

Five things you need to know today



GO Edinburgh – Royal Salute – Edinburgh International Magic Festival – Big Fun Run – Community Cafés need you

Only three days left to pledge your support in Edinburgh's bid to build the new National Performance for Sport at Heriot-Watt campus at Riccarton. There were other cities vying for the opportunity and Edinburgh has launched a high profile campaign to bring the centre to the capital, enlisting the help of sports stars like Sir Chris Hoy and Gavin Hastings.

The facility will contain a multi-sport performance centre and house the National Football Academy. The Scottish Government has committed £25 million of funding and in December 2012 organisations were invited to bid to host and operate the NPCSC. Dundee City, Stirling University and Council and Heriot-Watt University and City of Edinburgh Council were shortlisted following successful completion of stage one. Stage two bids have to be submitted by 5 July 2013.

The capital is now left on the Stage 2 shortlist alongside Stirling and Dundee for the £25m centre, with a decision expected in late summer. The facility is intended to provide Scotland's top sports men and women with the facilities, programmes and services that will enable them to excel on the international stage.

The council says that Heriot-Watt University's bid provides an easily accessible site situated in the capital city of Scotland with good transport links to the rest of the country and the UK. The University already has a strong sports science

programme and close links to community clubs, as well as a number of national organisations including Scottish Squash and Racketball.

The cost to the council is estimated at £5m. [The Go Edinburgh website is here.](#)

Her Majesty the Queen arrives in Edinburgh today to take up residence at Holyrood Palace and so at 2.35pm there will be a Royal Salute from the Mills Mount Battery at Edinburgh Castle.

The 105th Regiment Royal Artillery will do the honours. More details on the [Historic Scotland website.](#)

Edinburgh really is the city of festivals. The Film Festival just finished last night, the Mela programme will be launched later and the The Edinburgh International Magic Festival runs until 5 July. Although some of their events and shows need to be booked there is a free show at the Sky Bar this Thursday evening, and there will be magicians on the Royal Mile all week.

There may even be some tickets left for some of today's events. Check the programme [here.](#)



Needing some reason to get out running and get fit? Then enter for the 5k Big Fun Run being organised by Edinburgh Leisure. It takes place on 28 July in Holyrood Park starting around 10.30.

More details [here.](#)

Community cafés provide a great service in many areas around the city, providing home cooked food to locals at a very reasonable cost. Now they need some help. Could you spare a few hours for them? They run a drop in recruitment session every month on the first Monday, except not this month, so the next drop in session will be in August. Nothing to stop you going to the Cafe on the Corner and handing your CV in though! Also more information on all of Edinburgh's community cafés can be found here [on their website](#) where you will find some specific volunteering opportunities around the city.



And today's photo shows how the work is progressing at Haymarket where the shelters are being put up at the tram stop.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Hope, Light & Nowhere

Big Belly Underbelly Cowgate Previews 1-2 Aug£6. 3-4, 7-8, 12-15, 19-22 Aug £10/9 5-6, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25 Aug £11/10 17:20 (18:20)

Suba Das presents: Hope, Light & Nowhere

Winner of the IdeasTap Underbelly Award, "A savage poem of a play... He is the most exciting writer to appear in British

Theatre in the past five years”

Simon Stephens, Oliver Award-winning Playwright

A boy waits in a room at the end of world. Outside, a cataclysmic disaster has annihilated everything he knew. Inside, he struggles to survive amidst the ruins of The boy, Edward, is visited by two survivors: the aggressive, spiky, skinhead Rafferty, who trades food in return for ballroom dancing, and the meticulous, sadistic Fragile and poetic, the play revolves around a young boy’s attempt to find a place for himself in a devastated world.

“The play cares. The play is very funny and disturbing. It has an intelligence that singles it out, and he has an ability to write that may see him celebrated throughout the world” Robert Holman, Playwright. Written by Andrew Sheridan, a protégé of Simon Stephens and Robert Holman, Hope Light and Nowhere is a haunting and intelligent exploration of male identity.

Andrew Sheridan made his debut with the Bruntwood Prize-winning Winterlong at the Manchester Royal Exchange and Soho Theatre in 2011. Hope, Light and Nowhere is directed by Suba Das, former Resident Director at the National Theatre Studio and current Associate Director at Leicester’s Curve Theatre. The production is designed by Linbury Prize Winner Jean Chan, with lighting design by Off West End Award winner Richard Howell.

Reflecting the calibre of this multi-award winning young creative team, the production is a winner of the Ideastap Underbelly Award, a new collaboration between one of Edinburgh’s most prestigious Fringe venues and one of the UK’s largest supporters of new talent.

‘Not Another Happy Ending’ closes the 2013 Edinburgh International Film Festival



Jane (Karen Gillan) and Tom (Stanley Weber)

The Edinburgh International Film Festival 2013 closed tonight with the World Premiere of Scottish romantic comedy [‘Not Another Happy Ending’](#) shot in Glasgow.



The story is based on a successful author Jane, played by Karen Gillan, who suffers from writer’s block due to overt happiness, all to the frustration of her publisher Tom (Stanley Weber). Tom’s solution is to attempt to mess up Jane’s life to get her to start writing again, but in the process finds love.

Trystan Davies for The Edinburgh Reporter spoke to lead actors Karen Gillan, Stanley Weber, Edinburgh actor Freya Mayor, and Director John McKay on the red carpet. EIFF have published [their photos of the stars here.](#)

[listen to ‘Edinburgh International Film Festival Premier “Not Another Happy Ending”’ on Audioboo](#)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – ‘Melmoth the Wanderer’

The Assembly Rooms 2-25 August 2013

This show, which is an adaption of Charles Maturin’s text by Glasgow based playwright Nicola McCartney, is about a joyful polite choir group meets Melmoth, a distraught and tormented man is doomed to relive his tragic story for eternity. Unable to make their escape, the group’s descent into hell is inevitable, terrifying and strangely hilarious.

Discover this dark comedy horror adaptation produced in a visual, anarchic and hysterically funny style from Northern Irish Theatre Company, Big Telly” The show is a revival of Big Telly’s 2012 production which had a successful run at The Tron Theatre, Glasgow last February.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151771420271584>

Submitted by [Brian Swann](#)



Dundas Castle garden party raises funds for RNLI



A Garden Party held at Dundas Castle courtesy of Sir Jack and Lady Stewart-Clark attracted 140 people who enjoyed afternoon tea listening to music from Bill Marshall and his Delta 8 Jazz Band and also a guided Castle Tour raising over £1000.00 to be shared between the RNLI Queensferry Lifeboat Fundraising Branch and Queensferry Churches' Care in the Community.

pic 1. Pictured enjoying their afternoon tea L to R. Sir Jack Stewart-Clark, Honorary President RNLI Queensferry Lifeboat Station, David Steel, Chairman RNLI Queensferry Fundraising Branch, Lady Lydia Stewart-Clark, Honorary President Queensferry Churches' Care in the Community, Colin Keir MSP, and Wilson Marshall, Board member Queensferry Churches' Care in the Community .

pic 2. Sporty a natty line in headgear four young Queensferry Ladies enjoying the afternoon at Dundas Castle L to R. Shirley Johnson, Tracy Singer, Liz Martin and Gillian Mitchell.

My Place in Print – A New Landscape Photography Venture



My Place in Print is the new Edinburgh based venture, recently launched by landscape photographer Dougal Nicol. Dougal currently plies his trade as an environmental consultant in Leith and has lived in Edinburgh since 2004. Since 2009 he has been dedicating as much of his free time to work with his camera as he can, which he admits is not as much as he'd like due to an active young family at home! But progress has gradually been made and late in 2012, My Place in Print was born. It is Dougal's hope that someday his hobby and passion may evolve into a small business he's got his fingers crossed. So here's a brief insight from Dougal himself to shed a bit more light on the story.

"So what is My Place in Print? In a practical sense, My Place in Print is an online gallery of landscape photographs, available to buy safely and securely over the internet. Prints of images can be purchased framed or unframed and delivered, across the UK and overseas, but My Place in Print is much more than this. More importantly, My Place in Print is my dream to epitomise the places we revere through landscape photography, and this journey has started with Edinburgh. It is my hope that by reproducing my photography online and making this available through a quality print service, my imagery can be shared and enjoyed by all those who love and enjoy our cities and towns so well.

"This philosophy stems from the belief that we all have bonds to the places we know. Our geographic ties can instil passion and pride as they provide a sense of identity and remind us who we are or where we've come from. What other perfect way to reflect this affinity then, than by landscape photography.

“I’m passionate about where I’m from and I now think of this as Edinburgh. This is something that I am proud of and I love to be reminded of how lucky I am to call Edinburgh home. What better way to do this than have a cracking photograph of Edinburgh up on the wall in my house! And this is where the idea for My Place in Print stemmed.

“It is my hope that there are people with similar passions all over the globe and who equally would love to have a print of their favourite place adorning their walls. So My Place in Print has the very grand goal to try and provide for this.

“The new website is designed to provide the jumping off platform get the ball rolling. Prints can be viewed online, purchased in a range of sizes, paid for securely and dispatched pretty much anywhere on the planet. They can also be full framed if delivered within the UK.

“So whether you’re an expat missing home, you want to treat yourself to a new picture, need a gift for any multitude of occasions, or even want your business space to make a statement, surely a great landscape print might be an option!

“Edinburgh has been the perfect starting point for my dreams. It must be one of the most photogenic cities as far as landscape photography is concerned, as it is blessed with an abundance of stunning subjects and focal points. Amongst these sits the most notable centrepiece of Edinburgh Castle, forming an icon above the city surrounding it below.



Summer sunset over Edinburgh Castle viewed from Arthur’s Seat.

“The city also lends itself to landscape photography with its seven hills providing a host of perfect vantage points. The most famous of these is the commanding summit of Arthur’s Seat. From here any number of amazing compositions can be

created using Edinburgh's many features, and at any time of the year with the setting sun dipping beyond to the west.

"At the moment My Place in Print is rooted in Edinburgh and the portfolio of prints available reflects this. However, the idea isn't just to focus on Edinburgh but literally anywhere else that may have a similar allure or meaning to the people who know it. Now that's quite a list, as it includes pretty much anywhere on the planet! But for now, the beginnings will see Edinburgh's Scottish counterparts as the subject matter – Glasgow, St. Andrews, Aberdeen, Stirling, Inverness, and so forth.....and then perhaps any number of places, maybe even all the way to Sydney!!

"But expansion aside, Edinburgh is still very much my home. So expansion doesn't mean the end of photographing Edinburgh, there's simply too much to miss! Although the list of places beckons, I'm sure I'll be constantly back out with my camera around Edinburgh, and never tire of capturing Edinburgh in print.

"My Place in Print is also gathering pace in social media circles, with Facebook, Twitter and Flickr pages all up and running. (Although, to be very honest, this pace is as fast as I can manage – it's not an easy learning curve and as I'm finding out, there are a lot of balls to juggle when launching your own business!)

"If you would like to get in touch via social media, any comments would be most welcome. I'd love to hear any thoughts or feedback people may have. And if you like what you see, keep in touch and follow the journey as the list of places expands and the adventure unfolds!



Twilight floodlights bring Edinburgh Castle to life.

"My Place in Print wouldn't have been possible without the

help and guidance of local businesses to get the ball rolling. These include Edinburgh Arts who have formed an essential piece of the puzzle and provide an amazing framing service to give my prints that perfect finishing touch. Also critical to the puzzle is the help and guidance provided by Tartan Web Design based in Dunbar. Although I am responsible for the lion's share of the website developed, there are times when the help and assistance provided by the professionals has been very welcome and outstanding from Tartan.

"So the plan seems epic indeed and it's a pretty monumental mountain I've set myself to climb, but definitely one I'm going to have a crack at and thoroughly looking forward to tackling. There are other avenues for expansion too and I have a few tricks in mind. So watch this space as the future beckons."

Links

Website: <http://myplaceinprint.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/myplaceinprint>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MyPlaceinPrint>

Flicker: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/myplaceinprint/>

Edinburgh Reporter's Weekly Sports Roundup



The Edinburgh Reporter's Weekly Sports Roundup starts with boxing this week, and the news that one of Scotland's finest

fighters has hung up his gloves on his 35th birthday. 'Amazing' Alex Arthur, who is the capital's most successful boxer since the great Ken Buchanan made the announcement on Twitter, and The Edinburgh Reporter sends our best wishes to Alex in his future career.

Elsewhere, the Monarchs continue their strong start to the season and there is plenty of news from both Hearts and Hibs ahead of the forthcoming campaign.

We would also like to congratulate the Scotland hockey team for their fifth win in a row.

Boxing

Former WBO World Super-Featherweight Champion 'Amazing' Alex Arthur, the most successful Edinburgh fighter since Ken Buchanan, has announced his retirement from professional boxing, with a career record of 31 wins and three defeats from 34 fights.

Announcing the news on Twitter, he said: "Well... woke up today 35. Time goes so fast. "I haven't fought for over a year now, so just want to say I officially retire from boxing."

Alex's rise through the amateur ranks culminated in securing gold in the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur. Two years later, he turned professional and in October 2000 he won the British title at Braehead Arena in Glasgow when he beat Dewsbury's Steve Conway.

He followed up that victory with two defences against Carl Greaves and fellow Scot Willie Limond; however he was denied the Lonsdale belt for keeps when he lost to Michael Gomez in front of a sold out Meadowbank Stadium, the first professional boxing card in the city for almost 20 years. Boxing promoter Frank Warren called the fight "the greatest contest seen on these shores since Nigel Benn beat Gerald McClellan in 1995"

Alex made his comeback the next year on 27 March 2004 by stopping Michael Kizza in the first round for the IBF Inter-Continental super featherweight title. He made two defences of that title before fighting Craig Docherty for the British and Commonwealth Super-Featherweight titles. The fight also took place at the Meadowbank, and ended with Alex knocking Docherty out in the 9th round.

His next fight was a 12 round points decision against the reigning European champion Boris Sinitsin, which meant that he held the British, Commonwealth and European title belts at the same time.

Alex put all three titles on the line against fellow Scot Ricky Burns whom he also beat on points.

On 21 July 2007 Alex stopped Koba Gogoladze in the tenth round to win the interim WBO super-featherweight title recognised as one of the 4 main 'World' belts.

He made his first defence five months later against fellow Brit Steve Foster Jr, and again won on points after a close fight.

Following that win Alex was due to fight Joan Guzmán who held the full version of the title, however the Dominican decided that he wanted to move up a weight division which meant that Alex was recognized as the organization's world champion.

On 9 September 2008, Alex lost the title in controversial circumstances against Nicky Cook, with claims that he had been 'robbed' by three English judges in Manchester.

Since then Alex has beaten Mohamed Benbiou via TKO in Round 1 at the Bellahouston Sports Centre in Glasgow, and lost on points to Nigel Wright at the Metro Radio Arena, Newcastle, before with two back to back wins against Peter McDonagh in September 2010 and Jay Morris in December 2010 both in Glasgow.

His last two fights were both at Meadowbank, beating Aleksander Vakhtangashvili on a TKO in the 4th round in August 2011 then Michael Frontin on points on 14 April 2012.

A born-again Christian, Alex has been a regular speaker in local schools in recent years and a tireless charity fundraiser. He was awarded an MBE in the 2012 Birthday Honours for services to boxing.

Elsewhere, an East v West boxing event took place in Motherwell featuring boxers from clubs around the United Kingdom including Edinburgh, Carlisle and Wigan. The results are listed below:

Callum "Head" Hunter (Gladiatorial Combat) beat Willie "The Doonhammer" Devlin (SK Boxing Promotions) on points.

Andy "Boom Boom" Thorburn (Holyrood Boxing Club, Edinburgh) defeated Ilyas "The Terrible" Tashuev (SK Boxing Promotions) on points.

Gordon "The Bull" Brennan (Trench Boxing Club, Dunfermline) secured a points victory over Stan "Too Good" Wood (New Blood Martial Arts, Carlisle).

Mark "Too Strong" Armstrong (SK Boxing Promotions) beat Awais "Kiss My" Butt (Wigan) on TKO in round two.

"Razor" Ronnie Stephen (SK Boxing Promotions) beat Vasos "Ares" Makris (Holyrood Boxing Club, Edinburgh) on points.

John "Cruel Intentions" Stevens (SK Boxing Promotions) triumphed over Paul "The Destroyer" Davis (Blackpool) with TKO in round one.

Curtis "Big Time" Biggam (Impact Gym, Holytown) beat Lee "Lights Out" Coates (New Blood Martial Arts, Carlisle) on points.

Martin "The Tank" Green (SK Boxing Promotions) defeated Adam

“The Warrior” James (Wigan) by TKO in round one.

“Magic” Marc Kerr (SK Boxing Promotions) beat Maly “The Animal” Richardson (Blackpool) with a knock out in round one.

Gary “The Mint” Murray (SK Boxing Promotions) beat “Main Event” Mickey Nolan (New Blood Martial Arts, Carlisle) on points.

Rugby by John Preece

The draw for the British and Irish Cup was made on Thursday and Edinburgh club, Edinburgh Academicals, featured as one of the four Scottish clubs in the draw (the others are Ayr, Gala and Stirling County). London Scottish are also included, but hardly pass as a ‘Scottish’ club these days with very few ‘exiles’ in the squad.

Accies were drawn in Pool 2 where they will face ‘Wales 2’ (Welsh teams have not yet been identified), London Welsh and, the aforementioned, London Scottish. Matches will be played both home and away over three pairs of weekends in October, December and January.

In looking forward to the challenge, Bob Easson, director of rugby at Edinburgh Accies said: “It’s an exciting draw. We are working really hard to continue to professionalise the set-up at Accies and this (competition) gives us the opportunity to challenge the players and ourselves. It also gives the players the chance to benchmark themselves and experience rugby at a higher level.”



Photograph www.photoboxgallery.com/jlp-photography

Which indeed it will, as the Scottish club scene is almost wholly amateur, with a few professionals from Edinburgh and Glasgow playing to keep in condition or on the way back from injury. The English Championship teams, on the other hand, are

largely professional set-ups, but tend to use the B+I Cup to 'blood' their younger or more inexperienced players. Whether that trend will continue as the competition gains status will remain to be seen.

The Scotland Seven's squad are currently playing in the Rugby World Cup 7's in Moscow and on Day I, defeated Japan in a closely fought 19-17 win, which nearly all went wrong as Japan came back in the second half from 19-0 down with five minutes left on the clock.

Day two started well with a 21-5 points victory over the hosts, Russia, but a 41-0 defeat to South Africa, the Group B winners, consigned the Scots to the Plate competition.

Here they won against Portugal, taking the match 17-0 and, as we 'went to press', will go on to play Canada in the semi-final.

And finally: News of Scotland's Women's sevens team from Marbella makes grim reading. After going down fighting, but not unexpectedly, 31-7 to England, the Scots went on to lose 43-0 – that's forty three to zero! – to the Netherlands of all teams (33-0 win for the 15-a-side Scots) and 31-5 to Germany to finish in twelfth and last place in the table and, therefore, to also lose their FIRA Grand Prix status for next season. Drawing boards at the ready...

Football

BDO, the administrators of Hearts have issued a deadline of 12 July for formal offers for the club. A sales memorandum has been sent to all parties who have already expressed an interest in buying the club, which indicates that negotiations are on-going with the relevant parties in Lithuania.

Supporters have bought an additional 1500 season tickets following the plea by BDO that 3000 were required to raise sufficient funds to see the club continue to trade throughout

the close season.

The Scottish Premier League has already handed the Tynecastle side a 15-point deduction for next season, as well as a ban on signing players.

Some good news however, Danny Wilson will remain at Hearts after the club received confirmation that signing the defender would not breach their registration embargo. The 21-year-old former Rangers and Liverpool defender agreed a three-year deal at Tynecastle following a loan move last season.

It is believed Wilson, who has five Scotland caps, has taken a 50% wage cut on the contract he had previously agreed with the club, with Jamie Hamill, Jamie MacDonald and Ryan Stevenson having already agreed to reduced wages.

Meanwhile striker John Sutton has left the club after refusing to accept a pay cut, and has re-joined former club Motherwell.

Hibs will face a trip to Ireland or Sweden after being drawn against the winners of Drogheda United and Malmo FF, in the second qualifying round of the Europa League.

The Easter Road side started the season with a 1-1 draw in the friendly against Ian Murray's Dumbarton at the Bet Butler Stadium.

Pat Fenlon handed three players their first start in the green and white jersey, teenage defender Bradley Donaldson took the right back spot, whilst summer signings Owain Tudor-Jones who joined the club from Inverness Caledonian Thistle and Liam Craig who joined from St Johnstone started in midfield.

✘ After a goal-less first half, Hibs took the lead five minutes after the break through Alex Harris, when the teenage winger was put through and his shot deflected off Dumbarton keeper Ewings before ending up in the back of the unguarded net. The Sons of the Rock equalised immediately

through Ally McKerracher after the defence failed to deal with a low cross.

Hibs then created several good chances through Handling, Robertson, Craig, McPake and substitute Sam Stanton whose late shot clipped the crossbar, but the game ended all square.

Hibernian: Williams, Donaldson, Hanlon, Forster, Stevenson, Harris, Jones, Taiwo, Craig, Cairney, Handling: Subs: Robertson, McPake, Stanton, Gold, Caldwell, Horribine, Murdoch

Photograph by <http://www.jcmackintosh.co.uk/>

The players leave for a pre-season training camp on Spain today where they will play three games, against a Gibraltar XI (twice) and Nottingham Forest.

In addition, the club announced that former Hearts' full-back Fraser Muller has signed a one year contract, following a medical last Tuesday.

East of Scotland League

The East of Scotland League will retain two divisions after a meeting last week. Eight Edinburgh Clubs will play in the Premier Division, whilst two; will compete in the First Division. The full list of teams is listed below.

Premier Division: Civil Service Strollers; Coldstream; Craigroyston; Edinburgh City; Edinburgh University; Heriot-Watt Uni; Lothian Thistle Hutchison Vale; Spartans; Stirling Uni; Tynecastle.

First Division: Berwick Rangers; Burntisland Shipyard; Duns; Easthouses Lily; Eyemouth Utd; Kelso Utd; Leith Ath; Ormiston; Peebles Rovers; Hawick RA; Hibernian

Women's Football

Hibs beat Farmington 4-1 in Forfar, with a brace apiece from

Kirsty Smith and Susan Emslie, whilst Spartans beat Buchan 6-1 at Ainslie Park, , thanks to a double from Sarah Clelland and one each from Kirsten Reilly, Diane Barry, Sarah Ewens and Claire Crosbie.

Speedway

Another fantastic result for the Scotwaste Monarchs on Friday night at Armadale as they beat league leaders Leicester 52-37 moving up to fourth place with matches in hand over the teams above them.

The victory wasn't as comfortable as the score-line suggests and it took a strong finish with three 5-1s to secure the win.

In heats 13 and 15, Craig Cook and Claus Vissing picked up maximum advantages over Nieminen and North, and in fact, other than junior Tommy Fenwick (who did a decent job without scoring); all the home men scored at least 6.

Monarchs' next fixture is a home tie against Ipswich Witches in the League Cup on Friday 5 July then they travel to Glasgow two days later to face the Tigers in the league.

Hockey by John Preece

Last weekend, Scotland's men secured their fifth victory in a row with a 5-2 defeat of England 'A' at Peffermill. Leading 3-0 at half time, the Scots went 4-0 up, before England pulled a goal back from a penalty corner. Five minutes later, Scotland put the match out of sight with a fifth goal, but England scored late on to leave the final score at five goals to two.

Something for the fans to look forward to is the news that the BBC has secured the broadcasting rights to the EuroHockey Nations Championship to be held in Belgium from 17-25 August. Scotland's matches will, however, only be available on iPlayer, on-line or via 'the Red Button', but it's a start.


Live hockey on 'normal' telly... Who would have thought..?

Badminton

Edinburgh's Jillie Cooper has been forced to pull out of the BWF Individual World badminton championships in the Chinese city of Guangzhou from August 4-11, with a foot injury.

Mixed doubles partner Robert Blair has also been ruled Martin Campbell will be in the team of five alongside Patrick Mac Hugh (Kinross) in the men's doubles. Scottish team: Men's singles: Alistair Casey (Glasgow). Women's singles: Kirsty Gilmour (Bothwell). Men's doubles: Martin Campbell (Edinburgh) and Patrick MacHugh (Kinross). Women's doubles: Imogen Bankier (Glasgow)

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – The Orchestra of the Canongait – Bruckner 9 Finale

 **Sunday 18 August 2013 7.30pm Greyfriars Kirk, Greyfriars Place, Edinburgh, EH1 2QQ**

Orchestra of the Canongait

Robert Dick, conductor

Madeleine Mitchell, solo violin

Bruch Violin Concerto

–interval–

**Bruckner Symphony no.9 – UK Premiere of Finale (Unfinished) –
Performing Version by Samale/Philips/Cohrs/Mazzucca
(1983-2012)**

**Tickets – priced £10/7 – from Fringe Box Office –
0131-226-0000**

✖ The Orchestra of the Canongait under conductor Robert Dick will perform in Greyfriars Kirk in Edinburgh's Festival Fringe with distinguished violin soloist Madeleine Mitchell in Bruch's Violin Concerto. They have secured the rights to perform the UK premiere of Bruckner's Ninth Symphony with the 2012 performing version of the Finale by Samale/Mazzucca/Phillips/Cohrs as recorded by Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic. This is quite a coup for the orchestra.

Madeleine Mitchell, recorded and performed James MacMillan's motet with solo violin in Greyfriars recently and she also performed in the NE Scotland Sound festival. She has just returned from representing the UK as Artist-in-Residence in the Canberra International Music Festival for their centenary celebrations.

Mitchell taught Robert Dick violin at the Royal College of Music and he has since gone on to enjoy a varied and versatile career as a violinist, violist, keyboardist, teacher and primarily as a conductor. He has played and conducted in some of the most prestigious venues in Europe, incorporating success in a number of international conducting competitions.

✖ Robert Dick founded the Orchestra of the Canongait in 2002 and it has since become one of the most accomplished orchestras of its kind in Scotland, receiving rave reviews for its Edinburgh Fringe performances of the great symphonic repertoire, notably the symphonies of Bruckner and Mahler.

Through its efforts, it has also raised a great deal of money For national charities including Epilepsy Scotland and Amnesty International.

Further details, please see <http://www.edfringe.com> and <http://www.classical-artists.com/madeleinemitchell>

Submitted by [Robert Dick](#)

Edinburgh celebrates Armed Forces Day

Yesterday thousands of people celebrated Armed Forces Day in the capital.

Celebrations started just after lunchtime as the annual parade of veterans and cadets moved off from The Grassmarket along to the Ross Bandstand in Princes Street Gardens.

A variety of different events took place in the gardens all afternoon. The highlights included 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.



[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.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Ragweed: The Art of Self Improvement

✖ **Ragweed: The Art of Self Improvement, Space Cabaret, 19 to 24 August 9:30pm, £5 (£3 concessions)**

In the Last Week of Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013, Ragweed, the scuzzy surf rock trio from Brighton will be [bringing their original show](#) to Space Cabaret.

The audience will be blind-folded and taken on an audio journey comprised of Ragweed's dirty, alternative live rock music with an original macabre narrative. The story takes you inside the mind of a convict as he is released from his long stretch behind bars. Ragweed will guide the audience through the mental insights of a man adapting to life on the outside, trying to let go of old habits, desperate to leave crime behind and embark on the straight and narrow through mastering '*The Art of Self Improvement*'.

The narrative will provide the inner thoughts of the ex-con as he struggles to take control of his impulses now granted his freedom, with the live music serving to emphasize key elements of the plot and decisions made by this character. Covering topics such as mental health disorders and substance dependency through their live music, Ragweed bring the listener a unique live punk rock experience debuting at this year's Fringe.

As a band, Ragweed put out 2 EPs in 2012 and toured throughout the year. Their music has received many positive reviews and reactions from crowds all over the country.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Laura Levites



**Laura Levites, The Gilded Balloon, 31 July to 26 August
(except 13) 2:45pm, £9/8 (£8/7 concessions)**

Laura drags herself back to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe with her new show [Selfhelpless](#). The only baggage she's brought is emotional. She can't afford anything else. Laura was looking for happiness, and some nice shoes. Shoes she got, happiness had other plans. Laura has spent the last year in a tailspin. People refer to hitting rock bottom, but Laura keeps descending. How do you get yourself out of black hole? Yes, we all know that Americans love miracle cures, but who wouldn't? Pills, punks, prescriptions, disorder descriptions, second hand Dr. Martens and top rated doctors, she is trying them all on. Laura humorously takes you on her journey as she tries to figure out, if the pursuit of anything really is possible. An Ode to Joylessness.

Laura Levites is a professional stand-up comedian from New York City. Her last show American Girlfriend received numerous 4 and 5 star reviews, and has led to a book of the same name. She has toured with Lisa Lampanelli, and was featured in Comedy Central's television show Meet the Creeps. Laura doesn't tell jokes. Her life is the joke. Laura's performances are brutally honest, biting, REAL. She embodies what great stand up should be: she's capricious, clever and socially relevant.

Five things you need to know today



Movement against the bedroom tax – Stockbridge Duck Race – Spoonful of Vintage – Community Bursary deadline extended – EIFF closing film today

The UK welfare cuts and so-called ‘bedroom tax’ have engendered a degree of feeling across the country, including here in Edinburgh. We caught up with Willie Black and Des Loughney who are campaigning against it just before the council meeting on Thursday. Here is what they had to say:-

[listen to ‘Willie Black of Edinburgh Anti Bedroom Tax Coalition’ on Audioboo](#)

[listen to ‘Des Loughney of Edinburgh Trade Union Council’ on Audioboo](#)

Today the Stockbridge Duck Race takes place, resuming after a year off due to the Water of Leith Flood Prevention works last year. There is more information about today’s event [on the Bailie Bar website.](#)

A couple of thousand ducks will be thrown over the bridge into the Water of Leith below – all in the name of charity.



Spoonful of Vintage is on today at Spoon Cafe on Nicolson Street EH8 9DH from 11:00 – 5:00 pm

Spoon's [website](#) says:-“A new vintage fair has hit Edinburgh! A big thank you to all stall holders & customers alike. You all help make this Spring vintage fair the best yet! Looking forward the next one in the summer. We'll keep you posted!”

The application deadline for Ross and Liddell's Community Bursary programme has been extended.

The Edinburgh property specialist is giving non-profit groups in the country the opportunity to apply for financial support of up to £500. Funding requests were due to be in by the end of June, but the company has decided to give local community groups and organisations more time to apply for funding.

The closing date is now **Sunday July 28** and Irene Devenny, managing director at Ross and Liddell, is urging local groups to get involved.

She said: “We have been overwhelmed at the amount of applications that have been coming in from a wide range of clubs and organisations. To ensure everyone has the opportunity to apply for funding, we have decided to extend the deadline for another month.

“Ross and Liddell has always identified and provided support to clubs and voluntary organisations as part of its ongoing community engagement objectives and we are delighted to be able to develop on this and provide funding with our bursary programme.

“We want to hear from applicants about how the funding will

allow their group to continue to deliver work that has a true legacy and impact within their local community.”

The bursary, which is now in its third year, has helped clubs and organisations pay for materials and services they might otherwise be unable to afford.

Groups wishing to apply for funding from Ross and Liddell’s Community Bursary 2013 should visit www.ross-liddell.com to complete an online application form.



The Edinburgh International Film Festival will end today. Read more on the Festival Director’s blog as to what he thinks you should go and see today [here on the website...](#)

Edinburgh trams company predict profitability



The tram service is predicted to run at a surplus over fifteen years following recent news coverage that suggests otherwise, according to the council.

The BBC ran an article earlier this week which suggested that the trams will run at a loss over the fifteen years, but this is now disputed.

The Council has set out a fifteen year business model which integrates the finances of Lothian buses and the tram service as part of a new transport company for Edinburgh. When revenue and operating expenditure is taken into consideration, Council would draw a surplus of £5m over 15 years. The tram on its own is forecast to run with a £48m operating surplus.

Maintenance and refurbishment costs for the tram system (totalling £87m and which aren't part of operating costs) would be covered by surplus income from the tram (£48M), through the dividend paid to the council by Lothian Buses (£30m), a dividend from tram operation (£3m) and through other funding which totals £11m. Other funding may be achieved through tax savings and through additional income generation such as advertising.

Transport Convener Lesley Hinds said:

"These figures are provisional but they stack up and, all things considered, Edinburgh's new transport company is predicted to deliver a surplus. Even on its own, the tram is predicted to deliver an operating surplus. The tram and bus service will be fully integrated, with tickets, timetabling and everything else being delivered through one system – this is the same for the finances. Under one company both services need to operate together.

"We've already committed that tram will have no negative financial impact on the bus service and, although the arrangements are still in draft form, we'll ensure that any dividend drawn from income will go back into Edinburgh's transport system.

"Whilst this business model and all predictions have been and continue to be verified externally, it's important to remember that they are still predictions. The Council will bear the financial risk so I'm determined that numbers are closely and continuously scrutinised as we move towards service."

The full council [report](#) can be found on the Council's web

pages. It was considered only briefly at a meeting of the Full Council on Thursday 27 June 2013. A further report will be presented to Council on 22 August to confirm arrangements once further financial due diligence has been carried out. We [ran a report on the trams](#) earlier in the week.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Katie Goodman I didn't f*ck it up



Gilded Balloon Teviot – Wine Bar July 31 – August 25 16.30

All guns blazing, no holds barred US comedian Katie Goodman descends on Edinburgh this August with a gutsy hour of raw humour and original satire. An internationally touring musical comedienne, Goodman is known for providing an audience with an act that is political, personal, provocative and packed with punch.

As the headliner, co-writer, and co-director (with her husband Soren Kiesel) of the internationally touring show Broad Comedy, Katie was critically praised at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2010, being named a “Top-Ten Sketch Comedy Pick” (Fringe Review), at the Vancouver Fringe Festival (Pick of the Fringe), and received extraordinary critical acclaim in Los Angeles and Boston during the show's extended 3-month runs in those cities.

She now returns to Edinburgh in her solo-show which has been impressing audiences, critics and comedy colleagues alike

wherever she performs. Katie has performed nationally and internationally and has strutted her stuff and belted her songs at Caroline's On Broadway (America's number one Comedy Club in Times Square), on Current TV as a pundit and on Showtime's comedy roundtable series, The Green Room With Paul Provenza. Her solo-show of political and personal satire is currently featured at the infamous Joe's Pub at The Public Theatre in NYC. She is a featured blogger for The Huffington Post, and has contributed to O, The Oprah Magazine. She is also the author of Improvisation for the Spirit: Live A Creative, Spontaneous, and Courageous Life Using the Tools of Improv Comedy. Katie and her co-author/co-director husband Soren Kisiel have been nominated for the MacArthur Foundation "Genius Grant" for their unique work in theatre.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – No Direction



Assembly Three George Square August 1 – 26 2.50pm

A play by Albert Welling Directed by Bob Golding

Four years ago Bob Golding was the talk of the Fringe with his stunning performance of the late great Eric Morecambe in Morecambe by Tim Whitnall. After winning a Fringe First and unanimous critical praise, the play was whisked off to run in the West End where it won the Olivier Award for Best Entertainment and an Olivier nomination for Best Actor. It was the dream Edinburgh Fringe success.

Returning to the festival for the first time since, Bob

Golding makes his directorial debut with the world premiere of *No Direction* by Albert Welling.

Two men embark on a task together. They need direction but neither is taking control and, as is inevitable when a pair of followers occupy the same space, they are going round in circles. However one of them seems to be running out of steam while the other has grand dreams to pursue and there is a fair chance they could both get horribly lost unless they sort themselves out quickly. *Waiting for Godot* meets *Sleuth* with twists and turns at every junction. *No Direction* is a switchback ride comedy about friendship, loyalty and two headless men in a muddle.

No Direction stars Ronnie Toms, who was last seen in Edinburgh in Tim Whitnall's *The Sociable Plover* in 2009, and the play's writer Albert Welling, who recently played The Fuhrer himself in the Doctor Who episode *Let's Kill Hitler*.

Albert started his career in repertory theatre with seasons at the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Young Vic. He has since worked in theatre, film and TV for nearly 40 years. More recently he played Adolf Hitler in Doctor Who (episode, *Let's Kill Hitler*). He was Mr Waring in Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant's critically acclaimed feature film *Cemetery Junction*. He can be seen in Mammoth Screen's series *Endeavour* for ITV as Wallace Clark, but the pinnacle of his career was surely his appearance as 'Naked Asexual Man up a Stick' in *Brass Eye*. Albert has written five plays for BBC Radio 4 in the past.

No Direction is his first play as writer for the stage.

Ronnie has appeared in a wide range of stage roles which include Bamforth in *The Long and the Short and the Tall*, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Judd in John Godber's *Bouncers*, Kenny in Berkoff's *West*, Frankie in Patrick Marber's *Dealers Choice* and Trotter in R.C Sheriff's *Journeys End*, as

well as his portrayal of a Boer War Veteran in John Gardiner's powerful one man show Private Tucker's Diary. In 2009 Ronnie first appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe alongside Guy Masterson in Tim Whitnall's critically acclaimed psychological thriller The Sociable Plover, which went on to tour both nationally and internationally. TV and film credits include Joe in London's Burning and Eddie in Eastenders Bob has had a varied career as an actor, a director and voice artist and musician. His theatre work is extensive and has taken him all around the country. Most notably Bob recently completed a nationwide tour of 260 performances and a west end run at the Duchess Theatre of Tim Whitnall's Morecambe. The play premiered at the Assembly venue Rainy Hall at the 2009 Edinburgh Fringe Festival where it gained a Fringe First award then later for his performance Bob received a Best Actor nomination at the Laurence Olivier awards where the play won the Best Entertainment category. Bob also performed at the Royal Variety Show and received a nomination for 'Best Solo Performance' in the 2011 What's On Stage Awards. TV work includes , Mr Selfridge (ITV drama), Peter Kay's Britain's Got the Pop Factor & Possibly a New Soap star Super Strictly on Ice', comedy sketch show Watson & Oliver. He has been co-host on Dave Gorman's Sunday Morning Show on Absolute Radio and provided the voices of 'Milo' and 'Max' in BBC's Tweenies.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Vessel



Venue: theSpace in North Bridge (V36): 2 – 24August (no performances 11th and 18th) **Time:** 21.05**Tickets:** £6-9 (previews

2nd – 4th £5)

Creatives from the National Student Drama Festival multi-award winning Nottingham New Theatre and Fringe 2012's critically-acclaimed success 'Wild West End' have teamed up to form Fine Frenzy Theatre and present 'Vessel'.

Newly written for Fine Frenzy's Edinburgh debut, 'Vessel' is a bittersweet comedy about five siblings building a boat. Several years ago, their brother John went out to sea in a storm and was never seen again. Now they reunite to build a vessel in his memory and to confront their past in the way they did as children in Ireland – by telling stories, acting them out and disagreeing violently at every turn. Through fast-paced comedy, inventive physical storytelling and an evocative original score, Vessel looks at the pain and the joy of growing up and celebrates it all in the imaginative spirit of childhood play.

Fine Frenzy was set up with the principle focus of taking playful risks in order to find the most direct way of telling a story.

In line with this, our recent first project, 'The Comedy of Errors: A Shakespearean Experiment', was rehearsed over only 3 days in an attempt to reclaim the frantic immediacy of Shakespeare's first performances. The following run was raucously received at the Nottingham New Theatre

Edinburgh Festival Fringe –

The Inventor and the Escort



Gilded Balloon Teviot – Sportsmans July 31 – August 25 12.00

An original play by Matt Morillo

How about you and I create our own moment and it can go exactly as you want and you can create a new history?"

During the worst blizzard in New York City history, Julia, a call girl, arrives for an appointment with Jeffrey, a reclusive young man who has become rich by inventing best-selling sexual devices. What starts as a routine "trick" with trimmings (fake palm trees, suntan lotion, and lots of margaritas) ends up with Jeffrey and Julia helping each other uncover the wounds that led them to who they are, getting considerably more than they bargained for on this "first date."

Matt Morillo's sexy comedy is a cheeky but ultimately touching story of two lost souls in a big city searching for love and happiness in all the wrong places then accidentally finding each other.

Matt Morillo's first play, *Angry Young Women In Low-Rise Jeans With High-Class Issues*, was a runaway hit on two continents, packing houses and receiving rave reviews through three separate runs in New York City, and two separate runs in Sydney, Australia. Of the 2008 Los Angeles production, *Variety* wrote, "Angry Young Women is a cheerfully raunchy show that boasts ... hilarious writing and a sharp, fearless and funny cast." Morillo's other playwriting credits include *All Aboard The Marriage Hearse*, and *American Soldiers*. Also a screenwriter, he made his debut at age 23 with the award-winning film *The Pretenders* (2000), and he has written several highly lauded and award-winning short films, including *Maid of*

Honor (2003).

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 – The Hard Man – In Your Face Theatre

IN YOUR FACE THEATRE PRESENTS

THE HARD MAN

Written by Jimmy Boyle and Tom McGrath

The Wee Red Bar” Edinburgh Art College, Lauriston Place, EH3
9DF from 19-26 August. 7:00pm-8:45pm

For information on tickets [click here](#)

In Your Face Theatre are making their debut at the 2013 Edinburgh fringe with a heart-pounding site specific production of “The Hard Man”. One of Scotland’s most influential plays adapted to to modern times. With what may be one of the most unique experiences at this year’s festival, the production brings the audience and cast together. Be it laughing, crying and drinking as one at the bar. With the drinks flowing, this highly emotional, and at times very comedic, violent cabaret drama, will leave its audience with an unforgettable experience they may never remember.

The company aims to create audience – incorporating experiences and this modern day adaptation and unique theatre production simply invites the audience to sit at the bar and have a drink with Jimmy Boyle and his cronies. With live music, scenes of both a violent and comedic nature and plenty of cast/audience interaction, this is a show just as much for

your non-theatre goers as it is for your die hard thespian. One where the audience is at the very heart of the story, as part of a Glasgow-themed pub night.

Marking 40 years since Jimmy Boyle participated in the Barlinnie Prison rehabilitation programme this production of "The Hard Man" promises to not only be the most original , but also the most invigorating experience of this play to date. Albeit based on his life, he never wanted this to be autobiographical. This play was about the manipulating effect society can have on a young man and the corruption and violence which exists in the justice system. Messages which are very much still relevant today. It is why to demonstrate this 'In Your Face Theatre' have staged this play in present day Glasgow. Using the fantastic venue to full effect the audience are entertained with a violent and comedic cabaret telling the story of central character Johnny Boyle's's life in the bars and streets of Glasgow. Act 2 see's Boyle imprisoned in a fully working steel cage as his violent prison stretch is presented through his eyes.

The production stars New York Film School graduate Stuart-Patrick Workman and sees Artistic Director Christopher Rybak return to the fringe for his third consecutive year after highly successful productions of "Petrol Jesus Nightmare" and "Dracula".

With its run at the festival and a preview on 30 June 2013 'In Your Face Theatre' hopes to generate enough success to take this production on tour around the bars of Scotland.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – The Events



Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh 31 July to 25 August

Directed by Ramin Gray, Music composed by John Browne

Screams reverberate through corridors. A forest echoes with the sound of gunfire. Innocent blood is shed and lives ripped apart. As the wounds on a community are left gaping, a young choir leader begins her quest to heal and to understand.

Acclaimed director Ramin Gray teams up with celebrated playwright David Greig with a bold new work that explores the impact of a horrific politically motivated crime on a small community and delves into the nature of forgiveness, reconciliation and understanding.

The Events asks how far forgiveness will stretch in the face of atrocity. Featuring local choirs and a soaring soundtrack by Irish composer John Browne, what unfolds is a tale of tragedy, obsession and our destructive desire to fathom the unfathomable.

Ramin Gray and David Greig last worked together on the critically praised RSC production of Gray's play The American Pilot. Gray's previous work for ATC to be seen at the Traverse was the double bill of Illusions and Sarah Kane's Crave ("profound, beautiful and terrifying." The Herald) and before that The Golden Dragon ('Ramin Gray's superb touring production for ATC' The Daily Telegraph).

David Greig's recent plays include Midsummer, Dunsinane, and The Strange Undoing of Prudencia Hart and the new West End stage musical of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Ramin Gray is ATC's Artistic Director. Previously he was International Associate, then Associate Director at the Royal Court Theatre where he directed many world or British premieres by playwrights including Simon Stephens' *Motortown*, Marius von Mayenburg's *The Ugly One* and *The Stone*, and Mark Ravenhill's *Over There*. He has also directed at the RSC, *Out of Joint*, *The Gate* and in many theatres across Europe. Opera credits include the European premiere of *Bliss* by Brett Dean and Benjamin Britten's *Death in Venice* at Hamburg's Staatsoper and Theatre an der Wien.

Immediately prior to directing *The Events*, Ramin directed the premiere of the opera *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Gerald Barry at The Royal Opera House Covent Garden's Linbury Studio.

John Browne's works have been performed at the Royal Opera House (*Babette's Feast*, *Demon Juice*), English National Opera (*Early Earth Operas*, *Midnight's Children*), Southbank Centre (*A Nightingale Sang*) and Westminster Abbey (*Small Selves*, *Out of Suffering*). In the last few years he has been composer-in-residence at FNSNM, Kings College London, created choral arrangements for the band Elbow, composed the score for *The Itch of the Golden Nit*, a BAFTA award-winning film by Aardman, been an adjudicator for BBC Young Musician of the Year 2012, created a music theatre piece in Rwanda and run workshops for the British Council in China and India.

Actors Touring Company presents the best international contemporary theatre, using the theatre to tell stories from different perspectives from around the world. The company collaborates with a broad range of UK and international theatre makers, commissioning writers, sourcing the best international scripts and translating them into English for the first time, and reaching audiences through their extensive UK and international touring programme. They are currently working on projects with artists from Belarus, Iran, Israel, Russia, Spain, the UK and Ukraine.

Following the Traverse run, The Events will tour nationwide and will run at The Young Vic in London in the autumn. The production will also appear in Vienna and Norway later in the year.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – New Art Club: Feel About Your Body



New Art Club: Feel About Your Body, Assembly George Square, 31 July to 25 August (except 13 and 20), £14/12 (£13/11 concessions)

The boys are back in town! New Art Club (aka Tom Roden and Pete Shenton) return to Edinburgh after a two-year gap and this time they're serious. Well, not exactly serious but they will be tackling a serious subject with their satisfying mix of puerile, emotional and intellectual chatter ... along with some moving about.

[Feel About Your Body](#) strips down to the basics, laying bare how we all feel about the one thing that's with us all the way from the cradle to the grave. Worshipped, revered, adorned, abused, laughed at, pampered, pierced, poked and occasionally rubbed lovingly with oil, the human body is truly an object of wonder. Of course, the show's title has a double meaning – it's sexy AND intellectual and very very silly.

During the course of this pulsating, visceral and flesh-filled hour, a man will talk to his bottom, bits will bounce and

bellies will be bared. There will also be some invaluable advice on what not to do during a heart attack – Pete should know, he had one in his early thirties when his partner was eight months pregnant. All this comes with a warning – in tests eight out of ten audience members were left feeling “a little bit dirty”. There will be some brief nudity (long enough to see ‘the works’), some brief dancing (silly and emotional) and some puerile songs (there’s a good one about a shed).

Edinburgh Festival Fringe – The Seer

Underbelly, Cowgate – Belly Button, located at 56 Cowgate, August 1-25 (no show 13th), 22:30 (ends 23:40) Tickets £8.50-£10.50 (£6 Previews)

The Seer is the first play created by a brand-new, all-star, international group of artists calling themselves Penn Dixie Productions. This devised comic-melodrama about the infamous life and artistic suicide of Arthur Rimbaud will be playing at Underbelly, Cowgate (Belly Button) at 22:30 from August 1-25th.

Though Penn Dixie’s ensemble were born in disparate nations (Brazil, Argentina, France, UK, Sweden, Norway, and the USA), these collaborators were destined to grow up and meet at the London International School of Performing Arts (LISPA) in 2008, where they were commanded to begin devising and got the hell down to it.

Two years later, led by Philadelphia-based writer-director Anisa George, they emerged with their first full-length work – *The Seer*. “We were attracted to work with Rimbaud’s story, because of his famous renunciation of art.” Considered by many to be the founder of modern European poetry, Arthur Rimbaud wrote all of his poems before the age of twenty, then quit writing and ran away to Yemen to make his fortune as a coffee trader. George discovered Rimbaud’s story during her own period of renunciation in Yemen, where she studied Arabic. “We’ve all felt the temptation to quit art-making,” says George, who sold all her hair for \$1,000 to raise money for Penn Dixie’s run at the Fringe. “Theatre can be a very sacrificial art form, and we’ve all asked ourselves at one time or another in our careers why we persevere. The show is an absurd and hilarious interrogation of those questions.”

The Seer made ripples after a limited run at the The Philadelphia Fringe in 2011, where the newcomer’s show was dubbed “pick of the Fringe” (Live Arts Blog). Quinn Bauriedel, co-artistic director of Pig Iron Theatre Company, called it “a rare achievement” and continued: “This group has a distinct and powerful voice.” David Brick, coartistic director of Headlong Dance Theatre, said “*The Seer* created a bonfire of a play that does what only live performance can do.”

If you love to laugh, and you long for a theatre which is arresting, inventive, and bold – then trip into this ‘dark heaven’ of hysterical and surreal tragedy. Babies dance, camels fly – all is abracadabrasque.

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