

Two teenage girls in hospital following hit and run in Portobello



A police investigation is ongoing after two teenage girls were injured in a hit and run collision on Inchview Terrace.

The girls, aged 16 and 17, were taken to hospital after being struck by a Volkswagen Golf on Thursday evening.

The vehicle was recovered nearby, but officers are attempting to trace the driver who fled the scene and is still at large.

A police spokesman said: "Police in Edinburgh are investigating following a hit and run collision in Portobello.

"A Volkswagen Golf was involved in a collision with two female pedestrians during the incident, which happened around 5.40 p.m. on Thursday in Inchview Terrace.

"A 16-year-old sustained an arm injury, while a 17-year-old suffered an injury to her leg. Both were taken to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh where they continue to be treated."

Five things you need to know today



- Bins will 'know when they are full'

- **Writer in residence in Wester Hailes**
- **Scotmid sponsors breakfast club**
- **Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition opens today**
- **Volunteer Edinburgh takes place next week**

We are reliably informed that it is not April and that this is a true story. The council have told us that they have installed new technology in 300 litter bins which will tell them when they are full.

The sensor acts over a mobile network and will help staff predict when bins will be full and needing emptied. We have already suggested making this a duty of the outsourced traffic wardens as part of the deal the city has with them, but it seems that it will be left to technology instead.

The information collected in this way will allow council staff to work out where they should be paying closer attention to emptying bins as some require to be emptied more than others.

[Read more here.](#)



Scottish Book Trust has told us that Wester Hailes Education Centre (WHEC) is to take part in a fully-funded Live Literature School Residency Programme taking place in 2016-17.

Author and storyteller Lari Don will be writer-in-residence at WHEC for 10 free sessions with the school. Through #WHECMakingStories, S1 pupils will work with Lari to make stories that they can share with their families and their community, and showcase on the school website for others to enjoy.

Commenting on the residency, Lari Don said:

“I’m so excited about the chance to work with pupils and teachers at Wester Hailes Education Centre as their Writer in Residence.

So many author visits are a short burst of inspiration and story-sharing, then the author has to go away, leaving the pupils and teachers to follow up the story ideas that came to life during the visit. Authors rarely see where those ideas go and what those stories become. I'm looking forward to working with WHEC pupils on the middle and the end of their stories, as well as the start. It's a great privilege to be trusted with nurturing children's imaginations and encouraging them to discover their own voices. I'm delighted to be given this opportunity by the Scottish Book Trust's Live Literature School Residency programme."

Keep up with SBT's updates on this and other initiatives on [Facebook](#).



L-R Sarah Walker, Olivia Stephen, Shane Buameh, Bevin Thomas, Mateusz Sokolowski, Nikola Sokolowski and Wiktoria Szymula

Scotmid have teamed up with St Catherine's Primary School, Gracemount, to serve up healthy breakfasts for up to 80 pupils every morning, with a donation of £1,290 to sponsor the Breakfast Club.

The funding means parents only need to pay a nominal £1 per week to send their children to the Breakfast Club, created following extensive research which has shown that a good breakfast can help their concentration, confidence and energy levels in the classroom.

Photo Phil Wilkinson

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*51st Wildlife Photographer of the Year
Exhibition*

Friday 16 September 2016 to 19 February 2017

*National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street,
Edinburgh*

*Alice Wyllie of the Museum with Snow Hare by
Rosamund Macfarlane*

Neil Hanna Photography

www.neilhannaphotography.co.uk

07702 246823

An exhibition of photography opens later today at the National Museum of Scotland. Admission is free.

Dr Andrew Kitchener, Principal Curator of Vertebrate Biology, said:

“We are thrilled that the National Museum of Scotland will host the 51st Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, from the Natural History Museum in London. This is particularly exciting as we are the only Scottish venue on the exhibition’s international tour. These extraordinary images present a unique view of life on our planet that is sure to captivate and inspire our audiences.”

Through the lens of wildlife photography, the exhibition captures the intrigue and beauty of our planet, giving us a glimpse of the natural world as it has never been seen before.

[Read more here.](#)



Volunteer Edinburgh, as well sixty volunteer involving organisations, will join together on Wednesday, 21st September 2016 between 11.00am and 7.00pm at St Paul’s and St Georges Church Hall on York Place to host Scotland’s leading Volunteer

Recruitment Fair.

Entry is free to the public, and we expect more than a thousand visitors to come along to find out about the huge variety of volunteering opportunities available across Edinburgh with charities, social enterprises, community groups and the public sector.

This year, in addition to representation from a wide-range of volunteer involving organisations, there will be free learning zone workshops happening throughout the day, and for the first time a [free app](#) to enhance your experience.

When visitors need to sit down after taking in all this new information there's a café serving delicious food and drink run by [bespoke organic events](#) (boe).


Volunteering helps people build new skills, get a taste of different working environments, create new friendships and boost individual confidence and wellbeing.

For those seeking a route into work, volunteering also adds skills to CVs as well as providing work experience and up-to-date references.

Making the choice to give your time and expertise to help others is a positive and meaningful commitment, with big rewards for the volunteer and the organisation or clients that the volunteer donates their time to. The Volunteer Recruitment Fair is the perfect way to match those who want to make the best use of their time with those who benefit from their input. It's also an opportunity to publicise Edinburgh's vibrant Third Sector community.

For more about the Volunteer Recruitment Fair, visit the Volunteer Edinburgh **Website:** www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk



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Hearts Win Watt Appeal

Hearts have won their appeal against the yellow card given to striker Tony Watt during last Saturday's Ladbrokes Premiership game with Hamilton Academical at Tynecastle.

Referee Craig Thomson booked Watt for 'simulation' – diving in other words – after the former Celtic player went down inside the penalty box in the first half. Television replays showed there was contact from the Accies defender although Watt did go down somewhat theatrically.

Hearts Director of Football Craig Levein attended the meeting at Hampden on Thursday morning and the caution has now been removed.

Meanwhile, Hearts have announced they will play East Fife in a friendly at Methil on Thursday, 6th October.

Witness appeal after man attacked outside Livingston night club



Police are appealing for information after a man was seriously assaulted in Livingston on Saturday, September 10th.

At around 8:40pm a 28-year-old man parked his car outside the EQHQ nightclub in Almondside when two unknown males approached the vehicle as he sat inside and asked to be driven to the Livingston Village.

He refused resulting in one of the suspects punching the window. The man then drove off in order to get away from the suspects but returned a short time later believing both had left the area.

However, when he stepped out of his car he was punched in the head by one of the suspects while the other attempted to hold his arms.

The victim was struck several times in the head and body and was later taken by ambulance to St John's Hospital where he remains in a stable condition.

Anyone who can help identify them is asked to come forward.

Detective Constable Christopher Kay based in Livingston said: "Today, I want to hear from anyone who was in the area of the EQHQ nightclub on the night in question and who saw this incident or who can help identify either suspect.

"This was a completely unnecessary and violent attack, which has resulted in an innocent man requiring hospital treatment.

“This sort of criminal behaviour is unacceptable and I’m extremely keen to ensure those responsible are swiftly arrested.”

Anyone with information that can assist the ongoing investigation is asked to contact Police Scotland 101 or alternatively an anonymous report can be made through the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Review: Sunny Afternoon – The Music of The Kinks*****



I’m too young to remember the early part of the 1960s – honest, guvn’r – but I do enjoy some of the music from that decade. Some of The Beatles’ early stuff was, in my opinion, not particularly brilliant (I Want to Hold Your Hand, indeed...) although I did enjoy some of the Fab Four’s later efforts, ironically as the end of the band was on the horizon. My personal favourites from the first half of the decade were The Rolling Stones, The Who – and The Kinks. So when the hit musical ‘Sunny Afternoon’ – based on the music of The Kinks – rolled into Edinburgh this week, I just simply had to go along.

The musical, as you might expect, is based on an original story by the band’s lead singer – Ray Davies – and, naturally, tells the story of the rise, fall and rise again of one of the most influential bands in the UK in the 1960s. Davies is played by Danny Horn and the story begins with Ray and his brother Dave – brilliantly portrayed by Oliver Hoare plodding away in a rather bland outfit with the lead singer resembling

something from the big band era of the 1950s. Spotted by a 'couple of Tory boys' managers– to quote from the show – the brothers and their friends are soon on their way to stardom.

Trashing the sound system to create the edgy chords of 'You Really Got Me' is recreated on stage (although legend has it that Ray got the unique sound by cutting the strings of his bass guitar and sticking them back together again) The brilliance of this song, finely recreated on stage, saw The Kinks establish themselves as one of the country's leading rock bands.

Inevitably, there are setbacks along the way. Ray has to marry at an early stage when he fathers a child – it was the done thing in the 1960s – but this doesn't stop the band's rise to the top. What does throw a spanner in the works is when The Kinks try to 'conquer the USA'. Ray refuses to comply with the strict rules regarding paying union dues, leading to a memorable line about being the only socialist band to fall foul of the unions.

The boys return to England and Ray suffers a breakdown. The band look to be down on their luck but Ray recovers, starts writing more superb songs and the resurrection is complete. If you love The Kinks you will lap up songs such as You Really Got Me, Dedicated Follower of Fashion, Well-Respected Man, Till the End of the Day and, of course, Sunny Afternoon. The show draws to a conclusion with Lola and the audience, mostly avid Kinks aficionados, simply loved it.

For a great evening's entertainment and a blast from the past, head to the Edinburgh Playhouse – Sunny Afternoon is on until this Saturday. Ticket details [here](#).

Edinburgh Reporter review ****

Witness appeal following vandalism at a cemetery in West Calder



Police are appealing for information following vandalism at a cemetery in West Calder.

The incident took place between 8am on Tuesday (September 13) and 8am on Wednesday (September 14).

The headstone of Dione Melville, who is buried at Hermand Park Cemetery, had been repeatedly damaged.

Dione sadly died in March 2016 at the age of 15 and shares a headstone with her grandfather, Jim Jervis.

Ornaments and vases surrounding the headstone had also been destroyed.

Dione's family have today released the following statement:

"This has been soul destroying for us as a family and it feels like we've lost Dione all over again.

"We are absolutely devastated by this and the family has been in pieces since.

"We just want our beautiful Dione to be able to rest in peace with her grandad, and for us as a family to be able to grieve."

Inspector Drew Elliot of Livingston Police Station said: "This was a despicable act which has caused significant upset to a

still grieving family.

“Graveyards should be a place of respect and there will be an increase in patrols in this area over the forthcoming days.

“The area is frequented by visitors and dog walkers and we’d urge anyone who may have seen suspicious behaviour in this time to come forward.

“I’d also ask anyone who may have information which can help with our investigation to get in touch as soon as possible.”

West Lothian Council’s Depute Leader Cathy Muldoon added:

“It’s absolutely disgraceful to vandalise a headstone, and we’d encourage anyone who has any information on this shocking incident to contact Police Scotland or Crimestoppers as soon as possible.”

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Blues/Folk singer Sunjay coming to Eyemouth Hippodrome



Acclaimed Blues/Folk singer Sunjay is coming to Eyemouth Hippodrome on Saturday 15th October.

With a relaxed and confident manner, vocal style and mastery of his instrument Sunjay walks onto a stage and addresses the audience as though he is sitting down to play music with a group of close friends; a completely natural approach for a young man who picked up the guitar when he was just 4 years old and hasn’t put it down since.

Sunjay’s style has that natural drift between folk and blues

and both camps have recognised his obvious flair. There have been a clutch of award nominations, including winning the Wath Festival Young Performers Award. He also made the final selection for the [BBC's Young Folk Award in 2012](#), had three nominations at the Exposure Music Awards 2014 and was also recognised by the 2014 British Blues Awards.

Drawing from a rich, musical and cultural background it is hardly surprising that Sunjay has quickly become recognised as one of the UK's rising stars. His performances have been described as "mature & confident", while his guitar playing has been hailed as "superb, brilliant, experienced, intricate & faultless".

Nov 2015, welcomed Sunjay's latest release 'Black & Blues'. Returning to New Mountain Music Studios with producer Eddy Morton (The Bushbury Mountain Daredevils), 'Black & Blues' was recorded in a single day on 25th August 2015. The album, comprised of 10 traditional blues songs, interpreted and arranged by Sunjay, showcasing his powerful vocals and his intricate, masterful guitar playing.

"Black & Blues, is a testimony to the skill and talent of Sunjay who is without doubt one of the slickest dudes to sit behind a guitar. He sounds cool, plays cool, looks cool so much so you almost expect a little light to come when he opens his guitar case."Folkall.Blogspot.

"For such a young performer, Sunjay shows real confidence, maturity and ease on stage that it seems like he has been doing nothing else all of his life." – Folk All Magazine

"A great voice."- Blues Matters Magazine

"Listen, watch and take note." – FATEA Magazine

BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award Nominee 2012

Wath Young Performers Award Winner 2012

Exposure Music Awards Triple Nominee 2014

#LeithLATE16 – latest mural unveiled



LeithLATE may be over for this year, but this morning we saw for ourselves the work of elph who has created a mural on a gable end on Leith Walk as part of the ongoing series called *The Mural Projects*.

elph is a graffiti artist who started out tagging bus stops in his native Drylaw, but has since gone on to create bigger murals under bridges and on building sites, to a more 'respectable' role as street artist. He has now exhibited his art in New York, Berlin and London alongside the likes of Banksy and Adam Neate.

The figure is loosely based on his liking of Japanese comics and fashion illustrations, and it certainly is a colourful attraction at the foot of Leith Walk.

He was commissioned by LeithLATE to create the colourful mural on the side of the Lovella Beauty Salon which he has done over the course of this week.



Morvern Cunningham the producer of LeithLATE explained what is happening just next week. She said: "We had the festival in June and that was really successful, we are really happy with how that went. We now have just a little bit of activity before the end of the year. We are going to be continuing our

exchange with [Deptford X](#). We are taking an artist from LeithLATE16 to London next week to install her work as part of that festival as well. After that we will be planning for next year!"

More information about all the wonderful art and events that formed part of LeithLATE16 [can be found here.](#)

Have a look at elph's other work [here on his website](#)

Edinburgh has highest burial costs in Scotland



The Scottish Government began discussion of the cost of paying for a funeral earlier today in a series of three events which will culminate in the national conference on funeral poverty on 16 November in Edinburgh.

Discussions with funeral directors, local authorities charities and other interested bodies will hope to find ways of supporting people to plan ahead for their funeral and develop affordable options.

Citizens Advice Scotland has just published its report called The Cost of Saying Goodbye 2016 on burial and cremation costs across the country, and this finds an 8% increase in burial costs and an 11% increase in cremation costs in the last year. The most expensive place to be buried is Edinburgh and the least expensive is the Western Isles.

CAS spokesman Fraser Sutherland said : "When someone dies you have to pay your Local Authority for burial costs like the

internment and the lair (grave), as well as other costs like funeral directors and flowers. For the last three years we have contacted all 32 Councils in Scotland to find out the prices they charge for these services. Since last year we have seen an overall 8% rise in burial costs, and that there are still huge disparities between the prices set by different councils.

“For example the burial costs in Edinburgh are £1,200 higher than in West Lothian, a neighbouring local authority, and the cost difference between the most expensive location, Edinburgh, and the cheapest location, Western Isles, is £1,552. Costs levied by local authorities can increase for a number of reasons, some have made substantial investment in new crematorium or graveyards while others have looked to reduce current subsidies as a result of tighter budgets.”

Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities, Angela Constance, who has led today’s discussions, said:

“For families who are mourning the loss of a loved one to be faced with mounting debt and distress because of the cost of paying for a funeral is completely unacceptable and I’m determined to address it.

“This national conference will bring together the funeral industry, local authorities and charities to discuss how we can address the rising, and disproportionately different costs which are incurred in different parts of the country.

“We know funeral directors want the best for their customers and as a government we want to raise awareness of funeral planning. Therefore it’s important we make sure all parts of the industry work together to give people a realistic choice when they are making difficult decisions about the funeral of a loved one.”

Funeral payments, which are part of the Regulated Social Fund,

are among the social security powers to be devolved to Scotland which the Scottish Government is currently consulting on.

Minister for Social Security Jeane Freeman said: "Our new powers over funeral payments, gives us the opportunity to set up a benefit which is simpler to understand, fairer and more streamlined.

"We have already committed to processing applications within 10 working days, allowing people to make better informed decisions when they are planning a funeral and relieving the stress and anxiety current long delays can cause. This will also create more certainty for funeral directors, allowing them to give appropriate advice and potentially eliminating the need to take a deposit from those who make a successful application.

"I would encourage anyone with an interest to take part in the consultation we are running now so they can help shape our fairer, more dignified approach to social security."



Miles Briggs
Conservative MSP

Miles Briggs, Scottish Conservative & Unionist MSP for Lothian, is expressing his concern. The findings from Citizens Advice Scotland show the city is the most expensive council area for a basic burial at £2,253.00 which is above the Scottish average of £1,373.31.

Miles said: "High burial costs are an increasing worry for constituents in Edinburgh and it concerning that Edinburgh is the most expensive area in Scotland for a basic burial.

" On top of the costs of burial there are of course additional expenses, including from undertakers' fees, and it is no

wonder that Citizens Advice Scotland has seen a steep rise in the number of people contacting it who are struggling with funeral costs.

“ The UK government’s funeral payment loan scheme can be an important source of support for many on low income and I will be questioning the Scottish Government to see what it is doing to help the increasing number of people facing funeral poverty in Scotland.”

The report is reproduced here



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Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition opens tomorrow



The world-renowned Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, on tour from the Natural History Museum in London, will open at the National Museum of Scotland tomorrow Friday 16 September 2016. Admission is free.

This will be the only Scottish venue for the exhibition, which will feature 100 awe-inspiring images, from fascinating animal behaviour to breath-taking wild landscapes.



Wildlife Photographer of the Year is the most prestigious photography event of its kind, providing a global platform that showcases the natural world's most astonishing and challenging sights for over 50 years. Launching in 1965 and attracting 361 entries, today the competition receives almost 50,000 entries from 95 countries highlighting its enduring appeal. The 100 images from the fifty-first competition have embarked on an international tour allowing them to be seen by millions of people across six continents.



Kirsten Cowie of the Museum places Snow Hare
by Rosamund Macfarlane

Rosamund Macfarlane's striking image *Snow Hare* will be among the award-winning photographs on display. It took five hours lying on a snowy mountainside in the Cairngorms to capture this intimate portrait of one of Scotland's most beloved animals. Rosamund said:

"I'm delighted to be championing the snow hare in the Natural History Museum's Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition. The image has now been shown in venues across the world and I am especially pleased that a photograph taken in the Scottish Highlands by a British photographer will go on display at the National Museum of Scotland."



Dr Andrew Kitchener, Principal Curator of Vertebrate Biology, said:

"We are thrilled that the National Museum of Scotland will host the 51st Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, from the Natural History Museum in London. This is particularly exciting as we are the only Scottish venue on the exhibition's international tour. These extraordinary images present a unique view of life on our planet that is sure to captivate and inspire our audiences."

Through the lens of wildlife photography, the exhibition captures the intrigue and beauty of our planet, giving us a glimpse of the natural world as it has never been seen before.



Photos courtesy of Neil Hanna Photography

www.neilhannaphotography.co.uk

T 07702 246823

Bins will 'feel the need' to be emptied



No it's not April, but you may think the silly season is upon us all the same.

The council have just told us that they have installed new technology in 300 litter bins which will sense when they are almost full, allowing them to despatch a bin lorry to empty them. (Have you seen any evidence of this? If so send us a photo!)

This data will be passed over a mobile network to council staff who can then work out which bins need attention and when.

The new way of dealing with overflowing litter bins (we can tell you that rubbish is to be highlighted in the Council Leader's Report next week) – is being tested in the city centre, Leith Walk, Leith Links and Portobello.

The Council Leader Councillor Andrew Burns explained to media this morning that the city is now saving about £1.1m in a year by the amount of recycling that we all do. Apparently 45% of us do recycle although the target is 50% by the end of this administration in March 2017. There is now a reduction of 13,000 tonnes of rubbish going to landfill each year.

There are 26 million collections of waste made by the council each year and the council leader welcomes the 10% reduction in landfill waste for environmental and financial reasons.

If one of the bins with the new sensor fitted goes on fire

then that will be detected immediately, perhaps sparking an indication of fly tipping according to the council.

The hopes are that the new technology will optimise collection routes and planning on a daily basis.

Communal bins will also be fitted with the same sensors which might help with some of the scenes we have witnessed of late where bags of rubbish are simply laid to one side of an already overfull bin.

Transport and Environment Convener, Cllr Lesley Hinds, said: "We are learning a lot from this trial which so far has been a success. The sensors are currently in litter bins but if the positive results continue we'd like to see this roll out to communal bins and recycling banks.

"The success of the pilot is attracting a lot of attention from other major cities particularly in the US, where the authorities in Washington DC have contacted us to share our experiences with them."

Five things you need to know this afternoon



- **Boroughmuir High School to open in the New Year**
- **Doors Open Day**
- **Last chance to see the Celts exhibition**
- **Community Council elections**
- **Government funding for Dr Bell's Family Centre**

The Edinburgh Reporter was invited along to Boroughmuir High

School yesterday to have a look at how the building is progressing. It is an impressive space with many open areas which can be used for a variety of classes or gatherings, and an atrium which is full height and which allows a lot of light into the centre of the building on the corner of Viewforth and Fountainbridge.

The main entrance is on the south side of the building by the canal and it is hoped that many pupils and staff might cycle or walk to school. Certainly the city centre site does not allow for much parking of cars as the existing school building with its Victorian-sized playground does.

[Read more here](#)



We have selected our top tips for Doors Open Day which takes place on the weekend of 24 and 25 September, and is the one occasion in the year when you can actually get into one of the buildings included in the programme. Lothian Buses will also run vintage buses to take you near the central depot built in 1922 for the Industrial Exhibition. The roof dome in that building has just been refurbished and the building now houses 200 buses and staff (although we understand they go home each evening...)

[Read more here.](#)



At the National Museum of Scotland they are just about to ring the changes when the enormously successful Celts exhibition comes to an end on 25 September.

This is the first major British exhibition on the subject for about 40 years and over 60,000 visitors have been to see it. On 23 September along with Neu! Reekie! Charlotte Church and her band Late Night Pop Dungeon will appear alongside Liz

Lockheed, indie pop band Ette, hip-hop activist Loki and physical theatre from Bark Collective.

The exhibition has been produced along with input from The British Museum. with treasures from both on display. Many of the 350 objects on show have never been seen in Scotland, including the Gundestrup Cauldron one of the great treasures of the National Museum of Denmark. This massive silver vessel challenges simple ideas of a Celtic world by revealing influences from across Europe and Asia two millennia ago.

More information on the exhibition [here](#) and the [Neu! Reekie! event here.](#)



If you are concerned about your local area then one way to get involved is to become a member of the local community council.

There are elections coming up and you can find out more about how to get involved [here](#).



The Scottish Government has announced funding to tackle food poverty across Scotland and one of the projects which is to benefit from just over £50,000 is Dr Bell's Family Centre in Leith.

We went along to see what they will do with the money.

Dr Bell's Family Centre are delighted to have received [@scotgov](#) funding to address food poverty [pic.twitter.com/xXk1lper0p](#)

– Edinburgh Reporter (@EdinReporter) [September 14, 2016](#)



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Doors Open Day Events 2016 – our top picks



Doors Open Day takes place over the weekend of 24-25 September 2016 in Edinburgh. Many buildings which are normally out of bounds will be open to the public, but beware as sometimes booking is necessary.

[Corstorphine Hill Tower](#) is a 20m high stone tower built in 1871 in memory of the author Sir Walter Scott, born a hundred years prior to its construction.

Standing at an impressive 20 metres tall (65ft), the Tower allows a magnificent view of Edinburgh City centre, the Peatlands and the Forth.

✖ John Knox's House will be open on 24 September 2016 (10 am to 6 pm) and 25 September 2016 (12 noon to 6 pm)

The House, while best known as the residence of Protestant reformer John Knox (c.1513-1572), in fact dates back to 1470 and is rich with history and connections to the Stuart

dynasty.

The House was also the residence James Mossman, goldsmith to Mary Queen of Scots.

For more information [click here.](#)



The doors of the Filmhouse will be open wide on 24 September 2016 (10 am to 11 pm) and 25 September 2016 (10 am to 11 pm)

The Filmhouse is a world-class independent cinema, showing a variety of films from around the world, from old classics to esoteric art films.

The building is a former church, converted into a cinema in 1978.

Further information can be found [by clicking here.](#)

Canongate Kirk will be open on 24 September 2016 (10.30 am to 4.30 pm) and on 25 September 2016 (1.30 pm to 4.30 pm)



Canongate Kirk, The Kirk of Holyroodhouse and Edinburgh Castle, was founded in 1688.

The building features a unique design by James Smith, a 17th-18th century architect who pioneered the Palladian style in Scotland. The interior was faithfully restored in 1947.

www.canongatekirk.org.uk



Photo by John Knox

The Assembly Hall which was for a few years the home of The Scottish Parliament is open only on 24 September 2016 (10 am to 4 pm)

The Assembly Hall was designed by David Bryce and built in 1858- 9. The back of the Hall facing Castlehill was extended east by J. M. Dick Peddie in 1885, with further work in 1902-3. The Hall is notable for its use as a Fringe venue and concert hall.

Find out more on the Church of Scotland [website](#).

The full programme of doors which will be open to the public as well as a programme of talks is here:



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Rowing – South Queensferry Rowing Regatta 2016

North Berwick dominate Queensferry's Rowing Regatta



Ten traditional skiffs from around Scotland launched in the Firth of Forth on Saturday [10 Sept] as the North and [South Queensferry](#) rowing clubs held their annual regatta at Port Edgar. Crews travelled from as far afield as Ullapool to attend, while others brought their skiffs from Edinburgh, Fife, the Firth of Tay and East Lothian to join the host clubs.

The rectangular course was laid between the historic road and rail bridges and Queensferry Harbour, and races were keenly watched by visitors based at the marina.

North Berwick dominated the day's racing, with most of their competition coming from Fife. The East Lothian club's crews took home four gold medals, in the Women's 60+, Men's 50+, Men's Open and Mixed Novice categories, along with a silver medal, while Anstruther won the Men's 50+ as well as two silvers and two bronzes. Broughty Ferry took the honours in the Mixed Open and the Women's Open. St Andrews won a silver and a bronze, as did Crail, while Tay club Newburgh took home silver. The host clubs each placed once, North Queensferry winning silver and Queensferry bronze. Loch Broom's long

journey south was rewarded with a bronze medal in the Men's 50+.



Special mention goes to Kinghorn, who were competing in their first ever regatta, having launched their skiff only this summer. They came a very respectable fifth in the Mixed Novice category.

The final race of the day was a special "pix and mix" event held in memory of Andy Jarvis, a stalwart of Queensferry Rowing Club and a well-known member of the wider skiff community. Andy offered his services as an oarsman to any crew that would have him, so a race where all crews were made up of names picked out of a single hat was a fitting tribute. Despite rowers being in unfamiliar boats, it was still a fierce tussle for places, and the Anstruther skiff triumphed over Crail and Queensferry.

Report courtesy of QRC

Images courtesy of Len Saunders QRC

Man arrested in connection with the supply of cocaine and cannabis in Musselburgh



Police have arrested and charged a 25-year-old man in connection with the supply of cocaine and cannabis in Musselburgh on Friday 9th September.

East Lothian community action team supported CID officers to execute a drug search warrant at an address in Pinkiehill Crescent.

This resulted in the recovery of a significant quantity of cocaine worth £5,550 and herbal cannabis worth £1,680. A four-figure sum of cash was also recovered.

He appeared at Edinburgh Sheriff Court on Monday 12th September.

Detective Inspector Paul Batten said: "The sale and use of controlled drugs not only endangers individuals but is harmful to the whole community.

"We are committed to acting on information we receive from the public and would urge anyone with concerns about drugs in their community to get in touch."

Anyone with information can contact Police Scotland via 101 or make an anonymous report through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Edinburgh to have five more councillors from next year



Whether or not it was following a reminder from the Conservative Party at the end of last week or not, the Scottish Government has today announced that it agrees the suggested new boundaries for council ward boundaries. (See below for a clearer version of the changes in Edinburgh)

The Tories urged the SNP to 'get its finger out' last week after they discovered that the boundaries had not yet been agreed just eight months before the next council elections.

The recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland include changes to the number of councillors and the boundaries for the areas in which they will stand for election. Changes will be made to a total of 25 wards across Scotland.

In Edinburgh there will now be 63 councillors representing five wards with three councillors and twelve with four. The computation centred around allowing 3,800 electors per councillor, but since that ended up almost doubling the number of councillors they did a recount and have increased councillor numbers by five. The council, who were consulted on the change, had agreed that an increase in councillor numbers was necessary as historically the council area had been underrepresented.

The only name change has been in Morningside, but boundary changes have been made throughout the council area to align with natural communities.

The changes are as follows:

Almond Ward – increases from three to four councillors

City Centre – increases from three to four councillors

Colinton/Fairmilehead – remains the same – three councillors

Corstorphine/Murrayfield – remains the same – three councillors

Craigentinny/Duddingston – increases from three to four councillors

Drum Brae/Gyle – remains the same – three councillors

Forth – remains the same – four councillors

Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart – remains the same – three councillors

Inverleith – remains the same – four councillors

Leith – remains the same – three councillors

Leith Walk – remains the same – four councillors

Liberton/Gilmerton – remains the same – four councillors

Meadows/Morningside – becomes Morningside – four councillors

Pentland Hills – increases from three to four councillors

Portobello/Craigmillar – increases from three to four councillors

Sighthill/Gorgie – remains the same – four councillors

Southside/Newington – remains the same – four councillors

The commission state in their report that they have taken notice of rivers and other boundary features where the boundaries of some wards have been changed. There was a point when it was believed that the village of Colinton might be split in two by a boundary realignment.

The review began in February 2014 and the government's hope is that, with these changes, voters will be more equally represented.

Council elections will take place across the country in May 2017.

This is the map which shows boundary changes although we have to say that this is less than clear so you may wish to look at the full report which has 17 individual maps for each ward.

[Click here!](#)



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SNP MP asks about Brexit effect on Edinburgh's financial services



The MP for Edinburgh North and Leith Deidre Brock MP asked the Prime Minister, Theresa May, about retaining what is known as 'passporting' rights for the finance sector on leaving the EU.

But it appeared that the Prime Minister could not or would not give Scotland's financial sector any reassurances over keeping these rights.

Passporting is the EU agreement that means that Scottish banks and other financial services companies can operate anywhere in the EU.

The MP explained that despite previous assurances from the Foreign Secretary, Boris Johnson, that passporting would continue after the UK leaves the EU, Mrs May refused to support him and failed to give any assurances during Prime Minister's Questions that jobs and services in the financial services industries would be considered during the Brexit negotiations.

Ms Brock said : "Today the Prime Minister wouldn't back her Foreign Secretary after he promised that passporting was guaranteed and she still can't tell us whether she wants

Scottish companies to be able to keep trading in Europe after Brexit.

“Scotland deserves better than this and we should be getting answers to these very important questions. It’s clear that even Theresa May doesn’t trust Boris Johnson’s promise that it’ll be ‘steady as she goes’ for the finance industry.

“Every day my questions about the process and negotiations for leaving the European Union show that the government really doesn’t have a clue what it’s doing or should be doing. Every day we learn more about the appalling lack of planning and policy in place for Brexit from the UK Government. The Tories are steering us towards a crash without even having a plan ‘A’ in place, let alone plan ‘B’.

“The implications for Edinburgh’s financial sector is deeply worrying – those jobs need access to European markets. We keep hearing from European politicians that there’s no access to the single market without freedom movement but it looks like losing jobs and trade is a price the Tories are prepared to pay to get rid of the free movement we currently enjoy.

“We’re hurtling towards the European exit door and the brakes on the handcart are not working and we could end up part of the UK set adrift without a clue.

“Theresa May and her Government have got to get their acts together quickly and start laying out some plan for getting a decent deal out of the Brexit negotiations before we find ourselves kicked out and left without anything.”

Police probe disturbance near to Scottish Parliament



A large area of Dumbiedykes near to the Scottish Parliament was cordoned off following a disturbance during the early hours of this morning.

A police investigation is now underway into the circumstances involved.

A police spokeswoman said: "Police in Edinburgh are investigating following a report of a disturbance in Dumbiedykes Road around 2.40am on Wednesday.

"Inquiries are ongoing into the full circumstances."

Government funding welcomed by Dr Bell's Family Centre



Last week the Scottish Government announced £900,000 of funding to help projects across the country in the next two years tackle food poverty.

This is part of the Fair Food Transformation Fund which will reduce reliance on food banks by establishing more sustainable approaches.

One of the organisations which got a share of the funding is local charity, Dr Bell's Family Centre in Leith, which runs a

creche alongside a café (with free wifi!). They run cooking classes there as well as offering wonderful food for their patrons. Here is what they had on the menu on Tuesday.

Last year their funding from the council was cut by almost half, meaning that they had to stop two outreach creches and make the sessional workers redundant. This makes the funding announcement even more welcome.

The Edinburgh Reporter spoke to Fiona Clark who is the Centre Manager. Fiona explained to us that the funding is much needed as they are a local charity which means they cannot apply for national funding, making them dependent on local support. However their very local nature means they are very efficient and they work to support 300 families a year for only £220,000.

Dr Bell's Family Centre are delighted to have received [@scotgov](https://twitter.com/scotgov) funding to address food poverty pic.twitter.com/xXk1lper0p

– Edinburgh Reporter (@EdinReporter) [September 14, 2016](#)

Their work is carefully planned to build trust and relationships with parents thus empowering them throughout the process, but at the same time the centre works with the whole family who then have quick and seamless access to other local services. Working with families who need it most the statistic that Fiona quoted to us was that 80% of the families they assist live in 20% of the most deprived areas.

Anyone is welcome at Dr Bell's, and families can self refer themselves for assistance.

More information about their work is available [on their website.](#)

Other Edinburgh projects which are also receiving a share of the fund include the Cyrenians, Granton Community Gardeners, Pilmeny Development Project and Pilton Community Health Project.

Police urge public to be vigilant after student scammed



Police are appealing for witnesses and urging the public to remain vigilant after a student was defrauded of a large sum of cash during a counterfeit merchandise scam.

Around 4 p.m. yesterday a 20-year-old man left the Edinburgh Napier University Merchiston Campus when two men sitting within a white Audi A5 engaged him in conversation on Colinton Road.

During this exchange the pair showed the student a number of Giorgio Armani jackets and persuaded him to buy four of them for an agreed fee.

The suspects drove the man to a bank branch on Lothian Road where he withdrew a four-figure sum of cash before returning him to the Merchiston area.

At this time the victim handed over the cash and was given four jackets before the men drove off.

After inspecting the garments it was found they were inferior quality and not genuine Armani clothing.

Officers are now conducting inquiries to trace those responsible and warning others not to fall victim to this fraudulent scheme.

The first suspect is described as being white with a tanned complexion, 5ft 8ins tall with a stocky build. He was wearing a sky blue suit, white shirt, red tie, black shoes and had a number of rings on his middle finger.

The second suspect is described as white with a tanned complexion, 5ft 8ins tall with a stocky build and wearing a blue suit and dark shirt.

Both men spoke with Italian accents.

Sergeant George Liddle from West End Police Station said: "When he realised he had not purchased genuine Armani jackets, the victim was left feeling humiliated and distressed and we are progressing our investigation to trace the suspects.

"Anyone who remembers seeing the white Audi A5, and its occupants, within the Merchiston area on Tuesday is asked to contact us immediately.

"At this time we are conducting inquiries to establish if these men were specifically trying to establish new students in the city and so I would urge all of those who have recently moved to Edinburgh for their studies to be wary of this scam or similar attempts to obtain large sums of cash from you.

"If you are approached in a similar manner to this then do not agree to pay for any such goods and report the matter to police.

"We have a range of advice and information to help keep students safe on our website and the public can access this by visiting www.scotland.police.uk

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively, the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Two men jailed following break in to static caravan in Straiton



Two men have been sentenced for breaking into the home of a woman in Midlothian.

Steven Wylie (25), of Loanhead, and Jay Potter (22), of Forfar, forced entry to the static caravan in Straiton on 7 August 2015.

Both were masked when they smashed the glass of a living room window and patio doors, and began shouting at the 76-year-old.

As they searched various rooms in her home, she was able to flee to a neighbours house.

Both pled guilty to the charge of hamesucken and robbery on Thursday 4 August at Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

Potter (pictured right) has been sentenced to 2 years and 3 months, and Wylie was sentenced to 3 years and 2 months in prison.

Detective Sergeant Brian Manchester of the Community Investigation Unit said:

“This was a terrifying experience for a 76-year-old woman, who’s home of over a decade was invaded in the middle of the

night.

“Despite this traumatic ordeal, she has shown the utmost bravery throughout this investigation and I hope this sentence is of some comfort to her and her family.

“I also want to thank the local community for their support of our investigation.

“This type of crime is absolutely not tolerated and we will use all resources at our disposal to bring perpetrators before the courts.”

Councillors visit the new Boroughmuir High School



Local councillors visited the new Boroughmuir High School earlier today to see for themselves the progress which is being made with building. Led by Councillor Andrew Burns who is a Ward Councillor, and the Deputy Council Leader Cllr Frank Ross, the group included Cllrs Key, Aitken and Howat.

We had a wee look at the new Boroughmuir High School today...
pic.twitter.com/MUY2656oG0

– Edinburgh Reporter (@EdinReporter) [September 14, 2016](#)

This building is a real 21st century school with areas like an outdoor dining area, a recording studio next to the music room, a fabulous full height atrium which will house the entire school in one place for the first time, and art rooms

with extra space for pupils of different ages to be working there at the same time.

David Dempster the headteacher of Boroughmuir High School is ecstatic that his pupils and staff will be moving to the bespoke school in the New Year.

He told The Edinburgh Reporter : “The atrium in the heart of the new school is a fantastic open plan space. It will be used day in day out for catering as we have our main dining hall at one end and a satellite cafe at the other.

“But the most exciting thing about this space is that for the first time ever we will be able to have whole school assemblies, that is all 1200 pupils, in the same place at the same time. We will really get the sense of the school and the community that we are. Hopefully I will be able to use this space to address all the youngsters here and really feel proud of our new space and our new school.”

There is also a rooftop games area meaning that the school is built on as small a footprint as possible and that every inch of space is being used. It was a little windy there today but there will be plant installed at one end which although it will obscure the view to the castle will perhaps provide some wind protection. The area will have netting over and around it to ensure that the basketballs or footballs are not constantly falling into the compact play area below.

Set to open in January next year the canal-side high school is being built by the council in partnership with funding from the Scottish Government through The Schools for the Future Programme which is managed by the Scottish Futures Trust.



Council Leader Andrew Burns explained: “The school is due to open in the new year. I am absolutely delighted with the progress that is being made. I am very excited about the

prospects of the new High School opening. The construction cost of this school was £35 million and the wider site cost £15 million so this is a very big investment from the council and the Scottish Government.”



One of the key Capital Coalition pledges made at the beginning of the administration in 2012 under the umbrella of ensuring that every child in Edinburgh has the best start in life is ‘to provide adequate investment in the fabric of all schools’. This is not the only new school where replacement or refurbishment is planned. The council confirmed that it would spend £126million, with additional funding from The Scottish Government, on the projects it had outlined. These include Boroughmuir and other schools in developments packaged as Wave 3 :

Portobello High School is being replaced and is on schedule to open its doors to pupils after the October break.

James Gillespie’s was extended with a new teaching block and sports block.

St John’s RC School which lies adjacent to the existing Portobello High School is to be demolished and will be sited alongside the new High School on Duddingston Road. The report just came to the planning committee this morning when it was approved along with several others on the recommendation of Head of Planning and Transport. The new school building will be two storeys high and will have a flat roof, and the area to the front of the building will be soft landscaping and trees with a hard playground space in front of the building. So building will presumably now proceed on this site alongside the new High School within the next three years.

There are also plans to replace St Crispin’s Special School in the south of the city, although permission has not yet been applied for.

Mercedes crashed into stationary caravan on Groathill Road North



A police investigation is underway after a Mercedes car crashed into a stationary caravan on Groathill Road North just after 8am this morning..

The driver and passengers fled the scene and officers have been searching the area for the vehicle occupants.

The police helicopter has been deployed to support the search.

A police spokeswoman said: "Police responded to a report of a car driving erratically on Groathill Road North around 8.10am on Wednesday.

"The vehicle was subsequently involved in a collision with a stationary caravan on Groathill Road North.

"Inquiries are ongoing to trace the individuals believed to have been inside the vehicle.

"The search activity is being supported by colleagues in the air support unit."

Witness appeal following serious assault in Birnies Court



Police are appealing for witnesses following a serious assault on a 63-year-old man which took place around 5 p.m. yesterday in Birnies Court.

A number of youths were causing a disturbance in the area when the man challenged them on their behaviour.

At this time one of the group punched the victim, causing him to fall to the ground and he was taken to hospital for treatment to a head injury.

Anyone who can assist officers with this ongoing investigation is asked to come forward.

The suspect is described as white, male, late teens to early twenties, 5ft 6ins tall with long dark hair and wearing a bright green polo shirt and dark jogging bottoms.

Detective Constable Gavin Howat from the Violence Reduction Unit at Corstorphine said: "The victim sustained a painful injury to his head after being punched to the ground and we are actively pursuing a number of lines of inquiry to trace the male responsible.

"We would ask that anyone who was within the area and witnessed this incident to contact police immediately.

"In addition, anyone with any further information relevant to

this assault should also get in touch.”

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively, the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

First Minister gives evidence on Europe



“We have got to have the option, if we cannot protect our interests within the UK, it would be wrong to deny people in Scotland whether independence would be a better position to protect those interests.

“But that is not the starting point.

“We will go into this in good faith. I do believe that the whole of the UK would be better served by being in the single market.”

This is a precis of evidence being given by the First Minister the Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon to the European and External Relations Committee at Holyrood this afternoon.



The committee is looking at the referendum and its implications for Scotland. The First Minister said this morning that Brexit has not yet happened, but she finds it gobsmacking that three months on from the referendum simple questions about freedom of movement and the single market are unanswered by the UK Government.

Ms Sturgeon also emphasised that she is looking for Scotland to have a say in what actually happens. She said: "It seems to me given the different way that Scotland and Northern Ireland voted here, that the devolved nations should have a role here other than that of consultee."

The committee under the convenership of Joan McAlpine MSP has issued an initial report. Ms McAlpine wrote in the foreword: "Ten weeks ago, 51.9% of those who voted in the EU referendum voted to leave the EU. In Scotland, 62% of voters cast their vote to remain in the EU.

"The European and External Relations Committee immediately embarked on a programme of work to examine the implications of the vote for Scotland. This decision was made against the background of a vote in Parliament giving the First Minister authority to explore means of maintaining the benefits Scotland receives from its relationship with the EU.

"The period during which we carried out our deliberations has been characterised by uncertainty. The new Prime Minister has confirmed the binding nature of the result of the referendum, emphasising that "Brexit means Brexit". She has indicated that the UK Government will not trigger the withdrawal process until 2017. It is unclear exactly what role the Scottish Government will have in shaping any deal. However, the UK Government has said it wants to hear views from Scotland and that the deal has to work for the UK as a whole. Our Committee can act as a useful forum so we have taken the decision to publish this, initial report based on the evidence gathered this summer. We will send it to both the UK and the Scottish Governments."

Photos courtesy of Andrew Cowan/Scottish Parliament

Hibs' fans urged to join local community clean up on Saturday



Hibernian Retro is encouraging all Hibs' supporters to take part in a local community clean up of the Leith Walk, Easter road area ahead of Saturday's home match against Ayr United.

Volunteers should meet at 10am at the cul-de-sac at Allanfield beside the recycling bins.

Litter pickers and bin bags will be provided and refreshments will be available afterwards,

The initiative is being organised by Councillor Marion Donaldson who can be contacted on contact@edinburghnorthernandleith.com.

The appeal from Hibernian Retro was published on their Facebook page reads: " To keep Hibernian FC's longstanding community spirit going, Hibernian Retro have teamed up with Hibe Council Councillor Marion Donaldson to "Clean Up Edinburgh"

"We are calling for Hibernian FC supporters to join Councillor Marion Donaldson and the local community for a clean-up.

"This Saturday 10-11:30am before our Home Match against Ayr United we will be helping pick up litter between Leith Walk & Easter Road, meeting at the cul-de-sac at Allanfeild.

"Why not come along and do your bit for your community. We all should take pride in where were from!

"Pop along and help before the match and you'll still have time to go to the pub for refreshments.

“Our Community – Our Hibernian FC

“GGTTH”

Sixteen rabbits seek special new home



The Scottish SPCA is appealing for help rehoming 16 rabbits who have made a fantastic recovery from a case of snuffles.

The rabbits are currently housed at our Edinburgh and Lothians Animal Rescue and Rehoming Centre as they look to start a new life with a loving family.

Snuffles, which is also called Pasteurella, is one of the most common infections that can strike domestic rabbits and is a form of respiratory disease.

The rabbits in our care have been treated and are now fully recovered. However, because of the nature of the infection these animals should not be taken in by a member of the public who already has bunnies as the disease can be passed on to other rabbits.

Diane Aitchison, manager of the centre in Balerno, said, “These rabbits have been treated by a vet and are ready for rehoming.

“They are fit, healthy and lively little animals who would make ideal pets.

“However, they have to go to a single rabbit household or

someone who was willing to take more than one of our current batch home with them.

“The characteristics of the virus mean that the rabbits who have had Pasteurella will always shed the disease and could infect other bunnies that they come into contact with.

“These rabbits would make fantastic pets and we would love it if they could find their forever homes.”

If you can offer any of these rabbits a loving new home please contact our Balerno centre on 03000 999 999.

Photo by Scottish SPCA

Macmillan Coffee Morning with a spoonful of companionship for older people



The Macmillan Coffee Morning which Home Instead Senior Care is holding on 30 September at Castlebrae Business Centre will celebrate their five years in business, and will also bring organisations who offer companionship and befriending services together.

Research by Age UK suggests that around 1 million older people go for a whole month without speaking to anyone, so if you are interested in becoming a volunteer then you can find out more at this event.

Starting from 10.30am the coffee morning will be made extra

special by cakes made by Mishia from the Harvest Tree in Edinburgh.

There will be information stalls manned by over a dozen organisations. Some of those who will be there include Community Connecting, The Singing Group for People with Dementia, Local Opportunities for Older People, Artlink Arts Access, Care & Repair, Contact the Elderly, Edinburgh Garden Partners and Meal Makers.

Joanna Senew owner of Home Instead Senior Care and the organiser of the day explained why she thinks it is so important to bring people together, “We are proud to be organising this wonderful day for older people, their family and friends and fellow professionals. The idea behind it is to help people to be better informed about what is available in the area. It will also be an opportunity to share ideas with both our visitors and the different organisations about how we address the growing problem of social isolation amongst older people.

She added, “We will also be supporting the Macmillan coffee morning, raising money for this fantastic charity, one which is close to our hearts. The day should be a lot of fun and we welcome everyone to come along.”

You can go along on the day or register [here](#).

Five things you need to know

today



- **Hundreds more affordable homes in Edinburgh**
- **Doors Open Day 2016**
- **Films in the Old College Quad**
- **Colony of Artists 2016**
- **Edinburgh Coffee Festival**

The Housing Minister Kevin Stewart announced yesterday that work will begin at Shrubhill on Leith Walk to create the city's newest affordable housing development. The government has promised to deliver 50,000 more affordable homes over the next five years. Mr Stewart said : "Unique innovative financing schemes, such as National Housing Trust (NHT), play an important role in helping us deliver this major expansion in housing supply – supplementing delivery through conventional programmes which is backed up with investment of more than £3 billion.

"I am delighted to officially mark the start of work on the Shrubhill site. This development will not only regenerate an iconic site in the centre of Edinburgh, but will also provide hundreds more high quality affordable homes for the people of the city."

The Shrubhill development will provide 374 new homes of which 236 will be affordable and 150 are to be NHT homes. This is the seventh major site in the capital meaning that almost 900 affordable homes have been provided through NHT.

Councillor Cammy Day who is Edinburgh's Housing convener was on hand to speak about the need for new homes in the city. He said : "I'm pleased that partnership working and Council loans through the NHT will enable more than 370 new homes to be built at Shrubhill with over 60% of them being affordable. The development is a major part of the regeneration of Leith Walk,

bringing life back into an area that has lain derelict for many years. The Council is supporting the development with almost £28 million of grant and loan funding. As part of its approved housing strategy the Council and its housing association partners have agreed to build 16,000 affordable homes in the city over the next ten years.

“The Council has established eight arms-length partnerships and approved around £100 million to support 8 brownfield regeneration projects and deliver nearly 1,000 mid rent homes under the NHT programme. Nearly half of all the homes built under the NHT in Scotland will be built in Edinburgh.”



Later this month some of Edinburgh's buildings not normally open to the public will throw open their doors. Included on the list is Lothian Buses' Central Depot on Annandale Street. The doors will be open on Saturday 24 September between 12pm and 4pm. The bus company will be running vintage buses on Service 16 between Lothian Road and Newhaven stopping close to the depot. Running at least every 10 minutes between 9am and 6pm passengers will be able to catch a vintage bus along Princes Street, St Andrew Square, York Place and Leith Walk to Newhaven. Normal fares apply!

Richard Hall Managing Director said : “We are really excited to be able to offer trips on vintage buses as part of our Doors Open Day programme this year. We hope that by giving people this rare opportunity to travel back in time on these special services it will add to what is already a very popular event in Edinburgh.”

This year the bus company will support Guide Dogs Scotland and Poppy Scotland with donation buckets at the depot.

[The Cockburn Association](#) is in charge of the 109 events across

Edinburgh during the weekend of 24 and 25 September.



A crowd-pleasing programme of classic films will be screened in the spectacular surroundings of The University of Edinburgh's Old College quadrangle this month.

Film lovers of all ages can enjoy the unique venue, with highlights including Steven Spielberg's shark horror, *Jaws*, spy thriller, *Kingsman: The Secret Service* and this year's remake of family-favourite *The Jungle Book*.

Film in the Old College Quad takes place from 16-18 September as part of the University of Edinburgh's Welcome Week for new students.

Audiences are encouraged to bring a picnic and blankets to enjoy the big screen on the quad lawn.

Musical fantasy *Labyrinth* – featuring David Bowie – will be shown on Saturday, 17 September. The film has gained a cult following since its release in 1986 and is rarely shown on the big screen.

Die Hard fans can enjoy a screening of the all-American action thriller on Sunday, 18 September.

There will be free family screenings of the much-loved animations *Inside Out* and *Home* on the mornings of Saturday, 17 and Sunday, 18 September.

Audiences can enjoy sci-fi and superheroes evening screenings of James Cameron's *Aliens*, Marvel Comic's *Deadpool* and *Inception* starring Leonardo Di Caprio.

Further attractions include musical comedy *Pitch Perfect 2* and the critically acclaimed Coen Brothers Grammy-winning *O*

Brother, Where Art Thou?

Short films by Animation and Film and Television students from Edinburgh College of Art will also be shown before each screening.

Booking information for *Film in the Old College Quad* can be found at www.ed.ac.uk/festivals.

Tickets cost £10 per film – £12 for Jaws. Family morning shows are free and unticketed.

#QuadFilms



This weekend the Abbeyhill Colonies come alive with the Colony of Artists. This is the eleventh exhibition and you can visit on either Saturday or Sunday afternoons any time after 12 noon. The whole event gets underway with an opening concert on Saturday at 11:00am.

They are using the excuse of their eleventh birthday to show off the past and present with exhibitions, talks and live music.

There will be work by over 50 artists all exhibiting in their homes or other nearby venues.

The author of *Maisie of Morningside*, Aileen Paterson, will be giving readings of her acclaimed series, Anne Marie will offer tea and baking with proceeds going to Oxfam,

Everything takes place in EH7 and you are recommended to take a bus as parking is minimal. Lothian Buses 1,4,5,15,19,26,34,35 and 44 all stop nearby. More information [here](#).



 To celebrate International Coffee Day on 1 October there

will be a Coffee Festival in Edinburgh. This is the second year that the festival has taken place and this year the festivities will take place at Summerhall with about 30 suppliers showing off their best beans. They might be coffee roasters, coffee making equipment suppliers, coffee bar owners or baristas. But they all love coffee so if you do then get along to see what's on offer.

There will be tea and chocolate, music and a courtyard bar. The Festival is supported by their charity partner Mercy Corps who will give a talk about the coffee growers they work with.

Martin Dare, show organiser, said of the event: "Peoples' interest and passion about coffee is growing more and more, so we're hopeful of attracting lots of interest on 1 October. Edinburgh's coffee, chocolate and tea scene is pretty amazing – we're up there with some of the best in the UK – so people can expect high standards.

"I'd say the biggest draw of the Festival is the diversity of flavours all in one place. It doesn't matter how much you know about coffee, you'll be able to talk to passionate producers and try different coffees side-by-side, which makes understanding your own personal preferences easier.


"Please keep an eye on our website and social media for further updates on exhibitors, sponsors, workshops and demonstrations and we look forward to seeing you on 1 October."

Follow the aroma of the best coffee and join the Edinburgh Coffee Festival at Summerhall on International Coffee Day, Saturday 1st October, from 10am to 6pm.

Tickets are available from the Edinburgh Coffee Festival Website

– <http://www.edinburghcoffeefestival.co.uk/buy-tickets/> and at the door on the day of the event (cash only).



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EU will be the hot topic at Holyrood today



There will be a day of EU-themed activity today at Holyrood during which the First Minister will address the European and External Relations Committee.

Michael Russell MSP who has just been appointed Minister for UK negotiations on Scotland's place in Europe will open the series of debates to establish key principles for Scotland's involvement in the negotiations.

The government support the view that Scotland should remain in the EU and that both the UK and Scotland should stay in the single market.

Later today Jean-Claude Juncker will address the European Commission when it meets in Strasbourg, making his State of the Union address, and he will explain to the commissioners how he will address the matter of the UK leaving the EU.

Mr Russell will call on the UK government to provide clarity and direction, although to date it seems that there has been little said (in public at any rate) on what the UK Government's plans are.

During his opening address, Michael Russell is expected to say:

"Scotland's voice is being heard across the European Union. We want Europe and the world to know that Scotland voted wholeheartedly to remain in the EU as befits a nation that is outward looking and open.

"The message from the United Kingdom Government has been both confused and damaging. At times it seems as if there is no direction.

"At others it seems as if a hard Brexit, with all the damage to jobs that would cause, is the desired destination. We have no idea whether or not the UK wishes to remain within the single market, almost three months on from the referendum. That is not good enough.

"I am today inviting this parliament to add their voice to ours in holding the UK Government to the Prime Minister's commitment and reiterating their support for our principled and values-driven approach to protecting Scotland's interests, fundamental to which is to remain inside the single market.

"For continued fairness and opportunity for Scotland's workers as well as for long-term prosperity for Scotland as a whole, we must not be dragged by the hard line Brexiteers out of the single market. That is the case we must make loudly and clearly. In so doing we will find many others across these islands who believe the same and who can join us in the fight to preserve our future in Europe."