

## Visiting Fellowships: July, mid-September-mid-October & November 2023

In 2023, Chawton House is delighted to be able to offer nine residential fellowships for postgraduate or early career researchers (within 5 years of PhD) working on women's writing of the long eighteenth century.

In memory of Deirdre Le Faye, one Fellowship will be offered to a researcher working on Jane Austen. We are also interested to hear from those working on women's letters or women on/writing for the stage, who would be able to contribute to our planned academic programme during or after their residence (our 'Quills and Characters' exhibition runs until 3 September and explores women's networks of correspondence, and we will run an exhibition on Mary Robinson in 2024). However, research in all areas of women's writing will be considered.

We particularly welcome applications from BAME scholars, women, and those on fixed-term contracts.

### Information for Applicants

#### Chawton House & Collections

Chawton House is an Elizabethan manor house and estate once owned by Jane Austen's brother Edward. When he inherited the estate from the wealthy but childless Knight family, he gave Jane, her mother, and her sister a cottage in the village (now a museum), where they lived from 1809. Today, Chawton House is a busy heritage site committed to preserving heritage, facilitating study, and generating public engagement in the rich histories of early women's writing and the house, gardens and parkland. We welcome 20,000 visitors onsite each year, and run a [lively events programme](#) onsite and online. The library holds the Knight Family library on deposit, and is also home to a unique collection of around 4,500 works by women in the long eighteenth century, complemented by a wealth of modern critical resources. Since it opened in 2003, Chawton House has been a centre of research, fostering study of these early women writers, and offering a competitive Visiting Fellowship programme for a decade. A strategic reshaping of the organization to become financially self-sufficient saw the suspension of the programme for a number of years, but in 2021, a new summer Fellowship programme was piloted, aimed specifically at early career researchers.

You can [find out more about Chawton House and the collections here](#).

You can [access the catalogue here](#).

## 2023 Fellowships

This year, we are offering nine Fellowships to UK and international applicants.

**Cohort 1: Monday 3 July – Friday 28 July**

**Cohort 2: Monday 18 September – Friday 13 October**

**Cohort 3: Monday 6 November – Friday 30 November**

2023 Fellows will be offered onsite accommodation in a self-catering apartment annexed to Chawton House itself (shared kitchen and bathroom), and will be expected to be in residence for the duration of their fellowship. Fellows will be given space to work each day in the upper reading room. A full induction to the accommodation, house and library will be provided upon arrival, along with a handbook. Parking is available on-site for those with cars. Fellows will be expected to contribute to the outputs at Chawton House in some way (e.g. onsite tour/talk; online talk/workshop; blogpost/article in *The Female Spectator*), and to give an informal presentation on their work at the end of the Fellowship. They will be welcomed to join events planned for the month of their residence.

Please note that travel and living expenses are not included as part of the programme.

## How to Apply

The deadline for applications is Tuesday 9 May, 2023. Please email the following documents to [visiting.fellowships@chawtonhouse.org](mailto:visiting.fellowships@chawtonhouse.org):

- A cover letter, including a proposal for a contribution to the outputs at Chawton House (1 page only; please see our website & YouTube channel)
- A proposal for the work you intend to carry out as a Visiting Fellow, to include items in our collection that you would want to consult (no more than 2 pages, 1.5 spaced)
- Your CV (no more than 2 pages)
- One confidential letter of recommendation to be emailed separately by the referee before the deadline.

Please note that incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Please direct general questions to Dr Kim Simpson: [kim.simpson@chawtonhouse.org](mailto:kim.simpson@chawtonhouse.org), and collections-specific questions to Curator and Collections Manager, Emma Yandle: [emma.yandle@chawtonhouse.org](mailto:emma.yandle@chawtonhouse.org)