

'TOPPERS FOR COPPERS' EXHIBITION AT HAT WORKS!

A new exhibition entitled 'Toppers for Coppers', which is dedicated to the fascinating world of law enforcement and its functional fashion is to be opened this weekend at Hat Works.

Greater Manchester Police Museum and the Hat Works have teamed up to produce the exhibition, which opens on Saturday 29th April.

Visitors to the exhibition will be able to find out how and why police helmets are made, and learn about historic police hats and police head gear from around the world. The exhibition also features personal stories from police officers and fun activities for visitors.

The aim of the display is to show how the police force is made visible and how police hats form such an important part of police identity. Every police force wears a slightly different uniform, and has pride in its individuality. 'Toppers for Coppers' takes a look at police headwear and how it has developed through history.

Stockport Council's Access Officer, Helen Castle, said: "We are delighted to have been able to work so closely with the Greater Manchester Police Museum to put together this exciting exhibition. This is a particularly appropriate exhibition for Stockport's Hat Works as the town was once the biggest hat producer in the world and at one time all UK police hats were made here. I would encourage people to come along and enjoy the display."

One of the highlight's of the exhibition is the beige Stetson style hat, which forms part of the New York State Police uniform. This hat was generously donated to the museum in 2005 by Stockport's Chief Superintendent Neil Wain, who was presented with the hat by the New York State Police Department, as a 'thank you' for his assistance at Ground Zero in the aftermath of the terrorist attack on September 11th.

The exhibition will run until 21st July and admission is free to all.

The exhibition will be accompany by a series of workshops and talks for people interested in how the exhibition was curated. Helen Castle will be giving an informative talk on this subject including a guided visit around the exhibition on Thursday 11th May at 7.00pm, cost £2.00. Booking is essential.

On Saturday 8th July the children aged seven and above are invited to come along to the museum to put their detective skills to the test and learn some fun and useful crime solving techniques at the 'Whodunnit' event. This starts at 1.30pm and costs £4.00. Booking essential.

For more information, or to book a place on the workshops, please contact Hat Works on 0845 833 0975.

END