

Step Through Story and Legend at Butser BookFest 2025

Monday 6 October, 2025

A Weekend of Fantasy, History and Creativity at Butser Ancient Farm

Butser Ancient Farm, Hampshire - 18th & 19th October 2025

Step into a world where myth meets history and stories come alive among reconstructed ancient buildings! On the 18th and 19th of October, the much-loved **Butser BookFest** returns for another vibrant weekend at Butser Ancient Farm celebrating literature, history, folklore and fantasy - all set within the extraordinary landscape of the South Downs and an open-air experimental archaeology site.

This year's festival invites readers, bestselling authors, families and dreamers to immerse themselves in storytelling, poetry, and performance inspired by nature and myth. Wander between Roman villas, roundhouses and Saxon meadhalls as you hear from bestselling authors, take part in creative workshops or be transported to the ancient past through the rhythm of live music, the warmth of the hearth and a shared love of words and imagination.

Highlights of Butser BookFest 2025 include:

- **Inspiring author talks and book signings:** Hear from bestselling writers including **Conn Iggulden**, **Samantha Shannon**, **Elodie Harper**, **Amy Jeffs** and **Lucy Holland** as they discuss weaving history, myth, and magic into unforgettable tales. Afterwards, meet your favourite authors at our roundhouse bookshop hosted by Waterstones.
- **Live storytelling, poetry, and performance:** Be transported by Saxon skald **Eorðen** as poetry and lyre music echo through ancient halls and enjoy atmospheric readings by poets and performers inspired by nature and folklore.
- **Creative workshops and hands-on activities:** Join immersive writing and storytelling workshops, craft your own **lino-print bookmark**, browse visiting traders, try your hand at **archery** or explore the **Forgotten Fleece Tales exhibition**.
- **Children's sessions and workshops:** There's something for the whole family to enjoy with a huge range of activities at the festival, including an engaging children's writing workshop led by award-winning author **Angela McAllister** and a hands-on session with poetry and drawing hosted by bestselling children's writer **Smriti Halls**. Families can take part in storytelling sessions and outdoor activities that spark imagination and creativity for all ages.

Festival founder and organiser Sofie Kitts said: 'Nothing brings historically inspired fantasy and fiction, folklore and nature writing to life quite like celebrating it in a setting such as ours, surrounded by the rolling South Downs and thatched roofs of Saxon meadhalls and ancient roundhouses. We are so fortunate to regularly connect with so many booklovers, artists and writers, and we're thrilled to bring them together in a venue like no other literary festival takes place with such a diverse and fascinating programme of workshops, talks and more.'

Butser Book Festival is more than just a celebration of books - it's an opportunity to experience the magic of stories ancient and new in an inspiring setting, making it the perfect weekend for families, bookworms, craft-lovers and writers alike.

Book your tickets now! Don't miss out on this extraordinary festival at Butser Ancient Farm. Purchase tickets, book in-depth workshops, and explore the full programme here:

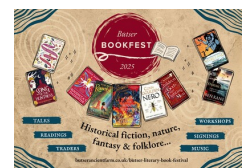
<https://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/butser-literary-book-festival> . Advance booking is strongly advised as spaces for workshops are limited!

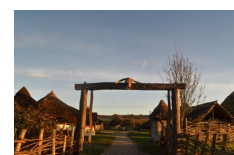
Contact or find out more:

Sofie at Butser Ancient Farm
 Email: sofie@butserancientfarm.co.uk
 Phone: [023 9259 8838](tel:02392598838)

Website: <https://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/butser-literary-book-festival>

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[Butser Ancient Farm](#)

T. 023 9259 8838

E. kristin@butserancientfarm.co.uk

W. <https://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/>

Additional Contact(s):

Kristin Devey, Events Lead

[View Online](#)

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