Five things you need to know today

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Big Beach Busk

Edinburgh Mela

Today at the Edinburgh Art Festival

Free classes at Craigroyston

QMU Open Days

This weekend in Edinburgh you are really spoiled for choice. The Big Beach Busk is on today and tomorrow on Portobello Beach. The poor organiser was clearly having a sleepless night last night! There's going to be food and folk music, buskers of all kinds, fun — and apparently sunshine!

Post by Edinburgh Big Beach Busk.

The Edinburgh Festivals are not yet over. This weekend it's the Edinburgh Mela. Get down to Leith Links for some multicultural music, food and fun today and tomorrow.

We interviewed the man behind the Mela some time ago to find out what might entertain you this weekend. More information here.

The City Art Centre is the focus of the Edinburgh Art Festival which is however spread across many venues from one side of the city to the other.

Explore the exhibitions at City Art Centre with the help of their Visitor Assistants. Each day there will be a different tour relating to the varied exhibitions. There's no need to book: please meet at reception.

City Art Centre 2 Market Street, EH1 1DE T0131 529 3993

The Big Beach Busk takes place today on Portobello Promenade from noon until you simply cannot sing or dance any longer.

There are some free classes at Craigroyston Community High School starting soon.

"Small steps = big changes! This practical maths course takes everyday situations and shows you how to make the maths work for you! Work out the running costs of many household appliances, decipher your energy bill, compare special offers while out shopping and even find out how to make the most of a square foot garden! Don't worry if you didn't get maths the first time round, this course allows you to start small and build up at your own pace. It uses examples from everyday life that affect everyone, from recipes to recycling and will help you quickly gain confidence in handling your finances! Not only that, we are running this course in partnership with Edinburgh's very own Science Museum at Dynamic Earth and several sessions will take place there (all transport & entry fees provided)."

More details here.

Campus tours, university application advice and course talks are just some of the things on offer at Queen Margaret University's up and coming open days.

The open days, which will take place on Thursday 4th September and Saturday 4th October, will give visitors a chance to find out about a wide range of undergraduate courses. The event, which is suitable for individuals looking to start university in September 2015, will offer visitors the opportunity to meet academics and students, view accommodation and hear about student life. A range of presentations will provide helpful tips for applying through the UCAS system and understanding student funding.

The University offers a niche range of undergraduate degree courses in the areas of Health Sciences; Business, Enterprise and Management; Media, Communication and Performing Arts; and Social Sciences. To help visitors get a better insight into these areas, academics will present subject talks on, for example, Performing Arts, Costume Design and Construction; Business & Management; Media, Film and PR; Nursing, Podiatry and Physiotherapy. Visitors will also be able to find out about new degree programmes which the University will offer in 2015. These include 'Public Sociology; Physical Activity, Health and Wellbeing; and Nutrition & Food Science.

In addition to course information, visitors can take organised tours of the campus to view teaching, learning and clinical areas, as well as accommodation and sports facilities.

The event will run from 11am — 4pm on Thursday 4th September and Saturday 4th October.

Register for the event via the QMU website http://www.qmu.ac.uk/marketing/bulletins/opendays.htm#

(Registration is not compulsory. You are welcome to attend either of the days without registering but in order to speed up your arrival at the university it is best to register at: http://www.qmu.ac.uk/marketing/bulletins/opendays.htm