

KENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY newsletter

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STOP PRESS

Your AGM agenda and papers are included in this Newsletter.
We hope to see you there.

www.kentarchaeology.org.uk





Recent Discoveries

Recent Work by Archaeology South-East* in Kent

Late 2009 and early 2010 have been busy months for Archaeology South-East, working on a number of sites in Kent on behalf of Kent County Council. Most of these projects are still early in the post-excavation process of analysis and reporting, but discoveries and highlights from two of them, Northern Relief Road, Sittingbourne and Leysdown Road, Isle of Sheppey (fig 1), are presented below.

Both of these sites held family open days for the public. Visitors had the opportunity to see the archaeology and view finds and environmental remains with ASE specialists. Despite the unpredictable weather, lots of people came to visit the sites and see the archaeologists in action.



Fig.2. Late Saxon silver strap end from the Leysdown Road site, Isle of Sheppey

Northern Relief Road, Sittingbourne

The excavation in advance of the development of the Sittingbourne Northern Relief Road involved the stripping of 1.5 hectares in the area of the Milton Creek Crossing between Ridham Avenue and Castle Road,

Kemsley. Previous work in the area had uncovered remains of Middle and Late Bronze Age occupation, Iron Age structures and Romano-British activity, as well as medieval features and artefacts of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age date. The presence of these multi-period remains suggested the likelihood of further discoveries being made in advance of the road construction.

The excavation has uncovered extensive prehistoric remains including a Bronze Age ring ditch, a large, probably Iron Age, enclosure ditch and large midden pit. Evidence for the Roman period was present in the form of well preserved salt-working hearths (front cover) and urned cremations of 1st and 2nd century date. Finds from the site include prehistoric flintwork, Iron Age triangular weights, Roman cremation vessels, building material and fragments of iron metalwork.

A public open day was held in October and children from the local primary school at Kemsley also visited the site for a tour and finds handling sessions.

Primary School & Children's Centre sites, Leysdown Road, Isle of Sheppey

ASE has also undertaken two adjacent excavations in the Leysdown Road area, in advance of the development of a primary school and children's centre.

The primary school site was evaluated in June 2009 uncovering a range of features indicating significant multi-period settlement and agricultural evidence dating from the Bronze Age, Iron Age, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods. Subsequent excavations have further revealed this complex landscape of Iron Age, Roman and medieval field systems and enclosures. A medieval burial was also discovered.

Work on this site has only just come to an end, but already over 30 objects have been recorded including Roman quern stones, a Middle Saxon iron knife, and a Late Saxon silver strap end (fig.2).



Fig. 3. Copper-alloy pestle, part of a cosmetic set from the Leysdown Road site, Isle of Sheppey

The children's centre site has been evaluated by five trenches to ascertain the presence and character of any surviving archaeology. Trench 4 produced the most significant archaeological remains on the site. This comprised a sub-circular funerary pit dating to the period AD10-70 which contained three fragmented semi-complete ceramic vessels in association with a quantity of cremated human bone, and four badly corroded copper alloy brooches and a cosmetic or medicinal set comprising a copper alloy mortar and pestle. Only a preliminary assessment of the burnt bone has been undertaken, but unfortunately it has not been possible to confirm if the assemblage relates to one or two separate burials. The sample did, however, contain fragments indicative of an adult individual.

The pottery vessels include a Gallo-Belgic type Butt Beaker and two jars, the forms of which suggest a date no earlier



than c.AD10 for the deposition of the cremation group. The vessels were to some extent intact when deposited, although two were found lying on their sides and both were missing either the whole base or a substantial part of it. The sherds of all three vessels were found *in situ* in a fragmented condition and were fairly widely dispersed. Whilst this could be partly explained by truncation or disturbance, the vessels were sealed by the overlying fill and therefore it seems possible that they were not repositories for the bone itself but were deliberately broken or 'killed' as part of a process of structured deposition.

The remains of at least four badly corroded and fragmented brooches were recovered. The brooches all appear to be one-piece sprung brooches with flat bow of early to mid-1st century date. Also associated is a cosmetic set consisting of a pestle and mortar. The pestle consists of a plain circular suspension loop and a curved sub-circular-sectioned stem (fig.3). The mortar retains a suspension loop with bill-like extension; the latter is

often interpreted as a bird-head although this find would form a considerably stylised example. The objects would have been suspended together on a leather lace or thong, possibly from the waist. They would have been used for grinding mineral-based cosmetics or possibly medicines. This type of cosmetic set appears exclusively in Britain, mainly in the South. Although not many securely dated examples have been found, they appear from the late pre-Roman Iron Age up to the early 2nd century AD.

Visitors to the Leysdown Road Open Day in November (fig.4) had the opportunity to view all the finds from the cremation pit as well as the ongoing excavations. Further work continues on the findings from both sites.

Louise Rayner

* Archaeology South-East is the contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology of the Institute of Archaeology, University College London.



Fig. 4. Public open day at the Leysdown Road site, Isle of Sheppey

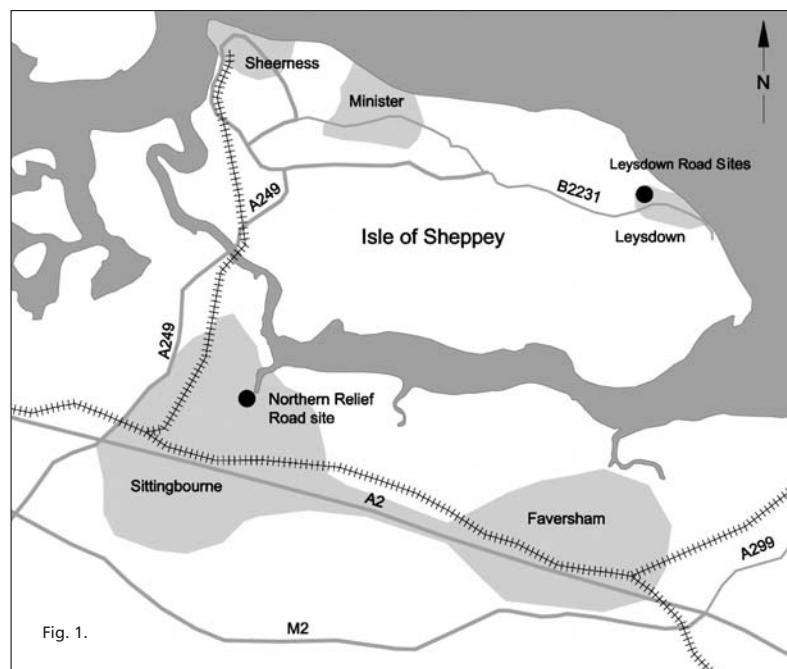
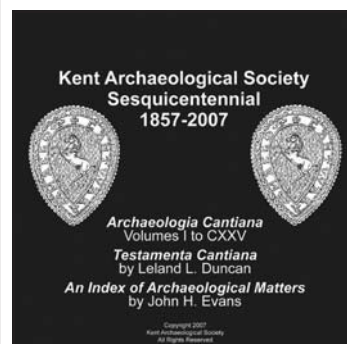


Fig. 1.

HAVE YOU JUST JOINED THE SOCIETY?

Do you wish you could collect all the back issues of Archaeologia Cantiana?



Now you can have 125 volumes of Archaeologia Cantiana at the amazingly low cost of £31 for individual members and £76 for institutional members on the KAS Sesquicentennial DVD.

To order your copy, send a cheque payable to Kent Archaeological Society to Peter Tann, Town Place, Belmont, Nr Faversham ME13 0HE.



Lost Memorials

'Lost memorials' now on the internet

Records of hundreds of people who lived in Charlton and Bromley and their districts over a period of many centuries are now featured on the Kent Archaeological Society's website, www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/research.

The records are in the form of memorial inscriptions, 'MIs', on gravestones, tablets, tombs and monuments. Charlton's are from St Luke's parish church, originally published in 1908 by Leonard Morgan May in a book that is now highly collectable. Since 1908 many of the MIs on the outdoor graves at Charlton are likely to have become illegible or even lost, so May's work is of particular value to family historians and genealogists, giving the names of relatives, ancestors and descendants of the people they honour. Bromley's records are from the parish church of St Peter and St Paul and were noted by an anonymous antiquarian who visited the church in 1829 and by Richard Holworthy, a former Kent County Council archivist, who transcribed them about 90 years ago. Many memorials at Bromley have been lost, rendered illegible, or were destroyed when the medieval church, within which there

were about 100 monuments, was bombed in an air raid in 1941. Only the tower survived. Fortunately Holworthy's transcriptions were published in *The British Archivist* in 1915, a copy of which survived among the papers that Leland Lewis Duncan of Lewisham, antiquarian and author, left to the Kent Archaeological Society when he died in 1923. Until now these transcriptions could be read only by those able to visit the KAS library in Maidstone, but all of them have now been transcribed and indexed by the KAS and are online and accessible free of charge.

One of the most intriguing MIs at Charlton honours Henry Frazer, 'born of African parents, who died in 1826 aged 55 years '... in grateful testimony of his fidelity and devoted attention the master whom he served 30 years has raised this tomb.' Was he a slave? He died several years before the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833.

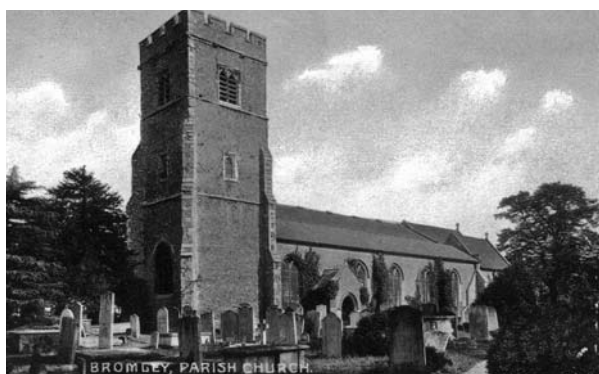
Various members of the Fraser family and their Wallace relatives are also recorded, including Capt. Hugh John Arthur Fraser, 'shot in Brazil while bravely quelling a mutiny'.

Also recorded are John Stuart Peddie, Surgeon, who died while serving with

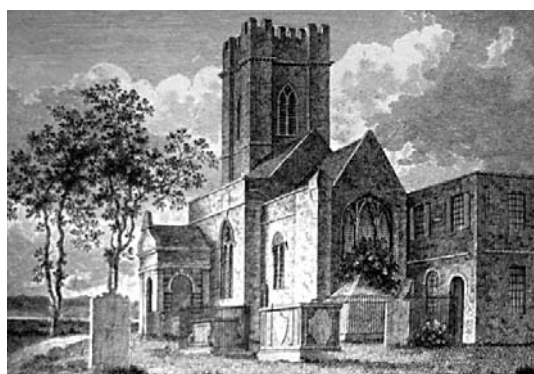
Captain John Franklin on his ill-fated attempt to navigate the Northwest Passage in the Canadian Arctic, and Edward Wilkinson, one of Queen Elizabeth I's servants and 'Yeoman of the Month to King Henry the 8th and Anne Boleyn and Edward the 6th' who for 30 years 'continued in these offices without blot of dishonesty in any of his services'.

Perhaps Charlton's most famous MI is the one commemorating The Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, the only British prime minister to have been assassinated, whose 'terrible death by the hand of a madman in the very midst of all his labours for his country's good plunged all England into mourning'

Among the Bromley parishioners recorded in the MIs are Elizabeth ('Tetty') Johnson, ('beautiful, elegant, talented, dutiful'), wife of Dr Samuel Johnson, the lexicographer and essayist. She died in 1752 although her gravestone bore the date 1753. Also recorded are Mary Ann Gayton, the schoolmistress who taught William Ewart Gladstone to read and Robert Booth Rawes, believed locally to have been the original of Charles Dickens's 'Pickwick'. Ted Connell, who runs the KAS website, says "MIs not only tell us about people who are buried in our



St Peter and St Paul's Church
Bromley before 1941

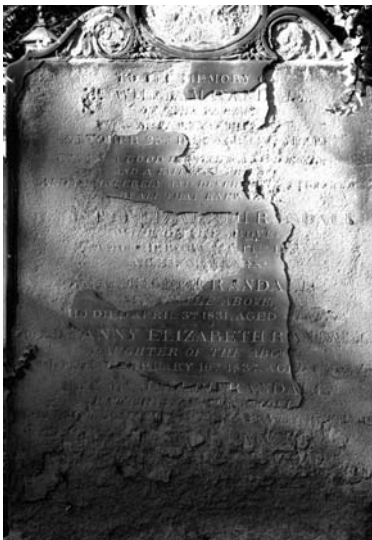


Tombs and gravestones at St Luke's
Church Charlton c 1800



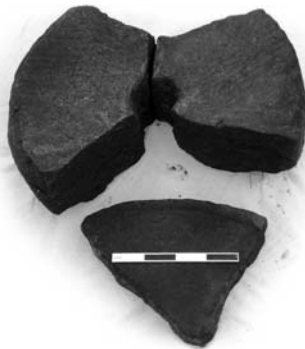
graveyards, they often provide details of people who once lived in the parish but were buried abroad – sometimes at sea. But gravestones are only the ‘tip of the iceberg’ of all the burials in a churchyard. Many graves were marked with wooden rails that lasted only a few generations. Stone gravestones often weather badly and become illegible. And of course many of the people buried were from poor families who could not afford a gravestone. Church registers, often dating back to the late 16th century, should provide a comprehensive list of burials in our churchyards, but we often find that MIs recorded by our project cannot be cross-referenced to the church’s burial registers, presumably because the sexton or vicar failed to record them”.

To view the MIs visit
www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/research,
then the ‘Churchyards MIs’ list in
‘Library & Visual Records’.



An eroded gravestone at St Lukes Church in 2010. Only part of the inscription is now legible but luckily it was recorded in 1908 by Leonard Morgan May

Roman quern stone from East Farleigh



Excavations in a room adjacent to the oven found in building 5 at East Farleigh Roman Villa (see Newsletter no.83, page 5) uncovered a broken quern. The upper stone was broken into at least five pieces. It was 450mm in diameter by 160mm thick and if complete would have weighed at least 50 kg. Part of the 50mm thick base stone was located but not *in situ*. The upper stone, which still had well-cut grooves in the base, was made of the dark grey greensand which outcrops in the Sandgate/Folkestone area. The lower stone appears to be a reddish-brown millstone grit. It is hoped excavations will recommence on Buildings 3 and 5 and the area to the south on Sundays at the end of April.

Albert Daniels
Maidstone Area Archaeological Group

Canterbury Archaeological Society Research and Publication Grants

The Society has limited funds available to award a grant to individuals researching any aspect of the archaeology and history of the Canterbury district. It is envisaged that a grant would not normally exceed £500. Preference would be given to work resulting in publication.

Your letter should mention:

- Your qualifications
- The nature and length of your research
- The stage you have reached in your research
- The amount you are applying for
- Any additional funding anticipated from other sources
- Your proposals for publication
- Your anticipated timetable

You may be asked to name a referee whom the Committee making the grant could consult. If successful, you would be expected to account for the money spent and give a copy of any article, pamphlet etc, to the Society’s library.

For further details, please contact the
Honorary Secretary of the Grants
Committee:

Mrs C M Short
3 Little Meadow
Upper Harbledown
Canterbury CT2 9BD



WHAT'S ON

KAS EVENTS

KAS VISIT

The Vaults of Ancient Winchelsea

Saturday 12 June

Although in East Sussex, Winchelsea was attached to the largely Kentish organisation of the Cinque Ports as one of its two Ancient Towns. Of its 58 vaults, 33 are now accessible, the majority dating from the late 13th to the early 14th centuries. Built of Hastings granite and with wide flights of steps giving access, they were probably used as sale and store rooms as well as wine cellars and taverns. We will be guided by a member of the Winchelsea Archaeological Society. A booking form is included in this Newsletter

KAS CHURCHES COMMITTEE VISIT

Monday June 28

A visit is arranged to St Mary's Church, Higham and to St Peter and St Paul, Shorne. We meet at St Mary's at 6.45 for 7pm and go to St Peter and St Paul at approximately 8pm.

Tour £2. Tea and biscuits £1 extra. A booking form for the visit is included in this Newsletter (to be returned by 23 June please). Further details from Mary Berg (KAS), 5 Orchard St, Canterbury CT2 8AP. Phone: 01227 450426.

Email: maryberg@hotmail.co.uk

KAS HISTORIC BUILDINGS CONFERENCE

9 October at Harrietsham

Details will be announced in the next Newsletter in July.

EVENTS AROUND KENT

Bexley Archaeological Group monthly lecture, Dig for Victory by Russell Bowes Thursday 20 May, 8 – 9.30pm

Not a talk on archaeological digging, but a look at the period when England's gardens took on the might of Hitler's armies. Gardens great and small, public and private, saw clematis give way to cabbage and roses replaced by radishes. We discuss the role of the 'forgotten army' - the Land Girls - who helped to put food on the tables of the nation, plus advice and propaganda given to gardeners in

print and over the airwaves.

Cost £3. For further details call Martin Baker, Chairman on 020 8300 1752 or email Clare Gillett cgillett@inskip-jenkins.co.uk.

All workshops and talks are held at the Bexley-Sidcup Conservative Club, 19 Station Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 7EB

Bexley Archaeological Group Training Dig Monday 2 - Friday 6 August,

9am - 4.30pm each day

Dig takes place at our on-going site in Bexley. Field walking, geophysics, surveying, trowelling, finds drawing, section drawing, washing finds, talks.

Cost £80 for the week. Minimum age 16 (with parents consent). Course is suitable for anyone of any ability.

For further details and to book a place, please contact Pip Pulfer on 07961 963893 or email pipspad@hotmail.co.uk

Visit our website to see last year's trainees - www.bag.org.uk

Loose Area History Society meetings

Monday 10 May

'Farewell to Kent - Emigrant stories'

A talk by Helen Allinson, author and historian. All meetings are held at Loose Infant School Hall, Loose Road, Maidstone ME15 9UW, starting at 7.30pm. Admission £2.50. Pay at the door. Free parking in school grounds. Enquiries: 01622 741198 www.looseareahistorysociety.webeden.co.uk

Crofton Roman Villa

Open from 2 April to 29 October this year.

Opening times: Wednesday, Friday and Bank Holiday Monday: 10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm, Sundays: 1st and 3rd in the month only: 2pm-5pm. Last entry 4.30pm.

Admission 80p for children and £1 for adults.

Activities for children include Roman games, mosaic making, dressing up as Romans, digging for 'finds' in the excavation tray and Roman soldier 'rubblings'.

For more information call 020 8460 1442, email crofton.rom.villa@btinternet.com or visit www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk

An invite from the Shorne Woods Community Archaeologist!

Randall Manor: Season 5

3 July – 1 August

Come and visit the Community Archaeology Dig at Shorne Woods Country Park, running from the 3rd of July to the 1st of August. Including the Medieval Weekend with the Woodville Household on July 24th and 25th. A FREE event! Shorne Woods Country Park is just off the A2, east of Gravesend.

Normal car parking charges apply.

For more information please contact andrew.mayfield@kent.gov.uk

Special Commemorative Archaeological Weekend at Dover Roman Painted House, New Street

Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 July,

10am – 4.30pm.

Site Lectures at 11am and 2.30pm by archaeologists who discovered the House in 1970. Admission FREE to KAS members on production of membership card. All KAS members are cordially invited to visit the Roman Painted House in Dover on the above days. This special shared event is to celebrate 40 years (1970-2010) of non-stop excavation, publication and public presentation in Dover by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit. The discoveries in that time have been spectacular and have totally transformed knowledge of Roman and Saxon Dover, already published in three volumes.

The House is among the most complete Roman buildings yet discovered in Britain, with five rooms substantially intact, each with elaborate underfloor heating (hypocaust) and all internal walls covered in painted murals relating to the god Bacchus. It was built by men of the Classis Britannica about AD200 and partly demolished by the Roman army about AD270 when a new fort was built across part of it. KARU constructed the cover building in 1977 and has managed the House ever since, during which time it has had over 600,000 visitors from all parts of the world. It is staffed and managed entirely by Unit volunteers through a special Trust set up in 1975. Admission free to KAS members, although donations will be welcome. Follow the venue road



signs; parking on the forecourt or in nearby town car parks. Mainline Priory station is nearby

Festival of Archaeology

Coordinated by the Council

for British Archaeology

Saturday 17th July to Sunday 1st August

Two weeks of special events nationwide held by museums, local societies, national and countryside parks, universities, and heritage organisations. Events listings will be online soon at <http://festival.britarch.ac.uk>

CONFERENCE

Unearthing The Past: Language,

Ownership, Value And Meaning

In Public Archaeology

Friday 24 (eve), Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 September

Canterbury Christ Church University, supported by CBA SE, CBA & Canterbury Archaeological Trust. To be held in Canterbury Christ Church's campus in Folkestone. More details in the next Newsletter in July

DAVINGTON MYSTERIES

Faversham Society Archaeological

Research Group (FSARG)

Saturday 9 October, 9.30am – 4.30pm

Reports from a recent community-based historical and archaeological investigation into a fascinating corner of ancient Faversham town.

Guided walks through the parish's history, including a tour around the grounds of Davington Priory (by kind permission of Bob Geldof KBE)

Key speakers – Dr Gillian Draper (University of Kent) and Dr Pat Reid (FSARG).

Tickets £15.00 (includes parking, lunch and refreshments). Proceeds to Davington Church.

For a booking form tel: 01795 536254 or

email: info@fsarg.org.uk or visit

www.community-archaeology.org.uk

EVENTS ELSEWHERE

CONFERENCE

Agriculture And Food In

Southern Roman Britain

Saturday 8 May

9.30am - 4.45pm in the Chertsey Hall,

Chertsey, Surrey

A day conference organised by the Roman Studies Group of Surrey Archaeological Society will explore the results of recent research into the characteristics of agriculture and diet in the southern part of the Province, and the rural landscape as it developed during the Roman occupation. Speakers will include: Professor Mike Fulford (Reading University)

Dr Petra Dark (Reading University)

Paul Booth (Oxford Archaeology)

David Rudling (Sussex University)

Dr Mike Allen, (Allen Environmental Archaeology and Bournemouth University)

Gill Campbell (English Heritage)

Mark Maltby (Bournemouth University).

Cost: £16. Further details and booking information can be found on the Society's website:

www.surreyarchaeology.org

CONFERENCE AND FIELD-SEMINAR

Revisiting New Towns Of The Middle Ages

in the Ancient Town of Winchelsea in

memory of Professor M.W. Beresford

Friday 21 - Sunday 23 May

Convened by Keith D Lilley

(Queen's University Belfast)

& Richard Comotto

(Winchelsea Archaeological Society)

Taking place in one of the most renowned examples of a medieval 'new town', the conference focuses on the continuing legacy of Professor Maurice Beresford's 'New Towns of the Middle Ages' and draws together both academic and general audiences of his book to reflect on the recent advances in research on the topic of medieval new towns and their planning.

Conference speakers will explore the societies, landscapes and material cultures of medieval 'new towns', placing them in an international comparative context, as well as their own local settings. To this end, Winchelsea itself provides an

important case-study, so the second day of the programme includes lectures on the town's medieval archaeology, history and planning, as well as a field visit around the impressive remains of 'New Winchelsea'.

Key speakers include:

Professor Chris Dyer (University of Leicester)

Professor Jean-Loup Abbé (University of Toulouse)

Canon Dr Terry Slater (University of Birmingham)

Dr Patrick Ottaway (Archaeological Consultant)

Registration fee is £25 (cheque payable to 'Winchelsea Archaeological Society'). Please send your details (name, address, telephone, email) by April 30 with your cheque to: Winchelsea Archaeological Society, c/o Firebrand House, Winchelsea, East Sussex, TN36 4EA, UK.

Further information at:

www.winchelsea.net/conference or

email: was@winchelsea.net

British Association for Local History:

Local History Day

Saturday 5 June

Imperial War Museum

The morning discussion session considers local history and the internet, with introductory presentations by Jacqueline Fillmore and Bamber Gascoigne. This is followed by the AGM of the Association, and after lunch the 2010 BALH Awards will be presented by the President, Professor David Hey. The Annual Lecture will be given by Dr Adam Longcroft from the University of East Anglia. His subject is 'New Insights into Vernacular Architecture: A View from the Flatlands of East Anglia'.

Details from www.balh.co.uk under Events, or from Gill Draper tel: 01732 452575



YOU & YOUR SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Thank you to all of you who have already paid your subscriptions. The rest will have received a reminder letter recently – please reply as soon as you can so that I do not have to spend the Society's money on sending out yet another reminder!

I have checked the bank statements and will be getting in touch with some of you who have paid twice. Some also pay the incorrect amount – the current subs. are as follows - £10 for students under 25, individual members £25, two members at the same address £30. Please check your standing orders to make sure that you are only paying once each year at the correct amount. I treat most overpayments as donations, as I have stated before.

We also have a rather archaic rule which says that if you are of state retirement age and have been a member for 10 years or more you have the option of paying the reduced rate of £15 for individuals and £23 for those of you at the same address. Of course, when you have been a member for 50 years you do not have to pay at all!

Please remember that I would like some more help manning the KAS stand at the Kent County Show – do get in touch if you are able to offer your time.

Shiela Broomfield

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Affiliated Societies

Smarden Local History Society
Sussex Archaeological Society

Student Members

Mr H O M Ashby, Leybourne, West Malling
Miss H Mitchell, Whitstable

Joint Members

Mr & Mrs S B Gillett, Walmer, Deal

Ordinary Members

Dr J M Baron, Eastry, Sandwich
Mr J Bennett, Amarillo, Texas USA
Mr T R Bent, Chalk, Gravesend
Mr G A Daws, Dover
Mr M J Flux, Leyburn, North Yorkshire
Miss D Gulliver, Birmingham
Mr K Haynes, Tonbridge
Mr R Howells, Gravesend
Mrs S Jerrold, Hailsham
Mrs J Mayfield, Tonbridge
Miss M A Pettitt, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells
Mr B M Powell, Sandhurst Cross, Cranbrook
Mrs J A Saggars, Paddock Wood
Mr M J Taylor, Ashford
Mr K Terry, Coolbay, Cloyne, Co.Cork

KAS COMMITTEE ROUND-UP

Historic Buildings Committee

Preparations are underway for the Autumn Historic Buildings Conference, which will be on Saturday 9 October in Harrietsham Village Hall. More details on this one-day conference will be available in the next issue of the KAS Newsletter.

The Committee has been formulating its plans for the coming year and beyond. A number of options are being investigated, including organising short courses on building recording and

targeting support for research teams involved in the Peopling Past Landscapes project. Work has started on compiling a list of sources of information on the expenses associated with the construction of old buildings. When completed, it is hoped that the list will serve as a useful resource for anyone wanting to calculate how much an old building would have cost to build.

Industrial archaeology is a subject that has received very little attention. Yet a great number of former industrial sites

are being redeveloped in Kent, resulting in the loss of many buildings that have either been inadequately recorded or not recorded at all. The Committee hopes to form a sub-committee to focus on this neglected area of archaeology, and would appreciate hearing from anyone with knowledge of, or interest in industrial archaeology who is willing to become involved. Please ring Chris Pout on 01227 860207.

Angela Davies



Membership And Publicity Committee

What does the Committee do?
Is it just a name? Please consider.

Paramount to the Committee is the Membership Secretary, Shiela Broomfield, who deals with all aspects of membership, too numerous to list.

Paul Tritton, a retired editorial consultant, acts as Publicity Officer and looks for ways to present the Society in the media. Activities for members have for many years been arranged by Joy Saynor, Excursions Secretary. Similarly, activities and courses for members are organised by Joy Sage, Lecture Secretary. The Society's website is tended by Ted Connell, who provides up-to-date reports, whilst Kate Kersey reports on the astonishing activities of the North Downs Young Archaeologists. Also included is Lyn Palmer, the Newsletter Editor.

We are not moribund! The Committee is looking for a person, or people, with new enthusiasms, new ambitions, something perhaps not previously thought of, which they would like to suggest for the benefit of the membership.

If this is your opportunity, please get in touch with me with the view to joining us at our next meeting, without commitment.

Margaret Lawrence (Chair, Membership and Publicity Committee)

01622 871945
p.lawrence.801@btinternet.com

KAS Library - Book Storage.

The KAS Library in Maidstone Museum is so full that the overflow of books has to be stored at other locations, ready for use if required. We have to vacate one of these stores, and we are urgently seeking a replacement for it.

What is needed is a store room to accommodate books presently occupying about 100ft of shelf space, plus 4 four-drawer filing cabinets full of books and KAS files. Anyone able to offer such storage or to indicate where it may be available, please contact Hon Librarian, Dr. Frank Panton, tel: 01795 472218 or email: grovend@uwclub.net.

KAS Equipment Available For Members

Members might like to know about the various items of technical equipment that the Society owns, which are available for their use.

The Fieldwork Committee is responsible for this equipment and they will set any rules and restrictions on its use. Most of the items are available now, subject to checking on batteries etc:

1. Leica TCR 405 total station (recently purchased). This is the instrument in the centre of the photograph. It can measure plan and height positions of points up to 3.5km distant, to 5mm accuracy using a prism reflector on a staff. Direct measurements without the reflector (for example to inaccessible points on a high wall or a church steeple) can be made up to 400m distant to 2mm accuracy. Measurements are made automatically at the press of a button. They are stored in the instrument and can be downloaded into a computer. I am still working up instructions for the Leica. A cash deposit will probably be required for its loan as it is quite an expensive instrument.

2. Pentax PX-06D EDM theodolite (purchased). This is the instrument on the right of the photograph. Measurements can be made to points up to 1.4 km distant, to 5 mm accuracy, using a prism reflector on a staff. The operator has to read angles and distances manually and later type them into a computer spreadsheet program (which is provided), for calculation of point positions.

3. Sokkisha TM 20D 20 second theodolite (donated). This is the instrument on the left of the photograph. It is smaller, lighter and less precise than the Leica and the Pentax but is intended to meet

the needs of anyone who needs a theodolite for simple tasks such as setting out grids, but prefers to avoid the weight and complexity of the bigger instruments.

4. Geoscan RM 4 soil resistivity meter (purchased) with equipment for setting out grids. This instrument does not log its own data. This has to be done by the operator(s), who must also subsequently type it into a computer. We supply a copy of the Snuffler program for interpretation of the results.

5. Magellan Meridian handheld gps (purchased). This gps is accurate to around 2 to 4 metres on open ground, but does not work well in woodland. The Magellan can record its data and can, if required, download it to a computer via a 9 pin serial port. As serial ports are no longer standard, we will supply a suitable laptop and software. Please be aware that intentional degradation of the satellite signals ended in May 2000.

6. Foster-Cambridge Introscope (donated). This is similar to a medical endoscope and is a 22mm-diameter telescope in a tube 2ft 8in long, extendable to 6ft 6in. It was made for inspecting gun barrels and ships' boilers and has a built-in lighting system. Members may find it useful for looking into inaccessible cavities in old buildings, or possibly underground.

All this equipment is at the moment in my custody at Southfleet, though the usual custodian of the Geoscan will be Brian McNaughton at Hamstreet. For contact addresses see Arch.Cant. CXXI for 2001. Complex equipment does call for some existing knowledge by its users. Instruction sheets or manuals will be supplied for the Leica, Pentax, Geoscan and Magellan, but we will do what we can to help users completely new to surveying or resistivity. Hopefully we will eventually keep the equipment at a more central location in Kent.

Roger Cockett





HER volunteers wanted

Volunteer work within the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER)

The Historic Environment Record for Kent is the prime county record for information on archaeological sites, historic buildings and landscapes, archaeological events and sources. It is maintained by Kent County Council in Maidstone and consists of over 42,000 records, stored in a computerized database and linked to a mapping system.

The information in the HER comes from a range of sources – archaeological projects carried out as part of the development control system, academic and other researchers, national projects and casual or chance discoveries. Similarly, it is used for a range of purposes – to inform planning decisions and archaeological projects, as a basis for archaeological research and for education, public access and outreach projects.

An enormous amount of new archaeological work is carried out each year – we receive over 350 archaeological reports annually, in addition to the results of a large number of research projects. All of this information needs to be added to the HER so that it is accessible for those who want to use it.

Kent County Council is looking for enthusiastic volunteers who would be willing to help add this information to the HER and thereby play a critical role in the conservation of Kent's heritage. We are also aware that some volunteers

will have extensive knowledge of their own and we hope that they will feel able to add this to our existing information.

What would I do?

Volunteers work within our HER team, helping to create new HER records from our resource of archaeological reports.

We provide full training (no prior experience is assumed) and support during your volunteer period. You work through the archaeological reports, compare them with existing records and, as appropriate, either add information to existing records or create completely new ones. Most of this work is based on the reports alone, but sometimes it is necessary to use aerial photographs, historic maps or other documentary sources to enhance the record.

What would I learn?

Lots! Volunteers wishing to make a career in archaeology will gain vital experience of working with a real HER in a busy county Heritage team. They will learn about the thinking process behind HERs, the software used and how information is gathered and managed. Volunteers who are just interested in making a contribution to Kent's heritage will learn about the very latest archaeological discoveries in the county, much more about their own area or theme of interest and how a busy county unit operates.

Who can volunteer?

Anyone with an interest in the heritage of Kent and an understanding of UK archaeology. You might be an undergraduate studying archaeology,

a member of a local history or archaeology society, a graduate or archaeologist looking for more experience or a member of the public with good knowledge of the past who wants to become involved in Kent's heritage in a meaningful way.

How can I find out more?

To learn more please contact me and I will be happy to chat to you or to welcome you if you'd like to make a visit first.

Ben Croxford
Historic Environment Record Officer

Tel: 01622 223528
ben.croxford@kent.gov.uk

Phillipotts 'Villare Cantianum' 1659

In 1927 the Hon. Henry Hannen noted in *Archaeologia Cantiana* for that year, the existence of what he referred to as a 'second impression' of the 1659 Villare Cantianum, also mentioning Dr Cocks copy with the cancel t.p. for 1664. It has since come to light that these references were only a hint at what remained to be uncovered. Bibliographical notes within www.oldkentmaps.co.uk, under Other Cartography Projects, are an attempt to create a detailed picture of the presently known variant forms of this book.



NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

Ephemera in the Papers of Arthur Hussey

Imagine a shop where you can buy a dresser, new curtains, a carpet and a coffin for your late relative. No, this is not a new Hypermarket on the edge of town. A shop like this, called E & G Hobday, existed in 1890 at 60-61 Palace Street in Canterbury. Their range was impressively wide, they advertised themselves as Upholsterers, Decorators, Undertakers, Auctioneers and Valuers, offering removal services, painting and decorating, furniture repairs and sale of household furniture and furnishings. They proudly displayed their state-of-the-art removal van, the Pantechinicon, on their advert.

In April 1900, Arthur Hussey obtained quotes from E & G Hobday and the company Kennett & Chamberlain for his move from Wingham to Whitstable. He kept these quotes, crossed them out and wrote research notes on the back of them, which is why these quotes are among the content of the KAS Archive. They provide a glance of local businesses and the people behind them. For a start, E & G Hobday were not unique in offering a wide selection of services. Their competitors Kennett & Chamberlain of Westgate, Canterbury also described themselves as Cabinet, Upholstery & Furnishing Warehousemen, Auctioneers, Valuers & House Agents and advertised that they did funerals too. Looking through the local directories of the time this combination was commonplace and reminds us that jobs were not always as specialised as they are now.

E. H. Hobday quoted a £7 fee for moving Arthur Hussey's belongings to Whitstable in the Pantechinicon van.

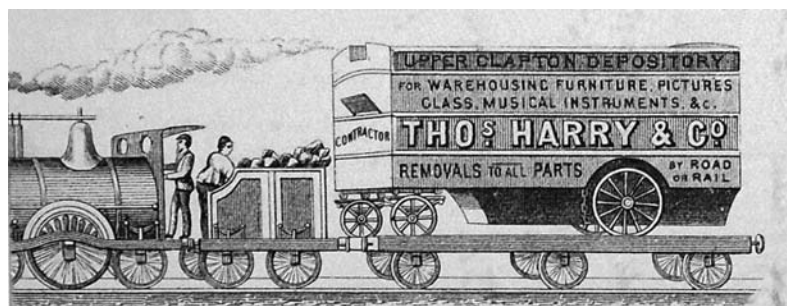
A Pantechinicon was a specialised horse-drawn removal van which developed after 1836. It was long and broad with a low floor and hinged doors at the back. At the time they were thought to be very large and they made furniture removal a lot easier. It wasn't long before they were put on railway trucks to facilitate moves between towns. Adverts in local directories frequently display them, just as the advertising of modern removal companies display pictures of their trucks, and probably for the same reasons. For a time, until the arrival of trucks, the Pantechinicon showed that you had modern equipment and inspired confidence.

The Hobday family was well established in Canterbury. In 1878 John Hobday was established in Palace Street, offering a full range of cabinet making and upholstery services. By 1881 he was a widower, but a son, George, was living at home and described as a Managing Upholsterer. John Hobday was doing well at this time, employing 6 men and a boy. At the same time Edwin H. Hobday and his family were living in Best Lane. Edwin H. Hobday was an upholsterer and probably an elder son of John and the late Sarah Hobday. The company name, E & G Hobday, may be the initials of Edwin and George Hobday. Edwin and his wife Mary Ann had seven children, some of whom followed them into the business. One son, Arthur E. Hobday, became a cabinet maker, and is

listed as a dealer in antiques and art in the 1901 census. A daughter, Laura Hobday, became an upholstress. The Hobday business in Palace St. can be traced from 1878 to 1918 in Kelly's Directory of Kent, but disappears by 1922. The family may have ceased to have involvement by 1918 when a Frank Amos is listed after the company name in the Canterbury and District Local directory. From 1928 onwards there is still a thriving House Furnishing business at the address, but by then it is called Wm. Lefevre Ltd. These days the building is home to an Italian Restaurant.

It is not known whether Arthur Hussey employed the Hobday firm for his move to Whitstable. Rivals Kennett & Chamberlain came in a fraction cheaper at £6.12s.6d and one assumes a third quote existed at some time; maybe the lost quote was the winning one. However, this piece of ephemera opens up a door to the history of a family business in Canterbury and removal services.

Pernille Richards



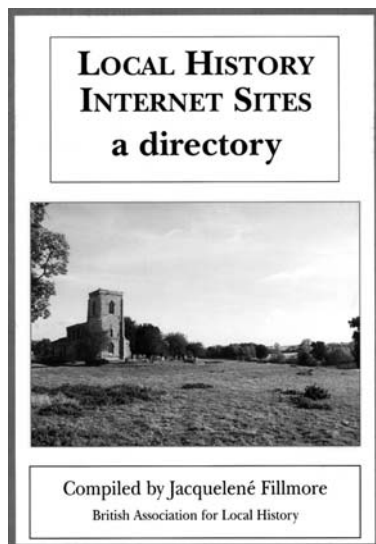
Pantechinicon on a railway truck in the late 19th century



NEW BOOKS

Directory of Local History Internet Sites

Compiled by Jacquelené Fillmore



From '1881 Pubs' to 'Your Maps Online' via 'Anglo-Saxon Prosopography', 'Churchplans online' and 'Hidden Lives Revealed'.

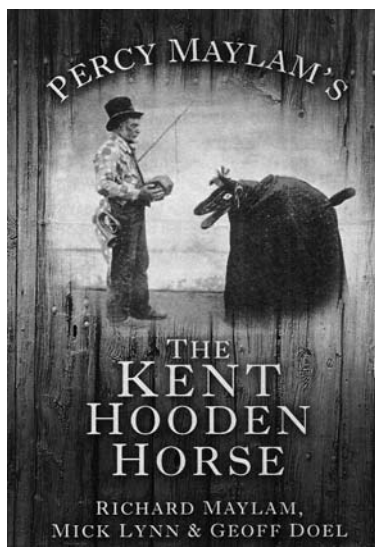
A new Directory of Local History Internet Sites has been published by the British Association for Local History. This is an up-to-date guide to 353 websites, some national and some local. It points you to sources for local history such as documents, maps, photos, artefacts and archives, museums and memorial inscriptions. You can move from 1881 Pubs to Your Maps Online via Anglo-Saxon Prosopography, Churchplans Online and Hidden Lives Revealed, where you can encounter the young people in the care of The Children's Society in Victorian Britain. The guide covers the major websites for historical material such as A2A as well as

less well-known ones like the Seeley History Library, Cambridge, which includes a monthly online list of all articles in the journals it receives. Some of the websites enable you to trace individuals, some to find recent background information, and others point you to research material. The Directory is indexed by subjects, people and places.

The 2010 Directory is a bargain at £2 plus £1 p&cp. You can obtain a copy from Gill Draper at development.balh@btinternet.com or 01732 452575.

Percy Maylam's The Kent Hooden Horse

Richard Maylam,
Mick Lynn & Geoff Doel



The History Press, Stroud.
ISBN 978 0 7524 4997 5.
128pp including index,
27 illustrations.

The authoritative book on the great Kentish custom of the Hooden Horse was written in 1909 by Percy Maylam, as a limited edition of 303 copies. He caught the custom in its last traditional phase. Copies went to academics and universities around the world and they are now generally hard to come by for folklore researchers. The origins of Hoodening are complex, and include pagan fertility rites such as the Green Man, Morris dancing and recognition of the value of the horse to farming communities. Percy Maylam's great-nephew, Richard Maylam, together with Dr Lynn and Dr Doel of the Tonbridge Hoodening Team, have republished the book. They have unearthed additional unpublished photographs and written a biographical essay on Percy Maylam.

Also included, as a new section in the book, is Percy Maylam's essay on Gavelkind, abolished just before the First World War.

KAS members can buy the book at the reduced price of £11.00 (normal price £14.99), which includes p&cp. Please make cheque payable to Richard Maylam and send, with return address, to Peacock Farm, Emmett Hill Lane, Yalding ME18 6BG. For further enquiries ring Richard Maylam on 01892 730282.



The Lost Powder Mills of Leigh – Part 2

Chris Rowley

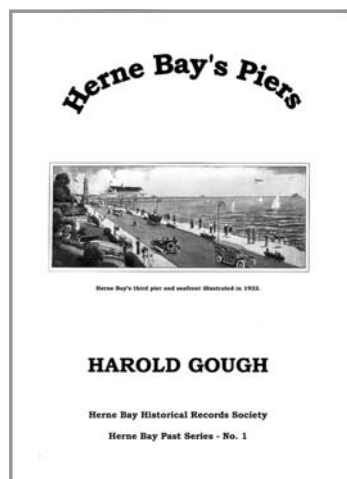
The author has donated to the KAS library a copy of Part 2 of his book 'The Lost Powder Mills of Leigh'. It is described as a Gazetteer and is (to use his words) the equivalent of a technical appendix. It has 146 A4 pages, most describing the buildings, with numerous colour photos and some plans, including a pull-out plan of the site.

It was paid for by a HLF grant which only allowed him to print a limited number of copies for specialist libraries, so it is not for sale. Any KAS members interested in the subject may wish to know they can consult a copy in our library.

The original work (Part 1) is still available (in its 3rd edition) for £20 + £2.50 p&tp from Mr C Rowley, Oak Cottage, The Green, Leigh, Tonbridge, TN11 8QL. It is a general history of the works with 240 pages, 15 maps and 100 illustrations. We do not have a copy in the KAS library - at least not yet!

Herne Bay's Piers

Harold Gough



Herne Bay Historical Records Society,
Past Series No.1

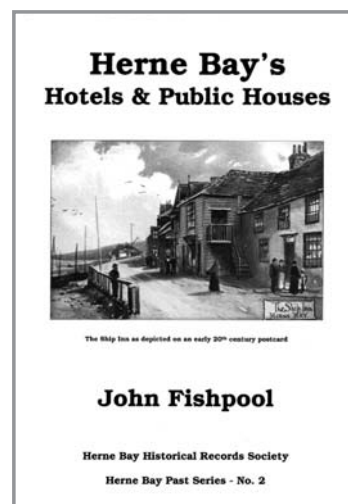
A4 , 42 pages, 44 images.

Three piers have graced Herne Bay's seafront since 1831, when the first pier served as the catalyst for the development of this coastal resort. Covered within the comprehensive text are details of Thomas Telford's involvement with the original designs, pier ownership, passenger traffic and the steam ships, pier entertainers and descriptions of the fires of 1928 and 1970.

Books £5.95 each, plus p&tp £1.50, from Pierhead Publications Limited, PO Box 145, Herne Bay CT6 8GY. Email: sales@pierheadpublications.co.uk. Also available from Herne Bay Museum and to order from bookshops.

Herne Bay's Hotels & Public Houses

John Fishpool



Herne Bay Historical Records Society,
Past Series No.2

A4, 56 pages, 46 images.

Although the Ship Inn dates from the 18th century, the demand for hotels started with the completion of the first pier in 1831 and the influx of visitors looking for accommodation and refreshment. Together with an overview of the licensed trade, this book includes an alphabetic index of all the known hotels and pubs – many of which have now disappeared – along with their history and numerous period images. Herne Bay's brewery is also covered in some detail.



Letters

Dear editor

Following the item in Newsletter no.83, I would like to congratulate Tonbridge Historical Society on their 50th anniversary. I would also like to respond to Shiela Broomfield's question as to 'how many other local societies were founded 50 years ago, or even before 1960' by pointing out that the Dartford Historical and Antiquarian Society will be celebrating its centenary this year.

The Society first met on Monday 3 October 1910 at Buck's Rooms in the High Street, Dartford. Originally called the Dartford District Antiquarian Society (DDAS), membership had reached over one hundred by the following year with the Archbishop of Canterbury as Patron and Sidney Keynes (local councillor, flour mill owner and grandfather of the poet who shared his name) as President.

The DDAS became affiliated to the Kent Archaeological Society in 1926. Five years later, in 1931, the first issue of its 'Transactions' appeared, covering local history, building recording and

archaeological reports. At this time our Vice Presidents included Sir Thomas Colyer-Fergusson and Arthur Mee.

In 1964 the DDAS changed its name to the Dartford Historical and Antiquarian Society and in the same year published the first of its newsletters which have appeared annually ever since. These cover various aspects of local history such as studies of companies, families, individuals and events.

This year we are hoping to celebrate our centenary by publishing a book of photographs illustrating Dartford throughout the 100 years of our existence. In October there will be a Centenary Dinner with an after dinner talk on the history of the Society. Dartford Borough Museum will also be staging a temporary exhibition from October 2010 until March 2011 on the story of the Society and its accomplishments.

Dr Mike Still
Chairman, Dartford Historical
& Antiquarian Society

Dear editor

The Lower Medway Archaeological Research Group 50th Anniversary, an appeal.

In answer to Shiela Broomfield, who asked in the last issue how many other local societies in Kent were founded 50 years ago, the Lower Medway Archaeological Research Group began life in April 1961 and so will reach its own major milestone next year. The first report on its activities, which included mention of the Group's discovery of the Eccles Roman Villa, appeared in the Local Secretaries' Reports in Arch. Cant. for 1961.

If anyone has any memories they would like to share of the Group's first 15 years, would they please contact me as I hope

to help the Group mark the occasion with an article in the Newsletter. The 1960s were interesting times, when so much field archaeology (not all of it excavation) was going on throughout the County, largely undertaken by amateurs. Regular, if somewhat chaotic conferences, led by the late Frank Jenkins FSA, were held in Canterbury to share the results. An early "networking" event?

Michael Ocock
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Anglo-Saxon CSI: Sittingbourne

Community Science Investigation project on the finds from the Meads

Anglo-Saxon CSI: Sittingbourne is an investigative conservation lab working on finds from an Anglo-Saxon cemetery found at the Meads, Sittingbourne. It is a unique community-led, public heritage conservation project. It allows public access to the conservation techniques involved in treating objects from an archaeological dig. The project has been a local initiative involving locally-based conservator, Dana Goodburn-Brown, Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Sittingbourne Heritage Museum, backed by Kent County Council.

Following excavation by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust at the Meads between May and December 2008 (see KAS Newsletter no.79, Winter 2008/09), the cleaning and conservation of the large quantity of finds from the site presented a major challenge. Many of these were of metal, predominantly iron but also including finds of copper alloy, silver and gold. Many objects were heavily corroded or had been lifted in blocks of soil. Organic products such as wood and textiles were likely to have been preserved by mineralisation where they were in contact with the metal finds and the analytical potential of the objects, if properly cleaned and conserved, was very high. However, quotes to get the finds dealt with in a conservation lab were in the area of £200,000. Given that the site had been an unexpected discovery, the financial pressure on the project was (and remains) great. Dana Goodburn-Brown then suggested an

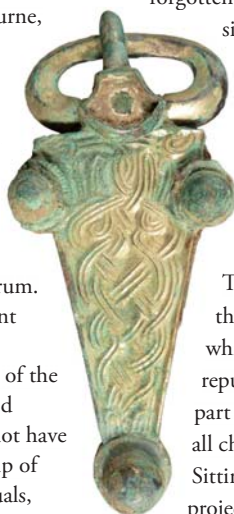


innovative response to the problem; set up a conservation facility in the heart of the town and train and supervise local volunteers to carry out the conservation of the artefacts. CSI: Sittingbourne was born.

After much preparation and a long search for suitable premises, the project finally opened in September 2009 in a vacant unit within the Forum shopping centre in Sittingbourne, with an associated exhibition in an opposite unit providing background on the site and excavation. Since opening more than 7700 people have visited. The shop units were generously provided at no cost by Tesco's, the owners of the Forum. Funding was provided by Kent County Council Heritage Conservation along with one of the developers, Marstons Inns and Taverns. The project would not have been possible without the help of other businesses and individuals, both local and national, and without donations of equipment from museums and collections. In particular, it has been reliant on the hard work and dedication of over 50 local volunteers, both to carry out the conservation work and to keep the exhibition open. Overall, the project has been a superb example of what can

be achieved when a community works together for a common cause, in this case the preservation of a spectacular range of artefacts so that future generations can study and enjoy them.

CSI: Sittingbourne aims to not only conserve the artefacts, but to also involve the local community and raise interest in Sittingbourne's important and often forgotten history. The discovery of this



site and the subsequent CSI: project is an exciting and valuable commodity for Sittingbourne and Swale as a whole and will hopefully attract more visitors to the area.

The project also aims to promote the conservation profession, which has not hitherto enjoyed a reputation as the most accessible part of the heritage sector! This has all changed with CSI: Sittingbourne. The fact that the project is so public ensures that people know what conservators do and how important the profession is to our understanding of the past. Hopefully this project will be the first of many that bring the hidden science of archaeological conservation firmly into the public consciousness.

For more information on the project see the project's dedicated website <http://anglosaxoncsi.wordpress.com> or the Canterbury Archaeological Trust website <http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk/meads01.htm>. The lab and associated archaeological exhibition are located in The Forum shopping precinct in Sittingbourne. Admission is free and the facility is open from 10am to 5pm Monday to Saturday at least until early May, but hopefully until September 2010. Do make the most of this project whilst you can and if you can help out and show support in any way at all, it would be greatly appreciated.

Dana Goodburn-Brown & Andrew Richardson



Found in a male grave with weapons, this mystery object has not yet been identified

Inset: Gilded copper buckle after conservation



Disc brooch after conservation



CSI volunteers



Canterbury Young Archaeologists

Canterbury Young Archaeologists' Club

In 2009 Canterbury Young Archaeologists' Club (CYAC) was able to run a varied programme of meetings, despite leaders work commitments and an aging YAC membership! We started the New Year by reconstructing mini Iron Age roundhouses. This activity was inspired by the YAC Leader's weekend at Buster Ancient Farm the previous summer. The Jubilee Hall on Wincheap, where CYAC usually meets, was taken over with straw, birch and MDF, with some very inventive houses constructed as a result.

At Easter CYAC were visited by expert flintknapper Karl Lee, who guided the group through the process of turning flint into various tools. CYAC has some natural knappers, and only one plaster was needed...for a leader!

The summer saw the CYAC's out and about. We visited Canterbury Castle in May, where we learnt all about archaeological building recording. The YAC's used a surveyor's level, and worked in teams with 30m tapes to measure the Castle's plan and elevations. In June the group visited Draper's Mill in Margate to find out how grains are turned into flour at the restored windmill.

By the autumn, we were back indoors, and back to ancient times. We looked in-depth at the processes of mummification. Using a willing YAC to practice on, the leaders extracted the organs for the canopic jars: liver (lamb's) for Imesty the Human; lungs (wet sponges) for Hapi the baboon; stomach (haggis) for Duamutef the Jackal; and the intestines (chipolatas) for

Qebehsenuef the Falcon. The YACs then had a go at mummifying an orange with bi-carb and salt, and bandaging them up. These had to be placed in an airing cupboard, and left to mummify. Must remind them to dig them out...

For Christmas the YACs met at The Roman Museum in Canterbury to learn all about mosaic making, and had a go at creating their own designs.

Canterbury YAC would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the generous financial support from the Kent Archaeological Society for our activities.

Abby Guinness

Branch Leader, Canterbury Young Archaeologists' Club



CYAC at Drapers Mill



CYAC at Canterbury Castle

Copy deadline for the next issue is Tuesday 1st June. The editor 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.

EDITOR: LYN PALMER

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