



Come to the Family Archives Roadshow

*Any time between 11 - 3 pm: Saturday 14th June.
Brighton Jubilee Library, Conference Room 2.
Free admission.*

See a fascinating exhibition by the *Letter in the Attic* project, which is collecting letters, diaries and memoirs related to Brighton and Hove. If you have any family papers and photos, bring them along and get them looked at by the experts!

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- 11.10 **Welcome to the Letters in the Attic Roadshow**
Jack Latimer, Project Co-ordinator
- 11.15 - **Who would have thought it?**
11.30 *Opening talk by Dorothy Sheridan*
- Could your diary inspire a TV drama? Could your gardening journal be used for climate change research? Dorothy Sheridan MBE, Director of the Mass-Observation archive, talks about the unexpected uses to which archived letters and diaries can be put. Nella Last's diary, donated to the Mass-Observation Archive, is currently a major BBC dramatisation starring Victoria Wood.
- 11.30 - **Archives roadshow**
12.30
- Bring your old papers and photos and have them examined by the experts. How valuable are they? What's the date of the photos? How should you take care of old documents?
- Andrew Bennett: Brighton and Hove archivist, East Sussex Record Office
 - David Simkins: Brighton and Hove photo historian
 - Dorothy Sheridan, MBE: Director, Mass-Observation archive
- 12.30 - **Stories from the Attic**
12.45 Renowned local historian Geoff Mead and local archivist Andrew Bennett talk about the history and stories that lie behind the letters and diaries on show.
- 1.00 - **Archives roadshow**
3.00 As above

ON SHOW ALL DAY (11 -3 pm)

- My Brighton and Hove: the international award-winning community history website
- Letter in the Attic: letters and diaries from Brighton and Hove, 19-21st century
- Treasures from the Archive: a display by the East Sussex Record Office
- Everyday writing from the UK: a display by the Mass Observation archive
- Books and projects from QueenSpark Books, the city's much-loved community publisher
- Little box of horrors: a display showing how NOT to look after your personal papers

ABOUT LETTER IN THE ATTIC

During the course of 2007-8, the *Letter in the Attic* project is collecting personal papers, such as letters and diaries, from the people of Brighton and Hove. The aim of the project is to show the historical value and human insights offered by these often overlooked types of everyday writings. We're interested in material from any period of history - from centuries ago up until the present day. We have also begun to collect memoirs and everyday documents such as household bills and menus.

We're collecting these writing for an exhibition and a book. You don't need to part with the originals; we can scan and copy them. However, if you wish, we can arrange for your papers to be looked after by the East Sussex Records Office.

Many people think own letters and diaries aren't interesting - but they will be in 100 years time!

The Letter in the Attic project is a collaboration between:

- QueenSpark Books: a local not-for-profit community publisher
- East Sussex Records Office: the official local archive
- Mass-Observation archive: specialist in collecting personal papers
- www.mybrightonandhove.org.uk: award-winning local history website

CONTACT US

Via www.letterintheattic.org or jack@letterintheattic.org or 01273 559669

