

Tuesday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



Flax pulling at Selby

Land Girls and Munitionettes: Witnessing War on the Home Front. Women experienced the First World War in diverse ways; their class, age, race, location and occupation impacted on their wartime work, whether it was in the fields, factories or home. In this illustrated talk, **Dr Gill Clarke** (University of Chichester and St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Lymington) explores some of their roles in the Home Front workforce, many of which had been the preserve of men. 12.45-1.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.



Teen Creative Writing Meet-Up: if you are a writer – or a would-be writer – aged 14-17 years, come along to the first meeting of this new group, which will offer writing activities and exercises, plus feedback on your projects. 5-6pm tonight and every fortnight (excluding the Easter holidays) for six sessions, [Morningside Library](#), 184 Morningside Road. As places are limited, booking is required: call the library on 0131 529 5654.



Lunchtime Concert: University of Edinburgh Music Students. The concert will include a performance by the winner of the **Tovey Memorial Competition Final**. 1.10pm, [Reid Concert Hall](#), University of Edinburgh, Bristo Square. Free: no booking required.



I Witness: Images of Hope from Haiti. A touring photography and art exhibition showing life-changing projects taking place in Haiti today, as witnessed by three rather special **Christian Aid** supporters. 10am-2pm daily until 31st March 2015, Undercroft Cafe, [St Andrew's & St George's West Church](#), 13 George Street.



Leith School of Art Open Day: see the school in action and speak to staff and students; portfolio reviews available on request. 10am-3pm, [Leith School of Art](#), 25 North Junction Street and St James's Church, 11a John's Place (you are welcome to visit both sites). Leith School of Art is an independent art school: its ethos is to encourage and welcome all those who want to learn about art and design, irrespective of age, ability or personal circumstances. It offers a wide range of courses, from day and evening classes to full-time one year programmes, plus workshops and community classes.



Tinderbox Presents Frontiers: a collaborative and creative music collective for ages 10-25 years (different groups for different ages). Play in a band, write songs, build studio, engineering and production skills, learn an instrument, create an orchestra like none before! Any instrument, any standard, no auditions. 6-8pm today and every Tuesday, [North Edinburgh Arts](#), 15a Pennywell Court.



Edinburgh College Creative Industries Open Days: an opportunity to speak to lecturers in Art & Design, Performing Arts, Broadcast Media & Photography, Music & Sound Production and Computing, see the cutting-edge facilities and try some

fun, interactive activities. 3-6pm, [Edinburgh College Sighthill Campus](#), Bankhead Avenue. Also at same times at the Milton Road Campus on Wednesday 4th March and at the Granton Campus on 5th March. See Edinburgh College's [website](#) for more information and details regarding which subjects are offered at each campus.



The Autonomous Centre of Edinburgh (ACE): Vegan Potluck Supper. 7-10pm, ACE, 17 West Montgomery Place.



A Winter's Oresteia. A chilling new adaptation by award-winning playwright **James Beagon** of an Ancient Greek classic; a chilling story of anger and revenge. For ages 14+: includes violence and some strong language. 7.30pm tonight, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, [Summerhall](#), 1 Summerhall. Tickets cost £8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 560 1581.



Drumrae Employment Fair: meet representatives from a range of organisations who can support you in looking for jobs, training, learning and volunteering opportunities in South West Edinburgh, and also advise you about benefits. 10.30am-1.30pm, [Drumrae Library Hub](#), 81 Drumrae Drive.

Lunchtime Concert: Woodbridge High School Choir, Woodford Green. 12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.



Cameo Silver Screen: if you are 60+ and take out free membership of the Silver Screen Club, you can buy tickets for Silver Screen shows for £5, which includes a free tea or coffee and biscuits. Today's shows: 12.30pm and 3.15pm – **The**

Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG), 1.30pm – **It Follows (15)**, 3.40pm – **Catch Me Daddy (15)** and 3.50pm **Ex Machina (15)**, [Cameo](#), Home Street. Tickets can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0871 902 5723.



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, Grassmarket:** please note access may be restricted at certain times owing to visiting groups. Also at same times on Wednesday 4th at the Scottish Gallery of Modern Art TWO, on Thursday 5th in George Street (between Castle Street and Frederick Street), on Friday 6th at Edinburgh Napier University Colinton Campus, Colinton Road and on Friday 13th March at Edinburgh College, West Granton Road. 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.



History in the Pub: Dark Heart – Tales from Edinburgh's Town Jail with Douglas Skelton. Writer Douglas Skelton's 2008 book *Dark Heart* looked at the history of the **Edinburgh Tolbooth**, the infamous '**Heart of Midlothian**'. For five centuries it stood at the centre of Scotland's history and criminal life, being at various times a parliament building, court, administrative centre, and ultimately the town jail –

Edinburgh's Bastille. Using the warding books and other documents, letters and printed sources, Douglas tells the stories of some of the people who were imprisoned there, and tries to reclaim this forgotten building's place in history. Douglas is the author of eleven true crime/Scottish criminal history books. In 2013 he moved into fiction with the thriller *Blood City*; the sequel *Crow Bait* was released in 2014. 7.30-9.30pm, [The Counting House](#), West Nicolson Street. History in the Pub talks are free and open to anyone who is interested in the past.



The Southern Light Opera Company Presents *Oliver!* 'Based On Dickens' 1838 novel about the boy who asked for more, this ever popular musical by Lionel Bart never fails to thrill'. 7.30pm today, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, plus matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday, [King's Theatre](#), Leven Street, Tollcross. Tickets are available online [here](#) or from the Box Office on 0131 529 6000: prices vary. Read The Edinburgh Reporter's article about **Amateur Showcase** – a round up of amateur productions this season at King's – [here](#).



LGBT Art Therapy: Body Mapping. Facilitated by **art therapists**, an opportunity to play with art materials to create visual representations that connect with bodily feelings or emotions. No experience or art skills required. 6.30-8.30pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. Booking is essential as places are limited: contact Alison Wren on 0131 652 3283 or email alison@lgbthealth.org.uk.

Five things you need to know today



Robbery in Frederick Street

East Coast Trains

Free travel for care leavers

The Friends of Montgomery Street Park

Travelling Gallery

Laings the Jewellers on Frederick Street was the latest victim in a string of robberies over the last couple of years. It is the second time the family run business has been targetted in a year. The shop remained closed to allow staff to recover from the ordeal.

Officers were called to the shop at around 9:30am on Monday after a man had entered the premises with a handgun and made off with a number of high value items.

No members of staff were injured.

The man fled from the scene on foot along Rose Street and into Hanover Street where he entered a private hire car and was driven to the Pilton area of Edinburgh.

He was last seen when he got out of the vehicle in Pilton Drive North at its junction with Royston Mains Crescent

He is described as male, white, early 30s, 5ft 10inches tall, wearing a dark padded hooded jacket, blue trousers, blue and white scarf, and carrying a black and white rucksack.

Anyone who can assist police with their ongoing enquiries is

asked to come forward.





Yesterday we were on the first liveried East Coast train to arrive in Edinburgh following the new franchise agreement with Virgin East Coast a joint venture between Stagecoach and Virgin.

There was quite a welcome at Waverley station with a piper on hand to welcome the new service. We interviewed the Managing Director of Virgin East Coast, David Horne, on the train.

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

Free bus travel is being provided to young people who have been in care thanks to a new partnership between The City of Edinburgh Council and Lothian Buses.

The six month pilot is latest initiative from the Council's Corporate Parenting Strategy, which benefits children and young people in the Capital.

Edinburgh has corporate parenting responsibly for around 1,400 children and young people who are looked after. In addition there are more than 600 young people who have left care and local authorities have a duty to provide further support (Throughcare/Aftercare).

This new project will allow around 600 young people to receive free bus passes so they can access learning, employment, work experience and training opportunities.

Councillor Cathy Fullerton, Chair of the Corporate Parenting

Group, said: "I'm delighted that Lothian Buses have come on board with this pilot project to provide free bus travel to young people who have been in care.

"We have had a corporate parenting plan in place since 2012 and although many of our objectives have been achieved we are always looking at ways to extend our partnership working.

"This project with Lothian Buses is a perfect example and demonstrates what can be achieved when different organisations come together for the benefit of young people in Edinburgh."

Nigel Serafini, Head of Commercial from Lothian Buses, said: "We are delighted to be able to join with the City of Edinburgh Council to support this initiative which will benefit young people who have been in care. We hope that our contribution will help to make life easier for these young people as they move towards a brighter future."

Great news for a local park!

The Friends of Montgomery Street Park are celebrating a £40,000 grant from Biffa Award, a multi-million pound fund that helps to build communities and transform lives through awarding grants to community and environmental projects across the UK.

Montgomery Street Park is set for a major upgrade after a group of local residents were successful in their funding bid. The grant from Biffa Award means that the hard-surface sports area, which is currently cracked, uneven and pot-holed, will be completely refurbished.

[Read more here!](#)

The Travelling Gallery has arrived in Edinburgh to showcase

art and design from the V&A Dundee.

The [Design In Motion exhibition](#), which has been touring Dundee in the mobile art gallery, is now open to visitors and free to visit daily between 10am-5pm in the Capital.

Today and Tuesday, the [Travelling Gallery](#) bus can be found in the Grassmarket. Find out where to catch the bus before it moves below:

Edinburgh and Scottish Borders

Mon 2 March **Grassmarket, EH1 2HS 10am – 5pm**

Tues 3 March **Grassmarket, EH1 2HS 10am – 5pm**

Wed 4 March **Modern 2 (formerly Dean Gallery), Belford Road, EH4 3DR 10am – 4pm**

Thurs 5 March **George Street, (between North Castle St and Frederick St) 10am – 5pm**

Fri 6 March **Edinburgh Napier University, Colinton Road, EH10 5DT 10am – 5pm**

Fri 13 March **Edinburgh College, West Granton Road, EH5 1QE 10am – 5pm**

For more information, visit the [Travelling Gallery website](#).

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.

Hearts Legend Dave Mackay

Dies

Scottish football is today in mourning with the news that former Hearts, Tottenham Hotspur and Scotland football stalwart Dave Mackay has died at the age of 80.

Mackay, who won all three major Scottish trophies during his time with Hearts in the 1950s, lost his long battle with illness. His adoring family were at his bedside in Nottingham.

A player who had no fear, Mackay is widely regarded as Hearts greatest-ever player. He won the league title, Scottish Cup and Scottish League Cup (twice) with Hearts before moving to Tottenham Hotspur in 1959 where he had a successful and distinguished career. He later moved to Derby County and managed The Rams to the English League Championship.

Mackay famously once said of his time at Tynecastle: "For as long as I can remember, all I wanted in my life, nothing else, was to play for Hearts, which is my dream team. And to play for Scotland. I had no ambition for anything else. Always Hearts."

He was also asked, when attending a Tottenham Hotspur v Derby County game, which team he was supporting, given his career with both clubs. After a pause, he looked at the reporter and snarled 'I'm a Hearts supporter, son'.

Heart of Midlothian – and indeed Scottish football – is much poorer for the passing of one of the country's greatest ever players.

East Coast rail franchise now run by Virgin



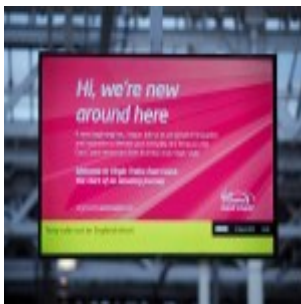
Virgin and Stagecoach won the franchise for the East Coast line at the end of last year. The new joint venture took over the running of the line between Aberdeen and London only yesterday morning and will continue to do so for the next seven years. Well of course, that probably depends a lot on how the service works out, but the partners in this operation have run public transport before so we presume they have done the arithmetic. The last time the franchise was awarded to National Express they gave it up as non-profitable in 2009.

Inter-City Railways is a partnership between Virgin and Stagecoach which has paid £3.3bn for the franchise, promising new rolling stock, better service and faster journey times. The Department for Transport said this morning: "The service will transform rail journeys along the East Coast Main Line, with more seats, more services and new trains, underpinned by £140 million of investment. This follows the government announcement in November 2014 that it had awarded the East Coast franchise to a consortium of Stagecoach and Virgin."



Virgin launched the new franchise with great ceremony in March 2015





Rail minister Claire Perry was at King's Cross station earlier today for the official launch of the new service between London and Scotland.

This means that Virgin is now responsible for both east and west coast lines from Scotland to London and the rail route is now a privately run venture for the first time in five years.

In 2009 National Express gave up the route saying it could not make it work, and Directly Operated Railways took over under the brand East Coast. The company has just announced profits of £13m last year, but the die was already cast for the railway to return to private ownership.

Today we were invited to join the first liveried train from London to Edinburgh and we chose to get on at Berwick. Berwick is a lovely station and if you have a first class ticket (as we did!) you can use the cosy First Class Lounge on the northbound platform.

We met David Horne the Managing Director of Virgin Trains East Coast who had travelled from London on the first liveried train. He told The Edinburgh Reporter: "In the first year we are planning to start a process to give the trains a makeover so that they are in good condition and we will have service improvements at the end of the year with extra trains to Stirling and between Edinburgh and London.

When asked about the unfavourable comparison with air fares he said: It is clearly important that the fares are affordable and the fares attractive. Some fares will be cut by 10% in May to make sure that we attract more people on to the trains than in the past."

We asked the new boss about the lack of any new uniforms today. He said: "It is a gradual process. There will be more trains in the new livery but the uniforms will take until next year. These are very important to the staff who wear them. The new design will be introduced in a few months when we have taken the opinion of some of our staff.

Virgin only have a 10% stake in the joint venture along with Stagecoach. Horne explained why it is their branding on the new service: "Virgin is a very strong customer service brand and when you look at our strategy for the East Coast it is all about service and all about people. Virgin has a great reputation and it is their expertise and experience that we want to bring on to the East Coast line to improve it."

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

But not everyone welcomes the new train operator.

The RMT Union protested on Saturday morning at Waverley Station against taking the line out of public ownership.



Edinburgh East MP Sheila Gilmore slammed the UK Government's

ideological decision to privatise intercity services between Edinburgh and London.

Ms Gilmore, who campaigned against the plans to re-privatise the line since they were first announced in March 2013, said:

‘Passengers recognised the improvements to services that East Coast made under public ownership. They also appreciated that all profits were retained for the benefit of British passengers and taxpayers.’

‘But despite calls from Labour for these arrangements to continue in the long term, Ministers decided to press ahead with their ideological privatisation of services before the General Election.’

‘If the franchising programme had simply been restarted after its collapse in October 2012, both the West Coast and Great Western routes would have been let first, and East Coast would have been dealt with later this year.’

‘But because the Conservatives were embarrassed by the success of a nationalised railway, East Coast was instead pushed to the front of the queue.’

‘A UK Labour Government would take a different approach. At a minimum we would allow a public sector operator to bid for rail contracts, but in addition we would review the entire franchising system so that passengers and taxpayers get better value for money. In Scotland Jim Murphy has also set out plans to take Scotrail back into public hands.’

Customers are promised:

- ***Faster journey times*** – regular services to Leeds in two hours and Edinburgh in four hours
- ***New trains*** – 65 new ‘Super Express’ trains from 2018 with an early multi-million-pound train refresh programme for existing fleet

- **Better connections** – extra and new direct services to London from key locations in Scotland and England and more weekend services
- **More services** – a 50% increase in capacity by 2020 with total fleet capacity increased by 12,200 seats
- **Better value fares** – 10% cut in Standard Anytime fares on long-distance journeys to and from London and Stevenage
- **Investment in people** – a fresh approach to recruitment, including new apprenticeships and the introduction of a new National Academy for Rail Professional Education with bases in York, Derby and London. Major investment in staff development and training, a new innovation council and giving employees ways to own a share of the business through employee share incentive arrangements
- **New technology** – new website, smartphone apps, interactive touchscreen information points at major stations, portable technology for staff, free WiFi on trains and stations.
- **Personalised travel** – journeys built around individual customers, with at-seat food ordering, simpler ticket purchase and reservations, new Nectar loyalty programme
- **Improved customer rights and support** – new Passengers' Charter with easier and faster compensation for customers through automated delay repay service; commitment to improved satisfaction scores with new independent passenger surveys, benchmarks and published results to drive satisfaction with stations, trains and customer service; and a dedicated customer and communities improvement fund
- **Station enhancements** – planned investment of over £25m in stations and car parks with new open plan customer zones introduced for combined ticket purchase and information, more car parking spaces, extra cycle facilities and improved security
- **Improved accessibility** – investment in disability improvements, including induction loop and tactile

station maps

- **Community engagement** – apprenticeships for young people, graduate and ex-offenders programmes, dedicated communities fund, support for small businesses and regeneration in disadvantaged areas.

Rugby – Scotland v Wales, Women's RBS Six Nations


Five-try Italy hand out third defeat to fighting Scots. 

Despite dominating large parts of the match, Scotland could only score a try and a penalty at Broadwood against Italy on Sunday. A fair part of the game was played deep in the Italian half and the Scots came close to scoring on several occasions. However, despite turning in a better performance than they had against Wales, errors and turn-overs were to cost them dear.

They made a good start and took the ball into the opposition half, but a couple of lineout wins had Italy into the 22 and attacking the line. Quick ball from a ruck on the right for scrum half, Sara Barattin, put wing, Maria Magatti through a hole in the defence for the first try after six minutes. Veronica Schiavon lined the kick up, but the howling gale that was blowing through the gap in the stands – and which was to prove a point loser for Scotland – forced her into a drop kick. The successful conversion meant that Italy took an early lead by 7-0.

The next Italian score came off the back of another couple of errors. Scotland were retaining possession, albeit in their


own half, when Lisa Martin missed a penalty kick to touch. The visitors then turned over the ball inside the Scots' half and set up the move which lead to the next try. Once again, quick ball from Barattin caught the defence on the hop and full back, Manuela Furlan, skipped around the tackle from her opposing full back, Chloe Rollie, and dotted down under the posts. Schiavon then knocked over the kick, from the tee this time, to put Italy 14 points ahead with just over 15 minutes of the match played.

It was then Italy's turn to be on the receiving end. Turning over the ball from the restart, Scotland got the game moving in the right direction and put pressure on the Italian defence. Prop, Lisa Robertson – who was to prove a handful for the opposition all afternoon (below) – carried the ball upfield for a fair distance before she was relieved of possession, allowing clearance to be made. Unfortunately, Scotland lost their lineout, but soon retrieved the ball and drove far up the pitch through the backs. Both sides then gained and lost the ball over the next few minutes before Italy infringed about 30 metres out, giving Scotland a crack at goal. Nuala Deans stepped up and, as she had done against Wales, bisected the posts for Scotland's opening score. 

It wasn't too long before Italy, in the shape of Magatti with her second try, were on the score board again. And again, it was lost lineout ball which proved to be the home side's undoing. This time, though, Schiavon missed, so it remained a 19-3 game.

With the match entering the final few minutes of the half, Scotland were, once again, knocking on the door of the Italian defence. First Robertson got to within centimetres of scoring from a scrum, but was pulled up short. Then the backs got in on the act and, swinging the ball wide to wing, Abi Evans, the Scots had created an overlap on the left. Unfortunately, Evans didn't believe in herself and pulled up rather than taking on

the defender just six or seven metres out from the line. She held on in the tackle and the subsequent penalty gave the referee, Helen O'Reilly, an excuse to blow up for half time with the score at 19-3.


The second half gave Scotland's team and supporters great hope for a comeback as they dominated the possession and territory, but burst their supporters' bubble as they managed to give Italy two run away tries. The home side played some of their best rugby in the first 10 minutes of the half. Yes, there were a couple of errors, but the running and passing game, coupled with the forward rucking and mauling play, forced a penalty out in front – along with a yellow card for Italy's Flavia Severin – but Deans had to watch her attempt at goal drift wide courtesy of the aforementioned gale. 

But, the heads didn't go down and, from the restart, Scotland once again fired all they had at the opposition defence. Robertson had another go at the line, dragging bodies along with her, but she then politely declined to step on a defender and that hesitation slowed her down, allowing the Italians to wrestle her to the ground. Italy then won the ball back, but from the clearance kick, Scotland were straight back in their faces.

Until just before the 20 minute mark, at least. Once again battering away at the opposition, and seeing a second Italian carded – this time No. 6, Michela Este – the ball was lost and Italy's backs stormed upfield. Catching the defence looking the wrong way, Schiavon slipped through and scored Italy's fourth try of the game. She scored the kick as well, and the resultant 26-3 score line left too big a gap to be closed.

That didn't stop Scotland trying, though. They quickly recovered the ball from the restart, and ran at Italy from all angles. Stand-off, Lisa Martin (above), was particularly threatening and she found several gaps in the Italian defence

from both passing and running. With less than 10 minutes to go, Italy knocked on from a lineout and Scotland had a scrum five metres out from the line. The scrums had been a fairly even contest over the match, but this one was a 'must win'. Melrose's Lana Skeldon hooked the ball back cleanly and with Jade Konkell picking up from the back, there was only one thing on the cards.

Brushing aside two defenders (top), Konkell made the short sprint to the line to score Scotland's first try of the 2015 tournament. However, the ecstatic team and crowd were soon  brought back to earth as the gale force wind took Martin's conversion attempt centimetres wide, so the score had to stay at 26-8. BUT WE'D SCORED A TRY! (Sorry, but it right in front of my lens (see right) – JP)

Italy weren't going to take that lying down, however, and with a couple of minutes left, they ran in their fifth try, Magatti dotting down for her hat-trick, and the 31-8 final score – just beating the final whistle and the torrential hail storm.

That final score didn't in any way reflect the run of play. Scotland played their best rugby for a long time, dominating the second half and, but for the bad start and the odd slip-up here and there, could have – possibly, maybe, perhaps – made it the first win since their 10-8 defeat of France at Lasswade on 6th February 2009. Not that anyone's counting!

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

Witness appeal following armed robbery at city centre jewellers.



Police are appealing for witnesses following an armed robbery at Laing the jeweller on Frederick Street around 9:30am today.

A man entered the premises with a handgun and made off with a number of high value items.

No members of staff were injured.

The man fled from the scene on foot along Rose Street and into Hanover Street where he entered a private hire car and was driven to the Pilton area of Edinburgh.

He was last seen when he got out of the vehicle in Pilton Drive North at its junction with Royston Mains Crescent

He is described as male, white, early 30s, 5ft 10inches tall, wearing a dark padded hooded jacket, blue trousers, blue and white scarf, and carrying a black and white rucksack.

Anyone who can assist police with their ongoing enquiries is asked to come forward.

Detective Sergeant Raymond Gray said: "This robbery left the staff badly shaken but thankfully unhurt.

"We are keen to hear from anyone who may have seen the man, or has information about the crime, so that we can trace him as soon as possible.

"I would ask those with information to contact police immediately on 101."

Missing teenager found safe and well



Police in Edinburgh have confirmed that missing teenager Thomas Wilson has now been found safe and well.

The 15-year old was traced in the Wester Hailes area earlier this morning.

The public and media are thanked for their assistance during this appeal.

Academics call on university to rethink investments



Academic staff at the University of Edinburgh have called for the institution's investment strategy to be rethought and any entanglement with arms or fossil fuels to be removed from its portfolio.

The Global Divestment Movement is coming to a head in Edinburgh this week as staff and students sustain pressure on the university to withdraw the portion of their endowment invested in fossil fuels and arms

The University of Edinburgh's endowment fund is the third largest in the UK valued at some £230 million. In 2013 a student campaign pushed the University has previously divested from military drone manufacturer Ultra Electronics.

The academic's letter has also been supported by George Monbiot, Scottish MSP John Finnie and Edinburgh University Student Association and numerous societies at the university.

Following the Glasgow University's decision to divest from oil, gas and coal and with other national institutions to follow, almost 1,400 students petitioned Edinburgh University to take action last year.

Worldwide assets worth \$50 billion have already been removed from the so-called 'dirty energy' by Churches, Universities and philanthropic funds. Students and staff at the University of Edinburgh are hoping to joining the likes of Stanford university, the British Medical Association, the World Council of Churches, and the Norwegian Sovereign Wealth fund which are just some of the many who have or are in the process of divesting from fossil fuels in order to take meaningful action on climate change.

The letter reads:

Dear Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea,

We are proud of being part of a University which aspires 'to make world-leading contributions to understanding and addressing global challenges'. We are calling on the University to take action to fulfill these objectives: to divest from fossil fuels and the arms trade. While we use our endowment fund to support the fossil fuel industry, we bear responsibility for the environmental damage and social injustice that result from it. Similarly, by investing in arms companies we are fueling conflict, poverty and human rights abuses.

The most recent IPCC report has clearly stated that anthropogenic global warming is “unequivocal”. If we continue on the current trajectory to a 4°C rise in global temperature we will face rising sea levels, reduced capacity of food production, and immanent resource wars. Whilst there is near-consensus concerning the causes and potential consequences of climate change, the global community has faltered in articulating the actions that must be taken to combat it.

We now have a global movement that has pinpointed a simple and necessary action: divestment from fossil fuels. From the University of Glasgow, to the British Medical Association, The World Council of Churches, Mary Robinson, Desmond Tutu, UN Climate Chief Christiana Figueres, the Rockefeller Foundation and the National Union of Students – the support for divestment is widespread. Collectively over \$50 billion of investment in fossil fuels has been withdrawn. In order to stay below a two degree rise of global temperature, 80% of known fossil fuel reserves must stay underground. This is possible. A whole-scale shift to renewable energy production, coupled with increased efforts to reduce consumption would enable us to mitigate the effects of climate change. The fossil fuel industry poses a formidable barrier through funding climate change denial and lobbying politicians, thus distorting public debate and preventing action on climate change.

Business as usual is not an option. Divestment from the fossil fuel industry means that our money will not further worsen the problem but also send a strong statement that the University of Edinburgh is making a ‘significant, sustainable and socially responsible contribution to Scotland, the UK and the world’. We further believe that divestment from the arms trade is crucial and follows the precedent set by divesting from Ultra Electronics Ltd. Our continued investment in fossil fuels and arms, combined with the futility of shareholder engagement, constitutes inaction

on climate change and human conflict across the globe. It is time that we stop thinking in terms of the risk of divestment and lead the way in creating a sustainable and secure future. By positively investing in renewable energy, local innovations and the university's own initiatives we will be fulfilling the University's mission and attempting to meet its targets to reduce carbon emissions.

We are calling on the University of Edinburgh to divest from fossil fuels and the arms trade.

Signed:

Professor Crispin Bates, Director of Centre for South Asia Studies, School of History, Classics and Archaeology
Dr. Julie Cupples, Lecturer in Human Geography, School of Geosciences
Dr. Sara Rich Dorman, Lecturer in Politics, School of Social and Political Sciences
Dr. David Farrier, Lecturer in English Literature, School of Literature, Languages and Cultures
Dr. Guy Fletcher, Lecturer in Philosophy, School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Studies
Dr. Franklin Ginn, Lecturer in Human Geography, School of Geosciences
Dr. Hugo Gorringer, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, School of Social and Political Sciences
Dr. Andrew Harmer, Lecturer in Global Health Policy, School of Social and Political Science
Professor Jonathan Hearn, Professor of Political and Historical Sociology, School of Social and Political Sciences
Professor Lynn Jamieson, Professor of Sociology of Families and Relationships, School of Social and Political Sciences
Professor Patricia Jeffery, Emerita Professor of Sociology, School of Social and Political Sciences
Professor Roger Jeffery, Professor of Sociology of South Asia, School of Social and Political Science
Dr. Stephen Kemp, Lecturer in Sociology, School of Social and Political Science
Professor Simon King, Professor of Linguistics & English Language, School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Studies
Dr. Eric Laurier, Senior Lecturer in Geography and Interaction, School of Geosciences
Dr. Richard Milne, Senior

Lecturer, School of Biological Sciences Peter McColl, Rector and Chair of University Court

Dr. Fergus McInnes, Research Fellow, School of Informatics Professor Michael Northcott, Professor of Ethics, School of Divinity Professor Andrew Patrizio, Professor of Art History, Edinburgh College of Art

Dr. Pauline Phemister, Reader in Philosophy, School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Studies Dr. Tom Slater, Reader in Human Geography, School of Geosciences Dr. Katherine Smith, Reader in the Global Health Public Unit, School of Social and Political Sciences Professor Liz Stanley, ESRC Professional Research Fellow, School of Social and Political Sciences Professor Janette Webb, Professor in Institute of Governance, School of Social and Political Sciences Dr. Tom Webster, Lecturer in History, School of History, Classics and Archaeology Dr. Sarah Hill, Senior Lecturer in Population Health and Health Policy, School of Social and Political Sciences Dr. Thomas Pierret, Lecturer in Contemporary Islam, School of Literature, Languages and Cultures Rev. Ali Newell, Associate Chaplain Professor Matthew Williams, Professor of Global Change Ecology, School of Geosciences Dr William Mackaness, Senior Lecturer in Geographical Information Science, School of Geosciences Professor David Stevenson, Atmospheric Chemistry Modelling, School of Geosciences Dr. Kanchana Ruwanpura, Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, School of Geosciences Dr. Caroline Lehmann, Lecturer in Biogeography, School of Geosciences Dr. Samantha Staddon, Teaching Fellow in Environment and Development, School of Geosciences Professor Dave Raey, Director of Post-graduate Teaching, School of Geosciences Professor Mark Aspinwall, Professor of Politics, School of Social and Political Science

Dr. Shaun Bevan, Lecturer in Quantitative Political Science, School of Social and Political Science

Dr. Andrea Birdsall, Lecturer in International Relations and Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies, School of Social and Political Science

Dr. Philip Cook, Lecturer in Political Theory, School of History, Classics and Archaeology Dr. Alan Convery, Lecturer in Politics, School of Social and Political Science Professor Douglas Cairn, Professor of Classics, School of Social and Political Sciences Melanie Scott, Assistant Director Student Disability Service Dr. Andrew Cross, Research Associate, School of Geosciences Dr. Jeremy Kidwell, AHRC Post-doctoral Research Fellow, School of Divinity

Dr. Songül Mecit, Post Doctoral Fellow in Islamic Studies, School of Literature, Languages and Cultures Dr. Serpil Ozdemir, Teaching Fellow in Turkish, School of Literature, Languages and Cultures Dr. Marisa Wilson, Chancellor's Fellow of Geographies and the Lived Environment, School of Geosciences Mags Tingey, Research Officer in the Institute of Governance, School of Social and Political Sciences Dr. Aaron Thierry, Postdoctoral Research Associate, CYCLOPS, School of Geosciences Dr. Lisa Shillio, Fellow in Archaeology, School of History, Classics and Archaeology Dr. Gemma Phillips, Research Fellow, School of Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences

Dr. Isabel Fletcher, Global Public Health Unit Research Fellow, School of Social and Political Sciences

Monday in Edinburgh – What's

On Today



Toddler Time: Rastamouse programme 13 *Missing Things* (U). Picturehouse welcomes back the skateboarding, reggae-playing Rastamouse and his crime-fighting-crew in this series of vibrant, fun and engaging episodes, each one with a theme. 'Through understanding, love an' respect, Rastamouse will always make a bad thing good.' **Toddler Time** screenings are short sessions exclusively for pre-school children, their parents and carers. 11am, [Cameo](#), Home Street. Tickets cost £3 per child (accompanying adults free) if you join the Toddler Time club – membership is free, ask at the Box Office. Tickets can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0871 902 5723.



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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, Grassmarket:** please note access may be restricted at certain times owing to visiting groups. Also at same times on Tuesday 3rd in the Grassmarket, on Wednesday 4th at the Scottish Gallery of Modern Art TWO, on Thursday 5th in George Street (between Castle Street and Frederick Street), on Friday 6th at Edinburgh Napier University Colinton Campus, Colinton Road and on Friday 13th March at Edinburgh College, West Granton Road. 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.



Golden Hare Book Group: this month ***Dissident Gardens*** by **Jonathan Lethem**. 'A radical family epic and an alternative view of the American twentieth century, *Dissident Gardens* is the story of a group of individuals who fought and lost, but might one day win. It is a blast of pure style and literary dazzle from one of the great and most innovative writers of the age'. 6.30pm, [Golden Hare Books](#), 68 St Stephen Street.



Going Underground Showcase: a showcase bill with an intimate few of the basement's favourite regulars and new discoveries. Featuring **Elyssa Vulpes** and the **Betes Noires**, **Gillywolfe**, **Joel Burton**, **Faith Elliott**, **Saint Max**, **Suky Goodfellow**, **Kirsty**

Heggie and **Peru Galbete**. 7.15pm, [Forest Cafe](#), Lauriston Place. Free but please remember that corkage is charged if you wish to bring your own beer or wine.

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



Trains!

Scottish Youth Parliament

St Patrick's Day Parade in Portobello

Photography exhibition

Saughton Park consultation

The Edinburgh Reporter is off on a train to Berwick this morning and will be interviewing the new Managing Director of Virgin Trains East Coast David Horne on the way back to Edinburgh aboard the new Virgin East Coast service which began yesterday but is having its official media launch today.

Watch out for our tweets, instagrams and reports later!

The East Coast franchise was awarded to Inter City Railways, a joint venture by Stagecoach and Virgin, at the end of last year with promises of a cleaner, more reliable train service and faster journey times over the next few years. The route from Edinburgh to London is to be cut back to 4 hours and the long-distance anytime fares are to be reduced by 10%.

The Competition and Markets Authority opened a case over the

merger in December when the ink was barely dry on the paperwork. Stagecoach is a 90% owner in the venture and since the bus company also runs a bus service along parts of the same route with its Citylink operation, the CMA were concerned about fares and services. Just last week the CMA announced that Stagecoach had given sufficient undertakings to address these competition concerns.

Stagecoach has agreed that it will not do anything to affect the competitiveness of the coach services in relation to fares, timetables, frequency and service quality. However there is still a long stop date of 21 April 2015 for the CMA to accept these undertakings.



The Scottish Youth Parliament elections begin next week and if you are a young voter then you are encouraged to take part in the voting process which begins today.

Anyone aged between 12 and 25 in the Capital is eligible vote and to get involved young people can log onto the [Young Scot website](#) and use their Young Scot number to vote (temporary numbers for voting are also available from a selection of schools and community venues across the city).

There are 12 seats representing Edinburgh open to candidates who receive the most votes at the elections in March. These are in six city areas: Central, Eastern, Northern & Leith, Pentlands, Southern and Western.

The [Scottish Youth Parliament](#) is a non-party political organisation made up of 150 young people representing every constituency in Scotland. It campaigns to highlight the views of Scotland's young people on a national and international stage.

Its members meet three times each year at a range of different locations, including in the main chamber at Holyrood's Scottish Parliament.

Councillor Cathy Fullerton, Vice Convener for Education for the City of Edinburgh Council, said: "We've seen from the success of young people voting in the Independence Referendum that there's a real appetite out there for them to engage in politics.

"The Scottish Youth Parliament offers an ideal chance for young people to be heard on both national and local issues and I would urge everyone eligible to cast their vote next week.

"It's great that modern technology means our young people can vote online for the first time for their preferred candidate. These elections are a great opportunity to develop young people's citizenship and debating skills as well as demonstrating democracy in action.

"The council is committed to involving young people fully in the life of our city, so they feel that Edinburgh is a place where they can really make a difference. That's why we are also actively encouraging them to come up with petitions which can be put to our Petitions Committee for consideration."

Anyone interested in voting should visit the [Young Scot website](#) or contact the CEC Young People's Participation Team on 0131 529 6502.

This year the second annual Portobello and Craigmillar St Patrick's Day Pageant will take place. It is a fun-packed afternoon out for all including local groups, churches, schools, shops and families.

The parade happens on Sunday 15 March 2015, moving off at 2:00pm for a short stroll along part of Portobello Promenade.

Wildlife Exposed

For twenty five years photographer, guide and Exodus stalwart Paul Goldstein has been photographing wildlife, particularly predators. Each year he unveils a sparkling new portfolio of leopards, lions, jaguars, polar bears and some breath-taking scenery. Paul, despite his 'marmite' reputation has a large following and his safaris and expeditions are always filled with repeat clients, like many Exodus holidays. However much like his tours, if you are expecting a comfortable ride, think again: this lavishly illustrated presentation will be opinionated, provocative and intense, you have been warned. His new collaboration with friend and photographer Kyriakos Kheziras is a 240 page book just on Predators.

Event

[Date: 03 March 2015 Time: 19:00](#)

Venue: Edinburgh Marriott, 111 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh EH12 8NF



The council is asking for the public's views on the way forward for Saughton Park. The consultation runs [here](#) until 6 April 2015.

£5.3m has been allocated to works to return the park to its former glory with bandstands, walled gardens, winter gardens, new café, public toilets and a community venue. Accompanying the new look there are plans for a programme of events for all ages with opportunities for volunteering and learning. A full business plan is being developed with Jura Consultants to find ways of paying for these future activities.

Around £400,000 has already been awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and a further application will be made to the

fund after the consultation ends next month.

Exhibitions of the ambitious plans are being held from today and will continue over the next few weeks.

Exhibition Event details

Fri 6 March, 12pm to 3pm, Winter Gardens, Saughton Park

Sat 14 March, 10am to 3pm, Spring Fever Event and Plant Sale, Saughton Park

Thu 19 March, 6pm to 9pm, Slateford Green Community Centre

Wed 25 March, 1pm to 6pm, Carrickvale Community Centre

Sat 28 March, 12pm to 3pm, Winter Gardens, Saughton Park

Sat 4 April, 12pm to 3pm, Easter Bear Hunt, Saughton Park

Saughton Park design displays (questionnaires can be filled out here)

Monday 2 March to Monday 6 April, Winter Gardens, Saughton Park

Monday 2 March to Sunday 8 March, Fountainbridge Library

Monday 9 March to Sunday 15 March, Central Library

Monday 16 March to Sunday 22 March, St Bride's Community Centre

Monday 23 March to Sunday 29 March, Carrickvale Community Centre

Monday 30 March to Wednesday 1 April, Hermitage of Braid Visitor Centre

Thursday 2 April to Monday 6 April Sainsbury's, Murrayfield

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

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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.

Two bikes per train is not enough say Greens



The new operator of Scotrail will only allow two bikes per train on the new Borders Railway when it starts running from Edinburgh to Tweedbank, and it is simply not enough say the Scottish Greens.

The party have criticised the Scottish Government after it confirmed the policy.

In response to concerns raised by local businesses, Alison Johnstone, Scottish Green MSP for Lothian, asked the Scottish Government for an explanation.

Transport Minister Derek Mackay has confirmed the two-bike policy, adding that Abellio's strategy in the Netherlands has been to invest in storage at stations and encourage passengers to maintain a second bike at destination stations.

Alison Johnstone MSP, who co-convenes Holyrood's cross-party group on cycling, said:

"Leisure cycling and mountain biking are rapidly growing activities worth tens of millions to the Borders economy, and yet this major public transport project will completely fail

to match this with increased capacity. Other countries are way ahead of us with bike carriages carrying dozens of bikes, and even some older Highland trains take at least 6 bikes.

“Hiring a bike at the other end might work for some people, but I know lots of enthusiasts will want to take their own, much-loved bikes with them. I can see families considering a cycling holiday in the Borders giving the area a miss if they’re unable to take their own bikes by rail. I urge Abellio to scale up their ambition before September.”

Pauline Stewart, Scottish Green Party candidate for Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk, said:

“Considering that we expect the train line to have a very positive effect on increasing tourism to the region which boasts some of the best downhill and cross country mountain biking courses in Europe the proposed two bike restriction on these trains is incredibly short sighted. The majority of mountain bikers who come to the area to utilise these world class routes or indeed to compete here will be very disappointed to hear that they are expected to hire bikes at their destination.”

What's On In Edinburgh this week

MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2015



Toddler Time: Rastamouse programme 13 *Missing Things* (U). Picturehouse welcomes back the skateboarding, reggae-playing

Rastamouse and his crime-fighting-crew in this series of vibrant, fun and engaging episodes, each one with a theme. 'Through understanding, love and respect, Rastamouse will always make a bad thing good.' **Toddler Time** screenings are short sessions exclusively for pre-school children, their parents and carers. 11am, [Cameo](#), Home Street. Tickets cost £3 per child (accompanying adults free) if you join the Toddler Time club – membership is free, ask at the Box Office. Tickets can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0871 902 5723.



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TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2015



Flax pulling at Selby

Land Girls and Munitionettes: Witnessing War on the Home Front. Women experienced the First World War in diverse ways; their class, age, race, location and occupation impacted on their wartime work, whether it was in the fields, factories or home. In this illustrated talk, **Dr Gill Clarke** (University of Chichester and St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery, Lymington) explores some of their roles in the Home Front workforce, many of which had been the preserve of men. 12.45-1.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.



Teen Creative Writing Meet-Up: if you are a writer – or a would-be writer – aged 14-17 years, come along to the first meeting of this new group, which will offer writing activities and exercises, plus feedback on your projects. 5-6pm tonight and every fortnight (excluding the Easter holidays) for six sessions, [Morningside Library](#), 184 Morningside Road. As places are limited, booking is required: call the library on 0131 529 5654.



Lunchtime Concert: University of Edinburgh Music Students. The concert will include a performance by the winner of the **Tovey Memorial Competition Final**. 1.10pm, [Reid Concert Hall](#), University of Edinburgh, Bristo Square. Free: no booking required.



I Witness: Images of Hope from Haiti. A touring photography and art exhibition showing life-changing projects taking place in Haiti today, as witnessed by three rather special **Christian**

Aid supporters. 10am-2pm daily until 31st March 2015, Undercroft Cafe, [St Andrew's & St George's West Church](#), 13 George Street.



Leith School of Art Open Day: see the school in action and speak to staff and students; portfolio reviews available on request. 10am-3pm, [Leith School of Art](#), 25 North Junction Street and St James's Church, 11a John's Place (you are welcome to visit both sites). Leith School of Art is an independent art school: its ethos is to encourage and welcome all those who want to learn about art and design, irrespective of age, ability or personal circumstances. It offers a wide range of courses, from day and evening classes to full-time one year programmes, plus workshops and community classes.



Tinderbox Presents Frontiers: a collaborative and creative music collective for ages 10-25 years (different groups for different ages). Play in a band, write songs, build studio, engineering and production skills, learn an instrument, create an orchestra like none before! Any instrument, any standard, no auditions. 6-8pm today and every Tuesday, [North Edinburgh Arts](#), 15a Pennywell Court.



Edinburgh College Creative Industries Open Days: an opportunity to speak to lecturers in Art & Design, Performing Arts, Broadcast Media & Photography, Music & Sound Production and Computing, see the cutting-edge facilities and try some fun, interactive activities. 3-6pm, [Edinburgh College Sighthill Campus](#), Bankhead Avenue. Also at same times at the Milton Road Campus on Wednesday 4th March and at the Granton Campus on 5th March. See Edinburgh College's [website](#) for more information and details regarding which subjects are offered

at each campus.



The Autonomous Centre of Edinburgh (ACE): Vegan Potluck Supper. 7-10pm, ACE, 17 West Montgomery Place.



A Winter's Oresteia. A chilling new adaptation by award-winning playwright **James Beagon** of an Ancient Greek classic; a chilling story of anger and revenge. For ages 14+: includes violence and some strong language. 7.30pm tonight, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, [Summerhall](#), 1 Summerhall. Tickets cost £8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 560 1581.



Drumbrae Employment Fair: meet representatives from a range of organisations who can support you in looking for jobs, training, learning and volunteering opportunities in South West Edinburgh, and also advise you about benefits. 10.30am-1.30pm, [Drumbrae Library Hub](#), 81 Drumbrae Drive.

Lunchtime Concert: Woodbridge High School Choir, Woodford Green. 12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.



Cameo Silver Screen: if you are 60+ and take out free membership of the Silver Screen Club, you can buy tickets for Silver Screen shows for £5, which includes a free tea or coffee and biscuits. Today's shows: 12.30pm and 3.15pm – ***The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* (PG)**, 1.30pm – ***It Follows* (15)**, 3.40pm – ***Catch Me Daddy* (15)** and 3.50pm ***Ex Machina* (15)**, [Cameo](#), Home Street. Tickets can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0871 902 5723.



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History in the Pub: Dark Heart – Tales from Edinburgh's Town Jail with Douglas Skelton. Writer Douglas Skelton's 2008 book *Dark Heart* looked at the history of the **Edinburgh Tolbooth**, the infamous '**Heart of Midlothian**'. For five centuries it stood at the centre of Scotland's history and criminal life, being at various times a parliament building, court, administrative centre, and ultimately the town jail – Edinburgh's Bastille. Using the warding books and other documents, letters and printed sources, Douglas tells the stories of some of the people who were imprisoned there, and tries to reclaim this forgotten building's place in history.

Douglas is the author of eleven true crime/Scottish criminal history books. In 2013 he moved into fiction with the thriller *Blood City*; the sequel *Crow Bait* was released in 2014. 7.30-9.30pm, [The Counting House](#), West Nicolson Street. History in the Pub talks are free and open to anyone who is interested in the past.



The Southern Light Opera Company Presents *Oliver!* 'Based On Dickens' 1838 novel about the boy who asked for more, this ever popular musical by Lionel Bart never fails to thrill'. 7.30pm today, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, plus matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday, [King's Theatre](#), Leven Street, Tollcross. Tickets are available online [here](#) or from the Box Office on 0131 529 6000: prices vary. Read The Edinburgh Reporter's article about **Amateur Showcase** – a round up of amateur productions this season at King's – [here](#).



LGBT Art Therapy: Body Mapping. Facilitated by **art therapists**, an opportunity to play with art materials to create visual representations that connect with bodily feelings or emotions. No experience or art skills required. 6.30-8.30pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. Booking is essential as places are limited: contact Alison Wren on 0131 652 3283 or email alison@lgbthealth.org.uk.

WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2015



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



Morningside Justice and Peace Group: Professor Paul Cairney (University of Stirling) talks on
Evolving: the constitutional

outcome of the Smith Commission for Scotland and the rest of the UK, 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.

The Trouble with Digital Education. Professor Sian Bayne, Chair of Digital Education, University of Edinburgh, delivers her inaugural lecture, arguing that we need the digital to keep educational practice fresh, critical and challenging. 5.15pm, Main Lecture Theatre, [50 George Square](#). Free and open to all: no booking required.



Edinburgh College Creative Industries Open Days: an opportunity to speak to lecturers in Art & Design, Performing Arts, Broadcast Media & Photography, Music & Sound Production and Computing, see the cutting-edge facilities and try some fun, interactive activities. 3-6pm, [Edinburgh College Milton Road Campus](#), 24 Milton Road East. Also at same times at the Granton Campus on 5th March. See Edinburgh College's [website](#) for more information and details regarding which subjects are offered at each campus.



Bookbug: for children aged 0-4 and their parents or 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.

A Winter's Oresteia. A chilling new adaptation by award-winning playwright **James Beagon** of an Ancient Greek classic; a chilling story of anger and revenge. For ages 14+: includes violence and some strong language. 7.30pm tonight, Thursday and Friday, [Summerhall](#), 1 Summerhall. Tickets cost £8/£6 and

can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 560 1581.



Adult Scrabble Club: pop in for a relaxed and fun game. 3.30pm, [Blackhall Library](#), 56 Hillhouse Road. For more information ask at the desk or call the library on 0131 529 5595. (Next meeting 18th March).

LGBT Bi & Beyond Edinburgh: a fortnightly social gathering for those who identify as bisexual or non-monosexual. With organised social activities and refreshments provided, whatever your label or lack of label, we welcome you. 7-9pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. For more information contact byandbeyondedinburgh@gmail.com.



The Scottish Gallery: five new exhibitions. *A Celebration of British Studio Pottery:* Clive Bowen, Lisa Hammond, Akiko Hirai, Walter Keeler, Jim Malone and William Plumptre; *Jankel Adler: The Master* – 21 drawings, paintings and prints dating from the 1940s, when the late artist (a friend and mentor of Robert MacBryde and Robert Colquhoun) lived in Britain; **Linda Lewin showcase** (jewellery), **Jacqueline Mina OBE showcase** (jewellery) and **Henry Kondracki: Three Cities** (Edinburgh, London and New York). 10am-6pm Monday to Friday, 10am-4pm Saturdays, [The Scottish Gallery](#), 16 Dundas Street. All exhibitions close on 28th March 2015.



Image: National Library of
Scotland

Guided Tour of the National Library: a tour of the building and an introduction to the Library's collections and history. 10.30am, [National Library of Scotland](#), George IV Bridge.

Numbers are limited so booking is essential, and can be made online [here](#) or by calling the Library on 0131 623 3734. Please inform the Library if you have any special access requirements. Free.



Lunchtime Concert: Guitarists from Edinburgh Napier University. 12.15pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free.



Poetry Association of Scotland: Mandy Haggith Reading. A poet from the North West who creates poems that celebrate nature and its relationship with words, both literal and metaphoric. 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.



Blackwell's Edinburgh Presents Marianna Lines: *The Traveller's Guide to Sacred Scotland*. 'The first guidebook to weave together the cultural, historical and spiritual of this fascinating country'. Marianna Lines has worked with Pictish stones and ancient sites in Scotland since she emigrated from her native Atlanta, Georgia in 1977. She is also a printmaker, playwright, writer and designer. 6.30-8pm, [Blackwell's](#), South Bridge. Free tickets can be obtained from the shop's front desk, by calling 0131 622 8218, emailing events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk or via [eventbrite](#).



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**, [Scottish Gallery of Modern Art TWO](#), Belford Road.

Also at same times on Thursday 5th in George Street (between North Castle Street and Frederick Street), on Friday 6th at Edinburgh Napier University Colinton Campus, Colinton Road and on Friday 13th March at Edinburgh College, West Granton Road. 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.



Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland: Soloists Recital. 1-2pm, [Canongate Kirk](#), 153 Canongate.

THURSDAY 5TH MARCH 2015



Live Music Now: Aonach Mor. With accordion, fiddle, guitar, piano and voice, Aonach Mor draw on a wealth of traditional material whilst adding contemporary melodies to create an exciting blend of songs and tunes. The programme includes some specific references to the ***Remembering the Great War*** exhibition, including *Pipe Tunes From The War* (*The Taking of Beaumont Hamel*, *Hogmanay Rejoicings*, *The Royal Scots* and *The Shell That Took The Billet*), and *Keep the Home Fires Burning*. 6-6.30pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free and unticketed.



Storytime: for 3-5 year olds. 10.30-11am today and every

Thursday, [Central Children's Library](#), George IV Bridge.



Mary Slessor at Ikotobong Court, Calabar, late 19th century. Image held by University of Edinburgh School of Divinity.

Ecumenical Friends at St John's: Carol Finlay – Mary Slessor and her legacy. 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.



Le Clown, Henri Matisse
1947, copyright Succession
H Matisse/DACS 2014

Books In Focus: Matisse's Jazz. The Books In Focus series focuses on artists' books held in the special collections of the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. This session will look in detail at Henri Matisse's *livre d'artiste Jazz*, which was published by Teriade in 1957. The book is a meditation on colour and what it is to be an artist by one of the most famous artists of the 20th century. 11.30am-12.30pm, Reading Room, [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art TW0](#), Belford Road. Places are free but limited, and should be booked by calling 0131 624 6268 or emailing gmainfo@nationalgalleries.org.



Big Scream: screenings exclusively for parents and carers with babies under the age of 12 months. Membership of this club costs £5 and expires on your baby's first birthday: it enables

you to buy tickets for Big Scream screenings at Picturehouse members' rates (babies admitted free). This week: ***Into The Woods* (PG)**, 10am, [Cameo](#), Home Street. Tickets can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0871 902 5723.



Scotland-Russia Forum: sparkling Russian/English conversation over tea and cakes. Open to all, no booking required, just turn up – you will be warmly welcomed by the group. 11am today and the first Thursday of every month, Summerhall Cafe, [Summerhall](#). No charge apart from the cost of any drinks or food you may wish to purchase. For more information see the Scotland-Russia forum's [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page.

Scotland-Russia Forum: Professor Paul Dukes – The Urals: Russia's Crucible. A Dashkova Open Seminar. 5.10pm, [The Princess Dashkova Russian Centre](#), 14 Buccleuch Place.



Representing Muslims in Scotland and the North-East: a screening of ***The Last of the Dictionary Men*** and a Q & A session with filmmaker **Tina Gharavi**. Gharavi is a BAFTA-nominated filmmaker and screenwriter of Iranian heritage, whose films and documentaries have examined her own experiences travelling from her adopted home city of Newcastle to Tehran in ***Mother/Country* (2001)**, recorded the history of Yemeni migration to South Shields in ***The Last of the Dictionary Men* (2008)**, and documented the lasting impact of Muhammad Ali's extraordinary visit to the Muslim communities in South Shields in ***The King of South Shields* (2008)**. Her first full-length feature film, the BAFTA-nominated ***I Am Nasrine* (2012)** traced the arrival of two Iranian asylum seekers to Newcastle. 5.30pm, Project Room, [50 George Square](#), University of Edinburgh. Refreshments will be available after the talk. This is the last in a series of seminars with British Muslim writers. poets and filmmakers organised by PhD

students Sybil Adam and Peter Cherry.



Edinburgh College of Art Thursday Research Seminars: Composite Formation – Freud's Rome and the Phantasy of 'Self-Analysis'.

The seminar will be chaired by **Professor Whitney Davis** (UC Berkeley) and will be followed by drinks in the common room. 5.15pm, Lecture Room 1, [Minto House](#), 20-22 Chambers Street. Free and open to all: no booking required.



A Family of Painters – The Faeds: an exhibition of 30 paintings by five members of the Faed family. One of the oldest and rarest of Scottish surnames and with its history firmly rooted in the picturesque landscape of **Dumfries and Galloway**, for over a decade the Faed name has been associated with the family of artists from the area. From portraits of **Highland Marys** and **Robert Burns** to scenes of rural and domestic life in Galloway and rolling countryside, the family covered many genres which did and still do appeal to many. 10am-6pm Monday to Friday, 11am-2pm Saturdays, [Bourne Fine Art](#), 6 Dundas Street. Ends 11th April 2015.



Image: National
Library of Scotland

World Book Day at the National Library: learn about the Library's collections, services, exhibitions and events. Enjoy a tour of the public areas and behind the scenes. 10am, 11am, 12 noon, 2pm, 3pm or 4pm, [National Library of Scotland](#), George IV Bridge. Booking is required and can be made online [here](#) or by calling the Library on 0131 623 3734. Please inform the Library if you have any special access requirements. Free.



The Jonathan Mills Lectures: *Performing the City*. How do we respond to the intimate details of our surroundings? Our homes or streets? Our neighbourhoods and offices? Our urban or, decreasingly, our rural environments? In this lecture composer, festival director and Visiting Professor (University of Edinburgh) **Jonathan Mills** explores the idea of performance as a way in which we might want to inhabit our place in the world. 12.30pm, Main Lecture Theatre E22, [Edinburgh College of Art](#) Main Building, Lauriston Place. Free and open to all.



Edinburgh College Creative Industries Open Days: an opportunity to speak to lecturers in Art & Design, Performing Arts, Broadcast Media & Photography, Music & Sound Production and Computing, see the cutting-edge facilities and try some fun, interactive activities. 3-6pm, [Edinburgh College Granton Campus](#), 350 West Granton Road. See Edinburgh College's [website](#) for more information and details regarding which subjects are offered at each campus.



Edinburgh Palette Figurative Painting and Drawing Workshops: a drop-in untutored group available to all, beginners and professionals. Some easels and drawing boards are available on a first come, first served basis. Male and female models are used. 9.45am-12.30pm today and every Thursday, Drawing Room, Studio 5.18, Fifth Floor, [St Margaret's House](#), 151 London Road. £6 per session. For more information please call Trina Bohan on 07783 398112, or just call in.

A Winter's Oresteia. A chilling new adaptation by award-winning playwright **James Beagon** of an Ancient Greek classic; a chilling story of anger and revenge. For ages 14+: includes violence and some strong language. 7.30pm tonight and Friday, [Summerhall](#), 1 Summerhall. Tickets cost £8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 560

1581.



Magne Furuholmen and Gaby Hartel in conversation: *Peeling A Glass Onion*, a new body of work by Norwegian visual artist and musician Magne Furuholmen at the Dovecot, forms the backdrop for this exchange with Berlin based freelance arts journalist, radio writer and translator Gaby Hartel. The making of *Glass Onion* tapestry in collaboration with **Dovecot Tapestry Studio** will also be discussed. 5-6pm, [Dovecot Studios](#), Infirmary Street. Tickets cost £6/£5 and can be purchased via eventbrite [here](#). *Peeling A Glass Onion* opens at Dovecot tomorrow.



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, George Street (between North Castle Street and Frederick Street)**; please note access may be restricted at certain times owing to visiting groups. Also at same times on Friday 6th at Edinburgh Napier University Colinton Campus, Colinton Road and on Friday 13th March at Edinburgh College, West Granton Road. 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.



Image:

Mayfield Salisbury Thursday Club: A Vet's Life in Kenya, with **George Smith**. 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.



Lucky Frame

Game Changers: what is the future of game design? V & A Game Designer **Sophia George**, Lucky Frame founder **Yann Seznec** and the National Theatre of Scotland's **Philippa Tomlin** will discuss their inspirations, award-winning projects and their aspirations for the future of game design. The evening will be chaired by **Chris Wilson** of Abertay University. For ages 14+ only. 6.30-8pm (doors open 6.15pm), Auditorium (entry via Lothian St), [National Museum of Scotland](#). This event is in partnership with **V & A Museum of Design Dundee** and will include an opportunity to visit the **Design in Motion Travelling Gallery**, which will be open to the public 6-8pm. Free but booking is required: tickets may be booked online [here](#) or obtained from NMS's reception desk.



Kitten On The Keys: jam session – bring along any instrument you choose and jam away with like-minded musicians, with a focus on getting everyone involved and experimenting with music. 7pm, [Boda Bar](#), 229 Leith Walk.

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH 2015



Gray's School of Art Pre-Degree Show 2015: final year painting students exhibit a broad range of upcoming talent, cutting-

edge practice and contemporary takes on traditional methods. Private view tonight, then 10am-6pm daily, Gallery 1, [St Margaret's House](#), 151 London Road. Ends 20th March 2015.



Tansy Lee-Moir, Eoin Cox and Catherine Lilley: *Time Around Trees*. Drawings, paintings, carvings and prints celebrating trees, wood and woodlands, from the powerful presence of a veteran tree to the intimate surfaces of trees and the plants and organisms that inhabit them. Private view tonight, then 10am-6pm daily, Gallery 2, [St Margaret's House](#), 151 London Road. Ends 22nd March 2015.



Rona MacLean and Aileen Grant: *No Woman is an Island*. Planned to coincide with **International Women's Day** on 8th March, *No Woman is an Island* will include paintings and hand-made prints by Rona MacLean and Aileen Grant, both residents of St Margaret's House and members of Edinburgh Printmakers. The work will feature Scottish landscapes, fishing huts, seascapes, allotments and natural forms. Private view tonight, then 10am-6pm daily, Gallery 3, [St Margaret's House](#), 151 London Road. Ends 22nd March 2015.



Word Power Books: Anne Schwan launches *Convict Voices: Women, Class and Writing about Prison in 19th Century England*. 'A lively study of the development and transformation of voices of female offenders in 19th century England'. Anne Schwan analyses a range of colourful sources, including crime broadsides, reform literature, prisoners' own writings about imprisonment and courtroom politics, and conventional literary texts such as *Adam Bede* and *The Moonstone*. Crossing class lines, genre boundaries and gender roles in the effort to trace prisoners, authors and female communities (imagined or

real), Schwan brings new insight to what it means to locate feminist (or protofeminist) details, arguments and politics. 'A sophisticated approach to questions of gender, genre, and discourse in the representation of female convicts and their voices and viewpoints'. Sponsored by the Centre for Literature and Writing, Edinburgh Napier University. 6pm, [Word Power Books](#), West Nicolson Street. Free, all welcome: donations also welcome!



Peeling A Glass Onion: a major solo exhibition of works by Norwegian visual artist and musician **Magne Furuholmen:** music, film, tapestry, printmaking and large-scale ceramic. 10.30am-5.30pm, [Dovecot Studios](#), Infirmary Street. Ends 25th April 2015.



David Campbell: image Mike
Wilkinson

As I Was Young and Easy: Dylan Thomas – A Lyrical Celebration. Storyteller **David Campbell** and cellist **Wendy Weatherby** come together in this joyous evocation of their fellow Celtic poet's life and wit. The programme connects Wales and Scotland in recalling Thomas's memorable 1948 visit to Edinburgh and is fresh from a hugely successful performance in the **Scottish International Storytelling Festival**. 7.30pm, Netherbow Theatre, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £8/£6 and can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 556 9579.



Rhythms: a joint exhibition of painting and print – 2D and 3D works on canvas, wood and paper – by **Soosan Danesh, Tracy White** and **Mary Walters**, three recent Edinburgh College of Art graduates and Society of Scottish Artists members. In this

exhibition the artists explore the rhythms of natural and urban environments, Soosan taking the urban surroundings of **Edinburgh** as her starting point, with Mary and Tracy being inspired by the wild places of **Scotland** and **Iceland**. Preview tonight at 6.30pm, then 12 noon-5pm (Thursday 7pm) daily until 15th March 2015, [Patriothall Gallery](#), 1D Patriothall, off Hamilton Place, Stockbridge.



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Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell
Burnell: image University
of Oxford

The Astronomical Society of Edinburgh: Bursts, bangs and things that go bump in the night – transient astronomy, a talk by **Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell** (University of Oxford).

8pm, Church Centre, [Augustine United Church](#), George IV Bridge.
All welcome: free admission.



Possibilities of the Object: Experiments in Modern and Contemporary Brazilian Art. A group exhibition curated by **Paulo Venancio Filho**, *Possibilities of the Object* examines the transitions that have occurred in the sphere of the object in Brazilian art since the 1950s, and the importance of these transitions in the establishment of the hugely influential experimental tradition in Brazilian contemporary art. 'A celebration of some of the beautiful and artistically radical sculptures with which Brazilian artists have tried to redefine what an art object can actually be'. 11am-6pm, Monday to Saturday, 12 noon – 5pm Sundays, [Fruitmarket Gallery](#), Market Street. Guest curator Paulo Venancio Filho will be in conversation with curator **Professor Briony Fer** (UCL) tonight 5-6pm: free tickets can be booked via eventbrite [here](#).



Eilidh Muldoon: launch of a new exhibition of artwork by the Illustrator in Residence at Edinburgh College of Art. 8pm, [Boda Bar](#), 229 Leith Walk.



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



Jackie Gardiner: A Coastal Tale. Abroath-based painter Gardiner's distinctively painterly style has garnered her a loyal following and a reputation as one of Scotland's finest land and seascape painters. Previews 6-8pm tonight and 12 noon-5.30pm tomorrow (Saturday), then 10.30am-6pm Tuesday to

Friday, 10.30am-5.30pm Saturdays and 12 noon-6pm Sundays,
[Union Gallery](#), 45 Broughton Street. Ends 5th April 2015.



Media Education: Radio City. A media-training day for young people aged 12-24 years. Learn fantastic skills like audio recording, interviewing and more, with special guests from the industry and Media Education staff to help you make your first broadcast. 5-7pm, [Media Education](#), 183 Dalry Road. For more information and to register contact Laura on 0131 313 8900 or email laura@mediaeducation.co.uk.



Edinburgh College of Art Friday Lecture Series: Hayley Newman. 11.30am – please contact [ECA](#) to check time and for details of venue.



Lunchtime Concert: Horn Trio. Pamela Turley (clarinet), Neil Mantle (horn) and Gillian Gray Mantle (piano) play Duvernoy *Trio No 1 in C major* and Tovey *Trio in C minor, Op. 8*. 1.10pm, [Reid Concert Hall](#), University of Edinburgh, Bristo Square. Free: no booking required.



Month plate by Seifu Yohei
III, with flowers and
dragonfly c1890. Image: NMS

Masters of Japanese Porcelain: in the late 19th century, new markets and technologies inspired innovation in the Japanese ceramic industry. The finest potters of this period achieved recognition as Imperial Household Artists. This small exhibition focuses on four such individuals. Their most prestigious creations were grand and impressive presentation

pieces for the court, but they were also capable of small-scale works for humble enjoyment. 10am-5pm daily, Grand Gallery, Level One, [National Museum of Scotland](#), Chambers Street. Free.



Vive the (R)evolution: Poems in Translation. Gaelic poet **Meg Bateman** gives a bilingual reading of her poems in Gaelic and English. Meg has been bringing new qualities to Gaelic poetry since her first publications in the 1990s. Tonight she will both read her poems and discuss her views on languages seen as different media for creation. 7-8.30pm, [Institut francais d'Ecosse](#), 13 Randolph Crescent. Admission £5 (members £3).

A Winter's Oresteia. A chilling new adaptation by award-winning playwright **James Beagon** of an Ancient Greek classic; a chilling story of anger and revenge. For ages 14+: includes violence and some strong language. 7.30pm, [Summerhall](#), 1 Summerhall. Tickets cost £8/£6 and can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 560 1581.



Meet the Dogs Trust: an educational talk, a canine story and activities for 5-10 years olds. 1-2 pm, [Gilmerton Library](#), 13 Newtoft Street. For more information call the Trust's Education Officer on 07920 658 660 or email rachel.bliss@dogstrust.org.uk.



Lila Matsumoto:
image by Elzbieth
Nowokowska

The Sutton Gallery: Eleanor Rees, Lila Matsumoto and Felix Bernstein. An exciting event bringing together two poets – Eleanor Rees and Lila Matsumoto – reading live in the gallery,

together with performance and video artist, writer and cultural critic Felix Bernstein via a live video stream. There will also be an opportunity to see the gallery's latest exhibition. 7pm, [The Sutton Gallery](#), 18a Dundas Street. Free: no booking required. Free refreshments!



Italian Film Festival: curated by **Allan Hunter** and **Richard Mowe**, the 22nd Festival opens 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: ***I Can Quit Whenever I Want* (15)** 'This wildly entertaining mixture of *Breaking Bad* and *The Lavender Hill Mob* proved the most successful Italian comedy of 2014'. 8.45pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



Ismael Teira: Argyle Project. Newly-arrived Spanish artist Ismael Teira will investigate the histories of Argyle House, an imposing building belonging to the Brutalist movement, which has recently been transformed into artists' studios and workshops, and also houses the Interview Room 11 Gallery. Although the primary purpose of Argyle House has changed, there are traces of the previous occupants to be found; documentation, archives, illuminated signs....Curated by **Antonio Cervera** and **Ana G Choucino**. Preview 6-8pm tonight, then 2-7pm Wednesday to Friday, 11am-2pm Saturdays, Interview Room 11, Forest Centre Plus, 38 Castle Terrace. Ends 28th March 2015.



Photographs by Mhairi Law: launch of a new exhibition by the current Graduate Artist in Residence at Stills Centre for

Photography. Mhairi's recent work explores how people relate and respond to their home environments, with particular focus on rural communities. 7.30pm, [Sofi's Bar](#), 65 Henderson Street. Refreshments provided.

SATURDAY 7TH MARCH 2015



Dugs in Pubs: join the regular furrries for a socialiser and meet other dogs and their owners from the local area. 12 noon, [Sofi's Bar](#), 65 Henderson Street.



The Velvet Easel Gallery: *The Colour of Life*. A new mixed exhibition, including work by Colin Dunbar, Morag Muir, Borders artist Alan Richmond and Velvet Easel owner Rosalind Walker. 10am-5pm Thursday to Saturday, 12 noon-5pm Sundays, [The Velvet Easel Gallery](#), 298 Portobello High Street.



Decorate a Daffodil Pot with Lindt: create some magic for your Mum this Mothers' Day with a charming gift. Decorate a pot of daffodils – each pot comes with a gold bunny gift tag and a chocolate treat for you and your Mum. 1-4pm, Real Life Science Studio, [Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh](#), Inverleith Row. No booking required.



Rotary Club of Leith: Music for the Philippines. A charity concert in support of a new elite emergency rescue group for the Philippines and the Al Shurooq School for Blind Children in Bethlehem. Featuring **Broxburn and Livingstone Brass Ensemble**, **The Lothians B-US Male Voice Choir**, **Richard Michael BEM (Professor of Jazz Piano)**, **Hilary Michael & Joanna Duncan**, and **Don Uttley on bagpipes**. 7.30pm, [Inverleith St Serf's](#)

[Church](#), 280 Ferry Road. Suggested donation on the door £10.



Canongate Kirk Coffee Morning in aid of the **Friends of Canongate Kirkyard**. 10am-12 noon, [Canongate Kirk](#), 153 Canongate. Admission £2.



Amy Shelton: Bee Works: Florilegium. An exhibition of recent work exploring the current threats to the honeybee. Beautiful light box sculptures document the fleeting rhapsody of the major floral sources of nectar and pollen-rich plants that sustain honeybee colonies from early spring to late autumn. Hand-made books, the result of Shelton's long collaboration with award-winning author **John Burnside**, are also on display, combining poems, intricate embossed maps and miniature pressings. 10am-5.45pm, John Hope Gateway, [Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh](#), Inverleith Row. Free. Ends 5th July 2015.



Zoo Arts Extra: Beach Day. Bring your family and friends for an afternoon of fun, fire, sea, sand and art. Teas, coffees, snacks, picnic blankets and spare waterproofs will be available, plus marshmallows for toasting and lots of creative ideas! A pleasant short walk from NEA to the Shore Road beach. Dress warmly! All children aged under 9 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Meet at 12 noon for a 12.30pm departure, [North Edinburgh Arts](#), 15a Pennywell Court. For more information see the event's [Facebook page](#) or call in to NEA beforehand. **Zoo Arts** is a series of visual art sessions for young people aged 9-14 years, taking place at North Edinburgh Arts 4-5.30pm on Wednesday afternoons in term time. **Zoo Arts Extra** is a project based in Muirhouse to bring together people of all ages to enjoy, explore and produce visual art locally and across the city.



Eric Ritchie: Walking a Line – the re-establishment of an artist maverick. A rich and diverse body of work, ranging from surrealist abstraction through sweeping land and seascapes, still life and book illustration, Eric Ritchie's art embraces **Paul Klee's** maxim about taking a line for a walk. A witty, inquisitive and adventurous 80-year old, Eric is preparing to step back into the limelight of an art world with which he has had a lifelong love affair, sometimes turbulent but always passionate. 10am-5pm Monday to Friday, 12 noon-5pm Saturdays, [Doubtfire Gallery](#), 3 South East Circus Place.



Future Proofing Our Community Workshop – Transition Edinburgh Pentlands Project. A workshop focusing on how to cope with current environmental risks, and what we can do to make our communities a better place for future generations. This is a pilot session and participants' ideas will help to make future sessions even more fun and informative! 10.30am-12.30pm, [Wester Hailes Library](#), 1 Westside Plaza. Free but booking is essential: contact Anne or Christine on 0131 458 5959.



Scottish Church Music up to the Reformation: Dr Jamie Reid-Baxter is an acknowledged expert on Scottish cultural history, a poet, performer and Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow. In this lecture and performance, Dr Reid-Baxter will give a fascinating survey of Scottish church music up to the Reformation, ranging over such topics as **Columban and Kentigern chant, the hymns of St Magnus, St Andrew's Music Book and the music of Carver and Peebles.** A *cappella* vocal group **Sang Scule**, who specialise in singing early Scottish music, will sing several complete pieces to illustrate the story. 7-8.30pm, [Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church](#), 18 West Mayfield. Free tickets may be obtained via

eventbrite [here](#).



Breathing Spaces: Morning
in Bushy Park, by Kassia
Nowak

International Garden Photographer of the Year: an outdoor photography exhibition featuring gardens, plants and landscapes that reveal the diversity and beauty of our green planet. A selection of the world's winning entries from the world's leading garden photography competitions, by both amateur and professional photographers. 10am-5.45pm, Outdoor Decking, John Hope Gateway, [Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh](#), Inverleith Row. Ends 31st May 2015.



Magic Carpet Weekenders: take a trip on the NMS's Magic Carpet for stories, songs and activities inspired by the fascinating collections. Magic Carpet sessions are for individual families and their children under 5 years, with a minimum ratio of 1 adult per 2 children. 11-11.25am, meet at the Lighthouse Lens, Grand Gallery, [National Museum of Scotland](#), Chambers Street. Free but please sign up on the day. (These sessions are in addition to the regular ones held on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and will run on Saturdays and Sundays throughout March 2015). Also at same time on Sunday 8th March.



Amnesty International Ceilidh: 7.30pm, St Columba's Hall, Upper Gray Street. Tickets £6/£4 on the door.



The Big LGBT Music Jam: a creative and supportive space for making music. Play, sing your own song, or just be an

appreciative listener, all music tastes welcome. No need to book, just turn up. Bring your own instruments, some percussion supplied. 1-4pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. For more information contact biglgbtmusicjamedinburgh@gmail.com.



St Bride's Family Cinema: see your favourite films for free! Adventure, excitement, fun and laughs – they're all here. Choc ices and juice available during the interval for 50p each. This week: ***Yogi Bear (U)***, next week: ***The Iron Giant (U)***. All children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. 10.30am-12.30pm (including interval), [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace, Dalry.



Blackwell's Celebrates World Book Day in the Children's Department: dress up as your favourite book character (a prize for the best costume), have your face painted by Mrs Fantoosh, take part in a book hunt, and take a tour behind the scenes of Edinburgh's oldest bookshop. You can also meet award-winning author **Lari Don**, who will be running two sessions, one for younger and one for older children. For ages 4-7, Lari will read from her magical picture books, help you imagine your own magic, and tell one of her favourite traditional tales: 10.30 -11.30am – booking should be made via eventbrite [here](#), and for ages 8-12 Lari will read from her adventure book *Fabled Beast Chronicles* and tell one of the legends that inspire her fiction: 12 noon-1pm – booking should be made via eventbrite [here](#). (Alternatively, call 0131 622 8218 to book for either session). All other World Book Day events will take place between 10am and 4pm at [Blackwell's](#), South Bridge. All events are free.



South West Neighbourhood Swap Shop: clothes and PC repair, plus furniture upcycling. Bring books, small household objects and clothes to donate or swap (no broken items, mattresses or electrical items please), try the laptop repair and sewing machine workshops (delivered by Remade in Scotland experts), or watch an upcycling demonstration from Upcycled World. 12.30-4.30pm (upcycling demonstration 1.30-3.30pm), [Gorgie Dalry Church](#), 190-192 Dalry Road. This event is part of **Pass It On Week 2015**, which runs from 7th to 15th March.



Shelter Scotland Shops Donation Drive: as part of **Pass It On Week**, Edinburgh Shelter shops are holding a donation drive and asking you to pass on any unwanted good quality clothes, toys, books, CDs, DVDs and small household items to help them continue their work to combat homelessness and bad housing. To find your nearest Shelter shop, click [here](#).



LGBT: Edinburgh Trans Women. Support group aimed at transsexual women at any stage of transition, including those questioning their gender identity. Please email the group in advance at info@edinburghtranswomen.org.uk if this is your first visit. 7.30-9.30pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street.



WE + Estaitis + KRK: live music. WE are four bodies barely obscured by identical black boxes 'a broken man machine of shrill synth grooves, bizarre guitar melodies, cartoon drumrolls and sax for special occasions'. 7-10pm [Rhubaba Gallery and Studios](#), 25 Arthur Street. Free entry. More details [here](#).



Bookbug: for children aged 0-4 and their parents or 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.



Gorgie City Farm Seed Swap: [Gorgie City Farm](#), 51 Gorgie Road. Please contact the Farm for times.



Secret Histories: Screening Irish History. The final screening in a season exploring the dark and troubling aspects of Irish life, ***A Terrible Beauty (12A)*** is a 'meticulously researched docudrama combining archive footage and dramatic re-enactments, based on first-hand accounts, to vividly recreate the ferocious battles of Dublin's Mount Street and North King Street in the **1916 Easter Rising**, as seen from the perspective of the Irish Volunteers, British soldiers and innocent civilians'. The screening will be followed by a Q & A session with the filmmakers. 3.20pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688. Screened in association with the University of Edinburgh School of History, Classics and Archaeology.



Image: Edinburgh branch of
the Clarsach Society

Clarsach Music at the Library: listen to members of the Edinburgh branch of the Clarsach Society perform a programme of solos, songs, duets and ensembles. 2-2.20pm and 2.35-2.55pm, Foyer, [Central Library](#), George IV Bridge.



Image: Garry Knight

Family Fun Day: The Chinese Year of the Goat. Chinese drumming, dancing and a workshop: learn how to play a drum, spin a handkerchief or make a dragon, and try some Chinese skipping. 2-3pm, [Granton Library](#), Wardieburn Terrace.



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 Dinner (15)**, 'a chilling view of modern morality'. 8.45pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



Women's International League for Peace and Freedom International Women's Day Singathon: 100 songs on the themes of women, international solidarity, peace and freedom, led by **Penny Stone**. All welcome – women, children and men – come along for all or just some of the singing, bring an instrument if you like. There will be tea and cake – please bring extra cake and nibbles. If you plan to stay long bring warm clothes and a cushion! 3pm-12 midnight, [St John's Church Hall](#), Princes Street. For more information contact Penny Stone on singlouderthanguns@gmail.com. Donations will be collected to help women from poorer countries to attend the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom centenary conference in The Hague and to support Penny's ongoing activism fund.

SUNDAY 8TH MARCH 2015



Word Power Books: International Women's Day Dinner and Sister Acts. A chance to meet other women, catch up, and enjoy a two course vegetarian dinner, with songs, poetry and performance. Sister Acts is an **open mic slot** – so come prepared if you wish to perform! 6pm, [Spoon](#), 6A Nicolson Street (please note that although Spoon is upstairs it is fully accessible). Tickets cost £10 and must be fully paid for and collected in advance – please call into [Word Power Books](#) in West Nicolson Street, call them on 0131 662 9112 or email books@word-power.co.uk.



copyright Alicia Bruce

Portrait Detectives: collect your kit, follow clues, and solve a mystery from history! For ages 4-12 years. 2-4pm (drop-in), [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free: no booking required. Supported by the Friends of NGS.



Filmhouse Junior: screenings for a younger audience. This week: **Charlotte's Web (U)**. 11am, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets cost £4 per person, big or small.



International Women's Day 2015 Awards and Celebration: with free workshops for adults and activities for children, community stalls, talks, yummy snacks and refreshments, Fair Trade goodies, free holistic therapy sessions and networking opportunities. The awards presentation will take place at 4-5pm with keynote speaker **Kate Barratt**, descendant of **suffragette Alice Hawkins**, and will be followed by an afternoon tea reception. 1.30-5pm, [City of Edinburgh Methodist Church](#), Nicolson Square. Organised by Edinburgh Inter-Faith Association, Edinburgh Women's Interfaith Group and Faith in

Women.



Blackwell's Teenage Book Group: if you love to read or just want to read more, join this free group to discuss the latest teenage fiction and your favourite books – anything from classics to contemporary, dystopian to historical. Currently reading ***Tape*** by **Steve Camden**. 2-3pm, [Blackwell's](#), South Bridge. To join the group just email your details to schools.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk.



Spotlight on Mary Slessor: curator **Dr Sarah Worden** and guest **Dr Esther Breitenbach** (University of Edinburgh), who will discuss Mary Slessor's life and work in **Calabar**, her status after her death, and the impact that she – and other missionaries like her – had on the shaping of museum collections in the mid to late 19th century and into the 20th century. This event will be hosted and chaired by **Ewan Aitken**, Chief Executive, **Edinburgh Cyrenians**, and is part of **International Women's Day 2015**. 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.



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.



Scottish Indian Arts Forum: Happy Holi! Come and celebrate with colours, food and music. 12.30-4pm, [Pilton Youth and](#)

[Children Project](#), 1a West Pilton Place. £10 for ages 12+, free for under-12s accompanied by an adult. Contact Karthik on 07770 581997 or Rajnish on 07793 361878 for details.



International Women's Day Special Screening: *In Bloom (Grzeli nateli dgeebi)* (15). In early 1990s Tblisi, the country is facing chaos...Eka and Natia are inseparable friends living with their families in crumbling high-rise apartments. Though their world appears to be coming apart..the two of them are interested in the same things as most 14-year olds. 'An impressive coming-of-age story from Georgia, *In Bloom* tells a universal and personal story about female friendship and fatal feuds with the help of brilliant cinematography, superb production design and two teenage actresses who effortlessly draw the audience into their world'. Screenwriter and co-director **Nana Ekvtimishvili** draws on her personal memoirs of growing up at this difficult time to fashion this compelling debut feature. In Georgian with English subtitles. 5.30pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online [here](#) or by calling the box office on 0131 228 2688.



The Truth Hurts: Comedy Against Racism with Aamer Rahman. Acclaimed Australian stand-up Rahman first achieved international success as part of the comedy duo *Fear of a Brown Planet* with **Nazeem Hussain**. He has performed at the **Sydney Opera House** and was named as one of ***The Guardian's*** top 10 comedy shows of 2014. His hard-hitting comedy throws a sharp light on racism and islamaphobia – 'political comedy at its best'. 7-9pm, [Out of the Blue Drill Hall](#), 36 Dalmeny Street, Leith. Tickets cost £6/£3 (unwaged)/£10 (solidarity price) and can be purchased online [here](#). Co-organised by Scotland Against Criminalising Communities (SACC) and the Islamic Human Rights Commission; supported by Edinburgh Stop The War Coalition, Unite Against Fascism Edinburgh and the

Kashmir Solidarity Movement (Scotland). Part of the net proceeds will go to SACC.



Magic Carpet Weekenders: take a trip on the NMS's Magic Carpet for stories, songs and activities inspired by the fascinating collections. Magic Carpet sessions are for individual families and their children under 5 years, with a minimum ratio of 1 adult per 2 children. 11-11.25am, meet at the Lighthouse Lens, Grand Gallery, [National Museum of Scotland](#), Chambers Street. Free but please sign up on the day. (These sessions are in addition to the regular ones held on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and will run on Saturdays and Sundays throughout March 2015).



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: ***Zoran, My Nephew the Idiot* (15)** 'Matteo Oleotto's award-winning comedy combines echoes of *Rain Man* and *Uncle Buck* with the melancholy of Bill Forsyth'. The screening will be followed by a Q & A session with the director. 5.50pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets can be booked online via the [website](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



Filmhouse Quiz: the 'phenomenally successful (and rather tricky) monthly quiz'. Teams of up to 8 should be seated in the cafe bar by 9pm, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Free to enter.

St Giles' At Six: Edinburgh Napier University Composers Concert: The Edinburgh Quartet. New compositions for string quartet by student composers **Jason Sweeney, David Paton, Linyi**

Tam, Jonathan Grant, Ian Sutherland, Robin McLeish and Alexander Vella Gregory. 6pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free: retiring collection.



What an optician has to say about that dress

Yes we have all heard about the dress. The internet went wild with it so we asked optician Tom McMahon to explain it for us.

What color is the dress???? White and Gold or Black and Blue?? pic.twitter.com/ObtKD5rBKy

– Breanna Miller (@dovelyperfect) [March 1, 2015](#)

When you look at the model on the left, your eye is naturally drawn to the dress in the centre of the image. But your interpretation of the dress depends on the way your eye perceives the light around it.

Because both blue and yellow-tinged light are present in the image background, some people's brains perceive the model on the left as being lit by blue light while others perceive the whole scene as being lit by yellow light. But while our brains are making that judgement we're actually focused on the dress, and so we're expressing the outcome of an automatic, unconscious judgement about the light as a judgement about the colour of the dress.

This example of the two models forces that process into

conscious thought. The dress colours are completely the same on both sides. It's the backgrounds that vary. And so what looks gold on the left looks much darker on the right, which is why some people see that color as blue and others as brown or black.

Another great example to demonstrate this principle is what I call the 'not-a-dress' illusion. Are A and B surfaces the same colour????



Just use a finger to cover the place where both parts meet and you'll find out.

If you still think your eyes are misbehaving make an appointment to see your local optician or pop in to see us at [McMahon Opticians in Falkirk](#)

Submitted by [Tom McMahon BScHons MCOptom](#)



A taste of the Orient at the Botanics with Sodexo Prestige



Sodexo Prestige caterers are the people behind the fantastic food served at events at the many venues across Edinburgh including, the Assembly Rooms, The National Museum of Scotland, The National Gallery and The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. They also provide the food for many high profile

events such as the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, Royal Ascot, The Open Championship and other leading international events.

They put on hundreds of bespoke events, always willing to accommodate tastes and budgets to ensure your corporate do, family party or wedding go off with a bang. As I have been in wedding planning mode recently, I was excited to go to their party and wave hello to the Chinese 'Year of the Sheep', and celebrate support Scotland's Year of Food and Drink 2015. And what a fabulous Asian-Scottish celebration it was, not only was it set in the Beautiful John Hope Building at the Royal Botanic Gardens (RBGE), the fabulous food was tantalising everyone's taste buds!



They had pulled out all the stops, transforming RBGE into a virtual Chinatown – It was fabulous! With tasting stations offering traditional Asian street food while Bollywood and Chinese lion dancers put on a fantastic show that wowed the crowd. We ate Thai Red Curry with Scottish Salmon and green beans, Aromatic Crispy Duck pancakes and barbequed marinated steaks all of which were mouth-wateringly good! The cocktails were flowing with Asian inspired twists that were certainly a crowd pleaser too.



The event also raised money for Sodexo's 'Stop Hunger' program, a program that looks to fight hunger and malnutrition in local communities across the 30 countries in which Sodexo operates.

Amanda Brown, National Accounts Director for Sodexo Prestige Venues & Events, said: *"We were delighted to be able to host an event like this and are thrilled that the evening proved to be such a success. As it is the Year of Food and Drink in Scotland, we saw this as a fantastic way to merge East and West by hosting an event that would celebrate the beginning of*

Lunar New Year and our delicious Scottish produce”.

So now all I need is a good excuse to organise another event at work and I am sorted – yes I’d like the Chinese street party please!

Find out more about the many venues where Sodexo Prestige cater here: <http://www.prestigevenuesandevents.sodexo.com>

To find out about some of the many events on at the Royal Botanic Gardens visit www.rbge.org.uk/whats-on.

The Edinburgh International Science Festival returns to the Garden from **Saturday 4 to Sunday 9 April**. With events including [EATING ON THE WILD SIDE](#). Booking for these events is through the Edinburgh International Science Festival box office at www.sciencefestival.co.uk

Alan Stubbs described yesterday’s victory as pivotal



Hibs’ Head Coach Alan Stubbs described yesterday’s victory over Alloa Athletic on the artificial surface at the Indodrill Stadium as ‘pivotal.’

A Scott Allan free kick midway through the first half secured the vital three points and although he agreed that the former West Bromwich Albion midfielder’s strike was magnificent, he wants to see him score more goals.

Stubbs also revealed why Liam Fontaine was on the bench, a decision that surprised many in the away end.

After the game Stubbs told Hibs TV: "I spoke to the players before the game and tried to keep away from the act of how tricky a game this could have been today.

"It was a real stumbling block because of the surface and the ground and unfortunately it's a leveller and we had to keep that away from the players.

"It's not their preferred surface to play on but the most important thing is that we have come away with three points. I actually believe that when you look across a season, this result will be quite pivotal.

"If you look at Alloa's position and the results that they have had at home this season, there haven't been big scoring games. Teams have won by the odd goal or so and I think that it tells you how far we have come to have won the game one-nil.

"We have scored and kept a clean sheet and Mark (Oxley) hasn't had anything to do in the game.

"At one-nil you are never comfortable but I was pretty relaxed on the sidelines just to make sure we did the job professionally.

"Scott (Allan) needs to do that more and add more goals to his game which is important to him. He's scored two but I think Scotty is the type of player who could get up to ten goals rather than two at this stage of the season.

"He needs to shoot more from the positions he finds himself on the pitch. He can be the difference and today he proved that.


"Fonts (Liam Fontaine) has had a little bit of a tight thigh and we had a discussion yesterday about today and when we took into account everything including the surface here we decided

not to take a risk and if we really needed him, that's why we put him on the bench. We didn't need him and he should be fit for next week.

"I thought that Keith (Watson) was exceptional and Fraser Fyvie was good as well. The lads along the back line with Mark put a performance in today that won us the game.

Hibs are now four points clear of Rangers in second place although the Ibrox side do have three games in hand.

Music – The Shires will showcase new album Brave in Edinburgh

 **UPDATE – The Shires have had to cancel their Edinburgh date! So to make up for this Decca Nashville have given us 5 albums to give away to the first people to send us their name and email address. See the form below.**

With their hearts in the Home Counties and their heads in Nashville, USA, The Shires combine the best of both musical worlds on their eagerly anticipated debut album 'Brave' which will be released tomorrow.

Fill in this form below to win one of the five albums!

Name(required)
Email(required)

Submit

Δ



Combining the classic pop-rock drive of Fleetwood Mac with the uplifting singalong anthems of The Lumineers, British duo Crissie Rhodes and Ben Earle are being tipped for great things in 2015 by industry insiders – as well as their growing legion of fans.

The Shires have also become the first UK signing to the revived **Decca Nashville** label. Originally launched 80 years ago, Decca Nashville became home to a host of country superstars including Patsy Cline and Loretta Lynn, who was then known as the “Decca Doll”. From the 1950s, Decca Nashville was one of the leading labels in America for country music, and remained so for a couple of decades. Decca was also the label for Country Queen Dolly Parton between 1997 and ‘98.

And this week they are playing at HMV on Princes Street on Thursday 5 March 2015 at 5.30pm. So now you can see and hear them in the flesh!

Rugby – Scotland v Italy, RBS Six Nations

Scotland lose out to 79th minute penalty try



With both teams seeking their first win in this year's Six Nations tournament, it was always going to be a disappointing day at BT Murrayfield for one of them. Unfortunately, thanks to a missed kick to touch and the subsequent Italian pressure, that team was Scotland.

It was a bright start for the home side with a penalty from Greg Laidlaw in the first minute to take an early 3-0 lead. This was followed up just over five minutes later by a try from Mark Bennett. With Italy in possession, they were gradually working their way upfield when a loose pass from Kelly Haimona was intercepted by Bennett and, with no one between him and the posts 50-odd metres away, he galloped in for the try. Laidlaw converted and Scotland were ahead 10-0 with less than nine minutes on the clock.

From the restart, Italy pushed the game deep into Scotland's half and, winning line out ball just inside the 22, they built up a rolling maul and drove up to and over the line, enabling No. 5, Josh Furno, to drop down for the try. Haimona missed the kick from near the touchline so the score stayed at 10-5.



The next 5 minutes or so of the match were mostly played well into the Italian half, with possession more or less shared. Scotland were pressing the Italian defence further toward their line, but a succession of clearances moved play up to more neutral territory. However, Scotland returned to win a lineout in the 22 and subsequent foul play earned Laidlaw another, successful, kick at goal to extend the lead to 13-5. But, once again a penalty awarded straight from the restart, gave Haimona the chance to redeem himself and this he duly did to bring the Italians back to within a score at 13-8.

The following 10 minutes looked good for the home side as they exhibited a fine degree of passing and close-in handling


skills. But, as before, the visitor's defence held up and it took another penalty kick from Laidlaw to break the stalemate and move the lead back out to eight points at 13-8 with just over 10 minutes of the half left.

And, as before, Scotland played a good few minutes of attacking rugby, and, once again, they were held out. Then the penalty count rose by two as two scrum penalties moved the game up to within kicking distance for Haimona to have a shot at goal. His kick rebounded off the upright and, while Scotland were wondering what to do, wing, Giovanbattista Venditti, out jumped Laidlaw and gathered the ball. Now the defence came alive and Venditti was stopped just short. But the wily Italian had forced the ball against the post protector and managed to work the ball around, still in contact with the padding, and down onto the line. Referee, George Clancy, initially awarded a knock on, but was persuaded to 'go upstairs'. A couple of minutes and some magic in the TMO's 'office' showed that he had indeed grounded the ball on the line for the score. With an easy conversion for Haimona the score was, a much closer, 16-15 in Scotland's favour and it remained so until the break.



The second half was altogether a much more torrid affair and, although Scotland got into the visitor's 22 once or twice, it was only into the second quarter where a chance was manufactured. Swinging the ball wide to Sean Lamont, the Scottish backline finally got into action. Lamont drew in the defence which left a hole, which Stuart Hogg filled neatly. Lamont then offloaded through a tackle and Hogg was off and across the whitewash. Sadly, for the home fans, the officials had spotted the slight forward drift in Lamont's pass and play was pulled back just as Hogg crossed the line.

With 10 minutes left, Scotland were again on the attack, but Italy were managing to keep them 10-15 metres short. Then they

were caught offside and Laidlaw stepped up to knock over an easy kick for a 19-15 lead. 

That's when it all started to go wrong for the home side. Italy seemed to find a bit of a spark and drove up to the Scots' five metre line. A series of penalties were conceded by Scotland and Italy set up for the long haul. However, with about four minutes left, they infringed at another scrum allowing Scotland to clear in the shape of Peter Horne.

That was to prove costly as, when Horne took the kick, he appeared to twist his knee and the ball stayed infield. Italy then came roaring back and forced another couple of penalties. The first one cost Scotland dear as Ben Toolis – on for his first cap five minutes earlier – pulled the maul down and was carded by Clancy. The following penalty line out was again won by Italy, but this time, Hamish Watson – on for his first cap as well – pulled the maul down on the line. Clancy had no option but to award a penalty try under the posts and Watson was also carded for his part in proceedings. Now with a one-point lead, Haimona stepped up to stick the ball between the posts thus ending the match with a win for the visitors, 22-19.

It was a terrible blow for Scotland who had lead throughout the match, but once again, the penalty count – and not so much the number as the timing – told and that final ten minutes was agonising for the support as they watched their team go into meltdown and throw away a potential win.

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

Sunday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



Copyright Andy McGregor

Art Maker – March. Join the Art Maker Club and make your own masterpieces with artists **Tessa Asquith-Lamb** and **Louise Fraser**. For ages 4-12 years. 2-4pm (drop-in), [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed. Supported by the Friends of NGS.



Edinburgh Contemporary Crafts: Family Workshops. Come along and try screen printing, pottery and enamelling at Edinburgh Contemporary Crafts, who have been delivering successful adult workshops for the last 2 years with over 600 happy participants. 10am-12 noon or 1-3pm, Abbeymount Techbase, 2 Easter Road. £5 for one adult + one child, £3 for any additional family members, big or small. Please note that children must be supervised by an adult at all times when in the building. Bookings can be made online [here](#). Edinburgh Contemporary Crafts is an unfunded not-for-profit organisation run by makers for the benefit of professionals and the community.



Filmhouse Junior: *A Town Called Panic* (PG). A brilliantly inventive stop motion animation. Cowboy and Indian plan to buy a birthday present for their friend Horse, but accidentally destroy his house: a series of wacky adventures ensues. 11am, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets cost £4 per person, big or small, and can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling the Filmhouse Box Office on 0131 228 2688.



Beijing Red Poppy Ladies: *Mulan*. China's top female percussion band has performed more than 2,500 shows in over 30 countries: in 2008 the group choreographed the drum sequence at the opening ceremony of the **Beijing Olympic Games**. The story of *Mulan* is one of the most well-known in China and the character is one of the most famous heroines in Chinese legend. The Red Poppy group tells this moving story through a combination of **Chinese drumming, classical Chinese music, kongfu and dance**. 7.30pm, [The Queen's Hall](#), 85-89 Clerk Street. Tickets cost £10/£8/£5 and can be booked online [here](#), by calling the box office on 0131 668 2019 or in person. A transaction fee applies to online and phone bookings.



Sofidelity: singer/songwriter club in Sofi's back room. 6-8pm, [Sofi's Bar](#), Henderson St.



Leddra Chapman: the singer-songwriter released her first album ***Telling Tales*** in 2009, acclaimed by *The Independent* as 'pitch-perfect acoustic pop'. 7pm, [Sneaky Pete's](#), Cowgate. Strictly for over-18s: no refunds will be given for tickets bought for under-18s. Tickets cost £8/£7 and can be booked online [here](#) (transaction fee applies).

St Giles' At Six: Organ Recital by Brigitte Harris. Music by JS Bach, Brahms and Liszt. 6pm, [St Giles' Cathedral](#), High Street. Free: retiring collection.



Five things you need to know today



Edinburgh Castle is going green

New audio described photo exhibition

New parking arrangements on Leith Walk

Tonight at the Queen's Hall

Leith Memories

Edinburgh Castle will be bathed in green light to mark St Patrick's Day, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Europe and External Affairs Fiona Hyslop announced during a visit to Dublin.

Ms Hyslop said that Scotland and Ireland greatly valued their relationship, and that it was fitting that one of Scotland's most iconic buildings would turn green for Ireland's national day.

The Castle joins a host of global landmarks celebrating Ireland's national day, including the Colosseum in Rome and the Sacre-Coeur Basilica in Paris.

Ms Hyslop said:

"Turning one of Scotland's most iconic buildings green for St Patrick's Day is a fitting way to show the importance we place on our relationship with Ireland, and a celebration of the friendship which exists between our two nations.

"Our economic links with Ireland, our work together in the

European Union, and the shared value we place on our membership of that union, show how much we have to gain from strengthening our relationship.

“Irish investment makes a substantial contribution to Scotland’s economy. Irish-owned companies in Scotland are responsible for nearly 6,000 jobs and turnover of £2.4 billion, while Scottish exports to Ireland are worth £815 million a year.

“Ireland and Scotland have different identities and experiences, but we are united by elements of shared history, culture and language – and so it’s appropriate that Edinburgh Castle, with its important place in Scotland’s history and culture, goes green for St Patrick’s Day.”

Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Charlie Flanagan, who visited Edinburgh just a fortnight ago, warmly welcomed the announcement that Edinburgh Castle will be illuminated in green to mark Ireland’s national day.

He stated: ‘I very much appreciate this generous gesture from the Scottish Government. The addition of such a landmark to the already impressive list of iconic locations going green on St Patrick’s Day is another important moment in the friendship between Ireland and Scotland and literally highlights our ever-strengthening links. The theme for my recent visit to Edinburgh was embarking on a ‘new chapter’ in Irish-Scottish relations. Today’s announcement is a really significant and visible way to underline that.’

A unique photographic exhibition comprising 22 portraits of blind and partially sighted people living in Scotland is being launched in Edinburgh on Thursday 5 March.

‘Connecting Visions’ aims to overturn perceptions of people with sight loss as passive and dependent.

Its subjects include Dennis Robertson (MSP for Aberdeenshire West), Gordon Anthony (author of historical thrillers), Lindsay Scott (café manager), Sandra Wilson (retired careers adviser) and Jamie McDonald (stand-up comedian).

Edinburgh-based photographer Trudy Stade was inspired to put together the exhibition after watching McDonald perform live on stage alongside her husband, comedian Tom Stade ('Live at the Apollo'). "I realised his talent immediately and found myself chatting away to Jamie after the show," she said.

"I knew someone at the sight loss charity RNIB Scotland and put forward the concept of portraits as something I, as a photographer, wanted to do. To challenge the misperceptions, including my own, that those affected with sight loss experience in their daily lives.

"I didn't want to push aside the difficulties or frustrations of those living with little or no sight, but capture the essence of who they are through empowering and positive images. The photographs are shot in locations that express their personal determination, dignity and passions. Overall, the spread of subjects is amazing."

Many of the people photographed will be attending the opening in the Summerhall venue. Ken Reid from North Berwick, who lost his sight in his 20s, commented: "I hope Trudy's exhibition will make people think more about what blind people can do, rather than what they can't."

Dennis Robertson MSP said: "Being blind has not debilitated me; on the contrary, it has enabled me to achieve many things that I otherwise would not have been able to do. Trudy's exhibit highlights just how much can be achieved by blind and partially sighted individuals, or anyone for that matter, with the right support."

Audiences will also get a chance to find out what being blind or partially sighted loss is like themselves. Volunteers from

RNIB Scotland will be handing out special spectacles that simulate different sight loss conditions. All photos will also be audio-described.

Proceeds from the opening are being donated to RNIB Scotland. The event has been organised by the charity's Edinburgh Volunteer Fundraising Group, which is looking for new members to join.

* 'Connecting Visions' runs until Sunday, March 8, at Summerhall, Summerhall Place, Edinburgh. Tickets for tonight's launch event are £5.

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/connecting-visions-grand-opening-at-summerhall-tickets-15696193738>

New parking/loading/unloading arrangements will come into effect on Monday, 2 March 2015 in the immediate area north of the Iona/Pilrig Street junction off Leith Walk.

The new arrangements will allow for the loading and unloading of goods and will also provide opportunities for customer parking for up to one hour.

These arrangements will be phased in and during the week commencing Monday 2 March, if a vehicle is found to be parked in a way that would breach the new arrangements, a warning notice will be issued. From Monday 9 March, drivers found to be misusing the bays will be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice and their vehicle may be removed.

A deliberate 0.5 metre space has been designed in between the parking bay and the cycle lane to allow for vehicle doors to be opened without affecting cyclists using the lane. Encroaching onto the cycle lane will also incur a Penalty Charge Notice and possible vehicle removal.



☒ Tonight at the Queen's Hall they have something very different for your delectation and delight!

Founded in 2000, the Beijing Red Poppy Ladies Percussion Group is China's top female percussion band. They have performed more than 2500 shows in over 30 countries, including venues such as the Sydney Opera House, the Cairo Opera House and the Kennedy Art Centre. In 2008, the group choreographed the drum sequence at the Opening Ceremony of the [Beijing Olympic Games](#).

[Tickets here](#)

A unique local community project has captured a series of personal stories, shedding new light on the rich history of Scotland's once bustling chief port of Leith.

The *Memories of Maritime Leith* project saw members of the local Leith community invited to share their own personal tales and memories of the area, which was once the focus of the seafaring community for centuries.

Over a number of months, the project involved four residents of Leith who shared their own accounts, memories and experiences of the city's nautical history, inspired by objects held at Trinity House Maritime Museum – once the former headquarters of the Incorporation of Masters and Mariners. The collection at Trinity House includes a vast array of objects and special items from naval history, from navigational instruments and models of ships to furniture, maps and even a 200-year-old harpoon.

These stories charting the memories of four ordinary people, have now been made into four special short-length films, capturing new insights into Edinburgh's seafaring past.

The digital stories, featuring the participants' memoirs are

paired with personal photographs as well as other images, objects and paintings from the collection at Trinity House. All four short audio stories will be screened at a special event for those involved with the project to celebrate Leith's maritime heritage and history.

The *Memories of Maritime Leith* films include:

- A Bow-Tow Remembers by Sophia Abrahamsen
- From Lerwick to Leith by Stephen Hall
- Leith Docks by Ramsay Tubb
- All at Sea by Andrew Grant

The *Memories of Maritime Leith* project was created in partnership with Historic Scotland, The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) and The Living Memory Association.

The completed films form a learning and educational resource, helping to raise awareness and engagement with Leith's colourful maritime past. Trinity House will regularly screen the films as part of their community learning programmes and will be shared through talks for community groups and care homes in the area.

Commenting on the project, Craig Fletcher, Senior Learning Manager at Historic Scotland, said: "The Memories of Maritime Leith project engaged with older members of Leith's community and encouraged them to share their own stories and memories of the area during the height of its maritime past.

"Each of the four films and story-tellers offer a truly unique perspective and insight into a different part of Edinburgh's nautical heritage, bringing it to life with their own story and personal photographs.

“These digital stories will enable several individual’s personal accounts of Leith’s maritime past to be recorded and shared at a wider level for current and future generations.”

Miles Tubb, Project Coordinator at The Living Memory Association, added: “This community project provided the opportunity for Leith’s residents to revisit a part of their past and share their own individual account of their local community’s heritage with others around them.”

“We hope that people will enjoy hearing their stories first hand, and more about the objects which helped inspire them.”

The Memories of Maritime Leith project was funded by The Historic Scotland Foundation. The films will shortly be made available on the [Historic Scotland website](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

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.

Rugby – Scotland U20 v Italy U20, RBS U20 Six Nations

U20’s deal out whitewash to Italy in the Borders



Scotland’s ‘junior’ side dealt out a 45-0 hammering to their

Italian counterparts at Netherdale on Friday Night. Leading 19-0 at the break, The young Scots then went on to run in 26 unanswered points in the second half.

Scotland were up in Italian faces right from the off and, the first try was scored inside the first five minutes. A break up the right drove deep into the visitors' 22 and from the resultant ruck the ball came cross to the centre. Another ruck, set up in front of the posts, recycled quick ball and scrum half, George Horne, picked up and dived over between a couple of defenders to touch down. He then converted to put Scotland into a 7-0 lead. With the home side clearly dominant in almost every situation, it was only another 10 minutes before they were on the score board again. Winning their own lineout in the 22, the pack set up a maul and rolled up to and over the line for the captain, James Richie, to drop down for the try. This time Horne's kick fell just short, but it was 12-0 to Scotland.


It was during the next period of play where Italy had their best chance of the match, but the 17th minute penalty attempt from stand off, Matteo Minozzi, was well wide. Following this brief hiatus of dominance, the Scottish pack were back on song and, with the Italian's being pushed all over the place in the scrum, it was only a matter of time before something gave. That something was referee, Sean Gallagher's, patience and Italy's prop, Dino Dallavalle was carded for 10 minutes.

This just gave Scotland even more of an advantage and they proceeded to throw everything at the opposition defence. Just reward came in the 30th minute, with a repeat of the lineout/rolling maul/try play, Neil Irvine-Hess being the scorer this time, for a 17-0 lead. Horne made no mistake this time took the score out to 19-0, where it remained at until the break.



It took three minutes of the second half for Scotland to add to their tally. Centre Patrick Kelly's offload from his own break down the middle put Gala's Ruari Howarth in under the posts. Horne again converted and it was a 26-0 game.

The next 25 minutes of the match were played at the same frantic pace, with Italy managing the defensive game much better and still being able to get into the Scot's 22 on a couple of occasions. Scotland, for their part, were still in a dominant mood and looked far the more likely to score, spending a fair part of the time in Italy's 22. However, both sides suffered from handling errors – a fault which probably cost the home side a couple of scores as 'firm', accurate passes found the deck far too many times through mishandling – so the match entered the final 10 minutes with the same score line.

And what a 10 minutes it proved to be. Three further tries from Scotland. The first was a close range effort from James Richie for his second try on the night and the second came from replacement wing Ben Robbins, substitute kicker Tom Galbraith playing his part to take the score up to 40-0. 

Then came the try of the match. With the clock hovering near full time, a clearing kick from the 22 was chased down by wing, Alec Coombes, who collected the ball on the first bounce and found himself with a fairly clear run in from his own half. The No. 11 jinked and swerved around a couple of defenders up to within five metres of the line. A last, despairing tackle attempt by full back, Luca Sperandio, failed to stop the charging Coombes who dived over for Scotland's seventh try and a 45-0 lead. Robbins couldn't find the posts with his kick and the ref blew then up for full time.

This was a superb performance by the young Scottish side against, it must be said, a pretty poor Italian team. But they stuck with the script and, on a night where it would have been easy to get complacent, the team put in a wholly professional

performance.

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

Heart of Midlothian 10 (ten) Cowdenbeath 0



SPFL Championship, Saturday 28 February 2015 – Tynecastle

Prior to Hearts game with Cowdenbeath on Saturday, Head Coach Robbie Neilson spoke about his aim of getting the Maroons established as a top six club in the SPFL Premiership next season. Neilson has always preached the 'one game at a time' mantra so it was somewhat surprising to hear his thoughts at the pre-match press conference. But if anyone thought the Hearts chief and his players may have become over-confident, these thoughts were crushed on an astonishing afternoon in Gorgie.

Sam Nicholson replaced the injured Prince Buaben in the only change to the Hearts team who defeated Queen of the South last Saturday and it was young Sam who posed the first threat to the Cowdenbeath goal after just two minutes. The young winger was fouled on the edge of the penalty box and Alim Ozturk's free-kick crashed off the post.

Billy King then had a couple of chances, one of which hit the crossbar and with a quarter of the game gone and no score the afternoon was beginning to look like it could be a frustrating one for the Maroon Army. However, this theory was dispelled when Hearts were awarded a penalty in the 25th minute after

Nicholson's effort was handled in the box by Wedderburn. Genero Zeefuik buried the spot-kick to put Hearts ahead.

A minute later it was 2-0 when Zeefuik fired home from 20 yards and the proverbial floodgates duly opened. A minute further on and Nicholson was again fouled in the penalty box by Toshney. The Cowden man was ordered off, Zeefuik fired home the penalty – meaning a hat-trick within three minutes – and Hearts were 3-0 ahead and in cruise control.

Hearts swarmed forward at will and went 4-0 up in the 32nd minute. The impressive Sam Nicholson fired in a shot from 25 yards and, astonishingly it was 5-0 before half-time when Jamie Walker fired home after more fine work from Sam The Man Nicholson.

Half-time Hearts 5 Cowdenbeath 0

Shell-shocked Cowdenbeath must have hoped the league leaders would show them some mercy in the second half. Not a hope. Billy King and Callum Paterson came close to getting their names on the scoresheet before Hearts made it 6-0 with another penalty kick, Morgaro Gomis converting this time.

With an hour played it was 7-0 when Alim Ozturk fired in a trademark 25 yard screamer and it should have been eight when Nicholson set off on a superb run only to fire the ball over from 10 yards.

In the 68th minute, Hearts did indeed make it eight when captain Danny Wilson scored with a close range effort. Two minutes later, substitute Osman Sow got in on the act with a low shot which went beyond Cowden keeper Thomson to make it 9-0; a feat the big Swede repeated just two minutes later as, incredibly, Hearts made it 10-0.

There were still 15 minutes to go and at this stage anything was possible. Mercifully for the Fifers, Hearts ended the

scoring, settling for just the ten goals.

Typically, Robbie Neilson kept calm after the game. He told the Hearts official website "It might be the club's biggest league win, but that's just a record for another team to try and beat now. It does wonders for our confidence and the goal tally, but it's three points, it's done, we're focusing on Dumbarton.

"I've never been involved in a result like that in my entire career. It's a great performance but the win at Queen of the South was a better performance, for me.

"It was more important. If we don't score 11 against Dumbarton in a fortnight, people will start to say we're off our game again, so we'll try and win that one as well."

Hearts now need just five more wins to secure promotion back to the top flight of Scottish football. On today's astonishing evidence who can doubt they won't do it?

Hearts: Alexander, Paterson, Wilson, Ozturk, Gomis, Walker, Nicholson, King, Pallardo, Zeefuik, Eckersley.

Cowdenbeath: Thomson, Adamson, O'Brien, Wedderburn, Robertson, Nish, Herron, Kane, Brett, Toshney, Hughes.

Referee: Bobby Madden

Att: 15,180

Top man: Hearts goalkeeper Neil Alexander – what an afternoon he had! Seriously, Sam Nicholson was the pick of a team that was close to perfection.

Alloa Athletic 0-1 Hibernian



Hibs took a giant step in the race for second place in the Championship with a hard fought 1-0 win over Alloa Athletic at a rain drenched Indodrill Stadium today.

Although the Easter Road side dominated possession throughout, it took a Scott Allan strike from a free kick midway through the first half to secure the victory.

The result leaves Hibs four points clear of Rangers who drew 1-1 against Falkirk last night, although the Ibrox side have three games in hand.

Head Coach Alan Stubbs made two changes to the starting XI that defeated Dumbarton 3-0 at Easter Road last weekend with David Gray and Scott Allan returning and Liam Fontaine and Danny Handling moving to the bench. Skipper Liam Craig (pictured) returned to the squad after serving a suspension but also had to settle for a place on the bench.

Gray resumed the right back slot and Keith Watson, who performed so well in that position moved to the centre of defence alongside Paul Hanlon.

After a quiet opening period, the deadlock was eventually broken in the 25th minute when Fraser Fyvie was fouled on the edge of the area.

Allan took the resultant free kick which he thundered into the bottom corner of the net to the delight of the large travelling support.

Franck Dja Djedje almost added a second moments later when Alloa keeper Craig McDowall could only parry a Dylan McGeouch strike then the on-loan midfielder set of Fraser Fyvle who shot narrowly wide.

Just before the break, Mark Oxley did well to push a Phillip Robert's strike past the post

Hibs continued to dominate possession in the second half without troubling the Alloa keeper.

Allan shot over from 20 yards then a fierce effort from Fyvie was cleared off the line by Daryll Meggatt.

Scott Robertson, substitute Martin Boyle and Paul Hanlon all had chances and whilst Oxley was a spectator for most of the second half there was always a chance of Alloa grabbing an equaliser against the run of play.

Hibs should have wrapped things up in the last minute when Jason Cummings set up Boyle but the on loan striker dragged his shot wide,

In time added on Gray fired over the bar and Hibs held on to secure the win.

Alloa Athletic: McDowall, Doyle, Gordon, Marr, Meggatt (Spence 75'), Roberts (Rutherford 86'), Docherty, Cawley, McCord, Holmes, Layne (Buchanan 52'). Gibson, Tiffoney, Flannigan, Hetherington.

Hibernian: Oxley, Gray, Hanlon, Robertson, Stevenson, Watson, Allan (Craig 86'), Fyvie, McGeouch, Malonga (Cummings 55'), Dja Djedje (Boyle 66'). Substitutes not used: Cerny, Fontaine, Handling, Dunsmore.

Referee: John McKendrick.

Attendance: 2,024.

Photo by John Preece

Get ready for Edinburgh Fashion Week 2015



Marketing Edinburgh is behind the week of catwalks and retail offers which will take place next weekend. Following the recent Twitter fashion event about the colour of THAT DRESS we are ready to see some real fashion in the flesh and appreciate the real colours.

Edinburgh Fashion Week will feature all kinds of shops and not just haute couture, and it will begin next Saturday with a celebration of all things stylish.

At The Mound they will put up a marquee to house catwalk shows, pop-up shops and DJ sets with what they promise to be an exciting offering of local food and drink as well as things to wear.

The Edinburgh Reporter met Stephanie Maclachlan of Marketing Edinburgh who talked to us about the opening weekend and Fashion Week beyond. We are excited that Edinburgh is going to have its very own catwalk events!

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

The fashion shows are free and will be accompanied by a selection of workshops and tutorials hosted by the city's leading retailers and independent stores.

Running from 11.30am – 6pm on both days it is hoped you will be inspired to think about your new wardrobe for spring. And note this is not a ladies only affair, there will be fashion for men too!

The details of the VIP experiences are on the Marketing

Edinburgh [website](#) .

Throughout the week you will be offered discounts and gifts at some of the shops across the city centre. But goodie bags will be the essential fashion accessory of the week!



Witness appeal following collision on Gilmerton Road



Police in Edinburgh are appealing for witnesses following a road traffic collision on Gilmerton Road which happened around 11.50pm on Friday on the A7 near to its junction with the A772.

A silver Renault Clio collided with a HGV and a 19-year-old man was taken to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary where he is considered to be in a serious condition.

Sergeant Neil Inglis said: "We are appealing for anyone who saw the incident, or the vehicles shortly beforehand, to get in touch as soon as possible.

"Anyone who can assist with our enquiries is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

Police recover Class B drugs worth £80k in Newbridge



Police have recovered a quantity of Class B drugs with a potential street value of £80,000 after a warrant was executed at an address in the Newbridge area by officers from the Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism Unit on Thursday, February 26, and a large number of cannabis plants were found inside.

Three men aged 36, 39 and 46 were subsequently arrested and charged under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal and all three are due to appear in Edinburgh Sheriff Court on Monday, March 2.

Officers are now urging neighbours and landlords to be wary of suspicious behaviour by residents and look out for signs of cultivation, which include a strong sickly-sweet smell, permanently blacked out windows, and high levels of heat or condensation on windows.

Detective Inspector Paul Grainger said: "This is the second recovery of a significant cannabis cultivation in under a week and shows the dedication of Police Scotland to removing illicit drugs from our communities.

"I would urge landlords and letting agents, in particular, to be aware of what is happening in the premises they let. Not only is this activity harmful to the community but their properties are more susceptible to structural damage and fire due to excessive cabling, use of flammable materials and illegal tampering with electricity systems.

“They may also lose rent during eviction and periods of repair or be held liable by the property’s energy supplier for outstanding bills.”

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

Government names more minimum wage offenders

The UK Government announced earlier in the week another 70 companies and businesses which have failed to comply with the minimum wage legislation which is the largest number yet. Today’s announcement brings the total number of those named in this way to 162 across the UK.

The 70 firms owe workers £157,000 and have also been charged penalties by HMRC of a further £70,000.

Business Minister Jo Swinson said: “Paying less than the minimum wage is illegal, immoral and completely unacceptable. Naming and shaming gives a clear warning to employers who ignore the rules, that they will face reputational consequences as well as financial penalties of up to £20,000 if they don’t pay the minimum wage.

“We’re working hard in areas where we know there are particular problems, like the care sector, to make sure staff are paid fairly for the hard work they do.

“We are legislating through the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill so that this penalty can be applied to each

underpaid worker rather than per employer.

“We are helping workers recover the hundreds of thousands of pounds in pay owed to them as well as raising awareness to make sure workers are paid fairly in the first place.”

There is one notable Scottish entry on the list : the power giant SSE based in Perth has been accused of failing to pay the sum of £2,233.95 to 5 workers.

Other than this there are no other Scottish companies but last month the list of those companies being named and shamed by the Government included an Edinburgh joinery firm, J Wood Joiners & Builders Ltd, who neglected to pay £3,373.19 to 4 workers.

Edinburgh author gets ‘write behind’ the Great Scottish Book Off



An Edinburgh author is lending her support to Capability Scotland’s Great Scottish Book Off on World Book Day on 5 March.

Fran MacIlvey author of ‘Trapped: My Life with Cerebral Palsy’ is taking part in a question and answer session at Blackwell’s Bookshop in Edinburgh at 6.30pm – 7.30pm. The event is free and open to members of the public who want to come along and meet the author.

The Great Scottish Book Off has been organised by Capability

Scotland to raise funds to support disabled adults and children and their families across the country.

Launching on World Book Day, it is hoped that book groups, colleagues, friends and families throughout Scotland will hold 'Book Swaps' throughout March as people gather together to exchange their pre-loved books.

Two well known publishing houses, Canongate and Harper Collins, are also providing support for the fundraising campaign.

Explaining why she is supporting the Great Scottish Book Off Fran said:

" If there is one thing I have learned while writing, publishing and promoting, it is that without the help of friends, family and organisations such as Capability, none of us would be able to reach our full potential. Capability empowers its users right across Scotland to contribute and participate in whatever way they can. Their work is valuable in communities they serve, and their longstanding expertise is an asset we all benefit from."

" I would encourage everyone to get involved with Capability Scotland's campaign, raising awareness and funds for their activities. Swapping real books with the Great Scottish Book Off is a wonderful way to share ideas, discoveries and friendship. Get together to read, swap and share."

Capability Scotland Head of Fundraising, Margaret Clift McNulty, said:

"We are very grateful to Fran as well as to Harper Collins and Canongate for helping us to promote the Great Scottish Book Off. We hope the event will capture the imagination of book lovers, and those who are new to reading, across the country."

The money raised from the Great Scottish Book Off will be used to support disabled people in Scotland. Just £5 could pay for

a kit which allows us to assess the level of understanding of someone who has no verbal communication. £50 could give one member of staff the training, tools and support they need to make sure they are helping people reach their full communication potential.

To get your Great Scottish Book Off Pack please contact: Julie Spence, Community and Events Fundraising Manager on 07787 536 658 or Julie.spence@capability-scotland.org.uk.

Submitted by [LAUREN](#)




Scotland's premier Spring Flower Show 2015



THE CALEY SPRING FLOWER SHOW 2015

Put Spring into your Step!

 The summer of 2014 was unseasonably long, with a very slow slide into autumn and there we were on All Hallows' Eve, planting the garlic in a temperature of 18C! Therefore we were not even considering a long, hard Winter but looking forward to Spring 2015 already. Spring bulbs had been ordered, potted into 2 litre pots and placed in plunge beds ready for lifting in February 2015. All this preparation is for those exhibiting at Edinburgh's premier Spring Flower Show run by the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society (The Caley) in March 2015.

The Show schedule is on The Caley website for those who wish to exhibit, at <http://www.rchs.co.uk>. This year there is a new class for Historical Daffodils, or Heirloom or Heritage varieties as they are sometimes called. The class specifies those registered before 1947 are eligible but some daffodil enthusiasts can identify daffodils from 1930 and before. Some names are familiar such as King Alfred (pre 1899) and Carlton (pre1927) , whilst others such as Mrs R O Backhouse (pre1921) and Coverack's Glory (pre1927) are less well known. We are looking forward to a good entry into this new class.

✖ Not everyone is as excited about exhibiting for the Show as members of Horticultural Societies, but for those who simply wish to immerse themselves in the sights and scents of Spring the visit will be well worthwhile. Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Spring Flowering shrubs and Alpines, and Floral Art exhibits will delight. The specialist Daffodil grower R Scamp provides a wonderful display of the best of daffodil flowers, including new varieties. Macplants and Binny Plants will provide inspiration for new planting, Garden Solutions proffer advice on their composts, feeds and mulches and RCHS members are to be on hand to give Garden Advice. The John Hope Gateway hosts the children's' Eco Schools competition, where schools compete for the Scottish Daily Express Challenge Cup and young people under the age of sixteen have several Junior classes to enter in the main Show in the Fletcher building. There are also fun events for the younger members of the family at the John Hope Gateway.

After months of dreary, grey, winter weather, you will be able to celebrate the start of longer days and nights and warmer temperatures. There is a lot to look forward to -whether you want to exhibit or put a Spring into your step- pay us a visit.

Caley Spring Flower Show

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (Fletcher Building)

28 and 29 March 2015 between 12 noon and 5pm.

Entrance is £2 Children, Students, RCHS members free.

Further information and details from :

Margaret Teale

RCHS Show Committee

growlearn@rchs.co.uk

Submitted by [Margaret Teale](#)

Saturday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



Out of the Blue Flea Market: rummage for treasures at over 45 stalls bursting with clothes, jewellery, small furniture, music, books, bric a brac and much more. Delicious coffee and cake and light lunches available to purchase from the Drill Hall Arts Cafe. 10am-3pm, [Out of the Blue Drill Hall](#), 36 Dalmeny Street.



Chasing Ice: a film showing the impact of climate change, followed by a discussion with Heather Anderson, owner of Whitmuir Farm, about organic production and carbon reduction. A light lunch will then be available. 12 noon-3pm, [St James' Church](#), 11a John's Place. Leith. All welcome. For details and booking email harriet@himalyancentre.org or call 07949 740030. Free.



Queensferry Fair Trade Group One World Coffee Morning: delicious food and drink, gorgeous accessories, beautiful baby clothes and more. Coffee, tea and chocolate tastings. 10am-12 noon, [Queensferry Parish Church Centre](#), The Loan, South Queensferry. Admission £2, accompanied children free.



Beyond The Veil – Stories of the Prophets: The Prophet Idrees. Storytelling, activities and snacks for ages 5-10 years. 2-4pm, [Munro Centre](#), 6 Park Grove Street. £2 per child. Advance registration is required, and as places fill very quickly it is advisable to book as soon as possible: please email beyondtheveil@hotmail.co.uk with your name, your child's name and age, your contact number and email address, and details of any allergies your child may have. **Beyond The Veil** is a Muslim women's group based in Edinburgh, aiming to promote a better understanding of Islam through participating in community events and projects and working with partner organisations. For more information see the group's Facebook page [here](#).



Edinburgh Studio Opera: *The Magic Flute*. Mozart's ever popular magical tale, set in Persia is 'a vibrant and colourful re-imagining of a classic'. The two-act opera follows **Prince Tamino** and bird catcher **Papageno** as they attempt to rescue the beautiful **Princess Pamina**; along the way Tamino and Papageno have many adventures, and discover that not all is what it seems 'A light-hearted but profound examination of man's search for love and his struggle to attain wisdom and virtue'. 7.30pm, [Lauriston Hall](#), 28 Lauriston Street, Tollcross. Tickets cost £10/£6 and can be obtained via We Got Tickets [here](#). For further information and ticketing enquiries, please contact esoproducer@gmail.com or call 07946 149968. Edinburgh Studio Opera was founded as Edinburgh University Opera Club in 1968. For some time it has been very

successfully run by students, with professional directors and musical directors whenever possible: this production is directed by **Lloyd Llewellyn Jones**, Senior Lecturer in Ancient History at the University of Edinburgh, with musical direction by renowned conductor and cellist **William Conway** (Chamber Orchestra of Scotland) 'an artistic director with an eye for intelligent programming and...a flair for the unpredictable' (Financial Times), assisted by **Peter Keenan**.



Family Saturdays: Carnaval. Introduce your children to a popular piece of French culture at this all-in-French Saturday session: this morning they will explore the French tradition of 'carnaval' through tales, crafts and songs in French – plus crepes and gauffres to taste! For ages 3-10 years: all children are asked to come in costume. 12 noon-2pm, [Institut francais d'Ecosse](#), 13 Randolph Crescent. Tickets cost £5 (members £3) per child, accompanying adults must stay with their children and are admitted free. To book email accueil@ifecosse.org.uk.



Spotlight On: Game Masters. Take a historical journey with Professor Gregor White (University of Abertay) from the original Arcade Heroes to Scotland's current international success, tracking the development of video games and a look at what the future might hold. For ages 14+. 2-3.30pm (doors open 1.45pm), Auditorium Level One, [National Museum of Scotland](#), Chambers Street. Free but ticketed: booking may be made via the NMS Information Desk or online [here](#).



100th Pentland Scout Group Jumble Sale and Afternoon Tea: including books, bric a brac, CDs/games, toys (mostly under £1), clothes and baby equipment. 2.30-4.30pm, [Barclay](#)

[Viewforth Church](#), (Barclay Terrace Door), Bruntsfield. Admission £1/50p. Donations may be dropped off between 6pm and 9pm on Friday at the church.



Bookbug: songs and rhymes for young children and their parents/carers. 10.30am today and every Saturday and Tuesday, [Corstorphine Library](#), 12 Kirk Loan. Free: all very welcome!



National Gallery Highlight Tours: an introduction to and tour of the National Gallery's permanent collection, focusing on key paintings. 2-2.45pm or 3-3.45pm, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.



One Touch Theatre: *Love 2.0*. Gary is a catch – on Facebook at least; he's virtually a virtual dream man – smart, funny, profound, a certified Lad. He even likes all the same things as Susie..but when the pair try to move their whirlwind virtual romance into the real world, things don't go quite according to plan. *Love 2.0* is an outrageous new comedy about dating in the age of social media, where Facebook profiles are brought vividly to life on stage, and nothing is quite what it seems. Written and directed by **Andy McGregor**. For ages 16+. 7.30pm, Netherbow Theatre, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £10/£8 and may be booked online [here](#) or by calling the Centre on 0131 556 9579.



St Bride's Family Cinema: see your favourite films for free! Juice and choc ices available in the interval for 50p each. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Today's film: ***Despicable Me* (U)** next week: ***Yogi Bear* (U)**. 10.30am-12.30pm (includes interval), [St Bride's Centre](#), 10

Orwell Terrace, Dalry.



Edinburgh Fair Trade Fortnight Festival: fair trade stalls, speakers from Craft Aid Mauritius, children's activities, storytelling and Edinburgh Contemporary Choir, plus free fair trade refreshments from Nutmeg Bakehouse. 10.30am-2.30pm, [Summerhall](#), 1 Summerhall. Free admission.



Police Scotland Crime Prevention Stall: free advice on home and personal security. 1-3pm, [Morningside Library](#), 184 Morningside Road. Free, no appointment needed – just come along.

Canongate Kirk Concert: University of Manchester Medical Orchestra and Choir with a mixture of old and new choral pieces and chamber music. 6pm, [Canongate Kirk](#), 153 Canongate.



Our Tribe: LGBTQI Rights Are Human Rights. A panel discussion with speakers including **Tim Hopkins** (Director of the Equality Network), **Matthew Waites** (Senior Lecturer at the University of Glasgow) and **Catherine Somerville** (Policy Officer at Stonewall Scotland). Each speaker will talk about the lives of LGBTQI folk and their human rights in different countries. There will be a Q & A session followed by a wee sample of food from each country, symbolising solidarity and companionship. This event hopes to raise awareness, activism and solidarity with the worldwide LGBTQI community. 7pm (doors open 6.30pm), [Augustine United Church](#), George IV Bridge. Our Tribe is the name of the Augustine United Church's LGBT ministry.



Cramond Corner Cafe: a weekly youth cafe where children,

teens, parents and grandparents can meet, with teas, coffees, biscuits and tuck shop, plus games and activities. This week: Easter Egg Hunt. 2-4pm, [Cramond Kirk Hall](#), Cramond Glebe Road. For more information see the [Cafe's Facebook page](#).



Edinburgh Society of Musicians: pianist **Mark Spalding** plays music by Alkan, Chopin, Beethoven, Bartok and Skryabin. 7.30pm prompt, [Edinburgh Society of Musicians](#), 3 Belford Road. Free admission: all welcome. The Edinburgh Society of Musicians is an organisation which has promoted practical music making in Edinburgh since 1887.



Scots Music Group Ceilidh with The Thunderdog Ceilidh Band. Licensed bar (no BYOB), free water available. 7.30pm, with dancing from 8pm to 12 midnight, [St Bride's Centre](#), 10 Orwell Terrace, Dalry. Tickets cost £8/£6 in advance or £10/£8 on the door, and are available from the Scots Music Group online [here](#) or by calling 0131 555 7668, or from St Bride's.

LGBT Trans Swap & Shop: a relaxed and fun opportunity to browse, try on and buy a range of clothes – and/or to donate clothes and other useful items to trans people. In a safe and supportive space you can explore your gender expression and build your confidence with the chance to socialise and meet new people. 11am-3pm, venue TBC. Booking is preferred – please contact Jules Stapleton Barnes on 0131 523 1104 or email jules@lgbthealth.org.uk.



Gasland Part Two: a Documentary about Fracking. 'the barely believable truth in beyond shocking detail', 'everyone should see it'. 7pm (screening will **start** at 7) , [ACE \(Autonomous Centre of Edinburgh\)](#), 17 West Montgomery Place.



St John's Book Exchange and Bake Sale: bring your friends, bring a book in good condition and exchange it for another. Tea & cake provided. Books and home baking will also be on sale. Organised by the St John's Tuesday Evening Book Group in aid of the St John's Development Fund. 2-5pm, [St John's Episcopal Church](#), Princes Street. Free admission, with donations welcomed for the Development Fund.



Liquid State/The Canary Trap/Murder of Crows/Living in Lies: 7pm, [Cabaret Voltaire](#), Blair Street. £5, tickets available from Liquid State band members. Please note: this event is strictly for ages 14+ only and ID will be required.



Vegas! Scotland's award-winning retro club night; an evening of cocktails and cool, showgirls and swing, roulette and romance, with **DJs Frankie Sumatra, Buggy Seagull, Sam Jose and Nuno Endo, plus Nikki Nevada and The Vegas Showgirls, and The Fabulous Scott Brothers.** For over-18s only. 8.30pm-1am, The Ballroom, [The Voodoo Rooms](#), 19a West Register Street. Tickets cost £6 (+ transaction fee) in advance [here](#), or £7 on the door.

Five things you need to know today



Funding for Edinburgh charities

Spotlight on Stockbridge

Edinburgh Larder events

Become a guide at Rosslyn Chapel

Superfast broadband

To help support some of the world's most vulnerable communities, this week a share of over £450,000 was awarded to five international development organisations operating from Edinburgh and the Lothians.

The projects received funding from the 2015-2016 Scottish Government's international small grants programme, announced by the Minister for International Development, Humza Yousaf.

The small grants programme is designed to help smaller Scottish organisations develop their scale, scope and long term ambitions. The funding supports smaller NGOs to make a big impact to help reduce poverty worldwide.

This Edinburgh projects are a mobile phone app by Big First Aid providing lifesaving advice to rural communities in Tanzania; a project by Youth Economic Justice who are investigating the potential of new income routes for the young women of the Madhya Pradesh region in India; funding for the Friends of Chitambo who are working to improve the links between rural health professional and a Zambian hospital; LUV + who are helping people with Leprosy in the same country and Yes Tanzania!

To mark the awards, Mr Yousaf met Yes! Tanzania based in Edinburgh. Their funding will be used to deliver a health programme using sports to reduce new cases of HIV.

Mr Yousaf said:

“Working with smaller agencies opens the door to new solutions. This is the power of the small grants programme, it helps organisations at home realise their ambitions it helps the Scottish Government fulfil its role as a good global citizen and, most importantly, it helps some of the world’s most vulnerable people. Today’s funding will help initial ideas become pilot projects and brings the total invested over the past two year close to one million pounds.

“As well as improving the prospects of people abroad, international development work helps people in Scotland as well. Volunteering is important to broadening people’s outlook on the world and many of the organisations supported by small grants will be creating new opportunities to support their international projects.”

Yes! Tanzania is one of the beneficiaries of the small grants programme. In 2014 they used a grant from the small grants programme to conduct a feasibility study on using their network of sporting facilities to educate young people about the transmission of HIV. This year’s funding will put the lessons from this study into practice to work with schools and community centres.

Ken Cambell of Yes Tanzania said:

“The Scottish Government’s Small international small grants programme has proved to be invaluable to YES! Tanzania. We were delighted last year to be awarded a 1-year grant which enabled us to carry out some much needed research into how health education through sport and can be used to help address the issues of HIV and AIDS which continues to have a significant impact on young people in Tanzania. We were also able to carry out a pilot programme to test the effectiveness of a peer leadership training course which we designed and delivered to students from the Umoja Centre, our local partner in Arusha, Tanzania, which provides educational opportunities for some of the poorest young people in the local community.”

“The success of the research and pilot programme provided us with the evidence and confidence to apply this year for funding for a 3-year project and we are delighted to hear that this has been successful. This will enable us to work with 3 local partners in Arusha, Tanzania to deliver sport and sexual health training to over 60 community sports coaches, teachers and peer leaders who will reach over 2,000 young people. We will also be able to measure the impact of the project and hopefully demonstrate that it has helped to reduce the number of young people contracting HIV.”

The International Development Fund's small grants programme provides funding for Scottish based international development organisations working in the Scottish Government's seven priority countries: Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Indian States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

Stockbridge is one of the little gems in Edinburgh where you can stroll along Raeburn Place or St Stephen Street admiring the individual shops. But the Stockbridge website warns that we need to support these businesses otherwise we will lose them.

Stockbridge explain what has happened there recently : “Over the last 18 months or so Stockbridge has lost: The Gramophone Emporium, Sarah Dallas, Cherubim, Karen's Unicorn, Elements, Capital Cartridges, The Sizzler, Kiss the Fish, Chique & Unique, Stockbridge Appliance Centre, Café Fish, San Marco, The Proper Tea Shop, Spirited Wines, Mark Bryce Picture Framing, Lily's Clothes Line, Artisan Bakehouse, Amy Christie Gallery, Rosie Mckenzie Art, Hibiscus Flower, Curves, Sitara Spice, Toys Galore, Ian Smith Design, Northwood Property and more from our community.”

So why not take a walk to Stockbridge today and see what is on

offer? Where are your favourite independent shops? Why not put up a photo of yours [here](#) and tell us why it is your favourite?

There are two Edinburgh Larders in Edinburgh, one is the Cafe and one is the Bistro. At the Cafe in March they are holding a Slow Food Edinburgh film night on 19 March 2015. More details of the tickets which cost £15 are [here](#).



There are permanent and seasonal jobs on offer at Rosslyn Chapel so if you are interested in history then apply [here](#) before Friday 6 March 2015.

Mark Lazarowicz MP has called for action to tackle the households and businesses in Edinburgh bypassed by superfast broadband. He has urged any constituents affected to contact him.

The MP spoke out in Parliament this week after being contacted by a stream of constituents who don't have access despite bland assurances and announcements hailing new roll-outs, often reheated, from Ministers and broadband providers.

Afterwards he commented:

"I am regularly contacted by constituents, whether in Central Edinburgh or new developments along the waterfront, who don't have access to superfast broadband.

"It's a vital part of basic infrastructure for businesses and the many people who work from home as well as for leisure as

well – the failure to connect people living in or near Scotland's capital city is damaging to our economy.

“The Culture Secretary hailed improvements but too many people here in Edinburgh haven't seen them with fibre optic cable sometimes passing within a few feet of new flats left unconnected.

“My aim is not to allot blame but to get action that is long overdue – I am asking any constituents affected to contact me so I can pressure government and broadband providers to come together to act.”

Mark has raised access to superfast broadband with BT and also previously at Culture, Media and Sport questions in Parliament but the action promised hasn't materialised.

He is asking people in Edinburgh North and Leith who have been unable to get access to superfast broadband to contact him at mark.lazarowicz.mp@parliament.uk or through his office at 5 Croall Place, EH7 4LT, Tel.: 0131 557 0577

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