



Our GlasgowlifeTM *Magazine*

THE MAGAZINE FOR GLASGOW LIFE STAFF
AND VOLUNTEERS | JULY ISSUE | 2019



Merchant City Festival THIS WEEKEND

SPACE-THEMED SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

WIN TICKETS TO THE WORLD PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

COMPETITIONS | NEWS & FEATURE STORIES | WHAT'S ON | STAFF OFFERS



Letter from Duncan

Welcome to the July edition of Our Glasgow Life.

The summer months are some of the busiest times for our museums. Right across the city, our staff and fantastic volunteers are welcoming visitors and showing off what is arguably the finest civic collection in northern Europe. That Glasgow boasts such incredible city museums is something we can all be proud of and the fact that more than 3.8 million people came through the doors in the last year is testament to their enduring appeal. Outside London, Glasgow Museums represents the most visited museums service in the UK and it's little wonder given the diverse programme of events and exhibitions which is constantly evolving to reflect our audiences.

In the last few months, we saw a record-breaking 640,000 people flock to Kelvingrove to see Dippy, the Natural History Museum's iconic dinosaur while she was on tour across the UK and for those looking to see the work of a true genius, the incredible Leonardo da Vinci: A Life in Drawing attracted 130,000 visitors. We continue to improve and expand access to our collections; our autism friendly sessions at St Mungo's, Kelvingrove and Riverside museums, among others, provide an environment which allows families to enjoy all that we have to offer in a more supportive environment. Everyone should have the chance to discover, learn and be inspired by our incredible collections.

In this edition of Our Glasgow Life, we have a feature on our major summer exhibition, the Linda McCartney Retrospective making its UK debut at Kelvingrove. The exhibition is, without doubt, a major coup for the museum and for the city – it's already attracted great reviews and received press coverage all over the world. Such is the enduring appeal and celebrity of The Beatles, it is perhaps worth recognising that Linda McCartney was a much respected and pioneering photographer, long before she married her famous husband. In 1968, she was the first female photographer to have her work on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine. What followed is captured throughout the exhibition – from the music, culture and people of the sixties through to more intimate glimpses of family life and Scotland, with Argyll and Kintyre providing a stunning backdrop. Curated by Sir Paul McCartney and their daughters, Mary and Stella, it is a stunning show and one I hope you all get the chance to see – and entry is free for all Glasgow Life staff.

We are also celebrating this month, following the success of Glasgow Museums' photographer, Jim Dunn, whose incredible image of the construction of Riverside Museum has been selected in a book of the best 100 photographs from The Chartered Institute of Building's annual photography competition. More than 35,000 photographs have been entered into the competition over the years, so it goes without saying that Jim's work is outstanding. It also comes as we mark 8 years since the museum opened its doors to the public – and now Riverside has just edged Kelvingrove as our most visited attraction. It being summer, of course we have an outdoor beach for folk to enjoy on the museum forecourt. For many, it's a chance to build sandcastles and to lounge in a deckchair, even if it's not so sunny, but like much of what we do it's sometimes more than that. If a man-made beach can bring families to a museum location, for some it will be the gateway to exploring everything that's on offer inside, breaking down barriers real or perceived and allowing them to enjoy the treasures on offer including a brand new family friendly Train of the Future display, perfect for climbing on.

If it's been a week or a year or even longer since you last visited, make the time in the weeks ahead and go and explore everything we have on offer across our incredible museums and collections – there really is something for everyone to enjoy.

Duncan Dornan,
Head of Museums and Collections



UPDATE: GLASGOW LIFE'S HQ IS **ON THE MOVE**

As you may already know, Glasgow Life staff based at 220 High Street will be moving to Commonwealth House in Albion Street.

Glasgow Life will occupy the fourth floor and a section of the ground floor at 38 Albion Street. The new HQ will eventually have its own front entrance and reception area.

Staff at 220 High Street will be moving on a phased basis on the following dates:

- **Friday 16 August 2019** – Staff currently based on the 4th floor of 220 High Street will move down to Commonwealth House (People Strategy and Resources, Learning and Development, Admin, Young Scot, Conventions and some of the Events team)
- **Friday 6 September 2019** – The remaining teams on the 5th floor will move down to Commonwealth House (Marketing, Communications, Development, Directorate, PAs, Events, Admin, Business Strategy, Infrastructure Support and Finance)

Look out for further updates from Internal Communications and in Our Glasgow Life. If you have any questions about the move please contact: internalcommunications@glasgowlife.org.uk

More detailed information about preparations for the move is being sent to all affected staff. If you are a regular user of office space at 220 High Street, but not based there and would like to be kept up to date on all developments, then please contact internalcommunications@glasgowlife.org.uk and we will ensure you are informed.



Performance by G-stars 2019 participants



G-stars 2019 winners Lexi Welsh, Laura Mackay, Megan McLean and Alix Haddow outside the O2.



Roanna Lavery-Menzies, Kirsty Mayberry and Frances Watson

YOUNG GLASGOW SINGING STARS WOW CROWDS AT O2

Earlier this month more than 50 singing stars aged 12-18 took to the stage at Glasgow's O2 Academy, in a bid to be crowned G-stars 2019 champion.

G-stars is delivered by our Glasgow Communities team as part of our summer holiday provision. The programme creates opportunities for young people to gain professional vocal and dance training for free on their doorstep; combining a taste of the creative arts with practical hands-on activities designed to foster valuable life-skills including team working, confidence building and conversational skills.

Gary Maguire MBE, Community Services Co-ordinator, explains: "The week-long G-stars project offers the young people of our city a fantastic opportunity to gain expert tuition from creative arts professionals whilst also acting

as a platform for young Glaswegians to come together and make new friends during the school holidays.

"By offering activities such as G-stars free of charge throughout the holidays, we hope to ensure that the young people in our city have the chance to try activities they might not otherwise have access to. Seeing the young people involved grow in confidence throughout the week is fantastic and not only does the week culminate in the opportunity to perform on such an iconic stage, but also creates opportunities to learn more about the importance of community and how to become a positive and active citizen."

This year's talented troop, all part of the week-long G-stars 2019 project at Geoff Shaw Community Centre, performed one song each to a panel of celebrity judges including 13 year old Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist Kerr James and West End star Sharon Mudie, with 'All 4 One' members Lexi Welsh, Laura Mackay, Megan McLean and Alix Haddow crowned overall champions.

Lexi Welsh (12) said: "To win was one of the best things that's ever happened. My favourite week of the years is G-stars - not even my birthday week compares cos I get to meet and talk to new people and make new relationships and friends. I can't believe we have won!"

Laura McKay (13) said: "Winning was obviously a shock. Everyone was really good and it means a lot that people thought we were good enough to be the winners."

Megan McLean (18) said: "This is my last year of G-stars and I'm going out on a high cos I've finally won! If it wasn't for G-stars I wouldn't have the friendships and so many amazing memories to treasure forever."

Alix Haddow (14) said: "I love G-stars it's a great place where you can build your confidence up, meet new friends and get coaching from some amazing tutors - plus it's all free."

In a nod to the 50th anniversary of The Stonewall Riots, this year's G-stars programme was themed Proud, with the young people completing a Community Achievement Award in citizenship and participation, alongside their vocal coaching and choreography lessons.

To find out what else is on offer in your community this summer, please visit www.glasgowlife.org.uk



Mela 2019

Over 40,000 people attended the Glasgow Mela last month in a very sunny Kelvingrove Park.

The crowds enjoyed performances across three stages and a huge selection of world food, clothing and goods stalls and entertainment as Glasgow celebrated its rich cultural heritage and all its communities.

Roanna Lavery-Menzies, Kirsty Mayberry and Frances Watson were on hand in the park to let people know about the wide range of services Glasgow Life offer across the city, in particular all the free holiday programme activities for young people and families.



JIM DUNN'S PHOTO GETS PUBLISHED



An image of Riverside Museum taken by our Glasgow Museums photographer Jim Dunn has been selected for inclusion in a book of the best 100 photographs from The Chartered Institute of Building's annual photography competition. More than 35,000 photographs have been entered into the competition over the years, all focusing on the built world that surrounds us.

Jim's photo 'Elements' shows Riverside Museum under construction and won the first edition of the competition back in 2009. Ten years on and his work is once again being celebrated.

Jim started with Glasgow Museums in 1983 and works as a photographer across all our museums, in the community, with schools and community groups, and in our studios on fine art

photography for graphics, our Photo Library or for publications.

Speaking of his photograph 'Elements' Jim said: "I was tasked with capturing the construction work on the Riverside Museum for our own archives and for use by the construction company BAM and Zaha Hadid Architects."

"I would visit the site every week or two and on this occasion it was a sunshine and showers kind of day and I took several shots of the guy in the cherry picker when the sun came out and lit him up against the rain clouds."

"I was really surprised when I won the first competition back in 2009 because I had looked at a lot of the other entries and thought some of them were very strong images, but of course I was chuffed as

well, especially as first prize at that time was £500. I hadn't even looked at the image in years, so it was unexpected to hear from the people at 'Art of a Building' telling me it had been selected from over 35,000 images to be in the 10th anniversary book!"

Jim also enjoys photography outside of work and is currently working on a project capturing portraits of makers and artists that he hopes to someday exhibit.

You can see some more of Jim's work here.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT OPENS FOR THREE MAJOR GLASGOW EVENTS

#GetInvolvedGlasgow

Last week Glasgow Life launched volunteer recruitment for the three next major sporting events to come to Glasgow; LEN European Short Course Swimming Championships, the LGT World Men's Curling Championship and UEFA EURO 2020.

Applicants can choose which event they'd like to be involved in, whether it's one, two or even all three! Taking place in one of Europe's most vibrant and welcoming cities, volunteers have the chance to get involved with some of the biggest international sporting events in the world.

Applications opened on Monday 22 July 2019 and will close on Sunday 25 August 2019 for a variety of roles including supporting spectators and visitors to the city during the events. Glasgow's reputation for its friendly, welcoming and supportive residents already shines through from the thousands of people who have previously volunteered at events like the 2014 Commonwealth Games and 2018 European Championships.

Across all three events, more than 1,000 volunteers will participate in some of the biggest events in the world, providing support and a friendly, welcoming face to spectators, athletes, fans, staff and more.

Training is provided for each role and volunteers have the flexibility to request shift days which complement their existing schedule, whether it's after work, university or in their free time.

Mary Crearie, 52, regular volunteer from Balornock shared some advice for this year's applicants, "There's nowhere better in the world to live than Glasgow and so there's nowhere better to volunteer than Glasgow!"

"We are all so proud of our city and events like these are the perfect opportunity to show it off on the world stage. Look at the different opportunities available and have a think about what you'd be best suited too - and then just go for it!"



Volunteering also brings with it new friends, new experiences and lots of laughter, as described by a regular volunteer for the city's events Sandra Wilson, 58, from Carntyne said: "The rewards you get from volunteering will outweigh anything else. You'll also get your own fair share of stories to tell. During Glasgow 2014 I had to patiently explain to a group of Rugby 7s players that Sauchiehall Street was not, in fact, pronounced "Sausage Roll Street". Things like that will always keep you laughing and smiling. Volunteers are a happy bunch and the happiness spreads to everyone you meet."

Sandra's partner Robert Wilson, 57, from Carntyne said: "Being born and bred in the east end, I'm fiercely proud of my city and I am always keen to promote Glasgow no matter where I am in the world. We've come so far and made such a name for ourselves in recent history - and these major events are the perfect opportunity to show off!"

Find out more about #GetInvolvedGlasgow and all three exciting events coming soon to our city at the Glasgow Life website.

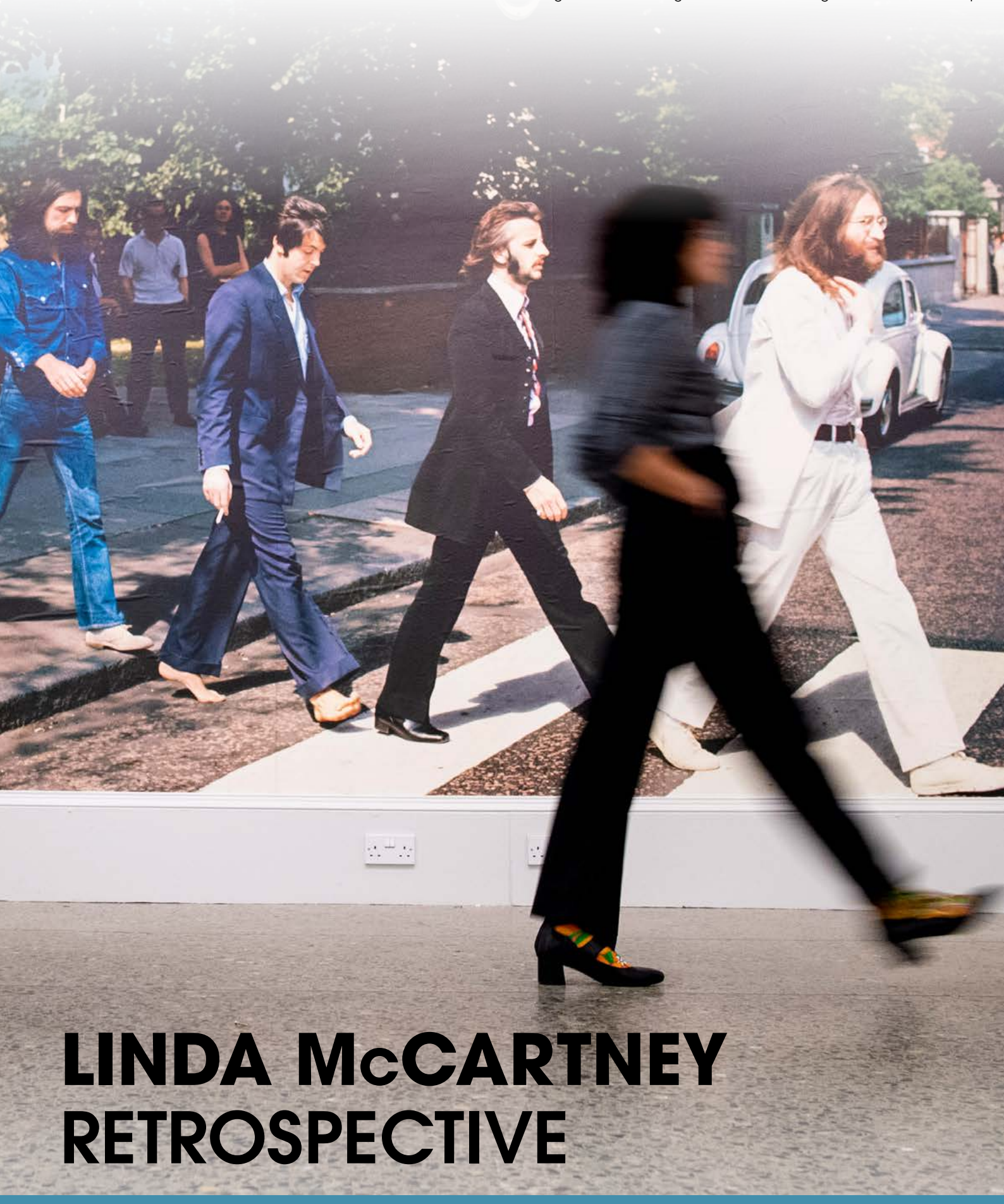
#GetInvolvedGlasgow

Apply now to volunteer for our upcoming major events

Applications close 25 Aug 2019 • Visit: glasgowlife.org.uk/getinvolved



Claire Francis, Marketing Officer with Glasgow Museums following in The Beatles footsteps



LINDA McCARTNEY RETROSPECTIVE

A major retrospective of photography by Linda McCartney has opened in the UK for the first time at Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum. It will run from 5 July 2019 until 12 January 2020.

The *Linda McCartney Retrospective*, which is curated by Paul, Mary and Stella McCartney, features iconic names and moments in music from the 1960s, along with more intimate and emotional later work by this acclaimed and prolific photographer.

The retrospective also includes one of Linda McCartney's diaries from the 1960s, which is displayed in public for the first time. It brings new insight into the contemporary music scene of the era and the beginnings of her photographic career.

The exhibition also features ephemera and archive material, including Linda's cameras, photographic equipment and a vintage magazine, that have been uncovered from her expansive archive.

Sir Paul McCartney said: "It is really good having this exhibition in such a cool gallery in Glasgow. The whole family loves to honour Linda's work - she would have loved this because Glasgow was a place she loved."

"She loved Scotland because it gave us a lot of fond memories, a lot of freedom and a lot of happy times. It is nice to have all of that encapsulated in the Kelvingrove exhibition."

Stella McCartney said: "Through these images you meet the real mother I knew. You see her raw and deep talent and passion for her art, photography. Ahead of her time on every level this mother of four still held her camera close like a companion, she captures the world around her through her eyes and this can be seen on the walls around the exhibition. Her humour, her love of family and nature and her moments framed with a slight surreal edge... Scotland was one of her favourite places on earth, and so many images were taken there. Enjoy her passion and compassion..."

Themes of the exhibition include The Sixties, Family Life, Self Portraits, Animals and Nature, People & Places, Making the Magic, and Scotland (featuring pictures taken at the family home in Argyll and of people from local communities in Campbeltown).

The exhibition was first shown at the Kunst Hausn Wien museum, Vienna and subsequently at The Pavillon Populaire, Montpellier and Daelim Museum, Seoul.

Linda McCartney became a professional photographer in the mid-1960s, known for her portraits of Jimi Hendrix, The Rolling

LINDA McCARTNEY RETROSPECTIVE

Sarah Brown Curator of the Linda McCartney Archive with Fiona Hayes Curator of Social History with Glasgow Museums



Stones and The Beatles, among many others. In 1968 she was the first female photographer whose work was featured as the cover of Rolling Stone magazine, with a portrait of Eric Clapton. In 1974, when Linda and Paul appeared on Rolling Stone's cover, she became the first person to have been photographed and taken a photo for the cover of the magazine: a neat reflection of Linda's life both in front of and behind the lens.

Following her marriage to Paul McCartney in 1969, Linda's photographs became more intimate and emotional, exploring the natural world, family life and social commentary.

Linda McCartney continued to work prolifically as a photographer until her death from breast cancer in 1998. Her work has been exhibited by institutions including the International Center of Photography in New York, the Victoria & Albert Museum and the National Portrait Gallery in London.

Fiona Hayes Curator of Social History with Glasgow Life said: "It's obvious Linda was always very in tune with the people she was photographing. She was known for really putting people at ease to make these really powerful portraits. Seeing all her work up on the walls, you do get that sense of connection, that same point of view."

"Though there's quite a range of subjects, you know it comes from the same artist. There's this delight in the world around us and she had an ability to pick up on details of everyday life, those moments where something special could happen. She makes the viewer look again at the world around them".

Merchant City Festival 2019

The Merchant City Festival is a wonderful celebration of creativity which brings carnival to the streets and venues in the heart of Glasgow. The next performance is always just around the corner as artists, musicians, dancers and all kinds of live entertainers join the one of a kind programme. With artisan goods stalls and brilliant food and drink on offer, a visit to the Merchant City Festival suits all ages and promises an unforgettable celebration of Glasgow in the height of the summer.

As we all get ready for the excitement to begin this Thursday, we hear from Lorenzo Mele, Senior Arts Officer with Glasgow Arts and Executive Producer of the Merchant City Festival:

"It's almost that time again when a wander around the Merchant City will surprise and delight you! The Merchant City Festival starts on Thursday 25 July and this year we kick off with a Carnival street party inspired by Venice carnival traditions."

"Together with the wider Arts and Music team, we programme work that celebrates our great urban realm in this historic part of the city, which has always been focused on innovation and interaction, at home and overseas. The Festival is all about having a great inclusive

time out on the streets in the best European traditions. Despite not having a strong outdoor celebratory tradition and sometimes unreliable weather, Glasgow has developed a considerable outdoor summer calendar which Merchant City Festival is proud to be part of."

"Alongside the carnival party, we are also curating a full family day on Friday 26 July. We've teamed up with the world leading Edinburgh International Children's festival with exciting performances and interactions in Merchant Square, and out on the streets we have performance from the Whalley Range All Stars and Tim Cassan Dance. In the Old Fruitmarket you and the wee ones can sing and dance along to The Greatest Showman during the day. In the evening Hip Replacement, the club night for the Middle Edged returns again - great tunes from 7.30pm so a good night doesn't have to be a late night!"

"At the weekend we are once again welcoming our programme partners Surge, and Streetband Encontro. Surge is Scotland's street arts agency and brings the best of emerging and established street performance to MCF. Encontro, now in its third year, has quickly established Glasgow as a premier destination for street bands from all over Europe to come and play. This year sees a band joining us all the way from Chile, La Tromba, (catch them at the Old Fruitmarket on the Saturday night) and also an expanded workshop programme. On Sunday we celebrate all things Circus with Aerial Edge taking over Merchant Square and our Gaelic Song and Literature trail, which also launches the city's Gaelic Poet Laureate, who will be in place until the Mod."

"Besides all this there is the delicious food from Big Feed and great gift ideas from the Urban Market traders. Make sure you experience some of these delights between 25th and 28th July!"

Check out the full line up for this year's **Merchant City Festival**



MERCHANT CITY
FESTIVAL GLASGOW



Lorenzo Mele with some of the performers that will be appearing at the Venice-themed Opening Carnival Street Party



Knitted aliens, rockets and astronauts at Castlemilk Library

SPACE-THEMED SUMMER READING CHALLENGE LAUNCHES IN LIBRARIES

Glasgow's young book fans have been flocking to the city's libraries in their droves this month to take part in the annual Summer Reading Challenge.

So far, almost 3000 children aged 0-12 have signed up for the Challenge to read six books or more before 10th August, 11% ahead of this time last year. And more than 8000 junior books have flown off the shelves since the Challenge launched on June 22nd.

Fuelled by the anniversary of the moon landings, this year's Challenge is themed Space Chase so we caught up with some of the city's library staff to hear more about the out of this world activities they've been staging for this intergalactic Challenge.

Alison Nicol, Librarian for the South area said: "Langside Library has had a great start to this year's Summer Reading Challenge. Library Assistant Claire has been showing children how to make rockets at her regular craft sessions and we're excited about welcoming author Tom Nicoll in August for our event to celebrate everyone taking part. Tom's known best for his hilarious "There's a Dragon in..." series and his book "Level Up!" is part of the official Space Chase book collection.

"The children and families of Langside have really gotten on board with Space Chase and we've already smashed our target, but we won't be resting on our laurels, or should that be 'moon rocks', we want everyone having a blast reading books this summer!"

Meanwhile, the North East's libraries are certainly having a blast creating space themed activities.

Chris Boyce, Community Services Officer for the North East, said: "This summer in Dennistoun Library we've got a

whole programme of space themed arts and craft sessions as well as weekend Bookbug to encourage all ages to participate. We're well on our way to meeting our target for sign ups and are looking forward to exceeding it. Feedback so far has been really positive and we hope this continues for the rest of the summer".

And in Hillhead Library, the Space Chase photo board has proved popular with wannabe astronauts.

Emma O'Donnell, Community Services Supervisor at Hillhead Library, said: "Hillhead Library has had a great start to the Summer Reading Challenge this year, all our young people are enjoying taking part in the Space Chase theme, and we have weekly arts and crafts sessions every Wednesday from 2-3pm over the summer period. We have a fantastic character photo board within our junior area which the young people can get their picture taken as one of the characters, some adults have been enjoying taking part in this also."

It's not too late to join in the fun, so if you know any 0-12 year olds why not encourage them to head to their local Glasgow library, sign up and read six books of their choice during the school holidays. With special stickers, rewards and prizes, plus the chance to win a family pass to the Science Centre on offer there'll be loads of reasons to keep reading all summer!



MCR Pathways

Summer is the perfect time to make a change that will make a BIG impact.

Across Scotland and inside Glasgow Life, people are choosing to mentor a young person for just one hour a week. That small commitment allows young people to realise their potential and achieve their goals.

There are 518 young people coming back in the next school term who are hoping for a mentor. Someone to meet with them weekly at school, to chat about school, life and their future.

It takes on average 4-6 weeks, from signup to training, to become a mentor with MCR Pathways. If you sign up today you can be ready to match next term!

"My mentor is amazing. She is someone I can trust and she makes me feel important and helps me believe in myself."
Alisha, St Andrew's Secondary

The impact of having a mentor ripples out. Our schools see the difference, communities feel a change and mentors gain new skills just by being there, one hour a week. Find out more at mcrpathways.org and register to attend an info session.

Hear from mentors at Glasgow Life in **this short film**



MENTORS NEEDED



An hour a week is all it takes to help a young person. Can you help?

MCR
PATHWAYS

Win COMPETITION

WIN A FAMILY TICKET TO THE WORLD PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS!

We have a family ticket (2 adults and 3 kids) to give away to the World Pipe Band Championships on Saturday 17 August, from 9am, Glasgow Green.

The World Pipe Band Championships is a truly magnificent occasion, featuring bands from all over the world competing to be the best of the best. Join over 200 bands featuring around 8000 pipers and drummers for a vivid experience of some of the sights and sounds of Scotland.

Follow the compelling drama of the competition of the Grade 1 arena or simply enjoy the wide range of bands competing across the day and sample Highland Games, Highland Dancing, a Children's Zone and outstanding food and drink. There is nothing quite like the sights and sounds of Glasgow Green during the World Pipe Band Championships. Gates open at 7am with the competition starting at 9am. The event will draw to a close with a spectacular march-past of all pipe bands in the main arena for the presentations from the day's competition.

To be in with a chance of winning just answer the following question:

Where will the World Pipe Band Championships be held?

Send your answer to my@glasgowlife.org.uk by 5pm on Friday 9 August.

(Don't forget to include your contact details!).

The winner will be selected at random from all correct entries.

Good luck.



LAST MONTH'S WINNER

Congratulations to **Daniel Kennedy** from **Glasgow Sport** at **Tollcross International Swimming Centre** who won a pair of tickets to An Evening with Tyson Fury at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Daniel knew that Tyson fought 12 rounds with Wilder in December 2018.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We hope you've enjoyed this edition of Our Glasgow Life.

We want your feedback. Tell us what you think, send us your comments or suggestions, your images and video.

This is your Glasgow Life and we want your ideas at the heart of it.

Contact: my@glasgowlife.org.uk and remember to share your images and video on our Glasgow Life Twitter and Facebook pages too!

BOOK OF THE MONTH

SHIFTY MCGIFTY AND SLIPPERY SAM

To celebrate the Summer Reading Challenge, Principal Librarian Margaret Houston has chosen Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam: The Aliens are Coming by Tracey Corderoy, illustrated by Steven Lenton.

Margaret said: "Two little aliens appear in the park beside two mystery solving dogs - Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam. Our doggy heroes get ready to defend the earth from a possible alien invasion, with the help of some garlic and tinfoil."

"This is a lovely short story with lots of illustrations, plus there are two other stories included in the book. The title is one in a fab series of stories featuring the doggy detectives."

Find Shifty McGifty at your local library using our **Glasgow Libraries Catalogue**.



Principal Librarian Margaret Houston with her Book of the Month choice