

CURRICULUM VITAE FOR FIONA COLLINS

- * A storyteller with twenty five years experience of working with traditional tales, history and personal stories to promote a love of storytelling, enabling people of all ages and abilities to develop skills of speaking, listening, self-expression and self esteem
- * An experienced primary, advisory and special needs teacher and former foster carer
- * Welsh speaker to a good standard able to work through the medium of Welsh and bilingually
- * Knowledge of folklore and storytelling tradition spanning a rich diversity of cultures
- * DBS Enhanced Disclosure Certificate and Public Liability Insurance for £10 million via Equity

Personal Details

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Date of Birth: 14/4/1953

Education and Qualifications

2007	A Level	Welsh for Adult Learners: Grade A
2005	GCSE	Welsh for Adult Learners: Grade A
1999	PhD	Storytelling in Education: University of Surrey
1990	MA	Language, The Arts & Education: University of Sussex
1987	RSA Diploma	Drama in Education
1980	BEEd (Hons)	Education with Drama: First Class, University of London

Other skills

- * Member of: Folklore Society, Society for Storytelling, Literature Wales, Equity
- * Published author and prize-winning poet
- * Welsh, French and Italian spoken to a good standard. Also basic Russian and German.

Long Term Projects

- * **Bag Books** Storyteller/Trainer for North Wales & West Midlands: multi-sensory storytelling techniques for people with profound & multiple learning disabilities (since 2010, ongoing)
- * **Cylch Stori / Story Circle**: monthly workshops for young storytellers aged 7-11 @ Venue Cymru, Llandudno (since 2012, ongoing)
- * **European Day of Languages**, Schools Workshop Leader for ECTARC, Llangollen and Wrexham (21/22 Sept., since 2011, ongoing)
- * **'Kreative Kidz' Multi-arts Team**, Storyteller, an initiative to improve the offer of creative activities to children with disabilities and their families in Telford & Wrekin (2010 - 2012)
- * **Masquerade**, monthly drama workshop leader for adults with learning disabilities, Llanfyllin (April - December 2012)
- * **Storyteller** for regular Sleepovers at Wrexham Museum (since 2012, ongoing)
- * **Young Storyteller of Wales** Co-ordinator, a Wales-wide project supporting storytellers between the ages of 8 and 18 (since 2007, ongoing)
- * **Young Storyteller of the Year** Co-ordinator, a major UK project supporting storytellers between the ages of 15 and 25 (2007-2014)

Examples of Recent Work

2015

- * **Silff Storis**: a bilingual project, working with artist Catrin Williams, for Cyngor Celfyddydau Gwynedd, with children in Ysbyty Gwynedd and Clwb Derwen for children with special needs, collecting, performing and publishing the children's original stories.
- * Performer at Take pArt, Wales' largest participatory free arts festival for families, at Venue Cymru, Llandudno
- * Workshop in creative writing in Welsh and English as part of a fundraising Fair for Y Lle Celf, National Eisteddfod 2015, Bwlch y Cibau, Powys.

2014

- * Newly appointed as Readwell's Storyteller for Children in Ysbyty Gwynedd, Bangor, May 2014
- * Storyteller for Arts Connection's Chwarae'r Chwedl Project, working with Catrin Williams in 5 Powys Primary Schools to encourage the use of Welsh through storymaking and art, Jan - April
- * Y Bont Gadwyni: working through the medium of Welsh with Y5 & 6 pupils at Ysgol y Gwernant, Llangollen to research, write and publish a local history book, Jan - July

2013

- * Celebrating Children's Creativity: supporting and training apprentice storytellers in Y5&6, Churchstoke School, November
- * Creative writing workshops over 8 weeks with people on dialysis in the Renal Unit, Wrexham Maelor Hospital, resulting in an anthology of work by patients and staff, June - July
- * Storyteller for the Ysceifiog Festival, training two groups of village residents, one adults, one young people 8-14, as apprentice storytellers, preparing for a Midsummer Festival, Jan - June
- * Week of performances and workshops in Prestatyn Primary Schools, 29 April - 3 May

2012

- * Storytelling and Literacy Bilingual Project with 4 schools at Cadw's Denbigh Castle
- * Storyteller in Residence, Arts & Dementia Project, Chilcott Gardens Care Home, Telford
- * Research and bilingual school project on Parys Mountain, Anglesey, for the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales

Publications

Prose

- * Wrexham County Folk Tales (The History Press, November 2014)
- * The Legend of Pryderi (The History Press, 2013)
- * Denbighshire Folk Tales (The History Press, 2011)
- * Blodeuwedd and Rhiannon: in 'A Stone for Remembrance', Ed. B. Llewelyn (Dinas, 2008)
- * Starting out in 'Strange Days Indeed', Ed L. Ashford & R. Tope (Honno, 2007) pp 91-95
- * Yr Fantell Aur, in 'Lingo Newydd', a magazine for Welsh learners (first prize, short story competition in Welsh), (Gwasg Gomer, April 2006)

Poetry

- * White Horse Hill in 'Roundyhouse', number 20, (second prize, 2006 poetry competition).
- * Abibirim in 'Use Your Imagination' (first prize, poetry), (London Borough of Lambeth, 2000)

Anthologies

- * Memories of Pontcysyllte, Edited by Amy Douglas and Fiona Collins (Tempus, 2006)
- * Stories of Salford, Collected and edited by Fiona Collins (North West Museums Service, 2002)
- * Sharing Time: Stories from Greenwich and Ghana, Edited by Grant Bage, Fiona Collins, Osafo Kantanka & Belinda Koranteng (U. of Cambridge School of Education, Cambridge 2000)

Teachers' Handbook

- * English and the Historic Environment, Co-authored by Fiona Collins & Liz Hollinshead (English Heritage Publications, London 2000)

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- * Inana - the Descent of the Goddess Inana into the Underworld in 'Asag: stories from Ancient Sumer', By Zipang (Purple Patch Records Ltd, London 2001)

Unpublished PhD Thesis

- * The Storytelling Revival in England and Wales and its Contribution to the Education of Children of Primary Age (University of Surrey 1999)