

Five things you need to know today

This week at the council

There are just three committee meetings this week including a full council meeting on Thursday when all 63 councillors are expected to attend.

The Council Leader, Cammy Day, has issued his monthly report which you can read [here](#).



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7 May 10.00 am Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee07/05	8 May 10.00 am Planning Local Review Body (Panel 2)08/05	9 May 10.00 am City of Edinburgh Council	10
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A new First Minister

The deadline for anyone who wishes to contest the SNP leadership expires at noon. After that – and barring any last minute surprises – it will be John Swinney who becomes the new SNP leader and after MSPs vote later this week he will very likely become the next First Minister. Mr Swinney was Deputy First Minister during Nicola Sturgeon’s time as First Minister, but this is much bigger and he will have to live up to his promises to unite the “SNP and Scotland for independence”.

He will begin to lead a minority government and has already said that the new government “must work to seek common ground in the Scottish Parliament in the interests of the public and of good governance. That means our approach in parliament will have to change; to listen, to compromise, to work with all other political parties”.

He also set out in his announcement speech on Thursday at Grassmarket Community Project that he expects the parliament to operate with courtesy and “respectful dialogue” “to achieve common ground with others”.



Silent Protest

On Wednesday 8 May there will be a silent protest outside the Scottish Parliament in response to the Rwanda legislation. The Vigil for Solidarity will take place from 5 to 6pm.

Join our Vigil for Solidarity: a silent protest in response to the Rwanda legislation and in solidarity with people seeking sanctuary in Scotland and the UK.

We will meet outside the Scottish Parliament at 5-6pm on Wednesday 8th May. pic.twitter.com/ngBDRit6Jo

– Edinburgh City Mission (@EdCiMi) [May 2, 2024](#)

At the Greenway Garden

Attend a free creative writing workshop in the Greenway Garden in Wester Hailes. Email alan@westerhailesgrowing.org to book a slot.

Greenway Garden

Free Creative Writing Wokshops

Sessions will be run by Linden McMahon, who is a poet, performer, fiction writer and arts facilitator

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**email alan@westerhailesgrowing.org
or call 07999 734 776 to reserve a place**

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McVey mauling

Councillor hits out at coalition stitch-up
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Shaggy dog tail

Toy poodle Pepper back home at last
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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 NEWSPAPER...A CAPITAL READ FROM START TO FINISH



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 trews and medals in the city centre.

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