



Merchant City

Connect

Spring 2017



Scott Naismith in Bearsden

Coming soon to Lemond Gallery, Bearsden in July will be 10 new works from the Lenzie based artist. The group show also includes work from Jack Morrocco. Saturday 22 July - Sunday 30th July 2017



Welcome!



Don't miss Merchant City's upcoming Vegan Festival. Page 10

WELCOME to the spring edition of Merchant City Connect.

Our popular series of Connect magazines are brought to you by Newsquest Clyde and Forth and the Herald and Times Magazine Group, the publishers behind trusted titles such as The Evening Times and High Flyer.

Merchant City Connect is your community magazine, keeping you in the loop with news and events from the local area.

Inside this issue we have the latest volunteering opportunities for next year's European Championships on page six; initiatives to improve our urban trees and city lanes on pages eight and 14 respectively; a what's on guide on page 16; and the top ways to enjoy Merchant City throughout spring and summer.

With plenty more inside, there's lots to enjoy in this latest edition.

**Until next time,
Team Connect**

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Volunteer for a slice of the action

LOCALS have the chance to take the first step playing a part in Glasgow's sporting history, with the Glasgow 2018 European Championships volunteer programme now open.

Next year from 2 – 12 August Glasgow will host the first ever European Championships, which will see top athletes compete in an exciting new multi-sport event. Six sports will feature over the eleven days, including cycling, gymnastics and golf.

The European Championships will be a new highlight on the global sporting calendar. To be staged every four years, the Championships will reach beyond the dedicated fans of the individual sports to a much wider audience. The first edition will be held in partnership between Glasgow and Berlin.

Relying on commitment,



enthusiasm and friendly faces, the event will need volunteers to make it a success. With a variety of roles available - from welcoming the world to Glasgow to working alongside international media - there are opportunities for everyone.

To have your moment and help make it all happen alongside thousands of fellow volunteers, visit www.glasgow2018.com for more information and to apply.





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Branch out and help your community

MERCHANT City community council is urging local residents to get involved in the recently launched Street Trees project.

A pilot scheme set up by the Woodland Trust, the organisation is seeking help to protect and enhance the street trees where you live. By working with communities, partners and local authorities in Glasgow, they're hoping to promote good practice, good communication and appreciation for the most valuable features on your street.

With an ever-increasing threat to urban trees due to insufficient funding, poor management and neglect, steps need to be taken to nurture our trees.

The Woodland Trust believe it is time to recognise the value of trees and welcome them into our lives. Street Trees offers you a chance to tell decision makers that you want trees where you live.

To find out more and download a starter kit, visit www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/get-involved/street-trees.

With more Street Trees projects set to be rolled out across the rest of the UK soon, it's a venture set to branch out into more communities.



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Vegan festival comes to town

GLASGOW'S stamp of honour as Scotland's friendliest vegan city will be celebrated at the upcoming Vegan Festival set to happen in Merchant City.

Taking place on May 27 and 28 at Trades Hall on Glassford Street, the two day event aims to showcase the best in vegan food and products.

Over 50 stalls will set up shop over the weekend, as well as a selection of cookery classes, demonstrations and talks set to take place. Visitors will be treated to free samples and informative talks will be running for those wishing to learn more.



Quality producers involved throughout the weekend will include Sgaia's Vegan Meats and Green Tea Artisan.

Tickets for the event cost £3

and more information can be found by visiting the Glasgow Vegan Festival facebook page or emailing veganeventsuk@gmail.com



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Take off on an adventure

LOCAL parents and guardians with babies and crawlers are invited to attend fun-filled storytelling sessions at Tron Theatre.

Tiny Tales sessions are held on dates throughout May and June, and bring stories to life with props, movement, music, percussion and creative play, all carefully designed to stimulate your little one's senses.

Workshops help with physical, social, emotional and language development while encouraging imaginations to flourish.



Best of all adults get to join in too. All workshops require parent/child participation, allowing you to share the experience and give you a host of storytelling ideas to try out at home.

Taking place on 6, 13 and 20 May, then again on 3, 10 and 17 June, there are plenty of opportunities over the coming weeks to join in.

Tiny Tales starts at 10.30am and costs £5.

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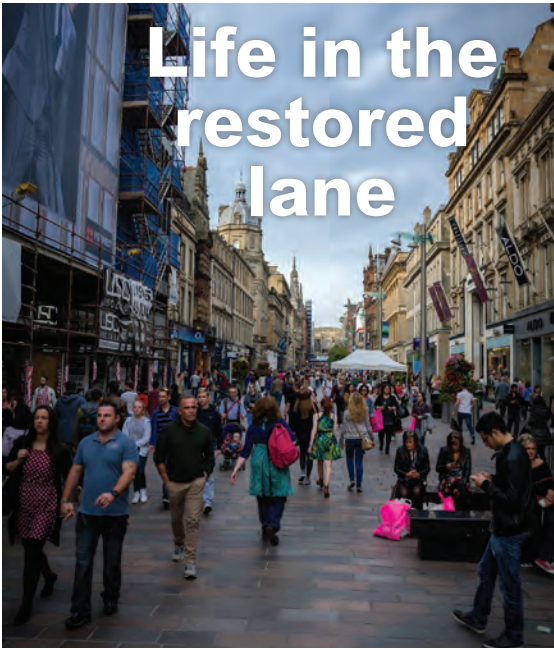
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Merchant City Connect



GLASGOW City Council are seeking local input to help make positive changes to the city centre lane network.

Recognising that lanes are well-kept in some areas but in need of improvement in others, the council are hoping to rectify problem lanes through their draft City Centre Lane Strategy. Seeking to improve the overall experience of the city centre for people, they are encouraging locals to share their views.

The draft lane strategy contains a range of potential actions such as events and pop-up activities.

Given the complex nature of lane ownership, the council seek to develop a shared sense of mission and motivation from owners to successfully help deliver the strategy. The regeneration of these lanes would play a role in the on-going transformation on the city centre.

To complete the questionnaire and give your input visit www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/lanestrategy2017



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Merchant City Connect

What's on

Keep in the loop with events and exhibitions taking place throughout Merchant City over the coming months.

EVENT: Polygraphs

Date: 17 February – 17 September 2017

Time: opening times

Location: Gallery of Modern Art

Cost: Free

What's on: Catch one of the latest exhibitions at GoMA titled 'Polygraphs'. A group show with Berlin based filmmaker and writer, Hito Steyerl's work *Abstract* (2012), exploring is central to the narrative. Through *Abstract*, Steyerl questions our connectivity to the arms trade, global economics and a seemingly distant battlefield.

EVENT: SAMPLE by Collect Scotland

Date: 24 March – 18 June

Time: opening times

Location: Gallery One, The Lighthouse

Cost: Free

What's on: SAMPLE showcases specially commissioned pieces from 15 current or past members of Collect Scotland – a platform for Scottish printed textile design. The exhibition aims to showcase the often hidden discipline of textile design, in an industry where designers are not always credited for commercial work.

EVENT: Drawing People

Date: 21 April – 27 May

Time: opening times

Location: Trongate 103

Cost: Free

What's on: A colourful exhibition documenting the studios of Project Ability, and the artists that make the studio environment come to life.

EVENT: Nicola Benedetti

Date: Friday 19 May

Time: 7.30pm

Location: City Halls

Cost: £17-£35

What's on: Catch Nicola Benedetti perform with an intimate evening's recital and "in conversation with" playing a new programme of classical works for violin and piano, alongside her duo partner, Alexei Grynuk. Phone 0141 353 8000 for more information and to purchase tickets.

EVENT: Merchant City Festival

Date: Saturday 22 – Sunday 30 July

Time: various times

Location: various venues

Cost: tbc

What's on: Get diaries marked with this nine day event that never fails entertain. Showcasing some of the best Scottish and international art and entertainment, there will be a packed programme full of street arts, music, theatre, food and drink, visual art, comedy, dance and much more. Keep up to date with any updates by visiting www.merchantcityfestival.com.

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Raising the bar

THIRTEEN will be lucky for some, as Glasgow's licensed premises compete to become the toast of the city.

Entries are invited for this year's Best Bar None Glasgow awards - the 13th since they were launched in 2004.

Pubs, clubs, hotels and other licensed premises are being urged to enter the awards which received a record response in 2016.

Eighty-eight premises took part in last year's Glasgow awards. A total of 67 venues received Gold awards at a glitzy gala dinner, 20 earned silver and one was awarded Bronze. Eleven premises were also shortlisted as finalists in the national awards which took place at the end of March.

Campus went on to clinch the top award and be crowned National Champion of the Year.

Best Bar None Glasgow now hope to raise the bar even further and encourage at least 100 licensed premises to take part in the next regional event.

New entrants including hotel bars are especially welcome to take part in this year's awards which encourage and enhance best licensing and safety practices.

Eleanor Lee of Community Safety Glasgow which organises BBN Glasgow said:

"Participants new and old are invited to take part in this year's scheme. We had some fantastic success stories in 2016 and want to surpass that this year.

"Best Bar None is all about adopting positive management practices in support of a safe night out. Best Bar None Glasgow advise all types of licensed premises on how to implement best practices in their venues. "This could be from ensuring they have the most up-to-date training for bar staff and door stewards to explaining new statutory requirements.

"We want to encourage people to adopt these practices and we recognise the journey that businesses go on with our awards. Businesses don't have to aim for Gold straight away, for some, getting bronze shows commitment, especially if they are new to Best Bar None."

Registration for the awards opened on April 19. Premises interested in entering this year's awards should go to www.bbnglasgow.com





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New homes set for the neighbourhood

MERCHANT City could soon have more than 600 new homes up for rent after a developer announced plans to create a new neighbourhood.

Get Living has secured outline planning permission for the 7.5-acre High Street site.

The firm is best known for being the UK's leading large scale residential investor and owner operator of the former Athletes' Village of the 2012 Games.

The deal was secured off-market from a private vendor and will be the firm's first site out of London.

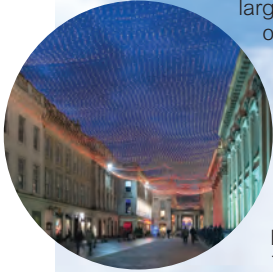
Get Living hopes to bring a new residential neighbourhood comprising more than 600 homes for rent.

The firm will be carrying out detailed planning for the

neighbourhood, aiming to start construction of the entire project, in a single phase, within 18 months.

Councillor Frank McAveety, leader of Glasgow City Council, said: "I am delighted with this news, another sign of the confidence developers and investors have in the Merchant City and Collegelands as one of the UK's most attractive investment destinations. The track record of the developers points to another attractive neighbourhood being created in Glasgow.

"This development aligns well with the council's city centre residential strategy, and our wider plans for the city centre, and I look forward to seeing it progress."





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A world of discovery on your door

Whether you're new to the Merchant City or a longstanding local, there are always new places to uncover and fresh experiences around the corner.

Home to Glasgow's Tobacco Lords' warehouses in the 18th century during the city's trading boom, today it's better known for its trendy boutiques, bars, restaurants and apartments. With an array of things to do for residents and visitors alike, we've rounded up some of the best places to explore throughout spring and summer.

1. Tuck in

A hub of delicious activity awaits on Merchant City's well-worn streets from the array of restaurants serving up great meals. From the



eclectic treats on offer at Guy's Restaurant and Bar, to the authentic Indian found inside The Dhabba, the mass appeal of a Paesano's pizza, to Café Gandolfi's Scottish-sourced ingredients, differing palates will find a home.

2. Listen up

For concerts, gigs, club nights and ceilidhs, Merchant City has it all. The Old Fruitmarket Gallery and City Halls play host to a varied programme of cultural events to charm visitors with a great night out. From jazz music to rock and pop concerts to big band nights, by keeping up to date with the events posted on

the venues websites, music fans won't miss out on the summer highlights.

3. Art fart

The neighbourhood attracts the culturally curious thanks to the elegantly housed Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA). Featuring temporary exhibitions from cutting edge artists, expect to think, feel and marvel at the work displayed over different mediums.

4. Designer dreams

The stylishly inclined will find needs met on the designer mecca that is Ingram Street. For those with money to burn, stores such as Mulberry, Agent Provocateur, Armani and Cruise offer the latest styles and have retail therapy covered.



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