

Children's Corner

These events are FREE and all held at The Book Exchange in the Bridewell. Tickets required. Children to be accompanied by an adult.

Storytime and Activities

10.30-11.30 Age 4+

A varied and exciting selection of stories narrated by our experienced Odiham Book Exchange volunteers, followed by activities.

Workshop: How to foster your children's love of reading

14.00-15.00 for parents and carers, with activities for children. Age 5+

Led by Andrew Barry, English leader at Mayhill Junior School with 14 years of experience teaching across Key Stage 1 and 2. He will look at how children learn to read and what we can do as parents and carers to support them in their personal journey to develop their competency, so they can enjoy the wonderful world of reading.

Sarah Lucas - Local Children's Author

15.30-16.30 Age 4-11



Come and meet Sarah, and also some of the snails from her stories. Sarah is a local children's author who inspires a love of reading and writing. When she moved into a Hampshire village with her family, a strange welcoming

present of two giant African land snails inspired her to write her first children's book, Snail Trail, with the help of her illustrator daughter. She is a regular visitor in schools and is a member of the National Association of Writers in Education.

Sarah will talk about how to get ideas for stories and will read from her first story, Snail Trail. She will also introduce some snails for children to observe on a special surface, or to handle if they wish to get up close.



For tickets and further information

www.odihambookexchange.co.uk

All tickets £6, available on-line or on the door

Places are limited in each venue.

Our grateful thanks to all our kind supporters and contributors:

All our authors

All volunteers of the Odiham Book Exchange

Odiham Parish Council

The Book Festival is run to support the continued successful operation of the Odiham Book Exchange.

We have allowed time between 11.30 and 13.00 for you to have lunch, available in a wide choice of cafes and hostelrys in the High Street:

La Creperie, El Castello, Folly Coffee Bar, Fountains Coffee Shop, Odiham Tandoori, Bel and the Dragon, The Red Lion

Or, if fine, you could picnic in the churchyard

(avoiding please the Garden of Remembrance to the left of the church path)



The Odiham Book Festival

Programme of events

An all-day festival organised by volunteers from the

Odiham Book Exchange

Panel discussion, authors in conversation, author talks, Q & A sessions and signings

Children's events

Book your tickets at

www.odihambookexchange.co.uk

Saturday, 18th October 2025



Time	Venue	Author	Event
10.00-11.30	The Cross Barn	Suzanne Goldring, Louise Morrish, Gill Thompson Libby Morgan	Spotlight on Historical Fiction
10.00-11.30	Mayhill School	Richard Burke and Ross Greenwood	Crime writing discussed
10.30-11.30	The Book Exchange, The Bridewell	Children's Corner (overleaf)	Children's storytime and activities
11.30-13.00	Local cafes and pubs (see over)	LUNCH BREAK	
13.00-14.15	The Cross Barn	Lizzie Dunford, on Jane Austen	250 years History of Jane Austen and her Novels
13.00-14.30	Mayhill School	Karen Hamilton and Sam Holland	Thriller writers in conversation
14.00-15.00	The Book Exchange, The Bridewell	Andrew Barry (overleaf)	How to Foster Your Children's Love of Reading
15.00-16.00	Mayhill School	Posy Simmonds	Drawing a Novel
15.30-16.30	The Book Exchange, The Bridewell	Sarah Lucas (overleaf)	Local children's author – Sarah Lucas's Snail Trail



Suzanne Goldring, Louise Morrish, Gill Thompson with Libby Morgan

In this author panel on historical fiction, **Suzanne Goldring, Louise Morrish and Gill Thompson** will discuss their writing processes and explore some of the real-life stories from history that inspired their fiction.

Compered by writer **Libby Morgan**, the discussion will ask why readers eagerly consume novels set during challenging periods of hardship and resilience. Followed by an author Q&A.

Suzanne's debut novel has been a best seller in the UK, USA, Canada and Australia.

Louise's first novel won the Penguin Random House First Novel competition.

Gill's second novel topped the Bookseller magazine's Heatseekers Chart and appeared in the Wallstreet Journal and USA Today bestseller lists.

Spotlight on Historical Fiction, 10-11.30 The Cross Barn



Richard T Burke and Ross Greenwood

Join us for an electrifying conversation with bestselling crime author **Ross Greenwood** and local thriller writer **Richard T. Burke** as they discuss what makes readers keep turning the pages. **Ross and Richard** will interview each other about their latest books, the inspiration behind their plots, and the real-life influences that help shape their characters and settings. Followed by questions and book signings.

Crime writing discussed, 10.00-11.30 Mayhill



Lizzie Dunford

Lizzie, the director of Jane Austen's House, Chawton will take us through the important milestones of Jane's life, her relationships, her love of writing and will give an opportunity to learn more about her books.

Jane Austen's life and works, 13.00-14.15 The Cross Barn



Karen Hamilton and Sam Holland

Acclaimed thriller writers **Karen Hamilton and Sam Holland** will discuss their work and what drew them to this genre. Often touching on very dark subjects, what inspires them and what research do they do to ensure their characters and plots are so credible. Followed by a Q&A with the audience.

In conversation, 13.00-14.30 Mayhill



Posy Simmonds

Illustrated talk by award-winning cartoonist, illustrator and author, whose work is known for its rich characters, and satirical take on contemporary life. As a pioneer of the graphic novel, many adapted into successful films, In *Drawing a Novel*, **Posy** will show us images covering juvenilia, newspaper work, and showing the construction of the graphic novels from first scribbles to finished artwork. Followed by a Q and A.

Drawing a Novel, 15.00-16.00 Mayhill



More details of all authors at www.odihambookexchange.co.uk

Visit Odiham Book Exchange to browse a selection of novels by our featured authors

Mondays and Thursdays 2 – 4.30, Saturdays 10 – 12.30