

# Hockey – Weather blues for title-chasing Grange

Division One (men): Bromac Kelburne 5, Edinburgh University 1; Western Wildcats v Grange postponed; Uddingston Ria 6, AAM Gordonians 2; Watsonians 0, Grove Menzieshill 4 (abandoned after 40 minutes).

GRANGE were knocked off the top of Division One by Bromac Kelburne and the weather was to blame.

The Edinburgh side were told of the postponement of their scheduled fixture at Western Wildcats as they were travelling through to the West of Scotland.

Andrew Brogdon, Grange's player/coach, said the club have not yet agreed a date for the re-staging.

Meanwhile, Gordon Shepherd was pleased with a 5-1 scoreline over under-strength Edinburgh University but admitted it was not the best performance of the season so far by the champions.

Goals from Johnny Christie, Lee Morton, Ryan Holding, Josh Cairns and Nick Finlyson secured the win and earned Kelburne their seventh win in eight games.

That means Kelburne top the table by two points because Grange's clash at Western Wildcats was postponed as the Edinburgh side travelled through to Glasgow.

Dundonian Shepherd said: "We did not produce our best performance.

"Edinburgh played well in spells but did not take their chances. However, we won comfortably and it is another three points in the bag."

Meanwhile, at the other end of the table, Uddingston Riva improved their survival chances with a 6-2 victory over pointless AAM Gordonians and Watsonians were 4-0 down at home to third-placed Grove Menzieshill when the game was abandoned because of underfoot conditions.

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## Hibs increase lead at top of table with comprehensive 4-0 victory



Hibs moved three points clear at the top of the Championship with a comprehensive 4-0 victory over Queen of the South at Easter Road this afternoon.

Head Coach Neil Lennon made two changes to the starting XI that drew with Falkirk last Saturday. First choice goalkeeper Ofir Marciano returned from international duty to replace Ross Laidlaw whilst Brian Graham took over up front from Grant Holt.

There was still no starting place for top scorer Jason Cummings and Alex Harris who featured as a substitute last week dropped out of the squad altogether with Callum Crane taking his place.

Graham justified his selection by opening the scoring in the 7th minute when Darren McGregor's shot was blocked on the line by Grant Anderson and the former Ross County striker was on hand to hammer the ball high into the net from close range.

Martin Boyle should have made it 2-0 in the 18th minute after

being clean through on goal but Lee Robinson produced a fine save to keep the deficit to one.

Eight minutes later John McGinn found Boyle at the edge of the area but his lob struck the post and was cleared.

Hibs eventually doubled their lead in the 41st minute. Andrew Shinnie's corner found John McGinn and the Scotland star's powerful effort deflected off Chris Higgins into the net.

Just before the break Shinnie found Lewis Stevenson who sent a low cross into the six yard box but Boyle mishit his strike from close range and the ball flew narrowly past the post.

Moments after the restart, man of the match Shinnie slipped a perfect through ball into the path of Stevenson and Robinson produced a sensational save to prevent the full back adding a third.

A slip by Paul Hanlon gave Lyndon Dykes a chance but a combination of good defending by Liam Fontaine and keeper Marciano kept the Doonhamers out.

Hibs made it 3-0 in the 52nd minute when skipper David Gray flicked McGinn's low corner kick into the net then Graham then almost added his second of the day but his powerful strike rebounded off Robinson's ankle and was cleared.

Moments later Boyle managed to get his name on the score sheet with a spectacular strike after beating three defenders.

From then Hibs continued to dominate and created several other chances but Queen's held on to keep the score at 4-0.

Elsewhere Dundee United drew 0-0 with Morton.

Hibs: Marciano, Gray, Hanlon, Fontaine, McGregor, Stevenson, Fyvie, McGinn, Shinnie, Graham, Boyle. Subs: Laidlaw, Bartley, Holt, McGeouch, Forster, Cummings, Crane


Queen of the South: Robinson, Marshall, Dowie, Brownlie, Higgins, Anderson, Millar, Lyle, Jacobs, Pickard, Dykes. Subs: Atkinson, Rigg, Hooper, Moxon, Bell, Fergusson, Brotherston

Referee Craig Charleston

Attendance 14.021

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## All of the Christmas ads.... right here

 I love the Christmas ads. I also love the parodies (although it has to be said some are better than others).

Here are all the ads we can find – if we have missed any then do let us know, and do tell us which one is your favourite! (I love the LIDL ad.....)

ALDI, Asda, Frasers, John Lewis, LIDL, M&S, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Tesco and Waitrose

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## Ice Hockey news – six Scots

# named for the national team

Great Britain Under-20s have named six Scots – five of them playing in Scotland- in their squad for next month's World Championship (Division 1B) in Budapest.

Netminder Renny Marr, formerly of Fife Flyers, is joined by Josh Grieveson (Dundee Stars), Fife-born Tyler Plews (Edinburgh Capitals) Jordan Buesa (Braehead Clan) and Solway Sharks pair Connor Henderson and Duncan Speirs.

The squad, who won a bronze medal in France last year, face hosts Hungary, Slovenia, Poland, Italy and Ukraine from 11 to 17 December.

Tommy Watkins, their head coach, Tommy Watkins, said: "This is a very strong squad. Last year's bronze medal was fantastic for the team and we want to build on that.

"We have a tough five games ahead of us next month but the squad is ready."

**Netminders:** Denis Bell (Manchester Phoenix), Renny Marr (Coventry Blaze): **Defence:** Corey Goodison (Telford Tigers), Josh Grieveson (Dundee Stars), Edward Knaggs (Milton Keynes Lightning), Cameron Pound (Cornwall Colts Midget AAA), Tyler Plews (Edinburgh Capitals), Thomas Stubley (Peterborough Phantoms), Josh Tetlow (Bracknell Bees):

**Forwards:** Ivan Antonov (Basingstoke Bison), Glenn Billing, Luc Johnson (Milton Keynes Lightning), Lee Bonner (Hull Pirates), Jordan Buesa (Braehead Clan), Sam Duggan (Örebro HK J20), Connor Glossop (Peterborough Phantoms), Matthew Headland (Charlotte Rush), Connor Henderson, Duncan Speirs (Solway Sharks), Liam Kirk, Cole Shudra (Sheffield Steelers), Toms Rutkis (Swindon Wildcats).

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# Elaine C Smith to host Gaughan benefit concert

❌ Illness has curtailed the activities one of Edinburgh's greatest performers, Dick Gaughan, but some old pals and fans have rallied to help.

A benefit concert has been organised for Sunday, 27 November 2016 (7.30pm) at The Festival Theatre in Edinburgh featuring Billy Bragg, Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, Karine Polwart and Eddi Reader. It will be compered by Elaine C Smith.

Billy Bragg, a long-time admirer of Dick, burst into a fraught political decade and became recognised for his songs presenting what The Guardian described as 'the perfect Venn diagram between the political and the personal'

❌ Phil and Aly have been life-long friends of Dick's when Aly and Dick were members of the renowned folk group, Boys of the Lough.

Karine Polwart has long been a fan of Dick's and, in the past 20 years or so, has become an award-winning performer.

Her recent show at Edinburgh's Lyceum Theatre, called Wind Resistance, sold out its three-week run to become one of the hottest tickets during the official Edinburgh International Festival.

Tickets (from £25) for Dick's concert are available at The Festival Theatre box-office (10am to 8pm) or at the King's Theatre box-office (10am to 7pm) or online 24 hours a day.

John Barrow, the concert organiser and Dick's agent, said:

“Dick’s friends are rallying round.

“Obviously, it is a concert we would have preferred not to have had to organise, but it will be a great event for a great cause.”

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## Edinburgh business offers top auction prize at the Scottish Business Awards

*Edinburgh-based luxury ski chalet operator Le Chardon Mountain Lodges offered the top prize at this week’s Scottish Business Awards*

✖ Le Chardon Mountain Lodges supported the Scottish Business Awards and their charities, Social Bite and the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, by donating an auction prize for their glittering dinner this week which raised £63,000.

The evening led by host Rob Brydon included a chat with Leonardo DiCaprio who was visiting the capital. BBC Radio 2 presenter Chris Evans talked to him about his work on the big screen and in connection with climate change.

Some high profile Scottish entrepreneurs and business leaders were there at the £1,000 a ticket evening, including Sir Tom Hunter and First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

✖  
Le Chardon

One of the highest bids of the evening in the live auction was offered for the prize offered by Le Chardon Mountain Lodges

which has 5\* luxury chalet accommodation in Val d'Isere in France. Le Chardon offered a week's ski holiday with the exceptional extra of two days skiing with former Olympic Champion, Alain Baxter.

Lewis McKay marketing director at Le Chardon Mountain Lodges said : "We feel very strongly that businesses can play a vital role in being a force for good in the community. I'm delighted that Le Chardon can play its own part, supporting the social enterprises who tackle challenges such as poverty and homelessness through enterprise. For us it's about fuelling that circle of change from the top down."

Organised by Josh Littlejohn of Social Bite, the event was attended by almost 2,000 people.

As well as donating the auction prize Jamie Rennie Director of Le Chardon also handed over the large Business of the Year prize to Enterprise Holdings.



Alain Baxter and Jamie Rennie at SBA Dinner  
2016

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# **Come to our December Workshop!**

***The Edinburgh Reporter December Workshop  
– Tuesday 6 December 2016 from 10.00am***



***till 3.00pm***



The Edinburgh Reporter will teach you how to create better content for your Facebook page, your Twitter account or your website.

Learn how to use your phone – the camera you always have in your pocket or your handbag – for photography and video. You will learn how to use this with simple apps and tools all to your best advantage – and to help your clients too!

With tips and tricks galore the day will be full of useful information to make your content stand out. You will learn how to create simple videos which will enhance any social media presence.

You will learn how to take better photographs and what to look out for in any PR situation. With our simple guidelines you will no longer have that out of focus photograph, and you will be able to tell the story about your client with great images!

The day will be completely interactive. You will need to bring a phone with some spare storage on it. Download iMovie if you have an iPhone or Kinemaster if you have an Android device.

You will leave enthused about photography and moviemaking and with some tips to put you ahead of the rest.

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# Increased concern for missing woman Elizabeth Clarke



Police are appealing for information after a woman was reported missing from Stenhouse Drive on Thursday.

Elizabeth Clarke (63) has not been seen since 1pm on Thursday and her family and friends are growing increasingly concerned for her welfare.

Elizabeth is described as being around 5 ft 2 inches tall. She is very slim and has mousy brown, greying hair and blue eyes.

When last seen Elizabeth was wearing a black waist length jacket with a blue and white striped top. She had a cream woollen hat on with black gloves, blue jeans and black shoes. She was carrying a small grey handbag with a shoulder strap.

Elizabeth was last seen in Henderson Street, Leith and is known to frequent Ocean Terminal and the Leith area.

Officers are now asking anyone who may have seen Elizabeth since Thursday at 1 pm to please get in touch.

Inspector Neill Whiteside of Drylaw police station said: "We are growing increasingly concerned for Elizabeth's welfare and are asking anyone who saw a woman of her description to please get in contact with us.

"Anyone with information is asked to contact officers on 101."

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# Field Hockey – Edinburgh University Women victorious at Peffermill



Division One: women: Edinburgh University 6, MJV Dundee Wanderers 0

Sophie Maunder netted a double as Edinburgh University last night thrashed MJV Dundee Wanderers 6-0 in a Division One clash at Peffermill.

The students were pinned back in the early stages but settled when former Great Britain squad player Sarah Robertson netted after seven minutes.

She dictated play in midfield after that and helped steer the home side to a 4-0 lead in freezing conditions before half time.

They added two more in the second-half and now look to Sunday when they travel to Dundee to face Grove Menzieshill, one of the other title contenders.

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## Rugby – Scotland v Spain, Women's Rugby World Cup

# Qualifier, Leg 1

*Spain take 5 point lead to Madrid*



Scotland and Spain lined up at a chilly Scotstoun in Glasgow on Friday evening to play the first leg of a two-parter to decide which would go to Ireland for the 2017 Women's Rugby World Cup.

With the pitch-side track beginning to freeze, and with several Edinburgh based players in the starting line-up, Scotland kicked off to get proceedings underway and then spent most of the first 10 minutes inside the Spanish 22. Good attacking play through both running and rucking had the defence scrambling at times, but both sides were guilty of giving away too many penalties.

Just before the 10 minutes, Spain made ground into the Scots' 22 and dragged the game from one side of the pitch to the other, eventually winning a penalty in front of the posts which No. 10, Patricia Garcia, knocked over for a 3-0 lead.

After that, it was back to the opposition half for the home side. A penalty awarded just inside the 10 metre line gave the home fans a bit of hope, but Helen Nelson's kick just slid past.

Still, things were on the up and, as the half hour mark approached, Scotland scored the first try of the match.

Again, play was concentrated deep inside the visitors' 22 and a scrum on the five metre line set up the platform required. On the subject of the scrums, Spain were on top almost the whole time, pushing the Scottish pack all over the place. They didn't win any balls against the head, but it did look ominous for the future. Anyway, with the ball won, the play first went

right, then came back to the left where lock, Debra McCormack took full advantage of space on the wing to crash over in the corner for the five points. Hooker, Lana Skeldon, stepped up for the kick, but she couldn't quite make the distance so 5-3 it remained.



It was now Spain's turn to get into the attacking mode and they progressed upfield through a succession of penalties and fine passing moves. Playing under advantage, the ball came back to the back line near the 22, and was quickly moved through the hands to the left side of the posts, ending up with centre, Vanesa Rial. She still had a player on her outside, but she stepped right and barrelled over for the try. Garcia scored the conversion and the score was 10-5 to Spain as the sides went into the break.

Spain, more or less, started the second half where they had left off, with pressure on the Scots' line. A well organised defence, kept them out but many saw the writing on the wall.

Within this time, Spain managed to get the ball across the line twice, but on both occasions the ball was deemed to have been 'held up'.

Scotland did manage a couple of forays, and got close to scoring through full back, Chloe Rollie, but as the clock neared the 70 minutes, Spain were once more stretching the home defence.

A well worked move across the front of the defence eventually drew in two defenders to the second last player in the line, leaving the winger free. However, the lobbed pass over was well forward and it was widely recognised that Scotland's Get-out-of-Jail card had now been played!

As the match entered the final stretch, Scotland were beginning to get back into things and came close to scoring in

the left corner, but Lisa Thomson was bundled into touch with a suspiciously high tackle.



The final couple of minutes of the match were all in the Spanish 22, but as full time ticked over, Spain won the ball and cleared over the stand to take the match 10-5.

Over 2,000 turned out on a bitterly cold Friday to see a match played with an intensity which would have graced any International fixture and, as things stand, Scotland have a more than even chance of making up the points gap in Leg 2 and securing that place in Ireland.

*Images from the match will [appear here](#) over the next few days.*

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## **Gordon Strachan to continue in his role as National Coach.**



Gordon Strachan will continue in his role as National Coach.

Speculation about his future has been ongoing since Scotland's defeat to England at Wembley eight days ago.

After this defeat, the Board of the Scottish FA considered the performance of the Scotland Men's A squad so far in the FIFA World Cup Russia 2018 qualifying campaign and as part of this review, Strachan, provided his feedback on the campaign and his views on the team's prospects in 2017.

Following the review, the decision was taken to continue to support Strachan and his staff.

Stewart Regan, Scottish FA Chief Executive: "The Board have considered the team's performance since the start of the campaign and subsequently discussed the disappointing points total after four matches.

"Gordon shared the disappointment of the Board and, of course, the fans. He is adamant, however, that we can recover the position and believes a play-off place still to be attainable.

"The Board are convinced that he still has the hunger for this challenge and we have four home qualifiers in 2017 to rejuvenate our campaign.

"We support Gordon unanimously in improving our qualification prospects."

Gordon Strachan said: "We were all extremely disappointed with the result on Friday night but having reflected on our performance, I still believe we can get ourselves back into contention in the group.

"There are still 18 points to play for and the players, the staff and I, as in previous games, will give everything we have to turn things around.

"I have said consistently that our fans deserve success and a return to a major tournament finals.

"Although we have had a difficult start to the campaign, I firmly believe that this group of players, together with our supporters, can maximise our chances of a play-off place, starting with the home match against Slovenia in March."

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# Two arrested following heroin seizure in Haddington



Community Action Team officers in East Lothian have arrested and charged a 35-year-old woman and a 37-year-old man with offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act on Thursday 17th November.

They were arrested after a warrant was executed at a property in Dobson's Place, Haddington.

During the search officers recovered heroin with a street value of £600 along with a quantity of diazepam and cannabis, cash and drugs paraphernalia.

They were due to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court on Friday.

Community Inspector Andrew Harborow said: "Tackling drug crime is one of our top priorities for East Lothian and we will continue to utilise all of Police Scotland's resources to bring those responsible for these sort of offences to justice.

"Enforcement activity such as this can only be successful with the help of the public and I would urge anyone with information on drug offences in their area to come forward to police or contact the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

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# Hibernian Ladies to parade SWPL Cup and SSE Scottish Women's Cup at Easter Road



The double-cup winning Hibernian Ladies team will be parading the SWPL Cup and the SSE Scottish Women's Cup at Easter Road during half-time of today's fixture against Queen of the South.

Both trophies were won by defeating Scottish Champions Glasgow City.

Scotland internationalist left-back Kirsty Smith says that the team are all looking forward to parading the trophies at Easter Road in front of the Hibs' supporters.

She told the club website: "I'm really looking forward to it. "I come along and support the team at most of the home games and I hope we get a good reception from the supporters.

"It will be a great experience for me personally and for everyone in the team. It's going to be an amazing feeling for the girls in the squad that are Hibs fans and just for the team in general.

"There are a lot of big Hibs fans in the team and they will be excited to get onto the pitch and parading the success of the women's team. Everyone is really looking forward to it."

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# Edinburgh's Christmas – the Street of Light will be on George Street



**The Street of Light George Street, west end from 21 November to 24 December 6.00pm & 8.00pm**

The spectacular *Street of Light* this year transforms West George Street in Edinburgh's New Town with its 24 arches each 19 metres high covered in a total of 60,000 bulbs.

This year the lights are accompanied by music from local choirs and bands including the Edinburgh Festival Chorus, Royal Scottish National Orchestra Junior Chorus, the hottest contemporary fiddle music from the Highlands and Islands' Blazin' Fiddles and Scotland's very own bhangra group Tigerstyle.

Last year's spectacular was all about spectating, this year you are invited to join in the singing and dancing.

The Street of Light will launch at *Light Night* on 20 November and then run each evening from 21 November for 35 days until Christmas Eve, with an expected audience of over 350,000 people. Free to access.

This is from last year!

[The Edinburgh Reporter NEWS Edinburgh's Christmas](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

Tickets available at [www.edinburghschristmas.com](http://www.edinburghschristmas.com)

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# Edinburgh's Christmas – What's on in Princes Street Gardens?



**The Mound Precinct and East Princes Street Gardens from 19 November 2016 to 7 January 2017. Free to access.**

**The Star Flyer:** See Edinburgh as you have never seen it before, and this year you might just open your eyes! Located next to the Scott Monument in East Princes Street Gardens.

**The Big Wheel:** The arrival of the Big Wheel in East Princes Street Gardens signals the festive season has arrived! Take a ride in this Dutch made Ferris wheel's cosy, covered pods to enjoy spectacular views and a commentary which gives you insights into this wonderful city. Bejewelled with 20,000 lights it makes a joyful addition to Edinburgh's famous festive skyline.

**Santa Land:** Santa takes up residence in his festive and cosy Santa Land grotto from 19 November. In the heart of East Princes Street Gardens the grotto is surrounded by Christmas sparkle and magic with the Elves workshop hidden inside the Christmas Tree Maze, if you can find it, the Santa Train and other affordable kids rides.



**The European Christmas Market:** Over 100 stalls return to East Princes Street Gardens and the Mound Precinct from across northern Europe with a selection of tasty food, warming drinks

and beautiful handmade gifts for sale.

*Photo Lloyd Smith*

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# Hearts Announce Profit as Main Stand Redevelopment Work Begins



Hearts have announced they are now debt-free, having cleared their debt of £1.6m – and have posted a profit of more than £600,000 for the year ending in June 2016.

The reclassification of £4m of loans as reserves rather than liabilities from the fans group the Foundation of Hearts has helped transform the financial outlook of a club who plunged into administration three years ago. Although operating costs have increased, turnover has increased threefold following the club's promotion back to the Ladbrokes Premiership. The sale of Osman Sow in January – just months before the end of his contract – has ensured Hearts are able to record a profit.

This surplus of cash will be reinvested in the redevelopment of the main stand at Tynecastle. Work has already begun on demolishing some of the old administrative buildings in the shadow of the old stand ahead of construction of a new stand which will seat 7,300 fans.

Hearts will travel to Hamilton Academical on Monday evening for their Ladbrokes Premiership clash.

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# Hibs Football Fans in Training course starts on Monday 9th January



Hibernian Community Foundation's Football Fans in Training course starts on Monday 9th January and places are likely to go fast so anyone interested is encouraged to register as soon as possible.

Participants will train in the concourses and pitchside at Easter Road stadium for this twelve week course, which runs on a Monday evening from 6:00pm – 19:30pm. Football Fans in Training (FFIT) is a FREE course, open to men aged between 35-65 with waist size of at least 38 inches.

Designed specifically for male fans, the FFIT 12 week plan is delivered by experienced community coaches. Each week will consist of a different physical activity some of which include challenge football matches. These are accompanied by 'classroom' sessions that will help give participants the nutritional tools to maintain long term change. The main aims of the programme are to:

- \* Increase knowledge of diet & nutrition
- \* Improve lifestyle choices
- \* Increase physical activity amongst participants
- \* Reduce weight and waist measurements
- \* Increase engagement in other physical activity

Interested parties can sign up via the Foundation's website.

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# Appeal to raise funds for iconic painting

The National Galleries of Scotland (NGS) has launched an appeal to secure an iconic painting for the nation.



They want The Monarch of the Glen, a 19th century work by Sir Edwin Landseer, for permanent public display in Scotland.

Drinks giant Diageo has agreed to gift half the estimated market value of the painting and NGS needs to secure £4million to allow the painting to pass from private to public hands for the first time in its history.

Sir John Leighton, NGS Director-General, said: "This offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for this major work to be acquired for the nation.

"The Monarch of the Glen is an iconic image which is famous across the world.

"The ideal home for such an important and resonant picture is the Scottish National Gallery where it can be enjoyed and admired by millions of visitors."

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs, said: "Recent reaction to news of the auction underlined the importance of this painting."

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# Pianist who got Dylan in the groove returns to the Jazz Bar

Louis Durra had a ready-made response when Bob Dylan was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature last month.



The Berlin-based Californian pianist, whose trio plays the Jazz Bar in Chambers Street on Wednesday, November 23, has a cool, groovy take on Tangled Up in Blue, one of the stand-out songs from Dylan's Blood on the Tracks album. So he was able to slot it into his live set instantly as a dedication to the new Nobel laureate.

The opening track on Durra's 2012 release, The Best of All Possible Worlds, Tangled Up in Blue contributed to the pianist's unlikely elevation to American college radio sensation. In a way reminiscent of Ramsey Lewis in the 1960s, Durra's jazz piano trio versions of Dylan, Bob Marley, Alanis Morissette and Radiohead songs took a trick with deejays and became part of the soundtrack to student life across the U.S.

A follow-up, Rocket Science, released later the same year, made similar waves with its explorations of the Beatles, White Stripes, KT Tunstall and traditional Mexican and French Canadian material.

Durra is by no means the first jazz musician to explore Radiohead's repertoire, for example, or the first to cover pop hits of the day. That's an idea as old as jazz itself. Durra, however, takes it further than most, even finding jazz piano trio repertoire and inspiration in Scottish electronica band Boards of Canada.

"I'm not on a 'say no to the mainstream jazz repertoire' soapbox," says Durra. "I'm just as likely to play music by Cedar Walton, Hank Jones, Joe Henderson, Annie Ross or Brad Mehldau as, say, Snoop Dog. Jazz was once described as the sound of surprise and it's my aim to make each piece have something unexpected about it, in the nicest possible way."

Durra's investigation of the wider popular music canon – his most recent album, Chromakey, has a typically understated

exploration of country-noir singer Gillian Welch's Orphan Girl – stemmed from his accepting a three-nights-a-week residency in a Los Angeles restaurant.

After years of playing an accompanying role, mostly in theatre, and having made a couple of jazz albums that sold disappointingly, Durra was in danger of losing interest. His residency, which presently expanded to four nights a week, allowed him to rediscover the hunger that had led to him turning onto jazz in his teens.

With four to five hours a night to fill he determined that he, his rhythm section and the bar staff and clientele alike wouldn't get bored with the same tunes being played on rotation. So he worked up a repertoire of some two hundred items, ranging from jazz standards to songs by the Ting Tings, Radiohead and songwriter-rapper Ke\$ha.

The restaurant's customers liked what Durra calls his oddball pop covers. So he recorded a selection of them, gave the album to a publicist and found himself with a hit on his hands. When he then decided to investigate another market, he booked himself onto the Edinburgh Fringe and promptly won an award, a Herald Angel, one of the much coveted statuettes that Glasgow-based newspaper The Herald awards for performing excellence during Edinburgh's festival season.

On his way back to California after his second Edinburgh Fringe run Durra stopped off in Berlin, loved the feel of the city and decided to move there. Wanderlust and the lure of the Parisian jazz scene will see him relocate to the French capital in the not too distant future but his raison d'être as a musician remains as it was during his restaurant residency.

"I want to connect with the public," he says. "And the best way to do that, the best way to draw them into my way of playing is to give them something they recognise every now and then. Just because you're playing pop tunes doesn't mean that you can't make them artistic and expressive. Besides, there's poetry in Bob Dylan's music – it's official."

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# Eyeball Brewing – lagers but not like the others!

EDINBURGH-based brewer James Dempsey believes it is great to be a beer drinker in Britain just now but argues that lager continues to look like a poor relation.

That is why he has set up Eyeball Brewing near Edinburgh with the aim of redressing the balance.

✖ Currently, he has two brands, Yellowball, a pale, intensely malty lager, and Blackball which is smooth and complex and inspired by the Munich Dunkel style.

He said: “They are lagers, but not as you know it.”

The duo – which are suitable for vegans – are on sale at selected outlets in Bridge of Allan, Kelso, Haddington, Musselburgh (The Brunton) and in outlets in Edinburgh.

The former Stirling and St Andrews University PhD student aims to extend his outlets in the next few months.

And he is using his expertise as a former business and management consultant to progress the business which is housed in a former school in Cockenzie, East Lothian.

James has defined his target market and said: “Yellowball is an easy drinking, crisp beer whereas Blackball showcases the flavours of coffee, chocolate and dark roast from the dark malts from which it is made.

“Blackball goes with food, particularly spicy food, and I am trying to appeal to the craft beer market.

“By that I mean the type of people who might be into their IPA, who may be tempted to try something different and who may not normally pick up a lager.

“Hopefully people will drink the products in bars and pubs but I’m trying to make the products taste well with different types of food.

“It’s going well so far. I’m into a mixture of bottle shops and pubs but a lot of cafes, bars and restaurants and I’m hoping to tap into the recent trends in the market of people having a beer with a meal or with something in a coffee shop.

“I’m really aiming to get out there in the next six months, talking to people and letting them taste the product.”

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## **Witness appeal after three car collision at Newbridge leaves driver in serious condition**



An investigation is underway after a three-car collision on Cliftonhall Road Newbridge, which took place just before 7am this morning.

Two of the drivers were taken to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary following the incident

One’s injuries have been described by police as ‘serious’.

Officers have appealed for witnesses.

A police spokesman said: “The male driver of one of the vehicles sustained serious injuries and he has been

transported to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.”

He added: “Meanwhile, the male driver of another vehicle has also been taken to hospital however his injuries are not thought to be serious.

“Anyone who witnessed this collision is asked to contact police on 101 if not already done so.”

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## **Speedway news – two move to Berwick Bandits**

DIMITRI Berge and Luke Chessell have been added to Berwick Bandits line-up for the new season.

The Borders club bosses have high hopes for the 20-year-old Frenchman, a former World long-Track champion, who is an ex-Glasgow Tigers racer.

And 26-year-old Chessell is moving up from the National League after racing for Rye House and Cradley Heath.

Scott Courtney, Bandits’ co-owner, said: “Dimitri is a Shielfield Park specialist and joins us with the speedway world at his feet.

He has ambition.”

“Luke’s all-action style and consistently impressive scores in the National League made him one of the most sought after No 7 position riders for next year.”

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# Lord Advocate to have his say in the Supreme Court on Section 50



The Supreme Court has today confirmed that applications to intervene in the above case have been granted to The Lord Advocate in Scotland as well as The Counsel General for Wales and two other bodies, The 'Expat Interveners', George Birnie and Others and The Independent Workers Union of Great Britain.

Additionally, the Attorney General for Northern Ireland has made a reference to the Court regarding devolution issues relating to that jurisdiction. The Supreme Court has decided that permission to intervene is therefore not necessary.

Counsel for the Scottish Government and for the Independent Workers Union of Great Britain have been invited to address in their skeleton arguments the relevance of points of Scots Law, so far as they do not also form part of the law of England and Wales, to the determination of the present proceedings.

A further update on other applications to intervene, and a timetable for oral submissions during the hearing, will be issued by the court in due course.

Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe Michael Russell said: "We welcome the decision of the Supreme Court to allow the Scottish Government to intervene in the case, however we continue to call on the UK Government to drop the appeal and to accept that Parliament has the right to determine the triggering of article 50.

"We recognise the decision of people in England and Wales to support Brexit, but the views of people in Scotland cannot simply be brushed aside. The Lord Advocate will be making the case on behalf of the Scottish Government and he will set out his arguments to the court."

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## **Hibs Community Foundation helps fight alcohol misuse**



Seven local initiatives fighting alcohol misuse in Scotland have been awarded support from the Scotch Whisky Action Fund. This is the third round of awards from the £500,000 fund set up in December 2013 by the Scotch Whisky Association (SWA).

The Scotch Whisky Action Fund, which extends the SWA's commitment to addressing alcohol misuse and promoting responsible drinking, gives a total of up to £100,000 each year to 2018 to projects working to reduce harm in Scotland. It is managed by Foundation Scotland, an independent charity.

The fund supports and develops a range of initiatives that deliver targeted interventions to tackle alcohol-related harms across three areas: young people (aged under 18); families and communities.

Hibernian Community Foundation is among the initiatives to receive funding this year. It has been awarded £9,500 towards the delivery of a preventative alcohol education project to P5, P6 and P7 pupils across 20 schools in Leith and the north of Edinburgh. The project will educate children on the effects of alcohol and promote positive lifestyle messages around physical activity and healthy eating.

All the initiatives to receive backing in this year's round of funding are selected by an independent awards panel, chaired by Dame Joan Stringer. They are spread across Scotland from Moray in the north east to Lanarkshire and Orkney.

The other initiatives receiving awards this year to help their work with young people are: Liber 8 Lanarkshire; CrossReach (Edinburgh); Reeltime Music (North Lanarkshire); Outfit Moray and Mentor Foundation UK (Edinburgh).

Orkney Alcohol Counselling and Advisory Service (OACAS) has been awarded funding to assist its work in communities.

Dame Joan Stringer said: "I was extremely impressed with the range and quality of projects applying for awards from the Scotch Whisky Action Fund. It was a very tough decision to choose seven projects to receive funding. All the projects being awarded have a great deal to contribute to tackling alcohol misuse across Scotland."

Douglas Meikle, Scotch Whisky Association head of alcohol policy, said: "We're delighted to support these initiatives delivering in their communities to prevent and reduce misuse." Giles Ruck, Foundation Scotland chief executive, said: "It is great to see so many innovative projects receiving funding from the Scotch Whisky Action Fund. This is a significant step

to help individuals and communities tackle misuse across Scotland.”

Charlie Bennett, Hibernian Community Foundation chief executive, said: “Hibernian Community Foundation are delighted to receive this funding from the Scotch Whisky Action Fund and look forward to working with school children across Edinburgh to raise alcohol awareness.”

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## **Witness appeal following handbag snatches in capital**



Detectives are appealing for witnesses following a robbery and attempted robbery in Edinburgh.

At around 1pm on Thursday, November 17th, a 29-year-old woman was assaulted as she walked on Willowbrae Road heading towards Jock’s Lodge.

As she neared Piershill Terrace she was approached from behind by a male who was riding a bike. He then assaulted the woman causing her to fall to the ground before attempting to steal her handbag. The woman resisted and the man made off empty handed heading in the direction of Jock’s Lodge.

The suspect wore a hunter style cap with a peak and ear flaps, which was possibly khaki green in colour, a navy blue coloured shellsuit type jacket, dark trousers and riding a dark coloured mountain bike.

Meanwhile, officers are also carrying out enquiries in relation to a robbery that occurred later that day in the

Moredun area.

At around 7pm, a 56-year-old woman was walking from Gilmerton Road into Moredun Park Gardens. Whilst on Moredun Park Gardens a male suspect snatched her handbag and made off in the direction of Moredun Park Street.

He is described as white, in his 30's and very slim. He wore a black rain jacket with the hood up, trainers and had spots on his face.

Detective Constable Peter Grady of Gayfield CID said: "At this stage of inquiry we are keeping an open mind to the possibility that these crimes are linked and I urge anyone with information to come forward.

"Fortunately, neither victim required hospital treatment but these were extremely frightening incidents for them.

"I'd again urge anyone who recognises the descriptions of the suspects to please contact police as quickly as possible."

Those with information are asked to contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively an anonymous report can be made through the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

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## **Two teenagers charged following anti-social behaviour on bonfire night**



An 18-year-old man has been arrested and charged in connection



with a series of anti-social behaviour incidents, which occurred on Bonfire Night.

The 18-year-old has also been charged with an offence under the Explosives Act 1875. He is due to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court today.

A 15-year-old boy has also been charged in connection with antisocial behaviour and an offence under the Fireworks Act 2004 (Scotland). He will be reported to the Children's Reporter.

Enquiries are continuing to trace other that were involved in anti-social behaviour on Bonfire Night.

Chief Inspector Jimmy Jones, Area Commander for North-west Edinburgh, said: "All incidents of anti-social behaviour are unacceptable, and we are working hard to bring those responsible for these incidents in North Edinburgh to account.

"We will not tolerate this type of criminality. If you have witnessed disorder or anti-social behaviour in your local area please contact us, either through 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

"The information will be noted in confidence and used to help progress enquiries that help keep our communities safe."

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## Miles secures debate on station traffic



Lothians MSP Miles Briggs has made it one of the principal

aims of his new position to get accessible taxis back into Waverley Station.

Despite Scotrail having said when they banned all vehicles except delivery trucks that this would bring the station in line with all the others they own and run, Briggs has not been dissuaded.

He is adamant that many groups of travellers need the convenience of getting a taxi down in the station, and set up a [petition](#) to gather support in August.

He has also secured a Members' debate at Holyrood next Thursday 24 November 2016 to ensure proper discussion of the matter at the highest levels.

Miles made representations to Scotrail Alliance's Chief Executive and the Transport Minister Humza Yousaf.

He hopes that his [petition](#) will demonstrate the significant level of public support for bringing back accessible taxis to the station.

Speaking earlier Miles said : "Since being elected as a Lothian MSP in May many constituents, especially elderly and disabled people, have contacted me to express their deep unhappiness with the current taxi arrangements at Edinburgh's Waverley Station.

" In 2014 taxis were banned from previous taxi ranks within the station, meaning passengers have to leave the station to get a taxi, or be dropped off, on neighbouring streets. Older people regularly tell me about the inconvenience and difficulties they face as a result. Disabled and infirm travellers say they find it very hard to navigate their way to the lifts to leave the station to get a cab while the escalators also pose a particular challenge to those visually impaired people with guide dogs. Tourists, for whom Waverley is often their first experience of Scotland having travelled

north, struggle with heavy luggage to stand outside in all weathers waiting for a taxi on crowded streets with no overhead shelter.

“ It is well over a year since the Scottish Parliament’s Infrastructure Committee investigated this issue and concluded it was “essential that suitably located, accessible taxi facilities are available at Waverley.” Constituents and visitors are frustrated that no action has yet been taken to address this matter.

“ I am pleased that my Parliamentary motion on better access at Waverley Station has gained the support of 34 fellow MSPs from across the political spectrum and that I have now been able to secure time in Parliament for a Member’s debate on this subject.

“ I am very clear that the current access arrangements at Waverley Station aren’t good enough, especially for blind, disabled and elderly residents who sadly feel they are second class citizens when it comes to using the station and who wish to see a better drop off and pick up system. It is the Scottish Government’s responsibility to ensure disabled travellers have equal access to transport services in Scotland and I feel Ministers should have been doing far more to work with Network Rail to resolve matters.

“ I look forward to the debate on the 24<sup>th</sup> and hope MSPs from across Lothian and further afield will join me in putting pressure on the Scottish Government and Network Rail to make sure one of Scotland’s key transport hubs is truly accessible for all travellers including those with visual impairment and mobility issues.

“ In the meantime I am keen for my online petition to demonstrate the level of public support that exists for the return of taxis to the station and therefore I am urging constituents and others to sign my petition. It can be

accessed

at: [www.change.org/p/scotrail-alliance-bring-back-taxi-ranks-to-within-edinburgh-waverley-station](http://www.change.org/p/scotrail-alliance-bring-back-taxi-ranks-to-within-edinburgh-waverley-station)"

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# Edinburgh Leisure – vaulting for success

Have you been inspired by the gymnastics at this year's Olympics? Get a slice of the action at Edinburgh Leisure's annual gymnastics display.



Girls' from Craiglockhart's  
Gymnastics Club will be  
performing once again at  
Edinburgh Leisure's 2016  
Annual Display

Now in its 15th year, over 1,110 gymnasts, dancers and trampolinists from five gymnastics clubs and three trampoline clubs from across nine Edinburgh Leisure venues will be coming together to delight audiences with their annual display at Meadowbank Sports Centre on Saturday, 10 December 2016.

Gymnastics Development Officer Laura Nimmo said: "Gymnastics and trampolining are a great way to provide a healthy and active lifestyle. They have many benefits and help children to gain strength, stamina, balance, coordination, flexibility as well as self-confidence.

"This annual event gives the children with Edinburgh Leisure's coaching programme the opportunity to showcase what they have been working so hard on throughout the year. In addition, it

allows them to see performances of all levels and inspires them to reach for the stars, or maybe even that gold, silver or bronze medal in the future.”

As well as featuring over 15 performances from Edinburgh Leisure gymnastics and trampoline clubs, there will also be special guest appearances from clubs across the region, including City of Edinburgh GC, Meadowbank GC, Gracemount Ibex GC, Jack Kane GC, Kestrel GC, Enigma GC, West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre Gymnastics, East Kilbride GC and Edinburgh Spirals Trampoline Club.

Tickets are now on sale [here](#). Check Edinburgh Leisure’s website for specific times.

Click here for more information on gymnastics’ classes at [Edinburgh Leisure](#) and get inspired!



Get Inspired with  
Edinburgh Leisure’s  
Annual Gymnastics’  
Display

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## Investigation underway after teenager fell from balcony at Gracemount High school



A police enquiry is underway after a teenage girl fell 15ft from a balcony at Gracemount High School earlier today.

The incident took place around 10.20am this morning

Emergency services attended the scene and the 15-year-old pupil was taken to hospital.

Her injuries are not believed to be life-threatening.

The school remains open and pupils will leave at the normal time.

A police spokesman said: "Police in Edinburgh were called to an incident at Gracemount High School around 10.20am today after a pupil fell 15ft from a balcony.

"The 15-year-old has been taken to hospital for treatment. Her injuries are not thought to be life-threatening.

"Enquiries are ongoing into the full circumstances."

A spokesman for the city council said: "There was an incident at Gracemount High School this morning, which unfortunately resulted in a female pupil being injured.

"Emergency services attended and she has been taken to hospital for treatment.

"The school remains open and pupils will leave at the normal time. We are investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident."

# Kitten dumped inside

# Marchmont Street residential bin



The Scottish SPCA is appealing for information after a 5 month old kitten was cruelly dumped in a tightly knotted pillowcase inside a residential bin on Marchmont Street, Edinburgh.

Scotland's animal welfare charity was alerted Wednesday (16 November) when a pair of students heard the kitten's cry for help. They found the young cat unhurt inside the bin.

The feline is now being cared for at the charity's animal rescue and rehoming centre in Dumbarton where she has been nicknamed Echo.

Animal Rescue Officer Fiona Thorburn said, "Echo is extremely vocal, which looks to have saved her life. Thankfully, it doesn't appear that she was in the bin for very long as the pillowcase wasn't soiled but it must have been very traumatic. If she hadn't been discovered then she would have died a slow and painful death.

"Echo is doing great despite her ordeal and is very active so doesn't seem too affected.

"This is not only an unusually cruel incident but it is also an offence. We are now looking to trace whoever is responsible and ask that anyone with information to get in touch."

Abandoning an animal is an offence under the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006. Anyone found guilty of doing so can expect to be banned from keeping animals for a fixed period or life.

Anyone with information is being urged to contact the Scottish SPCA animal helpline on 03000 999 999.

Photo by Scottish SPCA