

What's on This Week?

Well for a start The Edinburgh International Festival.....and the Fringe, The Jazz Festival has already begun...oh and there's the Comedy Festival...

The population of Edinburgh at this time of the year is estimated to double to around 1 million. Festival audiences are about one-third local residents. According to a study about 15% are from overseas – but if you live here it feels like every second person on the street is a foreigner!

[The Bike Station](#) is opening its next Cycle Challenge this week which runs for three weeks. The idea is that people living in Edinburgh are encouraged to use their bikes to travel to work, go out cycling for fun and register with the website to log in cycling achievements. This month is the Friends and Family Cycle Challenge. And there are prizes to be won! So [register today](#). It can only do you some good. The City of Edinburgh Council has a draft Active Travel Action plan which aims to have 15% of all journeys on bikes by 2020. You can read about that and Spokes response to it on the [Spokes](#) website. Spokes is the Lothian Cycle Campaign.

So we ask again – when will we get bike schemes like those in Dublin and London? Even Dumfries has its [Hourbike](#) scheme launching this summer with 30 bikes for hire. This will be the first scheme in Scotland. There is also one being rolled out in [Blackpool](#). Reading and Cardiff have micro bike hire from [OYBike](#)

A bit of advance warning – The Reporter has signed up to [Pedal for Scotland](#).....what about you? if you have then please let us know how your training is going!