

# Wokingham Remembers

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OUR PAST **FOR Kids!**

## New Angles on Saxon Wokingham

The Romans ruled Britain for 400 years; but when things got difficult back in Rome, troops were pulled out of Britain to help. By AD 410, the army had left and Britain became a lawless place. At the same time, boats were arriving from Northern Europe with warriors and their families looking for a new home ... **THE ANGLO-SAXONS HAD ARRIVED!**

Join **DAVID NASH FORD** to find out some fun facts about these German newcomers.



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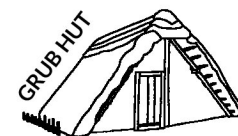
### Who were they?

The Anglo-Saxons included several different groups of people:  
 \* Angles from South Denmark settled in Northern England (England is named after them.)  
 \* Saxons from North Germany settled in Southern England  
 \* Jutes from North Denmark settled in Kent  
 \* Frisians from the Netherlands settled in East Anglia  
 Use a map to help you mark the three groups (A, S, J & F) in their European homes above. Then draw arrows across the Sea to where they settled in Britain.

These people were escaping from FLOODS and FIGHTING in their own countries. Saxon chiefs offered protection to the locals, so were sometimes welcomed as FRIENDS; but the Romano-British at Calleva (Silchester) fought against them.

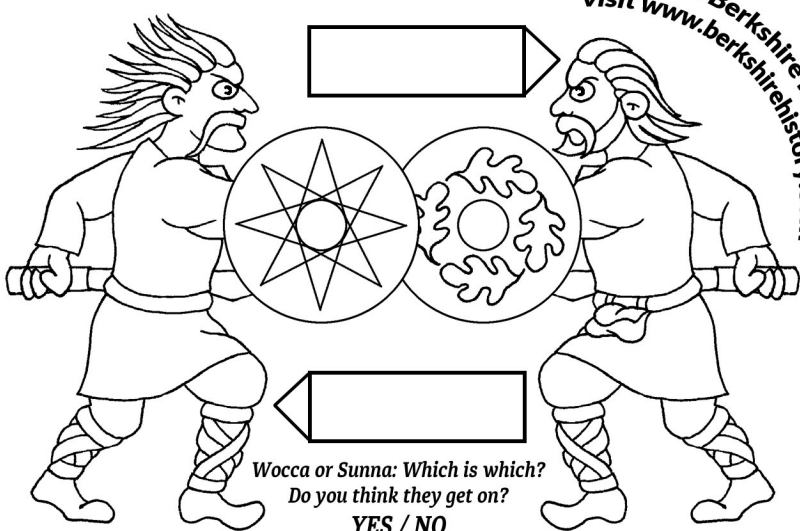
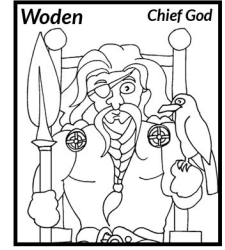
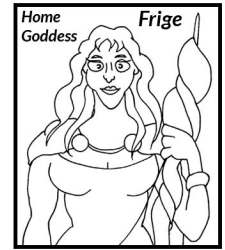
### Days to Remember

The first Anglo-Saxons worshipped lots of gods, just like the Romans. The raven was the special symbol of their chief god, Woden. So he might have had a temple at the 'Ravens' Home' village (see puzzle below). We still remember four of the Saxon gods in the days of the week. Can you guess which days are named after these gods?



### Runes

The Anglo-Saxons spoke 'Old English' from which our current language developed. They didn't write much, but they did have a special alphabet used for gravestones, name tags and other short messages. These are called 'Runes'. Use the rune-converter to translate the messages below. Then see if you can make up some of your own.



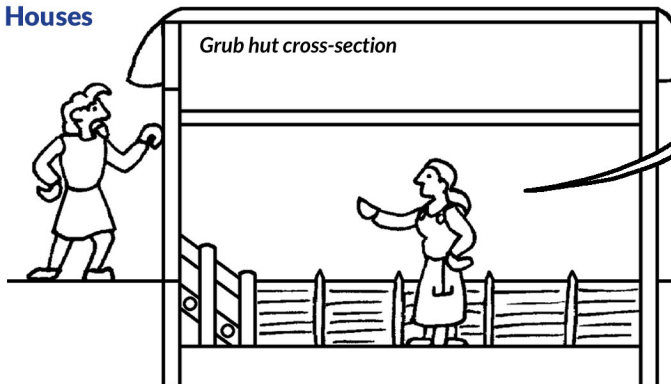
Wocca or Sunna: Which is which?  
Do you think they get on?  
YES / NO

### Wocca & Sunna

Two of the Saxon chiefs who sailed down the Thames and set up home in what's now the Wokingham Borough were called Wocca and Sunna. Wocca first lived at Woking in Surrey, which means 'Wocca's people'. He then sent some families west to settle in the Loddon Valley. Do you know two places around here that sound like they were the Royal villages of Chiefs Wocca and Sunna?

Wocca lived at  Sunna lived at

### Houses



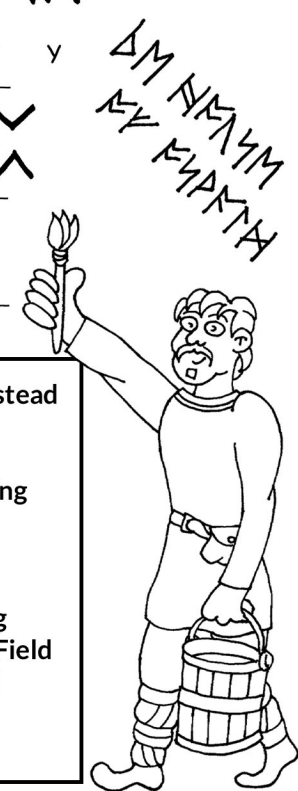
Add what the lady says...

The Saxons lived in groups of small rectangular wooden farmhouses. In the farmyards there were often other little triangle-ended buildings built over pits dug into the ground. These are called 'Grub Huts'. What do you think they might have been used for?  
 \* Grain store \* Workshop  
 \* Weaving shack \* Shed  
 \* Toilet \* Slave hut

### Puzzling Names

Most villages in England were named by the Saxons. There were lots of 'field' names in this area because parts of Windsor Forest were cut down to create open land for farming. Can you draw lines matching each name to its meaning? (right)

- |               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Arborfield    | Finches' Homestead   |
| Barkham       | Weir Grove           |
| Earley        | Shining Field        |
| Finchampstead | Wooded Clearing      |
| Hurst         | Ravens' Home         |
| Remenham      | Birch Home           |
| Ruscombe      | Two Fords            |
| Shinfield     | Eagles' Clearing     |
| Swallowfield  | Swelling River Field |
| Twyford       | Edburga's Field      |
| Wargrave      | Wooded Hill          |
| Woodley       | Rotta's Camp         |



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