

Kennet Valley National Trust Association

An association of National Trust supporters, members & volunteers



Winter/ Spring 2017



in support of **National
Trust**

KENNET VALLEY ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE 2016 – 2017

Honorary Presidents: Victor Holder and Jane Ebbutt

Chair	Ann King, 21 Kempfield, Devizes, SN10 5AX 01380 727130 email: ann@kingda1.fsnet.co.uk
Vice Chair & Newsletter	John Needle, 42 Matley Moor, Swindon, SN3 6NL 07769 815645 email: john.needle@ntlworld.com
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Treasurer	Carol Shirley, 6, The Croft, Meadow Drive Devizes, SN10 3BJ 01380 739962 email: carolandwinnie@yahoo.co.uk
Programme Secretary	David Symes, 1, Cutts Close, Brinkworth, SN15 5BB 01666 510998 email: david@familysym.es
Outings Secretary	Elizabeth Knight, Meadow View, New Road, Greenham, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 7RY 01635 38116 email: liz.knight@meadow-view.co.uk
Membership Secretary	David Symes, 1, Cutts Close, Brinkworth, SN15 5BB 01666 510998 email: david@familysym.es
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Publicity	VACANT Refer to Chair
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Cover photo: 'A soldiers life in the Trenches' November's talk from Steve Williams

From the Chair



May I wish all our members a happy and healthy New Year for 2017. Have you made plans for this year? Your committee have been making some plans on your behalf. You will already know about the spring holiday Jane Ebbutt is planning to the Isle of Man – more details are included in this Newsletter – and the autumn cruise on the River Douro in Portugal. In addition the Outings Committee have been working on ideas for day trips. At our meeting in October we brainstormed, and the total number of places we came up with will keep us going for several years! After much discussion and the decision to include a NT property on each occasion, the list was whittled down to six, starting in May with Dunster Castle(NT) via the West Somerset Railway, Frampton Court and Westbury Court Garden(NT), Lytes Carey(NT) and Tintinhull(NT), Lord Leycester Hospital in Warwick and Packwood House(NT), Oakham Treasures and Clevedon Court(NT), and ending in October with a visit to the Newark Park(NT) and Woodchester. In addition there two shorter pre-season events, a guided tour of Marlborough College in March, and a Bluebell Walk in April. Do read the details related to these trips in this newsletter, put the dates in your new diaries, and complete the booking forms.

Great news! It was with great pleasure that we announced in September that Jane Ebbutt had accepted the committee's invitation to become our Honorary President, acting jointly with Victor Holder. She may have thought she was going to have a break from KVNTA committees, but we couldn't let her go! Jane was a founder member of KVNTA in 2000 and has served on committee in various roles ever since. Her enthusiasm is boundless and the holidays she plans are booked up almost before they are advertised, so well are they organised – even down to the good weather!

Boundless enthusiasm and involvement! Please let us maintain that legacy by ensuring we have a full committee. If we cannot appoint a chairman and vice- chairman to lead the committee then I'm am very sorry to say that KVNTA would have to close. Over the last two years several members of the committee have doubled up on jobs to ensure we do continue. John Needle and I will have completed our 5 year maximum tenure in our roles at

our AGM in June – the position is renewable each year so don't feel that that you do have to commit for 5 years! So in June we shall need to appoint a new chairman and vice-chairman, and in addition we need someone to take charge of publicity, a member to chair and others to help on the Social Committee, and someone to compile the newsletter. All these tasks could be shared. I should love to go into the AGM knowing that you have thought about this situation and would be willing to come forward and fill any of these posts. Please do have a word with me or any of the committee members to find out what is involved.

Ann King

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Thank you to those members who have now revised their previous long term standing orders to reflect the £8 membership fee. These have been forwarded to your banks and will hopefully be acted upon in July for your next renewal.

All members should by now have received their 2016/17 membership cards and programmes. If - for any reason - you have not yet got yours, do please let me know so that I can reissue and post them to you.

I have now taken on the additional role of programme secretary and will start in the New Year to approach potential speakers for the 2017/18 programme. If you have any suggestions for topics or individual speakers, I would be very happy to hear from you at any time.

David Symes Membership Secretary

TREASURERS' REPORT AT DECEMBER 2016

This year we have had a very successful year with six outings raising a total of £1,264.50 towards our donation to the National Trust. The outings to Tredegar House raised £341.50, Corfe Castle, Swanage Railway and Durlston Castle £309.50, St Fagans £202.00 and Stowe House and Gardens £466.25. The outing to Uppark broke even and the outing to Hillesdon Church and Claydon House had a small loss of £24.75.

The number of members and visitors coming to our meetings: the Lockridge meetings were 37 in April, 53 in May, 48 in June, 60 in July, 46 in September and 32 in November and to the Devizes meeting were 57, giving entry fees of £1,020.00. The speakers were paid £443.80 in total. I think

that the weather affected the attendance of the meeting in November and many people attended to hear about and see Mrs Dunch in July. The raffle raised £40.00 and Jane's fundraising £5.00. The cost of halls paid has been £411.00. This gives an overall surplus for meetings of £250.20 for the year.

The total of member subscriptions for the year is now £1,399.00.

Barnes Coaches have paid £200.00 for their advertisements in our newsletter, the costs so far for the newsletter has been £193.65 therefore giving a surplus of £6.35.

Other expenses include postage and stationery £65.22, AGM £58.00, committee £18.00 and power cable £14.98, a total of £156.20.

The balance of our main account stands at £8,260.15.

The balance of the holiday account is £3,489.88. A total of £2,400.00 has been received as deposits on the Isle of Man holiday. A deposit of £1,000 has been paid to Barnes Coaches and £400.52 paid for planning expenses of this holiday.

Finally I would just like to advise that when members switch their bank accounts and a cheque has been already paid for outings or as a deposit on a holiday but not yet deposited bank charges will be incurred when I deposit the cheque. So I ask that if you are considering switching your bank account and a cheque has been given that you ask for the cheque be deposited before the switch takes place or that a replacement cheque is given.

Carol Shirley Treasurer

REPORTS ON OUR EVENING MEETINGS

September Meeting *Filming 'Life on Earth' Martin Saunders*

Life on Earth was the first of the innovative series of Natural History TV programmes masterminded by and featuring David Attenborough – the latest of which will soon be aired. Martin was there, he was the cameraman. Through his talk we were able to see again and hear the stories behind some of the particularly well known film sequences; in Rwandan tropical forest where David has his intimate encounters with the mountain gorillas – we learnt that David flew in briefly for his 'set piece' whereas Martin had a tortuous journey in by Land Rover with all the equipment and was filming over several weeks; and on the African savannas watching the pack of lions stalk the wildebeest and make a kill, where the cameraman had to be between the lions and their prey.

Ann King

October Meeting *The Croft Devizes – the past Carol Shirley*

The Croft is now a residential complex in Devizes, but in her talk Carol Shirley exposed the fascinating past of this area. Located beyond the town boundary of medieval Devizes this was the site of a leper hospital, and a place of sanctuary. This function is remembered in the name of a local road Spitalcroft. The nearby St James' Church may well be on the site of a chapel dedicated to St James and St Denis associated with the leper hospital.

Ann King

November Meeting *A soldier's life in the Trenches Steve Williams*

Anyone arriving at the hall for this talk was probably surprised to see a full size WW1 trench in place of the usual projector and our speaker in full soldier's uniform. Steve proved to be a mine of information about life in the trenches, from toilet facilities (two buckets per 100 men which were changed every 15 minutes) to demonstrations of the various weaponry used. A fascinating evening and my thanks to everyone who helped clear up the trench after the meeting.

Visit to Uppark House

Towards the end of September we enjoyed a visit to Uppark House in West Sussex. The weather might have been better, but conveniently for us, we



could take advantage of the system of 18th century tunnels that link the house to the servants' quarters, kitchen, dairy and stables. While primarily constructed to keep the scurrying servants out of view, they did keep us dry as we went between the house and the café. But given the distance between kitchen and dining room the family and guests presumably got used to eating cold food! Uppark was badly fire damaged in 1989 especially the upper floors, but the restoration is impressive. Large photographs in the downstairs rooms showed the immediate post-fire damage and enabled us to admire the quality of the restoration work. Furniture and paintings rescued during the fire have been restored to their original positions. One area is devoted to an exhibition related to HG Wells who spent much of his childhood at Uppark where his mother was the housekeeper. David Bridges, who had given us a talk about the house earlier in the year, met us after lunch for our

planned garden tour. Unfortunately the rain meant most of our 'tour' was given standing under the front portico, but then the weather brightened, the low cloud lifted, and as we walked across to the stables we did have a chance to appreciate Uppark's position on the crest of the South Downs and the expansive views down to the Channel. We could just see the hills of the Isle of Wight in the distance.

Ann King

Visit to Corfe Castle and via Swanage Railway to Durlston Castle

The British weather does shape our memories of trips. Those of our party, who walked briskly from the NT Visitor Centre in Corfe, round the base of the Castle Hill and into Corfe village, manage to get up the hill to the castle back in the dry. Others of us who a more leisurely pace watched the building up and were greeted as we the village by a deluge accompanied dramatic flashes of lightning and crashes. So lunchtime refuges were found while the rain cleared so we could walk to the station in the dry, and it stayed dry for our steam hauled journey so we could enjoy the landscape. Unfortunately the rain started again as we reached Durlston Castle but some hardy souls still walked round the grounds, found the Great Globe of Portland Stone, and even walked out to the lighthouse. Typically the sun came out as we were leaving, and I think everyone was still smiling.



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walked at
clouds
entered
by
thunder
quickly

Ann King

Westonbirt Autumn Colours Walk

The National Arboretum is always a pleasant place to visit but the month of October is a special time. On October 18th Jane Ebbutt led a group of 15 members, some longstanding, some new, around the Old Arboretum, Although the colours have been slow to appear this year the whole party very much enjoyed the Acers displaying their full glory and, as they walked, they engaged in much stimulating conversation.

As lunchtime approached, the party drove into Tetbury where Jane had found the Ormond Hotel, an old coaching inn. In this friendly place we were able to have good food in a room where we could all sit down together and continue our engaging discussions.

After lunch Jane suggested that, if we had time, Tetbury Church was worth a visit. This turned out to be good advice; the history of Tetbury from the Doomsday Book onwards, displayed in the church, was particularly interesting.

Once again Jane had succeeded in running a very enjoyable outing. We were all very grateful to her.

Tony & Elizabeth Hopgood

OUTINGS 2017

Full details of all trips and further copies of the booking forms are available on the website.

Please remember to bring your NT MEMBERSHIP CARD with you if visiting an NT property.

Non-Trust members will have to pay any admission charges on arrival

**Visit to Marlborough College:
Tuesday 14th March 10:45 am
Cost £8.00**

Do join us on this first visit of the New Year. Most of us know the building from the outside and may have visited theatre or Memorial Hall for an event, but this is an opportunity to see and learn more about the fascinating history of this site and its buildings which goes back into prehistory.

The visit lasts about 1½ hours and will be led by Clare Russell the college librarian and archivist. We will go inside C House, the Chapel and Memorial Hall, and visit the Adderley room,. The only bit outside will be the Mound, so don't worry too much about being out in the cold!

Meet 10:45 in the Reception – signposted from the College Water Meadows car park

**BLUEBELL WALK
Thursday 20th April**

Meet in Kennet Valley Hall , Lockeridge at 10.30am for a leisurely stroll through the bluebells in West Woods for about two hours . Please wear suitable foot wear as the woods can be muddy and a raincoat or anorak if rainy.

Afterwards we will go for lunch at The Coach and Horses at Beckhampton. Please indicate on the return booking form if you would like to book for lunch.

Return forms to Jane Ebbutt , 8 Windmill Close , Aldbourne. Marlborough . SN8 2DN

WEST SOMERSET RAILWAY and DUNSTER CASTLE (NT)

Tuesday 23 May

Departures:	Marlborough	Polly Tea Rooms	0800
	Devizes	Corn Exchange	0830
Return:	Leave	Dunster	c1645

Cost: £ 34 pp (coach + rail fare)

Do join us on our 2017 **West Somerset Steam Railway** experience from Bishops Lydeard station, near Taunton, on the 100 minute journey through the north Somerset countryside passing between Exmoor and the Quantock hills to the coast and then along to Dunster station. There we shall rejoin our coach for the short drive into Dunster, where you will have time to visit the castle, explore the grounds, see the working water mill (NT), or enjoy a wander round the historic village of Dunster- described as the most 'intact' medieval village in England.

We shall include a short comfort stop en route to Bishops Lydeard, the southern terminus of the railway. We are booked on the 1240 steam train so on arrival at the station there will be time to have a coffee break at the Whistle-Stop Cafe. Drinks and light refreshments are also available from the buffet car, or you might like to bring a picnic lunch to eat during the journey. At the station is the Gauge Museum with many items of local rail interest and shows how the railway affected the people who worked on and used the line. It is a 5 minute walk into Bishops Lydeard village.

The present **Dunster Castle** (NT) is largely a 19th century creation by the Luttrell family but incorporates parts of the medieval and later building. It is at the top of a wooded hill, but a buggy runs regularly from the car park up to the castle. The shop, tea room and watermill are at the bottom of the hill. The terraced gardens display varieties of Mediterranean and sub-tropical plants.

WESTBURY COURT GARDEN (NT) & FRAMPTON MANOR
Wednesday 21st June

Cost £48.00

Includes Coach Gratuities, coffee and Westbury garden tour, House tour of Frampton Manor, 2 course lunch and tea

Admission to Westbury Court Garden (NT) free (non-members £5.17)

Departures

Polly's Tea Rooms Marlborough 8.30 am

Corn Exchange Devizes 9.00 am

Leaving Frampton Manor 4.15 pm

Description of trip:

We shall drive to Westbury Court Garden (NT) Westbury upon Severn is the finest example of a Dutch style water garden in the country. We shall have coffee/tea and biscuits in the Church before we are taken on a tour of the garden.

We shall drive to Frampton Manor. The Clifford family have lived in Frampton-upon-Severn since the Norman Conquest. The Manor 12th Manor century is thought to be the birthplace of Jane Clifford, who was 'the Rose of the World' or 'Fair Rosamund' the mistress of King Henry II. The Village Green is the largest in the country, is still named Rosamund's Green after her. The garden is extensively planted, it contains the red and white striped rose 'Rosa Mundi' – Rosa Gallica versicolour, a sport of the 'Apothecary's Rose' – which is said to be named after Fair Rosamund.

Lunch is served in the 16th century Wool Barn, which consists of homemade quiche, home-grown new potatoes salad, strawberries and cream and homemade elderflower cordial.

After lunch we shall have a guided tour of the Manor and be able to enjoy the beautiful gardens. We shall have a cup of tea and a coach drive round Rosamund's Green before returning home.

Visit: www.framptoncourtestate.co.uk/manor.htm.

Please send a cheque payable to KVNTA (undated) & SAE for return of acceptance slip to:-

Mrs Elizabeth Knight, Meadow View New Road Greenham Newbury
Berkshire RG14 7RY Tel: 01635 38116 email: liz.knight@meadow-view.co.uk

LYTES CARY MANOR AND TINTINHULL GARDEN
Wednesday 12th July 2017

COST: £21.00 (If you are not a NT member please ask Carol for the additional cost which will be payable on the day)

Departure: Marlborough - Polly's Tea Rooms 08.30
Devizes – Bus Island 09.00
Leaving Tintinhull Garden 16.45 for the return journey

On the day we have the opportunity to visit two of the smaller National Trust properties – Lytes Cary Manor and Tintinhull Garden. As both properties have small tea rooms will also visit the town of Somerton for lunch.

Lytes Cary Manor is an intimate medieval house with a beautiful Arts and Crafts inspired garden which was originally the family home of the Elizabethan herbalist Henry Lytle. After years of neglect Lytes Cary was lovingly restored in the 20th century by Sir Walter Jenner and is arranged as it was in his time. We will arrive in time for coffee.

Somerton has a wide market square with an octagonal roofed market square which is surrounded by 17th and 18th century buildings. Close by is the 13th century Church of St Michael and All Angels whose octagonal tower echoes the market cross and which has dragons and cider barrels carved in the roof. Details will be provided on the day regarding the various eateries.

Tintinhull Garden demonstrates the vision of Phyllis Reiss, an amateur gardener. You can stroll among clipped lawns, glinting pools and shaded areas that punctuate 'living rooms' of colour and scent. There is a quaint tea-room serving cakes and cream teas.

Send the booking form & cheque (dated 12th July 2017) with SAE to: Carol Shirley, 6 The Croft, Meadow Drive, Devizes, SN10 3BJ by 14th June 2017
Tel. 01380 739962 email: carolandwinnie@yahoo.co.uk

LORD LEYCESTER HOSPITAL & PACKWOOD HOUSE (NT)
Thursday 17th August

Cost £32.00

Includes Coach Gratuities, coffee and guided hospital tour

Admission to Packwood House (NT) free non-members £9.30

Departures

Polly's Tea Rooms Marlborough 8.30 am
Corn Exchange Devizes 9.00 am

Leaving Packwood House 4.00 pm

Description of trip:

We shall drive to Lord Leycester Hospital, Warwick and have coffee before having a guided tour of the hospital. In 1571 Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester (Leycester), founded a home for those wounded in the service of the Queen, and her successors, and continues to the present day. www.lordleycester.com

We shall drive to Packwood House (NT) Warwickshire and have lunch in their new café or you can bring a picnic.

Packwood House has been lovingly restored by Graham Baron Ash in the 20th century. The gardens at this time of year have colourful herbaceous borders. There is the 'Sermon of the Mount' made of Yew trees

Please send a cheque payable to KVNTA (undated) & SAE for return of acceptance slip to:-

Mrs Elizabeth Knight, Meadow View New Road Greenham Newbury
Berkshire RG14 7RY Tel: 01635 38116 email: liz.knight@meadow-view.co.uk

**Visit to Marlborough College
Tuesday 14th March 10:45 am**

NAME 1.....KVNTA No.....

NAME 2.....KVNTA No

TEL NO:..... AIL:.....

Send payment of £ 8.00 and SAE to Ann King 21 Kempfield Devizes SN10 5AX

Bluebell Walk Thursday 20th April

NAME 1.....KVNTA No.....

NAME 2.....KVNTA No

TEL NO:.....

EMAIL:..... LUNCHYes / No

Send booking form to Jane Ebbutt , 8 Windmill Close , Aldbourne.
Marlborough, SN8 2DN

West Somerset Railway and Dunster Castle Tuesday 23 May

NAME 1.....KVNTA No.....

NAME 2.....KVNTA No

TEL NO:.....

EMAIL:..... PICKUP AT.....

Send payment of £ and SAE to Ann King 21 Kempfield Devizes SN10 5AX

Westbury Court Garden & Frampton Manor Wednesday 21st June

NAME 1.....KVNTA No.....

NAME 2.....KVNTA No

TEL NO:.....

EMAIL:..... PICKUP AT.....

Send payment of £ and SAE to Mrs Elizabeth Knight, Meadow View New Road Greenham Newbury Berkshire RG14 7RY

Lytes Cary Manor and Tintinhull Garden Wednesday 12th July

NAME 1.....KVNTA No.....

NAME 2.....KVNTA No

TEL NO:.....

EMAIL:..... PICKUP AT.....

Send the booking form & cheque (dated 12th July 2017) with SAE to: Carol Shirley, 6 The Croft, Meadow Drive, Devizes, SN10 3BJ

Lord Leycester Hospital & Packwood House Thursday 17th August

NAME 1.....KVNTA No.....

NAME 2.....KVNTA No

TEL NO:.....

EMAIL:..... PICKUP AT.....

Do you wish to hire a buggy (please tick)

Send payment of £ and SAE to Mrs Elizabeth Knight, Meadow View New Road Greenham Newbury Berkshire RG14 7RY

Oakham Treasures & Clevedon Court Thursday 21 September

NAME 1.....KVNTA No.....

NAME 2.....KVNTA No

TEL NO:.....

EMAIL:..... PICKUP AT.....

Send payment of £ and SAE to Ann King 21 Kempfield Devizes SN10 5AX

Woodchester Mansion & Newark Park Thursday 12th October

NAME 1.....KVNTA No.....

NAME 2.....KVNTA No

TEL NO:.....

EMAIL:..... PICKUP AT.....

Send payment of £ and SAE to Jane Ebbutt , 8 Windmill Close , Aldbourne. Marlborough, SN8 2DN

OAKHAM TREASURES and CLEVEDON COURT (NT)

Thursday 21 September

Departures: Marlborough – Polly Tea Rooms 0830

Devizes – Corn Exchange 0900

Return: Leave Clevedon Court c1630

Cost: £27 pp (Coach + entry to Oakham Treasures)

Oakham Treasures near Portbury is a fascinating place. A place where you say, 'Oh! I remember that'. It is one of the largest privately owned museums of retail and farming history in the UK. Oakham Treasures is the demonstration of one man's passion for collecting memorabilia throughout his lifetime. The owner, Keith Sherrell, is a 5th generation West Country Farmer, and began collecting farm machinery in the 60's as a side-line to his business of buying and selling used farm machinery. As Keith says, 'I started buying a bit more, and selling a bit less. The things I really loved I kept and it went on from there'. More recently, Keith turned his interest into the retail area, and has steadily built up a huge and varied museum across all aspects of the old high street including an old grocery store, haberdashery, hardware store, chemist, tobacconist, off licence, and sweet shop. There is a reconstruction of the old Post Office at Bletchley Park, and a working model railway based on the 1960's Oakham Halt station at Oakham in Rutland.

DO JOIN US ON THIS TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE.

We shall spend the morning at Oakham Treasures and leave after lunch. The Acorns café serves lunches as well as drinks and light refreshments. N.B. Picnic lunches cannot be eaten in the café.

After lunch we leave for the short drive to **Clevedon Court (NT)**. Clevedon Court is a 14th century manor house with a beautiful 18th century terraced garden. This south facing hillside garden is Grade 2 listed. For centuries Clevedon Court was home to the lords of the manor of Clevedon, and the core of the house is a remarkable survival from the medieval period. The house was purchased by Abraham Elton in 1709 and it is still the family home of his descendants.

N.B. There is small tea kiosk only at this house.

Ann King

WOODCHESTER MANSION AND NEWARK PARK

Thursday 12th October

Cost: £34 (approx.)

Woodchester Manor has not decided on their entrance fee for 2017 so I cannot give a precise cost. Details will be in the next newsletter.

The cost will include all coach travel and the use of minibuses to get those with mobility difficulties from the carpark to the mansion, entrance fee, a guided tour of the mansion and coffee on arrival and gratuities.

We shall travel from Chiseldon, Marlborough and Devizes to Woodchester which is near Stroud. Woodchester Mansion was never completed and is as the builders left it when the money for the build ran out. It is particularly interesting as you can see how it was constructed. There is also a colony of bats which can be observed by video relay and extensive walks in the grounds which are owned by the National Trust.

In the afternoon we shall visit Newark Park which is situated on top of the Cotswold escarpment with extensive views over the Severn valley. The house is quite small which goes back to Tudor times but with many changes and additions since then until the 20th century.

Booking forms should be sent to: - Jane Ebbutt, 8 Windmill Close, Aldbourne, Marlborough. SN8 2DN

Duoro Cruise September 6th-13th 2017

I still have limited availability on this Saga cruise on the river Duoro in Portugal. We fly with BA to Oporto and embark the Duoro Queen for a seven night cruise. . Prices from £1549 pp in a twin cabin which will include transport to and from Gatwick .

If you are interested in this cruise please contact me as soon as possible on 01672 540368 or email jane@aldbourne.plus.com or at 8 Windmill Close , Aldbourne, Marlborough.SN8 2DN

ISLE OF MAN HOLIDAY
April 24th -30th 2017

IMPORTANT NOTICE

I have had to make a change to the dates for this holiday as the ferry company changed the times of the ferry.
We are now departing on **Monday 24th April** and staying overnight at a Premier Inn in Blackpool before catching the ferry from Heysham .

Hotel: The Empress Hotel Douglas

Cost: £ 650 pp in a standard twin or double room

£.700 pp in a standard single

The cost includes all coach travel, ferry crossings, five nights dinner bed and breakfast, all gratuities and entrances. Drinks and lunches are not included in the cost.

The Empress hotel does not have any rooms with walk in showers. There are eighteen steps into the hotel but wheelchair access is available via the restaurant. There are no ground floor rooms but there is a lift which can take a small wheelchair. There are small steps along the corridors.

I have not yet finalized the itinerary but it will include visits to all regions of the island, historical sites and museums and a ride on a heritage railway. Please note if you are not a National Trust member you will have to pay the entrance to some properties.

All members joining this holiday are advised to have insurance. Barnes can arrange Travel Insurance for this holiday but at this time can only give a guideline price of £28 based on 2016 prices. I cannot repay monies after payment .Please indicate on the booking form if you wish to take out a Barnes insurance and they will then contact you. If you are interested in joining this holiday please fill in the booking form and return with a £100 deposit, two small and one large stamped addressed envelopes for receipts and final documents.

Cheques should be made payable to KVNTA and sent, with booking form to: Jane Ebbutt, 8 Windmill Close, Aldbourne, Marlborough. SN8 2DN by Saturday 12th December 2016.

ISLE OF MAN BOOKING FORM APRIL 24-30TH 2017

Name(s) -----

Address-----

Post Code-----Tel No.-----

Accommodation (Please circle)

Twin Double Single

Pick up Aldbourne Marlborough Devizes

Special Dietary or mobility needs-----

Emergency Contact

Name -----

Address-----

-----PC-----Tel No-----

Barnes Insurance Yes No (Please indicate)

Please be sure you have holiday Insurance cover as it will not be possible to make refunds after booking has been accepted.

Also note pickup times for this holiday will be very early in the morning as we have to catch the midday ferry from Heysham.

I/We enclose a deposit of £100 pp and one large and two small SAEs.

Signed-----Date-----

Please send completed form deposit and SAEs to Jane Ebbutt,8 Windmill Close , Aldbourne, Marlborough. SN8 2DN.

UPDATE FROM AVEBURY



Avebury Manor House Manager, Amelia Bryan ©National Trust/Abby George

Our theme this year is *'In the bleak midwinter ... find cheer and warmth at Avebury'*. On frosty mornings, the stone circle at Avebury can be a strikingly beautiful place to be, the earth as hard as the stones, the crystal skies the deepest blue and the wind ... well, invigorating is perhaps the best way to put it.

But inside Avebury Manor, the Alexander Keiller Museum, the café and the shop, everything is warm and welcoming. It's this contrast that was the driving theme for our Christmas events this year.

Avebury Manor has been buzzing with activity the last few weeks, with everyone getting ready for Christmas. The manor looks wonderful with lush greenery decorating every corner and paper chains and baubles hanging from the ceiling and Christmas trees, the downstairs is designed to reflect Christmas through the ages.

This year we said a sad goodbye to Cathrien van Hak, who has looked after Avebury Manor for a number of years, and gave a big welcome to Amelia Bryan, our new House Manager, see picture. Amelia, along with Hazel Barry-Scott, our Visitor Experience Officer, has been running a successful programme including wreath making workshops, lectures and guided walks.

Looking forward to 2017, we have a very full year ahead, with more small events than ever, including yoga sessions, guided walks, afternoon teas, lectures, floral workshops and exhibitions as well as the regular family events over the school holidays. The funds raised from all these events go directly towards looking after Avebury for future generations.

If you're interested in finding out more about our events then have a look on the website www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury.

We could not look after this special place without the help of the hundreds of volunteers who work tirelessly throughout Avebury as well as in the wider landscape.

If you are interested in joining the volunteering team at this wonderful site please do contact mary.wickenden@nationaltrust.org.uk.

REMINDER

At the AGM in June both our **Chair** and **Vice Chair** will complete their terms of office and rotate out as required by the Constitution. We therefore need two bright, shiny, new people to take on these roles if KVNTA is to continue to function.

Neither job is very arduous so please give some thought to putting yourself forward for one of these positions.

(It is a sad fact that if nobody comes forward then KVNTA would have to close down.)

If chairing isn't for you then the following jobs will also need someone to take over:

Newsletter Co-ordinator
Web site editor (you don't have to be a computer geek for this one but you will need a computer)
Publicity Officer
Social Secretary and social committee members

Ann King, John Needle or Jane Ebbutt are happy to discuss what is involved in the jobs if you need further information.

**Membership Benefits include:
An annual programme of talks, outings,
walks, holidays and social events.**

Talks

Talks are held on the third Monday of each month at The Kennet Valley Village Hall, Lockeridge - with some meetings held in Devizes - commencing at 7.30 p.m. Recent subjects have included 'Master's House, Marlborough', 'Stourhead Gardens' and 'Charles Dickens'.

Outings and Day Trips

In the summer there are monthly outings to National Trust properties & other places of interest. Most of these are by coach, picking up in Marlborough, & Devizes. Recent day trips included SS Great Britain, Mottisfont and Slimbridge.

Holidays

A short holiday of a few days is planned each year, staying at good quality hotels & visiting places of interest. The 2015 holiday was to Kent. In 2016 we will visit Shropshire for visits to Ironbridge and Wroxeter among other sites.

Social Events

We hold various social events throughout the year with buffet suppers. These not only raise funds for the National Trust, but are also a fun way to meet other members and to compare views on a range of common interests.

Cost

To become a member of our Association costs only £8.00 per annum.
(Annual Membership runs from 1st July)

Attached is a form of application for membership, which you can complete and send to the Membership Secretary with your subscription.

**Application for Membership of
The Kennet Valley National Trust Association**

Please use Block Capitals These personal details, which you supply to us, will be kept on a card index & a computer & will ONLY be passed to other committee members for mailing & administrative purpose of the Association. No information will be passed to third parties. The information will be updated regularly.

	Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Other)	First Name	Family Name
Person One			
Person Two			
Address			
Post Code		Tel No	
email			

If you are a member please supply your membership number for either The National Trust or The National Trust for Scotland.

How would you prefer () to receive the 3 Newsletters each year:			
By Post		By email	

(Membership £8.00 per person)

I/We enclose a cheque payable to 'The Kennet Valley National Trust Association'

Amount £ Signed Date

Please post to: - David Symes, Membership Secretary, KVNTA,
1 Cutts Close, Brinkworth, Chippenham SN15 5BB
Email: - david@familysym.es

COACH OUTINGS – BOOKING CONDITIONS

Members are requested to forward their applications on the booking forms, which should be returned to the named organiser by the appropriate date with the remittance for each visit as a separate cheque.

Each cheque should be made payable to the KVNTA and left undated. They will not be banked until it is certain the trip will go ahead.

In the case of overbooking a reserve list will be formed and substitutions made for cancellations.

No coach visit will take place unless a minimum of 30 persons apply to go although a decision as to the viability of the outing will be made a month beforehand.

Pick up points will be as shown on the booking forms. Please indicate on the form where you wish to be picked up and dropped off.

The cost of a visit includes transport, entrance fees and gratuities, but NOT the cost of meals unless indicated. **ONLY IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES WILL REFUNDS BE CONSIDERED.**

National Trust members or volunteers please remember to bring your NT membership card or volunteer card. However, day trips will not necessarily be to National Trust properties.

Children under 16 must be accompanied by a member and will be charged at half the adult fare.

Members may bring a friend with them who is not a KVNTA member if space is available on the coach.

It is assumed that all persons taking part in these visits are capable of undertaking the outing described without assistance or must be accompanied by a carer.

INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

PLEASE NOTE that the Insurance carried by the Kennet Valley Association through the National Trust does not provide Personal Accident cover for members aged 80 years or above.

Our Association is not allowed by Government statute to offer advice about insurance but, of course, members in this category may wish to make their own arrangements.

Subject to the age limit, friends accompanying members at an event who are not members of our Association but are members of the National Trust are covered by the insurance.

DATA PROTECTION

MEMBERS of the Kennet Valley National Trust Association are informed that, for the purposes of record only, details relating to their membership are stored electronically.

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998, it is necessary that all members be advised of this fact. Members are further advised that, in the event of their objecting to their details being so recorded, they should notify the Membership Secretary (*page 2*) without delay.

Newsletters are published
Summer, Autumn and Winter

DEADLINE for Summer Newsletter
1st April 2017

MEETINGS PROGRAMME 2017

Meetings are on the 3rd Monday and start 7.30pm at **KENNET VALLEY HALL, Lockeridge SN8 4EL** unless otherwise stated.

Entry: Members £3.00 Non-Members £4.00

- 16 Jan. **ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT** Roger Smith
20 Feb. **NEOLITHIC HENGES and SAXON KINGS:** the Archaeology of the Vale
 of Pewsey David Dawson
20 March **D** **WOMEN OF THE RAJ** Brian Freeland
24 April **A WALK ON THE THAMES PATH** (*N.B. 4th Monday*)
 Part 2: Oxford to Reading Bill King
15 May **A STORY OF THE NORTH WESSEX DOWNS AONB**
 Rose Somerset
19 June *7.00pm start* **A.G.M.**
 followed by **PREHISTORIC USE OF SARSEN STONE & THE MODERN**
 SARSEN INDUSTRIES Katy Whitaker
17 July **D** **RUNNYMEDE & MAGNA CARTA** James Evans
21 Aug. **SUMMER SOCIAL**

D = Meeting at Slade House, St James' Gardens, Devizes, SN10 1EL

OUTINGS AND HOLIDAYS

- Tue 14 Mar Marlborough College**
Thu 20 Apr Bluebell Walk
April 24th -30th Isle of Man Holiday
Tue 23 May West Somerset Railway & Dunster Castle
Wed 21 Jun Westbury Court Garden & Frampton Manor
Wed 12 Jul Lytes Cary Manor & Tintinhull Garden
Thu 17 Aug Lord Leycester Hospital & Packwood House
Sep 6th-13th Duoro river Cruise
Thu 21 Sep Oakham Treasures & Clevedon Court
Thu 12 Oct Woodchester Mansion & Newark Park

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