

Stumble Down the Rabbit Hole this Easter at Penshurst Place

- The Big Easter Break will be running daily from the 25th March – 10th April
- Special Easter Stories on the 27th and 28th by Aardvark productions from 2pm
- Garden Trails looking at animals and plants that thrive underground will be running every day from 10.30am – dusk.
- Crafts running daily from 12noon – 4pm to include pop-up rabbits and nature-themed masks

Visit Penshurst Place & Gardens this Easter for a fortnight of fun outdoor activities including a Garden Trail and nature-themed crafts.

Dive down the rabbit hole and embark on an entertaining garden trail to uncover interesting facts about animals and plants that thrive in a life spent underground. Then hop on over to the Old Coach House to craft a pop-up rabbit puppet and a nature-themed mask!

For smaller visitors, and the young at heart, talented storytellers from Aardvark Productions will be in The Buttery at Penshurst Place on Easter Sunday and Easter Monday to share a very silly tale about the Easter Bunny.



Crafts and the 'Down the Rabbit Hole' trail are available daily throughout the Easter school holiday and are included within the standard garden admission ticket. Children who successfully complete the trail over the Easter weekend will be rewarded with a small chocolate treat!*

*While stocks last, for the Easter weekend only.

After handing in a completed trail, head to the Garden Restaurant for a well-earned hot lunch, slice of cake or scone, and a hot drink. Alternatively, pay a visit to the Porcupine Pantry for special Easter-themed cakes, biscuits and treats! Don't forget to pop into the well-stocked Gift Shop on your way home – an ideal stop for gifts, fragrances, books, toys and homeware.



For further general press information and jpeg photographs email: lucy@penshurstplace.com or contact Lucy McLeod, Marketing Executive at Penshurst Place: 01892 870307.

Notes to editors:

BACKGROUND TO PENSHURST PLACE & GARDENS

Set in the beautiful Weald of Kent, Penshurst Place and the Estate have stood on the banks of the river Medway since the 14th century, when the awe-inspiring medieval Baron's Hall was built as a country retreat for the Lord Mayor of London, Sir John de Pulteney. Used as a location for many a large film and small screen productions, Penshurst Place has a unique place in history – with literary connections from Sir Philip Sidney, Ben Jonson to Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

The property was owned by many Dukes and Nobles with Royal blood in their veins, until King Henry VIII forfeited it from the previous owner, the Duke of Buckingham in 1521. It was then used by Henry and his friends as a hunting lodge. In 1552 the property was gifted by Edward VI to a member of the noble courtier family, the Sidneys, in whose family's hands it has been ever since – and is currently owned by Philip Sidney, 2nd Viscount De L'Isle MBE, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Kent.

The historic gardens are as old as the house, with records dating back to 1346. These enchanting formal gardens were laid out in Elizabethan times and have remained remarkably true to their early design. Over a mile of yew hedging separates this 11 acre walled garden into a series of self-contained 'rooms'. Each garden offers an abundance of variety in form, foliage and bloom, which ensures a continuous display from Spring to Autumn. The Herbaceous Borders have recently been redesigned into the stunning Jubilee Walk.

In the House, alongside the unique and stunning Baron's Hall, built in 1341, there are a series of staterooms containing an impressive collection of portraits, tapestries, furniture, porcelain and



armour. In addition, visitors will enjoy a reminder of bygone childhoods in the Toy Museum, a delight for all ages.

Our Garden Restaurant, managed by Leith's serves a delicious selection of hot and cold lunches; and is where you can enjoy the perfect afternoon tea. Our Porcupine Pantry cafe is an alternative to the Restaurant serving freshly baked hot and cold pastries. Both can also be booked for group lunches and light refreshments. Our wonderful Gift Shop, *free to visit all year*, has a wide selection of gifts.