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Community Arts Penicuik - mid-November news

Dear Community Arts Members and Friends,

First, a reminder for the special **St Andrew's Day storytelling event** - an entertaining, warm and friendly afternoon on **Sunday 30th November 3pm at St James the Less Church Hall, Broomhill, EH26 9EE**. Ruth Kirkpatrick and Ron Fairweather are wonderful and engaging storytellers, and are likely to offer some songs too!

Tickets are available online (<https://www.penicuikarts.org/shop/>) or from Pen-y-Coe Press, 7 Bridge Street, EH26 8LL (Tuesday - Saturday 12-4pm).

The second reminder is that **Jan Miller & Friends** are exhibiting their beautiful work in the **Community Arts Exhibition area in the Storehouse** on Penicuik High Street. **This runs up to Christmas closure**, and is well worth a visit for those special Christmas gifts or a treat for yourself!

Please see the posters below for more details of these two CAP events.

I'm also sharing info and posters for upcoming arts/music events which may be of interest to CAP members and friends, so those details are also included below (*Edinburgh Renaissance Band Christmas concert;*

*Gerda Stevenson reading from her latest book; Tyne and Esk Writers
Special Open Mic Christmas Event; Penicuik Folk Club Concert).*

Hope to see you at an event soon!

Best wishes,

Sue Owen

CAP Chair

Community Arts Penicuik
Storytelling and Songs
Ruth Kirkpatrick & Ron Fairweather



SC054024



Sun. 30th November 2025 3pm

St James the Less Church Hall, Broomhill, Penicuik,
EH26 9EE

*"To See Oorsels" - a captivating event of Scottish
storytelling and song from renowned storytellers
waving tales of folklore, humour, and heart, to celebrate
Scotland's rich oral heritage on St Andrew's day.*

Tickets £10/£5 (pay less) Online - [www. penicuikarts.org/shop](http://www.penicuikarts.org/shop)
Or Pen-y-Coe Press, 7 Bridge St, EH26 8LL (Tue-Sat 12 - 4pm)

Remember • Remember • Remember

Friends in November

Exhibition & Festive Social

Sunday 9th November, 2025 2pm-4pm

Freda Bayne

Ulla Hipkin

Jane Kelly

Karyn Latimer

Irene Laird

Kirsteen Miller

Jan Miller

Walter Simms



**Penicuik Storehouse
Community Arts**

22 High Street, Penicik, EH26 8HW

Exhibition runs from
10th November-24th December, 2025
10am-4pm Sunday to Wednesday
10am-5pm Thursday to Saturday
Tel: 07814 371956

Edinburgh Renaissance Band and Edinburgh Early Dancers Christmas Concert

Sunday 14th December 2025 at 3pm

St. Cecilia's Hall

50 Niddry Street Edinburgh EH1 1LG

*The best of festive medieval and
Renaissance music and
dance, with a huge
range of period
instruments.*

*Join us in
the songs!
Children
welcome
and free!*

*Adult tickets £10,
Child's ticket free,
from website below
or 0131 622 0428.
(or door if available)*



www.edinburghrenaissanceband.com

Invitation from Gerda Stevenson

Friday 21st November, 7pm-8pm (doors open 6.30pm),
at Blackwell's bookshop, 53-62 South Bridge, Edinburgh

I'll be reading from my latest book CAT WUMMAN - Tales o Nine Lives - a short story collection in Scots, which I launched at the Edinburgh International Book Festival.

I hope you can come along!

Here's the link with ticket info:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gerda-stevenson-cat-wumman-tickets-1841485796589>

Please feel free to forward this email to anyone who you think might be interested.

Best wishes -

Gerda.

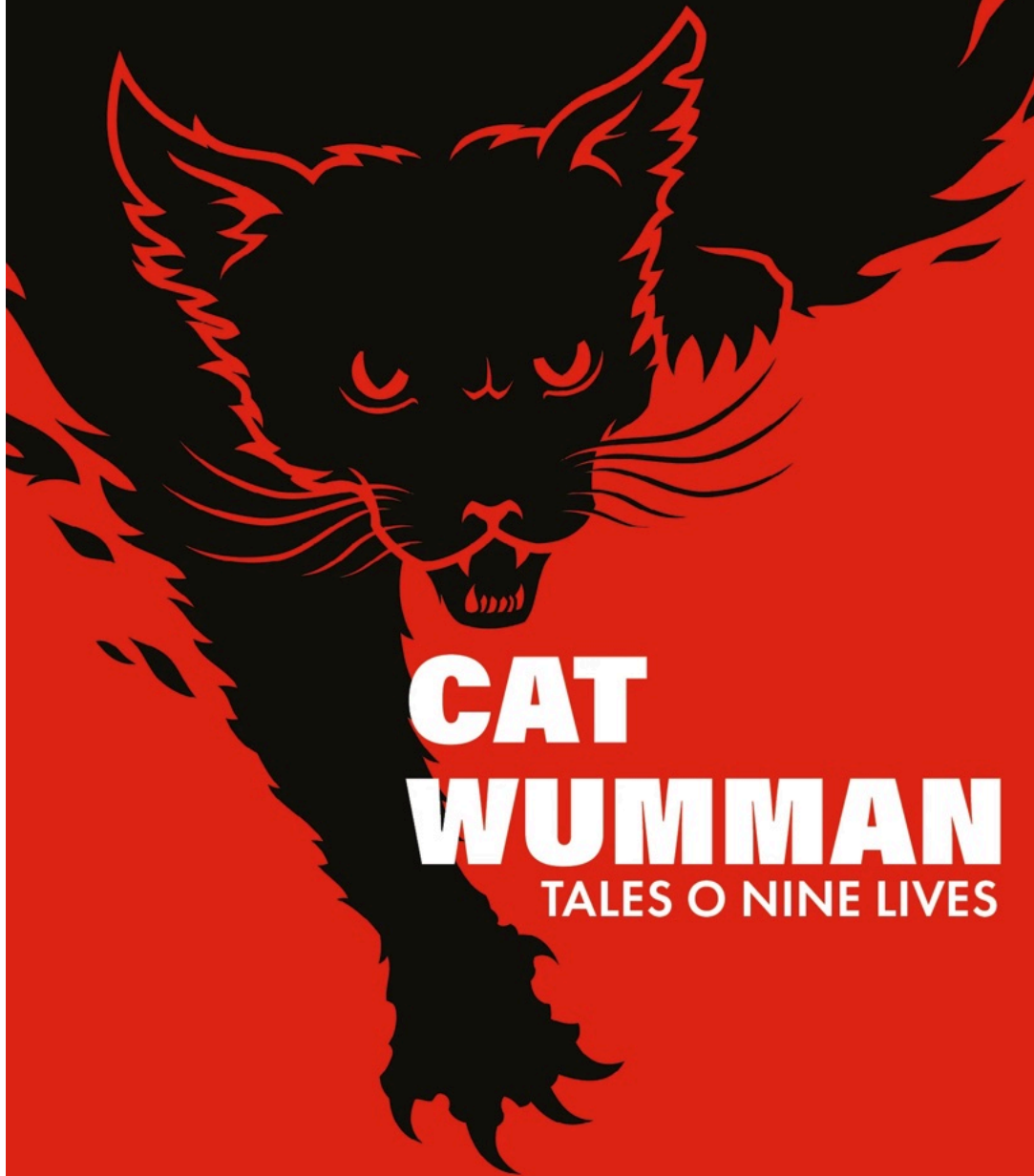
'Gerda Stevenson has mined the seams of ballad, song and folktale to produce these eldritch and uncanny stories, and delivers them in a Scots that wonderfully demonstrates the richness and vigour of the language.'

James Robertson.

'Stevenson's mastery of the short story genre in CAT WUMMAN is breathtaking - a blend of simplicity coupled with profundity that is difficult to match. These magnificent yet haunting short stories about the tragedies and joys of human existence leave readers with a strong sense of hope whilst educating them through their delicately crafted tapestry of cultural influences. Written in a beautifully accomplished Scots, they highlight Stevenson's pioneering work in making this language, intrinsic to Scottish culture, accessible to diverse audiences and give a voice to the Scots-speaking communities in today's Scotland.'

Gerda Stevenson has mined the seams of ballad, song and folktale to produce these eldritch and uncanny stories, and delivers them in a Scots that wonderfully demonstrates the richness and vigour of the language.

JAMES ROBERTSON.



CAT WUMMAN

TALES O NINE LIVES

GERDA STEVENSON

Gerda Stevenson is one of Scotland's great renaissance women, equally gifted at acting, directing and writing. If This Were Real brings to life a journey that is personal and political, intense and wide-ranging. The tones are a shifting, compelling blend of joyous, plaintive, humorous and poignant, the inherent fallibilities and sad frailties of humankind and nature alike, explored with an edgy panache.

KEVIN MACNEIL,

Association of Scottish Literature magazine, *The Bottle Imp*

In this new edition of her first full-length collection, Gerda Stevenson invites readers into a world rich with music – skipping rhymes, heartfelt laments and lively dance tunes. Her poetry dances across themes of butterflies, snowberries and the bittersweet echoes of childhood, alongside reflections on Bosnia, Iraq and Scotland's own landscapes. *If This Were Real* weaves together narratives that resonate deeply with our shared humanity.

Like a night-time bonfire, the poems captivate the reader with her delicate incantatory magic. If This Were Real is the most beautiful collection I have read in recent times. Stevenson's poems, pure like snow, yet ardent like fire, are a true hymn to life..

ALESSANDRA BAVA,
Patria Letteratura



Luath Press Ltd.
543/2 Castlehill
The Royal Mile
Edinburgh EH1 2ND

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GERDA STEVENSON

POETRY

www.luath.co.uk

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**Penicuik Writers Group
Invite you to:**

Open Mic Night & Christmas Party.

**Where:
Penicuik Library.**

**When:
11th December 18 30 - 20 30pm.**

**Join us for:
Readings and refreshments in a relaxed atmosphere.**

All welcome.

**Those wishing to read on the night contact Sheila
text:- 0777940470 or email:
sheilathacker2001@hotmail.com.**

Look Forward to seeing you all.



STEVE TURNER

IN CONCERT



8pm, Tuesday, 9th December, 2025,
Shottstown Miners' Club, Penicuik

Songs and tunes on several instruments from a
master of English song ... and eclectic tastes!



Tickets £10 - 'phone 07803 331592 for details

Community Arts Penicuik

2 Friarton Gardens, Penicuik, EH26
9HG, Penicuik
United Kingdom



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