

Update from the National Trust – April 2022

Visitor operations, opening times and programming

- Summer opening hours started on 27 March.
- The High Street toilets will be opened to the public shortly, as soon as some essential repair works have been completed.
- Avebury Manor is now open 6 days a week (Thursday - Tuesday).
- The Restaurant is currently open Wednesday to Sunday. Our aim is to increase opening days/times now that we are in the peak season, but this is proving extremely difficult due to ongoing recruitment challenges. If you know of anybody interested in working in the restaurant, please ask them to get in touch.
- We hope to open the Coach House Café on an occasional basis over the peak season, subject to staff capacity.

Programming:

- **Easter** - 'Easter Adventures in Nature' trail in Garden, and other Easter activities, 9-24 April.
- **Trust10** – monthly 10k run re-starts Sunday 24 April, 9am, outside the Coach House; then every fourth Sunday of the month until October.
- **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** - Thursday 2 June, Beacon lighting event together with local community and church (from 6pm; beacon lighting at 9.45pm on Waden Hill – details tbc)

For our full offer and opening times please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury

Observances

- Spring Equinox was busy but without major incidents.
Camping in overflow car park was provided from Saturday 19 March to Monday 21 March.
- Next camping provision is planned to be on Beltane; from Friday 29 April to Sunday 1 May.
- Summer Solstice planning is ongoing in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including ASOPM (Avebury Solstice Operational Planning Meetings) and ASSF (Avebury Sacred Sites Forum).
- We have received parking derogations from Natural England to have the option to use the Manor Parkland for additional parking on our busiest weekends and when the overflow car park is used for observance camping.

Avebury Chapel

NT is leasing Avebury Chapel to the local community (on a peppercorn lease to APC) as an exhibition space for local organisations under the overarching theme of 'The Living Landscape'. The lease has been drafted and APC and NT are in process of signing it off. The aim is for APC to take on the lease by 1 May.

Projects

Interpretation panels – The frames to hold the interpretation panels on the visitor route from the main car park have been installed last week. The panels themselves are currently with the printers with the aim to have them in place before Easter.

Manor ceiling works – we will soon be carrying out a detailed survey and repair/stabilisation works to the ceiling in the Manor Kitchen. Similar to previous works done in the attic rooms, we will be lifting and 'excavating' under the floorboards above the Kitchen and expect to discover some interesting finds, that might tell us more about the history of the house.

Countryside & Archaeology update

No news this month.

01/04/2022