

LOCAL NEWS

HERITAGE

Chance to see historic ruins of Lewes Priory in a whole new light

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There will be a magical experience for visitors to the Lewes Priory ruins on Saturday, September 13, when the historic venue will be lit by thousands of tea-lights.

To mark national Heritage Open Days, the free event is being organised by Lewes Priory Trust, which looks after Priory Park, including the remains of the most important Cluniac priory in Britain.

The Trust will be joined by local Scout and Guide groups and other volunteers as the candles are lit at dusk.

The Chameleon Drummers will open the event and singers will process through the ruins performing music from

the time of the monks who lived there until the Priory was destroyed in 1538.

Visitors will be able to wander through the ruins illuminated by thousands of candles and are encouraged to bring a picnic, although food (and loos) will be available.

The experience will run from 6pm until 9.30pm.

Please note that the event will be postponed if the weather is wet.

The Chairman of Lewes Priory Trust, Sy Morse Brown, said: "We are looking forward to giving visitors a new and enchanting experience seeing the Priory in a new light.

"The monks who lived here would have used candles for lighting. The buildings are now in ruins but the event will give a sense of candlelight amongst them, transporting us back to the time when the Priory was at the height of its power."



PICTURE BY MOOSE AZIM

Twinkle, twinkle: Thousands of candles will illuminate the 11th century ruins of the Priory of St Pancras

Please donate old jam jars

To contain the candles, thousands of jam jars are needed to make this event possible and Lewes Priory Trust is organising a collection event tomorrow (Saturday) between midday and 3pm at the Folly Tower in Priory Park. Please bring clean jam jars (with the labels removed). All jars gratefully received.

For further information, or if you would like to volunteer for the event, please contact education@lewespriory.org.uk or Helen Chiasson on 01273 483462.

Heritage Open Days celebrate England's architecture and culture.

For a complete list of venues nationwide go to www.heritageopendays.org.uk