



# Jane Austen Regency Week

16<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June 2018

*Alton & Chawton, Hampshire*

## PROGRAMME



[www.JaneAustenRegencyWeek.co.uk](http://www.JaneAustenRegencyWeek.co.uk)



JaneAustenRegencyWeek



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This amazing image was created by two wonderful Bookers & Bolton clients, Roy & Margaret Daisley. It blends a photograph taken by them in 2015 with one taken in 1875. A large print can be found in our reception – please drop in if you would like to see it up close.

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## WELCOME

This programme outlines the 30 events that make up the 2018 Jane Austen Regency Week. We invite you to enjoy the talks, tours, walks, music, performances and activities. Tickets are going fast, so don't delay.

## FUNDING & SPONSORS

We thank Alton Town Council for their grant and all our programme advertisers, especially Robert Simmons solicitors for funding a new banner.

## PATRONS

Alan Titchmarsh    Deirdre Le Faye



Alan is a gardener, broadcaster and novelist. He started out as a professional gardener, but is now a well-known gardening journalist and television presenter.



Deirdre has researched the life & times of Jane Austen for the last 40 years. She wrote the biography *Jane Austen: A Family Record*, plus *Jane Austen's Letters* and several other books and articles.

## BOX OFFICE

Alton Community Centre

+44 (0)1420 85057

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Tickets for all events - We take credit cards

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### Festival Promoter

The Jane Austen Regency Week is run by Alton Chamber of Commerce & Industry



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**Jane  
Austen**  
Regency  
Week

# PROGRAMME

16<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June 2018

www.JaneAustenRegencyWeek.co.uk



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## ALL WEEK PICNIC LOCATIONS

Alton & Chawton

To help you to enjoy sociable picnic lunches, we are suggesting a location for each day. There is nothing formal about it (there is no organisation) and you'll need to bring your own food. The Regency Cafe at Alton Community Centre (advert below) will be selling picnics each day:

- 16 Sat: Public Gardens, Alton
- 17 Sun: JAHM garden, Chawton
- 18 Mon: St Lawrence Church Yard, Alton
- 19 Tue: Outside Assembly Rooms, Alton
- 20 Wed: Outside Assembly Rooms, Alton
- 21 Thu: St Lawrence Church Yard, Alton
- 22 Fri: \*Gilbert White's House, Selborne
- 23 Sat: Allen Gallery Garden, Alton
- 24 Sun: Butts Green, Alton

\*Entry fee of £5.50 if you are not attending workshop or talk.



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Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June  
**ALTON REGENCY DAY**  
High Street, Alton

Event: Traditional & cultural celebration of Alton in Regency times.

Venue: Alton Town Centre (High Street)

Time: 10am – 3pm

Detail: The entertainment will include:

- Horse & Carriage rides (fare payable)
- Petting Animals
- 3 markets: Regency Week Stalls, Hampshire Farmers' Market and Alton Craft Market
- Soldier re-enactors
- Morris Dancers
- People in Regency Costumes (if you have your own costume, we encourage you to wear it)
- Opening of Parterre memorial garden in Public Gardens

Charges: Carriage rides: pay on entry

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June  
**REGENCY DANCING WORKSHOP**  
Alton Community Centre

Event: Regency dancing lesson

Venue: Alton Community Centre, Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN

Time: 3.30pm to 5pm

Detail: Learn some of the dances that will be used later at the Regency Ball. Hampshire Regency Dancers, with live music by Hampshire Regency Players, will be on hand to teach you the moves and steps. Wear 21st century clothes!

We encourage you to attend the Regency Ball later the same day to practise your newly-learnt dancing skills.

Tickets: £10

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June  
**ALTON REGENCY BALL**  
Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Regency Ball with refreshments

Venue: Alton Assembly Rooms, High Street, Alton, GU34 1BA

Time: 7.30pm for 8pm start

Detail: Hampshire Regency Dancers are leading the dances, this year with dances to make up a story: "The excitement surrounding the trip to Box Hill in *Emma* was great."

Dress either in Regency Costume or smart Evening Wear. If you would like to practise first, there is a dancing workshop in the afternoon (see left-hand page). During the interval there will be a light buffet and a cash bar for all your liquid refreshments.

Tickets: £40 early-bird price up to 31<sup>st</sup> May  
£50 in June



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17<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> June

## CHAWTON GUIDED WALK

Chawton

Event: Guided Walk with local historian Jane Hurst

Venue: Starting at the Alton side of the Chawton underpass, Winchester Rd.

Time: 11am / Sun 17<sup>th</sup> & Wed 20<sup>th</sup>

Detail: Whilst many people visit Chawton to see Jane Austen's House Museum and Chawton House, there are many more buildings and former residents of Chawton who were connected with Jane Austen and her family. Jane Hurst is very knowledgeable, so you will be able to ask questions as the tour progresses. Note that some pavements are uneven, so it's important to wear sensible shoes and come prepared for sun or rain!

Tickets:£5

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June

## GARDEN TOUR & CREAM TEA

Chawton House

Event: Tour of gardens

Venue: Chawton House Library, GU34 1SJ

Time: 2.30pm - 4pm

Detail: Tour of the grounds and gardens with Garden Manager Andrew Bentley. You can see the new planting scheme he has designed for the walled garden, sit on the new seats to enjoy the views and see the sunken fern bed that Andrew discovered, now being replanted and restored. All that along with the wonderful grassland landscape, herbaceous beds, roses and woodland walks. And when you've finished, you can retreat to the kitchen for a cream tea (included in the price).

Tickets:£12



## Discover Chawton House

Step back in time as you visit Jane Austen's 'Great House', owned by her brother Edward. See the dining table where she enjoyed meals with her family and stroll through the walled garden mentioned in her letters. Enjoy lunch or treat yourself to a delicious cake in the atmospheric Old Kitchen tearoom.

We are open 12.30pm to 4.30pm Monday to Friday and 11am to 4.30pm on weekends & bank holidays. For more information, please see our website:

[www.chawtonhouse.org](http://www.chawtonhouse.org)



Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June

## JANE & ME

Alton Community Centre

Event: "Jane & Me: My Austen Heritage" talk by Caroline Knight.

Venue: Alton Community Centre, Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN

Time: 4.30pm (Regency Cafe will be open)

Detail: Caroline Knight is Jane Austen's fifth great niece and the last Austen descendent to grow up at Chawton House. Caroline will talk about her childhood, the literacy legacy of great-aunt Jane, the loss of Chawton House as her family home, and what led her to create the Jane Austen Literacy Foundation. Caroline will share family photographs and traditions, and the funny happenings with Janeites today.

Tickets: £10

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June

## ANTIQUE & CRAFT FAIR

Chawton Village Hall

Venue: Chawton Village Hall, GU34 1SB

Time: 10am - 3.30pm (see advert below)

Detail: Up to 30 stalls inside and outside.

Entry: £1 - payable on the door

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June

## CHORAL EVENSONG

St. Lawrence Church, Alton

Event: Church service with Regency music

Venue: Church Street, Alton. GU34 2BW

Time: 6.30pm (Doors open 6.15pm)

Detail: In Alton's historic church where members of Jane Austen's family preached & several nieces & nephews were christened. You are encouraged to enter into the spirit of the event and dress in Regency costume.

Entry: Free

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## REGENCY WEEK CHAWTON ANTIQUE AND CRAFT FAIR

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Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June

10am to 3.30pm

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Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June  
**JANE AUSTEN COLLECTION**  
Alton Library

Event: Showcasing the Jane Austen Book Collection at Alton Library

Venue: Alton Library, Vicarage Hill, Alton, GU34 1HT

Time: 1pm to 4pm

Detail: A selection of books that make up the Hampshire Library Service's specialist Jane Austen Collection at Alton Library. It includes material that covers the life and works of the author as well as information linked to relevant places and organisations. Local Historian Jane Hurst and Library Staff will be on hand to talk about the collection and provide additional information on the author and the local area.

Info: [www.hants.gov.uk/alton-library](http://www.hants.gov.uk/alton-library)

Entry: Free

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June  
**HOME OF THE KNIGHT FAMILY**  
Chawton House

Event: Caroline Knight talk: "Chawton House: The home of the Knight Family"

Venue: Chawton House, GU34 1SJ

Time: 6.30pm - 8pm

Detail: Jane Austen's fifth niece, Caroline Knight, was the last Austen descendent to grow up at Chawton House. She will paint a picture of day to day life in a crumbling sixteenth century manor steeped in four centuries of continuous family ownership, share family traditions and the influence of Caroline's most notable ancestors.

Tickets: £12

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19<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> June  
**CURATOR TOURS**

Chawton House

Event: Curator's tour of the exhibition: "The Art of Freezing the Blood": Northanger Abbey, Frankenstein & the Female Gothic" with Dr Kim Simpson, followed by cream tea

Venue: Chawton House, GU34 1SJ

Time: 10.30am - 12noon / 19<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

Detail: 2018 marks 200 years since Mary Shelley's ground-breaking first novel Frankenstein was published. Shelley had wanted her work to 'curdle the blood, and quicken the beatings of the heart.' On this tour, you will find out more about the Gothic craze that swept Europe and inspired generations of women writers to pen terrifying tales that continue to fascinate and frighten us today.

Tickets: £16

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June  
**EMMA: TEATIME DISCUSSION**

Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: 'Emma': A Teatime Discussion with Professor Michael Biddiss.

Venue: Alton Assembly Rooms, High Street, Alton, GU34 1BA

Time: 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Detail: During this event everyone who attends will be encouraged to voice their own personal views about the strengths and weaknesses of a novel whose heroine, according to Austen, no one other than the author herself was expected to like. A very informal discussion, fuelled via tea and biscuits, will be introduced by Professor Michael Biddiss.

Tea and biscuits are included in the price of the event.

Tickets: £5

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Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June  
**EVENING OPENING**

Jane Austen's House Museum, Chawton

Event: Midsummer Evening opening

Venue: Chawton, GU34 1SD

Time: 5pm - 8pm (extended opening hrs)

Detail: Your exclusive, once-a-year opportunity to enjoy Jane Austen's House Museum on a summer's evening. Take a tour of the garden with our Head Gardener (weather permitting), enjoy exploring the house and discover some hidden treasures not usually on display.

Info: [www.jane-austens-house-museum.org.uk](http://www.jane-austens-house-museum.org.uk)

Tickets: £10



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Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June  
**REGENCY REMEDIES**

Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: A talk and demonstration by Penelope Bateman (Regency re-enactor)

Venue: Alton Assembly Rooms, High Street, Alton, GU34 1BA

Time: 2pm - 3pm

Detail: Penelope will be demonstrating stillroom remedies from the late 18th and early 19th centuries. She'll have a display of health and beauty treatments from the period, including hand-made herbal medicines and cosmetics. Penelope will explore approaches to illness and the ways of obtaining relief; show various methods of using and preserving herbs and plants, and demonstrate the practical uses of some of the equipment used in the home.

Tickets: £10

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June  
**AUSTEN SISTERS**

Friends Meeting House

Event: A talk by actress Rowan Suart

Venue: Friends Meeting House, 39 Church Street, Alton, Hampshire GU34 2DA

Time: 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Detail: A diverting forty-minute dramatic and entertaining recital of readings from Jane and Cassandra Austen's letters, prose and poetry about sisters, performed by local actress and speaker Rowan Suart.

'An excellent selection of original pieces and extracts, providing a unique illustration of Jane Austen's life from an early age' ... Michael Gaunt, Theatre Director

Tickets: £10



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Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June

## ORGAN CONCERT

St. Lawrence Church, Alton

Event: Concert of Georgian organ music

Venue: Church Street, Alton. GU34 2BW

Time: 1pm - 2pm

Detail: Organist Will Nisbet will be giving a lunchtime organ concert featuring works by JS Bach, Dietrich Buxtehude and John Stanley.

The highly-rated St Lawrence church organ was built in 1866 by Henry Speechly at a cost of £850. In 1966 it was completely restored but retaining most of the original 1866 pipework. Shortly afterwards the Alton Organ Society was founded in 1967.

Entry: Free

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June

## WYARDS TOUR & CREAM TEA

Wyards Farm House, Basingstoke Road

Speaker: Tour of house with local historian Jane Hurst, and cream tea

Venue: Wyards, Basingstoke Road, Beech, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 4AA

Time: 2.30pm - 4.30pm (3 timed tours)

Minibus rides from Alton Community Centre included in price.

Detail: Wyards Farmhouse is a little-known eighteenth century gem of a house, hidden away in the fields between Alton and the village of Beech. Apart from those who stay there, this is a rare opportunity to see round the house and to enjoy a cream tea - outside if the weather is kind.

The house was known to Jane Austen because of the Lefroy connection.

Tickets: £10 (price includes tour, cream tea and minibus ride to and from venue)

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June

## ZERO TO HERO IN 200 YEARS

Allen Gallery, Alton

Event: "Jane Austen, Zero to Hero in 200 Years" talk by Sue and Martyn Dell.

Venue: Allen Gallery, Church Street, Alton GU34 2BW

Time: 7.30pm - 9pm

Detail: A talk exploring how an author who died in relative obscurity in 1817 is now known, and loved, throughout the world. When did she become so famous, and why? It will also look at events commemorating the 200th anniversary of her death in 2017 mainly from the perspective of Jane Austen's House Museum.

The talk will be preceded by teas at the Allen Gallery from 5.30pm, with the option to sit in the garden if the weather permits.

Tickets: £5

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Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

## PAPER PIECING WORKSHOP

Gilbert White's House, Selborne

Event: English Paper Piecing (Quilting) Workshop with Frances Law.

Venue: Gilbert White's House, Selborne.  
GU34 3JH

Time: 10am - 1pm

Detail: English Paper Piecing is a popular quilting technique similar to Foundation Piecing that became popular in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Join Frances Law at Gilbert White's House for a workshop in how to master this simple but effective quilting method and create a beautiful unique table mat for your home.

Tickets: £25

(includes refreshments & materials)

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

## TOUR OF GARDEN

Gilbert White's House, Selborne

Event: A guided tour of the gardens

Venue: Gilbert White's House, Selborne.  
GU34 3JH

Time: 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Detail: Gilbert White (1720-1793) was a writer, naturalist but also a keen gardener. Join the garden team for an exclusive tour of the garden, learning about Gilbert the Gardener, and what we can learn about him through his garden. Find out more about eighteenth century varieties of plants and trees, and the methods used in White's life time.

Tickets: £5



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Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

## SCENES & SONGS

Alton House Hotel

Event: A programme of Readings and Music associated with Jane Austen and presented by Alton Fringe Theatre.

Venue: Alton House Hotel,  
Normandy St, Alton. GU34 1DW

Time: 7.30pm - 9pm

Detail: This will combine a presentation of some of Jane's most delightful dialogues with a performance of pieces selected from the Austen family's song-books.

Tickets: £10

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

## UNDERSTANDING MUSLIN

Jane Austen's House Museum, Chawton

Talk: "Understanding Your Muslin" talk by Dr Serena Dyer

Venue: Learning centre, Jane Austen's House Museum, Chawton, GU34 1SD

Time: 2.30pm - 4pm

Detail: Illustrated using reproduction garments and accessories, this talk will explain how eighteenth-century shoppers went about buying and making fashionable clothes. From how to tell an Indian muslin from a Manchester cotton, to how Jane Austen's aunt, Mrs Leigh-Perrot may have got away with shoplifting from a milliner, this talk will equip you with the knowledge you would need to take a shopping trip down the streets of Austen's Bath - or Alton!

Tickets: £10 (does not include entry to house)

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

## ALTON GUIDED WALK

Starting by Curtis Museum, Alton

Event: Guided walk of Alton with local historian Jane Hurst

Venue: Walk starts outside Curtis Museum, High Street, Alton. GU34 1BA

Time: 11am - 12.30pm

Detail: Jane Hurst will be leading a tour of Alton, focussing on the buildings and people that Jane Austen would have known. This includes where her 'Alton apothecary' lived, where she went to buy her cloak, visited her sister-in-law when brother Francis went to sea and where brother Henry first opened his Alton bank. The walk finishes at the Allen Gallery.

Tickets: £5

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

## PLAYFORD DANCING

Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Dancing workshop, followed by Playford Dancing

Venue: Alton Assembly Rooms, High Street, Alton, GU34 1BA

Time: 6.30pm - 10.30pm

Detail: Trevor Dando will be leading, starting with a dancing workshop, followed by a break, then a chance to try the dances for real. The dancing session will include light refreshments at the interval.

This style of dancing predates the more formal dancing displayed at the Regency Ball, and is easier to learn and participate in. Although referred to as country dancing in the past, the dances were normally the reserve of educated society.

Tickets: £20



Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June

## LAYERS OF JANE AUSTEN

Friends Meeting House

Event: A talk by Jenny Colquhoun.

Venue: Friends Meeting House, 39 Church Street, Alton, Hampshire GU34 2DA

Time: 2.30pm - 4pm

Detail: "I hope you saw her petticoat, six inches deep in mud, I am absolutely certain; and the gown which had been let down to hide it not doing its office" Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*.

Petticoats, stays, drawers, corsets, pantaloons, chemise, shifts and let's not forget the bustle! Come and join in a light hearted whimsical discussion about what might have been worn under ladies dresses and maybe even Jane herself in the early part of the 19th Century.

Tickets: £5

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June

## REGENCY MUSICAL SOIREE

Alton House Hotel

Event: Recital of vocal and instrumental music from the Regency period.

Venue: Alton House Hotel, Normandy Street, Alton. GU34 1DW

Time: 6pm - 7.30pm

Detail: Music will include:

Mozart Divertimento in Bb K254

Schubert Der Hirt auf dem Felsen (The Shepherd on the Rock)

Chris Gardner Five Poems of Jane Austen (first performance)

Choral arrangements of music by Handel, Bach and Cherubini as well as from Jane Austen's musical manuscripts.

Tickets: £10, or £30 when combined with Regency Supper

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June

## VICTORIAN CRICKET

The Butts Green (south end of Alton)

Event: All-day Charity Cricket Tournament

Time: 10am - 6pm

Detail: The 37<sup>th</sup> charity tournament, this year raising money for the Bushy Leaze Community Support Fund. A fun day out that offers you a relaxing and enjoyable day of things to see and do. The cricket teams wear period costumes and battle it out for a prize of 500 guineas (£525).

Spectators can also enjoy the many and varied stalls and activities, and partake of the food & drink. There will be a licensed bar offering local beers. The first ball is at 10am - programmes will be available, including a team list.

Info: [www.altonvictoriancricket.org](http://www.altonvictoriancricket.org)

Tickets: Free entry

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June

## REGENCY SUPPER

Alton House Hotel

Event: Regency-style meal.

Venue: Alton House Hotel, Normandy Street, Alton. GU34 1DW

Time: 7.30pm for 8pm

Detail: A Regency-style meal where all the dishes (including the desserts) are put on the table at the same time for guests to serve themselves. You are encouraged to dress in Regency Costume, but if you'd rather not, please wear something smart.

Tickets: £22 (drinks not included)

This event marks the end of the 2018 Regency Week - we hope to see you again in 2019. The dates for your diary are 22<sup>d</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.



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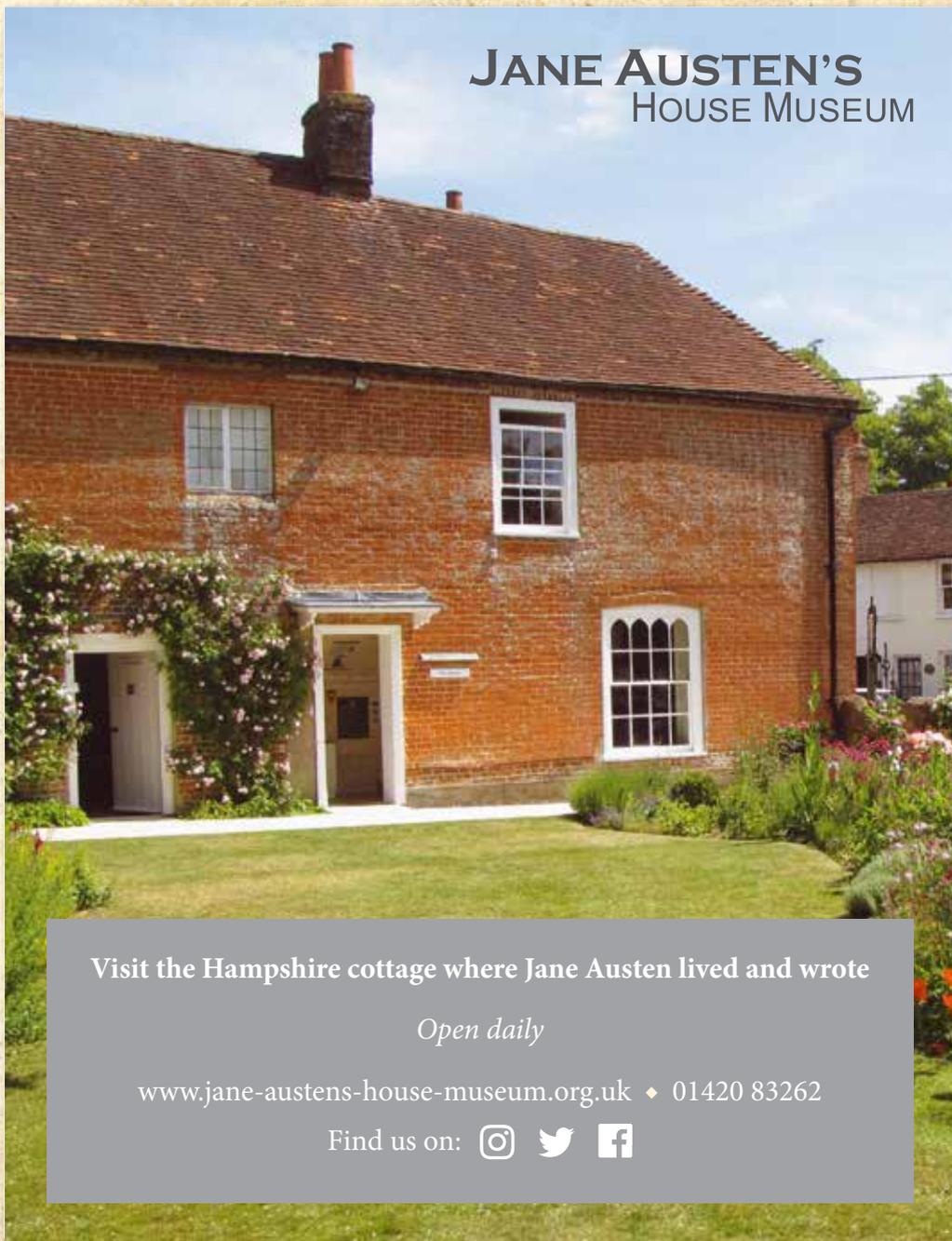
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