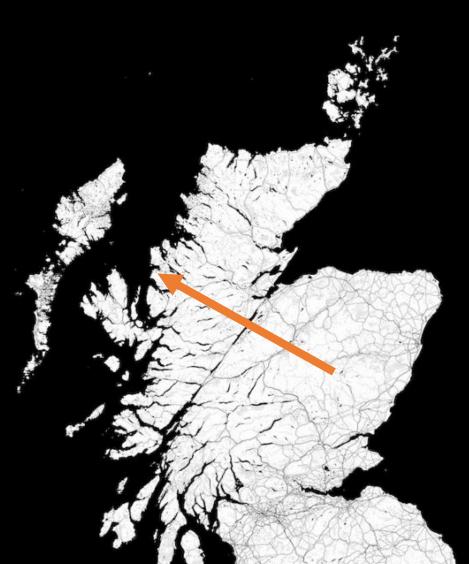




YEAR OF STORIES —2022—









This festival has been supported by the Year of Stories 2022 Community Stories Fund. This fund is being delivered in partnership between VisitScotland and Museums Galleries Scotland with support from National Lottery Heritage Fund thanks to National Lottery players.

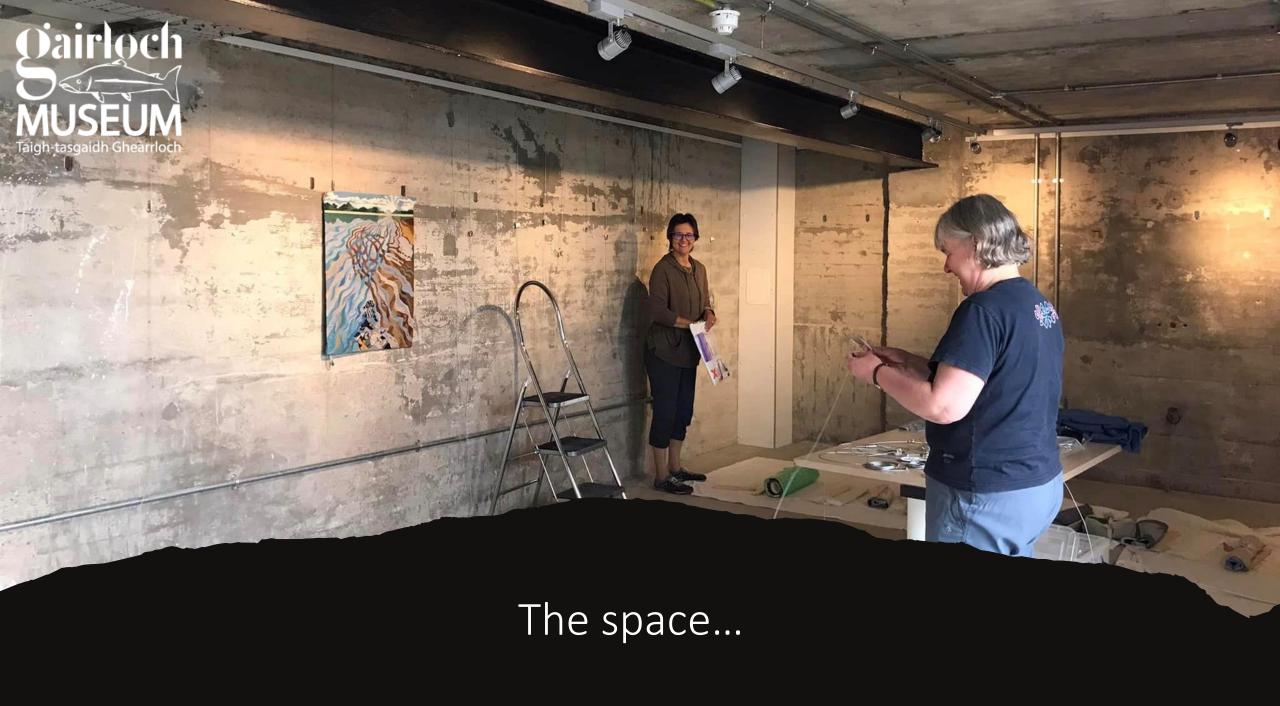






Through the pandemic people were socially isolated and many of the activities enjoyed by the local community were stopped. Some of these have not restarted and some people are still struggling to reconnect socially.

Our project was built around a room for stories and for community; ceilidh in the traditional sense of the word. In a traditional ceilidh people sit together around the fire to enjoy the talents of community storytellers and musicians and local history is passed from one generation to another.









## FRIDAY

The festival of stories is launched with virtual marshmallow toasting and story sharing





## SATURDAY

The first day of the festival and Roddy Maclean leads 2 Gaelic walk & talks ...





## FRIDAY

... and visits
Gairloch Primary
to read stories as
part of the Gaelic
open day.





## WEDNESDAY

Story teller Claire has arrived and it's the first of 4 school visits over the coming 2 days!





## WEDNESDAY

A performance of the Aultbea Song opens a lovely afternoon of Aultbea Stories.





## WEDNESDAY

And later, a wonderful night of song and stories at the pilot of our Taigh Ceilidh event.





#### **THURSDAY**

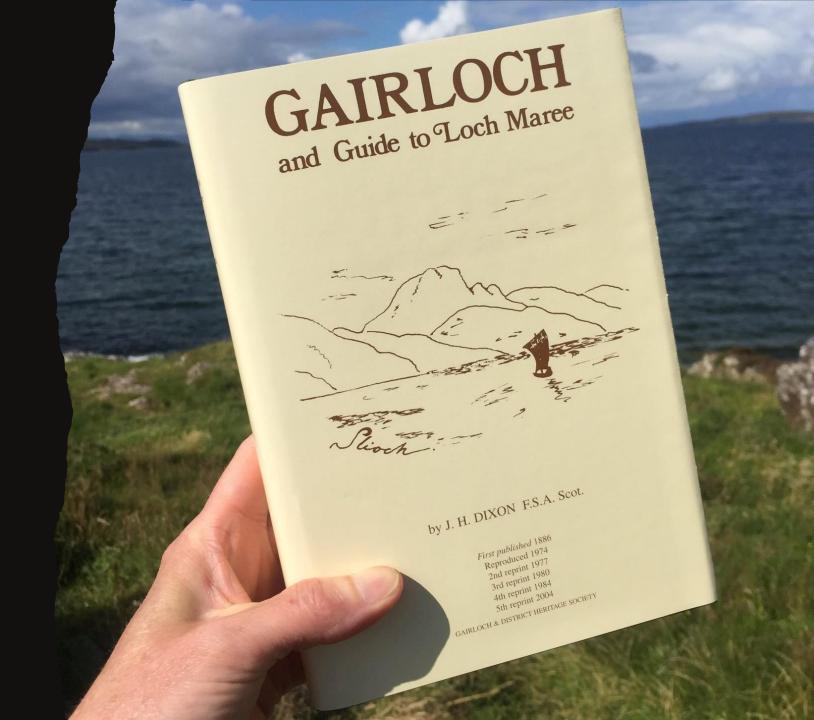
100 children and staff from Applecross, Bualnaluib & Poolewe, Shieldaig and Gairloch joined us for our 2 days of school storytelling workshops.





## **TUESDAY**

Museum Curator Karen Buchanan delves into 'Dixon's Gairloch' to unpick the historical details within these tales





## **TUESDAY**

...And the festival draws to a close with a wonderful day in which we hosted a workshop for the tapestry stitchers...





10 days

16 events

452 people from our rural community





# Public Feedback

My daughter is in my class and was telling her brother (in P6, so not on the trip) about it all. On the Saturday following the trip, I took him in to see it and we sat for an hour reading his Minecraft books, helping to make the jigsaw and also helping to add a paragraph to the written story. It was lovely and he really enjoyed it. I really wanted your reading snug to stay.





# Museum Feedback

We benefitted from trying a format we might not have done otherwise

Good to use our space to showcase other community groups

Too many events over the 10 days?





# Life Beyond the Festival

Several events launched at the festival have been adopted as regular features in the museum calendar of events, bringing in regular audiences

A Dixon Book group will meet once a month

The museum now hosts a monthly Ceilidh House open mic night









Every fortnight

Lasts for 2 hours

Average of 20 people

Bilingual - English and Gaelic





What's next?

