



## Course details

### Course title

History: JB Priestley's Journey

### Course code

Q00017738

### Course date

Start: 26/02/25

End: 26/03/25

### Number of classes

5 sessions

### Timetable

Wed 26th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Wed 5th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Wed 12th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Wed 19th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Wed 26th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

### Branch

Billingshurst

### Tutor

Alan Simmonds

### Fee range

Free to £50.00

### 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

Billingshurst Community and Conference C  
Roman Way  
Billingshurst  
RH14 9QW

## Level of study

Beginners

## Course overview

This course focuses on J.B. Priestley's (1894-1984) journey around England in the 1930s, which was published as a book *English Journey* in 1934. At the time Priestley was a well-known novelist, playwright, screenwriter, social commentator and perhaps the most popular English writer of his day. Sponsored by his publisher Victor Gollancz and the Daily Mail, Priestley set out to travel the length and breadth of 1930s England from Southampton to the Black Country, the North East and Newcastle, Lincoln, Norfolk and Norwich. In doing so he revealed the condition of the English people, their society and their culture.

## Course description

By the 1930s, J.B. Priestley had emerged as a popular novelist, playwright, screenwriter, broadcaster and social commentator and perhaps the most widely-read writer of his day. He was a prolific best-selling author at a time when novels attracted a mass market. Priestley's Yorkshire background was reflected in much of his fiction, notably in *The Good Companions* (1929), and *Bright Day* (1949). His output as an author and a playwright produced a continual flow of essays, reviews, biographies, film-scripts that attracted a broadly-based audience and Priestley's series of radio talks on the BBC during the summer of 1940 were credited with strengthening civilian morale at a time of great crisis. Priestley's brief career as a travel-writer and commentator was highlighted in his book *English Journey* (1934) which explored the diversity of regions and people across England, documenting economic and social diversity across the country at a time of great and fundamental shifts in English society, culture and attitudes. Priestley's 'English Journey', is a personal account of his travels across the country in the 1930s and, as such, the aim of this course is to address the condition of England and English society and culture using Priestley's book as our guide.

## 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.

**Source URL:** <https://www.wea.org.uk/courses/humanities-science/history/26-february-history-jb-priestleys-journey>