

The East Devon Pebblebed Heaths are legally protected as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a Special Protected Area (SPA) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust was established by Clinton Devon Estates in 2006.

The Conservation Trust has management responsibility for the majority of the East Devon

Pebblebed Heaths as well as the Otter Estuary.

During your visit, please respect the landscape, the wildlife and other visitors to help us care for this special place.

For more information please visit our website and follow us on social media.



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PebblebedHeathsConservationTrust

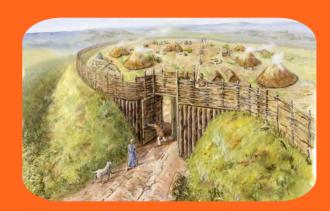


The commons of the Pebblebed Heaths have open access and are free for the public to explore on foot. Many areas can also be enjoyed by bike or on horseback. Join in a range of activities organised by us, our partners or licenced groups. Whether you want to join a guided dog walk, take part in a night time trail run or do some volunteering, take a look at what is happening across the heaths all year round. Event information available online.









OUR HEATHLAND HERITAGE...

The heaths have been occupied by people since at least the Bronze Age, when turf cutting, burning and grazing helped turn the once wooded area into the sweeping open landscape that we love today. From the prehistoric peoples who built the large number of barrows and cairns on the heaths, to the military use of the heathlands during World War II, the footprint of people is evident at every turn.

The most well known archaeological site is Woodbury Castle, an Iron Age hillfort. With its impressive ramparts and ditches it is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument.



LOVE THE HEATHS...

- Remove all litter
- Stay on paths particularly during the bird breeding season (March-July)
- Always pick up after your dog and have good recall or use a lead
- Never light fires or BBQs; have a picnic instead
- Read and follow signs
- Know where you are and are not allowed to ride bikes or horses
- Be considerate of other visitors
- Ask permission before organising an event or undertaking commercial activities.
- Don't use drones or metal detectors
- Become a Friend of the Common





WHAT WE DO...

Without continued management and protection, heathland can quickly revert to scrub and woodland. Whilst scrub and woodland have wildlife value, heathlands are now so rare that there is a particular need to protect them to ensure the survival of this distinctive landscape and the specialised wildlife that depends upon it. Our staff and volunteers carry out a wide range of work to ensure that this unique environment continues to thrive and can be enjoyed by generations long into the future.





THINGS TO LOOK FOR...



DARTFORD Warbler

On the heaths all year. Listen out for its scratchy call during the summer breeding season.

SILVER-STUDDED BLUE BUTTERFLY

Can be found on pioneer (young) heathland and has a close relationship with black ants.



ADDER

Secretive snake
with males emerging
from hibernation
in Februray
followed by the
females a few
weeks later.



SOUTHERN DAMSELFLY

A specialised and very rare damselfly that lives in the mires.



POTTER WASP

A solitary wasp that lays its eggs in small clay pots which it builds on vegetation and stuffs with caterpillars.

NIGHTJAR

A summer visitor that comes back from Africa to breed each year. They can be heard 'churring' on summer evenings.



