

# Institute of Physics

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION

V & A MUSEUM OF CHILDHOOD AND SUTTON HOUSE

TUESDAY 17 February 2009

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This visit has been organised by David Simmons.

The V&A Museum of Childhood aims to encourage everyone to explore the themes of childhood past and present and develop an appreciation of creative design through our inspirational collections and programmes.

The Museum is part of the V&A family of museums, and houses the national childhood collection. The galleries are designed to show the collections in a way which is accessible to adults and children of all ages.

We have a dynamic programme of temporary exhibitions, daily activities and seasonal events, and an excellent education programme with popular teaching sessions and resources linked directly to the National Curriculum. With its strong commitment to cultural diversity and social inclusion, the Museum has established very close links with its local communities through a diverse programme of collaborative visual arts and oral history projects.

**Sutton House** was built in about 1535 for a Tudor courtier and since then has been the home of wool and silk merchants, a girls and a boys boarding school, a home for several Huguenot families, a house for the Hackney Vestry Chief Clerk, a Church Institute, a trades union headquarters and a squat for the homeless. It is the oldest domestic building in the East End of London.

In 1936, when no longer required by the Church, an appeal was launched to save it for the nation. The money raised enabled the National Trust to acquire it in 1938. The last tenants, the ASTMS union, moved out in 1982. It's future was in doubt when the Trust were unable to find suitable tenants. It could have been converted into residential units, if a local pressure group had not mounted a campaign that raised £2 million for a restoration.

## Arrangements

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 10.00-11.00 | Assemble in the café in the Museum of Childhood  |
| 11.00       | Introductory talk  |
| 11.30       | Walk round the museum and have lunch in the museum café  |
| 13.30       | Catch a bus to Hackney Central   |
| 14.00       | Short walk to Sutton house for conducted tour, followed by tea and biscuits, which are included in the cost. |

## Costs

The maximum number of people is 25. The cost for members of the National Trust, who bring their membership cards is £5.00. The cost for non-members is £7.50.

## Travel

The Museum of Childhood is close to Bethnal Green underground station (see the first map on page 2). After lunch, we cross Cambridge Heath Road and catch a north going bus (D6, 48, 106 and 254) to Hackney Central railway station. If you get there early, please cross the main road and wait at St Augustine's Tower near the church for the rest of the party. From Hackney Central, we cross Mare Street and take a short walk to Sutton House (see the second map on page 2). David will be giving us an amended map. If you are not sure of the way to Sutton House, stay with the party. We'll get you there!

After the visit, we walk back to Hackney Central and catch a train or a bus back to the underground station. Hackney Central station is on the Richmond – Stratford line. There are frequent trains from Liverpool Street going through London Fields and Hackney Downs stations. There are many bus routes going to or past Hackney Central Bus Station.

### By car.

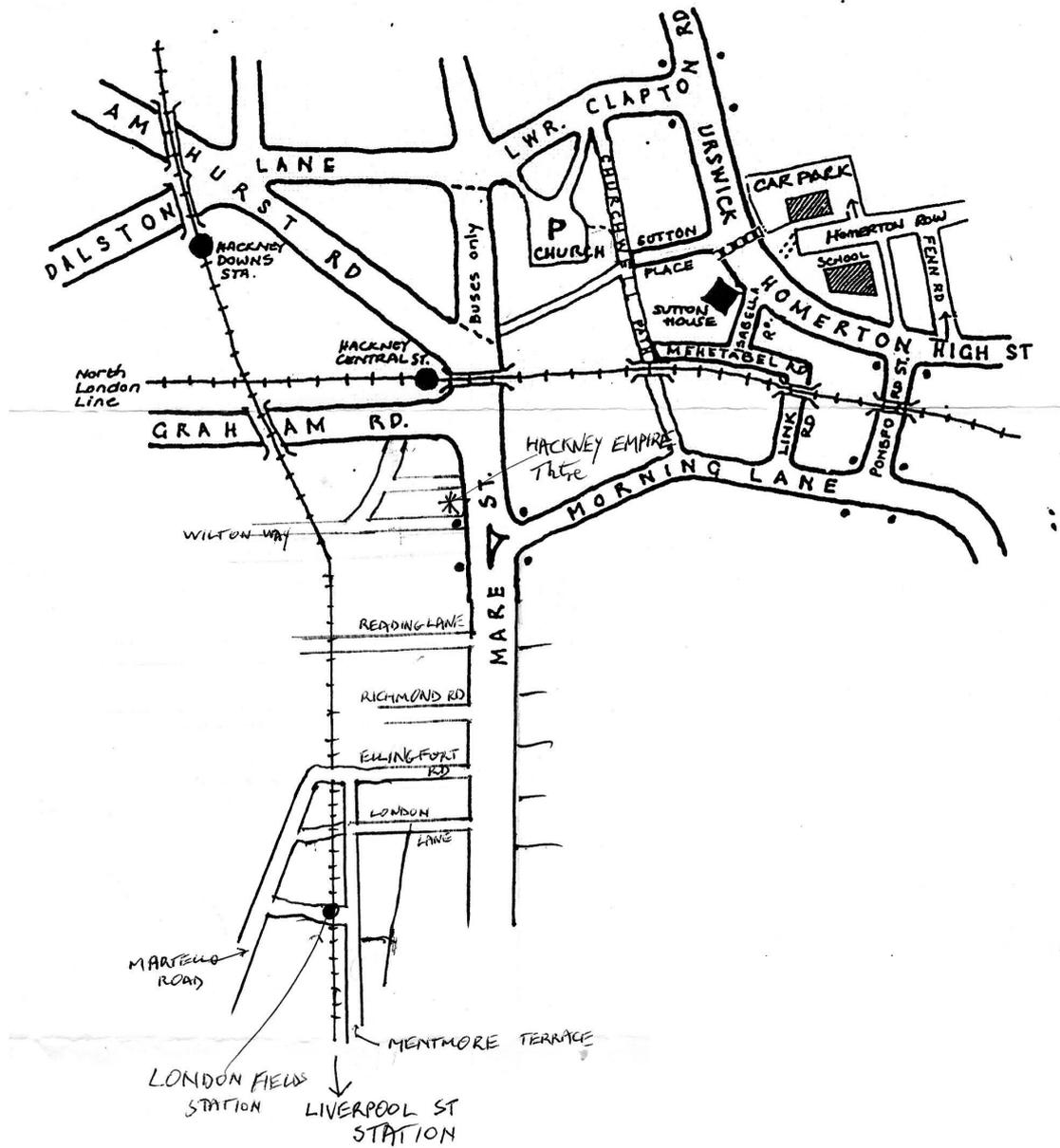
There is no car park at Sutton House and local street parking is very limited. Parking controls apply Monday to Saturday 8:30 am – 11:00 pm. The cost is £2 per hour. The maximum stay is 2 hours. The postcode for the theatre is E8 1EJ.

### Contacts

Before the 17<sup>th</sup> February, please contact Reinalt on 020 8946 3399, 07758 085741 or [reinalt@physics.org](mailto:reinalt@physics.org)

On the 17<sup>th</sup> February, please contact David Simmons on 0794108 7338.





The map is not to scale. Both London Fields and Hackney Downs stations are about 400 yards from Hackney Central station.