

Five things you need to know today



Johnston Press – Edinburgh Airport – Science Festival lecture – Jubilant celebrations in the Capital – Edinburgh Literary news

Johnston Press announced yesterday that the role of the Editor-in-Chief of titles including The Scotsman will no longer exist, and that the present Editor, John McLellan, was now on leave to discuss his future with the company. Mr McLellan tweeted later that he had not (as was widely reported) been escorted from the building, and was grateful for all messages of support.

Here are a few snippets from the internet about what Johnston Press has been up to

[View the story "Johnston Press remove the role of Editor in Chief" on Storify]***

Ryanair announced yesterday that it may cut back its winter schedule from Edinburgh unless the airport agrees to what Ryanair describes as "more competitive terms".

This demand has come with only weeks to go until a decision is made on who the new owners will be.

Mike Crockart, Edinburgh's Liberal Democrat MP and representative for the airport commented:-"The timing of this announcement is quite clearly a cynical attempt to back the new owners of Edinburgh Airport into agreeing to preferential

terms for Ryanair. Unfortunately for them, both the remaining bidders are experienced in running airports and will be well aware of Ryanair's previous track record for this type of bluster.

I would urge Ryanair to stop these alarmist announcements of speculative job losses which serve only to cause needless worry to employees at Edinburgh."

Meanwhile [The Edinburgh Evening News](#) reported the story that the airport boss has told Ryanair that they will have to pay their way.

The Psychology of Superstition tonight from 8pm – 9pm)

Dr Stuart Wilson, lecturer at psychology at Queen Margaret University, is presenting [this lecture](#) as part of the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

Friday the 13th is the most superstitious date on the calendar, and many people still feel a vague sense of unease when making plans for that particular day. Superstition is alive and well, but why are so many people still superstitious? Could it be something to do with the natural way in which human minds work? Is being superstitious harmless or can it even be beneficial? This talk will investigate these questions, offering a brief journey through the psychology behind our superstitious beliefs

Dr Stuart Wilson is a lecturer at Queen Margaret University. His current research topics include Religion, Cognition and Society, and Adaptive Memory.

Location: Banshee Labyrinth 29 – 35 Niddry Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1LG

Is the Queen's Diamond Jubilee being marked in any way in the city? Have you organised a street party? We have found this event which is taking place at the [Usher Hall](#), but we are sure there must be more!

"The Academy of Ancient Music and the Choir of the AAM will be in Edinburgh following the London celebrations for Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee when they perform Handel's Royal Music as part of the River Thames Pageant.

One of the first things Handel composed as a newly-naturalised British subject was the Coronation Anthems to mark the coronation of King George II and Queen Caroline (1727). They are still performed at royal occasions to this day. Also part of this celebratory performance is the Music for the Royal Fireworks, composed to accompany a public celebration in London to mark the end of the European War, and well known in Edinburgh for the festival finale fireworks concert; and the Water Music, composed for King George I's 1717 River Thames Pageant.

Edinburgh will join in the national celebrations and royal festivities with this glorious concert, featuring Handel's joyous and rousing royal music. "

While Ian Rankin is speculating on taking Stephen Fry to the Oxford Bar when he comes to Edinburgh to film Rankin's book *Doors Open*, our other esteemed Edinburgh author, JK Rowling has released some details of her new novel for an adult audience. The *Casual Vacancy* will be about small town politics according to [The Guardian](#). Now where did she get that idea from? We have not spotted her in the public gallery at The City of Edinburgh Council meetings...

Remember you only have till 18 April to register to vote in the upcoming local election. We have [a complete list of all candidates here](#) many with copies of their election leaflets.