Folklore can be a traditional story of a community passed through generations by word of mouth. Friendship groups can also create their own folklore. Stories that happened long ago but are still told whenever friends meet up. These stories often keep friendships alive no matter where you are in the world. Each retelling strengthening those ties. This is one of those stories.

ACTIVITY

Look at a series of photos below and decide on the order of the events.
Activity 2

In groups write a brief paragraph under each picture describing what happened. The first caption has been done for you.

The Party
This was my welcome back party. I’m the guy in the middle. Peta is on the left kissing me on the cheek and Anna is posing in the background. I had been away for about a year and half travelling the world. In that time Peta and Hatch - the long-haired guy in the other pictures - were engaged to be married. My welcome back party was held at JT and Ioana’s house - you’ll get to meet them in the video (he’s wearing a hat and she has the red curly hair). Everyone was having a great time and had had a few too many drinks. But by the end of the night, me and Hatch were arrested, Peta hated me and I nearly missed my flight to Thailand to start my first ever English teaching job...

The Billboard

The Crime

The Fallout

The Toast
Activity 3

Watch a video of the key-players retelling the events of that night 15-years later. Compare the events with your story.

Watch again and read the transcript at the same time.

Activity 4

Read the transcript and underline any words or expressions you’re interested in or don’t understand. Remember to add expressions or words you like in to your vocabulary system.

Activity 5

Make a video in the class Flipgrid retelling what happened in the story or tell your own story which you think might become folklore in 15 years time (try using some of the expressions at the end of the transcript to structure your story).

Transcript

Damien
Folklore can be a traditional story of a community passed through generations by word of mouth. Friendship groups can also create their own folklore. Stories that happened long ago but are still told whenever friends meet up. These stories often keep friendships alive no matter where you are in the world. Each retelling strengthening those ties [the core meaning of tie is fasten things together. So, strengthening ties in a relationship means to make your friendship stronger]. This is one of those stories.

Trent
We thought it was going to be like any other night hanging out on Ioana and JT's backdeck, but something was different, something was afoot [not a foot but something being planned or about to happen]. I can't...

JT
So this was something that happened... Damien and Chris Hatch our friend. They decided they wanted to explore on top of this building. There was a big billboard [a large board for advertising] of Rove [a tv celebrity in Australia] which was a late night show.

Iona
So it was a sign, a billboard about... across the road from our house. And we were having a get-together [a party] and Damien and Hatch decided to climb up the billboard and thought that we should cross out the eyes of Rove because his expression was quite annoying.

Anna
Rove.. Ohhh. I was not there that night. But I've only heard the stories of this mission [an important aim or goal] to the top of the gun shop.

Peta
Ohh okay. That was the night you and Chris got arrested for trying to break into the gun shop. Well not break into. You were just going onto the balcony of the gun shop across the road from John and Iona's place in Red Hill.

JT
And they climbed up this billboard. They were a bit... had a few drinks. And we didn’t think anything of it. Except the shop was actually a gun shop, where they sell firearms, so they had a lot of securi...
ty. And umm somebody drove past in a car and saw them climbing up the building - to have a look at the billboard and look at the view from the top of the building - and they called the police.

**Anna**
This mission to get up there and yes take advantage of the fact that there was this picture of Rove McManus that had to be defaced [deliberately damage something] because that's what it's calling out for it to happen because it's his face.

**Iona**
So they climbed up with a knife, a Stanley knife and a Nikko pen. Then somebody came past in a car and JT fell asleep, so I went outside and saw that there was police and got really worried and came in and woke him up.

**JT**
And at that point in time, I had had a few drinks [had a few drinks usually means you actually drank a lot of drinks!]. I had fallen asleep and my wife roused [woke] me from my sleep and said ‘John I think you better come out the front of the house because there is a incident happening.’

**Iona**
And then there was about 16 police by that time. And then JT had to talk through the loudspeaker to say ‘Get down Damo and Hatch get down.’

**JT**
I saw a lot of policeman that was very edgy [feeling worried or nervous] and they didn't really know who was on top of the building. And I came outside and I saw there was like a policeman in charge, he was a senior sergeant, I came up to him and I said ‘Ahh look I don’t think anyone is trying to break into the gun shop, I think it’s actually my friends up there, I think they just went up for the view” and he said “Well are they your friends?” and I said “Yes their my friends Damien and Chris. There on top of the building”. And he gave me like a loudspeaker that I could hold in my hand that I could ahh had to had to call them down from on top of the building ‘Damien Chris come down from the building, put your hands up’

**Iona**
And then Peta woke up and she got really angry because her husband – were they married? I don’t know? - was arrested. And you guys came down but the whole intersection got closed off. That was quite interesting.

**Peta**
Umm and I almost left him. Coz [weak form of because] you both got arrested, coz they thought you were breaking in there.

**JT**
And it was quite a surreal experience [an experience that doesn’t seem real]. Police everywhere, they were very edgy, they had their hands on their guns. And Damien and Chris came out from behind the billboard. And they were quite shocked I think to see how many police were in attendance of the scene. And they came down quietly and I think everyone was just quite relieved, that it was just a bit of silliness, a bit of fun, just going up to have a look at the view, nobody was hurt, and it was all fine.

**Peta**
Um I think I drove home at 4 in the morning coz I was so angry at him. I was probably drunk – don’t put this on a police website. And I was actually going to put all his clothes out on the lawn because I was really really angry that he had done that to me and I had drunk a lot of Baileys [an alcoholic
Iona
We waited up until you got home from the cop shop [slang for police station] but the police were friendly they said they would look after the people.

Peta
And I really hated you about it Damien. But then I realized you’re not the problem, So I got a divorce so it’s all good now.

JT
And I think that’s the end of the story. I think there’s nothing else to it.

Iona
That was kind of what happened.

Anna
So I heard the stories of how it all went down [a slang term meaning what happened]. But I didn’t actually get to see it myself. And so it’s become part of the folklore of our friendship. I feel like I was there but I wasn’t there even though I’ve heard so much about it.

Damien
It wasn’t quite the end of the story. Five days later we went to court and we were both fined $180 each for unlawfully climbing a structure.

I made my flight to the Thailand the next day and started my first ever teaching job.

Peta and Hatch got married.

And then later, Peta and Hatch got divorced.

The gun shop might not be there anymore but the memories of that night remain and it sits in the folklore of our friendship group.

The Gun Shop Incident.

**Story Telling Expressions**

**Starting a Story**
We thought it was going to be like any other.... + time expression: day, night, weekend, Christmas [to lead in to something that was unexpected]

So, this was something that happened....

So, I’ve only heard this story I wasn’t actually there. [start a story where you weren’t there]

**Linking Ideas**
So, they... And, there was... And at that point in time... Then sombody... .....by that time... And then... And... So...

**Ending a Story**
And I think that’s the end of the story. I think there’s nothing else to it.

That was kind of what happened.