

Press Release
August 2011



Experience Japanese Culture at Chiddingstone Castle

A special open day inspired by the Castle's important Japanese collections, with its armour, swords and lacquer will take place Monday 29 August between **11am and 4pm** (August Bank holiday). There will be demonstrations of the ancient Samurai sword arts of iai and tameshigiri; a demonstration of chado - the traditional garden tea ceremony; and the popular author, Chris Bradford will be here to read extracts from his amazing *Young Samurai* fiction series.

The day will also include the chance to see and ask questions about the fascinating bonsai trees, demonstrations of ikebana (flower arranging), and the opportunity to watch a model being dressed in a beautiful traditional kimono. Children can enjoy Japanese art and craft activities, including origami, and the day will provide everyone with the chance to learn a little more about Japanese culture and its traditions.

As well as the Japanese activities, visitors can browse the Castle's unusual and interesting collections, which include ancient artefacts from Japan and Egypt and the Stuart collection which includes paintings and, amazingly, the heart, hair, blood and garter ribbon of James II.

The Castle's tranquil grounds are home to a peaceful lake, woodland, rose garden and award winning orangery.

Normal admission charges apply, and the Victorian Tea Room will be open with a choice of delicious cakes and cream teas.

For more information about Chiddingstone Castle please visit www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk

For all press enquiries please contact Caroline Edmunds on 01892616647 or email caroline@penningtonpr.com

Notes to Editors

- Chiddingstone Castle is open Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 27 March and 30 October 2011
- Normal Castle admission: Adults £7, Children under 5* FREE*, Children 5 to 13 £4, Families (2 adults+ 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children) £19.50, Adult Season Ticket £20, Family Season Ticket (2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children) £48.50. Please note there is a parking fee of £2.50
- The Castle has a comprehensive annual events programme, offering a range of events and activities suitable for all ages. Events can be found on the What's On Section of the website
- Chiddingstone Castle is situated 5 miles from Edenbridge and 10 miles from both Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells. The post code for Sat Navs is TN8 7AD
- The Castle is a 10 minute drive from the mainline train station at **Hildenborough** (from Charing Cross or London Bridge station the journey time is 30-40 minutes).