

Exploring in DARWIN'S Footsteps

For information about other events exploring Bromley's wildlife, see Bromley's Walks, Talks and Events Leaflet available in libraries or from High Elms Ranger office.

For more information about the wildlife Darwin studied and important areas where he worked, or to find out what to look for each month in the nominated WHS see www.darwinwildlife.co.uk

How to reach the nominated World Heritage Site

By bus:

- 146** (Mon-Sat) Bromley to Downe via Keston
- 246** Bromley to Westerham via Keston and Leaves Green
- 320** Bromley to Biggin Hill via Keston and Leaves Green
- 358** Orpington to Crystal Palace via Farnborough village and Bromley
- 402** (Mon-Sat) Bromley to Tunbridge Wells via Farnborough village
- R2** (Mon-Sat) Petts Wood to Biggin Hill via Orpington, Keston and Leaves Green
- R5** (Mon-Sat) Orpington circular to Orpington via Knockholt and Cudham
- R8** (Mon-Sat) Orpington to Biggin Hill via Downe

By train:

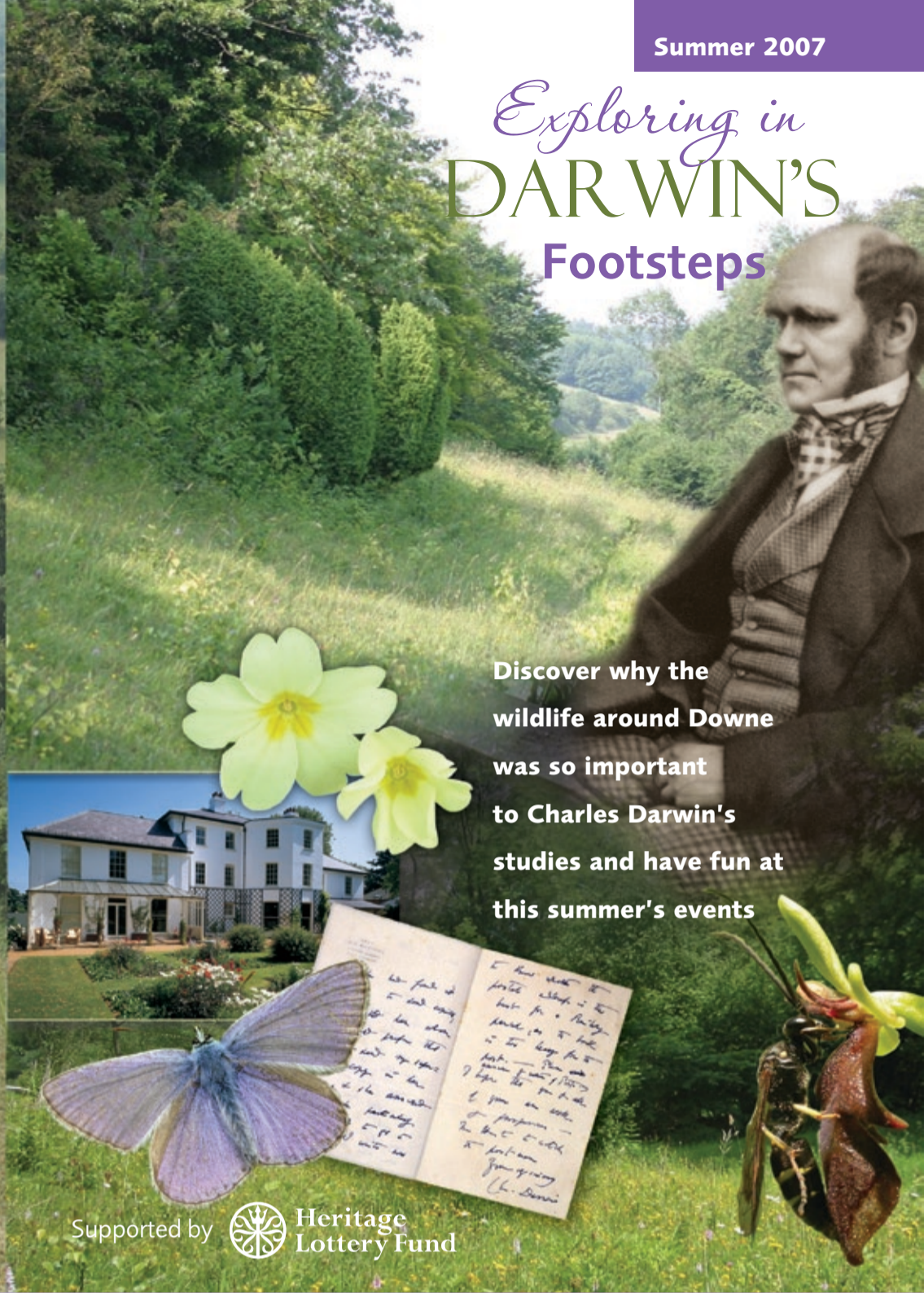
Nearest station Orpington
 For up-to-date information about Train and Bus times phone Traveline on 020 7222 1234 or see <http://journeyplanner.tfl.gov.uk>
 Please wear suitable clothing and footwear for all walks and events, and bring plenty to drink in hot weather. If the weather is bad, guided walks may have to be cancelled for safety reasons, but the leader will always be at the start to let you know. There may be some hills and stiles. To book a place please phone 01689 862815.

www.darwinatdowne.co.uk

www.darwinwildlife.co.uk



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Discover why the wildlife around Downe was so important to Charles Darwin's studies and have fun at this summer's events

Supported by Heritage Lottery Fund



Our aim is to conserve the quiet landscape familiar to Darwin. Car parking is limited so please use public transport whenever possible (see back page for details).

The area where Darwin worked extends from Keston in the north, where we have evidence that he studied sundew, the ponds and earthworms, to Cudham School Pond in the south, the site of his first experiment on the geographical distribution of seeds in pond mud. His notebooks describe observations and in experiments with plants growing at Downe Bank and other parts of the Cudham Valley as well as in the Downe Valley, both on the chalk grassland and in the ancient woodlands. Throughout the area he observed the intimate relationships between plants and their pollinators and measured and described how the work of humble earthworms changed the landscape over thousands of years. It was also for him a place of enjoyment, where he spent happy times with his family and close friends in a... perfectly quiet country.

Charles Darwin lived in Down House for 40 years, and it was during this time he wrote his most famous books, including 'The Origin of Species' (1859), 'The Descent of Man' (1871) and 6 botanical books including 'On the various contrivances by which British and foreign orchids are fertilised by insects', 'Insectivorous plants' (1875) and 'The power of movement in plants' (1880). Much of the evidence for his theories was derived from observations and experiments on plants found in the 10km² around his home; work which continued after publication of the first edition of 'The Origin' as Darwin uncovered more and more evidence supporting his ideas.

Aerial view of Darwin's home - Down House

See the plants and animals living in the areas where Charles Darwin studied them and find out how he discovered all around him evidence to support his theories.

At the end of June 2007 the World Heritage Committee will decide whether the area around Down House will become a World Heritage Site. To find out more about Darwin's studies here, why not come to one of the events listed overleaf....

Keston Ponds (above right) Sand Walk - Darwin's 'Thinking Path' (above left)