

Five things you need to know today



In the news today:-

City Budget Summit

Edinburgh Rugby

Edinburgh Sick Kids Friends Foundation

Body identified

Chilly weather

Labour Group Leader [Andrew Burns](#) bemoans the lack of Twittering at the final City Budget Summit held on Saturday. The Council Leader, Jenny Dawe, had appealed for those who wanted to have a say to come to the meeting held at the City Chambers. In her November [Leader's Report](#) she said:-

“The financial challenges facing public sector organisations also have implications for the city as a whole. To provide a strategic perspective on the financial challenges, the Council has arranged to bring together organisations and interest groups to:

- *consider the financial challenges facing the Council and key partners;*

- *to discuss the budget choices facing the Council and partners; and*
- *set this in a strategic context, trying to make the right decisions for the city to ensure the city retains its competitive edge.”*

Edinburgh Rugby had a massive win over Aironi on Friday evening. So well done them and we have [our own match report here](#). Do you regularly watch sport? Do you think you could write match reports for us? Then [get in touch!](#)

Edinburgh Sick Kids Friends Foundation (SKFF) raised a staggering £12,500 during its annual Christmas Fair at Meadowbank Stadium last week.

The fair, which took place on Saturday November 26 at the capital's track and field stadium, saw over 2,000 people flock to the Yule-time event to celebrate all things festive.

Special guests included Santa and his elves, Spencer from popular CBeebies programme Balamory, Nina and the Neurons and a host of other entertainers who helped make the day fun for all the family.

The event was a record breaker in terms of both attendance and funds raised. Every penny donated on the day will go towards improving facilities, equipment and financing ground-breaking research that will help provide better care and comfort for child patients in the hospital.

Rachel McKenzie, community fundraising manager for the Sick Kids Friends Foundation, said:

“We are extremely grateful to everyone who supported our annual Christmas fair. It was very warming to see the amount

of people who came and donated to this worthwhile cause.

“I would like to thank those who helped make the event such a huge success, particularly the volunteers who gave up their time and talents to help us raise such a large sum of money for the SKFF. Funds raised from the fair will help to make time spent in hospital better for sick children and their families this Christmas and throughout 2012.”

Police can now confirm the identity of the man whose body was discovered within a car park in St Mary's Street on Wednesday morning.

He is 31-year-old Alan Boyle, of no fixed address. A post-mortem examination has been carried out today, and there are no suspicious circumstances surrounding his death.

It is a bit chilly here in Edinburgh today, but perhaps not cold enough just yet for outdoor curling. This exhibit is another in the newly refurbished Scottish National Portrait Gallery on Queen Street. It is in Gallery 10 on the second floor in the exhibition entitled 'Playing for Scotland – The Making of Modern Sport'.

The Met Office has this forecast for today and tomorrow in the Edinburgh area: _

A bright and cold day with sunny spells and scattered wintry showers, most frequent in the west, with further accumulations especially on higher ground. Best of the sunshine across Edinburgh and Berwick in the afternoon. Brisk west or northwesterly winds. Maximum temperature 5 °C.

Tonight:

Any showers in east dying away then long clear spells and a widespread frost. Some clear spells in west but with further wintry showers, especially western coasts with northwesterly winds. Minimum temperature -2 °C.

If there is a spell of really bad weather then we aim to keep you updated this winter by using our [LiveBlog pages](#), incorporating tweets and other updates.