**TAILOR MADE**

**Hall & Son of Leamington Spa**

The tailoring firm of Hall & Son was established in 1875. It was then known as Hall & Spindler and was owned by George Hall and John Spindler.

At the time Hall & Son was established there were lots of tailors in Leamington Spa. Beck’s Leamington Directory lists 34 tailors and hatters in 1880. However, when the firm closed in 1998 it was the only retail tailoring firm in the town.

Tailors made clothes that were individual to the customer. A customer would come to the shop to be measured and discuss fabrics and style. The tailor would then create a ‘pattern’ based on the measurements he had taken. He would then cut the cloth and loosely sew the different parts together. The customer would return for a final fitting before the garment was sewn together properly.

Over the years, Hall & Son was managed by different generations of the same family. George Hall passed the business on to his son Edgar in 1906. Edgar then sold it to his nephew, George, in 1947. When George Hall retired in 1990, Hall & Son was managed by Richard Dodd who had worked alongside George Hall for 36 years.

Hall & Son gained a very good reputation in Leamington. It attracted many distinguished Leamingtonians such as Thomas Taylor Earnshaw, Chief Constable of Leamington Borough Police Force (1902-1928) and Alderman Sidney Flavel who was Mayor of Leamington six times between 1883 and 1905.