



The Federation of Children's Book Groups

Press Release

The Federation of Children's Book Groups is celebrating its 50th Anniversary with a *Festival of Children's Literature* to be held at the fantastic new Royal Birmingham Conservatoire on Saturday 3rd November 2018.

The day will include performances by three past Children's Laureates: **Julia Donaldson**, with a guest appearance from the Gruffalo, **Jacqueline Wilson** and **Chris Riddell**. Each event costs £5 per person.

Julia Donaldson MBE, writer, playwright and performer, will be sharing *A Treasury of Songs* accompanied by Malcolm Donaldson and ably assisted by one of her most popular characters, the Gruffalo.

Dame Jacqueline Wilson, award winning creator of Tracy Beaker and author of over 100 children's books, will be treating the audience to the stories behind her ever popular and celebrated books.

Chris Riddell, prolific illustrator and author, will be celebrating his new book *Goth Girl and the Sinister Symphony* with musicians from the Conservatoire setting the scene for this hilarious new adventure, taking place at a very unusual music festival at Ada's stately home, Ghostly Gorm Hall.

In addition award-winning storyteller **Anna Conomos**, assisted by local school children from Dudley and Solihull, will perform an original story, *The Doll Who Ate Stories*, inspired by the Baba Yaga tales. Audience participation will be encouraged!

This marks the culmination of the Federation of Children's Book Group's Jean Russell Story Telling Project. The event is free to all but requires tickets.

A bookshop will be provided by **H & H Spalding Books**. A wide selection of children's books will be available to buy, including titles by the Three Laureates who will be signing books after their performances.

The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire is a new, purpose built, light filled, family friendly venue, which is perfect for our day of celebrating stories. The Millenium Point car-park is near-by and refreshments will be available to purchase at the venue throughout the day.

10:30am-11:30am – Julia Donaldson and the Gruffalo
12:00pm-12:45pm –The Doll Who Ate Stories, FREE Storytelling Performance
13:30pm- 14:15pm – Jacqueline Wilson
15:00pm-15:45pm – Chris Riddell

To book tickets for the **Three Laureates** (£5 per person, per event)

<https://www.bcu.ac.uk/conservatoire/events-calendar/the-three-laureates>

To book **free** tickets for **The Doll Who Ate Stories**)

<https://www.bcu.ac.uk/conservatoire/events-calendar/the-doll-who-ate-stories>

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