

# Five things you need to know today

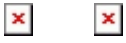
Scottish Youth Parliament Hustings

Fat Sam's Band Farewell Tour

Scotland v Wales

Snowdrops

At Queensferry Museum



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It's time for Fat Sam's Band to say farewell – 30 years and a day since they launched their distinctive brand of high energy, toe-tapping, feel-good music on the Edinburgh music world. Hamish McGregor's band will play their trademark jump-jive, swing and humorous hi-jinks for the last time in public and will mark in the occasion with a host of special guests, a look at Hamish's scrapbook of photos and video and it's all going to raise funds for [Maggie's Centres](#).

At the Queen's Hall tonight. [Ticket details here.](#)

Some of their music here.

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Scotland play Wales today at 3pm.

Tickets may still be available [here](#). Send us your photos of

you at the match if you get there! Follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).



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All across Scotland there are already signs of spring in the snowdrops in many gardens.

**The Scottish Snowdrop Festival 2015** features over 60 properties, including Kevock Road Gardens at Lasswade, the Royal Botanic Garden at Inverleith, Shepherd House at Inveresk and Hopetoun House Gardens in South Queensferry.

Running from 31 January to 15 March, the event includes some gardens and estates which have opened exclusively for the festival to show off blankets of snowdrops set in some of the country's loveliest natural surroundings. Many of the floral displays are set amongst tranquil woodland walks through ancient forests and past ponds, rivers and waterfalls, or in centuries-old gardens graced with outdoor sculptures or architectural gems.

There are 300 varieties of snowdrop and the flower's versatility means it grows in a wide range of locations. The Scottish Snowdrop Festival – now in its ninth year – is a perfect way of both encouraging people to celebrate this hardy seasonal wonder and reminding us of our country's natural beauty during the winter months.

By encouraging visitors of all ages to get out and about to spot snowdrops, the event provides a welcome boost for attractions with gardens and parklands and for tourism-related businesses during a period of the year when the industry traditionally has its quieter months.

**VisitScotland Regional Director Manuela Calchini said:** *"With a*

*great choice of gardens and grounds taking part, including these beautiful attractions in Edinburgh & The Lothians, the Scottish Snowdrop Festival has grown over the past few years to be an annual calendar highlight.*

*“Seeing the snowdrops appearing every year – and knowing that means spring isn’t too far away – is always a real treat and it’s well worth getting wrapped up for a wonderful walk to enjoy this great seasonal sight at its most stunning.”*

For more details visit: [www.visitscotland.com/snowdrop](http://www.visitscotland.com/snowdrop)

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At Queensferry Museum they have an exhibition about the Forth Bridge Raid on 16 October 1939.

At the time many believed it was the Bridge the Germans had come to bomb and so the attack is called the Forth Bridge Raid. In fact Hitler had no intentions of bombing the Bridge at that point. The main targets were the naval ships heading to and from Rosyth Naval Dockyard. That day marked a number of firsts in British WWII History: the first air raid over Britain, the first time ever Spitfires had engaged with enemy planes, the first planes shot down over Britain and the first POWs captured – they were taken to Edinburgh Castle.

This display by local historians and Queensferry Primary School commemorates the Luftwaffe raid.

[More information here.](#) Open Sundays 12 noon till 5pm.

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