



EXETER UNESCO CITY OF LITERATURE ANNOUNCES THE RETURN OF THE BOOK MARKET

WHEN: Sunday 9th June, 11am - 4pm

WHERE: Exeter Cathedral Green

WHO: Exeter City of Literature in association with independent bookshops, literary arts practitioners, trainee bibliotherapists, and local food & drink vendors.

Exeter City of Literature is holding the fourth annual Book Market on Exeter Cathedral's Green on Sunday 9th June, 11am to 4pm.

Since 2021, Exeter City of Literature has hosted an annual Book Market, working with independent bookshops across Devon to bring residents and visitors an exciting afternoon of bookish activities. The Book Market has previously taken place at Powderham Castle and Positive Lights Project, but it now has a permanent home on Exeter Cathedral Green every summer.

Ten independent bookshops from across Devon are confirmed to attend, with more vendors to be announced in the run-up to The Book Market. Alongside the independent bookshops, there will be craft and book paraphernalia stalls for attendees looking to purchase book-themed items. Food and drink vendors will be announced in the coming weeks, alongside bookish activities expected to run throughout the day. Previous years of The Book Market have featured bitesize bibliotherapy sessions, literary-inspired face painting, a reading nook, and book-making.

Finally, in a first for the 2024 edition of The Book Market, Exeter City of Literature will be playing host to several authors with local literary ties for a series of live talks, panels, and discussions, which will take place in a dedicated author tent on the Cathedral Green. Authors in attendance will be announced in the coming weeks.

Confirmed bookshops include: Bookbag, Exeter's only independent bookshop; Gnash Comics from Ashburton, who specialise in graphic novels and comics for all ages; Graham York Rare Books from Honiton, a treasure trove of old and rare books & ephemera; Devon's newest bookshop, First Draft Books who opened a permanent storefront in Bovey Tracey at the end of 2023; and The Old Queeriosity Shop, a queer-run LGBTQIA+ specialist bookshop in Plymouth.

Vendors include: Celandine Books, a bespoke bookmaker based in Somerset who creates sketchbooks and notebooks by hand; Book on a Hook, miniature book-themed earrings, keyrings, and necklaces; and Inky Fingers, an Exeter-based group of crafty upcyclers who create notebooks.

Anna Cohn Orchard, Executive Director of Exeter City of Literature, says: “Exeter has been a city of readers since the Middle Ages, and our Book Market celebrates reading with the incredible independent bookshops, artists, and businesses that make up this beautiful county. With new and used bookshops and free literary-themed activities, we want everyone to enjoy themselves on this big bookish day out!”

For more information, please contact: Jordan Thomas, Communications Associate - jordan@exetercityofliterature.com

Further information: <https://www.exetercityofliterature.com/current-projects/the-book-market>

Confirmed list of booksellers and vendors: [Bookbag](#) (Exeter) | [Design For Today](#) (Topsham) | [First Draft Books](#) (Bovey Tracey) | [Gnash Comics](#) (Ashburton) | [Graham York Rare Books](#) (Honiton) | [Oxfam Books & Music](#) Exeter (Exeter) | [Seven Fables](#) (Dulverton) | [The Ivybridge Bookshop](#) (Ivybridge) | [The Old Queeriosity Shop](#) (Plymouth) | [Maria Scrivens](#) (Exeter) | [Book on a Hook](#) (Exeter) | [Celandine Books](#) (Wiveliscombe) | [Inky Fingers](#) (Exeter) | [Exeter Cathedral](#) (Exeter) | [Exeter Library](#) (Exeter)

Arts & literary activities: TBA at a later date

Authors in attendance: TBA at a later date

Local food & drink vendors: TBA at a later date

Notes to Editors

[Exeter City of Literature](#) is a charity established to steward the UNESCO Creative City designation that Exeter received in 2019. Our vision is for everyone to love stories and storytelling and our mission is to celebrate diverse stories by working with our local and global communities. With 53 other UNESCO Cities of Literature, we provide opportunities for Devon residents to collaborate internationally and to use stories to better understand each other and the world we live in.

We believe in the power of words to imagine new possibilities for this world. Drawing on Exeter and Devon’s creativity and working in partnership with inspirational organisations, we will deliver a meaningful programme to the residents and visitors of our city and county for years to come.

[Arts Council England](#) is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in Let’s Create that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. See more on Arts Council England’s 2023-26 Investment Programme on their website: www.artscouncil.org.uk/investment23