

Five things you need to know today

Storm Kathleen

There was some storm damage in the city over the weekend, particularly on Saturday when a mature tree in the private gardens on Queen Street fell down.

[Read more and see all the photos here.](#)



6/4/2024

Picture Alan Simpson

Tree blown over at Queen Street Gardens East in a very windy Edinburgh

Holyrood Art Club Exhibition 2024

The Annual Exhibition moves to a new venue for 2024 at the Edinburgh Photographic Society at 68 Great King Street. Members have produced up to two hundred paintings in different mediums, and you can expect a varied subject matter. Entry is free.

Open daily 10.00am to 5.45pm including Sunday. Closes 4.30pm on the final day, Saturday 20 April.

[More details here.](#)

Investment in play parks in the city

There are plans to improve the playground in Dumbiedykes and the council (through Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust) is currently running a consultation until 1 May to find out what local people would like the park to look like. [You can find that here.](#)

The Scottish Government began a five-year funding round in 2021 to improve access to premium play parks for children. This long term funding makes it possible for more renewal and refurbishment of parks in the city. Some, such as Montgomery Street Park have already been refurbished and other plans such as a skatepark in Burdiehouse Valley Park are yet to be done.

Funding of £122,000 has been awarded to the playground in Dumbiedykes, where designs have to be finalised. Play areas at Leith Links and Taylor Gardens have been added to the council's investment programme along with Keddie Gardens and Tolbooth Wynd as part of the wider

Edinburgh Nature Network – Linking Leith parks projects. In addition a contract has been awarded for work to be carried out in the park at Princes Street Gardens where work was due

to begin a short time ago to make the park ready for the summer holidays.

A total of £4.9m from The Scottish Government will be spent in Edinburgh on 189 areas which among them have more than 900 pieces of play equipment, and other monies can be sourced from Section 75 agreements which run alongside planning permission and become the liability of developers of particular areas.



The Friends of Montgomery Street Park worked to try to save the historic helter skelter but this proved impossible and the council is currently considering replacement play equipment in that space although the rest of the park has been refurbished
PHOTO Alan Simpson

New Town & Broughton Community Council meeting

The busy community council meets tonight.

[@NTBCC](#)'s April meeting is on Monday 8 April (7pm, Broughton

St Mary's Church.

Full agenda here: <https://t.co/IZ1FG9WPJw#hyperlocaldemocracy@ScottishCCs>

– *New Town & Broughton CC (@NTBCC)* [April 6, 2024](#)

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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 Pongopon 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.

Five dance commissions and workshops will be performed, with live music, poetry, and art and the festival invites audiences to take part in ardhls, woolshaps (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.

Styren Nerliova, Festival Producer and Curator of the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland said: "It is so satisfying to see that the pongopon 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 traditional dance."

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

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