



# Chippenham Museum

Chippenham Town Council

## Vicious Vikings?

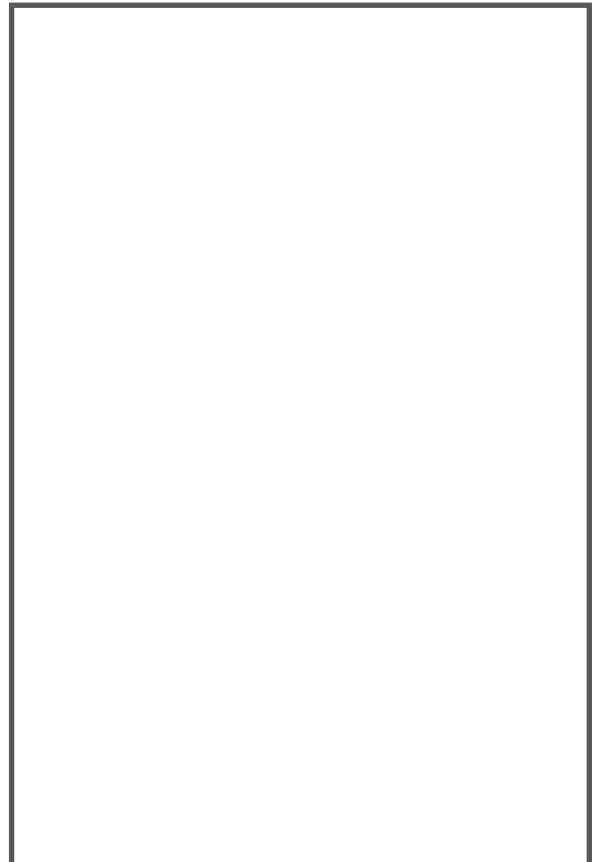


On display in the museum is a Viking stirrup made of bronze. It was found in the River Avon near Seagry and would have been part of a saddle for a horse. We think of the Vikings as sailors and associate them with longboats, however they were also experienced horse riders.

The stirrup is highly decorative, and must have once belonged to a Viking leader, maybe even Guthrum himself.

The Vikings were very artistic, decorating everyday objects with patterns, symbols, and even animals such as dragons. Below is a closer look at the decoration on the stirrup.

Have a look at the design can you make your own pattern?



Why not use the internet to search for more Viking art?