

Five things you need to know today



Edinburgh Parking Survey – Donations welcome at Edinburgh International Festival – Today at Leith Festival – View From the Train app – QMU greenest university

The council are running a survey about parking until the end of the month. You can have your say on Controlled Parking Zones and parking permits [over here on the council website](#).

This year the King's Theatre is to be turned into a beach as the backdrop for the Pan Pan Theatre production of Embers during the Festival. The cost of providing the pebbles will be around £1500 and you are invited to make a donation to help pay for this.

This is just one of the Technical team's requirements and associated costs that are an essential part of making the Edinburgh International Festival a success. You are invited to [donate today](#), to help light up Festival 2013.



The Meridian Ensemble

The Meridian Ensemble presents a selection of French, Russian and British classical music for piano, violin and clarinet
Venue: 37
Friday 14th June
7.30pm – 8.30pm

Ticket: Free (donations welcome)

Enquiries: info@meridiantrio.com

www.meridiantrio.com

Now you can download an app to enhance your enjoyment of some rail journeys across Scotland. View from the Train audio guides will take you on a journey of discovery around Scotland. From the busy central lowlands to the wild and beautiful highlands, the railway network links together cities, towns and villages. You'll pass castles, forests and battlefields and travel through open glens and high mountains. But in addition you can download the View from the Train app which has been produced by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to help celebrate the natural and historic environment on view from three of Scotland's most scenic train routes: Edinburgh/Glasgow Inverness; Edinburgh/Glasgow Aberdeen and Glasgow to Oban.

Travellers are encouraged to study the landscape as they travel through it, dipping into the guide as they go. The mix of intriguing facts relating to the natural landscape and wildlife, along with social and historical asides, is designed to help people to understand and enjoy Scotland's nature and landscape.

This is all part of the year long promotion of Scotland which is promoted by SNH.



Queen Margaret University (QMU) has been named as one of the greenest universities in Scotland this week by the People & Planet Green League 2013, the U.K.'s only comprehensive and independent ranking of universities by ethical and environmental criteria. QMU shares the number one spot in Scotland with Edinburgh Napier University, and is ranked

34th in the UK with a score of 43 out of 70.

An accredited Fairtrade University with the Fairtrade Foundation, QMU achieved full marks for its environmental policy which is publicly available and reported on annually at a senior level. It has set SMART targets to reduce environmental impacts in areas such as transport, community involvement, construction and procurement. All menus on campus change with the availability of seasonal produce and it was noted that QMU serves less and better meat and dairy produce.

Staff and students were also recognised for doing their bit for the environment, the students union having achieved recognition in this year's Green Impact Student Awards. Space has been provided for students and staff to grow food, and there are many initiatives to increase energy saving behaviour among all campus users.

Commenting on the Green League ranking, QMU principal Prof Petra Wend said:-“I'm sure I speak for all staff and students when I say how delighted I am that the University has been recognised by People & Planet as one of the leaders in Scottish higher education for sustainability. We have moved up in the UK rankings since last year, when we were also number one in Scotland, and sustainability is at the centre of everything we do, cutting across our curriculum, our learning and teaching, our community involvement as well as environmental performance of the campus. There is evidence that our approach has made the University a more attractive prospect for students, and we hope that when the leave us they take forward the same approach to sustainability in their future lives.”