

**CRICKLADE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

# **BULLETIN**



**Bulletin No 8**

**Volume V**

**August 2017**

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG ON SITE OFF PURTON ROAD, CRICKLADE : JULY 2017

### NOTES

#### Background

1. The site comprises two fields lying adjacent to Giles Avenue to the west of Purton Road B4553 on the southern outskirts of Cricklade.
2. It was believed that when outline planning consent for development was granted the geophysical survey did not indicate much of interest. However, the County Archaeologist (presumably) requested that a dig be carried out before full planning consent could be granted.
3. The current owner of the site is Green Square Housing and they commissioned Wessex Archaeology to carry out the dig and prepare the subsequent report.
4. At the request of Cricklade Town Council, GSH kindly allowed councillors to visit the site and meet with the lead Field Archaeologist for a guided tour and to look at some of the 'finds.'
5. The site visit took place on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017 which was after the dig had finished but before the site had been re-covered.

#### Eastern Field (next to Purton Road) : Roman Period



View towards Giles Avenue.  
*The dark line is a Roman ditch. Lots of pottery seen but no living accommodation*



Cross section through the Roman ditch  
*In fact the ditch was re-dug at some point hence the differing colours and structures on the left and right-hand sides*



Piece of Roman samian ware  
(makers mark visible)



Piece of Roman very large (and heavy!) storage jar

*The Western Field—Medieval Period*



*View towards The Forty  
The rectangular layout of  
stones is the base of a  
large (25m long) medieval  
timber building. There is  
no evidence of a hearth  
and so it was probably  
used for agricultural pur-  
poses rather than for resi-  
dential occupation.*

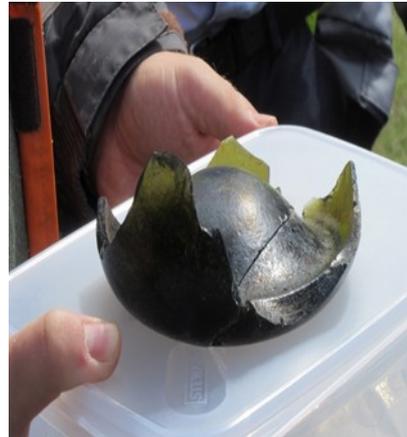


*The smaller  
stones create a  
cobbled area  
outside the en-  
trance to the  
building*

**OTHER FINDS YOU MAY FIND INTERESTING**



Medieval crossbow bolt



Base of 'onion' bottle  
(circa 1700?)



1797 penny ('cartwheel  
type')

**Notes**

This summary has been prepared based on the comments of the field archaeologist and may not have been correctly interpreted.

Wessex Archaeology will produce a full report in due course.

**Cllr M.Clarke 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017**

*As Cricklade Historical society celebrates its 70th anniversary I think it appropriate that we record the founder members without whom non of our current success would have been impossible*

**Founder Members of the Society**

Members who attended the **first meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> February 1947:**

H.W.J. Cuss (Secretary)	E.R.L. Ockwell
E.O. Hammond	A.G. Robinson
L.O. Hammond	S.J. Robinson
R.F. Hammond	T.R. Thompson
(Chairman)	
C.A. Hewer	

Those who sent their apologies were: CT Cuss; Rev FA Lovell and Rev SWL Richard – they attended all future meetings.

WB Crouch joined the committee in July 1947  
RG New joined the committee on 7<sup>th</sup> November 1947 – Treasurer  
F Freeth joined the committee January 1948

By 1948 the Committee were discussing setting up a museum and by the AGM in December 1949 this plan was well in hand. The location would be the Old Weighbridge in front of the Town Hall.

At the AGM in 1949 the committee appointed were:

Dr Thomson - Chairman  
HWJ Cuss - Secretary  
RG New - Treasurer  
Miss Dowden – Curator  
Other committee members were:-  
CT Cuss  
F Freeth  
LO Hammond  
Clarence Hewer  
AP Maddox  
SG Robinson

The Old Weighbridge opened as our museum in May 1950

**In Memoriam—.**

We have been notified of two members who have died, they will be sadly missed:

Diana Holmes—2017

Heather Jones end of 2016

**MEMBERSHIP of Cricklade Historical Society**

We currently have 142 members

**Cricklade Museum** is run by volunteers from the membership of the Cricklade Historical Society. It is a registered Charity. Joining the Cricklade Historical Society is easy, either phone 07453 766744 or email : [info@cricklademuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@cricklademuseum.co.uk) for a membership application form to be sent to you.

**Enquiries**

The first port of call should be the **Cricklade Museum** web site which can be found at [www.cricklademuseum.co.uk](http://www.cricklademuseum.co.uk)

or email [info@cricklademuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@cricklademuseum.co.uk)

Or visit us at the museum or phone 07453 766744

**THE BULLETIN**

**Back Numbers** of the Bulletin are available at the Museum or can be ordered on line from the web site.

**DATA PROTECTION ACT**

Please note that the Society uses computer and manual systems to record membership information. Under the Data Protection Act 1998, it is necessary that you should know this. The information you have provided on your application form will only be used by the Society's officials and task holders to conduct the business of the Society and will not be supplied to outside bodies. If you have any queries or concerns about the Data held, please contact any of the officers, whose address can be found on the inside front cover of this publication

## **PUBLICATIONS**

The Cricklade Historical Society publications currently available are:

- ⇒ Robert of Cricklade by Monica Potter and Pam Debenham
- ⇒ The Notts of Braydon Forest by Pam Debenham
- ⇒ Cricklade—A Chronology, by Tom Ramsden-Binks
- ⇒ A Short History of R.A.F. Blakehill Farm, by Tom Ramsden-Binks.
- ⇒ A Story of Arnhem, by 3861924 S/Sgt Walter Holcroft.
- ⇒ A History of the Tithe Barn at Parsonage Farm, Cricklade, Wilts, by Tom Ramsden-Binks.
- ⇒ Royal Air Force Transport Command 46 Group—Alan Hartley Recalls His Wartime Days, by 3011060 LAC Alan Hartley.
- ⇒ Jenner’s School—The Parish Hall, Cricklade, Wilts, by Tom Ramsden-Binks
- ⇒ Narmead—North Meadow, Cricklade, Wilts, by Tom Ramsden-Binks
- ⇒ Cricklade’s Great War Dead, by David Tetlow

Other publications available are:

- ⇒ Cricklade by Diana Holmes. Sutton Publishing, 1993, revised 2002.
- ⇒ Cricklade Revealed by Marion Parsons. So far ten parts have been published of this on-going series.

These publications can be purchased from the Museum or, alternatively, orders can be made by contacting Pam Debenham (07453 766744) or emailing :[info@cricklademuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@cricklademuseum.co.uk)

## **Front Cover**

The Cricklade Historical Society logo—the obverse of a King Canute silver penny. It was struck at the Cricklade Mint by Aegelpine and now forms part of the Royal Collection at Copenhagen. Details are as follows: “Kings bust to the right, with crown of three lilies and sceptre under the King’s nose, enclosed in a quatrefoil, dots at the back of the King’s head by way of hair”. The coin has been described as “a rare and curious variety” (Herbst.) The markings on both sides of the coin are as follows:

Obv. **D CNVT REX ANML F OR** Rev. **D GOD : PINE ON CCROC**

## *Cricklade Historical Society*

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**CRICKLADE  
MUSEUM**

**Come and visit us!**

**We are open 10-12 noon every Saturday from 2nd week  
in January to 1st Week in December.**  
**Also April to September: Wednesday 2-4pm**

If you wish to visit any other time contact Pam on  
**info@cricklademuseum.co.uk or Tel: 07453 766744**  
**Website: www.cricklademuseum.co.uk**  
Managed and run by volunteers from Cricklade Historical  
Society Registered Charity No.292887

**AIMS OF THE SOCIETY:** are to advance the knowledge of the local history of the Borough of Cricklade in the County of Wiltshire including in particular Latton, Down Ampney, Marston Meysey, Kempford, Ashton Keynes, Castle Eaton, Water Eaton, Eisey, Widhill and Leigh by promoting research into the local history and topography, publishing the results of such research and other papers relating to local history, arranging public exhibitions, meetings and lectures, and maintaining a museum in Cricklade to be used exclusively to further the stated aims of the Society.



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

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**A Cricklade Historical Society Publication**

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