



## Highlights of 2018

The past year has been another exciting one! There have been many challenges, but we're celebrating 20 years of storytelling in Cambridge with great enthusiasm.

The year got off to a brilliant start with a marvellous sell-out show: Hugh Lupton, telling Beowulf. Throughout the year we have continued to welcome storytellers both from East Anglia and much further afield: Sarah Walker and Barrie de Lara, Peter Chand, Cath Edwards and a group telling Tales from their Ancestors.

Our amazing Seventh Annual Contest of Liars, with a panel of judges chaired by Hugh Lupton, was staged at the Junction. We continued our collaboration with the Junction in February when Ben Haggarty and Sherry Robinson presented another sell-out show, Grim Grimms, coinciding with the second weekend of National Storytelling Week.

A small group of us devised a show for the Museum of Technology. Telling 'Top Tech Tales' on a summer evening in the main pumping hall, surrounded by the beautifully restored engines, was quite an experience. There was even a chance for some audience participation!

We have continued to support local events by telling stories, mainly for children, at Stourbridge Fair, Wandlebury, Mill Road Winter Fair and Stir Café. Although Milton Road library is currently closed, the group established by Marion Leeper continues to hold Saturday morning story sessions.

The variety in styles and content of the stories at our monthly open mic night has continued to enthral and entertain us. These Story Rounds provide an opportunity for people to have a go at telling stories, as well as listen to seasoned performers. Our current venue is the Coeur de Paris Cafe, Burleigh Street, on the second Tuesday of the month, but please check the website diary to be sure.

Richard Neville entertained us with some clever stories at our 20th birthday party in early March. It was lovely to hear tales of people and events over the past twenty years from Peter Hilken and Marion Leeper. We were all impressed to hear what they achieved. How do we follow that?

Well, we can all look forward to seeing the plans we're making now come to fruition in the next months and years. Hopefully decisions we make now will ensure that Cambridge Storytellers goes from strength to strength, and continues to promote storytelling for the next 20 years and beyond.

None of this would happen without the hard work of the committee, and the support of all who come to our events to tell and to listen. So heartfelt thanks to all, and here's to the next 20 years!