



# HALLATON • MUSEUM •

**February 2019**

Hallaton is a special place: thatched cottages and listed buildings nestled within the beautiful High Leicestershire ridge and furrow countryside, and boasting amongst its many attractions:

- a Norman motte and bailey castle,
  - the site of the famous Hallaton hoard, described by the British Museum as ‘one of the most important discoveries from Iron Age and Early Roman Britain found in the last 20 years’
  - a unique annual local custom (Bottle Kicking on Easter Monday),
  - a three-day music festival,
  - beautiful walks,
  - two excellent pubs,
  - a café
- 
- not to mention a unique, award winning museum that in 2018 celebrated 40 years of publicly recognised and esteemed exhibitions.

With Bottle Kicking and the Hallaton Hoard playing such an integral part of the village’s rich history, the museum now features permanent displays of these significant historical events. Bottle Kicking is a strange and bewildering – yet compelling - custom held every Easter Monday, and the village’s museum helps to unravel and explain some of its mysteries.

The village has a wealth of history which has been researched by local resident, Denis Kenyon, resulting in three volumes published in 2018. To mark this fantastic achievement, the museum will be displaying a full copy of this publication, together with part of the museum's World War I exhibition created by Denis when he was Chairman of the museum committee, which won the prestigious National Heritage & Media Awards in 2017.

But the main exhibition this year at 'The Tin Tab' (located at the heart of the village, behind the beautiful St Michael's and All Angels Church in Hallaton) is entitled: **Then and Now**. The museum has a large archive of photographs, many of which were taken by famous Hallaton resident, Fred Hawke, who was the village postmaster for many years. With the advent of digital photography, printed photographs are becoming a rarity, and the museum committee wanted to play its part in not just representing the village's past history, but in recording its current history. As a result, we have been busy re-taking old photos in their modern settings to show how the village has changed. This is intended to be a living and growing exhibition, to which we would like the village residents, and the hundreds of visitors to the museum annually, to contribute by coming along to the museum, choosing one of the displayed archive photos, and re-creating it in its present-day form. Photographs sent to the museum will be added to the display throughout the season.

The 2019 summer exhibition will open between 12-2pm on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 as part of the Bottle Kicking activities, and will then be open every weekend and bank holiday thereafter from 2.30pm to 5.00pm until Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Entry is free although donations are gratefully accepted, with all monies going to the continuance of the museum and future exhibitions.

**For more information please visit:**

[www.hallaton-museum.co.uk](http://www.hallaton-museum.co.uk), or contact us on email at [museumhallaton@gmail.com](mailto:museumhallaton@gmail.com)

You can also follow us on  at 'Hallaton Museum' and on  at 'hallatonmuseum'

# THEN & NOW

CAPTURING PEOPLE & PLACES, PAST & PRESENT

This year's exhibition evolved from simply looking through our photographic archive and realising that we barely print photos from today's technology. This inspired us to use these photographs and recreate them, to show not only how Hallaton has changed, but technology too.

We now take photos on cameras, phones, tablets and even drones. They can be viewed around the world, within seconds, at the click of a button. Most are never printed, just seen on screens. Historically, fewer and more considered photographs were taken because of the time to take and process images, as well as the cost involved.

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This is clearly illustrated in several of the photographs in the exhibition taken by Hallaton's own social photographer, Fred Hawke. At first glance his photos look spontaneous, however, if you study them you will see that many have been staged managed to record moments in time.

 **Instagram**

  
**HALLATON MUSEUM**

As part of our archives for the future we photographed many Hallaton residents outside their front door. This is an ongoing project in the hope that we will have pictures of everyone by the time the exhibition closes. Our doorstep photos carry on the Fred Hawke legacy and provide a social record for generations to come.

 [museumhallaton@gmail.com](mailto:museumhallaton@gmail.com)



# THEN AND NOW

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