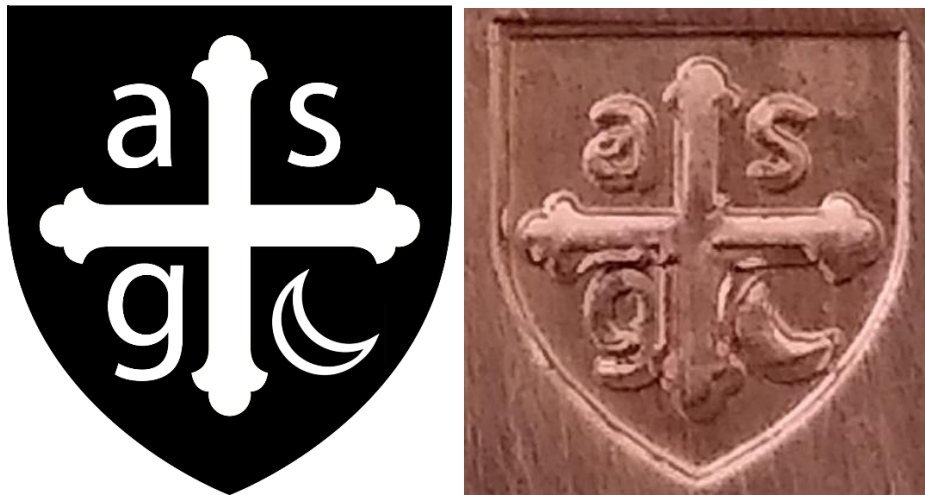


# Abingdon Silver Group – Our Mark

The Abingdon Silver Group (ASG) was formed in 1989 as a follow-on from the silversmithing evening class run for many years by what is now the Abingdon and Witney College. The Group started life in the workshops of Fitzharrys School and is now based at John Mason School, with an interim period at Abingdon School.

The Group meets most Wednesday evenings during the year – see [abingdonsilvergroup.org.uk](http://abingdonsilvergroup.org.uk). The group provides a working environment, specialist tools, advice and tuition for members.

In 2021, the Group decided it should have its own mark for members to stamp their work with. The final design was based on members' suggestions. Two punches bearing the mark were manufactured (one by the London Assay Office) in 2022. The design on the punches is shown below as a schematic and an actual impression on copper.



The design leans heavily on the cross and shield within the Abingdon Town Crest. The Group's initials are in the font of the date letters used by the UK Assay Offices in the current 2000–2025 cycle. The crescent moon in the bottom right quadrant is an alchemical symbol for silver.

Members of ASG in 2021-2022 were:

Grant Audley-Miller  
Henry Cooke  
Felicity Croxson  
Cliona Keane  
Eric Nuttall  
Ann Robson  
Jilly Stewart  
Heather Vickery  
Anna Woolcock

Sharon Cairns  
Sophie Cotmore  
John Huddleston  
Damaris Landers  
Bryan Ringrose  
Rosey Steptoe  
Robert Strawson  
Mike Waite

In 2023, the Group presented the Abingdon County Hall Museum with a mounted plaque displaying the impressions made by the two punches it possessed at that time.



The plaque is made from sterling silver (minimum 925 parts silver per thousand). It is fully hallmarked as shown by the six marks at the bottom. The meaning of these marks, from left to right, is as follows:

- The sponsor's mark of John Huddleston – one of the founders of the Group and its first chairman
- The traditional lion passant fineness mark for sterling silver
- '925' – the millesimal fineness mark
- The leopard's head – the mark of the London Assay Office where John's mark is registered
- 'X' – the date letter showing when the work was assayed (tested for its silver content), in this case 2022
- The special mark celebrating Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee in 2022

Grant Audley-Miller – Chair  
John Huddleston – Treasurer

Henry Cooke – Secretary  
Mike Waite – Membership Secretary

March 2023