

# GENERAL INTEREST



## A Murder, Mystery Weekend

Friday – Sunday 2nd – 4th January  
8JYNP2B000 Fee £155

A really 'fun' but absorbing weekend with like minded people - Organised by a former murder squad detective, the scenes are set with authenticity giving you the chance to examine clues at the crime scene, read pathology reports and interview witnesses, as you work with others to solve the mystery. If this is your first 'murder-mystery experience' the chances are it won't be your last!  
*Event Organiser Dave Collier*

## INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

Wednesday – Friday

29th – 31st October

8REPP2B000 Fee £155  
(starts with tea at 4pm)

This course is aimed at anyone who is interested in crime and the punishment of crime. It will begin with a short look at the history of crime and the current judicial system, followed by a morning in the Magistrates Court, allowing us a bird's eye view of the judicial system in operation. Having whetted our appetites we will continue with a look at one or two of the more well known criminal cases of the 21st century. (Fee includes minibus transport)

*Tutor Jo O'Neil*

## FEATURE FILMS FROM DIFFERENT NATIONS

Friday – Sunday

30th January – 1st February

8JMNP2B004 Fee £148

In the footsteps of weekends sponsored until 2008 by the BFFS(NW) we offer the opportunity to watch eight films from different countries (including China, France, Germany, South America, UK and US) with introductions and follow up discussions. There will be detailed written notes on the various national cinemas. One session will take a 'Masterclass' approach to detailed group analysis of chosen excerpts from other films.

*Tutor Geoff Medland*

## RAMBLES FOR SPRINGTIME

Monday – Friday 13th – 17th April

8HANP2B026 Fee £340

Our walking programme includes sections from two long distance footpaths. We will be walking for two days each on the Dales Way and the Hodder Way. Our walks will include spectacular limestone scenery, picturesque river valleys, bleak moorland and viewpoints with extensive panoramas. We will be walking around 8 miles each day with easy gradients and with plenty of time for ascents. (Fee includes excursion transport).

*Tutors Stuart & Anita Kellington*

## DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY - A WINDOW ONTO OUR LIVES?

Monday – Friday

27th April – 1st May

8JMNP2B000 Fee £320  
(Starts with tea at 4pm)

Photography has been used to document the important social, political and cultural issues of our time. This course will, under the guidance of an experienced photographer, help you to create your own personal body of photo-documentary work. There will be a practical photography field trip and IT facilities will be available for processing images. The course is best suited to those who possess some photographic and basic computer photo-editing skills.

*Tutor Frank Balaam*

## FUN WITH DIGITAL CAMERAS

**Saturday & Sunday**

**10th & 11th January 10am – 4pm**

8FDPP2A000 Fee £72  
(Fee covers two linked days)

This course is a non-technical, fun and creative course which will show you how to capture images on a Digital camera and transfer and store these images on a computer, and then how to add your pictures to posters, greetings cards and t-shirts.

*ICT Team*

## TAKING BETTER PHOTOGRAPHS

**Saturday & Sunday**

**28th & 29th March 10am – 4pm**

8JMPP2A003 Fee £72  
(Fee covers both linked days)

These two linked days are intended for those with modest photographic skills using either digital or film cameras. The emphasis will be on planning and composition. Digital cameras are preferable as rapid production of images is very convenient for discussion. It will be helpful, for those bringing digital cameras to know how to load their images into a computer and to bring along the appropriate software.

*Tutors Stuart & Anita Kellington*

## AN INTRODUCTION TO PHOTO EDITING

**Saturday 21st March 10am – 4pm**

8FDPP2A001 Fee £36

This course will introduce you to a photo-editing package, enabling you to alter, repair and enhance images. This course is for you if you can capture images on a digital camera or scanner and transfer them onto a computer. You should also be able to find picture files and open images on a computer and resize and crop an image.

*ICT Team*

## IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE

**Tuesday 10am – 4pm**

8HAPP2A £36 per day

These courses are for bridge players who want to bid more accurately, handle contracts confidently and defend more successfully. Aimed at recreational and club players, the sessions are very practical, with ample time to practise and to learn by playing.

**16th September (031) Weak 2's**  
How to play them and how to defend against them.

**3rd February (032) Planning the Play**  
How to make a plan and the differences between suit and no trump contracts.

**17th March (033) Slam Bidding**  
Developing the auction, cue bidding, ace-asking bids, strong openings and responses.

*Tutor Tony Woollin*

## COOKERY DEMONSTRATION DAYS

**11am – 4pm**

8GGNP2A Fee £32.50 per day

**Thursday 27th November (002) – Celebrating Lancashire Day**

A variety of dishes using ingredients from around Lancashire.

**Wed 17th December (003) Christmas Cookery**

New recipes covering easy dishes to make or prepare in advance to help you through this busy celebration.

**Wednesday 4th February (004) Easy Entertaining Returns Again**

This ever popular title returns with yet more new recipes to help you entertain your friends.

**Thursday 12th March (005) Pasta and Rice Dishes**

Recipes covering a wide range of ingredients which can be easily added to both pasta or rice to make a hearty snack, main meal or even a starter.

*Tutor Ann Farnell*



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## INDIAN COOKERY DEMONSTRATION DAYS

**Saturday 11am – 4pm**

8GGPP2A Fee 32.50 per day

Learn how to cook a variety of simple and easy to make Indian party dishes. You will see every step of the cooking and pick up some tips on how to use basic ingredients.

**21st February** (000) Vegetarian Dishes

**4th April** (001) Non Vegetarian Dishes

*Tutor Tanya Das*

## GARDENING AUTUMN COLOUR

**Monday 13th October 10am – 4pm**

8CCPP2A000 Fee £36

The course will provide an insight into the types of plants which bring colour to the Autumn/Winter garden. We will concentrate on the use of hanging baskets and containers to provide colour. Seasonal trees and shrubs, along with the basic techniques of spring bulb planting will

also be discussed. Plants, containers and baskets will be available to purchase or students can bring their own.

*Tutor Bill Blackledge*

## HOUSEPLANTS, CHRISTMAS PLANTS & CHRISTMAS WREATHS

**Wednesday 10th December**

**10am – 4pm**

8CCPP2A001 Fee £36

This course will provide a basic understanding of which plants are available over the Christmas period and information on propagation/cultivation techniques. Students will have an opportunity to prepare a Christmas basket or a Christmas wreath with plants/baskets etc. available to purchase.

*Tutor Bill Blackledge*

## SHRUBS FOR ALL SEASONS

**Thursday 12th February 11am – 4pm**

8CCPP2A003 Fee £31

Shrubs make the backbone of most gardens and possess structure, foliage and form that changes with the seasons. As the structure of a garden they allow other plants to be shown to effect against their foliage or winter stems. Learn how to select plants suited to your garden, growth rates and culture.

*Tutor Peter Foley*

## MATCH THAT PLANT – PLANT ASSOCIATION

**Thursday 30th April 11am – 4pm**

8CCPP2A004 Fee £31

Plant associations and contrasts can really bring your garden to life and make much more effect of those plants already in your garden. Come along with a list of plants needing mates to bring them to life and you will go away with fresh ideas to enliven your garden.

*Tutor Peter Foley*

## LOOKING AT TREES (Coinciding with National Tree week)

**Friday 5th December 11am – 4pm**

8CJPP2A000 Fee £31

Spend a day looking at trees and shrubs around Alston Hall in the beautiful Ribbles Valley. The morning will be spent indoors looking at books and specimens of tree branches, buds and seeds. The afternoon will be spent looking around the grounds of Alston Hall to see what we can find.

The day is suitable for anyone interested in trees or nature in general.

*Tutor John Lamb*

## ATTENTION ALL GROUP SOCIAL SECRETARIES

**TAKE THE HASSLE OUT OF ARRANGING THAT SOCIAL EVENT**

Why not bring your group or society to Alston Hall for your very own dinner lecture? You can enjoy a delicious home-cooked, 3 course dinner and coffee and then look forward to an entertaining presentation from one of our many guest speakers.

For further details and a list of travel talks, recitals and lectures

**Tel: 01772 784661**

## COUNTRYSIDE IN SPRING

**Monday 27th April** 10am – 4pm  
8CJPP2A001 Fee £36

Enjoy a day with nature in the beautiful Ribble Valley and see what trees, plants, birds, mammals and invertebrates can be found. The morning will be spent around Alston Hall followed by a three mile circular walk in the afternoon along the banks of the River Ribble. The walk follows roads and footpaths, with stiles, through fields. The day is suitable for anyone interested in nature or walking.

*Tutor John Lamb*

## FILM APPRECIATION – HOLLYWOOD GREATS

**11am – 4pm**  
8JMPP2A £31 per day

The stars of Hollywood's studio era continue to hold a fascination for us today and still define what we understand by popular cinema. These days of study will combine discussion of film extracts with investigation into the nature of stardom and its relation to the studio system of the 1920s to the 1950s. Suitable for anyone interested in reflecting upon film and its pleasures.

**Wednesday 22nd October** (001)

**Saturday 7th March** (002)

*Tutor Dr. Julian Gill*

## ASTRONOMY FOR EVERYONE

**Wednesdays** 5pm – 9.30pm  
8BAPP2A (includes 3-course dinner at 6.30pm) Fee £31

This series of courses aims to introduce the wonders of the night sky to beginners and also to show those with a basic knowledge of astronomy how they can become more involved in this fascinating subject. Every opportunity will be taken on clear nights to observe using telescopes and binoculars. Classroom sessions will involve practical work using stars charts and visual observing exercises together with lavishly illustrated talks covering areas of astronomy such as star galaxies, black holes and cosmology.

**Suitable for beginners and those who attended on 24th September - see Spring / Summer 2008 brochure**

**12th November** (003)  
**Introducing the Night Sky**

Learning to find stars constellations and planets.

**Suitable for returning students**

**8th October** (002)  
**Doing Real Science as an Amateur Astronomer**  
Making observations which are useful and valuable.

**26th November** (004)  
**Imaging the Night Sky**  
Digital cameras and CCD cameras for astronomy.

**Suitable for all levels**

**14th January** (005)  
**Exotic Astronomy**  
Black holes and cosmology.

**11th February** (006)  
**Starlight** – Stars the Milky Way and Galaxies.

**11th March** (007)  
**All about Telescopes**  
Hints on buying a telescope and using it.

*Tutor Dr. Keith Robinson*

We look forward to welcoming The Cactus & Succulents Society to their 42nd Annual Weekend at Alston Hall, 6th – 8th March, 2009.

