



## Find out about Margell's past...

Hello! Welcome to Margells! My name is Edward, I'm nine years old and the year is 1622. I've lived at Margells all my life – it's a vernacular building and it's a lot bigger in my day though, all that's left for you is one part of the house.

My dad is a **merchant** and he also owns some land which he **rents** to a local farmer. He travels a lot and is often at sea for long periods of time leaving me, my mum and my two sisters at home. One day I hope to be able to travel with him – he tells great stories of his adventures to faraway places.



The sort of ship Edward's father sailed in.

### Facts:

**Vernacular** buildings are those that specific to a place or time – they rely on local materials and knowledge to build.

A **merchant** is a person who trades goods produced by other people. Merchants can trade locally (grocers, bakers etc.) or globally (silk or spice merchants for example). Merchants in the 1600's were generally quite wealthy.

Farmers often paid sums of money to wealthy landowners to work/farm the land. The money they pay is called **rent**.

When dad is away, I become the man of the house – we have a large hall where we eat all of our meals. Me and my family sit at one end of the hall and the servants at the other end. I like to sit at the head of the big table and pretend I'm the boss, much to my mum and sisters' annoyance!

When dad is home, he invites his friends to great feasts in the hall, impressing them with rich food made with the exotic spices he brings home from his travels. Mum says he's just showing off, but I don't care if it means I get to eat lots of delicious food!

### Fact:

In hall houses, the great hall was where the entertaining was done. The family and their guests would be seated at one end of the hall – the high end - and the house staff at the other end – the low end. By Edward's time, the family also had their own rooms too.



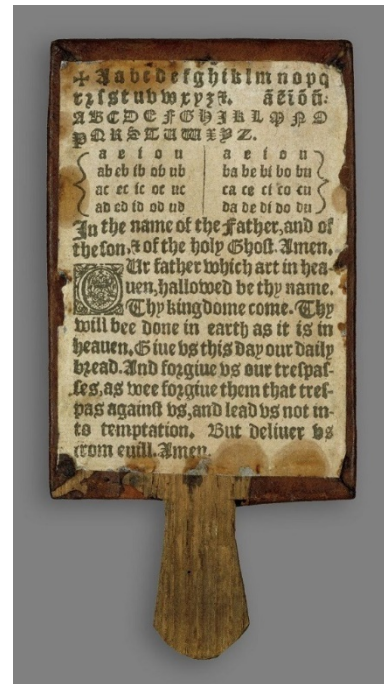
As dad is a rich man, I have a tutor who comes to teach me to read and write, English as well as Latin – which I find so boring! The picture on the right shows a hornbook. It’s a thin layer of horn on a wooden back – I guess you could say these were our version of your iPads and were used to help us learn our alphabet and numbers.

My sisters don’t learn the same subjects as me, mum teaches them things like embroidery and music. Which would you prefer to be learning?

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An example of a hornbook from the 1600s.

One of the things I love most about living here is how close we are to the sea. On hot summers days, the cook packs my sisters and me a picnic lunch that we take down to Branscombe beach. Walking down to the beach isn’t too bad but walking back up again is exhausting!

I love walking along the beach, looking up at the cliffs and spotting all the different birds flying overhead. What’s your favourite thing to do at the beach? Why not draw a picture of you and your family at the beach in the box below?

# 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.



### Queen Mary I

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



### King James I & VI of Scotland

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



### 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.



### King James II

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



### Queen Anne

A sickly queen who loved to eat!

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

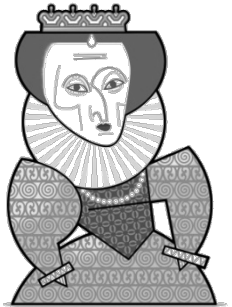
Only 16 when she became Queen for just 9 days before Mary Tudor took the throne. Off with her head!



1553

### Queen Elizabeth I

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



1558

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

1649

### King Charles II

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



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

1702-1714



## Meet James I – who ruled when Edward lived at Margells.



### Hi James!

#### So when did you become king?

I was already King of Scotland but I became King of England on 24 March 1603.

#### What are you most famous for?

I was nearly killed by Guy Fawkes who tried to blow up parliament. Instead he was caught – phew!

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

I loved hunting witches. I wanted Scotland and England to be free of those meddling women.

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

When I first became King of England I was on my way to London when a pick pocket was caught in a town called Newark. I ordered for him to be hanged. After he died I was told I can't execute people without a trial. Whoops!



## What does Margells 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.

Can you see other buildings in the area that look like Margells? \_\_\_\_\_

Tile

Farmhouse

Stone

Symmetrical

Square

Friendly

Tall

Industrial

Brick

Home

Elegant

Low

### Fact:

**Vernacular** means a building built using ordinary methods & local materials. It is a building for living in.

Margells is a **vernacular** (say 'ver-nak-yuh-ler') building. There are clues inside the house that show us that Margells may have been part of a much larger hall house.

Hall houses were timber framed buildings with large open halls where the family ate and entertained. If you go into the bedroom above the kitchen, you can see a blocked-up doorway which suggests there were more rooms at one point.

This lovely wall painting in the bedroom also shows that somebody very rich lived here – remember it was a large house back then, only a part of it survives toady. Wallpaper hadn't been invented yet and so paintings were a way of decorating the room. The paints were not at all like our paints today. This one was painted using a lime (burnt chalk) and skimmed milk mixture (weird I know!) with colours made from earth and soot painted on top.





## What is Margells built from?

### Fact:

Some buildings were built from stone that was dug out of the ground when farmers ploughed the fields, other buildings were made from stone that was quarried and cut into neat shapes and sizes. There are still many stone quarries around the country today, where people get stone out of the ground.

Stone houses were once cheaper to build than brick ones. Once we could transport bricks up and down the country on the canals and railways, brick buildings become cheaper and more popular.

Stone is the solid foundation of the earth. It exists as huge mountains, rocks, stones or small pebbles washed smooth by water. There are lots of different types of stone, with different colours and textures. Some are better to build with than others.



Margells was built when stone was still taken out of the ground by hand, much of the stone coming from the nearby quarry at Beer. Today, a quarry is a place where stone is blasted out of the ground with explosives! The one in the picture shows what quarries look like now.



People who work with stone are called stonemasons. They build walls, carve the stone into shapes or add patterns to its surface. They use a mallet and special tools called chisels to shape the stone. The picture on the left shows a stonemason hard at work.

Mallet



Chisels





## What is the roof made from at Margells?

### How to make a thatched roof:

It's hard work making a thatched roof (and scary if you're afraid of heights!)

1. Thatchers carry bundles of heather, straw or reeds on their shoulders up ladders onto the roof.



2. They lay the heather out along the roof starting at the bottom, they use special thatcher's pins to hold the straw in place. They build the roof layer by layer until they have covered the roof. The thatcher smooths each layer of heather using a **leggit**.

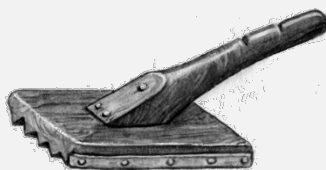


3. After completing the layers for the roof the thatcher will put a layer at the top of the roof to make the ridge.

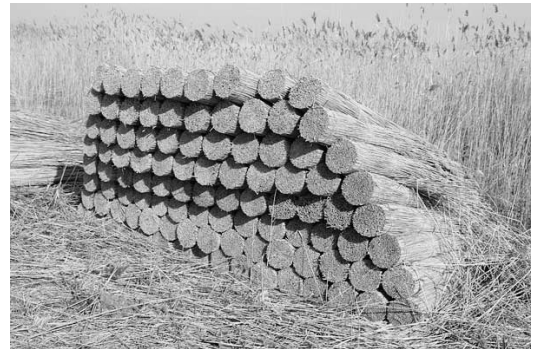


#### FACT:

A **Leggit** is a hand tool that pats the ends of the heather, straw and reeds to make the roof smooth.



Thatch is a very old way of making a roof. It was very common up until the 1800s. After railways and canals were invented, it was quicker and cheaper to make roofs from slate which could be transported around the country more easily by trains and canal boats.



### What reed has been used at Margells?

The thatch roof at Margells is made from Austrian reed! This was used because at the time of the restoration, no local reed was available.

To make thatch all you need is lots of dry long stems of reeds or straw. Because it is made of a natural plant thatch doesn't last forever, it starts to decay just like any other plant. Who wants a soggy roof?

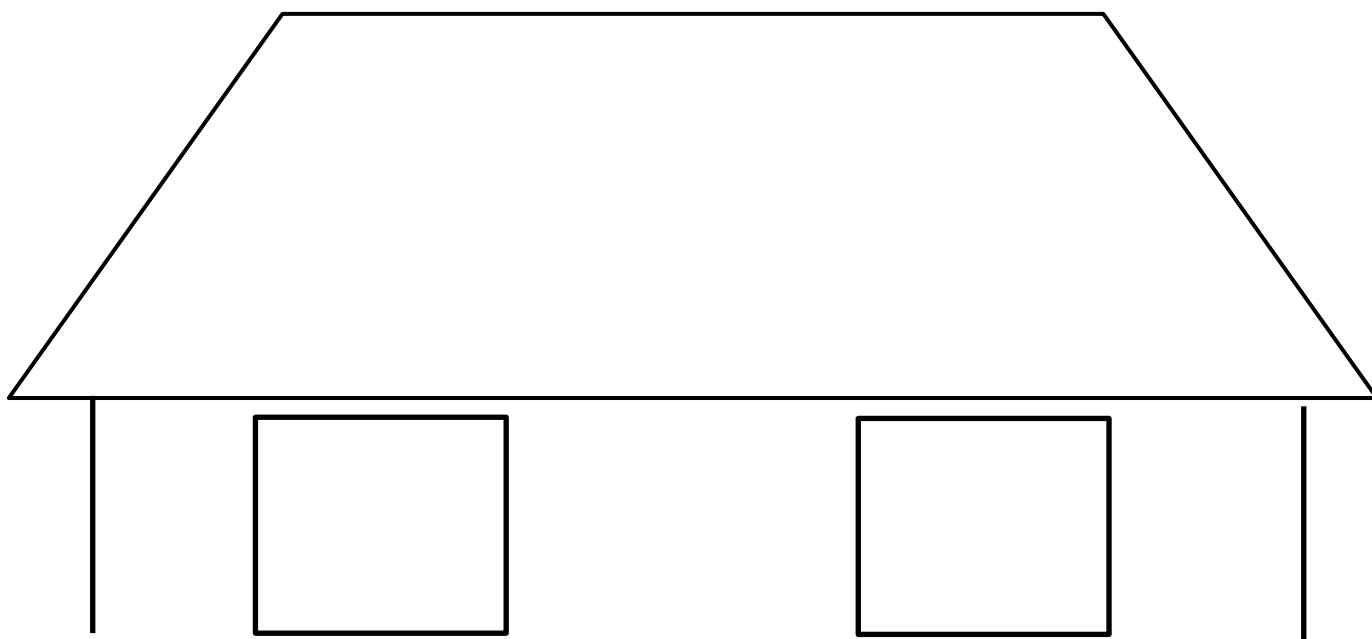
A thatched roof will last 50-100 years before it has to be re-thatched.



The top of a thatched roof is called a ridge. The ridge at Margells is simple but some thatched buildings have fancy ridges that have an extra layer of straw cut into a pattern. They fix sticks into the thatch to make the pattern on top. Here are some examples:



Design your own pattern for the ridge on the roof below, you can make it as fancy as you like! Sometimes people even put straw animals on the top of the roof, like a hen or an owl.



I know what you're thinking – how does a plant keep the rain from getting in? A thatched roof has a steep slope and many layers making it thick. This means that the water runs along the straw dropping from one end of straw to the other. Because the roof is steep the water doesn't have a chance to work its way through the layers before it runs off. Next time you go outside, have a really good look at Margells' roof!



# Quest



## Discover more about Margells

Margells has been here for over 400 years. In that time, many things have changed both inside and outside. Follow this Quest to discover more about it.

**Go outside and have a look at the roof. What is the roof made from?** \_\_\_\_\_

When Landmark took on Margells in 1975, the thatch roof was rotten and letting in water, beginning to damage the walls inside.

Sometimes people hid things in a thatched roof - small shoes, keys, spoons or even dresses. Why do you think this was?



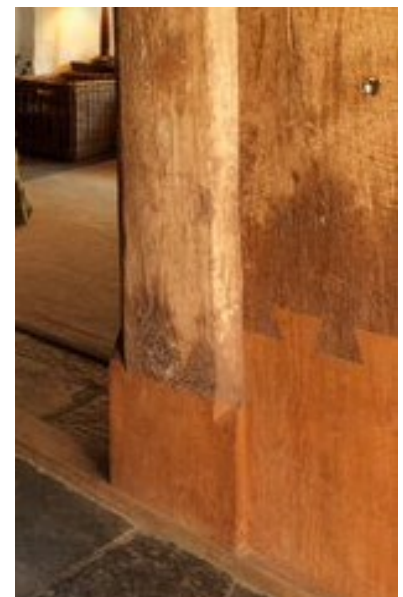
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(Did you guess? It was to bring good luck – or sometimes to keep witches or evil spirits away!)



Take a look at the ceilings in the downstairs rooms – aren't they fancy? This is another clue that Margells may be just part of a larger house.

These ceilings are called **coffered** ceilings – this refers to the shapes made by the sunken sections of the ceiling. Here at Margells they are rectangles, but coffered ceilings can also create square and octagonal shapes too.



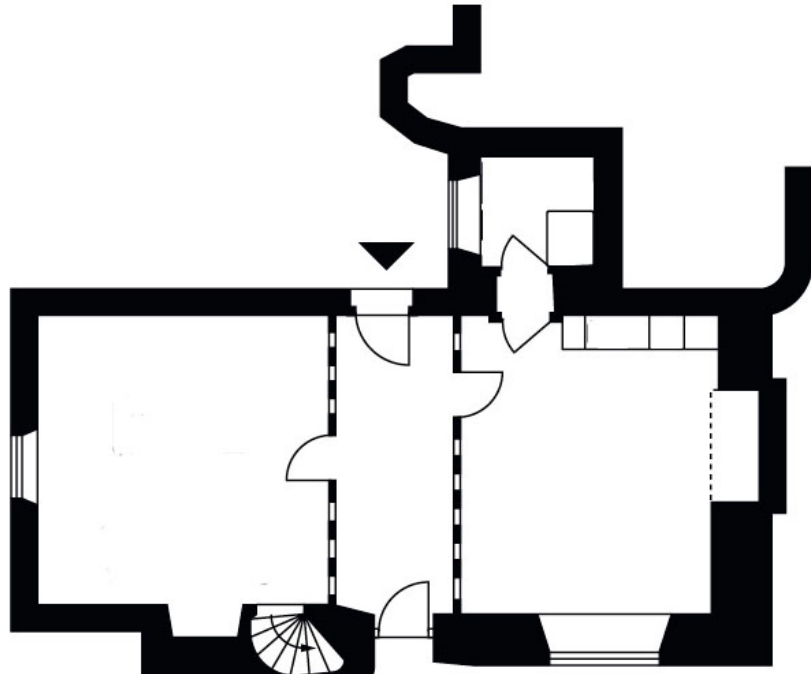
Can you find this section of wooden panelling in the hallway? This is called plank and muntin screening and it was used to divide rooms in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. You can see here where Landmark had to replace the rotten timbers at the bottom of the screen. The new and old fit together just like a jigsaw puzzle!



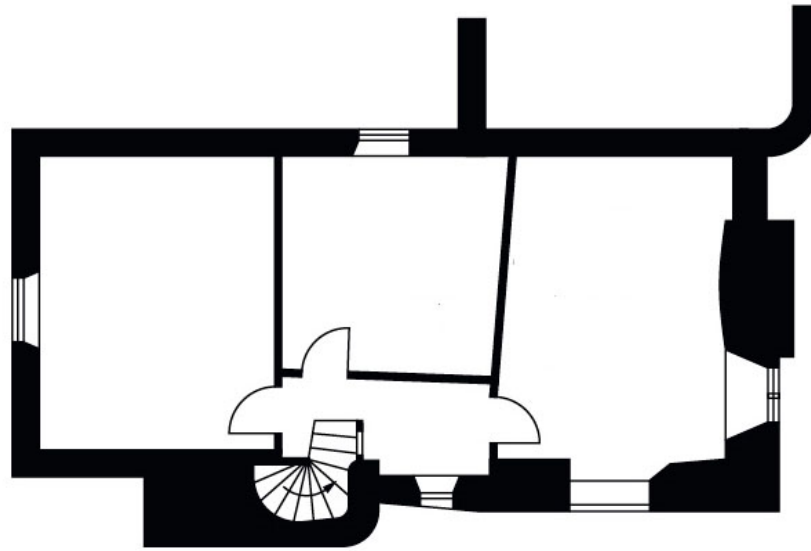
# Living in Margells

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. Margells has two floors. The plan below shows you the shape of each room. Take a walk around and write on the plan what each room is used for.

## Ground Floor



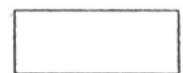
## First Floor



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



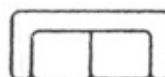
Rectangular (or a round) table



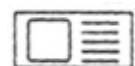
Bathroom



Cooker



Sofa



Kitchen sink



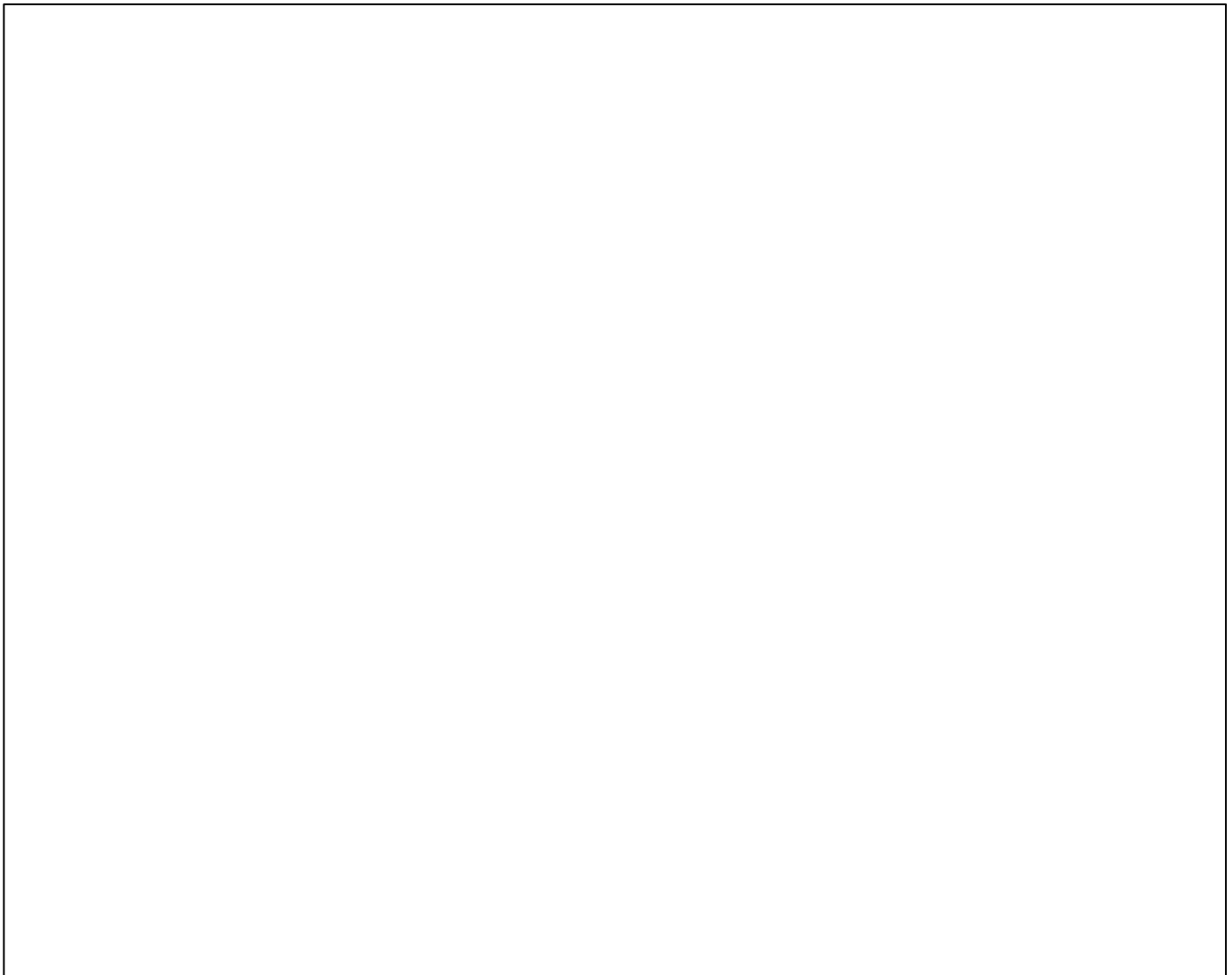
Can you find an example of each of these things inside Margells. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite chair

The fireplace (is it an open fire or does it have a stove?)

Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor

In the box below, why not try and draw the village of Branscombe from the front garden of Margells. Remember to use perspective!





## Can you answer these questions correctly?

1. What is the roof at Margells made of?

Slates

Straw

Reeds

Tiles

2. What does a merchant do?

Protects royalty

Trades goods

Sings songs

Looks after sick people

3. What is a horn book?

A book about cows

A 16<sup>th</sup> century workbook

A type of horseshoe

A game

4. What does the paint from the wall paintings NOT contain?

Lime

Water

Milk

Cream

5. What is Margells made from?

Cob

Local stone

Bricks

Steel

6. Who was on the throne when Edward lived at Margells?

(Psst. Check Unruly Rulers!)

Charles

James I

Henry VIII

John

7. Which of the following do you not find at Causeway House?

Stained glass

Beams

Plank and Muntin

Wall paintings

8. How long will a thatched roof last before it needs to be rethatched?

10 -15 years

50 – 100 years

400-500 years

500 – 1000 years

9. Which village is Margells a part of?

Twyford

Branscombe

Lymington

Clovelly

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

George

Simon

James

Edward

To find the answers skip two pages...



## Margells Word Search

Now have a go at the Margells word search. When you were exploring Margells did you see any of these? The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

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

LIMEWASH  
RUBBLE STONE  
WALL PAINTING  
CROSS PASSAGE

BEAMS  
CRUCK FRAME  
LOCAL STONE  
FLAGSTONES

RANGE  
THATCH  
BEER  
RAFTERS

STALLS  
FIREPLACE  
TILES  
COFFERED

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

Turn to the answer sheet to find what the words mean.

/
16



## Carpenter's marks and Roman Numerals

Timber framed buildings and roofs were put together almost like kits. To know what went where, **Roman numerals** were marked on the beams and posts by the carpenters. Each timber (that's wood) in the frame of a house or barn was specially cut and sawn by hand. Each piece had to be in the right order when they were put up on site. As the carpenters cut the timbers, they marked them in order with Roman numerals by carving the numbers with a chisel or knife. The straight lines of Roman numerals make them easier to carve into wood or stone.

### Fact:

The Romans used their system of numbers, **Roman numerals**, to help them price goods for trade. They used just **seven** letters (I, V, X, L, C, D and M) to make thousands of numbers.

The numbers we use today are from Arabia and called Arabic numerals.

### Roman Numerals

1	I
2	II
3	III
4	IV
5	V
6	VI
7	VII
8	VIII
9	IX
10	X
50	L
100	C
500	D
1000	M



Because Romans only used 7 marks (we use 10) sometimes they had to combine marks into a little sum. For example, have a look at number 4 (that's IV.) Can you see how the Romans said '4' by putting 'I' in front of 'V'? It's like saying "5-1=4".

So they put a '1' in front of another number when they mean 'take away this number from the next'. Have a look at a Roman's '9'. Can you work out what they've done?

The year 1600 in Roman numerals is MDC (1000+500+100).

The year 2015 is MMXV. Can you see why?

Have a go at writing the year you were born in Roman numerals .....

VII	XI	XX	CC
IX	XV	XL	CD

Write what you think the numbers below are beside each:

Make up some sums on the next page to test your Parents!



## Answer sheet:

### Quiz answers:

1. Reeds
2. Trades goods
3. A 16<sup>th</sup> century workbook
4. Cream
5. Local stone
6. James I
7. Stained glass
8. 50 – 100 years
9. Branscombe
10. Simon

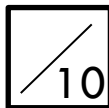
### Fact:

Branscombe is on the Jurassic Coast which is England's only natural World Heritage Site and it was given this status because it has so many rocks and fossils in its cliffs. The Jurassic coast runs for 95 miles from Exmouth in East Devon, to Old Harry Rocks near Swanage in Dorset.

Have you seen any fossils on your beach trips?



How many did you get right?









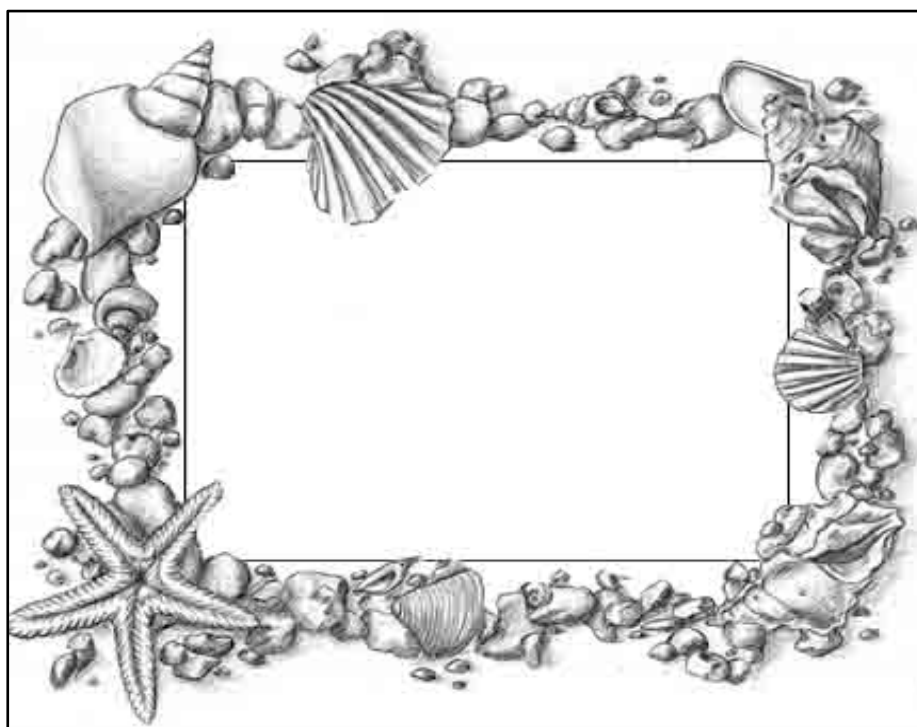
## Create a shell photo frame

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 paintbrush. 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 Margells.





## Bake some scones

If you haven't ever had a scone you are missing out! Devon and Cornwall are famous for their scones. They are plain cakes that you cut in half and spread clotted cream and jam on each side. This is called a cream tea. Mmmm, I could eat scones all day!

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

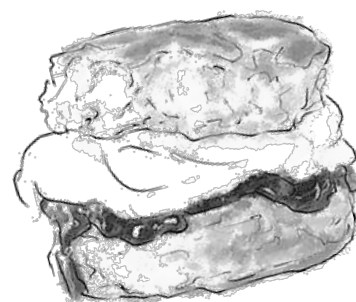
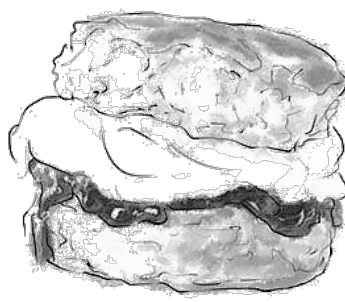
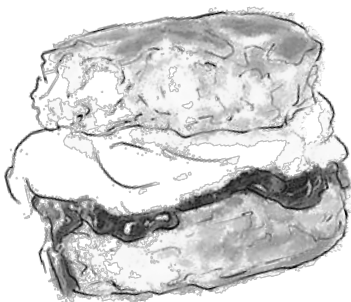
Clotted cream

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!





## **Design your own wall painting...**

Taking inspiration from the wall painting in the bedroom at Margells, have a go at designing your own. Use your imagination to create a wacky design or stick to the traditional method, just remember that there wouldn't have been as many colours available back then as there are now!

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the student to draw their own wall painting design.