

Five things you need to know today

☒ Today is World Porridge Day and so we hope you have had yours. One man who has definitely had porridge today is John Boa from Edinburgh who has won the Golden Spurtle in Carrbridge this weekend.

Our photo today is by Fergus Thom.

And another kind of Spurtle for you – the [Broughton Spurtle](#) tells us (among many other bits of Broughton news!) that the Broughton History Society meets tonight in Drummond Community High School at 7.30p.m.

The chimps at Edinburgh Zoo are supporting World Porridge Day today according to [Mary's Meals](#), an international movement to set up school feeding projects in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education. And they also tell us that the Scottish cabinet were served porridge at their recent meeting at Bute House.

Here is a video of the International Development Secretary, Andrew Mitchell, appealing for support for the Scottish based charity.

[Mary's Meals World Porridge Day](#) from [Mary's Meals](#) on [Vimeo](#).

And Scottish political blog Better Nation applauds Alison Johnstone MSP who has [launched her plastic bag tax](#) at Holyrood.

SNP MSP for Edinburgh Western Colin Keir has welcomed comments by SNP Cabinet Secretary for Finance John Swinney who exposed

the company set up to run the Edinburgh trams project as misleading a Scottish Government minister.

[Speaking to the BBC over the weekend](#), Mr Swinney said that he had been given assurances that contractual disputes between **tie** and the construction firm building the tram lines had been resolved, but these claims later turned out to be “total rubbish”.

Commenting, Colin Keir said:-“The people of Edinburgh have had to deal with an unprecedented amount of frustration since the tram scheme began. A culture of mismanagement by **tie** is rapidly emerging. Now is the time to get the project moving again but when progress is made, an inquiry into this who debacle must begin.

“**tie** officials and the opposition parties who forced through this project against the wishes of Scottish Government minister will have to explain their actions to Edinburgh residents and business owners.”



Our autumnal Photo today courtesy of [Thomas Haywood Photography](#)