

# Man's body found in wooded area in Livingston



Police in West Lothian investigating the disappearance of 47-year-old David Rogers have recovered a man's body.

The male was discovered at around 7.30pm in a wooded area between the Starlaw and Tailend roundabouts in Livingston.

Enquiries are ongoing to determine the man's identity and establish the full circumstances surrounding his death.

The family of David Rogers have been informed of this discovery and will be kept fully updated with the progress of this enquiry.

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## Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



**Burns Supper**

**Labour MP supports benefits fast track for terminally ill**

**Edinburgh on film**

**EdinburghReportage**

**Cakefest**

Even if you're not going to or holding a Burns Supper you could still buy a haggis and address it before you eat it!

Just in case you don't know the words.....here they are....

*Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,*

*Great chieftain o' the pudding-race!*

*Aboon them a' ye tak your place, Painch, tripe, or thairm :*

*Weel are ye wordy o'a grace As lang's my arm.*

Listen to Robert Gordon Sinclair reciting it while you do the actions by clicking [here](#).

[Share photos of your Burns Supper with us here](#) and we will feature the best next weekend.

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Speaking in a debate in Parliament, Mark Lazarowicz MP called on the Government to fast track benefit claims from people with terminal conditions like Motor Neurone Disease and intervened to tell the Minister that the prolonged delays, in some cases of up to 18 months, could mean the outcome comes too late for some people with limited life expectancy.

You can find Mark's main speech [here](#). He went on to comment:

"I strongly support Gordon Aikman's campaign to fast track benefit claims from people with terminal conditions like MND: people are waiting 6 months and in some cases 3 times that just to have an assessment.

“Claims can be fast tracked where someone is not expected to live longer than 6 months but where does that leave someone with MND where the average life expectancy after diagnosis is 14 months?

“The Government should offer financial support to people suffering as a result of the delays caused by its own incompetence but first and foremost it should make sure that their claims are fast tracked.

“The Minister’s response in the debate was not acceptable: it’s shameful that people who are so ill should spend the last months or year of their life in financial hardship having to fight so hard for the benefits they are entitled to.”

He was speaking in a debate on the introduction of the new Personal Independence Payment (PIP), the disability benefit that is replacing Disability Living Allowance (DLA) which is designed to help seriously ill or disabled people with the extra costs their condition entails.

It was announced earlier in the week that responsibility for PIP is to be devolved in future and Mark has called for the roll-out of the new benefit to existing DLA claimants to be stopped until it is because of the huge backlog of assessments.

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Edinburgh is the subject of many films but this one is a very fine time lapse of our beautiful city

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If you have any time lapse videos you would like to share with us and our readers then please share them here on our sister site [EdinburghReportage!](#)

This is our user generated content site built for us by the lovely people behind [Guardian Witness](#) which does exactly the same thing by gathering stories from across the world on defined themes. If time lapse is not for you then there are other stories – or you may submit an idea to us.

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Have you heard about Cakefest 2015? It is a project right here in the city to build a cake map of some of the key points in the city – and then eat it on Midsummer's Day in the Botanic Gardens.

This is a not-for-profit venture and includes a 'Bakers' Choice' competition for professional and amateur bakers to enter.

Read more here.




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## Sunday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



**Winter Guided Walk:** join a Garden Guide for a leisurely afternoon walk round the Garden. Discover stunning seasonal highlights and learn about the history of the Garden and its plants. For ages 14+. 2pm, John Hope Gateway Reception, [Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh](#), Inverleith Row. £5 per person: no advance booking necessary.

**Storytelling: Happy Birthday Rabbie!** Come and celebrate Burns Day with Scottish song, story and poetry. Enjoy a wee bit of the Bard's work, learn some Scots language and listen to some Scottish traditional tales. For ages 7+. 2pm, 2.45pm or 3.30pm (30 minute sessions), [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free: no booking required.



**Filmhouse Junior: *Penguins of Madagascar* (U).** 11am, [Filmhouse](#), Lothian Road. Tickets cost £4 per person, big or small, and can be booked [online](#) or by calling the Box Office on 0131 228 2688. Next week: *Into The Woods*.

**Sofi's Nocturnes:** a weekly open stage hosted by **Matt Norris** and **Arno Blok**. Unplugged and intimate: all acts welcome (music, spoken word, comedy, anything else you'd like to do).

A free drink for every performer. 8-10pm, [Sofi's](#), 65 Henderson Street.



**Macastory: The Two Rabbies.** A fun-filled show with not one but two Rabbie Burns, each claiming to be the real McCoy! The audience must decide who is telling the truth as the Rabbies tell outrageous tall tales of their amazing adventures, and perform songs and verses from the Bard himself. 12 noon, 2pm or 3pm (40 minute sessions), Hawthornden Court, Level 1, [National Museum of Scotland](#), Chambers Street. Free: just drop in.

**Rock and Roll Ping Pong with DJ Ding and DJ Dong;** a free monthly social night, with balls on! Free play, silly ping pong games, music from every genre to play along to, and an optional, strictly amateur, tournament (£1 entry, winner takes all). 7-11pm, [The Bongo Club](#), 66 Cowgate. The Bongo Club is owned by local arts charity Out of the Blue. 'Putting the sounds of the underground and imaginative aspirations before the mighty dollar'.



**Me & T Monthly:** a supportive space for people who have friends, family or partners who are transgender or exploring their gender. An opportunity to meet other people who may have similar experiences, questions or concerns. 2-4pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. For more information contact [me.and.t.edinburgh@gmail.com](mailto:me.and.t.edinburgh@gmail.com).

**St Giles at Six: music students from Napier University.** Solo performances from final year music students. 6pm, [St Giles Cathedral](#), High Street. Free: retiring collection.



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# The Music of Doris Day: Edinburgh singer to entertain at The Big Burns Supper

It's before 9am on a cold January morning and **Sarah Laing** has just arrived at **Dance Base** in the Grassmarket to rehearse her one-woman show. Off come the thick coat and winter boots, on go the wrap-around floral skirt and strappy shoes.

It may be early by some people's standards but before long Sarah is taking us straight back to 1945 with ***Sentimental Journey***, the homecoming anthem for the troops at the end of the war. Sarah, who will be taking **The Music of Doris Day** to **The Big Burns Supper 2015** in **Dumfries** this week, believes in practice, practice, practice.

Every evening and every weekend is devoted to rehearsal, whether at home or in the studio – she learns her lyrics on the bus. It's a work ethic that clearly pays off; even at this time of day she never misses a beat as her beautiful, flowing voice fills the room with song, and her engaging style takes us effortlessly from romance to the upbeat tempo of ***The Deadwood Stage***, and back to ***Que Sera Sera***. It's hard to believe that this accomplished performer only graduated a year ago.

✖ It was Sarah's Granny who first introduced her to the musicals; the two of them lapped up old favourites like ***Summer Holiday*** and ***Calamity Jane***, and before long Sarah was hooked. At **Boroughmuir High School** she was further inspired by her 'wonderful' teacher **Mr Clayson**, taking Advanced Higher Music

while sitting LAMDA exams in her own time, and entering the school's **Top of the Pops** shows with her interpretations of songs by **Avril Lavigne** and **Stevie Nicks**. Nicks, of Fleetwood Mac fame, remains one of her heroines.

Sarah's Mum may not share her enthusiasm for the fifties but she still loves to sing; childhood car journeys were enlivened with renditions of the ***Angel of Music*** (Phantom of the Opera), and for a while mother and daughter were members of **Cockenzie Drama Group** and the **Artistic Concert Experience**, a 150-member choir with which Sarah sang solos at the Clyde Auditorium.



After an HND in Musical Theatre at **Motherwell College** (now New College Lanarkshire), Sarah decided to take a break, and spent three years as a trainee manager in the retail sector. In the end though, the pull of performance was too great and with the much-appreciated support of her parents she returned to education, this time a degree at the **University of West Scotland**; since completing her studies last year, Sarah has come back to live in **Morningside** – and her life has never been busier.

She's now working part-time in a city centre store whilst developing several shows, Doris Day being just one of them; after her stint at The Big Burns Supper she'll be moving on to the songs of **Burt Bacharach**. She's performed at **The Shed** and **Wild Cabaret** in Glasgow, and here in Edinburgh at the **Voodoo Rooms**. Edinburgh, Sarah says, is a fabulous city crying out for more music venues; she is not surprisingly strongly opposed to the plans to turn the Lothian Road Picture House into a Wetherspoons' superpub.

Sarah's work with the elderly and dementia patients is something she finds particularly rewarding; she performs regularly in care homes, sometimes with remarkable results – when she sang ***The Black Hills of Dakota***, a resident who hardly



ever spoke joined in.

It's a learning experience, says Sarah, who carries out her own research into how best to engage Alzheimer's sufferers. She also runs her programme past her Granny first, and makes a special effort to include people's personal favourites; **Dolly Parton** goes down surprisingly well. Sarah gets great feedback from these visits; the staff at **Cluny Lodge** call her '**Ms Golden Tonsils**'. Another side of Sarah – one that care homes may not see – is her alter ego, **Miss Molly Peaches**, who recently appeared at **Wild Cabaret's Kitsch Kabaret**. Having studied burlesque at Dance Base, Sarah developed the character as her own version of Dolly. She's a girl who's come a long way from Tennessee.



Sarah's advice to anyone contemplating a career in musical theatre is this: never give up, just keep trying. And practice of course; Sarah rehearses for at least 20 hours a week and takes good care of her voice. In February she'll be back at The Shed with another show, **Singing Divas of the Sixties**, featuring **Dusty Springfield, Cilla Black, Lulu** and **The Crystals**.

Is she daunted by Springfield's reputation as the White Lady of Soul? No – after **Sheridan Smith's** award-winning television performance, she's far more nervous about Cilla. Smith is one of Sarah's idols – 'I aspire to be her' – although she'd also quite like to end up as an amalgam of Dolly, Doris and Stevie Nicks, two of whom she has seen perform 'And I sadly doubt I'm going to get the chance to see Doris'. She's hoping to bring **The Music of Doris Day** to the **Edinburgh Fringe** this summer; it will go down a storm.

So if you see a girl talking to herself on the No 16 bus, don't move seats – get her autograph. Sarah Laing is going much further than Morningside, and she's going there much

faster than the No 16.

**The Big Burns Supper 2015** is on now in venues across Dumfries: Sarah Laing will perform **The Music of Doris Day** at 12 noon on Thursday 29th, Friday 30th and Saturday 31st January at the **Cairndale Hotel**, English Street: tickets cost £8/£6 and can be booked [online](#) or by calling the Box Office on 01387 271820. Sarah will also be at **The Shed**, Shawlands, Glasgow at 3pm on 14th and 15th February with her show **Singing Divas of the Sixties**, and she can be booked to sing at functions, parties, care homes and corporate events.

See [www.sarahlaingsings.co.uk](http://www.sarahlaingsings.co.uk) for more information.

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## Heart of Midlothian 2 Falkirk 3



### SPFL Championship, Saturday 24 January 2015 – Tynecastle

After the mid-winter farce that was Hearts visit to Glasgow eight days ago, Robbie Neilson's SPFL Championship leaders got back to football business when they entertained Falkirk at Tynecastle this afternoon. On the Bairn's last visit to Gorgie in August, Peter Houston's side caused the Maroons more than a few problems and the 4-1 scoreline in the home team's favour scarcely did the match justice. And on a cold winter afternoon in Edinburgh, Falkirk did more than cause a few problems for Robbie Neilson's men – they ended the Maroons unbeaten SPFL Championship run.

Yet the afternoon started so brightly for Hearts. With striker

Osman Sow back from long-term injury – it was the Swede's first appearance since October – the pairing of the former Crystal Palace player with recent signing Genero Zeefuik seemed a mouth-watering prospect. And so it proved after just a minute's play.

Zeefuik fought well for possession before passing to Sow. The Big 0 raced down the left wing before crossing for the Dutchman to fire the ball home. Another huge crowd of over 16,000 rose to acclaim their heroes and sat back in expectation of another goal fest. Sadly, they were to be disappointed.

The warning signs were there. Grant should have had the Bairns on level terms soon after but he scooped Sibbald's cross over the bar from just six yards. It was a let off for the home side but one they didn't heed.

Sam Nicholson had a chance but his weak effort trundled wide of former Hearts keeper Jamie MacDonald's goal. At the other end, the home defence was looking none too sure of themselves and keeper Neil Alexander almost gifted an equaliser when his weak clearance fell to Sibbald who drove his effort wide. Leahy and Kerr then had further chances as Hearts struggled to contain the visitors. That said, Osman Sow nearly doubled Hearts lead when he drove a fierce low effort which went inches wide.

After 32 minutes, Falkirk's pressure paid off when they were awarded a penalty. Hearts Jordan McGhee – in for the suspended Alim Ozturk – clumsily tackled Loy. Baird duly despatched the spot kick to draw parity.

### **Half-time: Hearts 1 Falkirk 1**

It had been a distinctly average first half from the hosts and the Maroon Army were hoping Robbie Neilson would have issued some harsh words at half-time. Despite a bright start, just seven minutes had gone in the second period when Falkirk went

in front. Again, Jordan McGhee looked suspect when Loy eased past him to fire home from 20 yards.

The home support bellowed their encouragement and it looked as if Hearts would get a penalty when Sow was pushed inside the penalty box by Grant – only for referee Robertson to ignore the vehement penalty claims. Shortly after, Sam Nicholson headed what we all thought was the equaliser – only for Jamie Mac to produce a brilliant save, something he did frequently during his Tynecastle days.

Hearts replaced the tiring Sow with James Keatings and the former Hamilton Accies striker almost made an immediate impact with an effort which MacDonald saved with his legs. However, seconds later Keatings was celebrating when he fired home Hearts equaliser from barely six yards. An end-to-end game was now 2-2 and the home support urged their heroes to go for the winner.

Sadly, Hearts defensive shortcomings were exposed again. This time Morgaro Gomis was all too easily dispossessed by Sibbald who punished the former Dundee United player by firing the winner into the bottom corner. Gomis was replaced by Jason Holt soon after.

As the full-time whistle blew there were a few disgruntled noises from the home support. Hearts looked distinctly unsure of themselves today and if second-placed Rangers win their games in hand the gap at the top of the league drops down to seven points. Promotion still has to be earned, something Robbie Neilson has always maintained.

Credit, though, has to go to an impressive Falkirk team who thoroughly deserved their victory. On this form, they will not only be involved in the promotion play-offs at the end of the season – they will fancy their chances of getting into the SPFL Premiership.

**Hearts:** Alexander, Paterson, Wilson, Gomis, Walker, Nicholson,

Buaben, Sow, Zeefuik, McGhee, Eckersley.

**Falkirk:** MacDonald, Duffie, Vaulks, Taiwo, Alston, Sibbald, Kerr, Grant, Leahy, Loy, Baird

**Referee:** Don Robertson

**Att:** 16,206

**Top man:** On a difficult afternoon, Jamie Walker stood out for the home side.

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## Queen of the South 0-2 Hibernian



Hibs took all three points against nearest rivals Queen of the South at Palmerston Park this afternoon and have now consolidated third position in the Championship.

The Easter Road side moved to within two points of second placed Rangers whose game against Cowdenbeath was postponed.

Head Coach Alan Stubbs kept the same starting XI that beat Cowdenbeath 5-0 last weekend, but it was the home side who started brightly and dominated early possession.

The players all wore black arm bands as a mark of respect for former Chairman Douglas Crompton who passed away earlier this week aged 84.

Hibs almost took the lead against the run of play in the 19th

minute when Queen's goalkeeper James Atkinson was unable to hold a shot from Scott Robertson but the defence was able to clear the ball before Liam Craig could pounce.

Liam Fontaine then thought that he had opened the scoring with a fine header from Scott Allan's corner, but the ball was cleared off the line then both Craig and Martin Boyle went close before Queens had a claim for a penalty when the ball bounced up to strike the arm of Paul Hanlon (pictured) but referee Calum Murray correctly waved away their appeals.

In the 63rd minute, Scott Allan found Jason Cummings with a perfectly weighted through ball and the teenager rounded Atkinson who was forced to bring him down leaving the referee an easy decision.

On loan Celtic midfielder Dylan McGeouch calmly converted the resultant spot kick to the delight of the large travelling support.

Hibs almost doubled their lead a few minute later when McGeough surged forward and found Martin Boyle in the box, but the strikers shot was deflected onto the post.

Hibs eventually wrapped things up with 15 minutes remaining, when Cummings found Robertson who smashed a right foot shot into the net to secure a valuable win which leaves Hibs 5 points clear of Falkirk who beat Hearts at Tynecastle and six clear of Queen of the South..

**Queen of the South:** Atkinson, Holt, Dowie, Higgins, Millar (Burns 77), Reilly, Russell, Kidd, Carmichael, McShane (Pickard 83), Lyle (Paton 71).

Subs not used: Clark, Mitchell, Smith, Dickinson.

**Hibs:** Oxley, Stevenson, Hanlon, Fontaine, Booth, S Allan (Stanton 84), Robertson, Craig, McGeouch, Boyle (Forster 85), Cummings (Handling 90+2)

Subs not used: Perntreou, Heffernan, L Allan, Martin.

**Referee:** Calum Murray.

**Attendance:** 3677.

Photo by John Preece

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# Leo Blanco at the Jazz Bar this Friday

✖ “Musician” seems hardly adequate to describe Leo Blanco, the Venezuelan pianist who appears at the Jazz Bar in Chambers Street on Friday, January 30.

As well as playing in groups such as the quartet he will feature with at the Jazz Bar, Blanco is a concert pianist who has worked with top symphony orchestras. He is also a composer, whose works have been performed by leading string quartets in the United States and by the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra, and is professor of piano studies at the famous Berklee College of Music in Massachusetts.

But that’s not all. Blanco’s first instrument was the violin, which he played in the youth orchestra from the age of eleven in his home town of Merida, in Venezuela’s Andean region, and when he moved to the capital, Caracas, to study piano in his teens, he worked as a bassist in one band and as a drummer in another to improve his knowledge of these roles when writing for his own group.

“My parents weren’t musical,” says Blanco, “but they wanted their kids to at least get some enjoyment from music and when I was about seven or eight, a piano arrived in our house. I

was immediately drawn to it, to try and work out melodies I'd hear on the radio or on records. But I also liked the violin because it seemed to me at the time the closest instrument to the human voice."

Practising was never a chore to Blanco and the hours he put in set him on the fast track, firstly to Caracas, where he studied at the Ars Nova Institute and the University of Musical Studies and then to Boston, where he attended both Berklee and the New England Conservatory.

He quickly became recognised in the United States, becoming the first Latin American to win the prestigious Boston Jazz Society and Billboard Grant awards and he has gone on to perform all over the world, including at the Edinburgh Fringe, where in 2006 he was presented with The Herald newspaper's Angel award for excellence in performance.

More recently Blanco has toured the UK as a solo pianist, earning rave reviews, and his latest visit to Edinburgh coincides with an appearance at Glasgow's Celtic Connections festival where he'll perform with the Scottish-based musicians who will accompany him at the Jazz Bar: Brazilian bassist Mario Caribe, saxophonist Paul Towndrow, of the Brass Jaw horn quartet, and the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra's powerhouse drummer, Alyn Cosker.

"I'm really looking forward to working with these guys again," says Blanco. "We played together at Aberdeen Jazz Festival in 2007 and we had a blast. So it'll be great to meet up again and bring some sunny Latin American music to Edinburgh this time."

Submitted by [Rob Adams](#)





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# Rugby – Edinburgh Rugby v Bordeaux

*Edinburgh brush Bordeaux aside on their way to a quarter-final place*



It was winner take all at BT Murrayfield as Edinburgh welcomed French Top 14 side, Bordeaux-Begles for the final match in the group stages of the European Rugby Challenge Cup. With the teams separated by a single point, it was all to play for with Lyon out of the running and London Welsh left at the start.

Edinburgh were straight out of the blocks and put the Begles defence under immediate pressure. The host had already shown their hand in the scrum where they pushed Bordeaux all over the place, winning several penalties on the way. The first of these was after six minutes of play and Sam Hidalgo-Clyne scored the first of his 28 points to put Edinburgh 3-0 ahead.

The home side were very much the dominant team for the first 20 odd minutes and even managed to squander the best chance of the opening quarter when Dougie Fife broke through the defence, passed inside to David Denton who then threw a final pass out to Hidalgo-Clyne steaming up the wing. Unfortunately the ball fell just short and Bordeaux managed to get it away.

It was then Bordeaux's turn to have a bit of possession and a sustained attack on the home defence saw them come away with a penalty from Lionel Beauxis to even the score at 3-3 after 23 minutes. However, Edinburgh got straight back on track with the job in hand and took all of five minutes to push the French side back into their own 22. Mauling lineout ball up

the the opposition five-metre line, Hidalgo-Clyne took advantage of the cover given by the pack and skipped round the outside to dive over for the first try of the match. He failed to convert, so the score stayed at 8-3.

With Edinburgh continuing to dominate the set-piece, another two Hidalgo-Clyne penalties – the first of which was matched by Beauxis – the score at the break stood at 14-3 to the home side.

The second half was to prove a much more even game with Bordeaux exerting more pressure on the Edinburgh defence and scoring two tries in the process. In spite of this, however, Edinburgh retained their stranglehold on the scoreboard and three tries, backed up by Hidalgo-Clyne's boot kept the match well beyond the French team's grasp.



The first points came via a 42nd minute penalty which saw the score up to 17-6, but Bordeaux stepped up and retained possession for a period of time. The hosts managed to absorb the push on their defence and, gradually, forced the visitors back into their own half. A break up to the by Greg Tonks pulled in a couple of defenders, but support came in the shape of Hamish Watson and Alistair Dickenson. A quick recycle saw Dickenson in open space and heading for the line. Five metres out, he was stopped by the Bordeaux full back, Baptiste Serin. Support was on hand, though, and Matt Scott piled in, collected the loose ball and dived over next to the posts for the try. The referee choose to go 'upstairs' for a bit of assistance, but confirmation was given and, with Hidalgo-Clyne adding to his personal tally with the kick, Edinburgh were 24-6 ahead.

Bordeaux, by this time had not only overcome most of their scrum woes, but were coming more into the game as a whole and straight from the restart were up in Edinburgh's faces,

forcing Phil Burleigh to clear to touch. Winning their lineout, some fine passing had the visitors back up into the host's 22 and threatening the line. A neat reverse pass made a bit of space for stand-off replacement, Pierre Bernard to put a deft grubber in behind the defence for Serin to run onto and touch down under the posts. Bernard then converted to bring Bordeaux up to within 11 points at 24-13. ❌

In a fine example of 'Anything you can do....' Edinburgh got straight back on the horse and straight back on the attack. Turning the ball over from the visitors possession, Burleigh then gave it straight back. However, he then collected Serin's clearance and returned the ball to the French 22. A couple of recycles later and Tim Visser was handed the ball and he was off, up through the middle. Inside five metres, he was stopped by three defenders, but, once again, support was on hand. Roddy Grant ran into a brick wall, but he got the ball off to Willem Nel who dived over from two metres out to touch down. Once again, the ref went to the TMO and, after a great deliberation, the third try was awarded. Hidalgo-Clyne, once again, knocked over the kick to restore Edinburgh's lead at 31-13. Once again the swings and round-a-bout's of the match came into play and Bordeaux spent a considerable period of time on the attack. Defence prevailed, however and, weathering the storm, Edinburgh were soon back inside the visitors' 22. A bit of juggling between Hidalgo-Clyne and Watson set up a ruck a metre or so out from the line and, once again, Hidalgo-Clyne's quick thinking had him pick the ball from the pile up and dive over. A third TMO decision was called for – at which point the ref came in for a bit of derisory booing – and the fourth, and bonus point try was in the bag. Hidalgo-Clyne then scored the conversion to put Edinburgh well clear, 38-13 to the good, his own points tally up to an impressive 28 and another Man-of-the-Match award for his mantelpiece.

With less than five minutes to play, Bordeaux conjured up another try – and another TMO consultation – with a very good

passing move which ended with another kick stabbed through which Bernard dived on to score. He then scored with the kick to make the final score 38-20 to Edinburgh, complete with bonus point and quarter -final place where they will join Gloucester, Newport Gwent Dragons and Exeter Chiefs. The remaining places will be settled once Saturday and Sundays fixtures are done and dusted.

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

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## Midlothian MP standing down at the General Election



David Hamilton MP for Midlothian has announced today that he is standing down at the General Election in May 2015.

Mr Hamilton has represented the constituency since 2001 and was elected last time in 2010 with a majority of 10,349 over the SNP candidate Colin Beattie who has since been elected as MSP for Midlothian North and Musselburgh.

In a letter to local Scottish Labour Party members, Mr Hamilton said he was making the announcement with “a great deal of pride, tinged with some considerable sadness.”

 David Hamilton is currently the Scottish Labour Whip in the House of Commons. He is a former miner, and campaigned tirelessly to compensate ex-miners suffering from work related medical conditions.

**Commenting on the decision, Scottish Labour leader Jim Murphy said:** “Davie Hamilton is a gentle giant of the Labour

movement.

“He is a former miner and the current Labour whip for Scotland who goes about his politics with a real integrity.

“As a whip he has not been able to speak in Parliament yet his campaigning for justice for miners has given a voice to the injustice of blacklisting.

“He has served Midlothian brilliantly for the past 14 years. I’d like to wish Davie, Jean and their family all the very best. Midlothian’s next MP has huge shoes to fill. “

Are you planning on standing for the Midlothian seat? Then get in touch with us. [theedinburghreporter@gmail.com](mailto:theedinburghreporter@gmail.com)

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## Edinburgh job – Information assistant

Heriot-Watt have a part time job on offer with hours on Fridays and Sundays for 40 weeks of the year. The job is advertised [here](#). This is what the advert says:

### ***Job description***

*We have a vacancy for a part-time Information Assistant to work in the Edinburgh Campus Library.*

*The hours of work are:*

*Friday 1.00pm-7.00pm*

*Sunday 10.00am – 1.00pm*

*The post is for 40 weeks a year, during University semesters*

*only (September – December and January – July).*

*Duties include:*

- Provides first line support for customers with information, IT and library enquiries*
- Interacts with and assists students and staff in a professional, calm and knowledgeable manner*
- Makes library stock available to customers by re-shelving returned items and shelf-checking*
- Regularly fills printers with paper and toner and undertakes basic troubleshooting with printer faults*
- Provides occasional telephone/email support to the central Helpdesk team*
- Records issues and incidents within the online system*

*Experience of working in a customer service environment /service industry is essential.*

*Interviews will be held week beginning 23rd February 2015*

## ***How to apply***

Completed application forms may be returned by e-mail to [hr@hw.ac.uk](mailto:hr@hw.ac.uk) or by post to Heriot-Watt University, Human Resources, Edinburgh EH14 4AS. Tel. +44 (0) 131 451 3022 (24 hours), Minicom +44 (0) 131 451 8212.

Please quote the vacancy reference no. (328/25/15) in any correspondence.

If you have a job to advertise then you may use our Classified Ads section over [here](#).

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# Urbane Gallery – art and science in harmony



The Urbane Gallery, Edinburgh's dynamic and leading edge art gallery, is taking part in this year's International Science Festival, featuring the work of artists who have made use of science or technology for the making of their artwork.

Artists taking part in the exhibition, which is entitled 'Art Of The Matter', include the award-winning Scottish artist Fraser Ross, who makes fascinating sculptures out of magnetic liquid. The fluid not only provides striking, monochrome sculptures through interaction with the adjacent materials, but also behaves in its solid form as a receptor to external environmental changes.



The project explores the possibility of futuristic wearable textiles through the creation of magnetic surfaces embellished with magnetic fluids, creating an ever-changing, sensory silhouette. The textiles will act as a protective shield whilst allowing users to interact with their environment through new tactile senses and organic forms.

Also showing will be 'Nobody Does it Better' – an impressive life size bronze and stainless steel sculpture based on the famous sketch of the Vitruvian Man by Leonardo da Vinci – by artists Björn and Amanda Sjöling, exhibiting for the first time in Scotland. The Vitruvian man symbolises the science of its day.

The gallery is also hoping to showcase artist Angela Palmer who has, working in collaboration with Renault Sport F1, deconstructed the world's most successful F1 engine, the RS27, to realise an extraordinary collection of sculptures.

Gallery Director, Tracey Robertson, said: "Science and art are very compatible, and many technological innovations are highly aesthetic and visually stimulating. The element of the extraordinary creates a buzz about the work, whereas the art of nature might conversely create a calming effect. The work we will be showing is exciting and energising, and will hopefully inspire and delight visitors."

The Edinburgh International Science Festival, takes place 4th -19th April at various venues. The Art Of The Matter Exhibition will take place at Urbane Gallery at 25 Jeffrey Street, Edinburgh.

Photos: 'Nobody does it better' (Vitruvian Man) by artists Björn and Amanda Sjöling; and 'Dark Senses' by Fraser Ross

Submitted by [Rosemary Walker](#)

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## Two men due in court after diazepam tablets and cannabis seized



Two men have been arrested and charged under the Misuse of Drugs Act after police in north Edinburgh recovered a large quantity of Class C drugs when officers conducted a search of a vehicle in Pennywell Road at around 2pm yesterday.



Around 30,000 diazepam tablets were recovered and two men aged 25 and 20 were detained as part of Operation Quarterlight.

A further 400 diazepam tablets, half kilo of cannabis and a quantity of other suspected stolen items were later recovered following a search of two addresses by police.

Both men are scheduled to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court on Monday 26th January.

The recovered drugs are valued at over £35,000.

Inspector David Happs said: "This was a significant recovery of potentially harmful drugs, which have been seized before they could cause harm to our communities.

"Operation Quarterlight action continues across Edinburgh and in addition to identifying those responsible for vehicle crime, this initiative will assist us in targeting criminals using their vehicles for committing other crimes, such as the transportation of illegal drugs.

"Police Scotland is committed to tackling drug crime within our communities and will always act on information we receive from the public.

"Anyone wishing to report crimes of this nature in their local area can do so by contacting us on 101 or by making an anonymous report via the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

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## Edinburgh hotel is one of the

# best



The Chester Residence scooped two top TripAdvisor awards this week.

Five-star Edinburgh hotel, The Chester Residence, has been named as the 'No1 Luxury Hotel in the UK' and the '7th Best Luxury Hotel in Europe' in the TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice® Awards 2015.

These awards follow on from The Chester Residence's success of 2014, when they were named as TripAdvisor's 'No1 UK Small Hotel of the Year 2014' and 'No1 UK and European Luxury Hotel of the Year 2014', and 'Serviced Apartments of the Year 2014' in the Scottish Hotel Awards, to name but a few. The hotel has now received 17 industry awards in total since opening in 2006.

The Chester Residence comprises 23 luxury Georgian townhouse apartments located in Edinburgh's chic West End. Each suite is individually designed using the most luxurious, contemporary décor and furnishings, with all the comforts of a five star hotel as well as full reception and concierge service, offering guests a personalised and memorable experience.

Owner of The Chester Residence, Graham Wood, said: "We are delighted that our guests have recognised the efforts of our team in the Travellers' Choice® awards for the third year running. It's always great to receive feedback and winning these coveted awards is the highest compliment.

"Our team works exceptionally hard to ensure each guest's stay is as luxurious and enjoyable as possible. They provide a personal, yet not intrusive, service which is both relaxed and friendly. It's an incredible achievement and I'd like to thank all of our team for their dedication and the excellent service

they provide.”

Submitted by [Stacey Dent](#)



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# Five things you need to know today



**Edinburgh Napier University looks after the planet**

**Places available on cooking course at Gate 55**

**Smith Commission announcement in Edinburgh**

**TED Talks**

**Best bits of 2014**

Edinburgh Napier University has been rated best in Scotland in a nationwide survey of environmental and ethical standards.

The university was also ninth in the whole of the UK in the People & Planet University League 2015.

Plymouth University came out top in the country's only comprehensive and independent ranking of universities by ethical and environmental criteria, which is now in its eighth year.

The study identifies the universities which set policy, implement strategy and give staff and students the means to grapple with the sustainability issues which affect their

communities and the wider world.

[The People & Planet University League is compiled annually by the UK's largest student campaigning network, People & Planet.](#)

Edinburgh Napier was one of the 30 universities to achieve a 'First Class' ranking.

Hannah Smith, who compiled the data, said: "The progressive universities at the top of our league are proving their ability to change their impact on communities and the wider world. We've seen a rise in the number of universities stepping up to meet student expectations for an education that supports them to respond with speed to the biggest challenges of our time."

Over half of all university senior management teams now receive an annual report evaluating the performance of their institution's environmental policy and the latest figures show an overall reduction in university carbon emissions of 3.6% on last year's figures.

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The Prime Minister was in Edinburgh on Thursday and made a speech announcing the draft proposals. No 10 were in charge of all the arrangements. Here is what he said to the invited audience:

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There was a TED xEdinburgh event at Edinburgh Napier University towards the end of last year. Here is what we all missed:

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## **EDINBURGH & THE LOTHIAN'S TOURISM DIRECTOR REVEALS HER 'BRILLIANT MOMENTS' OF 2014**

As the New Year gets underway, Manuela Calchini, Regional Director of national tourism organisation VisitScotland, has been taking time to reflect on the highlights of 2014 – a year of unprecedented importance for Scottish tourism.

2014 was the year Scotland welcomed the world to major international events including the Commonwealth Games, The Ryder Cup and MTV EMAs – all of which were hugely successful and attracted global audiences. The Homecoming Scotland 2014 programme was also an outstanding hit, achieving a record-breaking 2 million attendances to more than 1,000 diverse events – many of which were sell-outs – across the country.

Throughout the year, VisitScotland ran extensive marketing campaigns to ensure the world's spotlight shone on Scotland, with 'Meet The Scots' and 'Brilliant Moments' promotions targeting the international and home markets respectively.

**Before revealing her personal 'brilliant moments' for tourism in Edinburgh & the Lothians and favourite memories of the year, Manuela Calchini said:**

*"2014 was a great year for tourism in Edinburgh & The Lothians, with Scotland playing host to major events on an international stage and VisitScotland's Brilliant Moments campaign helping to attract more visitors from the UK to our capital city and this fantastic part of Scotland.*

*"There's also much for us to look forward to this year when we will work in partnership with stakeholders and local businesses to capitalise on the opportunities of Scotland's Year of Food and Drink by building on the momentum gained in 2014 and harnessing the growing global interest in Scotland and in visiting our country."*

## Manuela summarised her highlights of 2014:

*The Edinburgh International Festival* – Watching the James Trilogy at the ice skating rink in St Andrews Square for Edinburgh's Christmas. Also the Field of Light installation in St Andrews Square was fantastic.

*The Forth Bridges Festival* – as part of the Forth Bridges celebrations we climbed the Forth Rail Bridge, which was amazing.

*The Commonwealth Baton* came to Rosslyn Chapel in Midlothian and was carried, among others, by Brian Cox which was a very memorable moment.

*The Aberdeen Assets Ladies Scottish Open at Archerfield* – a beautiful day, an outstanding venue and a fantastic sport.

*National Mining Museum's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration* – what a fantastic place and this was a great celebration of one of Scotland's five star visitor attractions.

Beyond these 'brilliant moments of 2014' within her 'patch' of Edinburgh and the Lothians, Manuela's personal highlights also included welcoming The Ryder Cup to St Medan Golf Club in Dumfries & Galloway during its tour of Scotland before the world-famous tournament got underway, attending a practice day at Gleneagles, and enjoying discussions between authors Kathy Reichs and Ian Rankin at the Bloody Scotland literary festival in Stirling as her top tourism moments of the year.



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.

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# Saturday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



Today there will be two showings of films designed to have you on the edge of your seat in awe rather than fear. Get along to the Festival Theatre to be thrilled by the two and a half hour long film showcase of from the Banff Mountain Film Festival. In fact you could go to both the afternoon and the evening shows as they will feature different films!

Among this year's films the Tour features some of the UK's most talented adventurers, athletes and film makers, such as the star of 'The Ridge' Danny MacAskill (from Scotland), and Yorkshireman Rob Jarman in 'All my own stunts'. 'Into the empty corner' follows the amazing journey of British adventurers Alastair Humphreys and Leon McCarron, and the inspirational story of 'Tashi and the monk' is brought to the big screen by film makers Andrew Hinton and Johnny Burke.

[Tickets here.](#)



**Victoria Bar Singles Night!** 8pm, [Victoria](#), 265 Leith Walk

**Polish Rhymetime:** 11am today and every second Saturday, [Piershill Library](#), 30 Piersfield Terrace. All very welcome to come and join in the fun.

**GENERATION Tours at Modern One:** free, discussion-led tours of the exhibition, focusing on key themes and artists. 11-11.45am or 1-1.45pm, [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art ONE](#), Belford Road. Free: no booking required.

**Tiger Tales:** stories and crafts for children aged 4-8 years. 3-4pm, [Fountainbridge Library](#), 137 Dundee Street. Free.



**Edinburgh League of Comics Manga Workshops:** learn how to create your own characters, script a story and take home your very own comic book! For ages 10+. 2-4pm, [Kirkliston Library](#), 16 Station Road. To book your place drop into the library and speak to Nicola, or call her on 0131 529 5510/email [kirkliston.library@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:kirkliston.library@edinburgh.gov.uk). If you can't make it today, there will be another workshop on 31st January 2015.

**ABJAD:** an exhibition by four artists, **Jane Bustin, Kevin Harman, Paul Keir** and **Jeff McMillan** 'who, in their sometimes sideways approach to abstraction, balance conceptual concerns with an intuitive touch'. 10am-6pm Monday to Saturday until 21st March 2015, [Ingelby Gallery](#), 15 Calton Road.

**Macastory: The Two Rabbits.** A fun-filled show with not one but two Rabbits Burns, each claiming to be the real McCoy! The audience must decide who is telling the truth as the Rabbits tell outrageous tall tales of their amazing adventures, and perform songs and verses from the Bard himself. 12 noon, 2pm or 3pm (40 minute sessions), Hawthornden Court, Level 1, [National Museum of Scotland](#), Chambers Street. Free: just drop in. Also at same times on Sunday 25th January 2015.



**Edinburgh Society of Musicians: Dream Team concert.** **Kirsteen Davidson Kelly** plays new piano compositions by **Vroni Holzmann**, inspired by the landscape of the Alps, Swedish forests and seascapes. 7.30pm, [Edinburgh Society of Musicians](#), 3 Belford Road. Admission free.



**Balerno Village Screen: *Les Misérables* (12).** Set against the backdrop of 19th century France, *Les Misérables* tells an enthralling story of broken dreams and unrequited love, passion, sacrifice and redemption – a timeless testament to



the survival of the human spirit. This screening will be a **#pitchfever** fundraiser for a 2G pitch at Balerno School, and coincides with the production of *Les Miserables* that Balerno High School pupils are currently preparing: some of them will be along to perform before the screening. 12.30-3pm (doors open at 12 noon), [St Joseph's Hall](#), Balerno, EH14 7TZ. Tickets are free, and can be booked via [eventbrite](#) or collected from The Mill Cafe or Balerno Post Office. If you can't get a ticket, you are welcome to turn up and will be given a seat if there are no-shows: if you have a ticket and can't make it, please cancel so that someone else can come along. [Balerno Village Screen](#) is a community cinema funded by donations.

**Works On Paper 2015:** a selection of prints, drawings and watercolours from the storerooms of **The Fine Art Society** Edinburgh and London. Artists include **Gerald Brockhurst, Sir David Wilkie, Robert Austin, Walter Geikie, James McBey, Mabel Royds** and **Charles Tunnicliffe**. 11am-4pm (closes today), [Dundas Street Gallery](#), 6a Dundas Street.



**It's In The Bag:** rhymes, drama, creative games and puppets, with lots of well-loved Scottish songs throughout. **(1) Sam & Rosie's Tartan Tea Party** – for ages 0-2 years, 2.15pm (10am show already sold out), **(2) Sam & Rosie's Highland Adventure: The Mystery of the Lost Haggis** – for ages 3-6 years, 11.15am or 1pm, Storytelling Court, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £6 per child and can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling 0131 556 9579. Please remember to book a free adult ticket too.

**Burns for Beginners:** Robert Burns' key poems and songs are performed to a cracking live music accompaniment, along with discussion, context and English subtitles. A sell-out at **TradFest Edinburgh 2014** and **Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2014** 'this is the show about Burns that Burns would want to see!' For ages 12+. 7.30pm, Netherbow Centre, [Scottish Storytelling](#)

[Centre](#), 43-45 High Street. Tickets cost £8/£4 and can be booked online [here](#) or by calling SSC on 0131 556 9579.

**St Bride's Family Cinema** – see your favourite film for free! Adventure, excitement, fun and laughs – they're all here. All welcome: children under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult. Juice and choc ices available in the interval for 50p each. This week: ***The Lego Movie (U)***, next week: ***Dumbo (U)***. 10.30am-12.30pm (includes interval), [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace.



**Family Saturdays at the French Institute: La Galette des Rois.** The first event in a new series of 'rendez-vous' in French; an opportunity for children aged 3 to 10 years to discover a popular piece of French culture. This time, the tales, songs and crafts are all about 'la Galette des Rois' – and is there anything better than finishing this event with a delicious Galette tasting? 12 noon-2pm, [Institut francais d'Ecosse](#), 13 Randolph Crescent. Price per child £5/members £3. No booking required. **Please note: parents must stay with their children.**

**Winter Guided Walk:** join a Garden Guide for a leisurely afternoon walk round the Garden. Discover stunning seasonal highlights and learn about the history of the Garden and its plants. For ages 14+. 2pm, John Hope Gateway Reception, [Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh](#), Inverleith Row. £5 per person: no advance booking necessary. Also at same time on Sunday 25th January 2015.

**Traditional Scottish Music at Morningside Library:** following a successful performance last year, Derek, John and Lindsay return for a morning of traditional Scottish music. 11.30am-12.30pm, [Morningside Library](#), 184 Morningside Road. No need to book – just turn up.

**Scottish Society of Architect Artists: Art4X.** An exhibition and sale of art works organised jointly by the **SSAA** and **the University of Edinburgh**, in support of the University's **Patrick Wild Centre**. The Centre's mission is to understand the neuronal basis of, and test new therapies for, **autism, fragile X syndrome** and **intellectual disabilities** by fostering collaborations between world class basic science and clinical research at the University of Edinburgh. A selection of guest artists and **Ligne et Couleur** (Ligne et Couleur is the name of the SSAA's counterpoint associations in other European countries) colleagues from France, Germany, Italy and Poland who have exhibited with SSAA over the last three decades have been invited to contribute works for the exhibition and auction as part of Art4X. 10am-12 noon, Sculpture Hall, [Edinburgh College of Art](#), Lauriston Place.

**Israel-Palestine Prayer Vigil:** Polwarth will hold this month's prayer vigil for peace between Israel and Palestine. Vigils have been held all over the country since troubles flared in Gaza last summer; they are organised jointly by the Church of Scotland's World Mission Council, Christian Aid and other supporting agencies. The morning will include an overview of **Church of Scotland's** and **Christian Aid's** work in the area and a talk about the work of the **YWCA Women and the Wall**. 10am-12 noon, [Polwarth Parish Church](#), Polwarth Terrace. All welcome.



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## **Hibernian Supporters Limited:**

# Delight At Fan Response



Hibernian supporters are demonstrating their willingness to back the vehicle set up to help buy shares in the Club – just days after it launched.

Hibernian Supporters Limited (HSL) was announced a week ago, and already around 700 fans have noted interest on the website – [www.hiberniansupporters.co.uk](http://www.hiberniansupporters.co.uk)

The response has delighted the Board of HSL – Chairman Kenny MacAskill MSP, and directors Charlie Reid, Jackie McNamara, James Adie, Gordon Smith, Stephen Dunn and Leeann Dempster.

The Board of Hibernian announced on 29 December 2014, that it intended to widen the ownership of the Club by issuing new shares that would enable the Holding Company's shareholding in Hibernian to be diluted below 50% – with all money raised from supporters through this process going direct to Hibernian to help the Club get back to where all Hibernian supporters would like to see it – at the top end of Scottish football. The money will not be used to buy shares from existing shareholders.

Kenny said: "HSL was only launched a matter of days ago, and we have done no promotion beyond that. In addition, the shares are not going to be available until after the AGM, from February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Yet despite all of that, we've already seen almost 700 people take the time to note interest on our website – and that is a clear demonstration that Hibernian supporters are willing and eager to back the opportunity that is being presented to them."

HSL is a company limited by guarantee, established with the sole purpose and primary objectives of acquiring shares in Hibernian Football Club Ltd and to hold those shares for the

benefit of the supporters of the Club through a binding legal agreement between HSL and Hibernian Football Club that guarantees the transfer of shares on receipt of funds.

In addition, the agreement is explicit that those funds will only be used to help the Club get back to the forefront of Scottish football, and not directed to current shareholders. Supporters contributing to HSL know their money will be used to acquire shares in Hibernian.

Supporters who make contributions will not own shares directly but will own Hibernian Supporters Limited, which in turn will own the shares in the Club. Contributions can be made via a lump sum or on a monthly basis, and an anticipated contribution of £225 – or £18.75 per month – is being sought, although HSL is keen that all supporters get the chance to take part and so those who can afford smaller monthly contributions will also be accommodated.

Supporters can become members of the company once they have contributed and applied to be a member and never lose that status or the rights that go with it. All members will receive a Membership Certificate which is the equivalent of a Share Certificate in a company limited by shares.

Kenny added: “This is designed to be a simple alternative to buying and holding shares directly for supporters who may find it too difficult or arduous to acquire shares directly, as this requires individuals to comply with Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 regulations.

“Supporters are being offered the opportunity to take a controlling interest in their Club, and HSL is one vehicle for achieving this – along with fans who do want to buy shares directly. The more fans who do take part, the greater the voice we will have and indeed if we can achieve a 20% stake we are able to nominate a Club Director.

“We believe it is time for everyone with the best interests of

the Club at heart to come together to take this forward to deliver a better future for Hibernian – on and off the pitch – and we would encourage Hibernian fans to continue to show their support.”

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## **Hibs repond to statements from David Low and Mike Riley**



Hibernian Football Club today responded to statements issued by David Low and by Mike Riley.

A statement on the club website reads:

In summary, Hibernian Football Club:

- believes in paying what it owes;
- had its property assets valued by international property valuers seven months ago;
- notes that Mr Low believes the Club is worthless – which confirms his position of summer 2014, when he proposed that shareholders give Hibernian to him for nothing ;
- believes Mr Low is entitled to his opinions and that Hibernian supporters who care about the Club are also entitled to theirs.

Mr Low is an experienced financier and Mr Riley is Chairman of the Supporters Association. Mr Low is not a shareholder of this club. The Information Memorandum was issued to shareholders solely for their use. The Club has answered the four questions raised by Mr Low despite the fact that he has declared that he has no further interest in Hibernian or its share issue.

Mr Low is not acting as an adviser and has given his personal views. He has stated that any supporter considering investing in shares should seek the advice of a financial advisor authorised by the FCA, and on that we agree.

Constructive analysis is always welcomed. Mr Riley has gone further and advised fans “not to put money in” clarifying that these are his “personal views as chairman” of the Supporters Association. He has not counselled supporters to seek out any other professional advice.

Both Mr Low and Mr Riley request details of the mortgage which the Club has arranged from the holding company. The arrangement – an interest free mortgage of £5 million repayable over ten years – has been announced now that the detailed terms have been approved by the Board.

Mr Riley has questioned why the Club should pay back the cash advanced to it by the holding company. The statement by Club Chief Executive Leeann Dempster issued on the day prior to Mr Riley’s statement made it plain that Hibernian is a club that meets its obligations.

Mr Low says that the Club’s assets are “overvalued at pre-recession and banking crisis levels”. The heritable property was valued by international property consultants Jones Lang LaSalle seven months ago on a depreciated replacement cost basis. The Club’s audited net assets at 31 July 2014 were £15 million.

In Mr Low’s opinion, shares in Hibernian Football Club “continue to have a negligible economic value”. Last summer Mr Low offered to acquire the entire issued share capital of the Club for a nil consideration. In other words, he required all 1,700 existing shareholders, including the holding company, to give up their shares to him for nothing.

Mr Low’s current valuation of the Club’s shares is consistent with his approach seven months ago.

Helpfully, Mr Low has clarified that will not be making a new offer and that he will not be subscribing for new shares in the Club.

The share issue seeks to raise £2.5m from supporters. Their money will go directly into the Club. If fully subscribed, supporters will own 50% of the Club (to add to the 1% already in the hands of supporters) which in turn has the cash they subscribe as well as owning Easter Road Stadium and the Hibernian Training Centre.

Mr Low has raised four issues, each of which is addressed in turn below

The contents of the Information Memorandum comply with the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. It is not the practice of the Club to issue interim financial figures. In making arrangements for the share issue, the directors are confident that the Club's operations for Season 2014-15 are fully funded. New shareholders will have an opportunity to contribute to the sporting ambition of the Club, as explained by the Chief Executive in her statement. Supporters will also have a voice at the boardroom table with two fans representatives elected through a democratic process.

The Club shop was re-branded as a Nike outlet as part of the Nike kit sponsorship deal in 2013. That means the day to day operations of the shop are managed on behalf of the Club's kit supplier which has bigger buying power than the Club on its own. The advantage for the Club is that it does not have to buy and hold stock for the shop so that the working capital requirements are reduced. The arrangement provides lower operational risk to the Club, guaranteed returns with an upside possibility and is more profitable

Details of the new mortgage arrangements have been published. The £5m mortgage is interest free and repayable over ten years. Mr Low's funding proposals last summer



included loans from shareholders which would have attracted interest at a rate of 5% per annum.

The arrangements for the transfer of shares in the articles have been in place for many years. However, as the share ownership in the Club widens, it is a matter which will be considered by the Board, including the new fans representatives, at an appropriate time in the coming months.

The Club reiterates that shareholders and supporters considering the share issue should take independent financial advice and only participate if they are able to and to the extent that reflects their own personal circumstances.

The Club has embraced radical change in a short space of time. The share issue gives supporters the opportunity to acquire a controlling interest in the Club. There are no barriers to that. The proposals will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting on 28 January 2015. Thereafter, it will be open to shareholders and supporters to submit applications from 2 February 2015. The take up of shares and the renewal of season tickets in March will add to the resources available to the Club to help achieve its sporting ambitions.

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## **Ten year old boy robbed in Bathgate**



Police are appealing for witnesses after a ten year old boy was assaulted and robbed of his bike by two teenagers in Sibbalds Brae Bathgate around 12.30pm on Monday

The victim was cycling when the two suspects approached him, demanded his bike, before punching and pushing him which caused him to fall to the ground before stealing his bike.

They were last seen cycling off in the direction of Bathgate town centre.

The suspects are described as white boys in their early teens, roughly 13-14 years old, 5ft tall, with a slim build. The first one was wearing a blue tracksuit.

The second was wearing black tracksuit bottoms, white from the knee up, shiny red Ferrari shoes and riding a mountain bike.

The stolen bike is described a satin blue GT Fly BMX, with a blue front wheel and black rear wheel.

Detective Constable Stephen McCormick said: "This was an unprovoked attack on a young boy, which has left him badly shaken. He is also distressed from the loss of his bike."

"We are now appealing for witnesses who may have seen the suspects, or who recognise the description of them or the stolen bike, to come forward."

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

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## Two men due in court after

# police recover four cars



Police in Midlothian have recovered four vehicles that were stolen from outside their owner's address on Monday.

The cars were taken from various addresses in in Newtongrange, North Middleton, Roswell and Bonnyrigg.

The total value of the property recovered is in excess of £50,000.

Two men, aged 19 and 26, have been arrested in connection with the thefts and will appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court on Monday, January 26.

Three of the four cars were taken when their owners left them unattended while defrosting in cold weather.

Chief Inspector Kenny Simpson, Local Area Commander for Midlothian, said: "These arrests were a particular priority for Police Scotland, as officers believed these cars were being used to commit other offences.

"These men took advantage of the cold weather to deprive people of their cars and the owners are delighted to have their vehicles returned to them. I would like to thank the public for their help and support in this investigation and would again urge motorists to be vigilant and ensure they do not leave their vehicles insecure and unattended during this cold snap"

"Anyone with information regarding these incidents should contact Police Scotland immediately on 101 or through the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

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# **‘Boozy’ joins Canning at ‘Accies’**



Former Hibs’ midfielder Guillaume Beuzelin has stepped down from his role as assistant manager of Dumbarton to join ex team-mate Martin Canning’s new look management team at New Douglas Park

The 35-year old Frenchman formerly coached the Hibs’ youths before becoming assistant to Ian Murray at Dumbarton in the summer of 2014.

He holds an UEFA B licence and is working towards his A licence, and is also qualified at SFA Youth level 5.

‘Boozy’ helped Hibs win the CIS Cup in 2007 and was a regular co-commentator for Hibs TV where he could not disguise his love for the club.

He also played for Coventry, made seven appearances for Hamilton in 2009

Dumbarton manager Ian Murray told the club website: “I’d like to thank Guillaume for all the hard work he put in and for the assistance he has given me this season.

“He goes with the best wishes and thanks of both me and everyone else at the Rock.”

Chief Executive Gilbert Lawrie added: “Boozy did well in his short-time at the club and we all appreciate his contribution.

“I’m sure he’ll do well at Hamilton and he goes with our best

wishes.”

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# Hibs confirm details of the capitalisation of debt



Following its scheduled Board Meeting yesterday, Hibernian Football Club today confirmed details of the capitalisation of debt owed to the Club's parent company and the new mortgage being provided by it.

At the board meeting the directors gave their final approval to the detailed terms for the mortgage being provided by the holding company. This new mortgage enables the Club to complete the refinancing which was announced on 29 December 2014.

Highlights of the new arrangement are:

- The mortgage is interest free
- The repayments are fixed at £500,000 per year for ten years. Payments to the Bank over the past three years average out at £584,000 and ranged from £494,000 to £755,000
- There is a repayment holiday – the first payment does not fall due until August 2015
- By being bank debt free, repayments of £1.6 million in 2018 and £2.5 million in July 2020 have been addressed

Club Chief Executive Leeann Dempster said: “The terms of the new mortgage provided by the holding company are much more favourable to the Club than the terms of the previous bank mortgages.

*“The Club is pleased to have had the support from the holding company to reach a settlement with the Bank and to refinance the balance of the holding company lending through a simple mortgage.*

“In doing so, we have also tackled the issue of the future bullet repayments of £1.6m and £2.5m early, and created a smooth level of affordable repayments for the next ten years which should see the Club debt free by the time of its 150th anniversary.”

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## **Hibs’ youngsters Scott Martin and Callum Crane agree contract extensions**



Hibs’ Development squad players Scott Martin and Callum Crane have both agreed contract extensions until the summer of 2018.

Scotland under-19 internationalist Martin, 17, made his first team debut at Falkirk in December and has been associated with the club’s Academy since he was 10.

The Glasgow born youngster told Hibs TV: “My aim at the start of the season was to make my first team debut and to extend my contract, so I’m delighted that’s happened.

“I’m very excited about the future – I want to kick on now and

make an impression. I want to show the manager and the supporters what I can do and challenge for a place in the first team.”

Left-back Crane, 18, said: “I’m delighted to have signed the extension – I didn’t expect to be told the news so early into the New Year.

“My objective is to now continue developing and break into the first team.”

Development Coach Joe McBride said: “I’m really pleased with the news – both Scott and Callum have worked extremely hard and they’ve deserved it.

“This is the next step on a long journey for both of them and I look forward to seeing them continue their development at Hibernian.”

Head Coach Alan Stubbs said: “This is great news – we think very highly of them both and this will be the next step in their development.

There is a clear pathway through from the Academy to the first team squad and the incentives are there for players to seize their opportunities.

“As a club, it is important that we develop young players, who then commit for the long term benefit and future of Hibernian.”

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## **Peter Ranscombe’s new book is**

# based an old story



Peter Ranscombe is a freelance journalist and author living in Musselburgh. He previously worked for The Scotsman and Scottish Field but now his debut novel, an historical thriller called “Hare” has been published in hardback and ebook by Knox Robinson Publishing.

*When William Burke was hanged in Edinburgh for mass murder in 1829, his accomplice, William Hare, was set free after turning King’s evidence against his partner-in-crime. Fleeing from a potential lynching in the Scottish capital, Hare headed for London, where rumours spread of his death in a lime pit at the hands of an angry mob.*

*Thirty-four years later, a series of murders in Boston terrifies the public and thrusts the city’s police force into a desperate search for the killer. When Hare is found working as a labourer on Boston’s latest canal-building project, Captain Alexander Gillespie believes he has his man, the same murderer he chased through the streets of Edinburgh during his first year with the police.*

*But as the slayings continue, Gillespie must turn Hare loose and use the mind of one killer to catch another. From the oak-panelled studies of Massachusetts’s universities to the grimy underworld of the city’s docks, Gillespie and Hare must pursue a shadowy villain before he strikes again. Against the backdrop of the American Civil War, their search leads them closer to the killer and into the heart of a desperate plot that could threaten the very future of the United States itself.*

The Edinburgh Reporter met with the author in the West Port where the story starts:



[The Edinburgh Reporter meets Peter Ranscombe](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

[Click here](#) to have a look and buy the book.



Photo of Peter by Alex Hewitt/WriterPictures.

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## Letter from Scotland



Re-wilding  
Scotland  
with the  
lynx

Should the large wild cat, the lynx, be re-introduced in Scotland ? It's not an issue that is likely to feature in any of the election manifestos in the spring but this week I heard the chief executive of the Scottish Wildlife Trust Jonny Hughes put it in his manifesto. In a radio interview he admitted re-introducing the lynx might face a few "challenges" ...such as: Where exactly ? How exactly would they re-balance nature ? Would they attract tourists, or eat them ?

The Scottish Wildlife Trust has already re-introduced the beaver in a licensed experiment in Argyll, and it says the results there are promising enough for us to think about the next species, the lynx – a cat one step up from the wild cat (of which there are only 400 left in Scotland). A fully grown Eurasian lynx is about the size of an Alsatian dog. It is extremely secretive and solitary, prowling about forests at night ambushing the odd deer, fox, rabbit or any sheep foolish

enough to be out at night near woodland.

The SWT's campaign is all part of a growing movement for the "re-wilding" of Scotland, allowing our forests, grouse moors and up-land farms to return to nature and re-introducing the species we have hunted to extinction, like the beaver, the lynx, the wolf, the brown bear. It would be "re-wilding" ourselves, simply knowing that a true wilderness exists, with all its beauty, excitements and dangers. One wag texted-in to the radio programme I was listening to suggesting that the SWT should start by reintroducing the lynx not to the countryside but to the cities to see how folks there took to the idea of re-wilding !

The Prime Minister did a little bit of his own re-wilding when he came north on Thursday to unfold his legislative plan to give Scotland more devolution, as promised in the famous "vow" during the referendum campaign. But he set the wolves howling on the SNP back benches, complaining that the Scottish Parliament was still being short-changed. Nicola Sturgeon damned the plans with faint praise – "good as far as they go."

Mr Cameron said Scotland was being offered "one of the most powerful devolved parliaments in the world." It was being given powers to raise up to 60 per cent of its own spending – the power to set the rate and thresholds of income tax, half of all VAT revenues and all of air passenger duty, plus parts of the welfare budget- not, however, pensions or the new universal benefits. But the SNP say the powers will actually raise less than 40 per cent of Scottish public spending and UK ministers are being given a veto over any welfare changes.

Earlier in the week, the Chancellor George Osborne added to the pre-election flames by suggesting that further devolution to Scotland made it even more "unfair" for the SNP to talk of holding the balance of power at Westminster after May 7<sup>th</sup>. That was promptly taken as an invitation to do just that by Ms Sturgeon. She went out of her way to say the SNP would never

enter a coalition with the Conservatives and furthermore, the party's MPs would no longer abstain in voting on English matters when it comes to defending the NHS from privatisation.

The Chancellor, though, had the quiet satisfaction of watching John Swinney, the Scottish finance minister, follow his lead in cutting stamp duty on house purchases to 5 per cent for properties valued between £250,000 and £325,000.

Clearly there is a lot of positioning going on for the election campaign. For the record, the latest opinion poll, Ipsos Mori for STV News, puts SNP support at 52 per cent, Labour at 24 per cent, Conservatives at 12 per cent and the Liberal Democrats and Greens both down to 4 per cent.

Unemployment has taken a turn for the worse, a further 7,000 people are out of work in Scotland, taking the unemployment rate up to 5.7 per cent. In Peterhead, 300 workers at a fish processing factory have been laid off after the building burnt down last weekend. The flames could be seen by fire fighters as they raced there from Aberdeen 30 miles away.

The cold weather has continued this week, with temperatures going down to minus 12 C in parts of the Highlands. In Glasgow, a young teacher was killed in a sledging accident in Kelvingrove Park. Maryam Najafian was described as "a shining light" by the head teacher at her primary school in Lanark.

Re-wilding is not the only new word I learned this week. There's "re-manufacturing", which apparently means refurbishing old machinery and selling it on, with guarantees. The industry is said to be worth £2.4bn to the British economy and now there's an institute for it at Glasgow University.

I wonder if the latest portrait of Robert Burns by students at Clyde College would count as re-manufacturing. It's made out of old Irn-Bru bottle caps and Tunnock's tea cake wrappers. I guess there will be much re-manufacturing of the bard this weekend at many a Burns Supper. I think he would have been in

favour of re-wilding Scotland. His address to the “ wee sleekit, cowerin’, tim’rous beastie” could, perhaps, be stretched to include any re-introduced lynx.

“I’m truly sorry man’s dominion

Has broken nature’s social union

An’ justifies that ill opinion

Which makes thee startle

At me, thy poor, earth-born companion,

An’ fellow mortal. ”

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## No new injuries for Stubbs ahead of QotS game



Hibs’ Head Coach Alan Stubbs is likely to go with the same starting XI who beat Cowdenbeath last Saturday in tomorrow’s game against Queen of the South in Dumfries.

A win would move Hibs six points clear of QotS in third place and would go a long way to ensuring a play off place at the end of the season, particularly with fifth placed Falkirk away at Tynecastle.

Stubbs also gave an update on the injury list at Easter Road including Franck dja Djedje, Farid el Alagui, David Gray and Jordon Forster (pictured)

Speaking to Hibs TV, tubbs said: "It's not much different from last week. Dje Dje won't be available but we have no new injuries to report.

"David (Gray) i doing really well in his rehab so he is making really good progress.

"Farid (El Alagui) is the same. He's just had a steroid injection into his ankle to free up a little bit of pain that he was getting with it which is nothing untoward. He has progressed really well, better than we expected to be honest.

"We are delighted with his progress. He is still ahead of schedule. Last week he was a little bit down but it was just a matter of having a chat with him just to reinforce where he is. the specialists are really happy.

"I think Jordon (Forster) still needs ore fitness in him. He had 10-15 minutes at the weekend and 45 minutes on Tuesday and i still think he needs another 120 minutes before we even consider him for the first team. He has been out quite a while and he hasn't been able to gain real match shaprpness and he is still a little bit short of that."

Photo by John Preece

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## Edinburgh Leisure in deal with Edinburgh Rugby



A deal has been struck between Edinburgh Leisure the council-

owned company that runs the city's gyms and swimming pools and Edinburgh Rugby who need to keep their players in peak fitness. Now the rugby aces will be able to use the facilities at Edinburgh Indoor Climbing Arena (EICA) and the fitness team there.

As an Official Fitness Partner of Edinburgh Rugby, the team will benefit from use of Edinburgh Leisure's gyms and swimming pools, as well as fitness instruction.

The gym at the Edinburgh Indoor Climbing Arena (EICA): Ratho will serve as a key off-site base for the players for strength and conditioning and recovery exercise.

In addition, the partnership will enable both organisations to benefit from joint social media promotions and publicity, raising their profiles with the wide shared audiences of Edinburgh Leisure customers and Edinburgh Rugby's fan base.

Edinburgh Leisure, which manages 30 venues on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council, has expanded its corporate partnerships significantly in the past year, having teamed up with Speedo, Black and Lizards, ESPC and Volvo.

The not-for-profit organisation, which also delivers a number of award winning health intervention programmes, has invested in greatly improving its gym facilities in recent years. Now boasting some of the most state-of-the-art equipment in the capital on top of professional support, Edinburgh Leisure offers ideal facilities for the training of premier rugby players.

Graeme Gardner, Director of Operations at Edinburgh Leisure said: "Edinburgh Leisure is proud to be providing the city's top rugby team with the great facilities and professional expertise to keep them at the top of their game. We hope it will inspire rugby fans across Edinburgh to get healthy and active this New Year."

Edinburgh Rugby said: “We’re delighted to partner with Edinburgh Leisure this season, whose venues are well known and well used by many of our supporters and welcomed by our club, who will make good use of the cutting-edge facilities on offer.”



Photo shows Edinburgh Rugby players Cornell du Preez and Alan Dell training at Edinburgh Leisure venue EICA:Ratho

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## Five things you need to know today



**Young photographer shows off Edinburgh at its best**

**Airport set for expansion**

**Adult Education Programme**

**Volunteers required for helpline**

**Garden Kitchen open for business**

[Post](#) by [Greig Howitt Photography](#).

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Edinburgh Airport has announced more plans for expansion. The airport is in a special position as it does not require to ask for planning permission on the land it owns, but the plans are for a new airside development which will renovate the immigration and baggage reclaim facility meaning that the

airport can accommodate bigger long-haul aircraft.

[Read more here.](#)

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A five week holiday language course is one of the highlights of the new Adult Education Programme launched by the City of Edinburgh Council. It's the perfect way to learn some local phrases before jetting off for your summer break. With more than 400 new day, evening and weekend courses available, the Council's Adult Education Programme has something for everyone.

Most classes resume at the end of January with some beginning in February, and weekend classes in March. The holiday language course starts in April.

But if learning a new language isn't for you, then how about a cooking class? There are courses in Italian, Indian and Spanish cuisine and many more. Or what about trying digital photography, creative writing, guitar, fitness classes or one of the many other subjects on offer?

For a full list of Adult Education Programme classes click [here](#) or phone 0131 556 7978 to get a brochure or pick one up from your local library, community centre or GP surgery. Classes can still be booked by post, phone or in person as well as online.

Councillor Cathy Fullerton, Vice-Convenor for Education, Children and Families, said: "Every year, thousands of people of all ages and in all areas of the city take part in our adult education classes. Learning should always be enjoyable, and we hope the wide range of courses will inspire people to learn something new or in more depth.

"Taking up a class can help people develop confidence and keep mentally and physically active as well as acquiring new skills. Research shows that people who are in lifelong learning are more likely to be employed, to remain in work and to be involved in their communities. It truly is about



learning for life and it's never too late to start.

"I would advise anyone who has some time to spare over the coming weeks to look into what's on offer and to book a place sooner rather than later.

"After listening to customer feedback we rolled out online booking last year and we've had a huge response with more than 15,000 places booked since September.

For a full list of Adult Education Programme classes click [here](#) or phone 0131 556 7978 to get a brochure or pick one up from your local library, community centre or GP surgery. Classes can still be booked by post, phone or in person as well as online [here](#).

Many other classes are held all over Edinburgh in schools and community centres. You can find full details [here](#).

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An Edinburgh based helpline for stressed parents and carers is looking for volunteer call takers.

ParentLine Scotland took more than 4000 calls from anxious mums, dads and carers from across the country last year.

The charity offers a helpline, email and web-chat service, for anyone caring for or concerned about a child. It is run by CHILDREN 1<sup>ST</sup> which works to ensure every child and young person in Scotland has a happy, healthy, safe and secure childhood.

Helpline Manager Jill Cook said: "Our volunteers make an enormous difference to the lives of mums, dads, carers, and professionals just by being there to listen and reassure. It's a vital service and we ensure they're ready for the role with 40 hours of high quality training. They also have back-up from a supervisor."

Volunteers at ParentLine Scotland give a minimum commitment to

a year after training. The charity says it's looking for caring, non-judgemental people who are interested in the wellbeing of children and young people. Calls can be about all sorts of issues from bullying to separating families, teenage behaviour and toddlers tantrums.

Volunteer Janin Pohl (40) said: "Whatever people call with we take it seriously, it's not trivial. In that time they are valued. You don't often find out how things go but at the time you have that sense that there is now a bit of light at the end of the tunnel."

The next volunteer training course starts on 31 January. To find out more contact [parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk](mailto:parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk)

ParentLine Scotland is open 365 days a year on 08000 28 22 33.

You can also get in touch by web-chat at [www.children1st.org.uk/parentline](http://www.children1st.org.uk/parentline) or by email [parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk](mailto:parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk)

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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.

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## Friday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



**Freeze Frame Film Club:** an informal evening of flickering

images drawn from classic old favourites. This week: ***Back to the Future* (PG)**. Go early and have a 3 course movie-themed meal at the Drill Hall Arts Cafe before the show, or just go along for the film itself – free popcorn provided! ‘An evening of nostalgic drama, laughter and tears’. 6.30pm (film 8pm), [Out of the Blue Drill Hall](#), 36 Dalmeny Street. Meals cost £15 and must be booked in advance – call the cafe on 0131 555 7100. Film costs £2.50 (children £2), which can be paid on the door (subject to availability), or in advance by calling 0131 555 7100 or emailing [stephanie.haigh@outoftheblue.org.uk](mailto:stephanie.haigh@outoftheblue.org.uk), or asking at the cafe. For more information see the [club's Facebook page](#).



**Fort Community Centre Bake Sale!** Kids from some of the Centre's clubs are holding a bake sale today – so come along, bring your money, and eat cake! 1pm, [Fort Community Centre](#), 25 North Fort Street.

**Bookbug:** rhymes and songs for young children and their parents/carers. 10.30-11am, [Oxgangs Library](#), Oxgangs Road North.

**Storytime:** find out where the magic story rug will take you this week! 10.30am today and every Friday, [Piershill Library](#), 30 Piersfield Terrace.



**Rally and Broad: The Apology Shop.** A tongue-in-cheek celebration of the apology in its many varieties: come hear the confessional, the reverential, the spittingly caustic and the wittily marvellous, featuring **Francesca Beard, Bizerk, Emily Dodd, Chris Willats**, and UK University Slam Champ **Jess Smith**. 7-10pm, [The Bongo Club](#), 66 Cowgate. £5 on the door. The Bongo Club is owned by local arts charity Out of the Blue. ‘Putting the sounds of the underground and imaginative

aspirations before the mighty dollar’.

**Works On Paper 2015:** a selection of prints, drawings and watercolours from the storerooms of **The Fine Art Society** Edinburgh and London. Artists include **Gerald Brockhurst, Sir David Wilkie, Robert Austin, Walter Geikie, James McBey, Mabel Royds** and **Charles Tunnicliffe**. 10am-7pm today, 11am-4pm Saturday, [Dundas Street Gallery](#), 6a Dundas Street.



**Eco Kidz:** if you love creating and would like to learn some new skills too, try Eco Kidz. The group uses recycled materials to design and create new products before selling them at markets around Edinburgh: the Christmas pop-up stalls almost sold out! All profits go back into the project. For ages 8-12. 1.45-3.15pm today and every Friday, [North Edinburgh Arts](#), 15a Pennywell Court. Free.

**Scottish Society of Architect Artists: Art4X.** An exhibition and sale of art works organised jointly by the **SSAA** and **the University of Edinburgh**, in support of the University's **Patrick Wild Centre**. The Centre's mission is to understand the neuronal basis of, and test new therapies for, **autism, fragile X syndrome** and **intellectual disabilities** by fostering collaborations between world class basic science and clinical research at the University of Edinburgh. A selection of guest artists and **Ligne et Couleur** (Ligne et Couleur is the name of the SSAA's counterpoint associations in other European countries) colleagues from France, Germany, Italy and Poland who have exhibited with SSAA over the last three decades have been invited to contribute works for the exhibition and auction as part of Art4X. 10am-4pm today, 10am-12 noon tomorrow (Saturday 24th January), Sculpture Hall, [Edinburgh College of Art](#), Lauriston Place.

**St Bride's Toddlers Group:** a relaxed and friendly atmosphere for parents/carers and their children to get together, play

and chat. Led by Solma Rahman. 9.30-11.30am today and every Friday until 20th March, St Bride's Cafe, [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace.

**St Bride's Children's Club:** have lots of fun and make new friends while playing games, learning arts and crafts and going on trips. For ages 5-9. Today and every Thursday until 26th March (no club 19th February) 4-5.30pm, [St Bride's Centre](#), Orwell Terrace. 50p per session.



**Lunchtime Concert: de la guitarra.** Gordon Ferries and Stephen Morrison specialise in 19th century guitar music on original instruments. Today they will perform works by Beethoven, Mozart, Carulli and Sor. 1.10pm, [Reid Concert Hall](#), University of Edinburgh, Bristo Square. Free.

**Malawi Coffee Morning:** with Fairtrade tea and coffee and Fairtrade goods for sale. Profits go to the church's Malawi project. All very welcome! 10.30am-12 noon today and every Friday, [Stockbridge Parish Church](#), Saxe Coburg Street.


**Girl Fridays:** a club for girls in P7 to S4. 3-4.30pm, [Pilmeny Youth Centre](#), 44 Buchanan Street. For more information contact Mo Airnes on 0131 553 2559 or email [moairnes@btconnect.com](mailto:moairnes@btconnect.com).



**Edinburgh College of Art Friday Lecture Series: Mika Hannula.** Based at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, Mika is the former Director of the Academy of Fine Arts in Helsinki, and Chair of KUNO, the Nordic network of art academies. 11.30am, [Edinburgh College of Art](#), Lauriston Place. Free and open to all.

**Heriot Watt University: Lunchtime Music Hour.** This week: **The Rotary Club Young Musician Competition.** 12.30-1.30pm, Zero Degrees, Students Union, [Heriot Watt University Edinburgh](#)

[Campus](#), EH14 4AS.

**Human Blues: Anna Glantz and Tam Hare.** An exhibition exploring the connections between the self, collective identity and modern culture, and the 'weird, and not so wonderful' feelings that arise when these disconnect. Anna is a Swedish-born painter and printmaker, Tom is a visual artist and writer whose work is principally photographic and camera-centric. Open preview tonight 6-9pm, then 10am-6pm Monday to Friday, 11am-5pm Saturdays and Sundays, until 3rd February 2015, Gallery 2, [St Margaret's House](#), 151 London Road. 

**LGBT Women's Wellbeing Group: *Colour My Life*.** An inclusive group offering a chance to meet other LGBT women in a relaxed environment. Chat, information and activities promoting health and wellbeing. The group is open to all LGBT women, and welcomes transgender people who primarily identify as women. This month banish the winter blues by contributing to a women's wellbeing creative space, where women can come together to share music, get in touch with their artistic side and have the opportunity to contribute words of solidarity to **Amnesty International's Write for Rights** letter writing campaign. 2-4.30pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. To stay up to date with the group contact [alison@lgbthealth.org.uk](mailto:alison@lgbthealth.org.uk) to be added to the email reminder list.



**Gallery Social – Beauty By Design: Fashioning the Renaissance.** A relaxed and informal guided tour with refreshments for anyone affected by **dementia** and their friends, relatives and supporters. 10.30am-12 noon, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free: to book a place please call 0131 624 6560.

**LGBT Film Nights:** see LGBT themed and mainstream films in a friendly, sociable setting. Vote by email, and at the events,

for film choices each month. You are welcome just to turn up on the night, but please be aware that the film will already have been chosen. 6.30-9.30pm, [LGBT Health & Wellbeing](#), 9 Howe Street. For more information, contact the centre on 0131 523 1100 or email [admin@lgbthealth.org.uk](mailto:admin@lgbthealth.org.uk).

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



**Blackwell's Edinburgh Presents Stuart MacBride *The Missing and The Dead*:** Acting Detective Inspector **Logan McRae** returns in this new novel by the bestselling crime writer. 'One mistake can cost you everything. When you catch a twisted killer there should be a reward, right?' What McRae gets is a 'development opportunity' in the depths of rural Aberdeenshire...then a little girl's body washes up outside the sleepy town of Banff, kicking off a massive manhunt...there are dangerous predators lurking in the wilds of Aberdeenshire, and not everyone's going to get out of this alive. 6.30-8pm, [Blackwell's](#), South Bridge. This event is ticketed, but tickets are free and can be collected from [Blackwell's](#) front desk or reserved by calling 0131 622 8218 or emailing [events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk](mailto:events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk). Read The Edinburgh Reporter's article about Stuart MacBride's 2014 Edinburgh Book Festival appearance [here](#).

**An Evening with Burns and Gow:** Robert Burns and Niel Gow are responsible for some of the greatest words and music that Scotland has ever produced. This performance sees **Euan Drysdale** (vocals/guitar/piano) and **Alistair Savage** (fiddle) celebrate the works of Burns and Gow in a joyous evening of traditional fiddle music, alongside some new folk/blues interpretations of Burns' poetry in song. 7.30-9.30pm, Netherbow Theatre, [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#), 43-45 High

Street. Tickets cost £10/£8 and can be purchased online [here](#) or by calling 0131 556 9579.



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# Edinburgh Airport rolls out the red carpet for the Prime Minister



Edinburgh Airport today welcomed the Prime Minister and also issued a cautious welcome to the plans in the draft legislation following the Smith Commission report to devolve Air Passenger Duty to the Scottish Government. The Edinburgh Reporter spoke to Gordon Dewar Chief Executive of Edinburgh Airport about what it means for Scottish airports.

[listen to 'The Edinburgh Reporter NEWS' on audioBoom](#)

The Prime Minister visited Edinburgh today to meet with the First Minister at Holyrood for discussions on the Smith Commission legislation as the airport announced a new £50m airside investment programme.

Work begins this week on an extensive redevelopment of the airport's immigration and baggage reclaim facilities, a move that will triple capacity for bigger long-haul aircraft.

The Prime Minister was met by Chairman, Sir John Elvidge, and CEO Gordon Dewar, who took him on a tour of the airport's new airside construction site which will be phased over the next four years.

With long-haul traffic up almost 90% in 2014, thanks to new



routes with Qatar Airways, United Airlines and US Airways, and increased services from Turkish Airlines, Edinburgh Airport is embarking on this ambitious development plan which will see a second immigration hall and baggage reclaim area created and extensive construction of new aircraft stands and air bridges.

In 2013, the Board of Edinburgh Airport committed to investing £150m in Scotland's busiest airport over five years to allow it to compete more energetically on the international stage and to ensure that its facilities reflected the predicted growth in passenger numbers. This new £50m airside expansion is the second major project in an ambitious plan and follows the completion of the terminal extension late last year.

The first phase of the airside programme is due for delivery this summer, ahead of the arrival of Etihad Airways on 8 June when it launches the first link between Scotland and Abu Dhabi.

The first stage of the development will see the creation of a 2000m<sup>2</sup> rapid-build structure to house a new state-of-the-art immigration hall, around which a bigger structure will be built over the next five years.

Over 50 jobs will be created and preparation work is already underway on the site.



Gordon Dewar said: "As we announce the next part of our five-year investment programme, it was a pleasure to welcome the Prime Minister to Edinburgh Airport today so he can see the extensive changes we've already made and those we are about to start.

"We're committed to providing our passengers with choice and giving them the best experience. The work we'll be carrying out over the next four years will transform our airside facilities, tripling our capacity to handle bigger aircraft

and paving the way for the next 10 years of increased international connectivity.

“We’ll effectively be creating a new international facility for our airlines, and underpinning our future aspirations to increase passenger numbers and enhance their experience and be one of the leading European airports for our size.

“We’ve grown significantly over the last several years and have worked hard to redefine our airport strategy with the passenger at the core of everything we do. It’s wonderful that we can showcase the ongoing investment in Edinburgh Airport and our plans for continued growth to the Prime Minister and to the millions of passengers which travel through here each year.”

Prime Minister David Cameron said: “Having first class infrastructure is a crucial part of our long term economic plan to support business, create jobs and secure a brighter future for hardworking families across the country.

“The expansion of Edinburgh Airport is great news for Scotland and for the whole of the UK. It will open the door to more long-haul flights and new routes, meaning more tourism, more trade and more jobs for people here in Edinburgh and beyond.

“It will also help Scotland to compete on an international scale and of course the UK’s large network of embassies across the globe will continue to keep banging the drum for Scotland and help maximise any opportunities, whether it is bringing in overseas investment or supporting businesses in Scotland to export worldwide”.

Not everyone was quite as welcoming of the new UK government proposals.

SNP MSP Colin Keir whose Edinburgh Western constituency includes Edinburgh Airport has hit out at the Prime Minister and his UK government coalition lack of action on aviation

issues.

Mr Keir said: “Every long haul passenger arriving at Edinburgh Airport will appreciate this investment. I do find however the Prime Ministers audacity in welcoming investment into an industry which has been improving despite mismanagement from Westminster.

“The London Treasury has been fleecing travellers who fly through Scottish airports for years to the tune of millions of pounds thanks to Air Passenger Duty (APD). His government because of electoral reasons hasn’t made a decision regarding which airport in London will be upgraded to act as a modern UK hub.

“The effect of this is that when there is poor weather or emergencies its Scottish flights that are cancelled first because of space issues at Heathrow and Gatwick”.

“Travellers to and from Scotland deserve a better deal that’s why I commend the management at Edinburgh Airport in bringing more direct flights to the city. It is obvious the UK have done very little to improve the plight of those who have to use London such as local business people. Mr Cameron’s government cannot keep treating Scottish passengers with the contempt they have shown over the past years”.

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## Review – The Potting Shed



The name for The Potting Shed is very apt and the decor even more so, but the food is the real jewel in the crown.

 The restaurant is owned by the Minto family who know a

thing or two about exquisite food. They own at least five, possibly six, eateries across the UK and Spain, including The Sun Inn in Dalkeith.

Their love of food has led them to the decidedly student-oriented part of town, but the offering here may be just a bit above your baked beans on toast!

The menu is a tapas offering of various small dishes from the sea, the land and what is known as 'ground provisions' or veg to you and me.

All dishes are the same size and we ordered six between two of us which turned out to be more than ample. Our only regret is that we still don't know what the starter which is simply entitled Toast and ham butter actually is since we forgot to order it! (Maybe you can tell us when you get along there!)





The first starter of squash and onion fritters which we chose from the Nibbles part of the menu was served beautifully hot and fresh. This was a pakora without too much of an Indian slant, served with tzatziki. It was a great start to what turned out to be a great meal. It is true to say that this was the opening night with a hand-picked audience all testing out the menu, but we enjoyed the attentive service and the delicious food which seemed to be the norm rather than forced for opening night.

Our only gripe, which we fed back to the management who were listening intently, was that the food was served just a little bit too quickly to savour and enjoy at perfect temperature, which they accepted and will reflect in the way the kitchen deals with each food order in future.

The restaurant has been through a number of identities, but The Potting Shed stood out for them among all the ideas the family considered. Ian Minto has been in the catering trade since he was 40. He said that his friends got fed up with him speaking about food. He is a self-taught chef but admits that it is a young man's trade.

The team of two chefs one of whom trained at the Three Chimneys are passionate about food, which Ian Minto believes is crucial to the success of the restaurant. He has experience

in this as the owner of the Sun Inn in Dalkeith which won a Gastropub of the year award in 2011 and offers a carvery style [Sunday lunch](#) for £15 a head which is highly prized among those in the know.

There are lovely touches in the way this restaurant has been decorated, with stripped tables, watering cans galore and garden tools on the walls. You really could be in the shed (but with far better fare than a packed lunch!) Unusual and quirky presentation including tin dishes your granny used to have only added to our enjoyment of the meal.



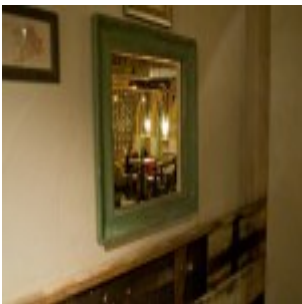
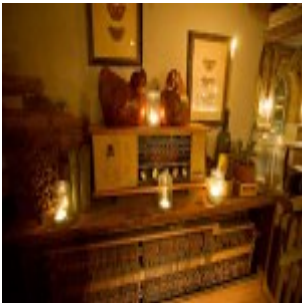


We enjoyed scallops, squid (much bigger than you would ever have imagined), featherblade with shallot and herb relish and the marvellously melt in the mouth short rib and carrot. The shallots were served on a bed of completely and utterly smoother than smooth celeriac which has confounded us. How do they do that? The ribs were served on a bed of smoothened carrots accompanied by the roasted version for variety and interest.

Cabbage bacon and pine nuts may not exactly sound inspirational but the teeny little whole cabbages were served piping hot and were mouthwateringly delish.











Just room to share a Tonka bean creme brulee with cardamom and a couple of crafted coffees.

Then we had to guess how much you would have paid... that was the hard part!

But our waiter guided us by explaining that none of their dishes are priced at above £10... So although we can't tell you how much the whole meal might have cost we can tell you that it was beautifully tasty and very well presented, and probably worth what you will pay for it.

As long as you have well-mannered friends then to share a number of these dishes would be a very good night out and we are certain you will have to book when word gets around.

Although we did not sample them they also serve craft beers so if you try them out then please tell us about them!

The Potting Shed 32-34 Potterrow Edinburgh EH8 9BT opens to the public tomorrow 23 January 2015

See their website [here](#) but be aware that the menu tonight was very different from how it looks online!

