

Forth Road Bridge 49 years old today



The Forth Road Bridge is 49 years young and counting – and the stage is set for the first Forth Bridges Festival which will celebrate not just the 50th birthday, but also three centuries of world-class bridge engineering on the Forth. A key event in the Homecoming Scotland 2014 calendar, the ten-day festival will take place from 4 – 13 September 2014 across both North and South Queensferry.

Organised in partnership by the Forth Estuary Transport Authority and Queensferry Ambition, the confirmed programme highlights include a boat flotilla on the Forth; a torch light procession over the Bridge; the Forth Bridge House Party, including a Birthday Parade; and Scotland Welcomes the World to Lunch.

Together, the Forth Road Bridge and the adjacent Forth Bridge are icons of Scotland and present a powerful visual image that is recognised the world over. The Festival is designed to appeal to residents and visitors alike, bringing a mix of Scottish pride and important economic benefits from tourism, in what is set to be a momentous year for Scotland.

There was an official launch event this morning in South Queensferry when the proceedings started with parachutists flying in to land in the Forth.

Tony Martin, Vice-Convener of the Forth Estuary Transport Authority, said: “Since 1964, the Bridge has made a real

difference to the lives of Scottish people. It is a genuine success story, carrying over twice the weight and volume of traffic that it was originally designed for, and providing a valuable transport link used by 25 million vehicles a year. It's fantastic to take the opportunity to celebrate this golden milestone with a real party atmosphere that everyone can take part in."



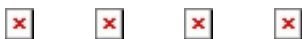
A unique facet of the 50th birthday will be the Tower Top Trips, giving members of the public a rare opportunity to apply for one of 2014 strictly limited tickets to ascend one of the Forth Road Bridge towers. Details on the release of tickets for this breathtaking experience will be announced later this month.

Malcolm Brown, Chair of Queensferry Ambition, added: "Queensferry Ambition is delighted to be at the very heart of next year's Forth Bridges Festival and to support a number of key events during the ten day programme. The Festival really does have something for everyone – business; the wider community and of course for the thousands of visitors who will help make this a really special time.

"The programme of events makes full use of our surroundings both on land and water and will help ensure a real feelgood factor for the area. I am particularly excited about 'Scotland Welcomes the World to Lunch', when we will attempt to set a new Guinness World Record for the largest sit-down outdoor lunch. Scottish hospitality at its very best!"

Welcoming the Festival, Mike Cantlay, Chairman of VisitScotland, said: "The Forth Bridges Festival is one of the signature events of Homecoming 2014 and is going to be truly spectacular. The Forth Bridges hold such a warm place in many Scots' hearts, whether it's commuting over the road or rail bridge on a daily basis, capturing the stunning silhouettes on camera come rain or shine or as the first glimpse of 'home' when flying into Edinburgh Airport.

"In this special 50th birthday year for the Forth Bridge, what better way to celebrate all that they mean to Scotland. We look forward to all the activities planned. The Forth Bridges Festival will be a landmark event in the year that Scotland Welcomes the World – the magnificent year that is 2014!"



Tourism Minister Fergus Ewing said: "The Forth Bridges Festival will spotlight one of Scotland's most iconic heritage sites and celebrate three centuries of world-class engineering.

"The event is at the heart of Homecoming Scotland 2014 and will position Scotland on the international stage as a dynamic and creative nation, extending the benefits and opportunities offered by the Commonwealth Games and Ryder Cup by celebrating some of Scotland's greatest assets."

The Forth Bridges Festival is funded by the Forth Estuary Transport Authority, Queensferry Ambition, Homecoming Scotland 2014, Heritage Lottery Fund and the City of Edinburgh and Fife

Councils.

Further information and full programme details are available at www.forthbridgesfestival.com

Hibs clarify changes in backroom staff



At the recent meeting between Hibernian Chairman Rod Petrie and a number of invited representatives from various supporters groups, an issue was raised regarding the changes in back-room staff at the club, and in particular the reasons behind the departure of Liam O'Brien in the summer.

In response, a statement was published on the official website highlighting the changes which have taken place.

The appointment of Jimmy Nicholl as Assistant Manager was announced on 15 June 2013, two days before the playing squad was due to return for pre-season training. About a week before that, it was clear to Pat Fenlon from discussions with First Team Coach Liam O'Brien that Liam would not be returning to the Club for family reasons.

Dave Henderson was recruited as Football Development Manager in October 2012, and reports directly to the Manager on talent

identification and development. Dave's details have been on the Official Club website since 2012.

The Club recruited former player Alan Maybury to the new post of Development Coach in July this year. Alan has also been registered as a professional football player, so that he may play in SPFL U20 and East of Scotland matches to coach Hibs' young players through matches on the pitch. He therefore works closely with James McDonough, Head of Youth Coaching and with the first team backroom staff.

Scott Thomson (Goalkeeper Coach) extended his contract with the Club towards the end of last Season to complete the line-up of Football Department coaches.

The Medical Team provide support services to the professional football players within the Football Department (U20 and first team) and also oversee the provision of services within the Football Academy.

Senior Physiotherapist Sarah Watt left in December 2012 to provide physiotherapy to elite athletes focused on the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games and Head Physiotherapist Calum Rea left at the end of last Season to take up a post within private healthcare.

Accordingly, a new physiotherapy team has been at the Club since the start of pre-season. David Henderson is Head Physiotherapist. He joined the club from Newcastle United and has 20 years' experience of first team football physiotherapy. Kitty Forrest was also as full time Senior Physiotherapist having worked for the Club in a part time capacity for nearly four years.

The two Club doctors continue to serve the Club which always has two Club doctors present at home match days. The Club also hires in the services of a fitness and performance coach (including injury prevention and recovery from injury); a masseur and a podiatrist on a consultancy basis amongst other

services.

There have been no substantive changes in the Football Academy for a number of years. Bill Hendry is Head of Youth Development and James McDonaugh is the Head of Academy Coaching. The Football Academy is responsible for all youth football up to and including the squad of young professional players at U20 level.

The Manager has a keen interest in youth football and provides advice and recommendations to the Football Academy staff. An example of that is the recruitment of two players with 1996 birthdays, Cody Mulhall and Gareth McCaffrey, over the summer.

The Club's Football Academy is an Elite Academy within the Scottish FA Club Academy Scotland system developed by the Scottish FA Performance Director Mark Wotte. The Club expects to consolidate its position as a Level Four Academy this Season and progress to Level Five in Season 2014-15 as Academy coaching staff obtain their continuous professional development awards on Scottish FA courses. The Club has one of the leading Elite Football Academies in Scotland.

There are many other staff both paid and volunteers who work within the Football Academy and the Football Department.

The club expressed their gratitude to the staff who have left and wish them every success in their new careers.

Pat Fenlon's busy transfer window



With the transfer window closing on both sides of the border, the Edinburgh Reporter looks at the comings and goings at Easter Road where an incredible 26 players have either arrived or left the club.

Of last year's squad, fans' favourite Leigh Griffiths returned to parent club Wolverhampton Wanderers where he has since signed a contract extension after making an impressive start to the season, whilst striking partner has joined Chesterfield.

David Wotherspoon moved to home town team St Johnstone after his contract expired, whilst Gambian full back Pa Kujabi and Finnish striker Shefki Kuqi are currently looking for new clubs.

Gary Deegan returned down south and signed for Northampton Town and Martin 'Jimmy' Scott who had been on loan to Ross County has joined Livingston. On loan winger Matt Done returned to England and joined Rochdale.

Hopes that Jorge Claros would return for another loan spell have gone and he will return to his parent club CD Motagua,

Liam Craig joined Hibs from St Johnstone after agreeing a pre-contract deal last January, and he has been joined by former Saints' team-mate Rowan Vine.

Owain Tudor Jones joined from Inverness Caledonian Thistle and Michael Nelson arrived from Bradford City.

Northern Ireland international Ryan McGivern returned to Easter Road after being freed by Manchester City, and Kevin Thomson who joined the club and played without wages last term after leaving Middlesbrough by mutual consent, signed a permanent deal.

Former Hearts' full-back Fraser Mullen signed a one year deal after being freed at Tynecastle and James Collins arrived from

Swindon Town for an undisclosed fee.

Just before the window closed, Paul Heffernan signed from Kilmarnock and French winger Abdellah Zoubir agreed a loan deal until the end of the season from FC Istres.

Players in (alphabetical order)

James Collins (transfer from Swindon Town FC for undisclosed fee)

Liam Craig (transfer from St Johnstone FC)

Paul Heffernan (transfer from Kilmarnock FC)

Owain Tudur Jones (transfer from Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC)

Ryan McGivern (signed on permanent basis)

Fraser Mullen (transfer from Heart of Midlothian FC)

Sean Murdoch (signed a new contract)

Michael Nelson (transfer from Bradford City FC for undisclosed fee)

Kevin Thomson (signed a new contract)

Rowan Vine (transfer from St Johnstone FC)

Abdellah Zoubir (loan until the end of the season from FC Istres)

Players out (alphabetical order)

Calum Antell – contract expired

Jorge Claros – loan spell ended and returned to CD Motagua

Gary Deegan – contract expired

Bradley Donaldson – loan to Arbroath until January

Matt Done – loan spell ended and returned to Barnsley FC

Eoin Doyle – contract expired

Paul Grant – loan to Berwick Rangers until January

Leigh Griffiths – loan spell ended and returned to Wolverhampton Wanderers

Lewis Horner – contract ended by mutual consent

Pa Saikou Kujabi – contract expired

Shefki Kuqi – contract expired

Harry Monaghan – contract expired

Martin Scott – contract ended by mutual consent

Scott Smith – contract expired

David Wotherspoon – contract expired

The club have since issued a statement on the official website thanking all the players leaving Easter Road for the contribution they've made and wishing them every success in the future.

Sleep out Rock Trust launch 2013 event



Homeless charity The Rock Trust, who work with homeless 16-25

year olds launch their Sleep Out event which takes place on 7 November 2013 It is one of eight National Sleep Out events taking place across the UK on the same night.

The 'Sleep Out' raises awareness of the problems faced by homeless people and raises funds for services to help young people get off the streets and into work.

And senior staff at Taylor Wimpey Homes are the first business leaders to sign up to the sleeping rough challenge.

Pictured are (from right) Rock Trust chief executive Kate Polson (correct), Rock Trust fundraising and events manager Katriona Harding, Steve Fowler (Taylor Wimpey Homes commercial director for the East of Scotland) and Kirsteen Tweddle (correct) from Taylor Wimpey. www.rocktrust.org



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Roomwise – a new way to travel



Visitors to Edinburgh can now find out about all those lovely quirky places in the capital that it seems only travel writers

ever get to experience, and those of us lucky enough to live in Edinburgh all year round can also find their ideal holiday accommodation simply by logging on to a new website called Roomwise.


This is a web-based search for your perfect holiday location, which will definitely find you holidaying somewhere quite different!

From hotel boats (yes boats!) to log cabins, castles to country mansions Roomwise have taken at least some of the difficulty out of your search by laying all the options out for you – and the options are very different from the norm!

The ethos behind the company is that even just an overnight stay should be a complete travel experience and not just somewhere to lay your weary head on the pillow. They want you to know more about the neighbourhood, the building and the history in the same way as you might if a friend had recommended the venue to you.

When you click on one of their properties you are offered a nightly, weekly and monthly rate and you are given full details of the accommodation and the neighbourhood. So how do they do it?

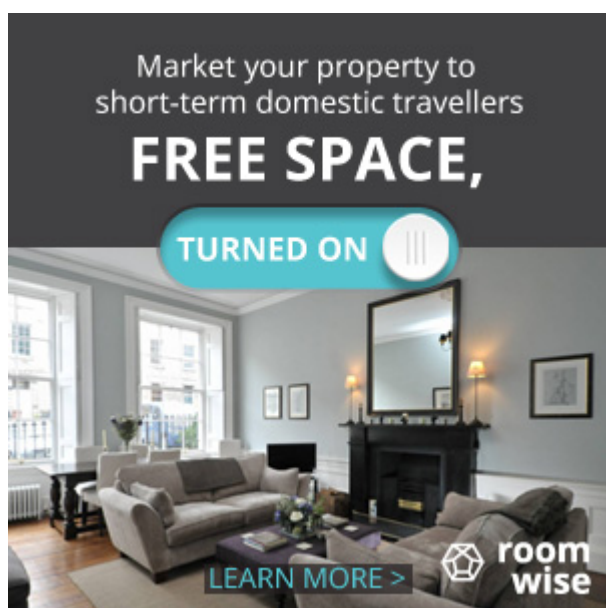
Well they marry up the property owner with the person who wants to stay there. The property owner lists all the information they think you will need to know, including some rules and regulations to make sure that there is no doubt as to the deal each of you is entering into.

 If you are a property owner, whether you have a guest room or a whole castle to spare, then you can register on the site and start making income from it right away, without the need to do any other marketing as Roomwise take care of all of that for you. Hosts only pay a transaction fee on payment from the 'tenant'.

The user-friendly site comes into its own when you are a visitor too. You can set all sorts of filters to find your ideal kind of place, often at a better rate than most hotel rooms.

There is a messaging system to allow you to chat to the owner if you need to, either before or after the let.

[Roomwise](#) say:-*“Travellers love Roomwise because they can get a better accommodation experience at a cheaper price. We expand the possibilities of your trip, within a trustworthy community of like-minded people. Property owners love Roomwise because we deliver a large amount of quality traffic to their listings. You can make money easily and you can manage everything by yourself without paying unfairly huge amounts to property management agencies.”*



Featured Article

Five things you need to know today

✕ **Parliament resumes – Edinburgh MP lodges Early Day Motion – Assault & Robbery – Campaigners against domestic abuse to hold rally calling for MSP's resignation – Cricket at the Grange –**

Holyrood returns today after the summer recess, with little more than a year to go before the referendum on independence.

Business will take place in various committees this morning but this afternoon when the whole chamber convenes at 2:00pm there will be a time devoted to a motion of condolence for David McLetchie a serving MSP and former leader of the Scottish Conservatives who died last month.

Following the tributes from MSPs across all political parties the First Minister will then lay down plans for the parliamentary session from 2013 to 2014 and these will be debated tomorrow afternoon. You can watch this live on [Parliament TV](#).

Among the written questions asked by MSPs there are a couple from Alison Johnstone about the amounts spent on cycling in the past couple of years.

Edinburgh's Liberal Democrat MP, Mike Crockart, has tabled an Early Day Motion (EDM) at Westminster calling for disgraced MSP Bill Walker to resign his seat immediately. The EDM which MPs are able to add their support to comes after Willie Rennie

MSP, Liberal Democrat Leader, tabled a motion in the Scottish Parliament calling on Mr Walker to vacate his seat.

Last week Mr Crockart wrote an open letter to the SNP MSP for Edinburgh Western urging him to back calls for the disgraced MSP Bill Walker to resign his seat immediately.

Commenting Mr Crockart said:-“Domestic abuse of any kind should not be tolerated and to allow Mr Walker to continue as a Member of the Scottish Parliament sends the wrong message about the gravity of his convictions. I felt it was appropriate to table an Early Day Motion which allows MPs to back the calls for Mr Walker to resign.

“Domestic violence and domestic abuse is a very serious issue and allowing an individual who has been convicted of 23 counts of assault to continue to sit at Holyrood is completely unacceptable.”

Mr Crockart added that he was ‘very disappointed’ that the local MSP has still not added his name to the motion saying:-“Over half of the Members of the Scottish Parliament have backed the motion; I am very disappointed that our local representative is not one of them.”

Colin Keir is the MSP for the Edinburgh Western constituency. Mr Keir has a [Facebook page here](#) where you can follow all of his appointments.



Edinburgh Police are investigating an assault and robbery that took place in Drylaw yesterday afternoon.

The incident happened around 3.30pm at an address in Wester Drylaw Place. The victim, who is in his 50s, was alone in his house when he heard a knock at the door. On answering, he was forced back inside by three men, who robbed him of around £170 and a laptop computer. The attack left the victim with minor injuries.

Following this two of the suspects were seen running up a footpath leading to Wester Drylaw Drive.

The three suspects are all described as being white, 5ft 10ins tall, 20-to-23 years old, and wearing cotton hoodies, one grey, one black and the other an unknown colour.

Detective Inspector Stuart Harkness said:- "This was a frightening experience for the victim and we are keen to hear from anybody who has any information or recognises the description of the suspects."

Anyone with information should contact Police Scotland on 101, or make an anonymous report through the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

NUS Scotland, Scottish Women's Aid and Zero Tolerance call for action by Scottish Parliament to remove Bill Walker from Parliament

NUS Scotland Women's Campaign, Scottish Women's Aid and Zero Tolerance will call on Bill Walker MSP to resign at a demonstration outside the Scottish Parliament at 1pm today. Organisers of the rally will also call on the Scottish Parliament to take action to remove Walker should he not immediately step down.

This joint call by Scotland's leading campaigning organisations against domestic abuse comes as the Parliament returns from its summer recess and just days after Walker, who was convicted by a Scottish Court of 23 domestic abuse charges against three former wives and a step daughter, was quoted in press reports as stating he would not vacate his seat.

The organisers of the rally back the motion by Scottish

Liberal Democrat leader Willie Rennie, which has been signed by over half of MSPs in the Scottish Parliament: "The Parliament believes that Bill Walker MSP should vacate his seat in the parliament immediately".

NUS Scotland Women's Campaign, Scottish Women's Aid and Zero Tolerance have asked members of the Scottish public young and old who oppose domestic abuse to join them in sending a clear message to Bill Walker that it is never acceptable to abuse women, and to the Parliament that it must act to remove Walker should he not step down immediately.

Stacey Devine, NUS Scotland Women's Officer, said:

"It's disgraceful that Bill Walker refuses to let the people of Dunfermline replace him with a representative that hasn't been convicted of domestic abuse. The man has no shame, and needs to resign now.

"It's deeply concerning that the Parliament has so far been unable to send Walker packing. Should Walker not resign voluntarily, the same MSPs from across the political spectrum who have rightly condemned Bill Walker's decades-long violence against women should take immediate action to remove him from office."

Jenny Kemp, Coordinator for Zero Tolerance, said:

"Bill Walker must resign as an MSP. Making laws and policies for Scotland is a privilege, and one that a man who's been convicted of 23 crimes against women does not deserve.

"Perpetrators of domestic abuse are not fit to hold public office, especially in a Parliament that has been so progressive on violence against women."

Lily Greenan, Manager of Scottish Women's Aid, said:

"Bill Walker MSP is a serial offender against women, with 23 convictions for assault over a 30 year period. Scottish

Women's Aid believes he is therefore not suitable to hold public office, and calls on the Scottish Parliament to use any means at its disposal to remove him.

"There are also questions to be answered as to why this case was heard at summary trial. We will continue to press for these answers to ensure that all women who experience domestic abuse receive appropriate and meaningful justice from the courts."

Scotland take on Australia today in a one-day international at The Grange. There are still some tickets left according to the [Cricket Scotland website](#).

Gates will open to the public from 9.45am today with all public access at Portgower Place.

Wheelchair access is also through the Portgower entrance

There will be car parking available from 9.00am, weather permitting, which will be charged at £5 a vehicle at Edinburgh Academicals ground next to Portgower place.

Catering: Food and drink will be available 9.45am until 8pm with Supreme vans situated near the stands.

Bringing alcohol inside the venue will not be permitted, but will be available to purchase through various vendors around the ground.



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Bronte letter to be auctioned in Edinburgh

A rare autographed letter signed, from Charlotte Brontë to a David Waldie, [L.R.C.S.] (1813-1889), thanking him for his appreciative comments regarding Jane Eyre and the gift of some

"...little books", addressed from Gloucester Terrace, London, dated January 19th, 1853 will be sold at Lyon & Turnbull tomorrow and is estimated to reach £10,000-12,000.

Cathy Marsden Book Specialist at Lyon & Turnbull said:-
"Brontë's letter is addressed to a David Waldie Esq., a well-respected pharmacist who, it is commonly accepted, first suggested the use of chloroform in midwifery. Indeed, Professor James Y. Simpson of the Department of Midwifery at Edinburgh University, acknowledged Waldie's suggestion in a footnote in his account of discovery. Although the letter was addressed to Waldie in Liverpool, where he first encountered chloroform, he is still remembered in his home town of Linlithgow, where the Annet House Museum currently has an exhibition relating to his life and work."

The letter tells us that Waldie was impressed by Jane Eyre, published in 1847 under the pseudonym 'Currer Bell', and was inspired to write to Brontë of his appreciation of the book. Brontë replies:

"The sincere affection of a reader's gratification is – I scarcely need to say – one of the much acceptable favours in which an author can be repaid for his labours. I shall be glad if any future work of mine gives you equal pleasure to that you speak of having found in "Jane Eyre"."

In 1848, following the publication of Jane Eyre, Charlotte and Ann Brontë had revealed their true identities to their publishers. In a bibliographical note of her sisters in an edition of Emily Brontë's Wuthering Heights, Charlotte explains the reasons for the rather masculine-sounding pseudonyms used by the three siblings:

Averse to personal publicity, we veiled our own names under those of Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell; the ambiguous choice being dictated by a sort of conscientious scruple at assuming Christian names, positively masculine, while we did not like to declare ourselves women, because without at the time suspecting that our mode of writing and thinking was not what is called 'feminine,' we had a vague impression that authoresses are liable to be looked on with prejudice.

Charlotte's rejection of, "personal publicity" seems to have extended beyond the gradual outing of her sex. Even in 1849, when Charlotte, "...paid her first visit to London in her own proper person as a woman of distinction and literary fame," (in the words of Auguste Birrell), she did not rush to be the centre of attention amongst her fellow writers. She declined to meet with Charles Dickens, for example, although she did visit William Makepeace Thackeray, of whom she was a great admirer.

However, it was between this point and Charlotte Brontë's untimely death in 1855, whilst pregnant with her first child, that the author writes this very appreciative and gracious note to Waldie.

Lyon & Turnbull Sale No 391 – Rare Books, Maps & Manuscripts

	<p>Date: 4 Sep 2013 11:00 Location: Edinburgh Contact: Simon Vickers Phone: +44 (0) 131 557 8844</p>	<p>Viewing Information: Sunday, 1st September 2pm – 5pm Monday, 2nd September 10am – 5pm Tuesday, 3rd September 10am – 5pm Morning of Sale from 9am</p>
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Buyers premium 25% up to £25,000,
20% thereafter

Live internet bidding incurs an
additional fee of 3%

VAT will be charged on the premium
at the rate imposed by law. No VAT
is payable on the hammer price or
premium for books or unframed maps
bought at auction

Muirhouse Community Shop to host biggest coffee morning



Muirhouse community shop on Pennywell Road will be raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support on Friday 27 September 2013. Between 9am and 5pm our volunteers will sell a large selection of cakes, sweets, teas and coffee.

So why not pop this date in your diary and pop in for a cuppa and a piece of cake in aid of charity.

In 2012 over 115,000 people signed up to this annual fundraising event and raised an impressive £15 million. Will they exceed this figure this year?

If you wish to donate a cake for this event please drop us an email muirhouserescidents@hotmail.com

Submitted by [Robert Pearson](#)



Momentous Day for Foundation of Hearts

A little over two months ago, Heart of Midlothian Football Club went into administration. Players and staff were made redundant, the club suffered a 15 point deduction at the start of this season and the very future of an Edinburgh, indeed Scottish football institution was under serious threat. Today, the seriously ill patient saw the first signs of recovery with the first direct debits made from more than 7,500 Hearts supporters who have pledged contributions to the Foundation of Hearts, the supporters led group aiming to take control of Edinburgh's oldest football club. The Foundation, the preferred bidder for the club, allows Edinburgh business to provide the up-front capital, through BIDCO, and then enter a binding contract with FANCO to sell the club, at no personal gain, in a controlled manner.

The long journey towards supporter ownership has begun in earnest, and today the Hearts manager Gary Locke, a life-long Hearts fan himself, recognised the enormous role fans will have to play in creating a long-term, sustainable Hearts.

At a press conference at the club's training centre at Riccarton, Locke thanked the thousands of supporters who participated in the first direct debit draw down to the Foundation of Hearts. 'It's fantastic, the support we've had the last couple of years has been unbelievable. To get 7,500 people pledging money to the club is nothing short of phenomenal. We can't thank the supporters enough. It just shows you what this club means to people. It's not a normal football club, it's a club with unbelievable tradition and history and the amount of people who are trying to save it is

incredible. Everyone wants this club to survive, everyone wants us to do well and if you've got that you've got a chance.'

Locke also had a message for those supporters who were perhaps wary about pledging their financial support. 'Everyone knows where the money is going, it's to save the football club and the more people who can get involved the better. For those who are undecided, I'm just willing them to come on board.' The chairman of the Foundation of Hearts, Ian Murray, added :- 'Today is a momentous day, but it's still just the start. The supporters have played their own, massively significant part, in creating the first step towards the greatest supporter movement in Scottish football history. To everyone involved I extend our warmest thanks. It will take many years to get Hearts together, but with the ongoing commitment of thousands of supporters we can get there, and create a legacy for future generations of supporters that is every bit as special as our past. For that reason, and as we prepare for next month's second direct debit draw down I want to stress that it is not too late to be part of this great Foundation of Hearts moment in time. Every pound genuinely counts.

Supporters who are able, are encouraged to set up their direct debit and help create history at www.foundationofhearts.org ahead of the next drawdown in October'.

If the loyalty, spirit and incredible generosity of the Hearts support is anything to by then, after a dark summer, the future of the club 'away up in Gorgie' is surely in safe hands.

£20,000 of drugs seized in Edinburgh

Drugs seized, Edinburgh

Police in Edinburgh have seized £20,000 worth of drugs in an operation that happened in the capital on Friday 30 August 2013.

Officers raided a property in the west of the city, where they recovered drugs and associated material used in the production of so-called 'legal highs'.

The drugs seized included NBOMe, which was recently prohibited under the Misuse of Drugs Act along with Benzofury.

A 36-year-old man has been detained in connection with the seizure.

Detective Chief Inspector Colin Boyle, from Police Scotland's Specialist Crime Division, said: "Acting in conjunction with partners from Border Force, officers from Police Scotland have seized £20,000 worth of NBOMe, a so-called 'legal high'.

"The drug is subject to a temporary order under the Misuse of Drugs Act, making it an offence to make, supply or import the substance. Anyone caught doing so is liable to a maximum

prison sentence of 14 years, and an unlimited fine under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

“Police Scotland is committed to keeping people safe, and we will continue to take robust action against those who illegally make and deal drugs in our local communities.

“I would urge anyone who has any information on drug dealers and other serious and organised criminals to contact Police Scotland, either by contacting 101, or by making an anonymous report through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

“Rest assured that any information received will be acted upon, and treated in the strictest confidence.”

John McGowan, from Border Force investigations, said: “Border Force works hard to stop a number of harmful substances entering the country and this also applies to ‘legal highs’, which shouldn’t be assumed to be either safe or legal.

“We are pleased that by working with Police Scotland we have been able to keep a substantial amount of these drugs off the streets.”

Hibs' star Kevin Thomson recalled to Scotland Squad



Hibs' midfielder Kevin Thomson is back in the Scotland squad for this week's World Cup qualifiers double header against on form Belgium at Hampden Park on Friday night then Macedonia in Skopje four days later.

On Saturday, Kevin lent his considerable experience to the youngsters and helped the team to a 9-0 win over Hawick Royal Albert at Hibs Training Centre in front of a handful of fans, whilst serving a suspension from first team duties, but six days later he could be playing in front of a full house at the national stadium against one of the top sides in Europe.

His performances for Hibs this season have persuaded Scotland boss Gordon Strachan to hand him the opportunity to kick-start his international career after injuries forced Graham Dorrans and James Morrison out of the squad.

Speaking to the official Hibernian website, Thomson said: "I'm delighted with the call-up – it's been three years since I was last involved with Scotland, but a return has always been a big personal goal for me. Obviously I've squeezed in through other boys' hard luck and injury, although I've experienced that side of it before too.

"Hopefully this will be start of what will be a good season for me. To be back involved is great and even if I don't get to play in either of the qualifiers it's a special feeling to be part of the Scotland squad again."

His inclusion in the Under 20s team came as a surprise to those watching, but Thomson decided that it would be more beneficial to work on his fitness rather than support his

team-mates against Ross County at Easter Road.

He added: "I really enjoyed the experience and I think really highly of James (McDonaugh, Head of Academy Coaching).

"He has got the team playing the right way and, even though we won 9-0, the team still had to perform well to achieve that. You can only beat whatever is put in front of you.

"I really wanted to be involved in the game and I felt I got a lot out of it in terms of my match sharpness and fitness levels. There were only 30 or 40 supporters there, so if I do get the opportunity to play at Hampden it will be on the other end of the scale."

The 28-year-old midfielder, who was three caps, last featured for the national side in August 2010 against Sweden.

He will team up with former Hibs' team-mate Leigh Griffiths, Steven Whittaker and Scott Brown.

The full squad is as follows:

Goalkeepers: Matt Gilks (Blackpool), David Marshall (Cardiff City), Allan McGregor (Hull City), Craig Samson (Kilmarnock)

Defenders: Ikechi Anya (Watford), Gordon Greer (Brighton and Hove Albion), Grant Hanley (Blackburn Rovers), Alan Hutton (Aston Villa), Russell Martin (Norwich City), Charlie Mulgrew (Celtic), Steven Whittaker (Norwich City)

Midfielders: Charlie Adam (Stoke City), Barry Bannan (Aston Villa), George Boyd (Hull City), Scott Brown (Celtic), Craig Conway (Cardiff City), Graham Dorrans (West Bromwich Albion), James Forrest (Celtic), James McArthur (Wigan Athletic), James Morrison (West Bromwich Albion), Steven Naismith (Everton), Robert Snodgrass (Norwich City)

Forwards: Leigh Griffiths (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Jamie Mackie (Nottingham Forest), Shaun Maloney (Wigan Athletic),

Ross McCormack (Leeds United), Jordan Rhodes (Blackburn Rovers)

50 New jobs in Edinburgh homecare company

ILS Scotland Ltd, the community-based 'care at home' company, is embarking on a new recruitment drive as part of its expansion in Edinburgh, with 50 new positions to be filled across the city. The company is offering a range of attractive benefits to attract potential candidates, including guaranteed hours contracts for full-time and part-time workers, a mileage allowance for car drivers, and an SVQ training programme to the value of £500.

ILS provides services on contract back to Edinburgh City Council to support older people at home and people of all ages challenged by disabilities and other issues which make it hard for them to cope with life alone. Recent figures from the Scottish Government revealed that the amount of money being spent by Scottish councils providing personal care for elderly people in their own home has more than doubled in eight years, from £133 million in 2003-04 to £347 million in 2011-12.

This reflects the fact that a greater proportion of older people are now being cared for at home rather than in hospitals or care homes, and that support workers are increasingly providing personal care services rather than domestic services.

Bruce Ramage, Service Manager for ILS in Edinburgh, says:

“More elderly people are receiving support to help them stay in their own homes for longer, and we need more support workers to meet the growing demand for care at home services.

“With guaranteed hours contracts on offer, job seekers have the reassurance of getting work each week which they can fit around their own availability. Many of our support workers have made a real career for themselves at ILS and we’re delighted to have helped them. It’s a great opportunity and can be totally life-changing – for them and so many others.”

A typical day in the life of a support worker will involve dropping in to see and support several different people in one day, working on a rota and a shift system. Care and support is generally provided on a one-to-one basis, and the new recruits will assist with areas such as helping to rise in the morning and getting back to bed, meal preparation, personal care, support with medicines, domestic chores and shopping. Companionship is also very important, as a support worker may be the only person an elderly person at home sees during the day.

The company is looking for a range of full-time, part-time and relief support workers. It provides full staff training as well as ongoing training and support with the opportunity for career progression. An SVQ training programme, to the value of £500, is available for all employees. There is no need for previous experience in the care sector, and there are opportunities to access a company car for both drivers and non-drivers and the chance to join the tax saving Cycle to Work scheme.

ILS Scotland is a major, long established provider of care across Scotland, working in partnership with local authorities, and has a workforce of 1600 across the country.

Services are also provided on a private basis to those who wish to augment the care they receive through the council, or have other requirements for support.

Anyone interested in working for ILS in Edinburgh can get in touch by calling the recruitment hotline on **0800 232 1039**, or through the ILS Recruitment website www.ilsrecruitment.com

Fireworks display ends the 2013 Edinburgh International Festival



Magical Virgin Money Fireworks Concert enthralled audiences across Edinburgh

The *Virgin Money Fireworks Concert* drew to a stunning close, the sky filled with giant walls of silver and golden crackle effect fireworks, bursting 225 metres above Edinburgh Castle. As the closing bars of Musorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* rang out to the applause of families and friends, visitors to the Scottish capital joined its residents to fill Princes Street Gardens and streets across the city to enjoy the grand finale of the Edinburgh International Festival. Approximately 250,000 people gathered across Edinburgh and beyond to watch the popular annual event.

More than 400,000 fireworks were launched during the 45 minute sell-out concert in a display designed by fireworks wizard Keith Webb of Pyrovision, synchronised perfectly to music

performed live by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra conducted by Garry Walker, gave a wonderful performance, opening the concert with Smetana's *Dance of the Comedians* from comic opera *The Bartered Bride*, before performing the evening's central work, Musorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Written in 1874 as a tribute to the composer's great friend, the artist Viktor Hartmann, the suite comprises 10 musical 'pictures' in a walk around a gallery, each one re-visualised during the Concert by the fireworks.

The 'Waterfall' drew gasps of amazement from the audience as it descended over 130 feet down the Castle Rock 30 minutes into the concert. The Waterfall lasted around 1 minute, the end marking a short pause before the Scottish Chamber Orchestra resumed the performance.

And this year for the very first time there was not one, but two spectacular 'Waterfalls'. The iconic effect was used both in its traditional form – spilling down the centre of the Castle Rock – and also again in a surprise addition a few minutes before the end of the concert, highlighting the full outline of the Castle in a shimmering fairy-tale effect.

The most spectacular of all was saved for last, with the music for the last picture, *The Great Gate of Kiev*, punctuated by huge silver crackle fireworks blasting to the beat of the music.

In total four tonnes of explosives were used, and the display, which took months to plan and 15 pyrotechnicians seven days to set the fireworks out, was over for another year.

On the ramparts of Edinburgh Castle Keith Webb said, 'We're over the moon at another hugely successful concert. All the hard work and dedication the team has put in was well worth it.'

In Princes Street Gardens where he enjoyed the Virgin Money Fireworks Concert with friends and colleagues from the Festival, Jonathan Mills, Director of the Edinburgh International Festival said, 'I've been lucky enough to see some of the world's most famous fireworks displays and this year's Virgin Money Fireworks Concert was absolutely among the best. I would like to thank Virgin Money for their continued support of this family and Festival favourite. What an amazing way to bring the city's summer festivals season to an end.'

Joining Jonathan in Princes Street Gardens was Virgin Money's Head of Sponsorship Andrew Nicholson. He said, 'Virgin Money is extremely proud to be the official sponsor of such a wonderful event. The concert this evening has brought together so many people who have all enjoyed the Scottish Chamber Orchestra's wonderful performance and the mesmerising pyrotechnic extravaganza. This is a fantastic conclusion to what has been another magnificent Edinburgh International Festival.'

Roy McEwan, Scottish Chamber Orchestra Chief Executive, said, 'Rehearsals and preparations for this huge concert are always very intense because of the precision and co-ordination required, not just of the performance, but also the general management and front-of-house arrangements. We are immensely satisfied with the way everything came together tonight. A big thank you to all our technical partners, health and safety partners, City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh International Festival for all their fantastic work on this event, and of course our sponsor Virgin Money'.

Virgin Money Fireworks Concert

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

Garry Walker Conductor

Smetana Dance of the Comedians

Musorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition (arr. Ravel)

Sunday 1 September 9.00pm

Sponsored by **Virgin Money**

Virgin Money Festival Fireworks 2013



John Preece was in Princes Street Gardens for us last night and despite the windy conditions the fireworks were just fabulous It seems from Twitter and elsewhere that people really enjoyed it!

[[View the story "Edinburgh fireworks 2013 " on Storify](#)]

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Five things you need to know today



MELA to refund cost of tickets – Announcement due on National

**Performance Centre – Community council nominations open today
– 80% of tickets sold for the Festival – Funding from Hearts fans**

Edinburgh's biggest world music event was forced to close its doors yesterday afternoon and cancel the appearance of their headline act The Orb due to safety issues when the wind speed whipped up to dangerous levels. The organisers have decided to refund the cost of tickets to those who bought tickets after 3:00pm on Sunday afternoon.

They have issued the following statement:-

"Public safety is our number one priority when organising the Mela. Given the weather forecast for this weekend and the nature of the venues used in our festival, we monitored wind speed very closely all day.

Due to extremely high winds and circumstances completely beyond our control, the Edinburgh Mela was forced to close the site at around 4.45pm today. It was thought at first that this would be a temporary closure and our team worked very hard to reopen the site; however at just after 7pm we were forced to completely close the site and cancel our remaining shows.

At just after 4pm we had to close the Main Stage due to a structural issue caused by high winds. At this point we thought it would be possible to re-stage our Main Stage programme on the Mix Stage, and informed the public of this. At around 4.45pm, wind speeds exceeded the safety rating of some of our smaller stalls and we were left with no alternative but to temporarily close the site while we dealt with that issue. We proceeded in the full expectation that we would still be able to put on a reduced programme on the Mix Stage, and tried to keep the public as informed as possible about updates. We were still working hard to try and resolve the issue and return to a reduced programme of events as

quickly as possible. However, at just after 7pm the wind-related structural issue with the Main Stage became much worse, leaving the site unsafe for the public to re-enter, and all personnel on site had to be completely evacuated.

Full refunds will be available to anyone who entered the site after 3pm on Sunday or was unable to pick up a pre-paid wristband before site closure. We will also refund any members of the public with pre-bought unused wristbands. Wristbands need to be returned to the box office by post to:

Edinburgh Mela Box Office

180 High Street

Edinburgh EH1 1QS

Customers who pre-booked wristbands are asked to include a print-out of their confirmation email. Our staff will then confirm serial numbers and refund tickets accordingly. Postage will also be refunded.

The Edinburgh Mela organisers would like to thank our audiences and performers for their understanding. The overflowing of support we've received has been wonderful and has meant a huge amount to us. We're obviously hugely disappointed that this has happened, and we'll begin planning an even bigger and better event for 2014 (almost) straight away."

The council has been spending a lot of time and effort in putting together the bid to be able to site the new National Performance Centre for Sport here in Edinburgh. The decision will be made this week but ahead of that this weekend, some of the country's top sports coaches and club leaders got together at Heriot-Watt – one of the proposed locations for Scotland's National Performance Centre for Sport.



The two day conference, part of Edinburgh's Festival of Sport, attracted some of the country's leading coaches and sports figures who looked at ways of building stronger clubs and developing quality coaches in Edinburgh and the East of Scotland.


Edinburgh is up against Stirling and Dundee in the bid to be chosen as the location for the £30m sports development centre.

Ahead of delegates from across the country arriving at the Heriot-Watt University campus, Professor Steve Chapman, Principal of Heriot-Watt University, said: "This is a tremendous opportunity to support the spread of professional best-practice and performance excellence in sports clubs, which are vital springboards for future top Scottish sports men and women.

"We're always delighted when the University attracts top class sporting professionals, and this event clearly underpins our bid to host the National Performance Centre for Sport. The development of athletes who can compete successfully on the world stage will not be achieved by facilities alone and it is vital that the NPCSC is central to the development of world class support personnel and services required to support our athletes in the pursuit of excellence."

Edinburgh's Sports Conference is supported by the City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh Leisure, sportscotland, Glasgow 2014 and Club Sport Edinburgh. The two-day conference will run from Saturday 31 August to Sunday 1 September and will include both club and coaching workshops for different sports and levels. The sessions will also include tips to develop sporting skills and business essentials.



 Community council elections will be held on 24 October 2013 and the nominations open today until 23 September for those people interested in local issues who want to become members. Elections will only be held if there are more people nominated than places available.

You have to be on the electoral roll and over 16 to be considered eligible to stand. Alternatively community groups can also be nominated to serve on the community council. If you are an individual wanting to stand on the community council then you can download a nomination form by clicking [here](#).

Community councils must be consulted on planning applications

and licencing applications in their areas, so if this is the kind of thing that you are passionate about then you can find out where your local community council is here. There are a few areas which do not have a community council and the City of Edinburgh Council and the local Neighbourhood Partnership will assist in setting up any new ones in the city.



The 67th Edinburgh International Festival was brought to an official end last night with the Virgin Money Fireworks Concert gathering approximately 250,000 Edinburgh residents and visitors across the city to share in the annual spectacular performed live by The Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Pyrovision.

Over **2,200 artists from 36 nations**, almost 800 of them from Scotland, have filled Edinburgh's stages over the last 24 days in 220 performances and events.

Overall, the Edinburgh International Festival has **sold over 80%** of all available seats for performances, with **nearly half (48%) sold out**.

Festival Director, Jonathan Mills said:- 'I would like to thank all those audiences who have joined us over these three heady weeks who have helped to create such a fantastic atmosphere in theatres and concert halls, and around the City. Edinburgh International Festival 2013 has been enjoyable, exciting and thought provoking. Artists have joined us from around the world, bringing fresh perspectives on ideas and

technologies familiar or strange, old and new.

'Audiences have flocked to an epic Chinese version of Coriolanus and to intimate late night rare live performances of Stockhausen and Stroppa. We've been proud to present numerous world premieres including Leaving Planet Earth and the wonderful showcase of new choreographers in Dance Odysseys. The International Festival has once again brought a mix of large scale, high profile events and artists unfamiliar in the UK, with world premieres, commissions and partnerships which continue to reinforce the Festival's uniqueness and provide Festival-goers with a magical summer experience. A special thanks must go to all the funders, sponsors and supporters who made this Festival possible.'

It is estimated that overall attendance at this year's Festival will be **over 400,000** with Scottish ticket buyers joined by those travelling to Edinburgh from 66 nations. Approximately **158,500** tickets have been issued and the total box office income reached over **£2.43million**.

China's Beijing People's Art Theatre gave an epic, heavy metal laden performance of Coriolanus to over 4,000 people over two nights and attracted media interest from around the world including MTV, China Central Television (CCTV) and BBC China.

Incredible performances from Valery Gergiev, Daniil Trifonov, Michael Gambon and Barry McGovern, Patti Smith reading the poetry of Robert Louis Stevenson, Frankfurt Opera and Scottish Ballet's intimate yet vast undertaking in Dance Odysseys, as well as visual arts exhibitions based on the work of Leonardo

da Vinci and Nam June Paik have all excited critics and audiences alike.

Young people signed up in their hundreds to access concerts and music events at the Festival for free. In the pilot year of this partnership with The City of Edinburgh Council over 670 young musicians became Young Musicians Passport holders. The most popular events among passport holders were City Noir, La Belle et la Bête and Chamber Orchestra of Europe.

In the virtual world the Festival was visited by people from 154 countries with 63% being new visitors to the website, eif.co.uk. Thousands of users interacted with the Festival's three new mobile and social media apps.

48,772 minutes of Festival footage were watched on the Festival's YouTube channel, on Facebook 4.9m brand impressions were seen by 2.3m users and 60,740 people actively engaged with the Festival.

The Festival's social media followers doubled last year's numbers and reached 54,905.

Over the **autumn** the Festival will release a series of audio and video podcasts online showcasing highlights of this year's programme, and particularly the talks and conversations which explored the ideas and the artists that underpinned it. The Festival will also continue its year round work in Edinburgh's schools.

Concerts still to be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 include those of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and the closing concert from the Usher Hall, Verdi's Requiem.

The Edinburgh International Festival in 2014 will run from 8 to 31 August.

Today is a very significant day in Scottish football history as the greatest movement of supporters begins in earnest. The first direct debits from at least 7,400 supporters (and rising) will be drawn down by the Foundation of Hearts from today. Fans have been asked to sign a direct debit for anything from £10 a month upwards to ensure that the ownership of the club is brought under the control of the Foundation who will then run the club with this working capital.

Even now it is not too late to pledge your monthly payment. Find out more on the Foundation of Hearts [website](#).



The Edinburgh Reporter's Weekly Sports Round-up



Club Rugby

by John Preece

Currie proved to be the only Edinburgh side in the upper divisions to lose in the second week of the league season, going down 42-28 to Stirling County at Malleny Park. However, both of the other local sides in the Premiership won by a

single point. Edinburgh Accies took the laurels 18-17 away at Aberdeen and Heriots beat Gala 28-27 at home. This puts Edinburgh Accies one point clear of Gala at the top of the table with Heriots and Currie trailing in 8th and 10th places respectively. If it were football, the pundits would have the relegation battle up for discussion, but after only the 2nd week of the rugby season, how can there be anything to discuss?

Next week Currie will be making the long trip to Ayr for their match, while Heriots travel up the M9 to Stirling and Accies welcome Hawick to Raeburn Place.

In the National League, there was only ever going to be an Edinburgh win at Inverleith. And so it proved, funnily enough, as Boroughmuir beat Stewarts-Melville 18-13, outscoring the home side three tries to one on the way. Watsonians put in another high scoring performance for the second week in row, this time away from home, but against another Borders club as they put Selkirk away 51-23. 'Sonians now head the National League table, one point clear of Dundee. Boroughmuir and Stew-Mel are fairing better than their Premiership counterparts, lying in 3rd and 5th places respectively.

The 3rd week of the season has Boroughmuir playing at home against Dundee, while Watsonians play yet another Borders team, as they take on Biggar at Myreside and Stew-Mel play at home for the second week in a row against Peebles.

The big boys get their RaboDirect PRO12 league season underway on Saturday as Edinburgh open their account against Munster at Thomond Park in Limerick. It has also been announced that RaboDirect would not be renewing their sponsorship of the 'Celtic League' after this season, having "achieved their key business objectives" over the past three seasons. Hopefully, the hunt is on for a replacement title sponsor to fill the gap. You would imagine it's in hand....

Rugby Union

by Jonny Davis

Edinburgh Rugby recorded their first win under new head coach Alan Solomons on Friday, as they beat Newcastle Falcons 15-5 in their final warm up game before this season's RaboDirect PRO12 campaign gets underway next week.

The Gunners produced a solid, composed performance and despite failing to score a try, a flawless kicking display was enough to secure a comfortable victory in the end.

Greig Laidlaw scored the only points of the first half, kicking 3 penalties to put Edinburgh ahead 9-0 at the break, but Newcastle came out strongly in the second half and scored the only try of the game through ex-Scotland and Edinburgh fly-half, Phil Godman.

The comeback however, was shortlived, and Edinburgh soon regained control of proceedings with Scotland International, David Denton providing inspiration in defense and attack.

Piers Francis who had taken over the kicking duties from Laidlaw then seized the opportunity to close out the game with two penalties late on.

Speaking after the game, head coach Solomons said, "It was important for the guys to put the effort in tonight to start building confidence.

"I believe that they did that with a lot of hard work and so I am very pleased with that"

Man of the match, Denton added, "There's real reason for optimism. We want to be physical and I think we showed that tonight.

"We're building a game plan and, at the moment, we're at the bare bones of that. Simple game plans are often the best way

to go and hopefully when the season starts we'll begin to fire."

Off the field for Edinburgh Rugby, it's another week, another new signing.

The capital club followed last week's recruitment of Wicus Blaauw with the arrival of another front row forward, James Hilterbrand from Super Rugby side Western Force.

24-year-old Hilterbrand who has senior experience across hooker and both prop positions, joins the club just months after starting against the British & Irish Lions in June.

When asked about the latest recruit, Edinburgh Rugby head coach Alan Solomons, said "James's versatility will be very useful for us, especially when you consider the attritional nature of the front-row and immense physicality they must endure over the course of the season.

"We now have more depth and better competition for places in our front-row, with our young Scottish props learning from experienced campaigners"

Despite representing all of South Australia's age-grade sides as well as the national under-18 team, Hilterbrand is thus far uncapped at senior international level and due to his extensive Scottish roots, could well be seen donning the Saltire in years to come.

Not only was his grandmother, Doris from Aberdeen, but Hilterbrand's grandfather, William Bain hailed from Falkirk and in fact played football for Aberdeen FC either side of the Second World War.

After the move was announced, Hilterbrand said. "I'm really excited about joining Edinburgh Rugby.

"I hope to bring a different rugby perspective because of my different pathway into professional rugby. I'll definitely

bring a lot of energy and heaps of passion.”

He added, “Unfortunately my grandparents have passed away now, but I know they’d both be very proud to see one of the grandsons living in Scotland and playing for one of the top club sides.”

One final development coming out of Murrayfield this week is that the club’s new strip for the season, is now available to purchase from the stadium shop, or online at <http://www.scottishrugbydirect.com/edinburgh-rugby-b4>

Football

Both city teams were playing opponents from the Highlands this weekend. We have an account of the match between Inverness Caley Thistle and Hearts from Mike Smith [here](#) and the stalemate no scoring draw at Easter Road where Hibs played against Ross County.

John Hislop has written for us about the player movements at Hibs with [Heffernan](#) and [Zoubir](#) both joining the Easter Road squad for this season at least.


Do you play or watch a sport that we don’t manage to write about? Then let us know!

theedinburghreporter@gmail.com

Rugby – Stewarts-Melville v Boroughmuir



A blustery Inverleith welcomed Boroughmuir to play Stewarts-Melville in the second round of the RBS National League. With both teams recording substantial wins the previous week, this match might have provided an indicator of their early season form.

Boroughmuir, having dropped down from the Premier Division – and keen to go straight back up – were the probable favourites to take the win. However, Stew-Mel had made some shrewd additions to their line-up during the close season, so were equally confident of their chances. Confidence that, in the first ten minutes of the match, seemed to be a bit misplaced as they weathered a storm of attacking play from the visitors. Storm duly weathered, once they got their hands on the ball, they looked the much stronger team. After some fine penetrating play, they were awarded a close in penalty by referee Mhairi Hay. Kicker, Nick McCashin needed a bit of assistance to prevent the ball blowing off the tee, but over the it went and the first points were on the board for the home side. Playing with the wind, Stew-Mel went on to dominate the next ten or so minutes of play, using their backs to break through the Boroughmuir line and only a fair bit of desperate tackling saw them held out. They succeeded in getting over the line, but the ref deemed the ball ‘held-up’ and awarded a scrum five metres out to Stew-Mel. The new scrum laws saw the ball out the back quickly and across the pitch to winger, Alan Whittington – no relation – who saw off the ‘Muir full-back to score the opening try. McCashin put the ball through the posts for the conversion and Stewarts-Melville were 10-0 ahead, with Boroughmuir looking decidedly on the back foot. 

A penalty awarded to Boroughmuir was missed into the strong breeze, but they were in the Stew-Mel half. The play came straight back from the restart, and it was the visitors turn to do a bit of hammering at the try line. Loose ball from a ruck was pounced on by Boroughmuir’s Sam Johnson just on the line, but Hampton was there for the defence and both players

had hands on the grounded ball. Referee Hay gave the benefit of the doubt to the visitors and awarded them put-in at the scrum. A mighty heave by the 'Muir pack left the ball free for Johnson to gather up and dive over in the corner, just avoiding the flailing Whittington in the process to score the try. With the wind still making the kicking difficult the score remained at 13-5. Boroughmuir chose to run, rather than kick, a late penalty award but the play fizzled out and the whistle brought the half to a close, still 13-5 in favour of Stew-Mel.

The second half started well for the home side, putting the 'Muir line under a sustained bit of pressure, but once they appeared to run out of steam, Boroughmuir went on some up field forays of their own. After a few failed attempts, mainly due to their own mistakes, they finally crossed the line. However, the referee decided that the ball carrier had been 'shepherded' through the gap and she took play back for a 'Muir penalty, which Dave Reekie popped over the bring the score line to 13-8.

Stewarts-Melville then spent the next five minutes being stopped short of the visitors line as the match was played deep in the Boroughmuir 22. A huge overlap on the left came to nought as the ball was dropped, but a penalty had been awarded on the other side of the pitch. It didn't end as 'required' as an infringement at the resultant line out was viewed as sufficiently serious by the officials to get Stew-Mel's No. 9, Ross Sampson, sent to the bin for ten minutes. He was followed off the pitch a few minutes later by 'Muir's Alex Cox for another card-able offence, but, this time, in Stew-Mel's half. 14 aside and all to play for – as they say.

Stewarts-Melville lost another player to the sin-bin as captain McCashin was 'parked' for ten minutes and almost immediately from the restart, Boroughmuir's Malcolm Clapperton crashed through for a try, followed in a few minutes later by No. 15 Ed Farquharson from a long run up the touch line,

receiving the ball from a pass which which took advantage of the extra man to outflank the defence. Both kicks were missed so the score, which was to prove the final score, was 18-13 to Boroughmuir.

So, a close match played under trying conditions – for the kickers, anyway – bodes well for the rest of the season. Some visiting supporters reckoned that Stewarts-Melville possibly had the better of the play, but the final points tally is the measure that counts and that belonged to Boroughmuir. They will have to stop dropping the ball when in scoring positions, though.

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

Lord Provost raises a glass to unsung heroes



1st Scots Pipe Band at Lauriston
Castle

The first Lord Provost's Garden Party was held at [Lauriston Castle](#) to honour and recognise the volunteers in Edinburgh.

Five hundred guests from the volunteer sector were invited to the Castle and entertained by the 1st Scots Pipes, Mary Erskine School Choir, the



1st Scots Pipe Band at Lauriston
Castle

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra quartet, a Clarsach player in the Japanese Garden, and history tours by the Living History Group.

The Edinburgh Reporter's Trystan Davies spoke to the Lord Provost Donald Wilson and the event sponsor Virgin Money CEO Jayne-Anne Gadhia.

[listen to 'Lord Provost's first ever garden party' on Audioboo](#)



Lord Provost Donald Wilson



Mary Erskine School Choir and event sponsor Virgin Money



Living History Group helping to introduce Lauriston Castle history

Five things you need to know today



Virgin Money Fireworks Concert – Today at the MELA – Edinburgh Art Festival – Today at The Filmhouse – Balerno Music Festival

Fans of the Virgin Money Fireworks Concert, the traditional finale to the Edinburgh International Festival, can be confident of getting to the concert and safely home afterwards thanks to an enhanced service being provided by ScotRail

especially for the occasion.

Tonight over 400,000 fireworks will light up the sky over Edinburgh Castle in this hugely popular event. Scottish Chamber Orchestra conducted by Garry Walker will perform Musorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, accompanied by an awe-inspiring display created by international firework artists Pyrovision. The concert starts at 9pm and last approximately 45 minutes.

ScotRail has announced it will run more than 60 extra carriages – and ten additional trains – to transport spectators to and from central Edinburgh this evening. Before the concert, ScotRail will provide longer trains from Glasgow Queen Street and Fife into Edinburgh, as well as an additional train from Newcraighall.

A total of nine additional trains will leave the capital after the concert – including services to North Berwick, Newcraighall, Fife, West Calder and Glasgow via Bathgate. And extra carriages will be added to late night trains to Glasgow Queen Street, Fife, Perth and Dundee.

Sir Jonathan Mills, Director of the Edinburgh International Festival, said:- 'The Virgin Money Fireworks Concert is a great night out. With the enhanced train service provided by ScotRail we look forward to welcoming even more visitors to Edinburgh to share in the fabulous music from the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and what I am sure will be a stunning fireworks display.'

ScotRail managing director Steve Montgomery added: "We are providing dozens of extra carriages on trains to and from the capital to help customers' journeys run smoothly. However, we would stress that some services will still be busy and it's worth buying tickets in advance."

The fireworks concert trains are in addition to ScotRail's 2013 Edinburgh Festivals timetable, which provided more than

330,000 additional seats for festival-goers during August.

Visit eif.co.uk/virginmoneyfireworks for tickets, up-to-the-minute news, features and advice on how to make the best of your evening at the Virgin Money Fireworks Concert.

Virgin Money Fireworks Concert

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

Garry Walker Conductor

Smetana Dance of the Comedians

Musorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition (arr. Ravel)

Sunday 1 September 9.00pm

The Edinburgh MELA continues to delight audiences down in Leith Links today beginning at 12.30 with the Fashion Show.

12.30 – 13.30 Mela Fashion Show This year, the Mela devotes its annual catwalk show to an Asian wedding fashion spectacular.

14.15 – 14.45 Edinburgh Chinese Choir Showcasing the beauty of Chinese folk songs and heritage music, Edinburgh Chinese Choir was formed by a group of music lovers. The choir aims to promote friendship and understanding through music.

15.05 – 15.45 Gouri Choudhury A former vocalist and songwriter with indie band Kula Shaker, Gouri Choudhury is also a hugely popular Bengali music star in her own right, winning a number of awards and releasing six albums.

16.05 – 16.45 Thermal & A Quarter is the non-Bollywood musical voice from modern India, playing impossibly funky Bangalore rock – a sound as unique and layered as the city of its birth. After rocking New York, London, Hong Kong, Seattle, Dubai, Singapore, Jakarta, Male and opening for acts like Guns N' Roses, Deep Purple and Jethro Tull, TAAQ now spices up the Edinburgh Mela!

17.10 – 18.00 Son Yambu Red hot rhythms, straight from the streets of Santiago de Cuba! This excellent ten-piece band play authentic Cuban son, an infectious style of Afro-Cuban music that originated in eastern Cuba & is the root of all salsa music. Formed in 2011, Son Yambu features a new generation of Cuban musicians who are passionate about maintaining the traditions of the genre.

18.20 – 18.55 Surinder Rattan Last year, 'Has Has', his hit with Joga Singh and Metz & Trix was the party tune of the summer. We're delighted to welcome one of our favourite DJs back to the Mela – look out for exciting special guests too.



19.20 – 20.30 The Orb with Kakatsitsi Dance music legends The Orb team up with Mela favourites the Kakatsitsi Master Drummers from Ghana, layering traditional drums, chants and acoustic instruments on to digital beats and bass-lines to build a cultural bridge between the traditional African and western dance cultures. This performance is the only other major UK date this year after a barn-storming Glastonbury set, and will bring the Mela to an utterly gorgeous close.



The Edinburgh Art Festival draws to a close today, but there is still time to try and see some of the wondrous creations around the city, including Scaffold out at Jupiter Artland which will be in place till 15 September.

Scaffold is an arresting, immense and powerful wooden structure by the Los Angeles-based, American artist Sam Durant. The first installation in a new programme of temporarily sited sculptures amidst Jupiter's 60 acres of landscape, Durant's work is placed within a new orchard. *Scaffold* will command outstanding views of the

Pentland Hills and surrounding area, and visitors are invited to climb upon and explore this vast structure.

Jupiter Artland

Bonnington House Steadings, Nr Wilkieston, EH27 8BB

01506 889 900

www.jupiterartland.org

[Show on map](#)

Today at The Filmhouse they are showing a film with a difference – about a man and his cows... The Moo Man is billed as:-

Dairy farmer Stephen Hook is determined that his small farm will not follow the way of so many others: scaled up or gone bust. His solution is to go niche, by selling his organic, raw milk direct or at farmers' markets. Filmed over several years on Hook's farm in southern England, this charming documentary is partly a story about food sustainability, partly about the daily rhythm of farm life and, in particular, the fascinating bond between one farmer and his herd of 50 (named) cows. Heartwarming, hilarious and occasionally traumatic, The Moo Man will have you rooting for the success of Hook and all like him.

[The Moo Man trailer](#) from [Trufflepig Films](#) on [Vimeo](#).

Out in Balerno they are in the throes of organising their music festival which starts on 25 September – and it runs for two weeks.

Here is the programme...but you can get more information on how

you can help the organisers or buy tickets for the concerts [on their website.](#)

Music Festival at a Glance

Date	Time	Title	Place
Wednesday 25th September			
	7.30 – 10.00	Dinner Discussion – Francis Cummings, The Big Noise – Raploch	St Joseph's Hall
Friday 27th September			
	7.30 – 9.30	A night at the shows with Balerno Theatre Company	Parish Church
Saturday 28th September			
	9.30 – 11.00	Young Musicians Concert	Parish Church
	9.30 – 12.00	Coffee & Snacks at The Mill	St Joseph's Hall
	3.30 – 4.15	Music Workshop with Fun Time Harmonies	St Joseph's Hall
	2.00 – 5.30	Faure's Requiem Rehearsal	Parish Church
	7.30 – 9.00	Faure's Requiem from Scratch	Parish Church
	8.30 – 12.30	Cabaret and Dance to 'Penny Lane'	Bowling Club
Friday 4th October			
	6.00 – 7.00	Hot Fork Supper 1	St Joseph's Hall
	7.30 -10.30	Yvonne Lyon	Bowling Club
	7.30 – 9.30	Trumpet and Organ Concert	Parish Church
Saturday 5th October			
	2.00 – 3.00	Infectious Grooves (Under 6)	St Joseph's Hall
	3.00 – 4.00	Infectious Grooves (Over 6)	St Joseph's Hall
	7.30 – 9.30	Singalong to Mamma Mia	St Joseph's Centre
Sunday 6th October			
	2.00 – 3.30	Purves Puppets	St Joseph's Hall
Tuesday 8th – Friday 11th October			
	9.00 – 3.00	Coffee & Snacks at The Mill	St Joseph's Hall
	12.30 -1.30	Music @ The Mill	St Joseph's Hall
Thursday 10th October			
	7.30 – 10.00	Talent Show Case	Parish Church
Friday 11th October			
	6.00 – 7.00	Hot Fork Supper 2	St Joseph's Hall
	8.00 – 11.00	Folk Concert with Gaberlunzie and Real Time -SOLD OUT	Bowling Club
	7.30 – 10.00	Tourie Band	Parish Church
Saturday 12th October			
	9.00 – 1.00	Farmers' Market	Main Street
	9.30 – 12.00	Festival Busk 2013!	Main Street
	9.00 – 1.00	Coffee @ the Bowling Club	Bowling Club
	9.00 – 1.00	The Mill Café	St Joseph's Hall
	2.30 – 4.00	Children's Concert with Mr Giggles	Bowling Club
	2.30 – 5.00	Open Folk Music Session	Grey Horse
	6.00 – 7.00	Hot Fork Supper 3	St Joseph's Hall
	7.30 – 9.30	Gala Concert with Ani Batikian and Roland Roberts	Parish Church
	9.30-10.30	Reception	St Joseph's Hall
Sunday 13h October			
	10.00 – 11.15	Festival Praise	Parish Church
	7.30 – 11.00	Jazz Party	St Joseph's Hall



Inverness Caledonian Thistle 2 Heart of Midlothian 0

SPFL Saturday 31 August 2013 – Caledonian Stadium

Much has been made of the youthful nature of Hearts squad this season but the factor that may prove crucial to the Maroons chances of staying in the SPFL this season isn't the age of the players but size and depth of the squad.

After their heroics last week against Aberdeen, Hearts manager Gary Locke made three changes from the team that beat the Dons against the odds. Two were enforced – the suspended Kevin McHattie and Danny Wilson who were replaced by last week's match winner Jordan McGhee and Callum Tapping – while a tactical change saw Billy King drop to the bench to allow David Smith to start the game.

Hearts began the game in the Highlands brightly and Jamie Walker had their first chance in the opening minutes but his effort was inches wide. After nine minutes, the home side took the lead when Doran's cross was volleyed home by McKay and the Hearts youngsters, having taken the game their table-topping opponents in the early stages , must have felt aggrieved at this turn of events.

Great play by Calum Paterson after 25 minutes set up Walker again but once more his effort on goal went wide. The forward, having scored against Partick Thistle and Aberdeen in successive games, seemed to be out of luck this time around, a feeling the entire Hearts team felt just after half an hour

when Caley Thistle went two goals ahead. After Doran and then Foran – try saying that after a couple of pints – saw their efforts on goal thwarted, the ball broke to McKay who scored from six yard out to double his goals and his team's lead for the afternoon. It seemed Lady Fortune had smiled on the Highlanders before turning her back on the men – or should I say boys – from Scotland's capital city when the unfortunate Walker then saw his effort on goal bounce off a post.

Hearts could consider themselves rather unfortunate to be two goals down at the interval although there was no doubt the home side deserved to be in front. However, it was a different story after the break.

The second half was dominated by the home team who missed several chances to extend their lead. Hearts looked a tired team, their extra time efforts in Kirkcaldy on Tuesday night perhaps taking their toll. Locke replaced Smith with King but still it was one-way traffic towards the Hearts goal with Maroons keeper Jamie Macdonald almost single-handedly keeping Thistle at bay. There was nothing the Hearts custodian could do ten minutes from time, however, when his defensive colleague Jamie Hamill was sent off by referee John Beaton for deliberate hand ball. It seemed a harsh decision as was the subsequent penalty kick awarded to Caley Thistle. Some justice was done when Macdonald saved McKay's penalty kick.

The game ended at 2-0 for Caley Thistle and there was no doubt the league leaders fully deserved their win. Their manager, the ebullient Terry Butcher, has done a fine job and his team has self-belief aplenty. His opposite number, Gary Locke, gave a refreshingly honest assessment after the game when he said Caley Thistle were the stronger team and deserved their win. For Hearts, the only consolation was that 11th placed St. Mirren also lost and so the gap between the pair remains at nine points. Their forthcoming clash at Tynecastle on 5 October looks to be taking on an increasingly crucial significance.

Inverness CT: Brill; Raven; Shinnie; Vincent; Warren; Meekings; Billy McKay; Draper, Foran, Doran, Ross.

Hearts: Macdonald; McGhee; Brad McKay; McGowan; Hamill; Tapping; Paterson; Robinson; Holt; Walker; D. Smith

Referee: John Beaton

Attendance: 4,034

Top man: Jamie Macdonald kept Hearts in the game with a string of superb saves.

Footnote: Inverness Caledonian Thistle's magnificent gesture of donating £5 to the Hearts supporters' fighting fund for every ticket sold over the average away support attendance of 650 was gratefully appreciated by the Edinburgh club. More than 1,000 Hearts fans were in Inverness and the Highlanders selfless act, following on from similar gestures by St. Johnstone and Partick Thistle, should be warmly applauded.

Hibs 0-0 Ross County – Stalemate at Easter Road



Hibs poor run of results against Ross County continued today at Easter Road as the clubs fought out a goalless draw. Amazingly the Easter Road side have yet to record a competitive victory over the County, losing all three league games last term, adding to the cup defeat in 2010 in Dingwall after a home draw.

Whilst Hibs dominated possession today, in the end they were fortunate to keep a point as Ross County missed several good chances.

Manager Pat Fenlon kept faith with the same starting XI that won last weekend at Kilmarnock which meant new signing Paul Heffernan had to be content with a place on the substitutes' bench.

French winger Abdellah Zoubir watched the game from the West Stand, alongside injured team-mates Paul Cairney and Tim Clancy.

A minute's applause took place ahead of the game in memory of former striker Gerry Barker whose goal scoring performances lit up the stadium 50 years ago.

The Staggies should have taken the lead in the 11th minute when Luckasse's shot struck Ben Williams's legs before Kovacevic's shot from the edge of the box crashed off the post.

Eight minutes later Luckassen, picked out the run of Rocco Quinn who somehow managed to miss the target from point-blank range to the relief of the Hibs fans in the crowd.

Graham Carey then forced a save from Williams before Hibs started to dominate possession without troubling Brown.

With half time approaching, a powerful drive from Liam Craig was deflected wide by Brian McLean then a Ryan McGivern cross was met by James Collins who glanced a superb header off the base of Mark Brown's post.

In the second half Ben Gordon was booked for a rash tackle on Danny Handling just outside the box, and Brown did well to hold Liam Craig's powerful free kick,

On 65 minutes Handling's cut-back found Collins who volleyed over eight yards, then a few minutes later Carey should have

opened the scoring after evading a number of tackles inside the box, but the Irishman shot wide with the goal gaping when it looked easier to score.

Pat Fenlon made three substitutions, starting with Ross Caldwell replacing Rowan Vine, then Danny Handling and James Collins, made way for new signing Paul Heffernan and Sammy Stanton as Hibs presses for the winner.

In the end however, the highlanders were happy to settle for a point, although the home fans made their feelings known at the final whistle.

After the final whistle, Pat Fenlon said: "We've got to be more positive and enjoy playing here. The game didn't really get going. There was no real tempo to the game, lots of stops for fouls and free kicks. I suppose it's up to us to do that but they made it difficult for us.

"We probably only had one good chance when James hit the post. Some of the build-up play was good but when we get into the top end of the pitch we've got to be more positive and a little quicker with our movement and passing.

"Paul Heffernan will give us something different His link-up play is decent. You saw that in the small time he was on. He put some decent balls in and got it wide. He'll be a good addition; he has a good record of goal-scoring in this league."

Former Hibs assistant manager Derek Adam who is now in charge of Ross County said: "We had better opportunities and should have won the match. Over the 90 minutes we were the better side and no-one could argue with that. Overall it was a good performance going into the international break."

James Collins accepted that he had found goals hard to come by since his move to Easter Road from Swindon, but insists that he will continue to work hard; "At the moment it's not going

for me or the lads in front of goals, but we need to keep plugging away next week back in training ahead of the St Johnstone game. I try not to beat myself up but I would be lying if I said I didn't think about it."

Hibs: Williams, McGivern, Hanlon, Nelson, Vine (Caldwell 67'), Craig, Collins (Heffernan 82'), Stevenson, Tudur Jones, Handling (Stanton 82'), Taiwo. Substitutes not used: Murdoch, Forster, Maybury, Robertson.

Ross County: Brown, Kovacevic, Gordon, Kettlewell, Sproule (Maatsen 86'), Brittain, Quinn (de Leeuw 53'), Munro, Luckassen, McLean, Carey. Substitutes not used: Fraser, Boyd, Micic, Mustafi, Ross.

Referee: Iain Brines.

Attendance 9569

Brunstane Burn Path upgraded

An upgrade to an overgrown path in the east of Edinburgh, as part of the work on the new John Muir Way, is making a real difference for local residents.

A major project has upgraded the Brunstane Burn path in eastern Edinburgh and the work has just been completed in preparation for the official opening of Scotland's newest long distance route on John Muir's birthday on 21st April 2014.

The John Muir Way will link Muir's birthplace in Dunbar to Helensburgh via Scotland's first National Park – Loch Lomond and the Trossachs. The Brunstane Burn Path will be an important section of the route, running alongside a quiet burn, and linking Holyrood Park and Musselburgh. It also

improves the path connecting to Newhailes – an important National Trust for Scotland property.

Local people are the first to benefit from the substantial improvements to the mile-long stretch, which was jointly funded by Scottish Natural Heritage and Edinburgh City Council's East Neighbourhood Environment team.

Rob Garner, Policy and Advice Officer with Scottish Natural Heritage, explained the need for the work.

He said: "The path had become very overgrown and muddy and, over time, had become more difficult to pass, with walkers and cyclists opting to use alternative routes.

"These improvements are welcome for both for local residents and visitors, providing a more pleasant, all-weather path for all users. The path is now easily used not only by walkers and cyclists, but also, by people in wheelchairs or pushing buggies.

"It also gives room for people to pass easily, which is important as we expect that the number of people using the path will continue to grow when the full route opens in 2014."



Convener of
Transport &
Environment –
Lesley Hinds

Councillor Lesley Hinds, Transport and Environment Convener, City of Edinburgh Council said: "Brunstane Burn is a local beauty spot in the east of the city and is also popular with cyclists and walkers who will be following the John Muir Way, so ensuring that the path is safe and accessible is very important.

"The Council's Active Travel Action Plan seeks to encourage

more residents to walk and cycle, more safely and more often. Projects like this one help to do just that.”

The John Muir Way has been designed to celebrate John Muir’s life. The 134 mile (215km) trail will allow walkers, cyclists (and horse riders on many sections) to enjoy some of the most beautiful coastal scenery, sweeping landscapes, wildlife sites and historic visitor attractions across Scotland’s heartland.

The concept of the John Muir Way was developed by the Central Scotland Green Network and Keith Geddes, Chair of the CSGN Partnership Board, welcomed the progress on the route.

He said: “It is great to see our vision for the John Muir Way becoming a reality and hopefully this will give a taste of what people can enjoy when the full route opens in April 2014.”

Have you been down the path recently? Every time we are there we are on bikes and going too fast to take photos! Send us any photos you may have!

theedinburghreporter@gmail.com

For further information about the John Muir Way please contact johnmuirway@snh.gov.uk

Submitted by [Central Scotland Green Network](#)



Five things you need to know today



The MELA – Today at the Mela – Tea in the Park – Figgate Burn – Soundhouse plays on

Today and tomorrow at Leith Links the MELA takes place, and the organisers say this will be the greenest yet. They are banning all non-biodegradable packaging from the site, and they are trying to encourage as many people as possible to arrive at the event by walking or cycling there.

The MELA is a festival of world music dance fashion food and fun with something for everyone no matter what age they are. The purpose behind the mix of dance and the arts is to promote understanding between people of all backgrounds and advance the cause of 'community coherence'.

Pick of the day today has to be on the main stage at 14.30 – 15.10 **The Bollywood Acoustic Band**

Three classically trained lead vocalists and three top grade musicians incorporating eastern and western instruments and the Western technique of acapella to reinvent Hindi songs from the Golden and contemporary eras of Bollywood. Part of our 100 years of Bollywood celebration.

Much more information [here](#).

A recruitment drive to attract more foster carers from black and minority ethnic (BME) backgrounds is taking place in Edinburgh this weekend.

There are very few BME carers in the capital and the aim is to try and increase numbers so that children from different cultural, religious and ethnic groups can live with foster carers who share similar backgrounds.

Matching children with carers from the same background isn't always essential but, in some cases, it can help a child develop a positive sense of identity and culture.

Information events will take place at McDonald Road Library on Thursday 29th August (10am to 1pm) and at the [Edinburgh MELA](#) today from 12pm to 8pm and tomorrow Sunday 1st September (12pm to 5pm).

Councillor Paul Godzik, Children & Families Convener, said: "We always need people from a variety of backgrounds and different walks of life to become foster carers. It's really important that this crucial service reflects the cultural make-up of our city and that children who need care get the care that best suits them.

"Our foster care team work extremely hard to encourage potential carers and our campaign highlights the impact that their support can have on a child's life. It's a very important role and a foster family can help towards a happy future.

"We can help provide the support and advice needed to make this decision, so please, if you are thinking of fostering get

in touch or come along to one of the events this week to learn more about it.”

The BME recruitment campaign is part of a wider ongoing campaign to promote foster care in Edinburgh called [Foster Me Foster Us](#). There continues to be a severe shortage of foster carers in Edinburgh and more carers are needed to provide children with safe and caring homes while they are unable to live with their own families.

Carers get paid as self-employed people by the Council and receive a fee, allowances, full training and ongoing support. Depending on the type of caring work taken on, the rewards can be around the level of a well paid full-time job. Carers also get funds to provide pocket money and to buy presents for special occasions.

Foster carers must be over 21 years old. They can be single, married or part of a long-term relationship. They can be a tenant or homeowner. Some have children of their own and some don't. Carers don't need to be well-off or in work.

Anyone interested in finding out more about fostering can call the City of Edinburgh Council free on 0800 174 833 or visit the Council's foster care [web pages](#).



Something to plan for next weekend....

Braidburn Valley Park Tea in the Park Fun Day

Saturday, 7th September 2013 from 14:00 – 16:30

featuring

Transgression Park stunt cyclists display team with cycle skills area,

Magic Max– Magician and balloon modeller,

Morningside Pipe Band,

as well as Face Painting, Raft Building, two Bouncy Castles,

Ceilidh Band, Beat the Goalie, Fire engine, Quizzes,

bar, cafe and home baking.

As usual the highlight at the end of the day will be the World Famous Duck Race.

Please come and join us– you could bring a picnic and make a day of it!

Councillor Maureen Child tells us that there is going to be a clear up of Figgate Burn aka 'The Figgie' on Sunday 1st September, meeting at Bridge Street Car Park at 10am. It's being organised by Phil Morris, mobile number 07527 115 211.

Also on Facebook at [fb.me/2K3n0dnHn](https://www.facebook.com/2K3n0dnHn) Councillor Child commented:-“Having done this before a few times, I recommend

stout wellies and strong gloves.”

**

Good news for the followers of the House Concerts in the house at 42. According to [The Herald](#) the council have decided to allow Douglas and Jane Anne to continue with these as long as their neighbours don't complain.

So tonight you can go along to this musical offering – but only by getting on the guest list. You have to email Douglas at 42music42@musician.org

Saturday 31 August 2013

Special guests: O'Hooley + Tidow



They're coming back!! And we couldn't be happier. One of our favourite guests from last year, [O'Hooley + Tidow](#) will be in the house this Saturday to share their unique brand of traditional music. With influences from Ireland, Germany and beyond this duo is not your average English folk band. As they are described as purveyors of chamber folk you may expect classical or ecclesiastical influences, but there is nothing formal or stuffy about them. Their irreverent chat between songs is almost as entertaining as the music. See you on Saturday, 7.30 for 8pm. You are hereby invited.

Hibs sign Paul Heffernan on two year deal



Hibs have confirmed that Dublin born striker Paul Heffernan has joined the club from Kilmarnock after agreeing a contract until the end of the 2014/15 season.

The 31-year-old is vastly experienced from spells with Notts County, Bristol City, Doncaster Rovers and Sheffield Wednesday – scoring over 100 goals in both Scotland and England. He will join former Rugby Park team-mates Michael Nelson and Tim Clancy at the club, as well as former assistant manager Jimmy Nicholl.

Heffernan joined Kilmarnock during the summer of 2011 from Sheffield Wednesday and actually opened his account with a double against Hibs. In his first season with Kilmarnock, he scored an impressive 15 times in 36 appearances and ended up joint top goal-scorer with former Hibs favourite Dean Shiels. He also helped the club to a famous League Cup triumph, and was in the team that beat Celtic 1-0 in the final.

Last season, he scored 12 in 30 appearances, including a hat-

trick against Hearts at Tynecastle; however he missed much of the campaign with a shoulder injury.

Heffernan told Hibernian TV: "I'm excited about starting the next chapter of my career at Hibernian; hopefully my time with the club will be successful. I spoke to both Michael (Nelson) and Tim (Clancy) about coming here and they both encouraged me to join.

"It's a good club with big support – I saw that at the Cup tie at Rugby Park last season – and I'm looking forward to playing for Hibs."

"It's strange – I played against Hibs last weekend and this Saturday I could be playing for the club, but that's football – everything can change very quickly and now I'm excited about playing for Hibernian."

Manager Pat Fenlon believes his latest recruit Heffernan – his 10th signing of the summer transfer window – will add further experience to the forward line.

Fenlon said: "We're delighted to be able to get Paul – the situation concerning his arrival developed very late on. He is a good, experienced player and his goal-scoring record is very good. He knows the league inside out and he's different to what we have.

"Paul comes in with a good pedigree and hopefully he will bring both goals and experience to the team."

Hibs agree loan deal with

French winger Abdellah Zoubir



Hibs have announced that 21 year old French winger Abdellah Zoubir has joined the club on loan from FC Istres for the 2013/14 season following a successful trial this week.

Zoubir has Ligue 2 experience in France and manager Pat Fenlon has been impressed with the player since his arrival in Edinburgh.

All the terms have been agreed and documents signed, but Zoubir will only become a registered player for the club once the documents have been accepted by the authorities and an International Transfer Certificate has been issued by the French Football Federation.

As with all cross border transfers, that could take some time, and the club will confirm via the official website and official Twitter when the transfer has been formally completed.

Meanwhile Pat Fenlon has told the players that it is imperative that the team builds on last weekend's win at Kilarnock with an equally positive result at home.

Speaking to Hibernian TV, Fenlon said: "I think it is important that we build on it. I said to the players last week that when you go away from home and pick up a point or you pick up three points the next game at home is vitally important. If you don't then it undoes all the work from the previous week when you have had to work so hard away from home to get something out the game.

"We had to do that last week, we were a goal down and had to come back and win the game in the second half. If we can put another victory on top of that and get back-to-back victories

away from home and at home then it' a good week's work for us.

"We've got to make sure that we start the game positively here; the one thing I've said after the few games we've played so far that we've got to start the games better. We've got to start the games on the front foot and try to take the game to the opposition.

"Ross County had a great win last week – we watched a DVD of their game against St Mirren. Obviously they will be disappointed with their Cup exit during the week, but that can spur them on as well because they will be hurting a little bit from that.

"I think in Ross County's case they have brought a lot of players in as well, so that does take time for them to gel into a system. They've got a good squad of players and they're a good team and have proven that last season as well. So we know that we are going to have to play really well to get something out of the game."

Hibs have been drawn to face League One side Stranraer, who coincidentally knocked out County, in the third round of the Scottish League Cup (24 September, kick off 7.45pm) and the manager admits he is pleased with the draw.

He added: "We're delighted we're at home, I think that is the key in any cup competition – the first thing you want to be is at home, but it is a tough draw for us because obviously they've had a fantastic result to get into this round and they come here under no pressure.

"We've got to go and make sure that we get on a bit of a cup run which would be great. We've had a good Scottish Cup run over the past two seasons, but unfortunately in the League Cup last year there was a poor performance at Queen of the South, so it would be nice to get on a bit of a roll in the League Cup competition and progress through the rounds."

Boroughmuir High School celebrating their centenary



On Thursday of this week Boroughmuir High School had a whole school photograph taken. No mean feat since nearly 1300 staff and students gathered in the playground for a 'Centenary Photograph' as part of their year of celebration of 100 years at Boroughmuir on its existing site.



At the end of September the school is going to take part in Doors Open Day on 28 and 29 September 2013 to celebrate their centenary. This will be one of the last times the general public/former pupils get to see the old school. The designs for the new school have been circulated and we wrote about them [here](#).



The new school will be built on a site next to the canal about 500 metres away from the existing school and work should start next summer.



Restaurant Review: The Stockbridge Restaurant

✖ The Stockbridge Restaurant – A special treat on St Stephen Street

As soon as we descended the sparkly Stockbridge steps into the sophisticated and tastefully decorated basement to behold a busy restaurant on a Tuesday evening, we knew we were in for a treat. From the comfortable chairs to the crisp tablecloths and polished cutlery the quality and care taken with presentation ensured the experience was good from beginning to end.

I absolutely love the fact that [The Stockbridge Restaurant](#) is all about local produce, especially Stockbridge based where it's possible. The cheese was from local cheese monger I.J Mellis and the meat from Stockbridge based Bowens Butchers. The owners, a husband and wife team, have obviously embraced the location and have carefully selected fantastic local suppliers to help them create this wonderful restaurant.

There was both an a la carte menu and a set menu. We decided to go a la carte but it was very difficult to decide what to have as everything sounded interesting and exciting. It was all freshly made and the attention to detail was second to none. The home-made walnut bread, for instance, arrived with a delicious basil dip. The service was excellent – not once throughout the evening did we have to ask for more water or new cutlery – everything just happened effortlessly.

✖ We were treated to an amuse bouche of parma ham & tomato and this was the perfect tasty bite to leave us eager for our starters.

For a starter I tried the smoked trout, smoked mackerel pate

and Smoked haddock bon bons with sweet corn puree. This dish was not only exquisitely presented but tasted even better than it looked! The three strong fishy flavours were moistened by the sweet corn puree and every delicate mouthful was simply delectable.

✖ Holly selected the rabbit loin wrapped in Serrano ham and stuffed with a crep mushroom mousse, with fresh pasta and Madeira sauce. This incredibly tasty starter was full of strong flavours which went very well together, and the delicious Madeira sauce whetted her appetite for the next course.

✖ The corn fed chicken breast with Ballantine, roasted potatoes, wild mushrooms, leek cream and jus was what I opted for as a main and it was deliciously rich and comforting. It was a very well-executed chicken dish cooked with sophistication.

✖ For main Holly chose the grilled halibut with crab crust, courgette ribbons, sautéed heritage potatoes, cherry vine tomatoes with a lemon butter sauce. The fleshy fish was cooked beautifully and the lemon butter sauce was richly sensational.

We had another surprise palate cleanser next, a passion fruit sorbet delicately light and again clearly home made.

Can you believe we still had room for a desert? For pudding I couldn't resist the banana tarte tartin with butterscotch sauce and vanilla ice cream, despite the alternative presentation (this photo has been censored...Ed) this dessert was phenomenal! I'm still thinking about it.

✖ Holly settled upon the chocolate brûlée with chocolate brownie, white chocolate mousse and milk chocolate ice cream-she was in chocolate heaven.


The Stockbridge Restaurant is a fantastic place to go for a

locally sourced fine dining experience. A special treat on St Stephen Street.

[The Stockbridge Restaurant](#), 54 St Stephen St, Edinburgh, 0131 226 6766

The Reporter Food reviewers, Holly Jones and Celia Graham, work at [The Lifestyle Company Scotland](#). You can follow the company and their lifestyle tips on [Twitter](#).

Five things you need to know today

 **Caltongate – Pre-Theatre menu at The Scotsman Hotel – Today at the Filmhouse – At the National Museum of Scotland – Edinburgh Drawing School**

A few years back it was the hole in the ground in Castle Terrace which caused people in the city to complain about lack of progress with a prominent city centre site, and now it is the area of land at Caltongate which has attracted the same kind of attention more recently.

This site is on the east side of the council's own building at Waverley Court right next to the main east coast railway line, and the new planning application by Artisan REI is for seven parallel applications for various permissions. The development encompasses hotels, commercial, community uses and leisure along with alterations to the public realm. This is expected to include a new square around which there will be 400 hotel rooms, 28 shops, and around 200 homes with some of these being affordable homes.

When the new developer took over the site from the failed Mountgrange which collapsed in 2009, the company announced that the 640,000 square feet site would now be developed by South African investors who hoped to “breathe new life into a project that has been dormant for more than a decade.”

All planning papers relating to application numbers 13/03407/FUL and 13/03406/FUL can be viewed on the council planning portal [here](#). The council’s planning committee was given general information about the forthcoming plans back in February.



The Scotsman Hotel North Bridge Brasserie are launching a new pre-theatre menu from 2 September 2013 onwards which will be a permanent addition to their offering. The new pre-theatre menu is available any day of the week, between 5:30pm to 6:45pm.

North Bridge Brasserie Pre-Theatre Menu

3 Courses for £21.50 per person

Starters

Chilled Summer Gazpacho, compressed Melon salsa

Potted Ham hock terrine, topped with a garden pea panna cotta,
cornichon salad,

toasted sour dough bread

Clava Brie tart with smoked raisins, saffron pickled onions,
butternut squash

Mains

St Mungos beer battered fish of the day, served with chunky
chips and tartare sauce

Gordal olive polenta, aubergine caviar, pine nuts, feta and
coriander pesto

Slow cooked leg of duck, pancetta, braised peas, gem lettuce
and royal kidney potatoes

Desserts

Sticky toffee pudding, butterscotch sauce and clotted cream
ice-cream

Hot dark chocolate mousse with toasted marshmallow ice-cream
and crunchy milk rocks

Home-made ice-cream of the day

Available any day of the week, between 5:30pm to 6:45pm.

Diners arriving after 6:45pm (even if reserved for that time)
cannot take the menu

Sides & drinks not included

Menu items subject to change

Today at the Filmhouse you can watch Alan Partridge in a film...

Alan Partridge has had many ups and downs in his life. National television broadcaster. Responsible for killing a guest on live TV. Local radio broadcaster. A nervous breakdown in Dundee. His self-published book, 'Bouncing Back', subsequently remaindered and pulped. *Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa* portrays the events of the greatest low-to-high-ebb spectrum in his life to date – specifically how he tries to salvage his public career while negotiating a potentially violent turn of events at North Norfolk Digital Radio.

[Booking details here.](#)

Amazing Amber is one of the exhibitions at the National Gallery of Scotland.

It runs until 8 September 2013

Exhibition Gallery 2, Level 3

Free

This breathtaking exhibition explores the many facets of a beautiful and versatile material that had been treasured for thousands of years: amber. Bringing together for the first time highlights of National Museums Scotland's collection, *Amazing Amber* reveals the origins, properties and use of this precious substance – from million-year-old insects


preserved in the resin, to contemporary jewellery.

Fancy yourself as a bit of an artist? Then enrol now at the Edinburgh Drawing School on one of their courses which begin on 23 September 2013.

All the classes take place at their premises at 13a Great King Street and the full details of dates and prices are [here](#).



Police safety advice on Festival Fireworks

 Police Scotland have issued some key points to remember when attending the Virgin Money Festival Fireworks this Sunday. Their message as always is that they want to keep people safe.

The event, which marks the end of the Festival, will be supported by Police Scotland to ensure local residents and visitors alike, can make the most of the celebrations.

Around 14,000 spectators are expected within Princes Street

Gardens for the ticketed display that takes place at 9pm on Sunday 1st September, with several thousand more due to attend at various vantage points across the city.

Areas such as Princes Street, The Mound, Calton Hill and Inverleith Park will attract large crowds and police will have a presence in each of these locations to assist with road closures and maintain public safety.

Operation Assure was launched at the start of August as part of Police Scotland's commitment to keeping people safe during the Festival and officers continue to offer safety messages and helpful advice for the public when out and about in Edinburgh.

Those attending the event are reminded that road closures will be in place and public transport routes may be affected.

Information on affected areas can be found on the city of Edinburgh Council website at http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/11103/festival_fire_works_road_closures_01_09_13 and changes to bus routes will be available via Lothian Buses.

In addition, crime prevention and personal safety advice is available by visiting the Police Scotland website at www.scotland.police.uk

Superintendent Graham Jones said: "The fireworks display on Sunday evening is a family event that attracts thousands of visitors and we are working closely with our partner agencies to make this a memorable, but more importantly, a safe evening.

"I would urge anyone travelling into the city centre to plan their journey in advance and be aware that many roads throughout the Capital will be subject to closures, which may also impact upon bus and taxi routes. Please check the respective agency websites for more information.

“Throughout the Festival officers have provided a high-visibility presence to engage with the public and offer crime prevention advice on keeping personal belongings safe. Anyone attending the display in Princes Street Gardens, or visiting the other vantage points is reminded to hold onto their possessions and never leave valuables unattended. Those who witness anyone or anything suspicious should contact police immediately.

“We would also remind people to enjoy the event responsibly and ensure alcohol does not ruin their evening. Many families and young people will be in attendance and we want to make sure everyone has a positive experience of the end of the Festival.

“Anyone looking for more information on how to keep themselves and their belongings safe can visit our website, or follow @EdinburghPolice on Twitter, where useful information has been provided throughout the Festival using #FestivalPolicing.”

Iain Gray appointed new chair of Hibernian Community Foundation



The senior Scottish politician, Iain Gray MSP, has been appointed as the new chair of the Hibernian Community Foundation.

The charity aims to harness the power and passion of football to make a real difference to people's lives. It partners with

other organisations to improve health, promote learning and enhance opportunity.

In the past year the Foundation's activities created more than 10,000 opportunities for engaging with people in the community. These activities range from courses to improve literacy and IT skills to projects to help fans with fitness and weight loss.

Iain is a lifelong supporter of Hibernian Football Club and a season ticket holder. After seven years as a teacher trying to support young people to make the best of their opportunities, and twelve years with Oxfam organising for social justice and against poverty around the world, Iain Gray stood for the Scottish Parliament.

Elected as MSP for Edinburgh Pentlands in 1999, he held four different Ministerial posts, including Enterprise, Transport and Lifelong Learning, alongside Donald Dewar, Henry McLeish and Jack McConnell. He also spent 4 years as a Special Adviser to the then Secretary of State for Scotland, Alistair Darling. The experience gave him a unique understanding of how devolution works.

He became MSP for East Lothian in 2007 and was Leader of Labour in the Scottish Parliament from September 2008 to December 2011. He is currently Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Finance.

Iain Gray said, "This is a great opportunity for me to build on the success that the Foundation has had in a relatively short period since it was created.

"The Hibernian Community Foundation has grown at a remarkable rate over the past few years and is now making a positive difference to many people's lives.

"I firmly believe that football clubs like Hibernian must now be about so much more than just the game on Saturday. They

should be about how to improve the lives of people in the community 365 days a year.

“If we can use a love of football to channel youngsters into courses to help them into work, or children into homework clubs, or older fans into taking control of their own health and fitness then we should do it.”

One of the main partners of the Foundation is Edinburgh College. Together, the Foundation and Edinburgh College deliver a range of courses at the Learning Centre in the South Stand at Easter Road.

The Foundation also includes the highly successful Hibernian Girls and Ladies Football Club, providing a model of development and premier league football for women in Scotland.

Previous chairs of the Foundation include the former Scottish Health Minister, Susan Deacon and the former Hibernian Chief Executive Scott Lindsay. The Chair of HCF is a voluntary, unpaid position.

At the moment, The Foundation are looking for participants for round two of the ‘Still Game’ programme which involves a wide range of activities to get older fans together and having a good time in the South Stand at Easter Road.



The programme focuses on healthy activity and provides information about healthy diet, but also includes many other activities to keep people moving.

Participants choose from a variety of activities including exploring the history of Hibernian FC with behind the scenes look at Easter Road Stadium and Hibernian Training Centre, meeting club Legends and Q&A with former players, playing musical instruments through Music Box, personal safety and First Aid, internet use and other IT skills and wellbeing and

positive mental health.

Glenn Milne from the Foundation told the Edinburgh Reporter: "I would recommend the Still Game programme to anyone interested in improving their health and wellbeing and learning new skills. Hibs fans in particular will get to meet some of the legends that they have watched over the years at Easter Road. The previous programme was very successful and enjoyed by everyone who took part. The programme is free to anyone over 60 and starts the week of 9 September and will run for 10 weeks. Anyone interested in taking part or who know someone who could benefit, should contact the community to register an interest at info@hibernianinthecommunity.org.uk or telephone 0131 661 2159."

Further information on the Foundation's activities in Health and Wellbeing; Learning and Education and Community Football can be found on the website at www.hibernianinthecommunity.org.uk.