

SOUTH HAMS LITERARY FESTIVAL

Programme 2024



author talks
children's activities
publishing advice
open mic
workshops
book fair
quiz

Moor to sea, hear & read

Ivybridge 10th–13th
October 2024

Tickets: ivybridgewatermark.co.uk
Details: southhamsauthors.co.uk



ABOUT SOUTH HAMS AUTHORS NETWORK

The South Hams Authors Network was set up by historical fiction author Alison Huntingford in August 2021 when she looked around to find a local group to connect with other authors.

The South Hams Authors Network is a not-for-profit group to allow local authors who are serious about publishing their work, or are already published, to exchange ideas and contacts.

All local writers are welcome, whether published or unpublished. All genres. Free entry, free membership.

A chance to connect and talk to other authors, plus hear news of local promotional opportunities.

MONTHLY MEETINGS IN IVYBRIDGE, ALL WELCOME

Email southhamsauthors@gmail.com for details of next meeting.

or via Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/alisonhuntingford1>

ABOUT SOUTH HAMS LITERARY FESTIVAL

In 2022 the group held their first literary festival at the Clay Factory in Ivybridge which included authors' talks, book readings and workshops, children's activities and storytelling, a poetry competition, an 'open mic', raffle, book stalls and more. This has now developed into the South Hams Literary Festival, based in the town centre of Ivybridge.

Website: <https://www.southhamsauthors.co.uk/festival-2024>

FESTIVAL TEAM

Organiser/chairperson: Alison Huntingford,
author of *'Dance a Fearful Jig'*

Artwork design and website manager: Lily Style,
author of *'A Most Unsettled Man'*

EVENTS FOR ADULTS AND FAMILIES ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

Thursday 10th October

5.30 pm: **Book launch** of Anthology of Short Stories and Flash Fiction: *Eclipse*. Tony Rea, John McKenna and Anne Thomson. Ivybridge Bookshop.

Free entry. To register email info@ivybridgebookshop.com

Friday 11th October

1.30 – 2.50 pm: **online open mic** (via Zoom link) Free entry

A remote open mic for those unable to attend the festival in person. Book a reading slot by emailing southhamsauthors@gmail.com

Listeners are also welcome.

2.30 – 4:30 pm: performances from **Ivybridge Community Arts**. Chapel Place. Free entry.

Women Talking (a one act satirical play), *Just Fourteen*, by Alice Gerstenberg and short readings from other well-known playwrights.

Free tickets via Eventbrite.

5.30 – 6.30 pm: **MEET THE AUTHORS**. Ivybridge Bookshop

5-10 MINS READINGS from SHAN members' new books released during 2024.

Free entry. To register email info@ivybridgebookshop.com

Friday 11th October

FREE EVENT FOR CHILDREN

3.45 – 4.45 pm: **Brian the Bear and Friends with Mark Blackburn**.

Ivybridge Library.

Every teddy bear has a story! Brian has lots of stories – the day he was lost in the woods! When he was stuck in the snow! When he was stranded at the airport!

What's YOUR bear's story? Come along and share it with **Brian the Bear and Friends!**

Suitable for ages 5-7 year olds.

Free tickets via Eventbrite.

SATURDAY 12th OCTOBER

EVENTS FOR ADULTS AND FAMILIES IN THE WATERMARK CENTRE

All day: MEET AND GREET from Merlin Smallbone, our wandering jester, and the 'Everything Ivybridge' team.

Stowford Hall

Informal drop-in from 9.30 am – 12.00. **WRITERS' ADVICE FAIR: Do you want to publish a book?**

Experienced local authors will be here to give advice on self-publishing, barcodes, ISBNs, hybrid publishing, marketing, planning writing, genres, agents query letters, ACPS, PLR, British Library, etc.

Tickets £2 plus booking fee. Full details at the back of this programme.

12.00 – 5 pm: **BOOK FAIR.** open to the public. **Free entry.**

Book signings and book fair browsing, meet the authors, book trail around the stalls: 'find the title'. Prize: **book token** (sponsored by SW Law). Book trail entries must be in by 3.30 pm; results 4.15 pm.

Fancy-dress competition. Categories: adult, families, children.

12.00 – 1.00 pm Register and enter **fancy dress** competition

12.30 – 1.00 pm **Short story** competition results announced

1.30 – 2.10 pm **Fancy dress** judging and results

3:30 pm Deadline for **book trail** entries

4.15 pm Announcement of **book trail** winner

5 pm Close of fair

All tickets are available from the Watermark box office/website

www.ivybridgewatermark.co.uk

EVENTS FOR ADULTS AND FAMILIES IN THE WATERMARK CENTRE

Beeson Suite

10 - 11 am: Tickets £4 plus booking fee. **LOUISE SHARLAND: BEGINNERS WRITING WORKSHOP. Introduction to the key elements of fiction writing.** A one-hour session introducing writers to some key elements of fiction writing including finding and developing ideas, exploring characterisation, setting and genre. Fun, interactive and for people of any age and ability this is a great way to start your writing journey. **Ticket includes free entry to the writers' advice fair.**

*11 - 11:30 am: Break, **advice fair** open to all attendees.*

11:30 - 12:30: Tickets £4 plus booking fee. **KEITH ROSSITER & JASON MANN: DEVELOPING YOUR WRITING WORKSHOP: A WORLD OF YOUR OWN - how to create a world in your novel that captivates readers** Come fly with us to a world beyond the world we all know. Writers need to build worlds that are believable and interesting for their readers. In this workshop we will help you to explore vital tools of the trade. **Ticket includes free entry to the writers' advice fair.**

12.30 – 1.15: Break, book fair open for browsing.

1:15 – 2:15 pm: £4 plus booking fee. **AUTHORS IN CONVERSATION: Genres: historical fiction and romance.** Two authors (Lily Style & Mary Georgina De Grey) will be interviewed about their work. Questions taken from the audience as well. The interviewer, Sharon Cook, will be in conversation with the authors about their lives, inspirations and their latest projects. There is also the opportunity to meet the authors and have books signed afterwards.

2.15 pm – 3pm: break, book fair open for book signings and browsing.

3 – 4 pm: £4 plus booking fee. **AUTHORS IN CONVERSATION: crime fiction/thrillers.** Two authors (Elizabeth Ducie & David Sharp) will be interviewed about their work. Questions taken from the audience as well. The interviewer, Richard Handy, will be in conversation with the authors about their lives, inspirations and their latest projects. There is also the opportunity to meet the authors and have books signed afterwards.

4 – 5pm: book fair open for book signings & browsing.

FREE EVENTS FOR CHILDREN

Saturday 12th October

Morning

10am – 12.00: Ivybridge Library: **Colourful Horizons with Kayleigh.**

Activity 1 - Make a collage inspired by your favourite animal in a book.

Activity 2 - Design your own Elmer the Elephant using coloured tissue paper and milk bottles - yes milk bottles!

Plus: fancy dress: Come dressed as your favourite book character.

Suitable for children of all ages. Parents welcome.

Free tickets via Eventbrite.

Afternoon

12.00 – 5 pm: Watermark Stowford Hall. **BOOK FAIR** open to the public.

Free entry, no ticket needed.

Includes:

- **Children's book exchange: 'bring one, take one!' (or put 50p in honesty box).**
- **Book trail around the stalls: 'find the title'. Prize: book token (sponsored by SW Law). (book trail entries must be in by 3.30pm, results 4.15pm)**
- **Fancy-dress competition.**

12.00 – 1.00pm Register and enter **fancy dress** competition

1.30 – 2.10 pm **Fancy dress** judging and results

3:30 pm Deadline for **book trail** entries

4.15pm Announcement of **book trail** winner

2.30 – 3.30 pm: Ivybridge Bookshop. **Paul Roberts** (author of The Doors to Yesterday): **Let's write a book together.** An hour of fun thinking about how to write a story. Who should be in it and where would the danger, or fun, come from? Having decided if there's magic or aliens, dinosaurs or treasure, or even something more mysterious - how should the story turn out? Every writer has to decide all these things and hundreds more... but no matter where you think a story is taking you... it still has a strange way of writing itself.

Suitable for ages 8 to 12 (parents, grandparents and siblings are welcome).

Free registration by emailing info@ivybridgebookshop.com

Sunday 13th October

EVENTS FOR ADULTS AND FAMILIES

Afternoon and evening

4.30 – 6.30 pm: Imperial Inn. **BOOK, FILM & TV QUIZ.** Suitable for families. Optional snacks available at extra cost: bar snacks, sharing platters etc.

Cash prize (sponsored by SW Law).

Quiz master: Lily Style

Just turn up! £1 per person for quiz entry.

7.30 – 9.30 pm: Imperial Inn. **POETRY OPEN MIC: Get your work heard!**

Email southhamsauthors@gmail.com to book reading slots of up to 10 minutes. Supportive, friendly atmosphere in a quiet restaurant area. Microphone available. Free tickets via Eventbrite.

END OF FESTIVAL

WRITERS' ADVICE FAIR STALLS. SATURDAY OCTOBER 12TH

Drop in and get advice on:

PUBLISHING & MARKETING FOR AUTHORS

Promotional opportunities for authors, hybrid publishing, self-publishing, KDP and Amazon, sales, marketing, pitching, submitting to a hybrid publisher, cover design, ISBNs, formatting, proofing, uploading to Amazon / Ingram Spark, finding agents, exclusivity versus wide availability, plus all aspects of running a small business as a writer.

WRITING:

Writing opening hooks, plotting, building tension, dialogue and character arcs, editing, non-fiction, poetry, historical fiction, memoirs, biography, children's, graphic novels, fantasy/sci fi/magical realism, guidance for illustration and more!

PARTICIPATING AUTHORS:

David Sharp, Dawn Henderson, John Mckenna, Tony Rea, E.I.Parr, Richard Frost, Jonathan Posner, Jason Mann, Keith Rossiter & William Telford (Writing At The Edge), Abi Yardimci, Elizabeth Ducie, Trevor Griffiths, Richard Handy, Alison Huntingford, Laurence McPartlin, Anne Willingale, Joslin Day, Andy Grigg, Laurence Shelley, Paul Roberts, Morgana Weeks/Wabi Sabi, Mark Blackburn, Sally Arnold, Joel Griffitt, Laila Lock, Alison Simpson.

Venues

Watermark Centre

Ivybridge Bookshop

Ivybridge Library

Chapel Place

The Imperial Inn

A big thank you to our sponsors

