

The Scottish Storytellers

Séoras Macpherson

(Séoras is Gaelic for George)

Séoras Macpherson's stories come from family traditions passed down through many generations in Skye and Argyll. These include stories of the epic heroes Fionn and Cuchullin, tales of giants and fairies, water horses and the seal people. He has also gathered many legends and historical stories about the early Saints, the Jacobites, the Clearances and the two World Wars.

Séoras Macpherson tells his stories in a poised, but natural way, allowing the mood of the story, whether it is either sad, humorous or mysterious, to lead the audience. He is at home in schools, community centres, ceilidhs and at festivals, and is an enthusiastic contributor to workshops, conferences and publications on many Highland topics.

He works regularly with older people in Resource Centres and other venues, with blind and visually impaired people, and with disadvantaged children at the Columba 1400 project. Seoras tells stories on the sites where the stories occurred whether on hill or moor, by sea, river or loch, continuing an ancient tradition of Celtic storytelling.

Séoras Macpherson is a founder member of the Scottish Storytelling Forum. He features regularly in storytelling events at home and overseas and administers the Isle of Skye Storytelling Festival.

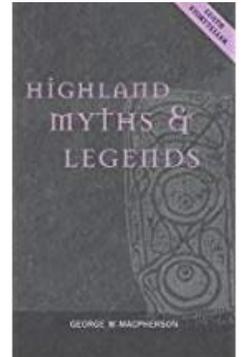


Seoras Macpherson holds the flower called Blar Bhreacan Phuil. The story tells how the stone of destiny was brought to Scotland by St. Andrew, the flower being only in Glendale whilst the stone went to Dunadd.

Books by Séoras

Highland Myths and Legends

Storytelling is a traditional art form which has survived through the centuries and is still being enjoyed today. These tales of Celtic Heroes, Magicians and Vikings were originally told around 200 AD, and have been passed down orally, often verbatim, through generations of storytellers. The oldest Gaelic storybook, dating 260 AD, is preserved in the Housemann Museum in Switzerland and contains many of the stories which are recounted today. The whole idea of the preservation of the Scottish culture is at the root of this fascinating tradition, with established storytellers taking on apprentices until the Disarming Act of 1746 made it difficult and dangerous to do so. Storytelling became family centred. This collection of stories convey the imagination, hopes, fears, and passions of an ancient people. The personalities and culture of people long gone are brought to life by the storyteller's words.



The Old Grey Magician: A Scottish Fionn Cycle

George Macpherson connects us with Scotland's oldest legends and traditions. His stories of Fionn and the Old Grey Magician reclaim a world of heroic exploits and honour, of wizardry, and druidic mystery. These tales are more ancient and authentic than James MacPherson's 'Poems of Ossian'. They provide a vital missing link in the Fionn cycles of Scotland and of Ireland. In this groundbreaking volume Ossian is truly reclaimed by the oral tradition.

Celtic Sea Stories

The Celtic belief that by recording a story the spirit of the story and its teller would die, has meant that generations worth of stories of have been lost. 'Celtic Sea Stories' brings together myths and legends from the past, which the author has collected throughout his lifetime, along with others written specifically for the collection, to provide an enchanting vision of Scottish life by the sea. From kings and fairies to mermaids and witches every tale explores a different aspect of a forgotten way of life. Before schools and television storytelling was the only way to entertain, impart wisdom and explain the inexplicable. 'Celtic Sea Stories' allows readers to share in the storytelling experience again and again, while learning about Scottish history and culture.

