

Five things you need to know today

What to book at Edinburgh Science Festival

Edinburgh Science Festival is not just for kids. On 8 April at Dynamic Earth there is an event called Innovation Late which is suitable for those aged 18 and over.

During the evening you can:

- Listen to artist [Ted Humble-Smith](#) talk about his innovative new photography exhibition
- Experience the [Neurobright](#) light and sound wearable device, designed to help ease anxiety
- Programme robots and manoeuvre over a Martian landscape
- Encounter the latest in kidney dialysis technology with Quanta Dialysis Technologies
- Build a hovercraft
- Test your construction skills on our earthquake table
- Make a light theremin and a pencil organ with the adorable bumblebeeps
- Find out how [Renzor](#) are preventing brain injuries in sport
- Contribute to a poetical version of the Forth Rail Bridge
- Meet the AI reincarnation of trailblazing geologist Lady MacRobert
- Enjoy a welcome drink (included in the ticket price) while listening to a varied talks programme celebrating all things innovative.



Dynamic Earth. Photo © 2023 Martin P. McAdam
www.martinmcadam.com

Scottish Book Trust looking for stories

Scottish Book Trust is calling for members of the public to submit a real-life story based on the theme of hope, as part of their annual non-fiction writing opportunity that supports and encourages people from across Scotland to use their creativity to share their own experience.

Scotland's Stories, hosted by Scotland's national book charity, is now in its sixteenth year. It gives anyone, regular writers and those telling their story for the first time, the chance to have their non-fiction pieces published online. Some will also be selected to appear in a free book, to be distributed during Book Week Scotland (19 to 24 November, 2024), Scotland's national celebration of books and reading.

This year's theme of hope ties in with studies that show that creative writing can support mental health and wellbeing, increase happiness, and can even delay or reduce symptoms of dementia.

Alongside appealing for stories to be submitted from the public, Scottish Book Trust has commissioned pieces from Scotland's Scriever Susi Briggs, Ever Dundas and Alycia Pirmohamed, who will also be taking part in workshops.

Marc Lambert, CEO of Scottish Book Trust, said: "Scotland's Stories is one of the highlights of Scottish Book Trust's work, giving a platform to people all over Scotland, no matter their experience as writers.

"It's a privilege to collect and share these stories from Scotland's unique and varied voices on the theme of hope, and we'd love to see as many people as possible enjoy the positive benefits of writing for pleasure."

The opportunity is open to everyone in Scotland, whether they write regularly or haven't penned anything since school. These real-life stories can be about little everyday moments of hope or life-changing experiences. Submissions of up to 1,000 words can be made in English, Scots or Gaelic in any form, such as a written story, poem, comic strip, play or letter. Audio and video formats are also welcomed.

Stories should be submitted by 7 June 2024 via scottishbooktrust.com/about-scotlands-stories or by post to: Scotland's Stories, Scottish Book Trust, Sandeman House, Trunk's Close, 55 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SR.

University International Women's Group need volunteers

Can you help?

The International Women's Group seeks female volunteers for

roles like English teaching, childcare assistance, event setup, and hospitality.

Join the group to support international families in Edinburgh by emailing IWC@ed.ac.uk



University of Edinburgh George Square Library

Scotland's Heritage Hub Project

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland are planning to open Scotland's Heritage Hub which will be a new "meeting place for people, ideas and cultural heritage".

The body is looking for ideas on how they can shape the hub and they will hold an in person workshop at Augustine United Church on 19 April 2024 from 10am to 4pm. [The event is free but sign up here.](#)

There are also online workshops for heritage and related organisations on 9 and 10 April. Full details can be found [on](#)

[the Society's website](#).

Support the Edinburgh Reporter

Please support us if you can with advertising, donations or by buying a paper. Our new April issue is out now and you could join the happy band of readers who pay to have the newspaper delivered to their front door. [Sign up here](#) or book your advertising here.

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the Edinburgh Reporter

April 2024

EDINBURGH'S FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER...A CAPITAL READ FROM START TO FINISH



Lift off at dance festival

Traditional dancers have spring in their step

By PHILIP DIXON

TRADITIONAL DANCE will take centre stage during the Pongopotes Festival which showcases international dance on a teaching, learning and performing platform. The still new festival is on at The Scottish Storytelling Centre and other Edinburgh venues from 25-30 April.

Step-dance, cumbias and waltzes will be performed, with live music, poetry, and art and the festival invites audiences to take part in arfids, workshops (both in-person and live-streamed), tours, and talks about traditional dance.

Some of the highlights include a family day with a craft fair all led by Gairne Brockbank of Caledonia, and a matinee showcase by traditional dance artists who are in residence at Edinburgh primary schools, and Bulgarian and Christian language schools in the capital.

Syren Nedelova, Festival Producer and Curator of the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland said: "It is so satisfying to see that the pongopotes ruby seeds of traditional dance that we planted for the first time in spring 2022, once again blossom into Scotland's springtime festival for world trad dance."

"In a new festival born in times of uncertainty, displacement and border restrictions, we were inspired by a poem by Lee Min-Hwan that captured the zeitgeist."

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