

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Soweto Afro-Pop Opera

✖ Soweto Afro-Pop Opera, has Toured across Europe. Showcasing light Opera, Classical Standards with African flair and Township Acappella. Steadily building International reputation for presenting exceptional musical standard and versatility.

At Underbelly Bristo Square Venue 300

July 30 -31 August 1-11, 13025

[Tickets here.](#)

Park your bike here



The council has put up three kinds of on-street cycle storage for cyclists to trial across the city. This newly-installed secure bicycle parking will soon be open for use in a cycling first for Scotland.

City of Edinburgh Council is trying to address bike parking issues amongst tenement residents.

The capital is the first local authority in Scotland to offer the facility to residents as part of a partnership with [CHAMP](#), a European project committed to promoting cycling provision in seven leading cities.

The different types of bike storage include lockers, hinged units and roll-top units – allowing the potential for wider use to be evaluated.

The Council is currently in the process of installing the mixture of units in five locations – four in the Southside (South Oxford Street, Warrender Park Crescent (2 sites) and Lonsdale Terrace) and one in the West End (Douglas Crescent). Local residents are now able to join waiting lists to use the units, which are set to be open for storage by the end of August, and will be selected on a first come first served basis.

Transport Convener, Councillor Lesley Hinds, said: “We have pledged to promote active travel and sustainable transport, and such want to make cycling as accessible as possible for everyone here in Edinburgh.

“By making bicycle parking easier for those living in tenements we hope to encourage even more people to take up cycling, helping us to achieve our ambitious target to have 10% of all trips and 15% of journeys to work by bike by 2020.” A survey to assess the desire for bike parking last year showed a positive response from residents, who said on-street secure storage would keep stairwells clear of bikes and could be an incentive for people to take up cycling, amongst other comments.

Use of the parking will be free initially, though a small charge, around £5 a month, is expected to be applied eventually, to deal with maintenance and management of the facilities.

Evaluation of the scheme will continue throughout the trial period, with a report to go to the Transport and Environment Committee in a year’s time including a recommendation on the potential for a city-wide roll-out.

For more information on using the units, email cycling@edinburgh.gov.uk.

Police appeal for help finding missing Bonnyrigg man

Police report that a Bonnyrigg man has been missing since 17 July and there are concerns about his welfare.

They are appealing for information on the whereabouts of Andrew Durie, who is 28 years old, was last in Ferry Road around 2.30pm on 17th July on a number 21 bus.

Andrew is described as 6ft tall, well built, wearing glasses, and was last seen wearing a Rangers football top. It's thought he may be with a as yet unidentified woman.

Inspector Alan Hogarth said: "We are appealing for Andrew to get in touch with police, as his family are worried that they haven't heard from him for a number of days.

"Similarly if anyone has seen Andrew or has information that can help us trace him, they urged to contact police on 101 and quote incident 307 of 14th July."

VIDEO – Protest for Palestine march



Local MSP Malcolm Chisholm and Aamer Anwar the leading Scottish advocate with a particular interest in human rights attended the protest in Edinburgh's city centre earlier, but there were many ordinary people there too.

We asked Mick Napier Secretary of the Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign why the organisers felt this march was necessary which he explains in our video report. There was no one group protesting today, rather a collection of different people who all felt moved enough to come along.



Edinburgh march shows support for Palestinians – with photos



A march through central Edinburgh by a couple of thousand people brought the public transport system in the city centre to a halt, but it was nonetheless a peaceful show of support for those in Gaza caught up in a crisis situation who they wish to help.

The protesters marched from The Mound along Princes Street to the First Minister's residence at Bute House in Charlotte Square. There was a temporary delay on Princes Street as it was hoped the protesters would be persuaded away from Princes Street to George Street, but they pressed on to the West End, causing all public transport to be diverted or brought to a halt.

Human rights lawyer Aamer Anwar and Malcolm Chisholm MSP both addressed the crowds from the back of a pick-up truck outside

Bute House.

If they had found the First Minister at home they would have had some support from him as he called only yesterday evening for the UK Government to do more to help those caught up in Gaza.

Alex Salmond wrote to the Prime Minister yesterday calling on him to show equal determination in the UK Government's approach to the situation in Gaza as they have shown in regard to the atrocity involving Malaysian Airlines flight MH17.

In particular Mr Salmond called on the UK Government to make a stronger and more urgent response to the crisis in Gaza and – further to the statement by Navi Pillay, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, about the failure to distinguish between civilians and combatants – to support an UN investigation.

Commenting, Mr Salmond said: “The UK rightly called for a UN resolution to guarantee unfettered access to the crash site of flight MH17 and I was pleased to see this gained the support of the Security Council. It is imperative that an international investigation into the cause of the crash proceeds swiftly and effectively, and that the results of that investigation are appropriately acted upon.

“The efforts of the international community, working in concert, reflect the real benefits of a multilateral approach to matters of global security.

“It is with that cooperative spirit in mind that I have urged the UK Government to demonstrate equal determination in cooperating with international partners to resolve the rapidly deteriorating situation in the Middle East.

“The ground offensive in Gaza is a serious and worrying development. The lives lost in this conflict are individual human tragedies and the killing of innocent civilians, be they

Palestinian or Israeli, is to be utterly condemned.

“The UN Security Council has called for an immediate cessation of hostilities, emphasising the need to improve the humanitarian situation, and I add my voice to theirs to reiterate that, in the view of the Scottish Government, the rocket attacks on Israel are unacceptable and should stop, as should the Israeli offensive in Gaza.

“The situation in Gaza represents a humanitarian crisis of grave proportions. More than 800 people, most of them civilians, have already lost their lives and over 5,000 have been injured. The UN states that more 118,000 Gazans are sheltering in UN schools. The attack on the school in Beit Hanoun on 24 July, condemned by the UN Secretary General, only serves to underline the desperate need for international action to stop the killing of innocent civilians.”

One of the organisers behind the march, Rahman Ali, told The Edinburgh Reporter: “Edinburgh held a family friendly demonstration two weeks ago, there were just over 1000 people in attendance at the foot of the Mound, however this was completely ignored by most mainstream media.

“Since last week’s protests began to make news in social media circles resulting in the protest in London and Glasgow being given airtime on mainstream media there has been a slow and gradual change in reporting.”







Today, the protest in Edinburgh which had been promoted on Facebook [here](#).

Ahead of the event Mr Ali said: "We are expecting over 2000 people to attend this demonstration with many people who are not connected to social media also attending. "

Police Scotland cannot yet tell us how many officers were out

on the streets to ensure public safety earlier, but we estimate around thirty or more and The Edinburgh Reporter was told on the street that there had been no arrests, although formal confirmation may be made later today by the media office.

Our video report follows although there [are short bursts of video on Instagram here](#) like this one below.

St Nicholas Court holding summer fayre next weekend

Port of Leith Housing Association's (PoLHA) St Nicholas Court sheltered housing complex is hosting its annual summer fayre next Saturday 2 August 2014.

The complex, on Leith's Ferry Road, will have stalls including a raffle, tombola, home bakes, bric-a-brac, books, DVDS and toys. There will also be a BBQ and face painting for children.

Admission is 50p and all funds raised will support activities for residents including day trips, theatre trips, exercise classes and lunch clubs.

Maureen Tait, Sheltered Housing Services Manager manages the complex. She said: "This is our 17th summer fayre and it's one of the highlights on our social calendar. Many of the residents really enjoy it as they get to interact with the local community and we're hoping this great weather we've been experiencing continues.

"We normally raise over £1000 at our summer fayres and we'll

be looking to achieve the same, if not more, this time as the money goes towards enjoyable and interactive social activities for the residents.”

The summer fayre will run from 12pm to 2pm at St Nicholas Court on 74 Ferry Road.

Five things you need to know today



Mikaeel Kular

Edinburgh Festival Fringe

Craigmillar Survey

Dancing Teacakes

At the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival today

The mother of three year-old Mikaeel Kular whose disappearance sparked a community response in North Edinburgh of monumental proportions in January appeared at the High Court yesterday and pleaded guilty to killing the toddler.

She will be sentenced next month [Read more here..](#)

Even if you live in Edinburgh it might be fun to stay in a

hotel for a night in the city centre? VisitScotland and Edinburgh Fringe have teamed up to offer you just that along with £100 for tickets.

[Entry details here.](#)

The council voted in favour of funding for their Connected Communities projects in North Edinburgh to help the North Edinburgh News and in Craigmillar to set up a news offering of some kind.

The local neighbourhood office would love to hear from you if you live or work in the area and have any views on what would be the best way to inform locals of news in their area. They have set up a survey and [you can take part in that here.](#)

The chocolate snack, which had a starring role in the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games, has enjoyed an unexpected sales surge.

Tunnock's teacakes – with their distinctive red and silver foil wrappers – were one of a number of Scottish landmarks and products to feature in the celebration at Celtic Park on Wednesday evening.

In the 24 hours following the ceremony, Waitrose's sales of the chocolate-coated marshmallow treats leapt by 62 per cent.

Waitrose is attributing the sudden spike to the product's high profile role in Wednesday's spectacle.

David Jones, Supply Chain Director, Waitrose said: "We usually expect to see people marking major sporting events with a barbecue or a beer with friends and family – but the sudden demand for Tunnock's teacakes, isn't something we anticipated. We will certainly be stocking up to meet customer

demand.”

Today's pick of the Festival has to be the Commonwealth Orchestra tonight at the Festival Theatre.

In 1965 Britain's leading jazz musician, Tubby Hayes, put together an Orchestra to play at the time of the Commonwealth Conference. With the Games in full swing in Glasgow, we present an updated band that plays some of the music of the mid-60's – by Tubby, Jimmy Deuchar, and John Dankworth, and brings it up to date, with music by a host of great Commonwealth composers. The band is packed with top Scottish and Commonwealth musicians and led by the brilliant pianist, bandleader and ex-Mercury Prize nominee, Zoe Rahman. We also take the opportunity to present our finest young stars – Edinburgh's own Schools Jazz Orchestra – finally making it to a major stage in the Festival. And to make it all the more appealing we're making every ticket £10!

Director and pianist: Zoe Rahman

Trumpets: Lorenzo Blignaut, Kevin Ferris, Ian Smith, Gavin Spowart

Trombones: Kenny Hamilton, Keith Hutton, Rick Taylor, Fayyaz Virji

Saxes: Graeme Blevins, Keith Edwards, Bill Fleming, Lucien Johnson, Cassie Kinoshi

Bass: Dave Young

Drums: Terry Clarke

Part of the Glasgow 2014 Cultural Programme

[Tickets here.](#)

Saturday in Edinburgh – what's on today



SATURDAY 26TH JULY 2014

Meet the Gruffalo! The Gruffalo is in Scotland and he's coming to visit! Wish him a happy 15th birthday in person at 11am or 2pm (if you're brave enough...) Fun activities in the store from 11am to 2.30pm. [Waterstones West End](#), Princes Street. Details on 0131 226 2666.

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

Medusa Madness: for ages 5-11. 2pm, [Blackhall Library](#), 56 Hillhouse Road. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

GENERATION tours at Modern ONE: free, discussion-led tours of the GENERATION exhibition, focusing on key themes and artists. 11-11.45am and 1-1.45pm, [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art One](#), Belford Road. Free and unticketed.

Out of the Blue Flea Market: over 45 stalls bursting with clothes, jewellery, bric-a-brac, small furniture, music, books and much more. Coffee and cake available to purchase in the Drill Hall Cafe. 10am-3pm, today and last Saturday of every month, [Out of the Blue Drill Hall](#), 36 Dalmeny Street.

Family Fun Garden Session: come and learn about herbs – taste them, smell them, and learn how to use them. Find out how to

get new herb plants for free and make herbal delights to take home. For all ages, mid-morning snack provided. Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty and wet! In very bad weather indoor activities will be provided. 10am-12noon, [North Edinburgh Arts](#) (next to Muirhouse Library.) Children must be accompanied. Pop-in cafe also open 10am-12noon.

The Modern Gaelic Collections: a curator's choice of intriguing and unusual modern Gaelic material, illustrating Gaelic literature and learning as well as the work of *An Commun Gaidhealach*. Enjoy an afternoon of discovery, from Shakespeare to Sorley MacLean, Ladybird to *An Leabhar Mor*. An event presented in English, with an opportunity for browsing and discussion in Gaelic and English. Suitable for Gaelic learners and speakers. 2.30-3.30pm, [National Library of Scotland](#), George IV Bridge. Free. Book via [website](#) or by calling 0131 623 3734.

Muirhouse Photography Group: Would you like to learn how to take better photos? Muirhouse Photography Group can help you to gain new skills and give you the chance to exhibit your work. For more information call in to [Muirhouse Library](#) or call them on 0131 529 5528.

The Lost Gardens of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh: discover the stories of the lost gardens from over 300 years ago, including Holyrood, Trinity Hospital and Leith Walk. What were they like, who worked in them, and why did the gardens disappear? 1-4pm, Real Life Science Studio, John Hope Gateway, [Royal Botanic Garden](#). Free, open to all, no booking required. Also available on Sunday 27th July.

Queen Margaret student helped by Saltire foundation



A psychology and sociology student for Queen Margaret University (QMU), Edinburgh, has begun a world-class communications internship with global healthcare company, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), thanks to the Saltire Foundation.

The prestigious Saltire Foundation programme, 'Saltire Scholars', opens the door of the world's leading companies to some of Scotland's most talented students and provides them with an unparalleled chance to engage with global thought leaders and entrepreneurs.

Peter Jacobs, 22, will spend nine weeks as part of the communications team at GSK in Worthing, West Sussex, where he will be working on internal communication and community engagement projects.

Record numbers of ambitious young Scots have been attracted to this year's cohort of Saltire Scholars, the internship programme run by The Saltire Foundation, Scotland's world-class entrepreneurial leadership programme.

The number of Scholars has risen by nearly a third, with 132 undergraduate students taking part – up from 103 in 2013, which itself was a record-beating Undergraduate Programme. The cohort will be working amongst 44 host companies and over 5 continents across the world.

Professor Petra Wend, Principal of Queen Margaret University, said: "The Saltire Scholars programme provides students with global business experience and we are delighted that one of our top students has been able to benefit from these outstanding learning opportunities."

"It's very rewarding to see QMU students like Peter creating their own goals, rising to the challenges set by high profile businesses like GSK, gaining exposure to a corporate environment and being able to offer their own ideas and solutions to business issues.

"There is no doubt that the skills, knowledge and life experience gained during Peter's internship will give him a competitive advantage when entering the jobs market."

Professor Wend continued: "Queen Margaret University is committed to enhancing the student experience. As a direct result of Peter's positive experiences with GSK we're continuing to strengthen our Saltire Foundation University Partner status. This should open up more world class placement and networking opportunities for future QMU students."

Commenting on his communications internship experience with GSK so far, Peter Jacobs said: "I'm very grateful for the opportunity I've been given by the Saltire Foundation. Before my internship I had no idea of what to expect and generally had very little idea of what happened within GSK. Being honest I was slightly nervous about the idea of working for a company as big as GSK and the thought had crossed my mind that I would end up as an office coffee boy, as many of my friends are currently experiencing.

"However, I can say now that my experience at GSK has fully exceeded every expectation that I had. It's been a personal journey for me and has been great to work with so many nice people who are willing to take time out of their day to help me with my project even when they all had a million and one other things to do."

"Overall, it's been a great journey for me. Working for a company that saves lives has really opened my eyes to the world of pharmaceuticals. It has given me a lot to think about for the future and what career path I would like to follow.

The internship has allowed me to learn new transferrable skills and make new connections.”

Sandy Kennedy, chief executive of the Saltire Foundation, said: “It’s very gratifying to see such a surge in the numbers of young people, including students from Queen Margaret University, who are keen to build their confidence, skills and ambition.

“Scotland’s commercial reputation in the global arena can only be enhanced by this fantastic response, which beats all previous years, and we are delighted to welcome these confident, entrepreneurial and driven young potential executives.”

Peter hopes to pursue a career in events after completing his degree at QMU.

Peter has already started blogging about his internship experience with GlaxoSmithKline on the Saltire Foundation website. [You can follow Peter’s journey here.](#)

Roxburghe sold in largest deal since 2007



The four-star hotel in Charlotte Square has been sold in what is described as ‘the largest single asset hospitality transaction in Edinburgh since 2007’.

The Roxburghe, which is owner operated under an IHG franchise as part of the Crowne Plaza group of hotels, has been sold to US based investment management firm Starwood Capital,

following a competitive process managed by JLL's Hotel & Hospitality Group in Scotland and London. Starwood Capital's Global Real Estate portfolio includes more than 2,200 hotels.

Keith McBain, Director, JLL, said: "This is a landmark deal for the Edinburgh and Scottish market, underlining its status as a hugely attractive destination for investors. The hotel, which has 199 guest rooms, has seen continual investment to improve the facilities for visitors since it was purchased in the late 1990s and we expect the new owners to continue that trend."

George Nicholas, Executive Vice President, JLL, said: "Similar to the sale of Turnberry, we placed this off-market opportunity with a small number of capable investors who had recently expressed strong interest in Scotland, and as such were able to transact the hotel with minimal disturbance to the business or attention to the owner. Many owners and investors prefer this method of transaction.

"We see this interest in Scotland as an increasing trend, with money from domestic and overseas sources – particularly North America, China and elsewhere in the Far East. There is real appreciation of the added value, compared with London, and Edinburgh along with a few other Scottish cities are best placed to benefit from that sentiment."

The Georgian properties in which The Roxburghe is situated date back to 1791, although the hotel has grown into adjoining properties through the years.

A major refurbishment was undertaken in 2013, which marked the introduction of an Intercontinental Hotel Group franchise and the hotel was rebranded as Crowne Plaza Edinburgh – The Roxburghe.

Charlotte Square is an historic capital location and is home to the First Minister's official residence, Bute House, as well as a number of National Trust for Scotland properties.

Mikaeel – mother pleads guilty



A mother has today admitted responsibility for the death of her three-year-old son.

At the High Court in Edinburgh, Rosdeep Adekoya pled guilty to the culpable homicide of Mikaeel Kular after his body was discovered in Fife earlier this year.

The 34-year-old also pled guilty to a charge of attempting to defeat the ends of justice.

✖ Mikaeel was originally reported missing from his home in Ferry Gait Crescent by his mother on the morning of Thursday 16th January.

His body was later recovered in a wooded area of Kirkcaldy. Adekoya, 34, was subsequently charged with causing his death.

She will be sentenced later.

Police Scotland launched a major search operation and investigation after Mikaeel was reported missing.

Assistant Chief Constable Malcolm Graham, Major Crime and Public Protection, said: “Mikaeel’s disappearance and death deeply impacted on his family. It also resonated across the community in which he lived.

“During the initial stages of the inquiry we appealed for information about Mikaeel’s whereabouts as concern for him grew. The local community assisted us greatly in that search.

What followed was an incredible level of support and assistance to one of the biggest missing person inquiries Police Scotland has undertaken.

“Resources from across Police Scotland were deployed in the search for Mikaeel. These resources included specialist investigative and search support to local officers from Edinburgh and neighbouring divisions. Over two days officers were joined by members of the public in trying to find any trace of him.

“Sadly our inquiries led us to Kirkcaldy the night after he was reported missing and the discovery of his body.

“I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the public for all of their help during the search efforts and the continued support provided to police and Mikaeel’s family during the course of this investigation.

Incidents such as this are thankfully extremely rare and I would like to assure the public that whenever we receive reports of concern for children we investigate the matter thoroughly and should any criminal offences be detected, then those responsible will be brought to justice.”

Advocate depute Alex Prentice told the court: “The basis for the plea tendered being accepted is that the Crown accepts that the accused had no intention to kill Mikaeel and that the assault perpetrated upon him, although severe, fell short of the wicked recklessness required for murder.”

Speaking after the plea, **a Crown Office spokesperson** said: “Today Rosdeep Adekoya has pled guilty to the culpable homicide of her three-year-old son, Mikaeel Kular. She has also admitted attempting to defeat the ends of justice by concealing his body in Fife and falsely claiming that he was a missing person, instigating a large scale search.

“It would be inappropriate for us to comment further until the

case has concluded and sentence has been passed.”



Our Dynamic Earth goes digital



Later today Edinburgh’s five star visitor attraction Our Dynamic Earth is going digital, with the launch of a new multimedia guide which can be downloaded as a free app.

Available in French, German, Spanish, Italian and English, the visitor companion provides foreign language translations for each section of the attraction, while also offering audio tracks, providing more in-depth knowledge. It is broken into over 20 ‘tracks’ with each one representing a particular gallery or feature in a way that is easy to understand, interesting and fun.

The new guide will further enhance the experience for guests and make Earth’s extraordinary history even more accessible to visitors from all around the world.

Eilidh Massie, marketing manager for Dynamic Earth commented: “These guides are not just helpful for our foreign visitors, but will also add a new dimension for English speakers too. We’re especially excited about the app, as it will make the attraction more interactive than ever before, and gives visitors access to even more information, right in the palm of their hand.”

As well as being available as a downloadable app for

smartphones and tablets, the guide is also available as a hand-held device which can be borrowed free of charge from reception. The Our Dynamic Earth Multimedia Guide app can be downloaded from www.dynamicearth.co.uk

US firm acquires Martin Currie



The fund manager Martin Currie has agreed this week to become a wholly-owned affiliate of US firm Legg Mason.

The transaction has been approved by the boards of both companies, and is expect to be completed during the final quarter of 2014 subject to regulatory approval.

Legg Mason says that it needs the Edinburgh-based firm's expertise in active equity strategies. The terms of the transaction have not been disclosed but the Edinburgh investment house has just under £10billion of assets under management employing just under 50 in a team much depleted from that of 20 years ago.

A senior figure in the industry said: "It is enormously sad to see a once proud independent business capitulate in this fashion: an admission of failure presented as a good deal.

"Most commentators marvel that the top management have lasted so long. To see them tied in by new contracts smacks of more self-interest. Legg Mason may come to regret this. The only question is how long it will take them to do so."

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Arrest that Poet!



An unorthodox one-person show about a slam poet's real-life arrests at environmental protests has been shortlisted for the Edinburgh Fringe Sustainable Practice Award. The award, supported by the Centre for Sustainable Practice in the Arts and Creative Carbon Scotland, aims to highlight and celebrate artists who are engaging with the topic of climate change in creative and innovative ways.

Have you ever climbed up a power station, D-locked yourself to a construction company's staircase or been sued for £5 million? Until recently, slam poet Danny Chivers certainly hadn't. So how did a quiet boy from Bristol end up being spied on by undercover cops, battling criminal charges and trying not to thump Richard Madeley, all in the name of a safer planet?

Obviously, the only sensible way to stand up to oppressive police tactics is to turn them into an Edinburgh Fringe show. So now storytelling meets poetry in this darkly funny true tale of rhyming and rebellion, featuring insider stories from anti-fracking protests, outrageous mass arrests and a close encounter with notorious police spy Mark Kennedy.

Danny Chivers has been performing stand-up poetry since 2006. He's an Oxford Hammer & Tongue Slam Champion, and was a semi-

finalist in the BBC Radio 4 National Poetry Slam. In his first full-length stage show, Danny weaves together lively, humorous poetry with real-life tales of the strange events surrounding his four arrests at environmental and social justice protests.

Danny's show, "Arrest That Poet!" is part of the PBH Free Fringe.

Venue: The Stafford Centre, 103 Broughton St

Date: 2nd – 13th August (not 7th)

Time: 6.15pm (60 mins)

Entry: free, unticketed (PBH Free Fringe)

Until Now: Ting Tong Chang at Minto House, Edinburgh



In the solo exhibition, *Until Now*, London-based Taiwanese artist Ting Tong Chang presents five pieces of kinetic sculpture. By delicately utilizing explosives, light and smoke as sculptural elements, these works evoke religious notions of magic, miracle and resurrection to address ideas of success and failure in political speech.

Chang takes inspiration from Hugo Chavez's failed 1992 coup d'état (Operation Zamora) in which, angered by the acceptance

of the Washington Consensus and implementation of neoliberal reforms by President Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela, Lieutenant-Colonel Hugo Chavez launched an attempted coup with the mission of overwhelming key military and communications installations. Due to numerous betrayals and errors, Chavez's forces were unable to seize power and subsequently, Chavez and a small group of rebels were surrounded in the Military Museum and forced to surrender in front of the national TV channels.

The resulting speech immediately brought Chavez into the national spotlight, as many Venezuelans, particularly those from the poorer sections of society, came to see him as a figure who stood up against government corruption and kleptocracy.

Chavez, driven by a mystical sense of authority, remarked that he had failed only for now (por ahora).

To Chang, a coup is not just a sudden and violent deposition of a government, but through new technology, it also becomes a form of expression—a play of rhetoric, religious rituals and the situation at hand.

In the 21st century, where the revolutionary subject is digitalized and mediated by technology, any coup has the potential to remain open ended...until now.

TING-TONG CHANG Until Now

Minto House, Matthew Gallery,
20 Chambers St Edinburgh EH1 1JZ,
(opposite the National Museum of Scotland)

25 July – 8 August, 2014, Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm
opening: 6-8pm, Friday, 25 July

Submitted by [Alice Klarr](#)



Capability Scotland's song for the Games

✖ Capability Scotland Musicians hit the right note

Fifteen talented musicians from Capability Scotland services across the country, have created their own song to celebrate the 'friendly games'.

The disability charity received £10,000 from the Big Lottery CelebrateIt fund to write, record and film their own song to celebrate the upcoming Commonwealth Games. On Saturday, the first live performance of 'When Your Voice Is But A Whisper' took place at Upper Springland in Perth, and today a music video to accompany the potential hit has been released online.

The song gave fifteen Capability Scotland musicians, from Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, Fife and Elderslie, an opportunity to go in to a recording studio for the first time and receive the full superstar treatment.

John McGloughlin, an enthusiastic musician from Wallace Court in Elderslie, said "they will think we have been hired by Simon Cowell."

The writing of the song has been a collaborative project, connecting people that use Capability Scotland's services across the country. 'When Your Voice Is But A Whisper' is themed around friendship and having your voice heard, two themes customers felt were very important to them.

The project has used sound beam technology, an inclusive tool that allows users to choose their desired musical instrument

and control the sound through movement. The project has been a great example of collaborative and inclusive work across Capability Scotland services.

Dana O'Dwyer, Capability Scotland Chief Executive, said: "The fifteen musicians have put in a phenomenal amount of work to get to today. The project has been a great opportunity for customers to get involved in something they are passionate about; it has given our musicians a platform to express themselves in a way they truly enjoy. We hope everyone else likes the song and the video as much as we do. "

Capability Scotland worked closely with LA Media UK to produce the video and with Loopmaniac recording studios to record the song.

You can watch the video on the Capability Scotland website – <http://www.capability-scotland.org.uk>

Follow Capability Scotland on Twitter: @Capability_Scot, or like them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CapabilityScotland>

Submitted by [Lauren Pluss](#)

Five things you need to know today



Edinburgh's Worst Drivers catches council vehicle on pavement


Digital Treasure Hunt

Playday

Edinburgh Weather

Bill McLaren Trophy

Edinburgh's Worst Drivers has caught a council community safety van parked on a pavement in Cockburn Street. [Read more here.](#)

 Details of a new app to keep the kids happy this summer developed by University of Edinburgh can be found [here](#).



Edinburgh has not been experiencing the same balmy sunshine as Glasgow has this week. Some of our evenings have turned quite foggy as we know. Here is an example from Twitter

*Thick haar over Musselburgh, taken from Prestonpans.
pic.twitter.com/gaP4FFRtyG*

– Del Edmond (@evil_del) [July 24, 2014](#)

Now it's your turn. Send us your photos or videos showing off Edinburgh's varied and unpredictable weather for showcasing on our [EdinburghReportage storyboard here.](#)

LORETTO School has announced its inaugural Under 10 rugby tournament in partnership with the Bill McLaren Foundation.

The 'Bill McLaren Foundation and Loretto School Under 10 Rugby Tournament', to take place on Sunday, 28th September at Newfield playing fields at Loretto School, has already attracted a large number of teams from all over Scotland – from Perthshire, East Lothian and Edinburgh to Fife and the Scottish Borders.

Bill McLaren was a Scottish rugby union commentator, teacher, journalist and one time rugby player. Until his retirement in 2002, he was known as 'the voice of rugby' and he was renowned throughout the sport – his enthusiasm and a memorable turn of phrase endeared him to many.

Following Bill McLaren's death in 2010, The Bill McLaren Foundation was set up in Bill's name, with the support of his family, to serve three purposes :

- To develop and promote the sport of rugby union and its values
- To encourage and provide sporting opportunities for young people
- To create an educative centre which will include the Bill McLaren Archive

Jonathan Hewat, Director of External Affairs at Loretto School said, "Bill believed passionately in encouraging children, all shapes and sizes to get involved in sport and to do their best for themselves, for their team and at the same time to honour the game. He believed that sport and rugby in particular was a great way of helping youngsters develop life skills. We are thrilled to be working in partnership with the Bill McLaren Foundation to ensure that this Under 10 rugby tournament instils respect for team mates, for the opposition and for the

officials which was central to Bill's teaching as were discipline, sportsmanship and developing the concept of team and ethos.

Linda Lawson, Foundation Trustee and Bill's daughter, added, "The Bill McLaren Foundation is delighted to be associated with Loretto School with its wonderful rugby heritage and fine tradition of playing sport and in particular with this under 10 Tournament to be played at Newfield. Fun and friendship are at the heart of the rugby game and these two elements aligned with a controlled physical contest makes this game so relevant for youngsters as they prepare to face the many challenges and demands of the modern world."

The tournament, sponsored by Savills, takes place on Sunday, 28th September at Newfield Playing Fields at Loretto School and starts at 10:30 a.m.

Teams confirmed include:

Galashiels Mini Maroons

Heriots

Howe RFC

Hawick Minis

King's Meadow Primary School, Haddington

Loretto A

Loretto B

Musselburgh A

Musselburgh B

Perthshire

Prestonpans


Portobello Minis

St Andrew's Madrascols

Friday in Edinburgh – what's on today



FRIDAY 25TH JULY 2014

 **Digital Sentinel:** Digitalsentinel.net is an emerging community news site for **Wester Hailes**. Are you local to Wester Hailes? Would you like to capture local news events and transform the site into a vibrant community resource? No experience necessary, all training in **journalism** and the **use of technology** will be provided. 11am [WHALE Arts](#), 30 Westburn Grove. **Free**. Email digitalsentinel@whalearts.co.uk for more information!

Make your own Mythical Creature Puppets and a Shadow Puppet Theatre: for ages 7-11. 2-3pm, [Central Children's Library](#), George IV Bridge. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

How to Be a Good Wife: Emma Chapman launches her new book. 'A creepy little chiller...a much bigger, equally disconcerting story about the nature of feminine experience' (Hilary Mantel.) A staunch supporter of independent bookshops, Emma is visiting as many as she can in a month, travelling from Land's End to St Andrews. [Golden Hare Books](#), 102 West Bow. Call shop for time: 0131 629 1396.

Mermaid Magic: add some glitter to the mermaid's tail. For

ages 4-12. 2-3pm, [South Neighbourhood Office & Library](#), 40 Captain's Road. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

A Walk on the Wild Side: July's Literary Salon explores wild Scotland and nature writing across fiction and non-fiction. Hosted by Scots environmentalist and nature writer Clifton Bain. Bring your own stories, views and opinions, share recommendations of nature writing and nature trails. 6.30pm, [Golden Hare Books](#), 102 West Bow. Free but limited places: book via [eventbrite](#) or call into the store to reserve your place. Refreshments provided.

Mystery Monsters: drawing activity for ages 4+. 2.30-3.30pm, [Stockbridge Library](#), Hamilton Place. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Gallery Social – American Impressionism: a New Vision. Join artists for relaxed guided tours for anyone affected by **dementia**, their friends, relatives and supporters. Very informal tours exploring highlights from the permanent collection and special exhibitions, beginning with refreshments in the learning centre. Meet at the main entrance. 10.30am-12noon, [Scottish Gallery of Modern Art TW0](#), Belford Road. To book a place call 0131 624 6560. Free.

Monster Crafts: for ages 5+. 2.30-3.30pm, [Oxgangs Library](#), 343 Oxgangs Road North. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Basil Zaharoff – the wickedest man in the world? Writer and lecturer Robin Barnes discusses the murky life of Anatolian-born Zaharoff, who gained notoriety as an international arms dealer, but was also a linguist, arsonist, pimp, friend of royalty and honorary Knight of the British Empire. It has been suggested that Zaharoff not only helped to instigate the Great War but also assisted in bringing about its end. Event for adults. 10.30am, [Lauriston Castle](#), 2a Cramond Road South.

Tickets cost £8 and must be booked via the Usher Hall box office, either in person, by phone or online – see [website](#).

Arts and Crafts: come along to these inspiring arts and crafts sessions to get creative and learn some new skills. Work with a range of different artists to create mini artworks using recycled materials. 10-10.50am for ages 9-12, 11-11.50am for ages 5-8. 50p per session. [North Edinburgh Arts](#) (next to Muirhouse Library.)

Dance and Movement: a chance to work with different dance tutors to get active, play group games and have fun learning some dance styles. 10-10.50am for ages 9-12, 11-11.50am for ages 5-8. 50p per session. [North Edinburgh Arts](#) (next to Muirhouse Library.)

✖ **Art Week:** if you love all things arts and crafty, come along to a wonderful Create session. Plenty to try, from portrait painting to animal mask making and everything in between, each day this week. 10am-12 noon for ages 5+, 2-4pm for ages 10+. [WHALE Arts](#), 30 Westburn Grove. Free, drop-in, no booking required.

Mythical Maze Activities and Events: 2.30pm, [Currie Library](#), 210 Lanark Road. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Friday Bookbug: for pre-school children and their parents or carers. 11am, [Fountainbridge Library](#), 137 Dundee Street.

Edinburgh charity finds that every little helps



Tesco Bank staff have raised over £60,000 for Edinburgh based children's charity CCLASP, which they have put towards summer holidays for the children.

Our photos show the children at Ocean Terminal on the 'beach'.



Go on a digital treasure hunt this summer



A new app developed by Design Informatics researchers at the University of Edinburgh aims to challenge children to track down some of the city's most valuable artifacts in a digital treasure hunt.

Utilising GPS technology the app, Treasure Trapper, tasks players with finding thirty scattered objects such as Greyfriars Bobby's collar, Robert Louis Stevenson's ring, and Robert Burns' swordcane, which are transported virtually on tour buses around the city.



Pictured treasure hunters try out the app left to right Amber

Webb age 6, Sam Webb age 7, Amy Crummey age 8 and Aoife Sharkey age 6.

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Edinburgh optician inspired by Indian charity trip



Morningside optician Catriona Hastie has only just returned from India on a charity trip to help with an outreach programme to help those needing eye care, but she is already fundraising for the next time. She has described the recent journey as “awe-inspiring and emotional”.

The 23-year-old, who works at Specsavers in Morningside, went to the Indian city of Chennai earlier this year to help eyecare practitioners in district hospitals. The trip was organised by Unite for Sight, a charity which supports eye clinics worldwide.

The majority of Catriona's travel was funded by the store, while kind-hearted customers, friends and family donated funds towards life-saving cataract surgery which was performed during Catriona's mission.

The optometrist, who lives in Murrayfield, said: 'My trip was amazing and I had a chance to see first-hand the huge differences between the eyecare we have here at home and the limited facilities available to those in Chennai.

'A typical day involved three hours of observing cataract surgeries between 6am and 9am – the charity likes to have independent observers who can confirm the money is being put to its intended use.

'Then I'd go out as part of the outreach programme which sometimes meant driving for three hours into the suburbs to do eye checks, setting up our equipment anywhere we could be accommodated, from disused dentists' waiting rooms to school classrooms.

'The number of people who came out to see us was unbelievable and some had walked for half a day just to get to see us for two or three minutes. On one occasion the people were so grateful for our help that they crowded around us until we couldn't move, and were trying to thank us and touch us – it really was overwhelming and one of the most memorable moments.'

The conditions which Catriona came across most were cataracts (an opacity/haziness in the lens of the eye), diabetes-related eye problems and even a surprisingly high number of unusual 'eye trauma' conditions which had never been treated.







When cataracts begin to affect vision, surgery is often needed to replace the eye's lens – however most of the people Catriona met either did not have access to doctors who could perform the surgery, or were wary of getting help.

Catriona explained: 'At home cataract surgery is often regarded as relatively routine but this wasn't the case on my

trip. For a start people just don't have the luxury of the type of eyecare that we take for granted.

'There were also huge cultural differences which really surprised me – I saw a lot of people who were convinced their deteriorating vision was some kind of divine punishment. The on-site ophthalmologist had to spend a lot of time convincing them that they could be helped and poor vision wasn't simply something they had to accept.

'I saw a lot of people who were only in their 40s or 50s and had cataracts that, without treatment, would ultimately render them blind and leave them struggling to work and provide for their families.

'When people were eventually treated their gratitude was unbelievable. People were bowing to the doctors and crying on the floor because they were so grateful which was extremely emotional.'

During her outreach clinics, some of which she set up and operated on her own, she would see as many as 100 people.

Catriona was shocked by living conditions in the slums which were polluted, over populated and badly affected by poverty.

She said: 'Elderly people were living in the streets with no pension and nobody to take care of them. I gave one man a pink beach towel that I'd planned to leave behind, because he seemed to like it, and he was just so happy. He had such little money that this was a huge gesture to him. Small things like that were incredibly humbling.'

Catriona reiterated her thanks to the Specsavers Morningside store which helped to cover her travel costs, and to Morningside customers and friends and family from Edinburgh and beyond who generously contributed to make the charity trip possible.

She is now continuing her fundraising with a view to doing another mission with the same charity in future, with her sights set on Honduras next time.

Scott Allan joins Hibs on two year deal



Scotland under-21 internationalist Scott Allan has signed a two year contract with Hibs and could potentially make his debut against his old club Dundee United at Easter Road on Sunday (27 July, kick off 2pm).

Allan, 22, returns north to Scotland after spending two-and-a-half years with English Premier League club West Bromwich Albion, during which time he experienced loan spells with Portsmouth, Milton Keynes Dons and Birmingham City.

Head Coach Alan Stubbs says he is delighted to be able to add Allan to his squad and believes the signing is a real coup for Hibernian.

Stubbs told the club website: "We're delighted that we've been able to add Scott to our squad – he is a top-quality player with immense potential.

"He's an outstanding young player with a bright future, so the fact he has agreed to come here to Hibernian is a tremendous coup for everybody at the club.

"Scott will add something different to what we already have within our squad – he is an attacking midfielder, who can both

create and score goals.

“He’s young, but has already gained a lot of experience from his time at Dundee United and also down south, so he will be equipped for the demands of the upcoming season.

“We’d like to thank our supporters for their patience shown over the past five weeks; hopefully they’ll be hugely excited by Scott’s arrival.

“We’re pleased with the signings we’ve completed so far with hopefully some more to come in the near future.”

Allan, who began his career with Dundee United, says he instinctively knew Hibernian was the right move for him at this stage in his career.

Allan said: “I believe I learned a lot from my time down south – both personally and professionally – but I had my mind set on a move back home to Scotland.

“At this point in my career, I want to play football as regularly as possible and be closer to home and the move here to Hibs ticks all the boxes.

“I’m an ambitious player and I want to achieve success here with Hibs.

“I’ve been impressed with what the manager has said and I want to help the club get back into the Scottish Premiership.

“I’m really excited about what we can achieve – it will be a really competitive league, but it’s a challenge that I’m looking forward to.”

Police name family who died in fatal collision, A801



Police Scotland have released the names of the family of four who died in the fatal collision on the A801 near to the Lathallan roundabout yesterday at 2.20pm.

Graham Lockhart (23) and Shauna Robb (20), from Bathgate, were killed in the collision along with their two children, Tyler David (2 1/2 years) and Arianna Rose Sheryl (11 months).

Their families have released tributes through Police Scotland.

The family of Graham Lockhart said: "The Lockhart family are devastated at the loss of their son, daughter in law, and two grandchildren and wish to be left to grieve in peace."

The family of Shauna Robb said: "The Robb family are devastated at the loss of their daughter, her partner and their two grandchildren and wish to be left alone to grieve."

Sergeant Andrew Thomson from Forth Valley Road Policing said: "We are continuing our appeal for anyone who witnessed this tragic collision or who saw a black Fiat hatchback in the area prior to the incident at 2.20pm. We are particularly keen to trace the driver of a silver people carrier, which was seen in the area prior to the crash. Anyone with information should contact Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Edinburgh volunteer shortlisted for award



Mrs. Nancie Swan from Edinburgh is in the running for the 'Chairman's award for volunteering' as part of the Macular Society's Awards for Excellence. The nomination recognises her hard work and dedication in her role leading the sight loss charity's Edinburgh support group.

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) affects the central vision and is the most common cause of sight loss in the UK. More people are affected as our population ages.

The Macular Society has 300 support groups across the UK, all aiming to increase the confidence and independence of people affected by central vision loss.

Mrs Swan who is herself has dry macular degeneration in both eyes said she felt "greatly astonished and very honoured".

She enjoys "Meeting people from all walks of life, many of whom have other problems besides AMD who show such courage and assuring the newly diagnosed that Life is for Living and that there are aids and ways to help oneself"

"It is because of dry AMD and the idea that 'nothing can be done' that I decided to become a Volunteer Speaker. The Society gave me hope. It's wonderful to be useful still at 90 and give help and support."

Angie Nicholas Volunteer Programme Manager at the Macular Society nominated Nancie for "her tireless efforts as a volunteer".

"She is an active speaker delivering more than 14 inspiring talks across Scotland. Her passion and commitment to raising awareness of macular disease and the work of the Macular

Society is second to none. She actively campaigns for better support in eye clinics and has created great links with RNIB. Receiving the Chairman's award would be a fitting recognition to all that Nancie has done to raise awareness, improve services and most importantly, offer a listening ear to anyone who needs it. She is truly a force to be reckoned with."

Mrs Swan's nomination will now be handed over to the judges, who will decide on the overall winners and present them with their awards at the Society's annual London conference on 27 September.

The 'Chairman's award for volunteering' is one of four honours presented by the charity. There are also awards for 'Clinical service of the year', 'Support and community rehabilitation professional of the year' and 'Optometrist or optician of the year.'

Tony Rucinski, Chief Executive of the Macular Society, said: "Nancie has done exceptionally well to be nominated for this award, and we're very grateful to her for the fantastic work carried out in Edinburgh.

"It's always heartening to hear how people have made such a difference to the lives of others. There are some really inspiring people working within the sector and volunteering within the local community for people with visual impairments. I'm proud that we can honour her in this way."

The Macular Society's annual award scheme has been made possible because of the generous sponsorship of Dolphin Computer Access.

For information, advice or support concerning macular degeneration, contact the Macular Society's helpline on 0300 3030 111 or email help@macularsociety.org

The Bon Vivant team win Best International Restaurant Bar Award



The Bon Vivant was [one of four finalists](#) in the Spirited Awards category for '**Best International Restaurant Bar**' – an award recognising the world's best restaurant bar dedicated to creating a great dining and cocktail experience for their guests.

They were the only Scottish entrant in this category, competing against *Delicatessen (Moscow)*, *Spitalfields Bar at Hawksmoor* and *Blind Pig at Social Eating House* (both London) at the event which was attended by over 20,000 people. The Bon Vivant team were critiqued on their approach to aperitif and digestif drinks, cocktail and food pairings, general bartending and mixing excellence. The Edinburgh Reporter is delighted to hear that they won the competition which is a fantastic achievement for the team and proof all their hard work is worth it – **Congratulations to all!** Founder and Director of The Bon Vivant, Stuart McCluskey picked up the Best International Restaurant Bar award at the glittering Spirited Awards ceremony on Saturday July 19th in New Orleans.



Tales of the Cocktail 2014
Awards

Stuart McCluskey said "Winning the Spirited Award at Tales of the Cocktail is a stunning result for The Bon Vivant. To even

feature in the final four for the Best International Restaurant Bar 2014 category was incredible, but to win against such reputable establishments makes me very proud of what The Bon Vivant team has achieved since we opened on Thistle Street in Edinburgh in 2008. The Spirited Awards are the drinks industry Oscars and I was honoured just to be in the same room as so many peers whom I admire and respect. This win puts The Bon Vivant and Scotland on the global drinks map and gives us so much to build on for the future. We are delighted.”

Chairman of the International Judging Committee and Global Trade Advocacy Director for Bacardi, Jacob Briars said: “The Spirited Awards are regarded as the pinnacle of the industry. 50 well-travelled industry veterans voted on the top bars around the world, with nominations from more than 40 countries. The Bon Vivant’s recognition is a testament both to the amazing vitality of the Edinburgh hospitality scene, and to the hard work and passion of Stuart and his team. It is known around the world for its combination of high standards and relaxed atmosphere; I never visit Edinburgh without stopping here.”



Bon Vivant Bar

Here is the recipe for one of their award winning creations *Wing Tip* for you to create at home (or head over to the bar and they will make it for you)!

Wing Tip

40ml Eagle Rare 11yr Old Bon V Single Barrel

10ml Amaro Nardini

10ml Diplomatico Reserva Rum

5ml Fig Liqueur

3 Dashes Bon Vivant Barrel Aged Bitters (or use angostura bitters as a easy to find alternative)

Stir, then pour over an ice block and served with a chocolate coated cherry.



Wing Tip Cocktail

The Bon Vivant has been open since August 2008 on Thistle Street with the Devil's Advocate opening this year on Advocates Close joining the group of restaurants which also include The Bon Vivant Stockbridge, and Pep and Fodder. Each of the establishments to create an environment similar to those found on the continent; where dining is often informal and casual yet of a very high standard. The Bon Vivant is renowned for its winning formula of providing an informal 'European' style of dining, whereby high quality food is savoured and complemented by excellent libations in a stylish, relaxed setting. It is no stranger to industry recognition, with three awards under its belt. It received a Scottish Style Award for *Most Stylish Bar* in 2011, won the 2013 Food & Travel Magazine *Bar of the Year* award, and has been recommended in the Michelin Guide in 2013 and 2014. It is the first Scottish establishment to ever receive a Spirited Award.

Their food philosophy is a selection of simple but well executed dishes that focus on flavour and quality produce. The food menu changes daily, as chefs aim to make dishes creative and keep ingredients seasonal. The smaller tapas-style dishes make a tasty accompaniment to your beverage, with offerings such as padron peppers and my all time favourite haggis bon bons!



Bon Vivant Main Course

Main courses are seasonal and all very tasty too with roast cod, salt cod brandade, ratatouille, olives & tomato or loin &

belly of pork, sweet potato, red onion, black haggis. The dessert selection has some good options such as home made ice cream. Alternatively, the extensive cocktail menu is also a great after-dinner choice, with daily specials listed on the board and more than 44 wines in stock and all available by the glass.

Serving food from 12 noon everyday and brunch from 11am on Sundays

<http://bonvivantedinburgh.co.uk>

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Hamlet

✖ “Madness in great ones must not unwatched go”.

Confined in a place where everything is ambiguous, witness Hamlet’s mental and physical worlds unravel in a production that delves into the inner-turmoil, conflict and paranoia tormenting the young Prince. Facing an existence of incessant monitoring, infinite deception and increasing insanity, Hamlet treads the precarious path from uncovering the reality of his beloved Father’s death to seeking vengeance against his Uncle.

Fresh from a superbly received debut at the Brighton Fringe, Gin & Tonic Productions Limited’s powerful, hour-long adaptation “is overflowing with passion and tragedy, brilliantly representing one man’s struggle with reality. It is a great success.” (The Argus).

This adaptation by directors Henry Conklin and Elske Waite’s of what is widely regarded as one of Shakespeare’s finest

works aims to create not only an enthralling, but more over an accessible approach to the work.

Through utilising an ensemble cast Gin & Tonic Productions Limited

highlight the notion of Hamlet's mental instability, shown through the double casting of Ophelia and Gertrude, played by Isobel Moulder, or King Claudius and the Ghost of King Hamlet, played by Peter Stanley ("Flawless", The Saint). Olivier Huband ("Tremendous poise, powerful delivery", Edinburgh 49) takes on the role of Hamlet, with the ensemble completed by Pedro Leandro, Jordan Roberts-Laverty and Benjamin Aluwihare ("Absolutely compelling", All Edinburgh Theatre).

"This is a new look at Shakespeare's greatest tragedy, one that will not fail to entice and excite." (The Argus)

Gin & Tonic Productions Limited is a fledgling Edinburgh-based theatre company founded by Henry Conklin, Christopher Sladdin and Elske Waite. The company aims to create theatre that draws heavily from contemporary practices to create theatre that is intense, raw and electric.

Submitted by [Christopher Sladdin](#)

Edinburgh Fringe Festival – Hamlet

August 1st-23rd, 2014 at 10.25pm ~ theSpace on North Bridge

Tickets: £7.50/£6/£5

~ <http://www.ginandtonicproductions.org/hamlet/>



Five things you need to know today



Fatal crash

Dreamliner in Edinburgh

Royal visit to the Barnardo's book shop

Today at the Jazz Festival

Sports Quiz

Police Scotland confirmed that a couple in their twenties and two children under the age of three, a boy and girl, were killed in a fatal collision yesterday afternoon on the A801 near the Lathallan roundabout just west of Linlithgow.

A black hatchback collided with an articulated lorry, after the car crossed into the path of oncoming traffic.

All the occupants of the car were killed and the lorry driver was treated at the scene for shock.

Superintendent Iain Murray said: "This was a tragic collision which sadly killed all occupants of the car. We would like to hear from anyone who may have witnessed this crash, or who has information that can help, so that we can piece together the circumstances. We are particularly keen to trace a silver people carrier which was seen near to the site of the crash."

Anyone with information should contact Police Scotland on 101.

Yesterday was another big day at Edinburgh Airport!

[@ThomsonHolidays](#) Dreamliner flying to Cancun, let us know if you'll be on the flight. pic.twitter.com/wGg4ZhiWhW

– Edinburgh Airport (@EDI_Airport) [July 23, 2014](#)

Thomson Airways, the first UK airline to fly the new state-of-the-art Boeing 787 Dreamliner, celebrated the departure of the inaugural long haul flight to Cancun, Mexico from Edinburgh airport yesterday

Thomson operated flight TOM 642 on board Angel of the Sky which departed Edinburgh Airport today with 288 customers on board. In addition to today's flight, Thomson Airways will fly the state-of-the-art aircraft from Edinburgh to Cancun, Mexico in summer 2015.

The Dreamliner has revolutionised air travel and leaves holidaymakers more relaxed and refreshed than ever before, with comfort and wellbeing features on-board reducing the effects of jet-lag. It can also fly much further distances than similar-sized aircraft and is more environmentally friendly, using 20% less fuel.

John Murphy, Managing Director of Thomson Airways comments: "We are delighted to introduce our Dreamliner to Edinburgh airport. The aim has always been to ensure we offer Dreamliner services from different regions across the UK so that customers can experience this aircraft from their doorstep.

"The introduction of the Dreamliner is a major milestone in our journey of modernising the holiday experience. Customers travelling from Edinburgh will be amazed at the unique look, feel and service – all of which will ensure the Thomson holiday experience starts as soon as they step on board this fabulous new aircraft."

Gordon Dewar, Chief Executive of Edinburgh Airport, said:

"We're excited to welcome the new Thomson Dreamliner to Edinburgh for its maiden flight to Cancun from Edinburgh and are pleased we can offer our passengers the experience of this new luxury aircraft.

"Edinburgh Airport is committed to offering its passengers the very best and we look forward to welcoming the Thomson Dreamliner back again next summer."

Thomson launched its first ever Dreamliner flight on 8 July 2013, with customers heading from Manchester to Sanford, Florida and from Glasgow to Cancun in Mexico. Since then the fleet has made over 2,500 flights, carrying over 670,000 customers operating from Manchester, Glasgow, Gatwick and East Midlands airports to all of Thomson's long haul destinations including Jamaica, Phuket in Thailand and, new from this May, Mexico's Pacific Coast and the stunning Indian Ocean island of Mauritius. The arrival of the Dreamliner has been a big hit with customers with 96% rating their flight as good or excellent.

Thomson will take delivery of a further two aircraft next summer, bringing the fleet to eight. In addition to launching flights from Edinburgh today, the Thomson 787 Dreamliner has also taken off for the first time from Newcastle and Birmingham airports this month. From this winter, the long haul flying experience will improve further as the in-flight entertainment will be upgraded with an even wider choice of films, updated monthly and, the icing on the cake, a complimentary drinks service will be available in Economy Club on all long haul flights.



Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Rothesay dropped in to children's charity Barnardo's Scotland Edinburgh book shop during her summer visit to Scotland, to donate a selection of books and meet children supported

by the charity.

During the visit the Duchess browsed the bookshop shelves, and met with six-year olds Liam Carter and Harry Roque, who are both supported by a Barnardo's Scotland family service in the city. After chatting about their favourite books the children presented the Duchess with a posy of flowers.

The shop in Clerk Street, situated close to Edinburgh University and colleges in the east-side of the city, is referred to as the 'go to' charity shop for books for students, as course and reference books are continually being donated by students moving on in their courses or who have graduated, and many choose to volunteer at the shop too.

The Duchess met four of the 26 volunteers who help keep the shop in order, receiving and sorting books and keeping the window display fresh, mirroring activity in the city – the Jazz Festival and children reading-time being this month's themes.

For the parents of some of the UK's most vulnerable children, the first years of their child's life can be a bewildering time. Growing up, they may not have had the experience of being read to or played with by their own parents to inform their parenting techniques – something that many of us take for granted.

Laura Falconer, assistant director of Barnardo's Scotland, explained: "Barnardo's Scotland supports the children who need it most by teaching their parents five key activities they can do with their child from birth to help them to thrive. These are: **Respond, Cuddle, Relax, Play, Talk**, these skills are all intrinsic to storytelling.

"Barnardo's knows that the optimum time for brain development is within the first few years of a child's life and the parent has an essential part to play in this development process. By improving understanding of the importance of early brain development amongst parents, Barnardo's Scotland will help ensure that these children are given the right care and attention to thrive, thereby helping to improve their life chances."

As part of their 150th anniversary, John Lewis, the charity's

charity partners, will use the power of storytelling in their [shops](#) and in schools to raise money to bring this approach to as many families as possible and help Barnardo's Scotland support the children who need it most.

Our selection at today's Jazz Festival is the [Jam Session](#) tonight at 23.00 where you will hear a selection of musicians all doing their best to outdo each other.



Plans for Dalkeith Country Park given the green light



Plans for the multi million pound redevelopment of Dalkeith Country Park have been approved by Midlothian Council.

The £3.5million investment includes a series of upgrades, refurbishments and introduction of new facilities taking place at the 1000-acre Country Park over a two year period and beyond, creating around 35 jobs in the process.

The first phase of redevelopment of the Country Park, owned by

the Duke of Buccleuch, has gone out to tender with a main contractor expected to be officially appointed by early September.

The initial works involve the full refurbishment and development of the historic Stableyard, the surrounding listed orangery and amphitheatre and the reintroduction of a fantastic new adventure playground. The buildings will feature an improved cafe/restaurant, farm shop and bakery and an array of supporting retail, with the preferred operating partner close to being announced.

The wider Park will have a large variety of activities and attractions which will provide exciting, engaging and educational recreation space for families.

Historic Scotland and Midlothian Council are actively engaged and thoroughly supportive of the proposed plans, having been closely consulted regarding restoration activities on the iconic Orangery, bridges, landscaping and listed buildings.

Ian Herbert, Visitor Services Manager for Dalkeith Country Park, said: "We are thrilled that our plans to revamp the Park have been given the seal of approval.

"As well as creating jobs this significant investment will play an important part in facilitating economic development and growth in the region.

"Since the planning application was submitted in February we have been canvassing views via an online survey and are continuing to liaise with key stakeholders and partners including Scottish Natural Heritage and Historic Scotland. Our next step will be an open day in August where we will be in a position to share more of our plans in detail with the local community."

The Park, located just five miles from Edinburgh city centre, will be modernised in a way that is sympathetic to the style,

history and heritage of the current buildings.

Jim Bryant, Cabinet Member for Planning and Development at Midlothian Council, said: “Dalkeith Country Park is a great asset to our local community and provides both visitors and locals with a beautiful spot to enjoy the great outdoors. It is also the venue for many large scale events, such as Tough Mudder, which brings a wealth of visitors to our area.

“In fact, this year, we’re looking forward to a bumper year at our second Midfest Festival with some events taking place in the Park. We are delighted to be working in partnership with both the Park and Historic Scotland to bring these redevelopment plans to fruition.”

The open day will take place on Saturday, August 30 at The Stableyard, Dalkeith Country Park, from 12pm – 5pm .

Updates can also be found on Facebook – www.facebook.com/DalkeithCountryEstate

Thursday in Edinburgh – what’s on today



THURSDAY 24TH JULY 2014

Lunchtime concert: Wind Band Symphony, University of West Virginia. 12.15pm, [St Giles’ Cathedral](#), Royal Mile. Free.

Blackwell’s Edinburgh presents Janet Brennan-Inglis:

Scotland's Castles. Janet Brennan-Inglis launches her beautifully illustrated celebration and account of the renaissance of Scottish castles since 1950. The restoration of over 100 ruined and derelict buildings – from tiny towers to baronial mansions – to create homes, hotels and holiday lets has been carried out largely by new owners with no connection to the land; their struggles and triumphs form the core of the book, set in the context of the social, political and economic changes of the late 20th century. 6.30-7.30pm, [Blackwell's, South Bridge](#). Free tickets available from the shop's front desk or by calling 0131 622 6218.

Under 5s Storytime: 10.30-11am, [Morningside Library](#), 184 Morningside Road. Free, no booking required.

Rosie Nimmo and Stuart Allardyce: jazz duo Nimmo (vocals, rhythm guitar and harmonica) and Allardyce (guitar) play music with a strong jazz element to tie in with the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival and the John Byrne Sitting Ducks exhibition. 6-6.30pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free.

Art Week: if you love all things arts and crafty, come along to a wonderful Create session. Plenty to try, from portrait painting to animal mask making and everything in between, each day this week. 10am-12 noon for ages 5+, 2-4pm for ages 10+. [WHALE Arts](#), 30 Westburn Grove. Free, drop-in, no booking required.

On Form and Fiction (1990): curator and researcher Grainne Rice will talk about Steven Campbell's landmark exhibition from 1990. Campbell's installation was first shown at the Third Eye Centre and has been recreated for the first time in over twenty years for the GENERATION exhibition. 6pm, [Royal Scottish Academy \(Scottish National Gallery\)](#), The Mound, free and unticketed. Part of GENERATION by night.

The GENERATOR by night! – unleash your childlike, creative

side in the crazy art lab and have fun imagining the art of the future. Take inspiration from the amazing art on display in the GENERATION exhibitions and jump into a world of experimentation, exploration and invention. Special evening opening of the children's GENERATOR activities for **adults only**. 5-7pm, [Royal Scottish Academy \(Scottish National Gallery\)](#), The Mound, free and unticketed. Part of GENERATION by night.

Napier University Postgraduate Web Chat: if you are from the UK or EU and would like to ask questions about studying at *postgraduate* level at Napier University in Edinburgh, join this live web chat today and talk to staff and other potential students. For more information and to register for the web chat, see [website](#).

Create Lite: colourful and inspiring artist-led art and play session for children 0-5 and their parents or carers. Come along, have fun and get messy with your child. 10am-12 noon, [North Edinburgh Arts](#) (next to Muirhouse Library.) 50p per child.

Mythical Maze Stories and Crafts: 3.30pm, [Currie Library](#), 210 Lanark Road. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge

Mythical Things in the Night: For ages 4-11. 2-3pm, [Blackhall Library](#), 56 Hillhouse Road. Free. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge

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

Myths and Legends Zoolab Workshop: Zoolab will introduce children to fantastical creatures from the world of legend and mythology, all with a little help from some awesome animals, including a very special dragon! Workshop includes handling of

live animals. 3.30-4.00pm, [Currie Library](#), 210 Lanark Road. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Johnston Press reorganisation

For the business which owns and runs many Scottish newspapers including The Scotsman alterations to the management were announced earlier this week which the firm described as 'significant structure changes'.

Johnston Press explained these changes would help drive the business strategy and accelerate digital growth.

Chief Executive Officer Ashley Highfield has realigned the management team and reshaped divisions of the business to ensure a more cohesive, unified approach to achieving the company goals.

The changes come at a pivotal time for Johnston Press, which successfully refinanced in June – reducing its debt by a third and ensuring a secure financial footing on which to start building for the future.

"The changes I'm implementing are to make us a more agile and effective leadership team and speed up our decision-making processes," said Ashley.

"In addition, we need to allow our digital team to be even more focused on developing great new products and capabilities for our customers. These are exciting times digitally and we need to be even more invested in selecting and delivering the best for our audiences."

The key changes are:

- There will be fewer MDs, each managing larger portfolios and teams, with some also responsible for the 'vertical businesses' such as Property and Motors
- The newspaper circulation team and the marketing team

will combine to create a single marketing function, led by Chief Marketing Officer Lucy Sinclair, who will be responsible for circulation and total audience growth

- There will be the creation of a Digital Product Group, led by Jeff Moriarty, focusing entirely on product development and performance across all platforms. To facilitate that, most of the digital sales activities are transferring to another part of the business
- The Chief Commercial Officer role is being replaced by a Group MD position – better reflecting the increasing need for strong editorial and commercial partnerships in our local markets. That role will be filled, on an interim basis, by John Bills (current MD of North Midlands & South Yorkshire)
- A new role of Chief Creative Officer to put innovation and creativity at the forefront of our solutions for advertisers.

All changes are effective immediately.

The new roles and responsibilities for the MDs are as follows:

- Richard Parkinson, MD for the Midlands, has his portfolio extended to include interim responsibility for North Midlands South Yorkshire while John Bills is acting Group MD. Richard will also lead the development of the Property category and, in the interim, national advertising and digital sales development.
- Helen Oldham, MD for Yorkshire, sees her portfolio extended to include the Scottish flagship brands – The Scotsman, Scotland on Sunday and Edinburgh Evening News.
- Stephen Plews, MD for the North East, has his portfolio extended to include all the Scottish brands excluding The Scotsman, Scotland on Sunday and Edinburgh Evening News.
- Karl Dimmock, MD of the South, will now also lead the development of the Motors category.
- Warren Butcher, MD of the North West and Isle of Man,

has his portfolio extended to include the Northern Ireland brands.

As a result of these changes to the MD structure, and after a period of transition, Northern Ireland MD Jean Long and Scotland MD Stuart Birkett will leave the business.

"I want to thank Jean and Stuart for their long service – 22 years in both cases – and enormous contribution to the business. I wish them every success with their future endeavours," added Ashley.