

Five things you need to know today



Have your say on parking – consultation ends today

Giselle at the Festival Theatre

Budget Question Time

Edinburgh's Christmas

St Andrew's Day at the Storytelling Centre

Ends today – 31st October! – Edinburgh's Parking Action Plan. Parking controls help to keep traffic on Edinburgh's streets moving smoothly, improve road safety and manage the number of vehicles on our roads.

The [draft parking action plan](#) main actions include:

- the extension of parking controls to cover weekends/Sundays and into the evening
 - the roll out of shared use parking places
 - the introduction of visitor permits in the city centre
- A list of [FAQs](#) is available to answer some key questions you may want to ask about the proposals. The council is interested in your experiences of parking in the evening and at the weekend. Look at the [proposed changes](#) and tell them how they might impact on you.



We are told there are still some tickets for tonight's performance of [Giselle](#) at the Festival Theatre, but you may still be in luck!

It is a short run

[Tickets here.](#)



Budget Question Time

**7.15–8.30pm, Monday 23 November 2015
City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh**

The City of Edinburgh Council would like to invite you to be part of 'Budget Question Time', an event designed to give members of the public the opportunity to quiz our panel of senior councillors on the Council's budget proposals for next year and beyond.

The proceedings will be chaired by Scotsman and Evening News Managing Editor, Frank O'Donnell, and broadcast live via the Council website.

If you would like to put a question to the panel, or just come along and be part of the audience, [please register online](#) by **13 November**. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If you are not able to attend please pass this invitation on to a friend, family member or colleague.

This is a great opportunity to play your part in Edinburgh's budget challenge.

You can also get involved before **10 December** by:

- going online to comment on proposals at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget
- completing the [budget planner](#) to have your say on how you think we should deliver services
- submitting your ideas to the [dialogue page](#)

Your feedback will help the Council to make its final budget decisions on 21 January 2016.

Find out more

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget



This week we were told that [Edinburgh's Christmas](#) have reserved 100,000 free tickets for the Virgin Money Street of Light in just a week.

This is just one of the new events during this year's festive period (and our photo above is a graphic illustration!)

Highlights of this year's Christmas celebrations in Edinburgh will include:

- The Virgin Money Street of Light. Launching on St Andrew's Day, up to 250,000 people will enjoy this new major free event for the Edinburgh's Christmas season with an architectural installation of 60,000+ lights stretching along the Royal Mile, from City Chambers to the Tron Kirk, set to music from Edinburgh choirs.
- [tweet_box design="default"]Susan Boyle will switch on Edinburgh's Christmas lights at Light Night, 22 November 2015.[/tweet_box] Scotland's superstar and Britain's Got Talent finalist, Susan Boyle will do Edinburgh the honour of switching on the City's lights at Light Night, the free event on George Street, where 1,300 local performers will show off their talents to an audience of 20,000+ people.
- A significant expansion of the Winter Windows programme. Thanks to the generous support of Scottish Gas with national charity partner Shelter, Edinburgh's Christmas is extending the Winter Windows programme from 15 primary schools in 2014 to 25 primary and secondary schools from the Edinburgh area.
- An exceptional programme of circus, comedy and cabaret in the Paradiso Spiegeltent with performances from Circa, reviving Beyond, the hit show of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2014; the legendary Camille O'Sullivan; Puddles, the cabaret sensation of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2015; Austentatious; Abandoman; and Frisky &

Mannish. And the return of Stick Man, the adaptation of Julia Donaldson's magical best-selling book.

- A continuation of the EH discount offer, where holders of an EH postcode receive a 20% discount on all shows, rides and events. In 2014, 97,512 tickets were sold with the 20% discount.



At the end of the month it will be St Andrew's Day and the Scottish Storytelling Centre have told us what they have in store for you:

*History, music and the traditions that make Scotland unique are the focus of **St Andrew's Day** at the **Scottish Storytelling Centre**, a day-long celebration of Scotland on **Saturday 28 November**.*

Part of the Scotland's Winter Festivals programme, this year's events include storytelling, ceilidh dancing and music, offering a fun, lively day out for all ages.

*As the Centre's Programme & Events Manager **Daniel Abercrombie** said: "This year's ST ANDREW'S DAY celebrations offer authentic Scottish entertainment for all the family, with opportunities for audiences to participate in the activities as well. The programme reflects on Scotland's past, but also looks forward to what the future could hold."*

***Andy Cannon** delves into Scottish history with two performances of [Oor Scotland](#) (11am & 2pm, £8/6), a condensed version of last year's successful **Tales of a Grandson**. Twice nominated for the Critics' Awards for Theatre in Scotland, the play is a contemporary response to Walter Scott's classic history of Scotland, *Tales of a Grandfather*, written to his young grandchild, as Andy explains: "One Saturday morning, long ago when I was wee, my Grandpa and I set off in his Hillman Imp on a quest to dig up Scotland's past. It was a truly unforgettable journey, a long winding road on which I*

discovered that history was not just a tale of long dead folk; but rather the rich story of us – you and me!”

Filled with playful stories and live music provided by **Wendy Weatherby**, *Oor Scotland* takes us on a time travelling adventure through Scotland’s past, piecing together the myriad of kings, queens, friends and foes that make up our nation’s story. A fantastic family show, suitable for ages 6+.

The Storytelling Court will then be filled with the sound of toes tapping and hands clapping at the afternoon’s [**Family Ceilidh**](#) (3pm, £6/4), a fun introduction to Scottish social dancing for all ages. Don’t worry if you don’t know your *Strip the Willow* from your *Dashing White Sergeant* – all dances will be called, and there’ll be easier circles for the little ones. Our last Family Ceilidh was a total sell-out, so book in advance!

In the evening, musician **Bob Murray** will explore the possibilities and problems of finding [**A National Anthem for Scotland**](#) (7.30pm, £8/6). Though *Flower of Scotland* is often used as a de facto anthem, especially at sporting events, there are at least seven other songs which are seen as potential candidates for the official title. Bob will play and discuss the pros and cons of each before discussing how Scotland might go about adopting one of these tunes – do we need to make a choice? If so, how do we do it?

Bob said: “I’ve spoken to many people on the subject over the years, and it seems that the more informed people are, the wider the spread of preference. This talk should set people thinking. I’ll not be telling folk what they should like, but offering some tools to help them decide better.”

Share your highlights of the Scottish Storytelling Centre’s St Andrew’s Day celebrations using #mystandrewsday

In addition to the Saturday celebrations, **Linten Adie** and

*friends from the Scots Music Group will host a special St Andrew's Day of **Café Ceilidh** on **Tuesday 1st December** – a lively afternoon of songs and music celebrating Scotland's patron saint, with free entry for all.*

*For more information or to book tickets, visit the Scottish Storytelling Centre **on the High Street**, call our box office on **0131 556 9579** or visit the website: www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk*



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