

COURSES IN TRADITIONAL RURAL TRADES & CRAFTS 2017





“Very informative and interesting, held in beautiful setting.”

– Historic trades and crafts course participant, 2016

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Introduction to green woodworking - NEW

Spend a day immersed in the historic craft of green or unseasoned woodwork, learning what it is and why the concept evolved over time. Students can choose to make simple but useful green woodworking tools, or a basic charcoal maker's seat to take home with them. 10am - 5pm

Leader: Mervyn Mewis
Sunday 22 January

£65



Traditional English longbow

Starting with a simple stave of timber you will learn to shape a fully working bow based on the design of the great bow of the Hundred Years' War. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: John Rhyder

Friday 10 - Sunday 12 February

£275

Friday 10 - Sunday 12 November

£275

Make a traditional woven sea grass stool – NEW

Starting with a log section of a tree and some component parts, participants will use a drawknife and drawhorse to create a stool while learning about historic methods for chair making. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Mervyn Mewis

Saturday 18 - Sunday 19 February

£80

Make a post and rung chair – NEW

Using fresh locally sourced hardwood and combining with some component parts, learn all the processes involved to make and take home your very own side chair. There will be plenty of time on this course for total novices and those with some experience to learn and perfect their craft, all of the processes are simple and readily learned. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Mervyn Mewis

Monday 6 - Friday 10 March

£265



Sussex trug making workshop

Over the two days participants will be shown the process of cleaving and shaving chestnut to produce the handle and rim for their trug and will be shown how to steam and bend both chestnut and the willow used for the boards of the trug. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leaders: Robin Tuppen and Mike Church

Saturday 25 - Sunday 26 March

£155

Saturday 12 - Sunday 13 August

£155

Make a Shaker box – NEW

This is a one-day course during which you will learn how to make a beautiful oval Shaker box. Along the way you will learn something about Shaker designs and communities. No previous woodworking experience is needed. You will be supported step by step through the box making process, learning traditional Shaker techniques including bending wood in hot water, crafting the iconic swallow tail joint and securing bands and bases with tiny copper tacks and wooden pins, without using any glue. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Murray Marks

Saturday 8 April

£75

Make a shave horse

This day is for those keen to make a start in greenwood working with the construction of their own shavehorse. All materials will be provided and participants will spend the day making the component parts and then assembling their own shave horse. 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: Mark Allery

Friday 5 May

£85

**“It met and exceeded my expectations.
A great introduction to the craft, and I’m
determined to do more.”**

– Working with wood course participant, 2016

Introduction to pole lathe turning

An introduction to wood turning on the traditional pole lathe. A friendly and informal course during which participants will have the opportunity to use traditional tools and to turn simple objects. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Mark Allery	
Saturday 6 May	£70
Sunday 7 May	£70
Friday 1 September	£70
Saturday 2 September	£70

Bark basketry

Bark is a traditional material that has been used across the globe and it is therefore likely that our ancestors used this material in similar ways. This day course will cover a variety of designs and uses for bark including folded containers and woven craft work. 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: John Rhyder	
Monday 8 May	£70



Make your own stick for country walking

A market stick is a traditional type of stick for country walking, and is also used by farmers to take to market. It is a good basic stick, suitable for beginners to make. 10am - 4.30pm

Leader: Charles Hutcheon	
Saturday 13 - Sunday 14 May	£150

Tool sharpening

This two-day course has been designed for those with little or no previous tool sharpening experience, who enjoy working with wood but have found difficulty achieving a satisfying standard of work due to their lack of tool tuning and sharpening skills.

During the course you will learn how to sharpen wood cutting tools to professional standards and select new or second-hand tools that are well engineered. From this understanding of the importance of tool technology and the acquisition of tool tuning skills, you will be in a position to experience the pleasure of working wood by hand to a finer degree of accuracy and with less effort. Students are advised not to buy tools or equipment for the course, but bring any tools they have in whatever condition they may be. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Philip Hodge	
Thursday 29 - Friday 30 June	£220

Wood finishes

This is an intensive two-day course suitable for beginners or those wanting to improve their skills. Students will learn how to take a project right through from initial preparation to a good final finish. Along the way you will be shown the value of choosing both the right materials and good quality products, and attention to detail. No longer will you be limited to a big brush and a tin of varnish, as you are made aware of the different effects you can achieve by selecting different finishing systems. During the course you will make up your own high quality finishing products including Wood Stain, French Polish, Polishing Rubber, Polishing Wax, and Wax Rubbing Sticks. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Philip Hodge

Saturday 1 - Sunday 2 July

£220

Carve a wooden bowl

Learn the basics of woodcarving with this hands-on course whilst carving a leaf shaped bowl, which can be taken home at the end of the day. 9am - 5pm

Leaders: Jess Jay and John Vardon

Saturday 8 July

£70

Sunday 9 July

£70

Carve a wooden spoon

Develop basic wood carving skills by learning the steps used to carve a version of a spoon found on the Mary Rose, using axe and knife. 9am - 5pm

Leader: Jon Roberts

Saturday 15 July

£50

Sunday 23 July

£50

Coracle making

Coracles are traditional riverboats. Round in shape, they are paddled with one oar. On this two-day course you will make a traditional coracle to take home, and try out your boating skills on the Museum's mill pond. Students will make a coracle covered in calico and they will be given instructions on how to finish their coracle at home by waterproofing. The finished coracle is quite large - please consider appropriate transport. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leaders: Kevin and Ellen Grimley

Saturday 2 - Sunday 3 September

£260

Pole lathe turning: improve your green woodworking skills

This workshop is intended for those who would like to improve their green woodworking and pole lathe turning skills. Anyone with some experience can benefit from this day, including those who have attend the introduction course and would like to have another go! 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Mark Allery

Sunday 3 September

£70

Traditional wooden rake making

Make a wooden rake and tailor its size to your needs. You will make the rake head, fit the pegs as well as prepare and fit the handle. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Mark Allery

Saturday 30 September

£60



Weekend woodcarving

From a choice of five, select a carving project to complete on this two-day hands-on course. You will learn the basics of woodcarving and take home what you have made. 9am - 5pm

Leaders: Jess Jay and John Vardon

Saturday 28 - Sunday 29 October

£140

Introduction to chair making

A one-day introduction to traditional chair making. The day will begin with a discussion on different seating constructions and designs. A short foray into the Museum woods will focus on the sustainable management of woodlands for timber requirements and we will explore the artistic potential using natural form, shape and texture. Using traditional tools and techniques, students will complete an elegant stool to take home, as well as the experience and knowledge to make other pieces of furniture. The hands-on day will provide a good base for those who wish to create individual designs and is the ideal stepping stone for further chair making potential. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Mervyn Mewis

Sunday 19 November

£75

Living willow chair workshop

Come along to this one-day workshop and make a living willow chair to take home and plant in your own garden. 9.30am - 5pm

Leaders: Ganesh Bruce Kings or Elaine Kings
Saturday 4 February **£100**

Willow garden supports

Make interesting contemporary plant supports to enhance your garden using English willow and traditional methods. 9.30am - 5pm

Leaders: Ganesh Bruce Kings and Elaine Kings
Saturday 1 April **£100**

Weave a rush bag

An opportunity to make your own woven rush bag using indigenous common bulrush, *Scirpus Lacustris*. Working on wooden blocks and using techniques common to basketry, each participant will complete a medium sized bag with optional handles. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Rachel Frost
Friday 11 August **£65**

Weave a rush hat

An opportunity to make your own woven rush hat using the indigenous common bulrush, *Scirpus Lacustris*, collected from the river Thames. Starting with your own custom-made hat block, you will be using this wonderfully supple material and techniques common to basketry to create a unique hat to wear and treasure. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Rachel Frost
Saturday 12 August **£65**

Weave a rush basket

During the course, participants will have an opportunity to make their own woven rush storage basket using the indigenous common bulrush, *Scirpus Lacustris*, harvested from the river Thames. Working on wooden formers, you will be using this wonderfully supple material and techniques common to basketry to create a beautiful and useful container. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Rachel Frost
Sunday 13 August **£65**



Weave a rush mat

An opportunity to make your own woven rush mat using the indigenous common bulrush, *Scirpus Lacustris*, collected from the river Thames. You will be using this wonderfully supple material and techniques common to basketry to create a unique mat to treasure. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Rachel Frost

Monday 14 August

£65

Corn dolly workshop

Learn the history and development of this ancient craft, as well as the practical skills involved in weaving corn dollies. 10am - 5pm

Leader: Verna Bailey

Saturday 16 September

£55

Willow workshop: weave and wale a basket

Using English brown willow and traditional techniques, learn to weave and wale a basket to take home. 9am - 5pm

Leader: Deborah Albon

Saturday 23 September

£75



Woven hurdle making

This weekend course is suitable for complete novices and participants will learn all the skills needed to make a small traditional woven hazel sheep hurdle. 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: Paul Matthews
Saturday 4 - Sunday 5 February

£190

Dowsing day

A day of discussion, practical demonstration, guidance and hands-on experience will convince even the most sceptical of the value of this ancient craft. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Pete Redman
Sunday 14 May

£50

Animal tracking and trailing

Tracking is a skill ancient in its origins but for the naturalist it lifts the veil on a secret world often ignored simply because the clues to this world's existence remain unnoticed. With skill these clues can be linked together and creatures can be trailed to their location. This day serves as an introduction to track and sign identification and interpretation but you will also be given the opportunity to try your hand at trailing, who knows we may even catch up with the animal. 9am - 4pm

Leader: John Rhyder
Tuesday 16 May

£75

Birds of prey experience

Experience a day at close quarters with birds of prey under the supervision of a professional falconer. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Ray Prior
Thursday 3 August

£75

Wild food: hedgerow gourmet

This course is aimed as an introduction to the world of wild food, focusing specifically on the plants and trees although we won't ignore fungi should we manage to find any. We will also explore their myriad other uses, such as providing cures for ailments, refreshing drinks, or maybe something to clean your teeth with! The day consists of a non-strenuous walk to identify and gather edible species followed by a late lunch and a chance to taste the wild foods gathered. 9am - 4pm

Leader: John Rhyder
Saturday 30 September

£75

Hedgelaying

Over the weekend you will learn how to cut and lay a stock proof hedge, including thinning out and selecting materials. 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: Phil Hart

Saturday 4 - Sunday 5 February **£150**

Beekeeping for beginners

On this introductory day, you will have the opportunity to learn about types of bees, how they live and bee friendly flowers. You will see different types of beehives and their component parts, and discuss where you can (and can't) keep bees. There will be an introduction to honey bee management and the beekeeping year, including the issues of swarming, pests and diseases, as well as the honey crop and other hive products. 10.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christine Stevens

Sunday 2 April **£50**

Hand shearing

A completely practical day leaning how to shear sheep by hand, on a farm local to the Museum. This course would particularly suit people with a small number of sheep who would like to tackle shearing for themselves. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Phil Hart

Saturday 20 May **£60**

Scything: learn to mow

Learn a brief history of the scythe, how to select the right blade and snath for the job and set them up, peening, sharpening, the mowing technique, how to avoid damaging the blade and how to care for the scythe. There will be hands-on sessions with the chance to use the scythe in a couple of different environments. 9:30am - 4:30pm

Leader: Mark Allery

Saturday 1 July **£60**

Saturday 12 August **£60**



Mowing with an English scythe

The day will focus upon the maintenance and restoration of these vintage tools (the blades being last made in the 1960s and 70s) as well as the adjustment and mowing technique. Participants are encouraged to bring their own scythes – although English scythes (some from the Museum's own collection) will be provided for use on the course. Those with little or no experience in using a scythe may benefit from first attending one of the Museum's *Scything: learn to mow* courses before attempting the English scythe. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Mark Allery

Saturday 5 August

£60



Introduction to coppice management

A hands-on day encompassing the history, theory and practice of coppice management. The course also covers the use of tools and coppice products. 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: Jon Roberts

Saturday 4 November

£50

Elizabethan Walnuts

Made from the fabric covered shell of a single walnut, these tiny encrusted bags were a novelty gift in the courts of Elizabeth I. Come and make your own replica of a more sumptuous time—they are surprisingly easy to make and can become quite addictive. Use them as key finders, hang them from curtain rails, or give them away as extra special gifts; there is room inside for a tiny phial of perfume, piece of jewellery or love sonnet! Not complex, these can be made by anyone who sew a basic running stitch. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Judith Balcombe
Saturday 4 February

£55



Illuminated letter embroidery

Produce an illuminated letter that can be made into a bookmark, needlecase or picture. Techniques will include padding, couching and stitching through metal threads, surface and raised embroidery stitches. The class is suitable for all levels. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Flo Collingwood
Saturday 4 March

£75

Spinning: drop spindle and the wheel

On the first day you will learn about fleeces and carding wool ready for spinning, before trying your hand spinning with the drop spindle. The second day concentrates on working with the wheel, whilst giving some background to this traditional craft. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Steve Kennett
Thursday 9 - Friday 10 March
Saturday 4 - Sunday 5 November

£95

£95

Learn to crochet

On this one day course you will learn the basic stitches and use them to create a granny square. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Rose Savage
Saturday 11 March

£55

Card weaving

Card or tablet weaving is an ancient craft, which has been traditionally used to make strong, narrow decorative bands or braids. Simple cards form a loom but although card weaving requires little equipment, an infinite variety of very complex weaves can be achieved. During this course you will make our own weaving cards and then use them to produce a colourful braid. At the end of the day, participants will have the equipment and knowledge they need to further their skills. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Hilary Charlesworth
Saturday 11 March

£55

Introduction to Blackwork embroidery

Blackwork is a decorative form of embroidery, which includes both small geometric counted-thread patterns, worked on an evenweave fabric, as well as a free-style approach, where pictorial designs are first drawn out onto the fabric. Students will have the opportunity to explore these two different styles and methods of working, whilst creating individual pieces of work. All the required threads and fabric will be provided. 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: Caroline Vincent
Sunday 19 March

£55

Nålbinding or single needle knitting

Learn how to make sturdy and serviceable garments using the ancient technique of Nålbinding. Also known in English as knotless netting, knotless knitting, or single needle knitting, this technique is older than knitting and crochet. You will learn one basic stitch as an introduction. At the end of the day, you will have two lovely coasters or a little pouch/mobile phone cover that you can keep for reference, or give as gifts. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Judith Ressler
Saturday 1 April

£55

Woven tapestry weekend

Woven tapestry can be described as painting with yarns. During this weekend we will use a simple frame loom (which you can keep) and a variety of yarns to produce a woven “notebook” of techniques, both traditional and 3D. For those with more experience there will be an opportunity to translate their own designs into weave. Finishing and warping techniques will also be explained. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Hilary Charlesworth
Saturday 6 - Sunday 7 May

£95

**“Met and exceeded my expectations,
I have been inspired.”**

– Textiles course participant, 2016

Feltmaking day

An introduction to feltmaking, this one-day course is suitable for beginners. We will produce colourful pieces of handmade felt using dyed fibres and a seamless purse. Feltmaking is the oldest form of human-made fabric and felt remains dating from about 700BC have been found in the frozen tombs of nomadic Siberian tribesmen. Handmade felt can have many uses, both practical and decorative. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Hilary Charlesworth

Friday 12 May

£50

Rag rugging workshop

Rag rugging is a uniquely accessible folk craft. Rug making fitted in with home life, filling long winter evenings and satisfying creative and practical needs. Come and get hooked! 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: Linda Chivers

Friday 19 May

£55

Friday 27 October

£55

Flax to linen

Learn the process of how our ancestors changed the flax plant into linen fabric. For millennia the basic but vital plant clothed us and became our second skin; come and be a traditional scutcher or breaker for the day and change this coarse fibre into a piece of linen string. Learn how to spin flax, perform a simple weave and care for your linens, but most importantly, what to do with your leftover tow! 10am - 4pm

Leader: Cathy Guilder

Sunday 21 May

£55





Natural dyeing

Learn the basics of dyeing with natural materials. The course will cover the different types of mordants and their effects on the colours obtained, dyeing with fresh and dried materials, dye-plant identification, environmental considerations, and the effects of dyes on various fibres. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Wednesday 7 June

£55

Friday 14 July

£55

Stumpwork embroidery: cockerel – NEW

Explore the delicate art of needlelace combined with wirework and padding techniques. Create your own handsome cockerel embellished with metallic thread and beads to show off his wonderful tail and gleaming feathers. Learn to combine traditional stumpwork techniques with modern materials and methods. 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: Caroline Vincent

Saturday 10 June

£55

Stumpwork embroidery: dragonfly

Explore the delicate art of needlelace combined with wirework and padding techniques, to create your own garden scene in three-dimensions. Using gold and metallic threads together with beads and organza fabrics, create a beautiful winged insect, nestling amongst flowers and foliage. The course will provide all the required materials, plus a choice of threads and beads. 9.30am - 4pm

Leader: Caroline Vincent

Sunday 11 June

£55

Make a felt hat

In this workshop we will be using prepared fleece to produce a felt hat (which participants can keep). The process will include the use of water and soap, and a certain degree of physical effort! 10am - 4pm

Leader: Hilary Charlesworth

Sunday 11 June

£55

BOOK ONLINE

You can now book all of our courses online!
Head over to www.wealddown.co.uk/courses
to check availability and book your place.

Bobbin lace making for beginners

The course will provide an introduction to torchon lace, the basics of most other laces. You will be shown the equipment required, how to prepare a pattern and work the three main stitches. Hopefully everyone will leave with the satisfaction of some completed pieces of lace. You will be given a simple glossary of lace terms, suggested books and lace suppliers. 10am - 4pm

Leaders: Eva Falconer and Gay McCart
Sunday 9 July

£55

Peg loom weaving

Peg loom weaving is an easy way to produce simple rugs and fabrics using fleece, yarn or recycled materials. In this one day workshop, you will make a wooden peg loom (which you can keep) and then learn how to put a warp on it and begin weaving. 10am - 4pm

Leaders: Hilary Charlesworth and Sam St Clair-Ford
Sunday 23 July

£55



Dorset button brooches

You will make two different types of Dorset button brooch, a Dorset Posy brooch and an Autumn Beech Tree brooch. In the afternoon you will design your own brooch. You will learn about the history of Dorset buttons from their beginnings in the 1600s, the growth of button making in the 1700s, its death in the Industrial Revolution and the various people and organisations who have kept them alive, and the contemporary buttons of today. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Jen Best
Sunday 27 August

£55

Tapestry workshop: weave a landscape

Produce a woven landscape wall hanging using a simple frame loom (which you can keep). The emphasis will be on colour blending and both traditional and 3D techniques will be used during the day. No experience of weaving is needed. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Hilary Charlesworth
Sunday 17 September

£55

Inkle loom weaving

Spend a weekend learning about this ancient weaving technique. Make short lengths of braid and see examples of different designs. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Steve Kennett
Saturday 23 - Sunday 24 September

£95

Rope work - making an animal halter

For those who would like to be able to make their own bespoke halters for use in animal husbandry or for those who would like to experience making their own rope and extending their knot-tying skills. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Charlie Tyrrell

Saturday 4 March

£55

Leaded light stained glass

Make a small leaded stained glass panel, and learn many skills including how to cut glass to a precise pattern and join pieces using lead cames. Suitable for beginners or those with some experience. 10am - 4pm

Leader: David Lilly

Friday 31 March

£110

Make a traditional hand-sewn book

During this workshop students will make a non-adhesive book by sewing folded sections of various paper weights, marking, piercing and using cotton thread to sew onto linen tape or ribbon using the French stitch method. The covers will be made from colourful hand made paper and using the tape or ribbon as a decorative form of securing the book. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Angela Thames

Saturday 22 April

£60

Letter cutting in stone

Participants will be shown how to draw or copy a lettering design and transfer it onto Portland stone. We will then practise the practical task of cutting letters in stone and look at finishing techniques. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Will Spankie

Friday 5 May

£85

Stone carving: ammonite

This workshop is suitable for beginners who wish to develop skills in stone carving. You will work on a design in Bath stone. We will also look at where to purchase different stones and tools, chisel sharpening and some of the health and safety issues to do with stone carving. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Will Spankie

Saturday 6 May

£85

Medieval tile making

A practical day with the opportunity to design your own tiles, or use pre-made patterns, with information on historical aspects of the craft. Each participant can choose four tiles to be fired and sent to them after the course. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Karen Slade

Sunday 21 May

£130

Irons in the fire

The course will take place in the 150-year-old Museum smithy, where everything is done as it would have been more than a century ago. Students will make a simple toasting fork or poker. 9am - 5.30pm

Leader: Martin Fox

Tuesday 13 June

Wednesday 14 June

Thursday 15 June

Friday 16 June

Tuesday 1 August

Wednesday 2 August

Thursday 3 August

£95

£95

£95

£95

£95

£95

£95



Bronze Age metalwork

A Bronze Age experience like no other, asking the basic question of 'how did the Bronze Age begin?' Students will process malachite, make a furnace and create moulds from clay. Then, bringing all these elements together, you will create your own Bronze Age reconstruction axe or dagger. 9am - 6pm

Leader: Simon Barnard

Saturday 22 - Sunday 23 July

£250

Prehistoric flint tool making

Using the methods of ancient British people, including flint knapping, cordage manufacture from natural fibres, working with bone and antler, you will produce your own hafted tool to take home. 9.30am - 5.30pm

Leader: Will Lord

Saturday 22 - Sunday 23 July

£150

Make a Pyecombe-style crook

For those who have done the Irons in the fire course and want to have another go. You will build on the skills learnt previously to make a Pyecombe-style crook to take home. 9am - 5.30pm

Leader: Martin Fox

Friday 4 August

£90

Mill experience

Spend the morning in our 400-year-old watermill. Learn about its history, the different types of mill and their common features. Learn how the watermill works, the key controls at the millers' disposal, and how they can affect the quality of the flour produced. Then have a go at working in our mill and produce a small bag of flour to take home. 9.30am - 12.30pm

Leaders: Museum millers

Monday 4 September £45

Saturday 16 September £45

Saturday 14 October £45

Stone carving: green man

A two-day workshop teaching participants how to mark out, rough out and finish a Green Man design in Bath stone. The course will give people the opportunity to either carve their own design or copy carve one using a template. The course will also cover carving techniques, sharpening and look at where to buy tools and stone. By the end of the two days participants will be able to take away a finished carving. 9.30am - 5pm

Leader: Will Spankie

Saturday 9 - Sunday 10 September £160

Leather belt

Make a unique leather belt from English vegetable tanned leather using various techniques and finishes with a choice of buckles. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Jon Lewington

Saturday 21 October £60



“From a novice with no experience to someone with the knowledge and confidence to progress further.”

– Historic trades and crafts participant, 2016

Horse logging

For those with some heavy horse experience. A day working with heavy horses extracting timber from local woods. Participants must be physically fit. 10am - 3.30pm

Leaders: Robert Sampson and Mark Buxton
Sunday 2 April

£90



Care, management and harnessing of heavy horses

A mix of theory and practice using the Museum's team of heavy horses. An introduction to stable care, feeding, harnessing and safe handling of draft horses. 10am - 3.30pm

Leader: Mark Buxton
Sunday 23 April

£90

Driving heavy horses

Practical outdoor days learning to harness up and drive the Museum's draught horses in the field and on the track, chain harrowing, and shaft and pole work. 10am - 3.30pm

Leader: Mark Buxton
Sunday 21 May
Sunday 11 June
Wednesday 28 June

£90

£90

£90

Ploughing with Heavy Horses

Covering the basics of ploughing including preparing the harness and the plough for work in the field. Beginners and improvers equally welcome. 10.30am - 3.30pm

Leaders: John McDermott, Robert Sampson and Mark Buxton
Saturday 18 November
Sunday 19 November
Sunday 10 December

£90

£90

Tudor farmhouse day in Bayleaf

A Tudor housewife had to do more than just cook! This course will be based in Bayleaf farmhouse and concentrate on tasks outside the detached kitchen – spring cleaning, laundry, the garden, fibre preparation and spinning, simple sewing techniques of the period and medical treatments available to a yeoman family. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Saturday 22 April £60

Life in a late Victorian cottage

The late Victorian period was a time of accelerating social change for the working classes. Based in Whittaker's Cottage, spend the day investigating how a family lived: experience first hand the new free education by participating in a lesson in the school from Wittering; learn about changes in diet and where food came from; prices and coinage – work out the weekly budget of a labouring family; participate in a selection of household chores; investigate the clothing of the period and how it was made. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Saturday 13 May £60

Shooting the traditional longbow

An introduction to the art and craft of longbow archery focusing on the history and traditions of this remarkable weapon. There will be an opportunity to examine and discuss a wide range of archery equipment concentrating on the traditional medieval style bow and its arrows. The course will also include intensive tuition in the practice of longbow archery using a range of different bows suitable for the beginner and the more experienced archer alike. Dependent upon conditions there will be an opportunity to shoot at a variety of ranges at a number of different targets including the traditional, wand, clout and garland. 10am - 5pm

Leader: Jonathan Davies

Saturday 13 May £50

Sunday 14 May £50

Deciphering old documents

This workshop helps beginners and those with a small amount of knowledge to read 16th and 17th century handwriting, and is helpful for later palaeography as well. It is useful for family and local historians. The course takes the participants through wills, inventories, registers, deeds and even the mystery of the suet pudding in a Quarter Sessions case. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Caroline Adams

Friday 14 July £60

Medieval experience day

Spend a day in the building from Hangleton experiencing the life of a medieval peasant. Investigate the lives of those who lived in a Downland village c.1250-1300. Engage with archaeological artefacts from Hangleton. Experience open hearth cookery. Try a variety of medieval trades and crafts. Investigate medieval textiles and dress in replica clothing. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Helen Mbye

Saturday 22 July

£60

Georgian farmhouse day in Tindalls cottage

Gain an insight into life in the mid-Georgian period. Tindalls has been furnished circa 1760 and has a working oven and brewhouse. We will investigate changes in the home from the previous century; cook a meal using the brick oven, open hearth and copper; look at clothing of the period; make nettle string and learn about hops and flax. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Sunday 3 September

£60

A history of knitting from the Tudor period onwards

A brief practical history of knitting in Britain, looking at the products, techniques, and social history of knitting and knitters from the 16th to the 20th century. We shall be learning to 'knit in the round' and to use a knitting sheath, and trying out a number of different techniques. Pictures, samples and items from the Knitting and Crochet Guild Collection illustrate the wealth of resources. This is a course that we hope will inspire you to have the confidence to raid the past in your future knitting projects. Some previous knitting experience would be helpful on this course, but is not essential. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Ruth Gilbert

Thursday 7 September

£60

Friday 8 September

£60

Coifs, caps, hats and hair

An introduction to centuries of working womens' headgear in England – from headrails and wimples, to coifs and caps, hats and bonnets. We will look at the reasons for covering the hair – female modesty, religious proscription or simple practicality? How did the materials used change over the centuries? Which ages thought it safe to wash hair, which didn't? What did we use before shampoo? With lots of recreated examples for people to try on. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Saturday 14 October

£60



Seeds of good health – NEW

The seed contains the potential of the whole plant. We will examine the benefit of seeds both familiar and unusual, as they have been used over the centuries. We will also try out some live medicine with tasty vitamin and mineral rich freshly sprouted seeds. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley
Friday 28 April

£60

“Much more than I imagined, just brilliant.”

– Herbal course participant, 2016

Herbs in the home – your uses – basic methods

A day for the beginner who wishes to know how to introduce herbs into their daily life effectively. Also a day for those who have attended historical herb courses previously and would like a deeper focus on methods. It will cover herbs in cookery, home medicine, making fragrances and wines and liqueurs. We will also look at how the role of herbs has changed to meet new needs with changes in lifestyle over the centuries. The emphasis will be on those areas of particular interest to participants and questions to be addressed can be emailed to Christina up to two weeks before the course date. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley
Friday 26 May

£60

Herbs, humours and astrology

You will look at the nature of herbs in the historical context of the humoral system of medicine and the possible influence of the planets on herb growth and efficacy. It may seem quirky to us in this century but a simple look at herb actions within the body can help us to understand the historical viewpoint. Examining how herbs are classified with relation to planets is fascinating and can become complex if the ancient astrological medicine is seriously followed. This is a light yet informative day which can aid interpretation of historical recipes and give food for thought on your personal humoral balance. Are you overly choleric? Sanguine? Melancholic? Or phlegmatic? 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley
Saturday 27 May

£60

Woodland herbs

A walk in wild woodland reveals not only herbs in the undergrowth but also herbal trees. This day will equip you not only to find first aid by the wayside, but also to gather ingredients for pleasant, health-giving teas. Along the way you will also identify powerful herbs now grown as flowers and important medicinal herbs being researched and recently used for example in cancer treatments. Medicinal and cookery recipes will be part of the day. Herbs covered will include Hawthorn, Elder, Yew, Ajuga, Sanicle, Hedge Woundwort, Wild raspberry and Strawberry, Violets, Ivy, Herb Robert, Bilberry, Butcher's broom, Cowslips, Lily of the Valley and Solomon's Seal. Medicinal and cookery recipes will be part of the day. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley

Sunday 28 May

£60

Herbs for health

The origins of the herbaceous border lie in growing herbs for home remedies in the past. Led by a medical herbalist, the course offers guidance on the most safe and useful herbs to grow and how to harvest and use or preserve them. A practical day ensures careful identification instructions on the individual herbs and experience in making a footbath, herbal honey syrups, herbal teas, an infused oil, a herb pillow and more. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley

Friday 4 August

£60

Waterside herbs – NEW

A guide to the herbs found growing in the banks of rivers, around lakes and by canals, this day opens our eyes to new herbs rarely encountered in other sites in the wild. You may be inspired to take more walks by the water. Some from river estuaries, even at the seashore, may be surprises. Knowledge of the preferred habitat of certain garden herbs will aid in understanding their needs. The more predicable Wild Angleica, Meadowsweet, Willow and Comfrey will be joined by Watercress, Butterbur, Gypsy-wort, Yellow Flag, Sweet Gale, our native Skullcap, Mimulus, Harts-tongue Fern, Royal Fern, Brooklime, Sweet Flag and more. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley

Saturday 5 August

£60



Arabic influence – exotics and pharmacy

Arabia supplied the precious spices and aromatic gums used in western medicine. However the Arabic influence on medical training and in particular the practice of the apothecary, was so much greater than sourcing drugs. We will be looking at contacts with the East from the pilgrimage of Alfred the Great to Jerusalem and his prescription from the Patriarch there, to the travels and translations of Arabic texts by Adelard of Bath. The fusion of Arabic, Greek and Roman medicine at the teaching hospital in Salerno where returning Crusaders were treated, ensured the use of ingredients, such as tamarind and liquorice, in the west. A day for the art of the apothecary to come to the fore with the works of Avicenna, Mesue and Rhazes giving us exciting recipes to make. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley

Sunday 6 August

£60



Anglo-Saxon herbs

A day in the Museum's newly erected Anglo-Saxon building in a woodland setting. The Anglo-Saxons had names for nearly 400 different herbs. Many we are familiar with in our daily life today, others less so. Through some recipes with many ingredients, others requiring charms or prayers, a few involving diet, we will be exploring the Anglo-Saxon views on health, sickness and treating a variety of ailments. Special emphasis will be given to prominent herbs of the period such as mugwort, and waybread. Through gathering herbs, making a salve, pottage to eat, herbal drinks, a cough remedy and applications we will work towards an understanding of recipes from the Leechbooks of the period. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley

Saturday 26 August

£60

Kill or cure – the Umbelliferae family – NEW

It is easy to pick out members of Umbelliferae from their typical umbelliferous flowerheads. But could you tell a wild parsnip from masterwort, or a wild carrot from fine-leaved water-dropwort? Is cow parsley safe or useful at all? If you have ever looked at such a plant in the hedgerow and wondered if it is safe or poisonous, this is a day not to miss. For the answers we will be looking at samples of the plants and their seeds and learning about them. This interesting family is wide-ranging from well known poisons, such as hemlock, to lesser known cures like sanicle and familiar foods with cumin and fennel. A day to bring a camera for a lasting record. Recipes made will, of course, be limited to the foods! 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Christina Stapley

Sunday 27 August

£60

Pen and wash drawing

Learn the basic rules of perspective and learn to “sight-measure” with your pencil. You will produce a few sketches of some of the buildings in pencil in the morning (outside or the inside of a room if the weather is poor). Then in the afternoon you will be shown how to make various marks to suggest form, tone and texture with pen and colour with watercolour wash.

10am - 4pm

Leader: Kate Tugwell

Wednesday 17 May

£60

Paint in soft pastels

In this one-day course you will make preparatory sketches in pencil from life. Then you will be shown the basics of how to paint using soft pastels and you should leave with at least one finished picture in pastel. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Kate Tugwell

Wednesday 21 June

£60

Sketching day

Learn the basic rules of perspective and learn to “sight-measure” with your pencil. Using pencil, pens, chalk and charcoal, be inspired by the beautiful historic surroundings and learn to make quick, accurate and expressive sketches. Suitable for beginners and those with some experience.

10am - 4pm

Leader: Kate Tugwell

Wednesday 12 July

£60



Woodcut printing: historic buildings

Learn about the history of this craft, use the Museum site as inspiration for your own design, transfer this into a woodblock, practice mark making techniques and print it to create your own image. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Will Dyke

Saturday 22 July

£65

Botanical illustration: the cottage garden

On this one day-course you can enjoy creating realistic botanical illustrations, based on seasonal plants from our own Museum gardens, with plenty of help and guidance from your tutor. The course is suitable for all abilities and allows you the opportunity to work at your own pace. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Leigh Ann Gale

Sunday 23 July

£60

Watercolour day

Be inspired by the beautiful historic surroundings and spend a day learning to paint with watercolours. You may wish to start your painting with a light pencil sketch or create a drawing in pen before applying a watercolour wash. Suitable for beginners and those with some experience. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Kate Tugwell

Thursday 17 August

£60

Calligraphy for beginners: Uncial script

A day aimed at those who are new to calligraphy, this day will cover the basics of using a dip pen and ink and learning the letter forms of the Uncial script, which was used most between the 4th and 8th centuries across Europe, but is still popular with calligraphers today. After gaining familiarity with the letter forms students will write out a short quote of their choice, producing a simple layout ready for the piece to be completed. 10am - 4.30pm

Leader: Rebecca Osborne

Sunday 17 September

£65

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 AS • MORITURUS

Botanical illustration: the autumn garden

This is a wonderful opportunity to explore and study nature's harvest here at the Museum. Discover the beautiful colours, patterns and textures of a variety of autumn leaves, berries, seed pods, hips and haws on this fascinating one day course. Enjoy creating realistic botanical illustrations by drawing and painting them with precision and accuracy with plenty of help and guidance from your tutor. This course is suitable for all abilities and allows you the opportunity to work at your own pace with help and guidance from your tutor. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Leigh Ann Gale

Sunday 1 October

£60

Illuminated letter

Enjoy making your own decorated and gilded capital letter, which can be used to enhance your calligraphy or to create a vibrant decorative letter, using line, colour and gold (the "real" stuff or gold gouache). You will be very busy on the day and you may wish to research an idea and bring your own exciting letter design to the workshop or perhaps select from the designed resources that will be provided. Further letters can be drawn with a pencil or created with a pen and illuminated and painted. 10am - 5pm

Leader: Jan Mehigan

Sunday 15 October

£60

Historic cheese making

For those who already have some experience of dairying, this day offers a chance to try new techniques and other recipes. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Friday 2 June

£60

Introduction to traditional dairying

A hands-on day focusing on dairying techniques from the 16th to 19th centuries, tasks and ingredients. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Cathy Guilder

Saturday 8 July

£60

Bayleaf farmstead Tudor family fare

Advance your Tudor cooking skills with a day dedicated to a meal taken by the 1540's yeoman family in residence at the Bayleaf farmstead at the Museum. Using Winkhurst kitchen as a complete cooking space, experience cooking a seasonal celebratory meal using period recipes, including firing the bread oven, making sallats and butter. The day will also include discussion of the importance of seasonality, religious fasting restrictions, table etiquette and hygiene. Finish the day seated at the table in Bayleaf farmhouse sampling your Tudor fare! 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Sunday 9 July

£60

Hedgerow preserves

Learn traditional methods to make use of perishables from the hedgerow and our historic gardens and how a housewife prepared for the winter. Using the Museum's Tudor kitchen, the course will concentrate on the original recipes dating from the Tudor and Victorian eras, together with an element of field identification of wild foods that are native to the local area, weather permitting. Seasonal fruits and berries will be transformed into leather, cheese and pickles and vinegars. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Saturday 23 September

£60



Tudor brewing and baking

Learn how the weekly bake was integral to the brewing of beer. You will bake simple loaves using live ale barm and brew a simple low alcohol ale that would have accompanied every Tudor meal and graced even the richest tables. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Sunday 1 October

£60

The Tudor bakehouse: pies and pastries

A selection of techniques and recipes from a Tudor bakehouse, using period recipes, from hand-raised standing 'coffins' to deep fried choux pastry style bennets. The morning session will concentrate on oven baking; the afternoon session on individual pastries cooked over an open fire. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Sunday 12 November

£60

Tudor Christmas food

Ditch the turkey and have a go with something really traditional! A Tudor Christmas was a time of food, food and more food, when all the best things came out of the store cupboard to fuel twelve days of eating, drinking and making merry. We shall be cooking up a storm with traditional pies, twelfth night cake and subtleties. 10am - 4pm

Leader: Lesley Parker

Saturday 9 December

£60



“Excellent in all aspects. 12 out of 10.”

– Historic food course participant, 2016

A walk through the woods

Take a stroll through the Museum's woodland. Meet the trees growing there and discover their uses, folklore and how they were managed. Starts at 2pm and finishes with tea and cake.

Leader: Jon Roberts

Saturday 22 April £15

Dawn walk with breakfast

Guided walk through local woodland to hear the dawn chorus. Learn to identify woodland birds by song and call. Starts at 4.30am and finishes with full breakfast at the Museum.

Leader: Jonathan Mycock

Saturday 6 May £20

Museums at night

Join a guided walk through the Museum site, stopping to visit some of our houses and discovering how people who dwelt there in the past would have lived during the hours of dusk and darkness. How did they light the dark? What did they do in the evenings? What did the darkness mean to them? The evening ends with hot drinks and biscuits. Keep an eye on our website for dates later in the year.

Leaders: Museum staff

Friday 19 May £25

Saturday 20 May £25

Natural navigation walk

Learn the practical basics of natural navigation. You will be out and about in the Museum site so will use your surroundings as examples. Starts at 2pm and finishes with tea and cake.

Leader: Tristan Gooley

Friday 16 June £20

Bat walk

Join our guided bat walk, where bat detectors will be used to identify different types of bat that live around the Museum site, and maybe spot a few! A wonderful opportunity to learn about these beautiful and fascinating creatures. Starts at 7.15pm and finishes with hot drinks.

Leader: Sue Harris

Friday 25 August £10

Gift Vouchers

Stuck for gift ideas? Vouchers for courses at the Museum make a perfect present at any time of the year.

Vouchers are available in denominations of £5, £10, £20 and £50 and can be used as whole or part payment towards any course. To purchase vouchers please telephone 01243 811021

Print your own woodcut Christmas cards

Using the Museum as inspiration, learn to design an image and transfer it onto a woodblock, using wood cutting tools to carve the image, and practice mark making techniques. You will then print your own woodblock to produce ten Christmas cards. Afterwards you can take your woodblock away with you so that you can print more at home. 9.30am - 4.30pm

Leader: Will Dyke

Saturday 11 November

Sunday 12 November

£65

£65



Christmas stained glass decorations

Make small copper foiled stained glass light catchers, and learn many skills including how to cut glass to a precise pattern, grind glass edges and join pieces using copper foil. Suitable for beginners or those with some experience. 10am - 4pm

Leader: David Lilly

Friday 1 December

£100

Willow wreath for Christmas

A day for participants to indulge happily in making many small festive items including wreaths, to decorate on the day and many varieties of stars (star of David and 5-sided star). There will be plenty of time for questions on aspects of willow growing and its preparation. We shall be using many colours of willow, some freshly coppiced and others soaked. This day is suitable for beginners. 10am - 4pm

Leaders: Ganesh Bruce Kings or Elaine Kings

Saturday 2 December

£60

Carols from around the world

Join us in our beautiful tin church from South Wonston, where we shall sing some favourite carols, and learn some lesser-known ones. 10am - 12pm

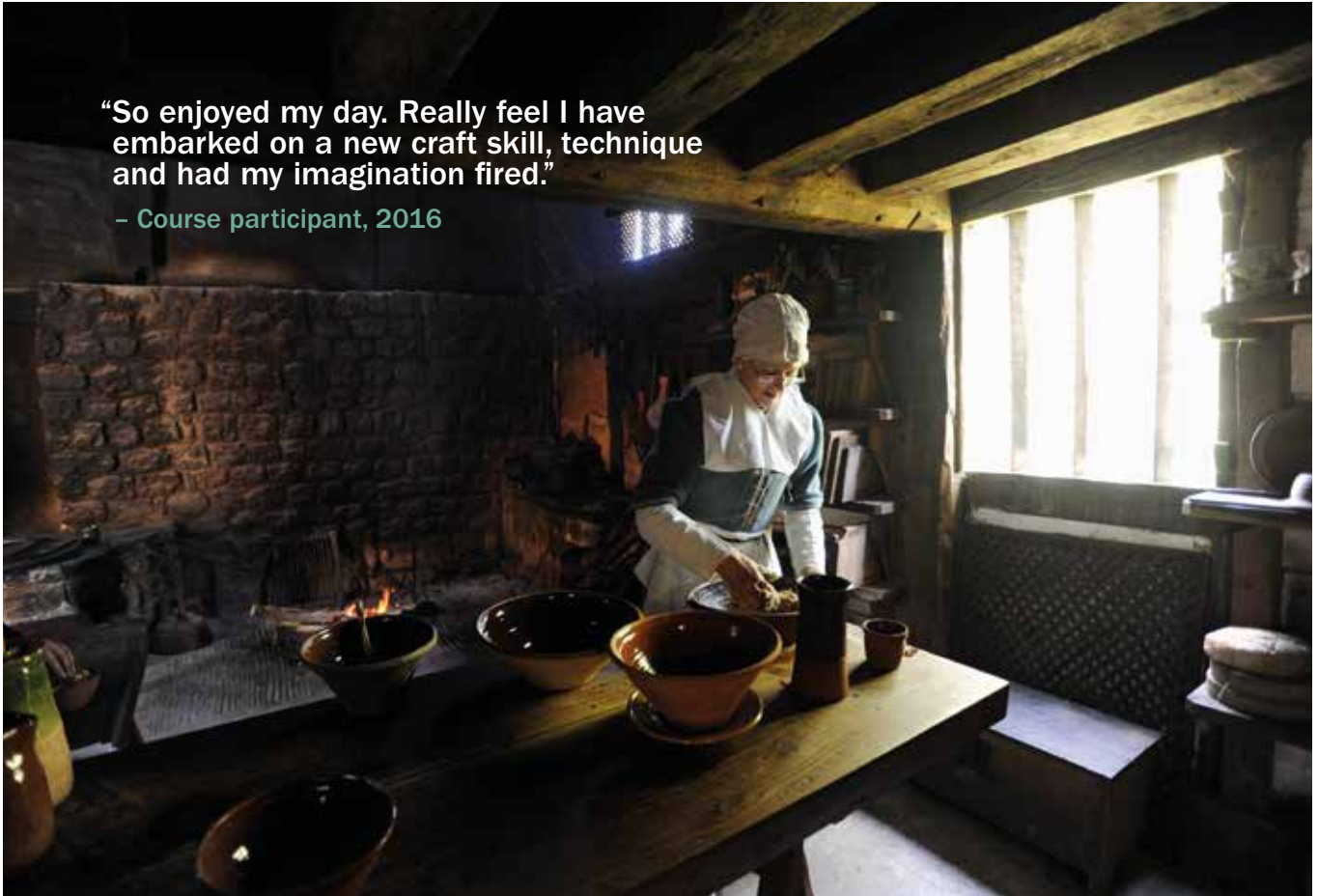
Leader: Malcolm Brinson

Friday 15 December

£15

“So enjoyed my day. Really feel I have embarked on a new craft skill, technique and had my imagination fired.”

– Course participant, 2016



Book all our courses online at: www.wealddown.co.uk/courses

Alternatively fill in the form below and return it with payment to: Adult Learning Team, Weald & Downland Museum, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0EU. Email us at courses@wealddown.co.uk

COURSE(S):

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

TEL:

I enclose a cheque (payable to Weald & Downland Open Air Museum) for £

or I wish to pay £

by card

Cardholder name:

Type of card: Visa / MasterCard / Switch / Maestro / Other (Please state)

Card number:

Expiry date:

Start date

Security number:

Signature:

If the card's billing address is different to the address above please provide it here:

To receive quarterly email updates, please provide your email address:

Terms and conditions of booking

Changes to published course information. Details of courses are correct at the time of publication, but the Museum reserves the right to make any necessary changes to the programme. Students booked on affected courses will be notified at the earliest opportunity.

Payment for courses. Course places must be paid for at the time of booking. Your place is not secure until paid for in full.

Cancellation of course by the Museum. If your course is cancelled by the Museum, you may either use your fee towards the cost of another course or have a full refund of any course fees paid.

Cancellation of booking by student. If you have to cancel your booking, please inform the Museum office as soon as possible in writing or by email. If you cancel your booking more than four weeks before the course start date, all fees paid will be refunded. If you cancel your booking less than four weeks before the course start date, fees paid will not be refunded unless the course was full and your place can be re-sold. **Course participants** must be aged 16 years and over.

Set in 40 acres in the heart of the South Downs National Park, the Weald & Downland Living Museum has a collection of over fifty historic buildings which have been rescued from destruction, carefully restored and rebuilt. The buildings range from Anglo-Saxon to Edwardian times and vividly demonstrate the homes, gardens and workplaces of the past. Visitors can also see traditional farming in action and heavy horses at work.

With education at the heart of our work we offer a stimulating and varied programme of courses with the very best researchers and craftspeople in their fields.

In addition to the courses in this leaflet the Museum also provides:

- Courses in buildings conservation and the use of traditional tools and materials
- An evening talk series 'Tales of the Downs & beyond'
- MSc programmes in Building Conservation and Timber Building Conservation

