



ACTON SCOTT
Historic Working Farm



**Traditional Rural
Craft & Trade Courses
March 2013 to February 2014**

lime|greenwood|willow|horses|pigs|
carpentry|beekeeping|brickwork|her



WHERE YOU CAN LEARN THE FORGOTTEN SKILLS OF THE PAST

Entrance to the Historic Working Farm is included and course participants are welcome to wander the farm site during the day. The site opens to the public on Tuesday 26 March 2013 and closes on Sunday 3 November 2013. We will continue to run courses throughout the closed season, but please remember that the café will be closed and you will need to bring your own lunch.

All courses start at 10.00am and finish at 4.00pm, unless otherwise stated. Course participants are expected to bring their own lunch or use the School House Café on site where home cooked locally sourced food is served daily. The heavy horse courses include the price of lunch. The cost of any materials provided will be included in the overall cost unless otherwise stated.

The site is not open to the public until 10.00. Please arrive for your booked course no earlier than 9.30 if your course is due to start at 10.00. You will be asked to sign in at reception and wait for your tutor.

Many of these courses make ideal birthday presents. Please phone us if you would like the day to be a surprise!

BOOKING INFORMATION

To make a booking or for further information:

by telephone 01694 781307 **by email** acton.scott.museum@shropshire.gov.uk

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF BOOKING

Payment for courses Course places must be paid for at the time of booking. Your place is not secure until paid for in full.

Cancellation of courses by Acton Scott Historic Working Farm If your course is cancelled, you may either use your course fee towards another course or have a full refund of any course fees paid.

Cancellation of booking by student If you have to cancel your booking, please inform Acton Scott Historic Working Farm as soon as possible by phone and confirm in writing or e-mail. If you cancel your booking more than four weeks before the course start date, all fees will be refunded or you may use your fee towards an alternative course. If you cancel your booking less than four weeks before the course start date, fees will not be refunded unless the course was full and your place can be re-sold. There is a £20 administration fee if we have to resell your booked place.

Changes to published course information Details of courses are correct at the time of publication, but we reserve the right to make any necessary changes to the programme. Students will be informed in advance of any changes, whenever possible.

Accessibility Acton Scott Historic Working Farm is an outdoor site. Most areas are wheelchair accessible, but please be aware that the farmyard is cobbled and the ground often uneven. If you have any access concerns, please contact us.

Materials and equipment Our workshops are very well equipped. All materials are included unless otherwise stated. We will inform you in advance if you need to bring any additional equipment, materials or special clothing.

ACTON SCOTT COURSE CALENDAR 2013

COURSE	DATE	PAGE
MAKE A SAMPLER QUILT	31 Jan - 21 Mar	16
GRAFTING APPLE TREES	6 March	11
OAK SWILL BASKET MAKING	15 - 17 March	7
KEEPING PIGS FOR PORK & BACON	14 April	12
BEE KEEPING	20 April	12
GREENWOOD & POLE LATHE	20 April	7
GREENWOOD & POLE LATHE	21 April	7
WORKING WITH HEAVY HORSES	27 April	6
WILLOW BASKET MAKING	27 & 28 April	8
INTRODUCTION TO USE OF SCYTHE	4 May	9
PEENING	5 May	9
BEE KEEPING	11 May	12
INTRODUCTION TO BLACKSMITHING	11 May	8
PATCHWORK & QUILTING FOR BEGINNERS	12 May	16
INTRODUCTION TO BLACKSMITHING	12 May	8
PIG BREEDING FOR SMALLHOLDERS	12 May	12
BUILDING A COB OVEN	18 May	10
WORKING WITH HEAVY HORSES	18 May	6
GREENWOOD & POLE LATHE	18 May	7
GREENWOOD & POLE LATHE	19 May	7
FAMILY HISTORY - RURAL ANCESTORS	19 May	13
INTRODUCTION TO BREADMAKING	23 May	19
FELT FOR BEGINNERS	25 May	17
INTRODUCTION TO DAIRYING	1 June	18
STICK CARVING & WHITTLING	2 June	8
MAKE A FELT BAG	8 June	18
BASIC SMALLHOLDING	8 June	12
RAG RUG MAKING I	9 June	14
GOOSEBERRY & ELDERFLOWER PRESERVES	9 June	19
WORKING WITH LIME & TRAD. PLASTERING	14 June	10
SPINNING FOR BEGINNERS	15 June	15
INTRODUCTION TO BLACKSMITHING	15 June	8
MAKE A PORK PIE	15 June	18
INTRODUCTION TO BLACKSMITHING	16 June	8
WORKING WITH HEAVY HORSES	16 June	6
GREENWOOD & POLE LATHE	16 June	7
WORKING WITH HEAVY LEATHER	22 June	7
VICTORIAN FARMER'S WIFE	24 June	15
INTRODUCTION TO NUNO FELT	29 June	18
HOUSEWIFE'S HERBAL - MYTH & MAGIC	30 June	13
WILLOW HURDLES & DECORATIVE SCREENS	6 & 7 July	8
MAKING AN IRON BOWL	6 & 7 July	9
CREATING A DRY STONE WALL	13 July	11



COURSE	DATE	PAGE
SPINNING FOR BEGINNERS	13 July	15
STRAWBERRY & ROSE PETAL PRESERVING	13 July	19
DECORATIVE BLACKSMITHING	20 & 21 July	9
CREATING A DRY STONE WALL	27 July	11
DRAWING & WATERCOLOUR CLASS	3 & 4 Aug	17
VICTORIAN CORSETS	3 & 4 Aug	17
MAKING BOBBIN LACE	10 Aug	15
VICTORIAN STILL ROOM - SCENTED HOME	11 Aug	14
MAKE A BENT STICK CHAIR	31 Aug & 1 Sept	8
AUTUMN DYES FROM GARDEN & HEDGEROW	8 Sept	14
LIVING WITH A LISTED BUILDING	13 Sept	10
WORKING WITH HEAVY HORSES	14 Sept	6
CORN DOLLY MAKING	14 Sept	15
HEDGEROW FRUITS PRESERVING DAY	21 Sept	19
RAG RUG MAKING II	21 Sept	14
INTRODUCTION TO BREADMAKING	26 Sept	19
WORKING WITH DONKEYS	28 Sept	6
LOG BASKET MAKING	28 & 29 Sept	8
PLOUGHING WITH HEAVY HORSES	29 & 30 Sept	6
BAKING DAY IN FARM COTTAGE	30 Sept	15
PLOUGHING WITH HEAVY HORSES	1 & 2 Oct	6
CELTIC QUILTING	3 & 4 Oct	16
WORKING WITH HEAVY HORSES	5 Oct	6
HUNDRED YEARS OF FASHION	6 Oct	13
HARNESS MAKING	9 - 13 Oct	7
PLAITING FOR STRAW HATS	12 Oct	15
PLOUGHING WITH HEAVY HORSES	15 & 16 Oct	6
PLOUGHING WITH HEAVY HORSES	17 & 18 Oct	6
WHEELWRIGHTING	18 - 20 Oct	11
WORKING WITH HEAVY HORSES	19 Oct	6
MAKE A GAME PIE	19 Oct	18
CRAZY PATCHWORK CHRISTMAS STOCKING	20 Oct	16
HERITAGE ORCHARD FRUITS PRESERVING DAY	20 Oct	20
STARS & ANGELS	26 Oct	16
HEDGELAYING	26 Oct	11
INTRODUCTION TO CIDER MAKING	27 Oct	20
HEDGELAYING	2 Nov	11
ORCHARD RESTORATION	2 Nov	11
DECORATIVE BLACKSMITHING	2 & 3 Nov	9
CHRISTMAS WREATHS	3 Nov	18
HEDGELAYING	9 Nov	11
HEDGELAYING	16 Nov	11





WORKING WITH HEAVY HORSES

Spend the day learning how to care for and work with heavy horses. Groom one of Acton Scott's resident heavy horses, and learn about foot care, feeding and general horse husbandry. Then put Tory, Charlie or Joe into harness to drive a cart and undertake fieldwork.

Tutor: Simon Trueman **Cost: £80**

Saturday 27 April	Saturday 18 May	Sunday 16 June FATHERS DAY!
Saturday 14 Sept	Saturday 5 October	Saturday 19 October

Includes a ploughman's lunch or choice of hot meal and mug of tea or coffee in the school house café.

INTRODUCTION TO WORKING WITH DONKEYS

During this half-day course with Acton Scott's waggoner, Simon, you will learn how to care for, harness and prepare a donkey to drive the cart. You will then lead Acton Scott's donkey, Dusty, into the fields to drive and work him yourself.

Tutor: Simon Trueman **Cost: £45**

Saturday 28 September 10.00am – 1.00pm

Simon has been working with horses all his life. He joined Acton Scott as resident Waggoner in 2009. He is available to run introductory heavy horse and donkey days on alternative dates to groups of 4 people. Please contact Acton Scott for further details.

PLOUGHING WITH HEAVY HORSES

This two-day course with champion horseman, Jim Elliott, covers ploughing basics, including how to harness a pair of heavy horses and prepare the plough. Participants work with Jim's own experienced ploughing horses, learning the basics from start to finish.

Tutor: Jim Elliott **Cost: £195**

Sunday 29 & Monday 30 September	Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October
Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 16 October	Thursday 17 & Friday 18 October

Includes a ploughman's lunch or choice of hot meal and mug of tea or coffee in the school house café each day.

Jim started ploughing at the age of 10 and won his first ploughing match when he was 12. He is 37 times British ploughing champion and 4 times International ploughing champion.

INTRODUCTION TO WORKING WITH HEAVY LEATHER

This course introduces the complete beginner to selecting leather and tools, cutting methods, traditional stitching, edge finishing and polishing. By the end of the course you will be able to carry out minor repairs to your harness or tack.

Tutor: Terry Davis **Cost: £70**

Saturday 22 June

INTRODUCTION TO HARNESS MAKING

This five-day course introduces participants to the various harness types and how they work in relation to the horse, the different leathers used and how to work with them using specialist leather working tools. You will then make, under instruction, a harness-related item which is yours to keep.

Tutor: Terry Davis **Cost: £420**

Wednesday 9 – Sunday 13 October

Terry is a full-time, professional harness and horse collar manufacturer based in Shropshire from where he supplies both the UK and European markets with their draught harness requirements. Terry is also a winner of the Balvanie Master of Crafts Awards 2012 (Leather category).

GREENWOOD & WILLOW WORKING

OAK SWILL BASKET MAKING

Starting with oak and hazel in the round, participants cleave, boil and rive the oak, dress and steam-bend the hazel rim and finally weave a swill. This three-day course is quite intensive but no previous experience in either basketry or greenwood working is required.

Tutor: Owen Jones **Cost: £195**

Friday 15 March – Sunday 17 March 9.30am – 5.30pm each day

Owen was taught to make swills in 1988 by John Barker a retired 'Swiller' from Broughton-in-Furness. Owen now continues this local trade which has remained largely unchanged for centuries.

INTRODUCTION TO GREENWOOD & THE POLE LATHE

Spend a day learning the skills of a bodger by converting fresh logs into useful items to take away and use at home. Start with a hardwood log and discover how, with sharp tools, correct technique, and yourself as the power source, you have a highly efficient method of working.

Tutor: Ian Wall **Cost: £65**

Saturday 20 April	Sunday 21 April	Saturday 18 May
Sunday 19 May	Sunday 16 June	FATHERS DAY!

This course makes an ideal birthday present – we can supply 'Happy Bodge Day' cards on confirmation of booking and receipt of payment.

Ian has been the resident woodland 'bodger' at Acton Scott for 15 years. He makes country chairs and stools and has taught and demonstrated greenwood skills at numerous shows and events. Ian is available to run courses on alternative dates to small groups of people. If you have a group and would like Ian to run a course especially for you, then please contact Acton Scott for further details.

STICK CARVING & WHITTILING

This is an ideal course if you want to work with children in the outdoors, want something to do on camping holidays, or are simply a big kid! Explore various small projects that can be carved and whittled from sticks such as whistles, gypsy flowers, whirly gigs and stick elves.

Tutor: Dave Jackson

Cost: £65

Sunday 2 June

WILLOW HURDLES & DECORATIVE SCREENS

Learn how to weave willow hurdles, perfect for natural garden fencing, and then use these skills to make a more decorative woven screen incorporating features such as 'windows' and arches, making a wonderful focal point for your garden. Two day course.

Tutor: Dave Jackson

Cost: £140

Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 July

MAKE A BENT STICK CHAIR

Create your very own natural bent wood chair from nothing more than a bundle of sticks. These traditional rustic seats are immensely pleasing to the eye and very satisfying to make. Made from sustainably coppiced hazel wood, this chair will take pride of place in your home or garden. Two day course.

Tutor: Dave Jackson

Cost: £150

Saturday 31 August & Sunday 1 September 10.00am – 5.00pm each day

Dave is a self-employed coppice craftsman from the Malvern Hills in Worcestershire.

WILLOW BASKET MAKING

During this two-day course participants will make one simple basket from beginning to end. You will learn how to choose and sort willow to suit the construction, the techniques necessary to produce a particular form, and about the servicing of tools.

Tutor: Jenny Crisp

Cost: £140

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 April

LOG BASKET MAKING

On this two-day course, which is suitable for all abilities, participants will make a small log basket ready for winter using the French technique of hoop and scalloms stakes.

Tutor: Jenny Crisp

Cost: £145

Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 September

Jenny has been a basket maker for 25 years. She trained in willow growing and basket weaving with David Drew, an outstanding British basket maker.

TRADITIONAL CRAFTS & TRADES

AN INTRODUCTION TO BLACKSMITHING

This one-day structured course, aimed at beginners, covers fundamental metal forging techniques. Step-by-step demonstrations will be given and participants supervised and encouraged as they apply the techniques to making a couple of pieces of ironwork.

Tutor: John Herbertson

Cost: £100

Saturday 11 May

Sunday 12 May

Saturday 15 June

Sunday 16 June FATHERS DAY!

Maximum of 2 participants so early booking advised



MAKING AN IRON BOWL

Raising hollow-ware from metal sheet is an ancient art. On this two-day course you will learn how to work with metals such as copper or aluminium which are raised cold and then try your hand at the hot process with sheet iron. Not for the faint hearted but really good fun!

Tutor: John Herbertson

Cost: £180

Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 July

Maximum of 2 participants so early booking advised

DECORATIVE BLACKSMITHING

This two-day course will cover a series of basic blacksmithing techniques. It will be suitable for beginners and those with a little knowledge of the subject. Day one will cover the most fundamental aspects of forging; day two will explore further and include some of the fancy stuff.

Tutor: John Herbertson

Cost: £200

Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 July

Saturday 2 & Sunday 3 November

Maximum of 2 participants so early booking advised

John Herbertson has demonstrated blacksmithing at Acton Scott for the past fifteen seasons. Prior to that he trained in Blacksmithing at Hereford and since then he has been working to commission.

INTRODUCTION TO THE USE OF THE SCYTHE

Learn the parts of the scythe, what it will and won't cut, about safety issues, setting up and honing the blade with a stone. Participants are introduced to the practice of scything, starting with short grass and progressing to longer grass and more weedy areas.

Tutor: Alastair Inglis

Cost: £75

Saturday 4 May

INTRODUCTION TO PEENING

This one-day follow-up course covers the technique of peening or sharpening the scythe blade. After an introduction to tools and techniques, participants are given the opportunity to practice peening themselves before progressing to the repair of cracks and chips in the blade.

Tutor: Alastair Inglis

Cost: £50 or £120 if attending both days with Alastair

Sunday 5 May

Alastair lives in Devon and works as a self-employed Scythesman, Organic Gardener and Outdoor Educator.



BUILDING A COB OVEN

This one-day course shows how you can build your own oven using simple techniques and materials. This is a very much a hands-and-feet-on experience, tremendous fun and immensely satisfying. By the end of the day participants will have developed the skills they need to build an oven for themselves.

Tutor: Matthew Lloyd

Cost: £65

Saturday 18 May

Matthew relishes the challenge of designing a sustainable lifestyle fit for the future. Having built a straw bale studio and numerous cob ovens, he is keen to inspire and enable others to do the same.

WORKING WITH LIME AND TRADITIONAL PLASTERING & RENDERING

Prepare a range of traditional lime mortars for both brick and stone construction, and traditional lime renders and lime wash for historic building repair. Using genuine standing remains and workshop panels, you will be guided through 'hands-on' application of the mortars in typical repair and new build situations.

Tutor: Colin Richards

Cost: £65

Friday 14 June

LIVING WITH A LISTED BUILDING

This one-day workshop covers the legislative requirements of working with listed buildings, as well as practical demonstrations of common repair methodologies used in old buildings. Find out how traditional buildings can attain greater thermal efficiency without destroying the qualities recognised in their listed status.

Tutor: Colin Richards Cost: £65 or £120 if attending both workshops with Colin

Friday 13 September

Colin has worked in building conservation for some 30 years as practitioner, conservation officer and lecturer. He has worked extensively in Eastern Europe managing building craft skills training projects.

WHEELWRIGHTING

This is a unique opportunity for a small group with some woodworking experience to join Acton Scott wheelwright, Mike Davies, for three days to help make a pair of carriage wheels. Each participant is responsible for elements of a wheel, which is then assembled before shrinking on hot tyres.

Tutor: Mike Davies

Cost: £325

Friday 18 – Sunday 20 October

Mike is a trained wheelwright with a fascination for the craft. He has been making wheels for five years and enjoys relating the techniques to others.

TRADITIONAL COUNTRYSIDE SKILLS

GRAFTING APPLE TREES

This course is aimed at gardeners and smallholders and will cover rootstocks and their characteristics, grafting and budding. After attending the course, you should go home with the knowledge and skills needed to graft your own trees, prune and generally look after them.

Tutor: Paul Davis

Cost: £65

Wednesday 6 March

10.00am – 3.00pm

ORCHARD RESTORATION

This course covers choosing suitable varieties and how to look after them, including pruning and disease prevention. Learn how to restore old trees that have become tangled and unproductive due to neglect. You should go home with the knowledge and skills needed to manage your own trees with confidence.

Tutor: Paul Davis

Cost: £65

Saturday 2 November

10.00am – 3.00pm

Paul owns a small nursery situated in the Towy valley where he sells Welsh apple varieties and pear trees and traditional English fruit trees.

CREATING A DRY STONE WALL

Under the guidance of an expert dry stone waller, learn how to select the right stone, create the footings and build a retaining wall. By the end of the day you will be able to attempt your own wall.

Tutor: Dave Marpole

Cost: £70

Saturday 13 July

Saturday 27 July

9.30am – 4.00pm

HEDGELAYING

Hedgelaying thickens a hedge that has become sparse at the base to provide better shelter for livestock and a habitat for wildlife. During this introductory course, you will learn hedgelaying techniques and transform a wild unkempt hedge into a growing boundary using the tools of the trade.

Tutor: Dave Marpole

Cost: £65

Saturday 26 October

Saturday 2 November

Saturday 9 November

Saturday 16 November

9.00am – 4.00pm

Dave Marpole was taught the craft of hedgelaying by his grandfather on the family farm. He now spends many weeks in the winter months laying hedges for farmers.

INTRODUCTION TO BEE KEEPING

Understand a bee's lifestyle, individual duties and contribution to a colony's life and development. Learn how to identify the queen, worker and drone before selecting equipment and suitable hive locations. General handling and manipulation of bee colonies will be covered together with honey production, extracting, processing and marketing.

Tutor: Brian Goodwin

Cost: £40

Saturday 20 April

Saturday 11 May

Brian is President of the Shropshire Beekeepers Association, a lifelong beekeeper and lecturer.

BASIC SMALLHOLDING

Join local farmer Alan Robinson for a very practical, hands-on introduction to smallholding and find out how Acton Scott's livestock are managed. Learn how to work with poultry, sheep and cattle and find out how Alan traps moles (an essential skill in these parts!)

Tutor: Alan Robinson

Cost: £60

Saturday 8 June

Alan has been farming since he left school at 16 and farms in partnership with his brother on a South Shropshire mixed upland farm.

KEEPING PIGS FOR PORK AND BACON

This course, run jointly with *The Rushbury Pig*, covers everything you need to know to get from weaner to plate: choosing a pig, housing, fencing, feeding, general health and care, handling, injecting, ear tagging, legal requirements, and where to go for advice and help.

Tutor: Sam Jones

Cost: £80

Sunday 14 April

Please wear suitable outdoor clothing and wellies/suitable footwear for walking across a field and that can be dipped in disinfectant. NOTE: There will be a requirement for car sharing on the short drive to The Rushbury Pig.

PIG BREEDING FOR SMALLHOLDERS

The course, run jointly with *The Rushbury Pig*, covers everything you need to know to start breeding pigs: keeping a boar, artificial insemination (A.I.), mating, farrowing, care of piglets, weaning, selling your piglets, birth notifying and registering your piglets with the BPA and ear tagging.

Tutor: Sam Jones

Cost: £80

Sunday 12 May

The morning is spent at Acton Scott and the afternoon at The Rushbury Pig - a three mile drive. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing and wellies/suitable footwear for walking across a field and that can be dipped in disinfectant. NOTE: There will be a requirement for car sharing on the short drive to The Rushbury Pig.

Sam is an established breeder of traditional rare breed pigs and she has been delivering a variety of successful pig courses for a number of years



SOCIAL HISTORY

FAMILY HISTORY - FINDING YOUR RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL ANCESTORS

Explore the lives of rural families and communities - the work they did and the skills they had - while visiting Acton Scott's church, school, farm, dairy and cottage. The course will draw upon artefacts, documents, photographs and estate records from Shropshire Archives and Museums and private collections.

Tutor: Janet Bradley

Cost: £40

Sunday 19 May

A HUNDRED YEARS OF FASHION, COSTUME, PEOPLE AND TEXTILES 1800 - 1900

Explore the costume and textiles of both rich and poor: handle period gowns of sumptuous silk, dainty bonnets and lacy bloomers, hand-stitched samplers and captivating cottage quilts from our extensive collections. Try humble rag rug making using traditional tools and techniques and take your sample kit home to complete.

Tutor: Janet Bradley

Cost: £45

Sunday 6 October

Janet is a social history tutor. She has run many family history courses that have inspired participants to find out about the lives of their ancestors.

DOMESTIC LIFE & SKILLS OF A VICTORIAN HOUSEWIFE

SECRETS OF A VICTORIAN HOUSEWIFE'S HERBAL - THE MYTH & MAGIC

Explore the social history of herbs and the traditional lore surrounding their use. Identify plants around the estate and investigate local customs and remedies associated with them. Gather ingredients from the cottage garden, larder and dairy to prepare once common household receipts to make a little something to take home.

Tutor: Janet Bradley

Cost: £50

Sunday 30 June



SECRETS OF A VICTORIAN HOUSEWIFE'S STILL ROOM - THE SCENTED HOME

Collect bunches of fresh and dried scented leaves, blossoms and buds from the cottage garden and larder. Make pot pourri, beeswax and lavender pomander and, using an original Victorian volume of the language of flowers, compose a tussie mussie posy that carries a message for a lover or friend.

Tutor: Janet Bradley **Cost: £50**
Sunday 11 August

AUTUMN DYES FROM THE GARDEN AND HEDGEROWS

Forage for traditional seasonal dye material in Acton Scott's hedgerows, orchard, and garden before preparing dye baths of vibrant autumn colours, then dip and dye wool samples to take home. Explore the historic use of colour through documents and textiles from the museum collections.

Tutor: Janet Bradley **Cost: £50**
Sunday 8 September

Janet is an expert in the use of herbs throughout history and the role of the Victorian housewife. She has many years of experience in the art of natural dyeing and her knowledge of local plants and the history behind them is extensive.

RAG RUG MAKING I

Learn the traditional techniques of hooking and propping strips of fabric through hessian backing to make rugs, wall hangings or seat mats. You can start a propped project to finish at home which only requires a simple tool and gives a shaggy, cut pile.

Tutor: Jenni Stuart-Anderson **Cost: £50**
Sunday 9 June

RAG RUG MAKING II

This workshop will include plaiting as well as hooking and propping and you can choose one or more techniques to try.

Tutor: Jenni Stuart-Anderson **Cost: £50 or £90 if booking both days with Jenni**
Saturday 21 September

Jenni will have rugs and books to show you and tools to try or buy plus hessian, hessian tote bags and frames for sale. You might like to bring your own hessian bag and tools. Jenni was taught the craft by a blacksmith's daughter who made rag rugs for over fifty years. She has been teaching this traditional, heritage craft for more than twenty years.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A VICTORIAN FARMER'S WIFE

Step back in time and experience the highs and lows of a hard-working Victorian farmer's wife. Change into costume before setting about tasks in the farmyard, the scullery and the dairy. Following lunch of bread and soup it's time to work on a rag rug, and try your hand at patchwork - both essential skills for the Victorian housewife.

Tutor: Margaret Newsome **Cost: £60**
Monday 24th June

Maximum of 4 participants so early booking advised

SPINNING FOR BEGINNERS

Learn how to card wool and spin using a drop-spindle, before moving on to the spinning wheels. You will spin flax, silk and alpaca, and learn how to blend these fibres with naturally dyed wool to produce exciting yarns. Have a go at weaving on the Acton Scott floor-loom.

Tutor: Margaret Newsome **Cost: £50**
Saturday 15 June Saturday 13 July

Maximum of 2 participants so early booking advised.

Chris Newsome is available to take any spinning or lace course participant's partners on a guided walk of the farm and surrounding area for part of the day. Please enquire on booking.

MAKING BOBBIN LACE - BEGINNERS COURSE

Learn the first steps in making bobbin lace: winding your bobbins, dressing your lace pillow and learning the basic stitches to set you on the path to creating beautiful lace.

Tutor: Margaret Newsome **Cost: £50**
Saturday 10 August

Maximum of 3 participants so early booking advised

CORN DOLLY MAKING

Make a beautiful Shropshire Heart, a Welsh Border Fan, a Suffolk Horseshoe, and a Corny Mouse. You will work with an old variety of wheat straw grown on the farm, and each student will have a bundle to take home. The course is suitable for all abilities.

Tutor: Margaret Newsome **Cost: £50**
Saturday 14 September

BAKING DAY IN THE FARMER'S COTTAGE

Change into costume for a Victorian Baking Day, using the bread oven to bake loaves and Shrewsbury Cakes. Following lunch of bread and soup, it's into the parlour to make a Shropshire Heart, a very special corn dolly, from the old variety of wheat that is grown on the farm.

Tutor: Margaret Newsome **Cost: £60**
Monday 30 September

Maximum of 4 participants so early booking advised

PLAITING FOR STRAW HATS

Work a seven straw plait and watch a rustic straw hat being made up from prepared plaits - you will be given step-by-step instructions for making up your hat at home. Explore different techniques used to embellish straw hats, such as Swiss Straw Work and Straw Marquetry.

Tutor: Margaret Newsome **Cost: £50**
Saturday 12 October

STARS & ANGELS

Create a beautiful tied Straw Angel for the top of the Christmas tree. Use split straws and placement rings to create delicate snowflake stars, ideal for the tree or that special Christmas card. Then try another technique using ironed straws to make a Straw Marquetry Star.

Tutor: Margaret Newsome

Cost: £50

Saturday 26 October

Margaret is a very experienced tutor and resident Corn Dolly maker at Acton Scott. She has been a lace-maker and spinner for many years, regularly demonstrating the crafts in the cottage at Acton Scott.

PATCHWORK & QUILTING

MAKE A SAMPLER QUILT

This 8-week course, suitable for beginners and the more experienced, is an ideal opportunity to learn different techniques in traditional patchwork, applique and quilting, and the resulting beautiful sampler quilt will make a wonderful gift for someone special (if you can bear to part with it!)

Tutor: Stephanie Jacobs

Cost: £220

Every Thursday, starting on Thursday 31 January – Thursday 21 March
10.00am – 3.00pm each day

PATCHWORK AND QUILTING FOR BEGINNERS

Patchwork, quilting and applique, although very different in technique and skill, tend to have a symbiotic relationship and so are often worked together in a complimentary combination. This course provides a clear introduction to the basics of each craft and a deeper understanding of the individual techniques.

Tutor: Stephanie Jacobs

Cost: £50

Sunday 12 May

CELTIC QUILTING

Journey into the fascinating world of Celtic tradition and explore the symbolism of Celtic knot work. Discover how these ancient designs can be interpreted in fabric through applique and quilting. By the end of the course you will have created a unique cushion or small wall hanging.

Tutor: Stephanie Jacobs

Cost: £90

Thursday 3 & Friday 4 October

Stephanie is available to run quilting courses on alternative dates to groups of 4 people. Please contact Acton Scott for further details.

VICTORIAN CRAZY PATCHWORK CHRISTMAS STOCKING

Crazy patchwork is a 'thrifty' technique evolved through necessity to preserve the life of worn out clothing and blankets. This one-day course will give you the opportunity to learn both crazy patchwork and decorative stitching skills whilst creating your own Christmas stocking using sumptuous pieces of fabric, embellishment and stitch.

Tutor: Stephanie Jacobs

Cost: £50

Sunday 20 October

Stephanie is a textile artist and tutor with a passion for rural crafts. She has achieved her City and Guilds level 3 in Patchwork and Quilting.



ART & TEXTILES

FLOWERS FROM THE BAILIFF'S GARDEN - A DRAWING AND WATERCOLOUR CLASS

Working both in the classroom and outdoors (weather permitting) you will learn how to draw and paint a variety of plants and flowers in season selected from the Bailiff's garden and vegetable plot. As the tuition is on an individual basis this course is suitable for all abilities.

Two day course.

Tutor: Angela Gladwell

Cost: £90

Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 August

Angela is a professional painter and art tutor with work in both public and private collections including The Natural History Museum. She has exhibited at the Royal Academy and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. She has regular solo and group shows

VICTORIAN CORSETS

Well-fitted corsets or stays were the foundation of Victorian dress for women of every class. On this two-day course you will try out the specialist construction methods for corsetry, and learn a personal drafting system which enables modern women of all shapes and sizes to make corsets to suit them.

Tutor: Sarah Thursfield

Cost: £90

Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 August

Sarah is an historical dressmaker and teacher whose roots are in re-enactment. She has a detailed knowledge of garment cutting and making from prehistory onwards.

FELT FOR BEGINNERS

This course is ideal for those new to felt-making, introducing basic methods using fleece and pre-felts. You will learn how to decorate the surface, make balls and cords, and also pick up tips on how to make fabulous cushions, brooches and jewellery.

Tutor: Stevie Walker

Cost: £50

Saturday 25 May

MAKE A FELT BAG

Discover the beauty of natural wool fleeces and fibres. You will be making a seamless felt bag with merino fleece using a resist. This would be an ideal follow-on to the Felt for Beginners workshop.

Tutor: Stevie Walker

Cost: £50

Saturday 8 June

INTRODUCTION TO NUNO FELT

Learn how to fuse fleece with silk and muslin fabrics to make gorgeous textured 'Nuno' felt. You will learn basic methods and then progress to making a beautiful silk chiffon and merino felted scarf.

Tutor: Stevie Walker **Cost: £60 or £150 if booking a place on all 3 courses with Stevie**

Saturday 29 June

Stevie is a textile artist living in rural Shropshire. She specialises in felt making and embroidery.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

This one-day course will give you a chance to combine rustic, natural elements with delicate hand-crafted items to create a stunning Victorian style vine wreath to decorate your home for Christmas.

Tutor: Stephanie Jacobs

Cost: £50

Sunday 3 November

DAIRYING, BAKING & PRESERVING

INTRODUCTION TO DAIRYING

Learn how to make your own soft cheese and butter from an experienced dairymaid. Make curd cheese and flavour it with a variety of herbs and spices, before learning how to make an age old sweet treat. The day ends with milking one of the Acton Scott Shorthorn cows!

Tutor: Jan Hawkins

Cost: £50

Saturday 1 June

Jan is the granddaughter of a dairymaid and still refers to her Grandmother's note books for guidance in the art of dairying. She was dairymaid at Acton Scott for seven years.

MAKE A PORK PIE

Make a traditional hand-raised pie, made using hot water crust pastry and the finest local pork. You will cover all aspects from cutting up the meat to making the jelly and shaping the pastry and learn how to adapt the recipe to include more modern flavours and other meats.

Tutor: Sally Jones

Cost: £55

Saturday 15 June

FATHER'S DAY GIFT!

MAKE A GAME PIE

Make a hand-raised game pie using hot water crust pastry and a selection of local game. There will be the opportunity to try a selection of game pies so that you can choose the type of pie you wish to create to take home.

Tutor: Sally Jones

Cost: £55

Saturday 19 October

Sally was born and bred in South Shropshire. She has over twenty years experience of country cooking and is particularly interested in sharing some of her family's recipes.



INTRODUCTION TO BREADMAKING

Learn basic breadmaking from a master baker, including how to mix, knead, ferment, shape and bake dough. You will bake your bread using everyday domestic ovens but there will also be the chance to use Acton Scott's traditional wood-fired bread oven.

Tutor: Peter Cook

Cost: £85

Thursday 23 May

Thursday 26 September

Peter has been baking at S C Price & Sons, in Ludlow's Castle Square for 18 years. They are an award-winning family bakery with a long tradition of producing traditional English and Continental breads, cakes and pastries.

GOOSEBERRY & ELDERFLOWER PRESERVING DAY

Explore the versatility of these lovely fruits and flowers by making a fragrant gooseberry and elderflower jam. Then steep the fresh creamy white flowers to make a wonderful cordial, and end the day by developing your own recipe to make a taste bud tingling gooseberry chutney.

Tutor: Sara-Jane Brough

Cost: £60

Sunday 9 June

STRAWBERRY & ROSE PETAL PRESERVING DAY

Experience the delights of these two ingredients and enjoy a taste of summer when the season has long gone. Learn the basic methods and techniques of making beautiful preserves, creating a lovely strawberry and rose petal jam, a rose petal jelly and a refreshing strawberry and rose cordial.

Tutor: Sara-Jane Brough

Cost: £60

Saturday 13 July

HEDGEROW FRUITS PRESERVING DAY

Start the day by choosing your own blend of hedgerow berries to make a hedgerow jelly. Then use the lovely Shropshire prune damson to make a vibrant damson curd. Finish the day with an exploration of different spicing to make a unique sloe and bullace ketchup.

Tutor: Sara-Jane Brough

Cost: £60

Saturday 21 September

HERITAGE ORCHARD FRUIT PRESERVING DAY

Learn the basic techniques of preserve making with heritage orchard fruits: make a deliciously spicy fragrant chutney with the unusual medlar, a traditional fruit cheese with quince, and mincemeat using a combination of quince, russet and bramley apple, cobnuts and walnuts for a special orchard mince pie.

Tutor: Sara-Jane Brough

Cost: £60

Sunday 20 October

Sara-Jane's ethos is to reintroduce long forgotten recipes using seasonal produce such as the Shropshire Prune Damson and the bounty from the hedgerows and her kitchen garden. Her passion for everything preserved led her to start her business The Ludlow Jam Pan in October 2008.

INTRODUCTION TO CIDERMAKING

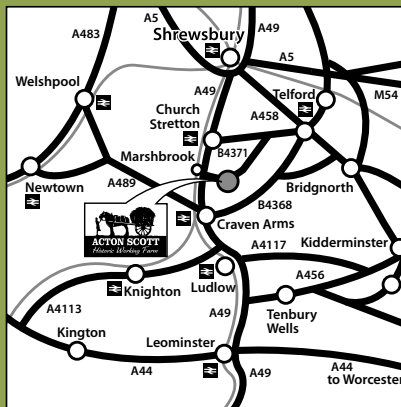
Wash and mill the apples before pressing the pulp in a single screw cider press. Taste the juice to test the 'bite' and learn how to test the juice for pH and specific gravity. Learn how cider is made and the management of the apple juice for fermentation.

Tutor: Chris King-Turner

Cost: £80

Sunday 27 October

Mahorall Farm Cider has been made by the King-Turner family on their 150 acre farm near Ludlow since 2000. The cider is made from 100% fresh apple juice fermented by wild natural yeast.



www.actonscottmuseum.com



**Acton Scott Historic Working Farm,
Wenlock Lodge, Acton Scott,
Church Stretton,
Shropshire SY6 6QN**

01694 781307

e-mail: acton.scott.museum@shropshire.gov.uk

