

# Thursday in Edinburgh – what's on today

☒ THURSDAY 10 JULY 2014

**Life on the Margins:** the launch of Nina de la Mer's [Layla](#) and Liam Murray Bell's [The Busker](#), two tales of lives lived on the margins. 6pm, [Waterstones West End](#), Princes Street. Free tickets are available from the shop.

**Story Time:** for ages 4-6. 10.30-11am, [Leith Library](#), 28-30 Ferry Road. Free, no booking required.

**Masterful Mythical Storytelling:** 2.30pm, [Blackhall Library](#), 56 Hillhouse Road. Free, for ages 5-8 years. Part of the Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge.

**[Pass On A Poem](#):** a chance to explore poetry in a 'beautifully bookish though wonderfully informal setting.' Read a favourite published poem aloud or just come to listen to a diverse collection at this live poetry event. No previous experience required! 6.30pm, [Golden Hare Books](#), 102 West Bow. See website for more details.

**[Live Music Now: Astrid String Quartet](#):** the Astrid String Quartet return to perform highlights from the classical repertoire, reflecting on paintings in the permanent collection. 6-6.30pm, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free and unticketed.

☒ **Portrait Gallery Insights: Playing for Scotland.** Imogen Gibbon, Deputy Director and Chief Curator at the Portrait Gallery, explores the history of sport in Scotland in advance of the 2014 Commonwealth Games. 5.30-6pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free but limited places: to book call 0131 624 6560.

**The Drawing Room**: informal, artist-led, drawing session. Each session is developed by a contemporary artist and is inspired by the GENERATION exhibition, reflecting concerns within each artist's own work. No experience required, all materials supplied. 5.30-6.45pm, Academy, [Scottish National Gallery](#), The Mound. Free, no booking required.

**Build-a-Band**: join international musician Joss Abrams and her brilliant band for a day of writing songs, making music and letting your inner star shine. 10am-4pm (bring your own lunch), [WHALE Arts, 30 Westburn Grove](#). For ages 10+. Booking required: see [website](#).

**Craigmillar Community Arts Creative Recycling Day**: jewellery making, origami, sock puppet making and bottle top art. 12-4pm, Craigmillar Community Arts Centre, 58 Newcraighall Road. Part of the 50th Craigmillar Festival.

**Ragged Talks: 'Participation, Motivation and Adult Learning', plus 'A Different Kind of Humanity'** 7-10pm, The Counting House, 36 West Nicolson Street. Free. A **Ragged University** event, see [website](#) for more information on speakers, etc.