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Winter warmers: Jackets made from ancient peat and space technology on view at Science Museum's new Dana Centre

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Jackets made from the same material as Mars space probes could soon make shivering at the bus stop a thing of the past.

With scientists predicting that Britain could be heading for a 'big freeze', a collection of futuristic winter clothing to be unveiled at the Science Museum's new Dana Centre couldn't come soon enough.

From a jacket made from the most insulating material in the world, to peat clothing twice as warm as wool, the incredible garments will be on show at a press preview of the new public events forum in South Kensington which starts at 9.30am on Tuesday 18 November.

The tasteful peat jacket would be perfect for the approaching winter weather. Twice as warm as sheep's wool, the peat fibre has a hollow, porous structure so its capacity for thermal insulation is comparable with that of the most highly evolved synthetic materials.

Expected to revolutionise the world of extreme clothing, the material that makes up the Aerogel jacket is used to insulate space probes sent to Mars. It's as light as a feather, can insulate up to -50° below zero and is only 3mm thick.

Aware that climate change is predicted to lead to more scorching summers, also on display will be a cooling jacket that boasts a miniature air conditioning system first designed for US soldiers.

We'll be showcasing a whole series of events for the Dana Centre - all of which will get people talking about the moral and ethical dilemmas around science, culture and the arts.

Complete with a wired café-bar, the Centre will bring informative and lively discussions to adults who want to talk about challenging topics in contemporary science. No two days will be the same at the Dana Centre and it will be the audience that sets the agenda by suggesting issues for discussion.

Notes to Editors

1. The Dana Centre is a collaboration between the BA (British Association for the Advancement of Science) and The European Dana Alliance for the Brain (EDAB) making it unrivalled in its expertise and depth of knowledge of scientific and technological fields. The Centre is housed in the Wellcome Wolfson Building alongside the headquarters of the BA, EDAB and Science Museum offices.

2. The £9.8 million building has been provided by four major benefactors – the Wellcome Trust, the Wolfson Foundation, The Dana Foundation and the Garfield Weston Foundation.

3. The Science Museum exists to promote the public understanding of the history and contemporary practice of science, medicine, technology and industry. It aims to inspire, educate and involve visitors. It achieves this by building, researching and caring for the national collections; and by interpreting these collections and engaging the public in the contemporary issues they raise.

4. The BA is the UK's nationwide, open membership organisation dedicated to connecting science with people, so that science and its applications become accessible to all. The BA aims to promote openness about science in society and to engage and inspire people directly with science and technology and their implications.

5. The goal of EDAB is to inform the general public and decision makers about the importance of brain research. EDAB aims to

makers about the importance of brain research. EDAB aims to advance knowledge about the personal and public benefits of neuroscience and to disseminate information on the brain, in health and disease, in an accessible and relevant way.

6. Nearest tube: Gloucester Road. There is no parking at the Dana Centre (except for disabled drivers). Residents' parking restrictions apply until 10:00pm.