



SCOTTISH  
INTERNATIONAL  
STORYTELLING  
FESTIVAL 2020

# In The Flow

17-31 OCTOBER

TICKETS 0131 556 9579

SISF.ORG.UK

# WELCOME

Stories and songs are  
vital for human survival...

they carry our emotions, memories and values, they bind us together as families, communities and nations, especially through tough times. The Scottish International Storytelling Festival continues to channel that flow this year.

Our festival plans, and our ability to deliver them, took a severe knock in March this year. We have held our nerve, adjusted our world view, talked with incredible storytellers and worked through some difficult times to present a festival programme, which we hope will do justice to the spirit and inspiration of our usual festival activity.

This year we welcome our international performers online in the same ceilidh tradition as always, alongside some of the best Scottish storytellers. Our festival commissions in the Year of Coasts and Waters 2020 explore Scotland as a nation shaped by the sea through the Voyage series, whilst our Open Hearth and Guid Crack sessions offer participation in unique storytelling ceilidhs. Our popular Community & Family Programme offers opportunities for families, schools and community groups to engage with the wonder of storytelling and the Global Lab workshops offer a platform for development and discussion. As ever, we round up the festival with the Feast of Samhuinn, in accordance with Celtic tradition.

Human connections will continue to exist through stories, regardless of where we are in the world. Please come with us on this journey.

## The Festival Team

The Scottish International Storytelling Festival is organised by **TRACS** (Traditional Arts & Culture Scotland), which brings together the **Traditional Music Forum**, **Scottish Storytelling Forum** and **Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland**, from its base at the **Scottish Storytelling Centre**. TRACS showcases Scotland's traditional arts in a contemporary world, making them more accessible to all.

Supported through **Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund**, the **PLACE Programme** supported by the Scottish Government and City of Edinburgh Council, **Creative Scotland**, **City of Edinburgh Council**, **Festivals Edinburgh**, **Year of Coasts and Waters 2020**, **Caledonian MacBrayne** and **Colmille 1500**.



Supported through the  
Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



Edinburgh  
Festival  
City.com



Geeta Ramanujam  
Photo by Kathalaya



Donna Washington  
Photo by Jonathan Van Ark



David Francis  
Photo by Allan McMillan

**TRACS** TRADITIONAL  
ARTS & CULTURE  
SCOTLAND





# ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The festival programme is a blended approach of online opportunities and in-person live events. Our event categories ensure your storytelling experience is exactly what you are looking for, be it in the comfort of your own home, in outdoor locations or in one of the festival venues. All our live plans are subject to Scottish Government guidance in the autumn period.

## HOW TO BOOK

Tickets for events at the Scottish Storytelling Centre (including online events: Voyage, Open Hearth, Guid Crack and Global Lab), and St Columba's by the Castle can be booked by phone, online or in person through the Centre's Box Office.

**+44 (0) 131 556 9579**  
**[sisf.org.uk](https://sisf.org.uk)**

Other partner venues and regional events have their own booking outlets, as listed.

### ACCESS INFO...

A full **Access Statement** is available on our website or on request. A full list of live captioned events will be available at [sisf.org.uk](https://sisf.org.uk).

## EVENT TYPES

### Online | Pre-recorded

Traditional storytelling performances filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre or on site-specific locations in Scotland.

### Online | Live Broadcast

Traditional storytelling sessions broadcast live online.

### Online | Open-mic

Traditional storytelling sessions broadcast live online, with open floor contributions.

### Online | Live Webinar

Online workshops and presentations broadcast live from the Scottish Storytelling Centre, with audience participation.

### In-person | Indoor

Small-scale live storytelling events in festival venues.

### In-person | Indoor Open-mic

Small-scale live storytelling events in festival venues, with open floor contributions.

### In-person | Outdoor

Small-scale live storytelling events in outdoor locations.

*All in-person events will be subject to Scottish Government health and safety guidelines in October.*

## HOW TO GET HERE



The Scottish Storytelling Centre's award-winning building is the hub of the Festival, located halfway down Edinburgh's Royal Mile, within easy walking distance of Princes Street and Waverley train station. There is no parking directly outside the Centre, but the Lothian bus number 35 stops outside with a taxi rank close by. Opening hours subject to Scottish Government guidelines.

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



# FESTIVAL EXHIBITION

SAT 17 OCT – SAT 7 NOV

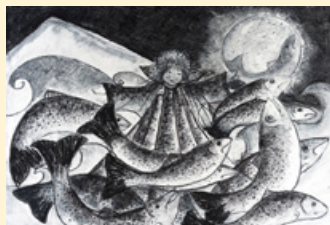
## The Gruagach Solais

by *Claire Hewitt*

Scottish Storytelling Centre

Mon - Sun: 10am - 6pm | Free

Highland Perthshire is a land rich in story and ancient lore deeply connected to its natural environment. The lifeblood that flows through this land are the waters that create the River Tay, without which the trees, birds, wild beings of earth, water and air would not survive. Claire Hewitt's images are a response to the abundant natural and mythological landscape around her. From magical salmon to wild faerie cattle women, each image holds, like water, a memory of the most ancient of stories and the spirit of the place. The Gruagach Solais was a wise spirit of the blacksmith's fire, a spark of inspiration and wisdom taken from a Gaelic poem in Highland Perthshire.



# COMMUNITY & FAMILY PROGRAMME

The **SISF Community & Family Programme** is taking place **Mon 12 Oct – Mon 30 Nov** pairing local storytellers with schools and community groups in digital and small-scale live settings – keeping things safe and slow with a varied and enjoyable programme for all.

Community groups and schools can take part in **The Big Scottish Story Ripple** by holding a storytelling event led by a storyteller from the SSF storytelling Directory. Groups can **apply for a subsidy** that will cover the cost of their storyteller's fees. In return, successful applicants must offer a good deed back to their local community on or before St Andrew's Day.

For more information contact  
[storytelling@tracscotland.org](mailto:storytelling@tracscotland.org)



Michael Kerins

# GET CREATIVE

**SAT 17 – FRI 30 OCT**

## SISF Art Challenge: Waterlines

Love drawing? Join the first SISF online art challenge and engage with the festival community, with the chance to win a book of Scottish folktales. Mythical prompts will be released to inspire your imagination, taking you on an adventurous sea voyage.

Check our Instagram **@ScotStoryFest** for updates and follow the hashtags **#SISFArtChallenge** **#SISFWaterlines**.



**MON 19 & SAT 31 OCT**

## Scotland's Greatest Ghost Stories

What is your favourite ghost story attached to your community?

As part of SISF 2020, we're casting a net across the nation to catch ghost stories haunting each local area and to celebrate these tales with an online discussion, a workshop and a ghost story event on the last day of the festival... Saturday 31 October, Halloween!

Do you know of a White Lady spectre that haunts a derelict castle, a local railway line haunted by a ghost train or a tales of local witches and warlocks? Then take part!



## How to get involved:

- Research ghosts stories linked to your local area
- **Mon 19 Oct:** take part in an online social media discussion **#SISFsaysBoo**
- **Mon 19 Oct, 6.30pm (1hr):** attend a 'How to Tell a Good Ghost Story' workshop
- **Sat 31 Oct, 4pm (2hrs):** share and listen to all the ghostly tales during an online event on Halloween

For more information contact **storytelling@tracscotland.org**

**Tickets available via the Box Office**

# VOYAGE: A NATION SHAPED BY THE SEA



Andy Cannon  
*Photo by Brian Hartley*

Over centuries, real and imaginary voyages have connected Scotland to other coastal countries, near and far. Some of the story treasures that arrived and departed with them are now presented in this special series of traditional storytelling events, celebrating Scotland as a nation shaped by the sea. Specially developed for SISF 2020 by Scottish-based storytellers and musicians, the performances are presented as live from the Netherbow Theatre, at the Scottish Storytelling Centre or on location where the stories are set. Experience some of Scotland's best storytellers and musicians in the flow as they shape these incredible tales.

## SAT 17 OCT

### Tales of a Grandson: The Maid of Norway

by **Andy Cannon**

Online | Pre-recorded

6.30pm

By donation (ticketed)

Once upon a time - or 724 years, 5 months and 1 day ago, to be precise - Andy the messenger sets off from Edinburgh Castle bound for Norway on a royal errand to collect and escort the new Queen of Scotland back to her new home in her new land. Join Andy on his journey across the sea as he rehearses how best to tell little Princess Margaret of Norway the tragic events that have led to her becoming the first ruling Queen of Scots. **Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre. Suitable for all the family.**

## SUN 18 OCT

### The Stone Stories

by **Mandy Haggith**

Online | Pre-recorded

6.30pm

By donation (ticketed)

Author Mandy Haggith presents her trilogy of novels set in the Iron Age, inspired by the true story of Pytheas of Massalia, who made an incredible journey in 320 BC from the Mediterranean and back again via Britain, the Arctic and the Baltic Sea. Explore who he would have met along the coastline of what is now northern Scotland and how the Celtic culture he encountered would have differed from that of the Greek Empire he came from and returned to. Carefully researched, the novels were written mostly while sailing the routes that Pytheas travelled and address issues that are deeply relevant today, including greed, slavery and sexual power. Come and enjoy a glimpse behind the scenes with a prize-winning historical novelist. **Filmed on location in Clachtoll.**



Mandy Haggith  
photo by Bill Ritchie

## MON 19 OCT

### Strathspey Stories

by **David Francis & Hamish Napier**

Online | Pre-recorded

8pm

By donation (ticketed)

'The Haughs of Cromdale', 'Tullochgorum', The White Horse of Spey, the Muime and the Old Man of Dunshee, 'The Spey in Spate' - Hamish Napier and David Francis explore coasts and waters with stories and music from Strathspey, plus an atmospheric telling of Stanley Robertson's 'Jack and the Dancing Trees'. **Filmed on location in Strathspey and at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.**



**TUE 20 OCT**

## The Voyage of St Brendan

by **Marion Kenny & John Kenny**

Online | Pre-recorded

8pm  
By donation (ticketed)

Join sibling duo Marion and John Kenny as they explore the legendary voyage of St Brendan and his monks into the unknown. Volcanoes, icebergs, sea monsters, strange beings, courage and spirituality all play a part in this ancient adventure story of St. Brendan. Known as 'The Navigator' he is widely believed to have sailed from Ireland to America hundreds of years before the Vikings and thousands of years before Columbus. Words and music will be woven together in a magical blend, featuring harps and the ancient Celtic Iron Age horns of the Deskford Carnyx from Scotland and the Loughnashade horn from Ireland. **Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.**

**WED 21 OCT**

## Orphan James and the Prince of Denmark

by **Alice Fernbank & Svend-Erik Engh**

Online | Pre-recorded

6.30pm  
By donation (ticketed)

As The King's Men perform Shakespeare's *Hamlet* at the court of James VI/I and

Queen Anne of Denmark, bittersweet memories are unearthed for the royal couple. They recall a perilous voyage across the waters between Scotland and Denmark. The play stirs up a well of grief, opening the deepest of heart wounds in the king himself. Join English storyteller Alice Fernbank and Danish storyteller Svend-Erik Engh as they tell a tale they have conjured from the growing evidence of parallels between the story of Hamlet and the life of James VI/I. **Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.**

**THU 22 OCT**

## Nanny of the Maroons

by **Mara Menzies & Apphia Campbell**

Online | Pre-recorded

8pm  
By donation (ticketed)

As the ships carried provisions from the ice-cold waters of Scotland to the coastline of Africa, a woman, packaged as human cargo, was led on to a vessel. She crossed oceans heading to the land of sugar and opportunity. Chained and imprisoned, her fury built with the pounding of the waves and upon her arrival, she slipped away like water in the sand. Filled with the force of the rivers, tides, storms and the power to deflect bullets, she returned to vent her rage and fulfil her destiny. Her name was Nanny, Queen of the Maroons. Story and songs by Mara Menzies and Apphia Campbell. **Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.**



Mara Menzies

**FRI 23 OCT**

## Tour to the Hebrides

by **Andy Cannon, Christopher Craig & Donald Smith**

Online | Pre-recorded

6.30pm  
By donation (ticketed)

All aboard with Sam and Bozzie - alias storytellers Andy Cannon and Christopher Craig - for Boswell and Johnson's infamous trip across Scotland to Iona. It's English bulldog versus Scots terrier, and they are both writing their version. And why won't someone set up a reliable system of ferries? The intrepid duo hit all the highs and plumb the lows of travelling in the same boat. Devised by Donald Smith. **Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre and on location in the Hebrides.**



**SAT 24 OCT**

## Scots in the Antarctic: A Tale with Penguins, Pipers and a Dog named Russ

by *Nicola Wright*

Online | Pre-recorded

6.30pm

By donation (ticketed)

Join storyteller Nicola Wright on a journey to the end of the earth to hear of the hugely successful, but now almost forgotten, Scottish National Antarctic Expedition 1902-1904. In this entertaining family-friendly performance you will meet William Speirs Bruce, a polar hero you may never have heard of. You will learn about what explorers ate, how they lived and what they wore. Are you ready to discover the story of the Saltire at the South Pole? [Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre](#). Suitable for all the family.



John Kenny  
Photo by Hugh Beauchamp

**SUN 25 OCT**

## Leaving Iona

by *Heather Yule &  
Donald Smith*

In-person | Indoor

3pm (1hr)

By donation (ticketed)

[St Columba's by the Castle  
Scottish Episcopal Church](#)

It's Columba's wake. But where does his body belong - in Donegal or Iona? And who will tell the story - the monks, the poets or the women? Join storytellers Heather Yule and Donald Smith in person on this special afternoon, as they follow the inner and outer journeys of Colmcille/Columba on the 1500th anniversary of his birth.

## Deiseal | Sunwise

by *Ian Stephen, Christine  
Morrison & Mike Vass*

Online | Pre-recorded

8pm

By donation (ticketed)

A three-stranded cord of stories, original music and images will take you on a historic voyage off Scotland's west coast, as far as the outlying Hebridean islands of Hirta and North Rona. With stories arranged and told by storyteller Ian Stephen and new music from Mike Vass. Images selected and arranged by Christine Morrison. [Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre](#).

Brian Ó hEadhra and Fiona Mackenzie  
*Photo by Róise Ní Eadhra*



WED 28 OCT

## TUATH: Òrain às na Northlands

*le Brian Ó hEadhra agus  
Fiona NicChoinnich*

Air loidhe | air a chlàradh  
roimhe

8f Fàilte air tiodhlaicean  
(Tiogaidean)

Bidh Brian Ó hEadhra agus Fiona NicChoinnich a' gabhail òrain às na clàraidhean as ùr aca TÌR – Highland Life & Lore agus TUATH – Songs of the Northlands anns a' chonsairt shònraichte seo. Tha TÌR a' coimhead air dòighean-beatha traidiseanta agus dòighean-beatha san latha an-diugh is a' gabhail a-steach sgeulachdan às a' Ghàidhealtachd. 's e rùrachadh ceòlmhòr is cultarail a th' ann an TUATHA a tha a' sealltainn air na ceanglaichean eadar na Gàidheil is na nàbaidhean aca anns a' Chuan Siar. Bheir an dithis seachad ro-ràdh do na h-òrain le eadar-theangachaidhean, 's ann anns a' Ghàidhlig a tha a' mhòr-chuid de na h-òrain ach tha cuideachd òrain ann an Gaeilge, Beurla agus Nirribhis. Nach call an cothrom seo fhaicinn! **Air a chlàradh ann an Ionad Sgeulachdan na h-Alba.**

## TUATH: Songs of the Northlands

*by Brian Ó hEadhra and  
Fiona Mackenzie*

Online | Pre-recorded

8pm

By donation (ticketed)

Highland-based duo, Brian Ó hEadhra and Fiona Mackenzie, present an intimate show featuring songs from their acclaimed, recently released albums TÌR - Highland Life & Lore and TUATH - Songs of the Northlands. TÌR explores traditional and contemporary life and stories from the Highlands of Scotland. TUATH is a musical and cultural exploration of the connections between the Gaels and our nearest Atlantic neighbours. The duo will provide introductions and read translations of the songs, which are mostly in Scottish Gaelic, but also in Irish Gaelic, English and Norwegian. A show not to be missed! **Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.**

THU 29 OCT

## Shetland Stories & Fiddle Tunes: The Greenland Days and the Haaf Fishing

*by Maurice Henderson &  
Ewen Thomson*

Online | Pre-recorded

6.30pm

By donation (ticketed)

Join Maurice Henderson and Ewen Thomson as they share stories and songs from the days of sail. Many Shetlanders made their living through Haaf fishing, using small open boats to sail or row out to the deep-water fishing grounds. The boat handling skills of the Shetland fishermen meant they were in great demand to crew aboard the British Arctic whaling ships. The performance is enriched with Shetland traditional and contemporary fiddle tunes relating to the sea, inspired by the stories and traditions handed down from the days of the whaling and Haaf fishing. **Filmed on location in Shetland.**



Maurice Henderson and Ewen Thomson  
*Photo by Maurice Henderson*





Fiona Herbert  
Photo by Sandy McGhie

**FRI 30 OCT**

## **The Birlinn**

*by Ailean Domhnullach/  
Allan MacDonald*

**Online | Pre-recorded**

**6.30pm**

**By donation (ticketed)**

Are we heading for peace or war? Renowned piper and Gaelic tradition bearer, Ailean Domhnullach/Allan MacDonald premieres his musical evocation of sailing, sharing the majestic voyage of The Galley of Clanranald. The featured Gaelic text of *Birlinn Chlann Raghnaill* is by Alasdair Mac Mhaistear Alasdair, Jacobite Bard of Clan Ranald, alongside a new translation by Alan Riach. [Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.](#)

**SAT 31 OCT**

## **Corryvreckan: Inspiralled Tales**

*by Fiona Herbert,  
with Emma Durkan*

**Online | Pre-recorded**

**6.30pm**

**By donation (ticketed)**

Explore Scotland's mythical heritage as storyteller Fiona Herbert tells the tales surrounding the Corryvreckan whirlpool through the eyes of the much maligned and misunderstood Cailleach, the ancient Gaelic creation goddess. In doing so, she dives beneath the lies to celebrate female power, the true value of old age and the wisdom of the wild. With harp, fiddle and song from Emma Durkan. Supported by the National Lottery through Creative Scotland. [Filmed at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.](#)



# OPEN HEARTH SESSIONS

Online | Live Broadcast

**SAT 17, SUN 18,  
WED 21, SAT 24, TUE 27,  
THU 29, SAT 31 OCT**

8pm (2hrs) | By donation (ticketed)

**THU 22 & SUN 25 OCT**

1pm (2hrs) | By donation (ticketed)

The Festival's famous Open Hearth sessions move online in a ceilidh of cultures. Join us for a specially curated lineup at each session featuring some of the finest traditional storytellers from around the world, hosted by a Scottish storyteller in the ceilidh tradition. The perfect way to end – or start – your day!

Guests include Baba the Storyteller, Jan Blake, Peter Chand, Giovanna Conforto, Wangari Grace, Sue Hollingsworth, Usifu Jalloh, Dawne McFarlane, Niall Moorjani, John Titi Namai, Carolina Quiroga-Stultz, Kamini Ramachandran, Raphael Rodan, Sahand Sahebdivani, Donna Washington and Liz Weir. Full listings are available online.

Peter Chand  
Photo by Katja Lange



# GUID CRACK SESSIONS

Online | Open-mic

**FRI 23 & FRI 30 OCT**

8pm (2hrs) | By donation (ticketed)

Join us for two special sessions of Edinburgh's long-running storytelling night, with a special guest storyteller each time and the usual open-floor opportunity to share a tale of your own.

**FRI 23 OCT**

with Michael Kerins

**FRI 30 OCT**

with Fran Flett Hollinrake

**Fran Flett Hollinrake**

*Photo by Mark Woodsford-Dean*



# FESTIVAL DIARY | EDINBURGH

## GO LOCAL SCOTLAND PAGES 26-29

TIME	EVENT	EVENT TYPE	LOC.	PAGE
<b>SAT 17 OCTOBER</b>				
11am/12.30pm	Edinburgh Old Town Family Day	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	23
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
6.30pm	Voyage: Tales of a Grandson	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	7
8pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14
<b>SUN 18 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	Scotland's Democracy Trail	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	24
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
4pm/6pm	Scuttlebutt Stories!	In-person   Indoor	PER	23
6.30pm	Voyage: The Stone Stories	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	7
8pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14
<b>MON 19 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	Enlightened Eccentrics!	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	24
1.30pm	Global Lab: Deep Healing and Ecology	Online   Live Webinar	Online	19
3pm	Spirit of the Mountains	Online   Live Broadcast	Online(NLS)	23
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
6.30pm	How to Tell a Good Ghost Story	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	5
8pm	Voyage: Strathspey Stories	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	7
<b>TUE 20 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	Enlightened Eccentrics!	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	24
3pm	Tales and Traditions from Orkney	Online   Live Broadcast	Online(NLS)	23
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
8pm	Voyage: The Voyage of St Brendan	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	8
<b>WED 21 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	By Leaves We Live: Patrick Geddes Story Tour of the Old Town	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	24
1pm/3pm	Enchanted Garden: Paths of Stories	In-person   Outdoor	RBGE	25
1.30pm	Global Lab: Journey to the Mountain Source	Online   Live Webinar	Online	19
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
6.30pm	Voyage: Orphan James and the Prince of Denmark	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	8
8pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14
<b>THU 22 OCTOBER</b>				
1pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
8pm	Voyage: Nanny of the Maroons	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	8
<b>FRI 23 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	Scotland's Democracy Trail	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	24
1.30pm	Global Lab: At Sea with the Selkies	Online   Live Webinar	Online	19
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
6.30pm	Voyage: Tour to the Hebrides	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	8
8pm	Guid Crack	Online   Open-mic	Online	15

## Venue Key

**NLS** National Library of Scotland  
**PER** Padlox Escape Rooms  
**RBGE** Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

**SCBTC** St Columba's by the Castle  
**SSC** Scottish Storytelling Centre

All  
start  
times are  
Scottish  
Time

TIME	EVENT	EVENT TYPE	LOC.	PAGE
<b>SAT 24 OCTOBER</b>				
11am/1pm	Caddie Capers	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	24
1pm/3pm	Enchanted Garden: Paths of Stories	In-person   Outdoor	RBGE	25
1.30pm	Global Lab: Native America and Scotland	Online   Live Webinar	Online	19
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
6.30pm	Voyage: Scots in the Antarctic	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	9
8pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14
<b>SUN 25 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	Black History Walking Tour of Edinburgh	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	25
1pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14
3pm	Voyage: Leaving Iona	In-person   Indoors	SCBTC	9
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
8pm	Voyage: Deiseal   Sunwise	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	9
<b>MON 26 OCTOBER</b>				
1.30pm	Global Lab: Myths of The Corryvreckan Whirlpool	Online   Live Webinar	Online	20
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
<b>TUE 27 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	The Witches Walk	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	25
1.30pm	Global Lab: Living for the Sea	Online   Live Webinar	Online	20
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
8pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14
<b>WED 28 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	By Leaves We Live: Patrick Geddes Story Tour of the Old Town	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	24
1pm/3pm	Enchanted Garden: Paths of Stories	In-person   Outdoor	RBGE	25
1.30pm	Global Lab: Tobar an Dualchais   Well of Stories	Online   Live Webinar	Online	20
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
8pm	Voyage: TUATH	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	11
<b>THU 29 OCTOBER</b>				
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
6.30pm	Voyage: Shetland Stories & Fiddle Tunes	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	11
8pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14
<b>FRI 30 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	The Witches Walk	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	25
1.30pm	Global Lab: The Earth Stories Collection	Online   Live Webinar	Online	21
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
6.30pm	Voyage: The Birlinn	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	13
8pm	Guid Crack	Online   Open-mic	Online	15
<b>SAT 31 OCTOBER</b>				
11am	Black History Walking Tour of Edinburgh	In-person   Outdoor	SSC	25
1pm/3pm	Enchanted Garden: Paths of Stories	In-person   Outdoor	RBGE	25
4pm	Storytelling Café	In-person   Indoor Open-mic	SSC	23
4pm	Ghost Stories	Online   Open-mic	Online	5
6.30pm	Voyage: Corryvreckan	Online   Pre-recorded	Online	13
8pm	Open Hearth	Online   Live Broadcast	Online	14



# GLOBAL LAB WORKSHOPS

Online | Live Webinar

1.30pm (3hrs) | £5-15

As humanity faces an ecological, social, economic and cultural storm, storytellers and communities worldwide are sourcing stories that offer healing and hope. Global Lab offers inspiring examples of creative practice in the arts, education and frontline activism, with the opportunity to share, question and discuss.

## Daily Programme

**1.30pm:** Welcome, Introductions and Presentation

**2.30pm:** Break

**2.45pm:** Workshop Sharing and Discussion

**4.30pm:** End

Laura Simms

*Photo by Eric Maddern*

**MON 19 OCT**

## Deep Healing and Ecology

**with Laura Simms**

Can we heal the planet without healing ourselves and our fractured relationships? Laura Simms is an internationally acclaimed storyteller, writer and teacher, performing worldwide since 1970. She combines traditional narrative with personal story and has been a major inspiration in the healing and storytelling endeavour. Her most recent book, *Our Secret Territory: The Essence of Storytelling*, has been called 'the best book ever written on storytelling' (Jay O'Callahan). She lives in New York City and is part of The Constellation, a worldwide development project, and is the artistic director of the Hans Christian Andersen Storytelling Center in NYC.

**WED 21 OCT**

## Journey to the Mountain Source

**with Geeta Ramanujam**

Is there a spiritual dimension to storytelling traditions? If so, where better to encounter it than in the Indian sub-continent? Geeta Ramanujam is a pioneer of the storytelling movement in India and in this workshop she takes us back to the ancient roots of her traditions in the Himalayas. In addition to being an internationally renowned storyteller, Geeta is an educator, academician

and administrator. She is the founder of the Kathalaya Trust and the International Academy of Storytelling, which has defined and evolved the ancient art of storytelling through workshops and certified courses, ensuring over 85,000 adults and 500,000 children have learnt and enjoyed the art of storytelling.

**FRI 23 OCT**

## At Sea with the Selkies

**with Janis Mackay**

What does it mean to lose your seal skin? What can we learn from the selkie stories when it comes to retrieving lost parts of ourselves? How can myth guide us and heal us? Scottish storyteller Janis Mackay has been working with stories for over 20 years. Some of her favourite traditional stories involve the physical or mental transformation of characters into other beings. Janis is also an author and she wrote her first novel, *Magnus Fin and the Ocean Quest*, while she was on a writer residency in Caithness, on Scotland's north coast. The book was awarded the Kelpies Prize 2009. Janis is currently doing a PhD on the theme of blending myth with life story, focusing on selkie legends as a path towards wellbeing and soul retrieval.

**SAT 24 OCT**

## Native America and Scotland: Atlantic Crossings

**with Julie Cajune & Douglas Mackay**

What is the significance of Native American traditions for the modern world, and how can we connect with them in Scotland? Julie Cajune is the sum of many stories, with a Salish, Nex Perce and Scots-Irish mother, and a Chippewa and French father, but the largest part of her identity is Salish. Educator and citizen of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Julie served in the public school system, transitioning to Director of the CSKT Tribal Education Department. She has produced books, films, plays and curricula with a focus on American Indian history. She has received several prestigious honours for her education and cultural work.

Douglas Mackay is fascinated by the natural confluence of stories, landscape and cultural traditions. Exploring regenerative culture lead him to the wild woods of Massachusetts in 2015 to embark on a fortnight of coyote mentoring. Douglas returned to Scotland with a question: which cultural tools and natural elements in Scotland can foster nature connection and community resilience today? What can be shared through friendship and reconciliation to seed a sustainable culture and meet the challenges of the 21st century?



**MON 26 OCT**

## Myths of the Corryvreckan Whirlpool

*with Seoras Macpherson  
& Stuart McHardy*

The Corryvreckan, between Jura and Scarba, is the world's third largest whirlpool and a deep source of mythological connections. This workshop enables a dialogue between storytelling traditions, archaeology and ecology.

Seoras Macpherson is a traditional seanchaí based on the Isle of Skye. His stories come from family traditions passed down through many generations in Skye and Argyll. His repertoire is rich with tales of fairies, water horses and the seal people.

Stuart McHardy has pioneered geo-mythography, studying specific locations and their detailed features in the light of storytelling traditions. He is a key collector of traditional Scots stories and has devoted increasing time and energy to sharing this work through live storytelling. Much of the research Stuart has undertaken over the past decade and a half is based upon material from the oral tradition, making the point that oral tradition can provide relevant and otherwise unavailable source material over centuries, if not millennia.

**TUE 27 OCT**

## Living for the Sea

*with YouthLink Scotland  
& John Hamilton*

YouthLink Scotland is the National Agency for youth work. Over the last 18 months they have been delivering the National Lottery Heritage Funded project, On Our Wave Length, which is a youth-led research project exploring environmental impacts on coastal communities. Young researchers from across Scotland have been exploring environmental issues that matter most to them and their communities, whether this be climate change, pollution, impacts on wildlife, oceans and so on. The young researchers are sharing their findings through storytelling both nationally and locally to help ensure that their key messages are spread throughout Scotland, hopefully for years to come.

**WED 28 OCT**

## Tobar an Dualchais | Well of Stories

*with Màrtainn Mac an t-Saoir | Martin MacIntyre*

Tha spèis air a bhith aig Màrtainn Mac an t-Saoir dha na sgeulachdan fad bhliadhnanachan is mar a bheir iad daoine cruinn is a bheir iad ioma seòrsa buannachd dhaibh. Bidh e ag innse feadhainn na Fèinne cho math ri feadhainn eile a

bhuineas do dh' eachdraidh nan Gàidheal is gu leòr eile às àiteachan eile is mu bheatha dhaoine san latha an-diugh. Bheir iad ort gàire a dhèanamh no a bhith air bhioran no caoineadh. Bidh Màrtainn cuideachd a' gabhail òran on dualchas is chì e iad-sin na stòiridhean is ceòl is bàrdachd a bhith nam pàirtean dhen aon chèilidh – dhen aon fhearas-cuideachd fhallain bhlàth. B' e Màrtainn a' chiad cho-òrdanaiche a bh' air Tobar an Dualchais / Kist of Riches is's e fìor adhbhar moit a th' ann dha na chuir na sgiobaidhean a lean fo dhìon is an tairgse an t-sluaigh de ghuthan prìseil ar sinnsearan.

Martin MacIntyre has always respected the power of oral narrative to forge stronger connections between people and to achieve artistic and therapeutic results. His stories include Ossianic wonder tales, those based on the historical traditions of the Scottish Highlands and further afield and also modern stories of adventure, love and humor. A fluent Gaelic speaker, Martin sings traditionally and sees storytelling as an integral component of the holistic ceilidh, which naturally includes stories, song, music and poetry, to which all can contribute. Martin was the first coordinator of the Sabhal Mòr Ostaig led Tobar an Dualchais / Kist of Riches project, which has now digitised and made accessible online thousands of hours of oral material in Gaelic, Scots and English from the archives of the School of Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh; BBC Alba and The National Trust for Scotland Canna Collections.



**FRI 30 OCT**

## **The Earth Stories Collection**

**with Grian Cutanda,  
Donald Smith &  
Earth Tellers Network**

This workshop opens a window onto the international effort to disseminate and learn from indigenous traditions, in the face of environmental crisis. Grian Cutanda is a researcher, educator, psychologist and author of 15 books. A social and environmental activist, he has been involved in the organisation of the People's Climate March (Edinburgh, 2014) and in the creation of Extinction Rebellion in Spain and Mexico.

Along with his wife Marta Ventura, Grian is also the founder of the Avalon Project - Initiative for a Culture of Peace, and of The Earth Stories Collection, a bank of traditional stories from all over the world.

Donald Smith is Director of SISF, a community gardens activist and co-founder of Earth Story Tellers.

**Grian Cutanda**  
*Photo by Marta Ventura*



# GO LOCAL

In these unprecedented times we embrace, more than ever, the ethos of slow travel and invite you to rediscover the place you live in through stories and music. Find out more about local storytelling events in Edinburgh and across Scotland.

Heather Yule  
*Photo by David McIntosh*

## DAILY

### Storytelling Café Sessions

In-person | Indoor Open-mic

Scottish Storytelling Centre  
4pm (1hr 30) | £8 (£6)

Rediscover the joy of 'eye to eye, mind to mind and heart to heart' storytelling. Wellbeing and connection flows through these daily sessions as the core ethos, with a special guest storyteller and an open-floor section for audience participation.

*Limited tickets available, advance booking recommended. Full listings will be available online.*

## SAT 17 OCT

### Edinburgh Old Town Family Day

In-person | Outdoor

Scottish Storytelling Centre  
11am & 12.30pm (50mins)  
By donation (ticketed)  
All Ages

Celebrate the start of the Storytelling Festival with a session of stories, songs and sunshine (yes please!) outdoors, in the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town. Presented in partnership with the Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust and subject to safety guidelines in October.

## SUN 18 OCT

### Scuttlebutt Stories!

In-person | Indoor

Padlox Escape Rooms  
4pm & 6pm (50mins)  
By donation | 12+

The Scuttlebutt was the barrel of water kept on a ship's deck and the place to meet to tell stories and sing songs of the sea. Local storyteller Jan Bee Brown and musician Toby Hawks invite you to join them for some tall tales and spirited shanties, a heady blend of stories and songs of the sea that link Scotland and Scandinavia. Fill your boots with whirlpools, winds, witches and whales, nautical nonsense and some curious Scandinavian string instruments.

*Booking and Info:*  
[www.facebook.com/setsailwithstories](https://www.facebook.com/setsailwithstories)  
07799 852 162  
[jbeebrown@me.com](mailto:jbeebrown@me.com)

## MON 19 OCT

### Spirit of the Mountains

Online | Live Broadcast

3pm (45mins) | Free (ticketed)

Beverley Bryant and Heather Yule share stories of female spirits, goddesses and giantesses who inhabit mountain ranges across the world. Held in association with the Petticoats and Pinnacles exhibition at the National Library of Scotland, join us for an exploration of Scottish women who have climbed, walked and written about mountains. Hosted by the National Library of Scotland.

*Booking and Info:*  
[www.nls.uk/events](http://www.nls.uk/events)

## TUE 20 OCT

### Tales and Traditions from Orkney

Online | Live Broadcast

3pm (45mins) | Free (ticketed)

Inspired by photographs from the MacKinnon Collection, Tom Muir shares some of the stories and lore of his native Orkney. Hosted by the National Library of Scotland.

*Booking and Info:*  
[www.nls.uk/events](http://www.nls.uk/events)

# Storytelling Walks

In-person | Outdoor

A bespoke series of story walks around Edinburgh locations, guided by storytellers with expert knowledge and tales to tell. Story walks will be in small groups so advance booking is recommended.

All walks start from the Scottish Storytelling Centre unless otherwise stated and are subject to Scottish Government guidance in the autumn period.

## SUN 18 & FRI 23 OCT

### Scotland's Democracy Trail

with *Jean Bareham, Greenyonder Tours*

11am (2hrs) | £10 (£8)

Whether it's IndyRef2, Brexit, Project Fear or Project Farce, how we do democracy is a hot topic in Scotland. In 2014's Independence Referendum, many thousands of people in Scotland even got enthusiastic about it! This walking tour takes a gentle uphill path to the top of Calton Hill to tell a 500-year-old story of democracy in Scotland, much of it almost forgotten. Using the fabulous views of the city, the tour will show you the clues that live on in Edinburgh's landscape. We then take a downhill stroll to the Scottish Parliament to bring the story right up to present day.

## MON 19 & TUE 20 OCT

### Enlightened Eccentrics!

with *Jan Bee Brown*

11am (1hr 30) | £10 (£8)

From daring aeronauts and decidedly dodgy doctors to stony-broke bankers and dedicated drinkers, storyteller Jan Bee Brown will be drinking a toast to some entrepreneurs of the Enlightenment, inspired by social satirist John Kay. Kay published his first caustic caricature in 1784 and his biting wit and satirical style became so popular that he refurbished his barber shop, re-opening to sell his prints of his colourful clientele. There is a story behind every print, a song or two and many a close shave... so walk this way for a jaunt around Kay's favourite haunts!

## WED 21 & WED 28 OCT

### By Leaves We Live: Patrick Geddes Story Tour of the Old Town

with *Alette Willis*

11am (1hr 30) | £10 (£8)

Walk in the footsteps of the great Victorian polymath, Patrick Geddes, who made his home in St James court and shaped the community and gardens of the Old Town. Learn how Geddes' ideas shaped the fields of botany, ecology, town planning and

education in ways that are still relevant today. Along the way, you will hear traditional tales from this part of the world, tales that we might imagine a young Geddes heard at his mother's knee, which may have influenced his ideas about living in harmony with the natural world.

## SAT 24 OCT

### Caddie Capers

with *Macastory*

11am & 1pm (45mins) | £5 | 5+

Join the Old Town Caddies as they take you for a tour of Auld Reekie in story, song and rhyme. You'll meet characters such as Deacon Brodie and Aggie the Fish Wife as the caddies lead you through the cobbled streets and closes to share the secrets of old Edinburgh with you! Interactive storytelling with the always entertaining Macastory.



Storytelling Walk  
Photo by Solen Collet



**SUN 25 &  
SAT 31 OCT**

## **Black History Walking Tour of Edinburgh**

*with Lisa Williams,  
Edinburgh Caribbean  
Association*

11am (1hr 30) | £10 (£8)

Hear the fascinating but little-known stories of Edinburgh's deep connections with Africa, Asia and the Caribbean over the past 500 years. The walk around the centre of the city will make you see Edinburgh's statues and buildings in a whole new way!

**TUE 27 &  
FRI 30 OCT**

## **The Witches Walk**

*with Lea Taylor  
& Mary Craig*

11am (1hr 30) | £10 (£8)

Take a wander with storytellers Lea Taylor and Mary Craig, walking where the witches feared to tread! Passing St Giles Cathedral and the National Library of Scotland, they will take you down Victoria Street to the Grassmarket and then up again to the Witches' Well by Edinburgh Castle. In this fun, informative and interactive walk, Lea and Mary will intrigue and delight you with the gore, the facts and fiction and a little more besides. Bring umbrellas (this is Scotland after all) and a willingness to take part!

**WED 21 & 28,  
SAT 24 & 31 OCT**

## **Enchanted Garden: Paths of Stories**

*Royal Botanic Garden  
Edinburgh, West Gate &  
John Hope Gateway  
1pm & 3pm (50mins)  
Free (ticketed)*

Tune in with nature and rediscover the pleasure of strolling amongst trees while listening to beautiful stories. Scottish storytellers Amanda Edmiston, Daniel Allison, Daniel Serridge and Jane Mather will guide you on storywalks through the Royal Botanic Garden unveiling the untold stories of trees and wildlife. All storywalks depart from the John Hope Gateway, meeting at the Real Life Science Studio.

*Booking and Info:  
0131 248 2909*



## Clackmannanshire

Alloa

**MON 19 -  
SAT 24 OCT**

### Whispering Waters

In-person | Outdoor and  
Online | Live broadcast

Local storytellers Joanne Dowd, Susan Chown, Jack Stravaiger and Janet Crawford invite you to an enticing mix of watery tales. Join the Go Local online tales night, or the Spooky Story Walk from Tillicultry to the haunted Tait's Tomb in Dollar. Enjoy more stories at the interactive story evening, or come along to the Whispering Waters, Live Saturday Story afternoon and hear about local legends of sea gods, maidens, mists, wells and warlocks. Planned with COVID-19 restrictions in mind.

**Booking and Info:**  
[www.facebook.com/hillfootstales](https://www.facebook.com/hillfootstales)  
[hillfootstales@gmail.com](mailto:hillfootstales@gmail.com)

## Dumfries & Galloway

Dumfries

**FRI 9 -  
FRI 16 OCT**

### Wild Goose Festival: Nature, Creativity & Place

Held in Dumfries and its surroundings, the Wild Goose Festival uses the migratory route of the Barnacle Geese between Svalbard and the Solway Estuary to join people, nature and ideas. In connection with the Scottish International Storytelling Festival and produced by The Stove Network, the Wild Goose Festival unites key partners – WWT Caerlaverock Wetland Centre, Scottish Natural Heritage, Moat Brae Centre for Children's Literature and Storytelling, University of Glasgow, Creative Futures and PAMIS (Promoting a More Inclusive Society) – in an exploration of nature, creativity and place. Planned with COVID-19 restrictions in mind.

**Programme and Info:**  
[www.thestove.org/wild-goose-festival](http://www.thestove.org/wild-goose-festival)

## Glasgow

**THU 22 OCT**

### Sangs an' Clatter: Campfire Tales

In-person | Outdoors

Damshot Woods, Pollok.  
Meet at The Village Storytelling Centre, Langton Halls, Langton Road, Pollok, G53 5DD  
**6pm (2hrs) | Free (ticketed), donations welcome**

A cosy evening of songs and tales around the campfire in Damshot Woods, with special guest storytellers and musicians alongside regular Village storytellers. Refreshments provided. Hosted by The Village Storytelling Centre. Planned with COVID-19 restrictions in mind.

**Tickets and Info:**  
**0141 882 3025**  
[info@villagestorytelling.org.uk](mailto:info@villagestorytelling.org.uk)

## Lanarkshire

**OCT - NOV**

### Doon the Watter

In-person | Outdoors

Summerlee Museum of Industrial Life, Heritage Way, Coatbridge, ML5 1QD | **Free**

From the Broomielaw Wharves we begin our journey down the River Clyde, or 'doon the watter', with storyteller and singer Gerry

Durkin. Passengers gather on board for a trip calling at Greenock Princes Pier, Gourock, Dunoon and Rothesay before cruising into the Kyles, or up Loch Striven or possibly to Largs and around the Cumbræes. It's the Fair Fortnight holiday, full to this day of memories, songs and nostalgia. But will the staycation bring it all back? And what exactly did 'steaming' mean on these journeys...? In partnership with the Summerlee Museum of Scottish Industrial Life. Planned with COVID-19 restrictions in mind.

**Tickets and Info:**  
[culturenl.co.uk/summerlee](http://culturenl.co.uk/summerlee)

## Highlands

**SAT 28 NOV**

### Maelrubha's Day

Online | Pre-recorded

3pm (6mins) | Free

This short film by Bob Pegg tells - in music and images - of a day in the life of St Maelrubha, the Irish monk who founded a monastery in Applecross over 1300 years ago. Maelrubha spent his last days as a hermit on Isle Maree in the middle of Loch Maree in Wester Ross, where the story is set.

### Tales from the Spa Gardens

Online | Pre-recorded

3pm (20mins) | Free

In Victorian times the village of Strathpeffer in Ross-shire was the most northerly spa in Britain. Florence Nightingale, Robert Louis Stevenson and George Bernard Shaw were



Jan Bee Brown and Toby Hawks  
 Photo by Sheila Masson

among those who came to take its sulphurous waters, visit the airy pavilion and promenade through the gardens. In 2007 five giant statues appeared in the gardens, all related to local and Highland legends. This short film by Bob Pegg tells the stories of the statues and the Spa Gardens themselves.

## Moray

Findhorn

**FRI 13 NOV**

### In the Flow at Findhorn

In-person | Indoors and Online | Live broadcast

Universal Hall, The Park,  
 Findhorn, IV36 3TZ  
 7.30pm (1hr 30)  
 £10 (£5 children)  
 Adults and 10+

Join storytellers Peter Vallance, Margot Henderson and Carol Scorer in a special evening of stories and songs. Following VisitScotland's theme of Coasts and Waters, the storytellers will take you on a voyage of discovery to other worlds to

meet magical beings who we believe will bless and heal us. Planned with COVID-19 restrictions in mind.

**Booking and Info:**  
[www.universalhall.co.uk](http://www.universalhall.co.uk)  
 Tickets can only be booked online

## North East

Aberdeen

**SAT 3 OCT**

### Salty Tales fae Shore tae Sea

In-person | Outdoor or Online | Pre-recorded

Mercat Cross, Castle Street,  
 Aberdeen, AB11 5HP  
 2pm (2hrs) | Free (ticketed)

Smugglers, shipwrecks an ither wattery happenins wi storyteller Grace Banks. If possible, this will be a face-to-face event with a small audience, otherwise it will be pre-recorded and presented online. Planned with COVID-19 restrictions in mind.

**Booking and Info:**  
[www.facebook.com/GBanks22](https://www.facebook.com/GBanks22)  
[jackietales@msn.com](mailto:jackietales@msn.com)

**MON 12 OCT**

## Sinister an Spooky Stories fae the North East

Online | Open-mic

Zoom  
7pm (3hrs) | Free (ticketed)  
Donations welcome

Five of the North East's finest storytellers explore the region's darker side in a collaborative online evening of sinister and spooky stories. Join us to learn of the North East's ghosts and ghoulies, its witches and warlocks. But don't just listen – we want you to share your own tales too. Whether you're from the North East or whether you've moved to Scotland from elsewhere, we want to know the spooky stories you've grown up with, or maybe even experienced yourself. The event is open to all brave souls. With Jackie Ross, Grace Banks, Sheena Blackhall, Pauline Cordiner and Diane Peers. Hosted by the Elphinstone Institute, University of Aberdeen.

**Booking and Info:**  
[www.abdn.ac.uk/elphinstone/public-engagement/scottish-international-storytelling-festival](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/elphinstone/public-engagement/scottish-international-storytelling-festival)

[elphinstone@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:elphinstone@abdn.ac.uk)

**WED 28 OCT**

## A Tapestry of Life – The Hills An In Atween

Online | Pre-recorded

6.30pm | Free

The film wis inspired by the question, 'How can we support oor next generations t love an care for their land if they dinna hae a connection wi nature?'. Storytellers Grace Banks an Sheena Blackhall set out on a journey wi pupils fae four schools to explore the run o the rivers o Dee an Don fae the Cairngorms tae Aberdeen. Their wonder an discoveries are woven throughout in thochts, pictures, poetry, sang an stories, agin a backdrop o wunnerfu sights an soonds fae river, land an sea.

**Ballater**

**SUN 18 OCT**

## Tales Fae the Clachan

Online | Pre-recorded

Facebook Live  
[@storiesfaethehowe](https://www.facebook.com/storiesfaethehowe)  
2pm (2hrs) | Free

Come an jyne Sheena Blackhall online for an entertainin efternoon o sangs, stories an poems fae Ballater an there aboots. Filmed at Deeside Inn, Ballater, streamed live on Facebook.

**Info:** [jackietales@msn.com](mailto:jackietales@msn.com)

**Cabrach**

**SUN 25 OCT**

## Old an New Tales fae The Cabrach

Online | Live broadcast

Facebook Live  
[@CabrachTrust](https://www.facebook.com/CabrachTrust)  
2pm (2hrs) | By donation

A mix o auld an new stories featurin the Blackwater an the Deveron wi Jackie Ross. Presented live online from The Cabrach. There may also be a small audience allowed at the Acorn Centre in The Cabrach.

**Booking and Info:**  
[www.facebook.com/CabrachTrust](http://www.facebook.com/CabrachTrust)  
[jackietales@msn.com](mailto:jackietales@msn.com)

## Orkney

**THU 22 –  
SUN 25 OCT**

## Orkney Storytelling Festival

Online | Live broadcast and  
Online | Pre-recorded

The small festival with a big heart has reached its 11th edition this year, featuring a blend of pre-recorded storytelling and live-streamed events where local storytellers can observe social distancing. At this time of uncertainty and the disturbing increase in hate speech and violence in some sectors of society, stories are more important than ever. Why? Because they



bring people together. They carry our values and morality. They are inclusive to all people, as human beings. As the old Scots saying goes, 'Wir a' Jock Tamson's bairns'.

**Booking and Info:**  
[www.orkneystorytellingfestival.co.uk](http://www.orkneystorytellingfestival.co.uk)

## Perthshire

**Aberfeldy**

**FRI 23, SAT 24  
& SUN 25 OCT**

### Of Kelpies, Crannogs and Urisks

**In-person | Indoors**

**Scottish Crannog Centre,  
Aberfeldy PH15 2HY  
6pm (1hr) | £5 (£4 seniors  
and children 5-16)**

As the dark winter nights draw in, come join us round the fire at twilight at the Scottish Crannog Centre, beside the waters of Loch Tay, for a feast of stories and music to warm the heart. For three evenings, storytellers Graham Liney and Claire Hewitt, with musician Munro Gauld, will weave a magical spell of ancient tales connected to Highland Perthshire's watery elemental beings, in a celebration of community and kindness. Each gathering will last one hour and will comply in accordance with all safe distancing regulations in place at the time.

**Booking and Info:**  
[www.crannog.co.uk](http://www.crannog.co.uk)

**THU 29 OCT**

### The Song of Tatha

**In-person | Indoors and/or  
Online | Live broadcast**

**Aberfeldy Town Hall,  
2 Crieff Rd, Aberfeldy  
PH15 2BJ**

**6.30pm (1hr)**

**In-person: £5 (£3) | Online: £5  
Adults and 10+**

Water has memory. Held in the rivers, lochs and burns of Breadalbane are many stories. Tales of urisks, gruagachs, kelpies and water spirits offer us a glimpse of the deep interconnection between these elemental beings, the land and the people who have made this their home. Storytellers and musicians Claire Hewitt, Ceit Langhorne and Munro Gauld, inspired by the River Tay and Highland Perthshire's rich collection of stories, songs and music, offer you a magical and unique evening set in a specially created multi-sensory space. The event is part of a project in collaboration with the Scottish Crannog Centre and TRACS - Traditional Arts and Culture Scotland, supported by The Andy Hunter Bursary.

**Booking and Info:**  
[www.birkscinema.co.uk/  
community-hub](http://www.birkscinema.co.uk/community-hub)

## West Lothian

**OCTOBER -  
NOVEMBER**

### From the Avon to the Almond – The Forth's Forgotten Waters

**In-person | Outdoors**

**Various Locations | Free**

Two long rivers wind from central Scotland through West Lothian to the Firth of Forth. They are flowing with ecological and historical surprises, and are both part of a major conservation effort. Why not get out and about on a guided or self-guided route to explore these often forgotten rivers? See signs of shy creatures, reviving rivers and hidden history of our past.

Delivered with the RiverLife: Almond & Avon project, part of the Forth Rivers Trust. Supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

**Tickets and Info:**  
[www.forthriverstrust.org](http://www.forthriverstrust.org)



# FEED THE GREEN SHOOTS!

## Donate to the Scottish International Storytelling Festival

Storytellers, musicians and dancers are working across Scotland to nourish the sustainable communities of the future. You can support the work of TRACS (Traditional Arts and Culture Scotland) by making a one-off donation, helping to enrich the traditional arts community as we struggle to recover from the Coronavirus pandemic.

Our online festival events are mainly free, but if you are in a position to donate our suggested donation is £5 per event.

As a registered charity we rely on the generous support of our friends, funders, sponsors and trusts. We could not do what we do without your help.

**Thank you!**



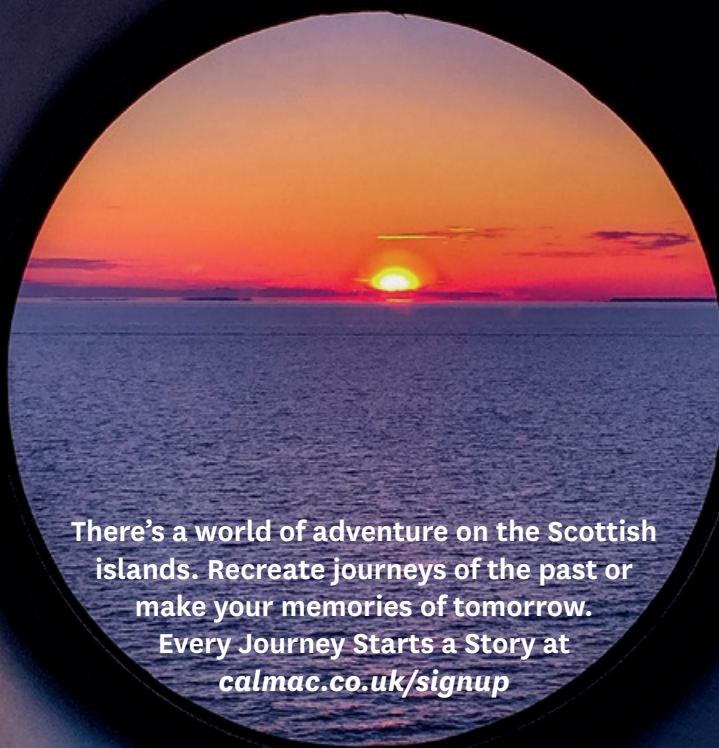
*Photo by Peter Dibdin*



*Photo by Colin Hattersley*

**To donate please go to [sisf.org.uk](https://sisf.org.uk)**

# THROUGH THE ROUND WINDOW



There's a world of adventure on the Scottish  
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Every Journey Starts a Story at  
[calmac.co.uk/signup](http://calmac.co.uk/signup)



**Caledonian MacBrayne**  
Hebridean & Clyde Ferries






# VENUE DETAILS

 WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

**Scottish Storytelling Centre**   
43-45 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SR  
0131 556 9579  
[www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com](http://www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com)

**Padlox Escape Rooms**  
1 Carpet Ln, EH6 6SS  
[www.padlox.co.uk](http://www.padlox.co.uk)

**Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh**   
West Gate & John Hope Gateway  
Arboretum Place, EH3 5NZ  
0131 248 2909  
[www.rbge.org.uk](http://www.rbge.org.uk)

**St Columba's by the Castle Scottish Episcopal Church**   
14 Johnston Terrace, EH1 2PW  
0131 622 2277  
[www.stcolumbasbythecastle.org.uk](http://www.stcolumbasbythecastle.org.uk)



**Cover image:**  
Digitally edited version of  
'I Met my Love by the Harbour'  
by James Adams  
[jamesnewtonadams.co.uk](http://jamesnewtonadams.co.uk)



Box office: 0131 556 9579 | [sisf.org.uk](http://sisf.org.uk) | [#SISFInTheFlow](https://twitter.com/SISFInTheFlow)

**Traditional Arts and Culture Scotland** (SCIO, SC043009) is a collaborative alliance designed to improve the knowledge, practice, development and advocacy of Scotland's traditional arts in a contemporary world. TRACS brings together the Scottish Storytelling Forum (SC020891), Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland (SC045085) and Traditional Music Forum (SC042867). TRACS is currently based at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.

**TRACS** TRADITIONAL  
ARTS · CULTURE  
SCOTLAND

## Our Partners



## Special thanks to Edinburgh partners:

National Library of Scotland, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature, Padlox Escape Rooms, Edinburgh Caribbean Association, Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust and Greenyonder Tours.

## Special thanks to regional partners:

Orkney Storytelling Festival, Wild Goose Festival, Elphinstone Institute, The Village Storytelling Centre, Universal Hall, Hillfoots Tales, The Cabrach Trust, Aberfeldy Town Hall, Scottish Crannog Centre, Birks Cinema, RiverLife, Forth Rivers Trust and the Summerlee Museum of Scottish Industrial Life.