

What's on in Edinburgh this weekend? 6th May 2011

Friday 6th May 2011

Alan Spence will be reading from [‘Morning Glory’](#) – his new collection of haiku poetry – at Newington Library today.

Dame Elizabeth Blackadder – who provided illustrations for the book – will also be available to sign copies, and Sheana Stephens – a jeweller inspired by the images and words of Morning Glory – will be in attendance also.

To reserve a seat at the reading or book signing contact : newington.library@edinburgh.gov.uk .

Authors and storytellers Janis Mackay and David Campbell will be at the [Scottish Storytelling Centre](#) today telling tales of Scottish folklore in ‘From Sea and Shore: Tales from the Celtic Worlds’.

David has re-worked various Celtic myths and Janis has written various children’s books inspired by the Selkie legends.

Janis will follow up the event with a voice workshop to help make your voice bring stories to life.

Tickets are between £4 and £6 and event begins at 7.30pm. Ages 12+ .

Saturday 7th May 2011

Edinburgh International Magic Festival Dates: 1 – 8 July 2011
Programme announcement/booking opens: 7th May 2011

Venues: Various venues around Edinburgh city centre (including Lyceum Theatre, Storytelling Centre, The Pleasance, The Stand, Festival Theatre, The Vault, The Royal Scot Club. Special

events will also take place at Camera Obscura and Mary King's Close).

Registration and for more information on War of Wizards:
<http://www.magicfest.co.uk/competitions.html>

Join the folks at The Festival Theatre for an unforgettable weekend of events to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of The Great Lafayette. The master illusionist met his untimely end in a stage fire at the old Empire Theatre – now the Festival Theatre – on 9 May 1911.

On Sat 7 May we have a packed programme of daytime events including, The Great Lafayette Exhibition Display, Backstage Tour, The Man Of Mystery (a short film by Ian Rintoul), the launch of a new book, 'The Death and Life of the Great Lafayette' by Ian Robertson. And as part of the programme Edinburgh International Magic Festival present Lewis Barlow's A Magical Prelude, Kevin McMahon's Would Lafayette Wow The iPad Generation? and Gary James' Mini Magic School.

Paying homage to the great star are Paul Daniels, the lovely Debbie McGee and guests in their evening show A Salute To The Great Lafayette in which Paul will tell the story of one of the greatest magicians of all time whilst interweaving old magic with new. You'll like it ... quite a lot, we hope.

The Lafayette Séance: Live Webcast: Join the Edinburgh Secret Society on Mon 9 May as they celebrate the life of The Great Lafayette and attempt to contact his spirit. This unique event will take place on the stage of the Festival Theatre exactly 100 years to the day that the fateful fire claimed the master magician's life – and will be webcast live across the world.

Please find the full schedule of events at
<http://www.greatlafayette.co.uk>

Sneaky Pete's is hosting the 3rd annual [Brain Storm](#) alt-rock

gig. All proceeds from the event will go to Edinburgh's Sick Kids charity. The event will be headlined by Bathgate alt-rock duo The Fire and I, with support from Edinburgh trio Scrap Brain and female fronted Glasgow pop-rockers Acrylic iQon. Tickets are priced £3 in [advance](#) or £5 on the night.

Sunday 8th May 2011

Magpie Market takes place today at The Hub. Loads of really nifty crafty items all gathered together in one place for you.