

Saturday in Edinburgh – what's on today



SATURDAY 28 JUNE 2014

[How To Train Your Dragon Activity Day:](#) a dragon-themed activity day to celebrate the release of Cressida Cowell's '*The Incomplete Book of Dragons*', which coincides with Dreamworks' release of *How To Train Your Dragon 2*, a film inspired by the bestselling series. Activities include Design Your Own Shield, Find the Dragons, raffle, colouring and a Costume Parade at 2pm – come dressed as a Viking or dragon, prizes for the best costumes. 11am-4pm, [Waterstones West End](#). Further information on 0131 226 2666.

[Generation: 25 Years of Contemporary Art in Scotland](#). First day of a landmark series of exhibitions tracing the development of modern art in Scotland over the last 25 years. Works by over a hundred artists in more than sixty galleries, exhibition spaces and venues all over Scotland. In Edinburgh exhibitions open today at the **Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Collective Gallery, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, RSA** and the **Scottish National Gallery**. More will follow at other venues later in the summer. See [website](#) for full details.

[National Gallery Highlight Tours](#): an introduction to and tour of the National Gallery's permanent collection, focusing on key paintings. 2-2.45pm and 3-3.45pm, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.

[Tour of the National Library Polish Collection](#): enjoy a behind the scenes tour at the National Library of Scotland and learn more about the Polish collections. Tour will last about 50 minutes and will include a visit to the reading rooms and one

of the stack floors where 16 million print items are stored. There will be a small display demonstrating the range of Polish material held. 10am and 11.30am, [National Library of Scotland](#), George IV Bridge. Free but numbers limited so booking is essential, either via [website](#) or by calling 0131 623 3734.

[The Hidden Library – for creatives](#). Join print-maker, publisher and artist-book-maker Hugh Bryden for a book art workshop or novelist Vicki Hendry to find out how to use NLS for creative research. Take part in a travel writing workshop or join the Library's own handy knitters to uncover surprise patterns from the past – and have a go at knitting them (beginners and experts welcome!) Discover the Ian Hamilton Finlay archive, 'Library in a Box', vintage quilting patterns and much more. 2-5pm, [National Library of Scotland](#), George IV Bridge. Free but booking required via [website](#) or by calling 0131 623 3734.

[Lunchtime Concert: St Maur's Youth Choir](#), Rush, Co Dublin. 12.15pm, [St Giles Cathedral, High Street](#). Free and unticketed.

[Recycled City](#): help build a miniature version of Edinburgh using recycled materials. 1.30-3.30pm, [City Art Centre](#), Market Street. A free drop-in workshop for **families** – no booking required.

[Leith School of Art End of Year Exhibition](#): Leith School of Art offers full-time and part-time courses and a summer school. This exhibition will showcase work by this year's students. 10am-4pm, [Leith School of Art](#), 25 North Junction Street. Free. Also open Sunday 29th.

[Giving Nature a Home](#): a range of **family-focused** weekend wildlife activities. RSPB staff will help you to discover more about the range of wildlife that makes the garden its home. 11am-4pm, [Royal Botanic Garden](#) (ask at Reception for

venue.) Free, all ages, no booking required. Also available on Sunday.

No Strangers: Ancient Wisdom in a Modern World. A group photography exhibition focusing on the plight of indigenous people throughout the world and the ways cultures express a shared humanity. Posing a fundamental question of '*what does it mean to be human and alive?*' No Strangers celebrates the 7,000 languages used globally, half of which could be silenced within a generation or two. 10am-5.45pm, John Hope Gateway, [Royal Botanic Garden](#). Free. Exhibition ends 21st September 2014.

 **Mythical Monster Books:** summer activities for children aged 5-11. 2-3pm, [Blackhall Library](#). Free and unticketed.