

# Five things you need to know today



**Book Group – Bookbug sessions – It’s Good 2 Give on the buses with Terry Deary – Nile Rodgers at Summerhall – Today at Edinburgh Festival of Cycling**

Blackwells Book Shop on Nicolson Street have a book club which is a great way to make yourself read books you might not otherwise think of!

This is what they say about their group:-

*“Who says reading is a solitary pursuit? Not us! Come and join the Blackwell’s Book Group for lively, friendly book chatter. No previous experience required! We will meet monthly to discuss a wide range of books—fiction and non-fiction, classic and contemporary, prizewinners and cult heroes—in short, whatever you fancy!*

*Our current book: The Heat of the Day by Elizabeth Bowen*

*What is the book about?*

*It is wartime London, and the carelessness of people with no future flows through the evening air. Stella discovers that her lover Robert is suspected of selling information to the enemy. Harrison, the British intelligence agent on his trail, wants to bargain, the price for his silence being Stella herself. Caught between two men and unsure who she can trust, the flimsy structures of Stella’s life begin to crumble.*

*In July we are reading The Man Who Mistook His Wife For A Hat by Oliver Sacks.*

*We offer 10 percent discount on the current book to Book Group members.*

*So join today! Just email your name and address details to [events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk](mailto:events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk)."*

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Today at Loanhead Library there will be a Bookbug session starting at 10:00am. Bookbugs are weekly fun, friendly sessions of stories, rhymes and songs for babies and toddlers along with their parents, grandparents or carers, and are run at many libraries.

Check the arrangements at [your library here](#).

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Horrible Histories Author Terry Deary met children from local charity It's Good 2 Give to mark the 20th anniversary of the series.

Terry hosted a private meet and greet for children affected by cancer who receive support from local charity It's Good 2 Give on board a City Sightseeing bus. Following a reading and book signing at Christ Church in Morningside Terry made sure these children enjoyed an extra special afternoon.

The meet and greet was held on one of Edinburgh Bus Tours' City Sightseeing buses which recently launched its Horrible Histories commentary.

It's Good 2 Give started in 2010 and has so far raised over £300,000 for local children and young people affected by cancer. The charity was named Lothian Buses' charity of the year in March.

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Today at the [Edinburgh Festival of Cycling](#) there is a Bike Slam, mixing poetry with cycling. Sounds like a fun night at the Forest Cafe 14 Lauriston Place at 7:30pm.

*“Oil your microphone, inflate your poetry and check the tension in your performance – Edinburgh Festival of Cycling and Inky Fingers are joining together to proudly present the world’s ever cycling-themed poetry slam! For one night only, breathless performance poets and oily-fingered newcomers will compete together in a pedal to the finish. Expect poems on wheels, greased verse, SPOKEd word, terrible puns, and no lycra whatsoever (probably). Come to watch, come to vote on the acts, come to compete, come to enjoy yourself – the bike slam is open to all.*

*Email [inkyfingersedinburgh@gmail.com](mailto:inkyfingersedinburgh@gmail.com) for more details, the full rules, or to sign up to compete (slots limited).*

#### *The Rules*

- 12 competitors*
- 3 rounds (12 poets with 2.5 mins each for the first round, 6 top with 3 mins each for the second, 2 top with 3.5 mins each for the third)*
- First two rounds judged by 5 randomly selected audience judges, final judged by the whole audience*
- All poems must either be bike-themed or contain one (or all!) of the following words: spoke, chain, gear, frame, brake, tyre, tube, handlebar, pump, puncture”*