Scottish International

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

Northlands & Sagalands

The magic of live stories at the hearth of Scotland

Friday 24th October - Sunday 2nd November 2008

Box Office 0131 556 9579
reception@scottishstorytellingcentre.com
www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk
43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR
Welcome
to the 19th Scottish International Storytelling Festival, and to a warm hearthside of Northern tales.

This year the Festival’s Northlands and Sagalands theme brings together a stellar line up of guest artists with the finest storytellers from Scotland’s Northern reaches. We’re delighted to welcome storyteller representatives from Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Denmark, Finland, Ireland and Alaska to Scotland’s annual celebration of storytelling.

Join us and our Festival partners for entertaining and inspiring live storytelling performances, thought-provoking talks, workshops and discussions and fun family activities.

Whether you’re a professional storyteller, someone who’s curious about oral storytelling traditions, or you’re just looking for a unique night out, the Scottish International Storytelling Festival is the highlight of Edinburgh’s autumn. Come and be part of it!

Supported through the Scottish Government’s Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund, the Scottish Arts Council and the City of Edinburgh Council. A big thank you to Festivals Edinburgh.

We’d also like to thank our partners:

- Alliance Française
- Alloavision Festival
- Argyll and Bute Council
- Filmhouse
- Glasgow Storytellers
- Goethe-Institut Glasgow
- National Library of Scotland
- New Media Scotland
- North Edinburgh Arts Centre
- Red Kite Animation
- Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
- The School of Scottish Studies Archives
- Scottish Seabird Centre
- Traditional Music and Song Association (TMSA) of Scotland – Edinburgh & Lothians Branch

Artwork From Northlands animation by Jim Stirk www.jimstirk.co.uk
Photography Simon Jones
Design Bill McGhee, WAMgraphics
About the programme

The magic of storytelling is in the experience, and this year’s programme offers plenty of ways to listen and be inspired, or to roll up your sleeves and take part. We’ve given each event a category to help you decide which to book. Alongside storytelling club nights and storytelling sessions, you’ll find:

**Ceilidh nights**

Live storytelling and music performances in the Centre’s Netherbow Theatre. Each evening between two and six guest storytellers share tales, music and songs, and talk about their stories. The atmosphere is relaxed and celebratory, showcasing the spontaneity and diversity of traditional storytelling from around the world. Ceilidh night events last about 1 hour 45 minutes, with a short interval.

**Meet the storyteller**

New for this year, friendly, informal early evening storytelling slots, featuring guest storytellers. A great way to discover live storytelling and to hear more from international guests. Meet the storyteller events happen in the Centre’s Bothy, last about 40 minutes, and are free – just drop in!

**Talks & discussions**

Panel events or presentations from writers, storytellers or experts, exploring specific storytelling-linked themes or ideas. Events vary in length and format – check the programme or ask at the Centre’s box office. Most events include a chance for group discussion or a Q&A session.

**Workshops**

Festival workshops are facilitated by a professional storyteller and cover a variety of themes and approaches to storytelling, from beginner level through to masterclasses for experienced tellers. All workshops last either a full or half day and take place at the Scottish Storytelling Centre. Book early to avoid disappointment!

**Family-friendly events**

Live storytelling events or story and activity sessions, especially designed for children and families. We always try to let you know what age range our events are aimed at – just check with our box office if you need more information.

**The Glasgow Storytellers**

The Glasgow Storytellers is a network for storytellers in Glasgow and surrounds. Led by Glasgow Storytelling Development Officer, Rachel Smillie, the group aims to promote storytelling in Glasgow through traditional storytelling and enable the development of storytelling as a contemporary art. This is done through fostering storytelling skills in people of all age groups, and in the telling of stories in a host of different environments. This year the Storytellers team up with the Goethe-Institut Glasgow, Alliance Française and Moyra Jane’s to bring two special Glasgow events to the Festival.

**The Argyll Journey**

The heart of Argyll and Bute’s identity lies firmly rooted in its people and its stories – fables that have travelled the world, legends of kings and giants, tales of the sea and silkies, and stories of magic, ghosts and witches. Argyll and Bute Council has been working with storytellers and venues to keep this oral tradition alive in the community and is delighted to participate for the first time in the Scottish International Storytelling Festival.
How to book

You can buy tickets for all Scottish Storytelling Centre events through our box office.

**By phone** using a credit or debit card on 0131 556 9579.

**In person** using cash, cheque, credit or debit card. The box office is inside the Scottish Storytelling Centre, the brand new building half way down the Royal Mile.

Tickets for partner events should be booked direct with the venue. Full contact details are on the back cover. We try our best to make sure event details listed here are correct, but they are subject to change and it’s always worth checking with our box office or the event venue when you book.

The Festival Pass

Planning to come to several events? Why not become a Festival delegate?

£49 (£35 concessions) gets you entry to all seven **Ceilidh Night** events and a daytime **Talk & Discussion** of your choice, 10% off food and drink at the Storytelling Café, and an invite to the Festival’s International Reception on 28 October (saving up to £20)!

Tickets are subject to availability so sign up for your pass in advance by calling 0131 556 9579.

How to get here

The Scottish Storytelling Centre’s award-winning building is the home of the Festival. You can find us half way down Edinburgh’s Royal Mile, within easy walking distance of Prince’s Street and Waverley train station. Parking nearby can be tricky, but Lothian bus number 35 stops outside our door, and there’s a taxi rank just up the road.

Our facilities

Our building is fully accessible to wheelchair users. There’s a hearing loop in the theatre, and Braille signage throughout. Please let us know if you need a hand once you get here.

The Centre is a 4-star visitor attraction which includes a shop selling storytelling books and CDs, a licensed Café serving delicious homemade treats and hot meals, a family-friendly exhibition and babychange facilities.
About the storytellers

Thanks to this year’s additional funding, the Festival has been able to invite guest artists from a range of Northlands countries. Each invited storyteller actively works to promote and nurture their own culture in their everyday work, meaning the Festival is a meeting place of inspiring individuals and rich cultural exchange.

Nina Næsheim

The Scottish Storytelling Centre
and John Knox House

The Scottish Storytelling Centre is the national body for the support and development of the storytelling artform, and presents the annual Scottish International Storytelling Festival as part of this work. The organisation is a partnership between the Scottish Storytelling Forum and the Church of Scotland, and is supported by the Scottish Arts Council, the City of Edinburgh Council and a wide range of charitable donations.

Scottish Registered Charity: SCO 11353
**Events**

**Fri 24 Oct – Mon 3 Nov**
Mon-Fri 10.00am-8.00pm;  
Sat 10.00am-5.00pm;  
Sun 2.00-5.00pm • Free, just drop in • All ages

**Scandinavian Collections at the National Library of Scotland**

*National Library of Scotland*

A small display highlighting some of the treasures from the Scandinavian Collections at the National Library of Scotland. Visitors will have an opportunity to see early printed editions of the Icelandic sagas, as well as other books and manuscripts relating to the Northlands.

**Until Sat 22 Nov** Mon-Fri 10.00am-6.00pm • Free, just drop in

**Nonsense**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

Mixing local myths from the Icelandic town Seyðisfjörður with the legend of The Three Norns and her own personal mythology, Scottish artist Mhari Baxter transforms the Storytelling Court into a dynamic narrative space using installation, sculpture, drawings and audio. Look out for a tie-in family event on Sat 1 November.

**Fri 24 Oct** 2.30pm (90mins) • Free, just drop in

**Age 6+**

**Tell-a-Story Day Warm Up**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

Get inspired for our Festival Northlands theme! Come and hear some enchanting tales, find out how to make your own, and collect ideas for Tell-a-Story Day on 31 October. Great for families and children over 6.

**Fri 24 Oct** 7.30pm (1hr 45mins) • £9/£6

**Northern Isles**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

A warm ceilidh welcome to the Storytelling Festival’s gathering of Northlands talent. Stories and song with storytellers Tom Muir from Orkney and Lawrence Tulloch from Shetland.
Fri 24 Oct  9.00pm (2hrs)  •  By donation (suggested £3)

**Festival Club**

*Waverley Bar, St Mary's Street, Edinburgh*

The first open club session of this year’s Festival. Come along to relax and listen or contribute a tale or song of your own. Hosted by Liz Wilson.

---

Sat 25 Oct  10.00am (2hrs)  •  Free. Booking essential, places limited

**Writing Historical Fiction**

*National Library of Scotland*

Are you interested in writing historical fiction? Join writer Margaret Elphinstone for a workshop exploring how to use source material for inspiration and research. Margaret will talk about her research for *The Sea Road*, a novel based on the Icelandic sagas, and there will be an opportunity to see the original manuscript and notes which are now kept in the NLS collections.

Sat 25 Oct  10.00am-1.00pm  •  £16 (£12 network members)

**Beginning with Children**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

It’s not just the stories but the opening of minds, hearts and imaginations. Claire McNicol introduces the skills involved in building relationships with children and exploring their experiences through storytelling.

Sat 25 Oct  10.00am-6.00pm  •  Free. Book with New Media Scotland

**Standing Other Stones**

*Scottish Book Trust*

This one-day workshop takes a look at traditional stone worship and its modern manifestations. Using current media technologies and traditional techniques, the participants will have the chance to discover exciting alternative methods of storytelling and put them into practice, developing performative stories around specific urban stones in Edinburgh. Led by artists Catriona Shaw and Andrew Paterson. Supported by New Media Scotland.

Sat 25 Oct  1.30-4.30pm  •  £16 (£12 network members)

**Beginning with Scottish Folktales**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

An introduction to the live telling of folk tales, "eye to eye, mind to mind and heart to heart", along with an introduction on sources and resources. Led by Ruth Kirkpatrick, storyteller and ballad singer.

Sat 25 Oct  2.00pm (2hrs)  •  Free. Booking essential, places limited  

**Felt Story: Northlands**

*National Library of Scotland*

Join storyteller and artist Claire Hewitt for an afternoon of stories and songs from the Northlands. Hear tales of magic reindeer, hares, the sun and the moon, and be inspired by stories of the Sámi people to create a colourful picture with felt and fabric.
Sat 25 Oct  2.30pm (60mins) • £6/£4
**Stormy Tales**
*Scottish Storytelling Centre*
Selkies, storms and the crash of waves on a distant shore... Sea stories with Lawrence Tulloch from Yell in Shetland and Ian Stephen from the Isle of Lewis. A storytelling performance in honour of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution’s 150th anniversary.

Sat 25 Oct  6.00pm (40mins) • Free **MS**
**Meet the Storyteller: Heli Aaltonen**
*Scottish Storytelling Centre*
A relaxed, informal storytelling taster. Hear some Finnish tales and find out about storytelling in Finland today.

Sat 25 Oct  7.30pm (1hr 45mins) • £9/£6 **CN**
**Across the Causeway**
*Scottish Storytelling Centre*
Lively Scottish-Irish yarns, tricksy tales and epic Northlands myths, with John Hamilton from County Derry and Ian Stephen from Lewis. Hosted by David Campbell.

Sat 25 Oct  1.00pm (2hrs 30 mins) • £4.80/£3.20
**Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner**
*Filmhouse*
Based on an Inuit legend, Atanarjuat is an epic, intimate story of love and hatred and a people struggling for survival in an ever-changing world. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion around the film’s themes, featuring Yup’ik storyteller Jack Dalton, poet and Inupiaq expert Tom Lowenstein, and Visiting Scholar at the University of Edinburgh’s Centre of Canadian Studies, Frank Tester.

Sun 26 Oct  11.30am (1hr 30mins) • £4.80/£3.20
**Legends and Life of the Inuit**
*Filmhouse*
In the vast windswept whiteness of the North, voices sing, chant and tell stories. Timeless tales are evoked through animation, prints, and carvings in bone, ivory and soapstone. Will the ancient culture be lost as the Inuit embrace southern values?

Sun 26 Oct  1.00pm (3hrs 30mins) • £10 **WS** Age 9-12
**StoryLab: Legends and Life of the Inuit**
*Filmhouse*
Be inspired by Legends and Life of the Inuit to create your own story and transform it into film, in this interactive workshop led by storyteller Michael Williams.
Sun 26 Oct  1.00pm-4.00pm • Free, just drop in  All ages

Lands of the Northern Lights
Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, Exhibition Hall, Forest Room
Let our Talking Trees Storytellers enchant you with tales of Northern lands; lands of forest and fjords, snow and ice.

Sun 26 Oct  1.30-4.30pm • £16 (£12 network members)  WS

Masterclass: Shaping a Programme
Scottish Storytelling Centre
To tell one story well is an achievement, but to deliver a storytelling session with variety and pattern is an art. Master storyteller David Campbell leads you into the challenges and skills of programme making and re-making.

Sun 26 Oct  2.30pm (60mins) • £6/£4 Age 7-10  FF

Northern Lights
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Be enchanted with stories and songs woven from Northern legend. Finland’s leading storyteller Heli Aaltonen and Scottish storyteller and musician Claire Hewitt bring strange tales and creatures to life. Hosted by Judy Paterson.

Sun 26 Oct  5.00pm (60mins) • £6/£4  TD

Inuit Life and Traditions
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Anthropologist and poet Tom Lowenstein gives an illustrated introduction to Inupiaq stories and traditions. Since 1973, Tom has worked in a remote Inupiaq (north Alaskan Eskimo) village with oral historians and storytellers. His translations of Inupiaq stories have been broadcast here and in the US, and his latest poetry collection, Ancestors and Species will be available to buy.

Sun 26 Oct  7.30pm (60mins) • £9/£6

Raven Returns: The Story of the Human Beings
Scottish Storytelling Centre
An epic traditional creation tale of the Yup’ik people, told by Alaskan storyteller Jack Dalton. Jack himself belongs to the Yup’ik – one of the six Inuit cultures in the world.

Mon 27 Oct  10am-3.30pm • £30 (£25 for network members)  WS

Scottish Culture in the Curriculum
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Pioneered in Scotland, the Storyline approach can open up the riches of Scottish culture through primary and secondary stages. Exploring your own cultural diversity makes for confident outward looking learners – and its fun! An experienced team takes you through the design and delivery of cross-curricular approaches. With Ewan McVicar, Steve Bell, Senga Munro, Sallie Harkness, Fergus McNicol and Stuart McHardy. Introduced by Donald Smith.
### Events Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24 Oct</td>
<td>Scandinavian Collections Exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24 Oct</td>
<td>Tell-a-Story Day Warm Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24 Oct</td>
<td>Northern Isles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24 Oct</td>
<td>Festival Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Writing Historical Fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Beginning with Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Standing Other Stones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Beginning with Scottish Folktales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Felt Story: Northlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Stormy Tales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Heli Aaltonen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Across the Causeway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25 Oct</td>
<td>Atanarjuat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26 Oct</td>
<td>Legends and Life of the Inuit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26 Oct</td>
<td>StoryLab: Legends and Life of the Inuit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26 Oct</td>
<td>Lands of the Northern Lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26 Oct</td>
<td>Masterclass: Shaping a Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26 Oct</td>
<td>Northern Lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26 Oct</td>
<td>Inuit Life and Traditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26 Oct</td>
<td>Raven Returns: Story of the Human Beings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 27 Oct</td>
<td>Scottish Culture in the Curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 27 Oct</td>
<td>Alan Bruford Memorial Lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 27 Oct</td>
<td>Seaways and Folkways from Iceland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 28 Oct</td>
<td>Rognvald’s Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 28 Oct</td>
<td>Festival Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 29 Oct</td>
<td>Fiction and Fables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 29 Oct</td>
<td>Jerker Fahlström</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 29 Oct</td>
<td>Storytelling in France, Germany and Scotland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 29 Oct</td>
<td>Swans of Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 30 Oct</td>
<td>Stefánsson, Jónsson and Hannesdóttir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 30 Oct</td>
<td>Stories, Stovies and Song: Swans of Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 30 Oct</td>
<td>Ravens of Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 30 Oct</td>
<td>Stories Round the Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 Oct</td>
<td>Tell-a-Story Day: Halloween Tales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 Oct</td>
<td>Nina Næsheim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 Oct</td>
<td>Raven Returns: The Story of the Human Beings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 Oct</td>
<td>Strange Norse and Celtic Tales for a Dark Winter Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 Oct</td>
<td>Stories from Argyll and Northlands for Hallowe'en</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 Oct</td>
<td>Dark and Light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 Oct</td>
<td>Tell-a-Story Day: Darkness and Light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 Oct</td>
<td>Festival Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>Intermediate Skills: Crafting the Story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>The Three Norns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>When the Selkie Came Ashore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>Intermediate Skills: Voicing the Story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>Selkie Stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>Once Upon a Time: Europe of Stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>From the Land of the Living</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>Hans Christian Andersen: Magic of the Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 1 Nov</td>
<td>Northlands: A Storytelling Ceilidh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 2 Nov</td>
<td>Northern Lights: Sources and Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 2 Nov</td>
<td>Shadow Puppet Tales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 2 Nov</td>
<td>Festival Finale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Mon 27 Oct** 6.00pm (60mins) • Free but ticketed

**Alan Bruford Memorial Lecture** Waking the Dead: Folk Legends of Magicians and Walking Corpses in Iceland

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

Dr Terry Gunnell from the University of Iceland is author of *The Origins of Drama in Scandinavia*, and editor of *Masks and Mumming in the Nordic Countries*. The annual Alan Bruford Memorial Lecture is sponsored by The School of Scottish Studies Archives, Celtic and Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh.

**Mon 27 Oct** 7.30pm (1hr 45mins) • £9/£6

**Seaways and Folkways from Iceland**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

A very special opportunity to experience the atmospheric tales, stories and song of Iceland. Like Scotland, Iceland is experiencing a storytelling renaissance. Taste the excitement with Sigurborg Kr. Hannesdóttir, Ingi Hans Jónsson and Hjörleifur Helgi Stefánsson, storytellers from the country’s beautiful Western region.

**Tue 28 Oct** 8.00pm (60mins) • £9/£6

**Rognvald’s Journey**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*


**Tue 28 Oct** 9.00pm (2hrs) • By donation (suggested £3)

**Festival Club**

*Waverley Bar, St Mary’s Street, Edinburgh*

An open session of stories and song, hosted by Lari Don. Bring along a tale of your own, or just sit back and listen.

**Wed 29 Oct** 6.00pm (90mins) • Free, booking advisable • Age 14+

**Fiction and Fables**

*National Library of Scotland*

Acclaimed children’s fiction author, Melvin Burgess, and widely respected Swedish storyteller and visual artist, Mats Rehnman, come together in their shared passion for Scandinavian and Norse mythology. Experience the interweaving of myth and life through readings, storytelling and discussion. Chaired by Marc Lambert, Scottish Book Trust.

**Wed 29 Oct** 6.00pm (40mins) • Free, just drop in

**Meet the Storyteller: Jerker Fahlström**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

An informal storytelling performance with one of Sweden’s leading storytellers – a genuine Viking.
**Wed 29 Oct** 7.00pm (70mins) • Free, just drop in  
**Storytelling in France, Germany and Scotland**
*Goethe-Institut Glasgow & Alliance Française*
Storytellers Suse Weiße from Germany and Jean Guillon from France share stories from their own unique cultures and discuss the importance of storytelling in France, Germany and beyond. Chaired by Rachel Smillie, Glasgow Storytelling Development Officer. Wine and nibbles provided. Sponsored by Goethe-Institut Glasgow.

**Wed 29 Oct** 7.30pm (1hr 45mins) • £9/£6  
**Swans of Norway**
*Scottish Storytelling Centre*
The storytellers of Norway, like the three Norns of present, past and future, weave evocative stories and songs. Nina Næsheim and Maritha Nielsen perform, hosted by Janis Mackay from Caithness.

**Thu 30 Oct** 6.00pm (40mins) • Free, just drop in  
**Meet the Storytellers: Hjörleifur Helgi Stefánsson, Ingi Hans Jónsson and Sigurborg Kr. Hannesdóttir**
*Scottish Storytelling Centre*
A relaxed storytelling taster, and a chance to hear about storytelling in Iceland.

**Thu 30 Oct** 6.30pm (3hrs) • £20 (including a two course meal, excluding drinks)  
**Stories, Stovies and Song: Swans of Norway**
*Moyra Jane’s*
The storytellers of Norway, like the three Norns of present, past and future, fly in with songs and stories. Nina Næsheim and Maritha Nielsen hosted by Janis Mackay from Caithness.

**Thu 30 Oct** 7.30pm (1hr 45mins) • £9/£6  
**Ravens of Sweden**
*Scottish Storytelling Centre*
Sweden’s storytellers roam between ancient traditions and modern art – but all under the raven’s spell. Mats Rehnman and Jerker Fahlström are hosted by Perthshire tradition bearer Paraig MacNeil in an evening of tales and song.

**Thu 30 Oct** 7.30pm (90mins) • By donation (includes refreshments)  
**Stories Round the Fire**
*Creich Community Hall, Isle of Mull*
Come and join us at the fireside in Creich Hall and listen to traditional tales from Finland told by Heli Aaltonen, and from Mull and further afield by Jan Sutch Pickard.
Tell-a-Story Day  Friday 31 October 2008

Tell-a-Story Day is the national celebration of storytelling, and the perfect opportunity to hold your own storytelling event. Register by Monday 13 October to receive a free support pack! Email jill@scottishstorytellingcentre.com

Fri 31 Oct  1.00-4.00pm ● Free, just drop in  FF All ages  
Tell-a-Story Day: Hallowe’en Tales
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Exhibition Hall, Forest Room
It’s Hallowe’en in the Haunted Forest. Hear stories from our Talking Trees Storytellers and bring your own spooky tales if you dare!

Fri 31 Oct  6.00pm (40mins) ● Free, just drop in  MS
Meet the Storyteller: Nina Næsheim
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet one of Norway’s leading storytellers – a mischievous and creative spirit from the fjords. Hear some tales and find out more about traditional and contemporary storytelling in Norway.

Fri 31 Oct  7.00pm (90mins) ● £10/£5. Family ticket £25 (2 adults, 2 children)  AJ  Age 7+
Raven Returns: The Story of the Human Beings
Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern
An epic tale of the Yup’ik people from creation to the present day. Hallowe’en/Alaskan food (bring a dish to share), followed at 8pm by stories from Inuit storyteller, Jack Dalton.

Fri 31 Oct  7.00pm (2hrs)
● £10, children free  AJ
● Adults and children over 12
Strange Norse and Celtic Tales for a Dark Winter Night
Strachur Smiddy
In our Northern climes the distinction between light and dark is often critical and Man has long been fascinated by the apparent conflict of the two powers. Join storyteller John Barrington for a journey through elements of light and connotations of darkness. Ticket includes a glass and a bite.
**Fri 31 Oct**  7.00pm (2hrs) • £3.50/£2.50 (including refreshments)  
**Stories from Argyll and Northlands for Hallowe’en**  
**Auchindrain Museum, Inverary**  
Join storyteller Patsy Dyer in atmospheric Auchindrain Museum, to hear myths from the icy Northlands of Thor and Odin, tales of fearsome trolls from an Icelandic saga and stories of terrifying witches from Russia, all entwined with tales closer to home.

**Fri 31 Oct**  7.30pm (1hr 45mins) • £9/£6  
**Dark and Light**  
**Scottish Storytelling Centre**  
An annual favourite – the turning of the year celebrated in dark stories and song. Traditions of Hallowe’en with Jess Smith, Sheila Stewart, Stanley Robertson and Ruth Kirkpatrick.

**Fri 31 Oct**  7.30pm (90mins) • Free but book in advance – places are limited  
**Tell-a-Story Day: Darkness and Light**  
**Oban Library**  
As the nights get darker, it’s a great time for stories. Come and listen to Heli Aaltonen from Finland and Jan Sutch Pickard all the way from Mull, telling tales from long ago and far away. And maybe (because it’s Hallowe’en) one or two stories will come uncomfortably close.

**Fri 31 Oct**  10.00pm (2hrs) • By donation (suggested £3)  
**Festival Club**  
**Waverley Bar, St Mary’s Street, Edinburgh**  
Dark tales for Hallowe’en… A late night open session at the Waverley Bar, with host Lesley O’Brien.

**Sat 1 Nov**  10.00am-1.00pm • £16 (£12 network members)  
**Intermediate Skills: Crafting the Story**  
**Scottish Storytelling Centre**  
Increase your awareness of shape and pattern in stories, and the ways in which these can be articulated. How to get inside the story and make it your own. Led by Angela Knowles.

**Sat 1 Nov**  11.00am (90mins) • £4/£3  
**The Three Norns**  
**Scottish Storytelling Centre**  
Join storyteller Claire McNicol to hear ancient tales of the Northlands. Then work with artist Mhari Baxter to explore her exhibition based on Icelandic myths, and create some very special sculptural artwork of your own.
**Sat 1 Nov 11.00am (2hrs) • £3**

**When the Selkie Came Ashore**

*North Edinburgh Arts Centre*

Join storyteller Beth Cross and artist Kate Leiper for a journey to the home of the mysterious selkie creature, then make a selkie puppet to take on your own magical adventures.

---

**Sat 1 Nov 1.30-4.30pm • £16 (£12 network members)**

**Intermediate Skills: Voicing the Story**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

Voice is the key instrument in the music of storytelling. How to make good use of your voice and communicate your story well. Led by Janis Mackay, storyteller and voice teacher.

---

**Sat 1 Nov 2.00pm (2hrs) • Free with Seabird Centre admission price**

**Selkie Stories**

*Scottish Seabird Centre*

To celebrate the return of the seals to the Firth of Forth, come along and cosy down with Finnish storyteller Heli Aaltonen to hear the magical selkie stories and watch the seal colony live on interactive cameras.

---

**Sat 1 Nov 2.30pm (60mins) • £6/£4**

**Once Upon a Time: Europe of Stories**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

Festival visitors from France and Germany entertain with a continental family storytelling session. Jean Guillon from Marseilles joins Suse Weiße from Berlin.

---

**Sat 1 Nov 4.00pm (60mins) • £6/£4**

**From the Land of the Living: Stories for Life and Education**

*Scottish Storytelling Centre*

Expert Lisa Gjedde introduces the Danish poet and educationist NFS Grundtvig’s unique narrative approach to life and education. Only where poetry and history meet can humanity achieve self-understanding.
Sat 1 Nov  6.00pm (60mins)  £6/£4  TD
Hans Christian Andersen: Magic of the Heart
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Angela Knowles opens a storyteller’s window on the art of Denmark’s master storyteller and world-renowned favourite.

Sat 1 Nov  7.30pm (1hr 45mins)  £9/£6  CN
Northlands: A Storytelling Ceilidh
Scottish Storytelling Centre
A night of stories and song to be treasured and remembered as the Festival comes to a close and the winter draws near. Hosted by Donald Smith, with Festival guests.

Sun 2 Nov  11.00am-5.00pm  £12  WS
Northern Lights: Sources and Resources
Scottish Storytelling Centre
A special day bringing together storytellers from Scotland and other European regions. Explore storytelling sources and approaches to storytelling in different countries, including training and mentoring. Network Development Days are open only to Network members of the Scottish Storytelling Forum. For details of membership and the concessions available for training and development events see www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

Sun 2 Nov  12.00pm-3.00pm  Free, just drop in  FF  All ages
Shadow Puppet Tales with Art-Tastic and Hazel Darwin Edwards
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Exhibition Hall
Investigate the history of storytelling through puppetry from across the world. Explore puppets from pi-yíng xi, the ‘theatre of the lantern shadows’ from China, and make your own shadow puppet to join in the Northern tales in the Forest Room.

Sun 2 Nov  7.30pm (2hrs)  £10/£8 tickets from the Scottish Storytelling Centre  Age 14+
Festival Finale: Northern Streams  Music, Songs & Stories of the Scottish Sagalands
The Lot
A companion event to the TMSA Edinburgh & Lothians Branch’s annual Northern Streams Festival, this concert features music, song and stories from Orkney, Shetland and other parts of Scotland from storyteller Liz Wilson and Radio 2 Young Folk Award winners Jeana Leslie, Siobhan Miller and friends. A wonderful way to round off the Scottish Storytelling Festival 2008!
Storyteller biographies

**Heli Aaltonen**  Heli has a wealth of traditional Finnish stories as well as international tales and traditional ballads from the Kalevala. Born in Turku, the old capital of Finland, Heli now lives in Trondheim, Norway.

**John Barrington**  John has spent over twenty-five years shepherding on the mountains of Scotland, collecting stories on his way. His repertoire covers history and folklore, myths and legends, characters and heroes.

**David Campbell**  David’s repertoire ranges from ancient Celtic epics of Ireland and Scotland to stories of faith and love, often drawing on the influence of Scotland’s Traveller storytellers.

**Beth Cross**  Beth has a particular interest in the folktales of the Scottish Lowlands and Borders, focusing on environmental themes and the long relationship between humankind and nature.

**Jack Dalton**  Jack is a dramatic storyteller steeped in the Inuit culture of Alaska. He is devoted to bringing Yup’ik traditions and culture to a wide audience and keeping them alive through the power of storytelling.

**Lari Don**  Lari’s stories range from Norse dragon legends and bloody Viking battles to haunting tales of the midnight sun. She also uses traditional tales to inspire workshops on riddle writing and storymaking.

**Patsy Dyer**  Patsy lived for over a year in Norway and has always been fascinated by tales from the Northlands. She often draws on her wide knowledge of plants to bring plant mythology to the fore.

**Jerker Fahlström**  Jerker is a Viking storyteller full of humorous tales of voyages, battles and adventures. Based in Gothenburg, he is one of Sweden’s leading storytellers, and is passionate about Norse history and culture.

**Lisa Gjedde**  Lisa is currently an Associate Professor at Aarhus University where she works with narrative and storytelling as a pathway to learning. She has a special interest in myth and folktales from her Danish homeland.

**Jean Guillou**  Jean is one of France’s leading storytellers, and since 1986 has led The Flying Theatre, spreading the magic of stories to towns and villages, schools and book festivals the world over.

**John Hamilton**  John grew up on the North Coast of Ireland. Now with a foot in both Scotland and Ireland, he often finds himself on the Seas of Moyle, following the endless journeys of fishers, traders and heroes.

**Hjörleifur Helgi Stefánsson**  Hjörleifur is a young storyteller from West Iceland. He has all the saga stories as well as folk tales, elite legends and stories of modern Iceland – landscape, wildlife and history.

**Claire Hewitt**  Claire has long been drawn to the tales, songs and traditions of nomads and travellers. Arctic scents, colours and sounds weave their magic through her stories and songs of the Northlands.

**Ingi Hans Jónsson and Sigurborg Kr Hannesdóttir**  Ingi and Sigurborg are a husband and wife team who share stories and songs as well as an immense knowledge and love of the culture of remote west Iceland.

**Ruth Kirkpatrick**  Ruth tells traditional stories of trolls, selkies and mermen. She took part in the Scandinavian Storytelling Symposium in Iceland and will perform next year at the biggest book festival in the world, in Calcutta.

**Angela Knowles**  Angela is dedicated to building bridges between people using traditional stories, theatre, play, humour, meditation and clowning. She took part in the formation of the European Federation of Storytellers in Oslo.

**Janis Mackay**  Janis is a native of Edinburgh and now lives by the sea in the far north of Scotland where Northern folklore, land and seascape and the great swings in darkness and light influence her storytelling.

**Paraig MacNeil**  Paraig has a long-standing interest in Norwegian language, folklore and folk songs. He tells Norse selkie legends as well as epic Celtic tales of the Fianna, clan legends, and wonder and supernatural tales.
Seoras MacPherson  Seoras’ stories have been passed down through many generations in Skye and Argyll, and include stories of the epic heroes Fionn and Cuchullin, and tales of giants and fairies, water horses and the seal people.

Claire McNicol  Claire tells Scottish and Irish stories including Traveller tales, stories of the seal people, the wee folk and the giants. Much of her work fosters storytelling amongst children and young people.

Ewan McVicar  Ewan’s stories often integrate music and song, and range from Scottish and African traditional tales of fairies, giants, birds and beasts, to the retelling of Scots ballads as stories and tales of historical events.

Tom Muir  Tom tells traditional folktales, as well as stories of ghosts, witches and shipwrecks. He was Orkney representative on the EU Sagalands project, and has told stories in Sweden, Norway, the Faroe, Iceland and Greenland.

Senga Munro  Senga tells Scottish and Hungarian folk tales, reworked ballads and environmental stories. She works with children of all ages to develop imagination and problem-solving skills through storytelling.

Nina Næsheim  Nina is one of Norway’s leading storytellers. She is a singer and musician and tells tales ranging from stories of magic, love and humour, to fairytales, folktales, myths, legends, tall tales and true stories.

Maritha Nielsen  Maritha is another of Norway’s best-loved storytellers. She sings, entertains and weaves a tapestry of fine tales for all age groups. Maritha has led the movement to create a Norwegian Storytelling Centre.

Lesley O’Brien  Lesley was born and bred in the East End of Glasgow. Through a deep forest or down below the waves, witches, mermaids and selkies will lead you on a musical journey through the light and the dark.

Judy Paterson  Judy is fascinated by the cultural links between Scotland and her Northern neighbours, and many of her stories come from the Northlands. Judy represented Scotland at World Language Day 2007 in Helsinki.

Bob Pegg  Bob has lived in the north of Scotland for the past eighteen years, and often weaves music and song into his stories. He has a special interest in Northern lore and traditions, and works closely with Traveller storytellers.

Mats Rehnman  Mats is a moaste storyteller of Sweden, combining traditions of the North with the international storytelling of Stockholm. A compelling dramatic storyteller, Mats transports you into the world of his stories.

Stanley Robertson  Stanley was born in Aberdeenshire in 1940 into a Traveller family. His stories include every kind of folktale; supernatural and trickster tales, tales of faith and love, Jack stories and tales of Traveller life.

Jess Smith  Jess was born in Aberfeldy to a Scottish Traveller family. She is happy telling any kind of story, but her true gift lies though in the rich kist of Traveller stories and songs she has gathered since she was a child.

Ian Stephen  Ian was born in Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis. His storytelling is indebted to his connections with the maritime world, as timeless Hebridean sea stories meet with tales of the contemporary scene.

Sheila Stewart  Sheila is a traditional Traveller storyteller and ballad singer, and has a rich repertoire of folk tales, comic tales, Jack tales and tales of Traveller life, as well as a store of outstanding songs and ballads.

Jan Sutch Pickard  Jan tells a variety of stories including traditional tales of Mull and Iona where she lives. Her repertoire also includes stories collected during her travels in Africa and the Andes.

Lawrence Tulloch  Lawrence is a native of Yell, Shetland and came from a family steeped in folklore and stories. He has worked in America, Sweden and the Faroe Islands, where he was involved in the EU Sagalands project.

Suse Weiße  Suse was born in Wolfsburg, Germany and is a freelance theatre director and lecturer. Since 1996 she has worked as a storyteller and workshop facilitator with people of all ages.

Michael Williams  Michael is from Canada but has been based in Scotland for the last twenty years. His repertoire includes Native American tales, Canadian folktales, and stories and songs from Appalachia and the Wild West.

Liz Wilson  Liz is originally from Caithness, and has a love of the traditional stories of Orkney and Shetland, as well as the fairy tales of Scandinavia. Liz was Storyteller in Residence at the Storytelling Centre in 2007.
Partners

Alliance Française de Glasgow
3 Park Circus, Glasgow G3 6AX
Tel. 0141 332 2555
www.afglasgow.org.uk

Auchindrain Museum
By Inveraray, Argyll PA32 8XN
Tel. 01499 500 235
www.auchindrain-museum.org.uk

Craignish Village Hall
Ardfern PA31 8QN
Tel. 01852 500 689

Creich Community Hall
by Fionnphort, Isle of Mull PA66 6BL
Tel. 01681 700 316

Filmhouse
88 Lothian Road,
Edinburgh EH3 9BZ
Tel. 0131 228 2688
www.filmhousecinema.com

Goethe-Institut Glasgow
3 Park Circus, Glasgow G3 6AX
Tel. 0141 331 4080
www.goethe.de/glasgow

Moyra Jane’s
20 Kildrostan Street,
Glasgow G41 4LU
Tel. 0141 423 5628

National Library of Scotland
George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EW
Tel. 0131 623 4675
www.nls.uk

North Edinburgh Arts Centre
15a Pennywell Court, Edinburgh EH4 4TZ
Tel. 0131 315 2151
www.northedinburgharts.co.uk

Oban Library
Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AL
Tel. 01631 571 444

Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh
20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR
Tel. 0131 248 2968
www.rbge.org.uk

Scottish Book Trust
Sandeman House, Trunks Close,
55 High Street, Edinburgh
www.scottishbooktrust.com
New Media Scotland
Tel. 0131 477 3774
www.mediascot.org

Scottish Seabird Centre
The Harbour,
North Berwick EH39 4SS
Tel. 01620 890 202
www.seabird.org

Strachur Smiddy
The Clachan, Strachur,
Argyll PA27 8DG
Tel. 01369 860 647

The Lot
4-6 Grassmarket,
Edinburgh EH1 2JU
www.the-lot.co.uk
Traditional Music and Song Association
Edinburgh & Lothians Branch
Tel. 07951 918 366
www.eltmsa.org.uk