

Five things you need to know today Edinburgh!



- **Edinburgh Pride**
- **Alyn Smith MEP gets standing ovation in Brussels**
- **Hooray for the Dean and Cauvin Trust!**
- **Scottish Edge funding will make all the difference**
- **School holidays begin tomorrow**

[Edinburgh Pride](#) takes place on Saturday 2 July and Nando's staff will be taking part in Edinburgh Pride on the streets and in the restaurant. Nando's will transform their food flags into the rainbow symbol of Pride and it will also be incorporated in the outdoor Barci sign in other town, though not just right here in the capital...



An unprecedented standing ovation was given to Alyn Smith one of the Scottish MEPs who spoke at the European Parliament yesterday in Brussels. Flanked on his left hand side by fellow Scottish MEP, Iain Hudghton, he said: "I want my country to be internationalist, cooperative, ecological, fair, European. And the people of Scotland along with the people of Northern Ireland and the people of London and lots in Wales and England also, voted to remain within our family of nations. I demand that that status and that l'esprit européen be respected. Now colleagues there are a lot of things to be negotiated. We will need cool heads and warm hearts."

You can see the final part of his speech here.

"Do not let Scotland down" – standing ovation for @AlynSmithMEP at European parliament <https://t.co/slOCKdAHcp>

<https://t.co/D7NdG5QHUY>

– BBC News (UK) (@BBCNews) [June 28, 2016](#)

The Edinburgh Reporter was in Brussels as a guest of Mr Smith only a few weeks ago, when it was clear that the incumbent Scottish MEPs we met did not believe that Brexit was going to happen. Notwithstanding that, Mr Smith explained that he was attending over 40 meetings in Scotland between the Scottish Parliamentary Election on 5 May and the EU Referendum on 23 June to put the Remain view across. The practice has clearly come in useful.



We are delighted to report that Dean and Cauvin Trust contacted us to tell us that following our coverage last week they have won the £2,000 they were applying to the Provident Good Neighbourhood Programme for.

This will allow the trust located in St John's Road to help even more young people than they have in the past. The additional funds will allow them to get out and about in Edinburgh and Scotland and develop a group work programme in the outdoors. This aims to open up their view of their local community in Edinburgh by taking them to places they would not normally have access to.

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Can You Escape?, a multi-award winning escape game based on Holyrood Road, has received £10,000 of funding from Scottish

Edge, a competition that supports Scotland's up-and-coming, innovative, high-growth potential entrepreneurial talent.

Alastair Watson, 28 and Co-Founder of Can You Escape?, earlier this year pitched for funding to help the business market Scotland's first portable escape game which allows them to take the recently popular phenomenon of escape games to people's doors.

Escape games means that teams are 'locked' in a room for 60 minutes and faced with a range of puzzles, clues and riddles to solve in order to successfully escape. They have become increasingly popular in the UK over the last two years, with five different companies in Edinburgh alone. Can You Escape has two venues, one in Edinburgh and a second in York, where they run a range of missions for friends, families and colleagues. Their latest venture will see them target the corporate market and focus on the team building aspects of escape games.

Alastair said: "Receiving the funding from Scottish Edge will be a huge help to us and enable us to raise awareness of the game which we wouldn't otherwise have been able to do. The game has been specifically designed around team building and feedback so far has been excellent, we're looking forward to taking Operation Blue November out and about across Scotland.'

The money will in part be used for a launch event on 5th July at The Roxburghe Hotel where companies will be invited to find out more and test the game for themselves. If you're interested in attending the event please contact Alastair Watson: a.watson@canyouescape.co.uk or 0131 510 1158.



Edinburgh schools end what has been a bit of turbulent year for some tomorrow. Just in case you need to mark it in your diary the day the new school year starts is 17 August 2016.

Edinburgh Council has all the school term dates on their website [here](#).

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