

PRESS RELEASE

Love is in the air at Norfolk nature reserve

Love is in the air at a Norfolk nature reserve which inspired the union of a local couple who, after 11 years, are still going strong and credit being outdoors as the secret to a happy relationship.

Love birds Thelma Brown, 82, and Keith Dowling, 77, from Fakenham, met at Pensthorpe Natural Park 11 years ago. Thelma was enjoying a moment of reflection after the loss of her late husband and bumped into Keith who was visiting from Northampton after watching the reserve on BBC Springwatch.

Keith Dowling comments: "We were both on our own and I spotted Thelma on the stone bridge overlooking the water. I asked her to join me for a cup of tea and she said yes. I was so happy to have met such a lovely lady and in time moved to Norfolk where we now live happily together 11 years after our first meeting."

Thelma and Keith's mutual love of nature and the outdoors not only brought them together but they claim it keeps their relationship strong.

Thelma Brown comments: "Being around nature and wildlife transports you and takes your mind off your troubles. We can lose ourselves at Pensthorpe, it's a different world. We have such fond memories of spending time here and we make weekly visits to watch the birds or have Sunday lunch."

Keith Dowling continues: "If you're feeling down in the dumps get outside in the fresh air. It's so good for you and we're proof that you never know who you might meet!"

Deb Jordan, owner of Pensthorpe Natural Park comments: "It's a real pleasure to find out that people not only enjoy spending time at the reserve, but find our quiet

little corner of Norfolk a special place that marks a major moment in their lives. We are thrilled to hear that we are able to facilitate such joy and are delighted that Thelma and Keith are still so incredibly happy together over a decade after meeting here”

For more information about Pensthorpe visit pensthorpe.com or call 01328 851465.

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Editors Notes

Pensthorpe Natural Park is on the A1067, one mile from Fakenham and just over 20 miles from the city of Norwich. Open all year (closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day):-

1st January – 28th February, 10am – 4pm

1st March – 24th July, 10am – 5pm

25th July – 4th September, 10am – 6pm

5th September – 31st December, 10am – 5pm

Entry prices: Adults £11.95, Seniors £10.95, Children £10.95, Under 3's free. Annual Members are free. Parking is free.

Online booking discount of £1 per person applies to tickets booked in advance

For more information, images or press passes please contact Rachael Shakespeare on rachael@rs-pr.co.uk or 07833 940 000.