

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh



General Election hustings

Reserved or devolved?

Grassmarket Picture House

Science Festival – Online society = smart machines

Easter revision classes

A hustings will be held in the Edinburgh North and Leith constituency. Hosted by independent local community newspaper The Broughton Spurtle.

The event is free and open to the public.

Venue: Broughton St Mary's Parish Church, Bellevue Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 6NE

Do you know what is reserved to Westminster and which powers are devolved to The Scottish Parliament? Well there is a [handy guide here](#) which might help you in your decision about which way to vote on 7 May.

The Edinburgh Reporter will be reporting live from the count overnight on 7 May from the EICC.

Films at the [Grassmarket Picture House](#) this week include UP and The Goonies. Click [here](#) for more details.

Next week at the same venue 86 Candlemaker Row they are

showing The Spirit of 45.



People's increased use of the web is helping usher in a new era of artificial intelligence in computers, a science festival audience will hear tomorrow evening.

When people spend time online, either browsing the internet or communicating with others, their activity helps fill gaps in the machines' knowledge.

This helps computers make associations between words, images and ideas, helping them to make sense of complicated text, improve their language translation, or identify pictures.

This rise in artificial intelligence is helping computer scientists develop smarter search engines and technologies that can adapt to suit the needs of users.

It will help speed the arrival of the internet of things, in which everyday objects, such as domestic appliances and cars, use the web to connect with users and with each other to operate efficiently and smartly, researchers will say.

Further improvements in artificial intelligence could help computers interact with people in a more intelligent way. Computer programmes are now on a par with humans in performing routine tasks – so much so that software is used to check that interactions are being performed by people rather than robots, researchers say.

Professor David Robertson, Professor of Applied Logic in the University of Edinburgh's School of Informatics, will join Dr Gautam Shroff, chief scientist for Tata Consultancy Services Research in India, in an exploration of artificial intelligence at the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

Their event will take place at 8pm on Tuesday 14 April at Summerhall. To book tickets, visit <http://www.sciencefestival.co.uk/booking-information> or call 0844 557 2686.

Spare a thought for those school pupils who have exams to face right after the Easter break. Broughton High School are running Easter holiday revision classes! (What a great idea!)

[More details here.](#)



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