

# Firearms Incident, Ratho Station – Continued Appeal for Information



Police in Edinburgh are continuing with their appeal for information following a firearms incident in the west of the city on Monday 25th November 2013.

Tonight, a week after the event, officers from Police Scotland will be conducting enquiries in the Glasgow Road area at Ratho Station and will be stopping vehicles that may also have travelled the same route one week ago.

Officers are now keen to trace a motorcycle that travelled along the A8 following shots being heard and made its way onto the city Bypass, via the Gogar roundabout.

It is believed that this motorcycle may have also travelled on both carriageways of the A8 prior to the incident as well.

Detective Chief Inspector Stuart Houston, who is leading the investigation, said: "The investigation has established that following the sound of shots a dark coloured motorcycle made its way at speed, along the A8 dual carriageway past the entrance to the Royal Bank of Scotland, and thereafter towards the Gogar roundabout, before making its way onto the City bypass."

"I am keen to trace the occupants of a dark coloured seven-seater vehicle which was also travelling on the roundabout at this time and may have had to take evasive action to avoid a collision with this motorcycle as it entered the roundabout."

"Officers tonight will be re-visiting the scene a week on with a view to speaking to as many people as possible who may have

been on the road at this time. I appreciate the patience of the public, who may be stopped and spoken to this evening, but this is essential to further our enquiries and I would ask if anyone has any information to the officers tonight or contact us on 101. Alternatively, an anonymous report can be made via the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."

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## **Witness appeal following Marionville Newsagent robbery**



Police Scotland is appealing for witnesses following a robbery at an Edinburgh convenience store.

The incident happened around 11am on Saturday (30th November) at the Marionville Newsagent, Marionville Road.

A 63-year-old man was working alone inside when a male entered and threatened the staff member. He then proceeded to steal a quantity of cigarettes, with the help of a second male who had entered the store.

A third male was outside the store as a lookout. All three then made off into Dalgety Avenue and were lost to sight.

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

The first suspect is described as white, 25-30-years-old, 5ft 10ins tall, medium build, wearing a black beanie hat, black gloves, black top with white toggle, grey jogging bottoms and white trainers.

The second suspect is described as white, 17-19-years-old, 5ft 7ins tall, slim build, dark coloured top with hood, dark tracksuit bottoms and white trainers.

The third suspect is described as white, 17-19-years-old, 5ft 7ins tall, dark hair, wearing a grey hooded top with "OSAKA" written on the front, dark tracksuit bottoms and white trainers.

Detective Sergeant Graham Grant said: "The member of staff was not injured during this incident, however is understandably shaken up.

"We are keen to trace the suspects as soon as possible and would ask members of the public to get in touch if they remember seeing any suspicious activity in or around the Marionville Road area on Saturday morning.

"Anyone who can help us identify the male responsible for this robbery is also asked to contact police immediately."

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

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## West End shopping for Christmas



Edinburgh's West End is the ideal place to shop for those special gifts this Christmas whilst enjoying a festive drink and mince pies. Join us with your family and friends on

Thursday 5 December 2013 from 3.30 onwards and savour the festive atmosphere.

The late night shopping experience will include a life size live ice carving of a Polar Bear on the corner of William, Stafford and Alva Streets. This wonderful piece of art will unfold before your eyes as it takes an estimated 4 hours to create the magical beast. The carving will start at 3.30pm and continue until completion at around 7:30pm so that the Polar Bear can be admired by all at the end of the evening.

Sponsoring the Polar Bear is CoolSculpting and Face & Body cosmetic clinic who specialises in using the CoolSculpting fat freeze technique to permanently eliminate stubborn fat areas for body contouring.

Enjoy Christmas carols with a live choir which will spread some festive cheer along with mince pies supplied by Nikki's Sandwich Bar. Plus many of the retail outlets will be serving mulled wine to chase those winter chills away making for a very special West End Evening.

Watch out for the Ad Bike that will be zooming around Edinburgh spreading the festive word of the special late night shopping event in the West End for all the family.

Victoria Dobbie Medical Director of Face & Body said:- "The West End is filled with great independent retailers who can make your Christmas shopping easier and more of a delight and fun for all the family. Face & Body with CoolSculpting are

proud to be supporting the West End as a destination to explore and discover this Christmas”.

The West End has everything you need this Christmas from; boutiques, jewellers, hairdressing salons for that all important Christmas haircut, the best in cosmetic clinics and beauty treatments to leave you feeling extra special as well as merry bars, pubs and restaurants to enjoy the best party season yet. So make your Christmas a West End one.

**effortless**sites.com

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## Five things you need to know today



**Tattoo tickets on sale today – Need some plants for your garden? – New exhibition at Open Eye – RNLI fundraising this Christmas – Blackwell’s Book Quiz tonight!**

The tickets for the 2014 Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo go on sale today. Here is the advert.

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Date for your diary! Inch Nursery winter plant sale will run Mon 2nd Dec- Mon 19th Dec, 10am-2pm each day.

– Edinburgh Outdoors (@EdinOutdoors) [November 22, 2013](#)

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There is a new exhibition at Open Eye Gallery from today until 23 December 2013.

The Christmas Exhibition, On a Small Scale, comprises a show of over 600 paintings, drawings and prints all at A5 size.

In the other spaces in the gallery there will be recent works by John Byrne, Allan Davie, Ian Hamilton Finlay and Philip Reeves. More information [here](#).



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The lifeboat at South Queensferry is the busiest inshore lifeboat in the UK. The RNLI depend on fundraising so have a look at this video here.

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Tonight at 6:00pm there will be a book quiz in Blackwells on Nicolson Street.

*Join us for Blackwell Bookshop's monthly BOOK QUIZ. We will quiz you on anything from Classics to current Bestsellers, Booker Prize winners to Celebrity Biographies.*

*Teams of up to five people can take part.*

*It is FREE to enter, but seats are limited so please come early to secure your place. There are no tickets required for this evening of fun!*

More details [here](#).



**PURSLANE**  
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## **The Edinburgh Reporter's Weekly Sports Roundup**



## Rugby by John Preece

It was back to the day job for the International players this weekend and Edinburgh took advantage of having their players return with a comprehensive 43-10 win over Connacht in the 9th Round of the RaboDirect PRO12 League. Just sneaking ahead at the break with a 42nd minute try, Edinburgh scored themselves out of site with three tries in the final eight minutes of play. The win moves them up to eighth in the table, sandwiched between the Scarlets and the Blues with 17 points. (Photo – Ross Rennie getting pulled up inches short of scoring)

The club season returned to a full programme with all three of Edinburgh's Senior clubs in action in the Premiership. Heriots were in Ayr where they beat the current champions 17-5. In the only other match to feature local teams, Currie squeezed past Edinburgh Academy 40-39 at Raeburn Place to take their second top-team scalp in as many rounds.

The table now stands with Heriots still in third with 46 points, Accies climb a place to fifth – courtesy of try and losing bonus points – with 30, but Currie doggedly remain at the bottom, in spite of their recent good form, with 19 points.

In the National League, Boroughmuir, Stewarts-Melville and Watsonians all won. 'Muir beat Peebles 27-10 at Meggetland, Stew-Mel beat Selkirk 16-13 at Inverleith and, in the highest score of the day – anywhere – Watsonians saw off Hillhead/Jordanhill to the tune of 85 (eighty five)-10.

In the league table, Boroughmuir, Watsonians and Stewarts-Melville are still in the top three places with 55, 47 and 46 points respectively.

With only five league weekends to go, only Heriots look like being able to do anything about the top two teams in the Premiership, Gala and Melrose, but in the National League a couple of bad results from Boroughmuir and there is a three-



way chase for the title. Then, there is always the PL 9th v NL 2nd play-off....

## **Football**

Mixed fortunes again for the Edinburgh clubs in the William Hill Scottish Cup this weekend. On Saturday Hibs travelled to Dingwall where they recorded their first ever win against Ross County thanks to a Danny Handling goal, then the following day, Hearts slumped to their worst home defeat in 40 years when Celtic scored seven without reply at Tynecastle.

Hibs face Partick Thistle at Easter Road whilst Hearts travel to Tayside to play on form Dundee United at Tannadice next Saturday.

## **Scottish Sun Lowland Football League**

Dalbeattie Star 4-1 Gala Fairydean

Edinburgh City 1-5 Gretna 2008

Preston Athletic 1-2 East Kilbride

Whitehill Welfare 4-1 Threave Rovers

Central Taxis EOS Premier Division

Civil Service Strollers 0-3 Coldstream

Spartans EOS 2-3 Lothian Thistle Hutchison Vale

Leith Athletic 1-1 Edinburgh University

Central Taxis EOS First Division

Hawick Royal Albert 1-3 Easthouses Lily MW

Hibernian 7-1 Eyemouth United

South Challenge Cup, Second Round North & East Zone

Vale of Leithen 6-0 Kelso United

Heriot-Watt University 3-1 Craigroyston

University of Stirling 4-1 Tynecastle

King Cup, First Round

Selkirk 5-3 Ormiston AET

Peebles Rovers 3-2 Duns

Friendly

Spartans 0-1 East Stirlingshire

## **Basketball**

Troon Tornadoes SM 76-59 Glasgow University SM

City of Edinburgh Kings SM 61-77 Clark Eriksson Fury SM

Boroughmuir Blaze SM 62-80 Glasgow Rocks SM

Glasgow Storm 65-102 St Mirren West College Scotland SM

Stirling Knights SM 72-56 Dunfermline Reign SM

## **Volleyball**

Division One Men

Bon Accord 1 3 City of Edinburgh 18 – 25 21 – 25 25 – 21 20 – 25

Beacon Fire 0 3 City of Glasgow Ragazzi 15 – 25 18 – 25 14 – 25

South Ayrshire 3 0 Dundee 25 – 15 25 – 19 25 – 18

Edinburgh Jets 3 2 Glasgow Mets 25 – 23 21 – 25 26 – 24 19 – 25 17 – 15

## Division One Women

Edinburgh Jets II 0 3 Su Ragazzi 14 – 25 9 – 25 6 – 25

Edinburgh Jets 3 1 QTS Troon Team Ayrshire 25 – 23 21 – 25 26 – 24 25 – 16

Aberdonia 0 3 City of Edinburgh 14 – 25 10 – 25 6 – 25

North Lanarkshire 3 0 QTS Kyle TA 25 – 12 25 – 14 25 – 15

## Division Two East Men

Bellshill Cardinals 0 3 Su Ragazzi II 15 – 25 20 – 25 24 – 26

Beacon Flame 1 3 Edinburgh Jets II 25 – 20 18 – 25 22 – 25 19 – 25

NUVOC 1 3 City of Edinburgh II 17 – 25 25 – 11 22 – 25 19 – 25

## Division Two Women

South Ayrshire 0 3 Dundee 0 – 25 0 – 25 0 – 25

NUVOC 3 0 Glasgow International 25 – 16 25 – 22 25 – 10

## Ice Hockey by John Preece

The Edinburgh Capitals came back from 3-1 down at the end of the first period to score in overtime to beat The Braehead Clan 5-4. 4-3 up with 11 seconds to go, it was looking like a win, but a goal from the Clan meant that the Capitals' supporters had to endure a nail-biter of a sudden death overtime period. Still, it all worked out well...

On Sunday, the Caps beat Coventry Blaze 5-4 at Murrayfield.

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

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# Heart of Midlothian 0 Celtic 7



William Hill Scottish Cup 4th Round Sunday 1 December 2013 –  
Tynecastle Stadium

The last two winners of the William Hill Scottish Cup clashed at Tynecastle on Sunday in front of 10,636 fans and several hundred thousand watching on BBC Scotland television. Much has changed for the 2012 winners in the intervening period since their 5-1 triumph over Hibernian and this was evident as the current cup holders put them to the sword in Gorgie.

Hearts were destroyed by a devastating first half display by the best team in Scotland. Kris Commons began the rout with a shot that went in off the post after just three minutes and he added a second in the 21st minute. Former Hibernian player Scott Brown made it three in the 34th minute before Ledley and Lustig added to Hearts woes to make the half-time score an astonishing 5-0 to Celtic.

Hearts were the victim of a harsh decision by referee Willie Collum on the hour mark when he awarded the visitors a penalty after Danny Wilson appeared to handle Commons' shot in the penalty box – although deciding it was intentional seemed to be stretching things a bit. Commons duly despatched the penalty to complete his hat-trick for Celtic's sixth. Brown grabbed his double and Celtic's seventh goal 15 minutes from the end to complete a thoroughly miserable afternoon for Hearts.

Hearts: MacDonald, McGhee, McHattie, Hamill, McGowan, Wilson,

Robinson, Smith, Paterson, Stevenson, Walker

Celtic: Forster, Lustig, Izaguirre, Biton, Ambrose, van Dijk, Brown, Ledley, Stokes, Commons, Mulgrew

Referee: Willie Collum

Att: 10,636

Top man: I'll pass on this. Today was one to forget for every Hearts player and supporter

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## **Pampering to raise funds for PoppyScotland**

An exclusive shopping event will take place on Tuesday 3 December 2013, from 6.30-8.30pm, at Crabtree & Evelyn on Hanover Street, Edinburgh, to raise funds for veterans' charity PoppyScotland.

Tickets cost £10 each and in return guests will receive a goody bag (worth £9), mini hand treatments, beauty demonstrations and refreshments. There will also be a raffle and 15% of all sales on the night will be donated to PoppyScotland.

Although the 2013 Scottish Poppy Appeal is over, PoppyScotland needs to raise money all year round to continue its work, supporting veterans and their families living in Scotland.

East of Scotland Community Fundraiser Kirstie R-Mitchell said: "We are very grateful to Crabtree & Evelyn for giving us this opportunity. It promises to be an enjoyable evening and we hope that people will come along to enjoy some winter

pampering, perhaps buy a Christmas gift or two, all the while knowing they are making a contribution to the wellbeing of Scotland's Armed Forces community."

To buy tickets call 0131 550 1547 or email [k.r-mitchell@poppyscotland.org.uk](mailto:k.r-mitchell@poppyscotland.org.uk)

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## MP Ian Murray supports local shops



Ian Murray MP pledged his support for local shops when he met with local retailer Dennis Williams at the Association of Convenience Stores' Heart of the Community reception to celebrate the important role that local shops play in our communities.

Heart of the Community is an annual event which brings retailers from across the country face to face with MPs to air their concerns about the future of the sector.

Ian said:- "Local shops provide essential goods and services in our communities and it is vital that MPs show support for these retailers both in Westminster and the local area – they really are at the heart of communities and Government must do everything they can to ensure that they succeed during this difficult economic time."

ACS Chief Executive James Lowman said:- "We welcome the support of Ian Murray MP in recognising the importance of the convenience stores and the services and jobs they provide in South Edinburgh. Businesses face many competing challenges,

from rising rates and energy bills to increasing pressure from small format supermarkets. It is now more important than ever that MPs engage with their local small business community, and work to ensure Government cuts and new regulations will not harm small business or undermine consumer confidence.”

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## **Terry Butcher insists that Ross Caldwell is a key player for club despite substitution row**



Hibs boss Terry Butcher has played down the altercation with striker Ross Caldwell at the end of the game against Ross County on Saturday after the youngster was substituted despite only having been on the pitch for just over ten minutes.

As he left the field, Butcher attempted to explain his decision; however Caldwell ignored him and walked straight down the tunnel. Butcher then grabbed hold of the player who shrugged him off.

After the game, Butcher spoke about the incident and confirmed that action will be taken against Caldwell but that he remains a key player for the club.

He said: “He wasn’t happy and there were a few words exchanged in the dressing room, but he’s a good player, we like him and I like him a lot. He looked absolutely out on his feet and he ran about but probably couldn’t get his second wind and we

thought we would have to make a substitution and James Collins seemed to grow in confidence all the time and he looked fit and strong and I thought that we need to get somebody on the right hand side of midfield because they were putting a lot of crosses in and Tom (Taiwo) was set to go on and it's disappointing when that happens but we will address it internally and move on, but I must stress that Ross is a key player for us and one that we like.

"I didn't like what he did there and there will be action taken. I very rarely substitute a substitute and I don't like doing it, but he looked knackered while James Collins seemed to find reservoirs of energy from somewhere. We think he is a good player and we will talk about it on Monday."

Afterwards, supporters reacted angrily on Fans' forum Hibs-Net, with the vast majority backing the manager's handling of the situation.

Caldwell later tweeted: "So many people think they know everything, would shock some to know the truth but all entitled to an opinion even if it's wrong."

The tweet was believed to relate to criticism he received from Hibs' fans after the game who questioned his attitude as he was leaving the ground.

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## **Ross County 0-1 Hibernian: Hibs end Highland Hoodoo**



Hibs overcame their Highland hoodoo to book their place in the



last 16 of the Scottish Cup today, thanks to a Danny Handling first half goal, despite having to play the last 20 minutes with 10 men after after Paul Cairney picked up an undeserved second yellow card for simulation.

Despite the narrow score line however, Hibs dominated throughout and deserved their ninth victory in the last eleven Scottish Cup ties.

Terry Butcher made one change to the side that drew with St Mirren last week with James Collins replacing the injured Paul Heffernan. Michael Nelson was on the bench after his recovery from a broken cheekbone.

Derek Adams kept faith with the same side that drew 2-2 with Hearts, with Richard Brittain still available with his ban yet to begin.

The win was Hibs' first ever competitive victory over the team from Dingwall and also the manager's first triumph in the town.

Over 1,000 Hibs' supporters packed into the away end and cheered throughout the game showing a new found enthusiasm for the ream, following the apathy toward the previous manager.

Ryan McGivern sent an early looping cross into the box which was expertly controlled by James Collins, who found Cairney but his cross was blocked for a corner.

Hibs were organised at the back but it was the Staggies who had in the net through former Hearts striker Gary Glen but his effort was disallowed because of an earlier infringement.

Hibs took the lead on the half hour mark when Craig did well to win the ball just outside the box before sliding an inch perfect pass to Handling, who finished off with a clinical side-foot finish for his first goal of the season.

After the break former Hibs keeper Mark Brown did well to save

a Scott Robertson effort then County fought back with Stuart Kettlewell's low shot deflected away for a corner.

Kevin Luckassen then sent a powerful header goal wards but thankfully for the Hibs' defenders, the ball cannoned off the post before being cleared away.

Hibs then should have had a penalty when Cairney weaved his way past three defenders before being brought down by Brown but unbelievably the referee issued a second yellow card to the former Partick Thistle player for simulation, a decision that caused fury amongst the travelling supporters behind the goal.

Collins then found Stevenson on the edge of the box, but his well struck shot deflected off Boyd and flew inches over the top of the goal.

There was controversy in the dying minute when Butcher substituted Ross Caldwell who had only been on the pitch for ten minutes and the pair had words before the youngster walked straight down the tunnel.

After the game a delighted Terry Butcher said: "It wasn't the best of football matches – it was a gritty cup tie, but I'm delighted with the win. The players showed a level of fitness today and they showed some skill as well, when they get the ball down and pass it. We've seen different qualities in the side today we didn't know were there. They keep on surprising us. Ross County had one chance when Luckassen hit the post, while Ben Williams hasn't got a save to make. For the second week running he's been kept inactive, and we've kept a clean sheet."

The draw for the fifth round of the competition is scheduled to take place on Monday afternoon at 2pm.

Hibernian: Ben Williams, Alan Maybury, Jordon Forster, Paul Hanlon, Ryan McGivern, Paul Cairney, Scott Robertson (Jones),

Liam Craig (captain), Lewis Stevenson, Danny Handling (Caldwell, Taiwo), James Collins.

Subs: Sean Murdoch, Rowan Vine, Owain Tudur Jones, Tom Taiwo, Abdellah Zoubir, Ross Caldwell

Referee Craig Thompson

2,213

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## **St Mary's RC Primary School having a Christmas Fair**

St Mary's (Leith) RC Primary School is holding its Christmas Fair on Friday 6 December 2013 from 9am – 1pm.

Stalls will include good quality books, DVDs, toys, bric-a-brac, tombola prizes and home-baking.

The Christmas Raffle has some fantastic prizes including stadium tours by Celtic and Rangers Football Clubs; pantomime and theatre tickets; family photo shoot; jewellery vouchers, hair styling vouchers, restaurant vouchers, wine and chocolates. Raffle tickets can be bought on the day.

Hot drinks, mince pies, soup and sandwiches will also be available throughout the morning.

Entry by donation.

**effortless**sites.com

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# Solstice Collective Presents: The Voodoo Room Sessions

Escape from December one night in Auld Reekie but get yourself into the holiday spirit in the company of some entirely individual, accomplished artists as they entertain and enchant you with the most diverse instrument there is – the human voice. What better way to warm up than being transported and captivated by the sweeping sounds of eight diverse singers?

On Wednesday 11 December 2013 a group of musicians will get together to put on an eclectic, one-off performance exploring the expansive capabilities of the instrument at the Voodoo Rooms.

The group made up a class of third year Napier music students have organised the event themselves in an attempt to revamp their technical singing exam and make a night of it! Now you too can get something out of it, and hey let's face it, the beer's better than in the exam room!

Doors open at 7.30 and are open to all, general/student admission £4/£3.

See you there to join in the festive fun!

Submitted by [Eva Cameron Coutts](#)

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# Five things you need to know today



Brunch today – World Aids Day – TED talks – Car Boot Sale – Restaurant wins award

Our brunch suggestion for you today is Gorgie City Farm.

“For those with some time to relax, we have a comfy sofa, free wi-fi, newspapers and local information leaflets!

Our breakfast menu includes hot rolls or a full Scottish breakfast and our delicious porridge with a choice of toppings.”

More information [here](#). Cafe open from 9:30am.

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## [Positive Help Edinburgh AIDS Memorial clean-up](#)

- When: 1 December 2013
- Where: Edinburgh AIDS Memorial, Water of Leith, Edinburgh
- What: As a mark of respect to those who have been lost to this disease, and to raise awareness of the stigma still affecting those living with HIV, Positive Help will be conducting a clean-up of the Edinburgh AIDS Memorial along the Water of Leith. This event is open to all to ensure we have enough equipment for everyone,

please call Matt on 0131 225 47 66 to confirm your attendance.

## Waverley Care World AIDS Day community gathering – Edinburgh city

- When: 1 December 2013, 4pm
- Where: St John's Church, Princes Street, Edinburgh
- What: Featuring music, speakers and a time to remember those who have died of AIDS. Free Entry.

## ImpAcTAIDS Sponsored Swim

- When: 1 December 2013, 12.30pm
- Where: Portobello Beach (near Portobello Swim Centre), Edinburgh
- What: A sponsored swim on World AIDS Day, raising funds for ImpAcTAIDS. [Contact the group](#) for details, to volunteer or to take part.

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Can't quite get up the enthusiasm to start Christmas shopping? The desire to procrastinate is a very normal human trait. The nice people at TED have a whole range of talks that you can watch rather than get worked up about who should get what on your Christmas list...

Watch them all [here](#)...then get back to the list making!



# PURSLANE

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RESTAURANT

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The weekly car boot sale is on this morning at Omni car park on Leith Street from 9 till 1.

More details [here](#).

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Locanda De Gusti, the popular restaurant in Edinburgh run by Head Chef Rosario Sartore, has recently been awarded the coveted Ospitalità Italiana Seal of Quality 2013/14 and it now amongst the Best Italian Restaurants in the World.

The prestigious Ospitalità Italiana Seal of Quality is awarded annually to the best Italian restaurants worldwide and is one of the highest recognitions in the Italian culinary world.

The initiative works closely with the Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the UK.

Locanda de Gusti now joins a prestigious group of UK restaurants who have been given this honour. Only 68 restaurants in the United Kingdom currently hold this award. Having this award is a sign of excellence and quality as the standard that restaurants have to meet in order to be awarded the Seal of Quality is incredibly high, thus ensuring compliance with quality standards typical of Italian food and hospitality.

“Locanda de Gusti’s menu goes far, far beyond your typical Italian fare,” says Head Chef, Rosario Sartore, “We work very closely with our suppliers to source the best of Italian produce, which is cooked fresh daily. It is the little details that we worry about every day, and winning an award like this reminds us why we do what we do and why we love it, that it is all worthwhile. It is a real testament to our hard working team behind the scenes who all care as much as we do about what we do.”



**PURSLANE**

RESTAURANT

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## Hearts Overcome First Hurdle



After a frustrating delay, Hearts secured the backing of their creditors and shareholders on Friday for a Company Voluntary Arrangement (CVA) which is the first step for the supporter group Foundation of Hearts to take control of one of Scotland’s most successful football clubs. The CVA to take Hearts out of administration has been approved on condition of the purchase of the club’s majority shareholding. The Foundation of Hearts has offered £2.5m but they are unable to



acquire UBIG's majority shareholding until the early months of next year.

UBIG own 50 per cent of the club but are themselves in the midst of insolvency action and have yet to appoint their own creditors' committee to rule on whether to hand over their shares to the Freedom of Hearts. And this is something that will not happen until possibly February or even March 2014. Nevertheless, today is seen as a significant step in securing Hearts future and Ian Murray MP, spokesman for the Foundation of Hearts spoke of his delight at the progress made and his gratitude to those Hearts supporters who have pledged financial support to the club.

"We are pleased at the outcome of today's meetings. It is yet another step towards the road to getting the club out of Administration and back to financial health.

The process of a CVA is extremely difficult and today is merely the beginning of the next part of the process. We are full of respect and admiration for the creditors who have been involved in this process.

Today I'd like to thank our supporters – without them it would not have been possible to get this far.

While the journey is not over yet and there is much work to be done, we can move forward with a degree of optimism that Heart of Midlothian can have a future we can be very proud of.

It is because of you, our supporters that we have achieved this significant step, but bigger challenges lie ahead and there is much to do. We must remain united with purpose.

To that end, we once again call upon supporters who have not yet signed up to make a monthly contribution to the Foundation of Hearts to do so at [www.foundationofhearts.org](http://www.foundationofhearts.org).

From the bottom of my heart I say – from all at the Foundation

of Hearts and the Club – thank you.”

Administrator Bryan Jackson issued a note of caution. “It’s a good news but the uncertainty about when the UBIG shareholding will be resolved means Hearts may have to ask the fans for more donations. There’s nowhere else for us to go if we run into difficulties,” he said.

“The cash flow is fluent, it can change. We’ve had a couple of plusses because of the Cup games against Hibernian and Celtic. We do have funds, on the face of it, to get to the end of February into March. That’s the timescale we initially worked to and we have to see what happens after that”

Hearts face Celtic in the William Hill Scottish Cup at Tynecastle on Sunday, kick-off 3.00pm.

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## Rugby – Edinburgh v Connacht


*Edinburgh score three tries in the last eight minutes to take a bonus point win.*



Connacht were the visitors to Murrayfield on a chilly Friday night in the latest round of the final RaboDirect PRO12 season. With both teams lying at the bottom end of the table, a win either way would boost their chances of a top six finish.


Getting an early break, Connacht were deep in the Edinburgh half right from the start, but the hosts managed to clear the ball upfield. The return kick from Dan Parks caught several Connacht players offside, so giving Greg Laidlaw the first chance of points in the match. Scoring the first of many kicks

on the night, Laidlaw gave the home side an early 3-0 lead. A couple of minutes later it was the visitors turn to score when Dan Parks dropped a goal from outside the Edinburgh 22. Eleven minutes on the clock, 3-3. And it was the visitors who took the lead on the 15 minute mark when Robbie Henshaw followed up on a fine passing move, initiated by a kick from Parks, and went over for the opening try of the night. Parks scored the conversion and it was 8-3 to the Irish side.

The next 15 minutes of the match were played largely up the middle, but Edinburgh threw away a chance for their first try with a fumble when on an overlap move, followed up a few minutes later by another 'miss' when Ross Rennie was stopped, literally, the width of his arm away from a try. Laidlaw had, in the meantime managed to net another couple of penalties to draw the home side up to within a point at 10-9 and Parks hit  the post with a penalty for the visitors. And it was looking as if that would be the half time score when Edinburgh were awarded a penalty in the last minute. Laidlaw confirmed with the referee that they would be able to take the lineout, then went for the line. The ball went in on the 40 minute mark and Edinburgh pressed hard at the Connacht try line, but were held out as the play switched back and forth within the five-metre area. Collecting the ball just to the left of the posts, Harry Leonard passed the ball out to Ben Atiga, who instantly passed it back inside to the rapidly approaching Dougie Fife. With a lot of momentum on his side, Fife crashed through two defenders to reach out and ground the ball in the 42<sup>nd</sup> minute for Edinburgh's first try (pictured). Laidlaw then bisected the posts and the teams went off for the break with Edinburgh 16-10 ahead.

Connacht almost pulled a try back within minutes of the restart when Henshaw ran round the outside of the home defence, with a clear run to the line, only to be pulled down inside the 22 by a flying Dougie Fife. Edinburgh followed this up with a 'nearly' of their own when, again, Rennie was

stopped short of the line, although this time by nearly half a metre.

By the half way point, Laidlaw had scored another two penalties and Parks had, unbelievably, hit the post again to give the Edinburgh men a 22-10 lead. Connacht had also had a nearly try of their own, but a dropped ball from a cross-kick was touched down by Edinburgh. Then that final eight minutes loomed. First up was Cornell du Preez with his try in the right hand corner. Fife was instrumental in getting the ball to the South African, who charged over for his second try in so many weeks. Laidlaw scored his sixth kick of the match and Edinburgh were 29-10 to the good. Five minutes later, Connacht turned over ruck ball and passed the ball into the centre. Next ball was out to Sam Beard to give the sub a chance to clear. But, the No. 22 was left clutching fresh air as Nick  De Luca came out of nowhere to intercept and fall over the line for the third Edinburgh try. Again Laidlaw saw the kick over and it was suddenly 36-10. And they thought it was all over... Well, it wasn't. Greg Tonks ran the restart kick back upfield and got another attack on the go. De Luca ended up with the ball in the 22 and drawing in the last man, passed the ball to the following Willem Nel, who did his best 'winger' impression and outran everyone to dive over for the bonus point try. Laidlaw finished off the match with another successful kick and the Edinburgh crowd went home happy, with the 43-10 win well and truly in the bag.

So, it was only Connacht, was it not..? No, not really as the men from Ireland are not the 'easy game' anymore, having given a couple of big teams, including Clermont Auvergne, a fright over the last couple of seasons in the Heineken Cup. They were just blown away by an impressive second half from the hosts which, hopefully, they can keep going.

Hopefully.....

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

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# Danny Handling hopes to keep place in team to face Ross County



Hibs' youngster Danny Handling was a surprise starter last weekend against St Mirren, yet he emerged as man of the match and won praise from his new manager for his efforts. The under 21 internationalist is hoping to retain his place for today's cup tie against Ross County in Dingwall, a ground that Hibs have never won at.

Speaking at the club's Training Centre, Handling said: "Terry Butcher has come in and given me an opportunity to show what I can do. Obviously he's liked what he's seen so long may that continue.

'It's been enjoyable. We only trained once on the Thursday. That was the first time the gaffer had seen me – and I think I made an impression. I felt as if I did quite well. The boss was happy enough to put me in the team against St Mirren and I think he was happy enough. So I'm enjoying my football. I didn't score a hat-trick in that training session. I just think the manager likes people who work hard and put the effort in – honest players. I try to be the best I can be. If that's what the gaffer likes it's good enough for me."

"The manager definitely wants the ball forward quicker, he's more direct. It has to go forward as fast as we can. That's obviously good for strikers but there is also a lot of pressure and responsibility because you have to keep possession and wait for players to get in support. I'm

enjoying it and it's going well enough so let's hope it continues.

Hibs players travelled to the Highlands last night to prepare for the game against hoodoo team Ross County whom they have never beaten in a competitive game. The teams met at Easter Road in the Scottish Cup quarter final when John Hughes was in charge, and with Hibs 2-1up, Derek Riordan had a goal chalked off for offside which TV replays showed was a wrong decision, before the Staggies equalised. County then won the replay and beat Celtic in the semi-finals before losing to Dundee United in the final.

Handling is unable to give a reason for the hoodoo. He continued: "I don't know why Hibs' record against Ross County is so poor. We've been unlucky but we're not focusing on that but we're going there trying to win, we won't be mucking about. We'll be positive from the start.

"There is a bit of pressure because we've been to the last two finals, obviously without winning – but we want to reach that stage again. Once you get there it's unbelievable. It's hugely different to your ordinary games. It's a massive pitch, a huge stadium as well as a grand occasion and a great experience.

"You get older fans coming up and begging Hibs to win the Scottish Cup as soon as possible. You just have to take it on the chin, listen to them and hopefully please them.

Michael Nelson and Jason Cummings who scored a hat trick for the Under 20s in midweek are added to the squad.

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# Look out for toads on the roads!

The Lothian Amphibian and Reptile Group (LARG), which is a 15 year-old volunteer conservation organization in Edinburgh, coordinated by the secretary Gary Hovell and other members, have set up the Lothian Toad Watch group. This group helps toads cross roads after their hibernation period each year in the early spring, and reach their breeding ponds safely.

The migration period takes place on warm wet evenings between late February and April, and it is at this time of the year that all the volunteers come together and help the toads. Volunteers are expected to wear high-visibility jackets for their own safety, as well as sporting torches and buckets. During this time the group meets up for 2 hours each night for a maximum of 2 weeks and this with utter dedication.

Gary Hovell said: -“Although the organisation has grown in terms of volunteers over the past few years, there are still many locations in Edinburgh and the Lothian’s which are not covered every year and therefore more volunteers are needed. According to the figures over the past 4 years it is shown that if a large number of toads are saved one year, then the following year there is an increase in population of toads in that location by around 30%”. A grand total of 3000 toads were rescued this April by 15 volunteers and the group is avidly looking for more volunteers to help out with the coming toad watch in 2014.

The amount of Toads saved is very important as toads can live between 10-12 years in the wild and don’t start breeding until their 4th spring, so without this help many local populations of toad species would soon be gone. A network of roads through forests and marshy areas cuts off many of the toads breeding ponds, as during their migration period thousands of them

cross the roads at the same time.

Patrolling the breeding ponds and marsh, damp woodlands helps monitor the locations and populations of the toads around that particular area.

These toad patrols also enable us to find out which areas are most affected by the traffic, hence resulting in the highest toad mortality. The fact that toads will return to the same breeding ponds for many generations, helps with keep track with the affected areas and therefore volunteers can target these areas during the migration period.

The group launched its [Facebook](#) campaign “[Lothian Toad Watch](#)” on the 12th of February this year and has, after a successful start in these months, been on the move to recruiting more volunteers for the “toad watch” in 2014. If you’re interested in helping out please contact the team at [LARG](#) at [lothianarg@outlook.com](mailto:lothianarg@outlook.com)

Contact links:

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## Usher Hall 100 years old in 2014



**And how best to celebrate that milestone? Well have a concert of course!**

**USHER HALL PRESENTS 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CONCERT A Centenary Celebration : Thursday 6 March 2014**

For one night only Edinburgh’s Usher Hall will celebrate 100 glorious years of music and entertainment by presenting a



selection of music from the three original opening concerts which took place a century ago.

The programme features the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Edinburgh Royal Choral Union and the magnificent Usher Hall organ that has played a big part in the Hall's heritage since it was installed in 1913.

Directing this special concert will be two eminent conductors, who know the Usher Hall very well, RSN0 Principal Guest Conductor Thomas Søndergård, and conductor Michael Bawtree. The programme features some much-loved classics from the time that are still very much part of today's popular repertoire; music from Wagner, Rachmaninov, Mendelssohn, MacCunn, Bach, Parry and Beethoven's famous Fifth Symphony. Edinburgh's popular City Organist, John Kitchen, will also perform.

Originally built with a separate entrance for the rich and with the Temperance movement ensuring no alcohol was served, there was no hint at that time of the social turmoil that was to take place over the coming century. Despite many new styles of music evolving during that time, the music of the original concert maintains its appeal and will be seen to have transcended the years.

Over the course of the last hundred years the Usher Hall has played host to performers, musicians and conductors a wide variety of music by great artists, and they have also observed a centenary of enormous social change.

Some of the world's greatest artists have graced the Usher Hall's stage: Ella Fitzgerald, Johnny Cash, Oscar Peterson, The Rolling Stones, Adele and Michael Bublé to name a few.

Richard Lewis, the council's Convener of Culture and Sport said: "The Usher Hall's centenary year begins with a wonderful concert of memories. The venue was a marvellous gift from Andrew Usher for the people of Edinburgh and for 100 years it

has been a great source of enjoyment and many thousands have entered its doors. Join us, on what promises to be, a memorable and uplifting occasion.”

RSNO Principal Guest Conductor Thomas Søndergård said: “Since coming to Scotland my experiences of the Usher Hall have been full of excitement, joy and thrilling music-making. It is a wonderful venue with a venerable history and I am honoured to play a part in its centenary celebrations. Both myself and the musicians of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra wish our Edinburgh home another successful 100 years!”

The concert takes place on Thursday 6 March at 7.30pm and tickets are on sale now from [www.usherhall.co.uk](http://www.usherhall.co.uk) or 0131 228 1155.

In 1896, Andrew Usher made his historic gift of £100,000 to The City of Edinburgh to found a concert hall. The building officially opened on 6 March 1914.

Edinburgh Royal Choral Union performed at the original concert in 1914.

The Usher Hall is owned and run by The City of Edinburgh Council and the venue hosts around 200 events each year. 25% of concerts are programmed by the venue.

The Usher Hall is Edinburgh’s key venue for visiting national and international orchestras and has been a core venue for the Edinburgh International Festival since 1947.

It is Edinburgh’s home to The Royal Scottish National Orchestra.

The organ dates back to 1913 and was built by Norman & Beard at a cost of £4000 and is still used in concerts today.

The venue embraces the widest range of music and events, including rock, pop, jazz, world, comedy, school concerts, conferences, award ceremonies and recording sessions.

Forthcoming concerts at the Hall include; **Madeleine Peyroux, Eddi Reader, Texas, The Sixteen, James Arthur, Tom Odell, Academy of St Martin in the Fields and Gareth Malone : The Live Tour**

**effortless**sites.com

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## **Autism workshop in January**

On 17 January 2014, Steps to Inclusion are holding a CPD/training workshop in central Edinburgh – Supporting Pupils with Autism Spectrum Conditions. The workshop is aimed at school, nursery and playgroup staff as well as students whose future will involve working with children.

Steps to Inclusion is a not-for-profit social enterprise who raise awareness of Autism Spectrum Conditions and Dyslexia via pupil workshops in both primary and secondary schools, staff training in schools, nurseries and playgroups and through the development of educational resources.

Plans are underway to develop workshops in the workplace for businesses as well as a holiday club for children with additional support needs and a club for their siblings.

Kirsten Duncan and Caroline Bingham are the founders of Steps to Inclusion. Both are experienced teachers, who have worked in a wide-range of settings including support for learning, outreach, special and mainstream education. In addition to teaching, they are also parents of children with additional support needs and so are fortunate in having a more holistic viewpoint to form a basis for their workshops and training

resources.

They have set up links with the main Autism and Dyslexia charities in Scotland and have been involved in interviewing young Autistic and Dyslexic adults to gain firsthand accounts of their school lives. This has helped inform their workshops and training even further.

If you would like to book on, or find out more about, the CPD/training workshop Supporting Pupils with Autism Spectrum Conditions in Edinburgh on 17th January, you can do so via the following link:

<http://stepstoinclusion.eventbrite.com/>

More information regarding the course and about Steps to Inclusion, in general, can be found on their website:

<http://www.stepstoinclusion.com>

Submitted by [Caroline Bingham](#)

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# Five things you need to know today



**St Andrew's Day festivities! – Dalmeny Christmas Trees – Morningside Library – St Stephen Street Christmas fun – Out of the Blue Flea Market**

Today is just going to be one long party in Edinburgh. There are many events today organised by Edinburgh's Hogmanay to celebrate our Patron Saint.

From 2 till 10pm in the Grassmarket!

*On November 30th the world celebrates St Andrew's Day, Scotland's national day. Join us for a day of family friendly events where as well as live music you can sample food and drink, dance in an outdoor céilidh or wow your little ones with traditional tales from Edinburgh's Storytelling Centre.*

*Edinburgh's celebrations welcome award winning musicians 'Breabach' presenting a collaboration of fellow Scottish artists in a celebration of Scotland's national bard. As well as Breabach's own Ewan Robertson and Megan Henderson, featured singers include the incredible Dougie MacLean and Blazin' Fiddles. Then ceilidh under the stars and join the world record attempt for the 'World's Longest Strip the Willow'.*

More details of what is on today and over the three days at the end of next month [here](#).

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[Dalmeny Christmas Trees](#) opens today at Craigies Farm.

From today till 23 December you can get the best real Christmas tree at Craigies and then have a cup of coffee in the cafe before getting the tree home...to start the decorating...

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Morningside Library will re-open on Friday 6th December at 10:00am. The staff are looking forward to welcoming their customers and staff back to the library and to being able to resume provision of our full library service to the local community. The premises have been closed due to much-needed repairs to fix some dry rot.



# PURSLANE

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RESTAURANT

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*St Stephen Street traders are hosting four Shopping Sundays on the 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd of December to encourage festive shoppers to support their local businesses and to discover some unique gift ideas. The eclectic mix of bohemian businesses will be offering generous discounts with festive drinks and nibbles from 12-4pm on the four Sundays, all accompanied with live music on the street.*

*In addition to the Shopping Sundays the street will be having a charity letter hunt running from the 1st – 22nd of December. The money raised will be donated to the local Stockbridge charity LifeCare, which helps support the independence of older people.*

*Contestants will have to find thirteen individually decorated letters displayed in shop windows, which makes a festive conundrum. Entry forms cost £1 and once completed they will be entered into the adult or child prize draw.*

*Entries must be completed and handed in to Relove no later than 4pm on Sunday the 22nd of December. The prize draw will be made by a local celebrity and winners will be notified by email.*

*So come along and have some festive fun.*

Prizes come from the street's businesses and include 2 gift vouchers (The Remedy Rooms), Jewelry (Sheila Fleet) , Handbag & accessories (Lilies & Dreams), Set menu for 2 (The Stockbridge Restaurant), Sticky note tower block (Catalog), Art (Laural Gallery), £30 voucher (Hibiscus Flower), Lego City kit, Wooden outdoor sandpit and Cuddly toy (Relove), Bottle of Cava (Those Were The Days), 20% off voucher (Flaubert gallery), £20 Children's Book Token (Reflect), Gift voucher (Voxbox) and a Italian sweet selection (Sprio).



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The Flea Market at Out of the Blue Drill Hall today will offer you the opportunity to buy some vintage and trinkets to fill those fast-approaching Christmas stockings. More details [here](#).



# PURSLANE

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RESTAURANT

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# Currie man to run London Marathon for SENSE



He has not run since regularly coming last in his annual school cross-country, and he only started to run at the end of 2012, but Steve Corrall, a driving examiner at the Driving Standards Agency test centre Currie, developed the 'running bug'!

Following completion of the Edinburgh's 5k and 10k runs earlier this year, and more recently the Glasgow Half Marathon, he has now reached his next goal, the 2014 London Marathon.

His chosen charity is SENSE – for people who live and cope with not only being deaf but also blind. Deaf blindness is a terrible condition that can affect children and adults. SENSE endeavours to offer help, advice and support to sufferers and their families.

So far Steve has had an amazing start to his fundraising and has already raised over two-thirds of his £1500 target.

'Beside family and friends I've had some fantastic encouragement and support from people the length and breadth of the country', says Steve, 'this is particularly heart-warming especially when I've never even met some of them!'

Steve has recently been busy fundraising at his local High school and Primary school's Christmas markets helped by his



five-year-old son Alfie who is a pupil at Currie Primary School. Steve has also approached local businesses for support.

'I've written to dozens of supermarkets asking to do a bag-pack, but these are very popular with fundraisers and competition is fierce for places!'

Steve is no stranger to fundraising and in the last few years has raised money for charities by climbing Ben Nevis and swimming Lake Windermere. 'The fundraising targets were lower for each of those challenges,' says Steve, 'I've set my sights higher this time but am confident of exceeding that £1500!'

So please give Steve as much as you can and support him as he prepares for the chilly winter's training schedule ahead!

There are many ways to donate:

At Steve's JustGiving page

<http://www.justgiving.com/Steve-Corrall>

By text

Text SJNC61

Followed by the amount in pounds

To 70070

By cheque / post

Payable to SENSE. To Steve Corrall, DSA, 13, Bryce Rd, Currie, Edinburgh. EH14 5LT.

Submitted by [Steve corrall](#)



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# Edinburgh University wins coveted title at the Times Higher Education Awards 2013.



The University of Edinburgh has picked up a coveted title at the Times Higher Education Awards 2013.

It triumphed in the Outstanding Employer Engagement Initiative category and received the award at a ceremony in London attended by more than 1,000 staff from universities and colleges across the UK.

Edinburgh won the award for its Making the Most of Masters (MMM) taught postgraduate programme.

The project aims to improve collaboration between employers and universities by providing opportunities for masters students to undertake work-based projects.

The project is funded by the Scottish Funding Council and is a partnership between the universities of Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Stirling.

The award category was for innovative project that encourage collaborative working between universities and employers. Judges were keen to see evidence of high-quality, flexible provision that meets employer and employee needs.

The judges noted that Edinburgh met these criteria while also being well received by the people it sought to benefit.

The course enables students to demonstrate their employability by undertaking a project proposed by the employer with the help of a specially designed toolkit.

Projects are proposed by employers and negotiated with the representatives of the relevant master's programmes.

The MMM toolkit helps students to engage with industry partners, while dedicated members of staff help the master's courses and employers to work together in adapting resources to specific needs.

In 2011-12, MMM engaged with 281 employers and 67 master's programmes, and a total of 244 projects were agreed (110 taken by students). A further 335 projects have been added in 2012-13.

"Making the Most of Masters is an innovative taught postgraduate programme in which students can undertake work with an employer in lieu of a traditional dissertation," said Sir Deian Hopkin, president of the National Library of Wales and one of the judges.

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## **Mike Crockart MP dons blindfold to back Guide Dogs campaign**



Edinburgh's Liberal Democrat MP, Mike Crockart, today (29/11/2013) experienced the challenges facing blind and partially sighted people on Edinburgh Streets.

Mike donned a blindfold to walk with trainee guide dog Bracken from Guide Dogs' Corstorphine base to his constituency office on St John's Road. During the walk, Mike faced the problems regularly presented to people who are blind or partially

sighted – including A-boards, street clutter, and cars parked on pavements.

Commenting on the walk Mike said: “We walked along a very demanding road and guide dog Bracken did fantastically well, but the blindfold walk brought home the difficulties presented by A-boards and street clutter. We walked along some narrow roads and enclosed, busy spaces, and the blindfold walk also brought home how brilliantly the dogs work and how much a guide dog owner has to put their complete faith in them.”

The walk was part of a move to back Guide Dogs Streets Ahead campaign which highlights some of key obstacles that people have to overcome every day. The obstacles present a particular problem for people who are blind and partially sighted.

Guide dogs are trained to avoid obstacles and take the most direct route when assisting their owners. Unfortunately this can result in an owner being led into a road to avoid such clutter, potentially putting both them and their dog into the path of oncoming traffic.

Equally, long cane users find the slalom created by randomly placed obstacles – such as shop advertising boards – disorientating and anecdotes of injuries sustained from collisions with such items are unfortunately all too frequent.

The blindfold walk also highlighted the importance of Guide Dogs Safe and Sound campaign urging mandatory audio on electric vehicles.

Electric, Hybrid and quiet combustion engine cars are making today’s vehicles quieter, posing a serious risk to blind and partially sighted pedestrians.

Mike said: “Judging when it was safe to cross the road was very difficult because of so much noise around. But I would be far more worried if there was a vehicle coming towards me at speed that didn’t make any noise at all.”

Learn about Guide Dogs campaigns by visiting [www.guidedogsscotland.org.uk](http://www.guidedogsscotland.org.uk)

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# Hearts v Celtic Scottish Cup Fourth Round Tie – policing operation



Police Scotland will be carrying out an operation at Sunday's Scottish Cup Fourth Round tie between Hearts and Celtic, searching for anyone in possession of fireworks or flares.

Officers will be carrying out searches outside Tynecastle stadium, and a specialist search dog, capable of detecting flares, will also be used to identify anyone trying to smuggle illegal items into the stadium.

Police are warning that robust action will be taken against anyone trying to take these items into the ground. The warning follows incidents at recent matches between the clubs where flares or fireworks were used.

Superintendent Kenny MacDonald, who is in charge of the policing operation on Sunday, said: "The match kicks off at 3pm, and I would encourage supporters to get there early, as there is limited parking near to the ground.

"There will be search cordons in place around the stadium, and

searches will be undertaken as a condition of entry to the ground. A specialist search dog will be used to detect anyone in possession of fireworks or flares.

“We recognise that the majority of supporters are well behaved, however there are a small minority who in the past have put themselves and others in danger by throwing fireworks or flares.

“If this behaviour continues then it will only be a matter of time before someone suffers a serious injury, and we are working with clubs and stewards to do all we can to prevent such dangerous behaviour.

“Anyone who is caught with a flare or firework can expect to be arrested, either at the time, or as a result of a post-match investigation. As well as receiving a criminal conviction, they may very well find themselves being banned from attending future matches throughout the country.”

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## **Celebrate Scottish Ceilidh Culture in Grassmarket**



St Andrew's Day will see a packed programme of events celebrating Scottish Ceilidh Culture in Edinburgh's Grassmarket.

The St Andrew's Day revelries, which are part of Scotland's Winter Festivals, will feature a tune writing workshop with Adam Sutherland for families, a kids ceilidh workshop and traditional Scottish storytelling from David Francis & Calum

Lykan. Appearing on the main stage will be a celtic supergroup – 2014 Radio 2 Folk Award Nominees Breabach will be joined in a unique collaboration by a stellar selection of Scottish artists including Dougie MacLean, Louis Abbott and Blazin' Fiddles in a celebration of the national Bard – Robert Burns.

To add to this line-up of great Scottish talent on Scotland's National Day, families can enjoy music from The Deadly Winters, the Adam Sutherland Band, Caroline Gilmour and Rura, participate in a kids ceilidh at the end of the afternoon, or end the evening with an energetic ceilidh to the music of the Cask Strength Ceilidh Band.

An unusual addition to the line-up will be a Silent Ceilidh which will run in the Dome tent at the West End of the Grassmarket from 6.00pm. Dancers will all wear headsets offering two channels to listen to – one to join in a ceilidh dance such as Strip the Willow or the Gay Gordons with assistance of a caller, while the second channel will play Scottish pop music for those of a more individual disposition.

The programme runs from 1.30pm to 10.00pm in Edinburgh's Grassmarket and all events are free of charge.

The Grassmarket Market will be trading throughout the day from 10.00am to 6.00pm offering a range of quality foodstuffs from locally sourced vegetables, fish and meat to hot food with a distinctly international influence.

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs said: "Scotland's winter festivals bring people together to celebrate the very best of our culture, creativity and hospitality. Not only do they make a significant contribution to our economy, but they bring warmth, excitement and sparkle to our cold, dark winter nights, and demonstrate our ability to celebrate our rich culture year-round.

"The packed programme of free events around St Andrew's Day in

Edinburgh's Grassmarket is the perfect way for the city to kick off the celebrations. From traditional music and dance to storytelling, it will be a taster of some of the exciting things to come over the next few months."

Pete Irvine, Director of Unique Events, said "This extraordinary celebration of Scottish ceilidh culture brings together some of our greatest traditional musicians to entertain the crowds on Scotland's National Day. It's the first time that we have celebrated St Andrew's Day in this way in Edinburgh and it's a great addition to Scotland's Winter Festivals."

Charlie Wood, Director of Underbelly, said "We are delighted that the St Andrew's Day celebrations are part of our, and Unique's, inaugural Edinburgh's Christmas programme offering the finest seasonal entertainment for the family."

"Hosting the St Andrew's Day celebrations is a fantastic opportunity for our local businesses as well as the Greater Grassmarket Business Improvement District (BID) and we are delighted that we were able to help bring this event to the Grassmarket", says Greater Grassmarket Project Manager Georgia Artus.

Scotland's Winter Festivals programme, which begins on St Andrew's Day on 30 November and includes Christmas and Hogmanay, concludes on Burns Night on 25 January. Funded by the Scottish Government, Scotland's Winter Festivals showcase the distinctive cultural events taking place across the country in the next few months. For full details of the Scotland's Winter Festivals programme please visit: [www.scotland.org/winter](http://www.scotland.org/winter)

#### MAIN STAGE

2.00pm

The Deadly Winters

3.00pm

Adam Sutherland Band



4.05pm Cask Strength Ceilidh Band	Kids Ceilidh with the
5.15pm	Caroline Gilmour
6.00pm	Rura
7.10pm	Breabach
7.40pm Dougie MacLean, Blazin' Fiddles & Louis Abbott	Breabach with Guests
9.00pm Band	Cask Strength Ceilidh
10.00pm	Finish

#### DOME TENT

1.30pm Writing workshop for families	Adam Sutherland Tune
2.40pm with Cask Strength Ceilidh Band	Kids Ceilidh Workshop
3.50pm with David Francis & Calum Lykan	Scottish Storytelling
6.00pm	Silent Ceilidh
9.50pm	Finish

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**Lord Provost on live St**

# Andrew's day link up with Dunedin



Lord Provost, Donald Wilson, will tomorrow take to cyber space to join St Andrew's Day celebrations taking place on the other side of the world.

A live link-up has been arranged between Edinburgh and its twin city Dunedin in New Zealand, some 12,000 miles away.

British High Commissioner Vicki Treadell will host hundreds of guests, including Commonwealth Games Chef de Mission Rob Waddell and Visit Scotland Chair Mike Cantlay in the Glenroy Auditorium, Dunedin. She will welcome the Lord Provost to the proceedings at 8am (9pm NZ time), which will have added significance thanks to the arrival of the Queen's Baton on the latest leg of its globetrotting relay.

The Lord Provost will share his excitement over the packed programme of events planned to mark Scotland's National Day in Edinburgh, the centre-piece of which is in the City's Grassmarket. He will be joined by Jodi McGinty, a Youth Legacy Ambassador from Edinburgh, who will talk about her involvement with the Commonwealth Games.

Lord Provost Donald Wilson said: "It says so much for our culture – and technology – that we are sharing our St Andrew's Day celebrations with people on the other side of the world.

"Next year is a huge year for Scotland and for Edinburgh and I am very proud that, as a co-host, we will play our part in next year's Commonwealth Games. Of course, 2014 is also significant in that it will be 40 years since we became twinned with the beautiful city of Dunedin.

“I understand that the New Zealand team will be staying with us during the Games and I can promise them the warmest of Scottish welcomes here in the Capital.”

Mike Cantlay, Chairman of VisitScotland, is currently in Australia and New Zealand as part of the Queen’s Baton Relay tour, spreading the word about the incredible year of events taking place in Scotland in 2014.

On Thursday evening, he addressed delegates at a special ‘Scotland Welcomes the World’ reception at Auckland Museum and will be among those wishing a ‘Happy St Andrew’s Day’ to the Lord Provost during tomorrow’s live link-up with Dunedin.

Mr Cantlay said: “Almost everyone I have spoken to here in New Zealand has told me that they have Scottish ancestry and the strong ties between our two countries are further demonstrated by this wonderful joint celebration of St Andrew’s Day.”

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## Have a curated Christmas...



The council’s museums and art galleries have it all sorted out for you this Christmas...

Shopping trail offers unique and hand-crafted gift-buying this Christmas.

Edinburgh’s museums and galleries are set to take the stress out of the festive rush with a weekend-long shopping experience.

Curated Christmas encourages shoppers to follow a 'cultural trail' around the city centre, where they will have the opportunity to meet expert staff, indulge in gallery café specialties and find the perfect gift for a friend or loved one.

The City of Edinburgh Council has partnered with Scottish National Galleries, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Dovecot Studios and Edinburgh Printmakers to stage a series of events and offers at nine venues over the last weekend in November.

Amongst festivities Santa Claus will pay a visit to the City Art Centre and Museum of Childhood between 12pm and 5pm on Saturday, while children can learn to make Christmas tree decorations as parents browse the City Art Centre shop on Saturday and Sunday.

The Museum of Edinburgh and Writers' Museum will also host free events coinciding with Previously... Scotland's History Festival and St Andrews Day.

Museums and galleries taking part in Curated Christmas will be: City Art Centre, Museum of Edinburgh, Museum of Childhood, Writers' Museum, Dovecot Studios, Edinburgh Printmakers, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Scottish National Gallery and Scottish Portrait Gallery.

Curated Christmas will take place on Saturday 30 November and Sunday 1 December. More information can be found on the [Edinburgh Museums and Galleries website](#).



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# **New research centre promises bright future for web technology**



Faster, more reliable internet connections will move a step closer to reality with the opening of a new research centre at the University of Edinburgh.

A new generation of high-speed internet technology which is more secure and versatile than Wi-Fi, will be developed at the research facility.

This light-based communication technology, also known as Li-Fi – which is transmitted using light waves instead of existing radio technology – is seen as the successor to the latest 4G wireless internet systems which came on stream in the UK in 2012.

Demand for wireless internet access from the revolution in smartphone technology is in danger of overloading the amount that can currently be supplied by Wi-Fi. Researchers say that Li-Fi has no such limitations and could enable this potential capacity crisis to be overcome.

Using light to deliver wireless internet will also allow connectivity in environments that do not currently support Wi-Fi, such as aircraft cabins and hospitals.

The new Li-Fi R&D Centre in Edinburgh will encourage collaboration between world-leading experts from the University and other key research institutes around the world.

A key player in the new centre will be Professor Harald Haas, who is widely recognised as the “father of Li-Fi.” Professor Haas is Chair of Mobile Communications at the University of Edinburgh and co-founder of a spin-out company, pureLiFi.

Professor Haas will outline the objectives of the new centre when he speaks at the Global Leaders Forum 2013, which takes place in Seoul, South Korea, today.

Researchers at the Centre are keen to identify new industrial partners and to collaborate more widely with major international electronics companies to further develop Li-Fi technology.

Professor Haas said: “This internationally leading UK centre will accelerate the adoption of Li-Fi and emerging wireless technology through engagement with major industrial partners, to fully harness the commercial and innovative potential of Li-Fi, and establish a major new \$6billion Li-Fi industry.”

Professor Lesley Yellowlees, Head of the University of Edinburgh’s College of Science and Engineering, said: “The University of Edinburgh has a strong track record in communications research and providing industry solutions to this sector. This new R&D centre in Edinburgh is a unique opportunity for the UK to lead the global development of Li-Fi technology.”

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# **New book brings a fresh angle on Scotland's Independence Debate**

Donald Smith's topical new book, 'Freedom and Faith', discusses and explores the so-far overlooked key questions about religion, culture and Scottish Independence. Reflecting on the massive, unprecedented changes during his own lifetime, he poses fascinating, insightful and urgent questions about Scotland's future.

Religion, in particular, is a focus for the book. The Scots have gone in 50 years from mass participation in religion to a nation of dwindling church attendance. Throughout Scottish history, religion has been such an intrinsic part of Scottish life and values that it would always have been at the very core of any debate about Scotland's future. Today, it is almost entirely overlooked in the Independence Debate. Society has changed so much and so far, Smith believes, that the religion angle hasn't been properly addressed. Smith suggests that if we are to form a rounded view of Scottish Independence and the future of Scotland, 'whatever it may be' we need to include all elements of Scottish society, including religion, morality and culture – and their relationship to our national identity. Any debate that does not focus on these issues short-changes Scotland.

Freedom and Faith cuts through all the prejudice and misunderstandings surrounding religion and Scottish culture. It asks questions and suggests some inspiring solutions to enable Scotland to thrive with a mature and enriching attitude to religion – but author Donald Smith has taken care only to

suggest and not to dictate answers: A debate that includes religion and its relationship to culture and identity is needed, urgently.

“I wanted to open the debate about Scottish Independence out to all the rich diversity of Scottish life. It’s very clear to me that we, as a nation, should consider all areas of our contemporary society. This isn’t just a political debate. I want people to read my book and make up their own minds and I believe Freedom and Faith lays out all the key aspects that have been overlooked, in an inclusive way. I hope that people will read my book and use it as a tool to think carefully about their own views: this isn’t just about September 2014, but more about how Scotland will evolve in the future.”

Donald Smith is a storyteller, theatre director, and theologian, who has been on the frontline of change in contemporary Scotland for 35 years.

Freedom and Faith is available now from good bookshops

A launch debate will take place on Tuesday 3 December 2013 at 6.30pm at the Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR

Donald Smith will introduce ‘Freedom and Faith’. A panel debate follows and includes Donald Smith; former Editor of The Herald and author, Harry Reid; and historian Lesley Orr. They explore the question ‘What part – if any – should spirituality play in the Scottish Independence Debate?’

Event is free, but ticketed. Please go to <http://www.tracscotland.org/scottish-storytelling-centre> to book or call 0131 556 9579.

Submitted by [Jude Henderson](#)





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# Stockbridge Photography Club

## Photo of the Week



This week's photo is from Col Walder. Col has captured an iconic Edinburgh landmark on one of the rare blue sky days!

The Stockbridge Photography Club is a non-profit photography club that aims to operate in a different way from the traditional photography club mould. They have informal monthly meetings where they discuss their photos over a cup of coffee and learn about the month's theme.

Outside of this, they arrange photowalks and trips to various locations and landmarks in and around Edinburgh, providing their members with something interesting to photograph, whilst always having someone on hand to answer any questions.

Their exhibition is ongoing, and Rosie McKenzie has kindly extended the running time. Why not pop into her gallery on St Stephen Street? Everybody is welcome, and all proceeds go to charity.

The club will be launching their new website on Sunday. More information is currently available on Facebook ([facebook.com/stockbridgephotographyclub](https://facebook.com/stockbridgephotographyclub))

Submitted by [Stockbridge Photography Club](#)

