

The **archaeozoologist's** report on the animal bone

One dog

- Medium size, similar to a modern terrier
- Very worn teeth
- Very old
- Probably deaf (inner ear bone damage)
- Signs of arthritis on left hind leg
- Right hind leg broken during life with new bone growth around fracture
- No other sign of injury

Although the animal had suffered a broken leg, the break had healed well suggesting someone had cared for it 😊.

The **artefact** report

Artefacts included:

Personal items

- 13 bronze bracelets
- 1 black glass bracelet
- 10 dark brown or black glass beads, some decorated
- 3 amber beads, dated to 5th century AD. Made by Anglo-Saxon crafts people in Germany
- 15 small blue and green glass beads, dated to 4th and 5th centuries AD
- 5 bronze keys
- 1 small bronze knife
- 1 small iron knife with delicate bronze chain, dated to between mid - 4th and mid - 5th centuries AD

Other

- 2 fragments of a wooden base or lid with layer of black tar (did this preserve it?)
- 2 fragments of red clay tile
- 1 fragment of grey stone
- 2 lengths of dark brown wood (no evidence for preservative)

The **dating** report for the burial

We think this grave was made in the 5th century AD because of:

- How deep it was found in the ground
- The type of amber beads we found with the burial. They were made in 5th century, in Germany, by Anglo-Saxon crafts people
- Our knowledge (from other discoveries) that Romano-British* people were still living in Canterbury at the start of the 5th century AD.

*Local people who had adopted Roman technologies and lifestyle under the Roman occupation of Britain.

The DNA report

Samples were taken from the teeth of the human skeletons but we found that it was not good quality material.

So unfortunately the test was not successful 😞.

The **historian's** report

We know from an ancient document that the Roman army left Britain in AD 410.

We know from the ancient historian, Bede, that at the end of the Roman period there were often attacks on people living in the south-east of Britain, by Anglo-Saxons from the continent.

We also know from Bede's writing that there was a lot of disease here in the 5th century AD.

The **osteoarchaeologist's** report on the human bone

One adult female

- About 45 years old.
- No evidence of disease or injury on the bone.

One adult male

- About 40 years old.
- No evidence of disease or injury on the bone.

One girl

- About 11 years old.
- No evidence of disease or injury on the bone.

One other child

- About 8 years old.
This is too young to identify if male or female.
The beads and bracelets suggest a girl.

Her skull has been damaged by a small object about 4cms in diameter. This may have caused her death.

The **isotope** report

Tooth enamel is formed during childhood and stores chemicals from the food and water we consume. This food will be in the form of plants and/or animals who have fed on plants.

These plants will have absorbed chemicals from the soils they grew in and scientists can match chemicals from the tooth enamel to chemicals in soils in different parts of the world. In this way they can suggest where a person may have grown up.

Samples of tooth enamel were taken from the two youngest individuals in the burial. We think they lived in -

France

Or

Ireland

Or

The south of England

We can't be more certain – but it's something to work with!