

You'll be in Good Company at Hat Works!

Stockport's Hat Works Museum, the UK's only museum dedicated to the hatting industry and headwear, is set to unveil its latest exhibition, entitled '*Good Company: the hatting firms that made Stockport great*'.

The exhibition, which opens on Saturday 28th July, will provide an insight in to the lives of the people who worked in the hatting industry.

Good Company will concentrate on the hat works of Stockport, where from the end of the nineteenth century until the middle of the twentieth, hundreds of thousands of hats were made. They weren't produced in tiny workshops, but in large factories, which had their own processes, cultures and social lives. The exhibition will explore what life was like working in these factories where very often people joined as an apprentice upon leaving school and stayed with the same firm for the rest of their lives.

The exhibition will explore all areas of the hatter's lives. There was a strong social network in the factories and for many the highlight of their week was the work's bowling, swimming or football leagues. The exhibition will also address how the working conditions affected people's health.

Good Company will bring hatting history to life! It will be on display until 28th October 2007. Entry is free and there are fun activities for all visitors, such as trying on replica old hatters' clothes and listening to sound recordings.

For more information contact Hat Works on 0845 833 0975, or visit www.hatworks.org.uk

ENDS

For more information please contact Hat Works on 0845 833 0975.