

Market Lavington Museum



I'm Rog and I am supposed to be the OPC for Market Lavington. Sadly I don't seem to find the time to do much. The reason? I curate Market Lavington Museum.

Now you may not have been aware that a village, like Market Lavington, would have a museum. But yes, it does. The museum is small being sited in a Victorian cottage – basically a 2 up and 2 down home with a lean-to extension. Into it we cram more than 7000 items and all of them have a connection to Market Lavington. That's anything to do with the parish at any time so it includes Easterton which was once a part of the parish. It includes Fiddington which once was part of West Lavington. It even includes Gore which also was once West Lavington.

Many of our items are photographs – we have thousands of them. There's quite a good chance that if you are researching your family, we'll have photos of them or maybe of places they lived. We have all sorts of maps that can help to identify just where houses were and when they were built or knocked down. We have electoral rolls and other lists – always valuable if trying to identify 20th century family members. If you are researching family in Market Lavington or Easterton then the museum is well worth a visit.

Let's start with the good news. It's free – although we appreciate donations. Like anybody, we have to pay for electricity and insurance. We have to maintain our building and we like to improve facilities.

The bad news? Opening times are limited. We are a 100% volunteer run museum although we are a Wiltshire museum and get professional help from the experts up at Chippenham. We open in the summer from May to the end of October on Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday afternoons from 2.30 to 4.30. We also open on bank holiday Mondays in the afternoon.

The museum is not on the road. Our cottage is off the churchyard. If you arrive by car you can park in the Community Hall car park.

The museum is, of course, on-line. I rather randomly select something each day and write about it on the museum blog at www.marketlavingtonmuseum.wordpress.com.



I've been doing that for a couple of years so there are over 700 posts. The blog, of course, is open 24/7 so you can look at that any time. You can use the search this site box to enter the name of your family, to find out if they get a mention.