Alton & Chawton, Hampshire, UK



Celebrating 15 years of...

Jane Austen Regency Week 21st- 30th June 2024



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JaneAustenRegencyWeek



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21st- 30th June 2024 PROGRAMME

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Welcome

WE proudly present you with your programme of 42 events that make up the extended 10-day Jane Austen Regency Week, now in its 15th year. If you can, please dress up and enjoy yourself over your visit to our corner of the world. We very much look forward to seeing you.

Patron & Sponsor Caroline Knight



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

Festival Organiser



ALTON Alton Community Centre, Amery Street, Alton, Hampshire. GU34 1HN.

Jane Austen Regency Week is run to raise awareness of Jane Austen locally and also as a fund-raiser for Alton Community Association CIO (charity 1173885) Tel: 01420 85057 Web: www.altoncomcen.org.uk Email: acaenquiries@altoncommunitycentre.org.uk

Tickets

+44 (0)1420 85057

JA@altoncommunitycentre.org.uk Online sales linked from our website: www.JaneAustenRegencyWeek.org.uk

KEY	
AAR: Alton Assembly Rooms	CH: Chawton House
ACC: Alton Community Centre	FMH: Friends Meeting House
AG: Allen Gallery	GW: Gilbert White's House
AL: Alton Library	JAH: Jane Austen's House
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OPENING HOURS

7 Days a Week Including Bank Holidays Saturday - Thursday Lunch 12pm to 2pm & Evening 5pm to 11pm Evening only on Fridays 5pm to 11pm

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Friday 21st June **REGENCY RETICULE WORKSHOP** Alton Community Centre

Event: Workshop to create your own Regency-era reticule

Venue: Alton Community Centre, Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN Time: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Tickets: £55

Detail: Decorate your own Regency style reticule to put the finishing touch to your Regency outfit. All materials are provided (either cotton or satin) and the reticules are part made so you will have plenty of time to enjoy the finishing and embellishment process. Preselect your fabric by emailing.

Friday 21st June A POSH LUNCH Alton Community Centre

Event: Enjoy an 'afternoon tea' style lunch Venue: Alton Community Centre,

Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN

Time: 12.30pm - 2pm

Tickets: £10

Detail: Join us for a posh lunch to begin your Regency Week experience in style. Sandwiches, cakes, scones etc all served on delicate china.

Friday 21st June FEATHER HEADPIECE WORKSHOP Alton Community Centre

Event: Create your own headpiece Venue: Alton Community Centre,

Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN Time: 2pm - 4.30pm

Tickets: £45 inc materials

Detail: Make your own Regency style feather headpiece to put the finishing touch to your outfit. All materials are provided and you will be able to enjoy picking your design along with the finishing and embellishment process. Pre-select your fabric by emailing in advance.

Friday 21st June WELCOME RECEPTION Alton Community Centre

Event: Social event with stalls and speaker Venue: Alton Community Centre,

Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN

Time: From 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Tickets: Free entry

Detail: Your chance to meet the organisers of Regency Week and representatives from participating organisations, buy and collect tickets and hear from Caroline Knight, Jane Austen's fifth generation great niece.

The cafe and bar will be open.

Saturday 22nd June ALTON REGENCY DAY Alton High Street

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

Venue: Alton Town Centre (High Street) Time: 10am – 3pm

Tickets: Free entry

- Detail: The entertainment will include:
 - Horse & Carriage rides (fare payable)
 - Petting Animals
 - Market stalls
 - Soldiers & Naval re-enactors
 - Alton Morris dancers
 - Kings Pond Shantymen
 - People in Regency Costumes (if you have your own costume, we encourage you to wear it)

Saturday 22nd June ALTON TOWN GUIDED WALK Alton Town Centre

Event: Guided walk of Alton

Venue: The Curtis Museum, High Street, GU34 1BA

Time: 11am

Tickets: £3

Detail: Join one of the Alton Town Guides dressed in his best Regency attire on this Jane Austen-themed guided walk of historic Alton.



Saturday 22nd June **REGENCY DANCING WORKSHOP** Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Regency dancing lesson

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

Time: 3.30pm to 5pm

Tickets: £15 (£70 combination deal for ball)

Detail: Learn some of the dances that will be used later at the Regency Ball. Hampshire Regency Dancers, with live music by Hampshire Regency Players, will be on hand to teach you the moves and steps. Wear 21st century clothes! We encourage you to attend the Regency Ball later the same day to practise your newly-learnt dancing skills. Saturday 22nd June

ALTON REGENCY SUMMER BALL Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Regency Ball with refreshments Venue: Alton Assenbly Rooms, High Street, Alton, GU34 1BA

Time: 7.30pm to 11pm (doors open 7pm) Tickets: £60 (£70 if combined with workshop)

Detail: Hampshire Regency Dancers, with live music by Hampshire Regency Players, are leading the dances and will be on the dance floor to help you keep up with all the moves.

Dress either in Regency Costume or smart Evening Wear. If you would like to practise first, there is a dancing workshop in the afternoon.

During the interval there will be a light buffet and a cash bar for all your liquid refreshments.



Costumes available to hire

Collection and delivery in Alton

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21st- 30th June 2024 PROGRAMME

Sunday 23rd June / Saturday 29th June WAKING UP THE HOUSE Jane Austen's House

Event: Behind the scenes at Jane Austen's House

Venue: Jane Austen's House, Winchester Rd, Chawton, GU34 1SD

Time: 9am (time applies to both dates) Tickets: £25 inc light breakfast

Detail: An exclusive glimpse behind the scenes, as Jane Austen's House wakes up for the day. In this special access, early-morning tour, we'll be unlocking doors, opening shutters and letting sunshine into the darkened rooms. We'll take a peep into the attic, dust away cobwebs, and check that everything is in order to start the day. Along the way, we'll share secrets and stories of this extraordinary house through the ages. After the tour, you'll enjoy a light breakfast of tea and toast - just as Jane used to do!

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Sunday 23rd June IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JANE & CASSANDRA Chawton

Event: Walking in the footsteps of Jane & Cassandra

Meet: Chawton Sign, Winchester Road, Chawton, GU34 1SD

Time: 11am

Tickets: £6

Detail: Join two present-day sisters Jenny and Wendy as they stroll through Chawton Village in the steps of two well known Sisters, Jane and Cassandra Austen. They will be comparing early 19th century Chawton with 21st century Chawton, chatting about characters that Jane and Cassandra would have known and generally having a promenade to show off their bonnets.



Founded by Caroline Jane Knight Jane Austen's 5th great niece

> Meet Caroline and our volunteers at Alton Regency Day Market Parade for Literacy Jane Austen Regency Picnic



Sunday 23rd June PARADE FOR LITERACY Chawton

- Event: Walk with Jane's family from Jane Austen's House to Chawton House Meet: Chawton Sign, Winchester Road,
 - Chawton, GU34 1SD

Time: 1pm

Tickets: £10

Detail: Join Jane Austen's family in a parade from Jane Austen's House to Chawton House, stopping at St Nicholas Church in Chawton,to visit Jane's statue. The parade is a fundraiser for the Jane Austen Literacy Foundation, founded by Caroline Jane Knight, the last of Jane's nieces to grow up at Chawton House and Patron of Jane Austen Regency Week. (Regency attire encouraged but not essential).

Sunday 23rd June REGENCY PICNIC Chawton House

Event: Picnic and entertainment Venue: Dyers Barn, Chawton House, Chawton, GU34 1SJ

Time: 1.30pm - 4pm

- Tickets: £30 inc food / £15 Entrance only
- Detail: This year's speakers include authors Zoe Wheddon and Hazel Mills. The winner of the Jane Austen Literacy Foundation Short Story Writing Competition 2024 will also be announced and narrated.

The Regency picnic box includes a delicious savoury, Meringues Rempli, rout cakes and lemon shortbread, home-made lemonade. Hosted by Caroline Jane Knight, all profits will be donated to the Jane Austen Literacy Foundation and Chawton House. Regency costume encouraged but not essential and we suggest you bring a picnic blanket. In case of poor weather, the picnic will be held in the barn. Sunday 23rd June EXTENDED OPENING, REFRESHMENTS & PROMENADE Allen Gallery

Event: Viewing of gallery, refreshments and gathering place before promenade

Venue: The Allen Gallery, 10-12 Church Street, Alton, GU34 2BW

Time: 4.30 - 6.15pm

Tickets: Free entry / charge for refreshments

Detail: Drop in for tea and cake at the gallery Cafe before joining the promenade at 6.15pm to St Lawrence Church for Evensong. The gallery will be open for extended hours so visitors can enjoy the peaceful garden and ceramics collection.

Sunday 23rd June CHORAL EVENSONG St Lawrence Church

St Edwichee Charen

Event: Evensong choral church service with Regency music

Venue: St Lawrence Church, Church Street, Alton, GU34 1BW

Time: 6.30pm (doors open at 6.15pm)

Tickets: Free entry; retiring collection

Detail: Enjoy a traditional choral evensong with a Regency theme. Guest speaker Revd Canon Roly Reim, Vice Dean of Winchester Cathedral. Many people, including the choir and the congregation will be in costume, so if you would like to dress up, we encourage it.





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Café & Bar; Leisure Learning classes; Daycare for the Elderly; Events; 12 rooms for hire (including 3 halls); Minibus & ShopMobility scooter hire 01420 85057 www.altoncomcen.org.uk



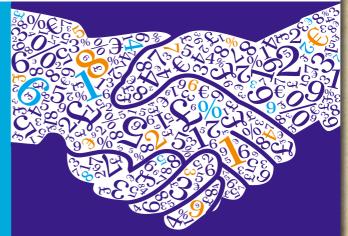
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Monday 24th June HOUSE OF EMBROIDERED PAPER Alton Community Centre

- Event: The Regency Wardrobe talk with Stephanie Smart
- Venue: Alton Community Centre,
 - Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN
 - Time: 10.30am
- Tickets: £12 inc tea/coffee
- Detail: Stephanie is a fine artist who makes life-sized garments entirely from paper and thread. She'll describe the background to her work and will show images of particular pieces from The Regency Wardrobe. She will also talk about her current project working with Historic Royal Palaces, Whitchurch Silk Mill and Macclesfied Silk Museum on the creation of a new collection.

Monday 24th June

WYARDS TOURS & CREAM TEAS Wyards Farmhouse

Event: Tours and refreshments, with minibus transport to and from site

- Venue: Minibus departs at stated times below from Alton Community Centre
- Times: 1pm Tour and cream tea 1.30pm Tea only 2pm Tour and cream tea 3pm Tour and cream tea
- Tickets: £16 Tours & tea / £13 Tea only
- Detail: Wyards Farm is a little-known seventeenth century gem of a house, hidden away in the fields between Alton and the village of Beech. Apart from those who stay there, this is a rare opportunity to see round the house and to enjoy a cream tea outside if the weather is kind. The house was known to Jane Austen because of the Lefroy connection. The current owners are Ann and William Monk. William is a distant relation of the Lefroy family. That's what you call provenance!

Monday 24th June REGENCY TREASURES Chawton House

Event: Midsummer evening drinks and canapés, and library curatorial talks Venue: Chawton House, Chawton,GU34 1SJ Times: 6pm for 6.30pm Library talk 7pm for 7.30pm Library talk Tickets: £25 inc drinks and canapés

Detail: Stroll through the gardens and enjoy a glass of Pimms. Then join a curator in the library for a guided viewing of a special display of Regency treasures, including the presentation copy of Jane Austen's Emma, the manuscript play of Sir Charles Grandison written in Jane's hand and a selection of the works that influenced her writing.

Tuesday 25th June SEWING WORKSHOP Gilbert White's House

Event: Hand-quilted hexi coasters workshop Venue: Gilbert White's House, The Wakes, High Street, Selborne, GU34 3JH

- Time: 10.30am 12.30pm
- Tickets: £25
- Detail: Sew your own hexi coasters then hand quilt them as much or as little as you want. It's simple sewing; if you can thread a needle you can do this!

Tuesday 25th June **REGENCY GARDEN TOUR** Gilbert White's House

Event: Garden Tour of Gilbert White's House Venue: Gilbert White's House, The Wakes,

High Street, Selborne, GU34 3JH

Times: 1.30 - 2.30pm

Tickets: £8

Detail: A tour of Gilbert White's garden to see what plants and methods were popular in the late 18th century. Hear extracts from White's gardening diaries and see images of the gardens as they were 250 years ago.



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2024 Exhibitions







Show this ad during Regency Week for halfprice admission.

Learn about Alton's biggest literary celebrity before Iane Austen. Enjoy the home of the 18th Century writer & naturalist, 20 acres of garden & parkland, café and brewhouse.

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Tuesday 25th June **REGENCY HOUSE TOUR** Gilbert White's House

Event: Tour of Gilbert White's House Venue: Gilbert White's House, The Wakes, High Street, Selborne, GU34 3JH

Times: 3pm - 4pm

Tickets: £8

Detail: Although Jane Austen and Gilbert White never met, Austen knew Gilbert White's house and it's inhabitants during the regency era. White and Austen knew many of the same people and walked the same landscapes. In our house tour your Regency guide will take you around Gilbert White's House introducing you to the 18th Century naturalist and writer, who in Austen's time, was the local literary celebrity of the day.

Tuesday 25th June **PRIDE & PREJUDICE FILM** Allen Gallery

Event: Film showing

Venue: The Allen Gallery, 10-12 Church Street, Alton, GU34 2BW

Time: 6.30pm for 7pm film

- Tickets: £7.50 / £6 concessions
- Detail: Join us for a screening of the 1940 film adaptation (rated U) of Pride and Prejudice, directed by Robert Z Leonard and starring Edmund Gwenn, Bruce Lester, Laurence Olivier and Maureen O'Sullivan. The film will start at 7.00pm, with the cafe and garden open from 6.30pm for wine and non-alcoholic drinks. Running time 118 minutes. There will be an interval of approx 15 minutes. A selection of wines, soft drinks, ice cream and snacks will be available to purchase before the film and during the interval.

Wednesday 26th June **BONNET WORKSHOP** Alton Community Centre

Event: Make a Regency bonnet or turban Meet: Alton Community Centre,

Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN

Time: 10am - 12.30pm

Tickets: £80

Detail: Choose from either fabric or straw brim for Bonnet, cotton or satin fabric for turban. They are part-finished so participants will have time to enjoy the finishing and embellishment process. It is possible to pre-select fabrics by emailing in advance.

Wednesday 26th June **GUIDED ALTON WALK** Alton Town Centre

Event: Guided walk of Alton with local historian Jane Hurst

Meet: Walk starts at the Cairn, High Street, Alton. GU34 1BA

Time: 11am - 12.30pm

Tickets: £6

Detail: Jane Hurst will be focussing on the buildings and people that Jane Austen would have known in Alton. Many of the places that she would have seen when coming into her market town are still standing, so see what she would have seen.

Wednesday 26th June **A POSH LUNCH** Alton Community Centre

Event: Enjoy an 'afternoon tea' style lunch Venue: Alton Community Centre, Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN

Time: 12.30 - 1.30pm

Tickets: £10

Detail: Join us for a posh lunch with sandwiches, cakes, scones etc all served on delicate china. Ideal if you are attending the bonnet workshop.



21st- 30th June 2024 PROGRAMME

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Wednesday 26th June OPEN AFTERNOON Allen Gallery

Event: Drop-in to enjoy refreshments, garden and gallery

Meet: The Allen Gallery, 10-12 Church Street, Alton, GU34 2BW

Time: 1.30pm - 4pm

Tickets: Free entry

Detail: Drop in to see the gallery's internationally significant ceramics collection, including a number of Regency-era pieces. Enjoy a drink and cake in the cafe or visit our small and secluded garden.

Wednesday 26th June PARASOL WORKSHOP INC PARASOL & MATERIALS Alton Community Centre

Event: Embellish a parasol for your outfit Venue: Alton Community Centre,

Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN Time: 2pm - 4.30pm

Tickets: £120

Detail: Join us for this workshop where you can embellish the supplied parasol to elegantly complete your Regency costume.

Wednesday 26th June MISS AUSTEN INVESTIGATES Alton Community Centre

Event: Talk by authors Jessica Bull and Louise Morrish

Venue: Alton Community Centre,

Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN Time: 7.30pm

Tickets: £10

Detail: Local Author Lou Morrish will be in conversation with debut author Jessica Bull about her novel "Miss Austen Investigates". Both authors have written about historical events and characters which are actual and fictional.



Thursday 27th June AUSTEN BOOK COLLECTION Alton Library

Event: Drop-in session to look through the Jane Austen book collection.

Venue: Alton Library,

Vicarage Hill, Alton, GU34 1HT Time: 10.30am - 1pm

Tickets: Free entry

Detail: Alton Library houses the County's Jane Austen collection of books, so it's your chance to see them and look through them at your leisure.

> Thursday 27th June ORGAN RECITAL St Lawrence Church

Event: Live organ recital in church Venue: St Lawrence Church, Church Street, Alton, GU34 1BW

Time: 1pm - 2pm (doors open 12.30pm) Tickets: Free entry (retiring collection)

Detail: Organist Will Nisbet's performance will include music by JS Bach, Buxtehude, Handel and Jehan Alain's famous "Litanies". Refreshments will be available from 12.30pm.

Thursday 27th June A TEATIME DISCUSSION Friends Meeting House

Event: Discussion about Northanger Abbey Venue: Friends Meeting House, 39 Church Street, Alton, GU34 2DA

Time: 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Tickets: £12, inc refreshments

Detail: Our very successful Regency Week series devoted to relaxed discussion of Jane's novels continues with a focus on Northanger Abbey. During this informal session, led by Prof. Michael Biddiss, participants will be encouraged to offer their personal views on the work's strengths and weaknesses. Lively debate will be fuelled by tea and biscuits. Thursday 27th June SUMMER EVENING CIRCULAR WALK WITH JENNY & FREDDIE Chawton

Event: Group walk - 4.61 miles / 7.4km Meet: Chawton car park, Winchester Road, Chawton, GU34 1SB

Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm (ish)

Tickets: £6

Detail: Your chance to walk in the footsteps of Jane Austen as we go from Chawton to Farringdon, where her friends lived. There are some inclines and uneven paths, so please wear appropriate shoes. If you wish to dress in Regency costume, please feel free. Dogs on leads welcome.

Friday 28th June CURATOR TOUR

Chawton House

Event: Curator's tour of 'Chawton in Stitches' Venue: Chawton House, Chawton,GU34 1SJ Time: 11am - 12.15pm

Tickets: £15 inc house entry

Detail: A tour of the Summer exhibition showcasing the work of awardwinning graduate of the Royal School of Needlework Emily Barnett, whose project takes inspiration from the gardens and collection at Chawton House. Her unique pieces are displayed alongside historic decorative arts pieces from the collection, printed advice on 'feminine accomplishments', and manuscript and scrap books compiled by eighteenth- and nineteenth-century women. Together, this exhibition paints a picture of the ways in which artistic endeavour, from needlework and knitting to watercolour, has occupation, provided solace. community and skill to women from the eighteenth century to today.



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Friday 28th June GARDEN TOUR Chawton House

Event: Garden Tour of Chawton House Venue: Chawton House, Chawton,GU34 1SJ Time: 2pm

Tickets: £15 inc house entry

Detail: Explore the beautiful grounds of Chawton House with your knowledgeable guide, taking in the Wilderness, Walled Garden, and the stunning views over the Parkland. Discover the history of the Gardens and how changing fashions and tastes developed from a formal layout to the English Landscape style. Learn more about the Austen and Knight families, and their role in the garden changes. See how the garden references in Jane Austen's novel are reflected in the horticultural setting, which she knew and loved so well.

Friday 28th June MIDSUMMER EVENING OPENING Jane Austen's House

- Event: A rare chance to enjoy Jane Austen's House of an evening
- Venue: Jane Austen's House, Winchester Rd, Chawton, GU34 1SD

Time: 5pm - 8pm

- Tickets: Adults: £13.50 / Seniors: £13.00 Book with Jane Austen's House
- Detail: An exclusive opportunity to visit Jane Austen's House on a summer's evening. As twilight falls, explore the House by atmospheric candlelight. Afterwards, relax with a cup of tea and a slice of cake in the pretty cottage garden and enjoy the heady scent of the roses.

Saturday 29th June WAKING UP THE HOUSE Jane Austen's House

Detail: See main entry on page 6

Saturday 29th June CHILDREN'S REGENCY CRAFTS Alton Library

Event: Drop-in Regency-inspired children's craft activities

Venue: Alton Library,

Vicarage Hill, Alton, GU34 1HT

Time: 10am - 11.30am

Tickets: Free entry

Detail: Be a Regency fashion designer. Join us for our Jane Austen craft morning and dress your own cut out dolls of Regency ladies and gentlemen.

Saturday 29th June GUIDED WALK OF CHAWTON Chawton

Event: Guided walk of Chawton with local historian Jane Hurst

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

Time: 11am

Tickets: £6

Detail: There are many buildings and former residents of Chawton who were connected with Jane Austen and her family. Note that some pavements are uneven, so it's important to wear sensible shoes and come prepared for sun or rain!

Saturday 29th June JANE AUSTEN ON THE HIGH SEAS Jane Austen's House

Event: Guided tour of house on the theme of Jane Austen & the High Seas

Venue: Jane Austen's House, Winchester Rd, Chawton, GU34 1SD

Time: 3.30pm

Tickets: £25

Detail: Explore Jane's connections with the sea, both in her novels and in life. Her brother Francis served in the Navy and influenced her writing. See new exhibitions relating to his life and the Mansfield Park naval connections.



Saturday 29th June A COUNTRY DANCE Alton Assembly Rooms

Event: Workshop and dancing led by Nigel Close; live music by Pete & Sue Hall. Venue: Alton Assembly Rooms, High Street, Alton, GU34 1BA Time: 6.30pm - 10.30pm

Tickets: £22

Detail: "Country dances" were popular as a sociable and light-hearted relief from the formal dances and balls. Nigel will lead a dance workshop to teach you the basics then, after a break, a chance to enjoy some of the dances that the young Jane Austen loved.

Sunday 30th June ALTON SECOND-HAND BOOK, MAP & EPHEMERA FAIR Alton Community Centre

Event: Table top sale Meet: Alton Community Centre, Amery Street, Alton, GU34 1HN

Time: 10am - 4pm

Tickets: £1 on door (accompanied u18s free)

Detail: Books for all tastes and budget, covering fiction, non-fiction, classics, literature, food, the arts, transport, military history, children's books, local history and much more. The cafe will be open for refreshments.

Sunday 30th June GUIDED WALK OF ALTON Alton Town Centre

- Event: Guided walk of Alton with local historian Jane Hurst
- Meet: The cairn (near Assembly Rooms), High Street, Alton, GU34 1BA

Time: 11am

Tickets: £6

Detail: See where her 'Alton apothecary' lived, where she went to buy her cloak, visited her sister-in-law when brother Francis went to sea and where brother Henry opened his Alton bank.

Sunday 30th June REGENCY SUPPER Jane Austen's House

Event: Regency-style meal.

- Venue: Jane Austen's House, Chawton, GU34 1SD
- Time: 7pm to 10pm
- Tickets: £28 (drinks not included)
 - Detail: A Regency-style meal where all the dishes are put on the table at the same time for guests to serve themselves. You are encouraged to dress in Regency Costume, but if you'd rather not, please wear something smart.

This event marks the end of the 2024 Regency Week - we hope to see you again in 2025. The dates for your diary are 20th to 29th June 2025. We will also be repeating the successful Jane Austen Birthday Ball on Saturday 18th January 2025.



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