





To Absent Friends, a people's festival of storytelling and remembrance

Mark Hazelwood
Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care





Royal Scottish
National Orchestra
working with schools
and care homes.





Meet the Parents by Colin Gray

An exhibition at North Edinburgh Arts Centre

Get Organised

An organ recital by John Kitchen at the Usher Hall, Edinburgh





She used to call me *“my little bird”*.

I grew up with her.

She grew old with me.

Words and picture: Eleni Thomaidou



Scottish Parliament

Community Events





Edinburgh Brass Band





Balmer Care Homes

Balloon release and memory tree.



Waverley Care

Live music, poems,
candles to light and a
remembrance wall.



PAMIS

Ceremony and storytelling
for people with learning
disabilities



Remembering the Light – for
people who have struggled
with mental health and/or
traumatic loss

Time of Reflection
for People
Bereaved by Suicide

**St Columba's
Church, Glenrothes**

Falkland Estate



Beer Festival



Napier University,
Pilot Brewery, Stockbridge Tap

to absent friends ...

[home](#) [about](#) [festival](#) [storytelling](#) [remembrance](#) [get involved](#)

a people's festival of storytelling and remembrance

1-7 november 2014

Because dead ordinary people live on in the memories and stories we share.



useful links

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Partnership for Collective Remembrance
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by [familyline](#).

Social Media



30 **Lynn Griffin** @LynnMrsgriffin · 13 hrs

Changed profile pic in honour of Nannie, my amazing grandmother, #love #miss @2AbsentFriends @LifeDeathGrief



Mac End of Life Care and 1 other liked

Sue Ryder @Sue_Ryder · Nov 2

We have changed our profile image to Sue Ryder for #toabsentfriends week. Who do you remember?



Photo courtesy of the Sue Ryder Museum, Warsaw



34 **P Em** @pollymacnicol · Nov 1

. @2AbsentFriends It's my sister's BD on Tues & me & my kid will light candles & look at pictures of us in happier times. #ToAbsentFriends



To Absent Friends.....

Is.....

- Owned by nobody (and everybody)
- Unencumbered by a logo
- Created by its participants
- Broad and inclusive
 - Individual/private
 - Public/collective
 - Grief, bereavement, loss, celebratory, memorialising
 - Unbound by place
- Built on Scottish culture

Isn't.....

- Defined by an organisation
- An awareness week
- A fundraiser
- Prescriptive



What have we learned?



www.toabsentfriends.org.uk

Who do you remember?