

## **S** is for *Swill*



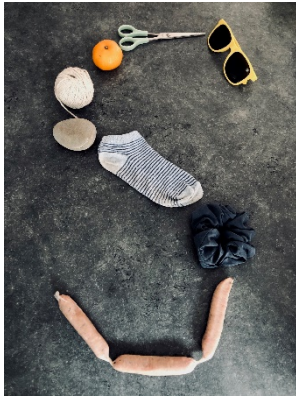
These Swill baskets would have been used by their thousands at the height of the herring industry in Great Yarmouth. Their style and shape are unique to Great Yarmouth.

Unlike the Cran basket, it was not a legal weight or measure, but it did hold roughly a third of a Cran. It could be carried by one person but the real unique feature was its shape – It's distinctive figure of eight shape meant it was long and narrow, allowing it to be transported down a narrow 'Yarmouth Row'.

The Swill was the perfect dimension so that two people each carrying a Swill could pass by each other in the Row without blocking it, whereas a Cran was too circular and wide to do this easily.

Baskets would be made from whatever is easily found in the locality they came from. These swills are made from willow.

Could you make a basket? It can be done by cutting slits down the side of a paper cup and weaving paper, or whatever you can find, around horizontally.



Can you make your own museum of 'S' objects from around your home?

#AtoZ

#MuseumAtHome

#EveryoneACurator