



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

DAY

25 AUGUST

#NottsDay

*A county to
be proud of*

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE DAY HISTORICAL PACKS

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Information and Contacts:

For further information please contact:

Notts.Day@nottsccl.gov.uk

Or visit:

[Nottinghamshire Day | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

What is Nottinghamshire Day?

County Days are an opportunity to celebrate the identity, heritage, culture, and local traditions of historic counties and are celebrated by a number of other counties. The celebration of our historic county of Nottinghamshire, in this way, would support local communities to understand and celebrate the history and traditions of the places they live, work, and enjoy their leisure time. Nottinghamshire Day takes place on the 25th August as this date marks the anniversary of the start of the English Civil War, an event triggered by Charles I raising the royal standard at Nottingham Castle in 1642.

This year, Nottinghamshire Day celebrations will include:

27th August 2022- A public event at Sherwood Forest that will include an outdoor stage, market stalls, entertainment and performances, and food and drink.

The celebrations will also be celebrated with a county wide lead-up campaign that includes involvement from schools, local businesses, and an environmental campaign.

We are hoping that historical organisations will also be involved in the lead up and the day itself to show everything this county has to offer.



Aims and structure of this pack

The first Nottinghamshire day was held on 25th August 2021 with a successful media campaign and flag raising ceremony attended by Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, the Sheriff of Nottingham, Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Nottinghamshire Police Chief Constable, and several of the county's MPs and representatives from the district and borough councils. There was a successful social media campaign and successful involvement from Notts TV and Radio Nottinghamshire.

This year however we are hoping to celebrate with more in-person events that celebrate the history and heritage of Nottinghamshire. We will work with District and Borough Councils, local businesses, and attractions to promote Nottinghamshire Day, encourage people to explore our towns and countryside, and be involved in Nottinghamshire's history and heritage.

The celebration of our historic county of Nottinghamshire, in this way, supports our local communities to understand and celebrate the history and traditions of the places they live, work, and enjoy their leisure time. Local history plays a key part in developing a unique sense of place for Nottinghamshire and can help attract visitors. Offering an authentic, local experience that encapsulates all things Nottinghamshire could also help your organisation to stand out from competitors and attract new and returning visitors.

The aim of this history pack is to help Nottinghamshire's historical organisations capitalise on the Nottinghamshire Day celebrations and be involved in the day. Through an exploration of Nottinghamshire's history and attractions, as well as ideas for involvement, tips, and guidance, we hope that you will help us celebrate Nottinghamshire and benefit from all the county has to offer.

This pack includes information on Nottinghamshire's history and heritage, as well as tips on how to capitalise on it, how and why you should get involved with the day, what Nottinghamshire day can offer you, free education packs, draft social media posts, and a digital asset pack.

The goal of Nottinghamshire Day

The goal of Nottinghamshire Day 2022 is to:

- Celebrate Nottinghamshire's history and heritage
- Inspire children and young people to be involved in the day and community, and historical and cultural organisations
- Celebrate and draw attention to Nottinghamshire's leading role through a celebration of our current environmental, sporting, cultural, and technological projects
- Allow all residents to be involved in the day and show their celebration of the county
- Support and provide opportunities and promotion for Nottinghamshire businesses
- Support the local economy and visitor and tourism economy
- To work with partnerships across Nottinghamshire
- To work with local community and voluntary groups across the County



How to get involved

We are hoping to have any organisation that would like to be involved in Nottinghamshire Day given the chance to do so and have produced the following briefs of ways to be involved, as small or large scale as you would like:

Nottinghamshire Day display:

This Nottinghamshire Day we are planning a physical historical display for the public event at Sherwood forest designed to engage the public with Nottinghamshire's history. We're hoping to display the County's history and are welcoming donations from historical organisations following the brief.

Historical Display Brief:

- Items that showcase a significant area of Nottinghamshire history and are suitable to be transported to Sherwood Forest Visitor centre and displayed to the public on a flat table.
- Suitable items include replicas, models, costumes, photos, or even something of your own creation. Due to limited display space, offers will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact **Notts.Day@nottsc.gov.uk** by **18th March 2022**.

What Nottinghamshire means to you:

We are challenging all organisations to answer the question: What does Nottinghamshire mean to you? Think about what Nottinghamshire means to you and your organisation in 50 words or less and submit your answer to **Notts.Day@nottsc.gov.uk** to be included in our display! The returned answers will be considered as a part of our display and offer fun and interactive opportunities for engagement.

If you would like the opportunity to be represented at the Nottinghamshire Day public event, we are offering a limited number of market stalls and activity spaces to organisations. This would allow you to not only engage directly with the public and other organisations but can also be taken as chance to gain instant feedback from hundreds of visitors. If you are interested in hosting a market stall for Nottinghamshire Day please contact **Notts.Day@nottsc.gov.uk** by 18th March 2022.

How to get involved

If you would like to get further involved with the Nottinghamshire Day celebrations or host your own events not at Sherwood Forest, here are some more optional ideas that can be branded as Nottinghamshire Day:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Competition | Produce a short video discussing how your organisation relates to Nottinghamshire history, how your organisation helps people work together, a surprising or interesting fact about your organisation, or your favourite fact about Nottinghamshire |
| • Re-enactments | |
| • Workshops | |
| • Themed tours | |
| • Family events | |
| • Exhibits | |

If you would like to celebrate Nottinghamshire Day independently, but would like your celebration to be promoted, then this could be posted to our social media channels and our 'Events' section of the Nottinghamshire Day webpage, which will inform the public of all Nottinghamshire Day celebrations happening both on the day and in the lead up.

More information on the history of Nottinghamshire can also be found in the historic collections in Nottinghamshire Archives and the local studies in libraries. These collections cover over 800 years of history and all aspects of the county and are a great starting point for anyone wishing to look further into their county's history.

What Nottinghamshire Day can offer you

Nottinghamshire Day is an excellent opportunity to increase promotion and awareness of your organisation. Should you choose to participate this will be a large-scale event that is expected to attract thousands of visitors. If you request to host a market stall this would be a great opportunity to directly interact with the public and other organisations while also promoting your organisations involvement with the County and its communities.

If you choose to participate in the celebrations in your own way, we will also promote and celebrate these events through social media and a Nottinghamshire Day webpage to help organisations be engaged with communities and increase their awareness. Both 'Nottinghamshire' and '#Nottsday' was trending on twitter during last year's Nottinghamshire Day celebrations and involving your organisation in trends and searches is a great way to reach a wide audience. Furthermore, interacting with other key players in the sector enables a greater reach and visibility for yourself. Making yourself known to other local organisations also puts you in better stead for future collaborations and partnerships, which is just one way you could be involved with Nottinghamshire Day.

If you are an organisation that provides a product or a service, shopping locally has been a longstanding trend which has been gaining traction in recent years. COVID-19 has accelerated this trend, and now, 48% of UK consumers are ready to pay more for those brands that emphasise provenance. Nottinghamshire Day is an amazing chance to shout about what your organisation offers.



Our themes and examples

The theme of this year's Nottinghamshire Day is 'Nottinghamshire working together'. By celebrating times in Nottinghamshire's history that people have come together and united in times of great division we are hoping to express that this is a celebration in which the whole county can work and celebrate together, and that Nottinghamshire Day is here to celebrate our local identity and sense of place.

As optional guidance, we have identified areas of Nottinghamshire history that can be used to draw out this theme:

Robin Hood:

Robin Hood is generally placed in the 12th Century in the time of Richard the Lionheart and King John. When Richard returned from the third Crusade in 1192, he was captured and held hostage in Austria to ransom for a huge sum of money. John saw this as his chance to claim the throne and seized it for himself. When Richard was released, he returned to England with an army and marched on John's remaining supporters. One of John's last strongholds was Nottingham, which Richard besieged in March 1194. He oversaw the construction of a giant trebuchet to pound the walls. Fearing the worst, the castle's garrison surrendered before the great siege engine could be used.

Through various retellings of Robin Hood a consistent story has been produced. This includes Robin Hood and his Merry Men living in Sherwood forest, stealing from the rich to give to the poor, and fighting against the Sheriff of Nottingham who is often depicted as helping King John usurp the throne while Robin Hood remains loyal to King Richard.

Robin Hood is a symbol of hope, justice, and right triumphing over wrong. The narrative of him and his band of merry men coming together to defend and protect the rights of the poor and support the common people of Nottinghamshire is a great example of people coming together to support each other, even in a country divided by two Kings.

Sites in Nottinghamshire that are linked to the Robin Hood legend include Robin Hood's Well, located near Newstead Abbey, the Church of St. Mary in the village of Edwinstowe and the Major Oak also located at the village of Edwinstowe. The Major Oak, which resides in the heart of Sherwood Forest, is popularly believed to have been used by the Merry Men as a hide-out.



The Pilgrims, Mayflower, and Thanksgiving:

William Brewster, the religious leader of the Pilgrims, was originally from Scrooby, Nottinghamshire and the Puritan separatist group that would later be known as the Pilgrims first began to meet at his home, Scrooby Manor.

When the Pilgrims finally arrived in America it was only with help from the Wampanoag tribe that they were able to survive. On March 16th 1621, Samoset, an Abnekaki Sagamore, entered the pilgrim's settlement and arranged a meeting between the pilgrims and the Wampanoag chief, Massasoit. They also met Squanto, who had been abducted in 1614 by an English explorer and had spent five years in Europe as a slave and then as a freeman in England. He had returned to New England in 1619 and was crucial as a translator. On March 22nd Samoset, Squanto, and Massasoit established a formal treaty of peace with Governor Carver of the pilgrims. The Wampanoag tribe taught the pilgrims how to grow and harvest food and traded crucial materials with them.

In November 1621, the surviving pilgrims celebrated a harvest feast which became known in the 1800s as "The First Thanksgiving". The feast was celebrated by the 53 surviving Pilgrims, along with Massasoit and 90 of his men. Today, Thanksgiving is not celebrated by many Native Americans and is instead observed as a day of mourning and a reminder of the tragic effects of European colonisation.

The first Thanksgiving however was originally a peaceful event and a genuine occurrence of two groups with drastically different lifestyles and beliefs coming together in celebration. It is this collaboration of the pilgrims and the Wampanoag that encompasses our themes of Nottinghamshire Day of people coming together, despite their differences.



The Civil War:

Nottinghamshire had a crucial and significant involvement in the English Civil War, particularly through Nottinghamshire Castle where the standard was first raised and Newark castle which faced three sieges. During the 17th century, the most important routes north took travellers via crossings over the River Trent at Newark and Nottingham and this owes to Nottinghamshire's crucial position during the Civil war.

The Civil War was a time of great division as the country became split between Royalists and Parliamentarians and is often described as a war that pitted brother against brother, and father against son. Despite this, there is evidence of unity and friendship between individuals on opposite sides and physical evidence, such as letters and posy rings, that show individuals hoping their friendships will survive the war.

The Civil War also have various themes that are still incredibly relevant today. The Civil wars opened the country to a flood of new political, religious, cultural and scientific ideas and many traditional ideas began to be questioned. The war also created a refugee crisis as many farms and houses were destroyed and thousands of refugees left Ireland.

There is an abundance of Civil War material in Nottinghamshire but some of particular interest are Newark castle, the Queen's Sconce, Charles I pearl earring housed at the Portland Collection at Welbeck, and a variety of items, including a Posy Ring, at the National Civil war Centre in Newark.



Helen Watts:

This Nottinghamshire Day we are also celebrating the lives of individuals who brought people together in Nottinghamshire and one of these is Helen Watts and her involvement in the Suffragette movement.

Helen Watts was born in 1881 and lived in Lenton, Nottingham. In 1909 she attended the 'Women's Parliament' and was inspired to join a protest for 'Votes for Women' in London. Helen was second to be arrested outside the House of Commons. She was charged with obstruction and passionately refused to improve her behaviour. She was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

On release she was greeted at Nottingham station by many local suffragettes and a celebration supper was held at Morley's cafe on Wheeler Gate. She later attended another meeting in Leicester where Winston Churchill was speaking. This time Helen was charged with 'disorderly conduct' and in Leicester jail she went on hunger strike for 90 hours. She also smashed 2 windowpanes in her cell to let in fresh air and was released after 5 days. Helen was awarded the Holloway prison medal and the Hunger strike medal. After these experiences, Helen was in demand as a speaker and there are notes for a number of her speeches in the Nottinghamshire archives.

Helen's contribution to the Suffragette movement is undeniable and is an amazing example of people coming together to fight for a common cause. A Juniper tree has been planted at Nottingham Arboretum Park, to honour Helen Watts.



Eric Irons OBE:

One of the other individual figures being celebrated this Nottinghamshire Day is Eric Irons. Eric Irons OBE was born in Jamaica in 1921 and settled in Nottingham following his RAF service in World War Two. Eric was passionate about equality and worked to introduce measures to prevent the discrimination of ethnic minorities in Nottinghamshire and provide them with more opportunities as a community.

In his memoirs, Eric states 'Growing up and living amongst people originating from the Indian sub-continent had imbued in me a healthy respect for other people's way of life and their beliefs and traditions', and Eric worked with Chinese, Indian, and Pakistani community leaders to establish an English language and current affairs class for Hindu, Muslim, and Sikh women, and helped gain a grant for a Chinese community centre. These classes brought different communities together and provided them with more opportunities, but also attracted attention from across the country to help engage with Asian women.

Eric also set up community and women's groups which went on to form part of the Consultative Committee for the welfare of black people in 1955, and the Nottingham standing conference for Commonwealth citizens. The group discussed local issues and prejudice and Eric successfully campaigned for equality within many services including the City Council and Nottingham transport services.

He made history in 1962 when he was appointed Justice of the Peace to Nottingham bench of Magistrates, becoming the country's first black magistrate. Since then, Eric has been awarded the Badge of Honour from the Government of Jamaica for his community work and was made an OBE in 1977.

Since then, Eric Irons has been awarded the Badge of Honour from the Government of Jamaica for his community work and was made an OBE in 1977. He was also awarded a Citizen of Honour certificate from the Council in 1996 and there is a plaque dedicated to Eric Irons at the National Justice Museum in Nottingham. Eric's work in bringing the communities of Nottinghamshire together is an incredibly significant example of unity in Nottinghamshire's history and his help following the 1958 race riots was similarly significant in bringing the people of Nottinghamshire together in a time of division. A plaque dedicated to Eric Irons can be seen at the National Justice Museum in Nottingham and was unveiled by his family in October 2019.



Image courtesy of
visit-nottinghamshire.co.uk

Education and Digital asset packs

As part of Nottinghamshire Day, we have also produced a series of education packs and a digital asset pack. If the education packs relate to your organisation, please use and distribute them.

The digital asset pack includes a variety of social media images, posters, and logos that can be used to brand an event as being a part of Nottinghamshire Day.

Education packs:

Figures pack.pdf

Pilgrims pack.pdf

Robin Hood pack .pdf

Civil War KS2 pack.pdf

Digital asset pack:

[Nottinghamshire Day Face book Ad4.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Day Facebook post3.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Day Facebook post4.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Day Twitter cover2.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Day Twitter cover3.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Twitter Post3.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Twitter Post4.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Notts Day Face book Cover3.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Notts Day Face book Cover4.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Notts Day Poster_03.pdf \[PDF\]](#)

[Notts Day Poster_04.pdf \[PDF\]](#)

General Social media assets

[Notts Day Face book Cover2.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Day Twitter cover.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Day Facebook post2.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Twitter Post2.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

Facebook image frame

Facebook image frame You can show your support for the day and pride in where you live by showcasing the Nottinghamshire Day image frame (pictured) around your Facebook profile picture for you and your organisation.



Personal page:

1. Click on your profile picture and then select 'add frame'
2. Search 'NottinghamshireDay' or '#NottsDay' under the 'choose a frame' option
3. Choose either the light or dark green to suit your preference.

Organisation/business page: If you or someone you know has a Facebook business page, you can

www.facebook.com/profilepicframes

4. Go to the bottom left corner and select the page
5. Search for the frame (#NottsDay or NottinghamshireDay)
6. Choose either the light or dark green to suit your preference.

General poster and other graphics:

[Notts Day Poster_02.pdf \[PDF\]](#)

[Microsoft Teams Background.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Website banner.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire flag image.jpg \[JPG\]](#)

Single Colour

[Nottinghamshire Day black.png \[PNG\]](#)

[Nottinghamshire Day Green.png \[PNG\]](#)