

# Vintage buses to be used on Doors Open Day



Lothian Buses will offer passengers the opportunity to travel to its Central Depot Doors Open Day at Annandale Street in style on Saturday 24 September 2016.

Doors to the depot are open between 12pm and 4pm and the event offers passengers the opportunity to see behind the scenes at the company's main depot.

As part of the event this year, Lothian Buses will be running vintage buses on the Service 16 between Lothian Road and Newhaven, stopping close to Central Depot. Running at least every 10 minutes between 9am and 6pm, passengers will be able to travel on a fleet of vintage buses along Princes Street, St Andrews Square, York Place and Leith Walk to Newhaven. Normal Lothian Buses fares will be accepted on these vehicles.

**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."

Highlights of the event also include a display of new and vintage buses, tours around the depot highlighting the history of the listed building, trips onboard double-deckers through the bus wash and bus 'racing' operated by The Racing Bug.

The event will also feature many highlights for children of all ages including face painting, a bouncy castle and the chance to sit in the bus drivers seat.

This year, Lothian Buses will be supporting Guide Dogs Scotland and Poppy Scotland with donation buckets at the doors and throughout the depot.

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## Charlie Miller celebrates 50 years in hairdressing

The Edinburgh Reporter has met Charlie Miller OBE on many occasions, but this was the very first time we had the opportunity of interviewing him in his office on the very top floor of the Stafford Street building which became his flagship store in 1971.



Charlie Miller has a particular way of talking about himself and his view of who he is, demonstrating a real perception about who he really is.

He knows he has been pretty successful in business, but talks little of the material benefits it brings, preferring to dwell on his life story and how he got where he is. He starts out with a disarmingly simple comment: "I'm organic you know. I just do one bit right and then I move on to the next thing." And it is almost as though all of this has happened to someone else or happened in a random fashion which he had little to do with.

**TER** : Did you set out with a plan?

**CM** : "No. What I set out with was an idea of perfection within the limits of what hairdressing can be."

**TER** : Are you an artist?

**CM** : "Yes, yes, I am artistic sure. I am aesthetically intelligent, that's what I am. That kind of phrase comes from a whole background of stuff that I have been studying for donkey's years which is not yet mainstream. It is a beautiful, fabulous way of understanding what we are all like. I have these views of myself that are slightly different.

"What people actually see in others is that we seem to be

attractive to clients. We have so many people who have come to us for years, some of the first clients have come to us for fifty three years.

"We really work hard to try and please people."

**TER** : Where did you start?

**CM** : "When I was young I wanted to be a drummer in the Marines, but I couldn't as I was too young. I went along to the Marines recruiting office in Frederick Street as soon as I left school. I was just 15. My Mum and Dad used to take me to the Tattoo where I saw these drummers.

"I had the idea that I would be one of them. I loved drummers!" (and to prove the point he starts drumming on the table...!)

"I wanted to join the Marines as I thought they were the best drummers, but the recruiting officer told me I had to be 18 to get in and that I would have to come back later. Well now I think thank goodness for that!"

"Then I decided I would like to be a ladies' hairdresser. I went for a few jobs but couldn't get one. I used to go to Bob's at the top of the West Port to get my hair cut and at that time they were the best in Edinburgh. I used to come into town from Niddrie on a number 2 bus to get my hair cut.

"I saw that they had an advert in the paper for a ladies hairdresser, so I went along to apply and I got the job.

"I stayed there for about 7 or 8 years. I loved it. But apart from my doing my wife Janet's hair, I was not actually doing ladies' hair at all. I was only cutting men's hair at that time.

"Vidal Sassoon was coming out with all these looks at the time and I would look at them and believe I could copy them. The type of thing we were doing was all geometric haircuts – but I didn't call it that at the time.

"I used to cut Janet's hair in all these styles. I could just look at them and then she would get a new hairstyle. People would look at her hair and then clients would ask me to do their wives' hair too. But at that point I had got so into doing men's hair I wouldn't agree! I got such a good training there and I really liked Bob very much.



But it turns out that there is more to Charlie Miller at 71 and a half than simply someone who is good at cutting hair, or

who has had a few lucky breaks in business. He asserts that his approach to life and running a business is one that is very much affected by the study of psychology.

Charlie explained: "A client of mine was a psychiatrist. We became very good friends and he brought a booklet with him one day and told me I was already doing some of the things talked about in the booklet. It was all about the theories of American psychologist Carl Rogers. The bit that got me was that to work with people you have to be genuine, have empathy and have what is called non-possessive warmth.

"So this is what we teach our hairdressers now. We don't try and change their personalities, but they all work within these parameters. I didn't tell anyone about it at first because it was too 'far out' at the time!"

So what does it really mean we asked? "Well I shall try to tell you what it means. First you have to have genuineness – you have to be able to do what you are supposed to do. You cannot kid on that you can create the hairstyle that people want. There is no point in that.

"Empathy – our hairdressers have to be able to read what the client wants.

"Warmth – the trickiest of the lot. You have to display not phoney warmth but real warmth.

"We have had clients who are really difficult, but if you employ all these life skills you can really please them. And of course it's not just clients it's everybody you meet anywhere in your life.

Charlie uses unusual and interesting phrases which he clearly likes, and which he probably repeats often, as they seem to roll off the tongue easily.

He said: "I am spiritually interested – not a churchgoer – but spiritually interested. I consider myself to be a spiritual nomad. I don't go about preaching all this you know! But this is all part of who I am."

So back to hairdressing and his long career in Edinburgh: "I had a great training in Bob's and I built up a big clientele during my time there. Then I moved into Prestonfield Avenue to a barber's shop there. That did not feel like a big leap at the time, but it turned out to be an important step.

"I didn't have any money, but I went for it anyway. It was time for me to move on. I continued with contemporary men's

haircuts, and then I got the chance to move to Rose Street where all the boutiques were. I was up the stairs from Bruce's Records where we didn't have a very good record player. It didn't matter as Bruce (Findlay) ran a wire up to our salon with a speaker. Then we had great music!

"The salon there was very stylish. Janet has an eye for that – we used sheets of wrapping paper on the walls and at the time it all looked fantastic! We had good chairs too.

I eventually gave in and started doing women's hair and then that just took over."



For the fiftieth anniversary Jason and Josh Miller who are both directors in the business produced a glossy magazine to celebrate the achievement. Charlie loves it, but says he was only involved in a peripheral role to approve the final edit. He is really pleased that he can now take that kind of back seat.

"My boys are smart you know, along with India, Jason's wife, and they are ready to take over here. I only do hair for a few pals now."

Over the years other hair salons have been hot on the heels of Charlie Miller, and yes, some of them have kept going, but Charlie Miller Hairdressing is perhaps the most successful of all in the capital.

Charlie Miller, as it is now, really started when they moved to Stafford Street in 1971.

But firmly at his side Charlie has his wife and family: "Janet keeps me right you know. She sees things that I don't and then makes a suggestion to me of something I might try out. According to my sons there will be a Charlie Miller in another fifty years too. They know what they're doing. I have stood back gradually and let them take over bits and pieces of the business.

"Way back Jason won newcomer of the year, and then India won it after him – that's for the whole of the UK you know! And then Jason and the team started the Academy at Holy Corner which is absolutely nothing to do with me. I occasionally do a talk there. I get wheeled out now and again! I enjoy the way that I fit in here, and my boys are very inclusive of me but I am not in the salon every day now. We are all directors in the business, so I direct a little here and a little there. But I

don't need to do too much, the boys are so good at everything now. And Ian Blyth is a Director too – he runs the South St Andrew Street branch and we have worked together for over 35 years now.

“I am not fed up with business at all – I simply move on to something else.”

It is clear that although he does not style hair every day Charlie Miller uses his extra time in philanthropic efforts to help young girls with cancer.

**TER :** So what do you do with all this extra time now that you have it?

Charlie is straight back with an answer: “Well I never played golf in my life so I don't do that! Last week I was driving four Buddhist nuns around Scotland. They were amazing. I am also involved with the [Teenage Cancer Trust](#). We use wigs here for hairdressing shows anyway, and it seemed right to use those skills to help children with cancer. I first became aware of the need in 2007 when I had a young cancer patient as a client.

“I went around Scotland and found hairdressers who could help produce wigs for children with cancer for Hair 4 U. I had to pick the best of course. Then I expanded the project to England too. So now there is a whole network of hairdressers who will produce wigs – all for nothing.

“How that works is that some children get their hair cut off before treatment to make a wig for them. Others get wigs created from hair donated by others. Teenage Cancer Trust is a big part of my life now. I think people know that – it has been publicised quite well.

“I did not really know before then that teenagers got cancer, and they were given fibre wigs by the NHS. Now they can get a real hair wig, and it costs them nothing. I have experience of real hair wigs because of the hairdressing shows we have done.”

Charlie's friends in the city include mega successful businessman Sir Tom Farmer. Theirs has been quite a story : “I went to the North Pole with Sir Tom Farmer – one of my famous friends! – I cut his hair there for charity in 2010. When he asked me I had to think about it for about half an hour and then I said I would do it as long as it raised money for Teenage Cancer Trust. I had to cut his hair really quickly! I

had a hat on but he was feeling the cold! I have known Tom for ages. He is an amazing man.

(There is a great story that Charlie tells – watch this on video here!)

[The Edinburgh Reporter chats with Charlie Miller](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

As for fame? We asked if that matters much? “Well I have been happy to grow into the role of being someone who the papers seek out. But I don’t usually go to them!” He particularly does not mention the fact that he was awarded the Order of the British Empire by Her Majesty the Queen in 2012 for services to hairdressing, although there is a photo of him receiving his honour in the commemorative magazine.

With five branches and over 100 people employed there, Charlie Miller Hairdressing is a big presence in the capital hairdressing scene, and the man himself is also a big presence in any room he steps into.

(And yes for those of you who wonder about these details I did pay special attention to my own coiffure before going to meet the great hairdresser for this interview! He himself was of course immaculately turned out with trim moustache and swept back locks.)

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**Our Pick of Edinburgh  
Festival Fringe 2016 –  
Captain Flinn and the Pirate  
Dinosaurs 2: The Magic**

# Cutlass



When Flinn, Pearl and Tom are in the middle of their school play, their old nemesis, Mr T the T-Rex, appears and kidnaps the children, forcing them to hunt for the secretive Magic Cutlass – a sword that grants the holder any wish.

The children are whisked away for another fantastic adventure to a world of devious dinosaurs, deep sea dangers and smelly sausages. It's all aboard, me hearties, for a real life pirate adventure!

Will fearless Flinn be able to outwit the pirate dinosaurs? Will Pirate Pearl be brave enough to battle the dangerous dinos? And will terrified Tom be back in time for tea? All aboard for a non-stop action packed theatrical experience with live music, puppetry and dastardly dinosaurs!

*Captain Flinn and the Pirate Dinosaurs 2: The Magic Cutlass* is brought to life by Les Petits, the exciting children's theatre company from the team behind internationally-acclaimed theatre company, Les Enfants Terribles (*Alice's Adventures Underground*). Les Petits aims to ignite children's imaginations through the magic of theatre and storytelling.

## LISTING INFORMATION

VENUE: Pleasance Courtyard (Venue 33)

DATES: Aug 3-29 (Not 16)

TIME: 10:30 (1 hour)

TICKETS: £12/£9.50 (Preview – £7)

Get your tickets [here](#).



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# Our Pick of Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016 – Dead Awaken



New American songwriting team Brian Carbine and Preston Butler III present their debut concert drama – a re-imagining of Henrik Ibsen’s *When We Dead Awaken*, set to an original neo-soul/hip-hop concept album.

An ensemble of four tell the story of a celebrated artist struggling to atone for the sins of his past, while desperately searching for a new future. Using a combination of digital and acoustic techniques, the performers produce the music live on stage, weaving seamlessly between concept album and Ibsen’s narrative.

Artist (Preston Butler III) has achieved great fame and fortune for his masterpiece entitled “Day of Resurrection.” But since its creation, he has become restless, disillusioned and tortured. This struggle has crept into his personal life, leaving his marriage as a source of tedious disappointment.

He and his Wife (Kristin Tripe) wander from place to place, searching for something that will either save them or set them free. Freedom presents itself at a mountain resort in the form of Muse (Jasmine Gatewood), the inspiration and model for the Artist’s masterpiece. Entranced and convinced that she holds the key to his creative power, Artist will sacrifice everything in hopes of finding himself again.

LISTING INFORMATION

VENUE: Venue 13

DATES: Aug 6, 9-13, 16-20, 23-27


TIME: 15:45 (1 hour 15 mins)

TICKETS: £10/£8

Get your tickets [here](#).

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## **“One of the best exhibitions on the Fringe...”**

 “Paperwork 3” at 2 Howe Street

The Visitors’ Book is a sure guide to how the public receive Fringe exhibitions.

The fact they even take time to write in it or leave their email address to be told of future shows speaks for itself. As well as one visitor naming it “one of the best exhibitions on the Fringe”, Paperwork 2 last year garnered a five stars review and visitor comments like “such varied and beautiful work”, “a very impressive collection” and “I loved the delicacy and the thoughtfulness”.

In Paperwork 3 this year the three Edinburgh artists once again showcase their current works on paper. Accessible and affordable, these new drawings, prints and paintings will engage and inspire. In their different ways and with different materials the artists, Marion Barron, Trevor Davies and Ruth Thomas, each explore natural and abstract forms, still life, space, line and colour.

Paperwork 3 at 2 Howe Street is free and is open 19 – 29 August from 11.00am until 6.00pm.

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# Leith Market celebrating its first birthday today!



Leith Market opened in July last year and they are having a birthday party at market today 23 July 2016 – to celebrate.

There are details on their Facebook page – [www.facebook.com/events/1062212667192/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1062212667192/)

The market is on at the usual time of 10am to 5pm.

A spokesperson said: “We’ll have balloons, bubbly, a busker and a booty bag to give away to a lucky winner.”

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# Hibs face Birmingham City at Easter Road tomorrow



Hibs will face Birmingham City at Easter Road tomorrow as preparation continues for the start of the league campaign. Kick off is at 2pm, and tickets cost: Adults: £10, Concessions\*: £5 \*(065, U18 and FT student with a valid matriculation card)

The Ticket Office will be open from 10am, with a cash pod at the East Stand from 1pm.

The Famous Five Stand will be closed for this match.

Supporters can purchase in advance online, by phone or in person, with the Ticket Office open 10am-3pm on Saturday. Online purchasing will not be available from 90 minutes before kick-off (12.30pm).

The Almond Suite of Behind the Goals will be open to all home match ticket holders ahead of kick-off, with doors opening at 11.30am. Please note the Forthview will be closed, and neither suite will be open post-match.

The Hibernian Clubstore will be open from 12pm, and will re-open post-match.

The new-look Hibernian FC match programme, sponsored by Belmont, will be available for sale pre-match. This week's edition features interviews with John McGinn and former Hibernian and Birmingham defender David Murphy, as well as feature pieces on cult hero Chic Charnley and ex-striker Garry O'Connor.

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## Five things you need to know today



- Local politicians help Macdonald's clean up!
- Gareth's Golden Tips
- Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival 2016
- Fashion at the Museum all weekend
- Edinburgh Artist stages exhibition out of town

Local McDonald's Manager Eleanor Gardiner and crew from the Corstorphine and Newbridge restaurants in Edinburgh were

delighted to team up with the 224<sup>th</sup> Edinburgh Brownies along with Michelle Thomson MP and Councillor Karen Keil to help clean up Gyle Park.

The team of volunteers consisted of 33 Brownies and 14 staff from both restaurants as well as the local MP and a councillor for the Gyle ward. Together the group worked hard to clear an impressive 10 bags of rubbish from the area surrounding Gyle Park. The location was chosen as it is a popular route for walkers and cyclists alike. The litter pick took place on a busy day and the volunteers attracted attention from local passers-by who were impressed by all of McDonald's efforts.



This event is just one of a number of McDonald's clean-ups which have taken place across Scotland as part of its ongoing support of Keep Scotland Beautiful's 'Clean Up Scotland' campaign since 2007. The campaign and partnership is now in its ninth year and continues to encourage residents of local communities to take action and work together to tackle litter in their area. 2015 saw 70 events take place across Scotland with a total of 1,562 people taking part.

**Elliot Jardine, local McDonald's franchisee and owner of both the Corstorphine and Newbridge restaurants said:** "I was really proud to see everyone come together and help tidy up Gyle Park. It's so important to us to ensure that the local area remains free of litter and an enjoyable place to live, work and visit for the whole community. As a business we understand the important role that we play in making the area a better place. I want to thank all the volunteers for taking part on a very successful day, in particular the Brownie girls. We really look forward to partnering with them again in the future."

Aside from larger litter events such as these, McDonald's restaurants patrol the streets at least three times a day to

collect all litter that has been discarded, regardless of its origin. Crew members across the UK cover a total of 3,000 miles each week on litter patrols, which equates to 150,000 miles a year and the distance of five marathons each year per store.

**Michelle Thomson, MP for Edinburgh West said:** “It was fantastic to see volunteers from McDonald’s get involved in cleaning up our community and help to create a place that everyone can be proud of. I would like to thank Elliot, Eleanor and their team for hosting the event and inviting us all along. It is important that we all come together to help to look after our community in Gyle and keep it looking clean and tidy.”

In addition to the annual Keep Scotland Beautiful litter events and daily patrols, many restaurants have now begun to get involved in events such as painting walls and replanting trees and flowers that improve local community areas.



Gareth Drummond is the concierge at MacDonald Holyrood Hotels and he is a member of the illustrious Les Clefs d’Or (the Society of Golden Keys). He has a few tips for you on how to get the best out of Edinburgh during the Fringe.

[Read more here.](#)



The Edinburgh Jazz Festival is well underway and tomorrow evening there are still some tickets available for Todd Gordon singing Tony Bennett at The Queen’s Hall.

Making this show extra special is Todd’s guest, Carol Kidd, who will be performing some of her favourites from the Bennett repertoire. Join them for a wonderful celebration of song, including *The Good Life*, *I Wanna Be Around*, *Smile*, *For Once in*

*My Life, How Do You Keep the Music Playing, Maybe This Time* and, of course, *I Left My Heart in San Francisco*.

[Ticket details here.](#)



All weekend in the National Museum of Scotland's Grand Gallery a selection of Scotland and South Africa's best contemporary designers showcasing their wares. Then from August the Foreign Exchange moves to a shop in Ocean Terminal.

This is part of the [Edinburgh International Fashion Festival](#).



For those of you who like to get out of town you might like to visit an exhibition by Edinburgh artist David Ruston at his new gallery in Sanquhar where he is hosting the first major exhibition.

*Landscape of Waves* is a collaboration between Charles Jencks, the world-renowned artist, landscape architect and designer, and Alex Rigg the Scottish-based multi-disciplinary artist and designer.



Photography from: Colin Hattersley Photography  
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It is the first major exhibition at the Merz Gallery in Sanquhar, which is a former lemonade factory, which has been refurbished by Ruston to create exhibition place and also a workshop.

All three men have a deep fascination with the forces that

drive the cosmos and the resilience and intensity of life. Jencks is also inspired by the way that science shows that waveforms (from radio waves to brain waves) underpin existence.

The exhibition opened at the end of last month, in Sanquhar, as a highlight of the three-day *Solar Flare/Earth Shield* festival of the solstice marking the first birthday of Crawick Multiverse – a 55-acre artland designed by Jencks.


Hosted by A' The Airts at the Merz Studio, Queen's Road, Sanquhar from Saturday 25 June to Sunday 5 September, 11am to 5pm daily – closed Mondays

Admission £2 or free for accompanied children under 12.

Tickets available at A' the Airts, 8-12, High Street, Sanquhar, DG4 6BL

Call 01659 50514 for information.



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# Hearts Sign Another Striker

After the bitter disappointment – and embarrassment – of going out of the Europa League at the second qualifying round to Maltese side Birkirkara, Hearts today strengthened their squad with the signing of US born striker Bjorn Johnsen on a three year contract.

Johnsen, who holds dual American and Norwegian citizenship, has signed a three year deal at Tynecastle, subject to international clearance being received. The 6' 5" striker was recently released from Bulgarian side Litex Lovech and is the fifth forward player to sign for Hearts in recent weeks. He told the official Hearts website

"Hearts made an offer, I felt really wanted by them and I'm delighted to come here now.

"I'm a fast player and I'm good with my feet and in the air. I want to help out, providing assists and not just goals is key.

"This league is looking like it's going to be tough this year and I want to be pushing at the top of the table.

"There are high expectations here and I want to help fulfil them.

"So yeah, I'm really excited to be here. The stadium is amazing, there's a new stand being put up and I want to be part of this new phase for the club."

Meanwhile, in the wake of Thursday's shock defeat – the first time any Scots side has lost to Maltese opposition – Hearts Head Coach Robbie Neilson admitted he and the players were 'devastated' by the result in front of a disbelieving Maroon Army.

Neilson told the official Hearts website:

“We hit the bar twice, and missed the penalty, and in European football these fine margins cost you because you can be hit by a sucker punch.

“We’re a young team and a young coaching team too, and we need to try and learn from the mistakes we’ve made on nights like this one, because it’s no good for anybody.”

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## **Review: Bring It On – The Musical \*\*\*\***



It’s fair to say many people could do with a pick-me-up right now. One is almost at the stage where one is wary of switching on the television or radio or going on-line for fear of news of some other atrocity such as the incident in Munich on Friday evening. To the good citizens of Edinburgh, I say if you want some escapism you would be hard pushed to better the experience of watching Bring It On, The Musical, a quite simply superb show at the King’s Theatre in Scotland’s capital city.

The Beyond Broadway Experience’s production was born from the

seed of an idea last autumn and gives a brilliant opportunity for highly talented Scottish youngsters to demonstrate their musical skills in telling the story of the cutthroat world of competitive cheerleading and the fierce rivalries of American High School politics.

The cast of 150 youngsters has an infectious feel-good factor with memorable songs, highly energetic dancing and cheering squad routines.

Bring It On is one of the most popular musicals on Broadway and, indeed, one of its stars – Taylor Louderman – has been the creative consultant behind the Edinburgh show.

The story follows the ambitious Campbell, a well-bred senior at Truman High School. Her ambition is to lead her cheering squad to victory in the national cheerleading competition but a redistricting of the school areas means she is placed in the less than glamorous Jackson High. Her bubble-gum style of cheerleading is mocked by Jackson High students who prefer juicy R&B and hip-hop.

The result is a high-energy, breathless musical treat and there's no doubt that some of the young cast are very much stars in the making. The wonderfully assured Eilidh Murray plays the main character, Campbell and she is ably supported by the convincing Honey Joseph who plays Danielle and the wonderful Paul Clark who had the hugely appreciative audience in fits of laughter with his trans-gender character La Cienega.

But the wee gem who stole the show was undoubtedly Sarah Kerr who played the somewhat frumpy Bridget who – to her astonishment – attracts the attention of an eager suitor.

The pace of the show is tremendous with high-rise human pyramids, wild throws and lifts which are made to look easy by the hard-working and clearly passionate cast.

Despite one or technical issues with the microphones, the youngsters maintained their professionalism admirably. My only irritation – and this has nothing to do with the production or the sublime cast – was with some members of the audience who insisted on ‘whoo-whooing’ every couple of minutes. I know the musical is based on an American show and is situated in an all-American way of life but sometimes I wished some of the audience had toned it down just a little.

And to those who run the Kings’ Theatre – ever thought of installing air-conditioning?

Bring It On is not only very entertaining it contains a bucketful of feel-good factor. Occasionally silly, frequently acrobatic but never dull, this is a musical brilliantly staged by young Scottish talent that will lift your heart.

And in these troubled times we could all do with that.

Bring It On is only on until this Saturday so grab your chance to see it if you can.

Tickets and details: <http://www.edtheatres.com/bringiton>

Edinburgh Reporter Review: \*\*\*\*

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# Body found in tunnel near Abbeyhill Station



A major police enquiry is ongoing after a body was found by a member of the public in a tunnel near a disused railway in Edinburgh earlier today,

Officers from British Transport Police were called to the site near the old Abbeyhill Station, off London Road and the body is believed to have been there for some time. The area has been cordoned off and forensics officers are at the scene.

A spokesman for British Transport Police said: "At this stage, enquiries are ongoing to establish the circumstances surrounding this death and we are in discussions with the procurator fiscal.

"Officers are working to identify the person and inform any next of kin."

&lt;img class="resp-img\_\_image" src="http://files.stv.tv/imagebase/461/w384/461024-police-at-scene-at-abbeyhill-station-after-body-found-on-july-22.jpg" />

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# Bogus workman jailed for three years



A man who defrauded an elderly victim out of almost £150,000

has been convicted and jailed for three years.

At Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday, Robert Stewart (21) was found guilty of bogus workmen offences committed at a property in Priestfield Road last year.

In December, Stewart attended at the home of an 87-year-old man and offered to repair a television antenna.

Stewart then advised the homeowner that extensive work was required on the roof, which his company Abbey Building & Roofing could carry out.

The man agreed to the maintenance and between late December 2015 and March 2016 made several online payments to the building company totalling £147, 460.

Staff at the victim's bank contacted police after becoming suspicious and officers began investigating during which time they arranged for two independent surveys on the Priestfield Road house.

It was established that the work carried out was inferior and valued at far less than the fee charged.

Detectives carried out financial inquiries and linked the payments to an account held by Robert Stewart. He was detained and subsequently charged on 14th April this year.

Detective Sergeant Gary Reid said: "Robert Stewart preyed on an elderly man and was able to extort a large sum of money for work that was sub-par and nowhere near the valuation of such repairs.

"After bank staff observed a pattern in the victim's payments they became suspicious and reported their concerns to police. We then launched a robust investigation alongside the City of Edinburgh Council's Trading Standards department resulting in Stewart being charged with bogus workmen offences.

“His sentence should send a clear message that we will continue to work closely with our partners to actively pursue those involved in crimes of this nature to bring them to justice.

“I would like to take this opportunity to remind our communities never to allow unsolicited work to be carried out on your home or property and to always use individuals or companies you know or trust.

“In addition, family, friends and neighbours of vulnerable people are asked to be vigilant for any suspicious or unusual activity around their homes and report any concerns they have to police.

“We are committed to tackling bogus workmen and rogue trader crimes and whenever these incidents are reported to us we will investigate thoroughly to bring those responsible to justice.”

Community Safety Leader Councillor Cammy Day said: “This court case should send a warning to those who are involved in this type of criminal behaviour. Doorstep Crime remains one of our top priorities and incidents can be devastating for victims, both financially and in terms of having the confidence to live independently.

“We must ensure that everyone has the confidence to come forward – every complaint is taken seriously. Consumers must be able to trust what they are told by tradesmen, and we advise the public to use Edinburgh’s Trusted Trader scheme if they need any work carried out. You can report incidents or ask for advice by calling 0131 529 3030”

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# Abbeyhill Electrical – where safety is a priority



Following a change in safety regulations at the turn of the year, you may need to take a new look at the electrical fusebox in your house.

Any domestic fusebox now has to be made of metal if and when it is newly installed. This is due to fire safety concerns about the plastic ones used until now. So if you are undertaking a rewiring project or a renovation of a property then you might need to install a new fusebox at the same time.

Director of Abbeyhill Electrical Services, Kenny Cummings, said : “If we test any property then a plastic fuse board has to be flagged up with a strong recommendation that it will need to be replaced in due course.

“And if any property refurbishment includes rewiring then the fuse board needs changed. We are happy to inspect any property and offer our professional advice and guidance on what is needed.”



The Cumming brothers took over the business in 2015, when they acquired it from the previous owner. The business is going through a rebranding and modernisation process, including a refit of their office at East Norton Place.

Look out for Abbeyhill’s newly rebranded cars and vans!

Abbeyhill Electrical Services Ltd.

9 East Norton Place

Edinburgh

Midlothian



EH7 5DR

Tel: 0131 661 9321

Email: [info@abbeyhillelectrical.com](mailto:info@abbeyhillelectrical.com)

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# Our Pick of Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016 – Faulty Towers The Dining Experience



Basil, Sybil and Manuel are heading back to Edinburgh, ready to serve some fine dining in the form of a 3-course meal, Faulty style. In time-honoured tradition, the show starts as the audience wait to be seated then hurtles along for two hours of improvisation.

With only a third of the show scripted, each show is unique – expect the unexpected!

This internationally acclaimed show returns to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe for its ninth consecutive year with a new cast, a fresh format and a souped-up menu.

*Faulty Towers The Dining Experience* was born in Brisbane in 1997 and made its international debut at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2008. Since then, it's grown into a show that tours the world and also holds down a London West End residency – for which it's been awarded TripAdvisor's Certificate of Excellence two years in a row.

The Interactive Theatre International cast for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016 features Suzanna Hughes (Sybil), Corin Stuart (Basil) and Oliver Harrison (Manuel).

#### LISTING INFORMATION

VENUE: B'est Restaurant (Venue 243)

DATES: Aug 4-29 (Not Tuesdays)

TIME: Dinner performances, daily excluding Saturdays & Tuesdays: 19:30 for 20:00 start.

Lunch performances, daily excluding Tuesdays: 13:30 for 14:00 start.

TICKETS: All tickets include a 3-course meal and 2-hour interactive show:

Dinner shows Mon, Wed: £49.50.

Dinner shows Thurs, Fri, Sun: £54.50.

Lunch shows Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri: £49.50.

Lunch shows Sat, Sun: £54.50.

Get your tickets [here](#).

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## Edinburgh band win part-time title

At June's council meeting Councillor Steve Burgess lodged a motion requesting that the Lord Provost marks the latest accolade for one of the capital's bands. His motion read:

*Congratulates Edinburgh-based ska band Bombskare for winning the prodigious 'UK Best Part-Time Band' award.*

*Notes the BBC competition received more than 1,200 applications from bands across the UK playing all kinds of*

*popular music, culminating in a BBC2 Grand Finale on 17 June.*

*Welcomes that the competition is part of a campaign to inspire and encourage music lovers, amateur musicians and lapsed players to pick up instruments and recognises the contribution of such part-time musicians to Edinburgh's vibrant music scene.*

*Requests that on behalf of the Council the Lord Provost acknowledges the band's success in an appropriate manner."*

Just in case you need to know who they are here is a track:

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## **Our pick of Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Paper Hearts the Musical**




Liam O'Rafferty's world premier Paper Hearts has the endearing if not daringly kitsch me quick naïf strapline – 'A High Street Musical'. A giddy musical rom-com set in an independent bookshop (no, forget Notting Hill, this show is based firmly in reality) the hero in waiting, shop assistant, Atticus Smith, really does need to get his act or rather his plot together and finish that nebulous opus he calls his blockbuster first novel. He is soon to be confronted by its protagonists who step outside the pages demanding he both jolly well completes the book and adopts some serious Man-up attitude pretty darn quick.

And well he needs to because his new manager, Lilly Sprocket, is about to initiate some startling new practices that will turn his world upside down. Uplifting, passionate, deliciously escapist Paper Hearts the Musical promises a topsy-turvy, giddy explosion of song and dance enough to steam-up even the starchiest of librarian's glasses.

Two parallel worlds, Atticus's own modern-day life, and the 1940s Russia torn apart by the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War that his characters inhabit. The thumping upbeat numbers of the contemporary pop-folk score performed by a company of 11 actors (many performing as actor-musicians) guide you through a tale of love, passion, and betrayal, among books.

The Edinburgh Reporter spoke with writer Liam O'Rafferty almost literally on the hop mid rehearsals. He was adamant that but for the incredible support of Moon Rock Productions' director, Tania Azevedo, and musical director, Daniel Jarvis, after four years graft he would still be a little minnow in a shark-infested sea.

Two lonely people, two worlds apart, too afraid to dream too much until love walks through the shop door and their hearts go ting-a-ling.

 **TER:** Long, long ago, you are sitting down for a break at a corporate conference in Swindon in your capacity as the graphic designer when you have a life changing Damascene moment of creativity (if any readers have experienced the psychosis inducing traffic islands/one-way systems in Swindon this isn't as strange as it might sound). Tell us about it.

**LO:** I'm 52 and as far as social media is concerned I'm definitely old school. I didn't have any musical background as such, a few odd songs with a rock band in Swindon aside. I had to start from scratch, I didn't know anyone in the music business at all – sorry, and I'm sort of jumping the gun here! (Liam's enthusiasm is near exhausting, as for jumping the gun,

chatting with him is more akin to Evel Knievel leaping over a battery of field artillery exploding in unison. We decide to give his one-liner narrative free rein.)



Liam

O'Rafferty

**TER:** This bookshop motif, Liam?

**LO:** Ah, yes, there's a bookshop in Devizes run by a wonderful lady called Jo Batchelor, it's called (wait for it) Devizes Books. She's been brilliant and has already raised £500 and counting to help take the show to Edinburgh. As you know the story is set in a bookshop.

**TER:.** In the napalm volatility that is Swindon's creative oeuvre you transform from graphic designer to musical composer. Explain.

**LO:** I'd already written some songs and tried them out on my wife's Am-Dram friends. Nothing really came of that as a show. I eventually met up with Tania (Azevedo) who helped pull everything together. It took a very long time to get in to the musical theatre world. People weren't taking me seriously – no experience, never written before. Tania and Daniel (Jarvis) steered me in the right direction.

**TER:** What came first, the plot or the songs or did they inspire and feed off each other in development? When did you hit on a unifying context?

**LO:** As you know I was taking a break at a corporate function watching the guys setting up the stage and I thought to myself, 'Wouldn't it be great if that stage turned in to a bookshop with songs and dancing.' From that I had to create some characters. I'd quite a few songs as I said earlier. I pinched the hero's name Atticus from To Kill A Mockingbird;

the surname Smith sort of establishes him as a Mister ordinary.

**TER:** Is it correct that you originally had two separate shows in mind?

**LO:** Initially yes, one would have been about Atticus and Lilly working in the shop and the other about the characters who step out from his novel. It was Tania who guided me towards combining them in to one coherent plot.

**TER:** How did you go about casting the characters?

**LO:** I'll give you the simpler version, which it certainly wasn't to begin with! We used an online site that is dedicated to this process and is the default choice for many professional actors. We soon had over one thousand expressions of interest, four hundred for the role of Lilly alone.

The production team did the serious work paring it down to about sixty promising actors. That's when I stepped in. We used to meet at The National Gallery and look through the long-list. To be honest it was quite emotional for me doing that, seeing all coming together at last. Last month we had the auditions, we are rehearsing like mad as we speak and then there will be one preview at the Waterloo East Theatre on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

Then it's straight to Edinburgh.

**TER:** So finally, Liam, and we ask this without prejudice or favour, who came up with that strapline – 'A High Street Musical'?

**LO:** I did.

Paper Hearts the Musical

Musicals and Opera (musical theatre, comedy)

Underbelly Med Quad (Venue 302) 18:40 1 hour 15 minutes.

Suitability: 12+ (Guideline)

<https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on#q=%22Paper%20Hearts%20the%20Musical%22>

<http://www.paperheartsmusical.com>

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# Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016 – I've Snapped My Banjo String, Let's Just Talk

Former Scottish Comedian of the Year and hailed as a master storyteller, Scott Agnew's 2016 Fringe show tells of how gay sex went a bit Abigail's Party on Class A's in recent years.

Scott has a grim fascination for the grubbier sides of life and so he has spent the past four years bouncing about sex parties from Vauxhall to Prague, Manchester and his home town of Glasgow and meeting the weird and wonderful characters that inhabit them.

This show offers a wee peek behind the net curtains at where that kind of gay abandon leads to. It touches on politics, mental health, drugs and sexual health issues that affect us all. There's even a pregnancy in there as well...but it's certainly not for the Woman's Guild either.

Leave your judgement and faint heart at the door. It's Scott's life – you only have to listen to it.

3 – 29 August 2016

Teviot House, Counting House – Sitting Room

10 – 11pm

£5/PWYW

Tickets:

<https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/scott-agnew-i-ve-snapped-my-banjo-string-let-s-just-talk>

Submitted by [Sophie Gardner](#)



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## Nick Barley talks to The Edinburgh Reporter



Nick Barley has been the Director of Edinburgh International Book Festival since 2009. The festival began in 1983 and hosts around 700 events a year.

Recently, Nick sat down to talk to The Edinburgh Reporter.

**Who are you? Where did you come from?**

I was born and raised in Yorkshire, living in and around York until I was 18 and went to University in Canterbury. Before



moving to Edinburgh in 2003 I lived for many years in London, where I was a publisher and editor. Over the years I've published a host of books and magazines on all sorts of topics including art, architecture, graphic design, photography and urbanism. In recent years, through the Book Festival, we've published more fiction: short stories and a graphic novel, as well as a book of essays on the future of the Middle East. In my heart, I am a publisher.

**What is the book you recommend that everyone should read?**

I don't think there's one single book that would suit everyone. Personally, my tastes change depending on my mood. But I'm always keen to recommend books: of the emerging Scottish writers I am hugely impressed by Jenni Fagan's *Panopticon*, while I adore the linguistic fun of Ali Smith's novels. For non-fiction I'd recommend Helen MacDonald's powerful *H is for Hawk*. As for fiction in translation, I am a huge fan of everything by the German novelist Jenny Erpenbeck, and for muscular American fiction it has to be the immensely-talented Rachel Kushner's *The Flamethrowers*. My favourite poet at the moment is Alice Oswald, who launches her astonishing new collection at the Book Festival this August.

**Favourite music? (According to genre, artist, song, album?)**

I'm a musical magpie. I listen to everything that's in the 'Best New Music' category on the US music website Pitchfork. If I could have been in a band I'd play guitar in the US alt-rock band *Pavement*.

**Best tip for public speaking or delivering presentations?**

Speak about your subject with passion.



**What was the defining moment on your career path that got you where you are?**

I was invited for a meeting with Nicholas Serota, director of Tate when I was in my early 20s. He encouraged me to propose a new art magazine which would be sent to Friends of the Tate. When we launched Tate magazine in 1992, there were 9000 Friends; two years later there were something like 100,000 and it was mainly thanks to the magazine that the Tate's

membership had increased so massively. I realised that it's worth trying things out and taking risks.

**What makes Edinburgh the best place for you to live and/or work?**

Recently I had a day off work and spent six hours walking in the Pentlands. Another weekend we walked on a beach in East Lothian. We can get to these awe-inspiring empty spaces in next to no time – yet I can still walk to work in a capital city. What's not to like?

**What is your special area of Edinburgh, or special place in Edinburgh and why?**

We live at the top of Leith Walk and it's still my favourite area of the city – a liminal space between swanky Broughton Street, lively-but-tatty Easter Road and the urban bustle of the city centre.



**If you're eating out what kind of food is your favourite?**

Three great restaurants: for brilliant culinary surprises, the *Gardener's Cottage* on London Road. For a ceremonial feast, Japanese restaurant *Kanpai* by the Lyceum Theatre. For Sunday brunch, Richie and Moira's fabulous low-fi place *Spoon*, opposite the Festival Theatre.

**If you have a mentor then could you tell us who that is and about your relationship. What benefits does that relationship bring to you and your worklife?**

The new Chair of the Book Festival Board is Allan Little, the BBC journalist. His job was to follow on from Lady Susan Rice, who had been an absolutely inspiring mentor to me. But Allan's stepped into the role with great skill and tact. We're forging a great working partnership that's giving me the courage to consider brave new ideas for the Book Festival.

**If you have used any then which networking groups in Edinburgh have you found particularly useful?**

I don't think 'networking' is a word. I believe in collaborations and conversations. Our Unbound events at the Book Festival involve lots of organisations and impresarios who are busy building networks. Meanwhile the recent Desire Lines project (in which I was closely involved) brought together all sorts of people from across Edinburgh's cultural communities, and in the coming years it will help drive new cultural projects in the city.

**Who are your heroes?**

Keith Walwyn, whose goals turned me into a die-hard York City fan.

Flaminio Bertoni, whose Citroen DS in the early 1950s was the most revolutionary car design ever.

And Billy Bragg, who inspired me to pick up the guitar again, and who's appearing at the Book Festival on 14<sup>th</sup> August.





**What are your goals for the next year?**

To keep the Book Festival as the world's best-respected, most innovative, most international literary festival. I'll tell you about the details on the day we launch our programme in June 2017.

**Describe your typical day for us.**

There's no typical day. I do a lot of travelling, both in Britain and abroad: recently I've travelled with authors to places including Lahore, Jerusalem, Sydney, Guadalajara and Pisa as well as Dundee and Dumfries. I have a lot of meetings with publishers, editors, agents, authors, festival directors and cultural ambassadors. And I get to read a lot of fantastic books. I'm very fortunate.

**Where will you be in a year's time?**

Talking to you about the 2017 Book Festival programme, and Edinburgh's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a festival city.

*The book festival runs from 13 – 29 August. For more*

information, click [here](#).

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# Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016 – Scott Gibson in “Life After Death”

In the summer of 2009, Scott Gibson returned from a friend's stag weekend and his brain exploded. He had suffered a massive brain haemorrhage. Scott did what any Glaswegian man would do: he went back to bed and slept for four days, waking up to discover he was now blind in one eye and still had a "thumping headache" (his words)...

"Life After Death" tells the story of the three weeks that changed Scott's life forever. It's a story of pain, love, hope and fear, and of chasing your dreams, no matter how crazy they may seem.

Stand-up comedian Scott Gibson has two sold-out Glasgow International Comedy Festival shows under his belt and has supported some of comedy's biggest names, including Des Clarke, Gary Little, Daniel Sloss and Frankie Boyle's 2015/16 tour.

6 – 29 August, Previews 3 – 5 August

Teviot House, Turret Room

2:45 – 3:45pm

Previews £5, Weekdays £9, Weekends £10

Tickets:

<https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/scott-gibson-life-after-death>

Submitted by [Sophie Gardner](#)



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# Brave Hibs lose out on penalties against Brondby



Despite a brave performance, Hibs went out of the Europa League on penalties to Danish side Brondby in Copenhagen last night.

Only two Scottish sides had ever recovered from a home defeat to progress in Europe and few gave Neil Lennon's men any chance after trailing 1-0 from the home leg but captain David Gray levelled the tie after 62 minutes before having to leave the field with an arm injury.

Lennon made two changes to the starting XI with Ross Laidlaw replacing Otso Virtanen in goal and Liam Fontaine taking over from Martin Boyle as Hibs reverted to a 5-3-2 formation.

Laidlaw's last game was over a year ago when he lost five goals playing for Elgin City against Annan Athletic and the 24-year-old missed the whole of last season with a lacerated kidney before being freed by Raith Rovers.

The 24-year-old conceded five goals on his last outing in April 2015 – for Elgin City against Annan Athletic.

But after missing the whole of last season with a lacerated kidney and being released by Raith Rovers, he showed no signs of rustiness as he tipped a powerful drive from Norgaard over.

Brondby had the better of the first half without creating any clear cut chances although Laidlaw did well in the 35th minute when he tipped a powerful drive from Christian Norgaard over.

Hibs however took the second half to the hosts and Gray went close with a header from John McGinn's cross.

The break-through came in the 62nd minute when Brondby failed to clear a Dylan McGeouch corner and Gray was able to flick home Darren McGregor's prodded through ball to spark jubilation amongst the travelling support.

Lebogang Phiri and Svenn Crone both went close and former Celtic striker Teemu Pukki should have done better after finding space in the box but his effort was blocked.

Gray was forced to leave the field with a shoulder injury after being brought down by Norgaard who was shown a yellow card.

Near the end, Pukki broke clear but McGregor impeded his run and was booked despite the home supporters demanding a red card.

Neither side was able to break the deadlock in extra time and the game went to a penalty shoot out.

John McGinn took Hibs' first penalty but his strike was saved by Frederik Ronnow. Paul Hanlon, Grant Holt and Martin Boyle all scored but the Danes converted all five and progressed to the next round.

After the game, the Hibs players all received a deserved standing ovation from the 1023 supporters who had made the journey from Scotland.

Hibs: Laidlaw, Gray, Stevenson, McGregor, Hanlon, Fontaine,  
McGinn, McGeouch, Bartey, Cummings, Holt. Subs: Virtanenm  
Stanton Boyle, Keatings Forster, Harris, Crane

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# Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



- House Concerts @42
- At the Edinburgh International Fashion Festival
- Great Greyhound Gathering
- Royal Burgess renovations
- Ambassadog visits Dundas Castle

On Wednesday 27 July 2016 Carlos Quilici will appear in one of the series of House Concerts @42

The musician is a regular visitor to the house and Douglas and Jane-Anne say they are looking forward to hosting him again.



Carlos is a master bandoneon player and teacher from Argentina. He tours extensively in Europe and South America, and brings with him a wealth of knowledge of tango music.

For those who love to dance, and those who love to just listen this is a South American treat that you should not miss.

As usual the concert starts at 8 (doors open at 7.30) Reserve your ticket here. [42music42@musician.org](mailto:42music42@musician.org)



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Tomorrow, Saturday 23 July 2016, at 12:30pm as part of Edinburgh International Fashion Festival 'Sustainable Business Models' (Stella McCartney)

**At the UK's leading low carbon innovation centre – the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation – partners with Edinburgh International Fashion Festival to host a discussion with sustainable fashion business leader Claire Bergkamp (Stella McCartney).**

Free but you need a ticket. [More details here.](#)



The Great Scottish Greyhound Gathering takes place tomorrow Saturday, 23 July 2016, at Musselburgh Racecourse.

Register your pooch for one of the Dog Shows, not just greyhounds, other breeds are very welcome and they have a showring all of their own! Prizes in every class for 1st – 3rd and Rosettes from 1st – 6th place.

Registration starts at 09:00.

There's a wide variety of stalls, including home baking by the RGT Edinburgh Team, Arts and Crafts, bouncy castle for the kids, face painting, candy floss machine, coconut shy, really varied types of stalls – also a large food van.

Pets at Home will be there with a dog groomer, so you can have your dog spruced up whilst you enjoy the day. ICR Vets will also be in attendance, they will be giving out free advice and vouchers off treatments at their surgeries. RGT Fife, RGT Borders and RGT West Lothian will also be joining in the fun as will the Dogs Trust.

Weather permitting there will be a flypast by the Red Arrows at 12:42 en route for the Air Show at East Fortune.

Classes cost £2 per entry. Entrance to the event is by donation



The Royal Burgess Golfing Society is the oldest golfing society in the world and it has now been refurbished.

The listed club house building has been upgraded and a new bigger pro shop has been added.

The club has 1000 members, and the modernisation will help with hosting functions and corporate events in the club.


The £750,000 renovation scheme was partly funded with a £580,000 funding package from Bank of Scotland.



Luxury Edinburgh venue, Dundas Castle's resident dogs welcomed VisitScotland's Ambassadog recently, to help with his tourism training. The golden retrievers, Burn, Beech, and Bark, who have featured on ABC News in the US, were pleased to show the tourism ropes to George as he sets off on his new role as the official canine ambassador representing the spirit of Scotland.





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## Hearts Crash Out of Europe



**Heart of Midlothian 1 Birkirkara 2**

**Europa League Second Qualifying Round, Second Leg – Thursday 21 July 2016**

A week ago when Hearts played the first leg of their Europa League Second Qualifying Round tie against Birkirkara in Malta the baking temperature meant several water breaks were necessary for the players during the game and, apparently, some of the Hearts players were physically sick afterwards. While the temperature in Edinburgh at the start of this week was of the ‘taps aff’ variety, there was never much likelihood

players risking sunstroke at Tynecastle albeit on a glorious Thursday evening in Edinburgh. But that was the only thing glorious for the Maroons as Hearts made history of the unwanted sort by becoming the first Scottish side to lose to Maltese opposition...

Hearts, who yesterday announced the loan signing of former Celtic striker Tony Watt from Charlton Athletic, made just one change to the side that drew 0-0 in last week's game in the searing Maltese heat – Sam Nicholson replacing the injured Perry Kitchen.

Tynecastle Head Coach Robbie Neilson reckoned Birkirkara would sit in deep at Tynecastle but his theory was questioned as early as the second minute when poor defending from Hearts forced goalkeeper Jack Hamilton to make a save from close range – and set the tone for the evening.

Hearts swarmed forward in droves but seemed lacking in ideas on how to break the deadlock. It took 26 minutes for the home side's first real chance when fine play from Callum Paterson set up Jamie Walker whose spectacular scissors kick smacked off the crossbar.

This encouraged the home team and ten minutes from half-time, Hearts looked set to break the deadlock when they were awarded a penalty kick when Sam Nicholson was brought down in the penalty box. However, there were anxious looks on the faces of the Hearts support when Prince Buaben stepped up to take the kick. The former Dundee United player has a track record of pretty awful penalties and this continued when his lacklustre effort was saved by keeper Koprivic.

### **Half-time Hearts 0 Birkirkara 0**

The home support were hoping for an early goal in the second half to calm the nerves. They duly got one – but, to their horror, it was Birkirkara who scored it. A free-kick was not dealt with by a static Hearts defence and Bubalovic fired the

ball high into the net from about 10 yards.

Tynecastle was stunned but the fans shock soon turned to boos directed towards Robbie Neilson.

Seconds later, Hearts hit the crossbar for the second time in the evening. Nicholson, who at least looked like the player he was two years ago, cut in from the left and his rocket shot crashed off the bar. The youngster held his head in his hands as did the vast majority of the 14,000 fans inside Tynecastle.

The tie was all but over in the 67<sup>th</sup> minute. A superb pass from Plut put through Herrera and he slotted the ball through the legs of Jack Hamilton to make it 2-0. Cue a mass exodus of Hearts fans – and there were still more than 20 minutes to go.

Hearts did grab a goal five minutes later when Arnaud Djoum delivered a cross for Conor Sammon to head his first goal in a maroon shirt – but it was too little too late.

Hearts out of Europe before the end of July to a team from Malta. Already this season, Scots clubs have lost to sides from Gibraltar, Luxembourg and now Malta. Whatever Robbie Neilson may say about this result, it was an embarrassing one and the worst in Hearts history in Europe.

**Hearts:** Hamilton, L.Smith (Juanma, 57'), Ozturk, Rossi (Muirhead, 74'), Rherras, Paterson, Buaben (Cowie, 80'), Djoum, Nicholson, Walker, Sammon.

**Birkirkara:** Koprivic, Herrera, Bubalovic, Sciberras, Marcellina, Srdan (Guillaumier, 72'), Plut, Bajada (Jovic, 64'), Zerafa, Scicluna (Camenzuli, 90'), Attard.

**Referee:** Ville Nevalainen (Finland)

**Top man:** Sam Nicholson

**Att:** 14,301

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# Our Pick of Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016 – NewsRevue



This year's show is unmissable. Nobody is safe: politicians and celebrities alike come under fire in a turbo-charged barrage of bladder-threateningly funny songs and sketches brimming with punchlines. Annually, one of the best-reviewed shows on the Fringe.

This Guinness World Record- breaking show is flawlessly delivered by four outstanding performers at lightning speed expertly accompanied by an on-stage Musical Director. NewsRevue's exceptional writing, superlative performances and ever-original takes on current affairs have made it a Guinness World Record breaker, Fringe First winner and a Perrier finalist.

## LISTING INFORMATION

VENUE: Pleasance Courtyard (Venue 33)

DATES: Aug 3-29 (not 17)

TIME: 18:30 (1 hour)

TICKETS: £17/£15.50 (Preview £9.50)

Get your tickets [here](#).

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# Re-Union Canal Boats awarded Lottery funding for new project



Edinburgh based social enterprise Re-Union Canal Boats has received a grant of over £60,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for an exciting project, Union Canal Unlocked. The project, a partnership between Re-Union Canal Boats, Scottish Waterways Trust and Scottish Canals, will create an innovative package of interpretation celebrating the natural and cultural heritage of the Union Canal from the heart of Edinburgh to Falkirk.

The project will engage local communities from Edinburgh to Falkirk and provide a variety of unique learning, training and volunteering opportunities. Volunteers will undertake oral history training to gather stories and memories of the historic, 200-year-old canal to contribute to the creation of an oral history archive.

Collected stories and photographs will be available on a brand new Union Canal Unlocked smartphone app, designed to open up the fascinating past of the waterway to all and identify sights of historic and local interest. The app, along with a colourful leaflet and heritage signage installed across the towpath, will encourage visitors to explore and enjoy the rich heritage of the Union Canal.

Local people can get involved in producing a community inspired animated film and enjoy a travelling community exhibition. Project Officer Louise Gamble and Heritage Adviser

Karen Marnie will be working with local communities, volunteers and project partners to explore, uncover and capture the story of the 31 mile-long canal until completion of the project in early 2017.

The project builds upon the success of Glasgow's Canals Unlocked, a creative interpretation and phone app project delivered by Scottish Waterways Trust and supported by Heritage Lottery Fund, Scottish Canals, Glasgow City Council, Creative Scotland and Glasgow Sculpture Studios.

Opened in 1822, the Union Canal was constructed to provide the people of Edinburgh direct access to cheaper coal. The canal was quickly overshadowed by the introduction of the railway resulting in the decline of the canal. In the 1930's this decline continued with the infilling of the lock flight connecting the Union Canal and the Forth & Clyde Canal. The continued decline and closure of the Western terminus in 1921 and the Eastern terminus in 1933 resulted in the canal being closed to navigation in 1965. The Union remained in a derelict state until the 2001 when the canal re-opened as part of the Millennium Link Project.

**Commenting on the award, Patricia Bowie said:** "We are thrilled to have received the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and are confident the project will engage local communities, provide learning, training and volunteering opportunities and celebrate the natural and cultural heritage of the Union Canal."

**Lucy Casot, Head of HLF Scotland, said:** "Thanks to National Lottery players HLF grants preserve fine examples of Britain's industrial, maritime and transport genius that not only helped create the nation, bringing jobs and economic prosperity, but also influenced the world. HLF is pleased to support Union Canal Unlocked that will pass on experiences and achievements from our working past to future generations."



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# Edinburgh International Festival – Wind Resistance

There can be few more spiritually uplifting experiences in natural world phenomenon than witnessing the spectacular arrival of so many thousands of Pink-footed geese along the East Lothian coastline come mid September. The captivating, ethereal echo of their honking flocks straddling across the skies in signature chevron formation marks the conclusion of their epic migration from the Icelandic/Greenland wilds.

In Wind Resistance, Karine Polwart celebrates the autumnal return of some two and a half thousand pink-footed geese from Greenland to winter at Fala Flow, a protected peatbog south-east of Edinburgh. She embraces and reimagines the surrounding landscape through history, song, and the beautifully conceived concept of 'birdlore' entwined within a personal memoir. Ideas of sanctuary, maternity, goose skeins, Scottish football legend and medieval medicine all take flight, in this compelling combination of story and song.

Award-winning Scottish singer, songwriter and composer, Karine Polwart's, enchanting fantasian flight of fancy will be performed in The Lyceum's 'Rehearsal Studio' – a new, bespoke and intimate venue, created in the theatre company's own rehearsal space.

This multi-platformed exposition also marks the first production of newly appointed Artistic Director, David Greig as Dramaturge, in partnership with Director, Wils Wilson. (Dramaturge is not some Hipster 'artisan' whisky by the way, it refers to Greig being the sprinkler of faerie-dust,

sheparding Karine Polwart's myriad concepts into a unifying theme. Gandalf to her Frodo as you will.)

David Greig had this to say of Karine and her dazzling conceptual piece, "Karine is a mesmerising musician and singer but she is also an incredible storyteller. She can take us deep into ordinary lives, into nature, into history with a couple of well-turned lines. Wind Resistance is above all a wonderful piece of writing." (Did you know that other names for geese flocks include blizzard, knot, plump, string and chevron?)

Why not feather your imaginations' nests and goosey gander gaggle about in this lady's wonderful chamber of delights?

The Royal Lyceum Theatre Company presents, in association with Edinburgh International Festival, the World Premiere of – Wind Resistance by Karine Polwart.

☒ Directed by Wils Wilson. Dramaturgy by David Greig

4 August – 21 August 2016

<http://lyceum.org.uk/whats-on/production/karine-polwart-international-festival>

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**Flash                      Competition!                      Win**

# **tickets for Batman – The Killing Joke at Vue Livingston**



To celebrate the launch of the much anticipated film Batman: The Killing Joke, Vue Livingston is offering film fans the chance to win one of four pairs of tickets to watch the superhero on his mission to track down the elusive Joker on Monday 25 July 2016.



**For your chance to win a pair of tickets to this special one night only event, simply answer the question below by 3.30pm on Friday 22 July 2016 :**

**This competition is now closed.**

Terms and conditions:

- Four winners will receive a pair of tickets for Batman: The Killing Joke at Vue Livingston.
- Winners can collect tickets upon arrival at Vue Livingston by presenting one piece of I.D.
- Subject to seat availability and confers no preferential rights.
- The cinema manager's decision is final. Normal cinema rules apply.

- No cash alternative.
  - Not transferrable or assignable and not for re-sale.
  - Showing of Batman: The Killing Joke will take place at 20.30 on 25 July.
- 

# It's Christmas at Malmaison Edinburgh!



Have you been given the unenviable task of organising the staff Christmas party even though it is still mid-summer?

Well here is a deal to help you make up your mind fast.



Malmaison Edinburgh will put on your Christmas event for you for a special early bird price of £19.95 – if you book by 1 August 2016.



A spokesperson for Malmaison Edinburgh explained: “Following our recent refurbishment we have so many options this year, our new layout and open plan style in our bar and brasserie will allow more flexibility for larger groups. For 2016 we have a variety of options to suit all tastes, party sizes and budgets with shared party nights, private dining, our bar and brasserie. ”



Choose from this menu here:



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The Edinburgh Reporter went along to the opening party in May at Malmaison Edinburgh and the food was simply delicious.



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## Ambassador George welcomed to Dundas Castle



VisitScotland's Ambassador George was welcomed by golden retrievers Burn, Beech and Bark the resident dogs at Dundas

Castle and who were happy to show George how to welcome the tourists.

George is now setting off on his new role as the official canine ambassador representing the spirit of Scotland.

As a five star venue which welcomes guests from across the globe for weddings and corporate events, Dundas Castle puts the warmth of its welcome at the top of the agenda. The Castle is the family home of Sir Jack and Lady Stewart-Clark and their three dogs, who enjoy welcoming guests to the Castle in their enthusiastic way and is all part of the charm of the venue. Following the recent launch of a Downton inspired experience which received interest from around the world, the dogs took a starring role in an ABC News livestream broadcast to the US, showing how to live the Castle lifestyle.



This was one of the Ambassadog's first official engagements

since being appointed, as he encourages visitors to get out and explore Scotland's castles this summer. There is great choice with over 3,000 castles in Scotland, nearly one for every square mile, and many of which are dog friendly. Visitors can check the VisitScotland website for more information.

Sir Jack Stewart-Clark commented: "Many people come to Scotland for the warmth of our welcome and when guests come to stay in my home, they enjoy the enthusiasm of our golden retrievers, Burn, Beech and Bark. We pretend that they are stalwart guard dogs but the truth is they are as soft as any retrievers can be and love everybody especially children! We were delighted to welcome George to Dundas and have the opportunity to give him a few pointers on taking on this essential tourism role."

Dundas Castle is an 18th century home featuring turrets, impressive staircases, sumptuous bedrooms and roaring fires. Popular for weddings and corporate getaways, as well as family parties and group events, the Castle features its own 600 year old Keep, a private squash court and the spreading lawns and woods of the Estate.

George is a one year old Golden Retriever from Glasgow and was nominated for the role by his owners, twin sisters Emma and Victoria Rae. Chosen from two hundred applicants for the role of Ambassadog, George currently has 14.8k followers on his Instagram page @golden\_george\_

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## Our Pick of Edinburgh



# Festival Fringe 2016 – Isle of Edna: G Street



Up-and-coming comedy duo *Isle of Edna* invite Edinburgh Festival-goers to become residents of the gentrified *G Street*.

There's nothing worse than being caught short, thinking you've found a toilet and then discovering it's actually an artisan bakery. Welcome to *G Street*.

Arriving at *G Street* Community Centre (The Mash House's Snifter Room), the audience will take part in a re-branding session, catch a film noir at 'Not So Secret Cinema', ponder the real ale vs craft beer phenomenon and witness a romance fuelled by chutney.

*Isle of Edna* were inspired by the changes happening in their local area in East London. After joking about a café in a public loo and then finding that one had opened on their very street, the pair created *Isle of Edna: G Street*.

Although their show doesn't delve into the deep issues surrounding gentrification, they do hope that it will encourage thought and discussion about a topic that will inevitably become more relevant over the coming years.

## LISTING INFORMATION

VENUE: Just the Tonic at The Mash House (Venue 288)

DATES: Aug 4-28 (not 15)

TIME: 19:00 (1 hour)

TICKETS: £6/£5 (Preview – £4)

Get your tickets [here](#) or pay what you like on the door.

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# Our Pick of Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016 – Suzanna Gonzo: Dark Lady



Suzanna Gonzo is an absurd variety act of infectious charm. Originally from Texas, Gonzo began as an entertainer on cruise ships, but when she almost murdered the man she had fallen deeply in lust with, she discovered special healing powers – like the Sing It Out technique.

Think the love child of Dolly Parton and Dame Edna channelling the highly-charged sexual powers of Mystic Meg. Gonzo is ready to Cher the love and heal your hearts.

The character was developed in 2013 by award-winning comedy actor and Crystal Maze Master, Katie Bridget O'Brien.

In the summer of 2015, her critically acclaimed show *Dark Lady* toured UK theatres and beyond, and this is Suzanna Gonzo's first hour-long Edinburgh show.

## LISTING INFORMATION

VENUE: Snifter Room, Just the Tonic at the Mash House (Venue 288)

DATES: Aug 4-27 (Not 15)

TIME: 15:00 (1 hour)

TICKETS: £9/£7 /£28 Family; (Preview – £7/£5 /£20 Family)

Get your tickets [here](#).