

EIFF 2015: Narcopolis (Justin Trefgarne, 2014)



In 2024, a copper walks the streets of London fighting crime following the legalisation of all types of recreational drugs. But, when he is removed from a case in which he tries to identify an unclaimed corpse, he begins a quick and unstable descent into a conspiracy that rules the city.

To be referred to as a poor man's Jason Statham would be one hell of a disappointing comment for an actor to hear. Unfortunately, Elliot Cowan leads Narcopolis with a Statham style performance and little dramatic effect. His breathy, painfully emphasised dialogue is poorly written, which doesn't really help either. For writer/director Justin Trefgarne, this is a broad vision in terms of plot, but he's done very little with it. What could have been a simple, smart vision of drug filled dystopia winds up being a modern day, overlong episode of The Bill with eye-piercing body incinerator guns. Oh, and apparently in 2044 we're still using the headsets you could buy for your PC for £12.99 in Gamestation in 2002. You read that right.

Taking a quick look at Narcopolis' iMDB page, we can see that it has been sitting in stasis for close to a year. Why? Because there's next to no passion in its creation. A guddled crime sci fi, it races through its plot with such a lack of clarity its impossible to engage with. Mix in some rather crass dialogue and far fetched scenarios and you are given an embarrassingly awkward mix of Blade Runner and Drive; without any sort of emphatic pay off.

On paper, Narcopolis sounds like it could have the enjoyment factor cranked up to 100 whilst all of the artsy important

stuff came a very distant second. In reality, it's totally different. A cheap, boring sci-fi; Narcopolis will leave you with the worst emotive reaction of all: indifference.



Narcopolis played as part of the Edinburgh International Film Festival 2015

Car Boot Sale at Newcraighall Station

The Portobello branch of Rotary hold a monthly car boot sale on the last Sunday of the month at Newcraighall Station. It's a way to fundraise for local and international charities and a fun way to spend the morning (9am-2pm) because you never know what you'll find.

For more details about local Rotary [click here](#)

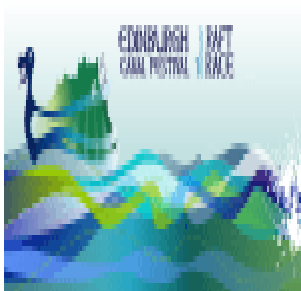
Submitted by [Jenny Glover](#)

Saturday in Edinburgh –

What's On Today



Alan Windram: Mac and Bob. A special **Independent Booksellers Week** event for young children, with the author of the *Mac and Bob* stories. 12 noon, The Book Bothy, [Far From the Madding Crowd](#), 20 High Street, Linlithgow.




Edinburgh Canal Festival and Raft Race: boat trips, canoe tasters, birds of prey, stalls, food, classic cars, wee boat flotilla, model boats, activities, ponies, **Edinburgh Printmakers**, water walkers, children's art and play, music and dance with **The Fed Peasants**, **Little Love** and the **Friendly Vibes**, **Rise Kagona**, **Sylvain Ayite**, **Mathieu Thomas (Parc en Ciel)**, **Father Jack**, **Boorach**, **Lara's Belly Dancers** and **Tollcross Galoshins**. Visit **The Forge Workshops**, **Scrapstore** and **Grove 2 Plants and Crafts** at the **Fountainbride Meanwhile**

Site. 12 noon (opening ceremony), 3pm (raft race), 4pm (raft race prizes), **Lochrin Basin**, Edinburgh Quay, Fountainbridge. If you would like to enter the raft race, please email race@edinburghcanalfestival.org.uk.



Wester Hailes Community Connections: a festival celebrating community life, past, present and future. The festival closes today, with a film night at which you can see ***Our Place in Time*** poetry video, ***The Huts*** (1984) and ***Let's Meet at the Underpass***, and also attend the opening of local photographer **Raymond Keith's** exhibition celebrating Wester Hailes community life. Raymond is a professional photographer who also runs monthly **WHALE Snappers** sessions – photography sessions for all levels of ability and experience. Refreshments will be served and fun will be had! 6pm onwards, [WHALE Arts](#), 30 Westburn Grove. For more information about this or any other event in the Community Connections Festival, please call **Sarah Walker** on 0131 458 3267 or email sarah@whalearts.co.uk

Opening Lecture: MC Escher. **Micky Piller**, Chief Curator at  **Escher in Het Palais**, the monographic museum on the life and work of MC Escher in The Hague, discusses the artist's life and work to celebrate the opening of the MC Escher exhibition at the Scottish Gallery of Modern Art TW0. 12.45-1.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Tickets cost £5/£4 and may be purchased from the Information Desk in the National Gallery or by calling 0131 624 6560.

 **Scottish Waterways Trust Wildflower Survey:** become a 'citizen scientist' and help to discover more about the plants growing on the canalside in Edinburgh. Develop your plant ID skills, make new friends and have fun. 10.30am-1pm, [Water of Leith Conservation Trust](#), 24 Lanark Road. For more information please contact **Anna Canning** on 07790 885969 or email anna.canning@blueyonder.co.uk

Gasland: a film about fracking. 7-10pm, [Autonomous Centre of Edinburgh](#), 17 West Montgomery Place. The Autonomous Centre is a self-managed social resource centre, open for the use of groups and individuals who are trying to make a better society and improve their lives. Newcomers very welcome!

Lunchtime Concert: Dregghorn Musical Society, Edinburgh. 12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.

Leith School of Art Summer Exhibition: a showcase of the work of the School's students at the end of their year-long and part-time courses. The School has introduced several new courses in 2014-15, so the exhibition will take place over all three campuses: 10am-4pm at [St James, North Junction Street](#) and [Coburg House Studios](#); also at same times on Sunday 28th June (please note: St James campus will be only be open **1-4pm** on Sunday 28th). For full details see the School's website [here](#).

National Gallery Highlights Tours: an introduction to and tour of the National Gallery's permanent collection, focusing on key paintings. 2-2.45pm or 3-3.45pm, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free: no booking required.



Phyllida Barlow: set. A major new exhibition of work made especially for the Gallery by one of the international art world's brightest stars. Barlow is known for her monumental sculptures made from simple materials; physically impressive and materially insistent, her sculptures are inspired by the outside world and by the experience of living and looking. 11am-6pm Monday to Saturday, 12 noon-5pm Sundays, [The Fruitmarket Gallery](#), 45 Market Street. Ends 18th October 2015.



Edinburgh International Film Festival continues today! For details of all films and other events see the programme [here](#) or pick up a paper copy at EIFF venues and many other locations throughout the city. Tickets are available in person from the [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road, [Cineworld](#), Fountain Park, [Odeon](#), Lothian Road and the [Festival Theatre](#), by calling 0131 623 8030 or online [here](#). Today's highlights include **Edinburgh Schools Film Competition (Primary)** – shorts by young people from the city's schools, selected by the **EIFF Youth Jury**, ***You're Ugly Too***, 'a bittersweet and gently humorous drama' focusing on the relationship between newly orphaned 11 year old Stacey and her recently-paroled uncle Will, and ***Black Box Live: 'Tyburnia'*** with **Dead Rat Orchestra**, 'an immersive cine-concert combining the artistry of film with the craft of music'. **James Holcombe's** analogue film images tell the story of the Tyburn gallows; they will be accompanied by a live performance of ballads and musical laments.

Skylark Surf Week: Release the Kraken! A night of 

carousing, maritime folk music and rum. 9pm, [The Skylark](#), 241-243 Portobello High Street.


Ragged University: IT and Biscuits. If you'd like to learn something on your computer, get to grips with basic computer skills, find free (legal) software or have other computer questions, come along to this **free IT workshop** for tutorials and person to person guidance on all aspects of computers and software. Relax in a social setting: tea and biscuits provided! You will need a laptop (or you can borrow one if you need to) and an active membership of Edinburgh City Libraries. 1-4pm, George Washington Browne Room, [Central Library](#), George IV Bridge.

✖ **Edinburgh Printmakers: Photography in Print – a Gallery Discussion.** This event complements the new Edinburgh Printmakers Members' exhibition, ***Photography in Print***, which is part of the **ACTINIC Festival**. Participating artists and professionals in the fields of printmaking and photography will discuss their work, the conflux of these media and their personal experience of these practices, giving a unique insight into the conceptual and technical aspects of their artistic practice and study. An open dialogue will be encouraged between the panel and visitors, with an opportunity to ask questions and allow a creative free-flow of information and debate. 3-4pm, [Edinburgh Printmakers](#), Union Street. Free: no booking required. The discussion will be followed by a preview of the exhibition from 4pm to 6pm. The exhibition will then be open 10am-6pm, Tuesday to Saturday, until 25 July 2015.

Edinburgh Society of Musicians: The Chapter House Ensemble. **Shane Brogan** (*accordion*) and **Joern Pfaff** (*piano*) play an eclectic repertoire of **Argentine tango, classical, ethnic, jazz and popular music**. 7.30pm (prompt), [Edinburgh Society of Musicians](#), 3 Belford Road. The Edinburgh Society of Musicians has been promoting practical music-making in Edinburgh since 1887. Admission is free and non-members are welcomed.



The Chippendale International School of Furniture Edinburgh Exhibition: come and see the work of this year's graduates from the acclaimed East Lothian School; many pieces will be for sale. 10am-4pm, [Gayfield Creative Spaces](http://www.gayfieldcreativespaces.co.uk), Gayfield Square. Also at same times on Sunday 28th June, and 10am-6pm on Monday 29 June, Tuesday 30 June and Wednesday 1 July, with a private view 6-8pm on Monday 29. For further information please contact **Charlie Laidlaw** on 07890 396518 or email info@chippendale.co.uk

St John's Summer Quiz Night: bring your own team or join  one on the night, and test your mettle against Quizmaster and Associate Rector **Stephen Holmes**. Wine and nibbles provided; prize for the winners. 7.30pm, [St John's Church](http://www.stjohnschurch.co.uk), Princes Street. £8/£6; all proceeds will go to St John's Development Fund.

East Neuk Festival: your second chance to get out of the city this weekend is a friendly festival of one-off events in a picturesque corner of Fife. Classical music, from **Bach** to **Britten**, and a 'festival within a festival', **Littoral**, a

weekend of literary events celebrating our connections with nature, landscape and seascape and featuring **Helen Macdonald**, **Tom Pow**, **Sir John Lister-Kaye**, talks, a photography workshop and a tree walk with **Jim Crumley**. *Littoral* begins at 11.30am today and ends on Sunday evening; the music festival begins today at 7.30pm and continues through the week, concluding with the **Festival Finale** in **Cambo Gardens** on Sunday 5th July. For information and to book tickets, see the Festival's website [here](#) or pick up a brochure from various Edinburgh venues.



Hugo Ticciati photo: Marco Borggreve





Summer Solstice 2009 – John Adams



(c)W.Lister-Kaye 2007

Five things you need to know today



Today is Armed Forces Day

Wester Hailes on STV Edinburgh

New hotel approved by planners

Drylaw Telford Community Council

Teddy Bears' Picnic

Celebrations for the Waterloo parade this morning will begin with a salute at 10:25am from HRH The Duke of Kent on The Royal Mile.

At 11:30am, a spectacular Armed Forces Day parade of up to 500 serving personnel and veterans will march from Johnston Terrace via Candlemaker Row to the Grassmarket, culminating in an afternoon of live music and dance right up until 3:00pm.

Highlights include a welcome from Edinburgh's Veterans Champion, Lord Provost Donald Wilson, and a flashback to the forties with retro dance troupe [The Kennedy Cupcakes](#), ska music from the [Pork Pie Band](#), and a traditional Scots military band.

More information from [Legion Scotland](#) who also produced this map of the route:



There's lots of good work going on in Wester Hailes with its Green Gym, cookery classes and social history walks. Here you will see John Acheson Chair of Wester Hailes Community Council talking about his love of the area, and the digital totem pole.

Wester Hailes: Ewen goes 'home' for a tour of his old stomping ground and meets some great local residents.#WesterHailes

Posted by [STV Edinburgh](#) on Wednesday, 24 June 2015

Permission has been granted by the council's planners for a new hotel in Market Street.

Not everyone is pleased about it. The Old Town Community Council feel that the roofscape is not quite right.

Edinburgh World Heritage also had something to say about the roof, but basically will be happy that the site will be used now. It has been vacant for 50 years. The hotel will have 98 rooms over 8 storeys and there will be a lay-by for cars

arriving and leaving. There will also be a breakfast room on the top floor to take advantage of the views.

The development management sub-committee has approved another hotel in the Old Town, demolishing a de-listed building..

Posted by [Cockburn Association](#) on [Thursday, 25 June 2015](#)

The partnership between The EDI Group Ltd and the Carlton Hotel Collection will deliver the European hotel operator's first venture in Edinburgh. Construction is due to start in December 2015.

Lynn Smith, Head of Development, EDI Group, said: "We are delighted about the positive decision made yesterday by the City of Edinburgh Council regarding the Market Street site. We firmly believe that this is great news for the city, bringing an exciting development to an integral site in the Old Town, job creation and investment from a new international hotel operator, which are all hugely positive outcomes for Edinburgh."

Alfred Bree, Managing Director, Carlton Hotel Collection, said: ""This is wonderful news for the Carlton Hotel Collection. We are very proud to have the opportunity to open our first premises in Edinburgh and in such an historic and prestigious location. Our luxurious hotel, conceived by our team of internationally awarded interior designers, will cater for the lifestyle and design-conscious traveller. It will offer magnificent views from the Penthouse lounge of one of the world's leading cultural and historical cities, and in itself become part of that well known Edinburgh skyline."

Drylaw and Telford Community Council met earlier this week apparently to coopt new members onto the council but failed to do so as they were unsure of the procedure. Read the North Edinburgh Community News live report [here](#).

Their next formal meeting will be held on 26 August 2015 when they hope to coopt new members. The City council has helpfully

produced a booklet offering all the advice that community councils need detailing ways to elect or coopt new members as well as maintaining a register of interests. That booklet is reproduced here. Drylaw/Telford is supposed to have 10 elected members and has room for 5 people to represent organisations in the area.



Loading...



Taking too long?

↻ Reload document

| ↗ [Open in new tab](#)

[Download \[162.00 B\]](#)

Tomorrow there will be a Teddy Bear's Picnic at Lauriston Castle in Cramond!

Complete with baking teddy biscuits, making teddy puppets, getting their bear's portrait done by a cartoonist, a teddy photography studio, a woodland bear hunt where they can search for clues, prizes for best dressed bear, and hopefully little picnics in the woods with the bears.

Sign up here for a daily email from The Edinburgh Reporter !
[mc4wp_form]



If you are reading this article on paper and would like to visit the website then scan the QR code above with a smartphone or tablet and you will be taken straight there.

EIFF 2015: Scottish Mussel (Talulah Riley, 2015)



You know you're in for a real treat when the starting notes of The Proclaimers' 500 Miles pipe through the speakers. An apparent obligatory hallmark to Scottish cinema it seems to have been abused as of late; as if a film set in Scotland can't get by without it. It plays a key part in a jolly, totally un-Scottish scene in actress Talulah Riley's directorial debut. The work of an English director doing her

best to depict Scotland, it falls victim to a sack load of cliches that are near impossible to forgive.

Unemployed and smoking weed daily, Ritchie is a down and out lad living in Glasgow, searching for a big job opportunity. When he comes across a group of thugs stealing pearls from protected mussels in the Scottish Highlands, he enlists some help from friends to make this his new venture. But in amongst the hysteria, he meets a woman whose passion for the wildlife may force him to change his mind.

Over the tinkling, folksy notes of Paolo Nutini, we descend into the depths of a Scottish river, then to the top of a Govan highrise, followed by a school playground, via a pub and then into the Highlands of the same great country – all in around twenty minutes. The fact that you are thrown straight into this undeveloped story makes it twice as difficult to understand. Usually, this happens through a script being convoluted and poorly edited; but it seems as though there was little to work with in the first place. Riley's character development lays bare the rather flimsy structure of her script. It's clumsy which, when paired with the edited footage, looks and feels hollow and cheap.

You can almost imagine the scriptural meeting that may or may not have occurred during the fruition of Scottish Mussel. A checklist of every possible stereotype: slang, garments and painfully stupid people. In actual fact, it's hard to find somebody intelligible here amongst the apparent idiocy. Martin Compston does a standard job here, almost omitting himself from the complete mess that's going on. Joe Thomas, of *The Inbetweeners* fame, does a trip around the country trying on every accent possible. Even Talulah Riley, in charge of both script and direction as well as being Ritchie's object of affection, has written herself a two dimensional character. It's the same for near enough everybody, including a camp surprise cameo from Russell Kane, but there is one saving grace amongst it all. Paul Brannigan, whose mainstream work

has been solid thus far, is cast as the idiot of the friend group. Delivering his lines with deadpan brilliance, he's the godsend here. His uncomfortably coherent Scots accent makes for most of the laughs.

Scottish Mussel is a feeble directorial effort from first timer Talulah Riley. Suffering from a collection of stupefied characters and an unrealistic, painfully stereotyped view of Scotland and its people, it is highly likely that this will be nobody's glass of Irn-Bru.



Scottish Mussel plays as part of the Edinburgh International Film Festival 2015. For ticketing information, head to [EIFF's website](#)

The Edinburgh Reporter chats to Ian Andrews



Ian Andrews is a master cooper who learned his trade working in the whisky trade, making barrels for King George and then VAT 69 when they had a distillery in South Queensferry.

He carried on working on his own after the distillery closed, and it seems that he cannot yet lay down his tools for good. His latest commission is to make a new Crow's Nest for SS Discovery in Dundee and we went to meet him to see how that was going.

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

He bought the original port pipe from a cooperage in Alloa which he then 'knocked down' to get it into his car. It meant that he then had to rebuild it, cutting out the bottom and completed the refurbishment with a seat and footrests inside where a sailor would have sat keeping lookout when the ship was at sea.

The port pipe he used was ideal as it is tall and thin, and would provide shelter for the sailor.

Ian has also made about 400 items for the Victory which is in Portsmouth such as gunpowder barrels.

The crow's nest will be taken to Dundee next week and will be clamped onto the mast with heavy brackets.

Ian told us that there are possibly only 140 coopers left in the whole of Scotland, whereas there were 140 in one shop in Edinburgh at one time. Although it is a trade which is diminishing, it is far from gone, particularly in a shed in South Queensferry.

RRS Discovery was the last traditional wooden three-masted ship to be built in Britain and went off to the Antarctic as a Royal Research Ship. Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton sailed aboard the Discovery on their first successful journey to the Antarctic and is now a visitor attraction in Dundee.

Farid El Alagui confident of

promotion



Hibs' striker Farid El Alagui is looking forward to the new season and is confident that the team will get promoted back to the top flight.

The former Falkirk and Brentford player started the last campaign in fine form until a serious injury meant that he missed much of the season, only returning for the last few games. Since then however he has undergone some more surgery which has left him raring to go.

Speaking to Hibs TV, El Alagui said: "As it was last year, we've got nothing to fear at all.

"We just need to focus on ourselves because we've got a strong team. We are Hibernian – if we concentrate on what we do then I'm really confident that we can get promoted.

"As soon as last season finished, I couldn't wait for the new one to start. It feels like we've not finished what we started last year.

"I'm really excited and we've had some really good players sign for us – it's great news for the club.

"It shows that we want to build a strong team for this season and for years after that.

"I'm really happy with that and I can't wait to kick on again."

"At the end of the season, we decided with the medical team to have a clean-up operation on my knee because it was giving me some problems.

"We thought it would be a good idea to get it done then, so

that I could start the new season fresh.

“Everything went well and I’ve recovered quickly, so now it’s all about build-up for the upcoming season.”

Two men charged with ‘significant number’ of break-ins to commercial vehicles



Two men have been arrested and charged for a significant number of break-ins to commercial vehicles across Edinburgh and Midlothian.

Between June 22 and June 25, Police Scotland received 13 separate reports of power tool thefts from work vans parked in the south and east of the Capital as well as in Loanhead and Danderhall.

Each incident was thoroughly investigated by officers and as a result of these enquiries a 20-year-old and 18-year-old, both of whom are from Edinburgh, were detained last night (Thursday, June 25) and subsequently charged. Officers also recovered a number of power tools worth around £5000.

The suspects are due to appear before Edinburgh Sheriff Court today (Fri).

Chief Inspector Kenny Simpson, who is the Local Area Commander for Midlothian, said: “Following a robust investigation into a number of break-ins and thefts from commercial vehicles throughout Edinburgh and Midlothian we have now arrested two

men and recovered around £5000 worth of power tools.

“I want to take this opportunity to recognise the tremendous police work in tracing both men and to thank the members of the public who played such an important role in this investigation.

“Vehicle crime has huge impact on communities across the country and one of our main priorities is preventing such criminality as well as tracing those responsible as quickly as possible.

“The public can continue to help with our efforts to reduce vehicle crime by taking simple measures to protect their vehicles such as removing high-value items from sight, ensuring doors are locked and parking in well-lit areas.

“Anyone who wants to report criminality in their area can do so by contacting the 101 number or speak to any officer.”

Police appeal for public's help to trace missing woman



Police are appealing for information to help trace a 34-year-old woman reported missing from the Restalrig area.

Emma Shaw was last seen on Lochend Avenue in the early hours of Thursday 25th June.

Officers are now growing increasingly concerned for Emma's welfare and are asking anyone who can help with their enquiries to get in touch.

Emma is described as white Scottish, 5ft 5inches tall, with a stocky build. She has red/brown long curly hair with a fringe and usually wears a blouse or jumper. She was last seen carrying a multi-coloured cream handbag with her.

Inspector Graeme Dignan of Gayfield said: "We're asking anyone who thinks they may have seen Emma, or who has information which can help us establish her whereabouts, to come forward.

"Also, if Emma hears this appeal I would urge her to contact us or her family and let us know that she is safe and well."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland as soon as possible on 101.

Two charged after heroin recovered from Muirhouse property



Two people have been arrested and charged under the Misuse of Drugs Act after police in Edinburgh recovered a quantity of Class A drugs in the North of the city.

Officers carried out a search of a property in Muirhouse View yesterday (Thursday) and £500 of heroin was recovered from inside.

A 53-year-old man and a 21-year-old woman are scheduled to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court today.

Detective Inspector Stuart Harkness from the Gayfield

Proactive Unit said: "Police Scotland maintains its commitment to tackling serious and organised crime and removing offenders from our communities.

"Whenever we receive information relating to drug crime or associated criminal activity, we will carry out a thorough investigation into the report.

"I would encourage anyone who wishes to report ongoing crime in their local area to do so by calling Police Scotland on 101 or anonymously through the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Campaigners having a party to save 1-6 Canonmills Bridge!

Locals are rallying round this weekend to ensure that the demolition of 1-6 Canonmills Bridge, currently leased by local produce champions EARTHY, is stopped.

Led by local resident Jan Anderson and Architectural/urban designer and lecturer, Ross McEwan, the current campaign has gathered quite a response from the community who say they feel that they have been left in the dark over plans for the 18th century bridge in Inverleith Conservation Area.

They say that if the demolition goes ahead and the four-storey new build is put in its place, it will overshadow the area, block the views of the waters and wildlife and destroy the iconic skyline for residents and tourists to the area alike.

The campaigners feel that the traditional single-storey building at 1 – 6 Canonmills Bridge has found a place in the

hearts of locals and visitors to the area, serving as an attractive and popular hub for social life around a busy junction.

In just two weeks the online petition gained nearly 2500 signatures with cries of disbelief about the plans. The momentum is set to continue with a weekend of partying and petitioning to raise awareness this weekend on 27 & 28 June on the bridge.

Jan told us why this is so important: “We want to ensure that this time everyone is aware of the plans for the area as to date it certainly hasn’t been made clear to the wider public what is happening with this beautiful historic, conservation area. We need people to know that it’s not too late and we can still stop the demolition by writing to the planning sub-committee, the local councillors and spreading the word. ”

The campaigners say that the demolition application is due to appear on the Edinburgh Council Planning sub-committee agenda on either 27 July or 12 August and the locals are geared up to spend the coming weeks ensuring that Edinburgh council realise that this proposal is seen as a ‘bridge too far’.

You can read more about this application [here](#).

**Celebrate your graduation
with bespoke menu at**

Sylvesters

✖ Sylvesters, located on West Nicolson Street, launches its graduation menu this Saturday 27 June for graduates looking to celebrate their achievements at a modern Scottish restaurant.

The three course set menu consists of sweet garlic galettes, seared Scottish scallops, or homemade roasted rabbit ravioli to start, followed by herb and Dijon-crusted lamb rack, wild mushroom wellington, or pan fried cod, and a choice of saffron poached peach, orange and rhubarb posset, or raspberry and lavender crème brûlée for dessert.

Family-run restaurant, Sylvesters, specialises in traditional, locally-sourced, Scottish food with a contemporary twist. Kieran Sylvester, head chef, says: “As we are within walking distance to the University of Edinburgh we have had many students enquiring about graduation meals, so we decided to create this bespoke menu to offer a relaxing, enjoyable meal to celebrate this milestone. And, what better way is there to commemorate studying in Edinburgh than with authentic Scottish cuisine?”

Sylvesters graduation menu is available all day, every day from Saturday 27th June – Saturday 4th July and costs £25 per person.

Sylvesters is open 11.30am – 2pm and 5pm – 10pm on Monday – Saturday. For more information visit: <http://www.sylvestersedinburgh.co.uk/our-menu/graduation> or to make a reservation call 0131 662 4493.

Submitted by [Stacey Dent](#)



Letter from Scotland



A landlubber's journey to
the isles

Being a city boy, I don't often think of my fellow Scots on the 94 inhabited islands around our coast. And when I do think of the isles, it's a romantic vision of blue seas, high mountains and picturesque harbours. Then there's Caledonian MacBrayne, the red-funnelled ferry boats that take you "over the sea to Skye" and 21 other islands. I mention this because, as I write, negotiations are taking place to try to avert a strike of ferry crews this weekend, the first weekend of the holiday season. Already there's been a work-to-rule and some disruption to services.

The dispute highlights a whole host of issues for me. The immediate one is the tendering for a new eight-year government contract to run the western isles ferry services from next year. An open competition is required under European trading laws and state-owned Calmac (for short) faces a rival bid from the private international services company Serco which has already won the contract for the northern isles. The RMT union, which represents half of Calmac's 14,000 strong workforce, is demanding a guarantee from the Scottish government that pay, conditions and pensions will be protected under the new contract.

It's not easy to see how this can be done, since these are some of the few areas for manoeuvre Calmac and Serco have as they prepare their bid. The 29 ferry boats and harbour facilities are owned by a separate state company and the routes and timetables and fares are fixed by the government.

It's all part of the complication of being in a single European market.

On the face of it, the single market sounds like a good idea. Companies should be able to bid for contracts – public and private – on an equal footing across Europe. But does that mean that low-paid workers should have their wages and conditions cut to the lowest common denominator to achieve this ? Or should public “lifeline” services be exempt from the usual competition laws ?

And other questions crowd in upon me as I stand on the deck of my imaginary ferry boat waiting for it to take me to the magic isles. Do we owe a special duty to the 103,700 people who live on our islands to provide them with a link to the mainland ? Should we be encouraging tourists to go to the islands? Is the Gaelic culture of the Western Isles worth supporting ? My own answer to all three questions is “Yes” but I'm not sure everyone agrees with me – whatever they might say.

The newspapers this week carry pages of densely typed names of students who have successfully completed their university degrees. It's a lovely and quaint tradition, honouring the effort that young people have put into “being educated”. This week too is the end of the school term and the end of the parliamentary term at Holyrood. At First Minister's question time, all the talk was about childcare during the holidays and the change of many college courses from part-time to full-time.

MSPs also signed off the bill ending automatic early release from prison and another introducing a licencing system for air-guns. The Scottish Government published its long-awaited estimates of the tax revenues we can expect from the North Sea oil and gas fields over the next four years. They are down fourfold from the estimates a year ago and range from £2.1bn to £10.8bn depending on the assumptions made.

The government also published its controversial land reform bill which would give ministers the power to order the sale of land if the owner was deemed to be standing in the way of “development.” The bill will also encourage community ownership of land and will end the rates exemption for shooting estates. The Conservatives have dubbed it a “rural land-grab” by the SNP.

Let’s not forget the Scottish Labour Party in all this radical talk. The two leadership contenders, Kezia Dugdale and Ken Mackintosh, have been exploring their differences. This week they clashed over council tax – Kezia wants to continue the freeze, Ken wants to end it. And on “the Glasgow question”, Kezia thinks the route to the recovery of Labour fortunes begins in winning back Glasgow, Ken thinks the party should move its headquarters and its emphasis to Edinburgh.

Finally, a hand-written copy of one of Robert Burns’ little known poems has come to light. It was found in a 19th century scrapbook and was sold at auction this week for £7,500. “The Humble Petition of Bruar Water to the Noble Duke of Atholl “ has been hailed as evidence that Burns’ was a pioneering environmentalist. In it the river Bruar calls on the Duke to plant trees along its banks, trees which can still be seen by House of Bruar, a well-known watering hole and shopping centre on the A9.

“Would then my noble master please

To grant my highest wishes,

He’ll shade my banks wi’ tow’ring trees,

And bonnie spreading bushes.

Delighted doubly then, my lord,

You’ll wander by my banks,

And listen many a grateful bird

Return you tuneful thanks."

Hibs' first team squad start pre-season training



Hibernian's first team squad returned for the start of pre-season training yesterday

Head of Sports Science Craig Flannigan engineered the club's pre-season programme – specifically tailored to ensure the team hits the ground running when the Ladbrokes Championship campaign starts against Dumbarton in August.

During the opening session, groups of players were thoroughly tested and their individual fitness was analysed and assessed, both at the Training Centre and using state-of-the-art technology labs at Queen Margaret University, in order to gauge their physical condition.

The tests included: Muscle imaging laboratory where players had their muscle thickness of Rectus Femoris, Vastus Lateralis, and Vastus Intermedius and muscle architecture (pennation angle) of Vastus Lateralis measured for both legs; Neuromuscular assessment research laboratory Peak Force, rate of force development, relaxation rate and electromechanical delay was measured for quadriceps and hamstrings muscles of both legs.

Motion Analysis laboratory: Unilateral balance and leg stiffness of both limbs were assessed, in response to walking

and hopping tasks, via three-dimensional kinematic (video analysis) and independent kinetic (via force plates) analysis.

Recycle your old and unwanted school uniform here!

 ***Muirhouse Community Shop open a uniform recycle point.***

No doubt many families will throw out children's school uniforms which are too small or maybe not going to be used as the child is starting high school.

Rather than throw it out we are asking for school uniform items to be dropped off at Muirhouse Community Shop on Pennywell Road.

Volunteers at the community shop will sort it all out and we will give it to those who can't afford to buy uniform items for the new term starting.

We will happily accept

School Jumpers
School T Shirts
Trousers
Skirts
Ties
PE Kit
School Bags

Our cluster includes many primary, nursery and secondary schools

It doesn't matter what school its from – all primaries – nurseries and even high schools

Muirhouse Community Shop is fully dependent on volunteers and is open five days a week.

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Friday 9am till 3pm

Thursday 11.30am till 5pm

Submitted by [Tenants and residents in muirhouse](#)



Think Tank calls for abolition of Air Passenger Duty



Air Passenger Duty or APD is to be devolved to Scotland following the recommendations in the Smith Commission, but an Edinburgh-based think tank has called for it to be completely abolished.

[tweet_box design="default"]Reform Scotland has issued a report detailing 11 improvements needed to make Scotland the world's easiest place to do business.[/tweet_box]

One of these steps is to abolish the tax on air passengers completely. Ben Thomson, the retiring Chair of the organisation, says that the abolition of the tax would be of great benefit to the country and would improve the international reach of Scotland's businesses. You can read the

report in full below.

Edinburgh Airport has always maintained that the abolition of the duty would result in economic improvement for Scotland, and that even by reducing it by half could have a benefit of around £200m.

Yesterday Scottish Secretary David Mundell told a committee of MSPs at Holyrood that he would work constructively with them to deliver all the proposals contained in the all-party Smith Commission agreement.

Meeting [@DavidMundellDCT](#), Secretary of State for Scotland, on his visit to [@ScotParl](#) pic.twitter.com/IGYgFYcKno

– Presiding Officer (@TriciaMarwickPO) [June 25, 2015](#)

He appeared before the Scottish Parliament's Devolution (Further Powers) Committee and during the session he said: "I am grateful for the opportunity to attend the Committee this morning as part of the Government's work to implement in full the all-party Smith Commission Agreement. That was the manifesto commitment of this Government and that is what we are doing at the earliest opportunity.

"In making the Scotland Bill as effective as possible I will continue to be constructive and look for ways to work with Members of both Parliaments, and to continue working closely with the Deputy First Minister and the Scottish Government."

You can read more on the [Scotland Bill here](#)



Loading...



Taking too long?



Reload document

Boxsmall Market confirms children's entertainment plans

✖ The team at Boxsmall Market – the unique family festival, which launched at the weekend at Princes Mall Roof Terrace and runs until 31 August – has confirmed its children's entertainment line up, in addition to more local food and craft traders.

This contemporary, family-friendly summer festival comprises of four interactive zones – Boxsmall Market, Bubbleparc, a designer picnic area and a unique theatre 'show box' providing 15-minute, interactive children's shows throughout the day.

The unique 'show box' will present regular daily children's mini performances, lasting up to 15- minutes each from Friday 26th June. Children of all ages will be immersed in an interactive and hands-on mini theatre environment, taking them on a fun and memorable journey. Performances include: 'Junkyard Man v The Aliens', an exciting space adventure, and 'Mad Scientist Academy', a show with portions and experiments, and 'Pirates R Us', pirate training and a fun adventure.

The Boxsmall Market is an architecturally designed market made up of a series of contemporary, cubic micro-stores, showcasing the very best of Scottish products from delicious local food to cutting edge design, clothing and crafts. Exhibitors include: Edinburgh Natural Skin Care, Chloe Gardner Designs,

Meredith Jewellery and Libby Walker illustration.

In the bespoke, sculpturally designed picnic area, visitors can relax and enjoy this unique outdoor eating space, dining from a colourful collection of fresh food stalls. Seasonal Scottish food suppliers will include: Howie's to Orinoco Latin Foods, Kampung Ali and Los Cardos. Edinburgh craft beer favourites, Innis & Gunn, have also been added to the festival line-up.

If you didn't get tickets for Glastonbury and fancy some jazz-funk sounds then head to Boxsmall Market where Dr Tickle and the Boogie Hammers, Sun Juice, and The Midnight Specials will be playing every weekend at both lunchtime and early evening (around 5-7pm).

In addition, the Bubbleparc – which was also designed by Boxsmall Market's architect and designer, Pol Taylor – includes the ball shaped, geodesic Bungeydome allowing children (3+) to reverse jump up to eight metres high.

Shona Donaldson, festival director, says: "Boxsmall Market is a great space for families to enjoy a fun summer's day out and we're delighted to be situated in one of the best spots in the city, on the roof

terraces of Princes Mall, surrounded by the most breath-taking views. Our unique and contemporary festival is full of innovation and fun – there is something for everyone to enjoy. Whether it's sampling delicious street food, browsing the market for Scottish crafts, listening to jazz music, enjoying a show, or bouncy fun at the Bubbleparc, the whole family will be entertained."

Submitted by [Stacey Dent](#)



Friday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



Inseparable: an exhibition of portraits of people in Russia with Down's Syndrome, aged from 5 to 50 years. The portraits are by award-winning master of photography **Vladimir Mishukov**. 9am-1pm and 2-5pm, Monday to Saturday, 12 noon-3pm Sundays, [St Mary's Cathedral](#), Palmerston Place. The exhibition has been organised by the cathedral in partnership with **Down's Syndrome Scotland** and the **Russian Consulate**. Closes 18th July 2015.

 **Benji The Play Talk Read Bus is in Castle Street today!**

Free songs, stories and play sessions for young children, their parents and carers. 10am-1pm *and* 2-4pm, **Castle Street**.

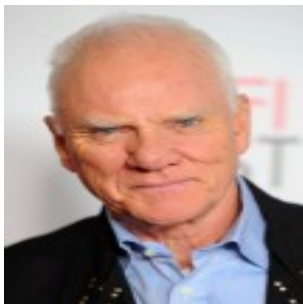


Jean-Etienne
Liotard:
Laura Tarai
'A Grecian
Lady@, c
1745-1749.
Fitzwilliam
Museum,
Cambridge

Gallery Social: Jean-Etienne Liotard. A relaxed and informal guided tour with refreshments for anyone affected by dementia, and their relatives, friends and supporters. 10.30am-12 noon, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound (meet at the Information Desk, Gardens entrance). Free but please book by

calling 0131 624 6560. Supported by the Friends of NGS.

LGBT Age: Scottish Parliament Tour. Come and hear about the history, work and procedures of the Parliament, and the architecture of its award-winning building. 10.30am-12.30pm, [Scottish Parliament](#), Holyrood. **Booking is essential** and may be made by contacting lynda@lgbthealth.org.uk. LGBT Age is a project run by LGBT Health & Wellbeing for LGBT people over the age of 50; it offers a befriending service, social programme and information sessions. For more information click [here](#).



Edinburgh International Film Festival continues today! For details of all films and other events see the programme [here](#) or pick up a paper copy at EIFF venues and many other locations throughout the city. Tickets are available in person from the [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road, [Cineworld](#), Fountain Park, [Odeon](#), Lothian Road and the [Festival Theatre](#), by calling 0131 623 8030 or online [here](#). Today's highlights include

Kaleidoscope, Telemach Wiesinger's idiosyncratic, feature-length film poem weaving together numerous journeys across Europe and America, set to an innovative soundtrack, **In Person: Malcolm McDowell**, in which the actor was to talk about highlights from his career has now been cancelled, and the **Festival Awards Ceremony**, at which you can be the first to find out about this year's winners and to see the exclusive trophies made by the [Grassmarket Community Project's](#) woodshop.



Breastfeeding Groups

Breastfeeding Awareness Week: NHS Lothian's Infant Feeding Team will answer any questions you may have – plus free gifts and fun goodies for the children! 10.30am-12 noon (after Rhymetime) [Muirhouse Library](#), 15 Pennywell Court.





Leith School of Art Summer Exhibition: a showcase of the work of the School's students at the end of their year-long and part-time courses. The School has introduced several new courses in 2014-15, so the exhibition will take place over all three campuses: 10am-4pm at [St James, North Junction Street](#) and [Coburg House Studios](#); also at same times on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th June (please note: St James campus will be only be open 1-4pm on Sunday 28th). For full details see the School's website [here](#).



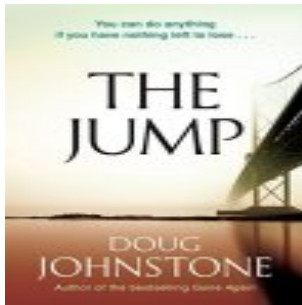
Lunchtime Concert: Sacramento Master Singers, California. 12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.

LGBT Women's Wellbeing Group: an inclusive group that  offers the chance to meet other LGBT women in a relaxed environment. Chat, info and activities promoting health and wellbeing. The group welcomes all LGBT women and transgender people who identify primarily as women. Today's theme is **'Holiday'** and the group will take a walk along **Portobello Prom** before enjoying a well-deserved drink. 2-4.30pm. For information on meeting place and to be added to the group's email list, please contact **Alison Wren** on 0131 652 3283 or email alison@lgbthealth.org.uk.

 **Robert Louis Stevenson and his Literary Networks:** writer and researcher **Duncan Milne** considers Robert Louis Stevenson's place in a wider Victorian literary society. Stevenson corresponded and even collaborated with a number of iconic writers, from **Thomas Hardy** to **Mark Twain**, **Rudyard Kipling**, **JM Barrie** and even **Henry James**; his contacts give a unique insight into a world of inspiration, emulation, cooperation and dispute – a telling portrait of Victorian publication and the world of literature in general. 10.30am, [Museum of Edinburgh](#), 142 Canongate. Tickets cost £5/£3.50 per person and must be purchased in advance from the [Usher Hall Box Office](#), in person, by calling 0131 228 1155 or online [here](#) (transaction fee applies to phone and online bookings).

Skylark Surf Week: Jake and Rory's Ocean of  Psychedelia. Music, visuals, and possibly some very weird dancing.. 7.30pm, [The Skylark](#), 241.243 Portobello High Street.

LGBT Film Nights: see LGBT themed and mainstream films in a sociable setting. 7pm (film starts at 7), [LGBT Health and Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. For more information and to join the mailing list please contact admin@lgbthealth.org.uk.





Bloody Scotland Presents East vs West Scottish Crime Fiction: **Craig Robertson** and **Michael Malone** chair an evening with three of Scotland's leading crime writers, **Neil Broadfoot**, **Frank Muir** and **Doug Johnstone**. 6.30pm, Waterstones George Street, 83 George Street. Free but please book by emailing edinburghgeorgest@waterstones.com, or for more information please call 0131 225 3436. Read The Edinburgh Reporter on the launch of Neil Broadfoot's latest thriller, *The Storm* [here](#).



St Margaret's House/Edinburgh Palette: New Exhibitions: (1) **14.15:** Fourteen former **Edinburgh College** students 'trying to figure out their place in the world'; (2) **24:** **Dominic McIvor** – large scale works by the recent Gray's School of Art graduate;

(3) **From a Horizontal Line: Robyn Benson** – new works exploring the structural capabilities of the curve. Previews tonight, then 10am-6pm daily, [St Margaret's House](#), 151 London Road. All three exhibitions end 12th July 2015.

The Liar's Tour of the Scottish Storytelling Centre: a  unique and fun tour with storyteller **James Spence**. It is the stuff of legend, forged from lies, banter, outlandishness and sheer cheek; enter this parallel universe of tall tales, and know that the truth is out there somewhere, but strangely absent from here. See the Centre in a strange new light, through the jaundiced eye of a storyteller. 1pm or 3pm, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £5 (includes entry to John Knox House) and may be purchased from the Box Office by calling 0131 556 9579 or online [here](#).

 **Guid Crack: Eejits and Hissy Fits.** Join storyteller **Fiona Herbert** for tales of stupidity and stropiness. Join in with a tale of your own, or just come to listen. Edinburgh's monthly storytelling night: accompanied young adults welcome. 7.30pm, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Free: suggested donation £3 per person.

Harpsichord Recital: **John Kitchen** will play *Suite in C* attrib. **Louis Couperin**, *Handel Overture in Sansom*, **JS Bach Capriccio on the departure of his beloved brother BWV 992** and **Forqueray La Mandoline, La Regente et La Leclair**. 8pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Admission is by programme and costs £6, free to **Friends of the Music of St Giles' Cathedral**, in association with whom this concert has been organised.



Cream O' The Croft: your first chance to escape the capital this weekend is a new festival. Although it's dedicated to

Scottish mountain biking, Cream O' The Croft is aiming to be much more – so in addition to **Funduro** ('a mashup featuring multiple timed stages; blue, red and black grade downhill; one hill climb; a head-to-head dual slalom and pump track challenge' – which presumably makes sense to those of you who need to know...), **bike races** and **challenges for all ages** and **bike coaching**, there will be **pedal-powered films**, a **big bike jumble sale**, **live music** throughout the weekend, lots of **children's activities** (water slide, crafts, action, adventure and a pop-up wildlife park) and plenty of **local food and drink** (including **Alchemy's Bunny Hop** ale, brewed specially for the festival). Gates open 3pm today, [Comrie Croft](#), Crieff, PH7 4JZ. The Festival ends at 4pm on Sunday 28th June. For more information, including accommodation options, click [here](#) and to book your tickets via eventbrite click [here](#).



Five things you need to know today



Free sports event at The Meadows

Housing awards

Vote for St Martin's

Get involved with the Edinburgh Festival Carnival

Souper Walks!

Stuck for a way to entertain your children this afternoon?

Calling all primary school kids (well, the parents!). Come and celebrate the start of the summer school holidays at our **FREE** "Join In" event in The Meadows this Friday. It's a fun way to try out lots of games and sports! You can try something new or just have fun playing a favourite sport. We'll have some experts on hand to give hints and tips and let you and your kids know what fantastic opportunities there are in Edinburgh to start or keep playing sport. Did we mention that it's all free?

As mentioned at yesterday's council meeting by Councillor Cammy Day, two affordable housing developments delivered by the City of Edinburgh Council and partners have been honoured by the industry after scooping prestigious awards.

West Pilton Crescent, a modern, energy efficient social housing development in the north of the city, was declared winner in both of the Multiple Housing Development and Landscape in Housing categories of the 2015 Saltire Housing

Design Awards.

And the Little Road scheme in Liberton has won the Scottish Home Awards' Best Partnership in Affordable Housing Delivery. This development provides 49 houses for those aged over 55 and was grant funded by the Council in partnership with Dunedin Canmore and the Merchant Company.

Just last month, the Council, in partnership with Hillcrest Housing Association, Scottish Futures Trust, Retties & Co and Cruden Group won the award for Best Partnership in Affordable Housing Delivery at the Homes for Scotland Awards for the Sailmaker Apartments development at Salamander Place.

We have received the following letter from St Martin's asking for some help!

The St Martin's Community Resource Centre with the Gorgie Dalry Community Association is on a shortlist of three to become the Sainsbury's Murrayfield Local Charity of the Year for 2015/2016.

*The charity with the most public votes both in-store **and** online will win. Voting can take place **in-store** (at Sainsbury's Murrayfield, Westfield Road, Edinburgh) or **online** (www.sainsburyslocalcharity.co.uk) from now until **28th June 2015**.*

To vote for us online, please click on www.sainsburyslocalcharity.co.uk

click "Vote Now"

enter the postcode "EH11 2QW"

select "Murrayfield"

scroll down to vote for your favoured charity ... we are second

one down the St Martin's Community Resource Centre.

If selected, the Sainsbury's Murrayfield Local Charity scheme will give their staff the chance to work with us to help raise money and awareness for our transformation project. It could be worth about £3,000 for us. This vital support will help us transform part of our basement into a community hall and provide modern and versatile space for new and existing users who meet for different purposes addressing different needs and reflecting a wide range of ages and background from across the local community. This will further enhance our ability to provide accommodation and facilities for individuals and community groups and make the building a resource for all.

Thank you in advance for your valuable support.

Mary

On behalf of everyone at the St Martin's Community Resource Centre, Gorgie Dalry

You can get involved with Edinburgh Festival Carnival. They have loads of costumes to borrow.

[Read more here.](#)

These walks with a free bowl of soup flung in are ongoing at Oxfams Neighbourhood Centre:



Sign up here for a daily email from The Edinburgh Reporter !
[mc4wp_form]



If you are reading this article on paper and would like to visit the website then scan the QR code above with a smartphone or tablet and you will be taken straight there.

Edinburgh Festival Carnival on its way next month



The fourth Edinburgh Festival Carnival is limbering up for its biggest – and brightest – year yet!

The parade will begin the festivities on 19 July, leading 700 Carnival performers from the top of the Mound to the West End of Princes Street in an extravaganza of high-energy music and dazzling costumes!

And it's not just for spectators: you are invited to take part in the parade alongside professional musicians, dancers and costumed performers. Individuals, families or groups can sign up to come along on the day and wear one of the fantastic Carnival costumes!

The Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival runs the Carnival, and Producer, Roger Spence, said: “The Festival Carnival creates a fantastic spectacle in the city centre, with performers from all around the world sharing their Carnival cultures with the people of Edinburgh and each other. As always, we are inviting the people of Edinburgh to join the Carnival fun by either participating (why not wear a costume?), or simply by attending and having a great day out. We'd like to thank the The City of Edinburgh Council and Forth1 for supporting the

Carnival”

Councillor Richard Lewis, Festivals and Events Champion, City of Edinburgh Council, said: “We are delighted to support the Edinburgh Festival Carnival again this year. It is important to make culture accessible to all ages, price ranges and tastes and the Carnival offers that. The parade celebrates just how international Edinburgh’s cultural offering has become and it’s the perfect way to launch the summer festival season.”

Lowland League announce next season’s fixture list

The Lowland League has this evening unveiled the fixture lists for the upcoming 2015/16 league season.

The Lowland League season will kick off on Saturday, 1 August 2015.

Andrew Waddell, League chairman, said: “We are absolutely delighted to make today’s announcements and look forward to a new season of entertainment and drama.

“There has been great interest in the fixtures from many clubs and supporters who are all looking forward to opening day.

“I am sure all 15 clubs look ahead to a new season with great anticipation, excitement and hope.

“Our fixtures secretary Kenny McLean has done a great job in producing the fixtures and I am grateful to him for doing this.

“We are very much looking forward to the new season.”

On opening day Gretna 2008 will make the journey to the capital to face last season’s champions Edinburgh City while second-placed East Kilbride play host to BSC Glasgow.



Loading...



Taking too long?

↻ Reload document

| ↗ [Open in new tab](#)

EIFF 2015: Tu dors Nicole (Stéphane Lafleur, 2014)



It's been ages since Nicole had the house to herself. Now, with her parents away on vacation she's decided to spend the summer lazing around aimlessly with her best friend. Things couldn't be better, until she realises her brother's band have taken up the family front room as their new recording space. With the clash of drums in her head, a monotonous job and a ten year old kid destined to grab her heart, summer may not turn out exactly as she had hoped.

Nicole's summer is set off on a positive note with the arrival of a credit card; something she is totally oblivious to the consequences of. This lack of understanding sets off a chain reaction of unfortunate events in her life that make up most of Tu dors Nicole's moments of comic relief. There's some superb performances, too. Julianne Côté plays the titular role with a brilliant natural effort and her supporting cast help create the almost insular and bemused world she lives in.

There is no denying that the characters and deep black and white style of Tu dors Nicole will draw comparisons to Baumbach's Frances Ha. For the first few moments, this is almost undeniable, but as it sets off on its own thematic path things gain clarity and start to detach themselves from the Baumbach styling that is glaringly obvious. Lafleur adds her own stamp on things. A notable favourite? Martin – a ten year old kid Nicole used to babysit who, after his voice drops,

assumes he has a chance with the girl over twice his age. His exaggerated, Barry White baritone and charming vocabulary ("The heart has no age!") makes every one of his appearances a highlight in already breezy film.

Bitter, simple and visually lustrous, Tu dors Nicole is a wry, halcyon summer haze.



Scott Allan looking forward to pre-season training with Hibs



There was good news for Hibs' fans today as popular midfielder Scott Allan reported back for the opening day of pre-season training today and reaffirmed the fact that he is happy at Easter Road.

The Glaswegian has been linked to both Celtic and Rangers however he still has a year left on his contract and he is determined to help the club to promotion from the Championship.

Speaking to Hibs TV, Allan said: "I'm happy to be here and I enjoy being here.

"We've got great coaching staff and a good bunch of boys, so

nothing has changed.

“I’m really looking forward to pre-season. I’ve actually missed the boys, so I’m looking forward to getting back and having a bit of banter.

“After last year, we want to kick on and have a good season and its massively important that we hit the ground running.”

The squad underwent tests at the Training Centre before undergoing advanced scientific fitness tests at Queen Margaret University to gauge exactly where every player is in terms of their overall conditioning

Capital’s housebreaking team arrest man in connection with 16 break-ins



Edinburgh’s dedicated housebreaking officers have charged another person as they continue to carry out Operation RAC activity across the city.

Between 4th June and the 18th June, 16 break-ins occurred at homes in Canongate, Holyrood Road, Guthrie Street, Montgomery Street and Campbells Close.

Following continued enquiries into these incidents a 20-year-old man was detained a in Blakett Place yesterday and was subsequently charged.

Chief Superintendent Mark Williams said: “This is another

terrific arrest as part of Operation RAC as my officers continue their relentless pursuit of housebreakers.

“Our communities can rest assured that housebreaking is my top priority and we have significant resources in place to support local officers.

“I would again remind the public to help us tackle housebreaking by ensuring their homes and businesses are always appropriately secured. Crime prevention advice is available by visiting www.scotland.police.uk.”

Man charged with wasting police time



Police have announced that a 35-year-old man has been arrested and charged with wasting police time.

This is in connection to an incident that was reported to police on Thursday, June 11.

He will appear in court at a later date.

Lothian Buses lend a helping

hand to Fresh Start



Lothian Buses is lending a helping hand to Edinburgh homeless charity, Fresh Start.

They have branded up a whole bus for a year to help with the advertising for their new charity of the year. There are also adverts for the charity on the inside of the whole 650 strong fleet.

Sarah Boyd, Head of Operations of Lothian Buses commented:

“Our aim in transforming the bus and adding advertising across our fleet is to help raise awareness of the fantastic work Fresh Start do. Hopefully it will encourage others to donate their time, skills and unwanted items to the charity.”

Fresh Start has helped thousands of homeless people including Michael McGovern, Lucasz Jedrzajewski and Gary Newlands who were all given work placements with the charity. Michael, 18, now has a permanent job with Fresh Start in its warehouse and as a PAT Tester; Lucasz , 20, will soon be taking up a new job. The work placement scheme has also helped Gary, 17, make the transition from school into the workplace, building his confidence as well as giving him skills and experience.

Keith Robertson, Managing Director of Fresh Start said:

“We are absolutely delighted that Lothian Buses has chosen Fresh Start as their Charity of the Year. Working in partnership with arguably the best known company in Edinburgh will really raise our profile. I am sure that will help us recruit new volunteers and generate donations of goods so that we can continue to support the most vulnerable households in the city.

Fresh Start helps people who have been homeless get

established in their new home by providing a range of services including practical and emotional support. Working with a team of committed volunteers, the services include providing packs of household goods, a decorating service, cooking classes and an opportunity to work in their growing spaces that grow fruit and vegetables. For those who are unemployed, their training scheme can offer valuable qualifications, skills and experience to help the unemployed get into the workplace.

EIFF 2015: Chicken (Joe Stephenson, 2015)



For a debut film, there is a seriously impressive understanding of its characters that helps keep *Chicken* firmly on its feet. The directorial debut of young Joe Stephenson, it offers a striking look at how broken Britain really is; following the lives of a disjointed family living on the edge of society.

Cast out by their dysfunctional family structure, two brothers live on the skirts of the English countryside sharing a caravan home and very little else. Polly is a job drifter, doing anything he can to make himself money. Fifteen year old Richard, an outcast with learning disabilities, explores the world around him, counting a loyal chicken named Fiona as a close friend. But when their life of solitude from the bustling outside world is interrupted by their new neighbours, the bond between the brothers is frayed even further.

I first heard about *Chicken* when doing my research for an interview with its editor, Charlie Lyne a few months ago. He

commented that although his involvement was fairly limited that he was comfortable singing the praises of Scott Chambers. Chambers delivers an awe-inspiring performance as Richard; interpreting mental disability with a frank and uncompromising eye. He really shines when Yasmin Paige comes into the picture. The muse of Richard Ayoade's directorial visions, she takes pride of place as a brilliant actress in a film that, till her performance, needed a little refinement and clarity. Her chemistry with Chambers as the young boy's best friend is touching and believable; her boisterous attitude paired with the Richard's lack thereof. It makes for gorgeous viewing.

At the start, Chicken has a wispy nature that makes emotional investment pretty difficult. We're presented with a sweet, endearing young boy suffering from a mental illness and his older brother who doesn't care too much for him. It's the kind of family structure that we're used to seeing in Jacqueline Wilson CBBC adaptations and, at times, it does feel a little like this. But what perhaps makes Chicken so impressive is that it lures you in under this comely nature and uses it to trap you in a twist that's so, well, twisted that it holds you in its grip til the closing scene.

Chicken's slightly childish sensibility soon gives way to an endearing, affecting emotional drama with a killer twist and shining central performances.



Chicken is playing as part of the Edinburgh International Film Festival 2015. For ticketing information, head to [the EIFF website](#).

Young Footballers score a hole in one with the help of Kingsknowe Golf Club!



On Monday of this week Kingsknowe Golf Club announced an exciting new partnership with local football club Currie Star.

Both clubs both situated on Lanark Road in Edinburgh, have now come together to create fantastic new opportunities for over 360 children who form the football club.

Kingsknowe Golf Club's unique partnership with Currie Star FC will provide specific golfing experiences for the various age groups involved with the club, as well targeting new participants to their existing junior golf programmes and junior golf membership.

One of Kingsknowe's key aims is to help kids "Get into Golf" and introduce them to a game that can be played for life. Currie Star FC are delighted to be able to help offer their players a complementary activity to football, as golf is a sport that is popular with football players – as demonstrated by Alan Hansen, Kenny Dalglish and Alan Rough.

The partnership with Kingsknowe Golf Club will also provide a direct link to the club for Currie Star coaches, parents, grandparents and friends who are interested in playing golf and joining the Kingsknowe Golf Club membership.

Both clubs are members of the South East Edinburgh Community Sports Hub. This has been instrumental in the formation of the partnership as the sports hub has provided a forum for the clubs to get together and discuss how they can work together, not only for mutual benefit but also for the benefit of the

local community.

To kick the partnership off, Kingsknowe Golf Club is supporting Currie Star on their upcoming tour to Sweden. The Currie Star FC under 14s will proudly sport the Kingsknowe Golf Club logo on their new strips which they will wear for the first time in Gothia, Sweden next month.

Louise Fraser, the first Lady Member to Captain Kingsknowe Golf Club said: "Kingsknowe Golf Club is delighted to strike up a partnership with our neighbours Currie Star FC and looks forward to this initiative helping to grow and develop our junior membership. The golf club recognises the importance of building ties with the local community and is extremely keen to do what it can to help local kids "Get into Golf" by providing them with the opportunity to practice and play the great game of golf on their doorstep."

John Brock, Currie Star FC Chairman said: "Our partnership with Kingsknowe Golf Club strengthens the club's commitment to ensure that all our players are active and healthy and involved in activities that are complementary to football. This will ensure that the kids will develop a range of skills that will serve them well throughout their life. With Kingsknowe Golf Club so close to our own base I am sure that our parents and coaches will form an affinity with the golf club membership that will benefit both clubs in the future."

Chris Sellars, SE Edinburgh Community Sports Hub Coordinator said: "The creation of this partnership between Kingsknowe Golf Club and Currie Star FC is a demonstration of the value of the Community Sports Hubs. By having this platform to meet, share ideas and discuss solutions, the two clubs will now work closely together in partnership for mutual benefit to themselves and the community."

Submitted by [Jennifer Pearson](#)



Hearts Sign Spanish Striker

Hearts today made their third major signing of the summer when Spanish striker Juanma Delgado confirmed the recent rumours that he would signing for the Gorgie club by signing a three year deal for the Ladbrokes Premiership newcomers. The 24-year-old, who was the top scorer at Greek side AEL Kalloni last season, joined his new teammates for pre-season training this afternoon, and Head Coach Robbie was delighted to secure the services of the 6ft 2" attacker.

"We thought the deal was going to get done a few weeks ago and we had some issues with the contractual situation in Greece, but we finally got it over the line. Craig Levein and Juanma's agent did a lot of work on it." Neilson told the official Hearts website.

"He'll be a big asset for us. He brings physicality and he'll hopefully bring goals as well. He's a good player, technically very good, great in the air, and has good link-up play. And he's a great character, so I'm pleased to get him."

Juanma told the Hearts website "I'm very happy to be here and very anxious to get started. The facilities are great. It's a big club and I can see that now. I've been particularly impressed by the family feeling at the club and that was apparent from the moment that I arrived.

"I want to contribute as much as possible to the team and score goals. I try not to speak about my own strong points, that's for other people to judge. But I'm 100% with the staff and players here and I'll give them everything that they demand of me"

EIFF 2015: Dope (Rick Famuyiwa, 2015)



Ahh, the teen comedy. An over-saturated movie genre with every one trying its hardest to become the best. You often find that term 'teen cult classic' thrown around a little frivolously. In actual fact, we seldom see something that deserves that prestigious title. Perhaps 2007's *Superbad* was the last one to reach these heady heights, and even then it took a shed-load of strong reviews and a huge teen following for it to reach this success. Thus, the strong praise that *Dope* has received from its extensive festival run has become so precious. A passionate, finely crafted escapade set in the Los Angeles suburbs, it takes a place associated with crime-fueled drug gangs and injects a huge amount of character into the people that walk its streets.

For Michael, day to day life in Inglewood, California (known affectionately as The Bottoms) consists of getting shining grades, dressing like his eighties hip-hop heroes and avoiding getting his Jordan's stolen by the school bullies. But as his interview for Harvard University comes closer, he crosses paths with Dom, a local dope dealer who embroils him in a cat and mouse chase across the city involving a serious amount of gear.

The leading trio of *Dope* manage to be both the source of its exuberance and rare, sweet somber moments. Shameik Moore takes the helm of this non-stop movie and operates it with such enjoyment and control that its surprising to hear this is his first feature, never mind lead role. Similarly, young Kiersey

Clemons shines as the friend group's feminine component. Her position as the group's headstrong gay figure manages to counteract the perception of the other women as simply alluring eye candy. However, it's difficult to criticise this fully. These women serve some purpose as plot influences, indicating that Famuyiwa has a grasp of both filmmaking ethics and the hormone driven, teenage boy's mind.

The man who feels like an influence to the film's content itself is A\$AP Rocky. The rapper does some damn good work as the leader of a local gang dealing the eponymous drug. His hip-hop bred swagger works so intrinsically with his character that there's very little to differentiate the man and his role. It's hard to fault Dope's visceral brilliance too. Blood orange sunsets and almost entirely achromatic nightclub scenes are gifted with a journey of hip-hop music through the ages. It's damn good looking and a lot of fun.

Its fleshy sensuality drives you deep into the head of its protagonist. Serving as the distractions to Malcolm's main goal (getting rid of near enough \$100k worth of cocaine), it's a significant part of a fast paced, fizzing world that these teenagers survive in. Most teen comedies try and serve their purpose by focusing on its sexy subtext, whilst admirably Dope sits somewhere in between. Add in the film's slightly dissonant closing monologue tackling race issues with an indelibly strong hand, and we have the kind of teen comedy that throws itself leaps and bounds ahead of a lot of its predecessors.

Slick, well dressed and surprisingly evocative for a teen comedy, Dope has DNA that almost certainly points to a future cult classic.



Dope has its UK premiere at the Edinburgh International Film Festival 2015. For ticketing information, head to the [EIFF website](#)