

WELCOME

We invite you to imagine something different, somewhere else, someone else. To look again at ourselves and at the world around us.

For the 2021 festival programme we are delighted to present a hybrid series of live and online events, which we hope will do justice to the spirit of our usual festival activity.

Our Imagine series invites us to delve into different pasts, futures, or the timeless present, to challenge what we know and create the images of what we are yet to discover. These stories form the core of our live programme, alongside some great Open Hearth evenings, as we plan to welcome new and old friends back into the Scottish Storytelling Centre, something we have all missed.

We welcome our international performers online in the same ceilidh tradition, hosted by some of the best Scottish storytellers, whilst our Guid Crack and Global Lab sessions offer online participation in unique storytelling ceilidhs and workshops.

Our popular Community & Family programme offers opportunities for families, schools and community groups to engage with the wonder of storytelling, whilst the Talking Statues project aims to create a platform for new stories and discussion. As ever, we round up the festival with the Feast of Samhuinn, in accordance with Celtic tradition.

Human connections will continue to thrive through stories, regardless of where we are in the world. Please come with us as we imagine what might be possible!

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, Creative Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council, Festivals Edinburgh, Digital Expo and the Italian Cultural Institute Edinburgh.

















ABOUT THE PROGRAMME



The festival programme is a hybrid 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 from 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 most online events) can be booked by phone, online or in person through the Scottish Storytelling Centre's Box Office. Other partner venues and regional events have their own booking outlets, as listed.

+44 (0) 131 556 9579 sisf.org.uk

Access Information

A full Access Statement and list of our accessible events is available on our website at **sisf.org.uk**

EVENTTYPES

Live | Indoor

Live storytelling events in festival venues.

Live | Outdoor

Live storytelling events in outdoor locations.

Online | Live

Traditional storytelling sessions broadcast live online.

Online | Open-floor

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

Online | Pre-recorded

Storytelling performances filmed in advance, often with a live Q&A.

Online | Workshops

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

All in-person events will be subject to Scottish Government health & safety guidelines in October. Please read the Centre's **COVID guidelines** before travelling to the venue.

BECOME A SUPPORTER

The generosity of our Festival Supporters and funders allows us to bring our work to life, share it with the widest possible audience and keep our ticket prices affordable. Thank you!

You can become a Storytelling Centre Supporter too, for year-round rewards! Festival Supporter - £24 (expires on 31 December 2021)

- Discounts on many live SISF events at the Storytelling Centre
- 10% discount at the Storytelling Centre's bookshop, during SISF 2021 dates
- 10% discount in the Haggis Box's Storytelling Café, during SISF 2021 dates
- Free access to the online versions of our Imagine events post-festival
- Contribute to the ongoing development of SISF

Book your Supporter Pass

Online: sisf.online.red61.co.uk/memberships Call: +44 (0)131 556 9579

Email: supporters@scottishstorytellingcentre.com

Look for the Supporter prices in the listings marked as *

FESTIVAL EXHIBITION

FRI 15 - SUN 31 OCT

From Her Cave

Live | Indoor

Scottish Storytelling Centre Mon - Sun: 10am - 9pm | Free

Miren Asiain Lora is an award-winning illustrator, who has exhibited internationally at the Bologna Children's Book Fair and the New York Society of Illustrators 2019. From her cave - Miren's studio - she works on new commissions and personal projects as exciting new paths to be explored and wandered. Her festival exhibition includes a selection of some of her most remarkable works from 2015-2021, with illustrations, bookalbums and film and record covers. Miren has been awarded the Ibero-American Illustration Catalogue Award 2015, the Cuatrogatos Foundation Award 2020 and the Euskadi Literature Award 2020 and we are delighted to host her work in the Scottish Storytelling Centre.

www.miaslo.com





COMMUNITY & FAMILY PROGRAMME

The SISF Community & Family Programme takes place Mon 11 Oct – Tue 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



GET CREATIVE



WED 20 - WED 27 OCT

Talking Statues

Imagine dedicating a statue...

If you could honour someone with a statue or tell the unheard narrative of a monument that already exists – who would it be and what story would you tell?

Now is your time to imagine who should be on a plinth and tell their story.

Audiences across Scotland are invited to:

- Research community or family history by using archives, libraries, online portals or conversation.
- Join the social media discussion with #TalkingStatues Tue 26 Oct
- Online Storytelling Skills Workshop Wed 20 Oct | 7pm (2hrs) | Free (ticketed)
- Talking Statues Story Exchange
 Wed 27 Oct | 7pm (2hrs) | Free (ticketed)
- Talking Statues Walking Tours with Mercat Tours Saturdays in Sep and Oct | 11am (1hr 45)



'EVERY BLOCK OF STONE HAS A STATUE INSIDE IT AND IT IS THE TASK OF THE SCULPTOR TO DISCOVER IT.'

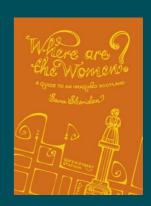
MICHELANGELO BUONARROTI

WED 20 - MON 25 OCT

SISF Art Challenge: Making Statues

For this year's SISF 5-day Instagram art challenge we are asking you to pick your personal heroes and to celebrate them with a statue, real or imagined. Let the camera be your chisel, the paint brush be your tool.

From **20** – **25 October** we will dedicate a different daily art style to inspire your imagination. The winners will be announced on **27 October** and receive a copy of Sara Sheridan's *Where are the Women? A Guide to an Imagined Scotland.*



Check our Instagram @scotstoryfest for updates and follow the hashtags #SISFArtChallange #MakingStatues

OPENING CONCERT

FRI 15 OCT

Roch the Wind

Live | Indoor

Scottish Storytelling Centre 7.30pm (1hr 30) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

Re-imagine a Scotland, her glens, lochs and hills shaped by the earth mother Goddess, the Cailleach.

'Roch the Wind' is a feminine meditation of Hamish Henderson's iconic Freedom Come A' Ye, fusing music, words and imagery in a hymn to belonging, to home, and to freedom. Written and performed by Janis Mackay, with Rowan Zeinu and Gica Loening, with photographs by Catriona Murray and dramaturgy by Liam Hurley.

Photo by Catriona Murray

BY SUCH GLIMMERS WE SEEK YOU

GEORGE MACKAY BROWN 100

A special opening weekend of events celebrating the Orcadian poet, author and storyteller, and Founding Patron of the Scottish Storytelling Centre, **George Mackay Brown** on the 100th anniversary of his birth.

George Mackay Brown Orkney Library and Archive



Off the Map

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

Four tales of amazing women, real and imagined, retold in words by **Áine King** with music by Karen Tweed and Jennifer Wrigley. Four tales of love, courage and incredible journeys that shift between history and mystery, story and song. A shoal of stories. sometimes dark and often magical, storm-tossed from Orkney's ancient shores across the Atlantic, splashing off the map into dreams... and drifting back again on the returning tide.

Part of the Imagine series

SUN 17 OCT

The Storm Watchers

Live | Indoor

4pm (1hr 30) £8 (£6) ★£5.50

A chance to see the recently created film of George Mackay Brown's early play The Storm Watchers, performed by a cast of Orcadian women filming in their homes on mobile phones during lockdown. A powerful and poetic piece, the drama presents the lives. anxieties, regrets, fears and memories of women as they deal with the waiting and the aftermath of a storm with all their men at sea. Followed by a short O&A with director Gerda Stevenson and composer Alasdair Nicolson. Presented in association with the St Magnus International Festival

SUN 17 OCT

Raking Among the Treasures

Live | Indoor

6.30pm (1hr) £8 (£6) ★£5.50

Co-writers Barbara McLean and David Campbell begin with some memories of George before taking us more deeply into his world. In a collage of recordings and readings, story, music and song, this affectionate portrait includes an exploration of the pain of his adolescence; the story of St Magnus; his celebration of society's outcasts and of Orkney's rich history - all seen through the prism of his poetry and prose. With music by Wendy Weatherby.



SUN 17 OCT

Open Hearth: George Mackay Brown 100

Live | Indoor

8pm (2hrs 30) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

Storytellers and musicians gather round the hearth for a relaxed traditional session of stories and music. Hosted by Tom Muir, with contributions from George Gunn, Áine King, Gerda Stevenson and introducing Ailsa Dixon.

Music from Karen Tweed and Jennifer Wrigley.

MAGNE

Dip into dreams and desires, lost worlds and worlds yet unimagined. Imagine from the outside in, and the inside out. Created for this year's festival and performed live at the Scottish Storytelling Centre (unless noted), all events in the Imagine series will be available online post-Festival.

Áine King Photo by Antony Hodgson



SAT 16 OCT & SUN 17 OCT

Super Duper Story Generators!

Live | Indoor

Ilam, 11.45am, 12.30pm, 2pm, 2.45pm & 3.30pm (30min) £8 for 1 group per session Pre-booking essential | 3+

Join storvteller Beth Hamilton-Cardus from Good Yarns for an epically interactive story session that's 100% powered by YOUR imagination. During each session Beth will work with one child/family at a time to create a tale that's bespoke to them. Maybe you want astronaut princesses, haunted bus stops, badgers making ice-cream (!) or something completely different wherever the adventure goes is totally up to you! Sun 17 Oct: priority booking

to families with additional

support needs.

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Off the Map

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TUE 19 OCT

Ladies Who

Live I Indoor

7.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

Imagine a space where women could tell and hear each other's joyful, lifeaffirming stories about sexuality, shared with warmth. compassion and knowing laughter. An evening of humorous, inspiring and informative contemporary collected tales about sex. presented for the wellbeing and inspiration of other women, and for those who care about them. Performed by Marie Louise Cochrane and Heidi Docherty. with musical accompaniment and original songs from Suzanne Fivev.

THU 21 OCT

Mohan: A Partition Story

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

A moving, visceral and emotive storytelling performance by Niall Moorjani, which retells their Grampa's experiences of the Partitioning of India. With first-person telling from 'Mohan's' perspective, the story is interwoven with fascinating and, at times, haunting historical insight. An evocative and thought-provoking evening of oral storytelling, with accompanying live music from Sodhi.

FRI 22 OCT

Oracles

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

Millennial woman. Sarah Grant, struggles to live up to the legacy of her Grandmother, the "Oracle of Glasgow": she who sees all. hears all, tells all. As a modern storyteller, Sarah tries (and fails) to translate traditional storytelling onto platforms like the family WhatsApp group chat, TikTok, marketing adverts and many more. How can the lessons learned at our ancestors' knees survive in the digital world? Does the legacy of women passing down stories end with the current generation? Oracles is a story about family, legacy, womanhood and traditional storytelling, grounded in a mix of traditional storytelling and spoken word.

SAT 23 OCT

From Floor Sweeper to Climate Pioneer

Live Indoor

2.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) (£32) ★£7.50 | 7+

Discover James Croll, the Scottish janitor born into poverty and dogged by ill health who became the self-taught father of climate science. Using storytelling, props, film animation and historical interpretation, storyteller **Nicola Wright** will present Croll's theories which inform today's study of climate change - and tell his remarkable life story to a family audience.

SAT 23 OCT

What Language Do Mermaids Speak?

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

Imagine the scene – a North-East fisherman encounters a mermaid. What will happen? How will they react? Will these two, from very different worlds, find a way to communicate? Join Khloud Ereksousi (Arabic), Craig McCulloch (BSL), Ailsa Dixon (English), Jackie Ross (Doric) and Alex Thomson (Visual) as they retell the family story of Fittie's Purse, in multiple languages.



MON 25 OCT

Spàrr | Rivet

Online | Pre-recorded

With live Q&A 8pm (1hr 30) PWYC (£5-£10)

Several excellent artists come together to present an extended story based on several traditions from the Isle of Lewis and the oral history of Govan. A blind woman has known tragedy more than once in her life and does everything in her power to protect the voungest of her four sons from the sea. A collaborative performance devised by storyteller lan Stephen alongside Laura Cameron Lewis and Mike Vass, with illustrations by Christine Morrison.



TUE 26 OCT

Wolf Girl

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

Storyteller Daiva Ivanauskaitė and singer Agnė Čepaitytė present the true story of Ingrid Ramm from Königsberg, a city that no longer exists. After WWII thousands of orphans from East Prussia travelled to Lithuania in search of food and shelter. These children are known as Wolfskinder. Ingrid Ramm was one of them, a lonely young refugee who fought for survival with the help of imagination, determination and luck. Daiva's family opened their doors to the Wolf Girl. This storytelling performance combines fragile memories. fantastic tales and classical German songs - the ones Ingrid's mother used to sing.

THU 28 OCT

Cottongrass

Live | Indoor

8pm (1hr) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

Far to the North, an Elk watches over a Princess. This tale lies in the community of stories between our waking and sleeping mind, our hopes and fears, our imaginings and questions. Harriet Grindley and Maria MacDonell, with musician Kai Dudley use words, music, image and physicality to conjure a constellation of dreams from a momentous journey of life.

SAT 30 OCT & SUN 31 OCT

John Muir and the Missionary's Dog

Live | Indoor

2pm (1hr) £10 (£8) (£32) ★£7.50 | 7+

Join Richard Medrington and Rick Conte from 'The Man Who Planted Trees' and storyteller Andy Cannon, on the trail of the legendary John Muir. We follow Muir from a window ledge in Dunbar to the brink of a crevasse in Alaska to find out what connects this conservation pioneer, a remarkable dog and an indigenous tribe clinging on to their culture and their land.

SAT 30 OCT

Handing On

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) ★£7.50

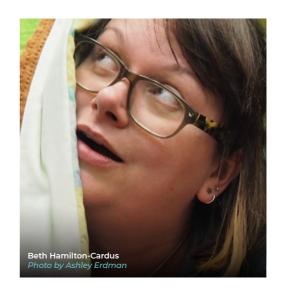
"I never thought I was leaving my children anything of value, I have no jewels or money, but you've made me realise the simple things are treasures in themselves. Treasures because of the stories, the words we hand on..." (Margaret, 92).

Mother and daughter Jean and Amanda Edmiston, storytellers, artists and plant people come together to share a new performance offering a magical glimpse into a multidimensional project of curating familiar family objects and inspiring stories that create real value beyond the clamour of gold! Video by Bash Art Creative.



FAMILY EVENTS

Fun for all the family in the October school holidays, with stories, dancing, music. science... and more stories! All events held at the Scottish Storytelling Centre.



SAT 16 OCT & **SUN 17 OCT**

Super Duper Story Generators!

Live | Indoor

11am, 11.45am, 12.30pm, 2pm, 2.45pm & 3.30pm (30min) £8 for 1 group per session Pre-booking essential | 3+

Join storyteller Beth Hamilton-Cardus from Good Yarns for an epically interactive story session that's 100% powered by YOUR imagination. During each session Beth will work with one child/family at a time to create a tale that's bespoke to them. Maybe you want astronaut princesses, haunted bus stops, badgers making ice-cream (!) or something completely different wherever the adventure goes is totally up to you!

Sun 17 Oct: priority booking to families with additional support needs.

Part of the Imagine series

MON 18. WFD 20 & FRI 22 OCT

Hip, Hop, Story, Stop!

Live | Outdoor

10am & 11.15pm (45min) £5 | All Ages

Like to dance? Here's your chance! Like a rhyme? This is your time! Bust a move?

Come and groove!

Join Claire & Fergus McNicol for dancing, stories, rhymes and raps. Active fun for all the family, from 1 to 101. Remember, bring your dancing shoes and dress to impress! Themes: The Monster Mash (Mon), Whirling & Twirling Autumn Leaves (Wed), Wee Witches and Ghosties (Fri).



TUE 19 OCT

Imagine Utopia: Kamishibai Workshop

Live | Indoor

11am (1hr 30) £5 | 7+

Experience the art of Kamishibai storvboard with renowned storyteller, harpist and Urasenke Japanese Tea Master Mio Shudo. Along with enchanting harp music, Mio will welcome vou to the world of original Japanese storytelling and show you how to create Kamishibai and some secret tricks! You will also learn manga drawing techniques, story composition and performing skills.



THU 21 OCT

Rainbow Dolphin

Live Indoor

10.30am & 12pm (30min) £5 | 3+

Rainbow Dolphin loved to swim and play, diving in and out of the waves in the deep water. They felt so happy, jumping towards the sky, higher and higher until one day Rainbow Dolphin could not see the sky! No clouds. No colours. Will they find their magic powers to put colour back into the sky? Come along and join in this colourful, fun, magical, musical journey with fiddler Marie Fielding.

SAT 23 OCT

Baldylocks and the Three Chairs

Live | Indoor

Ilam, II.45am, I2.30pm, 2pm, 2.45pm & 3.30pm (30min) £8 per group Pre-booking essential | 4+

Come on in, pull up a pew, take a load off and choose the right chair for you in this storytelling experience from Baldylocks storyteller **Daniel** Serridge. Based around three chairs built specifically for the Museum of Childhood. an intimate audience will be invited to hear a story on the chair that fits just right. Whether you're sitting pretty or a sitting duck depends on you, so choose wisely and try to do it before the bears come home! Designed for max 3 groups at a time.



From Floor Sweeper to Climate Pioneer

Live | Indoor

2.30pm (1hr) £10 (£8) (£32) ★£7.50 | 7+

Discover James Croll, the Scottish janitor born into poverty and dogged by ill health who became the self-taught father of climate science. Using storytelling, props, film animation and historical interpretation, storyteller **Nicola Wright** will present Croll's theories - which inform today's study of climate change - and tell his remarkable life story to a family audience.

Part of the Imagine series

SAT 30 OCT & SUN 31 OCT

John Muir and the Missionary's Dog

Live | Indoor

2pm (1hr) £10 (£8) (£32) ★£7.50 | 7+

Join Richard Medrington and Rick Conte from 'The Man Who Planted Trees' and storyteller Andy Cannon, on the trail of the legendary John Muir. We follow Muir from a window ledge in Dunbar to the brink of a crevasse in Alaska to find out what connects this conservation pioneer, a remarkable dog and an indigenous tribe clinging on to their culture and their land.

Part of the Imagine series

OPEN HEARTH

Storytellers and musicians gather round the hearth for a relaxed traditional session of stories and music as we welcome friends back into the Netherbow Theatre. As the darkness closes in and we gather around the symbolic fire this is the perfect way to end your day!

Scottish Storytelling Centre £10 (£8) ★£7.50 unless stated.

Mara Menzies

SUN 17 OCT

Open Hearth: George Mackay Brown 100

Live | Indoor

8pm (2hrs 30)

A special event celebrating
Orcadian poet, author
and storyteller George
Mackay Brown on the 100th
anniversary of his birth.
Hosted by Tom Muir, with
contributions from George
Gunn, Áine King, Gerda
Stevenson and introducing
Ailsa Dixon. Music from Karen
Tweed and Jennifer Wrigley.

MON 18 OCT

Open Hearth

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (2hrs)

Hosted by **Tim Porteus** with **Gauri Raje**, **Wendy Woolfson** and **Heather Yule**.

WED 20 OCT

Open Hearth: Heart of the Cosmos - Our Moon

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (2hrs)

Hosted by Linda Williamson, with David Campbell, Claire Hewitt and Mio Shudo.





SUN 24 OCT

Open Hearth: Rising Voices

Live | Indoor

2pm (2hrs) £8 (£6) ★£5.50

Hosted by **Shona Cowie** and introducing **Taryam Boyd**, **Ailsa Dixon** and **Ffion Philips**.

SUN 24 OCT

Open Hearth

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (2hrs)

Hosted by Ruth Kirkpatrick, with Shona Cowie, Marion Kenny and Niall Moorjani.

MON 25 OCT

Open Hearth

Live I Indoor

7.30pm (2hrs)

Hosted by Claire McNicol, with Douglas Mackay, Jess Smith and musician Kath Campbell.



WED 27 OCT

Open Hearth: Queer Folks' Tales

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (2hrs)

Hosted by **Lauren Bianchi**, with **Turan Ali**, **Jo Clifford** and **James Ley**.

FRI 29 OCT

Open Hearth: Sensing Stories

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (2hrs)

Hosted by Mara Menzies with Zebib K. Abraham, Nasim Rebecca Asl, Sanjay Lago, Raheema Sayed and Brenda Vengesa.

SUN 31 OCT

Open Hearth: Samhuinn Spirits

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (2hrs 30)

Hosted by **Bea Ferguson**, with a coven of terrifying tellers!

FESTIVAL DIARY | EDINBURGH

GO LOCAL SCOTLAND LISTINGS: PAGES 24-35

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	ТҮРЕ	PAGE
THU 14 OCT 5pm	Blood and Gold: A Journey of Shadows	Online	Online Live	22
FRI 15 OCT 7.30pm	Opening Concert: Roch the Wind	SSC	Live Indoor	6
SAT 16 OCT 11am-3.30pm 11am 7.30pm 8pm	Imagine: Super Duper Story Generators! Talking Statues: Walking Tours Imagine: Off the Map Global Hearth	SSC SSC SSC Online	Live Indoor Live Outdoor Live Indoor Online Live	9 5 9 18
SUN 17 OCT 11am-3.30pm 4pm 6.30pm 8pm	Imagine: Super Duper Story Generators! The Storm Watchers Raking Among the Treasures Open Hearth: GMB 100	SSC SSC SSC	Live Indoor Live Indoor Live Indoor Live Indoor	9 7 7 15
MON 18 OCT 10am & 11.15am 1.45pm 7.30pm	n Hip, Hop, Story, Stop! Global Lab: Lost Stories Open Hearth	SSC Online SSC	Live Outdoor Online Workshop Live Indoor	12 20 15
TUE 19 OCT Ilam Ilam I.45pm 7.30pm 8pm	Folk Tales from the Garden Kamishibai Stories Global Lab: Talking Story Imagine: Ladies Who Like It Global Hearth	Redhall Walled Garden SSC Online SSC Online	Live Outdoor Live Indoor Online Workshop Live Indoor Online Live	22 12 20 9 18
WED 20 OCT 10am & 11.15am 11am 1.45pm 4pm 7pm 7.30pm	Hip, Hop, Story, Stop! Folk Tales from the Garden Global Lab: Foremothers' Stories: Finding Treasures Three Rivers Rising Talking Statues Workshop Open Hearth: Heart of the Cosmos - Our Moon	SSC Hopetoun Crescent Garden Online WLVC Online SSC	Live Outdoor Live Outdoor Online Workshop Live Indoor Online Workshop Live Indoor	12 22 20 22 5 15
THU 21 OCT 10.30am 11am 11am 1.45pm 7.30pm 8pm	Rainbow Dolphin Folk Tales from the Garden Story Tours: Heart of Midlothian Global Lab: Wingless Imagine: Mohan - A Partition Story Global Hearth: Walter Scott and City Writers	SSC Leith Community Croft NLS Online SSC Online	Live Indoor Live Outdoor Live Outdoor Online Workshop Live Indoor Online Live	13 22 23 20 9 18
FRI 22 OCT 10am & 11.15am 11am 1.45pm 7.30pm 8pm	n Hip, Hop, Story, Stop! Folk Tales from the Garden Global Lab: Odin's Eye Imagine: Oracles Guid Crack: with Michael Williams	SSC Dr Neil's Garden Online SSC Online	Live Outdoor Live Outdoor Online Workshop Live Indoor Online Open-floor	9

Venue Key

NLS National Library of Scotland
RBGE Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
SCBC St. Columba's by the Castle Scottish Episcopal Church
SCC Scottish Storytelling Centre
WLVC Water of Leith Visitor Centre





TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	TYPE	PAGE	
CAT 27 0 CT					
SAT 23 OCT	Doldy dool to and the Three Chaire	SSC	Live Indoor	13	
11am-3.30pm		SSC	Live Outdoor	13 5	
llam	Talking Statues: Walking Tours	SSC	· ·	5 10	
2.30pm	Imagine: From Floor Sweeper to Climate Pioneer	SSC	Live Indoor		
7.30pm	Imagine: What Language Do Mermaids Speak?		Live Indoor	10	
8pm	Global Hearth	SSC	Online Live	18	
SUN 24 OCT					
2pm	Open Hearth: Rising Voices	SSC	Live Indoor	15	
7.30pm	Open Hearth	SSC	Live Indoor	15	
8pm	The Stories of Life: Birth, Love and Death	Online	Online Pre-recorded	19	
MON 25 OCT		0 1	0 11 1144 1 1	0.7	
1.45pm	Global Lab: Storytelling and Activism	Online	Online Workshop	21	
7.30pm	Open Hearth	SSC	Live Indoor	15	
8pm	Imagine: Spàrr Rivet	Online	Online Pre-recorded	10	
TUE 26 OCT					
1.45pm	Global Lab: Greening the City	Online	Online Workshop	21	
2pm	Handing On: Workshop	Online	Online Workshop	23	
7.30pm	Imagine: Wolf Girl	SSC	Live Indoor	10	
8pm	Global Hearth: Scotland and Cape Breton	Online	Online Live	18	
WED 27 OCT					
1.45pm	Global Lab: Freeing the Feminine	Online	Online Workshop	21	
2pm	Story Tours: Heart of Midlothian	NLS	Live Outdoor	23	
7pm	Talking Statues Story Exchange	Online	Online Live	5	
7.30pm	Open Hearth: Queer Folks' Tales	SSC	Live Indoor	15	
THU 28 OCT					
1.45pm	Global Lab: Revitalising Gaelic Storytelling	Online	Online Workshop	21	
	in Scotland and Canada				
8pm	Imagine: Cottongrass	SSC	Live Indoor	11	
8pm	Global Hearth	Online	Online Live	18	
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FRI 29 OCT					
1.45pm	Global Lab: Regenerative Stories	Online	Online Workshop	21	
7.30pm	Open Hearth: Sensing Stories	SSC	Live Indoor	15	
8pm	Guid Crack: with Allison Galbraith	Online	Online Open-floor	19	
SAT 30 OCT					
11am - 4pm	Family Day at the Botanics	RBGE	Live Outdoor	23	
llam	Talking Statues: Walking Tours	SSC	Live Outdoor	5	
11.30am	Stories at the Balm Well	The Balm Well	Live Outdoor	23	
2pm	Imagine: John Muir and the Missionary's Dog	SSC	Live Indoor	11	
7.30pm	Imagine: Handing On	SSC	Live Indoor	11	
8pm	Global Hearth	Online	Online Live	19	
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SUN 31 OCT					
2pm	Imagine: John Muir and the Missionary's Dog	SSC	Live Indoor	11	
7.30pm	Open Hearth: Samhuinn Spirits	SSC	Live Indoor	15	
8pm	Guid Crack: Ghostly Tales	Online	Online Open-floor	19	
MON 1 NOV					
7pm	Dante in Edinburgh: Transformations of Love	SCBC	Live Indoor	23	
/PITI	Dance in Edinburgh, Hansion Hadons of Love	SCDC	Live IIIdooi		

ONLINE EVENTS



GLOBAL HEARTH



Online | Live

Scottish hosts invite international storytellers to gather round the digital hearth for relaxed sessions of stories from home and abroad. The perfect way to end (or begin) your day!

SAT 16 OCT

Global Hearth

Online | Live

8pm (2hrs) PWYC (£5-£10)

Hosted by **Beverley Bryant**, with **Shayna Jones** (Canada), **Hend Al Qattaa** (Palastine) and **Colin Urwin** (Northern Ireland).

TUE 19 OCT

Global Hearth

Online | Live

8pm (2hrs) PWYC (£5-£10)

Hosted by **Daniel Allison**, with **David Heathfield** (England), **Sheena Khalid** (India) and **Polina Tšerkassova** (Estonia/Russia).

THU 21 OCT

Global Hearth: Walter Scott and City Writers

Online | Live

8pm (2hrs) PWYC (£5-£10)

Hosted by Anna Fancett (Edinburgh), with Marcus Green (Seattle), Nuala Hayes (Dublin) and Dima Matta (Beirut).

SAT 23 OCT

Global Hearth

Online | Live

8pm (2hrs) PWYC (£5-£10)

Hosted by **David Francis**, with **Zahra Afsah** (Iran), **Peter Chand** (England) and **Ana Lines** (Brazil).

DIMÀIRT 26 DÀMHAIR

Cuideachd thar Chuain: Cèilidh eadar Alba is Alba Nuadh

Beò | air loidhne

8f (2hrs) Tiogaidean (£5-£10)

Le fear an taighe Màrtainn Mac an t-Saoir (Alba), Emma NicLeòid (Alba), Coinneach MacCoinnich (Canada) agus Hannah Krebs (Canada).

Thèid an tachartas seo a chumail tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Fàilte ron a h-uile duine.

TUE 26 OCT

Global Hearth: Scotland and Cape Breton

Online I Live

8pm (2hrs) PWYC (£5-£10)

Hosted by Martin MacIntyre (Scotland), with Emma MacLeod (Scotland), Kenneth MacKenzie (Canada) and Hannah Krebs (Canada).

This ceilidh will be held in Gaelic. All welcome.

THU 28 OCT

Global Hearth

Online | Live

8pm (2hrs) PWYC (£5-£10)

Hosted by Janis Mackay, with Wangari Grace (Kenya), Bil Lepp (USA) and Muhammed Jawhar Yasin (Kurdistan).

SAT 30 OCT

Global Hearth

Online | Live

8pm (2hrs) PWYC (£5-£10)

Hosted by Michael Kerins, with Markus Luukkonen (Finland), Tamar Eluned Williams (Wales) and Csenge Virág Zalka (Hungary).

GUID CRACK SESSIONS

Online | Open-floor

8pm (2hrs 30) PWYC (suggest £5)

Join us online for three 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 22 OCT

You Won't Believe What Happened Next!

With guest Michael Williams.

FRI 29 OCT

Lanarkshire Folk Tales: Our Ancestors' Journeys

With guest Allison Galbraith.

SUN 31 OCT

Ghostly Tales

With guest Pauline Cordiner.

ONLINE SESSIONS

SUN 24 OCT

The Stories of Life: Birth, Love and Death

Online | Pre-recorded

With live Q&A 8pm (1hr 30) PWYC (£5-£10)

With great warmth and precision. Johannes Geworkian Hellman and Tine Winther delve into some of life's great events - birth, love and death - weaving story and music together. Johannes is Sweden's foremost hurdygurdy player who constantly tests and moves boundaries with curiosity and respect. Tine is a storyteller at the Land of Legends in Sweden who tells stories from her own life. alongside her interpretation of an old legend in this performance.

Followed by a live Q&A with the performers.









Online | Workshops

1.45pm (2hrs 45) Daily PWYC (£5-£15)

Global Lab is an open community of creativity and co-learning. It is hosted by the Scottish International Storytelling Festival in partnership with The Earth Stories Collection and The Earth Charter movement. Each session involves presentations, discussion and a short interval. Hosted by Festival Director Donald Smith.

WEEK 1

MON 18 -FRI 22 OCT

Connecting Stories

Join a conversation round the globe between stories and storytellers of all kinds. Disconnection brings repressed memories and partial vision that divide and deplete our humanity. Connection brings understanding and wellbeing. All of this week's topics are growing in the hands of the contributing storytellers. Listen to the sharing and then grow the conversation.

MON 18 OCT

Lost Stories

Storytellers Lily Asch and Csenge Virág Zalka connect continents and traditions, exploring lost stories and tracing the movement between cultures, tradition and transformation. Intertwining their own cultural roots, they reveal how such stories are still active in and through our contemporary selves.

TUE 19 OCT

Talking Story

Storyteller Kelly Kanayama connects Hawaii and Scotland, exploring identity in the diaspora of cultures, recontextualising folktales through different cultural lenses and looking beyond Western and writing-heavy cultures. She strives to bring Hawaiian cultural perspective to everyday life, where "Talking Story" means more than "Storytelling".

WED 20 OCT

Foremothers' Stories: Finding Treasures

Sigurborg Kr. Hannesdóttir and Sigurbiörg Karlsdóttir connect the generations through female ancestors. Exploring ourselves as the link in a line of generations through storytelling is a rich and healing practice. In Iceland, where family connections are highly valued, Sigurborg and Sibba have pioneered work dedicated to female ancestors. Hear some of their stories and share the process of building such personal tales, learning from our foremothers' iournevs.



THU 21 OCT

Wingless

What happens to a butterfly when you tear off its wings? What happens to a mother's heart when her child is torn from her arms? Does the loss of a language mean the taming of a tongue? Who remains to bear witness when the truth lies buried? What is our responsibility when the lies are irrevocably revealed? Join Scottish Traveller Jess Smith and Canadian storvteller Leah Stinson in a workshop exploring contrasts and parallels between Scotland's policy of "Taking the Tinker out of the tent" and Canada's residential school commitment to "Take the Indian out of the child."

FRI 22 OCT

Odin's Eye

Storyteller Alice Fernbank connects traditional tales of wisdom holders and seers with a personal journey through illness and wellbeing. Explore seeing and sight with an invitation to look within, and envision a future, as seen perhaps through Odin's Eye. How are such myths re-inhabited by our contemporary selves?

WEEK 2

MON 25 - FRI 29 OCT

Regenerating Stories

Green renewal is not just about protecting life on planet earth, it is essential for life continuing on planet earth - there is no Plan B. However, Plan A needs wisdom, creative play and joy, as well as knowledge and skill. Our collective actions must win hearts and minds for life-giving, regenerative change. This week's topics are an invitation to join that process.

MON 25 OCT

Storytelling and Activism

Founder of The Earth Stories
Collection **Grian Cutanda** is
joined by **Waverli Neuberger**, **Daniel Munduruku**, **Alette Willis**, **Malcolm Green** and **Mara Menzies** to show how,
in very different continents,
indigenous tales can inspire
and illuminate our feelings
and actions for the future.

TUE 26 OCT

Greening the City

How can communities and creatives, with public services and private support, come together to re-birth our cities as places of wellbeing? As a small city set between hills and sea, Edinburgh should be able to come together. Join Morvern Cunningham, Andrew Crummy, Linda Fitzpatrick, Kate Wimpress, and Janis Mackay to help envision a different future.

WED 27 OCT

Freeing the Feminine

Storvtellers Catriona Blanke and Kirsten Milliken explore female archetypes, often diminished and sometimes demonised, in myths, legends and folk and fairy tales worldwide. The dominant. stories in our culture focus on the hero quest and the warrior archetype. It is time to redress this imbalance so that solutions to the dual environmental and social crises facing humanity can source feminine qualities. Workshop participants, whatever their gender, will delve into themselves to rediscover and reconnect with their unique feminine aspects, to nurture environmental and social change.

THU 28 OCT

Ath-bheòthachadh sgeulachdan Gàidhlig ann an Alba agus Ceap Breatainn

A bheil àite aig sgeulachdan is seanchas a thaobh athbheòthachadh mìon-chànain? Anns a' bhùth-obrach seo a bheir sùil air an t-suidheachadh ann an Alba is Canada, cluinnidh sinn bho chuid de na daoine a tha air a bhith gu mòr an sàs ann a bhith ag innse is a' leasachadh sgeulachdan sa Ghàidhlig: Màrtainn Mac an t-Saoir, Iain Seathach, Ruairidh MacIlleathain agus Seòras Mac a' Phearsain. Bruidhnidh sinn mu dheidhinn sgeulachdan ann an nàdar agus anns an àrainneachd, a' lorg seann

sgeulachdan bho thasglainn is eile, ag innse sgeulachdan ann an dà chànain agus a' togail na Gàidhlig tro sgeulachdan is seanchas. Bidh cothrom ceistean a chur is còmhradh mu dheidhinn nan cuspairean seo. Bidh an tachartas seo dàchànanach.

Revitalising Gaelic Storytelling in Scotland and Cape Breton

Can storytelling help sustain a minority language? This workshop will look at Scotland and Canada with contributions from some of the main players in the renaissance of the Gaelic storytelling tradition: Martin MacIntyre, John Shaw, Ruairidh Maclean and George Macpherson. We will explore storytelling in the natural environment and landscape, the renewal of traditional repertoires, bi-lingual storytelling, and language acquisition through stories. This will be a bilingual event.

FRI 29 OCT

Regenerative Stories

What kind of stories and storytelling can reconnect us with the natural world? This workshop shows how new forms and settings are emerging and invites you to explore and develop your own approach for the future. With Jos Collins, Douglas Mackay, Adele Clark and other representatives from the Re-generate Network.



EDINBURGH PARTNERS

THU 14 OCT

Blood and Gold: A Journey of **Shadows**

Online | Live

National Library of Scotland 5pm (1hr) | Free (ticketed)

Mara Menzies performs stories from her new novel Blood and Gold. exploring themes of loss and oppression, while asking us to examine our own identities, attitudes, and humanity. Mara will be joined by author Tendai Huchu to discuss her novel.

Booking: Eventbrite





TUE 19 - FRI 22 OCT

Folk Tales from the Garden

Live | Outdoor

11am (1hr) | Free (drop-in)

Enjoy family and adult sessions of stories in some of Edinburgh's community gardens. Suitable for accompanied children 3-7, or for adults interested in garden settings and lore. All events are hosted by **Donald Smith** to mark his classic Folk Tales from the Garden, illustrated by Annalisa Salis. With contributions from quest storytellers.

TUE 19 OCT

Redhall Walled Garden With Jane Mather.

WED 20 OCT

Hopetoun Crescent Garden With Michael Kerins.

THU 21 OCT

Leith Community Croft With Allison Galbraith.

FRI 22 OCT

Dr Neil's Garden With James Spence.

Events are drop-in, but please check the gardens' websites in advance for Covid updates.



WFD 20 OCT

Three Rivers Rising

Live | Indoor

Water of Leith Visitor Centre 4pm (1hr) | Free (ticketed)

The Water of Leith, the River Tay and the Firth of Forth are a constant source of inspiration for storytellers Svend-Erik Engh, Claire Hewitt and musician Neil Sutcliffe, 'Three Rivers Rising' celebrates the stories, songs. music and lore of these waters that weave through the communities and land we live in

Bookina: Eventbrite



THU 21 & WED 27 SAT 30 OCT

Story Tours: Heart of Midlothian

Live | Outdoor

Meet at National Library of Scotland Thu 21 Oct | 11am (1hr 30) Wed 27 Oct | 2pm (1hr 30) Free (ticketed)

Join storyteller James **Spence** and National Library of Scotland curator Ralph McLean on a journey around the closes and wynds of Edinburgh's Old Town. The tour will focus on the stories. locations, and historical background of Sir Walter Scott's 1818 novel Heart of Midlothian and marks the 250th anniversary of the author's birth.

Booking: Eventbrite

TUE 26 OCT

Handing On: Workshop

Online | Workshop

National Library of Scotland 2pm (1hrs 30) | Free (ticketed)

Mother and daughter Jean and Amanda Edmiston, storytellers, artists and plant people, lead an interactive online workshop offering insights into curating and combining familiar household treasures with inspiring stories, domestic folklore and family anecdotes to create a magical. personal collection, which offers real value beyond the clamour of gold. Bring along or have in mind a small everyday object you love and consider the story of why its significant!

Booking: Eventbrite

Family Day at the Botanics

Live | Outdoor

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh 11am (5hrs) Free (drop-in)

Join us for a day of family fun with storytellers popping up throughout the community garden in RBGE. The day will also feature the Botanics' popular Halloween Trail and a special appearance by STORM, Vision Mechanics' 10m tall goddess of the sea, created in response to the climate crisis. Full programme available online prior to the event.

SAT 30 OCT

Stories at the **Balm Well**

Live | Outdoor

The Balm Well, grounds of **Toby Carvery Liberton** 11.30am & 12.45pm (45min) Free (drop-in)

Scottish waters possess many otherworldly secrets. Discover the Balm Well where kings have bathed and listen to tales of magical water creatures, Kelpies, Selkies and Nymphs. With storyteller Jane Mather. Please dress appropriately for the weather. The event is drop-in, but please check the venue's website in advance for Covid updates.

www.tobycarvery.co.uk



MON 1 NOV

Dante in **Edinburgh: Transformations** of Love

Live | Indoor

St Columba's by the Castle Scottish Episcopal Church 7pm (1hr 15) | Free (tickets via SSC Box Office)

When Dante first caught a glimpse of Beatrice, a new spring surged up in human consciousness and culture. Dante became a poet and pilgrim of love, and many have followed him since, not least the Romantic and religious poets and artists of every century. In this performance, Italian storyteller Giovanna Conforto uncovers the earliest roots of Dante in love. while Donald Smith goes on pilgrimage to Florence in search of the true grail... With songs and music by Simone Caffari. Supported by the Italian Institute of Culture. in celebration of the 700th anniversary of Dante's death.



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 across Scotland.

Pauline Cordiner



Edzell

SUN 31 OCT

Gorge-ous Nature Stories

Live | Outdoor

Blue Door Walk, Gannochy Bridge, Edzell, Brechin, DD9 7UX 2pm (2hrs) | £8 (£6)

Join storyteller Cara Roberts through the Blue Door on this story walk beside the beautiful Gannochy Gorge. Come and find out some of the myths and stories associated with our native species and landscape. Hear folktales, and share celebrations of the rivers, trees and birds that have shaped our understanding of the world. Please be aware the path is uneven, for more info contact below.

Booking and info: Cara Roberts cara@ onenatureeducation.com www.onenatureeducation.com



Dalmally

SUN 3 OCT

Leaving Iona

Live | Indoor

St Conan's Kirk, Lochawe, Dalmally, PA33 1AQ 3pm (1hr) | By donation

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** on this special afternoon, as they follow the inner and outer journeys of Colmcille/Columba. In association with **Friends of St Conan's Kirk**.

Advance booking available. The event is followed by tea and cake.

Booking and info: enquiries@ stconanskirk.org.uk

• Clackmannanshire

THU 21 -THU 28 OCT

Wild Hillfoots Storytelling Festival

Live Storytelling | £5

Hillfoots Tales welcome a host of guest storytellers for a special week of events celebrating the stories and legends of our people and landscape.

21 Oct, 7pm:

Legends at Legends

23 Oct, 2pm:

Story Fest Folklore

26 Oct, 7pm:

Three Rivers Rising

28 Oct, 7pm:

Wild Hillfoots Storytelling Workshop

Join storytellers Eleanor Bell, Joanne Dowd, Svend-Erik Engh, Laura Fyall, Claire Hewitt, Paraig MacNeil and Neil Sutcliffe for live storytelling, good company and a little music.

Booking and info: Joanne Dowd joanne@hillfootstales.co.uk 07980 655 906

DumfriesGalloway

Dumfries

SAT 16 – SAT 23 OCT

Wild Goose Festival: Nature, Creativity & Place

We are all naturalists now! And these are the stories we tell.

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. Supported by the Scottish International Storytelling Festival and produced by The Stove Network, the 2021 theme will be explored through storytelling performances and workshops, and by engaging a wide audience with all the many ways stories can be told.

Full programme, booking and info: www.thestove.org/wild-goose-festival





Events hosted by Blether Tay-Gither

Booking and info: Owen Pilgrim storypilgrim@hotmail.com or Blether Tay-Gither FB page

SUN 24 OCT

Imagine – Storytelling for Families

Live | Outdoor

Dundee Botanic Garden, Riverside Dr, Dundee, DD2 1QH 2pm (1hr) | Free (ticketed) Donations welcome

Blether Tay-Gither storytellers, including Sheila Kinninmonth and Owen Pilgrim, dive into the theme of Imagine through stories and tales for the Scottish International Storytelling Festival. This event coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Dundee Botanic Garden.

TUE 26 OCT

Imagine – with Mara Menzies

Live | Indoor

HMS Unicorn, Victoria Dock, Dundee, DDI 3BP 7pm (2hrs) | £5

Join the Dundee storytelling group Blether Tay-Gither as we host a special live event aboard the always atmospheric HMS Unicorn, with our very special guest storyteller Mara Menzies and songs from local musician Lynne Martin. Mara, along with the Blether storytellers, will be exploring the theme of Imagine through stories. We wonder where your imagination will take you...



SAT 13 NOV

People and the Sea

Live | Indoor

Venue info: see contact email below 6pm (1hr 30) Free, by donation

Join the cast of 'People and the Sea', founding members of Berwickshire Coastal Arts. and producer and musical director Ellie Logan for a premiere of the film 'The First Wave', accompanied by stories and reminiscences. 'The First Wave' is a short film by Kate Sweenev and Roma Yagnik, based on recordings, interviews and workshops undertaken by local people involved in the 'People and the Sea' project, featuring footage and stories from Eyemouth and surrounding coastal villages. The film is a legacy project from the Get up and Tie Your Fingers Theatre productions of 2016 and 2017, which told the story of the 1881 Fishing Disaster.

Booking and info: Ellie Logan seasangsinging@gmail.com







MON 15 – SUN 21 NOV

Super Duper Story Generators!

Online | Pre-recorded

Free

Join storvteller Beth Hamilton-Cardus from Good Yarns for an epically imaginative online story session that's all about helping you create the tale for yourself! Maybe you want astronaut princesses, haunted bus stops, badgers making ice-cream or something completely different wherever the adventure goes is totally up to you! Suitable for nursery and primaryschool aged kids and their arown-ups.

The event is pre-recorded and available to watch any time for the whole week. Delivered with **Fife Libraries**.

Part of the Imagine series

To watch the event and for more info: www.onfife.com



FRI 15 OCT

Woodland Wonder

Live | Outdoor

Damshot Woods, meeting point Damshot Crescent, G53 5HE 5pm (2hrs, 30min slots) Free (ticketed)

Have you ever imagined what magic lives in the forest?

Experience the wonder of Damshot Woods and journey on an immersive storytelling adventure with **Daiva Ivanauskaitė** and local storytellers! Grab your coats and scarves and discover stories that will spark your imagination alongside art installations created by local children & young people.

Hot chocolate will be provided to keep you cosy on your walk, but please dress appropriately for the woods. Parts of the woods are not suitable for wheelchairs or buggies. Please contact us if you have any accessibility requirements so we can arrange alternative options.

This performance may include the use of flashing lights. Hosted by **The Village Storytelling Centre**.

Booking and info: info@ villagestorytelling.org.uk



Q Highland

Strathpeffer

FRI 15 OCT

Stories, Tunes & Songs of a Highland Childhood

Live I Indoor

Highland Museum of Childhood, Old Victorian Station, Strathpeffer, IV14 9DH 3pm (1hr 15) | £5

Join storyteller Lizzie McDougall and musician Siannie Moodie Clarsach as they share a treasure trove of highland tradition: giant stories, fairy stories, mystery and history tales, tunes, songs, folklore, riddles and rhymes in this perfect Highland setting. Suitable for all from 4 to 104. Limited capacity, advance booking recommended.

Booking and info: highlandmuseumof childhood.org.uk curator@highlandmuseumof childhood.org.uk

SUN 14 NOV

A Woman Walks into a Bar...

Live Indoor

Coul House Hotel, Contin, Strathpeffer, IV14 9ES 2.30pm (1hr) | £10 (£8)

A woman walks into the bar of an inn in a small West Highland fishing community. It's a ceilidh house, and she is a wandering singer. For every story she has a song, and for every song there's a story... With storyteller **Bob Pegg**, singer **Christina Stewart** and clarsair **Bill Taylor**. Tickets include



tea and home-made scones after the performance. Suitable for adults and older children.

Info: Bob Pegg catsback@gmail.com Booking: Eventbrite

Maryburgh

SAT 16 OCT

Brahan Storywalk

Live | Outdoor

Brahan Estate, Maryburgh, nr Dingwall, IV7 8EE 3pm (1hr 30) | £8

Meet storvteller Lizzie McDougall at the Hospice Stone at Brahan and join her on an enchanted storywalk through the Dell to The Seer Stone. We will stop under the trees for tales of the legendary Brahan Seer and his gift of Second Sight, and other Seer Stories including the Seer Standing Stones. The event is open air. please wear warm clothes and appropriate shoes. Suitable for adults and older children. Limited capacity, advance booking recommended. The event is by kind permission of Brahan Estates and in aid of Highland Hospice.

Booking and info: Lizzie McDougall lizzie.mcdougall@gmail.com or brahan.com





Greenock

THU 28 OCT

Tales of the Oak

Live | Indoor & Online

The Beacon Arts Centre, Custom House Quay, Greenock, PAI5 1HJ 6pm (1hr) | Free (ticketed)

Storyteller and author Paul Bristow shares his story map with us, and wanders through the folklore and urban legends of his hometown, searching for a different way to tell stories about Inverclyde. Tales of bogles, pirates, monsters and mermaids are reinterpreted and retold by voices from across the community, with accompanying comic art illustrations. Presented in association with The Beacon Arts Centre.

Booking and info: www.beaconartscentre.co.uk 01475 723 723 info@beaconartscentre.co.uk



Auchendinny

SAT 23 OCT

Listening to the Land

Live | Outdoor

Three Hares Community Woodland, Auchendinny/ Roslin 2pm (3hrs) | £5

Where do stories come from? How can deep listening and kinship with the natural world give insights and inspiration amid turbulent times? Which folk tales and myths remain relevant, and how do stories evolve? The people of Pilgrimage for Nature, nearing the climax of their walk from London to COP26 in Glasgow, join storyteller Douglas Mackay at the Three Hares Woodland for a day of story sharing. nature connection, dialogue and performance. Celebrating ancient and emerging stories that offer a ray of light in these turning times.

Booking and info: three-hares-woodland.org **Dalkeith**

THU 21 OCT

Into the Furrows of the World

Live | Indoor

Newbattle Abbey College, Newbattle Road, Dalkeith, EH22 3LL 6.30pm (30min) - Tea & Coffee 7pm (1hr 15) - Performance and O&A | £7

Newbattle Abbey College is delighted to present an exclusive centennial celebration of the birth of Orkney writer George Mackay Brown, also marking the 70th anniversary of his arrival to study at the College in 1951, under fellow Orcadian poet. critic and novelist Edwin Muir. For this shy writer with precarious health, Newbattle was a redemptive place, and represented his first steps towards maturity as a writer of poems, novels, short stories and plays. Join Barbara McLean, David Campbell

McLean, David Campbell and Wendy Weatherby as they share their affectionate portrait of George in this collage of recordings, story, music, and song.

Info: 0131 663 1921 events@ newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk Booking: Eventbrite



Events hosted by Elphinstone Institute

Booking and info: elphinstone@abdn.ac.uk

TUE 12 OCT

Stories from Deeside to India

Online | Live

7pm (1hr 30) | Free (ticketed)

Come on a story journey through time and space to hidden glens, haunted castles, enchanted forests, and Himalayan peaks as storyteller **Cathy Low** tells tales from her native Deeside and from her second home in India.

TUE 19 OCT

Imagine the Best Musician

Online | Live

7pm (1hr 30) | Free (ticketed)

Born in Kamakwie in northern Sierra Leone, storyteller **Usifu Jalloh** is a highly experienced, talented, and award-winning performer and educator whose storytelling style encompasses international languages, music, dance and themes. Join Usifu as he tells a tale he learned when he was only seven years old, which still inspires him today.



TUE 26 OCT

Spooky an Sinister Tales fae the North-East

Online | Live

7pm (3hrs) | Free (ticketed)

Five o oor brawest storytellers explore uncanny tales o e Nor-East o Scotland in a nicht o online collaboration. Jyne us tae learn aboot e Nor-East's ghaisties an ghoulies, its witches an warlocks. Bit dinna jist listen – we wint ye tae share yer ain tales, inna. Iss event is open tae aa brave sowls!

Five of our finest storytellers explore unsettling tales of the North-East of Scotland in a collaborative online evening. 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. The event is open to all brave souls! With Grace Banks, Sheena Blackhall, Jackie Ross, Pauline Cordiner and Diana Peers.

Aberdeen

FRI 15 OCT

GAS Friday Fling with Zahra Afsah

Online | Live

7pm (2hrs) | Free

Join GAS - Grampian
Association of Storytellers
at their monthly event with
renowned Iranian storyteller,
Zahra Afsah. Zahra grew up
in Tehran and has shared the
tales of her people and her
land all over the world. Be
enthralled by this magical
teller as she takes us on a
journey through Persian tales
ancient and modern.

Booking and info: grampianstorytellers. wordpress.com gas_story@hotmail.com



SAT 30 OCT

Stories of our **Living Rivers** and Glens

Online | Live

7pm (2hrs) | Free

Come and join an online story ceilidh hosted by storyteller Grace Banks wi participants fae a ower - music, song, word and pictures inspired by oor livin rivers an glens.

This ceilidh is a wee celebratory reflection of an on-going project led by the Dee and Don Ceilidh Collective - where folk have shared their personal touch of the land on a communal story map. Their contributions have provided the stimulus for composers to create new musical and song pieces which will then be shared with the community.

A fine evenin o craic, wi tales an sangs fae Grace interspersed wi 'cameos' fae folk o a different kinds

Info: Grace Banks silverhaar@gmail.com FB @GBanks22 or 07595 873 888 **Booking: Eventbrite**



Dufftown

SAT 30 OCT

Halloween Tales for Quines & Loons

Live | Indoor & Online

Mortlach Memorial Hall, 1, 6 Albert Pl, Dufftown, AB55 4AY 6pm (1hr 45) | Free (ticketed)

The home of faeries and wisps. witches and spirits, Scotland's rich folklore comes to life every Halloween night, as the bairns go guising and the adults coorie in with a wee dram.

Join us for an evening of Halloween games and story time with Jackie Ross, before everyone heads out quising to ward off evil spirits for the coming year.

The event will be in person, but the story time will also be accessible online via live broadcast.

Booking and info: info@ destinationdufftown.com FB @destination.dufftown

Johnshaven

FRI 8 OCT

Tales from Land and Sea - From **Smugglers** Coast to ancient weaving village

Johnshaven Heritage Hub Museum, The Lifeboat House, Fore Street, Johnshaven, **DD10 0EU** 7.30pm (2hrs, with interval) | £6

Step into the stories of two quirky communities, from the beautiful 'Smugglers Coast'



fishing village of Johnshaven to the ancient handloom weaving village of Kilbarchan. Join acclaimed storvteller Anne Pitcher and singer-songwriter 'Johnner Jack' Andy Shanks for a spellbinding evening of stories, songs and art.

Booking and info: Andy Shanks 07877 716 650 or Johnshaven Heritage Hub Museum 01561 361 683

Mintlaw

SUN 17 OCT

The Fairmer's Ferret an Ither **Tales**

Live | Indoor

Aberdeenshire Farming Museum, Aden Country Park, Mintlaw, AB42 5FQ 1pm, 2pm & 3pm (45mins) Free (ticketed)

Join storvtellers Sheena Blackhall and Jackie Ross as they take you on an interactive journey through stories and songs featuring the animals both wild and domestic - that live on the farm. Lots of fun for all the family. Don't worry, we will keep the ferrets under control!

Booking and info: 01771 624 590 or email ioanne.edwards@ aberdeenshire.aov.uk



The Mearns

FRI 29 OCT

Scary Fairy Stories

Online | Live

6pm (2hrs) | Free

Join storyteller Pauline
Cordiner to find out why
Fairies are amongst the
scariest creatures in Scotland!
Irritating imps, plagues of
pixies, killer kelpies, tragic
tarrans, hot-headed heroines
and much more. There will
also be a Scary Fairy Lantern
Competition judged on the
night. So get yourself all
dressed up and sit in the
candle-light for an evening
of Halloween tales for all
the family!

As we go deeper into the evening, the stories will get scarier. Pauline will begin with stories best for the wee ones before we all decide the best Scary Fairy Lantern – after which Pauline will give us scarier stories best suited for older children and adults.

Booking and Info: sandragdavison@gmail.com

Orkney

THU 28 – SUN 31 OCT

Orkney Storytelling Festival

Join us on the 12th edition of the small festival with a big heart and enjoy a four-day programme of storytelling events. Orkney storytellers will gather with their special quests: the Japanese storyteller and Master of the Japanese Tea Ceremony Mio Shudo and storyteller and musician Anne Hunter, who tells traditional tales from Scotland and around the world. Young storyteller Ailsa Dixon will also share her stories, in celebration of her Orcadian heritage.

Full programme, booking and info: www.orkneystorytelling festival.co.uk

Q Outer Hebrides

Stornoway

WED 27 – SAT 30 OCT

Faclan: The Hebridean Book Festival

"Islands: Worlds in Isolation" is the 2021 theme, partly inspired by the impact of the pandemic and partly by Faclan's spectacular setting in the Outer Hebrides.

As we continue to emerge from lockdown, Faclan 2021 is once again set to consist of four days of live events at An Lanntair, including film screenings, an exhibition and a fringe programme supported by **Outer Hebrides LEADER**.

WED 27 OCT

Sparr | Rivet

Live | Indoor & Film Screening

An Lanntair, Kenneth St, Stornoway, HS1 2DS 8.15pm (1hr 30) | Ticketed

Several artists come together to present an extended story based on several traditions from the Isle of Lewis and the oral history of Govan. A blind woman has known tragedy more than once in her life and does everything in her power to protect the youngest of her four sons from the sea. A collaborative performance devised by storyteller lan Stephen alongside Laura Cameron Lewis and Mike Vass. with illustrations by Christine Morrison.

The event includes a live introduction presented by the artists, followed by the film version of the show. In collaboration with **An Lanntair**.

Part of the Imagine series

Booking and info: from 17 Sep
on lanntair.com/faclan









Perth and Kinross

Aberfeldy Events hosted by Birks Cinema

1 Dunkeld St, Aberfeldy, PH15 2DA

Booking and info: birkscinema.co.uk

THU 28 OCT

Three Rivers Rising

Live | Indoor

7.30pm (1hr) | £0 - £12

The Water of Leith, the River Tay and the Firth of Forth are a constant source of inspiration for storytellers Svend-Erik Engh, Claire Hewitt and musician Neil Sutcliffe. 'Three Rivers Rising' celebrates the stories, songs, music and lore of these waters that weave through the communities and land we live in.

In case of new Covid regulations the event will be live streamed online.





THU 4 NOV

Film & Storytelling

Live | Indoor

6pm (2hrs) | £0 - £12

The Summer Walkers (53min)

In this 1976 film **Timothy Neat** documents the lives of some of Scotland's Highland Travellers.

The Gruagach Solais (1hr)

Come gather round the fire of inspiration where stories of wise blacksmiths and brave bellows makers will warm the dark night. Songs and local tunes collected by Munro Gauld will weave their magic around the tales in celebration of Perthshire Traveller Willie MacPhee - Piper, Tradition Bearer and the last of the tinsmiths. With local storyteller Claire Hewitt and musician Munro Gauld.



Aberfeldy Events hosted by Scottish Crannog Centre

Loch Tay, Aberfeldy, PH15 2HY Booking and info: www. crannog.co.uk, 01887 830 583, info@crannog.co.uk

SAT 9 & SUN 10 OCT

Celtic Autumn Story Weaving Weekend

Live | Outdoor

10am (6hrs) | Tours start every 45 mins (1hr 30) £5 (free for under 5s)

Take a tour through a jampacked weekend full of music, song and stories, with storytelling themed activities. Performances throughout the Saturday from author Mandy Haggith and Sunday from singer/songwriter Christine Kammerer, with stories, activities and songs all weekend by storyteller

Graham Liney, performance artist Taylor Waggoner, singer Isobel Hanby and many more. Join us to weave stories and songs, inspired by the iron age textile in our care, and even try your hand weaving on our community loom. Advance booking recommended.

THU 21 OCT

The Gruagach Solais

Live | Outdoor

2pm (1hr) £5 (free for under 5s)

Come gather round the fire of inspiration where stories of wise blacksmiths and brave bellows makers will warm the dark night. Songs and local tunes collected by Munro Gauld will weave their magic around the tales in celebration of Perthshire Traveller Willie MacPhee - Piper, Tradition Bearer and the last of the tinsmiths. With local storyteller Claire Hewitt and musician Munro Gauld.

THU 28 OCT

Three Rivers Rising

Live | Outdoor

2pm (1hr) £5 (free for under 5's)

The Water of Leith, The Tay and the Forth are a constant source of inspiration for storytellers Svend-Erik Engh, Claire Hewitt and musician Neil Sutcliffe. 'Three Rivers Rising' celebrates the stories, songs, music and lore of these waters that weave through the communities and land we live in.

SUN 31 OCT

Samhuinn Festival for Halloween

Live | Outdoor

7pm (2hrs) £10 (£5 child, free for under 5s)

Join us for an evening of music, storytelling, magic and fire, as we celebrate the ancient Celtic festival of Samhuinn. Headline acts include The Leveneers, Dave Delph and Izzie Hanby, alongside the Hedgewitches, shadow puppet performances, Halloween games, and our famous Ram Burn!



Pitlochry Events hosted by Pitlochry Festival Theatre

Port Na Craig, Pitlochry, PH16 5DR

Booking and info: pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com

SAT 23 OCT

A Necklace of Stories from the Highlands and Islands

Live | Outdoor

12pm (1hr) | Ticketed

Be transported to the magical Hebridean Islands and the Highlands of Scotland through stories and legends collected by folklorist Otta Swire, who captured the spirit and traditions of a bygone era. Through story, music and imagery, storytellers Bea Ferguson and Heather Yule will explore the captivating tales of these lands, and the people and strange creatures who dwelt there. The event is outdoor, please dress appropriately for the weather.

SAT 30 OCT

From Floor Sweeper to Climate Pioneer

Live | Outdoor

12pm (1hr) | Ticketed

Discover James Croll, the Scottish janitor born into poverty and dogged by ill health who became the self-taught father of climate science. Using storytelling, props and historical interpretation, storyteller Nicola Wright will present Croll's theories - which inform today's study of climate change and tell his remarkable life story to a family audience. The event includes a O&A session with the artist. Both sessions are outdoor, please dress appropriately for the weather.

Part of the Imagine series







Q Renfrewshire

Kilbarchan

FRI 12 NOV

Tales from Land and Sea – From Smugglers Coast to ancient weaving village

Live | Indoor

Old Kilbarchan Library Centre, 9 High Barholm, Kilbarchan, Johnstone, PA10 2EF 7.30pm (2hrs, with interval) £6

Step into the stories of two quirky communities, from the beautiful 'Smugglers Coast' fishing village of Johnshaven to the ancient handloom weaving village of Kilbarchan. Join acclaimed storyteller **Anne Pitcher** and singer-songwriter 'Johnner Jack' **Andy Shanks** for a spellbinding evening of stories, songs and art. Bring your own bottle & nibbles.

Booking and info: Old Kilbarchan Library Centre 01505 706 070, Anne Pitcher 07708 059 770.





9 Shetland

Sandwick

THU 28 OCT

Waves, Wirds & Wirset

Live I Indoor

Hoswick Visitor Centre, Hoswick, Sandwick, ZE2 9HL 2pm (1hr 30, with interval) Free (ticketed) | Donations welcome

Join us for a dementia friendly afternoon of tunes and tales of the sea, woven together with 'wirds' from local poets. Enjoy your afternoon tea whilst Yell singer and sailor Barry Nisbet, storyteller Jan Bee Brown and local poet James Sinclair share 'wirds' of wit and wisdom.

All proceeds to go to Alzheimer Scotland to develop local creative projects for folk living with dementia and their carers.

Booking and info: Jan Bee Brown 07799 852 162

StirlingWED 27 OCT

Three Rivers Rising

Live | Indoor

The Tolbooth, Jail Wynd, Stirling, FK8 1DE 7pm (1hr) | £7 (£5)

The Water of Leith, The Tay and the Forth are a constant source of inspiration for storytellers Svend-Erik Engh, Claire Hewitt and musician Neil Sutcliffe. 'Three Rivers Rising' celebrates the stories, songs, music and lore of these waters that weave through the communities and land we live in.

Booking and info: stirlingevents.org or 01786 274 000





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 several buses stop on South Bridge, with a taxi rank close by.

Scottish Storytelling Centre | 43-45 High Street | EH1 ISR



TICKETS 0131 556 9579 | sisf.org.uk

#sisfimagine @scotstoryfest



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.



Edinburgh Festival City.com

Our Partners















Special thanks to Edinburgh partners:

National Library of Scotland, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, St. Columba's by the Castle Scottish Episcopal Church, Water of Leith Visitor Centre, The Balm Well and Toby Carvery Liberton, Dr Neil's Garden. Hopetoun Crescent Garden, Redhall Walled Garden, Leith Community Croft and Mercat Tours.

Special thanks to regional partners:

Cara Roberts, Friends of St. Conan's Kirk, Hillfoots Tales, Orkney Storytelling Festival, Tay-Gither, Dundee Botanic Garden, HMS Unicorn, Birks Cinema, Scottish Crannog Centre, Wild Goose Festival, The Stove Network, People and the Sea project, Fife Libraries, The Village Storytelling Centre, Coul House Hotel, Highland Museum of Childhood, Brahan Estate, Elphinstone Institute, Newbattle Abbey College, The Beacon Arts Centre, Three Hares Community Woodland, Johnshaven Heritage Hub Museum, Mortlach Memorial Hall, Aberdeenshire Farming Museum, Old Kilbarchan Library Centre, The Tolbooth, Grampian Association of Storytellers, Dee and Don Story Collective, An Lanntair, Pitlochry Festival Theatre and Hoswick Visitor Centre.