

Community Open Day!

Sunday 25 November 2012

10am - 4pm

Stowe House

On Sunday 25 November 2012 Stowe House will be unveiling plans for its exciting new project 'Enlightenment for All'. Plans for our new visitor and exhibition centres will be on display and you will be able to hear about our ideas to revive Stowe House as a 'hub' of creativity and imagination for our community, much like in its 18th century heyday. We want our local community to help us to decide what to offer at Stowe House so that our communities can benefit from our work and find exciting and inspiring opportunities on their doorstep to learn about history. The Community Open day is not subject to the usual admission fee.

Come and contribute to this exciting new project and help us to shape the future of Stowe House!

Jenna Spellane (Project Development Officer) says:

'This is a really exciting major heritage project and we're thrilled to be opening our doors to our local community to reveal our plans for the future. We want our communities to help us shape the future of Stowe House and decide how to reinvigorate it as a creative hub for everyone.'

The 'Enlightenment for All' project aims to create a new visitor and exhibition centre in Stowe House as well as a whole range of exciting new experiences for visitors, including multimedia experiences, family activities, events, exhibitions and much more. We will also be asking our local community to help us to create a new 21st century collection of furniture for the House through the project.

Important information which must be included:

- **for this event, please use the Stowe School entrance rather than the normal National Trust entrance at New Inn.**
- **Images credit: ©LouiseSmithPhotography.com**

If you would like any further information about the event or details about accessibility, please contact us at: enlightenment@stowe.co.uk or 01280 818006 or see the website at www.stowehouse.org.

Christmas at Stowe House

Christmas is fast approaching and there is lots going on at Stowe House as we get in the spirit of Christmas. At the beginning of December our Christmas tree is brought into the large and historic North Hall signifying that Christmas has arrived here at Stowe. Join us at Stowe House this Christmas season for one of our delightful festive events and spend some time in our beautiful country house. Take yourself back in time on Sunday 9th December on our *Christmas at Stowe Twilight Tour*, tickets £10.00. Before the tour departs you have time to enjoy mulled wine and mince pies in our inspiring Marble Saloon then take pleasure in a delightful evening tour of Stowe House with a festive twist. See the glorious state rooms lit in the evening and spend time with our Research Manager who will tell the story of festivities in times gone by. For those who would like to enjoy the spirit of Christmas with a touch less history enjoy *A Festive Winter's Evening* on Sunday 16th December, tickets £12.50. Hosted in our most recently restored room, the State Music Room, guests have the chance to soak up the atmosphere of this magnificent ducal palace and be transported back to the House's heyday through delightful period music. The concert will also include festive readings to get you in the

spirit of Christmas. For more information and timings of our forthcoming events at Stowe House please see www.stowehouse.org or to book tickets telephone 01280 818002.

'An evening with Brackley Chamber Music Club playing a wonderful selection of Georgian music, within the setting of the State Music Room in Stowe House, couldn't have been more appropriate. The festive refreshments, just right for the occasion, were served in the glorious Marble Hall. A truly superb evening, I am looking forward to 2012!' - Margaret Baines 2011

'The Festive Winter's Evening last year was a wonderful experience, Stowe House's beautiful State Music Room was filled with period music; the concert was a brilliant mix of readings and music, I particularly enjoyed Sir Paul Hayter's introductions for each piece, expanding on the development of each composition and giving us some information on the development of different instruments. Everyone really enjoyed themselves; it was a delightful evening!' - Kathy Godfrey

'We really enjoyed the Twilight Tour at Stowe House, there was so much history to discover that we were still talking about the tour a few days later!' - Richard Tarrant

Twilight Tour: Christmas at Stowe

Sunday 9th December

7.00pm-8.30pm

Tickets £10 (including wine and canapés)

Telephone 01280 818002 for more information or to book tickets

A Festive Winter's Evening

With Meriel Dickinson and Brackley Chamber Music Club

Sunday 16th December

7.00pm-9.00pm

Tickets £12.50 (including mulled wine and mince pies)

Telephone 01280 818002 for more information or to book tickets

Children's Christmas Crafts

Sunday 16th December

On Sunday 16th December bring the family to Stowe House and enjoy making festive decorations and Christmas crafts. Enjoy a delightful afternoon preparing for Christmas and take your goodies home with you to decorate your Christmas tree. Activities for all ages - even the adults will have a merry time! There are sessions at 1pm or 2pm (sessions 45 minutes) however pre-booking essential and £2.50 per child ticket price includes all materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Telephone 01280 818002 for more information or to book a place for your child.