

Special day helps mark 70 years of the Edinburgh Fringe

Plans for the inaugural World Fringe Day involving more than 200 fringes across the planet have been announced for Tuesday 11 July 2017.

✘ The day will reflect on the collective power and worldwide reach of the fringe movement and fringe participants and audiences are invited to take part by sharing their love for all things fringe on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Get involved by using these hashtags #WorldFringeDay #Fringe70

This year is the 70th anniversary of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the world's first fringe, and the spark which was ignited in 1947 has circled the globe.

The fringe model has been emulated from Australia to France, Canada to Prague, South Africa to Brighton, China to Brazil, and everywhere in between.

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs for the Scottish Government, and Shona McCarthy, Chief Executive of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society announced the event.

To mark the anniversary, an open-top tour bus has been unveiled. It features 70 fringe fingerprints, each one made up of the names of the towns and cities around the world that host fringes. It will be used on Lothian's Edinburgh Bus Tours operation.

Councillor Richard Lewis, Edinburgh's Festivals and Events Champion, said: "Over the last 70 years, Edinburgh's Festival Fringe has inspired, entertained and welcomed the world.

"With over 200 Fringes now spread across the globe, World

Fringe Day will celebrate the festival spirit's birthplace in Edinburgh and the many Fringe Festivals that have followed.

"The creative language of the Festival is universal, so no matter where you are in the world, join in and share your love for all things Fringe on 11 July."

Further plans for World Fringe Day will be unveiled over the coming months at www.worldfringeday.com