

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – This is my Box



Sweet Grassmarket (Venue 18) Aug 1-18 21:20 (1hr) £8.50

Ever wanted to punch life in the box?

Ever felt trapped, claustrophobic, boxed in? We understand. Sorry Girl's box is so empty it echoes. How do you meet your life-long partner? Speed dating? Singles archery? Mahjong Meet Up? Busy Mum's box is loud and crowded. Nothing else will squeeze in. It's at full capacity. How do you stretch a box that feels so rigid? Chris and Kris haven't thought much about their boxes in a long time, but they did buy their lotto tickets this week...

Come on a fun, hilarious and crazy journey as our characters discover what it feels like to go in as the underdog and come out the champions... of life. The characters of This is My Box stumble, stutter and salsa their way through each day, backed by a funky soundscape created live by two performers and their boxes.

This is My Box is a fun and funky sound, comedy and character experiment. Sydney performers and writers Karena Thomas and Karli Evans and their faithful 'boxes' or vocal loopers will take the audience on an hour of power; through wicked comedy, live vocal looping and a little bit of bump and grind.

This is My Box, a Sydney Fringe Festival hit, punches out a cast of lonely characters in their search for happiness, all before the full time bell at 52 minutes. This is soul-searching, but not as you know it; it delivers darkly humorous sparing, politically incorrect sidekicks and sometimes surreal scenes that will sneak up on you when you're taking a moments

breath.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Head Hand Head



Venue C nova, venue 145, 31 July – 13 Aug, Time 15:30 (50 mins) Ticket prices £7.50-£9.50 / concessions £5.50-£7.50,

Head Hand Head is a moving, imaginative and haunting portrait of mental distress, where the doubts of the universe find the shape of a person.

Drawing on her own experiences of living with obsessive compulsive disorder and anxiety, this intimate new solo show by Laura Jane Dean has been developed with the help of theatre-maker Chris Goode and explores the truths we tell, the fears we cling on to and what happens when we reveal our darkest thoughts.

In the back seat of a car an unassuming conversation takes dark and vicious root in the psyche of Laura Jane Dean. What we tell ourselves about the world, its simple probabilities and routine certainties, mortal dangers and not-so mortal dangers, melt away leaving Laura practicing head-hand-head coordination just to stay in the game. This complex, lyrical story journeys between interior dystopia and cool normality, exploring the things we need to stay sane.

Laura Jane Dean is a performer and theatre-maker. Graduating from the University of Kent in 2006, having developed a strong

stage persona, and a passion for testing the relationship between audience and performer, Laura became a member of Accidental Collective. Over four years she collaborated with the company to create a diverse portfolio of performances, encompassing stage, site specific and community work and performed nationally. Laura is now based in London and since 2011 has been making solo performances for small audiences.

Hibs unveil new summer signing Owain Tudor-Jones



Hibs yesterday unveiled summer signing Owain Tudor-Jones ahead of their friendly against Ian Murray's Dumbarton at the Bet Butler Stadium which is closely followed by a pre-season trip to Portugal where they will play a Gibraltar XI and also Nottingham Forest.

The Easter Road side are still waiting to hear whether they will face League of Ireland side Drogheda United or former European Cup Finalists Malmo in the second qualifying round of this year's Europa League, and Tudor-Jones hopes to use the experience he gained as a youngster with Bangor to help them progress to the group stages.

He said: "My first European game was a UEFA Cup qualifier with Bangor I made about five appearances in my four years with Bangor, so playing in Europe and having that taste between the ages of 17 and 20 when they happened so it was definitely an eye opener. It doesn't matter if the opponents are well known or not. It's a different way of playing the game, certainly different from the Welsh League and I certainly learned a lot

from playing against some good players

“The first team we played was in the old Yugoslavia – Sartid Smederevo – and then we faced Gloria 1922 Bistrita from Romania and we also went to Latvia. When you play a team from another country it’s great, something really different to what you are used to.

“We thought that we had done well, but what we didn’t realise is that these teams tend to send out their reserve teams over to Wales so their star players don’t get injured, then their top boys come back for the return game. That was an eye opener for sure and I remember getting bamboozled a couple of times by different players.

“When you look back now you are glad for the experience and hopefully that will help me along the way for the next few weeks.”

The Welsh international is keen to get to know his new teammates after a brief break which included a trip across the Atlantic.

“It’s been a short summer for myself and even shorter for the boys who were here already. It’s good to get down to business and get to know the lads, as when you sign for a new club it’s just like being a new boy in school for a few days.

“I got married over the summer, so it’s been quite hectic with the stag doo and honeymoon and now all focus gets back to football. We had a week in Los Angeles which was nice but hectic, so perhaps I should have chosen somewhere a bit more relaxing.”

With Rangers playing in the third tier of Scottish football, the Edinburgh derby is seen as the biggest in the country, and with Hearts currently in administration, this year’s fixtures take on an added significance, and once again, Tudor Jones’ experience in Wales should hopefully stand him in good stead.

"I've played in a couple of derbies. Last season was obviously the first highland derby in the SPL and Swansea Cardiff as well. They are exciting games to play in, but there's no point in us beating Hearts three or four times a season but being inconsistent against the other sides.

"There was only one Swansea Cardiff game that I played in which was a 2-2 draw so it wasn't too bad. This season the derby is the second game so I we don't have to wait too long and there should be a bit of extra bite in that one."

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Robert Golding

✖ **Robert Golding, Assembly Roxy – Upstairs, 1 to 25 August (except 12) 2:20pm, £12/10 (£10/8 concessions)**

"A gauze has been dragged across our world since the dawn of time. You have to know where and when to shine the light to illuminate what lies behind."

An empty restaurant but for two people. A successful married couple sit opposite one another. They are celebrating the opening of their new venture as they wait for a guest to join them. When he arrives he will quietly and confidently lay waste to their comfortable lives and everything they ever believed. They wait... he enters ... and the horror gradually unfolds.

[Robert Golding](#) is the world premiere of a darkly comic tale by acclaimed Welsh playwright Owen Thomas. Nothing is as it seems in a world where dark and unseen forces are in control and behind the seemingly ordinary the sinister is at work.

Five things you need to know today



Armed Forces Day – Throw away your plastic bags! – Edinburgh Airport looking forward to a busy weekend – Best of the Film Festival – New at the National Library of Scotland

Edinburgh is gearing up for a packed day of events today in West Princes Street Gardens as Armed Forces Day celebrations kick-off around the country.

Celebrations will start from 1pm as the annual parade of veterans and cadets will move off from the Grassmarket along to the Ross Theatre in Princes Street Gardens.

A variety of different events will then be hosted in the gardens until 5pm. Highlights include a flypast by two Royal Air Force Typhoons, entertainment from acts such as the [Porkpie Band](#) and the Pipe Band of the Royal Highland Fusiliers of Canada, as well as military vehicles and bouncy castles.

Music, events and displays will last throughout the day and round off at 5:00pm with the Ceremony of Beating Retreat.

Deputy Lord Provost, Councillor Deidre Brock, said: “Here in Edinburgh we’re looking forward to welcoming hundreds of veterans, their families and many others to Princes Street Gardens for an event that will celebrate these men and women’s dedication to duty.

“This city has a long and proud tradition of supporting the Armed Forces. Our military service personnel and veterans

deserve recognition and respect for the sacrifices they make day in and day out . Holding a day of celebration in their honour is just one of the ways the people of Edinburgh can thank them.”

[Armed Forces Day](#) is the annual, UK wide campaign that allows everyone to show their support for the men and women of the Armed Forces past and present, including currently serving troops, Service families, Reservists, veterans and cadets.

Similar events have been taking place across the UK, enabling people to come out and show their support, and giving a much-valued morale boost for Armed Forces personnel and their families. This year’s main UK event took place in Nottingham.

The UK Armed Forces defend the UK and its interests. Every day of the year they are busy working around the world, promoting peace, delivering aid, tackling drug smugglers, providing security and fighting terrorism.

The Scottish Government have taken a step forward in the quest to rid our rubbish bins and our seas of the plastic bag.

By 2014 Scottish retailers will charge a minimum of 5p per bag in a bid to reduce carrier bag use.

Environment Secretary Richard Lochhead announced the move yesterday which follows a consultation that was held last year to gauge public opinion. He said shoppers would be encouraged to reuse carrier bags to cut down on the 750 million bags used in Scotland each year.

Regulations will be introduced in the Scottish Parliament in time for businesses to start charging by October 2014.

Other countries have already implemented a similar charge.

Environment Secretary Richard Lochhead said:- “Discarded

carrier bags highlight our throwaway society. We use more carrier bags per head in Scotland than any other part of the UK and this is unsustainable.

“Carrier bags are a highly visible aspect of litter and we are taking decisive action to decrease their number. By reducing the amount being carelessly discarded we can cut litter and its impact on our environment and economy. A small charge should also encourage us all to stop and think about what we discard and what can be re-used.

“We have seen elsewhere that carrier bag charging has been effective in encouraging people to reuse bags. This charge is not a tax but will see retailers donating the proceeds to charity – this could be up to £5 million per year after retailers have covered their costs.

“Thousands of Scottish people already use bags for life and some retailers already charge. It is now time, however, for a national effort.”

Iain Gulland, Director, Zero Waste Scotland, said:

“Zero Waste Scotland supports initiatives that tackle litter and help achieve a zero waste society, so we welcome the Scottish Government’s decision to implement a levy on single use bags.

“We can all reduce the impact of carrier bags by making sure that when we must take one, we re-use it over and over again as many times as possible and then recycle it at the end of its life.

“Encouraging the reuse of carrier bags will complement wider action to tackle litter, which will be published later this summer. Moves to cut litter on land, in the sea and river systems will be set out as strategies for consultation.”

The scheme is subject to Scottish Parliament approval of

regulations. It is intended to take effect from October 2014.

- Retailers will be required to charge at least 5p for single-use bags.
- This is not a tax – retailers would be expected to donate net proceeds to good causes.
- The charge will apply to single use bags of any material, not just plastic.
- All retailers will be required to charge, not just supermarkets, however smaller businesses will be exempt from the requirement to report centrally the numbers of bags sold and how much they have given to charity to minimise administrative burdens. These businesses will be expected to make some form of public statement of this information on their premises such as a poster for customers to see.
- Some types of bags will be exempt, mainly for health and safety reasons and privacy such as bags for prescriptions, certain fresh foods (including fruit, unpackaged meat or fish) and unpackaged blades. The details of which bags should be exempted will be worked out finalised in discussion with stakeholders to ensure the system is effective.

The Marine Conservation Society (MCS) says the Scottish Government should be congratulated for taking a major step in tackling a problem that blights our towns and countryside alike, and which causes so much harm to our marine wildlife.

A 5p charge for single-use carrier bags in Scotland will begin in October 2014. Scotland follows in the footsteps of Wales and Northern Ireland. Westminster had indicated it was waiting to see the outcome of the Scottish consultation which was held earlier this year – up until now the coalition government has rejected calls for a levy saying cost on all sides was an issue.

Anne Saunders, MCS Projects Officer, based in Edinburgh says

the charity is delighted: "We look forward to seeing the results in Scotland following the great example that has been set in Wales and in Northern Ireland and a 5p charge on all single-use carrier bags, regardless of the material they are made from is a really encouraging step forward. In just one year the Welsh levy has reduced the consumption of single-use carrier bags by up to 80%."

Anne Saunders says the implementation of the charge next year will reduce harmful litter on our beaches and in our seas, and will prevent many wildlife entanglements and choking deaths.

"We have strong evidence that turtles and other sea creatures mistake plastic bags for food like jellyfish. They eat them and then die a painful death from choking or stomach blockages. Gulls are regularly seen eating bags looking for the food they once carried, and many other animals are known to consume plastic bags accidentally."

Edinburgh Airport is set to welcome almost 100,000 passengers through its doors this weekend, which looks set to be the busiest of the year so far.

With the school summer holidays officially underway, Scotland's busiest airport is gearing up for a huge influx of departing passengers, with Friday seeing almost 21,000 people leaving Scotland for sunnier climes.

With a huge number of destinations to choose from, including Orlando, Cancun and Alicante, plus exciting new additions such as Cagliari, Bologna and Sharm El Sheikh, customers will have an unrivalled selection of summer holidays to pick from.

Gordon Dewar, Chief Executive of Edinburgh Airport, said: "The summer months are always an incredibly busy time for us here

at Edinburgh Airport with families jetting off on their annual summer holiday.

“We’re delighted that this year looks set to be our busiest summer on record, with this weekend, the start of the traditional trade fortnight, looking set to be the busiest weekend of the year so far.

“We work extremely hard to give our passengers the very best choice when it comes to deciding on their summer getaway. We have a fantastic selection of destinations to choose from and we’ll continue to listen to what our customers want from us.

“Our ultimate goal is to make their experience of Edinburgh Airport as enjoyable as possible so this year we will once again have a range of family-friendly entertainment dotted throughout the check-in terminal and departure lounge. We will also be operating our family lane once again at security to ensure families can progress through security as quickly and easily as possible.”



EIFF has announced its BEST OF THE FEST lineup which offers audiences the opportunity to catch some of the many gems that will have screened during the 12 day Festival. Whether it’s music, memory or love and romance, BEST OF THE FEST is guaranteed to have something for everyone.

Films receiving additional screenings include FRANCES HA and BLACKBIRD, both currently in the top 5 films eligible for the Audience Award sponsored by Sainsbury’s Bank.

Tickets are on sale now at www.edfilmfest.org.uk and films screen tomorrow Sunday 30 June throughout the day at both Cineworld and Filmhouse. The lineup includes:

Screening at Cineworld:

11:00 THE SEA

12:55 BLACKBIRD

16:30 A LONG WAY FROM HOME

17:45 DESERT RUNNERS

17:50 THE GREAT HIP HOP HOAX

18:30 OH BOY

19:45 DUMMY JIM

20:00 THE BLING RING

20:15 THE BERLIN FILE

Screening at Filmhouse:

11:05 BREATHE IN

12:10 THE EAST

21:15 FRANCES HA

On the National Library website they have developed a new feature called the Duncan Street Explorer. The Library tell us that this page offers unprecedented digital access to the [Bartholomew Archive](#).

“We take a look at the map-making techniques Bartholomew employed and reveal what it was like to work at this influential Scottish firm.


“The site brings together a variety of materials including original documents, staff photographs, oral history recordings and film footage. An apprentice draughtsman recalls an

unsavoury incident involving a rat and a trouser leg and we reveal the unlikely connection between map-making and gramophone needles.

“Whether your interest is in map history, social history, local history or manufacturing technologies, [The Duncan Street Explorer](#) has something for everyone.”



Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Solpadeine Is My Boyfriend

 **Solpadeine Is My Boyfriend, Underbelly, 31 July to 26 August 12:30pm,**

“The sound of the Solpadeine creating the bubbles, embracing, displacing, erasing my troubles”

One of Ireland’s serious new talents Stefanie Preissner brings Solpadeine Is My Boyfriend to the Underbelly’s new Topside venue this August for the Fringe Festival. The production is written and performed by Stefanie Preissner and directed by Gina Moxley.

[Solpadeine Is My Boyfriend](#) is about a new Irish generation. They were promised everything; a life of financial stability and job security but they now find themselves queuing either at the airport to emigrate or the social welfare office to sign on. It’s a generation that feel entitled not to experience depression, economic or personal, and whose availability to over-the-counter medication allows them to numb both.

Stefanie's high-octane performance is broken up by moments of near stand-up comedy. The piece resonates with all Irish audiences regardless of where they are from due to the mass exodus of young people leaving for Australia, Canada and America.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Yellow Pears



Yellow Pears, ZOO, 2 to 26 August (except 12) 3pm, £8 (£6 concessions)

Swept Up make their debut at the Edinburgh Fringe with Yellow Pears, devised by actors India Crawford and Rose McPhilemy and director Debbie Hannan. In 2012 Yellow Pears was awarded The Bruce Millar Drama Award, which is given once a year to a graduate project from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland by the Bruce Millar Memorial Trust.

Raz and Itsy run a market stall unlike any other. They have bad taste, no flair for business but some seriously good dance moves. Yellow Pears is the big-hearted tale of two outsiders whose bizarre yet binding friendship creates a home for two people who are always on the wrong side of the door. Winners of the Bruce Millar Award, Swept Up bring their wide-eyed, open-hearted debut to Edinburgh. A bold, exuberant, physical comedy for everyone.

Swept Up Theatre began life after actors Rose McPhilemy and India Crawford travelled to Dublin to work with Philippe

Gaulier and discovered their inner idiots. After graduating from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in 2011 they realised that these idiots had a story to tell, and went on to form Swept Up.

Their first show, Yellow Pears has been devised with fellow Royal Conservatoire of Scotland graduate, director Debbie Hannan. Debbie's assisting credits include Enquirer (National Theatre of Scotland) A Doll's House (Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh) The Maids (Citizens Theatre, Glasgow) Sleeping Beauty (Citizens) and directing credits include Pamela Carter's liberty, equality, fraternity (Tron Theatre, Traverse). Debbie will be co-directing for The Royal Court's Soap Opera this July and will be directing Notes from the Underground in the Circle Studio at the Citizens this September.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – The Graveyard Slot

✖ **The Graveyard Slot, theSpace @ Surgeons Hall, 3 to 17 August (except 4, 11), £9 (£7.50 concession)**

All-female Hecate Theatre Co. are back at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2013 with [The Graveyard Slot](#), a spooky, silly radio play inspired by circa 1930s wireless shows.

Featuring six actors, two microphones and a smorgasbord of silly voices, The Graveyard Slot combines comedy and suspense to terrifically wacky effect. The audience are invited to tune their ears to a tale of mystery, séances and buried treasure as Janet de Bastion returns to her family mansion for a birthday party she'll never forget. Sound effects, music and character voices are performed live by the cast and the

production features composer Sara Garrard's spooky and original score.

Hecate Theatre Co. launched in 2010 and has consistently produced innovative and exciting shows, performed by an all-female cast. They are proud to donate 5% of all their profits to breast cancer charity, CoppaFeel. Hecate enjoyed their first Fringe in 2012, with their acclaimed twist on Ovid's epic, *Metamorphoses: Fables from Ovid*.

Dinosaurs on the loose in Edinburgh!



A Tyrannosaurus Rex has been on the rampage through Edinburgh – despite being extinct for the last 65 million years.

The aftermath of the mischievous carnivore's car-crushing antics caused bemusement among shoppers on Princes Street and Lothian Road earlier in the week until they realised it was, in fact, an advertising stunt promoting an IMAX 3D screening of *Jurassic Park* as part of the Edinburgh International Film Festival.

Ross Perth, who heads up marketing at EIFF, said:- “I wanted to come up with something that would really engage audiences, and it did. People were stopping and staring, wondering where these cars had come from. It’s all about demonstrating the creativity of the Festival and capturing the public’s imagination.”

In 2007, Ross was behind a multi award-winning idea to transform the columns of the National Gallery in Princes Street into giant soup cans to mark the opening of an Andy Warhol exhibition.

✖ Mike Cantlay, Chairman of VisitScotland, said: “The Edinburgh International Film Festival is an important date on Scotland’s cultural calendar, attracting thousands of visitors from all over the world every year, and it is fantastic to see this kind of fun innovation being used to promote it.”

The cars were returned to the scrap yard following the photo shoot.

The Edinburgh International Film Festival – the longest continually running film festival in the world – runs until Sunday. For a full programme of films and events, go to www.edfilmfest.org.uk

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Who wants to kill Yulia

Tymoshenko



**Assembly Roxy – Upstairs Thursday 1 August – Sunday 25 August
11.00 (1hr)**

Twice prime minister of Ukraine, heroine of the Orange Revolution, Yulia Tymoshenko was sentenced to seven years in prison in October 2011 on a charge of abuse in office relating to gas deals with Russia. In April this year The European Court of Human Rights declared her imprisonment “politically motivated”. Tymoshenko has always claimed that her detention was intended to keep her out of politics and that her rights have been violated. The court agreed unanimously that she had been jailed “for other reasons” than those permissible by law. Yulia Tymoshenko remains in a Ukrainian prison.

Directed by Jakov Sedlar who directed the 2012 documentary of the same name, *Who Wants To Kill Yulia Tymoshenko* is a searing account of the woman who has spent her life fighting for democracy and whose political opponents have taken extreme measures to silence her. Set in the prison cell she shares with a young woman who was framed for murder, the play paints a portrait of a freedom fighter who has been imprisoned by a corrupt regime, it reveals the steely determination that motivates her as well as an understanding and closeness that develops with the cellmate who becomes her saviour as well as her enemy.

Instantly recognisable by her yellow braids, Tymoshenko was a practicing economist and academic. Prior to her political career, Yulia Tymoshenko was a successful but controversial businesswoman in the gas industry, becoming by some estimates one of the richest people in the country.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – All This Time



Underbelly Bristo Square, 1st to 26th August, 17.50

Acclaimed British vocal group The Magnets are set to take the Edinburgh Fringe by storm with their latest album show All This Time. Surfing a wave of success the six-member band arrive at The Underbelly following a career-changing year, which has seen the release of their latest album with Wrasse Records, a sell-out national and international tour, numerous TV appearances across the world and their emergence as the highlight of The London A Capella Festival. As well as headlining their own hit tours, in the past The Magnets have supported Blondie, Tom Jones, Michael Ball, Bryan Adams and Lisa Stansfield and performed for royalty and heads of state across the World. A firm Fringe favourite, The Magnets are back in Edinburgh this August with something a little special.

The latest show from the group universally acclaimed for their tight harmonies and stunningly rhythmic beatboxing, features songs from the new album and combines their hallmark musical prowess with a breathtaking theatricality. Performing auditory illusions as they recreate the sound of a full vocal and instrumental band TOTALLY a cappella and showcasing their talent for extraordinary all-vocal arrangements, The Magnets give new life to hits from George Michael's Faith, Amy Winehouse's Valerie as well as featuring brand new original tracks. The show also reprises their crowd-pleasing History of British Pop medley with added audience participation. There will also be beatboxer Andy Frost's show-stopping solo in a

show all spiced up with flowing choreography, a spectacular light show and warm humour.

The Magnets have paid their dues as a student group and street performers through a major record deal with EMI and over a decade of international touring. Regular contributors Radio 2, they have also been seen and heard across Radio and TV, including Comic Relief, Parkinson and GMTV as well as featuring on the YouTube viral T-Mobile Welcome Back commercial.

Police appeal for witnesses after man disturbed in Gilmerton Road house



Police in Edinburgh are appealing for witnesses following a theft from a property in the south of the city. The incident happened around 5.15pm on Wednesday 26th June at an address in Gilmerton Road.

A 67-year-old man returned home and found a male inside who was in possession of a knife.

Following a brief struggle the victim was able to eject the suspect, who made off towards Moredunvale Road before turning into Moredun Park Gardens where he was lost to sight.

A number of items of jewellery were stolen from the property and anyone who can assist police with their enquiries is asked to come forward.

The suspect is describes as white, around 30-years-old with a large heavy build, pale complexion and dark curly hair. He was wearing dark baggy clothing, white trainers, dark rimmed

glasses and was in possession of a black bag.

A Police Scotland spokesman said: "This was a terrifying experience for the homeowner, who was robbed of his possessions after finding a male intruder within his home.

"The stolen items are of great sentimental value to the victim and we are conducting local enquiries to identify the individual responsible for this theft.

"Anyone who was in Gilmerton Road on Wednesday evening and saw anything suspicious, or who can help identify the suspect is asked to contact police immediately.

"Similarly, we would also urge anyone with other information relevant to this investigation to get in touch."

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

Video Footage of Southern Cassowary Laying an Egg

Using surveillance cameras, keepers at Edinburgh Zoo have managed to capture rare footage of their female southern cassowary Sydney laying an egg. The cameras were placed in the birds' nesting site when they started to show promising breeding behaviour. Edinburgh Zoo was the first collection in the UK to successfully breed southern cassowaries in 1986.

Listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List, successful breeding would be an important achievement for Edinburgh Zoo as it has been twenty-seven years since the Zoo had cassowary chicks. In 1986, Edinburgh Zoo was the first collection in the UK to successfully breed southern cassowaries.

This year is the first time ten-year-old Sydney has allowed her male companion Billy to share her enclosure since he arrived at the Zoo in 2005. The cassowaries started to show promising breeding signs after being placed together in April. Despite their terrifying reputation, Billy and Sydney showed their tender side and were often spotted eating from the same bunch of grapes. A nest site was constructed for the lovebirds and they both showed interest in the area before the first egg was laid last month.

There are currently 6 eggs in the nest, which are incubated, not by mum, but by potential father Billy. While keepers are uncertain if successful mating did occur and if the eggs are fertile, this is an enormous step forward in the breeding programme for this pair.

Any potential chicks will hatch around August and Billy will continue to take sole responsibility of them.

Breeding this species is particularly difficult due to their highly aggressive nature. Keepers are very rarely in the enclosure at the same time as the birds and only then with large boards as protection, as cassowaries are renowned for their large, dagger-like claws and powerful high-kicks that can prove fatal.

Colin Oulton, Team Leader for Birds at Edinburgh Zoo, comments: "Cassowary eggs are amongst the largest of all bird eggs, measuring around 15cm long by 10cm wide. Usually egg fertility is checked through candling; however cassowary eggs are unable to be candled as the light cannot penetrate the thick green eggshell. Their incubation period is around 56 days, so we will just have to wait and see if any hatch out. As this is Billy's first clutch we want to assess his natural parenting skills, so plan to let him incubate naturally, rather than remove the eggs to an incubator."

Southern cassowaries are the third-largest bird, behind the ostrich and the emu and are easily recognised by their jet black plumage, azure blue neck and impressive horn-like helmet on the crown of their head. Also known as double-wattled cassowaries, they are distinguishable from the north cassowary

and dwarf cassowary by the two wattles of bright red skin that hang down from the throat. They are native to New Guinea and Queensland, Australia with between 10,000 and 20,000 birds remaining in the wild. Habitat loss, hunting and predation by dogs are the biggest threats the species faces.

Standing on history at the Mary Queen of Scots exhibition



The new exhibition at the [National Museum](#) opens today showing exclusive objects about Mary Queen of Scots. The aim is to celebrate her life but also to focus on the pivotal moment when her second husband, Lord Henry Darnley, was murdered on the very place the Museum building now stands.

The Edinburgh Reporter's Trystan Davies spoke to curator George Dalgleish:-

EIFF Awards ceremony held today



The winners of this year's prestigious Edinburgh International Film Festival awards were announced at the Festival's awards ceremony, held at Filmhouse today and hosted by Grant Lauchlan, producer and presenter of stv's Moviejuice. The ceremony took place ahead of Sunday's Closing Night Gala, NOT ANOTHER HAPPY ENDING, which will conclude the 12-day Festival.

The Award for Best Film in the International Competition was presented to **Mahdi Fleifel's A WORLD NOT OURS** (Lebanon/UAE/Denmark/UK), which received its UK premiere here at EIFF. The award is given to filmmakers from outside of the UK in recognition of their imagination and innovation. Acclaimed South Korean director Bong Joon-ho chaired the International Feature Film Competition Jury, which also included actress Natalie Dormer and film critic Siobhan Synnot.

The jury citation read: "The International Jury loved this film's warm regard for the people at the heart of the film. A difficult subject was handled with confidence and humour. We hope that many more people get the opportunity to see A WORLD NOT OURS."

Mahdi Fleifel said: "I am immensely grateful to the programmers at the EIFF for inviting my film. I have lived, studied and worked in the UK for 13 years, but I've never managed to screen any of my work at a single British film event – not even my short films which were pretty successful internationally. Winning the prize in Britain's No. 1 Film Festival is too good to be true. I hope this will help bring our film to a wider audience in the UK and I would like to thank the jury for this wonderful honour."

The jury also gave a special mention to Elias Giannakakis' JOY (Greece). The citation read: "The Jury would like to make special mention of Elias Giannakakis' unique character study in JOY and an outstanding performance by Amalia Moutousi."

The Michael Powell Award for Best British Feature Film went to **Lucien Castaing-Taylor** and **Véréna Paravel's LEVIATHAN** (UK/USA/France), which received its UK Premiere at the Festival. A visually stunning documentary, LEVIATHAN wins one of the longest-running film awards in the UK, honouring imagination and creativity in British filmmaking.

The winner was chosen by the Michael Powell Jury, chaired by Iranian director Samira Makhmalbaf and including actor and director Kevin McKidd and film critic Derek Malcolm. The jury described the film "as an original and imaginative documentary which observes the brutal routine of deep sea fishing in a way which completely immerses the watcher in its story."

Lucien Castaing-Taylor and Véréna Paravel said: "We are totally bowled over by the news of this award. All our films have been rejected by every British film festival to date, so it is all the more moving for us! We also admire in so many ways the work of this jury, which makes this award especially meaningful to us both. It also gives us the courage and conviction to continue to keep pushing at the envelope – of cinema, of documentary, of art."

The jury awarded a special commendation to Paul Wright's FOR

THOSE IN PERIL “for its passionate portrait of a young Scots survivor of a tragedy at sea.”

The Award for Best Performance in a British Feature Film was shared by **Jamie Blackley** and **Toby Regbo** for their performances as the dysfunctional schoolboys in **uwantme2killhim?** The performance awards were voted for by the Michael Powell Award Competition Jury.

Jamie Blackley said: “I felt lucky enough to hear that two films I was in had been selected for the EIFF, so to then win this award is a wonderful shock that I wasn’t expecting and I am proud to share it with Toby. I’d like to thank Andrew Douglas and the cast and crew for making the experience so special for me and to EIFF for making me feel so welcome.”

Co-star Toby Regbo added: “I’m absolutely over the moon. Making this film was so positive: a really interesting story, a great director and a superb actor to work opposite, what more could you want really? I’d like to say thank you to the EIFF for supporting British independent film and young actors.”

Reinstated in 2013 after a two-year absence, **The Audience Award**, supported by Sainsbury’s Bank, went to **FIRE IN THE NIGHT** (UK) directed by **Anthony Wonke** for his deeply moving documentary detailing the 1988 Piper Alpha disaster in the North Sea. The film, which received its World Premiere at the Festival, skilfully combines archival footage, audio recordings and interviews with some of the 61 survivors of the disaster, some of whom are interviewed for the very first

time.

Voted for by cinema-goers attending public screenings, films were eligible from across the Festival programme at the discretion of the Artistic Director.

Anthony Wonke said: "It's 25 years ago this July that Piper Alpha exploded and sunk into the North Sea and we hope that with this film the memory of that fateful night that affected so many lives will act as a suitable remembrance. I'd like to thank everyone who voted for FIRE IN THE NIGHT, it really does mean an awful lot to everyone involved especially all the men who took part in the film. I know that they will be incredibly touched and thankful that the public engaged with this film and their story in such a positive way."

EIFF Artistic Director Chris Fujiwara said: "The Audience Award, which we reinstated this year after a two-year hiatus, is not only one of the most significant of EIFF's initiatives designed to engage audiences with cinema, it's also one of the most fun. We're delighted by the enthusiasm shown by our audience members who took part in choosing this award, and we're grateful for the support and commitment of Sainsbury's Bank."

GHL by **Lotte Schreiber** won **The Award for Best Short Film** in the shorts category. The prize was one of three awards bestowed by the Short Film Competition Jury, which included International Film Festival Rotterdam programmer Inge de Leeuw (chair), film critic Christoph Huber and independent film programmer Ricardo Matos Cabo.

The jury citation read: "The jury unanimously gives this prize for Best Short Film to a visually and rhythmically precise architectural study that doubles as a portrait of current social changes with the ghost of capitalism haunting the space of a popular landmark of communal recreation erected as a socialist utopia in Vienna.

Lotte Schreiber said: "I am very proud to receive this amazing award from this fantastic film festival, which is the most exciting one I've ever received! I'm proud of my little team and I want to thank them all for their precious contribution to this little movie: especially Johannes Hammel, who did the breathtaking camerawork and Michael Krassnitzer for his perfect low-key acting. This award makes me sure to keep on filmmaking, even under extremely tough economic circumstances, which will probably become even tougher for all of us independent filmmakers in the next years. But it's worth carrying on! I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Festival Programme Committee who has selected the Film to be part of the International Competition at EIFF and likewise to the Short Film jury members, who have put their whole confidence into this little Viennese movie."

The Award for Creative Innovation in a Short Film, given for the first time this year, was awarded to **DOLL PARTS** by **Muzi Quawson**, as voted for by the Shorts Jury. The jury citation read: "The prize for creative innovation goes to a short that takes an unusual approach to documenting subculture and its protagonists, utilising paradoxical means. The film achieves a sense of drift by focusing on moments of stasis and capturing the energy of touring musicians through surprising ellipses and attention to incidental details."

Another newly introduced award within the shorts category, **The Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution to a Short Film**, which celebrates imaginative and innovative work in short cinema, was awarded to **Josh Gibson** as Director of Photography of **LIGHT PLATE**, which he also directed.

The jury citation read: "The prize for outstanding contribution to a short film goes to the camerawork of a magical landscape study, capturing a day in the Tuscan countryside with a series of subtle, imaginative and mesmerizingly textured images forged with careful attention to the possibilities and beauty of 35mm films."

Josh Gibson said: "I am honoured and humbled to receive this award and to be recognized along with this small, personal film at such a prestigious international film festival, brimming with work by talented people that I have admired for a long time. Unlike feature films, short films are delicate creatures that owe much to the programming. In shorts programmes the individual films reverberate against one another, sometimes changing fundamentally depending upon the other pieces in the programme. I especially want to thank the EIFF programmers for finding a place for LIGHT PLATE where its particular point of view and visual preoccupations could be acknowledged and admired."

The jury also gave a special mention to three filmmakers whose work holds great promise for the future: Charlotte Rabate for LUCILLE IN THE SKY; Ivan Castineiras for THE BORDER; and Anna Frances Ewert for ENDLESS DAY.

As voted for by the audience, **The McLaren Award for Best New British Animation**, supported by the British Council, went to **MARILYN MYLLER** by director **Mikey Please** and co-animator **Dan Ojari**. Named after Scottish-born filmmaker Norman McLaren, the McLaren Award is the longest running award celebrating creativity amongst UK animation talent. The award was presented at the awards ceremony by Richard Williams, widely regarded as one of the world's greatest animators.

Mikey Please said: "The team and I are absolutely thrilled to receive the prestigious McLaren Award. We hope that our gonzo, the-rules-are-there-to-break-them approach to filmmaking was very much in a spirit that would have made Norman proud. This was Marilyn's World premiere, so naturally we were very nervous about how she'd be received. To have the warm welcome of an audience vote is wonderful, the best result we could have possibly hoped for."

The Student Critics Jury Award, supported by Morag and James Anderson, was awarded to **CELESTIAL WIVES OF THE MEADOW MARI** by **Alexey Fedorchenko**. The award was determined by a jury of seven aspiring film critics, Lewis Camley, Ruth Swift-Wood, Kathryn Craigmyle, Phil Kennedy, Catarina Mourao, Rebecca Lily Bowen and Vivek Santayana, who took part in a workshop on film criticism at EIFF under the guidance of Kate Taylor (Independent Cinema Office), Gabe Klinger (independent film critic and programmer) and Nick James (editor, Sight & Sound).

The jury citation read: "Bearing in mind what the Artistic Director said, film is reality and also something more. A witty, perceptive and beautiful celebration of folk mythologies".

Students test their own beer



Four 'renaissance' real ale-loving postgrad brewing students from Edinburgh's Heriot-Watt University have been trialling and testing their own tipple at top Edinburgh brewer Stewart Brewing.



The four students have left behind their careers in music, physiotherapy, environmental lobbying and kinesiology to pursue their love of brewing traditions, in partnership with Stewarts. Their "Origin" ale is launched at top Edinburgh student haunt Bannerman's Bar in the city's Cowgate on July 10th.

Pictured left to right with their "Origins" brew at Stewart Brewery are: Dave Ross, Campbell Morrissy (correct), Patrick Howell and Bruce Smith.

Photography by

Colin Hattersley Photography^{Public}

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Missing Woman Yulia Solodyankina – Family Appeal



The family of missing woman Yulia Solodyankina have appealed for her to make contact, as officers continue with their enquiries to trace her.

Yulia was last seen at Buchanan Street Bus Station in Glasgow around 4.55pm on Friday 7th June.

She is due to graduate from the University of Edinburgh with a degree in physics on Monday 1st July.

Anyone who believes they have seen the student since this time, or who has information that can assist police with their investigation is asked to come forward immediately.

Speaking directly to her daughter, Yulia's mother Ekaterina has issued a plea via Police Scotland for the 22-year-old to get in touch.

“Yulechka, do you remember, I told you that I love you whatever you do, whatever happens to you? Do you remember I told you a story about the heart that runs somewhere else apart from me? Come back, if you hear us. We love you very much.

“There are no hopeless situations in life. Everything can be overcome. We love you. You are our life. Your mom and dad.”

Yulia is described as white, 5ft 6ins tall with a small mole on her left cheek. She speaks fluent English with a strong Russian accent and was last seen wearing a dark coat with belt, dark shoulder bag, a red and orange coloured scarf, grey trousers, and brown shoes with white laces.

Anyone with information can contact Police Scotland on 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, or the charity Missing People, where information can be passed by calling, emailing, or sending a text to 116 000. The service is free, 24 hour, and confidential.

Five things you need to know today



Potholes – School's Out! – Scotrail using rainwater to wash the trains! – Mary, Queen of Scots – Martyn Bennett Prize

The Edinburgh Reporter was delighted to be instrumental in getting a [pothole](#) fixed in Dundas Street. Not that we actually wielded a shovel, but we did draw the problem to the attention of the council, and they fixed it. They would be happy to hear

from you too.

There is [a form on the council website](#) which you can use to report potholes and street lighting problems.

The council [decided in February 2013](#) to add another £12m to their budget for repairing roads and pavements across the city.

Edinburgh schools are on holiday from today.

All term dates are shown on the council website [here](#) but it is probably worth reminding you that the future dates are as follows:-

Autumn term

- *Monday 13 August 2012 – Staff resume (Five In-Service days for all schools)*
- *Tuesday 14 August 2012 – Staff only (Five In-Service days for all schools)*
- *Wednesday 15 August 2012 – Pupils resume*
- *Schools closed Monday 17 September 2012 – Autumn Holiday*
- *Tuesday 18 September 2012 – All resume*
- *Friday 12 October 2012 – Mid-term, All break*
- *Monday 22 October 2012 – Staff resume (Five In-Service*

days for all schools)

- *Tuesday 23 October 2012 – Primary, Nursery and Special pupils resume (In-Service for Secondary Schools only)*
- *Wednesday 24 October 2012 – Secondary School pupils resume*
- *Thursday 20 December 2012 – Term ends*

ScotRail is harnessing Scotland's damp climate to help reduce costs and its carbon footprint – by collecting rainwater for use in washing trains.

The train operator has installed an innovative system which allows it to collect rainwater from over two thousand squared metres of roof area at Corkerhill depot in Glasgow to clean the underside of its trains.

The company believes it is the first rail operator in the UK to introduce the 'rainwater harvesting' system at a depot.

The facility was installed at Corkerhill depot earlier this month and can collect 72,000 litres of rainwater, which is more than half of the water required to clean the underside of three trains every day for a year.

Steve Montgomery, ScotRail's managing director, said: "The new facility removes the need for us to use more than 3.5 million litres of fresh water every year – helping improve the environmental performance of Scotland's railways.


"If the pilot project is successful, we may consider introducing rainwater harvesting at other depots in the future."

Rainwater harvesting technology is already used on Indian railways, where fresh water is at a premium.

Transport Minister Keith Brown said: "I am delighted ScotRail has introduced the rainwater harvesting system as a pilot project at its Corkerhill depot. This innovative system will help to deliver further reductions in its carbon footprint and maintenance costs.

"This will be another milestone as we work towards improving Scotland's railways' environmental performance, and I look forward to seeing this system rolled out at other locations in the future."



 From today until November there is a new exhibition on show at the National Museum of Scotland on Chambers Street. Arguably one of the most enigmatic figures in Scottish history, the story of Mary, Queen of Scots can still arouse strong emotions: was she betrayed by those she trusted, condemned to die a Catholic martyr, or a murdering adulteress with her husband's blood on her hands? This major exhibition, only showing in Edinburgh, provides a unique opportunity to re-evaluate much that has been written and speculated about this charismatic monarch, drawing together surviving relics intimately connected with Mary and wider Renaissance material, such as documents, portraits, jewellery, furniture and textiles.

28 June – 17 Nov 2013

Exhibition Gallery 1, Level 3

Cost: Adult £9, Con £7.50, Child (12-15) £6, Under 12s free, National Museums Scotland Members free, National Art Pass holders receive 50% discount.

Poster from NMS ©Blairs Museum Trust

[Mary, Queen of Scots](#) from [National Museums Scotland](#) on [Vimeo](#).

Also on the theme of Mary Queen of Scots, a new book written and produced by Historic Scotland is being published today, Friday 28th June 2013 to tie in with the opening of the major Mary Queen of Scots exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland.

Mary Was Here, subtitled 'Where Mary Queen of Scots went and what she did there', is a fast-paced and very accessible guide to the travels of Scotland's most famous historical figure.

Extensively illustrated, it charts Mary's life from just before her birth at Linlithgow Palace to the months after her execution at Fotheringhay Castle in Northamptonshire.

Andrew Burnet, Publications and Information Manager at Historic Scotland and one of the co-authors said: "Mary Queen of Scots is a key figure in our history who continues to fascinate people from around the world. She has connections with more than 20 Historic Scotland properties including Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, Craigmillar Castle, Lochleven Castle, Castle Campbell, Dumbarton Castle, Dundrennan Abbey and of course, her place of birth, Linlithgow Palace.

"The book is based around specific events on specific dates at specific locations, however its main focus is on Scotland, where Mary travelled widely during her brief reign. It also features plenty of colourful imagery, including superb photography, and more than 120 images from art collections in Scotland, England, France, Spain and Italy."

The book includes sections on Mary's childhood in France and her long imprisonment in England. It also looks at key themes such as food and drink, sickness and health, marriages,

costume and jewellery

The book has been written by Historic Scotland's Andrew Burnet, Nicki Scott and Sally Gall.

More than 35 Scottish sites connected with Maryare covered in the book. Additional properties include: Inchmahome Priory, Spynie Palace, Edzell Castle, and Whithorn Priory.

The book will be available from today, retailing at £7.95. It will be for sale at the National Museum throughout the run of the exhibition (until 17th November). It will also be sold at Historic Scotland's shops at selected sites, including Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, Linlithgow Palace, Dumbarton Castle, Lochleven Castle, Craigmillar Castle, Inchmahome Priory and the Abbey Strand bookshop next to Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh

[The Queen's Hall](#) and [Traditional Music Forum](#) have launched the inaugural [Martyn Bennett Prize for traditional music composition](#) with total prize money of £3000. Supported by funding from [Creative Scotland](#), the Prize will seek to raise the profile and reward the vital role that composition plays in Scotland's traditional music. Named in honour of the acclaimed composer/multi instrumentalist Martyn Bennett, the competition is open to all Scottish-based musicians to create a new 5 – 10 minute long composition that shows its roots in traditional music.

The winner will be selected by a judging panel led by leading Scottish composer/musician [Jim Sutherland](#) at a concert at Edinburgh's Queen's Hall on Saturday 14 September 2013. All the shortlisted finalists' compositions will be performed live by a band led by acclaimed multi-instrumentalist [Anna Massie](#) (Blazin Fiddles/The Unusual Suspects). The winner will receive £2000 and a unique award created by Edinburgh glass

artist Karen Akester. The runner up will receive £1000 and all the finalists' compositions will be professionally recorded for future broadcast on The Queen's Hall's [YouTube](#) and [SoundCloud](#) channels.

Full information and the application form can be found on the website:

www.themartynbennettprize.com



Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Hope & Gloria

**20:40, 3-24 Aug, The Voodoo Rooms (French Quarter) – Venue 68,
West Register Street, Edinburgh.**

For one summer only, the people of Britain have the opportunity to benefit from a truly unique brand of problem-solving advice, given live on stage in The Dr. Hope Seminar Show: Hope & Gloria.

Everyone is invited to come along and discover how to manage difficult relationships, assess individual suitability for parenthood and frame enemies for crimes they didn't commit. With advice on topics ranging from optimal fitness to the art of seduction and a skill-set to rival that of Oprah Winfrey and David Blaine combined, Dr. Hope promises to make people

think differently about their approach to personal problem solving.

Small, strange and sometimes ridiculous, Dr. Hope is brought to life by RADA-trained writer and performer, Alexandra Maher, who brings her first solo comedy show to free fringe venue, The Voodoo Rooms, with a character who just wants to spread hope wherever she goes.

At the races today



Musselburgh Racecourse rounds off its busiest month of the year with today's The Investec Wealth & Investment Race Day.

The feature race is the Investec Wealth and Investment Handicap (3.45), a 5f sprint which sees course specialists Rothesay Chancer and The Nifty Fox both bidding to increase their winning records at the East Lothian venue, but both will be hard pressed to get the better of the recent Musselburgh winner Red Baron.

The Eric Alston trained four year old surged home from Imperial Legend on Ladies Day with The Nifty Fox four lengths adrift in fourth place. Taking Neil Farley's 3lbs claim into consideration, Red Baron will actually renew rivalry on 1lb better terms and the style of his victory suggests that Red Baron remains on the upgrade.

Investec are also supporting the Edinburgh Selling Stakes at 2.40 and this valuable seller provides Brian Ellison's Scargill with an excellent opportunity to gain his second win of the summer.

Only a week ago, Scargill was competing in the Listed Chesham Stakes at Royal Ascot and on his penultimate outing he finished a most respectable third behind the well regarded Master Carpenter in a conditions race at Pontefract. Scargill is set to carry top weight but his burden is reduced by the booking of the talented 7lbs claimer Connor Beasley.

Jim Goldie would appear to dominate the Download the Free Racing Plus App. Handicap (3.10). The Uplawmoor trainer saddles course winners Titus Bolt and Grand Diamond and the pair are closely matched on their recent running at Musselburgh, but Graham Lee rides Titus Bolt who is narrowly preferred.

Philip Kirby has a profitable strike rate with his Musselburgh runners and his Dr Irv commands respect in the 2m Boogie In The Morning Handicap (4.55). Though only successful once in 18 races, Dr Irv has been consistent all summer and the last occasion when he tackled two miles in a competitive handicap at Ripon, Dr Irv was the moral winner being squeezed for room in the final strides and going down by the narrowest of margins in a three way photo. He deserves compensation here.

Today's meeting is the East Lothian courses fourth in June and follows the totepool Edinburgh Cup, Stobo Castle Ladies Day

and William Hill Scottish Sprint Cup, which attracted more than 17,000 race goers and offered total prize money of £360,000

Musselburgh Racecourse general manager, Bill Farnsworth, said: "It's been an exciting month for us and we are delighted our three key meetings went off without a hitch.

"The Edinburgh Cup and Scottish Sprint Cup, both very different fixtures, are continuing to develop a strong following and we have an excellent foundation to build on in the coming years.

"Ladies Day was our ninth consecutive sell-out and we really feel this was our best yet. With another nine flat meetings over the summer months, we hope we can mirror the success we enjoyed in June and make it a Flat season to remember."

For more information please visit www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk

Edinburgh council agree to Greens motion backing Robin

Hood tax

The Green group lodged a motion at today's full council meeting which looked like something else that would be cast aside by the overwhelming majority of the Coalition administration. That was until the speeches started, and it became clear that the administration were actually minded to agree that the council should tell the UK government that they would like the so-called Robin Hood tax looked into at the earliest opportunity.

The idea behind this tax on financial transactions is that if central government can raise some extra cash then it would not be left to local authorities to either raise funds themselves by whatever means they can, which naturally would involve cuts to services.

The original motion was as follows:-

"This Council:

Recognises the impact of the UK Coalition Government's public sector and welfare cuts on this City and its residents;

Believes that the levy of a Financial Transaction Tax on speculative financial transactions could provide a way of raising revenue and mitigating cuts to public services;

Therefore agrees that the Council Leader should make representation to HM Government calling for the Financial Transaction Tax to be introduced at the earliest opportunity."

The motion was amended by changing the word 'introduced' to 'explored' and was passed by a majority of councillors.

☒ Green councillor Steve Burgess said:- "Pressure is mounting

on the Government with over 100,000 people in the UK actively supporting a campaign to introduce a Robin Hood tax. Councils across the country are making official representations and I'm pleased to say they have today been joined by Edinburgh Council.

"The Robin Hood tax or Financial Transaction tax would place a very small levy, 0.01 to 0.1%, on financial transactions such as the sale of stocks and bonds. Because the total value of financial transactions is so massive, the tax could raise as much as £20billion. This amount could go some way to offsetting the UK Government's swingeing budget cuts that are impacting on everyone, as services are cut and welfare is slashed.

"Eleven other European countries, including France and Germany, have already agreed to implement a Robin Hood tax but prompted by the banks and the US government, the UK Government has lodged a legal challenge against it in the European Court. They say it's unworkable, despite the fact the UK already has a similar tax called 'stamp duty' on share dealing that raises £3billion a year.

"Despite the opposition of the current UK Government hopefully a Robin Hood tax will go ahead across Europe and there will be an opportunity for a future Government, be it UK or Scottish, to implement this very fair measure in the not too distant future."

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Who's Driving Adam?

☒ **Who's Driving Adam?, 5 to 10 August 4:10pm, theSpace @ Surgeon's Hall, £6**

ArtDodd are two people, ArtDodd will use props and videos, ArtDodd will tell tales of being extremely poor in the bedroom department, their boring mundane lives, how they have the tendency to judge everyone and everything, and hating the heffer who lives upstairs from them and loves to wake up at 4am.

ArtDodd will warn others to go to college and learn a trade such as plumbing or bricklaying, as it is the right thing to do. ArtDodd will go home.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Kevin Dewsbury – Out Now

Kevin Dewsbury – Out Now, Laughing Horse @ The White Horse, 1 to 25 August (except 5, 12, 19) 6pm, Free

The critically acclaimed comedian returns to the Edinburgh Festival in 2013 as part of the shows being put on at the Laughing Horse – and they are all free!

Kevin is a proper bloke, he likes football, beer and...sexy men. He 'came out' a few years ago in his late twenties and dived immediately into the 'gay scene'. In this [new show for 2013](#) he explores stereotypes, prejudices, relationships, equal marriage and bigotry.

Expect songs, jokes, stories and some tales of a rather graphic nature, all delivered with Kevin's trademark wit and

warmth.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Tea at Five

✖ Katharine Hepburn Returns To Edinburgh in Tea At Five

by Matthew Lombardo

2-3, 5-10, 19-24 August 11.05am 50m £7 (£6) 11-17 August
10.05am 50m £6 (£6)

Surgeons Hall, theSpaceUK, Nicholson St, Edinburgh, EH8 9DW
Box Office: 0131 510 2384

It started with her triumphant British theatrical debut at the Edinburgh International Festival in 1952, and she would later call it the biggest disappointment of her career.

At the 1952 Oscars, Katharine Hepburn receives her fifth Oscar nomination for *The African Queen* and is on the cover of *TIME* magazine. At the height of her fame she walks away from movies for three years, that summer coming to Edinburgh to make her British stage debut performing Bernard Shaw's *The Millionairess*, which then transfers to the West End. *The Millionairess* was acutely personal to Hepburn – her parents read Shaw to her when she was a child, and she was overjoyed when it transferred to Broadway that winter.

Yet lukewarm reviews from Broadway damaged then play's prospects. Hepburn struggled for years to get it adapted into a film: she employed Preston Sturges to write the screenplay, offered to work for free and to pay the director herself, but no studio picked up the project. In a rollercoaster career of highs and lows, Hepburn called this the biggest disappointment of her career.

Now Birmingham's Old Joint Stock Theatre Company are bringing

Katharine Hepburn back to Edinburgh in an acclaimed revival of Tea At Five, Matthew Lombardo's one-woman play recounting the life and final days of Katharine Hepburn which debuted in 2002 with Kate Mulgrew (Captain Janeway, StTrek: Voyager) in the lead role.

Old Joint Stock revived the piece in 2012 with Meghan Lloyd in the lead role and the production swept the Stratford-Upon-Avon Fringe last summer, winning Best Solo Performance and Lloyd taking home the Best Actress award. Now the company are bringing Katharine back to Edinburgh for performances at Surgeon's Hall throughout August 2013.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – I (Honestly) Love You

✖ **I (Honestly) Love You, C aquila, 1 to 13 August 5:05pm, £8.50-£10.50 (concessions £6.50-£8.50)**

Nominated Best Play in Western Australia, [this comedy gem](#) follows two people inflicted with a truth-telling disease, as they meet and fall in love.

From award-winning Western Australian playwright, Damon Lockwood, comes a tale of love gained, love lost, and love thrown around a bit.

Lloyd Rees and Belle Ashton are the two reluctant protagonists who are burdened with the truth telling disease Vitiositas Veritas, which only allows them to tell the truth at all times. Like most relationships, everything seems to be going (sort of) well enough to start with: there's a hesitant first date, a disappointing initial sexual encounter and an unfortunate meeting with Belle's parents.

Somehow the two lovers navigate these intimate difficulties

enough to look each other in the eyes and say 'I love you' which, unbeknown to either of them, precipitates the next stage of the vitiositas veritas disease. Having honestly uttered those three words they are now able to lie to each other but every time they do so a week is knocked off their lives. The choice is simple: vicious truth and life, or honest lies and death.

I (Honestly) Love You has performed two sold-out seasons in Australia and departs Edinburgh to perform at the New York City Fringe. The show was nominated for two awards in the Equity Guild Awards 2012 and was nominated for four Blue Room awards including Judge's Choice and Member's Choice.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Bob Slayer: Worldwide Bawbag

✖ **Bob Slayer: Worldwide Bawbag, Bob's Bookshop, 1 to 31
August 4:45pm, Free (or pay in advance to guarantee entry)**

Bob Slayer likes to drink, so much so that this year he has rented an empty shop and set up his own bar to perform in. With Scottish Borders Brewery on tap. Heroes @ Bob's Bookshop will also put on affordable shows by other acts + continue to challenge the pay to play model of the big four venues.

[Join Bob on Happy Hour in his own Fringe bar](#), venue and bookshop. Fascinatingly funny, unplugged, gonzo stories of hilarious adventures and life affirming nonsense... keeping Edinburgh weird.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Who Are You Supposed To Be?



Who Are You Supposed To Be?, C venues – C aquila, 14 to 26 August 3:40pm, £9.50 (£7.50/£5.50 concessions)

Actor Jennifer Lusk wants to know why she can't play the Doctor in the BBC science fiction series, Doctor Who.

"The Doctor is an alien with two hearts. Why can't she be an alien with two hearts and two breasts," she said. Lusk will star in a rom com set at a science fiction convention called [Who Are You Supposed To Be?](#)

Co-star Cameron K McEwan, better known in Doctor Who fan circles as the owner of "Blogtor Who" agrees. "Don't we all want to be the Doctor? Maybe it's time for a woman to take the mantle. That's part of what the play addresses."

Originally conceived as a tribute to fans in the 50th Anniversary year of Doctor Who, the play's themes became more relevant on the announcement of Matt Smith's departure earlier in the month.

"Once Matt Smith and the BBC had made their official announcement, the first thing declared by the tabloids is that he would be replaced by a woman," said Who Are You Supposed To Be? writer, Keith Gow. "And the online discussions quickly mirrored the conflict in the play. Jen's character likes to dress up as the Doctor. Cameron's character doesn't want a woman, because of tradition."

The show isn't just about a woman playing the Doctor, though. It is, at its core, a love story where the characters initially bond over pop culture references. As well as love, the show also tackles the issue of anxiety – and how we cope outside our comfort zones.

"It was important to us that the show wasn't just about Doctor Who jokes or Batman references. We've all got different sides and I wanted to make sure the show captured that," said Gow. "It would be easy to make a show that relies on in-jokes, but we definitely want to appeal to everyone. So it's for people who fall in love, people who have awkward moments. All of us."

Lusk and McEwan are about to begin rehearsals on the play, which they hope to tour after the thirteen-show run at Edinburgh Fringe. Two months out from the premiere, they are also trying to raise a little bit more money for costumes and publicity.

"My character, Ash, is dressed up as Peter Davison's Doctor throughout the show. We need money to get that costume right. That's her character – she likes to dress up! She spends hours making these costumes. The show needs to get that right," Lusk explains.

"I get to dress up late in the show as well," said McEwan. "But I can't tell you who I dress as. As River Song is so fond of saying, 'Spoilers!'"

With a decision on who will replace Matt Smith still pending, are the creators of this World Premiere romantic comedy about fans and fandom worried that the BBC might be bold and actually cast a woman in the role? Would that change the show?

"Writing is re-writing," joked Lusk. "If we have to make a change, we'll be fine. But I think the argument might go on well after an announcement is made. Besides, if the BBC is so bold as to cast a woman as the Doctor, the most important thing is that little girls watching the show can look up and

start to believe they could be the Doctor, too.”

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Adam Smith, le Grand Tour



**Adam Smith, le Grand Tour, Institut français d'Ecosse, 2 to 26
August 3pm, £10 (£8 concessions)**

Compagnie Les Labyrinthes presents Adam Smith, Le Grand Tour, [an original creation for the Fringe](#) mixing theatre and video for a journey back in time to the origins of the thought of the key figure of Scottish Enlightenment.

In Adam Smith, Le Grand Tour, Compagnie Les Labyrinthes takes us on a journey through Adam Smith's thought and work. Incorporating economics, philosophy and theatre, this original creation is an invitation to go back to the founding principles of liberalism, the context of the Scottish Enlightenment and the influence of Adam Smith's thought on our modern society.

Through the eyes of the two protagonists Marie (Vanessa Oltra) and Fred (Frédéric Kneip) who have embarked on a journey through Scotland to complete their own 'Grand Tour', Adam Smith, Le Grand Tour is a sharply written, humorous and caustic homage to the legacy of the philosopher. Neither an economic nor a philosophical treaty, it makes us wonder: what remains of Adam Smith today? And what have we done with his thought?

Coming to Scotland in summer 2012, Compagnie Les Labyrinthes

followed in the footsteps of Adam Smith and visited the places in Edinburgh and around related to his life and work. They brought back from this trip the videos that would become fully part of their multimedia production. World premiering at this year's Fringe in its English version, Adam Smith, Le Grand Tour will then be touring in France in a French version.

Based in Aquitaine, in south-western France, Compagnie Les Labyrinthes was founded in 1995 by Gérard David, teacher at the Merignac Conservatory. Compagnie Les Labyrinthes has so far produced about thirty classic and contemporary theatre projects. In addition to the creation of theatre shows, the company is actively working on programmes of artistic education intended to schools.

Author of the show and performer Vanessa Oltra holds a PhD in Economics and is a senior lecturer at the University of Bordeaux IV. Former student at the Merignac Conservatory, she has been working with Gérard David for several years. Adam Smith, Le Grand Tour is her first theatre project involving both her researcher and author skills.

Frédéric Kneip is a performer and director. Former student at the Rennes Conservatory for Dramatic Arts and and the Merignac Conservatory, he regularly plays with different companies, including Compagnie Les Labyrinthes. In parallel, he is working on artistic education in prison.

M & S EDINBURGH CROSSES THE FINISHING LINE AFTER 24-HOUR

CYCLE CHALLENGE

Contributed article

Over 1,400 Marks & Spencer employees from across Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, including two teams from Edinburgh, really went the extra mile last weekend by completing M&S's BIKE 24 charity cycle challenge event. Covering over 150,000 miles during the challenge, M&S has already raised £850,000 and is now firmly on track to reach its £1.5million fundraising target this summer.

The 'Le Mans'-inspired event, which took place at Rockingham Motor Racing Circuit in Corby, was the UK's largest 24 hour endurance event. Each lap of the circuit, helped to raise vital funds for M&S's charity partners Breakthrough Breast Cancer, Action Medical Research, the Marie Keating Foundation, Action Cancer and Prostate Cancer UK.

In teams of four, each cyclist individually covered an average of over 100 miles. In addition to the 350 teams taking part, 23 experienced solo riders staggeringly stayed in the saddle for the duration of the challenge, including David Styles from Edinburgh's Kinnaird store.

Those from Edinburgh taking part in BIKE 24 were:

- M&S Gyle Centre colleagues – Bruce Burgess, David Murray, Aaron Michael Spicer, Gavin Neill, Michael Forrest, Kurt Russell, Illesa McClusky, Jennifer Winning, Lauren Victoria Rhodes, Ryan O'Donovan and Steven Food
- M&S Kinnaird – Connor Godsell, Chris Cowan, Derek Kidd, Fraser Nicol, Gayle Christie, Jen Cassidy, Rory Dyer and Michael Scott

Between them the Edinburgh teams covered an approximate total

of 1900 miles of cycling.

Aaron Spicer, store manager at M&S Gyle Centre, Edinburgh, said: "It was a great experience to see all five teams take part in the challenge and we're really proud of the efforts they put in to raise so much money for five very worthy charities. It was a great boost for the team knowing that the whole of M&S were behind them."

Over the gruelling 24 hour challenge, 6,800 litres of water were drunk, 3,460 ready meals eaten and nearly 8,000 Percy Pigs packs were provided the much-needed sugar hits for participants and spectators.

With all teams taking part in BIKE 24 successfully crossing the finishing line on Saturday, M&S's target to raise £1.5 million for the five charities is firmly on track, with £850,000 having been raised to date, and over two months of fundraising still to go. In addition to taking part in BIKE 24, and to further boost its fundraising efforts, M&S stores in Edinburgh hosted a range of in-store fundraising activities, including holding a staff bake sale, a sponsored walk and offering bag packing for customers.

Sacha Berendji, Director of Retail at M&S, said:- "This weekend's BIKE 24 event was a fantastic achievement by our employees and we've already raised an incredible £850,000 for these five truly worthwhile charities. But there's still time to get involved, with two months of in-store fundraising to go, we want to make this our most successful charity challenge to date by reaching our £1.5million target."

Submitted by [Lizzie Gordon](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers



Daily from Thursday 1 August – Monday 26 August 2013 (not 12th & 19th)

Time: 12:30pm

Venue: Assembly George Square Theatre

The Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers will be performing at one of the major venues at the Fringe this August for the full festival run. They will be presenting a condensed version of their usual full two hour concert, with the very best of Mugenkyo repertoire in a specially designed Fringe show.

Here is what they do:-