

SOUTH DOWNS RENATURE FESTIVAL 2025

22–29 June

Pledge to take
action to help nature
and the climate
[southdowns.gov.uk/
pledge](https://southdowns.gov.uk/pledge)

PROGRAMME

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF NATURE

The South Downs National Park is home to breathtaking landscapes, rare habitats and precious wildlife. But even this haven for animals and plants needs our help!

We want to help nature thrive everywhere, and that's why our inspiring ReNature initiative is working hard to create new spaces for wildlife to flourish.

This June, join us for our annual ReNature Festival – a chance to hear about some of our ReNature success stories, learn more about the amazing wildlife on your doorstep and discover easy things we can do to help nature. This year we are using all our senses to experience the magic of nature in the National Park

From guided walks to willow weaving, being mindful to butterfly spotting, rockpooling to an archaeological walk, there's an activity for everyone to enjoy.

Be part of it!

JOIN US TO TAKE ACTION FOR NATURE! Pledge to carry out a simple action and be entered into a competition to win a family ticket to Marwell Wildlife. Visit our website for full T&Cs.

HELP US TO #RENATURE
SOUTH DOWNS
NATIONAL PARK

WHAT'S ON?

Please note that all in-person events are weather dependent and are subject to cancellation at short notice – please check with the organiser on the day.

SUNDAY 22 JUNE

► 11:00–16:00 DISCOVER YOUR HEATHS DAY AT HOGMOOR INCLOSURE, BORDON

Join us and our community partners for a day of free family fun celebrating our amazing heathlands. Have a go at crafts, bug hunting, drop-in willow weaving sessions, and discover the fascinating story of our heaths through the ages.

Please cycle or walk if you can!

There is no booking needed to attend the event, however advance booking is required for the talk, craft activity and walk as below:

PRE-BOOKED TALK, CRAFT ACTIVITY AND WALK:

► 11:00–11:30 HOGMOOR THROUGH THE AGES

Talk by Woolmer Forest Heritage society

The local heath has a colourful history from the last Ice Age to the present. Shaped by human influence over thousands of years, the local heaths are also now home to a host of special birds, invertebrate reptile and amphibian species. This talk will last approximately 30 minutes.

Book a place here.

► 12.15–13:30 WILLOW WEAVING: BIRD FEEDERS (SESSION 1)

Join us for a fun and creative workshop where you will learn how to make your very own bird feeder out of willow!

Book a place here.

► 14:00–15:30 WILLOW WEAVING: BIRD FEEDERS (SESSION 2)

Join us for a fun and creative workshop where you will learn how to make your very own bird feeder out of willow!

This session will be available for sign-up on the day.

► 20.45–22:30 DISCOVER NIGHTJARS: GUIDED WALK WITH THE RANGERS

The European nightjar is one of our lowland heath's most mysterious creatures. Shrouded in folklore, discover more about these fascinating birds and other heathland wildlife on a guided evening walk around Broxhead Common.

Book a place here.

WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE

► 18:00–20:00 NATURE WALK AT WATERHALL NATURE RESERVE

Join knowledgeable Ranger Paul for a fascinating guided walk through the rewilded landscapes of Waterhall.

Please note: We reserve the right to cancel this event at short notice either due to low interest or adverse weather.

Book a place here:

THURSDAY 26 JUNE

► 20.45–22:15 SUNSET SAFARI AT IPING COMMON

Witness the breathtaking sunset at Iping Common (a Dark Sky Discovery Site) and be the first to greet the nocturnal wonders as they emerge at dusk. Join SDNPA Ranger Jake Barnes and 'Queen of Darkness' Elinor for an unforgettable evening embracing the darkness!

Book a place here.



Emperor Moth © SDNPA



Sundew © SDNPA

SATURDAY 28 JUNE

► 10:00–16:30 EXPERIENCE THE SEVEN SISTERS DAY

Join us at Seven Sisters Country Park for a day discovering and celebrating some of our wonderful habitats and wildlife, in and around the eastern end of the Park.

The event is drop-in, with some activities requiring booking – see details below.

Drop-in activities include chalk grassland ID sessions, sweep netting, litter picks, and dogs in nature sessions with our rangers, have a go at our amazing giant jigsaw, colouring sheets, and discover lots of information about the National Park.

BOOKABLE ACTIVITIES ARE:

► 08:00–10:00 ROCKPOOLING AND BEACH CLEAN

Join SDNPA rangers for a guided rockpooling session on Cuckmere Haven beach, searching for a myriad of colourful lifeforms found in its intertidal pools. Rockpooling lasts 1-1.5 hours approx. followed by a short beach clean.

[Book a place here.](#)

► 10:00–13:00 ARCHAEOLOGY WALK: THE DOWNS THROUGH THE AGES

Join us for this fascinating walk around the Cuckmere, with its rich history hidden in the passage of time. This walk is part of the *Changing Chalk* project, a National Trust-led journey into the history of this extraordinary chalk landscape.

Expect about two and half hours of easy riverside walking, pausing to admire earthworks and ideas about what they might mean.

Pay as You Feel information: These events are offered for free. If you'd like to make a donation, you can 'pay as you feel' via the following link to the [South Downs National Park Trust](#).

[Book a place here.](#)

► 10:00–13:00 BIOBLITZ: POLLINATORS, WILDLIFE SPOTTING AND RECORDING

Curious about wildlife apps or want to know the basics of wildlife recording? This is the event for you. Join local ecologist Rachel Bicker and learn the ins and outs of wildlife surveying, which resources might work best for you and how to begin your species list.

Pay as You Feel information: These events are offered for free. If you'd like to make a donation, you can 'pay as you feel' via the following link to the [South Downs National Park Trust](#).

[Book a place here.](#)

► 11:00–12:30 WILLOW WEAVING: BIRD FEEDERS SESSION 1

Come join us for a fun and creative workshop where you will learn how to make your very own bird feeder out of willow!

Two sessions on the day, you can choose to do either session.

[Book a place here.](#)

► 11:00–12:00 NATURE CONNECTION AT SEVEN SISTERS COUNTRY PARK SESSION 1

Join our Rangers to spend an immersive hour of natural play, mindfully meeting trees & moving through the woods.

Meet outside the SSCP Visitor Centre by the Forest Car Park.

No experience required, please wear stout shoes or boots and bring waterproofs.

Two sessions on the day, you can choose to do either session.

[Book a place here.](#)

11:00-12:30 WOOF WALK AT SSCP 1! Join our Ranger on an exciting stroll with your dog(s), explore the iconic landscape, spot wildlife, and learn how to enjoy the countryside with your dogs responsibly. Choose from 11 am or 2pm sessions. Leads, boots, and poo bags ready!

[Book a place here.](#)

Two sessions on the day, you can choose to do either session.

► 13:00–15:00 WILLOW WEAVING: BIRD FEEDERS SESSION 2

Come join us for a fun and creative workshop where you will learn how to make your very own bird feeder out of willow!

Two sessions on the day, you can choose to do either session.

[Book a place here.](#)

► 13:30–16:00 ECHO THE SOUNDS OF NATURE: FAMILY PODCAST IN NATURE

Join **Tremula Network** Producer Francesca, to explore the iconic features and important cultural heritage of the Seven Sisters Country Park. This event is suitable for families, who may want to attempt a family podcast. Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience!

[Book a place here.](#)

► 14:00–15:00 NATURE CONNECTION AT SEVEN SISTERS COUNTRY PARK SESSION 2

Join our Rangers to spend an immersive hour of natural play, mindfully meeting trees & moving through the woods.

Meet outside the SSCP Visitor Centre by the Forest Car Park.

No experience required, please wear stout shoes or boots and bring waterproofs.

Two sessions on the day, you can choose to do either session.

[Book a place here.](#)

14:00-15:30 WOOF WALK AT SSCP 2! Join our Ranger on an exciting stroll with your dog(s), explore the iconic landscape, spot wildlife, and learn how to enjoy the countryside with your dogs responsibly. Choose from 11 am or 2pm sessions. Leads, boots, and poo bags ready!

[Book a place here.](#)



Water Vole © Dick Hawkes



© Nigel Symington;



Round-headed ramplon © SDNPA



Other © Tim Squire



Green Woodpecker © SDNPA



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