Inside the Trust
Your yearly donor newsletter 2018
Since I became Director-General of the National Trust in March this year, I’ve had the privilege of meeting many donors and supporters like you. I’ve worked with the Trust for almost 13 years in a number of different roles, but I am always amazed and humbled by your generous support for what we do. The record amounts we spend on conservation – from coastal work at the White Cliffs of Dover, to our collections and beautiful houses and gardens like Blickling – just wouldn’t be possible without you.

I have always believed in the power of culture, heritage and the environment to inspire people and bring them together, and in the Trust I found an organisation that does exactly that. Leading the Trust is an extraordinary privilege and I want to build on the great work done by my predecessors to deliver world-class conservation, restore a healthy natural environment, engage people in the stories of our places and work with other organisations and local communities to help protect places that matter to them.

Hilary McGrady
Director-General

Tell us what you think

Join our new online audience panel and tell us what you like – and don’t like – about the National Trust. You’ll be invited to discussions, polls and surveys for your thoughts on our fundraising activity (like reviewing campaign materials and different funding needs), as well as on membership, volunteering, retail and holidays.

Join today at https://our-place-insight.org.uk

We’d love to hear from you

If you have any questions about your gift or pledge, or you’d like to speak to our friendly team, please don’t hesitate to contact us at:

01793 817699
giving@nationaltrust.org.uk

What’s inside your newsletter

From the Director-General ....... 2
Safeguarding the past – and the human stories behind it ....... 3
Thank you for caring for The White Cliffs .............. 4
How you nurture nature .............. 6
Fundraising news in brief ............ 8
The stories you’re bringing to life ................. 9
Protecting the past, embracing the future .......... 10
Meet our supporters ................. 12
The power of legacy gifts .......... 14
Crossword ............................. 15
Saving our red squirrels .......... 15
At the National Trust, we care for many places where history was made and commemorated. In September 2018, we’re fundraising for projects in three of these places: the Lake District, Runnymede in Surrey and the Wellington Monument in Somerset.

Safeguarding the past – and the human stories behind it

At Runnymede, our focus is on the sealing of the Magna Carta in 1215. Few places are more closely associated with freedom and liberty, and Runnymede was given to the National Trust in memory of Sir Urban Broughton MP by his widow. With parts of the site currently difficult to access, we need to undertake a major project to transform the visitor’s experience of arriving at, and exploring, Runnymede.

In the Lake District, we’re remembering the servicemen who gave their lives during the First World War. After the conflict ended, 14 beautiful Lake District mountains were gifted to the National Trust – starting with Scafell Pike, which was donated by Lord Leconfield – and we want to recognise this incredible generosity. In 2018, we are rebuilding the cairn on the summit of Scafell Pike, and fundraising to ensure the essential conservation of the paths that lead to these special peaks.

And sitting high on the Blackdown Hills in Somerset, the Wellington Monument is in urgent need of repair. The tallest three-sided obelisk in the world, it was originally built after the Duke of Wellington’s success at the Battle of Waterloo. It is now both a familiar landmark for M5-travellers and an important part of life for local people. We need to raise £2 million to complete the full conservation project and safeguard its future.

Fundraising for the future

Together, these three places represent the past, the personal and endless future potential. If you feel inspired by them, you can find out how to support them using the enclosed donation form. Special events and tributes are planned throughout 2018. A song cycle – known as The Fellowship of Hill, and Wind, and Sunshine – is planned in the Lakes, and a memorial beacon will be lit on top of Scafell Pike on Remembrance Day.

At Runnymede, Turner Prize-winning artist Mark Wallinger is opening a new public artwork called Writ in Water with the support of a grant of £200,000 from Arts Council England – a very personal tribute to the influence of the Magna Carta.

Whilst in Wellington dedicated supporter, Nancy Powell-Brace, plans to walk from Cleopatra’s Needle in London to the Wellington Monument and raise £10,000 towards the vital conservation of the monument. She got off to a great start when one of her regular customers at Odette’s Tearoom in the town sponsored her £1,000.
Thank you for caring for The White Cliffs

Your amazing response to our 2017 White Cliffs of Dover appeal helped us to acquire more of this special site to look after it for ever, for everyone, as Operations Manager, Gareth Wiltshire, explains.

Overseeing the running of The White Cliffs of Dover means Gareth Wiltshire hears every day just how much this iconic stretch of coastline means to the people who visit.

His role, he explains, can involve everything from fixing emergency lights in the South Foreland Lighthouse to clearing wartime tunnels. And as he walks back and forth across the site, visitors from around the world stop him to share the stories that link them to The White Cliffs. As someone with his own very personal connection to the place, he knows well the profound impact it can have.

‘What’s really special for me,’ he says, ‘is that the land we bought thanks to the 2017 appeal contains an anti-aircraft battery that my grandfather worked on. He was a great man, and I now feel even more of a connection to him through this place.’

Fast facts

• £1 million donated by 17,500 in less than a month
• 20,000 donors in total
• 60% of funding through legacy gifts
• 700,000 square metres of clifftop land secured
• £2.5 million total acquisition cost

Above: Aerial view of land on The White Cliffs of Dover coastline, Kent
Left: Gareth Wiltshire
Right: Family playing on the beach at Birling Gap, part of the Seven Sisters chalk cliffs range, East Sussex
The difference you’re making

For so many of us, the British coastline, in all its variety, evokes powerful memories, such as childhood holidays, windswept walks, of time spent simply staring out to sea. Now, thanks to everyone who donated to our White Cliffs appeal, we can continue to protect this celebrated stretch of coastline and help the huge numbers of people who visit each year to enjoy an unforgettable experience.

The appeal enabled us to secure 700,000 square metres of land immediately behind the clifftop, and Gareth and a dedicated team of staff and volunteers are already hard at work as a result.

Natural erosion had reduced the coast path to just a few metres wide in places, but buying the new land has enabled the team to expand the path and install new fencing. In turn, this will allow the chalk grassland behind the path to gradually return to its natural state, brimming with wild flowers and grasses.

Newly-acquired land that had been used for farming was also left with crop stubble over the winter, encouraging unprecedented numbers of birds from skylarks to sparrowhawks to return to the clifftops.

And work has begun both to create a new all-weather circular track and to reveal the secrets hidden in the wartime buildings and machinery situated on the land acquired through the appeal.

“We’ve done the initial clearing of the scrubland, much of which hadn’t been touched since the 1950s” says Gareth. “The condition of some buildings is amazing; you can still see original wartime graffiti.”

The power of your gifts

Supporters like you made the vital work now under way at The White Cliffs of Dover possible. In less than a month, 17,500 people donated to the campaign. Support also came from players of the People’s Postcode Lottery, and an additional 60% of the acquisition cost came from people kind enough to leave a gift to the National Trust in their Will. This money came from our Neptune Fund, which has helped to safeguard 594 miles of coastline over the past 50 years.

Asked about the difference made by all those donations and legacy gifts, Gareth is unequivocal. ‘It’s been fantastic,’ he smiles. ‘I think of the National Trust as the ultimate long-term organisation, and I can promise everyone who gave that even the smallest donation is helping to protect this land and keep it open to the public, long into the future.’

Cwm Ivy, Gower Coast

At Cwm Ivy on the Gower Coast, donations and legacy gifts are helping a remarkable new habitat to thrive. Back in 2014, seawater breached the medieval sea wall for the first time in centuries. Working closely with local partners like Natural Resources Wales, we’re now monitoring this coastline as it changes from freshwater marsh to salt marsh. Salt-loving plants are thriving; otters, wading birds and ospreys are now regular sights; and thanks to our supporters we’re watching everything closely to understand and share this transformation.

Did you know?

It costs around £3,000 each year to maintain a single mile of coastline
How you nurture nature

From copses to coastlines to ancient commons, you help to keep outdoor places special. Rob Rhodes, our Head of Countryside Management and Rangers, has no doubt about the powerful difference this can make to people’s lives.

Since first volunteering for the National Trust 22 years ago, Rob Rhodes has spent a lot of time living out his childhood dream of finding a job where he could ‘wear welly boots and drive a Land Rover’. He’s been a National Trust ranger, head ranger and countryside manager, and he’s now our very first Head of Countryside Management and Rangers.

The fact the role has been created underlines how important we consider the care of outdoor spaces to be. As Rob says, ‘Being able to look after these amazing places, to conserve and protect them, and to improve access so people can come and enjoy them and feel inspired by them, is a huge privilege, and one we take very seriously.

‘What people get from being outdoors in the fresh air is different for everyone,’ he adds, ‘but it’s so important: it’s absolutely a personal thing.’

Your impact outdoors

Donors like you support a huge range of outdoor projects, and many need ongoing funding.

Brecon Beacons
More than 350,000 people tread the Beacons’ slopes every year, and our rangers currently need support to repair 600 metres of footpath leading up to Pen Y Fan and Corn Du.

Hatfield Forest
Coppice volunteers at Hatfield Forest in Essex are continuing a forest management tradition that dates back to medieval times, and we need your help to provide them with new equipment.

Peak District
Our rangers and volunteers in the Peaks are working hard to care for over 1,000 hectares (2,471 acres) of threatened and special woodland – and there is so much more work to be done.

You can make a donation to any of our current appeals online at nationaltrust.org.uk/all-appeals
Did you know?
As part of our Land, Outdoors and Nature strategy to help reverse the decline in Britain’s wildlife, working in partnership across boundaries, we plan to create 25,000 hectares (61,776 acres) of new habitats by 2025.

From countryside to coastline: in numbers

- **700** rangers (more in summer)
- **Around 7,000** volunteers
- **247,000** hectares (610,351 acres) of land
- **778** miles of coastline
- **£35.7 million** spent maintaining the countryside in 2017/18

The role of rangers

At the heart of our work outdoors are around 700 rangers. Rob says ‘There is no typical day for a ranger, but the role broadly splits into practical nature conservation and being the public face of the National Trust.

He continues ‘There’s a huge range of things rangers do to deliver benefit from nature conservation. It could be repairing footpaths, gates or stiles, landscape work, repairing drystone walls and putting up fencing, or habitat management – things like hedge laying, pond restoration or planting trees.

Working with volunteer groups is absolutely key to the work of rangers, and very often so is working with our tenant farmers.

‘And then there is the visitor engagement aspect – whether that means telling stories, giving people information about high tide or how long it takes to walk to a mountain, or more specialist information about the history and conservation of a particular site. Rangers are sometimes the only staff our visitors will see, so they are very much on the frontline.’

Why funding matters

For Rob, the vast array of work carried out by rangers means the support of donors and everyone who leaves the National Trust a gift in their Will is ‘absolutely vital’. He’s also keen to emphasise the role supporters’ kindness plays in helping us acquire new land to protect.

‘When the opportunity comes up to acquire a special piece of land, sometimes the only way we can do that is using money that has been left to us. If the money isn’t there, we often have to walk away,’ Rob says. ‘Three or four years ago when I was working in Dorset, the National Trust acquired Hambledon Hill, an Iron Age hill fort, and we were only able to do that because of the generosity of one of our supporters leaving a gift in their Will.’

One of his main hopes now, he says, is to encourage more people to donate to the ongoing work behind the scenes every day.

‘Our Land, Outdoors and Nature fund for operational, day-to-day work in the countryside is so important. As are the many local appeals for specific projects,’ he says. ‘Of course, many members and donors support our land acquisition, which is incredibly important too. But ensuring supporters are able to give towards our proactive conservation work directly benefits wildlife, increases access and unlocks so much potential as we work to reverse the decline in nature.’
Where books become beans
The derelict walled garden at Blickling Estate in Norfolk is being transformed, thanks largely to money raised through sales at the property’s second hand bookshop. The garden has been little more than a grass field for 25 years but, with an incredible £134,000 raised through book sales in 2016/17, it is now a haven teeming with fruit and vegetable crops. This fantastic fundraising effort means visitors have been able to enjoy Blickling’s produce across its cafés. We’d like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported our conservation work by donating or buying books. Suitably, the next project funded by bookshop sales will help to care for Blickling’s library of over 12,500 books.

Find out more and follow the garden’s progress at: nationaltrust.org.uk/blickling

Harnessing heavy horses
Support for two of our ongoing fundraising appeals means heavy horses will be helping with our conservation and agricultural work this year.

Thanks to a combination of donations and gifts left to us in Wills, two North Swedish Stallion horses will be pulling a specially designed dredging cage to clear the ponds at Hare Hill in Cheshire. As well as significantly improving water quality and the environment for wildlife, the debris created will be turned into mulch to help the property’s garden thrive.

And at Wimpole in Cambridgeshire, the team is renovating the stables for the estate’s five Shire horses – Queenie, Murphy, Jasper, Harry and Lady. The Shires will help with farming and carriage work, as well as offering rides.

See all of our current appeals across England, Wales and Northern Ireland at: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/all-appeals

Churchill’s chamber unveiled
National Trust President HRH The Prince of Wales was among the first visitors to see Sir Winston Churchill’s newly opened bedroom in Chartwell, Kent, earlier this year. Our ‘Keep Churchill at Chartwell’ campaign raised more than £7.1 million – securing hundreds of Churchill’s possessions for the nation and enabling us to open Churchill’s bedroom to visitors for the first time.

HRH the Prince of Wales being shown Churchill’s bedroom by Chartwell General Manager Zoe Colbeck

Twit-twecome to Lindisfarne!
You never know what you’ll find when you begin restoring somewhere like Lindisfarne Castle. Thanks to donations from our supporters, our £3 million, 18-month programme of repairs and conservation was able to begin in late 2016. Since then, our archaeologists have revealed the foundations of unknown buildings and we’ve discovered decorative 17th-century wall paintings and a 100-year-old receipt made out to the last person to commission major works here.

But when we found two barn owls nesting in the crag, surrounded by scaffolding, we knew we had to move carefully. We set up a 20-metre exclusion zone to make sure they weren’t disturbed, and a month later three new owl chicks were born. We’ve since installed a large nest box to welcome the next generation of Lindisfarne owls.

Thank you National Lottery players
Between 2015 and 2017, funding from the National Lottery has supported 57 National Trust projects – with an overall value of nearly £18 million. We’d like to say a very big thank you for this generous help, which has gone towards our work in areas including sport, heritage and the arts.
The stories you’re bringing to life

After we asked supporters to help us to tell the stories of three amazing places earlier this year, more than £165,000 was donated.

Preparing for a new Sutton Hoo

At the Anglo-Saxon royal burial ground of Sutton Hoo, Suffolk, this year’s appeal has kickstarted work to help visitors, volunteers and the community feel closer to this site and its astonishing past. In addition, players of the National Lottery have supported the project through a grant of £1.8 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and we’re extremely grateful for all of the support we’ve received.

The scale of the building work planned means Sutton Hoo will close from October 2018 until spring 2019, but plenty of exciting work is underway in preparation.

Earlier in the summer, staff and volunteers received training on archaeological techniques. They have since been overseeing public sessions where visitors help us survey the site. We’ve also carried out an archaeological survey on site in preparation for building a 17-metre observation tower on the edge of the burial grounds. The tower will give visitors a whole new perspective, helping them to connect more closely with the past and present of this historic landscape.

Staff are also working with curators, historians and archaeologists to develop the techniques we’ll use to bring the story of Sutton Hoo to life, including the refurbishment of the main hall.

Numerous cultural and community projects have begun too. Local volunteers have worked with textile artist Annette Morgan to create a room-sized work celebrating Sutton Hoo, and primary school pupils have made wall hangings for an exhibition on the women of Sutton Hoo. Thanks to you, the story of Sutton Hoo is already coming to life.

Re-imagining Seaton Delaval Hall

Seaton Delaval Hall, Northumberland, was once a place known for lavish costume parties and elaborate pranks. But since the kindness of our donors helped us to acquire the property in 2009, we’ve revealed the scale of urgent building work needed just to make it safe – before we can once again turn it into a place of theatre and mystery. This year’s appeal will make a true transformation of Seaton Delaval Hall possible, and the generous public response also helped our recent successful bid for a £3.7 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The recreation of lost statues of Apollo and the Nine Muses is central to the work. Through archaeological and archival research, and by creating scale mock-ups of the statues, we have been able to identify where the recreations should be placed. Our team is continuing to search worldwide for statues to use to create appropriate replicas.

Detailed plans are being developed before work begins this autumn, but we know the central hall spiral staircase, the basement floors and the roof need extensive conservation work. Serious cracks have been found in the staircase, for example, which has been temporarily propped up, but without major work public access will have to be limited.

We’ve also been strengthening our links with the local community, and more than 2,000 residents joined us recently to hear about our plans – touring the property accompanied by jugglers and magicians, in true Delaval style.

Seaton Delaval Hall’s 100+ volunteers are helping to plot the best future for the property, too, with regular opportunities to share their ideas. And we’re creating new conservation volunteer roles, as we look to shape an experience here visitors will never forget.

Reinstating Apollo and the Nine Muses at Stowe

At Stowe in Buckinghamshire, where the gardens have enchanted and enriched visitors for 300 years, the latter stages of a major restoration programme are now underway – thanks to support from the appeal.

The recreation of lost statues of Apollo and the Nine Muses is central to the work. Through archaeological and archival research, and by creating scale mock-ups of the statues, we have been able to identify where the recreations should be placed. Our team is continuing to search worldwide for statues to use to create appropriate replicas.

Other recent additions include an 18th-century-style swing, replica statues of wrestlers and a gladiator, and 3,500 young plants. We’re also developing a new conservation management plan to preserve the beauty of Papermill Lake and understand the historical significance of this area. And in the longer term the appeal will enable us to open up new areas for the first time – bringing visitors closer to Stowe as it was intended to be experienced.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the appeal so far. If you’d still like to help, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/all-appeals
John Orna-Ornstein, our Director of Curation and Experience, explains how your generosity supports conservation and creativity at our properties.

Hi John, could you tell us a little about your role?

I joined the National Trust in June last year and I cover two sides of what the National Trust does: the curations work, which involves our collections and conservation work, and the visitor experience side, or how we make these wonderful places accessible to as many people as possible.

How would you sum up your approach?

I see our places as creative and changing. The National Trust’s purpose is absolutely to conserve and protect, but that’s not the same as thinking of places as static or frozen in aspic. Landscapes change, gardens change, our places have always changed, and we need to be creative in how we tell their stories. It’s also vital that the quality of the experience we offer people is consistently really high.

What have you introduced since you’ve been at the Trust?

One of the key changes is to double the number of curators who work for us. Our curators are the people who really understand our places and can help us to tell their stories. They’re deeply embedded in what makes a place special, and can also make the connections that help us to tell the bigger, panoramic stories – such as the Women in Power events we’re holding across our properties in 2018 to mark the anniversary of some women being given the vote.

What’s the biggest challenge you face?

In a word, scale. Last year we spent £130 million on conversation work, and what we’re spending is nowhere close to what we need to look after our places as well as we want to. We have to make very difficult decisions about how we allocate resources. Sometimes we get surprises, such as the recent, unexpected need to spend around £5 million to repair the roof and windows of Oxburgh Hall in Norfolk. Inevitably that means there is less to spend elsewhere – on landscape conservation or on caring for our collections.

Which forthcoming events at National Trust properties are you looking forward to?

So many! The Prized Possessions exhibition of Dutch Masters from National Trust properties is very exciting, because we’ve collected paintings of the highest quality from all over the Trust, that are now being exhibited at the Holburne Gallery in Bath (from May to September 2018) and then in The Hague before being displayed at Petworth House in West Sussex in January 2019.

Then there are the events at Nostell Priory in West Yorkshire, to mark the 300th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Chippendale. And the House
How do you choose a memorable way to celebrate your 40th wedding anniversary? If you’re Elizabeth and John Brightwell – who will also have been National Trust members for 40 years when they mark four decades together this year – you make plans to enjoy the world around you. Specifically, you make plans to visit 40 National Trust properties in the course of just one year.

It’s a natural plan for a couple with a deep-seated love of special places. ‘With every passing year, my appreciation grows of the Trust’s care of our open spaces, our countryside, coast and wildlife habitats.’ The couple are now particularly looking forward to exploring properties in Northern Ireland – a country they have never visited. Elizabeth remembers vividly the first time a place truly won her heart. It was Exmoor, and she was ten years old. ‘Snow had recently fallen, but we arrived on a cloudless, blue-sky day’ Elizabeth says. ‘I was enthralled by the drive along the coast, climbing up from Porlock with the sea shimmering in early April sunshine on our right, and the magnificent patchwork of moorland glittering to our left, disappearing completely in places into the steep-sided coombes.’

Exmoor has captured Elizabeth’s imagination ever since, and she and John recently made a generous donation to support wildlife conservation in the area. They also recently went on their first National Trust working holiday in Exmoor, clearing holly from the woodland floor so the sun could reach it and help flora to thrive.

‘This was my first National Trust working holiday and I loved it,’ Elizabeth says. ‘It was such a happy week: partly because I was in a place I love, but also as I’d made a donation to the Trust’s wildlife monitoring project in northwest Exmoor. Now I had the opportunity to meet and talk with the enthusiastic Trust intern managing the project who spoke of the difference my donation had made.

‘Exmoor won my heart as a schoolgirl’ she adds. ‘It continues to be my special place. Making a donation and spending time working in this breath-taking landscape have made it even more special. With the help of the National Trust, I hope it will be special for ever, for everyone.’

We’d like to wish Elizabeth and John all the best for their 40th anniversary celebrations.

To find out more about our working holidays, visit nationaltrust.org.uk/find-working-holidays
Escaping to the coast
For Patricia Moorhead, leaving a gift in her Will to the National Trust is the perfect way to protect our ‘spectacular coasts, majestic mountains, inspirational gardens and historic buildings,’ long into the future.
In particular, she wants the traditions and historic buildings of her native Northern Ireland to be remembered and celebrated. ‘Land is our most cherished commodity and often the National Trust has been successful in protecting it from insensitive development,’ she says. ‘The traditional crafts such as thatching, dry stone walling, wattle hedging and scything are also being given the opportunity to return, as the National Trust makes courses and day sessions available to help people learn these skills.’
Ultimately, Patricia says, that by leaving a gift in her Will, she is hoping that more people will gain the same sense of freedom she experiences at her own favourite place: White Park Bay on the North Antrim coast.
‘As the white waves crash to the shore and seagulls dance overhead against the bright blue sky,’ she smiles, ‘I revel in the fresh air, the sight of the limestone cliffs and just enjoy ‘being at one with nature’, very often on a deserted beach.’

Meet a legacy pledger: Patricia Moorhead

People powered heritage
What do a walking tour of the drains of Sheffield, a look inside Turner’s studio at Petworth and an escape room in the oldest pub in England have in common? They’re all part of Heritage Open Days. Every September, this unique festival sees 5,500 walks, talks, tours, demonstrations, activities and openings up and down the country. All for free!

Locally created and curated by 2,100 people, Heritage Open Days celebrates and shares the history, the places and the stories that make this nation what it is.
Players of People’s Postcode Lottery generously support the National Trust to manage Heritage Open Days, awarding a fantastic £825,000 since 2013.

Giving in memory
Special places make special memories
Long-time member Jan McGowan explains why she wanted to pay tribute to her husband Bruce, who sadly passed away in 2018, by organising a collection for the National Trust at his funeral.
‘Bruce and I were members of the National Trust for many years. Our last visit was to Wakehurst earlier this year, where we enjoyed a stroll around the gardens in the sunshine.
Bruce was a carpenter and joiner and admired ornate staircases and wood panelling in many of the great houses the Trust looks after. He also had a love of the gardens: Nymans in West Sussex being one of his favourites. He particularly liked the summer colour but was just as happy in the woodland at springtime.
His real passion though was the coastline and we spent many hours walking along cliff tops and beaches around England. He took a keen interest in conservation work being done to preserve these beautiful places.
It seemed only fitting to send a donation in memory of such an incredible man to an organisation he admired so much.’
If you would like to remember a loved one by making a donation or arranging a funeral collection for the National Trust, please email giving@nationaltrust.org.uk
Every time someone leaves a gift to the National Trust in their Will, they ensure special places remain for future generations to enjoy. Every gift, of every size, has a lasting impact, and legacy gifts are now our second largest source of net income. We’re hugely grateful to everyone who supports us in this way.

Often people donate to places where they found happiness. Lawrence Brodley volunteered as a room guide at Cotehele, a Tudor house and quay in Cornwall, and his gift is now being used there to replace the sails on Shamrock, the only fully-restored barge of its kind in the world.

Along the coast in Dorset, a £10,000 legacy is being used to recreate hedgerows at the rocky outcrop of Golden Cap. Timothy Solloway loved to ‘drag various family members up the hill’ to take in the views here, and his generous gift will help many more families to share this landscape at its best.

At Heswall Fields on the banks of the Dee Estuary, a £1,000 legacy is being used to repair and replace fencing, improving access and protecting nesting seabirds.

And at Powis Castle in Wales, a Jacobean miniature painted by Isaac Oliver is now on display, bought for the nation thanks to a grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and legacy gifts, including one of £60,000. It’s the centrepiece of a major new portrait exhibition, and one of the many treasures recently protected and preserved by legacies.

We’d like to send our thanks to everyone who has left a gift to the National Trust in their Will.

Above: Visitors beside Shamrock, a Tamar sailing barge, on the quay at Cotehele, Cornwall
Right: Scenic views of Golden Cap, Dorset
Far right: Marsh grass in springtime at Heswall Fields, The Wirral
Crossword corner

All of the places featured in this crossword have been supported by legacies, grants and donations over the past few years. Thank you.

Across
1. This Nottinghamshire country park is home to 1296 lime trees along the longest such avenue in Europe (7,4)
5. This Northern Irish house re-opened after an £8 million restoration project but still has 900 acres of demesne land in urgent need of repair (5,7)
9. This grade I listed George II era mansion house near Plymouth has one of the finest surviving Robert Adam ceilings, and arguably the most important English carpet in our care (7)
10. This Roman Villa was recently awarded £35,000 from the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust to build a wooden pavilion (9,5,5)
11. This house of many treasures was built in 1733 by James Paine and has over 100 pieces made by Chippendale (7,6)
13. This Welsh National Park has appealed to help our rangers maintain the pathways for its 10 million annual visitors (9)
14. This National Park lovingly known as ‘The Dales’ was created in 1954 and its native species needs protection (9,5)
15. This iconic landmark on the Norfolk broads needs help to keep her sails turning (6,8)
16. This wooded valley with a 19th-century mill at its heart was awarded close to £85,000 from Calderdale Council and the Environment Agency for flood repair and management (10,5)

Down
2. We look after the fells and paths around this Cumbrian mountainous region (4,8)
3. We are currently restoring the acetylene gas lighting fittings back to their former glory at this property in County Armagh (3,6)
4. Renovation has started on the crumbling East Front of this castle in Powys, Wales (5,6)
6. A fire in 2015 damaged 95% of the interior of this 18th-century Surrey mansion (7,4)
7. This 800 acre parkland has an appeal to save the legendary herd of White Park Cattle (7)
8. This 18th Century Devonshire estate was able to fix its leaking roof thanks to your collective support (9)
12. £50,000 has been raised to replace this Cornwall property’s garden bridge, enabling access to the woodland garden and Cornish apple orchard (10)

Saving our red squirrels

The native red squirrel is facing various threats from disease, loss of woodland habitat and not least from the non-native, invasive grey squirrel.

But thanks to the help of our members and supporters, vital conservation work is already showing signs of success. Discover our red squirrel appeals at Plas Newydd and the Lake District at nationaltrust.org.uk/all-appeals.

Above: Red squirrel alert on hind legs

A thank you to our Supporter Groups

A huge thank you to the Centres and Association groups who raised over £600,000 last year towards vital conservation work.

Interested in joining one of our fun and sociable community-based supporter groups? Please contact Emma.Johnson1@nationaltrust.org.uk
National Trust
For places, for ever, for everyone

Founded in 1895 to preserve places of historic interest or natural beauty permanently for the benefit of the nation, the National Trust is a registered charity (no. 205846) whose work relies on the generosity of its supporters through membership subscriptions, gifts, legacies and the contribution of many tens of thousands of volunteers.

nationaltrust.org.uk  #nationaltrust

Cover image: Seathwaite valley with Glaramara rising up to the left and Scafell Pike summit in the distance; two of the 14 Lake District peaks gifted to the National Trust.

If you require this information in alternative formats, please call 01793 817699 or email giving@nationaltrust.org.uk