



## AngloFILE

APRIL 2009

### PICK OF THE REGIONS:

- **Gluten-free batter day** at Suffolk's Southwold pier
- **Creating tapestry, Quaker style** in Kendal
- **Bluebell Week** at Nymans Gardens, West Sussex
- **Recreating Capability Brown** in the NorthEast
- **Hunting for dragon eggs** at Dorset's Lulworth Castle
- **Sleuths!** Torbay's new Festival of Crime Writing
- **Saluting the Spring** at **Clun's Green Man Festival**, South Shropshire
- **Crooked Spire open days** at Chesterfield's Church of St Mary and All Saints
- The inner workings of animals at the **Horniman's Robot Zoo** in London

DON'T MISS  
THE NEW  
**Free and Easy**  
SECTION!

## Out of the Ordinary

### Quirky and unusual events around England

Personalised town and city treasure hunts with clues, a map and answers are now available from York-based **Huntfun**; fly with the swans at the WWT's new **Super Whooper** website; **4 Apr:** see 'woolly jumpers' at the **Grand National at the Big Sheep**, Bideford, North Devon; **10, 14 & 17 April:** hunting for **mud monsters and fairies** in the Wyre Forest; **22-25 May:** the pagan hobby horse festival of the **Hunting of the Earl of Rone**, Combe Martin, North Devon; **3 May-7 June:** explore old lead mines, ride along a pack horse route or try dry stone walling at **Northern Rocks** North Pennines Festival of Geology and Landscape; **1 July:** Creepy crawlies come to Liverpool at **BugWorld Experience**

# Exhibitions & Events

## What's on around the country

**8 Apr-25 Oct:** a new exhibition exploring the life and character of George Frideric Handel opens at London's **Handel House Museum**, the Brook Street home of the composer for thirty-six years; **18-19 Apr:** **Spring Flower Celebration at Borde Hill**, Haywards Heath West Sussex; **22 Apr:** broadcaster Robert Elms in conversation with comedian **Arthur Smith** at the Museum of London; **23-26 April:** Stratford on Avon celebrates **the Bard's 445th birthday**; **1, 2 May:** **Rick Wakeman's The Six Wives of Henry VIII**, Hampton Court Palace; **1-4 May:** **Mayfest**, Bristol's festival of contemporary theatre; **2-4 May:** Meccano Mania comes to **Enginuity**, Ironbridge, Shropshire; **3 May:** **Spring Car Show**, Imperial War Museum Duxford, Cambridgeshire; **7-9 May:** **Rejoice**, a Festival of Flowers, Westminster Abbey; **13-16 May:** all three services – Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy – are taking part in the **Royal Windsor Tattoo**; **13-17 May:** **Keswick Mountain Festival**, including the Keswick Triathlon and the Latrigg Fell Race; **15-17 May:** **COLLECT 2009**, the Crafts Council's annual exhibition, the Saatchi Gallery, London; museums throughout the country will be opening late during **Museums at Night 2009**; **4-6 June:** **Polo in the Park** at the Hurlingham Club in Fulham, south-west London; Thetford in Norfolk will be marking the bicentenary of Thomas Paine's death with seven months of special events and **5-8 June:** a **Bicentenary Weekend: Re-enactment and Heritage Festival**; **8-15 June:** **British Silver Week**, various venues nationwide; **13-14 June:** **Open Garden Squares Weekend**, London; **19-21 June:** **British Formula One Grand Prix**, Silverstone, Northants; **until 28 June:** **Handel the Philanthropist** at London's Foundling Museum celebrates its benefactor's lesser known charitable works on the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death; **2-19 July:** **Manchester International Festival** of original, new work and special events; **7-11 July:** join Jools Holland, Björn Again, the Bootleg Beatles, the Counterfeit Stones and many others in **Summer Swing** at Kew Gardens; **9-18 July:** **25<sup>th</sup> International Organ Festival**, St Albans, Herts; **22-26 July:** **Walking with Dinosaurs**, Sheffield Arena; opening **23 July:** **Cosmos &**

**Culture**, Science Museum, South Kensington; **until 31 July: Living Ancestors**: a tribute in portraits and stories to the world's oldest woman and other Caribbean centenarian women; **3-9 Aug: Robin Hood Festival**, Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre, Notts; **12-13 Sept: Bristol International Festival of Kites and Air Creations**

## Easter

For hopping great ideas in England this Easter, visit the **Enjoy England website**

Trails, tweets and Easter treats with the **National Trust**; get up to three nights free by arriving early for a seven-night Easter break at **Woolacombe Bay Holiday Parks** in North Devon;; get away on foot on a walking break with **HF Holidays**; Easter fun in the **Ironbridge Gorge**, Shropshire; see Nick Jr characters at **Butlin's Bognor Regis**; fun days out and special events in the **East of England**; make animal masks and visit the Bunny Burrows at **Leeds Castle**, Kent; hare-brained Easter Trail and egg-citing chocolate treats at **Beaulieu**, Brockenhurst, Hants; egg-ceptional Easter breaks with **Red Carnation Hotels**; join a **Pontastic Pontin's Party** at a choice of six locations from £115 per family; two or three night breaks with breakfast and dinner one evening plus an Easter egg and prize from **Venture hotels** from £67.50 per person; **4-17 Apr**: Bollywood comes to the **National Railway Museum**; **7 Apr**: Bake early for Easter with lessons at **Byfords Cafe, Deli and Posh B&B** in Holt, Norfolk; **8 & 15 Apr**: Puppetry Day School and Circus Skills Day School at Bristol's **Tobacco Factory**; **9 & 16 Apr**: Leicestershire kids can learn what it takes to become a junior ranger at **Sence Valley Forest Park** near Ibstock; **10-11 Apr: Planet Thanet Easter Beer Festival**, Kent; morris dancing on Easter Monday, three venues in Hunstanton, Norfolk; **10-14 April**: enjoy a four-night stay at the **Flackley Ash** hotel, Kent, with Easter eggs, spring flowers, three-course dinner, B&B from £75 pp per night; **12-13 Apr**: spectacular jousting and medieval entertainment at **Knebworth House**, Stevenage, Herts; Easter, Asian style at Somerset's **Museum of East Asian Art**

# St George's Day

Find out what's on to celebrate on and around the feast day of England's patron saint

The [England Awards for Excellence 2009](#) will be announced on St George's Day, **23 April**, at [The National Railway Museum](#), York; [The National Trust](#) and [Enjoy England](#) are hosting many St George's Day events at locations across the country, including Lindisfarne Priory, Northumberland, Bolsover Castle, Derbyshire, Beeston Castle, Cheshire, Carlisle Castle, Cumbria, Framlingham Castle, Suffolk, and the 1066 Battle of Hastings Abbey & Battlefield; **London** celebrates with an array of free events, including parades, food festivals, theatrical events and children's activities; have a St George's Day **Ale Supper** at the Shepherd Neame Visitor Centre in Faversham, Kent; **23 Apr:** Afternoon Tea Dance at Leicestershire's [Kilworth House Hotel](#); **25-26 Apr:** enjoy celebrations across the country with [English Heritage](#), including a flagship event at [Wrest Park](#) near Silsoe, Bedfordshire

## Free and Easy

For a list of attractions and events that are free to enter or participate in, visit [dofreestuff.com](#); [beating the credit crunch](#): 80 great value offers on the English Riviera; buy five get one free meal offer from [National Trust](#); London – **4 & 5 Apr:** kids can create their own 1940s shopping list and make a game to take home at the [Museum of London](#); **5 Apr:** enjoy an audience with the Daleks at RAF Cosford during the [Shropshire Model Show](#); **until 24 May:** [Death on the Pale Horse and Other Works by Benjamin West](#), Royal Academy, Piccadilly; **26 Apr:** [400 Years of Black British History](#), Imperial War Museum London Manchester; **6 & 13 Apr:** Toddlerastic Art Adventures at the Whitworth Gallery; **18 Apr:** [Kaleidoscopes](#): Explore the world through a colourful world of shapes and colours at the National Portrait Gallery; [free gallery tours](#) and [Super Sundays](#) at Tate St Ives; until **31 May:** [George always](#) – portraits of George Melly by Maggi Hambling at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool

## Attractions

Filming **The Young Victoria** at Richmond's **Ham House**; **Southern Voices: Weaving Stories** – the impact of colonialism on the Indian sub-continent, West Africa, the Middle East, the Caribbean and the USA at Manchester's Museum of Science & Industry; the **Royal Windsor Wheel** returns to Alexandra Gardens from **2 Apr-1 Nov**; top ten things to see and do at **Kew Palace**, reopening on **10 April**; discover the capital through the ages at the **London Bridge Experience & London Tombs**; **Packaging a Sustainable Future**, Museum of Brands, Packaging and Advertising, Notting Hill, London; visitors to Worcestershire can now **Go Ape** at Wyre Forest; opening at Ironbridge Gorge's Blists Mill at the end of April is **Canal Street**, an entire new Victorian street and artisans' quarter; the British Library at London's St Pancras has acquired the **Communist Manifesto**, the world's only first edition of it to be held by a national library; Bow Road Police Station, gents' WCs and cast iron bollards are among nine **Tower Hamlets landmarks** to receive Grade II listing; **SCORE**, an exhibition by a group of artists with learning disabilities first staged at Goodrich Castle, is currently touring Herefordshire; a **heritage amusement park** is being planned for Kent on the site of the former Dreamland at Margate; Manchester's Museum of Science & Industry celebrates the centenary of the **First All-British Flight**; from **9 May**: 60 years of BBC children's television programmes at the Bowes Museum's **Toy Tales**, Co Durham, Barnard Castle; **17 Apr-30 May**: Oxford's **Creation** theatre company is for the first time staging Shakespeare's *Othello*, to be performed in the New Road Baptist Church in the recently re-developed Bonn Square; New Wallace & Gromit exhibit at the **Science Museum** in South Kensington

## Food & Drink

Cookery in a castle for kids on Northumberland's **Augill Little Cooks** courses; **2-5 Apr: Mansfield Beer Festival**, Notts; **5-6 Apr: Bedfordshire Festival of Food**, Shuttleworth House, Biggleswade;

**10-13 Apr: Barnsley Beer Festival**; **18 Apr: Wear Valley Food Festival 2009**, Co Durham; **23 Apr-21 June: British Asparagus Festival**, Vale of Evesham, Worcs; **12-13 Apr:** follow the story of cocoa and chocolate from slavery to fair trade and try out its many flavours free at the **Museum of London Docklands**

## Short Breaks, Activities & Destinations

Simple pleasures provide antidote to recession says **National Trust survey**; Visit Hull & East Yorkshire (VHEY) is working with some of Hull's top teams to offer **luxury sports-themed weekend breaks**; **North Devon and Exmoor AONB** celebrates 50 years as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; relax in the luxury of Lower End House while honing your cooking skills at the **Eckington Manor Cookery School** in Worcestershire; **30 Apr-8 May: North Devon and Exmoor Walking Festival**

### Destination of the Month

## Accommodation & New Openings

**Sir Christopher Wren's House Hotel and Spa** in Windsor has opened a new Conference and Business Centre; with the opening of its new hotel in Chester City Centre, **Premier Inn** has announced it has reached 40,000 rooms in its portfolio – the first in the UK to achieve this figure; self-catering, accessible accommodation, Norwegian-style, at **The Hytte** in Hexham, Northumberland

## Books & Websites

**Walks in London & Southeast England**, Rough Guides, £11.99  
**London Walks – London Stories** by David Tucker, Virgin Books  
**The Cuban Cigar Walk London** audio guide from Cities in Sound  
**Bristol's new visitor guides**

**Exploring 20th Century London:** thousands of online objects and

hundreds of fascinating information pages about every decade and corner of Greater London

**Our City, Our Planet**, Liverpool's calendar of events in public green spaces during the Year of the Environment

Upload art, discover fresh ideas for making art, or make an imaginary city at the new **Tate Kids** website

**The Lost World Read 2009** celebrates the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Darwin

## Diary Dates

**20 Mar-13 Apr: Ideal Home Show**, London Earls Court

**17-19 Apr: The Gadget Show Live**, NEC Birmingham

**29-31 May: Clothes Show Live**, Excel London

**4-14 June: International Art & Antiques Fair**, Olympia, London;

## News from enjoyEngland

Find out what's happening in England at the **Culture 09** website; **share your ideas** about England's hidden gems; **vote** for the perfect English holiday; plus tickets, trips and special offers from **EnjoyEngland Direct**

The **England Awards for Excellence 2009** sponsored by the **Caravan Club** will be announced on St George's Day, **23 April**, at **The National Railway Museum**, York

**Best Tourism Experience** national finalists

**Small Visitor Attraction of the Year** national finalists

**Large Visitor Attraction of the Year** national finalists

**Access for All** national finalists

**Large Hotel of the Year** national finalists

**Hotel of the Year** national finalists

**Caravan Holiday Park of the Year** national finalists

**Self Catering Holiday of the Year** national finalists

**Bed and Breakfast of the Year** national finalists

**Business Tourism Award** national finalists

**Tourist Information Service of the Year** national finalists;

**Sustainable Tourism Award** national finalists

**Taste of England Award** national finalists

**Outstanding Customer Service Award** national finalists

**Best Website of the Year** national finalists