

Five things you need to know today

Swinney for First Minister

The SNP's John Swinney declared his intention to run in any leadership contest on Thursday morning, and having said during his speech that he would bring Kate Forbes into any cabinet, Ms Forbes announced later in the day that she would not stand. This allows for a coronation of the former Deputy First Minister who was leader of the SNP some two decades ago, but for whom this time the top job is in reach.

Unless a late candidate throws their hat into the ring by Monday at noon, it is virtually certain that Swinney will be announced as leader of the SNP on Monday and then the next – the eighth – First Minister.

Who were the others? Humza Yousaf, Nicola Sturgeon, Alex Salmond, Jack McConnell, Henry McLeish and Donald Dewar and not forgetting Jim Wallace who became First Minister on the death of Donald Dewar for just 16 days and on the resignation of Henry McLeish for just 19 days.

Read more [here](#) and [here](#)



At Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop

On Saturday at ESW everyone is invited to a workshop, book in for a tour or explore the artists' studios.

It is also a family day – no need to book just turn up between 1 and 3pm.

MILK, the on-site cafe will be open all day and have lots of lunch options, cakes and a special pancakes offer for kids this Saturday.

[Much more information here.](#)

Edinburgh World Heritage event

THURSDAY 16 MAY 2024

at: **Riddle's Court**

322 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh EH1 2PG

Most medieval cities and towns had several churches, of different sizes, serving the population. Edinburgh was no exception, and while several have vanished, more remains than is realised. This talk will describe what was and what remains as well as look at some later developments. It will cover well-known survivors, such as St Giles as well as those much less well known, like Trinity College and the Magdalen Chapel.

Prof Adam Cumming has worked as a research scientist for over 40 years in the defence field. He was made an Honorary Professor in the University of Edinburgh School of Chemistry.

[Book here.](#)

Our May issue is out now

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McVey mauling

Councillor hits out at coalition stitch-up
Page 4

Shaggy dog tail

Toy poodle Pepper back home at last
Page 9

Fettes finale

Former police HQ bows out at 50
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Show stoppers

Rudden reviews May's best theatre shows
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Lothian at large

Local sporting heroes in the spotlight
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the Edinburgh Reporter

May 2024

EDINBURGH'S WEEKLY NEWS PAPER... A CAPITAL READ FROM START TO FINISH



Trew gent

By **GEORGE MAIR AND PHYLLIS STEPHEN**

HIS SELFLESS ACTS OF GENEROSITY raised more than £1 million for charities, and the late Tom Gilzean, MBE, was much loved

and well-known in the capital.

Now, an Our Wullie-themed statue, in the image of the late Scots war veteran and charity fundraiser, has been unveiled on the spot where he used to break for lunch during his

long days spent in the city centre collecting cash for charities. The life size sculpture, a replica of one auctioned during an 2019 fundraiser, is now in place outside Gordon's Trattoria on The Royal Mile which was his

regular lunch spot. For more than 20 years Tom could be seen rattling his collecting tin, wearing his trademark tartan trows and medals in the city centre.

[Read more on page 7](#)

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Meadows to George Street plans

The next public drop in when you can have a look at the plans for the route from Meadows to George Street is on 9 May. See more below.

