

Richard Jefferies Society Calendar of Events 2012

- Sat 3 March 2012 Gentle walk with readings in Richard Jefferies Footsteps around Coate Water. Meet at 10.30am at the Rangers Information Centre, Coate Water. Followed by a joint meeting with the Friends of Alfred Williams. This year it is the Friends turn to host the gathering. Select a short extract to read to others by or about Richard Jefferies or Alfred Williams or just come along to listen. Meet at 2pm at the Richard Jefferies Museum, Coate, Swindon. Doors open at 1pm to give people an opportunity to explore the Museum. More information from info@richardjefferiessociety.co.uk.
- Sat 14 April 2012 Professor Eric Jones will talk about the American pioneering naturalist Robert Kennicott (1835-1866). Lecture entitled, 'Saving Kennicott's Grove: successful conservation at an American Coate'. Meet at 2pm at the Richard Jefferies Museum, Coate, Swindon. Doors open at 1pm to give people an opportunity to explore the Museum. More information from info@richardjefferiessociety.co.uk.
- Sat 12 May 2012 'Selborne, Gilbert White, Jefferies and others' – a talk by Peter Bainbridge as part of this year's Swindon Festival of Literature. Gilbert White (1720 –1793) was a pioneering English naturalist and ornithologist, best known for *The Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne* (1789). This book was a compilation of his letters to eminent zoologists and contained White's discoveries about local birds, animals and plants. He believed, for example, in distinguishing birds by observation rather than by collecting specimens. Jefferies was invited to write a short preface to a new edition of White's *Selborne*, published in 1887. It includes Jefferies' thoughts on the great naturalist with whose work his own has often been compared. Meet at 2pm at the Richard Jefferies Museum, Coate, Swindon. Doors open at 1pm to give people an opportunity to explore the Museum. More information from info@richardjefferiessociety.co.uk.
- 8-17 June 2012 Broadway Arts Festival featuring Alfred Parsons RA (1847-1920). A day trip is planned for Society members during the festival – details later.
- Sat 28 July 2012 A Richard Jefferies Study Day – 10.30am-4.30pm. Venue: Jefferies' Museum. Theme: The Working Wo/man in Jefferies' writing. Whether it was the agricultural labourer, shepherd, tenant farmer or other worker, Richard Jefferies had much to say about their life and toil. The day will explore Jefferies' descriptions of the working man and woman and what conclusions we might draw about Jefferies' views as he matured. Andrew Rossabi will talk about the Labour Question whilst Prof Roger Ebbatson will speak about 'Women in the Fields'. Bring packed lunch. More information from info@richardjefferiessociety.co.uk.
- Sat 3 Nov 2012 Richard Jefferies Society AGM and Birthday Lecture. More information later.