

Welcome!

It's March already and here we are heading towards Easter quicker than you can say 'Mad as a March Hare'!

Speaking of which, if you have an Easter party in the pipe-line make sure you pay a trip to [Ah Ha Ha](#) to look through its fabulous range of Easter-themed fancy dress outfits. Or if you happen to be feeling 'egg-stravagant' then [Mr Wood's Fossils](#) could be just the place for you – it currently has a 70 million year old dinosaur fossil egg for sale! Now that's definitely not your average Easter egg...

For those in search of retail therapy, there's plenty on offer this month. [ANTA](#) has a great 15% discount on all its Home Accessories, whilst [Fabhatrix](#) is giving away a free feather bridesmaid fascinator worth £30 with every 'Mother of the Bride' hat bought in March. For something a little more special, [Clarksons](#) has launched a new line of Scottish kilt pins inset with Edinburgh Castle rock, a truly unique present to last a lifetime.

Put a Spring in your step and visit the Grassmarket, we're looking forward to seeing you!

Best wishes,

Jos Bastiaensen

Chairman, Grassmarket Area Traders Association.



Beyond the Shop Front



A look into the world of Grassmarket Trader *Mr Wood's Fossils*

This unique shop, tucked in the east end of the Grassmarket, has been on the go for over 20 years. This month, owner Matt Dale gives us some real insight into the ancient world of fossils, telling us about his oldest and most unusual fossil-y finds and, of course, how the shop got its unusual name!

Read on >> www.grassmarket.net/traderfeature_mar08.asp

Need to Know



Easter fun at Ah Ha Ha

What better way to welcome Spring than a good Easter fancy dress party! Hop along to Ah Ha Ha and feast your eyes on their Easter goodies. Whether you're after a pink bunny nose, big bunny paws, floppy bunny ears or a big fluffy bunny tail there's a bunny-something in all sizes and shapes to suit every wannabe rabbit. And if you're feeling a little clucky, why not try one of Ah Ha Ha's bouncy brown eggs? They may look normal but they're not...!

Visit: Ah Ha Ha, 99 West Bow , Edinburgh EH1 2JP

Tel: 0131 220 5252 Website: www.grassmarket.net/ahahaha.asp



Hats ahoy at Armstrongs

Hats are flavour of the month at Armstrongs this March with the arrival of an exciting new 1940s and 50s inspired hat collection from the USA. From fedoras, trilbys, top hats and bowler hats to peaked caps and traditional wool hats, there's one to suit every guy and gal out there. With prices starting from just £14, why not step into an era of Marlon Brando and Elizabeth Taylor style glamour and create your own sophisticated look!

Visit: Armstrongs, 83 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2HJ

Tel: 0131 220 5557 Website: www.grassmarket.net/armstrongs_vintage_emporium.asp



Two new designer brands available at Swish

Swish is delighted to introduce Danish brand Numph to Edinburgh! This is a quirky ladies brand with retro influences and an eclectic touch of bohemian gypsy. New stock is also in from leading designer label Religion; a funky range of truly unique tops & dresses, all handmade using specialised processes and techniques. And don't forget, we have a huge range of guys' t-shirts upstairs, plus our Winter Sale is STILL ON, so drop in and bag a bargain! Embrace a colourful Spring and stand out from the crowd @ Swish.

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

Tel: 0131 220 0615 Website: www.grassmarket.net/swish.asp



Spring dressings with Demijohn's single estate Italian olive oil

Break out the salads as Spring is just around the corner! Demijohn has launched its fresh, new single estate olive oil, from the Mercatale Estate in Tuscany, just in time for dressing this year's early salads. It's an unfiltered olive oil of an intense green colour with golden tinges; a fruity aroma of almonds and pine; a fragrant taste with a delicate bitter note. The strength of this oil makes it ideal for dressing strong flavoured foods and costs £3.40 per 100ml. More details are available on the Demijohn website, www.demijohn.co.uk

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

Tel: 0131 225 3265 Website: www.grassmarket.net/demijohn.asp Email: info@demijohn.co.uk



Polka your way to Bill Baber

To mark its 30th anniversary, Bill Baber is re-producing one of its most popular designs, the Polka top! Its unique shape means it fits all sizes from 8 to 14 and all heights from 5'2" to 6' and the polka style means its flexible enough to go out shopping, but also to go out clubbing as well – so you'll never be stuck for what to wear again! The Polka top is available in a range of colours but it's a limited collection so don't wait too long or you'll miss out!

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

Tel: 0131 225 3249 Web: www.grassmarket.net/bill_baber.asp Email: billbaber@msn.com



Big Ideas beats the rain with style

This Spring, Big Ideas has introduced a new and fabulous range of windproof and waterproof raincoats. Available in a stunning range of colours, the coat comes in all sizes from 16 to 32, in either full or shorter-length. It's even reversible so you can change the colour to suit your mood. But don't dare dawdle; buy your raincoat now before the rain catches you out!

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

Tel: 0131 226 2532 Website: www.grassmarket.net/big_ideas.asp



Clarksons' kilt pins and cufflinks from Edinburgh Castle rock

Clarksons has launched a new line of Scottish kilt pins inset with Edinburgh Castle rock. Available in silver and 18 carat gold, these pins make a truly unique present. For non-kilt wearers, Clarksons has an equally individual range of silver cufflinks, also inset with Edinburgh Castle rock. Perfect for a special occasion, kilt pin prices start from £250 and cufflinks from £98.

Visit: Clarksons, 87 West Bow, Edinburgh, EH1 2JP

Tel: 0131 225 8141 Website: www.grassmarket.net/clarksons.asp



'Count the Easter eggs' at Helios Fountain

Helios Fountain is running a competition from 29th February to the 23rd March to count the number of Easter eggs in its shop window! To be in with a chance to win the prize - a fabulous Helios Fountain gift token worth £75 - you'll have to count the number of Easter eggs, of all shapes, sizes and materials in the window, and hand your guess and contact details in to the shop. Correct answers will be entered into a prize draw and the winner will be drawn on the 25th March. Don't miss your chance to be an egg-counting winner!

Visit: Helios Fountain, 7 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2HJ

Tel: 0131 229 7884 Web: www.grassmarket.net/helios_fountain.asp

Bag a Bargain

15% discount on selected goods at ANTA

This month ANTA is offering a fabulous 15% discount on selected items from its Home Accessories range. Indulge yourself in this truly Scottish shop; all of ANTA's products are made from the finest natural Scottish materials with colours inspired by the Scottish landscape. From cushions and throws to pottery and accessories, just remember to bring a copy of this e-newsletter to take advantage of the special offer.

Visit: ANTA, 93 West Bow, Edinburgh, EH1 2JP

Tel: 0131 225 4616 Web www.grassmarket.net/anta.asp



'Thoroughly Modern Mother of the Bride' hat offer at Fabhatrix

March sees Fabhatrix introduce its exciting 1920s inspired wedding hat collection, following the hugely successful launch of its 'Thoroughly Modern Mother of the Bride' collection at Edinburgh University's Student Fashion Show on the 2nd March. Specially designed with the matriarch in mind, these bold, striking hats are currently retailing between £125 and £150. Best of all, for GATA newsletter readers there is a free feather bridesmaid fascinator worth £30 to be given away with every one sold! But spread the word quickly - this is a limited collection!

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

Tel: 0131 225 9222 Web: www.grassmarket.net/fabhatrix.asp



'Hot shot' discounts at Pyramid Imaging

Fed up with your normal size photos, looking for something a little less ordinary? Then get down to Pyramid Imaging and make the most of its fabulous March-only offer of a whopping 30% off all canvas printing, poster, exhibition and display printing, mounting and laminating and exhibition and display systems! Make sure you bring a copy of this e-newsletter with you to get this great discount.

Visit: Pyramid Imaging, 67 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2HJ

Tel: 0131 226 2202 Web: www.grassmarket.net/pyramid_imaging.asp



Unmissable Events



Fair Trade wine tasting at The Lot

On Friday 7th March, The Lot is hosting a wine tasting evening to raise awareness of Fair Trade issues and the wide range of products which help guarantee workers a fairer deal. Dinner slots are available at 6:30pm, for those keen to watch the David Berkman Classic Quartet play afterwards (tickets cost £10 to be bought in advance on 0131 473 2000), and at 8:30pm. The Lot's special Fair Trade Feast menu ranges from two courses at £16 to three courses at £18.50 and includes three glasses of wine per person. Guests will have the chance to visit the Fair Trade craft stall and listen to a short talk given by a charity representative. Further information about Fair Trade can be found on www.fairtrade.org.uk Call 0131 225 9924 to book a place at this special event.

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

Tel: 0131 225 9922 Web: www.grassmarket.net/the_lot.asp Email: admin@the-lot.co.uk

St Patrick's Day celebrations at The White Hart Inn

To mark this year's St Patrick's Day, The White Hart Inn is holding an all day Irish-themed jamboree. Put March 17th in your diary and join in the festivities; tuck into hearty Irish food and wash it down with a pint of fine full Irish ale – on special offer all day – and drink and be merry whilst listening to the dulcet tones of Irish band, 'The Pictoids', who'll take to the stage from 9pm through until midnight. The White Hart Inn is open Monday to Thursday 11am to 12am, Friday to Saturday 11am to 1am and Sunday from 12:30pm to 12am.

Visit: The White Hart Inn, 34 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2HS

Tel: 0131 226 2806 Web: www.grassmarket.net/white_hart_inn.asp



The Lot hosts Garvald Edinburgh fundraising gig



The Lot is hosting a fundraising gig for Garvald Edinburgh on Saturday, 8th March at 7:30pm, featuring music from Scottish country bands, Quixote and The Shandoneers. All funds raised on the night will go towards Garvald Edinburgh's work providing creative opportunities and support for adults with learning disabilities. Tickets cost £8 each (£6 concession) and are available from Garvald Edinburgh on 0131 516 2776 or fundraising@garvaldedinburgh.org.uk

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

Tel: 0131 225 9922 Web: www.grassmarket.net/the_lot.asp Email: admin@the-lot.co.uk

Easter workshops at Dance Base



At Dance Base there's Easter time fun for everyone regardless of age or ability with three workshops over the next few weeks. Adults can learn high energy dance moves to super-cheesy music with the Scottish Rockettes on Sunday 9th March and on the same day the Northern Ballet Theatre will be leading two ballet workshops for children and adults based on its production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Finally, there's a funky five day long Easter holiday course for children that will include street, poppin', lockin' and breakin' from Monday 31st March to Friday 4th April. Visit www.dancebase.co.uk or call 0131 225 5525 for further information and booking.

Visit: Dance Base, 14-16 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2JU

Tel: 0131 225 5525 Web: www.grassmarket.net/dance_base.asp



[Edinburgh's Grassmarket](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk)

