

Violent Domestic Abuser Jailed



Police Scotland has welcomed the jail sentence given to a man who subjected his victim to a violent domestic assault.

At the High Court in Edinburgh on Monday, Mark Ronald Goodfellow was sentenced to spend 33 months in prison following the attack which happened in the Niddrie area of the city on 14th September 2013.

Detective Inspector Morag Bruce from the Public Protection Unit said: "Tackling domestic abuse robustly is a key priority for Police Scotland."

"The sentence handed out to Mark Goodfellow today reflects the commitment of the Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit, Police Scotland and the Crown Office in removing violent domestic offenders from our communities."

"I would like to reassure the public that we treat all reports of domestic abuse with the utmost seriousness and professionalism and would urge victims of these offences to report their abuse to police."

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh!



City of Edinburgh Council Private Bill passed – Juniper Green Market – Wildlife Count – Marchmont & Sciennes Community Council – The Mews Edinburgh

The Scottish Government passed The City of Edinburgh Council (Leith Links and Surplus Fire Fund) Bill yesterday at Holyrood.

This is an important bill – although curiously it has two separate purposes.

Conservative MSP John Lamont explained these two strands to the new legislation in his speech:-

“The first purpose of the bill is to amend section 22 of the schedule to the City of Edinburgh District Council Order Confirmation Act 1991, to allow for the erection of a statue of John Rattray on Leith Links in Edinburgh. Section 22 currently prohibits the erection of buildings, including monuments or statues, on the links.

“The subject of the statue, John Rattray, was the first captain of the Company of Edinburgh Golfers, which staged the first official golf match at Leith Links in 1744. That came about when Rattray and his fellow golfers asked the city council for a silver club to be awarded annually to the winner of an open golf competition, to replace the previous prizes, which included legs of mutton and firkins of whisky. The council agreed to offer such a prize only if rules were set down and signed by Rattray, as it wanted to change the custom of the rules being made up on the day of a game. The rules written down in 1744 form the basis of the rules of today’s game of golf.

“Rattray himself was a very interesting character. He was a surgeon and a member of the Royal Company of Archers, as well being a keen golfer. After winning the Leith open golf competition in 1744 and 1745, he left to join the Jacobite army, and tended to the wounded at the battle of Prestonpans.

He accompanied Bonnie Prince Charlie's army south to Derby and back to face defeat at Culloden, where he was seized. John Rattray was saved from being hanged only when his golfing partner and Scotland's top judge of the time, Lord Forbes, made a personal plea on his behalf.

"The sculptor commissioned to create the statue is David Annand, who has created a number of statues of prominent Scots, including the motor racing world champion from the Borders, Jim Clark; famous accordion player Sir Jimmy Shand; poet Robert Burns; and this Parliament's very own Winnie Ewing.

"As I said in the preliminary stage debate on the bill, the committee is satisfied that the bill will create an exception only for this particular statue and that no further development can take place on the site at Leith Links. The committee was also satisfied that the Leith Rules Golf Society will provide to the council between 10 and 15 per cent of the capital cost of the statue for its on-going maintenance, in keeping with normal practice.

"The second objective of the bill is the revitalisation of a fund that was originally set up to assist people caught up in a series of fires in Edinburgh High Street in 1824. The Surplus Fire Fund has grown from the £11,000 originally collected to £1.25 million, which generates approximately £30,000 per annum.

"The fund had fallen into a state of dormancy until the Fire Brigades Union contacted the City of Edinburgh Council in 2001, which led to its reactivation. The council's pensions and trusts committee discussed the future management of the fund during 2011-12, considering how its assets might be better utilised in keeping with the spirit of its current purposes, changes in society, the effectiveness of its present constitution and engagement with key stakeholders."

So this will mean that a new statue will be built in Edinburgh. The committee seemed to be very impressed with the level of public involvement in this. Over 4,000 residents attended the public information meetings, and Pat Denzler chair of the society for the John Rattray statue was commended for the 'fantastic insight' she gave into the history of Leith Links.

Juniper Green Farmers Market is on this weekend.

Saturday 22 February from 9am-1pm in the dental surgery car park on Lanark Road.

The stalls this month will be the usual range of meat, bread, vegetables, sweet delights and much more. Stalls for February:

Stortebaeker German sweet and savoury baking plus range of fresh breads too

Secret Herb Garden growing kitchen plants plus herbal teas to enjoy. Now offering their own honey too!

Delightful Chocolates sweet chocolate treats – boxed or bagged

Cedar Cottage meats, poultry and pies, sausages, bacon, slices plus poultry too and seasonal vegetables on the stall

Scoff Street Food fresh hot rolls (using Cedar Cottage meats) plus hot drinks to keep you going!

Councillor Dominic Heslop will be on duty from 11am – 12 noon ready to answer any queries you may have about council business.

Music will be provided by the Blue Moon ensemble ... playing their toe tapping numbers from yesteryear, worth the free

entry fee in themselves!

If you represent a community group and you would like to publicise your activities in this area please reply to this email with details to book the free community stall at one of the future markets. We already have bookings for March and May but other months remain available.

Scottish Waterways Trust need your help in carrying out the Wildflower Count on 5 April 2014 along the Union Canal.

Can you help?

[More information here.](#)

The next meeting of the Marchmont & Sciennes Community Council will be held next week 26 February at 7.30pm at St Catherine's Argyle Church halls on Beaufort Road/ Grange Road.

Would you like to glimpse a hidden part of Edinburgh? And perhaps enjoy a taste of the complementary therapies that go on behind those doors?

If the answer is yes, The Mews open day – on Saturday March 8 – is the place to be.

Tucked away in cobbled Inverleith Place Lane, just a stone's throw from Edinburgh's wonderful Botanic Gardens, the Mews is a haven of tranquillity. But it's also home to 13 therapists, offering treatments as varied as energy healing, reiki and shamanic healing.

The open day will give you the chance to:

- Find out more about the therapies on offer and perhaps enjoy a taster session
- Get a flavour of the Mews experience
- Or, just take time out of your busy day to enjoy a cuppa in tranquil surroundings

Mews owner Sara Trevelyan said:

“The Mews is a wonderful place – bright, airy, tranquil and full of positive energy, with a beautiful secluded garden. Its location is ideal and I really think the proximity of the Botanic Gardens has a beneficial effect.

“But I’m conscious that many people, including some of our nearest neighbours, have no idea what lies behind our doors. That’s why we’ve decided to hold this open day to give people a chance to come inside and find out more about what’s on offer.

“The Mews is home to a wide range of therapists, able to help people suffering from many physical and mental ailments. So I hope as many people as possible will take this chance to come along to the open day and find out what we do here.”

The open day runs from 10-4 and people are welcome to drop in when they want and stay for as long as they want.

Taster sessions (30 minutes each) will be free and available on a first come, first served basis – alternatively you can call and book an appointment in advance. For more information, or to book a taster session, contact Lorraine on 07883 499 586 or email let2@blueyonder.co.uk.

The Mews has a long history as a therapy centre, having first opened in 1994. Nearly 10 years later, the building was refurbished, upgraded and re-launched in its present form.

The therapies on offer at the centre include Alexander

Technique, Brennan Healing Science, clinical psychology, counselling, craniosacral therapy, homeopathy, hypnotherapy, life coaching, psychotherapy, reflexology, reiki, shamanic healing and therapeutic massage.

Police name B800 fatal crash victim



Police have confirmed the identify of the 78 year old man who died as a result of a fatal road collision on Sunday, February 16 as George Fairley from Kirkliston.

Mr Fairley had been cycling on the B800 Kirkliston to South Queensferry road when his silver mountain bike was involved in a collision with a black Mercedes A class car around 10 am on Sunday.

PC Douglas Philip of the road policing unit said: "We are renewing our appeal for witnesses to this accident to come forward. Mr Fairley was wearing a cycling helmet and high-viz tabard but otherwise was in every day clothing. He was riding a silver mountain bike at the time. Anyone who can assist us with our inquiries is encouraged to contact Police Scotland on 101 or the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

Act soon to get the most out of your electricity rate

New legislation means customers need to act now to change tariffs.

AGE SCOTLAND ENTERPRISES ENCOURAGES OLDER PEOPLE TO ACT NOW TO GET THE MOST FROM ENERGY MARKET REFORMS

- Age Scotland Enterprises encourages customers to act now with just 40 days remaining to the deadline for industry roll out of Ofgem's Retail Market Review
- Over half of over 60s unsure whether new government initiative will bring clarity to the energy market (57%) while more than two thirds unaware of the impact the new measures will have on their energy bills (71%)

New research has found that more than half (57 per cent) of over-60s remain unsure whether the Retail Market Review (RMR) will help their understanding of the energy market, and less than one per cent (0.6 per cent) feel that the changes will bring greater trust in providers.

The RMR is being rolled out by Ofgem, the industry regulator, and seeks to improve Britain's energy market for the benefit of all consumers.

However, 40 per cent of those surveyed in November didn't realise that responsibility falls on the consumer to take action when the new tariffs come into effect. Energy customers could be placed on a standard tariff that may not be the product best suited to their needs, nor the cheapest, unless they proactively contact their supplier to discuss their options.

When asked late last year, almost one in five over 60s (19 per cent) indicated that they had heard of the market changes from

their energy provider while just under two thirds (65 per cent) had heard in the media. It is vital that customer awareness is maximised to ensure they are able to respond to the changes and secure the best deal for their individual circumstances.

Age Scotland Enterprises and its energy product provider E.ON are communicating with their customers to tell them about these changes regarding Age UK Energy tariffs** and the importance of proactively checking with their energy provider to ensure that they are on the best deal.

And with just 40 days to go until the final changes are implemented, consumers are being urged to act now.

Logan Steele, General Manager, Age Scotland Enterprises, said: “The Retail Market Review is a huge change to the energy sector and in the longer term will be good for customers by simplifying energy tariffs.

“But there is evidently more work to be done to ensure older consumers are made aware of the changes that lie ahead. There are currently 14.5 million people aged 60 and over in the UK, more than 62 per cent of whom have never changed their energy provider. It is consumers like this that we need to make sure are aware of the imminent changes.

“Age Scotland Enterprises has long championed ‘savvy consumers’, empowering older people to shop around and better manage their financial arrangements, and we encourage people to take a proactive response to the RMR. It is hugely important that those who are unsure of whether their energy tariff will change, or are concerned at what has happened to their tariff, should contact their energy supplier to ensure that they are on the best tariff for them.”

Further guidance on RMR and seeking the right tariff is available from the Age UK website at: http://www.ageuk.org.uk/Documents/EN-GB/Factsheets/FS82_Sw

Intellectual Property support offered to Scottish business

Businesses in Scotland to get greater Intellectual Property support

The potential for businesses in Scotland to succeed and expand has received a big boost with the launch of new support tools to help small firms identify, protect and grow their intellectual property assets being shown off at a launch event today in Glasgow.

The Intellectual Property Office has launched 'IP for Business' – five business tools which make sure firms can tap into up-to-date guidance to help manage their intellectual property (IP) and get more relevant advice from their accountants and other business advisers.

The tools respond to the challenge of making sure businesses can generate value from ideas against a backdrop of poor understanding of intellectual property rights and how to exploit them. At the centre of the toolkit is IP Equip – a new, free interactive online training tool that helps businesses and their advisors to identify assets which may be protected by intellectual property rights and think through the strategy for protecting them.

Minister for Intellectual Property Lord Younger said:-

“Intellectual Property is a prospect which small businesses often find rather daunting. However, what ‘IP for Business’ shows, is that with the correct support and guidance this doesn’t have to be the case.

“The perceived barriers to protecting and managing IP successfully can be easily overcome. All businesses, regardless of their size or turnover, can use these products and I would urge them to do so to tap in their full growth potential.”

Colin Meager, Scottish Enterprise Intellectual Assets Specialist Team Leader said:-“Scottish Enterprise works closely with the UK Intellectual Property Office to assist Scottish businesses in the identification, management and protection of their intellectual assets and welcomes the launch of these tools. The tools will greatly assist businesses in the development of their IP protection strategy, which is fundamental to both business growth and international success.”

Pulsetta, an Aberdeen based manufacturer of gluten-free bread and other bakery products, understand how important IP is to their business. They recognise the value that can be gained from properly managing their IP and advises all SMEs to consider their IP from the start.

Dr Karsten Karcher, CEO and founder of Pulsetta, said:-“Protecting your intellectual property is especially important in the food industry as people can easily copy your ideas. In terms of your ideas, I would always say IP asset protection

has to come first. If you're not protected you could lose them."

Other products launched include:

- IP Equip app which is available to download free from the Apple store iTunes and Android App store. This will give access to IP information on the go.
- IP Basics which is a range of new guides for business owners, explaining how to maximise the potential of IP.
- IP Health Check which allows business owners to assess their own business for free with a tailored report to identify and value their IP.
- IP Master Class which is a popular course which enables advisors to advance their knowledge.
- More details on and access to the products [will be available via the IPO website](#)

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh!



Young Scot awards – Grants for Edinburgh College of Art students – Edinburgh Ceilidh Club – The Tattoo Fox – Yoga

Act fast if you know anyone who should be nominated for a Young Scot award. The nominations close at midnight...

The categories stretch from extraordinary sporting

achievements, film, photography, helping others to live a healthier lifestyle, song, dance, comedy, volunteering, the unsung hero, someone who helps to protect the environment or who works in their community to improve lives.

[All details here.](#)

Good news if you are a student or a member of staff at Edinburgh College of Art. There is some money available for innovation.

"These grants are intended to promote new initiatives in teaching, research and student support at Edinburgh, especially in areas where a small sum of money can have a big effect. These grants are funded through the generous donations made by our many staff, alumni and friends, and this year we have a limited pool of £100,000 to be distributed among students, staff, clubs, societies and University support services for a range of academic projects, teaching initiatives and student activities.

If you know someone, student, staff, club or society, who might benefit from an Innovation Initiative Grant please take the time to send them this email. We accept applications for innovative and unique projects costing up to a maximum of £5,000. So if you have a project you think we need to hear about then check out the Innovation Initiative Grants application form at: www.iig.ed.ac.uk (EASE log in required to view the site)."

On Tuesday we have the ceilidh club @ Summerhall where we have Heeliegoleerie playing. Tickets are still available £6 on the door or in advance from www.edinburghceilidhclub.com/tickets opening with

everything kicking off at 8pm.



The Scottish Storytelling Centre have a special event for children between the ages of 6 and 10 years old on Friday 21 February 2014 at 10.30am:-

"The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is a world-renowned event with a secret fan... a fox that lives on the Castle's Esplanade! Experience the streets of Edinburgh through the eyes of [The Tattoo Fox](#). Author and narrator of **The Tattoo Fox** Alasdair Hutton and illustrator Stref bring the story to life in this fun family event.

Kids will love seeing this story come to life. And even better – each child will also receive a complimentary **Tattoo Fox** activity pack! Limited tickets available for this event, so make sure you book ahead to avoid disappointment." [Buy tickets online](#) | Box Office 0131 556 9579



Edinburgh College creates new course for Indian university



Edinburgh College takes Delhi into 21st century learning with Tweets, blogs and apps.

Edinburgh College has teamed up with a university in India to create a new training course that will harness the power of social media to make education accessible to all.

The [Digital Literacy and Innovation for Tomorrow's Education \(D-LITE\)](#) training course has been designed by Edinburgh

College and the University of Delhi. The pioneering project will give students, teachers and employers in India the skills to access high-quality learning through technology, regardless of their geographical location.

With a focus on training in Web 2.0 tools such as WordPress, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, the two-year training will include everything from how to set up an engaging educational blog to using virtual learning software such as Moodle in the classroom to speak to people all over the world. Thirty-five teachers from the University of Delhi have now received the training and more will travel to Edinburgh College in April 2014.

David Hiddleston, Edinburgh College lecturer in Essential Skills, said: "The D-LITE course has massive potential to break down barriers, whether geographical or social, to allow people to access the very best educational resources through technology. Digital skills are becoming increasingly important and the D-LITE project focuses on how teachers and students can use technology to add to a deeper and more personal form of learning.

"At Edinburgh College, we strive to engage, inspire and excite our students through new technologies and have made this a key part of our curriculum in order to develop employable graduates who can embrace 21st century technology."

Edinburgh College students are also benefitting from the innovative new partnership with the University of Delhi as a group of six students will soon be travelling to India to work alongside the students and teachers of the University of Delhi to observe the training.

Twenty-five year old Visual Communication student Jennifer Lynn Pearce said: "What initially drew me to the project in India was the idea of using my skills in creative industries to assist in education systems within developing countries. I

find this quite exciting and I will hopefully achieve a greater understanding how digital technology could be used in order to benefit future educational programs.”



Scott Burgoyne, who is 19-years-old and lives in Tranent, said: “One of the exciting aspects of the course is the use of social media to empower and educate people. For example, we use a blog and a Facebook page to communicate on our course to add to a pool of knowledge. I’m looking forward to using my experiences and knowledge on the trip and I think it will really add to my CV.”

With India’s ever-improving internet connectivity and the economy continuing to grow at a pace, the new partnership with Edinburgh College has been launched at the optimum time in order to embrace cutting-edge technologies to engage students and prepare them for future employment.

Kilimanjaro trip flushed with success!



GARY SCALES NEW HEIGHTS FOR CHARITY

Gary Peterson from Fountainpark casino in Edinburgh is celebrating. He scaled the peaks of Kilimanjaro and raised more than £3,500 for charity.

Gary, a croupier at the casino on Dundee Street, teamed up with colleague Alena Silvester-Szabó, receptionist at Crockfords in London to undertake the mammoth test of

endurance.

After a gruelling five day climb with its fair share of scary moments, Gary finally made it to the highest point, Uhuru Peak, 19,341 feet above sea level.

Commenting on his achievement Gary said: "It was really tough and took a lot of guts and determination to keep going under such harsh conditions. We did a lot of preparation beforehand, but nothing really prepares you for pushing your body to its limits! Despite the aches and pains, it was a fantastic experience that will stay with me forever and I'd like to thank the team at Fountainpark and all my family and friends for their fantastic support."

The trek was organised by the Responsible Gambling Trust who aim to raise more than £50,000 to help minimise gambling-related harm in Britain.

Caption: Gary Peterson (left) from Fountainpark casino Edinburgh and Alena Silvester-Szabó from Crockfords in London celebrate their Kilimanjaro success

Meeting to discuss the effects of Welfare Reform

The Edinburgh RSL (Registered Social Housing) Tenants' Group will be holding an event about the impact of Welfare Reform on housing association tenants in Edinburgh on Monday 24 February 2014.

Matt Wheatley Convenor of the Registered Social Landlord Group sub group of Edinburgh Tenants Federation said:-"I hope that

the Welfare Reform Event 2014 will both inform people of the coming changes to Welfare Benefits and help stimulate interest and involvement in Registered Social Landlords (RSL) Group.”

To ensure this, guest speakers such as Sandra Cumming with Harry Woodward from Dunedin Canmore Group Housing Association and Jeremy Hower from Scottish Federation of Housing Associations will be giving their input concerning the impact of Welfare Reform on housing associations and tenants. The short presentations will be followed by informal session of generating questions and concluded with Question and Answer time, to ensure that everyone’s queries are dealt with.

Matt Wheatley explains that “the ideal outcome would be that participants feel informed and empowered in relation to the changes and that the RSL group gains wider participation”.

When

Monday 24th February 2014 at 7pm–9pm

Where

The event will take place in the Conference Hall, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road, Edinburgh, EH7 5QY

Registration

Please use public transport where possible. Contact the Federation to book a place on 0131 475 2509 or info@edinburghtenants.org.uk and tell us if assistance is required with transport or childcare

About the RSL

The RSL Tenants’ Group was reformed in September 2012, and has attracted over a hundred tenants from nine different landlords in its meetings since then. The Group is aiming to increase the opportunities for partnership working with RSL tenants, by sharing the skills and capacity of housing association tenants in the city and enabling tenants of RSLs to work together with landlords to improve services and develop greater awareness of tenant participation in the city.

Alistair Darling accuses Salmond of blindfolding the electorate




Darling meets with members of the public in the Piecebox Café in Polwarth.

Better Together campaign leader, Alistair Darling, today met with members of the public to discuss the most recent developments in the independence debate. The meeting, at the Piecebox Café in the city's Polwarth Crescent, comes days after the Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, dismissed any hope that an independent Scotland could share the pound with the rest of the UK.

The former Chancellor of the Exchequer accused the First Minister of asking the people of Scotland to walk 'blindfold' into the polling stations 200 days from now. He said: "In the past few days the wheels have been coming off the nationalist wagon.

"Alex Salmond is not prepared to tell us what currency we will be using and cannot guarantee that if an independent Scotland were to join the EU that they would have the same deal as now."

 Darling strongly emphasised the point that with the currency union completely off the table now there is no way

to know what the pound in your pocket will be worth in an independent Scotland. This was reinforced by a representative from the Federation of Small Businesses present at the meeting who voiced concerns over the fact that many businesses rely on trade in other areas within the UK, an action that would be made difficult and expensive without a common currency.

He also warned that a change in currency could have dramatic effects on business in Scotland, and suggested that companies such as RBS and Standard Life would face a choice of a move down south in order to trade in the currency held by the majority of its customers.

Finally Darling warned not to take the decision of voting yes or no lightly, as the vote on 18 September is final: "The result, whatever it is, will stand.

"People have to understand that there is no going back, and if the polls say yes? The result is binding."



Ice Hockey – Edinburgh Capitals v Dundee Stars

Capitals put four past Stars to take a much needed win.



The last time Dundee Stars visited Murrayfield they lost a close match by the odd goal, 3-2, and on Sunday night the Capitals managed to repeat the feat, again by the odd goal, by winning 4-3.

The Capitals were first on the score sheet after 41 seconds from a Richard Hartmann (assists – 36, 24) goal when the player/coach took the puck half the length of the ice, wide of the Stars' goal, before pivoting and sliding the puck past the opposition 'keeper. The Stars followed this up with a period of pressure on the Edinburgh goal, but were held out by some fine saves by Hiadlovsky. Meanwhile, Dan Bakala was performing a few fine saves of his own at the other end. Ten minutes in, on a Powerplay, Dundee's Billy Bagron pounced on a loose puck just outside the goal area and, feinting to shoot, sent Hiadlovsky the wrong way. 16, John Dolan then had the easy job of planting the puck in the back of the net for the equaliser. The rest of the period was typically end to end, but the period ended with the sides even at one goal apiece.



The Stars came out strongly for the second period and piled on the pressure. Edinburgh did manage to make Bakala pull out a couple of fine saves, but a 'slashing' penalty for an Edinburgh player gave another Powerplay to the Stars, which the duly took advantage of to score their second. A melee in the goal mouth saw 72, Jeff Hutchins, get his stick to the puck and force it over the line for the goal. A long range shot in from Dolan whistled past the unsighted Hiadlovsky to take the Stars into a 3-1 lead. Edinburgh were quickly on the case, however, and a couple of minutes later, 97, Marcus Zembergs (assists – 13, 29) fired in from close range. Bakala, in the Dundee goal, couldn't hold onto the puck and it found its way into the back of the net for Edinburgh's second goal

of the game. The Capitals piled on the pressure for the rest of the period but the clock ran down with the score 3-2 to Dundee.



The third period was all about the Capitals. Early in the period, a man down, 11, Curtis Leinweber (assist – 36) found the back of the net from close range to draw the teams level. Increasing pressure on the Stars’ goal, Bakala found shots raining in from all angles. Eventually, one found its way past from Leinweber (assists – 43, 17) and the Capitals went into a one goal lead. They kept up the momentum for the rest of the period – which found the crowd being ‘entertained’ for the second week in a row by the visiting coach throwing his toys out of the pram following a refereeing decision against – and finished the match with that one goal lead to take their first win in twelve matches.

This was a fine performance from the Capitals which belied their league position and might make Scott Neil’s meeting with the fans on Wednesday a tiny bit easier

Images from the match will appear [here](#) over the next couple of days

Watch out for the trams – daytime testing to begin



Over the next few days you should catch sight of more trams on the route between Edinburgh Airport and York Place. Until now

trams have been tested between the airport and the tram stop at Edinburgh Park, while testing in the rest of the city has been restricted to nighttime, but that is all set to change.

The trams will not be sticking to any timetable but some advance notice will be given on social media.

The message that the council and Transport for Edinburgh want to get across is for all road users and pedestrians to take care and be aware of the tram.

In advance of daytime testing beginning a series of safety videos and tips as part of a [wider awareness campaign](#) to help [pedestrians](#), [cyclists](#) and [drivers](#) get used to the trams have been produced.

✖ Councillor Lesley Hinds, Transport Convener for the City of Edinburgh Council, said: “Up until now, trams have only been running at night when the city centre roads are much quieter. Daytime tests aren’t far away and it’ll take some time for people to get used to seeing trams running on streets so we’re asking drivers, pedestrians and cyclists to take extra care while everyone becomes familiar.

“I’ve seen first hand in Dublin how trams interact with traffic and, as progress continues to be made along the route, it’ll be important that people are aware of the differences. The Client Target May service launch is drawing ever closer but there are still many important tests and a driver training programme to complete. It’s also the right time to remember some straightforward but very important safety messages.”

Edinburgh Trams Director & General Manager Tom Norris said: “Our team have been training extremely hard and we’re now ready to move into a phase where many more trams start to run along the route. Safety is our first priority and our drivers are all fully aware that other road users need time to get used to interacting with the new trams. Our main message is

that trams are big and quiet so give them space, look before you cross the road and listen for the bell.”

The testing phase will eventually involve multiple tram test journeys along the full line over the whole week. There will be a gradual build up in tram movements over a period of time which will allow everyone to get used to the new arrangements. Then we can all start getting excited about the trams being launched.

Safety information [can be accessed on the council website](#).

For more updates on Edinburgh Trams, [visit Edinburgh Trams website](#) and follow them on Twitter [@edinburghtrams](#)

Reaction to Hibs' win over Ross County



Hibs' boss Terry Butcher is happy with his players' reaction during Saturday's 2-1 win over Ross County at Easter Road, particularly teenage midfielder Sam Stanton who scored his second goal in only three starts with a sensational 25 yard free-kick and previously out of favour Tom Taiwo.

After the game, Butcher told Hibernian TV: "I'm ecstatic because we got a fantastic reaction from the players. We've talked about that all week and I wrote about it in my programme notes.

"I did say that talk is cheap and it's about actions on the pitch and I thought the players, showed a good appetite for the game.

"I thought we had opportunities in the second half to have killed the game off and we didn't take them and that that lead to a frantic sort of finish to the match. But I'm just delighted for the three points; it is one Cup Final down and eight to go now before the split."

"Sam (Stanton) played one back compared to previous weeks. Whereas he's been playing in front of the midfield just in behind the striker, he just played the left centre against Ross County.

"It's probably his best position and he will end up there, but he's just got an appetite for the game. He just wants to get on the ball and make passes and carry it forward and ask questions of the opposition.

"He's a good passer of the ball too. He's got great energy, but a good football player. He just excites you, he really lifts you off your seat and in the end it would have been justice really if he had got that goal because he deserved it.

"You know when he burst through, it was four against one and he went past and forced a good save again from Mark (Brown)."

"Tom's (Taiwo) been tremendous. He's scored the winning goal today. I couldn't believe that was him that was in the box, but two central midfield players have scored two goals which is outstanding. It's been very encouraging.

"He's been absolutely brilliant, he really has. He's always been good in training. He's always applied himself very well. It was the same with Danny Handling.

"When I named him in the team, well when we worked on the team yesterday, I said to him: "I bet you're surprised you're in the team?" He was shocked and said: "Yeah, I am surprised" and Tom was the same.

"But both of them have shown great character by taking the

chances that have been presented to them. I'm very pleased with that."

Sam Stanton told Hibernian TV: "It was great to score two goals in two games and I was just delighted that we got the win – it's a great feeling.

"I feel very confident right now and I've been pleased with my performances so far. I've waited a while for an opportunity to come and I'm just delighted to now be playing.

"The result was very important. All the boys wanted to get back to winning ways as quickly as possible to make up for last week.

"Obviously, it doesn't completely make up for last week, but it's nice to be back winning again."

Photo by John Preece

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

Unexplained death of man in Portland Street stair



The death of a man found in the common stair of a block of flats in Newhaven last night is being treated as unexplained.

Detectives launched an investigation after the middle-aged man was discovered in Portland Street.

A spokesman for Police Scotland said: "Police are carrying out an inquiry following the discovery of a man's body in the

common stair of a flatted property in Portland Street at around 6pm on Sunday.

“The death is currently being treated as unexplained.”

Ian Murray named Scottish Championship's Manager of the Month



Former Hibs star Ian Murray has been named the Scottish Championship's Manager of the Month for January following three wins out of three for his Dumbarton side, racking up 11 goals in the process.

Dumbarton began the month with a 2-0 home victory over Morton before notching up impressive away wins against Cowdenbeath (4-2) and Alloa (5-1).

The impressive form of the team sees them in contention for a promotion play-off spot, with a Scottish Cup quarter final away to Aberdeen to look forward to in March.

Murray said: “It's a real team effort at Dumbarton and I accept the accolade on behalf of my staff and players.

“We had three fantastic performances against Morton, Cowdenbeath and then Alloa and scored eleven goals in the process.”

The Edinburgh Reporter's Weekly Sports Roundup



Rugby by John Preece

Connacht once again demonstrated that the Sportsground is a hard place to travel to – Toulouse being one side to trip up there – with hard fought win against an Edinburgh side who were in the lead at half time. Roddy Grant opened the scoring for the visitors with a try, which Carl Bezuidenhout converted for a 7-0 lead, but Craig Ronaldson pulled three points back with a penalty to go in at half time with the score 7-3 to Edinburgh.

With Du Preez yellow carded after five minutes of the second half, Michael Swift took full advantage of the extra man to score Connacht's only try of the night, with a late penalty from Dan Parks adding to the score to leave Connacht the 11-7 winners. Jack Cuthbert had a try disallowed for crossing, but overall, head coach Alan Solomons was disappointed with both the result and the overall performance. (Photo from Murrayfield)

The RBS Cup Quarter final match at Raeburn Place was postponed 45 minutes before kick-off as the referee deemed the pitch unplayable following a morning of showers. The pitch had passed inspection at 9am, so we were a bit disappointed to turn up just in time for the call-off. However, was there a game on at Inverleith? Well, yes apparently there was, but there was precious little life around at 2pm to suggest there was, so...

(Note to self 'Carry a fixture list...')

Heriots did get to play, however and they had a successful trip to the Greenyards with a 21-18 win over Melrose to clinch their semi-final place in the RBS Cup.

The National League managed to catch up with some postponed matches from before the Christmas break, with two Edinburgh teams involved. At Inverleith, their rescheduled match – rescheduled from one which, a few weeks ago, was called off in between leaving for the match and getting there! – saw Hillhead/Jordanhill being the latest team to be beaten by a Stewarts-Melville side who have been going well this season, only managing 10 points in the match to Stew-Mel's 34.

At Myreside, it was a different story as Watsonians went down 26-13 to Kelso in another rescheduled match.

This all means that Stewarts-Melville have leap-frogged Watsonians in the league and now lie in second – and the vital play-off place – with 57 points, courtesy of their bonus point win, while Watsonians are now four points adrift in third with 53. Boroughmuir still top the table and are all but promoted with their unassailable points total of 68. Apart from a few mid-table teams, there are now only two rounds left, for 'Sonians, Stew-Mel and, creeping up on the rails, Dundee to sort out the second place finisher.

Football

Hibs got back to winning ways with a 2-1 victory over Ross County at Easter Road on Saturday. First half strikes from teenager Sam Stanton and Tom Taiwo gave the home side a 2-0 halftime lead but a Richie Brittain free kick made it a nervous finish for Terry Butcher's men before the three points were secured.

Elsewhere, Hearts travelled to Inverness and produced a fine performance to grab a share of the points.

Hibs remain in 7th position, one point behind St Johnstone who have two game in hand whilst Hearts are now 16 points adrift of Partick Thistle.

Off the field, Foundation of Hearts chairman Ian Murray has praised Ann Budge's business experience as the millionaire businesswoman prepares to take control at Tynecastle.

The Edinburgh MP said: "I am delighted to welcome the news that Ann Budge will become executive chairwoman of Hearts, as part of the announcement BIDCO issued," said Murray in a statement. "Ann brings a wealth of experience, and a total belief in the values of supporter ownership through the Foundation of Hearts. I did use the analogy of Dragons Den and that is what we are getting with Ann's wealth of experience.

"[This] news gives a clear indication of what we must achieve to ensure Hearts is in a strong position for the future. We have 7800 monthly contributors, and this can work as BIDCO said, but the more supporters that sign up, the faster any deal can be done. Our projections are also based on very much a worst-case scenario so the more we have will make a huge difference.

"There is an opportunity in front of us, and I am sure we will take it. This is a moment when we can create history."

The South Challenge Cup, Third Round North-&-East Zone

Spartans beat Vale of Leithen 4-1 to progress in the South Challenge Cup.

The home side took a 15th minute through Anderson but the visitors equalised 20 minutes later thanks to Gormley.

Spartans restored their lead a few moments later with a bullet from the head of Ally MacKinnon then in the 55th minute prolific striker Keith McLeod beat Young to the head the ball into the net.

Former Hibs' start Mickey Weir was sent to the stand for foul and abusive language before McLeod wrapped the game up with 12 minutes remaining.

Gala Fairydean Rovers 1-5 University of Stirling

Scottish Sun Lowland League

Edinburgh City 0-1 East Kilbride

Scottish Sun Lowland League Cup, Groupstage, Section C

Dalbeattie Star 6-1 Threave Rovers

Central Taxis EOS League Premier Division

Coldstream P-P Spartans

Stirling University P-P Craigroyston

Central Taxis EOS League First Division

Duns P-P Burntisland Shipyard

Easthouses Lily P-P Kelso United

Hawick Royal Albert P-P Hibernian

Peebles Rovers P-P Ormiston

South Challenge Cup, Third Round North-&-East Zone

Gala Fairydean Rovers 1-5 University of Stirling

Leith Athletic 3-3 Lothian Thistle HV (AET, Lothian won 6-5 on penalties)

Preston Athletic (LL) P-P Heriot-Watt University

King Cup, First Round

Gretna 2008 P-P Tynecastle

Women's Football

Hibernian Ladies Development Team 6-1 Heart of Midlothian
Development Team 1

Basketball

Glasgow University SM 58-68 Boroughmuir Blaze SM

City of Edinburgh Kings SM 71-59 Troon Tornadoes SM

Glasgow Rocks SM 111-48 Dunfermline Reign SM

St Mirren West College Scotland SM 100-71 Stirling Knights
SM

Clark Eriksson Fury SM 68-49 Glasgow Storm

City of Edinburgh Kool Kats 79-52 St Mirren



Ice Hockey by John Preece

Having lost their last two games Dundee inflicted an 11th straight loss on Edinburgh. Although it must be said the Capitals were still very much in the game until Dundee sealed the win with an empty net goal. It was a dream debut for the Stars recent signing Jack MacLellan as he opened the scoring and also netted the game winner.

There was nothing between the teams in the opening two period. The first period saw them share a goal apiece. The hosts took the lead with only 64 seconds on the clock as MacLellan announced himself to the Tayside faithful. It remained like this until 13.42 when the visitors shocked the home team as Peter Holecko got the Capitals back on level terms.

Despite numerous chances from both teams in the second session neither of them could find the go ahead goal as the period ended goalless with all to play for in the third. Dundee

looked to take control of the game was they scored two powerplay goals a minute apart. The first of these came at 46.33 from Brock McPherson and then MacLellan with his second of the game at 47.26. However a powerplay from Curtis Leinweber at 54.03 set up a tense finish to the game. The Capitals pulled the goaltender in the last minute and at 59.50 John Dolan found the empty net to complete the scoring on the night. (Courtesy of the EIHL's R&J Stats)

The return match on Sunday night at Murrayfield gave the Capitals their first win in twelve matches as they beat the Stars 4-3 in an exciting encounter at Murrayfield. First on the board after 41 seconds, the Capitals were 3-2 down by the end of the second period. However, a shorthanded goal to draw level in the third was backed up by a fourth on a powerplay to take the lead 4-3. Despite serious pressure from the Stars late on, the Capitals held to take their first win since the end of December.

Speedway

Scotwaste will remain the team sponsors of Edinburgh Monarchs for the ninth successive season this summer.

Club Chairman Alex Harkess met Scotwaste's recently appointed MD Brian Ramsay at the company's offices this week to finalise the arrangements.

Mr Ramsay told the official website "We didn't have any doubt that we would be continuing with the Monarchs, but I am keen to be a bit more involved this season. I met the club officials for the first time at the Monarchs' dinner-dance last November, and I've seen the team in action a few times.

"I really enjoy the sport and as I said to Alex I'm very pleased to see that Craig Cook is back for this season, the club have done well to secure his services again."

Alex Harkess said "It's vital for the stability of the club

that we have a good sponsor and our relationship with Scotwaste over the years has been superb. We are delighted to have them back on board. Stewart Melrose and his colleagues have become close friends.

“As I have said many times, there is no doubt at all that the period of Scotwaste’s sponsorship has seen us enjoy more success on track than at any other time.”

Meanwhile the Scotwaste Monarchs’ no. 1 Craig Cook has been named by new team manager Alun Rossiter in his first selection, the team for the Great Britain v Rest of the World match which is this year’s Ben Fund Bonanza at Leicester on Sunday 9th March (2pm).

Hockey

Scotland Women Hockey team lost the first three test matches against South Africa at the Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria.

On Friday, the Women lost 5-3 in the opening test match with goals from Ailsa Wylie, Catriona Ralph and Nikki Lloyd then the following day captain Linda Clement and Nikki Lloyd scored as the Women lost 4-2.

On Sunday, the Women found themselves 3-0 down, and South Africa in an unassailable position, in the five-test series after a 4-0 defeat.

Two goals for Celia Evans, and strikes from debutant Toni Marks and Kathleen Taylor gave the South Africans their third victory on the trot. Afterwards Scotland Senior Women Head Coach Gordon Shepherd said: “To be one nil down at half-time was a harsh reward for an excellent first period with some nice passing passages of play and good solid, organised defending, particularly at two penalty corners.

“The players put in an amazing effort today, where the heat

took its toll in the end. It was one of those games where the score doesn't tell the full story."

Photos by John Preece

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

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh!



Half – term holidays – Swimming classes – Cycle path upgrade – Allotments and community gardens – Balerno Village Screen

Edinburgh's schools are on half-term break until 24 September.

[All term dates can be found here.](#) What are you doing over the half-term holiday? Let us know!

Edinburgh Leisure is offering free swimming sessions for primary school children at three pools:- Dalry Swim Centre, Gracemount Leisure Centre and Leith Victoria Swim Centre. All [details of times and contact details are here....](#)

And remember under fives swim for free all year round anyway at all Edinburgh Leisure pools.

Edinburgh Innertube Map explain that work to upgrade Craighleith Junction on the cycle path which is now about to start and which will take a couple of months to complete.

The idea is to solve the drainage problems, undergrowth at the edge of the path and the problems in having cyclists and pedestrians on the same path.

[More details here.](#)

Council Leader Andrew Burns has an allotment which he photographs regularly and which [forms a large part of his blog.](#)

Allotments are a big part of many people's lives but there is a dearth of available plots. Most allotments in the city have a waiting list of several years. If you are interested in [putting your name down then you can do so here.](#)

However there is another way of getting a garden to dig, or getting your garden dug for you....[Edinburgh Garden Partners](#) is a kind of dating service for those who want to grow things and those who have a garden which is just too big for them....

And in North Edinburgh there is [North Edinburgh Grows](#) who have a new garden for everyone to help with. [Edible Estates](#) in Edinburgh has several gardening projects across the city, and the [Green Gym](#) has a community garden at the Calders in Wester Hailes. Do you know of any others? Then let us know as we would love to feature them. We made a little video about Duddingston Community Garden last year:-

Balerno Village Screen have a charity event on 1 March when they are showing Salmon Fishing in the Yemen to raise funds for Childreach International. [Tickets here!](#)

Review – The Beat *****



A few weeks ago, I read that The Beat were heading to Edinburgh. I immediately dropped everything and purchased tickets to see the legendary ska band. I've seen The Beat several times now and they never disappoint – Saturday's gig in Scotland's capital city was as brilliant as ever.

In the intimate, although some might say claustrophobic, atmosphere of The Liquid Room, Ranking Roger and son belted out all the classics much to the delight of the appreciative audience. Mirror in the Bathroom, Too Nice to Talk To, Hands Off, She's Mine and Tears of a Clown were greeted with raucous applause.

Even three decades later, Stand Down Margaret – an 80s plea to the former Prime Minister to go – brought a huge ovation, particularly from those of us who suffered under the policies of the Thatcher government.

A great night, as I had anticipated – and, as always, The Beat always deliver.

Rating: 5 out of 5!

Man hit by Police van in Wester Hailes



Police in Edinburgh are carrying out inquiries after a 59 year old man was injured on Saturday, February 15 in Wester Hailes Road, Edinburgh.

Sergeant Papakyriakou of the Trunk Road Patrol Group said, "The man, who was involved in a collision with a marked police van which was on routine patrol in the area around 11.30pm, is being treated for non life threatening injuries in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

Inquiries are ongoing and I would urge anyone who witnessed the collision or has any information to contact Police Scotland on 101 or the charity Crimestoppers on 0800555111"

Witness appeal following fatal crash on B800



Police are appealing for witnesses after a 78 year old man died in a fatal road crash earlier today.

The man had been cycling on the B800 Kirkliston to South Queensferry road when his silver mountain bike was hit by a black Mercedes B class car.

Road Policing Sergeant Ross Drummond said: "We have been

unable to trace any witnesses to this accident which happened just before 10am. I am appealing for anyone who saw either the man on his bike – he was wearing every day clothing and was not in specialised cycling clothes – or the car around this time. We would like to hear from anyone who can assist us in any way.”

The driver of the car, who was uninjured, stopped and has been helping police with the investigation.

The road was closed for a number of hours while police carried out their enquiries.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101 or the charity Crimestoppers on 0800555111.

Inverness Caledonian Thistle 0 Heart of Midlothian 0



They say a week is a long time in politics. It’s also a long time in football, particularly if your team is on the wrong end of a gut-wrenching cup semi-final defeat by a team with just nine players. A week is bad enough; two weeks seems like an eternity.

Hearts headed north on Saturday to the home of the opponents who inflicted such misery at Easter Road in that ill-fated League Cup semi-final a fortnight ago. This time it was on league business and with Caley Thistle riding high in the league, the Highlanders were firm favourites to take all three points.

Hearts manager Gary Locke was forced into making a couple of changes from the side that broke many hearts two weeks ago. The injured David Smith was replaced by Ryan Stevenson while the suspended Kevin McHattie's place was taken by Jordan McGhee.

As expected, the home side dominated the first half although it was Hearts Ryan Stevenson who had the game's first real chance with a shot from 20 yards which went just over the bar. Thereafter, it was Caley Thistle who dictated the game with Watkins, Raven and the always-dangerous McKay all coming close to opening the scoring.

It seemed at times that Hearts captain Danny Wilson and goalkeeper Jamie MacDonald were playing Caley Thistle on their own, the Hearts custodian pulling off a superb save from McKay. Seconds later, Watkins effort beat MacDonald but Hearts teenage defender Jordan McGhee scooped the ball off the line. Hearts were defending desperately at times but the aim of preventing the home side from scoring had worked as the first half ended goalless.

Curiously, it was Hearts who had the first chance of the second half when Jamie Hamill, who scored twice in the semi-final, almost opened the scoring with a powerful effort from 20 yards which whistled wide. Thereafter, the home side resumed their ascendancy with Tansey and substitute Foran coming closest to breaking the deadlock. As the final whistle approached, Hearts almost nicked all three points when new boy Paul McCallum headed for goal only to see his effort blocked by Shinnie.

Locke was keen to point out the improvement in his side when he faced the press afterwards. "Overall, it's a difficult place to come" said the Gorgie boss. "When we came here earlier in the season we were totally outplayed so I think you can see a definite improvement. That's four games in a row in the league we're unbeaten and I think there's now a bit of

belief among the boys.”

Hearts are now unbeaten in four league games although the gap at the bottom of the league table is 16 points. Next up for the Maroons is the visit of Celtic to Tynecastle next Saturday. Given the result the last time Neil Lennon’s side came to Gorgie, next week’s encounter may be deemed unsuitable for those under the age of 16...

Inverness Caledonian Thistle: Brill, Raven, Shinnie, Draper, Warren, Meekings, Watkins, Tansey, McKay, Vincent, Doran.

Hearts: MacDonald, McGowan, McGhee, Robinson, McKay, Wilson, Carrick, Hamill, McCallum, Stevenson, Nicholson.

Referee: Craig Thomson

Att: 3,392

Top man: Jamie MacDonald – Caley Thistle’s goalkeeper may be called Brill but this was another brilliant performance from the Hearts keeper.

Hibernian 2-1 Ross County. Sam Stanton inspires Hibs



Another superb performance from teenager Sam Stanton who scored his second goal in only three starts helped Hibs secure a valuable three points and end a run of four successive defeats against Ross County at Easter Road yesterday.

Manager Terry Butcher made three changes to the side that lost

2-3 to Raith Rovers last weekend with Duncan Watmore injured, Liam Craig suspended whilst James Collins has to be content with a place on the bench.

Ryan McGivern returned to left back allowing Lewis Stevenson to return to his preferred left midfield slot whilst Danny Haynes and midweek goal scorer Danny Handling started up front.

Scott Robertson who had been expected to replace Craig missed the game through injury sustained in the mini derby win over Hearts on Tuesday night.

Michael Nelson took over as captain.

Hibs started brightly in front of a disappointing crowd of just under 8500 and a fine run by Sam Stanton ended when he was brought down 25 yards from goal. McGivern looked set to send in a pile driver however instead Stanton curled a delightful finish into the top corner of Mark Brown's net.

Hibs almost doubled their lead a few minutes later when Haynes beat Brown from a tight angle only for Erik Cikos to clear the ball off the goal line.

Jordan Slew almost equalised against the run of play with a fine header which came back off the bar before Hibs doubled their advantage midway through the first half when Haynes cut the ball back to Tom Taiwo, who slotted the ball into the net from close range.

Paul Hanlon did well to block a Slew effort then Ben Williams did well to deny Michael Tidser and Graham Carey.

Hibs should have wrapped the game up in the 55th minutes after a scramble in the County box saw McGivern head the ball goalwards from an Alex Harris corner. Former Hibs keeper Mark Brown clawed the ball out although it appeared to have crossed the line however the referee waved away the claims.

Instead of being 3-0 up, County made it 2-1 with a terrific free kick from Brittain.

The impressive Stanton almost restored the two goal advantage from a corner kick which Brown fumbled on the line then Hanlon and Nelson both went close with headers.

The Staggies fought back bravely and dominated the late possession although in the last minute a terrific run by Stanton ended with a great save by Brown.

County almost grabbed a point deep into injury time when Cikos hooked his shot over from close range and the Easter Road men held on to secure a valuable three points.

After the game Terry Butcher said: With the form that we've been showing at home recently you could sense the jitters were there, but, I thought we held on really well and I thought we deserved it. You can sense the nerves throughout the fans and the team because we've lost our last three matches here."

"It was hairy at the end. We made it that way because we've had some good chances and not put them away. It should have been 3-0; Danny Handling had a great chance and probably should have squared it to Danny Haynes, but shot. Brown saved it, and they've gone up the other end and it's a great free-kick from Brittain and it's 2-1.

"The young ones in particular are showing no fear – there's been a lot of bravery, we took the ball well. I think in the first ten minutes we passed the ball more than we had in the whole of the 90 minutes against Raith Rovers the previous week. I asked for a lot of steel, I asked for a lot of passing which I thought we got, so I'm very pleased."

"You can sense the nerves throughout the fans and the team because we've lost our last three matches here, and the way we've lost to Raith Rovers is still in people's minds of course. We didn't do enough to put the game beyond doubt but

we're just delighted, and we said it was one of nine cup finals and we've scored more goals than the opposition which is the name of the game."

"He (Sam Stanton) has a great burst of pace. He seems to run quicker with the ball believe it or not. He's got great feet, good movement, long legs, takes the ball up to people and pushes it past them. He hasn't got Alex Harris's pace but he's got that trickery on the ball. He had a great game today and he can play in behind the striker and he can play left centre of midfield which I think is probably his best position. He gives you effort and excitement and he's got a fantastic touch as well."

Hibs: Williams, McGivern, Hanlon, Nelson, Harris (Cairney 77, Stevenson, Handling (Boateng 86'), Taiwo, Forster, Stanton, Haynes (Collins 81'). Substitutes not used: Grant, Maybury, Heffernan, Cummings.

Ross County: Brown, Cikos, Brittain, Quinn (Cooper 46'), Tidser, McLean, Carey, Slew (Luckassen 73'), Oikonomou (Gordon 77'), Arquin, Songo'o. Substitutes not used: McCarthy, Boyd, Kettlewell, Glen.

Referee: Bobby Madden

Attendance 8411

Photo by John Preece

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

RSNO Chorus Director bids the chorus adieu

RSNO Chorus Director to leave at end of Season

Timothy Dean will direct the Chorus until the end of the 2013:14 Season, concluding his tenure with performances of Mahler's Symphony No 8

Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO) Chorus Director Timothy Dean will leave his post at the end of the current Season, concluding his tenure with performances of Mahler's Eighth Symphony in Edinburgh and Glasgow and joining an RSNO Chorus trip to Prague in June.

Timothy was appointed to the position of Chorus Director in November 2006 and, over his eight years at the helm of Scotland's national orchestra's Chorus, has worked in partnership with former Music Director Stéphane Denève and current Music Director Peter Oundjian to present some memorable programmes, including performances of Magnus Lindberg's *Graffiti* in 2010, John Adams' *On the Transmigration of Souls* in 2011, Britten's *War Requiem* on the 100th anniversary of the composer's birth, and prepared the Chorus for what one music critic thought was the best performance of Handel's *Messiah* they had ever heard, earlier this year.

Timothy, also currently Head of Opera at the Royal Conservatoire Scotland (RCS), has recently taken over the responsibility for the Leverhulme Conducting Fellows, a new development for the RCS. Over the last twelve months he has been increasingly in demand abroad, working on projects in New Zealand, Hong Kong and Nuremberg. In future Timothy plans to work abroad more, as well devoting more time to pursuing his own creative projects and performing career.

RSNO Chorus Director Timothy Dean: “It has been a privilege to be part of the RSNO family for the last eight years, and to have been able to contribute to a number of truly memorable performances. I will miss working regularly with the RSNO Chorus – their commitment, their sense of fun, their sound and, above all, their Glaswegian warmth and spirit. However, it is the right time for me to move on and I wish them continued success in their new home.”

RSNO Music Director Peter Oundjian: “Tim is a joy to work with and I have valued his musicality, knowledge and experience. He is capable of getting the best out of our accomplished Chorus and we shall all miss him. Our final project together, Mahler’s Eighth Symphony, promises to be exceptionally poignant.”

Chief Executive of the RSNO, Michael Elliott: “I’m grateful to Tim for all he has achieved with the RSNO Chorus and I have to thank him for agreeing to stay with us until the end of the current Season. He should be proud of his accomplishments during his eight-year tenure as Chorus Director, and he leaves a legacy of a highly professional body of singers. All of us at the RSNO wish him every success for the future.”

The RSNO will commence its search for a successor shortly, aiming to make an appointment before the move into its new home later this year.

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh!



High School Yards steps to be beautified – Get your

**masterpieces out – Edinburgh to Majorca direct – Lothian
Buses win another award – Monthly dining club**

News from Edinburgh World Heritage about a set of steps in Edinburgh that have been neglected for some ten years. “The High School Yards Steps were boarded up in 2003 as they had become a focus for anti-social behaviour, and have since become a neglected eyesore. However, the opening of the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation in High School Yards last year has highlighted the potential of the steps, as an important route across the Old Town. The increase in student footfall, along with physical improvements and the new art installation will address the problems experienced here in the past.

Significant conservation works to the steps will be undertaken, with the railings renewed and refurbished, and new gates will be installed to close off the steps at night. Other measures will be taken to improve the setting of the steps, including relocating a police box.”

More on [Edinburgh World Heritage website](#)

Local specialists from international fine art auction house Bonhams will be on hand in Edinburgh on Thursday 6th March and Glasgow on Thursday 13th March to offer expert advice and complementary valuation services. With expertise in Old Masters, 19th Century and Modern paintings and prints, the specialists look forward to discovering what kind of appealing pictures they might find.

[Read more here](#)

A Scottish travel group has announced plans to operate a new flight route from Edinburgh Airport this summer.

Barrhead Travel unveiled plans this week to extend its charter flights programme to include its first dedicated route from the Capital from June 2014.

The new schedule will include weekly Saturday flights from Edinburgh to Palma, Spain's third largest airport, on the popular tourist island of Majorca.

The firm's existing charter flights already include direct flights from Glasgow to Malaga, Majorca, Barcelona and Venice, and Aberdeen to Malaga and Majorca which will continue.

A total of 1,800 seats will be available from Edinburgh on the premium flights between June and October 2014.

Company bosses predict the new premium flights using British Airways aircraft with extra leg room, generous baggage allowance and convenient flight times, direct to the most popular holiday destinations across Europe, will continue to be a hit with Scottish travellers.

Sharon Munro, Barrhead Travel chief executive, said: "Our aim is to give our customers exceptional choice and value.

"By chartering a wider variety of flights during the summer months than ever before, to some of the most popular holiday destinations, we're able to offer customers across Scotland an even bigger selection of fantastic travel options.

"In 2013 we embarked on our most ambitious flight programme to date, however, not content with simply increasing the number of flights we also wanted to offer customers the opportunity to travel from multiple locations – including Edinburgh."

John Watson, Chief Commercial Officer at Edinburgh Airport said: "At Edinburgh Airport we're committed to providing our passengers with choice and we're pleased to be working with Barrhead Travel to increase the summer travel options for our customers.

"We're confident this new dedicated charter service to Palma will be very popular with Scottish passengers."

✖ Lothian Buses has scooped the Sustainable Development award at this year's Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce Business Awards.

The awards, held at the city's Sheraton Hotel, are now in their third year and celebrate the contribution that local businesses make to the capital.

With a total investment of over £12million into environmental improvements, Lothian Buses was recognised for the introduction of Scotland's first 25 diesel-electric hybrid buses, fitting of state-of-the-art SCRT exhaust systems on 45 older buses to improve air pollutant emissions and achieving a 99% recycling rate throughout the company.

David Birrell, Chief Executive of Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce said: "The calibre of entries was very high in all the categories this year. The sustainability award was particularly hard fought. We were impressed by the holistic approach Lothian Buses is taking to embedding sustainability principles across the organisation."

Lothian Buses was also shortlisted in the Innovation in Business and Young Business Person of the year categories.

Ian Craig, Chief Executive of Lothian Buses said:-"We are always looking for ways to offer greener transport for our passengers in Edinburgh and this award is recognition of our commitment to that. We will continue to identify and introduce more sustainable ways of getting around the city as public transport evolves."


Edinburgh chef Mark Greenaway has come up with a new twist on dining. He is setting up a monthly dining club starting from 26 February. [Read more here.](#)

Drive in movie in Edinburgh



We thoroughly enjoyed the showing of Top Gun on Friday night. Yes it was Valentine's night so the film was suitably romantic, but also so appropriate for the airport setting!

The movie screen was set at the Royal Highland Showground car park, right next to the Easyjet and BA planes arriving and taking off. We were pleased at the efficient way the cars were ushered to a holding area before being asked to move into position for viewing the film. Certainly there is plenty of room for manoeuvring out there. Cars were organised like theatre seats, so that you were not immediately behind any one car but rather you had a free space right in front of you to allow for good visibility.

 When we were settled in our parking space with sleeping bags and hot water bottles in place, even without the engine running we were very comfortable! The radio provided the sound for the film, tuning in to 87.7FM.

One tiny criticism was the lack of variety on screen for the time before the film started. By the time we had read the tweets (which were not live) and listened to Barry White once or twice it was enough.

Anyway that was all forgotten when the film started. The screen was clear, the sound was good, and we felt it was value for money. Itison who arranged the event say they have

attracted 10,000 bookings this weekend over Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.

We just wonder when is the next one please?



Police need help tracing next of kin

☒ Police in Edinburgh are appealing for help in tracing the next of kin of a 69 year old man who died suddenly yesterday,

Gordon Brownlee, who was born on November 16, 1944 and lived at 7/4 South Sloan Street, Leith, died yesterday.

All efforts by Police to trace next of kin have failed and anyone with information or who can assist in anyway is asked to contact Police on 101.

Leith decides on community awards

We [explained yesterday that a decision](#) would be made today about spending up to £22,885 in individual awards of up to £1,000. Well they have decided now so here is the full list.

1035 people took part in this year's participatory budgeting event – postal and library voters and on-the-day attendees. The following projects have received funding (in order of total votes cast):

- Leith St Andrews Playgroup – £1000
- CLASP – £1000
- Hermitage Park School Association – Outdoor Play – £1000
- Hermitage Park School Association – cooking – £1000
- Leith Festival Association Ltd – £336
- Dr Bells Family Centre – £1000
- North Edinburgh Dementia Care – £758
- Leith Primary After School Activities Club – £1000
- YMCA Edinburgh – £900
- Arts Afternoon – £1000
- Strange Town – £1000
- Victoria Primary PTA – £950
- The Ripple Project – £1000
- Stanwell Nursery School Parents Council – £550
- Citadel Arts Group – £1000
- Fabb Scotland – £1000
- Lifecare (Edinburgh) Ltd – £900
- Citadel Youth Centre – £740
- Leith Community Crops in Pots – £1000
- 1st Newhaven Scout Group – International Camp – £400
- 1st Newhave Scout Group – Camping Equipment – £1000
- Leith Sea Cadets – £930

- FENIKS – New Mums Get Together – £850
 - SS Explorer Preservation Society – £1000
 - Fort Youth and Community Association – £571 (partial funding)
-

Bonhams offer free valuation in March

MASTERPIECE MONTH MOVES NORTH: BONHAMS SPECIALISTS SEARCH FOR PICTURES WITH POTENTIAL IN SCOTLAND

Bonhams specialists hold valuation days in Edinburgh and Glasgow in hope of discovering interesting and valuable pictures

Local specialists from international fine art auction house Bonhams will be on hand in Edinburgh on Thursday 6th March to offer expert advice and complimentary valuation services. With expertise in Old Masters, 19th Century and Modern paintings and prints, the specialists look forward to discovering what kind of appealing pictures they might find.

Masterpiece Month is a series of picture valuation days that will be held throughout Bonhams regional network. Bonhams specialists will be available at the above locations, on the aforementioned dates, to offer free and confidential auction valuations; where appropriate, home visits can also be arranged.

Bonhams have held a number of valuation days in Scotland over the years, and the results speak for themselves: A painting by Sir Alfred Munnings, 'The Fair', found at a valuation day in Scotland, sold at our 19th Century European, Victorian & British Impressionist Art sale on January 22nd for £182,500; Pierre-Auguste Renoir's 'Les oliviers de Cagnes', also sourced in Scotland, is estimated to sell for £250,000-350,000 at our Impressionist sale in June.

Bonhams is one of the leading auction houses in the world with over 57 specialist departments and a team of world-renowned

experts who offer confidential advice on all aspects of buying and selling art at auction. We have had great success in sourcing material in Scotland in the past, and we hope that it will continue as we look forward to offering our services in Edinburgh in March.

For further information contact Bonhams Edinburgh: +44 (0)131 225 2266, edinburgh@bonhams.com

Travelling Gallery will tour with I Heart Scotland



TRAVELLING EXHIBITION OFFERS NEW ANGLE ON SCOTTISH IDENTITY

As the nation prepares to make one of the biggest decisions in its history, a new exhibition is set to offer a unique take on Scottish identity to schools around the country.

I Heart Scotland, a solo show by Scottish artist Rachel Maclean, explores national pride and local history through a quirky collection of print and film in response to the upcoming Referendum on Scottish Independence.

Launching in the Travelling Gallery today the exhibition features a series of prints, commissioned and published by [Edinburgh Printmakers](#), which make surreal reference to historical figures, politicians and national stereotypes, from picturesque Scottish landscapes to Clyde the Commonwealth Games mascot.

Rachel Maclean is the only actor in the work, where she mimes to audio taken from Hollywood films, political speeches and TV interviews, and in her film 'The Lion and The Unicorn', which plays as part of the exhibition.

I Heart Scotland will now tour schools and community centres around Edinburgh, the Lothians and Scotland in the [Travelling Gallery](#), offering pupils the opportunity to experience Maclean's dark and playful reading of contemporary Scottish identity.

Culture Convener Councillor Richard Lewis said: "This engaging and thought-provoking exhibition is a sight to behold and will no doubt inspire discussion amongst all those who experience it.

"2014 is an incredibly important year for Scotland and its young people, who will see decisions made that could shape their future and that of generations to come. Art like this is the perfect way to get young minds thinking about the Referendum and I look forward to hearing how the tour goes."

[The Travelling Gallery](#) is a custom-built, mobile art space inside a bus supported by City of Edinburgh Council, Creative Scotland and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, which brings high quality contemporary art exhibitions and events to schools and communities throughout Scotland.

Commenting on her invitation to exhibit in the gallery, Rachel Maclean said: "I am delighted to be able to bring I Heart Scotland to schools around the country. National identity is important to everyone, regardless of age, and I hope my work will get children thinking about their nation."

For more information on dates and locations for the tour of I Heart Scotland, [visit the Travelling Gallery's website](#).

Rachel Maclean is an artist based in Glasgow. Since graduating from Edinburgh College of Art in 2009 she has exhibited across the UK and internationally. She recently premiered Over The Rainbow, a 40-minute video piece for Collective Gallery's New Work Scotland Programme, and Germs, a short film for Channel 4 Random Acts, commissioned by Bold Yin Ltd. She is also the recipient of the Margaret Tait Award 2013.

During 2012 Rachel was commissioned by Edinburgh Printmakers to produce several new works, including The Lion and The Unicorn, a short film for the Reflective Histories group exhibition at Traquair House. She additionally presented solo shows at Generator Projects, Dundee and Metro Arts, Brisbane.

Folk star Emily Smith chats to The Edinburgh Reporter



Emily Smith's eagerly awaited new album 'Echoes' will be released on 24 February 2014 and her many fans from the capital will have the opportunity to see her live show at the Queen's Hall next month.

Having celebrated a decade as one of Scottish music's most distinctively sublime voices, Emily begins a fresh chapter in her illustrious, award-winning TV career.

Echoes is her fifth solo album, and Emily returns to her first love of traditional song. Her gift for finding a personal connection in these passed-down, anon-penned words is still at the heart of her craft. But this is a bold new phase in Emily's music and with it comes what she describes as "a new Scottish sound".

Recorded over the space of a year (interrupted by the arrival of a small person) Echoes expands the core group of musicians with whom she's previously played by adding a guest list of true greats.

✖ Yesterday, Emily kindly took time out from her incredibly busy schedule to speak to The Edinburgh Reporter about Echoes. “The new album (Echoes) is unshakably Scots and contains mainly traditional material with some covers as well, which I like to present and interpret in new ways. Some of the songs are stripped back and delicate and some are full on and heavy.

“There are guest artist from America including Jerry Douglas, Aoife O’Donovan and Natalie Haas who are all artists that I have admired for a long time whilst Kris Drever sings on a couple of tracks and Tim Edey, Matheu Watson and Rory Butler also feature.

“My husband James (McLennan) produced Echoes which took a year to make as I was pregnant but there were no deadlines so it was nice to have the time to let the songs evolve. James is originally from New Zealand but has lots of Scottish ancestors and we have worked together for a long time.

“Some of the early tracks were recorded live and I did as much as I could before taking a few months off when Cammy was born.

“It comes out on 24 February although we launched an EP featuring selected tracks as well as exclusive additional songs at the recent Celtic Connections”

Echoes is also ‘unshakeably Scottish’ but with farther, wider horizons. From remembered ballads like the murder Twa Sisters and the mythical King Orfeo to contemporary but no less timeless songs such as Bill Caddick’s gorgeous John O’Dreams and Darrell Scott’s The Open Door, Emily’s voice eases tired ears and lifts knackered souls with its simple beauty.

Emily continued: “I have to say it’s my favourite album so far and I’m pleased with the reaction to the album already.

“My favourite songs are ‘King Orpheo’ which is an old Shetland ballad which is a mythical tale about King Orpheo’s lady who

is taken into the underground and he has to play the pipes to win her back, and The Open Door by American songwriter Darrell Scott.”

Time has passed ridiculously fast since Emily was named BBC Radio Scotland’s Young Traditional Musician of the Year back in 2002. The accolades continued as she won the USA Songwriting Competition in 2005, Scots Singer of the Year at the Scots Trad Music Awards in 2008, and she received two nominations in the 2012 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards.

In that time she’s toured the world, thrilling audiences from Cambridge Folk Festival all the way down to the National Folk Festival in Australia, via Europe, Russia, Canada and New Zealand.

Her face has been all over the television thanks to BBC Four’s Transatlantic Sessions, BBC One’s Songs of Praise, Scotland’s Hogmanay Live, BBC Ulster’s Santer and an exclusive performance for Sky Arts Channel.

In 2013 Emily toured as part of the Transatlantic Sessions extended family, singing with the likes of Mary Chapin Carpenter, Eric Bibb and Teddy Thompson – adding to an impressive list of onstage collaborators which also includes Richard Thompson, Eddi Reader and Beth Neilson Chapman.

Her albums A Day Like Today, A Different Life, Too Long Away, Traiveller’s Joy and 2009’s sparkling take on lesser known Robert Burns compositions Adoon Winding Nith (released as a duo with husband Jamie McClellan) established Emily as both an adroit interpreter of old songs and a dazzlingly accomplished crafter of original material.

In 2013 Emily released her best-of collection Ten Years (coming up with titles is harder than it looks) marking a journey that’s already seen her described by The Guardian as Scotland’s “most impressive young songwriter”.

Emily is now looking forward to getting back on tour after her 'break' looking after 10 month old Cammy and her 21 date tour starts on 6th March at Inverness and end on 4th April at Langholm.

On Saturday 8 March, Emily will play the Queen's Hall in Clerk Street with an extended line up and anyone wishing to attend is advised to book early to avoid disappointment.

Emily said: "I've appeared at the Queens Hall before in different line ups but never under my own name. It will be a varied show with new songs along with some of the older favourites such as 'Day like today' from my previous album 'Traiveller's Joy.'

"The Edinburgh show will have an extended line up compared to the other shows on the tour and will include Signy Jakosbdottir and Ross Hamilton. Rory Hamilton who opens the show will be singing with us as well."

So where does Emily find the time to combine her busy career with being the mother to a toddler?

"I honestly don't know where I find the time, but becoming a mum is a life changing event and a shock to the system, but I am so happy and it has given me a renewed enthusiasm for music. After the tour, I will probably collapse in a heap for a while before we head to Denmark in April then we are booked to do the summer festival in Gigha. We have also arranged to go to New Zealand next year."

Echoes has already received much acclaim from the music critics.

"An absolute triumph...I love this album to bits. My favourite CD of the year "

The Living Tradition

"A perfect mainstream folk album that both respects and enriches the tradition."

AmericanaUK

"This really is beautiful stuff... Excellent Scottish Folk Music that's definitely worth a listen"

Festival Photo.

"Echoes is one of the finest and not only of its kin. Go, give it a serious listen and then another –you won't be disappointed"

Flyinshoes

"Simply jaw-dropping....a bewitching album from start to finish"

Rhythm & Booze

"The great canon of Scottish traditional song cries out for her voice to record it. In case I've not made myself clear, Echoes is a brilliant album"

Folking

"Echoes is without doubt a Celtic folk album, but can I say a quite brilliant one. I was absolutely spellbound with this album from start to finish"

Up Country

EMILY SMITH – ECHOES ALBUM LAUNCH – TOUR DATES 2014

6/3 Inverness, Eden Court 01463 239841
www.eden-court.co.uk

7/3 Dunfermline, Carnegie Hall 01383 602302
www.onfife.com

8/3 Edinburgh, Queens Hall 0131 668 2019
www.thequeenshall.net

9/3 Cokermonth, Kirkgate 01900 826448
www.thekirkgate.com

11/3 Cambridge, Junction 01223 511511 www.junction.co.uk

12/3 Aldershot, West End Centre 01252 330040
www.westendcentre.co.uk

13/3 London, Cecil Sharp House 0844 888 9991
www.cecilsharpouse.org.uk

14/3 Newbury, Arlington Arts Centre 01635 244246
www.arlingtonarts.co.uk

15/3 Pontypridd, Muni Arts Centre 08000 147111
www.rct-arts.co.uk

16/3 Budleigh Salterton, Public Hall 07891 663044
www.wegottickets.com

21/3 Banchory, Woodend Barn 01330 825431
www.woodendbarn.co.uk

26/3 Southport, The Atkinson 01704 533333
www.theatkinson.co.uk

27/3 Bury, The Met 0161 761 2216 www.themet.biz

28/3 Fareham, Ashcroft Arts Centre 01329 223100
www.ashcroft.org.uk

29/3 Didcot, Cornerstone 01235 515144
www.cornerstone-arts.org

30/3 Bromsgrove, Artrix 01527 577330 www.artrix.co.uk

31/3 Wivelscombe, Wivelscombe Church 01984 623308
www.silverstreetssessions.co.uk

2/4 Leek, The Foxlowe Arts Centre 01782-523277
www.foxloweartscentre.org.uk

3/4 Stirling, Tolbooth 01786 27 4000
www.tolbooth-stirling.gov.uk

4/4 Castle Douglas, The Fullarton 01556 504506
www.thefullarton.co.uk

5/4 Langholm, Buccleuch Centre 013873 81196
www.buccleuchcentre.com

Photograph by Archie MacFarlane