

Five things you need to know today!

Friends of Easter Drylaw Park

Walking Football

Rockin for Tots grows up to be a charity

Festival Tip of the Day

Autumn grants

Do you live near, visit or travel through Easter Drylaw Park? Would you be interested in getting together with others to chat about the way forward for the park? Anyone interested in coming along is invited to Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre on Wed 26th August, 7-8pm.

If you would be interested in being part of a 'Friends of Easter Drylaw Park' group, or have experience of another 'Friends of ' group and could share your experiences, please come along.

Walking Football at Balerno has now been embedded into the Adult Education programme for 2015/16 with the new batch of sessions starting on 4 September.

A sign-up form is available [here](#).



Rockin' for Tots has so far raised over £23,000 for Simpsons Special Care Baby Unit over the past 10 years. It has been so successful that the group applied for and was granted

charitable status early this year. Rockin' for Tots holds Scottish Charity Registration Number SC045422.

Rockin' for Tots hold music events and auctions to raise money for Simpsons and they have had lots of celebrity support, for example, from [Doug Aldrich](#), [Fish](#), [Royal Blood](#), [Sandi Thom](#) and [Ritchie Blackmore](#) and also support from local business [Edinburgh Harley Davidson](#)

So far, Rockin' for Tots efforts have helped Simpsons to purchase an EEG machine, a travel incubator and a CPAP ventilator.

Founder member of Rockin' for Tots, Andy Cowe from East Lothian, says:

'Rockin' for Tots is really important for my wife Gill and I because it was set up in memory of our twin daughters Robyn and Erin who were delivered by emergency caesarean due to suffering acute twin to twin transfusion syndrome. Robyn was stillborn and Erin survived for a day. It's a way of doing something positive from what we went through that helps to provide much needed equipment for neo-natal units and other services involved in saving the lives of newborns.'

If you want to support Rockin' for Tots, check out their [website](#) where you can find out about upcoming events and online auctions.

Their next gig, An Evening With Bernie Marsden, is on 28th September 2015 at the Voodoo Rooms, West Register Street, Edinburgh – you can book via the [website](#).

I heard on Radio Scotland yesterday that rather than calling it the Edinburgh Festival (or indeed Festivals!) we are now supposed to just call it 'Edinburgh'. That gives locals like us a bit of a problem when offering tips – but maybe at the

end of all the festivals we will set up an Edinburgh Tip of the Day as part of our Five things. We invite you to tell us your tip and it may be included this coming week – which is really surprisingly the last of the Festival! The fireworks are next week , but before then perhaps we will find some fireworks of our own.

We recommend the Book Festival to you this morning. There is just so much to see there but at least it is all in one place and someone said there are more seats there than anywhere else in Edinburgh!



Ken MacLeod, Ron Butlin and Lizzie MacGregor try out a book bench on George Street

Today South Queensferry author Ken MacLeod is appearing to present the book of Iain Banks' poems he has combined with some of his own poetry.

Usually MacLeod is himself a renowned science fiction writer, so this is a bit of a departure for him. He was a great friend of Banks who died two years ago, and this is a personal quest as well as a creative one.

[Tickets here](#)

Action Earth is helping to get people and communities busy outdoors. The campaign has grants to give to groups of volunteers who are carrying out environmental projects in Scotland.

Grants from £50 to £250 are available for practical activities that involve volunteers in improving outdoor spaces or creating habitats for wildlife. Grants can be used to purchase plants, tools and materials or to cover volunteer expenses.

The campaign is run by Volunteering Matters (formerly known as

CSV) from April to December each year and is supported by Scottish Natural Heritage.

If you have any questions contact **Robert Henderson**

on T: 0131 622 7766 or

robert.henderson@volunteeringmatters.org.uk

For more information and to apply online go to:

www.volunteeringmatters.org.uk/actionearth

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