



A King Canute, Saxon
Coin, struck at the
Cricklade Mint – now
part of Copenhagen's
Royal Collection.

CRICKLADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER WINTER 2015 SEASONS GREETINGS

Membership Fees

Please remember that in 2014 the AGM agreed that from the 1st January 2015, membership fees increased to £15 (single) and £26 (joint)
Paul has sent out new Standing Order forms to those of you who pay by Standing Order, if you cannot find it, please let Paul Marley know.

To Summarise, effective January 1st 2015

Single membership will be £15 per annum
Joint membership will be £26 per annum

There are one or two people who only paid the old membership fee in January 2015, please contact Paul Marley to discuss your current payment amount.

Museum volunteers

Kate Crow is now working on the rota for the museum volunteers for 2016/2017 and we are looking for some new volunteers.
If you are interesting in joining the volunteers team who open up the museum to visitors, please will you contact Kate on 01793 751386.

Full training will be given early in the new year.

Forthcoming Events

Unless otherwise stated all **Talks** are held at the **Town Hall Annex; doors open at 7.00pm, Refreshments served at 7.15 and the talk will start at 7.30pm**

9th January – Cricklade Museum reopens

20th January - “The Air Ambulance in WW1 ”

17th February – Annual General Meeting.
Followed by a short talk about **Dance Common**

20th February – 27th February. Museum
Closed whilst the floor is stained and varnished.

16th March – “Dad’s Underground Army”

20th April – “The Vikings” the second part of Martin Way’s “Dark Ages” talks

AGM Notification

This is formal notification of the AGM of Cricklade Historical Society on the 17th February 2016

Annual General Meeting

Minutes of 2015 AGM attached to this newsletter

The AGM will take place on the 17th February 2015 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Annexe.

The **Agenda** is as follows: -

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman’s Annual Report and Questions
5. Treasurer’s Report and Questions
6. Election of Officers and Committee Members
7. Appointment of Auditor
8. AOB

I am pleased to be able to report that all the members of the Main Committee have agreed to re-stand for election at the AGM:-

Pam Debenham - Chairman,
Paul Marley - Treasurer
Wendy Marshall – Secretary
Kate Crow
Tanya Garstone
John Lawrence
Wendy Marshall
John Petrie

Should you wish to join one of our committees (if you wish to nominate another person, please ensure you have their agreement first). Please let me know so I can discuss your interests. Closing date for nominations is the 17th January. All Members of all of our committees are very active in running the society. If you want to be involved, you will be most welcome.

The Museum.

I am pleased to be able to report that at last we are coming to the end of the updating of the inside of the museum.

We now have a warm, well-lit museum and the Vestry (which used to be the office) is now used for all committee meetings and has two new display cabinets where we have a display of Cricklade pottery and other locally used china

If you have any Cricklade Pottery gathering dust, we would appreciate it, either as a gift to the museum or on loan, the highly glazed pottery looks stunning in the new display cabinet.

Over the summer and autumn, the maps have been sorted out by Wendy Marshall. We thank Wendy for undertaking this onerous task.

Archive Audit

The Archive Audit takes place at 10am until 12 on the first Tuesday of every month. If you are interested in getting hands on with the archive, please do come and join us: we still have a lot of sorting out of the archive such as auditing the photographs and working out how best to archive and access these items. Any member can join this team, training will be given or you can just call in and see what we are doing

The Bulletin

You will remember that in the last Bulletin I informed you that due to the work load I would not be producing a bulletin in future. Unfortunately, nobody has come forward to take this task on. Should you be interested in working on the preparation of the bulletin please contact me and we can discuss what is involved.

Volunteer Work Party

We need to clear the gallery floor on the 20th February so that the new floor boards put down when the central heating was installed, can be stained to match the rest of the floor. Please can you come and help us move cabinets and artefacts at 10.00am for a couple of hours? We also need a team of people the following Saturday to move everything back. The museum will therefore be closed on both the 20th

February and the 27th February. Please let me know if you are able to help.

THE JUBILEE CLOCK

The Jubilee Clock near the Vale Hotel was financed by surplus funds raised for Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee celebrations in 1897, and was erected in the same year. However, the funds were insufficient and the deficit was raised by public subscription. The final payment for the clock was made after the vicar of St Sampson's, Rev. Henry John Moreton, donated the outstanding amount, and the clock was formally started on 26.1.1899.

The subscriptions were collected by a committee whose names were inscribed on a plate fixed to the base of the pedestal: Rev. H. J. Morton, vicar & chairman, R. Hicks vice-chairman, A. T. Giles secretary, Dr. N. B. Langley, W. J. Carter, W. Ballard, H. Stephens, A. E. Ockwell, A. H. Smith, W. Webb, A. E. Clarke, J. Rogers, G. Selby, W. Sadler and R. Giles. The plate was subsequently stolen, but was found again in 1953, and given to the Parish Council, but its disposal is not known. The three-faced clock was supplied by Messrs. Searle at a cost of £40.10s. for the clock, and £67 for the cast-iron pedestal. There is a similar clock at Ullapool, in Scotland. In 1900 the clock was repainted and a gas light was added. In 1898 the Waylands Estates charity accepted responsibility for its maintenance, but in 1904 the Parish Council was asked to take it over but did not do so until 1936.

There is an old local myth that the original clock mechanism was water-driven! This is highly improbable since there was no commercial manufacturer of such clocks and it would have to be specially made, --which would be much costlier than the moderately priced, conventional clockwork movements which were being installed in many other towns. But if, indeed, the clock was water driven, where did the water come from? It could not be from a pipe borne supply which only became available in Cricklade in 1907. Some indigenous inhabitants say it came from an underground stream, or from a header tank, or from a tank in the base of the pedestal, but such arrangements are technically impracticable.

Pam Debenham
19th December 2015