

# News Lines



Summer  
Bulletin  
2009

7

## The Telling Space Celebrates An Anniversary



On February 14<sup>th</sup> Mythstories celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its public opening, so when The Telling Space storytelling club met for its regular monthly meeting on February 24<sup>th</sup> one of the regular tellers, Paul Beesley, decided a special cake was needed.

Paul's wife Marion baked one of her famous sponges and Paul iced it himself. On the left you can see Ali doing the honours, cutting the cake.

But there were more culinary surprises afoot the 24<sup>th</sup> was Shrove Tuesday and Anji Walker is shown busily making pancakes on a camping stove in Mythstories' office.

Thanks to everyone for providing a real feast of stories.



## Arts Council Support New Storytelling Workshops At Mythstories

"100% Extra" storytelling workshops will be taking place at Mythstories thanks to a grant just received from the Arts Council England, Lottery Funded Grants for All programme.

There will be two seasons in Summer and Autumn of 2009 and a further two seasons in 2010.

Workshop leaders already booked include Michael Harvey, Shonaleigh, Cath Aran, Sal Tonge, Fiona Collins and Amy Douglas. Make sure you get a brochure they start 8<sup>th</sup> August!



LOTTERY FUNDED

## Month By Month Round Up

### January

Cath Aran, (Mythstories nominee) is announced as the winner of The Arts Foundation Storytelling Award in a ceremony in London.



### February

The Prees Travellers' Group Mosaic is official opened in the museum by Wem Mayor, Pauline Dee and Deputy Mayor, Doug Cooley. The Mosaic is part of the Whitchurch Mosaic Place Art Trail project led by Artist Elizabeth Turner.

### March

Talented tale teller Jake Evans from Wem's Thomas Adams Secondary School went to Birmingham's Central Library representing Shropshire in The Young Storyteller of the Year Finals 2009. You can check out his performance on youtube and see just why he was awarded the title Under 18 Young Storyteller of The Year 2009. The photo was taken by Stan Chau for the Traditional Arts Team.



### April

StoryCraft, family story and craft activity club met in the Easter holidays enjoying "ripping paper" stories and making miniature theatres. Here you see two participants telling the tale of Gawain and the Green Knight.

### May

Dominic Kelly came to Mythstories to preview his commission for Cambridge Storytelling Festival, "Crow".



Dez & Ali enjoyed it so much they followed him down to Cambridge to hear the festival premiere on the following Friday. Just to prove it Dez is caught posing on "The Bridge of Tales" near the Chesterton venue.

## New Zealand Exhibits Donated To Museum

In May the museum played host to a storytelling session and meeting of the Chester U3A (University of the Third Age) Storytelling Group who were joined by members of the Whitchurch U3A group.

The museum was delighted by an unexpected donation from the Chester group's secretary Thelma Pugh who had recently visited New Zealand. Thelma brought back a Kete basket and book of stories, power shells, a keyring depicting a Patupaiarehe (a Maori fairy) and a book of Maori stories



### !!!Action Stations!!!

Doing the office paperwork on the platform has become part of the Mythstories routine. Since October 25<sup>th</sup> 2008, when the Mythstories car was written off in an accident, Dez and Ali have been testing the public transport system. Surprisingly, it works and they've always arrived in time for school, as well as to the museum.

## Fewer Days Open = More Visitors

Equally surprising, we are pleased to report a 20% increase in visitors since we introduced Versatile Opening. Versatile Opening allows our core users ultimate flexibility when planning their visits. It also reduces costs to the charity, reduces costs to the environment by reducing our carbon footprint and allows different opportunities to fit in with our visitors' lifestyles and timescales. Whenever paid visits or funded projects take place in the museum we open for the remainder of the day free of charge to the public. We are pleased that so many visitors have taken advantage of the varied opportunities to visit the museum.



## Silver Arts Award – An Opportunity For Teenagers

During the first two weeks of the Summer holidays Mythstories will run a Silver Arts Award Programme based on storytelling skills. Sessions are 11.00 to 5.00 Monday to Friday. Places are limited, so get in touch soon to learn more about this qualification.

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## **Telling Space Is Walking On Grinshill In June**



Telling Space are having a mid-Summer story stroll on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. If you fancy climbing the hill for a picnic and storyround join us. We'll be meeting up at 7.00pm at the church in Clive village.

Wear suitable footwear, bring a jumper in case it gets chilly, and don't forget your picnic.

**100% Extra Workshops at Mythstories museum** take place on Saturdays August 8<sup>th</sup>, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, September 12<sup>th</sup>, September 26<sup>th</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup>, November 14<sup>th</sup> with two more still to be confirmed.

Email [info@mythstories.com](mailto:info@mythstories.com) with "100% Extra" in the subject line to make sure you receive information as soon as it's released.

## **Dates for your Diary... Dates for your Diary... Dates for your Diary...**

**Festival at the Edge** the 2009 festival takes place from Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July - tickets on sale now. For the booking form and details of artists etc. see [www.festivalattheedge.org](http://www.festivalattheedge.org)

**Love And Death** at The Northern Stage, Newcastle upon Tyne a mini festival of performance storytelling 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October. Book on line at [www.northernstage.co.uk](http://www.northernstage.co.uk)

**Telling Space** at Mythstories museum (unless stated) 7.00pm- 9.30pm Tuesdays 28<sup>th</sup> July, 25<sup>th</sup> August, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 27<sup>th</sup> October.

**Rhymes and Tells** at The Six Bells, Bishops Castle every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday except Bank Holiday weekends 8.00pm info 01588 680685

**Tales at the Edge** in Bridgnorth every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, except August, at 8.00pm. For venue details phone Mike Rust on 01694 771379

**The Swan Club** at the Newhampton Inn, Wolverhampton every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 8.00pm info [chandstory@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:chandstory@tiscali.co.uk)

**Story Night at The Royal Oak**, Clee Hill every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Further details call Sue on 01584 891130



**Mythstories, museum of myth and fable**  
**The Morgan Library, Aston Street, Wem,**  
**Shropshire, United Kingdom. SY4 5AU**  
01939 235500 / 07969 541552  
[info@mythstories.com](mailto:info@mythstories.com)  
[www.mythstories.com](http://www.mythstories.com)  
registered charity number 1086122  
vat registration number 728 9557 79