

Five things you need to know today



Flag flies for Commonwealth Day

Safe City

Special Deliveries for Mother's Day

Culture and Sport Committee

Young Scot

Yesterday the Lord Provost in his role as Lord Lieutenant raised the Commonwealth Flag above the City Chambers.

You can watch it all here:

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

Edinburgh is one of the safest cities in the world, according to a new poll of UK holiday makers.

The Post Office Travel Insurance survey ranked the capital as the third safest destination across the globe, with almost 70% of people who took part rating it as safe.

The news has been announced not long after a major YouGov poll revealed that Edinburgh was seen as the safest in Britain.

Councillor Cammy Day, Community Safety Leader for the City of Edinburgh Council, today welcomed the results

“To be rated so highly for safety in not one but two national surveys is a fantastic accolade for the city, and I’m delighted that people feel secure when they holiday here,” he said. “It’s not just visitors either – the most recent People’s Survey found that 91% of our residents feel safe here after dark. I’m really proud of these results and the good work carried out daily by the Council, Police Scotland and communities across the city.

“Tourism is vitally important to Edinburgh with millions of people coming here from around the world each year to enjoy the culture and attractions it has to offer. As well as being renowned as a festivals city, we can also now claim to be classed as one of the safest cities in the world.”

A group of lucky mums will each get a surprise special delivery for Mother’s Day – as Scotland’s largest independent courier marks its 30th year in business.

Eagle Couriers is encouraging grateful sons and daughters across the central belt of Scotland to nominate their cherished mums.

Then it will choose the most deserving 30 – one for each year the firm has been in business – and ensure they get an unexpected special delivery for Mothering Sunday.

Twenty nine of the lucky mums will receive a surprise box of luxury Thorntons chocolates and a bouquet of flowers hand delivered from a driver in a signature Eagle Couriers red van on Friday 13th March.

However, the most deserving nomination – as judged by a team at Eagle Couriers – will take delivery of a luxury Thorntons hamper, donated by the famous chocolatiers.

Fiona Deas, director at Eagle Couriers said: "It is fantastic to be able to give something back to the people of Scotland, especially in the central belt from where we have operated for 30 years.

"By tying in Mothers Day celebrations and using our base of couriers we hope to spread a lot of unexpected joy.

"We encourage as many people as possible to apply – if you want to see your mum smile and feel extra loved for Mother's Day then please do get in touch and we'll do our best to get this no-catch gesture of love to her."

To be in with a chance of winning, applicants should follow the single step instruction on the latest Eagle Courier blog post, with the competition being free to enter.

Enter at <http://goo.gl/4ClS6J>



The Culture and Sport Committee meet today and [they may decide](#) to approve funding for under used outdoor sports facilities in South Queensferry, Sighthill and Trinity.

You can watch the committee meeting online [here](#).

Young Scot, the national youth information and citizenship charity for Scotland, has announced the completion of its five year Truth About Youth programme after the project helped challenge negative perceptions of young people in Scotland.

The Truth About Youth project, run by Young Scot in partnership with the Co-operative Foundation, has been challenging and changing the way society views young people since 2010. The project has worked to improve public

perceptions of young Scots by engaging with local communities and working with the media to showcase positive stories of young people.

Highlights of the Truth About Youth project were showcased at a celebratory event at Glasgow's Science Centre where 200 people heard success stories from young people involved in the programme. Among these highlights included the story of a youth development scheme run by Dalmarnock Futures Forum, the award winners of the inaugural Truth About Youth prize at the 2011 Young Scot Awards.

David Stewart, 22, Dalmarnock Futures Forum (DFF), said: "The Truth About Youth award was the catalyst for DFF getting involved with Young Scot and the programme. Since then, we have been involved in a range of different projects – from a small grants fund project to taking part in the Truth About Youth Pledge. The project has helped change my life and the lives of other young people involved.

"It's great to see that young people are now seen as leaders in their communities who take forward sports programmes and issued-based workshops and we all want to see this continue and keep on growing."

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.

Art at Summerhall



From this Friday there will be an exhibition of retrospective of paintings by award winning Edinburgh artist Anna Somerville, including recent works painted at her studio in Summerhall.

Somerville's bold style and dramatic compositions deliver immediate intrigue and draw you into painterly landscapes of colour and expression that are emotionally charged, visceral, whilst poignant and sentimental.

Anna Somerville, born in Edinburgh 1978, studied Drawing & Painting at Edinburgh College of Art and graduated in the year 2000. In the same year, at the RSA Student Exhibition, she won the Elizabeth Blackadder & John Houston Travel Award, which she took up in Oaxaca, Mexico.

In 2002 she held her first solo show of paintings, inspired by her travel to Mexico, at Friction Gallery in Edinburgh. In 2003, she was awarded the Anne Redpath prize for painting, during the annual Visual Arts for Scotland Exhibition.

Since graduating from ECA, her work has been sold to private collectors, businesses and restaurants, and she has exhibited her work in many galleries and alternative spaces. Anna describes her work as 'emotionally charged, painterly and expressive', and art critic Colin Gleadell, in his article 'The Power of Paint', compared her to 'Turner at his most fluid and some of the more abstract American Expressionists'.

For further information [see the website here.](#)

Police investigate unexplained death of Fauldhouse man



Police are investigating the unexplained death of a man whose body was found in his house in Fauldhouse West Lothian this morning.

Detectives were called to a property on Main Street shortly after 3.40am and have cordoned off the area.

A police spokeswoman said: "Police Scotland can confirm the name of the man who was found dead at an address in Main Street, Fauldhouse, is Lloyd Williams (47).

"His family has asked to be left to grieve in private.

"The incident was reported to police today (Monday, March 9) at around 3.40am. A police cordon is still in place around the address, however the road has now reopened.

"The death is still being treated as unexplained and enquiries are ongoing at this time."

Travel – Qatar offering 'Fabulous Fares'



"A World of Fabulous Fares" awaits Qatar Airways' passengers

from 9 to 13 March 2015 as travellers can enjoy up to 40% savings on return airfares to a wide variety of destinations across the Middle East, Asia Pacific and South Africa when they travel between 1 April to 10 July 2015.

Qatar Airways fly from Edinburgh Airport to Doha and beyond meaning that the journey time from Edinburgh to Melbourne is around 20 hours.

Passengers can make their flight bookings either by visiting any Qatar Airways' sales office, through appointed travel partners or via qatarairways.com/globalsale.



Richard Oliver, Country Manager, UK & Ireland, said: "With "A World of Fabulous Fares" sale, we will enable more travellers to experience Qatar Airways' renowned in-flight hospitality and five-star service, while also taking advantage of our state-of-the-art gateway to the world – Hamad International Airport – for themselves. For loyal passengers of Qatar Airways, we take pride in offering them diverse destination choices for both leisure and business, and our global sale allows them to experience even more of the world for less."

As one of the fastest growing airlines in the world, Qatar Airways has experienced rapid growth in just 18 years of operation. Today it flies a modern fleet of 150 aircraft to 146 key business and leisure destinations across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia Pacific, North America and South America.

Photo from Edinburgh Airport launch in May 2014 [Thomas Haywood](#)

Lord Lieutenant raises the Commonwealth Flag

It is thought that 730 flags were raised this morning by 53 Commonwealth countries. In Edinburgh, the flag-raising was also be an opportunity for the City of Edinburgh Council to celebrate the start of Legacy Week which runs till the end of the week.



At 10 o'clock this morning the Lord Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh who is the Queen's representative in the city raised the Commonwealth Flag above the City Chambers. The Rt Hon Donald Wilson who is also the Lord Provost was ably assisted by children from the Royal Mile Primary School.

He first of all read out the message from Her Majesty the Queen before processing outside with the children. Then after a photo call he went up on to the balcony above the archway into the quadrangle to raise the flag in the breeze. It was not the best of weather but the short ceremony drew a small crowd of onlookers.

Almost eight months since thousands of people took to the streets of Edinburgh to cheer on the [Queen's Baton Relay](#), Scotland is reflecting on the excitement and impact of the Commonwealth Games during [Legacy Week](#) (9-15 March).

For young and aspiring athletes, Edinburgh Leisure's [Kirkliston Leisure Centre](#) will be offering an under-5's coaching session on Wednesday (11 March). The session will include a mini Commonwealth Games. To register interest, contact the venue.

If those under-5's keep at it, they might join one of the

Capital's athletics clubs one day. Coach Kevin Maguire will deliver a training session on the High Jump to athletes on Monday (9 March). Edinburgh received High Jump equipment from Glasgow 2014 which is available for those with an interest in athletics to try out. There are many clubs in Edinburgh for those that become serious about sport. Find out how you can join an Edinburgh-based club at [ClubSport Edinburgh](#).

Three performance athletes will also be visiting [Forrester's Community Sports Hub](#) on Friday (13 March). Maria Lyle, Robin Love and Sammy Kinghorn will take part in a **paralympic** experience with young people who have physical and sensory impairment. Parents and carers who wish to look into sport and physical activity opportunities for disabled children should speak with their school Head Teacher or [Active Schools](#) coordinator.

The [Royal Commonwealth Pool](#) became the first venue in Commonwealth Games history to host the competition for a third time when it was home to the 2014 diving events. This weekend, the Games legacy will be clear to see when the Edinburgh Leisure-managed venue will welcomes top medal-winning talent to splash into action. The *Edinburgh International Long Course Swimming* competition will see swimmers from various disciplines compete over three evenings (13, 14, 15 March). Find out how to get tickets to these events at [Scottish Swimming](#).

Last year was the City of Edinburgh Council's *Year of Walking*. **Walking** is an ideal activity for those getting back into fitness and to help residents get back on the right path, walking routes and pedometers are available to loan from Edinburgh's libraries. Find out more about walking in Edinburgh and how to count your steps at the Council's [walking page](#).

When the *Year of Walking* comes to an end in April, the Council will welcome in a *Year of Cycling*. For children who are just

getting into **cycling**, Active Edinburgh is offering starter races for eight to 16 year olds at Ingliston during Legacy Week on Sunday (15 March). Find out more about getting fit and keeping active on the Council's [sport page](#).

French national assaulted and robbed in New Town



Police are appealing for witnesses following the assault and robbery of a 24 year old man in Edinburgh's New Town

The victim, a French national, had arrived in Edinburgh from France on Saturday evening and was walking from the City Centre to the New Town to find accommodation for his stay.

At around 8pm, as he approached the corner of Broughton Market and Dublin Street, he was grabbed from behind by two suspects who presented a knife and demanded he hand over money. They took his laptop, mobile phone and wallet and made off in the direction of Broughton Market.

The first suspect is described as white, late 30s, 5ft 9in tall, broad build, dark brown hair, clean-shaven, Scottish accent and wearing a zipped up hooded top.

The second suspect is described as white, late 30s, 5ft 9in tall, slim build, slight beard, and wearing a black cap or woolly hat, blue jeans and a black cotton coat with two diagonally angled pockets at the lower front of the jacket.

Detective Constable Iain Wallace said: "The victim had only just arrived in the city when he was assaulted and robbed, although thankfully he wasn't injured. We are appealing for anyone who was in the area of Broughton Market or Dublin Street at around 8pm on Saturday evening to get in touch with police. We know that a car drove past at the time of the incident as it caused the two males to run off."

Anyone with information that can assist is urged to contact Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Witness appeal following assault and robbery in Lochend



Police are appealing for witnesses following an assault and robbery which happened in the Lochend area of Edinburgh, in the early hours of Sunday morning.

The incident happened around 4am, when the 43 year old victim was walking on Lochend Road near to Burns Street. He was approached by a group of around six males, and without provocation was punched to the face by one of these youths.

When the victim fell to the ground he was assaulted by others in the group and his satchel was taken from him. The suspects then made off in a north direction on Lochend Road.

The first suspect, who initially punched the victim, is described as white, aged 17 to 18 years old, 5ft 2in tall, stocky build, short dark hair, and wearing a white coloured

zip up track suit top and jeans.

The other suspects are described as white and aged between 17 and 18 years old.

Detective Constable Alison Wyllie said: "The victim was taken to hospital to be treated for his injuries during an assault which was completely unprovoked. We are looking to trace this group of males who were in the Lochend Road area at around 4am on Sunday morning. Anyone who heard or saw anything suspicious is urged to contact Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Witness appeal following serious assault in Cowgate



Police are appealing for witnesses after a man was seriously assaulted in the Cowgate in the early hours of Sunday morning.

The incident happened around 2.30am when a 33 year old man was walking on the Cowgate at the junction with Candlemaker Row. He was struck from behind and then assaulted by a group of between six to twelve men. The victim received a fractured arm and facial injuries and was conveyed to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary to be treated.

A number of witnesses have identified this group of men as being in their late 20's, most of whom were wearing tweed jackets or suits, shirts, ties and brogues. They then headed up Victoria Street, where they were lost to sight.

Detective Sergeant Neil Spowart said: "This appears to have

been an unprovoked assault which left the victim needing hospital treatment. We are appealing for anyone who was in the area of the Cowgate around 2.30am on Sunday morning, and who saw this altercation take place. The group of suspects have been described as wearing distinctive tweed jackets, and so we hope this description will assist in jogging people's memories, particularly if they have information on which pub or bar they were in beforehand."

Anyone with information should contact Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Lewis Stevenson's verdict on Hibs' Scottish Cup form



Hibs' longest serving player Lewis Stevenson admits he was dreading the start of this season after last year's relegation nightmare, but things are looking up for the Easter Road side who currently sit in second place in the Championship with a cup semi-final against Falkirk to look forward to.

Stevenson, who has been at Hibs for ten years is no stranger to the National Stadium, both as a winner in the CIS Cup Final in 2007 as well as recent semi-finals against Aberdeen and Falkirk, but also on the losing side against Hearts, Celtic and Dunfermline.

Yesterday the 'veteran' left back was rightly named man of the match after scoring one goal and making two in the quarter final against Berwick Rangers.

Speaking afterwards, the modest Fifer said: "We got so low last season and I almost came into this one worried and dreading it, but the manager has lifted the place and I've probably enjoyed this season more than any other."

"It is crazy that a club such as Hibs has not won it for so long, but I would love to be part of the team that actually does win it. It would be nice not to hear about it at the start of the first round every time we play in the Scottish Cup.

"The gaffer is still making us focus on the league, but the further you get in the cup, it is hard to take your mind off it. It is a horrible feeling to lose a final when you have put so much effort in. I have played in two. In 2007, we also lost to Dunfermline in a semi-final replay and that was a hard one to take. After winning the League Cup, I think we were expected to put up a fight in the Scottish.

"I would love to be part of a successful team here. It is one of the biggest clubs in Scotland and should be in the top league, fighting for cups every season.

"I think on our day we can match any team – even the Premiership ones still in the cup."

photo by John Preece

Alan Stubbs' verdict on Hibs'

Scottish Cup win over Berwick Rangers



Hibs' Head Coach Alan Stubbs is convinced that the club's Scottish Cup hoodoo will eventually come to an end and with a game against fellow Championship side Falkirk in the semi-finals the fans are convinced that this could be the year.

Speaking after yesterday's comfortable win over Berwick Rangers, a content Stubbs said: "Someone's going to do it, whether it's me, the next manager or the one after that but while we're still in the competition you can keep bringing it up... but you never know, it might be me.

"Even though we weren't on our A game I thought we were very professional. The goals in the first half settled us down and as long as we didn't do anything silly or lose concentration, we always looked like we would score and add to our tally. Berwick deserve a lot of credit; they can hold their heads high. Coming here was always going to be a big ask for them.

"There is the romance of the cup and while they were still in it there was an opportunity to cause a shock, but we were determined that wasn't going to be us today.

Stubbs won the cup as a Celtic player under Martin O'Neil was delighted with some of Hibs' play and particularly the form of unsung hero Lewis Stevenson who helped create two goals and scored another.

He continued: "There was a quality about the first two goals, a real understanding of interchanging and quick one-touch play. Maybe the last person you'd have thought would have been on the end of the second one would have been Lewis Stevenson but that's what he's added to his game. He has a belief and is

playing more in the middle to final third and chipping in with a few goals.

“He’s very much Mr Shy-Guy and you can see that from his celebrations as he doesn’t really know what to do with them. But you saw in the players’ reactions to the goal that he’s a very popular guy in the dressing-room.

“By reaching the semis the players have given themselves an opportunity and I honestly feel it’s one they’ll grab hold of,”

The Falkirk tie is a repeat of the famous 2013 semi-final which Hibs won after extra time after going in at half time 3-0 down. The game will be played on either Saturday 18th April or Sunday 19th April.

The other semi-final will be between either Celtic or Dundee United and Inverness Caledonian Thistle or Raith Rovers.

Monday in Edinburgh – What’s On Today



Image courtesy of Live
Music Now Scotland

Time for Traditional Tunes: a new **Live Music Now Scotland** initiative for older people, including those with dementia. Audiences from care homes and community groups are invited to join Scots singers **Robyn Stapleton** (BBC Young Scottish Traditional Musician of the Year 2014) and **Claire Hastings** for

a concert of traditional singing with a chance to join in, in the beautiful surroundings of the Great Hall. 2-3pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free: to book please call the Information Desk on 0131 624 6560. Supported by the Friends of NGS.



Benji the PlayTalkRead bus will be at West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre today! Songs, stories and play sessions for young children and their parents and carers. 10am-1pm and 2-4pm, [West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre](#), 19 West Pilton Grove. Free.



Visual Awareness Day at St Bride's: if you or someone you know is living with sight loss, or you would just like to learn more, come and meet Guide Dog users **Dennis and Pat** and their extremely clever and life-changing dog **Todd**. **Royal National Institute for the Blind** representatives will be in attendance, offering basic eye tests and advice on how to look after your eyes, and there will be information available on other visual impairment services. 10am-2pm, [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace, Dalry.



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival continues today. 'An exciting and diverse line-up of contemporary and classic Italian cinema, including hilarious comedies, insightful dramas, seat-edge thrillers and classics from award-winning directors'. All films are subtitled in English, Today: **Good for Nothing (15)** 'a jaunty, melancholic Roman comedy'. 6.10pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688



Multifaith Public Conversation 2015: Radical Compassion and Violent Extremism. Edinburgh University Chaplaincy joins The Forgiveness Project for the Annual Multifaith Public Conversation. **Yasmin Yar Mulbocus, Jo Berry and Bjorn Magnus Jacobsen Ihler** discuss whether radical compassion can win the war on violent extremism. 5.30pm (doors open 5pm)-7pm, [Chaplaincy Auditorium](#), University of Edinburgh, 1 Bristo Square. Free and open to all: please book via eventbrite [here](#).



La Bataille de Waterloo:
Clement-Auguste Andrieux

Cafe Histoire: La Vol de l'Aigle. **Patrick Landri**, Chief Librarian, Alliance Francaise de Glasgow, looks at the 'Cent-Jours' (1er mars-22 juin 1817) between **Napoleon I's** return to France and victorious entry to Paris, and his defeat three months later. Please note this talk will be in French only. 5.30-7pm, [Institut francais d'Ecosse](#), 13 Randolph Crescent. Admission £8 (members £5).



Morningside Parish Church Baby and Toddler Group: for children up to about 3 years. A friendly and informal way for parents to meet and children to have fun with the large selection of toys. All welcome, no pre-registration needed – just turn up. 10-11.30am today and every Monday and Wednesday, [Morningside Parish Church](#), Braid Road/Cluny Gardens. £1.50 donation per session.



Fountainbridge Library is 75! A library has stood on the Dundee Street site since 1897 – the first neighbourhood library was funded from the estate of philanthropist **Thomas**

Nelson, but by the 1930s the building needed to be replaced. **JAW Grant** was appointed to be architect of the new library, with sculptor **Charles D'Orville Pilkington Jackson** commissioned to provide the carving to surmount the main doorway; Jackson's original plans included ornate carvings of a fountain and a bridge, so he was understandably dismayed when he learned of a planned change of name to 'Dundee Street Library' – luckily the plan was dropped, and despite delays caused by the war, the new library was opened in 1940. To celebrate this anniversary, the library has arranged a week of events, starting today with a **Book Cafe – Annie Bell**, Edinburgh Libraries' Resident Book Expert, will be coming along to offer book recommendations, so drop in for a chat and a coffee. 2-4pm, [Fountainbridge Library](#), 137 Dundee Street. There will also be a **Children's Storytelling** on Tuesday 10th, an **Anniversary Celebration Day** on Wednesday 11th and a **Birthday Bookbug** on Thursday 12th March, plus an exhibition of photos and memories of the last 75 years.



Lunchtime Concert: Gulf Coast Masterworks Chorus, Texas, USA. 12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.



Skill Share Bike Puncture Repair Sessions: the Bike Station's aim in running these sessions is to pass on the knowledge to help re-use and repair rather than replace. Puncture repair is a simple but almost lost skill; all materials will be provided and there are no age restrictions – families are encouraged to bring their children along to find out how easy this is! 2pm today and every day until 13th March 2015, [The Bike Station](#), 250 Causewayside, Newington. No booking required, just come along. These **free** sessions are part of **Pass It On Week 2015**, which runs from 7th to 15th March.



Blind Poetics – March: Russell Jones. Russell is an Edinburgh-based writer who has published three poetry collections, with a fourth due out later this year. He is also the editor of *Where Rockets Burn Through: Science Fiction Poetry from the UK* and *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews: Poetries and Sciences in the 21st Century*. There will also be the usual **open mic session**: if you would like to book a 5 minute slot click [here](#) to find out how it works. 8-11pm, [The Blind Poet](#), West Nicolson Street. Free admission.



International Women's Day in Leith: an all day programme of events, including a **Health Fair** with a talk on alternative therapies, a book reading and signing by **Annie Harrower-Gray**, author of *Harlots and Heroines*, **tai chi** demonstrations, an art exhibition *Remembering Her Story* by **Carol Watson**, **Highland, Irish, Egyptian and tap dancers**, a photography exhibition *The Diversity of Leith Women* by **Kathryn McNerney**, information on **adult education courses**, a **Community Council** stall and lots more. 10.30am-4.30pm, [South Leith Parish Church](#), Kirkgate. Tickets £5/£3 on the door, £4/£3 in advance (call 07837 596376).



Blackwell's Children's Book Group: if you are 8-11 years old with a love of books and biscuits, join this free group to enjoy a friendly hour of fiction – come and discover more books to treasure. Currently reading *I, Coriander* by **Sally Gardner**. 6-7pm, [Blackwell's](#), South Bridge. To join just email your details to childrens.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk.



Image: James Lindsey –
Ecology of Commanster

Living with Bees: the decline in honeybees has attracted much

media attention, but around two-thirds of vital pollination in crops and wild plants is carried out by wild bee species and other insects. Discover the world of wild bees in an illustrated talk by **Dr Bernard Vaissiere**, who will explore the important role wild bees play in the lives of plants and people. The talk will be followed by a panel discussion with experts from the **Scottish Wildlife Trust, the Urban Pollinators Project (University of Edinburgh), City of Edinburgh Council** and **Buglife**. For ages 14+. 11am-12.30pm, Lecture Theatre, [Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh](#), Inverleith Row. Free but please book in advance via eventbrite [here](#). This event has been programmed to coincide with the RBGE's **Urban Bees** exhibition.



Sofi's Cult Movie Nights: popular classics on the silver screen in the cosy, darkened back room. This week: ***Jurassic Park* (PG)** – shown in anticipation of the release of *Jurassic World* this summer. 'Relive the thrills of 90s CGI!' Free popcorn! 8pm, [Sofi's Bar](#), 65 Henderson Street.

New Town and Broughton Community Council: local residents are very welcome to attend. 7.30pm, Drummond Room, [Broughton St Mary's Church](#), Bellevue Crescent.



Pochemu? A photographic exploration of the Ukrainian conflict by Monika Holkova. Edinburgh College BA in Professional Photography graduate Holkova spent a period of time documenting the conflict in Ukraine; based in Donetsk, she worked with NGOs photographing the impact of the conflict on the people of the region. (*Pochemu?* means 'why?'). 9am-5.30pm Monday to Thursday, 9am-4.30pm Fridays, with an open private view 6.30-8.30pm on Friday 13th March, [Creative Exchange](#), 29 Constitution Street. Ends 27th March 2015. Free admission.

Frances @ Sneaky Pete's: British singer/songwriter **Sophie Cooke aka Frances** writes and co-produces her own music and is influenced by artists ranging from Aqualung, Sia and Coldplay to Alanis Morissette and Carole King. 'Her unique ethereal tones and keen ear for an infectious melody, supported by her emotive piano playing and 3 piece band, make her one to watch for the future'. Over 18s only. 7pm, [Sneaky Pete's](#), 73 Cowgate. Tickets cost £5 and can be booked [here](#) (transaction fee applies).

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



Commonwealth Day

Commonwealth Games legacy

Calling all General Election candidates!

At The Stand tonight

Cycling ON the canal (yes really!)

The Lord Provost Donald Wilson will convey a message from Her Majesty, The Queen before raising the Commonwealth Flag at the City Chambers on [Commonwealth Day](#) today.

It is expected that 730 flags will be raised on Monday by 53 Commonwealth countries. In Edinburgh, the flag-raising will also be an opportunity for the City of Edinburgh Council to celebrate the start of Legacy Week which begins today [Legacy Week](#) is a Scotland-wide Government initiative celebrating last summer's Commonwealth Games. In Edinburgh, events spanning athletics, swimming, paralympics, walking and cycling will take place showcasing the variety of sporting opportunities that take place in the Capital.

In his speech, the Lord Provost Donald Wilson will say:
"Organisations from all 53 Commonwealth countries are joining to raise more than 730 Commonwealth Flags in a shared celebration of this remarkable family of nations.

"The Commonwealth is made up of two billion citizens drawn from all faiths, cultures and ethnicities. Commonwealth countries come together voluntarily in a spirit of co-operation, partnership and understanding. It is for that reason we are here today to raise the Commonwealth Flag in unity with those throughout all the participating countries of the world.

"We also welcome the Commonwealth Day theme for 2015 which honours the future generation: *A Young Commonwealth* and commits to advancing opportunities for the development and growth our youth."

The Lord Provost will also convey the following message sent from Her Majesty, The Queen which the palace has embargoed for 9:50am on Monday 9 March: "I am pleased to learn that so many people throughout the Commonwealth will be taking part in the 'Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth' initiative on Commonwealth Day this year, which I understand will see the raising of a record number of Commonwealth flags. I send my good wishes to all who are taking part".

Almost eight months since thousands of people took to the streets of Edinburgh to cheer on the [Queen's Baton Relay](#), Scotland is reflecting on the excitement and impact of the Commonwealth Games during [Legacy Week](#) which begins today.

From athletics for under-fives to cycling for older children – and the chance to watch international swimming competitions at the Royal Commonwealth Pool – the variety of events taking place during Legacy Week in Edinburgh is a sample of the many activities available for people to take part in day-in and day-out in the Capital.

After the Commonwealth Games last summer, **athletics** became one of the sports in Edinburgh to witness a spike in interest.

For young and aspiring athletes, Edinburgh Leisure's [Kirkliston Leisure Centre](#) will be offering an under-5's coaching session on Wednesday (11 March). The session will include a mini Commonwealth Games. To register interest, contact the venue.

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Are you standing for an Edinburgh constituency in the General Election 2015? Then we would like you to get in touch with us. We aim to interview all candidates for all Edinburgh seats before 7 May. We can interview you on Skype, on the phone, with audio, video and photos.

[Please get in touch!](#)

Beginners take to the stage tonight at The Stand in York

Place. [Tickets available here.](#)

Our long-running weekly beginner's showcase is regarded as the best open mic night in the UK. Catch up to ten new acts – some treading the boards for the very first time. This is where everyone starts and it's your chance to see the stars of tomorrow today. Watch out for older hands dropping in to try out new material too.



Yes look twice at this photo – they really are cycling on the water in the canal.

[Post](#) by [Hervélo](#).

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Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships 2015



The world's largest schools piping competition took place in Edinburgh earlier today involving 400 pupils from across the country.

The High School of Glasgow took home the freestyle award with their rendition of Slàn Leat.

Elsewhere, bands from Tobermory, Edinburgh, Inverclyde, Lochalsh and Elgin all took home awards, with judges and organisers praising the young pipers and drummers on the level of talent and professionalism they displayed in their performances.

Schools from across Scotland – and even a few from England – travelled to Edinburgh to take part in the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships.

Pupils competed at this year's competition at Broughton High School and Fettes College in categories tailored to their skill set, such as juvenile, novice juvenile, debut, junior and quartets.

However, it was the innovative freestyle category – where musicians can perform a tune of their choice alongside other musical disciplines – that sparked the most interest with event organisers having to cap the number of entries because of unprecedented demand.

The High School of Glasgow took home the freestyle award with their rendition of Slàn Leat.

Elsewhere, bands from Tobermory, Edinburgh, Inverclyde, Lochalsh and Elgin all took home awards, with judges and organisers praising the young pipers and drummers on the level of talent and professionalism they displayed in their performances.

The committee behind The Championships hope that the success of this year's competition will encourage more Scottish schools to include piping and drumming tuition on the school curriculum.

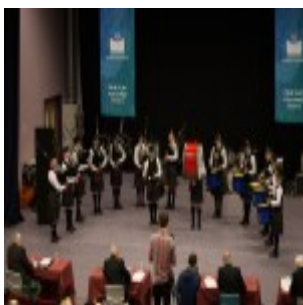
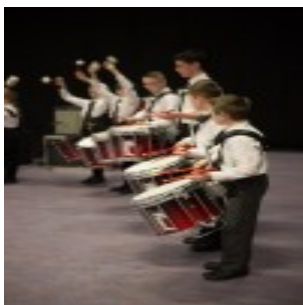
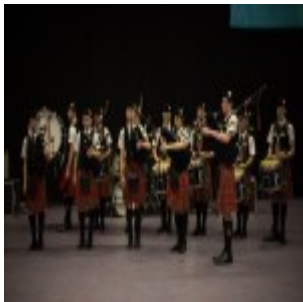
David Johnston, Convener for the competition, said: "Today's

competition proved to be an enormous success and it was great to see so many schools from across the country taking part.

“The whole point of this competition is to showcase the versatility of the pipes and drums and the talent of Scotland’s younger generation when playing our national instrument, and that certainly came through in today’s competition.

“Whether bands were competing in the freestyle or any other category, it was clear that the level of skill has greatly increased since we kicked off our first competition two years ago.

“For many schools, this was their first time competing in this fantastic competition and we truly hope that they enjoyed the experience and buzzing atmosphere of the event.”





After a full day of performances, Chair of Creative Scotland, Richard Findlay, presented winners with their trophies.

David said: "We are very proud of all of those who competed in the competition this year.

"I think it is fair to say that this year has been the toughest year yet for our judges as bands really raised the bar on the quality of their performances. We are already eagerly waiting to see what bands will come up with next year.

"We would like to thank all those who competed in this year's competition and we hope to see continued high numbers again for next year, as well as the return of old and new faces to the event."

RBS to sponsor Greyfriars tartan fashion show

Royal Bank of Scotland, Scottish fashion experts and Edinburgh businesses have rallied round to support the Greyfriars Tartan Fashion Show being held at Grassmarket Community Project next week.

Cutting-edge tartan designs from around the world, submitted for the Greyfriars Tartan Design Competition earlier this year, will be showcased at the event on Thursday 12 March from 6.00pm. RBS has been confirmed as the main sponsor, with Anderson Strathern, individual sponsor David McLellan, Johnsons Stalbridge and UK Safety Mats all making donations to help make the event a success.

The three judges have been confirmed as Natalie Kerr, RBS Head of Business Banking Marketing, Scottish fashion blogger and marketing expert Colin Gilchrist, and Mal Burkinshaw, Fashion Programme Director at Edinburgh University's School of Design.

The competition and fashion show have been made possible thanks to funding from the Scottish Government's Enterprise Ready Fund, which aims to launch the Scottish manufacturing industry and social enterprise products onto an international sales platform.

Katerina Faulds, Greyfriars Tartan Sales Manager at Grassmarket Community Project, said: "We are incredibly grateful to RBS, the judges, local businesses and everyone else who has helped us make it this far. This fashion show is our first major step towards working with fashion designers from all over the world, allowing us to expand Scottish social enterprise into global export markets. We're so excited to see the competition results on the night."

The unique Greyfriars Tartan was designed by a member of

Grassmarket Community Project, a social enterprise based in Edinburgh's Grassmarket where vulnerable local people can be part of a community, develop new skills and self-confidence, and become more employable. The tartan is officially registered and used to teach members textiles skills which they then use to create a range of beautiful handmade products.

Natalie Kerr, Head of Business Banking Marketing for RBS, says: "I am a big supporter of locally-based community projects, like Grassmarket Community Project and its Greyfriars Tartan enterprise, which help foster and encourage new skills and confidence. I firmly believe that ventures that come from grass roots levels like this have the opportunity to make the biggest difference to the areas we live and grow up in. It can be contagious, and inspire future entrepreneurs and ideas for generations to come."

The idea behind the tartan design competition was to encourage designers from all over the world to re-discover, re-imagine and re-connect with tartan, and it has seen designs submitted from Indonesia (Jakarta) and India as well as England, Wales and Scotland.

Nina Falk, Greyfriars Tartan Textiles Specialist at Grassmarket Community Project, says: "It has been fascinating to see designers with different influences and backgrounds all work with our tartan fabric and we can't wait to see their creative designs on the catwalk."

Local businesses which have donated raffle prizes are: Out of Hand, Helios Fountain, Mr Wood's Fossils, Mamma's, The Beehive Inn, Hawico, Graze, Purple Glamour, Fabhatrix, Scotch Whisky Experience, MYAdventure and Apex Hotels. Barr and Tunnocks will provide refreshments.

Submitted by [Samantha McKay](#)

What's on in Edinburgh this week

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2015



Image courtesy of Live
Music Now Scotland

Time for Traditional Tunes: a new **Live Music Now Scotland** initiative for older people, including those with dementia. Audiences from care homes and community groups are invited to join Scots singers **Robyn Stapleton** (BBC Young Scottish Traditional Musician of the Year 2014) and **Claire Hastings** for a concert of traditional singing with a chance to join in, in the beautiful surroundings of the Great Hall. 2-3pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free: to book please call the Information Desk on 0131 624 6560. Supported by the Friends of NGS.



Benji the PlayTalkRead bus will be at West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre today! Songs, stories and play sessions for young children and their parents and carers. 10am-1pm and 2-4pm, [West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre](#), 19 West Pilton Grove. Free.



Visual Awareness Day at St Bride's: if you or someone you know is living with sight loss, or you would just like to learn more, come and meet Guide Dog users **Dennis and Pat** and their extremely clever and life-changing dog **Todd**. **Royal National**

Institute for the Blind representatives will be in attendance, offering basic eye tests and advice on how to look after your eyes, and there will be information available on other visual impairment services. 10am-2pm, [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace, Dalry.



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival continues today. 'An exciting and diverse line-up of contemporary and classic Italian cinema, including hilarious comedies, insightful dramas, seat-edge thrillers and classics from award-winning directors'. All films are subtitled in English, Today: **Good for Nothing (15)** 'a jaunty, melancholic Roman comedy'. 6.10pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688



Multifaith Public Conversation 2015: Radical Compassion and Violent Extremism. Edinburgh University Chaplaincy joins The Forgiveness Project for the Annual Multifaith Public Conversation. **Yasmin Yar Mulbocus**, **Jo Berry** and **Bjorn Magnus Jacobsen Ihler** discuss whether radical compassion can win the war on violent extremism. 5.30pm (doors open 5pm)-7pm, [Chaplaincy Auditorium](#), University of Edinburgh, 1 Bristo Square. Free and open to all: please book via eventbrite [here](#).



La Bataille de Waterloo:
Clement-Auguste Andrieux

Cafe Histoire: La Vol de l'Aigle. **Patrick Landri**, Chief Librarian, Alliance Francaise de Glasgow, looks at the 'Cent-Jours' (1er mars-22 juin 1817) between **Napoleon I's** return to France and victorious entry to Paris, and his defeat three months later. Please note this talk will be in French only.

5.30-7pm, [Institut francais d'Ecosse](#), 13 Randolph Crescent.
Admission £8 (members £5).



Morningside Parish Church Baby and Toddler Group: for children up to about 3 years. A friendly and informal way for parents to meet and children to have fun with the large selection of toys. All welcome, no pre-registration needed – just turn up. 10-11.30am today and every Monday and Wednesday, [Morningside Parish Church](#), Braid Road/Cluny Gardens. £1.50 donation per session.



Fountainbridge Library is 75! A library has stood on the Dundee Street site since 1897 – the first neighbourhood library was funded from the estate of philanthropist **Thomas Nelson**, but by the 1930s the building needed to be replaced. **JAW Grant** was appointed to be architect of the new library, with sculptor **Charles D'Orville Pilkington Jackson** commissioned to provide the carving to surmount the main doorway; Jackson's original plans included ornate carvings of a fountain and a bridge, so he was understandably dismayed when he learned of a planned change of name to 'Dundee Street Library' – luckily the plan was dropped, and despite delays caused by the war, the new library was opened in 1940. To celebrate this anniversary, the library has arranged a week of events, starting today with a **Book Cafe – Annie Bell**, Edinburgh Libraries' Resident Book Expert, will be coming along to offer book recommendations, so drop in for a chat and a coffee. 2-4pm, [Fountainbridge Library](#), 137 Dundee Street. There will also be a **Children's Storytelling** on Tuesday 10th, an **Anniversary Celebration Day** on Wednesday 11th and a **Birthday Bookbug** on Thursday 12th March, plus an exhibition of photos and memories of the last 75 years.



Lunchtime Concert: Gulf Coast Masterworks Chorus, Texas, USA.
12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.



Skill Share Bike Puncture Repair Sessions: the Bike Station's aim in running these sessions is to pass on the knowledge to help re-use and repair rather than replace. Puncture repair is a simple but almost lost skill; all materials will be provided and there are no age restrictions – families are encouraged to bring their children along to find out how easy this is! 2pm today and every day until 13th March 2015, [The Bike Station](#), 250 Causewayside, Newington. No booking required, just come along. These **free** sessions are part of **Pass It On Week 2015**, which runs from 7th to 15th March.



Blind Poetics – March: Russell Jones. Russell is an Edinburgh-based writer who has published three poetry collections, with a fourth due out later this year. He is also the editor of *Where Rockets Burn Through: Science Fiction Poetry from the UK* and *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews: Poetries and Sciences in the 21st Century*. There will also be the usual **open mic session**: if you would like to book a 5 minute slot click [here](#) to find out how it works. 8-11pm, [The Blind Poet](#), West Nicolson Street. Free admission.



International Women's Day in Leith: an all day programme of events, including a **Health Fair** with a talk on alternative therapies, a book reading and signing by **Annie Harrower-Gray**, author of *Harlots and Heroines*, **tai chi** demonstrations, an art exhibition *Remembering Her Story* by **Carol Watson**, **Highland, Irish, Egyptian and tap dancers**, a photography exhibition *The Diversity of Leith Women* by **Kathryn McNerney**, information on **adult education courses**, a **Community Council** stall and lots

more. 10.30am-4.30pm, [South Leith Parish Church](#), Kirkgate. Tickets £5/£3 on the door, £4/£3 in advance (call 07837 596376).



Blackwell's Children's Book Group: if you are 8-11 years old with a love of books and biscuits, join this free group to enjoy a friendly hour of fiction – come and discover more books to treasure. Currently reading ***I, Coriander*** by **Sally Gardner**. 6-7pm, [Blackwell's](#), South Bridge. To join just email your details to childrens.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk.



Image: James Lindsey –
Ecology of Commanster

Living with Bees: the decline in honeybees has attracted much media attention, but around two-thirds of vital pollination in crops and wild plants is carried out by wild bee species and other insects. Discover the world of wild bees in an illustrated talk by **Dr Bernard Vaissiere**, who will explore the important role wild bees play in the lives of plants and people. The talk will be followed by a panel discussion with experts from the **Scottish Wildlife Trust, the Urban Pollinators Project (University of Edinburgh), City of Edinburgh Council** and **Buglife**. For ages 14+. 11am-12.30pm, Lecture Theatre, [Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh](#), Inverleith Row. Free but please book in advance via eventbrite [here](#). This event has been programmed to coincide with the RBGE's ***Urban Bees*** exhibition.



Sofi's Cult Movie Nights: popular classics on the silver screen in the cosy, darkened back room. This week: ***Jurassic Park (PG)*** – shown in anticipation of the release of *Jurassic World* this summer. 'Relive the thrills of 90s CGI!' Free

popcorn! 8pm, [Sofi's Bar](#), 65 Henderson Street.

New Town and Broughton Community Council: local residents are very welcome to attend. 7.30pm, Drummond Room, [Broughton St Mary's Church](#), Bellevue Crescent.



Pochemu? A photographic exploration of the Ukrainian conflict by Monika Holkova. Edinburgh College BA in Professional Photography graduate Holkova spent a period of time documenting the conflict in Ukraine; based in Donetsk, she worked with NGOs photographing the impact of the conflict on the people of the region. (*Pochemu?* means 'why?'). 9am-5.30pm Monday to Thursday, 9am-4.30pm Fridays, with an open private view 6.30-8.30pm on Friday 13th March, [Creative Exchange](#), 29 Constitution Street. Ends 27th March 2015. Free admission.

Frances @ Sneaky Pete's: British singer/songwriter **Sophie Cooke aka Frances** writes and co-produces her own music and is influenced by artists ranging from Aqualung, Sia and Coldplay to Alanis Morissette and Carole King. 'Her unique ethereal tones and keen ear for an infectious melody, supported by her emotive piano playing and 3 piece band, make her one to watch for the future'. Over 18s only. 7pm, [Sneaky Pete's](#), 73 Cowgate. Tickets cost £5 and can be booked [here](#) (transaction fee applies).

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH 2015



International Women's Day at Craigmillar Community Arts: exhibition and talk about **women's role in medicine** from **Emma Black** of the Surgeons' Hall, display showcasing the wide range of talent among **CCA Women's Group**, art workshops, mini facials and manicures and a healthy lunch. 10.30am-2pm, [Craigmillar Community Arts](#), 58 Newcraighall Road. Free: all welcome.



Fountainbridge Library is 75! A library has stood on the Dundee Street site since 1897 – the first neighbourhood library was funded from the estate of philanthropist **Thomas Nelson**, but by the 1930s the building needed to be replaced. **JAW Grant** was appointed to be architect of the new library, with sculptor **Charles D’Orville Pilkington Jackson** commissioned to provide the carving to surmount the main doorway; Jackson’s original plans included ornate carvings of a fountain and a bridge, so he was understandably dismayed when he learned of a planned change of name to ‘Dundee Street Library’ – luckily the plan was dropped, and despite delays caused by the war, the new library was opened in 1940. To celebrate this anniversary, the library has arranged a week of events; today it’s an **After School Children’s Storytelling with Children’s Librarian Simon Radcliffe** – and there will be cake! Children can bring along their grown-ups too. 3.30pm, [Fountainbridge Library](#), 137 Dundee Street. There will also be an **Anniversary Celebration Day** on Wednesday 11th and a **Birthday Bookbug** on Thursday 12th March, plus an exhibition of photos and memories of the last 75 years.



Tiny Tales: A Wiggle and a Jiggle and a Woo Hoo Hoo! Do you ever just want to dance around, swing in the trees, crouch down low and shout Woo Hoo Hoo? An action-packed session with **Maria Menzies**, full of wonderfully wiggly songs and stories. 10am or 11.30am (40 minute sessions), [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £5 per child and can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 556 9579. Please remember to book a free adult ticket for yourself too.



Image: Michele

Lunchtime Concert: Mendelssohn in England and Scotland. **Roberto Prosseda** (piano) will play *Four Songs Without Words*, *Trois Fantaisies ou Caprices op.16*, *Variations Serieuses op.54* and *Fantaisie op. 28 'Scottish Sonata'*. 1.10pm, [Reid Concert Hall](#), University of Edinburgh, Bristo Square. Free: no booking required. Supported by the Italian Cultural Institute in Edinburgh.



The Speakeasy...with guest host Fiona Herbert. Stand-up, songs and stories, with a dash of the unexpected. Uncover true stories from the haunting to the hilarious live on stage, giving some insights into different worlds. This month's line up: **Dave Hook** (aka Solareye from *Stanley Odd*), comedian **Bruce Devlin**, award-winning actor, performer and presenter **Juliette Burton**, comedian **Phil O'Shea**, writer and musician **Paul Docherty**, writer **Angela Hughes**, and a performance by **Adam Tomkins** of his monologue from *I Have Been Looking For You My Whole Life*. For ages 16+. 8pm, Netherbow Theatre, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £7 and can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 556 9579. Advance booking is advised.



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival continues today. 'An exciting and diverse line-up of contemporary and classic Italian cinema, including hilarious comedies, insightful dramas, seat-edge thrillers and classics from award-winning directors'. All films are subtitled in English, Today: ***The Mafia Kills Only in Summer (15)*** 'an inspired coming-of-age comedy that pays heartwarming tribute to all of those who have fallen in the long struggle against the Mafia'. 6.10pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by

calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



Benji the PlayTalkRead bus will be at Muirhouse Library today! Songs, stories and play sessions for young children and their parents and carers. 10am-1pm and 2-4pm, [Muirhouse Library](#), Pennywell Court. Free.



The Church of All Saints,
Selsley, designed by George
Frederick Bodley. Image: W
Lloyd MacKenzie.

The Holiness of Beauty: George Frederick Bodley and the Aesthetic Movement. This seminar in the Edinburgh College of Art Architectural History/Theory series will be led by Bodley specialist **Dr Michael Hall**. 5.15-6.30pm, Common Room, [Minto House](#), 20-22 Chambers Street. Free and open to all.



Photography by
Philippa Oliver

Edinburgh University Shakespeare Company Presents *The Merchant of Venice*: it is the summer of 1939 and Britain is travelling headlong towards one of the most devastating and transformative periods of its history. Oblivious to the oncoming storm, the London elite sit smoking their cigars and enjoying the fruits of their inheritance. 7.30pm today-Saturday 14th March (with 2.30pm matinee on Saturday 14th), [Assembly Roxy](#), 2 Roxburgh Place. Tickets cost £10/£8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#).



Blackwell's Edinburgh Presents Jenni Daiches: *Forgive* (Luath

Press). Jenni Daiches' latest novel is about Ruth and those who come to lodge with her at Netherburn, her home in the remote moors of Scotland, as they all try to live their lives and move on – but the question that always looms for Ruth is, what does it mean to forgive? Jenni Daiches was born in Chicago but has lived in Scotland since 1971. Having worked for some years for the **National Museums of Scotland**, she is now a freelance writer and lecturer, with special interests in Scottish literature, Scottish emigration, and questions of identity. 6.30-7.45pm, [Blackwell's](#), South Bridge. Free tickets are available from the shop's front desk, or by calling 0131 622 8218 or emailing events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk. Tickets can also be obtained from eventbrite [here](#).



Sequamur: a multi-media Gaelic language play by **DS Murray**, reflecting on the life of Lewis educationalist **William Gibson**. The play is based on factual material and integrates a new music and soundscape commission with experimental film projections evoking First World War battle scenes and the reflections of the soldiers as their stories are brought back to Gibson, the teacher who inspired them to leave the classroom and go to war in 1914. A localised World War One commemorative roll of honour with the names of the fallen soldiers from each region the play visits will be screened following the performance. Sequamur is performed in Gaelic with live simultaneous translation into English via headphones. For ages 12+. 1-2.40pm or 7-8.40pm, [Summerhall](#), 1 Summerhall. Tickets cost £10/£7 and can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 560 1581.



Memories of Sighthill Industrial Estate: the theme of this year's **Local History Week** is food and drink, and the library is looking for old photos or memories of the three big food manufacturers who were based in the area – **Milanda the bakers**,

Golden Wonder Crisps and Burton's Biscuits. The library is planning a photographic display for the week, so if you have any **photos or stories** about working on the industrial estate, please phone them 0131 529 5566 or email sighthill.library@edinburgh.gov.uk – and come along to the library's special **reminiscence day today**, at which you can share your tales of the factories whilst enjoying some tea and biscuits. The library will also be posting snippets about the industrial estate on its [Facebook page](#). 10.30am-4.30pm, [Sighthill Library](#), Sighthill Road.



LGBT: Getting to Grips with Relationships. A four-week course exploring the barriers and unhelpful patterns of behaviour that may present in relationships, and discovering ways of overcoming these with a range of creative techniques designed to offer alternate ways of relating to the people in our lives. An ideal course for people with an interest in self-government who wish to make new discoveries in a group setting. 6.30-8.30pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. Booking is essential: please contact Alison Wren on 0131 652 3283 or alison@lgbthealth.org.uk.



Pennywell New Housing Phase 2 Community Information Event: find out more about the new housing planned for Pennywell – timescales, outline design and plans. 4.30-7.30pm, [Muirhouse Library](#), Pennywell Court. (Also at [Craigroyston Community High School](#) on Thursday 12th March 1.30-4.30pm).



Leith Folk Club: Christine Sparks with support **Tomfoolery**. 8pm (doors open 7.30pm), [Victoria Park House Hotel](#), 221 Ferry Road. Tickets cost £7 and can be bought on the door or in advance via the ticket booking line: 07502 024852. 'Bringing

worldwide folk, traditional, blues, bluegrass, Scottish and Celtic music to a local audience.'

WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH 2015



Haiti Street Art: an exhibition to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the 2010 Haiti earthquake. Come and buy to support the country five years on. 9-5pm Wednesday to Sunday (closed Mondays and Tuesdays) until 19th March 2015, [Bon Papillon](#), 15 Howe Street.



Fountainbridge Library is 75! A library has stood on the Dundee Street site since 1897 – the first neighbourhood library was funded from the estate of philanthropist **Thomas Nelson**, but by the 1930s the building needed to be replaced. **JAW Grant** was appointed to be architect of the new library, with sculptor **Charles D'Orville Pilkington Jackson** commissioned to provide the carving to surmount the main doorway; Jackson's original plans included ornate carvings of a fountain and a bridge, so he was understandably dismayed when he learned of a planned change of name to 'Dundee Street Library' – luckily the plan was dropped, and despite delays caused by the war, the new library was opened in 1940. To celebrate this anniversary, the library has arranged a week of events; today it's an **Anniversary Celebration Day**, with coffee, cake and a chance to see the library in days gone by. Drop in and help the staff celebrate whilst adding your favourite memory to the birthday tree. 2pm, [Fountainbridge Library](#), 137 Dundee Street. There will also be a **Birthday Bookbug** on Thursday 12th March, plus an exhibition of photos and memories of the last 75 years.



Painted Ladies: Renaissance Beauty and Cosmetic Practices.

Farah Karim-Cooper (Head of Research, Globe Theatre, London) will explore the idea of beauty in early modern Europe and England, and examine some of the era's 'social media' (texts, theatre and images) that created these ideals. She will also uncover some of the cosmetic recipes and beautifying practices of early modern women. 12.45-1.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.



Bookbug Rhymetime: for young children and their parents and carers. 2pm today and every Wednesday, [Piershill Library](#), Piershill Terrace.



Botanic Cottage Updates and Stories: an informal talk to find out more about the Botanic Cottage as it is re-built stone by stone. For ages 10+. 1-1.30pm, Blue Shed, Demonstration Garden, [Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh](#), Inverleith Row. Free: no booking required.



Morningside Coffee Morning: 10-11.30am today and every Wednesday, Church Halls, [Morningside Parish Church](#), Braid Road/Cluny Gardens. All welcome!



Benji the PlayTalkRead bus will be at Gate 55 today! Songs, stories and play sessions for young children and their parents and carers. 10am-1pm and 2-4pm, [Gate 55](#), Sighthill Road. Free.



Flatland: Jean-Philippe Dordolo and Kadie Salmon. An exhibition of new work produced by the artists during their

recent micro-residencies. Preview 5.30-8pm tonight, then 11am-5pm Thursday to Saturday (or by appointment), [Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop](#), 21 Hawthornvale.



Terry Alderton: All Crazy Now. Come and be part of the audience for a brand new Radio 4 show, due for broadcast this summer. Terry Alderton, multi-award-winning comedian and star of ***Eastenders***, will perform stand-up, stories, characters and sketches, and the show will also feature the mercurial comedian **Boothby Graffoe** on nose flute and vibes. 8pm, Netherbow Theatre, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets are **free** and can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 556 9579.

Lunchtime Concert: Magee Secondary School – chamber choir and string orchestra. 12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival continues today. 'An exciting and diverse line-up of contemporary and classic Italian cinema, including hilarious comedies, insightful dramas, seat-edge thrillers and classics from award-winning directors'. All films are subtitled in English, Today: ***First Snowfall (15)*** 'a tender tale of the shared humanity in two lost souls. A melancholy, sensitively-handled drama, graced by the luminous cinematography of Luca Bigazzi who captures the staggering beauty of the changing Alpine seasons'. 8.45pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



Let Sunshine Into Your Heart: a University of Edinburgh *Let's talk about...understanding disease* lecture. Exciting new

research has shown that sunshine can lower blood pressure. Good news for those who suffer from high blood pressure associated with cardiovascular disease – but what about medical warnings regarding sun exposure? Speakers: **Dr Richard Weller** (MRC Centre for Inflammation Research, University of Edinburgh) and **Dr Darren Shaw** (Royal Vet School, University of Edinburgh & The Roslin Institute). 4.45pm, [Queen's Medical Research Institute](#), Little France Crescent, EH16 4TJ. Free and open to all; please book via eventbrite [here](#).



Bookbug: for children aged 0-4 and their parents and carers. 10.15 or 11.15am today and every Wednesday, [Portobello Library](#), 14 Rosefield Avenue. These sessions are very popular, please arrive early. There is also a session at 11.30am every Saturday.



One Health: intergenerational design strategies for engaging children with nature in cities. Professor Robin Moore and Dr Nilda Cosco (NC State University), international authorities on the design of children's play and learning environments, will propose that a crisis of culture can only be addressed by engaging children with nature from birth, in the places they and their families use in everyday life. How this may be accomplished will be illustrated through the work of the **Natural Learning Initiative** and recent case studies. 6pm, Hunter Building Lecture Theatre, [Edinburgh College of Art](#), Lauriston Place. This is a free public lecture: booking is required and may be made via eventbrite [here](#). For more information contact the organiser, Professor Catharine Ward Thomson, via the eventbrite booking page.



Wiff Waff Wednesday: a monthly ping pong night for all ages

with music, plus great food and drink available to purchase from the Drill Hall Arts Cafe. 'Friendship first, competition second.' 6-10pm, [Out of the Blue Drill Hall](#), 36 Dalmeny Street, Leith. Free admission.



Morningside Parish Church Baby and Toddler Group: for children up to about 3 years. A friendly and informal way for parents to meet and children to have fun with the large selection of toys. All welcome, no pre-registration needed – just turn up. 10-11.30am today and every Wednesday and Monday, [Morningside Parish Church](#), Braid Road/Cluny Gardens. £1.50 donation per session.



Morningside Justice and Peace Group: Why is there a conspiracy to silence charities? Chief Executive, Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations **Martin Sime** addresses this question, followed by a Q & A session. 10.30-11.30am, [The Open Door](#), 420 Morningside Road. £1 per person. For more information contact Barbara Darcy on 0131 228 1807 or b.darcy20@gmail.com.



Nalini Paul: image –
Scottish Poetry Library

Poetry Association of Scotland: Mary Johnston & Nalini Paul Reading. A Doric poet, winner of the Callum MacDonald Memorial Award 2014 for her pamphlet *The Angel and the Aipple*, teams up with an Indian poet who has just had her illustrated poem *Hrafn Floki* purchased by the National Gallery of Modern Art. 7.30pm, [The Saltire Society](#), 9 Fountain Close. Admission £5/£4 (free for members of the Association): no advance booking needed. For further information please contact Mario Relich: dmr.lit@fsmail.net.



LGBT: Just for Men. A relaxed social opportunity for men who want to meet other gay, bisexual or transgender men in one of Edinburgh's newest LGBT-friendly bars. For over-18s only. 6.30-8.30pm, [Woodland Creatures](#), 260-262 Leith Walk.



The Old Edinburgh Club: Professor Stana Nenadic – Artisans, Design Education and the Scottish Luxury Trades 1780-1914. 7pm, [Augustine United Church](#), George IV Bridge. Admission £5 (members free). The Old Edinburgh Club was founded in 1908 with the aim of recording the vanishing evidence of Edinburgh's history, its buildings and its past inhabitants from prehistoric times onwards.



Common Weal Edinburgh North & Leith: Poetry & Spoken Word Open Mic. A celebration of local spoken word hosted by local poet **Jenny Lindsay (Rally & Broad)**: 5 minute open mic slots available for spoken word of any kind. To sign up for a spot email commonwealenl@gmail.com or note your interest on the event's [Facebook page](#). 7-9.30pm, [Area C Coffee House](#), 239-241 Leith Walk.



Jammin at Voodoo: monthly jam session with some of Scotland's leading musicians playing lounge grooves from many genres. Blues, soul, funk, ska, rock, reggae, jazz and country; musicians play by invitation to set a good standard. For over 18s only. 9-11pm, The Ballroom, [The Voodoo Rooms](#), 19a West Register Street. Free admission.



Edinburgh University Shakespeare Company Presents *The Merchant*

of Venice: it is the summer of 1939 and Britain is travelling headlong towards one of the most devastating and transformative periods of its history. Oblivious to the oncoming storm, the London elite sit smoking their cigars and enjoying the fruits of their inheritance. 7.30pm today-Saturday 14th March (with 2.30pm matinee on Saturday 14th), [Assembly Roxy](#), 2 Roxburgh Place. Tickets cost £10/£8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#).

THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2015



Maggie's Edinburgh Book Launch: following the success of *Lights in the Constellation of the Crab*, Angus Ogilvy will launch his new book of poems for Maggie's *House Clearing by Moonlight* with readings and a signing session. 'Angus has been prolific and highly generous with his poetry. His remarkable gift for words evokes deep emotions and gives space for calm reflection...The sales of his first book have generated over £3,000 for Maggie's, and we are so grateful for his ongoing support...' (Andrew Anderson, Centre Head, Maggie's Edinburgh). 6-7.30pm (gathering from 5.30pm), [Maggie's Edinburgh](#), Western General Hospital, Crewe Road South. Please let Maggie's know if you plan to attend: email amy.robertson@maggiescentres.org or call 0131 537 3131 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.



Easel Sketching in the Gallery: March. Led by artist **Damian Callan**; a different subject every month, sometimes with a model. All materials supplied. 2-4pm, Main Gallery Floor, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free: no booking required. Also at same times on Friday 13th March.



Blackwell's Edinburgh Presents John Lister-Kaye: one of Britain's best known naturalists and conservationists launches

his new book ***Gods of the Morning: A Bird's Eye View of a Highland Year***. Sir John Lister-Kaye runs the world famous **Aigas Field Centre** in the Scottish Highlands; his new book follows a year through the turning of the seasons at Aigas, exploring the habits of the Highland animals – and in particular the birds, his ‘gods of the morning’ – for whom he has nourished a lifelong passion. 6.30-8pm, [Blackwell's](#), South Bridge. Free tickets are available from the shop's front desk, or by calling 0131 622 8218 or emailing events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk. Tickets can also be obtained from eventbrite [here](#).



Benji the PlayTalkRead bus will be at Pennywell Shops, Pennywell Road today! Songs, stories and play sessions for young children and their parents and carers. 10am-1pm and 2-4pm, Pennywell Shops, Pennywell Road. Free.



Image:

www.geograph.co.uk

Mayfield Salisbury Thursday Club: Honeysuckle Swing, with **Diana Saunderson** and **Gus Carmichael**. 2-4pm, Upper Hall, [Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church](#), 18 West Mayfield. Visitors of any age very welcome: tea 50p, annual membership £3. For more information please contact Florence Smith on 0131 663 1234.



Fountainbridge Library is 75! A library has stood on the Dundee Street site since 1897 – the first neighbourhood library was funded from the estate of philanthropist **Thomas Nelson**, but by the 1930s the building needed to be replaced. **JAW Grant** was appointed to be architect of the new library, with sculptor **Charles D'Orville Pilkington Jackson**

commissioned to provide the carving to surmount the main doorway; Jackson's original plans included ornate carvings of a fountain and a bridge, so he was understandably dismayed when he learned of a planned change of name to 'Dundee Street Library' – luckily the plan was dropped, and despite delays caused by the war, the new library was opened in 1940. To celebrate this anniversary, the library has arranged a week of events; today it's a **Birthday Bookbug** – so come along in your party outfits, and have your best singing voices ready! 10.30am, [Fountainbridge Library](#), 137 Dundee Street. There will also be an exhibition of photos and memories of the last 75 years.



Crops In Pots: in time for spring, come along for an interactive evening of planting and discussion. All ages welcome to come and talk about growing food in an urban environment. 7pm, [Area C Coffee House](#), 239-241 Leith Walk.



Storytime: for 3-5 year olds. 10.30-11am today and every Thursday, [Central Children's Library](#), George IV Bridge.



Cafe Voices: Sheroes. Who is your 'shero'? Join storyteller **Ruth Kirkpatrick** – whose 'sheros' include **Billie Jean King, Mo Mowlem, Grace Darling**...and her **Great Granny** – for an evening celebrating great heroines. This is the Centre's monthly storytelling session, with an **open-floor section** where you can 'tip your hat' to your own heroine by telling a story about her. Stories, songs, music, poems – and even a wee dance – are all welcome. 7pm, Storytelling Court, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £5 and can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 556 9579



John Byrne and
His Guitars by
Mark Mulholland,
copyright Mark
Mulholland.

Portrait Gallery Curator's Talk: BP Portrait Award 2014. A chance to chat to the Portrait Gallery curators about current exhibitions: this month Chief Curator **Julie Lawson** will talk about the BP Portrait Award. 5.30-6pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free: no booking required.



Pennywell New Housing Phase 2 Community Information Event: find out more about the new housing planned for Pennywell – timescales, outline design and plans. 1.30-4.30pm, [Craigroyston Community High School](#), Pennywell Road.



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival continues today. 'An exciting and diverse line-up of contemporary and classic Italian cinema, including hilarious comedies, insightful dramas, seat-edge thrillers and classics from award-winning directors'. All films are subtitled in English, Today: ***China is Near (15)*** 'Marco Bellocchio's lovingly-restored black comedy anticipates the upheavals of May 1968 and remains a splendidly caustic excursion into class conflict and sexual politics'. 8.45pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



The Drawing Room: an informal, artist-led drawing session,

developed by a contemporary artist and reflecting concerns in that artist's work. All materials supplied, no experience necessary. 5.30-6.45pm, [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art TWO](#), Belford Road. Please note venue: this session takes place in the *Two Roberts* exhibition. Free but please book by contacting the Education Department on 0131 624 6410 or emailing education@nationalgalleries.org.



Photography by
Philippa Oliver

Edinburgh University Shakespeare Company Presents *The Merchant of Venice*: it is the summer of 1939 and Britain is travelling headlong towards one of the most devastating and transformative periods of its history. Oblivious to the oncoming storm, the London elite sit smoking their cigars and enjoying the fruits of their inheritance. 7.30pm today-Saturday 14th March (with 2.30pm matinee on Saturday 14th), [Assembly Roxy](#), 2 Roxburgh Place. Tickets cost £10/£8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#).



Edinburgh College of Art Thursday Research Seminar Series: Dyeing, Bleaching, Printing – Morris and Abundance. This seminar will be chaired by **Professor Caroline Arscott** (Courtauld Institute) and followed by a drinks reception. Lecture Room 1, [Minto House](#), 20-22 Chambers Street. Free and open to all: no booking required.



Saltire Society

Caesura #29 and the Scottish Poetry Library: 'experimental poetry wonder night...the home for sound poetry, found poetry, text-based performance art and all manner of linguistic innovation'. This month's performers are poet **Sarah Kelly**,

writer **Maria Fusco**, poet and editor **Anthony Autumn** and poetry and prose writer **Jim Ferguson**. 7-10pm (doors open 6.30pm), [The Saltire Society](#), 9 Fountain Close. Tickets cost £5/£4 and can be booked via eventbrite [here](#). For further information please contact jennifer.williams@spl.org.uk.



Spark Lunchtime Concerts: Music by Ravel and Poulenc played by students from the **Reid School of Music**, University of Edinburgh. 12 noon-12.45pm, [Greyfriars Kirk](#), Greyfriars Place. Free, no booking required.



Stills Film Screening: *Looking for Light*. Stills presents a moving portrait of the late photographer **Jane Bown** and the many iconic photographs that span her 6 decade career, including portraits of **Samuel Beckett**, **Mick Jagger**, **HRH Queen Elizabeth II** and **Bjork** and interviews with **Rankin**, **Edna O'Brien** and **Don McCullin**. Directed by **Luke Dodd** and **Michael Whyte**. 6.30-8.30pm, [Stills](#), 23 Cockburn Street. Booking is required but tickets are **free**, and can be obtained via eventbrite [here](#).



Ecumenical Friends at St John's: John Munro – Lent Meditation. 1pm, [St John's Church](#), Princes Street (please note different time and venue). All warmly welcome: bring your own packed lunch, tea and coffee are provided. £1.50 per person, These events are organised by Edinburgh City Centre Churches TOGETHER.

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH 2015



After the War.... an exhibition featuring the work of **Garvald**

artists on paper, glass and clay, inspired by post-war popular culture. Open preview tonight 6-8pm, then 11am-5pm Tuesday to Saturday, [The Gallery on the Corner](#), Northumberland Street. Ends 28th March 2015. **Garvald Edinburgh** is a Scottish charity offering creative opportunities and support for people with learning difficulties. It is inspired by the ideas of Rudolph Steiner, and has been operating in Edinburgh since 1969. **The Gallery on the Corner** is a commercial gallery and studio providing a platform to exhibit and sell artwork produced by artists who have a physical or mental health condition; it was the first social firm developed by Autism Ventures Scotland.



Easel Sketching in the Gallery: March. Led by artist **Damian Callan**; a different subject every month, sometimes with a model. All materials supplied. 2-4pm, Main Gallery Floor, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free: no booking required.



Comic Relief Bake Sale: cakes, chocolate, biscuits, tea and coffee on sale to help to raise funds for Comic Relief: 10.30am, [South Neighbourhood Office and Library](#), 40 Captain's Road. All welcome!



Potential Energy: The Politics of Energy in Scotland. Launch of the latest publication by **The Post Collective**, which looks at issues including fracking, renewables, climate change, fuel poverty and the media. 'There are few issues so urgent as the future of energy production, and few that divide opinion even among progressives. *Potential Energy* looks to address these issues head-on'. The launch will feature lively debate and discussion about the future of Scottish energy, an exhibition by photographer **Keith Brame**, and the first chance to buy a

copy of the book. 7-10pm, [Area C Coffee House](#), 239-241 Leith Walk. All welcome: BYOB.



Storytime: come along and help roll out the Magic Story Rug. 10.30am today and every Friday, [Piershill Library](#), Piershill Terrace.



St Giles' Son et Lumiere: two hours of sound and silence, light and darkness. Space and time to sit, to wander, to think, to be. 6-8pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. £3 on the door.



The Travelling Gallery: Design In Motion. The Travelling Gallery's spring 2015 tour is a collaboration with the new **V & A Dundee**, taking exhibits, designers and the V & A Dundee team across the country, connecting communities with Scotland's design heritage and raising awareness of the talent in Scotland's present-day design industries, inspiring creativity along the way. The exhibition concept, brought to life by DJCAD-trained **Gabrielle Underwood**, will showcase seven innovative designers currently working with digital technology to push the boundaries of their discipline within games, product, jewellery, fashion, textiles and built heritage. **10am-5pm**, [Edinburgh College, West Granton Road](#) ; please note access may be restricted at certain times owing to visiting groups. For more information please contact [The Travelling Gallery](#) via City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, EH1 1DE, 0131 529 3930 or travellinggallery@edinburgh.gov.uk.



Edinburgh College of Art Friday Lecture Series: Egill Saebjornsson. 11.30am – please contact [ECA](#) to check time and

for details of venue.



Benji the PlayTalkRead bus will be at Oxgangs Library today! Songs, stories and play sessions for young children and their parents and carers. 10am-1pm and 2-4pm, [Oxgangs Library](#), 343 Oxgangs Road North. Free.



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival continues today. 'An exciting and diverse line-up of contemporary and classic Italian cinema, including hilarious comedies, insightful dramas, seat-edge thrillers and classics from award-winning directors'. All films are subtitled in English, Today: **Greenery Will Bloom Again (12A)** 'Ermanno Olmi brings an intensely personal perspective to the horrors of the First World War.....Beautifully photographed, the film offers simple, eloquent testimony that "war is an ugly beast that travels around the world and never ceases" '. 8.45pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



Comic Relief Crafts with Buzz Lightyear and Upsy Daisy! A special crafts session. 2pm, [South Neighbourhood Office and Library](#), 40 Captain's Road.



Lunchtime Concert: **Simon Coverdale** and **Margaret Wakeford** (piano duet) play Hindemith *Sonata* (1938), Debussy *Petite Suite* and Schubert *Theme and 8 Variations on Herold's 'Marie'*. 1.10pm, [Reid Concert Hall](#), University of Edinburgh, Bristo Square. Free: no booking required.



Edinburgh University Shakespeare Company Presents *The Merchant of Venice*: it is the summer of 1939 and Britain is travelling headlong towards one of the most devastating and transformative periods of its history. Oblivious to the oncoming storm, the London elite sit smoking their cigars and enjoying the fruits of their inheritance. 7.30pm today and Saturday 14th March (with 2.30pm matinee on Saturday 14th), [Assembly Roxy](#), 2 Roxburgh Place. Tickets cost £10/£8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#).



Balerno Village Screen: *Marvellous* (12): Neil Baldwin (**Toby Jones**), born just after the war, is considered to have learning difficulties but has an appetite for life. Encouraged by his mother Mary, he joins a circus, moves to **Keele University**, gets to manage its unofficial football team, and talks his way into becoming the kit man and mascot of **Stoke City**. For Neil there are no boundaries: his interest in religion leads to him becoming a lay preacher, whilst he presents himself at the **House of Commons** for tea with his MP **Tony Benn**, and at **Cambridge**, where he strikes up a friendship with **Prince Andrew**. With his indomitable attitude overcoming early set-backs and the death of his beloved mother, life for Neil is – marvellous. 7.30-9pm, [St Joseph's Hall](#), Main Street, Balerno, Advance booking is preferred to enable BVS to manage numbers: tickets are available from Balerno Post Office and The Mill Cafe in the St Joseph's Centre, or via eventbrite [here](#). Balerno Village Screen is a community cinema funded by donations. Tickets for all films are free.



Rhythm & Shoes: Edinburgh-based Irish dance group **Absolutely Legless** present their show *Rhythm and Shoes* to celebrate **St Patrick's Day**. 'An evening full of traditional music, song and

dance which guarantees to get your toes tapping and your hands clapping'. 7.30pm, Netherbow Theatre, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £10/£8 and can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 556 9579.



Pochemu? A photographic exploration of the Ukrainian conflict by Monika Holkova. Edinburgh College BA in Professional Photography graduate Holkova spent a period of time documenting the conflict in Ukraine; based in Donetsk, she worked with NGOs photographing the impact of the conflict on the people of the region. (*Pochemu?* means 'why?'). Open private view tonight, 6.30-8.30pm, otherwise 9am-5.30pm Monday to Thursday, 9am-4.30pm Fridays, [Creative Exchange](#), 29 Constitution Street. Ends 27th March 2015. Free admission.



The Portobello Comedy Night: live stand up comedy with **Michael Redmond**, **Paul McDaniel** and **Iain Pollock**, hosted by **Steven Davidson**. 8.30pm, [Dalriada](#), 77 Promenade, Portobello. Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased from the Dalriada, via Brown Paper tickets [here](#) (booking fee applies) or on the door, subject to availability.

SATURDAY 14TH MARCH 2015



Big Ears, Little Ears Family Concerts with the **Scottish Chamber Orchestra**: two very special family concerts with a small ensemble from the SCO, for parents and their young babies or toddlers in a 'tut-free, child-friendly zone' where you can 'relax and share the enjoyment and pleasure of a fabulous live music experience'. 10.30am (for babies up to 12 months) or 11.45am (for ages 1-4 years), [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free but booking is required

via the SCO website [here](#). A maximum of two adults is allowed per child: if you have a baby and a toddler, you are advised to opt for the 11.45am concert.



Excelsior Per Cantum: The Great British Folk Song. The chamber choir of **Heriot-Watt University** perform an evening of songs from all the corners of Britain in the unique, **candlelit setting of the Rosslyn Chapel**. 7.30pm (doors open 7pm), [Rosslyn Chapel](#), Chapel Loan, Roslin. The concert will last about one hour and will be followed by drinks. Tickets cost £10/£8/£7 and can be booked via the Rosslyn Chapel website [here](#). All proceeds are being donated by the choir to the Rosslyn Chapel Trust education programme.



The Story Kist: Inclusive Storytelling. Stories of the wild woods – who will we meet if we go down to the woods today? Come and enjoy some multi-sensory stories, songs and adventures with storytellers **Allie Finlay** and **Marie Louise Cochrane**. Intriguing props and puppets! Lots of fun for everyone, but particularly for **children with additional needs**, their families, friends and carers. 11am, Storytelling Bothy, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £5 per child and can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 556 9579; don't forget to book a free ticket for yourself too.



St John's Art Exhibition: local artists combine their talents. Opening party tonight with refreshments and raffle (the prize is this painting, raffle to be drawn on Sunday), 6.30-9pm, [St John's Church](#), Princes Street.



Holy Corner Community Playgroup Fundraising Family Ceilidh: live music, home baking, cafe, photo booth, lucky dip, face painting, raffle and lots more! 2-4pm, [Polwarth Parish Church](#), 36 Polwarth Terrace. Tickets cost £5 on the door, under-2s free. For further information contact anna@momedia.co.uk.



Photography by
Philippa Oliver

Edinburgh University Shakespeare Company Presents *The Merchant of Venice*: it is the summer of 1939 and Britain is travelling headlong towards one of the most devastating and transformative periods of its history. Oblivious to the oncoming storm, the London elite sit smoking their cigars and enjoying the fruits of their inheritance. 2.30pm and 7.30pm, [Assembly Roxy](#), 2 Roxburgh Place. Tickets cost £10/£8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#).



LGBT Women's Group: Sugar and Spice. An inclusive group that offers the chance to meet other LGBT women in a relaxed environment; chat, information and activities promoting health and wellbeing. The group is open to all LGBT women, and welcomes transgender people who identify primarily as women. Today: meet at **Out of the Blue** for an opportunity to buy brunch and listen to local music performers. (Optional weather-dependent walk to the Water of Leith 2-2.30pm). 11.30am-2pm [Out of the Blue](#), Dalmeny Street. For more information and to add your name to the group's mailing list, contact Alison Wren at alison@lgbthealth.org.uk or call 0131 652 3283.



St Bride's Family Cinema: see your favourite films for free! Adventure, excitement, fun and laughs – it's all here. Choc

ices and juice available during the interval for 50p each. This week: ***The Iron Giant (U)***, next week: ***Ice Age 2: The Meltdown (U)***. All children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. 10.30am-12.30pm (including interval), [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace, Dalry.



Lunchtime Concert: Miskelly Chorale, Comber, County Down. 12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.



Drumbrae Library Hub CoderDojo: with a special guest mentor, **Yann Seznec** of BAFTA award-winning **Luckyframe Software**. Yann will inspire attendees with his out-of-the-box thinking to create wild game ideas that'll blow your mind. Yann will be joining the Dojo for a number of sessions so you will be able to develop your concepts into fully interactive experiences. For ages 10-16. 2-4pm today then fortnightly, [Drumbrae Library Hub](#), 81 Drumbrae Drive.



Fischy Music: a fun-filled sing-along concert of old and new songs. Children must be accompanied by an adult. 2-3pm, [Cluny Centre](#), 1 Cluny Drive. £5 per child, accompanying adults free. This event is hosted by Morningside and Greenbank Parish Churches. For more information or to book, call 0131 447 9969 or visit greenbankchurch.org.



Balerno Tattie Day (rescheduled): a huge variety of **seed potatoes, onions and peas** for sale, **activities for children** (seed planting, arts & crafts) and a visit from **Fresh Revolution**, who will cook up some delicious tattie recipes in their van outside the halls. Advice for beginners, top tips from experienced growers – and if you haven't got a garden,

they'll show you how to grow potatoes in a sack! **The Mill Cafe** will serve hot drinks and home baking, and the **Balerno Farmers' Market** will run alongside in Main Street. Tattie Day is part of **Balerno Village Trust's Sustain Balerno project** and is supported by the Scottish Government's Community Food Fund to promote local food and drink. 9.30am-1pm, [Balerno Parish Church Halls](#), 2 Main Street.



Nothing But The Poem: WB Yeats. A poetry reading and discussion session with poet **Kate Hendry**. No previous knowledge or experience necessary! 11am or 2pm (both sessions will feature the same material), [The Saltire Society](#), 9 Fountain Close. Tickets cost £5/£4 and can be booked via eventbrite [here](#). For further information contact jennifer.williams@spl.org.uk.



Hearing Dogs for Deaf People Fundraising Ceilidh with the Robert Fish Band: 8pm (doors open 7.30pm)-12 midnight, [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace, Dalry. Tickets cost £10 and are available from St Bride's on 0131 555 7668 or cld-stbrides@ea.edin.sch.uk.



Edinburgh Yarn Festival 2015: a festival of all things woolly and related to yarn, knitting, weaving, crochet, spinning and felting. A market place with **100+ vendors** (including some who have never been seen in Scotland before), plus **32 classes and workshops** from some of the finest teachers the international knitting industry and designer scene has to offer – and a host of other attractions – even a Yarn Cafe! 10am-5.30pm today and 10am-5pm tomorrow, [Edinburgh Corn Exchange](#), New Market Road. Tickets cost £8 per day or £12 for the weekend. Workshops are not included and must be booked and paid for separately. There

is also a special evening party tonight from 6.30pm; separate tickets are required for this: see [website](#) for all ticket details and to book in advance; it will be possible to buy tickets on the door, but with cash only.



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival continues today. 'An exciting and diverse line-up of contemporary and classic Italian cinema, including hilarious comedies, insightful dramas, seat-edge thrillers and classics from award-winning directors'. All films are subtitled in English, Today: **Leopardi (15)** 'Poet, philosopher and philologist Giacomo Leopardi remains one of Italy's greatest literary figures, and Mario Martone's biography offers us a darkly insightful portrait.' 8.35pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



Bookbug: for children aged 0-4 and their parents and carers. 11.30am today and every Saturday, [Portobello Library](#), 14 Rosefield Avenue. These sessions are very popular, please arrive early. There are also sessions at 10.15am and 11.15am every Wednesday.



The Torrance Gallery: Spring Exhibition. Over 60 gallery artists, with jewellery by **Sheana Stephen**. 11am-6pm Monday to Friday, 10.30am-4pm Saturdays, [The Torrance Gallery](#), 36 Dundas Street. Sheana Stephen will be in attendance at the Gallery 6-8pm on Friday 4th April and 11am-1pm on Saturday 5th April.



Bruncheon – Featuring The Sound of Muesli: local musical talent and DJs create a chilled-out atmosphere, whilst the

Drill Hall Arts Cafe offers delicious home-made food – kippers, morning rolls and sweet treats aplenty! 11.30am-3pm, [Out of the Blue Drill Hall](#), 36 Dalmeny Street, Leith. Free admission.



Where Language Ends: Ross Birrell and David Harding. An exhibition celebrating the importance of symbolic labour and the possibility of transcending a purely material reality; spectacular coloured window installations, sculptural objects, prints and multi-media works in which music emerges as a redemptive force; a force never far from brutality and violence.. In many works the virtuosity of a musical performance is captured, whilst allusions to the musicians' backgrounds highlight dangerous social and political circumstances, with poignant references to those in exile, poets and musicians writing from the margins to generate new worlds and modes of being. Ross Birrell and David Harding are artists based in Glasgow. Preview 12.30pm today, then 10am-5pm Monday to Friday, 12 noon-5pm Saturdays, Talbot Rice Gallery, University of Edinburgh, Old College. The preview will be preceded at 11am by **a talk by Ross Birrell and David Harding;** free tickets can be booked via eventbrite [here](#). Exhibition ends 2nd May 2015: admission is free.



Singer locomotive, courtesy
of Patti Lomax

Spotlight on Eric Lomax, Railway Man of War and Peace. President of the Stephenson Locomotive Society **Dr Michael Bailey** tells the story of Eric Lomax, whose photographs form a remarkable archive of pre-war Scottish railways. Eric's autobiography, *The Railway Man*, now a feature film, tells the story of his incarceration during the Second World War and subsequent bouts of combat stress. For ages 14+. 2-3.30pm

(doors open 1.45pm), Auditorium, Level One, [National Museum of Scotland](#), Chambers Street. Free but booking is required and may be made online [here](#) or by calling in to NMS's reception desk.



St John's Lent Lectures – discussing practical Christianity. Today: *Christian Ethics* with The Rt Rev Dr Alan Wilson (Bishop of Buckingham). The lecture will be followed by discussion and refreshments. 10am-12 noon, [St John's Church Hall](#), Princes Street. To register please email stephen.holmes@stjohns-edinburgh.org.uk.



Palestine Double Bill @ Area C: Edinburgh-based singing group **San Ghanny** visited the West Bank in 2012 to sing in solidarity with people in Palestine. Since returning to Scotland, San Ghanny has shared through songs and stories the accounts and experiences heard and seen during the visit. Followed by a screening of *Over the Wall*, the true story of the journey of a team of young footballers who are transformed by the events they witness in the Middle East. 7pm (San Ghanny), 8.15pm (Over the Wall), [Area C Coffee House](#), 239-241 Leith Walk. All welcome.



Portobello Open Door: *What We Did On Our Holiday* (12A). 7pm, [The Wash House Community Centre](#), 3 Adelphi Grove. Tickets cost £5/£3 and can be purchased from Popeye's Sandwich Bar, 132 Portobello High Street. Please note under 12s must be accompanied by an adult. Bring your own bean bag, food and drink.



Saturday Sessions featuring The Whole Shebang: 8-piece

bluegrass collective performing a wide range of material, from the 1930s to the 2000s. 2pm, [Sofi's Bar](#), 65 Henderson Street.



Balerno Village Screen: *Pride* (15). Summer 1984: Margaret Thatcher is in power and the **National Union of Mineworkers (NUM)** is on strike. At the **Gay Pride** march in London, a group of gay and lesbian activists decides to raise money to support the families of striking miners – but at first some members of the Union seems embarrassed to accept this support. Read The Edinburgh Reporter's ***Top 5 films of 2014*** – of which *Pride* was No. 3 – [here](#). 7.30-9.30pm, [St Joseph's Hall](#), Main Street, Balerno. Advance booking is preferred to enable BVS to manage numbers: tickets are available from Balerno Post Office and The Mill Cafe in the St Joseph's Centre, or via eventbrite [here](#). Balerno Village Screen is a community cinema funded by donations. Tickets for all films are free.



SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 2015



Bags of Art: cool and creative fun with artists **Tessa Asquith Lamb** and **Louise Fraser**. For ages 4-12. 2-4pm, [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art ONE](#), Belford Road. Free, no booking required. Supported by the Friends of NGS.



St Patrick's Portobello & Craigmillar Promenade Pageant: a family day out to celebrate Scottish and Irish culture. Music, dancing, children's activities and local community groups. Begins 2pm from the [Dalriada](#), 77 Promenade, Portobello.



Edinburgh Yarn Festival 2015: a festival of all things woolly and related to yarn, knitting, weaving, crochet, spinning and felting. A market place with **100+ vendors** (including some who have never been seen in Scotland before), plus **32 classes and workshops** from some of the finest teachers the international knitting industry and designer scene has to offer – and a host of other attractions – even a Yarn Cafe! 10am-5pm, [Edinburgh Corn Exchange](#), New Market Road. Tickets cost £8 per day or £12 for the weekend. Workshops are not included and must be booked and paid for separately. See [website](#) for all ticket details and to book in advance; it will be possible to buy tickets on the door, but with cash only.



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival continues today. ‘An exciting and diverse line-up of contemporary and classic Italian cinema, including hilarious comedies, insightful dramas, seat-edge thrillers and classics from award-winning directors’. All films are subtitled in English, Today: ***Illustrious Corpses (15)*** ‘In a country rocked by political unrest, a district attorney is murdered in Palermo, and dogged inspector Rogas is assigned to the case. As two judges are subsequently murdered, he tries to make sense of a killing spree that appears to be linked to official corruption and miscarriages of justice, but grows increasingly uneasy about the cynicism of the state and the true price of dissent. A film that remains strikingly relevant, *Illustrious Corpses* remains one of the finest in Francesco Rosi’s long career’. This screening will be introduced by **Dr Pasquale Iannone** (University of Edinburgh). 8.30pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



NGS Hearing Impaired Tour: BP Portrait Award 2014. A free tour

of the exhibition with portable loops, led by artist Tessa Asquith-Lamb. 11am-12 noon, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. To book a place please contact the Information Desk on 0131 624 6560.



Sunday Crafts at the Library: 2pm today and every Sunday, [Portobello Library](#), 14 Rosefield Avenue. Please note that all children under 8 years must be accompanied by someone over the age of 12.



Filmhouse Junior: screenings for a younger audience. This week: ***Into The Woods (PG)***. 11am, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets cost £4 per person, big or small.



The Poozies: 'a powerful combination of rhythmic, punching acoustic guitar, Camac electric harp, dextrous fiddle and accordion, and spine-tingling songs in four-part harmony'. Over 18s only. 7.30pm, [The Voodoo Rooms](#), 19a West Register Street. Tickets cost £10 and can be booked online [here](#) (transaction fee applies) or by calling 0131 556 7060.

St Giles' At Six: Hector Scott (violin and viola) and **Anna Mavromatidi** (piano) play Beethoven *Kreutzer Sonata* and Brahms *Sonata for Viola in E flat*. 6pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free: retiring collection.



Hibs to face Falkirk in Scottish Cup semi-final after beating Berwick Rangers 4-0



Hibs will face Falkirk in the semi-final of this year's William Hill Scottish Cup after a comfortable 4-0 win over Berwick Rangers at Easter Road this afternoon.

Head Coach Alan Stubbs made two changes to the starting XI that beat Alloa Athletic last weekend, bringing back Liam Fontaine to replace the cup-tied Keith Watson and Jason Cummings in place of Franck Dja Djedje,

Borderer Liam Craig who used to watch Berwick Rangers as a youngster had to settle for a place on the bench alongside Danny Handling and Jordon Forster, both of whom played for the 'English' side on loan earlier in their careers.

David Gray captained the side in place of Craig.

Berwick who are managed by ex-Hearts' midfielder Colin Cameron, fielded Lee Currie and David Gold who were previously on Hibs' books as youngsters.

Hibs started brightly and Dominique Malonga almost opened the scoring in the fourth minute but his strike was deflected wide.

The Edinburgh side then dominated possession and eventually took the lead in the 25th minute when Fontaine found Lewis Stevenson on the left wing. Hibs' longest serving player then sent a magnificent through ball into the path of Cummings who calmly slid the ball past William Bald into the net.

Two minutes later Stevenson took possession of the ball on the

wing before cutting inside. After beating two Berwick defenders he played a superb one-two with Malonga before smashing a shot into the corner of the net to double Hibs advantage.

Just after the break, a Gray header from Scott Allan's corner struck the post as Hibs looked to wrap things up.

In the 62nd minute Sam Stanton replaced Allan and Stubbs' decision was vindicated two minutes later when Stevenson found Dylan McGeouch on the left wing. The on-loan Celtic star calmly slipped the ball to Malonga whose shot was saved by Bald but he could only divert the ball into the path of Stanton who side footed it into the empty net.

With eight minutes remaining, Hibs added a fourth. Cummings did well to find Sam Stanton on the edge of the box and the youngster slid the ball into the path of substitute Craig whose shot looked to be heading for the top corner before Bald produced a wonder save to divert the ball over the bar. Referee Bobby Madden initially awarded a goal kick but changed his mind after consulting his assistant.

Stanton sent the resultant corner into the six yard box and Fontaine headed the ball into the net to complete the scoring.

The draw was made after the Dundee United v Celtic game at Tannadice which ended in a 1-1 draw. The winners of that game will face either Inverness Caledonian Thistle or Raith Rovers whose game was postponed yesterday and will take place on Tuesday.

Hibs v Falkirk is a repeat of the 2013 semi-final which ended in a 4-3 win for Hibs who fought back from being 3-0 down at half time.

Hibs: Oxley, Gray, Hanlon, Fontaine, Stevenson, Robertson, Allan, Fyvie, McGeouch, Malonga, Cummings. Subs Cerny, Forster, Craig, Stanton, Handling, Martin, Djedje

Berwick Ragers : Bald, Jacobs, Drummond, Notman, Young, Fairbairn, Gray, Currie, Russell, Gold, Willis. Subs Andrews, Lavery, Dargo, Maxwell, Miller, Bauld, Henderson.

Referee Bobby Madden

Attendance 11,251

Travel – Getting to know Ontario

Ontario Tourism, the Canadian Tourism Commission, Tourism Toronto and Ottawa Tourism are working together to bring the Canadian province to the UK this Spring with an advertising drive called Out of Home beginning on 16 March 2015.

If you are travelling through St Pancras Station in London this month then look out for the wall panel connecting St Pancras and King's Cross inviting you to experience six days in Ontario with a series of Instagram-like photos.

The campaign will also flood newspapers and online for the next month and a half.

Consumers will be invited to go to www.ontariotravel.net/visitnow where eight tour operator packages will be featured allowing visitors to book trips to Ontario, ranging from city breaks to touring and fly-drive packages bookable through a number of UK operators including Canadian Affair, Titan and Thomas Cook Signature.



Ontario Tourism will run a supporting social media campaign using the hash tag #DiscoverOntario. There will also be a social media element running later in the year, when bloggers will have the opportunity to take part in some of the most exciting experiences that Ontario has to offer. These include canoeing in Algonquin Park and a trip to Niagara Falls.

The e-newsletter will be sent out to Ontario Tourism's database of over 70,000 consumers giving them the opportunity to book the featured packages directly with tour operator partners and enter a competition to win a seven night trip to Ontario. The competition will include Canadian Affair offering consumers a chance to win a seven night fly-drive for two valued at approximately £2000, this competition will be running throughout the campaign.

Further competition details can be found at:
www.ontariotravel.net/visitnow

Lisa LaVecchia, Vice President Marketing of Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation said: "Following the remarkable success of last year's "6 Unforgettable Days in Ontario" Out of Home Advertising Campaign, we are very excited about making it bigger and better this year!

Running the campaign for a period of up to six weeks means additional exposure for Ontario and will tell the Ontario travel story in a more exciting way. We are looking forward to rolling out the new campaign in partnership with the Canadian Tourism Commission."

Rugby – Stewarts-Melville v Watsonians, RBS National League, Div. 1

'Sonians come back from the brink to take the win



If only the possession and territory stats from the first half had been consulted then the observer would have been expecting a veritable cricket score from Stewarts-Melville, but – as someone famous once (should have) said – there are lies, damned lies and the result at the final whistle!

The first half of Stew-Mel's final – and extremely windy – home match of the league was played almost completely in Watsonians half. Indeed, a large part was played in their 22, with the home side dominating almost the whole of the gameplay – lineouts and scrums included – and only some desperate defence, coupled with the odd handling error, kept the home side at bay.

Just as the match was entering the second quarter, Stew-Mel's ever present winger, Matt Morrell, broke clear and almost made it through, but the opposing 10, Andrew Chalmers just managed to haul him down. The quickly recycled ball then found its way out to the opposing wing, Angus Rennie, who went over in the corner. However, in the resultant celebrations, the fact that the assistant referee on that side had his flag up for a foot in touch was missed, soon brought reality crashing back down.

Despite another couple of near misses for the home side, Watsonians held out and the half ended at, what was, a fairly uneven 0-0.

With Brian Walls (above) on to replace the, seemingly

struggling, Reiss Cullen at scrum half mid way through the first half, things had picked up a touch for Watsonians and this move came to fruition in the second half. 'Sonians still had to endure a continuation of the first half Stew-Mel dominance for a period as the Inverleith side continued to push for a score.

The first chance came less than 10 minutes in with a penalty award in front of the posts. Unfortunately, in a repeat of his first half 'go-at-goal', Nick McCashin had to watch his kick rattle off the upright. This time, however, Stew-Mel were on the ball and were immediately in possession a couple of metres out. They rucked their way up to and, nearly over, the line, forcing referee, James McPhail, to award a scrum when he couldn't see the ball grounded. From the scrum, No 8 Adam Howie, crashed over for the opening try. This time McCashin scored the extras and Stew-Mel were 7-0 ahead with 10 minutes played.



Straight from the restart, the home side were at it again. No 6, Hugh Lindsay, got his hands on the ball and returned play to the Watsonians half once again. He was stopped by full back, Chad Northcott, but a couple of rucks and the ball was spun out to McCashin, who then passed the ball on to Lindsay. The try scorer was stopped just short, but McCashin had followed up and was on hand to receive the off-load and dive over for another try. This time, the wind defeated his attempt at goal, but the home side were now 12-0 ahead.

This is when it all started to go wrong for Stew-Mel. Whether they had taken their foot off the gas, or had simply run out off the proverbial, Watsonians now started to come back into the match. They began to get their game together and pushed Stew-Mel further and further into their own half. A period of pressure near the home line kept the defence busy, but, at around the 20 minute mark, Walls used his experience and,

taking advantage of a bit of space, landed a neat drop goal to, at least, put 'Sonians on the score board.

This seemed to galvanise his team into action and they continued to pressurise the opposition in tier own half. A few minutes after Walls' goal, Watsonians were on the attack again. A clearing kick was fielded by Northcott and a long pass from the full back, stretched the defence a touch, allowing a break to develop. The ball was swiftly through the hands and out to the wing where it found one of the Millers – the Watsonians' team sheet, once again, was nowhere near what the program said – and the No 6 ran in for his try. Walls then managed to convert in the wind and the score was now, much closer, 12-10.

All to play for then. In a reverse of the first half situation, it was Watsonians who dominated the final 10, or so minutes of play. And, eventually, they forced a penalty in the 22 with about five minutes left. Once again, Walls stepped up for the kick, and his compensation for the wind just held out as the ball squeezed past the left hand upright for the point and to put the visitors in the lead for the first time at 13-12.

Stew-Mel made a gallant attempt to resurrect their game, but had to settle for a long range penalty from McCashin just on full time. However, his kick went nowhere near and Walls booted the ball into the stand to end a real nail biter of a match, 13-12 to Watsonians.

With just a couple of rounds left, plus the odd re-scheduled match, Stew-Mel are in second place in the League with 71 points – Selkirk having secured the title – with two away matches still to play. Watsonians lie in fourth place, nine points in arrears, but have three home matches coming up, so it's not all done and dusted just yet. Watch this space!

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

Interview with Rhodes



Three EPs into his already promising music career, David Rhodes is renowned for his idyllic songs with a mesmerising atmospheric edge. Rhodes has already toured with some huge names in current pop music, boasting support slots with the likes of Sam Smith, London Grammar and Rufus Wainwright. The singer-songwriter has been on a whirlwind creative journey recently, with two EPs released in the last year and a new single, 'Turning Back Around', out on April 5.

What's the feedback been like for the new single?

It's been lovely so far. It was an anxious moment when I put it online because it's the first little sample of what to expect from the album.

The new single sounds a little bit more upbeat, what can we expect from the new album?

Yeah, it's slightly more energetic. I had written the song ages ago and it was a slower acoustic song. Then one evening at the studio James Kenosha and I started jamming around the chords with an up tempo beat and we decided to go with it. There are a few more up tempo songs on the album. I want it to be very dynamic.

What influenced you during the creation of the upcoming record, musically and lyrically?

This whole last 18 months has been quite crazy and the highs and lows have inspired a lot of the songs. Having been particularly anxious about the whole singing thing it's been a bit of a roller coaster emotionally. I've been listening to a

lot the music that first fuelled my passion like LOVE, Talk Talk and Television – all the old bands. I like space and light so being in a huge open coastal location to record the album has been really important to the soundscapes. I like to imagine it being quite cinematic I'm the end.

You've released three EPs and this will be your first album, was there any added pressure because it's a full album you'll be releasing?

Yes! Lots. I guess it's just because this is like a document of where I've got to so far and it's everlasting. I feel it needs to really represent and in a way define me as an artist and because I'm solo it's a complete blank canvas and I need to be really careful about how it all comes across. I'm feeling really good about it though and excited for everyone to hear it now.

You played Big Weekend and Glastonbury last year, what plans do you have for this summer?

Last summer feels like a dream now. Hopefully I'll be doing all of those lovely festivals again, I've announced Barn on the Farm and a few across Europe which is going to be a lot of fun.

What can we expect from the tour?

You can expect a band. I've got a really lovely band with me for this one, we've been experimenting with how to approach recreating the sound I have in the studio on the live stage. There's a lot of energy but still little moments of calm. I think I've found a really nice balance and I'm looking forward to everyone hearing it.

Rhodes is playing Edinburgh's Electric Circus on Sunday April 8. [Tickets can be purchased here.](#)

The Edinburgh Reporter in conversation with Quiet as a Mouse



Quiet as a Mouse are the latest exciting band from Edinburgh and are almost changing the way indie is defined. Their anthemic-cum-fragile sound draws comparisons to Editors, Nirvana and The Smiths, and the band has received significant praise from BBC 6 Music, Vic Galloway from BBC Radio Scotland, The Herald and others.

The band played a massive headlining preview show to their upcoming EP at the end of February at Electric Circus. The four-piece attracted quite a crowd to a usually busy Friday night Electric Circus, and it was all quite well received as the band a mixture of new and old material.

Their newest EP will be released on 13th April, the follow-up to their debut EP, *British Flag*. The new EP is a more subdued release, with no forceful guitar parts and using the lyrics and rhythmic backdrop to do the talking.

Alex Moran said: "We wanted follow up the debut EP towards the end of last year after a nice bit of press. There was a bit of lightbulb click and we were then looking forward to the next year. It was six months of planning, and it's been an idea around since November-time."

Behind all the songwriting in Quiet as a Mouse is the frontman Alex Moran. Their technique for writing songs is what works best for them. "I'll write on my own," said Alex. "What I

bring to the band is chord structures or arrangements, then do the chords on acoustic or electric and works with the guys to improve structure.”

Quiet as a Mouse have always recorded in Glasgow, a city that has a noticeably more riveting music scene. Alex feels that working in Glasgow helps with the creativeness and subtleties of the recording. “I’ve never properly recorded in Edinburgh,” said Alex. “I’ve always recorded in Glasgow, that was the first studio experience. We worked with Liam Watson, who worked on *Elephant* by The White Stripes, on the previous EP, who is into more 50s and 60s music which makes it more acid than garage. He’s quite quick in the studio with more layering.”

The upcoming EP is the biggest focus for Quiet as a Mouse with three shows announced to promote the release, playing a free show at The Stillery in London on April 14th, Broadcast in Glasgow on April 23rd, and another homecoming show in Edinburgh at Wee Red Bar on May 2nd.

Additional focus is on signing to a record label, which Alex claims is a very difficult thing to do with the current stature of the music industry. “It’s good to get decent feedback, no more than that at the moment and just doing what we’re doing,” said Alex. “We just need to see what happens and how it develops.”

“It would be nice to work with a good label – I’d like that as a fan of music,” said Alex. However it is nice to do it yourself, you get a lot of creative control. Knowing that you and the guys and people you work with, when you achieve things you hold your heads together. But if we get lucky enough and the right options then we might consider it.”

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh!



International Women's Day

Council meeting this week

Round up of the week's news

Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships

Edinburgh is best in tourism poll

Today is International Women's Day, a global day celebrating the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future. Each year has a theme and for 2015 it's 'Make It Happen'.

In Edinburgh we have some pretty impressive and successful women, including Professors Vicki Stone and Mercedes Maroto-Valer who were honoured with Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) earlier this week. To date, Professors Stone and Maroto-Valer along with Professor Raffaella Ocone, a Fellow since 2006, are the only women at Heriot-Watt to have received this prestigious honour.

There will be a meeting of the full council this Thursday, the first since the 2015/16 budget was set. One of the questions put before the meeting is from Conservative Councillor Jeremy Balfour who asks how much money is spent each year on tea and biscuits at various levels of the council. Certainly there is

a lovely silver tea and coffee service which the Council Leader uses in his room at meetings, but in the members dining room where councillors have coffee and eat their lunch the coffee and tea served is from a self-service machine.

Other than that the council is being asked to explain why its Local Development Plan has not yet been approved. The former plan which contains information about green belts and general planning principles for all areas of the city expired at the end of February, so the city is currently without a plan.

And the Green Group wants the city to adopt the same stance as other institutions in the city in turning its back on investments in any companies which are based on fossil fuels. They quote a [study](#) by Impax Asset Management which suggests that investment funds based on fossil fuels may not perform as well as those which exclude those investments.

Full council papers for this week's meeting are [here](#).

The Edinburgh Reporter produces a regular podcast of news for Black Diamond FM which they air on a Saturday. Here is this week's round up of news:

[listen to 'The Edinburgh Reporter NEWS for Black Diamond FM 6 March 2015' on audioBoom](#)

More than 400 young pipers and drummers will be marching into Edinburgh today to compete in the world's largest school pipe band competition.

Aimed at encouraging schools to include pipes and drums musical tuition on the school curriculum, The Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championship will include bands who travel from the

four corners of Scotland to compete.

Armed with a range of categories suited to each competitors skill set, this year's competition will also see more entrants than ever go for gold in the unique 'freestyle' category.

The freestyle category encourages bands to perform with other instrumentalists with schools performing everything from traditional music to a take on modern pop songs.

The prizes are to be presented at 16.15pm by the Chair of Creative Scotland, Richard Findlay.

Edinburgh scored 90% in the 'Big Cities' section of the survey conducted by Which? and received five stars for three out of four categories recognising the city's quality credentials for 'cultural sights and tourist attractions', 'food and drink' and 'ease of getting around'.

More than 4,400 Which? members took part in the survey to rate cities in the UK which they had stayed in for leisure purposes during the previous year.

Each city's score was based on overall satisfaction and how likely members were to recommend a destination to a friend, and only cities which had been visited by at least 30 members were included.

York and Liverpool scored a total of 89 per cent, just one per cent short of the Scottish capital's 90 per cent.

Edinburgh was considered to be in the 'big city' category as its population was over 200,000. Scottish cities also included were Aberdeen and Glasgow which scored 62% and 88% respectively and other UK cities included York, Cardiff, Newcastle upon Tyne, Belfast and Nottingham.

Manuela Calchini, Regional Director of VisitScotland, said she

was delighted by Edinburgh's position in the survey, because Which? prides itself on putting the consumer at the core of all of its activity;

"Edinburgh has topped the Which? survey once again cementing its position as a world class destination that offers great history and heritage, culture, shopping and ease of access. In Scotland's year of food and drink it's also excellent that consumers are enjoying the quality of fresh, local produce available in the city and their voting this with five stars is testament to visitors' recognition of this".



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OTJ forced to retire because of ongoing knee problems



Former Hibs' midfielder Owain Tudur Jones (pictured) has been forced to retire from football because of ongoing knee problems.

The 30 year-old started his career at local side Bangor City and went on to play for clubs including Swansea, Swindon, Norwich and Inverness Caledonian Thistle from where Pat Fenlon brought him to Easter Road.

He was quickly joined at the club by his former ICT manager Terry Butcher but injuries meant that he only played 19 times before moving to Falkirk.

He won seven Wales caps after his debut against Luxembourg in March, 2008.

Last night Tudur Jones said: "I have been advised by the knee specialist that it is in my best interests to retire from football due to a knee injury

"I would like to go on record to thank Falkirk FC, in particular [director] Ronnie Bateman, [manager] Peter Houston and club physio Kris Robertson for all of their help during this time and I wish them the very best as they chase a play-off spot and Scottish Cup success."

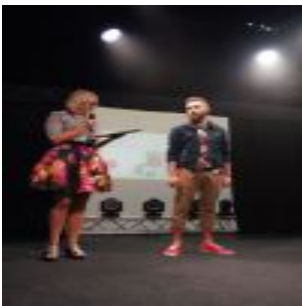
Several of his ex teammates including Chris Hogg, Danny Handling, Alex Harris and Rowan Vine have expressed their condolences on twitter.

Photo by John Preece

Edinburgh Fashion Week 2015



The marquee at the foot of The Mound was hopping earlier today with people there to watch the catwalk shows and see what the pop up boutiques had for sale. Anta the furniture shop in George Street have set up a VIP lounge area and the G & V have prosecco on tap.





This is not to say it is all luxe and expense. The idea of the Edinburgh Fashion Week launch weekend is to let as many people as possible in to the marquee to see some of the fashion that the city centre retailers have on offer. And it will be open again tomorrow. More details of the catwalk shows and tutorials and workshops available to tomorrow here on the [Edinburgh Fashion Week website.](#)

We watched two catwalk shows and chatted with the ladies (and gentlemen) we met. The consensus was that the event was very well placed for people shopping on Princes Street to just drop in and get the inside info on the latest styles.

Here is just a wee flavour for you....

Liam Craig on Hibs' quarter final tie against Berwick Rangers



As a youngster, Hibs' skipper Liam Craig (pictured) regularly attended Berwick Rangers' games from his home, 11 miles away in Chirnside, but tomorrow he is hoping to end the 'English'

club's Scottish Cup dreams at Easter Road.

Craig told the Hibernian club programme: "To captain Hibs is a great honour and to potentially do it in a Scottish Cup quarter final against a team that I grew up next to would make it even more special.

"I went to Shielfield a lot when I was a kid and nine years ago I went there with Falkirk and we beat Berwick 2-0 in the Scottish Cup and I managed to score that day.

"So I've got some good memories about Berwick and I'm looking forward to the game with the most important thing being that Hibs win."

"I was a ball boy at Berwick a few times and one game stands out against Morton – it was 4-3 and I think Derek Lilley scored twice for Morton that day.

"Growing up, I always wanted to be a footballer and I would go to watch the games at Berwick.

"It's great to see Berwick get this far in the Cup, but hopefully they don't get any further."

Craig got on the scoresheet from the penalty spot during a 4-0 win at Berwick Rangers in pre-season, but stresses a lot has changed for the better since that meeting in July.

He said: "A lot has happened since July and if you had asked the players and supporters back then if they would have been happy to be have been challenging for promotion and a Scottish Cup semi-final place then they would have said yes.

"We've got ourselves into a great position and it's important now that as a group of players and as a club that we kick on now – take care of the Berwick tie and move on to the next challenge."

Photo by John Preece

Hibs' 'tunnel plaques' night was huge success



Hibs' Head Coach Alan Stubbs and players Liam Craig, Liam Fontaine, David Gray and Paul Hanlon welcomed 60 supporters to Easter Road on Tuesday evening to view the first phase of tunnel plaques.

The event kicked off in the Gallery where club historian Tom Wright talked about the unique memorabilia on show before Sue McLernon took the group on a guided tour of the stadium.

Stubbs and the squad then spoke to the group in the home dressing room and gave them insight into how the players prepare and motivate themselves on a match day.

The group of 60 supporters were then taken to see their plaques in the tunnel complete with their motivational messages to the team.

The event proved to be a huge success and a further event is planned for Tuesday 17 March where supporters, who have already purchased a tunnel plaque have been invited to attend.

Hibs team up with IT

communications firm Exsel Group



Hibs and IT communications firm Exsel Group have launched their partnership which will see the company's branding appear on the South Stand (pictured)

The company have over 25 years of experience in Telecommunications, IT, and networking solutions.

Exsel Group have also created a bespoke IT connection enabling the club to push out HD video streams of matches to overseas supporters via Hibs TV.

Hibernian's Head of Marketing & Commercial Operations, Greig Mailer said: "We're delighted that Exsel Group on board as part of our partner family.

"They are an ambitious company and we hope this will be the first step in a long term partnership."

Exsel Group's Craig Armstrong said: "Exsel Group IT & Communications are delighted to be working with Hibernian.

"As one of Scotland's biggest football clubs, we are looking forward to helping them advance in communications technology.

"A club such as Hibernian who have such a great fanbase rely heavily on their communications and we at Exsel Group are delighted they have chosen ourselves to look after that."

Gordon Strachan congratulates Boys' Brigade Scotland on becoming Guinness World Record holders!



A team of football mad volunteers from The Boys' Brigade Scotland are celebrating after officially becoming the Guinness World Record holders for the longest 5-a-side game (55 hours) with Gordon Strachan the first to congratulate them.

Former BB member and current national football team manager, Gordon Strachan OBE, spent time with the group earlier this week to celebrate their success.

The group of 16 players have smashed the current Guinness World Record held by Sodexo Ireland who managed a total of 53 hours playing time. They will now be recognised in the Guinness Book of Records.

Congratulating the team on their achievement, Gordon Strachan, Scotland Manager said: "It's my pleasure to congratulate this group of exceptional young people on their Guinness World Record as 55 hours consistent playing is no easy task!

"As a former Boys' Brigade member myself, I am aware of how important football is within the organisation so it's great to see the values of fitness and determination remain strong amongst the younger generations.

"Being part of The Boys' Brigade is a great starting point, as many of Scotland's top footballers will testify, as it teaches members great team working and leadership skills which are

paramount to the success of any team.”

The group completed the challenge at Broadwood Stadium in Cumbernauld, playing non-stop between Thursday, 11 September and Sunday, 14 September 2014.

Each squad was made up of eight players all pitch side for the duration, sleeping only in designated rest breaks.

The event was the brain child of Cameron Gray, Leader with 1st Cumbernauld Company, The Boys’ Brigade. Cameron has recently been named as a finalist in the Youth Worker of the Year Awards (uniformed organisations category) for his work including this challenge.

Cameron said: “I am delighted to have received official notification that we are now Guinness World Record holders and our success will go down in history.

“It’s incredible to have our success recognised by Gordon Strachan as he’s a real hero to us all, especially as a former BB man himself. It’s an honour to have met him.

“I came up with the idea to attempt the world record attempt because I wanted to do something outrageous to demonstrate how fantastic The Boys’ Brigade is.

“Our success is a great testament to the determination and talents cultivated amongst young people within The Boys’ Brigade and most importantly we all had a great time doing it.

“I hope our achievement will help us inspire some of the younger member’s that nothing is impossible!”

Commenting on the success of setting up the event, Bill Stevenson, Director for The Boys’ Brigade in Scotland said: “This is fantastic news for the boys’ who worked incredibly hard from start to finish on this challenge. I am so proud of them, to have been recognised in this way is an outstanding accomplishment.

“Over the last few years, we have been encouraging young leaders to get involved in organising activities at local level. The initiative shown by this group of young people is a fantastic example of what can be achieved when we give people the opportunity to set their own limits.”

The teams were made up of volunteers from groups from in Kirkintilloch, Cumbernauld, Torrance, Bothwell, Stewarton and Greenock.

Picture Caption: The Boys’ Brigade team with Gordon Strachan OBE at Hampden. **Back Row (L-R)** Martin Jenkins, Greig Bradley, Cameron Gray, Cameron Blake, Calum McDougall, Kenneth Scott, David Clark, Craig Hennen and Jennifer Green **Front Row (L-R)** Alex Edwardson, Cliona Ferguson, Claire Spence, Gordon Strachan, Ryan Conway, Kris Wales, Scott Corbett and Stuart Rankin.

Police Operation Quarterlight update



A 17-year-old man has been arrested and charged following a number of moped thefts in North Edinburgh.

Between 17th and 26th February, three vehicles were stolen from addresses in Bonnington Road, Rennie's Isle and Hopefield Terrace.

As part of Operation Quarterlight, local officers had been investigating each of these crimes and subsequently detained the male, who will appear in court at a later date.

Three more men are now also subject to legal proceedings after Quarterlight activity in the North of the city continued this week.

A 22-year-old man has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for a series of thefts from vehicles in Moredun Park Court, Kirkhill Drive and Ferniehill Road and Ferniehill Grove throughout February.

In addition, a 47-year-old man has also been charged with the theft of items from vehicles in Telford Drive, Craigleith Hill Loan and Criagleith Hill Gardens last year.

He is due to appear in court at a later date.

After responding to a report of a break-in to a Volkswagen Passat in Telford Road on Monday 2nd March, a 22-year-old man was detained nearby and was subsequently charged.

Superintendent Matt Richards said: "We recognise that housebreaking and vehicle thefts are major concerns for many communities within Edinburgh and Operation Quarterlight will continue to target those responsible.

"Every day, we are bringing thieves to justice and returning stolen goods and vehicles to their rightful owners.

"We will not rest on our recent successes but will actively pursue others believed to be involved in crimes of this nature.

"As part of our involvement in Stronger North, we will continue to work alongside our partners at City of Edinburgh Council and the public in North Edinburgh to tackle acquisitive crime and remove offenders from our communities."

Man arrested in connection with Frederick Street robbery



Police have arrested and charged a 24-year-old man in connection with an armed robbery in Frederick Street, which occurred on Monday, March 2.

Following a search of an address in Chesser Grove yesterday (Thurs) officers recovered a significant quantity of heroin with a street value of around £47,000, two firearms, ammunition and a quantity of cash.

A second man, aged 26, who is not believed to have been involved in the armed robbery, was arrested at the property for firearms and drug related offences

Both are due to appear in Edinburgh Sheriff Court on Monday, March 9.

Detective Inspector Grant Johnston said: "Following investigation officers have arrested and charged a 24-year-old man in connection with an armed robbery at Laing the Jeweller.

"As part of our enquiries we also recovered a quantity of drugs and firearms, and a second male has been arrested for these offences.

"I would also add that police are still attempting to trace the Rolex watches that were stolen from the jewellers and I would ask anyone who can provide information on their whereabouts to call police immediately on 101."

Edinburgh Fashion Week starts today



Celebrating Edinburgh's unique and diverse shopping experience, **Edinburgh Fashion Week** officially gets underway on Saturday 7 March.

Transforming The Mound into a sleek and stylish indoor fashion hub and catwalk for the opening weekend, residents and visitors will be enjoying a packed two day programme of **free fashion shows, informal workshops and expert tutorials**, all hosted by Edinburgh's favourite high street retailers, designer boutiques and independent stores.

With catwalk shows from Edinburgh's leading shopping neighbourhoods; Princes Street, The Grassmarket, Thistle Street, Multrees Walk and West End – there will be something to suit every style and budget. National brands including *House of Fraser*, *LK Bennett*, *River Island*, *Next* and *Oliver Bonas*, will join some of Edinburgh's favourite independents such as *Kakao by K*, *Jane Davidson*, *Armstrong's Vintage Emporium*, *Fabhatrix* and more.

The fashion hub will also host pop-up shops from some of Edinburgh's leading independent boutiques including *Fabhatrix*, *Swish*, *Kakao by K*, *Covet* and *Sam Brown* with the *Cambridge Satchel Company* also joining in the action. Browse their latest collections while enjoying a glass of Prosecco, Men or Pickerings Gin cocktail. For those feeling peckish, a selection of tasty Afternoon Tea bites from G&V Hotel will be available.



Throughout the week following the launch, Edinburgh's retailers and businesses will be hosting a packed programme of events and fashion shows. Watch out for **in-store evenings** at *LK Bennett*, *Covet*, *Godiva Boutique*, *French Connection* and *Gap*. Plus fashion events including **Greyfriars Tartan Show**, **Edinburgh Charity Fashion Show** and a panel discussion called **Gusto Presents: Men in Fashion**, led by international male

model, Chris Millington, Richard Murphy of The Brotique Store and Gordon J Miller from ScotStreetStyle.

A number of the city's retailers are also offering a **special Edinburgh Fashion Week 20% discount or free gift** to anyone who quotes 'Edinburgh Fashion Week' in-store between 7 and 15 March, including *Sandro, Tommy Hilfiger, Austin Reed, JustG Boutique, Sam Brown* and *Frontiers*.

Part of the 'This Is Edinburgh' city-centre campaign, Edinburgh Fashion Week is a celebration of the city's unique and diverse shopping experience and style. It is hoped the opening weekend event and exclusive in-store offers will draw more people into the city centre to enjoy Edinburgh's wide selection of shops, bars and restaurants.

Scottish tweed specialist, Walker Slater has even commissioned a new limited edition tweed tie for city centre retailer, The Brotique Store, to celebrate Edinburgh Fashion Week, as modeled by Mika Kailes in the Edinburgh Fashion Week shoot.

John Donnelly, Chief Executive, Marketing Edinburgh said:

"The response from retailers and the public to Edinburgh Fashion Week has been incredible. Over 40 local businesses have come together to make Edinburgh Fashion Week a reality, while demand for advance tickets has surpassed all our expectations.

"Edinburgh offers such a rich and diverse shopping experience, packed with a tremendous selection of local independent, designer and high street shops – all on our doorstep and within walking distance. Edinburgh Fashion Week is all about promoting and celebrating that unique and special offering and getting people out shopping."

Edinburgh based Personal Shopper & Fashion Blogger, Laura Russell from Satisfashion, who will be leading some fashion

tutorial sessions at The Mound launch event said:

“Edinburgh has never attempted a fashion event on this scale before and the buzz around the city is electric. Whether I’m speaking to retailers or clients, everyone is so excited about Edinburgh Fashion Week and looking forward to getting out and discovering new hidden gems and fresh looks for spring/summer. There is guaranteed to be something for everyone.”

For the latest news, event timetables, competitions and exclusive offers during Edinburgh Fashion Week, visit www.thisisedinburgh.com/edinburghfashionweek. Share your Edinburgh fashion hidden gems on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using #EdFashionWeek.