

Five things you need to know today



Chinese New Year

Granny Greens

Viewing platform on Forth Bridge

West End development

New Medical Practice

Harlaw Hydro

Today marks the start of the Chinese New Year. 2012 is the Year of the Dragon. [CNN](#) have published an article by Karen Tse who spoke at TED Global in Edinburgh last year about trying to stop torture throughout the developing world. Here is the video of her talk:-

[Granny Greens](#) meets tonight at the Red Squirrel on Lothian Road for all things crafty. Tonight you are instructed to:- "Bring along a crafty project you are working on, or one you are thinking of starting. The collective learning aspect of the group means that we ask advice from each other and are inspired to try new things through seeing what each other is working on. If you just want to come along for a drink and some banter, plenty of us do that from time to time too!"

[The BBC](#) report that there is a tourist opportunity in putting a viewing platform at the top of the Forth Bridge...300 feet high...Would you be prepared to go there to enjoy the view?

[STV Local](#) tell us that there is to be a new medical practice in the West End in the grounds of St Mary's Cathedral.

[Balerno Village Trust report](#) that the Harlaw Hydro is moving forward. This is a plan to install a micro hydro electricity generator at the reservoir. A planning application has been made but the money will need to be found. The group hope that some local residents will buy shares in the coop set up to install and run the electricity project.