EDGE LAND

Writing and Art Workshops at Leiston Long Shop Museum – Sept–Oct 26

Come and be inspired by the Garretts of Leiston – described by their famous daughter, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, as the family 'endowed with the extra amount of daring!'

WRITING WORKSHOPS

1. Seeing The Landscape: Using The Senses To Enrich Your Writing
Tutors: Elizabeth Ferretti and Vicky Proctor
Date: Saturday 19th September 2026
Time: 10:00–13:00 (3 hours with short break)

Tune in to the natural creativity of the senses and be inspired by work from Edge Land artists, to create evocative descriptions, stories and poetry.

"We have many senses within us and each provides rich material when writing. Vicky and I will be your guides on this exploration of beautiful Suffolk landscapes," *Elizabeth Ferretti, Edge Land writer, and workshop leader*

Maximum 12 places. Booking fee £6.00. Includes free entry to museum
Suitable for writers aged 10 and above, and at all stages on their writing journey

2. Place and Change: Writing from the Heart and the Mind
Tutors: Elizabeth Ferretti and Vicky Proctor
Date: Saturday 3rd October
Time: 10:30–14:30 (4 hours with 30-minute break)

Memory and sense of place are limitless stores of material for our writing. In this workshop, we'll use the Long Shop Museum's artefacts and images from the past to explore our connection to the Suffolk Coast.

"Each of us holds internal maps of landscapes we love – made up of memory, history and shared experience. This workshop draws on personal and collective knowledge on display at the unique Long Shop Museum," *Elizabeth Ferretti, Edge Land writer and workshop leader*

Maximum 12 places. Booking fee £6.00. Includes free museum entry.
Open to everyone, suitable for experienced and new writers from age 10 up.

3. Writing from the Edge
Tutors: Julie Garton and Elizabeth Ferretti
Date: Saturday 17th October 2026
Time: 10:30- 14.30 (4 hours with 30-minute break)

"A creative writing workshop exploring life at the eastern edge of England, past and present," *Julie Garton, Edge Land writer and workshop leader*

With prompts inspired by objects, letters, paintings, maps and curiosities in the Long Shop museum, we will create short pieces of writing in different forms.

Beginners are welcome, as are more experienced writers wanting to try out new ideas in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. Maximum 12 places. Booking fee £6.00. Includes free museum entry.

WRITING WORKSHOP

4. Once upon a Picture
Tutors: Julie Garton and Vicky Proctor
Date: Saturday 24th October 2026
Time: 10:00–13:00 (3 hours including a short break)

A writing workshop open to anyone who likes exploring writing from pictures. Hear some of the stories behind the museum's images and have a go at writing your own story inspired by the paintings and sculptures in the Edge Land exhibition.

Maximum 12 places. Booking fee £6.00, entry to museum free. Writers from 10 to 100 all welcome!

HALF-TERM ART WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN

Free Children's drop-in workshop at Leiston Long Shop Museum

5. Celebrating our Trees
Tutors: Caroline Wright and Jennifer Hall
Date: Friday, 30th October 2026
Time: 10:00-16:00 (6 hours includes an hour break for lunch)

Free drop-in children's workshop, cutting, glueing and lots of mixed media.
Aimed at 4 to 11 year old children, although older children are welcome.

"A fun workshop celebrating trees, their structure, how they change over the year and the creatures that live in them. The children will make artwork to take home, and will contribute to a giant tree artwork that will be displayed in the Long shop Museum afterwards," Jen Hall, Edge Land artist and workshop leader.

We hope the Woodland Trust, RSPB and Sizewell's plant department will be on hand to chat to the children and their parents/grandparents, and to support the workshop.

ABOUT EDGE LAND

Edge Land is a two-year arts project involving artists, writers, performance artists, poets, photographers and sculptors, exploring man-made and natural change on the Suffolk coast.

The Leiston Long Shop Museum is host to the first Edge Land exhibition in Suffolk, as well as four writing workshops and a half-term art workshop for children during September and October 2026.

The workshops are led by experienced and supportive writer-educators and artists, and promise to be fun and satisfying, with the option for your writing to be included in a final collage.

THE EDGE LAND WRITERS AND ARTISTS – WORKSHOP LEADERS

Elizabeth Ferretti is an Arts-Council award-winning writer and workshop leader, working at historic National Trust sites as well as museums across the UK. She has written extensively about coastal Suffolk in fiction and non-fiction. With a Master's in mental health, she also specialises in writing for wellbeing.

Praise from workshop attendees: "*Elizabeth is incredibly gentle and supportive in her approach. For me, she's truly an exceptional teacher. I would wholeheartedly recommend any project or workshop she runs!*" AF, workshop participant; "*Her writing workshops are a breath of fresh air*," RH, online workshop.

Julie Garton is an award-winning playwright, nonfiction writer and teacher. She began her career writing theatre for young people and has written an adaptation Panchatantra Stories for the Unicorn Theatre for Children. She currently writes about landscape and local history and teaches Creative Writing and Memoir in London.

Vicky Proctor grew up in Suffolk, spending her formative years roaming the coast and surrounding landscape. She is a writer, scriptwriter and workshop leader, currently working towards a PhD exploring the complicated relationship between humour and mental health. Vicky also runs creative writing workshops at her local Mind hub.

Caroline Wright has undertaken residencies and commissions for ITV, London; The Inshlacken Project, Ireland; Cambridge University, England; Asagaya School of Art/ Visions Gallery, Japan; UCL Trellis Arbor/Grays Inn Road Hospital; The Coronet Theatre, London; Scott Polar Museum, Cambridge, The National Trust, Norfolk and Norwich Festival/Cultural Olympiad and Latitude Festival and her work is held in public and private collections worldwide. She has contributed to conferences and publications and delivered public workshops for galleries and institutions (Tate Modern, Open University).

Jennifer Hall is a sculptor, printmaker and botanical drawing and watercolour artist. She has graphic design and fine art degrees as well as an MA in the Arts of Africa, Oceania and the Americas. After completing the latter, she became curator of Orford Museum, responsible for the running of the museum and exhibitions on the theme of WW1 and The Orford Ness Lighthouse. She also ran for many years her own workshops, taking participants into the landscape, and has run children's workshops for the Mercury Theatre, Ipswich Museum and Christchurch Mansion.

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Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscape

THE LONG SHOP MUSEUM

THE ARTS SOCIETY SOUTH EAST SUFFOLK