

Five things you need to know today



- **The Edinburgh Riding of the Marches**
- **Botanic Lights**
- **Charity Art Sale in Stockbridge**
- **Granton Castle Walled Garden**
- **Mix and Mingle**

The Edinburgh Riding of the Marches will take place on Sunday with over 250 horses riding up The Royal Mile to the Mercat Cross where they will be met by the Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh, the Rt Hon Donald Wilson.

The City Banner will be returned to the Lord Provost by the 2016 Captain Paul Edwards and the Edinburgh Lass Cheryl McVay-Edwards.



This takes place at 15.35 on Sunday afternoon and members of the Incorporated Trades of Edinburgh, the High Constables and the Edinburgh City Guard will all be on duty too. But the event gets underway much earlier at the main event arena at the Mercat Cross with the St Ronan's City Band and the Edinburgh City Guard.

The band leading the procession will be George Heriot's Pipe Band as it has been in past years. Sponsored by Marketing Edinburgh, this event is now firmly a part of the Edinburgh calendar. **John Donnelly, Chief Executive of Marketing Edinburgh** said: "The procession of over 250 riders, cheered on by more than 20,000 spectators along the Royal Mile, is one of our city's most spectacular, as well as historic, annual traditions. Marketing Edinburgh is proud to once again be

supporting the Riding of the Marches 2016.”



Botanic Lights returns to the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh with a month of exploration.

RGBE explains : “As darkness descends, a trail of light will take you on a global journey to discover the Garden’s trees and landscape spectacularly transformed by light, sound and visual effects.”

[Explore with Botanic Lights 2016](#). Follow in the footsteps of the original plant-hunters of the past and their 21st century contemporaries on a journey around the world – in just one evening.

Experience exotic locations which have played a part in the creation of the Botanics’ Living Collections from China to the US, the Himalaya and Nepal and on to the tropics and the wonder of the chilly Arctic.

Dates: 13 October to 6 November, excluding Mondays.

Times: Timed slots every 15 minutes between 6pm and 8.45pm.

Prices: Full price £15, Children (3-15) £7.50. Family ticket and group discounts available. Under 3’s go free, as do essential carers.

Book now Telephone 0844 573 8455.



Tommy Fitchet is selling 100 paintings from his gallery Saorsa on Deanhaugh Street and the price of each one is £100.

He will use the proceeds to invest in new materials for the next batch of paintings, but half of the proceeds will be

donated to Cancer Research UK.

[Read more here.](#)



There are three competing schemes all of which are determined to use the Granton Castle Walled Garden in North Edinburgh.

This is a disused space now zoned as open space in the Local Development Plan just agreed by councillors at the beginning of the week. It is a space with some history and the first scheme proposed by the Friends of Granton Castle Walled Garden want to preserve the garden from certain destruction. They lodged a petition with the council's Petitions Committee which was heard yesterday and which resulted in a referral to the Economy committee for a recommendation to EDI Group who own the land (and which is an arms length company owned by the council) to talk to the Friends Group a little more.

The second competing proposal is for the whole area of which the walled garden forms a part. This is the dream of the Granton Improvement Society who want to create a garden festival in the walled garden, a lido and an artists' quarter.

The EDI Group want to develop the land for housing. They did put in a planning application but withdrew it, saying they would resubmit new plans.

Who will be allowed to proceed with their scheme? We don't yet know, but the petition which came before the council yesterday posed a problem for the councillors who seemed unsure what to do with it. Read more [here](#).



On Saturday 8 October 2016 there is a meeting of the South Central Neighbourhood Partnership Active Living Action Group.

This will be the second information day for people to find out what activities are available to them across the city.

The event is primarily for those over 50, but anyone is welcome.

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