

# Recreating history

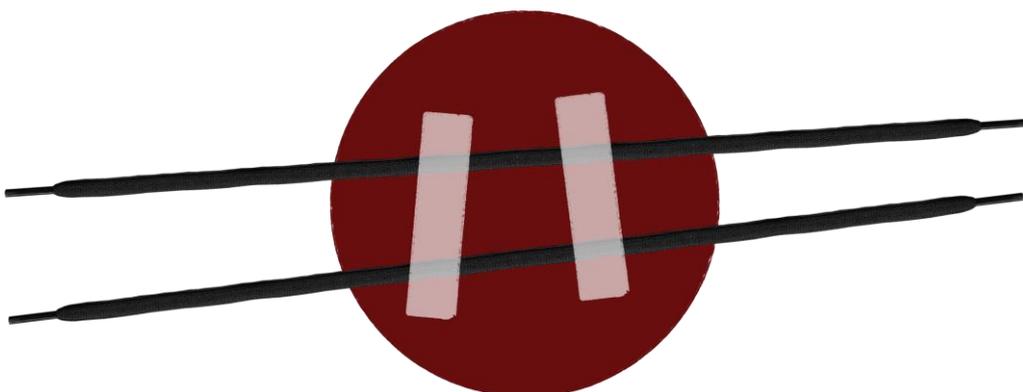
Sometimes museums have to recreate photos or scenes from history or even make replica objects that can go on display when the originals are too fragile to go on public display or if they just simply don't even exist.

Insurance fire brigades date back to the early 1700s and would have worn an armband or chest plate to identify them. Not many original Insurance fire brigade uniforms still exist today so to tell the story of these early fire brigades we have some replica uniforms on display here at the museum. Use your imagination and recreate your own insurance fire brigade armband. The photo below shows a replica Sheffield Fire Office armband on display in the museum.

**Using card, fabric, sticky tape and shoelaces can you make your own in four simple steps?**



1. Start by cutting out a small disk of card and a small disk of fabric just a little bigger than the card.
2. You can print off the below Sheffield Fire Office mark and use this or draw your own onto the card.
3. Stick the card disk onto the fabric disk for design.
4. Stick two shoelaces onto the back of the fabric to allow the armband to be fastened onto your arm.



Print out the below onto A4 paper or card and cut around the outer edge of the badge.



Now you have your fantastic armband try and recreate the below image of an insurance firefighter standing next to his fire engine.



Note the armband on his left arm. Their uniforms would have been highly decorative, colourful and not very protective from fire.

He looks dashing in his top hat and long socks!

If you want to be really creative then find your favourite historical photo and recreate it. You could use yourself or objects from around the home.

Insurance fire brigades also used fire squirts. You can find out how to make your own fire squirt on our home activities section on [www.visitnesm.org.uk/homeactivities](http://www.visitnesm.org.uk/homeactivities)