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The wonders of Norfolk!

Grab your picnic rug and hamper and head out into our lovely East Anglian countryside to sample some of the traditional and unique festivals on offer. What better way to get a real feel for what our county has to offer in terms of food, sport, culture and local colour?

Whether you are considering relocating to the county, buying a holiday home or moving within the region, attending a local event will give you a wonderful snapshot of Norfolk.

For a truly innovative and cultural festival experience, you need look no further than the Norfolk and Norwich Festival which hosts inspirational and diverse events annually.

To inspire you further, we have an outstanding property soon to be launched onto the market in nearby Costessey. Beehive Lodge is a truly unique Grade II Listed circular, colourwashed cottage in a Gothic style with separate annexe, river frontage and rural views, only five miles from the centre of Norwich.

Further north on the Heritage Coast, the Holkham Estate plays host to the Holkham Country Fair this weekend - a celebration and demonstration of traditional country crafts and skills in a beautiful setting close to the beach.



Our advice is to attend as many events in the area of your choice as you can.

Less than two miles away in the lovely village of Burnham Market, we have the perfect lock up and leave holiday home, close to the village centre in the converted Old Bakery.

For £475,000 you can relax in a beautifully renovated period building with two bedrooms and enclosed first floor terrace.

To the west, the King's Lynn Festival, now in its 65th year, provides performances of classical music, recitals, choral and jazz as well as talks, exhibitions and films.

A short drive away in the nearby villages of Gayton and Ashwicken we have two properties both ideal for access to King's Lynn with its mainline station to London's King's Cross and both, incidentally, perfect for creating their own music and culture with detached outbuildings and music rooms.

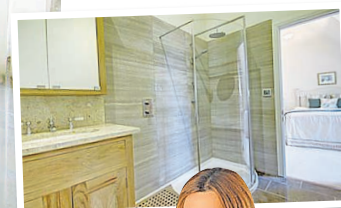
So, our advice is to attend as many events in the area of your choice as you can.

Strike up conversations with the local people and businesses and get a feel for the culture and amenities on offer.

Before too long, you could be helping run one of the events yourself or taking a stand to sell your own country wares!

Henrietta Bruce can be contacted at Jackson-Stops & Staff in Burnham Market on 01328 801333. Jackson-Stops & Staff has sponsored this column.

Life changer



No place like Norfolk!

Property editor **Caroline Culot** visits Pinetum, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney.



There really is no place like home is there? I returned from two week's holiday in Crete at the weekend and started work this week with a drive up to Blakeney to see this contemporary house sitting in secluded gardens adjoining a private area of woodland. I know the traffic is awful in the summer but I have to say, having melted in temperatures in the mid to high 30s on holiday, the sunny but cooler air was refreshing and I do love driving along that coast road from the city - I love living in Norfolk! Anyway, as I pulled into the drive I had the feeling of déjà vue and in fact I visited this property when it was first on the market, just finished off by the developer Stuart Farrow. I absolutely love seeing how a property has been taken on by a new owner and indeed what Pinetum now offers is a really established home with landscaped gardens in a private plot. The owners have invested a lot of time and money in making some alterations - notably a superb new kitchen by Kitchens Etc, with gorgeous double thickness



This house has everything to suit a modern family's needs or it could be a fabulous holiday home if your finances can stretch to it.



granite work-surfaces over hand crafted units. And this is a kitchen for all kinds of cooks because it boasts lots of gadgets and pretty much every type of oven you could wish for - including a steam oven, electric oven and a microwave! There is also an extensive wine cooler and a dairy fridge in the island unit - the ultimate in mod cons because it saves you time moving across the room to the main fridge! Creating kitchens is a fine science and this one has been designed with all the correct spacing between appliances and work surfaces to ensure when you do cook, it's an enjoyable experience (be interesting to see me give it a test though!) I remember some of the striking features of this house from when I visited before - you enter into a double height hallway which is really light and spacious with a full height granite wall at one end. There is a large sitting room and the couple who live here have utilised the space to suit their lifestyle so two rooms which could be bedrooms are currently used as a separate dining room and study/music room. There is a good sized en suite - all the bathrooms and en suites in this house are really beautifully finished in marble

and contemporary styles from Eric Bates and the one downstairs boasts a tall tub handbasin. You also have a utility which the owners have created as an extension to the existing kitchen with the same granite work surfaces and a door to the integral garage. Throughout is underfloor heating with oak and limestone flooring and upstairs are three bedrooms, all beautifully decorated and throughout the owners have put in some super in-built wardrobes and plenty of storage even including a tall cupboard downstairs for your ironing board! Outside this house sits in a private plot and the owners have improved the area with landscaping and a path now runs through the area of woodland. At the rear is a south facing terrace which has been enlarged and round the side is an area out of sight of the main garden for washing lines.

It is lovely and quiet but Blakeney quay is only a short stroll away and this house has everything to suit a modern family's needs or it could be a fabulous holiday home if your finances can stretch to it.

Pinetum, Blakeney is for sale for £1.395 million with Jackson-Stops & Staff on 01328 801333.

