Issue num ber 51 W inter 2001/2002

The world's oldest iron - framed building in danger

HEWORLD'S oldest iron-framed building, hidden from public view for decades, is in danger of collapsing through neglect, according to a local authority conservation officer.

The 150-year-old boat store in Sheemess Docks is the only surviving forerunner of the modern skyscraper and is so in portant it was made a scheduled ancient monum ent many years ago.

Despite this, its condition has continued to deteriorate along with up to 50 other listed buildings in the docks. Now legal action is being taken to force M edway Ports to stop the rot before it is too late.

Conservation officer for Swale Council Peter Bell said: "They are going for profit and ignoring the duty of care they have towards these national treasures. That is morally reprehensible.

"M any of the buildings are in a poor condition and in a deplorable state of



deterioration. It depends on which experts you consult, but it has been said that the boat store is in im m inent danger of collapse. I am not an engineer so

The docks looking from them outh of the M edway in an easterly direction. In the foreground to the right can be seen the Grade 1 Boat Store (in front of the yellow-roofed warehouses). To the left is the Naroleonic Garrison fort.

I don t know . We need a survey to reveal how serious the problem is before it is too late."

But, m ore in portantly, M rBell says it is now crucial that action be taken to stabilise the buildings by carrying out urgent repairs without further delay.

"My fear is that any long-term solution will be expensive and take at least five years to implement. If the rot continues for that long there won't be any buildings left to save," he said.

Talks between Medway Ports, Swale Council and English Heritage have been going on for years in an attempt to resolve the problems surrounding the former RoyalNavy buildings.

Until now, the council has always shied away from taking legal action, but matters were brought to a head after councillors saw for them selves the effect.

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Welcome to your new style newsletter

As the new editor, I would like to extend a very big 'thank you' to Larry and Susan Ibttwho have worked so hard over the past few years to produce this publication; I now appreciate how time-consuming the task can be! M any thanks to both of you.

Hopefully you will have noticed and enjoyed the new form at. Please let me know what you think. We are extremely keen to hearyour views. What would you like to see included? Perhaps you are running an event that would benefit from publicity to a wider audience? Could other KAS mem bers' know ledge help with your research? Do you have an interesting story or item to share? We hope the new sletter will include all of these, in addition to the usual excellent articles.

Your suggestions, queries or contributions are invited!

Lyn Palm er ~ New sletter Editor & Inform ation Officer



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The world's oldest iron framed building in danger

tim e and weather is having on the fabric of these unique historic buildings.

It is understood that, despite nearly 50 buildings giving cause for concern, Medway Ports is currently facing just three w rits, all relating to a tenace of 15 houses in Regency Close. The first is an urgent repair notice; the second is a listed building repair notice and the third, a listed building enforcem ent notice.

The decision was taken in a closed session of the planning comm ittee and ${\bf w}$ as supported unanim ously by ${\bf m}$ em bers. The m ove is unprecedented and has been described by one councillor as a "David and Goliath" battle.

Mr Bell, said: "There is a massive outbreak of dry rot in these houses and this is extremely worrying. We cannot let this continue. Every window, every door and pretty much every piece of wood is affected "

The roof is also in a poor state of repair and water is leaking in causing dam age throughout the structure W ork began in m id-November on repairing the terrace to comply with the urgent repair notice, with scaffolding and tarpaulin being erected to protect the structure from further dam age. Dry rot treatm ent is also being carried out.

The listed building repair notice is the next step, com pelling M edw ay Ports to restore the houses to their original glory. The bill for this is likely to be many m illions of pounds because every room and the entire outside needs work. How ever. M rBell said he has decided not. to serve this until the future of the terrace was determined. "The right buyer could solve these problem swithout us needing to use statutory powers," he said.

Finally, the Enforcem ent notice has been issued because M edway Ports has replaced som e window fram es with softwood instead of oak hardwood used in the originals. This notice is to force them

to do the job again to the correct stan-

To underline its determ ination Sw ale Council has given M edway Ports four months in which to take the necessary steps or face further action.

M rBellsaid: "Ishallbe talking to the harbour com pany in the hope that they will co-operate. We would rather do this by negotiation but I now have the power to force M edw av Ports if they refuse."

Part of the problem is that little public pressure is brought to bear because most people are unaware that such an important collection of architectural m asterpieces exists within Sheemess docks, because access has always been restricted

"W hile it was run by the RoyalNavy no plans existed, the Ordnance Survey m ap just show ed it as a white space. It is only in the past 20 or 30 years that experts gained access and realised the significance of the buildings. By then m any of them had already been lost forever," said M rBell.

"I can see a situation where the remaining buildings are also lost, creating an outcry across the world but hardly amum uron Sheppey."

Sittingbourne Cllr Bob Baxter, a m em ber of the Council for Kentish Archaeology, is so worried about the situation he wrote to his Sheppey colleagues urging them to stop "being gentle" with the owners.

He said: "We have taken on one of the big boys. But we have to demonstrate that we mean business. We must face up to our responsibilities to safeguard listed properties in the borough. If owners won't keep them in good condition voluntarily, we must make them . I am very satisfied by this decision."

He hopes that continued bad publicity w ill force M edw ay Ports to take action rather than face a public court battle.

He was supported by Brian Sinclair, of the Sheemess Society, who said: "We have already lost a lot of buildings and the rest are inaccessible to the public.

"We have been dependent on the good offices of English Heritage and



Regency Temace (subject of the enforcem ent notices) is in the centre foreground. Dockyard House is to the left. Slightly above and parallel is N aval Terrace and to its left is the burnt out shell of the Dockyard Church.

Sw ale Council to ensure that these buildings are saved for the nation. If this cannot be achieved am icably I support the proposal to get tough with Medway Ports before it is too late."

Various schem es have been discussed in the past, including dismantling the Boat Store and moving it to a site outside the docks. None have so far succeeded because of cost or problem swith access.

M edw ay Ports has already sold som e buildings, including the Dockyard Church, which was recently gutted by fire. It now has another collection, including Dockyard House, Dockyard Cottage, The Stables, No 1 and 2 Main Gate, and the 15 houses in Regency Close, up for sale.

Spokesm an for M edw ay Ports M aria Clarke said: "W e realise that people feel strongly about this issue and we have been seeking a long-term solution with English Heritage. The package we put up for sale is clustered in a non-operational area, however, there are a number of problems associated with selling them. Services, for instance, are tied in with the docks and access is obviously an issue." It is understood however, that a firm offer to buy the properties is now under consideration.

Mr Bell has emphasised that he is attempting to persuade the harbour authority to put together a plan to protect the remaining historic buildings in their ownership.

John Hammond

A First World War Good Luck Token

uring renovation of an old house in Tonbridge, MrKeith Bristow discovered a medal or token wrapped in a piece of cloth and wedged between two exposed beam s. The m edal is 2.5cm in diam eter. On one side is the regim ental crest and motto of the Royal Fusiliers with below it 'Sportsman's Division' and the number 1242. Beside it is the coat of arm s of the Cunliffe-Owen family. On the reverse, in a facsimile of handwriting, is the message 'from (?) Cunliffe-Owen (Christian name undeciphered but it appears to be

an abbreviation) Oct. 1914. God quard vou'.

Research by MrSim on Grieve at the Tower of London found that this medal was a good luck token donated by Mrs Cunliffe-Owen, a wealthy philanthropist. Little is known about the fam ily but it appears that stirred by patriotic fever, M rs Cunliffe-Owen presented these medals to the brave m en w ho signed up for The 23rd Battalion The Royal Fusiliers, The Sportsm an's Battalion. The reference on the m edal to the 'Sportsm an's Division' is herm istake.

The recruiting centre was The Cecil

Hotel in London, and it is thought that the num ber 1242' refers to the num erical position of the recruit on joining and not to the arm y num ber. The medal would have been provided with a blue and red ribbon to hang round the neck.

Though these m edals are not intrinsically valuable there are few in circulation and The Royal Fusiliers' Museum reports that it has only one or two. In this case the good luck charm seems to have been effective and the soldier, whoeverhewas, returned safely, bringing his medal back to Tonbridge.



Woad, Tattooing and the Archaeology of Rebellion

s part of a series of occasional sem inars, Dr Gilly Carr of the University of Kent, (seen recently in the ChannelFourRealWizards: the Search for Harry's Ancestors and also in next

spring's The Real Boudica) gave a fascinating talk on the above them e.

 $\operatorname{DrCarrproposed}$ that the 1^{st} century BC to 5th century AD canoe-shaped 'cosm etic grinders' with bovine, duck and phallic-shaped term in al designs, such as those found at Colchester, were not for Roman use but were instead used for the preparation of woad for body painting by native Britons. She suggested that these tools were in fact symbols of resistance, with their existence in this country pre-dating the occupation, and their continuing use a stance against Rom anisation.

The term inal designs perhaps relate to the binding agents used to apply woad; for example, the duck term in al indicating egg white or yolk, and the bovine terminal indicating a binding agent of beef dripping or mik. A call to the audience for volunteers to indulge in a little body painting after a practical dem onstration of m ixing woad was met with some reluctance after Dr Carr discussed the binding agents suggested by the phallic term in al designs! However, several quinea pigs' eventually offered them selves up. The range of colour produced by the different binding agents varied from a steely blue-grey (useful for creeping through the dawn or dusk unnoticed!) to a deep m idnight blue.

Other colours can be produced by woad; adding quicklime produces a green colour; rubbing the skin with the plantproduces black. An infusion of the plant in hot water with the addition of an alkaline substance, such as am monia or urine, produces a woad vat. The aim of a woad vat is to produce a reduction reaction, which would reduce the in soluble blue woad into a soluble white form, which would turn blue on exposure to air. If a person climbed into the vat, their immersed skin would turn blue in around three minutes after leaving the vat - surely perceived as a m agical process? Dr Carr referred to some of the scenes on the famous Gundestrop cauldron as evidence for this; perhaps even the cauldron itself w as a w oad vat?

A very entertaining seminar perhaps the teenagers of today who tattoo them selves or paint them selves with henna should switch to woad in true rebellious British fashion!

If any KAS members would like to receive inform ation about future sem in ars run by the School of Classical & Archaeological Studies, please contact Dr Patty Baker, Comwallis Building, UKC, Canterbury CT2 7NF, to be added to the mailing list.

possible woad colouring as depicted on the Gundestrup cauldren.



LOCAL STUDIES PACK

LocalStudies Resources Pack

The NationalM onum ents Record (NMR), which is the public archive of English Heritage, has designed this offer especially for people interested in finding out m ore about their local area.

Aerial photography provides a fascinating resource to anyone studying their local landscape. Of interest to historians and archaeologists alike, these photographs reveala un ique view of the history of your locality.W hetheryou are interested in medieval field system s, w artim e defences orumban growth, aerial photography can play an im portant part in your research.

Choose any site in England - it m ightbe your street, your village or your town centre - and the NM R will provide three different aerial photographs for£15.00 including VAT. The photographs will be copied from the NMR's unrivalled collection of aerialphotography, mostly black and white, vertical photographs taken between 1945 and 1975. In addition to the photographs they will supply inform ation from heritage database on the archaeology and listed buildings in your area.

The pack includes:

- 3 aerial photographs, laser copied onto A3 size paper
- An index of the listed buildings in your area
- Full listings for the archaeology in your

For further in form ation contact:

NM R Enquiry and Research Services Local Studies Resource Pack 2GZ

Tel; 01793 414600 Fax: 01793 414606 Em ail:nm rinfo@ englishheritage org.uk



ALLEN GROVE LOCAL HISTORY FUND

£1,600 given in grants

Last year the Fund made six grants totalling £1,600 to help work being done by groups and individuals. All but one of the grants were for research for books or for the costs of publication. The exception was one for a display on Faversham's HeyDay1530-1699 at the Faversham Society's Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre.

The authors w ho received grants were Mrs H. Allinson who is writing a history of Hollingbourne, and Mrs M . Law rence who is writing one on StM ichael's Church, East Peckham. Gravesend Historical Society also received a grant for a book on the Roman Town at Springhead and Sevenoaks Historical Society was given one for a book on the history of religious belief in the Sevenoaks area which it is producing with assistance from other local groups. MrsM.Scott's grantwas for recording and publishing the histories of houses in Leeds.

Why not apply for one?

Applications are invited for grants.

The late Allen Grove left a legacy to the Kent Archaeological Society to establish this fund to be used for the purposes of research, preservation and enjoyment of local history. The trustees will consider applications for grants for any project with one or more of these purposes. Projects may be practical ones such as presentation, publication and education as well as research.

Grants m ay be m ade to societies and groups as well as to individuals and are not restricted to m em bers of the Kent Archaeological Society. They are usually around £200 to £400 each but the trustees would consider a larger grant for a particularly im aginative & innovative project which m ight not be able to proceed without the grant. A wards m ay not be announced until the sum m er or autum n of 2002.

Applications m ust be subm itted, on the official application form, by the 31st M arch 2002. Application form s and further inform ation m ay be obtained from the Hon. Secretary: M rA.1. M offat, Three Elms, W oodlands Lane, Shorne, Gravesend, DA123HH, or by email to secretary@kentarchaeology.org.uk.

OTHER GRANTS

The Society has other grant program mes. Fieldwork grants may be obtained from the Fieldwork Committee and applications should be sent to its secretary David Bacchus at Telford Lodge. Roebuck Road, Rochester, ME1 1UD or by email to d bacchus@ talk21.com.

The Society's Kent Local History Fund makes grants to assist with serious research leading to publication. They are only made to societies affiliated to the KAS.or the KentHistory Federation and members of those societies or the KAS. Professional historians and post graduate students are not eligible to apply. Application forms can be obtained from Miss E. Melling, 81A Bower Mount Road, Maidstone, MEI6SAS.

TEBBUTT RESEARCH FUND

This find was established as a tribute to the life and work of the late CF. Tebbutt, OBE., ESA., and applications are invited, from individuals and groups, for grants towards research, including associated expenses, into any aspect of the Wealden Iron Industry.

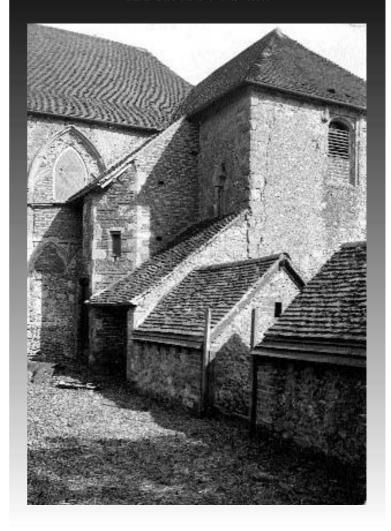
It is anticipated that approxim ately £100 plus will be available from the fund and any interested person should write a suitable letter of application giving details of them selves together with relevant information concerning the research envisaged.

Applications should be sent to Sheila Broom field, 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenborough, Tonbridge Kent TN 11 9HD, Tel: 01732 838698 Em ail: sbroomfield@dialpipex.com, not later than 31st March 2002 so that she can pass them to the Panel for consideration.

DO YOU RECOGN ISE TH IS CHURCH?

There is a huge collection of unprovenanced in agesheld in the KAS collection.

Please contact the editor on 01892 533661





BAA CONFERENCE

British Archaeological Association Annual Conference 2002 Medieval Art, Architecture and Archaeology in Rochester Sat 27th July - Wed 31st July 2002

The BAAConference for the year 2002 will be concerned with the art, architecture and archaeology of Rochester Cathedral and Priory and the surrounding buildings like the great castle keep. It is exactly one hundred years since Sir William St John Hope published his great study of the cathedral and priory, and it is now time to reassess his work. Rochester Cathedral, though very close to London, is one of the least visited cathedrals in England, but there is much to see for the Association. Visits are also planned to Cobham Hall, Maidstone, West Malling and Stone Church.

Those w ishing to offer papers for presentation at the conference should write, giving a short resum é and an idea of length, to Tim Tatton-Brown, Conference Convener.

The Conference welcomes professional and am ateur enthusiasts equally. Mem bers of the Association will receive a booking form with their copy of the journal early in 2002. Non-mem bers who wish to attend should send a stamped, addressed envelope to Robert Gwynne, Conference Secretary, as soon as possible, in order to receive further details and a booking form.

Any other queries should be referred to Anna Eavis, Conference Organiser.

Im portant addresses:

Conference Organiser:
Anna Eavis, NM RC, Kemble Drive,
Swindon SN 2 2G Z
Tel: 01793 414648
Em ail: anna eavis@ rchm e.co uk

Conference Secretary: Robert Gwynne, 44 M ontagu M ansions, London W 1H 1LD

READING

COM M UN ITY ANDD ISUN ITYIN KENT; 4 lectures on Kent and the English CivilW ars 1640-1649 by DrJacqueline Eales.
DrEales will be a contributor of one of the articles in the new series Ideas and Ideals', the first of which is featured on pages 8 & 9. Published by Keith Dickson Books at £5.99 (incp&p)

Keith Dickson Books Unit 9, The Shipyard Upper Brents Faversham Kent M E13 7D Z

DO YOU RECOGN ISE TH IS BUILDING?

There is a huge collection of unprovenanced in ages held in the KAS collection...

Please contact the editor on 01892 533661



BAA MEETINGS

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2001-2002

M eetings are held at 5.00 pm in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W IV OHS.Non-mem bers are welcome to attend occasional lectures but are asked to make them selves known to the Hon.D irector on arrival and sign the visitors' book.

6 February 2002 English Castles as Pleasure Palaces in the 13th and 14th centuries' by Jerem y Ashbee

6 March 2002
Anglo-Scottish Border Churches
12901690: fortification, security and
defence
by DrChristopherBrooke

3 April 2002

The ground plan of the English Rom anesque Church by DrRichard Plant

1 M ay 2002

M illenium Review Lecture Series -8 M onum entalBrasses from the 13th to the 20th century: new directions since Kent and Em m erson' by Sally Badham

The lecture will be followed by the President's Reception

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

BENEFACTION SBOARDS

For a considerable time, when on my frequent visits to churches in both diocess, I have become worsied about the neglected condition of most of the benefactions boards, usually mouldering beneath towers.

These boards are vital records of parochial history. One would hope that, before their details disappear, records are kept. Ideally, they should be considered as in portant as hatchments, and conserved. Grants are available for conservation and parishes should take advantage of these.

Perhaps the Churches
Committee of Kent Archaeological
Society could inaugurate a
Benefactions Boards Recording
Group. For your interest I
originally joined KAS in 1942.

Yours sincerely

John Physick

FROM
OTHER
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NEWS
FROM
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RECRUITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

The Society attracts about one hundred new members each year but this number could be increased. A new membership information leaflet has recently been produced, emphasising the advantages of membership, to aid the recruitment of new members.

A copy of the leaflet is enclosed with this New sletter and I appeal to every mem ber to use it to recruit a new member to the Society. Completed application form s should be sent to the Hon. Membership Secretary, Mrs Sheila Broom field, 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent TN 11 8HD. Additional leaflets may also be obtained from the Hon. Membership Secretary.

Paul Oldham , President

ROMAN VILLA ABBEY FARM

In Septem ber, the K A S. in association with the Thanet Archaeology Society, held its season of excavation on this com plex and important Roman site. Thirty one people attended the dig, plus members of the Dover Archaeology Group and the Thanet Society.

During the two week project the following was accomplished:

- i) Foundations of the boundary wall at the the north-west comer of the villa enclosure were located and planned.
- ii) A final question regarding the villa structure had been posed, was there an apsidal extension at the southern end of the eastern wing? Answer, no.
- iii) How big was building 4? We now have the complete plan, but no idea what the building was.
- iv) A very full resistivity survey was carried out, this revealing the presence of building 5 and a possible 6.

The survey will be most useful, as its results will give an insight into the scale of the remains in this large and important villa complex.

The Canterbury Archaeological Trust has generously supported the project for all five seasons. This support has been ${\tt m}$ ost appreciated.

For enquiries regarding the Abbey Farm site, please contact David Bacchus at the following address: Telford Lodge, Roebuck Road, Rochester, Kent, ME11UD.Tel:01634843495 em ail:dbacchus@talk21.com

FOR SALE

A set of Archaeologia Cantiana (122 volumes) plus index is being offered for sale. The purchase price is £600. Please contact the Editor for further details.

PADUA

If any member is planning to visit Italy, including a visit to Padua, would they please contact Margaret Law rence? Margaret has an historical enquiry which she would like investigated in this beautiful old town. Tel: 01622 871 945

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Since taking over as m embership secretary I have been actively am algam ating the databases that were previously used to manage communicating with members and keeping the membership records. Can you please check that this new sletter was addressed correctly and, if not, please let meknow.

If you did not receive the previous new sletter — (Autum n 2001 N o 50) please letm e know as there has been a slight problem in producing the address labels for that issue and som e m em bers m ay have m issed out — apologies for this.

You will find enclosed a mem bership renewal form — please return this to mew ith your cheque if you do not pay by standing order.

Anything concerning m em bership should be sent to m e — M rs Shiela Broom field, 8 W codview Crescent, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent TN I 19HD. Telephone 01732 838698. Em ailm em bership@ kentarchaeology.org.uk

orsbroom field@ dialpipex.com .

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2001

The lunch was held, as in previous years, at the Hop Farm , Paddock Wood, where 60 members enjoyed a truly festive meal. They were entertained most professionally by a group from the Oast Theatre, Tonbridge. The afternoon was spent at Preston Hall, Aylesford, not normally open to the public, guided by our member Jim Sephton who has researched and published the history of the Hall.

A.G.M 2002

Canterbury will be the location of the Society's annual general m eeting on the 18th M ay this year. The business meeting will be in the morning and we hope to be supported by the attendance of plenty of mem bers.

We are fortunate that Professor Martin Millett of Cambridge University will be giving the afternoon lecture. He is an expert on Roman Britain and is taking a special interest in Kent as one of the leaders of new research and excavations at Richborough which started last year.

The results of the elections will be announced at the A $\,\mathrm{G}\,\mathrm{M}\,$. There will be some vacancies on the Council to be filled but nom inations can be submitted for any office; it is the sign of an active society if there is competition for office.

Any five members can propose a candidate for election as a member of the council or as an officer. Nominations have to be received by the Hon. General Secretary by the 1st March at the latest and must be accompanied by the written request of the candidate. To be nominated as a Vice President the candidate must have given distinguished service to the Society and the nomination has to be accompanied by a citation describing that service.

Further inform ation and guidance can be obtained from the Hon.G eneral Secretary M r A I. M offat, Three E lm s, W oodland Lane, Shome, Gravesend, DA12 3HH; em ail secretary@ kentarchaeology.org.uk.Although an application form does not have to be used he can supply a suitable form .



WOMEN IN ANGLO-SAXON SOCIETY

The second joint KAS and Canterbury Christ Church University College one day conference, Women In Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Society' will be held on Saturday 4th May 2002

The Speakers:

Barbara Yorke is a Professor of Early M edieval H istory at King Alfreds College, W inchester She will be speaking on The Royal Nunneries of Anglo-Saxon Kent: Anglo-Saxon Kent included amongst its major religious communities five nunneries that were founded by its royal family. These establishments were led by women of the royal house who were able to exercise public power as well as providing for the spiritual well-being of their families.

Caroline Baron is a Professor of History at Royal Hollow ay, University of London and will be speaking on Women in Medieval London: As for many themes in medieval history, London provides our main source of information on women from merchant and artisan backgrounds. This subject forms Professor Behr's current research study.

Sheila Sweetinburgh works as a free-lance historian and part-time teacher and has carried out historical assessments for the Canterbury Archaeological Trust. The title of her lecture is Joining the sisters: fem ale inm ates in Kent's late medieval hospitals: By the late medieval ages hospitals in Kentwere housing both the poor and not so poor. The sisters were expected to take an active part in the life of the community. This might mean carring for the pilgrim's, poor or sick, or praying for the soul of the benefactor and labouring on the hospital farm, in the brew house, bake house or kitchen.

ToniM ount will be known to many of you from her WEA courses on Social History; her lecture is entitled What of the Medieval Housewife? This lecture looks at the everyday life of the medieval housewife. Extensive use is made of original source material for dress, etiquette and recipes. Some Kentish examples will be used.

Charlotte Behr is a senior lecturer in Rom an and Early M edieval H istory at the University of Surrey Roeham pton and will be speaking on High Status Women and Pagan Im ages: Golden am ulets with pagan im ages have been found in wealthy early Anglo-Saxon fem ale graves in eastern Kent. The am ulets identify high status women, who adhered to the cultofodin and claim ed Scandinavian origins. These women may have possessed political influence.

KASm em bers £8 Non-m em bers £10

Tickets available from Sean Greenwood, History Department (Conference tickets), Canterbury Christ Church University College, North Holmes Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 10U.

Please enchose a SAE (22x11cm) for the return of your tickets and make cheque payable to the KentArchaeologicalSociety.

ROMAN CONFERENCE

The Theoretical Rom an Archaeological Conference 2002 will take place at the University of Kent at Canterbury between Friday 5 April and Saturday 6 April 2002. The conference provides a forum for young scholars to present research and to consider theoretical approaches and new directions in Rom an archaeology

Session Proposals include:

- * Pow erful role m odels articulation of identity through assim ilation
- * Is ritual but of the ordinary'
- * Meaningfulobjects
- * Breaking Ground or Treading Water?
 Theoretical Agendas for the 21st
 Century
- * Interdisciplinary Approaches to the study of women

Further details are available on the TRAC web site,

 $\label{locality} \mbox{http://www.ukc.acuk/secl/classics/trac.ht} \mbox{m 'plain or contact:}$

Dr Ellen Swift Lecturer in Archaeology, School of European Culture & Languages Comwallis Building, University of Kent at Canterbury, KENT CT2 7NF tel. 01227 764000 ext. 7898 direct line 01227 827898 fax 01227823641

KENT HALF-DAY CONFERENCE

20 April 2002 at the Exchange Lecture Theatre, Maidstone

As part of its continuing drive to keep members informed about archaeological activity in their local area, CBA SE will be arranging a half-day conference next spring on current archaeological discoveries in Kent. The programme will consist of four first-class speakers who are involved in some of the most exciting work currently taking place.

Recent Archaeological Work in the Ebbsfleet Valley - Steve Haynes or Jay Carver (RailLink Engineering)

Canterbury W hitefrians - Recent Discoveries - M ark Houliston (Canterbury ArchaeologicalTrust

W estern Heights: Dover's other great fortress-Paul Pattison (English Heritage)

Archaeology Round-up - John W illiams (County Archaeologist, Kent County Council)

A booking form for this event is enclosed with this new sletter

LECTURES IN THE LIBRARY

Tuesday, 12th February 2002 at $230\,\mathrm{pm}$. Buying a computer A discussion group with brief presentations for those contemplating the purchase a computer or a new user.

Admission Free*

Tuesday, 19th February 2002 at $2\,30\,p\,m$. The Use of Computers in Local History Research A discussion group with brief presentations

Adm ission Free*
Tuesday,12th M arch 2002 at 2.30 p m .
GAVELKIND by KarlW ittwer
Adm ission £2*

*There are 30 tickets available for each meeting. Mem bers may bring guests. Please telephone 01634 240015 or email d@ degian.demon.couk to reserve your tickets and, where payment is requested, pay at the door.

The new Lectures in the Library series has been well received by those attending. The first lecture was on Copyright for Archivists and other users of archives. Tim Padfield of the Public Record Office gave a detailed explanation of copyright law with practical exam ples. His handout was excellent. The second lecture was by Tom Saw yer. The title of his lecture was Trajan's Column to Times Roman! He outlined the history of letter-forms, explained technical terms and provided practical advice on the choice and presentation of modern typefaces available to all in m odern word processors. For those who m issed the lecture he has provided a reading list. If you would like a copy, please send a SAE to Denis Anstey, Lectures Secretary, 86 Mailing Road, Snodland,

RESCUE <u>ARC</u>HAEOLOGY

Council for Kentish Archaeology 50 YEARS OF KENT RESCUE ARCHAEOLOGY

Saturday 27th April 2002 2.00-5.30pm Queen Elizabeth's Gram m ar School, Faversham.

A celebration of 50 years (1952-2002) in Kent of archaeological discoveries, excavation, preservation and publication, with illustrated talks, displays and bookstalls. IN FORM ATION & TICKETS from C.K.A.7 Sandy Ridge, Borough Green, Kent TN 158HP

NOTICE BOARD NOTICE BOARD NOTICE BOARD NOTICE BOARD NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE





'TDEAS and TDEALS'

This is the first of a series of articles describing form ative m ovem ents and ideas in the history of the church. These were the crises of thought and conviction which brought us to where we are.

AUGUSTINE AND THE CONVERSION

AUGUSTINE AND THE CONVERSION AUGUSTINE AND THE CONVERSION AUGUSTINE CONVERSION AUGUSTINE CONVERSION AUGUSTINE AUGUSTINE

here were fourmain phases to the conversion of the English: nitial success, reverse, renew ed attem pt and consolidation, this last followed by a shattering of the new ly erected structures during the Viking raids. The winning of England for Christendom was a far from straightforward process. The story is shot through with drama, and there were several nodal points when history seem ed to catch its breath, as if not sure which direction to take.

One such moment came at the very start, in 596, when Augustine, in mid pumey, lost his nerve and returned to Rom e. The Saxons were notoriously violent. The journey through recently converted Gaul, even with a large company of monks, held many hazards. But Gregory I was not going to give up his m ission so easily. It is better never to undertake a high enterprise than to abandon it when once began, he adm on ished. Augustine set out again.

This particular high enterprise had been planned for a long time. By the closing years of the sixth century the auguries were good. Gregory had secured a safe passage for his party through Gaul from the Christian king of the Franks w hose daughter, Bertha, w as wife of Ethelbert of Kent. Meanwhile the recent devastation the Lombards had wrought in Italy, with the destruction of St Benedict's M onte Cassino a few years earlier, gave added urgency to the mission. If the foundations of westem Christianity were under attack, at least its limbs should be extended. Bede's account of the fair-haired Anglians in the Rom an slave m arket is, like som anv of his stories, a vivid wav of encapsulating a truth - Gregory's determination to push the frontiers of Christendom northwards. The classical Rom an idea of imperium, embodying notions of unity and civilisation, had not died, m erely taken on a new form.

There was another compelling reason behind the English mission. Those parts of the British isles dominated by Celtric tribes - and they were still the m ajority - w ere already converted, but to a brand of Christianity not always welcom e to Rom e. The zeal of theirm issionaries had dissem inated a fiercely independent and austere version of the faith. In intellectual terms the Celts were a still pow erful force: G regory him self had corresponded with the redoubtable Colum banus.M ilitarily, how ever, face to face with the Saxons, they increasingly faced defeat.

The Anglo-Saxons kingdoms were m ilitaristic societies, welded (and riven) by blood-feud and battle: Yenocissim i Saxones' Gildas had called them. Gregory's m issionaries were going to an island where competing pagan kingdoms had been honing their fighting skills for a hundred and fifty years. Am ong these kingdom sa suprem e ruler, a brytenwealda, had com e to be recognised; and at this juncture, in 597, the brytenwealdawasEthelbertofKent.

Ethelbert's political m arriage with Bertha had been an astute m ove, securing him control of the English Channel. The price for it was Bertha's freedom to practise her Christian faith (in St M artin's, Canterbury) under the quidance of her Frankish chaplain. Ethelbert, though remaining a pagan, must have become familiar with Christianity. But he still kept a safe distance from the missionaries when they arrived, wary of theirm agic.

To someone like Ethelbert, who traced his descent from Woden, the god of war, Augustine's teachings were in starkest contrast to all his previous beliefs. One Jesus, a Jew ish teacher and healer, was believed to be God incarnate. He had died on a cross, had been raised from the dead, and he offered a heaven to those who would follow him . A universal society, the church, was the quardian of these truths which were to govern the conduct of men and nations.

W hat, then, did this new religion have to offer Ethelbert (or any other pagan ruler)? Firstly, an all-powerful deity: no challenges from other gods. Secondly, the backing of a pow erful so iritualcentre, Rome, with its growing network of monasteries stretching across Europe. Thirdly, the immeasurable bonus of literacy and the written codes of laws that would legitim ise and protect your rights. Of course none of this was obvious on that spring day in Thanet. But forty m onks in their hom esoun habits would still have made an aw esom e im pression, likew ise the classical language of their ritual, with its ancient resonances. (Bede was perhaps the first person who recommended that prayer should be translated into the vernacular so the whole congregation would learn how to be 'full of faith'). Lastly, it was that very faith, as opposed to the superstitions of paganism - love as opposed to fear - which was the revolutionary m essage of the new religion.

And it won Ethelbert over. The next step for Augustine was the setting up of an episcopal fram ework. Gregory's vision was of an English church in which monk-bishops would be the pillars that supported the over-arching structure with two archbishoprics, York and Canterbury, at its apex. After Augustine was installed in Canterbury and Justus in Rochester (and more missionaries, among them Paulinus, had arrived from Rome), the conversion pushed northwards, making the most of Ethelbert's influence which at that point stretched up to the Humber. It seems that here the problem of the Celtic tribes arose: their areas bordered the western edges of the Kentish bryten wealda.

Gregory and Augustine had discussed the Celtic question. Augustine had sent Gregory lists of questions as unexpected contingencies arose, and Gregory replied with unfailing wisdom and hum anity. W herever possible, the m ission was to accommodate existing practices. Pagan tem ples? - purify them and continue using them , he wrote: try not to alienate the local population.

Except the Celtic bishops. All the bishops of Britain, Gregory directed, $w \in com \ m \ it to your charge.'$ There $w \ as$ to be one ecclesiastical overbrd in Britain - Augustine. And Augustine, in a (calculated?) snub, failed to stand when hem et the Celtic bishops. Bedem akes a vivid story out of this and again, whatever the embroidery over the 130-year gap, one senses its kernel of truth. Unlike Kentish idol-worshippers, Celtic Christians were not to be placated.

It was a question, in modern parlance, of line m anagem ent. Pow er in the Celtic church lay with its abbots to whom the bishops played a secondary role. M onasteries were independent units, and though each looked to the Pope as the ultim ate authority no archbishop was considered necessary to interpret that authority. Differences of detail between the two churches' style of tonsure, eucharistic ritual, the dating of Easter, the rival Gospel sources of their traditions figured largely at different times, but these were outward sym bols of a struggle that was at root political.

The progress of the conversion follow ed the shifting of kingly suprem acy, first from Ethelbert of Kent to Raedwald



of East Anglia, then north to the Northum brians. Again we have another Bedean set piece, the marvellous scene where Edw in of Northum bria consults his witan. But Edw in had married the Kentish Ethelbert's daughter: Paulinus' m ission was virtually a foregone conclusion. W hat probably none of the m issionaries bargained for (and they were the second generation now) was that when their backs were turned the old godswould creep back. Raedwald putup a tem ple next to his altar, M ellitus was chased out of his new church of St Paul's in London and in Kent Ethelbert's son reverted to paganism (his grandson was to return to Christianity). To com pound matters the frontiers of Christianity were being extended - but by Celtic m issionaries. By the m iddle of the seventh century Aidan and Cedd's m ission from lona, via Lindisfame, had brought Celtic Christianity as far south as the Tham es.

It was a moment of crisis for the Rom an church. The initial conversions had been of the top people - kings and their advisers and courtiers. The next generation of rulers, and possibly people lower down the social scale, had rebelled. Only Celtic Christianity, with its directly pastoral approach, was holding its own. The synod of Whitby, called in 664, was a response to this crisis. Ostensibly (according to Bede) it was sum m oned to iron out problems at the Northum brian court where king 0 swy and his wife wanted guidance over when to celebrate Easter - on his Celtic date (he had been brought up in lona) or her Rom an one. Osw y's brother Osw ald had m arried the daughter of the W essex king, thereby bringing Celtic Christianity to the West Saxons: 0 swy didn't need a map to see how the balance of (Christian) power lay. W as he hoping, nonetheless, for a Rom an victory, was it accident (as Bede has it) that putW ilfrid forward as the main defenderof the Rom an cause while the Scottish Colm an, of Lindisfame, defended the Celtic? Colm an needed an interpreter, while Wilfrid combined the adversarial skills of a barrister with the style of the Northum brian aristocracy he'd been born into, and in his convictions he was 'continental' to his fingertips. When Oswycamedown on the side of St Peter (Rome), the future shape of the church in England was sealed. Fault-lines from the pre-W hitby era were, for the m om ent, buried - though they would surface repeatedly throughout English history. With the mission to the South Saxons twenty years later (again, W ilfrid's work) the conversion of the English was complete.

Fate now placed Theodore of Tarsus, St Paul's own city, in Canterbury, in 669 (he was the third choice for the archbishopric). Theodore brought all the skills and wisdom he had acquired in Byzantium to strengthen the English Church. Eastern Christianity had many sim ilarities with Celtic; some of the practices Theodore introduced (like private confession) were comm on to both. He was a man of enlightened, organising genius and, even at the age of sixtysix, huge energy. He toured the country, creating new dioceses and appointing new bishops (there were three when he began, fifteen when he died twenty years later) At the synod of Hertford, the first attended by all bishops, his canons set up a unified structure for the whole church which was later complemented when he prescribed detailed rules of conduct for religious houses in his Penitentials. (In one of the latter he recomm ended that judgem ent of those accused of capital offences against m onks and clerics should fall to bishops, a legal point whose later variants would tear church and monarchy apart - but that was in the future; at this stage king and prim ate lived for the most part in happy sym biosis, each benefiting from the other's strength.)

Theodore's achievement, minored by the mission of his northern contem porary, Cuthbert, who combined Roman allegiance with Celtic practices, was the catalyst for a unique cultural flow ering which followed. It was not an accident that Kentwas in its vanguard: lucrative trading links and exposure to continental cultural influences made it far and away the richest kingdom. The school Theodore founded at Christ Church Canterbury became the cultural pacesetter for the whole country. It had a uniquely broad curriculum which included classical studies, Roman law, maths and music. Other foundations followed. At Wearm outh and Jarrow Benedict Biscop built up the library which Bede later used. The outstanding relic of this time, the Lindisfame Gospels, bears witness to the rich crosscultural flow ering of this golden age.

But such relics are rare: the golden age' lasted barely a century. The background to it was the ever-shifting military balance of pow er - Northum bria to M ercia, M ercia to W essex. The Church m ight have achieved a m easure of unity, but at a political level the country was still a patchwork of warring kingdom s which was one of the reasons among m any for the Viking raids that began at the end of the eighth century. It was no coincidence that the first major raid was on Lindisfame. The monasteries were honeypots to the m arauders. Kent, with its wealthy abbeys at Reculver, Minster and Canterbury and its accessibility (the sea-frontier was sudden ly a hazard) was an obvious target; the Danish arm ies also found Thanet and Sheppey convenient wintering quarters. Canterbury was sacked twice during the ninth century (once by M ercia), and again at the beginning of the eleventh when the archbishop, Aeltheah (St Alphege) was captured and murdered and the raiding arm y had to be paid off with 48,000 pounds of silver. According to the Anglo Saxon Chronicle, all Canterbury's churchmen and women were seized and no one can say how great a part of the inhabitants that was.'

The effect on church life was devastating. The careful structures that had been so painstakingly built up completely cracked. Demoralisation in the monasteries showed in the gradual dispersal of monastic lands, while the destruction of buildings and libraries virtually eradicated the centres of learning.

This is the sad end of the first phase of the christian ising of England. Regeneration was to come, with the tenth century revival of monastic life. And we, with hindsight, know that the radical notions that enupted in Kent in 597 were to shape lives and institutions, and be continuing elements in our national consciousness, up to the present day. But contemporaries who prayed for delivery from the fury of the Norsem en had only their faith to sustain them

One exam ple of such faith can be seen in the gift of an eighth-century gospel book, the illum inated Codex Aureus, donated to Christ Church Canterbury some hundred years later by certain ealdorm an Alfred and his wife Werburg. They had bought the Codex back from one of the Viking armies (who had stolen it or been paid off with it) because we were not willing that these holy books should remain any longer in heathen hands', says their dedication in Old English; and they'd given it to Christ Church.

How much did it cost, one wonders, how did they negotiate the deal? In these details, which we willnever know, lie all the realities of life two centuries before the Conquest. The details we do know, how ever, tellus that it was thanks to the Alfreds and the Werburgs - as well as the Wilfrids and the Cuthberts and the Theodores - that Gregory I's high enterprise, in spite of all vicissitudes, succeeded.

Anglo-Saxon Chronicle transland edit.
G N G am onsw ay, Everym an 1953
Bede Ecclesiastical History of the English People
Penguin Classics 1990
Peter Bernesford Ellis Celt and Saxon, the Struggle
for Britain Constable 1993
Sim on Coates, The Role of Bishops in the early
Anglo Saxon Church History, April 1996
Richard Eales & Richard Gam eson Vikings, Monks
and the Millenium Canterbury Archeological
Society 2000
Richard Gem (editor) St Augustine's Abbey
Canterbury English Heritage 1997
R H Hodgkin A History of the Anglo-Saxons
Oxford 1935

Eric John Reassessing Anglo-Saxon England Manchester University Press 1996 CH. Law rence MedievalMonasticism Longinan 3rd edition 2001

FM Stenton Anglo-Saxon England 0 xford 1943

LizNussbaum

AUGUSTINE
AND THE
CONVERSION
AUGUSTINE
AND THE



ADDITIONS TO KAS LIBRARY

HATTATT, Richard
Ancient and Rom ano-British brooches
illus, diagra

Dorset Publishing Com pany, 1982 09021 29392 Well illustrated with num erous exam ples and a good descriptive text.

A valuable guide to identification and preservation. One of several volumes and pamphlets presented to the Library by Albert Daniels.

HARRINGTQN, Duncan

KentHearth Tax

British Record Society with Kent Archaeological Society. 2000 0901505 439

Vol. XXIX in the Kent Records Series NEW MAN, Richard

Historical archaeology of Britain c. 1540-1900 Illus., maps, diagrs.

Sutton Publishing. 2001 07509 13355

Clear overview of past medieval archaeology in England, W ales and Scotland. Well illustrated with an extensive bibliography.

COLLIS, John

Digging up the past: an introduction to archae - ological excavation

Illus., diagrs., bibliog.

Sutton Publishing, 2001 07509 27372

Concise and well illustrated, this introduction to excavation techniques is aim ed at professionals and am ateurs alike. It contains detailed accounts of site preparation procedures and has a whole chapter on the treatment of burials and skeletal remains.

BLACK, Shirley Burgoyne

A scholar and a gentlem an: Edward Hasted, the historian of Kent.

Frontport, plates, bibliog.

Otford: Darenth Valley Publications, 2001

A substantial work by a noted Kent scholar. This lively and inform a tive book is the first full biography of Kent's majorhistorian. Well illustrated, with a good index, it is essential background to what is arguably one of the best county histories ever written.

DE LA BEDOYERE, Guy

The Buildings of Rom an Britain,

Illus., plates. diagrs., bibliog.

Stroud: Tem pus Publishing, 2001 07524 19064
First published in 1991, this useful work recreates the appearance of Rom an Britain by careful reconstructions of the buildings as they appear from excavated ground plans. A wide range of building types are covered, as well as roads, drains, aqueducts and lighthouses. There is much of Kent interest in the text.

FLETCHER, Sir Bannister

A history of architecture on the comparative method.

Illus, m aps, plates, diagrs., bibliog.. London: Architectural Press, 20th edition, 2000 07506 2267

This monum ental work, added to the Library in the latest edition, has been in print since 1896. A tour de force, it uses a com parative m ethod to trace the history of architecture, from the earliest times until the present day. The scope is w orld w ide, but every facet of the work is of use to the historian, archaeologist and scholar. The chapters dealing with the developm ent of architecture in Europe from Prehistoric times until the Renaissance period are likely to be of special value to m em bers of the Society. The plates, diagram s and text are superbly detailed, as is the bibliography for this very new edition. A valuable source of reference for any study involved with the way buildings have been designed and constructed.

LEAVES FROM LIBRARY LOG

Foreign Journals

Som e m em bers m ay not be aware that the Library receives, by a simple process of free exchange with ourselves, a quantity of journals and yearbooks from several European learned bodies and societies which have similar interests to our own. Although some of these publications are in languages which might be a barrier to some m em bers, e.g. Flem ish, Danish, others are offered in more accessible languages, and some contain articles in English, either as a full text, or as an abstract. Often produced from generously funded bases, these journals are lavishly illustrated, and if language is a problem, the illustrative matter alone repays scrutiny. Also, archaeological research in Belgium . Holland and in Scandinavia has much in common with our own activities. A good example is the proceedings of the National Service for Archaeological Heritage in the Netherlands. Printed in English, it contains several fascinating papers, profusely illustrated and with many maps and diagrams. An accompanying folder contains further maps and plans. Interested m em bers will find it worthwhile to browse am ongst these exchanged items. They do however, present problems of accommodation, which is always at a premium in our Library, and the question is raised, should we maintain permanent files of foreign journals, or should we regard them as expendable, perhaps retaining only issues over the last two or three years? The Hon, Librarian would like to hear opinion from mem bers and to know how useful they have found these journals to be in their own work and fields of interest.

Gordon Ward Collections

The Society is fortunate in having at its disposal the considerable collections of Kent ephem era collected in the early years of the last century by Dr. Gordon W ard. Form any years this collection has been housed in a series of place labelled folders, which in turn, were kept in office filing cabinets. Volunteers are now examining these folders, listing contents, putting repairs and conservation in hand, and generally making the whole collection more accessible to researchers. As with any paper based archival material, the less physical handling material receives, the greater the opportunities for conservation. With this in m ind, we intend to list the whole contents. by place name, on a data base in the Library; so that intending users can know im mediately if any place file is likely to contain the inform ation that they need without physical perusal taking place. It m ay also be possible to print out the contents of the collection so that it can be used as a quide and a source by those who cannot use the library without travelling long distances. The final plan is to house all of the contents in acid free boxes and folders, with a clear labelling and guiding system.

A significant new acquisition

The Library continually updates its stock, adding m any item swhich are likely to be of use to current and future generations of m em bers, and there are opportunities to acquire personal collections of significant value.

The Hon. Librarian has recently been able to purchase, from a private individual, a number of books about Kent and which were not hitherto part of our stock. The same individual was also willing to part with a collection of about 40 folders, each of which contained a quantity of guides to churches, castles, monuments, museums and transportation systems throughout the county.

The period covered ranges over about 50 years up to the current time. This fortunate acquisition rem inds us that many such items are discarded once a visit, or a holiday is over, or personal papers are being weeded out, perhaps during probate or similar. The Hon. Librarian is always pleased to receive any items about Kentand, given the vast proliferation of guides and pamphlets, personal gifts are often the first time that we can be aware of their existence. When one considers the informative value of many pamphlets that the Society so acquired in the early years of its existence, then one may more easily understand how relevant it is to continue with this process in the present.

JOURNEY TO MEDIEVAL CANTERBURY

The Society's President and m em bers of the Education Com m ittee were present recently at the well-attended launch of the above publication.

It is the second in a series planned by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust through its Education Service. Mem bers will recall the successful first booklet which dealt similarly with Roman Canterbury.

M edieval Canterbury has been written by Andy Harm sworth with contributions from Marion Green and others within the Trust. It is designed primarily for young readers, but readers of all ages will find it of real interest.

The coverprice is £4.95, but once again a discount of 10% (to £4.45) has been agreed for single copies ordered by KAS members. Orders, with payment, should be sent to Ruth Walder, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, 92a Broad Sweet, Canterbury CT1 2LU (e-mail ruthwalder@ canterbury/trust.co.uk).

LEAFLETS

You will find enclosed a set of three leaflets on The Story of Fortifications Through the Ages; these are produced by the Historic Fortifications Network, a collaboration between 17 towns in Kent, Nord-Pas de Calais and West Flanders, linked by history, origin and evolution. KCC have kindly given us copies to distribute to KAS members.

Launching this m onth is a new book by KAS m em ber Victor Sm ith, a known authority on fortifications. Front-line Kent' is a w ell-illustrated history and guide to Kent's fortifications from 1400 to the Cold W ar. The book will be available from KCC at a price of around £7.

Please contact
Judith Roberts,
Environm entalM anagem entUnit,
2nd Floor,
Invicta House,
M aidstone M E14 1XX
em ail:
Judith Roberts@ kccgovuk



THE KAS EXCURSION TO DERBYSH IRE: PEAKS. DALES AND STATELY HOMES - JUNE 17-21 2002



or the first time, we are experimenting with a fiveday, instead of a week-long excursion, thus leaving valuable summer weekends free. Men bers and friends who have not joined us on previous holidays will be warm ly welconed on this five day tour, which will have pick-up points throughout Kent. Total cost is £255 per person, half board (including entrance fees to Chatsworth and to Lyme Park). Modest single room supplement.

Our hotel is the Ringwood Hall in Brim ington, near Chesterfield. The splendour of a fine Georgian Manor House is reflected in the sensitive refurbishment of this hotel. It is set in 29 acres of parkland and gardens, and has 31 individual and traditionally decorated bedrooms, all with en-suite bathrooms.

Each day we will travel through the scenic splendour of the Peak District National Park which, with its pastoral landscapes, sparkling rivers and deep dales, form s the backdrop of this tour.

Amongst other sites, we will visit:

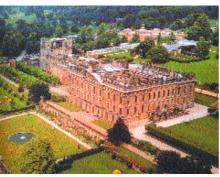
CHATSWORTH, "a mansion fit to satisfy a king", built in the seventeenth century for the first Duke of Devonshire, with grounds landscaped by Capability Brown. ${\tt HARDW\ ICK\ HALL\ (NT)}$, built by the notorious Bess of Hardwick during the reign of Elizabeth I, described as `m ore glass than wall" and "like a huge glass lantern".

LYM E PARK, a magnificentmansion with grounds of over 1,400 acres and beautiful views towards the Pennines. En route we pass through G basop, with its Victorian mills

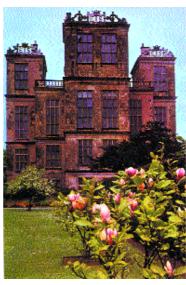
MATLOCK BATH, another spatown and Victorian resort, set in a narrow valley near the grandicely named Heights of Abraham, which can be assended by cable car.

KEDLESTON HALL, a fine Palladian m ansion.

CRICH, wherewewill have the option of visiting the open air tram way museum to ride on vintage trams.



Chatsworth



Hardwick Hall

CHESTERFIELD, with its parish church fam ous for its crooked spire, and its busym arket.

BUXTON, the form er spa and highest town in England, which has fine exam ple sof Georgian architecture, and som e lovely public gardens.

For further inform ation contactJoy Saynor, Excursions Secretary at Friars, Shoreham, Sevencaks, KentTN 14 7TD or telephone 01959

SOCETY EXCURSION SOCETY EXCURSION SOCETY EXCURSION SOCETY EXCURSION SOCETY EXCURSION SOCETY EXCURSION SOCTETY EXCURSION EXCURSION SOCETY EXCURSION

Local History Week

The Historical Association is bringing together a wide range of national and local organisations throughout Britain to celebrate a week of exciting local history events and activities on 4th -12th M ay 2002. Are you taking part or organising an event? Let us know what will be happening around Kent!

11th M ay - Local H istory W eek Keynote Event - A Celebration of Local H istory, at Beveridge Hall, London to include speakers from a huge range of organisations discussing current issues in local history and behind-the-scenes views of fascinating local projects. For more information contact Debra Birch, Institute of Historical Research. Fax: 0207

The Association are also running some special events earlier in the year:

23rd February - Education conference at the Public Record Office, focusing on the

use of historical sources

27th April - Education lecture by MichaelRiley

Full details of these available on their website www.history.org.uk or 0207 735

Em ail: enquiry@ history.org.uk
Also of interest:





Conference Centre, Greycoat Street London SW 1, organised by the Society of Genealogists, 0207 553 3290 Em ail: events@ soq.org.uk

LIVING IN KENT

Another addition to our local history inform ation sourcing has been ${\tt m}$ ade available on a CD called LIVINGINKENT.

Introduced by Tony Robinson, of Channel Four's Time Team', it is packed with more than 600 interactive narratives and has a wealth of images, games, activities, 'living history' presentations and rare archive film footage.

It also has details of how to find m useum s, archives, historic sites, and other organisations.

Available from your local library, m useum ,and selected schools orby contacting: LIVINGIN KENTCD-ROM, CulturalDevelopment,Arts & Libraries, Springfield,M aidstone,KentM E142LH Tel:01622221379

E-m ail:interactivehistory@kentgovuk



YAC grows in 2001

BACK PAGE PEOPLE PEOPLE BACK PAGE

fthe good folk of Kent's past had been blessed with foresight, I wonder how they would have viewed some of the events of AD2001? Would it ever had occurred to them that some of eir commons the activities would provide our children with archaeological activities?

In M arch 2000 the alm eetino of the North leaders, usually a Club took p figuration of Susiè Se, Lyn Pa Donald and Kate Kersey, we figuration of Susie just how many d dv.keen to to dispose of pa s). We even hd w hose chille of parents a atday butw ho inable to com erate to registe eir interest!

Attendance figures as subsequent activities have banished and lingering there as to whether there ready so surgers to marchaeology by youngsters. For some the initial spark is generated by television program mes such as Time Team and Meet the Ancestors. Others are inspired by work encountered through the National Curriculum. What is obvious though a that the interest is genuine and province if its treated properly and respected, should be life-long.

s YAC is organised under the Council for British asmuch localim put round 25 children as possible attend m eeting tween 9 and 16. M eetings are n Saturday m omings, roughly on nd our base' is at M aidstor dren have to be m em bers of the YAC before they join our loc conform to the CBA's regulations for and to designated safety codes and ha fully qualified First Aiders within the leadenship team .

Archaeology is a diverse term and YAC acknow ledges this by encom passing many activities. Although it is not always possible to provide excavation experience (top of the children's wish-list!), we do try to provide practical hands-on' activities.

We have experienced the joys of field-walking and glorious mud at Thurnham as we have become friends with the KCC archaeologists involved in the development of the new White Horse Wood Country Park. We then washed our finds and discussed the lives of our Thurnham ancestors, whose relics spanned at least 5000 years; from a Neolithic polished axe to modern ploughshares, the children were fascinated by them all. On National Archaeology Day in July we celebrated in costume in Medieval manner at Thurnham 's motte & bailey castle.

One of our most outstanding and enjoyable events was the resistivity survey at Otford Talack, where the children were able to even the present of a further range of but large through the phys', electronic trickery and contacter in agery. They also learn to use a theodolite and produce digital in ages of finds. A great m ix of the practical and technological

over the past 18 m onths we have built pyram ids in the grounds of the m useum, is M edway M egaliths and the Boat and have shown round. Time Team Live exactions in Societhury by one YAC's Previents, M is a ston. Our chistm as party 2400 was enlivened by Ph Larding showing is now to know the structure of the st

And which shoul ourown crop n sprouting evi e in many co serbusi by now. T ldren have amt ld looked up the ne SMR a data about rhomea have for ld out about th history and restoration f flintannons ne and

grisly history of the Tower of London before trying on some of the (smaller!) arm our from there.

We were privileged to be given a behind the scenes' tour at the Natural History Museum by Andy Currant; the wonder on the children's faces whilst exam ining bones from Darwin's own collection will stay with me for a long time.

Our plans for 2002 include a visit to the Map Room at the British Library, an explication of Okibury hillfort and our last useponed visit to Avebury and Sonel lige, cancelled due to foot and mouth last year. In March we hope to help in the clearance castle walls at the control of the contro

turally, an this achievement has taken thin time and placing. A heady there is a mense number of people to that. We may very grateful to the Kent Activeological tociety and individual am bein hardly like in support annual asm. We would be welcome the opportunity to hold buy YAC meetags with other Kent groups.

We are always usen to hear

KAS memble or archaeological contact that as a special integer. The contact was developed because someone on a excavation, in a museum or libration that the time to talk to you? Unlike school activities, our YAC children attend because they really want to be there, are growinely interested and ask the sort of quistions that occasionally stump our expectations.

K ate K ersey A ssistant Leader N on wins YAC



Copy deadlines for the next three issues are; April issue – M onday M arch 4th, July issue – M onday June 3th, October issue – M onday Septem ber 2thd. Submission of inclusions by email would be much appreciated if possible. The editors wishes to draw attention to the fact that neither she nor the Council of the KAS are answerable for opinions which contributors may express in their signed articles; each author is alone responsible for the contents and substance of their work.

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