



Thursday 3 November 2011

## DRESSED UP AND SOMEWHERE TO GO IN SUTTON

The history of fashion comes alive today as the London Borough of Sutton opens a new photographic exhibition *All Dressed Up and Somewhere To Go*, celebrating changing clothing trends from early nineteenth century to the present day.

Staged as part of the 2011 [Archive Awareness Campaign](#) theme *Culture and Diversity: What's Your Story?*, the display will enable the borough to reminisce about its vibrant fashion community by showcasing the Archive's collection of photographs, revealing how Sutton's residents used to dress over 100 years ago.

The exhibition comprises diverse images of clothes including tennis and football kits, firemen and police uniforms to pictures of personal items of clothing such as brides in wedding gowns and children in ceremonial dress.

**Cllr Graham Tope, Executive Member for Community Safety, Leisure and Libraries on Sutton Council, said:**

*"The clothes we wear can say a lot about us, and changing fashions and styles of dress often reflect major social and cultural changes. As well as appealing to fashionistas, the exhibition explores an unusual aspect of social history."*

Visitors to the Local Studies & Archives Centre will be able examine the relationship between fashion and Sutton residents and explore how changes to clothing correlate with altering social, political and manufacturing landscapes.

**Get involved:** Exhibition organisers are asking residents to send in photos of themselves in school uniforms, suits, headgear, gowns, robes, dresses, shawls and wraps, now, to build a picture of how dress continues to change. The entries will be displayed alongside the *Dressed up, and somewhere to go* exhibition until the beginning

of December. The photograph that receives the most votes from members of the public will receive a video camera.

– Ends –

For free postcards on this year's theme, further details, spokespeople or images on the Archive Awareness Campaign, please contact **Angela Owusu** on **0208 392 5237** or email [Angela.Owusu@nationalarchives.gov.uk](mailto:Angela.Owusu@nationalarchives.gov.uk).

### **Notes to Editors**

**The exhibition will take place in the Europa Gallery throughout November.**

**Gallery opening times:** Monday to Friday 9.30am to 8pm, Saturday 9.30am to 5pm. Sunday 1pm to 4.30pm

To enter the competition, collect an entry form from the Local Studies & Archives Centre in Sutton Central Library; or email [local.studies@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:local.studies@sutton.gov.uk). Post your photograph and completed entry form to *Dressed up and somewhere to go*, Local Studies and Archives Centre, Sutton Central Library, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, SM1 1EA or at the customer service desk of any Sutton Library.

The winner will be announced in the first week of December.

### **Archive Awareness Campaign**

- The Archive Awareness Campaign (AAC) is spearheaded by the Archives & Records Association (ARA) [www.archives.org.uk](http://www.archives.org.uk) and funded by The National Archives [nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://nationalarchives.gov.uk) and the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council [www.mla.gov.uk](http://www.mla.gov.uk).
- AAC [www.archiveawareness.com](http://www.archiveawareness.com) is an ongoing celebration of all kinds of fascinating archive treasures across the UK and Ireland. Throughout the year, archives all over the country open their doors to showcase their history by holding open days, putting on exhibitions, tours and workshops; to help the public discover a piece of their own history.