

Five things you need to know today



Horse racing today – Council assets – New faces at the Zoo – Beauty time – Firewalking

The Reporter was out and about in East Lothian yesterday at The Museum of Flight which we highly recommend to you. Also in East Lothian there is racing at Musselburgh today!

Musselburgh Racecourse has advised that race times for both weekend meetings have changed to accommodate television coverage and the first race at East Lothian on Easter Sunday is at 2.20pm, with gates opening at 11.30am.

Easter Sunday is Musselburgh's largest family day event of the year and the £20,000 Musselburgh Gold Cup is the headline attraction, vying for attention against a host of free family entertainment and attractions, including children's favourite [Peppa Pig](#).

GREENS WILL SELL OFF TRULY USELESS ASSETS

Edinburgh Greens have pledged this week to sell off some of the council's most useless assets and continue to protect those that really matter to communities.

The Greens want the Council to conduct a comprehensive review of its 'civic assets', a list which is known to include a single numberplate worth an estimated £500,000.

[Councillor Steve Burgess](#), Green councillor for Southside /

Newington ward said,

“With council funding being cut and public facilities being closed down, now is the right time to sell off the Council’s truly useless assets and raise much needed funds to invest for everyone’s benefit. Any Council that is hoarding a numberplate worth half a million pounds has got its priorities wrong.

“During our first period on the Council, Greens have fought hard to protect public assets that people really value, such as leisure facilities and nurseries. Any way to bring in funding to support these sorts of public services has got to be worth a serious look.”

The number plate came to light in 2009 when the [Edinburgh Evening News](#) reported that the arrangement of the letter and number was illegal.

All candidates for the 2012 Council elections [are listed here for your convenience](#) with links to their individual profiles.

By popular demand, a new clan has arrived at Edinburgh Zoo.

A much requested addition, Edinburgh Zoo is delighted to announce that meerkats are back!

Feisty social animals, there’s never a quiet moment in a meerkat gang. If they’re not fighting to be top “kat”, meerkats are often embroiled in battles, competitions, betrayals, romances, seductions and even politics that would rival the Tudors.

Darren McGarry, Head of Animals at Edinburgh Zoo, comments:

“Edinburgh Zoo used to be home to a group of meerkats, and we’ve had so many requests from our visitors to bring them back, that we’re delighted to oblige. Appropriately known as a clan of meerkats, we’ve dubbed our new family the McMeerkats!

Our new clan is made up of a family group of eight males and three females.

“Fascinating creatures, there’s never going to be a dull moment with these little characters around. Meerkats can have fun with almost anything and are often spotted play fighting and wrestling. There’s also always one meerkat keeping a look out and acting as a sentry – ready to alert the rest of the mob to any threats. They’re real team players who work together as a group, while some lookout for danger; others forage for food to feed the group.

“The meerkats have settled in well to their enclosure and have wasted no time in exploring their new home. Full of fun and personality, you could easily watch these little characters all day!”

One for the girls this – or perhaps the more enlightened men out there who realise the value of a manicure...

Could your hands and nails do with a little TLC after the cold winter? Then head to Chamomile Sanctuary, the luxury day spa at Edinburgh’s west end, where until the end of April a mini manicure is just £15 – a saving of £10.

If you’re a Shellac fan then ‘Shellac Tuesday’ is for you! Each Tuesday during April, £19 instead of £35 for a mini manicure and £24 instead of £40 for a mini pedicure, both with Shellac. So with the arrival of all the fab new spring-coloured polishes, there’s no reason not to get your nails done to match each outfit!

For further information or to book, call 0131-220 1000 or visit www.chamomilesanctuary.com

And if you are feeling really brave you could get along to

Princes Street Gardens and try your luck at [fire walking...](#) We did not recommend this and you will undertake it at your own risk...!

Happy Easter!