

St Nicholas Church, Chawton

Potential Projects for JASNA IVP Applicants

St. Nicholas is keen that their visitors have opportunities to learn more about Jane Austen and her connections. The church is open daily during daylight hours (and subject to services), and it is rare that there are representatives from the church available to talk to the majority of visitors. Information about the church and its contents, which was archived by National Association of Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS), is available for research purposes through the St. Nicholas vestry.

The staff of both Jane Austen House Museum and Chawton House are very knowledgeable about all things 'Austen related', including the part the church played in Jane's life and inspiration for her novels. Applicants are also encouraged to contact local historian Jane Hurst (email: janehurst1@gmail.com), who is a mine of information.

St. Nicholas Church has provided the following list of potential projects that could be completed by a JASNA International Visitor:

- 1) A family tree of the Austens and the Knights, emphasizing their connections to the Bradford family. In addition to the usual information presented in such a format, it will also be helpful to have a brief description about the principal family members. This project and its descriptions should take up no more than one side of A3, which could be framed for long-term display in the church.
- 2) A quick and easy guide to the principal memorials and dedicated pews in relation to the Austen, Knight, and Bradford families. Such a project could be presented in a simple folder and kept in the church for visitors to reference.
- 3) A quick and easy guide to the stained glass windows with any links with the Austen, Knight, and Bradford families. Such a project could be presented in a simple folder and kept in the church for visitors to reference.

JASNA members who are interested in proposing a research project involving the church may email Sandra Martin, Church Contact, at tibbs123@totalise.co.uk.