

CHICHESTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS warmly invites you to Meet the Authors



14th October 6-8pm

Join us for an evening of readings and conversation with award-winning local authors
Isabel Ashdown, Gabrielle Kimm and Jane Rusbridge.

To read the books prior to the event, you can find them at most bookstores,
including Waterstone's and Amazon - or for special offers check out
www.chichesterbookclub.com

Please note: books will also be available for purchase at the event
To book, please contact Kate Angus or Susan Mulkern at
CHSG 01243 787014 ext: 2606 or kangus@wsgfl.org.uk
Alternatively, tickets are on sale at Chichester Library.



Isabel Ashdown was born in London in 1970 and grew up in East Wittering, attending CHSG in the Eighties, where her daughter Alice now goes to school. Isabel won the Mail on Sunday prize and her debut novel *Glasshopper* was twice named in the national press as one of the best books of 2009. Her new novel *Hurry Up and Wait* was released in June 2011.

Glasshopper – “A disturbing, thought-provoking tale of family dysfunction, spanning the second half of the 20th century, that guarantees laughter at the uncomfortable familiarity of it all.” – London Evening Standard Best Books of 2009

Hurry Up and Wait

It's more than twenty years since Sarah Ribbons last set foot inside her old high school, a crumbling Victorian-built comprehensive on the south coast of England. Now, as she prepares for her school reunion, 39-year-old Sarah has to face up to the truth of what really happened back in the summer of 1986. In her eagerly anticipated second novel Isabel Ashdown explores the treacherous territory of adolescent friendships, and traces across the decades the repercussions of a dangerous relationship.



Gabrielle Kimm lives in West Sussex. She taught English at CHSG between 2000 and 2003 and her younger daughter now attends the school. Her debut novel, *His Last Duchess* was published by Little, Brown in 2010 and was longlisted for the RNA Romantic Novel of the Year 2010. Her second novel, *The Courtesan's Lover*, will be released in November 2011.

His Last Duchess

It is 1559, and sixteen year old Lucrezia is looking forward to her life as the new duchess of Ferrara, but she is unprepared for the complexity and volatility of her husband. The duke is in fact under severe pressure, for the Vatican has threatened to reclaim his title should the couple remain unable to produce an heir. His growing resentment towards his wife eventually becomes unbearable, and he begins to plot an unthinkable way to escape his problems. – “A stunning debut that explores forbidden love, and the passions and people of sixteenth century Tuscany and Ferrara” – Irish News.

The Courtesan's Lover (releases November 2011)

1564: Kimm's vivid and visual second novel revisits the Duke of Ferrara's former mistress, who is now a courtesan in Spanish-occupied Naples.



Jane Rusbridge moved to the Witterings in 1982. Her daughters all attended CHSG. Jane won the Philip Lebrun Prize for her writing and her debut novel, *The Devil's Music* (Bloomsbury), was nominated for the 2011 International IMPAC Literary Award.

The Devil's Music

It is 1958 and five-year old Andy has a new sister, Elaine, who his father describes as 'not quite all there.' While his parents argue whether or not to send her away, Andy sleeps beside her cot every night and watches his mother withdraw into sadness. So begins this haunting and lyrical story of family secrets and betrayal, involving knots, Harry Houdini and the shifting landscape of memory - a novel which evokes memories of childhood seaside holidays as it traces the unraveling of family ties. – “A deeply moving and profoundly affecting story of the ties that bind mothers and children and which announces Rusbridge as a highly original, fresh, new talent of rare quality.” – The Lady

Rook (releases 2012)

Rusbridge's richly evocative second novel, set in Bosham, explores the mystery surrounding Harold II's burial place, the hidden histories of the Bayeux Tapestry and connections forged through people's stories, past and present.