

# St Mary's Fetcham Original Pewter Font Bowl

Now stored in Guildford Cathedral Treasury

Extract from a note by Roger Barnes and Diana German PEWTER IN GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL TREASURY created after a visit on Thursday 15th May 2008.

Last, but by no means least is a deep bowl used as a font lining which is a deep triple rim bowl from St. Mary's, Fetcham. Originally thought to be made by John Kidwel it now appears that this was probably the gift of John Kidwel who lived in the parish in the 1680's and whose son John was christened there on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1687 (Source Parish Records). There are two rows of punched letters on the bowl, the first "Fetcham 1685 Fant" (sic). The second row of letters reads "John 1685 Kidwel".

There are two holes, one in the base and one near the top of the rim and other places where it is badly corroded. The bowl is beaten all over and measures slightly under 11 7/8" in diameter. The height is 2 1/2" to the rim slightly higher to the actual body.

The date of 1685 on the bowl ties in with the triple reed still in common use at that time. On the rim, under the date on the John Kidwel side, although heavily obscured appear three, possibly four hallmarks. Unfortunately the fourth which should contain the initials of the maker is heavily covered with tin pest. These hallmarks although indistinct appear to be typical of others about this time e.g. William White (Wetter) (Cott. 5073) and Samuel Jackson (Cott. 5741). There are also signs of punch marks around the bowl rim.



