

Car fire in photos



A car on fire in Thistle Street caused an amount of interest from passers-by. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service attended and put the fire out around 8:30 on Thursday morning 22 August



2013. Thank you to one of our readers who sent us the photos!



Festival of Politics to debate Scotland's Place in the World



The ninth Festival of Politics gets underway today examining 'Scotland's Place in the World'. The three day festival takes place in the unique setting of the Scottish Parliament and explores what has defined Scotland's past and debates the big issues that will shape its future.

With sessions on defence, immigration, broadcasting, the power of small nations and Scotland's identity, this year's event brings together respected commentators and academics.

In a first for the Festival of Politics, the Scottish Parliament is also opening its doors and welcoming visitors to its own Festival café. This vibrant new space will allow festival-goers and participants to come together to continue the debate in an informal and relaxed way.

The Festival of Politics opens with a session led by Mark Muller QC examining how culture can connect people on a human level and provide solutions beyond the reach of politicians alone. The Festival café opens at 4pm that afternoon where visitors can browse exhibitions including the World Press Photo exhibition, caricatures by leading political cartoonist Frank Boyle and the works of five photographers including Kieran Dodds. Music will be provided by That Swing Sensation.

Saturday's events continue to push the debate, with sessions exploring the themes of the future of small nations in Europe, economics, broadcasting, and art. The Happy Lands film will be screened and the Scottish Youth Theatre will perform 'Now's the Hour'. Jai McDowall performance in the Festival café will bring the day to a close.

Sunday is the final day of the Festival of Politics and closes with a session exploring the power of social media, followed by the Main Street Blues Duo in the Festival café.

FRIDAY 23 AUGUST

The Power of Cultural Diplomacy and of Small Nations in Overcoming Conflict

Friday 23 August, 16:30-18:00. £5.00/£3.50

This event will explore the power of cultural diplomacy in overcoming cultural conflict. Join chair Mark Muller QC, barrister and international mediator, Chair of the Bar Human Rights Committee, as he discusses the issues and explores the key role that small nations such as Scotland can play in world cultural diplomacy with panellists Manny Ansar, founder of the Festival in Exile; William Burdett-Coutts, Artistic Director Assembly Edinburgh; and US Ambassador Cynthia P Schneider, non-resident senior fellow in the Project on US Relations with the Islamic World at Brookings.

In association with Beyond Borders

Festival of Politics Partners

Now in its ninth year, the Scottish Parliament's Festival of Politics includes a three day programme of politics, music, art, theatre and debate under the theme of Scotland's Place in the World. Events take place on Friday 23 – Sunday 25 August at Holyrood, the home of the Scottish Parliament.

The Festival partners are Carnegie UK Trust and Cameron Presentations.

Programme availability and tickets

- Online via www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk
- A limited number of tickets are available via the Scottish Parliament in person and via telephone on 0131 348 5200.
- Full details of the festival programme are available from www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk
- Hard copies of the programme are available from most Waterstones and Blackwells.

Or follow us on

Twitter @FoP2013

Hashtag #FoP13

Facebook on www.facebook.com/FestivalofPolitics

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 – REVIEW – Jason Manford – First World Problems ****



Jason Manford – First World Problems, Venue 150 @ EICC 7:40pm,
until 25 Aug, £17.50

Relaxed and conversational throughout his set, [Jason Manford](#) is the type of comedian who you can pretty much guarantee to enjoy watching live. His anecdotes and views on life and observed 'first world problems' (the things many of us get disgruntled about but, in the scheme of things, aren't too horrendous) are brought to life by his natural comedic manner.

If you're expecting a large, flashy welcome from Manford, forget it – at around 7:42pm he simply walked on stage and began the gig. Despite there not being many extremely memorable moments (a relatively safe yet assured ambience was created over the hour), parts of his set were very funny, including when he was forced to apologise for a joke he made while presenting The One Show and the comparison of other town's first world problems.

Perhaps Manford could venture 'closer to the edge' with his material, in terms of sculpting more enduring elements into his stories but fans will definitely enjoy his current offering, as will anyone looking for a pleasant night of humorous reflection.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 – REVIEW – Gary Delaney 2: This Time It's Not Personal **.5**



Gary Delaney 2: This Time It's Not Personal, Pleasance

Upstairs 9:45pm, until 25 Aug, £12/10 (£10/8.50 concessions)

One-liners are plentiful in this hilarious set by [Gary Delaney](#) which is deftly dark and moreish. Delaney's fearless nature goes head-to-head with his lighter material, culminating in humour that everyone over the age of 16 can tuck into.

Delaney was incensed about coming fifth in Dave's top-10 compilation of Fringe 2013 jokes with:- "I can give you the cause of anaphylactic shock in a nutshell." He showed the comments section of an article concerning the winning jokes which asked for suggestions from readers, one of which was a joke he had created and shared on Twitter two years previously. He wanted to confirm the success of the joke by showing the online search stats, highlighting the frustration all comics must feel when others claim their material is original when it is not.

Thrown into the mix are Delaney's 'Dear Deirdre' problem letters and two minor mime scenes, during which he continuously looks set to melt in sweat. He takes a break from the hot lights by dimming them to share his Wikipedia article edits that are well-considered and highly humorous.

At the end of the performance there is a 'hand-out' of other puns Delaney does not manage to deliver during the set. This novel approach to sending the audience on their way is admirable. Once home, you can expect to read a full page of even more one-liners, including:- "If I ever find the guy who messed up my limb transplants, I'm going to kill him with my bear hands" and "I once applied for a job as a mustard cutter but unfortunately I wasn't quite good enough." Brilliant.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 REVIEW – Mark Dolan – You're Awesome! ***.5



Mark Dolan – You're Awesome!, Gilded Balloon 7:45pm, until 25 Aug, £9 (£7.50 concessions)

Largely known for presenting 'Balls of Steel' and documentaries, [Mark Dolan](#) has been taking to the stage at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe to confirm and reiterate that we are all 'awesome', a welcome 60-minute break from the UK's negativities and strife.

Dolan begins with retail gags, which most people can relate to, and delves into his supermarket observations, suggesting possible improvements that may actually work, including an 'honest' range of foods in Tesco and Sainsbury's, such as 'Tesco: It's alright' and 'Sainsbury's: Meh... bread'.

After commenting on Comet's former workload (a memorable remark from the set), he proceeds to list things which are, in his opinion, 'awesome', forming the bulk of the gig. Some are funny, some fail to harness the audience's imagination, but all are delivered in a punchy way which maintains the personable and assured buoyancy of 'You're Awesome!'.

The description of the show states that he shares hilarious video clips, which does not happen, but there is a prize given in the closing segment which sees Dolan return to presenting duties. After inviting two people onto the stage to be questioned about the awesome things they do or have done, the audience decide upon a winner, with the prize being... well,

there's no spoilers here, but let's just say it may have been bought 'in bulk', perhaps in Poundland, a shop which Dolan rightfully questions – “just who is buying doorstops in packs of tens?” – he genuinely would like to know.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 – REVIEW – Mike Newall – Six Weddings *.5**



On his third Fringe and on the back of tours supporting heavy-hitters Justin Moorhouse and Alun Cochrane, Mike Newall brings a laid back Northern charm to the Fringe but his laughs come from angst and obsession. After attending six weddings in eight months Mike has learned how expensive weddings are and how to get away with being a cheap guest, but he hasn't escaped the dawning crisis of a single thirty-something. Mike wants to know why he isn't the one holding the bride and would like to convince the world he's got what it takes...

This well-crafted show has a laid back style that suits the small venue and intimate audience of Just the Tonic at The Tron. Storytelling comes easy and the laughs are sharp as Mike Newall picks at the oddities of weddings, demands from friends, relationships and how he could make the perfect husband. Mike does this through preserving the integrity of his socks from un-pairing, understanding the intricacies of value shopping, recycling and avoiding any form of discomfort. The audience appreciated these quirks alongside off-beat surreal and clever observations.

Having attended six weddings in eight months Mike had stories and thoughts on the subject of expectation – from wedding cake to dinner speeches and stag nights. These are executed well and are the strength of the show as Mike Newall is a popular with his friends while all this contrasts well with his scepticism of marriage, relationships, wedding traditions and formalities. More of this would have been welcome – particularly to replace the weaker parts of the show when Mike's voice failed and he looked end-of-Fringe-tired, reading out a dozen texts his 9 year-old nephew sent him and failing to reach a punch-line.

Just the Tonic at The Tron venue has good air-conditioning but very poorly ventilated toilets. A louder and clearer speaker system would have helped Mike Newall's ailing voice at the end of a hard month.

***.5

Edinburgh's Fair Business Alliance win an award



The 2013 Great Taste results are now out and Fair Business Alliance Ltd is a winner

Fair Business Alliance Limited, based in Edinburgh is celebrating the news that its lightly salted Zamora Plantain Chips has wowed judges in Great Taste 2013 by being awarded 1-star– in the world's largest and most rigorous food awards scheme involving almost 10,000 products, 400 judges and thousands of hours of blind tasting.

Great Taste is simply about taste, not clever branding or smart packaging. Judges are presented with, for example, a piece of cheese, a pie or a little dish of chutney, with no wrappings, jars or marks – and they taste, confer and re-taste before making the decision on whether a product should be a 1-, 2- or 3-star winner. In total more than 12 judges will have tasted and commented on each product.

The lightly salted Zamora Plantain Chips, the first and only Fairtrade crisps in the UK, beat thousands of other product entries to be awarded 1 star in this food scheme which means that these products can now proudly bear the Great Taste Award 2013 mark. In addition, the other two flavours of Plantain Crisps, Spicy & Naturally Sweet, also received very favourable comments from the judges! Produced and packaged by small farmers in the Amazonian region of Ecuador, Zamora Chips were launched only 6 months ago during Fairtrade fortnight. Zamora hope that this Award will help raise the profile of the crisps, to reach more distributors and boost sales, thereby helping to provide a better future for their families.

Fair Business Alliance, a local social business which has been instrumental in launching and distributing the Fairtrade crisps within the UK, is delighted to receive a Great Taste Award for the first product they have submitted, and are now out celebrating....



City centre car fire



At around half past eight this morning a car caught fire in

the city centre today prompting some passers-by to think there was an explosion of some kind.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service were called to deal with the vehicle which was in flames at the junction of Hanover Street and Thistle Street.

A crew from Tollcross Fire station attended the incident. After extinguishing the burning Vauxhall Zafira, they remained to make the car safe and then cleared the debris from the street.

It's Christmas at Hunt and Darton Café this weekend



Hunt & Darton Cafe has announced that 25 August 2013 has been designated Christmas Day in their establishment. Mince pies, roast turkey dinner sandwiches and other trimmings will be available as well as their usual fayre and all to a soundtrack of the very best Christmas songs.

As well as all this Christmas fare, Catherine Bennett has been called upon to play her first Scottish gig at 2pm – and its FREE to attend.

Having warmed up in England, Catherine Bennett is ready for her debut in Scotland. Catherine will be backed by dancers from Figs In Wigs and there will be a special guest appearance from New York artist Jon Burgerman. Nine year-old Taylor Houchen, Catherine Bennett's manager and Bryony Kimming's niece will be on hand to introduce her.

Kimmings and Taylor have been performing their smash hit show Credible Likeable Superstar Role Model to sell out crowds at

the Fringe achieving 5 star critical acclaim. The show tells the story of the creation of museum-working, imagination-championing, bike-riding, tuna-pasta-eating pop star Catherine Bennett by the artist and her niece. Most importantly it explains why they created her as an audacious, provocative protest against the world's flagrant attempts to sexualise and commodify childhood for profit.

As a parallel project to the creation of the show the pair have been working with former Girls Aloud make-up artists, ID magazine stylists, X Factor wig experts, prolific pop producers and a pack of publicists to make CB famous ... like WORLD FAMOUS. Bryony wanted to prove to Taylor that an alternative role model in mainstream popular media was possible ... as a gift from her Aunty.

Catherine said 'I hope all my teenage fans will head to the café on Sunday, one of my favourite spots in Edinburgh'. The singer will perform songs including Animal Kingdom and Apathy. There will be signed photos and the opportunity for those attending to meet Catherine.

'Catherine is very kind', said Taylor. 'She is interested in community, tradition, hard work and safety and wears a dinosaur bone necklace with knee length skirts. I hope lots of people come to see and meet her.'

[Further details here.](#)

Free entry to Saints and Sinners at Musselburgh



It's not quite the Pearly Gates but Musselburgh Racecourse will offer free entry through the turnstiles at its Saints and Sinners Raceday on Friday, 8 November 2013.

The East Lothian course has announced the National Hunt meeting will be a free day for racegoers in an initiative supported by the course's bookmakers. Long established charity Saints and Sinners Club of Scotland is sponsoring the race day on behalf of Victim Support Scotland and funds raised will be donated to VSS.

Musselburgh hopes the offer of free entry will attract first time racegoers and encourage past visitors to return to the course.

Commercial manager, Mary-Ann Sandercock, said: "With the generous support of our bookmakers we are offering free entry and hope to raise the profile of horseracing and particularly what we are doing at Musselburgh. "It's a great opportunity for first time racegoers to come and see what our thrilling sport has to offer.

"We are also delighted to welcome back to Musselburgh the Saints and Sinners charity and a good attendance will boost their fund raising efforts on behalf of Victim Support Scotland." The free tickets must be booked in advance online.

To find out more and to reserve tickets, visit www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk

City of Edinburgh Council meeting 22 August 2013



We are bringing you our live coverage of the council meeting this morning from the City Chambers on the High Street. Join us from 10:00am. All of the papers for the meeting are [online here.](#)

Five things you need to know today



Council meeting – Panda symposium – Edinburgh International Book Festival pick of the day – Edinburgh Festival pick of the day – Airport expansion welcomed

The full council meets today in the first meeting of the session following the summer recess.

The papers for the meeting are online here and you can follow our [Live Coverage](#) when the meeting starts at 10:00am. You can also follow what happens at the City Chambers by watching the [webcast.](#)



The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (RZSS) is proud to announce that they are bringing the foremost panda experts in the world to Scotland to develop a worldwide five year Giant Panda Research Project.

From the 10th to 12th September 2013, some of the world's brightest lights will gather together in the same room for the very first time at Edinburgh Zoo for the Giant Panda Research Symposium. Spearheaded by RZSS, and the next important steps in the conservation charity's Giant Panda Project, the event will see experts from around the world come together to help to develop a five year giant panda research plan which will have global ramifications on how giant pandas are cared for in zoos around the world and in Chinese reserves. The five year giant panda research plan will centre on five key areas: field ecology, genetic management, artificial breeding and infant panda care, veterinary management and research, then finally cognitive evolution and behavioural research.

Amongst many others, attending will be experts from RZSS, the CWCA (China Wildlife Conservation Association), CCRCGP (China Conservation and Research for Giant Pandas), the State Forestry Association for the People's Republic of China (SFA), the Chinese Academy of Science and Peking University. Key individuals from panda zoos around the world will also be present, including experts from Smithsonian National Zoological Park, San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research and Memphis Zoo. Researchers and representatives from

related UK and worldwide institutions who can bring their expertise to the key areas of panda research will also be in attendance, including key Scottish bodies like the Nutrition and Health at the University of Aberdeen, the Natural History for the University of Glasgow and the Psychology Department for the University of St Andrews.

The Symposium will be officially opened by the Chinese Consulate General Li Ruiyou.

Chris West, CEO of the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, said:-“I am immensely excited that RZSS is spearheading a global research project into giant pandas. The outcome of the Giant Panda Research Symposium, a multi-disciplinary global gathering to come up with a five year programme of integrated research and applied science, should make a real difference to the conservation of pandas and their habitat in the wilds of China. This really is ground-breaking research science at which RZSS is at the heart. The symposium underlines the Society’s aims to continue to be a world leader in conservation, science and education.”

There is only one thing to see today at the Book Festival and you may still be able to get tickets.... [Booking details here](#). Wait for returns at the reception!

Alan Rusbridger, *Play It Again*, 3.00pm

Having mastered Chopin’s difficult First Ballade, Opus 23, within a year, the Guardian editor describes a work-life balance that involved tussling with Julian Assange and wrestling with the piano keyboard.

If you have been up Lothian Road outside the Usher Hall or on Nicolson Street outside the Festival Theatre you will have

seen some new screens there....Here is what the Festival website says about it:-

Seeing is believing, but believing what? Experience the spectacular and ask yourself what you believe, especially about the future and your place in that future, as you try to absorb a proliferation of LED images (satellite pictures from Korea Aerospace Research Institute) of both Scottish and Korean cultures in this astonishing transformation of the analogue world to the digital.

In Media Skins, photographer and media artist Hyung Su Kim explores new artistic expressions in public spaces by creating media facades using LEDs. Kim's works transform familiar spaces and public spaces, whether the interior or exterior of buildings, theatres or even mountains into extraordinary places infused with possibilities through memories, history and re-inventions.

*The works will be displayed **outside Usher Hall, Lothian Road** and at **Festival Theatre, Edinburgh**.*

Join the [Facebook event](#) for updates and discussions.

Edinburgh Airport's MSP Colin Keir welcomed the announcement of a £150m investment programme that will allow more passengers to move through the airport faster and create around 100 new construction jobs during the creation of the building work.

Mr Keir said:

"I'm delighted that GIP (Global Infrastructure Partners) has brought forward these plans. It shows that they recognise the positive future for Edinburgh Airport. Already, Edinburgh has

secured a *Best Airport in Europe* award and this capital investment will further enhance the status of the airport internationally.

“Edinburgh’s local economy, as well as the national economy, will benefit greatly with more jobs in the pipeline.

“The investment will make for an even better travelling experience for tourism and business passengers as well as allowing the airport management under Gordon Dewar to plan for an expansion of more direct routes from Scotland’s capital.

“This success is in spite of the crippling effect of the Westminster Air Passenger Duty on the aviation industry, for which we need a Yes vote in next year’s referendum to gain powers to control, as the UK Chancellor refuses to devolve APD as asked for by the Calman Commission. I congratulate Gordon Dewar and his team at Edinburgh Airport on this announcement.”



Homes for Butterflies Campaign

Environmental charity, Central Scotland Forest Trust (CSFT), is calling for support from primary schools in West Lothian following the launch of its Better Homes for Butterflies

campaign.

To help conserve the range of butterflies found within the Central Scotland Forest area, CSFT, along with partners including Butterfly Conservation Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage, is encouraging local primary schools to apply for a Better Homes for Butterflies pack.

The pack comprises of a range of valuable educational resources including teaching aids such as identification guides and information sheets, activities to help protect the creatures and instructions and equipment for creating a small bog garden in the school grounds and a butterfly hibernation box.

Butterflies provide a range of eco-system benefits, including pollination and natural pest control, and the campaign is aimed at raising awareness of the importance of the colourful creatures in the environment.

In recent years there has been a decline in peatland butterfly populations in the Central Scotland Forest area, which experts partly attribute to a loss of habitat and a reduction in food availability.

Local butterflies especially at risk include the Large Heath, Green Hairstreak and Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary which are all dependent on the boggy habitats found in and around heath lands and peat bogs, having very specific requirements on the plants their caterpillars feed on.

Emilie Wadsworth, Heritage Officer at Central Scotland Forest Trust, said: "Following the recent success of our 'Tree Sparrow Rescue' campaign, we wanted to protect another popular species in the area which is currently facing decline.

"Our Better Homes for Butterflies packs are a fun and interactive way to educate pupils about the environment and we hope that local primary schools in West Lothian will join

forces with us to help protect these beautiful flying insects.”

Karen Morrison, Communities Officer at Scottish Natural Heritage, said:-”In the Year of Natural Scotland 2013, this campaign is a great opportunity to find out more about the endangered butterflies that live in the boggy areas of central Scotland and what we can do to help them.”

Paul Kirkland, Director of Butterfly Conservation Scotland, said: “Butterfly Conservation Scotland is very pleased to support this exciting initiative to promote and protect our peatland butterflies. As well as peatland specialists, such as the Large Heath, peatlands also provide homes for other wetland and moorland species that are otherwise rare in the central belt, such as the Green Hairstreak and Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary.”

For further information about the Better Homes for Butterflies campaign and to apply for a pack, please visit <http://www.csft.org.uk/out-a-about/better-homes-for-butterflies> or email emilie.wadsworth@csft.org.uk

Ends

Submitted by [CENTRAL SCOTLAND FOREST TRUST](#)




Women's Hockey – Scotland at Eurohockey Champs



Scotland's women, unlike the men, qualified for the EuroHockey Championships in Boom in Belgium. Competing in Pool B alongside England, Germany and Spain, Scotland were looking like the whipping girls in the group with Spain, at 14th in the World the nearest team to the 19th ranked Scots.

First match up was against Germany, a match they were expected to lose by a wide margin. However, it didn't quite go to plan for Germany, 'relying' on an own goal to secure a one goal victory. With Germany dominating large portions of the match, Scotland could only break up field on a few occasions, but went close a couple of times. At the other end Scots goalie, Amy Gibson (pictured below), played a miracle game to keep the score down, only a deflected strike from one of her own players, which she then deflected into the goal, getting past.

Scotland's second match was against Spain, and although the teams were ranked a bit closer, Spain went into the match as favourites. It wasn't a great start as Spain had the ball in the back of the net after just 26 seconds of the push-back,  seemingly confirming their status. Another couple of strikes on the Scottish goal had to be dealt with before they found their feet and in the 9th minute, with a penalty corner strike from Nikki Kidd (pictured in action against South Africa at Peffermill), Scotland pulled level. They then dominated the match until just short of 30 minutes, when Spain went into the lead again with a second goal from Maria Gomez. The second half was a fairly tight affair with both sides having chances, but Spain held on to the end for the win.

Third and final group stage match was against The Auld Enemy, England (pantomime boos and hisses all round!). Lying 15 World places above the Scots it looked like another potential hammering for the girls in Blue. Rumour had it that Scotland were going to lie down and save themselves for the play-offs – a rumour soon scotched by team coach, Gordon Shepherd. And from the off, a hammering looked on the cards as England forced Scotland on the defensive from the off. But again the

storm was weathered and it was Scotland who dominated the majority of the first half, only to loose a crucial goal seconds from half time. Coming out for the second half, Scotland went on the offensive, Nikki Kidd scoring from another penalty corner, and it looked as though it was England who were the more lowly ranked. However, a scrambled goal from Samantha Quek gave England the lead and ultimately the win. This is where the difference in rankings and experience showed through. In spite of being under the cosh for the majority of the match, England kept their heads and eventually won the match. Scotland, on the other hand, were only able to convert one of a dozen penalty corners, thus perpetuating the 'myth' that Scots teams can play anyone off the park, but can't score to save themselves. Great pity really, as the team played out of their skins against teams with greater resources in terms of facilities, players and budgets (Spain have recently had a 25 Million Euros injection of cash) and could have – indeed, should have – won at least two of the games, but... Always a 'but'.

On another, slightly less interesting, note, listening to the Radio Scotland show 'Off the Ball' at the weekend, one of the presenters – who *may* have been having a wee joke, given the nature of the programme – said something along the lines of "I don't know why John Beattie bothers with other sports. We're a 'fitba' nation and that's what we should talk about".

Hmmm. Given that Scotland are 50th in the FIFA rankings (74th before we beat Croatia) but 23rd in Men's Hockey, 19th in Women's Hockey, 9th in Rugby, second in singles tennis (thanks Andy!) and were top in some track cycling disciplines until Chris Hoy hung up his bike – are we really a 'Fitba' Nation? Discuss....

Assault on pensioner in Wardie Park

70 year-old man assaulted in Wardie Park on Tuesday night.

Police in Edinburgh are appealing for witnesses following a serious assault that happened in Wardie Park last night .

The 70-year-old victim is believed to have flagged a taxi on Broughton Street or London Street and then travelled in a silver London Hackney Cab to Wardie Park.

Police are looking to trace the driver of the taxi who may be able to assist with enquiries.

Detective Constable Richard Johnston of Police Scotland said:-
“This assault was on a vulnerable, elderly man with a medical condition and if anyone has any information they should contact police.

“We are keen to trace the driver of a taxi who may have picked up the victim around the Broughton Street area.”

Police are appealing to anyone with information that can assist their inquiries to contact Police Scotland on 101, or Crimestoppers in confidence on 0800 555 111.

Stockbridge Photography Club

Photo of the Week



This week's photo of the week comes from Loron Black! Loron is an Offshore Operations Technician, working primarily in the North Sea. Other than photography, Loron is a car enthusiast and enjoys travelling.

The photo is of Lennox Row near Granton, the site of a former railway line. "The walk is beautiful and is amazing how much it changed with the seasons" said Loron. "I love how the stretch in the photo goes off into infinity and has a warm early autumn feel to it with a tree and plant canopy."

The Stockbridge Photography Club is a non-profit photography club that aims to operate in a different way from the traditional photography club mold. We have informal monthly meetings where we discuss our photos over a cup of coffee and learn about the month's theme- this month we're meeting in LifeCare, Stockbridge.

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

More info about the club, and their upcoming exhibiton, is on their website: stockbridgephotographyclub.co.uk

Submitted by [Stockbridge Photography Club](#)



Edinburgh Festival Fringe REVIEW Portrait Gallery Tickling Jock by Night ****



Did we all learn something new about the wonderful John Byrne this evening? Probably not. But Byrne in conversation with fellow Scot AL Kennedy was a hot ticket and the surroundings of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery made it something rather special.

The theme this evening was comedy in light of the current Tickling Jock exhibition, and there was plenty of stand up in the first half to entertain us. Byrne would not really be drawn much on the comic scripts he wrote for Rikki Fulton in Scotch and Wry, but he does confess that the acid test on humour comes when the writer himself is rolling over the floor with mirth at the wondrously funny words just written. He must have been permanently on the floor ...

Not content with being a writer of considerably note, we are of course surrounded by his first occupation: his art with portraits of himself, Robbie Coltrane, Tilda Swinton and Billy Connolly all hanging in the Portrait Gallery. The first half of the evening is a bit of a comedy half hour with Jo Caulfield, Simon Munnery, John Robins, Markus Birdman, Sally-Ann Hayward and Scott Agnew who wowed us as Chic Murray (having wowed us as one half of Francie and Josie the other week too..he's the tall one...) all giving us a flavour of what their own individual shows are like.



The content is unquestionably good taking a meander down the yesteryears of Byrne's Slab Boys and Tutti Frutti and his art. Byrne is a major Scottish art persona who cycles around the Edinburgh streets as though he is anything but. And that is why we love him so.

He had the good grace to express to AL Kennedy at the end of the interview that it was a pity there had not been time to discuss her (considerable) range of work. Funny he is, and of course Kennedy is a stand up comedian in her own right too. A good night out? Oh yes.

However, if the Gallery wishes to continue appealing to its own audience to come out to play at the Fringe (and forgive us but most are pensioners) then they have to do something better with the sound system and the lighting.



Police seek help in tracing missing man

Police Scotland require your help in tracing a man from West Lothian who has gone missing.

Thomas (Tommy) Main is a 52 year old man who was last seen outside his house in McCallum Court, Armadale, West Lothian about 8:00am on Friday 16 August 2013.

Mr Main is described as white, 5 ft 3, slim build, short dark greying hair. When last seen he was wearing blue jeans and a grey sweater or cardigan.

Inspector Ian Moffat said:- "We are concerned for Mr Main's

safety, as he has not been in contact with his family or friends which is out of character for him. If anyone has seen Tommy Main, or may know where he is, I would urge you to contact the Police. His family are very worried about him".

Anyone with information should contact Police Scotland on 101, or the charity Crimestoppers in confidence and complete anonymity on 0800 555 111.

Man arrested following Meadows robbery

Man arrested, Edinburgh

A 17-year-old man has been arrested and charged in connection with an alleged robbery in the Meadows over the weekend.

He is due to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court today.

Police are following a positive line of inquiry in relation to other individuals believed to have been involved.

Five things you need to know today



Sainsburys aiming for Marchmont – Portobello High School – Foster carers needed – Edinburgh International Book Festival Pick of the Day – Edinburgh Festival Fringe pick of the day –

It appears that Sainsburys is behind the several applications for planning permission relating to a property at 102-104 Marchmont Road, as their name is clearly stated on the application forms. The owner wishes to knock two properties together at the corner of Marchmont Road and Spottiswoode Road, install sliding doors and an ATM machine.

This is yet another small food outlet store in the Sainsburys portfolio. Usually local people complain about such an application. Do you live there? Do you object? Let us know!

theedinburghreporter@gmail.com You can see all the planning papers here.

Also in the planning world, the council has applied to renew the consent for Portobello High School on a 6 hectare site. [All the plans are here.](#) At the present time there is a bill before Holyrood which might allow the site to be developed following objections to the council building the new school in part of Portobello Park.

The council is mounting a new campaign to increase the number of carers from black and minority ethnic backgrounds in Edinburgh to further increase awareness of the requirement for BME carers.

Carers from all backgrounds are needed but there are very few black and ethnic minority carers in Edinburgh 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 to cope with their situation.

A series of drop-in sessions start this week at [McDonald Road Library](#) today and will continue on Thursday 29 August, both sessions run from 10am to 1pm. Foster care recruitment staff and BME carers will also be on hand at the [Edinburgh ME LA](#), which runs across Saturday 31st August and 1st September at Leith Links.

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 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.

Introducing our **NEW** Sunday Family DAYticket.

All-day Sunday travel on our
day services for just £7.50.

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2 adults & up to 3 kids^{*(5-15 years old)}

One big day out.

* Standard terms and conditions apply across all age groups.

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At the Book Festival yesterday we caught sight of photographer Chris Close hard at work with Kate O'Hearn and her monsters (see our main photo!)

Later this evening at the Book Festival you can attend [Jura Unbound](#) where you might find some real talent...

"Join a secret selection of writers and musicians (we've lured in Colm Tóibín and Ross Raisin in the past) as we look back at the 90s and launch the latest issue of the world's favourite literary magazine, Five Dials, which will be sent out to subscribers around the world from the stage. A very special guest will press the send button. It could even be someone from the 90s, though we guarantee Courtney Love will not be in attendance."

Meanwhile the Fringe is getting close to its end, just as the Edinburgh International Festival is getting underway in

earnest.

A show which reviewers have raved about is [Preen Back Your Lugs](#) at the Pleasance Dome.

“The year is 2108. World War Seven has laid waste to the entire planet. The nation states of Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas and Australasia have all been totally destroyed. And yet, miraculously, one small, insignificant country on the outermost fringes of the British Isles has survived. In a future Scotland, ruled by an evil clone of a famous 20th-century Scottish politician, a small band of English freedom fighters rise up against their Caledonian oppressors.”

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All-day Sunday travel on our
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Airport will begin £25m expansion in autumn



A £150m investment programme is beginning with a £25m expansion involving 100 new construction jobs which will be provided during the construction.

Edinburgh Airport is investing £25m in a significant expansion of the airport's terminal building, creating the foundations of the airport's ambitious growth plans and providing passengers with more space and a new state of the art security area.

The new 6000 square metre facility will be built around a larger security area which will allow passengers to move through that part of the airport faster and more efficiently. The use of extra space, coupled with new technology, processes and training will mark a step change in the service provided to UK airport passengers. There will also be new retail areas and a brand new airline business centre.

Edinburgh Airport chief executive, Gordon Dewar, said: -“Our expansion is a significant mark of our intent to transform our customers' experience of Edinburgh Airport through high quality facilities, outstanding customer service and one of the best direct international route networks in Europe.

“This investment is the first of a number of developments that will build Edinburgh Airport's profile around the world, helping us to compete more energetically with other UK airports and those in mainland Europe.”

The expanded terminal will move into the space currently occupied by the airport's coach park, moving the terminal access closer to the new tram stop. By moving the security

area into this extension, valuable space within the terminal will be freed for more passenger and retail spaces including the airport's first walk through store. Edinburgh Airport will offer more choice to its passengers than ever before.



The Board of Edinburgh Airport has committed to investing £150m in Scotland's busiest airport over the next five years to allow it to compete more energetically on the international stage and to ensure that its facilities reflect the predicted growth in passenger numbers. This new £25m terminal expansion is the first major project in an ambitious investment plan.

Work will begin in October 2013, with the new security product operational by late 2014. The new retail space will follow in 2015.

Gordon Dewar added: "Our experience this summer, with unprecedented numbers of passengers and airlines at Edinburgh, highlights our ongoing need to invest in facilities to meet growing demand and to do so without any taxpayer support.

"We're keenly aware of our responsibility to be the place where Scotland meets the world. This is an investment not just for in the future of the airport, but for Edinburgh and Scotland and we are delighted to play our part in offering a warm welcome and, importantly, great memories of our capital city.

"This is an excellent example of an exciting new development planned from beginning to end in Edinburgh, which has taken months – and not years – to plan and implement. No bureaucracy – just a clear focus on what our customers want. I'm grateful to the Board for the support it has given my team in delivering for our passengers and airlines."

David Birrell, Chief Executive of Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, said: "A thriving airport is of critical importance to Edinburgh as Scotland's capital, as its financial and cultural hub, and as a gateway to the nation as a whole. The city is already benefitting from the knock-on effect of a successful airport. The news of Edinburgh Airport's continued investment plans underline its commitment to delivering a quality customer experience, to attracting new routes and ultimately to ongoing growth. That has to be good news for Edinburgh."



Convenor of
Economy Committee

Councillor Frank Ross, Convenor of the Economy Committee, said: "Edinburgh is in a fiercely competitive global market and a growing, successful Edinburgh Airport is absolutely crucial for keeping us well- connected. While the city has weathered the recession very well we need more capacity to continue attracting the tourists, students, investors and business visitors who help to create jobs for Edinburgh residents. From next summer travellers will also have an attractive and efficient route straight to the heart of the capital thanks to the tram service with its stop close to the terminal building."

John Byrne to feature in new exhibition at the Portrait

Gallery in 2014



National Galleries of Scotland announce Summer 2014 exhibition of portraits by John Byrne.

A new Scottish National Portrait Gallery exhibition set for summer 2014, will present a broad range of portraiture from across John Byrne's career. The exhibition is the first on this scale to honour the Scottish painter's work and contribution to Scottish art, at the Portrait Gallery. Works from the gallery's collection to be prominently featured include *Tilda Swinton, b. 1960*, Pastel on paper, *Robbie Coltrane b.1950*, Oil on board, and the much loved self-portrait of *John Byrne b.1940*, Oil on block-board which currently hangs in the Portrait Gallery café.

Christopher Baker, Director of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery said:-*"We are delighted to be working closely with John Byrne on this exciting project for next summer which will bring together around 50 key works, from drawings to large-scale paintings. John is a great friend of the Portrait Gallery, and we are sure this show will be a huge draw for both fans of John's artwork, and those who know him in one of his many other artistic guises"*

This evening John Byrne will be at the Portrait Gallery for a special In Conversation session with AL Kennedy, as part of the National Galleries' *By Night* series, and the first foray into live comedy events at the Festival Fringe for the beautiful gallery building. Byrne's celebrated painting of Billy Connolly is one of the highlights of the current exhibition of Scotland's comedy greats *Tickling Jock*, and the Paisley-born artist also provides the backdrop for the Portrait Gallery Comedy Café, where his self-portrait takes pride of place behind the stage.

John Byrne and AL Kennedy the Dundee-born writer, novelist and comic, will be chatting about their personal favourites among Scotland's comedy greats – as well as discussing Byrne's own work on his iconic portraits of figures such as Robbie Coltrane and Tilda Swinton in the Gallery's world-famous collection.

Tickling Jock: By Night is at the Portrait Gallery on Wednesday 21 August (door open at 6.15 pm) with stand-up from the best of the Fest 2013, comedy tours of *Tickling Jock* led by The Stand regular Susan Morrison and a tribute to the legendary Chic Murray performed by Glasgow comedian, Scott Agnew.

Edinburgh International Festival – School lecture at Holy Rood High School today

As part of the Edinburgh International Festival's schools programme the renowned speaker Dr Jean Kilbourne is to explore the influence of advertising with local pupils during inaugural session.

Established author, feminist and award-winning filmmaker Dr Jean Kilbourne will talk on the topic of advertising and its influence on everyday life during the inaugural Edinburgh International Festival School Lecture this afternoon.

An internationally renowned expert on addictions, gender

issues and the image of women in advertising, Dr Kilbourne will give her presentation *The Naked Truth: Advertising's Image of Women* aimed at those aged 15 and upward. Dr Kilbourne was named by The New York Times Magazine as one of the three most popular speakers on college campuses, and was profiled in *Feminists Who Changed America 1963-1975*.

She will explore how the image of women has changed over the last 20 years, taking into account the connection between images and issues such as date rape, violence, eating disorders and increased rates of drinking and smoking among women.

Dr Kilbourne has been exploring the connection between advertising and public health issues, including violence against women, eating disorders and addiction since the 1960s and launched a movement to promote media literacy as a way to prevent these problems. A radical and original idea at the time, this approach is now mainstream and an integral part of most violence prevention programmes.

This Schools Lecture forms the first in a new strand of the Festival's education and engagement work. Each year going forward will include a visit from a recognised speaker whose area of expertise complements that of the Festival's wider themes and programme. It forms part of the Festival's year round education and engagement work, which is estimated to reach over 3000 people this year.

This year the Festival has partnered with the Scottish Police Service's Violence Reduction Unit at whose conference this Thursday 22 August Dr Kilbourne will also speak. Her Festival Lecture reflects the wider work that the VRU undertakes with young people through its Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP)

programme. MVP is a schools based project which encourages pupils to challenge aggressive and inappropriate behaviour. The project is currently being piloted in two schools (Portobello High in Edinburgh and the joint campus of Port Glasgow and St Stephen's High in Inverclyde) and plans are being discussed regarding rolling out the project across Edinburgh. You can find out more about MVP on their [website](#).

Edinburgh International Festival Schools Lecture

21 August 4.00pm

Running time appx 55 minutes

Holyrood High School

55 Duddingston Road West

Edinburgh EH15 3ST

How many calories in a Fringe show?

☒ **OR HOW MANY CALORIES DOES A STAND-UP COMEDY SHOW BURN?**

Stella Graham wanted to find out, so she wore a Polar heart rate monitor and Polar FT4 watch during her hour long stand-up comedy show, *A Pint of Stella*.

She wore the heart monitor for 30 minutes before the show, and stopped the clock after her 60 minute show had finished. Here

are the results:

Duration: 1:32:35

Calories: 568 kcal

Average heart rate: 117bpm

Maximum heart rate: 158bpm

Time spent in the "fat burning zone": 00:24:36

In the 30 minutes prior to the show, Stella's heart rate started at around 110bpm. Normally, her resting heart rate is around 78-82. No strenuous activity was done during this time, apart from a few simple set up tasks, such as moving a few chairs.

Some of Stella's show involves physical comedy, which may help to explain the statistics.

When not at the Fringe, Stella maintains a healthy diet and exercise programme. Her diet is based on the principles of the Paleo Diet. She has also been intermittent fasting, eating between 2pm and 8pm as well as dabbling with the recently popular 5:2 diet; Mondays and Thursdays, she would only consume 500-600 calories.

For exercise, Stella normally completes a 3 day split workout at the gym, focusing on resistance training and targeting different areas for each day. Day 1 for Chest, Triceps and Abdominal muscles, Day 2 for Back and Biceps and Day 3 for Shoulders, Legs and Abdominal muscles.

During the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, all diet and exercise disciplines have been all but abandoned, so far the only exercise of note that she has completed was to hike to the top of Arthur's Seat.

These statistics include the walk to and from Arthur's Seat, not just the hike itself.

Duration: 2:07:43

Calories: 803kcal

Average heart rate: 119bpm

Maximum heart rate: 167bpm

Time spent in the "fat burning zone": 00:40:45

Sadly the salads have been outweighed by the falafel wraps and occasional kebab. Her alcohol consumption is higher than normal too.

It is encouraging to see how many calories are burned during a show, despite the bad diet and lack of a proper exercise routine. So far all of Stella's clothes still fit, so maybe stand-up comedy can be viewed as an effective method of burning calories?

It is interesting to note that a pint of Stella Artois contains around 256 calories. If you'd like to see Stella burn more calories than 2 pints of Stella, then head along to watch **A Pint of Stella** at Jekyll and Hyde, 4pm every day until Aug 25th.

STELLA GRAHAM – A PINT OF STELLA

Title of Show: A Pint of Stella

Time: 4pm

Dates: 1-14, 16-25 August

Venue: The Jekyll and Hyde, 112 Hanover Street EH2 1DR

Bookings: Free Entry. Non ticketed

Fulbright scholars in Edinburgh

✕ The University of Edinburgh is hosting a visit from 20 higher education administrators from the United States this week.

Part of a Fulbright Commission initiative, the three-day visit aims to provide new opportunities for transatlantic collaborations and partnerships. The Fulbright Program was set up to foster mutual cultural understanding through educational exchange between the United Kingdom and the US.

The US delegates have visited 11 other educational institutions in the UK and Edinburgh will be the final visit of the group's 20-day tour.

This is the inaugural year of the initiative, which aims to introduce American administrators in high education institutions to education and culture in the UK. University administrators are seen as a vital part of exchange programmes.

The delegates will enjoy a full programme during their visit to Edinburgh. It will include a reception at the Royal Society

of Edinburgh, followed by talks hosted by Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea and the University's Vice Principal International, Professor Stephen Hillier.

There will be numerous discussions on a range of issues regarding higher education, including the student experience, academic outreach and admissions and marketing before the delegation leave Edinburgh on Friday.

RNLI Queensferry rescues two from yacht in Forth



RNLI Queensferry were called out on Tuesday evening just before 8:00pm to a yacht with two persons on board, which was well aground near the entrance to Charleston Harbour.

Due to the low tide the lifeboat couldn't get close enough to the yacht, and so coastguard rescue teams from Queensferry, Kinghorn and Fisherow were requested to help out.

They arrived and used mud rescue equipment, to get out to the yacht and guide the two persons ashore.

The rescue teams then set up an anchor so that when the tide rises the yacht will refloat. The lifeboat stood by until all Coastguard personnel were ashore then returned to station.

Crew: Derek Sutton, Mike Garfitt, Jonathan Payne, Tom Glasby

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 The Really Terrible Orchestra

How can terrible be so good?

The Really Terrible Orchestra is gearing up for yet another assault on the senses this Saturday at 15:00 at St Mary's RC Cathedral, at the top of Leith Walk. The orchestra consists of a band of musical misfits of varying degrees of skill, held together by a love of music, the thrill of performance and the prospect of a visit to the pub after each rehearsal.

This year's programme (the RTO limits its Edinburgh outings to one Fringe concert a year on the grounds of minimising musical cruelty to the public) will be an all new set including music from Mozart and Haydn, songs from Gilbert and Sullivan (The Judge's song – sung by a real judge) and Lionel Bart (a selection from Oliver!). If Pachelbel's Canon in D is your favourite classical piece, best bring your ear plugs. If film is your choice, there is music from Star Wars and more besides. It is great fun for all.

Submitted by [Walter Mowat](#)



Fringe success leads straight

to the hairdressers!



The Assembly Rooms Fringe, George Street celebrate the three First Ladies of Cabaret.



Christine Bovill, Lady Carol and Micheline Van Hautem got together at Cheynes Hair & Beauty Salon George Street to prepare for the final run of their respective shows and celebrate their current Edinburgh Fringe success.



The three highly acclaimed vocalists toasted their four and five star reviews by indulging in some hair and beauty, courtesy of Lorraine Adamczuk and the talented team at Cheynes on George Street.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe REVIEW – Trash Cuisine *****

In this morning's papers, we read of allegations from Guardian Editor, Alan Rusbridger, that GCHQ officers oversaw the destruction of computer hard drives containing material possibly relating to the NSA story being researched at the newspaper. We have also read of the nine hour long detention at Heathrow Airport of David Miranda, the partner of the American reporter who broke the Snowden story. (In a delicious irony, Miranda is the name given to the rule governing an American suspect's right to receive notice of his or her Fifth

Amendment rights.) For this reviewer at least it's an absurd, frightening world out there – and around here.

Fortunately, it's Festival time, and we can find distraction all through the town. Our security forces and free press leave us free to do so. But what happens when our security forces are the instrument of oppression and death, and when the press are complicit in this? When this is the case, not just in the former Soviet republics, but in the American Georgia, and as close to home as The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland?

What happens when Belarus Free Theatre use all the tools of theatre, including dance, poetry, Shakespeare, operatic arias, funny impressions and illusion, together with the testimony of witnesses and victims, to bring us face to face with our absurd, frightening world?

In Trash Cuisine, strawberries and cream are things over which executioners can compare war stories. A thread count of 375 indicates the optimal density of towel to be used in waterboarding, as recommended by special forces. Haute cuisine means the succulent torture of tiny birds for our pleasure, in an echo of the torture of a young, innocent, Irish chef in Belfast.

Belarus Free Theatre has truths to tell, and doesn't flinch from telling them. But during Trash Cuisine, the company never forgets that it can reach the most people by providing a compelling theatrical experience. The result of this juxtaposition is a poetic, provocative and powerful piece of theatre that anyone who wants to be engaged in the human experience should see before the run ends on 26 August.

[You can help Belarus Free Theatre campaign for the release of the bodies of executed and "disappeared" individuals in Belarus, for the release of political prisoners and for an end to the death penalty by signing the petition at

freebelarusnow.org/bodies]

Trash Cuisine: 20-26 August at 3:30pm, The Grand at Pleasance Courtyard

Submitted by [Ricky Brown](#)



Trolleywise working for Sainsburys



WE'RE TROLLEYWISE!

Did you know that over 1.5 million shopping trolleys are abandoned each year in the UK?

To help to reduce this number, Sainsbury's Straiton are delighted to announce that we are working with Trolleywise, a national trolley retrieval service.

Trolleywise has produced a free smartphone app, which you can use to photograph abandoned trolleys and tag their location via GPS. A team of drivers can then collect the rogue trolleys and put them back into service and cleaning up what can often be an eyesore.

Store Manager Lewis Scott commented:-“Abandoned trolleys can be a blight on our local areas as they often find their way into gardens, communal areas or even into ponds and rivers. These trolleys sometimes end up miles away from where they were taken and it can be difficult to get them back to where

they belong, this will certainly make a difference.”

Submitted by [Claire kNight](#)