

27 April 2018

## Frogmore House and Garden to open for annual charity open days



Frogmore House and Garden, the charming royal retreat set within Windsor Castle's magnificent Home Park, will open to the public on **5, 6 and 7 June 2018** as part of the annual charity garden open days.

The three charities that will benefit from the proceeds of this year's open days are the **National Garden Scheme**, the Armed Forces charity **SSAFA**, and **Prisoners' Education Trust**.

Built in the 17th century, Frogmore House became a royal residence in 1792 when George III purchased it for his wife, Queen Charlotte. Since then, successive monarchs have enjoyed the tranquil surroundings and delightful interiors. Although it is no longer an occupied royal residence, Frogmore House is frequently used by the Royal Family for private entertaining.

The interior of Frogmore House bears testimony to the interests and talents of the generations of the royal family who have resided there. Queen Charlotte and her daughters' passions for art and botany are reflected throughout the house, and works by the Duchess of Kent, who lived at Frogmore for almost 20 years, and those by her daughter Queen Victoria can be seen on display.

The 35-acre gardens at Frogmore House are one of its most enduring attractions. First laid out for Queen Charlotte in the 1790s, they are based on a model 'picturesque' landscape. In 1867 Queen Victoria wrote, 'this dear lovely garden...all is peace and quiet and you only hear the hum of the bees, the singing of the birds.' The design and planting scheme today incorporates additions made during the reigns of Queen Victoria and Queen Mary, as well as a number of trees and shrubs added to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. Today, visitors can enjoy gentle garden walks and views of Queen Victoria's Tea House, the white-marble Indian Kiosk, and the 18th-century lake.

### **Tuesday, 5 June – National Garden Scheme**

The National Garden Scheme (NGS) raises money for nursing and caring charities by opening private gardens of quality and interest to the public. Thanks to the generosity of garden owners, visitors and volunteers, over the past 90 years more than £50 million has been raised through garden entry fees, teas and cakes, and donated to beneficiary charities including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Queen's Nursing Institute, Carer's Trust and Parkinson's UK. To book tickets to visit the garden at Frogmore House on Tuesday, 5 June visit [www.ngs.org.uk/frogmore](http://www.ngs.org.uk/frogmore), call 01483 211535 or email [hello@ngs.org.uk](mailto:hello@ngs.org.uk).

Heather Skinner, Vice Chairman & Berkshire County Organiser, National Garden Scheme, said, 'We are grateful and excited that Frogmore House and Garden will open in aid of the National Garden Scheme to raise vital funds for the amazing nurses and caring charities we support, all of whom help people at times in their lives when they need it most. A visit to the garden at Frogmore

House is very special – it's a rare opportunity to experience the natural beauty of this private parkland garden in a memorable historic setting, and is a real highlight in our calendar of garden openings.'

### **Wednesday, 6 June – SSAFA**

SSAFA provides lifelong support to the Armed Forces, veterans and their families in times of need. Beginning this vital work in 1885, this makes SSAFA the oldest tri-service, military charity running in the UK. This year alone, staff and teams of volunteers have helped over 67,000 people – from World War Two veterans to those involved in more recent conflicts and their families. It has become clear over more than 130 years of providing Forces support that everyone faces different challenges, so SSAFA uses a tailored approach to meet the needs of today's serving community. Whether it is practical, emotional or financial support – SSAFA is there to serve the Armed Forces family every step of the way. To book tickets for the garden at Frogmore House on Wednesday, 6 June visit <https://www.ssafa.org.uk/latest/frogmore-house-and-gardens-raise-money-ssafa>.

Jonathan Sandall, Director of Fundraising at SSAFA, said, 'SSAFA is delighted to be chosen as a beneficiary for the upcoming open days at Frogmore House and Garden. This is a particularly special year for all involved, as SSAFA is also celebrating 100 years since both the end of World War One and the formation of the RAF. As the oldest tri-service military charity in the UK, SSAFA is proud to have supported the military community since 1885. We were there then, and are here now. This opportunity will help us to continue providing vital emotional, practical and financial support for serving personnel, veterans and their families.'

### **Thursday, 7 June – Prisoners' Education Trust**

Prisoners' Education Trust (PET) is a charity working across every prison in England and Wales to help people in prison achieve their potential through learning. PET provides courses in levels and subjects not usually available in prison, including GCSEs, A-levels and Open University courses, as well as courses in subjects as diverse as Farming Management and Personal Fitness Training. Since their foundation in 1989, PET has helped thousands of men and women in prison transform their lives through education, and build better futures for their families and communities. To book tickets for the garden at Frogmore House on Thursday, 7 June visit [www.prisonerseducation.org.uk/events](http://www.prisonerseducation.org.uk/events) or call 0203 752 5681.

Rod Clark, Chief Executive, Prisoners' Education Trust, said, 'We are really delighted that Prisoners' Education Trust has been offered the rare opportunity to host an open day at Frogmore House and Garden. As we approach our 30th birthday, this is a golden time to share our work and vision with old and new supporters alike. By joining us at Frogmore House and Garden, you'll be helping to plant seeds of hope in places that can often feel hopeless; equipping people with the skills and qualifications they need to break the cycle of crime and build better lives in our communities.'

**Ends**

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**For further information and images, please contact the Royal Collection Trust Press Office, +44 (0)20 7839 1377, [press@royalcollection.org.uk](mailto:press@royalcollection.org.uk).**

**The Frogmore House and Garden charity garden open days are on 5, 6 and 7 June 2018 in aid of the National Garden Scheme, SSAFA and Prisoners' Education Trust respectively. Entry is from 10:00 to 17:30, with last entry at 16:00.**

**Tickets for the charity garden open days can be obtained directly from the charities involved, either in advance or by paying in cash at the gate. Garden tickets cost £6.70**

(under-fives enter for free). Limited tickets for guided garden history tours will be available each day for £3.00, running at 11:00, 13:00 and 15:00.

Once inside the garden, separate tickets can be purchased in cash from Royal Collection Trust to visit Frogmore House. Tickets for Frogmore House cost £7.00 for adults, £6.00 for students and over-60s, and £5.00 for children aged five to 16 (under-fives enter for free).

Free parking will be available off the Long Walk and refreshments will be on sale within the grounds, although visitors are welcome to bring their own picnics.

### Notes to Editors

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Admission to Frogmore House and Garden is managed by The Royal Collection Trust, a registered charity in England and Wales (1016972) and in Scotland (SCO39772).