

# EXPLORE



FREE Week One  
From Monday 1st  
October 2018

**Season 1**  
**2018-19 programme**

# Explore Extra



Interested in Explore but not available during the working week? [Explore Extra](#) has courses specially designed for YOU! Including:

## **Monday evening : John Sadler**

A Deadly Frontier—England v Scotland: the Three Hundred Years War

For more course details please see [Page 12](#) of the programme.

Cost—£65 per course for non Explore members



## **Tuesday evening : Mike Green**

Exploring Bridges in Music

For more course details please see [Page 21](#) of the programme.

Cost—£65 per course for non Explore members



## **Wednesday evening:**

Course 1: A Short Introduction to Philosophy with **Ian Ground**

For more course details please see [Page 34](#) of the programme.

Cost- £50 per course for non Explore members



Course 2: Perceptions of the Past: Gateshead and Tyneside with **Anthea Lang**

For more course details please see [Page 35](#) of the programme.

Cost—£50 per course for non Explore members



Find out more about [Explore Extra](#) online and keep reading the programme for more details.

# Explore Extra—Saturday Sessions

**NEW!** Non-members can now enjoy our Saturday programme too! You can find out more on [Page 44](#)

# EXPLORE

**This season we are proud to host special public lectures as part of the Being Human Festival, the UK's only national festival of the humanities, in collaboration with Newcastle University's Humanities Research Institute. (NUHRI).**



This year Joseph Cowen Lifelong Learning Centre and the Explore Programme team were delighted to establish a relationship with Newcastle University's Humanities Research Institute, who have successfully bid to be a North East 'Hub' for [Being Human Festival](#).

#BeingHuman18  
@BeingHumanFest  
[www.beinghumanfestival.org](http://www.beinghumanfestival.org)

The festival runs from **15th–24th November**, and Explore will host events on the theme of 'Origins and Endings'. You'll find details of our special public sessions on **November [15th AM](#) and [22nd AM](#) & [22nd PM](#)** later in the programme.

We are proud to be part of this nationwide festival and welcome all to Explore with these special public lectures.

For more details of Being Human festival click [HERE](#) or [contact us](#) if you would like to attend.

# EXPLORE

**Joseph Cowen & Tyneside Society**

**Dr. Bill Lancaster**

**Wednesday**

**19th September 2018**

**18.00 to 19.00**

A **FREE** talk at the [Lit & Phil](#)—  
open to all.

Phone the Lit & Phil on

0191 232 0192 to book your  
**FREE** place.





# EXPLORE

## FREE Taster Event

**Tuesday**

**25th September 2018**

**11.00 to 13.00**

4th Floor

Commercial Union House

Lectures from our expert  
tutors—click [HERE](#) to book your  
**FREE** place.



# Explore Season 1 Programme 2018-19

**If you're new to Explore why not come along and try the programme?**

**There are two options:**

- **Attend our FREE taster with mini lectures from our expert tutors—find out more by clicking [HERE](#)**
- **Book your free session in Week One starting Monday 1st October 2018 by emailing [weareexplore@gmail.com](mailto:weareexplore@gmail.com) Click [HERE](#) to see the Week One programme. Download your FREE voucher [here](#).**

You need to join Explore in order to attend our full programme after your free taster session. Click [here](#) for details of how to join Explore! If you're not a full-member you can also sign up to our [Explore Extra](#) courses and Saturday sessions—find more details further on in the [programme](#).

Most of our sessions require no advance booking—just turn up. However, for study groups, practical art and some walks, we do need to manage attendances. These sessions (only) have specific booking instructions in this programme.

If you are disabled and would require a helper in order to take part in Explore, the helper can attend without charge.

# Explore Season 1 Programme 2018-19

'Wise men build bridges...' the saying goes, so with all the iconic feats of engineering here in the North East we must have plenty of wisdom to share!

Whether it's a passage over troubled water or a few calming bars before the final chorus soars, bridges are central to day-to-day life across the world. When pushed too far, bridges are the site of conflict; military, political, ideological and social. Yet for millennia, they have brought man and ideas together, an enduring symbol of reconciliation, compassion, unity and progress.

Our 2018-19 Season One programme spans broad areas of thought, from literature, history and philosophy to biology, astrology and cinematography, all solidly connected via the theme of 'Bridges'.

Congratulations to the programming team -

Art History and Design: Helen Watson and Margaret Adams

Narratives (Literature, Cinema and Music) : Rita Prabhu and Angela Young

Perspectives (Science and Mathematics): Christine Burridge and Joy Rutter

Culture & Society (History and Archaeology): Joy Rutter and Kath Smith

Philosophy: Joy Rutter

with direction from Bronwen Calvert & Malcolm Grady.

We are also grateful to [Ampersand Inventions](#) 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)

## Monday

**Philosophy Course:** *1st to 29th Oct*

**Kant: First Looks at the First Critique**

**Tutor:** [Ian Ground](#)

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

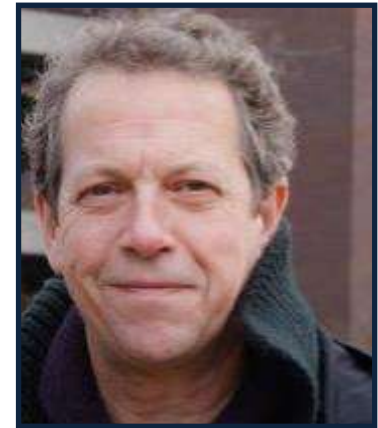
**10.30 to 12.00**

Kant's *The Critique of Pure Reason* (1782,1787) is widely regarded as the one of the most profound and far reaching works of the western philosophical tradition. In this course, we will explore its rationale and principle conclusions, sampling parts of the text and central arguments. While no short course can plumb the depth and breadth of this extraordinary work, it can still be an extraordinary experience to engage, however incompletely, with the mind of one of philosophy's most profound thinkers.

Various translations of *The Critique of Pure Reason* are available online.

We will work with <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/4280/4280-h/4280-h.htm>

But may sometimes refer to Jonathan Bennett's reworking at <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/assets/pdfs/kant1781part1.pdf>





## Monday

**History Course:** *5th Nov to 3rd Dec*

**House History:** tracing the history of a property using archival sources

**Tutor:** Sue Wood

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

### **10.30 to 12.00**

Sue Wood, Head of Collections at Northumberland Archives, presents this short course exploring how to trace the history of a property using archival sources.

We will look at how you can date a property and discover information about any substantive changes that may have taken place. We will also look at how you can discover information about owners and occupiers. As well as considering where you might locate original source material we will also explore sources available on the internet.

## Monday

### Art History and Design on the theme of 'Bridges'

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



**10.45 to 11.45**

Date	Tutor	Title
01 Oct	<a href="#">Peter Quinn</a>	Charles Rennie Mackintosh (1868-1928)
08 Oct	Ken Smith	Public Art in Newcastle and Gateshead from 1945 Onwards
15 Oct	Malcolm Gee	Bridges in Modern Painting: Paris to New York c.1870-1920
22 Oct	David Rosier	The Dowager Empress Cixi: The Architect of Modern China or a Megalomaniac Traditionalist
29 Oct	Ilana Mitchell	<a href="#">Wunderbar</a> —10 years of participatory engaged projects in Newcastle
05 Nov	<a href="#">Peter Quinn</a>	Caribbean Art
12 Nov	Sarah Gee	Impermanent Ceramics: A Personal Exploration
19 Nov	Charis Theodorakopoulos	Art Conservation: Recent developments in art conservation technology and the tools of conservators, to tackle problems which cannot be resolved with traditional methods.
26 Nov	Stephen Moonie	Paths into Modernism
03 Dec	<a href="#">Peter Quinn</a>	Angry Penguins, Art and Literature in 1940s Melbourne

## Monday

### Art History and Design on the theme of 'Bridges'

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



**12.30 to 13.30**

Date	Tutor	Title
01 Oct	<a href="#">Peter Quinn</a>	Thinking About Art: Value
08 Oct	David Lowther	Bridging Art & Science: The First Painting of a Red Panda in Europe?
15 Oct	Malcolm Gee	Die Bruecke: The Artists' Group 'The Bridge' in Dresden and Berlin 1905-1913
22 Oct	David Rosier	The Dowager Empress Cixi: Art, Fashion and Photography in her Beloved Summer Palace
29 Oct	Ilana Mitchell	The Bobby Baker Project— <a href="#">Great Tiny War</a>
05 Nov	<a href="#">Peter Quinn</a>	Thinking About Art: Craft
12 Nov	Dorothy Osler	Amish Quilts and the Welsh Connection
19 Nov	Krista Puranen Wilson	The 'Real' Hygge: A Brief History of Scandinavian Design - Why we design the way we do and what it means to us in everyday life
26 Nov	Stephen Moonie	From Modernism to Postmodernism
03 Dec	<a href="#">Peter Quinn</a>	Thinking About Art: Kitch

## Monday

**Art History Course:** 1st, 8th, 15th Oct, 5th, 12th, 26th Nov and 3rd Dec

**Photography: A History**

**Tutor:** [Peter Quinn](#)

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

**14.00 to 15.30**

A seven part survey of the history of the modern medium of photography. Although we will take a largely chronological approach, each session will feature material ranging over the history of the medium from 1839 to the present. Suggested reading:

*Photography: A Cultural History* 4th ed 2014 Mary Warner Marien

*The Photograph: A Visual and Cultural History* (Oxford History of Art) 1997 Graham Clarke

*Photography: A Very Short Introduction* (Very Short Introductions) 2006 [Steve Edwards](#)

*Photography: A Concise History* (World of Art) 1981, [Ian Jeffrey](#)



Date	Title
01 Oct	Eureka
08 Oct	Click
15 Oct	Snap
05 Nov	Real
12 Nov	Cut and Paste
26 Nov	Cheese
03 Dec	Framed

## Monday

**Explore Extra—cost £65 per course to non Explore members**

**History Course:** *8th Oct to 26th Nov*

**A Deadly Frontier: England-v-Scotland; The Three Hundred Years War 1296-1603**

**Tutor:** [John Sadler](#)

**Venue:** Green Room, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne  
**19.00 to 20.30**



For three long centuries England and Scotland fought a series of conflicts to determine who should rule a united Britain. The Scots call this the Great Cause, a war of independence against English aggression which, by supreme irony, only ended when James VI, King of Scots ascended the throne of England, and by invitation not conquest. The near endemic warfare along the disputed threat or frontier spawned the infamous Steel Bonnets, the border rivers, a uniquely violent frontier society with an interlaced raft of local and family affinities which neatly transcended any national allegiance. This monster once released in the fourteenth century, could not be put back into the bottle as long as the borders existed. A society riven with faction, seasoned by war and steeped in blood – yes, your ancestors!

**Non-members,** please register interest in this course by emailing [programme@weareexplore.org.uk](mailto:programme@weareexplore.org.uk) and either contact us for BACS details or pay by cheque at the first session.





## Tuesday

**History Course:** *from 2nd to 30th Oct*

**Britain in the Long Nineteenth Century, 1789-1914 (Part 1)**

**Tutor:** Nick Cott

**Venue:** B&D studios, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

**10.30-12.00**



The first part of this series for Season 1 will concentrate on the period 1789 to 1840. This is a period where Britain was able to exert itself as the foremost European and world power. It showed a general sense of British great confidence and ambition, but at the same time a contradictory anxiety about the future. It will trace the developments in the creation of a more modern Britain.

Date	Title
02 Oct	Introduction & the industrial revolution
09 Oct	The rise of the working class
16 Oct	The birth of the modern political & bureaucratic state
23 Oct	British identity
30 Oct	Britain & the Atlantic world

## Tuesday

**Classics :** *from 2nd October to 4th December*

**Latin at the** [Lit & Phil](#)

**Tutor:** Alan Beale & Adrian Spooner

**Venue:** Lecture room & Loftus room, Lit & Phil

**10.30 to 12.00**

Explore members are cordially invited to join our Latin classes for £1 per session (donation towards room hire). There are 2 levels:

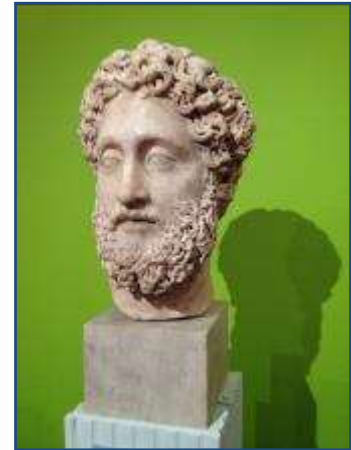
### **Intermediate**

Cicero

### **Advanced**

Selected poems of Catullus

These classes are run by the Lit & Phil.



## Tuesday

### Narratives series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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



Please note the morning session is for generally 1 hour and will last from 10.45 until 11.45 am. Some tutors (Marie Addyman on 30th October) have opted for a very slight change to this schedule – please check details in the weekly bulletin nearer the time for details.

### 10.45 to 11.45

Date	Tutor	Title
02 Oct	Rachel Lister	Reading Popular Literature: The Fiction of Anne Tyler
		In this session we will consider how Anne Tyler has contested the boundary between 'popular' and 'literary' fiction since the release of her debut novel in 1964. Covering extracts from a wide range of her novels, we will discuss the reasons for Tyler's enduring popularity and the much-admired literary elements of her work. Extracts will be provided in advance.
09 Oct	Helen Williams	18th Century Literature: An Introduction to the Early Novel
16 Oct	Rachel Lister	The Short Story on Film
		How difficult is it to turn a short story into a feature film? What are the differences between adapting novels and short stories for the silver screen? This session will explore the particular challenges that this form of adaption presents, drawing on a range of film theories and adaptations.

## Tuesday



### Narratives series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

### Notes on reading/links to online texts

The web links given below are suggestions only. There may be better links on the Internet if students search for them.

### 10.45 to 11.45

Date	Tutor	Title
23 Oct	Pamela Woof	T.S. Eliot's <i>The Wasteland</i> (1922)
		Eliot's poem has no clear narrative, but throws out bridges into the past, crossings into time past and back into the present. It is surreal, like much of the art of this war-wrecked period, unwelcoming, uncomfortable, yet lyrical. There is no safety in the bridges Eliot provides; there is no safety in 20th century modernism. Whether we like it or not, we are flung into uncertainty, and we are each alone. A modern poet for modern people, for us, almost a hundred years after it was written, its significance immeasurable.
30 Oct	Marie Addyman	Pilgrimage: A Bridge Over Troubled Water?
		What makes pilgrimage different from tourism (though often it is incorporated into tourism)? This first of three sessions will look at a selection of poems, beginning with the cheerful opening of Chaucer's <i>Prologue to the Canterbury Tales</i> and follow through to more unsettling later works. The two further sessions are scheduled for Wednesdays, 7th & 14th November.
06 Nov	Clare Jackson	George Mackay Brown: 'Shell Story' and 'The Paraffin Lamp' from <i>Winter Tales</i>
		George Mackay Brown was a writer fascinated by tradition and change in his native Orkney. We will be considering in this session the pathos, humour and ambiguities of Mackay Brown's style as he portrays a time-honoured practice in 'Shell Story', and, in 'The Paraffin Lamp', a character's seeming refusal to engage with modern life.

## Tuesday



### Narratives series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

### Notes on reading/links to online texts

The web links given below are suggestions only. There may be better links on the Internet if students search for them.

#### 10.45 to 11.45

Date	Tutor	Title
13 Nov	<a href="#">Brycchan Carey</a>	Voyages to the Moon
		A talk about the ways that people imagined going to the moon in the years before spaceflight, from the Roman to the Victorian period.
20 Nov	Claire Nally	Short stories by Michel Faber, from <i>The Apple: Crimson Petal Stories</i> (2006)
		In this session, we will be looking at two short stories from Faber's 2006 collection, 'Christmas in Silver Street' and 'The Apple,' and we will be thinking about the context of Neo-Victorian fiction, including why we are so fascinated by the Victorians, and some of the ethical problems in revisiting historical experiences. The texts will be provided nearer the time.
27 Nov	Michael Ayton	Hart Crane's <i>The Bridge</i> : An Introduction
		This genre-defying hymn to new York's Brooklyn Bridge has provoked huge debate ever since its publication in 1930. The introductory poem can be read <a href="#">here</a>
04 Dec	Chris Phipps	An English Journey—J B Priestley in the North East
		J B Priestley's <i>English Journey</i> was his greatest non-fiction work, which created a lasting controversial portrait of our region. He loathed the Geordie accent, had praise for the People's Theatre, pity for the unemployed of Gateshead and admiration for the Bensham Grove Project, which survives today.
		Was Priestley compassionate or unfairly critical of what he saw here?



## Tuesday



### Narratives series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

#### 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
02 Oct	Rachel Lister	"Bridging the Gap": The Fictional World of Jean Rhys This session will give us the chance to consider the functions of silence and absence in the fiction of Jean Rhys. We will look closely at Rhys's representation of gaps across her novels and short stories: in particular, the gaps between self and other and the individual and the community. Extracts will be provided in advance.
09 Oct	Helen Williams	18 <sup>th</sup> Century Literature: Digressive & Divergent Narratives This sessions will focus on Laurence Sterne's experimentation with digressive narrative and how to bridge divergent narrative threads.
16 Oct	Rachel Lister	From 'The Bear Came Over the Mountain' to <i>Away From Her</i> : Adapting Alice Munro In this session we will apply our discussion of the short story on film to Sarah Polley's adaption of one of Alice Munro's most admired stories, 'The Bear Came Over the Mountain'. We will consider whether Polley's adaption captures the layers and complexities of Munro's story.
23 Oct	Pamela Woof	T.S. Eliot's <i>The Wasteland</i> (continued)
30 Oct	Marie Addyman	Pilgrimage: A Bridge Over Troubled Water? (continued)

## Tuesday



### Narratives series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

**12.30 to 13.30**

Date	Tutor	Title
06 Nov	Clare Jackson	George Mackay Brown: 'Shell Story' and 'The Paraffin Lamp' from <i>Winter Tale</i> (cont.)
13 Nov	<a href="#">Brycchan Carey</a>	Voyages to the Moon (continued)
20 Nov	Claire Nally	Hilary Mantel's <i>The Giant, O'Brien</i> (2013) In our discussions on Mantel's short novel, we will be drawing comparisons and distinctions between O'Brien and his historical predecessor, the 'Irish Giant' Charles Byrne. We will address some of the ethical implications of rewriting a real life story as fiction. We will also look at the novel through the historical contexts of 'freak shows' and exhibitions, the relationship between England and Ireland at the time, and medical practice during the late eighteenth century. No prior reading required.
27 Nov	Michael Ayton	<i>The Battle of Maldon: A Noble Fragment</i> – These 325 lines of Old English poetry detail a cruel defeat by Viking invaders in 991 – and raise many questions. Read the poem <a href="#">HERE</a> or <a href="#">HERE</a>
04 Dec	Chris Phipps	An English Journey—J B Priestley in the North East (Continued)

## Tuesday

**Literature Course:** *2nd to 30th Oct*

**Identity & Discovery, Influence & Control: the growth & shaping of the English language**

**Tutor:** Clare Jackson

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

**14.00 to 15.30**



The enormous expansion of English vocabulary from the Renaissance onwards generated an increasing insistence on its control among the learned and the powerful. In this course, we will be examining five key forces acting on the language, and their impact on our ideas of identity and language today.

**Film Course:** *6th to 20th November*

**Narrative Structure in Film**

**Tutor:** Roger Mitchell

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

**14.00 to 16.00**

In this series, Roger will consider how film narratives are structured by applying three theories to a range of film texts taken from both Hollywood and world cinemas.

- 6 Nov Cause, Effect and the Three-Act Narrative
- 13 Nov Character Experience and Transformation
- 20 Nov Constructing and Managing Dramatic Conflict

The theories that will be covered not only give some insight into how film narratives are structured, but could also be used in relation to the study of literature.

## Tuesday

### **Explore Extra —cost £65 per course to non Explore members**

#### **Music Course: Bridges**

**Tutor:** Mike Green

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

**18.00 to 19.30**

In these eight sessions we will explore some significant musical characters, developments and devices at least loosely associated with bridges. Sessions will cover a range of musical styles.

There will be plenty of opportunity for discussion and listening to musical examples. No formal musical knowledge is required.



<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>
09- Oct	Frank Bridge
16-Oct	London Bridge is Falling Down
23-Oct	Bridge Music
30-Oct	Bridge Over Troubled Water
06-Nov	Ponticello
13-Nov	Take it to the bridge...
20-Nov	The Bridge on the River Kwai
27-Nov	The Bridge of Athlone

**Non-members**, please register interest in this course by emailing [programme@weareexplore.org.uk](mailto:programme@weareexplore.org.uk) and either contact us for BACS details or pay by cheque at the first session.



## Wednesday

**Science Course:** *from 3rd to 31st Oct*

**Vermin of the Skies: Asteroids, Comets and Dwarf Planets**

**Tutor:** Fred Stevenson

**Venue :** Media Room, Newcastle Arts Centre, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne

**For Directions to Newcastle Arts Centre please see their website [HERE](#)**



**10.30 to 12.00**

In this five week course we will consider all of the minor bodies orbiting the Sun. As well as looking at past space missions to these objects we will look at the results of two important missions which reach their objectives this summer - Hyabusa 2, to asteroid Ryugu and OSIRIS-Rex, to asteroid Bennu.

We will consider the historical importance of asteroids and comets to life on Earth - as well as their potential devastating effects when they occasionally collide with us and importantly how this can be avoided in the future!



## Wednesday

**Mid-Week Literature Course:** *from 3rd to 24th Oct*

**Russian Short Fiction of the Inter-war Period**

**Tutor:** Michael Ayton

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

**10.30-12.00**



Centring on the powerful expressionist tales of Isaac Babel as published in *Red Cavalry* (1926) and *Odessa Tales* (1931), this course explores a variety of depictions of and approaches to Soviet life and society, from the idealistic to the savagely sardonic. Other writers will include Yevgeny Zamyatin, whose famous novel *We* may have influenced Orwell, the satirist Mikhail Zoshchenko, the journalist, poet and translator Vera Inber, daughter of Trotsky's cousin, and Daniil Kharms, whose enigmatic 1939 novella *The Old Woman* prefigures Beckett.

All (or virtually all) texts will be freely available online, and no prior knowledge is necessary or assumed.

## Wednesday

**One-off Narratives Special:** 31st Oct

**Figaro Gets Married: A Crazy Day for Aristos**

**Tutor:** Michael Ayton

**Venue** White Room, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

**10.30 to 13.30**



Master horologist, litigious journalist, networker, financier, spy, Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais (1732–99) may seem an unlikely subversive, but his bizarre life comprised a genuine love of political liberty, Napoleon famously describing his potent, tautly constructed five-act drama *The Marriage of Figaro* (1784) as 'the Revolution in action'.

Mozart's similarly titled opera was premiered only two years later than the play. In Vienna it unsurprisingly aroused controversy, but its beauties were immediately recognised; Haydn said he heard it in his dreams. Though its warmly engaging comedic texture along with the enduring popularity of its tunes (one of them heard at Trooping the Colour!) may seem to soften Beaumarchais' radical barbs, it has its own subtle subversiveness mingled with profound psychological insightfulness.

By means of textual and musical examples – and a little bit of in-class play-acting – we'll explore these two masterpieces, addressing questions such as: what were the primary aims of playwright and composer?; how does Beaumarchais' play relate to his earlier *The Barber of Seville*?; what were the relations of these works to the censor?; and where was Mozart's brilliant librettist Lorenzo Da Ponte – freethinker, libertine, chum of Casanova – in all this?

## Wednesday

**Art History Course:** *from 1st Nov\* to 5th Dec*

**Bridge, Hinge or Roadblock:** **how one era in painting leads to another, or leads instead to a dead-end**

**Tutor:** Gordon Reavley

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

**10.30 to 12.00\***

This series of sessions takes a look at how events and episodes within art history can determine what follows, and how painting and specific works are perceived over time.

01 Nov From Tradition to Modernity (\*This session is a Thursday 14.00-15.30. All other sessions Weds 10.30-12.00)

07 Nov Romanticism, Classicism, Realism and the development of *plein-air* painting

14 Nov \*No Session

21 Nov The Influence of Impressionism, the avant-garde and abstraction

28 Nov Marcel Duchamp

05 Dec 'He opened the door that so many of us went through' Duchamp's legacy: Neo-Dada, Pop Art & Conceptualism

**Science / History Course:** *from 14th Nov to 28th Nov*

**Finding Connection: Three Scientists, Three Nations, One Moon**

**Tutor:** Chris Hudson

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

**10.30 to 12.00**

During WWII, three scientists in three different nations were working in very different disciplines to very different purposes; Shannon, Turing, Von Braun. Yet their work came together in ways they could not have anticipated, each contributing to put a man on the Moon. Learn more about each of them, and find how their discoveries combined.

## Wednesday

**Two-Part Continuation:** 7th & 14th November

**Pilgrimage: A Bridge Over Troubled Water? (Continued)**

**Tutor:** Marie Addyman

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

**10.30 to 12.30**

What makes pilgrimage different from tourism (though often it is incorporated into tourism)?

Following on from the 1<sup>st</sup> session on Tuesday, 30th October, these two sessions will look at both parts of Bunyan's classic *The Pilgrim's Progress*, his vision of a journey from this world to the next; and end with Sebald's 'English pilgrimage' on the East Anglian coast, *The Rings of Saturn*.

## Wednesday

### Perspectives series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

#### 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
03 Oct	Lionel Sainsbury	Tunnel construction, Monument Metro Station, Gateshead and beyond
10 Oct	Mike Gladstone	Celebrating the Tyne Bridge: Opened 90 Years Ago Today!
17 Oct	Derek Teasdale	Geology in your Living Room Many of our favourite technological devices contain components that use geological materials (metals or minerals) which are extremely rare or found in a limited number of locations. The strategic and economic value of these deposits is immense and has brought wealth and conflict to previously obscure places. Learn about your TV, phone and tablet's impact across the globe.
24 Oct	Paul Flecknell	'All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others': Animals, pain & sentience Why do we care more about the welfare of some species than we do about others? We have a reputation as a nation of animal lovers, but we don't protect the welfare of all animals equally. We also have a very poor record of giving the best care we can to animals we clearly do care about, as is reflected in the way the veterinary profession and others have implemented methods of preventing and alleviating pain in animals. Developments in our understanding of animal consciousness and emotions are changing the way we think about their welfare. But will recognising how they are feeling change how we treat them?



## Wednesday

### Perspectives series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

#### 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
31 Oct	Maria Goulding	The Mathematics of Bridges Ever wondered about the beautiful shapes of bridges? Join me in investigating their beautiful curves and equations. (You may need a calculator)
07 Nov	Vasile Ersek	A history of atmospheric pollution: The Bronze Age to the Industrial Revolution. The smelting process, releases microscopic particles of lead into the atmosphere, which are then transported long distances by winds until they settle on the ground. Peat bogs give us a clear history of the environment in which they grew and around 5600 years ago, people in the Balkan peninsula reached a major milestone: their mining and metal smelting created enough pollution for us to detect today. In this talk we will explore the evolution of atmospheric pollution in SE Europe from the Bronze Age to the Industrial Revolution, providing a unique history of mining and smelting in that area.
14 Nov	Sally Standart	PTSD: A New Name for an Ancient Disorder PTSD is talked about a lot in the media but often not discussed accurately. It has been described for centuries and given many names. This session will give an overview of its diagnosis and how relevant that is to treatment options. At present it is being taken more seriously in psychiatry and there have been huge developments in the last 20 years in the treatment of this puzzling disorder.

## Wednesday

### Perspectives series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

#### 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
21 Nov	David Weinkove	Ageing: Chance and interdependency.  Centenarians are often asked for their secret to long life. I will argue that, while interesting, this is the wrong way to understand ageing. Ageing varies dramatically between individuals yet is inevitable. I will introduce a theoretical approach that explains this feature of ageing and provides ideas of how best to slow ageing, while acknowledging that a good dose of luck is also essential.
28 Nov	Chris Stokes	Glaciers and Floods in Northern Norway: from early expeditions in the 1950s to the present.
05 Dec	David Stainsby	The Human Foot: A Masterpiece of Nature's Mechanical Engineering Design  Man is the only obligatory bipedal mammal. A major contribution to this remarkable skill is the anatomy of the foot - based upon a bow-string beam type of construction, as seen in the Newcastle upon Tyne High Level Bridge. But, unlike the bridge, our foot posture can alter and still remain stable. Maintenance requirements are normally minimal, but, mal-treatment must be avoided if a lifetime's trouble-free service is to be expected.

## Wednesday



### **Practical Art & Craft Studio:**

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st October, 7th, 14th & 28th November

**Venue:** B&D Studios, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

### **13.30 to 15.30**

Continuing our Art and Craft Studio, to run for 8 weeks on a Wednesday afternoon.

There will not be a tutor at each session but we will use the available funding to buy in tutors as and when we need them. We also draw on the skills amongst members.

Margaret Adams will coordinate this group.

## Wednesday

**Science Course:** *from 3rd to 31st Oct*

**Animal Evolution**

**Tutor:** Wallace Arthur

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

**14.00 to 15.30**

In this course we will examine both the pattern and the process of animal evolution.

The first involves describing the Tree of Life, with particular reference to the big branch that we call the animal kingdom. The second involves looking at mechanisms that drive evolution, including Darwinian natural selection and others. Along the way, we will take a look at ongoing problems and controversies, including the nature of the Cambrian Explosion of animal life.

## Wednesday

**Mid-Week Literature Course:** 17th & 24th Oct, 7th to 28th Nov

### Reading the Modern Novella

**Tutor:** Rachel Lister

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

**14.00 to 15.30**



Novella, novelette or short novel? Whichever term we choose, these texts that sit somewhere between the 'short story' and the 'novel' continue to fascinate readers and critics.

In this module we will look at a range of novellas from the twentieth century. We will consider whether the form lends itself to specific themes and effects and discuss possible reasons for its particular appeal to modern readers.

Date	Title
17 Oct	<i>God Help the Child</i> —Toni Morrison
24 Oct	<i>God Help the Child</i> —Toni Morrison (continued)
31 Oct	NO SESSION
07 Nov	<i>Offshore</i> —Penelope Fitzgerald
14 Nov	<i>The Wife</i> —Meg Wolitzer
21 Nov	<i>The Wife</i> —Meg Wolitzer (continued)
28 Nov	<i>Sense of an Ending</i> —Julia Barnes

## Wednesday

**History Course:** *from 7th Nov to 5th Dec*

**Herodotus: His Stories**

**Tutor:** Alan Beale

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

**14.00 to 15.30**



Herodotus may be considered the first historian whose writing survives. But his huge work is so much more than a narrative of the conflict between East and West (Persia and the Greeks). Herodotus seems to be interested in everything: topics such as ethnography, morality, fate, revenge, gods, society, political thought and of course the devastating events of the 'Persian Wars'. Some tales are well known: Arion and the dolphin, Polycrates and his ring, Solon, Croesus and 'happiness'. Others are more surprising: how to catch a crocodile, or gold-digging ants bigger than foxes. Herodotus is indefatigably inquisitive (histories are the Greek for enquiries) and constantly fascinating. Rarely could the cliché 'a good read' be more appropriate. We will read sections of his narrative each week, discuss not only the subject matter but also the way Herodotus constructs his narrative.

Please try to read in advance Herodotus Histories Book 1 (see below) before the 1st session.

### **Recommended Translations:**

Tom Holland, Herodotus: The Histories, Penguin 2013

Robin Waterfield, Herodotus: The Histories, OUP 1998

Aubrey de Sélincourt, Herodotus: The Histories, revised by John Marincola, Penguin 1996

**Other reading:** John Gould, Herodotus, Weidenfeld & Nicolson 1989

**Website:** [Hestia](https://hestia.open.ac.uk/) <https://hestia.open.ac.uk/>

## Wednesday

**Explore Extra—cost £50 per course to non Explore members**

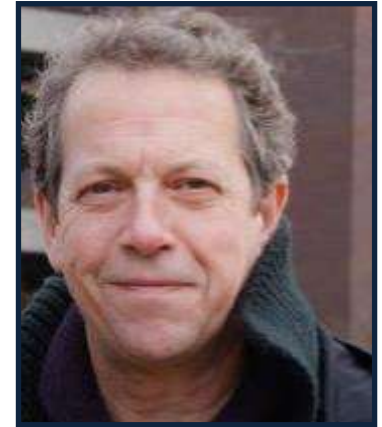
**Philosophy Course:** *10th Oct—7th Nov*

**A Short Introduction to Philosophy**

**Tutor:** [Ian Ground](#)

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

**19.00-20.30**



What can I know? What am I? What should I do?

These three questions will be the focus of this introduction to philosophical thought. 5 sessions for the curious, the puzzled and those thrilled by ideas.

**Non-members,** please register interest in this course by emailing [programme@weareexplore.org.uk](mailto:programme@weareexplore.org.uk) and either contact us for BACS details or pay by cheque at the first session.





## Wednesday

### **Explore Extra—cost £50 per course to non Explore members**

**History Course:** 7th Nov—5th Dec

**Perceptions of the Past: Gateshead and Tyneside**

**Tutor:** Anthea Lang

**PLEASE NOTE, THIS COURSE IS HELD AT AN ALTERNATIVE VENUE**

**Venue:** Bensham Grove Community Centre, Sidney Grove, Bensham, Gateshead, NE8 2XD (off B1426 Bensham Road)

**18.30-20.30**

**Non-members,** please register interest in this course by emailing [programme@weareexplore.org.uk](mailto:programme@weareexplore.org.uk) and either contact us for BACS details or pay by cheque at the first session.

A local history course with a difference! Each week we will take a different subject and explore it using a wide variety of contemporary writings and illustrations. In the beautiful surroundings of Bensham Grove, once the home of Liberal politician Robert Spence Watson and his family, we will be looking at a range of primary sources to experience history 'at the time'.

07 Nov 'Travellers and their journeys' - How did people travel in the North East? What did they think about it? What did they bring with them? Where did they go?

14 Nov 'Aal about the toon' Newcastle is a great city but what has it been like to live here? Or to live just over the river? How has Newcastle changed over the years?

21 Nov 'A Series of unfortunate events, Disasters galore...' - But how were they recorded? Did any have any influence on what happened next?

28 Nov 'A Hard Days work' - The North East has been home to many different industries. But was it really like working in them?

05 Dec 'Coughs and sneezes spread diseases' - Health and death and how it was recorded in the past. What were the chances of growing old?

Bensham Grove is on main bus routes and is a 10 minute walk from Gateshead metro. There is limited parking on site but street parking is available nearby.



## Thursday

### Culture & Society series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

#### 10.30 to 12.00

Date	Tutor	Title
04 Oct	Gordon Reavley	Why the First World War Failed to End
11 Oct	Susan Major	Holding the Line: Women Railway Workers in WW2
18 Oct	Tim Barmby	Ironbridge and the Rest: Bridges and other connections in 18th & 19th Century social & industrial developments
25 Oct	John Griffiths	'The Belt and Road Initiative' - The Chinese policy to recreate the 'Silk Road' trading route linking China, Central Asia and Europe.
01 Nov	Anthea Lang	Crossing the Tyne: From Romans to Railways
08 Nov	Nick Cott	'Tea Party Bob': the political career of Sir Robert Aske, MP for Newcastle East 1923-1924 and 1929-1945
15 Nov	Michael Mulvihill & Sarah France	PhD to Public (Public lecture in collaboration with Newcastle University & 'Being Human Festival')
22 Nov	Stephen Moore & Caroline Rae	PhD to Public (Public lecture in collaboration with Newcastle University & 'Being Human Festival')
29 Nov	<a href="#">John Sadler</a>	The North West Frontier of Rome
06 Dec	David Rosier	Song (Han Chinese) to Yuan Dynasty (Mongols) 1279



## Thursday

**PhD to Public (in collaboration with Newcastle University & 'Being Human Festival')**

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

**10.30 to 12.00**

**Thursday 15th November**

**This session is open to the public**

### Tutor

### Title

Michael Mulvihill

'Tyneside after doomsday: visualising nuclear attack upon the river Tyne'

In the early 1980s when I was a small boy growing up in South Shields I used to run home from school as fast as could to see if I could make it home within the Four Minute nuclear attack warning. This was a time of grave geopolitical tension as the United States and Soviet Union squared up to one another over deployments of nuclear forces in Europe: the 1983 War Scare the closest the world ever came to Nuclear War. Over the past two years I have been the first artist in residence and doctoral researcher at RAF Fylingdales Ballistic Missile Early Warning Radar Station. My art practice has emerged from the effects of the 1983 nuclear brinkmanship and the real possibility of the end of the world. This presentation will look at one of the world's first pieces of computational geography that investigated the effects of nuclear war upon the United Kingdom in the 1980s, carried out by Stan Openshaw, a geographer working at Newcastle University whose data informed the BBC nuclear war drama *Threads* (1984). It explores what might have been the fate of Tyneside had brinkmanship failed.

Sarah France

'Before The End: Cultural Precarity, Crisis and Futurity in Pre-Apocalyptic Narratives'

In a flourishing of scholarly interest in apocalyptic fiction, critical focus has generally been drawn towards the events after catastrophe, and how societies are restructured following devastation. My research looks instead to pre-apocalyptic narratives: texts whose focus lies on the period prior to disaster. These texts allow us to explore how knowledge of impending doom impacts societal structure, concepts of morality, and attitudes towards futurity. I argue that surges in apocalyptic fiction are bound to historical points of cultural crisis, and my research considers how a growing sense of cultural precarity is reflected in texts such as H.G. Wells' 'War of the Worlds', (First World War) Nevil Shute's *On The Beach* (Cold War) the present day - Ben H. Winters' 'The Last Policeman' trilogy. How do people respond to the knowledge of annihilation? Are we taking more responsibility towards these events?

## Thursday



**PhD to Public (in collaboration with Newcastle University & 'Being Human Festival')**

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

**10.30 to 12.00**

**Thursday 22nd November**

**This session is open to the public**

**Tutor**

**Title**

Stephen Moore:

'The Blitz in the north-east conurbation during the Second World War'

'The East Coast Blitz' actually encompasses both the origins and endings of my research. I discovered the much heavier attacks against Newcastle which occurred once the accepted Blitz ended (in June 1941) while I was doing my MA, and this led me to research the series of attacks along the east coast during autumn 1941 at the beginning of my PhD. It was only while writing about the heavy bombing of Sunderland in May 1943 this year that it became apparent that the overall scale of attacks along the east coast was much greater than has been previously documented, and is missing from the current historiography

Caroline Rae, 'Gothic Water and the Monstrous Reality of Interconnection'

All biological life on this planet has its origins in our oceans. Water on our planet is finite and all the water that exists here, in this moment, has existed since our planet's beginning. Our wateriness also means we are engaged in processes of exchange and interaction with other human and nonhuman bodies on this planet. As we cry, sweat, urinate and drink, our water is recycled through processes that connect us to other bodies across time and space. With water on our planet currently facing myriad of anthropogenic crises, what are the environmental and ethical implications of this process of watery exchange and interaction between and among bodies? In this talk, I claim that the Gothic is perfectly positioned as a tool for cultivating ecological responsibility toward water. The Gothic is often deployed to chart anxieties of the contemporary moment and I identify what I have termed a 'watery Gothic'. While Gothic tropes of madness, monsters and haunting have historically worked to undermine the agency and sovereignty of the human subject, 'watery Gothic' uses fluid and aqueous modes of embodiment to undermine the mastery of the human over nature and emphasise the monstrous reality that we are all interconnected.

## Thursday

### Culture & Society series on the theme of 'Bridges'

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

#### 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Tutor	Title
04 Oct	<a href="#">John Sadler</a>	Bridge of Spies
11 Oct	Liz O'Donnell	A Bridge Across the Seas: The Migration of Boys and Young Women from Tyneside to the British Empire Between the World Wars
18 Oct	Anthea Lang	Building the Tyne Bridge: The Gateshead Perspective
25 Oct	Adrian Green	Blackfriars
01 Nov	Malcolm Grady	TBC
08 Nov	Ken Smith	The Two Newcastle Infirmaries
15 Nov	John Griffiths	Street Names of Newcastle
22 Nov	Malcolm Grady	JFK: 55 Years On
29 Nov	Sarah Reay	The Half-Shilling Curate: A personal account of war & faith 1914-1918
06 Dec	David Rosier	Ming (Han Chinese) to Qing Dynasty (Manchu) 1644

## Thursday

### Literature Course:

### Form and Theme in Poetry

**Tutor:** [Bronwen Calvert](#)

**Venue:** White Room, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

**14.00 to 15.30**



**This course operates on a booking system—Please read this carefully**

This is a seminar-style course of 7 sessions. This is likely to be a popular course so you are asked to register for a place to help us make appropriate arrangements.

**To book a place on this course, please e-mail [explorelitprog@gmail.com](mailto:explorelitprog@gmail.com) (NOT THE EXPLORE OFFICE, PLEASE) and write 'Bronwen Calvert Booking' in the header.**

Please also note that this booking is dependent on a confirmation of registration for the FULL Explore programme before **1st October 2018**.

Bookings will be taken from **Monday 9th July—Friday 3rd August** inclusive.

If you book on the Explore Programme after 31st July and wish to register on the course please contact us at [explorelitprog@gmail.com](mailto:explorelitprog@gmail.com) to find out if a place is available.

## Thursday

### Literature Course:

### Form and Theme in Poetry

**Tutor:** [Bronwen Calvert](#)

**Venue:** White Room, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

**14.00 to 15.30**



**This course operates on a booking system—please see details on previous page.**

Each week we will read and discuss a few poems on a single theme. We'll look at formal features of each poem – structure, rhyme and rhythm, imagery, tone – and we'll compare the ways different poets approach the same theme. A full list of poems to read for each week is available on the Explore website's Resources section [HERE](#) and will also be distributed in the Explore members' weekly bulletins.

Date	Title
11-Oct	Love
18-Oct	Childhood
25-Oct	Power and Conflict
01-Nov	<b>NO SESSION</b>
08-Nov	Death and Loss
15-Nov	Myth, legend, history
22-Nov	The Everyday
29-Nov	Seasonal poems



## Thursday

**Science Course:** *4th October to 1st November*

### **The Geology of Bridges**

**Tutor:** Derek Teasdale

**Venue:** B&D Studios 3rd Floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



**14.00 to 15.30**

Each week we will visit a remarkable bridge from around the world and learn about its geology.

Bridges span rivers, seas, swamps and ravines, need strong foundations and are often made of local materials, all of which are controlled by geology. They can also be stunningly beautiful.

## Thursday

**History Course:** *from 8th November to 6th December (Except 22nd November\*)*

**History From the Sources: Mediaeval Northumbrian Charter**

**Tutor:** Colm O'Brien

**Venue:** Green Room, 4th Floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

**14.00 to 15.30**



You might know plenty about Northumberland history, but do you know how you know?  
Do you know the original sources of information?

In this set, I will take a few well-known events or topics in Northumbrian medieval history and trace them back to source. Possibilities include: how the Percies came to Northumberland (via a dodgy deal with the bishop of Durham); the basis for Newcastle's claim to monopoly rights on the River Tyne; the arrival of the white monks at Newminster; how Hexham came to be in the archdiocese of York; devastation in Northumberland after the Battle of Bannockburn. These will take us to texts written in Latin (and, in some cases, Norman French).

I will present the sources in the original language (for those who rejoice in such things) and in English translation, so that all can follow the information. I will make key texts available in advance.

\* On 22nd November, 14.00-15.30, there will be a 'Being Human' Session in collaboration with Newcastle University. See next page for details



## Thursday

**PhD to Public (in collaboration with Newcastle University & 'Being Human Festival')**

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

**14.00 to 16.30**

**Thursday 22nd November**

**This session is open to the public**

### **Being Human : New Voices in Humanities Research**

Scholars across the North-East are conducting cutting-edge research in the Humanities. Doctoral students from the region's universities have competed for the opportunity to present their work, and this afternoon the eight successful candidates will be given about 10 minutes each to tell us about the areas of study they have chosen, what aroused their interest and where it has led them. Questions, comments and discussion are welcome - indeed sought!

#### **Speakers**

#### **Titles**

Daniel Gane	The mariner's voice and the description of the ocean in the eighteenth century
Emily Anderson	"When the Germans come to Alnwick – Never Mind" Humorous First World War Literature 1914-18
Lucy Carolan	Picturing a cloud of unknowing: photography, lostness and dementia
Raffaella D'Antonio	The Role of Civil Society in Fighting Environmental Crime. A lesson learned from the Victims of the Land of Fires
Alex Blanchard	Deprogramming the Revit Technician
Megan Todman	Young People and Museums
Ellie Schlappa	"Deprived of both Modesty and Reason": medical and cultural portrayals of the female onanist in eighteenth-century England
Ruomei Yang	Power, Wealth and Philanthropy

FOR MORE DETAILS OF EACH SPEAKER'S SUBJECT, PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#)

## Thursday

**Philosophy Course:** *Dates and times to arrange directly*

### Philosophy in Literature

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

We meet approximately every four weeks to reflect on our reading of a chosen text, and to consider and discuss whatever philosophical matters we feel it raises. Please email [thisisexplore@gmail.com](mailto:thisisexplore@gmail.com) to find out more.

**Archaeology Course:** *11th, 25th Oct, 8th, 22nd Nov, 6th Dec*

### Bernician Studies Group Early Medieval History in the North-East

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

**Venue:** Green Room, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne  
**19.00 to 20.30**



This independent Study Group meets fortnightly in Commercial Union House (CUH). Current work includes investigating 'Cocwudu' - a possible ancient woodland between Wansbeck and Coquet; further magnetometry surveys in north-east England; and our continuing project researching the Early Mediaeval monastic sites we have identified in Donegal.

Explore members are welcome to join the CUH sessions reporting on and discussing this work and other topics of interest. [For insurance reasons, only members of the BSG itself can participate in fieldwork.]

## Friday

**History Course :** *from 5th October to 16th November*

### **Imperial China**

**Tutor:** John Griffiths

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

**10.30 to 12.00**



China boasts the world's longest continuous civilisation and this course examines life in the Chinese Empire up to its final collapse in 1911. Sessions will address themes such as the rise and fall of dynasties, Confucianism and other belief systems, technology and science, the place of women in Chinese society, relations with the outside world, and more.

**History Course :** *from 23rd November to 7th December*

### **Bridges—the unabridged version**

**Tutor:** Malcolm Grady

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

**10.30 to 12.00**



This course will explore the historical and metaphorical development of the idea of the bridge over three lectures.

## Friday

**Weekday Literature special (One-off class) :** 30th November

**The Poetry of Seamus Heaney: The Middle and Later Years**

**Tutor:** Pamela Woof

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

**10.30 to 13.30**

In this session we shall be considering the mature poems of Heaney. His father and the Church, still potent influences, are less dominant; the poet's dialogue is with both his own tragic and violent society in Northern Ireland, and with enthralling explorations further afield - in contemporary Europe and America. The years change his world, his outlook, and change the kinds of poetry he writes. There is a wholeness, a lifetime's development in Heaney's writing.

Details of the particular poems to be considered will be published nearer the date of the session and will be drawn mainly from the collections *Opened Ground*, 1998 and *New Selected Poems 1988 - 2013*. Some texts will be provided.

# Explore Extra—Saturday Sessions

**Interested in Explore but can't attend during the week?**

**Take a look at our Saturday sessions coming up in Season 1**



We're pleased to offer exciting and insightful Saturday talks and classes, which non-members can attend for **£10.00 per session** (week 2 onwards—the first Saturday is part of our FREE taster week). There may be some additional material costs for practical art sessions detailed in the programme.

Book your place via Eventbrite by clicking on the TITLE of the relevant session in the following pages.

Explore members can attend our Saturday sessions as part of their membership at no extra cost.





## Saturday

### History Session

#### **Brexit—building bridges or tearing them down?**

**Tutor :** Malcolm O'Grady

**Saturday 6th October 10.30 to 13.00**

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



This session will examine the state of play on the process toward Brexit in March 2019 and the emerging issues linked to 'a deal or no deal'

## Saturday

### Philosophy Session:

#### Of Sound Mind : can we understand dolphins?

**Tutor :** [Ian Ground](#)

**Saturday 20th October 10.30 to 13.00**

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

We will explore philosophical issues about understanding other kinds of minds, confronting default mainstream positions about animal mindedness and concept possession with the known facts about the dolphin sonar system: ensonification.



### Practical Art Session

#### Mexican Otomi Embroidery

**Tutor :** [Melanie Kyles](#)

**Saturday 20th October 10.30-13.30**

**Venue :** The Fashion Lab, 4th Floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Current interest in acknowledging historical female figures has led to the revived interest in Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, inspiring a major exhibition in the V&A and Mexican-inspired fashion for SS18. Though adapting to European tastes several hundred years ago due to colonisation, Otomi is a colourful and ancient branch of embroidery that stems from the indigenous Otomi people of central Mexico. In this class, we will discuss the history of Otomi embroidery with printed visuals (fair-trade Otomi embroidery tends to be in the hundreds of pounds for the real deal), before learning the distinct herringbone-type stitch and embroidering an Otomi inspired motif using the same technique.

The material charge will be £2 per member for the embroidery, plus £3 if they'd also like to keep the wooden embroidery hoop. (Non members paying £10 for this session will only need to pay extra if they wish to keep the embroidery hoop.)

## Saturday

### Archaeology Session:

#### [The Lie of the Land : reading landscapes, writing the past](#)

**Tutor :** [Max Adams](#)

**Saturday 27th October 10.30 to 13.30**

**Venue :** Green Room, 4th Floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



With maps, texts and a pair of sturdy if virtual boots, author and archaeologist Max Adams reveals some of the secrets and tools he uses to read our most fascinating and accessible historical document: the land itself (and a bit of sea, too). Photo: Kona McPhee.

### Science Session

#### [The Deep Structure of the Universe](#)

**Tutor :** Fred Stevenson

**Saturday 3rd November 10.30 to 13.00**

**Venue :** Green Room, 4th Floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



Planets cluster about the Sun, our local star. Stars cluster on various scales to make up the galaxies. Galaxies congregate into groups and clusters which themselves group together into the super-clusters of galaxies. How far does this hierarchy of structure continue?

In this session we will look at the scale of the universe and how structures are formed by the effects of gravity up to these immensely large scales - even as the universe itself is expanding.

## Saturday

### Art History / Film Session:

#### [Edvard Munch: A Film by Peter Watkins](#)

**Tutor :** [Peter Quinn](#)

**Saturday 10th November 10.30 to 13.30**

**Venue :** Green Room, 4th Floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



The 1974 biographical film about the Norwegian Expressionist painter Edvard Munch, written and directed by English filmmaker Peter Watkins. It was originally created as a three-part miniseries co-produced by the Norwegian and Swedish state television networks NRK and SVT, but subsequently gained an American theatrical release in a 3-hour version in 1976. The film covers about thirty years of Munch's life, focusing on the influences that shaped his art.

'Peter Watkins' *Edvard Munch* is a remarkable piece of work. It is the most effective transposition to the screen of the mentality and environment of the 'artist' (or anyone of heightened sensibility and complex intelligence) that I have seen. It is original in its narrative devices: sumptuous in its visual effects (cameraman Odd Geir Saether) and unerring in its selection of faces (all amateurs) to suggest peasant or metropolitan stock - sickly Norwegian petite bourgeoisie, radiant young bohemian girls, or artists and intellectuals crowding together, plotting to change Norwegian society.'

Sunday Times review

### History Session

#### [Knight School](#)

**Tutor :** [John Sadler](#)

**Saturday 17th November 10.30 to 13.00**

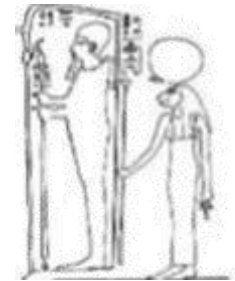
**Venue :** B&D Studios, 3rd Floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



The medieval knight in peace and war; you've seen the movie, now try the armour!

## Saturday

**PLEASE NOTE: THE NEAS Study Day & AGM IS NOT PART OF OUR EXPLORE EXTRA OFFER AND CAN ONLY BE ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF EXPLORE OR NEAS**



### North East Ancient Egypt Society Annual Study Day & AGM

#### **Temples, Cults & Rituals**

**Tutor :** various

**Saturday 24th November 10.30 to 17.00**

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

What happened inside Egyptian temples? Four talks examine the different aspects of the temple complexes, through the temple form and structure, the temple 'furniture' and statues and its written rituals.

Speakers: Sarah Griffiths, Campbell Price and Penny Wilson

#### **Practical Art Session**

### Designing and Printing Christmas Cards

**Tutor :** Margaret Adams

**Saturday 1st December 10.30 to 13.30**

**Venue :** B&D Studios, 3rd floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



Join Margaret Adams for a seasonal printing session where you can learn how to put together a design and print your very own Christmas cards in time for last post! There will be a small additional charge (approx. £3) for materials

N.B. No extra charge for non Explore members who have paid £10 for this session.

## Saturday

### History Session

#### Great Bridges of the North East

**Tutor :** John Griffiths

**Saturday 1st December 10.30 to 13.30**

**Venue :** Green Room, 4th Floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne



The North East of England has many of Britain's best known and most innovative bridges, some, like the Tyne Bridge and the Transporter Bridge, serving as symbols of the towns they serve. This session will look at the history and significance of bridges spanning Tweed, Tyne, Wear and Tees, as well as some crossing lesser waterways.

## THE END

Season 2 will start on Monday 14th January 2019  
after our FREE Season 2 taster on 8th January 2019

Find out more and book your FREE taster [here](#)