

Tell us a story²³ (Frome)

Mr Rook's Speak Easy returns from its summer break with a special collaboration with Frome charity OpenStoryTellers to present The Bardic Chair Storytelling Competition at Rook Lane Chapel this Thursday, September 24.

OpenStoryTellers is a charity that works to enrich and empower the lives of people who are marginalised because of learning and communication difficulties, and is co-run by people with a learning disability. The group inherited what was the Chair of the Avalon Marshes in 2009 and though they have held it twice since now hope to bring the competition back to being a regular autumn event in the storytelling calendar.

The competition is open to all who have a seven-minute story to tell and the winner, chosen by the Fates through the drawing of lots, will take the chair home for the year.

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Mr Rook's Speak Easy say they are looking forward to be launching their new season in partnership with OpenStoryTellers before returning to their usual format of visiting professional performers in the cabaret-style club in October.

Director Lisa Kenwright said: "This will be a little different from our usual event but one of my aims for the club was always to support local storytellers so this seems a fitting way to launch our new season."

There will be slots for eight storytellers to tell a seven-minute story each, and the MC for the evening will be Taffy Thomas MBE, first ever Storytelling Laureate and patron of OpenStoryTellers. Taffy will also be performing on the night. The Bardic Chair itself has recently been remade by The Frome Men's Shed, using locally sourced Ash and Hazel Wood.

The Bardic Chair Storytelling Competition takes place at Rook Lane Chapel, Bath Street on Thursday at 7.30pm and tickets are £6/4 in advance, available through the Rook Lane website, or £7/5 on the door. Please note that competitors still need to buy a ticket. For more information about Mr Rook's Speak Easy please see their Facebook page www.facebook.com/misterrooksspeakeasy. To find out more about OpenStoryTellers please visit www.openstorytellers.org.uk



²³ Frome Standard

<http://www.fromestandard.co.uk/Tell-story/story-27839595-detail/story.html#ixzz3mODE6OGX>