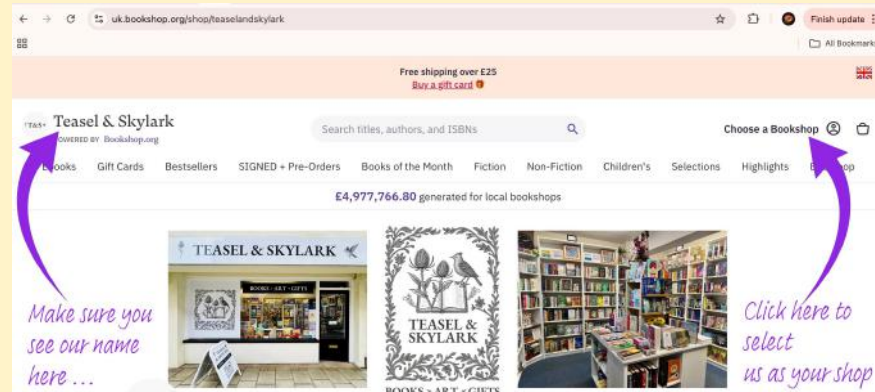


Skylarking



We Have Revamped Our Website!

We have been hard at work updating our website and are now pleased to announce that the revamped site is now live. Not only are things a little easier to find (such as events and book reviews) - you can now buy books from Teasel & Skylark online. Whilst we love seeing you all in the shop - and we have increased our opening hours due to customer feedback - a lot of you have said you'd like the option to shop from us online and so we have partnered with **bookshop.org** to make this possible. Our 'Shop' link in the main menu will now show you a page of book collections - we are constantly updating these and we plan to apply the same thoughtful curation process to these as we do with the books on our shelves, showing you books you may not see elsewhere like we do in the shop.



Clicking on any collection will take you to the bookshop.org website which is a UK based initiative that supports independent bookshops like ours. Whilst we will select the books to sell on our page, bookshop.org will process the sale and handle delivery - **but the brilliant part is** - if you select your bookshop as Teasel & Skylark, we will get paid commission on the sales.

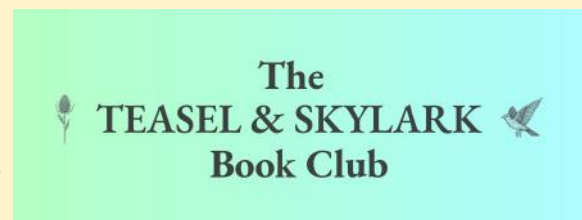
This allows anyone from anywhere to support us - so please feel free to tell friends and family in far-flung places who order for UK delivery! Simply **select us as your bookshop as in the diagram** and then you can shop online and support our independent bookshop at the same time. **But please do still come in the shop ...** it's by far the best way to support us, we genuinely love hearing what you think of the books, and we opened the shop to provide a little 'safe zone' from the constant algorithms and screen-time of modern life. Thank you.

The Teasel & Skylark Book Club

We are pleased to announce that we will be starting **The Teasel & Skylark Book Club** in May. The club will be held on the first Wednesday of every month and will take place in The King's Arms Hotel, Dorchester. First meeting is **6 May at 7pm**.

Membership is free and will also get members a **10% discount on purchases of all books** in Teasel & Skylark (not just for book club reads). **Sign up in the shop or by email** now, ideally in the next couple of weeks so you have time to read the first book. Speaking of which, members can vote on the first read from **The Boy From The Sea** by Garrett Carr, **Birnam Wood** by Eleanor Catton, or **The Sirens** by Emilia Hart - let us know your choice when you sign up - teaselskylark@gmail.com.

We'd like to say a massive thank you to Sophie for agreeing to chair the book club meetings for us and also to The King's Arms Hotel for hosting it.



Our Next Literary Event

TEASEL & SKYLARK

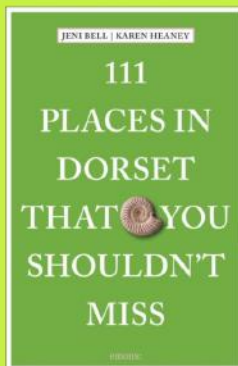
11 PLACES IN DORSET That you shouldn't miss

With authors Jeni Bell and Karen Heaney

Saturday 18 April 2026

11am

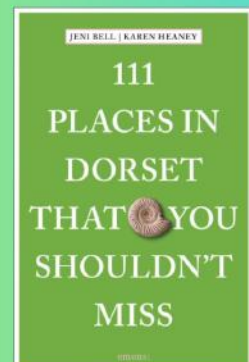
Casterbridge Room
The King's Arms Hotel
Dorchester



11 Places in Dorset That You Shouldn't Miss is an illustrated talk offering a whirlwind tour of some of Karen and Jeni's favourite quirky locations from their book. From Thomas Hardy legends to potato caves, and plenty more in between.



As well as quirky places, Karen and Jeni will offer insight into the writing, research and adventures that went into the creation of *'111 Places in Dorset That You Shouldn't Miss'*.



Tickets: £6

Get 15% off the book price with a ticket

(Tickets available from Teasel & Skylark Books, Dorchester)
Or buy online at www.teaselandskylark.com/events

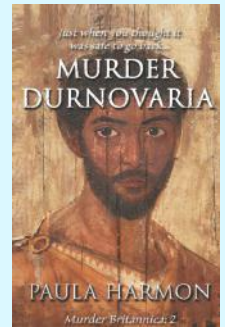
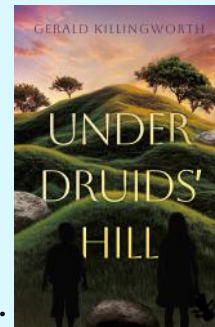
Book Your Place Now!

What have we been up to?

Thank you to everybody who came along to the three literary events we held in March - and a huge thanks to authors, Georgia Piggott, Gerald Killingworth, and Paula Harmon, as well as actor and musician, Alastair Braidwood.



Georgia Piggott hosted a fascinating discussion on the food featured in her historical novels - **The Alice Chronicles** - and even provided samples for the audience to taste based on seventeenth century recipes, making it a really memorable and unique event.



Gerald Killingworth celebrated the launch of his new novel, **Under Druid's Hill**, and gave a really informative talk on his inspiration for the novel, while historical mystery author, Paula Harmon, spoke about her Roman-era murder mystery, *Murder Durnovaria*. Copies of both books, as well as Georgia's, are available to buy in the shop now.



And a huge thank you to Alastair for his readings of Thomas Hardy's '**Far From The Madding Crowd**'. Our '**live audiobook**' experiment has been a great success - customer feedback was excellent and it quickly became a popular and enjoyable way to spend Tuesday evenings. Some members of the audience did their crafts while others just listened as Alastair really brought the story to life in a uniquely entertaining way. We hope to bring you another 'live audiobook' in the coming months - we'll put details in the newsletter so you'll be the first to find out what's next.



Can't Find What You Want?

We love selecting the books we put on our shelves ... but our 'bijou' space means we can't stock everything. We can, however, **order anything 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**.

Buying for Book Clubs?

If you're buying books for a book club and you want more than 5 copies for the group members, you can save 10% when bought together - just ask us in the shop (or email us) and we'll be happy to arrange book orders.

Our Top 10 Books - March 2026

1. **Lolly Willowes** by Sylvia Townsend Warner
2. **Walk The Blue Fields** by Claire Keegan
3. **Under Druid's Hill** by Gerald Killingworth
4. **Raising Hare** by Chloe Dalton
5. **Just Causes** by Georgia Piggott
6. **Is A River Alive?** by Robert Macfarlane
7. **Strange Buildings** by Uketsu
8. **Spring Unfurled** by Angela Harding
9. **Dark Fairy Tales of Fearless Women** by Rosalind Kerven
10. **111 Places in Dorset That You Shouldn't Miss** by Jeni Bell & Karen Heaney

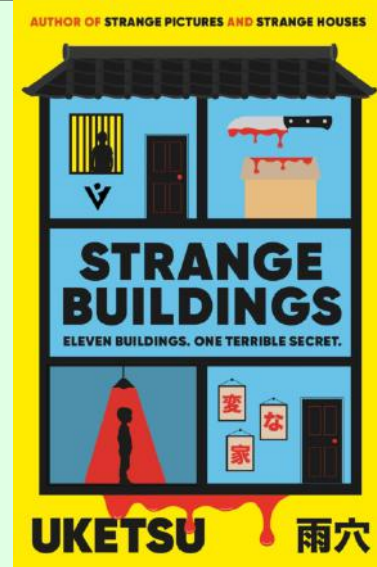
Richard's Book Review of the Month

Calling all fans of Japanese crime and mystery fiction... **Strange Buildings**, the third novel by internet enigma, Uketsu, (and translated by Jim Rion) is now available.

A series of strange, seemingly ordinary buildings. A nagging sense that something isn't quite right. In *Strange Buildings*, Uketsu invites you to look closer—and rewards you with a brilliantly unsettling, puzzle-like story. Told through interconnected cases, each location conceals a subtle flaw that gradually points to something far more disturbing beneath the surface and everything ultimately leads to a shocking, satisfying conclusion.

If, like me, you loved the uniquely twisty storytelling and psychological edge of *Strange Pictures* and *Strange Houses*, you're going to enjoy this. Uketsu takes everything that worked so well in those books and pushes it even further—this feels like his most ambitious and inventive work yet. Uketsu transforms floor plans, layouts, and everyday spaces into clues, drawing you into the mystery so completely that you can't help but start investigating alongside the narrator. It's quietly eerie rather than overtly frightening, which makes the tension all the more effective.

Short, sharp, and lingeringly unsettling, it's a perfect pick for readers who like their mysteries clever, original, and just a little bit strange.



Did you know ...?

More of us than ever before

Yes, due to popular demand from our brilliant customers, we have changed our opening hours to allow for an extra hour of Teasel & Skylark each day (with an extra two hours on Wednesdays!) The new hours are:

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - 9.30am to 4.30pm

Wednesday - 9.30am to 5.30pm

Thursday - 9.30am to 4.30pm

Friday - 9.30am to 4.30pm

Saturday - 9.30am to 4.30pm

Sunday - Closed

Fact or Fib ...?

Every morning, we get up at 4.30am and drive to Billingsgate Book Market in London to choose the freshest books that have been landed that day to bring back for our wonderful customers!

T&S Pets' Corner - Adder attack!



Everybody say awwww because Opal has just been through the wars, thanks to a very naughty adder who managed to 'kiss' her on the nose, bless her. Her sense of humour has understandably escaped her and she does not answer well to "Hi, chubby chops" or "Hey, have you had lip filler??".

Dosed up with lots of meds from the lovely people at Castle Vets on Poundbury, she is bound to bounce back soon!

New Books on the Shelves for April

Check out these new titles (as well as many others) the next time you visit

New Non-Fiction



New Fiction



New Children's Books



Featured Artist for April

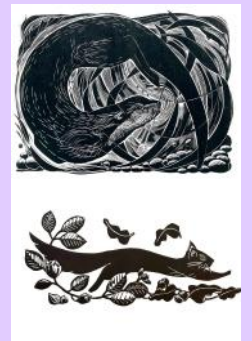
Each month we'd like to take a closer look at one of the growing number of local artists, writers, or makers that we work with to keep the shop fully stocked with quality (and locally sourced where possible) books, arts, and gifts.

Rebecca Drury

Rebecca is a printmaker inspired by Dorset's coast, countryside and wildlife. She works mainly with linocut using traditional multi-block or reduction printmaking techniques.

All her prints are made by hand in limited editions, with each print numbered and signed. Her prints are available in a range of galleries and shops in the UK. Recent commissions include the cover illustration for Adam Henson's book 'Two for Joy' and her designs are currently featured on greetings cards for the National Trust.

We are delighted to stock Rebecca's art and greeting cards in our shop.



Quick Quiz: Only Connections

What connects each of the following:

1. Teacher, Bookseller, Cyclist, Monk
2. Meg, Jo, Amy, Beth
3. Buildings, Houses, Pictures, Maps
4. Chesil Beach, Corfe Castle, Blue Pool, Beach Huts
5. Opal, Ruby, Nutmeg, Muffin
6. Danny, Matilda, James, Charlie

Answers to March Quiz:

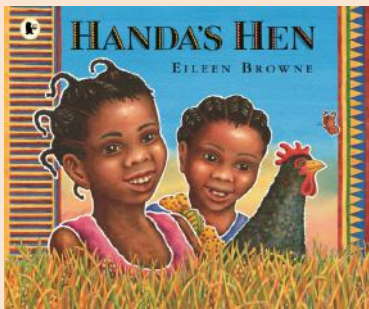
Dickens characters were 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10!
3, 5 are PG Wodehouse, 6 is Douglas Adams, and 8 is Road Dahl!

The Dancing Mole

The newsletter for our younger readers

Movement, Music & Storytelling with Eileen Browne

We are so excited to let you all know that legendary children's author and illustrator, Eileen Browne, is coming to Dorchester to host a Movement, Music, and Storytelling Workshop based on her popular series of books featuring the character of Handa.



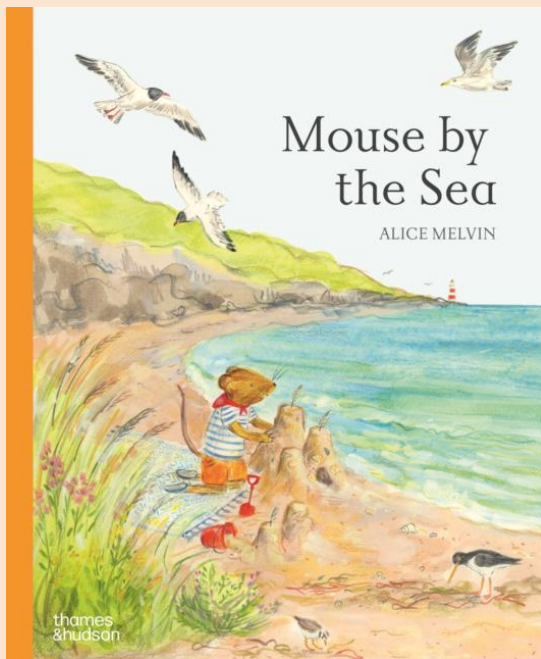
The workshop is a perfect activity for 3 - 7 year olds during the Easter holidays and is taking place in The Prince of Wales School in Dorchester on Thursday 9 April at 10.30am. Places are limited so book your tickets now on the Ticketsource website - just scan the QR code below. Tickets are only £5 per child and accompanying adults go free. Book now to avoid disappointment.



Eileen will be signing books after the workshop and you can save 25% of the RRP of Handa's Hen by buying a 'ticket + book bundle' for £10.99. (Copies will be available to buy on the day also.)

Our Children's pick for April - Mouse by the Sea

Mouse By The Sea is a beautiful and heartwarming story written and illustrated by Alice Melvin. It tells the story of little mouse who visits the seaside and finds lots of exciting things to see and do. Told in rhyme, there are lots of flaps to lift up and see what's hiding in the beautifully illustrated pictures, with lots of facts and information to read and learn!



We would like to say a huge thank you to Eileen Browne and to The Prince of Wales School for helping us bring this workshop to Dorchester.

Top 10 Children's Books March 2026

1. **The Magic Faraway Tree** by Enid Blyton
2. **Where Are You, Eddie?** by Michael Rosen & Gill Smith
3. **Mouse by the Sea** by Alice Melvin
4. **Sad Ghost Club** by Lize Meddings
5. **A Girl's Guide to Spying** by Holly Webb
6. **Megalomaniacs** by Jamie Smart
7. **My Soul, A Shining Tree** by Jamila Gavin
8. **Cruise Ship: Kidnap at Sea** by Emma Swan
9. **Bunny vs Monkey: The Great Big Glitch** by Jamie Smart
10. **Kiki's Delivery Service** by Eiko Kadono

The Big Tease(I)

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



9th April - Eileen Browne, Children's Author & Illustrator - Easter Holidays Storytelling Workshop (Perfect for 3 to 7 Year Olds) - ***Selling Fast ... Book Your Place Now Due to Limited Numbers***



18th April - Jeni Bell and Karen Heaney, authors of 111 Places in Dorset That You Shouldn't Miss (Saturday morning) ***Selling Fast ... Book Your Place Now Due to Limited Numbers***



5th May - An evening of folk horror, spooky tales, and music by the team behind General Witchfinders magazine (Tuesday evening)



9th May - Estelle Phillips, author of Into My Arms (Saturday afternoon)



19th May - John Wright author of Grasslands and many other nature titles (Tuesday evening)

Will you review us?

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.



New books we're excited about and think you'll love too ...

A-Z of Dorchester by Yvonne Moxley - 15/04

The Book of Birds by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris - 07/05

Grasslands by John Wright - 07/05

The Savage Landscape by Cal Flyn - 07/05

The Things We Never Say by Elizabeth Strout - 07/05

Land by Maggie O'Farrell - 02/06

Dorchester's Independent Bookshop Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm

07424 619496

Teasel & Skylark

2 Georgian House

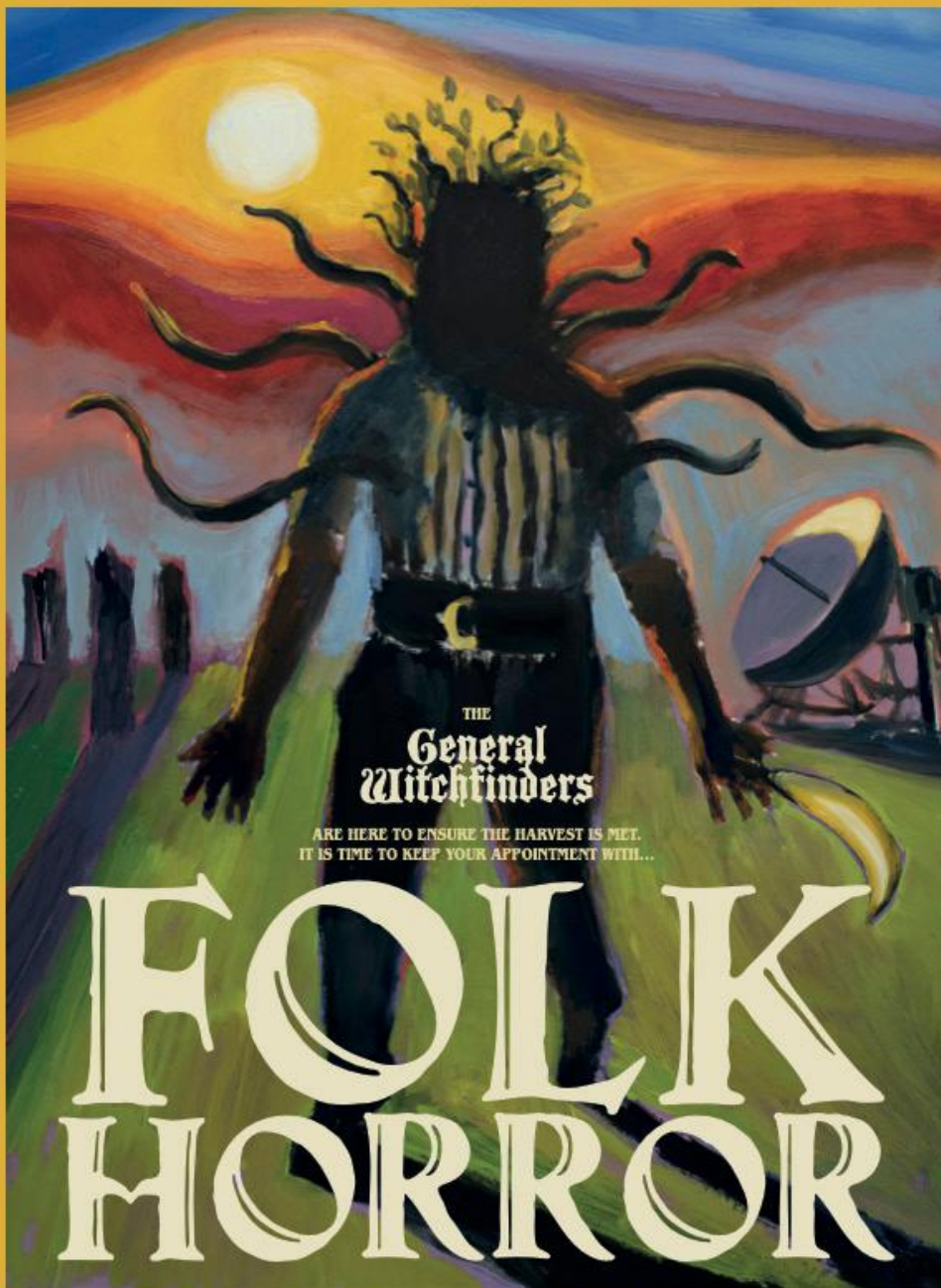
Trinity Street

Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1UB

What 3 Words: equipment//fizzled//supporter

Literary Event coming up in May

TEASEL & SKYLARK



ARE HERE TO ENSURE THE HARVEST IS MET.
IT IS TIME TO KEEP YOUR APPOINTMENT WITH...

BRITAIN. AN ANCIENT KINGDOM WITH LEGENDS OF VIOLENCE, CRUELTY, AND TORMENT IN ITS BLOOD.

Join the hosts of *THE GENERAL WITCHFINDERS PODCAST*, in league with *TEASEL AND SKYLARK*, Dorchester's premier purveyors of fine books, for an evening dedicated to the twisted roots of Folk Horror. Unearth the fiction and film that haunts the British Isles. This includes the gothic heights of *HAMMER HORROR*, the towering shadow of *CHRISTOPHER LEE* in *THE WICKER MAN*, and the unsettling brilliance of *NIGEL KNEALE*. Featuring live music from *THE FLAMING CACTUS BAND* and acoustic reverie from *THE WHITLEY LAKE BAND*. Culminating in the launch of the *LATEST ISSUE OF THE GENERAL WITCHFINDERS ZINE*, a celebratory collection of uncanny *BELTANE* - *INSPIRED* short stories, articles, and art.

RECOMMENDED FOR THE OVER 15*

**THE KINGS
ARMS
HOTEL
DORCHESTER**

**TICKETS
EIGHT POUNDS
TEASANDKYLARK.COM
/ EVENTS
AND IN STORE**

**TUESDAY
7PM/5TH
MAY**