Hello

and welcome to the spring edition of Inside Story, a very Happy New Year to all our members and patrons. The start of the year is always exciting as we announce plans and events coming together; 2013 is set to be another year full of excitement and discovery.

We have new exhibitions opening at the Tower of London, Hampton Court Palace and Kensington Palace – all of which will feature member-only Preview Days so you get to see the exhibition before anyone else! Alongside these fabulous new additions to the events calendar we have lots of exciting ideas to keep you busy, partnerships with the National Portrait Gallery and St George’s Chapel, Windsor Castle to name drop just two! For more information see the events pages at the back of Inside Story.

As members you are the first to hear all the latest palace news, conservation updates and much more. I hope that you make full use of your membership to learn more about the magnificent palaces your money helps to maintain. Historic Royal Palaces relies on your generosity and we are grateful to every member, patron and supporter for continuing to contribute.

I trust all members enjoy being a part of our historic royal family and encourage you to get in touch if you have any feedback. There is our fabulous facebook page, twitter feeds as well as a good old-fashioned postal address. Thank you again for your fine support, from everyone at Historic Royal Palaces.

Samantha Brown
Membership Manager
Paint pots and brushes from Baroque Hampton Court

About one metre below ground level was a dump of soil and rubble dating from the late 17th century. Mixed up with the rest of the rubble were a couple of ‘onion’ wine bottles and three whole pots, each of which had been reused as a paint pot. The largest jar, with dark green glaze and a pouring spout, had previously been used as a cooking pot - it was still covered in soot, but inside were the remains of pale grey paint and, more remarkably, a paintbrush. Its wooden handle has rotted away, but the bristles still remain, caked in paint. Interestingly, these are not of animal hair, but some vegetable fibre, perhaps grass; we hope analysis will tell. Two shallow dishes (‘porringers’; with a single horizontal handle) were also found. One contained white paint, the other bright emerald green; again, a paintbrush was preserved, dried into the paint.

We know that the tennis court was used as a wood store whilst Wren was building the new wing of the palace (1689-99). These pots may well date from this phase, which clearly saw the area utilised by the, then, maintenance department. The finds came from an area that was tucked behind the tennis court and between the formal gardens; it would have been well hidden and ideal for dumping those paintbrushes that have dried hard or that you can’t be bothered to clean. And now, 300 years on, as we routinely analyse the paint schemes around the palace, perhaps we will find a match between the paint and the brush with which it was applied.

Fiona Keith-Lucas
Assistant Curator

Just as the snow started to fall over Hampton Court Palace, our Historic Royal Palaces’ in-house archaeologist was digging a hole. At the base of the trench was a fantastic discovery - a rare collection of finds that bring the more mundane history of Hampton Court back to life.

Over by a Gardens and Estate office, somewhere between the Royal Tennis Court and the Wilderness, an 18th century wall had been retaining a bank of material for generations. With the additional weight of a large tree, the wall was showing the strain and had to be taken down before it fell down.

New ticketing system across Historic Royal Palaces

We are delighted to announce that a new and improved ticketing system is now live across the palaces. So what does this mean for members?

New look membership cards
New and renewing members since October 2012 will have received a new look membership card.

New membership numbers
As part of the system changes all members have been assigned a new membership number, which will tell. Two shallow dishes (‘porringers’; with a single horizontal handle) were also found. One contained white paint, the other bright emerald green; again, a paintbrush was preserved, dried into the paint.

We know that the tennis court was used as a wood store whilst Wren was building the new wing of the palace (1689-99). These pots may well date from this phase, which clearly saw the area utilised by the, then, maintenance department. The finds came from an area that was tucked behind the tennis court and between the formal gardens; it would have been well hidden and ideal for dumping those paintbrushes that have dried hard or that you can’t be bothered to clean. And now, 300 years on, as we routinely analyse the paint schemes around the palace, perhaps we will find a match between the paint and the brush with which it was applied.

Fiona Keith-Lucas
Assistant Curator

Faster membership card printing
We are now able to issue membership cards from palace admissions as well as the membership office, which reduces waiting time for your permanent card.

New online membership purchase pages
Buying membership online is easier than ever before, you can add joint and family member details instantly and you’ll receive an e-voucher to redeem your membership. Gift membership is now much easier to purchase online too, so on birthdays, Christmas and special occasions, you’ll be able to treat friends and family to a gift membership with ease!

Online member event booking
You can now login online to buy tickets for most member events and receive your 10% member discount on Adult Learning events! Booking details will be given in each Inside Story magazine and Member Events Guide and listed online once tickets are released. Visit the member events page at www.hrp.org.uk for details.

www.hrp.org.uk for details. You can login using your new membership number and surname.

Member e-newsletter
New membership numbers were circulated to members subscribed to our email list in the autumn, but if you still need to know your new membership number please email members@hrp.org.uk. Don’t forget to submit your email address to receive the most up to date member news and events if you’re not on our email list already!

There will be more exciting developments to come so we’ll keep you posted. We hope you enjoy these new membership features, if you have any queries or feedback please email members@hrp.org.uk we are always keen to hear what you think!
For most of us the idea of looking after a household’s worth of pictures, furniture and assorted objects that range from gifts from beloved relatives to less meaningful presents from visiting house guests is daunting. Imagine then the sheer scale of the job that Jonathan Marsden, Director of the Royal Collection and Surveyor of The Queen’s Works of Art, faces daily. Each piece of ceramic and furniture, each tapestry, painting, print, sculpture and book is included in a database that runs close to a million records: ‘The exact number of individual pieces in the Collection is difficult to quantify,’ he says, and it continues to grow. To put it into perspective, there are two and a half times as many paintings in the Royal Collection as in the National Gallery.

The Royal Collection Trust, a registered charity, was established in 1993 in the aftermath of the Windsor Castle fire and in the wake of The Queen’s decision to pay tax on her income. Receiving its income from visitors to Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse, and from associated retail and publishing activities, the Trust paid substantially for the restoration of the fire damage at Windsor and for the construction of the Queen’s Galleries at Buckingham Palace and Holyroodhouse. The Trust finances the work of the Royal Collection Department of the Queen’s Household, supporting around 450 employees.

As you walk through any of the Historic Royal Palaces, the furniture and works of art that you see there form part of the Royal Collection and in many cases have remained in the same places for centuries. Yet as monarchs have succeeded each other, so furniture and paintings have been moved and rearranged to suit the tastes of the new Head of State.

Marsden laughs at the idea of a secret warehouse or Aladdin’s cave of stored royal objets d’art: ‘No, there is no vault of ready-to-go Vermeers or Chippendale furniture. The standard “on show/in store” question posed of museums does not really work in this case, since the Collection can be found on the walls, ceilings and floors of every room in every palace. Our charitable

Treasures of the Royal Collection

Left: The 22m high Whitehall Banqueting House ceiling paintings by Peter Paul Rubens.
Right: Historic Royal Palaces Conservator work on various artifacts including Queen Victoria’s first baby shoes, dolls she dressed up and her mourning dress.
Following on from our triumphant trip to North America in the Spring of 2012 (as featured in “Historic Royal Palaces breaks America” in the last Inside Story) we were raring to go with our next lecture tour!

In October, under the auspices of our friends at the Royal Oak Foundation and co-sponsored by Historic Royal Palaces, Todd Longstaffe-Gowran, presented ‘London Squares & Gardens Fit for a Queen’ to an enraptured audience at the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington DC.

Boston was the next stop, and a ‘full house’ welcomed Todd at the College Club.

Unfortunately due to adverse weather conditions of Superstorm Sandy, the remainder of the tour had to be postponed.

We understand what a devastating affect the superstorm had, and we hope that our new and old American friends remained safe and sound. Todd will return, we’re sure, very soon.

In the meantime, Historic Royal Palaces’ Curator of Historic Buildings, Lee Prosser, will be engaged on the Evelyn Wrench Speaker Programme, in April 2013.

Named in honour of the English Speaking Union’s founder, the programme sends eight eminent British and American speakers across the country each year to the English Speaking Union Branches who host their presentations. Lee Prosser will entertain his audiences on the subjects of Kensington Palace Revealed; Secrets of the Royal Palaces; and Eighteenth-Century Kitchens and Royal Eating.

For more information, please go to the “Support from the USA” section of our website or email HRPInc@hrp.org.uk.

The high levels of expertise of the Royal Collection team have meant that the Collection is well conserved, but not kept behind bars.

The collection is in fact spread over 21 palaces and residences, as well as around 300 other locations where items are on long-term loan. Every year hundreds of works are lent to other institutions for temporary exhibitions. To the great delight of Royal Collection staff, the selection of ten Leonardo drawings that travelled to five regional museums, concluding at the Ferens Art Gallery in Hull has smashed all records, consistently drawing crowds of a thousand people per day.

Furthermore, to enhance accessibility, the Royal Collection Trust has developed a state-of-the-art website, with associated apps and a search function that enables people all over the world to enjoy the Collection online.

The high levels of expertise of the Royal Collection team have meant that the Collection is well conserved, but not kept behind bars. ‘It is very much a living collection,’ Marsden says. ‘Her Majesty uses furniture and silverware for state occasions and we can’t tell a visiting Head of State that they can’t sit on a particular chair, or put their drink on a particular table; that’s unthinkable. There is a sense in which works of art in museums have been – in David Attenborough terms – removed from their natural habitats. They are in captivity, kept for scientific study and for educational purposes. It is also quite exciting to see great things “in the wild”, in the places for which they were made.’

Genevieve Muinzer
Patron of Historic Royal Palaces
The Jewel in the Crown of our Fundraising Campaign!

Historic Royal Palaces, De Beers Group of Companies and Forevermark

As you know, one of the cornerstones of our Jubilee preparations last year was the re-presentation of the Jewel House at the Tower of London. We felt that it was more important than ever to convey the majesty, beauty and importance of the Crown Jewels to our visitors in this anniversary year.
You will have seen for yourself the terrific job that the team behind this project have done. Not only have the crowns, orbs and sceptres themselves been given new lighting and settings but the approach to the Treasury has been radically redeveloped. The ‘build up’ to seeing the jewels themselves now includes some beautiful high definition film of the ‘stars of the show’ - really bringing to life their status as beautiful and unique objects of art. In addition, the display highlights the use of crown jewels, throughout history, in conferring power and status upon the wearer. Visitors get to take part in a coronation procession and pause at some beautifully restored film of the most recent coronation. They then pass through the enormous security doors of the Treasury itself which are, themselves, lit in a way that emphasises the ends that we go to to keep these precious (and real!) objects safe.

This project, no matter how important, would not have been possible without the support of a sponsor. It was important to us, however, that we worked with a sponsor that understood the unique challenges of the project.

We had known De Beers for some time and, indeed, De Beers have been connected with the Crown Jewels for even longer than that. ‘Cullinan II’, which is set in the Imperial State Crown was cut from the 3,106 carat Cullinan diamond discovered at the De Beers Premier Mine in South Africa in 1905. Since then, in 1947, King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and the two Royal Princesses stood on the edge of the ‘Big Hole’ at the De Beers Mine in Kimberley, South Africa, as guests of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers and that same year Queen Mary visited the London offices of De Beers. Queen Mary brought with her the smaller diamonds cut from the famous Cullinan (which formed part of her personal collection) to show to the company Directors.

In 2012 we have worked with De Beers and Forevermark in a variety of ways designed to bring their generous support of this critical project to life. They were, of course, represented at the royal opening in March and have hosted a number of private events at the Tower since then. You might also have seen the display in the Martin Tower, during the course of the second half of last year, featuring the ‘Forevermark Jubilee Diamond’, accompanied with some fascinating displays explaining how Forevermark diamonds are mined and expertly cut. This particular diamond, inscribed with the date of the coronation and jubilee, took six months to perfect, crafting the beautiful cushion cut from the original 179.96 carat rough diamond.

We look forward to working with De Beers and Forevermark over the coming years and, of course, to enjoying the results of their sponsorship at the Tower of London too.

For more information, go to the ‘Tower of London’ section of our website.
Evening talks, workshops and more for spring and summer!

Here is your exclusive preview of exciting events lined up for the spring and summer Adult Learning events. Whether you want to learn new skills, delve deep into the history of our sites or hear from experts in history and conservation, our programme has something for you at each of our five sites.

This year, money matters at the Tower of London, as a major new exhibition on the Royal Mint is launched. Explore the history of money by joining a panel discussion on historical financial crises; or get hands-on with metal at a gilding workshop. Additional highlights include Tudor beer tasting, an architectural walking tour, and a look at the momentous recent discovery of Richard III’s skeleton.

Hampton Court Palace reveals more of its Baroque stories this year, with the opening of the ‘Secrets of the Royal Bedchamber’ exhibition. Come along for Dr Olivia Fryman’s talk about the rituals of the royal bedchamber or join us for a split-site study day at Hampton Court and Marble Hill House. A number of events will also be taking a closer look at Mary I, a Tudor monarch with a much debated reputation. And Summer School returns this year with more opportunities to try a new skill, such as embroidery, cookery and perfume-making.

It’s fashion first at Kensington Palace with a vintage hairstyling masterclass, Zandra Rhodes in conversation, and a retrospective on Norman Hartnell, designer to royalty. Kensington is also a place with international connections: Professor Anthony Cross will describe the visit of Peter the Great to the palace in 1698, while Hugo Vickers considers the life of the glamorous Greek, Princess Marina (1906–68).

At Banqueting House, things take a darker turn with events exploring the rise and fall of Charles I to tie in a new display on his execution at the site. Meanwhile at Kew we take an intimate look at the family life of George III, Queen Charlotte and their 15 children. This includes an audience with the Prince Regent as well as a talk by Kew’s curator, Polly Putnam, over afternoon tea.

This is just a taster, so please visit our website at www.hrp.org.uk/adultlearning or call 0844 482 7799 for full listings and booking details. Please note you will not receive a printed brochure by post for this season of events.

We hope you find lots that will appeal to you in our programme, and look forward to seeing you all soon!

Adult Learning Podcasts

Listen to our Adult Learning programme online via our series of podcasts. Recorded directly from the talks we host at the palaces, and posted online shortly afterwards, podcasts enable you to enjoy a talk even if you were not able to attend - or listen all over again if you did! Please check our Learning blog for details and updates, at http://learningblog.hrp.org.uk
Treasures of the Royal Courts: Tudors, Stuarts and the Russian Tsars

Supported by the Friends of the V&A

Exclusive 2 for 1 ticket offer for members of Historic Royal Palaces
9 March – 14 July 2013

In a fabulous partnership offer for members only, you can experience the majesty of the courts of Henry VIII and Elizabeth I to Ivan the Terrible and the early Romanovs in a major exhibition at the V&A. From royal portraits, costume and jewellery to armour and heraldry, Treasures of the Royal Courts tells the story of diplomacy between the British Monarchy and the Russian Tsars through more than 150 magnificent objects. A rarely-known painting of Elizabeth I, Shakespeare’s First Folio, a suit of armour tailor-made for Henry VIII and the legendary ruby-studded Drake Star reveal the spectacular world of kings, queens, merchants and courtiers from 1509 to 1685. At the heart of the exhibition is the beautiful English and French silver given to the Tsars by the British royal family, on exclusive loan from the Moscow Kremlin Museums in celebration of 500 years of Anglo-Russian exchange.

Historic Royal Palaces’ members can enjoy exclusive 2 for 1 entry to Treasures of the Royal Courts.

Just show your membership card in person at the V&A Information Desk to get two full price adult tickets for the price of one, from 9 March to 14 July 2013. To find out more, visit www.vam.ac.uk/treasures

Victoria and Albert Museum
Cromwell Road
London SW7 2RL

Just a short walk from South Kensington underground station
New! New! New!

New Year,
New to the shop,
New Members code to shop online

**Official Coronation china**

This English fine bone china commemorates the 60th anniversary of the Coronation. The design reflects the pomp and pageantry of the Coronation procession; the Coat of Arms is from the heraldic bearings of the coaches. The border decoration is taken from the silk damask banners of the State Trumpets which heralded the moment of crowning at Westminster Abbey. Made in the English potteries using traditional methods unchanged for 250 years, and hand finished using 22 carat gold.

All the pieces are tissue wrapped in a gift box with an information card.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commemorative plate</td>
<td>£89.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mug</td>
<td>£25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pillbox</td>
<td>£29.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side plate</td>
<td>£39.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea cup and saucer</td>
<td>£55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tankard</td>
<td>£39.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Care Instructions: Not dishwasher proof and not suitable for use in microwave ovens.

**Birthday card** £2.50

**Crown of India snow globe** £9.99

**Crown paperweight** £12.99

**Coronation tankard** £39.00

**Side plate** £39.00

**Tea cup and saucer** £55.00

**Tankard** £39.00

---

**Country life**

Hampton Court Park, sometimes called Home Park, is adjacent to Hampton Court Palace. This parkland comprises an open expanse of swaying grassland scattered with large oak trees. It covers an area of 750 acres and has remained unspoilt since its opening in 1894. Deer, descended from Henry VIII’s original herd, roam the park freely. These products have been inspired by these wonderful creatures.

**Crowns and Regalia**

Celebrate the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with these Crown inspired products.

**Official Coronation china**

This English fine bone china commemorates the 60th anniversary of the Coronation. The design reflects the pomp and pageantry of the Coronation procession; the Coat of Arms is from the heraldic bearings of the coaches. The border decoration is taken from the silk damask banners of the State Trumpets which heralded the moment of crowning at Westminster Abbey. Made in the English potteries using traditional methods unchanged for 250 years, and hand finished using 22 carat gold.

All the pieces are tissue wrapped in a gift box with an information card.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commemorative plate</td>
<td>£89.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mug</td>
<td>£25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pillbox</td>
<td>£29.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side plate</td>
<td>£39.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea cup and saucer</td>
<td>£55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tankard</td>
<td>£39.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Care Instructions: Not dishwasher proof and not suitable for use in microwave ovens.

**Birthday card** £2.50

**Coronation tankard** £35.00

**Crown of India snow globe** £9.99

**Crown paperweight** £12.99

For further information and to buy all these products, please visit our online shop www.historicroyalpalaces.com.

As a member of Historic Royal Palaces, you can now receive 10% discount online by entering the code MEMB13 at the checkout. Alternatively, you can call the mail order line on 020 3166 6848 to place an order and receive this discount or visit our palace shops. Certain exclusions apply.

Prices are correct at time of going to press and may be subject to change.
Private tour of the Roof Bosses of St George’s Chapel, Windsor Castle

For more than 650 years, St George’s Chapel at Windsor Castle has been a place of worship and the focal point for occasions both royal and national. As the spiritual home of the Knights of the Garter it offers daily services and currently attracts more than a million visitors each year. As the final resting place of Henry VIII, St George’s Chapel has many associations with our own Historic Royal Palaces. As such we are joining forces with The College of St George to offer members a private evening tour to discover more about the fascinating Roof Bosses.

Although the Chapel’s beautiful fan vaulted ceiling, completed in the early 1500’s offers a rare example of unique gothic architecture, it is the elaborate bosses designed to cover intersections in the vaulting that entice further exploration. The bosses feature a variety of emblems that include heraldic arms and badges, angels, initials, dragons, greyhounds, leopards and religious symbols. While St George’s and The College of St George have been in existence since 1348, construction on the current Chapel began in 1475 during the reign of King Edward IV. Although the Quire was completed and foundations were laid for the Nave, work stalled for nearly 20 years when money ran short. In 1503, a legacy left by Sir Reginald Bray, a Garter Knight of King Henry VII, paid for the remainder of the Chapel to be completed. During this time the Quire’s original wooden roof was replaced and both the Quire and Nave were covered
Members have an exclusive opportunity to enjoy this beautiful chapel out of visitor hours. In partnership with St George’s Chapel Windsor Castle, we have are hosting two member events on 7 March and 16 April, the evening will entail a tour of the Bosses followed by a drinks reception. Members are cordially invited to attend Evensong in St George’s Chapel before the event.

NB Evensong starts at 17.15 and the tour will begin at 18.15. All those not attending Evensong will meet at the main entrance to Windsor Castle.

Tickets are just £30 so book now on 0844 482 7788.

Many bosses mark specific spots in the Chapel that bear a unique history.

with the fan-vaulted ceiling bearing decorative bosses as seen today. Of the 675 bosses in the Chapel, many were carved in honour of Bray. His emblem, a hemp-bray (pun intended) can be seen throughout the Chapel.

Many bosses mark specific spots in the Chapel that bear a unique history. For instance, a boss depicting the Cross-Gneth, said to be a part of the true cross, is placed above the spot where the original Cross-Gneth and other relics were displayed before reliquaries were abolished. Another boss, honouring William Hastings, a favourite of King Edward IV who was subsequently executed by King Richard III, is placed outside the Hastings Chantry in the North Quire Aisle.

Those with a keen interest in Tudor history will be interested to note the largest and most centrally placed of all of St George’s bosses, carved in honour of the reigning monarch, Henry VIII upon completion of the current Chapel in 1528. Surrounding Henry’s boss are those of his Garter Knights who contributed towards the Chapel’s completion. The fabulous opulence of this boss reflects the power and might of our most infamous monarch but also represents the investment in St George’s Chapel as a whole. Any member who has not had the opportunity to see the chapel for themselves come along and see for themselves!

As the roof bosses are roughly 500 years old they have deteriorated with time and are in great need of cleaning and conservation, bearing in mind that their restoration must be delicately managed. To that end, an Adopt A Boss scheme was launched in November of 2011 to help fund this work. To know more about adopting a boss, please visit the College of St George’s website: www.stgeorges-windsor.org.

Dennis Silkwood
Events and Projects Manager
The College of St George,
Windsor Castle
Secrets of the Royal Bedchamber

‘Within this place, a bed’s appointed, 
For a French bitch and God’s annointed’

John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester on Louise de Kéroualle

As far back as 16th century beds were often the most expensive item of furniture to be found in the house. One inventory from 1520 has Lord Darcy owning 34 beds in one house alone, the magnificent bed linen which accompanied such a collection was deemed worthy of a separate catalogue detailing sumptuous bed linen, bed curtains, bolsters, cushions and even counterpanes embroidered in green and yellow silk! The tradition and symbolism of the ‘bedchamber’ carried on into the Stuart and Hanoverian courts. The traditional role of the bedchamber becoming even more central to life at court – within those sacred curtains favourites were created and ruined, royal bastards conceived and even marriage contracts brokered.

In March 2013 Hampton Court Palace will host a new temporary exhibition which is part of the wider project to reinvent the Baroque Palace. This is an incredibly exciting project for Historic Royal Palaces and one which have the interest of members and patrons. There will be six and a half royal beds on show as well as rare bedchamber objects and paintings to tell the story of this odd routine. The beds range from the reign of Charles II (and we all know what he got up to!) to George III who needed his bed for more esoteric activities. The exhibition will stretch over 23 rooms and include the opening of spaces that have been closed to visitors for many years.

In the Stuart and Hanoverian courts, the real corridor of power was the one that led to the monarch’s bedchamber at Hampton Court Palace. This was where political deals were brokered and matches were made – all wrapped up in elaborate and bizarre rituals, and played out in the shadow of some of the most stunning beds ever made. The Secrets of the Royal Bedchamber exhibition will give visitors access to this secret world, bringing it stunningly to life with interactive displays; many beautiful beds will also be on display, some of them for the first time.

Left: Raynham - Queen’s Private Bed
Above centre: Travel bed, Cumberland Suite, Hampton Court Palace

In March 2013 Hampton Court Palace will host a new temporary exhibition which is part of the wider project to reinvent the Baroque Palace. This is an incredibly exciting project for Historic Royal Palaces and one which have the interest of members and patrons. There will be six and a half royal beds on show as well as rare bedchamber objects and paintings to tell the story of this odd routine. The beds range from the reign of Charles II (and we all know what he got up to!) to George III who needed his bed for more esoteric activities. The exhibition will stretch over 23 rooms and include the opening of spaces that have been closed to visitors for many years.

There will be a private view of the exhibition open exclusively to members on 25 March 2013, the exhibition opens to the public on 26 March. The event will be free – please bring along your membership card as usual. The private view opens at 12.00 and will close at 16.00.
Coins and Kings
The Royal Mint at the Tower

Explore the story of the Mint at the Tower where history happened. On 24 May, Historic Royal Palaces in partnership with The Royal Mint Museum will open up a new area of the Tower to our visitors to tell the history of the Mint at the Tower, where it was situated for over 500 years.

Set in an original building on the Tower’s own Mint Street, this new experience will feature flagship and unique objects from the Royal Mint Museum’s collection brought back to the Tower for the first time.

The exhibition will take visitors on a journey through five key moments in the Mint’s Tower history, illuminated by five ‘star’ coins that were made here. Innovative film, sound, and digital and physical interactives will bring the stories of people and monarchs at the Mint to life.

Beginning with King Edward I’s medieval Mint, the exhibition will reveal unfamiliar and surprising stories, including Sir Isaac Newton’s efforts to rid London of counterfeiters when he was warden of the Mint, Edward I’s harsh punishments for people who tampered with his coins, and the dangers of working in the Tudor Mint. It will explore how medieval coins were made, how new technology revolutionised the Mint, and why the Mint eventually moved out of the Tower in the reign of George III after a huge financial crisis.

Coins and Kings: The Royal Mint at the Tower opens to the public on 24 May 2013 however there is an exclusive member-only preview on 23 May opening at 13.00. The exhibition will be open to members only but no booking is required, please come along to the Tower with your membership card to gain exclusive access before anyone else! So visit us on 23 May to try your hand at becoming an apprentice in the Tudor Mint, keep your fingers intact at the ‘striking’ machine, and take a glimpse into Mint Street past.

If you enjoy the exhibition, look out for our fantastic new management-style game, where you can try your skill at running the Mint in the Tower. Available online on the HRP website and for free download from the Apple and Google Play stores from May.
Events

Tower of London

Ceremony of the Keys
Dates: 11 and 30 March and 6 and 24 April starting at 21.30 prompt
Price: The event is free but we ask for a donation of £5 on the night towards conservation costs.

The Ceremony of the Keys is the traditional locking up of the Tower of London and has taken place on each and every night, without fail, for at least 700 years. We have a very limited allocation of places so book early to secure your place. Please be there promptly at 21.30 as latecomers will not be admitted. This event is held entirely outside so please wrap up warm!

For the Ceremony of the Keys tickets please call 020 3166 6327.

New member tours of the Tower of London

If you have recently joined as a member but not yet had the chance to visit the Tower of London why not come along to one of the new member tours? Each tour is taken by one of our iconic Yeoman warders and really gives you an experts’ guide of what there is to see and do. The tours are free and although advertised to new members, if you happen to have missed out on the Tower of London experience then please feel free to pop along.

Tower of London tour with an iconic Yeoman Warder
Dates: 2 March, 3 and 27 April and 11 and 25 May starting at 17.45
Price: FREE for new members (suitable for children of all ages)

Please meet outside the Welcome Centre at the Tower of London. If you would like to attend one of the new member tours please contact the membership office on 020 3166 6327.

New Exhibition Preview Day

Coins and Kings: The Royal Mint at the Tower
Date: 23 May opening at 13.00
Price: FREE for members

See this fabulous new exhibition before anyone else! Members only preview to Coins and Kings: The Royal Mint at the Tower. Money corrupts? Well come and see this exclusive tour at 11.00 and 15.00. Each tour will give you an experts’ guide of what there is to see and do at the palace.

Tower of London tour with an iconic Yeoman Warder
Dates: 2 March, 3 and 27 April and 11 and 25 May starting at 17.45
Price: FREE for new members (suitable for children of all ages)

Please meet outside the Welcome Centre at the Tower of London. If you would like to attend one of the new member tours please contact the membership office on 020 3166 6327.

Secrets of the Royal Bedchamber

Date: 25 March opening at 12 noon
Price: FREE for members

You've heard the lunchtime lecture and read the article now see the exhibition before anyone else! Members have the first opportunity to this fabulous, new temporary exhibition at Hampton Court Palace which will display the world's largest collection of state beds, elaborate symbols of royal power and prestige. Discover what courtiers had to do to embark on a social climbing (ad)venture to get as close to the bedchamber as possible. The Royal bedchamber was at the heartbeat of the monarch's close personal business with access to all the gossip and an opportunity to eye-up the court favourites. What will you discover are the 'Secrets of the Royal Bedchamber'?

Tour of Hampton Court Palace with a State Apartment Warder

Dates: 2 and 28 March and 27 April
Price: FREE for new members (suitable for children of all ages)

Members are lucky enough to have the services of a State Apartment Warder for one day a month in the Members' room to show new members around, answer any questions or tell you about the ghosts and characters inhabiting the palace.

The Warder will be located in the Members room and run two exclusive tours at 11.00 and 15.00. Each tour will give you an experts’ guide of what there is to see and do at the palace.

If you would like to attend one of the new member tours please contact the membership office on 020 3166 6327.

Florimania: Floral Jewels

Date: 8-10 March
Price: FREE for members

Marvel at the beautiful flower arrangements celebrating the re-creation of Henry VIII’s crown. A perfect Mothering Sunday treat! Why not go the extra mile and spoil someone in the special Champagne and Oyster bar set up specially for the weekend.

Florimania
Secrets of the Royal Bedchamber
Tour of Hampton Court Palace with a State Apartment Warder
Florimania: Floral Jewels
Lunchtime lectures

These monthly lunch lectures have grown in stature and popularity each month. The staff who have hosted the lunches have really enjoyed meeting you all and it is nice to see some familiar faces at each lecture. The lectures are going to tour this spring with March’s lecture at Hampton Court Palace but April’s event will in the New Armouries at the Tower of London.

20 March – Rosanna Summers, Past Pleasures. Please note this lecture will take place in the Members’ Room at Hampton Court Palace

24 April – Megan Gooch, Curator discussing ‘Coins and Kings: The Royal Mint at the Tower’. Please note this lecture will take place in the New Armouries Meeting Suite at the Tower of London.

Tickets are £6, including a light lunch buffet.

Member discount for the RHS Flower Show at Hampton Court Palace

We are delighted to offer Historic Royal Palaces members an early bird special for the upcoming RHS Flower Show. Tickets bought before 31 March 2013 will be available at a discounted rate of £20! Members must book their tickets either through the Contact Centre on 0844 482 7777 or in person at the palace.

Royal Horticultural Society sharing the best in horticulture

Member discount makes a difference Carry the card
To mark the beginning of the 100 years of Conservation celebrations, we are inviting members to come and see behind the scenes at the intricate work done in the tapestry studios at Hampton Court Palace! The tapestries in the Great Hall are some of the finest ever produced for the court of Henry VIII, it is only through the work of the CCC team that they continue to adorn the walls for everyone to enjoy.

**Banqueting House**

**The King is executed!**
On 30 January 1649 Charles I was executed on a specially constructed scaffold outside the Banqueting House, Whitehall. He had spent his final few hours inside Whitehall Palace and walked across the Banqueting Hall and stepped out of a window on to the scaffold.

From January 2013 we have been commemorating this extraordinary moment in history with a small display close to the spot where Charles stepped out on the scaffold. The display will tell in outline the story of the events leading up to his execution through a series of banners which visitors will be able to read as they climb the stairs to the main Banqueting Hall.

**Kensington Palace**

**Food and wine pairing**
Date: 28 February starting at 12 noon
Price: £40 including lunch and wine

For one lunchtime only join our resident wine expert from Jascots in the Orangery at Kensington Palace to learn more about pairing food with wine. Enjoy a fabulous 3 course lunch with some lovely wines to try as well. A member favourite and super value for money!

**National Portrait Gallery**

**Exclusive event at the National Portrait Gallery**

**Henry and Catherine Reunited**
Date: 21 March starting promptly at 11.00, meeting in the main foyer
Price: £20

In partnership with the National Portrait Gallery members of Historic Royal Palaces are invited to an exclusive event to celebrate the reunion of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon! A recently re-identified portrait of Catherine of Aragon, which is on long-term loan to the Gallery from Lambeth Palace, has been hung next to a portrait of the husband and King who treated her so abominably. The portrait was always thought to be of Catherine Parr, Henry’s sixth wife who survived him, however gallery staff on a visit to Lambeth Palace soon noticed a discrepancy. The NPG’s Chief Curator Charlotte Bolland will be giving a lecture to members about the conservation of the painting and the context behind its discovery before heading up to the Tudor rooms to see the portrait in all its restored glory!

**Private tour of St George’s Chapel, Windsor Castle**

**The Roof Bosses of St George’s Chapel**
Date: 7 March and 16 April, Ewensong begins at 17.15 and the tour starts at 18.15
Price: £30

Members have an exclusive opportunity to enjoy this beautiful chapel out of visitor hours. In partnership with St George’s Chapel Windsor, we are hosting two private tours of the glorious Roof Bosses which will be followed by a drinks reception. Members are welcome at Ewensong which begins at 17.15 with the tour starting at 18.15. Members not wishing to attend Ewensong will meet at the main entrance to Windsor Castle for a prompt 18.15 start.

**Easter activities**

**At the Tower of London**

**Colonel Blood and the great Crown Jewels robbery**
Date: 29 March – 7 April
It is 1671, and adventurer Colonel Thomas Blood is planning to steal the new Crown Jewels from the most secure location in the kingdom! Will he succeed?

**Family fun at the Tower**
Date: 31 March – 6 April
Explore the history of the Tower through storytelling and craft activities that will bring the past to life.

**At Hampton Court Palace**

**Honeymoon of Charles II and Catherine of Braganza**
Date: 29 March – 1 April

It is 1671, and adventurer Colonel Thomas Blood is planning to steal the new Crown Jewels from the most secure location in the kingdom! Will he succeed?

**Family fun at the Tower**
Date: 31 March – 6 April
Explore the history of the Tower through storytelling and craft activities that will bring the past to life.

**At Hampton Court Palace**

**Honeymoon of Charles II and Catherine of Braganza**
Date: 29 March – 1 April

The palace is buzzing with news and rumours as the court prepares to welcome Charles II and his new bride, Catherine of Braganza for a honeymoon like no other. What secrets will you overhear? Which will you share?

**How to book for member events**

Unless stated please book tickets for members events by telephoning 0844 482 7788.
In 2013 Historic Royal Palaces will be celebrating 100 years of hands-on textile conservation at Hampton Court Palace with a programme of events and stories that showcase the expertise at the heart of the work we carry out.

To engage with members and supporters there will be a newly-created blog to keep you all up to date with the public lectures which will look at the conservation of some of the most significant objects in the collection but also behind the scenes gossip and other multimedia content.

To visit the blog please go to: www.hrp.org.uk/Conservation100

Kate Frame
Heard of Conservation and Collection Care