

3 FAST FACTS

JANE AUSTEN

Have you noticed an unfamiliar face on the back of the shiny new tenners? It's incredible novelist **Jane Austen**, whose birthday falls on **16 December!**

- 1** Born in **Hampshire** in **1775**, Jane had seven siblings, and began writing funny stories and plays aged just **12**. Her first novel, ***Sense and Sensibility***, was published in **1811** under the name **'A Lady'**! She wanted to be anonymous.
- 2** Her witty books were full of sharp observations about the **English middle and upper classes**. In the **1800s**, women were expected to **marry for money**. But Jane's heroines wed for **love**. And Jane herself never wanted to marry at all!
- 3** Jane wrote **six** books before she died, aged just **41**. Two were published **after** her death. But they're still read and studied today, and all have been made into films and TV shows!



It's thought in Jane's time, £10 would have been worth **£786** of today's money!