Summer’s here at last

Summer is the season of warmth, longer days and an abundance of wildlife – you just want to be outside. There are many summer adventures to be had at a National Trust place near you.

Why not set your children free with our ‘50 things to do before you’re 11¾’ activities? The landscape at Kinder, Edale and the Dark Peak in Derbyshire is perfect for climbing a huge hill or star-gazing in the night sky, while at Mr Straw’s House in Nottinghamshire you can follow the self-guided nature activities. Tick off lots of challenges at Belton House in Lincolnshire with their Friday ‘50 things’ Challenges (check website for details). Help a plant grow, go on a scavenger hunt and keep a nature diary.

For more summer fun why not take part in the Summer of Sport in the North Orchard at Hardwick in Derbyshire (20 July – 1 September) and see what sporting challenges you can complete? And at Calke Abbey also in Derbyshire the Garden of Imagination returns in the summer holidays and a visit to the new Calke Explore in the woodland is a must.

If you like things a little more serene, head to the gardens at our places to see flowers in full bloom and borders at their best. At Stonewell in Leicestershire avoid the crowds with a pre-booked visit and see bracken in place to see flowers in full bloom and borders at their best. At Stonewell in Leicestershire avoid the crowds with a pre-booked visit and see bracken in

Stroll through the kitchen garden at The Workhouse in Nottinghamshire and explore the new experience that awaits you in the recently renovated Firbeck Infirmary. While at Gunby Estate, Hall and Gardens in Lincolnshire see the herbaceous borders in their ‘hut’ colour glory with a fusion of bright pinks, strong reds and sunshine yellows.

Most days in the summer are alfresco and having a picnic is the quintessential British way to eat outside. At Clumber Park in Nottinghamshire a quintessential British way to eat outside. At Clumber Park in Nottinghamshire a quintessential British way to eat outside. At Clumber Park in Nottinghamshire you can see the young cygnets on the lake. While at Ilam in Derbys

Enjoy the Hardwick parkland through the changing seasons on a guided walk with one of the Rangers. Find out more about the estate and how we care for it. Delight in being taken back to a bygone era at Hardwick Hall and Gardens in Derbyshire and explore the new experience that awaits you in the recently renovated Firbeck Infirmary. While at Gunby Estate, Hall and Gardens in Lincolnshire see the herbaceous borders in their ‘hut’ colour glory with a fusion of bright pinks, strong reds and sunshine yellows.

Follow us... on your local National Trust place on social media. Share your days out with us and get the latest updates on summer events and activities.

#NTMidlands

For details of all there is to see and do, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/midlands or take a look at the ‘What’s on’ section

News and events for summer 2019

Derbyshire | Leicestershire | Lincolnshire | Northamptonshire | Nottinghamshire | Rutland
People’s Landscapes in the Peak District with Jarvis Cocker

This year, a new national programme has been launched entitled ‘People’s Landscapes’. Five locations will be the focus of a transformative contemporary art project unravelling stories of protest and passion, including the Peak District in the Midlands. On 23 April 1932, around 400 people conducted a mass trespass in the Peak District, to protest the lack of public access to vast areas of the landscape. It’s believed that this forged the way for the creation of the UK’s National Parks, of which the Peak District was the first to be established in 1951. To mark this fight for access, we’ve worked with musician and presenter Jarvis Cocker, who has created a walk following part of the route taken by the trespassers on their way to Kinder Scout, to be launched this summer. Beginning at Edale train station, a range of unusual artistic experiences will form part the walk, including footage inspired by the dramatic landscape of the Peaks and songs of protest by artists such as Ewan McColl.

We’re also working with the local communities and INSTAR artists, Irfth Evans and Nick Humphreys. The LoudPeak project brings together young people from rural Peak District and urban Sheffield communities, to build deeper connections between the Peak’s landscape and emotive history and the city. These commissions have been supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and with additional support from Art Fund, as part of Trust New Art, the National Trust’s programme of contemporary arts.

For more information about this year’s offer visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/peoples-landscapes-peak-district-2019

Love the countryside? Love nature?

Then join us this summer at BBC Countryfile Live

This year’s Countryfile Live takes place at Blenheim Palace from 1-4 August and Castle Howard from 15-18 August and we’d love to see you there!

Special National Trust passes for members start at £44* for two adults at Blenheim Palace and £35.20* for two adults at Castle Howard and include a car parking pass, making this great value for money. Use code NT99 to book.

For more information about this year’s offer visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/countryfile-live

To book tickets visit: www.countryfilelive.com **Including 9% booking fee.

A day in the life of...

Jacqueline Churchill, Senior House Steward, Tattershall Castle, Lincolnshire

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A day in the life of...

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As I wander across the Inner Ward to carry out the quarterly insect pest inspection, the morning sun is warming up the beautiful red brick of the Great Tower here at Tattershall Castle. It reminds me of the first time I saw it nearly 38 years ago. It was love at first sight and I knew I wanted to get married here. Nine years later (it took me a few years to find my prince), my husband and I became part of the Castle’s history as we said our vows. Over the years and as our family grew, we came to events and explored with our children, seeing the site with refreshed eyes.

Two years ago, I applied to be a Conservation Volunteer, as I wanted to give back to the property to help future generations enjoy it too. Having worked alongside the staff and volunteers, I found it more rewarding than I had ever imagined and today I am proud to be the Senior House Steward here at Tattershall Castle. My role is very varied, one day I may be cleaning a medieval decorated fireplace or dusting the stained glass windows, the next I could be maintaining the habitat of great crested newts.

Every day I am excited to engage with our supporters in the stories and conservation work we do and how they can better understand how we look after this unique property.

To find out more about the work of Jacqueline and her team at Tattershall Castle, visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/tattershall-castle
Events for summer 2019

Derbyshire | Leicestershire | Lincolnshire | Northamptonshire | Nottinghamshire | Rutland

What’s on

This is just a selection of our events. To find even more great things to do visit us online at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/midlands

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**Derbyshire**

**Calke Abbey**

Capture Calke on Camera
Sat 6 Jul, 10.30am-12.30pm
Want to get some handy hints on how to take better photos? Come and join members of the photography team on a walk and have some fun looking for different views to photograph. Beginners, intermediates and experts welcome!

Kids with Cameras
Sat 6 Jul, 1.30pm-2.30pm
Come and join the photography team on a kid’s camera walk and have some fun looking for different views to photograph. Pick up some handy tips and tricks along the way.

Garden of Imagination
Sat 13 Jul – Sun 8 Sep, 10.30am-4pm
Enjoy carefree summer days and let your imagination run wild in our natural outdoor play area, open every day of the summer holiday. The wide open meadow is a safe space for children to explore, with lots of activities to keep their imaginations busy.

Country Food and Drink Fair
Sun 1 Sep, 10am-4pm
Celebrate local food that’s grown, baked or caught within a 30-mile radius of Calke. Enjoy the best of the season at the country food and drink fair, with lots of local food and drink to taste and buy.

Bonhams Valuation Day
Tue 17 Sep, 11am-2pm
Bring your silver, jewellery, pictures, ceramics, furniture, clocks and works of art to be valued by experts from Bonhams Auctioneers. Valuations will cost £2 per item, £5 for three items.
Outdoor Theatre: A Midsummer Night’s Dream
Set 24 Aug, 7pm
The Lord Chamberlain’s Men present one of Shakespeare’s most popular comedies this summer, outdoors at Kedleston Hall. Bring a picnic, drinks and a chair and enjoy the evening of laughter and entertainment.
Adult £16, child £10, family £45
Kinder, Edale and the Dark Peak
A Moorland Meander
Derwent Dams Guided Walk
Fri 31 May, 9am-2.30pm
Take in some of the best valley and moorland walking. This walk requires an intermediate level of fitness as we will be walking approximately 3 miles along stony and grassy paths. Dogs on leads welcome. Meet at Fairhollow Visitor Centre.
£13 per map

Kedleston Hall
Make a Nature Crown
Sat 21 May – Sun 2 Jun, 10am-3.30pm
Butterflies, bees and dragonflies are emerging, and northern rocky woodland ants are busy on their woodland nests. Pick up a trail leaf from the welcome enclosure, it is a dramatic focal point for butterflies, bees and dragonflies are emerging, and northern rocky woodland ants are busy on their woodland nests. Pick up a trail leaf from the welcome enclosure, it is a dramatic focal point for
£1 per trail sheet, £2 per magnifying glass

Magnifying Glass Trail
Sat 21 May – Sun 2 Jun, 10am-3.30pm
See this Early Bronze Age burial site and location of an Iron Age Fort. This walk is approximately 3 miles along stony paths with a steep climb and requires an intermediate level of fitness. Dogs on leads welcome. Meet at Penny Ponds. £15 per map

Longshaw, Burbage and the Eastern Moors
Moorland Discovery Centre. Have a go at badminton, swingball and other ball games to test your aim.
10.30am-2.30pm

BOOKLETS
Orienteering
Orienteering is a great way to improve your navigation skills, and our mini-orientation course can help you learn the basics in the grounds of the Moorland Discovery Centre.
£1 per map, £2 per magnifying glass

World Ranger Day
Wed 31 Jul, 10.30am–1pm
Join us to celebrate World Ranger Day! Find out about rangers around the world and the fight to protect wildlife. A fun day, with hands-on activities, machinery, and demonstrations.
Adult £16, child £10, family £45

Mam Tor Guided Walk
Fri 7 Jun, 10.30am–1pm
Join us outdoors as we reveal some of the finest mountain views in this Peak District. £25 per person

Leicestershire
Stoneywell
Half Term Arts and Crafts Trail
Set 23 May – Sun 2 Jun, 10.30am–3.30pm
Discover how Stoneywell cottage was made by Arts and Crafts designers and makers. You can also have a go at designing your own cottage. £2 per trail

Summer Woodland Walk
Wed 5 Jul & Wed 19 Jul, 1.30pm–2.45pm
Join one of our volunteers on a guided summer walk to discover what delightful wildlife can be found in the woodland, butterflies flitting by and a chorus of summer birds is guaranteed.
£6.50 per person

Father’s Day Tennis Court Games
Sun 16 Jun, 10.30am–3.30pm
Bring Dad along for traditional games including quads, boules, and clock golf. Prizes for champion putters – may the best dad win! There’ll be delicious cakes in the tea-room, crafts in the stables and the cottage will be open to explore.
£10 per family

Summer ‘50 things’ Fun
Mon 29 Jul – Sun 4 Aug, 11am–4.30pm
Summertime ‘50 things’ Fun
Sat 13 Jul – Sun 1 Sep, 10.30am-4pm
All summer long, come to Stoneywell and experience ‘50 things’ activities and games. £3 per person

Sudbury Hall and the National Trust Museum of Childhood
Royal School for the Deaf Exhibition
Sat 1 Jun – Sun 1 Sep, 9am–5pm
An exhibition produced in partnership with the Royal School for the Deaf Derby, and part of our Heritage Lottery Fund supported project; Exploring Childhoods. Designed and led by students, we explore the childhoods of people from the deaf community.
£4.50

Deercoat Walking Tour
Thu 6 Jun, Thu 4 Jul, Thu 1 Aug & Thu 5 Sep, 10am-11.30am or 2pm–3.30pm
A rare visit to Sudbury’s historic, Grade II listed Deercoat. Built in the 1700s as a large ornamental deer enclosure, it is a dramatic focal point when looking north to the wider surrounding landscape. Book your time slot at visitor services.
£5.50 for non-members

Father’s Day Spaceship Challenge
Sun 16 Jun, 11am–4.30pm
Work as a team with your family and friends to design and build your own spaceship. Why not leave it on our launch pad to inspire other space cadets?
£10 per family

Yoga in the Garden
Wed 26 Jun – Wed 17 Jul (Wed only), 10.30am–11.30am
A four week hingya yoga class set in the beautiful grounds of Sudbury Hall. The class is adults only and suitable for beginners to intermediate level. £24 per session

Monty Don’s Botanical Walk
Mon 29 Jul – Sun 4 Aug, 11am–4.30pm
Design your very own rock pond. Become an archaeologist and have a go at some hands-on, fun activities to find out how humans have used and shaped the landscape of Longshaw and the Peak District in the past. Joint event with Peak District National Park Archaeologists.
£1 per craft

Pride and Prejudice
Fri 2 Aug, 7.30pm–10.30pm
When Elizabeth meets Mr. Darcy, she loathes him at first sight. But is there more to him than meets the eye? Step back in time with Chapterhouse Theatre Company and award-winning writer Laura Turner to meet Jane Austen’s notorious heroine.
Adult £16, child £11, family £46

Flower Arranging Workshop
Mon 29 Jul – Sun 4 Aug, 11am–4.30pm
Become an architect and have a go at some hands-on, fun activities to find out how humans have used and shaped the landscape of Longshaw and the Peak District in the past. Joint event with Peak District National Park Archaeologists.
£5

Creativity Day
Wed 25 Sep, 10.30am–3.30pm
Find a spot by the cottage or in the garden and let the creative juices flow. Our volunteers will be on-hand to talk about how Stoneywell inspires them. Enter your favourite piece into our creativity competition (see website for details).
£6.50 per person

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Monsters, Myths and Mayhem
Fri 22 Aug, 7pm–9.30pm
Join ‘The Lost Boys’ on an epic exploration of classical Greek mythology featuring Hercules, Achilles, Medusa, the Minotaur, the Kraken and more! Expect a wacky adventure; wigs, wands and sticky back plastic abased.
Adult £16, child £11, family £36

Summer ‘50 things’ Fun
Mon 29 Jul – Sun 4 Aug, 11am–4.30pm
All summer long, come to Stoneywell and experience ‘50 things’ activities and games. £3 per person

Flavour of the Fifties
Flower Arranging Workshop
Wed 26 Jun – Wed 17 Jul, 10.30am–3.30pm
Our flower arranging team love continuing the Stoneywell tradition of designing arrangements from the garden foliage and blooms. They will give three demonstrations then guide you in making two of your own arrangements to take home. Light lunch included.
£35 per person

SUMMER
Half Term Arts and Crafts Trail
Set 23 May – Sun 2 Jun, 10.30am–3.30pm
Discover how Stoneywell cottage was made by Arts and Crafts designers and makers. You can also have a go at designing your own cottage. £2 per trail

Summer Woodland Walk
Wed 5 Jul & Wed 19 Jul, 1.30pm–2.45pm
Join one of our volunteers on a guided summer walk to discover what delightful wildlife can be found in the woodland, butterflies flitting by and a chorus of summer birds is guaranteed.
£6.50 per person

Father’s Day Tennis Court Games
Sun 16 Jun, 10.30am–3.30pm
Bring Dad along for traditional games including quads, boules, and clock golf. Prizes for champion putters – may the best dad win! There’ll be delicious cakes in the tea-room, crafts in the stables and the cottage will be open to explore.
£10 per family

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Flavour of the Fifties
Lincolnshire

Belton House

Paint the Garden
Sun 2 Jun, Sun 7 Jul, Sun 4 Aug & Sun 1 Sep, 10am-12noon
Take inspiration from the formal gardens at Belton to create your own work of art. Recreate the beauty of Belton’s gardens in paint, pencil or crayon. All materials supplied.

Behind the Spine Library Tour
Sat 8 Jun & Sat 10 Aug, 10am-12noon
Explore Belton’s library, study and attics to find out what’s been eating away at the books and witness conservation in action. You’ll also discover the museum’s favourite finds as they open up some rarely seen pages of the collection.

£30

Pony Rides at Belton
Sun 16 Jun, 10am-12noon
Meet the ponies at the top of the oval and enjoy a ride through Belton’s historic parkland this Father’s Day. Remember to take along your most valued companion – your four-legged friend! £12.50

£30

Behind the Door Tour
Sat 13 Jul & Sat 7 Sep, 10am-12noon
Go behind the scenes on this special tour to explore the lesser known parts of the mansion, including the attic accommodation, and find out more about the work of the National Trust.

£15

A Midsummer Night’s Dream
Open-Air Theatre
Sat 7 Jul, 7pm-9.30pm
The Lord Chamberlain’s Men invite you to join them at Belton House this summer to celebrate their 450th year with Shakespeare’s enchanting comedy A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Adult £50, child £25

£50

Gunnby Estate, Hall and Gardens

Here and Now – Vivica
Sat Jun – Sun 30 Jun, 11am-5pm
Enjoy the exhibition ‘Here and Now’ by art collective ‘Vivica’, where they explore their responses to Gunby. Vivica are a group of four artists: Glyme Bulman, Gabrielle Harris, Susan Reimer and Paul King, who each work in different disciplines.

£12

Rose Day
Sun 23 Jun, 11am-5pm
Enjoy displays of the 40+ rose varieties found in the gardens, as well as craft and trade stalls with lovely wares. Three floors of the house will be open with lots of flower arrangements containing roses in the rooms too.

£12

‘Temporal Echos’ – Gudrun Stahl Sharpley
Mon 1 Jul – Wed 3 Jul, 11am-5pm
‘Temporal Echos’ is a vibrant exhibition by local artist Gudrun Stahl Sharpley. Gudrun is a figurative artist who works in weaving with figures and faces, shapes and colours, focusing on movement within her work as her main theme.

£12

Treasure Island
Open Air Theatre
Sat 20 Jul, 7pm-9pm
When Jim Hawkins stumbles across a treasure map, he finds himself on an adventure and meets a host of strange characters. When Elizabeth meets the terse and aloof Mr Darcy, she knows him as first sight. But is there more to him than meets the eye? Brought to life by award-winning writer Laura Turner, this adaptation has been a favourite of Chapterhouse audiences for years.

£12

Pride and Prejudice
– Open Air Theatre
Sat 17 Aug, 7pm-9pm
When Pride and Prejudice was published in 1813, Jane Austen was just 24. This summer join us for an open-air screening of this timeless love story in the grounds of Belton. £12

£12

Heritage Open Day
Sat 25 Sep, 11am-5pm
Enjoy three floors of the house and explore eight acres of gardens. Bring the family and enjoy a free day out!

Free

Gumnby Hall Estate: Monksthorpe Chapel

Service at Monksthorpe Chapel
Sat 15 Jun, Sun 20 Jul & Sat 17 Aug, 3pm-4pm
Attend a service in this Baptist place of worship built in 1703.

£3

Harvest Festival Service at Monksthorpe Chapel
Sat 21 Sep, 3pm-4pm
Visit Monksthorpe Chapel and attend our Harvest Festival service led by Rev. Colin Bowden from Burgh-le-Marsh.

£3

Tattershall Castle

Medieval Falconry Weekend
Sat 29 Jun & Sun 30 Jun, 11am-4pm
Be transported back to the ‘golden age of falconry’ with Raphael Historic Falconry. Watch these historically accurate birds swoop and soar and learn all about hawking in Lord Cromwell’s time.

£3

Play On!
Fri 9 Jul, 7pm-10pm
Join The Lord Chamberlain’s Men for an evening of laughter as they perform Play On! A mixture of Shakespeare and Who’s line is it anyway? Bring a picnic and enjoy this hilarious evening with the Castle as backdrop.

£3

Story Week: A Dragon’s Quest
Mon 22 Jul – Sun 28 Jul, 11am-5pm
Make your own very pet dragon and take it with you on the Dragon Quest around the Castle grounds. Nothing could be more exciting for little ones than taking part in a themed craft before following an adventurous story booklet.

£3

Additional charges
for the craft and trail

£3

National Gardens Scheme Day
Sat 4 Aug, 11am-5pm
Join our annual celebration of the Gunby gardens, whilst raising money for NGS. There will be plant sales, craft and trade stalls and three floors of the house open too. £6.75 (normally £9.50) and will be donated to NGS.

£6.75

Free for members and under 5s

National Play Day
Let your imagination run wild for National Play Day at Tattershall Castle. Choose from a range of games to play, both inside the Great Tower and outside in the grounds.

£3

Extremely Teddy Bears Picnic
Sun 11 Aug & Mon 12 Aug, 11am-4pm
A Teddy bears picnic but with a medieval twist. Bring along your favorite furry chum and complete all the Tattershall Tasks, including a teddy zip wire that starts 35 meters in the air from the top of the Great Tower.

£3

Additional charges apply

Tattershall Tours
Mon 19 Aug – Mon 26 Aug, 11am-4pm
Come marvel at the Plantagenet Medieval Society as they present the pomp and pageantry of a knight’s tournament, complete with medieval minstrels, dancing and hand-to-hand combat. Get involved with square training, dancing, have-a-go archery and meeting the knights.

£3

Wooldthorpe Manor

Planets and Discovery
Mon 27 May – Fri 31 May, 11am-4pm
Experience the colossal scale of the solar system, get to know our weird and wonderful planets and make paraphraxes to bring spacecraft to a safe landing. After your mission, you can follow a trail to discover more.

£2 per child

Dads’ Rocket Challenge
Sat 15 Jun & Sun 16 Jun, 11am-10pm
Get competitive with Dad (and Mum) this Father’s Day weekend. Launch rockets and see if you can top the leader board!

£1

Space Race Rocket Workshops
Wed 24 Jul, Wed 7 Aug & Wed 21 Aug, 11am-5pm or 1.30pm-3.30pm
Would you enjoy space from space in action as you shoot rockets into the sky? Join in the Space Race and design, build and test rockets of different types.

£2 per child

Titanic
Wed 21 Aug, 11am-5pm
Have you ever wondered how you feel about and see the world through the eyes of a member of the Titanic survivor? Find out this summer.

£1

Navy Day
Sat 24 Aug – Tue 27 Aug, 11am-5pm
Learn about the work of the National Trust at the Gunby Estate, Hall and Gardens. £3

£3

Canons Ashby

Moths and Butterflies Family Trail
Sat 25 May – Fri 7 Jun, 10am-4pm
Flitter and flutter across the parkland looking for our British butterflies and moths. See how many you can find, discover more about these beautiful winged creatures and pick up your sticker from the Coach House shop.

£3

Father’s Day Trail
Sat 21 Jun & Sun 22 Jun, 10am-4pm
Explore the grounds and discover parts of Canons Ashby you might not normally notice. Then, if you’re with a Dad who deserves it, give him a special ‘Great Dad’ sticker from the Coach House shop.

£3

Sense and Sensibility performed by The Pantaloons
Sat 6 Jul, 6pm-8pm
Eligor has a lot of good sense. Her sister Marianne has an excess of sensibility. Together they make a snappy title for Jane Austen’s classic novel of scandals, scoundrels and severely sprained ankles. Experience music, audience interaction, romance and history.

£15

£7.50

11am-1pm or 1.30pm-3.30pm

‘50 things to do before you’re 11½’
Thu 14 Aug – Thu 29 Aug (Thu only), 11am-1pm
Keep the kids happy this summer, ticking off our challenges whilst enjoying outdoor fun in the fresh air every Thursday in August. Join us for activities based around the ‘50 things’ scrapbook and start collecting stickers for each completed challenge.

Prices may vary, see website for details

Alice in Wonderland Immersion Theatre
Sun 11 Aug, 6pm-8pm
Immersion Theatre proudly bring their most spectacularly bonkers show to date. Follow Alice and the White Rabbit as they set off on a musical adventure and meet a host of outlandish characters. Why not come dressed up as your favourite? Adult £14, child £8, children under 3 free

£14

Bookfest
Sat 24 Aug – Mon 26 Aug, 10.30am-4.30pm
There will be bargains aplenty at the Brewhouse Bookshop’s annual sale, raising money to look after our historic site. Peruse our collection of second-hand books and pick up in preparation for those cosy autumn evenings.

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**Lyveden**

Little Acorns: Toddle & Explore
Tue 4 Jun, Tue 2 Jul & Tue 10 Sep, 11am-12.30pm
A nature-themed activity session of crafts, stories and exploration of Lyveden for under 5s.

**Kite-Making Workshop**
Sun 16 Jun, 4-6pm
Bring Dad along to make a kite this Father’s Day. After all that hard work, treat him to a Workers’ Nuncheon in the Cottage tea-room so you’re ready to hold back out and see how high your kite can fly!

Outdoor Theatre: The HandelBards’ Much Ado About Nothing
Tue 9 Jul, 6.30-8.30pm
Expect chaos and laughter when a group of soldiers returns from war, kindling new love interests and re-kindling old rivalries. Pedaling from venue to venue with all the set, props and costume, this bicycle-powered production is like no other.

Wild Wednesdays at Lyveden
Wed 14 Jul – Wed 29 Aug, 11am-4pm
Week day discovery and fun activities for all ages including pond-dipping in the moats, counting butterflies in the flower gardens, making seed bombs and seed lollies, learning about local Northamptonshire author ‘Bill’, our summer trail explores the woods, meadows and moats at Lyveden in search of a new adventure.

**Nottinghamshire**

Lyveden

Chamber Park
ParkRun
Sat Jun – Sat 31 Aug (Sat only), 9am
ParkRun organise free, weekly, 5km timed runs around the world. Come and join the Chamber ParkRun family of more than 350 people who take part each week. Meet outside Central Barn.

Celebrating 130: A Chapel Exhibition
Sat Jun – Sat 31 Aug, 8am-4pm
To celebrate the 130th anniversary of the Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin being opened, there will be a small exhibition in the Chapel highlighting some of the beautiful ecclesiastical objects.

‘50 things to do before you’re 11½’
Sat Jun – Sat 31 Aug, 10am-4pm
Call in at the Discovery Centre and pick up your brand new ‘50 things’ booklet. Experience Chamber Park in a whole new way and collect your stickers and stamps when you’re done!

A Seasonal Scroll
Sat Jun & Wed 12 Jan, 11am-12noon
Enjoy guided walks around the Pleasure Grounds to explore this historic Ducal Landscape and learn about the developments of the Chamber Park Revitalised Project. Meet in front of the Duke’s study. Walks are every first Saturday and second Wednesday of the month.

Discovery Chats
Sun 2 Jan, Sat 4 Jan & Sat 11 Jan, 10.30am-12.30pm
Discover an exciting new activity every month with our Discovery Centre team. Enjoy Mini Beast Mayhem in June, Terrific Trees Plant in July, Grow it, Eat it & Wild Food in August and Spider Safari in September.

Chamber Park’s Wartime Weekend
Sat 8 Jun & Sun 9 Jun, 11am-5pm
Chamber Park’s Wartime Weekend allows visitors to experience glimpses of Chamber Park’s role in the Second World War, with living history displays, fun activities, great entertainment, food, drink and traders.

Pretty Muddy
Sat 29 Jun, 10am–4pm
Race for Life Pretty Muddy is our brilliant muddy obstacle course where you can scramble over the A-frame and ford the mud. Have fun with friends and raise valuable funds for life-saving research. A children’s course is now available.

Race for Life: 5k & 10k
Sun 30 Jun, 11am–1pm
Declare war on cancer and run, walk or even dance your way around the course. The routes are picturesque, mostly flat and make use of a mixture of forestry tracks and tarmac roads. Feast your eyes on our beautiful landscape.

Summer of Sport
Mon 22 Jul – Sun 7 Sep, 11am-4pm
Join us for a summer of fun and games and enjoy the great outdoors with free sporting activities every day on the front field.

**Mr Straw’s House**

Make a May Millipede
Make a May Millipede
Tue 28 May – Sat 1 Jun, 10am-4pm
It’s May and insects are everywhere. Why not come and create your own marvellous millipede, cute caterpillar or beautiful butterfly? You could also try out some 50 things to do before you’re 11½ in our orchard.

Straw’s Stroll
Tue 11 Jun, Tue 23 Jul & Tue 27 Aug, 9.30am-11.30am
The Straw’s Stroll guides you around Chamber Park, introducing you to the history of this once grand estate and the Straw family’s connections, both personal and business.

The Straw’s Revealed
Thu 20 Jun & Fri 16 Aug, 10am-2pm or 2pm-4pm
Join us for a behind the scenes tour to discover hidden treasures within the cupboards and drawers. See what our conservation staff and volunteers are working on and discover our new display. The Straws on the Home Front.

Cream Tea in the Garden
Thu 27 Jun, Thu 3 Aug & Thu 5 Sep, 10am-4pm
Why not join us for a scrumptious cream tea in the garden? Enjoy a homemade fruit scone served with preserves, clotted cream and any hot drink of your choice.

Toowpath Trek
Tue 2 Jul & Tue 10 Sep, 9.30am-11.30am
Enjoy a steady sightseeing walk with a five-minute break along the towpath where we’ll share a brief history of the town.

Poster Puzzle
Thu 25 Jul – Sat 31 Aug (excl. Sun & Mon), 10am-4pm
During the weeks everyone was encouraged to contribute to our own table and every available piece of land was turned over to growing. A few campaig poster posters can be found but several of the words have gone missing, can you find their letters hiding?

The Workhouse, Southwell

**New Trust Arts Project**
Sat 1 Jun – Mon 30 Sep, 12noon-4pm
In conjunction with the National Trust programme, we have partnered with the Arts Council, Nottingham County Council, MenCap Nottinghamshire and Reach UK to develop a contemporary art commission with young people and adults through the lens of people with learning difficulties.

**Hands On or Hands Off?**
If Walls Could Talk
Sat 1 Jun – Mon 30 Sep, 12noon-4pm
This Workhouse exhibition is an exciting opportunity to see conservation in action, focusing on how and why we conserve our wallpaper. The exhibition includes wallpaper samples from a workshop held by local artist Sarah Holden involving Brownies and Guides.

**The Doll’s House Project**
Sat 30 Jun – Mon 30 Sep, 12noon-4pm
This artistic installation aims to encourage audiences with the voices of young people experiencing poverty and stigma in contemporary Britain. We are joining forces with young parents from Homeless Housing project Newark Emmaus Trust, along with artists and academc Dr Natalie Jones from Warwick University.

**South Essex College Costume Exhibition**
Sat 30 Jun – Mon 30 Sep, 12noon-4pm
This year the students of South Essex College of Further & Higher Education are creating costumes based on the research of 6 women involved in nursing at The Workhouse. Their stories will be featured alongside their historical attire.

Workhouse Live
Wed 24 Jul – Wed 28 Aug (Wed only), 11am-12noon
Help inmates doing their daily jobs. Go back to school, write on a slate, learn to count but don’t even think about misbehaving! Education played an important part in pauper children’s lives, discover how this prepared them for life outside the institution.

Pauper’s Yarn Family Tour
Fri 26 Jul – Fri 30 Aug (Fri only), 11am-12noon
Join an inmate as they take you for a behind the scenes tour before the site opens at 12noon. Start your day here with a pauper inmate and find out what life was really like on this family-focused introductory tour.

Pauper Pickings
Sat 5 Aug – Sat 31 Aug (Sat only), 12noon-4pm
Every Saturday in August, pick vegetables with the inmates and volunteers from the garden. Explore the abundance of fresh, local and seasonal produce and fill a bag to take home with the help of the pauper inmates.

Notes

Normal property admission applies to all events unless otherwise stated.

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

Guided walks: Prior booking for guided walks is essential as places are limited. Contact numbers are given above. Sorry, no dogs allowed unless otherwise stated.

All event details correct at time of going to press.
When summer arrives it’s time to play. Lots of our places have natural play areas – perfect for family adventures and great for ticking off some of the ‘50 things to do before you’re 11 ¾’.

To find out more visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lists/play-time

1 Hardwick, Derbyshire

There are so many ways to play at Hardwick, whether that’s climbing one of the trees in the parkland or becoming an explorer on one of the trails. Run, jump and swing your way down the woodland play trail and test your agility on natural obstacles. When it’s time to relax, why not build a den using the sticks down Lady Spencer’s Walk? It’s the perfect hiding place to share stories of your Hardwick adventure.

2 Stoneywell, Leicestershire

Stoneywell is like stepping into a Swallows and Amazons adventure. The fort can be your base as you explore and get close to nature. The garden and woodland are the most idyllic spot for a ‘50 things’ exploration, reminiscent of the generations of Gimson children who could spend all day out in the garden, only returning when the bell rang, calling them back for tea.

3 Tattershall Castle, Lincolnshire

Come and explore Tattershall Castle’s brand new outdoor play area this summer. Taking inspiration from William Weir, the architect who helped restore the castle between 1912-14, all the games are themed around building or agility, mimicking the skills of the Edwardian labourers who worked on the restoration. Compete with family or friends to win at giant jenga, wiggle your way over the agility bridge or test your balance on the wooden beams.

4 Lyveden, Northamptonshire

Get outdoors and explore the garden landscape at Lyveden with a pair of binoculars and see if you can spot any skylarks, swallows, or even the red kites. From discovering what lives in the murky water of the moat to making your very own bug house, try out the scavenger hunt and keep your eyes peeled for wood ants and mischievous boggarts along our trails. Young imaginations can run wild with the Boggart Trail with balancing on beams, hopping and hiding in the tunnels, and searching for the boggart houses. For big kids Longshaw is a playground of rocks to scramble over, woods to weave through and places to picnic.

5 Longshaw Derbyshire

Playing at Longshaw is natural. Jump into the magical world of bugs, beasts and keep your eyes peeled for wood ants and minibeasts along our trails. Young imaginations can run wild with the Boggart Trail with balancing on beams, hopping and hiding in the tunnels, and searching for the boggart houses. For big kids Longshaw is a playground of rocks to scramble over, woods to weave through and places to picnic.

Redcing the impacts of HS2 on Hardwick

You may already be aware that the government’s HS2 rail plans are going to have a significant impact on Hardwick near Chesterfield. The proposed route goes directly through the Hardwick Estate and we’re very concerned that the current plans threaten the special qualities of Hardwick, and the ability for people to enjoy this much-loved place. We’ve worked hard to develop ways to reduce the impact of the plans so that Hardwick remains a beautiful and accessible place to visit. Our plans intend to protect the historic landscape surrounding the Hall, as well as providing habitat improvements and limiting the impact on our tenant farmers.

We’ve now shared our detailed proposals with HS2 Ltd, and we’re determined to find a solution for Hardwick and its surrounding communities as the design for the railway continues this year. Want to help? You can help us protect Hardwick by letting us know what Hardwick means to you? Your responses will help us demonstrate to HS2 Ltd why Hardwick matters. Please send your responses to: hs2@nationaltrust.org.uk. All responses will be treated confidentially and may be used in written materials anonymously. Thank you.

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www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hsr2

For further information about the National Trust’s approach to HS2 and other properties impacted, please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hsr2

…and don’t forget to share your play adventures with us

@NTMidlands @NTmidlands #NTMidlands
Neither made of butter nor a fly!

Why do we all love butterflies? Because of their incredible colours and patterns from the gaudy peacock to the tiny green hairstreak. If we仔细o say it all - but look more closely. Perhaps it’s because they are so many up and down, even in winter when we are busy and about, and for me because their presence is an indicator that the environment is in good health.

Unfortunately, butterflies are struggling. So much so that most species have declined in the wider countryside in the past 50 years or so. This makes National Trust places especially important for butterflies, where we manage their habitats, including our gardens, to benefit them.

Our meadows in the Peak District, such as the newly acquired High Fields, support especially high numbers of dark green fritillaries, and Ticknall Quarries at Calke Abbey in Derbyshire has seen the recolonisation and increase in numbers of the spectacular silver washed fritillary in the past three years.

Also at Calke Abbey, last year we reintroduced the grizzled skipper (prettier than it sounds). To improve the habitat for them and encourage them to lay their eggs, we cleared scrub, added paths and planted more wildflower species. At Hardwick, Calke Abbey and Kelston Hall in Derbyshire, we have planted disease-resistant elm to support the small populations of white-letter hairstreak butterflies there. While at Clumber Park in Nottinghamshire, we are reseeding the hawthorn which benefits the small heath butterfly, and the sparkling, metallic orange small copper butterfly.

More frequently seen at our places are the small tortoiseshell, comma, red admiral, peacock, theflow brown, speckled wood, ringlet and gatekeeper, so look out for them when you visit us this summer.

By Carl Hawke, Wildlife and Countryside Consultant

Canons Ashby’s staircase gets a historical makeover

The team at Canons Ashby in Northamptonshire, has been working with one of the UK’s oldest carpet manufacturers to create a new covering to protect the main stairs in the house.

Helen Roadnight, House Manager at Canons Ashby explains, ‘The current staircase carpet is a modern addition and was wearing thin in places, so we needed to invest in a new carpet. We decided to make the most of this opportunity and try to create a carpet similar to the one we believed had been on the stairs during Victorian times based on several watercolours by former resident, Clara Dryden.’

The new carpet has been designed and made by Kidderminster based Grosvenor Wilson, using looms which are up to 120 years old and methods that have remained largely unchanged since 1790.

The carpet is being installed over the summer, so remember to look down on your next visit to see this new take on Canons Ashby’s past.

Find out more about the project and see a film of the new carpet being made at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/canons-ashby-carpet

As National Meadows Day approaches on 6 July, we take another look at Greensides and High Fields - two wildflower-rich areas of farmland in the Peak District which the National Trust saved for the nation in 2018.

One year on, the Peak District team has been busy getting to know the two farms, and rangers and volunteers have been fixing walls and fences, surveying wildflowers and making plans for the farms’ future. The land at both Greensides and High Fields is a combination of pasture and hay meadows which hum with life at the height of summer. The colourful carpet of meadow flowers attracts bees, butterflies and birds, filling the air with the sounds of nature.

Both farms also include rare areas of limestone pavement (a naturally occurring rock formation) which are home to flowers and ferns, peeking out between the gaps.

Luke Barley, White Peak Lead Ranger, says: ‘Two of our local tenant farmers have been helping us to graze the land to keep it in good condition while we finalise our plans for the long-term future of these precious areas of farmland.

After centuries of careful stewardship, there’s no need to rush nature; the farms and their wildlife are safe and we’ll work in harmony with the land to improve them in the future.’

We have secured the future of Greensides and High Fields thanks to very generous legacies from our supporters.

Volunteers ‘buddy up’ at Calke Abbey

Volunteers are at the heart of what we do and it’s thanks to over 500 dedicated volunteers that Calke Abbey in Derbyshire can open to visitors every day.

This year, as Calke embarks on Humankind, a project exploring how special places can help tackle loneliness, the team has launched a ‘buddy scheme’ to help new volunteers feel at home.

‘Many people volunteer because they want to meet people, so it’s important to make them feel part of the team,’ says Karen Heath, a Room Guide volunteer at Calke. ‘The buddy scheme means they have a friendly face around while they settle in, especially in more solitary roles like room guiding.’

The scheme pairs experienced volunteers with new faces to offer support when they begin volunteering. Whether sharing a coffee, learning about volunteering systems, or finding their way around an unfamiliar place, it’s all about giving new volunteers a warm welcome to the Calke family, and discovering how the National Trust can create more opportunities to support the amazing volunteers at our special places nationwide.

Find out more about what it’s like to volunteer at Calke Abbey at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/calke-volunteer

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/canons-ashby-carpet

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/peak-district-meadows

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/calke-volunteer

New Perspectives: coming up at Lyveden

This summer, Lyveden in Northamptonshire is bringing together an outdoors art installation in collaboration with the local community. The artwork will comprise of lots of individual elements, in partnership with local groups and schools, and aims to deepen our contemporary perception of Thomas Tresham’s story of religious persecution.

For the latest information and behind the scenes details, visit Lyveden’s social media platforms at @NTLyveden.

River Dove project flows on

Rangers, volunteers and anglers are joining forces again this summer to help restore the natural flow of the River Dove in the Peak District by carefully removing two more man-made weirs. The work will help to make the river an even better home for wildlife.

We couldn’t do this work without the support of our members and our colleagues at Natural England, the Environment Agency and the Wild Trout Trust.

Find out more at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/(Dovedale-letting-the-dove-flow

For membership queries please call 0344 800 1895 If you require this information in alternative formats, including the Talking Newsletter, please telephone 0121 224 7460 or email: mi.customerenquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk

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