

Welcome!

Spring is finally here – be sure you make the most of it and enjoy the longer nights and warmer days with a visit to the Grassmarket. In April and May, there is an added incentive with some retailers paying for your parking.

Fashion is definitely the theme of the month and if you haven't got your spring wardrobe yet make sure you check out the fabulous fashion offers in this newsletter. If you fancy a tippie, [Demijohn](#) is the place to go now that the first batch of their best-selling Seville Orange Gin Liqueur is back. Alternatively, visit [The Whisky Shop](#) for one of their limited edition malts.

At [The Lot](#), the Ceilidh Culture festival is still in full swing with events lasting until 13 April and more to come for the rest of the month.

One thing is for sure – there is not a dull moment this month in the Grassmarket. We look forward to welcoming you soon!

Best wishes,

Jos Bastiaensen

Chairman, Grassmarket Area Traders Association.



Beyond the Shop Front



A look into the world of Grassmarket trader, The Whisky Shop

The Whisky Shop in Edinburgh's Grassmarket has been selling Scotland's national drink for the last sixteen years. In this focus feature, General Manager Darren Leitch shares his favourite whiskies for any time of the day and talks about his pride over the chain of Whisky Shops in the UK, their unique Glenkeir Treasures range and winning global awards.

[Read on >>](http://www.grassmarket.net/traderfeature_apr08a.asp) www.grassmarket.net/traderfeature_apr08a.asp

Need to Know

Free parking until the end of May

Enjoy a visit to the Grassmarket and let the traders pick up the cost of your parking ticket. In April and May, selected Grassmarket retailers, pubs and restaurants will pay for two hours parking in Castle Terrace Car Park or on the Grassmarket



if you spend £10 per head in a pub or restaurant or £40 in a shop. Simply show your car keys in these outlets to claim your discount:

Participating traders include:

- [The Beehive](#)
- [Café Jacques](#)
- [Made in Italy](#)
- [Mamma's American Pizza](#)
- [Petit Paris](#)
- [The Lot](#)
- [Anta](#)
- [Mr Wood's Fossils](#)
- [Walker Slater](#)
- [Demijohn](#)
- [Fabhatrix](#)
- [Gerry's](#)
- [Hawick Cashmere](#)
- [Helios Fountain](#)

Grassmarket excavations re-write Edinburgh's history

For centuries, the Grassmarket has been one of the busiest places in Edinburgh with markets dating back to the 14th century. Earlier excavations of the area have unearthed for example a medieval brooch, amongst other things. Earlier this year, archaeologists were surprised when they discovered burnt animal bones and cereal grains from the Middle Bronze Age – approximately 1500 to 1300BC – right outside the Beehive Inn. The findings come as a result of the excavations which are part of the current ongoing redevelopment of the area.

[Read more](#)

It's men only on Swish's upper floor

Swish have transformed their upper floor into a dedicated men's section selling some of the hottest garments from top US & UK brands to complement the wide selection they offer for ladies! From unique licensed tee's to quirky colourful belts, from old-school Gola bags to retro sunglasses and urban streetwear to vintage rock, Swish has something to appeal to a man of any walk of life – especially one who likes to stand out from the crowd!

Visit: Swish, 22-24 Victoria Street, Edinburgh EH1 2JW

Tel: 0131 220 0615

Spring favourites back in stock at Demijohn

April at Demijohn means that one of their bestsellers is back in stock – the first batch of the Seville Orange Gin Liqueur has arrived. With its beautiful marmalady taste and citrus twist this is a seriously refined liqueur for all gin lovers. Just mix with a little tonic and ice, add a sprig of mint for a refreshing taste – visit the Victoria Street store to try it out. And don't miss another new arrival – organic Cucumber Vodka from Somerset is also in store.

Visit: Demijohn, 32 Victoria Street, Edinburgh EH1 2JW

Tel: 0131 225 3265 Email: info@demijohn.co.uk





Wrap yourself in bamboo with Big Ideas

Bamboo might not sound like the ideal material for clothing but if you visit Big Ideas this month, they'll convince you the opposite is true. This fabulous new range of casual wear includes tunics and cardigans with ruffles, dresses, skirts and trousers. The fabric is all natural and feels really soft on your skin. Big Ideas stocks clothes in sizes 16+.

Visit: Big Ideas, 82 West Bow, Edinburgh, EH1 2HH

Tel: 0131 226 2532 Email: bigideasscotland@aol.com

Bag a Bargain

Update your spring wardrobe and get 10% off

Five of the Grassmarket's fashion retailers have joined forces to offer fashionistas even more reasons to shop in the Grassmarket. **Swish, Fabhatix, Armstrongs, Big Ideas and Joyce Forsyth Scottish Designer Knitwear** will all offer a **special 10% discount** on selected lines throughout the month of April. There has never been a better excuse to get rid of those thick winter coats and sport something new! Quote APRIL OFFER to claim your discount. Offer ends on 30 April.



Get £20 off with Bill Baber's layered look

Bill Baber has taken some inspiration from the builders outside and they are rolling up their sleeves for their new layered look tunics – ideal to wear over a pair of jeans or with leggings. The two garments are made from silk and linen and can be worn apart as a jumper and a cardigan or together to create the complete Bill Baber layered look. They are available in sizes 8 to 14 and priced at £69.00 each or £119 if you buy them together. They're not just pretty but practical, too – simply put them in the washing machine.

Visit: Bill Baber, 66 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2JR

Tel: 0131 225 3249 Email: billbaber@msn.com



April showers? Not a problem with Fabhatix' £10 discount

April is a tricky time of year to keep that freshly-coiffed look all day, but Fabhatix has a solution. They stock the most extensive range of Olney waxed cotton hats in Edinburgh, with over a dozen styles to choose from! The hats come with the benefit of a unique weather proof membrane to protect you from those unexpected showers. Prices range from £36 to £60 and Fabhatix is offering a £10 discount on any wet weather waxed hat all throughout April.

Visit: Fabhatix, 13 Cowgatehead, Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 1JY

Tel: 0131 225 9222



20% off at Mamma's American Pizza

Mamma's is offering 20% off all its fresh stone-baked pizzas and much, much more this April! Remember – there is a gluten-free pizza option, too. This mouth-watering offer is valid from Sunday to Thursday, 12pm to 6pm. Just remember to bring a copy of this e-newsletter with you to enjoy this delicious offer. Offer ends 30 April.

Visit: Mamma's American Pizza, 30 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2JU

Tel: 0131 225 6464



One last chance to grab Howies' fantastic lunch offer!

Don't miss out – this offer won't stay around much longer! Howies' fabulous lunch offer includes two courses for the bargain price of £6.95! Remember to pick up a voucher next time you dine in a Howies restaurant or download it from the website – www.howies.uk.com - and redeem it at any Howies in Scotland! Offer ends 30 April.



Visit: Howies Restaurant, 10-14 Victoria Street, Edinburgh, EH1 2HG

Tel: 0131 225 1721

Unmissable Events

Get dancing with The Ceilidh Club at The Lot

Edinburgh's Ceilidh Culture Festival is still in full swing and you can get involved with The Ceilidh Club at The Lot. The Lot hosts award-winning traditional Scottish band Heeliegoleerie for their session on 8 April, between 20.00 and 23.30. This trio is sure to get you spinning around! Can't make the date? Check out the other Ceilidh Club gigs on all other Tuesdays. Tickets are available on the door or you can reserve in advance by phoning 0131 225 9922.

Visit: The Lot, 4 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2JU

Tel: 0131 225 9922 Email: admin@the-lot.co.uk

The Lot hosts The Wild Myrtles and Scherzando choirs

The Wild Myrtles are seven female vocalists who, independently, have already made their mark in Edinburgh's folk scene and can be found regularly in venues such as the Royal Oak Bar. They formed The Wild Myrtles in 2007 and will be performing a cappella at The Lot on 2 May where they will be joined by visiting French choir Scherzando to perform songs from all around the world. Tickets cost £5 and are available on the door.

Visit: The Lot, 4 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2JU

Tel: 0131 225 9922 Email: admin@the-lot.co.uk



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