

Five things you need to know today

✘ Today's the day. The votes will be cast today in the council by-election for the City Centre ward. If you live in the area then you should have cast your postal vote or know where to go and vote in person. You can [read here](#) to remind yourself of the names of the various candidates and the locations of the polling stations, none of which are schools so that the newly started term is not disrupted. [STV Edinburgh](#) have a good round up of the contest with a map of the polling stations.

Today our photograph shows the works being done on the Water of Leith to help prevent flooding in future. Thankfully the heavy rain of last week eventually stopped, but the weather forecast for today in the Edinburgh area is not great according to the Met Office. "It will be a bright day with sunny spells. Scattered showers develop this morning with some becoming prolonged and heavy across Lothian and Berwickshire later today. Fewer showers and more sunshine over Dumfries and Galloway. Light winds. Maximum temperature 19 °C."

And for tonight:- "Showers will continue at first, gradually dying out. Otherwise most places will be dry with a few clear spells and mist patches forming. Light winds. Minimum temperature 5 °C."

From 9.30 tomorrow morning you can enrol at an evening class at [Leith Academy](#). They have many on offer:-"

We have lots of your old favourites like Chinese & Thai or Gujarati Cookery, Spanish, French or Italian lessons, Dressmaking and a huge range of Fitness classes as well as some challenging new classes like writing and producing your own Pantomime, Tap Dancing, Papercrafting, Bead Jewellery and Bridge. Maybe you haven't done classes before but would like to try something so why not dip your toe in and try one of our huge range of One Day or Weekend courses? Just click on the class you like the sound of for more information about times and prices.

Next Thursday the full Council meet and may discuss what next for the trams among other things. [The Scotsman](#) reminds us that this could mean traffic diversions in the city centre for the rest of the year. The minutes of the lengthy meeting of 30 June are available online although the actual agenda for next week's meeting is not yet public.

Our pick of the Festival today? Well we think it is probably a good day to have a bit of a laugh. So why not [High Jinks with the Hamiltons](#)? [Our review](#) gave it 4 stars. Anything else you would like to recommend? Then let us and all our readers know by adding a comment below!