

## **DERWENT VALLEY MILLS WORLD HERITAGE SITE DISCOVERY DAYS**

A Celebration of Alison Uttley Saturday 30 October

6.30pm to 9pm in the Gothic Warehouse, Cromford Wharf – opposite Cromford Mill.

Admission £5 with concessions £3. Pre-booking recommended.

Refreshments available.

An enlightening talk on Cromford author Alison Uttley by her biographer Denis Judd. After the interval, Joyce Varty reads extracts from Alison Uttley's works and Pete Castle inserts traditional songs. The programme will concentrate on her writings about Cromford and will include a lot of new material, including Alison Uttley's thoughts on Florence Nightingale.'

Contact Call Derbyshire if you wish to pre-book an event on 08456 058 058, open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 4pm on Saturdays.

It is not essential to book for events, but if activities are fully booked, the organisers reserve the right to turn away those people who didn't pre-book. No charge is made for booking. For events involving a fee you will be expected to pay on the door, not when booking. Last day for bookings is Thursday 21st October.

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## **CHRISTMAS WITH ALISON UTTLEY**

Saturday 4th December 2010, 7.30-10.00pm

At Gothic Warehouse, Cromford Wharf, Cromford, Derbyshire. (opposite Cromford Mill)  
Tickets £5

Pete Castle and Joyce Varty will present their very popular Christmas show at Cromford again this year. (They've now been doing it for about 10 years!) Christmas With Alison Uttley describes the Christmas period about a century ago through the eyes of Derbyshire author Alison Uttley.

Joyce, who regularly lectures on Uttley for the WEA and other organisations, reads extracts from her works and Pete, a professional folk musician, puts in relevant songs and carols, many of which are quoted or mentioned in the texts.

Joyce and Pete have presented this show many times now in various venues as well as doing a summer version and it is always very popular. In fact it has built up a 'cult' following of people who come time after time *so prior booking is essential*.

See [www.petecastle.co.uk](http://www.petecastle.co.uk)

Tickets and more info available from Pete Castle, 42 Mill St. Belper, DE56 1DT 01773-822829

## **MORE INFORMATION**

Alison Uttley spent her childhood at Castle Top Farm near Cromford and went to school at Holloway. Later she went to Manchester University and qualified as a teacher of physics and English, spent her married life in Cheshire and then moved to Buckinghamshire. When she started writing in the 1920s her memory went back to those early days in Derbyshire which features heavily in all her books.

She is best known for the 'Little Grey Rabbit' and 'Sam Pig' series which, at one time, rivalled Beatrice Potter in popularity, but she wrote many more stories (over 80 titles in all) for both children and adults, especially *A Country Child* and *A Traveller in Time*, (both of which feature heavily in this show) as well as non-fiction and essays.