

## **Elms, Lime and Maple in History, legend, Natural History and Literature**

**Start date** 2 September 2016**End date** 4 September 2016**Venue** Madingley Hall  
Madingley  
Cambridge**Tutor** Dr Patrick Harding**Course code** 1617NRX002**Director of Programmes**

Emma Jennings

**For further information on this  
course, please contact**

Public Programme Co-ordinator, Clare Kerr

[clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk) or 01223 746237**To book** See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

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### **Tutor biography**

Patrick Harding has contributed to the residential programme at Madingley for over 25 years. He imparts information through profusely illustrated lectures backed up by handouts and book displays. He considers humour to be important to good teaching and steers away from a dry approach. He includes field visits and, where possible, poetry and prose to broaden his subject. He has written eight books on a range of subjects and has appeared regularly on television.

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## Course programme

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### Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	Field Maple and Sycamore – Identification and Ecology
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Our native Limes and the introduced hybrid – identification and ecology
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Which (Wych) Elm is it? Identification and ecology.
13:00	Lunch
13:45	Field visit to examine elms, limes and maples at the Botanic Gardens in Cambridge (*please see note on next page)
16:45	Tea
17:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	Elms, Limes and Maple in history and legend together with a look at the many uses to which they have been put
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Final readings followed by a look round the gardens and grounds at Madingley with special reference to the trees studied over the weekend
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Limes, Elms and Maples in Literature – with readings of poetry and prose by the tutor and class members (**not compulsory – please see note on next page)
12:45	Lunch

**The course will disperse after lunch**

**\* Participants are asked to bring suitable outdoor clothing and footwear for the field excursion on the Saturday and for the Sunday walk at Madingley. Please note that the walks will not be long or strenuous.**

**\*\* Participants are also asked to bring two or three poems or short prose extracts which relate to one or more of the tree species covered for the literature session on Sunday. If you have any small objects made from any of the trees and are willing to display them on the Saturday evening – please bring them along.**

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## Course syllabus

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### Aims:

1. To enable students to evaluate the roles played by elms, limes and maple in history and folklore
2. To provide students with the practical skills needed to be able to identify our native species of elm, lime and maple and related introduced species. They will also be able to use source material in a more rigorous investigation of the fauna and flora associated with the tree species studied.
3. To encourage students to integrate knowledge from both science and the arts in the acquisition of a broad knowledge about the tree species under study.

### Content:

The Madingley based sessions on history, natural history and usage of the tree species will take the form of illustrated lectures backed up with handouts where necessary. The Sunday literature sessions will include inputs from members of the course and time for discussion about the chosen pieces. The Saturday afternoon outing and part of the final session will offer the chance to put the theory of identification into practice and to help draw the different strands of the course together.

### Presentation of the course:

Illustrated lectures, group presentation, discussion and field visits.

### Outcomes:

**As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:**

1. Identify, making use of practical skills learnt on the course and available source material, native species of elm, lime and maple and introduced related species.
2. Evaluate the relative importance of the tree species under study in both legend and history.
3. Appreciate both the current and historical importance of the products sourced from the tree species studied.
4. Demonstrate, by way of discussion, an understanding of the different ways in which the trees have been portrayed in literature.

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## Reading and resources list

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Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Clouston, B and Stansfield, K	<i>After the Elm</i>	Heinemann 1979
Edlin, H	<i>Woodland crafts in Britain</i>	Batsford 1949
Hemery, G and Simblett, S	<i>The New Sylva</i>	Bloomsbury 2014
Johnson, O & More, D	<i>Collins Tree Guide</i>	HarperCollins 2004
King, A & Clifford, S	<i>Trees be Company</i>	Green 2001
Rackham, O	<i>New Naturalist Woodlands</i>	HarperCollins 2006

## Website addresses

**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

*Information correct as of:* 16 August 2016