

PRESS INFORMATION

13TH APRIL 2010

**HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES AT PENSURST PLACE AND
GARDENS**

**WILD ABOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE
AND STEP BACK IN TIME TO THE 1940'S
29TH MAY – 6TH JUNE
12 NOON – 4PM**

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This May Half-Term at Peshurst Place and Gardens has a feast of activities on offer. You will be taken back to the 1940's to mark the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain and Dunkirk, see how Britain helped in the war effort and take part in countryside events for all the family.

Kent Wildlife Trust will be showing how we can affect the wildlife around us, there will be demonstrations of basket making and willow-work, Curious Creature puppets and storytelling for children and for the first time, live chickens with talks on how to look after them.

New indoor and outdoor activities for the whole week starting on Saturday 29th May culminating in Skipping Demonstrations, amusing ‘Dig for Victory’ storytelling and vegetable planting on Sunday 6th June.

**Saturday 29th May – Sunday 6th June
Education Room**

12 noon – 4pm

Make your own bugs to take home, see how you could ‘Dig for Victory’ and help the war effort, make your own poster and play some old-time family games from the past.

Bank Holiday Sunday 30th and Monday 31st May

12 noon – 4pm

Meet **Kent Wildlife Trust** who will join us to run mini-beast safaris, pond dipping, guided tours, quizzes, hold a Treasure Hunt around the Woodland Trail and help children create collages from specimens in the woodland.

John Waller, underwoodsman, will be demonstrating basket making and working with willow.

Aardvark Presentations will be putting on Curious Creature puppet shows and interactive stories as they bring our wonderful natural world to life.

Chickens as Family Pets

We are delighted to welcome Charlotte Popescu, the author of a range of books on how to keep chickens as family pets. She will be bringing along her own hens and giving lively talks about all aspects of looking after them. Her book ‘Chicken Runs and Vegetable Plots’ shows how you can combine growing vegetables and keeping chickens in the garden which complements the events theme of Penshurst Place in the 1940’s this year.

Sunday 6th June

Digging for Victory storytelling and planting

2pm – 3.30pm

Join Ethel and Tom as they Dig for Victory and listen to their story as they tell you what they dug up and why it was ticking! Join them and our Head Gardener to plant up your own special vegetables. Storytelling for all the family.

12 noon – 4pm

Skipping Demonstrations by the ‘Bouncers’ from Skipping Workshops

Come and see the Skipping Workshops ‘Bouncers’ put on a fabulous skipping demonstration and join in yourselves with those skipping rhymes you used to know!

PORCUPINE CLUB MEMBERS

Additional activity sheets for members of the Porcupine Club (children of Penshurst Place and Gardens Family Garden Season Ticket Holders) will be available all week with the chance to win a Family Season Ticket by collecting stamps for the activity on their membership card, which this year is a war time Ration card.

For a full listing of our events, go to www.penshurstplace.com

- Ends -