

NEW FOR 2014 AT PENSHURST PLACE & GARDENS

'SIR AND SOLDIER' THEME FOR WW1 CENTENARY AND NEW ADULT EVENTS

- **New War Wounds Make-up Workshop and Spy Hunt in February half-term**
- **Walks, talks, demos and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre for adult visitors**
- **Photography, tours and floristry demonstrations in Glorious Gardens week**

Penshurst Place has unveiled a new and exciting theme for its visitor events in 2014; a 'Sir and Soldier' season. Join us this year as we commemorate the 100 year anniversary of WW1 and travel back in time to experience life as a soldier with war-themed activities.

Throughout the open season, 'Sir and Soldier' will see Penshurst Place brought to life through a series of events, activities and workshops, designed to be informational, fun and exciting for all ages. New activities have been added to the 2014 events programme that offer a selection of horticultural, educational and cultural experiences for adult visitors to Penshurst Place and Gardens.

Most events are included in the standard admission price unless otherwise stated. Full details of the event calendar for 2014 can be found at www.penshurstplace.com/whatson. Selected new highlights added include a Spy Hunt and War Wounds Make-up Workshop during February half-term; special Mothering Sunday activities and lunch menu for families on 30th March and adult Spring Stroll and Lunch on 16th March; garden photography workshop, floristry demonstrations and rehearsals by Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in the grounds during Glorious Gardens Week 1st to 8th June.

FAMILY EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

JOIN THE SPY HUNT AT PENSHURST PLACE: 15TH – 23RD FEBRUARY



There's a mystery to be solved at Penshurst Place as the grounds open from Saturday 15th February, 10.30am – dusk. Transform into a WW1 spy and hunt down clues to help find the missing objects of Penshurst in the Gardens and Adventure Playground. This fun children's trail will be running throughout the half-term school holiday from 15th – 23rd February 2014.

Normal garden admission prices apply.

For more information visit:

www.penshurstplace.com/whatson

WAR WOUNDS MAKE-UP WORKSHOP: 19TH FEBRUARY



A new 'War Wounds' make-up workshop for 2014, specially designed for Penshurst Place by award-winning special effects artist Kate Griffiths. Using everyday household materials learn how to create fake wounds of a war soldier and then discover how they would have been bandaged in WW1. For children aged 7+

Tickets £10

www.penshurstplace.com/etickets

CELEBRATION OF MOTHER'S AND FATHER'S DAY: 30TH MARCH & 15TH JUNE



Penshurst Place will be 'the place' for families to celebrate Mother's and Father's Day this year. We will be laying on several craft activities and workshops for visiting children to get stuck into and enjoy with all the family – with the help of the Sussex based [Hands on History](#) team and some WW1 paintballing on Father's Day. Special menus in the Garden Restaurant.

Normal garden admission prices apply.

For more information visit:

www.penshurstplace.com/whatson

THE MAIZE MAZE RETURNS: 24TH JULY – 7TH SEPTEMBER & 13TH – 14TH SEPTEMBER



Listed in the [top 10 things to do in Kent](#), the Maize Maze re-opens in time for the school summer holidays on 24th July. This AMAZING entertainment will have a new WW1 design this year that is top secret!

Using your best navigation and orienteering skills, find the middle of the maze to get a bird's eye view of the new design. The Maize Maze is located behind the Adventure Playground and accessed via the main visitor entrance. All children to be accompanied by an adult - adults need not be accompanied by children!

Normal garden admission prices apply.

For more information visit: www.penshurstplace.com/maizemaze

HALLOWEEN THEATRICAL MAKE-UP WORKSHOP: 30TH OCTOBER



Be prepared to be scared...as faces become fiendish and creatures evolve at Penshurst Place this Autumn. Now in its second year, a two-hour ticketed prosthetic Halloween makeup workshop on 30th October in the Porcupine Pantry, from 9.30am to 11.30am.

The workshop starts with an interactive demonstration by Kate Griffiths, a Kent based theatrical make-up artist. This is followed by the pairing up of attendees to work on one another; recreating the effects with products and prosthetic materials used by industry professionals.

Tickets £10

www.penshurstplace.com/etickets

ADULT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

SPRING STROLL & LUNCH/AUTUMN AMBLE & LUNCH: 16TH MARCH & 5TH OCTOBER



Dust off your walking shoes for a leisurely two hour walk and then reap a tasty reward for your physical exertion.

A brand new event at Penshurst Place & Gardens on 16th March and 5th October between 11am and 2pm. Aimed at adults, this special Sunday walk is led by Penshurst Place's General Manager. Journey across the beautiful estate and learn about its Tudor history on the way. Followed by a delicious two course roast dinner in the Garden Restaurant, what more incentive is needed to get out and enjoy some stunning scenery!

Tickets £22 – includes: private parking, the walk & two course roast, access to the Gardens.
www.penshurstplace.com/etickets

NEW EVENTS FOR GLORIOUS GARDENS WEEK: 1ST – 8TH JUNE



Glorious Gardens Week at Penshurst Place has been the annual horticultural highlight for Kent gardeners for years; with visitors travelling from near and far to see the stunning gardens and wonderful 100 metre peony border in full bloom.

Several new events have been added into the week for 2014, including a tour of the gardens with Lady De L'Isle, a garden photography workshop by photo journalist Leigh Clapp and a floristry demonstration by Hadlow College.

Please note some events are ticketed. Normal garden admission prices apply.
For more information visit:
www.penshurstplace.com/whatson

THE GLOBE THEATRE COMES TO PENSHURST PLACE: 8TH JUNE



A rare opportunity as Shakespeare's Globe Theatre comes to Penshurst Place. Wander the gardens and watch actors as they rehearse their lines live ahead of the evening premier performance of 'Love's Victory' in the magnificent medieval Baron's Hall.

Written by Lady Mary Wroth, the niece of Sir Philip Sidney in 1620, the play has not been performed in its entirety for almost 400 years.

Normal garden admission prices apply to view the rehearsals.
Performance tickets will become available on www.shakespearesglobe.com at a later date.

- Ends -



For further press feature information please contact Jacqui Green at JGMPR Jacqui@jgmpr.com – for urgent requests her mobile is 07885 270349. For further general press information and jpeg photographs email: abbie@penshurstplace.com or contact Abbie Voice, 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. There are also parkland and riverside walks across this ancient estate – and a cycle path from Tonbridge Castle to Penshurst Place's doorstep – Sustrans regional route no 12. Find out more at: www.penshurstplace.com/outdoorpursuits

OPENING TIMES & PRICES 2014

OPEN SEASON: Weekends from 15th February to 30th March. Half Term 17th to 21st February. Daily from 31st March to 2nd November.

CLOSED SEASON: 3rd November to 31st December (excluding 25th & 26th December)

	OPEN SEASON	CLOSED SEASON
HOUSE	12 noon – 4pm <i>(closed 17th – 21st February)</i>	Closed
GARDENS & GROUNDS	10.30am – 6pm <i>(or dusk if earlier; last entry 1 hour before close)</i>	Closed
ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND	10.30am – 6pm <i>(or dusk if earlier; last entry 1 hour before close)</i>	10.30am – 4.30pm <i>(weekends only; for Season Ticket holders only; last entry 1 hour before close)</i>
TOY MUSEUM	12noon – 4pm <i>(last orders 15 minutes before close)</i>	Closed
GARDEN RESTAURANT	10.30am – 5pm	Closed
GIFT SHOP	10.30am – 6pm	10.30am – 4.30pm
PORCUPINE PANTRY	9am – 6pm	10am – 4.30pm
PARKLAND	Free to visit and open all year to cyclists and walkers	

	HOUSE, GARDENS & GROUNDS	GARDENS & GROUNDS
ADULT	£10.00	£8.00
CHILD (ages 5-16) <i>(Under 5s max 2 children per adult charged at £5.00 per child, per visit thereafter)</i>	£6.50	£6.00
FAMILY (2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children)	£28.00	£25.00
FAMILY (2 adults + 1 child)	£24.00	£20.00
INDIVIDUAL SEASON TICKET (Cardholder + 1 guest) <i>(Free entrance for up to 2 children under 5 per cardholder, per visit. £2.50 per child under 5 thereafter)</i>	N/A	£45.00
FAMILY SEASON TICKET (2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children) <i>(£7 per additional child, maximum of 5 children per card)</i>	N/A	£70.00

For cyclists and those arriving by public transport £1 off entry per person.