

2007 AND BEYOND

The year has started prestigiously with the introduction of **The Edinburgh Award** in March. Ian Rankin was the proud recipient of the inaugural award. A highlight of food related events and initiatives under the 'Edinburgh Inspiring Cuisine' banner will be the new **Taste of Edinburgh** event over four days in June. Important sports events in June and July include the **European Duathlon Championships** and the **British Transplant Games**. International rugby bookends the summer period with the **IRB7s World Series** in June and **Rugby World Cup** matches in September. Also in September Edinburgh welcomes the arrival of the **Association of Space Explorers Planetary Congress**, a gathering of the men and women who have flown in space, the first time it has been held in the UK.

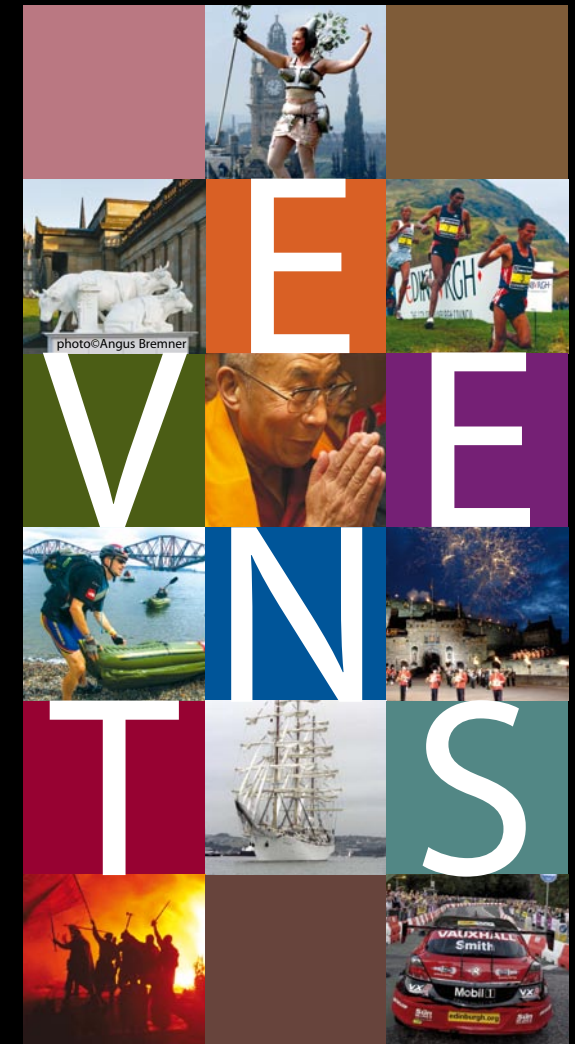
In the course of the year, it is expected that over **300 events** of one kind or another will be held in the city! In addition to that, work will continue on the planning of key events in 2008, 2009 and beyond.



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INSPIRING EVENTS REVIEW

MAY 2007



WHERE WE'VE BEEN. WHERE WE'RE GOING

SOME HIGHLIGHTS

Edinburgh has an enviable reputation for managing major high profile events. Some of the highlights have been:

1992	The European Summit
1993	First 'Edinburgh's Hogmanay'
1995	Cutty Sark Tall Ships Race
1997	Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
1999	Opening of the Scottish Parliament
2000	Millennium Celebrations
2001	Space City – The European Space Agency
2002	Queen's Golden Jubilee Events
2003	MTV Music Awards
2004	10th Anniversary of Democracy in South Africa
2005	G8 Summit/Make Poverty History
2006	CowParade Edinburgh

2006

The past year has been yet another stimulating and eventful one.

In addition to the many established, annual events such as **The Edinburgh Lectures** and **Tartan Week – New York** residents and visitors alike were able to enjoy some exciting new events. The first ever **Edinburgh International Fashion Festival** was held in April. Life-size, decorated, fibreglass cows appeared on the streets in May – **CowParade Edinburgh** had arrived, bringing to the city the world's largest and most successful public art event. Another first was hosting an on-street motor sports event in association with the **British Touring Car Championships** – some 12,000 people gathered for the event on a beautiful August evening at Castle Street and Johnston Terrace.

Work continued with developing and strengthening our links with the **academic world** in the fields of festivals, events and tourism. The important role of events in tourism development was pursued through the **Edinburgh Tourism Action Group**. Early in the year a number of actions were agreed to move forward the **Glasgow-Edinburgh Collaboration** initiative, and a joint festivals and events diary was established. A new city centre events space emerged with the completion of the public realm works on **Castle Street**. One of the city's most important events facilities, the **Ross Bandstand**, was the subject of a scoping study – the first stage in a long process towards redevelopment.

The year ended with the city winning its bids to attract two major International events in 2008 – the **World Cross Country Championships** and the **Golden Oldies World Rugby Festival**.

