

Press Release

8 January 2010



Spring Treats at Chiddingstone Castle

Visitors looking for great days out this spring will find something to delight all ages at Chiddingstone Castle near Edenbridge in Kent. Families thinking of visiting in April can time their visit to coincide with two exciting activity days on 5 and 12 April or the spring fair on 23 April.

Chiddingstone Castle is surrounded by 35 acres of picturesque grounds and in spring the lawns are carpeted in yellow as thousands of daffodils come into flower. Cherry blossom also provides pretty spring colour around the lake as do the rhododendrons which surround the award winning orangery. Children will love burning off energy as they explore the surrounding woodland, bridges and pathways.

The Castle was once the home of gifted antiquary Denys Bower and now houses his amazing and varied collections. On display in the castle rooms are a variety of ancient artefacts and antiquities from Japanese, Buddhist, Egyptian, and Jacobean and Stuart culture. Visitors can enjoy Denys's eclectic collections; see his study and other themed rooms, as well as exhibitions devoted to both castle and local history.

The castle has a well-deserved reputation for its innovative activity days which offer something different for families to enjoy throughout the year.

Easter at the Castle – Monday 5 April 11am – 5pm

Inspired by the castle's fascinating collections, families can take part in traditional celebrations and activities and discover the many festivals and customs of the Egyptian, Japanese and Buddhist cultures.

Japanese Culture and Arts – Monday 12 April 11am – 5pm

Roots with Japanese culture run deep at Chiddingstone Castle and as the season of cherry blossom begins families are invited to discover Japan's fascinating festivals. Everyone can also test their creative skills and try their hand at traditional arts.

Spring Fair – Friday 23 April 10am – 3pm

Visitors can browse a selection of clothes, jewellery, home accessories and gifts for adults and children on sale throughout the stunning rooms within the castle. Admission £2.50

Families will be able to enjoy free entry into the castle and grounds plus all activity days throughout the year with a family season pass which costs £48.50 for a family of four (2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children). To purchase a family pass please call 01892 872746.

The Castle has a full programme of themed family activity days throughout the year. These include Victorian or Egyptian themed interactive performances, arts and crafts, nature trails, Taiko Drumming workshops and much more.

For more information on the castle or the activity days please visit www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk

2010 Entry Prices for visitors without a season pass

Adults £7, children (5-13) £4. Please note that on Activity Days, a charge of £2 will apply for 2-4 year olds to cover the cost of materials and entertainment.

There is a £2.50 parking fee for all cars, entitling passengers access to the Grounds, Gift shop and Tea Room, pedestrians (over 14 yrs) arriving on foot will be charged £1 entry. To gain entry to the castle collections and for activity days the entry prices stated previously are applicable. Open: Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Bank Holidays from Good Friday (2nd April) until Sunday 26th September 2010. Times: 11am to 5pm. Last entry to house 4.15pm.

For further information or images please contact Caroline Edmunds at Pennington PR on 01892 616647 or email caroline@penningtonpr.com