

# Welcome

The ice rinks are nearly in place and one can almost hear the choir of the Chapel Royal warming up their vocal chords for the annual Carol Service. Yes members, it is that time of year again.

As always there are some lovely events to come to this winter season, a fabulous Christmas book club party at Hampton Court Palace, the much-loved Carol Service in the Chapel Royal (tickets for the Carol Service will go on sale at 09.00 on Monday 21 November) as well as the usual line-up of Christmas palace activities to which members get free and unlimited access. Make the most of Christmas 2011 with Historic Royal Palaces!

If you are struggling with your Christmas shopping then why not buy a gift membership to Historic Royal Palaces? It'll arrive in plenty of time for you to pop it under the tree or we can send it straight to the lucky recipient. To buy a gift membership today, call us on 0844 482 7788 or visit our website [www.hrp.org.uk](http://www.hrp.org.uk).

**From everyone at Historic Royal Palaces, have a very merry Christmas.**

**Sam Brown** Membership Manager

\*Gift memberships bought before 19 December will be despatched in time for Christmas.



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# Member events guide

Winter 2011

Membership  
makes a  
difference  
...to your wallet



## Tower of London

### The Ceremony of the Keys

**Dates:** 12 and 17 December, 10 and 22 January starting at 21.30 prompt

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 outside so please wrap up warm – especially in January!

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



## Hampton Court Palace

### Members' Annual Carol Service in the Chapel Royal

**Date:** 20 December starting at 19.30 (please note members will not be admitted to the Chapel Royal before 19.20)

**Price:** £5 - all proceeds go towards the work of Historic Royal Palaces. Tickets will go on sale at 09.00 on 21 November 2011.

Firmly established as an annual tradition in the Historic Royal Palaces' calendar, the member-only Carol Service is truly an occasion fit for a king – or queen! Join the choir of the Chapel Royal and warm up those vocal chords for a special service in Christmas week.

This event is extremely popular and the Chapel Royal has limited capacity. Booking is essential and only for members of Historic Royal Palaces.

**NB** Tickets go on sale on 21 November. Please do not telephone for Carol Service tickets before that date.



## Book club

The book club has become one of the stalwart events for members each month. We have had some brilliant debates over the course of the year and I am very much looking forward to welcoming more members along. Our Christmas Book Club on 14 December will return to some lighter historical fiction and read the classic *The Daughter of Time* by Josephine Tey, and accompany the discussion with festive glasses of wine and lots of Christmas cheer.

Our Christmas and New Year meeting dates are:

**14 December**  
**18 January**  
**15 February**

The meetings start at 18.30 and are held in the Clore centre at Hampton Court Palace. Tickets are £5. Please email [members@hrp.org.uk](mailto:members@hrp.org.uk) if you would like to be part of the group and receive emails about the books we are discussing.



## Meet a State Apartment Warder in the Members' Room

**Dates:** 5 January, 4 February and 1 March 2012

**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 starting in the New Year on 5 January. The Warder will be located in the Members' Room and run two exclusive tours at 11.00 and 14.00. Each tour will give you an experts' guide of what there is to see and do at each palace.

If you have any questions about the palace or would simply like to know more about 'a day in the life of a Hampton Court Palace Warder' then do pop in and say hello!

There will be a State Apartment Warder on duty in the Members' Room all day however the tours will leave at 11.00 and 14.00 prompt.

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



## Members Ice Rink discount

**10% members discount at the Tower of London and Hampton Court Palace**

Back by very popular demand, the ice rink returns to the Tower of London and Hampton Court Palace for the sixth consecutive year. Members can enjoy a discount of 10% off the full price tickets available throughout the skating season – and this year, members pay no booking fee when tickets are purchased over the telephone or at the palace.

What could be more evocative than skating in the frosty air with a fabulous palatial backdrop? Those who just wish to watch can do so in the comfort of the ice rink café armed with a hot chocolate or glass of mulled wine.

Please book early for dates around Christmas as the rinks get very busy.

### Terms and Conditions

A valid membership number must be quoted when booking the ice rink tickets. No cash alternative. Defect or photocopied membership cards will not be accepted. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, promotion or discount. Hampton Court Palace ice rink is open from 26 November - 8 January 2012. The Tower of London ice rink is open from 19 November - 8 January 2012. The ice rinks are closed on Christmas Day.

## Lunchtime lectures

These monthly lunch lectures are a favourite among many members and the staff who have taken part. We have some super lectures coming up over Christmas and the New Year including a date with one of only three people allowed to touch the Crown Jewels! The December and February lectures will take place in the Members' Room at Hampton Court Palace however the January lecture will be held in the New Armouries at the Tower of London.

**6 December**  
Chris Stevens, Superintendent of Royal Collection

**24 January**  
Keith Hanson, Chief Exhibitor of the Crown Jewels

**14 February**  
Alex Gaffikin, Interpretation Manager, Kensington Palace

All the lectures start at 12noon and tickets are £5, including a light lunch buffet.



## Kensington Palace

### Christmas festive lunch

**Date:** 9 and 16 December starting at 12.00

**Price:** £30 including lunch and wine

We are delighted to be inviting members to a special Christmas lunch in the fabulous surroundings of the Orangery at Kensington Palace. Come and join the team for a festive lunch and extra special wines, it is a great way to meet fellow members and have a chat with the membership team.

These lunches promise to be a great way to start your Christmas celebrations and you can even pop into the Yellow Drawing shop in the palace for some royal inspiration.

\*Spaces are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.



## Stop Press!!

Free events for members over the Festive period.

Remember your membership card gets you into all our exhibitions free of charge! So get out and about this Christmas at one of the palaces..

## Tower of London

### Medieval Christmas

Join Edward I and his court to celebrate Christmas 1284! Be entertained by medieval music, dancing and performance.

## Hampton Court Palace

### Henry VIII's Christmas

Henry's new wife Catherine Howard celebrates her first Christmas at the palace, with songs, stories, music and the King's fool. It'll be a Christmas to remember..

## Kensington Palace

### Last chance to see Enchanted Palace

Journey through this magical experience weaving new light works by Chris Levine, contemporary fashion and performance with tales of the Palace's princesses, all set against the backdrop of the magnificent State Apartments.

And much more! Visit our website [www.hrp.org.uk](http://www.hrp.org.uk) to find out more and remember members go free to all exhibitions.



## How to book for member events

Unless stated please book tickets by telephoning 0844 482 7788.