



## **Stoneleigh Park to host The Great Exhibition 2012**

Stoneleigh Park is delighted to announce that it has been selected as the venue for the Great Exhibition 2012.

As described by Eamonn Holmes, Stoneleigh Park sits proudly, smack bang in the middle of Britain, and offers the most flexible indoor and outdoor event venue in the country. It was therefore the obvious choice for this exciting festival for Britain.

Inspired by its predecessors of 1851 and 1951 and supported by a host of illustrious British celebrities including Sir Anthony Hopkins, Sir Michael Parkinson, Sir Terence Conran, Dame Ellen MacArthur and Dame Evelyn Glennie, The Great Exhibition 2012 will take place between June and August 2012 showcasing the very best of Britain. It will be an opportunity to see, in one place, all that is great about British culture and society and will be a period for reflection, ambition, inspiration and celebration.

Commenting on the announcement, Chief Executive Brian Warren said: "We have wanted to host an event which properly celebrates all that is best about Britain - not only agriculture, our superb food and drinks industry but also the technology, culture and national achievements that makes us all proud to be British. We are absolutely delighted, hugely excited and immensely proud to be hosting 'The Great Exhibition 2012'. Stoneleigh Park offers a 1,000 plus acre site with the utilities, the infrastructure, as well as unequalled flexibility, ambition, and spirit to embrace any challenge and succeed and we are looking forward to working with the team."

The event, which will run for over 90 days and is anticipated to attract more than 3 million visitors, will also create a wealth of opportunities, jobs and cachet for the local area and will deliver a lasting legacy for the site and the region.

"With over 1700 employees on site and over  $\frac{3}{4}$  million visitors a year, Stoneleigh Park already plays a vital role in the local economy, bringing an estimated £60 million of additional spend," said Mr Warren. "The Great Exhibition 2012 will more than likely increase this spend ten-fold. We will continue to work very hard with our neighbours and the local communities to ensure an event that is a success - for everyone."

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **About The Great Exhibition 2012**

Inspired by The Great Exhibition in 1851 and the Festival of Britain in 1951, the Great Exhibition 2012 is the brainchild of Julie Benson and will take place at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire from

June to August 2012. Encompassing the arts, business, fashion and culture, The Great Exhibition 2012 will showcase all that makes Britain great.

For further information, visit [www.thegreatexhibition2012.co.uk](http://www.thegreatexhibition2012.co.uk)

#### **About Stoneleigh Park**

Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, is the most flexible indoor and outdoor venue in the country. Set in the heart of the UK, with easy access by car, road, rail and air, facilities include 21,000m<sup>2</sup> flexible indoor space, conference facilities for up to 2,000 delegates, over 800 acres of arable land plus a further 250 acre showground. The venue caters for exhibitions, conferences, parties, weddings, team building days, accommodation, hen and stag parties, charity balls, product launches, Christmas parties and agricultural and equine events.

#### **For further information:**

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