

## List of networks, associations, training and festivals from the Shifting the Narrative Project

This list was compiled from responses to a survey of Informed Advocates for working with storytelling for environmental sustainability as part of the Shifting the Narrative research project. It is not exhaustive and it is weighted towards the UK, which was the main focus of the project. Where possible, a web link has been provided.

These are the suggestions from the Informed Advocates and are provided here for information only. They have not been evaluated by the research team. Other than Traditional Arts and Culture Scotland (which was one of our community partners) none of these organisations has been involved in the Shifting the Narrative project. Their inclusion on the list does not mean that the Shifting the Narrative project itself or the project team endorses them.

### UK Regional networks

- Scottish Storytelling Forum, Scotland, <https://www.storytellingforum.co.uk/>
  - storytelling apprenticeship scheme Scotland <https://tracscotland.org/news-post/?newsid=22167>
- Grampian Association of Storytellers, Scotland <https://grampianstorytellers.wordpress.com/>
- Blether Tay-gither, Scotland, <https://en-gb.facebook.com/groups/118062099940/>
- The Society for Storytelling, England, <https://www.sfs.org.uk/> and mentioned on Facebook
  - Facts and Fiction Storytelling Magazine, <https://www.sfs.org.uk/events/facts-fiction-storytelling-magazine>
  - Storytellers in Schools, *Alette's note, I cannot find this online, it may be a network with Sfs*
- South Devon Storytellers, England, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/466069476844873/>
- A Bit Crack, North East Storytellers [www.abitcrack.com](http://www.abitcrack.com), England
- Chwedl (bilingual network of women storytellers in Wales, open to all women and those who identify as women, who live in, or are from, Wales, and who have an interest in storytelling, whether as professionals, amateurs, tellers or listeners)
- Storytellers of Ireland <https://chwedl.org/>
- Cybermouth (long established internet members-only discussion group, hosted by Wendy Dacre) *Alette's note: I believe this is predominantly UK-based*
- Equity Storytellers' Network, UK-based (open to all storytellers who are Equity members- zoom meetings), <https://www.equity.org.uk/getting-involved/networks/storytellers-network/>

### Other UK regional initiatives, and supporting venues

- Onca Art Gallery, Brighton , <https://onca.org.uk/>
- Scottish Storytelling Center <https://www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com>
  - The Guid Crack Club, Edinburgh, <https://www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com/event-post/eventid/20139-guid-crack-storytelling-session/>

- Beyond the Border Festival, Wales, <https://beyondtheborder.com/>
  - Casglu (bilingual zoom meetings open to all, on specific topics hosted by Beyond the Border), <https://beyondtheborder.com/casglu/>
- East Anglian Storytelling Festival, <https://eastanglianstorytellingfestival.co.uk/>
- LunarSea Storytelling, Brighton, <https://www.facebook.com/LunarSeaStorytelling/>
- The Storytelling Choir, <https://www.wildstorycommons.org/copy-of-storytelling-choir>

### International networks

- FEST- Federation of European Storytelling, <https://fest-network.eu/>
- Earth Storytellers <http://earthstorytellers.avalonproject.org/>
  - with the Earth Stories Collection <https://theearthstoriescollection.org/en/home/>
- George Ewart Evans Centre for Storytelling (GEECS) Network, out of the University of South Wales <https://storytelling.research.southwales.ac.uk/>
  - Story4Health <https://www.facebook.com/groups/story4health/>
- Council of Storytellers (COS): a smallish group of storytellers from throughout Europe, who meet annually to share storytelling around the theme of social and environmental justice.
- FEAST – Federation of Asian Storytellers: <https://www.feast-story.org/>
- World Storytelling Café <https://worldstorytellingcafe.com/>
- Strange times online storytelling club,  
[http://heartofthestoryteller.com/storytelling\\_circles/strange-times-online-storytelling-club](http://heartofthestoryteller.com/storytelling_circles/strange-times-online-storytelling-club)
- Friends of Amari, Greece, <https://www.friends-of-amari.org/>
- Tellers Without Borders
- Four Winds Storytellers' Library <https://www.facebook.com/fourwindsstorytellerslibrary>
- Eco-tellers (newly founded!) through NSN , but international
- Healing Stories Alliance through NSN, but international
- Someone suggested Storytell.net, which no longer exists as a web-address

### National and Regional Networks outside the UK

- VEE <https://erzaehlerverband.org> Nürnberg, Germany
- <https://erzaehlkunst.com> Berlin, Germany
- National Storytelling Network (NSN), USA
  - Northland Storytelling Network, **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**
  - Rocky Mountain Storytellers (US)
- Storytellers of Canada – Conteurs du Canada - <https://www.storytellers-conteurs.ca/>
  - provincial storytelling organizations, storytelling festivals in Vancouver, Nanaimo, Edmonton, Whitehorse, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Eastern Townships, US national festival in Jonesborough, Winnipeg Folk Festival, Toronto School of Storytelling, Stone Soup Stories of Manitoba.
  - Mid Island Storytellers (Vancouver Island, BC, Canada)
  - Around Town Tellers (Vancouver Island, BC, Canada)
  - Storytelling Toronto - <https://storytellingtoronto.org/>

## Festivals

- Beyond the Border, UK
- Bo ca deu ceu festival in Brazil,
- Festival in Bahia Northern Brazil,
- The Ljungby storytelling festival in Sweden
- Storytelling Festival AltenBiesen, Belgium
- National Storytelling festival, Jonesboro TN USA
- 1,001 Friday Nights of Storytelling -<http://www.1001fridays.org/>
- Toronto International Storytelling Festival - <https://storytellingtoronto.org/festival/>
- StoryFest: International Storytelling Festival Singapore <https://storyfestsg.com>
- **India**
  - Kathotsava our own festival in India
  - The Chennai storytelling festival, <https://www.facebook.com/chennaistorytellingfestival>
  - The Northeast storytelling festival
  - Kahaani storytelling festival New Delhi
  - the Chattisgarh storytelling festival in India (not the urban storytelling festivals there are plenty)
  - the Pondicherry folk arts festival,
- **Germany**
  - Gute Stube - <https://www.gute-stube-erzaehlfestival.de/>
  - ErzählZEit e.V.
  - ErzählWerk Potsdam e.V.
  - Storytelling Festival Nürnberg, Germany VEE <https://erzaehlerverband.org> Nürnberg
  - Feuerspuren, Bremen, <https://www.feuerspuren.de/>
  - Storyfeld (Berlin), <https://en.storytellingarena.com/storyfeld-projekt>
  - Zauberwort in Nürnberg Germany
  - Festival der Erzählkunst Hannover, Germany
  - Der Norden Erzählt in Lübeck, Germany [www.dernordenerzaehlt.de](http://www.dernordenerzaehlt.de)
  - VEE Verband der Erzählerinnen und Erzähler

## Training

- School of Storytelling at Emerson college, England - <https://www.schoolofstorytelling.com/>
- Order of Bards, Ovates & Druids (tutor supported courses that include storytelling): <https://druidry.org/>
- Tripura academy wing of the National school of drama Delhi and many more.

## Environmental networks

("These are perhaps not storytelling networks but they have an important role in redefining the narrative of the Scottish people and landscape" (UK informant).

- Reforesting Scotland <https://reforestingscotland.org/>
- Rewilding Scotland <https://www.rewild.scot/>
- FEI - Forest Education Initiative (supports nature based learning that can include outdoor storytelling)
- Sussex Wildlife Trust <https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/>

### **Other Networks, not directly on storytelling**

- Ecotherapy Network
- Network of Environmental Arts Therapists
- Whole World View: not specifically about storytelling but with a strong storytelling element, looking to unite the scientific and spiritual in the concept of non-separation.  
<https://www.wholeworld-view.org/>
- Arts Council England, <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/>

### **Informal networks mentioned**

- Informal network of storytellers who are also Forest School Leaders.
- Informal network of people trained by Wildwise and Schumacher College
- 'Tales to Sustain' network of 40 storytellers (2003-2014), that resulted in the publication 'Storytelling for a Greener World' (reissued as Storytelling for Nature Connection by Hawthorn Press) and now exists as an informal contact network rather than a regular set of gatherings.

'Shifting the Narrative: Exploring the Role of Arts Interventions in supporting communities in working across sectors to achieve place-based climate action' was a research project at the University of Edinburgh, funded by the British Academy, which ran from January to June of 2022. The research team consisted of Alette Willis (Principal Investigator), Ramsey Affifi, Jule Hildmann and Arno Verhoeven. For more information about the project, please email Alette Willis at [a.willis@ed.ac.uk](mailto:a.willis@ed.ac.uk)