

Five things you need to know today



- **Edinburgh community energy projects get government backing**
- **Council to look at cost of Sunday parking**
- **Scottish Chamber Orchestra**
- **School pupils cook a meal for their teachers**
- **Loretto Pipe Band hit the high notes!**

Some residents in Dumbiedykes will benefit from government investment in a community power scheme which they are going to call Tower Power. This will allow them to buy energy collectively and reduce fuel bills.

This money is part of a £10 million award to support low carbon local energy projects announced by the Energy Minister Fergus Ewing who said: "Community energy represents tremendous potential to empower people to make the most of their local resources.

"By creating a system that focuses on local energy we can help tackle some of our most pressing issues including fuel poverty, increasing costs and security of supply. That is why today, I am delighted to announce the awarding of over £10 million to nine projects stretching from Orkney to Galashiels.

"The successful projects include support for a pilot smart energy control system in Orkney and two heat pump projects in Perth and Glasgow to developing a new fuel source from the agricultural sector in Montrose.

"The Scottish Government has put in place a wide range of support to empower communities to take control of their local energy use and supply. The success of this support is

demonstrated by the fact that we have achieved our community and locally owned target of 500MW by 2020, five years early.

“Putting communities at the heart of decisions about their local energy system and empowering them to take an economic stake in new developments is central to our distinctive approach to Scotland’s energy future.”



The council has already consulted on the possibility of drivers paying to park for longer during the week and on Sunday afternoons, and now the council will get more details on the costs before deciding to go ahead at their next meeting in June.

The charges will be imposed in Zones 1-4 only following alterations made since the proposals were first set out.

[Read more here.](#)

Mozart is the musical heartland of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra – and it is to his music the Orchestra returns for the 2016/17 Season with Principal Conductor Robin Ticciati after their three-year journey across the musical territory of Berlioz, Schumann, Brahms and Haydn. This Classical narrative of Mozart will be complemented by Richard Strauss at his most bold and personal, while the heartbeat of new music from today’s composers will sound throughout the programme with several major new commissions to be premiered this Season.



Budding young chefs cooked up a treat for their school head teachers at Edinburgh College, learning in a real restaurant environment as part of a scheme to bridge school, college, university and work.

The class of 15 students from the South East Scotland Academies Partnership (SESAP) Hospitality and Tourism Academy prepared and served a three-course meal for their head teachers at the college's eh15 training restaurant. The meal was part of the students' assessment on the course, which is preparing them for education and careers in hospitality and tourism.

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Loretto pipers have been scaling the heights... literally!

The Loretto Pipe Band took their art to a new level this weekend by performing from the 7.5 meter and 10 meter Diving Platforms at the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh. The occasion was the Edinburgh International Swim Meet – one of the most important competitions in the swimming calendar.

By way of a warm up, the Loretto Pipe Band first welcomed competitors and spectators at the entrance of the Royal Commonwealth Pool before the band took to the Diving Platforms to play.

A jaunty little Samba number from the Loretto Pipe Band went down well with the crowd – most appropriate given the venue for this summer's Olympics.

Jonathan Hewat, Director of Communications at Loretto School, said, "The Loretto Pipe Band has played in some interesting places, but none quite so unique as from a 10 meter diving platform. I think that this must be a first for any Pipe Band in the world – an unforgettable experience for the pupils!"

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