

THE OLDEST AND LARGEST SOCIETY DEVOTED TO THE HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ANCIENT COUNTY OF KENT

ISSUE 103 - SPRING 2016

[www.kentarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk)

# KAS

KENT  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

## DIG ONLINE FOR THE KAS COLLECTION

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EDITION  
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# Welcome to the March 2016 Newsletter

2015 was a sad year for the Society in that we lost Ian Coulson, the President, and Peter Stutchbury, former Hon.Gen.Secretary. A great many members attended Ian's funeral and Peter's memorial service. Obituaries for them both will be included in the forthcoming volume of *Archaeologia Cantiana*.

A new President will be elected at the AGM on 21 May. Members will receive notice and the papers in the post in due course and we hope to see you there. Bob Cockcroft, the current Hon.Gen. Secretary, will not be standing for re-election, so the AGM will also be electing his replacement. Bob took over from Peter and has worked tirelessly in what is a very complex and demanding job for the past year.

This will be the last newsletter to be edited by Lyn Palmer. Lyn has done sterling service as newsletter editor for many years and her skill and expertise will be missed. She has masterminded the changes in style and content that have made the newsletter a readable, scholarly and valued publication.

The Society now has a new librarian, Ruiha Smalley, who has taken over from Pernille Richards. Ruiha has had many years of experience working as a volunteer in national and local museums. She has a background in information management and worked with the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Kent. During her time in office Pernille made many changes to the Library and rationalised the material stored in other locations. In any mention of the Library it would be very remiss of me not to mention the group of library volunteers who carry out a wide variety of tasks in there. They deserve our thanks for the dedicated work they do.

This issue of the Newsletter carries a full listing of KAS events for 2016, together with those of other organisations in Kent and the South East. We hope you find much to enjoy.

*Mike Clinch*

## Editor's farewell

We now have a new Editor, Richard Taylor, who will be producing the next Newsletter you read, due out in November. I've enjoyed working with the Society's Officers and numerous contributors to produce an accessible and attractive magazine over the last 16 years; 'thank you' to everyone who has helped to make this happen. I hope Richard will enjoy the role as much as I have. Articles for inclusion in the November issue need to be with Richard by the Friday 30 September and sent to [newsletter@kentarchaeology.org](mailto:newsletter@kentarchaeology.org).

*Lyn Palmer*

KENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
KAS Library  
Maidstone Museum & Bents Art Gallery  
St Faith's Street  
Maidstone ME14 1LH

The oldest and largest society devoted to the history and  
archaeology of the ancient county of Kent

# The Ian Coulson Postgraduate Scholarship and Medieval Canterbury Weekend

As you will see from Mike Clinch's 'Welcome' on page 2, Ian Coulson very sadly died in December. In addition to working tirelessly for the Society, Ian made a major contribution to the Folkestone 'The Town Unearthed' project. As a community-based project it offered local people a wide variety of opportunities to become involved in discovering the history and archaeology of their town, and it was this concept of working together to understand the past that had been particularly important to Ian. Among the organisations involved in the project was Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Canterbury Christ Church University, and it is the latter that is significant in the context of the Medieval Weekend.

From the beginning, the organising committee of the Medieval Weekend had not seen it as a commercial venture. Yes, it needed to pay for itself, but the concept had been that it should find ways to aid heritage and education. Consequently, it was agreed that the Weekend would come under the Centre for Research in Kent History and Archaeology at Canterbury Christ Church University and that, after expenses, kept as low as was feasibly possible and with sponsorship sought internally and externally, the resulting 'profits' should be divided in half. One half was to go to the iconic medieval buildings featuring in the guided tours and the other half towards the establishing of a postgraduate scholarship for budding historians and archaeologists who wished to research aspects of Kent's past for a higher degree.

Ian's untimely death and his close association with History and Archaeology at Christ Church means that it is wholly appropriate that this new scholarship will be the Ian Coulson Postgraduate Scholarship, and hopefully news of the first recipient may even be available in time for the next KAS newsletter. This is an important legacy because the prohibitively high cost of undertaking such higher degrees means that many very able students are unable to pursue this path. Moreover, by specifying that candidates must be researching Kent's past this scholarship will complement the Society's Hasted and Thirsk Prizes. So in supporting the Medieval Canterbury Weekend, KAS members will also be helping future historians and archaeologists of Kent.

*Sheila Sweetinburgh*

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**BELOW** LYM Gr 24a - POTTERY

© John Piddock @ Maidstone Museum



**ABOVE** SAR Gr  
68b - LARGE  
BUCKLE



# KAS ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTION IS GOING ONLINE

**RIGHT** SAR Gr 04d  
- GLASS VESSEL  
© John Piddock @  
Maidstone Museum



**RIGHT** LYM Gr 44d  
- SQUARE HEADED  
BROOCHES



**RIGHT** LYM Gr  
62c - BUCKLE  
© John Piddock @  
Maidstone Museum



**LEFT** LYM Gr 61a  
- BUTTON BROOCH  
© John Piddock @  
Maidstone Museum



**ABOVE** SAR 04cc - 2  
FIBULAE WITH GARNETS



## The Kent Archaeological Society's archaeological collection is made up principally of finds from the Anglo-Saxon cemeteries at Bifrons, Lyminge and Sarre.

They are housed in Maidstone Museum, where inevitably only a small proportion can be displayed at any one time.

An earlier article in the Winter 2012 Newsletter reported on the conservation work of some of the metal finds from Bifrons and Sarre. Now pictures of individual objects are being added to the Society's website so that members can view them on screen. They should provide a valuable teaching aid for schools throughout the county.

Dr Andrew Richardson, our Hon. Curator, appealed for members help in inspecting and repackaging individual material from the collection. KAS members Ian and Kate Beeby and Mike Howard responded and have spent a morning each week working on the collection. Staff at the Museum have been very supportive in sourcing existing photographs and allowing access for taking new pictures. Our member John Piddock, from Lyminge, has taken some absolutely stunning photographs, particularly of Anglo-Saxon beads. Pictures of the results of discoveries made during the conservation carried out by Dana Goodburn-Brown, ably assisted by volunteers, are also being added to the website.

For many years university students have been visiting Maidstone Museum to study different parts of the collection and efforts are being made to obtain copies of the results of their studies, for inclusion on the website.

Visit our website at: [www.kentarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk) and on the homepage click on 'KAS Archaeological Collection' to view the pictures.

Ted Connell, Webmaster  
Images show objects from Bifrons (BIF), Lyminge (LYM) and Sarre (SAR).



LEFT RLYM Gr 44f  
- CRYSTAL BALL

RIGHT BIF 29g -  
PENDANTS



ABOVE LYM Gr 65d - GLASS INLAY



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

I am very pleased to welcome the following people who have joined the KAS since the previous newsletter. Many apologies if I have omitted anybody!

### Affiliated Society

Discover Roman Otford Project  
West Kent Archaeological Society

### Individual Members

Ms Diane Dillon, California, USA  
Mr Chris Easeman, Tonbridge  
Miss Ruth Jarvis, Gillingham  
Mr Malcolm & Mrs Sally Jennings, Gravesend,  
Mrs Pippa Lee, Sheerness  
Ms V Millo, Herne Bay  
Mr James Pender & Mr Kevin Pender, Sheerness  
Mrs Yvette & Mr Richard Roberts, Folkestone  
Dr Mark Samuel, Ramsgate  
Dr Charles Shee, Otford  
Mr Richard Taylor, Gravesend  
Mr Harry Triggs, Willesborough, Ashford  
Mr John & Mrs Gillian Tully, Maidstone  
Mr Jack Wales, Canterbury  
Mrs Cressida Williams, Canterbury  
Mr Frank Withers, Rochester  
Mr Keith Gulvin, Rochester  
Ms V Millo, Herne Bay  
Miss Christine Waterman, St Margarets

First of all, my usual thanks to those who have renewed their annual subscription in plenty of time so that I don't have to send out too many reminder letters. I do enjoy the various notes that you add to the renewal form! I am sure you agree that the subscription is very good value and compares favourably with subscriptions to similar societies. Our Newsletter is also so much more than many others in terms of content and news.

Remember to send me any amendments to your details and also any changes of circumstance so that I can keep the membership database up to date.

Membership matters are an important part of the Communications Committee. We also discuss other matters such as the website, newsletter, press releases etc. Keep a look out for the splendid press releases issued by Paul Tritton. These are a very important way of keeping the KAS in the public eye. Items for discussion in Committee are always welcome – just get in touch with me as I chair this Committee.

Shiela Broomfield; Membership Secretary  
membership@kentarchaeology.co.uk

**Editor's Note:** the Allen Grove award ascribed to Plaxtol Local History Group (page 25 of the Winter 2015 Newsletter) was in fact to Jayne Semple for her work.

## ONLINE RESEARCH AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

The Library has access to three journals online through a subscription to Maney Online.

The titles include the Journal of the British Archaeological Association, Medieval Archaeology and Post-Medieval Archaeology.

Any member who wishes to search these databases for personal research is most welcome to ask the Librarian to run a search for them.

Please email the Librarian at [librarian@kentarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:librarian@kentarchaeology.org.uk) with details of what you are looking for and hopefully we can find an article that interests you.

These journals are available both online and in hard-copy in the library.

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTARY SECTOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Kent has a great variety of voluntary groups, working their hardest to investigate the archaeology and history of our ancient and unique county. Although there are times when a nice fat Heritage Lottery Grant or a rich patron is the answer to inevitable financial constraints, often it is a relatively small sum that can make all the difference.

The KAS Fieldwork Committee has money set aside for such a situation. Funds can be applied for in advance, with a good case clearly explained. There is also, however, a new facility offered by the Fieldwork Committee: this is access to Emergency Funds, up to £500 a time, for those unexpected circumstances where a sudden need arises for funding, e.g. for quick conservation of an important find or the unexpected calling in of a specialist to look at a discovery.

Details can be found on the KAS website, where you can download a special form and once it is completed, forward it to the given contact.

*Remember, this is your Society: use it!*

If you put 'Kent Historic Defences Committee' into a search engine or <https://kenthistoricdefences.wordpress.com> you will see the blog site for this committee.

This is intended as a 'shop window' for its activity and for sharing news about Kent's historic defences. Its founder, Amy Adams, has recently stepped down from being manager of the site and we now hope to find a volunteer to continue to run it.

This will involve placing, from time to time, contributed new items on to the site, but there is also scope for someone interested to develop it.

It's an important part of the engagement of the Committee with members of the Society and with the wider public and is a satisfying and worthwhile thing to run. There is related guidance available from the KAS.

We thank Amy for setting up the site and wish her well in her new career.

If you are interested in taking this on, would you please telephone the Committee chair Victor Smith on 01474 323415 or email him on [victor.defcon1@gmail.com](mailto:victor.defcon1@gmail.com)

## HISTORIC DEFENCES COMMITTEE BLOG SITE: AN APPEAL FOR SOMEONE TO RUN IT



## THE HOO PENINSULA LANDSCAPE

'The Hoo Peninsula Landscape' by Sarah Newsome, Edward Carpenter and Peter Kendall (ISBN 978-1-84802-225-6). Part of Historic England's Informed Conservation series.

The heritage of the Hoo Peninsula has until now been little known beyond the local area, despite being only 30 miles from the capital. From a rare 17th century pond built to trap ducks, to a decoy oil depot built to deceive German bombers during the Second World War, Historic England (HE) experts have been uncovering and protecting the extraordinary historic sites of the Hoo Peninsula. They have researched and mapped the landscape, archaeology and development of this area of north Kent, acknowledging that events and activities have taken place here over the centuries as part of much bigger stories, with national, and sometimes international, significance. Sarah Newsome, Senior Investigator at HE said: "Through this project, we have revealed that the Hoo has a complex history that goes beyond the familiar Dickensian idea of a low-lying land of misty marshes."

HE is delighted to offer KAS members 33% discount and free p&p (normally £14.99). Please ring 01235 465577 or email [direct.orders@marston.co.uk](mailto:direct.orders@marston.co.uk) and quote ref. number 7220160002 to take advantage of this offer and get your copy for £10.00. Offer expires 30 June 2016.



**ABOVE** Decoy pond on the marshes at High Halstow



**ABOVE** Circular channels, fuelled and set alight to replicate burning oil tanks, decoys to draw enemy bombs away

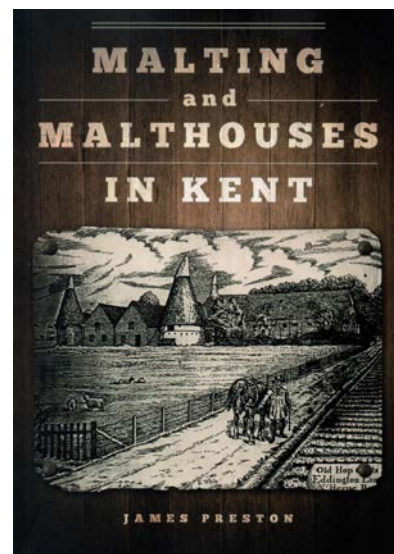
## KENTISH ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE PREROGATIVE COURT OF CANTERBURY, 1559-1660

David Wright - [davideastkent@gmail.com](mailto:davideastkent@gmail.com)

Most researchers will know that over one million PCC wills are online and easily available to read and download. However, the administrations are not digitised and only partly indexed.

David Wright has now made a consolidated index of the first hundred years of Kent entries by parish and surname, freely available at his website - [drdavidwright.co.uk](http://drdavidwright.co.uk). Most entries give name, parish (and sometimes rank or occupation), plus details of the administrators, usually close family, but often friends, creditors or other people. They are a valuable ancillary source to the wills themselves and all too often overlooked or ignored, perhaps because of being in Latin, but as the format changed very little over the centuries, practice with the post-1733 English ones will soon give greater confidence to tackle what can often be extremely interesting and valuable information such as the death or remarriage of widows, children and executors, the guardianship of minors, and so on.

A full article on the index will appear in the June 2016 Kent Family History Society Journal.



## MALTING AND MALTHOUSES IN KENT

James Preston

This publication from Amberley Books fills the gap in Kent's industrial history between already published works on hopping and brewing. At the beginning of the 19th century brewing was England's third largest industry, with a commensurate demand for its main ingredient, malt. Kent, particularly North Kent and Thanet, were well placed for growing and malting barley to supply local and London brewers, supplying half of all malt consumed in London in the 17th and early 18th century.

This book charts the history of malting in Kent. It explains the malting process which was to remain unchanged until after the abolition of the Malt Tax in 1880, and describes how function determined the design of malthouse buildings. How the organisation of the industry shifted from small independent maltsters to control by brewers who employed large-scale malthouses is examined. The reasons why malting in Kent suffered a slow decline until it finally disappeared in 1981 is investigated, its fate being inextricably linked to national trends in brewing. The industries' heritage, in the form of malthouses which survived demolition and now generally listed buildings with a new life as flats or desirable residences, is fully described.

The book is well illustrated with 102 archival and contemporary photographs telling the story of an important, but neglected, local industry.

Normal price £14.99, but offered to KAS members for a limited time post free at £13.50 from the author at 162 Borstal Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3BB.

Cheques should be made payable to J Preston – please include your postal address.



# EVENTS

## MARCH

**40 years: Canterbury Archaeological Trust Exhibition**  
**Friday 25 March to Sunday 24 April**  
**The Front Room, the Beaney House of Art and Knowledge, Canterbury**

Canterbury Archaeological Trust was founded in 1976 and has since carried out thousands of projects. This exhibition celebrates the achievements and discoveries of the last 40 years, covering key sites, finds and buildings, as well as innovative educational and community work. Learn about one of the UK's most highly-regarded archaeological units and how its work enriches the story of Canterbury.

**The Little Dig: Come and learn the skills of an archaeologist using real artefacts!**  
**Family Event**  
**Saturday 25 March, 10am to 3pm**  
**The Learning Lab, The Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, 18 High Street, Canterbury**

A chance for 5 to 11 years olds to be an archaeologist. Come and have a go with Canterbury Archaeological Trust's popular 'Little Dig' under the supervision of the Trust's Education Officer, Marion Green. Children get the chance to safely excavate real archaeological artefacts from clean sand within a safe indoor setting. Hands-on educational fun for all!

A session lasts about 45 minutes. Free admission. Limited numbers so advance booking required at [www.thebeaney.co.uk](http://www.thebeaney.co.uk)

**Marvellous Mosaic Making!**  
**Crofton Roman Villa, Orpington**  
**(adjacent railway station)**  
**Wednesday 30 March**

Discover all there is to know about Roman mosaics and make your own mosaic to take home!

Sessions at 10.30 & 14.00. For up to 11 year olds. No booking needed. Children to be accompanied. Entry £4.00 per child, adult carer free.

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Email: [crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com](mailto:crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk)

## APRIL

**Medieval History Weekend at Canterbury: 'Exploring The Middle Ages'**  
**Canterbury Christchurch University**  
**Friday 1 – Sunday 3 April**

Friday evening and all day Saturday at Old Sessions House, Canterbury Christ Church University; Sunday morning till late afternoon at Canterbury Cathedral Lodge. Sponsored by the KAS, the Friends of Canterbury Archaeological Trust and The William and Edith Oldham Charitable Trust. Organized by the Centre for Research in Kent History and Archaeology (based at Canterbury Christ Church University) and Canterbury Cathedral Archives and Library. Twenty eminent scholars and historians will host a series of lectures on the most eventful era in Britain history, and lead guided walks to explore places associated with the city's colourful medieval past. KAS and FCAT members are offered tickets at the special price of £8 per event. For full details go to <http://www.canterbury.ac.uk/medieval-canterbury> or call 01227 782994 (office hours) or visit the Canterbury Christ Church University, Arts & Culture Box Office, on the ground floor of Augustine House (next to Canterbury Police Station).



**Marvellous Mosaic Making!**  
**Crofton Roman Villa, Orpington**  
**Friday 1 & 8 April and Wednesday 6 April**

See details in March listing

**The Archaeology of Westgate Gardens**  
**Public Talk by Dr Jake Weekes**  
**Saturday 9 April, 14.00 – 16.00**  
**The Learning Lab, The Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, Canterbury**

Hear Dr Jake Weekes, Research Officer with Canterbury Archaeological Trust, reveal the archaeological story of Westgate Gardens, where there is more than meets the eye! Learn about the recent community excavations he has led exploring the line of Roman Watling Street and see some of the many finds unearthed. Booking via the Beaney [www.thebeaney.co.uk](http://www.thebeaney.co.uk)

## CAT @ 40

**Public Talk by Dr Paul Bennett**  
**Thursday 14 April, 18.00 – 19.00**  
**The Learning Lab, The Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, Canterbury**

Dr Paul Bennett, Director of Canterbury Archaeological Trust, will talk about the highlights of the last 40 years of archaeology in Canterbury, Kent and further afield. Dr Bennett will also reveal the latest work of the Trust and look forward - to the future of Canterbury's Past. Not to be missed! Booking via the Beaney.

**KAS Churches Committee Visits**  
**Deal, St George and St Andrew**  
**Saturday 16 April**

Meet at 13.45 for 14.00 at St George church, St George's Road, Deal. CT14 6BA  
Map Reference TR376 28. Then at 3pm St Andrew church, West St, Deal CT16 6DZ. Map Reference TR375 530

Cost of the visit £8, to include tea and cake served at St Andrew church. We recommend that you park in the West Street pay and display car park behind the Town Hall and landmark visitor information centre. Please check the Churches Committee pages on the website nearer the date for more up-to-date information.

**CBA-SE Site and Town Tours**  
**Saturday 16 April**

'Secrets of the High Woods' at Slindon Park/Chichester town walls, West Sussex (Alice Thorne, South Downs National Park/James Kenny, Chichester District Council)

Full-day tours to current excavations and historic sites and towns across the south-east, led by local experts. Tours run between April and October, with sites ranging from Roman villas to medieval castles!

Free to all CBA-SE members, or £5 for non-members (entry fees may apply at some sites). Limited spaces, so early booking is recommended. Directions and joining instructions available upon signing-up. To book on any tour or for queries, please contact Events Officer, Dr Anne Sassin, at [events@cbasouth-east.org](mailto:events@cbasouth-east.org) or on 01252 492184.

**KAS Courses in the Library**  
**History Makers of Kent, c1600-c1900**  
**18 April onwards on Monday mornings**  
**10.15 – 12.15; six meetings**

**Tutor - Dr Jackie Bower**  
This class will look at the lives and achievements



of a selection of men and women from Kent who made a contribution to the history of the county or the nation. Cost £40.

**Empire to Commonwealth, 1900-1960**  
18 April onwards on Monday afternoons  
14:00 - 16:00; six meetings

Tutor - Dr Jackie Bower

When Queen Victoria celebrated her Diamond Jubilee in 1897, arguably the British Empire was at its height. Over the next sixty years, demands, for independence from the colonies and through financial limitations at home, made it impossible for Britain to maintain its position as an imperial power. This class will look at the process whereby the British Empire evolved into a Commonwealth of independent nations. Topics will include South Africa; independence and partition of India; the Suez crisis. Cost £40.

To book for either course email [davecarter25@gmail.com](mailto:davecarter25@gmail.com). Once a place is reserved, payment can be made by cheque on the first day of term.

**Canterbury's Medieval Computer:**  
the Discovery of the Quadrans Novus  
at the House of Agnes  
Public Talk by Andy Linklater  
Thursday 21 April, 18.00 - 19.00  
The Learning Lab, The Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, Canterbury

In 2005, archaeologist Andy Linklater discovered one of the most unusual objects ever found in Canterbury; a complex scientific instrument, a 'Quadrans Novus'. Dating back to the 1300s, these are very rare; this is only the seventh known in the world. What was it used for? Who used it? How important is it? Come and hear about its discovery and learn more of the story of this medieval treasure. Booking via the Beaney.

**The Little Dig: Come and learn the skills of an archaeologist using real artefacts!**  
Family Event  
Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 April,  
10.00 to 15.00  
The Learning Lab, The Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, Canterbury

Bookable - see details in March listings.

**Kent History and Library Centre Talks**  
Saturday 23 April, 14.30  
**Animals, Birds and Bodily Parts:**  
**Shakespeare's Secret Language** by Mike Irwin

Author Mike Irwin tells us the title 'means exactly what it says', and that it offers a way into what he takes to be Shakespeare's essential underlying theme in all his major plays. (Please note that this talk takes place on a Saturday at 2.30pm.) £5.00. For bookings call 03000 414404 or email [libraries@kent.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@kent.gov.uk)

## MAY

**The Archaeology of Up on the Downs**  
Evening course, tutors Paul Bennett, Keith Parfitt and Andrew Richardson  
Six Tuesday evenings from 3 May until 7 June 2016, 18.30 - 20.30  
Education Room, Dover Museum, Market Square, Dover. Free (£10 refundable deposit)

This series of classes will be led by senior staff from Canterbury Archaeological Trust and will provide an overview of the archaeology of the Up on the Downs scheme area. Collectively, these archaeologists have over a century of experience studying the landscape around Dover and Folkestone. Over the course of six evenings they will set out what we know of this rich heritage, stretching back over several hundred thousand years to the Lower Palaeolithic, or Old Stone Age, right up to the remains of the epic conflicts of the twentieth century. Full details and booking via: <http://uponthedowns.org.uk/Get-Involved/Whats-On/2016/Archaeology-of-Up-on-the-Downs.aspx>

**KAS Historic Defences Committee**  
Field Trip: Shornecliffe - frontline Kent  
Saturday 7 May  
Meet at Shornecliffe military cemetery at 10.00am.



A circular walk, starting and finishing at Shornecliffe military cemetery. Duration is about 3 hours and 3 miles, with easy to moderate walking. Itinerary will include Shornecliffe Redoubt, the firing range, WWI training trenches including mock German WWI Pillbox, Martello tower 9 (outside only), Royal Military Canal and the Shornecliffe Military Cemetery (3 VCs). The aim is to show the progression of the site as a major hub in the integrated Napoleonic defences of the area, including the Royal Military Canal and the Martello Tower chain, following on with its use as a training area initially for the development of rifle tactics by Sir John Moore, and then the training of troops in WW1, mainly Canadian. Finally we will look at its role as both a training area and defence point in WWII and its post war use.

Maximum number 40, cost £8 each.

To book call Alan Anstee on 01634 307993 or email [anstee@virginmedia.com](mailto:anstee@virginmedia.com). Once your place has been reserved please send a cheque to 2 Chute Close, Gillingham, Kent ME8 9RW, with your full name, address and contact details included.

**CBA-SE Site and Town Tours**  
Saturday 14 May

Petersfield Barrows/Portchester castle and church, Hampshire (George Anelay, West Sussex Archaeology Ltd/Martyn Allen, Uni of Reading) See information and booking details in April listing.

**Kent History and Library Centre Talks**  
Thursday 19 May, 18.30  
**Shakespeare's women: are they relevant today?** Lynsey Blandford, Templeman Library, University of Kent.

Lynsey highlights some familiar Shakespearean female characters by examining the literature as well as modern representations of the plays in film and on stage. She contextualises the original plays by considering examples of real early modern women who may have acted as inspiration and some influential literature written at the time. £5.00. For bookings call 03000 414404 or email [libraries@kent.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@kent.gov.uk)

**Dover Marina Open Day: the Dover Bronze Age boat replica**  
Saturday 21 May  
Dover Marina, CT17 9BN (Free, donations to support the upkeep of the replica welcome)

The half-scale replica of the Dover Bronze Age boat will be taking part in the Marina Open Day again this year, so if you want to come along and see it in action, speak to the team, or have a paddle yourself, we'll see you there! More details of the Open Day can be found at: <http://www.doverport.co.uk/marina/marina-openday-2016/>

**South Foreland Lighthouse:**  
**More Than Meets The Eye**  
Friends of CAT Evening Lecture, speaker Dr Andrew Richardson  
Wednesday 25 May 2016, 19.00 - 21.00  
Ng07 Newton (room to be confirmed), Canterbury Christ Church University, North Holmes Road campus, Canterbury. Donation requested (£2 for Friends, £1 Students, £3 for others)

This talk will cover the fascinating story of South Foreland lighthouse, where CAT have recently been working in conjunction with staff and volunteers from the National Trust. South Foreland was the first lighthouse anywhere in the world to display an electric light, but this is just one of several claims to world firsts. Andrew will reveal the long and varied history of the site, from unexpected Romans, Medieval hermits, Marconi and his radio experiments, to the lighthouse at war and much more!

## JUNE

**CBA-SE Site and Town Tours  
Saturday 4 June**

Pett Level coastal tour/Winchelsea town and cellar, East Sussex (Oliver Hutchinson, CITIZAN/Nathalie Cohen, National Trust) See information and booking details in April listing.

**Kent History and Library Centre Talk  
Thursday 9 June, 18.30  
Kent and Kingsley Wood 1924-1943 Hugh Gault, biographer; and Jane Gallagher, Templeman Library, University of Kent.**

Kingsley Wood was MP for Woolwich West from 1918 to his death as Chancellor of the Exchequer in September 1943. He left no personal papers but in 1972 thirty-three volumes of press cuttings were donated to the University of Kent. A one-nation Tory, he worked alongside Churchill, Chamberlain, Baldwin and Lloyd George, amongst many others. £5.00. For bookings call 03000 414404 or email [libraries@kent.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@kent.gov.uk)

**Kent History Federation Annual  
Day Conference  
Saturday 11 June**

Hosted by Smarden Local History Society  
Smarden Charter Hall

**Speakers:**

**10.00-10.30** The Kent Heritage Resource Centre: How you can benefit from the facilities available at the Centre. Roger Craig  
**10.30 - 11.10** Five Wealden villages through time: How Smarden and neighbouring villages have developed over the centuries. Kaye Snowden

**11.30-12.10** Some notable Smarden characters: Authors, actors, historians and climbers of Everest who have featured in Smarden's past. Martin Brook

**12.10- 12.50** Four Smarden plane crashes, Alex Ferris

**14.00-16.00** Choice of afternoon visits 1) Woodchurch Village Life Museum 2) Zion Chapel and St Michael's Church 3) The Kent Heritage Resource Centre (in the Charter Hall).  
**16.00 onwards** - tea in the Charter Hall

£12.50 per delegate (includes beverages), plus £8.00 lunch if required. Booking form is on the KHF website <http://www.kenthistoryfederation.org/Events-Other.html> or ring the Revd Dr Peter Rowe, Secretary of the Kent History Federation, on 01622 434592.

**Landscape Archaeology  
One-Day course, tutor Dr Andrew Richardson  
Saturday 18 June, 10.00 - 16.00  
Education Shelter, Samphire Hoe and Whinless Down, Dover. Free (£10 refundable deposit)**

This one-day course provides an introduction to landscape archaeology, the study of how the landscapes we see today have come in to being. In the morning, Dr Andrew Richardson (CAT) will introduce concepts of landscape and archaeology, illustrating with local case studies how we can interrogate the land around us for signs of the past, whether that be deep prehistory or evidence of twentieth century conflict. After lunch we will venture out to nearby Whinless Down to explore this fascinating area and to put what we've learnt into practice. Full details and booking via: <http://uponthedowns.org.uk/Get-Involved/Whats-On/2016/Landscape-Archaeology.aspx>

**KAS Churches Committee Visit  
Cooling St James and Cliffe, St Helen  
Saturday 18 June**

Meet at 13.45 for 14.00 at St James church, Main Road, Cooling, Nr Rochester, ME3 8DG. Map Reference TQ 756 759. Then at 3pm St Helen church, Church Street, Cliffe, ME3 7QE Map Reference TQ7347976679

Cost of the visit £8, to include tea and cake served at St Helen church. Please check the Churches Committee pages on the website nearer the date for more up-to-date information.

**Westgate Parks Community Dig  
Monday 20 - Sunday 26 June, 10.00 - 15.00  
Westgate Gardens, Canterbury**

Dr Jake Weekes will lead a further excavation to investigate the course of Roman Watling Street, at its river crossing just outside the old London Gate. Last year the upper surface of the road and large quantities of coins and other finds were found. This year the focus will be on the hard-standing to the side of the road, possibly part of a ribbon development of shops or other buildings. Come along and see what we find, or come along and help! Visitors welcome at any time, but if you'd like to volunteer contact [jake.weekes@canterburytrust.co.uk](mailto:jake.weekes@canterburytrust.co.uk) for details of how to sign up. Volunteer places are limited so book early. Guided visits will be available at the Westgate Parks Open Day on Saturday 25th.

## JULY

**CBA-SE Site and Town Tours  
Saturday 9 July**

Abinger Roman villa/Chilworth gunpowder works, Surrey (Emma Corke/David Bird, Surrey Archaeological Society/Andrew Norris, SyAS). See information and booking details in April listing.

**East Wear Bay Archaeological Field School  
Monday 11 July - Saturday 6 August,  
10.00 - 16.00**

Fees for training; site free to visit every day. The second season of the Field School takes place from 11 July, continuing the excavation of this rich and unique prehistoric and Roman site which is being steadily lost to the sea. The focus this year will be on the completion of the trench opened in 2015 which revealed a roundhouse and area for the manufacture of quern stones, both probably dating to the first century AD. Places available for training courses of one to four weeks duration, or for one-day experiences (fees payable). Limited volunteer places are available for experienced diggers (able to help train and supervise students), finds processors and guides. Contact [andrew.richardson@canterburytrust.co.uk](mailto:andrew.richardson@canterburytrust.co.uk), or visit [http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community\\_archaeology/east-wear-bay/](http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community_archaeology/east-wear-bay/)

**Crofton Roman Villa  
Festival of Archaeology  
Exhibition on the Archaeology of Hayes  
Wednesday 27, Friday 29 & Sunday 31 July**

As part of the Festival of Archaeology, a special exhibition on the archaeology of Hayes, with artefacts and displays from the Neolithic and Bronze Age sites and the Roman Bath House. Open Wednesday & Friday 10am - 5pm (last entry 4.30pm), Sunday 2pm - 5pm (last entry 4.30pm). Entry Adults £1.50, Concessions £1.00. Telephone: 01689 860939  
Email: [crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com](mailto:crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk)

**KAS & Maidstone Museum  
Festival of Archaeology 2016  
Maidstone Museum  
Saturday 30 July**

Visit the KAS Library to find out about available KAS resources, hear about the 3rd largest Bronze Age metalwork hoard ever found in Britain, handle real artefacts at hands-on stations and bring the children to investigate the sandpit dig or create replica artefacts. Details and more information on <http://www.museum.maidstone.gov.uk/events/>

## AUGUST

**CBA-SE Site and Town Tours  
Saturday 6 August**

Folkestone Roman Villa/Dover town and castle, Kent (Andrew Richardson, Canterbury Archaeological Trust/Keith Parfitt, Canterbury Archaeological Trust). See information and booking details in April listing.

**Crofton Roman Villa, Orpington  
Fabulous Roman Fashions!  
Every Wednesday in August**

Join us to dress as a Roman and learn all about Roman fashions for women and men, including



Roman soldiers! Make a fabulous 'Roman' brooch and bracelet to take home. Sessions at 10.30 & 14.00. For up to 11 year olds. No booking needed. Children to be accompanied. Entry £4.00 per child, adult carer free.

### From Roman Villa to Railway Station Every Friday in August

The story of the Crofton site from Roman villa times through Saxon, Medieval, Victorian station all the way to 1930's houses. Children can create a picture for our special villa time-line and make their very own history board game to take home. Sessions at 10.30 & 14.00. For up to 13 year olds. No booking needed. Children to be accompanied. Entry £4.00 per child, adult carer free. Telephone: 01689 860939, Email: [crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com](mailto:crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com) Web: [www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk)

## SEPTEMBER

**KAS Courses in the Library**  
**England in the Stuart period, 1603-1688**  
**Monday 19 September onwards,**  
**10.15 – 12.15, for 20 meetings (from 9**  
**January in 2017 for second term).**  
**Cost £60 for each ten-week term.**

This class will study the religious controversies of the seventeenth century, the causes of the Civil War, the restoration of the monarchy and the eventual accession of Protestant William and Mary. The class will also look at economy and society in the seventeenth century, with special reference to Kent and the lives of ordinary people.

**Victorian London**  
**Monday 19 September onwards, 14.00 –**  
**16.00, for 20 meetings (from 9 January in**  
**2017 for second term). Cost £60 for each**  
**10-week term.**

In the Victorian period, London was the greatest city in the world. It was the heart of a vast empire; a major seaport, with all the accompanying trades and services; a centre of manufacturing; and a seat of government. Meanwhile, authorities sought solutions to the problems of local government, health and housing, created by London's millions of inhabitants.

To book for either course email [davecarter25@gmail.com](mailto:davecarter25@gmail.com). Once a place is reserved, payment can be made by cheque on the first day of term.

### Keston Roman Tombs Date to be confirmed

A rare opportunity to visit the remains of Roman mausolea on Westerham Road, Keston. Dating from the 3rd century, they form part of an extensive Roman cemetery relating to the nearby Roman villa. Guided tours with graphic

and finds displays. See [www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk) or email: [crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com](mailto:crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com) for confirmed date and times.

### Kent History and Library Centre Talk Thursday 15 September "Old books hoarded up in corners": William Lambarde writing and reading in late Tudor Kent Claire Bartram, Canterbury Christ Church University

Claire will reveal some of the fruits of her current research project, a book on Provincial Authorship c.1509-1660, which includes chapters on William Lambarde, Reginald Scot, Francis Thynne and William Somner. £5.00. For bookings call 03000 414404 or email [libraries@kent.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@kent.gov.uk)

### CBA-SE Site and Town Tours Saturday 17 September

Ovingdean medieval settlement/Lewes town and castle, East Sussex (John Funnell, Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society/Simon Stevens, Archaeology South East). See information and booking details in April listing.

### KAS Churches Committee Visit St Mildred and Meopham St John the Baptist Saturday 24 September

Meet at 13.45 for 14.00 at St Mildred church, Church Lane, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent DA13 9AD. Map Reference TQ6468. Then at 3pm St John the Baptist church, Wrotham Road, Meopham, Gravesend, Meopham, Kent, DA13 0AA. Map Reference TQ6466.

Cost £8, to include tea and cake served at St John the Baptist church. Please check the Churches Committee pages on the website nearer the date for more up-to-date information.

### CAT Taught Courses September 2016 to March 2017

Canterbury Archaeological Trust will be running the fourth year of its popular one-day courses from September 2016. Check the CAT website for details of the courses and how to enrol: [http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community\\_archaeology/archaeology-courses/](http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community_archaeology/archaeology-courses/)

## OCTOBER

### Kent History and Library Centre Talk Thursday 13 October, 18.30 Papermaking in Maidstone: the expansion and growth of a significant industry in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries - Maureen Green, author.

Maidstone has a rich papermaking heritage. One paper mill with a long history is situated right next to the KHLC (Balstons Springfield Mill); another, Hayle Mill, has been owned and operated by the Green Family through five successive generations. £5.00 or season ticket £30.00. For bookings call 03000 414404 or email [libraries@kent.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@kent.gov.uk)

### KAS Churches Committee Study Day The Restoration Church and the Parish Saturday 15 October, 10.00 - 16.00 King Charles the Martyr, Tunbridge Wells

**9.30-9.55** Registration (church)  
**9.55-10.00** Welcome  
**10.00-10.30** Lecture: The beginnings of Tunbridge Wells in the late 17th century (speaker tbc)  
**10.30-11.00** Coffee (church hall)  
**11.00-11.45** Lecture: the Anglican Church: from Civil War to Toleration (Rebecca Warren)  
**11.45-12.30** Lecture: Charles the Martyr: late-17th-century perceptions (speaker tbc)  
**12.30-13.45** Lunch (church hall)  
**13.45-14.30** Workshop 1 (church documents and church building)  
**14.30-15.00** Tea (church hall)  
**15.00-15.45** Workshop 2 (church building and church documents)  
**15.45-16.00** Final Discussion

Tickets (including tea/coffee & lunch): £17 per person. Concessions: £15 (KAS members/parishioners). Please send application by 30 September with a cheque made payable to KAS, plus a stamped addressed envelope to Mrs J. Davidson, 7 Chatsworth Rd, Gillingham ME7 1DS.

### Council for Kentish Archaeology and KAS Conference Rescuing and Recording Kent's Lost Heritage Saturday 15 October, 14.00 Rutherford College, Lecture Theatre 1, University of Kent, Canterbury

Two of the proposed topics are -  
The Medieval Ceramic Industry at Tyler Hill and work on the University Campus - Dr Gerald Cramp.

The Battle to Save the Roman forts at Dover - Dr Brian Philp.

Other speakers to be confirmed - please see the website.

Tickets free for friends of the CKA, subscribers to K.A.R. and KAS members and will be available in September. Tickets will be available on a 'first come, first served basis' as space is limited. Non-members tickets £5.00, cheques payable to the CKA. In September please send S.A.E. to 7, Sandy Ridge, Borough Green TN15 8HP.

## EVENTS

### CBA-SE Site and Town Tours Saturday 15 October

Colemore Romano-British site, Hants/  
Farnham town and castle, Surrey (Juliet Smith,  
Liss Archaeology/David Graham, Surrey  
Archaeological Society). See information and  
booking details in April listing.

## NOVEMBER

### Kent History and Library Centre Talk Thursday 10 November, 18.30.

Court rolls, custumals and gavelkind: Kent  
manorial records and the Manorial Documents  
Register Project - Liz Finn, Kent History and  
Library Centre. Liz will report on her work to  
locate and list all Kent's manorial documents  
for the Manorial Documents Register, and  
looks forward to her project's ultimate goal: a  
first-ever online searchable database of manors  
and manorial documents that will prove an  
invaluable tool for Kent historians.  
£5.00. For bookings call 03000 414404 or  
email [libraries@kent.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@kent.gov.uk)

### KAS Kent Place-Names Committee Conference Saturday 12 November Canterbury Christ Church University.

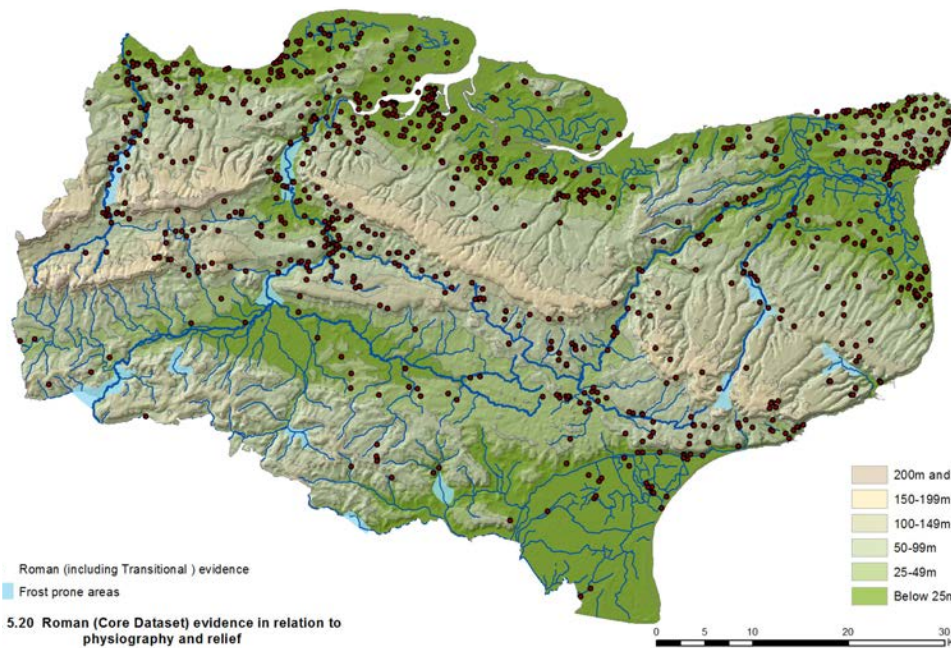
The Committee hopes to hold its biennial day  
conference on Kent Names in association  
with the University's School of Humanities.  
Confirmation and further details available at  
a later date on the KAS website. Enquiries  
by phone 01622 891222 or email [anita@anitathompson9.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:anita@anitathompson9.wanadoo.co.uk)

### KAS Annual Conference Provisionally titled 'Villas in the Roman Landscape' Saturday 26 November Rutherford Lecture theatre 1, University of Kent, Canterbury

Tickets will be £20 for KAS members and  
£25 for non-members. A detailed schedule of  
speakers and topics will be posted on the KAS  
website as soon as these are confirmed.

### CBA South-East 2016 Annual Conference and AGM 'Pots, Palaces and Parks: archaeology in the Southeast AD 1000-1500' Sunday 20 November, in Kent (venue tbc)

See <http://www.cbasouth-east.org/events/cbase-annual-conference/> for future updates



# HASTED PRIZE 2015

by David Killingray

The biennial Hasted Prize for 2015 has been awarded by the Society to Dr Elizabeth Blanning for her doctoral thesis 'Landscape, settlement and materiality. Aspects of rural life in Kent during the Roman period' (University of Kent, 2014, can be accessed at <https://kar.kent.ac.uk/47715>).

The judges deemed the thesis to be an important and pioneering piece of research which provided a clearer picture of the pattern of rural settlement throughout the present County over the several hundred years of the long Roman presence. Much work in the past has taken a 'villa down' view of rural life and activity; this clearly offered but a partial view of rural settlement in Roman Kent. By interrogating and analysing a wide range of recent research material and archaeological

field notes (including unpublished 'grey material') Dr Blanning has provided a much better informed picture of rural life and settlement throughout the whole of modern Kent, and in so doing has produced a substantial platform from which future researchers can operate.

A copy of the thesis, which contains a range of skilfully prepared coloured maps, will be deposited in the Society's Library in Maidstone for members and other scholars to read.

The next Hasted Prize, for theses completed in the calendar years 2015-2016, must be submitted by 30 May 2017 to Professor David Killingray, 72 Bradbourne Road, Sevenoaks TN13 3QA ([dmkillingray@hotmail.com](mailto:dmkillingray@hotmail.com)). Further details of the Hasted Prize are on the Society's website.



# GRAVESEND BUNKER

By Victor Smith

**O**ne of the aspirations of the Society's Historic Defences Committee is to secure publication of unpublished findings from the earlier research and investigation of selected historic military and civil defence sites in Kent. Several locations in East and North-West Kent have been short-listed as candidates. The first of these to be worked on is the Cold War Civil Defence Control Centre at Woodlands Park, Gravesend for which, at present, there is only a visitor booklet.

This underground reinforced concrete bunker is owned by Gravesham Borough Council. It was built in 1954 and is an interesting example of one of the first generation of the control centres brought into use in the Cold War. It is also among a minority of new-builds in out of town settings, the majority at this period being re-activated Second World War accommodation beneath or next to council offices.

The heritage potential of the bunker was recognised in the early 1990s. Then, in partnership with Gravesham Borough Council, the New Tavern Fort Project (renamed Thames Defence Heritage in 2000) began to refurbish and re-equip its rooms for public access. At times the process of obtaining the items to achieve refurbishing involved epic exertions and much ingenuity, a story in itself. Having historically researched the layouts (often informed by good-quality contemporary recollections), by 2000, the bunker received the first visitors. In 2004, the 50th anniversary of the building of the bunker, there

**ABOVE MAIN**  
*Re-enacting taking a radiation reading at the bunker entrance.*

**ABOVE INSET**  
*One of the Control Rooms, with a re-enactor in place.*

was a television-covered ceremonial opening attended by its constructor, the late George Rattray and, remarkably, by Pavel Andreyev, Attaché from the Russian Embassy. Thanks to the intervention of Adam Holloway MP, the bunker later acquired from the Royal Air Force a nuclear bomb casing. This is of monumental size and asserts to visitors its thought-provoking and menacing presence and meaning. Through careful and sensitive handling, based on continuing research, including the all-important small details, the 50s

inclusion as a Listed Building in 2013. Not only does this confer much-deserved heritage recognition but puts in place appropriate statutory safeguards.

Unfortunately, subsequent episodes of flooding led to its closure to visitors and the removal of contents into storage to allow remedial works to be undertaken and, afterwards, for drying out. These works, organised by Gravesham Borough Council, are understood to be underway. It is hoped that before long the bunker may re-open, with its layout and ambience restored.

Meanwhile, the research from earlier years is being enhanced with further investigation. The first stage of reporting, with the findings contextualised, is well underway. It is hoped that this will lead to completion and submission to an academic journal some time in 2016. This may also provide the material for the production of a new presentation aimed at a public readership.

**Victor Smith is Chair of the Society's Historic Defences Committee and was formerly the Director of Thames Defence Heritage.**



**ABOVE**  
*Nuclear bomb casing donated by the RAF.*

setting of the Second World War film 'Age of Heroes' (2011), starring Sean Bean, James D'Arcy and Danny Dyer. There was also a part for a member of council staff.

Because of its special historical interest and value, the writer was able to secure the bunker's





# TOKE'S HERALDIC LEDGER STONES

BY ANN PINDER

**C**hurches are an invaluable source of historic material, containing as they do so many memorials, not just on the walls but also underfoot. The practice of brass rubbing is no longer encouraged since the popularity of this hobby meant surface damage of the, largely medieval, latten plates. There is, however, another type of memorial set into church floors, and that is the ledger stone, a flat solid plaque, some three foot by seven, laid over a grave, within the fabric of the church and bearing in many instances a roundel depicting the family coat of arms.

Such stones provide an essential source of reference for historians and those tracing their family tree, time capsules that include information not just on the first person to have been buried beneath each stone, but on other family members interred at a later date.

Ledger stones are not rare, which is maybe why they are somewhat overlooked. The first ledger stones were coffin lids set into the floor, sometimes decorated with a cross. Over the centuries this evolved into a large plaque. Mostly the material is dark in colour, variously described as black or blue marble, but in Kent Bethersden marble (in reality a type of limestone) has occasionally been used, as has iron, though this is more common in



**ABOVE**  
*The ruined tower of St George's Church, St George's Street, Canterbury.*



**ABOVE RIGHT**  
*Margaret Greenhill's ledgerstone in St George's Church.*

places close to where that industry once thrived, such as in the Sussex part of the Weald.

Such materials may have ensured the ledger stone's longevity, but some have been damaged or destroyed, not only as the result of Victorian restoration, but also by WWII bombing, as well as through natural erosion, having been subjected to generations of passing footsteps. Many stones are no longer above their relevant graves, having been moved to side chapels, or to cloisters (as at Canterbury Cathedral), while others have disappeared, albeit temporarily, beneath carpeting or floorboards, or are half hidden beneath choir stall, dais or reception desk.

One Kentish man who appreciated their importance as a historical record was Nicholas Eyare Toke, a University and army tutor, who, after obtaining a degree at London University, settled in Folkestone, joining the Kent Archaeological Society in 1903.

Nicholas Toke was descended from the Toke family who once owned Godinton Park, at Great

Chart near Ashford. The local church is rich in wall memorials recording various members of the family and Toke himself had a special interest in church 'furniture'. He was to contribute several papers to Archaeologia Cantiana on hatchments and stained glass, but he also enjoyed brass rubbing, a technique he went on to use on the raised surfaces of the heraldic devices which appeared on church ledger stones.

250,000 ledger stones are said to be in existence throughout Britain, dating mainly from around the mid-17th century to the late 18th century when the middle classes sought to emulate the aristocracy in having similar memorials. Toke recorded around three hundred stones (all heraldic), the dates of death on them ranging from 1579 to 1836, with the ledger's popularity (at least according to Toke's collection) seeming to peak during the 1730s. It was the Burial Acts of the 1850s that brought about the introduction of cemeteries and a ban on further burials inside the





**ABOVE** Rubbing of the Greenhill coat of arms.



**ABOVE** Greenhill coat of arms.

church itself, although an exception was made in the case of family vaults which still had room for further interments.

He remained in Folkestone for the rest of his life, dying in 1960 at the age of 94. His invaluable record of ledger stone rubbings were photographed on glass plate negatives, now housed in the KAS Library. These have recently been scanned and many transcriptions of their epitaphs have been typed up by Pat Tritton and can now be seen on the Society's website.

**NOTE: A 'Ledgerstone Survey of England and Wales' is now being undertaken, in which anyone can take part, and information on this can be found at [www.lsew.org.uk](http://www.lsew.org.uk).**

The fully text of Ann's introduction to Toke's Ledger Stones can be read on the Society's website.

## BACK TO EAST CLIFF - AND YET MORE FINDS!

KAS Bursary helps student

A report by Kate Holtham-Oakley on her participation at the East Wear Bay, Folkestone, excavations, 2015, assisted by the KAS Fieldwork Committee. The bursary arose as a consequence of the successful inaugural KAS Archaeology Conference in December 2014 hosted by the University of Kent, following which a bursary was made available to a University of Kent student.

Kate writes "Going back to the site on the East Cliff last summer was an amazing opportunity which I was never sure I would have again. Although I had been on numerous digs before, when I joined the A Town Unearthed project (ATU 2010-11).

it was the first time I had been in charge of the finds processing. This was thanks to Andrew Richardson (who I suspect didn't really realise what a huge job it would turn out to be!).

In 2015, following on from the ATU discoveries, we knew there would be multiple finds - and we were not wrong. I was very much welcomed back to my role, and the skills and experience I had gained in the previous years proved invaluable. However, in contrast to ATU the majority of finds and features were Iron Age, not Roman. Features included a roundhouse, possible cist, ditches, floors and the only confirmed quernstone manufacturing site of the period in Britain, with much production debris.

We are still working on the finds: animal bones, pottery, metalwork, fossils (!), glass, brooches, coins, beads and so on. People came from far and near to visit, dig, photograph, metal detect and pot wash, both experienced and new to the dusty, exciting, world of archaeology. With, in my case, many thanks to the KAS!"

## CANTERBURY HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Research and Publication Grants

The Society has limited funds available to award a grant to individuals researching any aspect of the history and archaeology of Canterbury and its surrounding area. It is envisaged that a grant would not normally exceed £500.

Preference would be given to work resulting in publication in any media.

Please apply in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the Grants Committee as soon as possible, and in any case not later than 30 June 2016. 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.

A summary of your research might be published on the Society's website: [www.canterbury-archaeology.org.uk](http://www.canterbury-archaeology.org.uk)

For further details, please contact the Hon. Sec. of the CHAS Grants Committee: Mrs C. M. Short, 3 Little Meadow, Upper Harbledown, Canterbury CT2 9BD.

# CERAMIC FLOOR TILES IN MEDIEVAL KENT

## AN APPEAL FOR INFORMATION BY GERALD CRAMP

In 1886, floor tiles decorated with a king and a bishop were found in Maidstone Church. Most decorative floor tiles had simpler designs and were first used in Kent in the late 12th century but the more familiar ones date from the late 13th and 14th centuries. Preliminary investigations have identified that they were used in over 100 parish churches, over 20 monastic houses and several high status private dwellings in Kent. However, unlike other counties where lists of such tiles have been compiled, the overall position in Kent remains unknown. A national census of medieval floor tiles was started over 40 years ago and publications for Somerset, Dorset, Wales and the North of England have already appeared. Floor tiles in Kent can be split into 3 main types before their production in England was curtailed by imports from the Low Countries in the 15th century.

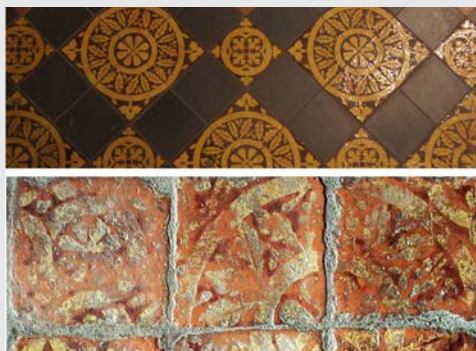


**Inscribed Tiles**

Inscribed tiles were used extensively in the 12th century Royal Abbey at Faversham and found by Philp in his 1965 excavations. They are square tiles with a hand scored line drawn whilst the clay was wet. White slip was only applied on one side of the line.

They were made locally in the late 12th century. An example can be seen in the Fleur de Lys Museum in Faversham.

They have also been found in St Augustine's Abbey in Canterbury.



**Mosaic Tiles**

These tiles are usually about 120 mm (4 ½ inch) square. The two coloured tiles have a design stamped on them giving a yellow design on a brown background.

A wide variety of patterns is known from Kent including geometric designs, a fleur de lys set diagonally and a stylised daisy set inside a circle.

Often these decorated tiles were laid with square tiles of a single colour or in multiple tile patterns. Such tiles, along with their Victorian copies, can be seen in Southfleet Church.



**Two Coloured Stamped Tiles and Single Coloured Tiles**

In Kent, mosaic tiles mainly have just one colour glaze but the decoration is achieved by tiles being of different shapes. Some are circular, some rectangular, some triangular and others are diamond shaped.

The pattern is made by interlocking tiles of different shapes. In Kent, mosaic tiles can be seen in the north east transept of Rochester Cathedral but unfortunately the glaze has worn off during the eight centuries that they have been on the floor.

They have also been discovered in the excavations at Boxley Abbey and are preserved in Maidstone Museum.

### Information Required

In November last year, the Shorne Archaeological Project hosted a day conference on 'Medieval and Later Ceramic Building Materials' given by Ian Betts of the Museum of London. This conference identified that Kent was lacking a list of ceramic medieval floor tiles and it was suggested that its compilation would be a satisfactory outcome of this conference. If you know of any ceramic medieval floor tile in Kent please let Gerald Cramp know on 01474 704849 or [gacrap038@btinternet.com](mailto:gacrap038@btinternet.com).

Editors note: Gerald Cramp was the author of the Scotgrove article which appeared in the November 2015 Newsletter. If anyone has any information on the nibbed tiles that he wrote about please contact him (as above).

If undelivered, please return to  
S. Broomfield, 8 Woodview Crescent,  
Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9HD

Copy deadline for the next issue is 30 September 2016

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.

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