

# FRIENDS *of the* CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST NEWSLETTER



Akram, Fadi, Ahmed and Moataz with their certificates.  
See page 4.

**SPRING 2015** | **No. 96**

# FCAT Committee

- Chairman: .....Miss Dawn Baxter-Phillips
- Vice-Chairman: .....Mrs Meriel Connor
- Treasurer: .....Vacant
- Membership Secretary: .....Mr David Sadtler
- Minutes Secretary: .....Prof Christopher Bounds
- Publicity: .....Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh
- Newsletter distribution: .....Miss Jane Blackham
- Newsletter Editor: .....Vacant
- Festival Walks .....Dr Doreen Rosman
- Mrs Sue Chambers, Mr Lawrence Lyle, Mr Martin Pratt, Dr David Shaw

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If you would like to join the committee and help with the Friends' activities, please contact Dawn Baxter-Phillips ([dawn@baxter-phillips.freemove.co.uk](mailto:dawn@baxter-phillips.freemove.co.uk)).


The next Newsletter will appear in July 2015. Please send contributions to Dawn at the above address by the beginning of June.

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## Excursions organised by FCAT

Members and guests participate in excursions at their own risk. FCAT does not accept responsibility for any loss or injury. Excursions involve walking in the open and negotiating steps and stairs both externally and within buildings. Appropriate footwear and clothing should always be worn.

FCAT welcomes participation in its excursions by members and guests with impaired mobility, **provided that they are accompanied by a person who can act as a helper**. It is advisable to check in advance with the Excursion Leader to establish whether access problems are anticipated on a specific trip.



**Have you moved house or changed your bank?  
Don't forget to let our Membership Secretary  
know so that our records are up-to-date.**

## Dear Friends,

Thank you to all those who turned out at the end of January to brave the bitter winter weather for the Frank Jenkins Memorial Lecture given by Paul Bennett which was so interesting and so lucidly presented both verbally and pictorially. Thank you Paul for a great overview of the Trust's wide-ranging activities for the past year.

The rest of this letter is a huge beg. We desperately need, as probably most of you are aware by now, a new Hon Treasurer as Roger Sharp is stepping down this March and to him go our most heartfelt thanks for all his hard work over the past 13 years. The 'job description' follows, so, if you or somebody you know would be willing to take this on, your Committee would be so very grateful.

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### **The Role of Honorary Treasurer**

The Treasurer works with the Chairman of the Friends to plan the financial side of the Friends' activities, in particular the processing of Grants to the Trust and its staff to assist with purchases of equipment and staff training needs.

There is also a book-keeping aspect to the job for which help is available from the Trust's finance staff. The Treasurer is a joint signatory to the Friends' Bank Account. He/she will receive the monthly bank statements and then check them and will help the Friends' Membership Secretary with the processing of payments and Standing Orders from new members and sending reminders to those who pay annually by cheque. The Treasurer will also issue cheques which cover the grants, bursaries and incoming invoices.

This post offers an opportunity to observe at close hand the ongoing archaeological work of the Trust. If you feel that you may be interested in joining our Committee, please contact the Chairman by email at [dawn@baxter-phillips.freemove.co.uk](mailto:dawn@baxter-phillips.freemove.co.uk) to discuss this important position.

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Furthermore, we are also looking to fill the vacancy of the Editor of the Newsletter which, as you know, is published three times a year to keep the Friends up to date with the Trust's and the Friends' activities. At the moment we are more than fortunate in having the assistance of members of the Trust's staff with the compilation and setting up of the Newsletter to whom I give a big thank you.

Finally, a belated Happy New Year to you all

*Dawn Baxter-Phillips, Chairman*

# Director's report

## Dear Friends,

Many of you are aware of my abiding interest in Libya and some of you know that for a number of years Trust staff have been involved with an important excavation in a prehistoric cave called the Haua Fteah. The Haua is located in the eastern part of the country (Cyrenaica), close to a small town called Susa, the site of ancient Apollonia, the port to Cyrene. The cave is a huge rock shelter, 30m high formed by a collapse in the natural limestone (a sink hole), located on the edge of an escarpment of the Jabal Ackdar (the Green Mountain), looking north to the sea, approximately a kilometre distant.

The cave has long been regarded as one of the most significant for prehistoric occupation in North Africa, and arguably one of the most important ancient caves in the world. It was first identified as such in the early 1950's by a Cambridge University team led by Charles McBurney. A 14m deep excavation located at the centre of the cave revealed a near continuous sequence of deposits extending back to the Middle Palaeolithic, thought then to date to approximately 80,000 years ago, ending with Neolithic remains 7,000 years old, with Greek, Roman and Arab levels testifying to more recent use. The Haua has been used by a local family to pen domesticated animals for generations and, during difficult times, for habitation.

A new phase of work in the cave began in 2007 under the direction of Professor Graeme Barker, also of Cambridge University, and is on-going. The interdisciplinary team with specialists from many countries, funded by the Society for Libyan Studies and a European Research Council grant, emptied the McBurney excavation and has at the same time carried out a wide-ranging surface survey looking at the Jabal, extending southwards to the pre-desert and the edge of the sand sea. Analysis of materials collected in the surface survey and from three new columns excavated at



The Haua Fteah cave, close to ancient Apollonia on the coast of Cyrenaica (see map).  
*Opposite:* Excavating the upper column in the Haua Fteah cave.





the edge of the McBurney's trench, now suggests, in light of scientific advances in dating techniques over the last 60 years, that the sequence at the Haua extends over a much longer timeframe than had been originally estimated. The new data suggests that prehistoric occupation began perhaps 150,000 years ago to the origins of Early Modern Man, with Neolithic occupation ending approximately 6,000 years ago.

Work in the cave has been seasonal, usually taking place during spring and occasionally autumn, but rarely for more than six weeks for each campaign. Excavation and survey were interrupted during the Arab Spring of 2011 and with a deteriorating security situation in Libya, all work has now been halted indefinitely. We were so close to finishing the excavations, possibly no more than two or three weeks would have seen the job completed.

Although three individual columns have been excavated at different locations in the sides of the McBurney trench, they combine to create a single sequence. The lowest part of the excavation has been completed, with our work continuing down to a depth of over 15m. The middle 'trench', as we term it, is almost complete, with perhaps 1m of deposits to be excavated. The upper 'trench' requires less excavation, with perhaps 0.5m or so remaining. Although the depth remaining is not great, the location of the deposits is of tremendous importance, in that the lowest part of the middle trench could contain evidence for some of the earliest dated occupation in the cave, whilst the lowest part of the upper trench contains an occupation horizon rich in artefacts, including two Hominid jaws.

Time is running out for the excavation to take place. Funding for the project comes to an end soon and the team require the data to finish their work. The situation cannot be more difficult for a project of such international importance.

A decision was made in early December last year to seek help from our friends in the Department of Antiquities of Libya. We have always received tremendous support from the Controllers of Cyrene and Benghazi in the past, with members of their staff assisting us with survey work on the Jabal and with excavation in the cave. Three staff members in particular Fadl Abdalaziz, Akram Masri and Moataz Al Zwai, have worked with us in the cave year on year, and we sought permission from the Department for them to come to the UK – to Canterbury – for training. Our plan has been to train these three, together with a fourth Libyan national, Ahmed Emrage, who has recently completed a PhD at Leicester University, to finish the excavation, including the sieving and sorting of materials generated by the excavation, and to bring the resultant data back to Cambridge for analysis.

The plan was agreed by all parties and with funding from the University of Cambridge, three Libyans set out from Benghazi and Cyrene for Tunis to obtain visas for the UK. Even the best laid plans fall in the face of impossible bureaucracy. To cut a very long



Three of the Libyan trainees being instructed in sieving techniques by Alex Vokes.

story short, it took 46 days, over Christmas and the New Year, to bring our Libyan colleagues from Tunis to Canterbury.

Over the past month the Trust office and environmental workshop has been white hot with activity, with various members of staff taking part in an extensive training programme from an overview of the Haul by Professor Barker, to a range of fieldwork disciplines taught by Trust staff, including archaeological stratigraphy, excavation techniques, recording methodologies, photography, surveying, and an intense course on the floatation of soil samples and the sorting of residues. Although a few relaxing site visits were arranged, the work has been full-on and arduous for trainees and staff.

The training is now over and our colleagues have returned home to their families. The whole operation, save for frustrating early problems with visas, has been hugely rewarding, and I am confident that work in the cave, scheduled to start in April (security permitting), will be very well done. The excavation will be monitored remotely from Canterbury and Cambridge through the internet (by Skype) and by phone conferencing, with the work hopefully complete by early June. We intend to generate as much publicity for this campaign of work by our colleagues as we can manage.

For once it will be good news coming out of Libya, and it will be Libyan archaeologists generating that good news.

I am immensely grateful to Professor Barker, Lucy Farr and Sara Harrop of the McDonald Institute of Archaeological Research in Cambridge for their support with this initiative and to our staff for all their help with the training, particularly Alex Vokes, Enid Allison, Peter Clark, Ross Lane, James Holman, Andrew Savage and Mary Smye-Rumsby.



Sorting environmental samples with Enid Allison.



Surveying with Ross Lane.

My greatest hope is that others will follow our example and assist the Department of Antiquities of Libya to develop the next generation of Libyan archaeologists through this kind of training initiative and in doing so help protect Libya's world class heritage during an exceptionally difficult and worrying time for this extraordinary and wonderful country.

*Paul Bennett*

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## **Medieval History Weekend: Exploring the Middle Ages**

As part of the Centre for Research in Kent History and Archaeology [CRKHA] in the School of Humanities at Canterbury Christ Church University, a team comprising Professor Louise Wilkinson and Drs David Grummitt and Sheila Sweetinburgh, in conjunction with Canterbury Cathedral librarian Karen Brayshaw, are organising a Medieval History Weekend that will take place on 1–3 April 2016. The idea is to provide lectures, with a few guided tours, mostly lasting an hour that will begin on the Friday evening with a lecture by Professor Richard Gameson, a firm Canterbury favourite, and conclude late on the Sunday afternoon with a lecture by Ian Mortimer, who is probably best known for his *The Time Traveller's Guide to Medieval England* – a valuable starting point for anyone hoping to gain insights into late medieval society.



Among the other speakers that are expected to take part are Dan Jones and Helen Castor, whose published works on the Wars of the Roses and the main political players have earned them airtime on several television documentaries. Perhaps equally well known, especially as a consequence of the great Magna Carta celebrations this year, are Professors David Carpenter and Nicholas Vincent, and the city's own Louise Wilkinson. In terms of theme – medieval manuscripts and books – Professor Michelle Brown will be joining Richard Gameson and this topic will be represented as well through a special exhibition organised by Karen Brayshaw, who will guide participants at the two visits.

Of course such a celebration of things medieval would not be complete without the involvement of Canterbury Archaeological Trust, and the Director Paul Bennett is due to lead two in-depth visits on the Saturday, the first looking at how to read a church, in this case St Mildred's, and secondly an exploration of the development of the Poor Priests' Hospital, a building Paul worked on and knows exceedingly well. Sheila Sweetinburgh will also lead a group to another site that has been examined in the past by the Trust, St John's Hospital, a fantastic place that deserves to be far better known not least because it is the first post-Conquest hospital – a remarkable survival that continues to function more or less as it did in 1084.

For those interested in townspeople and peasants rather than kings and queens, Professor Carole Rawcliffe will be discussing how the civic authorities and others tried to make sure the food sold in medieval markets, for example, was wholesome. Such concerns might include the watering down or contaminating of ale, the selling of 'measely' pork or the adulterating of flour in bread-making, all foodstuffs that had to a large extent become the staples of life in the later Middle Ages as people generally had more money following the devastation of the Black Death. This latter event and subsequent plague outbreaks will be the theme of Imogen Corrigan's lecture, and she will bring the latest ideas among scholars about this most deadly of medieval catastrophes.

The organising committee would like to thank the Friends for their help in this venture and it is envisaged that tickets will be available later this summer (from CCCU). In recognition of FCAT's support, Friends will be able to purchase tickets at a discount and the organisers hope to see many Friends and others from Canterbury and Kent. Moreover, it is hoped that this will prove popular well beyond the county boundary and that it will be another means of putting Canterbury on the map – its rightful place as one of the premier medieval cities and cathedrals not just in Britain but in western Christendom.

*Sheila Sweetinburgh*

*(Details of Friends' discount and how to book tickets will appear in the next Newsletter)*

## The Epagnette Wreck, Somme Valley: an early 18th century river transport

At the beginning of the year I received a surprise invitation from Eric Rieth, of the French National Maritime Museum in Paris, to join his team on the excavation of a shipwreck found at the bottom of the River Somme near Amiens. This seemed too good an opportunity to miss, so I gladly accepted and in June found myself in the little village of Epagnette, not so far from where the replica of the Gallo-Roman barge 'Abugnata' was built (FCAT Newsletter 90).

The wreck itself was of a flat-bottomed river transport that had foundered when its cargo of roof tile had shifted; thermoluminescence dating of the tile and tree-ring dating of the boat timbers suggested it had sunk around 1720 AD. The tiles formed a mound about 12m long, 2m broad and 0.8m high at the base of the river, lying close to the left bank (looking downstream). The cargo comprised three different types of tile (flat, curved and trapezoidal) and their quality suggests they were intended for roofing agricultural structures rather than high-status buildings. The great interest in the tiles is because of their context, part of a cargo, some of which is still in place, the timbers of the boat that transported them buried beneath them at a depth of 3 metres.

The team consisted of a group of archaeological divers (including Peter Van der Plaetsen from Belgium, who had worked with CAT on the 'Boat 1550 BC' exhibition) supported by a number of maritime archaeologists. Each summer, the divers remove part of the overlying burden of roof tile to expose the boat timbers below, plan that part of the boat exposed, and then bring the timbers to the surface for detailed recording on the riverbank. My job was to prepare the technical drawings of the boat timbers as they were lifted.

Thus far about 4m of the surviving boat's length has been recorded, with an estimated 5.5m still to be uncovered.



Part of the hull of the early 18th century shipwreck brought to the riverbank for detailed recording.

The width of the surviving vessel is about 2m, 0.9m of which represents the side of the boat, flattened out by the shifting cargo of tile. The flat bottomed boat was pegged together with treenails through transverse ribs, whilst the clinker-built side planks were fixed in place with iron rivets. The seams were made waterproof with animal hair and vegetable fibres (yet to be identified). Documentary research has not yet uncovered any reference to a river boat of this type, so at the moment the Epagnette wreck remains a unique find.

This part of the Somme Valley is gloriously beautiful and peaceful, and it was a great pleasure to work on the boat timbers on the bank of the Somme, the air thick with tree blossom and dragonflies. It was also very interesting to handle these early modern boat timbers; crude and roughly sawn, they were a fascinating contrast to the supreme workmanship of the craftsmen who made the Dover boat over three thousand years before. Eric has invited me back next year, when we hope to uncover more of this interesting find; being the only English member of the team, I must practice my spoken French before I return!

*Peter Clark*



Dr Eric Rieth waits for the latest records of the shipwreck lying 3 metres down on the bottom of the river.

# **The Big Picture: Archaeology Society and Environment**

## **Association for Environmental Archaeology Conference held at Plymouth University, November 2014**

I was able to attend the conference thanks to a grant from the FCAT Donald Baron Bursary.

Analysis of bioarchaeological material – the remains of plants and animals – from archaeological sites is generally carried out on a site by site basis. Large quantities of data have now been generated, much of it from developer-funded sites, and this is increasingly becoming publicly available. A number of synthetic academic studies are now under way to pull together results from individual sites to address particular topics. The theme of the Plymouth conference was to present some of the evidence for the Bigger Picture obtained from these studies.

Subjects were wide-ranging. The focus was mainly on Britain and Europe, but some presentations detailed work in the Near East, Africa, Asia and Meso-America. Topics encompassed climate and land-cover reconstructions in Holocene Europe from pollen studies; a study of how the two major climatic cooling and aridification events around 8200 years ago and 9300 years ago affected Near Eastern societies; an assessment of Mesolithic-Neolithic plant exploitation in Scotland; agriculture along the Atlantic coast in early medieval Europe; an examination of the potential and pitfalls in synthesizing urban animal bone assemblages; and of particular interest to myself, two thousand years of chicken breeding in London.

One pertinent paper by David Smith from the University of Birmingham explored issues that can prevent the production of combined datasets and consequently ideas. He highlighted how 'specialists' are separated from 'archaeologists' at both site and academic levels; how various 'specialists' work in isolation from each other on materials from the same site; and how the production of datasets is inconsistent between sites even within the same discipline.

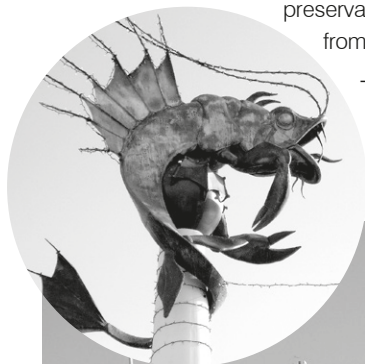
We also visited an exhibition at the Plymouth City Museum of finds from a Bronze Age cist burial excavated on Whitehorse Hill, Dartmoor in 2011, after a presentation by the excavator Andy Jones. The cist was unusual in that it was sited in waterlogged peat. It was clear that organic material was well preserved within it, so the whole lot was block-lifted and excavated under laboratory conditions. A remarkable array of finds was recovered together with the cremated remains of a slightly built person aged 15–25 years. Finds included part of a bear pelt, a bracelet or armlet made from braided cow tail hair and decorated with tin rivets, a piece of textile woven from nettle fibres with a calf skin binding (possibly part of a sash or belt), and



a small lidded basket made of lime bast fibres (from the tree's inner bark) stitched together with cow hair. The basket contained around 200 beads, the majority of shale or clay but seven were amber and there was a single larger tin bead, turned spindle wood discs that have been interpreted as ear studs, and a flint flake. The wooden discs provide the earliest evidence of wood turning from the UK. Laid beneath the burial and also packed around it was purple moor grass which still grows in abundance on Dartmoor. It had been gathered by hand in late summer or early autumn. A bunch of meadowsweet also appears to have been laid in the cist. If the deposit had not been waterlogged the organic material and objects associated with the burial would not have survived, and it is the only cist burial on Dartmoor with such preservation. It leads one to wonder just what might be missing from prehistoric cremation burials in the dry soils of East Kent.

Thank you again to the Friends for funding a very interesting and informative trip.

*Enid Allison*



Plymouth marina and one of the fish sculptures at the harbour.

## Getting involved: courses and community digs

Andrew Richardson and his team have been busy developing the already popular Archaeology Courses, an exciting new training excavation at Folkestone and also several community events. Here is a round-up of what's in store over the summer and beyond.

### Field Schools and Community Digs

11th–12th July 2015	Westgate Gardens Parks for People Community Dig	Canterbury
18th July–16th August 2015	East Wear Bay Archaeological Field School	Folkestone
25th July–8th August 2015	South Foreland Lighthouse Community Dig	South Foreland
29th–31st August 2015	Westgate Gardens Parks for People Training Dig	Canterbury

### One-day courses

5th September 2015	First Steps in Archaeology (1)	Canterbury
19th September 2015	Caesar to Claudius: Britain, Gaul and Rome From 55 BC to AD 43	Canterbury
17th October 2015	Roman Pottery in East Kent	Canterbury
7th November 2015	A Crash Course in Roman Britain	Canterbury
21st November 2015	The Archaeology of the Kingdom of Kent	Canterbury
16th January 2016	First Steps in Archaeology (2)	Canterbury
6th February 2016	The Archaeology of Death	Canterbury
27th February 2016	Understanding and Recording Stratigraphy	Canterbury
5th March 2016	Putting Colour in the Past: An Introduction to Environmental Archaeology	Canterbury
12th March 2016	Archaeological Report Writing	Canterbury
19th March 2016	First Steps in Archaeology (3)	Canterbury

### Westgate Gardens parks for people community dig

A community excavation as part of the Westgate Parks project, which is being led by Canterbury City Council and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Further details available on request from [jake.weekes@canterburytrust.co.uk](mailto:jake.weekes@canterburytrust.co.uk).

Saturday 11th to Sunday 12th July 2015. Free, but places are limited so please get in touch to book.

### East Wear Bay archaeological field school, season 1

A four-week archaeological field training school on the Iron Age and Roman villa site at East Wear Bay, Folkestone, in conjunction with the Kent Archaeological Society and local community partners. The programme will include training in all aspects of archaeological excavation and recording, as well as a series of evening lectures and other events centred on this internationally significant prehistoric and Roman coastal site.

Visit our website at [www.canterburytrust.co.uk](http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk) or contact andrew.richardson@canterburytrust.co.uk for full details of fees and how to book a place.

Saturday 18th July- Sunday 16th August 2015. Fees range from £45 per day, with reductions available for Friends, Kent Archaeological Society and local partner groups. A limited number of volunteer places are also available for KAS members.



### **South Foreland lighthouse community dig**

A community excavation within the grounds of the South Foreland Lighthouse, perched on top of the iconic White Cliffs of Dover. This will involve the excavation of a number of small trenches to investigate features detected by a recent geophysical survey of the lighthouse grounds. It is being undertaken with the National Trust as part of the Up on the Downs Landscape Partnership Scheme, which is being led by Dover District Council and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Further details available on request from andrew.richardson@canterburytrust.co.uk.

richardson@canterburytrust.co.uk.

Saturday 25th July to Saturday 8th August 2015. Free, but places are limited so please get in touch to book.

### **Westgate Gardens parks for people training dig**

A three day training excavation as part of the Westgate Parks project, which is being led by Canterbury City Council and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Further details available on request from [jake.weekes@canterburytrust.co.uk](mailto:jake.weekes@canterburytrust.co.uk).

Saturday 29th to Monday 31st August 2015. £75 per day, or £150 if booking all three days.



## **ARCHAEOLOGY** COURSES

All one-day courses are held on a Saturday at the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, 92a Broad Street, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2LU and run from 10.00am – 4.00pm. Visit our website at [www.canterburytrust.co.uk](http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk) or contact [andrew.richardson@canterburytrust.co.uk](mailto:andrew.richardson@canterburytrust.co.uk) for full details or to book a place.

### **First steps in archaeology (1)**

Whether you are considering archaeology as a future career, or just wanting to try a new hobby, this is the place to start! Anyone can get involved in archaeology and this day school provides the perfect introduction to the subject. After examining what archaeology is, the course will go on to cover a wide range of topics, including time periods and how we date things, sources and types of evidence, archaeological methods and practices, and the different types of archaeology. Guidance will be provided on how to take your interest further, either through additional training, higher education or as a volunteer. No

previous experience or knowledge is required. Students will get the chance to handle a range of artefacts during the day.

This popular course is repeated on 16th January and 19th March 2016.

Tutor: Andrew Richardson.

Saturday 5th September 2015. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

### **Caesar to Claudius: Britain, Gaul and Rome from 55 BC to AD 43**

This course provides an in-depth look at the historical and archaeological evidence for the period between Caesar's conquest of Gaul and expeditions into Britain in the mid-1st century BC, through to the Roman conquest of Britain under the Emperor Claudius in AD 43. This was a transformational period in Britain's past; as well as marking the transition from prehistory to history, it is a time in which significant social and cultural changes can be traced through the archaeological record, as Iron Age Britain adapts to the arrival of the Romans into North Western Europe.

Tutors: Jake Weekes and Andrew Richardson

Saturday 19th September 2015. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

### **Roman pottery in East Kent**

Pottery is one of the key types of evidence recovered by archaeologists, crucial not just as a tool for dating but also as evidence of the types of activity at a site, and for trade between sites and regions. This course will provide an introduction to the identification and study of Roman pottery. Drawing upon CAT's pottery fabric series and extensive collections, students will be guided through the main types of Roman pottery found in East Kent, including both imported wares, the major Romano-British industries, and locally produced wares.

Tutor: Andrew Savage

Saturday 17th October 2015. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

### **A crash course in Roman Britain**

A series of thematic lectures over the course of a day, using extensive visual material, and looking at: the effects of contacts with Rome on society and culture in pre-conquest Britain; the history of the conquest; the formation of urban centres and related impacts on the countryside; the development of Romano-British society and culture as evidenced by material culture in general, art and architecture, religious practice and funerals; and the last years of Roman Britain. Throughout, we will note any interesting comparisons to be made with recent and current colonialism.

Tutor: Jake Weekes

Saturday 7th November 2015. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

### **The archaeology of the Kingdom of Kent**

This course will focus on Kent from the 5th to 8th centuries AD. This transformative period saw the end of the Roman province of Britannia and the creation and growth of a series of smaller states across the British Isles, amongst them the kingdom of Kent. The story of



this time will be traced through the archaeological evidence, set against the background of historical and other sources. Kent's place within the wider setting of north-western Europe will be explored, along with questions such as the cultural and ethnic identity of 'Anglo-Saxon' Kent and the impact of the Conversion. There will also be a 'hands on' aspect to the course, with students getting the chance to examine and handle a range of artefacts from the period.

Tutor: Andrew Richardson

Saturday 21st November 2015. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

## **First steps in archaeology (2)**

A repeat of this popular day-course – see (1) for course details.

Tutor: Andrew Richardson

Saturday 16th January 2016. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

## **The archaeology of death**

This course will provide an introduction to the excavation, recording, analysis and interpretation of funerary remains. Students will be instructed in the handling and care of human skeletal material by an osteologist. The course will also explore the place of cemeteries and monuments in the wider landscape and the study of funerary assemblages as a whole, including graves, grave structures and fittings, grave goods and evidence associated with cremations. Emphasis will be placed on how to view all these elements as the visible remains of funeral ceremonies and on how we can seek to reconstruct those ceremonies as fully as possible.

Tutors: Sarah Gearey and Jake Weekes

Saturday 6th February 2016. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT).

## **Understanding and recording stratigraphy**

An understanding of stratigraphy and the concept of 'context' is essential to anyone undertaking archaeological excavation. This course will provide clear instruction on both the theory of stratigraphy and practical ways in which it can be effectively recognised, recorded and interpreted. Practical exercises will lead students through such tasks as completing a context sheet, drawing plans and sections, completing stratigraphic matrices and using site records to create sets, groups and phases.

Tutor: Peter Clark

Saturday 27th February 2016. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

## **Putting colour in the past: an introduction to environmental archaeology**

This course provides an introduction to environmental archaeology, focussing on the insights into ancient human societies, agricultural practices and environments that can be obtained from the study of plant and animal remains. Practical instruction will be given in the taking and processing of palaeo-environmental samples to recover biological material, followed by a session sorting dried sample residues which will introduce participants to some of the more commonly recovered remains. To complete the day,

there will be a session on recent environmental work from CAT sites in Kent. Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Tutors: Enid Allison and Alex Vokes

Saturday 5th March 2016. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

### **Archaeological report writing**

This course will provide a step-by-step guide to the preparation and writing of archaeological reports, covering the key information that should be included. Students will be introduced to the different levels of archaeological reports, from reports of negative results, through interim, assessment, analysis and publication reports. The course will also explore the different options for publication and dissemination, including 'grey literature', online, journal articles and monographs. Templates for different types of reports will be provided, along with examples of short reports.

Tutor: Jake Weekes

Saturday 12th March 2016. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

### **First steps in archaeology (3)**

A repeat of this popular day-course – see (1) for course details.

Tutor: Andrew Richardson

Saturday 19th March 2016. Fee: £40 (£35 for Friends of CAT)

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## **IOTAS: INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICAL ARCHAEOLOGY**

And for those who would like to find out more about practical archaeology, but who would prefer a series of shorter evening classes, the Isle of Thanet Archaeology Society is running a series of sessions on Mondays through to November.

1. Practical archaeology – Introduction to investigation: 9th March 2015
2. Looking for archaeological sites – Site surveys 13th April 2015
3. Investigating the archaeology – Digging a test pit or trench: Monday 11th May 2015
4. Recording the archaeology 1 – Contexts and stratigraphy: 8th June 2015
5. Recording the archaeology 2 – Sections and plans: 13th July 2015
6. First aid for finds in the field – Storing and conserving finds: 14th September 2015
7. Reporting the archaeology 1 – Report writing: 12th October 2015
8. Reporting the archaeology 2 – Report illustration: 9th November 2015

Each session runs from 7.00–9.00 pm. Fee for all eight lectures is £80: individual lectures £12, including refreshments and course materials. Under 18s (minimum age 16): all eight lectures £65, individual lectures £10. Advance booking is essential. For course details and enrolment: email [mail@iotas.org.uk](mailto:mail@iotas.org.uk) or message via Facebook (Isle of Thanet Archaeological Society) or write to IOTAS at Room B, Crampton Tower Yard, High Street, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2AB. Remember this is organised by IOTAS – so please be sure to address enquiries to them!

## Forthcoming lectures

### Wednesday 25th March 2015:

Dr Louise Wilkinson (CCCU): Women in the Age of Magna Carta

7.00 pm. Lecture theatre NG03, Newton Building, Canterbury Christ Church University, North Holmes Road, Canterbury.

### Saturday 6th June 2015:

Magna Carta, King John and the Civil War in Kent

A one-day conference, Old Sessions House, Canterbury Christ Church University. Part of Canterbury's celebrations of the 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta, showcasing new research relating to Magna Carta, King John and the Civil War in Kent. The speakers include Professor David Carpenter, who discovered the Canterbury Magna Carta of 1215. The conference is hosted by CCCU in collaboration with Canterbury Cathedral Library and the Canterbury branch of the Historical Association.

Standard ticket price: £30 (including lunch)

Reduced price: £20 (students, unwaged/retired, members of the Historical Association)

Conference organisers: Mr Richard Eales and Professor Louise Wilkinson (email: [louise.wilkinson@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:louise.wilkinson@canterbury.ac.uk)).

More information about the Magna Carta project can be found at: [www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-humanities/school-of-humanities/history/research/magna-carta-project.aspx](http://www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-humanities/school-of-humanities/history/research/magna-carta-project.aspx)

For all events that do not have a stated charge, FCAT requests a donation of £2.00 for members, £3.00 for non-members and £1.00 for students, to cover costs and to help to support the activities of the Archaeological Trust.

**Reminders by email: We send out reminders of meetings to all members of the Friends for whom we have email addresses. If you do not receive these reminders and would like to do so, please send a message to: [friends@canterburytrust.co.uk](mailto:friends@canterburytrust.co.uk). You will receive updates and reminders of events of local archaeological and historical interest.**

## Can you help us with delivery of the Friends Newsletter?

We would like a volunteer to help us distribute to some addresses in the vicinity of **Tyler Hill** and **Blean**.

Delivering newsletters by hand reduces our postage bill and leaves more money to support the work of the Trust.

If you think you could assist us, please contact Jane Blackham: phone 01227 373086 or email [jayjay\\_blackham@btinternet.com](mailto:jayjay_blackham@btinternet.com).

You can contact the Friends of the  
Canterbury Archaeological Trust at:

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**f:** 01227 784724

**e:** [friends@canterburytrust.co.uk](mailto:friends@canterburytrust.co.uk)

**w:** [canterburytrust.co.uk](http://canterburytrust.co.uk)



Students at one of the Archaeology Courses, 'The  
archaeology of death'. See page 17.

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