

Greensand Country Festival

May 2019



Event
Guide



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Proud to be in the heart of Greensand Country

Greensand Country

An area of distinct, beautiful and loved countryside

Following the huge success of the first Greensand Country Festival last year, the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership has an even BIGGER and BETTER programme of events for May 2019.

This guide gives you a full list of events and activities taking place across the landscape. For further details and booking information visit www.greensandcountry.com/whats-on

Greensand Country covers 40 miles of scenic landscape, which is defined by the Greensand Ridge and reaches three neighbouring counties, from Cambridgeshire in the East, across Bedfordshire and to Buckinghamshire in the West. The area contains all of Bedfordshire's remaining heathland, more than half of its woodland and more historic parkland than anywhere else in the country.

The Festival is a celebration of Greensand Country, and we encourage you to get out and explore the distinct and beautiful countryside on your doorstep. There are a variety of events for all ages and interests, including **cooking classes, churchyard tours, history talks, nature walks, treasure trails, photo competitions, art workshops, children's activities and traditional country crafts.**

The Greensand Country Landscape Partnership is led by the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity and local environment charity, The Greensand Trust, and is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. It is made possible by National Lottery players; without them we couldn't fund the project.

Contact Us

Visit the website: www.greensandcountry.com
team@greensandcountry.com
or call us on: **01234 838774**

Stay in touch...



PLEASE BE AWARE THAT BY PARTICIPATING IN THE GREENSAND COUNTRY FESTIVAL YOU CONSENT TO YOUR PHOTOGRAPH BEING USED BY THE GREENSAND COUNTRY LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP FOR MARKETING AND PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES.



PHOTO COMPETITION

Celebrating the Greensand Country Landscape
An island of distinct, beautiful and loved countryside

Open to all amateur photographers
Prizes for best in category photos

Closing date midnight 31st May

To enter
Please view our Ts & Cs online
then simply email your contact
details and your image to
photocomp@greensandcountry.com

www.greensandcountry.com



 giving nature a home

discover

The Lodge

nature trails
RSPB shop
events & activities

RSPB The Lodge nature reserve and gardens
Potton Road, Sandy SG19 2DL
Tel: 01767 693333

rspb.org.uk/thelodge  facebook.com/RSPBhertsandbeds

Images: family activity in The Lodge by RSPB (rspb-images.com). The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity in England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654, LCE-0067-1647.



Trails in Greensand Country

36 Oak Wood Sculpture Trail, Rushmere Country Park

Pick up a trail leaflet at Herons View Visitor Centre and enjoy a self-led trail with family fun activities. Peep through the 'viewing frame' on the 1.5km trail to see the emerging heathland, which continues to evolve at Rushmere Country Park. Once you've finished the trail head to the Visitor Centre and claim your 'Greensand Country' Treasure. Please note that this trail is not suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

www.greensandtrust.org

25 Greensand Country Treasure Trail, Ampthill Great Park

See pages 30 & 31 within this guide and explore Ampthill Great Park. Find out more about its history and the heritage within the heart of Greensand Country on this 2km trail. Take your completed trail to The Hub Cafe to claim your 'Greensand Country' Treasure.

www.greensandcountry.com

Greensand Country Treasure is subject to availability.

**Please note that car parking fees apply at Rushmere Country Park and RSPB The Lodge Nature Reserve, Sandy.*

20 Clophill Heritage Trust Trails, St Mary's Old Church, Clophill

There are a number of self-guided geotrails, and nature trails starting from St Mary's Old Church, Clophill. Visit Clophill Eco Lodges, pick up one of the many trails booklets and discover the history, heritage and geology of Greensand Country.

www.clophillecolodges.co.uk

4 Heathland Wild Play Trail, RSPB The Lodge Nature Reserve, Sandy

Discover heathland wildlife, enjoy den building and climbing, cross obstacle paths and climb up a raised platform to get a birds-eye view of heathland at RSPB The Lodge Nature Reserve. The heathland wild play trail is situated close to the shop, toilets and car-park, and there are benches and sitting areas for parents to relax on while the children play. Once you've finished the play trail, visit the RSPB shop to claim your 'Greensand Country' Treasure.

www.rspb.org.uk/thelodge





History Train

1, 8, 11, 15, and 22, 27 May

Join a guided train journey on the **Marston Vale Community Rail Line** between Bedford Midland Station and Woburn Sands. The guides will provide an insight into the history of the line and surrounding area with local musician Geraldine Pearson-Green performing her own Bedfordshire Folk Songs at intervals during the journey.



Schedule:

10:30am – Meet at Bedford Midland Mainline Station
10:45am – Introduction
10:55am – Train departs
12pm – Return train departs Woburn Sands
12:45pm – Arrive back in Bedford
Free (Included in cost of Train Fare)
No booking required



Guided Walk

Woburn Sands to Ridgmont

Bedford to Bletchley Rail Users Association members Phil Warner and Richard Butler will lead walks from either Woburn Sands or Lidington* to The Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre on 1, 8, 11, 15 and 22 May. Meet at Woburn Sands station (platform one) at 1pm. The walks will be over open country and walkers should wear suitable footwear and bring hats and water. Dogs on leads and children who are used to country walking are welcome. Both walks will end at Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre, where walkers can visit the shop and museum and enjoy drinks and afternoon tea at the tea rooms.

**Walks from Woburn Sands will begin from there, walks from Lidington will take the train from Woburn Sands to Lidington and walk back to Ridgmont.*

For more information, contact Phil Warner on 07769973824 (1, 8, 11 May) or Richard Butler on 01525 372487 (15 & 22 May) Advance booking recommended for the Heritage Centre Tea Room. 01525 287120

10% discount for rail passengers in the Tea Room.



Higgins Exhibition

The Journey from Bunyan to The Brickworks explores the journeys of pride, inspiration and hope made by Bunyan who was imprisoned and persecuted for his beliefs, alongside the difficult journeys made by those who came to Bedford after the Second World War to work at the Bedfordshire brickworks.

The exhibition includes art work created by schools, as well as artefacts, songs and a film collected from the community that celebrate the legacy and contribution made to Bedford by those that have travelled to live and work here.

Free, No booking required
The Higgins, Bedford, MK40 3XD



Walk4Health

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) coordinates Walk4Health programmes throughout Greensand Country.

Walks are fun and friendly – perfect to help you get active, meet new people and explore our distinct & beautiful landscape. Regrettably, dogs are not permitted on most walks.

To find a walk near you visit
greensandcountry.com/whats-on
Free. No booking required
Mike Fayers, Health Walk Manager,
01234 832619
mikef@bedsrcc.org.uk



Ramblers

Bedfordshire Area Ramblers have put together a programme of walks during the Greensand Country Festival. The distance of walks ranges from a short 4 mile walk to a 12 mile all day walk.

You are invited to take part in as many walks as you like, as often as you like.

To find a walk near you visit
greensandcountry.com/whats-on
Free.
No booking required
bedswalkfest@gmail.com



Nordic Walking

Walk2Fitness Nordic Walking have put together a programme of walks and taster sessions during the Greensand Country Festival. Walks range from FREE taster sessions to £8 and booking is essential. The distance of walks ranges from short taster walks to 7.5 miles.

Turn your walk into a workout and try Nordic Walking! All ages and abilities welcome.

To find a walk near you visit
greensandcountry.com/whats-on
Booking is essential
Text Elaine on 07894791527
elaine@walk2fitness.co.uk





12

Cultivating Mindfulness Practice

2 May, 10am – 1pm

An invitation to learn Mindfulness Practice to cultivate your mind in the beautiful setting of the **Swiss Garden** at Shuttleworth. Suitable for beginners.

£30

Booking is essential
www.shuttleworth.org/events
enquiries@shuttleworth.org



21

Bluebell Walk in Maulden Woods

3 May, 10am – 11:30am

Join Ampthill Health Walks for this short 3/3.5 mile walk in lovely **Maulden Woods**, with hopefully bluebells and wild garlic in flower.

Free

No booking required

Meeting point: Maulden Woods, large car park on A6 north of Clophill, MK45 3UZ



15

Bird Song Walk

4 May, 7am – 9am

Join Central Bedfordshire Council's Countryside Team for a walk at **Campton Plantation** to find out more about Greensand Country's singing birds and why they sing.

Free

Booking is essential
0300 300 6135
steve.halton@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



15

Animal Orienteering

4 May, 9:30am – 10:30am

Join Central Bedfordshire Council's Countryside Team for an animal orienteering event at **Campton Plantation**.

Free

Booking is essential
0300 300 6135
steve.halton@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



28

Bedfordshire Brickworks Exhibition

4 May, 10am – 4pm

Take a step back into Bedfordshire's past at a special one-day Brickworks Exhibition at **Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre**.

Free

No booking required



20

Geology Wall Unveiling

4 May, 11am – 3pm

Bedfordshire Geology Group will unveil its new feature at **St Mary's Old Church, Clophill Eco Lodges**, which celebrates the Earth Heritage of Greensand Country.

Free

No booking required



25

Parent and Toddler Forest School

3 May, 10am – 11:30am

Come and have some fun in the woods at **Ampthill Great Park**, with your toddlers. Activities include mud kitchen, den building, woodland crafts and more. Suitable from walking.

£6 per child

Booking is essential
www.marstonvaleforest.school.co.uk
info@marstonvaleforest.school.co.uk



12

Herbs – Cultivation & Use through the Ages

3 May, 10:30am – 12:30pm

A presentation on the use and history of herbs, with samples, recipes and a quiz with a herby prize, taking place in the beautiful setting of the **Swiss Garden** at Shuttleworth.

£10

Booking is essential
www.shuttleworth.org/events
enquiries@shuttleworth.org



25

Introduction to Bushcraft

4 May, 9am – 1pm

From our woodland camp at **Ampthill Great Park**, learn the basics and background of Bushcraft. Build tarp shelters, learn knots and receive an introduction to fire.

Adults from £25,

Under 18 from £20

Booking is essential
bookings.ntcbushcraft.co.uk
info@ntcbushcraft.co.uk



Sustrans Guided Bike Ride

4 May, 10am – 2pm

Join Sustrans for a leisurely ride in Greensand Country, taking in the sights and sounds and enjoying the natural and local history.

Free

Booking is essential
01733 319981
Volunteers-MidsEast@sustrans.org.uk



28

Bedfordshire Folk Singer

4 May, 11am – 3pm

Local musician Geraldine Pearson-Green will perform her own Bedfordshire Folk Songs at intervals throughout the day at the Bedfordshire Brickworks Exhibition at **Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre**.

Free

No booking required



36

Linslade Wood Guided Walk

4 May, 11:30am

Join this guided history and bluebells walk around the beautiful ancient Linslade woodland, by local volunteer Dave Booth.

£4

Booking is essential
www.greensandtrust.org/whats-on



Animal Edge Open Day

4 and 5 May, 10am – 2pm

Visit Animal Edge's open day at its small animal farm in Millbrook, with access to feed and pet farm animals, enjoy pony rides and take part in outdoor craft activities.

£5 per child (adults free)

Booking is advised

www.animaledge.co.uk

Info@animaledge.co.uk



Spring Flowers in Maulden Wood

5 May, 10:30am – 12:30pm

A guided walk with the Greensand Trust Ecologist to explore the woodland when it is looking its best with spring flowers and to learn more about its wildlife, history and woodland management.

Adults £4, Children £2

Booking is essential

www.greensandtrust.org/whats-on



Introduction to Bushcraft

6 May, 9am – 4:30pm

From our woodland camp at Ampthill Great Park, enjoy a full day of Bushcraft. Learn the basics, build tarp shelters, learn knots and receive an introduction to fire and sharp tools.

Adults from £45, Under 18 from £30

Booking is essential

bookings.ntcbushcraft.co.uk

info@ntcbushcraft.co.uk



Make a Willow Ball

5 May, 10am – 4:30pm

Enjoy a day in the woods, between Campton and Upper Gravenhurst, making a willow ball. Learn how to make a beautiful willow sphere to decorate your home or garden.

£70

Booking is essential

www.wassledine.co.uk

info@wassledine.co.uk



BHS Lidlington Ride

5 May, 10am – 12pm

Bring your horse to enjoy the British Horse Society's guided ride around Lidlington. The route from Marston Forest Centre to Lidlington is approximately 7 miles.

Free (£15 refundable deposit required upon booking)

Booking is essential

robina@chatham.uk.com



Ickwell May Day

6 May, 10am – 4pm

A traditional annual festival with the crowning of the May Queen and dancing around the maypole. A selection of stalls, refreshments and entertainment are available at Ickwell Green.

Free. No booking required

www.ickwellmayday.co.uk

coordinator@ickwellmayday.co.uk

co.uk



Flitton Family Fun Run

6 May, 10:15am – 2pm

- A 5K cross country run around Flitton & Flitwick Moors for over 13 yrs
- A Junior 1 mile run around Flitton Moor for 8 to 12 yr olds
- A kids 200 meter run for under 8 yr olds

Time: 10:30am for races (Prize-giving at The White Hart, Flitton from 12:30pm)

Cost:

- **5K: £8 for pre entry (£10 on the day)**
- **Junior 1 mile: £3**
- **Kids: Free**

Booking is advised

Registration on the day at Flitton Church

Hall, 9am - 10:15am

flittongreenfield.bedsparishes.gov.uk

flittonflit@gmail.com

Meeting point: Flitton Moor, Brook Lane, Flitton, Beds, MK45 5EJ



Humphry Repton Talk

6 May, 7pm – 9pm

Join Beds Gardens Trust in Ampthill to find out details of Humphry Repton's gardens at Woburn Abbey, Moggerhanger Park, Hazells and Battlesden.

£5 Beds Garden Trust members, £6 non-members

Booking is advised

www.beds-garden-trust.org.uk

secretary@bedsgardenstrust.org.uk



Geo Rocks Walk

8 May, 10am – 12pm

Join Bedfordshire Geology Group for this Geo Walk to discover the geology and ancient environments at RSPB The Lodge Nature Reserve.

Adults £2, Children £1

Booking is essential

07919158622

bev.fowlston@gmail.com

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The Therapeutic Garden

9 May, 10am – 12pm

A presentation and 'Make & Take' session on the benefits and use of essential oils to improve wellbeing, taking place in the beautiful setting of the **Swiss Garden** at Shuttleworth.

£20

Booking is essential
www.shuttleworth.org/events
enquiries@shuttleworth.org



Basket Making for Beginners

11 May, 9:30am – 5pm

Enjoy a day in the woods, between **Campton and Upper Gravenhurst**, making a willow basket. Learn how to make a small round basket in a day.

£70

Booking is essential
www.wassledine.co.uk
info@wassledine.co.uk



Stories of the Landscape

11 May

Join Full House Theatre as they discover the stories of **Amphill Great Park** and its exciting history.

Free

Booking is essential
www.fullhouse.org.uk
info@fullhouse.org.uk



Tai Chi in the Swiss Garden

10 May, 10am – 11:30am

A wonderful soft exercise and calming meditative movement in the delightful outdoor setting of the **Swiss Garden** at Shuttleworth. Suitable for beginners.

£10

Booking is essential
www.shuttleworth.org/events
enquiries@shuttleworth.org



Apps, Maps & Compasses Course

11 May, 10am – 4pm

Are you baffled by maps, confused by compasses and daunted by digital devices? This one day course, in **Amphill**, will help you get the most out of planning and navigating your next walk.

£10

Booking is essential
www.bedswalkfest.co.uk
Bedswalkfest@gmail.com



Kelchner Brewery Tour

11 May, 11am – 1pm

Tour of the **Kelchner Brewery**, including explanation and tasters. Kelchner Brewery is based at Unit D, Station Road Industrial Estate, **Amphill**, MK45 2QY.

Free

Booking is essential
www.kelchnerbrewery.co.uk
kelchnerbrewery@gmail.com

A Day in The Woods

Courses/events

- Willow weaving
- Woodworking
- Wellbeing

wassledine.co.uk
info@wassledine.co.uk
 01462 711815
 07794 013876

We are proud to be in the heart of

Greensand Country

Real ale made in **Amphill, Bedfordshire**

Visit us or contact us at:
www.kelchnerbrewery.co.uk
kelchnerbrewery@gmail.com
 07508 305754

Unit D The Sidings, Station Road, **Amphill**, MK45 2QY

We are proud to be in the heart of Greensand Country

**BHS Aspley Woods Ride****11 May, 2pm – 4pm**

Bring your horse to enjoy the British Horse Society's **Aspley Woods Ride**. Guided horse ride (6 miles), a gentle walk/trot ride in a small group.

Free (£15 refundable deposit required upon booking)

Booking is essential

lizannhopkins@aol.com

**Made in Maulden Festival****12 May, 12pm – 5pm**

Visit **St Mary the Virgin Church and Church Hall, Maulden** for the Made in Maulden Festival, showcasing local crafts, a plant sale, cakes, produce and refreshments. There will also be a dedication of the rebuilt sandstone wall by Bishop Richard.

Free

No booking required

www.stmarysmaulden.org

rev.l.klimas@btinternet.com

**New for 2019!**

The
Swiss Garden
SHUTTLEWORTH

 **Greensand
Country**

Greensand Festival 2019 at The Swiss Garden

This May, the Swiss Garden will be hosting six wonderful activities as part of the Greensand Festival:

Cultivating Mindfulness Workshop on Thursday 2 and Friday 31 May
Herbs Presentation – Cultivation & Use through the Ages on Friday 3 May
The Therapeutic Garden: Essential Oils & Wellbeing on Thursday 9 May
Tai Chi on Friday 10 May
Yoga and Meditation Practice on Monday 13 and Monday 20 May
Foot Reflexology Sessions on Friday 24 May

The Swiss Garden, Old Warden, Beds, SG18 9EP | 01767 627933 | www.shuttleworth.org/events

**Introduction to
Bushcraft****12 May, 9am – 1pm**

From our woodland camp at **Amphill Great Park**, enjoy a morning of Bushcraft. Receive an introduction to cutting tools, a whittling challenge and fire.

Adults from £25, Under 18 from £20

Booking is essential

[bookings.ntcbushcraft.co.uk](http://www.bookings.ntcbushcraft.co.uk)

info@ntcbushcraft.co.uk

**Nature Detectives
at Flitwick Moor****12 May, 10am – 2pm**

Borrow an explorer backpack and turn into a nature detective. Discover the nature that lives on **Flitwick Moor** & make your own mini-beast.

£3

Booking is advised

www.wildlifetrustbcn.org

Toddington@wildlifebcn.org

**Humphry Repton
in Waresley****12 May, 11am for 11:30am
in Waresley Village Hall,
2pm Tour**

Morning lecture on Repton's Red Book with afternoon guided tour.

£10 for lecture;

£10 for tour - £15 for both

Booking essential for tour
**Call 01767 650432 and
07747072340**

jack.eleanor@gmail.com

**BHS Bluebell Ride****12 May, Start times
between
9:30am and 11:30am**

Bring your horse to enjoy the British Horse Society's popular Bluebell Ride, starting from **Eversholt**. Routes of approximately 7.5 and 12 miles.

**£15 in advance (by 3 May)
or £20 on the day**

Booking is advised

tinyurl.com/bhsbluebell19

**Children's Cooking
Workshop****12 May, 10:30am –
12:30pm**

In this fabulously fun cooking workshop at **Steppingly Village Hall**, the children will get to make 2 delicious savoury loaves from scratch, each one presented and baked in a terracotta Flowerpot.

£15 per child

**(under 5s must be
accompanied by an adult)**

Booking is essential
[cook-stars-bedford.class
4kids.co.uk](http://cook-stars-bedford.class4kids.co.uk)

**Yoga and Meditation
Practice****13 May, 10am – 11:15am**

A slow, flowing yoga practice suitable for all ages and abilities, and taking place in the lovely outdoor setting of the **Swiss Garden at Shuttleworth**.

£10

Booking is essential

www.shuttleworth.org/events
enquiries@shuttleworth.org



11

BHS Willington to Old Warden Ride

15 May, 10am – 12pm

Bring your horse to enjoy the British Horse Society's Willington to Old Warden guided Ride. Most of the 7.5 miles ride will be in walk and trot, however some canter opportunities may be taken.

Free (£15 refundable deposit required upon booking)
Booking is essential
lindsaymeasures@gmail.com



25

Parent and Toddler Forest School

17 May, 10am – 11:30am

Come and have some fun in the woods at **Amphill Great Park**, with your toddlers. Activities include mud kitchen, den building, woodland crafts and more. Suitable from walking.

£6 per child
Booking is essential
www.marstonvaleforestschool.co.uk
info@marstonvaleforestschool.co.uk



25

Amphill Photo Walk

18 May, 9:30am – 12:30pm

For anyone looking to get better photographs whilst out and about on countryside walks, get tips on composition, framing and creative ways to use your camera or phone to get standout shots.

£3.50
Booking is essential
Nickhallphotographic.co.uk
nickhallphotographic@gmail.com



39

Dachshund Group Walk

19 May, 11am – 2pm

Join Bedfordshire Dachshunds for a lovely walk in the Greensand Country. This is a gentle countryside walk on public footpaths taking you up to the Jolly Coopers for refreshments.

Free
No booking required
Meeting point: Waterslade (Garden Club and Allotments) Silsoe, MK45 4ES



3

Eastern Ridge and Parkland Walk

21 May, 6pm – 9pm

A circular 6.75 miles evening walk between **Everton & Gamlingay**; including the Greensand Ridge Walk & historic parklands, hosted by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity.

Free
Booking is essential
mikef@bedsrcc.org.uk
Meeting point: Meet at St Mary's Church, Church End, Everton, SG19 2JZ



Sustrans Guided Bike Ride

16 May, 10am – 2pm

Join Sustrans for a leisurely ride in Greensand Country, taking in the sights and sounds and enjoying the natural and local history.

Free
Booking is essential
01733 319981
Volunteers-MidsEast@
sustrans.org.uk



25

Introduction to Bushcraft

18 May, 9am – 1pm

From our woodland camp at **Amphill Great Park**, enjoy a Bushcraft session dedicated to fire. Learn what it is, how to create and control it.

Adults from £25, Under 18 from £20
Booking is essential
bookings.ntcbushcraft.co.uk
info@ntcbushcraft.co.uk



14

Sheffield History Day

18 May, 10am – 4pm

Based at **Sheffield House**, this local and family history day will include a short walking tour, a family history Q&A session and a display of historical pictures and maps of Sheffield.

Free
No booking required
towncouncil@sheffordtown.co.uk
www.sheffordtown.co.uk



12

Yoga and Meditation Practice

20 May, 10am – 11:15am

A slow, flowing yoga practice suitable for all ages and abilities, and taking place in the lovely outdoor setting of the Swiss Garden at Shuttleworth.

£10
Booking is essential
Visit: www.shuttleworth.org/events
enquiries@shuttleworth.org



24

Gertrude Jekyll Talk

21 May, 7pm – 9pm

Join Beds Gardens Trust in **Amphill** to find out details of Gertrude Jekyll's only commission for a garden in Beds at Ickwellbury.

£5 Beds Garden Trust members, £6 non-members
Booking is advised
www.bedsgardenstrust.org.uk
secretary@bedsgardenstrust.org.uk





20 years caring for the Greensand Ridge

The Greensand Trust thanks everyone who has helped us raise and invest over £17 million in the local environment since 1999. We receive no core funding, so everything we achieve is thanks to your support! For more information and ways you can support us visit www.greensandtrust.org

Welcome to
RUSHMERE
Country Park

Proud to be a gateway to Greensand Country

View herons nesting in Spring from our outdoor café terrace, discover fairy doors and the Giant's Chair along our Sculpture Trail, walk the dog, bring your bike – we've something for everyone with over 400 acres of woodland, heathland and meadows to enjoy.

Linslade Road, Heath and Reach, Beds LU7 0EB
www.greensandtrust.org/rushmere-country-park



Introduction to Bushcraft

22 May, 9am – 1pm

From our woodland camp at Ampthill Great Park, enjoy a morning of Bushcraft. Receive an introduction to tarps and tents.

Adults from £25, Under 18 from £20

Booking is essential
bookings.ntcbushcraft.co.uk
info@ntcbushcraft.co.uk



Warden Abbey Vineyard Tour and Tasting

**25 May, 10:30am
and 2pm**

The vineyard is bursting into life at this time of year, and you can discover the secrets of its medieval history as well as hear about English Wine and how volunteers look after the vineyard at this exciting community project. Tour finishes with a tasting of two of our wines.

£10, Booking is essential
www.wardenvineyard.org.uk



Clophill to Westoning Walk

25 May, 9:30am – 1pm

Enjoy a 7.5 miles' linear walk through the beautiful Greensand Country. Led by local volunteer David Sedgley, the **Flit Valley Walk** will include details of the natural habitat and history along the route.

Free
Booking is essential
dsedgley@talktalk.net
Meet near Westoning Village Hall to take transport to start of the walk



Reflexology Taster Session

24 May, 10:30am – 3pm

A 20-minute reflexology session based in the **Swiss Garden** at Shuttleworth's lovely Garden Room. Individual sessions booked directly with the therapist.

£15
Booking is essential
www.shuttleworth.org/events
ann.abrams@btinternet.com



Bedfordshire Brickworks Day

25 May, 11am – 4pm

Come and enjoy a fun day of music, talks, activities and sharing your memories of all things brickworks related at **The Higgins, Bedford**.

Free
No booking required
www.thehigginsbedford.gov.uk
thehiggins@bedford.gov.uk



Woollen Woods at Rushmere

25 May – 3 June

Following the success of last year's event, Woollen Woods – a trail featuring knitted woodland creatures native to Greensand Country – will return to Rushmere Country Park.

(£3 car park fee)
Free, No booking required
www.greensandtrust.org/rushmere-country-park



Spring Foraging Course

26 May, 12pm – 3:30pm

Join The Foraging Course Company at **Ampthill Great Park** to discover the wild edibles growing in Greensand Country and learn how to identify them.

£35

Booking is essential

www.foragingcoursecompany.co.uk
info@foragingcoursecompany.co.uk



Brian Kerr Talk

26 May, 2:30pm/3:30pm

A 1 hour talk by Brian Kerr forms part of the of the Higgins exhibition, **From Bunyan to Brickworks at The Higgins Museum in Bedford**

Free

No booking required



Guided Trail Run

26 May, 9:45am – 1pm

Join Runaway Adventures for a run that will explore some of Greensand Country's best features, including **Biggleswade Common, River Ivel, The Lodge, parts of the Greenwheel.**

£8 Early Bird, £10 two weeks before the event

Booking is essential

www.runawayuk.com



Clophill Sunday Teas

26 May, 2pm – 4pm

Join Clophill Heritage Trust at **Clophill Eco Lodges** at St Mary's Old Church, Clophill for hot or cold drinks, lunches and delicious homemade cakes.

Free

No booking required

clophillecolodges.co.uk/events



Introduction to Bushcraft

26 May, 9am – 1pm

From our woodland camp at **Ampthill Great Park**, learn the basics and background of Bushcraft. Build tarp shelters, learn knots and receive an introduction to fire.

Adults from £25, Under 18 from £20

Booking is essential

bookings.ntcbushcraft.co.uk
info@ntcbushcraft.co.uk



Summerfields' Miniature Railway

26 and 27 May, 10:30am – 4pm

The railways in **Haynes** are a popular visitor destination for children and parents alike. Fares taken on 27 May will be donated to Keech Hospice Care.

From £2

No booking required

www.bedfordmes.co.uk



Animal Edge Open Day

27 May, 10am – 2pm

Visit Animal Edge's open day at its small animal farm in **Millbrook**, with access to feed and pet farm animals, enjoy pony rides and take part in outdoor craft activities.

£5 per child (adults free)

Booking is advised

www.animaledge.co.uk

Info@animaledge.co.uk



Teddy Bear Hunt

27 May, 11am – 1pm

Join us in **Bluebell Wood Clophill** for a children's teddy bear hunt – bring a packed lunch and after you've hunted for bears enjoy a story while you eat.

£5 per child (adults free)

Booking is essential

clophillecolodges.co.uk/events



11-16 Years Activity Day.

28 May, 9am – 4:30pm

A day recreating arrival at a new camp. We'll be shelter building, fire lighting, campfire cooking and lots more including challenges and games.

11-16 years only

£30

Booking is essential

info@ntcbushcraft.co.uk

ntcbushcraft.co.uk/11-16

07855 805756

FOREST FAMILY FUN DAY

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 31st August

10am – 4pm

At the Forest Centre,
Marston Moretaine

With rides, stalls, games, special characters, a dog show and more!

Keep an eye on marstonvale.org
for more details!

Proud to support
Greensand Country



Great Days Out by Train this Spring!

History Through Word & Song Trains 1, 8, 11, 15, 22 and 27 May

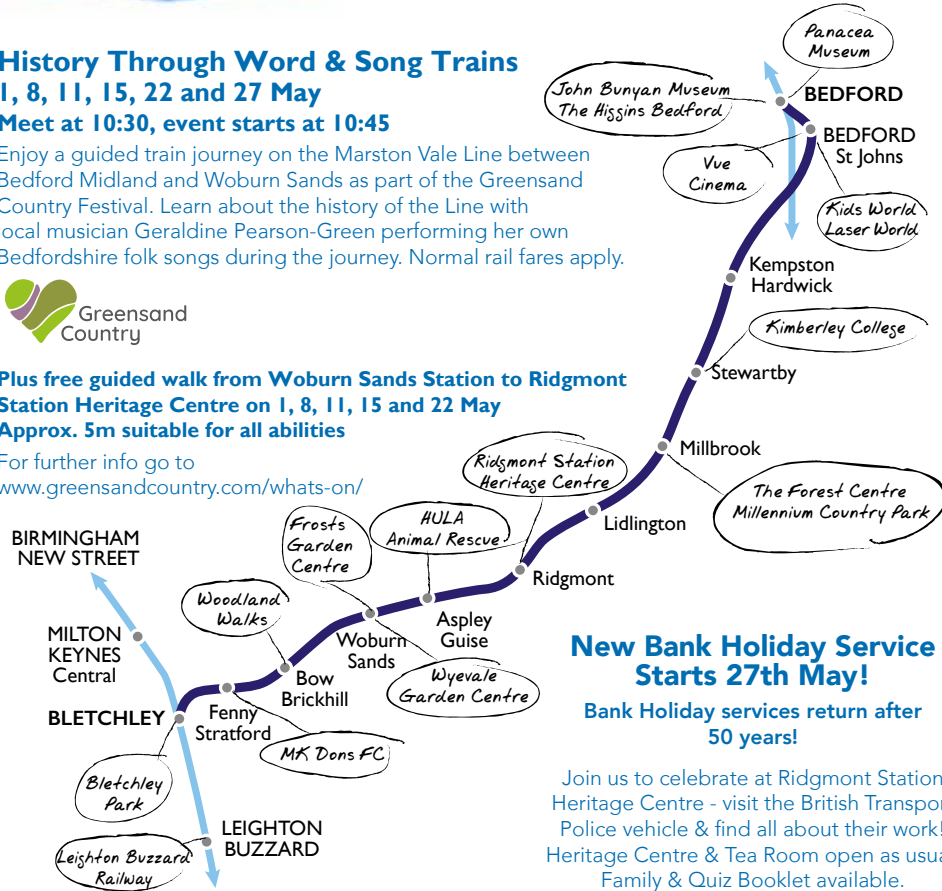
Meet at 10:30, event starts at 10:45

Enjoy a guided train journey on the Marston Vale Line between Bedford Midland and Woburn Sands as part of the Greensand Country Festival. Learn about the history of the Line with local musician Geraldine Pearson-Green performing her own Bedfordshire folk songs during the journey. Normal rail fares apply.



Plus free guided walk from Woburn Sands Station to Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre on 1, 8, 11, 15 and 22 May
Approx. 5m suitable for all abilities

For further info go to
www.greensandcountry.com/whats-on/



New Bank Holiday Service Starts 27th May!

Bank Holiday services return after 50 years!

Join us to celebrate at Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre - visit the British Transport Police vehicle & find all about their work! Heritage Centre & Tea Room open as usual. Family & Quiz Booklet available.

10% discount for rail passengers in the Tea Room! Free entry to Heritage Centre. Open 10:00 - 4:00. Or why not take the opportunity to visit one of the many other attractions along the Line or a walk between stations? Heritage Centre also open daily 10:00 - 4:00 Tuesday - Saturday

[marstonvalecrp](https://www.facebook.com/marstonvalecrp) [@marstonvalecrp](https://twitter.com/marstonvalecrp)

stephens@bedsrcc.org.uk 01234 832645

www.marstonvalecommunityrail.org.uk

GroupSave & Senior Saver Rail Tickets:
Great rail fares for families! Third off for adults in groups of 3 - 9, children half price, under 5s free!
Granny and Grandad travel for half-price with a Bedfordshire bus pass!



Introduction to Bushcraft

29 May, 9am - 1pm

From our woodland camp at Amphill Great Park, learn the basics and background of Bushcraft. Learn about friction fire and build your own bow drill set.

Adults from £25, Under 18 from £20

Booking is essential
bookings.ntcbushcraft.co.uk
info@ntcbushcraft.co.uk



Summerfields' Miniature Railway

29 May, 10:30am - 4pm

The railways (there are three separate rides at the Summerfields' site) are a popular visitor destination for children and parents alike.

From £2
No booking required
www.bedfordmes.co.uk



Walk the new Central Geotrail

29 May, 11am and 2pm

Join Bedfordshire Geology Group for a guided walk in the heart of Greensand Country. Discover the geology and earth heritage around the village of Maulden.

Free

Booking is advised
bev.fowlston@gmail.com
Meeting point: The George Inn, Maulden, MK45 2DF



Stories of the Landscape

29 and 30 May

Join Motus Dance Company in the picturesque Swiss Garden, for exciting stories of Shuttleworth and its history.

Free (included in Swiss Garden entry fee)
No booking required
www.shuttleworth.org/events
enquiries@shuttleworth.org



Nature Detectives at Coopers Hill

30 May, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Family Event. Discover the nature that lives on Coopers Hill. £3

1pm - 3:30pm, 13-18 year olds.

Join South Beds Youth Rangers for an afternoon of wildlife surveying and practical conservation.

Free

Booking is advised
www.wildlifetrustbcn.org
Toddington@wildlifebcn.org



Clophill Plant Identification Walk

30 May, 10am - 12pm

Join this two-hour stroll through the beautiful Greensand Country led by Clophill Heritage Trust's local horticultural expert.

£3

Booking is essential
clophillecolodges.co.uk/events
info@clophillecolodges.co.uk



11

BHS Willington to Old Warden Ride

30 May, 6pm – 8pm

Bring your horse to enjoy the British Horse Society's **Willington to Old Warden Ride**. Most of the ride will be in walk and trot, however if all riders are happy, some canter opportunities may be taken.

Free (£15 refundable deposit required upon booking)
Booking is essential
lindsaymeasures@gmail.com



25

All about Owls

31 May, 10:30am – 12:30pm

Join Teaching Talons in **Amphill** for this indoor workshop. Meet two owls and examine and dissect a wild, Bedfordshire owl pellet! What will you find?

£4 per child (accompanying adult free)
Booking is essential
council@amphilltowncouncil.org.uk
 01525 404355



25

Family Forest School Taster

31 May, 10am – 12pm and 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Come and have some fun in the woods at **Amphill Great Park**, building dens and shelters, fire lighting, trying some woodland arts and crafts and more. Suitable for all ages.

£6 per child
Booking is essential
marstonvaleforestschoo.co.uk
info@marstonvaleforestschool.co.uk



20

Earth Day

31 May, 12:30pm – 3:30pm

Come and try a variety of countryside crafts such as willow hurdles, fire lighting, shelter building and more at **Clophill Eco Lodges**, plus the café will be open serving hot & cold drinks.

Free
Booking is essential
clophillecolodges.co.uk/events
info@ClophillEcoLodges.co.uk



10

Moggerhanger Park Plant Fair

2 June, 10am – 4pm

Moggerhanger Park will hold its plant fair in the Walled Garden. Visit the Garden Rooms Café where you will find lots of fun and family friendly activities. Enjoy tours of the grounds and Ice House by Beds Gardens Trust, additional cost.

£3 (Under 16's Free)
No booking required
www.moggerhangerpark.com



36

Bioblitz and Mini-environmental fair at Rushmere

2 June, 11am – 3pm

Visit **Rushmere Country Park** for a family-fun day of nature activities and guided walks, exploring rare heathland habitats, including a tour of the new Heathland Sculpture Trail.

Free
(£3 car park fee)
No booking required
www.greensandtrust.org/rushmere-country-park



25

Amphill Bat Walk

30 May, 9pm – 10pm

Enjoy an evening guided walk through **Amphill Great Park** using bat detectors. Wear suitable clothing and bring a torch.

£4
Booking is essential
council@amphilltowncouncil.org.uk



41

Storytelling in the Woods

31 May, 2pm – 4:30pm

Enjoy a walk through the woods, between **Campton and Upper Gravenhurst**, full of stories, which will take us to a secret glade, where you will join our woodland tea party.

£7.50
Booking is essential
www.wassledine.co.uk
info@wassledine.co.uk



12

Cultivating Mindfulness Practice

31 May, 10am – 1pm

An invitation to learn Mindfulness Practice to cultivate your mind in the beautiful setting of the **Swiss Garden** at Shuttleworth. Suitable for beginners.

£30
Booking is essential
www.shuttleworth.org/events
enquiries@shuttleworth.org



24

Old Warden's Lost Abbey Exhibition

1 June, 10am – 4pm

Based on 'Time Team' style geophysics, find out how **Warden Abbey** may have looked c.1370 at **St Andrew's Church**, Rectory Lane, **Amphill, MK45 2EL**.

Free
No booking required



40

Westoning to Clophill Walk

2 June, 2pm – 5pm

Enjoy a 7.5 miles' linear walk through the beautiful **Greensand Country**. Led by local volunteer **David Sedgley**, the **Flit Valley Walk** will include details of the natural habitat and history along the route.

Free
Booking is essential (to secure you place on return transport)
dsedgley@talktalk.net



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- Fruit and veg stall
- Store cupboard goodies
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Enjoy The Best of Bedfordshire

The Barn at Cardington is delighted to be supporting the Greensand Country Festival. We are a social venture supported by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC), which also manages the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership, and run on a non-profit basis. The aim of the venture is to help encourage local food producers by providing a retail outlet and to support the work of BRCC.

Our lamb, beef, pork and game are all sourced from local farms in Bedfordshire and our chicken comes from a high welfare producer in Suffolk. We also have an in-house bakery which produces home-made scones and rolls and we have our deli which provides a wide range of artisan cheeses and other delicacies.

For those who enjoy exploring hand crafted drinks, we have a great range of locally produced wine, beer, cider and gin. We are the main retail outlet for Warden Abbey

wines, which is a community-run vineyard also supported by BRCC.

Our café serves a wide range of breakfast and lunch options and there is always a great selection of locally made cakes. The café makes a great place to meet friends young and old.

Check out our website for all the fantastic products we sell that can't be purchased at a supermarket and help support our work in Bedfordshire – thebarncardington.com

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) is the leading community development agency working across Bedfordshire. As well as The Barn and Old Warden vineyard, we help support local communities through initiatives such as Good Neighbour Schemes, helping to protect the green environment through the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership and managing Community Rail Partnerships. If you would like to know more see our website - bedsrcc.org.uk

Delving into Heritage Day

The Origins and Development of Monastic Heritage in Greensand Country

Date: Tuesday 16 July 2019

Description: Day-long conference with a range of speakers and optional guided walk

Venue: The Sculpture Gallery, Woburn Abbey

Charge: £15 per person (Student Concessions: £5 per person)

Greensand Country has a rich medieval monastic heritage with several sites clustered together in the area surrounding the Greensand Ridge. Why are there so many monastic sites and what impact do they have on the landscape today?

Together, with a range of experts including Historians; Archaeologists; Geologists and Historic Designed Landscape Specialists, we will explore the unique heritage of monastic sites in Greensand Country. This will be an informal conference with the opportunity to take part in a guided walk around the gardens at Woburn Abbey.


The Greensand Country Landscape Partnership is proud to be working with The Sculpture Gallery at Woburn Abbey to deliver the second of three annual 'Delving into Heritage Days.' Each year, we explore a difference landscape theme that makes up the distinctive 'landscape character' of the Greensand Country area.


Booking is essential. Last year's conference was very popular so we advise booking tickets early to avoid disappointment. Tickets available from Monday 10th June but you can request to be emailed further information and a booking reminder at the beginning of June by contacting team@greensandcountry.com NOW.

The conference is also an opportunity to find out more about our Community Heritage Grant Schemes and how you can apply to the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership for funding to investigate and promote local heritage. Have a look at our website – greensandcountry.com – to discover more about events, activities, training courses and projects being delivered by the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership.




This is a magical place; rich in history with tales of kings, queens, a castle, war heroes, buried treasure, a golden hare, the famous landscape architect Lancelot 'Capability' Brown...and it is even home to a sleeping dragon.

 Start from Central Car Park (where the Hub Café is). Take the 'ride' (path) which threads its way through Russett's Plantation.

 When you reach the crossroads, take the path on your left into the play area. (If you have a dog, follow the fence to your right until you reach another gate into the park).

Q2. In the playground, you can see the remains of the base of a building from World War II. What year did this war finish? (*Clue: Look on the wooden archway.*)

 Exit the playground via the North East gate (there is a compass on the map of Amptill Park) and continue east towards Russett's Lodge.

Q3. What birds have set up home in the garden?

As you walk towards Laurel Wood you will see a tall tower known as the Standing. This was a hunting tower in the Royal Deer Park.

 Follow the path round to the left onto the ridge past Breakheart Hill.

 As you walk along the ridge the view of the Bedford Vale unfolds.

 As you walk further along the ridge you will see more work by Capability Brown.


Q7. Water was a great feature of Capability Browns Landscape. What is the name of the lake you can see halfway up the hill?

Ampthill Park was a military training camp established by the 11th Duke of Bedford.

 Head to Katherine's Cross near the ridge.

The area between the two crosses is the site of Amptill Castle. It was more of a fortified stately home built in the 1420s but there is no trace of it above ground level today.

Q9. What was the highest position Katherine of Aragon held whilst married to Henry VIII?

 Walking past Katherine's Cross you will come to the Carriage Drive. Turn right and follow the path down and around to the left admiring the beautiful views, until you reach a kissing gate into Westminster Field. (For a short-cut, walk down the hill to the kissing gate).

Q10. Here you will find a poem, which is one of seven erected on the Greensand Ridge to commemorate what Royal occasion?

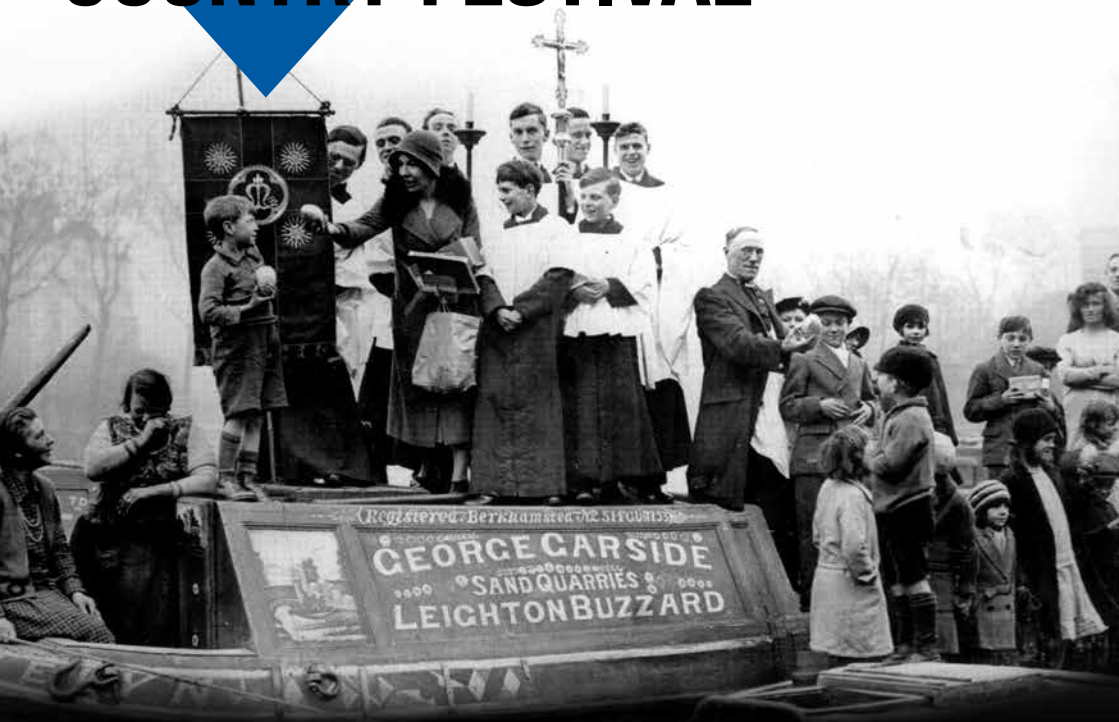
 Walk along Westminster field towards the road. Turn left over the bridge by the 5-bar gate into the main park heading uphill towards three mature beech trees. Go through the West car park to pick up the other end of the shelter belt to where you started this journey.

Fill in your answers in the grid then re-arrange the letters in the red squares to make a word or two. Then go to the Hub Café to claim your treasure. **Good luck!**

Answer Grid Re-arrange the letters in the grey squares to find the treasure

[illegible]

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