



## Chawton House Library Visiting Fellowships

Applications are invited for 1-3 month visiting fellowships at Chawton House Library to be taken up between October 2009 and the end of August 2010. The deadline for completed applications for these fellowships is May 30<sup>th</sup> 2009. All Fellows will be offered accommodation in the Elizabethan Stable Block at Chawton House Library, and office space in the main Library building.

Chawton House Library is an independent research library and study centre which focuses on women's writing in English from 1600 to 1830. Accommodated in the Elizabethan manor house that once belonged to Jane Austen's brother, in the village of Chawton in Hampshire, the library's main aim is to promote and facilitate study in the field of early women's writing. The magnificent library collection of early editions from the period is freely accessible to members of the public, while the Library also runs a programme of events and activities relating both to the historical house and the focus of the collection. For more information please see [www.chawtonhouse.org](http://www.chawtonhouse.org). Chawton House Stables is an extremely comfortable 7-bedroomed house, with a large kitchen/dining area, living room and garden.

The aim of these fellowships is to enable individuals to undertake significant research in the long eighteenth century. A focus on women's writing or lives in the period would be particularly welcomed, although other projects of research in the long eighteenth century will be considered. They would be of particular interest to members of university and college faculties on leave from their institutions and graduate students for whom a stay at Chawton would be beneficial in completing the thesis or dissertation required for their degree.

All Visiting Fellows would be expected to be in residence in Chawton for the duration of their fellowship, and will find the tranquillity of the location especially conducive to their work. Scholars may wish to note that the library is a short train ride from the British Library, London, and the Bodleian Library, Oxford. There are close academic links with the University of Southampton, and visiting fellows will be invited to present their work in progress at a seminar during their time at Chawton.

A typed letter of application including the preferred dates of study and a brief research proposal (not to exceed three pages), should be sent for the attention of the Chawton House Research Fellow, Dr Gillian Dow. The proposal should be accompanied by a curriculum vitae. The applicant should also arrange to have two confidential letters of recommendation sent direct to the Library. The Library catalogue is online and can be accessed via the library website. For informal enquiries about the holdings in the collection, please contact the librarian Jacqui Grainger – [jacqui.grainger@chawton.net](mailto:jacqui.grainger@chawton.net) or Gillian Dow – [gillian.dow@chawton.net](mailto:gillian.dow@chawton.net)

The selection committee includes employees of Chawton House Library and Faculty members of the University of Southampton which has considerable strengths in eighteenth-century literature and runs a successful interdisciplinary MA in eighteenth-century studies. For more information, see <http://www.english.soton.ac.uk> Visiting Fellows will be expected to donate a copy of the manuscript or published work resulting from their stay at Chawton House Library to the Library collection, and to publish a short article in the Library newsletter *The Female Spectator*.