



# Penicuik Community Arts Association

## Newsletter for Members and Friends

### April 2024

#### Dear PCAA Members and Friends

The Penicuik Arts Centre in West Street is looking very smart now that the internal painting is finished! Many thanks to our helpful, friendly contractor, David Stevenson. We are now busy finishing some clearing out and tidying our storage space, as local artist Morag Donkin and the PCAA together have purchased some beautiful new easels for Morag's Sunday morning art class, and these need some storage room. The easels are available for any art group to use - please enquire. We are delighted to have a regular art class in the Arts Centre again - it's been some time since the last ones ran. Morag continues her Sunday drawing group, offering block bookings of £9 per session for 6 weeks booked. She is also organising monthly life drawing opportunities. Please contact Morag directly for further information ([moragdonkin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:moragdonkin@hotmail.co.uk)).

On a related note, another bag containing towels, decorating sheets and an old white work-coat covered with paint has been unearthed at the Arts Centre. Do they belong to you?

#### Start or renew your membership!

Rebekah, our PCAA Membership secretary, writes "April is here, and for PCAA that means the new 2024-25 membership year has begun!

Thank you so much for your involvement and support of PCAA over the past 12 months. We are excited to embark upon another year of concerts, exhibitions, and arts activities in Penicuik.

For existing members, now is the time to renew to keep your membership up-to-date. If you're not currently a member, we'd love you to consider joining us for the coming year.

Membership is still only £15, with a "pay less" rate of £10. Your membership is important for us to demonstrate support for the PCAA in grant applications.

Membership benefits include a quarterly members-only newsletter and a free arts-related social occasion each year for members and their friends & families.

If you can pay online, this would be much appreciated. Please [click here](#) for the PCAA online shop and scroll down to find the memberships. If you are a UK tax payer, please also complete a Gift Aid form ([available here](#)).

If renewing on the website is not for you, you can pick up a paper membership application form from the leaflet rack in the Arts Centre Gallery café (4 West Street, Penicuik, EH26 9HY). When it's completed, please hand to café staff with your subscription.

Everything we do is only made possible through you, our members and friends. Huge thanks from everyone at PCAA for all of your kind support."

For information about our activities, including gallery-café news and our regular groups, please visit our website (<https://www.penicuikarts.org/>). Hope to see you at West Street Arts Centre soon.

Best wishes!

Sue

## What's on at the Arts Centre?

### *AT A GLANCE*

#### **NOW: Renew or start your PCAA membership**

Friday 26th April 7:30pm: Storytelling Club

Saturday 27th April 10am - 2:45pm: Storytelling Workshop

Sunday 12th May 3pm - The McInroy Sisters and Kevin Murray in Concert

Sunday 19th May 7 - 9pm: Poetry evening

Monday 27th May 7:30pm: PCAA AGM and social

Friday 21st June 7:30pm: Storytelling Club

Saturday 22nd June 10am - 2:45pm: Storytelling Workshop

Saturday 31st August 7:30pm - Jessies Well Concert

Saturday 21st September - Sunday 29th September PENFEST WEEK!

Please read on for further details, and check out news from Penicuik Cinema later in the newsletter!

**Friday 26th April 7:30pm**, Jackie Ross will be our guest storyteller at the storytelling club. Jackie is an Aberdeenshire 'quine', born and bred. A farmer's daughter and a farmer's wife, she has a love of the countryside and a passion for local lore and traditions. Her story repertoire is strongly influenced by her background. She tells stories of the land, trees, plants and animals; traditional Scottish stories and folktales from across the world. Where appropriate she enjoys delivering local tales and legends in her 'mither tongue', Doric. This will be a very entertaining and friendly evening. It's only £5 or £3 (pay less) and tickets are available now from the Arts Centre café or online (<https://www.penicuikarts.org/shop/>).

**Saturday 27th April 10am to 2:45pm**, our resident professional storyteller Ruth Kirkpatrick leads a day of participation, fun and building storytelling skills for all. In this friendly workshop, Ruth will cover "How to choose a story", "How to make a story your own" and "Using props in your storytelling". The workshop **must** be booked ahead by emailing [penicuikarts.org@gmail.com](mailto:penicuikarts.org@gmail.com). It costs £30/£10 (pay less) to be paid on the day by cash, cheque or card.

**Sunday 12th May at 3pm** local singer-songwriter Mary McInroy performs for us, supported by her sister Ailsa McInroy and Kevin Murray. They come together to present a wide selection of traditional Scottish folk songs and original material. All the band members are well experienced musicians having many musical influences ranging from pop to jazz. Be prepared for haunting harmonies, well crafted original songs from Mary, and virtuoso guitar from Kevin, solidly supported by Ailsa on bass.

**Sunday 19th May 7-9pm**, Gordon Kerr presents "DEPOSITIONS - Poems of the Dispossessed". This is a **free** multimedia presentation by award-winning poet **Anton Floyd** supported by local poets, artists and musicians. Please see the poster and invitation below.

**Monday 27th May at 7:30pm - PCAA AGM!** Business will be completed as efficiently as possible, and there'll be a short musical entertainment followed by refreshments and time for a chat. Please support our AGM to make sure we are quorate!

**Saturday 31st August 7:30pm** - Jessies Well Concert: Jessies Well will be performing self-penned songs featured on their new CD. A wonderful evening of original music from talented local musicians.

**Saturday 21st September - Sunday 29th September** is **PENFEST 2024 week** - Save the dates! As usual, we'll be holding our very popular **Annual Open Art Exhibition for the Penicuik Turner and People's Choice prizes**.

If you want to submit your art, the hand-in time is on **Thursday 19th September 2-4pm and 7-8pm**. Details and Artist Packs will be available soon. We're thrilled to announce that this year's judge is **Oliver Reed**, Head of Arts in the Centre for Open Learning at the University of Edinburgh.

We're also presenting concerts from fantastic local musicians.

**Simmerdim**, an acappella harmony trio (Frances Cockburn, Ann Landmann and Lucy Carr-Locke), performs songs of many genres from all over the world on **Saturday 21st September 7:30pm**. Frances is from a musical family and has sung for as long as she can remember. She directed a twenty voice a cappella choir, [Rudsambee](#), for seven years; and then a seven voice group, the [Wild Myrtles](#), also for seven years; before starting Simmerdim in February 2015. She also writes and arranges music, some of which can be found on [Canasg](#), an online publishing company. Ann loves stories, especially the ones in songs and books, and has been singing in choirs since primary school. Lucy remembers singing rounds and harmony songs with her sister in the bath when they were six and they never really stopped!

**Ronnie Miller and his band "Hoolet"** perform on **Saturday 28th September 7:30pm**. The band comprises Ronnie on guitar & vocals, Maggie Dewar on vocals and Helen Ross on Violin. They have been performing to great acclaim at various folk clubs all over Scotland, including four successful appearances on the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and a very successful show in September 2023 at Rosslyn Chapel. They play a blend of traditional folk, classically inspired pieces, contemporary acoustic music and our own original compositions. From very different musical backgrounds, Helen is classically trained and in addition to playing with a number of orchestras in her career, she is also a very talented composer. Maggie is a graduate (with distinction) from the The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and is our expert on Scottish Traditional Music. Ronnie describes himself as a bit of a 'journeyman' and has played in pretty much every kind of musical ensemble you can think of!

**The Carlops Jazz Band** has agreed to perform again for us on **Monday 23rd September 7:30pm** - hopefully supported by the high schools' jazz bands. This was an extremely popular event at last year's Penfest!

**A marvellous lecture** is programmed for **Friday 27th September 7:30pm**. Linda Sheridan's highly acclaimed sister **Dr Alison Sheridan** FBA FSA FSA Scot FRSE (Research Associate with the National Museums of Scotland; Archeologist of the Year 2020) will talk about jet jewellery and decorated ceramics from about 5000 years ago. She is a very engaging speaker and it promises to be a fascinating evening.

Finally, there'll be the **Penfest ceilidh** on **Sunday 29th September 2pm**, with the prize-giving for the Penicuik Turner and People's Choice prizes, along with party pieces, refreshments and blether.

## **Penicuik Cinema**

This will be very much worth supporting! On **21st April 7pm**, Penicuik Cinema will be showing 'Riptide' at the Cowan Institute (Town Hall). Riptide is the latest film by Roslin-based (and Penicuik-raised) film-maker Tim Barrow. The film is a drama painting an empathetic portrait of schizophrenia. The film has been touring the UK, and Tim is very excited to reach the end of his tour back home in Midlothian. Tim will be present on the night for a Q&A after the film.

"Following its acclaimed premiere at the [Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival](#), Riptide has screened at the [Reel Recovery Film Festival](#) [Los Angeles], [Mental Filmness](#) [Chicago], This Is My Brave Mental Health Film Festival [Canberra], Art of Recovery Film Festival [Lake Worth, Florida], Argenteuil International, Film Festival [Paris], Ramsgate International Film & TV Festival, ScreenPlay [Shetland], Inverness Film Festival, St Andrews Film Festival, Cannes Film [Awards](#), and won the following awards:

BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE - Beyond The Curve International Film Festival [Paris]; BEST INDIE FEATURE - Prague International Film Awards [Czech Republic]; BEST INDIE FEATURE - Brno Film Festival [Czech Republic]; BEST DRAMA FEATURE - Hallucinea Film Festival [Paris]; SPECIAL MENTION AWARD - Big Syn International Film Festival [London].

Riptide has enjoyed screenings at the Castle cinema and Genesis in London, Macrobert in Stirling, Eden Court in Inverness, the Eastgate in Peebles, the Highland Cinema in Fort William, the Oban Phoenix, the Universal Hall in Findhorn, and Dunvegan Hall on Skye.

The psychiatric condition of schizophrenia affects 1 in 100 of the population, manifests itself in similar ways across the world, and is still widely misunderstood, misrepresented and stigmatized. Our film aims to help correct

the record, telling a unique story with authenticity, integrity, hope, and humour.

Riptide is inspired by the support, guidance, humour and life-affirming recovery tales of people with schizophrenia, as well as scientific research and medical care. The film is indebted to the brilliant film-makers who've come before us, not least Ingmar Bergman with his craft, innovation, and fascination with schizophrenia, dreams and unique love stories.



Penicuik Community Arts Association

# STORYTELLING CLUB

At 4 West Street, Penicuik, EH26 9DL



## Jackie Ross

**Friday  
26th April 2024  
7:30pm**

*An Aberdeenshire 'quine',  
born and bred, telling stories  
of the land, trees, plants and  
animals; traditional Scottish  
stories and folktales from  
across the world.*

**£5/£3 (pay less)**

TICKETS from the Arts Centre café (4 West St, EH26 9DL)  
or online <https://www.penicuikarts.org/shop/>



**AWARDS  
FOR ALL  
SCOTLAND**



Penicuik Community Arts Association  
**STORYTELLING WORKSHOP**

At 4 West Street, Penicuik, EH26 9DL

**With Ruth Kirkpatrick**

Saturday 27th April 2024 10am - 2:45pm



***Fun with stories***

*Covering-*

- How to choose a story*
- How to make a story your own*
- Using props in your storytelling*

**£30 / £10 Spaces  
Strictly Limited!!**

**BOOKING**

email [penicuikarts.org@gmail.com](mailto:penicuikarts.org@gmail.com)

text 0781 505 2929



**AWARDS  
FOR ALL  
SCOTLAND**





# Penicuik Community Arts Association Concert

At 4 West Street, Penicuik, EH26 9DL

The McInroy sisters (Mary & Ailsa)  
and Kevin Murray

Sunday 12th May 2024 3pm



£7/£5 (pay less)

Tickets online (<https://www.penicuikarts.org/shop/>) or from the arts centre gallery-café



AWARDS  
FOR ALL  
SCOTLAND



**PENICUIK COMMUNITY ARTS ASSOCIATION**  
4 WEST STREET PENICUIK

## **DEPOSITIONS**

### ***Poems of the Dispossessed***

***A multimedia presentation by award-winning poet Anton  
Floyd supported by local poets, artists and musicians.***



**SUNDAY 19 MAY 7.00-9.00pm**

***We are delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed poet  
Anton Floyd to Penicuik as part of his first Scottish tour.  
Reading from his new collection **Depositions** on the theme  
of exile and forced migration, this remarkable work has  
been translated into over 20 languages and will shortly be  
published in Gaelic and Scots.***

***Entrance free but donations gratefully received.***

***All proceeds to UNHCR.***



# You are invited

**Join us** for a moving and memorable evening of spoken word, film and music on a theme close to the heart of many Scots, old and new. Award-winning poet Anton Floyd, shares excerpts from his collection *Depositions*, which has received critical acclaim and attracted large crowds in Ireland, where it was first launched.



**The heart of the book** takes the form of an epic journey told in 120 short verses. A vivid tale of being forced from home, of fear and desperation, the struggles of adapting to a new country and the sadness of exile. With translations in some 25 languages, local members of refugee communities are sometimes invited to share one or two verses in their native tongues, which can prove very powerful. *(If you would like to take part, please call Gordon on 07394 815842).*

**With the support of local artists and musicians** such heartfelt efforts help us understand our common humanity and discover new bonds of friendship. A wonderful example of the power of the arts to build stronger communities.

## Program includes

**Music** including specially commissioned songs based on the poems

**Book Signing** meet with Anton and obtain signed copies

**Simple refreshments**

**Sneak preview** of new translations in Scots and Gaelic

**Original Artwork** on display

*Sponsored by the Dazzling Spark Arts Foundation*

