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Sherborne Castle, bringing history to life!

Walking in the footsteps of some of the greatest historical characters really does bring history to life. Here at Sherborne Castle we are fortunate enough to be able to share over 400 years of history. The *"Great Stories of Sherborne Castle"* tell the story of the castle's past inhabitants, a compelling mix of scandal, intrigue and passion.



Visit the Castle and you will see some of Sir Walter Raleigh's personal artefacts, such as the pipe which he smoked on the scaffold. Raleigh built the Castle in 1594, but following his somewhat unfortunate demise it has been the home of the Digby Family since 1617.

Each generation has left its mark and imprint. We have nationally important collections of art, furniture and paintings. Over the winter months we have lent

some of our miniature collection to the National Portrait Gallery in London and to Strawberry Hill's exhibition curating the original collection of Horace Walpole. These will return to the Castle for the start of our opening season.



History is not all about the male of the species and research over the winter has focused on the Great Women of Sherborne Castle. This has been a fascinating project and we have uncovered the stories of various matriarchs and some very feisty women.

Whatever else these women had going on in their lives, you can be sure that they were no strangers to the grounds of the Castle. In fact strolling around our Garden is a magical experience. Our

garden was designed by Capability Brown and boasts spectacular carpets of spring bulbs, gorgeous herbaceous borders and wonderful Autumn Colours. We suggest two walks, one long and one short.



Walking around the garden you will see features such as a Folly, New Fossil House, Cascade, Orangery and Sunken garden. The 50 acre lake is home to a plethora of wildlife. Photographers love to capture our swans, herons and ducks. Children enjoy our quiz and garden trail. Send them off around the garden in search of Pluto. Dogs are welcome on short leads.

A visit to our Castle is not complete without a browse in our gift shop where we have on offer unusual locally sourced

gifts including estate roasted artisan coffee, antler dog chews, hand crafted pottery made by a hugely talented Estate based potter – Anna Stiles.



Once you have completed your exploration of this fascinating historical building and grounds, discover our award winning tearoom situated in a Gothic Diary. Feast on locally sourced delicious fare, light lunches and yummy cakes. You can always be assured of a very warm welcome at the Castle and don't forget to try our special cream tea and a glass of Sherborne Castle Wine!

The Castle is open from Good Friday, 19th April 2019.

See you soon, Maria and Edward Wingfield Digby