Holyrood Hunting

The Rangers Service based at Holyrood Park is inviting visitors to step back in time to find out about a selection of ancient sports and outdoor pursuits.

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Interpretation Ranger Matt McCabe said: "We wanted to give visitors an opportunity to learn about some fascinating traditional outdoors activities which are less common today. "They'll have an opportunity to try their hand at archery, a favoured sport of kings and commoners through the ages. Falconry was another great pastime of centuries past and we'll have a variety of fascinating birds of prey here for people to get right up close to. And if the weather and ground conditions permit, there will also be artificial lure coursing with Whippets.

"Our free 'Royal Pursuits' event from 11am to 3pm on the 18th July is an opportunity for visitors to learn about the long heritage of these various activities and their links to the rich past of Holyrood Park, together with its importance as a royal hunting ground.

"We'll also be highlighting the fact that the range of interesting and unusual ways to enjoy the environment around you is immense and there's always scope for finding new outdoors activities to enjoy."

The Rangers Team is also extending a welcome to visitors who would like to join them on an informative guided walk around the Park exploring its history, archaeology and natural wonders.

The Ranger Team hopes visitors will also join them on an exploratory walk around Holyrood Park. Every Monday until the end of August there's a gentle stroll or 'Amble Around Arthur', whilst those who enjoy a more moderate walk can take part in the ever popular 'Arthur's Secrets' which takes place on Tuesdays until 28th September. Or if you're feeling energetic enough why not come along on the strenuous 'Arthur's Adventure' every Wednesday until 25th August. There's a free walk suitable for all abilities!

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As places are limited, booking is essential for both walks. Please call the Ranger Service on 0131 652 8150 begin_of_the_skype_highlighting 0131 652 8150 end_of_the_skype_highlighting to reserve your place or for further details.