



About Us

Our Museum is run and maintained entirely by volunteers and charitable donations raised mainly from our local community. Our museum tells the story of Drayton and its people and is also a home for the many important documents and artefacts brought in for our safe-keeping.



Support Us

If you would like to support our work through a donation, please get in touch or use our account:

Drayton Civic Society
Sort Code: 01 05 48
Account No. 06337287
Reference: Donation
Thank you!



Research

We receive requests for information from all over the world and, for a small donation, volunteer researchers will dive into the archives to assist.

Upstairs

The upstairs area houses our archives and artefacts not currently on display. If you are interested in a particular topic, documents or artefacts can be made available on request.



Volunteering

Have you considered Volunteering? We are always ready to welcome more to our happy gang! No previous experience needed but if you have an interest in family or local history, if you enjoy researching and want to find out more about the town – or if you have good people skills and a little time to spare, the work goes on year-round!

Plan your visit

- We are open April to October
- Admission is FREE
- See website for opening hours
- Find us at 53 Shropshire Street, Market Drayton, TF9 3DA

If you are a Group and would like to organise a private museum tour *any* time, please contact us to arrange and we'll be happy to help.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK



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Visitor Guide

Market Drayton Museum is a place where our past is treasured and where today you can find historical artefacts and documents relating directly to our town and surrounding area.



Come and explore the Story of Drayton

Talk to our friendly team of Museum Stewards who will share their knowledge and breathe life into the objects on display. Explore the exhibits for yourself and get closer to the history of our town and its people.

Gallery One

The Story of Drayton

Key events in the town's development

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Welcome! Our grade II listed museum building dates from the 17th century. Signs of its timber-frame construction can be seen all around. Its first roof was probably thatched. Originally built as a family home, it has been modified over time. First to be used as a butcher's shop during the Victorian era and later a bicycle shop, followed by a TV Sales and rental shop. The building became a museum in 2005.

Here you will find an introduction to the history of Market Drayton, including a time-line of the town's history from the Bronze Age to Present Day.

Everything in this Gallery relates to the Story of Drayton and surrounding area. Find out how Drayton began and how it has changed and developed over time.

We have two desks for Visitors to use for their own research using our resources. There's also a computer slide-show regularly updated to display the new developments in modern Market Drayton.



Gallery Two

Annual Exhibition

For 2024 - Breweries and Public Houses

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The former parlour houses an Exhibition which changes each year. Previous exhibitions have included; The Victorian Parlour, The Horsehair Weaving Industry and Textiles & Needlecraft. We have so many more artefacts and documents than we are able to display at any one time.

The 2024 season sees an exhibition highlighting the many Hostelryes, Hotels, Public Houses and Taphouses that over the centuries have been the centre of social life for the hardworking people of Market Drayton.

Drayton has a strong connection with brewing, due to the Triassic Sandstone aquifer the town sits over, which produces good quality hard water which is ideal for brewing pale ales. So we'll be highlighting the Breweries that have made their home here over the years, the Families that owned them and the local people employed in the brewing industry.

Perhaps you'll be tempted to sample the local beers. Ask a steward to point you in the direction of a local pub.



Gallery Three

Everyday Life & Work

An eclectic collection of local objects

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The Back Kitchen / Scullery

The cooking would have been done on the black range that would have stood in the fireplace in the Parlour.

Explore Kitchenalia here and imagine what life would have been like. There's a servants bell box, mincers, commemorative china, early 'labour saving' devices and more.

The Yard

This used to be open to the elements but was covered in to create some much-needed extra space.

Find advertising and old road signs, agricultural equipment and transport related items here.

The Shed

When 53 Shropshire Street was a butcher's shop, 'fitches' (or sides) of bacon were hung here to keep them cool.

The Sink and Boiler in the far corner shows its original use as a Wash House, so we put our laundry and dairy items in here along with engineering and other tools.

