

Creative Writing and Photography at Kents Cavern

Twenty-six people visited Kents Cavern over the weekend of 6th/7th February to enjoy the challenges of creative writing and photography in the caves. The adult students came from all over Torbay to enjoy free workshops with Adult Education tutors Gail Tucker and Graham Hodgson.



Learners explore the incredible formations at Kent's Cavern

Opportunity for contemplation and writing

The Creative Writing course started in the morning with a guided walk around the caves, then students wrote descriptions of the stalactite and stalagmite formations they saw. In the afternoon the group had a second visit into the caves to consider the life of palaeolithic people as it was lived in the caves. The learners then formed groups to write collaboratively about the death of an elder and the burial of grave goods. The completed pieces will be collated into a booklet and on show as part of an exhibition at the Cavern later in the year to promote the Geopark. Learner Angela Rogers relished the opportunity to contemplate and write about the caves: 'Over thousands of years of development the cave has lent itself to man and beast Sheltering, nurturing, worshipping, exploring, dying, its occupants have played their scenes and gone. Still this wonderful formation lives on, honed naturally by water down the ages it stands silently watching. Enabling the caves to be preserved is now the job of the 21st century. I wonder how the spirit of the cave feels, for I am sure there is one, about the hundreds of people who visit its portals or the knowledgeable ones who come to dig for its hidden treasures. Does the spirit chuckle and gasp at the splendid Shakespeare plays and ghost shows as they are played out before it. Perhaps its most spectacular reaction would be to the beautiful wedding ceremonies carried out in all solemnity under its beautiful caverns. . . . thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to do some creative writing.'

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