

Sutton Hoo Newspaper Report

Anglo-Saxon Star

Ancient ship burial found at Sutton Hoo

An amazing discovery has been found in a field near the village of Sutton Hoo. The outline of a ship filled with ancient treasure has been discovered under the largest burial mound.

The work at Sutton Hoo started two years ago. The owner of the land, Edith Pretty, asked local expert Basil Brown to investigate the grassy mounds on her land. They were both very surprised when the digging revealed an ancient ship.

The ship was buried about 1400 years ago and the wooden planks had long since rotted away. However, the shape remained in the sandy soil.

When Mr Brown discovered the remains of the ancient ship, he was astonished. A treasure chamber in the middle of the ship was also found. Knowing that he needed extra help, Basil Brown turned to the experts at the British Museum.

Inside the treasure chamber, the new team found jewellery, drinking horns, coins and silver bowls. The coins have helped work out the date of the burial.

There was also a sword, several spears and a helmet. The helmet is particularly exciting. Although broken into about one hundred different pieces, it is thought to be something very special.



Replica of the helmet found at Sutton Hoo

Questions remain over who was buried here. Covering a large ship with tonnes of soil would have taken a lot of effort and then there's all the treasure to consider, too. The team believe this is the grave of someone very important, maybe even a king.

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1. Who owned the land where the ship burial was discovered? Circle **one**.

Edith Pretty

Basil Brown

The British Museum

2. The shape of a ship was found at Sutton Hoo.

What happened to the ship itself?

3. What have been used to help work out the date of the burial? Circle **one**.

silver bowls

coins

drinking cups

helmet

4. Name one type of weapon found in the ship.

.....

5. Which treasure is “particularly exciting” according to the report?

.....



6. When Mr Brown discovered the remains of the ancient ship, he was astonished.

What other word used in the report means the same as astonished? Circle **one**.

remained

excited

surprised

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7. Put these events in order by numbering them 1 to 5. The first is done for you.

Edith Pretty asks Basil Brown to start digging.	
The ship is buried at Sutton Hoo.	1
The British Museum are asked to help in the dig.	
The shape of the ship is found.	
The treasure chamber is discovered.	



8. Why do you think Basil Brown asked the British Museum for help?

.....

.....

9. The team believe this is the grave of someone very important, maybe even a king.
Give one reason why archaeologists believe this.

.....

.....

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Answers

1. Who owned the land where the ship burial was discovered? Circle **one**.

Edith Pretty

Basil Brown

The British Museum

2. The shape of a ship was found at Sutton Hoo.

What happened to the ship itself? It rotted away

3. What have been used to help work out the date of the burial? Circle **one**.

silver bowls

coins

drinking cups

helmet

4. Name one type of weapon found in the ship.

Sword or spear

5. Which treasure is “particularly exciting” according to the report?

The helmet



6. When Mr Brown discovered the remains of the ancient ship, he was astonished.

What other word used in the report means the same as astonished? Circle **one**.

remained

excited

surprised

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Answers

7. Put these events in order by numbering them 1 to 5. The first is done for you.

Edith Pretty asks Basil Brown to start digging.	2
The ship is buried at Sutton Hoo.	1
The British Museum are asked to help in the dig.	5
The shape of the ship is found.	3
The treasure chamber is discovered.	4



8. Why do you think Basil Brown asked the British Museum for help?

Because they were experts. / Because it was a big discovery
and he couldn't do it all on his own.

9. The team believe this is the grave of someone very important, maybe even a king.

Give one reason why archaeologists believe this.

Because of all the valuable treasures. / Because it was a
ship burial and covering it with soil would have taken ages.