

The Holkham Gazette

Olympic medallist Emma Pooley at Pedal Norfolk

This year's Pedal Norfolk Cycling Festival will be even bigger and better than its inaugural event last year.

Olympic silver medallist Emma Pooley will launch the festival, which takes place over the May Bank Holiday weekend at Holkham. There will be camping places within the grounds, offering a unique opportunity to stay in this beautiful park.

We will be running rides of all distances for all levels of cyclists. For those looking for a challenge, there will be 20 and 50-mile signposted, fully supported routes each day. And for

sportive riders looking to test whether their winter training has been up to scratch, there will be 100-mile routes on Saturday and Sunday, as well as a tough 50-mile route on Monday. Last year 65 people rode the full 250 miles. Will you be able to complete the Pedal Norfolk challenge?

The festival will include a wealth of entertainment and family fun for all ages and abilities. On show will be equipment suppliers including event organiser Fatbirds, Merida, SRAM, Shimano, Look, Campagnolo, Van Nicholas, Lynskey and Purple Harry and fantastic food from Norwich's Feast On The Street co-operative, serving a wide range of high quality and nutritious menu choices. Event sponsor Adnams will host a pop-up bar and chill out zone for riders and their families to enjoy a celebratory drink and relax after their rides.

Our sponsors this year include Adnams, North Norfolk District Council, Leathes Prior, Tyrrells, Handelsbanken, Holkham

Emerald and Purple Chilli Events and for the first time the event is supporting Prostate Cancer UK.

For more information, or to book your place on the rides, visit the Pedal Norfolk website – www.pedalnorfolk.co.uk



ADNAM'S
SOUTHWOLD

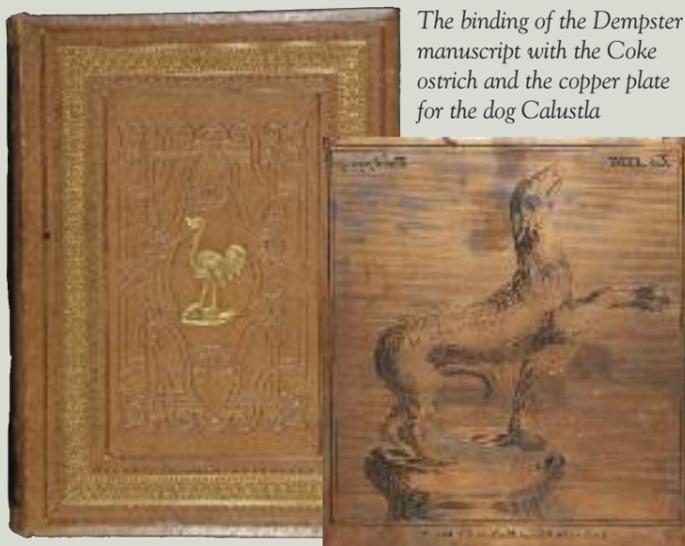


Treasures from Holkham on loan to Italy

The custom of a European Grand Tour, undertaken by young British men from the landed gentry, flourished from about 1660 until the advent of rail transport in the 1840s. A Grand Tour was seen as a way of furthering the education of these young men – some of whom had been to university, some of whom had not. As a boy, Thomas Coke, the eventual builder of Holkham Hall, preferred to spend his time shooting and cockfighting rather than inside on his books. A Grand Tour was ordered by his guardians to smooth Thomas's rough edges and as a more rewarding alternative to studying at Oxford.

The destinations chosen were primarily France and Italy and the travellers went in search of culture, art, architecture and to learn more about western civilisation. The journeys might last months or years and aristocratic connections across the continent meant they could travel from place to place at their leisure. Many of these tours turned into an opportunity to acquire classical pieces of art and sculpture which were shipped back to adorn grand houses at home.

Thomas Coke undertook his long Grand Tour between 1712 and 1718. While he was away, he fell in love with Italy and its architecture and resolved to use Italian designs, particularly those of Andrea Palladio, on his own house at Holkham. Thomas bought many pieces of sculpture and art to display in his new home, and he bought them specifically for particular places at Holkham – he must already have had a vision for the design of the hall.



The binding of the Dempster manuscript with the Coke ostrich and the copper plate for the dog Calustla

Many pieces acquired by Thomas have become important in their own right. Now some have been loaned to Italy to feature in a major exhibition at the Museo dell'Accademia Etrusca e della Città di Cortona (MAEC) in Tuscany this year – Holkham's most extensive international collaboration for 300 years.

From 21st March to 31st July the MAEC will host an exhibition of sculpture, paintings, prints, drawings and manuscripts from the Uffizi Museums in Florence, the British Museum in London and Holkham Hall. Entitled 'The Lure of the Etruscans: From the Secrets of Holkham Hall to the Marvels of the British Museum', the exhibition centres on a moment of crucial importance in the history of archaeology and of Tuscany itself, the publication of Thomas Dempster's *De Etruria Regali* (On Royal Tuscany) in Florence from 1723 to 1726. Thomas Coke funded the entire publication of the manuscript.

Thomas Dempster (1579–1635) was an eccentric, impoverished Scottish nobleman who taught at universities throughout Europe. Between 1616 and 1619 he compiled the *De Etruria Regali*, a history of the Etruscan people. It was the first attempt to demonstrate the existence of a highly developed civilisation in Italy before the Romans. The work remained unpublished and only one copy, in Dempster's handwriting, survived in the collection of the Grand Dukes of Tuscany. This unique manuscript was purchased for Thomas Coke by his Grand Tour governor, Thomas Hobart, in July 1719 for eleven guineas. Still in the library at Holkham, it will be the centrepiece of the Cortona exhibition.

Thomas Coke returned the manuscript to Florence and paid for the publication of the work and a substantial programme of illustrations at great expense. In 2007 the accounts for the production process were discovered at Holkham. These accounts identified for the first time the artists, engravers and editors who worked on the project and they will be on display in the exhibition along with the autograph manuscript of the text.

Also on display will be the original drawings and copper plates for the illustrations which were discovered in the attics of Holkham Hall by the 5th Earl of Leicester in 1964. The drawings were still in the original leather wallet in which they had been sent back to England from Italy.

In addition to the Dempster manuscript, Holkham is also lending to the exhibition paintings, drawings and manuscripts that attest to Thomas Coke's passion for Italian history and art.



Chamber music at Holkham

For Barry Cheeseman and Simon Rowland-Jones, the start of the fourth annual series of chamber music concerts at Holkham, under their artistic direction, is a matter of some satisfaction.

Their achievement at bringing acclaimed musicians to north Norfolk to perform at the North Norfolk Music Festival, where they have been joint artistic directors for many years, led to an approach from Lady Leicester asking if they would take over the running of the music programme at Holkham, following in the footsteps of Julius Drake who had previously been responsible for the concerts.

Barry and Simon were delighted to take on the role and in their four successful years at the helm, they are pleased with how audiences have developed. They comment that they used to know two thirds of the audience but these days they know far fewer. Today there are many new faces, highlighting that the concerts are proving successful in appealing to a wide audience. Their ability to put together a varied and selective programme sees the Marble Hall filled to capacity. The magnificent setting and the opportunity to look round other state rooms in the hall during the interval is very much appreciated by the audience.

Barry and Simon believe that the music at Holkham and at the North Norfolk Music Festival is achieving a well-deserved reputation among concert-goers. Their hard work in attracting well-known and international performers of the highest calibre sees, among others, world-renowned Canadian pianist Angela Hewitt give a concert this season. She joins an impressive number of musicians from around the world who come to Holkham. Each of them enjoys a career at the highest level which takes them to the world's most prestigious concert halls and opera houses.



The 2014 music season

Here is a schedule of this year's concerts at Holkham. For more information and to book tickets please visit the Holkham website – www.holkham.co.uk

- Sunday 13th April at 7pm** • Chamber Music Concert • **Arcadia Quartet**
Haydn: String Quartet in E flat Op.50 No.3, Janáček: String Quartet No.2 'Intimate Letters', Beethoven: String Quartet in C sharp minor Op.131.
- Saturday 10th May at 7pm** • Chamber Music Concert • **Gould Piano Trio** and **Robert Plane**, clarinet – Beethoven: Clarinet Trio in B flat Op.11, Bridge: Phantasie Trio in C minor, Finzi: Five Bagatelles Op.23, Dvorák: Piano Trio in E minor Op.90 'Dumky'.
- Saturday 7th June at 7pm** • **Piaf in Cabaret**. Sally Jones pays tribute to the legendary French chanteuse Edith Piaf.
- Friday 27th June at 7pm** • Chamber Music Concert • **Andrei Bondarenko**, baritone, **Eleonora Vindau**, soprano, **Gary Matthewman**, piano – Mussorgsky: Detskaya (The Nursery), Mahler: Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen (Songs of a Wayfarer), duets from Mozart to Tchaikovsky.
- Friday 4th July at 7pm** • Diva Opera – **Mozart's Don Giovanni**.
- Saturday 5th July at 7pm** • Diva Opera – **Offenbach's Tales of Hoffmann**.
- Monday 4th August at 7pm** • **World War One Centenary Concert**
Joshua Ellicott tenor and pianist – songs by Bridge, Finzi, Ireland, Poulenc and others including Haydn Wood's Roses of Picardy.
- Saturday 25th October at 7pm** • Chamber Music Concert • **Angela Hewitt**, piano – works by Scarlatti, Granados, Albéniz and de Falla.
- Sunday 23rd November at 3pm** • Chamber Music Concert • **Marianne Cornetti**, mezzo soprano, **David Harper**, piano – 'Broadway and Beyond' a musical journey across America.
- Friday 5th December at 7pm** • **The Upper Octave** – performing opera, classical and Broadway songs to start the festive celebrations at Holkham.



Viscount Coke is new patron of Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust

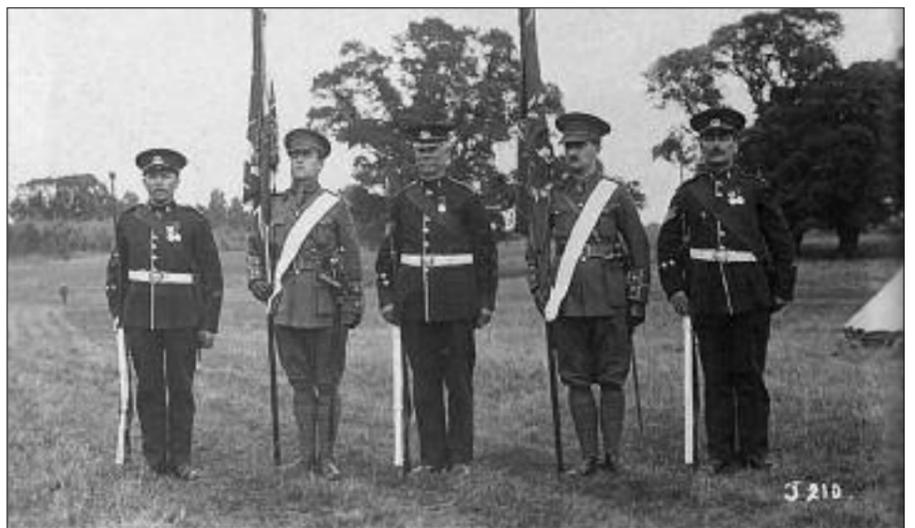


Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust is a charity set up in 1979 that works to preserve the town's historic buildings. Since its founding, the charity has been involved with the setting up of the excellent Time and Tide Museum, the Nelson Museum and the nationally acclaimed Cemeteries Project that aims to clear and conserve graves in the old and new cemeteries in the town – a total area of 40 acres containing over 3000 gravestones and monuments.

The charity hopes that having Viscount Coke as its patron, an honorary position he will hold for life, means that he can represent and promote the trust and the important work it is engaged in. Viscount Coke is well-known for his fascination with architecture and he has been involved with many heritage projects at Holkham, including the research and supply of linseed paints which the estate has used for over a decade on its woodwork.



On-going project: 133 King Street, Great Yarmouth, is a late 17th century house with attached warehouse. The Grade II listed building was converted to a shop and accommodation in 1885. The building was purchased by Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust in 2012 for repair and reuse as an art gallery and artists' studios, due to open in April 2014.



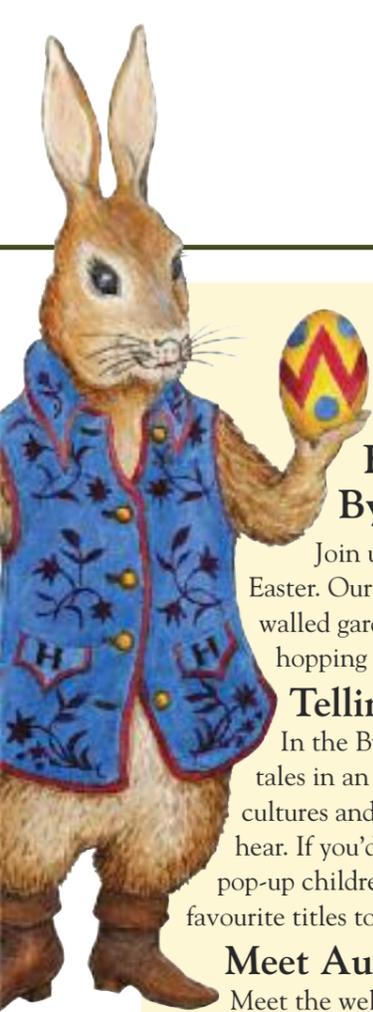
Duty Calls: Holkham 1914 to 1918

Holkham Hall is opening its doors to secondary schools in May with the launch of a new session to accompany our exhibition 'Duty Calls: Holkham 1914 to 1918', commemorating the 100 year anniversary of the start of World War One. Key stage three and four students will be invited to visit to learn about the impact that this historic event had.

Interpretation, archives, photographs, artefacts and personal letters will be displayed alongside a section of a trench representing the Somme battlefield.

Students will have an opportunity to gain a real insight into the impact the 'war to end all wars' had and to take away their thoughts on the poignant story of the death, at Gallipoli, of Arthur Coke the grandfather to the present Earl of Leicester.

Connecting theory taught in school with our local case studies and social history will undoubtedly enhance students' understanding and appreciation of this significant, influential period of our history.



Egg-cellent Easter fun for all the family

Good Friday 18th April to Easter Monday 21st April
Holkham Hall open 12noon to 4pm daily
Bygones Museum and Walled Gardens open 10am to 5pm daily

Join us for four days packed full of 'egg-citing' things to do over Easter. Our 'egg-cellent' events and activities in the hall, museum and walled gardens will keep the whole family amused. Everyone's going hopping mad with fun!

Telling Tales

In the Bygones Museum our storyteller, Paul Jackson, will tell his tales in an enchanting yurt. The stories come from many different cultures and Paul's unique style blends music into the exciting tales you hear. If you'd rather read your stories yourself, then go along to our pop-up children's bookshop run by Norfolk Children's Book Centre with favourite titles to buy and plenty of helpful guidance and enthusiasm.

Meet Author Jackie Morris

Meet the well-known children's author Jackie Morris, famous for her international best-selling picture books including *I am Cat*, *The Ice Bear* and *The Cat and the Fiddle: A Treasury of Nursery Rhymes* plus the critically acclaimed novel for older children, *East of the Sun, West of the Moon*. Jackie will be here to tell you about the wonderful stories she's written and you will also have the chance to see some of her beautiful illustrations. She will demonstrate how she creates these illustrations in her books during her 'Meet the Artist' sessions.

Get Creative

What do you get when you cross an Easter rabbit with art? – 'rabbarts' of course! Our art workshop in the Bygones Museum will be a chance for budding

artists to get creative and make an Easter rabbit to add to our giant diorama of Holkham Hall and the park.

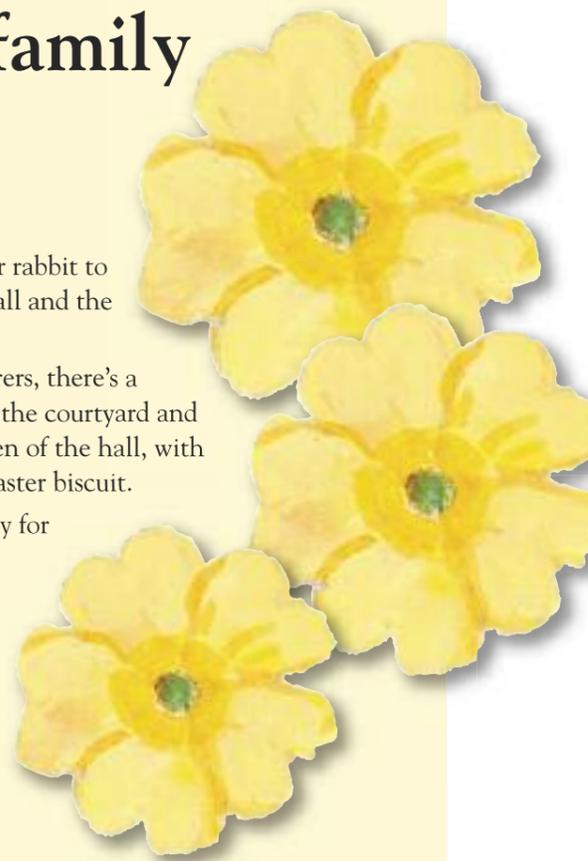
For our intrepid young Easter adventurers, there's a chance to 'egg-splore' our mini mazes in the courtyard and tasty Easter treats await in the old kitchen of the hall, with an opportunity to decorate a delicious Easter biscuit.

And if you fancy being an Easter bunny for the day, why not try our face painting.

Test Your Skills

Hop along to the walled gardens where there will be rabbit riddles to tease you with stamps to collect. Feeling sporty? Then try your hand at 'egg-citing' egg croquet and our April trivia in the Bygones Museum which will certainly get your brain whirring.

There are Easter bunnies hidden in the hall – see if you can find them and don't forget to look out for the special Holkham rabbit who will have a chocolate egg reward for all our younger visitors.



For more information and to book online for a 10% discount, please visit our website – www.holkham.co.uk

What's on locally...

TUESDAY 1st APRIL AT 10am

Walking Women, Wells-next-the-Sea. Meet at the Beach Café, Wells-next-the-Sea.

TUESDAY 1st APRIL

Holkham re-opens to visitors. Bygones Museum, Walled Gardens, Children's Woodland Adventure Play Area, Gift Shop and Stables Café open daily. Hall open Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays.

MONDAY 7th TO THURSDAY 17th APRIL

'Grow Your Own' children's gardening activity at Holkham.

TUESDAY 15th APRIL AT 10am

Guided Walk on the National Nature Reserve. Meet at Lady Anne's Drive, Holkham.

FRIDAY 18th TO MONDAY 21st APRIL FROM 10am TO 5pm – EASTER FUN

Join us for some hopping mad family fun this Easter at Holkham. It's sure to be an 'eggstravaganza'!

TUESDAY 22nd APRIL AT 10am

Workshop – Create an Edible Garden at Holkham. Expert guidance on how to use the space you have at home to grow delicious things to eat.

SATURDAY 3rd TO MONDAY 5th MAY

Pedal Norfolk Cycling Festival in Holkham Park. Rides for all levels of cyclist, plus entertainment and family fun. See the website – www.pedalnorfolk.co.uk – for information.

TUESDAY 6th MAY AT 10am

Walking Women, Holkham Park. Meet at the ticket office at Holkham.

FRIDAY 9th TO SUNDAY 11th MAY

Poetry-next-the-Sea. The 17th Wells Poetry Festival at The Maltings in Wells-next-the-Sea. See www.poetrynextthesea.co.uk

SATURDAY 10th AND SUNDAY 11th MAY

Deepdale Outdoor and Wildlife Festival at Dalegate Market, Burnham Deepdale.

SATURDAY 17th MAY AT 3pm, 5.30pm AND 8pm

Norfolk & Norwich Festival. The Voice Project at Holkham. See www.nnfestival.org.uk

SUNDAY 18th MAY AT 9am

North Norfolk Marathon, Half Marathon and Mini Marathon all starting in Holkham Park. In aid of Parkinsons UK and the Wells Maritime Trust. See www.4shoreuk.com for details.

SUNDAY 18th MAY AT 11am, 1pm AND 3pm

Spring Tours of the Private Gardens at Holkham. See the private gardens, which are normally closed to visitors.

TUESDAY 20th MAY AT 10am

Guided Walk on the National Nature Reserve. Meet at Lady Anne's Drive, Holkham.

MONDAY 26th MAY AT 10am AND 1.30pm

Woodland Art and Clay Creations at Holkham. Explore the woods and get creative.

WEDNESDAY 28th MAY AT 10am AND 1pm

Discovery Day. Family activities exploring wildlife in the pinewoods of the National Nature Reserve.

THURSDAY 29th MAY AT 10am AND 1pm

Park Discovery Day – Pond Dipping. Family activities exploring wildlife in the lake at Holkham.

TUESDAY 3rd JUNE AT 10am

Walking Women, Lady Anne's Drive. Meet at the notice board close to the beach.

WEDNESDAY 4th, 11th, 18th AND 25th JUNE AT 11am AND 2pm

Deer Discovery Walk. Interesting facts about the herd of deer in Holkham Park.

SUNDAY 8th JUNE AT 10am

Open Farm Sunday in Holkham Park. A nationwide annual event – we highlight the story of farming at Holkham.

TUESDAY 10th JUNE AT 10AM

Workshop at Holkham – Growing Things to Barbeque.



Piaf in Cabaret

On Saturday 7th June at 7pm, join Sally Jones for this entertaining evening which pays tribute to the legendary French chanteuse Edith Piaf. The concert features many of Piaf's well-loved songs as well as a beautifully crafted narration of the tragic life story of this never-to-be-forgotten icon.

Tickets are £25 and include a cocktail in the interval. To book online, visit our website www.holkham.co.uk or telephone our Ticket Office on 01328 713111.

PIAF IN CABARET PRIZE DRAW

Win a pair of tickets, worth £50, to see this celebration of the French chanteuse

To enter email your name, address and telephone number to gazette@holkham.co.uk, mentioning the Piaf in Cabaret prize draw, or complete this form and post to: Piaf in Cabaret Prize Draw, Marketing Department, Holkham Estate Office, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk NR23 1AB.

Closing date Friday 9th May.

NAME.....

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We would like to keep you informed of events and offers at Holkham by email. Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive communications from us.

Only one entry per household. For full terms and conditions, see www.holkham.co.uk/html/newsletter.html

For more information about Holkham events go to www.holkham.co.uk



Noticeboard



Exciting new finds at Castle Acre Priory

Castle Acre Priory, set within a beautiful part of the Nar Valley, is one of the best-loved heritage monuments in the Norfolk countryside. Founded in 1090, the ruins of much of the twelfth-century church survive – the west front is particularly spectacular. It was a wealthy monastery with 25 to 30 monks living and worshipping there at any one time. The site is



A section of the medieval precinct wall freshly exposed at Castle Acre Priory

owned by Holkham Estate and the church and cloisters have been under the care of English Heritage and its predecessors since 1929. The rest of the large monastic precinct had been largely abandoned – until now.

A conservation project, run jointly by Holkham and the Norfolk Archaeological Trust is producing some remarkable results. The precinct was originally surrounded by a high flint wall, probably built in the thirteenth century. “Medieval walls have been emerging from the undergrowth which have not been seen for generations”, says Dr Peter Wade-Martins, the director of the Norfolk Archaeological Trust.

The first job was to remove a matting of ivy, up to a foot thick in places, which covered the walls and this has taken several months. In some places the walls have survived with their flint capping intact, while in other areas little is left above ground. Enough has been exposed, however, to create a very impressive sight for those who drive from Castle Acre village towards the entrance to the priory. Work on the walls will continue and last until October 2014.

Holkham wins prestigious 2014 Hudson's Heritage Award



Celia Deeley, General Manager of Holkham Enterprises, Marketing Manager Laurane Herrievan and Loyd Grossman with Holkham's award

Holkham has won one of the prestigious 2014 Hudson's Heritage Awards which were announced at a reception at Goldsmiths' Hall in London in February. The estate was named as the winner of the 'Best Family Day Out Award'.

The awards, which were established in 2011, are an independently judged annual national awards scheme open to historic houses, gardens, museums and heritage sites and celebrate the very best heritage experiences.

The 11 categories reward a range of visitor experiences. The awards were presented by Loyd Grossman OBE and attended by 100 guests including owners and managers of the winning entries, representatives of the heritage tourist industry and the media.

David Horton-Fawkes, estates director at Holkham said: “We are absolutely delighted to have won a 2014 Hudson's Heritage Award. Winning one of these awards is testament to the high standards and commitment to excellence we offer our visitors to ensure they have the best possible experience. Receiving this award is a wonderful acknowledgment and recognition that Holkham is one of the best heritage attractions in the UK”.

Loyd Grossman congratulated Holkham on its award, commenting: “Visiting children and adults of all ages, including the local community, have been given so many new opportunities to discover new ways to enjoy the landscape, park, architecture and collections.”

For more information about Hudson's Heritage Awards please visit www.hudsonsheritage.com

Dogs welcome, not their poo!

BY SARAH HENDERSON, RESERVE MANAGER



Holkham Beach and National Nature Reserve is a fantastic place for walking your dog. The vast expanse of sands and the shelter offered by the pinewoods make it ideal whatever the weather on the north Norfolk coast. The

welcoming canine facilities offered at the Beach Café make the area a very dog-friendly place.

Whilst dogs are running around, sniffing things and generally enjoying themselves, they do what comes naturally. Unfortunately these 'deposits' are an unpleasant nuisance and as a dog owner it is your responsibility to clean up. No one likes stepping in dog

poo which can ruin a good day out as well as being unpleasant to remove from your footwear.

A number of dog poo bins can be found on the paths leading away from the car parks at Wells and Lady Anne's Drive, Holkham and these are emptied daily. Picking up waste then leaving the bag somewhere is not at all helpful and quite pointless. From the amount of dog waste that is emptied from the bins we know that most dogs that visit Holkham have responsible owners that clear up after them. Owners that don't pick up and bin their dogs' waste should feel embarrassed by their negligent behaviour. So please help all visitors to the beach and reserve, whether they have four legs or two, to have an enjoyable time by bagging and binning your dog waste.



Rose Garden Café makes way for new rooms

The Rose Garden Café in the Ancient House in Holkham village will close at the beginning of June to make way for the exciting transformation of the building into new bedrooms for The Victoria, ready to open at Easter 2015.

However, hungry and thirsty visitors to the beach and the Nature Reserve need not go without refreshments. We have applied for planning permission to build a learning centre, including a small café and lavatories, at the bottom of Lady Anne's Drive.

Throughout the building work, which will start on the Ancient House in the summer, The Victoria will remain open as usual.



Next issue published in Summer 2014