

Five things you need to know today



Mikaeel Kular

Edinburgh Festival Fringe

Craigmillar Survey

Dancing Teacakes

At the Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival today

The mother of three year-old Mikaeel Kular whose disappearance sparked a community response in North Edinburgh of monumental proportions in January appeared at the High Court yesterday and pleaded guilty to killing the toddler.

She will be sentenced next month [Read more here..](#)

Even if you live in Edinburgh it might be fun to stay in a hotel for a night in the city centre? VisitScotland and Edinburgh Fringe have teamed up to offer you just that along with £100 for tickets.

[Entry details here.](#)

The council voted in favour of funding for their Connected Communities projects in North Edinburgh to help the North Edinburgh News and in Craigmillar to set up a news offering of some kind.

The local neighbourhood office would love to hear from you if you live or work in the area and have any views on what would be the best way to inform locals of news in their area. They have set up a survey and [you can take part in that here.](#)

The chocolate snack, which had a starring role in the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games, has enjoyed an unexpected sales surge.

Tunnock's teacakes – with their distinctive red and silver foil wrappers – were one of a number of Scottish landmarks and products to feature in the celebration at Celtic Park on Wednesday evening.

In the 24 hours following the ceremony, Waitrose's sales of the chocolate-coated marshmallow treats leapt by 62 per cent.

Waitrose is attributing the sudden spike to the product's high profile role in Wednesday's spectacle.

David Jones, Supply Chain Director, Waitrose said: "We usually expect to see people marking major sporting events with a barbecue or a beer with friends and family – but the sudden demand for Tunnock's teacakes, isn't something we anticipated. We will certainly be stocking up to meet customer demand."

Today's pick of the Festival has to be the Commonwealth Orchestra tonight at the Festival Theatre.

In 1965 Britain's leading jazz musician, Tubby Hayes, put together an Orchestra to play at the time of the Commonwealth Conference. With the Games in full swing in Glasgow, we present an updated band that plays some of the music of the mid-60's – by Tubby, Jimmy Deuchar, and John Dankworth, and brings it up to date, with music by a host of great

Commonwealth composers. The band is packed with top Scottish and Commonwealth musicians and led by the brilliant pianist, bandleader and ex-Mercury Prize nominee, Zoe Rahman. We also take the opportunity to present our finest young stars – Edinburgh's own Schools Jazz Orchestra – finally making it to a major stage in the Festival. And to make it all the more appealing we're making every ticket £10!

Director and pianist: Zoe Rahman

Trumpets: Lorenzo Blignaut, Kevin Ferris, Ian Smith, Gavin Spowart

Trombones: Kenny Hamilton, Keith Hutton, Rick Taylor, Fayyaz Virji

Saxes: Graeme Blevins, Keith Edwards, Bill Fleming, Lucien Johnson, Cassie Kinoshi

Bass: Dave Young

Drums: Terry Clarke

Part of the Glasgow 2014 Cultural Programme

[Tickets here.](#)