

## Historic Monuments and Buildings

There really is an abundance of historic monuments and buildings for you to visit whilst you enjoy your stay at Barton Manor. Here are a few ideas to wet your appetite.

The old Roman City of Chichester is just a 6-mile journey from Barton Manor; a short bus ride will take you right into the city centre itself. There in the centre of the city sits Chichester Cathedral, which is the seat of the Anglican Bishop of Chichester and founded as a cathedral in 1075. Chichester Cathedral has stunning architecture in both the Norman and the gothic styles and its spire rises above its green copper roof, which can be seen for many miles across the flat meadows of West Sussex; Chichester is the only medieval English Cathedral which is visible from the sea.

In the neighbouring village of Fishbourne, just one mile outside Chichester is home to Fishbourne Roman Palace. The palace is the largest residential Roman building discovered in Britain and has an unusually early date of 75 AD, around thirty years after the Roman conquest of Britain. Much of the palace has been excavated and is preserved, along with an on-site museum.

Approximately 4 miles from Chichester in the quaint village of Singleton you will find the Weald and Downland Living Museum, which is an open air museum. The buildings at the museum were all threatened with destruction and, as it was not possible to find a way to preserve them at their original sites, they were carefully dismantled, conserved and rebuilt in their historical form at the museum. These buildings bring to life the homes, farmsteads and rural industries of the last 950 years. Along with the buildings, there are "hands-on" activities, like cooking and weaving and a number of yearly activities, including seasonal shows, historic gardens weekend and Tree Dressing.

Again, a stone's throw away from Chichester is the stunning Stansted House and Park; an Edwardian country house in the parish of Stoughton. It's magnificent state rooms and extensive servants' quarters are here to be seen, which is set in 1800 acres of ancient forest grazed by deer and landscaped parkland. The House is set as though the Earl was still at home and gives the visitor a look at what life was like 'Upstairs and Downstairs'.

If it's the medieval theme you enjoy, you could take a visit Arundel Castle, a restored and remodeled medieval castle in the town of Arundel, a fifteen minute drive from the city of Chichester. From the 11th century, the castle has been the seat of the Earl of Arundel and, for over 400 years, the duke of Norfolk.

Staying with the castle theme, Amberley Castle stands in the village of Amberley, not far from the city of Chichester. It was erected as a 12th-century Manor House and fortified in 1377, giving it a rhomboid shaped stonework enclosure with high curtain walls, internal towers in each corner, a hall and a gateway. It was used as a fortress by the bishops of Chichester. It is recorded in Domesday Book, as is our very own Barton Manor. Enjoy an afternoon cream tea or treat yourself to some fine dining.

Petworth House, in the beautifully quaint village of Petworth is a vast 17th century mansion and is a National Trust Property. It sits in a 700-acre landscaped park, known as Petworth Park and has the largest herd of fallow deer in England. Within the Park, there is also a 30-acre woodland garden, known as the Pleasure Ground whereby you can stay with tradition and amble along the meandering paths admiring the trees and exotic shrubs. The servants' quarters by contrast to the grandeur of the mansion offer a glimpse of England life 'below stairs'.

A personal favourite of ours is Osborne House situated on the Isle of Wight. Just a short ferry ride across the Solent from Portsmouth, Osborne house is the palatial former holiday home of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. As you wander rolling acres of the magnificent Osborne estate, be sure to keep an eye out for red squirrels! Osborne House offers an intimate glimpse of royal family life. You can also visit Victoria and Albert's bathing beach, admire their children's play-cottage and stroll through the garden terraces and take in the same stunning views across the Solent.

This leads us nicely into Portsmouth, or more importantly, The Historic Dockyard. This is an area of H.M. Naval Base, which is open to the public. It contains several historic buildings and ships to include: HMS Victory - Lord Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar, HMS Warrior – the World's first armour-plated, iron hulled warship when she was launched in 1860 and the remains of the Mary Rose, a warship of the Tudor Navy, which sank in 1545 to be salvaged in 1982. There is a host of other Naval artefacts to be seen in the National Museum of the Royal Navy including the original sails from the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805.

An incredible must-see, especially for our American friends, is the Record of Independence Declaration. A very precious and rare parchment version was uncovered in 2015. Aptly named 'The Sussex Declaration', the manuscript is only the second known parchment version of the declaration in existence alongside the Matlack Declaration in the National Archives. The parchment dating from the 1780s has been identified by Harvard scholars with work now underway to compare it with other documents. It is thought the West Sussex version originally belonged to the Third Duke of Richmond, nicknamed the 'Radical Duke' for his support of the American Revolution. Harvard researchers have said the manuscript is American and was most likely produced in New York or Philadelphia.

## **History and Surrounding Area**

Utopia is such an accurate description of this unique part of West Sussex. The Countryside and sea merge so perfectly to create a complete and perfect combination of sports, hobbies and Country pursuits. Barton Manor stands in a very beautiful part of West Sussex, betwixt and between a stunning coastline and the Goodwood South Downs. With the change of seasons and in a unique way, you will enjoy a wonderful holiday specifically tailored to suit your needs.

## **The Sussex Declaration**

At Barton Manor we have a copy of the The Sussex Declaration which is the 2nd only original parchment of the United States Declaration of Independence.

A visit to the Chichester Records office where The Sussex Declaration is held can be arranged.

North Bersted Warrior Exhibition- Novium Museum

Opening on Saturday, 25 January 2020 at the Novium Museum, Chichester

'In more than thirty years of archaeology this is the most spectacular discovery that I have witnessed' - James Kenny, District Archaeologist.

The secrets of an Iron Age warrior, who may have fought alongside King Commius during Julius Caesar's wars with the Gauls, will finally be told through this major exhibition.

The 'Mystery Warrior' was discovered 12 years ago by Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd. This was found during archaeological investigations, prior to the construction of Berkley Homes' Bersted Park.

Arguably the most elaborately equipped warrior grave ever found in England, archaeologists believe he was a refugee French Gallic fighter who fled Julius Caesar's Roman Army as they swept across continental Europe around 50BC.

After years of conservation and scientific analysis, the artefacts are now ready to finally be displayed at The Novium Museum.

Due to the significance of the artefacts, a team of world class experts has been working with The Novium Museum, to analyse and interpret the finds to tell the story of this incredible individual.

The 'Mystery Warrior: The North Bersted Man' exhibition will open on Saturday, 25 January 2020 and will be the first time that this extraordinary Iron Age Warrior and his burial possessions will be on public display. The exhibition will explore the life, health and death of this fascinating man. It will attempt to explain some of the questions that have been raised by the circumstances of his burial. It will illuminate a critical point in Britain's history - the years immediately preceding the Roman invasion, when the south coast was at the heart of the great events that ultimately shaped Britain as a nation.

The exhibition will open to the public on Saturday, 25 January 2020 and will be the first time that this extraordinary Iron Age Warrior and his burial possessions will be on public display.

The Novium Museum has programmed a range of free activities and events such as family days, lectures and community days to accompany the exhibition.

## **Verica**

Verica (early 1st century AD) was a British client king of the Roman Empire in the years preceding the Claudian invasion of 43 AD.

From his coinage, he appears to have been king of the, probably Belgic, Atrebates tribe and a son of Commius. He succeeded his elder brother Eppillus as king in about 15 AD, reigning at Calleva Atrebatum, today called Silchester. He was recognised as rex by Rome and appears to have had friendly trade and diplomatic links with the empire.

His territory was pressed from the east by the Catuvellauni, led by Epaticcus, brother of Cunobelinus, who conquered Calleva in about 25 AD. After Epaticcus's death ca. 35 AD Verica regained some territory, but Cunobelinus's son Caratacus took over and conquered the entire kingdom sometime after 40 AD.

Verica was expelled from Britain around this time during a revolt. Caratacus and the Britons demanded that Rome return "certain deserters". As rex, Verica was nominally an ally of Rome, so his exile gave Claudius an excuse to begin his invasion.

Verica's relationship with Rome indicate that the site of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Roman invasion of Britain in 43AD as being along the south coast (West Sussex and Hampshire) to assist him, rather than being at the traditional spot at Richborough in Kent.

After the invasion, Verica may have been restored as king, but this is not attested in the historical or archaeological record. Cogidubnus may have been an heir of Verica who by this time would have been very elderly indeed.

### **Boxgrove Man**

Boxgrove Man is a fossil thought to belong to *Homo heidelbergensis*, an extinct relative of modern humans (*Homo sapiens*), and dated to roughly half a million years old. The fossil was discovered in 1993 in Boxgrove, West Sussex, near the south coast of England, by archaeologist Mark Roberts and his team of the Institute of Archeology at University College London. Only two pieces of the tibia (shinbone) and two teeth were found, so little is known about the subject's history. It is even possible that this was a strongly-built woman. He or she was about 40 years old, 1.8 m (5 foot 11 inches) tall, and weighed roughly 14 stone (200 lb). It is thought to be the oldest human fossil ever discovered in Britain.

This particular fossil of an approximately 40-year-old dates back to the Middle Pleistocene era (circa. 500,000 BC) The tibia of Boxgrove Man is very sturdy indicating that it is a heavyset male around 5 feet 11 inches (180 cm) tall, weighing about 14 stone. The exceptional strength suggests a cold adapted body proportions paralleling those of the Neanderthals. It is clear that Boxgrove Man had the ability to hunt or at least scavenge with stone tools as the team discovered hundreds of Acheulean flint tools at the site. The teeth show scratches, indicating an eating technique in which the food was cut with a tool whilst gripped between the jaws.

Present at the site where Boxgrove Man was discovered were the remains of now extinct species of rhinoceros, bears and voles. It is most likely that Boxgrove Man hunted these animals for sustenance with the aid of the stone tools also discovered at this site. There is clear evidence on the animal remains that they were butchered but it cannot be proven that Boxgrove Man actually hunted these animals or scavenged them. There is also evidence on Boxgrove Man's tibia that he or she was scavenged as well. Teeth marks suggest either cannibalism by others from *H. heidelbergensis*' own species, or scavenging by another animal.

### **United States Declaration of Independence**

The signed, Engrossed Copy of the Declaration, now badly faded, is on display at the National Archives in Washington, DC.

The physical history of the United States Declaration of Independence spans from its original drafting in 1776 into the discovery of historical documents in modern time. This includes a number of drafts, handwritten copies, and published broadsides. The Declaration of Independence states that the thirteen American colonies, then at war with Great Britain, were no longer a part of the British Empire.

### The Composition Draft

The earliest known draft of the Declaration of Independence is a fragment known as the "Composition Draft". The draft, written in July 1776, is in the handwriting of Thomas Jefferson, principal author of the Declaration. It was discovered in 1947 by historian Julian P. Boyd in the Jefferson papers at the Library of Congress. Boyd was examining primary documents for publication in *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson* when he found the document, a piece of paper that contains a small part of the text of the Declaration, as well as some unrelated notes made by Jefferson. Prior to Boyd's discovery, the only known draft of the Declaration had been a document known as the Rough Draft. The discovery confirmed speculation by historians that Jefferson must have written more than one draft of the text.

Many of the words from the Composition Draft were ultimately deleted by Congress from the final text of the Declaration. Phrases from the fragment to survive the editing process include "acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation" and "hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends".

Forensic examination has determined that the paper of the Composition Draft and the paper of the Rough Draft were made by the same manufacturer. In 1995, conservators at the Library of Congress undid some previous restoration work on the fragment and placed it in a protective mat. The document is stored in a cold storage vault. When it is exhibited, the fragment is placed in a temperature and humidity controlled display case.

### Rough Draft

The first page of Jefferson's rough draft.

Thomas Jefferson preserved a four-page draft that late in life he called the "original Rough draught". Known to historians as the Rough Draft, early students of the Declaration believed that this was a draft written alone by Jefferson and then presented to the Committee of Five drafting committee. Some scholars now believe that the Rough Draft was not actually an "original Rough draught", but was instead a revised version completed by Jefferson after consultation with the committee. How many drafts Jefferson wrote prior to this one, and how much of the text was contributed by other committee members, is unknown.

Jefferson showed the Rough Draft to John Adams and Benjamin Franklin, and perhaps other members of the drafting committee. Adams and Franklin made a few more changes. Franklin, for example, may have been responsible for changing Jefferson's original phrase "We hold these truths to be sacred and undeniable" to "We hold these truths to be self-evident." Jefferson incorporated these changes into a copy that was submitted to Congress in the name of the committee. Jefferson kept the Rough Draft and made additional notes on it as Congress revised the text. He also made several copies of the Rough Draft without the changes made by Congress, which he sent to friends, including Richard Henry Lee and George Wythe, after July 4. At some point in the process, Adams also wrote out a copy.

### Fair Copy

In 1823, Jefferson wrote a letter to James Madison in which he recounted the drafting process. After making alterations to his draft as suggested by Franklin and Adams, he recalled that "I then wrote a fair copy, reported it to the Committee, and from them, unaltered, to Congress." If Jefferson's memories were correct, and he indeed wrote out a fair copy which was shown to the drafting committee and then submitted to Congress on June 28, this document has not been found "If this manuscript still exists," wrote historian Ted Widmer, "it is the holy grail of American freedom.

The Fair Copy was presumably marked up by Charles Thomson, the secretary of the Continental Congress, while Congress debated and revised the text. This document was the one that Congress approved on July 4, making it what Boyd called the first "official" copy of the Declaration. The Fair Copy was sent to John Dunlap to be printed under the title "A Declaration by the Representatives of the united states of america, in General Congress assembled". Boyd argued that if a document was signed in Congress on July 4, it would have been the Fair Copy, and probably would have been signed only by John Hancock with his signature being attested by Thomson.

The Fair Copy may have been destroyed in the printing process, or destroyed during the debates in accordance with Congress's secrecy rule. Author Wilfred J. Ritz speculates that the Fair Copy was immediately sent to the printer so that copies could be made for each member of Congress to consult during the debate, and that all of these copies were then destroyed to preserve secrecy.

### Broadsides

The Declaration was first published as a broadside printed by John Dunlap of Philadelphia. One broadside was pasted into Congress's journal, making it what Boyd called the "second official version" of the Declaration. Dunlap's broadsides were distributed throughout the thirteen states. Upon receiving these broadsides, many states issued their own broadside editions.

## Dunlap broadside

The Library of Congress's copy of the Dunlap broadside.

The Dunlap broadsides are the first published copies of the Declaration of Independence, printed on the night of July 4, 1776. It is unknown exactly how many broadsides were originally printed, but the number is estimated at about 200. John Hancock's eventually famous signature is not on this document, but his name appears in large type under "Signed by Order and in Behalf of the Congress", with secretary Charles Thomson listed as a witness ("Attest").

On July 4, 1776, Congress ordered the same committee charged with writing the document to "superintend and correct the press", that is, supervise the printing. Dunlap, an Irish immigrant then 29 years old, was tasked with the job; he apparently spent much of the night of July 4 setting type, correcting it, and running off the broadside sheets.

"There is evidence it was done quickly, and in excitement—watermarks are reversed, some copies look as if they were folded before the ink could dry and bits of punctuation move around from one copy to another", according to Ted Widmer, author of *Ark of the Liberties: America and the World*. "It is romantic to think that Benjamin Franklin, the greatest printer of his day, was there in Dunlap's shop to supervise, and that Jefferson, the nervous author, was also close at hand. John Adams later wrote, "We were all in haste. The Dunlap broadsides were sent across the new United States over the next two days, including to Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, George Washington, who directed that the Declaration be read to the troops on July 9. Another copy was sent to England.

On July 2, 2009, it was announced that a 26th Dunlap broadside was discovered in The National Archives in Kew, England. It is currently unknown how this copy came to the archive, but one possibility is that it was captured from an American coastal ship intercepted during the War of Independence.



The Goddard broadside.

In January 1777, Congress commissioned Mary Katherine Goddard to print a new broadside that, unlike the Dunlap broadside, lists the signers of the Declaration. With the publication of the Goddard broadside, the public learned for the first time who had signed the Declaration. One of the eventual signers of the Declaration, Thomas McKean, is not listed on the Goddard broadside, suggesting that he had not yet added his name to the signed document at that time.

In 1949, nine Goddard broadsides were known to still exist.

Other broadsides

A rare four-column broadside at Lauinger Library, Georgetown University.

In addition to the broadsides authorized by Congress, many states and private printers also issued broadsides of the Declaration, using the Dunlap broadside as a source. In 1949, an article in the Harvard Library Review surveyed all the broadsides known to exist at that time and found 19 editions or variations of editions, including the Dunlap and Goddard printings. The author was able to locate 71 copies of these various editions.

A number of copies have been discovered since that time. In 1971, a copy of a rare four-column broadside probably printed in Salem, Massachusetts was discovered in Georgetown University's Lauinger Library. In 2010, there were media reports that a copy of the Declaration was located in Shimla, India, having been discovered sometime during the 1990s. The type of copy was not specified.

Parchment copies

The Matlack Declaration

The copy of the Declaration that was signed by Congress is known as the engrossed or parchment copy. This copy was probably handwritten by clerk Timothy Matlack, and given the title of "The unanimous declaration of the thirteen United States of America". This was specified by the Congressional resolution passed on July 19, 1776:

Resolved, That the Declaration passed on the 4th, be fairly engrossed on parchment, with the title and stile of "The unanimous declaration of the thirteen United States of America," and that the same, when engrossed, be signed by every member of Congress.

Throughout the Revolutionary War, the engrossed copy was moved with the Continental Congress, which relocated several times to avoid the British army. In 1789, after creation of a new government under the United States Constitution, the engrossed Declaration was transferred to the custody of the secretary of state. The document was evacuated to Virginia when the British attacked Washington, D.C. during the War of 1812.

National Bureau of Standards preserving the engrossed copy of the Declaration of Independence in 1951.

After the War of 1812, the symbolic stature of the Declaration steadily increased even though the engrossed copy's ink was noticeably fading. In 1820, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams commissioned printer William J. Stone to create an engraving essentially identical to the engrossed copy. Stone's engraving was made using a wet-ink transfer process, where the surface of the document was moistened, and some of the original ink transferred to the surface of a copper plate, which was then etched so that copies could be run off the plate on a press. When Stone finished his engraving in 1823, Congress ordered 200 copies to be printed on parchment. Because of poor conservation of the engrossed copy through the 19th century, Stone's engraving, rather than the original, has become the basis of most modern reproductions.

From 1841 to 1876, the engrossed copy was publicly displayed on a wall opposite a large window at the Patent Office building in Washington, D.C. Exposed to sunlight and variable temperature and humidity, the document faded badly. In 1876, it was sent to Independence Hall in Philadelphia for exhibit during the Centennial Exposition, which was held in honor of the Declaration's 100th anniversary, and then returned to Washington the next year. In 1892, preparations were made for the engrossed copy to be exhibited at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, but the poor condition of the document led to the cancellation of those plans and the removal of the document from public exhibition. The document was sealed between two plates of glass and placed in storage. For nearly 30 years, it was exhibited only on rare occasions at the discretion of the Secretary of State.

In 1921, custody of the Declaration, along with the United States Constitution, was transferred from the State Department to the Library of Congress. Funds were appropriated to preserve the documents in a public exhibit that opened in 1924. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941, the documents were moved for safekeeping to the United States Bullion Depository at Fort Knox in Kentucky, where they were kept until 1944.

For many years, officials at the National Archives believed that they, rather than the Library of Congress, should have custody of the Declaration and the Constitution. The transfer finally took place in 1952, and the documents, along with the Bill of Rights, are now on permanent display at the National Archives in the "Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom". Although encased in helium, by the early 1980s the documents were threatened by further deterioration. In 2001, using the latest in preservation technology, conservators treated the documents and transferred them to encasements made of titanium and aluminium, filled with inert argon gas. They were put on display again with the opening of the remodelled National Archives Rotunda in 2003.

The Sussex Declaration



On April 21, 2017, the Declaration Resources Project at Harvard University announced that a second parchment manuscript copy had been discovered at West Sussex Record Office in Chichester, England. Named the "Sussex Declaration" by its finders, Danielle Allen and Emily Sneff, it differs from the National Archives copy (which the finders refer to as the "Matlack Declaration") in that the signatures on it are not grouped by States. How it came to be in England is not yet known, but the finders believe that the randomness of the signature's points to an origin with signatory James Wilson, who had argued strongly that the Declaration was made not by the States but by the whole people.

The finders identify the Sussex Declaration as a transcription of the Matlack Declaration, probably made between 1783 and 1790 and likely in New York City or possibly Philadelphia. They propose that the Sussex Declaration "descended from the Matlack Declaration, and it (or a copy) served, before disappearing from view, as a source text for both the 1818 Tyler engraving and the 1836 Bridgham engraving".

## **The Sussex declaration**

The United States of America declared independence from the British Empire on July 4 1776. Only two parchment manuscripts of The Declaration of Independence remain.

One is housed in the National Archives in Washington DC and the other had lain relatively unknown in the archives at West Sussex County Council in Chichester.

The 24-by-30½-inch Sussex document is one of just two known roughly contemporary manuscripts of the Declaration of Independence on parchment. The other is the engrossed one signed by the delegates to Continental Congress, held at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

A copy of the American Declaration of Independence found in Chichester has been verified as one of only two ceremonial parchment copies in the world. The rare parchment was tracked down by Harvard academics last year at the West Sussex Records Office, where it had been kept neatly folded in the archive for 50 years.

The Sussex Declaration, as it is now known, is believed to have been held originally by the Third Duke of Richmond, known as the "Radical Duke" for his support of the Americans during the Revolution. The parchment is, however, American and is most likely to have been produced in New York or Philadelphia and researchers are still working out how the parchment moved to the UK.

Unique out of all other 18th century versions of the Declaration, the names on the list of signatories in the Sussex Declaration are not grouped by states. The Harvard team believe the unusual listing is reflective of the views of its most likely commissioner, James Wilson, who argued the authority of the Declaration rested on a unitary national people, and not on a federation of states.

DNA testing also revealed the parchment was prepared from sheepskin, rather than more expensive calfskin and X-ray fluorescence (XRF) capture showed high iron content in holes in the corner of the parchment, possibly iron nails to hang the parchment at some point.

West Sussex County Archivist Wendy Walker said: "It is a fascinating document and it has been fantastic for us to work with colleagues at Harvard, the Library of Congress and the British Library to find out more about the story that surrounds it." The discoveries are published by Harvard academics Danielle Allen and Emily Sneff in their paper, "The Sussex Declaration," in the Proceedings of the Bibliographic Society of America.

At 24" x 30.5" the parchment is on the same ornamental scale as the only other known contemporary manuscript of the Declaration of Independence on parchment, the engrossed parchment at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., which was signed by the delegates to Continental Congress.

Named 'The Sussex Declaration', the manuscript is only the second known parchment version of the declaration in existence alongside the Matlack D Harvard researchers Danielle Allen and Emily Sneff have said the manuscript is American and was most likely produced in New York or Philadelphia.

For more information see USA Declaration of Independence

### **Hanover to Windsor 1714 - Present**

#### **George the First (1714-1727)**

**1714:** The Admiralty put up a £20,000 reward for anyone who can accurately chart longitude.

**1715:** Birth of “Capability” Brown.

Jacobite Rebellion (known as the '15) to install , James Edward Stuart, the Old Pretender onto the throne. The Battle of Sheriffmuir on the 13th November is indecisive but the Earl of Mar surrenders at Preston due to lack of support.

**1718:** Birth of Thomas Chippendale on the 5th June.

**1719:** Daniel Defoe publishes “Robinson Crusoe”.

**1720:** The South Sea Bubble.

Opening of the Haymarket Theatre in London.

Edmond Halley is appointed Astronomer Royal.

Birth of “Bonnie Prince Charlie” on the 31st December.

**1721:** Robert Walpole becomes first “Prime Minister”.

**1722:** Death of the Duke of Marlborough on the 16th June.

Daniel Defoe publishes “Moll Flanders”.

Francis Atterbury’s Plot to restore the Old Pretender is discovered and quashed.

**1723:** Death of Sir Christopher Wren on the 25th February.

Birth of Adam Smith on the 5th June.

Birth of Joshua Reynolds on the 16th July.

1724: Birth of George Stubbs on the 24th August.

1725: Birth of Robert Clive on the 29th September.

John Harrison finishes the first of his precision clocks.

Building of Richard Boyle’s Chiswick House in the Palladian style.

Guy’s Hospital in London is founded.

**1726:** Jonathan Swift publishes “Gulliver’s Travels”.

**1727:** Birth of James Wolfe on the 2nd January.  
Death of Sir Isaac Newton on the 20th March.  
Birth of Thomas Gainsborough on the 14th May.

### **George the Second (1727-1760)**

**1728:** John Wesley ordained as a priest and leads the Oxford Group of Methodists with his brother Charles.  
Birth of Robert Adam on the 3rd July.  
Birth of Matthew Boulton on the 3rd September.  
Birth of Captain Cook on the 27th October.

**1729:** Start of the Methodist Movement in Oxford.

**1730:** Birth of Josiah Wedgwood on the 12th July.  
Birth of Oliver Goldsmith on the 12th November  
Henry Fielding writes “Tom Thumb”.

**1731:** Death of Daniel Defoe on the 24th April.

**1732:** Birth of Richard Arkwright on the 23rd December.  
William Hogarth completes his paintings “The Harlot’s Progress”.  
Opening of Covent Garden Opera House.

**1733:** Jethro Tull writes “Horse Hoing Husbandry”.  
Birth of Joseph Priestley on the 13th March.

**1734:** Death of Rob Roy MacGregor on the 28th December.

**1735:** William Hogarth completes his paintings “The Rake’s Progress”.  
10 Downing Street becomes the residence of the First Lord of the Treasury and Prime Minister.



**1736:** Birth of James Watt on the 19th January.  
John Harrison demonstrates the H1 chronometer.  
Nicholas Hawksmoor designs Westminster Bridge.  
Death of Nicholas Hawksmoor on the 24th March.

**1739:** John Wesley founded his first Methodist Chapel at Bristol.  
Highwayman Dick Turpin hanged for murder at York.

**1739-48:** The War of Jenkin's ear. Britain and UK conflict over Caribbean trading.

**1740:** William Hogarth paints "The Shrimp Girl".  
Thomas Arne wrote "The Masque of Althred" which includes "Rule Britannia".

**1740-48:** War of the Austrian Succession.

**1741:** Foundation of the Foundling Hospital by Captain Thomas Coram.  
John Harrison has the H2 chronometer ready.  
Handel writes "The Messiah" in his home near Oxford Street, London.

**1742:** Opening of the first cotton factories in Birmingham and Northampton.

**1743:** William Hogarth completes his paintings called "Marriage a la Mode.

**1745:** Bonnie Prince Charlie left France and lands on the Hebridean Island of Eriskay and then raises his standard at Glenfinnan.  
Battle of Prestonpans on 21st September.  
Thomas Arne performs "God Save the King" for the first time.

**1746:** Bonnie Prince Charlie is defeated at the Battle of Culloden on 16th April.

**1748:** First Mail Coach service.

**1749:** Birth of Charles James Fox on the 24th January.  
Henry Fielding forms the “Bow Street Runners” an early police force.  
Birth of Edmund Jenner on the 17th May.

**1750:** Foundation of the Jockey Club.  
John Baskerville begins to experiment with papermaking and type founding.

**1751:** “Capability” Brown sets up his gardening. business and begins work at Croome Park, Worcestershire.  
William Hogarth paints “Beer Street” and “Gin Lane.”  
Passing of the Gin Act.

**1752:** Britain adopts the Cabinet Government system for the first time.  
The Gregorian Calendar is brought in officially and January 1st becomes New Year’s Day.

**1753:** Foundation of the British Museum Library

**1754:** Foundation of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club.  
Birth of William Bligh on the 9th September.  
Thomas Chippendale publishes “Gentleman and Cabinet-Makers Director”.

**1755:** Birth of Josiah Spode on the 8th May.  
Samuel Johnson publishes the Dictionary of the English Language.

**1756-63:** Seven Years War.  
122 Britons die in “The Black Hole of Calcutta” on 20th July 1756.

**1757:** The Battle of Plassey on the 23rd June.  
Birth of Thomas Telford on the 9th August.  
Birth of William Blake on the 28th November.

**1758:** Birth of Lord Nelson on the 29th September.

**1759:** Birth of Robert Burns on the 25th January.  
Birth of Mary Wollstonecraft on the 27th April.  
Birth of William Pitt the Younger on the 28th May.  
Birth of William Wilberforce on the 24th August.  
Death of James Wolfe at Quebec on the 13th September.  
James Brindley begins the construction of the Bridgewater Canal.

### **George the Third (1760-1820)**

**1760:** Turnpikes established on British roads.  
Matthew Boulton begins manufacturing Sheffield silver plate.  
Opening of Kew Gardens.

**1761:** Matthew Boulton begins building the Soho Manufactory.  
John Harrison's H4 model proved to be the most accurate chronometer.

**1763:** Josiah Wedgwood patents his cream ware which became known as Queen's Ware.  
At the Treaty of Paris France agreed to move out of Canada.

**1764:** Birth of Fletcher Christian.  
Death of William Hogarth on the 26th October.  
"Capability" Brown becomes Surveyor to His Majesty's Gardens and Waters at Hampton Court Palace.

**1765:** James Watt fits the Newcomen Engine with a separate condenser to increase its power.

**1766:** Foundation of the Lunar Society which meets at Matthew Boulton's house.  
Joseph Priestley writes the "History and Present State of Electricity".  
Birth of Thomas Malthus on the 17th February.  
Birth of John Dalton on the 6th September.  
Henry Cavendish discovers the properties of Hydrogen, then known as "dephlogisticated air".

**1768:** Foundation of the Royal Academy of Arts by Joshua Reynolds and Thomas Gainsborough.  
Joseph Priestley's work "Essay on Government" published which inspired Thomas Jefferson with ideas for the American Declaration of Independence.

**1769:** First patent between Matthew Boulton and James Watt for a steam engine. Josiah Wedgwood opens the Etruria factory.

**1769-70:** Charting of New Zealand by Captain James Cook.  
Birth of the Duke of Wellington on the 1st May.

**1770:** Birth of William Wordsworth on the 7th April.

**1771:** Richard Arkwright sets up a factory powered by water at Cromford in Derbyshire. Birth of Richard Trevithick on the 13th April.  
Birth of Walter Scott on the 15th August.  
The Falkland Islands are given to Britain by Spain.

**1772:** Birth of Samuel Taylor Coleridge on the 21st October.  
Charles James Fox promoted to become Lord of the Treasury.  
King George the Third tested John Harrison's H5 chronometer.  
Warren Hastings is appointed the first Governor General of India.

**1773:** At The Boston Tea Party on 16th December radical colonists disguised as Native Americans board British Ships and throw the cargo into the sea as a protest against taxation.  
Opening of the Birmingham Assay Office aids Matthew Boulton.

**1774:** Joseph Priestley discovers Oxygen.

**1775:** Richard Arkwright patents his carding engine machinery.  
Birth of Jane Austen on the 16th December

**1775-1783:** Wars of the American Revolution against Britain.

**1776:** United States of America sign Declaration of Independence see The Sussex Declaration.  
Adam Smith writes “The Wealth of Nations”.  
Birth of John Constable on the 11th June.

**1777:** Josiah Wedgwood introduces Jasper ware.  
In America British forces win the Battle of Brandywine Creek allowing Washington’s colonial army to escape.

**1779:** Building of the world’s first Ironbridge.  
Death of Captain Cook on the 14th February.  
Death of Thomas Chippendale in November.

**1780:** Birth of Elizabeth Fry on the 21st May.  
The Derby is run for the first time.

**1781:** Birth of George Stephenson on the 9th June.  
George Stubbs is elected a member of the Royal Academy.  
Battle of Yorktown in America on 9th October.

**1783:** Tyburn Hill last used as a place of public execution in London.  
James Watt calculates the unit of Horse Power.  
Death of “Capability” Brown on the 6th February.

**1784:** First Mail coach runs from Bristol to London.  
Death of Samuel Johnson on the 13th December.  
Invention of shrapnel by British Lieutenant Henry Shrapnel.

**1787:** Thomas Telford is made the Surveyor of Shropshire.  
Foundation of Marylebone Cricket Club.

**1788:** Birth of Lord Byron on the 22nd January.  
Death of “Bonnie Prince Charlie” on the 31st January.  
Birth of Robert Peel on the 5th February.

Death of William Pitt, The Elder on the 11th May.  
Death of Thomas Gainsborough on the 2nd August.

**1789:** French Revolution.

**1791:** Foundation of the Ordnance Survey.  
Birmingham Riots against the dissenting Joseph Priestley take place between 14-17th July.

**1792:** Birth of Percy Shelley on the 4th August.  
Birth of Charles Babbage on the 26th December.  
Coal gas is used for the first time in lighting.

**1793:** William Blake publishes “The Marriage of Heaven and Hell”.  
John Dalton writes “Meteorological Observations and Essays”.  
The French Republic declares war on Britain

**1794:** William Blake publishes “Songs of Experience”.  
Joseph Priestley emigrates to America and founds the first Unitarian church there.

**1795:** Formation of the Poor Law.  
Death of Josiah Wedgwood on the 3rd January.  
Birth of John Keats on the 31st October.  
Robert Burns writes “For a’ That and a’ That”.  
Jane Austen writes the first versions of “Northanger Abbey”, “Sense and Sensibility” and “Pride and Prejudice”.

**1796:** Death of Robert Burns on the 21st July.

**1797:** Mutiny in the Navy at Spithead on 15th April.  
Matthew Boulton is given a contract to make copper coinage at Soho Manufactory by the Royal Mint.  
Samuel Taylor Coleridge begins writing “The Ancient Mariner”.  
Birth of Mary Shelley on the 30th August.

**1798:** William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge complete the “Lyrical Ballads” and Coleridge writes “Kubla Khan”.  
William Pitt the Younger brings in Income Tax.  
The Battle of the Nile on 1st August.  
Thomas Malthus writes “Essays on the Principle of Population”.

**1799:** Humphrey Davy writes “Researches Chemical and Physical”.

### **George the Third (1760-1820)**

**1800:** Humphry Davy realises the effects on chemicals of electricity.  
Britain takes over Malta.

**1801:** The Union of Great Britain and Ireland.  
First National Census based on Thomas Malthus’s theories.  
Horatio Nelson is victorious at the Battle of Copenhagen on 2nd April.

**1802:** Factory Act limiting child labour is brought in.  
Humphry Davy publishes a paper entitled “An Account of a Method of Copying Paintings on Glass and Making Profiles, by the Agency of Light Upon Nitrates of Silver”.  
J.M.W. Turner is elected a Member of the Royal Academy.  
Thomas Wedgwood, the son of Josiah Wedgwood, successfully records “photographic” images on paper for the first time.

**1803:** John Dalton advanced his idea of atomic theory based upon study of atmospheric gases.  
Richard Trevithick builds his London Road Locomotive which runs between Leather Lane and Paddington via Oxford Street.

**1804:** William Wordsworth writes “Ode: Imitations of Immortality”.  
Birth of Benjamin Disraeli on the 21st December.  
The Royal Horticultural Society is first founded.

**1805:** Death of Lord Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar on 21st October.  
Samuel Taylor Coleridge is appointed the Acting Public Secretary in Malta.

**1806:** Death of William Pitt the Younger on the 23rd January.

William Cobbett begins the “Record of Parliamentary Debate” which was later taken over by Luke Hansard and is now known simply as Hansard.

Birth of Isambard Kingdom Brunel on the 9th April.

Duke of Wellington is elected as the Member of Parliament.

The Beaufort Scale of wind speeds is devised by Sir Francis Beaufort.

**1807:** Slavery is abolished in the British Empire.

Humphry Davy manufactures Potassium and Sodium.

**1808:** John Dalton publishes “A New System of Chemical Philosophy”

Humphry Davy discovers Magnesium, Calcium, Barium and Strontium.

The Duke of Wellington is victorious at the Battle at Vimeiro on the 21 August.

**1808-1814:** The Peninsula War.

**1809:** Birth of Charles Darwin on the 12th February.

Birth of Alfred Lord Tennyson on the 6th August.

Death of Matthew Boulton on the 17th August.

Birth of William Ewart Gladstone on the 29th December.

The British army under Sir John Moore defeat the French at the Battle of Corunna in the Peninsular War.

**1811:** Birth of William Makepeace Thackeray on the 18th July.

Luddite machine breaking riots in Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire take place between March and the following January.

Jane Austen revises and publishes “Sense and Sensibility”.

Josiah Spode introduces the “Blue Rome” Plate.

**1812:** Birth of Charles Dickens on the 7th February. Napoleon’s retreat from Moscow.

Birth of Robert Browning on the 7th May.

Wellington wins the Battle of Salamanca in Spain on 22nd July.



**1812-1814:** British-American War.

The Elgin Marbles are first brought to Britain from Athens.

**1813:** Birth of Henry Bessemer on the 19th January.

Jane Austen publishes "Pride and Prejudice".

Battle of Vittoria in Spain on the 21st June.

Elizabeth Fry appalled by a visit to Newgate Prison starts a career of prison reform.

Walter Scott refuses the title of Poet Laureate and recommends Robert Southey.

**1814:** George Stephenson builds his first engine the eight-ton "Blucher".

Establishment of Lord's Cricket Ground.

Humphry Davy and George Stephenson independently invent a miners safety lamp.

**1815:** Battle of Waterloo on the 18th of June ends the Napoleonic Wars. The Duke of Wellington is victorious with the help of the Prussian General Blucher.

Richard Trevithick invents the screw propeller.

**1816:** Birth of Charlotte Bronte on the 21st April after her father is appointed perpetual curate at Haworth.

Jane Austen publishes "Emma".

Percy and Mary Shelley and Lord Byron invent horror stories in Switzerland giving rise to Frankenstein.

Josiah Spode introduces the Blue Italian Plates.

**1817:** Death of Jane Austen on the 18th July.

Death of William Bligh on the 7th December.

Walter Scott writes "Rob Roy".

**1818:** Elizabeth Fry is the first woman to speak to a Parliamentary Commission.

Birth of Emily Bronte on the 30th July.

Richard Trevithick creates the first steam boat.

**1819:** Walter Scott writes "Ivanhoe".

The Peterloo Massacre takes place on the 16th August.

Death of James Watt on the 25th August.

Birth of George Eliot on the 22nd November.

Robert Owen's campaigns finally get the Factory Act passed which said that it was illegal to employ children under nine years old.

Thomas Telford builds the bridge over the Menai Straits.

### **George the Fourth (1820-1830)**

**1820:** Birth of Anne Bronte on the 17th January.

John Constable paints "The Haywain".

William Blake writes "Jerusalem".

Birth of Florence Nightingale on the 12th May.

The Cato Street Conspiracy plot to murder the Cabinet is uncovered.

**1821:** George Stephenson surveys the proposed railway from Stockton to Darlington.

The reproduction of sound is proved to be possible by Sir Charles Wheatstone.

**1822:** Death of Percy Shelley by drowning on the 8th July.

Robert Peel is appointed as Home Secretary.

The first dinosaur fossil is discovered in West Sussex.

**1823:** Completion of Thomas Telford's Caledonian Canal from Loch Ness to Fort William.

**1824:** The National Gallery Founded.

Thomas Telford designs St. Katherine's Docks in London.

Birth of Wilkie Collins on the 8th January.

Death of Lord Byron on the 19th April.

**1825:** The first passenger train service in the world runs from Stockton to Darlington.

Horse drawn buses operate for the first time in London.

**1826:** Opening of Thomas Telford's suspension bridge across the Menai Straits.

**1827:** Death of Josiah Spode on the 16th July.  
John Loudon McAdam is appointed Surveyor General of Metropolitan Roads in Great Britain.  
Elizabeth Fry argues against capital punishment for women.  
Death of William Blake on the 12th August.

**1828:** Birth of Dante Gabriel Rossetti on the 12th May.  
The Duke of Wellington becomes Prime Minister.

**1829:** Birth of William Booth on the 12th April.  
Death of Sir Humphry Davy on the 29th May.  
Birth of John Everett Millais on the June.  
Robert Peel passes the Metropolitan Police Act.  
William Burke is hanged and William Hare goes free after the Burke and Hare body snatching crimes in Edinburgh.

### **William the Fourth (1830-1837)**

**1830:** Formation of the Conservative Party from the Tories.  
Isambard Kingdom Brunel is inspired to build railways at the Rainhill Trials when George Stephenson's "Rocket" wins the battle of the locomotives.  
Charles Lyell publishes "The Principles of Geology".

**1831:** Isambard Kingdom Brunel begins construction of the Clifton suspension bridge.

**1832:** Alfred Lord Tennyson writes "The Lady of Shallot".  
Birth of Lewis Carroll on the 27th January.  
Passing of the Great Reform Act.

**1833:** Passing of the Slavery Abolition Act.  
Isambard Kingdom Brunel is appointed engineer of the Great Western Railway Company uses the controversial 7-Foot Gauge. He begins building the Clifton Suspension Bridge in Bristol.  
Death of William Wilberforce on the 29th July.

**1834:** Transportation of the Tolpuddle Martyrs. Houses of parliament burn down.  
Charles Babbage designs the Difference Engine, the first computer and publishes “Economy of Machines”.  
Birth of William Morris on the 24th March.  
The Hansom cab is first patented.

**1835:** Foundation of the British Geological Survey.

**1836:** Charles Barry wins the commission to rebuild the Houses of Parliament.  
Invention of the screw propeller by Sir Francis Smith.

### **Queen Victoria (1837-1901)**

**1837:** Death of John Constable on the 31st March.  
The first telegraph message is sent between the new Camden Town and Euston stations.  
The Queen lives in Buckingham Palace for the first time.

**1838:** Grace Darling rows out to save survivors from the sinking steamship “Forfarshire” on the 7th September.  
The First Afghan War breaks out as Britain tries to stop Russian influence in the area.  
The National Gallery opens for the first time.

**1839:** Vulcanisation of rubber first invented.  
Birth of George Cadbury on the 19th September.  
Charles Dickens writes “Nicholas Nickleby”.  
Invention of the self-propelled bicycle by Kirkpatrick Macmillan.

**1840:** William Armstrong produces an improved hydraulic engine.  
Charles Darwin writes “Zoology of the Voyage of H.M.S. Beagle”.  
Elizabeth Fry opens a new school for nurses which was to inspire Florence Nightingale.  
Birth of Thomas Hardy on the 2nd June.  
The Penny Postal service is introduced with the advent of the Penny Black postage stamp.

**1841:** Isambard Kingdom Brunel opens his railway between London and Bristol.  
The first Census is held.

**1842:** William Armstrong invents an apparatus for producing electricity from steam.  
Robert Peel introduces the Mines Act which forbids the employment of women and children underground.  
The Treaty of Nanking ends the Opium 'Wars with China.

**1843:** Isambard Kingdom Brunel launches SS "Great Britain".

**1845:** John Franklin begins his third attempt to find the North West Passage around Canada and dies in the process in 1847.  
Irish potato famine.

**1846:** Robert Browning elopes with Elizabeth Barrett to Italy.  
Robert Peel repeals the Corn Laws.

**1847:** Birth of Alexander Graham Bell on the 3rd March.  
Charlotte Bronte publishes "Jane Eyre", Emily Bronte publishes "Wuthering Heights" and Anne Bronte publishes "Agnes Grey".  
William Makepeace Thackeray writes Vanity Fair.

**1848:** Birth of W. G. Grace on the 18th July.  
Isambard Kingdom Brunel starts work on the Royal Albert Bridge at Saltash.  
Death of Emily Bronte on the 19th December.

**1850:** Death of William Wordsworth on the 23rd April.  
Birth of Robert Louis Stevenson on the 13th November.  
Charles Dickens writes "David Copperfield".  
Alfred Lord Tennyson writes "In Memoriam" and becomes Poet Laureate.  
Death of Robert Peel on the 2nd July.  
Opening of the Britannia Bridge over the Menai Straits.

**1851:** William Kelvin forms the Second Law of Thermodynamics.  
The Great Exhibition is held at The Crystal Palace.

Death of Mary Shelley on the 1st February.  
Death of J.M.W. Turner on the 19th December .

**1852:** Completion of the new House of Commons.  
Death of the Duke of Wellington on the 14th September.  
The first Music Halls appear as Charles Morton opens “The Canterbury” in London.

**1854:** Birth of Oscar Wilde on the 16th October.  
Battle of Balaclava in the Crimea on the 25th October. Florence Nightingale goes to nurse the wounded.

**1854-56:** Crimean War.

**1855:** Death of Charlotte Bronte on the 31st March.  
Henry Bessemer patents his Bessemer process smelting cast iron.  
James Clerk Maxwell publishes “On Faraday’s lines of Force”.  
David Livingstone discovers the Victoria Falls in Africa.

**1856:** Birth of George Bernard Shaw on the 26th July.  
Queen Victoria first awards the Victoria Cross medal for Valour.

**1857:** Birth of Edward Elgar on the 2nd June.  
William Morris helps to paint the frescoes at the Oxford Union.

**1857-9:** The Indian Mutiny.

**1859:** Birth of Arthur Conan Doyle on the 22nd May.  
Death of Isambard Kingdom Brunel on the 15th September.  
Edward Fitzgerald publishes an anonymous copy of his translation of the “Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam”.  
Charles Darwin completes “The Origin of Species”.  
Florence Nightingale publishes “Notes on Nursing”.  
Alfred Lord Tennyson writes “The Idylls of the King”.

**1860:** First Open Golf Championship, held at Prestwick.  
Wilkie Collins writes “The Woman in White.”  
George Eliot publishes “The Mill on the Floss”.  
Thomas Henry Huxley defends Darwin’s “Origin of Species” in The Times.

**1861:** Charles Dickens writes “Great Expectations”.  
Death of Queen Victoria’s Consort Prince Albert.  
Daily weather forecasts are first given.

**1862:** William Morris’s firm exhibit at the International Exhibition.  
The Companies Act first introduces limited liability companies.

**1863:** Birth of David Lloyd George on the 17th January.  
Formation of the Football Association.  
Opening of the London Underground.

**1865:** Lewis Carroll publishes “Alice in Wonderland”.  
Birth of Edith Cavell on the 4th December.  
Birth of Rudyard Kipling on the 30th December

**1866:** Birth of Beatrix Potter on the 28th July.  
George Cadbury’s company becomes the first to sell cocoa as a drink.  
Birth of H. G. Wells on the 21st September.  
Robert Whitehead invents the torpedo.

**1867:** Benjamin Disraeli proposes new Reform Act which gives the vote to every male.  
William Kelvin writes “The Treatise on Natural Philosophy”.  
Edwin Landseer unveils the lions around the base of Nelson’s Column in Trafalgar Square.  
Joseph Lister introduces modern antiseptic surgery.

**1868:** Trades Union Congress formed.  
Birth of Scott of the Antarctic on the 6th June.

Birth of Charles Rennie Mackintosh on the 7th June.

Birth of Emmeline Pankhurst on the 14th July.

**1869:** R.D. Blackmore writes “Lorna Doone” □ □.

Opening of the Suez Canal on the 17th November.

**1870:** Death of Charles Dickens on the 9th June.

W.E. Gladstone passes The Education Act which set up school boards in Britain and made primary school education compulsory.

**1871:** Death of Charles Babbage on the 18th October.

George Eliot publishes “Middlemarch”.

Charles Darwin publishes “The Descent of Man”.

Britain takes over the diamond mines at Kimberley, South Africa.

**1872:** First FA Cup final in football.

Birth of Bertrand Russell on the 18th May.

Secret Ballots are first introduced by the Ballot Act.

**1873:** James Clerk Maxwell publishes “Treatise on Electricity and Magnetism”.

**1874:** Birth of William Somerset Maugham on the 25th January.

Thomas Hardy writes “Far From the Madding Crowd”.

Birth of Ernest Shackleton on the 15th February.

Birth of Gustav Holst on the 21st September.

Birth of Winston Churchill on the 30th November.

**1876:** Adoption of the Plimsoll Line for shipping.

Alexander Graham Bell takes out a Patent on the telephone.

**1877:** First Wimbledon Tennis Championships.

Birth of Lord Nuffield on the 10th October.



General Charles Gordon is appointed as Governor of the Sudan.  
Australia win the first ever cricket Test Match between England and Australia.

**1878:** W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan write “HMS Pinafore”.  
Sir Joseph Swann invents the electric filament lamp.

**1879:** The Zulu War.

George Cadbury sets up the Bournville factory village.  
W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan write “The Pirates of Penzance”.  
James Clerk Maxwell writes “Electrical Researches of Henry Cavendish”.  
John Henry Newman becomes a Cardinal.

**1880:** Birth of Dame Christabel Pankhurst on the 22nd September.  
Death of George Eliot on the 22nd December.  
W.G. Grace scores the first ever Test Century at cricket.  
Greenwich Mean Time is adopted by the whole of Britain.

**1880-1:** First Boer War in South Africa.

**1881:** Oscar Wilde asked by Richard D'Oyly Carte to tour America.  
Death of Benjamin Disraeli on the 19th April.  
Birth of Alexander Fleming on the 6th August.

**1882:** Birth of A. A. Milne on the 18th January.  
Birth of Virginia Woolf on the 25th January.  
Death of Charles Darwin on the 19th April.  
The Married Women Act allows women to buy and sell their own property.

**1884:** William Morris becomes the leader of the Socialist League.  
George Bernard Shaw joins the new Fabian Society, the forerunner of the Labour Party.  
The Greenwich Meridian is adopted internationally as Zero Longitude or the Prime Meridian.

**1885:** Birth of Malcolm Campbell on the 11th March.  
Birth of D.H. Lawrence on the 11th September.  
The vacuum flask is invented by Sir James Dewar.

**1886:** Birth of Siegfried Sassoon on the 8th September.  
Robert Louis Stevenson serialises “Kidnapped” and publishes “The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde”.

**1887:** Birth of Barnes Wallis on the 26th September.  
Arthur Conan Doyle publishes the first Sherlock Holmes story “A Study in Scarlet”.  
Birth of L.S. Lowry on the 1st November.

**1888:** Lewis Carroll publishes “Curiosa Mathematica”.  
Birth of John Logie Baird on the 13th August.  
Birth of T.E. Lawrence on the 15th August.  
Birth of T. S. Eliot on the 26th September.  
Jack the Ripper commits his murders in Whitechapel, London.  
The Football League is created.

**1889:** Completion of the Forth Railway Bridge near Edinburgh.

**1890:** The Forth Rail Bridge in Scotland is opened.

**1891:** Arthur Conan Doyle publishes the first Sherlock Holmes stories.  
William Morris founds The Kelmscott Press and refuses to become Poet Laureate.  
Oscar Wilde writes “The Picture of Dorian Gray”.

**1892:** Birth of J.R.R. Tolkien on the 3rd January.  
Oscar Wilde writes “Lady Windermere’s Fan”.  
Sir Alfred Gilbert designs “Eros” in Piccadilly Circus.

**1893:** Birth of Ivor Novello on the 15th January.  
Oliver Lodge discredited the ether theory opening the way for Einstein.

Formation of the Labour Party from a Fabian Society conference.

Beatrix Potter writes the first Peter Rabbit story.

**1894:** Birth of Aldous Huxley on the 26th July.

Rudyard Kipling writes “The Jungle Book”.

Death of Robert Louis Stevenson on the 3rd December.

Aubrey Beardsley becomes Art Editor and illustrator of “The Yellow Book”. His illustrations for Oscar Wilde’s “Salome” achieve national notoriety.

Oliver Lodge becomes the first man to send a message via radio signals. He also invents the spark plug for motor cars. The first motor car is seen in London.

George Bernard Shaw writes “Arms and the Man”.

The first Marks and Spencer’s store opens in Manchester.

**1895:** First Promenade Concerts in London.

Thomas Hardy writes “Jude the Obscure”.

Oscar Wilde writes “The Importance of Being Earnest” and sues the Marquess of Queensbury for criminal libel but is himself finally sent to jail.

H.G. Wells writes “The Time Machine”.

Foundation of the National Trust by Canon Hardwicke Rawnsley a friend of Beatrix Potter.

**1895-6:** The Jameson Raids in South Africa.

**1896:** Herbert Austin unveils the prototype of his second motor car at Crystal Palace.

Arnold Bennett becomes the Editor of “Woman” magazine.

**1897:** Opening of the Tate Gallery.

George Cadbury starts production of milk chocolate.

Oscar Wilde released from Reading Gaol.

Oliver Lodge writes “Signaling across Space without Wires”.

Charles Rennie Mackintosh designed the Glasgow School of Art.

**1898:** H.G. Wells writes “The War of the Worlds”.  
Death of William Ewart Gladstone on the 19th May.  
Birth of Henry Moore on the 30th July.

**1899:** Edward Elgar first performs “The Enigma Variations”.  
The Siege of Mafeking in South Africa lasts for 217 days.

**1899-1902:** The Second Boer War.

**1900:** Winston Churchill entered Parliament as a Conservative MP.

### **Edward the Seventh (1901-1910)**

**1901:** Edward Elgar writes “Pomp and Circumstance” March Number One “Land of Hope and Glory”.

Beatrix Potter publishes “Peter Rabbit”.

Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton sail on the National Antarctic Expedition ship “Discovery” which ventured further south than any other ship.

William Booth successfully gets Bryant and May to stop using phosphorus in matches.

The British colonies of New South Wales, Queensland, etc all form together to become the Commonwealth of Australia.

The Royal Navy launches its first submarine.

**1902:** Arthur Conan Doyle publishes “The Hound of the Baskervilles”.

George Cadbury becomes the owner of the Daily News newspaper.

George Bernard Shaw Publishes “Man and Superman”.

William Fletcher restored Barton Manor

**1903:** Birth of George Orwell on the 25th June.

Birth of Evelyn Waugh on the 28th October.

Christabel Pankhurst Found the Women’s Social and Political Union in Manchester.

Warnes take out a patent on Peter Rabbit making him the first soft toy to be mass produced.

Bertrand Russell publishes “The Principles of Mathematics”.

**1904:** Birth of Graham Greene on the 2nd October.  
Earl Russell owns the first car number plate. A1.

**1905:** Herbert Austin founds the Austin Motor Company at Longbridge.  
George Bernard Shaw publishes “Man and Superman”.  
H.M.S. Dreadnought revolutionises battleship design and launches a European scramble for naval supremacy.

**1906:** Birth of John Betjeman on the 28th August.  
John Galsworthy begins the Forsyte Saga novels.

**1907:** Birth of Laurence Olivier on the 22nd May.  
Rudyard Kipling is awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.  
Christabel Pankhurst is arrested in Parliament Square, London on 13th February.  
Birth of Frank Whittle on the 1st June.  
Death of William Kelvin on the 17th December.  
Britain and Russia sign the Anglo-Russian Entente.

**1908:** E.M. Forster publishes “A Room With a View”.  
David Lloyd-George as the Chancellor of the Exchequer introduces Old Age Pensions which are paid the following year.

**1909:** Ernest Shackleton is Knighted.  
Birth of Francis Bacon on the 28th October.

### **George the Fifth (1910-1936)**

**1910:** Death of Florence Nightingale on the 13th August.  
E.M. Forster publishes “Howard’s End”.

**1911:** Ernest Rutherford demonstrates the structure of the atom.

**1912:** Winston Churchill witnessed the Siege of Sidney Street as Home Secretary.  
Robert Falcon Scott finally reaches the South Pole but dies on the return leg on 29th March.

Emmeline Pankhurst is arrested twelve times and serves 30 days in jail.  
The liner "Titanic" sinks on her maiden voyage to New York.

**1913:** Birth of Benjamin Britten on the 22nd November.

D.H. Lawrence publishes "Sons and Lovers".

Building of the first Morris Oxford car by William Morris, Lord Nuffield.

Emily Wilding Davidson is killed as she throws herself under the King's horse at the Derby in Epsom.

Establishment of the Cat and Mouse Act against the Suffragettes.

Charlie Chaplin records his first film.

The first Chelsea Flower Show is held.

**1914:** Beginning of First World War.

Birth of Dylan Thomas on the 27th October.

John Masefield joins the Red Cross.

First Battle of Ypres from October to November.

George Bernard Shaw publishes "Pygmalion".

The first German bomb falls on London.

**1915:** Birth of Stanley Matthews on the 1st February.

Second Battle of Ypres from April to May.

John Buchan publishes "The Thirty Nine Steps".

Execution of Edith Cavell on the 12th October.

Ivor Novello writes "Keep the Home Fires Burning".

Ernest Shackleton ship "Endurance" gets trapped in ice.

First British Tanks appear on the battlefields.

**1916:** Third Battle of the Somme. July to November.

Easter Rising in Ireland during April.

T.E. Lawrence involved in the Arab revolt against Turkey.

Bertrand Russell received a fine of £110 for his pacifist views and is dismissed from Cambridge.

**1917:** Third Battle of Ypres from July to November (commonly known as Passchaendale).  
Russian Revolution overthrows the Tsarist regime.  
The Royal Family take the name Windsor.

**1918:** End of First World War. The Representation of the People Act gives the vote to Women over 30.  
The Royal Air Force is founded.

**1919:** Augustus John attends the Versailles Peace Conference and paints portraits of delegates.  
Siegfried Sassoon publishes "The War Poems".  
Michael Collins starts the Irish Republican Army to fight for a Republic of Ireland.  
First crossing of the Atlantic by an airship, the R34.  
Nancy Astor becomes the first female Member of Parliament.

**1920:** Formation of the League of Nations.  
Gustav Holst gives first performance of The Planets.  
D.H. Lawrence publishes "Women in Love".

**1921:** Birth of Donald Campbell on the 23rd March.  
David Lloyd-George negotiated with Sinn Fein and conceded the setting up of the Irish Free State.  
The Railways Act gives control of the railways to four major companies.

**1922:** Herbert Austin unveils the Austin Seven car.  
The first radio station is begun.

**1923:** Thomas Hardy is visited by The Prince of Wales.  
Election of the first Labour Government at the General Election with Ramsay MacDonald as Prime Minister.  
The BBC makes the first outside broadcast.

**1924:** Edward Elgar made Master of the Kings Musick.  
Malcolm Campbell sets his first land speed record.  
British Empire Exhibition held at Wembley.

**1925:** Birth of Richard Burton on the 10th November.  
D.H. Lawrence writes “Lady Chatterley’s Lover”.  
A.A. Milne writes the first Winnie the Pooh stories.  
George Bernard Shaw awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.  
Border fixed between Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State.

**1926:** John Logie Baird unveils his first mechanical television.  
The General Strike is held in May.  
T.E. Lawrence completes the “Seven Pillars of Wisdom”.

**1927:** Virginia Woolf publishes “To the Lighthouse”.  
Sir John Reith is created first Director General of the BBC after its Royal Charter.

**1928:** Alexander Fleming discovers penicillin by chance.  
Henry Moore receives his first public commission for St. James Park Underground Station.  
The right to vote covers all women for the first time.  
William Cosmo Gordon Lang becomes Archbishop of Canterbury.

**1929:** Telephone boxes appear in London.

**1930:** Frank Whittle applies to patent the jet engine.  
John Masefield becomes Poet Laureate.  
Death of Arthur Conan Doyle on the 7th July.  
The Airship R101 crashes in France.

**1931:** Aldous Huxley writes “Brave New World”.  
Sir Oswald Mosley forms the British Union of Fascists.

**1932:** John Galsworthy wins the Nobel Prize for Literature.  
The Neutron is discovered by James Chadwick.



**1934:** Death of Edward Elgar on the 23rd February.  
E.M. Forster became the first president of the National Council for Civil Liberties.  
Driving tests are introduced for the first time.  
Children are given milk at school to improve nutrition.

**1935:** Stanley Matthews is first picked for England Football team.  
Radar is demonstrated by Robert Watson Watt.

### **Edward the Eighth Abdication (1936)**

### **George the Sixth(1936-1952)**

**1936:** George Orwell fights in the Spanish Civil War.  
J.R.R. Tolkien completes "The Hobbit".  
Jarrow Hunger March.  
Opening of Gatwick Airport.

**1938:** Graham Greene publishes "Brighton Rock".  
The Munich Agreement between Hitler and Neville Chamberlain is signed on 29th September.  
An Anglo-Italian agreement is signed.

**1939:** Stanley Matthews plays in the Berlin Olympic Stadium where England were forced to give the Nazi salute.  
The IRA bomb London and Coventry.  
Beginning of Second World War.

**1940:** Food rationing is introduced.  
Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister.  
Birth of John Lennon on the 9th October.  
The Battle of Britain between the RAF and the Luftwaffe takes place in August and September.

**1941:** Suicide of Virginia Woolf on the 28th March.  
Birth of Bobby Moore on the 12th April.  
The German battleship Bismarck is sunk by planes from H.M.S. Ark Royal.

**1942:** Malta is awarded the George Cross for heroism.

**1943:** Barnes Wallis designs the bouncing bomb for 617 squadron's Dambusters raid.  
Winston Churchill and President Roosevelt meet at Casablanca.

**1944:** Frank Whittle's jet engined aircraft the Gloster Meteor flies in combat.  
The Allies land at Anzio near Rome in January.  
The D-Day invasion of Europe takes place on 6th of June.  
The first V1 (Vengeance weapon) rocket bombs land on London and are nicknamed "doodlebugs" or buzz bombs.

**1945:** Death of David Lloyd George on the 26th March.  
End of Second World War.  
Formation of the United Nations.  
Benjamin Britten's opera "Peter Grimes" first performed.  
George Orwell publishes "Animal Farm".

**1946:** Death of John Logie Baird on the 14th June.  
Death of H. G. Wells on the 13th August.  
Winston Churchill delivers his famous "Iron Curtain" Speech at the beginning of the Cold War.

**1947:** Lord Mountbatten is the last Governor General of India as India and Pakistan gain independence.

**1948:** T.S. Eliot is awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.  
Establishment of the National Health Service.  
Nationalisation of several industries such as railways, coal and harbours is completed.  
The British mandate for Palestine comes to an end and the nation of Israel is born.

**1949:** Establishment of NATO.  
George Orwell publishes “Nineteen Eighty Four”.  
Rationing of clothes comes to an end.

**1950:** Bertrand Russell is awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.  
Britain recognises Communist China.

**1950-1953:** The Korean War.

**1951:** Winston Churchill is elected Prime Minister for second time.  
The Festival of Britain is held on London’s South Bank of the river Thames.

### **Elizabeth the Second (1952-to date)**

**1952:** The De Haviland Comet becomes the first jet airliner in the world.

**1953:** Stanley Matthews won an FA Cup winners medal in the so called Matthews final.  
James Watson and Francis Crick discover the structure of DNA.

**1954:** ITV Commercial television is proposed and begins next year.  
Roger Bannister completes a mile in under four minutes.

**1955:** Bertrand Russell releases the Russell-Einstein Manifesto in London calling for nuclear disarmament.  
Ruth Ellis is the last woman to be hung in Britain.

**1956:** The Suez Crisis as Nasser of Egypt nationalises the canal.  
Double yellow lines appear for the first time in Slough.  
Calder Hall, the world’s first commercial nuclear power station is opened.

**1957:** The Jodrell Bank radio telescope begins operating.

**1958:** The Munich Air Disaster in which seven Manchester United players die amongst others.

**1959:** Christopher Cockerell introduces the first Hovercraft capable of crossing the English Channel.  
D.H. Lawrence's novel "Lady Chatterley's Lover" is brought to law on obscenity charges.

**1960:** European Free Trade Association forms in Stockholm.

**1961:** John Lennon appears in the debut concert of "The Beatles" at the Cavern Club in Liverpool.  
The Farthing ceases to be legal tender.

**1962:** The Cuban Missile Crisis when Fidel Castro threatens to house Russian nuclear missiles on Cuba.  
Graham Hill becomes Formula One World Champion.  
L.S. Lowry elected as a Member of the Royal Academy.  
Formation of the European Space Agency.  
Sir Basil Spence designs Coventry Cathedral.  
Anthony Burgess writes "A Clockwork Orange".

**1963:** Laurence Olivier becomes the first director of the National Theatre.  
Jim Clark finally becomes motor racing World Champion.  
The Double Agent Kim Philby defects to the Soviet Union.

**1964:** John Lennon and "The Beatles" tour the United States.  
Pirate radio station Radio Caroline begins broadcasting from a ship in the North Sea.

**1965:** Death of T.S. Eliot on the 4th January.  
Death of Sir Winston Churchill on the 24th January.  
Death of William Somerset Maugham on the 16th December.  
Rhodesia under Ian Smith makes a Unilateral Declaration of Independence from Britain.  
Mary Quant designs the mini skirt.  
The Post Office Tower opens in London.

**1966:** Death of Evelyn Waugh on the 12th April.  
John Lennon meets Yoko Ono for the first time.  
Bobby Moore captains England to World Cup Final victory over West Germany.

Ian Brady and Myra Hindley the “Moors Murderers” are sentenced to life imprisonment.  
Anti Vietnam War protestors turn violent outside the US Embassy in Grosvenor Square, London.  
144 people including many schoolchildren are killed in the Aberfan mine tip slippage on 21st of October.

**1967:** Death of Donald Campbell in a crash at Coniston Water 4th January.  
The first colour television broadcasts begin.

**1968:** Death of Jim Clark on the 7th April.  
Enoch Powell delivers his controversial “Rivers of Blood” speech in Birmingham.

**1969:** First Apollo Moon Landings.  
John Lennon sings “Give Peace a Chance”.  
The Open University is founded.

**1970:** Bernadette Devlin is arrested in Londonderry and riots break out.  
The Beatles split up.

**1971:** John Lennon sings “Imagine”.  
Education Secretary Margaret Thatcher abolishes free school milk.

**1972:** John Betjeman is appointed as the Poet Laureate.  
Thousands of Asians from Uganda who have been expelled by Idi Amin arrive in Britain.

**1973:** Death of J.R.R. Tolkien on the 2nd September.  
Britain joins the Common Market (EEC- European Economic Community).

**1974:** Prime Minister Edward Heath introduces the Three Day Week due to the effects of industrial action.  
21 people are killed in Birmingham after the IRA blow up two pubs on the 21st November.

**1975:** Death of Graham Hill on the 29th November.  
A crash on the London Underground at Moorgate kills 43 people.

**1976:** The National Theatre building opens in London.

**1977:** First commercial flights of the supersonic airliner Concorde between London and New York.  
The Yorkshire Ripper commits multiple murders.

**1978:** The Winter of Discontent occurs due to the number of strikes.  
Former Leader of the Liberal Party Jeremy Thorpe goes on trial for conspiracy to murder.

**1979:** Bobby Moore is appointed Manager of Oxford City.  
Margaret Thatcher becomes Britain's first female Prime Minister.

**1980:** Death of John Lennon on the 8th December.  
The British Olympic Association send athletes to the Moscow Olympics despite Government advice.

**1981:** The Social Democratic Party is formed by ex-Labour M.P.'s  
The Yorkshire Ripper is arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment.

**1982:** Falkland Islands Conflict.  
The Thames Barrier is operated for the first time.  
The Tudor warship the Mary Rose is raised from the seabed.

**1983:** William Golding wins the Nobel prize for Literature.  
The race horse Shergar is stolen.  
Breakfast television begins for the first time.

**1984:** Chatham dockyards close after 400 years of operation.

**1985:** End of the Miner's strike.  
The first mobile phone call is made by comedian Ernie Wise.

**1986:** Radiation from the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster reaches Britain.

**1987:** Terry Waite, envoy to the Archbishop of Canterbury, is kidnapped in Beirut.  
The Docklands Light Railway is opened.

**1988:** Pan Am flight 103 is blown up over Lockerbie by the Libyans.

**1989:** Death of Laurence Olivier on the 11th July.  
A Fatwah death sentence is put out by the Ayatollah Khomeini on Salman Rushdie for his writing of the “Satanic Verses”.

**1990:** Sterling joins the Exchange Rate Mechanism.  
An IRA Bomb explodes at the London Stock Exchange.

**1991:** First Gulf War after Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait.  
The IRA launch a mortar attack against 10 Downing Street.

**1992:** The Maastricht Treaty forms the European Union.  
On Black Wednesday Sterling is removed from the Exchange Rate Mechanism.

**1993:** Death of Bobby Moore on the 24th February.

**1994:** The Channel Tunnel between Britain and France is officially opened.  
The UK National Lottery begins.  
Fred and Rose West are charged with multiple murders.

**1995:** Collapse of Barings Bank after losses from rogue trader Nick Leeson.

**1996:** Thomas Hamilton kills 16 children in Dunblane.

**1997:** Formation of the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh.  
Death of Diana Princess of Wales in a car crash in Paris causes an outpouring of national grief.  
Return of Hong Kong from Britain to China.

**1998:** Signing of the Good Friday Agreement between Britain and the Irish Republic.

- 1999:** Introduction of the national minimum wage.  
Elections to the new Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assemblies are held.
- 2000:** Death of Stanley Matthews on the 23rd February.  
Opening of Tate Modern art Gallery.
- 2001:** Foot and Mouth disease breaks out in Britain.
- 2002:** The Commonwealth Games are held in 'Manchester.
- 2003:** The Government issues a Dossier that states that Iraq and Saddam Hussein has weapons of Mass Destruction.  
The Second Gulf War begins.
- 2004:** Voters reject a Regional Assembly in the North East of England.
- 2005:** The Hunting Act, banning hunting with dogs comes into force.
- 2006:** Saddam Hussein sentenced to death by hanging by an Iraqi court.
- 2007:** The Bank Of England bails out Northern Rock the 4th largest mortgage company.
- 2008:** The Large Hadron Collider experiment inaugurated in Switzerland to establish origins of the Big Bang.
- 2009:** The World Health Organisation declares H1N1 influenza as a global pandemic. ("swine flu").
- 2010:** British Petroleum's oil rig exploded in the Gulf of Mexico, killing 11 workers and spilling 250 million gallons of oil into the sea.
- 2011:** A major earthquake struck Japan triggering a massive tsunami which left about 20,000 dead and damaged the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant.
- 2012:** The cruise ship Costa Concordia ran aground on the island of Giglio, Italy killing 32 people.



**2013:** Pope Benedict XVI unexpectedly announced his resignation due to poor health.

**2014:** The Ebola virus begins killing people in West Africa.

**2015:** The United Nations Climate Change Conference is held in Paris in November.

**2016:** Great Britain votes to leave the European Union in a referendum on June 23rd.

**2017:** Donald Trump is sworn in as the President of the United States of America.  
Russia is banned from entering the Winter Olympics due to doping of athletes.

**2018:** The Yellow Vest movement against the high cost of living in France turns into violent riots. The Arc de Triomphe is vandalised and numerous other tourist sites are closed.

### **Tudors and Stuarts 1485-1714 AD**

Henry the Seventh (1485-1509)

1485: Battle of Bosworth Field on the 22nd August. Richard is the last English King to die in battle and Henry Tudor assumes the throne. William Caxton makes first printing of “L’Morte D’Arthur” by Malory. The Yeoman of the Guard is formed.

1486: The Houses of York and Lancaster are united at last by the marriage between King Henry and Elizabeth of York.

1487: The Battle of Stoke Field. Henry defeats Lambert Simnell who is posing as the Yorkist Earl of Warwick. Star Chamber is created by the King.

1494: Poyning’s Law is passed restricting the Irish Parliament.

1495: Perkin Warbeck fails to take Waterford in Ireland.

1498: Cardinal Wolsey is ordained as a priest at Marlborough.

1499: Desiderius Erasmus visits London. Perkin Warbeck is hanged in the Tower of London.

1500: A printing press is set up in Fleet Street for the first time.

1506: Thomas More becomes a Member of Parliament.

Henry the Eighth (1509-1547)

1509: Cardinal Wolsey is created Almoner to the new King Henry the Eighth.

1510: "Everyman", the morality play is performed for the first time.

1512: Trinity House formed to make seafaring around coast safer.

1513: Battle of Flodden on the 9th September.

1514: Thomas More was introduced to King Henry the Eighth by Thomas Wolsey and became Master of Requests.

1515: Cardinal Wolsey is made a Cardinal in Westminster Abbey and created Lord Chancellor.

1516: Thomas More wrote "Utopia".

1518: Cardinal Wolsey becomes a Papal Legate.

1520: Kings Henry the Eighth of England and Francis the First of France meet at the Field of Cloth of Gold in June. Pope Leo the Tenth makes King Henry "Defender of the Faith" for his opposition to the teachings of Martin Luther. Birth of William Cecil on the 13th September.

1521: Cardinal Wolsey presides over the burning of Lutheran books in the courtyard of St. Paul's Cathedral.

1525: Christ Church College, Oxford is founded by Thomas Wolsey. King Henry takes permanent accommodation at Hampton Court Palace. The New Testament is printed in English by William Tyndale.

1526: The King debases the amount of silver in coinage for the first time.

1529: Anne Boleyn turns against Cardinal Wolsey during the King's Divorce and is forced to surrender the Great Seal of Office.

1530: Death of Cardinal Thomas Wolsey on the 29th November.

1534: Hugh Latimer defended King Henry's divorce from Catherine of Aragon.  
In the Act of Supremacy King Henry is created supreme head of the Church of England.

1535: Hugh Latimer is made Chaplain to Anne Boleyn.

1535-39: The Dissolution of the Monasteries.  
Death of Sir Thomas More on the 6th July.

1536: The Pilgrimage of Grace. Execution of William Tyndale.

1536-43: Union of England and Wales.

1538: Parish registers are first started in England.

1539: Criminal Court founded at Old Bailey. Dissolution of the Greater Monasteries Act is passed.

1540: Birth of Sir Francis Drake. First official horse race meeting takes place near Chester.

1541: John Knox sermons mark the official beginning of the Reformation in Scotland.

Edward the Sixth (1547-1553)

1547: William Cecil is present at The Battle of Pinkie on 10th September.  
Passing of the Vagrant Act meant that any able bodied tramp could be treated as a slave.

1548: Mary Queen of Scots leaves for France.

1549: William Cecil was sent to the Tower of London but was released on bail.  
The English Book of Common Prayer, written by Thomas Cranmer is made official by the Act of Uniformity.

1550: Nicholas Ridley becomes Bishop of London.  
First imports of the potato from the New World.

1552: William Cecil is appointed Chancellor of the Order of the Garter.

1552/3: Birth of Edmund Spenser.

Lady Jane Grey (1553)

1553: The Lord Mayor of London proclaims Mary the First as the rightful Queen of England on July 18th and Lady Jane Grey abdicates voluntarily.

Mary the First (1553-1558)

1554: Lady Jane Grey is executed after a plot to keep her on the throne fails.  
Birth of Sir Walter Raleigh.  
(Jan-February) Wyatt's Rebellion.

1555: Execution of Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer at Oxford on 16th October after being tried as heretics.

1558: England loses Calais to the French.  
John Knox writes "The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women."

Elizabeth the First (1558-1603)

1561: Birth of Sir Francis Bacon on the 22nd January.

1564: Birth of Christopher Marlowe on the 26th February.  
Birth of William Shakespeare on the 23rd April.

1565: The Royal Exchange is formed.

1567: Francis Drake sailed on “The Judith” to the Gulf of Mexico.

1571: Foundation of Harrow School.  
William Cecil becomes Lord Burghley.

1572: Birth of John Donne. Birth of Ben Jonson on the 11th June.  
Influx of the first Protestant Huguenots into Britain from France.

1573: Birth of Inigo Jones on the 19th July.

1576: The first proper theatre is built in Shoreditch, London.

1577: Francis Drake sails on “The Golden Hind” but fails to find a North West passage.

1578: Birth of William Harvey on the 1st April.

1579: Edmund Spenser is employed by Robert Dudley, the Earl of Leicester.

1580: Francis Drake becomes first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe and is knighted.  
Sir Walter Raleigh is sent to Ireland to put down an uprising.

1583: Sir Walter Raleigh founds Virginia in the New World.

1584: Sir Francis Bacon takes up his seat in parliament.

1585: Sir Walter Raleigh brings home potatoes and tobacco from America.  
Thomas Tallis the composer dies.

1586: Sir Francis Walsingham uncovers the Babington plot to kill Queen Elizabeth in which Mary Queen of Scots was implicated.

1587: Christopher Marlowe works on “Tamburlaine the Great”.  
Mary Queen of Scots is executed at Fotheringay Castle.

1588: Birth of Thomas Hobbes on the 5th April  
(July-August) Sir Francis Drake takes a large part in defeating the Spanish Armada.

1589: Edmund Spenser returns to England with Sir Walter Raleigh to present his “The Fairie Queene” to Queen Elizabeth the First.

1592: John Donne is admitted to Lincoln’s Inn Fields.  
Christopher Marlowe writes “Doctor Faustus”.

1593: Death of Christopher Marlowe on the 30th May.

1594: William Shakespeare’s “The Comedy of Errors” is performed at Gray’s Inn.

1595: William Shakespeare writes “Romeo and Juliet” and “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”.

1596: Death of Sir Francis Drake on the 28th January.  
William Shakespeare performs “The Merchant of Venice”.

1598: Death of William Cecil on the 15th August.  
Ben Jonson’s second known play, “Every Man in His Humour”, was performed at the Globe Theatre with William Shakespeare in the cast.

1599: Death of Edmund Spenser on the 13th January.  
Birth of Oliver Cromwell on the 25th April.

**1600:** The East India Company is founded on the 31st December.

**1601:** William Shakespeare writes “Hamlet”.

**James the First (1603-1625)**

**1604-5:** The Gunpowder Plot on the 5th November.

**1605:** William Shakespeare publishes “King Lear”.

**1606:** William Shakespeare publishes “Macbeth”.  
Ben Jonson writes “Volpone, or the Fox”.

**1607:** William Harvey becomes a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians.

**1608:** Birth of John Milton on the 9th December. The first municipal library in England is opened at Norwich.

**1610:** Ben Jonson writes “The Alchemist”.

**1613:** Sir Francis Bacon becomes Attorney General.

**1614:** John Webster writes “The Duchess of Malfi”.

**1616:** Death of William Shakespeare on the 23rd April.  
Ben Jonson performs “The Devil is an Ass”.

**1618:** William Harvey is appointed “Physician Extraordinary” to King James the First.  
Sir Francis Bacon becomes Lord Chancellor.  
Death of Sir Walter Raleigh on the 29th October.

**1619:** Inigo Jones begins building the Banqueting House in Whitehall.

**1620:** Sailing of the “Mayflower” and Pilgrim Fathers to America on the 6th September.

**1623:** Publication of the First Folio of all Shakespeare’s collected plays.

**Charles the First (1625-1649)**

**1626:** Death of Sir Francis Bacon on the 9th April.

**1627:** Birth of Robert Boyle on the 25th January.

**1628:** The Petition of Right. Oliver Cromwell enters the House of Commons.

William Harvey published “Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus” (“An Anatomical Study of the Motion of the Heart and of the Blood in Animals”).

Birth of John Bunyan in November.

**1629:** Dissolution of Parliament by King Charles.

**1632:** Birth of John Locke on the 29th August.

Birth of Sir Christopher Wren on the 20th October.

**1633:** Birth of Samuel Pepys on the 23rd February.

**1634:** Covent Garden market opens in London for the first time. Peter Paul Rubens paints the ceiling of the Banqueting House in Whitehall.

**1635:** Birth of Robert Hooke on the 18th July.

**1637:** Death of Ben Jonson on the 6th August.

**1640:** Oliver Cromwell called up for the “Short Parliament” and the “Long Parliament”.

**1641:** Thomas Hobbes falls out with Renee Descartes. The Grand Remonstrance (a set of grievances) is presented to the King by Parliament.

**1642:** Battle of Edgehill on the 23rd October begins the English Civil War.

Robert Boyle visited Florence where he was influenced by the works of Galileo.

Birth of Isaac Newton on the 25th December.

**1643:** John Milton writes “The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce”.



**1644:** The Battle of Marston Moor on the 2nd July turns out to be the most decisive battle of the English Civil War as Oliver Cromwell beats Prince Rupert.

**1645:** Creation of the New Model Army by Oliver Cromwell on the 15th February.  
Self Denying Ordinance declared on the 3rd April.  
Battle of Naseby on 14th June.

**1646:** Oliver Cromwell takes the Royal stronghold of Oxford.

**1648:** Start of the Second Civil War.

**1649:** Trial and Execution of King Charles the First. The King is beheaded outside the Banqueting House in Whitehall on the 30th January.

### **Parliamentary Interregnum (1649-1653)**

**1650:** Birth of the Duke of Marlborough on the 26th May.

**1651:** King Charles the Second is crowned as King of England at Scone in Scotland as a provocative act. Charles invades England but is defeated on the 3rd September by Oliver Cromwell at the Battle of Worcester.  
William Harvey writes “On the Generation of Animals” showing that mammals reproduce from a sperm and egg.  
Thomas Hobbes publishes “Leviathan”.

**1652:** First Anglo Dutch War. The English Navy are victorious at the Battle of the Downs.  
Christopher Wren made observations of the planet Saturn. Death of Inigo Jones on the 21st June.

### **Oliver Cromwell (Lord Protector 1653-1660)**

**1653:** After the “Barebones Parliament” Oliver Cromwell is nominated as Lord Protector.

**1654:** Thomas Hobbes writes “Of Liberty and Necessity”.

**1656:** Birth of Edmond Halley on the 8th November.

John Bunyan began to discuss religion with the followers of George Fox, the founder of the Quaker movement, and wrote an attack called "Some Truths Opened".

**1657:** Death of William Harvey on the 3rd June.

Christopher Wren becomes Professor of Astronomy, Gresham College, London Foundation of the General Post Office.

**1658:** Robert Hooke becomes assistant to Robert Boyle on the construction of his air pump.

Death of Oliver Cromwell on the 3rd September who is succeeded by his son Richard.

**1659:** Birth of Henry Purcell. Richard Cromwell is forced to resign by the army and a military committee rules the country.

### **Charles the Second (1660-1685)**

**1660:** General Monk reconvenes the Long Parliament and Charles the Second is restored to the throne as King at the Declaration of Breda.

Birth of Daniel Defoe.

Robert Boyle writes "New Experiments Physico-Mechanicall".

The Declaration of Breda in April.

John Bunyan is arrested while preaching in Bedfordshire.

First meeting of the Royal Society of London is held in November.

**1661:** Birth of Nicholas Hawksmoor.

Robert Boyle argued against Aristotle's four elements of earth, air, fire and water and said that matter was made up of small corpuscles in "Physiologocal Essays".

**1662:** Robert Boyle's Law states that the pressure and volume of gas are inversely proportional. Foundation of the Royal Society of London by Wren and others.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane opens for the first time.

**1663:** England takes New Amsterdam from the Dutch and it becomes known as New York.

**1664:** Birth of John Vanbrugh on the 24th January.  
John Dryden wrote his second play “The Indian Queen”.  
Christopher Wren designs the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford.

**1665:** Isaac Newton formulates his theories of gravitation.  
Robert Hooke writes “Micrographia”

**1665-6:** The Great Plague.  
Samuel Pepys Describes the months of the Great Plague in his diary.  
“The London Gazette” is published for the first time.

**1666:** Beginning of the Great Fire of London on 2nd September.  
Christopher Wren appointed Commissioner for Rebuilding the City of London after the great fire.

**1667:** John Locke moves into The earl of Shaftesbury’s home as his personal physician.  
John Milton writes “Paradise Lost”.  
John Dryden writes “Annus Mirabilis”.  
Birth of Jonathan Swift on the 30th November.

**1668:** Henry Purcell becomes a chorister in the Chapel Royal.  
John Dryden created Poet Laureate.  
Isaac Newton invents his reflecting telescope.

**1669:** Christopher Wren appointed Surveyor of St. Paul’s Cathedral and Surveyor General of the King’s Works.

**1670:** Isaac Newton gives his lectures on optics.  
John Milton writes “History of Britain”.

**1671:** Birth of Rob Roy MacGregor on the 7th March.  
Construction of Christopher Wren’s Monument to the Great Fire of London.  
Passing of the controversial Game Laws which meant that the majority of farmers could not kill game even on their own land.

**1672:** Samuel Pepys appointed Secretary to the Admiralty.  
John Dryden produced the comedy “Marriage a La Mode”.

**1674:** Robert Hooke writes “Attempt to Prove the Motion of the Earth”.  
Birth of Jethro Tull on the 30th March.  
Death of John Milton on the 8th November.

**1675:** Foundation of Greenwich Observatory.  
Christopher Wren lays the foundation Stone of St. Paul’s Cathedral.

**1677:** Henry Purcell is appointed Court Composer.

**1678:** Birth of Abraham Darby.  
John Bunyan writes “The Pilgrim’s Progress”.

**1679:** Death of Thomas Hobbes on the 4th December.  
John Dryden writes “Troilus and Cressida”.  
Edmond Halley writes “Catalogus Stellarum Australium”.  
Nicholas Hawksmoor joins his teacher Sir Christopher Wren in London.  
The Act of Habeus Corpus is passed which meant that people unlawfully detained could not be prosecuted at a court of law.

**1680:** Return of Halley’s Comet. The penny post is started in London.

**1682:** William Penn leaves England to found Pennsylvania which was eventually to become the United States.  
Christopher Wren makes designs for the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Edmund Halley observes the comet which is henceforth known as “Halley’s Comet”.

**1683:** The Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, Britain’s first museum is opened to the public for the first time.  
Isaac Newton describes gravity’s force over the tides.

**1684:** Isaac Newton begins work on “Principia Mathematica”.

**1685:** Birth of George Berkeley on the 12th March.

Daniel Defoe supports the Duke of Monmouth's Rebellion. (The Duke is Charles' illegitimate son)  
(6th July:) Duke of Marlborough sees off the rebels at the Battle of Sedgemoor.

### **James the Second (1685-1688)**

**1685:** The Bloody Assizes held by Judge Jeffries in September after Monmouth's Rebellion.

**1686:** Alice Molland of Exeter was the last person to be hanged as a witch.

### **William and Mary (1688-1702)**

**1688:** The Glorious Revolution: William of Orange invades England.

John Vanbrugh is imprisoned at Calais as a spy by the French.

Death of John Bunyan on the 31st August.

**1689:** Henry Purcell writes "Dido and Aeneas".

Isaac Newton meets John Locke for the first time.

Nicholas Hawksmoor works on designs for the new wing of Hampton Court Palace.

**1690:** 1st-12th July: Battle of the Boyne.

John Locke writes "An Essay Concerning Human Understanding".

**1691:** Death of Robert Boyle on the 30th December.

John Vanbrugh writes "The Provoked Wife".

**1692:** MacDonald clan massacred by the Campbells in Glencoe.

Henry Purcell performs "The Fairy Queene"

**1693:** Birth of John Harrison in March.

**1694:** Foundation of the Bank of England by the Scotsman William Paterson.

**1695:** Henry Purcell writes Funeral Music for Queen Mary.  
Death of Henry Purcell on the 21st November.

**1696:** Christopher Wren appointed Surveyor of the Royal Naval Hospital in Greenwich.

**1697:** Birth of William Hogarth on the 12th November.  
Daniel Defoe works as an Agent for King William the Third in Scotland and England.

**1698:** Foundation of the London Stock Exchange.

**1699:** Christopher Wren is appointed Surveyor of Westminster Abbey.

1700: Death of John Dryden on the 1st May.

1701: Act of Settlement. Jethro Tull invents the seed drill.

1702: Daniel Defoe's tract "The Shortest Way with Dissenters" gets him imprisoned in Newgate but he continued as a secret Government Agent.  
War of the Spanish Succession until 1713.  
The first English Newspaper is published entitled the "Daily Courant"

Anne (1702-1714)

1703: Death of Robert Hooke on the 3rd March.  
Death of Samuel Pepys on the 26th May.  
Birth of John Wesley on the 17th June.

1704: Isaac Newton writes "Opticks".  
The Duke of Marlborough is the victor at the Battle of Blenheim on 13th August and is given land and money to build Blenheim Palace.  
Death of John Locke on the 28th October.

1705: Nicholas Hawksmoor begins working jointly on Blenheim Palace.

1706: Birth of John Baskerville on the 28th January.  
23rd May: The Duke of Marlborough is victor at the Battle of Ramillies.

1707: Union of England and Scotland.  
Birth of Henry Fielding on the 22nd April.  
Isaac Newton writes “Arithmetica Universalis”.

1708: Abraham Darby founds the Bristol Iron Company.  
The Duke of Marlborough is the victor at the Battle of Oudenarde on the 11th of July.  
Birth of William Pitt, The Elder on the 15th November.

1709: Abraham Darby successfully manufactures iron in furnaces fired with Coke Coalbrookdale.  
The Duke of Marlborough is victor at the Battle of Malplaquet on the 11th September.  
Birth of Samuel Johnson on the 18th September.  
First edition of “The Tatler” magazine is published.

1710: George Berkeley is ordained as a Priest.  
Birth of Thomas Arne on the 12th March.  
George Berkeley writes “A Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge”.

1711: Birth of David Hume on the 26th April.  
First edition of “The Spectator” magazine is published.

1712: Nicholas Hawksmoor designs King’s College, Cambridge.

1713: John Harrison and his brother James make a longcase clock entirely out of wood.  
Birth of Laurence Sterne on the 24th November.

Norman 1066-1485

King William of Normandy (the First, nicknamed the Conqueror (1066-87))

1066: 14th October: William of Normandy lands at Pevensey and marches south to meet Harold at the Battle of Hastings. Harold is slain.

1066-77: Commissioning of the Bayeux Tapestry.

1073: Uprising of Hereward the Wake against the Normans near Ely.

1077: St Albans Cathedral is begun.

1078: Work is started on the Tower of London.

1086: Domesday Book compiled.

William the Second (1087-1100)

1096: Launch of the First Crusade.

Henry the First (1100-1135)

1110: First mystery play is performed at Dunstable.

1118: Birth of St Thomas Becket .

Stephen (1135-1154)

1141: King Stephen captured by the Scots at Lincoln but the fight was continued by his wife Matilda.

1142: St Thomas Becket as aide to Richer de l' Aigle (Lord of Pevensey) was saved from drowning at Michelham Priory and realised he destined for greater things.

1147: Start of the Second Crusade.



1154: St Thomas Becket appointed Chancellor of England.  
Nicholas Brakspear becomes the only English Pope.

Henry the Second (1154-1189)

1160: Birth of Robin Hood.

1162: St Thomas Becket Appointed Archbishop of Canterbury by King Henry.

1170: 29th December: Murder of St Thomas Becket in Canterbury Cathedral.

1180: Glass windows begin to appear in English houses for the first time.

1185: Lincoln Cathedral is destroyed during an earthquake.

Richard the First ("The Lionheart") (1189-1199)

1191: First Lord Mayor of London appointed.

John (1199-1216)

1202: The fourth crusade is launched.

1215: 5th June: Signing of the Magna Carta, charter of liberties, at Runnymede.

Henry the Third (1216-1272)

1220: The building of Salisbury Cathedral is begun.

1228: The sixth crusade is launched.

1233: Coal is mined at Newcastle commercially for the first time.

1235: The monk Matthew Paris begins his “Historia Major”.

1245: Westminster Abbey is begun to be rebuilt.

1247: Death of Robin Hood in December.

Wales comes under the authority of the English crown at the Treaty of Woodstock.

1248: The Seventh Crusade is launched.

1249: Founding of University College, Oxford.

1258: Simon de Montfort and the English Barons force the King to recognise the powers of Parliament. He starts the first directly elected parliament in Europe.

1265: 4th August: Simon de Montfort is killed at the Battle of Evesham.

1269: The first Toll roads are built in England.

1270: Birth of William Wallace.

The eighth crusade is launched.

1271: The ninth crusade is launched.

Edward the First (1272-1307)

1274: Birth of Robert the Bruce on the 11th July.

1275: First customs duties levied on wool and leather.

1276: The Welsh are led by Llewelyn the Last into the first Welsh war against the English.

1279: John Peckham appointed Archbishop of Canterbury from 1279 to 1292.

1283: Llewelyn is killed and King Edward the First conquers Wales.

1284: 3rd March: Statute of Rhuddlan granting system of government to the Principality of Wales.

1290: Expulsion of the Jews from England.

1294: The first Customs Officers are appointed in England.

1296: 27th April: Battle of Dunbar.

1297: William Wallace slays Haselrig, the English Sheriff of Lanark.

11th September: At the Battle of Stirling Bridge William Wallace defeats the English Army.

1298: 22nd July: Battle of Falkirk. William Wallace is defeated by the English.

1305: William Wallace is captured at Robroyston just outside Glasgow by Sir John Menteith and his men.

25th March: The crown of Scotland was placed on Robert the Bruce's head at Scone.

23rd August: Execution of William Wallace.

1306: Robert the Bruce slays John Comyn in a church at Dumfries.

Edward the Second (1307-1327)

1309: Robert the Bruce holds his first parliament at St Andrews.

1314: 24th June: Battle of Bannockburn. Robert the Bruce defeats King Edward's much larger English army.

1320: Robert the Bruce makes the "Declaration of Arbroath" which stated he was King of Scots and their defender rather than King of Scotland.

1323: A thirteen year truce is agreed on between England and Scotland.

Edward the Third (1327-77)

1328: Robert the Bruce is finally recognised as the rightful King of Scotland at the Treaty of Northampton.

1329: Death of Robert the Bruce on the 7th June.

1332: The first recording of the English parliament being divided into two houses.

1340: England defeats a French fleet at Sluys and gains control of the English Channel.

1342: Birth of Geoffrey Chaucer.

1346: The English defeat the French at the Battle of Crecy.

1347: The English capture Calais in France which becomes a colony.

1348: The Black Death. Serious outbreak of Bubonic Plague. King Edward begins his Order of the Garter with himself, his son the Black Prince and twenty four knights.

1351: Parliament passed the Statute of Labourers in an effort to hold down wages. Rebuilding of Windsor Castle is begun.

1356: 19th September: Battle of Poitiers. Edward the Black Prince defeats the French.

1359: Geoffrey Chaucer served in the army of King Edward the Third in France.  
Birth of Owen Glendower.

1361: Second major outbreak of the Black Death.

1373: English Merchants legally have to use tunnage and poundage weights.

Richard the Second (1377-1399)

1380: The implementation of the Third and major “Poll Tax” by an impoverished government.

1381: The Peasant’s Revolt led by Wat Tyler against the Poll Tax.

1382: John Wycliffe is expelled from Oxford due to opposing the church’s doctrines.

1384: First English Bible produced.

1385: Geoffrey Chaucer writes “Troilus and Criseyde”.

1386: Geoffrey Chaucer becomes a Member of Parliament for Kent.

1387: Geoffrey Chaucer begins writing “The Canterbury Tales”.

1398: Winchester College is founded by William of Wykeham.

1399: The Wilton Diptych is painted.

Henry the Fourth (1399-1413)

1400: Death of Geoffrey Chaucer on the 25th October.

1401: Owen Glendower charged with treason by Lord Grey. A new Act comes into force which allows the burning of heretics.

1403: Owen Glendower was defeated near Carmarthen. Battle of Shrewsbury on the 21st July.

1404: Owen Glendower by now had gained overall control of Wales and taken control Harlech Castle.

1407: Major outbreak of plague.

1409: Harlech Castle recaptured by the English and Owen Glendower’s wife, daughter and grandchildren taken prisoner.

Henry the Fifth (1413-1422)

1414: The Lollard Rising.

1415: Battle of Agincourt on the 25th October.

1416: Death of Owen Glendower.

1417: Institution of the Garter King of Arms. An English army is victorious at the Battle of Caen.

1420: At the Treaty of Troyes King Henry is guaranteed the French throne after the death of Charles the Sixth of France.

Henry the sixth: (First Part 1422-1461)

1422: Birth of William Caxton.

1429: Joan of Arc helps relieve Orleans and France itself from the English.

1431: Joan of Arc is burned as a witch in Rouen and King Henry the Sixth is crowned King of France.

1440: Foundation of Eton College by the King for the education of the poor.

1451: Foundation of Glasgow University.

1455-85: The Wars of the Roses.

1455: Battle of St. Albans on the 22nd May.

1460: King Henry 6th is captured at the Battle of Northampton on the 10 July. Battle of Wakefield on the 30th December.

Edward the Fourth (First Part 1461-1470)

1461: Battle of Towton on the 29th March.

1469: The Shetland Isles become part of Scotland.

1470: Thomas Malory writes *“Le Morte D’Arthur”*.

Henry Sixth (Second Part 1470-1471)

Edward the Fourth (Second Part 1471-1483)

1471: Battle of Tewkesbury on the 4th May.

1474: William Caxton prints the first book in English “The Recuyell of the Historyes of Troye” at Bruges.

1475: Birth of Cardinal Thomas Wolsey.

1476: William Caxton sets up a printing press in Westminster.

1477: Birth of Sir Thomas More on the 7th February. William Caxton made the first printing of Chaucer’s “Canterbury Tales”.

1480: William Caxton prints “The Chronicles of England”.

Edward the Fifth (1483)

1483: Lord Protector Richard assumes the throne from the twelve year old Edward before he could be crowned.

Richard the Third (1483-1485)

**Saxon Period 410 -1066AD**

445: Vortigern comes to power in Britain.

450: Vortigern asks the Saxons and Jutes Hengest and Horsa to fight against the Picts.

457: Vortigern died.

457: Aelle (Ella) and his 3 sons Cymen, Wlenking and Cissa arrive in Sussex

458: Hengest conquers Kent.

466: The Britons defeat the Saxons at the Battle of Wippedesfleet.

470: Ambrosius becomes high king of Britain.

486: The Saxon Aelle fights the British at the Battle of Mercredesburne.

494: Cerdic and his son Cynric lands on the South coast of Britain and establishes what is to become the Kingdom of Wessex.

534: Cerdic is succeeded by Cynric as King of Wessex.

550: St David introduces Christianity to Wales.

577: Battle of Dyrham where King Ceawlin of Wessex and his young son Cuthwine fought the Britons of the West Country and led to the separation of the Britons of south west from Wales.

585: Foundation of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Mercia under Creoda.

597: The Pope sends Augustine to bring the Roman version of Christianity to the Saxons and he founds a church at Canterbury and becomes its first Archbishop.

Era of the early Anglo-Saxon Kings



636: The tribe Ġewisse (early Saxons) were converted to Christianity by Birinus the first Bishop of Dorchester.

664: Synod of Whitby held by the Abbess Hilda marks the decline of the Celtic church over Roman Christianity. Dicul establishes small monastery at Bosham not well received.

666: Bishop Wilfred arrives in Selsey and builds a monastery.

674: Ethelred becomes King of Mercia.

685: Cædwalla Became King of Wessex and Sussex

687: Death of St Cuthbert term South Saxon first used.

688: Cædwalla abdicated leaving for Rome to be baptised by Pope before dying.

725: Venerable Bede gave the reckoning for the date for Easter.

731: Venerable Bede wrote History of the English People.

757: Offa takes the Kingdom of Mercia.

789: Building of Offa's dyke to keep out the Welsh from England.

793: First Viking attack on Northumbria.

796: Death of Offa marks the end of Mercian dominance.

800: The Book of Kells is written by Ionian monks.

825: At the Battle of Ellandon Egbert King of Wessex defeats the Mercians and becomes the major power in the region.

836: Egbert is defeated by the Danes at Carhampton, Somerset.

838: Egbert defeats the Danes at Hingston Down in Cornwall.

841: The Vikings found Dublin as a stronghold in Ireland.

851: Vikings attack London and Canterbury.

853: Alfred visits Rome with his father King Ethelwulf.

865: Ethelred the third son of Ethelwulf becomes King of Wessex.

866: Vikings attack York.

871: Ethelred dies of his wounds at the Battle of Ashdown.

Era of King Alfred the Great (871-899)

878: King Alfred defeats the Danes at the Battle of Edington. England is effectively cut into two with Wessex in the south and “The Danelaw” north of Watling Street.

886: King Alfred takes London from the Danes.

891: The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle was begun.

895: Alfred captures the Danish fleet and they retreat to Northumbria.

Era of Edward the Elder (899-924)

902: The Danish ruler of East Anglia Eric is killed at the Battle of Holme.

903: Monks bury St Edmund at Beodricsworth which is renamed Bury St Edmunds.

920: After several victories Edward rules England and Scotland from the South Coast as far North as the Rivers Forth and Clyde.

Era of Athelstan (924-939)

927: The River Tees now marks the Northern frontier of England.

937: Athelstan defeats Scots, Danes and Celts and takes title of King of Britain.

Era of Edmund (939-946)

943: Malcolm becomes King of the Scots.

Era of Edred (946-955)

946: Edmund is murdered by Leofa when he tries to have him thrown out of a party.

952: The Dane Eric Bloodaxe recaptures York.

954: Edred drives Eric out of York and this is the end of the viking period.

Era of Edwy (955-959)

955: Edwy the son of Edmund becomes King of England.

Era of Edgar the Peaceful (959-975)

959: Edwy's younger brother Edgar succeeds to the throne.

973: Dunstan the Archbishop of Canterbury crowns Edgar Emperor of England.

Era of Edgar the Martyr (975-978)

975: Edgar's son Edward becomes King at the age of thirteen.

### Era of Ethelred the Second (The Unready) (978-1013)

978: Edward is murdered at Corfe Castle in Dorset and Edward's younger brother Ethelred takes on the throne.

980: Further Danish invasions and Ethelred is unable to unite the Kingdom against them.

991: Ethelred buys off the Danes with £10,000 worth of silver known as the Danegeld.

994: Ethelred buys off Sweyn the Dane and Olaf Trygvesson as they besiege London.

1002: The St Brices Day Massacre. Ethelred tries to exterminate all the Danes in England.

1003: Sweyn extracts revenge and then retreats.

1006: Sweyn again returns and sends armies through Berkshire and Hampshire.

1007: Ethelred buys two years peace for £36,000 of silver.

1009: The Danes return.

1010: Attacks on Oxford and East Anglia.

1012: Canterbury is sacked and Archbishop Alphege is murdered. The Danes are bought off for £48,000 of silver.

1013: Sweyn lands in England and is proclaimed King.  
Ethelred flees to Normandy.

### Era of Canute (1013-35)

1014: On the Death of Sweyn his son Cnut or Canute is elected King by the army. Ethelred is called on by the English and Canute leaves.

1015: Cnut or Canute again invades England.

Era of Edmund Ironside (1016)

1016: Edmund Ironside becomes King of England south of the Thames. He is assassinated and Canute becomes undisputed King.

Era of Canute (1016-35)

1017: Canute divides the Kingdom again into Northumbria, Wessex, Mercia and East Anglia.

1028: Canute also becomes King of Norway.

1031: Canute becomes Overlord of Scotland.

1035: Harold "Harefoot" becomes Regent of England at the Death of Canute.

Era of Edward the Confessor (1042-1066)

1042: Edward half brother of Harthacnute and son of Ethelred becomes King. The English royal line is restored after a period of twenty-nine years.

1045: Edward marries Edith daughter of one of the powerful nobles of Wessex.

1051: Duke William comes to England from Normandy and is promised the throne by Edward after a quarrel with Earl Godwin Edith's father.

1052: Edward founds Westminster Abbey. Harold succeeds Earl Godwin as Earl of Wessex after he chokes to death.

1057: Lady Godiva rides naked through Coventry.

1064: Harold sails to Rome but is shipwrecked in Normandy and swears a solemn oath that William should succeed him.

1065: Westminster Abbey is finished.

Era of Harold the Second (1066)

1066: 25th September: Harold defeats his brother Tostig and Harold Hardrada at the Battle of Stamford Bridge. Both are killed.

## **500,000 BC**

Boxgrove Man (*Homo heidelbergensis*) from the Middle Pleistocene era is thought to be the oldest human fossil ever discovered in Britain was found only a few miles away from Barton Manor.

## **Iron Age**

The Iron Age of Britain covers the period from about 800 BC to the Roman invasion of 43 AD, and follows on from the Bronze Age. It saw the gradual introduction of iron working technology, although the general adoption of iron tools did not become widespread until after 500-400 BC.

As the Iron Age progressed, strong regional groupings emerged, reflected in styles of pottery, metal objects and settlement types. In some areas, 'tribal' states and kingdoms developed by the end of the first century BC. The best known and most visible remains of the Iron Age are hill forts. The usual Iron Age building was the roundhouse the remaining postholes are indication of location. These could be made of timber or stone, with a roof covering of thatch or turf, depending upon locally available building materials.

Coinage first appeared in Britain at the end of the second century BC, and by 20 BC coins were found across much of south eastern England possibly due to Roman influence. The use of coins never extended into northern and western Britain or Ireland during this period.

Towards the end of the second century BC, Roman influence began to extend into the western Mediterranean and southern France. This led to growing contact between Britain and the Roman world across the English Channel. Initially this contact was confined to the trading of limited quantities of Roman luxury goods such as wine, probably exchanged for slaves, minerals and grain.

New types of large settlements called 'oppida' appeared in southern Britain. These appear to have acted as political, economic and religious centres. Many also appear to have been the production centres for Iron Age coins, which often gave the names of rulers, some styling themselves 'Rex', Latin for 'king'.

## **Roman**

After 50 BC and the conquest of Gaul (modern France) by Julius Caesar, this trade intensified and focused on south east England. Julius Caesar had paid earlier visits to Britain in 55 and 54 BC however these had only been to please the public back home in Rome rather than conquer

Britain. He had links from Gaul with Commius who aided Julius Caesar in his partial invasion. Commius and his sons Tincomarus, Eppillus and Verica ruled the Atrebates and it was the exiling and take over from Verica that was one reason for the Roman invasion in 43AD. Opposing Julius Caesar was Cassivellaunus a British tribal chief together with another tribe the Cantiaci who led the defence against Julius Caesar's second expedition to Britain in 54 BC. He led an alliance of tribes against Roman forces, but eventually surrendered after his location was revealed to Julius Caesar by defeated Britons. In addition to intensive trade links, Rome appears to have established diplomatic relations with a number of tribes and may have exerted considerable political influence before the Roman conquest of England in AD 43.

The Roman conquest of Britain was a gradual process, beginning effectively in AD 43 under Emperor Claudius, whose general Aulus Plautius served as first governor of Roman Britain. He had a client King Cogidubnus (Tiberius Claudius Cogidubnus renamed and given Roman citizenship) who may have been a son of Verica and resided at Fishbourne Palace. This is regarded as the largest Roman residence at that time and close to Noviomagus Reginorum (Chichester). Noviomagus Reginorum was the New Market of the Regini tribe the Southern branch of the Atrebates a large Iron Age tribe with links to Julius Caesar through Verica. The Atrebates capital was Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester).

This time the Romans enjoyed rapid military success. But gradual advance through southern England and Wales was halted in AD 60 by the rebellion of Boudicca, queen of the Iceni of East Anglia, incensed by the brutality of the conquest. The revolt was suppressed, but not before four recently founded Roman cities, Camulodunum (Colchester), Verulamium (St Albans), and Londinium (London), had been burned to the ground.

The advance resumed in AD 70 with the conquest of Wales and the north. The governor Agricola (AD 77–83) even succeeded in defeating the Scottish tribes at the Battle of Mons Graupius in AD 83.

Immediately after this victory, though, troops were pulled out of Britain to deal with invasions on the Danube frontier. As a result, the far north could not be held, and the army gradually fell back to the Tyne–Solway isthmus. It was here that the emperor Hadrian, visiting Britain in AD 122, ordered the building of his famous wall.

The emperor Antoninus Pius tried to reoccupy Scotland and built the short-lived Antonine Wall (AD 140–60). He was ultimately unsuccessful, however, and Hadrian's Wall became the northern frontier of the province once more.

By now the three legions (army units of up to 6,000 men) remaining in Britain had settled in permanent bases. Auxiliary troops were scattered in smaller forts, mostly across northern England and along Hadrian's Wall.

In the pacified parts of the province, cities had been founded as capitals for each of the tribal areas (the civitates) into which the Britons had been organised. A network of roads had developed, and landowners in the south began to build Roman-style villas.

Life for most ordinary Britons, who were farmers in the countryside, was slow to change. By degrees, however, they came into contact with villas, towns and markets. Here they could exchange their produce for Roman-style goods and see people dressing and behaving in Roman ways.

Shortly after AD 180 there was an invasion by tribes from what is now Scotland, who overran Hadrian's Wall. Around this time most of the cities of Britain were enclosed within earthen defensive walls, which may have been linked to the invasion.

The Roman Empire was ruled from Britain for a brief period in AD 208–11, when the emperor Septimius Severus came to campaign north of Hadrian's Wall. Severus divided Britain into two provinces, Britannia Superior (south) and Inferior (north), with capitals at London and York respectively. This prevented too many troops from being concentrated in the hands of a single governor who might have attempted to usurp power.

Alongside the cities, which acquired stone walls at this time, the 3rd century saw increased numbers of small market towns, villages and villas. Roman objects were now more common in even the poorest rural settlements.

There were still threats to the province. In the north, beyond Hadrian's Wall, the Picts had emerged as a formidable enemy, while to the south there was a growing threat from seaborne raiders. The so-called Saxon Shore forts around the south-east coast were built towards the end of the 3rd century in response, such as at Caister Roman Fort and Reculver.

Britain was part of the separatist 'Gallic empire' from AD 260 until AD 273, and again broke away from Rome under the usurpers Carausius and Allectus (AD 286–96). Emperor Constantius I recaptured the province in AD 296, and when he died in AD 306 after a campaign against the Picts, his son Constantine the Great was proclaimed emperor in York.

After Constantine's conversion in AD 312, Christianity was adopted more widely across the empire, including in Britain. In the 4th century Britain was reorganised as a 'diocese' consisting of four provinces, with military forces under the command of the Dux Britanniarum – the Duke of the Britains. The next 50 years or so were a golden age of agricultural prosperity and villa building, especially in the south-west.

Following the conquest of the Britons, a distinctive Romano-British culture emerged as the Romans introduced improved agriculture, urban planning, industrial production, and architecture. The Roman goddess Britannia became the female personification of Britain. After the initial invasions, Roman historians generally only mention Britain in passing. Thus, most present knowledge derives from archaeological investigations



and occasional epigraphic evidence lauding the Britannic achievements of an emperor. Roman citizens settled in Britain from many parts of the Empire.

In the early-4th-century onwards there were four provinces by some variation of the names Britannia I, Britannia II, Maxima Caesariensis, and Flavia Caesariensis; all of these seem to have initially been directed by a governor.

As the 4th century progressed, there were increasing attacks from the Saxons in the east and the Scoti (Irish) in the west. By the late 4th century chronic insecurity and the great invasion known as the Barbarian Conspiracy of AD 367. Confident new building had ceased by the 370s. Repeated attempts to usurp the empire by generals based in Britain (the last being Constantine III in AD 407) drained the diocese of troops. By AD 410 Britain had slipped out of Roman control as legion recalled to defend Rome and its inhabitants were left to fend for themselves.

## **Kingdom of Sussex**

The South Saxons were ruled by the kings of Sussex until the country was annexed by Wessex, probably in 827, in the aftermath of the Battle of Ellandun. The Kingdom of the South Saxons or Sussex

Capital is Chichester with Selsey being initially being the seat of South Saxon bishopric (later moving to Chichester)

The Kingdom of Sussex had its initial focus in a territory based on the former kingdom and Romano-British civitas of the Regnenses and its boundaries coincided in general with those of the later county of Sussex. For a brief period in the 7th century, the Kingdom of Sussex controlled the Isle of Wight and the land in the Meon Valley in east Hampshire. From the late 8th century, Sussex seems to have absorbed the Kingdom of Mercia then Wessex.

A large part of its territory was covered by the forest that took its name from the fort of Anderitum at modern Pevensey, and known to the Romano-British as the Forest of Andred known today as the Weald. This forest, was 90 miles wide and 30 miles deep. It was the largest remaining area of woodland and heath in the territories that became England and was inhabited by wolves, boars and possibly bears. It was so dense that Domesday Book did not record some of its settlements. The heavily forested Weald made expansion difficult but also provided some protection from invasion by neighbouring kingdoms. Whilst Sussex's isolation from the rest of Anglo-Saxon England has been emphasised, Roman roads must have remained important communication arteries across the forest of the Weald. The Manhood Peninsula, (Pagham and surrounding area) was forested in Saxon times. The coastline would have looked different from today. It is estimated that the coastal plain may have been at least one mile broader than it is

today. To the South Saxons of the 5th and 6th centuries this coastline must have resembled their original homeland around coastal Friesland and Lower Saxony.

The landscape gave rise to some key regional differences within the kingdom. The rich coastal plain continued to be the base for the large estates, ruled by their nobles, some of whom had their boundaries confirmed by charters. The Downs were more deserted. South Saxon impact was greatest in the Weald. In the early mediaeval period, the rivers of Sussex may have acted locally as a major unifier, linking coastal, estuary and riverside communities and providing people in these areas with a sense of identity.

The boundaries of the Kingdom of Sussex probably crystallised around the 6th and 7th centuries. To the west, the boundary with the Kingdom of Wessex as being opposite the Isle of Wight, and which later fell on the River Ems. It is possible that the Jutish territories of the Isle of Wight and the Meon Valley in modern Hampshire acted as a buffer zone between the Saxon kingdoms of Sussex and Wessex until they were conquered by the Mercian king Wulfhere and passed to King Aethelwealh of Sussex in the 7th century. To the east at Romney Marsh and the River Limen (now called the River Rother or Kent Ditch), Sussex shared a border with the Kingdom of Kent. North of the Forest Ridge in the Wealden forest lay the sub-kingdom of Surrey, which became a frontier area disputed by various kingdoms until it later became part of Wessex. To the south of Sussex lay the English Channel, beyond which lay Francia, or the Kingdom of the Franks.

By the 680s, when Christianity was being introduced, there is no doubt that the district around Selsey and Chichester had become the political centre of the kingdom, though there is little archaeological evidence for a reoccupation of Chichester itself before the 9th century. The capital of the Kingdom of Sussex was at Chichester, and the seat of the kingdom's bishopric was at Selsey. The traditional residence of the South Saxon kings was at Kingsham, once outside the southern walls of Chichester although within its modern boundaries. Ditchling may have been an important regional centre for a large part of central Sussex between the Rivers Adur and Ouse until the founding of Lewes in the 9th century. By the 11th century the towns were mostly developments of the fortified towns (burhs) founded in the reign of Alfred the Great.

The ancient droveways of Sussex linked coastal and downland communities in the south with summer pasture land in the interior of the Weald. The droveways were used throughout the Saxon era by the South Saxons and probably originated before the Roman occupation of Britain. The droveways formed a road system that clearly suggests that the settlers in the oldest developed parts of Sussex were concerned not so much with east–west connections between neighbouring settlements as with north–south communication between each settlement and its outlying woodland pasture. The droving roads had an enduring effect on the pattern of Sussex settlement. When churches came to be built, an ideal site was where a drove crossed a river. Eventually traders

gravitated to churches, founding villages, and in some cases market towns such as Ditchling, Shermanbury, Thakeham, Ashurst and Shipley.

Land divisions in the Kingdom of Sussex were sometimes different from other Anglo-Saxon kingdoms and regions. By the Late Saxon period, the main administrative unit of Sussex was the district known as the rape. Their origins may be earlier, possibly originating in the Romano-British period. The rapes were sub-divided into hundreds, which served as taxation and administrative districts. In England generally these contained a nominal 100 hides (a measure of taxable value linked to land area) but in Sussex they were generally much smaller. Sussex may also have had eight virgates for every hide; in most of England a hide was usually made up of four virgates.

The population of Britain as a whole is likely to have declined sharply around the 4th century from around 2–4 million in AD 200 to less than 1 million in AD 300. There would have been a similarly sharp decline in the population of Sussex during this period. At the end of the 4th century there was a decline in the birth rate across Roman Britain; this population decrease would have been exacerbated by the transfer to Continental Europe of three large armies, recruited in Britain in the last 30 years of Roman rule, as well as plague and barbarian attack. Sussex's population around 450AD is estimated to have been no more than about 25,000, rising gradually to around 35,000 by 1100. At the time of the Domesday Book in 1086, Sussex had some of the highest population densities in England.

The foundation legend of the Kingdom of the South Saxons states that in the year AD 477 Ælle arrived at a place called Cymenshorein (Selsey) three ships with his three sons, Cissa, Cymen and Wlencing. Upon landing Ælle slew the local defenders and drove the remainder into the Forest of Andred. Ælle had a major battle with the British in 485 near the bank of Mercredeshurne and his siege of the Saxon Shore fort at Andredadsceasterat modern Pevensey in 491 after which the inhabitants were massacred. According to legend, various places took their names from Ælle's sons. Cissa is supposed to have given his name to Chichester, Cymen to Cymenshore and Wlencing to Winchelsea.

Cymenshore is traditionally thought to have been located at what is now known as the Owers Rocks, south of Selsey.

Early period (c. AD 450 – 600)

Archaeology gives a different settlement picture to that indicated by the South Saxon foundation story. Germanic tribes probably first arrived in Sussex earlier in the 5th century than AD 477. The archaeological evidence that we do have indicates the area of settlement by the location of cemeteries of the period. The origins of the settlers can be derived by comparing the design of grave goods and pottery with the designs of similar items in the German homelands. The principal area of settlement in the 5th century

has been identified as between the lower Ouse and Cuckmere rivers in East Sussex, based on the number of Anglo-Saxon cemeteries there. However, there are two cemeteries in West Sussex at Highdown, near Worthing and Apple Down, 7 mi. northwest of Chichester. The area between the Ouse and Cuckmere was believed to have been the location for the federate treaty settlement of Anglo-Saxon mercenaries. Whatever the original settlement pattern of the early Germanic settlers, their culture came to rapidly dominate the whole of Sussex.

Excavations revealed a considerable area of Saxon buildings. Of the 22 buildings excavated, three were sunken huts, 17 are rectangular founded on individual post holes, one is represented by post holes between which are beam slots, and one by eight single large posts.

Highdown is the only 5th-century Saxon cemetery found outside the Ouse/Cuckmere area, and is 2 km from a hoard of Roman gold and silver that was found in 1997. The Patching hoard, as it came to be known, contained a coin as recent as 461 AD. Thus, Highdown cemetery would have been in use by Saxons when the hoard was buried at Patching. The settlement that used Highdown as a burial ground in the 5th century has never been identified, but there may have been some link between Patching and Highdown, and possibly a Romano-British community was based there and that they controlled a group of Saxon mercenaries.

Despite the difficulties presented by the large forest tract of the Weald that separated Sussex from Surrey, similarities in the archaeological record from this period between Sussex and Surrey help to substantiate the claim of Ælle of Sussex to be the first Bretwalda in the Thames Valley. Such unified regional commands were probably not long-lasting. Archaeological evidence in the form of distinctive Saxon saucer brooches suggests that Ælle's forces penetrated far to the north, perhaps as far as modern Gloucestershire.

#### Christianisation and loss of independence (600–860)

After 491 the written history of Sussex goes blank until 607, when the annals report that Ceolwulf of Wessex fought against the South Saxons. Threatened by Wessex, the South Saxons sought to secure their independence by alliance with Mercia. To the South Saxons, the more distant influence and control of a king from Mercia is likely to have been preferable to that of the West Saxons. The alliance between Mercia and the South Saxons was further sealed by Æðelwealh, king of Sussex, receiving baptism into the Christian church through the Mercian court, with Wulfhere acting as his sponsor, making Æðelwealh Sussex's first Christian king. Wulfhere gave Æðelwealh the Isle of Wight and the territory of the Meonwara (the Meon valley of present-day Hampshire). Æðelwealh also married Eabe, a princess of the Hwicce, a Mercian satellite province.

In 681, the exiled St Wilfrid of Northumbria arrived in the kingdom of the South Saxons and remained there for five years evangelising and baptising the people. There had been a famine in the land of the South Saxons when Wilfrid arrived. Wilfrid taught the locals to fish, and they were impressed with Wilfrid's teachings and agreed to be baptised en masse. On the day of the baptisms the rain fell on the "thirsty earth", so ending the famine. Æðelwealh gave 87 hides (an area of land) and a royal vill to Wilfrid to enable him to found Selsey Abbey. The abbey eventually became the seat of the South Saxon bishopric, where it remained until after the Norman Conquest, when it was moved to Chichester by decree of the Council of London of 1075.

Shortly after the arrival of St Wilfrid, the kingdom was ravaged with "fierce slaughter and devastation" and Æðelwealh was slain by an exiled West Saxon prince Cædwalla in 685. The latter was temporarily expelled, by Æðelwealh's successors, two Ealdormen named Berhthun and Andhun but returned successful in 686. In 686 the South Saxons attacked Hlothhere, king of Kent, in support of his nephew Eadric, who afterwards became king of Kent. At this time, a new South Saxon hegemony extending from the Isle of Wight into Kent could conceivably have seen Sussex re-emerge as a regional power but the revival of Wessex ended this possibility. Eadric's rule in Kent lasted until Kent was invaded by Cædwalla who had managed to establish himself as ruler of Wessex. With his additional resources, Cædwalla once more invaded Sussex, killing Berhthun. Sussex now became for some years subject to a period of harsh West Saxon domination. This subjection reduced the kingdom of Sussex to "a worse state of slavery"; it also included placing the South Saxon clergy under the authority of Wessex through the bishops of Winchester. Cædwalla also seized the Isle of Wight where he ruthlessly exterminated its population, including its royal line. Cædwalla's savage behaviour towards Sussex and the Isle of Wight can be explained by Sussex's westward expansion with assistance from Mercia at the expense of Wessex and Cædwalla was determined that this should never happen again.

Of the later South Saxon kings we have little knowledge except from occasional charters. In 692 a grant is made by a king called Noðhelm (or Nunna) to his sister, which is witnessed by another king called Watt. There is a theory that Watt may have been a sub-king who ruled over a tribe of people centred around modern day Hastings, known as the Haestingas and Nunna may have been a kinsman of Ine of Wessex who fought with him against Geraint, King of the Britons, in 710. Sussex was subject to Ine for a number of years and like Cædwalla, Ine also oppressed the people of Sussex in the same harsh way for many years.

In 710 Sussex was still under West Saxon domination when King Nothhelm of Sussex is recorded as having campaigned with Ine in the west against Dumnonia. Sussex evidently broke away from West Saxon domination some time before 722 when Ine is recorded as invading Sussex, which he repeated three years later, killing a West Saxon exile named Ealdberht who had fled to the Weald of Sussex and Surrey and appears to have attempted to find support in Sussex. The Anglo Saxon Chronicle records a further campaign against the South Saxons by the West Saxons in 725.

According to a charter dated 775, the former abbot of Selsey, Bishop Eadberht of Selsey was given a grant of land by King Nunna; the document included King Watt as a witness. However, the charter is now believed to have been a 10th- or early-11th-century forgery.

There is another charter, that is thought to be genuine, that records a series of transactions of a piece of land near modern-day Burpham in the Arun Valley. It starts off with a grant of land, at Peppering, by Nunna to Berhfrith probably for the foundation of a minster. Berhfrith transferred the land to Eolla, who in turn sold it to Wulfhere. The land then went to Beoba who passed it on to Beorra and Ecca. Finally King Osmund bought the land from his comes Erra and granted it to a religious woman known as Tidburgh. The charter is undated but it has been possible to date the various transactions approximately, by cross referencing people who appear both on this charter and on other charters that do provide dates. On the transaction, where Eolla has acquired the land from Berhfrith and sells it to Wulfhere. Nunna's last surviving charter, which is dated 717 is witnessed by a King Æðelstan.

A little later, Æðelberht was King of Sussex, but he is known only from charters. The dates of Æðelberht's reign are unknown beyond the fact that he was a contemporary of Sigeferth, Bishop of Selsey from 733, as Sigeferth witnessed an undated charter of Æðelberht in which Æðelberht is styled Ethelbertus rex Sussaxonum.

After this we hear nothing more until about 765, when a grant of land is made by a king named Ealdwulf, with two other kings, Ælfwald and Oslac, as witnesses.

In 765 and 770 grants are made by a King Osmund, the latter one was later confirmed by Offa of Mercia.

The independent existence of the Kingdom of Sussex came to an end in the early 770s.[ In 771, King Offa of Mercia conquered the territory of the Haestingas; he may have entered Sussex from the Kingdom of Kent, where he was already dominant. By 772 he apparently controlled the whole of the Kingdom of Sussex. Offa also confirmed two charters of Æðelberht, and in 772 he grants land himself in Sussex, with Oswald, dux Suðsax, as a witness. It is probable that about this time Offa annexed the kingdom of Sussex, as several persons, Osmund, Ælfwald and Oslac, who had previously used the royal title, now sign with that of dux.

Offa may not have been able to maintain control in the period 776–785 but he appears to have re-established control afterwards. Mercian power collapsed in the years following Offa's death in 796, and the South Saxons re-emerged as an independent political entity.

After the Battle of Ellandun in 825 the South Saxons submitted to Ecgberht of Wessex, and from this time they remained subject to the West Saxon dynasty. It is probable that Sussex was not annexed by Wessex until 827. The earldom of Sussex seems later to have been sometimes combined with that of Kent. Æthelberht of Wessex was ruling Sussex and the other south-eastern kingdoms by 855, and succeeded to the kingship of Wessex on the death of his brother, King Æthelbald, thus bringing Sussex fully under the crown of Wessex.

#### Ealdormanry (860–1066)

From 895 Sussex suffered from constant raids by the Danes, till the accession of Canute, after which arose the two great forces of the house of Godwine and of the Normans. Godwine was probably a native of Sussex, and by the end of Edward the Confessor's reign a third part of the county was in the hands of his family.

It is thought that the Æellingi (the South Saxon royal house) continued to govern Sussex as eorlдерmen (earls) under West Saxon sovereignty until the Norman Conquest in 1066.

The death of Eadwine, Ealdorman of Sussex, is recorded in 982, because he was buried at Abingdon Abbey in Berkshire, where one version of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle was compiled. According to the abbey's records, in which he was called princeps Australium Saxonum, Eadwinus nomine (Eadwine leader of the South Saxons), he bequeathed estates to them in his will, although the document itself has not survived. Earlier in the same year he witnessed a charter of King Ethelred the Unready as Eaduuine dux. His name was also added to a forged charter dated 956 (possibly an error for 976).

Harold Godwinson, the future king of England, shown on the Bayeux Tapestry riding with his knights to Bosham from where he set sail in 1064.

In the next generation, Wulfnoth Cild, Thegn of Sussex, played a prominent part in English politics. In 1009 his actions resulted in the destruction of the English fleet, and by 1011 Sussex, together with most of South East England, was in the hands of the Danes. In an early example of local government reform, the Anglo-Saxon ealdormanries were abolished by the Danish kings and replaced with a smaller number of larger earldoms. Wulfnoth Cild was the father of Godwin, who was made Earl of Wessex in 1020. His earldom included Sussex. When he died in 1053, Godwin was succeeded as Earl of Wessex (including Sussex) by his son Harold, who had previously been Earl of East Anglia.

Edward the Confessor, who had spent much of his early life in exile in Normandy, was pro-Norman and in Sussex gave to the abbot of Fécamp Abbey the minster church at Steyning, as well as confirming land existing land grants at Hastings, Rye and Winchelsea. To his chaplain, Osborn, later William's Bishop of Exeter, Edward gave the harbour and other land at Bosham. Many of the Saxon nobles grew jealous and from 1049 there was conflict between the disgruntled Saxon nobility, the king and the incoming Normans. Godwine and his second son Harold kept the peace off the Sussex coast by using Bosham and Pevensey to drive away pirates. In 1049 the murder by Sweyn Godwinson of his cousin Beorn after Beorn has been tricked in going to Bosham resulted in the entire Godwine family being banished. It was from Bosham in 1051 that Godwin, Sweyn and Tostig fled to Bruges and the court of Baldwin V, Count of Flanders, a relative of Tostig's wife, Judith of Flanders. When they returned in 1052 to an enthusiastic welcome in the Sussex ports, Edward had to reinstate the Godwine family.

In 1064 Harold sailed from Bosham, from where a storm cast him up in Normandy. Here he was apparently tricked into pledging his support for William of Normandy as the next king of Englan. On 14 October 1066, Harold II, the last Saxon king of England was killed at the Battle of Hastings and the English army defeated, by William the Conqueror and his army. It is likely that all the fighting men of Sussex were at the battle, as the county's thegns were decimated and any that survived had their lands confiscated. At least 353 of the 387 manors, in the county, were taken from their Saxon owners and given to the victorious Normans by the Conqueror, Saxon power in Sussex was at an end.

#### Defence and warfare

The earliest recorded Viking raid on Sussex took place in 895 and it was particularly difficult for a scattered farming community to meet these sudden attacks. In 895 the population of Chichester killed many hundreds of Danes who plundered the area. Eadulf, a Saxon noble, was appointed to organise the defence of Sussex but died from the plague before much could be done.

#### Remains of the burh wall at Burpham

Alfred the Great almost certainly inaugurated the building of a series of burhs or forts to be garrisoned at the threat of danger by men drawn from the surrounding population. The development of the burhs across the southern half of England suggests a considerable awareness of a repeated problem. There were five such fortifications in Sussex — at Chichester, Burpham, Lewes, Hastings and Eorpeburnan (Orpington).

In the reign of Æthelred the Unready, the threat of the Danes continued — in 994 and 1000 the Anglo Saxon Chronicle records burning, plundering and manslaughter on the coast of Sussex and neighbouring counties. The most serious attacks took place in



1009, when a Viking army took up position over the winter period on the Isle of Wight and ravaged Sussex, Hampshire and Berkshire.

The rectilinear street plan of Chichester is typical of the towns which developed from the fortified burhs, which had intramural streets running around the town walls; this allowed garrison troops to defend the town and large peripheral blocks that were left as hedged areas (hagae) into which fugitives from the countryside could flee.

Droeways such as this one near Chanctonbury Ring were used throughout the Saxon period to transport pigs and cattle between coastal areas and summer pasture in the Weald

Deposited around c. 470 as the kingdom of Sussex was being established, the Patching hoard of coins represents the earliest early mediaeval coins found in Britain. The hoard includes five imported siliquae that had not been clipped, so coin-clipping had probably ceased by then, although the coinage had probably collapsed decades earlier than this, after Roman rule in Britain collapsed.

In the first quarter of the 8th century the Kingdom of Sussex was among the kingdoms producing coinage, possibly from a mint near Selsey where the finds of coins termed Series G sceattas are concentrated. That a cash economy had returned by the 10th century is suggested by the various mints which became increasingly plentiful after King Æthelstan reorganised England's coinage. There were mints at Chichester, Lewes and Steyning. A new mint also seems to have existed on a temporary basis in the Iron Age hillfort at Cissbury, which may have been refortified as a refuge during the Danish invasions in the reign of Æthelred the Unready. The Cissbury mint seems to have worked in close association with the mint at Chichester rather than replacing it. By the eve of the Norman conquest, there were further mints at Arundel, Pevensey and Hastings.

Lewes seems to have prospered with overseas trade; coins from Lewes stamped 'LAE URB' travelled as far as Rome. The substantial sea-faring trade of Lewes is indicated by the payment of 20 shillings for munitions of war payable whenever Edward the Confessor's fleet put to sea. This is the probable origin of the Cinque Ports organisation that flourished under the Normans. The River Ouse would have been navigable at least as far north as Lewes. While Sussex was separated from much else of mainstream English experience, this should not hide the rich trade that Sussex had with other parts of Europe. By the 1060s Lewes also supported a cattle market.

By the end of the Anglo Saxon period and the Domesday Survey by the Normans in 1086, Sussex contained some of the richest and most heavily populated pockets of England on the coastal plain, albeit alongside some of England's most economically

underdeveloped areas in the Weald. By this time, Sussex had a network of urban centres such that farmers were within 15 km to 30 km of market facilities.

Agriculture seems to have flourished on the Sussex coastal plain and on the Sussex Downs. The fact that the Sussex coast appears to have been relatively densely settled for centuries implies that the land was being more competently farmed than was typical of the standard of the day. The Weald was pig-fattening and cattle-grazing country. Drovers would divide their year between their 'winter house' in their parent village outside the Weald and their 'summer house' in the outlying woodland pasture up to 20 miles (30 km) away. Surviving features include a close network of former droveways and surviving fragments of wood pasture, such as the Mens and Ebernoe Common near Petworth.

The Domesday Book records that by the 11th century, the unknown Rameslie in Sussex had 100 salt pans to extract salt from sea water. Fisheries were also important to the economy of Sussex. Lewes was an important centre of a herring industry and had to pay a rent of 38,500 herrings for its sea fisheries.

The South Saxon kingdom remains one of the most obscure of the Anglo-Saxon polities. A few names of South Saxon kings are recorded, and the history of the kingdom is sometimes illustrated by that of other areas, but information is otherwise limited. Sussex seems to have had a greater degree of decentralisation than other kingdoms. For a period during the 760s there may have been as many as four or five kings based within the territory, perhaps with each ruling over a distinct tribal territory, perhaps on a temporary basis. It seems possible that the people of the Haestingas may have had their own ruler for a while, and another sub-division may have been along the River Adur.

Complex tiers of relationships between kings and kingdoms existed. For instance in the 7th century, when Wulfhere of Mercia was trying to increase his influence over the South Saxons, he ceded control of the provinces of the Meonwara and Wight to the South Saxon king Æðelwealh. Wight at least had its own ruler, Arvald, who presumably recognised the authority of the South Saxon king, Æðelwealh, and who in turn recognised the overlordship of the Mercian king, Wulfhere.

The Kingdom of Sussex was an independent unit until the reign of Offa of Mercia. Under Offa, who ruled over most of the kingdoms of the heptarchy, local South Saxon rulers were allowed to continue provided that they recognised Offa's overriding authority and some estates seem to have come into his direct possession.

In the 9th century, Sussex was ruled by the West Saxons. It would appear that the ultimate intention of Æthelwulf of Wessex was for the kingdom of Wessex and the eastern regions of Sussex, Surrey, Kent and Essex to become separate kingdoms, with

separate but related royal dynasties. It was only the early deaths of Aethelwulf's first two sons that allowed Æthelbert of Wessex, his third son, to reunite Wessex and the eastern regions, including Sussex, into a single kingdom in 860. This occurred only after Athelberht had secured the consent of his younger brothers, Aethelred and Alfred. Though in part due to the careful cultivation of conquered regions, the establishment of an enduring 'Greater Wessex' stretching along the southern coast owed much to chance, early deaths, and perhaps, to the growing recognition of the need for unity in the face of an increasing Viking threat. Sussex was never again treated as part of an eastern subkingdom but was not closely integrated with the old West Saxon provinces either. Sussex seems to have had its own ealdorman for much of the 10th century.

Royal tributes and dues were often collected at settlements known as king's tuns, often a separate place from where the royal hall of that the king would stay when in the area. Sussex has several places that are king's tuns including from west to east, Kingston by Ferring, Kingston by Sea, now part of Shoreham-by-Sea, and Kingston near Lewes. King's tuns in Anglo-Saxon England often acted as places of assembly, where the king could settle disputes or hear appeals. According to Æthelstan, the first king of England, his grandmother Ælfthryth had the use of an estate at Æthelingadene (East and West Dean near Chichester). Ælfthryth may have brought up her grandchildren, the sons of Æthelred of Wessex, at Æthelingadene, which may have been one of the estates set aside for the benefit of the royal princes or Æthelings.

## Law

Various folkmoots would have been held in Sussex, for instance at Ditchling, Tinhale (in Bersted) and Madehurst. Placename evidence for early assemblies in Sussex comes from Tinhale (from the Old English þing (thing) meaning hold a meeting, so 'meeting-hill') and Madehurst (from the Old English maedel meaning assembly, so 'assembly wooded hill'). The early hundreds often lacked the formality of later attempts of local government: frequently they met in the open, at a convenient central spot, perhaps marked by a tree, as at Easebourne. Dill, meaning the boarded meeting place, was one of the few hundreds in Sussex that provided any accommodation. From the 10th century onwards the hundred became important as a court of justice as well as dealing with matters of local administration. The meeting place was often a point within the hundred such as a bridge (as in the bridge over the western River Rother in Rotherbridge hundred) or a notable tree (such as a tree called Tippa's Oak in Tipnoak hundred).

It is also recorded that an England-wide Royal Council (Witenagemot) took place in Sussex on 3 April 930, when Æthelstan, the first king of the English, and his councilors gathered at Lyminster by the River Arun. Another Witenagemot took place in Sussex in the reign of Æthelstan (924-939), probably at Hamsey, on the River Ouse near Lewes.

A small number of diplomas (documents affirming the grant or tenure of specified land) from Sussex survive from this period. By the 1060s Lewes may have been Sussex's legal centre.

## Religion

After the departure of the Roman army, the Saxons arrived in Sussex in the 5th century and brought with them their polytheistic religion. The Saxon pagan culture probably caused a reversal of the spread of Christianity. In the year 666 Wilfrid's ship ran aground on the Sussex coast near Selsey where it was attacked and a pagan priest sought to cast magic spells from a high mound. Bede also refers to a mass suicide committed by groups of 40 or 50 men who jumped from cliffs during a time of famine. It is probable that these suicides represented sacrifices to appease the god Woden.

Æðelwealh became Sussex's first Christian king when he married Eafe, the daughter of Wulfhere, the Christian king of Mercia. In 681 AD Saint Wilfrid, the exiled Bishop of York, landed at Selsey and is credited with evangelising the local population and founding the church in Sussex. King Æðelwealh granted land to Wilfrid which became the site of Selsey Abbey. According to Bede, it was the last area of the country to be converted. Whilst Wilfrid is credited with the conversion of the Kingdom of Sussex to Christianity, it is unlikely that it was wholly heathen when he arrived. Æðelwealh, Sussex's king, had been baptised. Damianus, a South Saxon, was made Bishop of Rochester in the Kingdom of Kent in the 650s and may indicate earlier missionary work in the first half of the 7th century. At the time of Wilfrid's mission there was a monastery at Bosham containing a few monks led by an Irish monk named Dicul, which was probably part of the Hiberno-Scottish mission of the time. Wilfrid was a champion of Roman customs and it was these customs that were adopted by the church in Sussex rather than the Celtic customs that had taken root in Scotland and Ireland.

Shortly after Æðelwealh granted land to Wilfrid for the church, Æðelwealh was killed by Cædwalla of Wessex, Sussex was conquered by Cædwalla and Christianity in Sussex was put under control of the diocese of Winchester. It was not until c. 715 that Eadberht, Abbot of Selsey was consecrated the first bishop of the South Saxons.

In the late 7th or early 8th century, St. Cuthman, a shepherd who may have been born in Chidham and had been reduced to begging set out from his home with his disabled mother using a one-wheeled cart. When he reached Steyning he saw a vision and stopped there to build a church. Cuthman was venerated as a saint and his church was in existence by 857 when King Æthelwulf of Wessex was buried there. Steyning was an important religious centre and St Cuthman's grave became a place of pilgrimage in the 10th and 11th centuries. St Cuthflæd of Lyminster, is buried in or near to Lyminster Priory. In 681, an outbreak of the plague had devastated parts of England, including Sussex and the monks at Selsey Abbey fasted and prayed for three days for an end to the

outbreak. A young boy with the plague prayed to St Oswald and his prayers were answered, and a vision of St Peter and St Paul was said to have appeared to the boy, telling the boy that he would be the last to die.

The church built at Steyning was one of around 50 minster churches across Sussex and these churches supplied itinerant clergy to surrounding districts. Other examples include churches at Singleton, Lyminster, Findon and Bishopstone. The jurisdiction of each minster church in the pre-Viking era seems to match early land divisions that were replaced by hundreds in the 10th or 11th centuries. It was not until 200–300 years after its conversion to Christianity in the 680s that a network of local parish churches existed in Sussex.

Wilfrid's first act after he was given land at Selsey by King Æðelwealh was to build a monastery to free 250 male and female slaves from slavery who were tied to the estate. These people were probably mainly of Romano-British descent. This is an indication of the very high percentage of slaves in England at this time. Fisher argues that slavery would have been the fate of many people of Romano-British descent at this time. By the 11th century it has been estimated that the proportion of slaves in Sussex was very low at around 4 per cent, some of the lowest rates in England; this compares with 25 per cent in Gloucestershire, 18 per cent in Hampshire and 10 per cent in Kent.

There is significant evidence for Frankish cultural influence on the kingdom of Sussex as well as the neighbouring kingdom of Kent; occasional references in Continental works suggest that Frankish kings may at one point have thought of the people of Sussex and other south eastern kingdoms as their political dependants. According to Gabor Thomas, there are clear cultural differences between how wealth and status were expressed in South Saxon society compared with Anglo Saxon kingdoms to the north. In the kingdom of Sussex and the neighbouring kingdom of Kent the range of ornamented dress accessories metalwork is significantly more austere and limited than in kingdoms to the north. However alternative status symbols were used fully in Sussex by those with higher status. Archaeological evidence shows that luxury food items were consumed in Sussex and exuberant architectural displays were constructed, such as a cellared tower excavated at Bishopstone.

## Art

From the beginning of the 6th century, Merovingian artefacts were present in Sussex, as they were in Kent and on the Isle of Wight, which is thought to reflect cross-Channel exchanges between Saxon Sussex and Merovingian Gaul. Assemblages such as have been found in Eastbourne show that Merovingian dress fashion had spread along the coastline of what is now Sussex, Kent and Hampshire and northern Gaul. Cemeteries at Alfriston, Highdown and Eastbourne show continuous contacts with Gaul from the first half of the 5th century until the early 7th century.

Heraldic device

Depiction of Ælle holding a shield with a design representing Sussex

The shield or emblem of Sussex, sometimes referred to as a coat of arms, consists of six gold martlets on a blue field. It was attributed to the Kingdom of Sussex later in a work called "Saxon Heptarchy" by John Speed that dates from 1611. The depiction shows Ælle of Sussex, the founder and first king of Sussex, holding the shield over his shoulder.

### **St Thomas Becket**

1120 - 1170) was Archbishop of Canterbury from 1162 until his murder in 1170. He is venerated as a saint and martyr by both the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion. He engaged in conflict with Henry II, King of England, over the rights and privileges of the Church and was murdered by followers of the king in Canterbury Cathedral. Soon after his death, he was canonised by Pope Alexander III.

Becket was born about 1120 in Cheapside, London, on 21 December, which was the feast day of St Thomas the Apostle. He was the son of Gilbert and Matilda Beket who were of Norman descent. Gilbert began his life as a textile merchant, but by the 1120s he was living in London and was a property owner, living on the rental income from his properties. He also served as the sheriff of the city at some point.

Plaque marking Becket's birthplace along Cheapside

One of Becket's father's wealthy friends, Richer de L'Aigle, often invited Thomas to his estates in Sussex where Becket was exposed to hunting and hawking. Becket learned much from Richer, who was later a signatory of the Constitutions of Clarendon against Thomas.

Beginning when he was 10, Becket was sent as a student to Merton Priory in England on the old Roman road to Chichester (Stane Street) and later attended a grammar school at St Paul's Cathedral. Later, he spent about a year in Paris around age 20. He did not, however, study canon or civil law at this time and his Latin skill always remained somewhat rudimentary. Some time after Becket began his schooling, Gilbert Beket suffered financial reverses, and the younger Becket was forced to earn a living as a clerk. Gilbert first secured a place for his son in the business of a relative Osbert Huitdeniers and then later Becket acquired a position in the household of Theobald of Bec, by now the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Theobald entrusted him with several important missions to Rome and also sent him to Bologna and Auxerre to study canon law. Theobald in 1154 named Becket Archdeacon of Canterbury. His efficiency in those posts led to Theobald recommending him to King Henry II for the vacant post of Lord Chancellor, to which Becket was appointed in January 1155.

As Chancellor, Becket enforced the king's traditional sources of revenue that were exacted from all landowners, including churches and bishoprics. King Henry even sent his son Henry to live in Becket's household, it being the custom then for noble children to be fostered out to other noble houses. Becket was nominated as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1162, several months after the death of Theobald. His election was confirmed on 23 May 1162 by a royal council of bishops and noblemen. Henry may have hoped that Becket would continue to put the royal government first, rather than the church. However, the famous transformation of Becket into an ascetic occurred at this time.

A rift grew between Henry and Becket as the new archbishop resigned his chancellorship and sought to recover and extend the rights of the archbishopric. This led to a series of conflicts with the King, including that over the jurisdiction of secular courts over English clergymen, which accelerated antipathy between Becket and the king. Attempts by Henry to influence the other bishops against Becket began in Westminster in October 1163, where the King sought approval of the traditional rights of the royal government in regard to the church. This led to the Constitutions of Clarendon, where Becket was officially asked to agree to the King's rights or face political repercussions.

King Henry II presided over the assemblies of most of the higher English clergy at Clarendon Palace on 30 January 1164. In sixteen constitutions, he sought less clerical independence and a weaker connection with Rome. He employed all his skills to induce their consent and was apparently successful with all but Becket. Finally, even Becket expressed his willingness to agree to the substance of the Constitutions of Clarendon, but he still refused to formally sign the documents. Henry summoned Becket to appear before a great council at Northampton Castle on 8 October 1164, to answer allegations of contempt of royal authority and malfeasance in the Chancellor's office. Convicted on the charges, Becket stormed out of the trial and fled to the Continent.

Henry pursued the fugitive archbishop with a series of edicts, targeting Becket as well as all of Becket's friends and supporters, but King Louis VII of France offered Becket protection. He spent nearly two years in the Cistercian abbey of Pontigny, until Henry's threats against the order obliged him to return to Sens. Becket fought back by threatening excommunication and interdict against the king and bishops and the kingdom, but Pope Alexander III, though sympathising with him in theory, favoured a more diplomatic approach. Papal legates were sent in 1167 with authority to act as arbitrators. In 1170, Alexander sent delegates to impose a solution to the dispute. At that point, Henry offered a compromise that would allow Thomas to return to England from exile.

In June 1170, Roger de Pont L'Évêque, the archbishop of York, along with Gilbert Foliot, the Bishop of London, and Josceline de Bohon, the Bishop of Salisbury, crowned the heir apparent, Henry the Young King, at York. This was a breach of Canterbury's privilege of coronation,

and in November 1170 Becket excommunicated all three. While the three clergymen fled to the king in Normandy, Becket continued to excommunicate his opponents in the church, the news of which also reached Henry II, Henry the Young King's father. Upon hearing reports of Becket's actions, Henry is said to have uttered words that were interpreted by his men as wishing Becket killed. The king's exact words are in doubt and several versions have been reported. It may be "What miserable drones and traitors have I nourished and brought up in my household, who let their lord be treated with such shameful contempt by a low-born cleric" Whatever Henry said, it was interpreted as a royal command, and four knights,[12] Reginald FitzUrse, Hugh de Morville, William de Tracy and Richard le Breton, set out to confront the Archbishop of Canterbury. On 29 December 1170, they arrived at Canterbury. According to accounts left by the monk Gervase of Canterbury and eyewitness Edward Grim, they placed their weapons under a tree outside the cathedral and hid their mail armour under cloaks before entering to challenge Becket. The knights informed Becket he was to go to Winchester to give an account of his actions, but Becket refused. It was not until Becket refused their demands to submit to the king's will that they retrieved their weapons and rushed back inside for the killing. Becket, meanwhile, proceeded to the main hall for vespers. The other monks tried to bolt themselves in for safety, but Becket ordered them to reopen the doors. The four knights, wielding drawn swords, ran into the room and found Becket, cutting off the top of the crown then received a second blow on the head then a third knight inflicted a terrible wound as he lay prostrate. By this stroke, the crown of his head was separated from the head. Following Becket's death, the monks prepared his body for burial. According to some accounts, it was discovered that Becket had worn a hairshirt under his archbishop's garments a sign of penance. Soon after, the faithful throughout Europe began venerating Becket as a martyr, and on 21 February 1173 little more than two years after his death he was canonised by Pope Alexander III in St Peter's Church in Segni. On 12 July 1174, in the midst of the Revolt of 1173–74, Henry humbled himself with public penance at Becket's tomb. Becket's assassins were not arrested and neither did Henry confiscate their lands, but he failed to help them when they sought his advice in August 1171. Pope Alexander excommunicated all four. Seeking forgiveness, the assassins travelled to Rome and were ordered by the Pope to serve as knights in the Holy Lands for a period of fourteen years.

### **North Bersted Warrior**

The unique and highly-elaborate grave of a real Warrior Lord have been discovered on a North Bersted building site.

The Iron Age warrior, buried with his glamorous and ornate head-dress, is believed to have spent time in Gaul fighting with or against Julius Caesar's legionnaires as they swept across continental Europe in about 50BC.

The discovery, which will go on display at Chichester's Novium Museum in January 2020, as 'the most elaborately equipped warrior grave ever found in England'.



The grave was found during excavations ahead of a Berkeley Homes housing development in North Bersted in 2008, but it has taken years of conservation and scientific analysis to prepare the artefacts for display.

It is a unique find in both the British Isles and the continent that there isn't another burial that combines this quality of weaponry and Celtic art with a date that puts it around the time of Caesar's attempted conquest of Britain.

He is either someone from eastern England who may have gone and fought with the Gauls that we know was a problem for Caesar, we were allies with the Gauls, helping them with their struggle against him.

'Or he might be a Gaul himself fleeing that conflict, possibly to lend us aid in terms of the knowledge he has about strategy, tactics, he knows Caesar is going to try to divide and rule.

'Also he brings with him his kit, extraordinary weaponry, a beautiful sword which is not like the swords we have, a new technology, style and design and helmet which is absolutely unique with these wonderful Celtic openwork crests which exaggerate his height and make him absolutely fabulous.

He brings that awe and intimidation with him, you can imagine him riding around on horseback, galvanising the local people, training, helping to put in place strategies to try and hold Rome at bay as best as possible.

Alternatively the 'mystery warrior' could have been a military leader for King Commius who allied himself to Caesar and improve his prospects.

Due to the richness of the finds within the grave, the mystery warrior held one of the most prestigious roles in the country.

'This is one of the most exceptional finds in this particular archeological period and is of international significance.'

The key find was the helmet with its unique ornate bronze openwork crest which would have 'shone like gold' and had been decorated with horse-hair plumes.

The Novium Museum will open an exhibition to the public on Saturday, 25 January 2020 and will be the first time that this extraordinary Iron Age Warrior and his burial possessions will be on public display.

The Novium Museum has programmed a range of free activities and events such as family days, lectures and community days to accompany the North Bersted Warrior Exhibition.

## **Gewisse**

The Gewisse were a tribe or clan of Anglo-Saxon England, based in the upper Thames region around Dorchester on Thames.

The Gewisse captured Searobyrig (Salisbury near Old Sarum) in 552 and Beranbyrig (near Swindon) from the Britons in 556. Birinus (c. 600 – 650 was the first Bishop of Dorchester) converted the Gewisse to Christianity in 636 by baptising their king Cynegils and establishing the Diocese of Dorchester. The Gewisse killed the three sons of Sæbert of Essex in about 620, defeated the Britons at the battle of Peonnum in 660 and by 676 had sufficient control over what is now Hampshire to establish a capital at Winchester.

The conquests by the royal house of Gewisse in the 7th and 8th centuries led to the establishment of the Kingdom of Wessex, and Bede treated the two names as interchangeable. It was only during the reign of Cædwalla (685/6 – 688) that the title "king of the Saxons" began to replace "king of the Gewisse". It has suggested that it was Cædwalla's conquest of the Jutish province and the South Saxons that led to the need for a new title to distinguish the expanded realm from its predecessor. However, as there are no surviving documents to indicate how these people described themselves, the most that can be said is that by the time Bede was writing (early 8th century), the phrase "West Saxons" had come into use by scholars.

## **Felpham**

Felpham was in existence long before Bognor Regis, having been mentioned in the Domesday Book of the 11th century, under the hundred of Binstead: St Edward's Abbey [Shaftesbury Abbey] owned Felpham before 1066 and many years after. Its value before 1066 was said to be £10.

William Blake, introduced to the village by his friend William Hayley, lived in Felpham for three years while writing his *Milton: A Poem in Two Books*. The poem contains his famous words about "England's green and pleasant land", today known as the anthem "Jerusalem", which were inspired by Blake's "evident pleasure" in the Felpham countryside.

The cottage where he lived is depicted in the illustrations for the poem. It lies within the original village, close to the Fox public house. Of the village he wrote:

Away to sweet Felpham for heaven is there:  
The Ladder of Angels descends through the air  
On the turrett its spiral does softly descend  
Through the village it winds, at my cot it does end.

The "turrett" in the verse is Hayley's Turret House, east of the church, which he built around 1800. It was in Felpham that Blake had his altercation with the drunken soldier John Scofield, who was trespassing in his garden. This led to Blake's trial for sedition because of Scofield's allegation that he had cursed the king for which with kindly Felpham neighbours testifying in his favour he was duly acquitted. Blake has a road named after him, Blake's Road, the road on which his former residence is sited, and a memorial window dedicated to him in St Mary's Church.

Blake's host, Hayley, was also famous in his day for having turned down the offer of the position of poet laureate in 1790.

The former parish of Felpham, which included the hamlets of Flansham and Ancton and which lies on the south coast east of Bognor Regis and within sight of the South Downs. The northern and western boundaries of the ancient parish generally followed the Aldingbourne rife and its tributaries the Felpham or Flansham rife and the lower part of the Aldingbourne rife, called brynes fleot in 680 and 953, at the latter date bounded the Anglo-Saxon estate of Felpham.

To prevent the incursion of the sea into the valley of the Aldingbourne rife defences were constructed near its mouth by the early 15th century. A bridge, called Felpham bridge, had been built by 1405, presumably occupying the site of the modern bridge at the point where the estuary is narrowest. The sea wall or bank on the archbishop of Canterbury's land to the west of it, mentioned in 1436, had been built at the same time, and it is likely that there was a similar bank to the east. The two constructions are probably represented by the earthworks which survived in 1992, in Felpham along the north side of Upper Bognor Road, and in Bognor Regis in the grounds of the University of Chichester. It is not clear whether the sluice mentioned at the bridge from 1454 was original to it or had been added later. Flooding during the 15th century damaged the bridge at least twice, and also devastated the archbishop's fishery at the mouth of the rife; in 1455 a road near the bridge, presumably on the sea wall, was also submerged. A commission of walls and ditches for the estuary was formed in 1422 and afterwards renewed.

The sluice mentioned at Felpham in 1535 was perhaps on the same site as the earlier one however much land had been reclaimed to the south by c. 1680 when a lower sluice had been constructed beyond the present coastline; it was evidently of timber and had a double exit.

Four groynes were put up near 'Felpham sluices' before 1721, but thereafter the coast began to be subject to further erosion. New defences near the sluices were constructed by the sewer's commissioners for the western part of Sussex in the early 19th century, while nearby to the east embankments and groynes had been put up by 1828 at the expense of landowners. Parts of the sewers commissioners' groynes were destroyed by heavy seas in 1838; a new sluice and other works were constructed in the same year and further groynes, after more damage, c. 1857.

In 1866 the timber sea wall at the mouth of the Aldingbourne rife was badly damaged by storms and a concrete wall was built further inland to replace it. After that too had been damaged in the following winter a third wall with new sluices was constructed still further inland on the present coastline. The coast is reckoned to have receded c. 230 yd. (207 metres) in the west part of the parish between 1778 and c. 1875, and 3½ acres on a Felpham farm was said c. 1862 to have been recently washed away. A cottage and land in the south-east corner disappeared between 1824 and c. 1840.

Responsibility for the upkeep of defences continued to be divided between the sewers commissioners and landowners, notably the duke of Richmond; and the construction of stronger defences at Bognor, which extended as far as the parish boundary, seems likely to have added to Felpham's problems. A period of rapid inroads before 1895 destroyed a road near the sluices and caused the White windmill west of Blake's Road to be abandoned; by 1898 several groynes were in disrepair. The sea wall at the Aldingbourne rife was partly renewed c. 1912. By the 1930s a short stretch of low sea wall with a promenade extended along part of the coast at least between the Bognor boundary and Blake's Road, the rest of the coastline of the parish then remaining low cliffs of Upper chalk. Defences east of Blake's Road were reconstructed by the army after wartime damage, and a new sea wall and promenade were built between Bognor and Blake's Road in the mid 1950s. The promenade was extended eastwards towards the Middleton boundary in the 1960s. The lower course of the Aldingbourne rife was straightened in 1959 during the construction of Butlin's holiday camp in Bognor Regis. Another new sea wall and promenade were built in the south-west corner of the parish c. 1993, and rock groynes were constructed off-shore c. 1995.

#### Felpham and Middleton c. 1875

Apart from breaches of the coastline by the sea, the parish has often experienced flooding in the 19th and 20th centuries as a result of heavy rain in the catchment area of its streams. Copperas stone was collected from the beach in 1711 and sea spinach was gathered in 1828. Eels were caught in the later 19th century or earlier 20th in the Ryebank rife on the Yapton boundary. As in other parishes on the coastal plain there were several ponds in the 19th century, for instance along the eastern section of Felpham Way. Land use in the late 20th century was mixed. The southern part of the ancient parish was built over, and though the broad meadows backed by trees which had formerly separated Felpham from Bognor Regis had given way to Butlin's holiday camp in 1960, a gap between the two places remained further inland. Much of the north end of the parish was still farmed in 1992, though a large area in the north-west had been converted into a golf course in the 1920s.

There has never apparently been much woodland in the parish; the woods on the manor yielding 30 swine in 1086 may have been in the Weald. Despite the grant of free warren at Felpham to Shaftesbury abbey, owner of the manor, in 1293 no park is ever known to have existed.

Settlement before the 18th century seems to have been clustered around central points. Felpham village occupies slightly rising ground in the extreme south-west corner of the parish close to the Aldingbourne rife. The road through the village had no importance before the 19th century; hence perhaps the village's hotchpotch street pattern. A 'burnt mound' north-west of the church has revealed Mesolithic and Bronze Age activity, and there may have been Roman settlement at the west end of Limmer Lane.

In the late 18th century and early 19th there were 25-30 dwellings, not all aligned to the roads and with much open land between them; among the larger were Church House, the Old Rectory, Turret House ( William Hayleys residence), and the Manor House in Limmer Lane. With the growth of the resort there had been some infilling by the 1870s, including two terraces in Waterloo Road, of which one incorporates a converted

farm building faced with beach pebbles. After 1914 a large house, the Forest, later the Gateway school, was built south of the church in grounds of c. 2 a. which included specimen trees. Until the 20th century the village was separated from the sea by fields, so that houses on its southern edge had uninterrupted coastal views.

Felpham's rural character, still unspoilt c. 1917, when farms continued to abut the main street, was gradually eroded during the next 40 years, as the parish shared in Bognor Regis's growth: already by 1930 one visitor considered that the village had become like other outlying parts of that town, though in 1992 the combination of old buildings, high flint walls, trees, and the picturesque arrangement of roads, retained for it an old-fashioned air. Farm buildings northeast and east of the church were demolished after c. 1920 and replaced by shops and a garage, while a large flat-roofed block of shops with flats above, more appropriate to a London suburb, was built on a prominent site to the south. Turret House was demolished in 1961 and the former Gateway school in or after 1978, but the Old Rectory and Church House escaped that fate, and were converted respectively into flats for the elderly and offices. Further houses, shops, and flats, some also for the elderly and some incongruous in architectural style or scale, were built in the same period. Many residents at that time nevertheless strongly wished to preserve the village's separateness from Bognor.

Building materials used in older buildings in the village, as elsewhere in the parish, include timber-framing, brick, flint, sometimes squared and sometimes as cobbles, 'Bognor rock' sandstone rubble, and thatch.

The oldest surviving secular building in the village is Pear Tree cottage in Vicarage Lane, an early 16th-century timber-framed house of three bays with a queen-post roof and internal smokehood. A lean-to was afterwards added on the north side, and apparently in the late 16th century or early 17th the house was largely encased in walls of rubble. Two gables were added on the south front in the late 19th or early 20th century. Two demolished buildings northeast and south of the church were also probably 16th- or 17th-century: both apparently had a hall range and parlour cross wing, and the former also a one-storeyed east service end.

Blake's cottage in Blake's Road is apparently 17th-century with later alterations. Other 17th century buildings, all in Felpham Road, are Lavenham cottage, at right angles to the road, Lavender cottage, and probably the timber framed house called the Barn next to the George inn. The main range of the timber-framed Fox inn, burnt down in 1946, seems to have been 17th-century to judge from the window shapes, chimneystack, and lobby entrance; its taller cross wing was perhaps slightly later and contained a bay window apparently inserted in the 18th century. The early 19th-century Church cottage in Felpham Road has a Gothic window in the rear wall to light the staircase; the porch of bulbous and uneven flint columns is apparently an addition.

The hamlet of Flansham in the north part of the parish also occupies slightly rising ground, together with Hoe Farmhouse to the northwest. A late Bronze Age 'founder's hoard' from Hoe Lane possibly indicates occupation and there is evidence for Roman settlement. About 1844 there

were 12 dwellings loosely scattered around a junction of three lanes and in 1898 two farms and 14 cottages. Several new houses and bungalows, some large, were built after c. 1910, chiefly at the west end. Though the hamlet's nearness to the Bognor- London road was stressed when Flansham farm was advertised for sale in 1837, by the mid 20th century it was notable for its seclusion and rural aspect despite close proximity to the edge of Bognor's built-up area. Elms grew so thickly in the 1940s as to render part of Hoe Lane virtually a tunnel in summer. Ancton hamlet lies close to the Middleton boundary in the east part of the ancient parish. There were only four or five dwellings in the mid 19th century besides two or three houses built on roadside waste in Yapton Road to the west. (fn. 89) The 20th-century history of settlement at Ancton is treated below. The Ancton House hotel, formerly Ancton Farmhouse, was built in the 17th century to a T-shaped plan, the rear wing having one storey with attics; the tall west cross wing was refronted and remodelled in the early 19th century. Ancton Manor was originally a 17th-century house of three-roomed plan; the central and eastern rooms were probably originally timber-framed and the western room was built or rebuilt in flint with brick dressings in 1677. The eastern section was reconstructed in the same materials in 1751. The whole house was refurbished in the 19th century, and probably at the same period a staircase was cut through the large 17th-century chimneystack in the centre.

Innerwick and Outerwick, evidently outlying demesne farms of Felpham manor lying between Felpham and Flansham, were the nucleus of Wick tithing recorded from 1543, which in 1803 included the lower part of Flansham Lane. Roman pottery found near Outerwick Farmhouse may indicate earlier settlement in the area, and there was a Romano-British farmstead east of Flansham Lane. The smithy recorded at Wick in 1624 perhaps occupied the site of the later one in Felpham Way east of Summerley Lane, and in 1778 there was a cluster of houses near the crossroads formed by those two roads and the modern Firs Avenue. Other houses then existed in Felpham Way to east and west. About 1844 there was a virtually continuous line of houses along the north side only of Felpham Way between the north end of Felpham Road and Outerwick Farmhouse, besides c. 16 dwellings east of Outerwick and in Flansham Lane; some in both areas had evidently been built on roadside waste. During the 19th century the junction of Felpham Way, Flansham Lane, and Middleton Road became a focus for the surrounding nucleated settlements in Felpham and Middleton parishes, with the presence of the school, a public house, a pound, and the parish poorhouse.

Innerwick Farmhouse has a three-bayed, twostoreyed, 18th-century front perhaps built in 1734, the date inscribed over the door. The stuccoed Outerwick Farmhouse on Felpham Way was built c. 1800 and has two storeys with an attic and an elegant doorcase. In poor condition, it was gutted by fire in 1992. Older houses further west in Felpham Way include the 18th century Bentinck House of painted red brick, and the grander Wyke House and Richmond House.

The number of houses in the parish rose from 74 in 1801 to 119 in 1861 and 208 in 1901, with particularly large increases in the 1860s and 80s, largely absorbed within the existing areas of settlement. The history of late 19th- and 20th-century development, on the other hand, is of the gradual spread of houses through the south and central parts of the parish, joining Felpham to Middleton on the east and almost to Bognor on the west. There was rapid development in the 1920s and was matched by large increases in population in the 1920s and 30s. Development was by individual estates, sometimes private, which often did not connect with their neighbours; their picturesque layout, with trees and grass

verges that in Limmer Lane formed banks above road level, gave the southern part of the parish the appearance of a 'garden city by the sea'. Several estates remained private in 1992.

Land between the coastguard station south of the village and the sea was offered for sale, as the Felpham Mill building estate, in 1884. The streets east of Sea Road had already been laid out, and during the next 25 years they were built up piecemeal with a mixture of chiefly small brick or rendered terraced and semidetached houses, many of which were let as apartments in summer. In Canning Road houses were built only on the north side, one terrace having a continuous balcony of seaside character. Directly in front of the sea and along the west side of Sea Road a group of cheaper houses were put up in the 1910s, standing on stilts to avoid flooding; some incorporated railway carriages, and they had outdoor staircases, decorated verandas, and roof gardens. The area was separate from the village in the 1910s and 20s, when it was known as 'Felpham by the sea'.

East and north-east of the coastguard station the 'Felpham building estate' was marked out for housing by 1904, but development seems not to have begun before 1910, when Admiralty Road had houses on its north side. There were at least 34 houses in Blake's Road and streets to the east by 1927; the area, described in 1922 as a garden estate, was largely built up by 1934 and fully by 1940.

West of Felpham village, in what until 1913 was part of Bersted parish, the lower part of Links Avenue was built up by the farmer E. F. Sait c. 1909-12. By 1934 land to the north, formerly part of Bognor golf course, had also been laid out chiefly with detached houses and bungalows.

After the First World War building development spread along the coast to the east. There were at least four houses on the Felpham Beach estate south of Limmer Lane in 1918 and many by 1927. The Summerley estate further east was laid out after c. 1922; it was called the chief estate in the parish in 1927 and has always retained its exclusivity. Big houses were also built along Limmer Lane itself and in streets to the north. On the Beach estate the streets adopted a rectangular pattern around an oblong green. The western part of the Summerley estate also had straight roads, but the later portion to north and east was on a more picturesque plan with curving roads and a patch of woodland in Crossbush Road. Manor Close north of Limmer Lane has large houses picturesquely arranged around a roughly oval space. By 1934 the area described was largely built up and by 1940 wholly so, except for the eastern part of the Summerley estate which was not finished until after 1945. The remaining land south of Felpham Way and Middleton Road, except for that reserved for recreation, was developed for building in the 1960s and 70s with a mixture of houses and bungalows.

North of the Felpham-Littlehampton road, meanwhile, building had begun around Innerwick Farmhouse c. 1923. There were houses in Firs Avenue, Newbarn Lane, and Outerwyke Road by 1927, and more were built in the same area before 1940. On the Roundle estate to the east some houses had been built by 1932 and further roads, including Roundle Square with a central open lawn, marked out, most of the area being built up by 1940. Downview Road further west, leading to the new golf course, was laid out by 1934, when some large houses had been built,



others following before 1940. (fn. 132) By 1957 there had been further development both east and west of Downview Road, and by 1980 virtually the whole area between the school playing fields on the west and Flansham Lane on the east had been built up with a mixture of detached and semidetached houses and bungalows with some terraced houses.

Felpham as a seaside resort.

Until the mid 18th century Felpham's economy was based on agriculture and maritime activities. After that date it developed a new character as a holiday resort. The poet William Hayley enjoyed sea bathing there as a child in the 1750s, and in 1770 he and others from Chichester visited Felpham for 'a little party of pleasure'. There were bathing machines by 1781; in newspaper advertisements placed between that date and 1799 of houses to let for the season the village, 'at once rural and marine', was extolled as also having a dry and healthy soil, opportunities for sailing, and a 'genteel' clientele. It was perhaps because of Felpham's evident success as a resort, albeit small, that Sir Richard Hotham chose nearby Bognor c. 1785 for his much larger projected undertaking of the same kind.

Hayley bought a furnished cottage at Felpham in 1791 to continue his association with the sea and moved to the village permanently in 1800. The duke of Richmond's sister-in-law, the sculptress Anne Seymour Damer, also visited the place in 1791 and other aristocratic patrons followed, many visiting Hayley. Besides the attractions already indicated, there were great houses nearby to see, while boats could be hired for excursions to the Owers lightship or Selsey Bill. In the early 19th century, in contrast to the grander style represented by Bognor's hotel, subscription room, library, and other visitors' facilities, Felpham remained quiet and informal, while also taking the overflow of Bognor's visitors at busy times. There were several lodging houses in 1807, when in accommodation, views, and situation Felpham was reckoned far superior to South Bersted.

In the mid 19th century other moneyed or retired people moved into the parish to live permanently, together with at least one artist. Nineteen parishioners besides clergy were listed as private residents in 1887, 30 in 1895, and 47 in 1899. As a seaside resort Felpham retained its lack of formality in 1868 when bathing without machines was allowed there, one secluded place being reserved for women.

From the early 20th century Felpham maintained its dual character of a seaside resort and a place for permanent residence. Both functions were enhanced by its relative seclusion, the mild, sunny, and healthy climate, the nearness of Bognor with its services and entertainments, and easy access from London. Besides the longstanding activities of bathing, fishing, and boating developed new ones like tennis and golf, and c. 1922 daily 'charabanc' excursions were on offer. Felpham also retained its lack of conventionality in contrast to larger resorts; unlike at Bognor there were no rules or bylaws about access to the sea, and at least one boarding house c. 1922 allowed 'bathing from house'. Bathing huts could also be hired on part of the front. About 1930 Felpham was described as the family resort par excellence.

Houses by the sea east of Blake's Road retained private access to the beach until the construction of a promenade along that stretch of coast in the 1960s.

There were two retailers of wine or ale in 1543, one alehouse in 1605, and several in 1613. A victualler was recorded in 1706. Of the two chief inns of the village the Fox existed by 1799 and was rebuilt after virtual destruction by fire in 1946, while the George existed, as the George and Dragon, by 1832.

Two coastal beacons had been erected southeast of the church by 1587 in connexion with defence against the Spanish Armada.

The poet William Hayley (d. 1820) built himself a house in Felpham village and moved there permanently in 1800. The two-storeyed building, later known as Turret House, had a lofty turret of square plan over the entrance which carried a circular lookout giving fine coastal views. The upper floor of the three bayed east front housed a library decorated with busts and pictures. The garden included a covered way for riding exercise. Battlements were added and the building otherwise considerably altered later in the 19th century, and by 1951 the house had been converted into flats. It was demolished in 1961.

Resident in the parish at the same time as Hayley was the Revd. Cyril Jackson, former dean of Christ Church, Oxford (d. 1819), and tutor to the Prince Regent, who leased the Old Rectory from 1807 or earlier; despite the proximity of their houses, however, the two men did not associate.

It was at Hayley's instigation that William Blake spent the years 1800-3 in a cottage close to the Old Rectory, writing, engraving, and painting portraits chiefly of poets for Hayley's library. Though he left Felpham in disillusion after being accused of Sedition by billeted soldiers (ready for anticipated invasion by Napoleon) Blake was at first happy there, describing it as 'the sweetest spot on earth', 'a dwelling for immortals', and the villagers as 'polite and modest', the men 'the mildest of the human race'.

The Glaswegian artist and printer James Guthrie moved his Pear Tree press to Flansham in 1907 and lived and worked there until his death in 1952. He was visited by his friend the poet Edward Thomas, and in the 1920s by the novelist Evelyn Waugh who proposed himself as his apprentice. Another Edwardian resident of Flansham was the actress Mrs. Lewis Waller (Florence West) (d. 1912), who lived at Chessels house, holding theatrical house parties attended by, among others, Aubrey Beardsley and Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree.

#### MANOR AND OTHER ESTATES.

King Alfred (d. 899) devised an estate at FELPHAM to Osferth, a relative and in 953 King Eadred granted what may have been the same, described as 30 hides, to his mother Eadgifu. From the bounds listed the latter was clearly at least as large as the area of the ancient parish. By

1066 Felpham had passed to Shaftesbury abbey (Dors.), with which it remained until the Dissolution; in 1244 it was apparently two fees. Land held by Shaftesbury in the later Middle Ages in Egdean, Fittleworth, and Kirdford represents Wealden outliers of the Anglo-Saxon estate, but by that period the main part of the manor seems to have been coterminous with Felpham ancient parish. The reduction in hidation between 1066 and 1086 may be due to the creation of Elmer manor

In 1574 the Crown granted the manor to Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester; he sold it in 1584 to (Sir) Henry Goring of Burton (d. 1594), who was succeeded in the direct line by Sir William Goring (d. 1601-2) and Sir Henry Goring (d. 1626). The manor house and demesne were excepted from the Crown grant of 1574 but also belonged to the Gorings by 1614; they were sold in 1620 and the manor itself in 1623 to pay the second Sir Henry's debts; the purchaser was Nicholas Thompson (d. 1628), whose widow Mary was dealing with the manor in 1630. In 1631, however, Felpham was in the hands of his two daughters and coheirs Elizabeth, wife of John Boys, and Catherine, by 1635 the wife of Robert Anderson. In 1640 the estate was divided between them, the manor itself, with what were later Innerwick and Outerwick farms and other demesne land, going to Robert and Catherine, and the rest of the demesne in Felpham and Flansham to John and Elizabeth.

Robert Anderson (fl. 1635; d. 1686) was succeeded by a namesake (fl. 1697), who was succeeded before 1702 by (Sir) Richard Anderson. He in 1704 sold the manor to Francis Doyley (d. in or after 1711). Francis's son and namesake (fl. 1723-4), was succeeded before 1730 by his son Thomas. At Thomas's death in 1770 the manor passed to his son Matthias, who in 1801 sold it to William Pellett. He and his wife Charlotte sold Felpham in 1821 to John Heather Hussey and William Titchenor, mercers and drapers of Chichester. Hussey died in 1827 and was succeeded by his son William, probably the William Heather Hussey who died c. 1862. In 1849 the estate included Hoe farm at Flansham and what was called Manor Farmhouse in Felpham Way. By that date William Titchenor had died, his heirs being his daughters Maria, Elizabeth, and Frances. About 1866 Elizabeth and Frances, with Mary Ann Hussey, evidently William's widow, sold the manor to Charles Thomas Marshall, who conveyed it in 1870 to James Wilson, a civil engineer. Wilson was still lord in 1881. The lordship was later said to belong to W. M. Chinnery (in 1887), Mrs. Auld (1895), James Gibson (1899-1905), and Mrs. J. W. Clayton (1913-38). Manor Farmhouse with 54 a. had meanwhile been exchanged by C. T. Marshall c. 1867 to the duke of Richmond.

Elizabeth Thompson's share of the Felpham estate was conveyed by her husband John Boys in 1666 to Roger Sparkes, then vicar of Felpham (d. 1679), from whom it descended in the Sparkes family, apparently through Robert (d. 1698), Thomas (fl. 1703-20), and Thomas's son Robert (d. 1742 or 1743), who devised lands in Felpham to his son, also Thomas. Another Robert Sparkes (perhaps fl. 1792) was one of the chief landowners of the parish in 1819. Robert was succeeded, as tenants in common, by his sons Charles and Francis, who in 1824 had 230 a. in Felpham. In 1827 they conveyed that land to the duke of Richmond, and it afterwards descended with the other estates of the dukedom.

In the mid 19th century the former Sparkes farm was known as Felpham farm. The reunited demesne farm was sold in 1911 to the tenant Robert Sadler, part passing in 1922 to Summerley Estates Ltd.

A manor house, evidently once the residence of Shaftesbury abbey's bailiff, was mentioned from 1530. Its site is unknown, but three buildings were later associated with the manor.

Church House, which descended with the Boys share of the estate, occupies a typical position for a manor house close to the church. It is a three-bayed, two-storeyed building of the early or mid 18th century with a front of red and grey brick and a contemporary staircase. In the 1880s and 90s it was a farmhouse. The building was saved from demolition in 1966 and was remodelled internally for office use in 1988.

The Old Manor House in Felpham Way belonged to the Anderson share of the estate and was called Manor Farmhouse in 1849. The main range of the present building is probably 18th-century, with a rendered west front and a later rear extension. In the 1930s it was a hotel and in 1988 it was remodelled as a nursing home.

The Manor House in Limmer Lane owes its name to the fact that successive owners of the manor lived there from 1871; an earlier title was Felpham House. Of the later 18th century, it has a rendered front of five narrow bays and three storeys above a high basement. The interior was extensively refitted in the early 19th century, and later in the century tall bay windows were added to the south front and extensions put up to east and west. Large cellars included the kitchens and servants' hall. The grounds in 1883 covered 2¼ a., most of which remained garden in 1988.

Innerwick Farm was retained by Sir Richard Anderson at his sale of the manor in 1704 and sold by him to Richard Gibbs in 1714. Gibbs (d. 1720) was succeeded in turn by his son John (d. 1760) and John's son Richard, from whom the farm passed by 1798 to his mortgagee William Cosens. Meanwhile Outerwick Farm (183 a.) had been sold in 1791 by Matthias Doyley to Sir Richard Hotham of Bognor, after whose death in 1799 it was acquired by William Cosens. At William's death in 1811 his estate in Felpham was divided between his sons Thomas and Edmund, Thomas receiving Innerwick farm (175 a.) and Edmund Outerwick (134 a.). At Thomas's death in 1864 Innerwick was sold to John Kent, former racehorse trainer to the duke of Richmond, passing also by sale in 1894 to F. J. Neale and in 1919 to P. A. Norman. Outerwick was sold by Edmund Cosens in 1832 to William Allin of Arundel (fl. c. 1844), whose daughter and heir Eliza married Henry Hounsom; c. 1910 it belonged to Henry's son William A. Hounsom (d. 1934). Between 1899 or earlier and 1912 or later it was let to F. J. Neale. Much of the land of both estates was afterwards built over, but part remained open space in 1992 as a golf course and school playing fields.

Land at Flansham which members of the Wyatt family bought from Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester, 1574 - 1584 became the nucleus of the modern Flansham Farm. In 1722 Richard Wyatt conveyed 150 a. at Flansham to his son William, presumably the William who died in 1757. Apparently in 1790 the family's estate at Flansham was sold to William Dyer who conveyed it in 1823 to George Amoore. Amoore acquired other former Wyatt land at Flansham from Richard Hasler in 1825 and in 1840 sold the whole estate, of. 400 a., to Thomas Sanctuary of Rusper (d. 1876). In 1878 it was enlarged through the purchase by Thomas's son the Ven. Thomas Sanctuary from the heirs of Charles Duke

(d. 1860) of Chessels and Chapel farms, which had earlier belonged to the Bridger family. The land comprised c. 500 a. in 1879. By 1882 it had passed to C. S. Leslie of Slindon, descending with the Slindon House estate until in 1908 part (242 a.) was sold to John Langmead (d. 1950). From him that part descended in the direct line to Jack (d. 1978) and Donald Langmead (fl. 1988). The long north-south range of the house called the Old Rectory is 17th-century. A taller block with a two-storeyed bay, providing a new entrance and parlour, was added to the south end by the lessee Thomas Steele (d. 1775),

Tortington priory had 10 a. in Felpham at the Dissolution. A farm of 80-90 a. at Flansham, with other land and pasture rights, was conveyed in 1624 as part of the founding endowment of Thompson's hospital or almshouse in Petworth. It was later called the Hospital farm. In 1921, when it was 56 a. in area, it was

#### Agriculture.

The Anglo-Saxon estate called Felpham in 953 had detached land in Egdean or Fittleworth, Kirdford, and Petworth which included both houses and common woodland pasture. Agricultural statistics given for Felpham in Domesday Book seem also to relate to a much larger area than the parish, and the manor still had holdings in Egdean and Fittleworth in 1500. In 1341 the ninth of sheaves was worth nine times as much as those of fleeces and lambs together, indicating predominantly arable farming. Flax, hemp, and apples were grown at that date and cattle and pigs kept, while the rectory estate as well as the manor had tenants. Medieval farms, besides those in the nucleated settlements of Felpham, Flansham, and Ancton, possibly included the outlying demesne holdings of Innerwick and Outerwick, and Hoe farm north-west of Flansham.

Open-field arable is recorded from the 16th century near both Felpham village and Flansham hamlet; it presumably existed earlier as well. At Felpham in the early 19th century Mill, Owlee, Water lane, and Little common fields formed an arc between the south and north-east sides of the village. Punch Gaston common field lay west of Flansham hamlet from the early 17th century, and Wish common field in 1772 was near Flansham brooks. The Hoe and West and North gastons recorded at Flansham in 1638 and the Dagmare in the 18th century (fn. 390) were apparently other open fields. Only Punch Gaston, of 7 a., remained open there in the earlier 19th century. Woodhill common field, which at the same date lay between Flansham and Outerwick Farmhouse, was perhaps the Wick or Wick common field of 1656. Though land in the latter field was sometimes held with land in the Felpham fields, land in the Flansham fields seems never to have been. No open fields are recorded at Ancton. By 1662 all openfield holdings held of the manor except one of 7 a. had been engrossed or enfranchised.

Apart from Mill brook in the south-west corner of the parish by Felpham bridge, common brookland lay chiefly in the north and northwest along the Ryebank and Felpham rifes, where there were 213 a. in all in 1840; the two areas were sometimes known respectively as Felpham and Flansham brooks. There was also common pasture at Wick, of unknown location. A holding of 34 a. at Flansham in 1638 had pasture rights for 6 cattle, 2 horses, and 15 sheep, and on another of 52 a. in 1819 the comparable figures were 3, 3, and 18. Leases in the brooks were often held

with land in the open fields, but there was the same distinction between those at Felpham and those at Flansham. Some common brookland was used as meadow, subject apparently to annual division.

In 1540 five freeholders on Felpham manor had holdings of up to 3 yardlands, while more than 50 copyholders had c. 60 tenements between them, some small and others of up to 6 yardlands; none of the land mentioned lay outside the parish. One copyhold at least was held for three lives in 1548, as was common practice later; copyholds could be sublet in the 1540s. The demesne was then leased, as like other monastic demesnes it had been before, and as it continued to be later in the 16th century. Tortington priory had copyhold land in Felpham in 1537 but no other estate outside the parish is ever recorded as having land within it.

During the earl of Leicester's ownership of Felpham 1574-84 much land held of the manor was sold or converted to leasehold, becoming the kernels of later farms, for instance the unnamed holdings of 60 or 80 a. at Ancton in the 17th century. (fn. 410) In 1640 there were at least seven farms on the demesne. Only a few small freeholds and copyholds remained at that period and by the late 18th century there were only one or two. Farms generally grew in size between the 17th century and the early 19th; already in 1667 one holding based at Flansham and including a lease of the rectory estate had over 300 a. Outerwick farm in 1791 had 183 a. and Charles and Francis Sparkes' farm in 1824 had 230 a. in the parish besides 77 a. in South Bersted. Closes on the two last named holdings, on Archdeacon Webber's farm in 1834, and on Manor farm, Felpham Way, c. 1850, were very scattered, indicating their origin under openfield agriculture.

Mixed farming was practised in the parish between the 16th and 18th centuries. Sheep, cattle, poultry, and pigs were kept, and crops grown were wheat, barley, oats, peas and beans, vetches, and tares with some woad and hemp. A flock of 160 sheep was recorded at one of the Wick farms in 1623, one of 600 besides 110 cattle at Flansham and elsewhere in 1667, and others of between 52 and 131 sheep at other dates; the importance of sheep is indicated by the existence of sheepwashes east of Flansham hamlet and near the Yapton boundary at Bilsham. Parishioners often farmed land in neighbouring parishes as well as in Felpham during the period. Some seeds were being grown by the 1730s, and turnips were mentioned on one farm in 1779.

In the early 19th century twice as much wheat as barley seems to have been grown, with lesser quantities of oats and peas; 117 cattle including draught oxen were listed in 1803, 516 sheep, and the large number of 295 pigs. A three- or four-course rotation is apparently indicated on one farm in 1804, and a six-course rotation, apparently of wheat, turnips, barley, seeds, wheat, and beans with tares, was widely used in 1844. The open fields and common brooks of the parish were enclosed in 1840 under an Act of 1826. At Felpham village the duke of Richmond received 59 a. and five other landowners between 1 and 20 a. each. At Flansham George Amooore received 131 a., the lords of Felpham manor 25 a., Thompson's hospital, Petworth, at least 19 a., and four other landowners between 3 and 22 a. each. Other kinds of agricultural improvement were being practised in 1828, and in 1835 most of the parish was said to be in a high state of cultivation.

About 1844 the two largest holdings were Flansham farm (401 a.), comprising most of the north-west quarter, and Thomas Cosens' farm which included land at Felpham village and at Wick (358 a.); in 1851 they had 17 and 12 labourers respectively. There were six other holdings of between 80 a. and 175 a. c. 1844. Ancton farm was held in 1852 with Middleton farm, making c. 400 a. in all, while Felpham farm, based at Church House in Felpham village, was held with Barnham manor demesne farm as a combined holding of 389 a. c. 1862 and 600 a. in 1881. Flansham farm had 512 a. in 1871 and Innerwick farm 522 a. in 1881. Most land was rented between the mid 19th century and earlier 20th and there were said to be no resident landowners in 1867 and 1881. Leases of between 5 and 21 years are recorded between the 1850s and 80s. By c. 1910 no farm within the area of the modern parish was more than 250 a. in area.

Felpham participated in the 'Swing' riots of 1830, when a group of 100-150 labourers, later growing to a crowd of 500, forced Thomas Cosens to offer to raise agricultural wages; the introduction of the new Poor Law in 1835 was similarly greeted by a rising. In 1878, on the other hand, work was said to be plentiful and wages reasonable. The predominance of arable in the period 1800-75 no longer obtained by the early 20th century: instead of the 856 a. of corn crops, chiefly wheat, and 313 a. of green crops, mostly turnips and swedes, returned in 1875, there was then apparently a smaller total acreage, including a much higher proportion of oats; the corresponding totals for grassland were 463 a. in 1875 and 696 a. in 1909. Many closes were amalgamated between 1844 and c. 1875. There were three shepherds in 1871.

Beginning in the late 19th century agricultural land in the south part of the parish succumbed gradually to building development. The chief farmer in the 1920s was P. A. Norman, who besides using his own land at Innerwick farm leased Outerwick and Drygrounds farms. By the 1980s much of that land too had been built over or converted to other uses, notably school playing fields and a golf course. Dairying and poultry farming were practised in the 1920s and 30s and two dairy herds and a poultry farm remained at Flansham in 1992, but by 1995 little dairying was practised. Chessels farm at Flansham was managed in the 1940s and later with a downland farm at Madehurst.

Orchards and market gardens were an alternative land use in the 20th century. Six acres of orchards had been returned in 1875 and there were 2½ a. in the ancient parish, including Ancton, in 1909. A fruit grower was mentioned c. 1910 and market gardeners and nurserymen from c. 1900, notably north of the village and between Flansham and Ancton. Only one market garden remained in the modern parish in 1992, on the east side of Flansham Lane. There were allotments north of the church by 1912, which by 1928 were managed by the parish council.

Mills.

There were two mills in the parish in 1341. One was possibly the predecessor of the windmill recorded on Felpham manor in the 16th century, which since it was said to be in the south-west part of the parish in 1593 may have occupied the slight elevation at the corner of Felpham and Upper Bognor roads where later stood what was called the Black windmill. Millers are known by name from the 16th century. The Black windmill was the only mill recorded in the parish in the 17th and 18th centuries. The very tall smock mill called the White windmill, on

the sea front west of Blake's Road, was built c. 1800 but was abandoned because of sea erosion and demolished in 1879. It was presumably Bognor's rising population during the 19th century which made two mills viable. About 1844 they were worked together. The Black windmill had also ceased to be used by 1896.

#### Other trades and industries.

Felpham's high assessment to tax in Avisford hundred in 1334 indicates the presence of other non-agricultural employment. Apart from possibly a chapman at that period and a tailor in 1428, however, occupations for which there is medieval evidence were all associated with the sea. A manorial fishery is recorded in 1086 but not later; in the 14th and 15th centuries, however, there was a 'fishery of Felpham' belonging to the archbishop of Canterbury's estate beyond the Aldingbourne rife; it was devastated by the sea in 1426. Fish tithes were paid to the rector in 1341. Several ships or boats were recorded as belonging to Felpham in the 15th and 16th centuries. The estuary of the Aldingbourne rife may have offered a harbour, but in 1587 the only good landing places between Pagham and Littlehampton were on the beach, including one in the east part of the parish and only there around high tide. Most Felpham vessels were in the coastal trade, but one in 1439 plied to the Low Countries; most seem to have been under 50 tons but there were two larger ones in 1572. It was presumably maritime activity which caused the presence in the parish of four aliens, all servants, in 1525. For customs purposes Felpham lay within Chichester port.

Various fishermen were recorded in the 17th and 18th centuries, and other parishioners besides a victualler in 1706 probably owned fishing tackle for their own use. Several parishioners were described as seamen in the 17th century, sometimes four at the same date. In 1801 five boats were listed, but no-one was then willing to serve as a boatman in the event of invasion by Napoleon.

Four unmounted coastguards had been established at Felpham c. 1295, as one of only three such places in the rape. Riding officers for Felpham were appointed from 1699, and in the 1810s and 20s a coastguard officer, two preventive officers, and many boatmen, presumably stationed at Bognor, were recorded. A coastguard station was built c. 1861 midway between Felpham village and the sea, comprising a detached officer's house, a watch house, and two rows of red and yellow brick cottages; the boathouse was east of the modern Blake's Road. In 1887, after the closure of the coastguard station in Bognor, it was described as Bognor coastguard station. There were 46 inmates in all in 1871. The station was closed in the early 1920s, and soon afterwards three large houses were built between the rows of cottages, and a parade of shops in the garden of the officer's house along Felpham Road.

Most other non-agricultural occupations recorded between the 16th and late 18th centuries were those typical of a small village: baker, brewer, butcher, wheelwright, weaver, tailor, shoemaker, carpenter and blacksmith. Mercers were mentioned from the later 17th century. Most tradesmen presumably lived in the village, but brewers and a butcher were recorded in Ancton and Wick tithings in the 1540s and a smithy was said to lie at Wick in 1624. A butcher of Felpham in 1652 leased a shop and stalls in Arundel high street from the corporation.



In the early 19th century the parish had a very high proportion of tradesmen: more than one in four of those in work in 1831 and as many as one in two in 1811. During the 19th and 20th centuries the number and variety of trades increased in step with Felpham's growth as both a seaside resort and a place for residence or retirement. There was usually at least one grocer or shopkeeper in that period. Less usual trades in the mid 19th century were those of cabinet maker, maltster, laundress, marine store dealer, sea defence contractor, and drawing master, while other specialized occupations mentioned later, with dates of first occurrence, were those of florist (1895), greengrocer (1899), stationer (1903), fishmonger (1915), tobacconist, newsagent (1922), and hairdresser (1927). There was a chemist by c. 1922 and two in 1934, a firm of electrical engineers in 1930, and in the 1930s music sellers, two wine merchants, a landscape gardener, a wireless engineer, a chimney sweep, an upholsterer, and a watchmaker, besides a toy shop. A coal merchant was recorded in the village from 1839; there were two in 1927, one of whom was also a wood merchant and haulage contractor.

By 1791 Sir Richard Hotham had started a lime kiln at the seaward end of Limmer Lane to serve his building operations in Bognor. Early 19th-century construction in both Felpham and Bognor presumably gave employment to the bricklayer, masons, and glaziers recorded between 1800 and the 1830s. There was perhaps a brickyard on the south side of Limmer Lane in 1844. In 1862 one builder was listed, but the increased rate of development in the early 20th century brought three firms by 1922, five besides a builders' merchants by 1927, and eight by 1938. Brickfields were worked for short periods in the early 20th century in the area of the modern parish and at Flansham. The increasing number of moneyed residents provided work for jobbing gardeners from 1887 or earlier, while the expansion of the seaside resort from the later 19th century, besides giving rise to the lodging houses, guest houses, and hotels mentioned elsewhere, brought cafés and refreshment rooms, of which there were six in 1934 including one on the esplanade. In 1992 there were several restaurants in the area of the ancient parish excluding Ancton, besides two premises selling 'take-away' food.

A wheelwright continued in business until 1905 together with two blacksmiths, one in the village and one in Felpham Way to the east, the latter surviving until the 1930s. With the growth of motor transport two garages had appeared by 1934, both beside what was then still a main route into Bognor Regis. The premises of the Felpham Motor Works south-west of the village, built c. 1920, could accommodate 30 cars, some in lock-up garages, and the firm also dealt in cycles.

Fishing continued in a small way in the 19th and 20th centuries. Two fishermen were mentioned, besides other mariners, in the 1810s, there were four in 1841, and two lived in the Sea Road area in 1905, when they were presumably included in statistics of fishing at Bognor, catching mixed fish including herrings and shellfish. In 1982 both full- and part-time fishermen operated from the sea front east of Sea Road.

Riding stables existed in the village between the 1930s and 1992.

Many residents in 1996 were retired, and many others worked elsewhere, especially in Chichester.

Shaftesbury abbey (Dors.) seems likely by virtue of its status to have had jurisdiction on Felpham manor, which enjoyed it in the mid 16th century and apparently in the early 17th. Right of wreck belonged to the lord of the rape in 1209-10 but in 1630 was claimed, apparently with success, by the lady of the manor. The abbey had a prison at Felpham in 1248.

There are court rolls or draft court rolls for the view of frankpledge and court baron for various years between 1543 and 1550 and for the court alone for the period 1662-1881. Not more than two sessions a year took place in the 1540s, the view in 1543 being followed by a sheriff's tournament. After 1662 courts were held usually once or twice in a decade, the last in 1827; business was treated out of court by 1662. A plea of land and a case of assault were heard in 1543. In the 1540s the view held the assize of bread and of ale, and dealt with stray beasts and the maintenance of streams; the court, besides regulating tenancies, managed the common land and saw to the repair of roads and fences. After 1662 nearly all business was conveyancing, but a house was ordered to be repaired in 1730 and a piece of the waste was licensed for enclosure in 1881.

Manor officers were a bailiff in 1535 and 1730, chief pledges for the tithings of Felpham, Ancton, and Wick in the 1540s, and a tithingman c. 1822. A manor pound was mentioned in 1547.

Two churchwardens were recorded for many years between 1548 and 1694; there was almost always one only from 1695 to 1850 but afterwards there were usually two. A single overseer served in 1642 and two in 1826. A rate for church repair was levied in 1623.

Before Felpham joined the Yapton Gilbert union in the 1780s there was a parish poorhouse in Flansham Lane; afterwards it was rented out by the parish as two cottages and it survived in 1992. Other methods of poor relief employed between 1790 and 1835 included boarding out, apprenticing, the provision of clothing and medical care, and the payment of weekly doles either in lieu of or to supplement wages. Parish work in a gravel pit was said to be organized, not very effectively, in 1835. Ninety-two parishioners were receiving permanent relief in 1826 and 68 casual relief. In 1835, evidently in anticipation of the stricter conditions laid down by the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act, 43 parishioners joined the Petworth emigration scheme to Canada at the joint expense of the parish and of local landowners. Ten parishioners were still receiving out relief in 1836.

There was a church in 1086, which evidently belonged with the manor to Shaftesbury abbey (Dors.). Despite the grant of a licence in 1344 the abbey never appropriated the benefice, though it continued until the Dissolution to appoint rectors, the living later becoming a sinecure. A vicarage was ordained by 1386. (It was briefly united with Middleton rectory in 1657. In the later 19th century union was often advocated again, and the two benefices were united in 1906, the parishes remaining distinct. The parishes too were united in 1976, when a benefice of Felpham with Middleton was created of which the incumbent was called rector.

The advowson of the vicarage belonged from 1401 or earlier until the mid 19th century to the rector. Two, possibly three, laymen who presented in the later 16th century and earlier 17th were apparently lessees of the rectory estate. Since 1871 the dean and chapter of Chichester have presented to Felpham and later Felpham with Middleton.

The vicar seems to have received a stipend from the rector before the 16th century, since no endowment is known at that period. In 1535 the vicarage was valued at £9 10s. 7d. net, but in 1579 Felpham and Middleton together were said to be worth well under £5. In the early 17th century there was a vicarage house with two garden plots standing south of the church; the vicar then received all the small tithes including those of hemp, as later. In 1646, when the living was worth £25 a year, an extra £50 was ordered to be paid from the profits of the rectory. Later valuations were £34 in 1724, £36 10s. 6d. in 1809, and c. £166 c. 1830.

The vicarage house was said in 1662 to have fallen down many years before, and a replacement was bought before 1687 by the rector and the lord of the manor with contributions from others; it stood north-east of the church and then had a parlour, three chambers, and a study, besides service rooms. In 1724, when some ceilings and parts of the roof and walls were in bad repair, there was also ½ a. of glebe, presumably the close south of the church recorded in 1843. The building was described as unfit for residence c. 1830 and was later demolished, the vicar in 1843 leasing a house in Limmer Lane. At the commutation of tithes at that date a tithe rent charge of £200 12s. was awarded him.

From 1849 or earlier the vicar leased the Old Rectory house, and in 1861 the ecclesiastical commissioners settled it on the living together with 8 a. nearby, afterwards giving an augmentation of £114 a year from 1867. In 1923 a new house for the incumbent in neo-Georgian style was completed on part of the glebe in Limmer Lane.

The spiritual needs of the northern part of the parish were catered for from the mid 14th century or earlier by a chapel of ease at Flansham. By 1547 it had fallen into ruins and in 1640 it was apparently used as a barn.

The vicar in 1529 may also have held Barnham. There was apparently an assistant curate in the 1530s, when a brotherhood of St. Christopher was also recorded. Julian Browning, vicar 1556-82, was resident in 1563 and 1579, on the second occasion being described as a preacher; throughout his period of tenure he held Middleton as well. At least two early 17th-century incumbents were also licensed to preach though the

second, William Hill, was inhibited in 1635 through suspicion of Nonconformity, having told three parishioners from the pulpit he was certain they would be damned. John Goldwire, minister from 1657, was ejected after the Restoration; his orthodox successor held other benefices including Middleton and in 1662 did not always reside.

In 1724 a service with sermon was held each Sunday by the assistant curate, holy communion being celebrated three times a year with 30-40 communicants.

In the 1870s and 80s successive vicars served part of the year as canon residentiary of Chichester cathedral; one of them, Edward Tufnell (d. 1896), had previously been bishop of Brisbane (Australia). The assistant curate lived at Richmond House, Felpham Way, in 1895. Weekday cottage services were held at Flansham in winter in 1898, when there were also daily services in the church.

The church of St. Mary is faced chiefly with flint and some 'Bognor rock' sandstone and consists of chancel, aisled nave with south porch and north vestry, and west tower also with north vestry.

The nave was apparently built in the 11th or 12th century and the aisles added in the 13th; the north aisle arcade, which is the earlier, was cut through the north wall of the existing building, but the south wall was rebuilt. The north wall has 14th-century clerestory windows. The elegant chancel, long in proportion to the nave, is early 14th-century and the battlemented tower, with some chequerwork decoration, is 15th-century. The altar at the east end of the north aisle was apparently the Lady altar mentioned in 1534, and that in the south aisle perhaps belonged to the brotherhood of St. Christopher recorded in the 1530s. A bequest to the 'town lights' of Felpham, Flansham, and Ancton in 1547 may indicate that each tithing of the parish had its own altar. A rood was mentioned in 1535. Rails or a screen still separated chancel and nave in 1776.

The porch mentioned in 1636 had perhaps been built recently since the present structure, which was restored or rebuilt c. 1800 and in the 20th century, includes 16th- or 17th-century timber work. In 1622 both church and chancel were said to be 'very dark and foul'. The chancel ceiling, windows, and walls were still in poor repair in 1776, when there was a wooden partition behind the communion table, the space between it and the east wall being filled with rubbish. A south gallery had been built in the nave by 1784 and was perhaps rebuilt in 1818, but in 1814 accommodation in the church was said to be limited and in 1828 the interior was felt to lack the clean and neat appearance of South Bersted church. In 1845, when the south gallery partly obscured the tower arch, there was also a modern arch of wood in front of the chancel arch and a modern ceiling below the nave roof.

Extensive repairs were carried out c. 1851 and the tower and the nave roof were restored in 1884. Apparently during the same period most of the chancel window tracery was renewed and its roof replaced. The tower vestry was built in 1899, when the north aisle wall was apparently refaced, and the choir vestry beside the north aisle in 1939.

The much restored Sussex marble font is late 12th-century; it has a shallow square bowl decorated with blank Romanesque arcading in flat strips and rests on five pillars. Its original base lies in the churchyard opposite the south door. The chest is 13th-century, similar to that at Climping but plainer; another medieval chest survived in 1845. At the latter date there were still many medieval open benches, their ends decorated with plain poppyheads; they had mostly been replaced by 1851 but one piece survived in the tower gallery in 1992. A medieval stone altar slab, which had perhaps been used as paving in the porch in 1857, also remained in 1992 behind the modern altar. Box pews were built in the church in the later 18th century; one particularly large example near the chancel arch, enclosed entirely on three sides and on the top except for a square hole to admit light, obscured the chancel and darkened the pulpit in 1776, when it was compared to a cabin in a Dutch passage boat.

There were four bells in 1724; one, which survived in 1992, probably of the early 15th century and three dated between 1599 and 1627, one of them made by Bryan Eldridge and one by Henry and Roger Tapsell. The other five bells in place in 1992 were of 1883. (The pre-19th-century plate includes a silver-gilt paten cover dated 1580 with a presumably contemporary tazza-shaped cup, and a silver paten of 1724. There are carved royal arms on the north nave wall. A monument in the chancel and a table tomb in the churchyard commemorate Arthur Gore, earl of Arran (d. 1837), and his wife, residents of Bognor. The registers begin in 1554.

#### NONCONFORMITY.

One woman was presented for recusancy in 1626 and there was one reputed papist in 1781. In the 19th century some coastguard men and their families were Roman Catholics

A schoolmaster was licensed to teach English in 1579 and another to teach reading and writing in 1584.

There was a girls' school at Felpham by 1818, whose site is unknown. Boys then went to school in South Bersted, but a boys' National school was opened in 1831 near the junction of Flansham Lane and Middleton Road; the position was evidently chosen as central among the various settlements in Felpham and Middleton parishes, since pupils from Middleton had apparently attended school in Felpham in 1818

Finance was then provided by subscriptions and an annual charity sermon, but in 1833 by subscriptions and donations only. In 1846-7 the school was known as Felpham and Middleton school, though later nomenclature varied. Average attendance was 22 boys and 28 girls in 1855 School pence were also received at that period, but a government grant is not recorded before 1874.

A pair of war memorial cottages for occupation by poor people were built by subscription in Flansham Lane in 1920. (fn. 699)

**Calleva Atrebatum** (Silchester) ("Calleva of the Atrebates") was originally an Iron Age settlement, capital of the Atrebates tribe, and subsequently a town in the Roman province of Britannia. Its ruins lie to the west of, and partly beneath, the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Silchester, in the county of Hampshire. The church occupies a site just within the ancient walls of Calleva although the village of Silchester itself now lies about a mile (1.6 km) to the west. Unusually for a tribal capital in Britain, the Iron Age town was situated on the same site as the later Roman town although the layout was revised.

### Iron Age

The Late Iron Age settlement at Silchester has been revealed by archaeology and coins of the British Q series link Silchester with the seat of power of the Atrebates. Coins found stamped with "COMMIOS" show that Commius, king of the Atrebates, established his territory and mint here after moving from Gaul. Small areas of Late Iron Age occupation have been uncovered and around the South Gate. More detailed evidence for Late Iron Age occupation was excavated below the Forum-Basilica. Several roundhouses, wells and pits occupy a north-east - south-west alignment, dated to c. 25 BC - 15 BC. Subsequent occupation, dated to c. 15 BC - AD 40/50, consisted of metalled streets, rubbish pits and palisaded enclosures. Imported Gallo-Belgic finewares, amphorae and iron and copper-alloy brooches show that the settlement was "high status". Also distinctive evidence for food was identified, including oyster shell and sherds from amphorae which would have contained olive oil, fish sauce and wine. Archaeobotanical studies have demonstrated the import and consumption of celery, coriander and olive in Insula IX prior to the Claudian Conquest.

### Roman

After the Roman conquest of Britain in 43 AD the settlement developed into the Roman town of Calleva Atrebatum. It was slightly larger, covering about 40 hectares (99 acres), and was laid out along a distinctive street grid pattern. The town contained a number of public buildings and flourished until the early Anglo-Saxon period.

Calleva was a major crossroads. The Devil's Highway connected it with the provincial capital Londinium (London). From Calleva, this road divided into routes to various other points west, including the road to Aquae Sulis (Bath); Ermin Way to Glevum (Gloucester); and the Port Way to Sorviodunum (Old Sarum near modern Salisbury).

The earthworks and, for much of the circumference, the ruined walls are still visible. The remains of the amphitheatre, added about AD 70-80 and situated outside the city walls, can also be clearly seen. The area inside the walls is now largely farmland with no visible distinguishing features, other than the enclosing earthworks and walls, with a tiny mediaeval church in one corner. There is a spring that emanates from inside the walls, in the vicinity of the original baths, and which flows south-eastwards where it joins Silchester Brook.

Silchester was finally abandoned in the 5th to 7th century, which is unusually late compared to other deserted Roman settlements. Most Roman towns in Britain continued to exist after the end of the Roman era, and consequently their remains underlay their more recent successors, which

are often still major population centres. There is a suggestion that the Saxons deliberately avoided Calleva after it was abandoned, preferring to maintain their existing centres at Winchester and Dorchester. There was a gap of perhaps a century before the twin Saxon towns of Basing and Reading were founded on rivers either side of Calleva

Part of the city walls of Calleva Atrebatum

Silchester Eagle

Excavations at Calleva (Insula IX)

Silchester Amphitheatre Panorama 360 degrees.

Now primarily owned by Hampshire County Council and managed by English Heritage, the site of Calleva is open to the public during daylight hours, seven days a week and without charge. The full circumference of the walls is accessible, as is the amphitheatre. The interior is farmed and, with the exception of the church and a single track that bisects the interior, inaccessible. The Museum of Reading in Reading Town Hall has a gallery devoted to Calleva, displaying many archaeological finds from the various excavations.

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### **Atrebates**

This was a British Celtic tribe occupying modern Berkshire and Hampshire, along with areas of West Sussex, western Surrey, and north-east Wiltshire. They were centred on a site close to modern Silchester. To the south-west of them were the Belgae, a tribe which they seem to have subjugated or which was part of the same people as them, while the Dobunni bordered them to the west, the Catuvellauni lay to the north, the Trinovantes to the far north-east, and the Cantii to the east.

Originally from north-western Gaul they were at their most powerful in the first and second centuries BC. Due to their location in Britain, the Atrebates were one of the more successful and civilised Celtic tribes. They traded with the tribes in Europe right up until the Romans conquered Gaul, and saw the conquest as an opportunity to increase their regular trade in fine cloth, hunting dogs and military items. The process worked both ways, enabling them to absorb new ideas, giving them advantages in culture and technology which some of their neighbours did not possess. Their capital was Calleva Atrebatum, now near Silchester in Hampshire. A secondary, and earlier, capital could be claimed at Noviomagus, (Chichester) which belonged to a division of the tribe known as the Regninses. These people were thinly scattered north and south of the Weald and seem to have escaped true conquest or even much influence from the Atrebates.

c.100 - 80  
BC

The date at which the Belgic Atrebates arrive in Britain is unknown, but it may not be too long before the arrival of Commius, perhaps no more than a generation or two. They possibly migrate into the country from the south coast (most likely via Selsey in West Sussex, precisely the same point at which the later South Saxons also land). They found an early tribal capital at Noviomagus (Chichester in West Sussex). Over time they would migrate north-westwards, integrating with earlier Celtic populations in the region and founding a new settlement at Calleva, although this remains relatively minor until the late first century BC. However, coin distribution contradicts this picture, suggesting that the Atrebates arrive via the Thames, settling in the Upper Thames Valley and migrating southwards.

c.56 - 54  
BC

Commius is a member of the Gaulish Atrebates. Around 56 BC he becomes an aide to Julius Caesar, and helps the Romans during both expeditions to Britain, perhaps with a retinue formed from the British Atrebates. In 54 BC he persuades High King Cassivellaunus, king of the Catuvellauni, to succumb to the Romans.

Shown here are both sides of a coin that was issued by the Atrebates between 50-20 BC, either under the authority of Commius or his son, Commius the Younger

Commius flees the Continental Atrebates when defeated by the deified Julius, fled from Gaul to Britain, and happened to reach the Channel at a time when the wind was fair, but the tide was out. Although the vessels were stranded on the flats, he nevertheless ordered the sails to be spread. Caesar, who was following from a distance, seeing the sails swelling with the full breeze, and imagining Commius to be escaping from his hands and to be proceeding on a prosperous voyage, abandoned the pursuit.'

51 BC

Commius brings with him just his own retainers, survivors of a heavy defeat in Gaul. The size and strength of the Atrebates tribe he joins in Britain is unknown. They certainly occupy their own territory in this period, and govern the Belgae and Regninses (and possibly even the Dobunni), who may all be constituent parts of the same tribe. They may not even be formed into a single tribal kingdom until Commius becomes their king.

51 - 35 BC Commius (the Gaul)

Left the Gaulish Atrebates and founded a dynasty in Britain.

c.50s - 30s  
BC

Unearthed by archaeologists in 2011 is what appears to be the first Iron Age planned town in Britain. The layer is found beneath the Roman remains of Calleva Atrebatum, (Silchester) the principle town of the Atrebates, and shows evidence of being built on a grid. The inhabitants also import wine and olive oil. This remarkably urbanised way of living seems almost certainly to be a product of the arrival and settlement of Commius and his followers, as they would have seen similar towns on the Continent, and would certainly want to bring the levels of sophistication they are used to with them.

c.35 - 20  
BC

Commius (the Younger)

Son.

c.30 BC

The very first Atrebatean coins are tentatively dated to this period. The name 'COMMIUS' appears on the obverse while a triple-tailed horse is shown on the reverse. Commius rules the tribe from Calleva.

c.30 - 20  
BC

Tincomaros / Tincommius

Son. Ruled jointly before becoming sole ruler.

It is possible that during the period of joint rule which lasts between five and ten years, Tincommius governs the southern half of the territory from the secondary capital of Noviomagus, which is within the territory of the Regninses. His brother, Eppillus, remains with their father to command the northern territory around Calleva, (Silchester) during which time the oppidum at Calleva develops into the main centre of Atrebatean power. When Tincommius becomes sole king, he apparently prefers to remain at Noviomagus (Chichester) while Eppillus governs the north from Calleva, (Silchester) issuing his own coins there.

20BC-AD 7 Tincomaros / Tincommius

Gained sole kingship following the death of his father.

Formal diplomatic ties are initiated between Tincommius and Rome when a treaty is agreed. Coinage issued at this time shows a more Romanised style, and carries almost exactly the same alloy content as contemporary Roman coins, suggesting that the metal comes from Rome, perhaps along with a moneylender. Atrebatean nobles, angered by the pro-Roman stance of Tincommius in direct opposition to the policy of his father and grandfather, possibly found or liberate the westernmost Atrebateans as the tribe of the Dobunni. However, coinage produced by the Dobunni would suggest that they have already made a claim for independence around 30 BC.

c.5 BC

Shown here are both sides of a gold stater issued during the reign of Tincomaros, with an abstract, triple-tailed horse on the right, and the remains of the rider above and a wheel below (a chariot wheel?)

- c.AD 7 Tincommius is overthrown in a coup launched by his ambitious younger brother, Eppillus. He travels to Rome to plead before Emperor Augustus for reinstatement. This request is refused as Augustus is in no position to mount a military campaign in Britain at this time. Not only is Tincommius exiled from Britain, but Eppillus is officially recognised as king by Rome.
- c.7 - c.15 Eppillus Brother. King of the Belgae & Regnenses. Deposed by Verica.
- c.15 Eppillus is in turn overthrown by his younger brother after the latter builds up a following of nobles disaffected by Eppillus' grab for power. He flees to the land of the Cantii, probably passing through Regnenses territory along the way. Once in Cantii territory he overthrows the ruler and takes command.
- c.15 - c.25 Verica / Bericus / Berikos Brother. Recognised by Rome.
- c.25 The Catuvellauni expand their interests into the territory of the Atrebates. Verica is forced out of Calleva as a Catuvellauni prince takes the Atrebatean throne. However, it seems that Verica continues to fight his rival for some time, gradually being forced further south by his stronger opponent.
- c.25 - c.35 Epaticcus Brother of Cunobelinus of the Catuvellauni. Forced Verica out.
- c.25 - 41 Verica / Bericus / Berikos Continued to oppose the Catuvellauni invaders.
- c.35 - 41 In around AD 35 Epaticcus dies, not necessarily due to warfare, and Verica makes some progress toward retaking his lost lands. It is probably he who is referenced by Dio as Berikos, which suggests that Verica is finally defeated by Caratacus of the Catuvellauni around AD 41 and flees to Rome. Arriving there around a year later, he gives the new Emperor Claudius the pretext for the Roman conquest of Britain.

c.41 - 43 Caratacus / Caradog King of the Cantii & Catuvellauni.

43 While Governor Aulus Plautius and Emperor Claudius are overseeing the conquest of the south-east of Britain, the Roman second invasion wing lands at a point along the south coast, probably close to the pro-Roman section of the Atrebates, who welcome them as an antidote to Catuvellauni domination. Part of the territory of the Atrebates is reorganised into the Roman client kingdom of the Regninses under the rule of Tiberius Claudius Cogidubnus, who may be Verica's son.

Shortly after the Roman conquest, the construction of a wooden town begins, with the wood in plentiful supply from the surrounding area. The town is named Calleva Atrebatum (modern Silchester) and is designated a civitas, or tribal capital. Its initial construction is irregular, with a regular street grid only being laid out towards the middle of the century.

Direct rule under the Romans follows the death of Tiberius Claudius Cogidubnus, client ruler of the Regninses, and perhaps the Atrebates too. The tribal territory is later organised into the civitates (administrative districts within a Roman province) of the Atrebates, Regninses, and possibly the Belgae.

c.65? Between this point and about AD 85, the town of Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester) gains one of the first oval amphitheatres in Britain, built to the north-east, outside the defences. Towards the end of the century, two Romano-Celtic temples are built inside the eastern gate, facing east. The first of them is the largest known temple in all of Britain, covering 495 square metres (yards). The walls are almost a metre thick, suggesting a half-timbered construction.

By the end of the century, the early wooden forum and basilica at the heart of Calleva Atrebatum have been rebuilt in stone. Some buildings which had been erected during the earliest phase of building, prior to a street plan being laid down, continue to exist and be developed.

2nd century

An artist's reconstruction of Calleva Atrebatum showing the forum and basilica, along with the cattle market (at the front) and houses and shops

3rd century By the start of the third century, Calleva Atrebatum has gained defensive stone walls which are over 6.3 metres (yards) high. The town also contains an impressive forum, basilica, three temples, and a baths complex. and about 180 stone buildings. Large areas are still using wooden constructions, especially nearer the walls. Late in the century the town is razed by a catastrophic fire, probably triggered by a stray spark in the wooden suburbs. The town is subsequently rebuilt and continues to flourish.

4th century Towards the end of the century, the large temple by the eastern gate falls into disuse. The second, smaller temple alongside it falls into disuse about the same time, probably due to the rise of Christianity in Britain. The city contains an early Christian church which is excavated in 1890 and 1961 and which in this period may be the seat of a bishop. A gold ring uncovered by archaeologists in the town bears the inscription 'Senicianus, live in God'.

5th century By the fifth century the Romano-British Atrebates have probably regained some level of independent power in the form of the postulated territory of Caer Celemion.

c.420 - 496 Saxons begin advancing along the Thames Valley, and into the Chilterns, encroaching on the territory's northern border. Under overall command of first Vortigern and then Ambrosius Aurelianus from Gloucester the region probably gains more and more autonomy as the century progresses, with sub-Roman magistratum becoming princeps. Defensive dykes are erected which face towards the Thames, probably at the same time as the Wansdyke is constructed.



While the territory's main defensive focus has, until now, been to the north and the Thames Valley Saxons, a new threat emerges to the south-west in the form of the West Seaxe. With the initial conquest of their Hampshire heartland now complete, in this year their attention is turned more fully to expansion. None of the established defensive works has been designed to protect Caer Celemion from this direction.

501

This artistic reconstruction shows the amphitheatre at Caer Celemion (Calleva Atrebatum, modern Silchester), which was built outside the walls, to the north-east of the town itself

Einion

Although a dating cannot be applied to a possible ruler called Einion, the appellation of 'giant' could equate a strong or particularly tough warrior, appropriate for a British enclave that holds out against the West Seaxe, even though it is becoming increasingly isolated.

552      Caer Celemion's southern neighbour, Caer Gwinntguic, falls to the West Seaxe, making the territory very vulnerable on its less well-defended southern border. Now in its final phase, in the walled city of Caer Celemion itself the basilica in the town centre is turned into a substantial metal-working area, producing arms and armour. On the territory's north-eastern border there is a former Roman temple at Lowbury Hill, on the Berkshire Ridgeway, overlooking the upper Thames basin. During this period it is apparently converted to serve as a look-out point related to the territory's outer boundary defences.

568      Ceawlin and Cutha of the West Seaxe defeat Æthelbert of the Cantware at Wibbandun.(somewhere on the Hampshire Berkshire border) This is notable as being the first recorded conflict between two groups of invaders, rather than a battle against the native British. Ceawlin is securing his rear before mounting renewed attacks against the British to the west.

577      The sub-divided state of Caer Gloui and its daughter kingdoms, Caer Baddan and Caer Ceri, all fall to the West Seaxe. The defeat is a disaster not only for all Britons of the west of the country, dividing as it does those of Gwent and Pengwern from those in Dumnonia - it also leaves Caer Celemion totally isolated, surrounded on all sides by Saxons.

c.600 - 610 The state or kingdom that governs Caer Celemion is destroyed, probably by Ceawlin of the West Seaxe. It is the last British-held territory south of London and east of Dorset to fall. The city itself is abandoned and its wells are filled in to prevent its citizens from returning, with the Saxons preferring to rule from their existing centres at Winchester and Dorchester. The territory is absorbed into the West Seaxe kingdom.

About a century later, the twin Saxon towns of Basing and Reading are founded to the south and north respectively, along rivers on either side of Calleva (Celemion), leaving the city to decay in isolation. A Saxon village of Silchester also springs up about 1600 metres (yards) to the west, far enough away to be safe from any demons the ruins might contain. Today all that remains of Caer Celemion are parts of the defensive walls, in some places up to four metres high, within which is a church and a converted farmhouse in green fields, The town plan is still visible in cropmarks and a spring rises near the former baths and flows out to join Silchester Brook.

1943 Mr F.T.Ashton-Gwatkin (Diplomat and Historian) purchased Barton Manor for £3750

### **Frank Ashton-Gwatkin**

Frank Trelawny Arthur Ashton-Gwatkin CB CMG (14 April 1889 – 30 January 1976) was a British diplomat and Foreign Office official. He was a significant influence on the British foreign policy in the Far East in the early 20th century. He also published a number of novels and other works under the pseudonym John Paris.

Ashton-Gwatkin was educated at Eton College and Balliol College, Oxford. In 1915 he married Nancy Violet Butler (d. 1953), of Melbourne, Australia.

After several years in the Consular Service in East Asia, where he acquired a good knowledge of Japanese, Ashton-Gwatkin joined the Far Eastern Department of the Foreign Office in 1919, transferring to the Diplomatic Service in 1921. In 1929, he was sent to the Soviet Union to work at the British Embassy in Moscow, but returned after a year to be secretary of the Anglo-Soviet Debt Committee under Lord Goschen.

He participated in several international conferences, including the Imperial Economic Conference in Ottawa in 1932 and the World Economic Conference in London the following year. As a result of his interest in economic affairs, he was instrumental in establishing the Economic Relations Section in the Foreign Office, focused on co-ordinating British diplomatic and economic policies, becoming its first head in 1934. In the late summer of 1938, he served as Chief of Staff on the Runciman Mission to Czechoslovakia and was a member of the British delegation at the subsequent Munich Conference.

During the 1930s, Ashton-Gwatkin was a staunch advocate of the policy of appeasement towards Nazi Germany. Although he later revised his views, Ashton-Gwatkin's political outlook at that time is encapsulated by his expressed hope - in the immediate aftermath of the Munich Agreement in 1938 - of "an Anglo-German policy of economic co-operation" flourishing within a German-dominated East Central Europe.

Ashton-Gwatkin's literary work, published under the name of John Paris, reflected his period of residence in Japan and included the novels *Kimono* (1921), *Sayonara* (1924), *Banzai!* (1925), *The Island beyond Japan* (1929), *Matsu* (1932) and a collection of verses *A Japanese Don Juan and other Poems* (1926). The novels were noted for their realistic portrayal of life in East Asia. Previously, whilst an undergraduate at Oxford, he was awarded the 1909 Newdigate Prize for a poem entitled *Michelangelo*.

He was a retired diplomat and author and owned a collection of pieces by Felpham's William Hayley a poet laureate and famous friend of William Blake.

1930 Queen Mary regularly visited St Thomas a Beckett Church in Pagham while King George V convalesced at Craigwell House

1929 Archbishop of Canterbury, William Cosmo Lang visited the chapel at Barton Manor while visiting King George V

1902 Manor was restored by William Fletcher (a descendant of James Ballet) who also owned nearby Hotham House

1878 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle visited Barton Manor in 1878. Barton Manor is thought to have been the Hurlstone Manor House in 'The Musgrave Ritual'

1560 Queen Elizabeth I granted Barton Manor to Edward Darell who was clerk of the Queens Acatry.

1536 Henry VIII's reformation and dissolution of the monasteries the Manor was owned by the Crown

### **William Fletcher**

William Fletcher resided at what is now Hotham Park House for over 40 years.

William Holland Ballett Fletcher was born on October 29, 1852, in Broadwater, West Sussex, and was only 11 years old when his father died. With the guidance of his mother, he went on to St John's College in Cambridge from where, in 1875, he obtained his BA and an MA in 1879.

During his period at Cambridge, he met and in 1875 married his wife, Agnes Caroline Nicholls, and it was on the occasion of his wedding that he found a cork oak at Goodwood. He planted it in the grounds of his home to commemorate this marriage. The cork oak can still be seen today in Hotham Park.

In the mid 1870s, William and Agnes lived in Worthing, where their two children were born, John in 1879 and their second son, Edward, in 1881 but sadly he died nine months later. During his time at Worthing he was elected to West Sussex County Council in 1893 and between 1894 and 1896 he

became the Mayor of Worthing. He was also elected to the Bench of the Justice of the Peace for West Sussex.

On the death of his mother in 1899, the family moved into the house known at that time as Bersted Lodge, today Hotham Park House. William immediately changed the house's name to Aldwick Manor, as he had also inherited the Lordship of the Manor of Aldwick. In 1902 he restored Barton Manor (as a descendant of James Ballet).

In 1906, William was co-opted as chairman of the Bognor Urban District Council and in 1910 he became a county alderman. He insisted on his anonymity for much of his charity work.

Their son, John, was developing his life and attended the same college as his father and grandfather at St John's in Cambridge where he also obtained his MA before he became a barrister in 1902.

An article by Gerard Young in 1976 describes life in the house where 'the steel fire-grates shone like silver. Swiss lace and blue and silver brocade curtained the windows. Dinner was eaten in the glow of 12-branched candelabra and every Sunday each servant was given a basket of fruit. He was very courteous and shy.

In 1914 his son John joined the armed forces in the First World War and became a Lieutenant of the 7th Battalion of the London Regiment. Sadly, he was killed on May 13, 1915, and is buried in the town cemetery of Bethune in France. The death of their son was to greatly affect William and Agnes and they were soon both seen as having a reclusive lifestyle.

Another aspect of the life of William Fletcher that remains with us today is the planting and maintenance of plants, trees and shrubs in his grounds. He worked closely with Kew Gardens and at one period the plantings were compared with Kew as being such an outstanding collection of species. Each year, the woodland around the house became carpeted with primroses and bluebells between the small mossy paths. The area known by many people as the boating lake was his pond and where he could be seen regularly standing at the side feeding his huge goldfish with bread. He also kept a large container

of corn near the front lawn from where he would feed the rooks, which the staff referred to as ‘Mr. Fletcher’s canaries.’

He was viewed as a gentleman with his Sherlock Holmes hat, stick and his Airedale terrier when walking through his grounds. He had strong links with North Mundham and its church because his brother, John, was the vicar there, and there were many mentions of William in parish magazines when he was involved in either providing cash or attending functions to raise money for the parish.

Agnes became well known in her own right, for her unusual interest in reptiles, amphibians and rodents. She was a life fellow of the Zoological Society of London with a large collection of snakes.

As the years passed, old age began to take its toll and in 1934, when he was in his 80s, William had to retire from some of the positions he held due to increasing deafness. Agnes died in 1939, at the age of 84, and within two years, in 1941, William also died, thus ending a Fletcher house association that had lasted over 80 years, since his father took over the house and completing more than 40 years for William.

Their deaths finished the private ownership of the house and park we know today. On William’s death, his monies were divided between three hospitals to leave no money for a grave or permanent memorial to this man.

### **Cosmo Gordon Lang**

William Cosmo Gordon Lang, 1st Baron Lang of Lambeth, GCVO, PC (31 October 1864 – 5 December 1945), known as Cosmo Gordon Lang, was a Scottish Anglican prelate who served as Archbishop of York (1908–1928) and Archbishop of Canterbury (1928–1942).

During the abdication crisis of 1936, he took a strong moral stance, his comments in a subsequent broadcast being widely condemned as uncharitable towards the departed king. The son of a Scots Presbyterian minister, Lang abandoned the prospect of a legal and political career to train for the Anglican priesthood. Beginning in 1890, his early ministry was served in slum parishes in Leeds and Portsmouth, except for brief service as Vicar of the University Church of St Mary the

Virgin in Oxford. In 1901 he was appointed suffragan Bishop of Stepney in London, where he continued his work among the poor. He also served as a canon of St Paul's Cathedral, London.

In 1908 Lang was nominated as Archbishop of York, despite his relatively junior status as a suffragan rather than a diocesan bishop. He consequently entered the House of Lords as a Lord Spiritual and caused consternation in traditionalist circles by speaking and voting against the Lords' proposal to reject David Lloyd George's 1909 "People's Budget". This radicalism was not maintained in subsequent years. At the start of the First World War, Lang was heavily criticised for a speech in which he spoke sympathetically of the German Emperor. This troubled him greatly and may have contributed to the rapid ageing which affected his appearance during the war years. After the war he began to promote church unity and at the 1920 Lambeth Conference was responsible for the Church's Appeal to All Christian People. As Archbishop of York he supported controversial proposals for the 1928 revision of the Book of Common Prayer but, after acceding to Canterbury, he took no practical steps to resolve this issue.

Lang became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1928. He presided over the 1930 Lambeth Conference, which gave limited church approval to the use of contraception. After denouncing the Italian invasion of Abyssinia in 1935 and strongly condemning European anti-semitism, Lang later supported the appeasement policies of the British government. In May 1937 he presided over the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. On retirement in 1942 Lang was raised to the peerage as Baron Lang of Lambeth and continued to attend and speak in House of Lords debates until his death in 1945. Lang himself believed that he had not lived up to his own high standards. Others have praised his qualities of industry, his efficiency and his commitment to his calling.

1281 Archbishop Peckham wrote to abbot of Ghent and the Bishop of Rochester from Barton Manor

John Peckham (c. 1230 – 8 December 1292) was Archbishop of Canterbury in the years 1279–1292. He was a native of Sussex who was educated at Lewes Priory and became a Friar Minor about 1250. He studied at the University of Paris under Bonaventure, where he would later teach theology. From his teaching, he came into conflict with Thomas Aquinas, with whom he debated on two occasions. Known



as a conservative theologian, he opposed Aquinas' views on the nature of the soul. Peckham also studied optics and astronomy, and his studies in those subjects were influenced by Roger Bacon.

In around 1270, Peckham returned to England, where he taught at the University of Oxford, and was elected the provincial minister of England (Minoriten) in 1275. After a brief stint in Rome, he was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury in 1279. His time as archbishop was marked by efforts to improve discipline in the clergy as well as reorganize the estates of his see. Pluralism, or holding more than one clerical benefice, was one of the abuses that Peckham combated. He served King Edward I of England in Wales, where he formed a low opinion of the Welsh people and laws. Before and during his time as archbishop, he wrote a number of works on optics, philosophy, and theology, as well as writing hymns. Numerous manuscripts of his works survive. On his death, his body was buried in Canterbury Cathedral, but his heart was given to the Franciscans for burial.

Peckham came from a humble family, possibly from Patcham in Sussex. He was born about 1230 and was educated at Lewes Priory. About 1250, he joined the Franciscan order at Oxford. He then went to the University of Paris, where he studied under Bonaventure and became regent master, or official lecturer, in theology. While at Paris, he wrote a Commentary on Lamentations, which sets out two possible sermons.

For years Peckham taught at Paris, where he was in contact with many of the leading scholars of his time, including Thomas Aquinas. He famously debated Aquinas on at least two occasions during 1269 and 1270, during which Peckham defended the conservative theological position, and Thomas put forth his views on the soul. The Thomist doctrine of the unity of form was condemned after these debates. Peckham also studied other fields, however; and was guided by Robert Grosseteste and Roger Bacon's views on the value of experimental science. Where Peckham met Bacon is not known, but it would have been at either Paris or Oxford. Bacon's influence can be seen in Peckham's works on optics and astronomy.

A manuscript of Roger Bacon's work on optics, which influenced Peckham's own works

About 1270, he returned to England to teach at Oxford, and was elected provincial minister of the Franciscans in England in 1275. He did not long remain in that post, being summoned to Rome

as theological lecturer at the papal palace. In 1279 he was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury by Pope Nicholas III who had prohibited the election of Robert Burnell, Edward I's preferred candidate. He was consecrated on 19 February 1279.

Peckham laid stress on discipline, which often resulted in conflict with his clergy. His first episcopal act was calling a council at Reading in July 1279 to implement ecclesiastical reform, but Peckham's specifying that a copy of Magna Carta should be hung in all cathedral and collegiate churches offended the king as an unnecessary intrusion into political affairs. Another ruling was on non-residence of clergy in their livings. The only exception Peckham was prepared to make on non-residence was if the clerk needed to go abroad to study. At the Parliament of Winchester in 1279, the archbishop compromised and Parliament invalidated any regulation of the council dealing with royal policies or power. The copies of Magna Carta were taken down. One reason the archbishop may have backed down was that he was in debt to the Italian banking family of the Riccardi, who also were bankers to Edward and the pope, and Peckham was under threat of excommunication from the pope unless he repaid the loans.

However, Peckham worked hard to reorganise the estates of the diocese, and held an inquiry in 1283 through 1285 into the revenues of the see. He set up administrative structures in the manors that divided them into seven administrative groups. Peckham, though, was almost continually in debt, and because he was a Franciscan, he had no personal property to help with his living expenses. He had inherited the diocesan debts that his predecessor had allowed to accumulate, and never managed to clear them.

Notwithstanding his other actions, Peckham's relations with the king were generally good, and Edward sent him on a diplomatic mission to Llywelyn ap Gruffudd in Wales. In 1282 he attempted to mediate between the Welsh and King Edward, but given that Edward would not budge on the main issues, it was a hopeless mission. In the end, Peckham excommunicated some of the Welsh who were resisting Edward, not unsurprising given Peckham's views of the Welsh. Peckham visited the Welsh dioceses as part of his tour of all his subordinate dioceses. While there, Peckham criticised the Welsh clergy for their unchaste lives, conspicuous consumption, and heavy drinking. He also found the Welsh clergy to be uneducated, although he did order a Welsh-speaking suffragan bishop to be appointed to help with pastoral duties in the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield. Peckham also criticised the Welsh people as a

whole, contrasting their pastoral economy with the farming-based economy of England, and finding the Welsh to be lazy and idle.

As part of his diplomatic duties, Peckham wrote to Llywelyn, and in those letters the archbishop continued his criticisms of the Welsh people, this time condemning their laws as contrary to both the Old and New Testament. Peckham was particularly offended that Welsh laws sought to get parties to homicides or other crimes to settle their differences rather than the process of English law which condemned the criminal.

Peckham also had problems with his subordinate Thomas Bek, who was Bishop of St David's in Wales. Bek tried to revive a scheme to make St David's independent from Canterbury, and to elevate it to metropolitan status. This had originally been put forth by Gerald of Wales around 1200, but had been defeated by the actions of Hubert Walter, then the Archbishop of Canterbury. Bek did not manage even the four-year fight that Gerald had managed, for Peckham routed him quickly.

Skirmishes with Edward over clerical privileges, royal power, Peckham's use of excommunication, and ecclesiastical taxation continued, but in October 1286, Edward issued a writ entitled *Circumspecte Agatis* which specified what types of cases the ecclesiastical courts could hear. These included moral issues, matrimonial issues, disputes about wills and testaments, the correction of sins, and slander and physical attacks on the clergy.

Peckham was very strict in his interpretations of canon law, and once wrote to Queen Eleanor that her use of loans from Jewish moneylenders to acquire lands was usury and a mortal sin. He also felt that Welsh laws were illogical and conflicted with Biblical teachings. He also mandated that the clerical tonsure worn by the clergy should not just include the top of the head, but also have the nape and over the ears shaved, which allowed the clergy to be easily distinguished from the laity. To help with this, the archbishop also forbade the clergy from wearing secular clothing, especially military garb. He also forbade an effort by the Benedictine order in England to reform their monastic rule, to allow more time for study and for more education for the monks. Peckham's reason was that they were against custom, but he may also have had concerns that these reforms would have drawn recruits away from the Franciscans.

At an ecclesiastical council held at Lambeth in 1281, Peckham ordered the clergy to instruct their congregations in doctrine at least four times a year. They were to explain and teach the Articles of Faith, the Ten Commandments, the Works of Mercy, the Seven Deadly Sins, the Seven Virtues and the Sacraments. This command was issued as a canon, or law, of the council, and the group is known as the Lambeth Constitutions. The constitutions, which were originally in Latin, were the basis and inspiration for pastoral and devotional works throughout the remainder of the Middle Ages, and were eventually translated into English in the 15th century.

The crime of "plurality," or pluralism, which was the holding by one cleric of two or more benefices, was one of Peckham's targets, as were clerical absenteeism and laxity in the monastic life. His main method of fighting these was a system of "visitation" of his subordinate dioceses and religious houses, which he used with an unprecedented frequency. This often resulted in conflicts over whether or not the archbishop had jurisdiction to conduct these visits, but Peckham was also papal legate, which added a layer of complexity to the resulting disputes. The numerous legal cases that resulted from his visitation policy strengthened the archiepiscopal court at the expense of the lower courts. Peckham also fought with Thomas de Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford over the right to visit subordinate clergy. The quarrel involved an appeal over the jurisdiction of the archbishop, that Thomas sent to Rome in 1281, but Thomas died before the case could be decided. Peckham also decreed that the clergy should preach to their flocks at least four times a year.

Peckham often was in conflict with his subordinate bishops, mainly because of his efforts to reform them, but Peckham's own attitude and handling of his clergy contributed to the problem. He once wrote to Roger de Meyland, the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield "These things need your attention, but you have been absent so long that you seem not to care. We therefore order you, on receipt of this letter, to take up residence in your diocese, so that—even if you are not competent to redress spiritual evils—you may at least minister to the temporal needs of the poor." The historian Richard Southern says that Peckham's disputes with his suffragan bishops were "conducted in an atmosphere of bitterness and perpetual ill-will", which probably owed something to a "petulant strain in Peckham's character". Peckham's conflicts started because his own ideals were those of a Franciscan, but most of his clergy were concerned with more mundane and materialistic affairs. These strains between the archbishop and

his subordinates were intensified by clashes over ecclesiastical and secular authority, as well as Edward's great need for income.

Archbishop John Peckham was a notable anti-semitic. On 19 August 1282, in a letter to Richard Gravesend, Bishop of London, he ordered the Bishop to compel the Jews of London, using every instrument of ecclesiastical censure, to destroy all their synagogues except one within a brief time period to be determined by the Bishop. In a second letter he congratulates the Bishop because the Judaica perfidia is being overcome by the bishop's attention and vigilance.

A number of manuscripts of Peckham's works on philosophy and biblical commentary remain extant. Queen Eleanor persuaded him to write for her a scholarly work in French, which was later described as "unfortunately rather a dull and uninspired little treatise." His poem *Philomena* is considered one of the finest poems written in its time.

Peckham died on 8 December 1292 at Mortlake and was buried in the north transept, or the Martyrdom, of Canterbury Cathedral. His heart, however, was buried with the Franciscans under the high altar of their London church. His tomb still survives.

1108 St Anselm consecrated the Bishop elect of London at Barton Manor at the request of King Henry I

1086 Domesday Book states that Barton Manor and the land around Pagham the richest area in West Sussex.

709 St Wilfred gave Barton Manor to Archbishop of Canterbury in gratitude for Archbishopric of York

686 St Wilfred ownership of Barton Manor and area confirmed by Caedwalla

683 Æthelwealh gave Barton Manor and lands to St Wilfred

**Tincomarus**

Tincomarus was a king of the Iron Age Belgic tribe of the Atrebates who lived in southern central Britain shortly before the Roman invasion. His name was previously reconstructed as Tincommius, based on abbreviated coin legends and a damaged mention in Augustus's *Res Gestae*, but since 1996 coins have been discovered which give his full name.

He was the son and heir of Commius and succeeded his father around 25-20 BC. Based on coin distribution it is possible that Tincomarus ruled in collaboration with his father for the last few years of Commius's life. Little is known of his reign although numismatic evidence suggests that he was more sympathetic to Rome than his father was in later years: the coins he issued much more closely resemble Roman types, and are so much better made that they must have come from professional Roman die-cutters. GC Boon has suggested that this technical advance was not limited to coinage and represents wider industrial assistance from the Roman Empire. Tincomarus's successors used the term *rex* on their coins and this indicates that Tincomarus had begun the process of achieving client kingdom status with Rome (see Roman client kingdoms in Britain).

John Creighton argues, based on the imagery used on his coins, that Tincomarus may have been brought up as an *obses* (diplomatic hostage) in Rome in the early years of Augustus's reign. He compares Tincomarus's coins to those of Juba II of Numidia, who is known to have been an *obses*, and identifies a coin found in Numidia which may bear the name of Tincomarus's younger brother Verica.

By 16 BC Roman pottery and other imports appear in considerable quantities at Tincomarus's capital of Calleva Atrebatum, today known as Silchester, and it is likely that the Atrebatian king had established trading and diplomatic links with Augustus.

Tincomarus was expelled by his subjects for unknown reasons around AD 8 and fled to Rome as a refugee and supplicant. He was replaced by his brother Eppillus whom Augustus chose to recognise as *rex* rather than depose and reinstate Tincomarus. Augustus may have planned to use his ally's ejection as an excuse to invade Britain but other, more pressing foreign policy matters probably persuaded him to postpone the move.

## **Eppillus**

Eppillus (Celtic: "little horse") was the name of a Roman client king of the Atrebates tribe of the British Iron Age. He appears to have ruled part of the territory that had previously been held by Commius, the Gaulish former ally of Julius Caesar who fled to Britain following the uprising of Vercingetorix, or possibly of his son. Coins bearing his name also bear the inscription COMMI.FILI which indicates a claim to be Commius's son.

After Commius's death in about 20 BC, Eppillus seems to have ruled jointly with his brother Tincomarus. Eppillus's capital was Noviomagus (Chichester) in the south of the kingdom, while Tincomarus ruled from Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester) in the north.

Eppillus became ruler of the whole territory a little before AD 7, and Tincomarus appears as a supplicant to the emperor Augustus, so he seems to have been driven out in some sort of domestic intrigue. After this, Eppillus's coins are marked "Rex", indicating that he was recognised as king by Rome.

Eppillus was succeeded as king of the Atrebates by another man named, Verica. Verica again issues coins with the COMMI.FILI inscription suggesting perhaps a third brother although Verica's possible presence in Rome in 47AD would have required Commius's to have lived a very long life. At about the same time coins of the Cantiaci stamped with the name Eppillus start to appear in Kent, replacing those of Dubnovellaunus. It is possible that Eppillus was deposed by Verica, fled to Kent and established himself as king there, but equally possible that he was invited to become king by the Cantiaci, peacefully handing the rule of the Atrebates to Verica, or that he died and was succeeded by Verica, and that Eppillus of Kent was another man of the same name.

## **Commius**

Commius was a king of the Atrebates, initially in Gaul, then in Britain, in the 1st century BC

The Winchester Hoard (c. 50 BC). This jewellery might have been a diplomatic gift to a Chieftain ruling in southern Britain, possibly related to Commius of the Atrebates.

When Julius Caesar conquered the Atrebates in Gaul in 57 BC, as recounted in his *Commentarii de Bello Gallico*, he appointed Commius as king of the tribe. Before Caesar's first expedition to Britain in 55 BC, Commius was sent as Caesar's envoy to persuade the Britons not to resist him, as Caesar believed he would have influence on the island. However, he was arrested as soon as he arrived. When the Britons failed to prevent Caesar from landing, Commius was handed over as part of the negotiations. Commius was able to provide a small detachment of cavalry from his tribe to help Caesar defeat further British attacks. During Caesar's second expedition to Britain, Commius negotiated the surrender of the British leader Cassivellaunus. He remained Caesar's loyal client through the Gaulish revolts of 54 BC, and in return Caesar allowed the Atrebates to remain independent and exempt from tax, and in addition appointed Commius to rule the Morini.

However this loyalty was not to last, as while Caesar was in Cisalpine Gaul in the winter of 53, the legate Titus Labienus believed that Commius had been conspiring against the Romans with other Gaulish tribes. Labienus sent a tribune, Gaius Volusenus Quadratus, and some centurions to summon Commius to a sham meeting at which they would execute him for his treachery, but Commius escaped with a severe head wound. He vowed never again to associate with Romans.

In 52 BC the Atrebates joined the pan-Gaulish revolt led by Vercingetorix, and Commius was one of the leaders of the army that attempted to relieve Vercingetorix at the Siege of Alesia. After Vercingetorix was defeated, Commius joined a revolt by the Bellovaci and persuaded some 500 Germans to support them, but this too was defeated and Commius sought refuge with his German allies.

In 51 BC he returned to his homeland with a small mounted war-band for a campaign of agitation and guerrilla warfare. That winter Mark Antony, a legionary legate at the time, ordered Volusenus to pursue him with cavalry, something Volusenus was more than happy to do. When the two groups of horsemen met, Volusenus was victorious, but sustained a spear-wound to the thigh. Commius escaped and sued for peace through intermediaries. He offered hostages and promised he would live where he



was told and no longer resist Caesar, on the condition that he never again had to meet a Roman. Antony granted his petition.

Commius fled to Britain with a group of followers with Caesar in pursuit. When he reached the English Channel the wind was in his favour but the tide was out, leaving the ships stranded on the flats. Commius ordered the sails raised anyway. Caesar, following from a distance, assumed they were afloat and called off the pursuit.

This suggests that the truce negotiated with Antony broke down and hostilities resumed between Commius and Caesar. Commius may have been sent to Britain as a condition of his truce with Antony and set up as a friendly king in Britain by Caesar, and his reputation was restored by blaming his betrayal on Labienus (who deserted Caesar for Pompey in the civil war of 49 - 45 BC).

The Winchester Hoard (c. 50 BC). This jewellery might have been a diplomatic gift to a Chieftain ruling in southern Britain, possibly related to Commius of the Atrebates.

Commius's name appears on coins of post-conquest date in Gaul, paired with either Garmanos or Carsicios. This suggests he continued to have some power in Gaul in his absence, perhaps ruling through regents. Alternatively, Garmanos and Carsicios may have been Commius's sons who noted their father's name on their own coins.

By about 30 BC Commius had established himself as king of the Atrebates in Britain, and was issuing coins from Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester). It is possible that Commius and his followers founded this kingdom, although the fact that, when Caesar was unable to bring his cavalry to Britain in 55 BC, Commius was able to provide a small detachment of horsemen from his people, suggests that there were already Atrebates in Britain at this time. Coins marked with his name continued to be issued until about 20 BC, and some have suggested, based on the length of his floruit, that there may have been two kings, father and son, of the same name. However, if Commius was a young man when appointed by Caesar

he could very well have lived until 20 BC. Some coins of this period are stamped "COM COMMIOS", which, if interpreted as "Commius son of Commius", would seem to support the two kings theory.

Three later kings, Tincomarus, Eppillus and Verica, are named on their coins as sons of Commius. From about 25 BC Commius appears to have ruled in collaboration with Tincomarus. After his death Tincomarus appears to have ruled the northern part of the kingdom from Calleva, while Eppillus ruled the southern part from Noviomagus (Chichester). Eppillus became sole ruler ca. AD 7. Verica succeeded him about 15, and ruled until shortly before the Roman conquest of 43.

### **Cassivellaunus**

Cassivellaunus was a historical British tribal chief who led the defence against Julius Caesar's second expedition to Britain in 54 BC. He led an alliance of tribes against Roman forces, but eventually surrendered after his location was revealed to Julius Caesar by defeated Britons.

A plaque in Devil's Dyke mentions Cassivellaunus

Cassivellaunus was given command of the combined British forces opposing Caesar's second invasion of Britain. Caesar tells us that Cassivellaunus had previously been in near-constant conflict with his neighbors, as was typical of the British tribes in this period, and had recently brought down the king of the Trinovantes, the most powerful tribe in Britain at the time. The king's son, Mandubracius, fled to Caesar in Gaul. Despite Cassivellaunus's harrying tactics, designed to prevent Caesar's army from foraging and plundering for food, Caesar advanced to the Thames. The only fordable point was defended and fortified with sharp stakes, but the Romans managed to cross it. Cassivellaunus dismissed most of his army and resorted to guerilla tactics, relying on his knowledge of the territory and the speed of his chariots.

Five British tribes, the Cenimagni, the Segontiaci, the Ancalites, the Bibroci and the Cassi, surrendered to Caesar and revealed the location of Cassivellaunus's stronghold possibly near the Devil's Dyke in Sussex.

Caesar proceeded to put the stronghold under siege. Cassivellaunus managed to get a message to the four kings of Kent, Cingetorix, Carvilius, Taximagulus and Segovax, to gather their forces and attack the Roman camp on the coast, but the Romans defended themselves successfully, capturing a chieftain called Lugotorix. On hearing of the defeat and the devastation of his territories, Cassivellaunus surrendered. The terms were mediated by Commius, Caesar's Gallic ally. Hostages were given and a tribute agreed. Mandubracius was restored to the kingship of the Trinovantes, and Cassivellaunus undertook not to wage war against him. All this achieved, Caesar returned to Gaul [3] where a poor harvest had caused unrest. The Roman legions did not return to Britain for another 97 years.

Cassibelaunus the younger son of the former king Heli, he becomes king of Britain upon the death of his elder brother Lud, whose own sons Androgeus and Tenvantius are not yet of age. In recompense, Androgeus is made Duke of Kent and Trinovantium (London), and Tenvantius is made Duke of Cornwall.

After his conquest of Gaul, Julius Caesar sets his sights on Britain, and sends a letter to Cassibelanus demanding tribute. Cassibelanus refuses, citing the Britons' and Romans' common Trojan descent and Caesar invades at the Thames Estuary. During the fighting, Cassibelanus's brother Nennius encounters Caesar and sustains a severe head wound. Caesar's sword gets stuck in Nennius's shield, and when the two are separated in the mêlée, Nennius throws away his own sword and attacks the Romans with Caesar's, killing many, including the tribune Labienus. The Britons hold firm, and that night Caesar flees back to Gaul. Cassibelanus's celebrations are muted by Nennius's death from his head wound. He is buried with the sword he took from Caesar, which is named Yellow Death..

Two years later, Caesar invades again with a larger force. Cassibelanus, forewarned, had planted stakes beneath the waterline of the Thames which gut Caesar's ships, drowning thousands of men. The Romans are once again quickly put to flight.

The leaders of the Britons gather in Trinovantum to thank the gods for their victory with many animal sacrifices and celebrate with sporting events. During a wrestling bout, Cassibelanus's nephew Hirelglas is killed by Androgeus's nephew Cuelinus. Cassibelanus demands that Androgeus turn his nephew over to him for trial, but Androgeus refuses, insisting he should be tried in his own court in Trinovantum. Cassibelanus threatens war, and Androgeus appeals to Caesar for help, agreeing to accept him as liege and sending his son as a hostage.

Caesar invades a third time, landing at Richborough. As Cassibelaunus's army meets Caesar's, Androgeus attacks Cassibelaunus from the rear with five thousand men. His line broken, Cassibelanus retreats to a nearby hilltop. After two days siege, Androgeus appeals to Caesar to offer terms. Cassibelanus agrees to pay tribute of three thousand pounds of silver, and he and Caesar become friends.

Six years later, Cassibelanus dies and is buried in York. Androgeus has gone to Rome with Caesar, so Tenvantius succeeds as king of Britain.

### **Cantiaci**

The Cantiaci or Cantii were an Iron Age Celtic people living in Britain before the Roman conquest and they lived in the area now called Kent. Their capital was Durovernum Cantiacorum, now Canterbury.

They were bordered by the Regnenses to the west, and the Catuvellaunite to the north.

Julius Caesar landed in Cantium in 55 and 54 BCE, the first Roman expeditions to Britain. He regarded the Cantiaci as the most civilised and who similar to the Gauls in their customs.

Julius Caesar's invasion of Britain may have been triggered by the Britons' supply of arms to the Gauls, who were being subjugated by the Romans.

Caesar mentions four kings, Segovax, Carvilius, Cingetorix, and Taximagulus, who held power in Cantium at the time of his second expedition in 54 BCE. The British leader Cassivellaunus, besieged in his stronghold north of the Thames, sent a message to these four kings to attack the Roman naval camp as a distraction. The attack failed, a chieftain called Lugotorix was captured, and Cassivellaunus was forced to seek terms.

In the century between Caesar's expeditions and the conquest under Claudius in 43 BCE, kings in Britain began to issue coins stamped with their names. The following kings of the Cantiaci are known:

Dubnovellaunus: May have been an ally or sub-king of Tasciovanus of the Catuvellauni, or a son of Addedomarus of the Trinovantes: Presented himself as a supplicant to Augustus c. 7 BCE.

Vosenius, ruled until c. 15 CE.

Eppillus, originally king of the Atrebates: Coins indicate he became king of the Cantiaci c. 15 CE, at the same time as his brother Verica became king of the Atrebates.

Cunobelinus, king of the Catuvellauni: Expanded his influence into Cantiaci territory.

Adminius, son of Cunobelinus: Seems to have ruled on his father's behalf, beginning c. 30 CE. He was exiled by Cunobelinus c. 40 CE, leading to Caligula's aborted invasion of Britain.

Anarevitos, known only from a coin discovered in 2010, probably a descendant of Eppillus and ruling c. 10 BCE - 20 CE.

Ælle

Ælle is regarded as the first king of the South Saxons, reigning in what is now called Sussex, England, from 477 to 514.

Ælle and three of his sons (Cymen, Wlencing and Cissa) are said to have landed at a place called Cymensora (Pagham Harbour and Selsey) and fought against the local Britons. The chronicle goes on to report a victory in 491, at present day Pevensey, where the battle ended with the Saxons slaughtering their opponents to the last man.

By the early 5th century Britain had been Roman for over three hundred and fifty years. Amongst the enemies of Roman Britain were the Picts from Scotland, the Gaels from Ireland and the Saxons from the northern part of Germany. Saxon raids on the southern and eastern shores of England had been sufficiently alarming by the late 3rd century for the Romans to build the Saxon Shore forts. Roman control of Britain finally ended in 410, when the Emperor Honorius sent letters to the British, urging them to look to their own defence and after 410 the Roman armies never returned.

A British leader named Vortigern invited the Saxons to help fight the Picts who were attacking from the north. The invaders Angles, Saxons, Jutes, and Frisians gained control of parts of England.

It is possible that the stretch of low ground along the coast from Southampton to Bognor was called Ora, "the shore", and that district names were used by the various coastal settlements, Cymens ora being one of them.

It is also noteworthy that there is a long gap between Ælle and the second king on Bede's list, Ceawlin of Wessex, whose reign began in the late 6th century; this may indicate a period in which Anglo-Saxon dominance was interrupted in some way.

692: a charter of King Nothelm's, which styles him King of the South Saxons granted land to followers or to churchmen, and which would be witnessed by the kings who had power to grant the land. They are one of the key documentary sources for Anglo-Saxon history, but no original charters survive from earlier than 679.

Evidence from place names in Sussex

The early dates given in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle for the colonization of Sussex are supported by an analysis of the place names of the region. The strongest evidence comes from place names that end in "-ing", such as Worthing and Angmering. These are known to derive from an earlier form ending in "-ingas". "Hastings" for example,

From west of Selsey Bill to east of Pevensey can be found the densest concentration of these names anywhere in Britain. There are a total of about forty-five place names in Sussex of this form

A map of south-eastern England showing places visited by Ælle,  
until 675, when the South Saxon king Æthelwalh was baptized.

It has been conjectured that, as Saxon war leader, Ælle may have met his death in the disastrous battle of Mount Badon when the Britons halted Saxon expansion. If Ælle died within the borders of his own kingdom then it may well have been that he was buried on Highdown Hill (near Angmering and Goring) with his weapons and ornaments in the usual mode of burial among the South Saxons. Highdown Hill is the traditional burial-place of the kings of Sussex.

### **Æthelwealh**

Æthelwealh (660 – 685) was the first historical king of Sussex. Æthelwealh became the first Christian king of Sussex and was king when Sussex was converted to Christianity in 681.

Æthelwealh may have been installed by Penda in 645, when Cenwalh was driven out of his kingdom by Penda for divorcing the Penda's sister. Cenwalh had deprived Penda's sister of her queenly status and insulted Penda and a just recompense so Penda invaded Wessex would have been for him to have deprived Cenwalh of the kingdom in Sussex and installed Æthelwealh.

Æthelwealh became a Christian while in Mercia where the King of Mercia, King Wulfhere, sponsored his baptism. At this time the people of Sussex were pagans. In 661, Wulfhere gave Æthelwealh the territories of Meonwara and the Isle of Wight.

Æthelwealh's queen was Eafe the daughter of Eanfrith, a ruler of the Christian Hwicce people.

Wilfrid, the exiled bishop of York, came to Sussex in 681 and converted the people to Christianity with King Æthelwealh's approval. Æthelwealh gave Wilfrid land in Selsey where he founded Selsey Abbey near Barton Manor. Wilfrid, however met with Caedwalla, a prince of the Gewisse then operating as a bandit in Sussex, and came to a mutual agreement to advance one another's interests. In 686, Cædwalla invaded South Saxon territory and killed Æthelwealh.

Cædwalla invaded Sussex and was met by Æthelwealh at a point in the South Downs just southeast of Stoughton, close to the border with Hampshire, and it was here that Æthelwealh was defeated and slain. Cædwalla was then driven out by two of Æthelwealh's ealdormen, Berhthun and Andhun.

When Cædwalla became King of the West Saxons the following year, he conquered Sussex and appears to have appointed an Ecgwald as a sub-regulus (on cartulary evidence).

### **Cnut (Canute) 995 – 1035 CE**

Canute (the anglicized form of his name) born 995, son of Svein Forkbeard King of Denmark was the King of England, Norway and Denmark. An effective leader with an ethos and system of government which would last the test of time. He was thought of so highly by his subjects they persuaded him to attempt to control the waves. This is thought to have been at Bosham and was as expected unsuccessful. "Let all men know how empty and worthless is the power of kings"

In 1013, Cnut accompanied his father Sweyn Forkbeard on an invasion of England. As far as we know, this was the first time he had been to the country. Sweyn was not just raiding England; by this time, he was trying to conquer it. It soon looked like Sweyn was about to become king of the country; he had been so successful in battle that the current king Æthelred had fled. But then, just as it appeared that Sweyn's triumph was complete, he suddenly died.



Cnut, probably then just a teenager, seems to have been caught with his guard down. He assumed that he would merely assume the role left vacant by his father's death. But he was faced by an unexpected English backlash. An army caught him unawares and a catastrophic defeat followed. Cnut barely escaped.

However, when he left England by ship, Cnut left behind a number of hostages – minus their ears and noses. It was a stark warning to those who did not support him that they could be in for a seriously difficult time in the future.

### **Timeline of Cnut(Canute)**

1015 Cnut comes armed with a force of 20,000 in 200 long boats. He battles with Edmund Ironside, Ethelred the Unready's effective son is killed and Edmund's rule ended in just 7 months.

1015 West Saxons submit to him.

1016 Northumbrians submit to him

1016 Mercia submit to him.

Cnut became King of all England crowned in London, after Edmund's death in 1016 and 6 months later he married Ethelred's widow, Emma of Normandy, legitimising and including England within the Viking Empire. He already had an effective wife, Elfgifu of Northampton. She was the mother of Harold I (Harefoot.)

Malcolm of Scotland paid Cnut homage.

1019-35 He was King of Denmark

1028-35 He was King of Norway

Divided England into territorial lordships, owing allegiance to the king, providing a unified system of government that would last until the Tudors.

He ended the practice of paying Danegeld, a tax payable by English kings to Danish lords, in return for their not ransacking England.

Canute stabilised the English coinage, introducing a unified system, with coins of equal weight to Scandinavian coins, thereby encouraging international trade.

On a pilgrimage to Rome he converted to Christianity and brought it to Scandinavia. 'Danegeld' was the term used for money paid to troublesome Viking raiders, in order to make them go away. The late king Æthelred was infamous for his frequent Danegeld payments, though it was not Æthelred who made the largest Danegeld payment, but Cnut.

The idea of paying off raiders was not new; it had been used in Carolingian Francia two centuries earlier and even the heroic Alfred the Great had used it as a tactic. However, there were problems with the approach. Even if one party of raiders went away, another would soon take their place and the payments would need to be repeated, which was clearly an expensive scenario. Meanwhile, some raiders, such as Sweyn Forkbeard, might go away for a short time before simply coming back again.

When Cnut first became king, he was faced with the problem of what to do with thousands of unemployed Viking raiders. His solution was to pay them to go away. The cost was enormous – Cnut raised 10,000 Troy lbs [a measurement used to measure gold and silver] of silver from London and 72,500 Troy lbs from the rest of England to finance his policy. This was a mammoth sum at the time; while it is difficult to meaningfully convert into modern currency, it amounted to more than 30,000kg of silver. Cnut's payment was greater than any previous Danegeld sum (the former highest was 48,000 pounds, paid in 1012 during the reign of Æthelred). But although it must have caused great pain to the taxpayers of England, the policy largely seems to have worked, as Viking raids diminished substantially.

A coin depicting Anglo-Saxon king Æthelred, who was “infamous for his frequent Danegeld payments”.

At the time of Cnut’s rule, the laws of Viking succession were fairly flexible. When a great leader such as Sweyn Forkbeard died, it was not unusual for his patrimony to be divided between his sons, rather than the eldest taking everything. In theory, this helped prevent disputes involving disgruntled younger sons, though in reality these disagreements were still common.

Because Sweyn Forkbeard died while he and Cnut were in England, another of his sons, Harald, took over control of Denmark. Cnut was forced to fight for the country he was in, otherwise he would have been left with nothing. In 1018, Harald died without an obvious heir, leaving Denmark available for his brother Cnut. He seems to have taken the country without too much difficulty and held on to it for the rest of his reign.

Norway was a different matter. Although Sweyn Forkbeard had conquered the country at the end of the 11th century, it was never fully assimilated into his territories and he lost control of it after an uprising there. In 1030 Cnut won a decisive victory against his opponent, King Olaf II of Norway, at the battle of Stiklestad, but his subsequent reign in the country was short-lived. Those he appointed to be his representatives there were not popular, partly due to a period of extended famine, and they were ejected from the country. Norway was never securely integrated into Cnut’s kingdom.

Cnut’s wife, Emma was originally married to the unlucky Æthelred ‘the Unready’. The royal couple had several children, one of whom would later become King Edward the Confessor. When Æthelred died in 1016, Emma seems to have left the country and returned to Normandy.

When she returned to England in 1017, it was as Cnut’s wife. Emma was a loyal lieutenant for Cnut and their marriage was a great political success. Emma seems to have had a strong instinct for political

survival. Cnut and Emma had several children together, including Harthacnut, who later became king of both England and Denmark for a short time.

However, marital alliances at the time could be complicated. When Cnut married Emma, he already had a partner, Ælfgifu of Northampton. Whether they were ever married or not is unclear. It was quite normal at that period for kings and noblemen to have a concubine rather than an official wife and it would appear that Ælfgifu fell into that category. Their relationship did produce several children. One of them, Harold 'Harefoot', was king of England for a short time.

Ælfgifu and Emma were bitter rivals for decades, and they both outlived Cnut.

Cnut and his wife Emma, in an engraving from an 11th-century manuscript.

Cnut was an astute statesman. Rather than rejecting the former Anglo-Saxon kings of England, he went out of his way to show support for them. He did this by visiting or making gifts to shrines associated with Anglo-Saxon kings, such as Shaftesbury Abbey, where King Edward the Martyr lay buried, or Wilton Abbey, linked with St Edith, sister of Æthelred. He even paid his respects to his old adversary, Edmund Ironside, at Glastonbury Abbey. This Anglophile policy was a smart political move on Cnut's part, as it was well regarded by his English subjects.

He also adopted a new law code, which was regarded as introducing a strong but fair regime to England. Cnut based these laws on those of the Anglo-Saxon king Edgar, whose reign was regarded as a golden age.

Cnut also not only adopted English policies, but also introduced them to his overseas territories with a good degree of success. He took full advantage of the English coinage system, which was renowned for its quality at the time. He ensured that this quality was maintained and introduced a vastly improved coinage into Denmark. There are a number of cases recorded where the moneyers working in Denmark were of English origin.

Cnut was in many senses a Viking, and is probably best known as such today. He led his army using Viking tactics and launched raids on enemy territory using instantly recognisable longships. He was also fond of skalds [Scandinavian bards, or minstrels] who related old Viking sagas and tales.

Yet, it was as a patron of the church that Cnut made his reputation; this was quite a turnaround given the fact that Vikings had become renowned as scourges of the institution and frequent raiders of monasteries and other religious establishments.

This reflected the fact that these were changing times for the Viking world. Christianity had gained a foothold in much of Europe centuries previously, but was a more recent introduction to the Viking world. Cnut's family, especially his grandfather Harald Bluetooth, had been patrons of the church. However, Cnut's reign in England, then one of Europe's richest countries, allowed him to take this policy to new heights. He was able to make a number of generous gifts to the church and strengthen the fledgling religion in Denmark.

Cnut's recognition of the church reached its height in 1027, when he journeyed to Rome to attend the coronation of the Holy Roman Emperor, Conrad II. While there he met Pope John XIX. The fact that a Viking ruler could meet the head of the church and be treated as an equal of other mainstream European leaders shows just how much the world had changed.

Succession was again problematic and the dispute between his sons (Harold Harefoot and Harthacnut) enabled Godwin of Wessex to acquire the role of Kingmaker. Ruthless, cunning and extrovert he secures the throne for Edward the Confessor who despite repeated vows of celibacy married Godwin's daughter. He was Godwin's puppet monarch.

King Canute was buried in Old Minster Winchester and his bones placed in a mortuary chest.

In fact, Harold's association with Bosham is such that some believe he might have been buried in the church. The child's skeleton thought to be that of Cnut's daughter was originally discovered under the nave in 1865, but re-examined in 1954. At that time, another stone coffin was found nearby, which contained the remains of a man, about 5'6" tall, aged about 60, minus a head, leg, and part of the other leg. It has been speculated that these are the remains of Harold, last king of the Saxon English. We do not actually know what happened to Harold's mutilated body after the Battle of Hastings – William didn't want the English to create a shrine to their dead king and it is generally thought that Harold was discreetly buried at Waltham Abbey. But no one knows for sure. Indeed, it cannot be certain that the child's skeleton is that of Cnut's daughter either. All we do know is that under the nave is a privileged place to be buried and the right place to find a king's daughter – as well as, perhaps, a king.

We should end with a famous tale about the mighty Cnut. He was son of Sweyn Forkbeard and Sigrid the Haughty, which does make you wonder what his childhood was like; perhaps he didn't get too many hugs. By all accounts he was a no-nonsense sort of chap, as illustrated by the 'legend of the waves', which reputedly occurred in Bosham. The story is that Cnut was unimpressed by fawning courtiers who assured him that everything and everyone in the world obeyed his word. So, displaying something of a wicked sense of humour, he invited his fans to sit with him on the shoreline whilst he repeatedly, and unsuccessfully, told the tide to turn back; and everyone got very wet. The moral is that the power of kings is nothing compared with the power of God. Or, you might conclude that Cnut, a pretty ruthless Viking, simply didn't have much time for fawning but did enjoy a good laugh.

Holy Trinity Church. Of the Saxon and early Norman tower's four stories, the upper is Norman

The Grade II listed 18th-century Brook House with Holy Trinity church behind

The Holy Trinity Church is an historic building of some note – it has been in existence at least since Anglo-Saxon times, and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. It has been dedicated to the Holy Trinity since the early part of the 14th century; its previous dedication is not known. Much of the building retains its original Saxon architecture, dating from about the late 800's. The tower houses an original Saxon window. There is also a 13th-century crypt, which is speculated to have been a charnel house used to harbour the bones of those from the collegiate church nearby.

Holy Trinity occasionally hosts concerts and recitals.

Chichester Harbour, a Site of Special Scientific Interest is partly within the parish. This is a wetland of international importance, a Special Protection Area for wild birds and a Special Area of Conservation. The harbour is of particular importance for wintering wildfowl and waders of which five species reach numbers which are internationally important.

## **Bosham**

For centuries, Bosham was a fishing village, famous for its oysters. You'll find it on a small peninsula in Chichester Harbour in West Sussex; a bit of a yachting place, also beloved by artists, walkers, cyclists and casual visitors. Yes, Bosham (say 'Bozzum') can be a busy spot, particularly on a fine day. There are a couple of pubs, a popular art and craft centre and several tea rooms. Picturesque, with neat, well-mannered houses, all-in-all, Bosham is a great destination for a weekend drive out. At low tide, it is possible to motor around the foreshore; at high tide, your car would be submerged. Thus, received wisdom is to be careful where you leave your vehicle – I favour the car park (hang the expense). Chichester Harbour itself is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, an internationally renowned wetland visited by various breeds of migrating wildfowl. Hence, watch out for lurking twitchers too.

But, whatever its numerous attractions, this charming little village on England's south coast has always been labelled in my mind as 'the place where a king's young daughter is buried'. So, as you've probably guessed, it's somewhere that history-lovers enjoy as well.

### **History**

The site has been inhabited since Roman times, and is close to the famous palace at Fishbourne. Several important Roman buildings have been found in northern Bosham around Broadbridge including a



possible temple, a small theatre and a mosaic. The Bosham Head (displayed in the Novium Museum), part of the largest Roman statue from Britain was found nearby. A legionary helmet was found in Bosham harbour and is now in Lewes museum. The helmet is of late Claudian date, the time of the invasion.

Tradition holds that Emperor Vespasian maintained a residence in Bosham, although there is no evidence of this. There are also said to be remains of a building popularly thought to be a villa belonging to Vespasian, at the Stone Wall in the parish. Pottery and tile fragments, of both Roman and early British period, have been discovered in the area, confirming pre-Anglo-Saxon activity. The possible Roman harbour here was part of the natural harbours between Portsmouth and Chichester known as Magnus Portus

### **Anglo-Saxon and Norman periods**

The mill-stream where King Canute's daughter is reputed to have drowned.

Most of Bosham's history during the Middle Ages is ecclesiastical. Bede mentions Bosham in his book *The Ecclesiastical History of the English Nation*, speaking of Wilfrid's visit here in 681 when he encountered a Celtic monk, Dicul, and five disciples in a small monastery. The village is one of only five places that appear on the map attached to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle of around this time.

In 850, the original village church was built possibly on the site of a Roman building, and in the tenth century was replaced with Holy Trinity Church, situated beside Bosham Quay, that still serves as the local place of worship. There is a tradition that a daughter of Canute the Great drowned in a nearby brook and was buried here, although there seems to be little evidence for this. The tradition was originally linked to a fourteenth- or fifteenth-century effigy. In 1865 a coffin containing a child's skeleton was discovered, buried in the nave in front of what is now the chancel of Holy Trinity Church. This was thought to be Canute's daughter.

There is also a tradition that Canute had a palace in the village, perhaps where the Manor House now stands, or possibly at the harbour's edge, but no evidence has emerged. Legend has it that Bosham was

the site at which he commanded the waves to "go back", so as to demonstrate to his overly deferential courtiers the limits of a King's powers.

There is also a legend that around this time Bosham Church was plundered by Danish pirates, who stole the tenor bell. As the pirate ship sailed away, the remaining church bells were rung. The tenor bell miraculously joined in, destroying the ship. The bell is still said to ring beneath the waters whenever the other bells are rung.

Harold Godwinson

In the Bayeux Tapestry's second scene, "Where Harold, Earl of the English, and his knights ride to Bosham Church."

Bosham is mentioned by name in the Bayeux Tapestry, referring to the 1064 meeting of Harold and Edward the Confessor on the way to meet William of Normandy to discuss who would succeed Edward to the throne. Harold's strong association with Bosham and the recent discovery of an Anglo-Saxon grave in the church has led some historians to speculate that King Harold was buried here following his death at the Battle of Hastings. The speculation began in 1954, when the nave was re-paved, and the body of King Canute's reputed daughter was re-examined. It was discovered that the body of a richly dressed man was buried beside the child's. A request to exhume the grave in Bosham church was refused by the Diocese of Chichester in December 2004, the Chancellor ruling that the

chances of establishing the identity of the body as that of Harold Godwinson were too slim to justify disturbing a burial place.

### Domesday Book

The Domesday Book (1086) lists Bosham as one of the wealthiest manors in England. It included the nearby village of Chidham. Bosham was confirmed to be in the possession of Osbern, Bishop of Exeter, who had been granted the land by his kinsman, Edward the Confessor. It possessed 112 hides (13,000 acres) in different parts of the country.

For Bosham is an ancient settlement, somewhere to get a sense of English ancestry. The Domesday Book had it listed as Boseham in 1086 – a Saxon name meaning bosa's homestead. In 731AD it was Bosanham. It must have been called something else before that – its pedigree dates back to Roman times, at least. The Romans used Chichester Harbour as a port and Vespasian, prior to becoming emperor, is reputed to have had a villa in Bosham itself. The first parish church dates from 850AD, was allegedly constructed over a Roman basilica (a public building used for meetings) and the

fabulous Fishbourne Palace is a near neighbour. An enormous sculpted marble head,

surprisingly known as 'the Bosham Head', much eroded and weighing 375lbs (170kg) was found in a garden in 1800. It is now thought this could have been part of a twice than life-size statue of the Emperor Trajan that once stood at the entrance to the harbour. The basilica claim might sound a little exaggerated, but the Romans were certainly in Bosham and there's no escaping the fact that humans

have been hanging around the place for a very long time. Chichester, or Noviomagus Regnorum, fell to marauding Saxons in the 5th century and civilisation in these parts took a step backwards.

However, skipping ahead a few centuries, Bosham is reputed to be the oldest established Christian site in Sussex. St Wilfred brought Christianity to the South Saxons sometime around 680AD –

“There was, however, a Scots\* monk named Dicul who had a very small monastery at a place called Bosanham, surrounded by woods and the sea, where five or six brothers served the Lord in a life of humility and poverty: but none of the natives was willing to follow their way of life or listen to their teaching.”

Wilfred, with the blessing of the Church of Rome behind him, naturally had far more luck with the local pagans than poor old Dicul did. He did get it to rain for the first time in three years, but he also

taught the people how to fish. Wilfred went on to found a monastery at Selsey, just down the coast from Bosham. Dicul’s probable site of the ‘monastery’, undoubtedly a very simple affair, is just north of the church, now under someone’s house.

In time, a small church college flourished in Bosham, surviving until 1548; though along the way, the clergy were often up to no good. For example, in 1384 complaints were made about the vicar, one Robert Dygby, who was leading a dissolute life, frequenting taverns and so forth in Chichester, and being so obnoxious that his brothers used to avoid him. It was later reported that he was living openly with a widow in Bosham. Another vicar assaulted and tried to murder the sexton

In the Holy Trinity Church, adjacent to the quay which dates from the 10th century and, inside, just to the right of the Saxon chancel arch is a memorial stone, with the black raven of the Royal House of Denmark on it. The inscription reads:

To the Glory Of God  
And In Memory Of  
A Daughter Of King Canute  
Who Died Early In The 11th Century

Aged About 8 Years  
Whose Remains Lie Enclosed In A  
Stone Coffin Beneath This Spot

Placed By The Children Of  
The Parish August 1906

Here is a sad reminder of the real people that came before us, a thousand years ago. There is a long tradition that a young daughter of Cnut's (or Canute, a much safer spelling when you're in a hurry) fell into the nearby millstream and drowned in the year 1020. The millstream is still there; it has been, apparently, since the Romans dug it. Cnut, King of Denmark and Norway, was King of England from 1016-1035. He pursued his claim to the English throne in September 1015 by arriving in Kent at the head of an army of 10,000 salivating Scandinavians. Sailing round the south coast, it is said they laid waste to the counties of Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire, waging a series of battles against the Saxons under Edmund Ironside. Cnut became King of all England on Edmund's death in 1016. And ironically, on his own death in 1035, he was buried in Winchester, ancient capital of the West Saxons. But why would this Danish king be in tiny Bosham? Because, it is said, he had a palace in, or nearby. In that case, Bosham becomes a place of some significance and it is thought to be here that Canute attempted to control the sea at the insistence of his courtiers.

Bosham Church is depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry, the enormous piece of embroidery commissioned just a few decades later by the Normans to tell their tale of the Battle of Hastings. An early scene shows where Harold, leader of the English, and his mounted soldiers ride to Bosham Church before Harold became king. Earl Godwine, Harold's powerful father and a close friend of Cnut's, had a manor there. In 1053, when Godwine died, Harold inherited; so Bosham would have been his home and port.

Harold is said to have sailed from Bosham across the English Channel in 1064, a voyage that ended up with him meeting Duke William of Normandy, though whether this get-together was intentional or not is unknown. Anyway, there in the Bayeux Tapestry is Bosham church, the chancel arch, or one very much like it, clearly identifiable. The tower of Holy Trinity is mostly Saxon, constructed from the late 10th to the middle of the 11th century, so it would have been there when Harold dropped by. The top of the tower is Norman and the spire is 15th century. The church is actually a gem, full of wonderful

features including a 12th century font, late 13th century effigy of a child (did that represent Cnut's daughter?) and a 14th century crypt (possibly once used as a charnel house), though the magnificent chancel arch dominates when you enter.

## **Monarchs of the West Saxons (Wessex)**

The earliest kings of Wessex predate many written sources. Wessex was one of the seven kingdoms of the Anglo-Saxons. Besides Wessex they included Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia, Essex, Kent, and Sussex. The year 865 saw the arrival of the Great Heathen Army in East Anglia. One by one the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms were defeated by the Danes (Vikings). By the close of the ninth century the last four independent kingdoms of England had been reduced to just one. Wessex was the only remaining kingdom not destroyed by the Vikings. Alfred the Great of Wessex became the core of a unified England. His grandson, Athelstan was the first King of England.

Cerdic (519–534)

Creoda (534?) Likely disputed

Cynric (534–560)

Ceawlin (560–591)

Ceol (591–597)

Ceolwulf (597–611)

Cynegils (611–643)

Cwichelm (626–636)

Cenwalh (643–645)

Centwine (probable) (645–648)

Cenwalh (648–672) (restored to the throne)

Seaxburh (672–674)

Cenfus (674)

Aescwine (674–676)

Centwine (676–685)

Caedwalla (685–688)

Ine (688–726)

Athelheard (726–740)

Cuthred (740–756)

Sigeberht (756–757)

Cynewulf (757–786)

Beorhtric (786–802)

Egbert (802–839)

Athelwulf (839–858)

Athelbald (858–860)



Athelbert (860–865)

Athelred (865–871)

Alfred the Great (871–899)

Edward the Elder (899–924)

Alfweard (924), son of Edward, ruled for 16 days.

Athelstan (924–927), after 927 ruled as King of the English.

**Cædwalla** (c. 659 – 20 April 689 AD) was the King of Wessex from approximately 685 until he abdicated in 688. His name is derived from the Welsh Cadwallon. He was exiled from Wessex as a youth and during this period gathered forces and attacked the South Saxons, killing their king, Æthelwealh, in what is now Sussex. Cædwalla was unable to hold the South Saxon territory, however, and was driven out by Æthelwealh's ealdormen. In either 685 or 686, he became King of Wessex. He may have been involved in suppressing rival dynasties at this time, as an early source records that Wessex was ruled by under kings until Cædwalla.

After his accession Cædwalla returned to Sussex and won the territory again, and also conquered the Isle of Wight, engaging in genocide, extinguishing the ruling dynasty there, and forcing the population of the island at sword point to renounce their pagan beliefs for Christianity. He gained control of Surrey and the kingdom of Kent, and in 686 he installed his brother, Mul, as king of Kent. Mul was burned in a Kentish revolt a year later, and Cædwalla returned, possibly ruling Kent directly for a period.

Cædwalla was wounded during the conquest of the Isle of Wight, and perhaps for this reason he abdicated in 688 to travel to Rome for baptism. He reached Rome in April 689, and was baptised by Pope Sergius I on the Saturday before Easter, dying ten days later on 20 April 689. He was succeeded by Ine.

### **West Saxon territory in the 680s**

The kingdoms of Britain in the late 7th century.

In the late 7th century, the West Saxons occupied an area in the west of southern England, though the exact boundaries are difficult to define. To their west was the native British kingdom of Dumnonia (Devon and Cornwall). To the north were the Mercians, whose king, Wulfhere, had dominated southern England during his reign. In 674 he was succeeded by his brother, Æthelred, who was less militarily active than Wulfhere had been along the frontier with Wessex, though the West Saxons did not recover the territorial gains Wulfhere had made. To the southeast was the kingdom of the South Saxons, in what is now Sussex; and to the east were the East Saxons, who controlled London.

Not all the locations named in the *Chronicle* can be identified, but it is apparent that the West Saxons were fighting in north Somerset, south Gloucestershire, and north Wiltshire, against both British and Mercian opposition. To the west and south, evidence of the extent of West Saxon influence is provided by the fact that Cenwalh, who reigned from 642 to 673, is remembered as the first Saxon patron of Sherborne Abbey, in Dorset; similarly, Centwine (676–685) is the first Saxon patron of Glastonbury, in Somerset. Evidently these monasteries were in West Saxon territory by then. Exeter, to the west, in Devon, was under West Saxon control by 680, since Boniface was educated there at about that time.

### **Ancestry**

Bede states that Cædwalla was a "daring young man of the royal house of the Gewissæ", and gives his age at his death in 689 as about thirty, making the year of his birth about 659. "Gewisse", a tribal name, is used by Bede as an equivalent to "West Saxon": Cædwalla was the son of Coenberht, and was descended via Ceawlin from Cerdic, who was the first of the Gewisse to land in England. Many difficulties and contradictions in the regnal list are caused partly by the efforts of later scribes to demonstrate that each king on the list was descended from Cerdic; so Cædwalla's genealogy must be treated with caution. His name is an Anglicised form of the British name "Cadwallon", which may indicate British (Brythonic) ancestry.

### **First campaign in Sussex**

The first mention of Cædwalla is in the *Life of St Wilfrid*, in which he is described as an exiled nobleman in the forests of Chiltern and the Weald. It was not uncommon for a 7th-century king to have spent time in exile before gaining the throne. In 685 Cædwalla "began to contend for the kingdom".<sup>[10]</sup> Despite his exile, he was able to put together enough military force to defeat and kill Æthelwealh, the king of Sussex. He was, however, soon expelled by Berthun and Andhun, Æthelwealh's ealdormen, "who administered the country from then on", possibly as kings.

The Isle of Wight and the Meon valley in what is now eastern Hampshire had been placed under Æthelwealh's control by Wulfhere from around 661, but according to Bede it occurred "not long before" Wilfrid's mission to the South Saxons in the 680s, which implies a rather later date.

Wulfhere's attack on Ashdown, also dated by the *Chronicle* to 661, may likewise have actually happened later. If these events happened in the early 680s or not long before, Cædwalla's aggression against Æthelwealh would be explained as a response to Mercian pressure.

Another indication of the political and military situation may be the division in the 660s of the West Saxon see at Dorchester-on-Thames; a new see was established at Winchester, very near to the South Saxon border. Bede's explanation for the division is that Cenwalh grew tired of the Frankish speech of the bishop at Dorchester, but it is more likely that it was a response to the Mercian advance, which forced West Saxon expansion, such as Cædwalla's military activities, west, south, and east, rather than north. Cædwalla's military successes may be the reason that at about this time the term "West Saxon" starts to be used in contemporary sources, instead of "Gewisse". It is from this time that the West Saxons began to rule over other Anglo-Saxon peoples.

### **Accession and reign**

In 685 or 686, Cædwalla became king of the West Saxons after Centwine, his predecessor, retired to a monastery. Bede gives Cædwalla a reign of two years, ending in 688, but if his reign was less than three years then he may have come to the throne in 685. The *West Saxon Genealogical Regnal List* gives his reign a length of three years, with one variant reading of two years.

According to Bede, before Cædwalla's reign, Wessex was ruled by underkings, who were conquered and removed when Cædwalla became king. This has been taken to mean that Cædwalla himself ended the reign of the underkings, though Bede does not directly say this. Bede gives the death of Cenwalh as the start of the ten-year period in which the West Saxons were ruled by these underkings; Cenwalh is now thought to have died in about 673, so this is slightly inconsistent with Cædwalla's dates. It may be that Centwine, Cædwalla's predecessor as king of the West Saxons, began as a co-ruler but established himself as sole king by the time Cædwalla became king. It may also be that the underkings were another dynastic faction of the West Saxon royal line, vying for power with Centwine and Cædwalla; the description of them as "underkings" may be due to a partisan description of the situation by Bishop Daniel of Winchester, who was Bede's primary informant on West Saxon events. It is also possible that not all the underkings were deposed. There is a King Bealdred, who reigned in the area of Somerset and West Wiltshire, who is mentioned in two land-grants, one dated 681 and the other 688, though both documents have been treated as spurious by some historians. Further confusing the situation is another land-grant, thought to be genuine, showing Ine's father, Cenred, still reigning in Wessex after Ine's accession.

Once on the throne, Cædwalla attacked the South Saxons again, this time killing Berthun, and "the province was reduced to a worse state of subjection". He also conquered the Isle of Wight, which was still an independent pagan kingdom, and set himself to kill every native on the island, resettling it with his own people. Arwald, the king of the Isle of Wight, left his two young brothers as heirs. They fled the island, but were found at Stoneham, in Hampshire, and killed on Cædwalla's orders, though he was persuaded by a priest to let them be baptised before they were

executed. Bede also mentions that Cædwalla was wounded; he was recovering from his wounds when the priest found him to ask permission to baptise the princes.

In a charter of 688, Cædwalla grants land at Farnham for a minster, so it is evident that Cædwalla controlled Surrey. He also invaded Kent, in 686, and may have founded a monastery at Hoo, northeast of Rochester, between the Medway and the Thames. He installed his brother, Mul, as king of Kent, in place of its king Eadric. In a subsequent Kentish revolt, Mul was "burned" along with twelve others. Cædwalla responded with a renewed campaign against Kent, laying waste to its land and leaving it in a state of chaos. He may have ruled Kent directly after this second invasion.

## **Christianity**

A 16th-century mural by Lambert Barnard in Chichester Cathedral, depicting Cædwalla granting land to Saint Wilfrid.

Cædwalla was unbaptised when he came to the throne of Wessex, and remained so throughout his reign, but though he is often referred to as a pagan this is not necessarily the most apt description; it may be that he was already Christian in his beliefs but delayed his baptism to a time of his choice. He was clearly respectful of the church, with charter evidence showing multiple grants to churches and for religious buildings. When Cædwalla first attacked the South Saxons, Wilfrid was at the court of King Æthelwealh, and on Æthelwealh's death Wilfrid attached himself to Cædwalla; the *Life of Wilfrid* records that Cædwalla sought Wilfrid out as a spiritual father. Bede states that Cædwalla vowed to give a quarter of the Isle of Wight to the church if he conquered the island and that Wilfrid was the beneficiary when the vow was fulfilled; Bede also says that Cædwalla agreed to let the heirs of Arwald, the king of the Isle of Wight, be baptised before they were executed. Two of Cædwalla's charters were grants of land to Wilfrid, and there is also subsequent evidence that Cædwalla worked with Wilfrid and Eorcenwald, a bishop of the East Saxons, to establish an ecclesiastical infrastructure for Sussex. There is no evidence that Wilfrid exerted any influence over Cædwalla's secular activities or his campaigns.

Wilfrid's association with Cædwalla may have benefited him in other ways, The *Life of Wilfrid* asserts that the Archbishop of Canterbury, Theodore, expressed a wish that Wilfrid succeed him in that role, and if this is true it may be a reflection of Wilfrid's association with Cædwalla's southern overlordship.

## **Abdication, baptism and death**

In 688 Cædwalla abdicated and went on a pilgrimage to Rome, possibly because he was dying of the wounds he had suffered while fighting on the Isle of Wight. Cædwalla had not been baptised, and Bede states that he wished to "obtain the particular privilege of receiving the cleansing of baptism at the shrine of the blessed Apostles". He stopped in Francia at Samer, near Calais, where he gave money for the foundation of a church, and is also recorded at the court of Cunincpert, king of the Lombards, in what is now northern Italy. In Rome, he was baptised by Pope Sergius I on the Saturday before Easter (according to Bede) taking the baptismal name Peter, and died not long afterwards, "still in his white garments". He was buried in St. Peter's church. Bede's *Ecclesiastical History* and the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* agree that Cædwalla died on 20 April, but the latter says that he died seven days after his baptism, although the Saturday before Easter was on 10 April that year. The epitaph on his tomb described him as "King of the Saxons".

Cædwalla's departure in 688 appears to have led to instability in the south of England. Ine, Cædwalla's successor, abdicated in 726, and the *West Saxon Genealogical Regnal List* says that he reigned for thirty-seven years, implying his reign began in 689 instead of 688. This could indicate an unsettled period between Cædwalla's abdication and Ine's accession. The kingship also changed in Kent in 688, with Oswine, who was apparently a Mercian client, taking the throne; and there is evidence of East Saxon influence in Kent in the years immediately following Cædwalla's abdication.

In 694, Ine extracted compensation of 30,000 pence from the Kentishmen for the death of Mul; this amount represented the value of a king or prince's life in the Saxon system of recompense (Weregild). Ine appears to have retained control of Surrey, but did not recover Kent. No king of Wessex was to venture so far east until Egbert, over a hundred years later.

## **Barton Manor's History**

Barton Manor is recorded in the Guinness Book of Records as the oldest continuously inhabited house in Britain. It is situated in the village of Nyetimber near Pagham on the coast of West Sussex. At its heart is a Saxon Aula which dates from the 7<sup>th</sup> Century. Built from Mitholite Mixon and local Bognor rock and glacial boulders arranged in herringbone pattern and 3 feet thick in places. An outline of a stone rounded door or window thought to date from Roman times. Below the south east window in the chapel there is a trefoiled stone piscine piscina set into the wall with chamfered heads and jambs with inset round bowl. The distinct herringbone design may once have been the Lord's private room attached to the main hall.

Æthelwealh, King of the West Saxons) presented Saint Wilfred, Bishop of York with the Manor and land (occupied by 87 families) subsequently confirmed in a charter housed in the British Museum by Caedwalla who killed and replaced Æthelwealh in a 686 AD. This was because of the sorrow and massacres he had caused in Kent, Surrey and the Isle of Wight. Wilfred was an exiled Northumbrian nobleman who was shipwrecked off Selsey when returning from a Papal visit to Rome. He took refuge with

Caedwalla and the area suffered from drought and famine and rained resulted after his praying. He also taught the fishermen how to fish with nets. He converted the Sussex pagans to Christianity and built a cathedral at Selsey now in the sea. He later was reinstated as Bishop of York and upon Wilfred's death in 709AD he left the Manor to the Archbishop of Canterbury and often accommodated visiting clergy, Bishops and Archbishops. Even to this day the Archbishop of Canterbury appoints the vicar of Pagham.

The name Barton originates from Bere Tun or Barley farm store. The current Chapel was constructed in approximately 1250 and was 51feet long by 25feet wide, much larger than other chapels. The chapel was constructed using Caen stone (possible ballast from smugglers boats) from France and Freshwater limestone from the Isle of Wight.

Barton Manor was mentioned in the Domesday Book which indicated the Manor of Pagham has the richest area in West Sussex. It

was visited by Thomas Becket later Saint in the period 1156 to 1162 while Chancellor and later when he was Archbishop of Canterbury. It was in the manor chapel in 1108 AD that St Anselm consecrated the Bishop elect of London at the request of King Henry I. It was visited by Thomas Becket later Saint in the period 1162 to 1170 when he was Archbishop of Canterbury. Reports from tenants accounts exist that indicate that Archbishops and visiting clergy stayed there and held courts there 'in July 1281 Archbishop Peckam wrote to abbot of Ghent and the Bishop of Rochester from Barton Manor'.

In 1504 the Manor was leased to Thomas Morrell by the Archbishop of Canterbury then to Robert Sandam in 1532. After 1536 with Henry VIII's reformation and his dissolution of the monasteries the Manor was owned by the Crown. In 1560 Queen Elizabeth I granted it to Edward Darell who was clerk of the Queens Acatry (the *Acatry* was responsible for the reception and storage of meat for the royal tables, supplying garrisons and even the accommodation of Mary Queen of Scots). He is remembered by a memorial

tablet of a 'rampant lion' in the south transept Thomas a Becket church in Pagham. His son Thomas Darell sold it to George Goring in 1598. In 1613 the Manor was acquired by the Bowyer family. In 1675, the Manor was bought by James Ballet and remained in

his family for 250 years. In 1902, the Manor was restored by William Fletcher (a descendant of James Ballet) who also owned nearby Hotham House. He is credited with preserving the Saxon part of the manor (Aula) and the chapel.

It is also reported that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (lived in Crowborough) visited Barton Manor in 1878 gaining inspiration for some of his Sherlock Holmes mysteries. Barton Manor is thought to have been the Hurlstone Manor House in 'The Musgrave Ritual'. There are many similarities in the histories, and Conan Doyle may have given us an indication by calling the butler 'Brunton' close enough to Barton.

An Archbishop of Canterbury, William Cosmo Lang visited the chapel at Barton Manor being guided through by historian Lindsay Fleming in the Easter of 1929. He was visiting King George V who was convalescing at nearby Craigwell House which was owned by Sir Arthur Du Cross the founder of Dunlop Rubber and Austin Cars. Queen Mary was a regular worshipper at St Thomas a Beckett Church in Pagham during their stay and a church window commemorates her visits. Indeed it is believed that Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth II) made her first shop purchase at a tuck shop (now demolished) to the south of Hotham Park as a child while visiting her grandfather. Crown Prince Olaf of Norway (later King Olaf V) stayed at the Kings Beach hotel while exiled during the Second World War.

In the late 1930's Barton Manor was a children's home run by nanny Reid with the chapel being referred to as the priory. The Lamb

Inn was at the end of the lane as it stands today as is the duckpond on Barton close. Mr F.T.Ashton-Gwatkin purchased Barton Manor for £3750 in early 1943 moving in 5 years later staying for the next 25 years eloquently described the antiquity of Barton Manor. "It has seen the earliest Saxon settlements on the shores of the Seals Island. It has seen Wilfred and his Christian monks from the north Eddi, Padda and the rest, long before the Danes subdued by Alfred the Great. It saw Anselm the Lombard a great churchman and sent men to bolster the Barons wars and the long wars in France. It saw the monasteries fall, the Armada pass, the civil war and the wars in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the French revolution and Napoleon. It saw the two world wars and the planes roaring out of Tangmere and strange men and weapons filling Sussex lanes all preparing for the great invasion on D-day. But nothing happens

to the little house except the quiet succession of spring, summer, harvest and winter. It is like an old woman who never dies. He was a retired diplomat and collector owning a collection of pieces by Felpham's William Hayley a poet laureate and famous friend of William Blake .

In Nyetimber there are several ancient buildings the most important being Barton Manor House. The oldest part is the north-west wing which was the eastern part of a 13<sup>th</sup> century chapel. This is supported by the herringbone masonry indicative of Saxon building methodology. The windows have been partly restored in the gabled east wall are 3 lancet windows, they have internal splays of flint rubble with angle dressings and 2 similar lancet windows in the north wall. Under the lancets is a shallow wide buttress with two heavier buttresses of old rubble against the north wall. The wing adjoining the south of chapel is built of flint and stone rubble which has 4 courses of 17<sup>th</sup> century brickwork. H.L.F.Guermonprez researched Barton Manor as an architect specialising in ancient buildings. The interior then comprised two sitting rooms, dairy, kitchen, brewhouse, larder, store and six or seven bedrooms with attics and associated staircases and passages. It is now a private residence having been sympathetically restored with the Saxon 'Aula' (hall) is now the drawing room also containing the 'piscina' trefoil headed with a plain shallow bowl used in religious ceremonies.