

Landmark group launch for Edinburgh charity

Contact the Elderly has now launched its 20th group in Edinburgh.

The charity organises free Sunday tea parties for elderly people who live alone and they now support over 100 Edinburgh residents.

The Edinburgh 20 Group met at volunteer Anne Grindley's house with an established group.

✘ Jennifer Kaney, Development Officer at Contact the Elderly, said: "We are delighted to now have 20 groups in Edinburgh supporting more than 100 older people who live alone. Anne has done a fantastic job and I am confident I speak for the entire Contact the Elderly community in offering our sincere thanks for her efforts."

"The new group had a lovely afternoon together and we are looking forward to hearing how the relationships between guests and volunteers flourish in the months ahead. One of the guests told me she had made a new friend five minutes into the party. It's comments such as this one which perfectly illustrates the power of our parties."

In Scotland, Contact the Elderly has around 125 groups supporting more than 1000 older people. Tea parties take place one Sunday afternoon a month in a volunteer host's homes. Guests are collected by a volunteer driver and accompanied by them at the afternoon tea.

To learn more about the charity, or offer to volunteer, please contact Jennifer Kaney by email or telephone Jennifer.kaney@contact-the-elderly.org.uk or 01786 235034

Greenpeace say Bass Rock polluted with ocean plastic



An expedition by the Greenpeace ship *Beluga II* has revealed high levels of plastic pollution around the famous Bass Rock in the Firth of Forth.

Shocking images reveal plastic around eggs in nests and strewn across the island, and even in the birds' beaks. Unfortunately, the groups says this phenomenon is not rare, as it is estimated that up to 90% of seabirds have ingested plastic.

The findings come at the beginning of research conducted during the *Beluga II*'s scientific voyage around Scotland, which runs until the end of June. They will document the impact of plastic pollution on some of the UK's most precious wildlife like puffins, gannets and basking sharks.

"Being surrounded by tens of thousands of gannets on the Bass Rock is a stunning spectacle – but it's seabirds like these which are acutely threatened by ocean plastic pollution," said Willie Mackenzie, oceans expert at Greenpeace UK. "We found plastic bags, packaging, bits of old fishing gear and even crisp packets strewn across the island."

"It's no wonder that that studies have shown that 90% of seabirds have eaten plastic."

Beluga II will continue her two-month expedition around the Scottish coast until the end of June. The trip is conducted by students and crew from Exeter University.

Speedway – Havelock craves for slice of luck



Gary Havelock looking for a slice of luck at Peterborough.

Picture by Colin Poole

Gary Havelock hopes for better luck when Berwick Bandits visit Peterborough Panthers tonight Friday.

The former world champion is frustrated as the Borders club prop up the rest of the ten-strong SGB Championship.

Last weekend, bad luck struck again as Lewis Bridger fell ill on the way to Workington Comets for a league match.

Rider replacement was granted but that only collected five points and team manager Havelock said: "Cannot believe our luck.

"We get our side how we want it and Lewis (Bridger) falls ill on the way to Cumbria.

"It's unbelievable. If he'd been fit I honestly think this was another match we could have won.

"It's so frustrating. When you're down look out for the sand getting kicked in your face."

Bandits will be at full strength at Peterborough on Friday and at home to Peterborough on Saturday.

Five One Five Years On



Rudi Skacel demoralises Hibs –
2012 Scottish Cup final. Photo:
Eric McCowat

William Hill Scottish Cup Final – Saturday 19 May 2012 – Hampden Park

The first time I cried at a football match was 1st January 1973. I was ten years old and was spending New Year with my father, my parents having divorced three years earlier. In 1968 my father had taken me to my first football match, the less than exotic delight that was Brockville Park, Falkirk. Living in Cumbernauld at that time, my Dad didn't want me being associated with the baggage that came with Celtic and Rangers and his intention was to bring me up as a Falkirk Bairn. But on that cold, October day, Hearts were the visitors. The Maroon Army had taken over the old ground creating an atmosphere that was spellbinding for an innocent six-year-old. The boys in maroon won 3-1 – and that was that. I was bitten by the Jambo bug and it's been part of my DNA ever since.

On the first day of 1973, I stood on the Tynecastle terracing with my father who was less than thrilled at succumbing to my badgering to take me to the Hearts-Hibs game. I was badgering him again at half-time but for entirely different reasons. Hearts had been the victims of five blatantly offside Hibs goals. I begged my father to take me back to his house in Cumbernauld. His reply was less than sympathetic.

'Listen, son, you wanted to be a Hearts fan so you'll bloody

well stay to the end'

Thanks, Dad.

For decades, those of the Hibernian persuasion had thrown that game in the faces of those in maroon. Damn it, to this day there's even a shop at the foot of Leith Walk still selling tee-shirts with the Hibs team line up emblazoned on the front. It was an Edinburgh derby that would remain in the spotlight until it was over-shadowed by the Scottish Cup semi-final in 2006 – and then totally eclipsed by the Scottish Cup final in 2012.

There was a tense build up to the 2006 semi-final. With Second Division Gretna waiting in the final the victors knew they would be red-hot favourites to lift the Scottish Cup. It had been eight years since Hearts had last lifted the famous old trophy. It had been 104 since Hibs had done so.

A Paul Hartley hat-trick inspired Hearts to a 4-0 triumph over their city rivals. I wrote at the time it was the mother of all Edinburgh derbies. I was wrong. Hearts duly lifted the cup by defeating Gretna in the final (albeit after a penalty shoot-out) but the chance for Hibernian to gain revenge came six years later when the capital pair faced each other in the Scottish Cup final of 2012.

As was the case before the all Edinburgh semi-final in 2006, the build-up to the first Scottish Cup Final between Hearts and Hibs since 1896 was full of tension. Hearts were installed by the bookmakers as odds on favourites but several players, including Ian Black and talisman Rudi Skacel, were looking unlikely to be continuing their careers at Tynecastle, as there were no offers of any new contracts on the table. Semi-final hero Craig Beattie had been nursing a hamstring injury and wasn't included in the starting eleven. Hibernian, who had only just managed to avoid relegation, had several players who were on loan, including striker Leigh Griffiths who had scored

their winner in the semi-final win over Aberdeen.

A crowd of over 51,000 packed into Hampden and the tension was palpable as the teams walked on to the field. It was Hearts, however, who made the brighter start and good work from Andrew Driver saw a cross for Rudi Skacel but the Czech Republic player could not direct his header on target. If Hearts were nervous they certainly didn't show it during that opening period as they pinned their city rivals inside their own half. With 15 minutes gone, the breakthrough arrived. A corner from Danny Grainger seemed to bemuse the Hibs defence. Ryan McGowan showed commitment to get to the ball first and his attempt at goal fell at the feet of Darren Barr who stabbed the ball past Hibs goalkeeper Brown and into the net to give Hearts a deserved lead.

Already in the ascendancy, Hearts confidence grew further. Shortly after the goal, Hibs defender Kujabi was booked for a foul on Santana – a foul that would have major implications later. Ian Black was dominant for Hearts and it seemed astonishing that Hibs were allowing the former Inverness Caledonian Thistle player so much space to orchestrate the Hearts midfield. It was from Black's pass that Rudi Skacel doubled the Maroon's lead after 27 minutes. Collecting the ball on the edge of the Hibs penalty box, Skacel produced a trademark turn past McPake before firing in a shot that took a deflection off the Hibs player before flying past Brown. 2-0 to Hearts and the Maroon Army erupted in anticipation of another Hearts cup triumph.

Hibs had barely been in the game and when striker O'Connor had a chance on the edge of the Hearts penalty box, his effort on goal soared over the bar and in among the goading Hearts fans in the West Stand. Hearts nearly made it game over when Suso Santana's effort on goal was scrambled off the line by McPake. And, typical of Hearts, what should have been 3-0 turned into 2-1 as Hibs grabbed an unexpected lifeline a minute before half time when McPake poked home Soare's cross. At half time,

there was slight irritation among the Hearts camp that the game was now on a knife-edge after dominating the game.

The second half had a spectacular start. In the 47th minute, Suso Santana set off on a run down the right wing skipping easily past a couple of Hibs challenges. He had his shirt pulled by the pursuing Kujabi who also clipped the Spaniard's heels as the winger danced into the penalty box. Penalty said referee Craig Thomson who also booked the Hibs player for a second time meaning the Easter Road team were down to ten men. They also went 3-1 down when Danny Grainger stroked home the resultant penalty kick and looked to the skies in tribute to his late grandfather.

Any lingering doubts that the Scottish Cup was heading back to Gorgie disappeared two minutes later when Hibs keeper Brown could only parry Stephen Elliott's header and Ryan McGowan leapt to head the ball home. 4-1 to Hearts – and it was game over, a fact the mass exodus of Hibs fans at this point clearly indicated.

Hearts seemed content to toy with their great rivals and sprayed passes all over the Hampden turf, much to the delight of the baying Jambo Army. With 15 minutes to go, Rudi Skacel collected the ball on the edge of the penalty box and fired in an effort and that trundled past Brown to make it an astonishing 5-1 to Hearts. Ecstatic Hearts supporters taunted those few Hibs fans who were still in the National Stadium with chants of 'ole' and 'we want six' and 'there's only one Pat Fenlon'. This was too much for the Hibernian manager who made an ill-judged salute with his arm to the Hearts support – and was duly sent to the stand by referee Craig Thomson for his troubles.

The game ended at Heart of Midlothian 5 Hibernian 1. I had waited 30 years to see Hearts win a trophy before they won the Scottish Cup in 1998; this was Hearts third Scottish Cup triumph in 14 years and was the sweetest of them all. Hearts

had dominated the Edinburgh derby for nearly 30 years but this magnificent victory over an admittedly poor Hibernian team took derby domination and humiliation of their city rivals to new levels.

As in 1998 and 2006, the west end of Edinburgh partied. As the Maroon Army bellowed throughout this glorious weekend, the Hearts were having a party – the Hibs were in their beds!

Man due in court following a series of thefts from homes in Penicuik



A man has been arrested following a series of thefts from homes in Penicuik.

The incidents happened at four properties in the town between 7th and 15th May, and two cars were also stolen. There was a further housebreaking with intent and three incidents of suspicious behaviour outside homes which were all investigated by the Community Investigation Unit at Musselburgh.

Inquiries were carried out and a warrant was executed at an address in Bilston, and stolen property was recovered.

A 41 year old man was due before Edinburgh Sheriff Court today.

Sergeant Michele Lindsay of Penicuik Police Station said: “I

would like to thank the public for their assistance, after speaking to the local community we received information which allowed us to carry out the warrant and ultimately bring charges. I would also like to remind people to keep their property secure at all times, and anyone seeing or hearing anything suspicious should call police immediately

#GE2017 Alex Salmond out campaigning with Joanna Cherry in Edinburgh South West



Earlier today in Broomhouse The Rt Hon Alex Salmond had lunch at the Broomhouse Centre with Joanna Cherry QC who is standing for re-election in the Edinburgh South West constituency.

The main reason for having lunch there (other than the fact that they serve delicious food) was to celebrate the fact that the Centre has won backing for its ambitious plans to demolish and rebuild. It has run a fundraising campaign meaning it now has enough funds

The Edinburgh Reporter asked Ms Cherry why she chose to bring her fellow Westminster candidate there.

 She explained :”Broomhouse Centre is an amazing place which does an incredible amount of fantastic developmental work with people in the community. And that is not just in Broomhouse but in fact across South West Edinburgh and indeed in other

parts of Edinburgh. There are many different and diverse projects which are run from here from working with elderly people with dementia in the Beacon Club to working with young carers and young people who are vulnerable.

“The projects which are started here don’t just stay here they fan out across the community. There are some really energetic people working here such as in the café with its fantastic home cooking. The kitchen here is used as a place for people to come and learn new skills making it easier for them to make the transition from being at school to being employed.”

Some of the groups represented at today’s campaign stop included Bridie Ashrowan the CEO of The Broomhouse Centre. The BIG Project which offers young people from 5-15 opportunities for personal growth. EVOC was represented by CEO Ella Simpson. EVOC helps to support develop and promote the interests and work of voluntary organisations in Edinburgh.

A representative from The Broomhouse Food Bank explained to us that demand is increasing all the time. And we also met up with the Rev Michael Mair who is the local minister at Broomhouse Parish Church.



Some of the community groups who met Alex Salmond and Joanna Cherry

And when asked about her main campaigning points Ms Cherry explained : “The Tories of course have tried to make this election about the independence question in a desperate attempt to trick people away from looking at their record in government. But what this election is really about is the Tories failed austerity project and their disastrous plans for Brexit. This will have a huge impact on jobs and the economy right across the United Kingdom. The austerity plans have failed despite making people, like the people in this community, suffer. They have failed to reach any of their

targets on debt, deficit or borrowing. They are still hammering hardworking people in this community, people on low incomes by taking away their tax credits, forcing them to rely on the food bank just up the road.”

As to the need for food banks, Ms Cherry was scathing of the Tory benefit cuts. She said : “The food bank here helps people with all sorts of problems not just about having enough to eat. We should not need to have projects like this in modern Britain. The Tories have tried to balance the books on the backs of the poor and haven’t even succeeded in doing that.

“Their manifesto issued today is more of the same. So it is the responsibility of politicians like me to remind voters what this election is really about – and that is whether you want another five years of Tory austerity or a positive vision for Scotland such as the one the Scottish Government has.”

Alex Salmond who is standing as SNP candidate in Gordon was there to see first hand the work that the Broomhouse Centre does. He was as expected very critical of the Tory government and warned against the consequences of an increased Conservative majority at Westminster. He said : “If the Tory government get a big majority the sort of thing that will go through parliament will be things like tax credits.

“These measures would take more money off people who need it, hard-working people who need these tax credits. They would get less. People who are vulnerable like the disabled will continue to get treated shabbily and the bigger the majority the shabbier the treatment will get. The SNP provided the real opposition and so they must get sent back to Westminster because this Tory government needs real opposition.”

He then explained that the SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon has laid out a three point plan for this election. Firstly to provide the real opposition which Labour can’t provide just now, and everybody knows they can’t. Secondly to strengthen Scotland’s

hand. Theresa May keeps talking about strengthening her hand. We have to strengthen Scotland's hand to make sure that we don't get the hard Tory Brexit that she is aiming for because that will cost jobs and prosperity in Scotland.

"Thirdly we must have the future of Scotland decided in Scotland by The Scottish Parliament and by the Scottish people. Scotland's future must be in Scotland's hands not in the hands of the government in Westminster.

"So these are the three points that Nicola Sturgeon has outlined and I think they are a powerful platform and a powerful mandate to seek in this campaign."

As to whether he has had any input into the SNP manifesto which will be launched next week, Mr Salmond admitted he had put forward a few ideas, but said it is a personal document for the leader of the party. He concluded : "I am sure you will see a visionary and uplifting manifesto which does not talk about hard choices for other people, but rather talks about how we can work together to provide real hope for Scotland."

[#GE2017 on the campaign trail with Joanna Cherry](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

The candidates for Edinburgh South West are
BRIGGS, Miles Edward Frank – Scottish Conservative and Unionist

CHERRY, Joanna Catherine – Scottish National Party (SNP)

CHOUDHURY, Foysol Hussain – Scottish Labour Party

MIR, Aisha Jawaid – Scottish Liberal Democrats

Speedway – Perry hoping for rain before every home meeting



Tom Perry and his team-mates on track inspection duty at Armadale last Friday.

Picture Nigel Duncan Media

Tom Perry revealed the key ingredient for his big points haul for Glasgow Tigers against Redcar Bears.

The Shropshire-based racer revealed a downpour just before the match was crucial and now the 24-year-old wants rain every week in Glasgow so he can keep racking up big scores.

Perry had his best meeting in Tigers colours, scoring eight points plus four bonus points, and put his good form down to having plenty of dirt on the surface.

Tigers' talented reserve said: "The track was packed down but it was because of the rain that it was so grippy.

"I'd prefer it to chuck it down like that every week. It produced natural dirt instead of them having to water it all day.

"They (the track curators) know that we all like the dirt, so if they keep setting it up like that, it'll be a bit of a fortress. People will be scared of coming to the place."

Looking back at Saturday, he said: "Everything clicked and it worked well for me. Even when I wasn't making every single start, I was still making passes."

Perry also contributed five points with one bonus point in Glasgow's draw at Edinburgh on Friday.

Hibs' legend Eric Stevenson dies aged 74 following a brave fight against cancer



Hibs' legend Eric Stevenson has died aged 74 following a brave fight against cancer.

Football is an entertainment industry and few (if any) players provided the Hibs' supporters with more entertainment in the 1960s than Eric.

Equally capable on either wing, his close ball control consistently got the better of the opposing full back, but he also had an eye for goal, scoring an impressive 79 times and creating many more in his 390 games for the club during 11 memorable years.

After a controversial spell on Hearts' books which culminated in the club being fined for a contract irregularity, Eric turned down Wolverhampton Wanderers and Manchester United to join his boyhood heroes. He starred in numerous famous games for Hibs before personal reasons saw him move to Ayr United where he was famously fined for missing a game to watch Hibs win the League Cup.

Eric retired prematurely to concentrate on his business interests in Bonnyrigg but he remains a 'weel-kent face' at Easter Road and four years ago he was deservedly inducted into the Hibernian Hall of Fame.

Earlier this year John Hislop caught up with Eric who kindly

recalled his career in the beautiful game.

He said: "I played in the first team when I was only 17 but I wasn't really ready at that time. The club took me to Barcelona for the Fairs Cup tie even though there were no subs in these days and after the game which finished 4-4 I went for a drink with Willie Ormond. I honestly thought I was in heaven as a few months earlier I had been working down the pit.

"I even managed to play in the Fairs Cup semi-final play-off against Roma and although we were well beaten on the night, the papers in Italy the following day said that Lazio were considering signing Hibs' teenage winger, but of course nothing ever came of it.

"I have so many great memories playing for Hibs and in particular I loved playing against Hearts. Their supporters really hated me as I had been on their books as a youngster and there would be crowds of 40,000 at Tynecastle for the derbies. One game in particular stands out when I scored twice and we were 4-0 up after only 10 minutes. If we had kept going it could have been double figures, but we took our foot off the pedal. I still feel guilty as I started to take the mickey with flicks and back heels which the Hibs' fans loved, but I think that if Eddie Turnbull or Jock Stein had been in charge then they would have insisted that we go for more goals. Bob Shankly was the manager at the time but he was more laid back.

"The European nights under the floodlights at Easter Road were also special and we played against some great teams such as Hamburg with Uwe Seeler and Willi Schulz who played in the 1966 World Cup Final, Porto and Naples who had Dino Zoff in goals but even he couldn't stop us scoring five goals that night.

"Red Star Belgrade in particular were a class act and they had a player called Dragoslav Sekularak who had been the player of the tournament in the 1962 World Cup and Eddie had played

against him for Scotland in 1958. Eddie said he was a genius and he was correct. I would say that Sekularak was the best player I ever played against.

“Eddie Turnbull rated me as a player and tried to sign me for Aberdeen but when he arrived at Hibs, I was having personal problems and was keen to leave the area. He tried to persuade me to stay but I signed for Ayr United who were part time. I realised quickly that it was mistake although Ayr had good players such as John Murphy, Alex Ingram, Johnny Doyle who later joined Celtic and Johnny Graham who had been at Hibs.

“I had played with Ayr manager Ally McLeod when he was at Hibs, and he really rated me but I am sorry to admit that the Ayr fans didn't get to see the best of me. I wasn't fit and my head and heart weren't in it. I felt really sorry for Ally and apologised to him.

“When Hibs got to the League Cup Final in 1972, I went to Hampden even though Ayr were playing that day and I would probably have been in the team. I sat in the main stand and when the Hibs players came out to check the pitch a few, including Pat (Stanton) and Jimmy (O'Rourke) spotted me and waved. Jock Stein also saw me and I suspect he told Ally as I was called in to see him when I turned up for training the following week. He asked where I had been on Saturday and I told the truth. He said he would have to fine me two weeks wages but I told him that it was worth it and would have been happy to pay four weeks wages as I wouldn't have missed that game for anything.

“Pat was magnificent that day and in my opinion played his best game ever for Hibs.

“Despite offers from Canada and South Africa, I retired from the game in my early 30s to concentrate on my newsagents shop in Bonnyrigg which I ran for 30 years.

“I was absolutely delighted and honoured to be nominated for

the Hibernian Hall of Fame in 2012 and the fact that that my trophy was handed over by Lawrie Reilly meant as much to me as actually being inducted.

“Illness prevented me from going to Hampden for the final in May but I watched it on television and don’t mind admitting that I shed a tear or two when David Gray scored the winner as I know how much it means to everyone. It wasn’t such a big deal when I played, but it’s been a monkey on the back of the club for years now.”

A new book, ‘Hibs through and through: The Eric Stevenson story’ with Eric and Club Historian Tom Wright was published last year by Luath Press.

The Edinburgh Reporter sends our sincere condolences to Eric’s friends and family.

Interview with the new Lord Provost at City Chambers



SNP Councillor Frank Ross has been installed as the new Lord Provost this morning at the City Chambers. His first stop? An interview with The Edinburgh Reporter.

*We just interviewed the new Lord Provost [@FrankRoss06](https://twitter.com/FrankRoss06)
pic.twitter.com/rnyXE2H10k*

– Edinburgh Reporter (@EdinReporter) [May 18, 2017](#)



Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh The Rt
Hon Frank Ross

The Secret North coming to The Traverse next month



The 'Secret North', featuring: Donald Grant – Fiddle, Ailie Robertson – Harp, Sondre Meisfjord – Double Bass, Karen Tweed – Accordion, Jarlath Henderson – Whistle, Pipes, Marit Fält – Mandola will be appearing at the Soundhouse at The Traverse Theatre on the 18th June.

Bringing together six world-class musicians from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Scandinavia in a cross-cultural celebration of new music that bridges the divide between folk, classical, traditional and avant-garde in six new compositions.



As musical collaborations go, this promises to be an extraordinary music interchange. Individually, each member has carved out a reputation for not just mastering their chosen fields, but rising above, redefining and renewing the musical world they come from. In The Secret North, they come together to premiere six new compositions, written by each musician specifically for the ensemble, resulting in a concert of

enthraling new music, grounded in tradition, but shot through with the adrenaline of contemporary influences. This is music that is both ancient and utterly new.

The Secret North was the brainchild of Ailie Robertson and Donald Grant who have been friends since they were teenagers. Both have played folk music all their lives, but are also heavily involved with the UK classical scene – Donald plays with The Elias Quartet, one Britain's leading ensembles, and Ailie is gaining a reputation as one of Scotland's brightest young composers, picking up the prize for 'Achievement for New Music' in the inaugural New Music Scotland Awards earlier this year. They have worked together on several occasions, and indeed Ailie collaborated with The Elias Quartet on her recent single, 'Haven' which reached #2 in the iTunes Classical Charts last year.

Speaking about The Secret North, Ailie says, "we were both increasingly interested in investigating where the lines between classical and folk music were, what would happen if we tried to use much larger 'classical' structures but in a folk style." They decided to run what is essentially a musical experiment. "It's like the musician equivalent of the Big Brother house! We put 6 musicians who don't know each other into a house together for a week and see what comes out at the end!".

Inviting musicians from Scotland, Ireland and Norway to take part is one of the most important factors of the project – the meeting will be a sharing of culture, an opportunity to learn from the different experiences we all have, the different approaches to our traditional and classical music and how we see their roles. Donald says, "It was also very much like writing our musical 'wishlist' of who we wanted to work with – all the invited artists are people whose music we find exciting and inspiring, so we can't wait to create with them!"

Please see below Scotland tour dates.

June 18th – Edinburgh, Soundhouse at The Traverse

June 19th – Glasgow, Folkclub at The Admiral Bar

June 20th – Isle of Mull, An Tobar

June 21st – Isle of Skye, SEALL at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

June 22nd – Lyth, Lyth Arts Centre

June 23rd – Lochinver Village Hall

June 24th – Ardross Community Hall

June 25th – Inverness, Eden Court Theatre

Scotland Under-20 squad announced for the upcoming Toulon Tournament in France



Scot Gemmill has named his Scotland Under-20 squad for the upcoming Toulon Tournament in France.

The team is made up of players born in 1997 or later, all of whom are eligible to participate in the 2019 UEFA European Under-21 Championship qualifying matches, which get under way in September.

The Toulon Tournament first started back in 1967, initially featuring club teams, but has been limited to international teams since 1974.

England are the current holders of the trophy after defeating

France 2-1 in the final in 2016.

Scotland will face Czech Republic, Brazil and Indonesia in Group C with the winners advancing to semi-finals, alongside the best runner-up from each of the three groups.

Scotland U20 squad

Goalkeepers

Ross Doohan (Celtic)

Jack Ruddy (Wolverhampton Wanderers)

Defenders

Alex Iacovitti (Nottingham Forest)

Zak Jules (Reading, on loan to Motherwell)

Jamie McCart (Celtic, on loan to Inverness CT)

Ross McCrorie (Rangers)

Anthony Ralston (Celtic)

Greg Taylor (Kilmarnock)

Midfielders

Theo Archibald (Brentford)

Jordan Holsgrove (Reading)

Kyle Magennis (St Mirren)

Aidan Nesbitt (Celtic)

Ruben Sammut (Chelsea)

Joe Thomson (Celtic)

Iain Wilson (Kilmarnock)

Forwards

Adam Frizzell (Kilmarnock)

Ryan Hardie (Rangers)

Greg Kiltie (Kilmarnock)

Craig Wighton (Dundee)

45th Festival International Espoirs – Toulon Tournament

Wednesday, 31 May – Scotland v Czech Republic (Stade d'Honneur)

Saturday, 3 June – Scotland v Brazil (Stade Parsemain)

Tuesday, 6 June – Scotland v Indonesia (Stade Ladoumègue)

Golf – Yannick triumphs in Intercollegiate



Yannick's approach to the final hole as the Loretto Golf Academy pupil claims title

Yannick Artigolle shot a final round 75 for a plus-six total of 219 to take victory and become the Intercollegiate Tour Players' Champion for 2017.

The 17-year-old Loretto Golf Academy pupil, who is from Hong Kong, hit a fine drive down the 18th and his approach found the middle of the green.

Yannick had two putts for victory. He qualified for the National Finals at Moortown near Leeds with fellow academy pupils Lou Tan (17 from Hong Kong), Harry Austin (15 from Dumfries) and Caroline Zolg (17 from Germany).

Theatre review: Jane Eyre – Festival Theatre *****

☒ Charlotte Brontë's Yorkshire Grit lit, Jane Eyre, was more than just a conscience pricking social critique of class and gender injustice. Its humane realism and decidedly tenacious female protagonist/narrator also promised Gothic-lite, on the edge of the chaise lounge, romantic tension. However, there was little or none of her sister's feral bodice-ripping, vowel shattering shenanigans on t'storm blasted heaths and treacherous cliffs if you please.

Tortured by a terrible secret, co-protagonist Rochester (Tim Delap) is much more a nuanced, credible and empathic soul. Though heart-throbbingly broody and choleric enough. But it is always heroine, resilient sweet Jane (Nadia Clifford) who commands our hearts. Vulnerable but unvanquished, she is made of sterner stuff than those of her sex requiring a restorative rose-water tincture after the vulgarity of an exposed table-leg. Resilience, self-belief and loyalty without submission marks the three hour passion on our stage.

☒

It is a truth universally acknowledged that in the highly unlikely event that the Bristol Old Vic/National Theatre ever shot themselves in the foot with a production they would simply synthesise it seamlessly in to ground-breaking new

physical theatre.

Set Designer, Michael Vale, eschews any cliché of bat bothered, ivy entwined Gothic motifs. His is a cubist, oak and pine timber geometric construct complimented by black thrusting tubular ladders on which Director, Sally Cookson, insists that this energetic and highly versatile cast occupies every available space. It is a utilitarian mean machine and they work it majestically. Back and side of stage hang enormous pleated white drapes that provide back screens for an ever shifting pallet of colour and visual textures. Sound/Lighting Designers, Dominic Bilkey and Aileen Malone work in seamless tandem.

Composer, Benji Bower, utterly in his element, combines traditional Folk song airs, played through the three piece on-stage combo, in addition to some decidedly sultry jazz sketch scene transitions. Operatic vignettes beguile with increasing sinister portent from the voice of Melanie Marshall as Bertha Mason, Rochester's incarcerated frenzied wife. Her Act 2 torch-song rendition of 'Mad About The Boy' should be as kitsch as it is anachronistic but just satisfies the heart's curves and spaces in all the right places.

☒ There are set-pieces aplenty to delight a life-time's imagination and beyond. Jane's bone-shaking stage-coach travels are realised through a gee-up giddy montage of mime and harness Rap. The Lowood children seeking warm from a candle suggests a nuanced homage to Georges de La Tour's Nativity painting. The bedclothes on fire episode is satisfyingly convincing, but equally ominous is when Jane bashfully accepts Rochester's bridal veil and train gift. The cast playfully toss and tumble it with wind effects but the suggestion of ectoplasm, even a winding-sheet, is ever there. Bertha Mason is going to see to that. Increasingly throuout Act 2, a section of the cast serve as Chorus voicing Jane's mounting expectations and inner conflicts. One poignant scene has them force her to view herself in hand held vanity

mirrors. Better she sketch a self-portrait to remind her of her undeserving origins and hopeless expectations of Rochester's requited love.

Whilst the opening ten minutes of Act 1 are acoustically near to bombast and percussive overbearing things soon settle down. The plaintive acapella song by the Lowood School girls, Kyrie Eleison (Lord Have Mercy), chimes ironically with the discordant, brutish faux piety of Mr. Brocklehurst (Ben Cutler). Cutler's utterly improbable role as Rochester's ever faithful dog, Pilot, is – well, barkingly superb. The swelling denouement is resolved with heroic credibility. A moment frozen in a pin-drop silent kiss. Reader – you will be married to this show. If you want to know if ever faithful Pilot does/doesn't escape the terrible conflagration up at the house – look away now. Of course he does.

Melodramatic romance with passionate panache, forged in the volatile smithy of Bristol Old Vic's turgid genius for doing things the awkward way. This Jane Eyre gives your heart and soul a breath of fresh daring. *Omnia Vincit Amor*.

<http://www.edtheatres.com/janeeyre>

Speedway – Harkess praises Clegg and team



Alex Harkess (left) in discussion with Ian Sneddon (centre) and former rider Andrew Tully. Picture Nigel Duncan Media

Edinburgh Monarchs boss Alex Harkess praised rider Max Clegg and the rest of the squad after fighting back from eight points down to draw at Newcastle Diamonds.

A final 5-1 race defeat before was, however, a disappointment but star of the show for Monarchs was 20-year-old Yorkshireman Clegg.

He recorded a 14-point haul from Reserve with some lightning gating and determined riding.

Harkess, Monarchs' co-promoter, said: "Full marks to Max. He believed in himself. He went out to win races and he did. He was making starts and without a doubt he was the star man."

He added: "We are disappointed with the draw but only due to the situation we were in.

"Being eight points down early on a draw would have been more than acceptable but that's the way it goes.

"We then got ourselves into a winning position and it was a shame we didn't get that win but a draw is more than OK."

Woodland Trust volunteer event on Saturday



Woodland Trust Scotland is holding a free event for volunteers at the Water of Leith Visitor Centre on Lanark Road on Saturday 20 May 2017.

The gathering is for both existing volunteers and anyone

interested in getting involved in the charity's work helping woods and trees.

Woodland Trust volunteers are involved in a wide range of activities including recording ancient trees, identifying tree diseases, looking after Woodland Trust woodlands and supporting campaigns.

There will be an informal talk and networking in the morning at the visitor followed by lunch and an afternoon guided nature walk at Craiglockart Dell.

The event is free with lunch and refreshments provided. Booking is essential.

For more information please contact Matilda Scharsach on 0343 770 5510 or email MatildaScharsach@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Disabled veterans on 500-mile fundraiser



Setting off on their marathon cycle tour from Edinburgh

Two disabled veterans got on their bikes at Edinburgh Castle to pedal 500 miles to raise money for the charities supporting their recovery.

Laura Ellis, 33, from Blackburn in West Lothian, and Patrick Medhurst-Feeney, 27, of Plymouth, aim to raise over £6,000 for Help for Heroes and Veterans with Dogs, who have helped the veterans to recover from life-changing physical and mental health problems.

The former armed force professionals started the 518 mile challenge on recumbent bikes from Edinburgh Castle during Mental Health Awareness Week and plan to finish in Exeter Quay on Wednesday, May 22.

Laura, formerly of the Royal Artillery and Royal Horse Artillery, couldn't continue her army career after being diagnosed with nocturnal epilepsy, a condition that causes seizures.

In 2015, her medical issues worsened when she was rushed to hospital with no feeling in the lower half of her body. She was diagnosed with Cauda Equina, a rare but serious condition that affects the spinal cord.

She had spinal surgery at Edinburgh's Western General Hospital and still faces on-going lower back problems. She also has mental health issues.

Laura said: "I got a grant from Help for Heroes for a recumbent bike last December. It's the only way I can cycle as I can't sit up on a normal bike. I also got my assistance dog Scout through Veterans for Dogs.

"He's amazing. He can predict my seizures 20 minutes beforehand. I wanted to give something back to both charities – they've made such a difference to my recovery journey. It has just snowballed ever since!"

Patrick was involved in an accident during his second tour of Afghanistan in 2013. He was flown back to the UK for intensive treatment and has since faced both mental and physical health problems.

Anyone wishing to support Laura and Patrick can do so by clicking [here](#) and follow their progress on Facebook. They can also be contacted at triketour17@outlook.com

Hearts Woeful Record in Perth Continues



St Johnstone 1 Heart of Midlothian 0

Ladbroke's Premiership, Wednesday 17th May 2017 – McDiarmid Park

On this day 19 years ago the Hearts were having a party while other Edinburgh dwellers (mostly from Leith) were in their beds. The triumphant Gorgie Boys paraded the Scottish Cup through the streets of Edinburgh following their 2-1 victory over Rangers less than 24 hours earlier and the Maroon Army didn't want the season to end. Fast forward nearly two decades and it's fair to say Hearts supporters can't wait for season 2016/17 to draw to its painful conclusion.

Hearts penultimate game of a long and frustrating season ended with an inevitable defeat at the hands of St Johnstone in Perth on Wednesday evening.

Tynecastle Head Coach Ian Cathro made just one change from the side that at least displayed some fight in the defeat by Rangers on Saturday and it was an enforced one. By virtue of his red card at Ibrox Prince Buaben missed out and his place was taken by Alex Tziolis.

Hearts began the game in similar fashion to the way they ended the game in Govan at the weekend although, rather predictably, there was no real threat on the Perth goal. Indeed, it was the hosts who had the game's first real chance when Kane fired over the crossbar.

In the 26th minute the Perth Saints went ahead. Former Jambo Swanson – who will be a Hibernian player next season – sent a through ball to Kane who pushed the ball past Hearts keeper Viktor Noring.

Six minutes before the interval, Bjorn Johnsen fired in an effort from 25 yards which Saints keeper Mannus saved superbly to keep the home side's lead intact. In fact, they may well have doubled that lead on the stroke of half-time when the ever-dangerous Kane hit the crossbar.

Half-time St Johnstone 1 Hearts 0

Johnsen was replaced by Rory Currie at the beginning of the second half but it was the Saints who nearly scored again when that man Kane saw his shot on goal saved by Noring.

Hearts Arnaud Djoum then forced Mannus into a save when he pushed the Cameroon international's effort over the bar.

The Jambos replaced Malaury Martin with Jamie Walker and the attacking midfielder had a chance to become an immediate hero but his volley went wide.

Hearts Liam Smith was next to try his luck but, again, Mannus saved his shot on goal.

It looked like game over with four minutes left when St Johnstone's Craig fired home after Noring failed to hold a long-range effort but the assistant referee flagged for offside.

However, it was indeed game over minutes later and Hearts recent woeful record at McDiarmid Park – they haven't won there since a Scottish Cup win in 2012 – continues.

St Johnstone: Mannus, Scobbie, Millar (Craig, 80'), Wotherspoon, Swanson (Coulson, 71'), Shaughnessy, Foster, Easton, Kane, Thomson (Alston, 67'), Cummins.

Hearts: Noring, Nowak, Tziolis, Hughes, Smith, Nicholson (Choulay, 77'), Djoum, Cowie, Martin (Walker, 61'), Johnsen (Currie, 46'), Goncalves.

Referee: Don Robertson

Att: 3,141

Top man: Sam Nicholson

#GE2017 Gordon Brown visits Edinburgh



The Rt Hon Gordon Brown, former Chancellor and Prime Minister, stopped off in Liberton this evening to address some 250 -300 Labour party members in the school hall at Liberton High School.

And his speech was delivered in his usual barnstorming style.

This is part of his whistle stop tour (so whistle stop he had no time to speak to us afterwards) around Scotland as he whips up the party faithful with three weeks of the election to go.

He was in Edinburgh to endorse Ian Murray as the Labour candidate in the upcoming election, where he hopes to regain his seat for the third time.



Ian Murray the Labour candidate in Edinburgh South

Brown's address was well received and made at high speed and in his loud booming voice so distinctive that we could hear him as soon as he entered the building!

Brown said : "Please work with us to increase Ian's majority again in 2017. He deserves it and South Edinburgh needs him as their Member of Parliament.

"Ian has won this seat on two occasions. Before him Nigel Griffiths won it from 1987 onwards, and he was a brilliant member of parliament representing this seat for those years. I am the only one of the Labour people here this evening who has been a candidate and who failed to win Edinburgh South!

"I stood in 1979 and thought I had done very well to get the majority down to 2000 for what had been forever a Conservative seat, but these two did a lot better!"

And then on to politics proper. The former premier was scathing of both Theresa May and the SNP in fairly equal measure. He commented that all that the SNP only had independence in their sights, and that Nicola Sturgeon had said as much just after the General Election was called.

Of the SNP he said they should stop moaning about benefits : "They can top up child benefit as Kezia Dugdale has boldly said she wants to do. They can top up child tax credit, they can top up pension credit. They can top up heating allowances.

"They've got the power to introduce new benefits and to top up these benefits. They have had these powers for some months and have done absolutely nothing.

☒ On employment he had a very sober warning : "Unemployment is about to rise in Scotland."

Finally on the subject of Theresa May and Brexit he said that it would be entirely wrong to give her a massive majority in the House of Commons enabling her to do just as she pleased.

All in all a consummate though short performance from a seasoned politician, who when he spoke out during the Scottish Referendum campaign changed the course of independence. There may not have been much to change this evening, but it is clear that Brown is not content to stay on the sidelines and watch his party lose its place as Her Majesty's Official Opposition.

Former Prime Minister Gordon Brown addressed Labour Party supporters in Edinburgh South earlier this evening in support of [@IanMurrayMP](https://twitter.com/IanMurrayMP) pic.twitter.com/6imZSLXxbQ

– Edinburgh Reporter (@EdinReporter) [May 17, 2017](#)

Man jailed for living off the proceeds of prostitution



A 32-year-old man has been sentenced at Edinburgh Sheriff Court to two years and five months in prison after he pled guilty to living off the proceeds of prostitution.

Emil Wakulicz came to police attention during an investigation into money laundering initiated by Police Scotland in 2012.

He was identified as a suspect after large amounts of cash were regularly being deposited into bank accounts in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Gateshead, Leeds, Liverpool and Belfast. This led police to his business, Diamond Massage, which employed vulnerable women from Eastern Europe forcing them to work as prostitutes.

Detective Inspector Arron Clinkscales of Police Scotland's Financial Investigation Unit said: "We are committed to tackling issues around exploitation and harm involving people working in prostitution.

"Police Scotland has worked closely with a range of partners, including health authorities and groups who work with prostitutes, to ensure our response focuses on protecting individuals and communities from harm while targeting organised crime groups and individuals who control, abuse, exploit or coerce.

"Thanks to information from the public and a thorough, protracted and robust investigation by the Financial Investigation Unit, we have been able to bring this man to justice, stop him from exploiting anyone else and seized his assets."

Anyone with information or concerns about unexplained wealth or the exploitation of workers is asked to contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Queen Margaret University showcase 2017



Summerhall, one of Edinburgh's quirkiest arts venues, is playing host to Queen Margaret University's (QMU's) annual Costume Showcase.

Once a veterinary hospital and anatomy theatre, on the 19th of May it will be a stage for eager young university students to

show off their work. The show will consist of stunning displays of costumes ranging from Steampunk inspired, to Red Riding Hood and Mary Queen of Scots. QMU's Costume Design and Construction students have been working alongside the QMU/Napier Joint BA (Hons) Acting for Stage and Screen to ensure a night of entertainment, beautiful costumes, and performance.

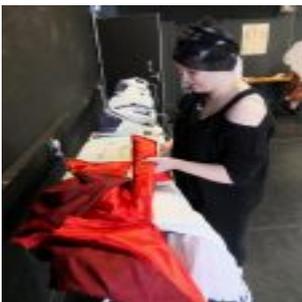
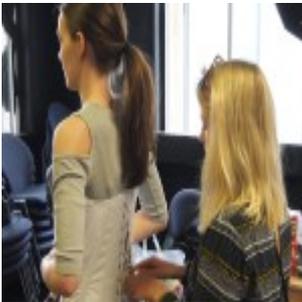
We decided to venture down to Summerhall and visit its warren of corridors and rooms to talk to the students about their upcoming show. The basement changing room was full of actors and costume design students alike, prepping and fussing around their beautiful creations. Each costume had been clearly agonised over for months, down to the last stitch, and very much to the nervousness of the designer.

However, nerves may be high but excitement was still strong as the last preparations and rehearsals took place before Friday's performance:

[Queen Margaret University stage their 2017 Costume Showcase](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

The live show will be paired with a fascinating exhibition of the practical craft.





Sarah Paulley, a lecturer from the University, said: “We are proud of our students’ talent and skill in creating memorable costumes and look forward to showcasing their work, this year at Summerhall. We are also pleased that our Grad Show forms our contribution to QMU’s wider ‘Platform 4’ event.”



The Deputy Principal of Queen Margaret University, Dr Richard Butt, also exclaimed: “For the first time, we have created a larger scale event ‘Platform 4’ which showcases the work of students from across our creative industries courses in Costume Design and Construction, Drama and Performance, Film & Media , and Art and Music therapy. Not only will we have our much loved Costume Showcase, audiences can expect photography, art work, ensemble performances, new writing, contemporary solo and duo pieces as well as community pieces, all of which celebrate the best creative work of our graduating students.”

Costume Showcase 2017 – 19th May only – matinee performance 3pm, evening performance starts at 7pm followed by the exhibition which will remain open until 9pm.

Costume Showcase tickets: [£13 \(£10 student/concessions\) at Eventbrite](#)

Platform 4 FREE Exhibitions and Performances – Thursday 18th May open 12pm – 5pm and Friday 19th May open 12pm – 9pm.

Location: Summerhall, Summerhall Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1PL

Climbing – Mollie on top of the world after Everest epic



Mollie Hughes who works in Edinburgh at the top of Mount Everest

Edinburgh-based climber Mollie Hughes has reached the summit of Mount Everest, the youngest Briton, the youngest European woman and the first English-born woman to successfully scale

the peak from both the north and south sides of the world's highest mountain.

The 26 year-old braved temperatures as low as minus 40C and she reached the summit with climbing partner Jon Gupta of Mountain Expeditions.

With a £1 donation for every metre climbed, Hughes, who is supported by Tiso where she works, hopes to raise more than £8,000 funds for Cancer Research UK.



Mollie said: "I am elated, exhausted and know I still have the hardest part to do, the long and difficult descent to base camp.

"Jon (Gupta) and I have already spent more than four weeks acclimatising on the mountain. Thanks to a weather window, we left Camp 3 and we've finally reached the top.

"The climbing has been really, really hard but our mental and physical strength got us up here. I can confirm that the north side is definitely more difficult than the south side!

 Mollie summited Mount Everest from its south side at the age of 21 and is 28 years younger than Lynne Hannah (Northern Ireland) who in 2016 and at the age of 54 became the first British woman to achieve ascents from both the north and south. In 1975, She plans to return home in June.

Junko Tabei (Japan) became the first female climber to summit the mountain that in 1953 was first officially climbed by Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary.

Molie, who is originally from Devon, started climbing at secondary school and at the age of 17 summited Mount Kenya (Africa's second highest peak). She was first inspired to climb Mount Everest when as part of her sports psychology

degree at UWE Bristol she interviewed seven Everest summiteers and learned of their different psychological experiences on the mountain.

#GE2017 Edinburgh North and Leith – Iain McGill Conservative



Iain McGill is the Conservative candidate for Edinburgh North and Leith at the General Election on 8 June 2017. We met him in leafy Warriston where he was busy delivering fliers with some of his team.

This area is well known to Iain who lives and works in the constituency. He is determined that this time round he will be returned as the local MP.

Iain said : “This election is all about the matter of independence. Most people I speak to say that this is the big divisive issue and I think it will affect how people vote. The Conservatives are the only strong unionist party and we will do well in June.

“Conservatives won most of the votes at the council elections. Following Ruth Davidson’s victory in Edinburgh Central last year, we returned more MSPs and more councillors, so the Tories are on the up!”

[#GE2017 Iain McGill Conservative candidate](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

This constituency spreads from the Calton Hill area where they are worried about planning issues to Leith where the Seafield Stench continues to be a problem. Iain is well up on them all as he has been involved in politics for some years now.

“Local issues from top to bottom in the constituency start at Calton Hill where folks feel a bit vulnerable right now with developments in the Royal High, and hotel development at the top of Leith Walk. There is also the issue of Leith Street which is going to be closed for 40 or 50 weeks and we have to know what is happening with the traffic planning around there.”

The candidates in Edinburgh North and Leith are as follows:

BROCK, Deidre Leanne – Scottish National Party (SNP)

MCGILL, Iain – Scottish Conservative and Unionist

MUNRO, Gordon John – Labour and Co-operative Party

SLATER, Lorna Jane – Scottish Green Party

VEART, Martin – Scottish Liberal Democrats

All the candidates for every constituency in Edinburgh are listed [here](#).

**Your chance to join specially
created choir to perform**

during Hibs' play



The founding of Hibernian is the subject for a new play being produced for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe – with performances due to take place at Easter Road Stadium.

Rehearsals are now underway using a professional director and community actors for “A Field Of Our Own” written by Duncan Kidd, which tells the story of the first twenty years of Hibernian and of the people who made it happen.

The project is being run by Leith based theatre company Strange Town, as part of the GameChanger Public Social Partnership which involves the Club, Hibernian Community Foundation and NHS Lothian as well as dozens of other organisations.

You could become involved in the event, due to take place in August. Director Steve Small is looking for people to join a specially created choir who will perform during the run of the play. If you are interested in taking part please get in touch by contacting Steve Small, Creative Director, Strange Town.

steve@strangetown.org.uk or **0131 629 0292**

A spokesperson for GameChanger said: “It’s a really exciting project that will have messages relevant to today around immigration and integration, tolerance and respect. It will be something we are sure all Hibs fans would relish seeing, but to have the chance to take part is a real bonus for those interested.

“While the play itself promises to be something special, we are also hoping that we will see community activity programmes – such as community singing – flowing from it.”

Information on tickets for the play will be announced soon.

Hibs' fan Hugh Cockburn prepares for commemorative cycle ride



Sunderland based Hibs' fan Hugh Cockburn has been carrying out some last minute training as he prepares for a very poignant commemorative cycle ride between Easter Road and Hampden Park after one of the most significant of weekends, in memory of Hibernian Supporters Club St Patrick's Branch Member Shaun McKinley.

Hugh's cycle run will take place on Monday 22 May; one year on from the day Shaun watched his beloved Hibeers lift the Scottish Cup.

Shaun sadly passed away after a brave fight with cancer on 31 Dec 2016 and it is therefore fitting that Hugh should mark Shaun's memory with this charitable sponsored cycle, not just Easter Rd to Hampden, but also the return leg back from Hampden to Easter Rd the following day.



In preparation for the cycle ride, he recently visited both The Stadium of Light, home of Sunderland FC and St James' Park, home of Newcastle United FC, meeting legendary managers Bob Stokoe and Sir Bobby Robson.

Hugh told the Edinburgh Reporter: " Three of my biggest passions, away from family, are Hibs, cycling and my

membership of the St.Pats Branch. When I heard Shaun had cancer I was devastated for him and his lovely family. Since contacting 'Big G' (Gordon McKinley, Shaun's father) to enquire about joining the Branch, I have been met with nothing but kindness, support and wonderful friendship from mainly Gordon but also all people associated with the Branch. I consider many of them as close friends. The branch epitomises the Hibs theme of 'Family'.

"I attended Shaun's funeral and the turnout was amazing and I realised then that I wanted to do something to 'honour' him and the McKinley family. It has been in the back of my mind to attempt to cycle to all the senior Football grounds in Scotland but the logistics and 'time away' from family is a concern. I decided that it is possible to do in stages and my first stage is Easter Road to Hampden and back via, Hearts, Livingston, Airdrie, Clyde, Rangers, Celtic, Partick, Hamilton, Motherwell, and Edinburgh City. I am hoping to do another stage sometime late summer, possibly Fife clubs. All stages will be in memory of Shaun, as the banner says, "Shaun McKinley, live forever"

The cycle is a sponsored event in aid of cancer, so if you can, please give any contribution by visiting the [St Patrick's Branch donation page](#) and mark your donation Hugh's Shaun McKinley cancer appeal.

Donations can also be made on Shaun's [Just Giving page](#).



Monday 22 May

Depart Easter Road 9am- visit_Livingston FC-Airdrie FC-Partick FC-Clyde FC-Rangers FC-Celtic FC- arrive Hampden

Tuesday 23 May

Depart Hampden-visit-Hamilton FC-Motherwell FC-Hearts FC-

arrive Easter Road hopefully mid-afternoon-Train to Newcastle
6:30pm

Three years ago, Hugh took part in a charity bike ride from London to Edinburgh to raise funds for the St Patrick's Branch of the Hibs' Supporters Club's campaign to purchase a fitting memorial to club legend Dan McMichael.



The 444 mile journey began at Tower Bridge on Friday 3 May 2013, and Hugh averaged well over 100 miles per day before arriving in the capital on the following Monday.

Police day of action to raise awareness of human trafficking



Police Scotland carried out a national day of action on Monday to raise awareness of human trafficking and to identify and recover potential trafficking victims.

Around 500 officers including 50 from partner agencies visited 80 premises and locations in all 13 geographical divisions of Scotland including fisheries, car washes and nailbars.

The activity was part of a National Crime Agency coordinated, ongoing response to the threat of modern slavery and human trafficking across the UK.

During the multi-agency operation a child aged 15, who displayed indicators of trafficking, was found working in a nailbar.

Three individuals were also reported for immigration offences.

Police Scotland officers were supported by colleagues from HM Revenue and Customs, Immigration Enforcement, British Transport Police and the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority.

Detective Superintendent Stuart Houston, Police Scotland, said: "Our action yesterday was about highlighting and raising awareness of human trafficking which is happening in communities across Scotland now. We know that people are being trafficked into and around Scotland on a daily basis for the purpose of labour or sexual exploitation.

"Many businesses and industries are affected. During yesterday's action, 500 officers visited premises including harbours and fisheries, food processing plants, to car washes and nailbars, on intelligence led welfare visits.

"Tackling trafficking is a priority for Police Scotland and we will use all of the means at our disposal to tackle trafficking and those who seek to enslave others. This includes working with partners and across national and international borders.

"Yesterday we again found a child who has been trafficked. People who exploit others have no conscience, they will exploit children and adults. Our intention is to stop them.

"I would encourage people to be aware of what is happening in their community, to have social and ethical awareness, and to report concerns that someone may be a victim of trafficking to Police Scotland."

Police Scotland works with support agencies to ensure that all

victims of trafficking identified are provided with help and support.

For more information visit our page on the [Potential Signs of Human Trafficking](#).

Eleven teenagers charged in connection with serious assaults in Gorgie



Police have charged a number of youths in connection with the serious assault of three people in the Gorgie area.

The incident took place in Gorgie Road, near Robertson Avenue, around 9pm on Wednesday 12 April when three teenagers were attacked.

Three males, all aged 17, sustained serious facial injuries and were taken to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary for treatment.

Detectives have been conducting a thorough investigation since and eleven males, aged 14 – 17, have been charged with various assault offences.

A 15-year-old has also been charged with robbery and the 17-year-old has also been charged with possession of a bladed item.

They will all be reported to the Children's Reporter and Procurator Fiscal.

Detective Sergeant Robbie Wallace of the Violence Reduction

Team said: "This was a vicious and unprovoked assault which left three teenagers with painful injuries and we've been carrying out extensive enquiries since.

"I want to make it clear that violent crime will not be tolerated and we will use all resources available to us to pursue perpetrators of this."

Man charged following fatal collision on A68 at Millerhill junction



A 29-year-old man has been charged following a fatal road traffic collision at the A68 Millerhill junction, near to the Edinburgh City Bypass.

The incident happened around 3.15am on Friday, July 8, 2016, when a Vauxhall Corsa, Vivaro van and Mercedes C Class were involved in a collision.

Jenna Tindall (aged 29) and Marc Edwards (aged 26) sadly passed away at the scene following the collision.

The 29-year-old will appear in court at a later date.

Further appeal following fatal collision in Davidson Mains



Police are issuing a further appeal for information following a fatal road traffic collision in the Davidson's Mains area.

The incident happened around 9.15am on Sunday, May 14, at the junction of Quality Street and Main Street.

A 70-year-old woman was struck by a number 41 Lothian Bus. She was sadly passed away at the scene.

Inquiries into the full circumstances are ongoing, however a report has now been sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

Officers are eager to speak to anyone who was in the area at the time of the collision, particularly those who were on the number 41 bus.

Police Sergeant John Easton of Edinburgh Division's Road Policing Unit said: "Our thoughts are with the lady's family and our officers are continuing to support them.

"It is important that we speak to everyone who was in the area at this time of the collision, especially those who were on the number 41.

"I would again ask anyone who may have witnessed this collision and has not yet spoken to officers to get in touch as soon as possible."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland via 101, quoting incident number 1270 of 14 May.

Four years for 65-year-old drug dealer following cocaine seizure



Michael Holland (65) was sentenced today at Edinburgh High Court for supplying Class A drugs.

In September 2015 Holland was stopped in his vehicle at Fisherrow Harbour, Musselburgh and officers found a large quantity of cocaine with an approximate street value of £81,000.

Holland from Prestonpans was sentenced to four years in prison.

Detective Chief Inspector Kenneth Gray from Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism Unit said: "Police Scotland is committed to tackling Serious and Organised crime including drug offences and we will continue to deal with any offences reported to the police using every resource at our disposal.

"Tackling the supply of drugs, and the often devastating consequences it has on the local communities, is a top priority and we will continue to take action to identify those involved in drug related crime.

"We will also work closely with our partners at the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service to stop them benefitting from the proceeds of their criminal activity.

"Members of the public can greatly assist police in tackling drug related offences and I would urge anyone with information

to come forward by contacting Police Scotland on 101 or contact the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.”

Young Women Smokers More at Risk of Heart Attack



All smokers are at risk, but younger women have the highest risk, a study led by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and University of Sheffield shows.

Women smokers under the age of 50 are nearly 13 times more likely to suffer a major heart attack than non-smokers even if they are fit and healthy, according to new research led by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

New research, presented by cardiologists from the South Yorkshire Cardiothoracic Centre, showed that female smokers under 50 have the highest risk of suffering a major heart attack compared to both non-smokers and male smokers in the same age group. Young male smokers (aged under 50 years) had an eight-fold risk of suffering a heart attack than non-smokers of the same age – which is significantly lower than women smokers.

The study is the first to highlight the difference gender can have on causing smokers to have a major, life-threatening heart attack when other risk factors, such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes, are absent.

The research was led by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in partnership with the University of Sheffield, and drew on data from 3,000 patients who had a STEMI (heart attack).

Dr Ever Grech, Consultant Interventional Cardiologist at Sheffield Teaching NHS Foundation Trust, said: The finding that women under 50 had a significantly greater likelihood of a major heart attack than men of the same age was a surprise, as there is a general belief that cyclical female hormones provide a degree of cardiovascular protection.

However, our study indicates that if women smoke, this protection is easily overridden. This study also showed that when hormonal protection is no longer present in post-menopausal women, there was an even greater gender difference in heart-attack risk between male and female smokers.

While women under 50 ran the highest risk, the difference in risk between males and females is greatest in older smokers between 50 and 64. Women in this age group were 11 times more likely to have a heart attack whereas men of the same age were 4.6 times more likely than their non-smoking peers. Dr Grech added: The reasons for the gender differences in heart attack risk across all age groups are unclear and likely to be complex. One possible theory is that female coronary arteries are smaller in calibre and may be more prone to complete blockage when blood clots form over pre-existing fatty deposits in the artery wall. There may be other factors too, but the end result is a very serious and life-threatening heart-attack event. Our previous study has shown that 50 per cent of these are directly attributable to smoking and are therefore readily preventable.

Irrespective of age or gender, smokers were found to be five times more likely to have a serious heart attack than their non-smoking peers. This study also found that current smokers were on average 10 years younger than former or non-smokers when they suffered a heart attack.

Source: Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and The National Hypnotherapy Society

If you wish to stop smoking visit [Mind Generating Success](#) for

further information