



BISHOP'S WALTHAM 2019 Exhibition MUSEUM

The exhibition this year is entitled 'Rediscover Bishop's Waltham' and will include exhibits, and information relating to Mark Henry Blanchard, an influential figure in the town, and James Padbury, clock maker. We will also have two art exhibitions: paintings of old Bishop's Waltham and the work of visitors to the Palace.

Mark Henry Blanchard was one of the most important terracotta manufacturers in Britain providing architectural items for Buckingham Palace, St Pancras Station, the Natural History Museum and exporting all over the world.

In 1871 he took over Arthur Help's failed terracotta works at Claylands, Bishop's Waltham and moved all his works from London to develop a thriving brick business.



Brickmakers at Claylands at the beginning of the 20th Century.

Our exhibition includes samples of his very fine terracotta work and his bricks. Once shaped, the bricks were left in the open air to dry as part of the process and local historian, Tony Kippenberger, has found animal footprints on the bricks of many buildings in Bishops Waltham. We've found 47 in the town so far -The Blanchard display has its own cat, called Henrietta and of course its own mice, 7 to be found.

We are also delighted that Bishop's Waltham Junior School Year 4 pupils have created an exhibition on "the Anglo-Saxons – the ruin of Britain?". Every child has at least one piece of work on display, including beautiful drawings and brooches like shields. Come and have a look and you can decide: Were the Anglo- Saxons "heroes or zeros"?