

## PENSHURST PLACE SALUTES DADS WITH SIR AND SOLDIER FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL EVENTS ON SUNDAY 15TH JUNE

- Dress in period uniforms for a unique family photo
- WWI themed paintball firing range
- Craft Penny Medals and Father's Day Cards
- Specialty beers and Father's Day Menu

Families looking to spoil their Dads will find nostalgia and family fun on offer at Penshurst Place on Sunday, 15th June as part of the venue's Sir and Soldier themed events this Fathers' Day.

Travel back in time to visit 1914 and get a feel for life during this era as Britain prepared for war. The ever popular Hands on History team will be at Penshurst Place to guide Dads, Granddads, Uncles and their families through an authentic British wartime experience.

### CREATE A PERSONAL SNAPSHOT IN TIME



Step back in time by dressing in period clothing from the era and recreate a family scene reminiscent of life during the early 20th century.

The Hands on History team will be on hand to help families experience a traditional photo shoot from the era with sepia tints and old-fashioned camera. The team will explain to visitors that before the invention of smartphones, conscripted soldiers would have a professional picture taken before going to war to leave as a memento for their loved ones.

With so many fathers and husbands leaving home to join the war these pictures were highly treasured by the families they left behind.

Visitors can opt to have their picture taken in period dress, from civilian clothing through to WWI military uniform to create a memorable family portrait.

Genuine replica uniforms are also available for children from the age of 5. In the early part of 1914 these were sold by stores such as Hamley's so that even very young children could dress up to wave goodbye to the troops.

## WWI PAINTBALLING

Try out replica machines from the era, including the iconic Vickers and Lewis guns used by the British in a safety-netted firing range. The machines use paint pellets that can be aimed safely at targets including armoured cars and biplanes. While Dads impress with their sharp shooting skills, younger members of the family will also be able to have a go in this family orientated fun activity.

Extra charge of £2.50 per 12 balls for paint balling - payable on the day.

## FAMILY CRAFT ACTIVITIES

Children can create a hand-made Father's Day card or penny pendant medal to present to their Dad in the Education Room from 12noon – 4pm.



## SPECIALTY BEERS AND FATHER'S DAY MENU

A selection of specialty beers and refreshments will be available for deserving Dads in the Garden Restaurant, which will also be serving a special Father's Day menu.

All activities and events are free with Garden and Grounds admission prices other than the paintballing that will require an extra charge of £2.50 per 12 balls on the day.

- Ends -

For further press feature information please contact Jacqui Green at JGMPR [Jacqui@jgmpr.com](mailto:Jacqui@jgmpr.com) – for urgent requests her mobile is 07885 270349. For further general press information and jpeg photographs email: [abbie@penshurstplace.com](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.penshurstplace.com/outdoorpursuits)

## OPENING TIMES 2014

**OPEN SEASON: Daily to 2nd November**

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

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

## ADMISSION PRICES 2014

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

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