


Meet the Funders on 8 December

 ***There will be a MEET THE FUNDERS event on Thursday, 8 December 2016 from 11am to 2pm at Heart of Midlothian Football Club “Gorgie Suite”, Tynecastle Stadium, McLeod Street, Edinburgh EH11 2NL***

Meet the Funders is a free public marketplace event providing access to funding information for community projects. It is an opportunity for groups to discuss their ideas with potential funders and collect a range of information about possible sources of grant aid. No need to book – just drop in.

Exhibitors booked in already include:

Arts & Business Scotland	Greenspace Scotland Tesco Bags of Help
Bank of Scotland Foundation	Home Energy Scotland
Big Lottery	In Kind Direct

20mph Speed Limits	The Melting Pot
City Vision & Health Matters Voting	Pass It On
Community Grants Fund – Neighbourhood Partnership	Princes Trust Enterprise
Edinburgh4Community	The Robertson Trust
EVOT Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council Trust Fund	Resourcing Scotland's Heritage
Family Fund	Scottish Power Energy People Trust
Firstport	Short Breaks Fund
General Enquiries	Sportscotland
Registered Tenants Grants	Turn2Us & The Edinburgh Trust

	Youthlink Scotland

Courtyard Edinburgh opening next month – jobs still available



The City centre hotel, Courtyard Edinburgh has about 100 jobs available for locals ahead of its opening in December.

[Courtyard Edinburgh](#), from Marriott International, is a contemporary four star hotel located next to the Playhouse. General Manager Douglas Winfield recently appointed a range of key appointments to start the recruitment drive.

Looking to fill 100 FTE positions across all aspects of the business, the recruitment will be overseen by HR Manager Libby Robertson and Operations Manager Michael Nawrot.

Michael joins from Malmaison and Waldorf Astoria hotel groups, while Libby brings over a decade's worth of hospitality experience and is responsible for providing a full HR service to the Courtyard Edinburgh's employees.

As a new venture, Courtyard Edinburgh offers a unique opportunity for employees to join the business at the start, ahead of the launch in December.

Douglas Winfield, General Manager at the Courtyard Edinburgh,

said:

“We’re in the process of creating something very special with Courtyard Edinburgh and our staff will reflect that. We value individuality and style and are looking to attract recruits to a wide range of opportunities across the business.

“With an excellent senior team in place, we now need dedicated staff who will all play a key role in getting the hotel up and running.

“Bringing their industry insight and experience, Michael and Libby have a clear idea of the positions we have to fill and what attributes successful candidates will need to demonstrate.

“It’s an incredibly exciting time and it’s not often that in any line of work that staff get an opportunity to get in at the start, helping establish the ambience, quality and high standards of customer care we’ll be creating at Edinburgh’s latest, stylish hotel.”

Courtyard Edinburgh is aimed at business travellers looking for a place where they can ‘switch off’; leisure travellers and local residents.

With 240 rooms, the hotel has a bold and fun style that shines through its décor and innovative mix of vibrant social areas – the café, bar and restaurant – alongside relaxed work spaces within the hotel’s vast open plan entrance.

It’s the third Courtyard hotel in Scotland from Marriott International and comprises a series of three adjoining Georgian townhouses, one of which was home to Robert Stevenson, the famous Scottish lighthouse engineer and the grandfather of ‘Treasure Island’ author Robert Louis Stevenson.

The hotel is owned and being developed by Edinburgh-based real

estate company Chris Stewart Group, best known for its award-winning Advocate's Close development in Edinburgh's Old Town, and will be managed and operated by Redefine|BDL Hotels, the UK's leading independent hotel management company. It will employ up to 100 FTE.

For further information on vacancies, contact Libby Robertson at hr@courtyardedinburgh.co.uk for details.

Neil Lennon frustrated at conceding from corner



If yesterday's game had been a boxing match, and at times it felt like it was, the referee would have stopped it to save the Falkirk players from any more punishment.

The first quarter was evenly balanced with both teams guilty of niggly fouls before former Hibs' midfielder Tom Taiwo was shown a straight red card following a challenge on John McGinn.

The ordering off sparked an angry reaction from both sets of players as well as the supporters and from then on the game was an ill-tempered affair which referee John Beaton struggled to control.

By ignoring blatant time wasting by Falkirk keeper Danny Rogers, Beaton annoyed the large Hibs' support who all

recalled that last season Mark Oxley had been punished for much less.

Hibs had the ball in the net twice but both 'goals' were ruled out for offside and created chance after chance but the well organised Falkirk defence held firm.

With 13 minutes remaining Falkirk took the lead against the run of play and what annoyed the Hibs' fans most was that goal-scorer John Baird should not have been on the field.

His 'tackle' on Andrew Shinnie merited a red card but did not even receive a yellow as did his 'challenge' on Paul Hanlon where he grabbed the Hibs' defender round the neck.

Remarkably Beaton awarded free kicks but took no further action and he was roundly booed off the pitch at full time.

Hanlon equalised five minutes later but the Bairns held on for a share of the points,

After the game Lennon said: "We had total domination as you'd expect with 10 men. We should've won the game and they've scored from one corner.

"That's my frustration really, not the amount of goals we haven't scored, but the fact we conceded from a corner where we just lose our discipline. Three players going for the one ball; you don't defend like that.

"We showed enough character to get back into the game and on another day we'd have won the game comfortably. It's frustrating, but we're a point clear at the top of the league.

"I think it was a sending off; it's a two-foot challenge, his studs were up and he was late. I maybe need to see it again, but I wasn't surprised to see a red card."

Witness appeal following two car collision on Parkhead Drive



Police have appealed for witnesses following a two-car collision involving a yellow Peugeot 107 and a black BMW which took place on Parkhead Drive, near to the junction with Murrayburn Road, at around 7.25pm on Friday night.

Officers have confirmed that a 22-year-old man was later charged with various road traffic offences and he will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Constable Grant Hastie of Police Scotland's Roads Policing Unit said: "Fortunately, no one was seriously injured in this collision, however I'm appealing to anyone who was in the area and who might have witnessed this incident to come forward.

"I'm especially keen to hear from anyone who saw either vehicle before the collision itself.

"If you have relevant information please contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively an anonymous report can be made through the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Rugby – Scotland v Australia

2016 Autumn Test Series

Aussies win another one-pointer at the death



A record crowd of over 65,000 at BT Murrayfield watched once again as Scotland were edged out by Australia with a score in the final few minutes of Saturday's opener of the 2016 Autumn International Series.

Despite having a 10 point lead at the break, several penalties at the breakdown, gave Australia the chance to get back into and, eventually, take the match.

Following a, well observed, minute's silence and the anthems, it had all started well for the home side with an early penalty from scrum half, Greg Laidlaw giving Scotland a 3-0 lead less than three minutes into the match.

But Australia are not one of the best teams in the World for nothing and they came straight back to threaten the Scots' line, only being prevented from crossing by some fierce tackling. The final 'fierce tackle', less than five metres out, saw prop, Sekope Kepu lose the ball in a hit from No. 8, Ryan Wilson. Unfortunately, that passage of play saw two players subbed off with injuries – Wilson limping off for Scotland with a very odd 'blood' injury and lock, Adam Coleman, for Australia.

Scotland's inexperienced front row then came under a great deal for pressure in the ensuing scrum, but the ball came out on the right side and was cleared upfield.

Two minutes later, Scotland scored their first try. Regaining possession from a penalty line out and faced with an advancing


defence, stand off, Finn Russell, spotted a gap at the back and deftly chipped the ball over for debutante centre, Huw Jones to run onto and have a clear line in to score. Laidlaw then kicked the conversion and, with less than 10 minutes played, Scotland were 10-0 ahead.

Ahead for all of around four minutes, as the visitors surged back, with a fine display of attacking play, to score a try of their own.

Regaining their own restart, Australia quickly pushed up into Scotland's 22, winning a lineout deep in the opposition's 22. The ball was then fired across the field and centre, Reece Hodge, crashed through Wilson's replacement, John Hardy to touch down for his side's first points. No. 10, Bernard Foley, was then successful with the conversion to make it a three point game at 10-7.

The match now settled down to a midfield battle with neither side gaining much of an advantage until, with just over 20 minutes played, Australia won a penalty just outside Scotland's 22, which Foley slotted home to even the scores at 10-10.

A missed penalty on 25 minutes from Laidlaw, saw Scotland regain possession from the clearance and get another attack underway. Quick handling moved the ball across the pitch and Russell nearly broke through, but the damage to the line was done and Jones darted through a gap to score his second try of the match. Laidlaw made up for his earlier miss and it was 17-10 to Scotland.

The final 10 minutes of the half were, once again, fairly evenly balanced and the teams went into the break with the hosts 17-10 ahead. 

An early penalty from Foley saw the score closed to 17-13, before, with seven minutes of the half played, the Scottish

pack drove lock, Jonny Gray, over the line for a TMO decision on the possible score.

The lead up to the try had been all about the home side. With accurate passing and quick recycles, play had moved into the Aussie 22. A break down the right from full back, Stuart Hogg, lead to a ruck less than five metres out. Gray picked the ball up and, along with his brother Richie, barged through the opposition to touch down – as was ultimately decided – on the line. Laidlaw lined up for the none-to-difficult kick, but, crucially, hit the post, keeping the score to 22-13.

In the lead up to the next score, Australia took full advantage of Scots' indiscipline to advance and put Foley in a position where, with 55 minutes on the clock, he scored with his third kick of the match for 22-16, or, as it turned out, a converted try behind.

The next 20 minutes were played at a furious rate all over the pitch, with both sides having chances, but not managing to make those chances count. During this time, the visitors lost sub, Will Skelton to yellow for a shoulder charge at a ruck inside the opposition five metre zone, but the loss of a man didn't seem to slow the Aussies down.

Indeed, with less than five minutes left, they were, once again, pressurising the Scots' line. A line out gave them possession and they 'moved' the defence back to the line when giant centre, Tevita Kuridrani received the ball and battered his way through Peter Horne to stretch out and place the ball next to the posts. Job done? Foley could hardly fail to miss the kick and it was, seemingly, all over with two minutes to play, at 23-22, making Laidlaw's miss all the more painful.

However, the next six minutes of play, gave Scotland some hope. With less than 30 seconds left a scrum just short 10 metres out from the Australia try line took an absolute age to set up, but referee, John Lacey, was having none of it. When

it collapsed just over the 80 minutes, he reset but Australia were then pinged for an early push and Scotland set to work.

However, despite their best efforts, the ball was eventually lost forward just shy of the line, bringing the match to a conclusion and the Aussies could breathe a sigh of relief after dodging yet another Scottish bullet.



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

Edinburgh Leisure takes on sports facilities at two city schools



The newly redeveloped James Gillespie's campus was officially opened on 26 October 2016

The Council has transferred new sports facilities at the two newest Edinburgh schools to Edinburgh Leisure who say they were ready for their second school, the brand new [Portobello High School](#) at the beginning of this month.

This will be run as a 'Community Sport Hub' model catering for as many sports and activities as possible as well as prioritising clubs and groups who provide activities to the school pupils. The first bookings are now in place.

As well as these longer term bookings, there is also the possibility of general access and limited bookings from anyone, especially from the local area, for a pitch, dance

studio or gym hall booking eg: for badminton.

For more information or to make a booking, please call 0131 669 0404 (option 2) or email blockbookings@edinburghleisure.co.uk. Charges will apply – please refer to the [CEC price guide](#).

Edinburgh Leisure is also looking after 'free' local community access to the 3G astro pitches. Postcodes will apply (EH7 6LD, all EH8, all EH15 & EH21 8RL/8RQ). Proof of address will be required for any free booking. This free access is bookable on a week to week basis and for available slots only. Customers are asked to call 0131 669 0404 (option 2) from 8.30am every Monday to see what availability there is for that week. For further details call the same number.

James Gillespie's High School

Similar to Portobello, [James Gillespie's High School](#) opened its doors in September to community access. Edinburgh Leisure is now working on priority for bookings for their Sports Hub.

If you would like any further information or make a booking at Gillespie's,

email blockbookings@edinburghleisure.co.uk (subject name: James Gillespie's) or call 0131 458 2100.

Photographers and moon lovers – Remember the Supermoon tomorrow!

Get ready for the biggest ‘supermoon’ in nearly six decades

by [Chris North](#), [Cardiff University](#)

The biggest “[supermoon](#)” since 1948 will grace the sky on November 14. But what makes it so super? Well, not much more than the fact that it’ll be a bit bigger than normal, but that’s absolutely no reason not to go outside and look at it anyway. If you miss it, you’ll have to wait to around November 25, 2034 for another chance.

The occurrence of a supermoon, or to give it its proper name, a “super perigee full moon”, [is not particularly uncommon](#). It is the result of two regular astronomical events happening at about the same time.

As the moon orbits the Earth it moves around the sky relative to the sun. This means we see different proportions illuminated from one night to the next – an effect known as the phases of the moon. Once per orbit the moon is opposite the sun in the sky, meaning that the side facing the Earth is fully illuminated. This happens about once a month, so hopefully isn’t that unfamiliar to most people.

The other regular event requires little explaining: it is simply [the moon’s “perigee”](#), or closest approach to the Earth. Although the moon orbits the Earth once every 27 days or so (actually about 27 days and eight hours), it doesn’t go round in a perfect circle. Instead it traces out an ellipse or oval shape, getting slightly closer and further from the Earth over the course of its orbit. At its closest the moon is just under 360,000km away, while at its furthest it is at a distance of around 405,000km. The closer an object like the moon is to Earth the larger it appears in the sky.



The Moon’s orbit, showing perigee and full moon.

Chris North/Cardiff Uni.

At around 1:30pm (GMT) on November 14, the Earth, sun and moon will be almost perfectly in a line (an effect known as a “syzygy”), with the moon directly opposite the sun. A couple of hours earlier, at about 11:30pm, it will also have reached its closest point to Earth – perigee – at a distance of 356,500km. It will then begin moving further away very slowly – but by the time the sun sets and the moon rises in the UK, it will only be about 50km further away, which isn’t much in the grand scheme of things.

Both of these effects happen about once a month, so you might think that there’s no reason why every full moon shouldn’t be the same. However, there’s another effect that means they get out of sync – the fact that the Earth is orbiting the sun. This means that the moon’s closest approach can occur at any point in its orbit around the Earth.

To see why, fast forward to when the moon will once again be back at the same point in its orbit – in about 27 days. But over those 27 days the Earth has moved round the sun a bit, so the moon has to “catch up” over the course of a couple of days to get back to being opposite the sun, by which point it’s not at perigee anymore. This “catching up” is why the moon orbits the Earth in 27.3 days, but there are between 29 and 30 days between full moons. Over time, the perigee and full moon get more and more out of sync, but after a year or two they get more or less back in sync again.

Catching the event

The reason this perigee full moon is quite so “super” is because perigee and full moon happen at almost exactly the same time, so the moon is at its closest possible when it’s also at its fullest. There are a number of other subtle effects that [cause the moon’s orbit to vary slightly](#) in size and shape, but this one pips the last few decades’ worth of

super perigee full moons by a few hundred kilometres. In 2034, when we'll have a similarly big supermoon, it will occur within a few minutes of its closest approach, and even then it will be just 100km closer than this month's full moon.

These differences are pretty small, and with the moon rising so high in the sky, as it does in the winter months, it'll be quite hard to notice any difference without comparing photographs. But regardless of how big and bright it looks, the moon really is a beautiful object to look at. Of course, it might be cloudy on Monday night – though it can be rather atmospheric to see the bright, full moon through thin cloud. Even if it's completely overcast, there are plenty of other chances to see the moon as it gradually moves past its full phase over the next few nights so don't be disheartened. It rises at different times of day and night as it orbits the Earth, so isn't always up at the same time, but it's not going anywhere!



The crescent moon is stunning, too.

[Pixabay](#)

The lunar phases will continue unabated, and a few weeks after the full moon the crescent moon will be in the evening skies again (and will also be visible in the daytime) so go and have a look again, and see how it compares. When it's not full, the terminator (the line between the light and dark parts of the moon) can look amazing through binoculars, as the angle of the sun's light picks out the shadows of the craters and mountains and gives it a jagged, three-dimensional look.

So if you've never really looked at the moon – I mean *really* looked at it – make this your excuse to go outside and look up.

[Chris North](#), Lecturer of Physics and Astronomy, [Cardiff University](#)

This article was originally published on [The Conversation](#).
Read the [original article](#).

Il Calice – Style, Class and Sophistication in the heart of Edinburgh



When the editor of the esteemed Edinburgh Reporter asked if I wanted to write a review for Il Calice, Edinburgh's newest wine and cocktail bar, I accepted on the basis that someone has to do the tough jobs for the capital city's leading local news website.

I headed to Picardy Place in the capital on Saturday evening, with the city centre bustling with rugby aficionados after yet another heartbreak for Scotland against Australia. But the fight through the kilted and gold-shirted crowds was certainly worth it as Il Calice offered a superb choice of wines, inventive cocktails and sumptuous Italian inspired small plates – perfect for a Saturday night.

Il Calice is situated at 4 Picardy Place, opposite the city's Omni Centre and in the shadow of the soon to be redeveloped St James centre. It's a listed Georgian townhouse in the process of renovation with the ground floor bar and eatery now open to the public.

The word that came to mind when I entered the impressive entrance was style. There is an elegance and class about Il Calice which sets it apart from similar wine and cocktail

bars. It may seem a small point to some but being greeted by warm and welcoming staff means a lot to me, as my regular grumblings about customer service elsewhere would indicate.

The extensive selection of wines, sourced by owners Ronnie and Kyle Reid, is impressive. But then as wine-importers you would expect nothing but the best from father and son. They are keen for their customers to be able to sample the very best wines from around the world and if you're a wine connoisseur there is no better place in Edinburgh to be.

There is also a wide range of impressive cocktails, mixed and poured with an expertise you would expect from such an establishment.

Although fine wine and cocktails are its main theme, Il Calice also offers high quality Italian-inspired dishes. A particular mention for the grilled chicken dish which impressed my wife – and it takes a lot to impress Mrs Smith, believe me!

There are ambitious plans for four luxurious bedroom suites on the upper floors of the building – if the wines, cocktails and food are a guide they will be luxurious indeed.

It's good to know that, in the age of more and more fast-food outlets and buffet-style help-yourself restaurants, style, class and not a little sophistication still matters to some. Il Calice has this in abundance. It's close proximity to Edinburgh's Playhouse makes it an ideal location for pre-theatre drinks. Drop by soon – you won't be disappointed.

Facebook: [il Calice Edinburgh](#)

Edinburgh Reporter review: *****

Three arrested following drugs seizures in north Edinburgh



Three people have been arrested and charged under the Misuse of Drugs Act following enforcement action in the north of the city.

Community Policing Officers and Proactive CID detectives executed warrants at four addresses in West Pilton Place, Pilton Drive North, Crewe Road West and Wardieburn Road on Friday, November 11th.

A quantity of Class A and B drugs were subsequently recovered, including cocaine, diamorphine and cannabis.

A 28-year-old man and a 29-year-old woman were arrested and held in custody to appear before Edinburgh Sheriff Court on Monday, November 14th.

Meanwhile, a 31-year-old man was also arrested for various drug offences and he will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Chief Inspector Jimmy Jones, Area Commander for North West Edinburgh, said: “We’ve been listening to residents and recognise the profound impact drugs have on our communities.

“As a result we’ve carried out this latest action to disrupt the drug local network and remove these harmful substances from our streets.

“We will continue to work alongside our communities in order to address the crimes and issues that have the greatest impact on people.

“Local residents play a vital role in helping shape our policing priorities through continual engagement, such as the Your View Counts online, and I would urge residents to continue to work alongside us so we can improve the quality of life in your area.

“Tackling illegal drugs and the associated harm they cause, including violence and antisocial behaviour, remains one of our top priorities.

“As such we will continue to act on intelligence from the public to carry out enforcement action such as this.

“If you have any information relating to ongoing drug crime in your area then please contact us on 101 or make an anonymous

Honours even in ill-tempered encounter at Easter Road



A late Paul Hanlon goal secured a share of the points in an ill tempered encounter between Hibs and Falkirk at Easter Road this afternoon.

The Bairns played three quarters of the game with ten men after former Hibs' midfielder Tom Taiwo was sent off for a reckless challenge but Neil Lennon's men were unable to capitalise on the extra man advantage

Lennon kept faith with the outfield players who started in last week's victory over Ayr United, including John McGinn who was part of the Scotland squad that lost to England at Wembley last night.

The only change was in goal with Ross Laidlaw replacing Ofir Marciano who suffered an injury whilst on international duty with Israel.

A piper played 'Flowers of the Forrest' ahead of the game and in the first minute McGinn had the crowd on their feet with a run which saw him beat four players before being brought down.

Neither side were able to get any rhythm as the game was littered with niggly fouls.

Falkirk almost took the lead in the 18th minute when Craig Sibbald volleyed a Myles Hippolyte cross over the bar from 15 yards out.

Five minutes later, Taiwo saw red after lunging into a tackle with McGinn and referee John Beaton had no hesitation in sending him off.

Falkirk immediately started to waste time with the main culprit being keeper Danny Rogers, much to the fury of the home fans.

In the 27th minute McGinn fired a powerful 25 yard toward the top corner but Rogers was able to tip the ball over the bar.

Grant Holt then had a header cleared off the line as Hibs pressed for an opener. The former Norwich striker had the ball in the net but the referee had already blown for a free kick by Hanlon.

Hibs continued to dominate and Rogers produced a fine point blank save to deny Holt then just on half time, Easter road erupted when Andrew Shinnie won the ball in midfield and ran into the box. He was challenged by two defenders and the ball fell to Martin Boyle who fired it into the net but the linesman flagged for offside.

Hibs started the second half brightly and both Fraser five and Liam Fontaine went close.

Falkirk's blatant time wasting infuriated the Hibs fans as did Beaton's failure to act. He did however speak to Rogers in the 62nd minute but failed to produce a card and his warning made no difference.

Despite Hibs' dominance, they were unable to break down Falkirk's well organised defence.

With 13 minutes remaining, the Bairns took the lead against the run of play. A John Baird run won a corner which Mark Kerr sent into the box. The ball was won by a Falkirk head and the ball fell to Baird who hooked it into the net sparking wild scenes in the south stand.

To add insult to injury Baird was lucky to still be on the pitch after three fouls which were each worthy of a yellow card.

Lennon then brought on Dylan McGeouch for Andrew Shinnie as Hibs pressed for an equaliser and their hard work paid off in the 82nd minute when Hanlon headed home McGinn's cross from the left.

McGinn almost grabbed the winner in time added on but his 25 yard strike was tipped round the post and the Bairns held on for the point.

After the game a dejected Lennon said: "Falkirk were never in it but they defended manfully. Our final ball was poor on too many occasions. We lacked a cutting edge today. For me there were not enough clear cut chances.

"It feels like two points dropped."

"McGinn said: "I got back into the flat at 3am so it wasn't ideal. I wasn't 100% but I was fit enough to play the 90 minutes.

"I think we deserved the three points overall."

Hibs remain top of the Championship, one point clear of Dundee United.

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

Falkirk: Rogers. Leahy, Muirhead, McCracken, Taiwo, Kerr, Baird, Sibbald, Hippolyte, Gasparotto, Miller. Subs Mehmet, Grant, Craigen, Shepherd, Rankin, McHugh, Watson

Referee John Beaton

Attendance:14,550

Government's Read, Write, Count campaign means free books and games



Every P2 and P3 child in Scotland will receive a pack containing books, games and other materials to help improve their literacy and numeracy skills.



Education Secretary John Swinney launched the first packs at Towerbank Primary School in Edinburgh as part of the Read, Write, Count campaign delivered by Scottish Book Trust which

encourages parents to actively engage in their child's learning journey.



An estimated 128,000 packs, and another 1,600 in Gaelic, are available for pupils in the age group in the run up to Book Week Scotland (21 – 27 November), a national celebration of books and reading.

Edinburgh buildings glowing red for remembrance



Across the country buildings and structures are glowing red this weekend in support of the 2016 Scottish Poppy Appeal.

This is all to raise awareness for the annual fundraising campaign run by the leading charity Poppyscotland. While the 'Light Up Red' campaign has been running for 5 years, 2016 includes a longer list with 20 iconic landmarks taking part.

Edinburgh Castle, The Kelpies, The Balmoral clock tower, the EICC, The Hydro, Eilean Donan Castle, Glasgow Science Centre, The Hydro, Inverness Castle, Jenners, The Kelpies, McCaig's Tower in Arbroath, Ness Bridge, St Andrews House, St Magnus Cathedral in Orkney, the Titan Crane, the Signal Tower Museum, AECC, Ayr Racecourse and Victoria Quay will all turn red to mark the remembrance period. The *Heavy Horse* statue is also wearing a specially-designed *poppy once again* to celebrate the appeal.



Gordon Michie, Head of Fundraising at Poppyscotland,

said: *"It's fantastic to see Scotland lighting up poppy red for the Scottish Poppy Appeal, and we've been blown away by the country's support."*

"We hope that when people see all these wonderful iconic structures glowing red over the weekend they will think about the many ways they too can go the extra mile in their support for this year's Poppy Appeal. Whether it's putting a little bit more in the poppy tin, or doing something completely different to raise money, every penny helps us to offer life-changing support so we can be there when they call for backup."

Beware of email parking scam

I received an email from UKPC who claim to have a parking ticket outstanding.

Sadly for them I wasn't driving a car that day so it immediately raised a concern.



Apart from the spelling error in the ticket, there is also a link in the email and according to others it may contain malware. So beware!

Large scale disturbance in Leith Walk bar



Police are appealing for witnesses following a serious assault and large scale disturbance on Leith Walk.

At around 1am this morning a fight broke out within the Spey Lounge involving a number of people.

This then spilled out onto the pavement and roadway before dispersing.

Police quickly arrived at the scene but found those involved had since fled the area.

A 22-year-old man sustained serious head injuries and he was taken to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh for medical attention.

A 22-year-old woman also required medical attention after suffering minor injuries. She has since been discharged and is recovering at home.

An extensive investigation involving door-to-door enquiries and a full review of the local CCTV network is now underway, which is being led by detectives from Gayfield CID.

Anyone who witnessed this incident is asked to come forward.

Detective Constable Ryan Lee of Gayfield CID said: "This was an extremely violent attack and we are keen to trace all parties involved as quickly as possible.

"Leith Walk is a busy part of the city and many people had been out watching the football match between England and Scotland. We are today appealing to anyone who was in the area

and who saw what happened to come forward.

“We’re also keen to hear from motorists who were travelling on Leith Walk and who were forced to slow down in order to pass the group safely.

“Those with information are asked to call police on 101 or alternatively an anonymous report can be made through the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.”

Reindeer Land returns to Waverley Mall



Waverley Mall will once again play host to the spectacular Reindeer Land, located on the Centre’s roof.

The attraction, which opens on 18 November 2016, features rides, food and games, as well as Santa and his reindeer friends on selected days.

The reindeer will be at the attraction on the 3, 10, 17, 18, 23 and 24 December.

Reindeer Land also features an array of rides, drinks and snacks, including Nutella crepes and strawberries, Gluhwein, and non-alcoholic mulled wine.

“Reindeer Land really does have it all this Christmas”, says Centre manager Martin Botha.

“Not only can shoppers pick up some great Christmas gifts and food, after they can pop up to the roof and enjoy some family

entertainment.”

Reindeer Land will be open 18 November to 8 January. Opening times are 10am-10pm.

For more information, click [here](#)

#Edinburgh2050 Councillor Lesley Hinds on her vision for Edinburgh

In May 2017, when I step down from the City of Edinburgh Council, I will have worked as a councillor for 33 years. During this time I have stood and been elected in eight local council elections, serving under several different administrations and holding a variety of roles, from Leader of the Council to Lord Provost.

Times have changed a great deal since I was first elected to the Telford ward in 1984 – both in Edinburgh and further afield. Back then, the capital’s population was in decline, several gap sites were in real need of development and countrywide unemployment was at a record high.

Since then, we have seen a rise in affordable homes, investment in the regeneration of some of Edinburgh’s most deprived areas, not to mention top-quality developments and an increasingly talented workforce alongside an integrated transport system and world-class cultural offering.



Convener of

Transport &
Environment –
Lesley Hinds

In Edinburgh, we have launched the world-famous Hogmanay Street Party, witnessed the first sitting of the devolved Scottish Parliament in 272 years and seen a World Heritage Site established. What's more, unemployment is at an all time low and more people than ever are choosing to live here – almost half a million compared to 425,000 33 years ago.

So just think what could change over the next 33 years. As I prepare to retire from service, I look forward to the next generation of change-makers taking over and helping to shape the city's future, with the help of residents.

I've worked on so many worthwhile projects during my time in office, from collaborating with the anti-apartheid movement, erecting the Woman and Child statue in Festival Square and naming the Mandela Room in the City Chambers, to marching the city as part of Make Poverty History. Locally, I have championed regeneration, building community centres, libraries and local art projects in areas like Drylaw and Muirhouse and new and improved housing city-wide.

As Transport and Environment Convener, I have engaged in some of the city's most controversial issues, overseeing an annual increase in the city's cycling spend (now 9% of our transport budget), a continuous rise in recycling and a flourishing publicly-owned bus service in Lothian Buses. And, love it or loathe it, I am proud to have seen the completion and subsequent success of the tram project as transport leader.

For the last 40 years I have called Edinburgh my home. I have raised three children here, made friends for life, and look forward to many more years spent living in the capital.

I know things are bound to change over the coming decades.

Right now we're at a fork in the road for local government – one way could take us toward increased devolution, where we can address local issues in our own way. The other leads to the centralisation of power, where Edinburgh's residents will be denied any real influence.

For me, I want the former scenario to play out over the next 33 years. I want people to be able to live, shop and socialise in thriving local communities, with effective and well-thought out transport infrastructure, good public and active travel opportunities and efficient recycling services.

My Edinburgh Vision is a capital that continues to flourish and regenerate, for the gap between rich and poor to narrow and for an inclusive society in 2050.

Have your say on Edinburgh City Vision 2050 [here](#)



Cash in to The Attic Collective



The Attic Collective

This October the Festival City Theatres Trust, which runs the Festival and King's Theatres in Edinburgh, announced the appointment of the actors who will take part in the inaugural year of The Attic Collective. This is a new theatre company for emerging actors aged 18-26 working with Director Susan Worsfold and Cat Sheridan, Learning and Participation Coordinator for the Trust and Creative Producer for the

Collective.

400 aspiring actors applied for the opportunity to join The Attic Collective, a unique, free talent development initiative offering professional training, industry access and performance opportunities. Following two rounds of auditions in September, a core company of 18 will be based at the King's Theatre Edinburgh for the next twelve months.

The 2017 will launch The Attic Collective's first ever season – with a diverse and vibrant programme comprising of –

Lysistrata by Aristophanes; Friday 27 and Saturday 28 January, King's Theatre Edinburgh.

War in America (World Premiere) by Jo Clifford; May 2017.

The Threepenny Opera by Bertolt Brecht, September 2017.

The Edinburgh Reporter gained exclusive access not only to both Creative Producer Catrin Sheridan and Director Susan Worsfold but also members of the company in between very busy rehearsal schedules. All members of the Company responded to the questions individually.

TER. Can you summarise very briefly for us what The Attic Collective is and the impact it will have for actors in Scotland?

Catrin Sheridan. The Attic Collective is a new initiative from the Festival Cities Theatre Trust, providing unprecedented access to the industry for a group of 18 emerging actors. The core of the collective is about providing free opportunities in an industry that is suffering from austerity, cuts and rising fees in education.

Susan Worsfold. The Attic Collective is an ensemble theatre company for emerging actors aged 18-26. Through the performance of three main stage productions across one year, professional industry-led workshops and mentoring, the

Collective offers unrivalled and free access to the industry for Scotland's emerging theatre talent.



Catrin & Susan

TER. How did you arrive at the rather bohemian-chic title for the Company?

Catrin Sheridan: The name was an easy one. After starting at the Trust I was shown an underused space in the King's "attic". It needed a bit of TLC but I was able to persuade the Trust that investing a bit of money and turning this carpeted fading room in to a black box studio complete with dance floor and production office was a good idea. They did and it became another working space for the Learning and Participation department. We knew we needed a dedicated space to run the Collective and this is very difficult in our theatres as the programme of work and the needs of visiting companies are always changing. Once we had converted the attic it was a no brainer. The Collective would be in residence in the attic and so the Attic Collective was born.

Susan Worsfold. Whilst the company works at both FCTT's venues – the Edinburgh Festival Theatre and the Kings Theatre – it will be mainly resident at the Kings Theatre where the rehearsal space is a black box studio in the attic of the theatre building.

TER. The 2017 launch programme couldn't be more diverse, drawing on over two thousand years of Drama. Three productions beginning with Aristophanes' Lysistrata. His anti-war 'Carry On (but certainly not up) the Athenian women polemic satire. What's The Attic Collective's take on this bawdy, 'pricking' the bubble of Dulce et Decorum Est?



Catrin Sheridan. We shall be drawing on the themes of Cash, Capital, War and Women, which connect the three productions in our first season. *Lysistrata* is going to be set in a non-denominated public space, in a modernised clean and sanitized world. With plenty of scope for us to make a mess. We will be pulling on the base comedy of the piece and contrasting that with the idea of high art and beauty.

Susan Worsfold. All our seasons' productions draw on the topics of Cash, Capital, Women and War. *Lysistrata* certainly connects to all four! Our production is a contemporary take on the production, where clean aesthetic lines offer space to make a mess. Aristophanes 'low comedy' ethos of 'if it makes 'em laugh, do it!' is welcomed with open arms. This heightened hilarity highlights the darker streams running through the play, namely the de-voiced slaves that have a silent and significant presence throughout and the ultimate aim of sacrifice at all costs for the sake of peace. Gary Cameron's compositions sweep through and punctuate the story, sung, played and performed by the cast.

TER. You will have seen David Greig's Lyceum production of *Suppliant Women*, resonant with contemporary themes of war refugees, female enslavement, he nevertheless kept to a translation of Aeschylus' text. Its power was even greater. What was your rationale with your interpretation on *Lysistrata* and can we have some sneaky tidbits?

Susan Worsfold. It's interesting to remind ourselves that the Peloponnesian War, which lasted for 30 years and which most of Aristophanes plays are either evaluating, criticising or trying to offer an alternative against, was between two states that were culturally very similar and with roughly 130 drivable miles distance between them. That's just under the distance between Edinburgh and Inverness!! So there might be some of that in there.

TER. Was the play a new experience for the younger cast?

Catrin Sheridan. Our emerging actors are thrilled to be doing *Lysistrata*. Susan and I were both fans of the piece already and aware that it isn't as widely known as some of Aristophanes' other pieces. But after reading it the Collective couldn't wait to get their teeth in to this script. There is a huge amount of fun to be had and we are relishing the challenge.

Susan Worsfold. This play would be a new experience for most casts and professional actors. Whilst Greek Tragedy is performed a lot and a well-known medium for most actors – referenced in training and by most producing houses – Greek Comedy is a much less worked form. Aristophanes is thought to have written 40 comedies, with only 11 surviving and these are very rarely performed in a professional capacity. On one level, they are much more difficult to get to grips with, with the specific comedic references being dependant on the minutiae of life and people living at that time. That being said, the form of the comedy, the gags, the pointing at politicians, the desire for peace and the ego of patriarchal power that brokers such wars are wholeheartedly clear and present and the cast have very much resonated with this – and had a lot of fun in doing so. Aristophanes speaks to our time, our next generation of young political thinkers and our Collective's emerging artists.

TER. Do you intend to shock, titillate and agitate the delicate maiden aunts of polite society Edinburgh as equally as draw an older teenage audience and show them a thing or two?

Catrin Sheridan. Absolutely. There is no getting away from the fact that this is a brash comedy with scope for massive amounts of innuendo and absurdist comedy and we will be taking inspiration from Aristophanes himself by putting in as many styles of comedy as we can. However we will also be looking at how to contrast that with the political nods in the script. Watch this space...

Susan Worsfold. The Attic Collective absolutely has the ability to excite, provoke, entertain and broker new audiences of all generations. Our season's theme is Classical Structure, Contemporary Voice and this relates not only to our productions but to the buildings we are creating in. The company are breathing their voices into these historic spaces and in doing so can re-ignite known classics whilst creating contemporary work with a fresh voice. We want to open the doors of the theatre and invite everyone in.

✖ **TER.** We are familiar with Brecht/Weil's brooding and prescient Threepenny Opera's songs, what is The Attic Collective have up its sleeve apart from Mack's knife, obviously?

Catrin Sheridan. We have plenty up our sleeves for Threepenny; not least our decision to relocate from SoHo London to Edinburgh's own 'pubic triangle' in the present day, which will add a local twist to this classic. The Collective will be embracing the opportunity to show case some of our actor/musicians and play with the seasons key themes; Cash, Capital, War and Women.

TER. Jo Clifford's world premiere of War In America, was this an Attic commission?

Susan Worsfold. This work was originally commissioned 20 years ago, in 1996, by the Royal Lyceum Theatre. It was not produced as at the time it was deemed 'too offensive'. As with all her work, Jo Clifford is very much ahead of the curve as a writer and so we find that a play written two decades ago still rings true today as if it were written this morning.

TER. Early days indeed but are there plans to takes these productions elsewhere?

Catrin Sheridan. It is certainly a long term aim, but for now we want to focus on making our mark and our home on the FCTT stages.

Susan Worsfold. That would absolutely be the long term hope.

TER invited some of the first year Attic Collective burning tyros to lend their perspective on this exciting project:

Imogen Lucy Reiter

This collective is vital in my eyes because not only does it help develop skills and our craft but it's a place that trusts us as young people and emerging artists to work. Anyone who works in the arts can tell you that trust and belief in you and your work is invaluable.

The fact that the AC has put resources and money into us, that they treat this company like a working company, is vital, in my opinion, to our confidence and development as artists.

There is nothing else out there that I know of that takes young performers seriously, that instead of treating our career aspirations as far-fetched, works to help us achieve them

Lewis Gribben

The Attic Collective is really needed in our industry because without it my voice could never be heard on a main stage like the Kings'. Attic Collective takes us seriously and is a place where we as a Company can gain training and mentoring to help hone our acting craft and gain confidence as actors without us being labelled as a 'Youth Group or Youth Theatre.' For me, no one has ever heard of anything like us. We are the first wave of unknown talent that AC put their money, and faith into. That for us it feels really amazing and humbling that we are the flag bearers for the AC.

Cait MacInnes Irvine

The Scottish arts scene is incredible, but being a small pool makes it difficult to break into. The genuine innovation of The Attic Collective – i.e. taking applications from anyone aged 18-25 with a passion for acting and a desire to train,

grow and develop their skills, all without having to pay a penny – is incredible. You only have to look round the rehearsal room and in every face you see drive, talent and creativity.

Each member has come a different route to be here, and I'm constantly blown away by the group of people I'm lucky enough to be working with week in and week out. Additionally, as The Attic Collective is a part of the Festival City Theatres Trust, the reputation we are being entrusted with only adds to the fire in our bellies.

I firmly believe that if you believe in the arts, you have to believe in emerging artists. Opportunities like this are sadly few and far between, but I'm certain that the success The Attic Collective is going to carve for itself is going to pave the way for similar initiatives, and personally I think that can't happen quickly enough. The Collective means the world to me, and I cannot wait to see what the rest of the year is going to bring!

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



**Lib Dem leader looks to
Robert the Bruce for
inspiration**



At his party's Scottish Conference in Dunfermline later today, Willie Rennie will call on his party to stand up for progressive politics. He will call on the inspiration of Robert the Bruce who refused to give up in the face of adversity. Mr Rennie will say his party should make the optimistic and progressive case for the United Kingdom, Europe and the USA.

Mr Rennie will say:

"The grief this week has been palpable. Not just the fear of what a President Trump could bring but the sense of loss of what could have been. The first woman president, committed to expanding healthcare, internationalism, equal rights, tolerance. A president full of hope and opportunity – looking for the best in people, not the worst.

"It was the same sense of loss, even of bereavement, that so many people felt after the Brexit vote. The result was the opposite of everything we have worked for over the decades. It made many wonder if they even recognise the country we live in any more.

"So what do we do? How do we respond?

"Of course we could turn our backs, cut the ties, walk away. We could partition the country and hope we live in the best bit. But Liberals are not quitters. I refuse to give up on America, I refuse to give up on Europe, I refuse to give up on the United Kingdom.

"I am optimistic about our country's future. I want our relationship with others to be open and progressive. I will not give up on that ambition.

"And our party should not. And our country should not."

He will go onto say:

"No matter how disturbed by the results in June and this week,

as liberals, our response must be one of hope, not despair. A mile from this venue is the Abbey Church, the final resting place of Robert the Bruce.

“Perhaps we should be inspired by his relationship with that famous spider. If at first you don’t succeed, try, try and try again. This is a Robert the Bruce moment for us.

“Just because the progressives have failed on Europe and the United States does not mean that we give up on the USA, EU and UK. We don’t give up on people.

“We must try, try and try again.”

And now for the next Christmas ad...

We all know that these ads are a kind of fiction but it is difficult not to be drawn to them at the same time! So just for you...

Tonight, M&S launches its 2016 Christmas campaign, with the release of its much anticipated Christmas advert Christmas with Love. Christmas with Love is its most customer-centric campaign to date, with input from thousands of its 32 million customers across the UK to develop the star of their Christmas ad – Mrs Claus.

The ad premiered tonight, Friday 11th November, at 9pm. It is also M&S’s most socially immersive campaign to date, launching in the first ad break of Gogglebox to more than three million viewers, alongside landing on YouTube, M&S’s website and to its five million Sparks members.

Logan cycles for Poppyscotland



12 year-old Logan Thomson got on his bike today to cycle across the Forth Road Bridge fourteen times to raise funds for Poppyscotland.

He decided to cycle 20 miles for Poppyscotland, after his uncle's life was transformed by the charity.

The young Fifer had the support of his six year old little sister Abbie, who completed one of the laps of the bridge on foot whilst supporting her big brother along the way.

Logan was inspired to support Poppyscotland after the charity helped his Uncle Stuart get his life back when returning from serving in Iraq. Stuart Proudfoot suffered critical injuries after his vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb during a routine patrol in January 2006, and the same incident claimed the life of his friend.

Logan, who has already raised £780 through online donations, said: "Poppyscotland holds a special place in the hearts of my family. My Uncle Stuart was injured in Iraq and Poppyscotland helped him get a house and gave him the support he needed.

"Also, my Uncle Barry is currently serving with the Royal Navy and I am hoping to follow in the military footsteps when I am older too.

"I'd love to raise £1,000 for the charity – that's my ultimate goal. I've also got my little sister Abbie to help, who will

be crossing the bridge too on foot. I'd like to ask the Scottish public to donate what they can, so that Poppyscotland can continue to help more families like ours."

Gordon Michie, Head of Fundraising at Poppyscotland, said: "We're honoured to have the support of Logan and his little sister Abbie. They're really going the extra mile for our ex-servicemen, women and their families who are in desperate need of our help.

"Now more than ever before, the Armed Forces community needs the support of the Scottish public. That's why we're calling for the Scottish public to go that extra mile in their support for this year's Poppy Appeal. Whether it's pedalling 20 miles like Logan, or taking on a walking challenge like his sister Abbie, every penny helps us to offer life-changing support to the Armed Forces community in Scotland."

To donate to Logan's 20 mile challenge, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/logans20mile>

Former X Factor star Janet Devlin to perform in Edinburgh



X Factor contestant Janet Devlin is about to embark on her latest UK tour, stopping off at Edinburgh's Electric Circus on 25 November 2016.

Since her time on the show, Janet has built up a massive online following of devoted fans (known as the 'Devlinators'), and has just released her latest Christmas inspired EP, 'Little Lights'.

"Little Lights is a slightly darker, more mellow venture into this special time of year," says Janet. "I wanted to acknowledge that it's not always eggnog and wrapping paper, and that there are other, more contemplative emotions kindled at Christmastime."

The new EP is available everywhere now, including through Pledge Music when it can include a whole range of festive goodies, exclusive offers and experiences, see [here](#).

For more information on her tour, head to www.janetdevlin.com

Two men jailed for housebreaking and vehicle theft



Two Edinburgh men have been jailed after pleading guilty to housebreaking and vehicle theft at Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday, Thursday 10th November.

Jordan Skachill (22) (bottom) from Royston Mains in Edinburgh, received a sentence of three years imprisonment after he pled guilty to 10 offences – five domestic housebreakings and five

thefts of motor vehicles in the west of Edinburgh.

He carried out his crimes over a two week period from 9th to 23rd September 2016.

Charlie Gordon (26) from Loganlea Place, Edinburgh was also jailed for two years after pleading guilty to 11 offences, including three housebreakings, theft, dangerous driving, disqualified driving and driving without insurance.

His offences were carried out between 7th April and 30th June in the Niddrie and city centre areas of the city.

Giving his reaction to the sentencing, Detective Sergeant Barry Roebuck, of Gayfield Square Police Station, said: "The custodial terms handed out to these two men stand as testimony to some excellent police work and sends a clear message that we will do everything in our power to trace and arrest those who are involved in this criminal activity.

"Housebreaking can often have a devastating impact on the victims and arresting those involved in this crime remains one of our top priorities.

"There are a number of steps that occupiers can take to try and reduce their chances of falling victim to housebreakers such as using light timer switches and ensuring doors and windows are properly secured. A more thorough list of useful prevention advice can be found on the Police Scotland website.

"Anyone who wants to report a crime in their area can contact police on 101 or the charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

Edinburgh recognised at the Scottish Thistle Awards



Ten new galleries opened at the National Museum of Scotland on 8 July 2016 at a cost of £14.1 million

Edinburgh and in particular Edinburgh on the 31st of December has been recognised in the Scottish Thistle Awards which were announced at Prestonfield last night.



Presenter Nesta Gilliland, Head of Marketing at Scotrail; Julie Matthews, Head of Visitor Experience at National Museums Scotland; host Jennifer Reoch.

The night at the Scottish tourism industry's Oscars was a very good one for the capital with around half of the categories won by Edinburgh businesses.

The National Museum of Scotland won in its 150th anniversary year and Edinburgh's Hogmanay won an award for the end of year festival.

The new galleries at the Museum were lauded by the judges who said they offer 'new, innovative elements to the experience.



Ten new galleries opened at National Museum of Scotland on 8 July 2016 at a cost of £14.1 million

Helen Ireland, Interim Director of External Relations at the National Museum of Scotland, said: "In the National Museum of Scotland's 150th anniversary year, and following the opening of 10 innovative new galleries in July, we are delighted to

receive the Scottish Thistle Award for Best Visitor Attraction in the Lothians and Borders.”

Edinburgh’s Hogmanay, produced by Unique Events, is a highlight in the city’s festival calendar. Judges were impressed with the “constant reinvention and innovation used to keep the three day Hogmanay programme fresh whilst engaging both international and local audiences”.



Presenter Robbie Drummond, Caledonian MacBrayne; Penny Dougherty and Alan Thomson, Directors of Unique Events and Edinburgh’s Hogmanay; host Jennifer Reoch.

Penny Dougherty, Director of Unique Events, said: “Unique Events are thrilled that Edinburgh’s Hogmanay has been awarded Best Festival at the regional Thistle Awards and would like to thank everyone who helps deliver this world-class event for Scotland. We look forward to welcoming the world to this year’s festival and to representing Edinburgh at the award finals in 2017.”



Presenter Stevie Wilson, J Thomson Colour Printers; Richard Dalgleish, Glen Montgomery and Gary Quinn of Number One at the Balmoral; host Jennifer Reoch.

The full list of Edinburgh winners:

- GSI Events – Edinburgh Marathon Festival (Best Sporting Event)
- Unique Events – Edinburgh’s Hogmanay (Best Cultural Event or Festival)
- Motel One – Royal Edinburgh (Most Hospitable Hotel)
- Barony House (Most Hospitable B&B/Guest House)
- The Chester Residence (Best Accommodation Provider)
- Number One at Balmoral Hotel (Best Restaurant)

Experience)

- National Museum of Scotland (Best Visitor Attraction)
- Alastair Watson (Director, Can You Escape?) (Regional Rising Star)
- Peter Duncan (Radical Travel) (Regional Ambassador)

Alastair Watson, director of Can You Escape?, was one of two individual winners from the city, taking home the Regional Rising Star award which recognises young people aged 30 and under who have shown real passion for tourism. Peter Duncan, general manager at Radical Travel, was named Regional Ambassador.

Alastair Watson said: "It was a bit of a surprise to be nominated so I'm over the moon to win. I hope to inspire other budding entrepreneurs who are considering making their way into the tourism market to go and do. I've received great support from my staff, ScotEdge and companies like Business Gateway and Power of Youth, all of which have helped to make Can You Escape? the business it is today. We have some really exciting plans in the pipeline and I'm looking forward to next year."

Peter Duncan said: "Scottish Tourism is a fantastic industry to be in and I am honoured to have been named Regional Ambassador. To be selected when there are so many dedicated and talented people working together every day to ensure our visitors enjoy their time with us makes me extremely proud. I am very passionate about our industry and strongly believe that through collaboration and innovation, we will continue to provide growth, employment opportunities and exceptional visitor experiences."



Presenter Scott Inglis, Commercial Director at Fishers; Celia Hague, Area General Manager of Motel One Edinburgh Royal; host Jennifer Reoch.

Regional winners will go on to the glittering Scottish Thistle Awards National Final held at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre in March 2017.

Manuela Calchini, Regional Director at VisitScotland, said: "What a brilliant night for Edinburgh. The winners are shining examples of innovation, success and excellence in the capital and the region. Tourism is the driving force for providing the jobs of today and tomorrow and these awards recognise the tireless effort that goes into creating a memorable experience for visitors to the capital. I wish the winners the best of luck as they go forward to represent the region at the Scottish Thistle Awards National Final."

This year the Scottish Thistle Awards received a record-breaking number of entries, totalling 715 across the 15 regional categories, amounting to a 16% increase on last year.

*Photos Copyright Chris Watt Tel – 07887 554 193
info@chriswatt.com www.chriswatt.com*

Six more Scottish Cup Final arrests



Over 100 football fans have now been arrested connection with events at the end of the Scottish Cup final in May.

Hibs beat Rangers 3-2 with the winning goal coming in injury time sparking a pitch invasion by jubilant Hibs supporters.

Some supporters ran toward the Rangers fans which culminated with a number of fights on the field before police restored

order.

A police investigation was launched after the game which has resulted in numerous photographs being issued.

Police have continued to appeal for information.

A Police Scotland spokesman said: "A further six men aged 32, 17, 18, 23, 23 and 22 have been arrested in connection with the alleged violence and disorder at the Scottish Cup Final at Hampden Park, Glasgow on Saturday, 21 May, 2016.

"A report will be sent to the procurator fiscal.

" A team of officers continue to investigate incidents of violence, disorder and vandalism at this fixture and appeal to anyone with information that may assist their enquiries to contact the inquiry team on 0141 532 5457 or by emailing scottishcupfinalpitchinvasion@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Final phase of Hibs' East Terrace Stones available to view on Saturday



The final phase of East Terrace Stones will be available to view ahead of Saturday's match between Hibs and Falkirk at Easter Road.

To celebrate, there will be an open morning for all supporters to come in and view their stones that have been made a part of the Stadium.

The East Terrace Gates will be open between 10am to 12noon to allow supporters to come in and read their messages, also allowing for a photo opportunity at the stones. Those who are also in possession of a match ticket will be able to access Behind the Goals which opens from 11:30am.

A club spokesman said: "Hibernian would like to thank everyone who has supported the East Terrace Stone scheme, allowing supporters and their messages to become a part of the fabric of the stadium, forever."

Earth Hour Heroes competition launched by WWF



The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) has just launched its Earth Hour Heroes competition. This is a nationwide search to find those unsung heroes who are making a real difference to our planet.

You are encouraged to nominate themselves or others for the Earth Hour Heroes competition. The initiative is searching for individuals who deserve recognition for going the extra mile to help the environment and inspire others – whether at home, in the community or in the workplace.

Earth Hour is the largest global celebration of our brilliant planet; millions of people around the world switch off their lights for one hour to show their support for action on climate change. This year is its tenth anniversary, and it takes place at 8.30pm on Saturday 25th March 2017.

There are three categories in the competition: Community Hero, Lifestyle Hero and Workplace Hero. Competition winners will be awarded £1,000 each and will be presented with their award at an exclusive ceremony at the Palace of Westminster. The competition is open until 16 December.

Go to www.wwf.org.uk/EarthHourHeroes to find out more and to explain why you or someone you know deserves to be an Earth Hour Hero.

Project funding available to help create a city free from Islamophobia.



Police in Edinburgh and the City of Edinburgh Council are inviting people to apply for funding to deliver projects, which will help create a city free from Islamophobia.

Individuals and groups, supported by a charity or organisation, as well as charities and organisations themselves, can submit an application to receive up to £5,000 worth of funding.

The total fund available is £40,000 and has been contributed to by Police Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council and Scottish Government and will help deliver an innovative project, which reduces prejudice and fosters positive relationships between the Capital's diverse communities.

This could be through a series of events designed to bring communities together, working with perpetrators of hate crime

to change attitudes, or producing and delivering educational inputs.

Sergeant Scott Kennedy of Edinburgh's Preventions, Interventions & Partnerships (PIP) Team said, "Everyone should be able to live their lives free from intimidation, harassment or prejudice because of who they are.

"People with an idea that will benefit communities across the capital now have the opportunity to get the funding needed to deliver this.

"As well as the people of Edinburgh implementing these projects, residents will also be deciding which of these receive public funding."

Councillor Maureen Child, Convener of the Communities and Neighbourhood Committee, said, "This is a great opportunity for local projects to bid for funding to deliver projects that can really make a difference.

"There are fantastic organisations and groups throughout the city who, with a grant from a fund like this make real strides towards an end to Islamophobia.

"Participatory budget exercises like this continue to be exceedingly popular, allowing local people to make real decisions about priority activities in their community."

Applications are now open and are due to close at noon on Monday 12th December.

They will then be reviewed by a multi-agency steering group to ensure they meet the relevant criteria.

In January 2017, applications will be put to a public vote and the people of Edinburgh will determine where the public funding goes.

Application forms and further information call Edinburgh's PIP

'Banana flats' could be listed

The flats made famous in Irvine Welsh's *Trainspotting* could be protected with a listed status.



The charity organisation Historic Environment Scotland which cares for and protects the historic environment across the country is holding a consultation event in Leith next month to help decide if this is what is needed.

The tower block is more properly called Cables Wynd House but has always been called the 'Banana Flats' because of its shape. This building, and the building next door, Linksvie House, are both mainly owned by the council.

In the book *Trainspotting* Welsh set the flats as the childhood home of Simon 'Sickboy' Williamson.

Those living in the two buildings are asked to take part in the consultation either on the day or by email.

*Residents of Cables Wynd House and Linksvie House will receive a letter from Historic Environment Scotland regarding the consultation. Residents and owners are also invited to attend an **informal drop-in meeting on 6 December at Leith Library, on Ferry Road from 4-7pm.***

It is thought that these flats constructed in the 1960s are an

important part of the city's skyline. It may be that these buildings are given A listed status if they meet the criteria.



Historic Environment Scotland's Deputy Head of Listing, Dawn McDowell said: "Scotland is renowned for its rich architectural heritage. While our palaces, abbeys and castles are a key part of this, they are only a fraction of our diverse historic environment which ranges from industrial buildings to the homes we live in.

"Cables Wynd House and Linksvie House were innovative, ground-breaking designs at the time when they were built and offered a new vision for social housing and for those who lived in them.

"A key aim of listing is to recognise the special architectural importance of these buildings as well as celebrating and sharing their wider social and cultural role.

"We are keen to hear from as many residents as possible during the consultation – and others with an interest in the buildings – and look forward to working with them during this process."

Listing is the way that a building or structure of special architectural or historic interest is recognised by law through the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997. More information about listing can be found on the website at: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/listing-scheduling-and-designations/listed-buildings/>

Luxury city hotel named Lothians' 'Best Accommodation Provider'

The Chester Residence triumphs in the regional finals of the Scottish Thistle Awards, 2016 Five-star Edinburgh hotel, The Chester Residence, has been crowned the Lothian and Borders' 'Best Accommodation Provider' in the regional finals of the Scottish Thistle Awards 2016.



The Chester Residence will now compete in the National Finals which take place in March 2017.

Known as Scotland's tourism industry 'Oscars', The Chester Residence beat off stiff competition in the Scottish Thistle Awards from Old Town Chambers and Airhouses to take the winning title.

This adds to a list of 22 accolades won by The Chester Residence since opening in 2006, including 'No1 Luxury Hotel in the UK' in the TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Awards 2015.

The Chester Residence comprises 23 unique, luxurious Georgian apartments in Edinburgh's West End. Each apartment features the latest designer furnishings, state-of-the-art technology and luxury amenities. The Chester Residence provides guests with the benefits of serviced apartments combined with the luxurious glamour and facilities of a five-star hotel.

Owner of The Chester Residence, Graham Wood, says: "The Scottish Thistle Awards are Scotland's most significant travel industry awards, so we are delighted to have won the regional heats. It's testament to the dedication of our wonderful team who take great pleasure in making every guests' stay as comfortable as possible. It's a real privilege to work with such a loyal and hard-working team. We're so pleased to have reached the National Finals stage and we look forward to seeing what March 2017 brings!"

With a battery of ridiculous props comedian George Egg heads to Edinburgh



With a huge suitcase full of props, George Egg, one of the hottest alternative acts on the circuit, will serve up his surreal, absurd and very silly style of comedy when he headlines Gilded Balloon Comedy at The Studio at The Festival Theatre, Edinburgh, on Saturday 03 December 2016; the final Gilded Balloon Comedy Circuit gigs of the year.

Jojo Sutherland, the charismatic comic with a commanding stage persona, and Scotland's newest and hottest comedy talent, Jamie Dalgleish, will join George Egg on the Studio stage. The raucously funny 'people's comedian' Ray Bradshaw will be spinning his hilarious tales, seamlessly interwoven with quality audience interaction, as compere.

Wildly brandishing the world's second largest briefcase containing a battery of ridiculous props, George Egg will bound onto the stage to perform one of the most original, interesting, innovative, and sweetly whimsical comedy performances you are ever likely to see. The good old-fashioned vaudeville turn from this joyous performer wouldn't look out of place on a traditional music hall bill.

George Egg has been hailed as 'a Tommy Cooper for the twenty first century' and through tears of laughter you'll see why. The Cook, Comedian, Blogger, YouTube Phenomenon, and Focused Anarchist is a true cross between alternative stand-up comedy and traditional music hall variety.

As an obsessive, passionate and talented self-taught cook determined to change the way we cook and eat the quirky Londoner is also widely known for his extremely popular solo show – “Anarchist Cook”. It is a surreal and absurd cocktail of stand-up comedy, striking innovation and anarchic comedy cooking.

Jojo Sutherland’s natural stage presence alongside her “healthy neglect” approach to life and parenting forms the backbone to her material. This is interspersed with everyday grievances and motherly advice. It is a comedy journey through life’s ups and downs and twists and turns. As an accomplished actress Jojo frequently appears on stage and undertakes work from a variety of fields including radio presenting and improvisational forum theatre, she has also appeared in several short films.

A natural born story-teller oozing with charm, Jamie Dalgleish is a comedian steeped in the more colourful parts of the city of his upbringing. He brings cheek and charm to accounts of entrepreneurial ingenuity in Glasgow’s East End and many of his routines revolve around closeted, culturally impoverished aspects of Glaswegian life meeting the wider, more cosmopolitan world – from International Politics to fake Lacoste Trackies! As he plays with class stereotypes the ‘Scottish Comedian of the Year 2011’ has a wry eye for cultural absurdity and invariably makes himself the butt of the joke.

Ray Bradshaw has quickly gained a reputation as one of the funniest and most dependable acts on the comedy scene, all while still in his twenties. A double Scottish Comedian of The Year Finalist, Ray has travelled the length and breadth of the country telling jokes to anyone that will listen and has produced stand-out festival performances at T in the Park and RockNess.

Gilded Balloon Comedy at The Studio at the Festival Theatre

Venue: [The Studio at the Festival Theatre](#), 22 Potterrow,
Edinburgh EH8 9BL

Dates: Saturday 03 December 2016

Time: 20:00 – 22:00 (doors open 19:30)

Tickets: £12.50 (£10.50 conc)

Box Office: Festival Theatre – +44 (0)131 529 6000 |
<http://www.edtheatres.com/festival>

In person at The Festival Theatre – 13/29 Nicolson Street,
Edinburgh EH8 9FT

For further information on Gilded Balloon Comedy at The Studio
at The Festival Theatre go to: <http://www.gildedballoon.co.uk>