This is shaping up to be quite a year for the National Trust and it’s all thanks to you. Whether you realise it or not, this summer you’re uncovering, restoring, conserving, protecting, transforming, and if that wasn’t enough you’re also raising a roof.

The support you give through coming to see us, holidaying with us, renewing your membership, donating or tucking into a slice of cake makes some truly remarkable things happen. So, thank you.

You’ll be enjoying better experiences at our places around the region and you’re also helping to create these for everyone else. Take a look at what you’ve already achieved.

In Suffolk, Sutton Hoo is home to one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of all time and the best Anglo-Saxon story out there. You’ve helped to release that story for everyone to learn and let their imaginations run wild by totally transforming what you can see and do there. You’re inspiring tomorrow’s storytellers, historians, archaeologists and explorers, while sparking some curiosity today.

Exploring further into Suffolk at Ickworth you’re uncovering our iconic rotunda roof. From the very top of the rotunda to a series of underground vaults, there’s a programme of work which will help keep Ickworth safe and secure well into the future.

Moving into the heart of the region at Wimpole Estate near Cambridge you’re well underway with a whole new way to arrive at Wimpole. It’s one of the most exciting chapters in this magnificent estate’s history. You’ve already created a new home for our splendid Shire horses and by the time you’re finished everyone will arrive at a robust new car park, be given a proper Wimpole welcome in a new building and enter the historic parkland as it was always meant to be experienced. You won’t be finished until the end of the year, so keep going.

Come on up to Norfolk where Oxburgh Hall’s roof tiles, timbers and brickwork are in need of urgent repair, which isn’t surprising when you think they’ve been up there for over 500 years. You’ll soon be making a start on these important repairs.

Now you can ease off and enjoy some smooth sailing as we head towards the gateway to the Norfolk Broads. You have helped restore Horsey Windpump, which stands proud once again in the landscape. You can now even enjoy the amazing view from the top.

Wherever your adventures take you this summer we invite you to look up, down, inside and out at the wonderful things you’re a part of as we give you a warm and sunny, sincere thank you.

Turn the page to find out more about how you are helping bring Sutton Hoo to life.

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Text continued on the next page.
News in Brief

Basil Brown to investigate further. Pretty appointed local archaeologist from her house, landowner Edith archaeological dig that first revealed also the 80th anniversary of the Sutton Hoo story, it’s completion of our major new This year not only marks the...
Norfolk
Cambridgeshire
Suffolk
Bedfordshire

What’s on

Paycocke’s House and Grange Barn
Coggeshall, CO6 1NS

Tudor Takeover
Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 June, 11am – 5pm and Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 August, 11am – 5pm
Step back in time over 600 years as we are taken on a quest to find magical elves and fairies. Try and find all the secret doors and finish off by making your own woodland wand to take home!
£7 per child, £10 per family ticket includes two adults and two children. For more events visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

Bourne Mill
Colchester, Essex CO2 8RT

Bourne Valley Crafters Fair
Saturday 18 May & Saturday 7 September, 11am – 4pm
Enjoy an evening of outdoor theatre at Willington Dovecote and Stables hosted by DOT Productions as they present their adaptation of Jane Austin’s classic, Sense and Sensibility. Bring a picnic and some wine to enjoy this brilliant performance.
£7 per adult, £3.50 per child. Family ticket £38.

Hatfield Forest
Takerley, CM22 6NE

Magical Woodland Elves and Fairies
28 – 30 May, 10.30am – 12noon, or 2pm – 4pm
Join the learning team and explore the forest on a quest to find magical elves and fairies. Try and find all the secret doors and finish off by making your own woodland wand to take home!
£16 per adult, £10 per child. Family tickets available from £29.

Woodfest
Friday 6 – Sunday 8 September, gates open 10am – 10pm
Set deep in the heart of the forest, Woodfest is an annual celebration of the beautiful forest through music, song, workshops and traditional crafts. Live bands will perform over the weekend, alongside lots of independent stalls and much more. Enjoy locally sourced food and drink from the Lakeside Café and the Real Ale & Gin Bar. Weekend camping available for caravans, tents and yurts. For new for the year will be a Bushcraft & Wildcamp Experience hosted by experienced survival experts, Woodlife Trails. All camping options must be booked via the website.

Hatfield Forest
Takerley, CM22 6NE

A Midsummer Night’s Dream, presented by The Lord Chamberlain’s Men
Wednesday 3 July, 7.30pm start
This enchanting Shakespearean comedy of mischievous fairies, confused lovers and rude mechanicals is an intoxicating tale of clarity from chaos as tangled love gives way to happily ever after.
£16 per adult, £10 per child. Family tickets available from £29.

For more events visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

Bedfordshire

Dunstable Downs and Whipsnade Estate
Dunstable, LU6 2GY

Ranger-led Wildlife Walk
Join our expert rangers on a Wildlife Walk to learn more about the amazing orchids and butterflies that can be found amongst the chalk grassland of Dunstable Downs and Sharpenhoe Clappers.
£3 per adult, £3.50 per child.

Fairy Afternoon Tea
28 May – 1 June, 2.30pm – 4.30pm
Create a flower crown that you can then wear to your fairy themed afternoon tea. All children’s tickets include a Fairy trail map, seed flower themed face painting and fairy crown making workshops. Don’t forget your wings and your wellies.
£12.95 per adult, £7.95 per child.

Willington Dovecote and Stables
Willington, MK44 3PX

Open Air Theatre
Friday 29 June, 6pm
Enjoy an evening of outdoor theatre at Willington with the historic Tudor stables as a glorious backdrop for an adaptation of the children’s classic, Alice in Wonderland.
£12 per adult, £9 per child. Family ticket £38.

Norfolk
Cambridgeshire
Suffolk
Bedfordshire

News and events for summer 2019
Bedfordshire | Cambridgeshire | Essex
Hertfordshire | Norfolk | Suffolk

For more events visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

Summer 2019

Essex

Paycocke’s House and Grange Barn
Coggeshall, CO6 1NS

St George and the Dragon Mummers’ Play
Sunday 14 July, 11.30am & 2.15pm
Paycocke’s Garden. Paycocke’s House. Take a short walk down to Grange Barn if you’re visiting on the August weekend, as the ever-popular Craft Fayre will also return.

Saturday 10 & Sunday 11 August, 11am – 4pm
Tudor Takeover
Step back in time over 600 years as we are taken on a quest to find magical elves and fairies. Try and find all the secret doors and finish off by making your own woodland wand to take home!
£7 per child, £10 per family ticket includes two adults and two children. For more events visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

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£7 per adult, £3.50 per child. Family ticket £38.

Wicken Fen
Cambridgeshire

Ranger-led Wildlife Walk
Join the learning team and explore the forest on a quest to find magical elves and fairies. Try and find all the secret doors and finish off by making your own woodland wand to take home!
£16 per adult, £10 per child. Family tickets available from £29.

For more events visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

Book an event

Book online at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events or call our central box office to book events at the following places…

Angelsey Abbey, Cambridgeshire
Blakeney National Nature Reserve, Norfolk
Bourne Mill, Essex
Brancaster Beach, Norfolk
Blickling Estate, Norfolk
Coggeshall Grange Barn, Essex
Dunstable Downs and Whipsnade Estate, Bedfordshire
Dunwich Heath, Suffolk
Felbrigg Hall, Norfolk
Flatford, Suffolk
Hatfield Forest, Essex
Helgham Holmes, Norfolk
Houghton Mill, Cambridgeshire
Ickworth, Suffolk
Lavenham Guildhall, Suffolk
Melford Hall, Suffolk
Orford Ness, Suffolk
Oxburgh Hall, Norfolk
Shaw’s Corner, Hertfordshire
Sheringham Park, Norfolk
Sutton Hoo, Suffolk
Wicken Fen, Cambridgeshire
Willington Dovecote and Stables, Bedfordshire
Wimpole Estate, Cambridgeshire

0344 2491895

To book events at the following places, please call the number listed…

Ashridge Estate, Hertfordshire, 01442 820227
Elizabethan House Museum, Norfolk, 01485 749330
Lodden New Build, Northamptonshire 01332 205168
Paycocke’s, Essex 01795 561305
Peckover House, Cambridgeshire 01945 838463
Theatre Royal, Suffolk 01728 769850

Normal admission applies unless otherwise stated.

£ – Booking essential. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Family ticket includes two adults and two children. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more events visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

Summer 2019
Cambridgeshire

Wimpole Estate
Arrington, Royston, SG8 0BW

Wimpole History Festival
Friday 27 – Sunday 29 June, 30.8am – 5pm
Our feast of history and heritage for the whole family includes talks, debates, book signings and performances, as well as living history through the ages, historical walking tours, workshops, activities and events for young history lovers. Plus, there will also be a special series of talks hosted by National Trust specialists. Prices vary, please see website for more details: www.wimpolehistoryfestival.com.

Open Air Theatre
Saturday 27 – Saturday 29 July, 6.30pm & 9pm
Join us in the atmospheric setting of Lyveden and the Oundle International Open Air Theatre to enjoy their presentation of Sense and Sensibility, Austen’s classic, with live music, audience interaction and romance.

Anglesey Abbey
Lode, Cambridge, CB6 3LZ

June Blossoms
1 – 30 June
Enjoy hearty scents in the formal rose gardens, the beauty of insects in the wildflower meadows and a riot of colour through our herbaceous border. Don’t miss, as recommended by our Head Gardener, ‘the gardens at their absolute best.’

Design Your Own Adventure
29 July – 2 September
Whether you’re a budding historian, a keen outdoor explorer, a nature you can design your own day of family adventure at Anglesey Abbey.

Dazzling Dribbles
29 September
Over the three-week period, there will be a variety of colourful pop-up installations throughout the gardens, as well as planters which can be purchased across the property and will feature some brand new varieties.

Winter Lights
Keep an eye out for tickets on sale later this summer.

Northamptonshire

Lyveden
Nr Oundle, PE8 5AT

Little Acorn: Toddle & Explore
27 May, July & October, 10am – 12pm
A nature themed activity session for the under 5’s, with stories and exploration in the woods and garden trails that explore our heritage.

Lyveden Mill Tours
Sunday 27 May, 2pm & 4pm
Explore the woods on our tree inspired by the theme. Her first workshop will be a writing workshop inspired by the story of Guinevere Glasfurd, for a creative weekend.

Crafty Tuesdays
30 July, 6, 13 & 20 August, 5pm – 6pm
We will be hosting a series of crafty activities throughout the summer holidays for all the family to enjoy. Drop in to the Mill on a Tuesday to see what you can get involved with.

Lode
Cambridgeshire

Houghton Mill
Nt Houghton PE21 2AZ

Build a Bug Hotel
10am – 12pm
Join a scavenger hunt around Houghton Mill to find natural materials that can be used to create a pallet-style bug hotel for our nature trail.

Guided Mill Tours
29 September
As Houghton Mill celebrates its 80th year under the care of the National Trust, we are also marking a wider anniversary of the impressive 18th Century working mill discovering more about the milling process; from grain to flour.

Crafty Saturdays
30 July, 6, 13 & 20 August, 5pm – 6pm
We will also be welcoming Theodora with Eboracum Baroque for a lively look at the future of Shaw’s home, afternoon tea and a mini outdoor production of Handel’s opera Theodora with Eboracum Baroque.

Open Air Theatre
31 August – 2 September
PYRAMID: a brand new adaptation of Jane Austen’s classic, Sense and Sensibility, by Lyveden and the Oundle International Theatre, is the world’s first cycling theatre company and is building on the success of 2019’s hugely popular production featuring live music, audience interaction and romance.

Dazzling Dribbles
9 – 29 September
Over the three-week period, there will be a series of colourful pop-up installations throughout the gardens, as well as planters which can be purchased across the property and will feature some brand new varieties.

Winter Lights
Keep an eye out for tickets on sale later this summer.

Hertfordshire

Forty Hall

Shaw’s Corner
Aynst St Clere, AL1 9RE

Craft Tour
Tuesday 14, 21 & 28 Ma, 11am – 2.30pm
These creative workshops are perfect for anyone interested in fine cutting. You will enjoy an arts and crafts tour of Shaw’s home, afternoon tea and a creative fine cutting workshop inspired by the wonderful floral prints of William Morris, which feature throughout the Shaw’s Corner collection. £45 per person.

Pygmalion Readings
Every Sunday in July & August, 2pm
Come and join our celebration of all things Pygmalion. Our dedicated volunteers will be performing excerpts from Shaw’s most loved play in the garden throughout the summer months.

How to be a Lady Like Liza
Every Saturday in July & August, 11am – 3pm
Learn how to walk like a Lady (or Lord), how to sit like a Lady and how to act like a Lady. These quick and fun demonstrations will give you the building blocks to transform yourself from Covent Garden flower girl to Duchess in no time!

Bioblitz
Sunday 21, July, 6pm – 8pm
Join wildlife experts at our family-friendly Bioblitz and help us find out how many different plant and animal species can be found in Ivinghoe Beacon.

Ashridge Estate
Hornshill, Near Berkhamsted, HP4 1LT

Half-term trail and crafts
Monday 27 – Friday 31, 10am – 4pm
Explore the woods on our tree themed trail followed by a visit to the visitor centre to do some complementing crafts.

Ashridge Adventurers
Sunday 21, July, 6pm – 8pm
Join wildlife experts at our family-friendly Bioblitz and help us find out how many different plant and animal species can be found in Ivinghoe Beacon.

Dazzling Dribbles
9 – 29 September
Over the three-week period, there will be a variety of colourful pop-up installations throughout the gardens, as well as planters which can be purchased across the property and will feature some brand new varieties.

Winter Lights
Keep an eye out for tickets on sale later this summer.
Open Air Theatre
Saturday 13 July, gates open from 5pm, performance starts at 7pm
When Elizabeth Bennett meets the terse and abrupt Mr Darcy, she-thinking-however, and there is a dark secret lurking beneath the sandy banks! This is the quintessentially British scone with heather to mini-monsters that lay their rich history at this talk, tour and lunch. 

Dunwich Heath
Dunwich Heath, IP17 3DJ
Open Air Theatre
Saturday 13 July, 10am – 4pm
Join us at Dunwich Heath for a day or a week to return for a day, sharing their memories of people who worked on the Ness during its time as a testing site visit: opens on Good Friday.

Suffolk

Bird Identification Course
Tuesday 28 May, 4 June, 20 June & 27 August, 10am – 12pm
Whether you are new to birdwatching or brushing up on your already existing skills, our half-day walks led by Suffolk Wildlife Trust guide expert, Steve Piotrowski, are a fantastic opportunity to learn how to identify a wide range of birds in varied habitats around the heath. £35 per person.

Insect Safari
Saturday 30 June, 10:30am – 12 noon
Join our Insect Safari for a walk through the beautiful Dunwich Heath countryside. Each walk will start and finish at Flatford and vary in length from four to seven miles. £7 per person.

Rambles and Tour
Saturday 22 June, 10:30am – 1pm
Join an experienced National Trust guide for a guided walk through the beautiful Dunwich Heath countryside. Each walk will start and finish at Flatford and vary in length from four to seven miles. £7 per person.

Open Air Theatre
Saturday 13 July, gates open from 5pm, performance starts at 7pm
Join us at Dunwich Heath for a day or a week to return for a day, sharing their memories of people who worked on the Ness during its time as a testing site visit: opens on Good Friday.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar
Monday 17 June, 4.30pm
Join us at Dunwich Heath for a day or a week to return for a day, sharing their memories of people who worked on the Ness during its time as a testing site visit: opens on Good Friday.

The Gruffalo
Tuesday 19 June, 2.30pm & 4.30pm, Wednesday 12 & Thursday 13 June, 10am & 1.30pm
Join Mouse on a dashing adventure through the deep, dark wood in Tall Stories’ magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. Songs, laughs and scary fun for children aged three and up.

Summer Holiday Drama Workshops
Tuesday 26 & Wednesday 27 July, 10am – 1pm
Our theatre workshops will be fun, creative and a real confidence booster for your children. Come and sing, dance and act throughout summer. Tickets £35.

Melford Hall
Long Melford, Sudbury, CO10 9AA

Teddy Bears’ Picnic
Sunday 14 July, 10am – 4pm
Join Stuff of Dreams for a treasure hunt! Come along for a step-by-step guide to return for a day, sharing their memories of people who worked on the Ness during its time as a testing site visit: opens on Good Friday.

Lavenham Guildhall
Lavenham, Sudbury, CO10 9QZ

Discover Lavenham’s Secrets & 4 & 1/2, 13 & 31 July & 10 & 17 August and 14 & 31 September, 10.30am start
Discover Lavenham’s secrets, past and present on one of our private tours. Why was the village so important in medieval times? What lies behind the success of its fabulously wealthy merchants? How did they film Harry Potter’s parent’s home? £10 per person, includes a pastry and coffee.

Orford Ness
Orford, Suffolk
Anglo-Saxon re-enactment
Saturday 22 June, 10am – 4pm & Sunday 23 June, 10am – 5pm
Celebrate the summer solstice in Anglo-Saxon style with re-enactment group Walhtheda. Meet King Rædwald and his warriors and see master craftsmen at work whilst Anglo-Saxon music drifts through the camp.

Autumn Birds
Saturday 22 – Sunday 23 September, 10am – 12noon
Stroll to the saltmarsh with our expert guides to discover the wading birds that have arrived ahead of the colder weather. £15 per person.

Edith In The Beginning
Saturday 24 – Monday 26 August, 7:30pm
A new play by Karen Fordstberg telling the story of Mrs Edith Pretty, the woman famously linked to the discovery of the Sutton Hoo treasure. Join Staff of Dreams for a very special, site-specific, outdoor theatre production staged at Sutton Hoo. Immerse yourself in the atmospheric landscape and hear Mrs Pretty’s fascinating life story! £15 per adult, £13 per child.

For more events visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events
Summer 2019
### Norfolk

#### Blickling Estate
Blickling, Aylsham, NR11 6NF

**The Edge of Things**
May – October 2019

The Edge of Things draws inspiration from Blickling’s nationally significant book collection which houses over 12,500 volumes, but is under threat from damp and death watch beetle. Joan Gabrie and Neville Gabrie have focused on four of the collection’s most intriguing titles from the seventeenth Century, looking at them with a contemporary eye.

**Summer Fun at Blickling Estate**
30 June – 31 August

There’s nothing quite like summer at Blickling Estate. Explore the garden in full bloom and discover outdoor activities for all the family. Enjoy everything from cycle hire in the park to green-fingered fun in the walled garden. Collect a children’s map from visitor reception before head out on a colourful adventure. Don’t miss our exciting Family Music Festival on 6 July with Lauren Child, creator of much-loved Charlie & Lola stories headlining the event.

**Classic Biza**
Saturday 9 August

The Urban Soul Orchestra returns to Blickling for one of the biggest anthems of Robert Miles, Massive Attack, Faithless and more. Performing with a live DJ and internationally renowned vocalist this is a night to remember (£39.50 per adult, £17.50 per child (5 – 16 years old), under 5 free).

**Costs vary.**

#### Sheringham Park
Upper Sheringham, NR26 8TL

**Open Air Theatre**
29 June & 20 August, times vary

Join us in June for Sense and Sensibility and in August for The Jungle Book at Sheringham Park. A transformed into an outdoor theatre experience. The ever-popular Pantaloons return with their unique adaptation of Jane Austen’s classic novel of scandal, soundbites and severely sprained ankles. We are also excited to welcome local artists, Strange Fascinations, to bring Mogwili, Bobo and the Trance fem Shire Khan to life.

£32 per adult, £95.50 per child (recommended), £34 per adult, £11 per child (on the day).

#### Oxburgh Hall
Oxnhourne, PE33 9PP

**August Music Nights**
Friday nights throughout August

This year, our programme of musical entertainment will bring jazz, blues and glam rock. Come and dance the summer nights away. £10 (pre-booked), £14 per adult, £11 per child (on the day).

#### Blakeney National Nature Reserve
Morton, NR23 7BH

**Breeding Birds of Blakeney Point**
Wednesday 5 & 19 August – 10am Join our ranger to discover some of the resident birds at Blakeney Point.

**The International Garden Photographer of the Year Exhibition**
31 August – 27 October, down to dual

The International Garden Photographer of the Year Exhibition is the UK’s premier competition specialising in garden, plant, flower and botanical photography. Showcasing brand new images from all over the world, this year’s exhibition will feature pictures of the natural world at its finest.

£5 (on the day).

**Bee Weekend**
Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 June, 10am – 4:30pm

Join us to celebrate the value of bees and learn about the art of getting dressed throughout the eras.

£7.50 per ticket.

#### Heigham Holmes
Martham, Great Yarmouth, NR29 4RG

**Heigham Holmes Open Day**
Sunday 4 August, 11am – 4pm

Heigham Holmes Nature Reserve is open to the public for visiting just one day a year. This secret island is a hidden gem amongst the Norfolk Broads and is home to a host of wildlife. Join us for a special evening at Marham Ferry to enjoy a family day out with a picnic. We will have various activities on throughout the day including bug hunting and pond dipping. Light refreshments will be available subject to availability.

£10 per adult, £5 per child.

#### Blakeney Point F or & Fauna Walk
Sunday 30 June, 9:30am – 4pm

Join us for a leisurely five mile walk with wildlife expert Richard Porter to discover the birds, butterflies and flowers of Blakeney point. Sorry, no dogs.

£7.50 per person.

#### Great British Beach Clean – Marine Conservation Society
Saturday 22 September, 10am – 1pm

Working in partnership with Norfolk Wildlife Trust, join us for a Great British Beach Clean on Blakeney Point and Cley Beach. Help us keep this important stretch of coastline litter free. Bags and litter-pickers provided. Please note: sturdy gardening gloves are needed. Meet at Cley Beach car park (not NT).

**Families’ Wild Walk**
Saturday 29 August, 10:30am – 12:30pm

Explore the wildlife and secret history of this corner of Norfolk. Visit our wildlife garden where our team of experts will be available to answer any questions you may have about these beautiful creatures.

#### Horsey Windpump
Horsey, Great Yarmouth, NR29 4EL

**World Swallowtail Day**
Saturday 29 September, 10am – 12:30pm

Explore the wildlife and secret history of Heigham Holmes on a ranger-led wild walk through the reserve. Venture off the beaten track and look out for wildlife along the way. £10 per adult, £5 per child.

For more information about Heigham Holmes, or to book an event, please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events/horsey-windpump

#### Elizabethan House Museum
Great Yarmouth, NR30 3GH

**Culinary Conquests**
Monday 29 July, 11am – 4pm

Our cook is exploring new and exotic flavours that were found in Victorian Britain. See if you can spot some familiar recipes as well as some more unusual combinations.

**A Civil War Conspiracy**
Monday 5 August, 11am – 4pm

Find out what a common soldier’s life would have been like during the English Civil War and its links to Great Yarmouth.

**During Dressing Up**
Monday 26 August, 11am – 4pm

Join us in the costume collection to try on a new ‘look’ with our period costumes that range from Tudor to Victorian times and learn more about the art of getting dressed throughout the eras.

**War of the Roses re-enactment**
Sunday 10 & Sunday 11 August, 11am – 4pm

What was life like as a medieval soldier in the 15th century? What did they look like? How did they eat? Find out how members of the family would have lived as soldiers during the War of the Roses at Oxburgh Hall becomes a soldier’s encampment for the weekend. Real cannon fired each day!

**For more information about Heigham Holmes, or to book an event, please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events**
**News in Brief**

For more information visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dunstable-downs

The meadows are now bursting with all sorts of wildlife: each of which is counted every year by a dedicated team of rangers, and this year, you!

On Sunday 21 July we will be holding a bioblitz at Ashridge. Help us to census the whole family involved in this important conservation work.

From bugs and beetles to bees and butterflies, our knowledgeable countryside team will be on hand to help you find and identify the different species that make their home at Ashridge. They will give you the tools you need to have a go at surveying. You could spend all day exploring the landscape or drop in for 10 minutes and blitz it!

Countryside Manager, Emily Smith said: "These surveys are so important to the conservation work that we carry out throughout the year. This is a wonderful opportunity to find out more about the work we do and it’s a great way for children to learn more about nature and wildlife. It’s lots of fun too and a great excuse to get outside for a bug hunt."

As well as the bioblitz, our Ashridge Adventures is returning every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the summer holidays. These fun morning or afternoon sessions will have a different activity each week with pond dipping, den building, minibeast hunting or natural art.

For more information please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge-estate

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**Calling all nature detectives**

**Ashridge Estate in Hertfordshire is buzzing at the seams with all sorts of life such as the sounds of insects and sights of colourful butterflies fill the air. Our rangers, farmers and volunteers work hard to create places where wildlife can thrive and thanks to your support our places are brimming with wildlife over the summer. From little terns on the Norfolk coast to kingfishers at Flatford, there will be butterflies galore at Dunstable Downs in Bedfordshire and Sheringham Park in Norfolk.

If you’re quick you can spot dragonflies at Wicken Fen or maybe at Hatfield Forest in Essex, and hear the nightingales singing once more in our woodland areas in Essex and at Pin Mill in Suffolk.**

**Summer 2019**

**‘Tis the sea-sun**

As the days extend and stay light for longer, why not gather the family to visit one, two, three (or more) of our special places in the East of England? We’ve got a lot to offer!

Reconnect with nature and get active outdoors at one of our picture-perfect open spaces. Take a trip to Sheringham Park if you fancy a long stroll with coastal views, or head to Hatfield Forest for a woodland walk. If you prefer to travel on two wheels, then enjoy the rolling hills of Ashridge Estate for an exhilarating ride.

Anglesey Abbey is the place to head to if you enjoy a wander through vibrant gardens. A particular highlight for this time of year is the iconic Rose Garden.

For the foodie families among you, pack your blankets and picnic baskets and enjoy a quiet spot in the gardens of Peckover or Shaw’s Corner. If you prefer a more striking view, pop to Norfolk to absorb the rippling reflection of Oxburgh Hall, in the mead, while enjoying delicious delights.

From giant chess to connect 4, croquet to cricket, let the kids have some fun with the many outdoor opportunities we offer to keep them busy between exploring. Head to Mellford Hall to enjoy fun family games, or Wicken Fen to enjoy a serene boat ride.

The ‘piece de résistance’ of any British heatwave however, is to get out and about and enjoy a day at the beach. We care for over 100 miles of coastline in the East of England alone, so that you and your family can take full advantage of those summer days.

Whether you breathe in the fresh air at Dunwich Heath, or appreciate the dramatic coastal views of Brancaster Beach, make sure you enjoy an ice cream or two with us this summer.

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**A vision from the beginning**

In 1899 a tiny fragment of undrained fen was purchased by the National Trust. Today our vision for Wicken Fen’s future remains unchanged: to expand, protect and conserve one of Europe’s most important wetlands while opening it up for everyone to experience.

Over the summer we’re inviting you to come and find out all about our vision for Wicken Fen and celebrate this stunning nature reserve. We’ve got a fun packed summer for you to explore, discover and celebrate all things Wicken Fen. So whether you’re a pond dipper, den buider, bird spotter or cokcuk caller, there’s something for you.

Taking our big sky landscape as inspiration, you can also get creative through our photography competition and art workshops, wildlife walks and talks or simply find some peace and quiet on the reserve and listen to the reeds in the breeze and feel the sun on your face.

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**50 years with the Trust**

2019 marks 50 years since Robert Wyndham Ketton-Cremer, the last squire of Felbrigg, left his home to the care of the National Trust.

From June, there will be a display in the house of some of his correspondence, including annotated books, which as a writer and historian meant so much to him. We will also be holding two living history weekends on 3, 4, 10 and 11 August, recognising some of the key figures in Felbrigg’s history.

For more information, please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/febbrig

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**A place for nature**

For the first time in over 100 years, Dunstable Downs in Bedfordshire is opening up five new meadows for you to enjoy. The land, which was previously used for arable farming, is four years into a 20 year process of grassland creation, which simply means turning farmed land into a nature rich meadow.

The meadows are now bursting with wildflowers and insects making them a perfect habitat for ground nesting birds such as Skylarks, Meadow Pipits and Yellowhammers. The meadows are open every day to enjoy a peaceful stroll through nature.

For more information visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dunstable-downs-and-whipsnade-estate
The story comes to life

Conrad Gesner was the first person to create an index of animals and birds, having details of species sent to him from around the world that he then commissioned artists to illustrate. Gesner’s book, Historia Animalium, organised fact from fiction, in order to establish a credible record of all known species at that time and dispel myths about others, such as sea monsters.

The Eliot Bible was the first bible to be translated into the Massachussetts Indian dialect by Englishman John Eliot, who lived with the colony and learnt their language phonetically. Today only a small number of copies exist and are treasured because they contain the only examples of written Indian dialect by Englishman John Eliot.

The Monograph of Minute Bodies by Robert Hooke is a fascinating book and the first of its kind to show the detail seen through a microscope. Hooke was a man at the cutting edge of scientific discovery in the seventeenth century and is most famous for his magnified drawings and observations of the flea, which caused a sensation at the time.

Several books in the collection also explore the movements of the earth and planets. As we reach 50 years since the first moon landing we are reminded that the moon has always been part of our culture, in poetry and literature. The Harmonic Maximonemon reveals a scientific desire to explore the world and outer space.

The Edge of Things looks at these four historical books from a contemporary perspective. To help, Neville and Joan have worked with the Wampanoag community, a paleobiologist at Bristol University, astronomers from North Norfolk and volunteers at Blickling to create the installations that are on display, along with the books, from 17 May until the end of October.

Take a look on your next visit.

For more information visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/shaws-corner

Visit www.wimpolehistoryfestival.com

Escape to the Wimpole History Festival

Wimpole History Festival will be serving up a glorious feast of history, heritage and hospitality amid the idyllic parkland of the Wimpole Estate in June.

See, smell, touch and taste the hidden stories of the past with our interactive ‘living history’ displays, falconry and archery. Enjoy exclusive walking tours of the Estate specially curated for the Festival, or drop into the Scrybing Festival for a flavour of authentic agricultural experience.

There will be talks from leading historians, broadcasters, writers, commentators and academics, including Antony Beevor on the battle of Arnhem, Sally Wainwright discussing her latest production for the BBC, Gentleman Jack, Lucy Worsley on Victoria, Andrew Roberts on Churchill, Halle Rubenhold on the victims of Jack the Ripper and Michael Morpurgo with a music and story performance of The Mozart Question, plus a new family marquee and a sword school and archery for your young historians in training.

To sustain you throughout, there’ll be an array of delicious food and drink on offer from our pop-up food park (as well as the Estate’s own cafes and restaurant).

Join us as we bring history to life in a Wimpole weekend of wonder www.wimpolehistoryfestival.com

1909 marks 80 years since George Bernard Shaw won his First Screenplay Oscar for the film production of Pygmalion. To celebrate this anniversary, Shaw’s Corner has a new exhibition which shines a light on this well known play and the stories of love and betrayal behind his work.

The exhibition takes you back to 1912 when George Bernard Shaw fell in love with Mrs Patrick Campbell and cast her as leading lady in the role of Eliza Doolittle. Read the legendary love letters between Shaw and Mrs Campbell and discover how the affair unfolded, Shaw’s wife Charlotte’s hurt and the impact on their marriage.

See the famous Oscar award, which Shaw himself didn’t actually collect on the night of the ceremony, but still proudly displayed on his drawing room mantel piece (not, on the floor as he claimed).

Visitors will be able to get into character as Eliza Doolittle as they take to the stage in their own production of Act Three in Mrs Higgins’ drawing room complete with William Morris fabrics and wallpaper that can be seen throughout Shaw’s Corner.

Volunteers will be bringing life to Eliza Doolittle and Henry Higgins by performing excerpts from the play in the garden on Sundays in June, July and August.

Also new for 2019, the house is opening its doors earlier at 11.15am for bookable early bird tours. You’ll be able to go behind the ropes to get up close to George Bernard Shaw’s fascinating collection.

For more information visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/shaws-corner