

Chelmsford & District NT Supporter Group



in support of **National
Trust**

No 88
Spring 2019

Newsletter

Chairman's Message

As most of you know, from last year's AGM, this was to have been my last message to you as Chairman. However, many folk have asked me to stay on for one more year so that a new Chairman can be found. We have discussed this at length at our last Committee Meeting and I have agreed that if it is the will of our members this is what I will do with one proviso: We MUST have at least two new committee members join us. All but one of our Committee have stayed far beyond the length recommended by the National Trust and if we were all to follow their guidelines, we would have to close the group, as some groups have had to do in the past. I am positive that none of us would want this to happen; we all enjoy the work we do for the Trust, our evening meetings together and the outings Paul works so hard to provide.

We are a very happy lot, our Committee meetings are friendly and informal but the work gets done! Please consider whether you could shadow folk on the Committee, try us out to see whether you could fit in, and bring new ideas to try. I really can promise you that we'd never say "No, we don't do it that way", we're much more likely to say "Yes, let's give it a go"! We are looking for inspiration and new thoughts and Paul will need a new person to do the "Ticking Off". Does anyone fancy this? Please let me know what you think and a big "Thank You" to those who have already done so.

We've had another great year with interesting speakers from whom we've learned a lot of facts, very warm outings, our President's Day at Paycocke's and a delightful holiday to Tiverton in Devon.

Thank you to everyone who supported our stall at the Cathedral Christmas Market, with special thanks to Thelma and Olive for their knitting and crafts and Laurie for his preserves. The total of £1312.20 was quite amazing, and another word of thanks must once more go to the Committee who willingly do so much behind the scenes. I must also thank Keith Otter for his mastery of the Supporter Group Website.

For our AGM we hope to have a sheepdog from Hatfield Forest when the shepherd will be explaining his work as part of the evening – we have only to complete the Risk Assessment! You'll see from the programme that we have lots of interesting talks planned and if you're anything like me you'll find that the talk you don't really fancy is the one you thoroughly enjoy!

Please read the first paragraph again,
Best wishes,
Jackie

Reports on Evening lectures to date

19th September 2018

On 19th September Jackie Arnot, Chairman, welcomed everyone to the first of the new season of evening talks. She then welcomed and introduced the speaker, Yvonne Lawrence, whose talk was entitled, 'Markets, Mildmay and Marconi'. Mrs Lawrence used this alliterative caption to illustrate three important stories which have been woven into the fabric of Chelmsford history.

First she looked at it's development as a market town. This dates from the thirteenth century when the Bishop of London obtained the right for a market to be held in Chelmsford on Fridays. The Bishop also had the wooden bridge over the river, which separated Chelmsford from Moulsham, rebuilt. This had been provided by the Romans, but no-one maintained it after their departure and it had collapsed, leaving Chelmsford isolated. However, the new bridge and market brought in an era of prosperity for the town and soon it was a thriving bustling place, with more and more new properties being built. Eventually it was to have a cattle Market, a corn exchange and many important civic buildings. Although many of the features have disappeared, or drastically altered, we now again have market stalls in the High Street – though without the mess and smells of medieval times!

Mrs Lawrence next looked at the influence of the Mildmay family on the history of Chelmsford. Thomas Mildmay arrived in the town in 1506. He was a mercer by trade, making high quality cloth used for clothing used by high quality people. Thomas obviously had ambitions to join them. He bought a property known as Guy Harlings, a good place in which to bring up his fifteen children. He also illegally obtained a coat of arms. He was so determined that his family would prosper that he had an unusually complex will drawn up. This stated that the Mildmay estate could never be sold or broken up, but must always pass to a male Mildmay heir. The family had acquired land and property, and had a mansion (demolished in 1809) on what is now the site of Moulsham Schools. By then the family had run out of heirs and the terms of the will was causing great problems, and in 1839 Parliament gave permission for the will to be revoked.

The third and final strand of Mrs Lawrence's talk was the arrival in Chelmsford of Marconi. To begin with Marconi was only concerned with the military and naval application of radio signals, he had not thought of vocal transmission or using radio for entertainment. Of course, we all know of the part played by radio in the Titanic tragedy and the huge boost it gave to the Marconi company. But years later something happier happened and we were privileged to hear a recording of Dame Nellie Melba making her historic broadcast from Writtle in 1920. Jackie thanked Mrs Lawrence for her brilliant talk, both informative and entertaining.

17th October 2018

On 17th October Jackie Arnot, Chairman, welcomed members and friends to a talk on a subject of great relevance to the date, Chelmsford's Suffragettes. The speaker, Stephen Norris, reminded the audience that 2018 marks the centenary of the beginning of women's suffrage, though it would be another ten years before women were given equal voting rights with men. In Chelmsford the first campaigner for women's rights was Anne Knight. From a Quaker background, Anne's first interest was in the anti-slavery movement. Attending a conference of the movement in London, Anne discovered, to her fury, that she was not allowed to speak. Suddenly realising that women were forced to endure their own kind of slavery, Anne from then on became a fierce supporter of the fight for female equality with males.

Throughout the second half of the nineteenth century, and until the outbreak of the first world war, the campaigners for women's suffrage grew in numbers and determination. It was surprising to learn that meetings were often held in Chelmsford and supported not only by women resident in the town but by women from all over Essex. Among the Chelmsford supporters was Richenda Christy, daughter of a local manufacturer, while from a little further afield, Margaret and Clara Rackham of Bocking regularly attended meetings. But it was not only women who supported the cause, many men were also sympathetic to women's claims for equality. One of the best known in Chelmsford was John Ockleford Thompson, proprietor of a local newspaper and seven times mayor of Chelmsford.

It is well known that women were not united in ideas for achieving their aims. The Suffragists believed that speeches and letters were the means to their acceptance, while the Suffragettes were activists, with no qualms about hurling bombs and breaking windows. Both groups had supporters in Chelmsford and the local paper recorded ugly scenes, with women being arrested for causing damage and even assaulting police officers.

Campaigning was halted during WW1 but resumed immediately after peace was declared, and soon women over the age of thirty were granted the vote. However, another ten years were to pass before all adults over the age of twenty-one were given the right to vote.

Jackie thanked Stephen for his interesting talk and was sure many were surprised to learn that Chelmsford Women were so involved in the fight to gain the vote.

Subsequent reports are much shorter due to the limitations imposed by the Essex Chronicle.

Meeting 14th November 2018

On 14th November Ben Cowell, Director General of Historic Houses Association, described the history and objectives of the organisation. Over the past two centuries factors such as agricultural depression and inheritance tax have left owners struggling with financial problems. Of 182 historic houses identified in Essex, 32 have been lost through demolition, or have had to become hotels, or care homes. Founded in 1973, Historic Houses is an association of owners of such properties, and seeks to save them by encouraging owners in enterprising ways to pay the bills, while keeping their property as a lived-in family home.

12th December 2018

Members welcomed a very special speaker to the December meeting, His Majesty King Henry VIII, personated by Tony Strange, magnificent in a flamboyant costume. In amusing and colourful (modern) language, Henry described how he met and married each of his six wives, and listed their good and bad points.



His first wife, Katherine of Aragon, had been briefly married to his older brother, before his tragic early death. Initially it was a happy marriage and lasted twenty-four years. Sadly, although pregnant many times, Katherine produced only one child, a daughter, who reached adult years. Henry decided he had committed a sin marrying his brother's widow and he had grounds for divorce. Working through a further five wives eventually produced a son, only ten years before Henry's death. He would never know his son died at fifteen, so it had all been to no avail.

9th January 2019

On 9th January members enjoyed a journey through eight thousand years of history as Marit Leenstra, from the London Museum of Archaeology, described the discoveries that had been made during the excavations carried out for Crossrail. These showed that the earliest East Londoners had been both energetic and ingenious. Evidence showed they had constructed wooden walkways across marshy ground and had busy factories making flint implements. The Roman occupation was another busy period and produced a wealth of horseshoes. After a time gap in which no items from the Saxon, Viking or Medieval periods were discovered, excavations at Stepney moved on to the Tudor period with the remains of a fine manor house. Over the next three centuries the areas excavated showed increasingly intense occupation by industry, including the site of the London Iron works.

By Shirley Deering

Report on C&D NT SG outings since the Autumn Newsletter

Outing to Mountfitchet Castle and Wimpole Estate, 13th October 2018

The morning was spent at Stansted Mountfitchet where, of course, the original Norman castle was built at the top of a steep hill. After the breath-taking climb we were rewarded with the choice of visiting the toy museum or the replica Norman village. The museum, an independent venture, is rammed with toys, books, games, every kind of childhood delight, spanning three centuries – many of the newer exhibits being very familiar to some of us!

Next door the Norman village contained replicas of dwellings and workshops that would have made up a typical settlement. The buildings housed rather scary (and vocal) animated figures. Blessed by fine weather, we journeyed on to Wimpole Hall and estate for an afternoon visit. Built in 1640, the Hall has had many owners, the last of which, Mrs Elsie Bambridge, was the daughter of Rudyard Kipling. Mrs Bambridge bequeathed the property to the NT on her death in 1976. The house has many interesting features, from the chapel to the plunge bath, while the large estate offers a variety of woodland and countryside walks. Altogether a brilliant end to our programme of summer outings.

Report by Shirley Deering

Christmas Post - Wednesday, 28th November 2018

It was a cold, overcast, day for our slightly later 9.45 departure and remained that way for the duration of the trip, with a total non-appearance of the sun. We had a long hold-up near the bottom end of the M11 because of an accident but we arrived in time at the pick-up point in Redbridge for our Blue Guide, Martin, an older chap who was with us for the whole day. My word, could he talk! Our first drop-off was at the Exmouth Market in Clerkenwell, which few of us had even known about, let alone visited. Martin had recommended lots of nearby restaurants as well as the street food stalls, which were mainly patronised by students and local office workers. There was also an Anglo-Catholic church called the Church of the Holy Redeemer, which was open. The market itself was a come-down; it consisted almost entirely of cheap food stalls, with little opportunity for bargain hunting. Because of the cold weather most were happy to return early to the warmth of the coach.



We only had a short drive to the main attraction for the day – the Post Office Museum. It was actually split between two sites; the first, where we alighted and waited further instructions, contained the shop, cafeteria and exhibition centre. We then crossed over the road to the building that housed the underground rail system. We'd been divided into three groups and given different boarding times, indicated on our wrist bands. Most of those in the last 3.35 slot decided to walk back to the cafeteria for drinks and to look at the exhibition, which was



fascinating. On returning for our train ride, we put our bags and coats in the lockers provided, as requested, so we could cope with the cramped seating in the narrow carriages. There were several banged heads as we wriggled on board! The ride was explained by a recorded commentary and included stops at former loading areas. Afterwards there was time for a quick look at the small exhibition on the history of the railway, which included a simulation of the Travelling Post Office (TPO), complete with its wobbling floor as the train moved! The rail

tunnels were an amazing achievement of engineering but there was a sense of sadness as we contemplated the enormous changes in correspondence systems that had emerged in our lifetimes with us hardly noticing they were happening. Everybody was back on the coach in good time ready for our next destination: The West End to see the Christmas illuminations. There were many 'oohs' and 'aahs' as we found ourselves in Regent Street and passing the surrounding side-streets. Our route took us to the far top end of Regent Street before turning off towards Hyde Park, where a massive brightly-lit funfair had been set up, and thence to Knightsbridge, Harrods, Piccadilly and the Strand. The lights were certainly impressive, as were the displays in the shop windows. Even the appalling traffic congestion went un-noticed. Martin had been talking non-stop throughout the tour, drawing our attention to the impressive buildings we passed, together with the unbelievable prices charged by the expensive hotels.

We'd been told not to arrive at our final destination before 7 o'clock. In fact, we were dropped off back in Camberwell at about ten past seven, ready to walk across to Kennedy's Fish Shop. The staff were marvellous and duly served us with our delicious fish'n'chips and cups of tea, coping brilliantly with the large numbers. Suitably fed and watered, we walked back across the road to join the coach for the journey home. Once we were out of London, Richard put his foot down and we got back to Coval Lane at about 9.30 pm, after an unusual but memorable day out.

Report by Al Arnot

Still to Come

**AGENDA for the 2018/19 AGM
on Wednesday 6th March 2019 at
7:45pm**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Centre funding of NT projects
7. Election of President
8. Election of Committee
9. Election of Honorary Examiner of Accounts
10. AOB

All communication concerning the AGM to the Chairman Jackie Arnot please.

**Following the AGM on
6th March 2018 we have an
update from the Hatfield
Forest Team when we will
meet Selina the sheepdog**

See photograph below.

**WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL
EVENING MEETING**

**Amanda Sutherland will give a
presentation 'My Journey as a
Designer'**

"My presentation is a fun packed,
informative and inspirational talk which I
am sure will be enjoyed by all your
members"

*See Amanda's web site for her
inspirational designs*

www.amandasutherland.co.uk

PRESIDENT'S EVENT

Over the years, the Chelmsford and District Supporter Group has made many gifts to Hatfield Forest, just 20 miles away from the City centre. One of our most recent gifts was a donation towards the purchase of Selena, a sheepdog at the Forest. Her handler, Ian Pease, is hoping to bring Selena to the Cramphorn Theatre on Wednesday 6th March when he, and other members of the staff, will be talking about the Forest.

However, the best way to see her is literally in the field. David Simmonds is hoping to organise a self-drive visit to the Forest before the summer, probably a Thursday in May. The actual date and programme has to be finalised. If you would like to attend or find out more then please contact David Simmonds on tel 01245-250198 or djsimmonds@aol.com by 31st March.



On Target

It was a contract which could only be handled by the most skilled operator in The Organisation.

“This job calls for the utmost skill, expertise, experience, determination and patience” Big Boss had said. “You are the only one in The Organisation I can rely on to bring it to a satisfactory conclusion. You will take the ferry to the island, where your quarry is hiding in the woods.”

He felt very conspicuous as he joined the holiday makers and day trippers waiting for the ferry. A lone man with a large black rucksack, he certainly stood out among the Dads burdened with picnic bags and folding chairs, the Mums wheeling baby buggies and shouting after runaway children, and the middle-aged couples exchanging sea-sickness jokes. However, no-one took any notice of him.

In a babble of excited chatter the passengers surged happily ashore at the end of the short ferry trip. Some made for the visitor centre while others went straight to the castle. He alone quietly slipped off in the direction of the woods.

Long experience of this kind of requirement and detailed knowledge of the habits of his quarry enabled him to quickly chose the perfect place in which to await his opportunity for his chance of taking his target by surprise.

In a shorter time than he had expected, a rustling among the leaves and a trembling of the branches told him his quarry was approaching through the trees. For one moment he stood still, clear of the foliage. There was a flash, a startled cry, then he was gone, crashing through the trees, branches bending, leaves shaking. The Organisation’s most skilled operative smiled with satisfaction as he packed up his equipment. Yes, Big Boss would be pleased with him. He’d got the perfect photograph of a red squirrel to fulfil the contract with the wild life magazine.

By Shirley Deering

Summer Outings

Conditions: Please read the following conditions carefully.

Booking Lists will open on a first-come, first-served basis after the posting of this newsletter.

Please send the following to Paul Chaplin, 11 Mace Walk, Chelmsford, CM1 2GE:

- a stamped addressed envelope for **each** outing
- Complete and return the form on the last page
- a cheque payable to ‘Chelmsford & District National Trust’ to cover the **deposit of £5.00 per person for each outing (One cheque for all outings please)**

At the time of going to press we have not been on all the recce’s. Prices may change slightly if we spot an opportunity we think you shouldn’t miss! Prices quoted are for a senior citizen rate including hire of coach, drivers’ tip, entrance fee(s) and at this stage, the deposit.

To check your place, lists will be available at the AGM and the April meeting, or telephone 01245 260113.

Refunds of deposits will normally be made if we are notified of a cancellation in time to decide whether one or two coaches are required, or if we cannot offer you a place. For later cancellations, deposits will be refunded only if we can fill the place. Refunds of pre-paid tickets can only be made if we are able to fill the place. All refunds will be paid **at the end of the season** in order to minimise the number of transactions needed. **Normally refunds £5.00 or less will not be refunded.** Booking slips will be sent out about three to four weeks before the date of the outing, a viable coach-load at a time. Everyone else will be on the Reserve List and will be contacted in turn, either to be offered a place or be informed that there will not be room.

Remember:

- To put the dates in your diary, especially the time of departure
- To put the details in a safe place
- That the wearing of seat belts is now compulsory in this country
- Some locations have uneven surfaces
- It is better to wear 'sensible' shoes for comfort and to avoid damaging floors
- Don't be afraid to ask about use of lifts and wheelchairs/buggies

We undertake only to make arrangements for the visits – and we cannot take responsibility for any mishap or loss connected with them. If you wish to see the cover provided by the National Trust's insurance policies, the schedule is available at evening meetings. **Please note: Non NT members are not covered by the Trust's insurance policy and are responsible for their own insurance cover.** All trips will be on luxury coaches, usually with a toilet on board.



We hope you enjoy this year's selection.

Saturday 18th May

Stamford is a town on the River Welland in Lincolnshire which has 17th and 18th century stone buildings, as well as timber framed houses and five medieval churches. It is a picturesque and unspoilt little town, full of character. The facades of the houses in the town are favourites of film and TV producers, and were used as 'Meryton' in *Pride and Prejudice*. Look out for The George, which is one of England's greatest coaching Inns, as well as hidden courtyards that are home to speciality shops, cafes and pubs.

Belvoir Castle is the ancestral home of the Dukes of Rutland. The family have lived at Belvoir in an unbroken line for almost 1,000 years. Built on a hill, its turrets and towers rise over the Vale of Belvoir like an illustration in a romantic fairy-tale. It is the fourth castle to be built on the site, finished in 1832 closely resembling the original romantic Gothic style designed by James Wyatt, and is now designated as a Grade I building. There are lavish staterooms, the principle ones being the Elizabeth Saloon, the Regents Gallery and the State Dining Room. The Castle was recently the venue for Phil Spencer's *Stately Homes* TV programme. It looked an amazing place.

The formal gardens include the Duchess Garden which contains a 'root and moss' house - restored in 2014 - and a Japanese Woodland Garden containing magnolias, rhododendrons

and camellias. When plans for the grounds drawn up by Capability Brown were discovered in the recent past, they were brought to fruition by the Duchess of Rutland, with new areas now open to the public. The Castle Tea Room serves sandwiches, cakes and hot drinks. *Guide price including deposit: £34.00*

Sunday 9th June

Compton Verney Art Gallery and Park. The Grade I listed Robert Adam Mansion, set in a Capability Brown landscape of 120 acres of stunning parkland and lake surround an award-winning art gallery, with a family friendly café and gift shop. There is a very wide variety of pictures, sculptures, and other types of works of art. Some are classical in origin, others much more modern, in a great variety of quirky, eclectic and eccentric designs. In the grounds around the house there are more sculptures. Escape the everyday to wander through the historic 'Capability' Brown landscape, marvel at the world-class art exhibitions or have fun in our outdoor adventure playground!

The special exhibition *Painting Childhood: From 'Holbein to Freud' and 'Childhood Now'* starts on 16th March and ends 16th June which coincides with our visit.

This celebration of children, childhood and innocence brings together some of the most iconic paintings, sketches and sculptures of children produced in the past 500 years. Furthering the conversation initiated in [Painting Childhood](#), this sister-exhibition brings together the works of three contemporary figurative painters – Chantal Joffe, Mark Fairington and Matthew Krishanu.

On our way home we will make a short stop at West Wycombe Village (NT). It is very picturesque, with well-preserved building facades of the 16th and 18th century. It has a range of unusual and traditional shops, pubs and tea rooms. It was an important staging post on the London to Oxford highway and had many coaching inns. The late 16th century timber-framed houses were built from the wood of nearby Chiltern woods, and bricks were made from the local clay. The earliest surviving building is Church Loft which bridges Church Lane. It was built in the 15th century as a rest house for pilgrims. The Hellfire Caves (not NT) were built to give employment to those affected by harvest failures, and to provide material for a new main road between West Wycombe and High Wycombe. The caves were subsequently used for meetings of the Hellfire Club. There is a long winding tunnel with numerous chambers off it, including a Banqueting Hall. *Guide price including deposit: £35.00*

Sunday 7th July

Herstmonceux Castle is one of the oldest significant brick buildings in England. It was built by workers from Flanders using bricks made from locally sourced clay, starting in 1441 under Sir Roger Fiennes, and completed by his son, Lord Dacre, in 1449. The castle viewed from across the moat is a magnificent sight. However, in 1777 the interior was demolished and it stood as a ruin until the early 20th century. The restoration to turn it into a residence was completed in 1933, designed by architect Walter Godfrey. The Castle is now used as a University and we will be allowed to visit by a guided tour – hence the Sunday visit.

In 1957 Herstmonceux became the home of the Royal Greenwich Observatory. This has since been relocated to Cambridge, and the original Observatory buildings have been converted into an interactive Science Centre for school children in particular. We may visit Royal Tunbridge Wells if we have time as assessed by the recce. *Guide price including deposit: £33.00*

Saturday 10th August

Sutton Hoo (NT) is most famous for the ship burial, dating from the early 7th century, which was excavated in 1939. It is one of the most magnificent archaeological finds in England because of the quality and beauty of its contents. Subsequent archaeological campaigns in the late 1960's and late 1980's have explored the wider site and other individual burials. The Exhibition Hall has a reconstruction of the ship-burial, showing replicas of the many wonderful artefacts that were found, including weapons and jewellery, and the amazing helmet. The originals are housed in the British Museum for security reasons as they are so valuable and unique. The NT are transforming the site to give visitors an enhanced view of the whole area. There will be a 17m observation tower, and a full-size sculpture representing the ship. The Chelmsford group have donated £350 to Sutton Hoo recently for the purchase of Skype for Schools education microscope, and lockers for the research room. There is a shop, and a café serving hot meals, snacks and cream teas.

Melford Hall (NT) is a stately Tudor brick building, the ancestral seat of the Parker Baronets, mostly constructed in the 16th century. It has had a chequered history since then, one wing being gutted by fire in 1942, was rebuilt after WW II, retaining the external Tudor brickwork, but the interior had a 1950's design. The hall was first opened to the public by Ulla, Lady Hyde Parker, in 1955, and subsequently passed into the care of the NT in 1960. Beatrix Potter, a cousin of the family, was a frequent visitor from the 1890's onwards, with many of her original delightful sketches and drawings now on display. Outside there are grounds to explore, and a secluded garden. The Chelmsford group have recently donated money to buy seats for Lady Ulla's pond, and an imitation fire to bring one of the internal fireplaces to life.

There is shop, and a café serving light refreshments, cream teas, and hot and cold drinks.
Guide price including deposit: £19.25

Saturday 12th October

Wakehurst Place (NT) is Kew's Country Garden in the heart of Sussex. The Price family bequeathed the property, with a large endowment, to the NT in 1963. The current position is that since 1965 the House and land have been leased to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, who use and manage the property.

The Grade I listed Mansion was built in the late 16th century, but the garden is mainly 20th century. Visitors are able to explore several rooms in the Mansion, which was commissioned in 1590 by Edward Culpeper. Items of furniture used by Sir Henry and Lady Price are arranged beside the marble fireplace in the Blue Room, and include Hepplewhite easy chairs, a side table and a Chinese screen. There is currently a display of Botanical paintings by John Day, brothers Franz and Ferdinand Bauer and Sarah Drake in the gallery. Visitors are able to tour parts of Kew's Millenium Seed Bank, housed in a modern, temperature-controlled building, which is used to store seeds from around the world.

The wild Botanic Garden has over 500 acres of beautiful ornamental gardens, woodlands and a nature reserve. The Mansion Garden has formal and informal borders, a sweeping lawn, a pond and a walled garden. The Seed Café serves sandwiches, soup and cakes, plus hot and cold drinks. the Stables Restaurant serves hot and cold food as well as cakes and drinks.

On our way home we plan to visit **Quebec House (NT)** which is the birth-place of General James Wolfe. He lived in the 16th century brick-built house from January 1727 to 1738. The house was extensively rebuilt in the 18th and 20th centuries. The Coach House contains an

exhibition on the Battle of Quebec and Wolfe's life, whilst the house has memorabilia and paintings connected to him.

Refreshments available are cake, plus hot and cold drinks. *Guide price including deposit: £20.50*

Supporter Group Holiday – Centred on York

Monday 9 th September	We travel to our hotel in York via Chatsworth where we will spend about three hours before continuing our journey
Tuesday 10 th September	We visit the Jorvik Viking Centre and then free time in York where there is much to see.
Wednesday 11 th September	We visit Goddards House (very close to our hotel) and in the afternoon we travel to Beningbrough Hall.
Thursday 12 th September	All day at the National Rail Museum - and for those that consider all day too much further time in York.
Friday 13 th September	Depart for home visiting Mr Straw's House in Worksop in the morning before proceeding for home.

Please see booking form on last page to send for an information pack. Each pack will be numbered in order of request and will be issued on a first come basis. We will need a minimum of thirty-five people. **The cost of the holiday is £484.00 per person and single room supplement is £113.00.** Insurance through Kings Coaches as a guide will be in £29 – see details in the information pack.

Use it or lose it...

You've no doubt heard this phrase often. It's applied to a range of issues, from the closure of branch libraries to the Park and Ride buses. In this case, it's applying to our jigsaw table. When our dear friend Marjorie Lincoln passed away a few years ago, the sales stall which she faithfully organised meeting after meeting vanished because nobody came forward to continue her work.

Clearly, some sort of replacement was needed. So, my jigsaw-addicted wife came up with an idea of a jigsaw loan scheme, whereby she carefully chose a selection of about two dozen jigsaws from the two hundred-odd in our loft and set them out on the tables at each meeting, together with a file in which members could record their selection of something to keep them occupied during the dark winter evenings. A modest hire charge of £1 per jigsaw was made to add to our income from book sales, raffle and plants. After an enthusiastic start the idea cooled considerably and in 2018 the scheme brought in a measly £10. Consequently, I had a long hard look at whether my effort of lugging four large bags – now reduced to two – to each meeting was worth it.

Therefore, I'm sorry to announce that, unless the jigsaw hire rate picks up substantially during the rest of the year, that corner of the Cramphorn Theatre will remain empty – unless, of course, you have other ideas...

Yours in the quest for new ideas or more up-take!
Al Arnot

Large print copies of the Newsletter are available by contacting Paul Chaplin at 11 Mace Walk, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 2GE.
Tel: 01245 260113.

Data Protection Act 2018.

Chelmsford & District NT Supporter Group will hold essential details (name, address, telephone number and e-mail) for newsletter distribution, outings and membership. ***No information is transmitted to any third party.*** If you no longer wish to receive the Newsletter and Outings information please let Colin Jay know by letter or email.

Chelmsford & District National Trust Supporter Group - to prosper the work of National Trust, which is a registered charity, number 205846

Visit our web site at WWW.ChelmsfordNTgroup.org.uk for up to date information on evening lectures and outings.

Printed by: CCC Reprographics, Civic Centre, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1JE

Booking Form for 2019

First Name _____ Surname: _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____ Tel: _____

My travelling companion(s) is/are: _____

My NT membership number(s) is/are: _____



I/we should like the following places:		No of places	Deposit Sub Total £
Saturday 18 th May	Short time in Stamford then Belvoir Castle		
SUNDAY 9 th June	Compton Varney and West Wycombe		
SUNDAY 7 th July	Herstmonceux Castle		
Saturday 10 th August	Sutton Hoo and Melford Hall		
Saturday 12 th October	Wakehurst Place and Qubec House		
Total enclosed			£

If you can include your e-mail address (and or phone number) we can keep you informed on numbers, your placing on the list and any alternative arrangements that may be made.

<p>Please send me details and booking form for the NT Holiday centred on York (Monday 9th September to Friday 13th September)</p>	
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Please remember to enclose a stamped addressed envelope for EACH day outing and also one cheque to cover the deposits of £5.00 per person, per outing. Please make cheque payable to: 'Chelmsford & District National Trust'

Please return this form to:

Paul Chaplin, 11 Mace Walk, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 2GE

Email: paulchaplin@talktalk.net

Tel: 01245 260113

I would like to suggest we have a coach outing for season 2020 to:

I/we would like a C&D NT SG holiday in the following location

Signed _____