

# History



## Find out about Cawsey House's past...

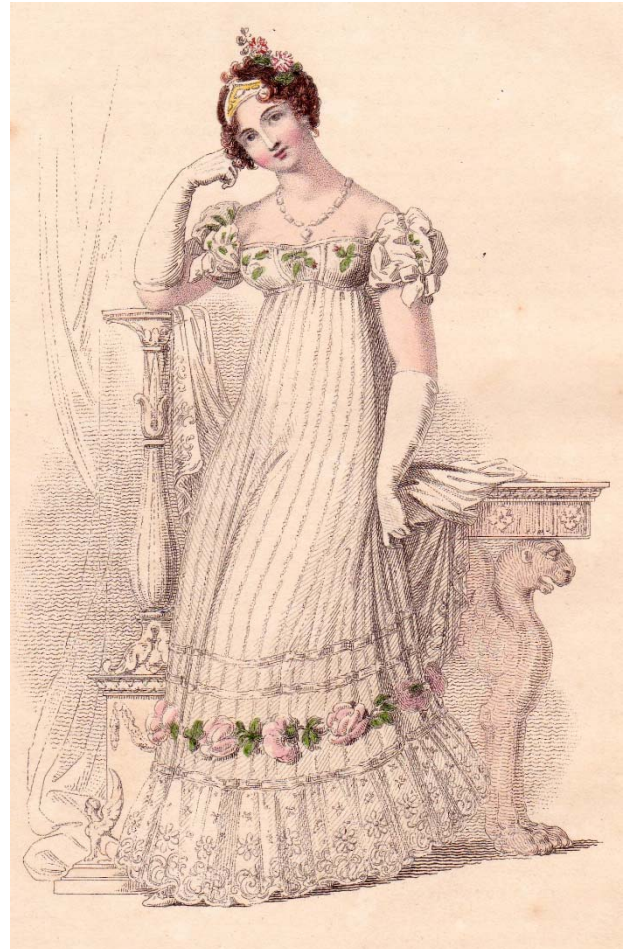
Hello! Welcome to Cawsey House!

My name is Margaret and I've lived here with my family since I was a baby. My father, Giles Cawsey, built this house in 1701. You can see his and my mother's initials (she's also called Margaret – confusing hey?) on the rainwater head at the front of the house.

My father is the **Town Clerk** of Torrington and a very busy man; he and mother are always off to events and dinner parties. I love watching her get all dressed up to go out – I dream that someday I'll be going to similar parties in wonderful dresses!

### Fact:

A **Town Clerk** is somebody who is responsible for the smooth running of the town. They collect taxes, issue permits and have to keep all records for the town. A difficult job before there were computers and calculators!



My parents often have people over at our house for dinner. The dining room here at Cawsey House is very grand – just look up to the ceiling at all that amazing plasterwork. Mother says it was created by the Abbott family of Frithelstock – they were very famous for their fancy plasterwork. The ceiling really impresses all of the guests.

How many different instruments can you identify? Write them here:



The wonderful plasterwork decoration in the dining room.

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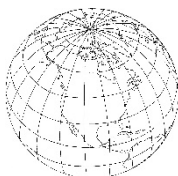
Torrington is a **market town** and my nanny Gemma (she's the person who looks after the children of the house!) often walks me into town to look at all the goods for sale. The nearby farmers bring their sheep and cattle so it's very noisy and quite smelly too! My favourite stall to look at is Mrs Bartlett's spice stall – it smells amazing. Gemma once bought clove oil from there to help me with a sore tooth. It smelt nice, but it tasted disgusting - yuk!



Clove Oil

Life here isn't always fun and games – I have to go to school and learn **embroidery** (say *em-broid-ary*) and music. Although I love music and really enjoy playing my violin, I want to learn history, maths and Latin like the boys who go to the local grammar school.

Father says it's not 'proper' for little girls to learn such subjects. I think that's really unfair, I don't want to be stuck sewing all of my life. I want to be a world explorer when I grow up. What about you? What do you dream of doing?



## Facts:

**Market Town** is a legal title originated in the Middle Ages, given to a town which was allowed to host a regular market. These towns acted as a business centre for local farmers and other surrounding villages.

**Service stairs** are a separate set of stairs used by the serving staff and maids in large houses. The gentleman of the house didn't want the staff using the main staircase and being seen by his guests!



Great Torrington market square as it looks today. Imagine it filled with stalls, cows, sheep, horses and lots of people!

I hope that you have as much fun here as me – it's a really great place for hide and seek. Gemma lets me use the **service stairs** (these are the small ones in the back sitting room) to go up into the attic and hide. I once hid up there for an hour before I got scared and had to come back down!

Are you afraid of anything?

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# Unruly Rulers

## Who were the Tudor and Stuart kings and queens?

This lot were a blood thirsty bunch, always chopping off heads. **Tudor** and **Stuart** are the family names of the kings and queens. The first Tudor was Henry VII in 1485 and they lasted till Elizabeth I. Then the Tudors' cousins, the Stuarts, ruled from James I to Anne.



### King Edward VI

Henry VIII's only son, he had some big shoes (and clothes) to fill! King at nine and dead at 16. Poor Eddie.

1509

### King Henry VIII

6 wives, only 1 son. Angry at the Pope horrible Henry made himself Head of the Church destroying all the Catholics churches.



1547

### Lady Jane Grey

Only 16 when she became Queen for just 9 days before Mary Tudor took the throne. Off with her head!



1553

### Queen Mary I

Back to Catholics again. Bloody Mary was her name, burning Protestants was her game.

1553

### Queen Elizabeth I

Good Queen Bess knew leaving religion alone was best. (Unless the Catholics attacked!) Had lots of boyfriends but married none.



1558

### King James I

What a silly king, he kept thinking witches were trying to kill him! He even wrote a book on witches.

1603

### King Charles I

Bad King Charlie wanted to rule without Parliament. That started a civil war which he lost. Onto the block went Charlie's head. One chop and he was dead.



1625

### Oliver Cromwell

Not a king but still a ruler. He didn't like the royals and made himself Lord Protector of England. He didn't last too long.

1649

### King Charles II

A merry monarch who brought back fun and games Oliver had banned!



1660

### King James II

A bit dim was this king. He tried to make everyone Catholic again, then ran away when they said no.

1685

### Queen Mary II & William III

She and her husband took her dad, James II's throne in the Glorious Revolution. Not so glorious for James.



1688

### Queen Anne

A sickly queen who loved to eat!

1702-1714





## **Meet King William III** **– who ruled when Cawsey House was built.**



### **Hi William!**

#### **So when did you become king?**

Myself and my dear wife Mary jointly took the throne 1689 but Mary sadly died in 1694 so I reigned solo after that.

#### **What are you most famous for?**

I led the Battle of the Boyne, a fight between the Protestants (my side) and the Catholics (my uncle and father-in-law, James II), and won! The victory is still celebrated in Northern Ireland every 12<sup>th</sup> of July.

#### **What is your favourite thing to do?**

I love horse riding, although I am prone to falling off! (This ultimately led to Williams's death in 1702 after he fell off and broke his collar bone!)

#### **What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?**

Stealing the crown from Mary's father, James II, in the 'Glorious Revolution'!

# Design



## What does Cawsey House look like?

Can you walk all the way around it?

Can you use any of these words to describe the building?  
Draw a circle around the ones that do.

What do you like most about Cawsey House?

.....

- |             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| Castle      | Tall    |
| Pretty      | Folly   |
| Stone       | Brick   |
| Symmetrical | Home    |
| Square      | Elegant |
| Friendly    | Tower   |

Cawsey House was built in 1701 by Giles Cawsey, the Town Clerk of Torrington. That's over three hundred years ago!

The building is on a **burgage** plot that runs at a slightly odd angle to the road. All of the rooms inside are actually diamond shaped and not square. (Take a look at the floorplans in the Quest section..!)

Although the building is made of brick – a double layer of brick in fact – this actually hides a timber frame. If you explore the attic you'll see the **cruck beam** which was used in the construction of the roof.

Cawsey House was considered modern for its time. It has stairs which lead out of a central hall and its most important rooms are on the ground floor, something not seen in other houses in the area at the time it was built.

Look at the front of the building, if you were to draw a line down the centre of its **façade**, the two halves would be identical. Cawsey House is an early example of such symmetrical design – it came to be very popular in the Georgian period.

## Facts:

A **burgage** was a town property owned by a king or lord and **rented** out. Usually a house on a long narrow plot of land with a narrow street frontage.

If you **rent** a house, you don't own it yourself but pay the owner to live there.

A **cruck beam** is a piece of curved timber (one of a pair) which holds up the roof of timber-framed houses.

## Did you know...?

Each side of a building is called an **elevation**.

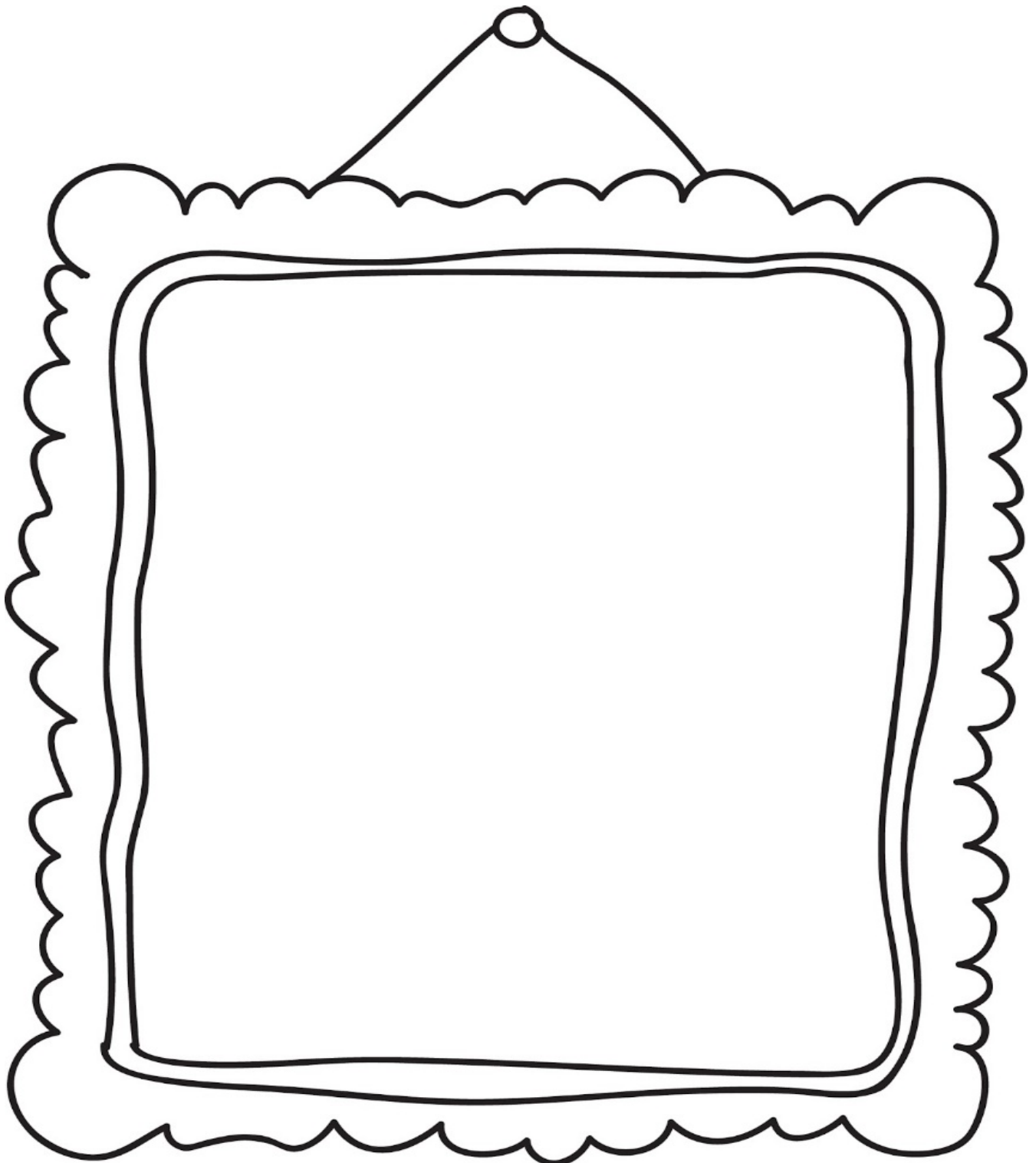
If the front elevation is really pretty, it has its own special name – it is called a **façade** (say 'fa-sard'). In French it means frontage or face.





Buildings are quite easy to draw. They are usually made up from lots of geometric shapes, like squares, triangles and circles. **Have a go at drawing Cawsey House.**

If you are drawing the front of Cawsey House, take an adult with you as there is a busy road outside.



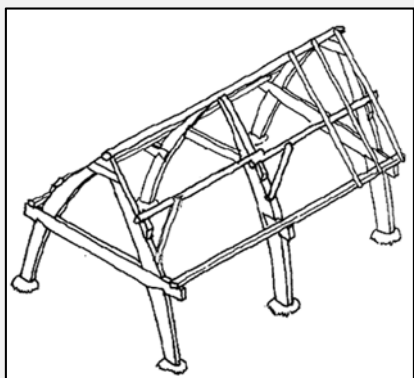


## What is Cawsey House made of?

### Fact:

The simplest house frame was a Cruck. A curved tree was cut in two pieces along its length. You needed one cruck at each end of the building and one in the middle. This created your frame, which you then added to and filled in with mud walls and a straw thatched roof.

A Cruck frame was quick to build but it didn't have much room upstairs.



Although the frontage at Cawsey House is built with brick, this actually conceals a wooden frame; timber is wood used for building. Today buildings with wooden frames are quite rare. Most were pulled down to make way for more modern buildings. They caught fire easily too. Timber houses were quick and cheap to build.

Remember the story of the Three Little Pigs!

The timber from oak trees is the best for building with because it is very hard. Oak is a common tree in Britain, and it was grown especially to supply timber for building – not just houses but ships too. You can still see big oak trees in the countryside today. They look like this, and they have wiggly leaves and acorn



People who work with wood are called carpenters.

Over time, timber framed houses started to look more like boxes, with a triangle for the roof. People wanted to have proper rooms upstairs.

This is a picture of Langley Gatehouse, also owned by Landmark. The carpenter has made lovely patterns inside the basic box frame as decoration (say 'dec-or-ayshun').





## What is Cawsey House built from?

### Fact:

The earliest bricks date back to about 7,500BC and were made of mud. The mud was packed into wooden moulds. They were then turned out and left to dry in the sun until they were hard. The first fired bricks were made around 3,000BC. Fired bricks are harder and last longer in wetter climates.

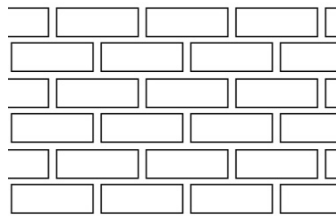
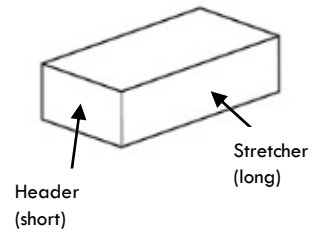
Today we make bricks in factories by mixing together clay, sand and lime. This mixture is poured into a mould, dried and then fired in an oven at 1100 degrees.

Try colouring in the short end on the brick patterns to the right, so you can see the pattern.

Now have a look at the front of Cawsey House. Tick the bond that is closest to the brickwork at Cawsey.

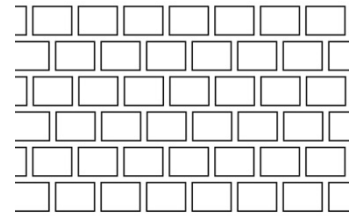
Bricks have a long and a short face like this.

They are arranged in layers, or courses which have different patterns.



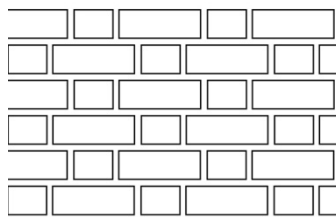
### Stretcher bond

The simplest bond to lay – using the long face of the brick.



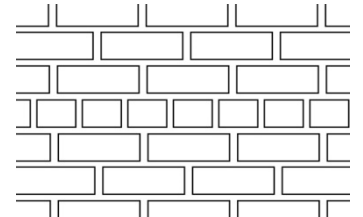
### Header bond

The bricks are laid with the header facing outwards. The header is the end of the brick.



### Flemish bond

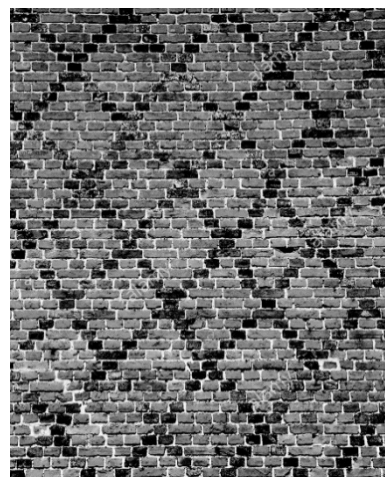
Bricks are laid with one header and one long face.



### English bond

Three rows of long face and one row, of headers.

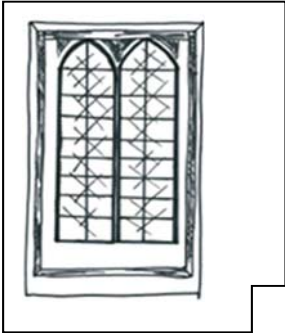
Some architects and builders were a bit more creative and designed very beautiful walls like these ones here. They used different coloured bricks to make these patterns.



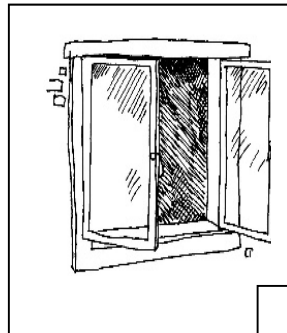




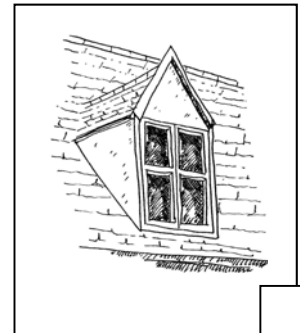
The size and shape of windows tells you a lot about the age and style of the building. What type of windows does Cawsey House have?



Pointed or Gothic



Casement (it opens)

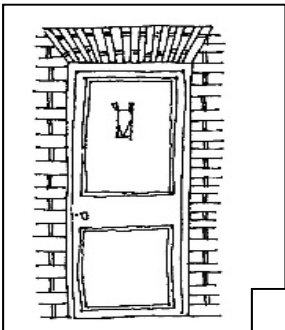


Dormer or attic (in the roof)

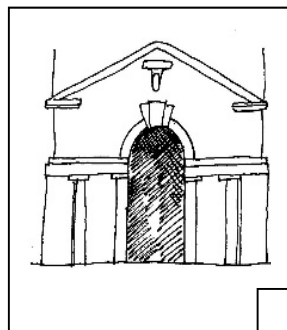
**Fact:**

Have you seen that in some very old buildings the windows don't open? Imagine how hot it got in the summer! When the casement window was invented it was the first type of window to open.

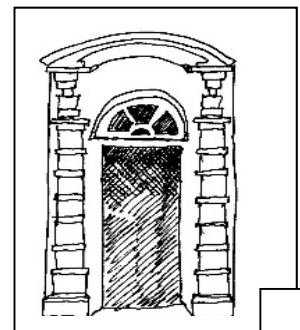
Entrances can be grand or simple. What is the front door of Cawsey House like?



Doorframe

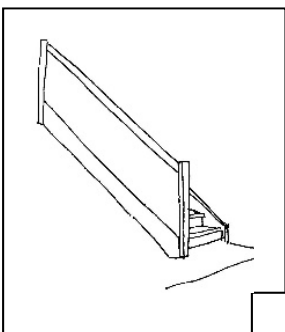


Porch

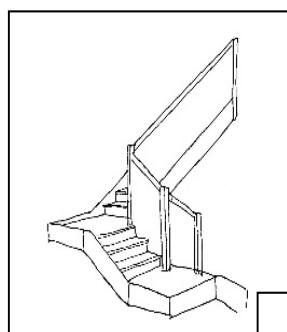


Canopy

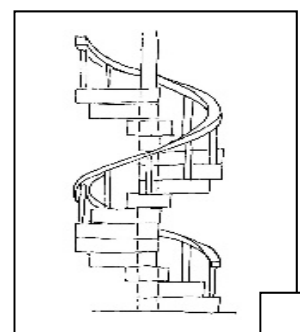
Cawsey House has two staircases – a service stair which the servants would have used and the main staircase for family members. Which style is closest to the main staircase at Cawsey House?



Straight



Quarter turn



Spiral



# Quest



## Discover more about Cawsey House

Cawsey House has been here for over 300 years. Follow this Quest to discover more about it.

Ask an adult to take you out of the front door – look up. This is called a shell hood and it's filled with plasterwork decoration of war trophies. What objects can you make out?

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### Fact:

Did you know that in ancient Greece and Rome, military victories were celebrated by displaying weapons and flags stolen from the losing side?

This decoration was just added at Cawsey because it was fashionable at the time though.

Take a closer look at the woodwork around the main staircase. It's not actually real wood, it's just been painted that way to reflect the grain of wood. Have a go at drawing your own wood grain in the box to the right.



Go into the second sitting room at the rear of the house and look at the grand fireplace. What do you think the hooks would have been used for? Fishing rods, guns, walking sticks? No one knows for sure.





## Living in Cawsey House House

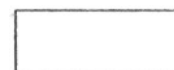
The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. Cawsey House has two floors (not including the attic rooms or the cellar!) The plan below shows you the shape of it. Take a walk around and write on the plan what each room is used for. Mark the bed you are sleeping in with a star. ★ Can you see how the walls aren't quite at right angles?



We use these symbols to show where beds, tables and bathrooms are. Draw the symbols on to the floorplans to show where the furniture is.



Bed



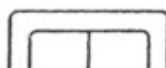
Rectangular (or a round) table



Bathroom



Cooker



Sofa



Kitchen sink



Can you find an example of each of these things inside Cawsey House. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite piece of furniture

Your favourite plasterwork design

Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor

In the box below, draw your own design for a plasterwork ceiling **you** would make for Cawsey House.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing a custom plasterwork ceiling design for Cawsey House.





## Can you answer these questions correctly?

You'll need to read the history sheets first..!

1. What is the frame of Cawsey House made of?

Bricks

Wood

Stone

Straw

2. Who built Cawsey House?

William Cawsey

Margaret Cawsey

Giles Cawsey

Darren Cawsey

3. Which type of instrument can you *not* see in the dining room plasterwork decoration?

Keyboard

Violin

Clarinet

Flute

4. What would not have been sold in an 18<sup>th</sup> century market square?

Televisions

Spices

Cows

Sheep

5. Who was on the throne when Cawsey House was built?

(Psst... check Unruly Rulers!)

William the Conqueror

George III

William III

George II

6. What is a facade?

A game

A song

An instrument

The front of a building

7. What are service stairs?

Stairs for children

Ladders

Stairs for the servants

Fire escape

8. Which brick pattern is the easiest to lay?

Header

Stretcher

Flemish

English

9. Which of these names has a King of England not had?

George

Nigel

James

Edward

10. What shape are the rooms at Cawsey House?

Triangular

Square

Diamond

Circular

To find the answers skip two pages...



## Cawsey House Word Search

Now have a go at the word search. Think about different parts of the building and what might have been here in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

T	M	U	M	D	D	Z	B	M	L	Y	T
Y	O	D	N	O	M	A	I	D	J	Z	I
Y	O	I	U	O	X	G	K	E	Z	C	M
T	R	N	Y	H	H	A	R	N	T	R	B
O	G	S	C	L	B	N	O	I	O	U	E
W	N	T	A	L	U	U	W	A	R	C	R
N	I	R	W	E	R	E	R	R	R	K	F
C	N	U	S	H	G	N	E	G	I	B	R
L	I	M	E	S	A	I	T	D	N	E	A
E	D	E	Y	F	G	L	S	O	G	A	M
R	A	N	T	B	E	O	A	O	T	M	E
K	V	T	P	M	C	I	L	W	O	E	D
F	H	S	H	G	V	V	P	X	N	H	R

CAWSEY

BURGAGE

INSTRUMENTS

FAÇADE

TORRINGTON

PLASTERWORK

VIOLIN

TIMBERFRAME

TOWN CLERK

DINING ROOM

SHELL HOOD

WOOD GRAIN

BRICKS

SERVICE STAIRS

CRUCK BEAM

DIAMOND

How many of these words did you find? Put your score in the box.

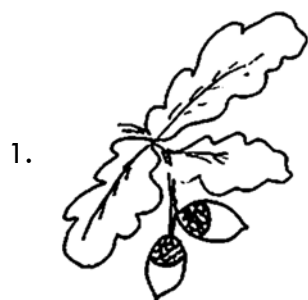
/
16





## Which leaf belongs to which tree?

Match the leaf to the correct tree.



Horse Chestnut

Willow

Pine

Ash

Oak

Did you match them correctly? Put your score in the box.

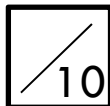


## Answer sheet:

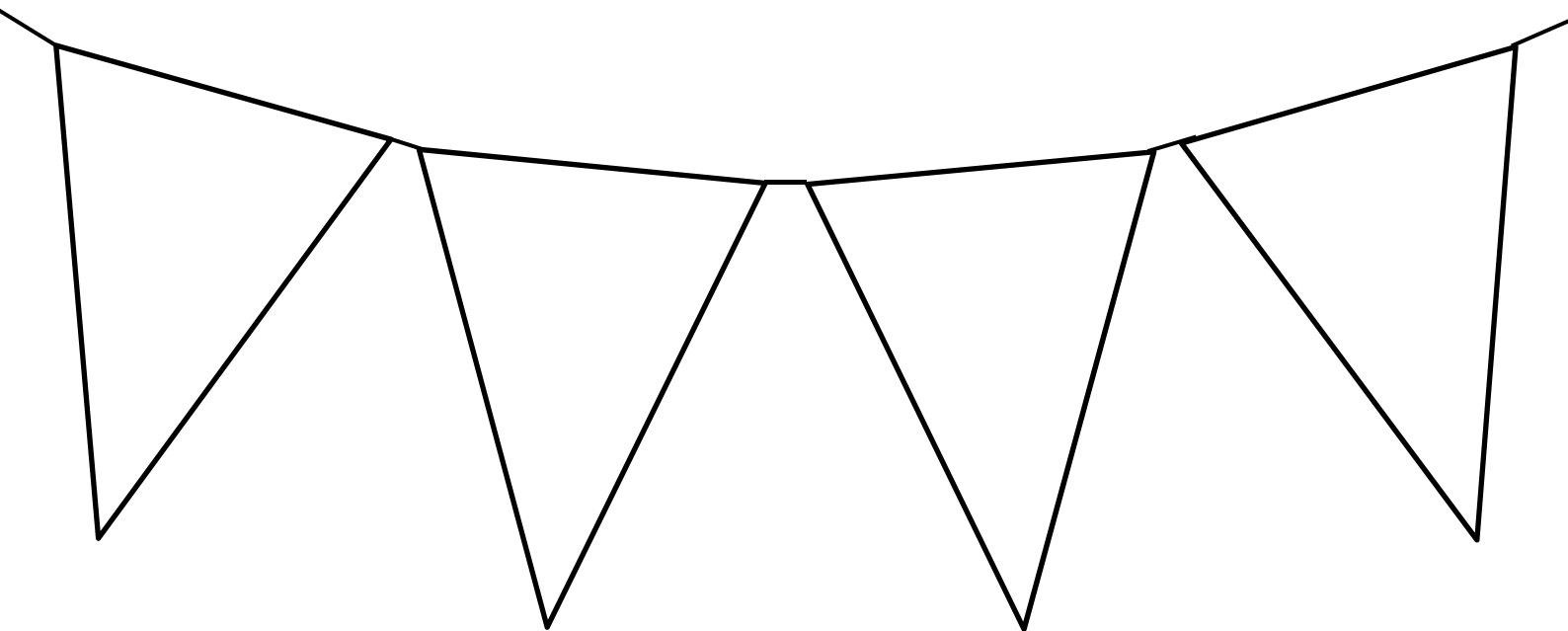
### Quiz answers:

1. Wood
2. Giles Cawsey
3. Keyboard
4. Televisions
5. William III
6. The front of a building
7. Stairs for servants
8. Stretcher
9. Nigel
10. Diamond

How many did you get right?



Great Torrington is often decorated with brightly coloured bunting. Can you have a go at designing your own in the box below...







## Bake some scones

If you haven't ever had a scone you are missing out! They are plain cakes that you cut in half and spread clotted cream and jam on each side. This is called a cream tea – I'll bet Margaret enjoyed a scone or two at Cawsey House!

Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

75g of butter

1 large egg

225g of self-raising flour

2 tbsp milk

Pinch of salt

Clotted cream

40g caster sugar

Jam

Pre-heat the oven: fan 220 °C : 425 °F : Gas 7

- Grease a baking tray.
- Sift flour and salt into bowl. Rub butter into the mixture until it looks like breadcrumbs. Add the sugar.
- Beat the egg and buttermilk together in a separate bowl.
- Add the egg and milk mixture to the flour mixture. Mix it all together with a spoon and then with your hands. This is called dough (say 'doh').
- Put some flour on the work top and then put the ball of dough onto it.
- Roll the dough into a circle (about 2.5cm thick). Then cut out the scones (if you don't have a cutter use a glass, making sure it too gets flour on the rim).
- Put them onto the baking tray and brush them with milk. Bake on the top shelf for 10-12 minutes.
- Let them cool and then serve with lots of clotted cream and jam! Yum!





## Make a woodland origami fox

Urban locations attract foxes as much as the countryside. Have a go at making your own origami fox with the paper on the next sheet.

You will need:

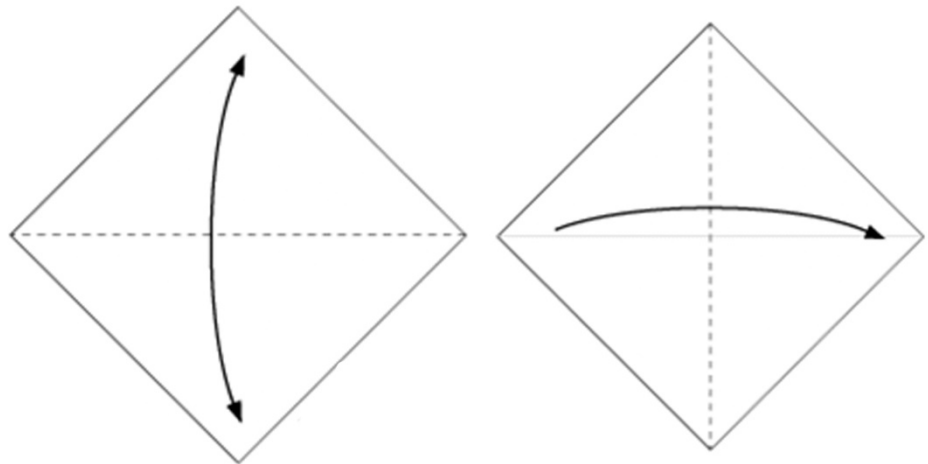
- Paper
- Scissors
- Colouring pencils

**Fact: Origami** (say orr-ee-garmi) is the Japanese art of paper folding.



### Step One:

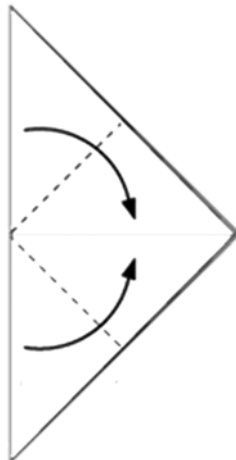
Cut the A4 piece of paper into a square. Follow the dotted lines on the sheet on the next page.



Then fold in half one way to make a crease, then open it up and fold it in half the other way.

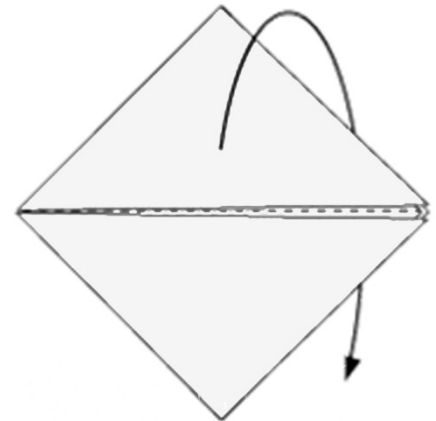
### Step two:

Fold both sides in to make a diamond shape.



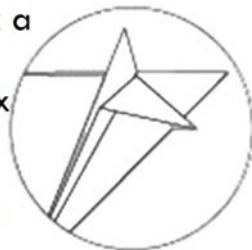
### Step three:

Once you have the diamond shape, fold the paper in on itself in half again so that all the flaps are on the outside edge.

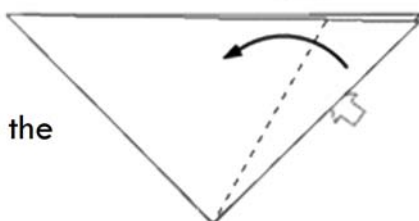


### Step four:

Fold the first flap back a little bit like in the diagram to make a fox ear.

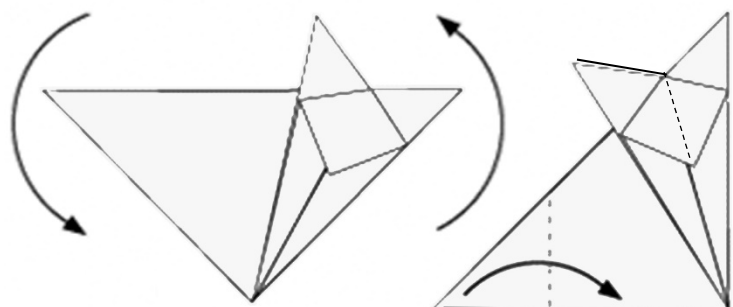


Then with the middle flap push it inwards to make a Diamond shape that will be the fox's face.



### Step five:

Turn the paper round so that it is at a right angle. Then fold the other corner inwards to create the fox's tail. Then colour and draw in the fox's face!





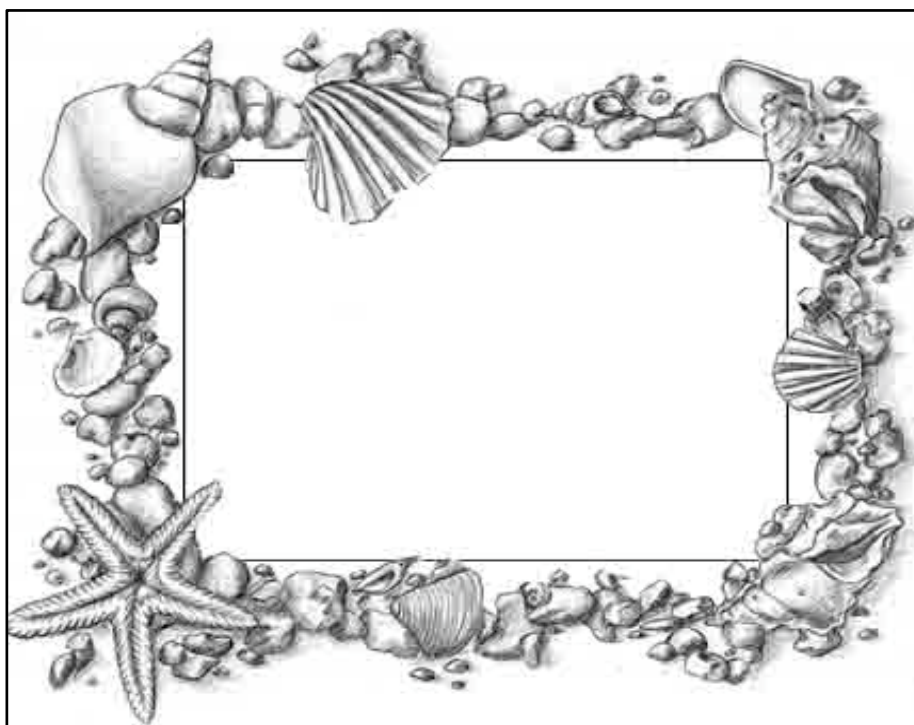
## Create a shell photo frame

This is the perfect way to remember the seaside when you get home. You will need lots of different shells or little pebbles for this so if you go to the beach make sure you collect some. Get as many different shapes and sizes – it will make your photo frame more interesting!

You will need:

1 photo frame (it can be one you already have or get one from a charity shop)  
Shells  
PVA glue (make sure it's this sort of glue)  
Spatula/ old paint brush  
Glitter paint

- Make sure that all your shells are clean and dry.
- Cover the table with a tablecloth or newspaper – it may get messy!
- Now you can decorate – to stick the shells onto the photo frame put some PVA glue onto the edges of the shell using a spatula/ old paint brush. Press the shell onto the frame - careful not to knock the shells already on the frame as you glue more shells on.
- Leave the glue to dry for at least 3 hours (it may take longer)
- Check glue has dried by gently trying to move shells
- Once dry the frame is finished - unless you want to paint the shells or put some glitter paint on the shells to make them sparkle!
- When you get home put in a photo of your holiday at Cawsey House.



**CUT OUT TO MAKE YOUR ORIGAMI FOX**

