

Course details

Course title

Literature: Stella Gibbons' 'Cold Comfort Farm'

Course code

Q00014832

Course date

Start: 03/06/24

End: 24/06/24

Number of classes

4 sessions

Timetable

Mon 3rd Jun, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 10th Jun, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 17th Jun, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 24th Jun, 19:00 to 21:00

Branch

Radcliffe On Trent Branch

Tutor

Judith Hedley

Fee range

Free to £33.60

How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

Venue

The Grange Community Centre (Radcliffe-o
Vicarage Lane
Radcliffe-on-Trent
NG12 2FB

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

Our chance to enjoy a novel that is set in the future, pays homage to Hardy and Lawrence, features the bossiest heroine in literature and the gloomiest rural family! It has been described as the funniest book ever written. Stella Gibbons' 'Cold Comfort Farm' is a rarity, a feel-good novel about gloom and misery. 'Something nasty in the woodshed' results only in the sunniest of happy endings, brought about by Flora Poste, an incorrigibly efficient heroine. Join this short course for the long, lovely days of midsummer.

Course description

This is a novel to be enjoyed and discussed on more than one level. It's a feelgood, fairy tale love story; it's a satire on the life and times of its author, Stella Gibbons; it's a parody of every earnest tale of country life - it even looks ahead from the 1930s to our own times of Skype, rundown railways and women clergy. Cold Comfort Farm encourages us to ask questions: What is the difference between satire and parody? Could an irreverent novel like this succeed today? And most of all, what was the 'something nasty in the woodshed' that traumatised Aunt Ada Doom?

Some aspects we shall study include:

- Stella Gibbons - not a one-hit wonder but an accomplished journalist, novelist and poet.
- Parodies and satire - what is Gibbons making fun of?

Readers can enjoy her adventures whether or not they have read Thomas Hardy, D H Lawrence or the 'loam and lovechild' bestsellers of the 1920s and 30s, Gibbons own time, but looking more closely at her parodies of their subject-matter and style can only add to that enjoyment. You may even go back to classic literature with a fresh eye.

What financial support is available?

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

What other support is available?

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

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