

## Jane Austen and teachers

Saturday, 11 March 2017

Seeing the news items about Jane and her arsenic poisoning reminded me of Paddy Gardiner at Charterhouse who patiently and gently explained to me why Jane was superb - a miniaturist of manners - when I hated her first book; so I read a second, understood it and loved it.

Spike Phillips and AS White were other teachers who really awakened my love of literature.

I often think teachers don't get enough credit. All stories are about abuse whereas they can really contribute to a happy life.

My best teachers were fantastic; I owe them so much.