



Perth comic-scripting workshop Destinies for the Stone of Scone

2 December 2023, Perth Museum

Perth Youth Collective

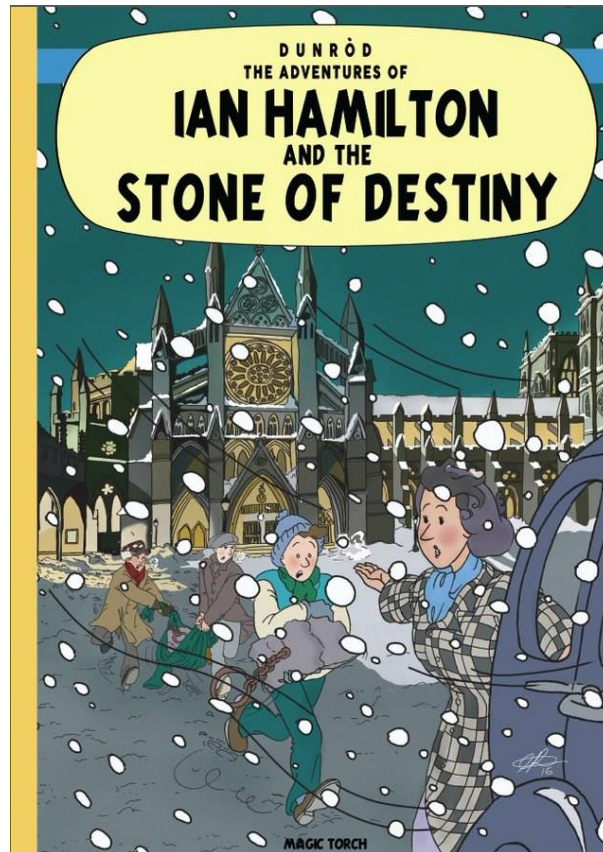
Jointly organised by Perth Museum and the University of Stirling with support from the British Academy / Leverhulme Trust

This event will be led by Paul Bristow (Magic Torch Comics), Professor Sally Foster (University of Stirling) and Dr Mark Hall (Perth Museum).

From the descriptions below, you will see that you will be scripting a comic about the Stone of Scone/Destiny that will lead (with follow-up participation from you) to the creation of a comic that

will be published online. The workshop is helping Perth Museum to recognise the potential future uses for the Stone in its future interpretation and outreach programme. It is also fulfilling research objectives for a research project on which Sally is leading, which includes partnership with Perth Museum.

Below you will find a summary of the day's programme, details of the preparation that we hope you will do in advance to learn about the story of the Stone and find what interests you, and some information about the research background as it relates to Sally's project, Authenticity's Child.



1 - Earlier work by Magic Torch Comics in relation to the Stone of Destiny. See <https://twitter.com/MagicTorchComix/status/1577581464618778629>

Programme for the day

The programme for the day is as follows. Most of you completed the informed consent process (for Sally's research) on 9 November. 10:00-10:15 : Coffee (including finalisation of any ethics permissions)

10:15-10:30: Introductions. Introduction to the day's programme of activities and how it relates to Perth and Stirling's aims. We want you to help us script a comic!

10:30-11:00: What questions about the Stone and its life do you have from your preparation and research?

11:00-12:30: Introduction to how comics tell stories; practice run

12:30-13:00: Lunch

13:00-13:30: Recap on Stone story and any further questions

13:30-15:30: Split into groups and script a page per group

15:30-16:00: Round-up discussion on thinking about the Stone, including completion of workshop evaluation



2 - Stone in Coronation Chair. Copyright Westminster Abbey



3 - 9 uses for the Stone of Destiny. Scotsman 9 September 1996



4 - The Stone is returned to Scotland in 1996



1 *The Coronation Chair after conservation, 2012. Chris Titmus, © Dean and Chapter of Westminster*

5 - *Coronation Chair without Stone (Rodwell 2013, Fig 1)*



6 - The Stone. Crown Copyright Historic Environment Scotland



7 - Coronation 6 June 2023, as the Chair and Stone are shielded for the anointing of the king

London > Edinburgh Castle > St Giles > Edinburgh Castle



8 - The Lord Lyon and Stone at the Service of Thanksgiving for the new king and queen in St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, July 2023. Image: BBC



9 - The Stone as currently displayed in Edinburgh Castle. Crown copyright Historic Environment Scotland



Preparation in advance of 2 December

We encourage you to do some research to learn the story of the Stone.

You can interrogate a Sketchfab digital 3D model online: <https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/stone-of-destiny-edinburgh-castle-4d46d1df627d41a2adc65f6550b2fa9c> (how has the Stone been worked through time?)

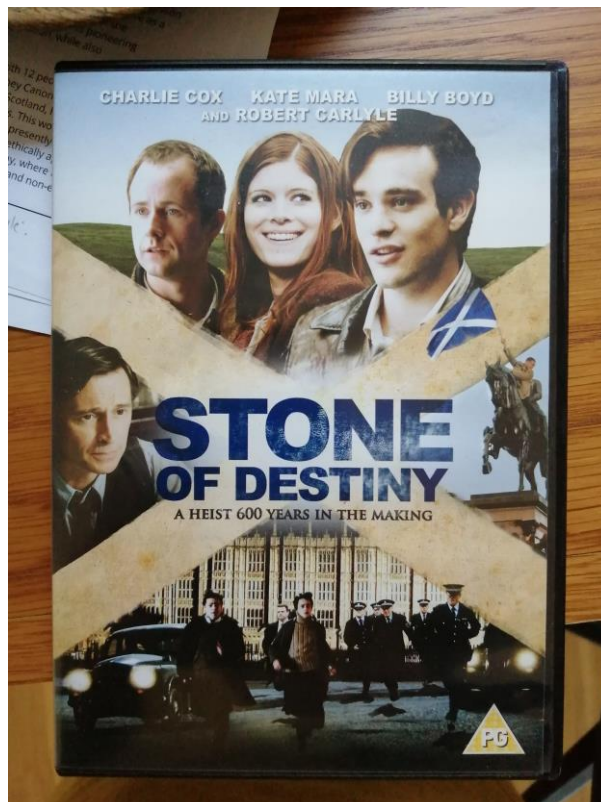
A Historic Environment Scotland webpage provides a handy historical overview: The Story of The Stone of Destiny (historicenvironment.scot)¹

In terms of the events of 1950/51, these short videos are interesting:

1951: Newsreel: Stone of Destiny | #OnThisDay 1951: Newsreel reported on the end of a long search for Scotland's Stone of Destiny, missing since its removal from Westminster Abbey on... | By BBC Archive | Facebook²

How I stole the Stone of Scone | In the late 13th Century, the Stone of Destiny, an ancient symbol of Scotland's monarchy was seized and taken to Westminster Abbey in London where it... | By BBC World Service | Facebook³

This recent video is made in Gaelic by a school child and imagines how the Stone felt: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xz-3yldxW1Q>



11 - This film was made in 2008.

¹<https://blog.historicenvironment.scot/2023/05/the-story-of-the-stone-of-destiny/>

²<https://www.facebook.com/BBCArchive/videos/2184279245042236/>

³<https://www.facebook.com/bbcworldservice/videos/how-i-stole-the-stone-of-scone/954499599073595/>

It is based on (loosely in places!) Ian Hamilton's Stone of Destiny, a slim paperback that is a cracking read about the student 'heist' of the Stone in 1950/51.

You may also like to research how the Stone is used in existing comics?

Sally's research project - Authenticity's Child: current meanings and future destinies for the Stone of Scone



You can read all about Sally's project on <https://thestone.stir.ac.uk/>. Two illustrated blogs will give you a sense of her related research activities to this comic workshop:

<https://thestone.stir.ac.uk/2023/09/25/inaugurating-the-project-stage-2-fieldwork-highlights/>

<https://thestone.stir.ac.uk/2023/11/01/bonkers-but-brilliant-a-week-in-the-life-of-a-researcher/>



12 - We'll be bringing along some props to the workshop, including historic and modern souvenirs that includes the Stone

Sally's research questions (so you know)

- What do the young adults currently know / understand / feel about the Stone?
- How do the young adults understand how the Stone 'works'? What is the Stone doing differently at each stage of its life, in different places, and why?
- How do the young adults respond to the materiality of the Stone – the story it alone can tell?
- At the end of the exercise and having learnt more about the Stone from multiple sources, what stories do the young adults think are the most interesting and important to tell about the Stone? If the Stone could talk what would it say?
- If / how the young adults respond to / engage with its (linear) life story
- What place, if any, does the movement of the Stone play in this and why?
- What other themes emerge in the interest of the young adults, e.g. repatriation

What untold potential does the Stone's story have for engagement with young adults?

Thank you. We look forward to linking up with you on 2 December!

