

Key dates for the Lieutenancy

End January – Royal Garden Party deadline

February – UN mid-year Graduations

28th March 2020 – Event for new Lord-Lieutenant with first ‘ceremony’ at NCC/NBC celebrating Northamptonshire’s links with the Lieutenancy

14th May 2019 – ‘Seasons’ Ballet with Birmingham Royal Ballet. The LL is sponsoring the event and gave artistic inspiration. Inaugural performance of what LL hopes will be annual cultural event – either ballet or opera

May – Mayoral elections

29th May – Oak Apple Day: Restoration of the Monarchy

End June – Armed Forces Day; typically last Saturday in June

End July – UN Graduations

3rd September – Merchant Navy Day

September – Lord-Lieutenant’s Lecture

25th October – St Crispin’s Day

November – Installation of ‘Recorder’; possibility of making County event + visit of High Court Judges and swearing in of new magistrates

11th November – Remembrance Service in Memorial Garden, with 2-minute silence at 11 am

Remembrance Sunday – 10 am service in All Saints Church, Northampton

High Sheriff

March – Induction of High Sheriff

October – High Sheriff’s Court Service

High Sheriff Lecture

University

Multi functions

OAK APPLE DAY – 29th May

Restoration Day, more commonly known as **Oak Apple Day** or **Royal Oak Day**, was an English public holiday, observed annually on 29 May, to commemorate the restoration of the English monarchy in May 1660.

In 1660, Parliament passed into law "An Act for a Perpetual Anniversary Thanksgiving on the Nine and Twentieth Day of May", declaring 29 May a public holiday "for keeping of a perpetual Anniversary, for a Day of Thanksgiving to God, for the great Blessing and Mercy he hath been graciously pleased to vouchsafe to the People of these Kingdoms, after their manifold and grievous Sufferings, in the Restoration of his Majesty..."

The public holiday was formally abolished in the Anniversary Days Observance Act 1859, but the date retains some significance in local or institutional customs. It is, for example, still observed as Founder's Day by the Royal Hospital Chelsea, which was founded by Charles II in 1681.

Events still take place to celebrate this day. At All Saints' Church, Northampton, a statue of Charles II is garlanded with oak leaves at noon every Oak Apple Day, followed by a celebration of the Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer.

MERCHANT NAVY DAY – 3rd September

Since 2000, Merchant Navy Day on 3rd September has honoured the men and women who kept our 'island nation' afloat during both World Wars and celebrated our dependence on modern day merchant seafarers who are responsible for 95% of the UK's imports, including half the food we eat.

The Red Ensign - the UK Merchant Navy's official flag - can be flown on 3rd September on civic buildings and landmark flagpoles across the UK. Parish, community, town, city, district and borough councils are all invited to take part, along with higher-tier local authorities and governments. In 2018, ceremonies took place in a number of locations in Northamptonshire including Northampton.

ST CRISPIN'S DAY – 25th October

County Day of Northamptonshire. It is the Feastday of St. Crispin who is the Patron Saint of Northamptonshire and also of Cobblers, Curriers, Tanners, and Leather Workers.

In 2018, it was celebrated with a Choral Evensong in All Saints, Northampton, in the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant and the Master of Leathersellers' Company of the City of London.

REMEMBRANCE DAY – 11th November

Service in Memorial Gardens, Northampton, during which hold two minutes silence at 11 am. Remembrance Sunday service is held in All Saints, Northampton at 10 am.