# 13-29 October 2023 


\#RightToBeHuman sisf.org.uk

## Welcome

## to the 2023 Scottish International Storytelling Festival．

Join us as we explore，question and celebrate the Right To Be Human． This year，on the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights，we consider the many challenges we face，from human health and wellbeing to the health and future of our planet． However，there is also a worldwide movement to meet these challenges，and to exist imaginatively，fairly and in community with the whole diversity of life．

Storytelling has embraced these values from the dawn of culture and stories today can help us be more connected to the world around us，as well as our rights，showing us how to be more alive and creative as humans．

## 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．We acknowledge the support of the Norwegian Honorary Consulate General and Bòrd na Gàidhlig．


| Scottish Government |
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Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs

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# About the Programme 

Our event categories ensure your storytelling experience is exactly what you are looking for, be it the magic of live storytelling or the occasion for professional development and networking with the best in the field.

## How to book

 www.sisf.org.uk
+44 (0)1315569579
43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR

All other partner venues and regional events have their own booking outlets, apart from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh events.

## Accessibility

A full Access Statement is available on our website. A full list of how to engage with our accessible events will be available at sisf.org.uk.

## Event Types

## Live | Indoor

Live storytelling events in festival venues.

## Live | Outdoor

Live storytelling events in outdoor locations.

## Live | Workshops

Workshops and presentations held in the Scottish Storytelling Centre.

## Online | Workshops

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

## Festival Pass

We have striven to keep ticket prices as affordable as possible throughout the programme. If you plan to attend multiple events, please take advantage of our Festival Pass!

- Discounted tickets to many live festival events at the Scottish Storytelling Centre, not including live workshops
- Discounted tickets to many online festival workshops
- $10 \%$ discount at the Storytelling Centre's bookshop
- $10 \%$ discount in the Haggis Box's Storytelling Café

(£10)

Look for the Festival Pass prices in the listings marked as $k$

## Another Story <br> A Scottish Storytelling Podcast

Another Story is a new podcast series exploring some of the themes featured in this year's Festival. Tune in to hear some wonderful storytellers share their favourite tales and chat about storytelling in Scotland and beyond. So, settle down, or speed on up, to join us for another story...

Available wherever you get your podcasts, including Spotify, Apple, Google and Amazon. Follow us by liking and subscribing so you don't miss an episode!


## Festival Exhibitions <br> 

## SAT 7 - SUN 29 OCT

## TALK.

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

SCOTTISH MENTAL HEALTH ARTS FESTIVAL

TALK. is an ongoing portraiture project by Edinburgh-based photographer Graham Williams, exploring the subject of men's mental health, where the portraits are made after a conversation between photographer and sitter about their own experiences. The project aims to start a wider conversation about a subject which is still relatively under-discussed and to encourage anyone who may be struggling to reach out for help. It's time to TALK.
Part of Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival.
www.talkportraits.co.uk
Instagram: @talk.portraits

## UNTIL 20 APR 2024

## Sgeul | Story: Folktales from the Scottish Highlands

Discover the magical Gaelic folktales collected by John Francis Campbell of Islay (1821-1885)

National Library of Scotland
Mon, Tue, Thu: 9.30am - 7pm
Wed: 10am - 7pm
Fri, Sat: 9.30am - 5pm
Free
Scotland is rich in stories but, once upon a

'Black House' painting by John Francis Campbell. Photo courtesy by National Library of Scotland. time, Scottish Gaelic folktales were almost


TALK.


## FRI 13 OCT

## Tales of Exile and Sanctuary

6pm (1hr)
Following her work with refugees and long-term migrants to the UK, storyteller Gauri Raje shares a tapestry of stories woven together from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, India and the Horn of Africa. In her beautiful storytelling style, Gauri questions the beauty and horrors of exile and what can be nourished through sanctuary.

## SAT 14 OCT

## The Town Mouse

 and the Country Mouse11am (1hr) | £5 per child Come along on a multisensory adventure with artist/ illustrator Kate Leiper and storyteller Ailie Finlay. Explore this well-loved tale, handling cosy props, soft quilts, crunchy leaves, snug nests and (watch out!) tinkling cat-bells. Then create an artwork inspired by the story, dipping into Kate's wonderful art box and have fun with colours, textures and tactile materials.
Fun for everyone but particularly suitable for children with additional needs and their families and friends.

## Wave Riders

## 8pm (1hr)

Three women, three ships, three voyages. Journey back in time with storyteller Jan Bee Brown and musician Renzo Spiteri as they share a series of saga-driven sonic stories of Viking pioneers Unn the Deep-minded, Gudrid the Far-traveller and Melkorka the Silent. Setting sail in small boats, our heroines forged better ways to live in peace with rights, freedoms and respect, standing shoulder to shoulder.

## SUN 15 OCT

## Letters to Jackie

8pm (1hr)
60 years ago, in Dundee, DC Thomson's Jackie magazine was a bestseller for the teenage market and young readers flocked to Jackie's ‘agony aunts' Cathy and Clare with their problems. But where can we seek answers to our present-day dilemmas and challenges? Sgàthach Storytellers Bea
Ferguson, Heather Yule and Maria Whatton bring the power of the old tales to answer the problems of today. Come and join them as agony aunts in an interactive session of story and music!

## Joyfully Grimm: Reimagining a Queer Adolescence

8pm (1hr)

1988. One boy is growing up in myth and magic, unaware that Section 28, a 'prohibition on promoting homosexuality', is moving to silence his tale and those of anyone like him. LGBTQIA+ people have always existed joyfully - in stories and real life - and the fabulous eventually wins. Combining traditional fairy tales and original poetry, storyteller James Stedman - and a grumpy frog - will guide you through a heartfelt, slightly irreverent look at our history, towards a hopeful future. Directed by Molly Naylor.

## TUE 17 OCT

## The Voice Shall Always Remain

8pm (1hr)
Iranian storyteller Zahra Afsah and Syrian storyteller Khloud Ereksousi use the traditional technique of pardeh-khani (narration through curtains) to interweave an ancient Persian tale with modern day stories. A slave girl humbles the King of Persia and escapes from imprisonment in a tower through her own efforts. As the story unfolds, we explore how many Iranian women are trapped in 'towers' nowadays and how the key to their freedom lies in their own voices and talents. Directed by Jackie Ross.

## WED 18 OCT

## Don Quixote Rides Again

8pm (1hr)

Prepare yourself for a spellbinding experience as Spanish storyteller Inés Álvarez Villa and flamenco musician Danielo Olivera bring the iconic adventures of Don Quixote to life, transporting you to the heart of Spanish culture. While Cervantes' timeless masterpiece continues to entertain, enlighten and inspire us, this comical yet poignant show explores our right to be human: challenging prejudice, showing compassion, and having the strength to embrace our true selves. Directed by Jelena Bašić.

## SAT 21 OCT

## Odin's Eye and the Art of Seeing

6pm (1hr)
'When a proton beam of radio therapy fires into my eye, ultraviolet auroras appear in my vision. An unexpected moment of beauty in a cancer treatment centre in the Wirral opens the doorway to a world of $\nVdash$ sir and Vanir gods, and their epic quests in the pursuit of seeing.' Storyteller Alice Fernbank shares a personal story of ill-health and healing, threaded through the Norse tales of Odin, Gullveig, and Mimir. Directed by Kath Burlinson.

## Shadow Walking

8pm (1hr)

Storytellers Ruth Kirkpatrick and Peter Chand seek to excavate stories that are not often told, out of the shadows and onto centre stage. Are you sitting comfortably? Well, you may not for long, as these tales touch on uncomfortable, dark themes of jealousy, destruction and vanity. A happy-ever-after is not guaranteed! Accompanied by an amazing, unique jazz score from musician Tom Lyne on double bass.

## SUN 22 OCT

## Orpheus | Orfeo

8pm (1hr)

The story of Orpheus and Eurydice gets a Scottish twist in this dark and dangerous telling of the famous Greek myth. For this first time ever, the Shetland ballad of King Orfeo is swirled into the murky depths of Hades' underworld. Storyteller Daniel Serridge, singer Heather Cartwright and harpist Neil Wood explore grief and loss, inspired by the words of people who live and work most closely with it. They will take you deep below the earth and back again, pushing you forward, dragging you home and demanding that you don't look back!

## MON 23 OCT

## In the Hartwood

6pm (1hr)
Join storytellers Jane Mather and Heather Yule on a journey in tribute to those interred in pauper's graves at the now derelict Hartwood Hospital, and the friends who tend the cemetery and make it a tranquil oasis. Let stories and harp music guide you into the faerie realm where dreams are powerful and nature spirits abound.

## TUE 24 OCT

## Rickle O Stanes

## 8pm (1hr)

This is a show about Scotland's land: about its rocks and mud, what it's grown, what lives it's sustained, how it's been bought, fought for and wounded. Through powerful and playful storytelling and traditional song, Shona Cowie, Neil Sutcliffe and dramaturg Liam Hurley explore the layers of history on which we stand today, piling up to create a performance as radical as it is entertaining.


## THU 26 OCT

## Arise!

## 6pm (1hr)

The 'Breadagogues', Marie Louise Cochrane, Suzanne Houston and Andrew
Whitley share stories and songs of bread, one of the oldest and most well-loved foods in human history. An extraordinary tale of adulteration, exploitation and mendacious marketing, seen through the eyes of a country baker who took on the system, determined to bake a better future. With an amusing narrative and catchy songs, we are invited to take this vital food into our own hands. Scottish flour, recipes and real bread will be available post-show.

Fire from the Woods

8pm (1hr)

Sometimes fathers are silent while children grow up without stories. How can the children of these fathers release their trapped lips? We humans have the right to know our ancestors' stories. By reimagining old tales from Lithuania and around the world, storyteller Daiva Ivanauskaite and musician Gaynor Barradell explore the silence between generations. Let them take you to the deep dark woods and meet the old man with the wire beard, always hungry for unheard stories.
Directed by Lauren Bianchi.
Supported by The Village Storytelling Centre.

## SAT 28 OCT

## Once Upon a Time There Was a War

8pm (1hr)
The harsh reality of war meets the magic of love songs and art, as Danish storyteller Svend-Erik Engh shares stories from real-life soldiers gathered in a decade of research, whilst musician Mairi Campbell sings songs of peace and love, from the canon of Scottish traditional song and her own writings. Danish artist Tea Bendix illustrates words and music, bringing another dimension to the stories.

# Open Hearths \& Special Events 

Scottish Storytelling Centre unless stated

## Live I Indoor

All events are $£ 10$ ( $£ 8$ )
t£6 unless stated
Our Open Hearth sessions gather together storytellers and musicians for a relaxed evening of stories and music in the Netherbow Theatre. As the darkness closes in and minds glow with pictures in the symbolic fire, this is the perfect way to end your day!


Anna Conomos-Wedlock
Photo by Perform Story

## FRI 13 OCT

## Open Hearth

8pm ( 1 hr 30 )
Featuring Fiona Herbert,
Douglas Mackay, Tim Porteus and musician Rachel Newton.

## WED 25 OCT

## Open Hearth

8pm ( 1 hr 30 )
Featuring Beverley Bryant, Marion Kenny, John Nicol and musician Ryan Young.

## SUN 29 OCT

## Open Hearth

8pm (1hr 30)
Featuring Anna ConomosWedlock, Berit Alette Mienna, Owen Pilgrim and musicians Øistein Hanssen and Rebecca Vučetić.

## THU 19 OCT

Red Aphrodite

by Amy Murray<br>Presented by Deaf Action

8pm (1hr) |18+
Amy Murray wants to break down all the taboos about womanhood, expressing some hilarious, tragic and cringy experiences in her life.
Red Aphrodite is all about lust, periods, dating and sex - a funny and relatable look at femininity! Originally performed at Edinburgh Deaf Festival, this piece is performed in British Sign Language, with a BSL interpreter providing a voiceover in English.

## FRI 20 \& FRI 27 OCT

## Guid Crack

Waverley Bar
7.30pm (2hrs 30)

By donation | 18+
Two festival specials of Edinburgh's long-running storytelling night, featuring a guest storytellers Grace Banks (Fri 20) and Claire McNicol (Fri 27). With an open-floor section to share a tale of your own.

## FRI 20 OCT

## Alba \& Èirinn: Òrain \& Sgeulachdan na Fèinne

8 f ( 1 hr )
San tachartas seo, thèid na laoidhean is sgeulachdan gaisgeil mu dheidhinn Fionn MacCumhnaill agus na Fèinne a thaisbeanadh as ùr.

## Le Màrtainn Mac an t-Saoir, Màiri NicllleMhaoil, Mhairi Hall, Gráinne Holland agus Éamon Doorley.

Thèid a chumail tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig is na Gaeilge (le mìneachadh sa Bheurla).
Le taic bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig agus sgeama Colmcille.

## Scotland \& Ireland: Songs \& Stories of the Fianna

8pm (1hr)
Join us for an eloquent blend of story, ballad and music, exploring the tales of Fionn MacCumhnaill and the Fianna. Featuring Martin MacIntyre, Mairi MacMillan, Mhairi Hall, Gráinne Holland and Éamon Doorley.
This performance will be held in Gaelic, but will be accessible to English speaking audiences.
Supported by Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Colmcille fund.

## SUN 22 OCT

## SMHAF Writing

 Awards2pm (2hrs) | Free, ticketed Join us for the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival's 10th annual Writing Awards, an opportunity to celebrate new writing exploring mental health and the SMHAF theme of 'Revolution'.

## MON 23 OCT

## The Displaced Heart

8pm (1hr)
The displaced heart can be unrequited love, longing for your homeland, or feeling lost in a cold world. The displaced
heart is a hungry heart! An exquisite storytelling and music performance, combining English, Punjabi, and Irish, plus beautiful songs accompanied by guitar and sitar. Performed by Peter Chand, Gráinne Holland, Eamon Mcholm and Alec Cooper.

## FRI 27 OCT

## The Promise

8pm (1hr)
Two seven-year-old best friends, one Greek and one Turkish, live on the outskirts of Smyrna. In 1923, while war and destruction change everything around them, a promise they make to each other will unite them forever. On the 100-year anniversary of those tragic events, storyteller Anna Conomos-Wedlock presents a powerful story inspired by the oral testimonies of Asia Minor refugees, drawing on the meaning of homeland, displacement, memory and friendship. Featuring evocative songs and music by Rebecca Vučetić.

## SUN 29 OCT

## Human Library

12pm (4hrs)
Free, drop-in | 16+
Unjudge someone. The Human Library is a library of people. An event where readers can borrow human beings serving as open books, and have conversations they would not normally have access to. Every human book from the bookshelf, represents a group in our society that is often subjected to prejudice, stigmatization or discrimination because of their lifestyle, diagnosis, belief, disability, social status, ethnic origin etc.

# Collective 

## Treasures

## Scottish Storytelling Centre

## Live | Indoor

All events are $£ 8$ ( $£ 6$ )
\£4 unless stated

Storytelling is a store of collective memories, experiences and values.
Relax, and delve into those treasures in the genial company of the festival's storytellers, as they celebrate our common humanity.

## SAT 14 OCT

## The Iron Hag and Other Tales

6pm (1hr)
Antrim storyteller and singer Colin Urwin dips into the renowned Sam Henry Collection. Join him as he pulls out some treasures of song and story that were gathered in Rathlin Island, and the north coasts and glens of Ireland.

## SUN 15 OCT

## Where the Feather Falls

6pm (1hr)
Storyteller Jess Smith and musician Joss Cameron share stories and ballads from the fullness of the Traveller's Kist, a treasure of songs and tales that flow like the clear waters of a Highland burn.

## MON 16 OCT

## Calvino 100

6pm (1hr)
Join storytellers Anne Hunter, Donald Smith and Simone
Caffari as they weave a ScotsItalian garland of stories, music and song in celebration of Italo Calvino's centenary.
Prolific writer and political activist, Calvino is also known for translating 200 folktales from their original local dialects, collected in the book Italian Folktales.


## TUE 17 OCT

## Up the Middle Road: Stories from the Crichton Royal Asylum

6pm (1hr)

Dr Valentina Bold and storyteller Amanda Edmiston present excerpts from Mike Bolam's film Up the Middle Road and a live storytelling performance, followed by a discussion on how stories can heal and dispel the stigma around mental health. The event is the natural result of a 2022 project developed at the site of the former Crichton Royal Asylum in Dumfries.

## WED 18 OCT

## New Wave

## 6pm (1hr)

The storytelling community in Scotland is an incubator of diverse talent. Enjoy the fresh voices of new and emerging tellers. Hosted by Janis Mackay.



## THU 19 OCT

## Scots Character

6pm (1hr)
Dour, thrawn, generous, mean, stoic, droll, contrary, wild, gentle... Tour the range of Scots tale and tongue, including some outrageous personal memories. Wha's like us? Damned few, an we're certainly no aw deid yit. With storyteller James Spence.

## FRI 20 OCT

## Sgeul - Mighty and Magic

6pm (1hr)
Experience mighty and magic tales from the John Francis Campbell collection. These are presented in new adaptations, in Gaelic and English. Tradition bearer Allan MacDonald teams up with musician Aidan O'Rourke. Translation support from Donald Smith.

## SAT 21 OCT

## The Girl's Own Survival Guide to History

4pm (1hr)

Do you need help negotiating your way through the wild world of women's history? Join Gillian Paterson and Nicola Wright on a whirlwind trip through female pirates and raucous rebels, whilst learning how to avoid being called a witch.

## SUN 22 OCT

## A Garment for the Moon

6pm (1hr)
Travel back to a place where the sun and the moon feel sorrow and shame, and a humble tailor can journey between worlds to make a
gown as glorious as a skyful of stars. Set at the beginning of time, this traditional Jewish story is told by Shonaleigh Cumbers from family tradition, as remembered and taught by her bubbe (grandmother) Edith Marks.


## TUE 24 OCT

## Alan Bruford Lecture

6pm (1hr) | Free, ticketed Explore Scotland's unrivalled folklore collections in the annual Alan Bruford Lecture. Presented by John Shaw, in partnership with the Department of Celtic and Scottish Studies at Edinburgh University.

## WED 25 \& SAT 28 OCT

## Northern Treasures

6pm (1hr)
Sami culture is a collective treasure in story, song and music. Over two performances, storyteller/ joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen share the deep roots of this northern lifestyle, the threats it faces, and its ongoing struggle to adapt and survive.

## FRI 27 OCT

## In the World and Out of It

6pm (1hr)
Sheena Blackhall, Maria Sappho and Kate Steenhauer present a pilot performance where storytelling, music and live visual art are intertwined in an evocation of traditional tales and ballads handed down from Stanley Robertson, the Scottish Traveller tradition bearer.

## SAT 28 OCT <br> The Feast of the Dead

4pm (1hr)

Tonight's full moon invites us to celebrate the collective ancestors in the spirit of Celtic Samhain and Norse Winter Nights. Storyteller David Brown shares Cornish, Scottish, Irish and Norse tales, uncanny stories that were familiar to the people that once inhabited these green isles of the grey North Sea.


## SUN 29 OCT

## The Flying Horse of Earthdom

6pm (1hr)

From the beautiful wonder tales carried by the Williamson Traveller family of Argyll, comes this lifeaffirming story of survival from prejudice, disability and violence. Told to Duncan Williamson (1928-2007) by an old cousin who had been through World War I, the story is retold for our time by storytellers Linda Williamson, Jimmy Williamson, David Campbell and Mio Shudo.


## SAT 14 OCT

## The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

11am (1hr)
£5 per child | All Ages
Come along on a multisensory adventure with artist/illustrator Kate Leiper and storyteller Ailie Finlay. Explore this well-loved tale, handling cosy props, soft quilts, crunchy leaves, snug nests and (watch out!) tinkling cat-bells. Then create an artwork inspired by the story, dipping into Kate's wonderful art box and have fun with colours, textures and tactile materials.
Fun for everyone but particularly suitable for children with additional needs and their families and friends.

## Isis and Osiris

2pm (1hr)
£5 per child | 5+
Join belly dancer Moyra Banks and storyteller Fergus McNicol to dance the ancient Egyptian myth of Isis and Osiris. Prepare to fly, swim and fight with the gods of Ancient Egypt in this fun story-dance for everyone. A fully interactive session so comfortable shoes suggested!

## SUN 15 OCT

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Arboretum Place, EH3 5NZ
Booking and info: Scottish Storytelling Centre -
www.sisf.org.uk, 01315569579

## Once There Was a Bug

## Live | Outdoor

12pm-1.30pm \& 2.30pm-4pm (20min sessions) Free, drop-in | All Ages
Stories about trees, animals, bugs and much more, for children and their grown-ups.

## Rewilding Cinderella: An Eco-Storytelling Concert

Live | Outdoor

1.30pm (1hr 15) | £5•Storywalk 1-All Ages•Storywalk 2-12+ Follow the Storytelling Choir across the Garden as Cinderella stories from all over the world are woven together to explore the global, local and intimate journey of the ash-child. With Gauri Raje, Kestrel Morton, Laura Sampson, Wendy Shearer, Joanna Gilar and Fleur Hemmings. Poetry from Tunde Balogun, music from Heulwen Williams and artistic enchantments by Hannah Battershell.
The event involves a limited use of hazelnut and walnut shells.

## MON 16 OCT - WED 18 OCT

## School of Storycraft

10.30am (2hrs)
£15 | 7-12yrs
Storytellers Sarah Wedderburn-Ogilvy and Ailsa Dixon invite you to a series of fun-filled storytelling sessions. A great introduction to live storytelling for aspiring young storytellers, venturing out to explore stories in their spoken form, through art, games and movement. Come and try to tell your own story!


## MON 16 OCT

## Makin a Brew

11am (1hr)
$£ 5$ per child | All Ages
Musician Gica Loening and storyteller Claire McNicol share a mix of songs, rhymes, music, dance and stories aimed at small children, with older siblings welcome. Working with children and parents in Early Years Centres in North Edinburgh and Musselburgh over the last few years, Gica and Claire are delighted to create some magic in the lovely Storytelling Court!

## THU 19 OCT

## Kamishibai Workshop

11am (1hr 30) £5 per child | 7+ Experience the art of Kamishibai storyboard with renowned storyteller, harpist and Urasenke Japanese Tea Master Mio Shudo. Along with enchanting harp music, Mio will welcome you 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.

## FRI 20 OCT

Bear with Me: A Polar Bear in Scotland
1.30pm (1hr) £5 | 8+
Arty is a day-dreaming, inquisitive young polar bear who was born in Scotland but longs to see the world. When he inadvertently ends up on a voyage far from home, Arty discovers more than he bargained for... This moving spoken-word show from critically acclaimed collective Stuart Kenny (poet), Grant Robertson (musician/composer), Lottie Whittingham (musician) and Lewis Gillies (illustrator), takes the audience on a rip-roaring adventure across heather, hill, ocean and snow. A sell-out hit at Edinburgh Fringe 2023.

## SAT 21 OCT

## Macastory's Caddie Capers

## Live | Outdoor

11.30am (1hr) £5 per person | 5+ Join the Old Town Caddies as they take you on a Greatest Hits 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 ever-entertaining Macastory.
The event involves walking on hilly terrain.

# Visual Fun With Sports 

## by Petre Dobre and Craig McCulloch Presented by Deaf Action

1.30pm (1hr) £5|3+
Get ready to dive into the world of sports in this exciting family show. Watch as Petre and Craig take you on a spectacular adventure where sports come to life through humorous expressions and body language. Originally performed at Edinburgh Deaf Festival, this piece is performed in Visual Vernacular and British Sign Language, with a BSL interpreter providing a voiceover in English.

## SAT 28 OCT

## Family Samhuinn

12pm (2hrs)
Free, ticketed | 3+
This delightful Beltane Fire Society tradition allows parents to share in the magic of the Samhuinn celebration with their little ones through storytelling, face painting and arts \& crafts, in advance of the Samhuinn Fire Parade on Tue 31 Oct.

# Festival Workshops 

## Art of the Storyteller

## Scottish Storytelling Centre

## Live | Indoor

10.30am (2hrs 30) - unless stated All events are $£ 16$ ( $£ 12$ )

People have been sharing stories since language began. It is a subtle, complex and endlessly entertaining way of being human. Spend a morning with the best in the field to improve your skills and raise your ambitions. Hosted by Festival Director Donald Smith.

## SAT 14 OCT

## Invigorate Your Story

The storyteller's relationship with the audience and their connection to the tale they are telling are vital. LiverpudlianIrish storyteller Maria Whatton will explore ways to create a conducive atmosphere for listening, engaging interest and deepening connection to the different elements within a tale.
Please bring a traditional story of your choice to work on.

## SUN 15 OCT

## Something Old, Something New <br> 10.30am (3hrs)

Storyteller Colin Urwin shares the process he often uses to forge stories that sound as if they've been around for millennia. 'Something borrowed' can be family anecdotes or scraps of folklore; 'something blue' might be a memory or emotion. Colin will guide participants through a process of creation in which 'something old' can be reimagined and turned into a wonder tale that is not just 'something new' but eminently tellable.

## FRI 20 OCT

## Telling the Big Tales

Telling a long story is like holding a complicated tune from start to finish. Danish
storyteller Svend-Erik Engh and Donald Smith uncover their different approaches to tackling two mighty tales from the John Francis Campbell collection, and encourage you to make your own choices.

## SAT 21 OCT

## The Right to be Heard

We all know that stories give a voice to the voiceless. And often the stories we dismiss as meaningless little folktales have the most impact. Stories have given people the strength to speak up and the space to be heard in the most extreme circumstances. How can we work with stories to enable, empower and encounter each other? With storyteller Shonaleigh Cumbers.

## SUN 22 OCT

## Common

 Sense: Adding Flavour to your Storytelling10.30am (3hrs)

When we really start using our senses, our story can connect in a much deeper way. Join storyteller Peter Chand and let him guide you to add aroma, taste, texture and sound to your story, enabling it to sizzle. You will experience a variety of storytelling techniques, including use of memory and visualisation to help enhance your story, presentation or educational process.

# Global Lab 

Online | Workshops

## 2pm (2hrs 30)

All events are $£ 10$ ( $£ 8$ ) $\star £ 6$

The global storytelling community is given the opportunity to share, question and discuss, feeding each other's roots beyond geographical borders.

Hosted by Festival Director Donald Smith.

## WEEK ONE

## Earth Charter, Earth Stories

Our planet's eco-system is tipping towards breakdown. Yet we know that nature has the capacity to regenerate and heal. In these sessions we look at Earth's own stories for inspiration. Join this week's sessions to experience how ecological passion drives twenty-first century storytelling and contribute your own insights.
In association with Earth Charter International.

## MON 16 OCT

## Rewilding Cinderella

An international collaboration to identify and compare versions of Cinderella turns up some surprising choices, and a chance to explore the doughty heroine's connections with nature. With storytellers Gauri Raje, Joanna Gilar, Kestrel Morton, Sophie Gibson and Tunde Balogun.

## TUE 17 OCT

## Just Enough

Storytellers Cara Roberts from Scotland and Catriona Blanke from Germany explore the Earth Stories Collection and related tales. They invite us to think about how we can live in our human messiness alongside nature without mutual destruction, and on what stories can help us along.

## WED 18 OCT

## The Sea: Our Last Wilderness

Canadian storyteller Dawne McFarlane and Scottish musician Mairi Campbell nurture our connection with the sea and explore new ways to renew our broken bond with our planet's last great wilderness. Through story, music, science and the inspiration of indigenous and traditional cultures, we can reconnect and rewild.

## WEEK TWO

## Shared Lives

2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in Scotland consultation has begun on a new Bill of Human Rights.
This week we look at the underlying values and lived experience that inspire a rights-based approach, nationally and internationally. Explore how dignity, respect, equality and compassion can undermine the dehumanizers, abusers and persecutors. It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness.

## MON 23 OCT

## Our Place in Nature

In an increasingly online society, how do we connect to our place in nature? In this session we build on the experience of intergenerational communitybased workshops and we go in search of our wild spaces, questioning our right to use them and how different generations experience them. With David Hughes, Joanna Ramasawmy and Graham Richardson.

## TUE 24 OCT

## Our Human Rights

Hosted by Jemma Neville, this session looks at what is involved in a rights-based approach to society, nationally and internationally, bringing together leading rights advocates with lived experiences of today's struggle to be human. How did the Universal Declaration of Human Rights emerge, and how can we move it forward in changed circumstances?

## WED 25 OCT

## Listening to Children

While children are the voices of tomorrow, we are not always listening to them today. This session explores a variety of approaches to empowering children through respect, collaboration and imaginative companioning with shared stories. Hosted by Beth Cross, with contributions from Dr. Jennifer Markides and Donald Smith.

## THU 26 OCT

## Our Cultural Rights

TRACS (Traditional Arts and Culture Scotland) has championed a grassroots approach in the field of cultural rights and how they affect education, languages and local arts. This session aims to show how international human rights and UNESCO frameworks can underpin a community led approach to culture. Hosted by TRACS Director Steve Byrne and The People's Parish Project Lead David Francis, with creative fieldworkers and local participants.


# Edinburgh 

## Events


#### Abstract

Discover storytelling events and workshops organised by our Edinburgh partners, featuring venues and outdoor locations in the Old Town and beyond.


National Library of Scotland George IV Bridge, EHI IEW

Live storytelling | Free, ticketed
Booking and info: www.nls.uk

## FRI 20 OCT

## The Well at the World's End: Where the Heck Is It?

2pm (1hr) | 6+
Allison Galbraith shares family-friendly folktales collected by John Francis Campbell. Escape with a gang of farm animals as they set out to live the dream. Meet a fox with a flea problem and help solve the age-old riddle: where is the Well at the World's End, and how do you get there? An interactive, vivid storytelling show filled with gentle humour and a Gaelicsinging frog.

## WED 25 OCT

## Sgeul - Mighty and Magic

5pm (1hr)
Experience mighty and magic tales from the John Francis Campbell collection. These are presented in new adaptations, in Gaelic and English. Tradition bearer Allan MacDonald teams up with musician Aidan O'Rourke. Translation support from Donald Smith.

## THU 26 OCT

## A Tour and a Tale

11am (1hr) | 12+
Discover more about the NLS's current exhibition Sgeul | Story: Folktales from the Scottish Highlands and about the life and many talents of story collector

John Francis Campbell (1821-1885), with curator Ulrike Hogg. There will also be an opportunity to hear one of the stories from Popular Tales of the West Highlands, told by Beverley Casebow.

## TUE 31 OCT

## Tales from the Witches Sabbath

5.30pm (1hr) | 14+

The Witchcraft Act of 1563 -1736 came into fruition during a period of war, turmoil and famine, when ordinary people could easily fall under suspicion and face interrogation and death. Joss Cameron, John Tantalon and Amy Dudley take you on a journey of stories of those dark times, intertwined with music and songs.

National Library of Scotland George IV Bridge, EH1 IEW

## Workshops | Free, ticketed

Booking and info: www.nls.uk
TUE 17 OCT

## Sgeulachdan Ghaisgeach ann am Beul-aithris nan Gàidheal Albannach

## Hero Tales in Scotland's Gaelic Tradition

2pm (1hr 30)
Donations welcome | 12+
Storyteller Ruairidh Maclean takes us on a 'heritage tour' of Gaelic Scotland, introducing some of the heroic characters who appear in traditional tales that were recorded in the 19th and 20th centuries.

## WED 18 OCT

## Cuilg Mharbhtach Thorc agus Cathan Mòra

 Deadly Boarbristles and Mighty Battles10.30am (7hr 30)

Donations welcome | 12+
A large number of Scotland's place-names are 'folkloric', in that they commemorate happenings that belong to the realm of story and imagination. Storyteller
Ruairidh Maclean looks at some of the most famous examples of places in Gaelic Scotland where traditional tales are rooted in name and memory.

## THU 19 OCT

## Alba \& Èirinn: Òrain \& Sgeulachdan na Fèinne

## Scotland \& Ireland: Songs \& Stories of the Fianna

11am (1hr 30) | 12+
A group of musicians, singers and storytellers - Mairi MacMillan, Martin MacIntyre, Gráinne Holland, Mhairi Hall and Éamon Doorley - have been exploring the shared song and lore of Fionn MacCumhail and The Fianna in Scotland and Ireland. In this preperformance workshop, Màiri and Martin will offer insights into the shared creative journey of the group and give access to some of the key songs and stories, before the performance on Friday 20 October. A knowledge of Gaelic would be useful, but not essential.

## FRI 27 OCT

## Bùth-Obrach Òrain Luaidh le Rena Gertz

 Waulking Songs with Rena Gertz 10.30am (2hrs) | Adults Discover more about the tradition of Gaelic waulking songs with singer Rena Gertz. There will be a chance to learn some Gaelic songs, to find out the history of waulking the cloth in the Highlands and islands, to hear a traditional story, and to visit the exhibition Sgeul /Story: Folktales of the Scottish Highlands. No experience of Gaelic or singing required.
## SUN 15 OCT

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Arboretum Place, EH3 5NZ
Booking and info:
Scottish Storytelling Centre www.sisf.org.uk, 01315569579

## Once There Was a Bug

Live | Outdoor

12pm-1.30pm \& 2.30pm-4pm (20min sessions) Free, drop-in | All Ages Stories about trees, animals, bugs and much more, for children and their grown-ups.

## Rewilding Cinderella: An Eco-Storytelling Concert

## Live | Outdoor

1.30pm (1hr 15) | £5

Storywalk 1 - All Ages
Storywalk 2-12+
Follow the Storytelling Choir across the Garden as Cinderella stories from all over the world are woven together to explore the global, local and intimate journey of the ashchild. With Gauri Raje, Kestrel Morton, Laura Sampson, Wendy Shearer, Joanna Gilar and Fleur Hemmings. Poetry from Tunde Balogun, music from Heulwen Williams and artistic enchantments by Hannah Battershell.
The event involves a limited use of hazelnut and walnut shells.

## Go Local

 Live | IndoorUnless stated

Autumn is for cosy story gatherings and you don't need to travel far to be part of them. Discover a rich programme of local storytelling events, from the southwest to the very north of Scotland!

## Angus

## Edzell

## SUN 22 OCT

## Gorge-ous Nature Stories

## Live | Outdoor

The Burn Estate, Blue Door Walk, Glenesk, Brechin, DD9 7YP
2pm (2hrs) | £6
Storyteller Cara Roberts takes you through the Blue Door, on a 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.
Booking and info: Cara Roberts - cara@ onenatureeducation.com, www.onenatureeducation.com

## Montrose Basin

## SUN 22 OCT

## Wild Geese and Other Tales

Scottish Wildlife Trust Visitor Centre, Rossie Braes, A92, DDIO 9TA
5pm (7hr) | £6
Local storyteller and naturalist Cara Roberts shares mythic and real tales of wild geese, and reflects on our need for nature connection and
rewilding. Spend some time in the Scottish Wildlife Trust Visitor Centre, watching the geese land, before or after the performance.

## Booking and info:

 scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk or Cara Roberts - cara@ onenatureeducation.com, www.onenatureeducation.com
## Argyll

## Isle of Mull

Bunessan

## MON 13 NOV

## Once Upon a Time there Was a War

Bunessan Community Hall, PA67 6DP
7.30pm (1hr)

Pay What You Can
The harsh reality of war meets the magic of love songs and art, as Danish storyteller Svend-Erik Engh shares stories from real-life soldiers gathered in a decade of research, whilst musician Mairi Campbell sings songs of peace and love, from the canon of Scottish traditional song and her own writings. Danish artist Tea Bendix illustrates words and music, bringing another dimension into the stories. Hosted by An Tobar and Mull Theatre.
Booking and info: www. antobarandmulltheatre.co.uk

Part of the
Right To Be Human series


Tea Bendix
Photo by Klaus Nedergaard

## Lochawe

## SUN 22 OCT

## Rickle O Stanes

St Conan's Kirk, PA33 1AQ 3pm ( 1 hr ) | By donation
This is a show about Scotland's land: about its rocks and mud, what it's grown, what lives it's sustained, how it's been bought, fought for and wounded.
Through powerful and playful storytelling and traditional song, Shona Cowie, Neil Sutcliffe and dramaturg Liam Hurley explore the layers of history on which we stand today, piling up to create a performance as radical as it is entertaining.
Info: enquiries@stconanskirk. org.uk series

## Oban

## TUE 14 NOV

Events hosted by The Rockfield Centre
Rockfield Brae, 19 Stevenson
Street, PA34 5DQ
Booking and info: therockfieldcentre.org.uk

## The Laughing Mermaid and Other Stories

4pm (1hr)
Pay What You Can l 7+
Welcome to an hour of funny folktales from Denmark with storytellers Svend-Erik Engh and Alice Fernbank bringing you an assortment of stories from Svend-Erik's book Danish Folktales. Meet laughing mermaids, giant snakes, a fat cat, a runaway sledge, giants, devils, and of course Vikings.
Not suitable for children under 7 .

## Odin's Eye and the Art of Seeing

7pm (1hr) | Pay What You Can
'When a proton beam of radio therapy fires into my eye, ultraviolet auroras appear in my vision. An unexpected moment of beauty in a cancer treatment centre in the Wirral opens the doorway to a world of Æsir and Vanir gods, and their epic quests in the pursuit of seeing.'
Storyteller Alice Fernbank shares a personal story of illhealth and healing, threaded through the Norse tales of Odin, Gullveig, and Mimir. Directed by Kath Burlinson.

# Clackmannanshire 

## Alloa

## SAT 21 FRI 27 OCT

## Wild Hillfoots Storytelling Festival

## ‘Being Human'

Hillfoots Tales welcomes you to Alloa! Enjoy four days of traditional tales featuring guest storyteller Shona Cowie and local storytellers Eleanor Bell, Rosie Brown, Joanne Dowd, Mary Snaddon, Tania Dron, Sue Bytheway, Gail Watson, Heather Kirby and Laura Allison.
Full programme, booking and info: www.hillfootstales. co.uk, hillfootstales@gmail. com, 0780655906.

## 21 OCT

## Stand Up

Shona Cowie, Joanne Dowd and Tania Dron

## 25 OCT

Rights of the Round Table Hillfoots Tales

## 26 OCT

Finding the Right Story
Joanne Dowd and Sue
Bytheway
27 OCT
Storytellers Unleashed Hillfoots Tales

## Tales from the Japanese Garden

## Live | Outdoor

The Japanese Garden at Cowden, Upper Hillfoot Rd, FK14 7PL
11am (1hr 30)
Tour included in garden ticket Welcome to Sha Raku En, the place of pleasure and delight. Step through the archway and join a unique story tour around the garden. Hear Japanese tales and of the adventures of its creator Ella Christie with storytellers Lindsey Gibb and Mio Shudo.
The story tour is suitable for all ages. Please note the paths are loose gravel and slope upwards at various points.
Booking and info:
Nicola Dibley -cowden-garden.myshopify. com, outreach@ cowdengarden.com, 07876117703

# Dumfries \& Galloway 

## Dumfries

Events hosted by
The Stove Network
Full programme, booking and info: www.wildgoosefestival.scot

## THU 19 SUN 29 OCT

## Wild Goose Festival

Enjoy our annual exploration of nature, creativity and place across eleven days. The familyfriendly programme celebrates the incredible journey undertaken by five species of wild geese from Greenland, Iceland and Svalbard to the Solway estuary, in our very own region. Produced by The Stove Network and held in Dumfries and surrounding areas, the festival unites key partners from across the region to promote connection with our natural world through creativity, education and community engagement.

## THU 26 OCT

Northern Tales and Tunes
The Stove Network \& Café, 100 High St, DG1 2BJ
7.30pm (1hr)
£5 | Adults and 12+
Sami storyteller/joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen travel to Dumfries for a cosy and unique evening of stories, music and songs from the far north.

## Wanlockhead

## FRI 27 OCT

## The Ballad of the Wanlock Ingot

Wanlockhead Community Centre, Manse Road, ML12 6UT 7pm (2hrs) | By donation (suggested $£ 5$ ), on the door From deep in the earth of the Southern Uplands to the bottom of the ocean at the Cape of Good Hope, fate carries a sailor and a lead ingot far from home. Through traditional stories, live illustration and readings from the original book, Jean Edmiston, Andrew Foley and Kirsten Milliken explore the lives, folklore and customs of Wanlockhead's 18th century miners.
Info: Kirsten Milliken -
www.kirstenmilliken.co.uk, millikenkirsten@gmail.com

## Dundee

Events hosted by Blether Tay-Gither
Booking and info:
Owen Pilgrim - storypilgrim@hotmail.com

## SUN 15 OCT

## Tales of Care

## Live | Outdoor

University of Dundee Botanic Garden, Riverside Dr, DD2 1QH 2.30pm (1hr) | Free, drop-in

Blether Tay-Gither storytellers invite you to the lush green setting of the Botanic Garden as they weave stories on the theme of Care, for the enjoyment of all families.
The event is in conjunction with the Festival of the Future organised by the University of Dundee.

## WED 25 OCT

Journey to the South
HMS Unicorn, S Victoria Dock Rd, DD1 3BP 7pm (2hrs) \| $£ 5$
Dundee storytellers are pleased to host special guests Anna Conomos-Wedlock and Rebecca Vučetić in a night of stories and music from Greece, Asia Minor and Scotland. Set sail and get ready for a spellbinding journey from the North Sea to the Mediterranean.

## Fife

Events hosted by Lang Spoon Tales
Booking and info: Kate Walker - kate. storyteller@hotmail.co.uk, 07745957134

## Dunfermline

TUE 17 OCT

## Tales of Exile \& Freedom

Carnegie Hall Studio Theatre, East Port, KY12 7JA 7.30 ( 1 hr 30 ) | £5 (£4)

Argyll-based Gauri Raje and local Fife storytellers David Hughes, Kate Walker and Sarah Wedderburn-Ogilvy share stories of separation and liberty. Tales of yesterday, spoken for today.

## SAT 11 NOV

## Fabulous Fables

Dunfermline Carnegie Library and Galleries, 1 Abbot St, KY12 7NL 2pm (1hr 30) Free, ticketed | 4-10 yrs
Local storytellers Mary Snaddon, Kate Walker and Sarah Wedderburn-Ogilvy craft and tell old stories of wonder and wisdom tales for today.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

## SAT 14 OCT

## Bennachie Speaks

Laidlaw Music Centre, McPherson Recital Centre, Queen's Terrace, KY16 9QF 3pm (1hr) |£5
Musician Mairi McKeown and storyteller Ailsa Dixon weave legend and history with freshly-composed music to explore the past, present and future of Aberdeenshire mountain Bennachie: from rock formations and 900 year-old love triangles to the impact of climate change on its slopes. Through song and story, the mountain speaks.

Booking and info: Ailsa Dixon - ailsaedixon@gmail.com, FB: @AilsaDixonStoryteller

## Glasgow

## Glasgow

TUE 24 OCT

## Sangs an' Clatter: Northern Tales and Tunes

Blackfriars, 36 Bell St, Gl ILG 7.30pm (2hrs 30)

Pay What You Can (£5-£15)
Sami storyteller/joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen join the Village storytelling crowd for a unique evening of stories, music and song from the far north. Hosted by The Village Storytelling Centre.
Booking and info: www. villagestorytelling.org.uk, info@villagestorytelling.org. uk, 01418823025

## Dornoch

## FRI 13 OCT

## Tales and Tunes

Dornoch Library, 8 High St, IV25 3SH
11am (1hr) | Free
Adults and children 7+
Enjoy a morning of stories and music in the company of storyteller Bob Pegg and listen to the sounds of Scotland's oldest instruments.
Info: Bob Pegg -
catsback@gmail.com

## Evanton

## SAT 25 NOV

## Multicultural Ceilidh

Victoria Diamond Jubilee Hall, Hermitage St, IV16 9YG 3pm (3hrs) | By donation
Storyteller Lizzie McDougall invites you to a multicultural and family-friendly ceilidh of stories, songs and music, with tea and scones. A lively afternoon to celebrate traditional stories and music from Scotland and distant lands, with contributions from international musicians living in the Highlands.
Info: Lizzie McDougall lizzie.mcdougall@gmail.com


## SUN 12 NOV

## An <br> Cruinneachadh

Fort Augustus Village Hall, Church Rd, PH32 4DG 2pm (3hrs) | Free
Thighibh cruinn airson cuirm le farsaingeachd de dh'òraidean, fiolm agus ceòl beò a tha a' mealadh dualchas bheartach sgìrean Chill Chuimein, Ghleann a Garadh agus Ghleann Mhoireasdan.
Cluinneamaid bho Euan Robertson, dealbhadair fiolm a th' air duaisean a thogail, fidhleir le daimh dhan àite Charlie Grey, eitn-eòlaiche Raghnaid Sandilands, Andrew Grant MacKenzie eòlaiche eachdraidh agus luchd-ciùil Munro Gaul, Neil Baillie agus Ceit Langhorne. Bheir òigridh na sgìre blasad de sgeulachdan ionadail dhuinn cuideachd.

Mar phàirt de An
Cruinneachadh.
Fios: www.the-gathering. co.uk, ancruinnjg@gmail.com

## The Gathering

Explore the rich cultural heritage of Fort Augustus, Glengarry and Glenmoriston with filmmaker Euan
Robinson, local fiddler Charlie Grey, ethnographer Raghnaid Sandilands, historian Andrew Grant McKenzie and musicians Munro Gauld, Neil Baillie and Ceit Langhorne. Young people from the area will also share local stories.
Part of An Cruinneachadh Community Arts Programme.
Info: www.the-gathering. co.uk, ancruinnjg@gmail.com

## SAT 14 OCT

## Folklore and Humans: Where Two Worlds Meet

The Ross Institute, B874, KW12 6XZ
12pm, 3pm \& 6pm (2hrs) Free, ticketed
Join a trio of storytellers exploring the interplay between humans and mystical characters from local folklore.
Jane Mather (12pm) will introduce the magical figures and wise women of Caithness. Alexandria Patience (3pm) will examine stories of herbs, health, brews and witches, and Griogair MacAllein (6pm) will lead a vivid, immersive workshop on darker local tales.

## Booking and info:

Cally Maxwell - www. sidhchailleannart.com, sidhchailleannart@gmail. com, 07811873507

Inverness

## SAT 11 NOV

## Women Making History Banners

The Bike Shed, Grant Street, IV3 8BN
3pm (2hrs) | By donation
Journey through equality stories and songs from the Highland banners, made to celebrate 100 years since women got the vote. Storyteller and artist Lizzie McDougall will share some of the stories on the banners, with musical and poetry contributions from the many talented women who contributed to the banner making.
Info: Lizzie McDougall - lizzie. mcdougall@gmail.com

## Kincraig

## TUE 14 NOV

Events hosted by Storylands Sessions
Booking and info:
badenochstorylands.com

## Storylands: Early Show

6pm (1hr)
$£ 5$ ( $£ 3$, child free) | All Ages
Hamish Napier and Merryn
Glover invite you to an evening of stories, music and poetry for all ages. You are welcome to contribute your favourite stories or songs, or you can just relax and listen! Featuring guest storytellers Inés Álvarez Villa and David Francis.

## Storylands: Late Show

8pm (2hrs)
£10 (£5, child free)
Guest storytellers Inés
Álvarez Villa and David
Francis bring their stories to the Cairngorms.
Contribute your own favourite stories or songs, or you just relax and enjoy the night! Hosted by Hamish Napier and Merryn Glover.


## SAT 21 OCT

## Journeying Towards Equality

Ullapool Village Hall, Market Street, IV26 2XE 3pm (2hrs) | By donation Journey through equality stories and songs from the Highland banners, made to celebrate 100 years since women got the vote.
Storyteller and artist Lizzie McDougall will share their stories with musical and poetry contributions from Ullapool community.
Info: Lizzie McDougall lizzie.mcdougall@gmail.com

## Midlothian

## Temple

## SAT 21 OCT

## Myths of Midlothian

Temple Village Hall, EH23 4SQ 2pm (1hr 30) | Free, drop-in
An afternoon of stories and delicious cakes in the remote village of Temple. Hear local storytellers Stephen McCabe and Elaine Robertson share enchanting tales from the lush countryside and historic towns of Midlothian! There will be space for everyone to contribute stories, be they local legends or just embarrassing tales from your Midlothian childhoods.

Info: Stephen
McCabe - stephen@ naturetherapyonline.net


## Moray

## Findhorn

## FRI 24 NOV

## Tales from the Fire

Universal Hall, The Park, IV36 3TZ
7.30pm (2hrs) |£5

Storytellers Carol Scorer, Peter Vallance and Margot Henderson invite you to an evening of stories that have been born from the fire, and that we hope will bring you wisdom, healing and transformation.
Booking and info:
www.universalhall.co.uk

## North East

## Aberdeen \& Peterculter

## FRI 6 OCT - TUE 28 NOV

## Aberdeen \& Beyond Storytelling Festival

Join GAS - Grampian Association of Storytellers and the Elphinstone Institute for a jamboree of stories from Aberdeen and beyond, reflecting the real international character of the area. With special guests Zahra Afsah, Anna Conomos-Wedlock, Rebecca Vučetić, Linda Williamson and Nicola Wright, joined by local storytellers Lola Dabiri, Khloud Ereksousi, Arantxa García de Sola, Phyll McBain, Jackie Ross, Nana Tomova and many more.
Full programme, booking and info:
www.abdn.ac.uk/elphinstone
grampianstorytellers.wordpress.com

## 6 OCT

First Friday Fling - GAS
18 OCT
The Voice Shall Always Remain -
Zahra Afsah and Khloud Ereksousi

Right To Be
Human series

20 OCT
Bennachie Speaks - Ailsa Dixon and Mairi McKeown
24 OCT
The Promise - Anna Conomos-Wedlock and Rebecca Vučetić
27 OCT
The Three Apprentices - Phyll McBain, David G Pullar and Cara Roberts
30 OCT
Stories from the Gelly - Linda Williamson
3 NOV
First Friday Fling - GAS
7 NOV
Naija-Tales: Tell It Like a Nigerian - Lola Dabiri
17 NOV
Ballads and Stories - GAS and TMSA - Traditional Music and Song Association of Scotland.
18 NOV
A User's Guide to Stories \& Heritage - Nicola Wright
19 NOV
Toilet Tales - Jackie Ross and Nicola Wright
21 NOV
Threads of Gold: Ancient Bulgarian Tales - Nana Tomova
28 NOV
Phyll \& Friends - Phyll McBain


# North Lanarkshire 

## Shotts

## SAT 28 OCT

## In the Hartwood

Spring Hill Community Hub, Knoll Croft Road, ML7 5JF 2pm (1hr 30) | Free, ticketed
Join storytellers Jane Mather and Heather Yule on a journey in tribute to those interred in pauper's graves at the now derelict Hartwood Hospital, and the friends who tend the cemetery and make it a tranquil oasis. Let stories and harp music guide you into the faerie realm where dreams are powerful and nature spirits abound. The event includes Q\&A with Friends of Hartwood.
Booking and info: www.spotlightshotts.org

## Part of the

Right To Be Human series

## Orkney

## THU 26SUN 29 OCT

## Orkney Storytelling Festival

Welcome to the small festival with a big heart! This year we are honoured to host storytellers Peter Chand and Shonaleigh Cumbers, joined by renowned artist and illustrator Katherine Soutar, who will be creating live art during the storytelling sessions.

Our guests will be joined by local storytellers Tom Muir, Fran Flett Hollinrake, Marita Luck, Erin Farley and Chris Perry on a four-day celebration of traditional stories in a series of venues throughout the islands, also including 12th-century St Magnus Cathedral.
Full programme, booking and info: orkneystorytellingfestival.co.uk

## Perth and Kinross

## Aberfeldy <br> FRI 20 OCT

## Sami Night: Film \& Storytelling

Birks Cinema, 1 Dunkeld St, PH15 2DA
5.30pm (3hrs)
£10, under 18s free
Join us for a film screening followed by a storytelling ceilidh and feast, sharing traditions and foods from Scandinavia. Suitable for families.
Booking and info: www.birkscinema.co.uk

## Yoik <br> (1hr) <br> Film

The untold story of one of the oldest music cultures in Europe. This film aims to show how Sami people found their own musical path.
Directed by Maj Lis Skaltje, 2014.

East of the Sun and West of the Moon (1hr 30)

## Live storytelling

A feast of story and song from the Sami tradition with storyteller/joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen. Hosted by local storyteller Claire Hewitt.

## SAT 21 OCT

## Joik Singing Workshop

Lesser Town Hall Aberfeldy, 2 Crieff Rd, PH15 2BJ 2pm (2hrs)
Free, ticketed | Donations welcome
Sami storyteller/joik singer Berit Alette Mienna and musician Øistein Hanssen guide you through the ancient Sami song tradition of joik. Immerse yourself in the magic of northern sounds. Hosted by Claire Hewitt.
Booking and info: Claire
Hewitt - clairesach12@gmail.
com, 07500118047

## Kenmore

Events hosted by The Scottish Crannog Centre Loch Tay, PH15 2HY
Booking and info: www.crannog.co.uk info@crannog.co.uk 01887830583

## SAT 7 \& SUN 8 OCT

## Celtic Autumn: The Iron Age Bake Off

10am (6hrs) - Tours start every 45 minutes $£ 7$, under 5 s free (family tickets available)
Celebrate the harvest on Loch Tay! You can listen to stories around the fire, explore our village and taste various ancient delicacies. Smoked Loch Tay trout, baked honey cakes, stewed wild fruits, take on the role of judge and decide which of our teams' dishes is the best! Bog butter on toast anyone?

## TUE 31 OCT

## Samhain Festival

7pm (2hrs 30) £20 ( $£ 15$ child, under 5 s free) Join us as we celebrate the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. Listen to live music, storytelling and song alongside fire and magic, games with the Hedgewitches, shadow puppet performances, and our famous Ram Burn!
Guising is encouraged and there will be prizes for the best dressed! Remember to wrap up warm!


## Shetland

## Bigton

## SUN 22 OCT

## Wave Riders

Hymhus, ZE2 9JF
3pm (1hr)
£10 (£5), on the door
Three women, three ships, three voyages. Journey back in time with storyteller Jan Bee Brown and musician Renzo Spiteri as they share a series of saga-driven sonic stories of Viking pioneers Unn the Deep-minded, Gudrid the Far-traveller and Melkorka the Silent. Setting sail in small boats, our heroines forged better ways to live in peace with rights, freedoms and respect, standing shoulder to shoulder.
Booking and info: Jan Bee Brown - 07799852162
Part of the Right To Be Human series


## South Lanarkshire

## Biggar

SAT 25 NOV

## The Wee Folk of the Woods

Wiston Lodge, Millrigg Road, Wiston, ML12 6HT
12.30pm (3hrs) | £8

Follow the Path of the Little People with storytellers Kirsten Milliken and David Hughes for a family-friendly story walk with games and creative activities. Enjoy mulled apple juice and toasted marshmallows by the fireside, and hear tales of the creatures that live in the woods, in the branches of the trees and behind the faerie doors.
Booking and info: www.wistonlodge.com info@wistonlodge.co.uk

## Western Isles

## Isle of Lewis

## Stornoway

Events hosted by An Taigh Ceilidh 16 Church Street, HSI 2DH
Booking and info: www.gaelichebrides.com, failte@taighceilidh.com, 07554665549

## THU 5 OCT

## Cuairt a Bhaile

## Live | Outdoor

2pm (1hr 30) | £6
Cuairt a' Bhaile sa Ghàidhlig an cois Magaidh Nic a' Ghobhainn agus na caraidean. Seanchas a' chladaich chun Gearraidh Chruaidh.

## The Town Walk

A walk around Stornoway with Magaidh Smith and friends. Stories from the shoreline to the Castle Grounds.

## THU 2 NOV

## Blàr air Mointeach Leòdhais

2pm ( 1 hr 30 ) | £6
Feasgar sheanchas mu na làraich far an robh cath agus othail air mòinteach Leòdhais an cois Magaidh Nic a Ghobhainn agus na caraidean.

## Clan Battles in Lewis

An afternoon of stories of battle and clan wars in the Lewis landscape with Magaidh Smith and friends.


Events hosted by Museum Nan Eilean

## Booking and info:

www.outerhebridesheritage.org.uk w.seaborne@cne-siar.gov.uk

## THU 19 OCT

## Storytelling Day

Guest storyteller Douglas Mackay travels to Stornoway to present a number of Halloween-themed sessions for all ages and invites you to join the fun.

## Interactive Family Storytelling

Museum nan Eilean, Lews Castle Grounds, HS2 OXS
11am \& 1pm (1hr) Free, ticketed
Family-friendly sessions featuring storytelling, arts and crafts.

## Open Hearth

Lews Castle Bar, Lews Castle, HS2 OXS 7pm (2hrs) £6 (drop-in), £4 (online) Informal and relaxed storytelling evening, with the chance to contribute your stories.

## Map of Stories

Enjoy an hour of multimedia storytelling where a world of local Scottish stories unfolds through the live voices of traditional storytellers and site-specific film footage of the landscapes they emerge from. Produced by Transgressive North as part of VisitScotland's Year of Stories 2022.
www.mapofstories.scot

# Community Programme 

## MON 2 OCT - THU 30 NOV

## The Big Scottish Story Ripple

The SISF Community \& Family Programme pairs local storytellers with schools and community groups in live and digital settings throughout Scotland. Take part in The Big Scottish Story Ripple by holding a storytelling event led by a storyteller from the Scottish Storytelling Forum's Directory. Groups can apply for a subsidy that will cover the cost of the storyteller's fees and 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


## The Stone Soup Collective

Scottish Storytelling Forum in partnership with Re-Act: Refugee Action Scotland will work with groups of women from refugee communities across Edinburgh on the theme of 'Right To Be Human' to bring out the stories that are important to them.

Through participatory workshops the women will learn new skills, improve their confidence and have a platform to make their voices and their stories heard. The project will culminate in a sharing of work which will be open to the public, so please keep an eye on our website and social media platforms for more updates:
www.storytellingforum.co.uk @scotstoryforum
Funded by EVOC
(Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council)


Festival City Stories is a project between JACK ARTS SCOTLAND and Festivals Edinburgh. Find out more: www. edinburghfestivalcity.com/about/stories

# The <br> <br> Haggis <br> <br> Haggis Box 

 Box}

Haggis, Neeps \& Tatties

Traditional, Vegetarian \& Vegan (NGCI)

# Coffee, Scotch Eggs, Quiche, Soup, Ice Cream, Local Beers, Cakes \& Traybakes 

Find us on the Royal Mile in the Scottish Storytelling Centre 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh

## Open Daily from 10am

## Festival Diary Edinburgh



| DATE | TIME | EVENT | LOCATION | PAGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { FRI } \\ & 13 \end{aligned}$ | 6pm | Tales of Exile and Sanctuary | SSC | 07 |
|  | 8pm | Open Hearth | SSC | 10 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { SAT } \\ & 14 \end{aligned}$ | 10.30am | Invigorate Your Story | SSC | 19 |
|  | 17am | The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse | SSC | 07 |
|  | 2pm | Isis and Osiris | SSC | 16 |
|  | 6pm | The Iron Hag and Other Tales | SSC | 13 |
|  | 8pm | Wave Riders | SSC | 07 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { SUN } \\ 15 \end{gathered}$ | 10.30am | Something Old, Something New | SSC | 19 |
|  | 12pm | Once There Was a Bug | RBGE | 16 |
|  | 1.30pm | Rewilding Cinderella: An Eco-Storytelling Concert | RBGE | 16 |
|  | 6pm | Where the Feather Falls | SSC | 13 |
|  | 8pm | Letters to Jackie | SSC | 07 |
| MON 16 | 10.30am | School of Storycraft | SSC | 16 |
|  | 17 am | Makin a Brew | SSC | 17 |
|  | 2pm | Rewilding Cinderella | Online | 20 |
|  | 6pm | Calvino 100 | SSC | 13 |
|  | 8pm | Joyfully Grimm: Reimagining a Queer Adolescence | SSC | 07 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { TUE } \\ 17 \end{gathered}$ | 10.30am | School of Storycraft | SSC | 16 |
|  | 2pm | Sgeulachdan Ghaisgeach ann am Beul-aithris nan Gàidheal Albannach | NLS | 23 |
|  | 2pm | Just Enough | Online | 20 |
|  | 6pm | Up the Middle Road: Stories from the Crichton Royal Asylum | SSC | 13 |
|  | 8pm | The Voice Shall Always Remain | SSC | 07 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { WED } \\ & 18 \end{aligned}$ | 10.30am | School of Storycraft | SSC | 16 |
|  | 10.30am | Cuilg Mharbhtach Thorc agus Cathan Mòra | NLS | 23 |
|  | 2pm | The Sea: Our Last Wilderness | Online | 20 |
|  | 6pm | New Wave | SSC | 13 |
|  | 8pm | Don Quixote Rides Again | SSC | 08 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { THU } \\ 19 \end{gathered}$ | 17am | Kamishibai Workshop | SSC | 17 |
|  | 17am | Alba \& Ėirinn: Òrain \& Sgeulachdan na Fèinne | NLS | 23 |
|  | 2pm | Green City: Healing and Hope? | Online | 20 |
|  | 6pm | Scots Character | SSC | 14 |
|  | 8pm | Red Aphrodite | SSC | 11 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { FRI } \\ & 20 \end{aligned}$ | 10.30am | Telling the Big Tales | SSC | 19 |
|  | 1.30pm | Bear with Me: A Polar Bear in Scotland | SSC | 17 |
|  | 2pm | The Well At the World's End: Where the Heck Is It? | NLS | 22 |
|  | 6pm | Sgeul - Mighty and Magic | SSC | 14 |
|  | 7.30pm | Guid Crack | WB | 11 |
|  | 8pm | Alba \& Ėirinn: Òrain \& Sgeulachdan na Fèinne | SSC | 11 |


| DATE | TIME | EVENT | LOCATION | PAGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { SAT } \\ 21 \end{gathered}$ | 10.30am | The Right to be Heard | SSC | 19 |
|  | 11.30am | Macastory's Caddie Capers | SSC | 17 |
|  | 1.30pm | Visual Fun with Sports | SSC | 17 |
|  | 4 pm | The Girl's Own Survival Guide to History | SSC | 14 |
|  | 6 pm | Odin's Eye and the Art of Seeing | SSC | 08 |
|  | 8pm | Shadow Walking | SSC | 08 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { SUN } \\ 22 \end{gathered}$ | 10.30am | Common Sense: Adding Flavour to your Storytelling | SSC | 19 |
|  | 2pm | SMHAF Writing Awards | SSC | 11 |
|  | 6pm | A Garment for the Moon | SSC | 14 |
|  | 8pm | Orpheus \| Orfeo | SSC | 08 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { MON } \\ 23 \end{gathered}$ | 2pm | Our Place in Nature | Online | 21 |
|  | 6pm | In the Hartwood | SSC | 08 |
|  | 8pm | The Displaced Heart | SSC | 11 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { TUE } \\ 24 \end{gathered}$ | 2pm | Our Human Rights | Online | 21 |
|  | 6pm | Alan Bruford Lecture | SSC | 15 |
|  | 8pm | Rickle O Stanes | SSC | 08 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { WED } \\ 25 \end{gathered}$ | 2pm | Listening to Children | Online | 21 |
|  | 5 pm | Sgeul - Mighty and Magic | NLS | 22 |
|  | 6pm | Northern Treasures | SSC | 15 |
|  | 8pm | Open Hearth | SSC | 10 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { THU } \\ & 26 \end{aligned}$ | 11 am | A Tour and a Tale | NLS | 22 |
|  | 2pm | Our Cultural Rights | Online | 21 |
|  | 6 pm | Arise! | SSC | 09 |
|  | 8pm | Fire from the Woods | SSC | 09 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { FRI } \\ & 27 \end{aligned}$ | 10.30am | Storytelling with Children | SSC | 19 |
|  | 10.30am | Büth-Obrach Òrain Luaidh le Rena Gertz | NLS | 23 |
|  | 6pm | In the World and Out of It | SSC | 15 |
|  | 7.30pm | Guid Crack | WB | 11 |
|  | 8pm | The Promise | SSC | 11 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { SAT } \\ 28 \end{gathered}$ | 10.30am | Basket of Stories | SSC | 19 |
|  | 12pm | Family Samhuinn | SSC | 17 |
|  | 4pm | The Feast of the Dead | SSC | 15 |
|  | 6pm | Northern Treasures | SSC | 15 |
|  | 8pm | Once Upon a Time There Was a War | SSC | 09 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { SUN } \\ 29 \end{gathered}$ | 10.30am | Basket of Stories | SSC | 19 |
|  | 12pm | Human Library | SSC | 11 |
|  | 6pm | The Flying Horse of Earthdom | SSC | 15 |
|  | 8pm | Open Hearth | SSC | 10 |
| TUE 31 | 5.30pm | Tales From the Witches Sabbath | NLS | 22 |

## Location Key

NLS National Library of Scotland RBGE Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
SSC Scottish Storytelling Centre
WB Waverley Bar


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.


## Tickets

01315569579 | sisf.org.uk
f(0) @scotstoryfest
\#RightToBeHuman
SCOTTISH INTERNATIONAL STORYTELIING FESTIVAL

TRACS (Traditional Arts \& Culture Scotland) (SCIO SC043009) is a co-operative network which champions our shared traditions of music, song, storytelling, dance, crafts, customs and local languages. TRACS celebrates the local distinctiveness of Scotland's places: our intangible cultural heritage. TRACS brings together the Traditional Music Forum (SCIO SCO42867), the

## TR/CS/:

 Scottish Storytelling Forum (SCIO SCO52330) and the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland (SCIO SC045085). Supported by Creative Scotland and The City of Edinburgh Council.
## Our Partners

TRACS
 Supported through the
Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund

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## THE SKINNY

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