

Fenlon determined to get semi-final spot by overcoming Hearts' youngsters



Hibs boss Pat Fenlon is determined to get back to winning ways after Saturday's defeat to Aberdeen, and insists that he has enough quality strikers available to combat the loss of Paul Heffernan.

Speaking to Hibernian TV ahead of the derby Fenlon said: "There is no better way to get ourselves back into that mode of winning derbies; it's the quarter-final of the cup and it is a big derby game for us.

"So it gives us an opportunity to get into the semi-final. Once you get that far you've got a great opportunity to lift the trophy. First of all we need to make sure that we take care of business against Hearts.

"We were on a decent run and we want to get back onto another one and that's the key for us.

"I've said that before we can get on runs where we're losing one in nine and doing that again puts you in a really strong position.

"That's what we've got to try and do and there is no better way to start than in the quarter-final of the Cup against Hearts."

On form striker Paul Heffernan is cup-tied for tonight's game but, boss Fenlon believes Hibernian still have enough quality up front to win the tie and says he wants the team to be creative tonight.

He added: “We’re okay, Paul is a loss to us which is disappointing but we knew he wouldn’t have him.

“We have some decent strikers at the club in James, Rowan, young Ross and Danny Handling is coming back to fitness, so we have plenty of striking options.

“You can win football matches if you score one and if you win it by one then you’re happy enough – that’s just the way that it is.

“We’ve just got to make sure that we create enough chances to win games and I think that is the key. We’ve had James in and probably not given him enough service, we’ve got to make sure that we can get enough balls to him tomorrow night if he plays.

“That gives us chances and you’ve seen in the Stranraer game that we are capable of scoring goals.”

The club have announced that the East Stand is sold out for the fixture whilst tickets remain available in the Famous Five Stand and the West Stand.

Sir Arnold Clark goes pink for Breast Cancer Awareness month



ARNOLD CLARK DRIVES BREAST CANCER AWARENESS ACROSS SCOTLAND

Customised pink wheels mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Scotland's biggest car dealership has thrown its weight behind the Detect Cancer Early campaign to encourage female drivers to check their breasts for signs of the disease.

Scottish actress Libby McArthur was joined by comedienne and breast cancer survivor, Isobel Rutter, to urge women to 'Don't Get Scared, Get Checked' when it comes to changes in their breasts.

As Breast Cancer Awareness Month comes to an end, thousands of female drivers in Scotland will be targeted by the campaign and shown what to look out for as 50,000 leaflets depicting the visual signs of breast cancer will be distributed in over 200 Arnold Clark outlets.

River City actress Libby McArthur said: "Breast cancer is an issue that's very close to my heart as I had a scare myself when I was younger when I found a lump and my mother died of the disease. I've also watched my sister battle breast cancer and I know the devastating effect it can have on families. It's so important to be 'breast aware' and I'd urge all women to regularly check for any changes to your breasts.

"We used to say that everyone knows someone who has been diagnosed with cancer, but I now think most people know someone who has survived cancer."

✖ Sir Arnold Clark said: "Around half of our customers are women and we wanted to use this opportunity during Breast Cancer Awareness month to highlight the visual signs of breast cancer, so that more women knew what to look for other than just lumps. Getting checked out at the first opportunity could save your life. "

Comedienne, Isobel Rutter, 56, who has survived breast cancer three times, said, "Survival rates are really good now and early detection plays a key factor in that. If I didn't act on

the lump I found, I may not be here today. I do reference life after breast cancer in my shows and I've found that it helps other women view the breast cancer experience from a more positive angle. I want to show people that breast cancer is not the end of the world. It is treatable. And like thousands of other women who have lost both breasts, it can have a devastating impact on your life. There is much to work through – emotionally, physically and socially – but everyone should know that there are better days ahead; and they will come...I promise!"

One in nine women in Scotland will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, so it's crucial that people are aware of the signs and are checked at the first opportunity. You're five times more likely to survive breast cancer if it's diagnosed and treated at the earliest stage. Breast screening is offered in Scotland to women between the ages of 50 and 70 years of age.

If you want to find out more information about breast cancer and its symptoms, contact NHS Inform 0800 22 44 88 or www.nhsinform.co.uk.

Woodlands Special School may win £50,000 for sports area



Children with disability get chance to win £50,000 for all-weather sports pitch

Young People at Woodlands Special School in Currie, Edinburgh, are hoping to scoop the most votes in an STV head to head competition on Tuesday November 26th, which could allow them to achieve their dreams of a multi -sports play area.

The SOS (Support Our Sport) Campaign, led by the registered charity 'Friends of Woodlands School', (charity number: SC043958) has been trying to raise funds for an all-weather sports pitch complete with fencing and an access ramp and the project has been shortlisted in this year's The People's Millions – a contest run by ITV and the Big Lottery Fund where public votes decide which charity will win up to £50,000.

The SOS campaign aims to achieve an all-weather play area for up to 80 secondary aged children, who are pupils at the school. Woodlands caters for young people with moderate to complex learning disabilities and conditions such as Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Down's Syndrome.

Currently, if pupils want to play sports or be active, during their break times, they have to scramble up a virtually inaccessible hill to a patch of land at the back of the school, just off a small tarmacked area. This hill was formed from excavated land left over after the school was built in 2008. The land is very steep, with no access and many learners have mobility difficulties and have never been able to play on this area. The ground on the hill is stony and slippery and any fall made is very painful for learners. The area is out of bounds for most of the year as it is too dangerous to play on when there is rain, dew, ice, fog or snow. At these times, the children cannot be active outdoors as there is simply not enough space on the tarmacked area for this to happen safely. Many children come from underprivileged backgrounds and often clothes and shoes are ruined whilst playing on the hill, and cannot be replaced. Children have a right to a safe area to play and the safe area in Woodlands is simply too small to allow all to play as they would like.



The Chairperson of the 'Friends of Woodlands School' Mrs Liz Power said:- "At the moment, there is nowhere on the school site where our kids can run around or kick a football about at break or lunchtimes. They desperately need the chance to let off steam and have a space where they can play, interact and be active. We are calling on everyone to vote for 'The Friends of Woodlands School' SOS Campaign on Tuesday 26th November, so that we can build them a sports pitch that will enhance not just their learning but their health. It will also provide a recreational space for families who attend our Family Club at the school."

The Head Teacher of Woodlands School, Mrs Aisling Boyle said:- "An all -weather sports area will bring huge educational and health and well- being benefits to our young people. They will be able to play and participate in team sports, leading to a healthier lifestyle, enhanced active learning experiences and improved social skills but most importantly, all will be included, regardless of their disability."

Learners, staff, parents and carers at the school have already raised £30,000 towards the £80,000 total cost of the project by holding sponsored events, community tombolas, Christmas fairs and a joint fashion show with Currie Community High School. ASDA Chesser has supported the project and Selex ES Charity Golf Committee donated £5,000 from their fundraising golf day. Selex ES is based at Crewe Toll in Edinburgh and makes electronic systems.

PE and Outdoor Education teacher, Mr Sean Fallon, travelled the entire length of Scotland in a straight line using only human power to raise money for the campaign. He walked 260km, cycled 210 km, swam 600m and kayaked 43km up one grid line of an Ordnance Survey map in three weeks, raising over £1,000 for

the project. Parent, Liz Power also raised over £1,000 by running the Edinburgh Marathon this year.

The SOS! Campaign led by the 'Friends of Woodlands School' will be shown on STV news at 6pm on Tuesday November 26th when there will be a chance for the public to vote for the charity to win the funds it needs for the young people. Telephone voting will be open from 9am until midnight on that day.

As well as being available on STV, the phone number to vote for 'The Friends of Woodlands School' SOS Campaign will be published by the Daily Mirror early on the morning of Tuesday November 26th. Votes from a landline will cost only 10p and the public can vote up to 10 times from the same landline phone number.

Council trying to help local businesses save money

An event being hosted by the City of Edinburgh Council tomorrow could help local businesses save thousands of pounds on their energy, water and waste costs.

A new programme of free specialist advice and support will be launched at the event in the Council's City Chambers to help businesses take some simple steps to improve the management of their resources.

The Council is working with Resource Efficient Scotland, the Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Small Businesses and Bright Green Business to provide the new service.

This year's winner of the Scottish Green Awards, Lucy Frankel of Vegware, will be speaking at the event. Rachel Moir, Project Manager at Resource Efficient Scotland will also be providing a key note speech.



Convenor of
Economy Committee

Cllr Frank Ross, Convener of the Economy Committee, said: -
"I'm delighted to be launching this new initiative. A key strand of our Strategy for Jobs is support for businesses and we are committed to helping them save money through better resource management. We also aim to make it easier for businesses to understand the effect of new environmental legislation."

For further information contact [Business Gateway](#) on 0131 529 6644.

VIDEO – First Minister announces £6m project at European Ocean Energy at Edinburgh's Our Dynamic Earth



The First Minister and the UK Energy Minister Greg Barker both attended the European Ocean Energy Conference at Our Dynamic

Earth today. Both asserted their respective governments' wish to support renewable energy and in particular this sector where wave and tidal energy devices are being trialled off the coast of Orkney.

The First Minister also announced the design tools which will help install large-scale ocean energy arrays will be developed at the University of Edinburgh. The project will be known as Optimal Design Tools for Ocean Energy Arrays (DTOcean) and will comprise a consortium of 18 international partners across 11 countries.

The project is funded by the European Commission and will design software which will provide information for project developers so that they can make more informed choices when installing devices in the sea.

The First Minister said:-“Scotland's huge offshore renewable energy resources continue to be matched by its R & D excellence in this sector. The University of Edinburgh is well known in this field particularly since the 1970s research by Professor Stephen Salter and his team who developed the Salter Duck wave power generator.”

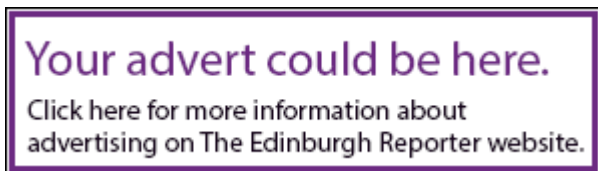
Five things you need to know today



**First Minister to speak at European Ocean Energy conference –
We Want to see Double Protest – William Y Darling Bequest –
Professor Mike Dixon getting his OBE today – Today at the
Cameo**

The First Minister is to speak at the European Ocean Energy Conference this morning at Our Dynamic Earth.

The Edinburgh Reporter hopes to perhaps get a word with him later or indeed the Energy Minister Greg Barker who is also attending the event.



[We Want to see Double](#) is a protest taking place today at St Andrew's House demanding more investment in cycling infrastructure from the Scottish Government. We will have photos and interviews later but for the moment you can read [Councillor Jim Orr's blog](#) on the cycling debate in Holyrood yesterday.

The William Y Darling Bequest was awarded last night to Margaret Walker who set up a youth club in Buckstone and who has worked with young people in the area for the last 30 years.

Exclusive photos and video [here](#).

Professor Mike Dixon is getting an OBE today! If you want to

know why....Read more [here](#)...

Today at the Cameo – if you haven't seen it yet go and see Sunshine on Leith. Peter Mullan has now been nominated for a BAFTA! Booking details [here](#).

Creative Edinburgh Awards



Creative Edinburgh is set to celebrate their 900 strong community with an evening of awards and entertainment at The Bongo Club, 12th November, 7-10pm. The Creative Edinburgh Awards is an annual event featured in the programme, which acts as a platform to promote the creative, tech and cultural community of Edinburgh. There are 5 awards, 4 of which are sponsored by Santander, Marketing Edinburgh, Business Gateway and McClure Naismith.

Said Lynsey Smith & Janine Matheson, Executive Directors of Creative Edinburgh:-The Creative Edinburgh Awards is our contribution in promoting the rich talent, across all sectors, within the city. From exciting architectural practices, design agencies and filmmakers to innovative tech start ups, fashion & games designers, musicians and visual artists. Our

community is a unique mix of sectors, stages and talents, which we think others (both nationally and internationally) should know about and be connecting with.

This year, Creative Edinburgh has partnered with local charity SAMH (Scottish Association for Mental Health), donating the profits made from ticket sales of the awards to support the essential work that they do.

Entertainment for the evening will arrive in the shape of Found, Jesus H Foxx and Esther Swift – all local bands of Edinburgh. The awards themselves will be designed by Bonnie Bling, who are creating quirky lasercut acrylic pieces for each award. Local microbrewery, Barney's Beer, will also be providing a limited run of 'Creative Edinbeer' especially for the celebrations.

Said Mark Gorman, Chair of Creative Edinburgh: -Creative Edinburgh is really gathering momentum. Our inaugural awards attracted a good level of interest but the past year has really spread our reach and influence and we are expecting, and already receiving, interest and entries from a wider range of Creative Industries. It's important for the Creative Economy of Edinburgh that our huge spectrum of creative (and tech) businesses have a platform from which to broadcast their value to the city economy and I believe we are on the right track to achieving this. The Awards are an important contributor to our strategy.

Nominations for the awards are taken from both members and the public via an online form on the [website](#). The awards will be


judged on Tuesday 5 November by Creative Edinburgh's Steering Group and the representative sponsors. Nominations will close on Monday 4 November.

Last year, awardees included Location Scotland, Out of the Blue, Edinburgh International Fashion Festival, Leith Late, Song by Toad and Media Education with an audience of over 250 attendees at Summerhall.



Edinburgh Councillor Blogs – Councillor Jim Orr on the Holyrood Cycling Debate



 by Councillor Jim Orr Vice-Convenor of Transport and Environment City of Edinburgh Council, and council spokesman on cycling matters.

Following a motion by Alison Johnstone MSP for Lothians the Scottish Parliament discussed the possibility of introducing strict liability for motorists involved in collisions with cyclists yesterday. The motion debated in the chamber read:-

S4M-07934 Alison Johnstone: Strict Liability—That the Parliament believes that the number of fatalities and injuries to pedestrians and cyclists on Scotland's roads, including in the Lothian region, is unacceptably high; recognises that the Scottish Government has funded a number of national cycle

safety initiatives; notes that versions of a strict liability rule exist in the civil law of many European countries; notes that a number of walking and cycling organisations support the introduction of such a law in Scotland; understands that a petition by Cycle Law Scotland on this topic has secured nearly 5,000 signatures; considers that a stricter liability rule could have positive benefits for the safety of more vulnerable road users as part of a package of measures, and would welcome further debate on this proposal.

“2013 has been an interesting year for commuter cycling in Edinburgh. On the positive side, £20m of extra Scottish Government funding was recently announced including £3.6m for Leith Walk. Yesterday, Edinburgh Council approved a capital spend of 7% of the transport budget to be spent on cycling, a proportion which will hopefully be mirrored in the revenue spend come budget day. On the negative side, nine cyclists have been killed on Scotland’s roads this year – every one a tragedy – and the apparently ‘light’ sentence imposed on Gary McCourt, the driver who was responsible for the death of Portobello pensioner, Audrey Fyfe, caused widespread alarm. An appeal by the Crown against the sentence was unsuccessful.

In Edinburgh, the Cycling Action Plan for Scotland (CAPS) was relaunched earlier this year but with Strict Liability (SL) specifically excluded from the plans.

The reasons provided were as follows:

“... there has been a consistent decrease in reported fatalities for all categories of road users in the sample countries whether strict liability legislation applies or not. ... The available data does not supply robust evidence of a direct causal link between strict liability legislation to levels of cycling and KSIs, when countries like the UK and Ireland are clearly reducing fatalities in cyclists and all other road users without strict liability legislation in place.”

✖ Green MSP Alison Johnstone opened proceedings at Holyrood in her usual measured, thoughtful style. Here are some thoughts on the more notable contributions from the chamber yesterday afternoon.

Tory John Lamont was one of the few non-Greens, in fact the only MSP by my reckoning, who was explicitly positive about SL. Average cycling rates (as a percentage of all journeys) are 7.4% in the EU compared to just over 1% in the UK. Careful drivers, he said, had nothing to fear about such legislation. He actually preferred the term 'Presumed Liability' although, like many, I'm not entirely clear on the difference. Of the SNP speakers, only Edinburgh MSP Jim Eadie gave the impression that he entered the debate favourably disposed towards SL citing the overall proposition as a "basic sound principle on which to proceed".

The need to improve safety was a recurring theme, borne out in the comments made by Lothians Labour MSP Kezia Dugdale. Patrick Harvey MSP, the only other Green MSP at Holyrood, described Glasgow's streets as "lamentable" and spoke of his frustration with motorists and their behaviour. Surely, he said, the responsibilities of motorists outweigh those of cyclists. The overall objective is to get more people cycling and he was sure that SL would help.

SNP MSP Graeme Dey raised the spectre of compulsory proficiency tests for cyclists while Conservative Margaret Mitchell's main concern was that SL would send out the "wrong message" and might only make irresponsible cyclists even more irresponsible. Many other contributions focussed on the cyclist behaviour issue while Labour MSP Claudia Beamish, like Harvey, appreciated the wider objective: to encourage a modal shift to sustainable transport firms such as public transport and active travel.

At least two speakers, Labour MSP Sarah Boyack and SNP's Rob Gibson endorsed the idea that Transport Minister Keith Brown

should now take the lead in pulling together key stakeholders to take the issue forward. Boyack also criticised, correctly in my view, the one element of the Nice Way Code which was unquestionably flawed – the bus adverts which discouraged cyclists from undertaking on the left, even though many cycle lanes are located on the left for more or less exactly that purpose.

The Minister closed the debate for the government by defending his record on cycling and reminding the chamber of the key role of local authorities. In doing so, he commended Edinburgh's plans to roll out 20mph zones across all residential areas. The Minister explained that local authorities control 94% of roads in Scotland, and he observed that neither Paths for All, Living Streets nor (he understood) Sustrans supported SL.

He also issued what was perhaps a challenge for pro-SL colleagues in the chamber – to bring forward empirical evidence that SL reduces accidents and implicitly commuted himself to looking again at SL should such evidence be produced. Given the lack of enthusiasm from the three active travel-promoting organisations that he cited, the adherents of SL might also see in this a second challenge: to gain some support from them.

It would however appear that there is an inherent difficulty in this challenge which is that, given that road fatalities were found to have decreased in all the sample countries, and given the multitude of other factors which affect such statistics, will it ever be possible to demonstrate objectively that SL improves road safety? Consequently, I would make two further points. First, that I hope our MSPs will submit and debate all types of evidence, by which I mean empirical data AND also the subjective viewpoints of informed observers. Also, I would say that improving road safety is not the single main objective of SL. Simply increasing the numbers of people cycling is another important metric and more

people will cycle if, for example, SL makes them feel safer. This can and should also be measured.

Speaking to cycling safety campaigner Ian McNicoll after the debate, he recognised that we're really at the very beginning of a debate and he was pleased at the frequent mention of Edinburgh as leading the way in Scotland."

VIDEO – Buckstone's Margaret Walker awarded the Sir William Y Darling Bequest



FITTING REWARD FOR BEACON OF BUCKSTONE YOUTH

The Sir William Y Darling Bequest for Good Citizenship for 2012/13 has been awarded to Margaret Walker in recognition for her work with young people in Buckstone and the Lothians.

Lord Provost Donald Wilson made the presentation during a civic reception held in the City Chambers this evening.

In being nominated, Mrs Walker was widely praised for her commitment and tireless work over the past 30 years in running youth projects and establishing a youth project in 2003 which still runs today

Lord Provost Donald Wilson said:- "This is richly deserved and rightly recognises the enormous time, effort and commitment that Margaret has given to singlehandedly managing a great local youth club.

“Her warm and cheerful character has been undiminished through her decades of service to the community and her drive in organising outings and events for the club members have made her central to its success and popularity.”

Fairmilehead Community Council, Councillor Elaine Aitken and MP Ian Murray who all backed Mrs Walker’s nomination for this prize, praised her community spirit, ethos and ability to ‘bring a smile to the youth of Buckstone’.

The Award, which is made annually to a citizen or citizens who, in the opinion of the Council, “has or have done most for the City’s Honour and Welfare”, was bequeathed by the late Sir William Y Darling, Lord Provost of Edinburgh from 1941–1944.

Constable painting accepted in lieu of tax by the National Galleries of Scotland



RARE CONSTABLE PORTRAIT OWNED BY LUCIAN FREUD ACQUIRED FOR THE NATION THROUGH ACCEPTANCE IN LIEU SCHEME

The National Galleries of Scotland is delighted to announce a remarkable acquisition which brings together two great artists from very different eras. Portrait of Laura Moubray, a fine early work by the English landscape painter John Constable (1776-1837), has entered the National Collection from the estate of the artist Lucian Freud (1922-2011) through the

Government's Acceptance in Lieu (AIL) scheme.

Portrait of Laura Moubray is a fascinating addition to the Scottish National Gallery. Constable is believed to have painted only around 100 portraits during his early career, of which about 50 survive. The painting complements the Galleries' existing holdings of the artist's work: the major landscape *The Vale of Dedham* (1828) and the small, vigorously executed sketch *On the Stour* (1830).



Just as Constable's landscape paintings demonstrate a close focus on place and the changing face of nature, so his studies of people encourage an intimate view of an individual and something of their relationship with the artist. It was doubtless these qualities which attracted the celebrated painter Lucian Freud, who was a great admirer of Constable's portraits: 'I've always thought that it was completely loopy for people to go on about portrait painters, English portrait painters, and not to have Constable among them!'

Freud was renowned as one of the most important and influential artists of the twentieth century. In 2008, his work *Benefits Supervisor Sleeping* (1995) fetched the highest price paid for a painting by a living artist. He is represented in the collection of the National Galleries of Scotland by a number of key works, which include *Two Men* (1988), an emotive portrait of two figures in repose.

The Scottish National Gallery was one of Freud's favourite galleries and provides a fitting context for *Portrait of Laura Moubray* through its fine collection of English portraits; these include major works by Thomas Gainsborough, Sir Joshua Reynolds and Sir Thomas Lawrence. There is also a Scottish connection to the picture through the sitter's husband, Robert Moubray of Cockairny and Otterston (1774-1848), and Deputy Lieutenant of Fifeshire.

Commenting on the acquisition, Director of the Scottish National Gallery, Michael Clarke, said, 'We are absolutely thrilled to receive this charming and intriguing picture. Lucian Freud had a very discerning eye and now our public will also be able to appreciate the qualities Freud found in Constable's rare and unusual portraits.'

The Acceptance in Lieu (AIL) scheme allows those who have an inheritance tax bill to gift significant items to the nation and satisfy more tax than by selling items on the open market. This also allows museums and galleries to increase their collections at no cost to them while the donor gets full market value. AIL is a reserved matter but "executive devolution" arrangements are in place to enable Scottish Ministers to deal with cases in which there is a Scottish Interest.



More Eco Buses for Edinburgh



Lothian Buses is adding 20 new single deck hybrid buses to its fleet following the successful introduction of the state-of-the-art eco vehicles earlier this year.

Set for delivery in 2014, Lothian Buses has ordered 20 new Volvo 7900 Hybrids which provide a host of eco-friendly features, saving hundreds of tonnes of CO2 emissions.

Lothian Buses made the decision to add the new vehicles to its existing fleet of 721 buses, as a result of the low fuel consumption and smooth operation of the buses,.

Bill Devlin, Engineering Director at Lothian Buses, said:-
“Expanding our existing fleet with these eco-friendly buses is another positive step in our journey to providing a greener and more sustainable travel offering to our passengers and to the local environment.

“Since introducing the hybrid buses earlier this year, we have been extremely impressed with the low fuel consumption and the overall running of the vehicles. We can’t wait to see even more of these results.”

The current Lothian Buses single deck hybrid buses serve passengers on the No. 1 bus route from Clermiston to Easter Road, combining a high-tech electrically powered diesel engine with aluminium body framework, specifically designed to save weight and reduce fuel consumption

Phil Owen, Bus Sales Director from Volvo which is providing Lothian Buses with the vehicles said:-“We successfully launched the 7900 Hybrid single deck bus last year and Lothian Buses were one of the first operators to secure an order. They have achieved significant in-service fuel savings and have been very pleased with the overall performance of the buses.”

Fashion – Monday must have



At this time of year I’m thinking about knitwear purchases and planning a few cosy additions to my wardrobe.

When I spotted this soft cobalt blue jacquard knit from German brand Hallhuber I knew I’d found a jumper to see me through

long Winter nights. I imagine its fresh shade, simple cut and delicate gemstone embellishment would suit Kate Middleton or women looking to emulate her classic style. You may not have heard of Hallhuber but it's rapidly becoming the brand of choice for stylish women who seek effortless clothes in quality fabrics.

Snap up a piece of sophisticated Hallhuber knitwear or a thick wool dress from House of Fraser Glasgow or [online](#)

Ann Russell is a fashion writer and has her own fashion blog [here](#).

'Written Off' Hearts Up For The Cup

This may be one of the youngest Hearts teams in the history of Edinburgh's finest football club, but in Billy Brown they have one of the most experienced and wily men in football.

Ahead of the all-Edinburgh Scottish League Cup quarter final tie at Easter Road on Wednesday, the Hearts assistant manager declared that most observers have written off his team's chances of not only avoiding relegation this season but of getting one over their city rivals in the quest for a semi-final place.

"It will certainly be a challenge to get a result on Wednesday night – and a challenge to go on for the rest of the season and prove everybody else wrong," said Brown.

“Ever since I’ve been in football, you’ve got to prove yourself and it makes it sweeter when you prove yourself right when everybody else says, ‘you couldn’t do it’. Listening to everybody and reading the papers, I feel we have been written off by most people. On that basis, maybe the pressure’s off.”

Brown, now in his third spell as assistant manager at Tynecastle – he was Jim Jefferies’ right hand man on two previous occasions, being instrumental in Hearts ending their 36 year wait for a major trophy when they won the Scottish Cup in 1998 – was adamant that no one at Tynecastle shares the consensus of opinion that Hearts will be playing in the Championship next season.

“I certainly haven’t given up and the manager hasn’t written us off either. Like me, he’s fully up for the challenge.”

Hearts are in a dismal run of form that has seen them failed to win their previous seven SPFL games with their only wins coming in penalty shoot-outs against lower league opposition in Raith Rovers and Queen of the South in the League Cup. But Brown insists nothing has changed.

“We had a major task at the start of the season, we’ve still got that major task and we’ve still got enough games to be successful in that task,” added Brown. “We’ve got one of the best up and coming managers in the game. He’s meticulous, he’s passionate and he’s got a stern streak in him that will do well and get us out of this situation. At the moment, there isn’t a better man to take Hearts forward. I’ve worked in partnership with one of the best managers this country’s had for a long time in Jim Jefferies so I know what it takes. And there’s no doubt in my mind Gary Locke has got what it takes to get us out of the situation we’re in”

Brown said the spirit in the Tynecastle camp is as strong as it was at the start of the season.

“All the doom and gloom is from people in the media. There’s

no doom and gloom here. We're up for the task. There's no great cloud hanging over Tynecastle. Everybody likes to think there is but there isn't. We've certainly got a chance of winning the cup tie against Hibs – certainly the players are not lacking in confidence despite what a lot of people may think.”

Brown refused to entertain the idea that the League Cup quarter final was a distraction for his young team. “It's not a distraction, it's something everyone here relishes. People might say Hibs are favourites and you can understand that. They have signed loads of players and there are not many clubs who pay £200,000 for a player as Hibs have. So there is a financial outlay and big expectations for their supporters. They are at home, there are not many young players in the Hibs team and they are playing a young team. I would think, if there's extra pressure in a game like this, it's certainly not at this end of the city.”

Despite his talking up of Hearts city rivals, Brown remained as confident as ever. “It's a game we are desperate to win and these games mean more to the supporters than any other. As long as we give our all we can get a result.”

Hearts striker Callum Paterson is likely to replace the injured Ryan Stevenson for the tie at Easter Road which will be broadcast live on BBC Scotland television.

**Edinburgh firms well
represented at European Ocean**

Energy Conference



Two of the foremost wave energy companies in Europe were represented at the European Ocean Energy Conference today at Our Dynamic Earth, and they are both based in Edinburgh.

Pelamis Wave Power is run by CEO Dr Richard Yemm who extolled the virtues of being based in the capital where their workforce has such a good lifestyle. Martin McAdam, CEO of Aquamarine Power which has its main office here and other offices in Belfast and Orkney, was happy to tell us about the electricity their revamped Oyster machine is now making.



These are unique photos of Aquamarine's Oyster in the foreground and Pelamis's P2 being towed off-site earlier this year at EMEC in Orkney where they are undergoing testing.

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City Centre Vision to become reality



Following the success of pedestrianising parts of George Street during the Festival, the council is now set to trial a one way system there for a year following the decision of the Transport & Environment Committee this morning.

Andy Neal, CEO of Essential Edinburgh said:-" Essential Edinburgh carried out a full review of visitors and residents after the Festival period and everyone agreed that what was done in George Street this year was a success. There is further learning to be done however and we continue to look at the arrangements."

Mr Neal kindly agreed to meet with us prior to the meeting to give us his reasons for supporting the council's plans.

There is to be a two way cycle route along the middle which will actually form part of the National Cycle Network, and buses will continue to use Princes Street as before. Cycle parking is to be increased and key city centre junctions are to be retimed to increase the pedestrian priority.

The administration made the suggestion of a trial for 12 months which will allow them to monitor all traffic movements in the area. Councillor Aldridge asked about cyclists on Princes Street and was told that they can still use Princes Street if they wish, but the national cycle route and thus the preferred route will be George Street. Councillor Aldridge also asked about low emission vehicles to be used by Lothian Buses, but admitted that the area around Princes Street was probably not the worst in terms of air quality.

Councillor Cardownie, the Festivals Champion asked again about George Street when he said:-" Is there anything in the proposals which is an obstacle to Festival arrangements being replicated next year?" The council officer replied that traffic management would be required but did not see an obstacle. The convenor explained that the festival arrangements are due to be reported on at the next meeting in January.

The Conservatives suggested a motion which included a suggestion that bus services would be continued for 12 months in both direction to allow the effects of the tram service to

be assessed.

Councillor Hinds said that she wants the city centre to be comfortable for everyone, whether pedestrian, cyclist or driver. The essential thing is to make it an attractive place for people to come to. She mentioned comparisons with Times Square in New York where the ideas were first trialled. "We want to be able to travel around the city centre more easily no matter what our mode of transport. We have a long term commitment about making the city centre better and more vibrant for everyone."

Conservative Councillor Joanna Mowat agreed that their aspirations were the same, but the two political groups had a different approach. She said:- "We are trying to meddle with situations which are currently unknown. We cannot know the baseline until the tram is up and running. This would then allow us to decide what needs to be altered. At present, we cannot know what the city centre will look like next year until the trams start running. We want to establish a robust baseline before making changes. We cannot disagree with the vision but we disagree with the way it is being done. People are not impressed by either George Street or Princes Street at the moment, but we want to make any changes properly. We will have no way to measure the success of these steps unless we know what we start from."

Councillor Aldridge supported the coalition motion in saying:- "Where we can anticipate the position, we should make the change."

The Green Group also supported the administration motion which Councillor Booth said was a real vision and showed that the council had listened to the results of the consultation.

This plan started during the last administration when the LibDem/SNP coalition instructed a report by Gehl architects. In March 2013 the Transport committee agreed that to improve

pedestrian space in the city centre would take some reorganising of the traffic arrangements, and that to start with the emphasis should be on Princes Street and George Street with other programmes such as the Leith Programme, Waverley Bridge and the Royal Mile to follow closely behind, as well as the public realm improvements expected at Charlotte Square.

Consultation events took place earlier this year, and a petition was made to the council's Petitions Committee demanding that Princes Street be made free of all motor traffic, which would more closely follow the vision of the Gehl Report.

Buses will continue along Princes Street in both directions for the 12 month trial period to allow assessment of the tram service, and the council will work with all main bus operators to review frequency of other bus services with a view to reducing the number of buses which cross the city centre.

The idea is to make Edinburgh more continental with on street cafes, and more flexible space, but also to encourage property owners in Princes Street to develop their upper floors. The city centre is also to be decluttered with unnecessary street furniture being removed. Please tell us if you see any that needs to be dealt with!

The move to introduce temporary one way systems in George Street will require only a temporary Traffic Restriction Order which is also easier to manage from an administrative point of view.

The whole report is reproduced for you here:-

http://www.theedinburghreporter.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Item_7.1___Building_a_Vision_for_the_City_Centre.pdf

Veterans Minister applauds success of charity partnership



VETERANS MINISTER ANNOUNCES £2 MILLION GAIN FOR VETERANS THROUGH CHARITY ADVICE PROJECT

As the 2013 Scottish Poppy Appeal gets underway the Veterans' Minister, Keith Brown MSP today announced the success of a vital charity partnership project that has attracted both £2 million gained for members of Scotland's Armed Forces community and an expansion of the project across the country.

The Armed Services Advice Project (ASAP) is delivered by the Scottish Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux and funded by Poppyscotland, the charity behind the Scottish Poppy Appeal, and three other charities (ABF The Soldiers' Charity, RAF Benevolent Fund and Seafarers UK). Since its launch in 2010 ASAP is making a huge impact on the lives of serving and ex-Service people and their families by delivering free and expert information, advice and support on a wide range of issues, including benefits, debt, employment, health and housing.

Announcing the news, Mr Brown was joined by two Edinburgh & Lothians ASAP advisers, Army veteran Alan Hamilton MBE and Fiona Salem, who are based in the West Lothian Citizens Advice Bureau. Also present were Gary Gray, Head of Welfare Services at Poppyscotland, and serving soldiers Fusiliers Jamie Wilson and Graeme Ward (both aged 20) from 2 SCOTS (The Royal Highland Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of

Scotland).

The tremendous £2 million financial gain for hundreds of members of the Armed Forces community was achieved in a number of ways including supporting people to claim benefits to which they are entitled, amounts being awarded in appeals, debt being written off and charitable grants awarded.

A three-year extension to the project and expansion into additional strategic areas from October 2013 means that, as well providing advice through a national helpline, ASAP is now available in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Angus, Dundee, Edinburgh & Lothians, Falkirk (funded by Falkirk Council), Fife, Inverness, Moray & Nairn, Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, Stirlingshire & Clackmannanshire and Perth & Kinross.

Veterans Minister Keith Brown said: "I congratulate ASAP, Citizens Advice Scotland and Poppyscotland on reaching such a landmark. The work done in fighting for benefits that veterans are entitled to receive shows the impact of the ASAP service and the skill of the staff who have worked tirelessly for our veterans.

□ "The Scottish Government has been a strong supporter of the ASAP service since its creation in 2010 and has contributed financially to its work with a grant of £6,000 towards a booklet for potential users of ASAP. The success of this work is clearly demonstrated through strong collaborative work between a range of charities and partners."

✗ Gary Gray from Poppyscotland commented: "Veterans can face a number of challenges after leaving the Armed Forces, from physical injuries and mental health problems, to not finding the right house or job or being able to deal with their finances. Poppyscotland and its co-funding charities are working to address the current and future needs of veterans and, through ASAP, we are tackling issues and great results are being achieved.

“However, we need to do more to reach those who are still in need of help and I am delighted that, thanks to the generosity of the public who support us through the Scottish Poppy Appeal and other fundraising activities, Poppyscotland is able to expand the service in order to continue to make a difference to the lives of veterans and their families across Scotland.”

Margaret Lynch, CEO of Citizens Advice Scotland said: “This is a project that we have been delighted to be a part of. The CAB service provides free, confidential and independent advice to everyone who needs it, but we are always happy to work with other charities where we can target advice to particular sections of society. Members of the Armed Forces community their families are a very good example of that, and our advisers across Scotland have been delighted to help them.

“The fact that we have reached this milestone today is a sign of what a terrific success the project has been so far. Putting £2 million in the pockets of Servicemen and women is something that will make a real practical difference to them in these difficult economic times. And we urge anyone in the Armed Forces community who has not used the project yet to come and see us to discuss any problems they have.”

In the past three years 3,300 people have been helped, presenting over 13,000 issues. The main areas of need were benefits, debts, housing, employment and financial issues. Over 500 people benefited from a financial gain.

An individual that has been helped by ASAP said: “ASAP, and in particular my adviser whose continuing support, tireless work and relentless form filling, was a huge help to me as I was at my lowest and couldn’t even open any mail as it came through the door. He restored my faith and trust in people and I will be forever grateful. I have no idea where I would be now if it wasn’t for ASAP as I was in a very dark place, in pain and almost suicidal through frustration at constant bombardment of phone calls, forms and tribunals. I always speak extremely

highly of them and refer any other veterans towards them. This project is highly deserving of recognition and reward and my adviser deserves a medal!”

ASAP's confidential, Scotland-wide helpline number is 0845 231 0300.

Discovering Len Lothian



Edinburgh and The Lothians – Discover More of Scotland

Rich in culture, history and tradition, the city of Edinburgh and the surrounding Lothians offer travel enthusiasts a memorable experience. Due to its strategic location in the heart of Scotland, the region attracts students, businesses and families from across the UK and even worldwide. Entrepreneurs who plan to expand their business, students in need of holiday storage room, and short term visitors can all hire the services of a secure storage facility like [Len Lothian Store & More](#) to stock office furniture, personal belongings or anything else.



This family-owned [self-storage company](#) has three different facilities in and around Edinburgh, and the family name illustrates the company's deep roots throughout the capital city and the Lothians.

As a city-wide storage facility, Len Lothian Store & More enables businesses and home-owners the opportunity to rent storage space from a local company with almost 50 years of experience in the storage and removals industry.

Located south of the Firth of Forth, the Lothian region covers the city of Edinburgh, West Lothian, Midlothian and East Lothian. From ancient architecture to vibrant countryside, fine food and shopping centres, the region offers something that captivates the mind of every visitor.

Read on to find out more about the fascinating history, culture, and most popular tourist spots of Edinburgh and The Lothians.

History and Culture

Edinburgh and the neighbouring Lothian region is steeped in a deep history amply reflected in its wide range of monuments and battlegrounds which date back to the times of the Celts and Romans.

Today, the region has the strongest economy outside of London in the UK with the establishment of many financial sectors, research centres and tourism services. All these factors not only make the region an ideal place to visit but also a great place to live and work. Home relocation is demanding, and Len Lothian Store & More have storage units across Edinburgh (and Glasgow) meaning extra storage space is available and conveniently located. As a reliable and secure storage company, Len Lothian Store & More offers a wide range of rooms, lockers and containers to suit all manner of storage requirements.

Places to Visit in Edinburgh and The Lothians

The region boasts a variety of attractions, from the iconic Edinburgh Castle to charming museums, galleries and theatres. Some of the most visited attractions that lure big crowds throughout the year include the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and the Royal Botanic Gardens. Just south of Edinburgh, the Midlothian region is well known as the home of the ornately decorated late Gothic Rosslyn Chapel, which featured prominently in The Da Vinci Code. West Lothian, similarly, has

many intriguing features and attractions including pre-historic burial sites and stately homes.

As a World Heritage Site, Edinburgh is frequented by visitors, students and business representatives throughout the year. Len Lothian Store & More eases the transition for home movers in need of temporary storage, burgeoning enterprises looking to rent storage space for office furniture, or students who require summer storage room for their belongings. Hiring self-storage space from Len Lothian Store & More leaves you to enjoy the city and the surrounding areas, whatever your circumstances.

Advertorial feature



Council changes the way trade waste will be dealt with in city centre



The council has decided to trial [the new scheme we reported on last week](#), and traders will have to comply with new rules about when their waste will be collected in three areas of the city from January next year.

The motion was as follows:-

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. a) agrees to trialling timed trade waste collections in

Rose Street (and its lanes), the High Street and Leith Walk for a period of up to nine months commencing 6th January 2014;

2. b) notes the intention to produce progress reports for this committee on the outcome of the pilots before and after the Summer Festival Period.
3. c) notes the importance of having a compliance team in place to provide information and enforcement and to support the implementation of the pilots.

The Green Group offered an addendum to the administration motion asking the council to trial zero waste options. The Convenor resisted this as it would be confusing. She insisted on giving clear direction to the council officers that the option adopted by the council is the one which is now agreed upon, rather than continue to consider other options already discounted. The Greens withdrew their motion.

The council has undertaken that the existing environmental wardens will deal with the enforcement of this scheme. The council also plan to encourage traders in streets to get together and enter into one contract with trade waste companies for each area. This would mean that there would be one company removing waste from certain areas rather than a mass of different vehicles trying to gain access to some narrow streets.

Council to offer free parking after 5 at Christmas



Alive after 5 is the message to city centre shoppers

Despite some opposition the council decided this morning to approve the use of £47,000 to persuade Christmas shoppers to come to the city centre with their cars this Christmas. This cost is shared by the council, Essential Edinburgh and Marketing Edinburgh. These two bodies will contribute £15,000 to reduce the lost revenue to the council.

The full list of streets where there will be no charge after 5 is a lengthy one:-

<http://www.theedinburghreporter.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Parking-after-five-list.pdf>

During the Transport & Environment Committee meeting this morning the council report on supporting this measure for a second year was discussed. You can read the report [here](#) at Item 7.4.

Councillor Joanna Mowat who represents the city centre asked about consultation with residents. "Some streets were not included last year. These streets are very pressured already. We seem to have consulted everyone else but not the people who live in the streets."

The council officer confirmed that some people who answered the survey may have been residents but they were not particularly targeted.

The Greens wanted the whole plan scrapped and no further action taken until a full option appraisal is carried out.

Transport Convenor, Councillor Lesley Hinds said that the traders want to stay open longer hours over this period, and they think the free parking is important to that scheme working. She also said that for next year the alternatives of encouraging public transport etc would be examined.”

Councillor Jim Orr commented that he has misgivings about doing this in future but was happy to support this for a second year.

Councillor Bagshaw with Councillor Booth in support said:- “£94,000 is being spent on something which is not value for money, and there was not full council support for the plans last year. This money would be better spent elsewhere, for example to reduce bus fares. We agree that the idea is to support city centre business but the way this is being done is not the correct way.

“There is no hard evidence that the car parking initiative works.”

VIDEO – Plans for City Centre supported by Essential Edinburgh



Andy Neal CEO of Essential Edinburgh which is the city centre Business Improvement District took the time before the

Transport Committee meeting this morning to explain why they support the council's plans for the city centre.

Youth Theatre Arts Scotland – born today!



Youth Theatre Arts Scotland – a new name and patron for Promote YT

The national development organisation for youth theatre arts in Scotland is changing its name: from Promote YT to Youth Theatre Arts Scotland from today.

The new name and visual identity reflects the growth in scale and diversity of Scotland's youth theatre sector over the past 10 years.

Acting CEO Helen Bain said:-“Our new name (Youth Theatre Arts Scotland) will allow us to better represent Scotland's youth theatre sector, and to communicate clearly what we do: showcase talent, nurture potential and develop professional expertise. Our vibrant sector not only plays a vital part in producing Scotland's artists and audiences of tomorrow, but also gives our young people an accessible form of social, creative and cultural development.”

Findings from a recent review of youth theatre in Scotland (conducted by Youth Theatre Arts Scotland) showed that participation in youth theatre is growing. Youth theatre organisations delivered cultural activity to more than 23,000 young people per week in 2012/13 – up by a third on

the previous year. Organisations that responded to the study turned over £3.5m per year, with an average of six young people per youth theatre moving onto further education in the creative industries.

❌ Youth Theatre Arts Scotland can also announce that Scottish Actor Sam Heughan has joined the company as Patron. Born in Dumfries and Galloway, and a graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Heughan has recently been cast in US cable network drama series Outlander. Filming began last month in Cumbernauld. The series has already been hailed as Scotland's answer to Game of Thrones, which provided a huge boost to Northern Ireland's film and TV industry.

Sam Heughan said:-“Going to a youth theatre was a crucial first step at the start of my career. It was a safe, welcoming environment where I met like-minded students and inspiring leaders. It introduced me to the skills needed (which I still use today) and I worked alongside professionals. Youth theatre organisations are a fundamental part of helping young people become successful in the acting industry.”

Youth Theatre Arts Scotland provides youth theatre organisations and freelance practitioners with opportunities that develop professional expertise, showcase talent and strengthen sector alliances. Their membership scheme represents over 100 youth theatre organisations and freelance practitioners across Scotland. The organisation currently receives project funding from Creative Scotland.

Five things you need to know

today



Transport & Environment Committee meets today – Holyrood Cycling debate – FOMBL Autumn meeting – European Annual Conference on Ocean Energy begins today – Tonight at the Bongo Club

The council's Transport & Environment Committee meets this morning. A fuller report on what will be discussed is [here](#).

Following a motion by Alison Johnstone MSP for Lothians the Scottish Parliament is to discuss the possibility of introducing strict liability for motorists involved in collisions with cyclists today. At 2:00pm the motion to be debated in the chamber is as follows:-

S4M-07934 Alison Johnstone: Strict Liability—That the Parliament believes that the number of fatalities and injuries to pedestrians and cyclists on Scotland's roads, including in the Lothian region, is unacceptably high; recognises that the Scottish Government has funded a number of national cycle safety initiatives; notes that versions of a strict liability rule exist in the civil law of many European countries; notes that a number of walking and cycling organisations support the introduction of such a law in Scotland; understands that a petition by Cycle Law Scotland on this topic has secured nearly 5,000 signatures; considers that a stricter liability rule could have positive benefits for the safety of more vulnerable road users as part of a package of measures, and would welcome further debate on this proposal.

You can watch proceedings on [Parliament TV](#).

Autumn is officially here: the leaves are falling in the Meadows, and the FoMBL autumn meeting will be held in the Dining Room, Teviot Row House, Bristo Square, at 7.30 pm on Monday 4th November. Read all about it in their newsletter, which you will find on their [website](#).



The European Annual Conference on Ocean Energy begins today at Our Dynamic Earth. Drawing together main players in the development of the renewable technology, there will also be opportunities to see and hear politicians from Greg Barker the UK Minister for Energy and Climate Change to Fergus Ewing the Scottish Government's Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism and the First Minister, Alex Salmond who will address the conference on Wednesday.

[Full programme here.](#)

And if you're a night owl then you need to know that The Bongo Club opens its doors tonight at 11:00pm to host a Hallowe'en Special.

I LOVE HIP HOP Halloween Special – Tuesday 29th. October. 2013

It's at Bongo every Tuesday – for those who want to celebrate the hip hop classics, but just as importantly the brand new!

Tonight it's a Halloween Special with Nasty P & P-Stylz

Tracks ranging from Big Daddy Kane, Odd Future, Slick Rick, Wiz Khalifa, Biggy, Wu Tang, Cool Kids, Lil Wayne, Mack Maine, Outkast, Biz Markie, J Dilla, Rick Ross, Styles P, The Dream, Kool G Rap, Kanye, Gangstarr, Clipse, Evidence, Big L, Strong Arm Steady

EAST COAST, WEST COAST, SOUTHERN...BOOM BAP, CRUNK, CLUB, UNDERGROUND, HARDCORE, CLASSICS, REMIXES, 70's, 80's, 90's, naughties and the future!

Live performances, guest DJs & more

[More details here.](#)



Transport Committee will make George Street one-way

✖ Councillor Hinds will convene the meeting along with Vice-Convenor Councillor Jim Orr in the Dean of Guild Court Room at the City Chambers. The committee which usually has 15 councillors in attendance and which meets six times a year, deals with matters concerning roads, trams, buses and the way we get rid of our refuse.

This month the council is set to adopt [new measures](#) to encourage traders to become more responsible about disposing of their waste, which will hopefully lead to our city centre streets becoming cleaner and less cluttered with waste containers.

The CEO of Essential Edinburgh which runs the City Centre Business Improvement District will be making a presentation to the committee on behalf of city centre business owners. This is in relation to item 7.1 on the agenda which is the proposal by the council to make George Street a one-way street in parts for a trial period. This follows the pilot during the Festival when sections of the street were closed off to allow cafes and restaurants to spill over onto the pavements, which has been declared a success. The new pilot project will also include a two way cycle lane probably down the centre of the street. All measures in the city centre flow from a report commissioned by the previous administration by Gehl Architects which identified the challenges to deal with traffic and pedestrians in the city centre, and which proposed the trialling of schemes to see what works and what doesn't.

The council is keen to make the city centre a more pleasant

place for pedestrians, and less dominated by cars and other motor traffic, partly by introducing a one-way system on George Street and partly by ensuring that Lothian Buses make changes to their bus routes so that not every bus comes through the city centre. The proposal is to continue with two way traffic on Princes Street for the trial period of 12 months to assess the impact of the tram line which will commence no later than May 2014. In common with other consultations in the city the consultation carried out earlier this year only attracted around 100 letters and emails from the public.

The committee will also hear that three non-executive directors will be recruited to the board of Transport for Edinburgh (TFE) following the initial appointments of four councillors and four directors from Lothian Buses as reported from the full [council meeting](#) last week.

The committee will also hear that there will be a workshop held on 11 November 2013 in Almond Ward to work out options for bus services which will feed into the tram network. The residents of Kirkliston and South Queensferry had complained about the cost of using local buses which is higher than other areas within the City of Edinburgh Council area. Lothian Buses do not serve these areas which have buses provided by First Group.

Other matters to be discussed include the introduction of Alive after Five which is the initiative to bring shoppers to the city centre at Christmas. Part of this will include arrangements to reduce the parking charges to zero after 5:00pm a move which will cost the council just under £50,000 in lost parking revenue. Other streets such as Leith Walk, streets at the West End including Melville Street and the area around Broughton Street will be included in the scheme as well as Albany Street. The latter is a residential street which was badly affected by the rerouting of traffic during the York Place tramworks, and the road surface there is now, in The

Reporter's view (from a bicycle!), badly damaged.

All papers for the meeting are [here](#) on the council website and there will be a further report here later.

Operation Christmas Child needs your help

✖ Operation Christmas Child Calls for united community action

Samaritan's Purse is appealing to everyone across Edinburgh and Midlothian to join others in their community and help bring joy and hope to one million children as part of this year's Operation Christmas Child appeal.

Over the past 23 years, globally, through Operation Christmas Child, Samaritan's Purse has delivered over 100 million gift-filled shoeboxes to disadvantaged children in over 100 countries.

Right now teams of Operation Christmas Child volunteers across Edinburgh and Midlothian are busy setting up Drop Off Points and warehouses in order to collect and process the thousands of shoeboxes that will be sent from Edinburgh and Mid Lothian to children in countries like Belarus, Liberia, Romania, Swaziland and Ukraine this Christmas, but more help is urgently needed.

"Christmas is almost upon us and we urgently need people in Edinburgh and Midlothian to work with us to help us reach our target of delivering one million shoeboxes from the UK this year," said June Vasey, Samaritan's Purse Area Coordinator for Edinburgh and Midlothian.

“Getting involved in Operation Christmas Child, wrapping and packing shoeboxes can be such fun and is always hugely rewarding. Every year we see people organising their work colleagues, teachers working with parents and schoolchildren and churches inviting their communities to get involved.

“It can also be hard work, so while we are grateful for our existing teams of volunteers, we are always looking for more, to help at our warehouses. Again, hugely rewarding, if only because a small investment of time will bring smiles to the faces of so many children overseas this Christmas. These children are always so thankful to know that someone on the other side of the world cares about them.”

To find out the nearest centre where people can volunteer or drop off their shoeboxes go to the [website](#) or follow on [Facebook](#)

Anti-litter campaign launched today



Pictured left to right: Abinaya Selveraj; Leon Dagg; Convener of the Friends of Inverleith Park Pamela Barnes; Nicolas Hann-Rengifo; Councillor Lesley Hinds; Jamie Stewart; Keep Scotland Beautiful Campaigns Director Mark Bevan; Tamanna Paranthaman.

A mountain of rubbish was displayed at an Edinburgh beauty spot today as the City of Edinburgh Council launched a major new initiative to combat litter in the capital. The initiative will encourage people to play their part and pledge their support to the Clean Up Edinburgh anti-litter campaign.

Around 120 bags of litter were piled up in Inverleith Park to give an idea of how much debris is dropped by people onto the streets of the capital every day. On average, over 45 tonnes of litter is collected each day in Edinburgh.

This is the Council's most significant anti-litter campaign for several years, supported by Keep Scotland Beautiful, and is a call to action to residents, businesses and community groups to play their part in changing behaviour and attitudes to dropping litter, in a bid to keep the capital clean. One of the main aims will be to get as many signatures as possible on the pledge to either bin or recycle litter. People can sign up [here](#).

Clean Up Edinburgh organisers want to encourage as many people as possible to join the campaign's first event, a host of mass community clean-ups taking place at various hot spots across the city, on the same day, November 29. Find out where you can join in at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/litter or get advice and support such as litter picking equipment for organising further clean-ups on the same day. Groups and individuals will be encouraged and supported to organise local initiatives and projects over the next 12 months.

With tourism worth £10 billion to Edinburgh's economy and with visitor numbers predicted to rise once again next year, making sure that the city's beauty is not marred by litter is vital. This is even more important in 2014 when Scotland hosts the Ryder Cup and the Commonwealth Games, with the diving events taking place in Edinburgh.

Pupils from nearby Flora Stevenson Primary School joined Environment Convener Councillor Lesley Hinds, Keep Scotland Beautiful campaigns director Mark Bevan and Pam Barnes, Convener of the Friends of Inverleith Park, at today's launch.

Councillor Hinds said:- "Edinburgh is a stunning city but the amount of litter being tossed onto its' streets and parks is

staggering. Today we want to raise awareness of this and also encourage people and businesses to sign the Clean Up Edinburgh pledge.

“The Council spends £4,500 each day disposing of rubbish dropped by the public, money which would be far better spent on other resources. With around 3,500 litter bins available, there is no excuse for not using them and when litter bugs cannot be bothered taking responsibility for their own rubbish, everyone is affected. It is the Council’s responsibility to keep Edinburgh clean, but it is up to each and every one of us to play our part and keep our streets free of litter – which is why we are launching Clean Up Edinburgh.

“We are asking as many people and businesses to sign the pledge online and to get involved in Clean Up Edinburgh – either taking part in one of our events on November 29 or by organising one of their own.”

Derek Robertson, Chief Executive of Keep Scotland Beautiful said: “Clean Up Scotland is trying to engage a million like-minded people by the end of 2014 to help make Scotland shine when the world is watching us host the Ryder Cup and the Commonwealth Games.

“The campaign is all about local people deciding to do something about the litter, dog dirt and other mess that blights our neighbourhoods and landscape, and Clean Up Edinburgh are making great efforts in engaging with the city’s public and creating exciting opportunities to help make Scotland that bit cleaner.”

Edinburgh Festival of Remembrance aiding the charity Combat Stress



This year the annual Edinburgh Festival of Remembrance will be held in aid of Combat Stress, the UK's leading charity specialising in the care of Veterans' mental health. The event is being held in the Usher Hall, Edinburgh, on Saturday 9 November 2013.

The Edinburgh Festival of Remembrance will give guests an opportunity to take time to remember those members of the armed forces who lost their lives in the line of duty. The story of the Arctic Convoys will be featured this year, with the help of Lieutenant Commander Ken Reith who took part in four convoys as a Naval Officer.

An organ serenade will introduce Veteran Reverend Iain May, a former member of the Merchant Navy, who will be addressing attendees. The evening will be filled with remarkable musicians, from the Royal Marines Corps of Drums, Jubilo Choir and the Phoenix Band to the Pipe Band and Dancers of Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. With opera star Donald Maxwell and organist John Willmetts also giving a recital, the night promises to be a fitting musical tribute to mark this historical occasion.

This year the festival is being held in aid of Combat Stress, a charity which provides a unique and dedicated service to Veterans who are suffering from conditions such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression and anxiety disorders. In order to provide the highest standards of care to Veterans, Combat Stress provides a range of services

including residential clinical treatment, 24-hour Helpline and their Community and Outreach Service.

With over 830 Veterans receiving support in Scotland, Combat Stress aims to ensure ex-Service men and women receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time, and have supported more than 100,000 Veterans since 1919.

Kath Provan, Fundraising Officer for Combat Stress in Scotland said: "It is incredibly important to us to not only help those who have served in the army but also to remember those who have lost their lives fighting for our country. We are honoured to have been chosen by the organisers of this important event as the sole beneficiary. It is through donations like these that we are able to give Veterans the outstanding level of care which they truly deserve".

The event will be held on **Saturday 9 November** at 7pm at Usher Hall, Edinburgh. Tickets are **on sale now** at a cost of £18, £16 and £14 with a concession rate available and can be purchased via www.usherhall.co.uk or by calling the Usher Hall box office on 0131 228 1155.

Edinburgh doctors shortlisted for Health Awards



LOTHIAN HEALTHCARE HEROES NAMED AS SCOTTISH HEALTH AWARDS FINALISTS

A healthcare professional and two teams at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary have been announced as 2013 Scottish Health Awards

finalists in recognition of their dedication to providing outstanding patient care.

Dr John Casey, Consultant Transplant Surgeon and his team, the Pelvic Pain Team and Andy Glancy, fought off stiff competition from across the country to secure their place at this year's glittering award ceremony in November.

Dr John Casey's team has been shortlisted for the Care for Long-term Illness Award thanks to their dedication to research and supporting transplant patients, which is helping improve the lives of people all over Scotland.

The Chronic Pelvic Pain Team has been chosen as a finalist in the Services to Women & Children Award category. The pioneering team has set up the only integrated multidisciplinary management service for women with chronic pelvic pain in Scotland. Established in 2010, the service has challenged traditional treatments, introducing novel medical approaches and evidence-based psychological therapies.

Andy Glancy, Perinatal Pathology Technician, is also a finalist in the Services to Women & Children Award category. Andy, who has been in this role for around 25 years, provides after-life care for children who have died and facilitates post mortem examinations. Andy's immeasurable compassion and unassuming professionalism have earned him this place in the Scottish Health Awards finalists.

Alan Boyter, Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development, NHS Lothian, said: "It is fantastic that the efforts and achievements of staff from a range of NHS Lothian services and sites have received recognition in this year's Scottish Health Awards.

"Having two teams and one individual from across Lothian shortlisted in two of the categories is a great result and my congratulations go to all of the finalists on this well-deserved acknowledgement."

Every year, the Scottish Health Awards recognise and reward the dedicated NHS staff, support workers, volunteers and specialist teams who go the extra mile to provide outstanding patient care.

The winners of the Scottish Health Awards 2013 will be announced at a prestigious awards ceremony on Thursday 7th November 2013 at the Corn Exchange in Edinburgh.

To view the full list of finalists, or for more information, please visit www.scottishhealthawards.com

Sophie Ramsay at the Scottish Storytelling Centre

✖ On Saturday evening 2 November 2013, Perthshire singer-songwriter Sophie Ramsay is launching her long awaited album *The Glassy Mountain* at the Scottish Storytelling Centre in the Netherbow on the High Street. She will be singing a selection of her haunting and poetic songs, each a powerful exploration of personal grief, love, death and resurgence, ranging from poignant folk with a European feel, through moments of visceral lamenting to gently upbeat pop.

The Glassy Mountain was produced by Edinburgh music icon Jim Sutherland and includes performances from some of Scotland's most outstanding talents in the realms of folk and jazz, including Matheu Watson, Fraser Fifield, Pete Clark and others, most of whom will play on the night.

Sophie has been writing and singing her own songs since her

young adulthood, deeply influenced by her lyrical Highland inheritance. After Saturday she has plans to take her performance on tour.

Booking details [here](#).

Submitted by [Roddy Martine](#)

Hibs v Hearts League Cup Quarter Final – Police warn fans about flares



Police Scotland will be carrying out an operation at Wednesday's League Cup Quarter Final between Hibs and Hearts, searching for anyone in possession of fireworks or flares.

Officers will be carrying out searches outside Easter Road 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 flares or fireworks into the ground. The warning follows incidents at recent derbies where flares or fireworks were used.

Superintendent Kenny MacDonald, who is in charge of the policing operation on Wednesday, said:

"The match kicks off at 7pm, and I would encourage supporters

to get there early, as they will be travelling to the game during rush hour and 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.”

Man Jailed for Death of Robert Dudek



A Polish man who admitted responsibility for the death of his compatriot earlier this year has been jailed.

At the High Court in Edinburgh today (Monday) Robert Gruszka

was sentenced to five years and three months in prison for killing 43-year-old Robert Dudek, whose body was found on ground near to a car park at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, on Sunday 7th April.

Gruszka, 37, had previously pled guilty to culpable homicide after Police Scotland launched a major investigation into the circumstances surrounding Mr Dudek's death.

Detective Chief Inspector David McLaren, who led the investigation, said: "While nothing can undo the pain caused to Robert Dudek's family, Gruska's earlier guilty plea to culpable homicide has spared them the ordeal of a full trial and I sincerely hope they can now begin to move on with their lives.

"Police Scotland is committed to tackling violent crimes and will continue to work alongside our partners at the Crown Office to ensure those responsible for such crimes are brought to justice."