Alton & Chawton, Hampshire, UK

Jane Austen Regency Week

19th - 28th June 2026

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

The seventeenth number

JaneAustenRegencyWeek.co.uk

JaneAustenRegencyWeek

Jane Austen Regency Week

19th - 28th June 2026

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

Jane Austen Literacy Foundation

Founded by Caroline Jane Knight

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JANE AUSTEN'S NIECE

Step into Jane's world through the eyes of her family

Weekly stories from Caroline Jane Knight — Jane Austen's fifth great-niece, the last of her nieces to grow up at Chawton House

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AUSTENHERITAGE.COM

Welcome

We present you with 46 events that make up the 10-day Jane Austen Regency Week, now in its 17th year. If you can, please dress up and enjoy yourself over your visit to our corner of the world. We very much look forward to seeing you.

Patron & Sponsor

Caroline Knight

Caroline is the last of Jane Austen's nieces to grow up at Chawton House. She is founder of a charity called Jane Austen Literacy Foundation and author of *Jane & Me: My Austen Heritage*. She also kindly sponsors the Regency Week.

Festival Organiser

Organised by the Alton Jane Austen Group, a not for profit association run by local volunteers. If you would like to be a volunteer, we would love to hear from you. Jane Austen Regency Week is run to raise awareness of Jane Austen locally.

Tickets

+44 (0)333 666 3366
www.ticketsource.com/alton-jane-austen
info@janeaustenregencyweek.co.uk
www.JaneAustenRegencyWeek.org.uk

Venue Key

See page 14 for venue addresses

AAR: Alton Assembly Rooms
AHH: Alton House Hotel
AL: Alton Library
AM: Alton Maltings
ATH: Alton Town Hall
CH: Chawton House
CM: Curtis Museum
CWB: Cassidy's Wine Bar
FMH: Friends Meeting House
GB: Goldfinch Books
GWH: Gilbert White's House
HT: Holybourne Theatre
JAH: Jane Austen's House
RC: Regency Cafe
SLC: St Lawrence Church
WB: Waterstones Bookshop

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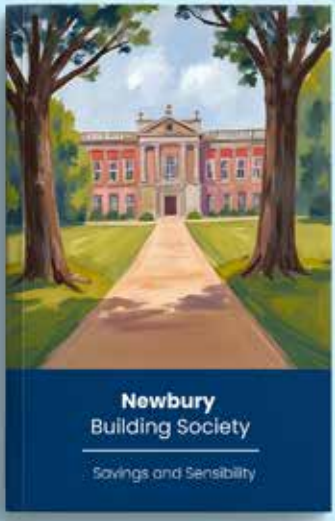

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Friday 19th June
WELCOME RECEPTION
Alton House Hotel

Event: Launch event and socialising
Time: From 6pm to 8pm
Tickets: Ticket required - free entry
Detail: Join us for a glass of fizz and meet the Committee and members of Jane's family, as well as friends old and new. The bar will be open. Parking is free, but you MUST register at Reception.

Friday 19th June
AUTHOR: KATHRYN SUTHERLAND
Waterstones Bookshop

Event: Meet the Author
Time: 6pm - 7.30pm
Tickets: £5 (www.waterstones.com/events/an-evening-with-kathryn-sutherland/alton
Detail: In 'Jane Austen in 41 Objects' Sutherland invites us to consider Jane Austen through the lens of objects that were part of her life.

Saturday 20th June
ALTON REGENCY DAY
Alton High Street

Event: Traditional & cultural celebration of Alton in Regency times.
Time: 10am – 3pm
(11am Regency Parade; free)
Tickets: Free entry
Detail: The Regency Parade starts in Market Square (by Town Hall) at 11am and finishes outside the Assembly Rooms. The entertainment will include:
- Horse & Carriage rides (fare payable)
- Market stalls
- Soldier re-enactors
- Alton Morris dancers
- Sword fighting
- People in Regency Costumes
(if you have your own costume, we encourage you to wear it)

Saturday 20th June
ALTON TOWN GUIDED WALK
Alton Town Centre

Event: Guided walk of Alton
Meet: Starting at The Curtis Museum
Time: 11am
Tickets: £5.50 (Ticketsource)
Detail: Join one of the Alton Town Guides dressed in his best Regency attire on this Jane Austen-themed guided walk of historic Alton.

Saturday 20th June
FOOD & DRINK IN THE TIME OF JANE AUSTEN
Curtis Museum

Event: Talk & light refreshments (included)
Time: 2.30pm - 4pm
Tickets: £5 (www.hampshireculture.org.uk/event/food-and-drink-time-jane-austen-0)
Detail: Jane's writings bring us clues as to the daily diets of those in her circle, with influences of French cooking and ingredients arriving from as far away as India.

Saturday 20th June
REGENCY DANCING WORKSHOP
Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Regency dancing lesson
Time: 3.30pm to 5pm
Tickets: £18 (Ticketsource)
Detail: Learn dances that will be part at the Ball. Wear 21st century clothes!

Saturday 20th June
JANE AUSTEN MIDSUMMER BALL
Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Regency Ball with refreshments
Time: 7.30pm to 11pm (doors open 7pm)
Tickets: £75 (includes buffet)
Detail: Enjoy our annual ball with live music by Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer, with Hampshire Regency Dancers to lead the dances. A cash bar will be open.

Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Jane Austen Regency Week

19th - 28th June 2026
SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

Saturday 19th - Saturday 27th June

AUSTEN-THEMED FAMILY TRAIL

Curtis Museum

Event: Self-guided tour of museum
Times: 10am - 4.30pm except Sun/Mon
Tickets: Free (drop-in)
Detail: Find out more about the writer's walks from nearby Chawton to Alton, what she might have seen on her route, as well as her connections with the Curtis family.

Sunday 21st June

GUIDED WALK OF CHAWTON

Chawton

Event: Walk with local historian Jane Hurst
Meet: Chawton underpass, Winchester Rd.
Time: 10.30am - 12noon
Tickets: £7 (Ticketsource)
Detail: There are many buildings and former residents of Chawton connected with Jane Austen and her family. Wear sensible shoes.

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W: www.altonhousehotel.com
T: 01420 80033 | E: reservations@altonhousehotel.com

Sunday 21st June

KNIGHT FAMILY REGENCY PICNIC

Dyer's Barn, Chawton House

Event: Picnic and entertainment
Time: 12noon - 2.30pm
Tickets: £15 Entrance only/ £30 inc food
£36 with food & Prosecco
(www.tickettailor.com/events/chawtonhouse/2160100)
Detail: Hosted by Caroline Jane Knight, Jane Austen's fifth great-niece and the last of her nieces to grow up at Chawton House, this joyful afternoon brings together Caroline's parents and family members for a celebration of Jane's enduring legacy. Mingle with Jane's family, hear special guest speakers, and be entertained by a Regency circus performer.

Sunday 21st June

REGENCY CHORAL EVENSONG

St Lawrence Church

Event: Church service led by St Lawrence Church Choir
Time: 3.30pm - 5pm
Tickets: Free entry; retiring collection
Detail: We encourage you to dress in Regency costume.

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Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Sunday 21st June

BEING MR WICKHAM

Holybourne Theatre

Event: Dramatised monologue
2 performances
Times: 4pm - 5.30pm
7.30 - 9pm
Tickets: £25 (www.holybournetheatre.co.uk/boxoffice)
Detail: Adrian Lukis, who starred in the renowned 1995 BBC TV adaptation of Pride and Prejudice, returns to the role of George Wickham.
Join Pride and Prejudice's most roguish gentleman, Mr. Wickham, thirty years on from where we left him. It's the eve of his sixtieth birthday and he'll be lifting the sheets on all that has been going on.

Sunday 21st June

AUTHOR: PAULA BYRNE

Waterstones Bookshop

Event: Meet the Author
Time: 5pm - 6.30pm
Tickets: £5 (www.waterstones.com/events/an-evening-with-paula-byrne/alton
Detail: In 'Six Weeks by the Sea' Byrne returns to the world of her literary icon, weaving a sparkling slice of historical fiction as Jane encounters her first love during a seaside holiday in Sidmouth.

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Available for private hire or outside catering
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07775 462590

Monday 22nd June

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF JANE AUSTEN

Chawton House

Event: Activities and tour
Time: 10.30am - 5.30pm
Tickets: £50 inc lunch (www.tickettailor.com/events/chawtonhouse/2164093)
Detail: This special small-group experience invites you to step into Austen's daily life through reading, walking, conversation and creativity.

Monday 22nd June

A TEATIME DISCUSSION

Friends Meeting House

Event: Discussion about Sanditon with Michael & Louise Biddiss
Time: 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Tickets: £15, inc refreshments (Ticketsource)
Detail: During this very informal session, participants are encouraged to offer their personal views on this last of Jane's works - her feisty but uncompleted farewell. Lively debate will be fuelled by tea and biscuits.

Monday 22nd June

AN EVENING WITH CAROLINE JANE KNIGHT

Alton Maltings

Event: Talk: Behind The Archive
Time: 7pm - 9pm
Tickets: £15 (Ticketsource)
Detail: Exploring The Austen Knights of Chawton Family Archive - the preservation work that's racing against time to save irreplaceable memories before they are lost forever.

Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Tuesday 23rd June
REGENCY DANCE WORKSHOP
Alton Maltings

Event: Dance workshop
Time: 10am - 1pm
Tickets: £15 inc refreshments (Ticketsource)
Detail: A dance workshop led by professional dance teachers, Jo and Carole and your opportunity to learn how to Regency dance at the Alton Maltings, Wesley Room. Refreshments will be provided, plus a side room for your bags and any coats etc. The Alton Maltings has its own free car park.

Tuesday 23rd June
JANE AUSTEN'S FAVOURITE BROTHER HENRY
Alton Maltings

Event: Author's talk by the Right Reverend Christopher Herbert
Time: 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Tickets: £15 (Ticketsource)
Detail: The Right Reverend Christopher Herbert will be sharing the story behind his latest book, an exploration of the life and ties of the Reverend Henry Austen, who is widely considered to be Jane's favourite brother. The Alton Maltings has its own free car park.

Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Tuesday 23rd June
JANE AUSTEN REGENCY QUIZ
Alton Town Hall

Event: Quiz and refreshments
Times: 7pm - 9pm
Tickets: £7, inc refreshments (Ticketsource)
Detail: Come along and join us for a light hearted quiz about Jane Austen's life and work as well as about the Regency era and the Jane Austen's Hampshire. Prizes and refreshments will be provided!

Tuesday 23rd June
PAINTING JANE AUSTEN
Cassidy's Wine Bar

Event: Follow-along painting workshop with Jenna's Art Studio
Time: 7pm - 9pm
Tickets: £25, inc art supplies (www.jennasartstudio.co.uk/book)
Detail: Join us for an evening of paint and literature as artist Jenna guides you step-by-step through painting a beautiful, book-inspired piece that's perfect for any Austen fan.

Wednesday 24th June
GUIDED ALTON WALK
Alton Town Centre

Event: Guided walk of Alton with local historian Jane Hurst
Meet: Walk starts at the Cairn, High Street
Time: 10.30am - 12noon
Tickets: £7 (Ticketsource)
Detail: Jane Hurst will be focussing on the buildings and people that Jane Austen would have known in Alton. Many of the places that she would have seen when coming into her market town are still standing, so see what she would have seen.

Wednesday 24th June
TOUR OF CHURCH
St Lawrence Church

Event: Guided tour with local historian Jane Hurst
Time: 2.30pm - 4pm
Tickets: £7 (Ticketsource)
Detail: A tour of the historic St Lawrence's Church in Alton. The Church has many connections with the family and friends of Jane Austen.

Wednesday 24th June
JANE AUSTEN'S HEROINES
Alton House Hotel

Event: Talk by Professor Michael Biddiss
Times: 7pm - 9pm
Tickets: £15 (Ticketsource)
Detail: This talk will focus on the seven heroines presented in Jane's six major novels. It will not only review the features of character and situation that produce a considerable degree of resemblance across this whole set of protagonists, but also discuss how the author still manages to endow every one of these individual creations with an entirely distinctive personality as well.

Thursday 25th June
IN CONVERSATION
Goldfinch Books

Event: Conversation with Jenny Colquhoon and Susie Carpenter
Time: 11am - 12 noon
Tickets: £10, inc refreshments (Ticketsource)
Detail: A Conversation with Jenny and Susie using the letters of Jane Austen. Spend an enjoyable hour re-imagining what Jane and Cassandra really meant in a few of the many letters they shared.

Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Thursday 25th June
ORGAN RECITAL
St Lawrence Church

Event: Live organ recital in church
Time: 1pm - 2pm (doors open 12.30pm)
Tickets: Free entry (retiring collection)
Detail: Recital by Will Nisbet. Part of a programme of monthly organ recitals held at the church. Refreshments will be available from 12.30pm.

Thursday 25th June
JANE AUSTEN COLLECTION
Alton Library

Event: Explore books with Jane Hurst
Time: 2pm - 3.30pm (Drop-in)
Tickets: Free
Detail: Jane Hurst, our local historian, will be answering questions on Jane Austen and the local area, and the library's collection of Jane Austen related books will be available to peruse.

Thursday 25th June
2 ANN(E)S & JANE IN ALTON
Alton Town Hall

Event: Talk by Hazel Mills
Time: 2pm - 4.30pm
Tickets: £15 (Ticketsource)
Detail: In 1815, Jane Austen's friend and former governess at Godmersham, Anne Sharp visited Chawton. Around the same time Jane had also become friends with Ann Barrett, the wife of a lawyer working in Alton.

Thursday 25th June
COUNTRY BALL WORKSHOP
Alton Maltings

Event: Dance workshop
Time: 6pm - 9pm
Tickets: £15 inc refreshments (Ticketsource)
Detail: A fun event taking two full dances from start to finish. Both these dances will be featured at our Country Ball.

Chawton House
Home Made Histories
LETTERS, ART & EMBROIDERY

7 Jun: As You Like It (Handlebards)
11 Jul: Othello (Lord Chamberlain's Men)
7 Aug: Romeo & Juliet (British Touring Shakespeare)
25 Aug: A Midsummer Night's Dream (440 Theatre)

Scan to see what's on
Follow us on social media or visit
www.chawtonhouse.org/whats-on

Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Thursday 25th June

DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT IN THE GEORGIAN ERA

Regency Cafe (Alton Community Centre)

Event: Talk by Paul Ebbutt
Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Tickets: £7 (Ticketsource)
Detail: The development of transport during the Georgian era with Paul Ebbutt

Thursday 25th June

AUSTEN COCKTAIL TASTING

Cassidy's Wine Bar

Event: Cocktail tasting
Time: 7pm
Tickets: £35, inc drinks (www.cassidysbar.co.uk/)
Detail: Tea, Tonic and Tales: A Jane Austen Cocktail Tasting Experience at Cassidy's Wine Bar

Friday 26th June

BOOK CORNERS WORKSHOP

Gilbert White's House

Event: Sewing Workshop
Time: 10.30am - 12.30pm
Tickets: £22 (www.gilbertwhiteshouse.org.uk)
Detail: Learn how to create a fabric corner book mark in just one morning! Make a patchwork inspired book mark for your copy of Pride and Prejudice.

Friday 26th June

GARDEN TOUR

Gilbert White's House

Event: Garden tour
Time: 1.30pm - 2.30pm
Tickets: £5 (www.gilbertwhiteshouse.org.uk)
Detail: Let our Georgian gardener take you around the garden to learn more about Gilbert White, and garden's in the time of Jane Austen.

Friday 26th June

HOUSE TOUR

Gilbert White's House

Event: House tour
Time: 3pm - 4pm
Tickets: £5 (www.gilbertwhiteshouse.org.uk)
Detail: A private tour of Gilbert White's House telling you all about White's life and times, as well as the places and people he had in common with Austen.

Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Friday 26th June
JANE AUSTEN GARDEN TOUR
Chawton House

Event: Guided tour of gardens
Time: 11.30pm - 12.45pm
Tickets: £10 (chawtonhouse.org/whats-on/)
Detail: Discover the history of the Gardens and how changing fashions and tastes developed from a formal layout to the English Landscape style.

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Friday 26th June
JANE AUSTEN AT THE GREAT HOUSE
Chawton House

Event: Curator's tour of house
Times: 1.30 - 2.45pm
Tickets: £15 (chawtonhouse.org/whats-on/)
Detail: Explore the house that Jane Austen knew, from the parkland and gardens she walked, the table she dined at and the portraits that appear in her novels.

Friday 26th June
DROP IN AND READ!
Jane Austen's House

Event: Book-reading in garden
Time: 2pm - 4pm
Tickets: Standard house entry prices
Detail: A peaceful afternoon reading in the grounds of Jane Austen's House. Make yourself comfortable with your own book, or read some of the works in our extensive reference library.

Friday 26th June
TWILIGHT TOUR
Jane Austen's House

Event: Tour of house
Time: 4.30pm - 5pm
Tickets: £19.50 (www.janeaustens.house)
Detail: Early evening tour of the house, walking in Jane Austen's footsteps through rooms that she knew and loved. In each room, you'll discover objects from Jane Austen's life.

Friday 26th June
DINE LIKE JANE AUSTEN
Alton Maltings

Event: Regency Supper
Time: 6pm - 10pm
Tickets: £45, inc drinks (Ticketsource)
Detail: Hosted by Caroline Jane Knight, 5th times great niece of Jane Austen. Recipes from Austen family cook book, prepared by our own 'Hill'.

Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Saturday 27th June
EMBROIDERY WORKSHOP
Jane Austen's House

Event: Sewing workshop with Abigail Rose
Time: 9am - 1pm
Tickets: £75, inc. materials & refreshments (www.janeaustens.house)
Detail: The day will begin with an early-morning guided tour of the House, before it opens to visitors. Then you'll adjourn to the Learning Centre for a welcome cup of tea and a peaceful morning of embroidery.

Saturday 27th June
CRAFTING FOR CHILDREN
Alton Library

Event: Drop-in Regency-inspired children's craft activities
Time: 10.30am - 12noon
Tickets: £1 (pay on the door)
Detail: Entrance to the library and the collection is free. The charge is for the children's craft activities.

Saturday 27th June
GUIDED WALK OF CHAWTON
Chawton

Event: Guided walk of Chawton, with Jane Austen's House
Meet: Starting outside Jane Austen's House.
Time: 11am - 3pm
Tickets: £15 (£25 with house entry) (www.janeaustens.house)
Detail: This fun, relaxed guided walk will take you back in time, to discover the village Jane Austen knew and loved. Walk in Jane's footsteps and learn about her love of nature, village life, houses and views she knew, and the importance of village life in shaping her writing.

Saturday 27th June
AUSTEN V BRIDGERTON
Curtis Museum

Event: Talk by Dr Alex Walker
Time: 2.30pm - 4pm
Tickets: £5 (www.hampshireculture.org.uk/events?location=48#events)
Detail: Alex, of Hampshire Wardrobe, will take you on a journey of regency costume on stage and screen.

Saturday 27th June
ALTON COUNTRY BALL
Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Workshop and dancing led by Nigel Close; live music by Pete & Sue Hall.
Time: 6.30pm - 10pm
Tickets: £45, inc buffet (Ticketsource)
Detail: Nigel Close will lead a dance practice for the first hour, then there will be a light buffet followed by the Country Ball. Wear costume or smart attire.

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Call Us: 01420 83777
Web: www.greenekinginns.co.uk/hotels/hampshire/swan
Location: High Street, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1AT

Event Venue addresses on Page 14

Sunday 28th June

SUNDAY SAUNTER

Chawton

Event: Group walk
Meet: Chawton signpost, Winchester Road
Time: 10.30am - 12noon
Tickets: £7 (Ticketsource)
Detail: Enjoy a walk and chat with Jenny, her sister Wendy, dog Lilli and Susie, bringing to life the houses and people Jane would have known. There will be a chance to stop for refreshments included in the price. A great way to end your week.

Sunday 28th June

FILM: LOVE & FRIENDSHIP

Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Film showing
Time: 2.15pm to 4.30pm
Tickets: £6 (Pay on the door)
Detail: 2016 period romantic comedy-drama film. Based on Jane Austen's epistolary novel Lady Susan. Refreshments available to buy at the licensed bar

2027 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Jane Austen Birthday Ball Weekend

Sat 16th / Sun 17th January 2027

Jane Austen Regency Week

18th - 27th June 2027

EVENT VENUES & ADDRESSES

Alton Assembly Rooms
High Street, Alton, GU34 1BA

Alton House Hotel
Normandy Street, Alton, GU34 1DW

Alton Library
Vicarage Hill, Alton, GU34 1HT

Alton Maltings Centre
Maltings Close, Alton, GU34 1DT

Alton Town Hall
Market Square, Alton. GU34 1HD

Chawton House
Chawton, GU34 1SJ

Curtis Museum
High Street, GU34 1BA

Cassidy's Wine Bar
44 High Street, Alton, GU34 1BD

Friends Meeting House
39 Church Street, Alton, GU34 2DA

Goldfinch Books
24 High Street, Alton, GU34 1BN

Gilbert White's House
The Wakes, High Street, Selborne, GU34 3JH

Holybourne Theatre
London Rd, Holybourne, GU34 4EL

Jane Austen's House
Chawton, GU34 1SD

Regency Cafe (Alton Community Centre)
Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN

St Lawrence Church
Church Street, Alton, GU34 1BW

Waterstones Bookshop
41 High Street, Alton GU34 1AW

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