

Braids Open Day to celebrate 125th anniversary



One of Scotland's most iconic golf courses, credited with inspiring the growth of urban golf since the nineteenth century and home to the Dispatch Trophy, is to celebrate its 125th anniversary.

Braid Hills Golf Course, beloved for its unique views of Arthur's Seat, Edinburgh Castle and the Firth of Forth, is marking the occasion by offering free golf at dedicated times on its birthday, Thursday May 29th.

As part of the celebrations, new members will be welcomed with a 25% discount on season tickets purchased on May 29 only.

Braid Hills, the testing ground for golfing greats James Braid and Tommy Armour, is predicting a bumper summer, building on the momentum of 2013, which proved its most successful year in a decade.

Established in 1889 to offer an alternative to golf enthusiasts after safety issues required the closure of Bruntsfield Links, the Braid Hills site was a marvel at the time, as a golf course situated in the centre of a capital city.

Golf, previously mostly associated with seaside sites, became urban. The success of 'The Braids' was credited with inspiring a wealth of new city golf courses which were established in the decades to follow.

The Braids has also been credited with boosting the fortunes of what came to be one of Edinburgh's most sought after

districts, Morningside.

With a new setting for golf came a new style of golfer, and just a few years later the Dispatch Trophy was launched.

The site has continually evolved over 125 years, including parts being ploughed over for growing food during WW2. The 15th and 16th greens were also used during wartime for fire pits designed to draw out bombers during blackouts.

The 14th hole was once a pond, popular for skating in the winter.



The Wee Braids, a nine hole course, was established in 2004 to introduce children and young people to golf.

The atmosphere surrounding the Dispatch Trophy coupled with the 125th anniversary celebrations is expected to entice a new batch of golfers.

David Atkinson, Golf and Grounds Maintenance Manager at Edinburgh Leisure, said: "The Braids has a unique topography which is ideal for golf. The gorse bushes, the highs and lows of the land, lends itself perfectly to the game and creates a challenging course which has always attracted enthusiasts, as well as tourists thanks to its beautiful views.

"We are looking forward to welcoming as many people as possible on Thursday to enjoy a free game at historic Braid Hills."

Free golf is offered to all on Thursday 29th May between 7am – 3pm and 6pm – 7.30pm, at Braid Hills Golf Course.

Tee off times are on a first come first served basis, and advance booking is advisable to avoid disappointment.

Annual season tickets purchased at the Braid Hills Golf Course

on Thursday May 29th will benefit from a 25% discount. This offer is exclusive to new customers who pay upfront (direct debit not available). Not available to concessions, combined memberships or used in conjunction with any other offers.

For further information visit www.edinburghleisure.co.uk/venues/braid-hills-golf-course or call 0131 447 6666.

Rod Petrie apologises to Hibs' fans



Hibernian Football Club last night issued an apology to supporters via the club's official website. The statement reads:

"Chairman Rod Petrie, the Board, Manager Terry Butcher and the coaching and playing staff understand that supporters have suffered for most of the season.

Manager Terry Butcher, speaking on behalf of the coaching staff and players, said: "We are devastated that our season has ended in this way, and we can only apologise to supporters for letting them down.

"I knew when I took on this role that it would be a challenge, and I remain determined to work to rebuild a team to get this Club to where it belongs at the top of Scottish football. I can assure supporters they will see very different performances and results next season."

Chairman Rod Petrie, said: "Let me start by saying that I am sorry for a dismal season on the pitch. The season started badly last July against Malmo in the Europa League and has finished even worse with relegation to the Championship. The Manager and Players know that performances on the pitch have not been good enough. To lose the play off at Easter Road Stadium after extra time and penalties having put ourselves in a great position after the away tie at Hamilton is a bitter pill for everyone to swallow.

"Supporters have turned up in numbers to support the team – 16,108 against Malmo and 18,031 here for the second leg of the play off match. Supporters are suffering. All we can do is apologise and thank them for backing the team. Supporters are also quite rightly asking what we are going to do about it?

"We recognise that change is needed. The Board and supporters agree that all of the work that has gone into creating an infrastructure unrivalled outside Glasgow needs to be matched by consistent sporting success.

"Some supporters have suggested that I should resign as Chairman. I take responsibility for the position that the Club finds itself in. However, it would be wrong for me to abdicate that responsibility at this time and walk away and it would be wrong for the Club. Having already announced a few weeks ago that I am handing over my executive responsibilities, it is in the best interests of the Club for me complete that transition to our new Chief Executive and to oversee the other far reaching changes at the Club as non-executive Chairman.

"Leeann Dempster has already been appointed as Chief Executive to lead the Club forward. She will join us in the next few days. Leeann achieved sporting success at Motherwell and will work closely with Terry Butcher as the Club begins the task of assembling a competitive squad for next season. Leeann's arrival is the first of a number of planned changes in the coming weeks and months ahead at Hibernian."

The Chairman added: "In essence, this summer will be a pivotal point in the long history of Hibernian, creating a new platform to take the Club forward in a positive, energetic and sustainable way.

"In the meantime I can only thank you for your unwavering support for the team and for your continued patience as we work towards implementing change.

"Without its supporters, the Club is nothing. With its supporters, the Club can again achieve great things."

Terry Butcher's darkest day in football



Hibs' manager Terry Butcher says that yesterday's defeat to Hamilton Academical which consigned the club to playing Championship football next season was his darkest day in football.

Supporters had answered the call and turned out in number expecting to see Hibs maintain their top flight status, but their 2-0 aggregate lead was erased and the play offs were decided on penalties.

After the game hundreds of supporters gathered at the rear of the West Stand demanding the resignations of Chairman Rod Petrie and Butcher, but the club later issued a statement to the effect that both would remain in post.

A dejected Terry Butcher told BBC Scotland: "It's the worst ever. I've been relegated before as a manager and a player,

it's horrible.

"I must give Hamilton full credit, they can certainly play and they did today. It's my darkest day in football."

"Whether I continue in the job is up to other people, but I want to continue," said Butcher. "I'm extremely angry, but I'll take the responsibility because we've had time to put it right."

"It was like watching a car crash today, to be honest. And it's been like that in the past few months."

"It's not just about today but the previous games and we haven't done enough to get ourselves out of trouble."

"We were talking about going for the top six a few months ago. Now we find ourselves relegated."

"I must give full credit to Hamilton. They came at us today and, for some reason, we sat off the game and allowed them to play and they can certainly play."

"We had it there with a minute and 15 seconds to go. We were fine, but we've conceded a goal and then extra-time is a bit of a lottery in many aspects because both sets of players were extremely tired."

"Then it gets to the penalties and, well, there you go. I can't point to bad luck because it's more than bad luck."

"When you're relegated, you deserve to get relegated and it's over the piece, it's over the whole season and not just the last game."

"You felt when it went to penalties that we've got a bit of a chance, but when you miss the first one then you're always up against it."

Photo by John Preece

What's On In Edinburgh this week

✖ MONDAY 26 MAY 2014

Looking Glass Books – [First Time Solo; Iain Maloney](#) launches his debut novel, the story of four RAF men preparing for war 'in a world where moral absolutes are being discarded daily and the certainties of the old order are crumbling.' 6.30pm, [Looking Glass Books, 36 Simpson's Loan](#). To book your free place RSVP to info@freightbooks.co.uk

[Edible Gardening – Seasonal Advice](#): drop in to the Royal Botanic Garden to find out how to grow your own food, and take a look around the productive garden with the [Edible Garden Project](#) team. 1-3pm, Demonstration Garden, free, all ages, no booking required.

✖ **Golden Hare Books** – monthly book group. This month's book is **Kirsty Logan's** *The Rental Heart & Other Stories*. Free wine and refreshments available. 6.30pm, 102 West Bow. Call 0131 629 1396 or see [website](#) for details.

Call for submissions: the 2014 Edinburgh Macmillan Art Exhibition, Inspired!, will take place 14-17 August at [Bonhams](#), Queen Street. Artists receive a minimum of 50% from sales, with all profits going to help people affected by cancer in Scotland. Deadline for submissions is 20th June 2014. For details and application forms visit www.macmillanartshow.org. The organisers are especially keen to see the work of artists new to the show.

Figuring Fergusson: Kerry Watson, Gallery of Modern Art Librarian, discusses responses to **John Duncan Fergusson's** life & work by current students from Glasgow School of Art's Department of Painting & Printmaking. 12.45-1.30pm, The Studio, [Modern Art One](#), free & unticketed.

TUESDAY 27 MAY 2014

Leith Folk Club: Mean Mary & Frank James. 7.30pm for 8pm, Victoria Park House Hotel, Ferry Rd. £7, tickets available on the door. Information on [website](#) or call booking line: 07502 024852

Collective Gallery, City Observatory: **Conversation of Monuments** – an installation and public research project to realise a new monument for the city. Artist Laura Yuile will be in the gallery every day 3-5pm to engage visitors in conversation and conduct focus groups and interviews with them. Today until 29th June 2014; gallery open Tuesday-Sunday 10am-5pm. More information on website or call 0131 556 1264.

National Library of Scotland Play-reading Group: who would you like to be? No performance, no public audience, no experience necessary. 6-8pm, NLS, George IV Bridge. Free, no need to book. Contact Reader in Residence Kate Hendry at k.hendry@nls.uk for further information.

Lunchtime Concert: Hallby Dane Choir from Eskilstuna, Sweden. 12.15pm, [St Giles Cathedral, Royal Mile](#).

Edible Gardening – Seasonal Advice: drop in to the Royal Botanic Garden to find out how to grow your own food, and take a look around the productive garden with the [Edible Garden Project](#) team. 1-3pm, Demonstration Garden, free, all ages, no booking required.

Blackwell's Edinburgh presents **Richard Clubley: Scotland's Islands, a Special Kind of Freedom**. Richard Clubley shares the sense of freedom he finds in the Scottish islands as he

discovers their individual character, beauty and diversity. 'A book for islomanes to savour in sips.' 6.30-7.30pm, Blackwell's, South Bridge. Tickets are free and can be obtained from the shop's front desk or by calling 0131 622 8218.

Uncovering Fergusson: Senior Curator **Alice Strang** tells the stories involved in tracking down and installing the more than 100 paintings and sculptures in the Fergusson exhibition lent from private and public UK collections. 12.45-1.30pm, Hawthornden Lecture Theatre, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free but tickets must be obtained in advance from the information desk at the National Gallery.

Crystallography Matters! **Celebrating the 2014 International Year of Crystallography.** This week Dr Emrys Phillips from the British Geological Survey will talk about 'Nature's Stained Glass – Using Crystallography to reveal the processes which have shaped our planet.' 6.30pm, Cairns Lecture Theatre, [Summerhall](#). A University of Edinburgh event. Free tickets must be booked via [eventbrite](#).

Leith Interventions: students from the University of Edinburgh's MSc in Advanced Sustainable Design investigate the development of Leith into a more sustainable area, focusing on sites around Leith Links. Opening event 5.30-7.30pm, [Out of the Blue Drill Hall](#), 36 Dalmeny Street. Exhibition continues until Thursday 29th May 2014.

WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 2014

Lunchtime Concert: Piano Speak with Will Pickvance. Popular off -the-cuff concert of piano improvisation and repartee. 12.15pm, [St Giles Cathedral, Royal Mile](#)

The Great Tapestry of Scotland & Scottish Identity: a talk by [Alistair Moffat](#). Part of the Soul of Scotland Lecture Series. 7.30-9pm [St Andrew's & St George's West Church, George Street](#). Free but please register via [eventbrite](#).

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

Powell & Mehrpouya: The Palace of Forgetting: new works – an exhibition encompassing new & traditional media, which focuses on the construction & manipulation of knowledge and its relation to questions of power & control. Opens today and continues to 21st June 2014, Weds-Sunday 10am-5.30pm at Warburton Gallery, 1 India Buildings: www.warburtongallery.com

THURSDAY 29 MAY 2014

Blackwell's Edinburgh presents **Head for the Edge, Keep Walking** – Kate Tough's much awaited new novel. 'What does it take to stay sane in this life? And why does it look easier for everyone else?' 6.30-7.30pm. Blackwell's South Bridge. Free tickets available from the shop's front desk or by calling 0131 622 8218.

An Evening with Tony Singh: the award-winning chef, who forms one half of the **Incredible Spice Men**, introduces his new book, **Tasty**, and offers some samples of the delicious recipes inside. 6pm, [Waterstones West End](#), 128 Princes Street. Tickets £4 (£3 for Waterstones card holders), must be purchased from the shop, tel: 0131 226 2666.

Live Music Now: Wildings. A varied selection of original and traditional tunes and songs for fiddle, flute, whistles, voice & piano. Free and unticketed. 6-6.30pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street.

Edinburgh College of Art Postgraduate Research Festival – Digital Media Studio Project, Installation and Event.

Presented by students from MSc courses in Sound Design, Design & Digital Media, and Acoustics & Music Technology. Performances include 'Piece for Viola & Electronics', 'Brain Drain' & 'Exploring Sonic Structures.' 7-10pm, [Wee Red Bar](#),

ECA Lauriston Place.

Art Meets Medical Research: Launch of exhibition of works by three artists from the Art, Space & Nature Masters Programme at Edinburgh College of Art, following residencies at the Queen's Medical Research Institute. 4pm, Mary Kinross Room, College of Medicine & Veterinary Science, 47 Little France Crescent.

FRIDAY 30 MAY 2014

Guid Crack: Think on Your Feet. Storyteller Lindsey Gibb leads an evening of improvised stories. 7.30-10pm, upstairs at the Waverley Bar, 3-5 St Mary's Street. Contact [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#) for more information.

Lunchtime Concert: Lynne Bulmer plays flute. 12.15pm [St Giles Cathedral, Royal Mile](#).

Informal Concert: Nokken Skolekor from Norway. 3pm, [St Giles Cathedral, Royal Mile](#).

☒ [Talbot Rice Gallery, University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge.](#) Preview night for new exhibitions: **Jason Dee, Pursuit of a Shadow** 'a captivating expose of the underlying changes in our relationship to moving images' 'a fascinating a timely dialogue with the history of cinema.' and **Hand-made Cinema, the work of Norman McLaren** 'celebrating the fluid – almost alchemical – creative processes of this experimental filmmaker and musician.' 6-8pm, for more information contact the gallery on 0131 650 2210.

Edinburgh College of Art Postgraduate Research Festival: Designs for (the failure of) an Institution – PhD by Design Exhibition & Reception. An exhibition of work produced as part of a recently completed PhD in Architecture by Design. 6-8pm, Matthew Architecture Gallery, Minto House, 20-22 Chambers Street.

SATURDAY 31 MAY 2014

6@bonnington group exhibition: [Patriothall Gallery](#), off Henderson Place, Stockbridge. Today until 8th June, times vary – see [website](#) or call 0131 226 7126

[Talbot Rice Gallery](#), University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge – new exhibitions: **Jason Dee, Pursuit of a Shadow** and **Norman McLaren, Hand-made cinema**. Today until 5th July 2014. See [website](#) or call 0131 650 2210 for further details. Free.

[Talbot Rice Gallery](#): artist's talk. Jason Dee discusses his new exhibition, [Pursuit of a Shadow](#) (see above), with John Calcutt. 11am, free, bookings must be made via [eventbrite](#).

Lunchtime Concert: St George's Singers from Poynton, Cheshire. 12.15pm, [St Giles Cathedral, Royal Mile](#).

[Doubtfire Gallery](#): new exhibition of paintings by [Linda Park](#). 10am-5pm, Monday to Saturday, 3 South East Circus Place, tel: 0131 225 6540

Informal Concert: Boler Mannskor from Norway. 3pm, [St Giles' Cathedral, Royal Mile](#).

The Hidden Library – special events for families, from babies to grandparents, at the [National Library of Scotland](#), George IV Bridge. Storytelling, tours, comic book workshop and lots more, some drop-in events, some bookable – all FREE. For programme, booking & contact details click [here](#).

Summer Fair & Teddy Toddle – The Sick Kids Friends Foundation. 12noon-4pm, Meadowbank Sports Centre, London Road. For more information and contact details, click [here](#).

3 Harbours Arts Festival starts today in Cockenzie, Port Seton & Prestonpans. Art, crafts, exhibitions, events, music & lots more. See www.3harbours.co.uk for details. Continues until 8th June 2014 (not all venues open midweek.)

East Neuk Open Studios continues this weekend in Cellardyke, Crail, St Monan's & Pittenweem. See www.eastneukopenstudios.org for details.

SUNDAY 1 JUNE 2014

[The Serenity Cafe](#), 8 Jackson's Entry, off Holyrood Rd, hosts the [Surgeons' Hall Museum](#)'s exhibition: [Words & Deeds, Weapons & Wounding](#). Today to 30th June 2014.

[Art Maker](#) – join the Art Maker Club and make your own masterpieces with artists Tessa Asquith-Lamb and Louise Fraser. Ages 4-12. 2-4pm, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free drop-in session.

[The Glasshouses at the Royal Botanic Garden](#), Inverleith Row are open today for the charity [Scotland's Gardens](#). 10am-5.30pm, £5, concessions £4, children under 16 free, no advanced booking needed. Proceeds are shared between various charities.



Five things you need to know

today



European Elections – Cycling Hub – Free Wifi – Tonight at the Filmhouse – EdinburghReportage

The results of the European Parliamentary Election local counting area have been announced by The City of Edinburgh Council.

The local count was announced on Sunday 25 May 2014.

The number of votes cast for each party are:

BRITAIN FIRST, 1,035

BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY, 676

CONSERVATIVE PARTY, 27,554

LABOUR PARTY, 32,758

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS, 12,575

NO2EU, 548

SCOTTISH GREEN PARTY, 22,836

SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY 32,721

UK INDEPENDENCE PARTY, 10,992

Valid votes 141,695

Rejected papers 271

Total votes cast 141,966

Turnout 41.6%

The full results detailing the six MEPs who have been elected

for Scotland will be announced later today.

Almost a year ago the council decided to spend £1.215m on a cycling hub at the Jack Kane Centre. This might include a road loop, a regional track cycling facility and a bmx track. Some work has been done on master plan options and after a further period of consultation a decision will be made by the Culture and Sport Committee in August.

The Culture and Sport Committee meets on Tuesday of this week.

You can add your name to a petition to the Scottish Parliament if you are quick. Mr James Macfarlane has lodged the following petition at Holyrood:-“Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to issue a code of practice setting out a minimum standard for wifi connections provided by public authorities to members of the public; and to urge all Scottish public authorities to provide wifi connections that meet this standard in all their public buildings.”

There is a bit more background on this petition [here](#).

Two Faces of January just opened at the Filmhouse yesterday and shows there today at various times during the day. [Booking details here](#). Rotten Tomatoes gives it 82%. If you would like to write a short review for us then feel free!

Did you get any good photos of the weather yesterday? Then you could add them to our weather storyboard here! We are sure that some of you snapped a rainbow or the torrential rain!

Click [here](#) to take you to the weather storyboard.



John Lewis serving up Tom Kitchin's heritage menu



Edinburgh chef Tom Kitchin teams up with John Lewis for their 150th anniversary celebrations.

To mark the important anniversary, John Lewis has unveiled an exclusive heritage menu designed by the top Michelin star chef.

John Lewis Edinburgh's The Place to Eat restaurant will serve the 150th Heritage Menu, from 26 May to 29 June, transporting diners back to 1864 – the year the retailer opened its doors as a humble draper's shop on London's Oxford Street. The menu includes three dishes inspired by the kitchens of the 1860s; *Sheep's Heid Scotch Broth*, *Stargazy Fish Pie* and *Scottish Strawberry Fool*.



Each of the dishes developed by Tom Kitchin have been inspired by the John Lewis archives, as well as Tom's research with the National Library of Scotland. Tom drew on old menus and recipes found in the archives giving them his own twist of Scottish flair. Tom has also been personally training the John Lewis chefs on how to perfect his inspirational recipes, which combine history and local heritage with a little Michelin star magic.

Tom Kitchin said: "In Scotland we are lucky to have such a

rich culinary past. I'm incredibly passionate about discovering and recreating traditional, classic Scottish dishes so looking back in the archives and developing these recipes has been really interesting for me. Each of the dishes we've created are simple yet delicious and bring a little bit of history and fun to the John Lewis celebrations.

"I also had the opportunity to look through Beatrice Lewis's recipe book. Beatrice was the wife of the founder of the John Lewis Partnership. Her recipes included gooseberry fool, roast mutton, pea soup and grouse served with bread sauce and game chips – all fantastic dishes that I in fact regularly cook myself today,"



Barry Blamire, head of branch at John Lewis Edinburgh, said:

"At John Lewis Edinburgh, our 150th anniversary celebrations are in full swing. John Spedan Lewis, the founder of the John Lewis Partnership was a great food-lover and told his staff, 'for most people eating is one of the chief pleasures of life, immensely important to good temper and liveliness of mind.' Spedan Lewis recognised the importance of enjoying food and dining and our 150th Heritage Menu celebrates this whilst offering our customers a new unique and exciting dining experience."

The limited edition menu will be available from 26 May to 29 June in The Place to Eat at John Lewis Edinburgh and includes the following dishes:

- Shiep's Heid Scotch Broth (£6.25)
 - Stargazy Fish Pie (£8.95)
 - Scottish Strawberry Fool (£4.50)
-

Author Neil Broadfoot launches *Falling Fast*

☒ Twenty-five years ago, [Neil Broadfoot](#) made a promise to his Gran; that promise sustained him through all the trials and tribulations of writing his first novel. On Wednesday night at [Looking Glass Books](#) Neil introduced *[Falling Fast](#)*; his Gran, he says, would have needed a whisky and soda to cope with the body count in the book, but she would still have been very proud.

Neil, a former journalist, was in conversation with his agent **Bob McDevitt** of [Jenny Brown Associates](#); Bob opened the evening by reading the first few cracking paragraphs of the book to an appreciative audience. Neil has put his journalistic experience to good use; there is no faffing about in this story – within minutes a girl has fallen from the Scott Monument and crashed in graphic manner into Princes Street Gardens. Who she was and why she fell are questions by which we are instantly hooked, and the story moves on at a fast pace.

Inevitably there will be comparisons with that other Edinburgh author – no, not JK Rowling...but Neil says that although he was obviously conscious of [Ian Rankin](#)'s Rebus novels, every writer tells his own story in his own voice. He just set out to write a good book, but like everyone he's been influenced by what he's read over the years; Rankin, [Stuart MacBride](#), [Christopher Brookmyre](#) and [Iain Banks](#) are all great favourites. [Stephen King](#) novels borrowed from the school library were Neil's earliest influences; he especially admires the plot-drive structure of *[Carrie](#)*, and used to write horror stories to keep his school friends awake at night. Eventually he decided to 'stop mucking about' and work on something that would grab readers from page one and keep them reading. He doesn't rule out a return to the horror genre though, and hopes that he's

managed to emulate some of King's style in *Falling Fast*.

✖ Journalism taught Neil to look at the hard facts – the who? where? what? when? and why? – and although writing a novel reverses this order it is still the why? in particular that drives his work. Whilst Neil admits that he sometimes finds it hard to build emotion back into his writing, his newspaper experience made the editing process much easier, saying 'You leave the ego at the door.' If a journalist can see the sense in an editorial suggestion, he'll do it; there is no point in being precious about a story. Bob explained, however, that agents can never be as dictatorial as press editors; it's a two-way conversation and agents are just readers who can suggest things that might improve a book, with the author generally still having the final say. Neil feels he's been exceptionally lucky to have both an agent and a publisher who understand his work. Bob advised him to enter *Falling Fast* for the [Dundee International Book Prize](#); it was longlisted and although it didn't win, it was spotted by Sara Hunt of [Saraband Books](#). Sara was looking to start Contraband, a new crime imprint and tweeted Neil to express interest; from then on the process has been painless. He's also had the good fortune to have great support from his wife Fiona and family – including the smallest member who came along on Wednesday night and had a great time exercising her lungs when all this book talk got a bit too much...

✖ Neil believes you should write about what you know; he now works as a Communications Officer for the Scottish Government, and politics soon rear their head in *Falling Fast*, when the remains splattered over the grass where office workers are eating their lunch turn out to belong to an MSP's daughter. He started with the bare bones of a 'twisty-turny' plot then fleshed it out to show that everyone has good and bad points, and as he did so he found that some characters became more complex and interesting. He calls the first draft the 'chaos version', in which the writer pours everything onto

the page – but the writer knows what’s going to happen, so needs to go back and hide a few things, to shape the story and make the reader’s experience satisfying. The quality of the relationships in *Falling Fast* is, says Bob, one of its greatest strengths. Although Neil had a rough idea of the story’s ending before he started to write, the motive for the crime only came to him in the second draft; the characters informed it.

Neil’s already nearly finished book two, in fact he’s now working on how the plot of this second novel will fit in with books three and four. Being shortlisted at Dundee has given him much more confidence about his writing, although he still finds it ‘surreal’ to see his family and friends reading his book. His work colleagues say they’re amazed that such a quiet person could produce such a thriller. A publishing deal has given him the space to expand his imaginary universe, and although the next four books are his main focus just now, he’s open to any ideas that come along. He hasn’t yet managed to give up the day job, but he’s working on it; he tries to write something every day.

Neil Broadfoot used secretly to make spaces on bookshop shelves for the novels he hadn’t quite written; now, after years of hard work, those spaces are filled by *Falling Fast*. As Neil says, ‘it’s surreal.’

[Falling Fast](#) by Neil Broadfoot is published by Contraband, an imprint of Saraband Books and is available from [Looking Glass Books](#), Simpson’s Loan.

Looking Glass Books hosts a continuing programme of writers – see [website](#) for details of forthcoming events.

View from Oz on Scottish Independence

Scotland should be given the right to vote for Independence, we live in a democratic society, they should be supported, no-one, I mean no-one should deny a country Independence, or the opportunity to vote on it. It will be interesting to see who her friends are should they become successful.

My Glaswegian father youst ta say:-

"Proud Scotsmen without freedom hurt, Shameless Scotsman without money cry" Hoist your flag high and best wishes from Australia.

Submitted by [Robert Anderson](#)

Hibernian 0-2 Hamilton Academical – HIBS RELEGATED



Hibs have been relegated from the SPFL after losing a dramatic penalty shoot out to Hamilton Academical in front of a packed Easter Road stadium today.

The result sparked a demonstration from furious supporters outside the main stand at the end of the game, as fans demanded the resignations of both Chairman Rod Petrie and manager Terry Butcher.

Hibs went into the game with a 2-0 lead from the first leg and the manager made one change to the starting line up with Danny Haynes replacing Alex Harris however the on-loan winger lasted only a few minutes before being forced to leave the field with an ankle injury.

Hamilton grabbed the lead in the 11th minute following a poor clearance from Ryan McGivern when Jason Scotland turned Michael Nelson and hammered the ball into the far corner of the net to the delight of the travelling support.

Hibs almost responded immediately when Jason Cummings released Paul Heffernan who rounded Kevin Cuthbert but the linesman's flag was raised.

Scott Robertson tested Cuthbert with a well struck shot, but Hamilton looked dangerous on the break and Hibs had Ben Williams to thank in the 21st minute when he blocked from Louis Longridge.

Hibs almost grabbed an equaliser just before half time when Liam Craig's corner kick found Cummings at the back post, but his goal bound header was hooked it clear from the line.

Accies' started the second half strongly and Williams once again did well to prevent Scotland doubling their lead.

Midweek hero Jason Cummings almost scored following a Lewis Stevenson cross then substitute Mickael Antoine-Curier saw his effort deflected over by McGivern as Hibs held on to their aggregate lead.

There was some confusion when the announcer reported four minutes of added time as the Easter Road scoreboard clock had stopped on 86 minutes, then with seconds remaining, Andreu swept in Scotland's cutback from close range to send the game to extra-time.

Neither side went close in the additional 30 minutes and the

game was decided on penalties.

Kevin Thomson took the first and his effort was saved by Cuthbert. The Hamilton players all scored, as did Ryan McGivern, Liam Craig and Owain Tudur Jones. With the score standing at 4-3 to the visitors, Jason Cummings needed to score to keep Hibs hopes alive but the youngsters effort was well saved and Hamilton celebrated their promotion with their fans in the south stand.

After the game around 500 Hibs supporters vented their anger at Terry Butcher and Chairman Rod Petrie outside the West Stand.

Hibernian: Williams, McGivern, Nelson, Robertson, Craig, Stevenson, Maybury, Heffernan (Tudur Jones 82'), Stanton, Haynes (Harris 7', Thomson 64')), Cummings. Substitutes not used: Murdoch, Cairney, Collins, Forster.

Hamilton Academical: Cuthbert, Gordon, Canning, Gillespie, Routledge (Ryan 81'), Crawford (Neil 81'), Longridge (Antoine-Curier 67'), MacKinnon, Andreu, Garcia, Scotland. Substitutes not used: Currie, Devlin, Keatings, Kilday.

Referee: William Collum.

Attendance: 18,031

Five things you need to know today



Roller Derby – Waverley Station access – T in the Park –

Greater Liberton – Red Arrows

Auld Reekie Roller Girls' all-star reserve team the Cannon Belles will be taking on Newcastle Roller Girls' B Team the Whippin' Hinnies in a fast and fierce tussle for the top. Get along to Meadowbank and see which team will hit, whip and skate their way to victory!

Edinburgh's Belles have had a successful season so far, losing only one game in the past year and gaining experience through playing both at home and abroad, most recently taking on the Amsterdam Roller Dames. But can they tackle Newcastle's Whippin' Hinnies, who have won every single one of their bouts in the past six months? It's sure to be a close game, though the Belles will have the advantage of being on home ground with the raucous support of the Edinburgh crowd.

The Cannon Belles' captain Mallory Powers told us 'We're really looking forward to this bout: it's going to be tough, but I think we can take them. We fully intend to whip the Hinnies!'

It's sure to be an eventful game, full of big hits and speedy skating. There will also be the usual fantastic stalls in attendance where the public can snap up some of our new, limited edition merchandise, or tuck in to the delicious cakes on offer. There is also a special guest announcer – Phill Jupitus of Never Mind The Buzzcocks fame!

Auld Reekie Roller Girls' Cannon Belles vs Newcastle Roller Girls' Whippin' Hinnies: 2pm, Saturday 31st May 2014 – Meadowbank Sports Centre

Tickets: £8 on the door or £7 from:
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/643612>

Free for children aged 14 and under

To complement the recent changes to vehicular access into Waverley Station made by Network Rail, the council is to make major changes to the road and pavement layout on Waverley Bridge and Market Street. These changes are designed to support an increase in pedestrian and road traffic, as well as further enhancing the public realm and improving connectivity for pedestrians between Edinburgh's Old and New Towns.

Construction of £1.2m worth of improvements will begin around Waverley Station starting from tomorrow.

The project is due to be carried out in two stages:

- Market Street – 26 May to 26 July
- Waverley Bridge – 8 September to 1 December

The council explain what they are about to do:-

“The construction work includes: widening and resurfacing the footways in natural stone paving, installing new raised tables to improve pedestrian crossing points, installing a new zebra crossing, providing a new 10 bay taxi rank on Market Street, creating new loading areas, a new cycle lane, new street lighting, resurfacing the carriageway and reducing street clutter.

These improvement works have been carefully planned to minimise disruption to businesses and associated tourism, with programming purposely avoiding the summer festival period.

At certain stages of the project there will be a need for temporary traffic lights, lane width restriction and parking suspension, however access for pedestrians and deliveries will be maintained at all times and all shops and businesses will be open for business as usual.

We will continue to work with the local residents and businesses throughout the course of the project so that we can minimise disruption and inconvenience to all those affected by the works."

Some Edinburgh bands are getting a chance to strut their stuff at T in the Park this summer.

Tennent's Lager have revealed the T Break line-up for 2014 with Edinburgh based bands Birdhead, NAKED and DJ, Tisoki all making the bill. Tennent's Lager put out their annual call in March for Scotland's unsigned acts to submit their demos to T Break in the hope of landing one of 16 highly coveted slots on the T Break Stage at T in the Park.

Edinburgh duo Birdhead describe their sound as prog come post punk groove rock and 2013 saw the release of their debut album Pleasure Centre which drew widespread critical acclaim and was listed amongst the top 50 albums of the year by T Break judge and BBC Radio DJ Vic Galloway.

Birdhead front man Stephen Donkin said, "We are absolutely over the moon to be picked for T Break. T in the Park is a festival that I've been to more times than I can count, and to be able to be part of it from the other side of the fence is an amazing opportunity. I just can't wait to give a performance as memorable as the ones I've seen down the years!"

Joining them on the bill will be the hypnotising NAKED, with a sound compared to walking through Japan at night where neon-lit beats filter under dissonant guitar sculptures NAKED are sure to bring a beautiful set to the T Break Stage this summer.

The final Edinburgh act to take to the T Break Stage this

summer is bass music DJ, Tisoki. Gaining millions of hits online with tracks such as MMXIII and Sky Child and having played shows across Europe the Edinburgh DJ is sure to play an unmissable set at this year's festival.

Tennent's Lager have been proudly supporting Scotland's grassroots music scene through T Break for the past 19 years, providing the country's freshest unsigned talent with the chance to showcase their material to fans, musicians and music industry insiders alike on the biggest platform for unsigned artists at T in the Park – the T Break Stage.

The Greater Liberton Heritage Project is one of the first groups in the UK to receive a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Sharing Heritage grant, it was announced this week. The funding is for their exciting project, 'The Search for Bridgend Medieval Royal Chapel', in south Edinburgh. The Greater Liberton Heritage Project, has been given £9,900 to carry out archaeological excavations to find out if local farm buildings include the remains of a medieval Royal chapel.

Sharing Heritage is a new funding programme to help people across the UK explore, conserve and share all aspects of the history and character of their local area.

The Greater Liberton Heritage Project are a team of volunteers established in 2002 to support and encourage research and public interest into the unique heritage and cultural identity of the area of Greater Liberton. As well as collating and disseminating the history of the area, we encourage the conservation of sites important to the cultural heritage of the area. On the Search for Bridgend Medieval Royal Chapel project we will be working with Rubicon Heritage Services, a professional archaeological firm, with the support of Edinburgh City Council. Oral tradition and historical references indicate a Royal chapel was constructed at Bridgend

during the medieval period. Historical research and archaeological field survey have shown that the remains may be incorporated into upstanding farm buildings. Archaeological excavations will be carried out to find structural and/or dating evidence which could prove whether the upstanding buildings are the medieval Royal chapel. Local schools, groups and societies are encouraged to get involved with the project which will allow them to learn about heritage in the local area and archaeological techniques.

Commenting on the award, Margaret Collingwood said: "It's great that we have been awarded this grant and we can't wait to get started. We love where we live and know there's so much more to discover about our past. We are all really excited about telling other people about our findings and sharing our heritage and history with them."



Convener of
Culture and Sport
Richard Lewis

Councillor Richard Lewis, Convener of Culture for the City of Edinburgh Council, said: "This project will significantly support the cultural heritage of the South Edinburgh area. It is fantastic that the search for Bridgend Chapel will also offer local schools and community groups the chance to get involved and learn about their local heritage and archaeological techniques. Edinburgh's rich history is by no means restricted to the World Heritage Sites of the Old and New Towns, and we look forward to uncovering important insights into the unique history of Greater Liberton."

Colin McLean, Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund Scotland, added: "Sharing Heritage is a wonderful opportunity for communities to delve into their local heritage and we are delighted to be able to offer this grant so that the community

of Greater Liberton can embark on a real journey of discovery. Heritage means such different things to different people, and HLF's funding offers a wealth of opportunities for groups to explore and celebrate what's important to them in their area."



Tickets are now on sale for the Airshow at the National Museum of Flight on 26 July 2014. The Red Arrows are coming!

[More details here.....](#)

Edinburgh College wins big at photography awards



Edinburgh College has swept the board at the British Institute of Professional Photography (BIPP) Scottish Region Image Awards, with students picking up 22 awards and graduates

snapping up eight prizes. The haul included the prestigious Student Photographer of the Year award and the Professional Photographer of the Year prize, which was won by a former student.

As well as the Student Photographer of the Year award, HND and BA Professional Photography students claimed first places in the Advertising & Fashion, Social & Portraiture, and Open categories. They also picked up 18 second and third places and merits, meaning the college took home all available prizes in some categories.

This is the fifth year in a row that Edinburgh College photography students have had a winning streak at the awards, picking up 21 category awards and merits at last year's competition.

Antonio Castro – who studies BA Professional Photography at Edinburgh College – won the title of Student of the Year 2014 with his striking photograph portraying the themes of loneliness and love in a sterile, modern world. The image is of a man with a bouquet of red roses alone in an elevator, leaving his story open to the interpretation of the viewer.

Antonio, who is originally from Spain and is 27 years old, said: "It felt amazing and almost unreal to find out I had won Student of the Year at the British Institute of Professional Photography Awards. I really believe that winning competitions like this will help me when I eventually become a professional and set out on my own.



"The inspiration for my image came from a number of portrait shots that I have produced with hidden and subtle narratives during my time at college. I wanted to create a scene that would trigger some kind of emotion in the viewer, which may vary depending on their own outlook and experiences. By using a single man standing alone in a lift with a bouquet of

flowers, looking slightly disappointed, I wanted to leave his story and the meaning of the photograph open to interpretation.”

Four Edinburgh College graduates also grabbed the spotlight with awards in several categories. Former star student Lee Howell was crowned Professional Photographer of the Year 2014. He also claimed first prize in the Industrial, Commercial, Fashion & Advertising and Pictorial & Illustrative categories and second place in the Portraiture category. Lee has now set up his own commercial photography business in Edinburgh, which specialises in creative advertising and contemporary editorial portraiture.



Lee’s fellow graduate Angela Isac won the Press & PR category.

Edinburgh College photography lecturer Jon Lee said: “The number of students winning awards this year has been outstanding and underlines the continued quality of work produced by our photography students year after year. Winning the top prizes in the student and graduate categories is exceptional enough, but the number of other placings shows the incredible strength in depth we have here, and how our students are constantly pushing each other on to achieve greater things.

“Our graduates’ success is testament to the talent we have at Edinburgh College and how our courses prepare students for employment in the creative industries.”

BA Professional Photography graduate Lee Howell said: “It’s just incredible to have been awarded BIPP Scottish Professional Photographer of the Year 2014. None of this would have been possible without the hard work, mentoring, nurturing and encouragement I received from my lecturers while studying at Edinburgh College. I am eternally grateful for everything that they have taught me. It was such an amazing foundation to

build a career upon and it's not an understatement to say that for me it has been life changing, and this is only the start."

The students and graduates will now go on to compete at the BIPP UK National Awards in June.

All students' photographic work will be exhibited at the college's Let's Glow creative industries festival. A full list of the events can be found [here](#). The photography events include [BA Photography Free Range Exhibition](#) and [Exposed '14](#), where HND and BA Professional Photography students' work will be on display.

The Scottish Independence Poll Dance

The campaign for an independent Scotland has become something of a poll dance.

It's been a week since a mysterious pollster named Kelly Brown leaked news that Westminster allegedly covered up results of a survey because it showed a surge in support for the Yes campaign. Ipsos MORI, which conducted the survey, denied employing anyone by that name (at least, not anymore, it would seem), but the allegation still spawned a predictable barrage of accusations from both campaigns. For the Yes camp, Alex Salmond and SNP MP Angus MacNeil lambasted the Tory-Lib Dem coalition for a lack of transparency and spending nearly £50,000 for partisan research, while #publishthepoll trended on Twitter (so now it's an official "issue"). Union backers, for their part, pointed out that internal research isn't ever disclosed, but if you really must ask, this particular survey didn't reveal anything different than other recent polls.

It is perhaps precisely because of “other recent polls” that the Yes campaign was so eager for a bump in support to be published. An ICM poll this week showed No support gaining nine points over last month, now clocking in at 46%, significantly higher than Yes’s 34%. Panelbase also found a boost for the union—though it was a tepid two-point bump—moving the split to 47%-40% with four months to go.

The widening gap seems to deaden gains made by the Yes camp since the New Year, given that a month ago Scotland on Sunday’s ICM numbers pegged them trailing only 39% to 42%—a spread commonly within the plus-minus margin of error. But faced with these mercurial, temperamental polls, it’s becoming more and more rewarding to follow issues (gasp) over survey data to get a read on the campaign.

The SNP is being questioned over its commitment to tackling income inequality (read David Torrance’s piece in the Herald on the legislative “levers” the Scottish government have perpetually overlooked on this issue). Is a full-fledged Scottish social democracy of universal benefits merely waiting for Westminster to butt out before emerging? Or was the ideal of Scottish egalitarianism a myth created as devolution took hold? Either way, to see the Nats tackle the underpinnings of class inequality would make early 20th century union-aligned Labourites scratch their heads.

European Commissioner for Enlargement, Stefan Fule, added to the Yes woes this week with news that an independent Scotland would lose the UK’s opt-out of VAT on many consumer items. New members face a 15% VAT, which the Tories were quick to point out would raise the price of a Guinness Book of World Records by £3, God forbid. Cue SNP rebuttal: according to Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh, SNP candidate for European Parliament, Scotland wouldn’t be an accession state, and would argue “from within” to keep their opt-out authority. Lump that one in with the other thousand unknowns regarding an independent Scotland in the EU.

Okay, so an issue-based analysis of the past week doesn't bear much fruit for Yes, either. (Did I mention a group of 14 biomedical researchers also expressed concern about academic funding, should a border be placed along the Tweed?) But the SNP is still steadfastly courting the youth vote, and has continued to woo undecided voters with a positive enthusiasm mostly unmatched by Better Together. Broader-scale advantages still reside in the Yes arsenal too: First, according to a University of Stirling study published earlier this month, independence supporters are more committed to voting than their union counterparts, meaning election turnout should be considered in pre-referendum speculation. Second, a late summer surge of nationalist fervor can't be undervalued, given Glasgow's hosting of the Commonwealth Games, and the 700th anniversary of the Bannockburn.

There you have it—a week of poll-whistleblowers, financial warnings from the Continent, and questions of commitment to social democracy. If the deluge of attacks on the independence campaign tells us anything, it's that Better Together is not resting on its laurels. And if the oscillating poll numbers since the New Year tell us anything, it's that a lot can happen in four months.

Submitted by [Noah Caldwell](#)



Leith Festival – Fish is the Future

Once again Flashback has devised a brand new piece of exciting theatre for this year's Leith Festival in Edinburgh in June.

Fish is the Future will be performed at the Out of the Blue Drill Hall from 19-21 June 2014.

The small island community of Fishtown has existed for centuries, cut off from the world. But when a mysterious bridge appears, heading off into the mist, Fishtowners are faced with a choice – seek a connection with others or preserve their autonomy?... Is this a religious miracle, an opportunity or a threat of invasion? As Fishtowners try to find the answers they are forced to confront the divisions within their own community. Will they keep their autonomy or cross the mysterious bridge?

Fish is the Future takes a humorous look at what independence means for Fishtown and may be of interest to residents of other countries having similar debates...

There is also a Facebook page for the performances [here](#)

And tickets can be booked through the Out of the Blue Box Office [here](#)

Last year all of the evening shows sold-out so if you would like to come then you had better book!

Performances

19th June, 7.30 pm

20th June, 7.30pm

21st June, 2.30pm and 6.00pm

Tickets cost £6 and can be booked online at www.outoftheblue.org.uk

[Fish is the Future flyer](#)

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Book now for the Central Library Open Day



The Central Library, George IV Bridge, will be holding an **Open Day** on **Saturday 7 June 2014**. There will be lots of events and activities for all ages, including musical performances, meet the author sessions, crafts, a sketching workshop, family history drop-ins and a chance to find out what your council neighbourhood team can do for you.

Learn how to stream music via Naxos or borrow free e-books and audio books.

Many of these events will run as drop-ins but a few do need to be booked, so get ahead – see the [libraries blog](#) to find out what's on offer and how to reserve your place.

Foodies is back in 2014 – bigger and better than ever



Foodies Festival, the UK's largest celebration of food & drink returns to Edinburgh's Inverleith Park on 8-10 August 2014 for a weekend celebration of Scotland's finest produce,

international street food, and culinary masters.

Although it started as a small event in Edinburgh eight years ago, the festival has now grown into Scotland's food and drink event of the Summer, transforming Inverleith Park into a foodie paradise with over 200 artisan producers, pop-up restaurants, premium brands and the chance to watch your favorite chefs cooking live.

✘ Festival Director Sue Hitchen said:- “Edinburgh is where it all started for Foodies Festival, so it's a very special event for me and our team. This year we are delighted to be the official partner of the MasterChef Dining Bus, which offers our visitors a unique onboard dining experience with the contestants and winners from the series cooking onboard and serving visitors top-notch dishes from the purpose built kitchen.”

Top chefs joining the festival this summer include MasterChef the Professionals runners-up Adam Handling and Scott Davies, Great British Menu's Jacqueline O'Donnell of The Sisters, Mark Greenaway of Bistro Moderne, TV Chef Tony Singh, The Pompadour by Galvin Head Chef Craig Sandle, Café St Honore's Neil Forbes and Glasgow's The Three Sisters bakers Gillan, Nichola and Linsey, all of whom will cook their signature dishes live in the Chefs' Theatre while explaining how home cooks can prepare the same dishes for friends and family.

✘ MasterChef's Adam Handling said:- “I am delighted to be a part of the Foodies Festival in Edinburgh, I always love it when I can meet other foodies and share my love of cooking with them, and if I can help to inspire and encourage people in their kitchens, then that for me is an honour. Coming back to Scotland is always special for me, it was the where I undertook my first apprenticeship when I was 16, where I gained my first two AA rosettes at Fairmont St Andrews, and where I was awarded 'Scottish Young Chef of the Year 2011'. Being a part of the Edinburgh Foodies Festival will add to the

many special memories that I have here.”

Exciting new features for 2014 include a spectacular Chocolate, Bake and Preserves Theatre, which will host top pastry chefs, chocolatiers, bakers and sugarcraft experts. This is complemented by the new Chocolate, Baking and Preserves Village, for those with a sweet tooth and who enjoy home baking, with a selection of stalls selling baking essentials and the latest gadgets.

A brand new outdoor BBQ Arena will appeal to lovers of al fresco dining. The purpose built BBQ stage will feature hourly BBQ cooking demonstrations and invite the audience to take part in BBQ challenges; meat-eating competitions and they can even learn how to make a ‘BBQ cake’!

A new Chilli Market spices things up with a range of chilli-growers and artisan producers of sauces, sweets and jams. For those who can handle the heat a Chilli Eating Challenge takes place at 5pm daily.

A new Feasting Tent at the heart of the festival becomes a social hub, where visitors can relax and enjoy their purchases in the company of chefs, friends and family at long banqueting tables.

Another exciting addition this year is the Vintage Tea Tent that will hold daily tea dances, alongside a Vintage Kitchen Market allowing visitors to pick up beautiful pieces to add to their own kitchens at home.

Returning features this year include the popular Drinks Theatre, where regular masterclasses and demonstrations allow visitors the chance to taste and learn about wine, champagne, sherry, ales and spirits with experts including TV’s Charles Metcalfe, beer expert Melissa Cole and champagne expert Neil Phillips. There is also a daily cocktail making competition to find the best cocktail in Edinburgh, judged by an audience of Foodies visitors.

📌 Foodies Festivals are recognised for their focus on street food with the introduction of the Street Food Avenue in 2012. This year visitors can enjoy a huge selection of award winning hot and cold food from around the world including hog roasts, Vietnamese buns, exotic meats, tapas, churros, burritos, Moroccan tagines, South American prime beef, Jamaican and Thai street food.

There is plenty for little foodies to do as well with the Children's Cookery Theatre hosting "Around the World" themed cookery classes. These workshops will help children find their taste buds and teach them basic cooking skills.

The entertainment stage features live music acts and fringe performers throughout the day until 7pm.

Five things you need to know today



Spa in the City – Edinburgh Marathon Festival – Tram roadshow – Tough Mudder – New bus timetables from next week

Spa in the City has taken over St Andrew Square this weekend. Well done to those of you who have won the goody bags. We emailed you all yesterday evening!

Leading lifestyle retailers are offering free pampering and preening with the return of Spa in the City, which arrives back in St Andrew Square from Saturday 24 – Sunday 25 May, while also expanding into new bases in Grassmarket and the West End for the first time.

[Read more here](#)

Edinburgh Marathon Festival takes place today and tomorrow. [More details here](#) about the route the runners will take and all you need to know if you are taking part in the fastest marathon in the UK. Good luck to all of you!

There is another chance today to get on board a tram in St Andrew Square. No it will not take you anywhere but you will be able to have a look around and familiarise yourself with it.

The tram will be there between 12 and 2pm.

From next Saturday you can jump on and off trams and buses all day across the city all the way out to the airport for the price of £9, although our top tip is that if you get off before the airport then you can get a day ticket for the normal price of £3.50 and use it on both trams and buses. The City Zone covers all stops except Edinburgh Airport and if you can manage to borrow three children for the day then you can get a family ticket for up to two adults and three children for only £7.50 for unlimited travel.



Come and test your physical and mental fitness in what is regarded as 'Probably the toughest event on the planet'.

Tough Mudder returns to Scotland next month, taking place in Dalkeith on **Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th June**.

If you've not yet heard of Tough Mudder, the events are hard-core 10-12 mile-long obstacle courses designed by the Special Forces to test all around strength, stamina, mental grit, and

camaraderie. Tough Mudder is not a race, but a challenge. The recent Tough Mudder London West event in April attracted over 17,500 participants and 6,000 spectators across the weekend.

Tough Mudder Quick Facts

- **1.3 million** Tough Mudder participants since 2010
- The event takes place in **7 countries**
- There have been **over 100 events** to date
- There will be over **60 events** in 2014
- **800,000 participants** are expected to take part in 2014
- Over **4,000 participants** have Tough Mudder tattoos

For more information, please visit www.toughmudder.co.uk or if you need further inspiration to get muddy, watch this video!

Lothian Buses will be amending their timetables to fit around the trams which start running on 31 May 2014. All details of the new timetables [are here.](#) The airport bus will now run 24 hours a day, some services are running more often and others less frequently. Check out your times before next weekend!

Radio 1's Big Weekend launches in George Square,

Glasgow



14,000 music fans descended on Glasgow's George Square on Friday evening, to celebrate the launch of BBC Radio 1's Big Weekend – a music festival set to take place at Glasgow Green over the next three days.

The BBC had prepared a non stop evening of electronic dance music in the city centre's iconic square, with performances from the broadcasting giant's own radio presenters, as well as illustrious international DJs Martin Garrix and Tiesto.

Renowned BBC disc jockeys and presenters Danny Howard, Annie Mac, Zane Lowe and Pete Tong opened up the evening with four varied sets; featuring everything from deep house to current pop music.

Tweeting pictures from the stage, Pete Tong MBE called the crowd "bonkers", as they danced near non-stop throughout the five hour event.

Special guest Martin Garrix also played a short set, playing both his biggest hits 'Animals' and 'Wizard', which peaked at number one and number seven in the UK charts respectively. Having turned eighteen just nine days earlier, the sub-headline act barely met the minimum age for entry to the event.

The headliner for the evening, world famous DJ Tiesto, delivered a relentless set featuring both his current and classic music, as lights and video were projected on to the face of the Glasgow City Chambers building.

For more information and reviews over the weekend, check back here with The Edinburgh Reporter.

BBC Radio 1's Big Weekend Glasgow 2014 takes place 23-25 May.

Highlights and live stream are available on Radio 1, online, on mobile, via the BBC iPlayer Radio app and on BBC Three.

NEW TEAMS BEEF UP BRITAIN'S FLAGSHIP RUGBY 7s SERIES

Scottish Thistles will face two new sides when they begin their challenge for GB7s honours at London's Allianz Park, home of the Saracens, on Friday.

The British Army and an England IPF 7s team have been drafted into the three-round competition which will head to Boroughmuir Rugby's home at Meggetland on 31 May 2014.

Also taking part in Britain's flagship sevens competition, which will again be supported by a Sky Sports highlights programme, are the Suzuki Wailers, Apache, Crawshays Welsh, Irish Exiles and reigning champions Samurai.

World class players such as the 'Fastest Man in Rugby' Carlin Isles are lining up in the GB7s London tournament on the 23rd May and Edinburgh can also expect international class players to be competing as well.

The eight teams will be split in to two pools of four before progressing to a knockout style phase which ranks teams one to eight on the day. Points will be carried over so that an overall champion can be crowned at the end of the series.

Tournament director Dickie Jeavons-Fellows said: "We're building a structure that delivers consistently high competition and great entertainment. It will evolve as the sport grows up to and beyond the Olympics."

“With the commitment of the teams we will steadily build the audience for sevens while providing players with a route to becoming international athletes.”

Jeavons-Fellows added: “Can you imagine a better way for a young sevens athlete to develop than playing week in, week out, alongside proven, experienced internationals, against top teams who are serious about winning? It’s a formula for success.”

The inaugural GB7s tour featured recent or current international players from England, Wales, Scotland, Kenya and Nigeria with several emerging athletes moving up to their national squads after impressing selectors.

Samurai were last year’s winner at Meggetland, will be keen to hold on to their Edinburgh title again this year.

Marketing Director at Boroughmuir Justin Tito said: “This is such an exciting tournament to come to Edinburgh. With the focus from home nations to build their 7 squads ahead of the Commonwealth and Olympic games, we can be sure that the level of 7s rugby on display, will be some of the highest Edinburgh will see.”

The competition kicked off earlier tonight at Allianz Park before heading for Edinburgh on Saturday, May 31, tickets only £5!

Tickets are available from the competition website at <http://www.gb7s.com>

Submitted by [Morgane Jarles](#)



Easter Road heading for sell-out crowd

Easter Road is heading for a sell-out crowd for Sunday's Play Off second leg against Hamilton Academical.

Supporters started queuing early this morning and by 2pm the East Stand was sold out.



Terry Butcher's men hold a 2-0 lead from the first leg on Wednesday night at New Douglas Park thanks to two wonder strikes from teenager Jason Cummings, who has been rewarded with a contract extension.

It has been a remarkable year for the youngster who was freed by hearts following an injury, but after resuming his career with Hutchison Vale, he joined rivals Hibernian at the start of the season.

After scoring freely in the Under 20s, Cummings made his debut as a substitute in a 2-0 home defeat against Inverness Caledonian Thistle, a match manager in waiting Butcher watched from the stand.

His first goal came on Wednesday and fans are hoping that this will open the floodgates.

After the game, Cummings had the television viewers in stitches when he told Sky Sports presenter Luke Shanley: "It was some zing from myself. I opened a tin of beans there!"

Meanwhile, Hibs midfielder Owain Tudur Jones has been named in the Welsh squad for their friendly against Holland in Amsterdam on June 4.

Operation Wolf day of action in east Edinburgh



Police in Edinburgh have been building on the success of Operation Wolf with a targeted day of action in east Edinburgh yesterday .

Police officers focused on the issues that concern residents in the east of the city, particularly drugs and anti-social behaviour, which are the policing priorities outlined on the multi-member ward plans.

Two premises in Northfield and Bingham were searched on the back of intelligence, and three people were arrested for drugs offences. A quantity of drugs and a four figure sum of cash was also recovered from these properties.

Officers carried out high visibility patrols during the evening to crack down on anti-social behaviour, and to offer reassurance to the public.

Two men were also arrested on domestic assault warrants.

Superintendent Matt Richards said: “This day of action in east Edinburgh has been another success for Operation Wolf, and demonstrates that we will always go after those who commit drug offences and anti-social behaviour. There is nowhere to hide for these offenders that bring misery and fear to communities across the capital and beyond.

“We are listening to the concerns of residents in Edinburgh, and anyone who would like to help shape the activities we undertake in their area during Operation Wolf should contact

us on 101 or speaking with your local policing team.”

LeithLate 2014 announces extended programme



Ahead of all the bigger festivals across the city which take place later in the summer, Leith has its own unique offering which takes place in the evenings of 21 – 22 June 2014.

LeithLate returns for its fourth year with an expanded programme, time-frame, duration and route, making this LeithLate even longer and later than ever before! Expanding from the previous Thursday evening slot to a weekend event over two days, LeithLate14 promises to be a veritable smorgasbord of art, music, film and spoken word with something for everybody to enjoy.

The evening of Saturday 21 June is when LeithLate14 opens across its 25 venues from 5pm – 10pm with the additional excitement of a bespoke LeithLate14 vintage red London bus transporting participants around the expanded route. The LeithLate circuit now includes Great Junction Street and Shore venues stretching down to latest afterparty venue, the Thomas Morton Hall on Ferry Road where Glaswegian rockers Holy Mountain headline on the Saturday night, alongside performances by SAY award-nominated Adam Stafford and RAMMED dj's. LeithLate14 continues on Sunday 22nd June from 12pm – 5pm with plenty of live events taking place, including live outdoor mural painting by The Too Much Fun Club at Brass Monkey Leith and a special LeithLate Brunchon at The Out of

the Blue Drill Hall with performances by William Douglas and King Creosote.

Primarily a visual art event, LeithLate14 has a wide variety of art on display this year, taking in almost all disciplines including painting, video, sculpture, illustration, photography, collage, printmaking, performance, textiles and jewellery. A number of events have been curated at LeithLate14 too, including a showcase of Ugandan contemporary art festival KLA ART via photography installations of work by Immy Mali and Moses Serubiri in two of Great Junction Street's African businesses (Super 5* and African Flavour Lounge), along with a mixture of old and new work by internationally exhibiting Berlin-based Edinburgh artist Andrew Gilbert who is producing paintings and sculpture as part of his installation in the Settlement Projects charity shop.

New arts venues participating in LeithLate this year include Collective on Calton Hill ('gateway to Leith'), Embassy Gallery, the newly reopened and renovated Gayfield Creative Spaces, Vision Mechanics (who also run Puppet Lab) and Coburg House Art Studios. New participating businesses include Joseph Pearce with a MishMish live music showcase, Junkadelic and the (in)famous *Gallery of Bad Art*, Area C Coffeehouse, Bainbridge Vaults (part of Bainbridge Recording Studios) and Sofi's Bar.

New collaborators include: Neu! Reekie! with their spoken word, music, animation and film fusion, Kalopsia Collective, a contemporary textile collective, CinemaAttic, the platform for Spanish, Iberian and Latin-American cinema in Scotland, Scottish skateboard company and creative project curators Harvest Skate Co and Faction North Productions who are producing an Edinburgh version of their Commonwealth Games film project *From Scotland With Love* for LeithLate14.

Developments this year include sponsorship from Leith's only brewery Pilot Beer who are creating a bespoke LeithLate14 beer that will be available at the afterparty and other Leith

venues throughout the event, and the announcement of a new public art project in association with Leith Walkers (www.leithwalkers.com).



With the support of The City of Edinburgh Council, the organisers are producing a large-scale outdoor exhibition of Leith Walker portraits to be displayed on advertising boards and in the windows of local businesses along Leith Walk throughout June, and John from Leith Walkers will operate a mobile photo booth during LeithLate, capturing portraits of attendees.

The full list of participating venues and events at LeithLate14 is as follows:

1. Collective(outdoor space): *Conversation of Monuments* project by Laura Yuile (till 8pm on Sat).
2. Edinburgh Printmakers: *Scottish Print Network: Carol Rhodes & Louise Hopkins* exhibition & Matt Wilson exhibition plus printmaking demonstrations (Sat) and studio tours (Sun).
3. Embassy Gallery: *ribofunk* exhibition featuring Kari Altmann, Laura Yuile, Naomia Davies, Thomas Aithchison, Katie Cercone, Joey Holder and IlonaSagar.
4. Gayfield Creative Spaces: Broughton Design District exhibition, Kalopsia textiles exhibition & Natasha Russell installation.
5. Joseph Pearce: MishMish live music showcase.
6. Windsor Buffet: Live music from Roberta Pia & Olivia Salazar(Sat) and Graeme Mearns (Sun).
7. Settlement Projects: Andrew Gilbert paintings and installation.
8. Brass Monkey Leith: Neu! Reekie! world animation showcase with live performance from poets and musicians (Sat) & Too Much Fun Club live outdoor mural painting (Sun).

9. Elvis Shakespeare: Live music (both days) including Calum Carlyle, Little Pebble, Collar Up, A.H. Doune, St Kilda Mailboat, Banjo Lounge 4 and Blueflint.
10. Rhubaba Gallery and Studios: The Rhubaba Choir & PET sing 4 songs, I Wanna Be Your Dog | West End Girls | Sloop John B | When My Dog Died at 6pm & 8pm on Sat.
11. The Out of the Blue Drill Hall: *Exposed 14* Stevenson College photography exhibition & ping pong (from 7.30pm on Sat), LeithLate Bruncheon live music event curated by William Douglas plus King Creosote (Sun – suggested donation £3).
12. Victoria Bar: Omar Zingaro Bhatia exhibition and Albaroma live music (Sat).
13. Boda Bar: *Night Lights* exhibition and The Flint original live music showcase (both days).
14. Woodland Creatures: Ingrida Danieliute exhibition and CinemaAttic short film screening (Sun).
15. Junkadelic: *The Gallery of Bad Art* and busking (Sat).
16. Area C Coffeehouse: Dj's and live music (both days) including The Victor Pope Experience.
17. SilverHub Studios: Open studio event and exhibition.
18. Sofi's Bar: FiST exhibition & The Last Battle (Sat).
19. Vision Mechanics: Open studio event & exhibition.
20. Bainbridge Vaults & The Art Cave: *Stacks* group exhibition curated by Jamie Johnson of Harvest Skate Co. and *From Edinburgh With Love* film screening.
21. Super 5* & African Flavour Lounge: *KLA ART Showcase*: Immy Mali & Moses Serubiri exhibition installations.
22. Coburg House Art Studios: *Art by the Water 2014* exhibition.
23. LeithLate14 vintage red London double-decker bus on constant rotation around LeithLate14 route (Sat only) with live music onboard (donation fare).
24. Leith Walkers outdoor exhibition (various sites along Leith Walk throughout June) & LeithLate14 mobile photo booth (both days).
25. Thomas Morton Hall: LeithLate14 Afterparty (9pm – 1am,

Sat only) with Holy Mountain, Adam Stafford and others
tbc plus Backstage Booths theatrical photo booth.
Tickets priced at £6 (advance) from
www.wegotickets.com/event/275906, £7 on door.

Busiest year for baby birds according to Scottish SPCA



The Scottish SPCA is urging the public to leave baby birds alone, revealing this nestling and fledgling season has been its busiest ever.

Scotland's animal welfare charity has reported that many young birds have ended up in their care when they should not have.

The Scottish SPCA's National Wildlife Rescue Centre in Fishcross is currently home to 280 birds, with more arriving every day.

Manager Colin Seddon said, "This is proving to be our busiest ever year for baby birds and fledglings.

"We're currently caring for over double the number of casualties as this time in 2013.

"Our centre is also having a bumper year for ducklings, with over 200 here at the moment.

"Although some of the birds were rescued because they were injured, others are in good health but were picked up by worried passers-by when they should have been left alone.

"It's understandable for people to be worried when they come

across a young bird on the ground that appears clumsy and unable to fly. However, this is a vital part of the learning to fly process and the parents are very likely to be nearby, watching their young making their first efforts to take to the skies.

“We would ask anyone who has concerns to try to monitor the fledglings from a distance to see if the parents appear. “If it does seem a baby bird has been abandoned or orphaned, they should call our animal helpline for advice.”



Colin advised members of the public to only intervene immediately if a fledgling is in danger.

“If a fully feathered young bird is in harm’s way, on a road or somewhere it could be vulnerable to predators then it may be possible to move them to a safer spot in a nearby hedge or tree,” he said.

“Any unfeathered birds found on the ground are most likely to have accidentally fallen from their nest and it may be possible to put them back in, ideally wearing gloves.

“Under no circumstances should anyone who discovers a nest try to touch or move the fledglings inside. This could cause the parents to abandon them and would also be illegal.”

Anyone with concerns for an animal should call the Scottish SPCA Animal Helpline on 03000 999 999.

Photographs by Scottish SPCA

Bogus police officers target tourists in Edinburgh



Police are appealing for assistance from the public in order to trace a group of thieves who are continuing to target tourists in the capital.

In the past three weeks alone, there have been in excess of ten reports of thefts committed by people impersonating police officers. On each occasion the suspects have claimed to be police officers in order to search visitors' bags.

The latest such incident came on Wednesday 21st May, when a mother and daughter on holiday in Edinburgh from Chile had over £1,000 stolen from a bag.

The pair were firstly approached by a man on Magdala Crescent who handed them a camera and asked them to take a photograph of him. Another two men soon approached stating they were plain-clothes police officers, produced a photo card with the word 'police' on it and then demanded to check identities.

They initially searched the bag of the man with the camera, who immediately complied, and then looked through a bag belonging to the Chilean tourists, managing to steal a large sum of dollars and sterling in the process.

Extensive enquiries are ongoing into all the incidents and Detective Chief Inspector Stuart Houston said: "There is clearly a group of thieves operating in Edinburgh who are falsely presenting themselves as police officers in order to search the bags of unsuspecting tourists.

DCI Houston added: "These crimes are being carried out in streets across the city centre. And unfortunately the so-

called 'officers ' act so quickly that the victims are being duped into thinking the cash is still in their wallets or bags.

"We would urge members of the public to look out for men who are acting suspiciously, especially around tourists, and contact police immediately the minute they see something untoward."

There are three suspects linked to many of the crimes that have taken place this month.

The first is an Asian male in his late 30s or early 40s, 5ft 10in and of medium build; another is an Asian male in his mid-40s, 5ft 7in and of slim build; and the other is of Mediterranean appearance, 30 to 35-years-old, 6ft 2in and of medium build. The men claiming to be police officers generally wear dark clothing and often have earpieces visible.

Anyone who thinks they have any information which could help in the investigation should contact Police Scotland on 101 or, alternatively, the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Five things you need to know today



Edinburgh Marathon Festival – Forth Bridges Festival – Jason Dee at the Talbot Rice – National Trust for Scotland – Car Rally at Lauriston Castle

Over this weekend the Edinburgh Marathon Festival takes place. Both the council leader Andrew Burns and the Lord Provost, the Rt Hon Donald Wilson are doing their bit. The council leader is running the full marathon on Sunday to honour a 30 year-old bet with his father, and the Lord Provost is running a 5K on Saturday in a personal challenge to his own fitness.

You can see the Lord Provost out training on Arthur's Seat in our video.

Both councillors have Just Giving pages for their individual charitable fundraising efforts :- [AndrewDBurns](#) and [Lord Provost of Edinburgh](#).

Registration is now underway for the Flotilla on the Forth on Sunday 7th September, one of the highlights of the Forth Bridges Festival which will mark the 50th birthday of the Forth Road Bridge.

The event is open to yachtspeople and boating enthusiasts to take part in creating a floating spectacular on the River Forth. Sailing vessels large and small will form the flotilla which has already attracted naval ships, tugboats, yachts and 'Reaper', the famous restored Fifie herring drifter museum ship.

While the event is free and open to all, places are limited and early registration via the Forth Bridges Festival website – www.forthbridgesfestival.com/flotilla-entry – is recommended to secure a place in this memorable event which is anticipated to be one of the flagship photographic opportunities of the Festival.

The event will begin at noon on 7 September and, from 5pm, participants will be invited to attend a barbeque at Port Edgar Marina, where entertainment will be provided by local

performers.

The flotilla promises to be a great day out for all the family with a range of entertainment for spectators and participants. During the day a food and drink market, featuring cookery demonstrations, sampling of local produce and a range of products for sale, will be one of the highlights. Visitors can also enjoy a variety of Festival activities, from art exhibitions and installations, to historic walks in the area.

The Forth Bridges Festival is being organised by FETA (Forth Estuary Transport Authority) in partnership with Queensferry Ambition to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Forth Road Bridge. The Festival is a signature event in the Year of Homecoming Scotland 2014, and the flotilla is funded by FETA using revenue raised from the sale of 2014 trips to the top of the Forth Road Bridge this summer.

For full details on all the events, as well as information on how to buy tickets to take part in the celebrations, please visit www.forthbridgesfestival.com

The University of Edinburgh's Talbot Rice Gallery will be filled with shadows, echoes and reflections for the largest exhibition to date of Kent-based artist Jason Dee. Pursuit of a Shadow, featuring never-seen-before work, is a captivating exposé of the underlying changes in our relationship to moving images. From spectacular, theatrical works, to subtle visual illusions, Dee creates a fascinating and timely dialogue with the history of cinema.

Jason Dee's work reflects the transformation of cinema's material origins, revealing the uncanny effects of a contemporary medium still haunted by its past. Where celluloid film was dictated by the mechanical time of the Modern World, digital technology allows images to be frozen, scaled,

reversed and displaced; Dee uses these possibilities to form enigmatic, autonomous story worlds caught between reality and illusion.

At the centre of the exhibition is 24 Times (2007/12), a large-scale installation comprising of 24 monitors facing inwards in a circle. Film clips taken from movies featuring flash photographers play upon the monitors, cutting from one clip to the next as a flash consumes the screen. As the monitors are synchronised one frame apart, the white light – and each frame – dances round the circle. As viewers are caught in the bright light, as apparent subjects of the photographer's shots, their shadows are then cast across the space so they become part of a rudimentary shadow animation.

[More details here.](#)

Jason Dee

Pursuit of a Shadow

31 May – 5 July 2014

Exhibition Open | Tues – Fri 10am–5pm, Sat 12–5pm | Admission Free

Willow-weaving at Falkland Palace, tackling thistles at St Abb's Head and bracken control at Rockcliffe are all on the agenda this summer for the National Trust for Scotland's Lothian Conservation Volunteer Group.

The group has dozens of members who regularly donate their time and talent to the conservation charity, going out on conservation projects at National Trust for Scotland properties across the Borders, Lothians and Fife.

They are always looking for new members.

Conservation Volunteer Co-ordinator Julie Bond said:- "There is a packed programme for this summer, with projects planned in

some of Scotland's most stunning countryside and gardens. Volunteering with the Trust is a great opportunity to get out, explore your outdoors and play a key part in caring for our countryside too. We also know that volunteering makes you happy – what better reason to get involved?"


Travel, accommodation and meals are all organised for volunteers signing up for these projects. For more information on becoming a conservation volunteer and the full programme, visit <http://www.nts.org.uk/Volunteering/Outdoor/>.

There is a car rally taking place this Sunday at Lauriston Castle. The Scottish All Rover Rally takes place between 10am and 4pm and is part of the Festival of Museums. These are classic Rover cars and you are invited to bring a picnic to make a day of it.

[More details here.](#)



Lord Provost is running for charity this weekend

 The Lord Provost the Rt Hon Donald Wilson is running the 5K on Saturday to raise funds for the STV Appeal which aims to help the lives of children in poverty.

He seems to have become a bit of a fitness fanatic, going to the gym and out running in Holyrood Park several times a week.

The Edinburgh Reporter hiked up Arthur's Seat earlier today to find out how his training programme is going with Andy his personal trainer from Edinburgh Leisure.

The 5K race starts from the Edinburgh Marathon Festival at Our Dynamic Earth at 11am on Saturday, and goes around Holyrood Park.

You can donate online to the Lord Provost's Just Giving page [which you will find here.](#)

Terry Butcher praises players and fans



Hibs' boss Terry Butcher has praised the spirit shown by both players and supporters during yesterday's win at Hamilton Academical but insists that his team are taking nothing for granted ahead of Sunday's second leg.

Speaking in his exclusive column in The Hibernian, Butcher said: "Your tremendous support can and does make a huge difference to the team, and it is fantastic to reward your backing with a good performance and a win.

"We all know there is still a long way to go and on Sunday we require another strong and gritty display to ensure that we get over the line together.

"It was absolutely brilliant to see all the Hibs fans celebrate the goals and the victory in midweek.

“Once more, the Hibernian spirit came to the fore and I am sure there will be another wall of noise on Sunday afternoon.

“When you are backed into a corner, the only way forward is to come out fighting, and to try and beat what’s in front of you.

“Hamilton are a good side who have hungry and talented individuals but are well organised and carry a serious goal threat.

“Their confidence was sky high after defeating Falkirk in the semi finals, so to score two goals against them and keep a clean sheet was very pleasing and made quite a difference to the coach journey back to Edinburgh.”

Photo by John Preece

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

Emaciated cat found in Tollcross area



The Scottish SPCA is appealing for information after an emaciated cat with matted fur was found in Edinburgh.

Scotland’s animal welfare charity was alerted after the Persian crossbreed cat was discovered on Home Street on Monday evening (19 May).

The peach and tortoiseshell female cat is now in the care of the charity’s Edinburgh and Lothians Animal Rescue and

Rehoming Centre in Balerno, where she has been named Gloria.

Animal Rescue Officer Steph Grant said, "Gloria's fur was very matted on one side of her body and the clump of hair had to be removed by a vet.

"She is really underweight and was given a body score of just one out of five.

"Gloria is an older girl with a lovely nature but, understandably, she is quite scared at the moment.

"At this stage we don't know how Gloria came to be found in this terrible state.

"It could be that she has been living rough for a while but we also have to consider that she may have been abandoned or neglected by her owner.

"We'd ask anyone who recognises Gloria to contact our animal helpline on 03000 999 999 to assist us with our enquiries."

Photo by Scottish SPCA

Class A drugs recovered in house searches



Police Scotland has recovered a quantity of drugs following a series of house searches in Edinburgh yesterday.

Cocaine to the value of £1,800 was found at an address in East Kilngate Place, and £2,800 worth of diamorphine being recovered at an address in West Winnelstrae.

A 35 year old man and a 26 year old woman were charged under the Misuse of Drugs Act and appeared at Edinburgh Sheriff Court today.

Detective Inspector Stuart Harkness said: "Police Scotland remain committed to ridding our communities of controlled drugs and the associated criminal behaviour of those involved in Serious and Organised Crime. Should anyone have information in relation to controlled drugs or criminals operating within their communities I would encourage them to either speak to their local community officer, call 101 or alternatively contact the registered charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Concern for missing Edinburgh woman



Police in Edinburgh are appealing for information to help trace a woman reported missing from her home in the Northfield area of the city.

Michelle Downie was last seen in the Drylaw area of Edinburgh around 2am on Sunday 18th May.

However, the 42-year-old has not been seen or heard from since and concern is now growing for her welfare.

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

She is described as white, 5ft 4ins tall, thin build with curly brown hair.

She was last seen wearing a brown hooded coat and black jeans.

Inspector Johnny Elliott said: "There is concern for Michelle as she has not been seen since the early hours of Sunday morning.

"Anyone with information that can help us in finding her is asked to contact police immediately."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101.

Police target metal theft in capital



Police in Edinburgh are targeting metal theft across the city as part of ongoing Operation Wolf activities.

In support of British Transport Police during their national Metal Week of Action, officers carried out checks at scrap metal dealers to detect, disrupt and deter criminals who dispose of stolen metal at such sites. Road checks were also put in place on arterial routes throughout the city to seek out those using the roads network for the transportation of stolen metal.

Yesterday a targeted day of action was undertaken in the Leith area of the city.

47 police officers worked with City of Edinburgh Council Licensing Standards and Community Safety Officers to target issues of concern to residents.

Arrests were made for shoplifting, assault and vandalism and six people were issued with fixed penalty tickets for anti-social behaviour. A dedicated road check resulted in the detection of numerous road traffic offences resulting in seven individuals being reported to the Procurator Fiscal. Additionally, a Misuse of Drugs Act warrant was carried out resulting in the recovery of personal quantities of cannabis and Valium.

Superintendent Matt Richards said: "Metal thefts are a particular concern for residents in Edinburgh as this crime leads to costly repairs and can cause significant damage to buildings in the process of illicitly removing metal.

We've been working with British Transport Police in their national campaign to target the perpetrators and to recover stolen metal.

Our day of action in Leith yesterday also resulted in major success, not only gathering intelligence but cracking down on drug misuse, dangerous driving and other anti-social behaviour.

Residents in Edinburgh can help shape the activities we undertake during Operation Wolf by contacting us on 101 or speaking with your local policing team."