

StoryLand



Queen's Hall &
Hexham Abbey

Sunday 29th
June

11am - 3pm

A day of bookish fun
for the whole family!

www.hexhambookfestival.co.uk

Welcome to Storyland 2025!

Join us for a day of bookish fun for the whole family! Storytelling, interactive author visits, workshops, circus skills and more. Bring your stories to life!



*Introducing
our 2025
festival author...
Chris Riddell!*

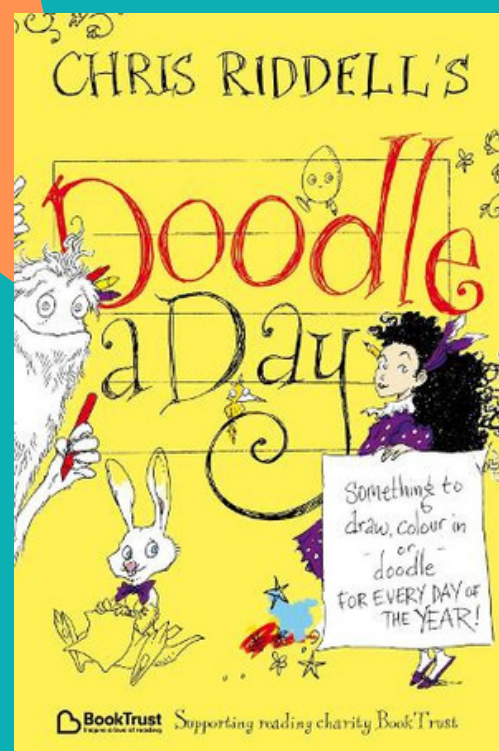
We are thrilled that much-loved illustrator and writer Chris Riddell is joining us for the whole day to help everyone bring their stories to life!

The Big Draw-A-Long with Chris Riddell

11am, Theatre

£6 / £4

Inspired by his book *Doodle A Day*, Chris will lead an exciting live drawing session, where you can see Chris draw live and create your own set of doodles. There's something for the whole family, from colouring mad kids to paint curious parents. Ages 6+.



Storytelling Sessions

11am, 12pm, 1pm - Bell Tent

Free, booking essential

Join Ian and Jo for a magical storytelling session packed with humour and curiosity. Ian will spin tales steeped in theatre, folk and myth while Jo brings the words to life with imaginative puppetry. The sessions are warm, engaging and full of wonder. Ages 3+.



Adventure Babies

Tiny & Mini Adventurers

11.15am, 12.30pm, 1.45pm

£3.50

Enjoy time with your little ones led by Ashleigh from Adventure Babies as she brings a brilliant book to life. Adventure Babies is a unique blend of interactive storytelling, sensory play opportunities and exciting puppets and props. Ages 0-4.



Circus Skills

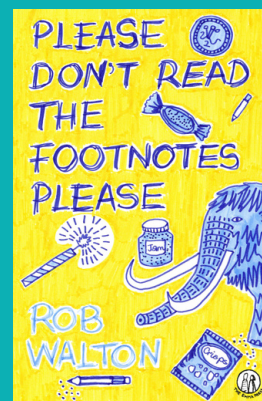
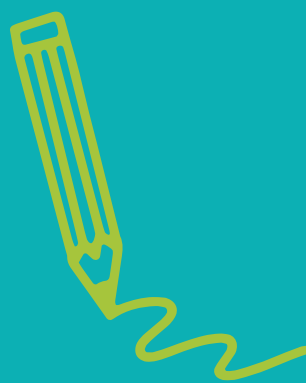
Aerial & Toybox Workshops

11.30am & 1.30pm,

Great Hall

£7 / £3

Run away and join the circus for a day and get the chance to become a circus star! Discover your skills on the hoop, rig and silk in an aerial workshop, or pop in, pick up and play with our circus toys, juggling balls, unicycles, hula hoops and more.



Young Writers Workshop

11.30am - White Room

£5

Join writer and performer Rob Walton for a fun and interactive creative writing workshop. You'll hear stories from Rob's latest book, 'Please Don't Read The Footnotes, Please', before trying your hand at writing your own super short stories. Ages 9-13.

These Are My Rocks

11.30pm & 1pm, Prior's Hall

£5 / £3

In this workshop you'll hear from the narrator of These Are My Rocks as they proudly introduce the reader to their prized collection.

Bethan will read from her latest book, explore the silliest collections and lead you in a scavenger hunt to create the beginnings of your own collection.

Ages 3+.

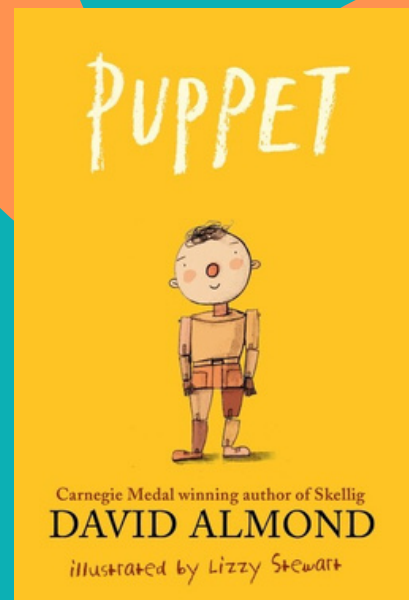


Puppet with David Almond

12.15pm, Library

£5 / £3

Silvester is the great puppet master who decides to create one last puppet from the fragments on his work bench. Come along with an open mind, ask lots of questions and discover the puppets that wait to be discovered within us all. Ages 6+.

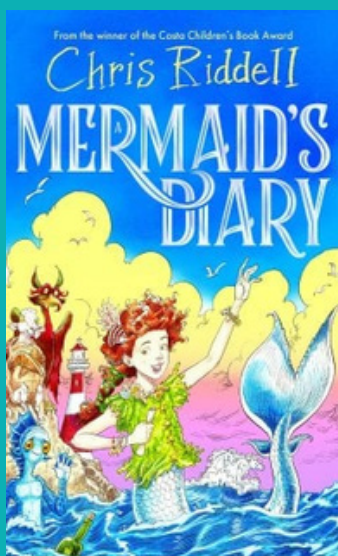


Zine Making Workshop

1.30pm - White Room

£5

Join Zoe Murtagh for a fun and interactive drop-in workshop using the practice of 'zine making' to tell your stories! Whatever you are passionate about, whether that's the environment, fashion or your favourite books, come along and have a go at making your own little book to take away with you and share with your friends and family and the world! Ages 8 - 12.



A Mermaids Diary with Chris Riddell

2pm - Library

£5 / £3

Dive into a mermaid's diary and discover underwater secrets in this fantasy adventure from festival author Chris Riddell. Chris will explore his latest book and make his illustrations come to life with live drawing during the event. Ages 7+.

Cloisters Lawn Activities

Get Crafty Sessions

11am, 12.15pm, 1.30pm
- Craft Tent

£2, booking essential

Join Cath to create your own book inspired crafts and show everyone your story with our badge making activity.



Family Silent Disco

2pm - Bell Tent

Free - just drop-in

Join us to dance the afternoon away in our Bell Tent. We've curated a book themed, family friendly playlist. Put your dancing shoes on and join in!



Join us from 11am to 3pm on the Cloisters Lawn for food, book and craft swaps and activities. Bring your picnic blanket and your favourite book!

We can't wait to see you there!

For Grown-Ups

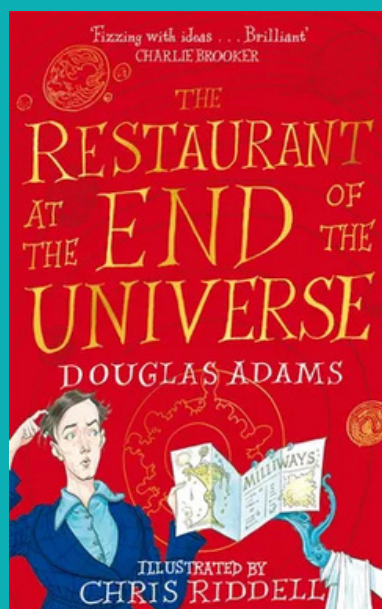
In conversation with...Chris Riddell

5pm - Library

£8 / £6

Chaired by Harry Pearson

Join us for a magical evening of conversation and live drawing with Chris Riddell. Chris will be in conversation about his prolific career to date, from collaborating with poets, authors and musicians, to political cartooning as a personal commentary on changing events. Chris will be live drawing throughout the event, providing a unique glimpse into the mind of a renowned and much-loved illustrator.



At A Glance...

11am :	The Big Draw-A-Long - Theatre
11am:	Storytelling - Bell Tent
11am:	Get Crafty - Craft Tent
11.15am:	Tiny Adventurers - Studio
11.30am:	Circus Skills - Great Hall
11.30am:	Young Writers Workshop - White Room
11.30am:	These Are My Rocks - Priors Hall
12pm:	Storytelling - Bell Tent
12.15pm:	Puppet with David Almond - Library
12.15pm:	Get Crafty - Craft Tent
12.30pm:	Mini Adventurers - Studio
1pm:	These Are My Rocks - Priors Hall
1pm:	Storytelling - Bell Tent
1.30pm:	Get Crafty - Craft Tent
1.30pm:	Circus Skills - Great Hall
1.30pm:	Zine Workshop - White Room
1.45pm:	Mini Adventurers - Studio
2pm:	A Mermaids Diary - Library
2pm:	Silent Disco - Bell Tent
5pm:	In conversation - Chris Riddell - Library

The Small Print



Locations


In Queen's Hall - Library, Theatre, Studio, White Room

In Hexham Abbey - Priors Hall, Great Hall
On Cloisters Lawn - Bell Tent, Craft Tent, Activities



Booking Information

From Tuesday 13 May 2025, all bookings for Queen's Hall events (including all Storyland events) will be subject to a £1.50 booking fee. This fee is charged per order, not per ticket. Whether you book one ticket or five tickets for multiple events, the fee remains £1.50 per booking. The booking fee will apply regardless of whether you book online or in person at our Box Office. Exempt events include free events.



Find out more and book your
tickets:

www.hexhambookfestival.co.uk

A day of bookish
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year's festival
takes place
in Queen's Hall &
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