

Introduction to Henry II Cross - and - Crosslet coinage commonly referred to as the TEALBY COINAGE (1158-1180)

Struck under Abbot Hugo 1157– 1180

Henry II reigned from 19th December 1154 (age 21) until he died on the 6th July 1189 (age 56) having reigned for a little under 35 years. Preceded by Stephen (1135-1154) and followed by Richard I (1189-1199).

¹Following King Henry's II coronation in 1154 no immediate changes were made to the class 7 coins of Stephen that were currently in circulation. This situation continued for a further 4 years.

In c1158 a new coinage was introduced bearing Henry's name. This new coinage ran from 1158 until it was replaced by a new design (short cross series) in 1180 (approximately 22 years). Based on the reverse design numismatists have named this new coinage as the "Cross-and-Crosslets" series although it is almost always referred to as the "Tealby coinage" after a large hoard of approximately 5700 coins were found at ¹Tealby in Lincolnshire in autumn 1807. Very unfortunately the majority of these coins were melted down with most of the remaining coins ending up in the British Museum. It is possible that there were escapees from the hoard or possible further coins from this hoard being recovered at a later date.

The Tealby coinage was minted at approximately 32 mints throughout England, the privileged mint of Bury St Edmunds being one of those.

Numismatists have split the series into different bust designs categorised according to the styles of bust (*referred to as class*) and drapery seen on the coins. These fall into 6 main classifications; busts A, B, C, D, E, F. Within these main classifications a further subdividing occurs; A1 etc.

Modern numismatists have built on the work done by many earlier numismatists, one being that of D.F. Allen In 1951 (*A catalogue of English coins in the British Museum the Cross-and-Crosslets (TEALBY) type of Henry II*), and by the more recently published work by Dr. T. C. R. Crafter, (*A re-examination of the classification and chronology of the Cross-and-Crosslets type of Henry II*), 68 (1998), 42-63, pl). See a fuller list under the Bibliography heading.

The designs that were cut into the dies were generally of good workmanship. It was the way that the coinage was produced that - in the eyes of some - makes this series both unappealing to the eye and difficult to interpret. Misshapen flans and weakly struck coins with the design not being centralised are commonplace. However, we do find the occasional coin well stuck on a round flan. For reasons not clear the mint of Newcastle and Carlisle almost always produced coins on round flans and centrally struck.

At the commencement of the Bury mint under Edward the Confessor Bury was only granted one moneyer and one set of dies at any one time, the worn dies being returned before a new set could be issued. In the reign of Stephen this criteria had lapsed and at one point three moneyers were operating simultaneously. However, in Henry II's reign this situation reverted back to that granted by Edward.

Dating of the series has been aligned with the publication by Dr. T. C. R. Crafter of the work mentioned above.

The line drawings only cover the classes that were struck at Bury St. Edmunds. For a detailed description of all classes please refer to the work by North and Allen and others in the Bibliography section.

Information and description of the Tealby issues

¹Dates of the coinage

Class A: 1158 - c.1163; Class B: c.1162 - c.1163; Class C: c.1163 - c.1167; Class D: c.1167 - c.1170; Class E: c.1170 - c.1173; Class F: c.1173 -1180

Moneyers operating at Bury

WILLEM c.1158-c.1163; Bust A1, A2, C1;

HENRI c.1163-c.1173; Bust C1, C2, C3, B1, D1, D3, E2/E3;

RAVL c.1173-1180 Bust F1, F2 (F4) ?

As can be seen from the above list and on the chart on page four, Bury, although striking coins in every main class, also struck in some of the sub classes.

Abbot at Bury during the Tealby coinage 1158-1180 was Abbot Hugo (1157- 1180)

Obverse

Facing bust often with the king's eyes glancing to his right.

Round or almond eyes with eyelids and eyebrows.

Almost always a drooping moustache.

Well defined nose.

Normally a pellet on his chin.

The crown normally consists of a double row of pellets surmounted by three fleur-de-lys.

No hair is ever seen to the king's right side. On the king's left we see (*depending on bust type*) either no hair, single or double ringlets, or in the case of bust F multiple ringlets. These flow from under his crown down the left side of his face. In his right hand he is holding a sceptre that terminates with a cross. The king is dressed in armour (*more easily observed on his right arm*).

Draped over the armour is a jewelled mantel, this flows down from the right or left shoulder and occasionally from under his chin. Later busts see the introduction of a jewelled collar. Around this bust, and commencing from the King's right arm is the King's name and title **✠HENRI REX ANGL** (*or similar spelling*) translating as King Henry of England.



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Reverse

A large cross potent, with similar smaller crosses in each angle, around which is a beaded circle of pellets. Between these pellets and the outer flan and commencing at 12 o'clock is the name of the moneyer and that of the mint. Many different readings are seen on the Bury coins a typical one being

✠WILLEM:ON:SC:ED: in this case translating as Willem of St Edmundsbury (*both these inscriptions seen in the illustrated coin of bust A*)

¹T. C. R. Crafter, *A re-examination of the classification and chronology of the Cross-and-Crosslets type of Henry II*, 68 (1998), 42-63, pl.

Catalogue references

Lines between the obverse and the reverse of coins indicate die linking. Information listed on the lines are "Eaglen 50". This number is a reference to Dr Robin Eaglen's 2006 publication of coins struck at the Bury St. Edmunds Mint. "BMC 42" is a reference to the British Museum catalogue.

In brackets, are the number of coins currently recorded for these dies.

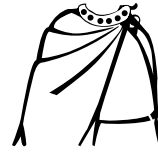
Different designs of the King's tunic or mantel with jewels that are normally seen omitted



Mantel pinned under his chin, sweeping down to the edge of the coin.
Seen on bust A & B



Mantel is pinned on his right shoulder so the folds sweep to his left, seen on bust C & D



Mantel is pinned on his left shoulder so the folds sweep to his right.
Seen on bust E & F



Jewelled collar added to coins of bust C, D, E, F

Examples of armouring seen on the Kings right shoulder



Variations of the reverses cross's

Large cross potent with a central four pointed star, in each angle a small cross potent (normally seen)

Large cross potent with missing central four pointed star and almost plain crosses in each angle (rarely seen)



Catalogue references

Lines between the obverse and the reverse of coins indicate die linking. On these lines are listed the following: "Eaglen 50" the number is a reference to Dr Robin Eaglen's 2006 publication of coins of the Bury St. Edmunds Mint. "BMC 42" is a reference to the British Museum catalogue, then, in brackets, are the number of coins currently recorded

Sub classes highlighted in **RED** have not been recorded from Bury

| BMC number | Eaglen number | Bust | Moneyer | Obverse reading | Reverse reading | Number of coins recorded | Average coin weight in grams |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 42 | 50 | A1 | WILLEM | +hENRI REX ANGL | +PILLEM:ON:SC:EDM | 7 | 1.31 |
| 43 | 51 | A1 | WILLEM | +hENRI REX ANGL | +WILLEM:SC:ON:ED: | 10 | 1.40 |
| 44 | 52 | A2 | WILLEM | +hENRI REX ANGL | +WILLEM:SC:ON:ED: | 5 | 1.37 |
| 45-48 | 53 | A2 | WILLEM | +hENRI REX ANGL | +WILLEM:ON:SC:ED: | 15 | 1.39 |
| 49-51 | 54 | C1 | WILLEM | +hENRI:R:AN | +PILLELM:ON:S:EDM | 14 | 1.42 |
| 52-53 | 55 | C1 | WILLEM | +hENRI:R:AG: | +PILLAM:S:EDMVH | 9 | 1.40 |
| 16 | 56 | C1 | HENRI | +hENRI:R:AG: | +hENRI:ON:S:ED | 5 | 1.39 |
| 17-18 | 57 | C1 | HENRI | +hENRI:R:AG: | +hENRI:ON:S:EDMV: | 11 | 1.34 |
| - | 59 | C2 | HENRI | +hENRI:RE | +hENRI:ON:S:ED | 3 | 1.38 |
| - | 58/64 | C3 | HENRI | +hENRI [—] | +hENRI:ON:S:ED | 6 | 1.36 |
| 19-23 | 60 | B1 | HENRI | +hENRI REX AN | +hENRI:ON:S:EDM: | 29 | 1.34 |
| | | B2 | | | | | |
| | | B3 | | | | | |
| | | B4 | | | | | |
| - | 61 | D1 | HENRI | +hENRI:REX | +hENRI:ON:S:EDMV | 9 | 1.31 |
| 27 | 62 | D1 | HENRI | +hENRI [—] | +hENRI:ON:S:EDMV | 3 | 1.39 |
| | | D2 | | | | | |
| 24-26 | 63/N1 | D3 | HENRI | +hEN REX AN | +hENRI:ON:S:EDMV | 3 | 1.36 |
| 24-26 | 63/N2 | D3 | HENRI | +hEN REX AN | +hENRI:ON:S:EDMV | 8 | 1.35 |
| | | E1 | | | | | |
| | | E2 | | | | | |
| 28-30 | 65 | E3 | HENRI | +hENRI REX | +hENRI:ON:S:EDM: | 12 | 1.39 |
| 31 | 66 | F1 | RAVL | + hEN REX AN | +RAVL:ON:S:EDM: | 3 | 1.43 |
| 32 | 67 | F1 | RAVL | + hEN REX AN | +RAVL:ON:SEDMV | 4 | 1.39 |
| 33 | 68 | F1 | RAVL | +hENRI REX | +RAVL:ON:S:EDMV | 7 | 1.39 |
| 33a | 69 | F1 | RAVL | +hENRI REX: | +RAVL:ON:S:EDMV: | 6 | 1.31 |
| 34-35 | 70 | F1 | RAVL | +hENRI:REX | +RAVL:ON:S:EDMV: | 6 | 1.42 |
| 36 | 71 | F1 | RAVL | +hENRI:REX | +RAVL:ON:S:EDM: | 5 | 1.30 |
| - | 72 | F1 | RAVL | +hERI REX A | [--] ON:S:EDMV | 2 | 1.40 |
| - | 73 | F1 | RAVL | +h[--]REX | [--]:ON:S:ED | 1 | 1.20 |
| 36a | 74 | F1 | RAVL | [--]REX[--] | RAVL [--] | 2 | 1.41 |
| 37-39 | 75 | F2 | RAVL | +hENRI:REX | +RAVL:)N:S:EDMV | 2 | 1.42 |
| 38-39 | 76 | F2 | RAVL | +hENRI:REX | +ROVLF:ON:S:EDM | 12 | 1.40 |
| 40 | 77 | F1 | RAVL | +hENRI REX | +RAVL:ON.S:ED: | 2 | 1.43 |
| - | 77a | F1 | RAVL | +hENRI REX | +RAVL:ON.S:ED: | 2 | 1.40 |
| 41 | 78 | F | RAVL | +hENRI[---] | [---]VL:ON:S:EDM | 1 | 1.40 |
| - | 79 | F | RAVL | +hE[---] | [---]AVL:ON:S:E[--] | 2 | 1.33 |
| - | 79a | F1 | RAVL | [_]h[---] REX | +[-]R[---]:S:ED[--] | 1 | 1.31 |
| - | 79b | F1 | RAVL | [_]hENRI [----] | + [---]V[-]N:S:EDMV | 1 | 1.22 |
| - | 79c | F1 | RAVL | + [-----]X | [--]ON:S:EDMV. | 1 | 1.22 |
| | | F3 | | | | | |
| - | 79d | F(4)? | RAVL | +hENR[-] REX | +RAVL[--]N[--]:ED[-] | 1 | 1.43 |
| Total number & average weights of coins | | | | | | 207 | 1.36 gm |

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