



Rob and Cathy in the shop

The Friends of Blake Museum's role is to support the Museum and to fund - raise for it. To this end it organises a series of monthly coffee mornings, Spring and Christmas Fairs, and book sales during the winter shut down. On some Sundays during the summer the Friends provide tea and cakes to visitors to the series of Band Concerts in Blake Gardens, sponsored by Bridgwater Town Council.



Victoria and Lyn at the Docks Gala



Mary dressing the Christmas tree

Please Contact Rob Gardner at the museum. Tel 01278 456127 email blake@bridgwatmuseum.org.uk

The Blake Museum, 5 Blake Street,
Bridgwater, TA6 3NB

Nearest car park – Dampiet Steet.

Bridgwater Town Council



Volunteering at the Blake Museum

*Are you interested in Bridgwater's
History and Heritage?*

**The Blake Museum relies on
volunteers for all its activities, and is
always looking for additional ones.
Please consider joining us.**



Jane at the welcome custodian's desk

The Museum was founded in 1926 by Bridgwater Borough Council and is based in a 16th century merchants' house, which was once owned by the family of Robert Blake, Cromwell's General at Sea.

In 1974, with Local Government re-organisation, ownership was transferred to the newly-formed Sedgemoor District Council. The Friends of Blake Museum, (a registered charity), was formed in 2000 to promote and support the improvement of the Museum. In 2009 and under threat of closure, the ownership was transferred to the Bridgwater Town Council.



Simon at the Battle of Sedgemoor re-enactment

The Museum is now managed by volunteers, and since April 2009 they have played a vital part in running the museum and caring for the collection. Under the guidance of the Curators, the volunteers carry out numerous tasks including cleaning, visitor reception, manning the shop, cataloguing, historical research, transcribing, maintaining the gardens, assisting with school visits and assisting the curators with displays.

The Museum is open to the public Tuesday – Saturday between 10.00am and 4.00pm (last entry 3.00pm) between Easter and Bridgwater Carnival. Outside of this time a team of volunteers undertakes building maintenance and refreshes a number of displays.



John and Graham working on a display case

Opportunities exist to join the curatorial team and undertake research into the town's history.



Victoria cataloguing



Friends at the Spring Fair



John cleaning up the Bridgwater Iron Bridge casting



Cutting the cake for the Museum's 90th birthday.