the organisers are so pleased with the line-up.

Organiser Eric Wales said : 'We've come up with a festival that I'd love to have the time to go and see every single act!'

NB Movies have helped mount a mini International Festival of film – with offerings from Germany to France to Spain to Iran – and a real highlight of a special showing of Tommy's Honour, telling the Tom Morris story and with lots of East Lothian backdrops.

Asked for favourites in the programme, John Shaw picks out the guided walks by both Dave Berry and the East Lothian Countryside Ranger Service, 'but I think the Hickory Shaft Long Driving Competition at the Glen and the Victorian Tennis Competition at North Berwick Tennis Club will be a real laugh. Luckily I have my long whites, cravat and wooden tennis racket to hand!'

Many of last year's major sponsors are continuing to support – notably Simpson & Marwick, ESPC, Shaw Marketing & Design, Eastern Exhibition & Display and Belhaven – joined by Edinburgh Carpet & Flooring Warehouse and The Ship Inn in North Berwick. 'We really couldn't do a festival at all if it wasn't for these companies giving us such invaluable support', said Jane Thomson. 'And in particular, East Lothian Council have again been very supportive with both grant funding and in-kind support. But perhaps it is the volunteers who we couldn't do without most – tireless, good humoured and well meaning – honestly!'

So all seems set for another fantastic week – bring on the sun and get down to a donkey near you!

Sponsorship Grant Funding by



Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – The Giant Jam Sandwich

The picture book that generations of parents and children still refer to as their all-time favourite, THE GIANT JAM SANDWICH, is coming to the Edinburgh Festival as a first ever British stage adaptation.

After a hugely successful national tour earlier this year, this madcap production with an original score by composer James Atherton, the show will run for a month at the Pleasance Courtyard.

It must have been a cathartic process for Derbyshire born author John Vernon Lord, a man who is allergic to wasps, to write his bestseller, The Giant Jam Sandwich. Now in its 45th year, readers of all ages have been enthralled by this timeless tale of a village community's inventive plan to trap a swarm of wasps in an enormous sandwich.

Having been endlessly translated and adapted for radio, television and large scale orchestra, it had not been adapted for the stage until earlier this year. This new stage adaptation by New Perspectives' Artistic Director – Jack McNamara – toured venues in England following its premier at the Derby Guildhall back in February.

Bursting with humour for adults and children alike, New Perspectives' production evokes the vivid brilliance of the original illustrations whilst expanding the story with original songs by James Atherton and a host of new characters.

John Vernon Lord is among the production's fans, commenting: "I enjoyed it from beginning to end...a very clever way of extending the story."

The play's adapter and director, Jack McNamara, said : "When we saw the excited reactions of children and parents to this production on tour we knew we had to bring it to Edinburgh. It has a real festival energy about it and seems to really mean something to people of very different ages".

While aimed at audiences 3+, the production doesn't shy away from some challenging themes, including the moral dilemma of trapping wasps, the marital problems of one of its characters and even a short scene that hints at the current Brexit situation.

Jack continues: "It feels wrong in the 21st century to tell a story about an invasion of outsiders without exploring the complexity of what that means. So in our production we decided to give our wasps a voice, to hear their side of the story, and children have completely appreciated that. The style of the original book is beautifully messy and human and we wanted to capture that in our production, rather than sanitise it."

The show is at the Pleasance Above at the Pleasance Courtyard, from 2 – 28 August at 10.20am daily.

Edinburgh Beermat Challenge

laid down by ScotlandShop



To celebrate the launch of their new store in Edinburgh, [ScotlandShop](#) have launched a beermat challenge, taking place in pubs across the capital.

20,000 beermats have been printed for the challenge, each printed with one of four tartans – [Edinburgh](#), [Caledonia](#), [Jacobite](#) and [Auld Scotland](#).

The first person to find one of each and to hand them into the ScotlandShop store will win themselves a £100 voucher to spend on tartan goodies.

The tricky part? ScotlandShop aren't saying which pubs the beermats are in.

The ScotlandShop store is open now.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017- All We Ever Wanted Was Everything



Only – things didn't really get better...

Aspirational in entitlement and ambition an award-winning theatre company from Hull is preparing to bring the end of the world to Edinburgh Fringe in August with an unmissable piece of gig theatre.

Written by Luke Barnes Music by James Frewer, hot on the heels of a 'glorious' performance at Latitude Festival, All We Ever

Wanted Was Everything runs at the Paines Plough Roundabout @ Summerhall from 4-27 August.

The show, a gig that tells a story about dreams, love and family against the backdrop of an asteroid heading for Earth..

Director, Paul Smith, said: "This event is a three-act anthem set across three decades, from 1997's Cool Britannia to 2007's Broken Britain and today's Brexit Britain.

"In the story we follow Chris and Leah, two Hull kids raised on Harry Potter, New Labour and a belief that one day they would be as 'special' as their parents promised.

"But what happens when those dreams don't become reality?

All We Ever Wanted Was Everything is Middle Child's third collaboration with writer Luke Barnes, after Weekend Rockstars (2015 Musical Theatre Network Development Award) and Ten Storey Love Song (2016 Broadway Baby Bobby Award).

The six-strong cast, plus music director James Frewer (Weekend Rockstars), perform with instruments on stage including drums, guitar, bass, keys and Ableton.

The show joins four other productions from Hull as part of a Hull UK City of Culture 2017 Takeover of the Fringe, including: A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad) by Silent Uproar; Bare Skin on Briny Waters by Bellow Theatre; Sad Little Man by Pub Corner Poets and Frogman by curious directive.

[Tickets here](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – SCHIZ

New Fringe psychological drama to explore schizophrenia and obsession, challenging preconceived ideas about mental illness
Moss Banks Productions presents: SCHIZ, new writing by Alexander Banks, an exciting psychological drama to debut at The Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017.



With a minimalistic set, and elements of physical theatre, choreography and stage fighting, SCHIZ focuses on the dangerously intertwined relationship between a young man suffering from schizophrenia, the voices in his head, and his Psychiatrist.

Benjamin Teel (Alexander Banks), believes he is responsible for the murder of millions. He finds a singular lifeline in his sessions with psychiatrist Carolyn Wakefield (Laura Williamson). She offers him comfort and understanding, but dependency is a dangerous thing, and when Carolyn is reassigned and investigated for malpractice, Benjamin and his voices (Tom Denny and Megan Artherton) respond with violent psychotic outrage, leading to a climatically destructive ending emphasised by a stark lighting design by Simon Moss. Moss Banks Productions is dedicated to growing exciting theatre.

We, and the author, believe that this is fully accomplished when the audience is encouraged to challenge preconceived ideas. With this original piece and immersive theatre, the audience will identify with the characters, questioning their feelings towards, and opinions of, those who suffer from mental illness.

In light of our current political climate, Moss Banks further aims to utilise SCHIZ to explore the relationships between doctors and patients, and the professional medical boundaries

adhered to within government legislation, which potentially hinder effective treatment.

4-12 August | 13.05 | not 6 August | £9 | theSpace@Niddry St

[Tickets here.](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – The Penelopiad

Death, torture (and a few laughs): Atwood's 'The Penelopiad' performed by all-female cast

The Penelopiad by Margaret Atwood – Produced by Maiden Voyagers



A five day run of the reworking of Margaret Atwood's 2005 work, The Penelopiad begins on 7 August 2017..

A year in development, the all-female sixth-form theatre group from Portsmouth have produced a gripping and emotive retelling of Atwood's well-received adaptation of an ancient myth, which takes the role of Penelope – Odysseus' wife in The Odyssey – imagining the story from her perspective.

Full of creative vitality

In true Fringe style working with the limitations of the space – the cast doesn't have the opportunity to leave the intimate stage – the ensemble of eight, multirole in this physical theatre piece.

The iconic ropes are used throughout the play, taking on multiple uses, as the scenes demand and the actors employ a range of dynamic strategies, in words, movement and song, with colourful, shape-shifting physicality.

The Maiden Voyagers raised part of the funding for the production by staging and performing in an evening of entertainment at their school. Your support through ticket sales will help cover the remaining costs.

Where and when

The 50 minute performance takes place daily between Monday 7 – Friday 11 August at 10.20am in the Mint Studio, at Greenside @Infirmary Street.

14+ with adult themes and strong language.

Book your tickets now: <http://wig.ht/pene>

Follow Maiden Voyagers on Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/maidenvoyagers>

TITLE: The Penelopiad by Margaret Atwood
DATES/TIMES: 7th to 11th August 10.20am (50 mins)
VENUE/TICKETS: Mint Studio, Greenside @Infirmary Street
6 Infirmary St, Edinburgh EH1 1LS
£6 / £4 concessions (Mon/Tues 2 for 1 Friends of the Fringe offer)

Ross Pavilion – and the winner of the design competition is...

The winner of the design process to replace the Ross Bandstand was announced this morning in the Royal Overseas League, overlooking Princes Street Gardens.

And the winner is... an international consortium of companies headed up by US design practice wHY, with local input from GRAS, Groves-Raines Architects and others.



Landscape design director Mark Thomann of wHY with a model of what the Ross Pavilion might look like

wHY (USA) is an international consortium made up of GRAS, Groves-Raines Architects, Arup, 0 Street, Creative Concern, Noel Kingsbury, Yann Kersalé Studio, Lawrence Barth, Stuco, Alan Cumming, Aaron Hicklin, Alison Watson, Peter Ross, Adrian Turpin and Beatrice Colin

Mark Thomann is landscape design director with GRAS which is a

part of the consortium to redevelop one of the most iconic sights in Edinburgh. We asked how that felt and he replied : “It’s exciting, It’s an exciting challenge. I visited Edinburgh many years ago and I was completely captivated by the rock and the castle, in the way that I think many people are. Since that time I have seen many other world wonders. You always dream as a landscape architect of working on a project of that quality and character.

The pavilion designed by wHY is called The Butterfly Pavilion and Mark explained to us where the name and the concept came from : “As we were looking at the connections and how the connections and the transformations could happen in this project, biodiversity was something that was really important in working with Noel Kingsbury our horticulture consultant.

“We asked how we could bring a new image of horticulture and biodiversity to the project. The idea of butterfly and the papillon meaning pavilion and the etymology of the words started to come together. We realised even some of the forms were... It was almost like it was starting to transform and starting to emerge for us so it became this nice tidy concept.”

Mark confirmed that not only have they taken account of the public’s views throughout the design process, and they have members of their team including writers and actors as well as architects who are all based in Edinburgh.

“We have a blueprint and we can talk about that, and if certain things need to change that’s okay. That is what the design process is. What we have now is a good base and it will emerge into something really special and fitting.”

[The Ross Development Trust have picked a design winner](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES CONVENER

Councillor Donald Wilson the Culture and Communities Convener explained there were 160 notes of interest in the design competition and he thought they were all good. As part of the judging panel he recognised that the seven shortlisted entries were very fully developed concepts. But this design stood out for him and he told us why : "This design shows a very real and knowledgable approach to the culture and history of the site and how it could be developed. But it makes the most of the assets that are already there. You have the New Town on the one side and the Old Town on the other and of course the iconic backdrop of the castle. You have make the most of these things but at the same time these are pleasure gardens. They were originally set up as that so they have to be there for people to enjoy as gardens.

Local businessman and entrepreneur Norman Springford has invested £5 million in the project and the council signed a development brief just over a year ago. The Convener confirmed that the council is 'fully committed' to the development of the site. Councillor Wilson continued : "It is something that the council has wanted to do for a long time, but if it was not for Norman Springford then this would not be happening. The council's support is non-financial and so that is why it would not otherwise be happening. There is also a requirement to raise some private funding as well."

CHAIR OF THE ROSS DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Norman Springford said it was a privilege to be part of the whole process and as chair of the jury panel it was a fascinating day to look at all the finalists' submissions and we had several days of debate.

We reminded him that he started all of this and made it possible, and asked why he did that. He explained that as somebody who has been here all his life he considered the gardens were looking just a little bit tired. "Was it due for a refurb? I think the answer is it probably was."

And why did he like this design? “I think the reason why we all selected this design unanimously was that not only had they come up with a great design for the Butterfly Pavilion but they respected the setting, the castle the link between the Old and the New Towns and the landscaped areas which they are introducing back into the gardens.”

There is now a funding requirement and this is the start of the process. There will be ongoing consultation with heritage bodies, the council and members of the public.

Mr Springford concluded : “Everyone is vital to this project from funding from high net worth individuals and corporate funders and we also expect and hope to get the city behind the whole thing.”

Edinburgh-based architect Gunnar Groves-Raines is also involved in the project and we found out what his involvement had been : “We have had the privilege of being at the centre of this collaborative design team led by wHY in America. We’ve been providing a lot of local context and understanding of the place and the people. We have been very involved in the design development, but also critically in the heritage aspects and really understanding the significance of Edinburgh’s built and natural heritage.”

ABOUT THE WINNERS

wHY is an interdisciplinary design practice dedicated to serving the arts, communities, culture and the environment since 2004. Led by founder and creative director Kulapat Yantrasast and landscape design director Mark Thomann, wHY is a collective of architects, landscape designers, makers and strategic thinkers, who work as four independent yet interconnected workshops; ideas, buildings, grounds and objects. With offices in Los Angeles and New York, wHY’s 30 team members and network of experts share a commitment to collaboration. wHY has assembled a team of thought leaders and creative influencers, including engineers, designers,

plant-lovers, graphic designers, writers, journalists, actors, artists, and activists who are passionate about Scotland and participating in the conversation for the future of the Ross Pavilion. Recent projects include the widely published Speed Art Museum in Louisville, KY and Skylanding with Yoko Ono, in the historic Olmsted designed Jackson Park in Chicago, IL.

<http://www.why-site.com/>

Seven architects were shortlisted to lead the major redevelopment of the Ross Bandstand in Edinburgh. All submitted comprehensive designs in line with the brief prepared by The Ross Development Trust. Each was invited to create concept designs for the £25m project brief, which includes a new landmark venue to replace the bandstand, a visitor centre and subtle updates to West Princes Street Gardens.

The seven teams of architects and designers were selected earlier this year from a pool of 125 entries. Entries from the shortlisted teams have been on display at the City Art Centre, Edinburgh since 21st June and today the winner was chosen. This is only an outline concept and the public can still influence the final design.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – Tom Stade – I Swear at Gilded Balloon

Who is Tom Stade – are we any closer to the real Tom now that we have met him? Will the real Tom Stade stand up?

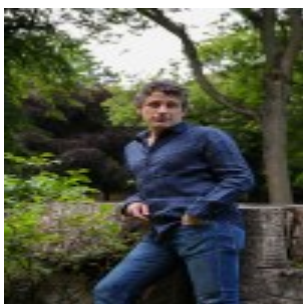


Tom Stade is appearing at the Fringe this August and will bring his national stand up tour home to the capital in November too.

As a Canadian who now lives in Edinburgh, he is well known on our streets and now he will make us laugh once more with his I Swear show. We are promised that the show will be mischievous, carefree and enlightened with no subject off the menu.

He is one of a kind with a genuine flair for observation and improv, and yes there might be a few swear words in there too!

The Canadian now lives in Edinburgh and during his show nothing will be taboo. He promises you the truth (but as we found he gives little away!)





We met him recently to see if we could find the real Tom, but honestly he is a real comic even in person. So we don't think that we learned anything revolutionary about what makes him tick.

We asked if it would be funny and he said it would be funnier than the last eight shows he has done. He feels more prepared for I Swear and he confessed that he does swear though he calls it punctuation rather than swearing!

What are you talking about in the new show?

I am going out there to just try and be a little bit honest with myself and some of my family members may be subjected to some home truths that they may not want to hear.

The funny part is that I think when I say this that it is a relatable thing. Instead of trying to pander to them I want to try and get right into their gut. So my words will trigger a memory of theirs.

"When I am telling the joke they're not going to be thinking of the joke they're going to be thinking about something that they did. That's when I think the real belly laugh comes.

Apart from his family the other material comes from experience, travel and his skill to tell a joke.

“Sometimes I can make something very untruthful seem very truthful!”

Other material comes from whatever is going on in the world around him but Tom tries to steer clear of what he calls ‘easy politics’.

“I would try and talk more about child soldiers than Donald Trump because I find it more interesting.

“I took a year off and went back on the circuit to hone all these jokes so they are now comedy club ready which means they are stronger than Edinburgh ready!”

A strong set in a comedy club is different from an Edinburgh set due to the length of it. In a comedy club a comedian like Tom would only do about 20 minutes and here he will talk to you all for an hour.

He is confident that his memory will hold up!

Tom starts a 67 date UK tour a couple of weeks after the Festival.

Tom Stade at Gilded Balloon Teviot | 21:00 | 2-27 August

You can watch our video of our interview with him here

[Tom Stade Canadian comedian and Edinburgh resident](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

Photos by John Preece

Witness appeal following crime spree in Musselburgh



Police are appealing for witnesses following a number of crimes in Musselburgh.

A van was broken into in Eskview Terrace, and a number of power tools stolen at some point between 5.30am and 9.30am yesterday morning.

A property in North High Street was also broken into at some point between 11.00pm last night and 6.30am this morning. Car keys to the occupant's Nissan Qashqai were taken and this was also stolen.

The car was later recovered in Danderhall.

Sergeant Derek MacDonald of Musselburgh police station said: "We are keen to speak to anyone who saw anything suspicious in either Eskview Terrace on Monday around 5.30pm or North High Street overnight.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101 quoting incident number 1805 of 31st August for Eskview Terrace or 0494 of the 1st August for the North High Street incident. Alternatively please contact the charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Hearts Sack Ian Cathro



Photo: Chronicle Live

The pall of silence which fell over Tynecastle following the club's embarrassing elimination from the Betfred Cup at the weekend finally lifted this morning when Hearts Director of Football Craig Levein announced that Head Coach Ian Cathro had left the club with immediate effect.

In a brief statement, Hearts said "The Board wishes it to be known that this was a very difficult decision, reluctantly made, as every member of the Board recognises that Ian is an extremely talented young coach with a very bright future ahead of him. We thank Ian for all of his efforts and wish him well in the future".

Hearts said that a further statement will be made on Wednesday in relation to management plans for this weekend's Ladbrokes Premiership match against Celtic and the longer-term coaching of the club.

It is expected, however, that Assistant Head Coach Austin MacPhee will take charge of the team ahead of Saturday's opening league game in the east end of Glasgow.

Speculation is already rife about who will succeed Cathro with former Hearts player Steven Pressley, who was club captain when Craig Levein managed the side a decade and a half ago, being touted as favourite. Pressley is presently without a club but if he were appointed this may divide the Hearts support, some of whom still regard the former centre half as a Hearts icon while others never forgave him for his chest-thumping celebrations at Tynecastle when he returned as a Celtic player.

Whatever happens and whoever is appointed as the new Head

Coach, an interesting few days lie ahead in Gorgie. For not even the club's previous owner – Vladimir Romanov who went through managers at a whim – sacked a manager four days before the start of a league campaign!

Witness appeal following theft of BMW from Longniddry



Police are investigating following the theft of a vehicle from an address in Gosford Road, Longniddry.

The theft happened between 7pm on Saturday, July 29, and 2pm on Sunday, July 30, when an unknown number of people entered the property and stole a blue BMW 1 Series (Registration number SM62 FHG) from the address, along with another set of keys.

The owners returned home and reported the theft and officers are now investigating.

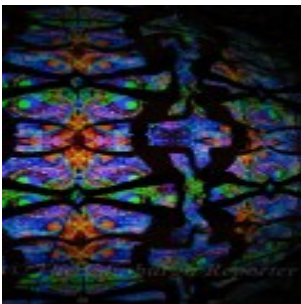
Inspector Andrew Harborow of Tranent Police Station said: "This was a high value theft and we are eager to trace those responsible as soon as possible.

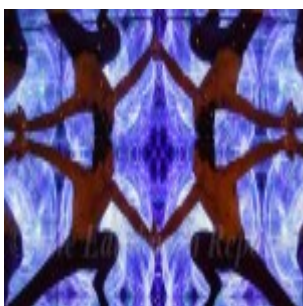
"We are appealing for information and would ask anyone who remembers seeing any suspicious activity in Gosford Road of Longniddry, on the night of Saturday, July 29, to contact us immediately."

Edinburgh Festival Fringe at The Circus Hub – Elixir



Three members of award winning Australian company, Head First Acrobats, performed some world-class circus and physical theatre skills, including mind boggling new school death defying acrobatics, all in one of Edinburgh's most iconic and visually unique attractions, [Camera Obscura and World of Illusions](#).





Elixir is circus with a difference! Uninhibited by cliché or

expectation, subversive and hilarious, this all Australian production follows the story of three enthusiastic, slightly bumbling yet skilfully acrobatic scientists who attempt to create the elixir of life. The mayhem that follows is a beautiful mix of incredible acrobatics and impeccable comic timing. The scientists test their concoctions on themselves, and the madness that breaks loose in the laboratory is the perfect mix of amazing acrobatics, comedic misadventure and an engrossing narrative.





The trio will be performing at the Circus Hub in the Meadows from 4th-26th August and tickets are available [from here](#).

Just Festival 2017

Just Festival 2017: Press Release

The world is in a difficult place at the moment. From the domestic to the global, the personal to the political, for those who wish to make the world a better place it may feel as if there is a surging tide of issues and injustice that might knock us off our feet at any moment. So from the 4th – 27th August, the Just Festival will be taking a closer look at issues that goes against the current and stand up for social justice. In our distinctly different programme, we will engage with a wide range of social justice issues facing people around the world. We will also delve into the past as we reflect on three significant historical anniversaries, 100 years of the Balfour Declaration, 70 years of Indian Independence and 500 years since the Protestant Reformation, all of which have shaped the world around us. Our two

beautiful and historic venues, St John's Church and the Quaker Meeting House, will be home to theatre, music, art and debate that will challenge perceptions, celebrate differences and promote respectful dialogue.

There will be a strong Indian presence in the performance side of our programme. Ragamala Dance Company will join us from the United States as they combine a Western aesthetic with an Indian ethos, to create a physical piece that has rich tradition and deep philosophical roots. The incredible young women of Kranti (Meaning Revolution in Hindi) will share their own stories of sex work, trafficking and surviving in Mumbai's Red-Light Area in their critically acclaimed play Lal Batti Express.

Active Inquiry will be bringing their amazing Theatre of the Oppressed show to St John's. Augusto Boal, the creator of Theatre of the Oppressed said "I want the Spectator to take on the role of Actor and invade the Character and the Stage. I want them to occupy their own space and offer solutions". The Leith based arts company will invite the audience to do just that as they create pieces which demand that the audience attempt to solve the problems for the characters on stage.

In Seriously Funny we will be inviting comedians to collaborate with academics as they aim to educate and entertain. Many comedians will be coming to Edinburgh this year to focus upon a social justice issue; by giving them the chance to work with an expert in this field they will be able to create a one-off show, as informative and rewarding for themselves as it is for the audience. On 4th August St Johns Church will host its first ever drag night as the bigotry fighting supergroup DENIM will be bringing some liberation to the pews. Bethany Black brings her honest and very funny life story to the Quaker Meeting House on the 12th. The former human rights lawyer turned comedian, Daphna Baram, will give her take on the state of the international political (whatever it may be) on the 18th. And on the 25th August junior doctor

and comedian, Ed Patrick will bring you his firsthand account from the frontlines of the NHS.

For 5 nights only, we will be welcoming the very best in Ugandan theatre as the creators of Freedom adapt their award-winning film for the stage. Nisha Kalema's powerful story of a young woman faced by the very worst kinds of misogyny swept the board at the Ugandan Film festival picking up three awards. Kalema herself won Best Actress for her portrayal of Amelia will reprise her role at St Johns, for what is set to be the most significant piece of Ugandan drama ever seen on the Fringe.

Away from the song and dance, Fringe goers will have the chance to hear from and discuss with experts on a whole spectrum of social justice issues. We look forward to local and international perspective from charities, NGOs, academics and many others as they discuss some of the biggest, and some of the more overlooked, challenges facing society. Our conversation programme has consistently provided the backbone to our festival offering, as we allow the public to go further than being just an audience member and encourage them to engage in the discussion.

We hope that all those who come to the Just Festival this August will leave inspired, enlightened and ready to join the movement to fight for a more united world.

Just Festival – just-festival.org | [@justFestival](https://twitter.com/justFestival) | [#AgainstTheCurrent](https://www.facebook.com/justfestival)

CCTV images issued in plea for information about assault

Police Scotland have released images of a group of three men they wish to trace in connection with a serious assault in the city centre last weekend in the early hours of Sunday 23 July 2017.



A 25-year-old man suffered a fractured skull and was taken to hospital following the attack, which happened on Waverley Bridge at around 3.30a.m.

Detectives are keen to trace the men on the CCTV footage, who are seen to be within the area at the time of the assault.





Anyone who recognises these images is asked to contact police immediately.

Detective Constable Graham McIlwraith said: “The victim suffered a serious head injury as a result of this incident and police have been conducting various enquiries including viewing several hours of CCTV footage from in and around Edinburgh City Centre.

“The males pictured are believed to be of significance to our investigation and anyone who can assist in tracing them is asked to come forward.

“Similarly, we would ask these males to get in touch with

police and help with our investigation.”


Those with information can contact officers at Gayfield CID on 101, quoting incident number 0973 of July 23, or the charity Crimestoppers in complete anonymity on 0800 555 111.

Lothians MSP says ‘Care homes must do better’

The Scottish Conservatives obtained figures relating to the ratings given by the Care Inspectorate and their verdict is that hundreds of them must improve.

They say that one in four facilities were rated unsatisfactory, weak or adequate by the Care Inspectorate as of March this year.

According to the analysis, it means 275 care homes have work to do to bring themselves up to standard.

 Shadow health secretary and Lothians MSP Miles Briggs urged the Scottish Government to work more closely with the care home sector and local authorities to ensure improvements were made.

He said, with an ageing population and a shortage of care home spaces leading to bed-blocking in Scotland’s hospitals, it was essential more was done to raise standards.

Care homes in Scotland can receive five possible grades which take in a range of themes and the Tories say the figures show 75.5 per cent received good or excellent results.

The others were deemed unsatisfactory, weak, or adequate –

where bosses say the service “should address areas of weakness”.

The 24.5 per cent receiving below-par ratings compares to 26.2 per cent in 2016, and 28.8 per cent the year before.

✖ **Scottish Conservative shadow health secretary Miles Briggs said:** “While it’s welcome to see so many care homes being given good ratings, there are still hundreds which are falling below expectation.

“That’s not good enough, and the residents and staff of these under-pressure facilities deserve better.

“Scotland has a well-documented ageing population and, as time goes on, these care homes are only going to become busier and more important.

“The SNP should make moves to sort this out now.

“For one in four Scottish care homes to either be failing, or have improvements to make, is simply not good enough.”

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – THE DEATH HILARIOUS: THE SCUM ALWAYS RISES

Welsh, working-class firebrands The Death Hilarious bring their debut hour to the Edinburgh Fringe. The Scum Always Rises houses a parade of otherworldly souls as daft as they are dark, portrayed by a duo whose references range from Cormac McCarthy to menus at seafood restaurants to that rambling alkie you sometimes see hanging around the bus stop.



Terrifying and joyous, satirical and utterly puerile, The Death Hilarious embody numerous distorted fiends: Creole exorcists, hapless businessmen desperately trying to monetize laughter, a homemade sex robot, the unlikely adventures of John Merrick, and probably most horrifying of all – themselves. This is character comedy that threatens to break out into a vicious fight.

Ambient music and film projections immerse the audience in their idiosyncratic world – imagine Little Britain directed by Ken Russell – as The Death Hilarious roam the aisles, holding people hostage or freeing them of the devil's influence.

They never sleep, these boys. They are dancing, dancing. They say that they will never die.

The Death Hilarious are Darren J. Coles and Glenn Wade. They began working together on a podcast series set in the South Wales valleys before forming The Death Hilarious and creating their peculiar brand of humour both in film and through their live work. They were finalists of the Welsh Unsigned Stand-up Award 2015 and winners of the 2016 Sketch Screen Award at London SketchFest. Regulars on the Welsh comedy circuit, their previous appearances also include BBC Radio 4, Machynlleth Comedy Festival and Knock2bag.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe, 2 – 27 August (not 16), 10.45pm, Pleasance Attic

Tickets here
<https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/death-hilarious-the-scum-always-rises>

A&E on target in June

✖ June performance at 95.5%.

The Scottish Government tell us that performance across Scotland's accident and emergency departments was just above the 95% target during June.

ISD Scotland have published monthly figures today for all A&E sites across the country which show that 95.5% of patients were seen and subsequently admitted, discharged or transferred within the four hour target time. This compares with 94% in May.

Weekly figures for core A&E sites also show performance above 95%. Statistics for week ending 23 July was 95.3% – the same as the previous week.

✖ Health Secretary Shona Robison said: “It is very encouraging that performance across Scotland was above the 95% target for June, and that Scotland's A&Es have outperformed those in the rest of the UK for more than two years. The weekly statistics for core sites are also above that level for the second week in a row.

“These positive results are thanks to the hard work of staff on the ground, both in emergency departments and elsewhere in the health and social care system.

“While we can expect some fluctuation week-to-week depending on seasonal pressures there has been continued focus on improvements in patient flow. For example, we are ensuring more people are discharged before noon and at weekends, helping to reduce delayed discharge, and meaning patients can be admitted to hospital more quickly if required.

“An additional £9 million has been given to boards this year to help them continue these sustainable improvements in

unscheduled care.”

Our guide to Food at the 2017 Festival

The Food Lowdown during August

You may have missed the Assembly Food Festival at the end of July but now we're into August, in Edinburgh that means one thing, ***It's Festival Time!***

With [the Fringe](#) and [International Festival](#) starting in earnest and also the [Book Festival](#) later this month, it can be overwhelming deciding where to start planning what to do and see.

For any foodies there's lots to entertain, great food and drink stalls to sample and lots of pop-ups during the month.

In celebration of the fact that the Fringe is celebrating 70 years since it started, I am going to spill the beans on some of my favourite **70 things to do, see and taste**, which will hopefully give you a little flavour of what's on offer.

Food Festival

[Foodies Festival – 4-6 August, Edinburgh's Inverleith Park](#)

Not to be confused with the Assembly Food Festival at the end of July, which you've sadly missed, the Foodies Festival is a festival within a festival, taking place the first weekend of the Fringe.

Meet MasterChef Winner 2016 **Jane Devonshire**, Great British

Bake Off Judge **Prue Leith**, Great British Menu Scotland Representative **Michael Bremner**, Michelin starred chefs **Brian Grigor and Marcello Tully** and acclaimed local culinary talents like **Mark Greenaway**, **Neil Forbes** and **Fraser Allen** as they cook their signature recipes in the Stoves.

Feast in the **Street Food Avenue**; learn to bake in the **Cake and Bake Theatre**; indulge in afternoon tea in the **Vintage Tea Tent**; taste wine, champagne and craft beer in the **Drinks Theatre**; buy from local producers in the **Artisan Market**; kids enjoy the **Children's Cookery Theatre**; enter the **Chilli Eating Competition**; and enjoy refreshing cocktails from the **Bar Bus and Pimms Teapot**.

Shows about food

There's no shortage of shows about food, not only at the Fringe but also at the Book Festival.

George Egg: DIY Chef (Sportsman, Gilded Balloon Teviot)

George Egg cooks really good food on stage using the most unconventional equipment, and you get to try what he's made at the end of the show.

The Thinking Drinkers – History of Alcohol (Underbelly, Med Quad)

They're back with a new show. Enjoy five free drinks as these award-winning professional drink experts definitively prove that alcohol has influenced everything that has ever happened. Ever.

The Gin Whore Tour – Paradise in Augustines

Take a sip of sin and tonic! You'll enjoy four of the finest gins during this slightly naughty one-woman show. Delve into historical tales of hooch and harlots to celebrate the modern gin renaissance.

Mother's Ruin – A Cabaret about Gin – Gilded Balloon at the Rose Theatre

Equal parts historical and hysterical, lose yourself among sailors, barmaids and bootleggers in this darkly comic cabaret. A raucous journey through the history of gin.

And not forgetting the [Book Festival \(12-28 August\)](#), which has a number of [Afternoon Tea events](#) where you can tuck into afternoon tea and hear tales on a range of subjects, as well as some great cookery writers.

The ones to catch are: Nigerian cookery writer, [Yemisi Aribisala](#); [Niranjala M Ellawala & Prakash Sivanathan](#) of the Elephant Walk restaurant in London; renowned expert in Chinese cuisine, [Fuchsia Dunlop](#); London-based chef [Joudie Kalla](#) bringing memories of growing up in a Palestinian household where culinary concerns were a top priority; [Davy Zyw](#) talking on champagne; TV foodie and executive chef, [Vivek Singh](#) of the Cinnamon Club; and British-Iranian food writer and human rights campaigner [Yasmin Khan](#). Edinburgh-based [Tom Kitchen](#) is also talking about cooking with game.

[Tastings](#)

There's a lot of things about gin happening at the Fringe. There's also quite a few on Scotland's national drink, whisky, too.

[The Art of Gin – Hanover Street](#)

Edinburgh Gin presents an interactive, full sensory experience using projection mapping technology, taking you on a journey of gin discovery.

[Arbikie's A Club – Merchant's Hall](#)

Arbikie Highland Estate is the world's first single estate distillery producing vodka, gin and whisky from ingredients grown on their farm. Join them for a journey from field to bottle as they explore their international award-winning gin. The Arbikie team will guide you through their world-class spirits, distilling process and perfect serves. A welcome cocktail and samples on offer too.

A Dram is Worth a Thousand Words – Scotch Malt Whisky Society

Home of the largest single malt, single cask collection, The Scotch Malt Whisky Society invites you to a three-dram tutored whisky tasting like no other, in the company of our brand ambassador.



Dram and Smoke: The Campfire Cocktails Experience – The Biscuit Factory

Take a journey away from the main hub of the Fringe to to a woodland campfire hideaway, near Leith, within the unique setting of a former biscuit factory. During this interactive masterclass, you'll be tutored on the ins and outs of creating great cocktails, and enjoy the fruits of your libation labour. With an emphasis on the provenance of Scottish spirits and foraged ingredients, this is a place to stimulate both the palate and mind. The ticket includes two cocktails.



Scotch Egg club presents: whisky on water – Lochrin Belle

Ever wanted to drink whisky, eat cheese, chocolate and scotch eggs while cruising along a canal? Well now you can! Scotch Egg Club brings you a Whisky tasting with a difference, where you'll sample six delicious drams, each carefully paired with tasty bites to eat, on a leisurely two-hour trip on the Lochrin Belle canal boat. In-between drinks you'll be regaled with the hilarious, romantic and incredible folklore of a few hundred years of whisky history. Slàinte mhath!

Pop Up Dining Experiences

Glengoyne Whisky Suppers at Contini Cannonball

From 9.15pm, every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in August during the Fringe, £30 per person. A fantastic tutored whisky tasting by Glengoyne's brand ambassador with two special samples followed by a sensational two course supper showcasing Scotland, land of food and drink.

Dram & Smoke: Campfire Feasts – Biscuit Factory

Scran, bevvy, general flumgummerie. A Scottish pop-up dining event in a former biscuit factory. The experience draws on the flavours and nostalgia of an adventure by the campfire, where the culinary wonders of a fleeting Scottish summertime are celebrated. The ticket includes a welcome cocktail followed by a seasonal four-course tasting menu. After dinner (which lasts around two hours), late-night party vibes are the order of the day, with countryside cocktails, great beer and well-sourced wine behind the bar, alongside live music each night.

Toasted Radish Supper Club – Arthur Canon Doyle Centre

For one night only on 12 August, join fellow diners at a supper club popping up at the Arthur Conan Doyle Centre. Set in this magnificent building overlooking St Mary's Cathedral, expect a meal worthy of a crime fiction heavyweight. Canapés, three courses, coffee and petit fours.

Faulty Towers Dining Experience – The Principal, George Street

Experience their 10th Fringe anniversary shows in their swanky new venue. With over 70% of it improvised and some new script, every show is different – though chaos always reigns as Basil, Sybil and Manuel serve a three-course meal.

Where to refuel during the Fringe

Eating and drinking during the Fringe can cost you a fortune but play your cards right and there's still good value to be had around the venues.

Eating during the Fringe is normally about refuelling on the hoof rather than lingering for any length of time in a restaurant. However, if you do decide you want a leisurely meal, ensure you book, although many restaurants will not take reservations during August.

Check out BYO restaurants – it makes for a cheaper evening

Edinburgh has lots of BYOB restaurants too, which are worth

checking out.

It's worth going off the beaten track, away from the main Fringe venues. Kerry's favourite BYOs are on [Leith Walk](#). Try Middle Eastern [Pomegranate](#), Indian [Kushis](#) and [Bodega](#).

Around George Street

The new [Hyde & Co](#), a bar and café at aparthotel Eden Locke is very convenient for the Book Festival and venues on George Street; grab a coffee and one of their amazing cheese and bacon scones at [Wellington](#), also on George Street; or at [Cairngorm](#), either on Melville Place or Frederick Street.

Street Food Stalls

Food at the Fringe has improved over the last decade. No longer is the choice just an unhealthy burger in a bun.

Fortunately now there's no end of **street food stalls** offering everything from vegan to vegetarian, to Swiss dumplings from [Alpings](#) to Mexican and Indian from [Umami Spice Girl](#).

Check out those around **George Square Gardens**; **The Pleasance Courtyard**; **Summerhall Courtyard**; or **the Underbelly's Pasture**.

And if it's raining, seek refuge in one of the many inside bars and cafes at **the Gilded Balloon**. They do great nachos!

Particular favourites:

[The Umami Spice Girl & Boy team](#) have quite the range of offerings for Edinburgh Fringe festivalgoers this year at George Square.



Umami Spice Girl & Boy

This is where you will normally find me hanging out and eating

during the Fringe. Spice Girl is returning with some firm favourites from last year including her Taste Star winning Malaysian Beef Rendang curry and Chicken Thai Satay Kebabs. Having travelled to Mexico; the Quesadilla promises to have an even more authentic flavour!

Spice Boy will be taking influence from time spent in Jamaica learning to 'Jerk' with Chicken and Beef on the menu, enhanced with Junior's secret sauce! They're also offering a delicious Cubano (toasted Cuban sandwich packed with pork, Cheese, pickles and more!). See what they got up to on their travels on their Facebook and Instagram pages @umamispicegirl and @umamispiceboy

For sweet treats try [the Crema Caravan](#) – They'll be serving up some favourites from their ever-changing menu of flavours and homemade toppings – from the classic Madagascan Vanilla to Crema Catalana, and the popular Salted Caramel.

Other vendors serving up desserts include the [Crepe & Waffle House](#), [Alandas Gelato](#) and [Thinking Chocolate](#).

Pay a visit to [the Food n Flea market](#) in New Waverley with Rost Eats, Barnacles & Bones, The Buffalo Truck, Pizza Geeks and Knights Kitchen. The Food n Flea is also [the Edinburgh Cocktail Festival](#) location in August.

The Pitt Market team will be serving up steaks and chips at [the Polozzi pop up](#) at [the Arches](#) and [Malones at the Mall](#).

Afternoon tea is a great option

If you want to get away from it, refuel with afternoon tea. Try [The Scottish Café at the Scottish National Galleries](#) on the Mound and catch their exhibition 'Beyond Caravaggio'; and [the Colonnades at the Signet Library](#); [One Square at the Sheraton](#), overlooking Festival Square.

Try a Quintessential Scottish Breakfast

Alternatively start your day with [the Quintessential Scottish Breakfast at the Waldorf at the Caledonian](#). It includes a basket of freshly baked bread and pastries, your choice of specialty coffee or tea, a variety of fruit juices, a selection of Scottish cheeses as well as meats, fruits and yogurts, followed by their exquisite Salmon Trolley which includes the signature orange salmon. The Quintessential Scottish Breakfast Experience will take you on a journey of discovery. You won't need to eat anything else all day.

And finally, check out [Checkpoint](#). It may not be off the beaten track but it is close to Teviot and George Square. It's a place to eat, a place for coffee and a place to drink; in fact, a place for all of it and more. Their bowl food, especially their rice, ginger and chicken, nam pla, lemon and coriander is a steal at £5.

Now go out and enjoy the festival. There's so much to fuel the soul and stomach during August!



Best reader's recipe award winner Kerry Teakle, for her whisky, orange and almond cake recipe.

The Observer Food Monthly awards 2016, held at Freemasons Hall in central London, 13 October 2016

Kerry Teakle of [EdinburghFoody](#) is an Edinburgh food blogger. We give her ** !***

Preview – Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – Five to look out for

Mies Julie by Yael Farber

Assembly Rooms | 54 George Street | EH2 2LR | 3- 27 August 2017 14:30

A frenetic, impulsive, energetic and brave production merging the best of physical theatre with traditional drama. Yael Farber's award-winning production indulges the senses with provocative and bold choreography and the brutish dynamic of servant and master is absorbing and thrilling. An exquisite retelling of Swedish classic Miss Julie, Farber's production is set in the post-apartheid era of South Africa and is not to be missed.

Clean Sheets by Billy Liar and Freddy Fud Pucker



Bourbon Bar, Edinburgh (24a Frederick Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2JR) 5 – 27 August 19:45.

The Globe Bar, Edinburgh (Niddry Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1LG) 7, 14, 21 August 15:30.

A first Fringe appearance for acoustic punk/anti-folk legends Billy Liar (Scotland) and Freddy Fud Pucker (New Zealand) who explore the angst ridden existential crisis of a troubled bell hop and a soon to be disgraced politician whilst trapped in an elevator. Twenty years (combined) of stage experience telling heartfelt anti-folk/punk fables will ensure this production

lives up to expectations. As part of this year's exciting free Fringe line up, Clean Sheets is well worth a punt.

Richard Gadd: Monkey See Monkey Do



Richard Gadd will be performing at
Summerhall (18 -27 August 23:00)
Not suitable for children

Gadd took the Free Fringe by storm when he first arrived on the comedy scene and has gone from strength to strength. He's back with his award-winning show which won plaudits for his emotional honesty, brave subject matter and earth shattering delivery. His raw talent has won him many fans over the years and his blend of theatrical absurdism and shameless energy is sure to win over a few more.

Rob Auton: The Hair Show

Just the Tonic at The Caves | 3-26 August | 15:55

Spoken word isn't a genre that gets the attention it deserves, nor does his subject matter, hair. But fear not, Rob Auton is doing his best to put both back on the menu of festivalgoers as he lulls audiences with his mesmerising blend of poetry and hair themed comedy.

Hot Brown Honey

2-27 August | Assembly Roxy | 21:00

Breaking the boundaries of theatre, burlesque and cabaret. The mixture of incredible aerial artistry, beat boxing, soul music, traditional, contemporary and hip hop influenced dance will ensure there is something for everyone. These women don't mess around. Burlesque doesn't need to be apolitical or need to exclude anyone to be bold, beautiful or captivating.

Five things you need to know today



Sergeant Ayami Nakama from Japan's Ground Self Defence Force Central Band with Sergeant Nathan Crossley and Jason Morris from the Massed Bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines.

- **Lord Provost's Burns Supper**
- **Tattoo**
- **Grassmarket Ambassadors**
- **Friends at the End meeting**
- **Edinburgh International Festival art exhibition**

The Lord Provost will be holding a Burns Supper on 26 January 2018 so put the date in your diary now. The inaugural fundraiser was held last January by the former Lord Provost Donald Wilson and raised over £33,000 for OneCityTrust. OneCity Trust is Edinburgh's social inclusion charity.

Our photo shows Sergeant Ayami Nakama from Japan's Ground Self Defence Force Central Band with Sergeant Nathan Crossley and Jason Morris from the Massed Bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines. It doesn't look like she's having the best time but rest assured it was only for a photo call!

The 68th Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo starts on Thursday with a special preview show and then runs from 4-26 August with bands from all over the world, dancers and a group of fiddlers from Shetland.

[Read more here.](#)

The ambassadors are back in the Grassmarket till September.

[Returning for a second year](#), Grassmarket ambassadors will be on hand to provide information and guidance to the public, answering questions on everything from transport choices to Edinburgh's history, as well as promoting local markets, heritage trails and other activities. They will also monitor and report on issues such as litter, graffiti and nuisance busking.

The scheme, funded jointly by the Council and [Grassmarket BID](#), will mean that two ambassadors are able to work afternoons and evenings from Thursday to Sunday throughout the festival period, from late July until mid-September. Ambassadors will work alongside Police Scotland too, as part of a joint effort to support the balance between residential life and visitor attractions.

Friends at the End- Local Group Meeting

Where: Scottish Arts Club, 24 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2BW

When: Thursday 10 August, 11am

What: Friends at the End, a campaign organisation calling for a change in the law regarding end of life choices, is inviting the public to learn more about its work and to hear experiences and ideas from guests.

Who: The event is free to attend, and open to all



The Edinburgh International Festival unveiled ***Blueprint for the Future***, a free art installation showcasing the work of Edinburgh young people displayed in a specially-crafted pavilion by local design company Old School Fabrications, and set within the beautiful surrounds of Edinburgh University's Old College Quad. Inspired by imagined letters from their future selves, this exhibition of prints conveys how the young people might advise, warn and inspire themselves, and shape the years to come.

Get ready for The Edinburgh Reporter Summer edition. The print version of our news website will be available from The Queen's Hall Box Office, city centre libraries and coffee shops later this week.

[Watch out on Twitter](#) for an update on exact locations!

New service to help people in North Edinburgh and Leith into work

Port of Leith Housing Association (PoLHA) has set up a new employability service, Community Works, which will support people over the age of 16 living in Leith and North Edinburgh who are looking for work or seeking to develop their careers.



From today the new service will provide a range of training opportunities, including confidence building, CV creation, and health and safety, administration and computer skills. Community Works will also offer mock interviews, on site visits and work experience placements through its established network of employers.

Unlike other employability services in Edinburgh, Community Works is open to anyone, regardless of their current employment status, length of unemployment or support needs.



Community Works will build on the success of its predecessor TOiL (Training Opportunities in Lothian) which supported almost 450 young unemployed people aged 16-24 into work, training or further education between 2005 and 2017 before winding up in June 2017.

Community Works Manager, John Murray, said: “I’m extremely excited to be part of this new service which will fill the gap in local support for people with employment needs who don’t meet the eligibility criteria set by other services.

“We enjoyed tremendous success with our Training Opportunities in Lothian programme working with young people and now we can build on that good work with Community Works which gives our tenants and the wider community the chance to receive help and guidance from our team.

“With the imminent introduction of Universal Credit there has never been more pressure on people receiving benefits to gain employment, so we’re thrilled to be able to help our tenants and other people in Leith and North Edinburgh with this service.”

Ricky Weir, Contract Manager, T.B. Mackay Energy Services said: “We are really excited about the potential for Community Works to help people whatever their age to get into work. The personalised one to one support that the service will provide and the training and qualifications that people will be able to access combined with relevant experience of the workplace will make a real difference to how they come across in a job interview.

“We have been working with PoLHA for more than 10 years, providing placement opportunities working in our head office or on site. You can see a real difference in people as the placement continues.”

Jamie Connolly, Scotland Regional Manager, Painting, at Mitie Property Services (UK) said: “Mitie Property Services (UK) has been working with PoLHA for more than 11 years and many of our existing staff have come from PoLHA’s previous employability service. We find working with PoLHA a great way to recruit staff and believe that the new service, Community Works, will be too. Providing people of all ages with one to one support and vocational training along with opportunities to engage with employers is a great way to enable people to move into the world of work. People will be able to access what they think they need whether it’s help with their self confidence, help with computers or access to qualifications or getting to know more about the sector that they want to work in.”

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – Merrily We Roll Along

MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG

Following an acclaimed 5-star reviewed production of Sondheim's Assassins at The Chelsea Theatre and The Edinburgh Fringe in 2016, BB Theatre Productions is excited to present another Sondheim classic, Merrily We Roll Along, during the first week of the 2017 Edinburgh Fringe. BBTP's mission is to bring local talent to the national stage, producing shows with professional production values, a stellar cast and professional band, and this show is no exception. A poignant and uplifting musical, this heart-rending show explores friendship, ambition and the pressures of show business.



Starting at a hedonistic Hollywood showbiz party in 1976 and working its way back to the New York rooftop in 1957, Merrily We Roll Along portrays the story of three friends who we join at the end of their friendship, tussling with disappointment, heartbreak and disillusionment with fame. The story moves back through time, each musical number perfectly scored to reflect the genre of its era and the emotional roller-coaster of its characters. The musical score is punchy, lyrical and contains some of Sondheim's most sparkling narrative writing including Our Time and Old Friends. As two of the friends try to make it into show business, we hear some of Sondheim's own early frustrations with agents not daring to make the break from traditional musicals.

The reverse chronology time structure heightens audience emotion, wistfully pointing out the artistic and personal compromises faced by the characters along the way. A must see, both for Sondheim aficionados, but also for anyone with a passion for musical theatre.

[C venues – C \(Venue 34\)](#) 5-12 August 12.10pm

[Tickets here](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe

2017 – For the School Colour

Prolific children's author, conservationist and believer in fairies, Angela Brazil was a complicated and determined woman with a tendency to write her personal life into her books. Although she is now largely forgotten, she developed and popularised the schoolgirl tale and her work paved the way for names such as Enid Blyton, Elinor Brent-Dyer and even J K Rowling. Well-researched, irreverent and insightful, this show seeks to restore Angela and her schoolgirl creations to their rightful place in literary history. This is her story.



Angela Brazil (1869-1947) was the author of nearly fifty full length books and many more short stories. These include 'The Fortunes of Philippa' (1906), 'The Nicest Girl in the School' (1909), 'For the School Colours' (1918) and 'Monitress Merle' (1922)

This piece has been created in collaboration with academics at the University of York and is based on current and accurate research. It is being performed in conjunction with a selection of public engagement activities including lectures and discussion events. The show previewed at The Great Yorkshire Fringe in July.

Listings Information

Venue: *C Venues – C Cubed (Venue 50)*

Dates: 3-28 (not 14) August 2017

Time: 2.55pm (60mins)

Tickets: £5.50-£11.50

tickets

here

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Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017 – MISERABLY HAPPY

Tiernan Douieb transports his carefully-cultivated echo chamber to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, bringing with it a new hour of satirical gags and nonsense musings – if ignorance is bliss should we even know that? Can we learn to understand people we don't agree with?



Should we even try if they are genuinely very annoying?

National identity, civilisation, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, and the persuasive properties of raw tomatoes – comedian, writer, podcaster and prolific tweeter Tiernan continues his mission to complain about worldly political happenings in the friendliest and funniest manner possible.

Miserably Happy is Tiernan Douieb's sixth solo show at the Edinburgh Fringe. His recent projects include: writing and producing his weekly podcast, Partly Political Broadcast, which combines jokes about the news with expert guest interviews; organising a series of shows in aid of Help

Refugees with Jen Brister, featuring Sarah Millican, Dara O'Briain, Adam Hills, Shappi Khorsandi and many others at performances across the UK; supporting Frankie Boyle throughout his August 2016 run at the Soho Theatre; and co-running Comedy Club 4 Kids where he is resident MC, making small people laugh alongside comedians like Adam Buxton, Sofie Hagen, Nish Kumar and Josie Long.

Tiernan Douieb: Miserably Happy – 5 – 27 August

(not 15 or 19), 2.30pm, PBH Free Fringe, The Waverley Bar Upstairs Lounge

Grassmarket ambassadors are back

In the Grassmarket they are bringing back their ambassadors for the second year running. They will be able to guide the public and answer any questions on everything from transport to history. They will promote local markets and heritage trails and monitor any issues which need to be dealt with such as litter or buskers who sing a bit too loud!



The scheme, funded jointly by the Council and [Grassmarket BID](#), allows two ambassadors to afternoons and evenings from Thursday to Sunday throughout the festival period, from late July until mid-September.

Ambassadors will work alongside Police Scotland too, as part of a joint effort to support the balance between residential life and visitor attractions.

Last year residents reported that ambassadors helped deal with noise from buskers, and had a generally positive impact on the

area.

Councillor Gavin Barrie, Convener of the Housing and Economy Committee, said: “We want to create a safe and enjoyable atmosphere for everyone, whether they live here, work here or are visiting. Not only do the ambassadors offer a friendly, informative face in the busy Grassmarket, they help ensure the area is clean and welcoming throughout the summer months, when we welcome thousands of visitors to the capital.”

Fawns Reid, Greater Grassmarket Chair, added: “The Greater Grassmarket BID is really pleased this innovative collaboration with the City of Edinburgh Council is to continue for a second year. Everyone, our businesses, residents and visitors will all benefit from this extra help, at our busiest time of the year. Welcome back BID Ambassadors!”

Ambassadors, who will work between 2pm and 10pm, will be identifiable by blue fleeces marked ‘Grassmarket Ambassadors’. Their work will complement the ongoing Our Edinburgh campaign, which aims to discourage littering, fly-tipping and dog fouling amongst the public, as well as work between businesses and the community to improve the area for everyone.

Sound of Silence From Tynecastle is Deafening



I was listening to an old classic from Simon & Garfunkel this afternoon when my thoughts were drawn to the west end of Edinburgh. As the strains of ‘The Sound of Silence ‘ faded

away, I couldn't help but wonder what – if anything – was going on at Tynecastle.

It's a sad when, after a busy morning, the first thing I did when I switched my phone on at lunchtime was to see if Hearts Head Coach Ian Cathro had left the club. He hadn't. Despite another weekend of anguish for the followers of Heart of Midlothian there was no news of any sort emanating from Tynecastle. The sound of silence from the club is deafening...

Former Hearts captain Gary Mackay wasn't slow to voice his opinion. The man with the record number of appearances in a maroon shirt told BBC Scotland that Hearts have made a mistake appointing Cathro and the club should admit it. However, Mackay's former team-mate Craig Levein, now Director of Football at Tynecastle, has – so far – not complied.

The feel-good factor that Hearts have enjoyed for much of the last three years begun to evaporate at the beginning of 2017 and is in danger of disappearing altogether – something owner Ann Budge must be all too aware of. The fans group the Foundation of Hearts will take over the running of the club from Mrs Budge in due course and the majority of Hearts supporters have placed their faith in her. She rescued the club from extinction three years ago and her leadership has not only resulted in Hearts emerging from the Ladbrokes Championship to a top six place in the Premiership but the creation of a brand new main stand, due to be partially opened in less than six weeks.

However, there seems little doubt Hearts have hit the reverse gear in recent months. Robbie Neilson's departure as Head Coach at the end of November last year appeared to have been triggered by the actions of some disgruntled supporters, some of whom hired a plane to fly over Tynecastle with a banner which displayed 'No Style, No Bottle. Neilson Out'. Neilson's replacement has hardly been top of the popularity stakes with the Hearts support – like Neilson, getting knocked out of the

Scottish Cup by Hibernian meant his status was damaged irrevocably.

Cathro has been a coach at some top clubs, including Newcastle United. But it seems his credibility as Head Coach at Hearts is difficult to accept for some players and certainly much of the support. Last season ended in huge disappointment despite promise shown in victories over Motherwell and, in particular, Rangers who were hammered 4-1 by Cathro's side in February. The cup defeat at Easter Road signalled the start of a malaise and Craig Levein admitted that bringing in so many foreign players on short-terms deal last term was a mistake.

The Director of Football owned up to that one – and now it's time to fess up to another one. Hearts were distinctly average against League Two side Elgin City two weeks ago; not much better against East Fife; absolutely shocking in losing to League Two Peterhead last week and unable to deal with a Dunfermline Athletic team who outfought their hosts at Tynecastle on Saturday. Cathro's decision to drop Jamie Walker for the Dunfermline game – if indeed it was his decision – backfired. Walker may not have been at the top of his game but he is always capable of scoring goals. If a point had to be made why not drop Walker to the substitute's bench and bring him on if the team was in dire straits – as it patently was on Saturday?

Without the width Walker provides with his forward runs, Hearts resorted to long punts up the park to a bewildered Kyle Lafferty and an out-of-sorts Isma Goncalves, a player clearly lacking in confidence. Not that Cathro seemed to notice.

The decision to play John Souttar at the weekend was another decision which backfired. The young defender was at fault for both Dunfermline goals and it seems the former Dundee United man is some way from the fitness required.

Hearts, under Cathro, have become an embarrassment. A Betfred

Cup section containing three part-time teams – two in the fourth tier of Scottish football – and a team from the Championship shouldn't have been too problematic for a side in the Premiership. Not to finish top of the section is bad enough. To fail to finish second is humiliating. Can you imagine if this was Hibernian – how much mickey-taking would Hearts fans be doing right now?

What is adding fuel to a rapidly developing fire is the lack of reaction from the club to the crisis. Even a statement saying the Board were backing Ian Cathro, while not being popular, would at least be keeping the fans – who have parted with hard-earned cash not only for Betfred Cup ties and season tickets but also towards the Foundation of Hearts – informed and updated.

But, for now, the sound of silence from Tynecastle is worrying. With a trip to champions Celtic looming another part of the lyrics from that Simon & Garfunkel song may be more relevant on Saturday evening – hello darkness, my old friend, I've come to talk with you again.

Or not...