

Five things you need to know today



The Stevenson leading light from The National Museum of Scotland

[The Scotsman](#) has a lengthy article explaining that the South Suburban line had to be used by passenger trains following the derailment of one train near Princes Street Gardens on Wednesday evening. The derailed train cannot be moved until the rail accident investigation process is complete. It seems from Twitter that some passengers are not impressed. In any case the line is now cleared this morning and trains will be getting back to normal.

Just in case you have not noticed already, The National Museum of Scotland reopens today following its recent makeover. [The Scotsman](#) has a nice little video interview with the senior curator. They are planning all sorts of things in Chambers Street to mark the occasion which is closed to through traffic.

At 9.15 this little guy will be ambling up the street....

Then at 9.50 Grant Stott will take over as Master of Ceremonies, a child will knock on the door of the museum to signal a fanfare to be played on an ancient Scottish war horn called a Carnyx, then there will be Chinese firecrackers and then...the public can get in to see all the changes in the museum.

Tonight The Queen's grand-daughter Zara Phillips and her fiancé Mike Tindall are throwing a pre-wedding party on Britannia in Leith. We are sadly not invited, as it is for close friends and family only. In fact Britannia is closed

today all day in preparation. So now we know why the old lags from the ship were here in Edinburgh a couple of months ago to give the ship a bit of a spruce up.

Councillor Andrew Burns reminds us that the Electoral Reform Society is having its AGM on 3 September and voting for a new council runs between 4th and 26th August. Read more [on his blog](#).

And by way of a reminder that even though there is another month before The Scottish Parliament reconvenes at Holyrood you could be looking around the website They Work For You to find out what your local MSP or MP is up to on your behalf. [Here is MSP Sarah Boyack's page](#).