

## Fire Springs and Friends storytelling and spoken word update

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# Fire Springs and Friends

Your update for January and February

Welcome to 2017! It's going to be a tumultuous year, and there'll be plenty of stories to tell while we're in it! Fire Springs and friends are busy gearing up for a new year of events, storytelling, music and writing. First up, Chantelle is launching a new spoken and sung word event in Swindon, [Wonderwords](#), on Tuesday 7 February, making a fourth come-all-ye event run by a Fire Spring. [Bath Story Circle](#) will turn 18 at the end of this year (yikes!), and is run by David. Richard runs [What a Performance!](#), also in Bath, and Kevan runs [Stroud Out Loud!](#)

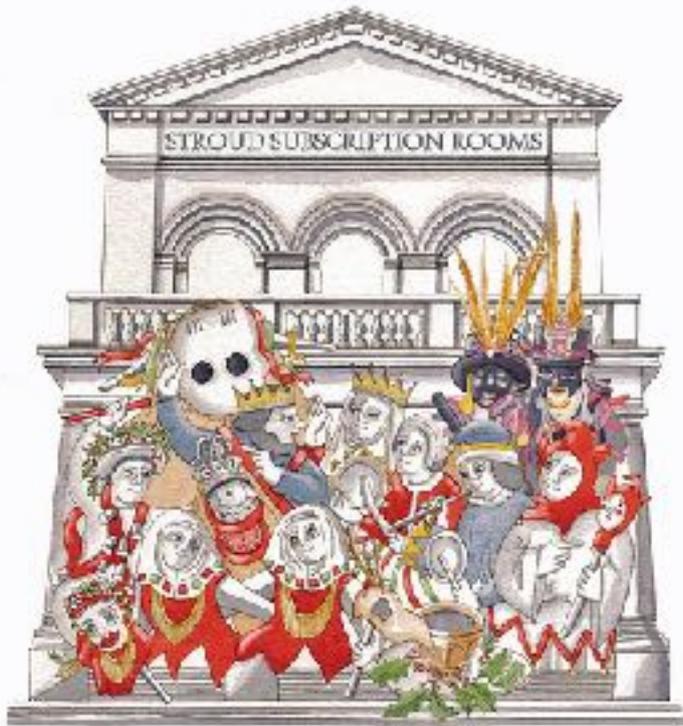
We've been busy in the blogosphere as well. Anthony's been reviewing [Into the Forest](#) and [Rogue One](#); Kevan's left us flash fiction memorial to David Bowie in [Time Takes a Cigarette](#); Chantelle's musing about performance in [The Introvert Performer](#); and Kirsty has been up to her ears in the Peasant's Revolt in [Is John Ball a Dream?](#) Look out for further updates for all spoken word events on twitter [@StroudStory](#) and for storytelling on the [Gloucestershire Storytelling](#) facebook page. This month's image is of the Honeybourne Line, Cheltenham © Kirsty Hartsiotis



[GRIM TALES OF THE BROTHERS GRIM](#)

**Friday 13 January  
at the Painswick Centre**

**8pm.** Forget about happy endings as Spaniel in the Works tell the original stories collected by the Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm, using rhyme, puppets, music and dance! Hear the horrible happenings of Hansel and Gretel, discover the sinister side of Cinderella and the terrible tales of Tom Thumb in this lively funny family show. Suitable for 7yrs+ Tickets £ 10.00, £ 7.00 Box Office: 01453 760900



**MID-WINTER REVELS**

**Saturday 14 January  
at Subscription Rooms, stroud**

**8pm.** The grand finale of the Stroud Wassail with traditional festivities – the Wassail Bowl, The Boars Head Carol, storytelling from Anthony Nanson, games, mummers plays, morris dancers, and ceilidh dancing for all. A kind of medieval cabaret party. In the spirit of the medieval revels, you are encouraged to come in costume, disguise and masks. If you have a suitable party piece – please bring it.



## SECRET GARDEN WASSAIL!

**Saturday 28 January**  
**at Queens Park, Swindon.**

**8pm.** Come and help us wish our apples trees an abundance of fruit and bring kazoos, drums, pots and spoons to drive out the spirits and awaken Old Man Apple! We'll also be joined by the brilliant [Bang to Rites](#) who will help us to make some noise! With Chantelle Smith as Mistress of Ceremonies.



## WILD WORDS! BEETHOVEN'S FOUR SEASONS

**Sunday 12 February**  
**at St George's Bristol.**

**11.45am.** Join Wild Words with storyteller Michael Loader for a new and original story for families, with live music from the sublime sonatas, concertos and symphonies of the Master Composer to rustic folk tunes of the day. A Ludwig van Beethoven Rollercoaster of drama and daring, triumph and trauma, from the shadows of his father to the guiding love of his mother, from losing his hearing to the Ode to Joy, all wrapped up in Wild Words' trademark magical invention (and puppetry!).

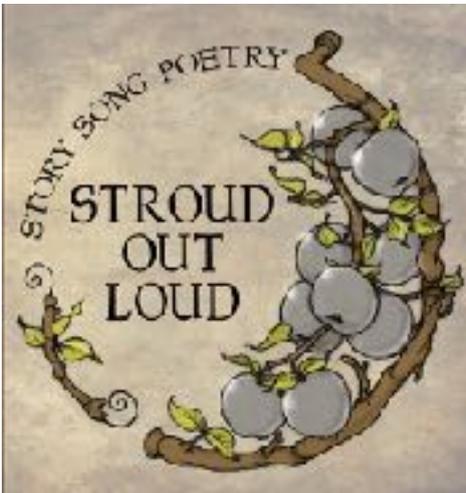




## **INSPIRED TALES: STORYTELLING WORKSHOP**

**Sunday 5 February  
at Museum in the Park, Stroud**

**11am.** Celebrate this year's National Storytelling Week and try the storyteller's craft for yourself. Course tutor Chloë of the Midnight Storytellers, who trained in storytelling at Ruskin Mill, Nailsworth, guides participants through a sequence of spoken word exercises. No writing required! Be inspired by the objects in the museum! The day rounds off with the sharing of tea and tales, your moment to try out what you've discovered.



## **STROUD OUT LOUD**

**Sunday 29 January and 26 February  
at Little Vic, Gloucester St, Stroud**

**7:30pm.** \*Poetry \* Storytelling \* Song \* Stand-up \* Monologues \* Come and join us in our lovely new venue for Stroud's monthly spoken word showcase. Celebrating creative free speech with this entertaining bardic circle for all. Whatever your party piece – a new poem, a comedy routine, a folk tale, a song, a dramatic monologue, your latest artwork – come and share it! Arrive early for a slot (10 mins or less). Celebrate the art of memory and learn your piece by heart.



### BATH STORYTELLING CIRCLE

**Monday 16 January & 20 February  
at The Raven, Queen Street, Bath**

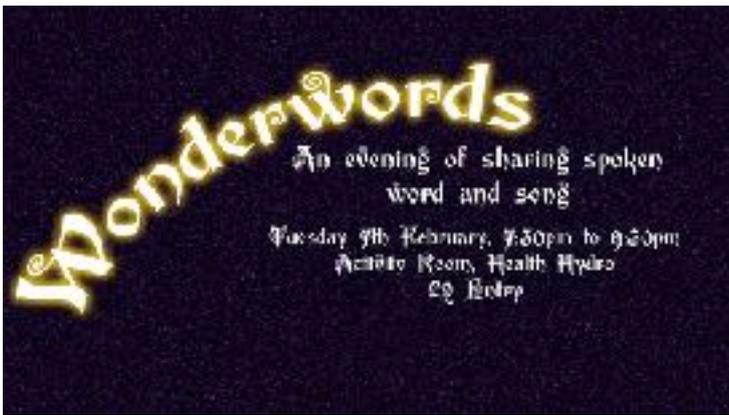
**8pm.** Supporting the oral tradition through performances of stories, songs and poems (from memory, not read). Organised by David Metcalfe. Free, arrive 8.00pm for 8.15pm start. For further information call 01225-789439.



### WHAT A PERFORMANCE!

**Friday 27 January  
at St James' Wine Vaults, Bath**

**8pm.** Traditional songs and more from composer, singer and concertina player Anne Gregson, plus new musical act The Midnight Poachers. Plus a Likely Tale from host/ringmaster Richard Selby. Much more from the floor.



## WONDERWORDS

**Tuesday 7 February  
at the Health Hydro, Swindon**

**7:30pm.** The very first Wonderwords, a spoken and sung word event in the heart of Swindon, hosted by Fire Springs own Chantelle Smith! Come bring a story, a song, a poem, an anecdote, a stand-up comedy routine or some non-wordy music to share with others. Or, if you'd prefer, just come along to listen. £2 entry, refreshments.



## SATURDAY MORNING STORIES

**Saturday 14 January and 18 February at Ruskin Mill, Nailsworth**  
**10:30am.** Come and enjoy the wonder, wit, mystery and magic of stories from around the world with storyteller Fiona Eadie. Stories are for everyone and adults without children as well as welcome as children with adults. Suggested minimum age is 5.



## **STORIES FROM MOUNT PLEASANT**

**Saturday 14 January  
at Village Hall, Garway**

2pm. Story is a magical being, it nourishes our soul, it heals our wounds, and it gives us courage to live a real life. "Once upon a time...." then we travel to a wonder world.

Austin Keenan gathers his folks to share special stories to nourish our hearts and soul. Please bring your family and friends, we have stories to share. We advise you to come 10 minutes early so everyone can get comfortable and enjoy stories.



## JOE'S YARNS

**Wednesday 25 January & 22 February at Smokey Joe's,  
Bennington Street, Cheltenham**

7pm. You'll find stories galore at Joe's Yarns. Everyone is welcome whether you just want to listen or fancy sharing a story. We can guarantee there will be laughs, sighs and much much more. The clock's ticking and that story you have hidden inside you wants to get out...  
Meets every last Wednesday of the month.

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