

#Low House LitFest

SUNDAY 2ND JULY

All events followed by book signings in Pavilion

11.00 – 11.45

Agent Speed Dating

Emma Shercliff | Charlotte Seymour

Written a book but not sure how to get an agent? Want to know how to put together a query letter? Literary agents Emma Shercliff (Laxfield Literary Associates) and Charlotte Seymour (Johnson & Alcock) will be on hand to answer your questions, listen to your pitches and explain more about the agenting process. This will be an informal session with very friendly agents - come along and tell us about your projects!



Ayobámi Adébáyó is the author of Stay with Me which won the 9mobile Prize for Literature and was shortlisted for the Bailey's Prize for Women's Fiction, the Wellcome Book Prize and the Kwani? Manuscript Prize. Her second novel is a A Spell of Good Things.

Patrick Barkham is an award-winning author and natural history writer for the Guardian. His books include The Butterfly Isles, Badgerlands, Islander and Wild Child. He is President of Norfolk Wildlife Trust and lives in Norfolk with his family.

12.00 – 13.00

Kate Sawyer & Polly Crosby

In conversation with Phoebe Morgan



Looking for your perfect summer read? Join authors Kate Sawyer and Polly Crosby as they discuss their new Suffolk-based novels, both of which explore loyalties, love and loss. *This Family* is told by a chorus of characters over the course of a summer's day, when Mary's splintered family must unite for her wedding day, bringing with them forty years' worth of memories. *Vita and the Birds* is a captivating dual timeline historical mystery, which comes to a head when Eve Blakeney returns to the Suffolk coast where she spent childhood summers with her beloved grandmother. These novels challenge what we think we know about our families and test the bonds of family ties.



Polly Crosby grew up on the Suffolk coast, and now lives with her husband and son in Norfolk. In 2018, Polly won Curtis Brown Creative's Yesterday Scholarship. She was awarded runner-up in the Bridport Prize for her debut novel, The Illustrated Child, and received the Annabel Abbs Writing Scholarship at the University of East Anglia. Polly's third novel, Vita & the Birds, came out in May.

13.00 - 14.30

Patrick Barkham

In conversation with Richard Hawking



In writing *The Swimmer: The Wild Life of Roger Deakin*, Patrick Barkham took on an extraordinarily difficult task. How does one do justice to a writer such as Deakin, so universally loved and so impossible to pin down? How does one capture the irrepressible essence of a 'complicated' man of such varied interests and enthusiasms, whom one has never met? Barkham will talk about his method of researching and constructing this unique work of 'creative biography' - drawn from Deakin's notebooks, diaries, letters, recordings, published works and early drafts. Told largely in Deakin's voice, this is a highly innovative form of biography - melding Deakin's words with his own, interspersed with extracts, poems and recollections from friends.

Richard Hawking is the author of At the Field's Edge: Adrian Bell and the English Countryside, the first critical monograph of Bell's writing appraising his observations about the ecology, economy and culture of the British countryside. He is currently working with Slightly Foxed to compile and introduce a quartet of seasonal volumes of Bell's A Countryman's Notebook essays from his extensive archives.

15.00 - 16.00

Ayobámi Adébáyó & Emmanuel Iduma

In conversation with Emma Shercliff



Two of Nigeria's brightest literary stars discuss their work and practice. Ayobámi Adébáyó, an alumnus from the UEA's MA in Creative Writing, won multiple awards for her debut novel *Stay With Me*. Her highly anticipated second novel *A Spell of Good Things* was released in 2023. Emmanuel Iduma is a Nigerian writer, editor, critic and photographer, and the recipient of the Windham Campbell Prize. His memoir about the Nigerian Civil War, *I Am Still With You*, explores the disappearance of his uncle during the Biafran War. Emmanuel and Ayobami will discuss their books, the importance of prizes and how to combine writing, marriage and childcare!

Emmanuel Iduma is the author, most recently, of I Am Still With You, a memoir on the aftermath of the Nigerian civil war. His nonfiction and criticism have been published widely, including in Granta, and the New York Review of Books. He was awarded a Windham-Campbell Prize for nonfiction in 2022.



Phoebe Morgan is the Crime & Thriller Publisher at Hodder & Stoughton where she publishes a range of Sunday Times and Kindle bestsellers. She is also an author with HarperCollins, and her four thrillers have been translated into 10 languages. In 2022 she was shortlisted for Editor of the Year at the British Book Awards.

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16.30 - 17.30

Blake Morrison

In conversation with Paddy O'Connell

Poet, novelist and memoirist Blake Morrison is one of Suffolk's best-loved authors. His extraordinary new memoir *Two Sisters* explores his relationships with his sister and half-sister, as well as examining sibling relationships in history and literature. The death of Blake's sister Gill is the starting point for this moving and unflinching account of family relationships, in which he also uncovers the story of his half-sister Josie.



*Blake Morrison is a poet, novelist and the author of two bestselling memoirs, **And When Did You Last See Your Father?** and **Things My Mother Never Told Me**. His Suffolk-based novel **The Last Weekend** was adapted for television and his poetry collection **Shingle Street** explores the North Sea coast. His latest books, both published this year, are a memoir, **Two Sisters**, and a poetry pamphlet, **Skin & Blister**.*

KIDS' PROGRAMME

Children's activities to run from 12 noon in the children's tent

12.00 - 13.00

Paula White

Award Winning Author/Illustrator Paula White with her debut children's picture book *The Baker by the Sea*. Paula will be with us to read this beautiful book followed by making salt dough coconut buns.



Paddy O'Connell presents BBC Radio 4's Broadcasting House programme every Sunday morning. He is an occasional presenter on R4's PM programme and on Radio 2. Paddy began his broadcasting career in 1989 on the BBC's local trainee scheme, has worked as a local radio reporter, for Radio 5 Live and as the BBC News North America Business Correspondent, based in New York City. His career highs include commentating on the Eurovision Song Contest and being a founder member of the Low House Litfest team.

13.00 - 15.00

Moonbow Face Painting

15.00

Annaliese Avery

Annaliese will be talking about reading and working with young people on 'How to write' at 3pm



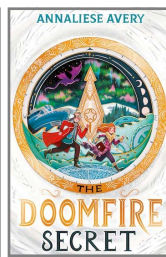
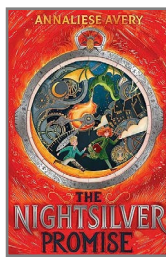
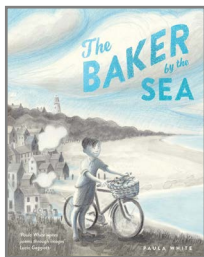
*Kate Sawyer worked as an actor, producer and wrote several short films before turning her hand to fiction. Her debut novel, **The Stranding**, was shortlisted for the Costa First Novel Award, won the East Anglian fiction prize, was adapted for BBC Radio 4 **Book at Bedtime** and is currently being developed for TV. Kate is the host of weekly podcast **Novel Experience**. After twenty years in London, she recently returned to her native East Anglia, where, as a solo mother by choice, she lives with her young daughter.*

The Nightsilver Trilogy

(aimed at 7-14 years)

YA Novel - *The Immortal Games*

(aimed at 12-16 years)



Emma Shercliff is a literary agent with over 20 years of experience in the publishing industry. In 2020, she founded Laxfield Literary Associates as a response to the lack of literary agents outside London. She provides representation for authors in Suffolk and Norfolk, and writers from under-represented backgrounds. Her clients include Kalaf Epalanga, Heather Parry, Tom Shakespeare and Luke Wright.

Book-related crafts, colouring and activities to run all afternoon

The HALESWORTH
BOOKSHOP

the
LOW
HOUSE



FREE HOUSE

the
KING'S
HEAD



Laxfield Literary Associates



Charlotte Seymour began her career as a literary scout, before becoming an agent in 2015. She was named a Bookseller Rising Star in 2021, and in 2022 she joined Johnson & Alcock, where she continues to build a list across fiction and non fiction.