Museum of Fire Open Day

■ Want to find out more about the UK's oldest municipal fire brigade?

The Museum of Fire, based at Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service's historic headquarters on Lauriston Place, Edinburgh, is holding an open day on Saturday 7 August.

The Museum, usually only open to visitors Monday to Friday, is home to the Service's vast collection of fire and rescue service related artefacts dating as far back as 1426.

Honorary Curator of the Museum and past Assistant Firemaster, Ian McMurtrie said:

"The Museum is a mine of fantastic historic fire memorabilia such as fire engines dating back as early as 1806 and items belonging to James Braidwood, the 'Father of Firefighting' and the founder of Edinburgh Fire Brigade, the first municipal brigade. Although the museum normally welcomes visitors during weekdays, the open day is a great opportunity for members of the public to drop in and learn about the vibrant history of this vital service."

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As well as the Museum's own collection of artefacts and vehicles, there will be twelve additional appliances on display in the front and rear yards and stalls selling items to raise money for The Fire Fighters Charity. Come and explore the rich history of the fire and rescue service and see uniforms, equipment and photographs — our volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and tell fascinating tales from days gone by.

The Museum will be opening its doors between 10am and 4pm, but in the meantime for more information on the museum and the treasures inside visit the Service's website at http://www.lbfire.org.uk/museum/museum_intro.htm.