

GENERAL INTEREST

GENERAL AND PRACTICAL DOWSING

Friday – Sunday **19th – 21st June**
8BANP2B201 Fee £168

The course is designed to provide learners with a working knowledge and experience of dowsing in a wide variety of areas enabling them to use it to advantage in their normal lives both at home and at work. Finding lost objects, pipes, drains, water, concealed features and a myriad of other practical uses in everyday life will be covered in this course.

Tutor **Richard West**

MOTHS AND BUTTERFLIES

Wednesday – Friday **1st – 3rd July**
8BANP2B200 Fee £180
(Starts with tea at 4pm)

This fascinating illustrated course on Lepidoptera will examine the diversity of species to be found at Alston Hall and at Meathop Moss in South Cumbria. This special mossland habitat has a galaxy of interesting species such as the Large Heath butterfly, Wood Tiger and Purple-bordered Gold moths. Lights will be used at Alston Hall to attract a range of species. Suitable for all levels of experience with support on identification and classification. (Fee includes excursion transport)

Tutor **David Brown**

SUMMER WALKING WEEK

Sunday – Friday **16th – 21st August**
9HANP2B000 Fee £431

Our walking programme includes a gentle section of the Pennine Way, a walk on Longridge Fell, a walk at the foot of Pendle, part of the Lancashire Coastal Path and a walk to Arnside. The walks include limestone scenery, picturesque river valleys, bleak moorland, sandy and rugged coast and viewpoints with extensive panoramas. We shall walk around 8 miles each day with easy gradients and plenty of time for ascents. (Fee includes excursion transport)

Tutors **Steuart and Anita Kellington**

DISCOVER YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Tuesday – Thursday **1st – 3rd September**
9KANP2B003 Fee £176
(Starts with tea at 4pm)

Have you ever wondered who your ancestors are? Have you watched family history programmes on television and found them fascinating? Now you can learn how to discover your family history. You will learn how to find and use relevant source material, look at some case studies, examine useful websites and also visit the Lancashire Records Office. (Fee includes excursion transport)

Tutor **Jayne Stevenson**

INTERNET FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

Saturday 9th May 10am – 4pm
8KANP2A211 Fee £40.50

Do you want to research your family history from the comfort of your own home? More and more sources for family history are becoming available on the internet making it increasingly easy to do so. You will examine these sources online, discover the information you can find to help you research your ancestors and have the opportunity to search some of the relevant websites.

Tutor **Jayne Stevenson**

FAMILY HISTORY STUART TO GEORGIAN: 17th AND 18th CENTURY ANCESTORS

Saturday 4th July 10am – 4pm
8KANP2A212 Fee £40.50

Have you traced your ancestors back to the early 19th century and want to trace them back even further? This course is designed to help you do this. You will learn which sources are available, what they will tell you, where you will find them and also learn to read 17th and 18th century handwriting.

Tutor **Jayne Stevenson**

BEEES – WHO'S THREATENING WHO?

Saturday 9th May 10am – 4pm
8CJNP2A202 Fee £40.50

Einstein supposedly said “*if the bees disappear, mankind will follow within 4 years.*” Learn about this fascinating insect; explore the threats to the honeybee and what its loss would mean. We will identify strategies you can apply to help our native pollinating insects. Learners will have the opportunity to observe and handle a colony of honeybees. **If you have ever had an adverse reaction to a bee sting please consult your GP before enrolling. (Note – this will not necessarily prevent you from attending the course).**

Tutors **Caroline MacKenzie and William Paterson**

COOKERY DEMONSTRATION DAYS

Thursdays 11am – 4pm
Fee £37 per day

25th June 8GGNP2A200
Store Cupboard Cooking
Always in a hurry? Can't or don't cook? Learn some recipes for those last minute dishes you can make from stand-by ingredients from your store cupboard.

30th July 8GGNP2A201
Picnics
Learn some recipes for sweet and savoury nibbles for outdoor eating and picnics at home or away.

15th October 9GGNP2A000
Mince Magic
Learn a variety of recipes which make use of mince whether it be beef, pork, chicken, lamb or fish.

Tutor **Ann Farnell**



CREATING A BEAUTIFUL LAWN

11am – 4pm Fee £35.50 per day

Friday 3rd April 8CCNP2A203

Whether starting from scratch or improving an existing lawn, this course will provide practical hints and tips, together with expert advice to enable both new and experienced gardeners to create a perfect lawn.

Monday 21st September 9CCNP2A001

Autumn is a great time to get your lawn in good condition for next year. Practical hints and tips together with expert advice will help you establish a new lawn or renovate tired ones.

Tutor **Peter Cotton**

COLOURFUL CONTAINERS AND HANGING BASKETS

10am – 4pm Fee £40.50 per day

Make your own containers, window box or hanging baskets. The morning will consist of demonstrations and an exploration of the wide range of plants available. During the afternoon, students will make their own baskets/containers with tutor support. Plants, containers and baskets will be available to purchase at trade price – but students may bring their own.

Thursday 21st May 8CCNP2A200

Friday 22nd May 8CCNP2A201

Tutor **Bill Blackledge**

GROWING YOUR OWN FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Tuesday 7th July **10am – 4pm**

8CCNP2A202 Fee £48.50

Come and learn how to grow superb tasting fresh fruit and vegetables from your own plot for a fraction of the cost of what you pay in the shops. We will cover soft and top fruit as well as a wide range of vegetables and herbs. This course includes an afternoon visit to a local village garden and the kitchen garden at the Gibbon Bridge hotel. (Fee includes excursion transport)

Tutor **Peter Foley**

GARDEN PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY GARDENING

Monday 5th October **11am – 4pm**

9CCNP2A000 Fee £35.50

With Autumn approaching now is the time to plan ahead with any alterations to your garden but also to undertake them in as environmentally friendly a way as possible. Learn how to have a successful garden but at the same time help both the environment and the wildlife. Learners are invited to bring along details/pictures of their garden.

Tutor **Peter Foley**

COUNTRYSIDE

10am – 4pm Fee £40.50 per day

The following two courses will involve a walk around Alston Hall in the morning and a 3-mile circular walk in the afternoon. The walk follows roads and footpaths, joins the River Ribble and passes through fields. The days are suitable for anyone interested in nature or walking. There are three stiles on the walk.

Tuesday 2nd June 8CJNP2A200

National Wildlife Week Walk

Celebrate National Wildlife Week in the beautiful Ribble Valley and find what trees, plants, birds, mammals and butterflies we can discover.

Sunday 11th October 9CJNP2A000

Seed Gathering Sunday

Celebrate Seed Gathering Sunday by discovering what seed-bearing trees, shrubs and other plants we can collect.

Tutor **John Lamb**

IMPROVING YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY

Saturday 27th June 10am – 4pm

8JMNP2A200 Fee £40.50

Demonstrations, practical activities, fieldwork and advice will be offered for those starting out or wishing to improve their photographic skills from a modest level. Demonstrations of digital imaging manipulation and digital printing will be included but time available will only allow limited opportunities for the manipulation of images on computers by learners.

Tutors **Steuart and Anita Kellington**

INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd May

10am – 4pm

8FDNP2A200 Fee £81
(Fee covers both linked days)

This course is an introduction to using a digital camera and producing prints. We start by looking at the main controls of the camera and you will benefit from plenty of hints and tips. Next, we will be taking photographs, weather permitting, in Alston Hall's beautiful grounds before transferring them to the computer, viewing slideshows and making simple improvements to the images before printing them.

Tutor **Rod Bearden**

INTRODUCTION TO PHOTO-EDITING

Wednesday 9th September 10am – 3pm

9FDNP2A001 Fee £33
(Fee includes coffee and lunch only)

This is an introduction to using photo-editing programmes on computers and is suitable for learners who are already able to take digital photos, transfer them to a computer, view and print them or for those who have attended the Introduction to Digital Photography course. Topics covered will include red-eye correction, cropping and resizing, modifying the image with basic and special effects, and will introduce the concepts of cloning and layers.

Tutor **Rod Bearden**

The River Ribble at Alston

WORD WORKSHOP

Wednesday 26th August 10am – 3pm

9FDNP2A000 Fee £33
(Fee includes coffee and lunch only)

This is a workshop-style course for people who want to get more out of the word processing programme. We will be looking at ways of editing and formatting text efficiently and how to use keyboard shortcuts. Possible further topics, negotiated with learners on the day include tables, minutes of meetings, mailmerging, headers and footers, text boxes, styles, inserting pictures and working with multiple columns.

Tutor **Rod Bearden**

INTRODUCTION TO BUYING AND SELLING ON eBAY

Wednesday 16th September 10am – 3pm

9FDNP2A002 Fee £33
(Fee includes coffee and lunch only)

This course is for people who are already familiar with the Internet and want to learn how to buy and sell on eBay. We look at how to find items for sale from trustworthy sellers, before bidding, buying and paying for them securely. People considering selling on eBay will learn how to create a successful listing, and how to manage the selling process.

Tutor **Rod Bearden**

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHERY

6.30pm – 8.30pm

8HANP2A208 Fee £66
(6 week series commencing Tuesday 5th May)

This evening course is for complete beginners who wish to learn archery. The course will incorporate setting up bows by learning how to string them, gaining shooting skills and other basic archery skills and knowledge.

Tutor **Pete Ottewell**

GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Why not bring your group to Alston Hall for your very own dinner lecture?

You can enjoy a delicious home-cooked, 3 course dinner and coffee followed by 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