

Five things you need to know today

☒ If New York can do it why not Edinburgh? In every doorway of every major hotel, restaurant and office building you see huddles of smokers. Should we ban them all – even in the parks in New York this summer it is planned [to ban smoking](#).

Jonathan Mills will head the Edinburgh International Festival till 2014 according to the [BBC](#).

The former Livingston MP, Jim Devine, on trial for allegedly fiddling his expenses as an MP at Southwark Crown Court [is said to have asked for an invoice](#) for work not actually carried out.

Theresa Riggi, who is alleged to have murdered her three children at a flat in the city last year, was remanded in custody until 7th March when she appeared at the [High Court in Edinburgh today](#).

Looking ahead to Valentine's Day? Here's something a bit different – you have to travel to Dumfries however... [Stargazing in the Dark Sky Park](#).