

ARTICLE IN AROUND RADLETT – AUTUMN 2023



The Museum now has a display of photos and memorabilia of the **Cat and Fiddle**, Radlett's famous old pub, situated to the south of the village, in Cobden Hill, Watling Street.

It closed in 2019 but this year, following proposals to re-develop the site and convert the pub to a 3-bed dwelling, we were fortunate to be given permission by the developers

to salvage items of interest to add to our collection and for display.



We have placed a book in the Museum for visitors to record their memories of "The Cat".

This display supplements our permanent timeline of the history of Radlett.



The Cat & Fiddle ©2020
Credit: Google maps



The Cat & Fiddle by Ted Barker 1990s

Our "What's in a Name" exhibition, which explores the origin of some of the names of roads and places in our area, was replaced in October by one focussing on the geology, geography, trade and industry of the area. With the hard work of our research and

display team, we are constantly refreshing our exhibitions.

We hosted two **Visits** from the University of the Third Age (U3A) Local History group and a visit by pupils from Newberries School earlier in the Summer.

Further visits are planned for later this year. In addition, we are planning an **Arts and Crafts afternoon** for youngsters (two groups: 3-5 and 5-8 year olds) In December. Activities will include pebble-painting, table decorations and seasonal card creating with tea and mince pies for the Mums and Dads.



John Apthorp, first President of the Museum Trustees, sadly died in July. Born in London in 1935, he lived in Radlett from 1964 building up his businesses of Bejam Frozen Foods and Majestic Wine.

His philanthropic giving brought an OBE in 1998, which was raised to a CBE in 2014, and earned him the Freedom of the Parish of Aldenham in 2018. Without John's generosity, it would not have been possible to have set up the Museum as a stand-alone enterprise.

Radlett & District Museum
HISTORIC BUILDINGS
 Local landowner Charles Part opened Radlett's first shop, the Radlett Stores, on this site in 1883, relocating just across Watling Street in 1902. Private bankers, Marten, Part & Co. of St.Albans, then occupied this site until being absorbed by Barclays Bank in 1908. Barclays Bank vacated in 2023. The present building was constructed in 1936 and continues as commercial premises today.

Radlett & District Museum
HISTORIC BUILDINGS
CHANNY COTTAGE
 On this site, in 1510, Sir Humphrey Coningsby, of Penne's Place was licensed to set up a Chantry Chapel, to help with the 'consolation of Christ's faithful and especially the infirm'; serving local Christians. It was dissolved in 1552 on the orders of Edward VI, becoming a lodging house for church travellers going north out of London.

Radlett & District Museum
HISTORIC BUILDINGS
CHRIST CHURCH, RADLETT
 Consecrated in 1864 on land donated by Captain Phillimore of Kendal Hall. Designed in the Decorated Style of Edward I, it's unusually aligned North-South. In 1908, to meet demand, a further chancel was added. A church hall was added in 1925, extended in the 1970s, & replaced by the modern Vision Hall in 2005. The 1½ acre Glebe Field to the rear was purchased in 1959.

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A further three **Plaques** are on display outside local buildings of historical interest. This brings the number of local plaques to 12; can you find them all? Fact sheets for the original six plaques are available in the Museum.

We continue to seek further **Volunteers** who can add specific skills in the areas of I.T., Marketing and Education. If you would like to help us, please contact any of our Trustees or email us on info@radlettmuseum.com. If you wish to join our "**Friends of the Museum**" group and/or make a voluntary contribution to the Museum in your will, please contact us as above.

For our latest news, log into:

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