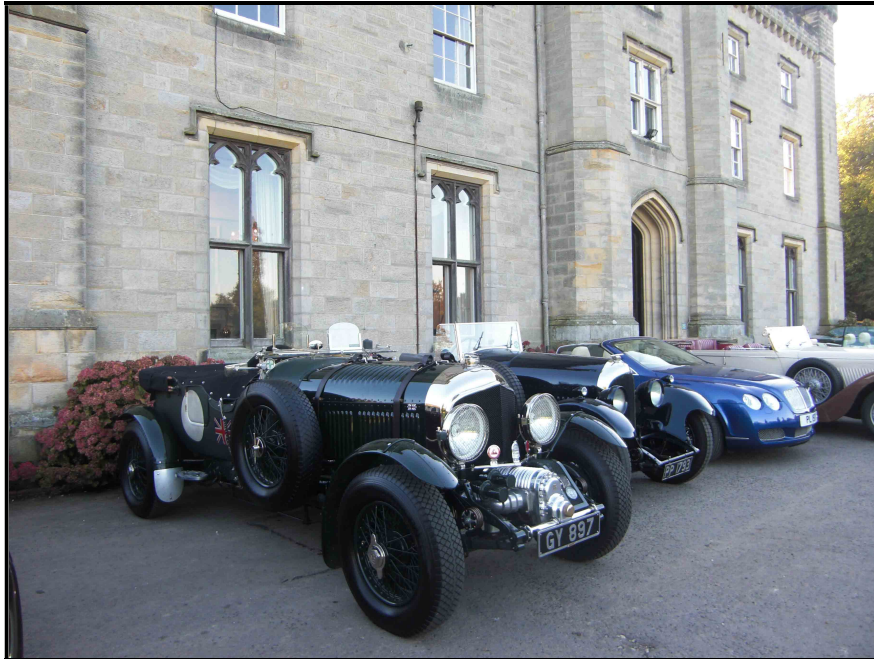


## Press Release

14 April 2011



### **Vintage Bentleys at Chiddingstone Castle**

On Sunday 10 July visitors to the picturesque Chiddingstone Castle in Kent can admire a number of beautifully restored vintage and classic Bentleys which will be on display in front of the Castle.

The line up of Bentley's will include a range of models from 1926 to a brand new Flying Spur.

W.O Bentley first began building cars at his Cricklewood factory in the 1900's until Rolls Royce bought the company in 1939 and the production of Bentleys moved to Crewe.

Visitors are invited to admire the rare collection of cars and join the owners for a summer picnic in the lovely grounds of the Castle which has a choice of perfect picnic spots either in front of the Castle, by the lake or waterfall or in the shade of the orangery or woodland.

Visitors can bring their own food or choose from the delicious delights available from the Castle's tea room from light lunches to homemade cakes and cream teas.

After exploring the grounds, visitors can choose to discover the secrets inside the Castle and the fascinating collections of Denys Eyre Bower including:

The unique Japanese Collection which transports you back to the days of brave Japanese warriors and sword fighting, and demonstrates the beauty of Japanese craft and culture.

The Egyptian collection brings to life many aspects of ancient Egyptian culture. The collection, inspired by the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb in 1922 by Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon, includes correspondence between Denys Eyre Bower and the famous archaeologist and Egyptologist Sir William Flinders Petrie.

The Stuart and Jacobite exhibition includes some fascinating objects including the heart, hair, blood and garter ribbon of James II, miniatures of James II by Samuel Cooper and Broadwords used in the Battle of Culloden.

The Buddhist Collection has only been on display inside the castle since 2009 and consists of about 150 pieces from Tibetan, Sino-Tibetan, Nepalese Tibetan in addition to items from India, Nepal, Myanmar, China and Japan.

Visitors can also walk through Denys Eyre Bower's study, the authentic Victorian Kitchen and Scullery and the Housekeepers room.

**Admission:** £7 adults, child 5 – 13 £4, under 5's free except on activity days when £2 per child applies, Family £19.50 (2+2). Parking £2.50

Chiddingstone Castle has a popular annual events programme, providing a range of activities for visitors of all ages, from Victorian and Egyptian activity days to Japanese Festivals and Country Fairs. For more information please visit [www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk](http://www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk)

Chiddingstone Castle is open between Sunday 27th March and Sunday, 30th October on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Bank Holidays, between 11am and 5pm

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