

## **National Trust Press Release**

Wednesday 9 September

### **Let's get ready to crumble!**

#### **Local school comes 2<sup>nd</sup> in national competition**

Today year 5 and 6 pupils from **Shipbourne Primary School** competed with children around the country to create the quickest blackberry crumble, in the first ever **National Trust Crumble Rumble**.

Ahead of British Food Fortnight, the National Trust helped children rediscover the fun and frugal joys of foraging from the hedgerows. A team of 14 children joined staff at **Ightham Mote**, in Ivy Hatch, to race against the clock in an attempt to become the country's fastest Crumble Rumlbers.

The pupils harvested the ripe blackberries from the Ightham Mote estate, made their own crumble and finally enjoyed the fresh fruits of their labour. For some of the children, it was their first experience of picking wild berries from the hedgerows and they all seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves getting messy and tasting the fruits as they picked.

The race began at 9.30am and at 10.55am the children's crumble came out of the oven and was judged as a success. The time was then recorded and overall the school came second out of 14 teams competing in National Trust kitchens up and down the country.

"There are few childhood memories as enduring as that sweet taste of blackberries straight from the bush, even with the odd bug or two, and the fun of getting your hands covered in sugary crumbs as you get all messy making a crumble," said James Browne, Ightham Mote's Head Chef.

"Not only is cooking with your children great cost-free fun, but it also helps them learn about seasonal ingredients, how to tell fruit is ripe and if nothing else prepares them for life with at least one good, home-cooked recipe up their sleeve!"

Property Manager Bernadette Gillow added: "With foreign imports and greenhouse-grown fruit so readily available in the supermarkets, it's easy for children – and adults – to become numb to the notion of when good, wholesome British fruits are in season."

"We've been working throughout the year with our Food Glorious Food campaign and Wild Child events to help families have fun with food and nature, and the Crumble Rumble brought both of those together in what has been a great day of fun and fruit!"

**ENDS**

**For more information or images please contact:**

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(not for publication)

