

Storytelling Association (Singapore)

Formation

On 27 February 2006, the Storytelling Association (Singapore) became a fully fledged society registered under the Registry of Societies, Singapore (ROS Reference No: 2026/2006). Ordinary, Associate and Friends Memberships are available.

Our Mission

To promote the practice and appreciation of oral storytelling in Singapore

Our Objectives

- To foster an appreciation of storytelling at home, in schools, in the community and at work
- To encourage and enable more people to tell stories by providing training and storytelling opportunities
- To support professional storytellers by establishing guidelines of standard practice and providing a contact point for those seeking to hire a teller for their event
- To disseminate information on storytelling activities in Singapore
- To encourage storytelling in English, Mandarin, Malay and Tamil (and sign language)
- To work with existing organisations to promote oral storytelling activities
- To foster links with international tellers and associations

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Benefits (for Ordinary & Associate Members)

- 10% discount from:
Bookaburra
Good Books
September 21
- 15% discount from:
Balik Kampung ~ The Neighbourhood Spa

Pro-tem Committee

President:	Kiran Shah
Vice President:	Chuah Ai Lin
Treasurer:	Roger Jenkins
Assistant Treasurer:	Panna Kantilal
Secretary:	Kamini Ramachandran
Assistant Secretary:	Dolly Leow
Membership Secretary:	Jessie Goh
Committee Members:	Mabel Lee Rosemarie Somaiah Verena Tay Sheila Wee

Contact Information

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Let's Celebrate!

An Afternoon of Storytelling for Mum and the Family

Sunday 14 May 2006

3 pm – 4.30 pm

Ngee Ann Auditorium
Asian Civilisations Museum
(Empress Place)

Launch of the
newly registered
Storytelling Association
(Singapore)

ORDER OF STORIES

MC : Roger Jenkins

The Lonely Lioness & the Ostrich Chicks

Retold by Jessie Goh

A folktale from the Masai People of Eastern Africa retold by Verna Aardema (Alfred A. Knopf). Motherly love is put to the test when an ostrich has to rescue her chicks from the clutches of a lioness.

Jessie, a mother of two, understands how Mother Ostrich felt when she lost her chicks. Both her daughters are overseas.

The Rabbit's Gift

Retold by Kamini Ramachandran

In this Jataka tale, a rabbit meets a lost, tired and hungry traveller in the forest. For helping this stranger, the rabbit gains immortality and is sent to live on the moon. Who is this mysterious stranger?

Kamini is a mother of two young boys and a professional storyteller. She started Moon Shadow Stories with Verena Tay in 2004 and has been actively telling for both adults and children. She also has a regular Monday slot on radio with WKRZ 91.3 FM, sharing stories 'live' on the air.

The King's Problem

Retold by Sheila Wee

An Indian king has a problem. Not your usual kingly problem. No, this king has an altogether more personal problem. This folktale is adapted from a retelling by Pomme Clayton.

Sheila has been a professional storyteller for seven years and is one of the pioneers in the movement to revive the art of storytelling in Singapore. Along with Kiran Shah and Rosemarie Somaiah, she runs the Asian Storytelling Network, Singapore's first professional storytelling company.

Strength

Retold by Mabel Lee

This West African tale warns of the possible consequences of rash actions when one acts in anger. Mabel's telling is based on a version by Margaret Read Macdonald.

Mabel is a mother of three children and runs a childcare centre where she enjoys telling stories whenever she can to the children there. She also looks forward to the occasional opportunities to tell stories to adults.

The Lion's Whiskers

Retold by Kiran Shah

In most fairy tales, stepmothers are generally depicted as mean and wicked towards their stepchildren. But in this Ethiopian story, the roles are reversed! What is the stepmother to do?

Kiran dedicates this story to all stepmothers. She loves this story for the strong message that all can relate to and even apply in their lives.

BREAK

MC : Rosemarie Somaiah

Sweet & Sour Berries

Retold by Dolly Leow

Sweet & Sour Berries is taken from a collection of stories from China. The story is about a little boy, his encounter with a highwayman and how the sweet and sour berries allowed the little boy to express his filial piety towards his mother. This telling is adapted from a version by Linda Fang.

Dolly says: "As a young girl, I would love to lie down on the bed with my mother in the night and listen to stories of her youth and her adventures fleeing from the advancing Japanese invasion of China. My imagination also knew no bounds when I listened in rapt attention to the stories told in Cantonese on Rediffusion. That was how I grew to love storytelling!"

The B B M

Retold by Chuah Ai Lin

While Beng Teck sleeps, something small, but important, is stolen from him...

Ai Lin expresses her fantasy genre through telling tales drawn from a rich tradition of stories from around the world: tales funny, fantastic, scary and wise. For fact-based stories, she draws on the natural world, history, culture and science. She counts herself fortunate to be able to integrate her varied interests into her work as a professional storyteller, enrichment teacher, nature guide and tourist guide.

The Tongue-cut Sparrow

Retold by Verena Tay

In this traditional Japanese tale, a sparrow duly rewards those who have treated it kindly and those who have abused it.

A voice and speech facilitator and seasoned theatre practitioner, Verena likes listening to, creating and telling stories. Since the November 2004 formation of Moon Shadow Stories with Kamini Ramachandran, they have been together actively promoting storytelling at The Substation and other community venues.

El Conejito

Retold by Roger Jenkins

When Conejito, the little rabbit from Panama, goes to visit his beloved auntie who lives up on a hill, he meets many dangers on the way. How will he ever reach his destination and get back home safely?

Roger has been telling stories professionally since 1998, when he began his Storytelling course for the MoEd which has now trained over 1,000 primary teachers. He has told stories in schools, at community functions and internationally – most recently in Hong Kong. As an only son – like the little rabbit – he appreciates the importance of mothers (and coo-kies!)