

Five things you need to know today

Edinburgh International Science Festival

Customs House deal on the agenda

fiberton/Gilmerton Decides

Winchburgh Tunnel works this summer

Sponsored Walk in May

The Edinburgh International Science Festival starts just in time for the Easter school holidays and usually proves a great way of keeping your little Einsteins entertained.

Here's the full programme but best to get booked up now as many events sell out quickly.



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Custom House

The City of Edinburgh Council has reached an in principle agreement with the [Scottish Historic Buildings Trust \(SHBT\)](#) to lease Leith's Custom House from April 2015.

The final terms of the agreement between SHBT and the Council will be put to the Finance & Resources Committee for consideration in May.

The Liberton/Gilmerton area of the city is giving local residents the opportunity of deciding for themselves which of a range of projects will be funded. These all fall into the category of environmental improvements under the Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP) and include a wide variety of pavements and handrails in the area which could do with sprucing up.

The Neighbourhood Partnership explain the background and how to take part on their website: "This annual programme has given the community a strong say in deciding how money is spent from 2 elements of Council funding – Housing Revenue Account NEP and Roads Capital NEP work.

"The 2015/16 process for deciding on projects is now open and you can use the link [here](#) to take part online between March 30th and April 13th."

Here is the full list of projects open for voting if you live in the area:



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From Saturday 13 June until Monday 27 July 2015 the infamous Winchburgh tunnel on the main Edinburgh-Glasgow line will close while Network Rail carries out work to prepare the structure for electrification.

The six-week long closure of the tunnel, near Linlithgow, is part of the Scottish Government-funded, £742m Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Programme (EGIP) which will electrify the Edinburgh-Glasgow Queen Street line by 2016 – allowing the introduction of faster, greener and quieter electric services on the route.

As part of the 44-day project, engineers will be lowering and relaying the two lines of track through the 330m tunnel and installing equipment to carry the overhead power lines needed for the electrification of the railway.

The tunnel will need to remain closed while engineers work 24-hours a day to deliver the work as quickly and safely as possible.

Network Rail, Transport Scotland and ScotRail have worked closely to ensure that a temporary timetable is in place during the work to minimise disruption and provide alternative travel options for passengers.

Information can be found at www.scotrail.co.uk/winchburgh and passengers are urged to allow more time for their normal journey, to plan ahead and to check before travelling.

This is the information leaflet:



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[Fresh Start](#) is an Edinburgh charity which seeks to end homelessness.

On 29 May 2015 they are holding a sponsored walk and you can take part:

The Walk is an 8 mile route leaving from Jubilee Gardens in Stockbridge at 10am, along the Water of Leith, around the Colinton Dell and then onto the Union Canal towpath to finish at the Fresh Start Food Station at Harrison Place where lunch will be served.

Last year around 60 walkers took part and raised the highest total ever – over £10,000! We hope this year we can raise even more money so we need you! Come along on your own or as part of a team – there is no registration fee to take part in the Walk, however we request that all entrants raise a minimum of £25 per person.

To register, give us a call on 0131 476 7741 or email admin@freshstartweb.org.uk. We will send you a registration pack and you can get fundraising! You can also set up a JustGiving page to send to your friends and family to allow them to donate directly to us:

- Go to www.justgiving.com/freshstartedinburgh
- Select the *fundraise for us* button then click on your own sponsorship page



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