

Five things you need to know today

Hidden Door comes out of hiding

The secret location for the 10th birthday party for Hidden Door Festival has been revealed. It is in the city centre and it will be a lot different from their usual “fixer uppers”.

[Read more here about the birthday party which will be staged over two days before the festival returns over five days in the autumn at another secret location.](#)



St James Quarter basement PHOTO Chris Scott

Scotland is off to New York

Representatives from the UK and Scottish Governments are off to New York to promote Scotland to the US and to take part in the 26th New York City Tartan Day Parade on Saturday.

Angus Robertson the Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture is visiting Washington DC before heading for the Big Apple. [Read more about his visit here.](#)

Minister John Lamont is already in New York and will attend a number of events including the parade on Saturday when the Grand Marshal will be actor Dougray Scott.

The Minister, who is attending his second Tartan Day, will be accompanied by a troupe from The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, two pipers, four dancers and a fiddle player.

Last night the UK Government hosted a reception at the Diageo New York HQ along with representatives from the Tattoo and Edinburgh Festival Fringe who spoke to the gathered guests.

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society has announced that their Keep it Fringe fund will be extended for two years using £1 million of the capital which they received from the UK Government last year to establish a new Fringe Hub. The capital will be diverted into a project to offer bursaries of £2,500 to 180 applicants this year and a further 180 next year. This will help to pay for the costs involved in staging a show at the Fringe.

[More details here.](#)



John Lamont speaking in Bryant Park New York in 2023 PHOTO
Martin P McAdam

Scran and a Song in Newhaven



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Out of the Blue Fleamarket

The pitches for the fleamarket on 27 April go on sale on Saturday 6 April at 10am. £30 a pitch and £5 for a table.

<https://twitter.com/ootbdrillhall/status/1775435720292757623?s=61>

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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 STEPHEN

TRADITIONAL DANCE will take centre stage during the Pongpang 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.

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

Some of the highlights include a family day with a variety of activities for all led by Caroline Brockbank of Caribbids, and a mature showcase by traditional dance artists who are in residence at Edinburgh primary schools, and Bulgarian and Christian language schools in the capital.

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

"As a new festival born in times of uncertainty, displacement and border restrictions, we were inspired by a poem by Ian MacMillan that captured the zeitgeist."

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