



In Buckingham's Old Gaol Museum

-  The base of our Market Cross, which anciently stood in the Horse Fair and then for many years marked the site of the church door in the old churchyard, can be seen in The Old Gaol's Exercise Yard, where it was relocated for safety around 2000.
-  The Museum has an exhibition about Flora Thompson, writer of the semi-autobiographical trilogy 'Lark Rise to Candleford'. The exhibition, which the Museum Development Service called "of national importance" traces her life and works, and was formally opened on 25th May 2007 to coincide with the sixtieth anniversary of her death. It is the only permanent, viewable exhibition of Flora Thompson memorabilia in the world, and also contains some "props" from the acclaimed BBC TV series.
-  The lace produced in Buckingham was originally known as Point d'Angleterre but local prominence in its manufacture was so great that it was commonly called Bucks Point; and there are several lace artefacts on display there. It was supposedly Catherine of Aragon who introduced the craft of lacemaking to the area. Catherine, Henry VIII's first wife, visited Buckingham in 1513, staying in Castle House. An Ivory crucifix, which is said to have belonged to her, can be seen in the Museum.

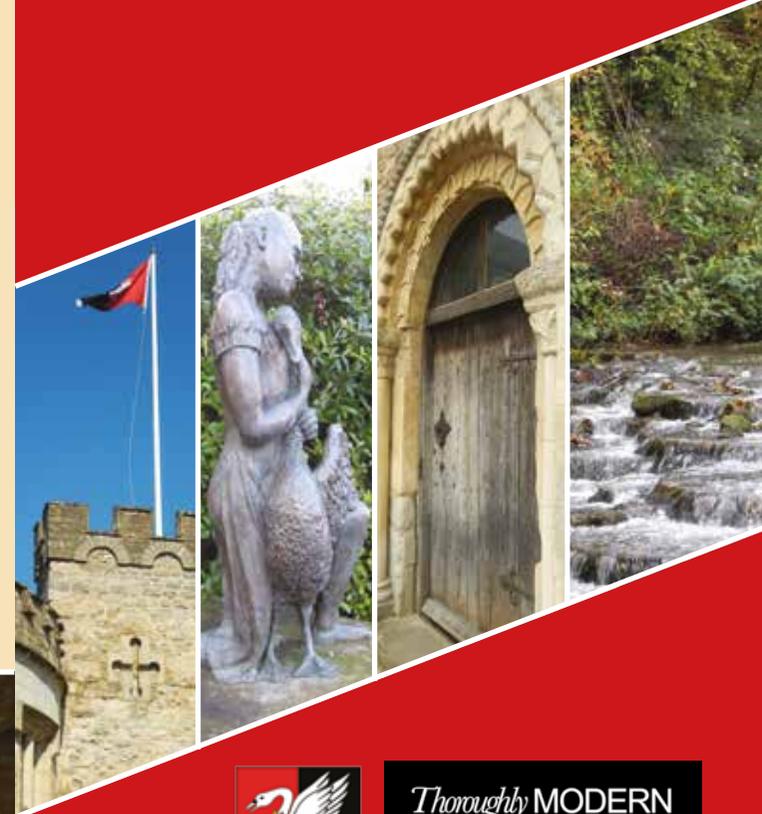
Did you know...?

-  ... the name Bristle Hill derives from a local industry making brushes from pig bristles? Pig markets were held in the triangle of land in front of Bristle Hill. Elm Street which runs from the junction of Castle Street and Bristle Hill was formerly called Hog Lane.
-  ... that the first person buried in Brackley Road Cemetery was Elizabeth Buckingham in 1856? Perhaps you can find the grave next time you visit. There are several notable grave stones to study.
-  ... when Edward VI died Buckingham gave its support to Mary Tudor, who in return, on 17th January 1554, issued a Royal Charter that declared Buckingham a borough and granted a weekly market and an annual fair. This was then followed by another Charter in 1684, from Charles II, who established our current market days and the two annual fairs that we still have today. A copy of the 1554 Royal Charter is located in the Council Chamber.
-  ... that close to the old Fleece Inn on Market Hill, now a shop, was a wool hall. A short distance further on you pass Fleece Yard, formerly of the Fleece Inn, a reminder of Buckingham's past importance in the wool trade.
-  ... election results used to be announced from the balcony of the White Hart Hotel on Market Square.

Discover the special places and features of Buckingham that are perhaps not so well known. You may have moved to the town recently or have lived here for years, but here are The Hidden Treasures of Buckingham...



THE HIDDEN TREASURES OF BUCKINGHAM



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