

Hibs to face Dumbarton in League Cup



Hibs' Head Coach Alan Stubbs is pleased to have been handed a home tie in the second round of the Scottish League Cup after the club were drawn to face Dumbarton at Easter Road (26/27 August).

Hibs were the first club to be drawn out of the hat and will face fellow Scottish Championship club Dumbarton, who are managed by former captain Ian Murray.

Dumbarton will then return back to Leith eight weeks later for a league fixture on Saturday 11 October.

Speaking to hibernianfc.co.uk, Stubbs said: "I'm glad that we've been drawn at home – that's a real positive and we're confident we can get a result against anybody at Easter Road.

"Nevertheless it will be a difficult match against a well-organised team that love to attack and then we'll have to face them again in the league just over a month later at Easter Road.

"It will be nice to welcome back two former Hibs players, Ian Murray and Guillaume Beuzelin, who I've met since I joined the club and it promises to be a fantastic Cup tie."

Two arrested following heroin seizure in Niddrie



Police in Edinburgh have arrested and charged two men after £176,000 of heroin was recovered from an address in Niddrie Marischal Drive yesterday.

A quantity of amphetamine and herbal cannabis, valued at £1000, was also discovered at the property.

A 38 year old man and a 37 year old man are appearing at Edinburgh Sheriff Court today.

Area Commander Mark Rennie said: "Drug dealing is one of the crime problems which concerns local residents the most in East Edinburgh. It's one of our agreed local ward priorities and we have been doing a lot of activity around it over the last few months as part of Operation Wolf. This substantial recovery of class A Drugs in the Niddrie area yesterday will ensure that local drug dealers understand our continued commitment to targeting the problem".

Renewed appeal to trace missing man



Police have issued a renewed appeal to trace a man reported missing in the Capital five years ago.

As part of Police Scotland's commitment to the continued review of missing person cases, officers are currently looking at the disappearance of John Coleman, who was last seen in Leith Street on 1st May 2009.

The 57-year-old (52 at the time he went missing) was known to visit various areas of Scotland including Montrose, Aberdeen, Inverness, Dundee and Perth, as well as Northern Ireland. However, no positive sightings have ever been confirmed to police.

Officers are now urging anyone who believes they know of John's current whereabouts to come forward.

John is described as white, around 5ft 9in tall with a medium build, brown eyes and medium-length brown hair. He speaks with a Glasgow accent, and was last seen wearing a beige jacket.

In addition, he also has the word "John" and a rose, dagger and Irish harp all tattooed on his left arm.

Detective Inspector John Kavanagh said: "We have never given up with our efforts to trace John and will continue to review his disappearance.

"Several years have now passed since he was last seen however, I would ask anyone who believes they have information that can assist with this enquiry to contact police immediately.

"In addition, we continue to urge John to make contact with friends, family or police and let us know he is safe and well."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101.

Witness appeal following assault on bus



Police are appealing for witnesses after a 43-year-old man was assaulted on a bus in Edinburgh last month.

The incident happened on the No. 14 Lothian bus at around 9pm on Friday 18th July, as it travelled along Peffermill Road. The victim pushed the emergency button, causing the bus to stop. While he was engaging the driver in conversation, another passenger pushed the victim out the door of the bus, causing him to strike his head on a boundary wall.

Police are now appealing for any witnesses who may have information that can assist with the investigation.

PC Kevin Walls said: "This assault resulted in the victim receiving a wound to the head and he required hospital treatment. We are now looking to speak to anyone who was on the No.14 bus around 9pm on Thursday 18th July to come forward."

Police warn of 'Ringing the Changes' fraud



Police are reminding local businesses to remain extra vigilant

to an ongoing fraud known as 'Ringing the Changes' following an incident at the Haymarket Bar at the weekend.

Enquiries are underway after a man and woman used deception tactics in the pub in West Maitland Street at around 11.55pm on Saturday 2nd August, before making off with £100.

The woman firstly asked bar staff for a number of £20 notes to be changed into £10 denominations. The staff duly obliged but refused when they were then asked by the same woman to change the denominations into £5 notes.

Finally, the woman asked for the cash to be changed back to the original £20 notes but only handed back a proportion of the cash to the member of staff, who did not realise at the time that the pub had been short-changed.

Inspector Emma Croft, who is based at West End Police Station, said: "The couple involved in this incident have used confusion techniques to obtain far more money than they were due, and we are obviously keen to identify them as soon as possible.

"We would urge business owners and members of the public to be vigilant to such behaviour, and we would also ask anyone aware of suspicious behaviour to contact Police Scotland immediately."

The first suspect is described as female, of Eastern European appearance, aged between 35 and 40, around 5ft 2in and of medium, stocky build. She had dyed auburn hair tied up in a bun and was wearing a black and white striped t-shirt, a black cardigan and jeans.

The man in her company was also of Eastern European appearance, aged between 32 and 38, between 5ft 7in and 5ft 9in, of medium build, and with short black hair and stubble. He was wearing a black shirt, black jumper, black shiny leather quilted body-warmer and dark trousers.

Anyone with any information that may help with the investigation or who witnessed the 'Ringing the Changes' incident in the Haymarket Bar should contact Police Scotland on 101 or phone the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



Silver Cloud

Canonmills Bridge

Edinburgh Festivals

Today at Fringe by the Sea

Competitions

Silver Cloud was in port at Leith last night but this morning heads off for Kirkwall in Orkney and then onwards to Reykjavik. The ship has almost 300 guests on board, most of whom were out at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo last night when The Edinburgh Reporter was invited aboard for dinner. There are over 200 staff on the luxury cruise ship, part of the eight strong Silversea fleet which is celebrating 20 years in the cruising trade this year. She had just arrived from London on the first part of her week long voyage.

This was the view from the Promenade deck yesterday evening.



A planning application for change of use at Canonmills Bridge has been made. The plan is to convert the building (by the looks of it they will demolish and build new) into a restaurant with retail space and nine flats above.

You can see the whole planning application [here](#). Any objections must be lodged with the council by Friday. When The Edinburgh Reporter checked there were 115 public comments, though you cannot read the content online.

We would love you to share your photos, videos and reviews with us of anything you see at the festivals which are on right now.

Head over to our sister site [EdinburghReportage](#) which is the home of our user-generated content which we will then share with our readers.



At Fringe by the Sea today they have Tribute Thursday. Here is what they say about it:

Hotel California bring their fantastic Eagles show to the big Spiegeltent. All the hits are there, delivered with a scary authenticity, and considerable musical skill. Dirty Harry bring the tribute night to a rousing close with the sound of Blondie brought to life by a fantastic band and their spectacular front woman. You'll believe it's Debbie Harry, we promise!

But of course Fringe by the Sea is many things for many people. There are events for young and old alike, in their

fabulous seaside location. [More details here.](#)

We have three competitions running right now and we have to say that for all parents out there (or children who read these pages!) then we have a great competition coming up in the next day or so. Watch this space.

Two of our competitions – one to win tickets for a champagne dinner and Tattoo tickets for Friday night – close today at 5pm. So enter now! Good Luck.

[Our competitions section is here.](#)

Thursday in Edinburgh – what's on today



THURSDAY 7TH AUGUST 2014

Come on Over, Over: Watch Thieves, [Lake Montgomery](#), [Hailey Beavis](#), [Faith Elliott](#) and [Caro Bridges](#). 8pm-1am, [Forest Cafe](#), 141 Lauriston Place. Free.

Lunchtime Concert: Piano Speak with Will Pickvance. 1.30pm, [St Giles Cathedral](#), Royal Mile. Free.

Gayfield Creative Spaces presents its first Twilight Talk: Material Goods, Quality and the Marketplace: Paul Simmons,

founder of Timorous Beasties and textile designer Laura Spring discuss their experience of creating thriving studios through design innovation and quality production. 6-8pm, Lyon and Turnbull, 33 Broughton Place. Free but booking required via [eventbrite](#).

Amadeus Duo: Alina Bzhezhska (harp) and Margaret Preston (flute) perform an eclectic mix of classical music and new works by modern composers. 6-6.30pm, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.

Books in Focus: Surrealist Erotica. The 'Books in Focus' sessions focus on artists' books held in the special collections of the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. This session is a preview of some of the publications which will be included in a forthcoming display at Modern Two, featuring explicit Surrealist erotica by artists and writers including **Hans Bellmer, Marcel Duchamp, Georges Bataille** and the **Marquis de Sade**. Owing to the nature of the materials, suitable for **over-18s only**. 11.30am-12.30pm, Reading Room, [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art TW0](#), Belford Road. Free but places are limited and must be booked by calling 0131 624 6268 or emailing gmainfo@nationalgalleries.org

Ghosts in a Gallery: the third incarnation of the **Edinburgh International Festival's** highly successful pop-up performance series, exploring love in the face of extraordinary sacrifices and challenges faced during the First World War. Written for soprano, tenor and piano, it features some of the most poignant and beautiful art song and Lied from Western classical music. 2.30pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free and unticketed.

Blackwell's Edinburgh presents Writers at the Fringe: every Thursday during the Festival Blackwell's invites a selection of Scottish performers to give a taste of their work. This week: Bert Flitcroft, Dorothy Cummings McLean, [Michael Malone](#),

Sureshini Sanders and Rosemary Goring. Free tickets available from Blackwell's front desk or by calling 0131 622 8218. For more information contact Ann Landmann at events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk or call 0131 622 8216.

Lunchtime Recital: Shane Brogan (classical accordion), John Pfaff (piano), Bill Blackwood (clarinet and flute) and Peter Galinsky (clarinet). 1.10pm, [St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral](#), Palmerston Place.

The Generator! By Night: unleash your childlike, creative side at the crazy art lab and have fun imagining the art of the future. Take inspiration from art works on display in the [GENERATION](#) exhibition and jump into a world of experimentation, exploration and invention. Special evening opening of the children's Generator! activities **for adults only**. 5-7pm, [The Royal Scottish Academy](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed. Part of Generation By Night.

Phill Jupitus: Sketch Comic Lectures. A talk by Phill Jupitus and Hannah Gadsby about the works they have seen at the Scottish National Gallery, the works that Phill has created this week, and those of members of the public who have joined in the project. An enjoyable, personal look at art with the occasional surprise guest. 6.30-7.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.

Welfare Rights Advice from SWOP: free confidential welfare rights advice from SWOP (South West Outreach Project.) 10am-1pm, [Oxgangs Library](#), 343 Oxgangs Road North. Call 0845 3024607 and quote 'SWOP project' to book a place.

Comic Art Masterclass with Kev F Sutherland: make your own comic strip and get your caricature portrait drawn by Kev, a writer and artist for the Beano and Marvel. 11am-1pm, [Portobello Library](#), 14 Rosefield Avenue. To book your place call 0131 529 5558 or email

portobello.library@edinburgh.gov.uk

Comic Art Masterclass with Kev F Sutherland: make your own comic strip and get your caricature portrait drawn by Kev, a writer and artist for the Beano and Marvel. 2-4pm, [Craigmillar Library](#), 101 Niddrie Mains Road. To book your place call 0131 529 5597 or email craigmillar.library@edinburgh.gov.uk

Mythical Stories and Crafts: a different mythical story and a related craft every week. For under 12s. 2.30-3.30pm, [Moredun Library](#), 92 Moredun Park Road. Free. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Lunchtime Concert: Bellevue Rendezvous. Scottish-based trio of Gavin Marwick (fiddle), Cameron Robson (cittern, jaw harp) and Ruth Morris (nyckelharpa), plundering Europe for strange and interesting tunes. The nyckelharpa is a traditional Swedish instrument rarely seen in the UK. 12.15pm, [St Giles Cathedral](#), Royal Mile. Free.

GENERATION TG: [The Travelling Gallery](#) brings the work of five artists working in a range of media, including ceramics, textile wall hangings, digital animations, drawings, sculptures, film, performance and song, to various locations in Edinburgh this week. The exhibition focuses on what it is like to be a contemporary visual artist in Scotland and includes a film of artists talking about their work to pupils from Edinburgh schools. Today: 11am-5pm, **Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre**, Groathill Loan. Free. Part of the [GENERATION](#) exhibition.

Where to eat and drink in Edinburgh – Pop in to Pommery at the Signet Library

The Signet Library just off the Royal Mile is one of Edinburgh's most beautiful buildings and usually a well-kept secret. That is until the Pommery bar pops up in August serving champagne, afternoon teas, sharing platters and of course fresh grilled lobster with wedges! Steeped in history, The Signet Library is an impressive building. Described by King George IV as "the finest drawing room in Europe" making it the perfect location for this sophisticated pop-up dining café.



The Signet Library

There really is nothing better than popping in for a glass of perfectly chilled fizz en route to the Opera, before you head to the Book Festival square, or before you go and see a rip roaring comedy extravaganza at one of Edinburgh's multitude of summer festivals. You can even sit outside if the weather is behaving and soak up the buzzing atmosphere of the Royal Mile.

As I mentioned before it's not just the fizz that makes this such a great pop up but the fabulous food on offer too – they have a good selection of hot and cold soft drinks including speciality teas and coffees, beers from Knops brewery in East Lothian, wines and a selection of home baked cakes and scones and show stopping afternoon teas piled high with sweet and savoury delights and of course a glass of champers if you wish.



The Menu!

We went to investigate this year's Pommery bar on Monday evening before going to see a show at the Assembly just five minutes' walk away. They have a selection of champagnes from Pommery and also offer a tasting flight which gives you the opportunity to try all of the options before deciding on your favourite tipple. We decided to jump in the deep end and order a bottle of the Brut Rose (£65) as a special treat.

The sharing platters are a great option and would be perfect for lunch featuring a meat antipasti, vegetarian selection and a seafood option. Two of us decided to share the seafood platter (16.50) which was a generous sized portion including beetroot cured salmon, Belhaven smoked trout pate, Shetland smoked salmon, soused mackerel, dill sauce and a selection of oatcakes and bread. The beetroot salmon had a lovely flavour, the pate zingy and light and the sauces went really well, plus home-made oatcakes are always a winner for me! My partner tried the oysters (£4) which were served with a gin, coriander and pink peppercorn vinegar which was fabulous.



Oysters and Seafood Platter

For main courses we were feeling rather decadent and ordered the sweet & succulent whole fresh lobster with garlic aioli & potato wedges (£30 with the online discount voucher or £37.50 full price) – heaven if you are a seafood lover like me. Huge fun was had breaking into the claws to dig out the meat and dip it in the mayonnaise not the most elegant of eating adventures but it was fun! Our friend was tempted by the Pommery Burger and home-made wedges (£14.50), which had smoked cheddar on it and served in a brioche bun as all good burgers should be.



Lobster and Garlic Aioli

Desserts feature some true classics including strawberries and cream and lemon posset which were sublime (yes I tried them both!), the boy had a chocolate brownie with ice cream and judging by the speed it disappeared I would say it was a hit.

As the sun goes down, the Pommery Bar is transformed into an evening venue with stunning lighting and a disco ball adding to the fun of the festival. Definitely a must do for this summer and the perfect place to celebrate – but be quick its only here for August!



The Pommery Shop

Check out the [fantastic offers at Pommery Bar this](#) month or head along to one of their special events including:

Champagne Tutored Tasting – Sara Hicks, UK Ambassador Pommery Champagne

13 / 14 / 15 August – 5.30 pm / 7 pm. This event is a unique experience for champagne lovers or novices alike. Engaging and energetic tutored tasting of four seasonal Pommery champagnes from Sarah Hicks, followed by sharing platters and a further glass of champagne in the cafe bar.

Chocolate, Whiskies and Cocktails – Annabel Meikle – The Whisky Belle

10 / 17 / 24 August – 2 pm. A luxurious experience for an indulgent Sunday afternoon, this is an engaging interactive introduction to whisky. Taste two whiskies and two whisky cocktails showcasing The Famous Grouse family, paired with exquisite chocolates from The Highland Chocolatier.

Four Beers and a Burger – Meet the Brewer – Knops Beer Company Ltd

4 / 11 / 18 August – 7 pm. The Pommery Bar serves brilliant artisan beers from local lads Knops Brewery. Sample the beers and meet the brewer, hear the tales behind the ales and enjoy one of our superb Pommery Burgers.

Single Malt Sundays- Annabel Meikle – The Whisky Belle

10 / 17 /24 August – 5 pm. Take a journey around Scotland in a glass. Sample four regional single malt whiskies and be expertly guided through the variety of styles. Enjoy a selection of Scottish tapas bites made to enhance the experience. Perfect for sharing with friends.

Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Ticket & Dinner Package – book quick as the rest of the Tattoo tickets have sold out! ([or enter our competition here before 5pm on Thursday 7 August 2014!](#))

Why not enjoy a pre-dinner Pommery Champagne Cocktail and three course meal before enjoying the Royal Tattoo? The ticket and dinner package starts from just £75 per person and is an ideal way to entertain clients, staff or friends. Book via www.heritageportfolio.co.uk

For the latest news and offers follow @PommeryBar on Twitter or [Facebook](#) or visit www.thesignetlibrary.co.uk/pommery-champagne-cafe-bar. Fringe tickets can be bought online at www.edfringe.com.

just Festival: Manchester International Roots Orchestra

✖ 'It was like paradise coming to the RNCM' – that's how **Michael Cretu** describes the start of the **Manchester International Roots Orchestra (MIRO)** of which he is Musical Director. Michael came to the **RNCM** (Royal Northern College of Music) in 1992 as a double bassist and later also studied composition. He always wanted to bring people from different cultures together to make music: at **St John's Church** on Saturday evening an exhilarating concert showed just how successful he has been in fulfilling that dream.

From traditional West African songs to new compositions, from a haunting Kurdish solo to a fast rap about dragon taming, the diversity of the material and the talents of every member of the orchestra were stunning. MIRO counts refugees, RNCM students and local and international musicians from all traditions amongst its numbers. Michael himself is Romanian and much of his playing is inspired by gypsy tunes, although he can clearly turn his bow to anything, from African music to jazz. He likes to bring together folk music, Arabic music, classical music, jazz, gypsy music: music – and perhaps even more importantly musicians – from all around the world.

Saturday's line-up consisted of **Holly** on kora (a traditional 21-string West African instrument), **Pat** on drums, **Mina** on oud and ney, **Farshid** on santour, **Zorro** on guitar, **Tshepe** on piano and **Michael** on bass, joined by solo singers **Kazem** and **Dana** and rappers **Remi** and **MNIB**.

Michael began the evening by leading the orchestra in his own composition *Balkan Connection*, a tune that moved from a slow double bass and guitar melody, picking up to a fast flamenco-esque rhythm as other instrumentalists came in. Drums, kora and oud all added to the crescendo of sound, then faded away leaving the bass and guitar alone once more to wind the piece down. Next came *Banilay*; bass, kora, guitar, drums and ney

backed Holly's singing which, together with MNIB and Remy's powerful rap, reinterpreted a traditional song telling wealthy men to 'be loyal', to consider the poor and not to abuse their power.

✖ Perhaps one of the most beautiful and haunting performances of the concert came from Dana, who sang *Karass Zarda*, 'a song of love about a lady who wears a yellow dress', in his native Kurdish. The real message of the song is the struggle for Kurdistan's freedom. Dana's wonderful voice conveyed a depth of feeling so great that it was almost hypnotic and very moving.

Dana was followed by Kazem, with *Iryligh*, an Iranian song about 'being away from where you belong', an experience shared by many of MİRÖ's members. Kazem's pure strong voice drew the audience in immediately. His second piece, *The Sultan of Hearts* was preceded by a simple but arresting introduction on santour; bass, drums, ney and oud then combined as Kazem sang his way to an exuberant, uplifting close.

The return of the migrating birds from Africa inspired Holly's composition *Mystic Bird*, which speaks of hope and kindness as the kora and bass meet in an increasingly frenetic rhythm. Tshepe then calmed the mood with a dream-like, wistful piano solo, beautifully played, before Holly, MNIB and Remi performed *Salia*. The djembe is a traditional African drum: legend has it that Salia, a renowned djembefola in Guinea, played so well that his music tamed a dragon and persuaded him to dance. MNIB and Remi's energetic and exhilarating rap had even an Edinburgh audience tapping its feet. (And that's quite adventurous for us...)

The finale, *Time for Change*, an outstanding composition by MNIB, brought the whole orchestra – and indeed the audience too – together in an immensely uplifting and engaging

performance. Zorro and Holly sang, Remy and MNIB rapped, and Pat's impressive drumming providing an exciting close to a wonderful evening. Music is a language that everyone can understand: the Manchester International Roots Orchestra brings that shared language to the world in a unique and inspirational way – or, in MNIB's own words,

'It's like the whole world is here in one room, and you don't need no flight tickets to see it.'

MIRO is based at RNCM and supported by **Community Arts Northwest**. You can find out more about MIRO [here](#).

This concert was part of the **just Festival**, which continues until 25th August 2014 with a great programme of performances, family events, talks, exhibitions and films: The Edinburgh Reporter's article [here](#) has more details.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – **Bianco_Here Be Dragons *******

If like me you were taken to the circus as a child, you may be expecting an evening of animals jumping through hoops and clowns making rather obvious jokes. Well forget all that – 'Bianco_Here Be Dragons' **NoFitState Circus's** sensational new show, is a different thing entirely.



For a very important start, there are no animals. This is **contemporary circus**, a professional touring production staged by some of the most skilled performers you are likely to see in a tent, or indeed anywhere else. In an intricately

choreographed programme artists fly up and down ropes, aerialists swing from clouds, a man strips (well almost..) on a tightrope and, in a breathtaking finale, snow falls as a girl (the incomparable **Sage Cushman**) dressed in a white wedding gown dances on a trapeze. The high level acrobatics are interspersed with some slapstick humour, but even that is part of the dramatic story unfolding before us. The players have fun, run about, shout, ride bicycles, throw balls, cartwheels and flowers; this show is about the ordinary and the extraordinary, everyday life and once-in-a-lifetime drama. Scenes of rollicking light-heartedness give way to scenes of great passion. We are drawn into these characters' stories; our spirits follow their flights across the skies, their soft landings – and their hard bumps.





'Bianco_Here Be Dragons' is a perambulatory experience – in other words, the audience walks around as the story unfolds. Scenes are shifted, stewards move us back and forth – it feels at times as if we are looking through a window. This does call for a certain amount of effort on our part, but it is effort well repaid; we very quickly find ourselves engaged in this travelling world. Ethereal voices tell us stories, figures appear then vanish. In some ways the effect is dreamlike, in others it's larger than life.

'There's only the passion, messiness and infectiousness of life' (Firenza Guidi – Artistic Director)

A huge part of the Bianco experience is the music; the band is truly outstanding and could easily perform by itself. Lead singer **Andy Moore** has an impressive voice and knows how to use it – he moves seamlessly from song to chant and back again and plays several instruments. **Annette Loose's** sax is evocative and soaring, her voice mesmeric. The equally excellent **Doug Kemp** and **Calum McIntyre** complete the group. **Blaze Tarsha**, who must be one of the most versatile and charismatic performers in the company (she can even manage five hoola-hoops in one hoola) leaves the trapeze to sing with the band at one point – and yes, she can sing beautifully as well.

Annette Loose originally joined the circus in 2004 as a sound

engineer, becoming part of the band two years later. She has travelled widely with NoFitState and loves the way in which every member has chosen to join the company and as a result has total commitment to it. She speaks highly of the Fountainbridge site and of the warm welcome back that the circus has received from local shops and businesses after its very successful initial visit last year.

Speaking before the show, **Firenze Guidi** explains that she aims above all to teach the performers to convey emotion and humanity. Expert aerialists who can't do this are, she says, only gymnasts: her artists are just that – artists: people who communicate great feeling through their art. If the audience takes that feeling away from the show 'My job is done.'

This is a fabulous show for all ages: recommended.

'Bianco_Here Be Dragons' is on at the **NoFitState Big Top (Venue 194)** every day *except* 11th and 18th August until 25th August 2014. Times vary: see [Edinburgh Fringe](#) website for details. **Please note** that this show does involve standing and walking about – there are no seats.

Maggie Dixon resurrected by Grassmarket festival muralist

A Scottish muralist will capture a local author on a giant 32 foot canvas installed in the Grassmarket throughout August, and in true festival spirit members of the public can also be included – if they turn up in period costume!

Edinburgh-born Chris Rutterford specialises in the production of epic artworks. He has set up a 'live studio' in the Grassmarket where he is painting author Alison Butler into a huge depiction of the execution of Maggie Dickson, a local character who survived the hangman's noose in 1724. Alison Butler wrote *The Hanging of Maggie Dickson* and will represent her in the painting.

Chris is inviting the public to get involved and will paint visitors' faces into the mural – especially those in period costume. The completed 32 foot high, double-sided mural will focus on the gallows on one side and a traditional horse market on the other as the Grassmarket has been used as both over the centuries. Chris says the mural aims to evoke the rich history, culture and spirit of this ancient and famous part of Edinburgh's Old Town.

"I'm really hoping that we can bring some history back to life and get local people involved too as that's what makes community art so special," he adds.

"My murals capture history in action and I think that's why people find them so interesting to look at. It's a huge honour to be invited to paint in such historically significant places and in effect become a little part of their history. It's going to be a busy month in the Greater Grassmarket but I'm really looking forward to it."

Chris will be painting the mural daily Monday to Friday and is easily recognisable in his paint-spattered Jacobite outfit and distinctive red top hat. The trained illustrator and writer is making a time lapse video of the mural project and after the festival the mural will be split up and put on display at sites across the city.

Alison Butler has her first sitting for Chris at the alfresco Grassmarket studio at midday tomorrow, Wednesday 8 August, and will be available to explain Maggie Dixon's fascinating story

to the public. Maggie survived the hangman's noose after coming back to life on her way to the graveyard and has been a popular local historical figure ever since.

Alison Butler says: "I'm deeply honoured and thrilled to be involved in Grassmarket mural. In writing my novel, the Grassmarket and Margaret Dickson have become very dear to me and Chris Rutterford's depiction of Maggie means her story will be heard over and over again. I couldn't ask for more."

The project has been commissioned by Greater Grassmarket Business Improvement District in order to provide some alternative entertainment during the festival.

"In August the Grassmarket is normally filled with markets every day, and following feedback from businesses and locals we decided to do something different this year," says Georgia Artus, Greater Grassmarket Project Manager.

"Working with Chris to create this piece of public art is a fantastic start to what will be a year's worth of activities delving into the stories of the local area. We can't wait to see the faces of visitors, locals and historical figures intermingled in the mural.

"Our area is filled with fascinating local businesses, selling everything from homemade gelato and antique bookshops to fossils and tweed, and we hope this project will encourage visitors to explore and enjoy the area."

Submitted by [Samantha McKay-Challen](#)



The Voice Festival: an acapella workshop & showcase this Friday!

The Voice Festival UK is a charity dedicated to bringing people together through music. It aims to cultivate *a capella* communities in the UK by providing learning, performance and networking opportunities.



On Friday, the Voice Festival will host an afternoon **workshop** led by the superb five-piece *a capella* group **Simply Soweto Encha**. The group will give an introduction to South African oral and dance traditions, vocal harmonies and energetic rhythms, teaching participants how to relax into creativity.

The workshop will be followed in the evening by a **Showcase** featuring a set from each of the participating youth, university and community groups, as well as a special collaborative number created during the workshop. Performers will include **Chacabella, Out of the Blue, Rachael's Voices, Aberpella, The Sons of Pitches, The Accidentals** and the **Vocalites: Sweet Nothings**.

The day's activities will wrap up with an opportunity for

socialising with fellow *a capella* singers and supporters.

The workshop will run from 3.30 to 5.30pm and the Showcase will take place from 6.30 to 8pm. Tickets cost £6/£5 for the workshop and £10/£8 for the Showcase. They can be purchased direct from [The Voice Festival UK's website](#); tickets for the Showcase can also be purchased from the [Edinburgh Fringe Festival website](#).

Appetite Direct wins Edinburgh International Festival contract

Appetite Direct has been chosen to cater Edinburgh International Festival venues for the next three years in a five figure sponsorship deal which takes the company one step closer towards its goal of doubling turnover within five years.

The multi award-winning event caterer Appetite Direct provides impressive food for private and corporate events of any size and has had a close working relationship with the EIF since launching eleven years' ago. The Newhaven-based company has increased in size by 20% in the last 12 months and this three-year EIF contract helps secure the future of Appetite Direct's 10 full-time and team of 30 part-time staff while also creating two further full-time jobs.

Appetite Direct owner Nigel Kennedy says: "We are really excited about this prestigious sponsorship deal with the EIF as we have always had a great relationship with the team there. This shows a real confidence in our company while

reinforcing our commitment to the arts in Edinburgh, which the EIF does such a brilliant job of promoting.

“It also puts our name in front of some of the key businesses in the city, which is obviously great for our brand, and takes us a step closer to our target of doubling turnover to around £1.4m within the next five years.”

Jonathan Mills, Edinburgh International Festival Director, says: “We’ve enjoyed working with Appetite Direct for a number of years. They have always been a superb natural echo of our commitment to quality, excellence and innovation. I am delighted that our relationship is developing with the company and look forward to offering our guests and artists our combined hospitality.”

Appetite Direct was awarded Independent Event Caterer of the Year at last year’s CIS Excellence Awards and has also been shortlisted for this year’s Scottish Event Awards, being held on Wednesday 8th October in Glasgow. The company also has an exclusive deal Gilmerton House in East Lothian, plus a contract with the National Trust for Scotland which will see Appetite Direct catering at a number of historic venues across Scotland.

Submitted by [Samantha McKay-Challen](#)



Edinburgh Festival Fringe Review – The Next Big Thing



Helena spends her working day admiring the back of Steve's head. She spends her evenings trying to write a bestseller. Neither is going well. In ***The Next Big Thing***, **DK Productions'** new musical at **theSpace on North Bridge**, Helena's mundane life starts to change – but what seem like improvements come at a cost, and Helena soon faces a moral dilemma.

Helena Fields has tried it all: romance, chick-lit, thriller, crime – 'even an anti-novel' but so far all she's had are rejections, and the same fate has just befallen her latest opus, *Miss Posy Does It In Trousers*. So much for feisty heroines. Helena's love life is even worse – Steve doesn't seem to know she exists. 'Who needs men?' she wails, unconvincingly, too scared to ask Steve out in case he turns her down.

Helena decides to have one more crack at breaking into the romance market, and turns to an online guide for help. In an attempt to create a 'strong woman' she dreams up **Libby**, a girl 'with the strength of ten men', but when that woman – for 'girl' seems slightly inappropriate for the apparition standing before us – appears from nowhere, Helena is understandably taken aback:

'I wasn't planning on my heroine being a

'Careful what you say next darling...'

For Libby isn't a Libby ('DON'T call me that!) , she's a **Liberty Belle** – a femme fatale with a mind of her own and a back story as colourful as her wardrobe. Soon she's persuading Helena to jettison all her wet ideas about love and marriage. 'This isn't the novel I was going to write' laments our heroine (or is she 'ours'?) 'Oh forget it' says Liberty 'this

is all about setting yourself free.'

In *You've got to go a little crazy to make your dreams come true*, a loud and lively song and dance session, Helena throw off her inhibitions and gets into the groove – she will!

she'll write that book, get that deal, and even get her man – what is there to be afraid of? As Liberty points out, Helena's previous creations are 'eunuchs trapped by your insistence on following someone else's formula – that's where I'm different, I've got balls!' In no time at all, Liberty has set Helena up on a date with Steve and shown her that her fictional characters will only come alive if she makes them; copying other people's ideas will never work.

So they all live happily ever after....well no, in fact, they don't. As fiction and fact continue to blur, Helena's image of Steve crumbles when he turns up with another woman, plus a male friend whose drunken vomit ends up all over Helena's face. Helena wishes she'd never met Steve – can she erase him from her memory and even her life by a swift bit of rewriting? In this increasingly weird world it seems that she could – but should she? NO! says Liberty – your life would be the poorer if you did; experience may be bitter-sweet, but it makes you who you are.

It's at this point that things start to turn nasty.....Liberty has her own ways of sorting out problems with life's plot:

'Revenge is like meat

Revenge is like wine

Revenge is so bad it tastes divine....'

Without revealing the rest of the story (or is it a story?) suffice to say that Helena's creation starts to become a tad too fiesty. Should she follow Liberty's advice? Just who is making the choices in Helena's fiction – and in her life? Do they need each other, or can Helena stand on her own two feet?

To find out and to experience the nail-biting climax of this thought-provoking show you'll need to go and see it.

David Kent's script combines smart one-liners and exuberant lyrics with a multi-layered story; on the surface it's a straightforward comic fantasy, but look a little further and it's a tale that raises questions of morality, identity, control and choice. **Rebecca Ridout** as Helena does a great job in conveying the emotional ups and downs of a writer's life, but the star of the show is undoubtedly **Dereck Walker**, who not only brings humour, pathos, villainy and dignity to the role of Liberty but also has a fabulous voice to belt out those songs.

The Next Big Thing is at theSpace on North Bridge (Venue 36) at 20.10 every night until 23rd August 2014 except 10th and 17th August..



FRINGE REVIEW: The Final Solution to the cabaret problem?

 A Final Solution to the Cabaret problem?

Everybody's favourite war criminal Frank Sanazi's back in town, and the Fuhrer's thankfully learnt nothing since his defeat in 1945. A blitzkrieg attack on taste and decency, Das Vegas Night 3 was a delight.

The Rat Pack's songs are given the Sanazi makeover – That's

Life becomes Das Reich, Gestapo Gestapo is the new Chicago Chicago; you get the picture. The material's as subtle as an attack by a Panzer division, but predictable or not, it's very funny.

Pol Pot, Chairman Mao, Tony Blair, Saddam Hussein, the Twin Tower bombers and Harold Shipman – all received an honourable mention in despatches during the performance, and Sanazi didn't hold back. But there's something strangely endearing about Sanazi, and material that makes you wince is delivered with a cheeky smile.

As he said: 'A bit close to the mark? But hey, today we have no mark! We have the Euro – Germany wins again!'

While Sanazi himself was hilarious, the cabaret's supporting cast and material was not so strong – a bit like Mussolini's Italian army during World War Two, I suppose. But an hour of world domination, war crimes and some gratuitous nudity thrown in too – wunderbar!

Zis time we win? Yes, Frank, I rather think you did. Tonight, the Voodoo Rooms, tomorrow the world.

Das Vegas Night 3 – Zis Time We Win!
The Voodoo Rooms, West Register Street
Until 10 August

Submitted by [Dave Pickering](#)

Councillor Lewis on the

Fringe

✖ Councillor Richard Lewis is not only Culture Convenor with the council but is a musician of some note!

He is taking a show to the Fringe this year and we met up with him to find out about it. He appears along with international mezzo-soprano Andrea Baker to look at how Scotland has inspired other nations. Including works by Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt, Debussy, and Lerner and Loewe.

Ticket details for Scotland a Journey in Music and Song [here](#).

COMPETITION – Win tickets for Ready Steady Ceilidh



*This is Ceilidh's wee sister, **Ready Steady Ceilidh!** is for all the family, hosted by Iain Stirling (comedian and BAFTA Nominated CBBC Presenter) and brings together the best Scottish traditional musicians with award-winning theatre makers. It's a chance for the whole family to get up, dance and learn the secrets of Scotland's most famous shindig.*

Come prepared to be thrilled (and exhausted)! **Ready Steady Ceilidh!** is a full hour of fun dancing, jokes and amazing music for anyone aged 6+



Iain Stirling hosts
the show

Iain Stirling is a stand-up comedian and BAFTA nominated presenter. He can currently be seen hosting *The Dog Ate My Homework* on CBBC which is returning for a new series later this year. He has also recently completed filming on the forthcoming show *Help! My School Trip is Magic*, and the fourth series of *All Over the Place*, (this time in Australia), both to be aired later in 2014.

As one of the most exciting up-and-coming stand-up comedians Iain has been guest support to acts including Russell Kane and Rhod Gilbert on national tours. He was nominated for a Chortle Award for Best Newcomer and has appeared in the stand-up spot on *Russell Howard's Good News* (BBC3), as well as being a panelist on the last series of *Sweat the Small Stuff* (BBC3) and a featured comic for Yahoo!'s *Fringe in Five* special for the Edinburgh Festival in 2013.

Throughout the festival, a collaboration of Scotland's best traditional musicians featuring **Martin O'Neill** (toured with Stevie Wonder and plays with Celtic supergroup Treacherous Orchestra), **Lorne MacDougall** (contributor to Disney-Pixar film *Brave*), **Hayley McInnes** (Pipe Band Shotts & Dykhead Caledonia), **Ewan Robertson** (former BBC Scotland Young Musician) and **Megan Henderson** (of Award winning Breabach) will lead the lineup.

Venue: Assembly George Square Gardens, Palazzo, EH8 9JZ

Time: 12:30 **Running Time:** 50 minutes

Dates: 31 July – 25 August. Previews 31 July & 1 August. No show Monday 11 August.

Tickets: Previews £6; 6 & 7, 12-14, 18-21, 25 August £10; 2-5, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24 August £12

Bookings: assemblyfestival.com, 0131 623 3030 or Assembly box

offices at Assembly Hall and Assembly Roxy, Assembly George Square and Assembly Checkpoint

Enter the competition here. We will pick a random daily winner from 7 August 2014 onwards. We have five pairs of tickets for Ready Steady Ceilidh to give away. Good luck!

Name(required)

Email(required)

☐ Daily email from The Edinburgh Reporter?

Who hosts Ready Steady Ceilidh?

Submit

Δ

Wednesday in Edinburgh – what's on today



WEDNESDAY 6TH AUGUST 2014

Culture Laser – ‘featuring people who do things, make things and live life like art.’ 7pm-1am, [Forest Cafe](#), 141 Lauriston

Place. Free.

Lunchtime concert: Philomusica of Edinburgh. Michael Garrett 3 *Pieces for String Orchestra Op261*, Aaron Copland *Quiet City*, Elgar *Carillon (1914)*, C Armstrong Gibbs *Peacock Pie*. 1.10pm, [St Mary's Cathedral](#), Palmerston Place. Free.

Dog Tales: the Dogs Trust will host this storytelling session and give tips re safety around dogs and responsible dog ownership. For ages 5-10. 2.30-3.30pm, [Currie Library](#), 210 Lanark Road. Free.

Titian in Ten: ten minute pop-up talks delivered by NGS staff. Gain an exclusive insight as staff from across the galleries offer different perspectives on Titian's masterpieces. 2pm, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.

Lunchtime Concert: Bellevue Rendezvous. Scottish-based trio of Gavin Marwick (fiddle), Cameron Robson (cittern, jaw harp) and Ruth Morris (nyckelharpa), plundering Europe for strange and interesting tunes. The nyckelharpa is a traditional Swedish instrument rarely seen in the UK. 12.15pm, [St Giles Cathedral](#), Royal Mile. Free. Also on Thursday 7th August.

Scotland's Shrine: The Scottish National War Museum. Art historian and critic **Duncan Macmillan** talks about the Scottish National War Museum, one of the outstanding pieces of public art of its time. It is the masterpiece of architect Sir Robert Lorimer and the work of a team of 200 artists and craftsmen, with outstanding stained glass by Douglas Strachan and a bronze frieze by Alice and Morris Meredith Williams. 12.45-1.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free but ticketed: tickets can be obtained in advance from the gallery's information desk, or on the door subject to availability.

Celebrity Organ Recital: Peter Backhouse. Sweelinck *Ballo della Granduca*, CPE Bach, *Sonata in A Minor*, Mozart *Adagio and*

Allegro K594, Maxwell Davies *Farewell to Stromness*, Jackson *Third Sonata*, Vierne *Meditation*; *Carillon de Westminster*. 8pm, [St Giles Cathedral](#), Royal Mile. Tickets £8, students £5, accompanied children free, from Cathedral shop (0131 226 0673) or on the door.

Dungeons and Dragons: make your own Dungeons and Dragons adventure board game! For ages 7+. 4-5pm, [Stockbridge Library](#), Hamilton Place. Free. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

GENERATION TG: [The Travelling Gallery](#) brings the work of five artists working in a range of media, including ceramics, textile wall hangings, digital animations, drawings, sculptures, film, performance and song, to various locations in Edinburgh this week. The exhibition focuses on what it is like to be a contemporary visual artist in Scotland and includes a film of artists talking about their work to pupils from Edinburgh schools. Today: 10am-6pm, [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art TWO](#), Belford Terrace. Free. Part of the [GENERATION](#) exhibition.

Teen events at Moredun: different activities for teenagers, from X-Box tournaments to nail art. Every Monday and Wednesday. 6.30-7.30pm, [Moredun Library](#), 92 Moredun Park Road. Free.

Rangers 2-1 Hibernian AET



Hibs lost 2-1 to Rangers after extra time at Ibrox in the

Petrofac Training Cup last night after dominating the game throughout and despite the result the players were cheered off the park by the large travelling support.

Alan Stubbs retained the same starting XI who lost narrowly to Dundee United at Easter Road last weekend with no place in the team for new signing Scott Allan. Strikers Heffernan and Cummings who have both been side-lined with injuries also started on the bench.

Rangers boss Ally McCoist started with former Hearts' players Marius Zaliukas, Lee Wallace and Ian Black with former Hibs star Kenny Miller up front alongside Kris Boyd.

Both teams lined up to form a guard of honour of Commonwealth Games Silver medallist Lindsay Sharp.

Wallace spurned an early chance before Hibs started to dominate possession and Alex Harris, David Gray and Lewis Stevenson all sent dangerous balls into the Rangers box.

The Ibrox side took the lead against the run of play in the 14th minute when a Wallace cross from the left evaded Hibs' defenders and landed at the feet of the unmarked Lewis Macleod who had plenty time to pick his spot before rifling a powerful drive past Mark Oxley into the net.

Harris fired wide for Hibs before Boyd had the ball in the net but his effort was ruled out for offside. Danny Handling's long range effort was deflected away for a corner but once again the Rangers defence cleared easily.

In the 27th minute Oxley did well to stop a long range strike from Miller before Harris sent a teasing ball into the box which McGregor managed to head over for a corner with el Alagui lurking at the back post.

A few minutes later Liam Craig sent an inch perfect through ball to Harris but the young winger was wrongly ruled offside

after finding himself one on one with the keeper.

Gray was injured just before the break and limped off the field but was able to return at the start of the second half.

Hibs started brightly and Danny handling went close with a long range effort. As Hibs pressed, el Aalgui appeared to have been brought down on the edge of the box but the referee waved play on allowing Rangers to break at pace and only a last gasp interception by Handling prevented a Rangers goal.

El Alagui then sent Stanton clean through on goal but with only the keeper to beat, the youngster shot straight at Bell and the danger was cleared.

Hibs finally got the goal their pressure deserved in the 59th minute when the Rangers defence failed to deal with a Gary cross from the right and the ball fell to Handling who made no mistake from eight yards.

El Alagui then had the chance to give Hibs the lead when he latched onto a Craig through ball but after chesting the ball down he volleyed just over the bar.

Jordon Forster was booked for a professional foul on Zaliukas on the half way line as Rangers struggled to get back into the game then Oxley did well to gather a Nicky Law cross under pressure.

Sam Stanton fired over the bar after good work by Handling then el Alagui headed inches over from a Harris corner.

Within the space of 5 minutes referee Beaton showed the inconsistencies that infuriate supporters when he failed to take any action against Ian Black for a blatant barge into the back of El Alagui then sent off Handling for a mistimed challenge on substitute David Templeton.

Lee McCulloch went close with a header from a Macleod corner

as Rangers pressed for the winner then Boyd should have wrapped things up in the last minute but ballooned the ball over the bar from 5 yards and Hibs held on to see out the 90 minutes and take the game to extra time.

Rangers should have taken the lead four minutes after the restart but Macleod's cross just missed Boyd and Wallace at the back post.

Three minutes later Rangers were awarded a dubious free kick on the edge of the box and Oxley did well to save Boyd's effort.

Nicky Law finally gave Rangers the lead with a curling shot from just inside the box on the 100th minute after taking advantage of Scott Robertson's cramp. Robertson was immediately replaced by Owain Tudur Jones.

Bell did well to save a long range strike from Craig as Hibs looked to take the game to penalties but Rangers held on to win the tie.

Rangers; Bell, Zaluikas, McCulloch, McGregor, Wallace, Black, Forster, Macleod, Law, Boyd, Miller. Subs Simonsen, Smith, Aird, Hutton, Faure, Templeton, Shiels.

Hibs: Oxley, Gray, Forster, Hanlon, Stevenson, Robertson, Craig, Harris, Handling, Stanton, El Alagui. Subs Perntreiu, Nelson, Jones, Booth, S Allan, Heffernan, Cummings.

Attendance

18,138

Photo by John Preece

<http://www.photoboxgallery.com/jlp-photography>

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



Tess is still missing

New wave tank at University of Edinburgh opened

Competitions

EdinburghReportage

Architects charity

Tess the guide dog which has gone missing in Nairn has not yet been returned to her owner Fraser Stevenson. Do you have any news or information? Phone 0800 6888 409 if you do.

New climate change minister Amber Rudd MP found out first-hand about the UK's leading role in ocean energy research and development when she officially opened the world's most sophisticated tide and wave simulator in Edinburgh yesterday.

The FloWave Ocean Energy Research Facility, located at Edinburgh University's King's Buildings campus, is a 25 metre circular pool which can recreate waves and currents from coastlines around the UK, Europe and beyond.

[Read more here.](#)

We have a couple of great competitions running this week. You

can win tickets for Foodies or dinner for two at the Pommery Bar along with Tattoo tickets.

Click [here](#) for Foodies Festival tickets

Click [here](#) for Pommery Bar and Tattoo tickets.

The Fringe is now well underway and the Edinburgh International Festival will follow with the Edinburgh International Book Festival hot on its heels.

We would like to see your photos and videos of the sights you see and have your reviews of the shows you get along to.

Add your photos, videos and reviews [here](#).



Here is an innovative charity set up by The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland. Click on the picture to go to the charity [website](#).



Wave simulator officially opened in Edinburgh



New climate change minister Amber Rudd MP found out first-hand about the UK's leading role in ocean energy research and

development when she officially opened the world's most sophisticated tide and wave simulator in Edinburgh today.

The FloWave Ocean Energy Research Facility, located at Edinburgh University's King's Buildings campus, is a 25 metre circular pool which can recreate waves and currents from coastlines around the UK, Europe and beyond.

Minister Amber Rudd, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Climate Change, officially opened the facility and watched as the tank was put through its paces.

Speaking at the opening, Minister Rudd said:

"Wave and tidal energy has an important part to play in our low carbon energy mix and the UK is already at the forefront of research and development in this innovative sector.

"It's great to officially open and see first-hand FloWave's new cutting-edge marine energy testing facility at the University of Edinburgh. Testing devices in realistic ocean conditions is essential for driving this industry forward to commercial success."

The £10.5 million FloWave facility, funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the University of Edinburgh and Scottish Enterprise can simulate scale equivalents of waves up to 28 metres high and currents of up to 14 knots in the two metre deep tank, using 2.4 million litres of water.

<http://www.theedinburghreporter.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/FloWave-Sanctioned-Movie-2014-01-Backlit-1280x720.mp4>

Welcoming the Minister, FloWave Chief Executive Officer Stuart Brown said:

"FloWave is unique in that it can recreate real sea conditions combining waves and tides for almost any location or sea state in the world. Its circular design means waves have no

reflections and both waves and currents can come from multiple directions, to accurately mimic the real ocean environment. This means researchers and industrial partners can use the facility to develop and refine prototype devices before building and testing them full-scale for deployment in near-identical conditions at sea.

“We believe FloWave will help accelerate learning, improve performance and reduce costs for developers, and we expect FloWave will be used to test wave and tidal energy converters, floating offshore wind platforms, and specialist vessels to install and maintain offshore projects,” Brown says.

At present the UK wave and tidal power industry is evolving from single devices to arrays of multiple units – and FloWave has the capacity to test these too. The 25 metre tank enables testing at 1/20th scale, crucially filling the gap between small laboratory units and full-scale marine facilities such as the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in Orkney. The FloWave tank can generate currents up to 1.6 metres per second, regular waves up to one 700mm high, and ‘freak’ waves considerably larger than that. Scaling up, this allows it to simulate waves up to 28 metres high and currents of up to 14 knots; and unlike any other tank in the world, it can do all of this in combination and in any relative direction.

“With proper programming the FloWave tank can be made to accurately replicate at scale any point on the UK continental shelf, and almost all of the existing and planned wave and tidal generation sites around the world. If EMEC is the lab in the ocean, then FloWave is the ocean in the lab,” Brown concluded.

VIDEO – Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Soweto Spiritual Singers

✖ The Edinburgh Reporter was absolutely delighted to meet up with some of the Soweto Spiritual Singers appearing at this year's Underbelly. They are an acapella and instrumental group who sing with such wonderful harmony and rhythm. They are an uplifting bunch of people who have travelled the world extensively bringing their music to many countries.





They were part of the FIFA 2010 World Cup Opening Ceremony in Johannesburg and their shouting, dancing, clapping and drumming will have you swaying in your seats if not also dancing in the aisles.

The Soweto Spiritual Singers are appearing with complete exuberance and abandon at Underbelly Bristo Square Venue 300 at 17:00. [Ticket details here.](#)











Top comics stage sign language shows at Fringe



Top stand up comedians Jimeoin and Daniel Sloss will stage four British Sign Language shows at this year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

The shows will take place at the Edinburgh International Conference (Venue 150) and members of the deaf community will be able to take advantage of the presence of experienced interpreter Catherine King who is renowned for her ability to sign with perfect comic timing.

Catherine will interpret Jimeoin's 7.30pm shows and Daniel's 10pm performances on both Friday 15 and Saturday 23 August.

Earlier today, the Edinburgh Reporter caught up with the trio at the venue and they explained the background to these shows.

Jimeoin said: "Twenty odd years ago I was in an Irish Bar in George Square Glasgow when a couple of Irish guys came approached me. One of the guys was deaf abd his pal had been signing for him during the show as he watched it. I didn't realise at the time, but the Irish sign with one hand so he was able to sign with a pint in his other hand.

"My auntie was a social worker who did a lot of work with the deaf and that gave me the idea and I thought why don't we get someone to sign for the audience so we got a guy called Phil Bobbins to sign at my shows. He mainly did court work interpreting for witnesses and accused so he loved doing the shows."

After Jimeoin's interpreter left to work in England, he was introduced at Catherine by a mutual acquaintance and the pair have been together at the Fringe ever since.



Catherine added: "When I was a teenager, I saw neighbours who were from Northern Ireland and fairly new in the street standing outside signing. In retrospect it was probably a domestic but I stood there like an eejit thinking 'that's beautiful.' That encouraged me but you couldn't become an interpreter in Scotland at that time as there was no funding for courses up here and you had to go down south but I didn't have the funds to do that so I went to work in the Scotia Bar in Glasgow. A lot of deaf people used to come in from the social club and I would talk to them so I learned a lot of my stuff in there.

"I went and learned it as a second language and I had the feel

for it from these men, but I have had the best teacher that anyone could ever have in Scotland in Rita McDaid and please print that because she is one of the best people I have ever met. She is a deaf person, a native to BSL and so generous and in fact I have often used her as a consultant for shows.

“When Phil (Bobbins) moved own south a gap opened up. I started with four nights at the Pleasance with Adam Hill and expected that would be the end of my comedy career, but the next year I was introduced to Jimeoin and we took it from there.

“In Scotland interpreters are trained to do everything but eventually we narrow it down to something we are good at and I was never very good at mental health but I am quite good at comedy for some reason. I am a bit of a geek when it comes to comedy.

“Anyone who wants an interpreter can book us but we are not seeing much comedy outside the Festival being interpreted. The Glasgow Comedy Festival still haven’t picked it up but that’s because it hasn’t crossed their minds so it’s great that we are talking about it and maybe there will be other comedians out there who will think yeah. I don’t understand why every stand up doesn’t do it.”



Daniel agreed with Catherine’s assessment about the reason that so few comedians use the services of interpreters.

He said: “For me it was just ignorance, I just didn’t think about it. It never crossed my mind so for a lot of comics they just don’t realise that it is an option that it can be translated into BSL and you can entertain a whole group at stand up that you previously couldn’t

“The first show I did with Catherine was about four years ago at the Spiegel tent. That was my third show. I swear like a

trooper on stage but I am very conscious when Catherine is there. The only times I have noticed deaf people in the audience was in the Spiegelent when a couple in the front row spent their whole time looking at Catherine and concentrating really hard and I thought 'They're not laughing, I'm dying here' but at the end they clapped and I realised how hard it must have been to keep up as I talk very fast and when I looked round Catherine was almost catching fire at the side of the stage trying to keep up. Last year we had a woman in the front row who was shouting and cheering and really loving it but she was about three seconds behind.

EICC Head of Events Karen Wood said: "As a venue we are leaders in accessibility and are delighted that two of our best loved Fringe performers are taking their show to the widest possible audience."

Cannabis cultivation found in Trinity Road



Police have seized drugs with an estimated street value of around £187,000 following the discovery of a cannabis cultivation.

Approximately 264 cannabis plants were recovered after officers working in the capital executed a warrant at a business premises on Trinity Road.

Two men, aged 29 and 32, were cautioned and charged with drug offences and are due to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court today (5 August).

Detective Chief Inspector Kenny Gray said: "Our officers are working hard to get drugs off the streets and this significant recovery demonstrates that.

"Anyone with any information about criminal activity is urged to contact Police Scotland on 101 or phone the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – SEMMARIT

Something else from Finland!



SEMMARIT from Finland bring out the biggest ghetto blaster ever!

Semmarit is a unique cross-artistic a cappella show group of 21 men from Finland. The music and lyrics, choreographies, arrangements, basically everything this wild but warm-hearted bunch does on stage is self-made and unique. Even the stage itself: a full-size lorry that transforms into a giant ghetto blaster in just a couple of minutes!

Semmarit-show is a mixture of music, humour, dance and drama, spiced with guts and glory. These guys are famous for their fun, strong and mind-blowing live performance. It's not a band, it's not a choir – it's something else from the North for you to figure out!

The group has made various tours abroad including Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, Estonia, Portugal, U.S. and Canada. During 2010-2011 Semmarit visited China four times for various

tv and live performances. It has also had its own TV shows and twice a top 40 number 1. selling album in Finland. Semmarit has published 10 CDs and two DVDs.

Semmarit bring out their Giant Ghetto Blaster Truck Show on three nights only:

Aug 21st at 8pm at

West Parliament Square

Aug 22nd at 8pm at

Outside St Giles Cathedral

(The Royal Mile, near the Fringe Shop)

Aug 23rd at 8pm at

West Parliament Square

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Frequently Asked Questions

 **Venue: Dropkick Murphy's, Venue 289.**

Dates: 31 July – 23 Aug (not 3,10, 17)

Time: 14:45 (ends 15:35)

-

Frequently Asked Questions is Fiona's attempt to purge herself of annoyance by burdening the audience with it instead, under the guise of stand up comedy. Having watched her own face crying whilst being dumped on Skype, Fiona realised that throughout her life she has wasted time on the wrong type of

people, the wrong type of work and the wrong type of play. She explores the convenience of online boyfriends and the inconvenience of real ones; the frustration of having to teach children without recourse to violence (a job left for the greyer grass of entertaining the slightly dead); and various attempts at serenity which have always ended in tears, vomit, or a dolphin induced hairline fracture. On an even more sombre note, she also shares the heartbreak of losing her best friend. To yoga.

Fiona Herbert is an award winning storyteller, being the first woman to win the national Tall Tales Competition in 2012. This makes her an Oscar winner, as the prize was a gnome called Oscar. She has regularly appeared both as guest and as guest host at Jo Caulfield's Speakeasy, a monthly sell out show featuring comedy, stories, music and magic at the Netherbow Theatre, Edinburgh. She has told tales on radio and television, in Scotland and abroad. Frequently Asked Questions is her first solo stand up show.
Tickets: FREE. Unticketed.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe REVIEW – Deborah Frances- White: Half a Can of Worms ****

A slide at the beginning of Deborah Frances-White's show at the Pleasance Dome announces that "This is a true story." And not comedy truth. Actual truth. A sly joke at the audience's expense? No, Half a Can of Worms is seventy-five minutes of

performance supported by photographic evidence, the detail of remembered telephone conversation, and evident feeling.

It's the tale of Frances-White's amateur sleuthery into the circumstances of her adoption as a newborn baby; an engaging mix of comedy and story-telling in the vein of Dave Gorman's breakthrough *Are You Dave Gorman?* And while the one-liners may not come as quickly as Gorman's, the humour is varied and clever, and there is more at stake. Sense of self. Nature versus nurture. The tension between creation and privacy. The relative roles of friends and family. The funny sound of the word "rural".

Having founded the improv company The Spontaneity Shop in 1997, there's a sense in this show that Ms. Frances-White has been honing her skills in anticipation of doing justice to this particular story. Visual jokes, puns, observation and story-telling skills draw the audience in as her meditation on the adage that "You can choose your friends, but not your family" builds to a heartfelt conclusion. On the road from Shoreditch to Scotland via Australia, Spain and New Zealand, Frances-White shares what she has learned – not least how to hire and fire Antipodean private detectives at reasonable prices.

The comedian affects surprise that no one adopted is in the healthy crowd for this early-Festival performance, but her personal tale has the universal resonance to keep us rapt. Even though Frances-White admits that she began writing the show while her investigations continued, your reviewer was happy to depart believing *Half a Can of Worms* is a warm, amusing, actually true story.

Half a Can of Worms is on at the Pleasance Dome (Venue 23) at 3:45pm, Aug 5-11 and 13-25.

Submitted by [Ricky Brown](#)



Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Last call

 UK Premiere

LAST CALL

C Venues – Cubed | 31st July – 25th August (not 12) | 19:55pm
(1hr)

Teatro Labora (Finland) Welcomes you to the World Championships of Boozing 2014! It doesn't matter if you're a pitiful alcoholic or a hypocrite tea-totaller, this invitation is for you!

Come and see what happens when the most popular sports event in the world hits Edinburgh. Juha Hippi performs in the award-winning one-man show (2013 best monologue in Finland award) .

[Tickets here.](#)



Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Chaplin

 UK Premiere

CHAPLIN

The Pleasance Courtyard – Forth | 30th July – 25th August (not 11) | 12:20pm (70mins)

Fringe First winning Ace Production (Continuous Growth) bring the life of Charlie Chaplin from the silver screen to the stage. The story of Chaplin is as great as all stories he gave life to on the silver screen. Growing up in the London slums, he put the world at his feet through his talent and tenacious work and became one of the world's most famous and beloved persons. His life is a classic story of someone who has nothing but wins everything. It is a story of what fame and money cannot buy; a story of someone who is forced to put it all on the line for the sake of his belief in love, art and freedom.

Pleasance Courtyard Venue 33 [Tickets here.](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe Review – The Trial of Jane Fonda ****



As the crowds file in to the rather regal Music Hall of George Street's Assembly Rooms, six men already grace the stage. A priest, a smartly dressed lawyer, a wheelchair bound amputee, a bar owner and a southern man engage in light, inaudible conversation and become comfortable with the stage. However, the most powerful performer is yet to arrive.

In the summer of 1988, a meeting occurs between an famed actress turned activist and the people of a small Connecticut town. As these passionate people try to blockade the actresses attempts to film her new movie in their town, she arrives to justify the actions that led these men to resent her so

greatly.

Much like the people it presents, *The Trial of Jane Fonda* is an indelibly passionate affair. The play itself is crafted as a heated debate between the angered veterans of the Vietnam War and the actress who condemned her country's actions. The beauty of its execution is that there is no supporting cast – this is a production with seven determined lead performances, each with an opinion that doesn't influence the driving force of Terry Jastrow's powerful script. Each performer has their own moment of passionate reasoning, and it would be assumed that the intention of the production was to show Fonda as the true war hero. What Trastow does is create a Jane Fonda that is wholly flawed, subdued and lacking Hollywood pretence. She is a passionate woman, not a passionate movie star.

This is, of course, thanks to a riveting performance from the terrific Anne Archer. Her work here varies from, as mentioned earlier, subdued, through to her striking portrayals of Fonda's speeches on radio and at war marches. In conversation with the men around her, she is quiet and well spoken. In her flashback sequences to pastimes, she mirrors Fonda's ardent bravado with a clenched fist and sharp tongued attitude. She is utterly mesmerising to watch.

Archer shines alongside a supporting cast that is just as impressive. It would be far too easy for *The Trial of Jane Fonda* to fall in to the trap of becoming a one-sided, condescending war drama, and the fact that it doesn't is testimony to its slick execution. This is theatre with a bold, bellowing voice.

[For tickets, head to the Assembly Rooms Fringe website](#)