



National Trust

News and events for autumn 2019
Derbyshire | Leicestershire | Lincolnshire |
Northamptonshire | Nottinghamshire | Rutland

Near you



©National Trust Images/Chris Lacey

It's
crunch
time!



As the summer sun fades and the morning mists begin you know autumn is on its way. It's the season of colour, cosiness, fungi and harvest and it's a great time to be outside. You can experience the changing seasons at our places across the East Midlands.



©National Trust Images/David Leveson

In Nottinghamshire, visit the cycle hub at Clumber Park and explore over 20 miles of trails while taking in the autumn colour. At The Workhouse, it's harvest time as the volunteers help gather produce from the kitchen garden. You can see the ever popular bounty of pumpkins.

During October it's half term and activities have a spooky theme. At Stoneywell in Leicestershire (ensure you pre-book your visit), you can take part in the family trail looking for the creepy crawlies that call Stoneywell home (12 Oct – 28 Oct) and enjoy Halloween activities in the Stables. For one day (26 Oct), Gunby Estate, Hall and Gardens in Lincolnshire will be haunted by ghosts with three floors of darkened rooms and eerie noises, while at Tattershall Castle, also in Lincolnshire, you can take the spine shivering Halloween trail for some frightful fun and enjoy some creepy crafting activities (21 – 27 Oct).

After the busy summer months, September and early October are great months to visit at a quieter time, particularly in the week. And why not try your hand at volunteering? Lots of places need help in the autumn, collecting fallen leaves or gathering the harvest.



Whether you're visiting or volunteering, your support helps us care for special places in the Midlands. Thank you.

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

#NTMidlands





At Calke Abbey in Derbyshire it's the deer rutting season and you can hear the bellows and grunts of the stags ringing out across the Deer Park. Look out for deer and other wildlife on a regular guided walk with a knowledgeable Park Guide, where you'll see seasonal highlights and venture to places not normally open to the public. Belton House in Lincolnshire has lots to offer four legged visitors with a range of dog friendly walks and trails throughout the year. After all of that walking, a visit to the dog café is a must. Close by, at Woolsthorpe Manor, home to Isaac Newton's gravity inspiring tree, celebrate all things apple at their Apple Day (13 Oct). See the 3D printed apple; learn about the 'pips in space', take part in apple-inspired science and crafts and taste lots of apples too.



From the Director for the Midlands

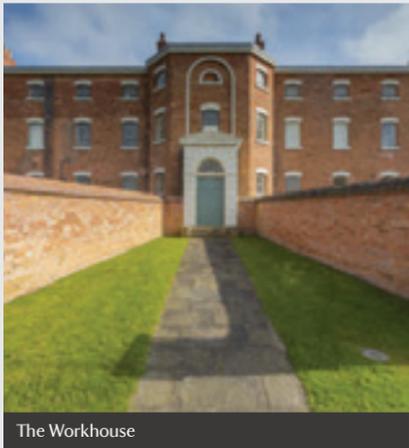


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In the northeast of the USA, the turning of the leaves in autumn is an event that causes people to get out and marvel at the autumn colours and attracts tourists from across the country. Our last few autumns have seen leaf colours which almost rival that of our American cousins and so I encourage you to take a leaf out of their book, if you will excuse the phrase.

In the Midlands we are fortunate to also have some of the oldest trees in the UK, which you can read more about in this issue. Some of the trees at Calke Abbey were already old when the buildings that we look after were being constructed. That is certainly the case for the Firbeck Infirmary, a 19th century building that we have opened for the first time at The Workhouse in Southwell. This place causes us to ask whether we are really better at caring for people today than we were a century and a half ago.

Whatever your plans, I wish you a fruitful and colour filled autumn.



The Workhouse

© National Trust/Chris Lacey

Andy Beer

Trust New Art at The Workhouse

The Workhouse was built in 1824 as a place of last resort for the poorest who couldn't work and for those people suffering from unemployment. It is now the most complete workhouse in existence.

Firbeck Infirmary, built nearly 50 years later in 1871, provided medical care for The Workhouse. Later it became a care ward in the 1970s but had been untouched for decades after closing its doors in the 1980s.

Thanks to funding from the Wellcome Trust, the restored building has different spaces which have been created based on extensive research to showcase the history of social care over two centuries, including the room of the last resident and two rooms dressed to focus on maternity care as it was in 1871 and a century later.

The infirmary includes studio spaces for seasonal exhibitions and installations encouraging discussion around poverty and

social health care provision in the past, present and future.

The Workhouse has collaborated with artist educator Morgan Tipping and during the autumn you will be able to see the work in progress of a temporary art piece as part of Trust New Art, the National Trust's programme of contemporary arts in partnership with Arts Council England.

The commission is a therapeutic community art project involving people with a range of abilities. This alternative art school is made up of young artists of Southwell's Caudwell House, Minster View and Mencap Nottinghamshire as well as volunteers, staff and visitors at The Workhouse. It will encompass a range of visual, sonic and movement-based forms of expression, drawing on the experiences of people connected to this historic building.



© Morgan Tipping



For all the latest information and updates, please check social media channels @NTWorkhouse and visit The Workhouse webpage at

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/trust-new-art-at-the-workhouse

Being kind to Kinder - looking after the Peak District

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Kinder Scout's designation as a National Nature Reserve; protected for its diverse landscape and areas rich in wildlife.

Our restoration work in the 'High' or 'Dark' Peak area of the Peak District, which includes Kinder Scout, forms part of a partnership project called the High Peak Moors Vision. As part of the project, we are creating healthy and varied wildlife habitats and reducing carbon emissions by restoring peat bogs on the moors. We want to inspire people to explore the Peak District and enjoy this beautiful environment, without negatively impacting this fragile environment.

The summer also marks almost 90 years since the famous mass trespass on Kinder Scout of 1932 with the BE KINDER walking trail; as part of our national People's Landscapes programme.

BE KINDER was created in collaboration with former Pulp front man and BBC Radio presenter Jarvis Cocker, along with Turner Prize-winning artist Jeremy Deller and other artists, working with INSTAR.

The trail encouraged people to think about the importance of being kind to this incredible natural habitat, as well as honouring the individuals who fought for our rights of way; allowing future generations to enjoy and protect this spectacular landscape for years to come. The artists worked with local Junior Rangers and students from Outwood Academy in Sheffield, to voice

their ideas on looking after what we've got; their concerns around climate change and inspiring action in how to be kinder to Kinder.



© David Bocking. Badges created by INSTAR, Junior Rangers and students from Outwood Academy Sheffield.

If you'd like to hear more about the conservation work we are getting up to as part of the High Peak Moors Vision project, and how you can support it, please see

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/high-peak-moors-vision

A day in the life of...

Peter Batty, Landlord, The Hardwick Inn, Derbyshire.

To find out a bit more about The Hardwick Inn, visit

www.hardwickinn.co.uk



© National Trust Images/Tom Webster-Deakin

The Hardwick Inn has been run by my family since 1928, three generations have carefully operated the business for nearly a century. The Inn dates back to the 15th century and is built of locally quarried sandstone. It is pleasantly situated on the south gate of Hardwick Park, leading from Hardwick Hall - very handy for a drink or a traditional pub lunch on your way home from visiting the Hall.

Once you step inside the Inn it's like stepping back in time. My wife and I have worked hard to maintain the traditional feel of the country Inn.

In the winter the pub is kept snug and cosy with an open coal fire, while in the summer month's people enjoy the beautifully landscaped beer gardens. People often like to end their evening dog walk with a pint of locally sourced ale watching the sunset in the garden.

My family and I strive to celebrate the traditional English pub culture so

the menu is full of home cooked food using meat from various local estates and produce from many local suppliers. Locality and quality of ingredients, as well as supporting local business is important to us.

It may be surprising to learn that the National Trust owns pubs but remember that every pint pulled puts funds back into the Trust to conserve historic buildings like The Hardwick Inn. Do come and see us soon.

Book a unique break

Looking for some ideas for a holiday this autumn and winter? There are holiday cottages across the Midlands set in amazing locations including places of natural beauty and within the grounds of historic houses.

Stay in a unique property with history and stories to tell and start your visit from the front door.



© National Trust Images/Mike Henton

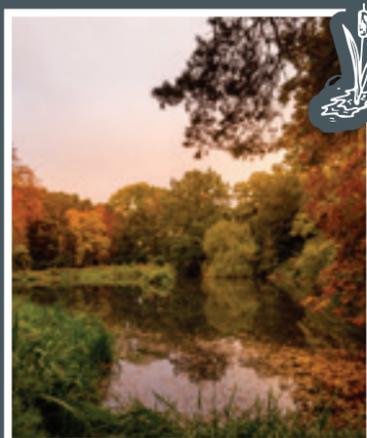
To book your break, call the team on 0344 800 2070 (local call rates apply) or send an email to cottages@nationaltrust.org.uk

TOP FIVE

AUTUMN COLOUR WALKS

Autumn is the season of colour. Our places are ablaze of golds, reds and browns. Below is our pick of top five walks to spot seasonal colour.

To find out more visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/autumn-walks-emids

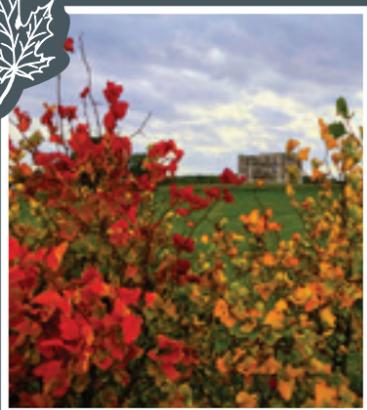


1 Gunby Estate, Hall and Gardens Lincolnshire

Autumn is the perfect time for a family saunter to Gunby's ice house pond. As the trees around the pond turn golden, enjoy their reflection in this tranquil spot. Rather than going back the way you came, why not stroll a bit further and return to Gunby through the narrow woodland belt, shimmering with autumn colour that skims the parkland?

2 Lyveden, Northamptonshire

Lyveden is a perfect starting point for a stroll and taste of Northamptonshire; sheltered woodland, open fields, attractive wildlife and pretty villages. Bursting with history there's plenty to see at Lyveden from the labyrinth to the orchard and along with the raft of colour around the perimeter of the moats. You might spot fallow deer and even a few rare and striking red kites.



3 Stoneywell, Leicestershire

Take a delightfully crunchy autumnal walk around the ancient oak woodland at Stoneywell. The autumn colours will be a joy to see, with a variety of inviting orange, red and brown hues as you wander the circular route, accompanied by the sounds of rustling leaves, woodland birds and scurrying muntjac deer.



4 Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire

The Short Walk at Kedleston is a 1.7 mile route that looks particularly special in the autumn. Golden trees line the path taking you past the hermitage as well as plenty of benches for you to sit and admire the views. The woodlands are home to fungi and birds that you may spot along the way. Dogs on leads are welcome, and the route is suitable for pushchairs too.



5 Canons Ashby, Northamptonshire

Miss Alice's Landscape Walk lets you explore the rural surrounds of Canons Ashby as well as the pretty village of Moreton Pinkney. Wrap up warm for autumn and stride across fields, past hedgerows full of berries and a beautiful tree lined path full of colour. Breathe in all the wholesome smells of the countryside on a misty morning.



Building works begin reconnecting Lyveden

Did you know that the gardens at Lyveden in Northamptonshire are considered to be some of most unspoilt and unique Elizabethan gardens in England?

During his time under house arrest for his Catholic beliefs, Sir Thomas Tresham designed his Lyveden; starting with the manor house and journeying up through the contemplative gardens – full of religious symbolism – ending with the iconic garden lodge at the top of the hill (where your visits currently begin).

The Trust acquired Lyveden's manor house back in 2013, and we've been planning the future of the building ever since.

Lyveden Reconnected is a project to bring the manor building and surrounding grounds back together, so you can experience the site how Tresham intended it.

Excitingly, construction has now begun to make the final changes to the manor itself and to add new visitor facilities for public opening next year. The new facilities will include a new café space and the reinstated Great Chamber, where you can take a closer look at how and why Tresham created the garden and lodge at Lyveden, as well as exploring the relevance of his story to our modern world.

For more information about the work happening at Lyveden visit

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/building-works-begin-reconnecting-lyveden



Spacecraft descends on Isaac Newton's home

Gravity has pulled an unusual object to earth from space, and it's landed at Woolsthorpe Manor in Lincolnshire, the birthplace of Sir Isaac Newton. The two-thirds scale Lego® model is of the Soyuz Descent Module, which brought astronaut Tim Peake back to Earth.

Thanks to the UK Space Agency, the Lego® replica has made an exciting detour to our Discovery Centre Barn. We invite you to get up close and personal with the model Soyuz for yourself; take a #SpaceSelfie and imagine what it feels like to hurtle through space back to Kazakhstan in a capsule the size of a small car.

Much of Isaac Newton's pioneering work set out in his Principia Mathematica, the foundations of which he laid at Woolsthorpe Manor, is vital to modern space flight. Why not have fun with your future astronauts at Newton's home; test Newton's theories used in spaceflight and encounter space travel in the Lego® Soyuz Descent Module?



Discover more about this out of world experience at Woolsthorpe Manor by visiting

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/woolsthorpe-lego-soyuz

...and don't forget to share your adventures with us

[f](#) @NTMidlands [t](#) @NTmidlands [i](#) #NTMidlands

Calke Unlocked: a tour turned on its head



Think guided tours aren't for you? Think again. Experience a new kind of tour with Calke Unlocked – a high-energy, interactive adventure at Calke Abbey in Derbyshire.

Our tour team are experts in the obscure and collectors of hidden stories. Together you'll uncover behind-the-scenes snippets,

share scandalous secrets and explore forgotten nooks and crannies of the un-stately home.

Tour Programme Leader Anna says: 'We're redefining adult experiences in heritage environments; take photos, have a laugh and maybe even learn something along the way.'

Book your VIP place online now at

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/calke-unlocked



This year marks the bicentenary of revolutionary engineer James Watt. The Ecton Engine House in the Peak District still stands today as a proud reminder of Watt's legacy and is thought to be the oldest mine-winding engine house in the world.

Volunteers at the mine have welcomed hundreds of visitors to their special tours at Ecton Engine House, where you discover the rich industrial history of the mine and learn more about James Watt, who played a key role in the addition of a steam engine in 1788. As the mine went deeper the steam engine at the top of the shaft allowed the workers to lift the ore more efficiently from the depths below.



Connecting people to the past at Ecton Engine House

An exhibition showcasing James Watt's work is on display at the Library of Birmingham and programmes of events are happening now. Find out more at www.jameswatt2019.org Tours begin again in 2020, for more information visit

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ecton-engine-house



An extra sprinkling of festive magic

Our places can be magical during the festive season and this year, Belton in Lincolnshire and Sudbury Hall and the National Trust Museum of Childhood in Derbyshire are pulling out all the stops to bring you an extra special Christmas experience.

For the first time ever, you'll be able to stroll through Belton's formal gardens as they shimmer and sparkle

with carpets of festive lights. Pause by the scented fire garden, walk through a Tunnel of Light festooned with over 100,000 pea lights, and take in surprises along the way while surrounded by ribbons of colour reaching into the night sky.

Board games are a part of many families' Christmases and Sudbury is taking this idea to the next level, transforming rooms into giant versions of classics like Cluedo, Guess Who? and Snakes and Ladders. Visitors can 'play' their way around the hall before heading to the museum where all the board games in the collection will be on display in an exhibition which explores the role they can play in connecting us with our loved ones.

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Find out more about Belton's Christmas light display at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/beltonchristmas and for details of Christmas at Sudbury, including how to book, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sudburyhallchristmas

Ask the experts Facebook Live: 20 November at 7pm. Join us as we chat to our collections experts about the games and toys from Christmases through the generations at Sudbury Hall and the Museum of Childhood. Will you spot your family favourites?



Volunteers help put Mr Straw's House to bed



Every winter, the House Steward at Mr Straw's House in Nottinghamshire has the huge task of 'putting the house to bed'. This would not be possible without the help of conservation volunteers like Rebecca Wells.

Rebecca explains, 'All drawers and cupboards are emptied and cleaned before the objects are returned. This is not a quick job - one room alone contains 1,274 items. We also update our computerised inventory - to date we have 22,036 objects on the system,

and we haven't even started on the contents of the cellar. Volunteering has given me practical hands-on skills in conservation and gives me a chance to get behind the scenes and learn about the history of the house.'

All of this hard work over the winter means that, once spring arrives, Mr Straw's House is looking spick and span, ready to welcome visitors once more.

To find out more about the winter work at Mr Straws House, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mr-straws-house If you'd like to volunteer, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mids-volunteering



News in brief

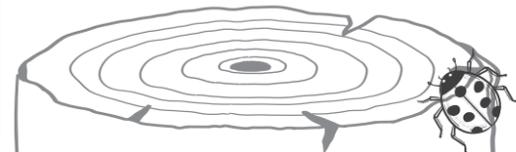
Conserving memories at Gunby

Volunteers at Gunby Estate, Hall and Gardens have recently been trained in 'oral history recording'. Now they can expertly interview people who have lived or worked on the Gunby Estate or at Monksthorpe Chapel and capture their memories for future generations. The volunteers have learnt how to master the recording technology and are responsible for completing a summary and a transcript of the interview. The recorded memories will be archived at the British Library and at Gunby.

Find out more at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/gunbyhall

Getting more from your membership

In September and October we're trialling Membership Service points at Belton House in Lincolnshire and Clumber Park in Nottinghamshire. Do come and see us if you want to have a chat about how you can get the most of your membership, get more involved at your local property and find out how you can sign up to get the latest news, stories and events straight to your inbox.



Appreciating our ancients

The Trust's historic parklands host many beautiful ancient and veteran trees, protected by emparkment when they were incorporated into the designed landscape 200-300 years or more ago. The slower growing oak was often the tree of choice and many are amongst our oldest trees such as the Great Oak at Kedleston, the Bess Oak at Hardwick and the Lady Oak at Clumber, all being in the 1,000 years old range. The area of Calke known as the Deer Cote Spinney has a remarkable concentration of veteran oaks, including many standing dead.



Dead the tree may be, but there is much life within it. In fact, the final years of an oak tree's life, 300 years or more that is, are when it hosts more wildlife than at any other time. The fungal decay within provides food for a massive variety of invertebrates such as beetle and fly larvae that munch away at the heartwood over 2-3 years before emerging as a flying adult, that then either hunt other bugs or drink nectar from flowers. Then there are the fungi themselves, fruiting through to the outside usually in autumn. Some of the bugs live on the fungi and nowhere else. The decay generates holes that are excavated by birds for nesting, such as nuthatch, jackdaw and of course, woodpeckers.

In the Trust we manage our wood pasture parklands to conserve the ancient trees and their successors that will replace them in the future. Many trees have been planted including nearly 2,000 trees at Hardwick in recent years and almost 1,000 at Belton House to provide the ancient trees of the future. The next time you are hugging a big ol' tree at one of our places, listen carefully, you may hear the gentle sound of munching within.

By Carl Hawke, Wildlife and Countryside Consultant

Ask the experts Facebook Live: Join us at Kedleston Hall in Derbyshire, 10 October at 1pm to chat to Midlands Wildlife and Countryside Consultant, Carl Hawke, about why veteran trees are so important to our parklands and wildlife and the changes they go through at this time of year.



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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