20th Scottish International STORYTELLING FESTIVAL 2009

Homelands
Authentic voices at the hearth of Scotland

23 October – 1 November

Box office: 0131 556 9579
www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk
Scottish Storytelling Centre
43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR
Welcome to the Scottish International Storytelling Festival

Authentic voices

In the Festival’s 20th year, leading storytellers from the USA, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and the Caribbean join together with the best of Scotland’s tellers for a 10-day celebration of live tales and living cultures.

Our Homelands theme explores stories and histories of belonging, identity, migration and exploration, connecting you with authentic moments and cultural voices in a genuine experience of Scottish culture.

With entertaining performances for adults, interactive events for families, and lively workshops at the Festival’s home in Edinburgh – plus a busy education and community outreach programme and a brand new regional Festival on Tour strand – the Storytelling Festival is about taking part and sharing ideas, as well as celebrating the joy of live stories, superbly told.

But the stories don’t exist without a listening audience, so come and gather at the hearth of Scotland for something unique and magical this autumn. Whether you come to one event or stay for the whole Festival, we hope you’ll find the experience warm, welcoming and inspiring.

The Festival Team

Supported through the Scottish Government’s Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund, the Scottish Arts Council, the City of Edinburgh Council and the Church of Scotland

We’d also like to thank our local and regional partners:
- Argyll & Bute Council
- Blether Tay-Gither
- The CatStrand
- City of Edinburgh Council
- City of Edinburgh Museums and Galleries
- Edinburgh World Heritage
- Filmhouse
- Forestry Commission Scotland
- Gladstone’s Land, The National Trust for Scotland
- Glasgow Culture & Sport
- Glasgow Storytellers
- Grampian Association of Storytellers
- Highland Homecoming
- National Museum of Scotland

New Zealand Society Scotland
- Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
- Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
- University of Edinburgh School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures
- Scottish Poetry Library
- Scottish Seabird Centre
- Stirling Council

The Scottish International Storytelling Festival is part of Festivals Edinburgh. Visit www.edinburghfestivals.co.uk for more information.
About the programme

Live storytelling is all about inventive one-off moments and memorable experiences that entertain, create a connection, make you laugh or inspire you to see things differently.

We’ve given each event in our programme a category to help you decide which to book. The main programme is for adults, and takes place at the Scottish Storytelling Centre in Edinburgh.

At the Scottish Storytelling Centre

Authentic Voices
Live evening storytelling performances in the Centre’s stunning theatre space. Authentic Voices events feature international guest artists representing their own cultures and traditions, alongside the best of Scotland’s storytellers.

Meet the Storyteller
A perfect introduction to storytelling and storytellers. Each weekday evening a guest storyteller – from Scotland or beyond – tells you a little about the culture and traditions of their homeland and how they came to be a storyteller, then shares some of their favourite tales. A relaxed, informal storytelling taster in the Centre’s Storytelling Bothy.

Voices from the Past
A storyteller unlocks the tale behind a personal story or a figure from history whose journey draws on the Festival themes. Part performance, part discussion, often with a chance to ask questions at the end of the event.

Talk & discussion
Hear from an expert, or an expert storyteller, about an aspect of storytelling tradition or an unusual angle on the Festival’s themes.

Family events
Live storytelling events or story and activity sessions, specially 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.

Club events
Two special storytelling club evenings take place in the nearby Waverley Bar. A great way to relax, join in, meet the storytellers and enjoy fine tales and ‘guid crack’.

Heather Yule 23/10
Local partner events
A range of family and adult events are programmed by the Scottish International Storytelling Festival together with local Festival partners, and interspersed through the programme to complement the main programme and themes.

Festival on Tour
Building on successful 2008 events in Argyll & Bute and Glasgow, this exciting new strand provides audiences across Scotland with the chance to experience first-class storytellers from around the globe. The rich and varied Festival on Tour programme is coordinated by local regional storytelling teams, with the support of the Storytelling Festival. Festival on Tour events take place this year in Aberdeenshire, Dumfries and Galloway, Argyll & Bute, Highlands, Glasgow, and Tayside, each featuring one of our guest storytellers from Australia, New Zealand, Jamaica, USA or Canada.

See back cover for a full list of partners.

Education and communities programme
Alongside the public Festival programme, the Storytelling Centre delivers a packed outreach programme to schools, libraries and community groups across Edinburgh and the Lothians. This year children and young people of all ages, including those with additional support needs, and their teachers, parents and carers will take part in tailor-made storytelling sessions with Scottish and visiting guest storytellers. Two interactive schools events, led by visiting storytellers Rangimoana Taylor and Sean Choolumbra, will also take place at the Scottish Storytelling Centre during the Festival.

Contact caroline@scottishstorytellingcentre.com or 0131 652 3272 for more information.

Connecting with Stories: training and development programme
The Festival is the perfect opportunity to develop your storytelling skills, or to explore a specific area of storytelling and share ideas, approaches and good practice. Come along to one of our Festival training and CPD events at the Scottish Storytelling Centre and fire your imagination! Advance booking essential.

Contact caroline@scottishstorytellingcentre.com or 0131 652 3272 for details of year-round training and CPD options.

How to book
You can buy tickets for all events at the Scottish Storytelling Centre and some events at partner venues through our box office at the Scottish Storytelling Centre and also at Hub Tickets. The Festival box office opens on Monday 14th September 2009.

Book by phone using a credit or debit card on +44 (0)131 556 9579 Scottish Storytelling Centre or +44 (0)131 473 2000 Hub Tickets

Book online at www.edinburghfestivals.co.uk or www.hubtickets.co.uk

Book in person using cash, cheque, credit or debit card at the Scottish Storytelling Centre (open 10am-6pm Monday-Saturday) or at Hub Tickets at The Hub, Castlehill (10am-5pm Monday-Friday).

Partner events
Where tickets can only be booked with the relevant partner venue, you'll be directed to the back cover for booking details.

Tickets for some events are limited, so please book in advance to avoid disappointment. We try our best to make sure event details listed here are correct, but it's always worth checking with our box office or the event venue.

Become a Network member of the Centre for just £12 per year.
Receive discounts on a range of training and networking events, and get regular events and news updates. For more information, visit the Get Involved section of our website www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk or call 0131 556 9579.
The Festival Pass

Planning to come to several events?

A Festival Pass means you
• Save money on Festival tickets
• Attend the Festival’s 20th anniversary invite-only reception

Plus a Pass gets you:
• 15% off your bill at the on-site Storytelling Café
• A Festival ID pass

Come along to:
• All 10 of the Festival’s Authentic Voices evening events
• Your choice of 4 of the daytime Talk & discussion or Voices from the Past events at the Scottish Storytelling Centre*

Booking your Pass

passes are available exclusively from the Scottish Storytelling Centre.

Book in advance by calling the Scottish Storytelling Centre on +44 (0)131 556 9579 with your debit or credit card details.

Full price £85 saving £39

Concession £59 saving £37 (over 60s, students, unemployed, registered disabled)

* Tickets are subject to availability

How to get here

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 assistance once you get here.

The Centre is a 4-star visitor attraction which incorporates a shop selling storytelling books and resources, a licensed Café serving delicious homemade treats and light meals, a family-friendly exhibition, and baby change facilities.

Scottish Storytelling Centre
43-45 High Street
Edinburgh EH1 1SR

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 Princes 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.
19 September - 7 November

**Tones of Voices**
Scottish Storytelling Centre

**Exhibition**
10am-6pm

$Free | All ages$

Tones of Voices presents a transition from the spoken word to a visual reimagining. The resulting images are a collaboration between emerging photographers from Stevenson College, Edinburgh and a broad selection of some of Scotland’s finest storytellers. The exhibition reflects the diverse geographic and cultural spectrum of storytellers practising throughout Scotland and examines connections between the land and the people, seen through the tradition of storytelling and retold as photographic response.

Friday 23 October

**Starting with Stories**
Scottish Storytelling Centre

**Training & development**
10am-1pm

£17.50 (£15 Network members)

Start to explore and develop your natural storytelling skills in this half-day beginners’ workshop. Led by Glasgow storyteller Wendy Woolfson, the session will cover tips for telling, imagining and remembering, and give you ideas and inspiration for finding stories and making them your own. Book early – limited availability!

**Cherokee Stories**
Scottish Seabird Centre

**Local partner event**
2pm & 3pm (30mins)

Free with admission Adult £7.95, Concession £5.95, Child (4-15) £4.50, under 4s go free | All ages

Join Cherokee storyteller Gayle Ross for traditional Native American tales of the power, fragility and beauty of the natural world and our relationship with it. See back cover for booking details.

**The Speaking House Speaks**
Museum of Edinburgh

**Local partner event**
6pm (60mins)

Free but ticketed | Adults and over 8s

Over its 500 years of history, the Museum of Edinburgh has been home to a king’s goldsmith, a quarrelsome brewer, a spirit dealer and a property tycoon. Join this special twilight tour and uncover some of their stories with Edinburgh storyteller Fiona Herbert. Repeated on Friday 30 October (see p.14).

Scotland-Australia Ceilidh
University of Dundee Chaplaincy Centre

**Festival on Tour**
7pm (2hrs 30mins)

£5/£3

A vibrant and energetic evening of story, song and dance with aboriginal Australian storyteller Sean Choolburra and members of local storytelling group Blether Tay-Gither. See back cover for booking details.

**A Hundred Thousand Welcomes**
Scottish Storytelling Centre

**Authentic Voices**
7.30pm (2hrs)

£10/£8

This year of Homecoming you are invited round the fire of welcome in a sharing of traditional story, song and music from the clarsach, with George MacPherson, Heather Yule and host David Campbell. In the spirit of the Celt, “Our door is the stranger’s home”.

06. Box office: 0131 556 9579 or 0131 473 2000
Festival Club: Phyllis Davison
The Waverley Bar, Edinburgh
Club event
9.30pm (90mins)
By donation on the door
(suggested £3)
The Festival carries on into the night with storyteller and singer Phyllis Davison. Come along to sit back and enjoy, or share tales and songs of your own.

Saturday 24 October

Deadly Doublespeak
University of Dundee Botanic Garden
Festival on Tour
10am-1pm
£8/£6
A fun, interactive workshop exploring language and meaning in the aboriginal Australian storytelling tradition. Join dynamic cultural ambassador Sean Choolburra to experience firsthand his use of language in story, then practice applying some of his techniques to your own stories, and share the fruits of your work with the group. See back cover for booking details.

Intermediate Skills: Crafting the Story
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Training & development
10.30am-12.30pm
£32 (£26 Network members)
Increase your awareness of shape and pattern in stories, and the ways in which these can be articulated. Develop your ability to get inside the story and make it your own, with Aberdeenshire storyteller Jackie Ross. Please note, this workshop is not suitable for beginners.

Come Listen to the Crofters
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Local partner event
2pm & 4pm (75mins)
£3/£2 | Adults and over 8s
Join storyteller and musician Bob Pegg and Gaelic singer Christina Stewart for an old-fashioned Highland ceilidh with story, music, riddles and songs inspired by crofters and their farming traditions. Presented by Forest Heritage Scotland (www.forestheritagescotland.com), a partnership project between Forestry Commission Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS).

Homelands: Story Feet
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Family event
2pm (90mins)
Free but ticketed | Age 6+
Join storytellers Wendy Woolfson and Jean Edmiston for a walk inside stories of journeys, travel and home. A fun, interactive storymaking event for everyone. Bring your imagination – and your feet!

The Trail of Tears
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Voices from the Past
4pm (60mins)
£6/£4
The Trail of Tears is the story of the forced removal of the Cherokee Nation from their ancestral homeland to what is now the state of Oklahoma. A direct descendant of Principal Chief John Ross, leader of the Cherokee at that time, Gayle Ross tells the history and stories of the Trail from a deeply personal perspective.

Meet the Storyteller: George MacPherson
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
A chance to meet Skye storyteller and tradition bearer Seoras (George) MacPherson and hear some of the tales he's collected over many years.
Homelands: Song of the Soul
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
Cherokee storyteller Gayle Ross and Cree storyteller and songwriter Joseph Naytowhow are keepers of rich Native American and First Nation traditions. Journey through the lands and voices of their ancestors in an evening of story, song, myth and legend hosted by Ottawa Indian storyteller Chuck Warren.

Intermediate Skills: Voicing & Animating the Story
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Training & development
10.30am-4.30pm
£32 (£26 Network members)
Voice is the key instrument in the music of storytelling, and effective body language can bring your story to life! Look at how to make good use of your voice and body and communicate your story well in this intensive and inspiring workshop with storyteller Ruth Kirkpatrick. Please note, this workshop is not suitable for beginners.

In-Didge: an Australian Journey
National Museum of Scotland
Local partner event
12.45pm, 1.45pm, 2.45pm (30mins)
Free but ticketed All ages (children must be accompanied)
What does ‘traditional’ mean to you? Come along and let Australia’s dynamic aboriginal ambassador Sean Choolburra immerse you in his native culture. Be drawn in by stories and objects and enlightened by music and dance in this energetic performance workshop. Places are limited. See back cover for booking details.

John Rae of Orkney
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Voices from the Past
2pm (1hr 10mins)
£6/£4
John Rae, Victorian Arctic explorer, was born in Orphir on the Orkney Mainland in 1813. He went to work for the Hudson’s Bay Company in Canada, where he befriended the native peoples, intuitively realising that their knowledge was the key to survival in this hostile place. But Rae’s revelation that members of the lost Franklin expedition could have turned to cannibalism led to a campaign of vilification, fronted by John Franklin’s widow and fuelled by pamphlets written by Charles Dickens. His story is told by Bob Pegg through Orcadian, Inuit and American Indian folktales, verse, song and music.

Weaving a Sampler
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Voices from the Past
4pm (60mins)
£6/£4
Donnie Henderson Shedlarz tells the magical tale of a series of events which were set in motion when she discovered a hand-embroidered sampler at a house auction 30 years ago. Donnie traced the story of the sampler’s maker, one Ephemia Kirkaldy, from victorian Appalachia to Scotland and back across the ocean to Ohio, in a trail of social history and personal discovery.

Hui and Haggis: Scotland-New Zealand Reception
Stirling Council Chambers
Festival on Tour
5pm (90mins)
Free, but places must be booked in advance by Monday 19 October through the Scottish Storytelling Centre
Provost Fergus Wood invites you to a civic reception to hear story, music and song from the other side of world, hosted by the city of Stirling for Maori storyteller Rangimoana Taylor and the New Zealand Society Scotland. 65% of New Zealanders claim Scottish ancestry, so Homecoming 2009 is an ideal time to celebrate the ancestral and cultural links between the two countries. www.nzscotland.org.uk

www.nzscotland.org.uk
Meet the Storyteller:
Michael Kerins
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
Experience first-hand the West Coast charm of Glaswegian storyteller Michael Kerins, and discover his approach to tale-telling in an informal story sharing session.

Smokey Mountain Men
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
Appalachian storyteller and singer Jerry Harmon’s ancestry is steeped in stories, especially the Jack tales which form part of his family heritage. Introduced by Scottish folksinger, songwriter and storyteller Ewan McVicar, Jerry shares his music and tales, to later be joined by Ewan in a vibrant Scottish-Appalachian ceilidh of story and music.

Homelands: The Frontier Scots
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Talk & discussion
1pm (50mins)
£6/£4
Scots were conspicuous on frontiers all over the world, but they made a particular impact in North America as the frontier pushed west. As farmers and cattlemen, miners and railway builders, law makers and law breakers, they became part of America’s – and Scotland’s – history and contributed to frontier legend. Jenni Calder draws on her recent book *The Frontier Scots* to tell their story.

Meet the Storyteller:
Michael Williams
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
Meet Canadian storyteller Michael Williams, who has made his home in Scotland. Hear how Michael become a teller in this informal storytelling event.

Monday 26 October

Stories to Live By: Storytelling and Emotional Literacy
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Training & development
10.30am-4.30pm
£32 (£26 Network members)
Emotional and behavioural issues in the 10-14 age range can be a pressure point and spill over into additional learning and support needs. Can story provide a language for emotional literacy and a way of addressing the big themes appropriately? Journey, transition and growing up are at the core of the world’s great stories. Share ideas and resources, and develop your own skills and approaches in this full day workshop led by Michael Williams, Ruth Kirkpatrick and Wendy Woolfson.

Tuesday 27 October

Two Homes, One Story
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Voices from the Past
1pm (50mins)
£6/£4
Using a framework of anecdotes, poems and songs from the past decade, Scottish storyteller and folksinger Phyllis Davison, who lives half her year in Canada, weaves stories of the environment and nature. Phyllis combines Native North American and Scottish voices to focus on what we have in common.

Canada, Coast to Coast
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
The ties between Scotland and Canada are strong in both blood and culture. Many Scots emigrated to start a new life there, either voluntarily or otherwise, and many First Nation peoples have Scottish ancestors. An evocative evening of story and song with Scottish-Canadian storyteller Norma Cameron and First Nation storyteller, singer and drummer Joseph Naytowhow, with host Tom Muir from Orkney, celebrating the fusion of tradition, culture and heritage that links Scotland and Canada today.
## Festival Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event title</th>
<th>Event type</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>19 September to 7 November</strong></td>
<td>All day Tones of Voices</td>
<td>Exhibition</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 23 October</strong></td>
<td>10.00am Starting with Stories</td>
<td>Training &amp; development</td>
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<td>2.00pm Cherokee Stories</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday 25 October</strong></td>
<td>10.30am Voicing &amp; Animating the Story</td>
<td>Training &amp; development</td>
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<td>12.45pm In-Didge: an Australian Journey</td>
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<td>08</td>
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<td>08</td>
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<td>09</td>
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<td>09</td>
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<th>Page</th>
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<td>Two Homes, One Story</td>
<td>Voices from the Past</td>
<td>09</td>
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<td>Norma Cameron</td>
<td>Meet the Storyteller</td>
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<td>Alan Bruford Lecture</td>
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<td>Festival on Tour</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Festival on Tour</td>
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<td>Leaving the Land</td>
<td>Authentic Voices</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>The Five Nations</td>
<td>Talk &amp; discussion</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Sean Choolburra</td>
<td>Meet the Storyteller</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>From the Highlands to the Smokies</td>
<td>Festival on Tour</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Maori Voices</td>
<td>Authentic Voices</td>
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<td>4.00pm</td>
<td>Caribbean Connection</td>
<td>Talk &amp; discussion</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Amina Blackwood Meeks</td>
<td>Meet the Storyteller</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Canada and Scotland</td>
<td>Festival on Tour</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>Authentic Voices</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 30 October</strong></td>
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<td>Highland Cowboys</td>
<td>Talk &amp; discussion</td>
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<td>Stories from this Land</td>
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<td>To This Day: Cherokee Stories</td>
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<td>Ti-Jean and his World of Stories</td>
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<td>Jerry Harmon</td>
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<td>Night of the Circle</td>
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<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Storytellers’ Networking Day</td>
<td>Training &amp; development</td>
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<td>1.00pm</td>
<td>The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil &amp; Hallaig</td>
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<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Talking Trees Storytelling</td>
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<td>2.30pm</td>
<td>All Saints Day: Global Connection</td>
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<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Joseph Naytowhow</td>
<td>Meet the Storyteller</td>
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<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Festival Salute</td>
<td>Authentic Voices</td>
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Meet the Storyteller:
Norma Cameron
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
Norma was born and brought up in Glasgow, but has now made Canada her home. Many of Norma’s stories are based on the tales her Granny Jamieson told, and this informal session is a chance to hear how Norma started retelling them herself.

Alan Bruford Lecture:
Landscape, Memory and the Diasporic Imagination
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Talk & discussion
6pm
Free but ticketed
Dr Jerry Hunter explores some of the ways in which immigrants and their descendants have used memories – both real and imagined – of the ‘Old Country’ as a way of interpreting the landscape of their ‘new’ American homes. The annual Alan Bruford Memorial Lecture is sponsored by the School of Scottish Studies Archives, Celtic and Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh.

The Spirit of Ananse
Oban Library
Festival on Tour
7pm (75mins)
Free but booking essential
Based in Kilancholly, St Mary, on Jamaica’s north coast, cultural icon and leading storyteller Amina Blackwood Meeks brings a flavour of her unique culture to our own ‘Little Bay’. Scotland has played an important part in Jamaican history, illustrated not least in its place names. Delve into a rich tapestry of folklore, language, people and politics in an evening of story and laughter. See back cover for booking details.

Jack Tales and Bluegrass
Carnegie Hall, Clashmore
Festival on Tour
7.30pm (90mins)
£6/£5 | Tickets on the door
Jerry Harmon’s great great grandfather Council Harmon emigrated to America in the early 1800s, taking the Jack Tales with him. These stories, combined with the musical influences of Irish, Scottish and English settlers, created a unique southern Appalachian Mountain heritage. Join Jerry Harmon, a true mountain man, for a unique opportunity to hear some of the finest stories and songs of the Scottish-Appalachian tradition. Part of Highland Homecoming. See back cover for booking details.

Leaving the Land:
Migration, Emigration and Clearance
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
Hosted by Margaret Bennett, storytellers Gayle Ross, Rangimoana Taylor and James MacDonald Reid bring the plight of their ancestors to life in a rich and evocative evening of stories and songs of the Cherokee, Maori and Highland Scottish traditions.

Wednesday 28 October

The Five Nations
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Talk & discussion
4pm (50mins)
£6/£4
Writer and journalist George Rosie talks about the extraordinary influence of the Scots among the Indian nations known then as the ‘five civilised tribes’ – the creek, the Choctaw, the Chickasaw, the Seminole and the Cherokee. George Rosie discusses characters and histories, from John Ross, the principle chief of the Cherokee to Billy Weatherford (Red Eagle), the Creek warchief who led the Creek in a disastrous war with the USA which cost them dear in blood, treasure and land.

Meet the Storyteller:
Sean Choolburra
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
Sean has made an international name as a storyteller, comedian and workshop leader, celebrating ancient aboriginal traditions of Australia. Hear more about his tale-telling in this informal storytelling session.

12. Box office: 0131 556 9579 or 0131 473 2000
From the Highlands to the Smokies: the Scots-Cherokee Connection
Rothesay Library
Festival on Tour
7pm (75mins)
Free but booking essential
Join Cherokee storyteller Gayle Ross for an evening of stories and histories of the Cherokee Nation and the first Scots-Cherokee families. See back cover for booking details.

An Australian Heart and a Scottish Soul
Ullapool Museum
Festival on Tour
7.30pm (80mins)
£4/£3 | Tickets on the door
Anne E Stewart comes to the Highlands to enchant with tales of the Scots in Australia, from the Ghost of St Kilda Beach, to Barak – the last of the Wurrundjeri people – and Annie Bon, feisty Scots woman, his great champion. Explore Australia’s people, places, flora and fauna and experience Anne’s unique take on Scottish folktales, myths and legends. Part of Highland Homecoming. See back cover for booking details.

Maori Voices
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
The stories and traditions of New Zealand’s Maori peoples are brought to life in Rangimoana Taylor’s powerful story and song performance, where moments of movement and silence often convey more than words could alone. Rangimoana is joined by storyteller, musician and dancer Marion Kenny in a dynamic sharing of tales and music.

Thursday 29 October

Caribbean Connection
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Talk & discussion
4pm (50mins)
6/£4
Hear how author and researcher Joan Anim-Addo started to explore her own family roots. Storytelling was a clue that opened up the role of women in post emancipation communities, and revealed hidden connections between Scotland and the Caribbean, slaves and storytellers.

Meet the Storyteller: Amina Blackwood Meeks
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
Amina grew up on stories and comes from a family of great storytellers. Hear some tales from Amina’s home country of Jamaica and learn more about her unique culture and heritage in this informal storytelling session.

Haunting Memory
The Writers’ Museum
Local partner event
6pm (60mins)
Free but ticketed | Adults and over 8s
Explore this fascinating historic building on a unique twilight tour and hear its very own homecoming stories. Hear tales of famous writers and listen as the memories of former residents are brought to life by Edinburgh storyteller Fiona Herbert.

Canada and Scotland
Caithness Horizons, Thurso
Festival on Tour
7pm (90mins)
£4/£3.50 | Tickets on the door
Joseph Naytowhow is a Cree singer, songwriter and storyteller from the Sturgeon Lake First Nation Band in Saskatchewan. Experience his own hybrid style of Cree/English storytelling, combined with traditional First Nations drumming and song, in this special evening event celebrating Scottish-Canadian culture and connections. Part of Highland Homecoming. See back cover for booking details.

Cherokee Tales
Universal Bar, Glasgow
Festival on Tour
7.30pm (90mins)
£5/£3 | Adults and over 12s children must be accompanied
A unique opportunity to hear stories and songs of the Native American culture from special guest storyteller Gayle Ross, hosted by Glasgow Storytellers. See back cover for booking details.
Storytelling Ceilidh
The CatStrand, New Galloway
Festival on Tour
7.30pm (2hrs)
Free but ticketed  All ages
Hosted by John Wheeler with special guest Rangimoana Taylor from Aotearoa (New Zealand). Rangimoana is a leader of the Maori theatrical renaissance whose wide experience in the performing arts guarantees a fabulous evening at The CatStrand. See back cover for booking details.

Caribbean Night
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
Prominent and gifted storyteller Amina Blackwood Meeks, and writer/poet Joan Anim-Addo take us to far-off lands, sharing stories and poems shaped and inspired by the Caribbean. Traditional stories share the stage with those based on personal experience, each one spoken from the heart. Hosted by Mara Menzies.

Friday 30 October

Highland Cowboys
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Talk & discussion
1pm (50mins)
£6/£4
Twenty years of Texas cattle drives have become timelessly iconic. Yet 2,000 years of Scottish droving was not only the basis for UK cattle commerce, but formed the American West’s cattle industry. Rob Gibson draws on his new book Highland Cowboys to tell a compelling tale of the links between the two cattle cultures of Scotland and America.

Tell-a-Story Day
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Family event
2pm (90mins)
Free but ticketed  Age 6+
Join storyteller Claire Hewitt and travel far from our Scottish home, over the oceans to New Zealand, Canada and back again. Meet the peoples and animals of these lands, and hear traditional stories and songs about creation, journeying and homecoming, then create your own tale and add it to our Festival storytree!

Tell-a-Story Day: Australian Tales
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Local partner event
2pm & 3pm (45mins)
Adults and over 5s Free. No booking required; first come, first served
Join visiting storyteller Anne E Stewart for magical tales all the way from Australia.

Meet the Storyteller: Anne E Stewart
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
Anne has been telling stories to audiences young and old for over 25 years. Hear some tales from her exciting travels and learn more about the storytelling traditions of her native Australia in this informal event.

The Speaking House Speaks
Museum of Edinburgh
Local partner event
6pm (60mins)
Free but ticketed  Adults and over 8s
Over its 500 years of history, the Museum of Edinburgh has been home to a king’s goldsmith, a quarrelsome brewer, a spirit dealer and a property tycoon. Join this special twilight tour and uncover some of their stories with Edinburgh storyteller Fiona Herbert.

Hallowe’en First Friday Fling
Archaeolink Prehistory Park
Festival on Tour
7.30pm (2hrs)
£5  Adults and over 12s
A night to experience Hallowe’en stories from across the seas and share some of your own. Featuring special guest Norma Cameron from Canada, alongside storytellers from the Grampian Association of Storytellers. See back cover for booking details.

Australia and Scotland
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
Sean Choolburra, Anne E Stewart and Jess Smith celebrate their love and respect for the land in an evening of fantastically haunting stories, songs, dance, music and spleen-splitting comedy.
Festival Club: James Spence
The Waverley Bar, Edinburgh
Club event
9.30pm (90mins)
By donation on the door (suggested £3)
Come one, come all to Edinburgh’s famous Festival storytelling club, hosted by Scottish Borders storyteller James Spence. Share a story, a song, a rhyme or a riddle, or just sit back and enjoy the festive atmosphere.

Saturday 31 October

Stories from this Land
Gladstone’s Land, Edinburgh
Local partner event
11am (60mins)
Free but ticketed
Adults and over 8s
“All over the world, in Canada, in Australia, fancy what a multitude of people could exclaim with truth: The house that I was born in fell last night!” RL Stevenson. Join storyteller Fiona Herbert for a rare glimpse of 17th century Edinburgh, with stories of home and homecoming from the tenements, closes and wynds of the Old Town. Caution: steep stairs! Not suitable for people with mobility problems.

To This Day: Cherokee Stories
St Mungo’s Museum of Religious Life and Art, Glasgow
Festival on Tour
11.30am (60mins)
Adults and over 6s free. No booking required; first come, first served. Traditional stories illuminated and enlightened Cherokee people about the world they saw around them and their place in it. Join Cherokee storyteller Gayle Ross on a journey through the ancient world of Cherokee folklore. See back cover for booking details.

A Poem in My Pocket
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Local partner event
2pm (90mins)
£3/£2
Sometimes a poem helps tell our stories for us. Robyn Marsack, the Scottish Poetry Library’s Director, and Ryan Van Winkle, Reader in Residence for the Scottish Poetry Library and Edinburgh City Libraries, talk in this informal session about their journeys to Scotland, their journeys as readers, and the poems they’ve carried with them from New Zealand and the USA respectively.

Ti-Jean and a World of Stories
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Family event
2pm (90mins)
Free but ticketed
Age 6+
Québécois storytellers Mélanie Cloutier and Isabelle Chartrand-Delorme take you on a round-the-world journey with the famous and witty explorer Ti-Jean. Meet some colourful characters along the way and help Ti-Jean to uncover the mysteries of their homelands, then make a corn story-doll to take home with you! A fun session of stories, song and craft for all the family.

A Wild Adventure: on the Trail of Watling the Forger
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Voices from the Past
4pm (50mins)
£6/£4
Join poet and storyteller Tom Pow to hear Thomas Watling’s story, from Dumfries to Botany Bay, and hear some of the poems he has written about the famous forger. Tom will also show some of Watling’s paintings and discuss why Watling’s homecoming was such a muted occasion.

Meet the Storyteller: Jerry Harmon
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
Jerry hails from North Carolina in the southern Appalachian Mountains and grew up on a diet of Jack stories and bluegrass. Discover what inspires Jerry as a storyteller and musician in this informal story and music session.

Night of the Circle: Stories from the Otherworld
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
31st of October is the night the Devil is loose! Keep within the circle to be safe from evil on Halloween. Join Linda Williamson, hostess of Samhuinn, the Celtic New Year, for a journey around four points of the compass with Rangimoana Taylor, Joseph Naytowhow, Anne E Stewart, Amina Blackwood Meeks, Grace Banks and John Slavin.
Sunday 1
November

Storytellers’ Networking Day: Tradition and Change
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Training & development
11am-5pm
£18 (inc. lunch & refreshments)
The Scottish Storytelling Forum and Network invite you to an informal day of stories, discussion and exchange. What are the key themes and opportunities of national and international development, and how do we nurture contemporary approaches while honouring and sustaining the traditions from which they came? This event is open to Network members only.

The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil & Hallaig
Filmhouse
Local partner event
1pm (2hrs 30mins inc. discussion) £4.90/£3.30 | Adults and over 11s
First broadcast in 1974, the controversial and hard-hitting film The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil tells the tragic and very real story of the Highland Clearances, and pursues a principal theme of land ownership, through North Sea oil exploitation right up to the mid-70s. This intimate and personal adaptation of John McGrath’s play casts a contemporary light on the experiences of the Highland people. Hallaig is an exploration and visual interpretation of Sorley MacLean’s poem, with a soundscape by the late Martyn Bennett. The film depicts the tragic loss and memories of a Highland community on the Island of Raasay – haunting and highly evocative.

The screening will be followed by a discussion surrounding past and present questions of land ownership, featuring folklorist and singer Margaret Bennett; Neil Kempsell, director of Hallaig; and Andy Wightman, leading expert on Scottish land ownership issues.

See back cover for booking details.

Talking Trees
Storytelling: Native American Tales
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Local partner event
2pm (60mins)
No booking required; first come, first served | Adults and over 5s
Hear wonderful Native American stories, brought back from the United States by the Botanics’ Talking Trees Storytellers.

All Saints’ Day: Global Connection
St Andrew’s and St George’s Church, Edinburgh
Local partner event
2.30pm (90mins)
Admission by donation | Adults and over 7s
An All Saints’ Day celebration with stories, songs and music. Explore the pioneers who opened up two-way creative channels between faiths and cultures around the world. This family event hosted by city centre churches looks forward

to Edinburgh 2010. With Linda Bandelier, Donald Smith, Douglas Galbraith and Robin Hill.

Meet the Storyteller: Joseph Naytowhow
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Meet the Storyteller
6pm (40mins)
Free
Joseph Naytowhow is a Plains/ Woodland Cree singer, songwriter and storyteller from the Sturgeon Lake First Nation Band in Saskatchewan, and the eldest of twelve brothers and sisters. Discover a little of his unique heritage and ancestry in this intimate and informal session.

Festival Salute
Scottish Storytelling Centre
Authentic Voices
7.30pm (2hrs)
£10/£8
It’s a last night to remember! Join hands and voices around the fiery glowing hearth of stories. Scottish storytellers Donald Smith and Paraig MacNeil host our special guest storytellers from around the globe in a final salute to the power of story. Send out the voices of life and peace and let them be heard.
Everyone has a story to tell.

Bring your community together on Tell-a-Story Day and run a DIY event as part of the 20th Scottish International Storytelling Festival!

Register your event by **Friday 25th September 2009** at www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk
About the storytellers

Thank you to the Scottish Government’s Edinburgh Festivals EXPO Fund, this year the Festival has been able to invite guest artists from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the USA and the Caribbean, as well as further afield in Scotland. 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.

Amina Blackwood Meeks Amina is a Jamaican-born Caribbean national, and ‘one of the most dynamic and charismatic proponents of storytelling; a special and rare talent’. Amina has dedicated her life’s work to restoring the artform of traditional Caribbean storytelling.

Anne E Stewart For more than 20 years, Anne has been on a quest to discover the stories of Australia, working with indigenous storytellers to build her bank of tales about convicts, pastoralists, gold and immigration.

Bob Pegg Based in the Highlands, Bob takes a special interest in Northern lore. Brought up on the Brothers Grimm, he has been inspired by the great Scottish Traveller storytellers. His tales combine music and song from a plethora of instruments.

Christina Stewart Christina is an experienced Highland-based performer and teacher of traditional song. She encourages all ages to celebrate their own tradition of song, bringing it back to the fireside.

Chuck Warren Chuck is a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Through his storytelling he seeks to convey an idea of the culture and lifestyle of his people.

Claire Hewitt Perthshire-based storyteller Claire Hewitt has always looked to travelling and tribal peoples for inspiration, and it is their tales, myths and legends she tells, interwoven with song and music from her Celtic harp.

David Campbell David Campbell has travelled far and wide as a flamboyant and vivid ambassador of traditional Scottish tales and lore, stretching from the far-back days of wondrous Celtic women and men to quirky tales of today.

Donald Smith Donald Smith is founding Director of the Scottish Storytelling Centre. He draws most on his native Irish and Scottish traditions, including folktales, the Celtic Saints, and the stories of Arthur. He also sings and laughs.

Donnie Henderson Shedlarz Donnie was born in Indiana and tells stories from two diverse regions of the United States; the Midwest and Appalachia. Her repertoire includes plant and folklore, contemporary anecdotes, myths and legends and Christian and Jewish stories.

Dr Jerry Hunter Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, Dr Jerry Hunter is a Reader in Bangor University’s School of Welsh. He is widely published on various aspects of Welsh-language literature and culture, including those of the Welsh diaspora in the United States.

Ewan McVicar Ewan was born in Inverness and has lived in East Africa and the USA, but stayed half his life in Glasgow, where he co-founded the first Scottish folk club. His storytelling integrates song with a host of small musical instruments and noise makers.

Fiona Herbert Fiona’s work as a tour guide in Edinburgh has provided her with a wealth of tales about the city, its history and its characters. She has travelled throughout Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

Gayle Ross Gayle is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation and a direct descendant of John Ross, Principal Chief of the Cherokee during the infamous Trail of Tears. She is one of the best-loved and most respected storytellers in North America.

George Rosie George Rosie is an Edinburgh-based reporter, writer and broadcaster. He has contributed to the Guardian, New Statesman, the Scotsman and the Herald, and his book Curious Scotland unearths and illuminates neglected aspects of Scottish history.

Grace Banks Originally from Glasgow, Grace has lived in Aberdeen for the past 18 years. She tells traditional tales as well as stories from different cultures, often interspersing her stories with traditional or home-spun songs.

Heather Yule Enriched and inspired by her childhood friendship with great Scottish travellers, storytellers, musicians and singers, Heather adds the lyrical charm of her Clarsach playing (Scottish harp) to her rich repertoire of tales.

Isabelle Chartrand-Delorme Isabelle Chartrand-Delorme was born in Montréal, Québec. She has developed a passion for Québec’s French literature and legends, and loves to share a good story with children of all ages.

Jackie Ross Jackie is committed to encouraging everyone to tell their tale. She has run storytelling clubs and workshops for young people, university students, teachers and anyone who wants to build storytelling skills.

James MacDonald Reid James learned the basis of his folklore from his Gaelic-speaking great-aunt Kate MacDonald (born 1883) and she from her grandmother Sarah MacCallum (born 1824 in the drovers’ inn of Barramolloch, Argyll) and she from time immemorial.

James Spence James has been telling stories since 2002, inheriting the twinkle when his father became forgetful. James’ tales are drawn from a repertoire of daft and traditional stories. He recently wrote the Scots translation for Jekyll and Hyde, the graphic novel.
Jean Edmiston  Originally from Aberdeen, Jean has worked for 20 years as a professional storyteller. This has taken her to schools, museums, libraries, universities, community centres, cathedrals, forests and many other exciting destinations.

Jenni Calder  Jenni’s work on the Scottish diaspora began when she was with the National Museum of Scotland. She has published three books on Scots in North America: Scots in Canada (2003), Scots in the USA (2006) and Frontier Scots (2009).

Jerry Harmon  Jerry was born and still lives in the southern Appalachian Mountains, where his ancestors settled. A talented storyteller, singer and musician, he tours the world to share the Jack stories passed down as part of his family’s heritage.

Jess Smith  From a Scottish Traveller family, Jess was privileged as a child to sit round camp fires and be enthralled by ancient stories and song. She now travels the UK, keeping Scotland’s great Traveller traditions alive.

Joan Anim-Addo  Storyteller and researcher Joan Anim-Addo was born in Grenada and is currently Head of the Caribbean Centre at Goldsmiths, London, Chair of the Caribbean Women Writers’ Alliance, and founder-editor of Mango Season, the journal on Caribbean Women’s writing.

John Slavin  Born in Stirlingshire, John studied at Edinburgh College of Art, then became a street musician in France. He learned many songs on the road and is a long term student of the fiddle, flute, whistle and banjo.

John Wheeler  John is a singer, storyteller, gardener, philosopher, street performer, star-gazer, nature lover, fool, scruff, Londoner. Having escaped the City, he discovered Galloway en route to Ireland and stayed 30 years when the van broke down.

Joseph Naytowhow  Joseph is a singer, songwriter and storyteller from the Sturgeon Lake First Nation Band in Saskatchewan. He is known for his own unique blend of Cree-English storytelling, drumming, dance and song.

Linda Williamson  Linda tells traditional Scottish Traveller tales, along with stories and songs gathered from other cultures. Her stories come from a long involvement in Traveller culture, since she first travelled from America to research the Scottish Traveller ballads.

Mara Menzies  Having grown up in Kenya, Mara heard many stories, sitting at the foot of an elder or a traveller. In Scotland she started telling them herself, and is passionate about sharing the wonders of Africa through storytelling.

Margaret Bennett  A singer, storyteller and researcher, Margaret was raised by a family of Scottish tradition bearers. She worked as a folklorist in Canada and later at the University of Edinburgh, recording oral histories of Scots at home and abroad.

Marion Kenny  Having spent the past 26 years as a performer, teacher and researcher of creative arts, Marion draws on her experience as a musician, circus performer, dancer and actress to complement her storytelling.

Mélanie Cloutier  Born in Montréal, Mélanie discovered the world of traditional music and storytelling through her work as a museum guide, and has since enriched her repertoire through travels around Scotland, Ireland, Britain and Québec.

Michael Kerins  Brought up in Glasgow, Michael tells ‘tall’ or fantastic stories, blending folktales and contemporary life. A self-confessed ‘wacky’ storyteller, his style breathes the humour, cheek and survivor instinct of folktales through the centuries.

Michael Williams  Born in Canada and now living in Scotland, Michael’s repertoire includes Native American tales, Canadian folktales, and stories and songs from Appalachia. He particularly enjoys sharing stories of peace and non-conflict from a variety of cultures.

Norma Cameron  Norma, a writer and storyteller, draws on her childhood experiences growing up outside Glasgow to weave Scottish traditional stories with charming family tales. Now living in Canada, Norma’s favourite stories are based on her real-life Granny Jamieson.

Paraig MacNeill  Paraig is a Highland tradition bearer who tells stories in English and Gaelic, and has been honing his commitment to his vocation as a traditional storyteller for over 20 years.

Phyllis Davison  From folksinging in the 1960s to her present work, Phyllis has become a Scottish-Canadian connection travelling between two homelands. Listeners take a journey of tradition, through characters from history, anecdotes of the day and thoughts for tomorrow.

Rangimoana Taylor  Rangimoana, an internationally acclaimed storyteller, actor and theatre director, draws on his Maori heritage to create a unique performance style. Maori legends give him a deeper understanding of himself, whilst opening the mind and spirit to other cultures.

Rob Gibson  Rob Gibson has long campaigned for Scottish land reform and has written on droving and land use history. He is SNP MSP for Highlands and Islands.

Robyn Marsack  Robyn is a writer and critic, and is the Director of the Scottish Poetry Library. She was born and brought up in New Zealand and has now made her home in Scotland.

Ruth Kirkpatrick  Ruth firmly believes in the power of storytelling as a human art, bringing the heart back into relationships and communities. She hails from the North East of Scotland and at times uses her ‘mither tongue’ Doric.

Ryan Van Winkle  Ryan Van Winkle’s Reader in Residence at the Scottish Poetry Library and Edinburgh City Libraries. He lives in Edinburgh but was born and has spent most of his life in America.

Sean Choolburra  Sean is one of Australia’s most captivating Indigenous storytellers. He has a vibrant, dynamic performance style, fusing storytelling, dance, and music with historical facts, spiritual wisdom and a rich depth of ancestral understanding and knowledge.

Tom Muir  Tom is an Orkney born storyteller, and tells folktales from his island home. His book of Orkney folktales The Mermaid Bride, is still in print after 11 years, and has been translated into Japanese and Icelandic.

Tom Pow  Tom’s writing often reflects tension between home and elsewhere; for example, his work on Watling, and on the Arctic explorer John Rae. In The Becoming: Selected and New Poems was published by Polygon in June 2009.

Wendy Woolfson  Wendy’s repertoire ranges from Scottish traditional stories to folktales from many other countries and cultures, including the rich folklore of her Jewish background. Her style is intimate and engaging with the aim of placing the listener right in the moment.
Venue details

Archaeolink Prehistory Park
Oyne, Insch, Aberdeenshire AB52 6QP
gas_story@hotmail.com
www.grampianstorytellers.org.uk

Caithness Horizons
Old Town Hall, Thurso, Caithness KW14 8AJ
joanmichael@lochbroom.freeserve.co.uk
www.highlandeventsandfestivals.com

Carnegie Hall
Clashmore, Dornoch, Sutherland IV25 3RG
joanmichael@lochbroom.freeserve.co.uk
www.highlandeventsandfestivals.com

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

Gladstone’s Land,
the National Trust for Scotland
472b Lawnmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2NT
0131 556 9579
www.evht.org.uk; www.nts.org.uk

Museum of Edinburgh
142 Canongate, Edinburgh EH8 8DD
0131 556 9579
www.evht.org.uk; www.edinburgh.gov.uk

National Museum of Scotland
Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF
0131 225 7534
www.nms.ac.uk

Oban Library
Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AL
01631 571 444
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk; www.argyll-arts.co.uk

Rothesay Library
Stuart Street, Rothesay, Isle of Bute PA20 0BX
01700 503 266
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk; www.argyll-arts.co.uk

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
John Hope Gateway, West Gate, Arboretum Place, Edinburgh EH3 5LR
0131 556 9579
www.rbge.org.uk

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

Scottish Storytelling Centre
43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR
0131 556 9579
www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

St Mungo’s Museum of Life and Art
2 Castle Street, Glasgow G4 OHR
0141 276 1625
www.glasgowstorytellers.org.uk; www.glasgowmuseums.com

Stirling Council Chambers
Old Viewforth, Stirling FK8 2ET
0131 556 9579
www.nzsscotland.org.uk

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. Registered charity SCO 11353.