



Press release

Haddon Hall to show medieval sculptures from private collection at Oak Matters exhibition

This September, Haddon Hall in Bakewell will unveil a number of medieval sculptures from its private collection as part of its autumnal exhibition *Oak Matters*.

The exhibition, which will run in The Great Chamber surrounded by Haddon's magnificent Verdure tapestries, pays homage to Haddon's oak trees, showing previously unseen early English Oak carvings from Lord and Lady Edward's private collection.

The medieval sculptures, which have never been seen by the public before, date back to between the 15th-17th centuries. Two sculptures are of St James and St Nicholas, one is a very rare, extremely fine carving of a medieval knight in prayer and another is a very rare pew end, depicting a bishop preaching from a barrel to a congregation of fowl, which represented a pre-Reformation critique of the established church. The final two sculptures on display are a beautifully carved section of wood beam and a collection of medieval sculptures of minstrels. The sculptures will be accompanied by other fine English bible boxes and paper boxes from the Tudor and Elizabethan periods.

Haddon's connection to Oak extends back centuries and its influence can be seen throughout the hall today. Nestled among majestic trees on a slope above the clear rippling waters of the Wye, Haddon Hall's Elizabethan terraced gardens lead to sloping green pastures dotted with ashes, beeches, sycamores and ancient oak trees. The very sinews of the Hall itself are oak timbers. Wherever one looks, the storied Tudor home offers up a celebration of oak: in its panelling, wide beams and floor boards, furniture and its tapestries that feature oak trees and foliage.

Lady Edward Manners said; "Standing proud for over 900 years, Haddon Hall has a truly wonderful story to tell, there are centuries of history and tales of old to uncover as you wander from room to room. Our exhibitions provide us with an additional opportunity to extend that knowledge further, and show other aspects to Haddon, from its connections to its many craftsmen, who were integral to its maintenance, to its historic symbols, tapestries and woodwork and so much more. For our celebration of oaks at Haddon Hall, we wanted to show some sculptures that have never been seen by the public before. They are of incredible historical significance and we're excited to share them for the first time this autumn."

In addition to the exhibition, on September 21st - 22nd and 28th - 29th, there will be additional educational outreach and activities for children, including the opportunity to pick their own acorns, to take home and plant in their garden.

The exhibition will launch in The Great Chamber on September 6th, and is open daily from 10:30am to 5:00pm.

Ends

For more information, please contact Kat at ECHO, kat@echo-pr.co.uk

Opening Times at Haddon Hall

12th April - 31st October, 7 days a week

Opening times are 10:30am until 5pm, with last admission at 4pm

Christmas 1st - 23rd December, 7 days a week

Opening times are 10:30am until 4pm, with last admission at 3pm

Admission Prices

Adult (16 and above) £16.75

Concessions (Over 60) £15.75

Student (With a valid ID) £14.25

Children (Age 5-15) FREE

Car Parking £3.00 per car