



# Books and Websites

by Allison Galbraith

## **Books:**

### *Folklore:*

*The Lore of Scotland – A Guide to Scottish Legends.* Westwood & Kingshill (Arrow Books, 2009)

This book is my favourite, it has a comprehensive guide to nearly everywhere in Scotland. While planning a story walk in Cardenden in Fife, I came across a fabulous reference to a man who had lived in a cave in the glen, and he could run faster than a hare. This legend was unknown and extremely well received by both the adults and children who attended the story-walk.

Again the book came up trumps when I was searching for Ayrshire stories for a care home group I work with in Ayr. A well known tale, The Pedlar of Swatham, appears in this book in several Scottish guises. I was delighted to find the story of Donald Din, the man who built Dundonald castle, as one of these variants. There are few folk living in Ayrshire who haven't visited Dundonald castle, and this story was a great hit with my Ayrshire residents.

*Oxford Dictionary of Plant-Lore.* Roy Vickery (Oxford University Press, 1995)

A comprehensive folk lore guide to hundreds of different plants, flowers and trees.

### *Storytelling Collections:*

*Tales on the Tongue – Storytelling Voices in Scotland.* Ed. Bea Ferguson (Scottish Storytelling Centre) On sale at the Centre in Edinburgh.

A fantastic collection of stories, compiled by many talented storytellers.

*The Folk Tales of Scotland – The Well at the World's End and Other Stories*, retold by Norah & William Montgomeire (Birlinn, 1975, 2013)

A fine, large collection of classic Scot's stories.

All of Linda and Duncan Williamson's collections of Travellers' stories. My favourite is:

*Fireside Tales of the Travellers Children*. Duncan Williamson, Ed. Linda Williamson (Birlinn, 2009).

### **Websites:**

[www.secretscotland.org.uk](http://www.secretscotland.org.uk) – *Secret, Hidden or Otherwise Notable Points of Interest*. A wikipedia style website, filled with fascinating historical Scottish snippets.

[www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk](http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk) – *The Ultimate Online Guide to Scotland*. The e-books section has lots of useful historical guides to Scotland.

[www.treesforlife.org.uk](http://www.treesforlife.org.uk) – Interesting folk beliefs about native trees.

[www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk) – Same as above.

[www.educationscotland.gov.uk/scotlandssongs](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/scotlandssongs) – Fabulous Scottish song resource, compiled by Katherine Campbell & Ewan McVicar.

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