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## **CHRISTMAS 'WINTER WONDERS WEEKEND' ON THE DEEPDENE TRAIL**

**Dorking is set for a wintry Christmas delight this December as the Deepdene Trail's historic gardens host their first 'Winter Wonders Weekend'.**

On the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December from 10am – 3pm visitors to The Trail are invited to wrap up warm and enjoy the winter wonders of Deepdene's atmospheric gardens in the company of real reindeer, live festive music, enthralling children's storytelling, Christmas crafts and of course Father Christmas himself!

Our magnificent family of reindeer and their beautifully decorated sleigh will make the perfect backdrop for family photographs in this idyllic setting. Deepdene's own cheeky Christmas elves will escort excited families through the festively trimmed gardens to meet Santa in his historic grotto, piled high with brightly coloured gifts for the children.

The Rough Mechanicals, who delighted with the 'Shakespeare Live Weekend' at Deepdene this summer, are back to entertain us with their own winter wonders, a selection of fabulous festive tales from the Victorian world of Dickens. Be enthralled by tales of festive ghosts, family gatherings and yuletide parties by the quintessential Victorian Christmas author - Charles Dickens.

For a small donation, there will be the opportunity to create a stunning Christmas wreath using natural materials. All children's craft for creating cards and decorations will be free of charge, as will soaking up the festive atmosphere with music from a variety of local groups. A range of tasty refreshments will be available to purchase, including delicious lunch options for those that choose to stay the whole day.

Councillor Vivienne Michael, Leader of Mole Valley District Council said, "The Deepdene Trail events now have a strong following so we expect tickets to go quickly. All the proceeds from each event go straight back into The Trail's work, so every visitor will be supporting the ongoing reclaiming and restoration of the gardens. We are currently looking at restoring the ice house on the estate and also exploring how we can re-open the man-made tunnels that were used during the Second World War extending the appeal of The Trail to an even wider audience."

Tickets for entrance to Deepdene's Winter Wonders Weekend are £5 per adult and £3 per child. Car parking tickets can be pre-booked at £2 per car and Santa's Grotto tickets are an additional £3 per child.

These are all available in advance from Dorking Halls, on 01306 881717. For more information on The Trail see [www.deepdenetrail.co.uk](http://www.deepdenetrail.co.uk).

**-ENDS-**

## **Notes**

For additional information on accessing The Trail, please see [www.deepdenetrail.co.uk](http://www.deepdenetrail.co.uk).

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