**ARTS SOCIETY**

Summer Term 2017 Programme

Margaret-Louise O’Keeffe

**Jane Austen’s Last Years**

Jane Austen died in Winchester, aged 41, on 18 July and was buried in the cathedral on 24 July. The inscription on her grave mentioned that, *The benevolence of her heart, the sweetness of her temper, and the extraordinary endowments of her mind obtained the regard of all who knew her and the warmest love of her intimate connections.*

During her last year she completed *Persuasion* and started *Sanditon,* which had to be abandoned in March 1817 as her mysterious illness, begun in spring 1816, became more serious. Nursed by her devoted family, especially by her sister Cassandra, she was taken to Winchester in May to seek better medical help. Her final letters resonate with her love for her family, her strong Christian faith and her fortitude in adversity.

Jane Austen’s genius as a brilliant comic novelist is undoubted; her last year also demonstrates her exceptional strength of character and her courage.

**7.30pm, Wednesday 14 June 2017**

**Sixth Form Lecture Theatre**

*followed by wine and light refreshments in The Atrium*

### Tickets may also be purchased at the door; but advance notice helps catering, please. Princethorpe, Crackley Hall and The Crescent School pupils free of charge. We are happy to receive provisional bookings by e-mail, please, to alexdarkes@princethorpe.co.uk

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Please supply the following tickets:

**Jane Austen’s Last Years - Wednesday 14 June 2017 – 7.30pm**

\_\_\_\_\_ Adult (£5) \_\_\_\_\_Child (free)

I enclose £ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cheques payable to ***Princethorpe College***

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Please return to Alex Darkes, Princethorpe College, Rugby, CV23 9PX

Telephone 01926 634200 or e-mail alexdarkes@princethorpe.co.uk