

February 2011

**The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall to open The Royal Crown Derby's Titanic Exhibition History on a Plate, 19 February – 2 July 2011
Royal Crown Derby Visitor Centre, 194 Osmaston Road, Derby**

Fine bone china specialist Royal Crown Derby is set to unveil an exclusive Titanic exhibition, which will be opened by The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall. Organised to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the launch of the RMS Titanic, the *History on a Plate* exhibition will be launched by The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall on Friday 18th February at Royal Crown Derby's Visitor Centre.

In collaboration with White Star Memories, Royal Crown Derby has brought together a unique collection of never seen before Titanic artefacts and historical pieces from Royal Crown Derby's Titanic archives. The one-off 100th anniversary exhibition underlines Royal Crown Derby's fascinating heritage, which saw the Derby factory produce fine china for the First Class à la carte restaurant. During the Royal visit Their Royal Highnesses will undertake a complete tour of the same factory where the first Titanic tableware collection was produced in 1911.

Royal Crown Derby's archives document the journey from the company's 1911 pattern book through to the 2011 Titanic collection. The new Titanic tableware pieces feature the original 1911 pattern and will take centre stage at the exhibition through a remarkable dining scene. Each 2011 Titanic piece will be handmade in the very same factory which produced the original collection.



Documentation of the Titanic order even includes a marketing booklet created by Royal Crown Derby at the request of the White Star Line. Only 1000 copies of the special booklet were produced, and apart from this copy it's unknown how many survived, so visitors to the exhibition will be able to glimpse a unique piece of history that has never before been displayed in public. The exhibition will also display original costumes worn by Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio in James Cameron's 1997 film.

With a collection of over 600 artefacts, White Star Memories possesses the largest showcase of Titanic memorabilia in Europe. *History on a Plate* is the company's first major exhibition in the UK for five years and will feature around 300 items.

Notes to Editors

The visit on Friday 18th February will be covered by a Royal Rota media facility. Please contact Hillgate PR on 020 7384 2476 for any enquiries.

Established around 1750, Royal Crown Derby manufactures the highest quality fine bone china at its factory in Derby, England. The present factory is situated on a four and half acre site and was established in 1878. Today, Royal Crown Derby employs around 200 people and produces tableware, giftware and collectables for leading UK and international retailers.

White Star Memories is Europe's leading Titanic specialist and has a huge collection of incredible artifacts from the Titanic and her sister ship, the Olympic.

Admission to the *History on a Plate* exhibition is £6 for an adult, £3 for a child under 12 and £15 for a family ticket. The exhibition will be open Monday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm. To book an exclusive guided tour of Royal Crown Derby's factory and see where the original Titanic china was manufactured, please call 01332 712 833.

For further details about the *History on a Plate* exhibition and Royal Crown Derby's special commemorative collection please visit www.royalcrownderby.co.uk/titanic

For further information regarding the Titanic exhibition and collection please contact Tanya Johnson or Rachel Higgin at Hillgate PR on 020 7384 2476 or royalcrownderby@hillgatepr.co.uk
www.royalcrownderby.co.uk