ADULT EDUCATION COURSES
AUTUMN 2015 – SPRING 2016
In the Museum Vaults – Poetry and Creative Writing Class

Poet Jean Atkin leads six creative writing workshops to explore the catalogued, bottled, and taxidermied past, housed in the climate controlled stores of Ludlow Museum Resource Centre. Each workshop will last 2 hours, and will include a tour of the stores. Course participants will have access to handling objects and time to gain inspiration from a fascinating collection of art works, costumes and specimens. Sessions include: stones and mammoth bones, travelling dentistry and dolls’ houses, working clothes and the twilight of the bell jars!

Jean Atkin, who is a published poet, experienced workshop leader and was this year’s Poet in Residence at the Wenlock Poetry Festival, will provide a series of imaginative prompts and exercises to help you develop new work. She will also advise on editing and seeking publication. www.jeanatkin.com

When: Thursday September 17th for six weeks
Time: 10.30-12.30pm
Tutor: Jean Atkin
Cost: £55 (including refreshments)

Drawing and painting the clothed model and items from the costume collection

This 18 week painting and drawing class will be held over two terms, 9 weeks in the autumn term and a further 9 weeks in the spring term.

It is not essential that you have attended the autumn course. You may join this course from the spring term only as individual support from the tutor will be provided.

In the autumn term the morning group will draw from a different clothed model each week. This is an interesting aspect of figure drawing and helps us to understand the form of the human body beneath the clothing. Pattern, colour and the movement and flow of clothing makes for exciting shapes and compositions. The afternoon group will use observational drawing techniques to work from the fascinating costume collection housed in the Ludlow Museum Resource Centre.

During the spring term course participants will continue to draw and paint from the costume collection. We will be considering the handling of watercolour or oil paint and the equipment needed. This course is suitable for people wishing to become more confident in painting in general and particularly from observation.

Please bring A2 cartridge paper and 2B pencils for the first session.

Further information about materials will be provided later. Both courses are suitable for all abilities.
**Meet the Greeks**

The course aims to provide an introduction to the history and culture of Ancient Greece and is based around the lives of some of its most famous (and infamous) characters – real and fictional. As well as their real life achievements or their role in outstanding works of literature, these figures all reveal something about Greek values and social assumptions, and even the historical ones live on the frontier between history and mythology. Martin Thorpe read Classics at Cambridge. He has been an active member of the Joint Association of Classical Teachers, serving as chairman and president. He has been tutor for a number of adult courses locally and is currently a tutor and consultant for the Open University.

**When:** Thursday 5th & 19th November and 3rd December  
**Time:** 10.30-12.30 break for lunch 1.30-3.30  
**Cost:** £55 including refreshments (lunch not provided)

---

**A Journey through Time Fossils as the key to the making of our planet**

Life on Earth from its earliest beginnings, 3200 million years ago, through to the first human footsteps in east Africa will be the key theme for this course. The main stages in the development of life on our planet such as the rise of the land vertebrates, the demise of the dinosaurs, the effects of continental drift and the causes of major mass extinctions will all be included. Each week will include a practical session on the main groups of fossil animals and plants largely drawn from the Museum Resource Centre’s excellent collections.

**When:** Wednesday 24th February for five weeks  
**Time:** 10.30-12.30pm  
**Tutor:** Paul Olver  
**Cost:** £50 (including refreshments)  
There will be an optional field trip on 4th May to support the course. Cost £15.
COURSES AT SHROPSHIRE ARCHIVES

Palaeography – How to read old writing
This six week course covers secretary, italic and mixed hands from the 16th-18th centuries, and 19th century formal and informal writing. Course tutor Helen Haynes uses varied documents include wills and inventories, parish registers, deeds, private letters and borough account books from Shropshire and further afield. This course is suitable for those with no previous experience of reading old documents but will also equip those experienced in local and family history research to understand their own older documents.

When: Tuesday 15th September for six weeks
Time: 2pm-4pm
Tutor: Helen Haynes
Cost: £37

Researching Family History
This introductory course aims to familiarise participants with the use of original documentary source material, examples of which will be provided and also with those available digitally via Ancestry and Find My Past. Only a very basic knowledge of computers will be required. Guidance will be given on reading the handwriting and Latin words and abbreviations which occur in parish registers etc.

Course tutor Alison Healey is a qualified archivist who before retiring 2 years ago was a researcher at Shropshire Archives carrying out family history and other research on request. Alison is currently researching her own family history as well as volunteering at Shropshire Archives.

When: Tuesday 3rd November for five weeks
Time: 2-4pm
Tutor: Alison Healey
Cost: £32

Latin for Local and Family Historians
Do you find it difficult to make progress with your research when you find phrases or even whole documents are in Latin? Although Latin is an archaic language, it was still in common use in written texts until the 18th century and even later. This course is designed to help with a basic introduction to the language and examples of the common types of words and phrases used in a variety of documents from parish registers and account books to title deeds.

No previous knowledge of Latin is needed, and all materials are supplied.

When: Tuesday 1st March for six weeks
Time: 2pm-4pm
Tutor: Helen Haynes
Cost: £37
Canal History

Course Tutor, Peter Brown takes you through a history of the canals of England & Wales, from the first canals to the restoration movement. The course will consist of five two-hour talks, extensively illustrated and including local case studies. This course will coincide with a display in the community gallery at Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery between January and April 2016 in conjunction with the Shrewsbury and Newport Canals Trust.

Peter Brown has conducted extensive research on the history of canals, specialising in the Shropshire Union Canal. He is a member of the Council of the Canal & River Trust, on the Managing Committee of the Railway & Canal Historical Society, and is a subject adviser to the U3A.

When: Monday 22nd February for five weeks
Time: 2-4pm
Tutor: Peter Brown
Cost: £32

An optional day visit to places of special interest within the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct & Canal World Heritage Site will be offered as an additional session at a cost of £15.

TWO TALKS WITH GORDON DICKINS

Falling in Love with Tess Durbeyfield

An overview and appreciation of some of the Thomas Hardy novels and poems set around "Casterbridge" (Dorchester)... by one who fell in love, at the age of twenty, with a fictional heroine!

When: Monday 8th February
Time: 2-3.30pm
Tutor: Gordon Dickins
Cost: £3.50

Inspired by Shropshire

A talk on some of the many writers whose work has been inspired by Shropshire, its landscape and its sense of place.

When: Monday 11th April
Time: 2-3.30pm
Tutor: Gordon Dickins
Cost: £3.50
COURSES AT
SHREWSBURY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

Life Drawing
Would you like to try life-drawing or continue to develop your own work? Join our life-drawing sessions with experienced artist Mark Warner, Head of Art at Shrewsbury High School. All abilities welcome. Drawing boards will be provided but please bring your own paper and art materials.

When: Monday 14th September for six weeks
Monday 2nd November for six weeks
Time: 6.00-8.00pm
Tutor: Mark Warner
Cost: £57 per six week course £100 for 12 weeks (including refreshments)
Book: museumeducation@shropshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01743 258 881/258 884

Embroideries of the Corbet Bed
A practical day course
The Tudor period was a time of ostentatious displays of wealth. The ‘state bed’ and its hangings were statements of power and prestige. The Corbet bed, on display in Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery displays beautifully embroidered hangings created by the ladies of the Corbet Bed Embroiderers’ Trust. On this practical day course participants will have the opportunity to learn about the embroidery patterns, fabrics and silks of the Tudor period. Expect to master the basic techniques of the embroidery and produce your own embroidered slip to take home.
You will need to bring your own basic sewing equipment and a small embroidery frame (approx. 8 inches square) if you have one. Patterns, canvas, embroidery thread, frame and needles will be supplied.

When: Wednesday 14th October
Time: 10.30-3.30pm
Tutor: Ladies from the Corbet Bed Embroiderers’ Trust
Cost: £25
Book: museumeducation@shropshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01743 258 881/258 884
Creative Writing (Beginners)

This course is intended for anyone who enjoys creative writing, including short stories and poetry, and who wants to take their writing a little bit more seriously. If you enjoy creative writing and want to learn a bit more then this course is for you. It will include workshops on writing life stories, short stories and poetry some of which may be based on museum exhibits. We shall be looking at life stories through characters in the museum, ghost stories, detective stories, the poetry of place and love/friendship and the market for short stories and poetry. Please note this course is open to adults of 19+ only. You will need to bring a notebook and pen, or laptop if you prefer.

**When:** Wednesday 23rd September for ten weeks (no class on 28th October)

**Time:** 1pm-3pm
(1pm-3.30pm first and last sessions)

**Tutor:** Simon Fletcher

**Cost:** £73.50
(free to those in receipt of means tested benefits)

**Book:** WEA

**Tel:** 01952 614 451

**Email:** telfordcentre@wea.org.uk

---

Creative Writing (Improvers)

This course is geared to develop creative writing skills, look at more complex writing techniques and ask some questions about the writing habit. This course will focus on ways in which writers who have already enjoyed some writing workshops can develop their writing skills and put that process into more context. This course will look at why people write, basic poetry technique, elements of the short story, character development and reading habits. There will also be an opportunity for them to receive supportive feedback on their own work. It is important that students have attended some creative writing classes and want to make improvements to their writing and be more aware of their own writing habits.

**When:** Wednesday 23rd September for ten weeks (no class on 28th October)

**Time:** 10.00-12.00pm
(first and last sessions will start at 9.30)

**Tutor:** Simon Fletcher

**Cost:** £73.50
(free to those in receipt of means tested benefits)

**Book:** WEA

**Tel:** 01952 614 451

**Email:** telfordcentre@wea.org.uk
Reading Roman Tombstones – in partnership with ACE
The mysteries of Roman tombstones are revealed in this short course designed to introduce participants to the fascinating stories hidden within the inscriptions. No knowledge of Latin is necessary; all will be explained during the morning. You will visit and explore the Roman collections in Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery’s Roman Gallery to practise your new skills.

When: Thursday 5th November
Time: 10.30-12.30pm
Tutor: Margaret Thorpe
Cost: £16
Book: The Gateway Education & Arts Centre
Tel: 01743 355 159

The Romans in Britain
The Romans in Britain is a new course, which aims to provide background information to the collections in Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery’s Roman gallery and will be of interest to anyone who wants to know more about life in Roman Britain. The course will include a brief history of the conquest and Romanisation of Britain and an in-depth look at the development of legionary fortresses, towns and life in the country. Two of the places to be studied, which are of local and regional importance, are Chester and Wroxeter.

Margaret Thorpe studied Classics at Cambridge, specialising in Ancient History. She has taught Latin, Greek and Classical Civilisation to adults at the Gateway in Shrewsbury for many years and has led groups on visits to museums and sites of archaeological interest. Now she enjoys talking to visitors as a volunteer in the Roman gallery in Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery.

When: Thursdays January 21st and 28th, February 4th and 11th.
Time: 10.30-12.30pm
Tutor: Margaret Thorpe
Cost: £37
Book: museumeducation@shropshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01743 258 881/258 884
Reading Latin Inscriptions – in partnership with ACE

If you would like to read and understand Latin inscriptions, experienced Latin scholar and course tutor Margaret Thorpe will show you how. Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery’s Roman Gallery is home to the original inscription which was placed over the forum entrance at Wroxeter Roman City and is one of the finest Roman inscriptions in Europe. Participants will explore this inscription and many more. No experience of reading Latin is necessary.

When: Thursday 26th November
Time: 10.30-12.30pm
Tutor: Margaret Thorpe
Cost: £16
Book: The Gateway Education & Arts Centre
Tel: 01743 355 159
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>START DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>NO OF SESSIONS</th>
<th>TUTOR</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In the Museum Vaults – Poetry and Creative Writing Class</td>
<td>Thursday September 17th</td>
<td>10.30-12.30pm</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jean Atkin</td>
<td>£55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawing and Painting the Clothed Model and Items from the Costume Collection</td>
<td>Autumn term: Monday 5th October Spring term: Monday 11th January</td>
<td>10-12.30pm or 1.30-4pm Autumn term x 9 Spring Term x 9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Angela Gladwell</td>
<td>£96 per term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet the Greeks</td>
<td>Thursday 5th &amp; 19th November and 3rd December</td>
<td>10.30 – 12.30 break for lunch 1.30 -3.30</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Martin Thorpe</td>
<td>£55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Journey through Time Fossils - the key to the making of our planet</td>
<td>Wednesday 24th February</td>
<td>10.30-12.30pm</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Paul Olver</td>
<td>£50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SHROPSHIRE ARCHIVES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>START DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>NO OF SESSIONS</th>
<th>TUTOR</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palaeography - How to read old writing</td>
<td>Tuesday 15th September</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Helen Haynes</td>
<td>£37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researching Family History</td>
<td>Tuesday 3rd November</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Alison Healey</td>
<td>£32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falling in Love with Tess Durbeyfield</td>
<td>Monday 8th February</td>
<td>2-3.30pm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gordon Dickins</td>
<td>£3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canal History</td>
<td>Monday 22nd February</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Peter Brown</td>
<td>£32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin for local and family Historians</td>
<td>Tuesday 1st March</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Helen Haynes</td>
<td>£37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspired by Shropshire</td>
<td>Monday 11th April</td>
<td>2-3.30pm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gordon Dickins</td>
<td>£3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COURSE</td>
<td>START DATE</td>
<td>TIME</td>
<td>NO OF SESSIONS</td>
<td>TUTOR</td>
<td>FEE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Drawing</td>
<td>Monday 14th September and Monday 2nd November</td>
<td>6.00-8.00pm</td>
<td>6 or 12</td>
<td>Mark Warner</td>
<td>£57 for six weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£100 for 12 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Writing</td>
<td>Wednesday 23rd September</td>
<td>1pm-3pm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Simon Fletcher</td>
<td>£73.50 (free to those in receipt of means tested benefits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Writing (Beginners)</td>
<td>Wednesday 23rd September</td>
<td>10.00-12.00 (first and last sessions will start at 9.30)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Simon Fletcher</td>
<td>£73.50 (free to those in receipt of means tested benefits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embroideries of the Corbet Bed – A practical day course</td>
<td>Wednesday 14th October</td>
<td>10.30am-3.30pm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ladies from the Corbet Bed Embroiderers’ Trust</td>
<td>£25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Roman Tombstones</td>
<td>Tuesday 5th November</td>
<td>10.30am-12.30pm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Margaret Thorpe</td>
<td>£16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Latin Inscriptions</td>
<td>Thursday 26th November</td>
<td>10.30am-12.30pm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Margaret Thorpe</td>
<td>£16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Romans in Britain</td>
<td>Thursdays January 21st and 28th, February 4th and 11th.</td>
<td>10.30am-12.30pm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Margaret Thorpe</td>
<td>£37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOOKING INFORMATION**

E: museumeducation@shropshire.gov.uk
T: 01743 258 881/258 884

**SPECIFIC COURSE BOOKING INFO**

Reading Roman Tombstones & Reading Latin Inscriptions
The Gateway Education & Arts Centre,
T: 01743 355 159

Creative Writing (Beginners & Improvers)
WEA T: 01952 614 451
E: telfordcentre@wea.org.uk

Courses booked through the Learning Team at Shropshire Museums and Archives - Course places must be paid for at the time of booking. Your place is not secure unless paid for in full. If you wish to cancel your booking, please contact the point of booking as soon as possible and confirm in writing or by email. If you cancel your booking less than two weeks before the course start date, fees paid will not be refunded unless the course is full and your place can be re-sold.
Front Cover Image:
Queen Victoria & Lady Constance re-enactment, oil on paper – by Angela Gladwell (Top left)

Page 1
Bodices at the Judges Lodging, oil on paper – by Angela Gladwell