

Five things you need to know today



Portobello talking – Pick of The Science Festival today – Fringe Parade – Football – Pandas

If you live in Portobello then you may already know about [Talk Party](#), but if not then it is well worth a read. In advance of the Local Government elections they are already debating at some length the merits of all the Portobello candidates for example, and of course the fate of the proposed Portobello High School. Are there any other such forums for other areas? If you run one or contribute to one then do let us know!

Our Science Festival pick for you today is Catalytic Clothing... yes that's what we said too! [The event takes place at the National Museum of Scotland at 5.30 p.m.](#) so even if you are stuck in an office for the rest of the day you might manage to get along. It is billed by the organisers as:-

“Pollution and air quality have been linked to increases in respiratory problems worldwide, so wouldn't it be brilliant if we could clean the air around us as we go about our daily lives? Artist and designer [Professor Helen Storey](#) MBE and polymer chemist [Professor Tony Ryan](#) OBE believe that [catalytic clothing](#) offers just such a solution, using textiles as a catalytic surface to purify air. Here they discuss with [Professor John Shepherd](#) CBE FRS the motivation behind their collaboration, the technology they have

developed and the benefits it could bring.”

It is only 18 weeks till the Edinburgh Festival Fringe starts and you are invited to join the Parade! Here is what the Fringe organisers say:-

We know that many of you are already putting together your plans to attend the Fringe and we thought it would be a lovely idea to create a Facebook Parade of everyone making their way to this fantastic and wonderful annual event. You can join in by going to www.edfringe.com/parade where you'll find a short video and information on how to create a little mini you on your way to the Fringe. You'll then be able to choose one of our special Fringe superstars as your guide – some of us here at the Fringe office are big fans of Lord Ping Pong, others prefer Gorrilloyd or Alan the Alien, but the choice is yours.

Once you've joined the parade, why not have a look around and see who else is heading to the Fringe? You might just see some of your friends and possibly even a famous face or two.

Still confused? All will become clear when you go to www.edfringe.com/parade.

Youth Football Scotland have issued a video on YouTube to tell us more about their work with Hearts, Hibs and the city council to encourage football at grass roots level...

With all the chat about pandas here in Edinburgh it is hard to believe there are any other animals at the Zoo or indeed at any other Zoo. Here are some red pandas spotted at Dublin Zoo the other day. The zoo there is very visitor friendly as it is all on the flat, unlike our own hill climbing expedition in Corstorphine! And you can see the animals with no glass or wire barriers (except the lions) so photography is made easier.