## Five things you need to know today

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- First time buyers Event at ESPC
- Burns Supper in February
- The Show Must Go On
- News about The Edinburgh Reporter
- South Suburban Railway Good for students?

This evening the ESPC are holding a free drop-in event for first time buyers, where you can seek all sorts of free advice from solicitors and mortgage experts, whether you are looking for financial advice or information on the legal process.

You can also find out more about what government schemes are available to help you on the property ladder. The event runs from 4.30pm to 6.30pm, and appointments for the evening are on a first come, first served basis.

You will find the **ESPC** showroom on George Street.

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The Scottish/Ukrainian community will be holding their  $9^{\text{th}}$  Burns/Shevchenko Supper on Saturday  $20^{\text{th}}$  February at Thomas Morton Hall, Ferry Road Edinburgh.

This is the first time the event has been held anywhere other than the Ukrainian Community Centre on Royal Terrace. This year it will be held at the bigger venue at Leith Town Hall, but sadly the evening has already sold out.

The evening will consist of Ukrainian and Scottish food, songs, dance and culture. The meal will start with a choice of Borscht soup or Scotch Broth, followed by haggis neeps and tatties.

Dress will be a combination of Ukrainian 'vyshyvanka' embroidered shirts and kilts. See attached. Bagpipes and traditional Ukrainian instruments will provide the music. Orlyk and The Black Sea Cossacks will end the evening with some spectacular Cossack Dancing and a Cabaret.

It sounds like a great affair and we only wish we could get a ticket!

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THE SHOW MUST GO ON, a very special fundraising concert will be held on Saturday 6 February, 7pm, at the City of Edinburgh Methodist Church, 25 Nicolson Square, EH8 9BX.

The Show Must Go On is a multi-cultural cabaret show with music, dance and poetry. Come and listen to music from an African choir and the Scottish pipes. Join us too, as we hear from talented singers, Iain Stewart and Cynthia Gentle.

This event is a fundraiser for a new initiative to set up multi-faith chaplaincy services at the Sheriff Court in Edinburgh. Please do come along and support this worthwhile project.

Tickets are £10 / £5(concession). You can purchase tickets on the night or online from <a href="https://www.multiculturalcabaret.eventbrite.co.uk">www.multiculturalcabaret.eventbrite.co.uk</a> or from the City of Edinburgh Church office (0131 662 8635).



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Miles Briggs, Scottish Conservative MSP candidate for Edinburgh Southern has highlighted the opportunity the reinstatement of the Edinburgh South Suburban Railway could provide in developing a University line — linking the campuses of Queen Margaret university, Edinburgh University, and Napier University.

Miles who has been leading the campaign to reinstatement of the Edinburgh South Suburban Railway said: "I have been campaigning on this issue for over two years and believe that the case for the instatement of the Edinburgh South Suburban Railway is stronger today than it has ever been.

"One of the arguments which has not been made is the opportunity which the reinstatement of the Edinburgh South Suburban Railway could have in providing a University line — linking the campuses of Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh University, and Napier University.

"The Edinburgh Trams project has rightly angered many Edinburgh residents and the mismanagement of the project and has rightly concerned local taxpayers at proposals to extend the trams as well as the promotion of other projects like the reinstatement of the Edinburgh South Suburban Railway.

"To date the three Universities have not formed part of the calculations when considering the potential passenger numbers and arguably the considerable expansion in student numbers

which we are to see in the coming years can only add more weight to the case for improved transport links for the south of the city.

"A new feasibility study could look again at the project — given that the line is already in place the disruption to local residents and businesses of reinstating the Edinburgh South Suburban Railway would be minimal and I know from my recent Edinburgh Southern Business is widely supported by local businesses.

"I welcome the fact that a Members Debate is going to take place in Holyrood next week and if SNP Ministers commit to fund a new feasibility study then that will have been worthwhile — if we see no new plan to take forward the proposal then it will have been a waste of everyone's time.

"Edinburgh is a great city to live and work and as a growing city we as residents all deserve a transport network fit for the  $21^{\rm st}$  Century."

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