

# Roman Writing Tablet Workshop

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with mixed media artist  
**Louis Neale**

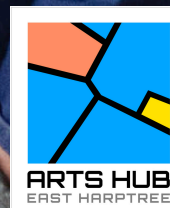
**Sat 25 May**  
**10am - 1pm**

**At East Harptree  
Pavillion**

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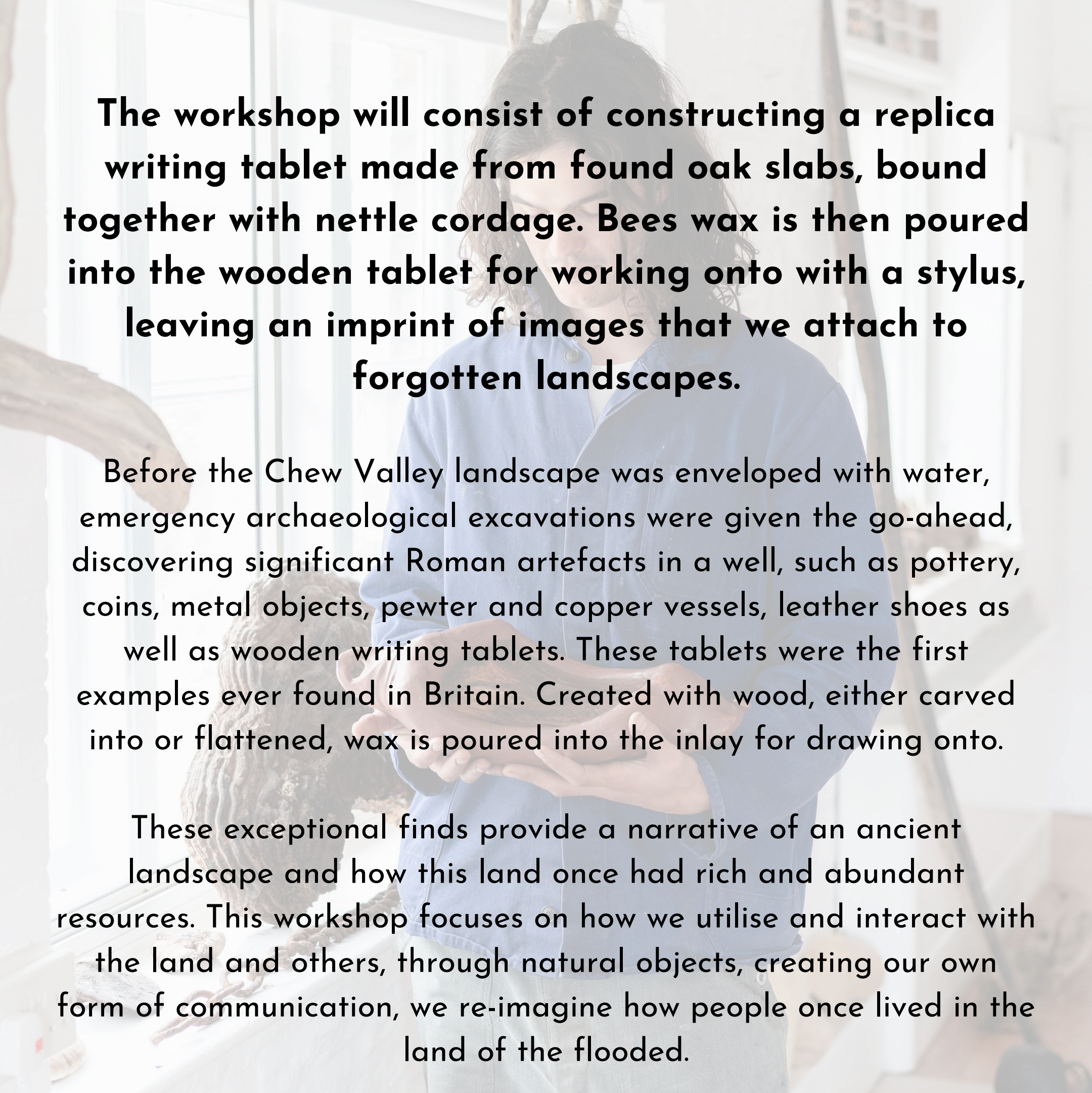
An EH Arts Hub with  
Rising Waters Project  
funded by Valley Arts

@valleyartscv @artshubharptree



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ENGLAND**

photo courtesy @meglovellphoto

A person with long dark hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt, is holding a rectangular wooden tablet. The tablet has a layer of yellowish wax on its surface. The person is looking down at the tablet. The background is a bright, slightly blurred indoor setting with large windows.

**The workshop will consist of constructing a replica writing tablet made from found oak slabs, bound together with nettle cordage. Bees wax is then poured into the wooden tablet for working onto with a stylus, leaving an imprint of images that we attach to forgotten landscapes.**

Before the Chew Valley landscape was enveloped with water, emergency archaeological excavations were given the go-ahead, discovering significant Roman artefacts in a well, such as pottery, coins, metal objects, pewter and copper vessels, leather shoes as well as wooden writing tablets. These tablets were the first examples ever found in Britain. Created with wood, either carved into or flattened, wax is poured into the inlay for drawing onto.

These exceptional finds provide a narrative of an ancient landscape and how this land once had rich and abundant resources. This workshop focuses on how we utilise and interact with the land and others, through natural objects, creating our own form of communication, we re-imagine how people once lived in the land of the flooded.