

# Five things you need to know today



## Festivals – Adult education – Planning matters – Roller Derby – Cycling

Last day of the school holidays for some. Still lots to do at the various festivals across the city for children, particularly at the [Book Festival](#) where there is a full children's programme including Val McDermid launching her new Pirate Granny book. There is also an ice cream van...

At Festival Square there is free entertainment. [Motion Disabled: Unlimited](#), the 2012 edition of the award winning exhibition and installation Motion Disabled by Simon Mckeown is in place there. The work studies the body and movement of some of the UK's most famous paralympians and includes large scale inflatable sculpture and art led iPhone applications.

Unfortunately one of the biggest concerts at the Usher Hall last night had to be cancelled owing to a power failure. [The BBC](#) has more.

And, Speed of Light is on each night during the festival which features in our photo today. Have you been? Did you enjoy it?

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So what to do now that the summer holidays are over? How about some adult education classes? Fancy learning some Bollywood dancing?

With day, evening and weekend courses on offer across the city, there is a variety of subjects on offer, including art, computing, languages, fitness, genealogy, crafts, yoga, belly dancing, wine appreciation, gardening or stress management.

Councillor Paul Godzik, Convener for Education, Children and Families said: "The amount of classes and subject matter on offer this year is absolutely fantastic, there truly is something to suit all tastes. Some will see these classes as an opportunity to try something new or take on a hobby but they can also be a stepping stone on to further education or indeed into a new career.

"I would advise anyone who has some time to spare over the coming autumn and winter to look into what's on offer and to secure your place sooner rather than later."

Rajni Ravikunar, who is teaching a Bollywood Dancing class this year, says she is looking forward to classes starting and is encouraging the public to have a go: "The classes are great fun and will give participants a chance to get fit too. We'll be bringing a taste of Bollywood glamour to Edinburgh, I'm really excited."

There are a number of Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) at Higher and Unit levels being run by Stevenson College Edinburgh and Edinburgh's Telford College. These can be taken as formal qualifications for work, college or university or simply for personal development or interest.

Courses start on 24 September except Highers which begin on 03 September. [Enrolment is now open.](#)

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Council business goes on as normal however and today the Development Management Sub Committee meets to hear more about various planning applications including the site at Kinleith Mill in Currie which has been vacant for some time. An application for a residential development is expected to be lodged and there is some more information about the details of this and the other business before the committee [here on the council website.](#)

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Live! Roller Derby! [Auld Reekie Roller Girls' Fringe Bouts](#) on Saturday 18th August 2012, 2-5pm: Cannon Belles vs. Dublin Roller Girls at Meadowbank Sports Centre, Edinburgh

Tickets: £5 plus booking fee online, £7 on the door. Available from:

<http://www.edfringe.com/whats-on/events/auld-reekie-roller-girls-present-live-roller-derby>

Free for children aged 14 and under!

Two nations! One amazing sport! Come and see Scottish and Irish teams clash as Auld Reekie Roller Girls host the second of their rollicking festival bouts.

Saturday 18th August sees the Cannon Belles, Auld Reekie Roller Girls' team of rising stars, battle it out with Dublin Roller Girls in a full-on Celtic clash. The Cannon Belles are fresh from a recent win against Kent Roller Girls, and will be sure to put up a furious fight in an effort to continue their winning streak. Dublin Roller Girls have had plenty of practice over the past few months, bouting against teams from London, Manchester, Helsinki and Glasgow, but how will they fare against Auld Reekie?

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Anyone who knows us knows we are really into cycling. The nice people at Sky are organising Sky Rides in Edinburgh over the next couple of weeks in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council. Here is where to get details of joining in the one on 8 September. This is a controlled environment which ought to allow you to take children with you on a cycle around and out of town. Here is a video to tell you more:-