

Five things you need to know today



Edinburgh Marathon Festival – Forth Bridges Festival – Jason Dee at the Talbot Rice – National Trust for Scotland – Car Rally at Lauriston Castle

Over this weekend the Edinburgh Marathon Festival takes place. Both the council leader Andrew Burns and the Lord Provost, the Rt Hon Donald Wilson are doing their bit. The council leader is running the full marathon on Sunday to honour a 30 year-old bet with his father, and the Lord Provost is running a 5K on Saturday in a personal challenge to his own fitness.

You can see the Lord Provost out training on Arthur's Seat in our video.

Both councillors have Just Giving pages for their individual charitable fundraising efforts :- [AndrewDBurns](#) and [Lord Provost of Edinburgh](#).

Registration is now underway for the Flotilla on the Forth on Sunday 7th September, one of the highlights of the Forth Bridges Festival which will mark the 50th birthday of the Forth Road Bridge.

The event is open to yachtspeople and boating enthusiasts to take part in creating a floating spectacular on the River Forth. Sailing vessels large and small will form the flotilla which has already attracted naval ships, tugboats, yachts and

'Reaper', the famous restored Fifie herring drifter museum ship.

While the event is free and open to all, places are limited and early registration via the Forth Bridges Festival website – www.forthbridgesfestival.com/flotilla-entry – is recommended to secure a place in this memorable event which is anticipated to be one of the flagship photographic opportunities of the Festival.

The event will begin at noon on 7 September and, from 5pm, participants will be invited to attend a barbeque at Port Edgar Marina, where entertainment will be provided by local performers.

The flotilla promises to be a great day out for all the family with a range of entertainment for spectators and participants. During the day a food and drink market, featuring cookery demonstrations, sampling of local produce and a range of products for sale, will be one of the highlights. Visitors can also enjoy a variety of Festival activities, from art exhibitions and installations, to historic walks in the area.

The Forth Bridges Festival is being organised by FETA (Forth Estuary Transport Authority) in partnership with Queensferry Ambition to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Forth Road Bridge. The Festival is a signature event in the Year of Homecoming Scotland 2014, and the flotilla is funded by FETA using revenue raised from the sale of 2014 trips to the top of the Forth Road Bridge this summer.

For full details on all the events, as well as information on how to buy tickets to take part in the celebrations, please visit www.forthbridgesfestival.com

The University of Edinburgh's Talbot Rice Gallery will be

filled with shadows, echoes and reflections for the largest exhibition to date of Kent-based artist Jason Dee. Pursuit of a Shadow, featuring never-seen-before work, is a captivating exposé of the underlying changes in our relationship to moving images. From spectacular, theatrical works, to subtle visual illusions, Dee creates a fascinating and timely dialogue with the history of cinema.

Jason Dee's work reflects the transformation of cinema's material origins, revealing the uncanny effects of a contemporary medium still haunted by its past. Where celluloid film was dictated by the mechanical time of the Modern World, digital technology allows images to be frozen, scaled, reversed and displaced; Dee uses these possibilities to form enigmatic, autonomous story worlds caught between reality and illusion.

At the centre of the exhibition is 24 Times (2007/12), a large-scale installation comprising of 24 monitors facing inwards in a circle. Film clips taken from movies featuring flash photographers play upon the monitors, cutting from one clip to the next as a flash consumes the screen. As the monitors are synchronised one frame apart, the white light – and each frame – dances round the circle. As viewers are caught in the bright light, as apparent subjects of the photographer's shots, their shadows are then cast across the space so they become part of a rudimentary shadow animation.

[More details here.](#)

Jason Dee

Pursuit of a Shadow

31 May – 5 July 2014

Exhibition Open | Tues – Fri 10am–5pm, Sat 12–5pm | Admission Free

Willow-weaving at Falkland Palace, tackling thistles at St Abb's Head and bracken control at Rockcliffe are all on the agenda this summer for the National Trust for Scotland's Lothian Conservation Volunteer Group.

The group has dozens of members who regularly donate their time and talent to the conservation charity, going out on conservation projects at National Trust for Scotland properties across the Borders, Lothians and Fife.

They are always looking for new members.

Conservation Volunteer Co-ordinator Julie Bond said:-“There is a packed programme for this summer, with projects planned in some of Scotland's most stunning countryside and gardens. Volunteering with the Trust is a great opportunity to get out, explore your outdoors and play a key part in caring for our countryside too. We also know that volunteering makes you happy – what better reason to get involved?”

Travel, accommodation and meals are all organised for volunteers signing up for these projects. For more information on becoming a conservation volunteer and the full programme, visit <http://www.nts.org.uk/Volunteering/Outdoor/>.

There is a car rally taking place this Sunday at Lauriston Castle. The Scottish All Rover Rally takes place between 10am and 4pm and is part of the Festival of Museums. These are classic Rover cars and you are invited to bring a picnic to make a day of it.

[More details here.](#)

