

## **NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE**

**29 November 2019**

### **A Victorian Christmas at Culzean Castle**

The already magnificent Culzean Castle will be even more magical this December, as it is transformed for a special Christmas event.

On Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 December and Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 December, visitors can step back in time to explore the sights, sounds and smells of a Victorian Christmas.

The stunning castle which is protected by the National Trust for Scotland, will recreate Christmas Eve 1879, and visitors can meet the castle's aristocratic family and hard-working staff as they get ready for Christmas Day in a fun seasonal event, scripted by Shirley Husband, author of The McCoo Family books.

Find out how the house prepared for the big day, from the chimney sweeps, chamber maids and cooks labouring hard, to the family playing parlour games and practicing their dance steps. You can even join in the dancing and family games if you like.

Santa will be on hand too, with a sack full of gifts.

On both weekends from 11am to 4pm, the Stone Barn & Smiddy will host a Christmas Market, including the chance to get your picture taken as a real-life Victorian. Over at the Ranger Hub between 1.30pm and 3.30pm each day there will also be free Victorian Christmas Craft sessions to create your very own Christmas decorations.

Gareth Clingan, Operations Manager at Culzean Castle said: "We had so much fun last year welcoming visitors to the castle to experience a Culzean Christmas that we knew we had to do it again. It's great to have Shirley Husband of the McCoo books back to create a whole new script for us and we're making sure the castle looks extra-festive for everyone visiting.

“We’ve already sold out of our early bird tickets so it’s shaping up to be a brilliant couple of weekends and as well as being a fun family experience, it helps our charity to protect Culzean Castle and Scotland’s other special places.”

Entry to A Victorian Christmas at Culzean Castle is priced at £8.50 for an adult, £11.50 for children aged three years and above, which includes a present from Father Christmas. Children aged two years and under are priced at £5.50 if receiving a gift from Father Christmas or are free where no present is required. An additional charge of £3 per adult and £2 per child applies to non-members for admission into the grounds to everyone apart from Trust members.

Slots are available to book every fifteen minutes from 10.30am until 3.15pm with the tour lasting approximately 45 minutes.

