



EXPLORE



Season 3 2013-14 programme 28th April to 5th July



Explore Season 3 programme 2013-14

The Season 3 programme follows and introduces an even wider range of activities including history walks, practical art sessions and the opportunity to join the Latin classes at the Lit and Phil. Most of our sessions require no advance booking—just turn up. However, for reading groups, practical art and some walks, we do need to manage attendances. These sessions (only) have specific booking instructions in this programme.

Details of how to join Explore for Season 3 (including the member led Season 4) are available on our website: www.weareexplore.org.uk

Congratulations to John Bundock and Joy Rutter on another excellent programme! We are also grateful to [Ampersand Inventions](#) and [B&D Studios](#) for our accommodation at Commercial Union House.

‘It is not knowledge, but the act of learning, not the possession but the act of getting there, which grants the greatest enjoyment.’

Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855)

Cover art by Explore members attending Season 2 art workshops.



Explore Season 3 2013-14 Programme Overview

Week of		28th Apr	5th May	12th May	19th May	26th May	2nd June	9th June	16th June	23rd June	30th June	
Mon	morning	Art series on the theme of 'Regeneration & Progress' (no session 5th or 26th May)										
	morning	Ian Ground 'Mind Matters: developments in the philosophy of mind' (no session 5th or 26th May)										
	morning		Bird walk	Bird walk			David Noble-Rollin 'Bird Song'					
	lunch	Art series on the theme of 'Regeneration & Progress' (no session 5th or 26th May)										
	afternoon					Peter Quinn 'Pre-Raphaelite Art I' (no session 26th May)						
	evening				John Sadler 'D-Day to Berlin' (no session 26th May)							
Tues	morning	Tony Barrow 'Beside the Seaside'					John Griffiths 'Great Exhibitions'					
	morning	Latin at the Lit & Phil (no session 27th May)										
	morning	Literature series on the theme of 'Regeneration & Progress'										
	lunch	Literature series on the theme of 'Regeneration & Progress'										
	afternoon						Michael Ayton 'Exciting Voices in Contemporary British Short Fiction'					
	afternoon	Alan Beale 'Hadrian's Wall'							Mike Leddra 'Mapping from the Air'			
	evening				Mike Green 'Great Composers - Regeneration & Progress in Music'							
	evening	Bea Groves 'The Science of Little and Large' (no session 13th May)										
Wed	morning	Gavin Hardy 'Coastal Ecology'					Fred Stevenson 'Exploring the Solar System' NAC Media Room					
	morning						Gavin Hardy 'Fossil Plants and Living Fossils'					
	lunch	'Perspectives' series on the topic of 'Regeneration & Progress'										
	afternoon	Rachel Lister 'Cities in Literature' (no session 28th May)										
	evening	The Wednesday lecture 'Life, the Universe and Everything'										
Thurs	morning	'Culture & Society' series on the theme of 'Regeneration & Progress'										
	lunch	'Culture & Society' series on the theme of 'Regeneration & Progress'										
	afternoon	Bronwen Calvert 'The American Short Novel'										
	afternoon						Holly Havens 'Current Concerns in Moral Philosophy'					
	evening	Miguel Angel Gomes 'Monsters, demons and mythical creatures of the Middle Ages' /Bernician Studies Group (see full programme for dates)										
Fri	morning	Mike Greatbatch walks in Ouseburn						Richard Moore		Pamela Woof		
	morning	Max Adams 'The Wisdom of Trees'										
	afternoon					Practical Art Lizzie Rowe (no session 30th May or 27th June)						
Sat	morning	'Victorian Homes' Malcolm Grady	'William Turner of Morpeth' Marie Addyman		'The Freedom of Metaphor' Kathleen Kenny	Bernician Studies Group	'Women in Art' Peter Quinn	WALK Patrick Norris	'Flamenco' Roger Mitchell	'Challenges to Humanism' Michael Bavidge	'The Orpheus Myth in Poetry and Music' Michael Ayton	
						Practical Art Margaret Adams			WALK Patrick Norris	Practical Art Cecilia Holmes		

Monday

Philosophy course *from 28th April to 9th June (no session 5th or 26th May)*

Mind Matters: developments in the philosophy of mind

Tutor: [Ian Ground](#)

Venue: Room 3, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.00



The nature of mind, human and animal, continues to be at the heart of philosophical inquiry. Increasingly, philosophers work with cognitive scientists and animal ethologists to develop new accounts of mind and its place in nature. And new experimental work claims to provide new evidence for conceptions of what we are which challenge traditional ideas. This course will examine some topics in this burgeoning and fascinating area of inquiry.

Bird Song

Tutor: David Noble-Rollin

Venue: Room 5, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.30



02 Jun Introduction to bird song and territorial behaviour and identification of the songs of the Thrush family

09 Jun Songs and identification of the nine species of warbler that breed in the area will be discussed using sound recordings and video.

16 Jun **Field trip to Thornley woods meeting at the Thornley Woodland Centre car park.**

This course will cover the bird song and behaviour of thrushes and warblers breeding in the North East. The main emphasis will be on the identification and interpretation of songs, calls and territory. There will be two indoor sessions followed by a field meeting to Thornley Woods to look for and identify some of the species discussed in the lecture sessions.

Monday

Birdwatching walks

Tutor: Steve Barrett

Explore member volunteer



Two trips are planned to coincide with the annual seabird breeding season on the Northumberland coast

Long Nanny OS NU230273

Monday 5th May meet at 10.00 at Newton Links car park (small parking charge) OS ref NU 236261

This will be a visit to an important tern colony just south of Beadnell. Arctic and Common terns nest in the sand dunes. But the really important species is Little Tern, one of the few colonies in our area. A splendid place in a splendid setting. We will walk north through the dunes on an easy and scenic 20 minute walk. Total trip time about two hours.

Farne Islands

Monday 12th May meet at 11.45 at Billy Shiel's kiosk on the harbour at Seahouses for a 12.00 sailing.

We will see three species of terns, gulls, eiders, puffins, guillemots, shags etc, all nesting. St Cuthbert's chapel is also worth a visit. The boat trip costs £15 for adults with a National Trust landing fee (for non NT members) of £6.40. We will be on the Island for about one hour with a trip duration of about two and a half hours.

For both trips light walking clothing should be worn and a hat is advisable to stop terns pecking. Tall people beware.

Car sharing will be organised. Buses from Newcastle serve Seahouses and High Newton.

Please email Steve Barrett at sheila.steve@btinternet.com to show interest and for more information. Please say whether you want to car-share.

*** Please note: Explore cannot accept any liability for members' safety or property on these trips. ***

Monday

Art History and Design on the theme of Regeneration & Progress

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.45 to 11.45

Date	Tutor	Title
28 Apr	Peter Quinn	Vienna Secession
05 May	BANK HOLIDAY	
12 May	Paul Barlow	Space, light and meaning in Vermeer and his contemporaries
19 May	Marie-Therese Mayne	'An Artist and a Lady': women artists through the ages
26 May	BANK HOLIDAY	
02 Jun	Mick Sharp	Hans Schlager: Zero
09 Jun	Peter Quinn	American Abstract Expressionism and Jazz
16 Jun	Chris Daunt	Wood engraving: a rebirth
23 Jun	Alfons Bytautas	Love, Life and Death: Edvard Munch and printmaking
30 Jun	John Millard	Victorian artists in the North East

Monday

Art History and Design on the theme of Regeneration and Progress

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
28 Apr	Peter Quinn	The Kiss: a closer look
05 May	BANK HOLIDAY	
12 May	Paul Barlow	What makes abstract art good? From Mondrian to Color Field painting
19 May	Marie-Therese Mayne	Richard Grainger's Newcastle: changing the face of a city
26 May	BANK HOLIDAY	
02 Jun	Mick Sharp	F.H.K. Henrion: the complete designer
09 Jun	Peter Quinn	Looking at Rothko
16 Jun	Chris Daunt	The Japanese woodcut print
23 Jun	Malcolm Gee	Caricatures, cartoons and art
30 Jun	John Millard	Early days at the Laing Gallery

Monday

Art History Course:

Pre-Raphaelite Art I

Tutor: [Peter Quinn](#)

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

14.00 to 15.30

Date	Title
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19 May	Pre-Raphaelite Art: the Brotherhood and after.
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02 Jun	Art in an Age of Capital and Empire: the P.R.B. in context 1848-78.
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09 Jun	Paradox and the PRB: Rebellion, Revivalism and Realism
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16 Jun	Truth to Nature: the Road to Glenfinlas, Ruskin and the Brotherhood.
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23 Jun	Pre-Raphaelite Women: Siddall and Cornforth.
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Produced at the high point of British industrial and economic strength, the art of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood reflects many of the pre-occupations of the “Age of Capital”. Artists featured will include Rossetti, Millais, Holman Hunt, Burne Jones, Madox Brown, Siddall, Bell Scott.

Monday

History Course: *from 12th May to 30th June (no session 26th May)*

D-Day to Berlin

Tutor: John Sadler

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



19.00 to 20.30

As well the centenary of the First World War, this year - indeed this summer - will see the 70th anniversary of a number of key World War II battles. John Sadler's course will focus on some decisive events, including Normandy, Arnhem, The Bulge and Crossing the Rhine.

Tuesday

Classics from 29th April (advanced only), then both to 10th June (except 27th May no session)

Latin at the Lit & Phil

Tutor: Alan Beale & Adrian Spooner

Venue: Lecture room & Loftus room, Lit & Phil—note access involves climbing external steps

10.30 to 12.00

Explore members are cordially invited to join our Latin classes for £1 per session (donation towards room hire). We have 2 levels: one using the Cambridge Latin Course is almost ready to move onto reading real Latin*, the other is just beginning Virgil's Aeneid using 'Reading Virgil: Aeneid I & II' (Cambridge Intermediate Latin Readers) by Peter Jones.

We hope to introduce sessions for beginners once these two groups are ready to be combined.

* See http://www.cambridgescp.com/Upage.php?p=clc^oa_intro^oa_book4 if you wish to see the level at which this group is working.

Tuesday

History from 29th April to 27th May

Beside the Seaside

Tutor: Tony Barrow

Venue: Room 3, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



10.30 to 12.00

The sea has exerted a powerful influence on the economic growth and cultural identity of N.E. England for generations and physical evidence for it can be found throughout the region for those inclined to look for it. From ports and resorts to market towns and industrial archaeology this course sets out to explore some of this physical evidence through a series of case studies.

History from 3rd June to 1st July

Great Exhibitions

Tutor: John Griffiths

Venue: Room 3, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



10.30 to 12.00

Great Exhibitions will look at the history of exhibitions and world fairs from the nineteenth century to the present, focussing on major events such as the 1851 Great Exhibition, the 1893 Chicago Exposition, the 1939/40 New York World's Fair and the 1951 Festival of Britain, and looking at how these events reflected contemporary society and to what extent they anticipated the future. This is a subject rich in illustration and anecdote, and with historical significance.

Tuesday

Literature on the theme of Regeneration and Progress

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Key:

PRR Prior reading required.

PRH Prior reading helpful

10.30 to 12.00

Date	Tutor	Title
29 Apr	Bronwen Calvert	Looking for Herland: women's utopian writing
06 May	Michael Ayton	Edward Thomas: a neglected poet? (information on the poems to be studied will be provided nearer the date)
13 May	Pamela Woof	King Lear [PRH]
20 May	Elayne Chaplin	Film and the Future: a critical examination of utopian and dystopian science fiction cinema
27 May	Marie Addyman	What goes on in the woods? The role of the forest in modern and traditional fairy tales [for useful background, dip into Sara Maitland, <i>Gossip from the Forest: the Tangled Roots of our-Forests and Fairytales</i> (ISBN 9781847084293) Granta, 2012 , any collection of fairy tales edited by Jack Zipes; Italo Calvino's <i>Italian Folktales</i> (Penguin), and any writing on fairy tales by Marina Warner, e.g. <i>From the Beast to the Blonde</i> .]
03 Jun	Bronwen Calvert	'Attractive Modern Homes'. Progress and domesticity in 1930s/1940s women's fiction
10 Jun	Richard Moore	Regeneration in Shakespeare's Last Plays, with particular reference to <i>The Winter's Tale</i> and <i>The Tempest</i>

Tuesday

Literature on the theme of Regeneration and Progress *contd*

10.30 to 12.00 contd

Date	Tutor	Title
17 Jun	Kathleen Kenny	Three poets exploring the shifting sands of work; what work is or was. Poetry from Fred Voss (Goodstone), Seamus Heaney (District and Circle), and Katrina Porteous (The Lost Music) [texts will be provided at the class]
24 Jun	Martin Wheeler	'He asked, she gave, and nothing was denied': love and sex in Christopher Marlowe's <i>Hero and Leander</i> [PRR] http://personal.rhul.ac.uk/uhle/001/hero%20and%20leander.htm
01 Jul	Rachel Lister	'Wiglomeration': progress and regeneration in Dicken's <i>Bleak House</i>

12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
29 Apr	Bronwen Calvert	A utopian short story: Ursula Le Guin, 'The Ones That Walk Away from Omelas' (1973) [PRR] http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/faculty/dunnweb/rprnts.omelas.pdf
06 May	Michael Ayton	Sorley MacLean's 'Hallaig' [copies of the text will be provided at the class]
13 May	Pamela Woof	Wordsworth and Old Age [information on the poems to be studied will be provided nearer the date]
20 May	Roger Hogg	'Gentilesse and Rudery': an introduction to Chaucer's <i>Canterbury Tales</i>

Tuesday

Literature on the theme of Regeneration & Progress

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

12.30 to 13.30 contd

Date	Tutor	Title
27 May	Marie Addyman	The Girl, the Wolf and her Grandmother [Reading any versions of Little Red Riding Hood, especially from a collection edited by Jack Zipes, and various wolf stories in Italo Calvino's collection will be helpful]
03 Jun	Bronwen Calvert	Two 'domestic' stories: Kate Chopin, 'The Story of an Hour' (1894) and Virginia Woolf, 'A Haunted House' (1921) [PRR] http://www.vcu.edu/engweb/webtexts/hour/ and http://www.englishlibrary.org/stories.html
10 Jun	Richard Moore	Regaining the Self: a look at G.B.Shaw's <i>Captain Brassbound's Conversion</i> [PRH]
17 Jun	Kathleen Kenny	Creative Writing Hour: what we know about work and the transformation of some of what we know into a piece of poetry or prose
24 Jun	Martin Wheeler	The experience of poetry [texts will be provided at the class]
01 Jul	Rachel Lister	Progress in the poetry of W.H. Auden [PRH] further information will be provided nearer the date

Tuesday

Literature Course

Exciting Voices in Contemporary British Short Fiction

Tutor: Michael Ayton

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

14.00 to 16.00

Date	Title
03 Jun	Jon McGregor, 'If It Keeps on Raining' http://fileserver.booktrust.org.uk/usr/library/documents/bbc-nssa-2010/if_it_keeps_on_raining.pdf
	Kate Clanchy, 'The Not-Dead and the Saved' http://fileserver.booktrust.org.uk/usr/library/documents/bbc-nssa-2009/the_not_dead_and_the_saved.pdf
10 Jun	Sara Maitland, 'Moss Witch' http://fileserver.booktrust.org.uk/usr/library/documents/bbc-nssa-2009/moss_witch.pdf
	Adam Thorpe, 'The Names' (text to be provided)
17 Jun	David Almond, 'Nesting' (text to be provided)
	Helen Oyeyemi, 'My Daughter the Racist' http://fileserver.booktrust.org.uk/usr/library/documents/bbc-nssa-2010/my_daughter_the_racist.pdf
24 Jun	David Constantine, 'Tea at the Midland' http://fileserver.booktrust.org.uk/usr/library/documents/bbc-nssa-2010/tea_at_the_midland.pdf
	Linda Cracknell, 'The Lost Son' (text to be provided)

For a while now, the British short story has been experiencing a powerful resurgence. These vibrant stories (many of them shortlisted for BBC National Short Story Awards) use striking language to address topical themes, such as the relation of art and science, children's rights and sensitivities, and the due limits of political and moral tolerance. No prior knowledge is assumed.



Tuesday

History course *from 29th April to 27th May*

Hadrian's Wall

Tutor: Alan Beale

Venue: Room 3, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

15.00 to 16.30

Kipling imagined the Wall as 'one roaring, rioting, cock-fighting, wolf-baiting, horse-racing town'. How do we imagine its physical structure, function and purpose or the lives of the people who lived in its shadow? How was Hadrian himself involved? Was it an aggressive or defensive structure? Was there a walkway? Was it white? Why did they choose this locality? What effect did the building of the Wall have on the local population? These and other questions will engage us during the course.



Cartography course

Mapping from the Air

Tutor: Mike Leddra

Venue: Room 3, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

15.00 to 16.30

17 Jun Commercial Union House

24 Jun **Field trip**

01 Jul Commercial Union House

Following the successful completion of the latest mapping course, we will be looking at aerial photographs and what they can tell us about the area in, which we live. This will be followed by another day plane table mapping and a classroom-based map completion session.



Tuesday

Great Composers—Regeneration & Progress in Music

Tutor: Mike Green

Venue: CUH Quiet area in Main Room, Floor 3

18.00 to 19.30

Date	Title
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29 Apr	Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611) and the Parody Mass
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6 May	Herbert Howells (1892-1983) - Master Tallis' Testament
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13 May	Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943) - Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini
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20 May	Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986) - Quatre motets sur des thèmes grégoriens
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27 May	Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904) and Bohemian folk music
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3 Jun	Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) - re-loading the canon
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10 Jun	Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849) and the Polonaise
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A season exploring works of great composers inspired by music of the past.

Science course from 29th April to 3rd June (no session 13th May)

The Science of Little and Large

Tutor: [Bea Groves](#)

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

19.00 to 20.30

The Science of Little and Large will take a grand tour through the science of atomic physics (including quantum mechanics) and also cosmology. We will have a chance to look at new discoveries on both the tiny and universal scale (and attempts to unify the two). If you don't know your M-Theory from your Chandrasekhar Limit, and want a fun and informative look at the world you inhabit, then this is the course for you. No previous knowledge needed; just an enquiring mind.



Wednesday

Science course from 30th April to 28th May

Coastal Ecology

Tutor: Gavin Hardy

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.00

We go down to the coast and dig holes in the sand, pick up some shells and maybe some seaweed [or should that be kelp?] to take home, wince at encounters with barnacled rocks and if we're lucky find interesting rock pools, and for most of us that's what we know of life in the border strip between sea and land. There's a chance to learn more this season, from marine biologist Gavin Hardy.



Science course from 4th June to 2nd July

Exploring the Solar System

Tutor: Fred Stevenson

Venue: ***Media Room, Newcastle Arts Centre ***

10.30 to 12.00



This five week course aims to explore some of the major planets of the solar system as well as the many smaller worlds that orbit the Sun - from Sun-scorched Mercury to the frozen wastes of Pluto and its companions. We will consider how by investigating other worlds we can gain an insight into the origin and evolution of our own world - the Earth.

Wednesday

Science course *from 4th June to 2nd July*

Fossil Plants and Living Fossils

Tutor: Gavin Hardy

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.00



Wednesday

Perspectives series on the theme of Regeneration & Progress *from 30th April to 2nd July*

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
30 Apr	Andy Lane	The Tangled Tree—a Geologist's View of Human Evolution
07 May	Malcolm Grady	Politics in Everyday Life
14 May	Gavin Hardy	How our Gardens grew; Plant Hunters from the 16th to the 20th century
21 May	Bea Groves	Build your own TARDIS: Problems in Time and Space
28 May	Gordon Moir	Why the Higgs Boson?
04 Jun	Ian Ground	No Better than We Ought to be: The Idea of Moral Progress
11 Jun	Maria Goulding	Dynamic Geometry—Greek ideas through modern technology
18 Jun	Fred Stevenson	MACHO's and WIMP's and other dark matters
25 Jun	Rachel Dunn	Chemistry and industry from the Tyne to the Tees: The chemical industry and glass-making in the NE
02 Jul	Laura Bailey	'The decadence of our language is probably curable': Regeneration and Progress in Language Change

Wednesday

Literature Course:

Cities in Literature

Tutor: Rachel Lister

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



14.00 to 15.30

Date	Title
30 Apr	Christopher Isherwood, <i>Goodbye to Berlin</i>
07 May	Toni Morrison, <i>Jazz</i>
14 May	Toni Morrison, <i>Jazz</i>
21 May	Jeffrey Eugenides, <i>Middlesex</i>
04 Jun	Jeffrey Eugenides, <i>Middlesex</i>
11 Jun	Louise Erdrich, <i>The Antelope Wife</i>
18 Jun	Louise Erdrich, <i>The Antelope Wife</i>

Explore the representation of urban life and identity in four twentieth-century novels that will transport you to the cities of Smyrna, Minneapolis, Berlin, Detroit and New York.

This is a seminar-style course of 7 sessions and **you are asked to make a firm commitment of your wish to attend by emailing weareexplore@gmail.com** . This is likely to be a very popular course so, if you find having expressed an interest that you aren't able to attend, please let us know so we can assess numbers accurately.

Wednesday

Lecture series:

Life, The Universe and Everything

<http://thewednesdaylecture.co.uk/>

Tutor: Various

Venue: Vane Gallery, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

17.30 with lecture from 18.00

This excellent series of lectures is free for all to attend. It is not necessary to be a member of Explore. See website link above for the current programme.

Thursday

Culture & Society series on the theme of Regeneration & Progress *from 1st May to 3rd July*

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.00

Date	Tutor	Title
01 May	John Griffiths	Malls of Destiny: Victor Gruen and the reinvention of the modern city
08 May	John Sadler	D-day 6th June—the Last Crusade; Seventy Years on
15 May	Malcolm Grady	Poetry in Motion
22 May	Miguel Angel Gomes	The Old English Phoenix; Regeneration and Anglo-Saxon Christianity
29 May	Alan Beale	The Origins of the Olympics
05 Jun	Mike Greatbatch	The Regeneration of the Lower Ouseburn. Week 1; Changing Perception and Value
12 Jun	Miguel Angel Gomes	Continuities, departures and progress: Twiddles and the Ruins of Wallsend
19 Jun	Angus Graham	The Primal Mound and the Creation Myths of Ancient Egypt
26 Jun	Sue Wood	Capt John Carr of Gosforth and Scremerston
03 Jul	Sally Waite	Acquiring Antiquity; the Kent collection

Thursday

Culture & Society series on the theme of Regeneration & Progress *continued*

12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
01 May	Derek Cutts	The Battle between a TOWN COUNCILLOR and an ARCHITECT and the POLISS
08 May	Bea Groves	The Science of Gender
15 May	Ralf Russow	Enlightenment
22 May	Anthea Lang	Gateshead—a Victorian boom town
29 May	Grace McCombie	Buildings of Newcastle and Gateshead
05 Jun	Colm O'Brien	Building New Romes: the case of Wilfrid at Hexham
12 Jun	Mike Greatbatch	The Regeneration of the Lower Ouseburn. Week 2: Investing in Heritage and Environment
19 Jun	Ian Ground	Reinventing the Mind: Recent Progress in the Philosophy of Mind
26 Jun	Pearl Saddington	Can there be Regeneration without Legacy?
03 Jul	John Griffiths	Bournville on Tyne

Thursday

Literature Course:

The American Short Novel

Tutor: [Bronwen Calvert](#)

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



14.00 to 15.30

Date	Title
01 May	Henry James, <i>Washington Square</i>
08 May	Henry James, <i>Washington Square</i>
15 May	Edith Wharton, <i>Summer</i>
22 May	Edith Wharton, <i>Summer</i>
29 May	J.D. Salinger, <i>Franny and Zooey</i>
05 Jun	J.D. Salinger, <i>Franny and Zooey</i>
12 Jun	Carson McCullers, <i>The Ballad of the Sad Café</i>

This term we'll consider some particular features of the 'short novel' (c. 200 pages) and see how four American writers have made use of the form. Does a limited word count encourage creativity and innovation?

This is a seminar-style course of 7 sessions and **you are asked to make a firm commitment of your wish to attend by emailing weareexplore@gmail.com** . This is likely to be a very popular course so, if you find having expressed an interest that you aren't able to attend, please let us know so we can assess numbers accurately.

Thursday

Philosophy Course:

Current Concerns in Moral Philosophy *from 5th June to 3rd July*

Tutor: Holly Havens

Venue: Room 3, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



14.00 to 15.30

What does it mean to live the 'good' life? What is trust? This course will examine those and other current concerns in moral philosophy.

History course *15th, 29th May, 12th, 26th June, 3rd July*

Bernician Studies Group

Tutor: Colm O'Brien and [Max Adams](#)

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

18.30 to 20.30

The BSG meets fortnightly under the guidance of Colm O'Brien and Max Adams 'to investigate and discuss the territory of Bernicia and its wider geographical and cultural connections'. It is unlike other courses in the Explore programme in that sessions do not follow a course, and it is participatory - members work under expert guidance but are not formally taught, and may be invited to lead sessions themselves when appropriate. Most sessions are a mix of presentation and discussion. People from outside Explore with particular experience and expertise often attend sessions to share their knowledge and join the discussion. Explore provides accommodation for meetings but incurs no tutorial or visiting lecturer costs. Explore members who think they would find this approach stimulating are invited to join the Group. No previous knowledge is assumed or required.



Thursday

History course *1st, 8th, 22nd May, 5th & 19th June*

Monsters, Demons and Mythical Creatures of the Middle Ages

Tutor: Miguel Angel Gomes

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

19.00 to 20.30



Monsters and demons have kept their power of attraction/repulsion to this day in literature and the arts. In his study on “Others and Aliens: Between Good and evil”, R. Kearney perceives “a growing fascination of Hollywood and the internet with “aliens”- a high-tech breed of extraterrestrial monsters who confound the boundaries of good and evil, exploit our obsession with the hysterical sublime, and blur distinctions between Gods and demons.” This course will try to explore whether such an assertion can be applied to the fascinating creatures that inhabited medieval manuscripts. Despite the clear antagonism between the worlds of monsters and men, we might find that there is something deeply human about the monsters. We will analyse how the heroic and the monstrous are placed at the centre of a permanent strife in which both are vulnerable and exposed to failure and defeat in a very northern conception of cosmic conflict.

Friday

Science course *from 2nd to 30th May*

The Wisdom of Trees

Tutor: [Max Adams](#)

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

11.00 to 12.30

Trees are so clever that it's easy to think they are intelligent. They have explored more than sixty thousand ways of erecting solar panels to harvest sunlight, and they've been doing it for three hundred million years; so perhaps it's no surprise that they can also communicate with each other, have sex at a distance, and employ mercenaries to work for them. This course, which anticipates Max's new book, is called *The Wisdom of Trees* not because they are wise; but because we would be wise to learn from them.



History course *from 2nd to 16th May*

Walks in Ouseburn

Tutor: Mike Greatbatch

Venue: Field trips

Time to be confirmed

Mike Greatbatch's Ouseburn Walks will trace the ground covered in his 3 course sessions at the end of Season 2

Mills, Mines, Foundries & Factories' - The Development of an Industrial Economy, c1750-1850

Ouseburn Housing and Home Life' The Nature of an Industrial Community, c1800-1900

Wherryman and Chain Horse Lads' Transport in the Ouseburn, c1800-1900

However, not having attended the course does not mean the walks would not be interesting and enjoyable! The guided walking tours will provide an opportunity to discover surviving evidence of this history, and will be themed as per each of the talks. Copies of old photographs and documents will be supplied, free of charge, for use during the walking tours.



Friday

Weekday Literature special (One-off class) 6th June

A Touch of the Irish : Great Plays by Irish Dramatists

Tutor: Richard Moore

Venue: Room 3, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 13.30

This class will look at Sean O'Casey's *The Plough and the Stars*, Brian Friel's *Translations*, and J. M. Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World*. Prior reading of these plays would be helpful and ideally copies of the texts should also be brought to the class. W.B. Yeats' *Purgatory* and *Catherine ni Houlihan* will also be referred to, but these will not need to be read and the texts will not need to be brought to the class.

During the class some of the historical background to all the plays will be explained, including Home Rule issues and such interesting sidelines as the mysterious theft of the Irish Crown Jewels.

Weekday Literature special (One-off class) 20th June

Coleridge: poems, politics and the pains of opium

Tutor: Pamela Woof

Venue: Room 3, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 13.30

Friday

Practical Art Course

Paint something you'd like to hang on your own wall

Tutor: Lizzie Rowe

Dates: Fridays 23 May; 6,13,20 June, 4 July 14.00 to 15.30

Venue: Room 8, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

A friendly, informal class suitable for all levels of experience. Working from a still life provided by the tutor or from your own material, see what you can create to be proud of. We will be using any medium suitable for drawing and sketching **except oils**. Please bring your own materials.

This is likely to be a very popular class and spaces are limited.

Please email weareexplore@gmail.com or contact the Explore Office direct to book a place on this class.

Saturday

History:

Victorian Homes

Tutor: Malcolm Grady

Saturday 3rd May 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Science:

William Turner of Morpeth (c1508-1568): Physician and natural historian

Tutor: Marie Addyman

Saturday 10th May 10.30 to 12.30

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Literature:

The Freedom of Metaphor

Tutor: Kathleen Kenny

Saturday 24th May 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

The class will look at the poetic use of simile and metaphor in Jean Sprackland's, 'Sleeping Keys', and Sharon Olds', 'Stag's Leap', two poets who explore broken marriage and how to move on in very different ways.

We will look at how Sprackland and Olds use simile and metaphor to make intensely personal poetry possible to write and, through a series of creative writing exercises, we will try using metaphor and simile to free ourselves to write.



Saturday

Practical Art Course:

Drawing outside the box: explore your creative potential through experimental drawing and mark-making Session 3



Tutor: Margaret Adams **Explore member volunteer**

Saturday 31st May 10.30 to 13.00

Venue: Room 8, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

In this workshop we will try to consolidate some of the drawing and printmaking techniques we worked on last term. We will make a collagraph using textured surfaces and, while it is drying, we'll produce some observational drawings and start to explore colour mixing.

Please bring any resource materials either to work from or for your collagraph, or use what is already in our resource supply.

This is likely to be a very popular class and spaces are limited.

Please email weareexplore@gmail.com or contact the **Explore Office direct** to book a place on this class. When booking, please also advise whether you will be bringing your own materials or will be relying on our resource supply.

Saturday

History:

[Bernician Studies Group](#)

‘Networking and communications in Early Medieval Europe: current research by the Bernician Studies Group in Ireland and elsewhere’

Saturday 31st May 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Researching the impact of the ‘Ecclesiastical Superhighway’ [our term, don’t google it] on Bernicia in the 7th century led the group to investigating Irish connections, and then to fieldwork, and then to a remarkable discovery. On 31st May join members to share the process and see the results.



Art history:

Women in Art

Tutor: Peter Quinn

Saturday 7th June 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

We will start with a well-known essay written in 1871 which asked “Why have there been no great women artists?” We will then look at writers and artists who set out to challenge the orthodoxies of the late twentieth century, and examine institutional attempts to redress the balance in the collecting, appreciating and understanding of art made by women.

Artists include : Valerie Solanos, Eva Hesse, Piero Manzoni, Guerilla Girls, Judy Chicago, Ana Mendiata, Cindy Sherman.

Saturday

History WALK:

St Cuthbert's Cave

Tutor: [Patrick Norris](#)

Saturday 14th June 10.45 at Belford for start at 11.00

Venue: Please meet in front of the Blue Bell Hotel, which is right in the centre of the village. Belford is just off the A1 between Alnwick and Berwick upon Tweed. There's plenty of parking as well.



Belford to St. Cuthbert's Cave; a farmland, woodland and moorland walk in the rolling Northumberland countryside with marvellous views to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne and the Cheviot Hills. We also visit some impressive geological sites before reaching the historic St. Cuthbert's Cave, a place of religious pilgrimage for centuries.

Music, Dance and Culture

Sun & Shadow: a history of Flamenco

Tutor: Roger Mitchell

Saturday 21st June 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Explore the turbulent history that has shaped Flamenco's rich repertoire. An 'intangible' art form that is protected by UNESCO and driven by the dark spirit of duende, Flamenco was born out of adversity and developed by those on the margins of Spanish society. Through a variety of audio-visual materials, this session provides an opportunity to engage with the intensity and passion of what is undoubtedly one of the world's great cultural forms.

Saturday

History WALK

Bewick Moor

Tutor: Patrick Norris

Saturday 21st June 10.45 meet in front of The Tankerville Arms, Eglington –start at 11.00

Venue: Eglington is north of Alnwick on the B6346, which can be reached via the A1 or from the A697. The pub, The Tankerville Arms will normally allow use of their toilets and it's a good place to finish the walk in at the end of the day.

Eglington and Bewick Moor; this wonderful heather moorland offers some fine walking and includes a visit to Blawearie, a deserted and romantic ruin on the highest point of the moor. We visit two Iron Age hill forts standing above a deep gorge and a wonderful Bronze Age Cairn; we'll also be looking out for birds of prey hunting over this remarkable landscape.

Philosophy:

Challenges to Humanism

Tutor: Michael Bavidge

Saturday 28th June 10.30 to 14.00 (break 12.00 to 12.30)

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Saturday

Practical Art:

Make a Family Portrait

Tutor: Cecilia Holmes

Saturday 28th June 14.00 to 17.00

Venue: Room 8, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Bring along a favourite photograph and spend the afternoon painting or drawing from it. Informal class suitable for all levels of expertise - come along and have a go! Please bring your own materials.

This is likely to be a very popular class and spaces are limited. Please email weareexplore@gmail.com or contact the Explore Office direct to book a place on this class.

Literature and Music:

The Orpheus Myth in Poetry and Music

Tutor: Michael Ayton

Saturday 5th July 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

The story of Orpheus' descent to the Underworld to recover his dead bride Eurydice has proved one of the most potent of all the Greek myths, and has been the inspiration for numerous artistic masterpieces.

We'll focus on the representation, and transmutation, of the myth in European literature and music, exploring themes such as the idea of Orphic harmony, Romantic critiques of the Orpheus story and the modern foregrounding of Eurydice, and looking at the work of poets and composers as diverse as Virgil, Rainer Maria Rilke, Jorie Graham, Monteverdi, Gluck and Harrison Birtwistle.

No prior knowledge is assumed, and all texts (and magical sounds!) will be provided.