

Five things you need to know today



Something Christmassy to do today – Give blood today – Fruitmarket Gallery – Short Film Festival – Adult Education Programme

Today we recommend getting your skates on in Princes Street Gardens. Always good fun, even if you do fall over from time to time! The ice rink is beside Princes Street, and even if you don't fancy having a go yourself then there is a bar overlooking the skating area where you can keep warm with a hot drink.

For more details about where to go and for discount online booking click [here](#).

You might want to make sure that you have not been enjoying the Festive Season too much, but you have the opportunity to give blood today at Dalkeith Community High School, Cousland Road, Dalkeith EH22 2PS

In January the curator at the Fruitmarket Gallery is giving a talk, so mark it in your diary now.

Wednesday 15 January 2014, 6.30pm. Free.

Exhibition curator Frances Morris (Tate) considers the work in the exhibition in light of the artist's larger practice in conversation with Fiona Bradley, Director of The Fruitmarket Gallery.

Also in January an evening of the best of the Edinburgh Short Film Festival will be held at the Voodoo Rooms.

“A special one-off film event for January – the best of the Edinburgh Short Film Festival 2013 featuring a programme of the year’s best short cinema, including the Academy Award-qualifying short film ‘Butterflies’, a stunningly-realised steam-punk animation about a factory girl who dreams of becoming an artist and Kate Sullivan’s award-winning documentary ‘Walk Tall’ about 91 year old Gymnast George Weedon.”

More details of how to book [here](#).

Holidays always give you time to think about what you might do in the New Year. 2014 might be the year for you to learn something new. The full programme of what you can learn at evening classes is [here](#).