

# Skylarking



## Teasel & Skylark's Incredibly Busy September

Coming straight after a really busy summer period, we hit September running by:

- launching our 'Autumn Events Programme'
- attending the Annual Bookseller's Association Conference
- supplying the Dorchester Literary Festival's School Programme with over 800 books
- selling over 200 books as official booksellers during Pam Ayres' recent visit to Dorchester
- giving away over 100 books as part of our Young Reviewers' Club funded by Penguin
- and taking on several brand new projects

Plus, one of us has been looking after 8 brand new golden retriever puppies!

### Autumn Events Programme

We've held two fantastic and well-supported events by two great authors (Jon Woolcott and Peter Tait) details on the next page. We have also added a new talk to the line-up after securing Daniel Wilson on the publication date of his brand new book 'Great British Architecture'.

### Dorchester Literary Festival (DLF) School Programme

We are proud to have supplied over 800 books to the DLF's Schools Programme of Events, which is organised by The Thomas Hardy School. The programme comprises six events with authors of children's books for all ages and involves 16 schools across Dorchester and further afield. We have been able to offer a 10% discount to parents buying the books (for the first time) and we have been told that the total number of books is higher than ever. The events take place early October.

### Booksellers Circle Reviewers

We submitted our first 15 book reviews to the publishing world's trade publication, The Booksellers' Circle, and had 5 included! The publication is sent to all bookshops and reviews used to make purchasing decisions, so we are thrilled to be part of it and it means we will be able to let all our wonderful customers know about fantastic new books at the earliest opportunity. Plus, we were really pleased that David got the main, full-page review for the children's section. Woop!

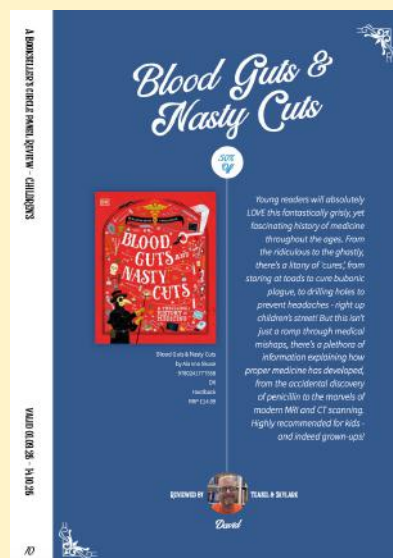
### Dorchester Business Awards - please consider nominating us!

Finally, we have a favour to ask you - our brilliant customers.

Nominations close for the Dorchester Business Awards on 26 October - and we would be most grateful if any of you could nominate us in any category.

**We're asking not out of vanity, but to help secure our future in Dorchester. We want to remain for as long as possible doing what we love, serving all our amazing customers, and the fact is that awards count for a lot in this day and age. Nominate at the following link - thank you!!**

<https://www.marketingwest.co.uk/dorchester-business-awards>



To buy tickets for any of these events,  
please use our website or ask in the shop



**TEASEL & SKYLARK**   
**Autumn Event Programme**

**Saturday 3 October**      *History of England in 25 Poems*  
11am - The King's Arms      Catherine Clarke

**Thursday 8 October**      *Great British Architecture*  
7pm - The King's Arms      Daniel Wilson

**Saturday 17 October**      *Wild Pavements (Walk + Talk)*  
10am - The King's Arms      Amanda Tuke

**Wednesday 28 October**      *Reading: Ghost Stories*  
7pm - Tom Browns      Alastair Braidwood

**Saturday 31 October**      *Dark Dorset*  
2pm - The King's Arms      Jeni Bell & Karen Heaney

**Monday 7 December**      *The Great Big (slightly Christmassy)*  
7pm - The King's Arms      *Bookish Quiz for Mencap*

**Wednesday 16 December**      *Reading: A Christmas Carol*  
6pm - Tom Browns      Alastair Braidwood

**Don't miss out. Book your place today!**

[www.teaselandskylark.com/events](http://www.teaselandskylark.com/events)

**or find us in Trinity Street**

**Don't Miss Out!**  
**Book Your Place Now!**

## What have we been up to?

The brilliant **Jon Woolcott** entertained a packed Casterbridge Room in The King' Arms Hotel on the evening of 15th September, where he gave a fascinating talk on the chalk figures of England. A rapt audience asked a number of questions and Jon kindly stayed behind after the event to chat and sign copies of his book, *The Tattooed Hills*.

A big thanks to Jon for such an interesting evening and massive thanks also to everyone who came along to this enjoyable event.



Then, on 19th September, we were joined by author and Thomas Hardy expert, **Peter Tait**, as he kept the Casterbridge Room crowd glued to their chairs by giving a particularly insightful talk on the important women in Hardy's life. The audience left with a much better understanding of just how profoundly Hardy's novels and poetry were influenced by the key women in his life. Thanks Peter - fascinating stuff.

Later in September, we were visited by **Chris Vick**, author of a number of great novels for children and young adults. He kindly signed copies of his acclaimed new book, *Sky Dancers*, a visually beautiful story, full of wild imagination, danger and enchantment. Chris has spent years working in whale and dolphin conservation and draws a lot on this and other life experiences in his writing. Come in and get a signed copy while stocks last!



## Our Top 10 Books - September 2026

1. **Great Things: Hardy's Hostelries** by Tracy Hayes & Syd Braham
2. **The Tattooed Hills** by Jon Woolcott
3. **A History of England in 25 Poems** by Catherine Clarke
4. **What We Can Know** by Ian McEwan
5. **The Pie and Mash Detective Agency** by JD Brinkworth
6. **The Finest Hotel in Kabul** by Lyse Doucet
7. **Stone Lands** by Fiona Robertson
8. **The Book of Birds** by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris
9. **The Things We Never Say** by Elizabeth Strout
10. **In The Company of Sheep** by Polly Pullar



## Richard's Fiction Review - 'The Things We Never Say' by Elizabeth Strout

I cared about Artie Dam almost immediately. He's a 57-year-old history teacher: kind, awkward, adored by his pupils and, on the surface, living a perfectly decent life. But underneath it all, Artie is deeply sad. He is bewildered by himself, by his marriage, and increasingly by the world around him. There is something so vulnerable and fundamentally good about him that within a few pages I was rooting for him completely. Of course, this is Elizabeth Strout, so nothing is ever quite that simple. *The Things We Never Say* is about the huge things hidden inside ordinary lives: loneliness, marriage, parenthood, friendship, disappointment. Strout writes about them with extraordinary restraint. Nothing is overdone or forced.



What gives this novel an extra edge is how firmly it sits in the real world. The story unfolds around the 2024 US presidential election and its aftermath. Trump is mostly left unnamed, but Artie's alarm at the direction of America is unmistakable. But this isn't really a novel about politics. It's about what happens when the outside world becomes impossible to separate from our private lives. Artie's sense that something has gone wrong in his own life becomes tangled up with his feeling that something has gone wrong in his country too. There is sadness here, but also humour, warmth and those tiny moments of human connection Strout captures so beautifully. Artie isn't heroic. He isn't extraordinary. That's exactly why he matters. I finished the novel enormously fond of him.

Quiet, compassionate, politically engaged and deceptively powerful this is **highly recommended** and available now in hardback.

## T&S Pets' Corner

Opal's pups were 4 weeks old on 29 Sept and continue to grow faster than ever!

Here are 4 of them for you to aaaaaaah to!



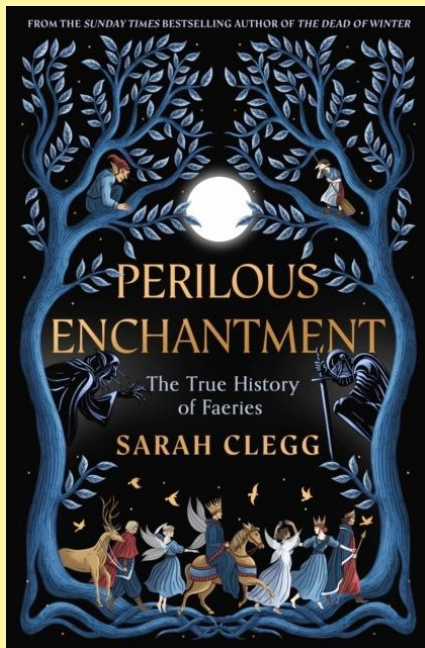
## Can't find what you want?

We love selecting books for our shelves ... but our 'bijou' space means we can't stock everything we'd like.

However, because we order books in most days, we are able to **order any book for you** - and as many of you know - we get books in **very quickly**.

Simply ask us at the counter or send your order by phone, email or WhatsApp ... we usually get them for **next day** or within **2 working days**. Let us help you find your next great read!

## Richard's Non-Fiction Review - Perilous Enchantment by Sarah Clegg



A fascinating journey through the strange, dark and often surprising history of faeries. Each chapter is packed with history and research, but what could easily have become a dry or academic study is kept wonderfully readable by Clegg's wit, passion and enthusiasm for the subject. Even the footnotes are entertaining. Blending folklore, history and travelogue, the book's month-by-month structure works well, while Clegg's personal observations lend it an easy informality, as though you're exploring the subject in the company of a knowledgeable and entertaining friend. At times funny and at others unsettling, it is always engaging.

A hugely enjoyable exploration of how our ideas about faeries have developed and endured, and why these mysterious creatures still capture our imagination today

### Do you run a local book club? Could we help you get what you need?

*If you run a book club and regularly wish to buy 5 or more copies of the same book, we could help. We could order them in quickly (often by next day), offer your members a 10% discount on the RRP, and even deliver to your club venue for free. If this sounds interesting to you or your members, just get in touch today.*

## Quiz Corner - It's quiz time again!

### September's Quiz Answers!

How many books are there in these series:

1. Game of Thrones = 5
2. The Hunger Games = 4
3. The Chronicles of Narnia = 7
4. The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy = 6
5. Tom Sawyer = 4
6. A Series of Unfortunate Events = 13
7. Jason Bourne = 18
8. The Twilight Saga = 6
9. The Magic Faraway Tree = 4
10. Alex Rider = 14
11. Famous Five = 21
12. Anne of Green Gables = 8

### October Quiz

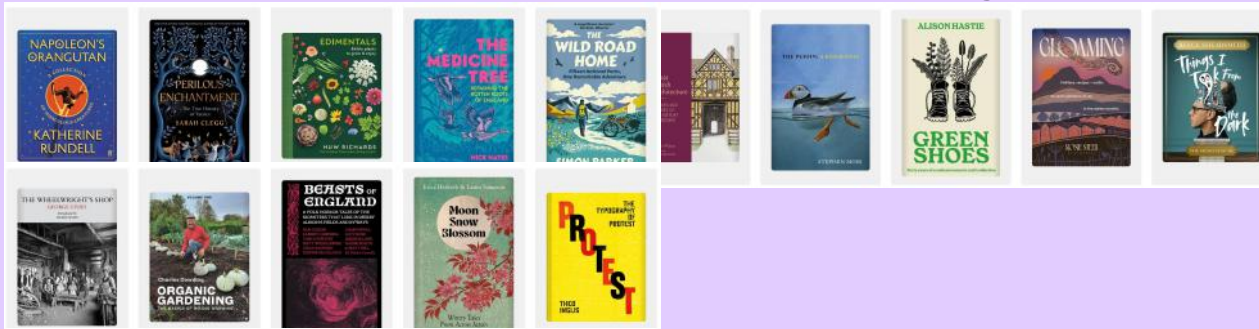
What are the connections between:

1. Gigi (Colette), The Unexpected Guest (Agatha Christie), Ring for Jeeves (P G Wodehouse) and Peter Pan (J M Barrie)
2. New Boy (Tracy Chevalier), Chasing the Stars (Malorie Blackman), Desdemona (Toni Morrison) and I, Iago (Nicole Galland)
3. Black Beauty (Anna Sewell), Remarkably Bright Creatures (Shelby Van Pelt), War Horse (Michael Morpurgo) and The One and Only Ivan (Katherine Applegate)

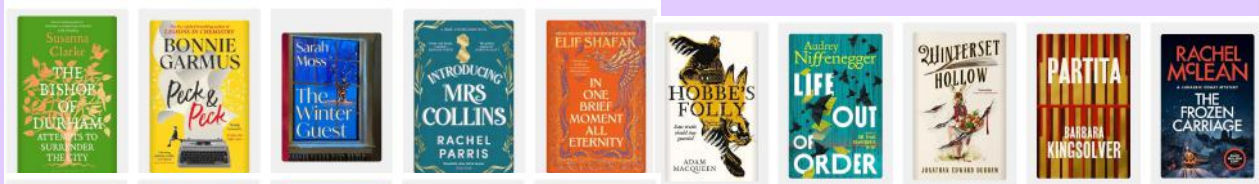
# New Books for October (A bumper month of new books!)

For more information on publication dates and how to pre-order, see page 8

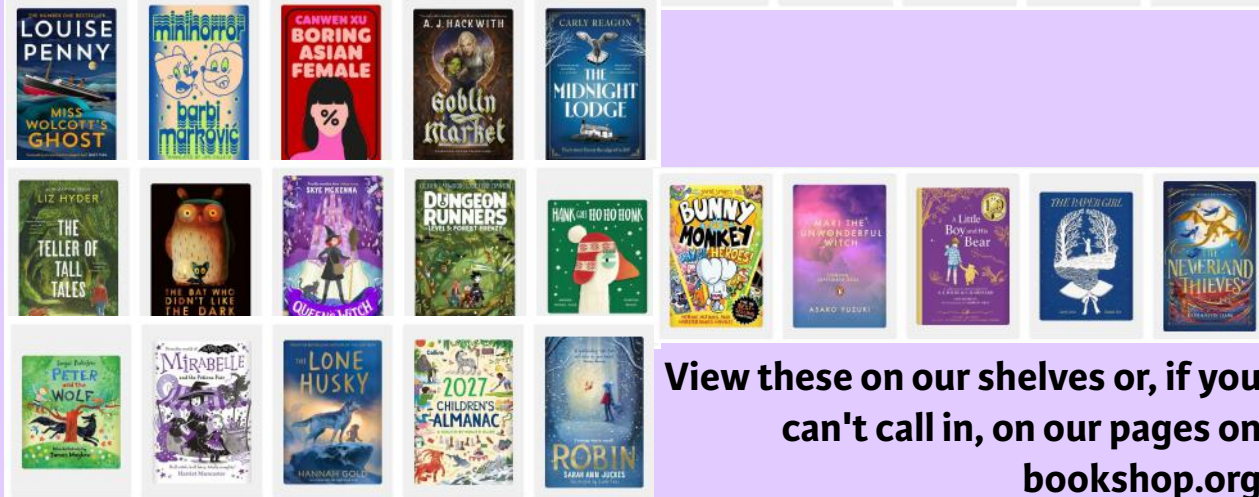
## New Non-Fiction



## New Fiction



## New Children's Books



View these on our shelves or, if you can't call in, on our pages on [bookshop.org](http://bookshop.org)

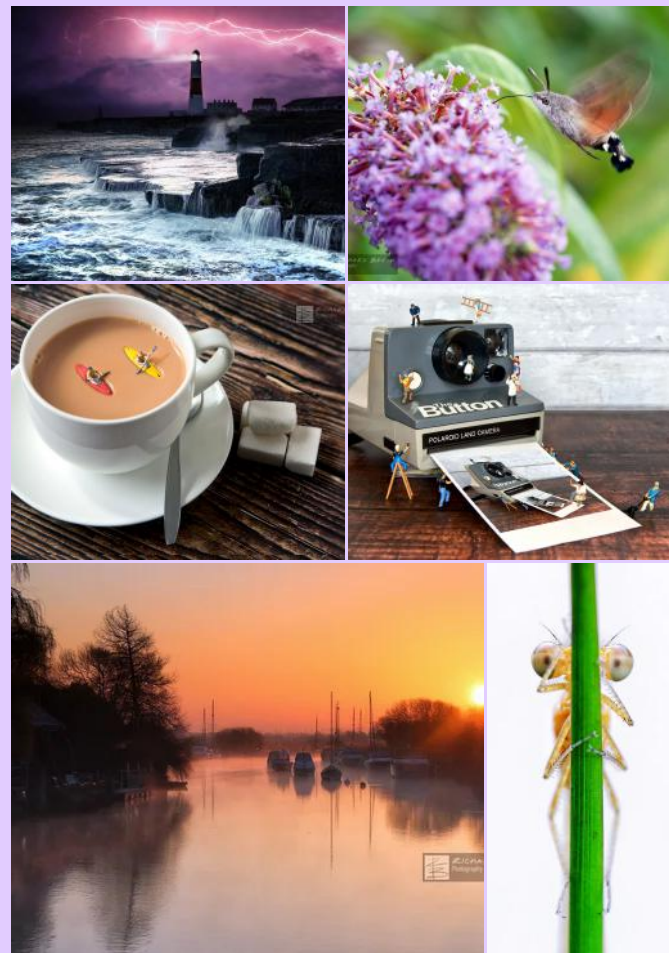
## Featured Artist of the Month

Richard won't thank me but this month's Artist of the Month is ... Richard! He doesn't like blowing his own trumpet so it's down to me to blow it!

Richard has been a licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society for many years, has been exhibited in the Royal Albert Hall, had his images shown all over the world, and even had one of his photos on all 11,000 RPS membership cards!

He specialises in landscapes, wildlife, macro, and his hugely popular Miniature Worlds series of puns and fun!

Many of his images are available in the shop, pop in soon and take a look!!

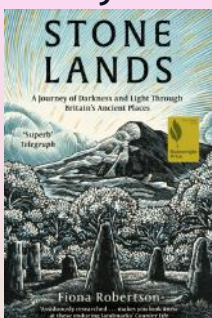


## Book Clubs

Our book clubs have been busy. The **fiction group** read and discussed the Japanese novel 'Lost Souls Meet Under a Full Moon' by Mizuki Tsujimura. There were a lot of talking points about the book, not least, who would you choose to meet from all those who have passed. And would they be prepared to meet with you?



Our **Wild Pages Book Club** (dedicated to non-fiction nature writing) met to discuss **Stone Lands** by Fiona Robertson. A blend of memoir, travel, research, and folklore, this book was particularly well-received.



If you would like to join this book club, meetings are held on the last Tuesday of every month at 7pm at The King's Arms in Dorchester. Just let us know you'd like to join next time you're in the shop.

Finally, our folk horror-themed club run with the **General Witchfinders** still is looking for a few new members. It meets every two months, on the second Wednesday at 7pm in The King's Arms, Dorchester. Just let us know you'd like to join the next time you're in the shop. The club met during the month to discuss **Benighted** by J B Priestly, which sparked a lot of discussion and was enjoyed by most members.



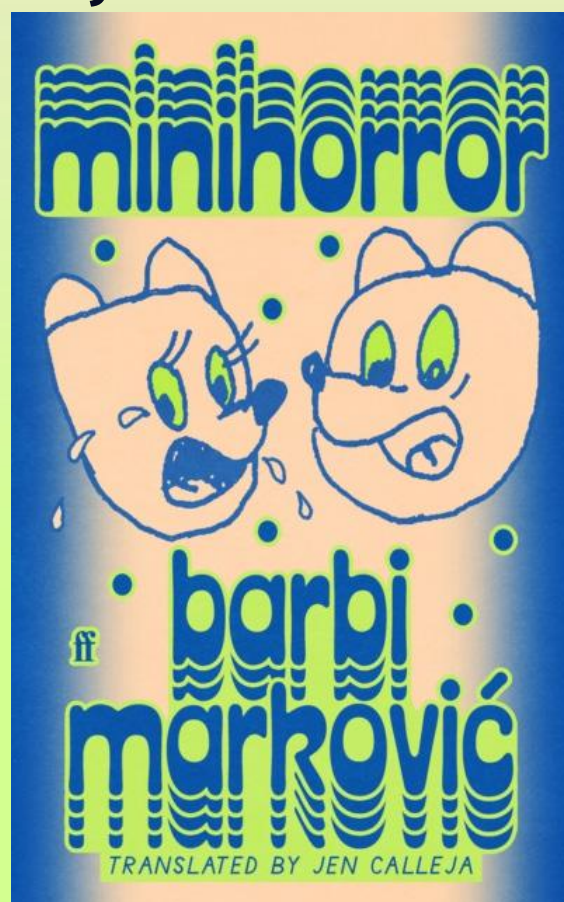
**Check Page X for details of another exciting book club opportunity - by popular demand!**

## David's Fiction Review of Month: Minihorror by Barbi Marković

Want a collection of connected short stories that take everyday life and turn it into weird, unsettling vignettes? Well, this is the book for you!

Marković has managed to brilliantly draw on the absurdities of modern life, and find horror in relationships, work, family, technology and all the little humiliations that we normally try to ignore.

Each chapter starts in the deadpan ordinary and then seamlessly becomes very unordinary, as reality warps into something quite disturbing and surreal. I found Minihorror to be a highly inventive book that proves you don't need a haunted house to be frightened – let's face it, ordinary life is often quite enough!



## Find your next great read ... what books are being released soon and how to pre-order them

Here are some of the new books coming out over the next few months that we think you will love - and some we have reviewed for the Booksellers' Circle.



**If you pre-order any of these titles you'll save 10% off the RRP - just ask us in the shop or email us with the subject line 'Pre-order'**

### New Non-Fiction

- **Napoleon's Orangutan** by Katherine Rundell 08/10
- **Perilous Enchantment** by Sarah Clegg 08/10 *Review page 5*
- **Great British Architecture** by Daniel Wilson 08/10 *See page 12*
- **Green Shoes** by Alison Hastie *Review page 10*
- **The Wild Road Home** by Simon Parker *Review page 9*
- **Organic Gardening** by Charles Dowding 15/10
- **Green Kingdom** by Ben Dark (29/10)
- **The Wheelwright's Shop** by George Sturt 15/10
- **Our Ocean to Save** by Emily Cunningham 29/10
- **Folklore Year** by Victoria Harrison 24/11
- **The Nature of Seeing** Mark Cocker 08/10
- **Gloaming** by Rosie Steer 22/10
- **Things I Took From The Dark** by Reece Shearsmith 8/10
- **The Puffin: A Biography** by Stephen Moss 15/10

### New Fiction

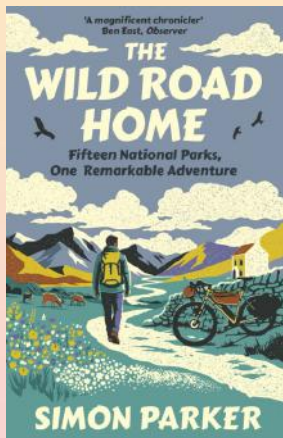
- **Peck & Peck** by Bonnie Garmus - 13/10
- **Winterset Hollow** by Jonathan Edward Durham 08/10 *Review page 11*
- **The Winter Guest** by Sarah Moss 03/10 *Review page 9*
- **In One Brief Moment All Eternity** by Elif Shafak - 15/10
- **The Bishop of Durham Attempts to Surrender the City** by Susanna Clarke - 22/10
- **Hobbe's Folly** by Adam Macqueen 08/10 *Review page 10*
- **Partita** by Barbara Kingsolver - 8/10
- **Introducing Mrs Collins** by Rachel Parris 15/10
- **Whale Harbour** by Mary Beth Keane 5/11
- **Life Out of Order** by Audrey Niffenegger 15/10
- **The Long Let** by Ben Sims 12/11
- **Miss Wolcott's Ghost** by Louise Penny 22/10
- **The Frozen Carriage** Rachel McLean 8/10

### New Children's

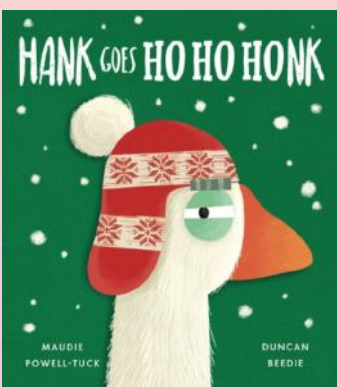
- **The Teller of Tall Tales** by Liz Hyder 22/10 *Review page 10*
- **Song of the Cedars** by Robert Macfarlane 5/11
- **Peter and the Wolf** by James Mayhew 3/10 *Review page 14*
- **Hedgewitch #5: Queen's Witch** by Skye McKenna 22/10
- **Bunny vs Monkey** by Jamie Smart
- **The World of Bunny vs Monkey** by Jamie Smart
- **The Bat Who Didn't Like the Dark** by Steve Small 22/10 *Review on website*
- **Dungeon Runners #5: Forest Frenzy** by Kieran Larwood 10/10
- **Lonely Planet: Maptacular!** by Laura Baker 12/11
- **Robin** by Sarah Ann Jukes 27/10 *Review on website*
- **Pax the Christmas Cat** by Michael Rosen & Helen Oxenbury 5/11



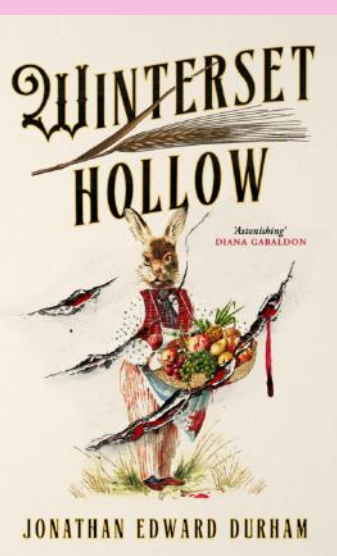
**The Winter Guest** by Sarah Moss is an atmospheric novella set in a hotel on a snowy Christmas Eve. Two strangers, the only guests to have beaten the atrocious weather outside, decide to have dinner together. With each course, they share more about their lives, and by the end of the meal more than one surprising truth has been revealed. The story is told largely through dialogue, which feels natural and convincing, while the tension between the two guests builds gradually towards a satisfying final denouement. An ideal read for a dark winter's evening - one that can easily be enjoyed in a single sitting.



Simon Parker cycles through all fifteen of the UK's National Parks, exploring some of Britain's wildest and most beautiful places. But this is much more than a cycling memoir. Along the way, he meets the people who farm, protect, and live in these landscapes, asking the bigger question: what are our National Parks really for? Full of adventure, humour, and thoughtful observation, **The Wild Road Home** is an engaging portrait of our wild landscapes and the communities around them. Wonderfully readable, this is an ideal read for walkers, cyclists and anyone who loves the British countryside.



**Hank Goes Ho Ho Honk!** Hank the mischievous but loveable goose is back, and this time he's helping to celebrate Christmas in his own uniquely disruptive and chaotic style. A fresh and funny festive read, younger children are sure to love Hank's antics from eating all the chocolates in his advent calendar on the first of December to causing mayhem at the North Pole. Along the way, Hank begins to learn that Christmas is about much more than presents and toys. But fear not, Hank fans, this goose may not have given up his bad behaviour just yet!



What if you discovered everything in your favourite childhood book was real? Everything including the talking animals? Wonderful, surely? Maybe. Maybe not ... Eamon, Mark and Caroline are devoted fans of **Winterset Hollow**, a classic children's book by the mysterious E. B. Addington. On Barley Day — the annual celebration at the heart of the story — they make a pilgrimage to Addington's remote island home, hoping to glimpse the author's mansion and indulge in a little literary nostalgia. Instead, they discover that the book's characters are very much alive! There's impeccably mannered Runnymede Rabbit, magnificent and rather mournful Binghamton Bear, Flackwell Frog busily preparing a suitably extravagant feast, and best of all, Phineas Fox: clever, urbane, bitter, theatrical and an absolutely glorious villain.

Needless to say, Barley Day isn't quite the cosy woodland celebration Eamon and friends remember. Before long the whole thing has developed a distinctly Beatrix Potter meets survival horror flavour.

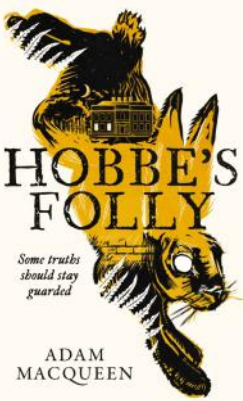
ALISON HASTIE



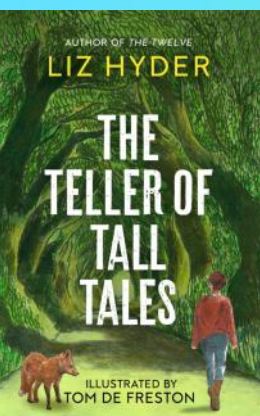
GREEN SHOES

Forty years of a radical women's craft collective

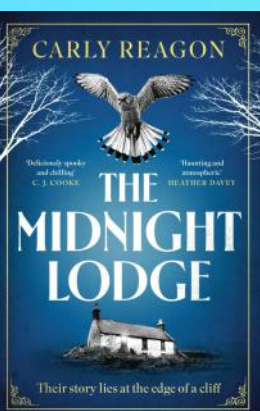
Following a dream in which a voice told her to “make shoes”, Alison Hastie co-founded a women’s shoemaking collective in Totnes in the early 1980s. Rejecting mass production, they set out to make long-lasting, comfortable shoes by hand. Hastie’s story is inspirational, but it’s about much more than making shoes. At its heart is a question that feels particularly relevant today: what might we gain by making things slowly, properly, and locally? Hastie places her story within a long tradition of West Country radicalism, making this as much social history as personal memoir. An uplifting celebration of creativity and feminism, **Green Shoes** is an appealing read for anyone interested in craft, sustainable businesses or alternative ways of working and living.



**Hobbe’s Folly** is a gripping and deeply atmospheric ghost story that moves skilfully between past and present. I found Ben and Henry engaging and likeable characters, and particularly enjoyed the way the two timelines gradually draw together to reveal the terrifying secrets of Hareswood Lodge. MacQueen quickly establishes an eerie mood and builds the sense of dread beautifully, never rushing the horror but allowing unease and obsession to creep in until the story becomes genuinely disturbing. Familiar elements of the classic ghost story — dusty libraries, forbidden books and unsettling secrets — are used in ways that feel fresh and original. The story remains unpredictable throughout, with enough twists and revelations to keep you guessing right to the end. Clever, compelling and brilliantly unsettling, **Hobbe’s Folly** is a story I found very hard to put down.

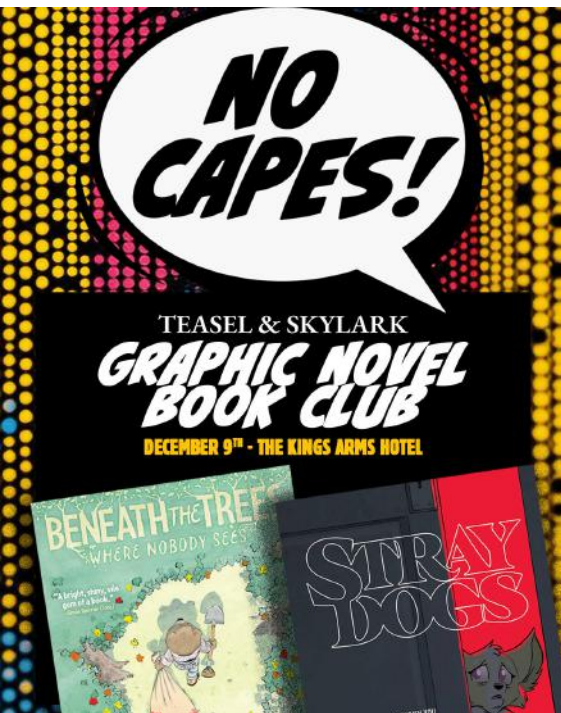


**The Teller of Tall Tales** is a truly magical novel for older children and teenagers from the author of the equally brilliant, *The Twelve*. A teenager facing difficulties at school goes to stay with their grandmother, Oma, but after years of estrangement they are little more than strangers. What follows is a genuinely moving journey of rediscovery as Oma tells her grandchild a tall tale each month and, through these stories, they gradually come to know and understand one another. Rich in imagination and beautifully complemented by Tom de Freston’s enchanting illustrations, the novel blends folklore, complex emotions, and a deep love of the natural world. Highly recommended, this is a beautiful and powerful novel celebrating the timeless power of storytelling and family love.



**Midnight Lodge** is an atmospheric and page-turning ghost story set in a remote cliff-top lodge on Dorset’s coast. Married couple, Tom and Julia arrive at Kestrel Lodge seeking solitude while Tom completes his PhD. As night falls, it becomes clear they are keeping many secrets from one another and that there is something quite disturbing waiting and watching from the cliffs outside the lodge. As the unsettling history of Kestrel Lodge emerges, so too does the truth about their relationship. Creepy rather than gratuitously horrific, this is an intelligent, character-led supernatural novel with steadily mounting tension.

# BOOK CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

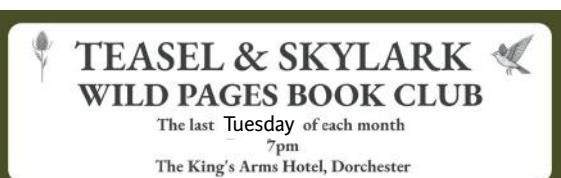


## Do you like Graphic Novels?

Following requests from our customers, we are pleased to say that we are setting up a book club focusing on these. Chaired by Ross from our General Witchfinders book club (more below) the club will feature a range of graphic novels, but as the 'No Capes' name suggests, they won't be superhero stories. Meetings will be every other month on the second Wednesday from 7pm. First meeting will be in December and details to follow. Free to join, just let us know as soon as you can.

## Folk Horror, Weird and Unsettling Fiction

Our book club focused on all of the above, run in association with the General Witchfinders (podcast team) is still looking for members. It meets every other month on a Wednesday evening (7pm) at The King's Arms Hotel, Dorchester, and the next meeting is on 11 November. It's free to join so just let us know if you would like to sign up and come along to future meetings.



From nature memoirs and wildlife writing to rewilding, gardening, environmental issues and tales of rural life, we'll explore books that deepen our understanding of the landscapes, creatures and places around us. Along the way, we'll celebrate the rich literary and natural heritage of Dorset, while discovering voices and stories from much further afield.

## Nature-Writing and Non-Fiction

Our 'Wild Pages' book club meets on the final Tuesday every month at The King's Arms Hotel in Dorchester from 7pm. Books will include nature memoir, wildlife, gardening, outdoors and travel writing - anything about the great outdoors and the natural world. If this sounds like your kind of book and you'd like to join, please just let us know. It's free to join and members get discounts on books.

# LAST CHANCE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

TEASEL & SKYLARK

## Great British Architecture With Daniel Wilson

Thursday 8 October

7pm

The King's Arms Hotel  
Dorchester



Join historian, author and social-media phenomenon **Daniel Wilson** as he brings Britain's architecture brilliantly to life — uncovering the people, power, ideas and curious stories written into our buildings.

From medieval churches and great cathedrals to stately homes and remarkable modern developments, Daniel will explore six fascinating British buildings — including Dorset's own **Poundbury**.

Remarkable stories of our history and heritage with one of the most exciting young voices in British history, Daniel Wilson - author of brand new book *Great British Architecture* and creator of @greatbritisharchitecture

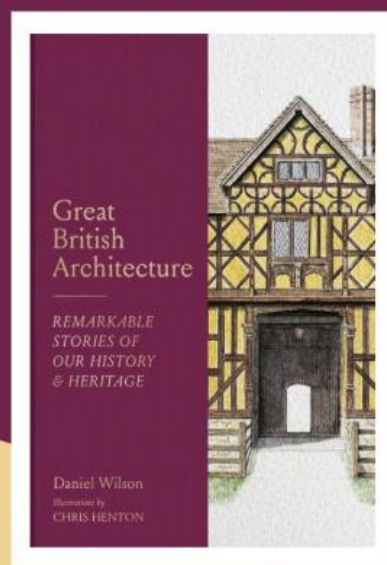


**Book Now!**

**£5 Talk**

**15% off Book Price at Event**  
(£13.59 instead of £15.99)

[teaselandskylark.com/events](https://teaselandskylark.com/events)



## Book Your Place Now!

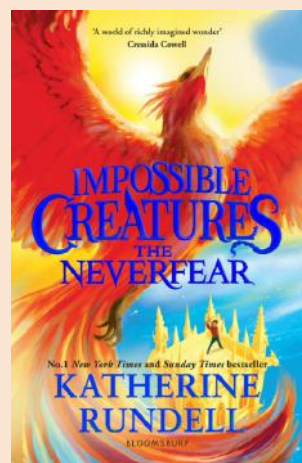
# The Dancing Mole

The newsletter for our younger readers

## World Book Day 2027 - Books Announced

World Book Day 2027 will be held on 4 March, and the books available with the £1 tokens have officially been announced. We will be getting our World Book Day selection in the shop from 11 February 2027 and we will be exchanging these for the £1 tokens. So, if you like the sound of any of the following, you know where to come to use your £1 tokens:

- Greenwild: The Castle Under The Mountain
- Guinness World Records: How to be a Record Breaker
- Bake It Till You Make It



## Richard's Children's Review of the Month: The Neverfear

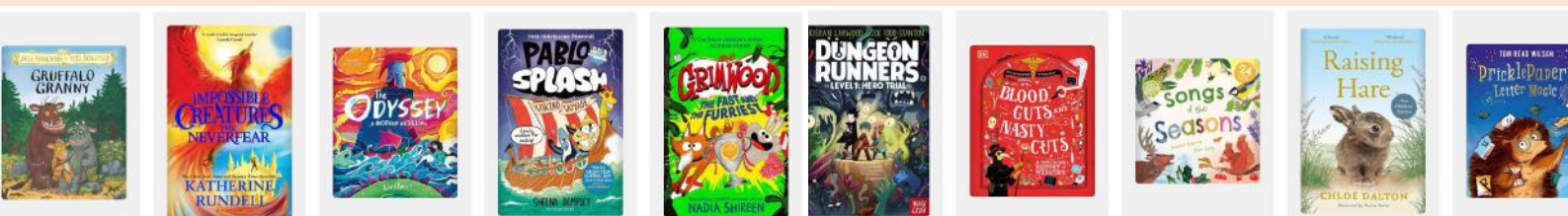
The third book in Katherine Rundell's *Impossible Creatures* series is, in many ways, the most ambitious yet: a rich, exhilarating adventure with epic stakes.

When one of the people they love most is kidnapped, Christopher and Anya are set three deadly challenges involving giants, three-headed dogs, and a desperate race through a city where failure could mean death. Rundell's imagination seems to grow more expansive with every book, and the Glimouria Archipelago is described with such confidence and detail that it feels both vividly real and enchantingly strange. The main antagonist is genuinely sinister and scary, making a brilliantly menacing foil for our beloved heroes.

Although *The Neverfear* is a middle-grade novel, aimed broadly at readers aged 8 – 12, I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it to anyone who enjoys beautifully written fantasy that feels fresh, original and full of wonder. It perfectly combines danger, humour and creativity with real emotional depth. Highly recommended, *The Neverfear* is out now in hardback.

## Top 10 Children's Books: September 2026

1. **Gruffalo Granny** by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler
2. **Impossible Creatures: The Neverfear** by Katherine Rundell
3. **The Odyssey: A Modern Retelling** by Liv Albert
4. **Pablo and Splash: Viking Voyage** by Sheena Dempsey
5. **Grimwood: The Fast and The Furriest** by Nadia Shireen
6. **Dungeon Runners: Hero Trial** by Kieran Larwood
7. **Blood, Guts, and Nasty Cuts** by Dr Alanna Skuse
8. **Songs of the Season** by Patricia Hegarty
9. **Raising Hare (Children's Edition)** by Chloe Dalton
10. **Pricklepaper's Letter Magic** by Tom Read Wilson



# The Dancing Mole

The newsletter for our younger readers

## Teasel & Skylark's Young Reviewers' Club - September Books

**Mirabelle and the Enchanted Sea Globe** by Harriet Muncaster

Book review -

Mirabelle by Harriet Muncaster  
I really liked Mirabelle by Harriet Muncaster. It was only fun and magical and gets into bits of history. I had lots of exciting bits and I liked looking at all the pictures too. I can't wait to find out what happens next. I would definitely recommend this book to my friends because it was really fun to read. I would give it 5 stars.



★★★★★  
Darcy, 8, Damers

**Pablo and Splash: Frozen in Time** by Sheena Dempsey

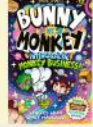


I really liked this book and would give it 5 stars! I liked when the professor was talking to the penguins, the characters were really funny.

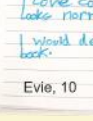
I would recommend this book to other people as it's really good and they will love it!

★★★★★  
Elijah, 7, Broadmayne

**Bunny vs Monkey: Intergalactic Monkey Business** by Jamie Smart



my book review  
I thought the book was funny. I really liked the characters because they were funny and the book looks normal and then it's funny. I would definitely recommend this book.  
Evie, 10



**The Whale That Sings in the Deep** by Yuval Zommas



Lottie, 5, Broadmayne

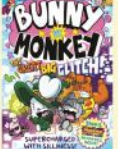
**Oh Dear, Look What I Got!** Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury



I like that the book had animals in it, and that the ending was funny and interesting.  
Joseph, 6, Broadmayne



**Bunny vs Monkey: Great Big Gitch** by Jamie Smart



Book review  
I liked this book because it was funny and the characters were really funny. I would recommend this book to my friends because it was really fun to read. I would give it 5 stars.

Evie, 10

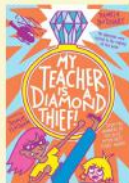
**The Twelve** by Liz Hyder



Book Review: The Twelve by Liz Hyder  
The Twelve by Liz Hyder is an intriguing and fast-paced book. It is about a girl called Lily, who gets caught up in a strange and dangerous situation within the walls of time. The story has lots of twists and turns which engage you so much that you don't want to put the book down.  
You can sometimes relate to the characters in the book and the situations they are in. The main character (Lily) is a normal school girl who sometimes struggles with bullies and understanding, but she finds a way to stand up to this with her new found friend, Story.  
The story is set in the Welsh landscape during wintertime. Lily's younger sister (Lily) mysteriously vanishes into a different time period so Lily and her new friend have to desperately battle with mysterious beings to save Lily and time itself.  
I would recommend this book because the action keeps flowing from the start to end. It is a dark fantasy book that you will love if you like to solve mysteries.

Matilda, 11

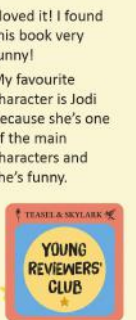
**My Teacher is a Diamond Thief!** by Pamela Butchart



I loved it! I found this book very funny! My favourite character is Jodi because she's one of the main characters and she's funny.

I'd recommend this book to someone who likes detective stories.

Rosa, 10



**Mirabelle and the Enchanted Sea Globe** by Harriet Muncaster



★★★★★  
Lyla, 8, Damers

**Pike** by Anthony McGowan



PIKE REVIEW  
I liked this book because it was about a pike fish. I liked the story and the pictures. I would recommend this book to my friends because it was really fun to read. I would give it 5 stars.

Oakley, 14, The Thomas Hardy School

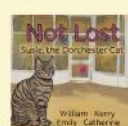
**Busiest People Ever** by Richard Scarry



Busiest People Ever by Richard Scarry  
My favourite part of this book is when the people had a bad day and caused a lot of messes. There are lots of different jobs in the book and different pictures to look at. I think this book is really good.  
Joshua, 6, Broadmayne

★★★★★  
Joshua, 6, Broadmayne

**Not Lost** by William. Kerry. Emily. Catherine.



I liked seeing pictures of Susie in places that I recognise, like the museum.

I would recommend this book to everybody!

Violet, 7, Manor Park

**The Silver Arrow** Lev Grossman



I would recommend this book to anyone who loves animals and trains, or likes adventure books.

★★★★★  
Finley, 8

**The Rabbit, the Dark and the Biscuit Tin** by Nicola O'Byrne



I enjoyed the book was about a bunny

★★★★★  
Freya, 8, Manor Park

**Investigators: Take The Plunge** John Patrick Green



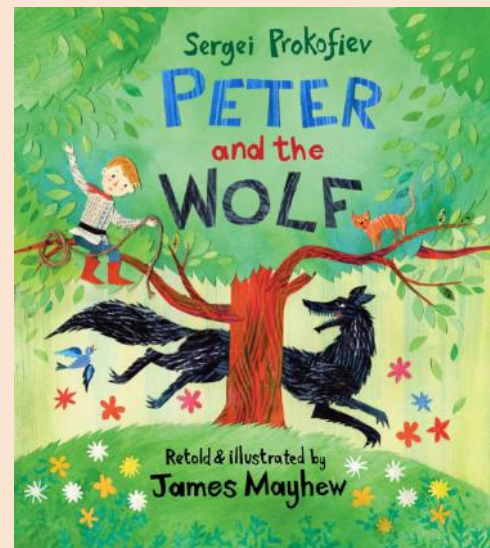
Mabel, 8

I really liked this book and my favourite part was when the rabbit opened the tin and she got to see the dark.



## David's Children's Review of the Month: Peter and the Wolf, by James Mayhew

As someone with a passion for music, what better book to review than this wonderful retelling of the story made famous by one of my favourite composers, Sergei Prokofiev. With a fantastic track record for introducing children to some of the world's most famous pieces of music and art, Mayhew's amazing talent for bringing stories vividly to life, with his beautiful and evocative illustrations, is superbly displayed yet again in his retelling of Peter's adventures beyond the safety of his garden. I love the way that this book shows children how music can itself tell a story. Perfect for reading aloud, and even better alongside Prokofiev's music!





## The Big Tease(I)

We have lots planned for the next few months - here are just a few details:



**Thur 8 Oct from 7pm: Great British Architecture with Daniel Wilson - *The King's Arms Hotel***



**Sat 17 Oct from 10am: Wild Pavements with Amanda Tuke**  
- Urban nature walk (10am from shop) Talk (11.30am *The King's Arms Hotel*)



**Wed 28 Oct from 7pm: Ghost Stories Reading by Alastair Braidwood - *Tom Brown's Pub***



**Sat 31 Oct from 2pm: Dark Dorset with Jeni Bell & Karen Heaney - *The King's Arms Hotel***

## Was it good for you? Please give us a review!

We have a small favour to ask of you, the incredible customers of Teasel & Skylark. As with everything nowadays, online reviews can make or break a business like ours - and so please could you consider leaving us a review on google if you are happy with what we do and if you have a couple of minutes to tell others.

This QR code takes you straight to our review page.

And next time you're in the shop, these cards near the till allow you to tap your phone to either follow us on Facebook, follow us on Instagram, or leave us a Google review - any and all of which help us out lots. Thank you so much.



## Dorchester's Independent Bookshop

### Opening Hours

Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am to 4.30pm  
(5.30pm on Wednesdays)

Teasel & Skylark

2 Georgian House, Trinity Street

Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1UB

teaselandskylark@gmail.com

**07424 619496**

What 3 Words: equipment//fizzled//supporter



# Coming Up Very Soon



TEASEL & SKYLARK  
presents



## Wild Pavements

Urban Nature Walk / Talk with Amanda Tuke

**Saturday 17 October 2026**

10am - Walk - Meet  
Outside shop

11.30am - Talk -  
The King's Arms



Come with us on a pavement plant safari with Amanda Tuke, author of 'Wild Pavements - Exploring Britain's Cities with an Urban Naturalist'

Amanda will be leading a walk around Dorchester in search of the fascinating wild plants and other wildlife which find a home on our pavements.

Following the walk, at the King's Arms Hotel, Amanda will be discussing her book, which uncovers the resilient wild plants and wildlife thriving in urban environments.



SCAN ME

**£8**

or buy just the walk (£5)  
or just the talk (£5)

**Reserve your place today**  
[teaselandskylark.com/events](https://teaselandskylark.com/events)



## Book Your Place Now!

# Coming Soon



TEASEL & SKYLARK



presents

## DARK DORSET

with Jeni Bell & Karen Heaney

**Saturday 31 October - 2pm**

The King's Arms Hotel  
Dorchester

*Vampires in Tarrant Gunville ...*

*Diabolical Dogs on Portland ...*

*Fake Gravestones and Tombs ...*

Join Jeni and Karen for a discussion  
of Terrifying Tales from around  
our beautiful county ...

... as they guide you  
through the darker  
side of Dorset



SCAN ME

**Talk £5**

[teaselandskylark.com/events](http://teaselandskylark.com/events)

## Book Your Place Now!

# Coming Soon



TEASEL & SKYLARK



presents

## GHOST STORIES

read by Alastair Braidwood

**Wednesday 28 October - 7pm**

**Tom Browns Pub  
Dorchester**

This Halloween week, treat yourself  
some classic ghost stories by  
Charles Dickens and M R James.

Brought to life (or death) by  
Alastair Braidwood, this is a  
relaxed evening of spooky  
storytelling perfect for a  
dark, winter's night.

**Book Your Place Now**  
**£8**



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# Book Your Place Now!

Coming Soon



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Workplace  
teams  
welcome!  
Make it a  
night out

# GREAT BIG *(slightly Christmassy)* BOOKISH QUIZ NIGHT

Cash prize  
for  
winning  
team  
Runner up  
prizes

Turn it into a  
meal + quiz  
combo for  
£15 meal  
+  
£5 quiz

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Slightly  
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THE  
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TEAMS  
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Bring your  
friends

*A fun, friendly night of quizzzy  
goodness, prizes, silliness, and (just a  
touch of) bookish brilliance ... raising  
money for Mid-Dorset Mencap*



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Quizzzy fun!  
Great company!

Book Your Place Now!

Coming Soon



TEASEL & SKYLARK  
presents



# *A Christmas Carol*

read by Alastair Braidwood

**Wednesday 16 December- 6pm**

**Tom Browns Pub**

**Treat yourself to a classic this Christmas**



SCAN ME

**£10**

**Book your place now**

**Book Your Place Now!**