Award for Cramond nursery

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Bright Horizons Cramond nursery has been awarded an Investing in Children Membership for a second consecutive year.

The Investing in Children membership award recognises and celebrates examples of imaginative practice with children and young people. The nursery was assessed towards the end of the May, with the report stating that:- "The nursery, although busy, had a calm and organised feeling. Children were going from place to place with ease and confidence." The report continues to praise a variety of the nursery's practices, including the involvement of the children in the interview process for new staff members. During this process the Nursery Management Team invite children to ask the interviewee questions and then seek their feedback. Throughout the report it was clear that the inspector was impressed with the independence offered to the children, which included the option for the children to pick their own healthy breakfast and to choose materials for messy play activities.

Martina Murphy, Operations Director for Bright Horizons Scotland & Ireland, said:-"We are delighted that our Cramond nursery has been recognised by Investing in Children for a second successive year. The award highlights the fantastic work that's carried out by Head of the Centre Karin and her dedicated team."

Karin Duguid, Head of Centre at Bright Horizons Cramond, said:-"We are really pleased to maintain our Investing in Children Membership for a second consecutive year. We are only one of 500 organisations nationwide to hold this prestigious award, which highlights the amazing work my team do every day to ensure we create a naturally inspiring environment for children and families in our community."

Submitted by Robert Booth

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Queen unveils plaque for Forth Road Bridge anniversary

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HM The Queen visited the Forth Road Bridge on Friday to mark the iconic structure's 50^{th} birthday.

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Accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, The Queen unveiled a plaque dedicated to the people who have worked on the maintenance and operation of the Bridge over the past 50 years. (The Edinburgh Reporter went round there over the weekend but the plaque is nowhere to be seen, so it must be kept inside for safety.)

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The plaque is positioned at the viewing platform, which is located next to the Forth Estuary Transport Authority (FETA) offices. It will sit alongside the memorial The Queen unveiled when opening the Bridge on 4 September 1964.

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Whilst at the Bridge, the Royal Party met FETA's six longest serving members of staff. Her Majesty was also presented with a bouquet of flowers by Charlotte Waite, aged eight. Also present today were a small group of members from The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), who formed the Guard of Honour when The Queen opened the Bridge. The group who proudly represented the original guard included Guard Commander Colonel Dudley Lucas (then Major) and Major Philip Grant (then Lieutenant).

The Royal Party then crossed over the Bridge, as The Queen made her way to Rosyth to name the Royal Navy's newest aircraft carrier, HMS Queen Elizabeth.

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Lesley Hinds, convenor of FETA, said: "It was a young HM The Queen who opened the Forth Road Bridge 50 years ago, so FETA is honoured to welcome Her Majesty back to help mark the Bridge's 50th birthday.

"Many people have dedicated their entire lives to maintaining and operating the Forth Road Bridge – keeping a vital part of Scotland's infrastructure network in good shape – and I can think of no better way to commemorate the time and effort they have given over the years.

"Having the Cameronians present also harks back to that historic day in 1964 when North and South Queensferry were finally linked by the Forth Road Bridge and we are delighted that they were present to welcome Her Majesty and The Duke of Edinburgh."

Beautiful photos as always © Rob McDougall

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Muirhouse Centipede Event – Get your furry pet photographed for free

Pop in to Muirhouse Community Shop today Tuesday between 10.30am — 12noon with your furry friends to have their picture taken.

One free print for each dog / Furry Pet.

Refreshments and a free raffle for a chance to win a doggie goody bag!

For more information on the Centipede please visit their site by clicking here.

Submitted by Robert Pearson

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Recycling in Edinburgh to be made simpler

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- Landfill and recycling rubbish to be collected kerbside on same day each week
- More waste to go to recycling, so less sorting required

The council is to change the way you recycle if you live in one of the 140,000 households affected by their proposed new measures for kerbside services which will begin on 1 September.

Those affected are households who currently have wheeled bins. It does not affect you if you have a communal bin.

The Environment Committee hopes that these changes will make it easier for you to sort your rubbish into recycling, landfill or general waste, garden waste or glass. Residents will be given a new smaller 140L wheelie bin for general waste as well as a recycling box for all of their recycling waste instead of blue and red bins for different types of recycling waste in certain (but not all) houses in defined areas.

A new type of vehicle with separate sections for removing the different kinds of waste will collect your rubbish on one day, making it easier to remember when you need to put your wheelie bin out, but for the meantime separate vehicles will continue to be used for garden, food waste and landfill. The council say there will be no more vehicles than there are at present, but three vehicles will be used on each street on collection day. It is clearly hoped that as new vehicles are introduced the collection will be simplified. The council plan to do their own rubbish collection from October 2015 at the end of the present contract with a third party company and they will be acquiring new vehicles which the council say will be more suitable.

More recycling will also be possible as a greater variety of items can now be put in the new mixed recycling box. Plastics and small electrical items will now be included.

So what will you have if you live in these areas?

- New 140L wheelie bin for Landfill waste
- Existing wheelie bin to be used for mixed recycling
- Blue box for glass
- Food bin
- Garden recycling bin

And yes, this means that you will have a smaller bin for landfill waste, but then that is what the council is trying to achieve in the first place: less waste to landfill. The cost of sending waste to landfill increases all the time, and is not good news for the environment.

As you may imagine these changes will take some time to roll out and the council have suggested that it might take as long as nine months to replace all the red boxes for all of these houses, and to encourage the residents to do the recycling in the first place.

The new arrangements will be tried out for 8 weeks and then residents can make representations to the council on an individual basis to have their service tailored to their needs. For example if there is simply no room to store an additional wheelie bin then different solutions such as shared bins will be used.

The council is following the lead taken by Fife Council who have introduced a four bin service which they are in the middle of rolling out to their residents.

Green bin

- paper
- cardboard
- plastic bottles, pots tubs and trays
- metal food and drink cans

- empty aerosols
- clean foil

Blue box

- Glass Bottles and jars
- Batteries in a small clear bag
- Textiles
- small electrical items such as toasters and hairdryers

http://www.theedinburghreporter.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/ 07/Teaser_FINAL-2-1.pdf

The council has produced a Waste and Recycling strategy which outlines how recycling will increase to 75% by 2020. They say that the newer smaller bins for general waste are a way of achieving that.

In January 2011 plastic bottles and household batteries were added to the kerbside recycling collection and food waste collections have been introduced for all properties.

Managed weekly collections have been in place since September 2012 and these have contributed to further reductions in landfill waste and increased rates of recycling. This has not been a painless process and around 24,000 complaints were made to the council in the first year of operation regarding missed collections.

The new further increases in recycling are to come from the introduction of this new enhanced kerbside recycling service, coupled with improvements in communal recycling and the promotion of greater participation in the available schemes.

This is only one way of removing household waste from your home. You also have the option of taking your own rubbish to the recycling centre nearest you or adding any garden rubbish to your own compost heap. You will receive an introductory flyer soon followed by an information pack which will include a collection calendar. Posters and social media updates will then be used to inform you of the new arrangements affecting you, but environmental officers will also be knocking on doors to try and help residents with the scheme. Briefing sessions will be arranged for community councils and residents associations.

If you wish to retain your red box then you may do so, otherwise the council will arrange to take them away. Some families may require bigger bins for their landfill waste and the council is open to requests for these on an individual basis according to need being proved. It is hoped that this more relaxed approach will suit more residents. However if you wish to have a larger recycling bin then the council will provide this to you without any need being proved!

The council have produced a list of the areas where these collection arrangements will be put in place in Phase 1. You should note that it will only be some households in these areas who will be affected:-

Alnwickhill

Blackhall

Burdiehouse

Craigentinny

Craigleith

Drylaw

Gilmerton

Goldenacre

Hyvot Bank

Joppa

Kaimes

Leith

Liberton

Lochend

Muirhouse

Niddrie

Orchard Brae

Piershill

Prestonfield

Restalrig

Southhouse

The Inch

Trinity

Wardie

Warriston

Willowbrae

Body found at Torduff Reservoir

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Following a search last night which started around teatime, a body has been found.

A Police Scotland spokesman has said this morning: "Police can confirm that a body has been recovered during a multi-agency search operation to trace a 14-year-old boy at the Torduff Reservoir.

"Efforts are undereway to trace the boy's next of kin and inform them of the discovery."

Tuesday in Edinburgh — what's on today

TUESDAY 8 JULY 2014

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Mythical Maze activities and events: 2.30pm every Tuesday in the school holidays at <u>Colinton Library</u>, 14 Thorburn Road. Free. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Edible Gardening: drop in to find out how to grow your own food and take a look round the productive garden with the Edible Gardening Project team. 1-3pm, Demonstration Garden, <u>Royal Botanic Garden</u>. Free, no booking required and suitable for all ages. Medusa and her Scary Hair: crafts in the library. 2.30-3.30pm, Leith Library, 28-30 Ferry Road. Free, suitable for ages 4-11 years. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Impact Arts Craft Cafe Exhibition: the Craft Cafe provides a social and therapeutic space for residents and tenants of various Viewpoint homes to connect with family and friends in a supportive environment. This exhibition of residents' work will include drawings, prints, paintings and hand-crafted pieces created by Craft Cafe members. All work for sale, with proceeds going back into the project. 10am-5pm, Monday to Saturday until Tuesday 15th July. Out of the Blue Drill Hall, 36 Dalmeny Street.

Spreading Titian's Fame Through Print: Michael Bury, art historian, will look at woodcuts and engravings made during Titian's lifetime, arguing that both can throw light on the controversial question of Titian's attitude to drawing. 12.45-1.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, <u>Scottish National Gallery</u>. Free and unticketed.

Brian Johnstone and Chrys Salt present The Fields of War: two award-winning poets combine to mark the centenary of the First World War, commemorating the conflicts of the past century and the human price paid. 6pm, <u>National Library of Scotland</u>, George IV Bridge. Booking essential via <u>website</u> or by calling 0131 623 3734.

eBook surgery: get help with downloading free eBooks, audiobooks and emagazines. 2-3.30pm, <u>Central Library</u>, George IV Bridge. Free, no appointment necessary.

Unicorn Universe: 2-3pm, <u>Muirhouse Library</u>, Pennywell Road. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge. For ages 5-11.

Medusa Cressheads: 2.30-3.30pm, <u>Gilmerton Library</u>, 13 Newtoft Street. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge. For under-5s.

Mythical Maze poetry with Ryan Van Winkle: poems and lots of Mythical Maze-related poetry games. 2.30pm, <u>Moredun Library</u>, 92 Moredun Park Road. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge. For under-12s.

Five things you need to know today

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Rosdeep Adekoya in court today – Craigroyston Boys Club has a defibrillator – Summer Playscheme at the Venchie – Open Studios at Coburg House – Bike Club

There are thirty six cases to be heard at the High Court in Edinburgh today but none will attract more attention than the case of Rosdeep Adekoya who is the mother of Mikaeel Kular whose body was recovered from a garden in Kirkcaldy earlier this year. The young child had been missing for several days after his mother reported his apparent disappearance to the police and many people in Muirhouse went out to search for him.

Today's court date is a criminal preliminary hearing which is the stage that all cases go through to determine that they are ready for the trial which could follow. Craigroyston Boys Club on Muirhouse Parkway where over 100 children/adults use the facilities each week now has a defibrillator, used in the event of someone suffering cardiac arrest. This is the first amateur club in Edinburgh which will have this machine.

Robert Pearson Chairman of Tenants and Residents in Muirhouse (TRIM) was contacted by the club to ask for help. Robert spoke to a charity in Perthshire (Comrie First Response) who agreed to fully fund the defibrillator and also delivery CPR training for up to 20 people.

Robert said:-"Whilst I hope they never need to use it, we will all be reassured to know they will know what to do if they find themselves dealing with someone who is not breathing.

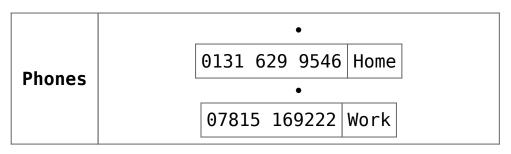
"This Sunday 20 people will be trained in CPR, which alone could save someone's life. It is hoped that many of the people who attend on Sunday will go on to become trainers who can teach others in our community."

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If you're quick you may still be able to register your child for the summer play scheme at the Venchie Children and Young People's Project which begins today.

The fun takes place from 11am till 3pm from today until 7 August. Activities, which include lunch, are all free.

Contact Information





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Summer's here and it's nearly time for the Summer Bike Club in Hailes Quarry Park from 10.00am – 1.00pm on 22, 23,24,29,30 and 31 July 2014.

Meet at Hailes Quarry Park, by the playpark off Dumbryden Road at 10.00am

- Learn new skills
- Discover new places
- Meet new friends
- Try some obstacles
- Learn bike maintenance
- Get outside
- Have fun!

Bike Club is for ages 8-12 from the Hailes Quarry Park area. Last year, parents and carers said they'd like to join in, so this year it's open to parents and carers too!

It's free and bikes and helmets will be provided.

Abby Boultbee, Greenspace Projects Officer with ELGT said:

"Bike Club is a fantastic opportunity to get more confident about cycling — learning new skills, new routes, or learning to ride for the first time. It's always popular and there are limited places so remember to come early!"

Places will be given each day on a first-come-first-served basis. It is not possible to book.

Bike Club has been kindly funded by Wester Hailes Land & Property Trust, and will be delivered by My Adventure.

What's going to happen to Edinburgh's free wifi?

It was announced in the Irish Independent today that Gowex a company based in Spain which set up free wifi hotspots around the Irish capital in 2013, and which had been contracted to do the same in Edinburgh, has filed for bankruptcy.

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The CEO of the company has admitted to returning fraudulent accounts for the last four years.

I made the deposition and confession. I want to collaborate with the justice. I face the consecuencies.

– Jenaro Garcia (@jero_net) July 6, 2014

This will have consequences far beyond Edinburgh however, as the tweet below demonstrates:-

JPMorgan and Danske Funds Exposed To Gowex Fraud As CEO Jenaro Garcia Resigns – <u>http://t.co/RAbAl650Wf</u> <u>pic.twitter.com/PqmK3FklP5</u>

- Forex Magnates (@forexmagnates) July 7, 2014

It was only in March this year that the Culture and Sport committee approved the long-time plans for the city to have its own wifi network designed to promote all kinds of internet traffic, particularly from tourists.

The council approved an award of a 10 year contract to bring free high-speed Wi-Fi to Edinburgh this summer, and announced that if this was approved by the Finance Committee the world leading Wi-Fi provider GOWEX will be appointed to roll out and operate the network.

Edinburgh was expected to join other world famous destinations including New York, San Francisco, Barcelona, Paris and Dublin in providing free Wi-Fi through working in partnership with GOWEX.

Free megabyte Wi-Fi was expected to be available 24/7 in the city centre and town centres of Edinburgh, allowing everyone to access the latest information on their favourite apps and websites while out and about from any Wi-Fi enabled device.

So what now? We presume there may be another company out there but it may take a little unravelling first.

Alan Stubbs satisfied with

players performance

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Hibs' new head coach Alan Stubbs was satisfied by his sides performance in their 4-0 away win over Lowland League Vale of Leithen at Victoria Park on Saturday.

With new first team coach John Doolan alongside him in the dug-out , Stubbs watched as goals from Jason Cummings (two), Liam Craig and Alex Harris handed him an opening victory.

The former Everton, Celtic and Bolton defender also reiterated his priority was to win games with attractive football taking second place.

Stubbs told Hibernian TV: "Our aim and objective for the game was to work on our fitness.

"We wanted everybody to get 45 minutes and if we got the correct performance with the right attitude then, more often than not, everything else falls into place.

"We had two different teams and I thought we moved the ball well and, with a little bit more care in the final third, we could have scored more goals.

"There is plenty still to work on, but hopefully the supporters that went to the game will be encouraged by what they've seen.

"This was the first step in our pre-season friendly programme and now we will work towards producing an improved performance at Berwick on Saturday (12 July, kick off 3pm)."

Against determined and energetic Lowland League opposition, Hibernian passed the ball around neatly with zip and purpose and Stubbs says he was pleased with the fluid, constructive style of play on show. "As I've said before, my philosophy is to win games of football. Of course, I want the team to play good football, but I don't want anyone to get confused by playing attractive football and then not winning games."

Loch Tay body identified as missing canoeist Darren Gilpin

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Police have confirmed that the body recovered from Loch Tay is that of missing Canoeist Darren Gilpin.

The 29-year-old had been out on the water in the Killin area on Saturday afternoon when his two-man boat capsized.

His friend made it ashore and raised the alarm and a police operation was then launched to trace Mr Gilpin before his body was recovered on Sunday evening.

There are no suspicious circumstances surrounding his death.

The Edinburgh reporter sends our condolences to Mr Gilpin's family and friends.

Witness appeal after woman assaulted in Northfield

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Police are appealing for witnesses following an assault and attempted robbery of an 18-year-old woman in the Northfield area of the city.

The incident happened around 1.40am on Saturday morning when the victim was walking west on Portobello Road. When passing the bus stop outside Piershill Cemetery, a man on a bicycle approached her and asked for the time.

After a brief conversation, she continued on to Northfield Broadway but was aware of the same man cycling behind her. He unsuccessfully attempted to grab her bag from her shoulder, and after a struggle he cycled off in the direction of Northfield. The victim took refuge in Giovanni's chip shop on Northfield Broadway.

Officers are now urging anyone who can assist with their enquiries to come forward.

The suspect is described as white, late 20s, skinny build, tanned complexion, short dark hair with fringe, wearing dark zip up goody and jogging bottoms, and riding a silver and black bike.

Detective Constable John McShane said: "Fortunately the victim didn't sustain serious injury but she was left badly shaken by this attempted robbery.

"The area was fairly busy with customers from the bar and the chip shop in the area, and we are asking for anyone with information that may assist with our enquiries to come forward. "Similarly, anyone who recognises the description of the suspect, or noticed someone riding a bike in the area in the early hours of Saturday morning, should contact Police immediately."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively, the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Tram numbers much as anticipated say Edinburgh Trams

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Edinburgh Trams say that average weekly tram passenger numbers, not including launch week, are currently sitting at just over 90,000 which is in line with forecasts made prior to the launch of the service. During the first week of service just over a month ago 130,000 residents and visitors came out to take the tram. 40,000 used the service during an extremely busy launch weekend and many thousands used the tram to get to and from the One Direction concert at Murrayfield.

Tom Norris, Director and GM of Edinburgh Trams, said:- "We are still in the very early days of a brand new service but with an extremely busy launch week, a major concert at Murrayfield and a huge public interest in the new service, we've experienced a lot already. These early figures are a positive sign and very much in line with forecasts for this stage but we'll have a clearer view of how things are going much further down the line. "Our next focus is on Edinburgh's busy festival season when, along with Lothian Buses, we'll be moving thousands of local and and visiting festival goers around the city. This is a big opportunity for us in terms of selling tickets but also to further expose a successfully operational Edinburgh Trams service to visitors from across the world."

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    ▼
    Convener of
    Transport &
    Environment -
    Lesley Hinds
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Councillor Lesley Hinds, Transport Convener and Chair of Transport for Edinburgh, said: -"These are encouraging figures and I'm pleased to note that they are in line with expectations. It's been great to see how quickly people have embraced tram travel. Trams have already become an established part of daily life in Edinburgh and I've heard lots of positive feedback about how they've made people's commute easier and how smooth the journey is, and so on.

"Obviously these are still early days and we'll continue to keep a close eye on how things are going, picking up and dealing with any issues as we go along. We'd encourage everyone to keep on giving us their feedback and suggestions so that we can deliver the best possible service."

The business model for the tram operation published in August 2013 set a target for passenger numbers at 4,555,000 for the first year of operations. A further update on patronage and on progress with the service will be provided in September following the first 100 days of operation.

In Dublin where they have a network of tram lines extending to around 36.5km the trams carry around 83,500 passengers a day.

Anniversary edition of Scott's Waverley

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Sir Walter Scott's Waverley: Newly adapted for the modern reader by Jenni Calder is being published 200 years after the original appearance of the first of the Waverley novels and the birth of the historical novel in English. The Edinburgh Reporter met the author in Princes Street gardens next to the Walter Scott Monument where a cake was cut and champagne popped to mark today's significant anniversary. She was ably helped by piper Neil MacLure from Goldenacre.

➤ Waverley was published anonymously on 7 July 1814. Scott had no idea whether how the novel would be received. In evoking the Jacobite Rebellion in 1745, Scott created an entirely new phenomenon in literature and a public reception of derision or praise were equally possible. Perhaps for this reason, he chose to conceal his authorship and even the manuscript submitted to publisher Archibald Constable was not in his own handwriting. Constable saw through the subterfuge but agreed to keep the author's name off the title page.

The new genre was a smash hit. In terms of overnight success as a novelist, Scott was the JK Rowling of his day. The first edition sold out within 48 hours, Waverley fever swept Europe and it was avidly sought in translation around the globe. Among the general public, speculation was rife as to the author's identity but Scott's authorship remained a closely guarded secret for the next 13 years.

In 'losing' over 50,000 words in her adaptation of Waverley for the modern reader, Jenni Calder has 'found' a compelling storyline that deals with perennial human themes of choice, identity, loyalty, trust, betrayal and intrigue.

This slideshow requires JavaScript.

Jenni Calder was born in Chicago, educated in the United States and England, and has lived in or near Edinburgh since 1971. After several years of part-time teaching and freelance writing, including three years in Kenya, she worked at the National Museums of Scotland from 1978 to 2001 successively as education officer, Head of Publications, script editor for the Museum of Scotland, and latterly as Head of Museum of Scotland International. In the latter capacity her main interest was in emigration and the Scottish diaspora. She has written and lectured widely on Scottish, English and American literary and historical subjects, and writes fiction and poetry as Jenni Daiches. Her RLS: A Life is regarded as the definitive biography of Robert Louis Stevenson. She has two daughters, a son and a dog.

What's on in Edinburgh this week

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MONDAY 7 JULY 2014

South West Neighbourhood Summer of Sport: get competitive! take part in this summer's themed activities and events. 2.30pm every Monday in the school holidays, <u>Colinton Library</u>, 14 Thorburn Road – contact library in advance for details. Free. Edible Gardening: drop in to find out how to grow your own food and take a look round the productive garden with the Edible Gardening Project team. 1-3pm, Demonstration Garden, <u>Royal Botanic Garden</u>. Free, no booking required and suitable for all ages. Also at same time on Tuesday 8th July.

Blackwell's Edinburgh presents its Monthly Book Quiz: do you know your Waugh from your Peace or your Meyer from your Heyer? Teams of up to 5 people can take part in the quiz: it's free to enter and no tickets are required, but seats are limited so arrive early! 6pm, Caffe Nero, <u>Blackwell's South Bridge</u>. More information from Ann Landmann on 0131 622 8216 or email events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk

Carnival Costume Workshop: spend four evenings (tonight and 8th, 14th & 15th July) with Junkanoo Commandos and make carnival costumes for Edinburgh Festival Carnival on 20th July 2014. Make a costume to wear and join the parade, or watch a performer wear it with pride. Open to everyone from novice to expert, all materials supplied. 6-8pm, Out of the Blue Drill Hall, 36 Dalmeny Street. Free, but places are limited so advance booking is required on 0131 467 5200 or email: anna@adjazz.co.uk

<u>GENERATION – Curator's Tour</u>. Keith Hartley, Chief Curator at the Gallery of Modern Art, leads an introductory tour of the exhibition, introducing key artists and themes from NGS's contribution to a nationwide programme of exhibitions and events. 12.45-1.30pm, Academy, <u>National Gallery</u>, The Mound. Free and unticketed.

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National Library of Scotland Guided Tour: tour of the building and introduction to the library's collections and history. 2pm, <u>National Library of Scotland</u>, George IV Bridge. Free but booking essential, either via <u>website</u> or by calling 0131 623 3734. **Tricolour**: monthly event showcasing three different poetry and spoken word talents. This month: JA Sutherland, Jennifer Williams and Carly Brown. 6.30pm, <u>National Library of Scotland</u>, George IV Bridge. Book via <u>website</u> or call 0131 623 3734.

Waverley and Walter Scott: 200th Anniversary Event. Celebrate the 2ooth anniversary of the publication of Waverley with Stuart Kelly, author of Scott-land, the Man who invented a Nation. Walter Scott's novel did not change literary history, despite being one of the fastest selling books ever, but it did change the world's perception of Scotland and Scotland's perception of itself. 7-8pm, <u>Central Library</u>, George IV Bridge. Free, but tickets must be booked via <u>eventbrite</u>.

Music Week: come and experience a two-day workshop with Jazz Festival favourites Junkanoo from the Bahamas. Learn how to make the dazzling carnival costumes, have a go at playing the music and take part in the Edinburgh Jazz Festival's parade on 20th July! 10am-3pm, today and tomorrow, WHALE Arts, 30 Westburn Grove. Family event. Booking essential, see website.

Lunchtime concert: St Michael's Grammar School, Melbourne. 12.15, <u>St Giles'</u> Cathedral, High Street. Free, no booking required.

TUESDAY 8 JULY 2014

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suitable for all ages.

Medusa and her Scary Hair: crafts in the library. 2.30-3.30pm, Leith Library, 28-30 Ferry Road. Free, suitable for ages 4-11 years. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

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WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2014

Mythical Monster Face Painting: 2.30 - 3.30pm, Oxgangs Library, 343 Oxgangs Road North. Free, suitable for ages 5+. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Swords and Shields: for ages 4-12. 11am, <u>Corstorphine</u> <u>Library</u>, 12 Kirk Loan. Free, but tickets should be obtained from the library. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Kate Atkinson: Life After Life. Kate will be in the shop to sign copies of her new book. 5pm. <u>Edinburgh Bookshop</u>, 219 Bruntsfield Place.

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, <u>Scottish National Gallery</u>, The Mound. Free and unticketed.

Just Independent Asian Film Festival: a celebration of the continent's emerging filmmakers, exploring how film is being adapted to capture the experiences of everyday life. Drama, documentaries and short films. Starts today and continues till 12th July: all films showing at the <u>Scottish Storytelling</u> <u>Centre</u>, 43-45 High Street. Tickets for each film £5. Book in person at the Centre, on the door (subject to availability), or via festival <u>website</u>. Full programme and details <u>here</u>.

Part of Just Festival 2014.

Lunchtime concert: Piano Speak. Will Pickvance presents an off-the-cuff weekly concert of piano improvisations and repartee. 12.15pm, <u>St Giles' Cathedral</u>, High Street. Free, no booking required.

THURSDAY 10 JULY 2014

Life on the Margins: the launch of Nina de la Mer's <u>Layla</u> and Liam Murray Bell's <u>The Busker</u>, two tales of lives lived on the margins. 6pm, <u>Waterstones West End</u>, Princes Street. Free tickets are available from the shop.

Story Time: for ages 4-6. 10.30-11am, <u>Leith Library</u>, 28-30 Ferry Road. Free, no booking required.

Masterful Mythical Storytelling: 2.30pm, <u>Blackhall Library</u>, 56 Hillhouse Road. Free, for ages 5-8 years. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Pass On A Poem: a chance to explore poetry in a 'beautifully bookish though wonderfully informal setting.' Read a favourite published poem aloud or just come to listen to a diverse collection at this live poetry event. No previous experience required! 6.30pm, <u>Golden Hare Books</u>, 102 West Bow. See website for more details.

Live Music Now: Astrid String Quartet: the Astrid String Quartet return to perform highlights from the classical repertoire, reflecting on paintings in the permanent collection. 6-6.30pm, <u>Scottish National Gallery</u>, The Mound. Free and unticketed.

Portrait Gallery Insights: Playing for Scotland. Imogen Gibbon, Deputy Director and Chief Curator at the Portrait Gallery, explores the history of sport in Scotland in advance of the 2014 Commonwealth Games. 5.30-6pm, <u>Scottish National</u> <u>Portrait Gallery</u>, 1 Queen Street. Free but limited places: to book call 0131 624 6560.

The Drawing Room: informal, artist-led, drawing session. Each session is developed by a contemporary artist and is inspired by the GENERATION exhibition, reflecting concerns within each artist's own work. No experience required, all materials supplied. 5.30-6.45pm, Academy, Scottish National Gallery, The Mound. Free, no booking required.

Build-a-Band: join international musician Joss Abrams and her brilliant band for a day of writing songs, making music and letting your inner star shine. 10am-4pm (bring your own lunch), <u>WHALE Arts, 30 Westburn Grove.</u> For ages 10+. Booking required: see <u>website</u>.

<u>Craigmillar Community Arts Creative Recycling Day</u>: jewellery making, origami, sock puppet making and bottle top art. 12-4pm, Craigmillar Community Arts Centre, 58 Newcraighall Road. Part of the 50th Craigmillar Festival.

Ragged Talks: 'Participation, Motivation and Adult Learning', plus 'A Different Kind of Humanity' 7-10pm, The Counting House, 36 West Nicolson Street. Free. A Ragged University event, see website for more information on speakers, etc.

FRIDAY 11 JULY 2014

Life in the Trees: everything you wanted to know about orchids but were afraid to ask. Join Kerry Walter on his fabulous tour of the largest family of plants on earth, the orchids. What do they get up to when nobody's watching? 2pm, Patrick Geddes Room, <u>Royal Botanic Garden</u>. Free, suitable for ages 14+, no booking required. Part of the Orchid Fair exhibition.

Mythical Maze Stories and Crafts: 3.30pm every Friday in the

school holidays at <u>Colinton Library</u>, 14 Thorburn Road. Free. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Girls, Curls and Traditional Tales: tired of all those princesses needing rescue? Rewrite a popular tale to create your own adventure, starring the girls! 2.30-3.30pm, <u>Stockbridge Library</u>, 11 Hamilton Place. Free, for ages 7-11. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Legend of King Arthur – make your own swords and shields. 2.30-3.30pm, Oxgangs Library, 343 Oxgangs Road North. Free, suitable for ages 5+. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Underwater Monsters – Real or Myth? For ages 4+. 2pm, <u>Blackhall Library</u>, 56 Hillhouse Road. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Town of Runners: Africa in Motion Festival. A feature documentary about young people from the Ethiopian rural town of Bekoji, whose runners have won 8 Olympic Gold medals, 32 World Championships and broken 10 world records in the last 20 years. The film follows two girls as they strive to emulate their local heroes, making the journey from school track to national competition and from childhood to adulthood. Their mentor is a former PE teacher who has discovered and trained many of the world's leading long distance runners, including Tirunesh and Genzebe Dibaba, Kenenisa Bekele and Deratu Tulu. 7-8.30pm, Red Lecture Theatre, <u>Summerhall</u>, 1 Summerhall. Free, suitable for over 15s only.

Greyfriars Bobby: Looking After Bobby. Interactive story and craft event for ages 7-11. 2-3pm, <u>Children's Library</u>, George IV Bridge.

Beware of the Dragon!: 2.30-3.30pm, <u>Gilmerton Library</u>. 13 Newtoft Street. For under-12s. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge. Houndog Fraser & Rock Hunter: blues harp and guitar duo who play 'a mix of originals and good old standards, all good time, foot stomping, whisky drinking blues.' First CD, Broke Down Load, just released. 5-6pm, Pear Tree Garden, West Nicolson Street. (Also at same time on Saturday.) Free. Part of Edinburgh Fringe Live.

Mythical Maze children's craft event: 3pm every Friday during the Reading Challenge. <u>Fountainbridge Library</u>, Dundee Street.

SATURDAY 12 JULY 2014

Giving Nature a Home: hop along to the Botanics and take part in a range of family focused weekend wildlife activities. RSPB staff will help you discover more about the range of wildlife that makes the garden its home, from minibeasts and birds through to mammals. 11am-4pm, Royal Botanic Garden – ask at reception for venue. Free, all ages, no booking required. Also available on Sunday.

Little Artists: meet Debi Gliori, author and illustrator of the *Mr Bear* and *Witch Baby* series, *The Tobermory Cat* and many more, as she introduces the magical *Dragon Loves Penguin*! Story time, plus a chance for children to pick up pencils, crayons or paints (all supplied) to create their own magical characters. Parents can have a cuppa whilst their children enjoy the fun. For ages 4-7. 11am, <u>Golden Hare Books</u>, 102 West Bow. Story time is unticketed, but tickets *must* be obtained in advance for the art session. Sign up in store or email: mail@goldenharebooks.com.

Bruncheon! featuring the songs of Neil Young. On the same day that Neil headlines in Hyde Park, some of Scotland's finest will be performing their own renditions of his classic songs. The musical line-up will be complemented by a delicious bruncheon menu. 11.30am-3pm, <u>Out of the Blue Drill Hall</u>, 36 Dalmeny Street. ▼ The Gruffalo! Meet him at the Edinburgh Bookshop, 219 Bruntsfield Place. 10am- 12noon.

<u>GENERATION tours</u>: free discussion-led tours of the exhibition, focusing on key themes and artists. 11-11.45am and 1-1.45pm, <u>Scottish Gallery of Modern Art ONE</u>, Belford Road. Free and unticketed.

<u>Creative Family Fun Day</u>: Indian dance, clay modelling, singing, painting and jewellery making. 12-4pm, <u>Craigmillar</u> <u>Community Arts Centre</u>, 58 Newcraighall Road. Part of the 50th Craigmillar Festival.

Ruari McMillan: singer and guitarist. 1-2pm, Pear Tree, West Nicolson Street. Free. Part of <u>Edinburgh Fringe Live</u>.

NASOV: NASOV is Italian folk singer Francesco Bordo. 2-3pm, Pear Tree, West Nicolson Street. Free. Part of <u>Edinburgh</u> <u>Fringe Live</u>.

Daniel Scott: singer, songwriter and guitarist. 3-4pm, Pear Tree, West Nicolson Street. Free. Part of <u>Edinburgh Fringe</u><u>Live</u>.

Under the Dogwood Tree: acoustic Americana, folk and old-time country played on fiddle, dobro, flute and harmonica, with harmony vocals. 4-5pm, Pear Tree, West Nicolson Street. Free. Part of Edinburgh Fringe Live.

Houndog Fraser & Rock Hunter: blues harp and guitar duo who play 'a mix of originals and good old standards, all good time, foot stomping, whisky drinking blues.' First CD, Broke Down Load, just released. 5-6pm, Pear Tree Garden, West Nicolson Street. Free. Part of Edinburgh Fringe Live.

Electrobuddha: guitar, vocals, drums and bass guitar. 6-7pm, Pear Tree, West Nicolson Street. Free. Part of <u>Edinburgh Fringe Live</u>.

SUNDAY 13 JULY 2014

Tea Ceremony and Tea Tasting: if you don't know your oolong you don't know tea. Come and join Denise Leishman as she explains how the climate and geography of Taiwan produce some of the finest teas in the world, and taste them as prepared by her expert hands. Learn how the tea ceremony still has a place in today's culture, and discover the stories behind the tea-related gems in the Botanic Garden's herbarium and archives. 1-4pm, Patrick Geddes Room, <u>Royal Botanic Garden</u>. Free, no booking required, suitable for ages 8+. Part of the Orchid Fair exhibition.

Family Garden Party: come along and join in a celebration of all things vegetable! Take part in fun activities like vegetable printing and seed sowing and find out more about the Edible Garden and School Garden areas. 1-4pm, Demonstration Garden, <u>Royal Botanic Garden</u>. Free, suitable for all ages, no booking required.

<u>Giving Nature a Home</u>: hop along to the Botanics and take part in a range of family focused weekend wildlife activities. RSPB staff will help you discover more about the range of wildlife that makes the garden its home, from minibeasts and birds through to mammals. 11am-4pm, <u>Royal Botanic Garden</u> – ask at reception for venue. Free, all ages, no booking required.

Mythical Maze Art, Crafts and Activities: 2.30-3.30pm, <u>Oxgangs Library</u>, 343 Oxgangs Road North. Free, suitable for ages 5+. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

Lego Swap Shop: come along with any of your unwanted Lego minifigures and trade them for some awesome new ones at the fifth Lego Swap Shop! Guess the Number and speedbuilding competitions. 3-5pm, <u>Waterstones Cameron Toll</u>.

Blackwell's Edinburgh Teenage Book Group: the group reads anything from classics to contemporary, dystopian to

historical. Currently reading the phenomenal worldwide bestseller, Jostein Gaarder's *Sophie's World*, a book that draws the reader into the worlds of Socrates, Descartes, Spinoza, Hegel and all the great philosophers, raising profound questions about the meaning of life and the origin of the universe. 2pm, <u>Blackwell's South Bridge</u>. To join (free) email schools.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk

Portrait Detectives! Collect your kit, follow clues, and solve a mystery from history! 2-4pm, <u>Scottish National Portrait</u> <u>Gallery</u>, 1 Queen Street. Suitable for ages 4-12. Free and unticketed. Supported by the Friends of NGS.

Open Garden: 4 Harelaw Road, Edinburgh EH13 ODR is open today under <u>Scotland's Gardens Scheme</u>. An attractive, well-designed garden featuring a delightful pond and statuary with a collection of unusual ferns and herbaceous plants. 2-5pm, entry £4. Plant stall, teas, disabled access. 40% of profits to Motor Neurone Disease Society, remainder to SGS nominated charities.

St Giles' at Six: Irish flautist Aisling Agnew and Scottish guitarist Matthew McAllister perform JS Bach's *Sonata BWV* 1034, *Carmen Fantasie* by Francois Borne and works from the Scots & Irish baroque. 6pm, <u>St Giles' Cathedral</u>, High Street. Free – retiring collection taken. No booking required.

Police hunt suspected bogus charity collector

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Police are appealing for information in a bid to catch a

suspected bogus charity worker, following a complaint that a man attended a property in Dalmahoy Crescent in Balerno at around 3pm on Wednesday 2nd July and claimed to be collecting money on behalf of the British Parachute Regiment.

The man, who was unable to show photographic identification, stated that he had been carrying out door-to-door collections elsewhere in the area and was promising that a "thank-you pack" would be distributed to anyone who donated money.

Detective Constable Ben Leathes said: "Earlier this month we had similar incidents reported to Police Scotland elsewhere in the city, from homeowners in Hutchison Loan and Spylaw Bank Road.

"There is clearly a concern that a man is duping people into believing that he is working for the British Parachute Regiment and we are working hard to trace the person responsible."

The suspect is described as white, between 25 and 35 years old, around 5ft 10in and of slim build. He has short, dark hair, with a pale complexion and with acne on his cheeks and forehead.

It is understood he was wearing a maroon beret with a wings emblem on the front, a camouflage jacket and matching trousers, and black boots.

DC Leathes added: "We would urge anyone who knows anything about the identity of the suspect or who suspects that they may have been a victim of this bogus worker to get in touch immediately.

"Anyone with any information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or, alternatively, phone the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Police recover body in Loch Tay

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Police searching for a missing canoeist who capsized on Loch Tay have found a body.

29 year old Darren Gilpin, from Edinburgh, was in a two-person canoe with a friend when they capsized in Perthshire at 4.45pm on Saturday.

The friend was able to swim to shore and raise the alarm.

An extensive search was undertaken and police divers recovered the body of a man from the loch last night.

Police Scotland said investigations are continuing into the incident.

Man in court following Princes Street incident

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A 43-year-old man has been charged following an incident on Princes Street on Friday 4th July where Armed Response police officers were required to deploy Taser.

Five police cars blocked off the street and an officer was

injured during the incident.

The man is scheduled to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court today.

Five things you need to know today

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Buddies Bunny Rescue – Planning News – Beer news – Craighouse meeting – Scottish Youth Parliament

The great bunny rescue is almost over. The threesome who have run the enterprising service for the last few years are closing the hutch door. Life moves on and they are too. They have some bunnies left for rehoming and would love to hear from you if you would like to offer a new home to one of their rescue bunnies.

Here is their farewell letter:-

Dear Buddies supporters & followers, it is with sadness that we announce that as of the end of July, Buddies Bunny Rescue will no longer be running. In the 3 years Buddies has been going, we have taken in & re homed hundreds of rabbits but the rescue has now come to a natural end. The running of our charity takes up huge amounts of time & work. We are all getting on with different things in our lives now & so unfortunately we had to make the decision to close our doors.

We still have around 40 rabbits looking for homes — males, females, pairs and groups — so if you are interested in re homing then please fill in an adoption form on our website (please ensure you include your email address), however rabbits need to be homed & collected before the end of this month, after this time they will be found rescue slots in other rabbit specific rescues throughout the uk.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us, donated funds, donated hay, food & toys, homed rabbits from us, come to awareness days & evening lectures, volunteered at our shelter or helped at events, raised money for our bunnies, the fantastic team at the Rabbit Welfare Association & Fund, our wonderful vet team at the Royal Dick Vet, & also our Committee who have been so dedicated over the last 3 years.

Although we won't be running after July, we will keep our Facebook page going for now.

Once again, a massive thank you to everyone & we hope all our bunnies now living in their forever loving homes, live long & happy binkying lives.

Best wishes, Emma, Louise & Natalie

▼ Convener of Planning - Ian Perry

The Council's planning convener Ian Perry has produced Issue 29 of Planning News this summer. It contains news about the Local Development Plan which is the Second Proposed draft as approved by the planning committee on 19 June 2014. The period when the council would like to hear from any interested parties with their representations is from 22 August until 3 October 2014. The council has been required by the Government

to provide space for 29,510 new homes. They have brownfield sites for 24,000 of those, and planning permission has been granted for many of those sites, but inevitably the council will have to look at some greenbelt land to fill the gap.

Another part of the council's responsibility to the Scottish Government is to identify vacant and derelict land across the city. This is land of at least 100 square metres which has been developed in the past. This is where you come in. The council want you to tell them about any sites you know of which are not in the list they have already compiled.

This Wednesday 9 July 2014 there will be a discussion session between 3 and 7.30pm at Drumbrae Library Hub to consider the proposals to make the Southfield Estate a conservation area.

The proposals are already exhibited at the library and you can see the exhibition until 11 July.

Planning News is reproduced for you below:-

http://www.theedinburghreporter.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/ 07/Planning-News-29-Summer-2014.pdf

If you are one of the many people who is interested in beer you can go along to Appellation Wines in Comely Bank this evening to learn about wheat beers.

It starts at 8pm and you can buy a ticket for f10 here.

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The Scottish Youth Parliament will be holding their elections next year. At the moment they are gathering footage for a promotional video for the election campaign.

This is how they would like you (presuming you are under 25) to help them out.

In order to encourage as many young people as possible to get involved in the 2015 elections, we want to encourage you to be a part of the promotional video by submitting short video clips as detailed below:

- I'm an MSYP. These will be short clips of about 4 seconds showcasing diverse locations across Scotland with you stating that you are an MSYP. You can also film these at unique locations that showcase your personal interests, such as sporting grounds or community groups you are a part of.
- I care about/ I'm interested in. These should be short clips that showcase the diversity of interests and personalities that make up the SYP membership. For these clips you should aim to keep your content between 4 - 8 seconds.
- I was a part of/ I helped change. These should be short clips sharing the key moments that you have been involved in as part of your role as an MSYP. You can share things that you were a part of that meant a lot to you or that you are proud to have helped influence. For example, "I was a part of the call for marriage equality to become reality in Scotland." These clips can showcase more detailed content and you should aim for around 8 – 15 seconds.

Be creative. This is about you. It's about what matters to you.

Content can be self-filmed, or you can have some hold the

device for you. The mains tips to ensure the highest quality of content are:

- Hold the phone or device horizontally.
- Be conscious of background noise. It is best to try and film somewhere quiet.
- Find somewhere with good natural light to make sure the content will be a clear as possible.

Please send your video content to Stephanie Brown, Communications Officer, at <u>stephanie.b@syp.org.uk</u>.

Preview – Just Independent Asian Film Festival

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WhileIndia is today seen as a vibrant and dynamic world player, mention Cambodia and many of us will still think only of brutality, suffering and war — the infamous 'Killing Fields.' The just Independent Asian Film Festival, which begins on 9 July 2014 at the <u>Scottish Storytelling Centre</u>, aims to open our eyes to new aspects of both countries.

Programmed by filmmaker and writer **Ashvin Immanuel Devasundaram** and Cambodian-based arts development worker **Ruta Kuzminskaite**, the festival look at diverse aspects of life in Asia today. It hopes to introduce audiences to new worlds of cinema and cultures, examining topics as diverse as arranged marriages, organ trafficking and rock n' roll.

Patrice Leconte's documentary **Dogera** opens the festival: it weaves 'an impressionistic, sensorial tapestry of existence in and around early 21st century Cambodia' and is set to composer **Etienne Perruchon**'s piece *Dogera*. The film will be preceded by a short talk from the festival curators, and the screening begins at 4pm on Wednesday 9th July.

Later on Wednesday, at 7.30pm, **Anand Ghandi**'s **Ship of Theseus** follows the moral journeys of a photographer, a Jain monk and a stockbroker as they each confront questions of identity, justice, beauty, meaning and death in modern Mumbai.

On Thursday 10th July at 4pm, events kick off with *Five Lives*, flash documentary shorts from five emerging filmmakers in Phnom Penh, made under the auspices of Cambodian director **Rithy Pan**.

Bombhunters, showing at 7.30pm on Thursday, explores the effects of unexploded ordinance on Cambodian people, both in their homeland and in the USA. It is directed by **Skye Fitzgerald**.

just Short Films at 4pm on Friday 11th July showcases the work of emerging Asian filmmakers from all walks of life, crossing boundaries of tradition and modernity. Ancient storytelling finds a new form in these tales of love, passion, faith and hope.

Friday evening's film is *Love in India*: Qaushiq Mukerjee's ('Q') documentary explores everything from the Bollywood film industry and the worship of Radha to arranged marriages, domestic violence and lack of sex education. Q says, 'A long time ago in India we understood love.....now we live in confusion, repression and dichotomy.' In this film Indians from various backgrounds talk about how the nation's repressive attitudes have impacted their lives. *Love in India* begins at 7.30pm.

Sleepwalking through the Mekong, showing at 4pm on Saturday 12th July, is a documentary following LA-based band Dengue Fever on their recent tour to perform 60s and 70s Cambodian rock 'n' roll in the country where it was created, and then almost destroyed by the Khmer Rouge. Director John Pirozzi offers a portrait of modern Cambodia as the band travels through Phnom Penh and beyond, crossing a great cultural chasm in the same spirit as Cambodia's original rock pioneers. Featured songs include March of the Balloon Animals and One Thousand Tears of a Tarantula.

Finally, at 7.30pm on Saturday, **Aamir Bashir**'s **Harud** is the story of a family trying to come to terms with the loss of a son, Tauqir, one of the thousands of young men who have disappeared since the onset of the military insurgency in Kashmir. When Tauqir's brother Rafiq finds his camera, it gives him a new way of looking at his community, which seems to be trapped in a constant state of decay and dormancy.

Tickets to each film cost **£5** and are available from the <u>Scottish Storytelling Centre</u>, High Street, Edinburgh (0131 556 9579), on the door (subject to availability) or <u>online</u>.

The main just Festival begins in Edinburgh on 1st August 2014 and will explore issues of peace, faith, home, freedom and forgiveness through a dynamic and diverse programme of performances, conversations, talks, workshops, films, exhibitions and family events.

http://www.theedinburghreporter.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/ 07/JIAFF-14-Printed-Programme-1.pdf

Rugby – Success and opportunity attracts top talent to Boroughmuir

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With Preseason underway, Boroughmuir Rugby are starting to see the rewards that new structures and programmes introduced at the start of last season, by the Boroughmuir Board, are having on the development of the game.

With over 50 players attending each of the Pre-season Team Building and Fitness sessions, the enthusiasm from last season has carried over into the summer.

Head Coach Bruce Aitchison commented:-"There is a great mix of old and new and the 18s have also joined us on Tuesdays and Thursdays to strengthen the links between the 18s and the senior club."

Planning for the new season started in February this year, with the Director of Rugby, Malcolm Clapperton, speaking with new players about the goals of Boroughmuir Rugby and the opportunities that are on offer for players looking to step up to the next level.

New Players joining Boroughmuir Rugby this season are: Sam Bingham-Aberdeen, Mike Entwhistle-Ballymena, Chris Laidlaw-Jedforest, Craig Keddie -Gala, Grant McConnell-Millfield School Jonathan Hamblin- Stew Mel and Scott Rodgers- Preston Lodge

Aitchison added:-"There is a fantastic buzz about the place and the players are working very hard to prepare for a hard season back in Premiership. Mark Ross and Michael Williams are our new Strength and Conditioning coaches who are doing a huge amount of work to get the players in great condition."

With Pre-season games confirmed, Boroughmuir Rugby will travel to Gala on 9 August with a home pre-season game planned against Dundee 16 August.

Submitted by Justin Tito

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The Rhesus Chart: Edinburgh author's new novel

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Charlie Stross is jet-lagged, or so he says. No-one would know it; even after several long-haul flights this man is a powerhouse of energy (one does wonder what he's like when he's not tired...) The prolific and multi-award winning author of numerous sci-fi books, Stross is launching *The Rhesus Chart*, the fifth novel in his *Laundry Files* series; an avid audience at Blackwell's can hardly wait to hear him read from it.

Stross explains that the series (and there are many other series, so please concentrate…) was originally loosely based on British spy thrillers. He's used the Bond books (or rather the film franchise), Anthony Price, even Modesty Blaise. Not feeling up to pastiching Le Carre (who would?) he decided to go off in a different direction: his new Laundry Files novella *Equoid* is about unicorns and takes its inspiration from HP Lovecraft. Unicorns may be friendly little creatures in children's fiction, but in Stross's hands they are nothing but. The book has already been shortlisted for a Hugo award (Hugos are to science fiction what the Daggers are to crime.) *The Rhesus Chart* meanwhile focuses on vampires, and Stross gives an animated reading from the first chapter.

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Bob is a civil servant. Not any old civil servant though: Bob works for The Laundry, a secret department set up to protect the population from occult powers. In a Google-esque attempt to raise morale he and his colleagues have been told to devote 10% of their time to following their own 'creative, innovative research ideas' — but they're far too busy to find space in their working days to regain their va-va-voom, so they have to develop their projects at night.

One night Bob returns to his office to find a colleague, Andy, conducting a 'hello spirit world' experiment. He's intending to summon a demon, a 'class one manifestation', but whatever he's called up, it's not that. Everything is feeling rather cold. Bob drags Andy from the room and shuts the door, but soon realises that;

'elephant size termites appear to be chewing on the edges of reality.'

Andy has used his own code instead of the regulation issue;

'there's nothing worse than an IT manager who's getting creative...'

Bob's boss Angleton is soon on the scene; an old school presence 'as chilly and powerful as the thing behind the door', he instructs Bob to call the Night Watch. The Night Watch appears 'in classic Bela Lugosi style', its members being zombies or, as the civil service now requires them to be designed, 'Residual Human Resources.' It becomes clear to a horrified Bob that Angleton's intention is to send one of them into the room; 'I've gotten used to dealing with the metabolically challenged, butyou can't just go using the Night Watch as meat probes'

Bob sees that even the zombies are uneasy about this one, but Angleton is determined. The poor zombie's bony hand ends up frozen to the door knob, but eventually the door is opened, to reveal;

'tentacles and lobster claws, eyes the size of my head....total sensory overload...voices like telemarketers in hell...'

And to find out what happens next, you need to buy the book – which many of the audience already have.

Asked how many books he still has to write, Stross says that *The Atrocity Archives* (the first in the series) began as a one-off; he realised it needed a sequel, then he planned **nine** – now he's about to 'go off at a tangent' so he really has no idea when the series will end. He's full of ideas, although sometimes events intervene – he's not writing any more books set in Edinburgh (another series) until he 'finds out which country I'm writing about.' Although he was once offered a film option it did not come to fruition, but he's certainly open to approaches.

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Stross finds that the readers who come to his events are well able to keep up with his various genres. In some ways he'd like to slow down, but he's already planned so many books in so many series that this seems unlikely. There is, he says, renewed interest in novellas – the form was all but dead until ebooks came along, but now they sell well. At the moment however, he's writing an enormous Cold War spy thriller, 'my post-Snowden book', set in the future: it's part of his *Merchant Princes* series and will be split into three volumes. He's a very busy man. Portals, basilisk firmware, wards, necromancy, paper clips (it is the civil service...) — science fiction is a different world, indeed many different worlds, and its fanbase shows no sign of shrinking. Charles Stross clearly loves his work; he's a brilliant and witty reader whose enthusiasm comes across in every sentence. Even this die-hard Barbara Pym addict was a little bit fascinated, and hugely entertained. Plot idea: 1950s social comedy meets sci-fi — what do you think Charlie?

The Rhesus Chart by Charles Stross is published by Orbit and available from all good book shops.

Sunday in Edinburgh — what's on today

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SUNDAY 6 JULY 2014

Art Maker: join the Art Maker Club (for ages 4-12) and make your own masterpieces with artists Tessa Asquith-Lamb and Louise Fraser. 2-4pm drop-in session, <u>Scottish National</u> <u>Gallery</u>, The Mound. Free and unticketed. Supported by the Friends of the National Gallery.

Children's Flower Painting and Face Painting: come and learn about Chinese flower painting and get your face painted too! Free, all ages welcome, no booking required: part of the Botanics Orchid Fair, supported by the Taipei Representative Office in the UK, Edinburgh office. 1-4pm, John Hope Gateway, <u>Royal Botanic Garden</u>. Giving Nature a Home: hop along to the Botanics and take part in a range of family-focused weekend wildlife activities. RSPB staff will help you discover more about the range of wildlife that makes the garden its home, from minibeasts and birds through to mammals. Free, all ages welcome, no booking required. 11am-4pm, Royal Botanic Garden: ask at reception for venue.

St Giles At Six: organ recital by Heinrich Walther. Programme will include Byrd, Liszt, Bach and Uzandigaza. 6pm, <u>St Giles</u> <u>Cathedral</u>, Royal Mile.

Five things you need to know today

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At the Botanics today

Early bird tickets for the Airshow

So you want to be a Zombie?

Wildflower Survey

Local Development Plan

<u>Children's Flower Painting and Face Painting</u> at The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Come along to learn about Chinese flower painting, and get your face painted. FREE event no booking required.

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You have to get your tickets soon for the airshow if you wish to get them at the cheapest prices. The airshow takes place on 26 July 2014 at East Fortune. It provides a great spectacle above the East Lothian skies and this year the Red Arrows will be there.

Scotland's National Airshow at the National Museum of Flight, East Fortune, is a spectacular day out for all the family and 2014 is no exception. The Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team the Red Arrows will headline the summer spectacle. Synonymous with precision flying, dramatic formations and loops and rolls, the Red Arrows celebrate their 50th flying season this year.

Full details of the event are here.

Have you got what it takes to be a zombie? The Generation of Z hurls you head first into a world ravaged by the undead. The survivors will fight for their future as they journey through a battle against extinction. Set within a maze-like security containment depot swarming with zombies, the audience are in the thick of it until the bitter end, be it rescue ... or death. Inspired by the movies and video games of the zombie genre, The Generation of Z is a multimedia horror play on steroids that takes a chainsaw to the fourth wall

After two hugely successful seasons in New Zealand , Royale Productions are bringing their fully interactive immersive Zombie Horror experience to the Edinburgh Festival.

The Generation of Z is a site-specific, immersive, theatrical event set within the maelstrom of a zombie apocalypse. There are no seats, no stage, no niceties and definitely no "fourth wall". As a zombie you'll play an integral part, you are in the thick of it from the first gunshot to its violent and thrilling finale. You will be made up in Hollywood style zombie make up and trained on how to be a zombie by our friends at ScareScotland. You will be trained by some of the best professional scare actors in the country at the Undead Academy.

All zombies will be volunteers, and we can guarantee you a whole lot of fun as you scare the audience witless.

We ask that you attend the "Undead Academy" on the 20th July(venue tbc) and fill in the registration form that will be emailed to you.

No performance experience is required. This event will be running for three weeks from the 31st of July/25th August with two performances a night. We don't expect you to be able to take part in the full run, but to perform when you can. The more you perform the more fun you can have.

Interested: then contact Stevie Douglas of ScareScotland at <u>fellinidays@hotmail.com</u> and a registration form will be sent to you with the time,date and venue of the Undead Academy.

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7th July Meadows Yard Wildflower Survey

Help survey the wildflowers in the Meadows Yard Local Nature Reserve, a place of special local natural interest. No knowledge or experience needed-you'll learn it on the day!

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Meet: Fillyside Road (opposite recycling centre)
Time: 1.30-3.30pm
Bring: Sturdy footwear and waterproofs
Booking: Essential. Phone 0131 529 2401 or email
naturalheritageservice@edinburgh.gov.uk
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1:30pm to 3:30pm Monday 7 July 2014

Details of how to get there on Edinburgh Outdoors.

The Local Development Plan was approved at the recent planning committee meeting and you can have a look at it in electronic form by clicking <u>here</u>. The important thing to note is that this is a second draft and you will have the opportunity of making representations between 22 August and 3 October 2014. Even if you have made a representation before you must make it afresh as this is a whole new plan (even though some of it is the same as the first draft).

Vale of Leithen 0-4 Hibernian

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A Jason Cummings double plus strikes from Liam Craig and Alex Harris ensured that Alan Stubbs' Hibs reign started with a comfortable 4-0 win against Lowland League Vale of Leithen at Victoria Park this afternoon.

The new Hibs Head Coach took the entire playing staff to Innerleithen with the exception of the injured Paul Heffernan

and Scott Robertson.

Former Wigan defender Adam Ruxton and Liverpool youngster Nathan Burke took part as trialists.

Around 1500 Hibs fans made the short trip to the Borders and were more than satisfied with the performance.

With all three goalkeepers having been released, the Easter Road men started with youngster Kleton Perntreou between the sticks.

After a lively opening, Hibs took the lead in the 31st minute when teenage defender Neil Martyniuk's cross found Cummings unmarked in the box and the young striker finished in style.

Cummings added a second in the 58th minute following good work by Sam Stanton whose shot was parried by the Vale keeper.

Ten minutes later Craig made it 3-0 then Harris completed the scoring when he calmly slipped the ball between the keepers legs.

Hibs, who are hoping to add several new signing this week travel to Berwick on Saturday to continue their pre-season workout.

Photo by John Preece

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

The Bon Vivant in the finals

of Tales of the Cocktail

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Thistle Street establishment Bon Vivant is in the finals for the award of Best International Restaurant Bar in the world's most prestigious drinks industry competition.

The restaurant bar has reached the finals of the world's most prestigious food and drink competition — the annual **Tales of the Cocktail, Spirited Awards 2014** in New Orleans, and the winner will be decided on 19 July 2014.

Established by Stuart McCluskey in 2008, The Bon Vivant is 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. The only Scottish entrant in this category, The Bon Vivant is competing against Delicatessen (Moscow), Spitalfields Bar at Hawksmoor and Blind Pig at Social Eating House (both London). The Bon Vivant will be critiqued on its approach to aperitif and digestif drinks, cocktail and food pairings, general bartending and mixing excellence.

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. If it wins, it will be the first Scottish establishment to ever receive a Spirited Award.

Taking place in New Orleans, the annual Tales of the Cocktail event is the world's premier five-day cocktail festival running from 16 to 20 July 2014, with up to 20,000 attendees. It brings together the international spirits community to celebrate what's new and next in bartending with the climax of the festival being the esteemed Spirited Awards on 19 July 2014. Festival events also include networking, seminars, dinners, demos, competitions, tasting and new product launches. For more information <u>see the website.</u>

The **Spirited Awards** were set up by Tales of the Cocktail in 2007 to provide some much needed recognition of the world's best bars and bar talent. This year's competition is bigger than ever, following the largest nomination pool in the history of the show. Thousands of nominations are whittled down to just four finalists in each category following a rigorous judging process carried out by a Governing Committee.

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. This is the first year an international restaurant bar will be recognised, and the four finalists range from new openings to old favourites, and from Michelin-starred venues to relaxed (but no less excellent) eateries, all combining great food with some of the best drinks on earth in a seamless, professional manner.

"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."

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Stuart McCluskey, Founder and Director of The Bon Vivant

said:-"I am absolutely over-the-moon that The Bon Vivant, my first born establishment, has been recognised by the world's most prestigious drinks industry competition. It's a tremendous boost for the team and the loyal following we've nurtured since 2008.

"We love what we do and work extremely hard to make sure that our customers do too. This sort of peer recognition is not only humbling but extremely motivating and will only spur us on to keep up standards. We'd absolutely love to take home the first Spirited Award to Scotland."

Commenting, Jess Estes, Brand Ambassador, Ocho Tequila, said: "The Edinburgh bar scene had always been notorious for churning out some of the world's best bartenders, and the team at Bon Vivant – namely Stuart McCluskey – has been instrumental in doing so. This venue consistently delivers welcoming hospitality and knowledgeable service, coupled with world class cocktails and food. With that said the venue is larger than the sum of its parts; all these elements are skillfully incorporated to create a truly special and memorable dining and drinking experience.

The Bon Vivant is definitely in my list of top bars/restaurants in the world. They are up against strong competition but I firmly believe that the Bon Vivant and Edinburgh deserve the recognition for their influence on the global bar industry.'

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John Doolan joins Hibs as First Team Coach

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Hibs have announced that John Doolan will officially join the club as first team coach on Monday.

Liverpool-born Doolan, 42, was previously under-18s coach at Wigan Athletic and has extensive experience from spells with the Academies at both Everton and Liverpool.

Stubbs welcomed the appointment and believes Doolan will strengthen his backroom staff.

Stubbs told the Hibernian website: "I'm thrilled to be able to bring John to Hibernian — he is a quality coach with an excellent pedigree.

"I've known him for a long time and I completely trust his judgement. He will be able to implement fresh ideas to improve our squad and his appointment is a real coup for Hibernian."

Woman attacked in Pier Place home

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Police are appealing for witnesses after a woman was injured during a break-in which happened around 12.15pm yesterday at her home address in Pier Place.

The 19-year-old victim was within the property when she became

aware of the male's presence.

A struggle between the pair ensued resulting in the woman sustaining a dislocated elbow and a minor injury to her face.

After a short time she was able to flee from the suspect and exited her home before seeking assistance from a neighbour who contacted emergency services.

Police are now conducting local enquiries to trace the male responsible and anyone who can assist in identifying him is asked to come forward.

He is described as white; just under 6ft tall with a skinny build. He was wearing a black tracksuit with the hood up and spoke with a local accent.

Detective Sergeant Mike Leask said: "The victim sustained painful injuries to her arm and face, which required medical attention and left her incredibly shaken.

"Anyone who was in or around Pier Place on Friday afternoon and remembers seeing anything suspicious is asked to contact police immediately."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively, the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

Witness appeal following assault and robbery in

Longstone

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Police are appealing for witnesses following an assault and robbery in the Capital.

The incident happened around lam this morning in Longstone Road.

A 28-year-old man was standing at the entrance of Haugh Park when he was approached by three males.

At this time the suspects grabbed at the man's green rucksack.

The victim tried to struggle with the males and was kicked to the stomach before the trio made off with the bag.

Officers are now urging anyone who can assist with their enquiries to come forward.

The first suspect is described as white, early thirties, 5ft 11ins tall with a heavy build, blond hair and a blond beard. He was wearing a white and blue hooded top, jeans and white trainers.

The second suspect is described as white, 25-30-years-old, 6ft tall with a skinny built, blond spikey hair and gaunt face. He was wearing a white and grey striped shirt and jeans.

The third male is described as being of Indian/Pakistani appearance, mid-twenties, 5 ft 7ins tall with a skinny build and short black hair. He was wearing a light blue polo shirt and dark trousers.

Detective Sergeant Kevin Harkins said: "Fortunately the victim didn't sustain serious injury but was left understandably upset at the theft of his rucksack.

"Anyone who remembers seeing any suspicious activity in the

Longstone Road area in the early hours of Saturday morning is asked to contact police immediately.

"In addition, anyone who recognises the description of the suspects or who has any other information relevant to this investigation is urged to get in touch."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively, the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Where to eat and drink — Aperitivo Hour at the G&V

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Aperitivo Hour is back at G&V Royal Mile Hotel. The five star luxury hotel has launched a brand new 'Aperitivo' cocktail menu, offering a selection of signature serves accompanied by complimentary Italian appetisers every Monday – Wednesday evening.

The bespoke Aperitivo trolley offers a unique take on table service, allowing guests to sit back, relax and enjoy their own personal mixologist for the evening. Perfect for after work drinks or celebrations, G&V is putting the theatre and experience back into an evening out in Edinburgh. Choose from a selection of six cocktails, made at the table and served by expert mixologists. From the Classic Martini to a Smoked Ice Tea Margarita and Smokey Whisky Sour, Bar G&V has put a unique twist on some well-loved classics.

An authentic Italian tradition, 'Aperitivo' is available daily from 6pm – 8pm in the hotel's Bar G&V, where guests can whet

their appetite sampling early evening Italian appetisers perfectly matched to the drinks selection. Cocktails cost £8 each which includes a selection of fresh authentic Italian cheese, ham and bread. Guests can also dine from the seasonal Bar G&V Taster Menu, offering three tasters for £8 including; Zucchini Fritte, Bruschetta with Spicy Salami and Black Olive or Braised Octopus and Chickpea with Rosemary.

'L'aperitivo' is recommended as the ideal prelude to dinner and diners can continue their evening by visiting the hotel's award winning restaurant, Cucina.

For more information or to reserve a table please contact Bar G&V on 0131 220 6666 or bar@gandvhotel.com .

Where to eat and drink — A Room in the West End

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A Room In the West End has a new menu!

A Room In the West End have launched their new summer menu. With an emphasis on high quality Scottish produce the menu is full of fresh, seasonal produce.

You will find a great selection of seafood, steak and vegetarian dishes, A Room In West End also has great Game dishes on offer including their new Venison dish – Chargrilled haunch steak, pulled braised shank & roasted sausage served with warm pepper salsa.

Other new dishes include: Roe deer liver pate served with fig

& fennel jam and toasted brioche, Baked sea bass with crab & asparagus mousse, pink peppercorn & Pernod cream and Pan roasted wood pigeon breast with Dunsyre blue creamed savoy cabbage and quince jus.

The new dinner menu is served between 5.30pm - 9.00pm seven days a week at A Room In West End.

If you are looking to experience delectable Scottish cuisine in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere in the heart of Edinburgh, you've found it A Room in West End!

Here is their menu

A Room In the West End/Teuchters

26 William St, Edinburgh, City of Edinburgh EH3 7NH http://www.aroomin.co.uk/slider/a-room-in-west-end/ | 0131 226 1036