

# WEA

ESSEX - Eastern Region

## ***The Essex WEA Summer School 2009***

*(formerly 'The Week of Study')*

**At the Castle Methodist Church,  
Maidenburgh Steet, Colchester**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July  
10am – 3.30pm**

- 1. Art & Poetry in the  
Victorian Era***
- 2. The History of Colchester***
- 3. Natural History in  
Town & Country***
- 4. Introduction to Medieval Latin  
Palaeography for Beginners***

**The WEA Essex Federation Summer School** will be held at the *Castle Methodist Church, Maidenburgh Street, Colchester*. It is just off the High Street & near to both bus & train stations. No parking on site except very limited parking for the disabled. Public car parks nearby.

**Each course is for 3 days & runs from 10am – 3.30pm.** Syllabus, advice on preliminary reading and other details will be sent on application.

No formal academic qualifications are required for any of the courses. Our courses attract people from many walks of life who are united in a desire to develop their own understanding through study with a specialist. For their part, the tutors are chosen not only for their command of their subject but also for their ability to interpret their material for the specialist and beginner alike.

LOOP SYSTEM available. Please ask if you need this facility. Refreshments: Tea/coffee & biscuits (60p) available but no other facilities. So bring your own or go up town.

Fees for tuition only: £45.00.

No fee if in receipt of means tested benefit, but returnable deposit required of £20.00 to secure a place.

**Book with:** Mrs Joan Black, 23 Highfield Road, Chelmsford CM1 2NF Tel: 01245354644

Email: [joan.familynoir@homecall.co.uk](mailto:joan.familynoir@homecall.co.uk).

Further information:

Catherine Voysey: Email: [cvoysey@talktalk.net](mailto:cvoysey@talktalk.net) Tel: 01245 382595

Kevin Bruce. Email: [kevinjbruce@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kevinjbruce@tiscali.co.uk) Tel: 01621 779725

# ***1. The Art & Poetry of the Victorian Era***

***Tutors: Graham Slimming  
and Colin Padgett***

The Victorian era saw a rapid expansion of the prosperous middle classes. They had enormous purchasing power and were anxious to establish their cultural credentials. They flung a wealth of paintings up on the walls of their villas and mansions and piled their bookshelves with novels and poetry. This was the era of Tennyson and Millais, but also Gilbert and Sullivan, Edward Lear and Lewis Carroll.

In combination and separately, the course will cover the work of the Victorian Poets and Painters. At its simplest it will demonstrate the age old cross-fertilisation that sustains both arts; it will catalogue the main participants and significant themes, and; most important, it will seek to draw meaning from an interpretation of those themes – attitudes towards women range from victim to destroyer! Attitudes towards a rapidly changing society reveal a desperate search for certainties and a horror of chaos. There is patriotic pride and a search for foundations and origins not in the classicism of Greece and Rome, although the imperial element associated with Empire is there; this search is at the heart of the Gothic Revival and evident in the popularity of the Arthurian legends.

*Graham and Colin are colleagues of long standing who have collaborated before on such courses. They will assist in every way to bring the poetry and the images together to give an insight into a fascinating period of British history. All life is there, moments of humour, insight and inspiration.*

# ***2. Colchester 2,000 Years of History***

***Tutor: Patrick Denney***

## ***Discover***

- *The story behind Roman Colchester*
- *why the town was destroyed by Boudica in AD60*
- *why Colchester castle is the largest of its kind*
- *why the town was besieged during the Civil War*
- *what amazing finds were made in a grave at Stanway*
- *the story behind the building of the Castle*
- *and much more....*

*Plus - a guided walking tour of historic Colchester*

**This course will appeal to all those with an interest in the history of Colchester. We will endeavour to cover all the highlights from 2,000 years of history. Topics for discussion will include the Iron Age period and Romans, the Norman castle, the Siege of Colchester, the Plague, the Medieval Cloth Trade, the Victorians and more.... The course will also include a field trip in the form of a guided walking tour of Colchester.**

*Patrick Denney is one of the leading Colchester historians and a well known local and family history tutor. He has taught a range of classes across the region for the Universities of Cambridge, Essex and East Anglia, for various Adult Education Colleges and the WEA. He is the author of numerous books and articles on the History of Colchester. He is an active member of the Colchester Recalled Oral History Group and Secretary of the Friends of Colchester Museums. He is also a Regional Blue Badge Tourist Guide*

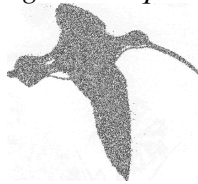
### ***3. Natural History in Town and Country***

***Tutor: Tricia Moxey***

Today, many people live in towns where most wildlife sightings are of well known plants and animals. In contrast, the countryside provides a greater range of habitats inhabited by less familiar species. This course will consider those species which survive in urban localities and observe others only found in 'wilder' habitats. An introductory half-day indoor session will be followed by a site visit within Colchester. On the subsequent day there will be a visit to a former Royal Hunting Forest and Abberton Reservoir Nature Reserve. The final day will be spent at Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve searching for different species in its varied habitats.

*Students will be responsible for their own travel arrangements, donations and car parking costs.*

***Tricia Moxey*** has taught natural history classes for the WEA for many years and enjoys sharing her passion for wildlife with others. Last year she edited the book *Favourite Trees* published by Epping Forest District Council and is now working on a sequel.



### ***4. Introduction to Medieval Latin Palaeography for Beginners***

***Tutors: John Ridgard and Kate Jewell***



*He said, "She has a lovely face;  
God in his mercy lend her grace,  
The Lady of Shalott."*

*For students researching their local, family or house histories, the older documents (pre-c.1500) written in Medieval Latin often appear to be an insurmountable obstacle.*

*The aim of this course is to introduce students to some of the techniques and 'tips' useful in translating original Latin MSS of the types likely to be encountered in County Record Offices and (e.g.) the National Archives at Kew. Although it helps (and sometimes hinders!) to have studied Classical Latin at school etc., it is NOT necessary at this stage.*

***John Ridgard*** has been involved in adult/continuing education since 1962 as a local history tutor specialising in Medieval East Anglia and, more recently (for U.E.A. and Suffolk Records Office Ipswich), in Medieval Latin Palaeography.

***Kate Jewell*** is an M.A. studying part-time for a Ph. D at the University of East Anglia focussing on medieval drama production based on original manuscript sources

## WEA SUMMER SCHOOL 2009

At the Castle Methodist Church, Maidenburgh Street, Colchester

### APPLICATION FORM

To enrol, please complete this form and send it with the fee to  
Mrs J Black, 23 Highfield Road, Chelmsford CM1 2NF  
Tel: 01245 354644 Email [joan.familynoir@homecall.co.uk](mailto:joan.familynoir@homecall.co.uk)  
Fees: £.45.00

Cheques should be made payable to 'WEA Essex Federation'

There is no fee if you are in receipt of means tested benefits, but a deposit  
of £20 is required to secure your place. Returnable on completion of the  
course

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Course 1. (Art & Poetry).....Course 2.(Local History).....

Course 3. (Ecology)..... Course 4. (Docs).....

Amount enclosed

Name

Address  
& Phone

Email Address