

# Gavin Hastings looks forward to the Rugby World Cup

The former Scottish rugby cap looks forward to this evening and the action on the pitch in London when hosts England meet Fiji.

He says he expects England to come out 'all guns blazing'!

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# Dinosaurs are on the loose on the Royal Mile!



To celebrate the return of *Dinosaur Zoo* to Edinburgh, dinosaurs have been roaming around on The Royal Mile once again.

They came to Edinburgh once before in September 2013, but now the ingenious puppets rampaged the High Street earlier today, giving locals and visitors alike an unforgettable Edinburgh experience!





Back to make their mark once again this time they brought along the terrifying T.REX too.

### [DINOSAUR ZOO AT FESTIVAL THEATRE EDINBURGH](#)

*Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 September*

*Sat 11am & 2pm, Sunday 2pm*

Here is the moving version:

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## Rugby World Cup fever comes to Edinburgh

✖ The Rugby World Cup kicks off in London today and the UK's first rugby specific play programme for young rugby stars of the future, Rugbytots, is encouraging children in Edinburgh to get

involved.

Rugbytots is a play programme designed to help children, aged between two to seven, develop multiple skills of rugby to create a fun and enjoyable environment whilst developing basic core motor skills. Rugbytots now runs over 2500 weekly sessions in 17 countries around the world and the coaches are gearing up for the sport's biggest tournament.

To get the children involved in the Rugby World Cup, Rugbytots is launching its Try Tally Challenge this weekend. The children choose their home country, and will be encouraged to count the cumulative tries for their team. During each of the six world cup weeks the coaches will ask them how their team is getting on, and invite them to shout out their total tries.

Carl McWilliam, owner of Rugbytots Scotland and head coach, said: "We are really excited to involve our Rugbytots in Rugby World Cup fever through various competitions and themed classes. Our programme has been designed to develop a child's physical, psychological and social attributes, as well as gently encouraging rugby specific skills such as running with the ball, finding space, kicking, catching, and scoring a try, and much more.

"We know the kids in Edinburgh will have a great time at our sessions and possibly be Rugby World Cup stars of the future!"

Courses currently run in Boroughmuir, Colinton, Corstorphine, Craiglockhart, Currie, Duddingston, Inverleith and Leith. Courses in Comely Bank will launch on 24 October. Classes run in blocks of 10 weeks and must be booked in advance.

Sessions designed for kids aged between two to three-and-a-half run for 30 minutes, session designed for kids between three-and-a-half to five run for 45 minutes, and sessions designed for kids aged five to seven run also run for 45 minutes. All classes cost £7.25 per session.

For more information go to <http://www.rugbytots.co.uk/> or call

0345 313 3252.

Submitted by [Rachel MacBeath](#)



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# Council passes emergency motion opposing UK Trade Union Bill



An emergency motion lodged at yesterday's council meeting resulted in urgent debate by all 58 councillors. The motion concerned the Trade Union Bill which is currently passing through the UK Parliament. MPs debated the second reading of this bill in the House of Commons on Monday of this week.

The Council Leader introduced the motion by saying: "I think it is important that all Scottish local authorities make their voice known during the passage of this bill which may be relatively short. Changes may still be possible, and so it is crucial that we have this debate now. The bill was passed earlier in the week by a relatively small margin.

"No-one should be in any doubt about the intention behind this Tory bill – it is to undermine the rights and ability of working people to organise for better terms and conditions in the workplace. Politicians and members of the public should oppose this reprehensible bill.

"There is a lot of detail in it and I have highlighted only two of these in the motion lodged in my name today."

The text of the motion lodged by the council leader was as follows:



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*(The last line of the motion was deleted before it was passed.)*

The text of the bill and details of its parliamentary passage can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

The discussion was long and protracted and involved all parties across the chamber, but the motion was eventually passed and the council leader will now write to the UK Government to try and either stop or change the terms of the bill.

Specifically Councillor Burns will explain that the council opposes the bill and will not cooperate with any attacks on what is known as 'facility time' (paid time off for trade union activities) and check off (a way of collecting union dues from employees).

Following the council meeting on Thursday morning, Councillor Cameron Rose the leader of the Conservative Group explained to us why the Conservatives moved for 'no action' on the emergency motion, and why they resisted it so much.

Councillor Rose said: "Despite claiming it tries to avoid national political issues, the administration of Edinburgh Council has waded in to the Westminster debate on the bill to protect public from strikes and address some areas of union privilege.

"The measures were in the Government's manifesto, the Queen's speech and subject to consultation and the will of Parliament will be played out as the bill goes through various stages – so it was a shame the Council leader abused the emergency motion procedure.

"The bill is about two things.

"The first is protecting services, paid from public money,

from strikes which are based on a limited number of employees in a strike ballot. After all, the public do not get a vote in whether or not their service will be delivered.

“The second is to bring transparency to the use of public funds. It is not clear, for example, why councils should collect union dues, including political contributions, in the era of direct debit.”

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## **‘Leith Links’ raises over £25,000 to pay for Hibs’ season tickets**



Generous Hibs’ fans have raised over £25,000 since 2013, buying over 300 “season tickets for children who would not normally be able to attend games.

Supporters have helped in many ways, from donating items to auction, signing up to monthly direct debits and encouraging the children who sit nearby them in the East Stand while telling them all about the proud history of the club.

Groups such as the Multicultural Family Base, Kinship Carers, Dean and Cauvin Trust, Street Soccer Scotland and the Pentland Community Centre receive tickets with many more worthy recipients.

Treasurer Susan Linn told the Edinburgh Reporter: “ I started the fund in 2013 to get more children along to Easter Road who wouldn’t normally be able to attend games. Since then, generous Hibs fans have donated over £25,000 and 320 Kicks for

Kids season tickets have been purchased in total. This season alone, 152 were bought, up from 146 last season.

“Kicks for Kids is the Hibs scheme that offers season tickets at a reduced price and Leith Links buys them from the club.

“The fund really is in-keeping with the club’s original ethos and it is a pleasure to be involved. I think most people can remember their first game at Easter Road and it is wonderful to see how much the support have embraced the next generation of Hibs’ fans.

“The money not only allows children to attend games but it also contributes to the Manager’s budget so, in my opinion it’s a win-win scenario.

“The attached picture is from one of the children who received a ticket.”

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## **Code clan recruiting now for new students**

✖ Rebecca Heaney the head of marketing and student recruitment at Codeclan is looking for you, if you have even half a thought about learning to learn how to code.

The Scottish digital skills academy right here in the capital is taking in its first batch of around 25 students on 5 October and will be looking for more.

The academy plans to teach software developers a basic set of skills in 16 weeks so that they are ready to get into the workplace at a junior level. They are basing their teaching around the type of immersive learning which is now spreading

across the world.

The course on offer here is slightly longer as more time will be devoted to database computer software and algorithms, as required by the industry professionals behind it.

There is no set kind of person that they are looking for. Heaney said: "You will likely be a graduate, or will at least have had some work experience after leaving school. We are looking for graduates in any subject. We are not particularly looking for maths or science related graduates. More important is that the successful applicants will have the right attitude, as this course will be very intensive and hard work. But at the end of the course you will be able to walk into a junior software developer job earning around £25,000 a year."

The company is opening first in Edinburgh and will then hope to open offices in Glasgow and Aberdeen.

Edinburgh is now known as a home for tech based industries.

Heaney is a digital marketer who is helping to get the academy launched before handing over to an in-house team. The academy will be run as a social enterprise but does have some government funding through Skills Development Scotland behind it.

Codeclan has looked at the research and feels it can fill a gap. to maintain the growth in the industry. By the end of year two they should have at least 600 graduates a year.

Asked how the success would be assessed Heaney said that the best measure will be the employability of the graduates leaving after 16 weeks.

[Codeclan](#) has brought in Michael Pavling as lead instructor and Head of Curriculum mainly because he is so well-known in the industry. The curriculum has been market tested across about 40 companies and they are sure that it will prove to be a very

worthwhile qualification.

Applications close on 18 September 2015 for the first round of classes. Successful students will have to pay £500 deposit and a further £4500 for the course itself.

Connect with the academy here.

LinkedIn: [codeclan](#)

Twitter: [@codeclanscot](#)

Facebook: [@codeclan](#)

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## Advice for Hibs' fans travelling to Livingston



Hibs' fans attending the Scottish Championship fixture tomorrow at the Almondvale Stadium, Livingston will occupy the East Stand at the stadium. Supporters who have purchased tickets in advance should proceed direct to the turnstiles at the East Stand.

Tickets remain on sale at the Hibernian FC Ticket Office but supporters who have not purchased advanced tickets will be able to purchase tickets at the Almondvale Suite at the stadium and should follow the direction of Livingston Club and Stewards.

Tickets are priced at £20 for adult, £15 concession, £12 for youth aged between 12 and 16 years and £10 for under 12's,

proof of age/concession eligibility will be required.

Parking is available for coaches and cars in Car Park 3 under the direction of stewards and a charge of £10 for coaches and £5 for cars applies. Other parking is available out with the restricted area at the stadium.

The kick off is at 3pm and turnstiles will open at 1.45pm, please also remember that traffic on the M8 is likely to be very busy so allow extra time for your journey.

There are no major roadworks along the M8 or the A899 on the way to/from the stadium, as always you can obtain up to date traffic information on the Traffic Scotland website or on Twitter @trafficscotland

Due to the behaviour of a small minority supporters during a visit to Livingston last season targeted searching will be undertaken by Police Officers and Stewards before entry is permitted to the stadium. The club has asked fans to cooperate fully for the safety of everyone and not to engage in any unacceptable behaviour before, during or after the match.

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## **CCTV images released following Leith Walk robbery**



Police have released images of a man they wish to trace in connection with an attempted robbery and assault which happened around 9.40pm on 4 March 2015 in the Subway premises at 4 Leith Walk, Edinburgh.

Police are keen to speak with the man who is described as white, aged 30-35, of medium build and around 5ft8 to 5ft9 in height. He was wearing a black and brown patterned hat with earflaps and a black jacket.

Detective Constable Christopher Harding said: "The person in the images is of interest to our investigation and anyone who recognises him is asked to come forward."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or the charity Crimestoppers in complete anonymity on 0800 555 111.

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## Assault and robbery at Trinity newsagent



Police are investigating following an assault and robbery at a newsagent's in South Trinity Road which occurred this morning at around 6.30am. Two men entered the property when the male shopkeeper was alone in the premises.

The first suspect approached the shopkeeper and assaulted him.

At the same time the second suspect moved towards the till whereby he opened the till and removed cash. The two men then left the shop and turned left before being lost to sight.

Police are now appealing for information regarding this incident.

The first suspect is described as a man, approx 5'7", in his early twenties with a local accent. The second suspect, is a

male approx 5'10" in his early twenties. He also speaks with a local accent, but had a high-pitched voice. Both were dressed in black and were wearing gloves. They also had their faces covered.

Detective Sergeant Lynsey Thomson said: "This was a frightening and upsetting attack on a shopkeeper, who has been left shaken as a result of this incident.

"We are eager to trace the two men responsible as quickly as possible. Anyone who saw this incident, or saw anything suspicious in the general area when it occurred, is asked to contact us immediately."

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

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## **'Where No Shadow Falls' – Grade den Herder is back**



'Where No Shadow Falls', the latest book in the 'Grade den Herder' series by former Lothian and Borders Police detective Peter Ritchie is published today

The books have become immensely popular due to their authentic characters on both sides of the law and their fast-paced action plots with believable dialogue, so it will come as no surprise to fans that Grace's move from front line policing didn't last long.

Earlier today, author Peter kindly took time out from his hectic schedule to speak to the Edinburgh Reporter about

'Where No Shadow Falls.'

He said: "I had thought at one time that Grace would call it a day after the last book and felt the poor woman had gone through enough for one career. However she seems to have caught the imagination of a lot of people so she's back although her life and career have moved on. Some of the old characters are back to join her. Basically her life is drifting when she's asked to look at what should be a simple review of a suicide in Barlinnie prison. When she starts the investigation a series of separate events and characters are drawn together in ways none of them could have imagined. Much of this story looks at the sins of the past and how they never really leave us.

"I loved doing this one because it's more than just a story about criminal acts and how they're resolved. It explores family ties and a villain is brought back from one of the previous stories to haunt Grace, resurrecting some of her old demons. Although the story is quite dark there is humour in it."



Grace den Herder's life has moved on and while she has found a degree of peace with her family her career move away from the front line is proving more difficult than she thought. Eventually the strain begins to show and she worries for the future of her career and marriage.

She's asked to review a suicide in Barlinnie Prison and takes it on as a break from the desk and at first it seems to be no more than a box ticking exercise. She teams up with her old DCI Jimmy McGovern who seems fully recovered from a health problem and grabs the opportunity to work one last job before he retires.

The prisoner who committed suicide is Tommy McMartin at one time the heir to one of the most powerful criminal

organisations in west Scotland. His life is taken apart when he is convicted for the horrific murder of a gay lover although he remembers nothing about it. His life inside is made impossible without support from his own family who have disowned him.

As Grace reviews the case she uncovers some old skeletons, a trail of lies and she get dragged into a case that involves an old adversary Brenda McMartin who has been causing havoc across the Glasgow underworld. Big Brenda plans a robbery in Edinburgh from a rival gang which goes badly wrong and a complex series of events draws the main characters towards each other where the departed are taking their secrets the grave as Grace tries to uncover the truth of what happened to Tommy McMartin. At the same time someone watches her from the shadows and aches for revenge.

This is the fourth book about Grace and brings old and new characters together in a story about old secrets and lies that seemed to have been buried and forgotten until a chain of events pulls them back into the light. Grace is faced with the question whether to expose the truth or let the dead lie still.

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## Cat abandoned in Gilmerton alleyway



The Scottish SPCA is appealing for information after a cat was dumped in a box in an alleyway in Edinburgh.

Scotland's animal welfare charity was alerted on Wednesday

when a member of the public came across the sealed cardboard box in an alleyway in Gilmerton Dykes Avenue.

The cat, who has been named Lydia, is now in the care of the charity's animal rescue and rehoming centre in Balerno.

Animal rescue officer Fiona Thorburn said, "The box was sealed over with tape and when opened, the cat appeared to be very frightened and in a poor condition.

"She was underweight with a severe skin issue.

"Clearly, the cat was in distress and we don't know how long the poor thing was left there for."


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

Anyone with information is being urged to contact the Scottish SPCA Animal Helpline on 03000 999 999.

Photo by Scottish SPCA

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## Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2015 will star Biffy Clyro

 Organisers of Edinburgh's Hogmanay are today delighted to announce that **Biffy Clyro** will headline the Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2015/16 Concert in the Gardens. Unique Events, who produce Edinburgh's Hogmanay on behalf of the City of

Edinburgh Council, confirmed that the band will make an exclusive UK appearance this year at the Edinburgh's Hogmanay event and will be joined by very special guests **Idlewild** and **Honeyblood** in a very strong all-Scottish line-up.

Biffy Clyro headlined the Edinburgh's Hogmanay event in 2010 and now, five big years later, they will be bringing their explosive live show to Princes Street Gardens for what promises to be an unforgettable New Year celebration. This will be the band's one and only UK performance of 2015 and will be the stage from which they will kick off 2016 and what is being lined up to be an absolutely huge year for them.

Biffy Clyro said "We are so happy to come out of musical hibernation to kick off 2016 with the show on Hogmanay. We want to rock off the cobwebs and prepare for the year of da biff!! Nothing can compete with Edinburgh's celebrations and we hope to make it a special night for everyone!!"

Pete Irvine, Director of Edinburgh's Hogmanay, said "We reckon it's a real coup that Biffy have chosen Edinburgh's Hogmanay not only for their first outing of 2015 but also to launch what looks like a very special year for them. Their stand-out performance two years ago headlining T in the Park reminded us that they are one of the most exciting live bands ever to come out of Scotland. Biffy have built a big international following and headlining an impressive Scottish line-up at Concert in the Gardens will please both the Scots and our audience who come from over 70 countries."

Councillor Richard Lewis, the city's festivals and events champion, said: "Edinburgh's Hogmanay is going back to its Scottish roots. Idlewild first formed in Edinburgh 20 years ago and they are sure to be a huge hit with local fans in particular, while Scotland's NME Award winning Biffy Clyro will help the city bring in the bells when they perform at the Concert in the Gardens. Coupled with the famous fireworks

display, this year's celebrations will yet again entertain thousands of people and get 2016 off to a spectacular start."

Special guests **Idlewild** formed in Edinburgh in 1995 and will perform at Edinburgh's Hogmanay with a line-up of Roddy Woomble, Rod Jones, Colin Newton, Andrew Mitchell and Lucci Rossi. The Scottish indie band have had a triumphant return to the live scene in 2015, performing at summer festivals across the country with their first album since 2009 '*Everything Ever Written*' which has been launched to critical, and public, acclaim. **Honeyblood** will open Concert in the Gardens, closing a huge year for Scots duo which has seen them perform at festivals across Europe including an opening slot for the Foo Fighters at their recent Murrayfield gig. Edinburgh born singer Stina Marie Claire Tweedale and drummer Cat Myers released their debut album in 2014 and also joined Belle & Sebastian on their US tour earlier this year.

Tickets for Edinburgh's Hogmanay Concert in the Gardens will go on general sale from 10.00am on Friday 25 September at [www.edinburghshogmanay.com](http://www.edinburghshogmanay.com), by calling Edinburgh's Hogmanay Box Office on 0844 573 8455 or by calling into the Hogmanay Box Office at The Fringe Office, 180 High Street, Edinburgh. Tickets are priced at £55.00 (including booking fee) for the Enclosure, and £49.50 (including booking fee) for the Gardens.

Tickets for the world famous Edinburgh's Hogmanay Street Party are already on sale at £25.00 (including booking fee). Early bird tickets for EH postcode residents are still available at £19.00 (including booking fee). Full details of the Street Party line-up and other events at Edinburgh's Hogmanay will be announced on Wednesday 7 October 2015.

Edinburgh's Hogmanay attracts over audiences of over 150,000 to three days of spectacular events throughout the city centre. The economic impact from Edinburgh's Hogmanay for the city last year was £41.8m. Edinburgh's Hogmanay is a key part of Scotland's Winter Festivals celebrations.

Edinburgh's Hogmanay is produced on behalf of the City of Edinburgh Council by Unique Events, working with partners Underbelly who present Edinburgh's Christmas attractions and events.

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## Friday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



**Oriental Fan Dancing:** whilst celebrating grace, delicacy and beauty, fan dancing is an exotic, fun way to relax, its changing rhythms and body positions helping to develop physical fitness and mental awareness. All ages and abilities welcome. Tutor: **Jianping Yu**. 1.30-2.30pm today and every Friday until 4th December 2015, [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace, Dalry. £2 per session.

**Take One Action! Film Festival:** 'connecting people, world-class cinema and creative action for a better world'. Twelve days of screenings and discussions, in Edinburgh and Glasgow, on issues as diverse as **environmental activism, LGBT rights in African countries, cycling, the value (or not) of university degrees, the Arab Spring, literacy, the global financial system, food chains and much more**. Today's films are;

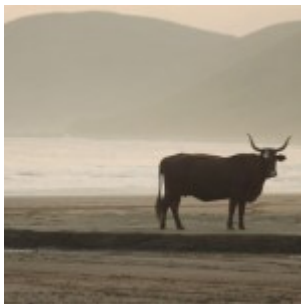
(1) ***The Price We Pay* (12+)** (see Wednesday) plus short: ***Iron Sky***;

(2) ***The Shore Break* (12+)** in which two cousin living in a close-knit South African community take opposite sides over an Australian company's plans to mine titanium (followed by a Q & A session with director **Ryley Grunenwald**). Plus short: ***A Sense***

## **of Place;**

(3) ***We Are the Giant* (15)**, 'the most powerful, shocking and ultimately inspiring film to have come out of the Arab Spring so far' (followed by a discussion with protagonist and human rights activist **Maryam al-Khawaja**). Plus short: ***Aliah***.

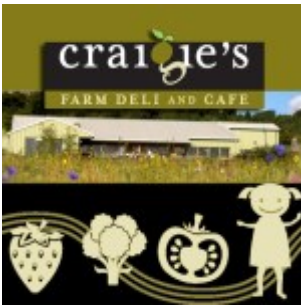
All films at [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road; please check programme for times. Tickets may be purchased from the Filmhouse box office in person, by calling 0131 228 2688 or online; prices vary.



**Take One Action! Film Festival Director Masterclass: Ryley Grunenwald**, director of ***The Shore Break***, offers a free masterclass on the development journey and outreach campaign behind this documentary project. 2.30-4.30pm, [Edinburgh College of Art](#), Lauriston Place. Booking is required and may

be made [here](#).

**Craigie's Education and Environment Project Open Weekend:** in the past months the project's dedicated group of volunteers have created allotments, raised beds, a polytunnel and orchard & bee hives – and now the farm wants you to come along and see what they've been up to! An event for anyone interested in gardening and the outdoors – and who would possibly like to get involved in the project. **The Edinburgh School of Food & Wine** will also be in attendance, and there will be information on **bee keeping** and much more. 11am-3pm, [Craigie's Farm Shop & Cafe](#), West Craigie Farm, EH30 9AR. All welcome: free. Also at same times on Saturday 19th September.





**BBC Radio Scotland: The Big Debate Referendum Anniversary Special.** A year on from the independence referendum BBC Scotland presents topical discussion from Greyfriars Kirk, as members of the public question politicians and other prominent people on the news of the week. 12 noon-1pm, [Greyfriars Kirk](#), Greyfriars Place. If you would like to attend the debate, please book via BBC Radio Scotland's website [here](#).



**Finding the Audiences: The Future for Traditional Arts.** Where are the audiences for the live arts, in particular for folk music, storytelling and traditional dance? This structured session grapples with the key challenges for reaching your target market and sets out an agenda for audience growth. This event will be followed by the AGM of **TRACS** (Traditional Arts and Culture Scotland) which is open to all members of the **Traditional Music Forum**, the **Scottish Storytelling Forum**, and the **Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland**, along with interested guests. 2.30pm, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43 High Street. Tickets cost £8 (£6 for Network members) and may be purchased from the Box Office in person, by calling 0131 556 9579 or online.



**Boeing Employees Choir and The Dalkeith Singers: Grand Concert.** 7.30-9.30pm, [Greyfriars Kirk](#), Greyfriars Place. Free admission: donations invited for Madame Curie Hospice.



**Freeze Frame Film Club: Quiz Night – Sounds of the Cinema.** If you know your **Jefferson Starship** from your **Starship Troopers**, come along and test your music and movie knowledge at the first ever Freeze Frame Quiz Night, with Swiss style fondue, schnapps and prizes! Share your love for film trivia and iconic soundtracks, and hear the Freeze Frame 2015/16 season details. [Out of the Blue Drill Hall](#), 36 Dalmeny Street. Tickets cost £10, which includes entry to the quiz, fondue, sharing platters and schnapps (for over 18s only) PLUS the chance to win a **Freeze Frame Season Ticket** and other cinematic prizes. Pre-booking is essential: call the Drill Hall Arts Cafe on 0131 555 7100.



**The Russian Word in Edinburgh: Writing A Guide Book for the Enlightened Audience – the Case of St Petersburg.** St Petersburg journalist **Lev Lurie** is editor-in-chief of *Kvartalny Nadziratel* magazine, a journalist and host of various radio and TV programmes and a multiple winner of Golden Pen and Antsiferov Prizes. Lev is also a historian and has written over 100 articles and 5 books. In 1989 he founded a classical school № 610, where he teaches history. As he is a fourth generation Petersburger, that city figures heavily in his work; he is the author of a popular guidebook to the city, produced by *Afisha* magazine. Please note that this talk will be in Russian with an introduction in English. 6.30-8pm, [The Princess Dashkova Centre](#), University of Edinburgh, 14 Buccleuch Place. Free but booking is required and may be made via eventbrite [here](#).



**Hispanic Festival Fiesta: Arriba Edimburgo! Baila!** A double gig as Edinburgh's Hispanic community celebrate with a colourful, vibrant party night. Music of Flamenco, Salsa,

Merengue, Mexico, Latin Jazz, Cumbia and Bachata, starting with a **Flamenco Jam Session** with an array of musicians, singers and dancers, followed by **Secreto Tropical**, Edinburgh's very own 9-piece Cumbia Latin band, with music rooted in the Amazon Jungle and the Latin American continent, and winding up with late night dancing with Latin DJ **Freddie Ramirez**. 9pm-3am (entry from 8pm), [The Jazz Bar](#), Chambers Street. £8/£6 on the door: please note this venue is cash only.



**Balerno Village Screen: *Silver Lining Playbook* (15).** Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Lawrence and Robert De Niro star in this film about life not going to plan: after a stint in a psychiatric institution, former teacher Pat Solitano moves back in with his parents and tries to reconcile with his ex-wife. Things get more challenging when Pat meets Tiffany, a mysterious girl with problems of her own. 7.30-9.35pm, [St Joseph's Hall](#), Balerno. Free tickets are available from the **Mill Cafe** and **Balerno Post Office** or via eventbrite [here](#). **Balerno Village Screen** is a community cinema, free to attend and funded by donations. If you can no longer attend after booking, please cancel your ticket to allow someone else to see the film.



**Sneaker Shoe Arcade:** 9pm-1am, [Boda Bar](#), 229 Leith Walk.

**Jason Webley + A New International.** Webley is a Seattle-based troubadour who started as a street performer in 1998 and has built up an international following with his self produced recordings and uninhibited live performances. He has released seven albums and numerous collaborations on his own **Eleven Records** label, and one of his many side projects is the duo **Evelyn Evelyn** with **Amanda Palmer**. He has taken his passionate accordion-driven music to dozens of countries, performing everywhere from the 2014 TED conference to a former Siberian gulag. **A New International** perform the sounds of street music, carnival, music hall, cabaret, chanson, circus, movies, gypsy, folk + pop. 7.30pm, [Henry's Cellar Bar](#), 16a Morrison Street. £5 on the door.



**Planet Earth Rock & Roll:** Jake and Rory back in the Skylark 'twisting your melon with rare 60s and 70s psychedelia and original tripped out visuals'. 9pm, [The Skylark](#), 241-243

Portobello High Street.

**Jazz Live At Canalside: John Burgess Hot Four.** 'Hot and sweet' jazz from the 20s and 30s, featuring **Colin Steele** (*trumpet*) and **Ross Milligan** (*banjo and guitar*). 7.30pm (music starts 8.15pm), [Canalside Cafe-Bar](#), Boroughmuir Rugby & Community Sports Club, Meggetland Wynd. Tickets cost £10 and may be purchased from the Canalside Cafe-Bar in person or by calling 07557 680 995 or emailing [sinagraham@gmail.com](mailto:sinagraham@gmail.com).



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# Five things you need to know

# today



**Council finances under the microscope**

**Biffy Clyro to star at Edinburgh's Hogmanay**

**First Time Buyers Event**

**Runnicles in the afternoon**

**Newington Cemetery map to be unveiled**

The council finances for the next four years are under scrutiny at next week's Finance and Resources Committee meeting. The plan is to use the already agreed transformational programme to make savings. But the council now need to make more savings than previously thought. At the beginning of the year they quoted a figure of £107m to be saved over four years but now that has risen to £126m and they want to save an extra £15m as a contingency.

[Read more here.](#)

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[Read more here.](#)

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*We know that buying your first home can be daunting. Needing some help? Then why not pop along to our 1st buyers event on Saturday 19th September between 10-1pm at our Bruntsfield office.*

*Posted by [McQueen Legal Solicitors \(Edinburgh\)](#) on [Tuesday, 15 September 2015](#)*

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Conductor Donald Runnicles will lead the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra in an afternoon concert on 27 September and tickets area available [here](#).

The sound of Mahler is set to fill the Usher Hall that afternoon from 3:00pm.

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Ian Murray MP will unveil a new sign on Monday which will show a map of a cemetery. The sign has been designed by the Friends of Newington Cemetery, and the Friends Group was formed specially to spruce up the graveyard.

The cemetery will be open on Doors Open Day next weekend.

[Read more here](#)

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# Belgian Midfielder Djoum on Trial at Tynecastle


Hearts have taken Belgian midfielder Arnaud Djoum on trial as Head Coach Robbie Neilson continues to look to add to his squad.

26-year-old Djoum left Polish club Lech Poznan two months ago and, being presently unattached to any club, is available if Neilson thinks he fits the bill. Djoum is training with the Hearts first team squad at Riccarton.

6ft tall Djoum prefers to play in central midfield but can also operate in defence. His former clubs include Roda JC in the Netherlands and the Turkish club Akhisar Belediyespor. He has represented Belgium at under-19 and under-20 level.

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## UNISON issue warning to council on compulsory redundancies

 The trade union has issued a warning to the council that they are in danger of breaking election promises. The Union issued this statement:

As more details emerge today of Edinburgh council plans to cut £141 million over four years, UNISON's Edinburgh Branch is

calling on the council's ruling capital coalition to stand by the promises of no compulsory redundancies and no privatisation that they were elected upon.

The figures UNISON released yesterday of £141 million in cuts have been confirmed and while the council claims 2,000 jobs will be lost, UNISON stands by its assessment that 3,000 jobs are at risk.

Councillors appear to be actively considering officials' recommendations to ditch the council's no compulsory redundancy policy. We note the council leader's statement in the council meeting today that he expects officials to stick to council policies. This leaves UNISON wondering what is the chicken and what is the egg and whether or not the Capital Coalition of Labour and SNP have signalled to officials that compulsory redundancies may be acceptable.

Councillors also appear to be considering privatisation of Facilities Management with alleged savings of £80 million. On the money front that seems far too good to be true. Surely senior officials and councillors will recognise that if something looks too good to be true, it usually is.

John Stevenson, from UNISON Edirugh branch, said. "Our view is that if this privatisation is being held up as a way of avoiding compulsory redundancies, it is a flawed idea and all we will end up with the triple-whammy of privatisation, compulsory redundancies and ruined services.

The continued drive by senior officials to introduce privatisation despite the council 'presumption' against privatisation is deeply worrying. Edinburgh needs to reaffirm its commitment to a public service culture and abandon the privatisation 'solutions' that have been so disastrous elsewhere.

UNISON will examine all of the proposals in detail and continue to lobby against compulsory redundancies and

privatisation.”

John Stevenson also said, “UNISON Edinburgh Branch members, in successive Annual General Meetings since 1998, have consistently demanded an industrial action ballot in the event of compulsory redundancies. That is a mandate that gives confidence that they would overwhelmingly vote for action in such a ballot”.

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# **The British Sign Language (BSL) (Scotland) Bill passed unanimously**



The British Sign Language (BSL) (Scotland) Bill was passed unanimously by all Parties in the Chamber in the Scottish Parliament today.

The British Deaf Association (BDA) is delighted to acknowledge this historic landmark which will work towards improving the daily life of the Scottish Deaf population and could shake up where the Deaf community choose to call home.

BSL users in Scotland from the cradle to the grave will be greatly affected by the BSL (Scotland) Bill. This recognition of their first and preferred language will improve their access, inclusion and sense of belonging in Scotland. In terms of education, the younger generation of the Deaf community will now be entitled to equal opportunities, and therefore be able to cultivate similar beliefs about their future to their hearing peers which is a very important goal for BDA.

The BSL (Scotland) Bill will also positively impact quality of life in relation to health, the elderly, employment, leisure and arts. In terms of health, Deaf people will have better access to medical care, for example, hospital information

leaflets will have to be translated into BSL. From a jobs and employment perspective, more Deaf people will be able to access work as BSL, and the use of BSL Interpreters, becomes more visible and more employers learn about relevant support programmes.

The BSL (Scotland) Bill, which was introduced by Mark Griffin MSP on the 29 October 2014, received support from MSPs, Deaf organisations and individuals across Scotland and importantly the Deaf Community. In four weeks, the Presiding Officer (Tricia Marwick MSP) will submit the Bill for Royal Assent and, once granted, it will become an Act of the Scottish Parliament. The Scottish Government and relevant public authorities will then be required to develop a BSL national plan setting out how they will improve access to information in British Sign Language (BSL).

BDA Scotland has been heavily involved with the process from the start when the organisation was invited to respond to the Education and Culture committee panel in the Scottish Parliament in support of the Bill. The organisation is delighted to see this Bill successfully passed in the Scottish Parliament.

"Today is a momentous day for the Scottish Deaf Community. The success of the BSL (Scotland) Bill is a wonderful achievement and we would like to give special thanks to Mark Griffin MSP, Hilary Third of the Scottish Government, the Scottish Parliament's Education and Culture Committee and everyone involved for their help. It is through this close collaboration and partnership that this momentous day has been made possible," said Avril Hepner, the BDA's Community Development Manager in Scotland.

"I am proud, as a Scottish person, to see my country leading the way in making the first ever BSL Act in the UK. We look forward to working with the Scottish Government to implement this and hope the rest of the UK follows suit," Avril continued.

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## Edinburgh South MP to unveil

# new map



Ian Murray MP has been invited to unveil a new sign mapping Newington Cemetery on Monday.

The sign has been designed and installed by the Friends of Newington Cemetery, with the financial support of the South Central Neighbourhood Partnership and City of Edinburgh Council.

The Friends' Group, affiliated to The Grange/Prestonfield Community Council, was formed to restore Newington Cemetery to its former glory as an attractive, interesting and tranquil place to visit.

The Edinburgh South MP said:

*"The local volunteers who have come together as a Friends group to help improve and maintain the cemetery deserve a huge debt of gratitude for their work. The cemetery houses the graves of many interesting local people and is also a Commonwealth War Graves site. Without the active involvement of the Friends group and the Community Council the cemetery would be in a bad state of disrepair. I would encourage local people to both get involved and, at least, visit the cemetery."*

Volunteers will be available to show people round as part of Doors Open Day, run by the Cockburn Association, on Sunday 27 September, between 1.30 and 4.00 pm.

Tony Harris, OBE, Chair of The Grange/Prestonfield Community Council, said:

*"We are very grateful to Ian Murray for the interest he has already shown in our work, and for coming to unveil the sign today. We hope the sign will encourage more people to visit*

*the cemetery, and perhaps inspire them to join our group.”*

[PHOTO](#) from Creative Commons “Newington Cemetery, Edinburgh, typical condition” by [Stephencdickson](#) – Own work. Licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0 via Commons –

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# **Zombie Survival – Run for your Life**



Hordes of blood thirsty zombies are set to invade Holyrood Park in Edinburgh on Saturday 3rd October when the “Zombie Survival run for your life” event comes to the city.

Hundreds of “Survivors” have already signed up to attempt to evade the zombies by following the “Escape Route” that has been designed by the event organisers. Survivors will encounter numerous obstacles designed to evade the zombie hordes, while the zombies will try to ambush the fleeing survivors.

Organisers Freebird Events use some state of the art sound and lighting effects around the course to create a spine chilling experience for the survivors and zombies taking part. Starting as the sun sets the darkness all adds to the highly charged atmosphere for those brave enough to take on the challenge.

Anyone can sign up as a survivor (either as an individual or even better still as part of a team of friends) and try to make it around the Escape Route alive, or they can sign up as a zombie and do the hunting and chasing. Everyone who makes it

back alive to the finish hear Holyrood Palace can celebrate at the fantastic Zombie Survival After Party which will boast a fully licenced bar, hot and cold food and great music.


To take part, all participants must pre-register by first going to the event website at <http://www.zombiesurvivalrun.co.uk> where they will find more details about the Zombie Survival run and an online entry form.

Submitted by [Peter Mathieson](#)



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## Council proposing 2000 job cuts to make ends meet

 The Council's Finance Convener, Alasdair Rankin admitted today that following reviews of the figures the council has a bigger gap in its revenue budget than earlier believed.

But does that mean more cuts are needed? The council is adamant that the frontline services will be retained wherever possible, so it has to look elsewhere for monetary savings.

The council aim to be a leaner and more agile organisation, but one where there is stability too so that it can continue to offer the services it does from waste management to schools and health and social care.

[The Edinburgh Reporter NEWS – Council needs to save £141m](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

A number of reports, to be discussed at next week's [Finance and Resources Committee](#) will propose cost-saving actions across the Council.

These will include:

- Proposals for a 4-year budget framework, which will address an overall shortfall of £126m. This reflects the Council's £107m savings target, together with additional savings to be made as a result of overspends in Health and Social Care (£10m) and in Property (£9.5m)
- Proposals outlining options for a new Property and Asset Management Strategy to maximise the value of the Council's extensive property estate, potentially saving £80m over 10 years
- An update on the Council's Managing Workforce Change Policy, highlighting measures to support employees through the transition, encourage voluntary redundancy as far as possible, highlighting the potential requirement for Councillors to consider compulsory redundancy as a further option in the future, to achieve the required savings. The workforce makes up 60% of the Council budget so it is unrealistic to make the required savings without reducing the numbers currently employed.
- An update on the success of the Council's Commercial and Procurement Strategy, which has saved the Council £39m over two years

In the past the figure of £107m of savings over five years has been mentioned. Now it appears that the figure may have escalated to £141m, although it does include a contingency figure of £15m to guard against future overspends such as those from this year.

The council's Health and Social Care section has overspent due to the pressures put on it by an ageing and increasing

population. This is not news to anyone living in the city. We have heard about the demography of our city before. What is clear is that the council then had to bring in an outside agency to explain to it where the overspend had come from and how it would manage it in the future. From that it appears that an increased hole in the finances was discovered and now the changes planned will be accelerated.

That said the council is already committed to a transformation programme designed to make substantial savings in the next four years. And this is the difference, as the council is now assessing its financial needs for the next four years rather than just one as it has done before.

The transformation programme will mean that 2000 jobs will go at the council, and while the hope had always been to remove posts with voluntary redundancy packages it is clear that some compulsory redundancy measures may need to be introduced. The Council's pledge on this will need to be amended.

Other measures such as sales of property and better or different Facilities Management are also being looked at.

The council will open up its public consultation on the budget and how it should either make savings or prioritise spending on 30 September. The papers will be on the council website.

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**Schoolboy injured during  
large disturbance in**

# Stockbridge



Police are appealing for witnesses after a schoolboy was injured on Comely Bank Road around 1.30pm yesterday afternoon.

There was a disturbance involving a large group of youths, believed to be from a nearby high school, and a male cyclist.

During this altercation a 15-year-old boy, who is not believed to have been part of the group, was injured after being struck to the head with a bike lock as he was walking with friends towards the Raeburn Hotel.

He was taken to hospital for treatment and officers are now conducting enquiries to trace the cyclist who left the scene before police arrived.

The cyclist is described as a white man, 39-42 years old, with a medium build. He had a bald head with triangle-shaped sunburn or a birthmark thereon.

He was wearing glasses, jeans and a pale/grey short-sleeved shirt.

Detective Constable Chris Harding said: "We're appealing for anyone who may have witnessed this disturbance, or has information which can assist with our enquiries, to come forward.

"In particular, we are keen to trace the cyclist as soon as possible to establish all the circumstances surrounding this incident and I would urge this individual to contact police immediately."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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# Hibs' stars Chloe Arthur and Heather Richards called up for Scotland Women's squad



Hibernian Ladies players Chloe Arthur and Heather Richards have joined the Scotland Women's squad while Emma Mitchell (Arsenal) has withdrawn through injury.

The pair join team mates Lizzie Arnott and Kirsty Smith in the squad.

The Scots face Norway tonight and manager Anna Signeul believes the match at Firhill tonight will be the perfect preparation for Tuesday's European Championship qualifying opener in Slovenia.

Scotland are playing the 1995 FIFA Women's World Cup winners for the first time since a 2-2 draw back in 2012. Norway occupy 10th place in the FIFA World Rankings and have lost just once in their past 15 games.

Speaking to the Scottish FA website ahead of the encounter at the home of Partick Thistle, Anna said: "We want fresh players for Tuesday, and we also want to give them game time. I reckon Norway will possibly do the same, since there are not as many friendlies these days. We need to play wisely tomorrow so we have a really good team for Tuesday, that's the most important thing."

"I also think he wants to try a few new players before they go to Kazakhstan. Their qualifying campaign kicks-off on Tuesday

too, so they'll be treating this game in a similar way to us."

"What we must focus on is being very good against Slovenia. To do that, if that means that these players can't play tomorrow then that's okay with us."

Norway come into the match on the back of reaching the last 16 at this summer's FIFA Women's World in Canada, where they were knocked out by England. It will also be the first in charge for new head coach Roger Finjord, an opponent that Anna knows well.

She said: "I've known Roger for many years from his time as assistant coach with Norway. I don't know if he'll play the same way and with the same system. In the past, Norway have played 4-3-3 with the ability to change to 4-5-1, and sometimes they've switched to a 4-4-2. Norwegian teams are tactically very good. "

### **Scotland squad to face Norway and Slovenia:**

Lizzie Arnot (Hibernian)  
Chloe Arthur (Hibernian)  
Jennifer Beattie (Manchester City)  
Frankie Brown (Bristol Academy)  
Lana Clelland (UPC Tavagnacco)  
Rachel Corsie (Seattle Reign)  
Leanne Crichton (Notts County)  
Ifeoma Dieke (Vittsjö GIK)  
Lisa Evans (FC Bayern München)  
Gemma Fay (Celtic) (GK)  
Hayley Lauder (Glasgow City)  
Kim Little (Seattle Reign)  
Joanne Love (Glasgow City)  
Shannon Lynn (Vittsjö GIK) (GK)  
Eilish McSorley (Mallbackens IF)  
Christie Murray (Bristol Academy)  
Heather Richards (Hibernian)  
Jane Ross (Vittsjö GIK)

Leanne Ross (Glasgow City)  
Kirsty Smith (Hibernian)  
Caroline Weir (Bristol Academy)

Vauxhall Women's A International Challenge Match  
Scotland vs Norway

Thursday 17th September 2015, kick-off 7pm  
Firhill Stadium, Glasgow

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## Lord and Lady Provost leading the sleep out at the Zoo next week

✖ Edinburgh's Lord and Lady Provost will brave a cold night at the Zoo on Thursday 24 September in a bid to raise thousands of pounds for local causes.

They took a visit to Penguin's Rock this week to receive their sleeping bags ahead of the big event. The sleep out will take place outside the Zoo's historic Mansion House, close to the popular Penguins and Lemur Walkthroughs.

['The Lady Provost's Sleep Out at Edinburgh Zoo'](#) will raise vital funds for Four Square and the Rock Trust to help young people get off the streets and into work. Over 150 people have signed up to take part including teams from Edinburgh companies, members of the British Army and Marketing Edinburgh.

The Lady Provost said she wants people to "open their eyes" to what it is like for young homeless people during the colder months but admits the challenge will be nothing compared to

the struggle faced by those who sleep rough every night.

She said: “The event is edging closer and I’m so impressed by Edinburgh’s fundraising efforts. In spite of Edinburgh’s continued growth as a successful and affluent city, homelessness remains a pressing issue. Nobody can truly experience the struggle of homelessness based on one night in the cold, but I hope our eyes can be opened to what it is like to spend a night outside. We’ll be sleeping out in September when the nights get longer and the temperature drops – I hope this shock to the system will emphasise just how difficult this year’s colder months will be for our young homeless people.

The Lord Provost Donald Wilson said: “Elaine is determined to raise awareness of youth homelessness in Edinburgh and this event is an attempt to raise as much money as possible for Four Square and the Rock Trust. These charities are very close to her heart and I hope we can help to make a big difference.”

While the number of people presenting to the City of Edinburgh Council as rough sleepers is the lowest of any Scottish city – having reduced by almost 15 per cent over the last five years – almost 4,000\* people were assessed as homeless in the Capital last year. A quarter of those are aged 24 or younger.

Show your support on social media #ZooSleepOut and by making a donation: [www.virginmoneygiving.com/SleepOutAtEdinburghZoo](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/SleepOutAtEdinburghZoo)

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## Scotrail launch drive for 100

# new drivers



ScotRail today launched an unprecedented nationwide recruitment drive that will create up to 100 new train driver jobs and offer a major boost to rail services throughout Scotland.

[The Edinburgh Reporter NEWS Scotrail recruiting 100 new drivers](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

Recruiting trainee train drivers at depots across the country will support ScotRail's plans to expand timetables and roll out faster, bigger and greener trains.

Drivers are needed at locations including Aberdeen, Ayr, Bathgate, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Gourock, Helensburgh, Inverness, Perth, Stirling and Tweedbank.

Phil Verster, ScotRail Alliance managing director, said: "We're investing in Scotland's railways by modernising trains, expanding timetables and adding journey options – and recruiting a large group of new drivers is vital to make these improvements possible.

"We are proud to be supporting local communities and the Scottish economy by creating quality jobs that will make a real impact for customers.

"It is an exciting chance for people to embark on an interesting career with great prospects – while also playing an important part in the transformation of Scotland's railway."

ScotRail wants to hear from enthusiastic, reliable candidates with excellent attention spans, experience of safety-critical roles and a passion for customer service.

Trainee drivers will be paid £24,559 during their first year of intensive training, gradually increasing to £43,212 following a probationary period.



Mr Verster and Transport Minister Derek Mackay today met some of the company's existing trainee drivers, who are currently undergoing the rigorous qualification process in Edinburgh.

Mr Mackay said: "The Scottish Government is investing record levels in Scotland's railways with a £5 billion package to upgrade trains, track and services across the country.

"Key investment in infrastructure, such as the recent historic reopening of the Borders Railway and our substantial programme of electrification, are only part of the story.

"The staff who keep our railways running are a key asset and I am delighted to launch this unprecedented, nationwide recruitment drive that will create up to 100 new train driver

jobs.

“This recruitment campaign will support the delivery of Scottish jobs in the industry and means that we are able to continue to operate a world-class railway in the future.”

Kevin Lindsay, Scottish secretary of Aslef trade union, said: “Aslef welcomes the announcement of over 100 train driver job on ScotRail.

“This is a great opportunity for all sections of our community to apply to join the railway.

“As a union, we look forward to continuing our good working relationship with the Scottish Government and Abellio as we jointly develop and deliver Scotland’s railways.”

Anyone interested in the positions should apply via [scotrail.co.uk/careers](http://scotrail.co.uk/careers).

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## **UNISON question the number of council employees to lose jobs**



The union UNISON has voiced fears that there will be three times as many jobs lost during Edinburgh Council’s transformation programme as the council had previously advised.

UNISON says that it believes as many as 3,000 jobs – one in every six council staff – will be slashed as the effects of

the Transformation Programme and future budget cuts become clear.

“The effect on services and staff will be devastating as up to 15% of council employees could face being forced out of their jobs”, said Amanda Kerr, UNISON branch secretary.

“Losing this amount of staff will decimate the services we provide and the public rely on to the point where they would be unrecognisable.”

Gerry Stovin, service conditions officer, added: “We no longer believe the myth that the Transformation Programme is an efficiency driven exercise but recognise it as ideologically driven and a threat to public services.

“It is now time for the politicians to stand up for the pledges they were elected on and support UNISON in the fight to save public services in Edinburgh for future generations.”

Cllr Alasdair Rankin, Finance Convener for the City of Edinburgh Council, said: “The Council has been clear about the scale of the financial challenge facing us for years. The city’s population is growing and demand for Council services is higher than ever.

“We need to make very substantial savings over the next four years and we have already put in place a number of key measures to achieve the required efficiencies. The Coalition has delivered £39m worth of savings during the first two years through an improved strategy for buying goods and services and we recently announced a new ICT contract which will save a further £6m a year.

“The Council needs to ensure we continue to deliver quality frontline services as efficiently and effectively as possible. No one ever said this was going to be easy or straightforward but we want to safeguard those services as much as possible. Realistically, to make the necessary savings, we have little

option but to consider reducing the number of people who work for the Council. Bearing in mind we are keenly aware that this is about people we will work closely with our staff and the trade unions during this difficult time.

“We are very clear about the size of the challenge and over the coming days we will be outlining our proposed next steps.”

The council’s Finance and Resources Committee is due to meet next Thursday 24 September 2015.

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# **TERLive! City of Edinburgh Council meeting 17 September 2015**



Today the full council meets at the City Chambers and we will be there to bring you live updates as they happen from the floor of the chamber.

There are two new councillors who will be sworn in today following last week’s by-election in Leith Walk.

The hashtag is #edinwebcast. All the council papers are [here](#) and you can follow the proceedings on live webcast [here](#).

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# Thursday in Edinburgh – What's On Today

**Joan Eardley: Another Look.** Join **Stellar Quines** and **Heroica Theatre Company's** to hear about their work in progress, a play on the life and work of Joan Eardley RA (1921-63), whose painting career was dedicated to portraits of Glasgow street urchins and land and seascapes of Catterline. The hour will include a Q&A session with the play's writer and director. Heroica Theatre Company champions the achievements of maverick women; 'The experience of a Heroica production is unique'. 5-6pm, Farmer Suite, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free but places are limited and booking is required: tickets may be obtained from the Information Desk in the Gardens Entrance of the Scottish National Gallery or by calling 0131 624 6560.

HEROICA  
THEATRE COMPANY



maverick women unsung lives

Stellar Quines  
THEATRE COMPANY

**National Library of Scotland Map Images Website and Digital Mapping:** the map images website includes over 50,000 zoomable images of maps, primarily relating to Scotland over the last four centuries. This workshop in the NLS IT training suite will help you to make best use of the map images website and the related modern digital map resources available at NLS.

2pm, [Maps Reading Room](#), 159 Causewayside. Please book by calling 0131 623 3734 or online [here](#).

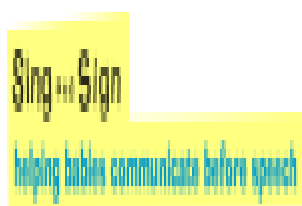


**Cameo Big Scream:** screenings exclusively for parents/carers and their babies under the age of one year. Today's film is *The Misfits* (PG) starring **Clark Gable, Marilyn Monroe** and **Montgomery Clift**, directed by **John Huston** and written by **Arthur Miller**. 10.30am, [Cameo](#), Home Street. Tickets may be purchased from the Box Office in person, by calling 0871 902 5723 or online [here](#).



**Coffee morning:** coffee, tea, homebaking and chat. 10.30am-12 noon, [Morningside United Church](#) (small hall via side entrance), 15 Chamberlain Road, Holy Corner. All welcome.

**Sing and Sign for Babies:** a gentle class for babies aged approximately 2-6 months, aiming to build the foundations for good communication. The class is relaxed, gives you lots of face to face time – and cuddle time – with your baby, and is the place to begin your baby signing journey. 2-2.30pm, [Stockbridge Library](#), Hamilton Place. Please book your free introductory session [here](#); a block of 9-10 sessions normally costs £50 and classes are currently offered in Stockbridge, Portobello and Marchmont. If you have any questions about today's session please call the library on 0131 529 5665. This event is part of **Stockfest 2015**.





**Take One Action! Film Festival:** 'connecting people, world-class cinema and creative action for a better world'. Twelve days of screenings and discussions, in Edinburgh and Glasgow, on issues as diverse as **environmental activism, LGBT rights in African countries, the global financial system, cycling, the value (or not) of university degrees, the Arab Spring, literacy, food chains and much more.** Today's film is ***Shield and Spear*** (15+), a 'beautiful, spirited and challenging art-doc...charting the interventions of a whole new generation of black and white South African activist-artists tackling issues of race, human rights and equality through music, photography and dialogue. Plus short: ***Dis/connect.*** Novelist and **Subversive Festival** founder **Dr Igor Stiks** will join this screening. 8.30pm [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets may be purchased from the Filmhouse box office in person, by calling 0131 228 2688 or online [here](#); prices vary.



**Scottish Art in the Age of Change: 1945-2000.** The course of Scottish art 1945-2000 was one of continuous achievement. **Bill Hare** (Honorary Teaching Fellow in Scottish Art, University of Edinburgh) will look at some of Scotland's most renowned artists that this period produced, from **Alan Davie, Joan Eardley** and **Eduardo Paolozzi**, through **Ian Hamilton Finlay** and

the **Boyle Family** to **Douglas Gordon** and **Alison Watt**; his illustrated talk will trace the development of this most remarkable era from post-war to devolved Scotland. 10.30am, [Museum of Edinburgh](#), Huntly House, 142 Canongate. Tickets cost £5/£3.50 and must be purchased in advance via the [Usher Hall Box Office](#), Lothian Road, in person, by calling 0131 228 1155 or online [here](#).



**LGBT Social Circle:** a social group for people with learning difficulties or learning disabilities to meet other people, have fun and discuss sexuality and gender identity. Today's theme is ***Feeling Good***. 2-4pm, [Lifecare Centre](#), 2 Cheyne Street, Stockbridge. For more information please contact **George Burrows** on 0131 652 3281 or email [george@lgbthealth.org.uk](mailto:george@lgbthealth.org.uk).



**Easel Sketching in the Gallery – September:** led by artist **Damian Callan**. A different subject each month, sometimes with a model. All materials supplied. 2-4pm, [Scottish National Gallery](#) (main floor), The Mound. Free: no booking required. Also at same times on Friday 18th September.



**Live Music Now: Andrew Waite and Seth Tinsley.** Andrew and Seth have been performing together for 10 years. An accordion and guitar duo, their music explores a vast array of traditional and contemporary folk styles, played with a virtuosity and joyfulness that has captivated audiences across the UK. In this concert, Andrew and Seth perform a mixture of traditional and self-penned songs and tunes. 6-6.30pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free.



**Odeon Silver Cinema:** if you are 55+ these special screenings cost you only £3 (including tea and biscuits before the show). Today's films are ***Far From the Madding Crowd* (12A)** at 11am (doors open 10.15am) and ***A Royal Night Out* (12A)** at 2pm. Available at Odeons [Lothian Road](#) and [Fort Kinnaird](#); please contact cinemas for full details and to book.



**Scotland's Churches Trust: Professor John Hume**, former Chief Inspector for **Historic Scotland** and a leading expert in Scottish church architecture, will talk on ***1,000 Years of Scottish Churches***. 7.30pm (doors open 6.30pm), [St Cuthbert's Church](#), 5 Lothian Road. Free admission; refreshments will be served before the lecture, which will last approximately 40 minutes and be followed by a Q & A session.

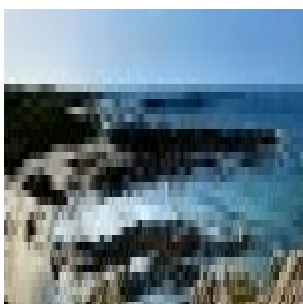


**Cafe Voices: East Meets West.** Storytellers **Mio Shapley** and **Ken Shapley** will celebrate the differences and similarities between two sides of our world through story, song and music, plus an open-floor section for storytellers to tell their own tales. 7pm, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43 High Street. Tickets cost £5 and may be purchased from the Box Office in person, by calling 0131 556 9579 or online.



**Waterstones Presents Catherine Simpson: *Truestory*.** The Edinburgh-based author launches her debut novel, a 'blackly comic, heart-breaking and heart-warming' tale of a woman struggling to raise her Aspergic son on a failing and isolated farm that he refuses to leave. '*Truestory* looks at what happens when sacrifice slithers towards martyrdom'; it was included in the **Scottish Book Trust's 21 Scottish Novels to Look Forward to in 2015**. 6pm, [Waterstones West End](#), 128 Princes Street. Free tickets may be obtained from the shop or by calling 0131 226 2666.

**Ceol Cholasa:** your first chance to get out of the city this weekend is a long trip, so start packing... **Ceol Cholasa** is the tiny **Isle of Colonsay's** 8th music festival, and this year it will feature **Blazin Fiddles, Breabach, The Mischa MacPherson Trio, Jenn Butterworth & Laura-Beth Salter, Canach, Kris Drever & Ian Carr, Ross Hull & Cameron Grant**, plus local acts, workshops and a Saturday night **ceilidh**. For more information, including tickets, transport advice and accommodation options, please visit the Isle of Colonsay's website [here](#). Ends Sunday 20th September.



**Nothing Ever Happens Here Presents Book Group + Quarterbacks:**

Scottish four-piece 'almost rock band' Book Group perform story-driven songs about friends, escaping the city, and the failures of technology. Quarterbacks from New Paltz, NY are on a UK tour and define their genre as 'twee punk'. For over 18s only. 8pm-late, The Dissection Room, [Summerhall](#), 1 Summerhall. Tickets cost £10 and may be purchased from the Summerhall Box Office, in person, by calling 0131 560 1580 or online [here](#).



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## Five things you need to know today



**The Rocky Horror Show LIVE!**

**Sheraton Edinburgh is very Grand**

**Volunteering opportunities**

**Knitting gurus coming to Edinburgh**

**Margiotta relaunching in Polwarth**

Tonight, for one night only, get along to the Cameo to watch the Rocky Horror Show LIVE! Tickets [here](#).

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The Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa, Edinburgh has been recognised as one of the top ten Sheratons in the world by Starwood Hotels & Resorts. Sheraton Grand is a new premier tier that celebrates exceptional Sheraton hotels and resorts for their enticing destinations, distinguished designs and excellence in service and guest experiences.

Now to find a reason to stay there overnight...

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Got time on your hands? Then have a look at the Changeworks website to find out how you can learn new skills and make a difference to the community and the environment while volunteering.


Click [here](#) to visit their website to see what opportunities they can offer.

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Are you a mad keen knitter? Then you might be interested in this workshop which is being hosted by McAree Brothers in Howe Street on Friday 9 October. They have invited the rock stars of the knitting world Arne and Carlos to come to their shop and meet Edinburgh knitters anytime after 5pm. The duo were featured on Kirsty Allsop's show on TV last Christmas.

More details [here](#).

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 Dads Rock is a great Edinburgh-based charity which aims to help dads and now it is looking for young dads especially to join in their Build a Bike project.

We met David Marshall from Dads Rock to find out more:

[The Edinburgh Reporter NEWS – Dads Rock](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

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# First time buyer? Help is at hand with McQueen Legal



**A short explanation of the processes involved in buying your new home**

**by Mary McQueen Partner in [McQueen Legal](#) who are organising an open house at their office in Bruntsfield on Saturday 19 September from 10am to 1pm when they hope you will drop in to get some free advice from their solicitors and property professionals (and cake!)**

More details about the First Time Buyers' Event you would be mad to miss are [here](#).

It can be a bit daunting buying your first house (or any house!). The whole process can be broken down into these four simple steps:

**Arranging a Mortgage**

This is the first step to getting your hands on your first home. First you may need to save for a deposit.

Then you need to take advice from an Independent Financial Adviser who deals with the whole of the mortgage market. They are truly independent of any particular lender and can advise what is best for YOU!

Many solicitors will either be independent advisers themselves or will have advisers they can recommend to you. You need to be fairly sure that you can afford the mortgage you would like before you proceed to put in an offer for the property.

Mortgages can take many different forms: Fixed Rate or a Variable Rate tracking Bank Base Rates. Some are interest only, but most are Capital and Interest which means that, at the end of your 25 year mortgage, your loan has been repaid and you are mortgage free.

This does not mean that you have to stay in the same house for the whole 25 years but it does mean that you need to be able to afford to repay the sum you borrow over the agreed period. Once you have an Agreement in Principle or a Mortgage Promise, you can start to look for your new front door.

### **Choosing a Solicitor**

The best way to find a good solicitor to ask around your friends, family or neighbours about who they would recommend to you. Then go online and do searches for local solicitors and see if any of them have been recommended by others.

Some firms publish on their websites testimonials from their existing clients. Once you decide upon who to approach, telephone the chosen firms and chat through with them what you propose to do.

The right firm for you will be a firm which immediately offers to give you a quote of the likely costs for your purchase and

who will take an interest in what you are looking to buy. Some firms maintain lists of potential purchasers and what type of property they wish to purchase and will then contact you to let you know if a suitable property comes on to their books.

My own firm has recently been Mystery Shopped and the report we received back said that our “shopper” was very impressed with the friendly attitude of the member of staff who spoke to them and that she gave them good advice. This is exactly the type of firm you need to instruct – one which is proactive, efficient and also friendly and in whom you think you can have confidence.

### **Putting in the offer**

A good solicitor will give you advice on how much you should offer to pay for a property as they will have knowledge of the market and what prices are being achieved in each area.

They will advise you whether to go straight to an offer if the property is on the market at a Fixed Price or whether to simply ‘*note interest*’ if the property is Offers Over or Offers Around a certain price.

Once you know how many other “notes of interest” there are, your solicitor will advise you whether to offer before a closing date or whether to wait and put your best offer in at that time.

Your solicitor should be trying to get the property for you at the best possible price. They will recommend that, if you have not already done so, you should obtain and carefully read the Home Report.

Many solicitors advise that you should also obtain your own survey report as Home Reports do not always tell the whole story, but this will depend on what information is available in the Home Report. Some lenders might require a separate

survey report too.

## **The conveyancing process**

Once you have been informed that your offer for a house has been accepted, you will be asked to say that you are satisfied with your survey report or with the Home Report and only then will the conveyancing process commence.

A good solicitor will keep you informed on progress with their work. They will look at the titles and will keep in touch with you on the terms of these and '*the missives*' which make up the contract between you and the seller.

Missives are not signed by you – they are signed by your solicitor on your behalf.

During this time, you should, in conjunction with your chosen financial adviser, chase along the provision by your lenders of your offer of loan.

Only when your offer of loan has been received will your solicitor be happy to recommend that you finalise or '*conclude*' missives.

Once this point is reached, you cannot withdraw from the purchase without paying substantial damages to the seller, so you need to be very sure that you can find the finance to pay for the property.

You will then be asked to sign a '*Standard Security*' which is the mortgage deed. Shortly before settlement which is when you get your keys, you will be asked to give your solicitor your deposit monies. The lender will send the loan monies to your solicitor who will then pay over the price of the property on your behalf.

Then you can organise the house warming.....

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# Council put major office development up for sale



The City of Edinburgh Council has announced it has put Atria Edinburgh, its landmark, award-winning office development in the heart of the Exchange district, on the market for sale. JLL and Montagu Evans have been appointed as selling agents.

Our photograph shows Edinburgh based author Alexander McCall Smith unveiling his words carved into the wall of the development.

Completed in 2013, Atria was developed and funded by the City of Edinburgh Council with part-funding from Scottish Enterprise. Split between two buildings, Atria One and Atria Two, it collectively comprises almost 200,000 sq ft of Grade A office and retail accommodation.

It is one of the most sustainable developments in Edinburgh with both buildings achieving BREEAM “Excellent” and EPC B+ ratings. It also benefits from having green sedum roofs, low E glass glazing, energy efficient lifts, electric car charging spaces and an abundance of cycle spaces.

At the time, Atria was the largest speculative office development over 100,000 sq ft outside of central London and satisfied the need for new Grade A office space in central Edinburgh.

Councillor Frank Ross, Convener of the Economy Committee, the City of Edinburgh Council, said: “Atria Edinburgh is an extremely successful development for the city. It was

originally built to cross-subsidise the cost of an expansion to the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) to ensure it continues to compete on an international stage.

“The innovative funding package was intentionally designed to facilitate the lettings and eventual sale of Atria’s office and retail space on completion of the development. Based on the economic conditions being right to achieve the best possible return for our investment, the Council is putting Atria up for sale.

“Atria provides much needed Grade A office space for Edinburgh and gives the city a competitive advantage in attracting new, and retaining existing businesses. This is reflected in the extremely impressive tenant list.”

Atria Edinburgh is home to a variety of high quality tenants including PwC, Brewin Dolphin, Aon, IBM, the UK Green Investment Bank, the Law Society of Scotland, Alliance Trust, Lothian Pension Fund and the EICC. Retail occupiers include Co-operative Food and Café Klaris. On average, the income is secured for in excess of 15 years.

Ross Burnett, partner at Montagu Evans, commented: “Atria is a fantastic development and has excellent sustainability and design credentials. We believe this is the highest profile investment to come to the market in a long time.”

Colin Finlayson, director at JLL, added: “The sale of Atria represents a rare opportunity to purchase a best-in-class development and it comes at a time when investor demand is strong from both the UK and overseas. We are confident we will be able to generate significant interest.”