

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.

Buy from your bus driver.

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

One big day out.

* Standard terms and conditions apply across all age groups.

Save
up to
42%



Lothian
buses.com

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.”

Introducing our **NEW** Sunday Family DAYticket.

All-day Sunday travel on our
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up to
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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](#)

Makars Court to get busier with more verse

The Edinburgh Council Culture and Sport Committee have agreed to plans to put even more verse in Makar’s Court when they met this morning.

The Culture and Sport Committee have agreed to commemorate one of Scotland’s greatest poets there with an extract of his work inscribed into a flagstone at the national literary monument.

Gavin Douglas (c.1475 – September 1522) is best known for his glittering allegory, The Palace of Honour (c.1501) and his translation of Virgil’s epic Aeneid into Middle Scots – described as Douglas’ masterpiece.

As the younger son of the fifth earl of Angus, Douglas became provost of the High Kirk of St Giles in approximately 1501. He then later became the bishop of Dunkeld in 1517 and his subsequent chequered political career ended with his death from plague while in exile in London.

[A report](#) approved at the City of Edinburgh Council’s Culture and Sport Committee today (20 August) provided details of the inscription, which has been sponsored by Dr Jamie Reid Baxter, Rosemary Burton and the Scots Language Society.

Gavin Douglas (c1476 – 1522)

...mak it braid and plane,

Kepand na sudron bot our awyn langage

*(Translation: ...make it broad and plain,
Keeping no southern, but our own language)*

(from Eneados, 1st Prologue, lines 110-111)



Convener of
Culture and Sport
Richard Lewis

Councillor Richard Lewis, the city's Culture and Sport Convener, said: -"Makars' Court has become one of the highlights of the Old Town tourist trail since it was unveiled in 1998 and the addition of this new inscription will no doubt attract yet more visitors. It is fitting that such a monument sits at the heart of Edinburgh – a UNESCO City of Literature.

"Scotland, and not least its capital city, has produced an extraordinary number of accomplished writers and the Makars' Court is an excellent way of paying tribute to them and celebrating their work."

Makars' Court at the Writers' Museum celebrates the achievements of Scottish writers and is an ongoing project to create a Scottish equivalent of Poets' Corner at Westminster Abbey.

Thirty-six writers have so far been commemorated at the monument including Dame Muriel Spark.

For more information on Makars' Court visit the [Edinburgh Museums & Galleries website](#).

University spin out company to raise cash by crowd funding

A new spin-out company from the University of Edinburgh's School of Geosciences which was awarded an initial £141,000 from Scottish Enterprise's SMART Scotland fund and the University of Edinburgh Technology Fund is to embark on a further round of funding in an ambitious plan to raise capital through crowd funding.

Carbomap plans to raise further capital through [Share-In](#), a new Scottish-based equity crowd-funding platform to further develop its proprietary technology to map and measure the amount of carbon dioxide produced by the world's forests.

The environmental survey company uses a pioneering multispectral canopy LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) sensor system – described as the “MRI Scanner of Forest Measurement” – to carry out airborne ‘mapping’ of forest terrain, regardless of remoteness and inaccessibility. Working with the timber industry, national forest agencies and the burgeoning forest carbon credit market, LiDAR measures the distance between an airborne sensor and the ground surface, with a greater accuracy than previously available.

Carbomap has spun out of the University of Edinburgh at a crucial time, particularly as estimates suggest that global deforestation is rapid – one football pitched sized area of forest is lost every 2 seconds, costing around £2 trillion per year around the world from lost environmental services and impact on climate change.

Moreover, there is widespread agreement within UN Member States that a global forest carbon credit scheme with £10bn annual investment is required to counteract the economic drivers of deforestation.

While the details of this scheme still remain uncertain, there is confidence that living forests will increase in economic value and as such will require new cost-effective means of monitoring for regulatory compliance and carbon management.


Ian Murphy, Head of Licensing at Edinburgh Research and Innovation, the commercialisation arm of University of Edinburgh commented:-“Once again, the University of Edinburgh has spun out a company that has the potential to create a huge impact in its chosen field.

When estimates currently suggest that the global market for forest-monitoring is currently valued at £2 billion, and the forest carbon market estimated to be worth £10 billion by the year 2020, it becomes apparent that Carbomap’s technology significantly paves the way for accurate and effective forest carbon analysis and measurement.”

Are any of you out there having success with crowd funding? If so do let us know! theedinburghreporter@gmail.com



Serious assault on Leith Walk

 Police Scotland advise that they are appealing for witnesses to a serious assault which took place outside a pub on Leith Walk in the early hours of Saturday night/Sunday morning 18 August 2013.

The victim in the assault was with his partner outside the City Limits bar on Leith Walk at around 3:00am when he was attacked by a man striking him on the face in an unprovoked assault. The victim has a broken jaw and required hospital treatment. The suspect then threatened to stab the victim with a knife which was not however visible. Several people who appeared to see what had happened stopped to offer help to the victim. The suspect continued up Leith Walk.

The suspect is described as white, in his 30s, around 6ft tall, medium build, shaggy dark hair which is long on top, unshaven, wearing jeans and a dark jacket and spoke with an Irish accent.

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.

Five things you need to know today



Fire safety advice – Festival of Sport – Edinburgh International Book Festival pick of the day – Edinburgh Festival Fringe pick of the day – Night classes

Firefighters were called out just before 11:00am on Sunday 18 August in response to a fuse box fire in a top-floor flat at The Green just north of Queensferry Road.

Two firefighters in breathing apparatus entered the premises

and extinguished the fire using a CO2 extinguisher.

A woman suffering from smoke inhalation was given oxygen at the scene before being taken by ambulance to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

A Scottish Fire and Rescue Service spokesperson explained:-
“Thankfully, this property had a working smoke alarm. Smoke alarms save lives.”

“We recommend that every home has a working smoke alarm. You should test it every week. If you or someone you know is living without smoke detection in their home we can help with a free home fire safety visit.”

“Local firefighters will visit you at home, fit free smoke alarms as required, help you identify any specific fire risks in your home and make an escape plan so you know what to do if fire breaks out.”

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service remind people about this each Tuesday when they tweet using the hashtag [#testittuesday](#) To book a free Home Fire Safety Visit please:

Text ‘fire’ to 61611

Call 0800 0731 999

Visit: www.firescotland.gov.uk

Edinburgh’s Festival of Sport is taking place from 24 August – 8 September. Bigger and better than in previous years, the event is a bumper fortnight of sport for all to get involved in. It’s the perfect opportunity to try new sports, find out about the sports clubs in your area and all of the Festival activities are FREE.

[Further details here](#) and the programme is [here](#)

Introducing our NEW Sunday Family DAYticket.

All-day Sunday travel on our day services for just £7.50.
Buy from your bus driver.

2 adults & up to 3 kids^{*} (5-15 years old)
One big day out.

Save up to 42%



* Standard terms and conditions apply across all age groups.

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At the Book Festival this evening there are still a couple of events for which tickets are available. One is Rachel Kushner meeting Colm Tóibín at 8:30pm.

This is how they describe it [on their website](#):-

*Already a darling of the US literary scene, Rachel Kushner is taking Europe by storm with *The Flame Throwers*, her thrilling, alluring story of a young woman in the 1970s whose success in a motorbike speed trial leads her from the New York art scene into a world of Italian radicalism. In this event Kushner talks with Colm Tóibín about the astonishing images and ideas that inspired her novel.*

☐ At the Assembly Rooms later this morning you could be wowed

by a children's show.... with the Amazing Bubble Man.

"Louis Pearl has been thrilling audiences around the world for nearly 30 years with the art, magic, science and fun of bubbles. A Fringe favourite, he has sold out every year for the last six years. Louis explores the breath-taking dynamics of bubbles, combining comedy and artistry with audience participation and enough spellbinding bubble tricks to keep everyone mesmerized. From square bubbles, bubbles inside bubbles, fog-filled bubbles, giant bubbles, bubble volcanoes, tornados and trampolines to people inside bubbles, the Amazing Bubble Man conjures shrieks of laughter and gasps of amazement from all ages. www.amazingbubbleman.com"

[More details and booking here.](#)

Time to think about the autumn and winter ahead and plan your night classes in photography, woodwork or butterfly spotting... Actually that is not included but there is a huge list on the Adult Education website from which you can choose according to location and your interests.

[You can book your Mandarin, Cookery classes or Yoga here....](#)

Our photo today was taken on Saturday evening of the extended fireworks following the second show of the Tattoo at the Castle Esplanade. If you have taken any then please share them with us! theedinburghreporter@gmail.com

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Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 – REVIEW – Making News ***.5



**Making News, Pleasance Courtyard 1pm, until 25 Aug, £15/14
(£14/13 concessions)**

With an interesting premise and 'comedy-drama' essence, [Making News](#) has great potential which is sadly unfulfilled. It is in no way a poor production, but one that is comparable to eating a Cadbury Creme Egg and finding it has no fondant middle; it's missing a vital, satisfying ingredient. Urgency.

In the play Rachel Clarke (Suki Webster) is promoted to Head of News at the BBC, much to the surprise of colleagues Carter Setchfield (Dan Starkey) and Anna Kelly (Sara Pascoe), who are immediately faced with a dilemma; whether or not to report on

a BBC-damaging story originally investigated by Noel Quickly (Liam Williams) in a Panorama programme. Egotistical news reader Jonathan McVeigh (Hal Cruttenden) must then come to terms with interviewing Director General Roger Seabrite (Phill Jupitus) about suspicious financial matters linked to the investigation, or the corporation will face even more of backlash from its competitors and the public.

A situation of great urgency, it could be presumed. It should be, but there are many moments throughout the performance that felt underdeveloped and, as a result, made the underlying scenario unconvincing. Satirical yet fundamentally fictional, Making News requires more energy and more defined characterisation, with a sharper dialogue delivery and increased audibility both being improvements that would highly enhance the production.

Having said this, a standout performance from Cruttenden, along with the play's second half, the outcome and scattered bursts of humour throughout the 75 minutes made this a pleasant jaunt that is not afraid to teeter on the edge of portraying actual events, despite it being fantasy.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 – REVIEW – Zoe Lyons – Pop-up Comic *****



**Zoe Lyons – Pop-up Comic, Assembly Rooms 5pm, until 25 Aug,
£10/9**

Vivid and natural, [Zoe Lyons](#) looked like she was having a blast in the Assembly Rooms Studio One, the chandeliers of which she compared to Pat Butcher's earrings. This is just one of the many observations made by the comedian who injects a generous degree of theatre into the way in which she tells her anecdotes, with a fantastic fluid pace throughout the show.

She comments on the loneliness of her profession, the reason for the existence of The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, an unfortunate anorak incident and her TV appearances, which develops into a reflective analysis of the televised celebrity culture of today.

Lyons manages to weave her tales together faultlessly; an element of each succinct story finds its way into later stories in an unexpected and inventive manner.

She makes several very valid points too – just how are some hotels and leisure facilities getting away with providing 'hand AND body wash' receptacles? "That's like me washing my underwear...in a dishwasher – they're still clean, but it's just not right."

Her impression of a motion air freshener is priceless, and her final tale brings to a close a set that is thoroughly enjoyable and accomplished.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 – REVIEW – Alistair

McGowan: Damn Labels! ****.5

✖ **Alistair McGowan: Damn Labels!, Gilded Balloon 7:30pm, until 25 Aug (except 22), £14.50 (£13 concessions)**

The Gilded Balloon Debating Hall's 7:30pm slot is now home to an accomplished family-friendly performer in the shape of [Alistair McGowan](#), whose impressions are known across the nation, largely due to the award-winning ratings-smash 'The Big Impression' which aired a decade ago. You read that correctly – a decade – quite staggering.

Unlike his televised outings, there are no props and no make-up in this fast-paced performance which puts the focus solely on McGowan's vocal abilities that are often matched with proficient physical impressions of those who he impersonates.

Among the many voices are Terry Wogan, Jo Brand and David Beckham, along with an abundance of sports, comedy and TV personalities, as well as a bonus impression of David Dickinson that McGowan admitted was unplanned. His bank of impressions could be compared to a melt-in-the-middle chocolate sponge – once he starts, the impressions ooze out to create a delicious mix of accents and personas.

McGowan manages to maintain a solid pace by intertwining the impressions with comedic and personal anecdotes.

His vast array of impressions had the audience in stitches, with each and every one recognisable and virtually all of them perfected. McGowan's raw talent is undeniable, with it being little wonder that the 400-seat venue was filled to the brim.


Edinburgh International Festival: Cybraphon



The Edinburgh Reporter's Trystan Davies spoke to Ziggy Campbell of collective art group [Found](#) about the award winning Cybraphon – the autonomous emotional robot band that makes a big demand of its fans!

You will see that we could be helping its mood simply by a tweet mentioning its name....

Cybraphon is at the [National Museum of Scotland](#) and is part of the [Edinburgh International Festival 2013](#).

Photography and music credit:  All rights reserved by [cybraphon](#)

Rupert Everett confirms boycott of Sochi Winter

Olympics



Yesterday, at the 2013 Edinburgh International Book Festival, actor Rupert Everett revealed that he will boycott the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics in Russia along with Stephen Fry. Citing the Russian attitude to homosexuality as 'cruel' he went on to add "if you are gay in Russia you live secretly. If found out you're beaten up, killed or forced to commit suicide".

Everett, who spent a year and a half in Russia shooting a movie and later returned as an UN ambassador, spoke about his visit to an aids clinic in St Petersburg where he discovered that gay people pretend to be drug users to get access to HIV medicine. He questioned whether the prejudice still exists because religion is powerful in the country. Russia recently announced an anti gay law which states that openly gay people and athletes attending the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics will be arrested.

Everett also made his opinion on the upcoming Scottish Independence referendum quite clear, when he said 'The United Kingdom is very lucky, it's a shame to be squabbling about things like Independence'.

In an engaging and witty session where Sean Penn's private parts were mentioned on several occasions, Everett confirmed that in 2014 he will be shooting what might be his greatest achievement in a biopic of Oscar Wilde's final years. The film, *The Happy Prince*, written, directed and starring Everett, has taken years to get off the ground. It was the success of Rupert's portrayal of Oscar Wilde in David Hare's theatre production, *The Judas Kiss*, that sealed the deal with financial backers the BBC and British distributors, Lion's Gate.

Within the hour Everett admitted to bidding for and not

securing the role of *Dr Who*, that he was forced to sell his French home due to lack of finances and that he has no regrets in his career, including being openly gay, commenting 'Life's too short for regret, we're only happy hookers'.

The Edinburgh International Book Festival continues until Monday 26 August. Full details of the programme and all tickets can be found at www.edbookfest.co.uk.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe REVIEW Solomon and Marion *****

✖ This elegantly constructed play by Lara Foot is a real pleasure to watch, a slow burner revealing real heart and courage. It's the cold winter of Marion's life in South Africa, an ex-pat with arid land amidst the turmoil of the modern S.A. on the eve of the 2010 World Cup.

Marion is writing a long letter to her daughter, who lives in Australia, when she is visited by Solomon, an awkward young South African, who at first urges her to leave her dangerous life-long home, then gradually tries to help her, – bringing unwanted food (chicken feet) and painting her walls, around one significant photograph, rice paper white.

As the two mismatched characters shift up through the gears of their relationship the play becomes an understated dialogue on the position of the old ruling white class in modern South Africa, a glimpse at the tortured legacy of imperialism and apartheid, and finally a devastating critique of the violence endemic in the country to this day. The relationship is the

play and it grows with the turning of the seasons, bringing sweet rain in the South African spring.

Janet Suzman is terrific as Marion, capturing the feisty gravitas of the older ex-pat clinging to memories and her home, but with a palpable sensitivity to Solomon's plight and a touching burden of pain. Khayaalethu Anthony as Solomon is delicate and threatening, vulnerable and violent, a living metaphor for the modern South Africa, he holds the audience in the palm of his hand and reveals his devastating secret with searing truthfulness.

Perhaps there are a couple too many false endings, but when the real one comes, along with a 'borrowed' telly and the promise of that life affirming World Cup, it breaks like spun sunshine across the stage. The play speaks with an all too vital idealism of hope and potential redemption for both sides in the continuing violence.

Five Stars

Submitted by [Ade Morris](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe REVIEW The Boss Of It All *****

☒ The Boss Of It All at Assembly Roxy is an intriguing modern farce adapted from the film by Lars Von Trier. The central premise is one faced by anyone who's ever been in charge of anything – how to be loved by the workers and yet still take the hard-headed decisions capitalism seems to dictate?

It's a very funny play with some superb set-pieces, crisply staged by Jack McNamara, elegantly designed by Lily Arnold, and very engagingly performed by a superb cast – full of astute comic observation and a keen eye for office 'types'.

The play is slightly self conscious, with an unnecessary Von-Trier-esque voiceover, and a tendency to try to apologize for the theatricality of theatre. But despite this it makes some devastating points about the inherent fakeness of employee/employer relationships, and aspires to a more universal satire with its central conceit of an actor both aware that he is in a play, and yet, comically, blurring the line between life and drama.

Four Stars

Submitted by [Ade Morris](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe REVIEW The Tin Ring *****

✗ The Tin Ring at Summerhall is a remarkable and refreshing live theatre experience, with none of the usual Edinburgh bangs and whistles. Performed by Jane Arnfield this meticulous, economical, accomplished and utterly convincing actor tells the story of Zdenka Fantlova, a holocaust survivor. Zdenka's life memoir, originally called My Lucky Star, has been adapted for the stage by Jane and the director Mike Alfreds.

In Summerhall's untheatrical, brightly lit lecture hall the story is simply told, and what a story. It eschews any emotional manipulation of the audience, deftly avoids the big

picture, concentrating solely on the character of Zdenka, her singular personality and her methods of coping with and surviving this appalling crisis in her life. The story is riveting from start to finish, a brilliantly constructed testimony told from the heart and ringing with truth.

The structure is the key, telling the story first in terms of the facts, the occupation of Czechoslovakia, the escalating persecution of the Jews, the deportation to the camps and murder of Zdenka's family, then Zdenka's own last-ditch survival thanks to her insistence on learning English as a young girl. (Beginning with the song 'You are My Lucky Star', -itself shot through with irony as the Jews are forced to wear the yellow star).

But then, from this 'naked life, wrapped in a white sheet' the play returns to the beginning and takes a different view, telling the story of the tin ring, a precious token of love, and here is revealed the courageous heart of Zdenka, her ability to fiercely love and be loved by her beaux Arno, 'all that we had is love' – her faith in herself and her family, her utterly indomitable and calm strength. (This strength her beloved father's last gift as the Gestapo took him away).

The final loop of the story tells of Zdenka's immediate post-war experience, her recovery in a Swiss hospital, her attempt to come to terms with what has happened to her, and eventual brief return to Prague, never to set foot back there for fifty years – as Zdenka 'lays a new foundation, bit by bit, for our lives...'

What emerges is an inspiring single vision of survival, of the particular but universal methods of that miraculous escape, and of enduring indomitable love. I felt I had been taken on a remarkable, horrific and life affirming journey by this unpretentious, precise, heartfelt and unmissable performance.

Long may it stay in Jane Arnfield's repertoire, giving voice

to all those whose holocaust testimony is silent, and teaching the younger generation not to forget

Five Stars

Submitted by [Ade Morris](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe REVIEW – Nirbhaya *****

✖ Told with great heart, quiet ferocity, and visual beauty Nirbhaya is an extraordinarily powerful issue based drama. It tells the story of Jyoti Singh Pandey, brutally raped and killed on a Delhi bus in December 2012 and known as Nirbhaya – ‘the fearless one’. This attack brackets the experiences of five other Indian women, breaking their silence on the circle of abuse in which their lives have been folded. The last testimony of the cycle, set in America, potently releases the anger to other cultures where the position of women in society has altered, and yet abuse still strikes.

The play, told in great part by victims of abuse themselves, whose pain and anger is all too visible, is a damning indictment of the position of women and young girls in society worldwide, and takes the Delhi attack as a sparking point for protest and change. And yet to deliver this urgent message the piece uses the most poetic and visually appealing languages of theatre, evoking a sense of fine culture in chaos, images of the human spirit in crisis, – the sheer exquisite beauty of the staging helping hammer home the message that this abuse must stop, for the sake surely of human potential, of our capacity to love.

The final pictures, of the funeral of Jyoti, and her transformation into Kali, the Hindu Goddess of empowerment, were so moving as to be almost unbearable. The audience, all around me in tears, of course has merely to glance at a British daily newspaper, or anywhere, to realise that women and girls are oppressed by predatory men everywhere, all the time. If theatre can change anything, open debate and doors to progress, contribute to making society better, then this is the kind of theatre that might do it.

Political and yet universal, angry yet restrained, so brutal at times I had to look away, so beautifully focused in its writing, direction, ensemble performance and immediacy that an hour and thirty five minutes passed without my noticing. This play should tour the world and help try to make it a better place. Unmissable.

Five Stars

Submitted by [Ade Morris](#)

Richard Demarco awarded European Citizen's Prize



At a ceremony at the European Parliament Office in Edinburgh today, Professor Richard Demarco CBE was presented with the 2013 European Citizen's Medal by Scottish MEP Struan Stevenson.

Accepting the medal, Professor Demarco said:- "The great culture that binds us together as Europeans is also the

culture of the world. There is no Polish art, or Scottish art, or English art, or Italian art. There is only art.”

Prof Demarco recalled the origins of the Edinburgh Festival, which had aspired “to use the language of art to define a re-awakening, a period of forgiveness and reconciliation.”

He said Edinburgh needed to tell the story and the history of the Edinburgh Festival and of the people who had made it happen.

Struan Stevenson said: “There could be no more appropriate recipient of the Citizen’s Prize than Richard Demarco”

Prof Demarco will travel to Brussels in October as a guest of the President of the European Parliament for a formal investiture ceremony for laureates of the European Citizen’s Prize.

