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'History Matters – pass it on' was a campaign that aimed to highlight the importance of history in our everyday lives.

People really care about history

During the campaign, we asked you to tell us why you think history matters and to show your support. The response has been overwhelming. By the end of 2006:

- Over 1.1 million badges being taken and worn
- More than 10,000 completed postcards have been sent in
- Over 20,000 on-line declarations of support have been made on the website
- 46,000 blogs – which will be recorded by the British Library for posterity - were submitted
- Over 1 million people visited a heritage site during a single weekend in September



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It is, however not only the statistics that that have made the campaign a success but also the very thought provoking, personal and sometimes humorous statements that are still pouring in.

History matters for lots of reasons

We are still analysing all the comments but one thing that already comes out clearly, is that history is important to us as a nation and we believe our future is enriched by our past. Here's a few of the thousands of quotes we received:

'Because we can find out the bones of history and you can find out how to stop wars crime and fires. You can also learn from our mistakes'.

Jane, aged 8

'We have no sense of why we are here and what we are doing if we have no sense of history - that's the sermon 'but' the fun bit is that it is such fun to be a detective making sense of what might have happened'.

A. C. Berry

'I'd like to pass on the 'awe' and 'mystery' of times gone by, the stories of ordinary men and women as well as the heroes of our past'.

Sarah Cox

'My favourite is Castle Drogo. Although not old, (Finished 1931), it is most attractive inside, lovely gardens, designed by Lutyens, and fine walks around it on Dartmoor. Feel better after each visit.'

I.W.Gane

'This was at Blickling Hall on 23/8/06. I enjoyed the gardens and I was with my 3 year old son and we enjoyed the entertainer. It is vital to be able to enjoy historic places.'

Lucien Willers



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One Day in History

A hugely successful moment in the campaign which seemed to capture the nation's imagination was One Day in History. This was when, on 17 October 2006, we asked you to keep an on-line diary (or blog) for that day. An amazing 46,000 people contributed to this unique picture of an ordinary day in the United Kingdom at the beginning of the 21st century.

The diaries are now archived as a part of the British Library's Modern British Collections. If you want to read this fascinating collection of stories from people's lives – just follow the One Day in History instructions.

- [Click here](#) to find your diary
- Select the word site in 'Site archived 12 Dec 2006' to access the archive version of 'One Day in History'
- Select 'One Day in History' from the left-hand menu

- The diaries are listed alphabetically by contributor. Please note that the first section has odd entries from anonymous contributors. The listing begins midway through page 1.

What's happening next?

Whilst this phase of the 'History matters – pass it on' campaign is over, expect to see the logo at National Trust properties during the next year as we develop more ways to show that history really does matter and find ways for you to help pass it on!

Watch out for talks, specialist tours, conservation events, open days and a host of other activities at National Trust properties.

In the meantime thank you for your support.