

Five things you need to know today



Holocaust Educational Trust funding

BINGO!

Bagpipes

Central Library

Craigmillar

Today is Holocaust Memorial Day. It was on 27 January 1945 that the largest Nazi death camp was liberated, and this is the day when the people who died there and in subsequent genocides across the world are remembered. Today is also a day for remembering survivors.

The Scottish Government has confirmed funding of £280,000 for the Lessons from Auschwitz Project which the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET) organise.

Each year they take students over the age of 16 to Auschwitz-Birkenau for a day, and also invite them to seminars when they hear the accounts of survivors from the camp.

The Edinburgh Reporter was invited along on a trip in September 2014 with HET and it was a sobering experience. Despite the beautiful sunny day and blue skies the air around the camp was quite claustrophobic.

Signing the Trust's Book of Commitment in the lead up to Holocaust Memorial Day the First Minister said:

“Last year marked the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. We also commemorated the 20th anniversary of the genocide at Srebrenica. Both anniversaries are a reminder of the consequences that can arise when people are given a license to exploit difference and encourage hatred.

“As we approach the national Holocaust Memorial Day one way of working to ensure that nothing like the Holocaust ever happens again, is to ensure that it is never forgotten. The Holocaust Educational Trust does excellent work in raising awareness among the wider public through the Lessons from Auschwitz Project.

“By learning and reflecting on the horrors of the Holocaust the Trust plays an important part in spurring us on to create a better future and a society where people respect each other no matter what their differences.”

Holocaust Educational Trust Chief Executive Karen Pollock said:

“Thousands of Scottish students have visited Auschwitz-Birkenau as part of the Holocaust Educational Trust’s Lessons from Auschwitz Project and with this renewed support, many thousands more will be able to have this life-changing experience. We are delighted that the First Minister and the Scottish Government recognise the value of this unique educational programme – with this funding, Holocaust education in Scotland is in safe hands.”



Do you know a couple living in Leith who have been married for a long time? Then Mecca Bingo are looking for them to give them a Valentine’s night out to remember.

The general manager of Mecca Leith will treat the couple to a

fun-packed evening at their local club with flowers and champagne to celebrate long-standing love and devotion.

Steve, general manager at Mecca Leith, commented: "Valentine's Day is the most romantic day of the year and an important day to spend with that special person in your life, so we thought why not invite them into our club to receive a special gift and provide everything they need for a great night out together.

"Bingo brings people together and we know that some of our members have been together for many decades so it'll be fantastic to award them or other long-standing couples from Leith with a special celebration.

"Amongst our many fun events and celebrations here at Mecca Leith being crowned our longest-married couple is just another reason to play at Mecca Bingo and have a great night out with the love of your life or even just your friends."

To enter the search to be crowned as the longest married couple in Leith, please take a photocopy of your marriage certificate to the front desk at Mecca Leith or alternatively email it to prmecca@havas.com. The search is open until Monday 8 February and your name and contact details must be included on your submission.



Have you got a set of old bagpipes mouldering in your attic? Then the Scottish Schools Pipes and Drums Trust want to hear from you.

There is a Bagpipe Amnesty appeal called Old Pipes for New Players seeking bagpipes for some new pupils who will also get free tuition.

When they have practiced on the chanter for a couple of years

the young pipers need pipes to move onto.

Donations can be made before 14 February.

[Read more here](#)



It's National Libraries Day on Saturday 6 February 2016 and the Central Library will definitely be a place for entertainment and excitement. As #artcore come together once again for an event of fun multi-arts activities accompanied by some of Edinburgh's finest new musical talent.

The library can be an area of multi-purpose use and not just somewhere pretty to read and study!

12:30 till 4:30pm



Craigmillar residents are being invited to find out more about the EDI Group's plans to enhance the town centre.

Designs for the Town Square, a community play park as well as surrounding public spaces, will be unveiled at a community information event on **Thursday 28 January from 3pm to 7pm at The White House on Niddrie Mains Road.**

EDI, through its subsidiary Parc Craigmillar Ltd, is responsible for the ongoing regeneration of Craigmillar and is proposing to deliver high quality retail and residential spaces, alongside other amenities.

A community play park is also set to be delivered on an area off Niddrie Mains Road, adjacent to the proposed new housing development, and will include a variety of play equipment and

seating for the community to relax and enjoy.

Denise Havard, Community Development Manager at EDI, said: “We are pleased to be able to showcase our proposed plans to the community which forms part of our overall vision for the regeneration of Craigmillar.

“Our aim is to create safe and inspiring spaces for residents to meet the growing needs of the area.”

To find out more details about the EDI Group, visit www.edigroup.co.uk.

