

Five things you need to know today



Queensferry Crossing – Camera Obscura – Edinburgh University debate : Brain Maze – Castle Webcam – Stockbridge Duck Race

It's official folks. The new bridge over the River Forth is to be called Queensferry Crossing. The First Minister announced it this morning. [Read more...](#)

Set at the top of Edinburgh's Royal Mile, Camera Obscura and World of Illusions has been recognised as Scotland's top visitor attraction, in TripAdvisor's inaugural Traveller's Choice Attraction Awards.

The five-star visitor attraction, which is celebrating 160 years in the capital this year, beat off competition from a host of competitors to take the top prize.

As well as taking first place in Scotland, the attraction also finished second place in the nationwide poll, just behind Durham Cathedral.

Andrew Johnson, director and manager of Camera Obscura and World of Illusions, said: "We are absolutely thrilled to have been recognised in TripAdvisor's inaugural Traveller's Choice Attraction awards as Scotland's top visitor attraction and second in the whole of the UK.

"We aim to offer an outstanding, world class experience that is fun for all ages and nationalities. Being recognised in this way by the visitors whom we serve confirms that we are on

the right track. A huge thank you to all our visitors, especially those who take the time to tell others about us in their reviews, and to our hard-working staff, who help deliver the experience.”

The TripAdvisor Travellers’ Choice Attraction awards have been introduced to honour the top visitor attractions in the world, with the winners’ standing based on the reviews and opinions of millions of travellers.





Edinburgh University is hosting a number of events to mark the Centenary of the Medical Research Council.

As part of this, researchers at the MRC Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology (CCACE) are hosting two events today- an interactive tour followed by an evening debate.

“Amaze your brain” is the theme of the open day event. Visitors will navigate a brain maze where each stage represents a new decade and explores a different aspect of cognition.

This will be followed by an evening debate will pit the wisdom of age against the youthful mind. The debate will be chaired by broadcaster Sally Magnusson and CCACE Director Professor Ian Deary.

Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament Kyle Thornton, aged 19, will propose that wisdom of age trumps the speed of youth. Veteran parliamentarian Tam Dalyell will oppose this view during what should be a lively discussion.



Have you had a look at the Castle Webcam? If you have a look today you will see that the staging is now well in place for the Tattoo and the concerts before it – such as Paul Weller...

[Click here to view..](#)

Stockbridge Duck Race takes place this Sunday. Last year's was cancelled due to the flood prevention works being done in the area , but this year's is promised to be bigger and better.

More information [on the Bailie website.](#) and here is a video of the 2010 event:-