



# SOUTH DOWNS NEWS

## WORK AND PLAY IN YOUR NATIONAL PARK

This month:

- **Going Out Out** Find out about the bold new initiative that aims to connect young people with the breathtaking protected landscapes on their doorstep.
- **Cherries, ghosts and village fetes** Read about the National Park's Writer in Residence and her exciting one-woman show that will tell the story of the South Downs.
- **Owl smiles** Learn about our pioneering work with farmers and landowners to help support an iconic species of the countryside.
- **Canine fun, history and butterflies!** Find out about summer events for all the family.

As always please send your comments and ideas to us at [newsletter@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:newsletter@southdowns.gov.uk)

## New initiative urges young people to explore National Park

**A thought-provoking campaign has launched to encourage younger people to "go out out" and escape city life to explore the amazing countryside on their doorstep.**

Turning the urban dictionary on its head, the high-profile summer campaign features at major railway stations and on buses across the South East and aims to entice young people out of busy urban areas to discover the South Downs National Park and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).

It comes as public transport operators, including South Western, Southern, South Eastern Railway, Great Western Railway, Metrobus, Stagecoach and Brighton and Hove Buses, join forces to promote the campaign.

The initiative has also received the backing of Julian Glover, who is currently leading a Government review aimed at making England's most cherished landscapes fit for the future.



Mr Glover said: "This campaign to encourage young people to visit these fantastic landscapes will help show how getting out into nature is something

## Get snapping! Make the most of summer days and enter our photo competition



**The beauty of the National Park is arguably at its height during August as the diverse flora and fauna reach their summer peak.**

So what better way to spend a day than taking pictures?

The South Downs National Park photo competition is now in full swing, with a first prize of £250 on offer to the amateur or professional photographer who best captures this year's theme of 'Experiencing the natural world'.

Our judges are looking for inspiring images that capture the beauty of the National Park – all while being active.

So whether it's walking, cycling, horseriding, walking the dog, counting butterflies, bird-watching or having a picnic, the judges are looking for images that show people out enjoying the amazing landscape. Photographs that include people are encouraged, but stunning images taken while people are out enjoying and being active in the National Park are also welcomed.

A second prize of £150 and a third prize of £50 are also on offer. This year the judges are also looking for images capturing the amazing wildlife of the South Downs and the winner will receive £100.

Finn Hopson, competition judge, said: "I'm really looking forward to seeing the variety of things that people get up to in the National Park, from the most active and unusual pursuits, to the simple quiet enjoyment of some of the less well-known places."

Entries close on Friday 18 October. Download the entry form at [www.southdowns.gov.uk/enter-the-south-downs-photo-competition/](http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/enter-the-south-downs-photo-competition/)

everyone can enjoy, no matter what age, background or experience."

The contemporary posters pay homage to the beautiful vintage postcard-perfect posters from the 1930s encouraging city folk to head into the South Downs on trains and buses for long walks.

Almost 90 years on, the campaign aims to connect a whole new generation of urban dwellers. The posters give a fresh new meaning to the common Instagram #goingoutout. Rather than a "messy" night out in the city, instead getting away from the metropolis and into the great outdoors.

The campaign is being spearheaded by a partnership of the South East's protected landscapes – the South Downs National Park and the Surrey Hills, Chichester Harbour, High Weald and Kent Downs AONBs.



Margaret Paren, Chair of National Parks England and Chair of the South Downs National Park Authority, said: "Despite being the most populated part of the UK, the South East is home to some of our most special landscapes. They are truly breathtaking places with some of the most stunning views you will find anywhere in the world.

"The sad truth is that too many people, especially young people, don't even know they exist. Not enough people are making use of these incredible green spaces and connecting with nature, which have been shown to have so many mental health and general well-being benefits.

"This campaign aims to change all that with the protected areas of the South East working together to enable people to access these national icons. The message is simple. You don't need expensive walking boots and hiking gear – but with a train or bus ticket it's easy to get into the heart of these special places."

The designs were inspired by public transport campaigns from the 1930s when, following the trauma of the First World War, people were encouraged to enjoy the countryside.

Visit [www.going-outout.co.uk](http://www.going-outout.co.uk) for more details.

# Cherries, ghosts and village fetes – Sara’s round trip of the South Downs



## **Sara Clifford has been on a whistlestop tour of the South Downs.**

She was a woman on a mission – to discover people’s stories, anecdotes, legends, myths and musings that make this National Park such a special place.

From chocolate-box villages to vibrant pubs, tireless volunteers to bright-eyed schoolchildren, Sara smiles broadly as she recalls her incredible journey over the past few months, all the interesting characters she has encountered, and her newfound love...the great British fete.

And now, having spoken to well over 500 people across the Downs, the playwright has weaved the stories together into a quirky one-person one-hour show that will be performed in venues across the region during September.

“It’s been fantastic – I’ve absolutely loved it!” beams Sara, who became the Writer in Residence for the National Park earlier this year in a partnership with Inn Crowd, managed by Applause Rural Touring and supported by Arts Council England.

“I love the South Downs anyway and, living in Lewes, I’ve always felt very lucky to be in the heart of the National Park.

“I used to come down to Winchester as a child so I knew that side of the National Park fairly well. But it’s the bit in the middle that I’ve now discovered!

“I’ve found its diversity amazing – you have the coast in East Sussex, to the rolling hills, and then dense woodland with sun-dappled lanes.”

## SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

The hundreds of people who chatted with Sara put pen to paper to write Downs-inspired poems that have been used to influence the show.

During her travels, Sara learned several interesting facts about the National Park and was intrigued by people’s reactions when she shared her newfangled knowledge.

She explains: “A lot of people didn’t know the South Downs was formed from the chalky remains of tiny sea creatures in a primeval ocean.

“I discovered that Winchester had two cathedrals at one point, the Old Minster and the New – but the new one was built so close that the two choirs were clashing with each other. I came across the delightful bee orchid – a flower that looks and smells like a bee to another bee!

“I also learned a lot about local ghosts and legends. Each place seems to have its own local legend! There was a clanking woman in Winchester’s High Street and apparently there’s a silver coffin at the top of Firle Beacon.

“Did you know that the Romans brought cherries over and would spit out the cherry stones so we ended up with roads lined with cherry trees?”

And it’s this humble fruit that sets the scene for Sara’s show, which will be delivered by local actor and comedian Jo Neary and directed by Anna Crilly.

Entitled *Cherry Soup - True, and not so true*, tales of the South Downs, Sara bills it as “sweet and sour and a little unexpected”.

“The story is a cherry seller sitting by the road in a creaky camping chair and people stop by and tell their stories,” explains Sara.

“It’s a mixture of stories, a bit of music, and hopefully it will be quite humorous in places for the audience.

“I didn’t want it to be a nostalgic piece about the countryside and preserving it.

“Yes it has to be conserved, but the South Downs also needs to be dynamic and open to new people coming in with new ideas. It’s not a museum piece! It’s a living, breathing space with many different kinds of people within it. My show reflects this and I hope as many people as possible can spare an hour to come and see it!”

Sara’s adventure has whetted her appetite for more – she’s going to become a guided walk leader in Newhaven.

And, as well as the people, the strawberries and cream of village fetes will be the enduring memory of her trip.

“I went to lots of village fetes – I’ve got a bit obsessed with them!” laughs Sara, who has the chutneys in her kitchen cabinet to prove it. “They’re a melting pot of



different people and a great celebration of South Downs life.”

### 2019 Tour Dates

\* Please note each venue will have its own show policy – please check for up-to-date show information and entry, and advice on under-18s\*

**Thursday 5th September 8pm** The White Hart, Pulborough, RH20 1DS

[www.whitehartpulborough.com](http://www.whitehartpulborough.com)

**Friday 6th September 8pm** The Bluebell, Cocking, GU29 OHU

[www.bluebellhub.org](http://www.bluebellhub.org)

**Wednesday 11th September 8pm** The Railway Inn, Winchester, SO22 5AE

[www.railwayinn.pub](http://www.railwayinn.pub)

**Thursday 12th September 8pm** The Hollist Arms, Lodsworth, GU28 9BZ

[www.thehollistarms.com](http://www.thehollistarms.com)

**Saturday 14th September 8pm** The Hope Inn, Newhaven BN9 9DN

[www.hopeinnnewhaven.co.uk](http://www.hopeinnnewhaven.co.uk)

**Sunday 15th September 1pm** Depot Cinema, Lewes, BN7 2JS

[www.lewesdepot.org](http://www.lewesdepot.org)

**Thursday 19th September 8pm** The Plough and Harrow, Litlington, BN26 5RE

[www.ploughandharrowlitlington.co.uk](http://www.ploughandharrowlitlington.co.uk)

**Wednesday 25th September 8pm** Slindon Forge Village Shop & Cafe, BN18 OQT

<http://www.slindonforge.com>

**Thursday 26th September 1pm** Hogmoor Inclosure, Phoenix Arts Centre, Bordon, GU35 0FJ

<https://www.phoenixarts.co.uk/>

For further details visit

<https://inncrowd.org.uk/writers-in-residence/>

# Thousands enjoy Wild Chalk 2019



**More than 1,700 people came to the Wild Chalk event at East Brighton Park to learn more about our amazing chalk grasslands.**

The popular event, now in its second year, was organised by the South Downs National Park Authority and Brighton and Hove City Council rangers.

With the support of local BHCC ranger, Paul Gorringer, sheep were brought down from the hill into the park to graze on the chalk scrapes Paul has created there, and local residents brought their families for a free day of wildlife activities, including minibeast hunting, woodworking, colouring a bespoke chalk grassland mural, and listening to a storyteller telling tales of shepherding in bygone times.

Events staff handed out dozens of “Bee Bombs” – packs of wildflower seeds – to people to help support pollinators in their gardens as part of the National Park’s “Bee Lines” campaign.

Partners from the ChaMP project also displayed a “working” model of the Brighton chalk aquifer. The project is working to protect and improve the quality of groundwater in the Brighton Chalk Block as a valuable natural resource for public water supply. More than 30



children got involved on the day, giving the team chance to explain about ways to prevent pollution through working with farmers on land

management techniques and developing urban rainscapes to tackle polluted road surface water runoff.

*Pictures by Tim Squire.*

# Owl chicks are ringed by scientists for monitoring scheme



**Three baby barn owls that have become “stars” of their own live webcam show have been ringed by scientists as part of a national initiative to monitor key bird species.**

Hundreds of people around the world have been following the daily trials and tribulations of the three chicks, who hatched around six weeks ago in a specially designed owl box at a site in West Sussex.

The box is one of dozens provided by the South Downs National Park Authority and Sussex Ornithological Society to help support the birds of prey.

Ornithologist Graham Roberts joined National Park ranger Angela Ward as the three owlets were ringed near their home at a barn near Midhurst.

Graham also weighed the chicks and took measurements, including the length of their wing feathers.

Graham, who has a special licence to carry out ringing and works for Sussex Ornithological Society, said: “Barn owls have been nesting at this particular barn for many years in the box provided by the South Downs National Park Authority.

“It’s been great to watch the chicks live on the webcam and now see them for real.

“We have three young this year from the five eggs that were laid. The number of young tends to be determined by whether it’s a good year for voles or not and this year has been pretty good.

“We have three healthy chicks, varying in age from five and half weeks to six and a half weeks.”

Explaining the importance of ringing, Graham added: “In Britain we’ve had a ringing scheme for over 100 years – it’s the oldest in the world and is co-ordinated by the British Trust for Ornithology.

“Ringers are highly-trained and licensed to do this activity. As barn owls are at the top of the food chain it’s important to monitor their success and record populations throughout the country.

“In this case for these chicks the ring will stay on the bird for life.

Each ring has a unique number so if anybody finds that bird and sees the ring, they can report it and get a history of that bird sent to them.”

There are 97 barn owl boxes spread across the Wealden heath area – which stretches from Petersfield to Pulborough – with dozens more across the rest of the South Downs National Park.

Angela, Wealden Heath Ranger, said: “Barn owls are just amazing. Obviously they are lovely to look at, but I think they’re also a really iconic species of our countryside.



“They’re a good indicator of the health of landscape. As a general rule the more barn owls we have, the healthier the eco-system is.

“Landowners have a great affinity with barn owls because a long time ago they very often had an owl loft in a barn, but many of those barns have been converted or lost over the years.

“Most of the landowners are very keen to have barn owls back and put up nest boxes, but they don’t have always have the time to do. That’s where the National Park comes in advising landowners on nesting sites and boxes.

“It’s also helps us talk to landowners about habitat for barn owls, as well as all sorts of other species such as ground nesting birds, small mammals and everything going up into the food chain, with barn owls at the top of the food chain.”

To keep track of the progress of the barn owls, tune in to the South Downs National Park Barn Owl Watch at <https://www.carnyx.tv/LiveCameras/WildlifeCameras/BarnOwl.aspx>

# Summer Days Out : Five must-see wonders



**Did you know the South Downs has been lived on and worked by generations of people for over 5,000 years?**

Stone Age tribes, Iron Age people, Romans, Saxons, Normans, Victorians – they’ve all played their part in shaping the landscape and traces of their impact can be seen today with the rich tapestry of archaeological gems dotted across the National Park.

Such is the diversity of heritage in the South Downs that it has no less than 616 scheduled monuments.

So, as we recently marked the annual Festival of Archaeology, here are five must-see wonders of the South Downs that will leave you intrigued, informed and inspired.

## **Cissbury Ring**

Amazing views and history combined! This Site of Special Scientific Interest, just north of Worthing, is the largest hill fort in Sussex, the second largest in England and one of the largest in Europe overall, covering some 24 hectares. The earthworks that form the fortifications are believed to have been built around 250 BC but abandoned in the period 50 BC to 50 AD.

Fast forward almost two millennia and Cissbury Ring was used as a camp for army infantry in preparation for the Normandy landings.

Plan your visit: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cissbury-ring](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cissbury-ring)

## **The Devil's Humps**

Make it to the top of Bow Hill at Kingley Vale, near Chichester, and prepare to be awestruck! The sight of the four Bronze Age barrows running along the plateau is truly impressive.

These mounds, also known as The Devil's Humps (or the Kings' Graves) are some of the most impressive round barrows surviving on the South Downs.

## **SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

Numerous myths surround them – the best being they were a final resting place for Viking leaders defeated by the men of Chichester!

Plan your visit

[www.visitchichester.org/activity/kingley-vale-trail](http://www.visitchichester.org/activity/kingley-vale-trail)

## **Bignor Roman Villa**

Imagine the excitement of George Tupper who in 1811 uncovered the summer dining room water basin after striking it with his plough to reveal the remains of a Roman Villa?

Two centuries, and several excavations later, and you can walk amongst world-class Roman artefacts and appreciate the craftsmanship that created exquisite mosaic floors. This beautiful site also commands unrivalled views of the Downs.

Plan your visit [www.bignorromanvilla.co.uk](http://www.bignorromanvilla.co.uk)

## **Old Winchester Hill**

A must for visitors to the Hampshire end of the National Park! The hill has been a famous and popular beauty spot since Victorian times, offering amazing views across the valley to Beacon Hill and down to the Solent.



Its archaeological value is equally impressive. On the summit of the hill is an Iron Age hill fort, featuring Bronze Age barrows dating from between 4,500 and 3,500 BC.

Plan your visit [www.nationaltrail.co.uk/south-downs-way/attractions/old-winchester-hill](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/south-downs-way/attractions/old-winchester-hill)

## **Lewes Priory**

A must for visitors to the East Sussex end of the National Park!

The Grade I listed ruins date back to the 11th century, when monks came from Cluny in France to establish the first Cluniac priory in England. The Priory survived for 450 years until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1537.

Today it is a nationally important historical site offering a great afternoon out for people of all ages.

Plan your visit [www.lewespriory.org.uk](http://www.lewespriory.org.uk)

Anooshka Rawden, who leads on Cultural Heritage for the National Park, says: “The South Downs National Park is famous for its landscape and biodiversity, but the heritage of the area is just as impressive.

“This August is the perfect time of year to delve into history and discover some of the incredible archaeological gems of the National Park.”



## Enjoy our stunning coastal views safely



### Visitors to East Sussex's spectacular white cliffs are being urged to stay safe this summer.

Each year thousands of tonnes of chalk fall from the cliffs, which stretch from the edge of Eastbourne, past Beachy Head, the Seven Sisters and Seaford Head.

In recent years there have been an increasing number of instances where people have stood near the edge of the fragile cliffs to look at the beach below or take a selfie, or walked along the beach close to the base of the cliffs, despite warning signs.

With the summer months attracting even more visitors, organisations along the East Sussex coast are highlighting the dangers.

The joint campaign is being promoted by HM Coastguard, The National Trust, South Downs National Park Authority, Sussex Wildlife Trust, East Sussex County Council, Seaford Town Council, Wealden District Council, Eastbourne Borough Council and Lewes District Council.

Cllr Claire Dowling, East Sussex County Council's lead member for transport and environment, said: "Chalk cliffs are extremely unstable and can fall at any time, without warning.

"In recent years we have seen a significant number of cliff falls, including 50,000 tonnes from the cliff at Seaford Head, and frequent falls along the coast between Holywell in Eastbourne, Beachy Head, Belle Tout, Birling Gap and Cuckmere Haven."

She added: "We want people to enjoy our beautiful coastline, but do so safely and be aware of the danger that chalk cliffs present."

Posters have been appearing on bus routes, at visitor car parks and tourist information centres, and on community notice boards, sharing important safety messages.

## Work begins on £5.1m city park restoration



### Work has begun on the restoration of Stanmer Park's historic Walled Garden as part of a £5.1m project to restore Brighton's largest park and a gateway to the South Downs National Park.

Representatives from Brighton and Hove City Council, Plumpton College, Buxton Building Contractors and the South Downs National Park Authority gathered in the garden area to witness the start of the project.

The project is being funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Brighton and Hove City Council, Plumpton College and the SDNPA.

The project will see the area transformed into an attractive formal garden with a new café, shop and opportunities for horticultural teaching, learning and volunteering.

The project also includes a new welcome kiosk at the Lower Lodges, which will offer park information, refreshments, public toilets and bike hire. The Grade II Frankland Monument will be restored, and an additional car park and new shared pedestrian/cycle path will also be created.

Claire Kerr, SDNPA countryside and policy manager for the Eastern Downs, said: "It's exciting to see the Parks for People project under way.

"Stanmer Park is an important gateway into the South Downs National Park for both local residents, students and visitors to Brighton and Hove. This inspiring project will enhance the historic landscape, including its built heritage, archaeology and wildlife, and ensure it remains a place that everyone can enjoy.

"Stanmer Park represents a 'bridge' between the city and the National Park and we want more people from all backgrounds to be able to enjoy this wonderful asset."

The work is due to finish in autumn 2020.

# Help to protect our vital water resources with six simple steps



**Reducing plastic litter, saving water and taking care of what you flush down the toilet are among the simple steps being offered to help protect the vital water resources of the South Downs National Park.**

To mark World Water Week from 25 to 30 August, Jeremy Burgess, the National Park's expert on water, is sharing his six tips to help protect and enhance the water of the South Downs, which supplies clean drinking water to 1.2m people in the South.

It comes as statistics show that four fifths of the rivers and streams in the National Park, as well as the aquifers which provide our drinking water, are currently considered in a "poor condition", owing to decades of run-off from surrounding land, both rural and urban.

The South Downs National Park Authority is working closely with landowners and farmers to reduce nitrate-rich run-off, but the general public can also play their part to improve the health of the water courses.

Jeremy, Landscape and Biodiversity Lead for the National Park, said: "The water of the South Downs is an incredibly valuable natural asset for this region. Not only does the chalk provide filtered drinking water to over a million people across our towns and cities, but the rivers provide a home to important wildlife species and could support many more.

"It would be easy to take this kind of life-sustaining resource for granted – but the simple truth is that we can't. We can all play our part to help preserve and improve the water of the South Downs."

Jeremy's tips are:

**Buy less plastic, and if you must buy it – recycle or bin it!**

## SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

More disposable packaging means more plastic ends up in water courses. Many birds are badly affected by plastic waste as it can be mistaken for nest-building material or food. Litter can be broken down into tiny particles called microplastics, which cannot degrade and can remain in our food chain indefinitely.

### **Save water**

This is particularly important during the summer months as lower rainfall and hot weather place more pressure on the water reserves in the South Downs. Simple measures such as turning off the tap while brushing your teeth, using a bucket of water to wash your car and saving water in a water butt to water your garden will really help.



### **Remember the toilet is not a bin!**

Avoid putting sanitary products, wet wipes and dental floss down the toilet. The marine and river systems are closely connected, and water quality can improve by taking extra care.

### **Keep out oils, fat, or grease from the sink**

Avoid pouring cooking oil, fat or grease down the kitchen sink. Instead, keep a jar that collects all the fats, grease or oil then discard with your general waste.

### **Reduce chemical use in your garden**

Excess fertiliser and pesticides run through the soil and can end up in our groundwater, rivers, streams and wetlands. Consider organic methods for pest, weed and disease control.

### **Use your car less**

We all know cars cause air pollution, but most of us are unaware that road run-off is the third highest cause of water pollution. Some cars leak oil and petrol and tyres and break pads wear down leaving heavy metals and microplastics on the road. This pollution washes off the road when it rains, down drains and often leads to groundwater, or our rivers and then seas.

The South Downs National Park Authority is part of the **Brighton ChaMP partnership**, which is working to protect the aquifer and ensure our groundwater remains a sustainable resource for the future.



# A day in the life of a National Park Ranger



**Rangers across the globe were recently under the spotlight for World Ranger Day. So, what's it really like being a ranger for the South Downs National Park and does the reality match the perception?**

**We caught up with Philippa Morrison-Price, Lead Ranger for the Eastern Downs, to find out more.**

**What's it like being a ranger for the South Downs National Park?**

I love it! The people, the landscape and the wildlife all make it an amazing place to live and work.

**Describe your typical day**

There's no such thing! One day I might be leading the volunteers, clearing scrub off an important chalk grassland site, on another I may be putting a project proposal together for funding, checking on some contractor work or carrying out a dragonfly survey. It's really varied.

**What made you want to be a ranger?**

I love being outdoors, I love wildlife, and I love practical work – it's a dream job!

**Do you have a favourite place in the National Park?**

The view from Ditchling Beacon across the Weald is one of the best!

**The National Park is teeming with biodiversity. What's your favourite species and why?**

I don't have one – there are too many to choose from. I love the variety of butterflies – from woodland specialists to chalk grassland species. I also love the endless song of the skylark throughout the summer...the list goes on!

## SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

**Does people's perception of what a ranger does live up to the reality?**

There are certainly fewer horses called Trigger!

**What challenges do you think the National Park faces?**

Climate change will be one of the biggest challenges moving forward, as well as increasing population.

**Describe your perfect day in the National Park!**

A 20 mile walk anywhere in the east, kayaking up the River Ouse, a pub lunch...and then camping out under the stars. If I could fit all of these in, that would be perfect!



*Philippa (right) undertaking community outreach as part of the Take the Lead campaign*

## Heritage Open Days

September will see a celebration of England's amazing history and culture for the annual Heritage Open Days.

A number of events are taking place in the National Park, including a Heritage Weekend in Petworth.

The project has received grant funding from the Authority's Sustainable Communities Fund.

Mrs Cummings Cottage, St Mary's Church, the Coultershaw Heritage Site and Beam Pump, Burton Mill and Petworth House will all be opening their doors across the weekend of 21 and 22 September to celebrate our local heritage.

Along with seeing these attractions for free you can join a walking tour of the town or head to the Leconfield Hall where the Petworth Society will be showcasing historic images.

For further details on Heritage Open Days go to [www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting)

# Things to do in the South Downs this August

Find these and more events across the National Park and submit your own events at [southdowns.gov.uk/events/](http://southdowns.gov.uk/events/)



- Every Wednesday during the summer holidays RSPB **Pulborough Brooks** is running a special nature activity for families. It could be ditch dipping, searching for minibeasts or going on a snakehunt! There's no need to book but arrive ready to start at 10.30am.
- Spend the afternoon of 10 August exploring peace through poetry, prose and other creative forms of expression at **The Blue Idol Quaker Meeting House** in Coolham.
- Come to our **Dog Fun Day** on 11 August! The annual event at the National Trust Woolbeding Parkland includes a fun dog show, working dog demonstrations, have a go dog agility and rally obedience, the countryside dog challenge, top tips on dog obedience and training, and information on what to do around livestock with your dog.
- On August 21, grab a butterfly net, a wildflower guide and a minibeast kit and come and explore the meadow wildlife at the **Field Study Centre** in Selborne.

## YOU SAY:

Do you have a story you want to tell about the National Park? A burning issue that you think needs to be addressed? Please let us know!



To submit a comment for our newsletter please email [newsletter@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:newsletter@southdowns.gov.uk). For a fast and direct response to your questions please email [info@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:info@southdowns.gov.uk)

Please note that only contributors who submit their full name and address can be considered for publication though we will not publish your full address. Please make it clear whether you are speaking on your own behalf or that of an organisation you represent. We reserve the right to shorten comments and edit where necessary.

## SIGN UP TO THIS NEWSLETTER

Sign up to receive this newsletter by email every month. With the latest South Downs news, stories, ideas for days out, competitions, to hear about our ranger and volunteers' work and much more...

[www.southdowns.gov.uk/join-the-newsletter/](http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/join-the-newsletter/)