

## PRESS RELEASE

### 'Magical Theatre in Magical Surroundings'

#### Open-Air Theatre at Ardgillan Castle and Newbridge House in July

Presented by FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL in association with CHAPTERHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY

Fingal County Council's open-air garden theatre programme for Summer 2011 presents *The Taming of the Shrew* at Ardgillan Castle on Friday 1st July and *Cranford* at Newbridge House on Friday 8th July. Following on from last year's acclaimed and successful tour, Chapterhouse Theatre Company is delighted to be performing open-air theatre in such beautiful and atmospheric garden locations in Fingal. With idyllic settings and captivating performances, Chapterhouse promises the most exhilarating evening.

For this year's performances, everyone is once again invited to enjoy an evening of fine entertainment with family and friends, to picnic in the most beautiful of garden surroundings and to join this unique company of travelling players as they bring to life the romance and magic of these exhilarating and well-loved tales. In a season of magical, mysterious and romantic characters Chapterhouse is performing some of the best-loved stories of literature.

Rory O'Byrne, Arts Officer with Fingal County Council, in extending the invitation to these special events, encourages anyone attending to; "arrive early with friends and family to picnic in these splendid surroundings and enjoy a special evening of theatre under the stars."

**The Taming of the Shrew, Ardgillan Castle, Balbriggan, Co Dublin  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 7.30pm**

Tickets and Information from:  
Ardgillan Castle – 01-849 2212  
Balbriggan Library – 01-870 4401  
Skerries Library – 01-849 1900

**Cranford, Newbridge House, Donabate, Co Dublin**  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30**

Tickets and Information from:  
Newbridge House – 01-843 6534  
Malahide Library – 01-870 4430

Adults €10 / OAPs, Students and Children €5 / Families (2 Adults & 2 Children) €25  
Grounds open for picnics from 6.30pm. Please bring your own rugs or low-backed seating.

**ENDS 13/06/11**

**Note to editors:**

Chapterhouse Theatre Company now performs in over one hundred different locations around Britain and Ireland for their garden theatre season, together with many of the most picturesque settings, including Ardgillan Castle and Newbridge House.

*The Taming of the Shrew*

The battle of the sexes is in full swing as Chapterhouse Theatre Company presents one of Shakespeare's most controversial comedies, *The Taming of the Shrew*. Feisty Katharina meets her match in Petruchio, who slowly manages to woe this so-called shrew of a woman with a somewhat unconventional courtship. Misogynistic merriment will meet the magic of true love under beautiful summer skies at some of the UK and Ireland's most spectacular venues. Be sure to join Chapterhouse in 2011, as tricks, tantrums and lovers' tiffs create a hilarious evening's entertainment. Picnic in the magical surroundings of beautiful gardens and enjoy a wonderful evening of theatre under the stars.

*Cranford*

Relax into a lazy summer's evening of delightful entertainment as Chapterhouse transports you to the sleepy Victorian town of Cranford. Based on Elizabeth Gaskell's classic novel, this brand-new adaptation of Cranford will bring a smile to young and old alike as the adventures and dramas of life in the countryside are brought to a picturesque venue near you as part of the celebrations of Gaskell's bicentenary.

Previous reviews of these performances have been glowing: