

Five things you need to know today

Edinburgh International Book Festival – tickets go on sale today at 10am

The first day when tickets for the Book Festival go on sale is always busy and EIBF have produced guidelines to help anyone trying to get their choices.

1. Make sure to register for an account at edbookfest.co.uk
2. There will be a queuing system on the website on opening day – this is usually the busiest day. The queue will open at 10am.
3. Log in to your account at edbookfest.co.uk before booking opens at 10am
4. **Once you are logged in, the “Join the Queue” button will appear automatically when the countdown finishes at 10am. Click the “Join the Queue” button to secure your place in the queue.**
5. Once you have clicked the button to join the queue, you don't need to keep your browser open – you will get an email notification when you have joined the front of the queue and are able to book tickets.
6. Watch the [How to Book](#) video on the EIBF YouTube channel for full details – or watch it below.

The Royal Highland Show opens today

Tickets are selling fast for the biggest event in the city this weekend. The Royal Highland Show is 240 years old this year and will be a meeting place where £500 million of business is carried out according to the organisers.

Jim Warnock, the Chair of The Royal Highland Show, explained the tender loving care given to the grass in the main ring. He said it is rested before the show and then well fed with fertiliser and they try to time the last fertiliser before the show at the optimum moment to get the really green effect. And it looks as though it has worked. He said this is one of the first things that people notice when they come to the show.

The magic machine is called an equivator which is used to pierce and allow the ground to aerate and drain. Mr Warnock said: "There are some big show-jumping classes in here during the week and they are quite particular that they want it just to be perfect. So we aim to please."



Edinburgh Climate Festival 2024

This festival takes place on 29 June at The Meadows and organisers hope to inspire climate action in local communities.



Transport and Environment Committee

The council's Transport and Environment Committee meets this morning at 10am. There is a shorter agenda than usual, we are told it is to accommodate the fact that the Convener, Cllr

Scott Arthur, is a candidate in the upcoming General Election.

[The papers and how to watch online – either live or as a recording are all here.](#)

These papers include a lengthy deputation by Cargo Bike Movement which is facing a funding shortfall and which is hoping for some support from the council.

Their deputation states: “Cargo Bike Movement is facing a funding shortfall. We have reserves to meet payroll for current staff until 31 July 2024. All staff were put on notice of redundancy on 30 May 2024 as part of the board’s crisis management plan.

“We currently have a pending decision on a grant from Paths for All. The £200k funding it offers (of which £50k is match-funding) represents the best value for money for CEC to support Cargo Bike Movement.

“A plan if we miss out on funding

“If we are unsuccessful in our application to Paths for All and/or do not receive support from CEC we have a financial plan that will allow us to keep the organisation on life support until the end of the year, scale down our work, find suitable locations to store 2-4 cargo bikes.

“This plan protects our core food distribution work, while losing staff, closing the hub, ending outreach work, selling bikes, curtailing bike lending, minimising mechanical support and slimming down broader public engagement work.

“We will however work to protect our core work supporting food banks and organisations

such as Refugee Community Kitchen, Empty Kitchens Full Hearts and Shrub Zero Waste

Co-Op, delivering food from supermarkets throughout the city every weekday evening. To date we’ve delivered 75 tonnes of food, saving 78 tonnes of CO₂e from landfill waste.”

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the Edinburgh Reporter

June 2024

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



Thomas Haywood Photography

Trams are 10

By **PHYLLIS STEPHEN**

IT IS NOW TEN YEARS since Edinburgh Trams began running the passenger service

from Edinburgh Airport to York Place. Actually on the first day the service began at the Gyle Stop with many people trying to be the first passengers to get on board.

Edinburgh Trams have now carried more than 60 million passengers in the last decade on a fleet of 27 trams and employ around 300 people in Edinburgh. Except during Covid

tram income has risen year on year. In 2014 the half year income was £4.782 million and this rose to £23.9 million in 2023.

[More about Edinburgh Trams on page 7](#)

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