

Summer 2025

Parklife

July - September

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**Nene
Park
Trust**

Welcome to Summer Parklife 2025



Well, we've certainly been enjoying the sunshine already here in the Park and looking forward to more amazing weather over the next few months, as we embark on our busiest season. There's so much to keep you busy – and also plenty of quiet footpaths and shady spots, if you'd rather get away from it all!

From our Six Weeks of Summer family activities (anything from wildlife activities and craft workshops to adventurous watersports or mindful Tai Chi) to our exciting Summer Nights outdoor cinema and Foodie Fridays, there really is something for everyone here at Nene Park.

In this edition of Parklife, catch up on the latest news from across Nene Park Trust.

Read about the fourth successful Peterborough Celebrates Festival back in May on **page 12**, the fascinating history of the Norman Cross Napoleonic prisoner of war depot on **page 10** and see some of our events highlighted on **pages 7 and 15**. For our full events guide from now until the end of 2025, pick up our new What's On Guide when you're next in the Park.

Have a brilliant summer!

The Nene Park Trust team

Farewell to our Photography competitions... for now!

We have taken the decision to pause the monthly photography competitions for now as our photo library is bursting at the seams and we're busy concentrating on other projects. Thank you to everyone who has sent in entries over the last five years – it's been a joy to see the Park wildlife and landmarks that you've captured.

Here are the entries from the last few months.



Heritage Highlight



The Artis Trail – a walk in our Rural Estate

The Artis Trail takes you through beautiful summer meadows and grazed fields along the River Nene and through Normangate Field and Castor Village. The walk uncovers the unique history of the Nene Valley from the Bronze Age, the Roman period and to World War II.

The trail is named after Edmund Artis (1789-1847) who lived and worked in the area. He discovered and recorded a huge archive of archaeological finds that included Roman pottery kilns, mosaics and the remains of grand Roman villas that stood on the outskirts of Durobrivae, a significant Roman settlement near the river.

Starting at Splash Lane car park in Castor, the circular walk is just over 2 miles long and takes about 1.5 hours.

You can find out more about the history along the trail by scanning the QR codes along the route or by downloading the Artis Trail App and trail map from our website nenepark.org.uk/walking-in-time-heritage-trails

Or pick up a paper leaflet from the Visitor Centre!



Mucky pups welcome!

Have you seen we've installed two dog washes at Ferry Meadows? Thanks to our friends at The Dog Wash Company, we now have a dog wash behind the toilet block at the Welcome Area of Ferry Meadows and another at the toilet block at Lakeside.

Now your four-legged friends can get cleaned up easily after a walk and there's no need for muddy mess in the car or at home, just clean dogs and happy humans.

Just £8

for a 10 minute wash

Available all day, every day

Card and contactless payments accepted

Come along and give it a go – see what your furry friend makes of it!



Hop on a bike and explore Nene Park

Cycling is one of the best ways to enjoy everything Nene Park has to offer – from peaceful woodland routes to beautiful lakeside trails and miles of safe traffic-free paths, perfect for all ages.

Bike hire is back at Nene Outdoors!

We're excited to have bike hire up and running again at Nene Outdoors Watersports & Activity Centre. We've got a great selection of bikes for both adults and children, including mountain bikes and e-bikes, so everyone can join the fun. And don't worry about safety, helmets are included free with every hire.

Find out more on our website – nenepark.org.uk/cycle

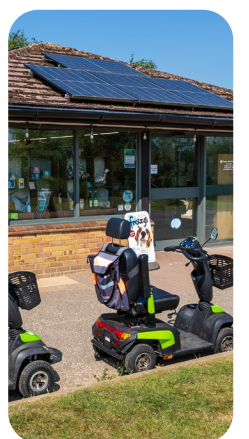


Make room for a cuppa!

We now have a new pop up kiosk at Lakeside so you can pick up take away drinks and snacks easily while the kids are playing at Fox Play. We think this is a welcome addition to the ever popular Lakeside Kitchen & Bar and it will help reduce queues on busy days.

Hire a mobility scooter or Mountain Trike

Did you know you can borrow one of our mobility scooters or Mountain Trikes (all terrain wheelchairs) from the Visitor Centre? Just pop in and ask one of our friendly team about it or phone up and book a time slot. It's free to borrow a scooter but we do ask for a donation towards this service so we can continue to offer it to all!



If you would like to be added to our email mailing list or require this magazine in another format, please get in touch.

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Summer Nights

at Ferry Meadows

Get ready for an unmissable season of Summer Nights at Ferry Meadows – where evenings in the Park come alive with delicious local food and drink, live music, outdoor cinema and community-curated film screenings. This fun-filled line-up is all part of Nene Park Trust's mission to bring people together to enjoy inclusive events in our beautiful green spaces. Here's what we have in store:



Foodie Fridays

Selected Fridays throughout the summer
5pm - 8pm | Lakeside, Ferry Meadows

Kick-off your weekends at Foodie Fridays! Bringing together some of Peterborough's top local food and drink vendors, each serving up their own unique flavours, plus live music from talented musicians and after-hours pedalos at Nene Outdoors. It's the perfect way to wind down your week!



Community Film Screenings

Fridays, 25 July – 29 August 7.30pm £6 per ticket

In partnership with Gateway Film Festival, we're proud to present a series of community-led film screenings, hand-picked by local groups to reflect our city's diversity. From feel-good family favourites to independent gems, enjoy a unique cinema experience beneath the summer sky.



After-hours pedalos

On Foodie Friday evenings through the summer, come and take out a pedalo on the lake – open to hire until 8pm

For more summer water fun, please see the Nene Park Trust website. We've got boat trips, pay and play hire, open water swimming and sailing courses.

Saturday Cinema Specials

Saturdays, 9 & 23 August
Tickets £11 adult & £8.50 child

Blockbuster films voted by our Nene Park Trust followers will take over the big screen for two special Saturday nights. Bring a blanket, grab your snacks and relax with friends and family for an evening of entertainment in the great outdoors.



11 July	5 – 8pm	Foodie Fridays	local food, drink and live music
25 July	5 – 8pm	Foodie Fridays	local food, drink and live music
	7.30pm	Outdoor Cinema	Rio (U) selected by Culture Community
1 August	5 – 8pm	Foodie Fridays	local food, drink and live music
	7.30pm	Outdoor Cinema	Before Sunrise (30th Anniversary) (15) selected by Gateway Film Festival
8 August	5 – 8pm	Foodie Fridays	local food, drink and live music
	7.30pm	Outdoor Cinema	River (U) selected by Flourish
9 August	4.30pm	Outdoor Cinema	Shrek (PG)
	7.30pm	Outdoor Cinema	Wicked Sing-A-Long (PG)
15 August	5 – 8pm	Foodie Fridays	local food, drink and live music
	7.30pm	Outdoor Cinema	Shrek 2 (PG) selected by Queens on Cue
22 August	5 – 8pm	Foodie Fridays	local food, drink and live music
	7.30pm	Outdoor Cinema	The Bride of Frankenstein (PG) selected by Gateway Film Festival
23 August	5 – 8pm	Outdoor Cinema	Moana (PG)
	7.30pm	Outdoor Cinema	Bridget Jones: Mad About The Boy (15)
29 August	5 – 8pm	Foodie Fridays	local food, drink and live music
	5 – 8pm	Outdoor Cinema	Singham Returns (15) selected by Bengali Sanskriti Club
5 & 19 Sept	5 – 8pm	Foodie Fridays	local food, drink and live music



Visit nenepark.org.uk/summer-nights for full event details, tickets and updates. Whether you're a foodie, film fan or just looking for a great evening out with friends and family, there's something for everyone at Summer Nights at Ferry Meadows.

The Your Community Greenbus is back!

After trialling this idea last summer, we are so pleased the Your Community Greenbus is returning for a second year, providing a direct bus route from the city into the Park at weekends throughout the summer holidays.

With no direct public bus route currently into Ferry Meadows, this summer service offers a public transport option to those who don't have a car or easy means of travel. We are trying a different route this year - offering a direct service to Ferry Meadows from Bretton via North Bretton, through Ravensthorpe and Westwood and then down to Thorpe Meadows. The service will run every Saturday and Sunday throughout the school summer holidays.

Read on to find out all you need to know about it!



Buses towards Nene Park, Ferry Meadows									
Bretton Centre	9:30	10:30	11:30	12:30	14:30	15:30	16:30	17:30	
Essendyke	9:33	10:33	11:33	12:33	14:33	15:33	16:33	17:33	
Ice Rink	9:34	10:34	11:34	12:34	14:34	15:34	16:34	17:34	
Heltwate	9:36	10:36	11:36	12:36	14:36	15:36	16:36	17:36	
Gresley Way	9:37	10:37	11:37	12:37	14:37	15:37	16:37	17:37	
Winwick Place	9:39	10:39	11:39	12:39	14:39	15:39	16:39	17:39	
The Halycon	9:41	10:41	11:41	12:41	14:41	15:41	16:41	17:41	
The Grange	9:43	10:43	11:43	12:43	14:43	15:43	16:43	17:43	
Thorpe Meadows	9:46	10:46	11:46	12:46	14:46	15:46	16:46	17:46	
Ferry Meadows	9:55	10:55	11:55	12:55	14:55	15:55	16:55	17:55	

Buses towards Bretton Centre									
Ferry Meadows	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	
Thorpe Meadows	10:06	11:06	12:06	13:06	15:06	16:06	17:06	18:06	
The Grange	10:08	11:08	12:08	13:08	15:08	16:08	17:08	18:08	
The Halycon	10:10	11:10	12:10	13:10	15:10	16:10	17:10	18:10	
Winwick Place	10:12	11:12	12:12	13:12	15:12	16:12	17:12	18:12	
Gresley Way	10:13	11:13	12:13	13:13	15:13	16:13	17:13	18:13	
Heltwate	10:15	11:15	12:15	13:15	15:15	16:15	17:15	18:15	
Ice Rink	10:17	11:17	12:17	13:17	15:17	16:17	17:17	18:17	
Essendyke	10:18	11:18	12:18	13:18	15:18	16:18	17:18	18:18	
Bretton Centre	10:23	11:23	12:23	13:23	15:23	16:23	17:23	18:23	

This bus is being run by Central Connect bus company but has been organised by Nene Park Trust, thanks to funding from The National Heritage Lottery Fund through the 5-year Your Community Greenspace project.



When?
Every Saturday & Sunday from the 24 July – 31 August 2025 - and also including the August bank holiday Monday. The bus will run every 60 minutes from 9.30am – 6pm

The Route?
The bus starts from Bretton Centre and runs all the way to Ferry Meadows, via North Bretton, through Ravensthorpe and Westwood and then down to Thorpe Meadows - a journey that will take 25 minutes from Bretton Centre to Ferry Meadows.

The cost?
The bus fare will £2.50 per person with under 10s going free - and with an amazing £4 return ticket price. Tiger passes accepted.



- FAQs:**
- How big is the bus?**
It is a single decker bus which can seat 30 people.
- Is the bus accessible?**
Yes! It can take wheelchairs and pushchairs.
- Can I take my dog on the bus?**
Yes! dogs can travel on the bus with a £1 day dog ticket.
- We'd love to hear what you think of the bus so please share your feedback at visitor.services@neneparktrust.org.uk.

Summer event highlights

There is so much going on across Nene Park throughout the summer. To see all our events, please see our website events pages (nenepark.org.uk/events) or pick up a copy of our new 6-month what's on guide.

Here are just a few highlights to look out for...



Wildlife workshops

Choose from events about reptiles and amphibians, buzzy bees, owls and their pellets or go on a bug hunt! You can also come along for our FREE weekly pond dipping sessions - donations always welcome!



Hire a bike!

The perfect way to explore the Park! Available daily from 10.30am to 5pm, choose from a range of styles and sizes, including e-bikes, plus helmets come free with every hire.



The Big Jump

Bounce, jump and climb through a 300 metre obstacle course, huge inflatable play area and space-themed toddler zone on Coney Meadow, behind the Visitor Centre in Ferry Meadows!

Open daily from 25 July to 10 August, 3-hour sessions are £12 for 4+ and £5 for ages 2-4.



Complete the holiday trail!

You'll find a new trail up around Ferry Meadows every two weeks in the holidays. Pick up a trail sheet from the Visitor Centre for just £1, answer the questions as you walk around the Park and return to the Visitor Centre to claim your prize to grow at home.



Get adventurous!

There are archery and climbing sessions on at Nene Outdoors on various dates over the summer holidays - or why not learn to sail or windsurf on one of our two day courses?



Mindful moments

Come and join in with FREE Tai Chi on the grass outside the Visitor Centre every Saturday morning in the school holidays or try FREE yoga on a Sunday morning by Roman Point. Our wellbeing wanders and sensory walks also continue through the summer.

Celebrating our volunteers

Events Volunteers

A big thank you to our amazing Peterborough Celebrates Festival volunteers who supported us throughout the festival weekend.

They played a vital role in the smooth running and success of the festival, whether it was helping at the silent disco, keeping staff company at one of the stage areas or on a stall, supporting the performers, taking part in our human fruit machine, keeping the site safe and looking good, grabbing a hi-vis vest and helping to escort vehicles safely from the site, answering questions from visitors or simply giving them a welcoming smile! Whatever the contribution, we are very grateful and really appreciate our volunteers giving up their time to support us and the festival.



If you are interested in joining our Events Volunteer Team, we are currently looking for volunteers to support our Foodie Fridays and Summer Nights Outdoor Cinema events this summer. Register online at: neneparktrust.teamkinetic.co.uk

Wildlife Surveying Volunteers

The peak wildlife surveying season is well underway for our team of **23 wildlife survey volunteers**. The main survey season kicked off in March, and the team have clocked up over **150 hours of surveying birds, butterflies, bumblebees, wild flowers and bats!**



Some exciting findings so far:

- The first Gadwall ducklings hatched in the Park since 1993 spotted by keen eyed volunteers
- Green Hairstreak butterflies have been spotted again. They typically have very small colonies and it is vital that we keep monitoring them to ensure our habitat management work has no detrimental impact on them
- Potentially the largest brood of Mallard ducklings were spotted on the rowing lake at Thorpe Meadows – **18 ducklings!**

Some figures as of mid-May:



● **7** Bumblebee/ solitary bee species

● **281** "ad hoc" records – birds, flowers, butterflies, insects, mammals

● **102** wild flower species

● **13** butterfly species (the summer species aren't awake yet!)

● **6** bat species

● **110** bird species

Our wildlife survey volunteers are vital in helping us to monitor the Park, its wildlife and habitats, and their work helps to steer our habitat management work. Collecting data that can be compared each year is really important and helps us to see what we need to do (or not do!). The amount of surveys and species being surveyed has increased a lot in the last couple of years especially, and it is allowing us to learn more about what species are present and also how the wildlife is using the Park.

The data collected is also fed back to other organisations such as Butterfly Conservation, Bumblebee Conservation and Bat Conservation, and helps feed in to regional and national datasets so trends in species numbers and distribution can be tracked. Our wildlife survey volunteers are a really vital part of park management, so thank you all!

Come and join us!

We've always got new volunteering opportunities coming up. Do any of these take your fancy?



Welcome Ranger Training Project

Next session 18 July

Here at Ferry Meadows we strive to give our visitors the best possible experience whilst visiting the Park. Volunteers play an important role in helping our visitors and we already have a few keen Volunteer Welcome Rangers. We have another training session starting on 18 July. If you enjoy engaging with visitors, have a positive attitude, and willingness to learn, we'd love you to join the team!

"I enjoy meeting visitors and welcoming them to Ferry Meadows. There's always lots to see and do here. If I can share my knowledge and help people enjoy their visit then I feel that's a job well done. I've always enjoyed helping people and there's never a silly question."

Working closely with the Visitor Service Team gives me a great sense of pride, I find the role very fulfilling and rewarding, even when the weather isn't great. We get really well looked after and no two days are ever the same. I always go home with a smile on my face and a spring in my step. I would say give it go - you won't be disappointed! "

Holiday Club Volunteer

We have a great volunteer opportunity to help with our children's holiday club 'Acorn Explorers' for 5-8 year olds. If you enjoy working with children, being outside or if you want to gain new skills for a course application, D of E or future careers, this is one for you. The days last from 8am-4pm and you can do one day, a couple of days or a whole week.

Every day is a different theme – we could be being princesses, knights or dragons, bringing the carnival, being pirates, exploring for bugs, turning into Robin Hood and much more!

Our next sessions are two weeks in the summer holidays at the start of August. If you are 16 and over and interested to find out more, get in touch with us at education@neneparktrust.org.uk



Firewood Volunteer

We're on the look out for volunteers to join us in the firewood team. If you're handy with a chainsaw or want to get stuck into preparing firewood, then get in touch.

Norman Cross protected forever!

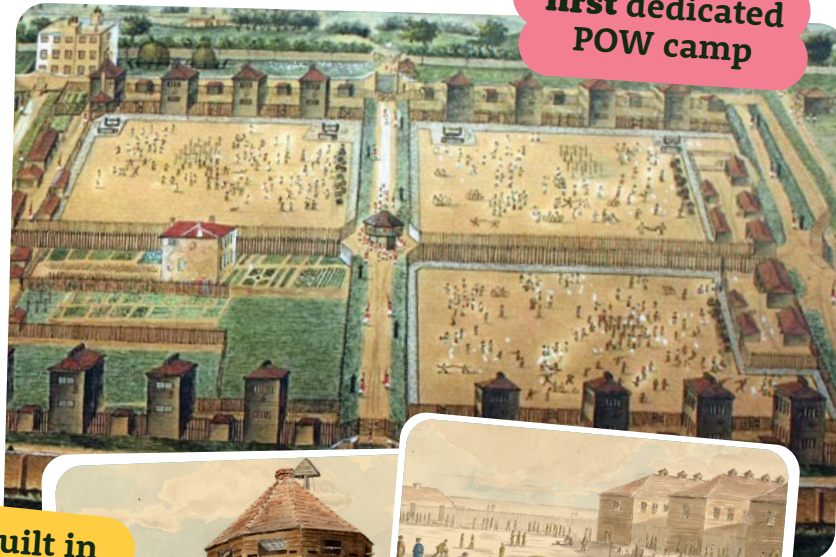
We shared some very exciting news last month, as we announced our purchase of the historic site of Norman Cross, thanks to £200,000 grant funding from Historic England and £50,000 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Norman Cross, just near Yaxley, south of Peterborough, was the site of the world's first purpose built prisoner of war camp built in 1796. It's a site of significant historical interest and it deserves its story to be told and shared.

The acquisition of the site secures the future of this unique Scheduled Monument, which contains the earthwork and buried remains of the prison camp that housed around 7,000 French prisoners during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. The camp, which operated from 1797 to 1814, functioned as a self-contained town with barracks, offices, a hospital, school, marketplace and banking system.



The world's first dedicated POW camp



Built in 1796



Crafted from bone and straw

The site is particularly renowned for the remarkable craftwork produced by the prisoners, who created intricate items from bone and straw to sell at the camp market. Over 800 of these items – considered the largest and finest collection of prisoners of war craftwork in the world – are housed at Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery.

The site is also home to the remains of 1,770 French, Dutch and German prisoners who died during their time at the camp and who are memorialised at the nearby Norman Cross Eagle Monument. This project ensures that these former soldiers remain at peace and that their stories can be told today and in the future.

Future plans

Currently, there is no public access to the site. We are developing plans to enable visitors to explore the area while ensuring that the land is farmed sympathetically to preserve the archaeological remains beneath.

It is hoped that Norman Cross will become a new green space close to Peterborough, celebrating its remarkable heritage while providing wellbeing benefits for local communities.

We are now working on some new interpretation of the site and planning a launch event in September to introduce the public to this hidden historic gem.



Fundraising update

Thank you to our festival sponsors!

Thank you to our Peterborough Celebrates Festival sponsors – we could not put on the festival without your support.



Thank you to Compare the Market

A big thank you to Compare the Market for giving a generous donation to Nene Nursery. This has funded necessary maintenance, which two groups of their staff members volunteered to help carry out – a big thank you for all of the support, especially helping at the nursery in the June heat!



New planting in the Welcome Area!



Thank you to Finniss Scott Foundation for funding the new plants you can see in our Welcome Area of Ferry Meadows.

A new viewing platform!



We are really pleased to share we are once again working with Big Motoring World who have generously funded a new viewing platform at Gunwade Lake. This viewing platform will allow Park visitors to walk onto Gunwade Lake and view the newly created reedbed as well as other views across the lake.

The build for the platform will start in July, keep an eye out on social media where will be sharing updates.



Investing in Impact

We have launched a document that sets our ambitions as a Trust for development projects around areas such as the environment, community, education, arts and culture, health and wellbeing – and the many ways that local businesses and organisations can get involved and help support us with investment and partnership opportunities to really make a difference.



To find out more and discuss this further please email Adrian Oates on investment@neneparktrust.org.uk

Swimming for Nature

Nene Park Trust Fundraising Officer Shân has taken on a swimming challenge, to swim 93 miles throughout the summer, raising money for Nene Park Trust and raising awareness of the 930 hectares of green space that Nene Park Trust manages.

As of the end of June, Shân has so far swum 58 miles and raised £526. If you would like to support Shân in her challenge, you can donate at nenepark.org.uk/Appeal/swimming-for-nature





Peterborough Celebrates success for the fourth year!

For the fourth year running, **Peterborough Celebrates Festival (17-18 May 2025)** was declared a resounding success, with the city coming together at Ferry Meadows to share and celebrate music, arts, drama, community and food.

The festival started with the pre-festival Silent Disco sessions in the Big Top on Friday 16 May, making the most of the festival site set up and building the festival anticipation. We welcomed Sense with their 150 service users for a disco in the afternoon followed by 356 silent disco attendees arriving for two sessions in the evening to get the festival atmosphere started.

Saturday 17 May and Sunday 18 May saw the sun breaking through the clouds and festival visitors flocking to enjoy free performances and a wide range of activities for all the family. We estimate from car parking data and visitor counters that around 20,000 people attended the festival across the weekend.

Throughout the weekend, festival-goers were treated to a wide range of performances across our four performance spaces, such as music, theatre, dance, and activities including art and community workshops and have-a-go sports and games. In total there were 60 different performing groups consisting of 450+ individual performers. Performers ranged from local music and dance groups such as Lucy's Pop Choir, Wansford Ukelele Folk, Indian dance group Ritu Ranga and Latvian children's dance group Kastinitis to renowned professional acts such as acrobats No Fit State, Vanhulle Dance and Feet off the Ground.

Community groups from across Peterborough were at the heart of the festival. 20 local organisations had festival stalls showcasing what they do. The community 'Flutter of Butterflies' display had an amazing impact with 1900 individual butterflies made from recycled plastic bottles and decorated by different community groups, schools and care homes, all displayed on 9 large butterfly shaped installations - including two artist painted butterflies.



The festival finale saw a dramatic Hindu Holi Colour celebration in front of the main stage. Festival-goers gathered together to throw coloured paint powder in the air and at each other in a joyful celebration to mark a colourful end to a fantastic festival weekend.

Thank you to all our festival visitors too for coming along and celebrating the city with us over the weekend. We hope to do it all over again next year so keep an eye out on our socials for announcements about next year's date. Thank you to everyone involved - our staff, our volunteers, our communities, our performers, our visitors and our sponsors. We couldn't do this huge community event without you!



A night under the stars

For campers who have stayed with us before, our two campsites have been swapped around so that our Lakeview bell tents are now tucked into the little campsite nearer Gunwade Lake and closer to Nene Outdoors. The Glade pitch-your-own campsite is now closest to the Lakeside road and car park facilities.

Both campsites are ideally positioned to discover the beautiful surroundings of Ferry Meadows and to take advantage of all the exciting activities on offer at Nene Outdoors, where campers can enjoy a 10% discount on Pay and Play watersports activities. Campers are also a stone's throw from Lakeside Kitchen and Bar, as well as Fox Play area and miles of footpaths and meadows.

Come and try out a night under the stars!
Find out more on our website [nenepark.org.uk/camping](#)



Looking ahead to the autumn...

Forest School training opportunities



20% OFF
Forest School Training
this September!

You don't have to be a teacher to do this training!

Take the next step in developing your outdoor learning programme by completing the Level 3 Forest School qualification at Ferry Meadows. A few spaces are still available for our autumn course, starting on 11 September, and we'd love for you to join us!

To make signing up even easier, we're offering a 20% discount. Simply add the code **foresto925** at the checkout when booking.

Level 3 Certificate - Leading Forest School

was
£975
now
£780

Perfect for those looking to lead and develop their own Forest School programmes. The course involves eight days of training, including theory and practical sessions.

This course will equip you with the skills to deliver inspiring Forest School programmes in your educational setting, bringing the incredible health benefits of outdoor learning to your pupils.

Training takes place in person in the beautiful surroundings of Ferry Meadows in Peterborough. The theory elements of the course will be delivered in our comfortable Lakeside Meeting Room, while the practical skills sessions will take place outdoors in our dedicated Forest School site.

If you would like to find out more, just email education@neneparktrust.org.uk



Holiday Clubs

Open during the summer holidays!

Get set for action-packed adventures at Ferry Meadows during the summer holidays with our multi-activity holiday clubs!

Acorn Explorers For children aged 5-8

Based at Lynch Farm in Ferry Meadows, our Acorn Explorers holiday club is the perfect way for younger children to explore the great outdoors. Each day has a different theme, from superheroes to survival and is packed full of nature-based activities and creative outdoor fun, from den building and campfire cooking to scavenger hunts and wildlife trails!

4-8 August | £35 a day
11-15 August | or book a full week for £140 and save 20%

Oak Adventurers For children aged 8-13

Based at Nene Outdoors Watersports and Activity Centre, Oak Adventurers offers a fantastic opportunity for kids to learn new skills and experience a variety of water and land-based activities. From kayaking and paddle boarding to climbing and bushcraft, there's something for every young adventurer to enjoy!

Open weekdays in the summer holidays

£35 a day or book a full week for £140 and save 20%

Book your party in the park!

Make your child's birthday unforgettable with outdoor adventures, exciting activities and plenty of fun!

Choose from two amazing party options:

Explorer Parties Ages 5-11

Throw the best birthday party ever in Peterborough's biggest playground with our Explorer Parties! Choose from a variety of fun nature activities and creative crafts to make your perfect party.

- Parties last 2 hours, including 2 fun activities and 30 minutes in The Den party room.
- It's £180 for up to 12 children.
- Whether you're out on a bug hunt, pond dipping or making clay animals and magic wands, there's tons of excitement for everyone.

Adventure Parties Age 8+

Get ready for the ultimate birthday adventure at Nene Outdoors Watersports & Activity Centre! Packed with exciting group activities, from archery and bushcraft to paddlesports and raft building.

- Parties last for 2 hours, including 2 activities and 30 minutes in our Lakeside party room.
- It's £276 for 12 children, plus £23 per additional child.
- Splash around on the water or take on land-based challenges. It's all about having fun, learning new skills and making memories.

Visit nenepark.org.uk/parties to find out more and book your party today!



Barbecue safely this summer!

There's nothing better than a barbecue with friends on a sunny day in the Park, is there? However, careless use of barbecues in the Park brings with it an increased risk of fire and damage to our Park's trees, greenery and facilities.

Over the past few years, we have noticed an increase in barbecue-related damage across the Park and it is only a matter of time before we have a serious incident on our hands, which would be both dangerous and costly. One of our veteran oak trees (pictured) has experienced serious damage from a barbecue placed too close to its trunk. The sad news is that this tree is now dying.



We have updated our BBQ Code which sets out some key points to follow so please help us keep the Park safe for all.

From now on we are **banning the use of disposable barbecues** across the Park and encourage all our visitors to use the fixed barbecue stands provided.



Look out for our BBQ code signs

We also want to encourage all people barbecuing to bring water with them to cool hot ash when they have finished and to dispose of ash in the designated ash bins provided. Please do not tip ash or leftover charcoal on to the grass or put it in the regular waste bins. We have had bin fires in the past when smouldering ash has been placed with general waste.

Regular visitors will have noticed some new signage around the Park to remind visitors of the new guidelines. In time we will be installing more fixed barbecue stands around the Park so there are more raised barbecues for visitors to use. Over the summer, our Nene Park Trust staff will be working hard to remind our visitors of our new BBQ Code and alerting them to the new signs if necessary.

Please help us to keep the park safe. Thank you.



What's on

All our events are now listed in our 6-month What's On Guide. Pick up a copy of the guide at the Ferry Meadows Visitor Centre, our cafes, Nene Outdoors Watersports and Activity Centre, or in locations around the city.

This guide covers all our events from July until the end of December 2025.



Six Weeks of Summer

Look forward to a summer holiday packed full of family fun and fantastic activities. Whether you're into outdoor adventures, wildlife workshops, holiday clubs or art and craft – there's something for everyone to enjoy!

Summer Nights

at Ferry Meadows

Get ready for an unmissable season of Summer Nights at Ferry Meadows – where evenings in the Park come alive with delicious local food and drink, live music, outdoor cinema and community-programmed film screenings.



Looking ahead to our Winter Festival

Step into the magic of winter as the Nene Park Winter Festival returns! Ferry Meadows transforms into an enchanted forest, full of festive sparkle, seasonal cheer and magical surprises.

On selected dates between 27 November – 30 December. Keep an eye out for more details in the autumn and how to book your tickets.

Oktoberfest

On 27 September, enjoy a day of Bavarian fun with overflowing steins, sizzling bratwurst and lively oompah music!



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