

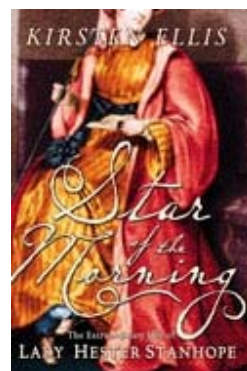
Star of the Morning:

The Extraordinary Story of Lady Hester Stanhope.

Chawton House Library Fellow's Lecture
6th November 2008

Author & Journalist, Kirsten Ellis talks about her
captivating new biography.

Lady Hester Stanhope – the greatest woman traveller of her age – lacked neither ambition nor daring. Born into the illustrious, political Pitt dynasty - and as the daughter of a brilliant but notorious radical thinker - she was never cut out for a conventional life. As a young wilful society beauty, she was admired by George III, befriended by the Duke of York and Beau Brummell and became an influential society hostess for her unmarried uncle, Prime Minister William Pitt. After cruel losses and heartbreak, she did not hesitate to strike out on her own for unchartered, exciting new territory. Taking a younger lover, she roamed the Mediterranean and Levant, and became the first western woman to cross the Syrian Desert to reach Palmyra. The Bedouin Arabs, whose cause she championed, called her their 'Star of the Morning.' She established her own fiefdom from her fortress from a hillside in Lebanon - and never returned home.



Lecture Tickets: £10 & £7.50 for friends/students (includes wine)

6.30pm Reception with wine
7.00pm Lecture



To book, or for more info, call 01420 541010
Or email info@chawton.net.

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