

High Commissioner brings Sri Lankan dancers to celebrate Museum display

The Powell Cotton Museum at Quex Park, Birchington has this year redisplayed a collection of 'devil dancing' masks from Sri Lanka. They were bought at auction in London one hundred years ago by the Museum's founder, Major Percy Powell Cotton.

These colourful and dramatic masks, featuring bulging eyes and cobra snakes, have been used in traditional folk drama and healing rituals in Sri Lanka. Their origins are unknown but are probably centuries old.

The Museum recently had a visit from representatives of the Sri Lankan Tourism office in London, who were very excited to see such an old collection, and of such high quality.

The Sri Lanka High Commissioner's office was told and the Museum is now to have a visit from the Acting High Commissioner who is bringing with him some traditional drummers and dancers.

On Sunday 14th August at 2 p.m. they will demonstrate to museum visitors both classical dance forms and a masked dance. Following this they will hold a traditional ceremony in the gallery. Sri Lankan tea and biscuits will be served.



Further information is available from
The Powell Cotton Museum
enquiries@quexmuseum.org

The Powell Cotton Museum
Quex Park

Park Lane
Birchington
CT7 0BH

www.quexmuseum.org

01843 842168