

Refreshed and back at the meeting place, another quick check of the party, one or two less than we started with! Of course they could be inside the museum or perhaps still finishing that coffee and cake or a final glass of wine.

There is a queue of course, but



not to worry as we are expected and have a priority pass! Please have you money ready as we have to pay the entry fee of £2.50 - it used to be free but not these days. If you are unable to climb the stairs, a virtual tour is situated on the fully-accessible ground floor. If you want to stay just on the ground floor then the charge is £1.50.

### The Black and White

House is a remarkably well preserved example of a 17th Century timber-framed building and is situated in the heart of Hereford, surrounded by the commercial centre of the city.

Built in 1621, the house has



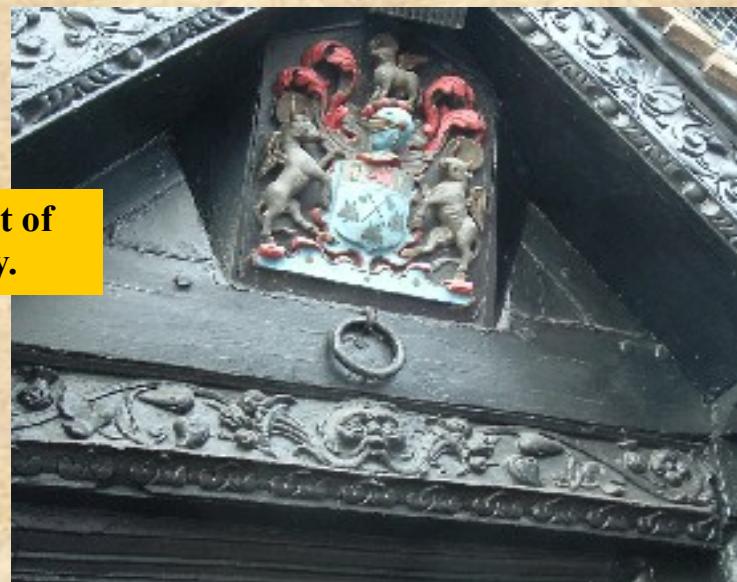
been used for many purposes over the years, starting life as a butcher's home and shop

**The Butchers Guild Coat of Arms above the doorway.**

and finishing its commercial life in the hands of Lloyds Bank in the late 1920s.

Since 1929 it has been a fascinating museum giving an insight into daily life in Jacobean times.

It is furnished in period style with an internationally important collection of English oak furniture and



there are interesting pieces in every room.

There are even costumes for you to try on





**So much timber, I wonder if they have to battle against all sorts of hungry predators?**





Of particular interest are the rare wall paintings sensitively



displayed as part of the furnishings of rooms .

The bedrooms are not forgotten, and contain examples of the four-poster beds complete with their hide-away underbed. This underbed also





known as a truckle bed or a low bed, so called from the trundles or casters, that were attached to the feet. This enabled it to be pushed under the master's bed when it was not in use. The bed was intended for servants, who used it to sleep in their employer's room so as to be near at hand. The framework, generally of oak was provided with a mattress suspension of leather cables or canvas straps looped through holes in the side.

The children were also well looked after at bedtime.





### The Law Suit

This bronze plaque dates from the 18th century. It shows a dispute between two farmers about who owns the cow. One pulls the horns of the animal and the other pulls the tail. Meanwhile the lawyer milks the profits of the conflict!



These windows must offer some of the best views in Hereford town.



I wonder what this was used for?



It's a child walker



Well, all good things come to an end and it's time to be gathered-up and leave for lunch. But before we start off I must tell you a little story.



**"This gentleman was looking a little perplexed sitting outside the museum . Whilst waiting for you to come out I had a little chat with him."**

**"He told me his story, which went like this:"**

**"For those of my generation who do not, and cannot, comprehend why Facebook exists: I am trying to make friends Mario (I did introduce myself) outside of Facebook, while applying the same principles. Therefore, everyday I**

**walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom. I give them pictures of my family, my dog and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, what I am about to eat, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having a coffee and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them 'thumbs up' and tell them I 'like' them. And it works just like Facebook. I already have four people following me;**

**2 police officers,  
a private investigator**

**and a psychiatrist!**



**I commiserated with him and at that he walked off, and sure enough, there were four people following him;  
at a discreet distance.**



**"What an interesting place, I am glad we stopped to visit it it" mentions Sylvia, "Thank you for enabling us to visit it."**

**Modestly I reply "We have not finished today, more is yet to come."**

**"Now we are all here, including the missing ones,it's time to walk to where we are having lunch today. It will take about ten minutes and we start by walking through the 'Old Market' so please do not get left behind."**