

Midlothian over 50s Walking Football team play first challenge match in Prestwick



The Midlothian over 50s Walking Football team yesterday took part in their first challenge match since the club formed last December.

The initiative was launched by Midlothian Council in a bid to get elderly or injured players back on the pitch, and the slower version of the 'beautiful game' has the same rules as normal football apart from the fact that players are forbidden to run.

A number of former Hibs' players attended the launch, including Keith Wright, Eric Stevenson and Jackie MacNamara who revealed that he and his team-mates used to play the game under Eddie Turnbull as part of the training regime.

The session is perfect for people who used to play football but now find the pace a bit too much. It's also a great introduction to football if you have never played before.

It takes a bit of getting used to, as instinctively the urge to run tends to take over, but although it might sound easy, the game requires particular skills, such as precision passing and tight ball control.



Normally around twenty regulars meet up every week at Loanhead and Penicuik to play the game, however due to other commitments a diminished squad of twelve made the 160 mile round trip to Prestwick following an invitation from the Caledonian Club who are based next to the airport.

Transport was arranged by Viv Wallace, the Midlothian Council Aging Well Coordinator who was involved in setting up the initiative, and the players lined up wearing a lilac and black strip, kindly donated by the Hibernian Community Foundation, whilst Caledonian played in their all white kit.

Four twenty minute games were played on Caledonian's outdoor AstroTurf pitch with teams consisting of six outfield players and a goalkeeper.

Caledonian started strongly in the first game, taking a 3-0 lead but two goals from Midlothian striker Andrew Wayth made it a nervous last few minutes for the Ayrshire team before they sealed the victory with the last kick to win 4-2.

Midlothian took the lead in the second game, again thanks to an Andrew Wayth strike before Caledonian grabbed two quick goals to take a narrow lead. Viv Wallace equalised for Midlothian with an instinctive strike from close range, but another two goals gave Caledonian a comfortable lead at the halfway stage.

Andrew Wayth then scored his fourth of the day to make the score 4-3, but with Midlothian pressing for an equaliser, Caledonian scored on the break to make it 5-3.

Kenny McDonald then pulled one back to make it 5-4 but despite a strong finish from Midlothian, Caledonian held on for the narrow win.

The third game was level, with both defences on top. Peter Collins in particular kept the Caledonian attack at bay until just before the end when a break-away goal gave Caledonian the lead, but Midlothian hit back immediately and equalised with a fine long range effort from 'Pud' Ramage.

Caledonian proved too strong in the final game, taking a 3-0 lead before the prolific Andrew Wayth scored his fifth to make it 3-1. A late brace from Caledonian made it 5-1.

Man of the match was Midlothian goalkeeper Glen Milne who made a string of fantastic saves, narrowly beating Andrew Wayth into second place.

The game was played in good spirit, with only one free-kick being awarded in the four games following an 'over enthusiastic' challenge by Viv Wallace.

The players who took part were Bob Blaikie, Peter Collins, Peter Frame, Eddie Henderson, John Hislop, Kenny McDonald, Stevie Macdonald, Glen Milne, Eric Platten, Pud Ramage, Viv Wallace and Andrew Wayth.

Afterwards Viv told the Edinburgh Reporter: "We decided that we needed to start something up primarily for men. The projects at the moment involves pilates, yoga and keep fit but that mainly attracts women so the idea came along that we wanted to try football and get the guys involved. We started in December with one session and increased it early on this year to two.

"The project runs for the over 50s and there is no upper age limit. Today we have players from early fifties to early eighties. In fact we have two chaps who are 81.

"It was a good game but they are obviously a more experienced side and it was very hot, but it was good fun.

"The sessions are held between 2pm and 4pm on a Wednesday at the Bayne Memorial Hall in Loanhead or Fridays at Ladywood Leisure Centre 10am till noon.

Viv has a message for anyone interested in taking part: "Definitely come along and have a go. It's a lot harder than you think, so come and watch if you are not too sure then join in."

To Listen to Viv click here.

[listen to 'Viv Wallace' on Audioboo](#)



Peter Collins 81 and Bob Blaikie 82 who both played two full games each in the boiling conditions echoed Viv's call for more people to come along to the sessions.

Peter said: "I think it's a wonderful thing for older men to get out there. Everybody likes to play football and once you get used to slowing up a wee bit it's really terrific

"Caledonian were a superior team to us. They were used to the pitch better than us and they moved the ball better than us. Of the four results, they won three of them and we drew one so there is plenty room for improvement from us."

Bob joked: "My opinion is that there were too many 'trotters' in their team and we couldn't keep up because we were a lot older than them but I think it's a great social event."

To listen to Bob and Peter click here.

[listen to 'Bob and Peter' on Audioboo](#)

Five things you need to know today



Men charged – Edinburgh Festival Carnival – Edinburgh Butcher sells out at Jazz Festival – Castle concert – Edinburgh Outdoors app

Police Scotland have confirmed that four men have been arrested and charged in relation to an alleged fraudulent scheme involving tickets for The Open.

The men, who are aged 46, 34, 52 and 42 and are all from England, have been remanded in custody and are due to appear at Haddington Sheriff Court tomorrow, Monday, July 22.

Edinburgh Festival Carnival is a free event sponsored by Edinburgh Council and supported by Forth One. It takes place later today from 2-4pm. The Carnival offers a truly international flavour, featuring musicians such as The Paris Opera Children's Choir, the Beijing Golden Sail Dance troupe and Gwanaval from Martinique; it also showcases local performers such as Pulse of the Place, the largest youth samba drumming group in Scotland, based in Leith. Running simultaneously in the Grassmarket is Jazz Alfresco, a Sunday market, from 2-5pm, accompanied by live jazz and blues from Al's Dixie Palz and The Foo Birds. This event is also free for all, presented in association with Greater Grassmarket Business Improvement District.

Paul Weller is playing tonight at Edinburgh Castle. One of the better known acts performing there before the Tattoo gets underway on 2 August 2013, who knows there may even be some tickets left! [Ticket information here.](#)



Local man and butcher Iain Hunter is delighted to hear that his first ever show at The Edinburgh International Jazz Festival is a SELL OUT . It was the First show to sell out at this years festival WITHOUT any promotion from The Jazz Festival organisers. Iain from Pathhead heard the news last

week whilst preparing Burgers and sausages at his shop in Kinross for T in the Park !

Iain has performed at some very exclusive venues including Gleneagles, Cameron House and even The Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas, but this festival is more important to him . Its on home ground with a group of musicians who are some of the best in their game .

Edinburgh's own Mr Tom Finlay on Piano (who has accompanied some of the greats including Tony Bennet)

American born Mr Tom Davis Jazz guitar supremo (who has his own show in this years festival)

Ed Kelly Mr Cool and favourite in the Jazz World and a true gent.

Allen Steele on Drums (a well respected drummer in The Jazz world)

New to the scene but amazing on trumpet with style the young American Mr Jonathan Greene.

Finally Edinburgh's Mr Dick Lee who is Mr Swing with his Tenor Saxophone.

Quite a line up for a first timer, but they think Iain has a special gift and are delighted to be backing him at his concert.

The enquiries and demand for tickets to see Iain have been overwhelming, sadly there are no evenings during the Official Jazz Festival for Iain to play a second night however

The Tron Kirk organisers have decided that if people want to see him they can .. they have announced on Sunday 28th July you can see Iain and the band again at The Tron . No advance ticket sales you can pay at the door. So for this show its first come first served.

Iain has quite a following as he's known as Iain the butcher that was in Gorgie. He's also been named as 'The King of the Standards' the music and style and era that Iain aspires too.

"Im so delighted with the response to the event. As there are such amazing acts on at this years festival lots of headlining acts Jools Holland, Tia Fuller all with lots of promotion .

Im just the local singing butcher theres not been too much publicity about my concert. I suppose Im not looked upon by 'The Jazz Police' as a serious performer.

Well I suppose I have to prove a point that Jazz is for everyone.

Pam my wife made a wee poster and put it up in a couple of places in Gorgie and the response was huge. I think many of the people that bought tickets are not usual Jazz festival followers but enjoy the kind of music I sing Swing and the standards. So this may be an introduction to The Jazz Festival and may encourage them to go to different events"

" As this is an International Festival with performers from all over the world well.... I'm singing for Scotland "

As the good weather continues the green spaces in our city continue to attract all of us outdoors. Remember you can use the [Edinburgh Outdoors App](#) to find out what there is in the park and also add your own photos and information to it for others.

Find out more about it here on our video:-



Bring some Harmony to your wardrobe



Following the success of the interior design consultancy aspect of Harmony Ridge Designs, owner and designer, Jane Chromka, has launched an additional arm to the business, Harmony Ridge Colours.

[Harmony Ridge Colours](#) focuses on helping both men and women identify the colours which compliment them as a person, in the form of a service called 'Colours with Harmony'. This service helps clients understand and implement the range of colours that will add a sparkle to their image, based on their specific skin undertone.

As well as personal colour analysis, Jane also offers wardrobe consultations, called 'Organise with Harmony'. This service is geared to help the client assess the contents of their wardrobe, identifying which garments are ideal for them and their lifestyle and which ones may need to be replaced in due course.

Jane, who is originally from Australia, moved to Scotland nearly ten years ago. Since then, she has helped enhance a number of Edinburgh homes, through her interior design service.

She says: “My focus is always on the benefits of colour and how people’s home, business and individual style can be brought to life by introducing colour and creating new and interesting palette combinations”.

“Harmony Ridge Colours shows clients the difference it can make to obtain experienced, professional advice and a ‘fresh eye’ on what works for them.”

“I see it as a privilege to assist people on such a personal level. It is my aim to bring confidence in perhaps what they already know, or to show what they hadn’t yet thought possible, without breaking the budget.”

Five things you need to know today



Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival – Crafty work on the canal – Councillors – Daniel Scott – Ken Currie exhibition at the Portrait Gallery opens today

The Edinburgh Reporter has been busy filming in the city this week, and we remind you of some we prepared earlier here. If you have any little videos, on Instagram or Vine that you feel we would like to see then do send us an email theedinburghreporter@gmail.com

The Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival is now underway with a new centrepiece at the Tron Kirk on the Royal Mile.

The Edinburgh Reporter was invited to Edinburgh Airport to film the Californian Honeydrops who were brightening up the airport concourse for passengers with their unique sounds:-



Yesterday morning we were alerted to the craft bombing that had taken place overnight on the canal:-

The Edinburgh Reporter has been filming local councillors over recent months and you can see one of these mini interviews here:-

A cameo of up and coming Edinburgh singer songwriter Daniel Scott:-

From today at the National Scottish Portrait Gallery you can see the exhibition by Scottish artist, Ken Currie which is his first solo exhibition there. The Edinburgh Reporter spoke to him about what the public might expect when they go to see it:-

Today our photo is of the Queen Elizabeth which anchored in the Forth yesterday. Passengers landed at South Queensferry to take trips to Edinburgh and beyond. Today it is the Caribbean Princess which will be there and we are told she is HUGE! If you get any photos perhaps you would share them with us?



The Tron Kirk gets a new lease of life



The Tron Kirk opened its doors yesterday as a brand new daily hub for the Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival. Called the 'Festival Club', it will present live music from 10.30am-9.30pm for the 10-day duration of the Festival, showcasing Scottish and international acts to locals and visitors alike.

With a 180 seated capacity, the audience will sit at small tables for a unique cabaret feel. Drinks and light snacks will be available, and a beer garden is also being set up outside at Hunter Square so clients can enjoy music and refreshments in the July sun.



The California Honeydrops are one of over 40 different acts performing at the Tron Kirk. From San Francisco, they are a free-spirited group that plays a musical gumbo of soul, blues, gospel, second line New Orleans jazz and R&B, creating an

infectious feel-good mood wherever they perform.

The Edinburgh Reporter met them yesterday at the airport to catch a flavour of their music:-

Now in its 35th year, the Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival runs for the next ten days and presents unique artistic collaborations, cutting edge performers, funk and dance-fused sounds, timeless jazz favourites, intense art, total relaxation and a good time for all. Headline acts include Jools Holland, Eric Burdon, Champion Fulton, Snarky Puppy, Mud Morganfield, The Three Bs (Chris Barber, Acker Bilk and Keith Ball) and many more. Participating venues across the capital include Festival Theatre, Queen's Hall, Palazzo Spiegeltent and a new cool, modern jazz club at 3 Bristo Place.



Photos courtesy of Rob McDougall

Holyrood offer support to Scottish jazz musicians



Cash to help musicians forge European links

The Scottish Government is supporting some of Scotland's most talented musicians to develop links with European music festivals.

The government has awarded £155,000 towards the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival's work in 2013 to unite musicians from Scotland and around the world in a series of collaborative concerts.

The funding has supported the development of nine international collaborations that will perform in Edinburgh and across south and central Scotland over the next fortnight as part of this year's jazz festival. Two collaborations will go on to perform at festivals in Italy and Lithuania and work is ongoing to secure international links for several of the others.

Speaking as the 2013 Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival got underway, Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs, said:- "The Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund ensures that Scotland's own exceptional talent is placed at the heart of our world-renowned festivals and our artists can benefit from the global exposure the festivals can bring. Through the fund, we are exploiting every opportunity to develop important cultural links with other countries. The Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival is delivering on each of these important aims through its unique programme of international collaborations.

"We've awarded the festival more than £750,000 since 2009 and we've seen that money make a real and lasting difference to the growth and reach of the festival and to the many musicians its Expo projects have promoted and supported along the way.

"The festival has a proven track record of bringing some of the very best musicians to Scotland from across the globe, attracting audiences from far and wide to experience for themselves, Scotland's rich culture, heritage and distinct identity.

"This year's programme of high-quality collaborations will enthral and delight audiences and raise the profile of some of

Scotland's best jazz musicians to audiences in Edinburgh, around Scotland and in Europe."

Roger Spence, Producer of Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival, said:

"The ongoing Expo funded programme has seen Scottish musicians linking with musicians from many parts of the world and creating projects which have long term impact. It allows for collaborations and ties to be created with countries in Europe and beyond that would otherwise simply not have been possible. And for the first time, in 2013, we have been able to present some of our extraordinary international collaborations in other towns and cities around Scotland, too. It looks set to be a big success."

For a flavour of the jazz on offer (albeit from California!) watch our video here:-

And yes we know the photo accompanying this article is not of a Scottish musician! She is Tia Fuller who plays with Beyoncé and the photo is courtesy of Keith Major and the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival.

Lyon & Turnbull to sell mystery dog today



A very unusual stuffed dog called Mavis is to be sold at Lyon & Turnbull, however the breed of the dog has auctioneers

baffled. Valued at up to £2-3,000, the dog is to be sold at Lyon & Turnbull on the 20th July 2013.

“This is one of the most unusual items we have ever sold at auction” said Theo Burrell, Antiques Specialist at Lyon & Turnbull. She continued “I have tried in vain to identify the breed; it may have been a Newfoundland or perhaps a Pyrenean Mountain Dog. All the current owner knows is that it was once a beloved family pet and the owners could not bear being parted from it when she died and they had her preserved.”

Taxidermy is a skill and art form that many think is a bit strange, even though it was practiced by luminaries like Charles Darwin and Theodore Roosevelt. Other unusual animals to be treated to the art of taxidermy included The Platypus. In 1798, when Captain John Hunter sent a platypus pelt along with a sketch of the animal to England, British scientists thought they knew a hoax when they saw it. George Shaw, who was Keeper of the Department of Natural History at the British Museum, wrote up a description of the creature based on the pelt and Hunter’s notes in *Naturalist’s Miscellany*, but said he could not be certain that such a peculiar beast existed in nature.

In 1731, the Bey of Algiers gifted King Frederik I of Sweden a real, live lion—along with another big cat, three hyenas, and a freed slave to serve as their keeper. The lion lived out its days in Djurgården, the royal game park, and when it died, the hope was that the Bey’s gift could live on as a stuffed monument to the lion’s power. Sadly, the taxidermist had never seen a lion with his own eyes and had, it seems, only a loose idea of how a lion was meant to look. The result, with its lolling tongue and goggly eyes, was something that looked better prepared for a nightmarish cartoon than the royal halls.

Not all taxidermy ends up in the Hall of Mammals by chance; some animals got there because they had a nasty habit of eating people. The infamous Tsavo man eaters were a pair of maneless male lions who haunted the Tsavo River in Kenya where, in 1898, construction crews were building a railroad bridge. According Lt. Col. John Henry Patterson, who eventually killed the lions, they killed and ate ten people—though other reports put the number at 24. There are a variety of theories as to why these two turned to human flesh: they may have previously scavenged dead humans from passing slave caravans; they may have been attracted by cremations of deceased rail workers; they may have poor hunters unable to catch tougher prey. After Patterson killed them, the lions were immortalized twice: once by the Field Museum in Chicago, which paid \$5,000 for the specimens, and once in the 1996 film *The Ghost and the Darkness*, in which Val Kilmer played Patterson.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Man Feelings

❌ Fringe Benefits -Two Men Dole It Out/Guys's
Gestalt/Furniture Of The Absurd/Desk-Top Self-Publicists/

An alt.'Chippendales Moving experience...a moving comic tableau
...

In 2012 The Edinburgh Reporter exclusively previewed and reviewed the premier Fringe show 'Man Feelings'. A veritable

smorgfest of 'fresh-fun and giggle-inducing...Embryonic Talent.' 2013 sees the up-to-the-decade, surreal biting, satirical sketch-show wit of 'Man Feelings' redux back and bitingly provocative. (No stationary, Princes Street trams, are promised to be harmed during some of the performances.)

Written and performed by James Cottle and Kevin Kennedy 'Man Feelings' returns to The Jekyll & Hyde, a Laughing Horse comedy venue. It is a spanking new show (The J&H is, after all a Goth pub!) where admission is free but leaving without an appreciative bung might cost you dearly. Challenged to encapsulate the essence of the show's latest existential crisis confrontationalism in only five words the writers suggested – 'Love. Fear. Joy. Anger & Indifference'. Embracing archetypes of the sketch-show 'counter-culture' format (possibly eschewing 'Open All Hours' – 'Acorn Antiques' – 'Fork-Handles' et al) these minors of mirth burrow deeply in to the subversive disconnect of our collective psyche whilst on holiday. If you feel disgruntled – when were you actually grunted? If you are unflappable – what gets you flapped?

Maybe 'Man Feelings' will do this? Challenging you to scrute the inscrutable, diss the ingenious and ponder why five out of four people have problems with fractions – ergo – Man Feelings demands a big hug. Perhaps then, with mutually shared closure – they can move on – a Kyle Of Lochalsh Christmas Panto possibly...



<https://www.facebook.com/ManFeelingsComedy?fref=ts>

<http://www.laughinghorsecomedey.co.uk/edinburgh/show.asp?ShowID>

Food hygiene at home

Contributed article from Edinburgh Community Food

Food hygiene isn't very glamorous. It may not be something many of us think about very often but let me start off with a few facts and figures to see if they get your attention. In the UK there are annually 20,000 hospitalisations and sadly food poisoning and food borne illnesses cause 500 deaths. They also cost a lot of money: the economy suffers to the tune of £1.5 billion a year. As anyone who has been unlucky enough to have a case of food poisoning will know, it's not exactly pleasant. Symptoms can range from the mild (a sore stomach for a few hours) to the fatal. While older people, the young and anyone with a compromised immune system are particularly susceptible, all of us are at risk. And here's a further risk: most of us carry food poisoning bacteria with us all the time. Heard of MRSA? One in ten of us have it in our noses! So the risk is that, although we may feel fine, if our hygiene is poor we may pass things on to other people with weaker immune systems. That's our babies, children and grandparents just for starters.

So what causes all this illness? Is it takeaway food? Was it that meal out last weekend when the chicken seemed a bit iffy? While undoubtedly many people do get food poisoning from takeaways and eating out the harsh fact is that we mostly do it to ourselves. 70% of cases are caused by us in our own kitchens!

What is at the root of all this? In a word: bacteria. The first thing we should understand is that bacteria are

everywhere. They are in the air we breathe, the water we drink, they cover every surface we touch. In fact, we humans are covered in them. While each one of us is made up of 10 trillion cells we have 10 times that number of bacteria living on our skin and hair and in our digestive tracts. We are more bacteria than human! Most of these little bugs are, however, completely harmless; others are good for us. Some bacteria help us to digest our food and some even make vitamins for us in our intestines. There are only a few that can make us ill but of course it is these we need to watch out for. When we talk about food hygiene what we are trying to do is reduce the bacteria to a safe level – we can never get rid of all of them.

So, how can we keep ourselves and our families safe? There are three simple areas to look at. These are hand-washing, cross-contamination and temperatures.

What are high-risk foods? *High-risk foods are foods that are ready to eat and high in protein and moisture. Bacteria love them and grow happily on them. The problem is that we don't re-heat these foods before we eat them – so any bacteria present isn't killed off. Examples include:*

- *Ready to eat meat & poultry*
- *Ready to eat dairy including cream*
- *Ready to eat egg products including mayonnaise*
- *Shellfish and molluscs*
- *Soft cheeses*
- *Pâtés*

- *Cooked rice*

- *Babyfood*

Hand washing This may seem like a bit of an obvious one but our hands are one of the biggest sources of food poisoning bacteria – think of all the things we touch throughout the day! Regularly washing our hands can have a huge impact. In fact regular & thorough hand washing has had a huge effect on MRSA in hospitals. See the box-out for some ideas of when to wash.

Cross-contamination This is a bit of a technical term. What it means is when we transfer bacteria from contaminated foods (usually raw meat) to ready-to-eat food (anything you can eat straight from the fridge). Along with us humans, raw foods are one of the biggest sources of bacteria. For example, you are chopping up some raw chicken breasts ready to grill. You then use the same knife and chopping board to prepare the kids' sandwiches for school. The sandwiches are now contaminated and the bacteria will happily grow into a big colony and make the children very ill. Make sure you thoroughly wash chopping boards, knives and hands after chopping raw meats!

To be safe any meat should have **NO pink bits**. Cut into it and have a look before you serve.

Temperatures Our best line of defence against food poisoning is cooking! While freezing foods only causes bacteria to go to sleep it is heat that kills them. Probe thermometers like the ones all restaurants use can be had for about £5. Fridge and freezer thermometers are even cheaper. Follow the temperatures in the box-out to make sure all the food you cook is safe! Once we've cooked our meal we should either serve it immediately (piping hot) or allow it to cool for a short while and then cover and refrigerate. Food hygiene professionals say

we should get our food into the fridge within just 90 minutes. Any longer than that and the few surviving bacteria will multiply and re-contaminate the food. That curry that has been sitting on the bunker overnight? Don't touch it!

Follow these temperatures to be safe!

- **Freezer** – minus 18°C
- **Fridge** – 1-4°C
- **Cooking** – 75°C
- **Keeping food warm** –63°C
- **Reheating** – 82°C

To be safe any meat should have **NO pink bits**. Cut into it and have a look before you serve.

On a final note, now that you are an expert see what TV chef's get up to. You may be surprised..!

If you would like more information about food hygiene please visit

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/homehygiene/Pages/Foodhygiene.aspx>.

Edinburgh Community Food regularly run REHIS-approved Food Hygiene courses. Contact us at:

lmclellan@edinburghcommunityfood.org.uk

<http://www.edinburghcommunityfood.org.uk/>

Submitted by [Christopher Mantle](#)



Ecas to start new computer art class for disabled people in Edinburgh

Contributed article

Ecas announces new class for disabled people

Computer Art for disabled people starting 6 September 2013.

Venue: Ecas, Norton Park, 57 Albion Road, Edinburgh EH7 5QY

Hauling out boxes of paints, taking over the kitchen table and clearing it all away again in time for tea can be a barrier to those who want to be creative but do not have a dedicated work space. It can be even more difficult for those with disabilities.

Imagine a studio full of all the art materials you could wish for, where paint never dries until you want it to, where there are no fiddly tops of tubes to get stuck, where you don't have to buy new brushes: you just invent them and they appear! Charcoal lasts forever without crumbling yet can be smudged and blended.

All this is possible with a computer, a graphics tablet and pen, and software. If you still have a need to get your hands dirty and love the smell of paint then don't write off computers as not for you. It is possible to use the computer to assist you to experiment with composition, to square up a sketch for transferring to a real canvas, to print out a faint image onto art paper for you to paint in watercolour, acrylic or oils and to combine a love of photography and art with virtual collage.

To get the full benefit of this course, applicants need to be able to communicate their ideas and needs to the experienced

art and computer tutors who run the lessons. The ability to learn how to navigate through file menus as well as opening and saving files is essential. It is likely that you will already use a computer at home or elsewhere.

Submitted by [David Griffiths](#)

VIDEO – Craft bomb on the canal



A little “craftbombing” took place overnight on the canal at the Leamington Lift Bridge -Look at this!





Pat Bowie who runs the Re-Union boat on the canal explained:-" It was an effort to cheer commuters up on the way to and from work. The various crafty items were made by local crafters and schools. Three schools were involved:-Canalside, Ratho and Tollcross Primary. There is bunting and knitting, as well as pom poms!"

Of course Tollcross teach Gaelic so that is the reason for the Gaelic notes.... We hope someone can tell us what the note says!

Woman racially abused on bus



Police in Edinburgh are appealing for witnesses after a woman was racially abused onboard a bus.

The incident happened around 6.30pm on Wednesday 17 July 2013 on a Number 12 bus, which was on Princes Street heading towards the Gyle Shopping Centre.

The 28-year-old victim, who is originally from Pakistan, was sitting by herself when a woman began making racist and offensive comments towards her.

A number of passengers were on the bus at the time and it is believed they may have also heard these comments.

The suspect is described as white, between 40 and 50-years-old with a heavy build and short blonde shoulder-length bobbed hair. She was wearing a backless orange/pink dress and spoke with a Scottish accent.

A Police Scotland spokesman said:- "While she was uninjured, the victim was left very alarmed and distressed by the comments made to her.

“We are now keen to speak with other passengers who were on the bus and witnessed this incident take place.

“Similarly, anyone who recognises the suspect, or who has information that can assist with our enquiries is asked to contact police immediately.”

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

Floral Clock marks Zoo centenary



FLORAL CLOCK REVEALS A WILD SIDE TO MARK EDINBURGH ZOO CENTENARY

Edinburgh's famous floral clock has been given an animal theme to mark the 100th anniversary of the city's zoo.

A team of gardeners used 40,000 plants and took two months to painstakingly create the stunning design of the zoo's special centenary logo.

The clock, which is sited in Princes Street Gardens, has been completed after Edinburgh won a place in the Britain in Bloom UK finals. Judges will visit various community projects as well as the city's parks and greenspaces in August, and the floral clock will play a key part in the bid for a prize.

The historic display has been a much-loved feature in the gardens since park superintendent John McHattie designed the world's first floral clock in the Capital in 1903.

Deputy Lord Provost Councillor Deidre Brock said: “Our talented gardeners have created a stunning piece of horticultural art, and their careful work will be admired by the many visitors and locals who enjoy this feature every year.

“Protecting and enhancing parks in Edinburgh is a priority for our Capital Coalition so that they can be enjoyed by all.”

Simon Jones, Curator of Plants and Head of Sustainability at Edinburgh Zoo, said: “We’re delighted that a green landmark of historical significance in the Capital is also honouring the Zoo in its centenary year. Horticulture is intrinsic to Edinburgh Zoo, both historically and today.

“Long before the 1913 inception of Edinburgh Zoo, the site was home to Thomas Blaikie whom designed the famous French gardens of La Bagatelle and was also the understudy to Capability Brown. Today Edinburgh Zoo boasts beautiful display gardens and one of the most diverse tree collections in the Lothians, which we also combine with the discipline of zoo horticulture, focusing on habitat creation and growing food stuffs for animals.”



**Edinburgh
against**

**MPs
East**

**campaign
Coast**

privatisation



EDINBURGH LABOUR MPS VISIT WAVERLEY IN CAMPAIGN AGAINST EAST COAST PRIVATISATION

- Sheila Gilmore, Mark Lazarowicz and Ian Murray speak to passengers and East Coast staff
- MPs joined by members of the public, trade unionists and Councillors

Edinburgh Labour MPs Sheila Gilmore, Mark Lazarowicz and Ian Murray today continued their campaign against the privatisation of East Coast with a visit to Waverley Station.

While handing out leaflets and speaking to passengers outside the station, the group were joined by members of the public, trade unionists and Councillors, including newly elected Liberton/Gilmerton Councillor Keith Robson. Afterwards the MPs were shown East Coast's operation at Waverley, where they got the opportunity to speak to East Coast staff about the improvements that have been delivered in recent years.

Speaking afterwards Sheila Gilmore said:-It was good to talk to East Coast staff about the improvements to services that East Coast have made under public ownership over the last four years. When speaking to passengers I also emphasised that at present all profits are retained for public benefit, rather than lost to shareholders.'

'The decision to privatise East Coast puts this at risk and shows that David Cameron and his Ministers put ideology before the needs of passengers and taxpayers.'

Mark Lazarowicz said:-'East Coast has achieved success under public operation, receiving less subsidy than any of the other

18 private franchises and paying back more to the taxpayer than all but one.'

'It has done that with no certainty about how long it would continue to remain in public hands. Ministers should now drop their plans for privatisation to give East Coast stability so it can plan for for the future.'

Ian Murray said:- 'The East Coast line has performed much better in the public sector than being privately operated. It has returned resources to the public purse and that progress is best continued in public ownership. Travellers and the tax payer deserve nothing less.'



Police warn Open fans to beware ticket touts



Police Scotland is reminding members of the public attending the 2013 Open Championship this weekend that valid entry tickets must be purchased from the official outlets.

Tickets which have not been sourced through either the R&A or Ticketmaster will not be accepted.

Admission to the Championship continues to be available at the entrance gates to the Muirfield course and spectators should not be tempted to buy from unofficial sellers.

Three men have been detained today in relation to fraudulent ticket sales and a number of fraudulent tickets have been seized.

The men, who are not from the East Lothian area, are aged 52, 34 and 47.

Supt Phil O'Kane, who is leading the policing operation at The Open, said:- "The Championship is a major international sporting event and it is only to be anticipated that unscrupulous people will try to exploit it.

"However, due to the vigilance of the security staff and the police officers on the course, these fraudulent tickets were identified."

The people who had presented the tickets at the entrance gates were spoken to by police officers as witnesses and then given the option to buy valid tickets.

Supt O'Kane said:- "Enquiries are ongoing into this fraudulent ticket activity. The focus of the policing operation at The Open is on keeping people safe and that extends to protecting them from those who are trying to defraud them. I am happy to say the vast majority of the spectators are intent on supporting the event, following their favourite golfers and enjoying the sun.

But when criminal activity takes place, we will respond accordingly."

He added: "It can prove to be a costly exercise to purchase a ticket from anything other than an official outlet and I would urge people not to pay above the ticket price, only to

purchase from the official outlets and, when they are leaving the course at the end of their visit, not to be tempted to resell their ticket – it will only be used to exploit another innocent individual.”

Police officers, alongwith wardens from East Lothian Council, will be increasing their patrols around Muirfield and in Gullane to identify people trying to sell tickets.

VIDEO – Edinburgh Airport buzzing with jazz today



Edinburgh Airport gets its feet tapping to the jazz beat

Edinburgh Airport is getting musical as a sponsor of this year's Jazz and Blues Festival which kicks off today in the capital.

To celebrate, Scotland's busiest airport welcomed The California Honeydrops to the terminal this morning, delighting and entertaining passengers with a fantastic live set. The band, a free-spirited group from San Francisco, treated the thousands of passengers passing through to a soulful few hours, leaving everyone in an infectious feel-good mood.

Indeed, this year's sponsorship of the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival is just one part of Edinburgh Airport's overarching commitment to supporting a wide range of cultural and community events in and around the capital.

In addition to being a major sponsor of the Royal Highland Show at Ingliston, the airport remains increasingly active in

its local community, providing financial help to a number of deserving local causes, from bowling clubs to scout groups.

Gordon Dewar, Chief Executive of Edinburgh Airport, said: “As a big jazz fan, I am very excited that Edinburgh Airport is sponsoring this year’s Jazz and Blues Festival and hope that our passengers enjoyed the California Honeydrops who gave a taster of what’s on offer.

“Edinburgh Airport is committed to playing its part in and around the city, whether that’s sponsoring large cultural events like the Jazz and Blues Festival, or supporting local organisations and initiatives through our Community Board.”

Fiona Alexander, Producer of the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival, said: “We’re absolutely delighted to be working with Edinburgh Airport this year.

“We hope to continue our great relationship and deliver a quality experience to our customers, in addition to showcasing Edinburgh as the best it can be.

“The Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival will host musicians from over 20 countries with many travelling to our beautiful capital city through Edinburgh Airport. We are confident this year’s festival will be a huge success and that Edinburgh Airport will play a huge role in helping us deliver a fantastic festival experience.”

Together for Turtles on the

road next week

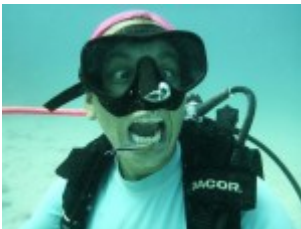
Edinburgh marine volunteers get their running shoes on to raise funds for conservation work on turtles!

From Monday 22 July 2013, seven Edinburgh-based volunteers from the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) will each run a marathon between North Berwick and the Tay, whilst an eighth supporter will cycle the entire 183 miles back!

Each team member of “Together for Turtles” is running for one of the seven species of marine turtle worldwide, of which leatherback, green, hawksbill, Kemp’s ridley and loggerhead are endangered and visit UK waters. The team are running to raise funds for the charity’s work with turtles through the MCS Turk and Caicos Islands (TCI) Turtle Project.



Elana Bader – Loggerhead



Halla Mohieddeen – Hawksbill



Matt Barnes – Green



Neil Madigan – All species



Rhian Evans – Flatback



Sarah Conner – Leatherback



Susie Burnet – Olive Ridley



Caroline McKay – Kemp's Ridley

MCS has been working with fishermen in the TCI, a British Overseas Territory, to create a turtle management plan, the recommendations of which were approved by the TCI Government in May this year.

The funds raised by the “Together for Turtles” team will be used to promote these new measures in the local TCI communities, helping local communities fully understand the measures and why they are needed.

The route will start in North Berwick, passing Edinburgh on the way, run up the entire Fife coastal path and finish in Newburgh on the Tay. Each participant will be running a 26.2 mile section of this and the next runner will carry on from that point on the following day.

The team are volunteers with the charity’s Sea Champions initiative which offers thousands the chance to work with MCS on a variety of marine issues.

Halla Mohieddeen, is running on behalf of the Hawksbill turtle, from **North Berwick to Leith**. “The first turtles I came into contact with were the Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles, the second was a three-legged hawksbill called ‘Tripod’ off Malaysia. Despite her disability, she moved with incredible grace and left a profound impression on me.”

Matt Barnes, is representing the Green turtle, and will run from **Leith to Kinghorn**. **He said:-** “In Scotland, our summer visitor the giant leatherback is protected from damaging activities such as fishing, but not from our pollution. As turtles know no political boundaries all countries need to work together to save one of earths oldest existing creatures and MCS are doing great work in this area.”

Sarah Conner, is running for Leatherbacks between **Kinghorn to Pittenweem**. "I've always been passionate about our seas, spending as much time underwater as possible. Turtles were one of the first animals I saw when snorkelling as a child, and seeing the harm these gentle creatures come to due to humans inspired me to join the team."

The dates for each participant's run or cycle is as follows:-

Timings: Date	Name	Start Point	End point
22/07/2013	Halla Moihiedeen	North Berwick	Leith
23/07/2013	Matt Barnes	Leith	Kinghorn
24/07/2013	Sarah Conner	Kinghorn	Pittenweem
25/07/2013	Elana Bader	Pittenweem	Tay estuary
26/07/2013	Susie Burnet	Tay estuary	Pittenweem
27/07/2013	Rhian Evans	Pittenweem	Kinghorn
28/07/2013	Caroline Mackay	Kinghorn	Leith

The Together for Turtles team are still collecting sponsors at www.mcsuk.org/url/togetherforturtles

Queen Elizabeth in the Forth



Cunard's newest liner the Queen Elizabeth is gracing the Forth with her presence today. She arrived early this morning and will leave later this afternoon en route for Reykjavik, Iceland.

Edinburgh charity needs your vote!



"Third Age Computer Fun" is on-line for national award

Edinburgh business needs your vote to win business award

Mamie Donald, founder of Edinburgh charity, Third Age Computer Fun, has been shortlisted in the Contribution to the Community category of the Nectar Business Small Business Awards 2013, and now she is looking for local support to help her company bring the title home.

Third Age Computer Fun is being pitted against five other shortlisted businesses in a public vote, open until 4 August. To help Third Age Business Fun win the title, vote for them on the [award's Facebook page](#).

If successful, the company will win £2,000 cash, 50,000 Nectar points and the prestigious title. What's more Mamie will be invited to the Nectar Business Round Table event, which will take place in September, where she will meet and get business advice from lead judge, Karren Brady.

Having graduated with a BSc in Computing as a mature student, Mamie was looking for a way to help her community. Her eureka moment came while playing a computer which required her to communicate with other players online. It struck Mamie that this would be a great way for elderly people who struggle to leave the house to interact with the outside world. Mamie got a NESTA grant and started workshops for the elderly in local coffee shops. Two years later, there are nine drop in social clubs in Edinburgh, with three more due to open this year.

Mamie commented:- "I'm delighted to be shortlisted in the Nectar Business Small Business Awards and I hope our online gamers will vote for us. With so little being done to involve the elderly in a world that is increasingly relying on

technology, it's important that charities like Third Age Computer Fun get support and winning this award would certainly help.

“Attending the round table and being able to get first hand advice from the likes of Karren Brady about my business would be really valuable in taking us to the next level. The £2,000 prize money and 50,000 Nectar points will be used to help with management fees and hold more sessions for lonely elderly people.”

James Frost, Marketing Director at Nectar said:- ““The standard of entries into the Nectar Business Small Business Awards has been exceptionally high this year and with an 80% increase in the number of entries, competition is clearly fierce. The Contribution to the Community awards looks for a small business, social enterprise or charity able to demonstrate a positive impact in the local community either by helping a specific demographic or the wider community. So if you want Third Age Computer Fun to win you'll need to get voting. We wish all the shortlisted candidates, including Mamie, the best of luck.”

Witness appeal after woman attacked in North Berwick



Police in East Lothian are appealing for witnesses after a woman was assaulted in North Berwick this morning (Friday).

The 44-year-old victim was walking her Spaniel puppy within the wooded area adjacent to Tantallon Road at around 6.30am when a male approached her and knocked her to the ground.

A struggle ensued and the woman fought with the suspect, who then fled towards the rugby club.

Following the incident the woman flagged down two males in a small silver car who took her home where she contacted police.

Officers are now keen to trace these individuals and anyone else who was in the area at the time or who may have information that can assist with their enquiries.

The suspect is described as white, approximately 5ft 10ins tall with an unshaven complexion and wearing a black tracksuit with the hood up.

A Police Scotland spokesman said: "The woman was left extremely distressed as a result of this incident and we are keen to trace anyone who was in the Tantallon Road area on Friday morning and remembers seeing anything suspicious.

"We are still trying to establish the full circumstances surrounding this attack and would urge the occupants of the silver vehicle, who assisted the woman, to contact police immediately.

"Similarly, anyone with any other information relevant to this investigation is also asked to come forward."

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

Bonhams to sell 'witty' letters penned by Queen Victoria

MOVING, WITTY AND ACERBIC LETTERS FROM QUEEN VICTORIA FOR SALE AT BONHAMS EDINBURGH

A series of over 20 letters hand written by Queen Victoria during the last four years of her life are to be sold at Bonhams Edinburgh on 21 August as part of the annual Scottish Sale. The letters form part of an archive, including other royal memorabilia, which is estimated at £6,000-8,000.

The letters were addressed to James Forbes, Victoria's Commissioner at Balmoral and the person responsible for the running of the castle. They show the Queen's keen interest in the welfare of her staff and tenants ,and continued appetite for life despite her advancing years.

All the letters are written on the heavy mourning paper she adopted on the death of Prince Albert in 1861 and most are signed VR1. They were sent from Windsor, Osborne and Nice as well as internally at Balmoral itself.





Bonhams Book Specialist in Edinburgh, Henry Baggott, said: "These letters throw a fascinating light on the private Queen Victoria and show her to have been far kinder and more considerate than her rather forbidding public image suggested."

The letters give a particularly vivid impression of Victoria's personality. Here she advises Forbes on how to handle the tricky minister at Balmoral: "be very careful to be exact & very discreet & keep out of rows (like the choir trouble) or writing in any of the papers wh. was one of Mr Sibald's accusations last year. But I fear Mr S. is of a vindictive spirit & I rather fear, not very exact himself. At any rate you shd try & find out the story abt the Free Kirk Minister, as I am sure that *that* is a 'mistake'."

Victoria was always solicitous about her staff whom she regarded as part of her extended family. On the death of Lizzie Brown, the wife of William who was brother to the Queen's favourite, John, she wrote: "The death of dear

excellent Mrs Wm Brown whom I was so very fond of and with whom I had been so intimate is real grief to me & I dare not think of how dreadfully I shall miss her. Her loss is really irreparable... Poor William I do pity so much for he is so helpless & dear Lizzie was everything in the world to him".

The Queen's views of her aristocratic neighbours, however, were less charitable: "I have never invited the Duke of Atholl to come over with his men and I think it wd. be better not to do so this year. It wd. entail the encampment of his men in our grounds wh. wd. be inconvenient".

Also included in the lot are items indicating the closeness of the relationship between the Forbes family and the Monarch. A watercolour calendar illustrated with portraits of the Forbes's three children, for example, inscribed by Victoria to Mrs Forbes on the occasion of the birth of the youngest, to whom she was Godmother; a telegram from Victoria on his birth and the child's birth-certificate signed by Victoria; and a handsome morocco-bound visitor's book for the Forbes's house, Craig Gowan, 1900 signed by Victoria on 19 June 1900, by the Prince of Wales on 29 September 1900 and again after he became Edward VII.

Hibs face uphill struggle in Europa League quest



Hibs face an uphill struggle to progress to the Europa League group stages after a two goal defeat to Malmo in Sweden last night.

It could have been much worse however, as Malmo scored two early goals inside two minutes but a resilient performance coupled with some heroics from Ben Williams kept the tie alive.

Pat Fenlon was forced to play a makeshift defence following injuries to both first choice full backs; Tim Clancy and Ryan McGivern. Lewis Stevenson played at right back whilst Paul Hanlon moved to left back with Jordon Forster taking over in the centre of defence alongside James McPake.

New signing Rowan Vine led the line and Alex Harris started on the bench after suffering a thigh injury against Raith Rovers last week.

Hibs started brightly, and summer signing Owain Tudur Jones, making his competitive debut went close with a header from a Liam Craig free kick in the sixth minute. The Swedish club went ahead three minutes later, when James McPake was booked for a foul just outside the box and Malmo's captain Jiloon Hamed sent the resultant free kick into the top corner of the net, leaving Ben William helpless.

Malmo doubled their advantage a minute later when Emil Forsberg cut the ball back from the left flank and found Magnus Eriksson who slotted the ball home.

Hibs fought back and continued to create chances, with Tudur Jones going close with a header from a corner while fellow debutant Rowan Vine saw his well struck effort cannon off the inside of the post.

In the second half, Williams produced a series of top-class saves to keep Hibs in the tie whilst at the other end Pat Fenlon's men looked dangerous on the break.

For the last twenty minutes, the 600 plus Hibs fans in the Swedbank Stadion were in full voice trying to encourage the players to score an away goal, but despite two late corners the Swedes were content to see the game out at 2-0.

The supporters continued to chant long after the full-time whistle, and the players and manager showed their appreciation.

The return leg will take place at Easter Road next Thursday.

Hibs will find out their potential opponents should they make the next round, when the draw is made today.

Hibernian: Williams, Stevenson, Forster, McPake, Hanlon, Taiwo, Tudur Jones, Thomson, Craig, Handling, Vine

Subs: Murdoch, Harris, Cairney, Robertson, Horribine, Mullen, Caldwell

Tickets on sale today for Edinburgh's Hogmanay



Yes we know it is only July and we haven't even had the Festival yet, but from today you can buy your tickets for Christmas and Hogmanay in Edinburgh.

The tickets go on sale at 9am as Edinburgh prepares for a new look to the winter festive season.

Funded and supported by the City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh's Christmas and Hogmanay is to be delivered by both Unique Events Ltd and Underbelly Ltd.

The organisers have announced show and ticket details as well as confirming that the Paradiso Spiegeltent will be at the heart of this year's Christmas celebrations, situated in St Andrew Square from 23 November to 5 January.

International hit show 'LIMBO!' – an exotic, illogical world of mind-bending illusions, breathless dance and soaring live

music from a coterie of highly skilled international performers – will be taking centre stage in St Andrew Square at the Paradiso Spiegeltent.

Tickets go on sale Friday from www.edinburghschristmas.com, with the full Christmas programme announced early September.

✖ Councillor Steve Cardownie, Festivals & Events Champion, City of Edinburgh Council, said:- “This year’s Christmas and Hogmanay celebrations are shaping up to be an exciting new take on Edinburgh’s traditional festive activities. The events held in the Capital always prove hugely popular, drawing in tens of thousands of people from across the world and 2013/14 is set to be no different. I know everyone will be looking forward to a programme that will enhance Edinburgh’s reputation as the place to be at Christmas and Hogmanay.”

Tickets are also on sale for Edinburgh’s Hogmanay with a spectacular three-day programme of free and ticketed events.

‘Scotland’s Year Starts Here’, with the new-look Edinburgh’s Hogmanay Street Party, Concert in the Gardens and The Keilidh, where 80,000 people from over 60 countries will bring in the New Year and launch the Year of Homecoming Scotland 2014.

For the first time Edinburgh’s Hogmanay will offer local residents a limited ‘EH Postcode’ ticket for the Street Party. The EH Postcode Ticket allows EH postcode residents the opportunity to purchase tickets for a reduced price of £16 + bf, a saving of £4 per ticket.

Pete Irvine, Director of Edinburgh’s Hogmanay, said:- “2014 is going to be a very big year for Scotland and it will start with the UK’s largest winter festival. Our plans for the launch of this special year will be announced later as will the artists for our five music stages in and around Princes Street together with the major headliners at the Concert in the Gardens. We will rival the summer music festivals. Demand for tickets for Edinburgh’s Hogmanay is

already high, and we're happy to be able to offer an early-bird ticket specifically to EH postcodes for the first time."

Full details of all the events can be found at www.edinburghshogmanay.com and the full line up of acts for the Street Party and Concert in the Gardens will be announced in the autumn.

Revellers can purchase tickets for all the Christmas events at www.edinburghschristmas.com or by calling into the Christmas Box Office at The Fringe Office, 180 High Street, Edinburgh and for all Hogmanay events at www.edinburghshogmanay.com, by calling Edinburgh's Hogmanay Box Office on 0844 573 8455 or by calling into the Hogmanay Box Office at The Fringe Office, 180 High Street, Edinburgh.

Five things you need to know today



Jazz & Blues Festival starts today – Cameo cinema revamp – The Portobello Poets – Today's Photo – St Giles Cathedral

From 10.30 this morning the Tron Kirk will come to life as the Jazz Festival Club, and there are shows on later ranging from Tia Fuller to the Brian Kellock Copenhagen Trio.


[Full details of the programme here.](#)

The Cameo has been having some work done. Today Screen 1 reopens with The World's End and Breathe In. From all the

photos of the new red seats on Twitter it looks really lovely!

[Booking details here.](#)



 Today's photo, and this one above shows the craft bombing that has appeared on the canal at Leamington Lift Quay. We shall have more photos for you later, but the culprits have said that they hope it brings a little cheer to all those people who walk, cycle or boat along the canal.

At St Giles Cathedral during the festival there will be a whole range of [lunchtime concerts](#) starting at 12..15 but this weekend there are two events:-

Saturday 20 July at 12.15pm

Lunchtime Concert

A Choired Taste, Kilmarnock

Sunday 21 July at 6pm

St Giles' at Six

Sang Scule

Eneados 500: Scotland's Glory 1513

Robert Carver Mass for Six Voices (1511) 

Blipfoto – from bedroom to BAFTA and beyond



"Each day that's passed is now little more than a collection of unique moments – moments that came together to make your day the day it was. And while we all remember the big moments – the defining events – the small moments are often neglected. Yet, it's these that make each day unique – irreplaceable even. These are moments that you'll never have again... Blipfoto lets you save your life."

In October 2004, Joe Tree spent a few hours on a rainy Sunday afternoon in his bedroom building a really simple website which let him publish just one photo a day on the internet and write something about it. He set himself two simple rules: He could only upload one picture a day, and it had to be taken on that day. The website was called Blipfoto.

The following Thursday, he posted the first ever Blipfoto entry. "I expected to get bored quickly, but surprised myself by becoming completely hooked. It got under my skin, and I found myself walking around, looking at the world in a completely different way," says Joe.

So he kept doing it. Gradually, he built up a loyal following of viewers who became just as captivated by the idea as he was. Then they started asking him if they could have a copy of his website, or to point them somewhere else they could do this. Realising there was nothing out there which did this, Joe set about extending Blipfoto into something which anyone could sign up to and use.

In the summer of 2006, he released a very rudimentary version of Blipfoto and invited 15 other people to join in. It let anyone set up a journal of their own, upload one picture a day, write some words, and comment on other people's material... And it grew like crazy.

In October 2008, exactly four years after he'd started, he was a dad... And with no promotion whatsoever Blipfoto was delivering more page views each month than most of Scotland's national newspapers.

"We already had people contributing from every corner of the world, and a thriving community was developing around this simple, shared purpose," says Joe. "Then our servers crashed late on a Friday evening and we were offline for a whole weekend..."

The outpouring of emotion when [Blipfoto](#) came back online was phenomenal and focussed Joe's mind on what he was sitting on.

"We'd assumed Blip would become home to lots of individual photographers' journals, attracted by its simple design," says Joe. "But something much more profound had developed, and the place it had assumed in people's lives was amazing.

"Something else which surprised us was that for a big proportion of our users it wasn't about photography – the photograph was simply a cue for something much deeper."

Things carried on growing throughout 2009. Then in November he found himself at the BAFTA Scotland awards with a nomination for best website. Then he found himself on stage accepting the award.

At this point Blipfoto was still a hobby.

"We call this day one for Blipfoto," says Joe, "because on the bus on the way home that night, clutching our BAFTA, we decided we had to give up the day jobs and find a way to apply

ourselves to Blipfoto full time.”

Most of 2010 was spent looking for a small amount of funding to help make that leap. And in December that year Blipfoto announced seed investment which paid for Joe and a small team to apply themselves full time...

What started in Edinburgh now has contributors in over 175 countries worldwide. Today it receives over 18 million monthly views, and there are over 3m images shared on [Blipfoto](#) – which is even more amazing when you consider each one represents a single day in someone’s life. (The level of engagement of this vibrant, worldwide, online community can also be seen by the 19 million comments on photos that have also been shared!!).

[Blipfoto](#)’s been responsible for numerous relationships, and at least one wedding; ‘Blippers’ have won trips to the Arctic circle; And [projects](#) that encourage people across the globe to get together have been successfully run, as well as a few more [closer to home](#) and [also here](#)!

Not only is Blipfoto the perfect place to save your life, it’s a world of discovery too. You’ll discover the everyday nestled right next to the amazing. You’ll find real people sharing real stories. You might see the ‘ordinary’ but you’ll just as easily stumble across the ‘extraordinary’.

Stats:

- Users in Over 175 countries
- 18 million monthly views
- 3m + images saved on Blipfoto
- 19m + comments shared

Recent projects:

Lovers of Light

Blipfoto collaborated with Velux to launch Lovers of Light – a landscape photography competition with a twist. The aim of the

competition was to encourage people to think differently about daylight. To win an amazing trip to the Arctic Circle, users were asked to simply upload a landscape photo of the light they enjoyed on that day. A selection of the photographs were also chosen to feature in a unique crowd-sourced "[Lovers of Light](#)" film – a beautiful, animated short film made using only still photography. Almost 9,000 entries were received, 1.5m views of the entries were recorded and over a quarter of a million votes were cast at the nominations stage.

The World Over

Between St Andrew's Day 2011 and Burns Night 2012, Blipfoto teamed up with [Scotland.org](#) to create a unique crowd-sourced film – [Scotland The World Over](#). Blipfoto encouraged anyone, anywhere in the world, to join in by taking and uploading a photo of a saltire. 1,507 entries were received over the two months. From these, 715 photos – from 32 countries – were used to create the film. The First Minister of Scotland, Alex Salmond, took time out to thank everyone who took part in the film.

life.turns.

Blipfoto worked with the AltW fund during the Edinburgh Art Festival to create an animated film – frame by frame – with thousands of people around the world. The film was based around 8 simple figures of a human walking. Contributors were invited to submit photos of themselves, colleagues, friends and family in one of these poses and the images were uploaded to Blipfoto where they were used to create [a completely unique film](#) made by thousands of individuals all over the planet.

See Us

Scotland is a creative nation. Its arts, culture and creativity are world renowned. But people are creative, as individuals, every day – in ways we often take for granted. 2012 was the Year of Creative Scotland and 'Blippers' helped us tell the story of our creative country. People across Scotland (and further afield) grabbed their cameras in a quest

to capture something creative. Over 4,000 photos and stories were submitted to help create a record of your creative Scotland in 2012. [A selection of these entries were curated](#) by famous Scottish "creatives" (including world-renowned musician Nicola Benedetti and celebrated author Ian Rankin) into a shortlist for a touring exhibition and book.

Edinburgh Festivals

Blipfoto works annually with the famous Edinburgh Festivals to provide a moderated, realtime stream of photos from the international Festivals staged in the city. Photographers at the Festivals simply upload their image to [Blipfoto](#) and tag it ["Blipthefest"](#)

The Edinburgh Reporter has a [Blipfoto profile which you can have a look at here](#). Are you a Blipper? Then do add your profile name below!

Submitted by [Gordon Laing](#)



Edinburgh Festival Fringe – the Wau Wau Sisters



NYC's Wau Wau Sisters return to the Edinburgh Fringe in their sequel to 2010's outrageous smash show 'Last Supper'. Garnering rave reviews from audiences and critics alike, it became one of the most talked about shows of the Fringe and has since sold out shows at The Sydney Opera House, The Famous Spiegeltent at Victoria Arts Center, Perth Fringe World, The

Roundhouse and The Brisbane Festival, causing stirs, controversies and the occasional threat by religious loonies! The sequel: The Wau Wau Sisters Are Naked As The Day They Were Born Again returns hot on the high-heels of The Last Supper and the sisters are funnier, sexier and saucier than ever before!

Tanya Gagne and Adrienne Truscott (same dad, different moms) have collaborated together as The Wau Wau Sisters (pronounced Vow Vow) since 1999 and bring their unique blend of singing, striptease and saucy repartee back to the Famous Spiegeltent at Assembly Rooms for 9 shows only from 12th-20th August! Featuring witty banter, aerial high-jinks and bawdy burlesque, The Wau Wau Sisters have thrilled audiences throughout the world with their chaotic collision of cabaret, comedy and circus. Straddling (literally) the gap between performance art and party, The Wau Wau Sisters' exhilarating style and anarchic antics take audiences on a ride from their glittering re-birth through to spectacular finale by way of song, dance, acrobatics and audience participation always teetering on the brink of delicious disaster!

The Sisters have nothing to wear and nothing to lose as they arrive in Edinburgh once again, stripped of their worldly possessions – their beloved props, homemade costumes, high heels, wigs and travel-sized booze bottles – GONE! Determined to show Fringe audiences what they are made of, quite literally, they set out to make a show out of nothing at all! They will prove that all they need is a town, a time slot and some lucky locals and the show will go on! Audiences will see how deep The Wau Wau Sisters can dig to find the courage, cocktails and comedy to take the stage as they were last seen here, and as they truly are – unruly, undressed, unabashed, unrepentant and uninhibited!

Kate Smith – The Boston Blog



by Kate Smith

Kate Middleton's face adorns many news stands and book stores here in Boston and there is a strong sense of excited anticipation about the imminent arrival of the Royal baby.

Yet commemorations of the American Revolution are also ubiquitous – this week reenactment societies celebrated the anniversary of General George Washington taking command of the Continental Army here in Cambridge in July 1775. The pride is manifest in the ordinary non-elite New Englanders who left their farms, mills and smiths to fight against King George III for freedom, to forge a new republic and give birth to a new nation.

Yet this fervour for the House of Windsor seems, initially at least, to be contradictory. There is little sense of old elites defeated in the turning of a revolution. Instead, for many Americans, the celebritisation of Kate Middleton chimes with that of Kim Kardashian or Jennifer Lopez. The closest parallel though is probably Grace Kelly. The trajectory, or their 'journey' is from ordinary girl to extraordinariness. A star. A princess. Like Grace Kelly, Kate Middleton has, ironically, become a poster girl for the American Dream.

Which explains why name recognition of Prince Charles or Prince William seems poorer than for the Duchess of Cambridge.

With the pre-given Union Jack as the logo, the commoditisation of royalty romper suits sits comfortably alongside the extensive merchandise for the Red Sox and the Boston Celtics.

The monarchy, drawn into the lodestar of American culture, is absorbed by it and any true meaning as an old enemy, as

constitutional monarchy and Supreme Governor of the Church of England, burns up in its orbit. The historical and constitutional meaning wanes as the celebritisation waxes.

Which explains why there is no merchandising of George Washington or the Patriots to be seen. Sober commemorative medals, children's history books or totemic statues of Washington and Lincoln abound. No equivalent to solar-powered waving queens or royal burping bibs. America is not unique in this. Scots take its own battles very seriously, the French, Bastille day and so on. A nation has need to revere its history, its own journey of arrival. Otherwise without its birth rites it knows not what it stands for. Why blood was spilt and against whom and what it should now bear arms. History seems indivisible from politics, even in the telling of it.

Kate Smith is Nieman Foundation Fellow 2013 at Harvard University, Boston. She is Programme Leader for the BA Journalism in the School of Arts and Creative Industries at Edinburgh Napier University. Prior to joining the University Kate worked at Stirling and Sheffield Hallam Universities and was a freelance journalist and columnist writing regularly for The Scotsman, Scotland on Sunday, the Sunday Herald, the Herald, The Guardian and a wide range of magazines. Before that Kate ran her own international magazine publishing company with offices in Edinburgh and Moscow. Kate was nominated for a British Press award in 2008 for an article on the 2008 Global Food Crisis.

Appeal for witnesses after

foreign exchange students assaulted and robbed



Police in Edinburgh are appealing for witnesses following an assault and robbery in the Muirhouse area of the capital last night (Wednesday 17 July).

About 10pm a dozen foreign exchange students were socialising outside the Millennium Centre on Muirhouse Medway when they were confronted by a group of around 15-20 local youths. Two of the students were assaulted and robbed, and another two students received minor injuries.

A Police Scotland spokesperson said: "This was an unprovoked attack on a group of foreign students who are currently staying with host families in Edinburgh.

"Inquiries are continuing and we are determined to find those responsible for this attack. Additional high visibility police patrols are in the area and anyone with any information is asked to contact us."

Those responsible for the attack were within a group of both males and females and aged between around 9-18 years of age.

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

New green version of the Innertube Map



Edinburgh's unique Innertube map is now celebrating the launch of its third version – the Greenspaces edition. This green map highlights the many parks and green spaces that are easily accessible by bike or on foot using Edinburgh's amazing network of off-street paths, made up of old railway lines, canal towpath, the Water of Leith walkway, coastal promenades, routes through parks or on dedicated segregated paths. As well as linking to parks and open spaces, most of the paths themselves go through woodland, parkland or by the sea at Silverknowes and Portobello.

The map has been created on behalf of the Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT) in partnership with The Bike Station, by Mark Sydenham, the originator of the Innertube map concept. The map is part of the wider Innertube map project, a campaign to improve and promote Edinburgh's 75km of traffic-free off-road paths, characterised by a London Underground style map. This latest Greenspaces edition of the map highlights 54 of the city's 145 parks, which have easy or close access to the path network, and is designed to encourage Edinburgh residents and visitors to use the routes to walk and cycle to green destinations throughout the City, rather than taking the car.

The Innertubemap project was established thanks to funding from the People's Postcode Trust, a grant giving body funded entirely by players of People's Postcode Lottery, who funded this edition, and continues with a wide range of environmental improvement work along the routes, community volunteering sessions and guided activities, which are publicised [on the project's blog.](#)

“We’re excited to be launching a green edition of the Innertube map and hope that it will inspire people throughout the city to take to the paths and explore the wealth of green networks, paths and open spaces that Edinburgh has to offer,” said Liz Stewart, Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust.

The map has been designed as an attractive, pocket-sized A7 format, which folds out to show the A3 map on one side, with useful information about environmental organisations on the reverse. The map will be distributed to libraries, community centres, businesses and other organisations over the summer and anyone wishing supplies should contact info@elgt.org.uk.

The Innertube map project continues throughout this year, thanks to further funding from the Central Scotland Green Network Development Fund and Scottish Natural Heritage, supporting environmental improvement and community activity work delivered by the ELGT, with a programme of free community events and activities, all of which celebrate the Year of Natural Scotland 2013.

The Greenspaces edition of the Edinburgh Innertube map, is the third edition of the map since its launch in 2011. This edition follows the publication by The Bike Station of the student edition, funded by SESTRANS and Edinburgh’s universities and colleges, and the first edition, funded by players of People’s Postcode Lottery. The map, designed by the Hillside Agency, has already made a big impact, with over 80,000 copies distributed to date.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe –

They're Back – Austen's Women Return to Fringe



Contributed article

Prepare to fall in love all over again...

In 2009, Dyad Productions scored a palpable hit at the Edinburgh Fringe with Rebecca Vaughan's 'Austen's Women', in which solo performer Vaughan brought to life 13 of literature's most fascinating female characters under the direction of Fringe legend Guy Masterson.

This much-loved Edinburgh 2009 sell-out hit returns for a special limited run this Fringe as Rebecca Vaughan becomes Emma Woodhouse, Lizzy Bennet, Mrs Norris, Miss Bates and nine other beautifully observed women in critical moments from Austen's major novels (including 'Pride and Prejudice', 'Sense and Sensibility' and 'Emma') and lesser known or unfinished works.

'Austen's Women' was the first ever production from Rebecca Vaughan and Elton Townend Jones' Dyad, which has since created 'I, Elizabeth', 'The Diaries of Adam and Eve' and 'Female Gothic' – all of which continue to successfully tour both nationally and internationally. Their latest work, 'The Unremarkable Death of Marilyn Monroe', premieres at Edinburgh this year. Both plays are staged at Dyad's spiritual home in Assembly, George Square (Venue Three).

Edinburgh stalwart Dyad Productions has gone from strength to strength since 2009 with all five of its production garnering 5-star reviews. Female Gothic was awarded 4-stars by The

Scotsman, while The Diaries of Adam and Eve was published in early 2013. Dyad founders Rebecca Vaughan and Elton Townend Jones have performed their work in places as diverse as Adelaide and Kansas City and continue to tour extensively, with all five Dyad productions taking to the road in 2014.

AUSTEN'S WOMEN

11:40-12:50 (Aug 3rd, 4th, 7th-11th, 14th-18th, 20th-25th)

THE UNREMARKABLE DEATH OF MARILYN MONROE

13:10-14:35 Aug daily (not 13th)

Assembly @ George Square (Three)

Assembly Box Office: 0131 623 3030

Submitted by [Elton Townend Jones](#)

