

**Special outreach events,
kindly being hosted for pupils by local schools:**

October 9th: Chris Smith is an award-winning, bestselling author and literacy campaigner, ambassador for the Year of Reading and for the Libraries for Primaries campaign, which will ensure that all UK primary schools have a library by 2028. He'll present his series 'The New Famous Five', introducing the new team of Maddy, Fran, Tom and Gilbert the Dog, who team up with George from the original Famous Five for a whole new series of adventures.



November 7th: Mel Taylor-Bessent is the award-winning author of the Race to Imagination Island series and the Christmas Carrolls series. In addition to all of Mel's books becoming bestsellers, her debut 'The Christmas Carrolls' was chosen for the Blue Peter Book Club in 2023, and Mel was shortlisted for the Ruth Rendell Award 2025 for having the most impact on literacy in the UK.



**Special Fun Fundraising Event:
Thurs November 5th @ 8pm in The Showbar
The Big Book Quiz hosted by Nick Jubber
All welcome, £2 cash per player, teams of up to 6 players**

**Festival tickets available from The Mowlem
box office or online at themowlem.com
All ticket prices include a £1 booking fee.**



Thank you to all sponsors and supporters whose
details can be seen on our website at
swanageliteraryfestival.co.uk

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram



Celebrating Books in the Bay



**Friday 6th & Saturday 7th
November 2026**



Friday November 6th in the Studio at The Mowlem

Storytime

1.30-2.15pm - FREE

Stories for pre-school children with storyteller Alison Kelly

The Swanage School Presents....

2.30 – 3.30pm - FREE

New poetry from students of The Swanage School

Words to Inspire

4.45- 5.45pm - Tickets £8

Poetry Workshop with Fiona Sturrock

Nick Jubber: Tales of Fairies & Magical Beings

6pm - Tickets £8

Discover more about the monsters we've invented, all with one thing in common: their ability to terrify.

Mark Damon Chutter: 'The Return' in Hardy

7pm - Tickets £8

Chair and Academic Director of the Thomas Hardy Society, explores 'the return' motif in Hardy's writing.

Larry Lamb: On Poetry

8pm - Tickets £8

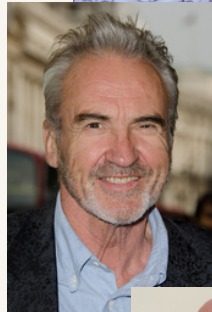
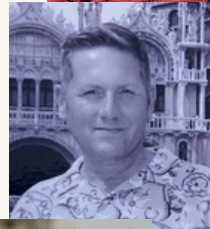
Acclaimed actor and presenter Larry Lamb brings his deeply personal poetry and stories to Swanage.

Martin the Poet

9.00pm - Tickets £8

Martin Hobdell presents a selection of topical poetry

More about each author at
swanageliteraryfestival.co.uk



Saturday November 7th in the Studio at The Mowlem

Kristen Perrin: The Castle Knoll Files

10am - Tickets £8

The New York Times bestselling author talks about her books, set in a location you may find familiar...

Panel Discussion: Whose book is it anyway?

11.30am - Tickets £8

Steve Couch, Andreina Cordani, Sophie Hannah and Alex Stone

In conversation with Sally Page

12.45pm - Tickets £8

Emma Lee-Potter speaks with the Sunday Times bestselling author about her novels including her latest, A Curious Ending.

David Wickham: The Stolen Children of Argentina

2.15pm - Tickets £8

Writer and documentary-maker reveals the true stories which inspired his novel 'The Stolen Children'.

Sophie Hannah: 'Agatha, Poirot and Me'

3.30pm - Tickets £8

Sharing the story of how she came to write the official Hercule Poirot continuation novels.

Dominic Couzens: 'The Wonders of Our Natural World'

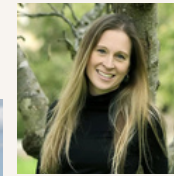
4.45pm - Tickets £8

Meet the award-winning nature writer with 40 books and hundreds of published articles to his name.

Steve Couch and Olly Hopper-Pay: 'Imagining Imogen Imagine'

6.00 pm - Tickets £8

A unique combination of fiction and music.



Special Offer:
Friday Evening ticket for £24
Saturday Whole Day ticket for £40

Tickets from The Mowlem box office or themowlem.com