



NARRATIVES OF HOPE:  
The power of narrative and story in peace-building  
13-15 November 2008

~ NB: details of this programme may change ~

Thursday 13 Nov 7pm – 9.30pm  
Opening night: A Middle Eastern Welcome

A warm and welcoming night of tales from the Middle East, laced with food, humour, music and prayer. Hosted by Sarah, with Roi Gal Or, Sef Townsend, Adele Moss, Rasha Hammami & Jumana Moon.

Friday 14 Nov 9.00am – 5.30pm  
Conference Day

9.00 Registration

9.30 Welcome, introductions, shared story experience

9.45 Listening circle I: The healing power of telling our own story

Dialogue exploring the different ways in which personal narrative can bring healing, particular in relation to those who have experienced violence or conflict. What are the benefits for the teller and the listener? What are the dangers? Where and how is it being used?

With Marina Cantacuzino (*The Forgiveness Project*); Jo Dover (*Foundation for Peace, Warrington*); Alastair Little (*Glencree, Ireland*); Michael Cleere (*Southwark Community Cohesion Unit*).

Chaired by: Helen Gilbert (*St Ethelburga's*)

10.45 Tea break

11.05 Listening circle II: Building bridges through traditional storytelling

Dialogue exploring the role of the storyteller in contemporary society. How can story be applied to building bridges across divides of belief or culture, to community cohesion, and to peace-making?

With Roi Gal-Or (*Healing Words Festival, Israel*); Chi Nwobani (*Chi Creations*); Rachel Smilie (*The Scottish Storytelling Centre*) & Sarah (*State of the Heart Storytelling*).

Chaired by: Justine Huxley (*St Ethelburga's*).

12.05 Reflection time, leading into small group dialogues



12.30 Story

12.40 Lunch

1.40 Workshops in tent and nave

- Can telling your story lead to forgiveness? With *Marina Cantacuzino & Jo Berry (The Forgiveness Project)*. (TENT)
- Story Journeys –in South Africa, Northern Ireland and wild nature. With *Alastair Little & Wilhelm Verwoerd (Glencree, Ireland)*.
- Using storytelling for faith community cohesion. With *Rachel Smilie (Glasgow Storytelling Development Officer)*.

3.10pm Tea break

3.30pm More workshops in tent and nave

- The 'bead workshop': Sharing life stories with victims of violence. With *Sara Cook (Northern Ireland, formerly Towards Understanding & Healing) & Jo Dover (Foundation for Peace, Warrington)* (TENT)
- Story Journeys –in South Africa, Northern Ireland and wild nature. With *Alastair Little & Wilhelm Verwoerd (Glencree, Ireland)*.
- Identity and the storytelling mind. With *Michael Jacobs (Mediation Herefordshire)*.

5.00 Meal break

7pm [Evening of video narratives](#)

An exploration of the power of contemporary video narrative, blogging and new media forms of storytelling. Film showing and audience discussion.

With *Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee (Global Oneness Project)* & others. With stories from the Middle East, South Africa, Ecuador, Afghanistan, Ireland, London and others (TBC).



Saturday 15 Nov 9.45 – 5.00  
Story Festival Day

9.45 Registration & coffee

10.00 Welcome and opening stories

10.15 Stories of building bridges across divides  
Three headline storytellers leading into open floor story sharing  
*Hosted by Sarah Clive (State of the Heart Storytelling) with Roi Gal-Or (Emerson College School of Storytelling); Sef Townsend; Chi Nwobani (Chi Creations); and others.*

11.25 Tea break

11.45 Workshops: tent and nave

Storytelling and healing from bereavement. With Janet Dowling. (TENT)

Storytelling as a pathway to peace. With Roi Gal Or (Emerson College, School of Storytelling).

Personal narrative & collective story in culture and identity. With Josh Cass & Helen Gilbert (St Ethelburga's).

13.05 Lunch

14.0 More workshops – tent and nave.

Collective stories and the earth. With Sandra White (Eco-psychologist and storyteller). (TENT)

Story and team building. With Seema Anand (Hindu storyteller).

Reviving the role of the African storyteller in London's diaspora communities. With Chi Nwobani (Chi Creations).

15.20 Tea break

15.40 Story sharing

*Hosted by Sarah Clive, with Councillor Pat McGinn (former Mayor of Newry & Mourne), Seema Anand (Hindu Storyteller), Jumana Moon (Muslim storyteller) & others.*



Theme: Stories of hope and healing (to be confirmed)

16.30 Questions, dialogue, story sharing exercise and closing ritual.

17.00 Close