

IN & AROUND THE TERRACES

Information and news for Residents

Summer 2017

Welcome to the Summer issue of the newsletter!

The weather is warming up and we have lots to share with you on what's happening in and around the Terraces this summer. **In this issue:** we have an update on the restoration of the City Observatory, details of the Police Box Festival and the latest news on the planned temporary closure of Carlton Terrace Brae.

THE CITY OBSERVATORY - HELP COLLECTIVE REACH FOR THE STARS



You may have noticed Calton Hill's skyline changing recently as the first new buildings on top of the hill in over a century take shape.

Collective's vision to restore the City Observatory and build a new gallery space and restaurant is well on its way to being realised.

The programme of conservation to restore the City Observatory to its former glory continues with stone and roof repairs. Internally the building is being taken back to Playfair's original layout and the telescope transit slot is being fitted with new glazing to form a spectacular feature.

The walls and roofs of the new gallery and restaurant are in place, whilst the landscaping of the grounds around the Observatory has begun. When complete, wild flowers and benches created by artist Tessa Lynch will provide a beautiful outdoor space from which to enjoy the panoramic views.

Collective are also developing an exciting opening programme when the site re-opens in early 2018, with a number of artist exhibitions and commissions public events and activities.

Their fundraising campaign has almost achieved its target, however, they still need a final push to help them reach the finish line. Many local residents have made donations which has helped to make this project possible and Collective are hugely grateful for their contribution.

You too can still make a difference by donating today and becoming part of the Observatory's and Calton Hill's exciting new future.

Please visit www.collectivegallery.net/observatory for details of how to help or to speak to their Head of Development to discuss your donation, please contact: lorianderson@collectivegallery.net or call 0131 556 1264.

BE AWARE - CAR CRIME IN THE TERRACES

We have to report that there has been a spate of car vandalism.

A number of door mirrors were smashed on Carlton Terrace Lane recently affecting more than four cars and on Regent Terrace two cars were maliciously keyed. CCTV images from the American Consulate shows youths scoping parked cars. Keep valuables out of sight and report any suspicious activity to the police.

There have also been several incidences of intruders into the Regent Terrace Gardens at night causing nuisance, noise and sadly damage.

Please keep a look out for any suspicious behaviour.



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POLICE BOX FESTIVAL - 26 AND 27 AUGUST 2017

Edinburgh Ex Police
Boxes



Drummond Place

Dates for your diary - the second Edinburgh Police Box Festival will be held this summer on the 26 and 27 August.

Nine police boxes will be open to the public, including the one in Drummond Place owned by Committee Member, Maidie Cahill. Maidie's box will be used by the charity Who Cares? Scotland to help raise awareness of the issues faced by care experienced young people.

The charity will be selling tartan scarves, ties etc. The tartan, which was created by young people in care and Glasgow designers Black Cherry Studio, exists so that those in care will always have their own family identity.

Do come along to support the charity and visit all nine police boxes.

CEILIDH - IN CARLTON TERRACE MEWS 26 August 2017 - 19.30pm

Join the Mews for their annual summer Ceilidh - children, dogs and picnics welcome.
£5.00 donation per adult, children are free.
(Profits go to charity)

PLANNED TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CARLTON TERRACE BRAE



As you may be aware, as part of the redevelopment of the St James Centre, the council will be completely closing the upper section of Leith Street from its junction with Waterloo Place to allow major road and utility improvement works to be completed.

This closure will commence after this year's Festival and last for 44 weeks. During this time, the Council will be implementing significant diversions for all traffic that would have used Leith Street in both directions including over 20 bus routes.

As part of these diversions a new one-way traffic management system will be introduced around the London Road/ Easter Road/Montrose Terrace triangle as shown on the map above.

The result of the diversion means that ALL traffic from the East, Holyrood and Regent Road will meet at the Abbey Hill/Regent Road/Montrose Terrace Junction to be directed down Upper Easter Road to London Road to continue Northwards.

In order to reduce traffic congestion at this junction, the Council has decided to close Carlton Terrace Brae to all traffic leaving the Terraces. The Council and the Developer have recently consulted with the RRCTMA on these changes and after serious discussion it became clear that traffic should not be allowed to enter the Terraces from the Brae either, thus closing the Brae completely.

The intent is to avoid Royal Terrace becoming a short cut around these new traffic diversions, which will inevitably result in increased congestion.

We recognize that this will result in all Terraces/Mews traffic needing to use the junction from London Road at Blenheim Place but consider that this is preferable to the alternative of the additional traffic using Royal Terrace as a "rat run" and thus creating significant congestion for all local residents.

Emergency vehicles will continue to be able to use the Brae to access the Terraces/Mews, as will pedestrians.

Based on our experience of the recent closure of Carlton Terrace Brae for road works, we have requested that there should be very clear signage installed at the start of Blenheim Place to ensure that drivers are aware that there is no longer a through road and that the road is for local access only.

We have also requested that a "yellow box" is provided on London Road as it enters the Leith Walk roundabout to facilitate traffic entering or leaving Blenheim Place.

Updates on the development and current traffic arrangements are available on the St James Centre website <http://www.edinburghstjames.com/construction.html>.