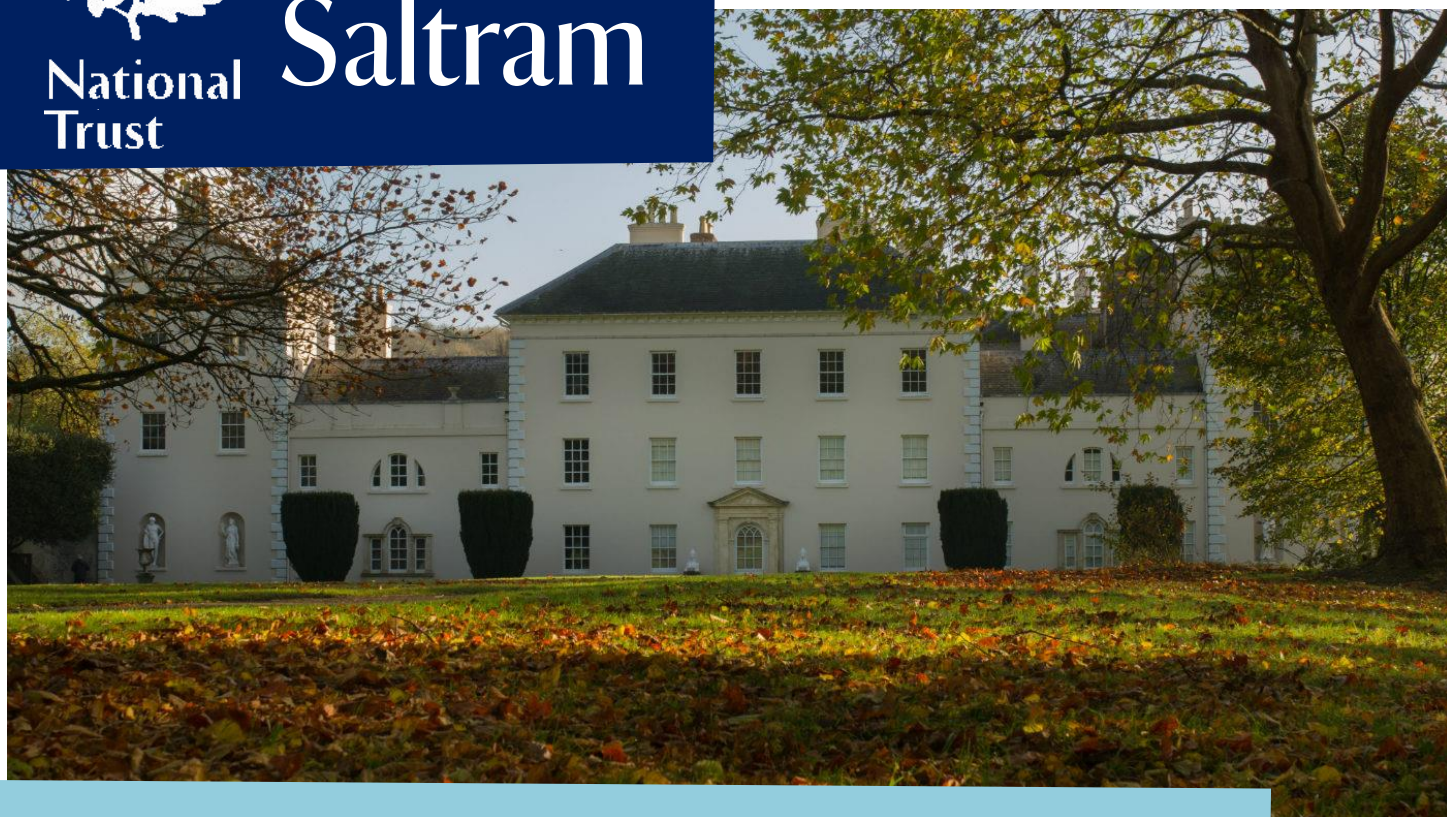




National  
Trust

# Saltram



## Visitor & Supporter Newsletter

Photo credit Jane  
Bryan



Staff and volunteers decorate the Staircase hall for Christmas

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Comments, queries or questions? Contact us by calling: 01752 333500 or email [Saltram@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Saltram@nationaltrust.org.uk)



# Jez's update



The Orangery in the Garden at Saltram.



Jez, General Manager

**Autumn has arrived and it's just lovely to see the garden and park looking so colourful. However, much of our headspace here at Saltram is now in the preparations for the Christmas period.**

Christmas is now our busiest time of year and we are really looking forward to seeing so many of you this year.

Last year Saltram was the busiest National Trust property in the country which presented some challenges. We've been working really hard to make the experience better including increased car parking, more lighting, improved toilets and extra staff. Keep an eye out for the Mobiloo which will be at Saltram 7 and 21 December for those families who might need a fully accessible toilet.

Take a look at the 'visit planner' for when best to visit. You might even want to come during the day to see the decorated house and then come back during the evening to see the garden illuminations.

Thank you, every visit you make and penny you spend at Saltram goes straight back into keeping Saltram special.

Jez, Saltram General Manager

## Did you know?

Last Christmas...

- 70,000 of you visited Enchanted Saltram making Saltram the most visited property in the country.
- 1100 of you joined the National Trust and supported the conservation of Saltram.
- We raised £3500 from the raffle and second-hand book sales.

**Don't forget to share your adventures with us on Facebook and Instagram.**



Saltram – National Trust



SaltramNT



# Car park improvements

Last year Enchanted Saltram saw our car park struggling to deal with the numbers of visitors who flooded to Saltram to enjoy the spectacle we had created. After listening to your feedback we knew we had to make a plan to ensure parking was easier.

We listened, we learnt and we have made improvements to our car park with an additional 100 car parking spaces in the immediate vicinity of the house. The recycled plastic matting we have installed will reinforce the grass areas making them more suitable for car parking while being unobtrusive in the landscape when not.

Staff will be on hand to direct you and will advise on the best places to park. Please stick to the marked bays to protect the landscape and to make sure the car park runs as smoothly as possible. Thank you.

Doug Munford  
Lead Ranger



Temporary recycled plastic car park matting

## Friendly reminder

The one way system is in place 24/7 and we would appreciate your co-operation with this for everyone's safety.



Saltram staff and volunteers lay metres and metres of temporary car park matting to prepare for the busy Christmas period.

## Making Saltram fit for the future

**Over the past 6 months we have been undertaking a project to make sure Saltram is fit for the future.**

We have reviewed all aspects of the current operations and the experience for visitors around the entire property from the mansion and the gardens, to the parkland and commercial outlets.

The project has highlighted some key areas which are in need of development so we can fulfil the conservation needs of the National Trust and Saltram. In the New Year we will start to decide where the first of some incremental changes will begin around the property. This will be an exciting time for Saltram as we make sure the estate can thrive long into the future and provide all our supporters with a great experience, so do watch this space!

Ellie Woodward  
Experience design project officer





# Enchanted Saltram

**Did you know?**

**All the rooms are designed and decorated by the staff and volunteer team at Saltram.**



**Brighten up dark winter nights with a stroll around the enchanted, illuminated garden and see the house magically decorated throughout.**

## Illuminated gardens

Bobble hat at the ready, this Christmas the garden will be washed with a glow as some of its most loved areas are lit up with a rainbow of colours and installations. The illuminations in the garden turn on at dusk each evening.

## The enchanted house

Some of the rooms within the house have been visited by some of our most loved fairy tales. For the first time at Christmas the grandest room at Saltram the Saloon will be transformed into a magical fairytale with decadently decorated trees and magical interventions to make the house feel enchanted. The house will be open from 12pm each day.

## Opening times

|  |         |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Thursday 22 November – Sunday 30 December* | 12-8pm† | M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
|--|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

†Christmas Eve close at 4pm.

\*House opens at 12 noon. Last admission to Enchanted Saltram 45 minutes before closing. Lights switched on at dusk. Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Back for its third year, Enchanted Saltram returns and is now a really successful fundraiser for Saltram. All our staff and volunteers pull together to bring the house and garden to life with an illuminated garden and decorated house. We can't wait to see so many of you this Christmas, just don't forget to plan your visit in advance by checking out the 'visit planner' on the back page of the newsletter.





## Don't miss...

### Storytime with Father Christmas

1 – 3, 6 – 10, 13 – 17 and 20 – 23 December, showings at 3, 4, 5 and 6pm lasting approximately 45 minutes.

Sit down and join Father Christmas in the stables as he shares magical stories and songs about what some of his fairytale friends got for Christmas. Booking essential, online only. Adult £4, child £8, includes a keepsake.

## Winter Courtyard Café

What makes you feel more festive than settling down to a twilight winter warmer under the stars in the giant tipi? This year there will be a range of deluxe hot chocolate and mulled wine available.

## Christmas shopping

Get away from the bustling highstreets and visit the shop within the stables for lots of great gift ideas and decorations to make your tree sparkle.

**Don't forget, every visit you make this Christmas helps keep Saltram sparkling all year round.**



# Not Santa's, but Saltram's long lost grotto



Saltram's grotto in need of restoration



An example of what the grotto should look like

**Many may not be aware but hidden in plain sight, right next to the riverside walk, covered in ivy with trees growing from it, with a collapsed roof, lies Saltram's grotto.**

This 18<sup>th</sup> century 'cave' is in dire need of some tender loving care and as such has been chosen as the project for the coming year's raffle. We are aiming to raise funds for a full archaeological survey of the structure and then following recommendations either stabilising what remains or (hopefully) rebuilding it as it would have been, giving a new generation of Saltram's visitors a place to play and wonder.



## How can you help save the grotto?

- Buy a raffle ticket from the Welcome Centre, Shop, second hand bookshop or café.
- Donate at the Welcome Centre, every penny will go towards bringing the grotto back to life.
- Keep up to date with how the campaign is going on our social media channels.

## Imagine painting a house this big!

**For the past few months you may have noticed the front of the house covered in scaffolding.**

Each year we paint a different side of the house and it's a very big task as we're sure you can imagine. Regular contractors Marc Sealey Building Conservation and our in-house Buildings Craftsperson Ian Rooke have done a brilliant job, the house looks really smart.



# News from the garden

**It's been a really productive time in the garden and, except for a few days of intense wind and rain, the weather has been kind yet again.**

You can tell it's been a dry year because despite some bouts of heavy rain the soil is really dry when you dig down. The garden largely survived unscathed from the mid-October storms. The only casualty was a London Plane tree by the Orangery, which had a major limb snap out causing the rest of the tree to be unsafe and need to be felled.

Fortunately this tree had been earmarked as needing to go anyway because it was beginning to dominate over the other trees in the spring bulb meadows, and we were fortunate that it didn't damage any of its neighbours during its demise. The amount of post-storm twigs, leaves and debris littering the garden was shocking, but we had things tidied up in no time.

This month the Orange Grove has been entirely put to bed for the season. All the annuals were dug up and the herbaceous perennials cut down. Many of them were also moved to hopefully create a better balanced show next year. Hundreds of tulips and daffodils have been planted throughout the Orange Grove too, and I am confident that it will look good all through next year.

Martin Stott,  
Senior Gardener



Saltram garden in autumn

## Star Baker!

**Inspired by the Great British Bake Off our chefs created this simply amazing 'Gingerbread Saltram' as part of a National Trust competition.**

Staff and volunteers voted on their favourite creation then the final four were put to a public vote. We are very proud

to say that 'Gingerbread Saltram' won! Well done to the Saltram food & beverage team Alex & Jane Burrell.



Gingerbread Saltram

This amazing creation took approximately 40 hours to make and will be on display in the Park Café until sadly it starts to disintegrate.



Alex Burrell, Saltram chef

| Monday  | Tuesday              | Wednesday            | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  | Sunday  |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|---|--|---|---|
|   |                      |                      | 22 <sup>nd</sup> November<br>Enchanted Saltram<br>opening day   | 23   | 24  | 25  |
| 26  | 27                   | 28                   | 29  | 30   | 1 <sup>st</sup> December<br>Busiest 3-7pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B | 2<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B                   |
| 3   | 4                    | 5                    | 6<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B                   | 7<br>Mobiloo available<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B                   | 8<br>Busiest 3-8pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B                        | 9<br>Busiest 4-7pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B  |
| 10<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B                                | 11                   | 12                   | 13  | 14<br>Busiest 3-7pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B                      | 15<br>Busiest 3-8pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B                       | 16<br>Busiest 3-8pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B |
| 17<br>Busiest 4-7pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B               | 18<br>Busiest 4-7pm  | 19<br>Busiest 3-8pm  | 20<br>Busiest 3-8pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B | 21<br>Busiest 3-8pm<br>Mobiloo available<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B | 22<br>Busiest 3-8pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B                       | 23<br>Busiest 3-8pm<br>Storytelling with Father<br>Christmas £B |
| 24<br>Busiest all day<br>Saltram closes at<br>4pm. No garden<br>illuminations | 25<br>Saltram closed | 26<br>Saltram closed | 27<br>Busiest 3-8pm   | 29<br>Busiest 3-8pm  | 30  | 31<br>Saltram closes at<br>4pm. No garden<br>illuminations      |

Key: LESS BUSY MODERATE PEAK SUPER PEAK

All values are guidelines only and are based on visitor numbers in 2017.  
 For more information on Enchanted Saltram please visit our website or pop into the Welcome Centre.  
 Normal admission prices apply in the House and Garden.  
 Under 5s and National Trust members FREE entry  
 £B = additional charges apply and booking essential on our website.

Enchanted  
Saltram 2018

