

DILLINGTON HOUSE
SOMERSET



Learn

Spring - Summer 2023 Courses & Events at Dillington House



Our History
1950-2023



For over 70 years Dillington House has proudly championed Adult Education in Somerset.

Sadly, we will be closing our doors for the very last time on 30th September 2023, bringing to a close a truly incredible story of courses, lectures, workshops and concerts. It has been our real pleasure to work with such wonderful tutors, musicians and creatives during that time, each bringing their expertise, passion and personality to their teaching and sharing it so successfully with countless students. Thank you for all your hard work and knowledge over the years.










To all our customers, whether regulars, occasional visitors or recent new faces, a heartfelt thank you for all your support. Your willingness to learn new skills, rekindle lost hobbies and your curiosity for a huge spectrum of subjects has enabled us to offer such a diverse range of content over the years. There genuinely would have been no Dillington House without you.

We would love to welcome you all along during this packed final season and hope you will leave with many more fond memories of Dillington House.

Best wishes, The Dillington Team

Please see the key below for the genres of each course.


KEY

-  Music
-  History
-  Literature
-  Philosophy
-  Architecture
-  Health & wellbeing
-  Art, design & crafting
-  Dance
-  Residential and Non-residential options available for this course



Dillington Discoveries can be enjoyed on a residential or non-residential basis. In addition to the rich and varied day courses on offer there is an after-dinner event each evening. Residents attend from dinner on Sunday, with courses running from Monday and finishing at lunch on Friday.

Going West: Migrating Musicians

31 March - 2 April 2023 



During the nineteenth and early 20th centuries, there were great waves of migration from various parts of Europe to the 'New World' of America. Among those migrants were many talented musicians, both performers and composers, who either paid lengthy visits or settled there permanently. These include the Czech Dvořák, the Austrian Korngold, the Russians Rachmaninov and Stravinsky, the German Weill and the Hungarian Bartók. All of them responded positively in their music to the exciting young nation, and we shall explore their works through audio and video recordings, including those they produced in their new environment.

Tutor Gwyn Parry-Jones

Price from £265

Contemporary Still Life/Flower with Water-soluble Oil

1 - 2 April 2023



Join tutor Louise Bougourd as we learn how to create stunning contemporary still life oil paintings using the brilliant latest water-soluble oil paints. This course is designed for those wishing to create still life art with a contemporary twist rather than those wishing to create exact replicas. This course will focus on distilling form and colour permitting you to create exciting and vibrant still life paintings. Open to all abilities and experience.

Tutor Louise Bougourd

Price £160

Dormouse Needle Felting Workshop

3 April 2023



Fibre artist Carla Taylor of The Mousehole Woolery will guide you step by step through the basic techniques of needle felting as well as sharing lots of tips and tricks that she has learnt along the way as well as her love and passion for local Dorset and British wool. By the end of the workshop, you will have created your own Tilly Dormouse out of beautiful wool. The workshop will also include how to create a wire armature, small digits and how to use different felting needles to create different effects with wool. This workshop is suitable for both beginners or those with some experience of needle felting.

The price of the workshop includes all materials and a needle felting kit, that you get to keep, take home and carry on creating with.

Tutor Carla Taylor

Price £90 (includes materials)

Willow Bee Workshop

3 April 2023




Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a 3-foot-wide flying willow bee. Jo will guide you through each step to create your sculpture for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm! All materials provided and full guidance to make a lovely bee.

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £125 (Includes materials)

Botanical Drawing of Spring Flowers with Coloured Pencils

3 - 6 April 2023 



Taking inspiration from the gardens at Dillington, on this studio-based course we will learn about drawing and colouring spring flowers of your choice in the popular and realistic medium of dry coloured pencils, or the versatile water soluble pencils. Demonstrations will be given to those new to the mediums, and tuition will be individual making this course suitable for all abilities. All comers welcome.

Tutor Susan Hillier

Price from £428

Dillington House Book Club

4 April 2023



For this month's Book Club, we will be discussing Connemara Mollie by Hilary Bradt - published by Bradt Travel Guides. Includes coffee and lunch.

Tutor Elizabeth Rapp

Price £29 (Includes coffee & lunch)



Diaghilev's Women: Four Women of Influence in a Man's World**5 April 2023****Day One: Diaghilev's Women: Tamara Karsavina and Bronislava Nijinska.****Wednesday 5 April 2023**

Tamara Karsavina was beloved by all. A product of Russia's Imperial Ballet, she danced with Nijinsky in Diaghilev's Ballets Russes; as part of his inner circle, she created iconic roles in The Firebird and Petrushka. Karsavina fled the Revolution to settle in London, later coaching Margot Fonteyn in The Firebird.

Ballerina/choreographer Bronislava Nijinska was another product of the Imperial Ballet and sister of the great Nijinsky; she created her masterpiece Les Noces for the Ballets Russes. Perhaps under-appreciated in her lifetime, her fascinating life and career is now being reassessed.

Day Two: Diaghilev's Women: Natalia Goncharova and Misia Sert.**Thursday 6 April 2023**

When Alexander Benois suggested Natalia Goncharova to Diaghilev as designer of Le Coq d'Or, she was already a rising star within Moscow's avant-garde, with acclaimed exhibitions to her name. Soon promoted to Diaghilev's inner circle, her designs included Les Noces for Nijinska. A prodigious talent, Goncharova had a long and distinguished career in her new home, Paris.

Misia Sert was Russian-born of Polish descent - described as 'a collector of geniuses, all of them in love with her', her salon hosted a who's who of Parisian artistic life. Diaghilev valued her artistic insights and relied on her generous financial support for a company always in crisis. Misia was at Diaghilev's side when he died in Venice, and she paid for his funeral.

A two-day course, however, each day can be stand-alone. This course is suitable for anyone not only wishing to know more about the history of ballet but also the lives of four women who made their mark in a man's world.

Tutor Bridgett Vane**Price £80 (One day) £160 (Both days)****Embroidered Hare Pouch****11-13 April 2023**

This lovely pouch is put together using a collage of different fabrics, and then embellished with hand embroidery. A variety of stitches will be used, and could include sequins, small buttons, beads and metallic thread. There will be a printed linen fabric of Hares for you to purchase (£1.00) if you wish to include this in your piece of work. You may, of course decide to make the completed embroidery into a picture or book cover etc. This course is suitable for all abilities.

Tutor Annette Bolton**Price from £265****Watercolour Revision****11 - 13 April 2023**

Some watercolourists get stuck in a rut and produce perfectly competent paintings that lack freshness and originality. Why is this?

A major cause is the "too much syndrome". We use multiple pigments separately and in mixing. We also use too many brushstrokes, often in an attempt to include too much irrelevant detail. During the process we lose the wonderful vibrant transparency that is the hallmark of good watercolour. This course is designed to refresh your entire painting process and get you out of that rut. Suitable for intermediate and advanced students.

Tutor Clare Duvergier**Price from £296****Surface Textile Design****12 April 2023**

This is a very inspirational day where you will work on pre knitted swatches, we will practice our embroidery stitches, add applique, embellish the surface in various ways including beads, crochet and pom poms. Feel free to bring a knitted item you would like to decorate or refashion and we will work up a design for you to start in afternoon of the workshop. Suitable for anyone with basic sewing and knitting skills.

Tutor Tracy Chapman**Price £84 (Includes materials)****Get to Know your Sewing Machine****13 April 2023**

If you have recently bought a sewing machine or have never really understood how to use all the stitches and feet that came with your sewing machine, then this is the course for you. Suitable for students new to sewing or just those wanting to get the best from their machine, especially if it has not been used for a while. Gain confidence using your machine, to maximise your abilities in using it to its full potential. You will need to bring your sewing machine to the course.

Tutor Jenny Harrison**Price from £75****Indian Block Printing for the Home****14 April 2023**

Learn about the traditional skill of Indian Block Printing with images of block printing around Jaipur, handling hand printed fabrics and hand carved blocks. You will print tissue paper, card and coloured papers in the morning using the collection of 50 Indian wood blocks experimenting with colour, design placement and repeats. After lunch, you will have the opportunity to print a textile item, a tea towel, linen fabric that can be used to make a runner or cushion, or a drawstring bag creating a unique product to take home. Suitable for beginners, no experience necessary.

Tutor Clare Walsh**Price £95 (Includes materials)****Caravaggio: His Art and Life****14 April 2023**

Caravaggio had a brief and violent life, but his wonderful pictures contrasting dark and shade still resonate with artists to this day.

We look at nearly every picture that he ever painted, examine his life and travels, and analyse why his style proved so successful; Rembrandt and Rubens were just two artists who appreciated his work. Magnificent altarpieces and biblical scenes of great clarity and humanity dominate; the labels 'unique' and 'genius' can justifiably be applied. Suitable for all art enthusiasts.

Tutor Jan Cox**Price £75****The Poor We Always Have with Us****14 - 16 April 2023**

Sickness, age and bad luck have always left members of the community vulnerable to poverty and hunger. Equally constant, however, over many centuries, have been the efforts of the national and local communities of England and Wales to provide a safety net for neighbours facing destitution.

This course examines those efforts - medieval alms, reformation poor laws and Lloyd George's national insurance scheme - and asks what the history of our welfare provision tell us about who we are.

Tutor Jonathan Rodell**Price from £265****Friday Lunch & Lecture - The Cult of Gloriana: Art, Music and Personality at the Court of the Virgin Queen****14 April 2023**

Elizabeth I was the most remarkable woman of a remarkable age. Her reign was one of the great creative periods of English history - literature, music, art, architecture and overseas exploration all reached unprecedented heights. With passing reference to literature and architecture, this lecture will focus chiefly on the portraits, miniatures and music of Elizabeth's court. The aim is to demonstrate great levels of artistic achievement and to recreate something of the energy, spirit, and confidence of this Golden Age. Includes lunch. Lunch is served from 1pm and lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Mark Cottle**Price £29 (Includes lunch)**

**From Sutton Hoo to the Wilton Diptych:
A Journey Through English Medieval
Art and Culture**

14 - 16 April 2023 🏰

This course will take a journey through the English historical and cultural landscape, covering a period from the 7th to the late 14th centuries.

As signposts, it will use examples of notable cultural output. In particular these will include architecture, manuscript illumination, music and literature. In all these areas the scale of achievement is quite remarkable and serves to capture something of the spirit of the age as well as speaking to us surprisingly powerfully today.

Tutor Mark Cottle
Price From £265



**Beginners Photography Weekend
Workshop**

14 - 16 April 2023 🎨

A relaxed and fun weekends experience of practice and theory to enable everyone to understand their camera and improve their photography skills. Suitable for anyone with an interest in photography, all abilities welcome. The weekend starts with a brief introduction of each participant and their favourite image.

The aim is to take photographs around Dillington House, indoors and out (outdoor being weather dependent).

There will be a field trip to Lyme Regis as part of the course.

Tutor Nick Matthews
Price From £295 (Includes field trip)

Give the Paint a Chance

15 April 2023 🎨

This course will appeal to those with an interest in watercolours, abstract art, modernism, composition, expressive painting, landscape and urban art. 'Give the paint a chance. Give the brush a chance.' John Marin. Many artists love the idea of moving away from traditional representational art and enjoying the freedom that abstraction offers; bold colour, expressive brushstrokes, novel forms and textures that excite the eye and stir the mind. But they also know that waving their hands around in the air and hoping for the best just doesn't work! Taking inspiration from the work of early American abstractionist, John Marin, this one-day course offers the adventurous watercolourist a route map to the creative freedom they've been seeking.

Tutor David Chandler
Price £75

What to do with your DNA results?

17 April 2023 🏰

The session will look at DNA results from Ancestry and My Heritage. How can we use these results to help us in our family history research, break down some brick walls and find long lost cousins. DNA is becoming very popular, but a lot of people don't know what to do with the results, using them like another tool in the kit we use for researching family history. Only suitable for those who have done and have the results of an Ancestry DNA test, got Thru lines and a simple family tree on Ancestry. Upload your results to My Heritage for free.

Tutor Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard
Price £75

Printmaking Taster Day

21 April 2023 🎨

This is a fun and relaxed workshop experimenting with a range of traditional relief printing techniques including monoprinting, block printing, collagraph and lino printing. On the day, you will be shown each technique throughout the morning. You will be given a range of materials and papers to experiment with. This will form a body of work that you can use in the afternoon to work back on top of using a mix of techniques and creating a collage of your prints. Everyone welcome. Ideal if you have an interest in learning a new practical creative skill, attended other print making workshops or enjoy other hands-on craft activities.

Tutor Zara Shepherd
Price £89 (Includes materials)

**Deir el-Medina: A Very Special Ancient
Egyptian Town**

24 - 26 April 2023 🏰

Explore archaeological evidence, architectural remains, and written sources to build up a picture of what it would have been like to live in the Ancient Egyptian town of Deir el-Medina, a community of tomb builders and their families during the New Kingdom (c1500-1000 BC). These were the artisans responsible for the extraordinary tombs in the Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens. We will explore their houses, their chapels and exquisitely decorated family tombs.

Tutor Lucia Gahlin
Price from £265

Lino Printing Workshop

24 April 2023 🎨

This is a fun and relaxed workshop learning this traditional print making technique in the form of lino printing. Create your own unique Lino blocks that you will take home so you can keep printing! On the day, you will be shown how to create your design and carve the lino using specialist tools. You will then be taught how to roll out the block printing ink and print onto paper, gift cards and gift wrap. using a relief print method.

Tutor Zara Shepherd
Price £91 (Includes materials)

Dillington House Book Club

2 May 2023 📖

For this month's Book Club, we will be discussing Animal Farm by George Orwell published by Wordsworth Classics. Includes coffee and lunch.

Tutor Elizabeth Rapp
Price £29 (Includes lunch)

Bookbinding: Cloth Case Book Repair

2 - 4 May 2023 🎨

Do you have some cloth bound books in need of attention? Our focus on this course will be the repair and conservation of cloth case books including dry cleaning, paper repair, fixing dodgy sewing, repairing corners and re-backing without disturbing endpapers. We will colour cloth to match original bindings and generally spruce up and rescue battered books to be handled and read again with confidence! Suitable for students with some bookbinding experience but not necessarily in book conservation. Materials will be provided and students should bring their own books to work on, plus have a basic bookbinding tool kit. Ideal for anyone interested in Bookbinding, book conservation, archives, libraries, museums, etc.

Tutor Nesta Davies
Price from £332

Drawing Essentials

9 May 2023 🎨

From Da Vinci and Durer to Gehry and Gormley, creativity begins with drawing. As children, when we pick up a crayon and draw, we discover a liberating and potent way to describe the world around us. Drawing is our first language with which we communicate our dreams, our loves and fears, but over the years, something happens to persuade most of us that it is no longer of any value and we cease to make room for it in our lives. In this one-day course, we look at the key elements of drawing practice that unlock our ability to depict the world around us and gives us the confidence to embark on our own creative journey. Ideal for beginners and anyone interested in painting, drawing, sculpture, architecture or any field in which communication skills are important.

Tutor David Chandler
Price £75

Make a Simple Dress in a Day 9 May 2023



This course is aimed at students who enjoy sewing and would like to learn more about making their own paper patterns, creating their own designs to suit their figure. During the day the course will cover, changing dart positions, incorporating seam lines, gathers and flared skirts. Students who have covered one of the previous courses where a block was drafted to fit themselves, can bring their own block. New students may use a standard size block copied from the tutor. You will need to bring your own sewing machine.

Tutor Jenny Harrison
Price £75

The Art of Kantha Hand Stitching 10 May 2023



Kantha is a Bangladeshi word for rags. It is also the name given to a form of stitching used to make quilts and covers from the good parts of old worn saris. In this workshop you will learn about the relaxing and therapeutic nature of hand stitching through creating small designs, using the Kantha technique which is a traditional hand-stitching technique from Bangladesh. The designs can be combined to make a small, stitched book or a small, framed piece. All levels welcome. Come and learn about the traditional Indian Kantha technique, ideal for anyone with a desire to learn how to hand stitch and develop the use of hand stitch in a more creative way. Some fabrics and threads will be provided.

Tutor Paula Simpson
Price £80

My Ancestor was Transported to Australia: Penal Transportation to Australia 15 May 2023



These illustrated lectures will consider the phenomenon of transportation in detail and will be built around the experiences of various individuals including the lecturer's ancestor who was sent to Australia in 1830. We will examine the journey of transportees in detail and consider some of the many and varied record types that are available for researchers to use. The study day will be of particular use to family historians and those with an interest in social history.

Tutor Angie Smith
Price £75

Willow Chicken or Cockerel Workshop 15 May 2023



Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a wonderful 2-foot-high chicken or cockerel for your home or garden. Jo will guide you through each step to create your sculpture using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. All materials provided and full guidance to make your willow sculpture. Just bring enthusiasm, your own secateurs and wear older clothing as it can get grubby!

Tutor Jo Sadler
Price £125 (Includes materials)

Beginners Knitting 15 May 2023



Start your journey into the wonderful world of knitting. You will be guided through the basic techniques of cast on and cast off, the first knit and purl stitches and begin working on small swatches. We will discuss the technical things, like yarn and needle sizes and look at simple commercial patterns. The day is very hands on and continued practice is encouraged throughout. Suitable for complete beginners or those looking to go back to basics.

Tutor Tracy Chapman
Price £83 (Includes materials)

The Age of Discovery - In Search of the Northern Passages 20 May 2023



From the beginning of our modern age navigators and their merchant backers baulked at the long detours required to round the great Capes of Good Hope and the Horn and determined to find shorter passages in higher latitudes. Thus began the search for the Northern Passages, the central theme of this day course. What they found instead were prolific hunting grounds for marine species, which were exploited for 400 years. With the completion of the Suez and later the Panama canals, the world changed shape and interest waned. The race for the conquest of the Poles became a matter of national prestige rather than economic imperative. All-comers welcome.

Tutor Mike Shaw
Price £75

Printing with Leaves using a Heat Press 22 May 2023



Enjoy a day exploring dye sublimation using a heat press to create unique and exciting designs. You will be carefully guided through the different stages by demonstrations and will begin by collecting leaves from the gardens. In the morning we will prepare dye papers and add colour to the leaves ready to print onto a range of different polyester fabrics. This fascinating technique produces vibrant designs with incredible detail and the results are often surprising. No experience needed, suitable for beginners interested in trying new textile techniques.

Tutor Clare Walsh
Price £95 (Includes materials)

Recorder Consort Course 22 - 24 May 2023 (R)



This is an ensemble course for upper intermediate level recorder players. We shall play as a conducted ensemble, exploring music in many different styles and from all periods of music from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century. The music to be studied will utilise all sizes of recorder, from descant to contrabass. Students are required to have the ability to play in F and C fingerings. The repertoire will include music by John Dowland, Johann Sebastian Bach and Steve Marshall. All music will be provided.

Tutor Helen Hooker
Price from £265



Monday Lunch & Lecture - 'The Shakespeare of Painting': The Life & Work of William Hogarth 22 May 2023



William Hogarth's name is familiar to many of us. Even the adjective 'Hogarthian' suggests an artistic theme that is rumbustious in its content but sophisticated in its style. This fully illustrated talk assesses a variety of his subjects with an attempt to better understand how Hogarth created art that was readily understood by the masses, but which was also sufficiently sophisticated to ensure that he remains much admired by connoisseurs worldwide over 250 years after his death. Includes lunch. Lunch is served from 1pm and lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Richard Kay
Price £29 (Includes lunch)



Looking after the Poor in the 1800s: Studies from West Country Workhouses 22 May 2023

The stigma of the workhouse took a long time to die, many of these buildings were still being used by the NHS until recently. We will look at the origins of the workhouse and the effects of the Poor Law of 1834, the setting up of the Poor Law Unions and the building of the 'people palaces'. During the 1800s the Unions expanded developing Industrial Schools, Asylums, Orphanages and Hospitals especially in the bigger cities. Case studies from Dorset, Devon and Somerset. Time to study books and documents about the subject.

Tutor Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard
Price £75

Intermediate Photography Weekend Workshop 30 May - 1 June 2023

The weekend starts with brief introductions of each participant and a favourite image. Ideal for someone with an interest in photography and who wishes to technically and visually improve their photographic skills. Subjects to be covered include: Introductions and review of 'Favourite' image, ways of seeing - compositional elements & different photographic genres, structured critiquing for improvement, metering/shutter speeds/apertures/ISO/exposures & Histograms. There will be practical sessions taking images and extensive reviewing of the images from the weekend. You will also cover digital workflow & storage, colour management & editing.

Tutor Nick Matthews
Price from £295 (Includes field trip)

Chinese Brush Painting - Lotus Flower and Fish in Meticulous Style on Silk for Intermediate and Advanced Students 31 May - 1 June 2023

There are two main styles in traditional Chinese brush painting techniques: freehand style and meticulous style. Freehand style painting is known as literati painting or in Chinese "Xieyi", meaning write an idea. The Chinese painting technique of the artist scholar is more interested in personal expression than accuracy and details. This flower and bird course for beginners will start from basic skills from holding brush properly, mixing ink and colours, painting plum flower petals, branches and bird. Also, bamboo

and leaves. The tutor will conduct the course with brief introduction, subject demonstration and individual supervision, in a relaxing and active atmosphere. This practical course covers the basic skills of painting flower and bird in freehand style and will give students the chance to try out the techniques and materials used as well as looking at the culture behind the art. The tutor will help students learn how to hold the brush and mix different colours on to it. The course will also include some demonstration and individual supervision. No experience necessary, beginners are welcome.

Tutor Kaili Fu
Price £181

Stencil Screen Printing 2 June 2023

During this course, you will learn the basics of textile screen printing using a stencil method. Inspiration for your hand cut paper stencil will come from exploring the beautiful grounds at Dillington House, collecting leaves or photographing flowers. Back in the classroom Zara will demonstrate how to develop your visual research into a stencil design. You will hand cut your paper stencils and then learn how to prepare the screen and print your stencil on to a tote bag. You will also be shown how to print multiple colours or a two-layered print. No previous experience needed Zara is experienced with teaching all levels and will support you through every stage of the process.

Tutor Zara Shepherd
Price £92 (Includes materials)

Bookbinding 5 - 9 June 2023

This course for intermediate students is designed to develop the skills of those who have followed the beginners' introductory course and would like to pursue the craft further. Students will rebind a hard-back book in the case-binding style and can continue to practise this or go on to learn the more complex construction of a book covered in leather. More advanced students may bring a selection of books to either rebind or repair. However, beginners can also be accommodated on this course, and will learn about folding, sewing and making a case-bound book. If students wish to they may study a special subject during the week.

Tutor Angela Sutton
Price from £526

Country Hares & Foxes Needle Felting Workshop 5 June 2023

Fibre artist Carla Taylor of The Mousehole Woolery will guide you step by step through the basic techniques of needle felting as well as sharing lot of tips and tricks that she has learnt along the way as well as her love and passion for local Dorset and British wool. By the end of the workshop you will have created your own country hare or fox out of beautiful wool ready for you to take home or, if you can part with them, to give to someone as a special gift. This workshop is suitable for both beginners or those with some experience of needle felting. The price of the workshop includes all materials and a needle felting kit, that you get to keep, take home and carry on creating with.

Tutor Carla Taylor
Price £90 (Includes materials)



Dillington House Book Club 6 June 2023

For this month's Book Club, we will be discussing Under the Net by Iris Murdoch published by Vintage Classics.

Tutor Elizabeth Rapp
Price £29 (Includes lunch)

An Introduction to Interior Design 7 - 8 June 2023

A home is like a good book, it should tell the story of who you are and contain all the things that you love. This two-day course will guide you through the step-by-step process designers use to create practical and beautiful interiors that enhance the user's lifestyle and showcase their personal style. You will learn how to write your own design brief, create a concept, draw a room plan and source what you need to furnish your space. You will also put together your own moodboard and take away a goodie bag to continue your design journey. Jenny strongly believes that anyone can design their own home if they have the right tools, no previous creative experience required! You will delve into the psychology of interiors and the practical principles of great design as well as sustainability and wellbeing.

Tutor Jenny Quinlan
Price £176



Disney at 100 - Singing Workshop**8 June 2023**

Walt Disney transformed the world of entertainment, charming young and old alike with his fantastical stories, whimsical characters and catchy tunes. In its centenary year, let's celebrate Disney's extraordinary musical legacy through a medley of favourites spanning its history. With so many great songs to choose from it's hard to know what to leave out, but we're sure to recognise the tunes and have an uplifting time singing together in this fun, accessible group-singing workshop. There'll be some harmony singing but you don't need to read music notation as we'll be using lyric sheets to learn our parts by listening and singing back.

Tutor Jo Sercombe**Price £75****Egypt's Romantic Ramesseum: A Ruined Temple and its Fallen Colossus****9 June 2023**

The archaeological site known today as the Ramesseum is one of Egypt's most romantic of ruined temples: home to colossal fallen statuary, inspiration for Percy Bysshe Shelley's sonnet 'Ozymandias'. This magnificent memorial temple was built in stone by the pharaoh Ramesses II (c1279-1213 BC), but it was once surrounded by fascinating buildings of mudbrick. We will be sure to also explore these, as well as the use of this site as a cemetery well before and after the 13th Century BC.

Tutor Lucia Gahlin**Price £75****Bobbin Lace****11 - 16 June 2023** 

This course will suit all abilities of bobbin lacemakers from those just starting through to advanced. It covers English laces and many from the continent including Belgium, Spain and Russia. Many of the continental laces are taught with the aid of a colour-coded diagram to help students continue their work at home. Help and advice is available for the important related topics of thread choice, finishing and mounting lace. Course runs from Tea on Sunday to Lunch on Friday.

Tutor Alison Thoburn**Price from £638****Learn to Machine Sew Piped and Zipped Scatter Cushions****12 June 2023**

Scatter cushions are used so much as decoration and for function in most people's homes, used to bring an accent colour into a room, as a design feature, also practically used for support. There are many shapes and sizes, from square, oblong and round, with the internal pads being made from polyester a synthetic base, suitable for those with allergies, or feather for a more luxurious look which will last longer and look good. This course is suitable for students with basic sewing skills, we will cover cutting out and making up a piped and zipped scatter cushion. You will need to bring your sewing machine to the course.

Tutor Jenny Harrison**Price £75****Watercolour - Beside the Sea - Pushing the Boundaries****15 - 18 June 2023** 

Focusing on all things 'sea-sidey' - fish, rockpools, beach huts, sand/water patterns, lobster pots, shells - whatever inspires. An opportunity to experiment with different techniques and media that work with your watercolours. Could be collage, crayons, pens - any interesting media that you have squirreled away in your art cupboard, bring it along! This course is best suited to those who have done some watercolour before and would like to experiment with different ways of developing a theme.

Tutor Shari Hills**Price from £354****Sensation Fiction****16 - 18 June 2023** 

This course will study three works of sensation fiction. Sensation fiction took the literary world by storm generating pleasure and disquiet in equal measure. The course will consider Mary Elizabeth Braddon's Lady Audley's Secret, Armadale by Wilkie Collins and East Lynne by Mrs Henry Wood. These writers were three of the most well-known writers of sensation fiction and produced novels that are enormous fun to read but which also make astute commentary on their contemporaneous culture and society. Ideal for anyone with an interest in nineteenth-century

literature and literature more widely, also the position of women in the nineteenth century.

Tutor Greta Depledge**Price from £265****Three Dorset Towns from 1760 to 1930: Lyme Regis, Bridport and Dorchester****19 June 2023**

A look at three Dorset towns from 1760 – 1930, how they developed in their different ways. Lyme became a seaside resort with fossil hunting becoming a popular hobby. Bridport, always a dissenting town, sees the growth of rope and net factories while Dorchester expands as the county town with the coming of the railways and the brewery. Ideal for anyone with a general interest in history.

Tutor Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard**Price £75****Willow Hare Workshop****19 June 2023**

Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a wonderful 3-foot-high Willow Hare for your home or garden. Jo will guide you through each step to create your sculpture using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. All materials provided and full guidance to make your willow sculpture. Just bring enthusiasm, your own secateurs and wear older clothing as it can get grubby!

Tutor Jo Sadler**Price £125 (Includes materials)****Lace Knitting****19 June 2023**

Classic lace knitting is a very traditional method of creating delicate and intricate work. During the day we will work up small samples of this technique, starting with the simplest designs, moving on to more complex edgings. We will work from both written patterns and charts, look at the abbreviations and symbols as we progress. Pick up tips and hints on pattern choice, correcting mistakes and picking up dropped stitches. Suitable for those who can knit and purl confidently.

Tutor Tracy Chapman**Price £83 (Includes materials)****Blots on the Landscape****20 June 2023**

Have you ever wondered exactly how (and when) a seemingly random mark on a piece of paper becomes something we recognise? How do the sublime brushstrokes of JMW Turner or John Singer Sargent, for instance, change before our eyes from meaningless blobs of colour into clouds or trees; boats or even people? The humble blot was a source of inspiration to none less than Leonardo Da Vinci, to the writer, Victor Hugo and the psychologist, Hermann Rorschach, of course. But it was the artist, Alexander Cozens, 'The Blotmaster-General to the Town,' as he was known, who in 1785, codified a method for creating imaginative landscapes from blots. This practical, one day course explores Cozen's method and seeks to encourage us all to be more alert to the magic that is happening under our very noses, whenever we put brush (or blot) to paper. All comers welcome.

Tutor David Chandler**Price £75****Monday Lunch & Lecture - 'A Five-Year-Old Could Do That' Trying to Make Sense of Modern Art****26 June 2023**

Maybe we have all been guilty of scoffing that a modern work of art looks as though a child could have done it. Is that true? Is it fair? Is simplicity of form always the same as simplicity of meaning? How can we admire something that already appears to be within our own abilities to imitate? And how can someone who readily appreciates Titian and Turner look at Hockney and Hirst in the 'right way'? This talk will try to explain why and how we should be prepared to be amazed - and not annoyed - by modern art. Includes lunch. Lunch is served from 1pm and lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Richard Kay**Price £29 (Includes lunch)**

Wet Felt Making and Silk Paper Workshop 29 June 2023

Spend a day exploring natural fibres to create felted fabric and silk paper, in the morning we will work with merino tops which are soft and delicate to make a strong felted fabric with the addition of water and friction – magic! In the afternoon we will work with fine silk fibres to create a light, delicate paper with inclusions that can be used as a basis of further textile projects, embroidery or displayed as artwork. Suitable for beginners, no experience necessary, ideal if you have a love of textures, natural fibres and colour.

Tutor Clare Walsh

Price £95 (Includes materials)

An Introduction to Chinese Philosophy 3 - 5 July 2023

Focusing on the two main schools of Chinese philosophy, Confucianism and Taoism, this course will explore their foundations, their key thinkers, including Lao Tzu and Zhuang Zhou, as well as Confucius, and Mencius, and then consider the possibility of their ethical application to Western society today. Ideal for anyone who is interested in philosophy, world religions, history and culture.

Tutor Darren Harper

Price from £265

Get to Know Your Overlocker 3 July 2023

On the surface overlockers seem very complicated machines, however understanding how they work will increase confidence in all aspects of using them. This course is suitable for those who already have an overlocker and have not yet acquired the confidence to change the thread, tension and stitch. Overlockers are a great addition to the dressmaker's kit, making a professional finish to the seams on the garments, also for use in constricting jersey and knitted fabrics. The day will be spent going back to basics to master threading up and tension adjustment. Time will be spent on using a variety of fabrics to produce different finishes along with exploring some decorative effects that can be achieved. You will need to bring your overlocker machine to the course.

Tutor Jenny Harrison

Price £75

Willow Peacock Workshop 3 July 2023

Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged in Willow' to make a beautiful 'tail down' peacock for your home or garden. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm! All materials provided and full guidance to make a lovely peacock.

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £125 (Includes materials)

Mobile Phone Photography Workshop 3 July 2023

A relaxed and fun day's experience of practice and theory to enable everyone to understand their mobile camera phone and improve their photography skills, covering simple techniques for taking fantastic pictures with Android phones & iPhones. The course will cover a range of subjects, including composition & focus, shutter speed, ISO & aperture relationship, formats (including panorama's), action freeze, depth of field and editing with apps.

Tutor Nick Matthews

Price £75

Exploring Prehistoric Avebury 5 - 7 July 2023

The quintessentially English village of Avebury is home to one of the most extraordinary megalithic complexes on the planet. On this course we will delve into the long history of its exploration, from John Aubrey in the seventeenth century to the very latest hi-tech discoveries and reveal what they can tell us about the people who built and used these astonishing monuments. The course will include an all-day field trip to Avebury henge, the West Kennet Avenue, West Kennet Long Barrow, Silbury Hill and the Alexander Keiller Museum. The course is suitable for all, from complete beginner to those with a longstanding passion for archology and the past.

Tutor Nick Snashall

Price from £305 (Includes day trip)

Leatherwork - Make a Bag: Two-Day Workshop 6 - 7 July 2023

Learn how to make your own Shoulder or Tote Bag from stunning Italian Vegetable Tanned Leather. After an introduction to leather and its many types and uses, you will begin by cutting out the panels for your bag from a choice of either classic black or a contemporary natural shade of leather. You will learn how to attach the fittings and construct your bag using a traditional saddle-stitching technique. There will also be the opportunity to customise your creation with your name or initials (or someone else's!) This course is ideal for those with an interest in crafting and/or leather, bags and accessories, traditional skills and sewing.

Tutor Christina Charles-Bayliss

Price £172 (Includes materials)

Monday Lunch & Lecture: God's Architect: Antoni Gaudi' 10 July 2023

This lecture will survey the life and work of one of Spain's celebrated architects, the Catalan Antoni Gaudi. He is best known today for the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, though this talk will take in some of the other projects with which he was involved. Includes lunch. Lunch is served from 1pm and lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Angie Smith

Price £29 (Includes lunch)

Botanical Illustration of Summer Flowers 10 - 13 July 2023

Taking inspiration from the gardens at Dillington, on this studio-based course we will learn about the precise and detailed art of botanical illustration. No experience of art or botany is required just commitment. We aim to enjoy working in an atmosphere of relaxed industry. Students will work at their own pace on a subject of their choice. The course will cover the use of basic materials and methods for beginners and will offer professional advice to advanced students. The emphasis will be on individual development. All comers welcome.

Tutor Susan Hillier

Price from £428

An Introduction to Letter Carving in Wood 14 July 2023

An introduction to letter carving in wood with Stephen Stokes. Come and learn the principles of how to carve letters in wood and go home with a roman numeral you have carved in oak or a single word sign. Stephen has been teaching for over ten years having learned letter carving from the monks of Downside Abbey. In this day long course, you will learn how to carve capital letters by training in lime or tulipwood. You will then move to a Roman numeral of the year of your choice in oak. Everyone carves at different speeds so if time allows you can then begin a single word sign. As letter-carving involves the use of very sharp tools (part of the course will cover sharpening) please do not sign up for this course if you are unable to handle sharp tools safely!

Tutor Stephen Stokes

Price £75 (Includes materials)


Stained-Glass Two-Day Workshop 17 - 18 July 2023

This two-day course will enable you to create your own stained-glass panel using the traditional method of combining coloured glass with lead. Stained Glass is an ancient art of using colour and light to create atmosphere and to depict images and stories. Traditionally, stained glass windows were associated with cathedrals, churches and country houses, but these days-stained glass is also used for decoration and bringing light and colour into the home. The panel that you choose to make can be displayed in your house or garden as a hanging panel or a standalone panel. Lead and lead solder will be used - these are toxic substances both to handle and to breathe in the solder fumes. This course is NOT therefore suitable for pregnant women. Accommodation can be booked, subject to availability.

Tutor Kate Doig

Price £193 (Includes materials)

Ancient Egypt's Theban Tombs of the Nobles

17 - 19 July 2023 

This sumptuously illustrated course will be a comprehensive exploration of the Tombs of the Nobles open to visitors on Luxor's west bank. We will examine the design and decoration of a fine range of well-known and little-known tombs in Western Thebes dating to the New Kingdom (c1500 – 1000 BC). Highlights will include the tomb of Thutmose III's Vizier Rekhmire (TT100), Sennefer's 'Tomb of the Vineyards' (TT96), and the tomb of Queen Tiye's Steward Kheruef (TT192).

Tutor Lucia Gahlin
Price from £265


Put the Right Colour in the Right Place

21 July 2023 

Composition is at the core of all picture-making, yet whenever we embark on a new painting, composition often comes very low on our list of priorities as concerns about colour-mixing, proportion, photographic realism and general technical competence dominate. But by just paying attention to where things are, rather than what they are, we can make the business of painting far simpler and finish our work in half the time! In this one-day, practical workshop, we will look at seven of the principal elements of design and learn how to apply them to our paintings. This workshop focuses on abstraction, but the day will be useful whatever your chosen genre and give you the confidence, as Klee said, "to improvise freely on the keyboard of colours." Ideal for anyone interested in painting, drawing, sculpture, architecture, art history and music or any field in which communication skills are important.

Tutor David Chandler
Price £75


Highland Cow Needle Felting Workshop

24 - 25 July 2023 

Fibre artist Carla Taylor of The Mousehole Woolery will guide you step by step through the basic techniques of needle felting as well as sharing lots of tips and tricks that she has learnt along the way as well as her love and passion for local Dorset and British wool. By the end of the workshop, you will have created your own highland cow out of beautiful wool. The workshop will also include how to create a wire armature, the use of wax and different textured beautiful wools. This workshop is suitable for both beginners or those with some experience of needle felting. The price of the workshop includes all materials and a needle felting kit, that you get to keep, take home and carry on creating with.

Tutor Carla Taylor
Price £170 (Includes materials)


West Country Migration to North America in the 1800's

24 July 2023 

The 1800s saw a massive exodus of people from the West Country going to the USA and Canada, for a better life. Who were those people who left these shores for a new life? Were they younger sons of yeoman farmers, the poor and destitute fleeing the Workhouse or did religion play a part? These and other reasons will be discussed and examples of who these people were and where to find the information about them are shown in a variety of case studies from the region, using materials from here and in North America Ideal for anyone who is interested in local and migration history.

Tutor Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard
Price £75

The Crimean War


24 - 26 July 2023 

In October 1853 the Russian invasion of a neighbouring country, on the pretext of protecting a threatened minority, prompted a military intervention by Western powers. The war, which dragged on for three years, marked the beginning of a new era - the first military use of trains and telegraph, and the first war journalism. 170 years later the Russian invasion of Ukraine lends both new purpose and new light to the study of the Crimean War.

Tutor Jonathan Rodell
Price from £252




Monday Lunch & Lecture - Building a British Masterpiece: The Story of John Constable's 'Haywain'

24 July 2023 

This is arguably one of Britain's most famous pictures and it has become a cherished and popular treasure of The National Gallery's collection. But how did Constable decide upon its content and determine its composition? This talk will hope to reveal some things that you never knew about a picture that you may think you know so well. Includes lunch, which is served from 1pm and the lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Richard Kay
Price £29 (Includes lunch)


Beginners Crochet Workshop

24 July 2023 

Master the basics of crochet on this one-day workshop. Learn how to create a basic chain and simple crochet stitches. The day is very hands-on, and you will be encouraged to practice holding the yarn and hook correctly whilst working in rows. Part of the day will be spent looking at simple commercial patterns and charts. There will be an opportunity to explore further complex stitches and techniques throughout the day. If you are new to crochet or would benefit from a refresher day, this workshop is for you – as we will be going back to basics. Suitable for complete beginners.

Tutor Tracy Chapman
Price £83 (Includes materials)

Exploring Patterns with Blocks and Thermofax Screens Workshop

25 July 2023 

Learn about the traditional skill of Indian Block Printing with images of block printing around Jaipur, handling hand printed fabrics and hand carved blocks. You will print tissue paper, card and coloured papers in the morning using the collection of 50 Indian wood blocks experimenting with colour, design placement and repeats. After lunch, you will print a cotton bag using thermofax screens and Indian woodblocks combined considering colour, placement and layering of designs. Suitable for beginners, no experience necessary.

Tutor Clare Walsh
Price £95 (Includes materials)



Guitar Summer School 30 July - 5 August 2023

This popular event, now in its 28th year, offers classical guitarists a unique opportunity to participate in a varied programme of music making that also allows time to develop playing and music reading skills. The emphasis is on participation with students working in a non-competitive and supportive environment, performing in ensembles both large and small. The course is suitable for players of all levels of ability but please note that it is not suitable for complete beginners. Students work in small ensemble groups (8-10 players) and in a guitar orchestra (30+ players) and parts, which range in difficulty from intermediate (grade 3) to advanced (grade 8+), are allocated in accordance with students' technical standard and music reading ability (see standard of play questionnaire).

Each evening you will join the audience of the Guitar Festival to relax and enjoy the concerts given by a fantastic line up of international artists. Tickets to all concerts are included in the course fee for both residents and non-residents. All concerts start at 8.00pm. Come and be part of a week of fun, friendship and performance - you'll get hooked!

Price from £623

Full evening concert line-up will be announced soon, so please check our website for the latest details.



Printing with Leaves using a Heat Press Workshop 7 August 2023

Enjoy a day exploring dye sublimation using a heat press to create unique and exciting designs. You will be carefully guided through the different stages by demonstrations and will begin by collecting leaves from the gardens. In the morning we will prepare dye papers and add colour to the leaves ready to print onto a range of different polyester fabrics. This fascinating technique produces vibrant designs with incredible detail and the results are often surprising. No experience needed, suitable for beginners interested in trying new textile techniques.

Tutor Clare Walsh
Price £95 (Includes materials)

Get to Know Your Sewing Machine 7 August 2023

If you have recently bought a sewing machine or have never really understood how to use all the stitches and feet that came with your sewing machine, then this is the course for you. Suitable for students new to sewing or just those wanting to get the best from their machine, especially if it has not been used for a while. Gain confidence using your machine, to maximise your abilities in using it to its full potential. You will need to bring your sewing machine to the course.

Tutor Jenny Harrison
Price £75

Stained-Glass Two-Day Workshop 8 - 9 August 2023

This course will enable you to create your own stained-glass panel using the traditional method of combining coloured glass with lead. Stained Glass is an ancient art of using colour and light to create atmosphere and to depict images and stories. Traditionally, stained glass windows were associated with cathedrals, churches and country houses, but these days stained glass is also used for decoration and bringing light and colour into the home. The panel that you choose to make can be displayed in your house or garden as a hanging panel or a standalone panel. Lead and lead solder will be used - This course is NOT therefore suitable for pregnant women.



Tutor Kate Doig
Price £193 (Includes materials)

Leaded Stained-Glass Spectrum Stick for the Garden 14 August 2023

Using the traditional method of combining coloured glass with lead, this one-day workshop will enable you to create one colourful stained-glass spectrum stick which can be hung in your garden. Traditionally, stained glass windows were associated with cathedrals, churches and country houses, but these days stained glass is also used for decoration and bringing light and colour into the home as well as the garden. PLEASE NOTE: Glass cutting requires a certain amount of strength and mobility in the wrist. Soldering irons will be shared during the course. Lead and lead solder will be used - these are toxic substances both to handle and to breathe in the solder fumes. This course is NOT therefore suitable for pregnant women. Glass colours will be similar to those shown, subject to availability. Suitable for beginners and those with experience.

Tutor Kate Doig
Price £108 (Includes materials)

Stumpwork Embroidery Inspired by Tudor Textiles 20 - 25 August 2023

20 - 25 August 2023  

Stumpwork is a three-dimensional embroidery technique which became very popular in the 16th and 17th centuries and was used on book bindings, mirrors, pictorial embroideries and most famously caskets. We will take inspiration from historical examples, looking at design, history and the use of stitches. During the week you will be able to work on your own piece of embroidery and include a variety of hand stitches, raised work techniques and needle lace. Course runs from Dinner on Sunday to Lunch on Friday.

Tutor Annette Bolton
Price from £352



Limited Palette Painting in Watercolour 20 - 25 August 2023

We frequently use a far greater variety of colours in painting than is necessary. As a result, we lose not only a sense of harmony in our work but risk colours becoming muddy and losing the vibrancy/transparency - The hallmark of good watercolour painting. During the course we will explore and compare different combinations of

colours for a limited palette with focus on tonal range and temperature and with luck (and hard work) discover how these choices will affect your finished work. Ideal for anyone with a desire to advance/modify their approach to the watercolour medium and explore an aspect that is often overlooked. Suitable for intermediate and experienced painters.

Tutor Clare Duvergie
Price from £352

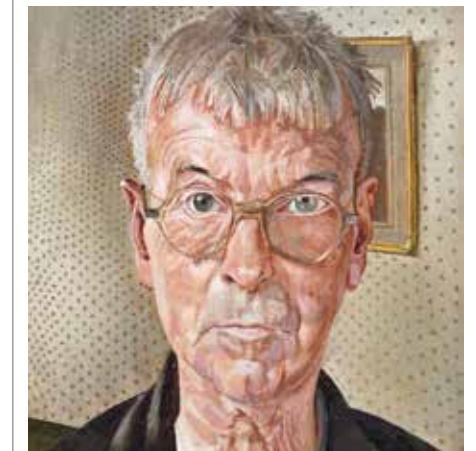
Great British Artists - The Hampstead Connection


20 - 25 August 2023  

The house of the Carline Family at 47 Downshire Hill in Hampstead was a mecca for artists between the wars. Richard, Sydney and Hilda Carline were all fine artists, and the latter married Stanley Spencer, a frequent visitor. Other great artists who congregated included Richard Nevinson and Mark Gertler among many others. Attend all week or by the day.

- **21 August:** Stanley Spencer: His Life and Art
- **22 August:** Richard Nevinson: His Life and Art
- **23 August:** Minibus trip to the Sandham Memorial Chapel at Burghclere (1 hour 40 mins drive), with a stop at the Hauser & Wirth Gallery in Bruton on the way back.
- **24 August:** Mark Gertler: His Life and Art
- **25 August (Half-Day):** 'The Remarkable Carlines'. Great art from Richard, Hilda and Sydney Carline.

Tutor Jan Cox
Price Full week - From £382 / Per Day - £75 (£30 travel supplement if attending Day 3)



The Architecture of Elegance: Country Houses, Towns and Cities from the Tudors to the Georgians
20 - 25 August 2023 

The period from the 16th to the late-18th centuries was a time of huge change in English architecture. The rise of the country house, the redevelopment of many towns and cities, and upheavals in the church all played a part, as did a new emphasis on comfort and elegance in building. This course will explore both the variety of architectural styles and the social changes that influenced how people used and laid out their houses and streets, from spectacular 'palaces' like Blenheim and Kedleston to smaller but still sophisticated buildings in Georgian towns from Bath to Stamford.



Willow Deer Workshop
21 August 2023

Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a 4-foot-high willow deer with a basic metal frame. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm! All materials provided and full guidance to make a lovely deer.

Tutor Jo Sadler
Price £125 (Includes materials)

Women Artists
21 - 23 August 2023

This course is an in-depth survey of women artists in many countries across Europe, who worked as painters and sculptors from the Middle Ages until the early 1800s. We will examine the careers of many women who were prominent artists in their communities in their day but whose lives have often been overlooked. Not only will we study the varied output of these artists in terms of the types of art they produced but we will also consider the training these women received and the social issues they faced when practising their art. Our approach will be a chronological one so we will begin by looking at women artists in the 1500s, followed by women artists in the 1600s and finally women in the 1700s.

- 21 August: Women Artists in the 1500's
- 22 August: Women Artists in the 1600's
- 23 August: Women Artists in the 1700's

Tutor Angie Smith
Price from £75 per day / £225 for all three together

Evening Entertainment - From Powder to Piracy: The Bankes family of Dorset
21 August 2023

The Bankes family have lived in Dorset at Corfe Castle and Kingston Lacy since the 17th century, actively participating in 350 years of eventful history. A 3-year project at the Dorset History Centre to open up and catalogue the archive of Bankes family revealed a treasure trove of fascinating material. Often thought-provoking, frequently intriguing, sometimes curious and occasionally sad: the stories are rich and varied. Judith Teasdale will tell us about some of the extraordinary documents and colourful stories that were discovered, while cataloguing and conserving the contents of 800 boxes of Bankes archive material. Pre-booked three course dinner available £31.50 per person.

Tutor Judith Teasdale
Price £18

Photography Week - Dillington Discoveries - Summer
21 - 24 August 2023

Join tutor Nick Matthews as he hosts a fascinating week-long journey through a range of disciplines within Photography, including a field trip for the Landscape photography day. Can be booked as an entire week or as individual day courses. Prices detailed below...

- 21 August: Architecture Photography - £75
- 22 August: Landscape Photography - £105 (Includes field trip)
- 23 August: A Guide to Close-up photography - £75
- 24 August: Portrait Photography - £75

Tutor Nick Matthews
Price from £330 for the week

Willow Pig Workshop
22 August 2023

Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a wonderful 2-foot-high, 3-foot-long willow pig for your home or garden. Jo will guide you through each step to create your sculpture using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. All materials provided and full guidance to make your willow sculpture. Just bring enthusiasm, your own secateurs and wear older clothing as it can get grubby!

Tutor Jo Sadler
Price £125 (Includes materials)

Make a Lampshade with Screen Printing Design
23 August 2023

Suitable for beginners Zara will support you at every stage to achieve your hand printed fabric that will be made into a lampshade to hang proudly in your home on a ceiling light or lamp. You will be shown how to create a one colour paper cut stencil that can be repeated across the length of your fabric for the lampshade. You will learn to screen print this onto the fabric. Zara will then demonstrate how to turn this fabric length



The Guns of August
24 August 2023

The Guns of August written by Barbara Tuchman was published in 1962 and read by President Jack Kennedy after the Bay of Pigs fiasco for which he accepted responsibility. The book recounts the heightening of international tension leading up to the spontaneous declarations of war in 1914. This will be the main theme of the course. Kennedy insisted that every member of his inner cabinet read the book to ensure that future military preparations did not override diplomacy in governing the relations between states. The lessons learnt were put into practice in the Cuban missile crisis and still have relevance today.

Tutor Mike Shaw



Price £75

Lino Printing Workshop 24 August 2023

This is a fun and relaxed workshop learning this traditional print making technique in the form of lino printing. Create your own unique Lino blocks that you will take home so you can keep printing! On the day, you will be shown how to create your design and carve the lino using specialist tools. You will then be taught how to roll out the block printing ink and print onto paper, gift cards and gift wrap. using a relief print method.

Tutor Zara Shepherd
Price £96 (Includes materials)

Give the Paint a Chance 29 August 2023

This course will appeal to those with an interest in watercolours, abstract art, modernism, composition, expressive painting, landscape and urban art. 'Give the paint a chance. Give the brush a chance.' John Marin. Many artists love the idea of moving away from traditional representational art and enjoying the freedom that abstraction offers; bold colour, expressive brushstrokes, novel forms and textures that excite the eye and stir the mind. But they also know that waving their hands around in the air and hoping for the best just doesn't work! Taking inspiration from the work of early American abstractionist, John Marin, this one-day course offers the adventurous watercolourist a route map to the creative freedom they've been seeking.



Running Hare Needle Felting Two Day Workshop 29 - 30 August 2023

On this exciting two-day needle felting workshop fibre artist Carla Taylor of The Mousehole Woolery will guide you step by step through the basic techniques of needle felting as well as sharing lots of tips and tricks that she has learnt along the way as well as sharing her love and passion for local Dorset and British wool. By the end of this two-day workshop you will have created your own beautiful running hare mounted on a beautiful piece of locally sourced Dorset wood, ready for you to take home or if you can part with them to give to that special someone as a gift!

Tutor Carla Taylor
Price £170 (Includes materials)

Modular Knitting - Squares 30 August 2023

Master the fascinating technique of modular knitting. Working with limited stitches and simple shaping you can create intricate pieces of work. It is a relatively simple method of the craft and is highly addictive! We'll begin the day with simple squares where I'll show you all the tricks and tips to keep you work neat and even – and ready to move on the next module – Once you are confident with the basic square you can move on to more detailed work. Tracy will bring lots of inspiration for you to experiment with and create your very own unique samples.

Tutor Tracy Chapman
Price £84 (Includes materials)

Thursday Lunch & Lecture - Animal Passions: Animal Subjects in British Art from Marmaduke Cradock to David Shepherd 31 August 2023

We are undoubtedly a nation of animal lovers and five centuries of our art reflect a passion for animals that artists from few other countries worldwide have ever bettered. Whether your fondness is for sporting horses, exotic beasts, domestic pets, hunting hounds, elegant equestrianism or animals in modern art, this talk

will hope to show that we have loved pictures of all sorts of animals – from dodos to donkeys – in all sorts of ways for hundreds of years. Includes lunch. Lunch is served from 1pm and lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Richard Kay
Price £29 (Includes lunch)

Singing for Larks 1 - 3 September 2023

Singing with others is an exhilarating and liberating experience that everybody can enjoy. Singing for Larks workshops, run by Faith Watson, are based on the tradition of learning songs by ear. This approach makes the joy of singing with others easily accessible to those who are new to singing, whilst offering more experienced singers the opportunity to develop their aural skills. In this Singing in Harmony workshop the songs are drawn from a variety of cultures and styles, from international folk to soul, from golden oldies to original songs. Some are simple and bring instant rewards and some are more complex taking longer to learn. All the songs are carefully chosen and arranged to inspire people of different abilities and tastes to sing together in perfect harmony.

Tutor Faith Watson
Price from £286

Miss Angel: 18th Century Artist Angelika Kauffman 4 September 2023

The Swiss-born artist, Angelika Kauffman was one of the most celebrated painters in Europe in the later 18th century. We will survey Kauffman's career in detail from her peripatetic early life travelling across Europe, to the time she spent in London and finally her later years in Rome.

Tutor Angie Smith
Price £75

Embroidery Techniques on Leather for Bookbinding 4 - 6 September 2023

You can add very attractive surface decoration, texture and colour to books with simple techniques such as applying coloured leather onlays and sewn detail. From embroidered outlines to fully appliquéd sections, different stitches can be utilised to great effect. This course will teach the skills you need to build up a design which will be transferred onto a small leather-covered notebook. The course starts with learning about different embroidery techniques and stitches and making an embroidery sampler to test all these out. Students will then work with leather using these embroidery skills to build up their designs over coloured leather onlays. The course will conclude with the finished embroidered leather being stuck onto a text block to create a bound notebook. Ideal for anyone interested in bookbinding, drawing, embroidery, leatherwork, appliqué. Includes some materials



The Stuart Hanoverian connection: Who are the Royals?

4 September 2023

Who are the Windsors, is a question often asked. 1952 was the last year of the reign of King George VI. For the last seventy years the Queen was the only monarch most of us have known. King Charles, who will be crowned, in May, is through his parents more royal than his late mother. What better time to look at the family going back to George I from Hanover to Queen Victoria and Prince Albert and their children and grandchildren marrying into the Royal Houses of Europe and the problems it brought. Plenty of time for discussion and to study books about the subject. Ideal for anyone interested in history and especially the 'Royals'.

Tutor Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard

Price £75

Deir el-Bahri: The Marvelous Monument of a Female Pharaoh

4 September 2023

The pharaoh Hatshepsut's memorial temple at Deir el-Bahri on Luxor's west bank was her greatest monument. So much can be learnt about her reign, the ideology of Egyptian kingship and the religious beliefs of the 15th Century BC by exploring the complex scenes and inscriptions on the walls here. The setting and design of this architectural achievement were clearly inspired by those of the elaborate temple-tomb nearby of the founder of the Middle Kingdom Mentuhotep II.

Tutor Lucia Gahlin

Price £75

Willow Deer Workshop

5 September 2023

Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a 4-foot-high willow deer with a basic metal frame. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm! All materials provided and full guidance to make a lovely deer.

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £125 (Includes materials)

Roman Blinds

11 September 2023

Roman blinds are a great way of dressing a window, giving a simple uncluttered look. This course will cover all the techniques and stitches required to make a lined and interlined Roman blind by hand, in order to produce a professional finish. This course is suitable for all abilities, however students should be able to use a basic sewing machine. Students will make a sample Roman blind approximately a metre square. You will need to bring your own sewing machine.

Tutor Jenny Harrison

Price £75

Monday Lunch & Lecture - Portraits in Stone: The Great Cathedrals of Medieval England

11 September 2023

Over a period of five hundred years the great medieval cathedrals of England were built. In terms of resources called upon, space covered, design and craftsmanship employed, this period marks the greatest single architectural achievement in English history. From Durham to Gloucester the lecture follows the evolution of cathedral building with reference to structural and aesthetic details together with some of the fascinating figures and events behind them - portraits in stone as rich as a great East Window. Includes lunch. Lunch is served from 1pm and lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Mark Cottle

Price £29 (Includes lunch)

Before the Normans Came: The World of Anglo-Saxon England

11 - 13 September 2023

Over a period of nearly six centuries Anglo-Saxon England grew to become one of the richest, best administered and culturally dynamic Kingdoms of Western Europe. The aim of the course is to track these developments with particular reference to Kingship and Kingdoms; Conversion to Christianity and the growth of the church; art and literature.

Tutor Mark Cottle

Price from £265

Indigo/ Shibori Dyeing Workshop

11 September 2023

An introduction to a fascinating natural dye technique suitable for beginners. Indigo dye originates from the plant *indigofera tinctoria* and the dye is extracted from the plant leaves. In the workshop we will use a synthetic form of indigo and you will learn how the indigo vat dye bath is created. Zara will show you techniques in hand stitching, folding and clamping a range of natural fabrics creating a resist that makes beautiful patterns across the fabrics. You will produce a series of fabric samples exploring this ancient technique, having the option to developing one of the samples into a wall pennant to hang at home.

Tutor Zara Shepherd

Price £95 (Includes materials)

Book of Hours: Pop-up Book Workshop

12 - 14 September 2023

Brightly coloured and decorated Books of Hours were popular in the Middle Ages and as a result, they are the most common type of surviving medieval illuminated manuscript. On this workshop we will make a pop-up version of one, imagining what it would be like if medieval scribes had paper engineering techniques available to them. Ideal for anyone interested in paper craft, pop up paper engineering and paper sculpture. A workshop for the experienced paper engineer and beginner alike.

Tutor Paul Johnson

Price from £285

Willow Bee Workshop

18 September 2023

Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a 3-foot-wide flying willow bee. Jo will guide you through each step to create your sculpture for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm! All materials provided and full guidance to make a lovely bee.

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £125 (Includes materials)

Festive Copper Foil Stained-Glass Workshop

18 September 2023

This course introduces students to the copper foil method of stained glass making. Often referred to as the Tiffany method, after Louis Comfort Tiffany. This method is used to make light-catchers, hanging decorations and the more familiar but detailed Tiffany lampshades. This workshop will focus on making a selection of festive hanging light-catchers. Students will learn how to follow a design, cut glass accurately and safely, apply copper foil and solder their creation to produce a beautiful piece or pieces that they can hang inside or out in the garden. (Please note that lampshades are not an option).

Tutor Kate Doig

Price £105 (Includes materials)

Landscape Photography

18 September 2023

A relaxed and fun day's experience of practice and theory to enable everyone to understand their camera and improve their photography skills. You will travel with Nick and the group out to nearby locations with the aim of taking photographs of stunning landscapes, ideal for anyone with an interest in photography. Suitable for all. The local sites chosen will have access to all and are not a 'hike across fields'.

Tutor Nick Matthews

Price £105 (Includes field trip)

Festive Copper Foil Stained-Glass Workshop

19 September 2023

This course introduces students to the copper foil method of stained glass making. Often referred to as the Tiffany method, after Louis Comfort Tiffany. This method is used to make light-catchers, hanging decorations and the more familiar but detailed Tiffany lampshades. This workshop will focus on making a range of festive hanging light-catchers. Students will learn how to follow a design, cut glass accurately and safely, apply copper foil and solder their creation to produce a beautiful piece or pieces that they can hang inside or out in the garden.

(Please note that lampshades are not an option)

Tutor Kate Doig

Price £105 (Includes materials)

Printing, Foiling and More Heat Press Workshop

21 September 2023

Spend a day exploring colour, images, design and patterns with the heat press. You will prepare your own dye papers and use sublimation papers combined with textures, images and plant material to create imaginative and vibrant designs. New techniques will be demonstrated and the use of foil will enhance your results which can be used as samples, artwork or as a basis of further textile work. Suitable for beginners, no previous experience needed."

Tutor Clare Walsh

Price £95 (Includes materials)

Richard The Second: The Music of Richard Strauss

22 - 24 September 2023 ®

For much of his lifetime, Richard Strauss (1864-1949) was best known as a star conductor. As his music became known, he was initially dubbed 'Richard the Second' because of his perceived adoption of a Wagnerian aesthetic. But with his succession of magnificent operas, songs and orchestral music, he soon established his own identity as one of the leading composers of his day. He had an exceptionally long creative life, and, using excellent audio and video recordings, we shall hear music from the beginnings of his career in the 1880s through to the post-war years of the late 1940s.



Dillington String Quartet Coaching Weekend

22 - 24 September 2023 ®

Once again, we are thrilled that the members of the Coull Quartet have agreed to return to Dillington House to lead this extended weekend of coaching for pre-formed string quartets who play to a good standard.

Tutor Philip Gallaway

Price £392 (Includes ticket to the Coull Quartet concert on 24th September)

Coull Quartet Concert

24 September 2023

The magnificent Coull Quartet offers a rare combination of maturity and freshness, and we are delighted that once again they are returning to Dillington House.

Price £22 (Pre-concert carvery lunch available to book for additional £24)

Bookbinding: A Spread of Star Books

25 - 27 September 2023 ®

Come and play with folded paper using the simple concertina (accordion) structure flowing into more complex dynamic and delightful pieces. We'll use cut, stuck and sewn multi-layering to construct star books with context and narrative and make a seven-point book structure with multiple possibilities in its pages. Suitable for students with an interest in bookbinding, paper engineering, book structures and book arts, paper cutting, image and storytelling with paper. Ideal for bookbinders, book artists and complete beginners alike. Includes some materials.

Tutor Nesta Davies

Price from £344

Advanced Crochet

25 September 2023

Add dimension to your stitchwork and create more texture in your crochet. Learn the secrets of blending colour whilst working with groups of stitches, clusters and spikes! Develop your skills and expand your understanding of crochet by working up small samples on this one-day workshop. Suitable for those who know how to



Further Information

All details correct at time of print.

If you have any specific access or dietary needs, then please let us know at the time of booking.

Dillington House reserves the right to cancel a course for any reason. But where this happens, we will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible. In the event of a cancelled course your course fee and deposit will be refunded.

All fees and deposits are non-refundable and non-transferrable, unless Dillington House cancels the course. We recommend you take out your own insurance should you need to cancel through illness or unforeseen circumstances.

Fees quoted are per person unless stated otherwise. VAT is included where applicable.

Unless stated otherwise, course fees include tuition, refreshments and all meals.

Residential courses include en-suite accommodation.

For courses that require it, students should provide all their own materials, unless otherwise stated.

For more information

Courses and events are continually being added, so for the most up to date information on all courses and events visit www.dillington.com or scan the QR code.



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