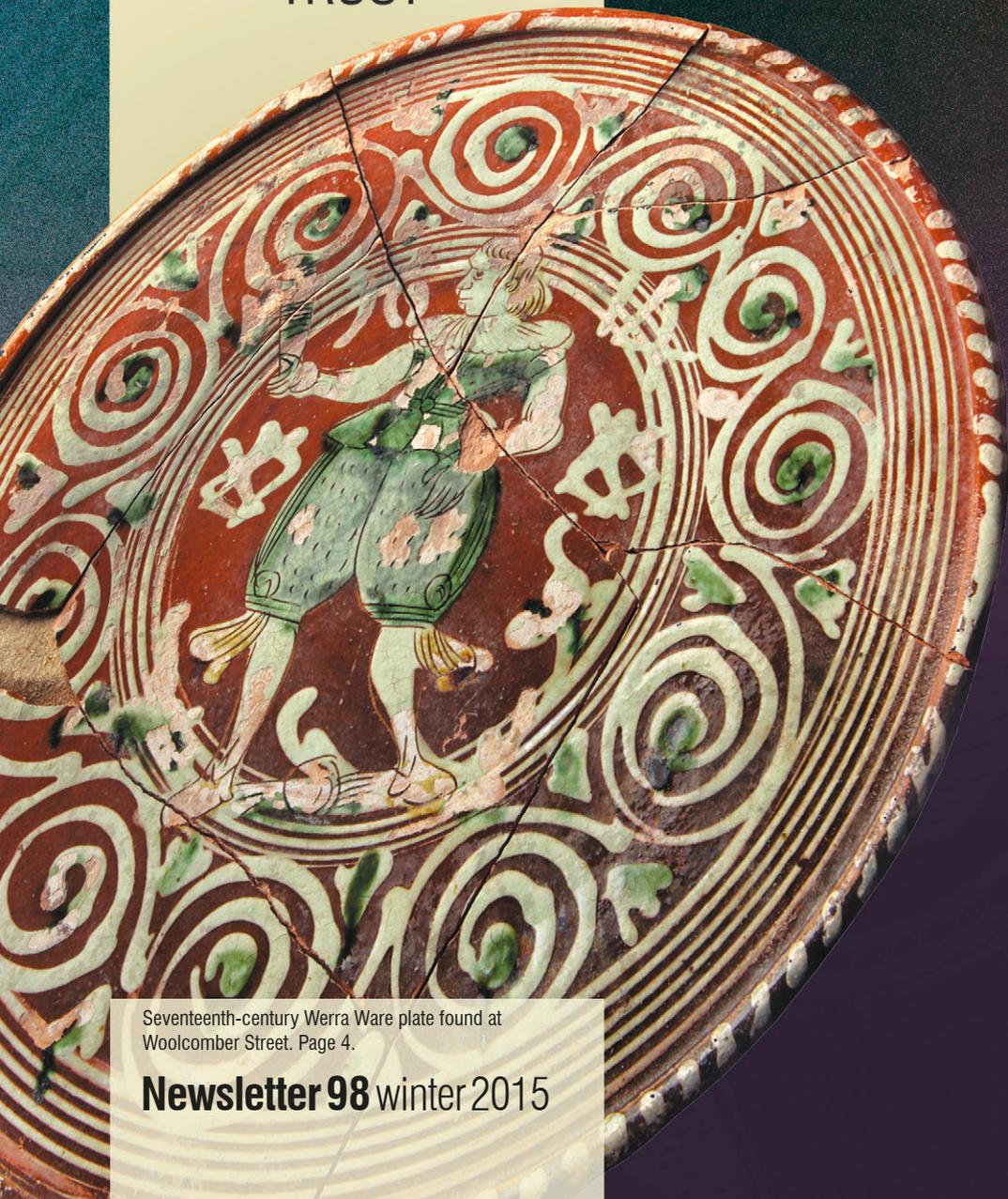


FRIENDS

of the
CANTERBURY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
TRUST



Seventeenth-century Werra Ware plate found at Woolcomber Street. Page 4.

Newsletter 98 winter 2015

Friends of Canterbury Archaeological Trust Committee

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If you would like to join the committee and help with the Friends' activities, please contact Anthony Ward at friends@canterburytrust.co.uk. In particular, we need a minutes secretary (three meetings a year) and a newsletter coordinator (three issues a year).

The next Newsletter will appear in March 2016. Please send contributions to friends@canterburytrust.co.uk by the beginning of February 2016.

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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,

I have been asked to pen a few words introducing myself as the new Chair of Friends of Canterbury Archaeological Trust. It is thirty years since I came to Kent to work for the University of Kent, initially in the then School of Continuing Education and thereafter in the School of European Culture and Languages. I retired a couple of years ago. Over the decades I carried out diverse roles at the University, working not only in Canterbury but also in Tonbridge and Chatham, these in addition always to lecturing in archaeology mostly on prehistoric and proto-historic topics.

Originally I hail from South Wales and it was on an excavation of the fort at the Roman gold mines at Dolau Cothi in Camarthenshire that I first met Trust Director Paul Bennett c 1971 – we were both undergraduates. Even then Paul was a mean man with a mattock and even meaner during the impromptu football games which rounded off each day. Despite memories of bruising encounters I was pleased to renew my acquaintanceship with Paul when coming to live in Kent and over the years to have been involved in various ways with the Trust and its staff, numbers of whom I taught at both undergraduate and post-graduate levels. I was a trustee of Canterbury Archaeological Trust for a goodly number of years and also of The Trust for Thanet Archaeology, and I continue as trustee of the Dover Bronze Age Boat Trust.

Hence I am no stranger to the archaeology of east Kent, nor indeed to the Friends and the tremendous support its members offer, which the Trust hugely values. I sense that the role of the Friends will be even more important as new opportunities arise for CAT to develop and promote its work, beginning indeed with the celebration of the Trust's 40th anniversary in 2016.

I look forward very much to meeting the many Friends and working with the FCAT committee.



Dear Friends,

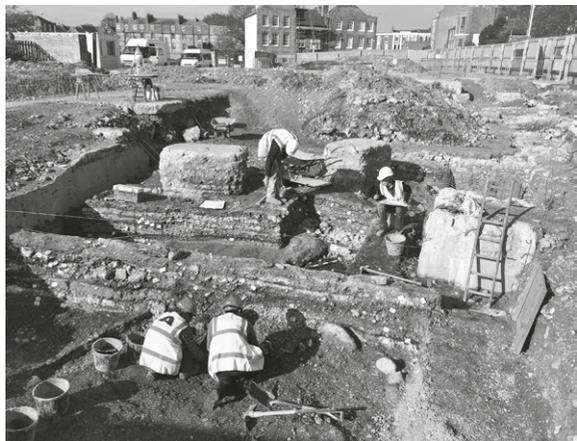
I hope you have had a pleasant summer. I also hope that some of you managed to get to Dover to see the amazing excavation that Keith Parfitt and his team have (at the time of writing) just completed at the junction of Townwall Street and Woolcomber Street.

Our work on this part of the Dover Town Investment Zone (DTIZ), destined to become a Travelodge, has seen the Trust acting as principal contractor, organising hoarding, site clearance, the carting away of machine-excavated materials and setting-up cabins and services. It has been quite an undertaking, but after twenty years of maintaining a Dover office in expectation of development activity in the town, we are very pleased and grateful to be part of this important scheme. This is not just because we had a high expectation of the archaeology, but for Keith and I, and others at the Trust, the work marks a long hoped-for start of a regeneration initiative for the town and port we spent our formative years in and care about a great deal.

Given the amount of important work Keith has undertaken in the town (the discovery and recovery of the Bronze Age boat, the excavation and publication of the highly complex site now beneath the BP filling station on Townwall Street and Buckland Anglo-Saxon cemetery, to name but a few), a more highly qualified and committed person simply does not exist. Whilst Keith's commitment to Dover has always been our 'trump' card, we had to compete for the contract with others and we are therefore grateful to the developers Bond City, their Development Manager Paul Caesar of the Stonehurst Group, and archaeological consultant Rob Bourn of Orion Heritage, for choosing us. We also recognise that Dover District Council played no small part in encouraging our appointment and we acknowledge the support of Jon Iveson at Dover Museum and Tim Ingleton, Head of Inward Investment at DDC.



Chalk and clay floors of a medieval building located in the Central Area.



Final recording in the South-East Area.



Arthurs Place, North-West Area (probably early twelfth-century lane surface).



The new area (Restaurant) during 'strip and map'.
Photo: ATEC-3D.

Keith's work beneath the nearby filling station had provided us with clear foreknowledge of what we might expect on the Travelodge site, and from the start we were determined to engage the public. Paul Caesar and Tim Ingleton were particularly supportive and safe access for the public into the excavation was arranged, together with viewing portals from the street and a beautifully decorated hoarding designed by Clare Limbrey of DDC, which includes pre-war pictures of Dover, finds from the filling station excavation and the Dover Boat. Although the site has been open to the public every day, we organised a number of open days, providing guided tours, an exhibition of recently excavated finds and had specialists (Marion Green and Enid Allison) on hand to show and explain some of the abundant and varied environmental remains, particularly fish bones and marine shell. For the first time we had webcams on the site to post live feed via our website (our thanks to MPRIT for their help in setting this up). I am pleased and proud to say that every aspect of the work, including outreach has been well done – but for those on-site, although it has been endlessly interesting and professionally challenging, it has also been totally exhausting.

Keith in particular has done a brilliant job, leading from the front with great commitment. With huge support from Tina, his wife, a marvellous team from the Dover Archaeological Group, and in the closing weeks of our work, other groups from Folkestone and West Kent, Keith and the professional team have been exceptionally well supported both during the week and at weekends (even wet ones) by a very competent and hard-working band of volunteers. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

The full story of the excavation will be told by Keith in due course, but in summary, the results of our work on the Travelodge site have provided us with a network of lost streets, originally formed over reclaimed land in the twelfth century on the eastern fringe of the early town and port. The earliest buildings appear to date from that period, with multiple floors of crushed chalk and thick occupation deposits, comprising a colourful sandwich of finds-rich layers. Evidence for early walls was in short supply, but

it is likely that individual buildings were of timber, resting on ground plates that have left no trace, save for the edge of the internal floor or external surfacings.

At the southern end of the site (the excavation here was supervised by Phil Mayne) the sequence was 2m deep, with at least three major phases of early buildings dating into the later thirteenth century. These levels were capped and cut by the foundations of later medieval and early modern buildings fronting onto Woolcomber Street, with back garden and yard deposits together with the foundations of service and industrial buildings.



The Central Area (left) and North-West Area (right).
Photo: ATEC-3D.



Another shot of the new 'Restaurant' area.
Photo: ATEC-3D.

At site centre (here Keith was supported by Ian Anderson and Julie Martin) early buildings were capped by thick deposits of yard metalling filled with food rubbish (animal and fish bone, marine shells and pottery), all in significant quantities. There were few rubbish pits in evidence; foodstuff seems to have been discarded on the ground surface. The greatest depth of deposit and number of yard surfacings went to the end of the fourteenth century, although use of the area as an open yard continued into the mid nineteenth century. A small part of a Nonconformist cemetery was excavated against Woolcomber Street (this work supervised by Jess Twyman). The cemetery, dating from the mid seventeenth to mid nineteenth century, contained some forty burials.

A trench cut against the northern end of the site (supervised by Paul Armour and George Carstairs) provided an exceptional sequence of deposits, over 4m deep, including an early street bedded on marine or colluvial clay. Over 2.5m of stratified road deposit was dismantled, commencing with the tarmac surface of Arthur's Place, lost to Dover's topography, together with many other streets in this area, following intensive and devastating shelling during the Second World War. Early medieval timber buildings with chalk floors were identified either side of the earliest street, capped by a sequence of masonry buildings later provided with cellars and masonry-lined cess pits, many containing a wide range of imported ceramics.

In the later stages of our work on the Travelodge site, Hazel Mosley supervised the drilling of a number of continuous cores across the eastern part of the former Russell Street car park to map deposits overlying natural chalk at depths of between 5m and 10m. The results of the study will help us to map the eastern fringe of the Roman harbour, and develop a picture of how the harbour formed, how it was infilled, and when occupation of the reclaimed ground first began. A deep test pit cut in the north-west corner of the development, in an area to become a new cinema, exposed organic remains at a depth of 4m indicating the presence of a marsh fed by the waters of the River Dour. The marsh was capped by dumped deposits containing fourteenth-century pottery and food waste, suggesting that this area was being infilled at that time.

In the last month the team has excavated another large area that will become a series of retail units closing the eastern side of DTIZ, between the cinema and Travelodge. Here, Ross Lane and a small team, with great volunteer support, have exposed two more lost streets together with the foundations of houses, cellars, outbuildings, wells and yard surfaces dating from the later medieval period to the Second World War. Only the upper 1m of the archaeological sequence will be lost to development, the greater part will be preserved beneath the development.



All excavation areas (some cloud flaring). Top: new area under evaluation. Bottom: South-East, Central and North-West Areas. Right: Restaurant area. Photo: ATEC-3D.



Detail of medieval walls that front Dolphin Lane, looking north.

Redevelopment of the eastern side of DTIZ will start very soon and the team has moved to a new site against Townwall Street, west of the filling station. We hope to make the site available for public viewing and set up another webcam. Each day will undoubtedly bring new and exciting discoveries. So watch this space or why not log-on? There will be a special open day for Friends but you are welcome to visit the new site in Dover whenever work is in progress.

Paul Bennett, 7 November 2015

*www.canterburytrust.co.uk/news/the-trust-blog/news-from-dover/



CANTERBURY FESTIVAL WALKS 2015

In the course of this year's festival, thirteen walk-leaders, ably supported by nine tail-end Charlies, led a total of eighteen walks attended by some 410 participants. The programme has to be completed months in advance and sometimes people who plan to lead walks are prevented from doing so. I covered one walk myself and am extremely grateful to Meriel Connor and Alison Hicks who took over two more. It is no mean feat to deputise for the Trust's Director but Alison did so with aplomb.



The chequer-board Tudor wall at St Augustine's.

The 2015 programme included five new walks. Over the years Meriel must have offered more walks than anyone else. This time, she took her group into a room over the Fyndon Gate, where in June 1625 fifteen-year-old Henrietta Maria passed the first night of her marriage with Charles I – according to one writer, behind a heavily bolted



David Sadtler's medley: Festival Walks 2015.

door. One of two new walk-leaders, Peter Henderson, enabled us to explore the St Augustine's site more fully and took us to places which even long-term inhabitants had never seen. Did you know that there is a magnificent chequer-board Tudor wall within the grounds of St Augustine's and a small garden laid out in memory of John Tradescant? As the King's School archivist, Peter was able to give another group a real treat with a 'literary tour' of the Maughan and Walpole collections. I had no idea that Canterbury held such gems as a Bronte manuscript in tiny writing or draft music by John Tavener. Our other new leader, Hubert Pragnell, invited us to look at familiar sights from a different perspective. As a skilled artist, Hubert pointed out appealing vistas in the city's roof-lines which we might otherwise never have spotted – and made trenchant comments on painted walls which obscured attractive brickwork. An old hand, David Birmingham, decided to supplement his ever-popular river walk with a tour round Whitstable and Tankerton: he entertained his group with a characteristically graphic account of local smugglers whose highly profitable activities helped finance both the Canterbury barracks and the Crab and Winkle railway.

'Old' walks continue to attract new participants, including people who have been unable to get tickets on previous occasions. Notwithstanding earlier heavy rainfall, nineteen intrepid souls (and three dogs) turned out to explore the Dover Western Heights with Keith Parfitt, who took them round the huge Napoleonic fortifications and pointed out the grand citadel, which once served as the officers' mess. Appropriately, they were also rewarded with views of the French coast. The rain held off, too, for Derek Boughton's walk, a few miles away. Born and bred in Elham and a leading light of its historical society, Derek has a fund of information about the history and sights of the village. People who bought tickets for Jonathan Butchers's talk and walk



The baptistery at Zoar chapel.



Keith Parfitt and the citadel at Dover Western Heights.

on the Jews of Canterbury did have to brave the rain, but their reward was entry to the Jewish graveyard off the Whitstable Road. A visit to another unusual religious site was the culmination of my own walk on Canterbury's dissenting congregations. The Strict and Particular Baptist Zoar Chapel is situated in a city wall bastion and by rolling up the carpet we were able to see the baptistery. Meanwhile two groups had the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the cathedral by learning about its building materials with Geoff Downer and exploring the precincts with Maureen Ingram. Beyond the precincts, Peter Berg showed what a wide range of products were 'made in Canterbury', while David Lewis delighted his group by pointing out some of the intriguing and sometimes bizarre objects to be seen in city streets.

The popularity of our walks can be judged by the fact that many sell out well in advance. Overall ticket sales were fractionally up on last year. This means that we should in due course receive a few pounds more than the £1,761 which the festival office paid to us in 2014. Our sincere thanks are due to those who, year after year, work so hard to plan and lead walks which raise such a good sum for the Trust – and also give many people a great deal of pleasure.

Doreen Rosman

Dover boat joins the fleet at Boulogne's Fête de la Mer

Fête de la Mer is a popular biannual event attracting typically hundreds of thousands of visitors over five days of marine themed live music, food, demonstrations and displays. In July, the occasion of the seventh Fête to be staged, a small team of CAT staff and volunteers joined the festival taking along 'Ole', the experimental half-scale reconstruction of the Dover Bronze Age boat.

'Formidable', 'Fantastique', 'Incroyable', were typical responses among the hundreds, if not thousands, of Boulonnais and tourists who heard about the discovery of the original vessel back in 1992, the subsequent Boat 1550 BC project enabling the building of the replica - and about its recent voyages.

The boat attracted huge interest with people genuinely in awe of the diverse skills of our Bronze Age ancestors – and the team who built the replica! They mused over the growing evidence for a shared culture between northern France, south-east England and Flanders some 3,500 years ago. Conveying these achievements of our ancestors, symbolised by the Bronze Age boat, was at the heart of the European project Boat 1550 BC. Attending this event was a great contribution to its legacy.



Our small team did a fine job of engaging the French, Swiss, Dutch and Belgian visitors. Volunteers Thierry and Anne (native French speakers) did a sterling job and Peter and I had loads of opportunity to practise our French during the 10 hour days. We're now fluent in discussing boats, withies and bees wax – pas de problème! Paul was a fantastic visual aid when, daily, he worked on the timbers with beeswax, animal fat and moss. Many of the visitors were familiar with Dover and some had seen the original boat at Dover Museum. Others are now motivated to come over and find it.

This was the first time the replica boat had been back to Boulogne since it was the centrepiece of the exhibition 'Beyond the Horizon' in the Chateau-Musée back in 2012. It was a great pleasure to meet up once again with our colleagues Angélique, Séverine, Dominique and Laurent with whom we had worked so hard on staging the exhibition. They were thrilled to have the boat back for a few days, now a battered and worn working boat quite different to the pristine exhibit that was on show in the museum! It was most heart-warming to see that the spirit of camaraderie and international co-operation is still alive and well even after the end of the BOAT 1550 BC project.

The Fête was organised by the Town of Boulogne-sur-Mer, the Conseil Régional de Nord-Pas-de-Calais and the Conseil Général de Pas-de-Calais.

Marion Green and Peter Clark

KAS | KENT
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY



The most comprehensive collection of articles and research papers on the archaeology and history of Kent ever published is now available free-on-line, following the digitization of 'Archaeologia Cantiana,' the annual journal of the Kent Archaeological Society.

First published 157 years ago, in 1858, the journals contain a total of more than 3,000 contributions by authorities on the county's prehistoric settlements; archaeological 'digs'; castles, churches, palaces and villas; genealogy; local history, and many other aspects of Kent's past.

Printed issues of the journal are distributed to the KAS's 1,200 individual members and affiliated local history societies, and to 'institutional subscribers' (public reference libraries, universities and learned societies) all over the world.

Non-members can now read and download 132 volumes, each one comprising several hundred pages, that have been posted in indexed, searchable text, that can be read by clicking on to www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/Research and following the link to 'Researching the History & Archaeology of Kent → 'Publications On-line → Archaeologia Cantiana'. The project is part of the society's on-going exercise to make its resources and databases freely accessible to the public on its website, which now receives an average of 80,000 visits a week.

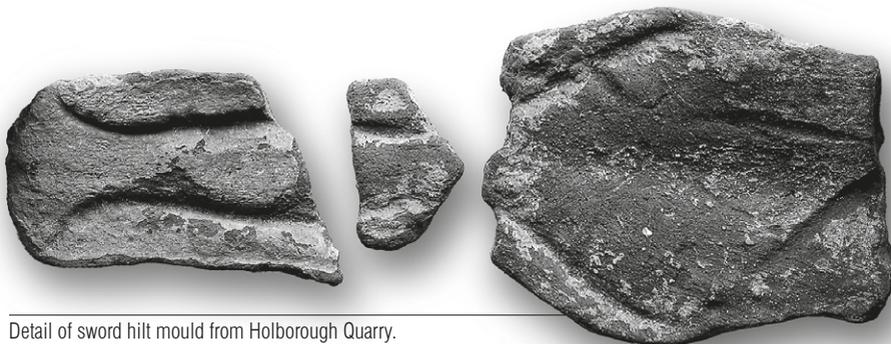
Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists, Glasgow, Scotland

The 21st meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists was once again a huge affair, with over 2,000 delegates from all around the world, 1,600 academic lectures and 230 posters. As ever it turned out to be a heady mix of cutting edge research, surprising and stimulating perspectives from unexpected quarters and above all the opportunity to share news, discussion and debate with a host of colleagues from many different specialisms, geographical backgrounds and research interests.

Of course, with 1,600 lectures spread over four days it was necessary to be selective on which sessions to attend. As usual, my choices were dictated by some of the research questions the Trust is currently involved with. We have recently been given the green light to write up our excavations at Holborough Quarry near Snodland, where we made a remarkable discovery of a number of late Bronze Age sword moulds, a rare and important find. Unlike the sword moulds found at Springfield Lyons in Essex in the 1980s, which were associated with a high status defensive enclosure, the Holborough Quarry finds were found in the rubbish pits of what seems to be a fairly modest rural settlement. So who made swords in the late Bronze Age? What social status did they have? What were the swords made for, and how were they used? A session entitled 'Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches to Prehistoric Warfare' seemed the ideal opportunity to catch up on the latest thinking on such subjects. The papers here were wide-ranging and multidisciplinary, from the skeletal analysis of the Neolithic mass grave at Halberstadt in Germany (the victims of a massacre rather than of a battle) to the standardised mass-production of spear or lance-heads in Iron Age Scandinavia. Most of the papers focussed on the Bronze Age, however. These included a new analysis of the manufacture and use of metal body armour in the European Bronze Age by Marianne Mödinger from the University of Bordeaux, an intensive programme of experimental archaeology looking at Bronze Age swords, spears and shields by Rachel Crellin from Leicester University, whilst Magdalena Forsgren from Sweden looked at the social and cultural meaning of Bronze Age weapons. My old colleague Anne Lehoëff from the University of Lille broadened her discussion of 'creativity' in Bronze Age metalworking to consider the question of the 'value' of weapons during this period – particularly relevant to our Holborough finds!

Skeletal analyses included a study of the thousands of human bones from the Bronze Age battlefield site in the Tollense Valley by Ute Brinker from northern Germany, which showed that a wide range of weapons was used in later Bronze Age warfare; bows and arrows, daggers, lances, swords and wooden clubs, a pattern also seen in the physical trauma studied on Bronze Age skeletons by Vajk Szeverényi and others from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest. Lastly, a paper about Bronze Age

boats! Christian Horn of the university of Kiel has studied over 3600 anthropomorphic Bronze Age rock carvings from Scandinavia, and noted that some 'warrior' figures were constructed from elements used in the carving of boats, or have stylistic features of canoes merged with their bodies. He interpreted this as an example of 'pragmamorphism', whereby the properties of inanimate boats (understood as raiding boats like the Hjortspring boat from Denmark – fast? dangerous?) were transferred to the image of the warrior.



Detail of sword hilt mould from Holborough Quarry.

Another field of research of recent concern has been the inundation of vast tracts of land during the Mesolithic, creating what is now the North Sea and English Channel; it is clear that we have lost much archaeology to the sea along the north coast of Kent and the Isle of Thanet. Does anything remain of these flooded lands beneath the waves, and how did contemporary people understand such environmental changes, or incorporate such events in their social memory? These were subjects I touched upon in a paper I produced as part of the Boat 1550 BC project which should be published by Oxbow Books next year, but the topics of submerged archaeological landscapes and questions of memory (and forgetting) in past societies remain very fashionable in current archaeology, and many sessions and papers were devoted to these subjects. Highlights included a review of new scientific methodologies for investigating marine landscapes and linking the 'big picture' to individual sites by our old friend Martin Bates from the University of Wales. This was complemented by many papers looking at the issues of undersea survey from around the world, including work in the Persian Gulf by Richard Cuttler and Peter Spencer from the University of Birmingham and at Barrow Island by Alistair Paterson and Peter Veth from the University of Australia. In terms, of memory, a fascinating paper by Erin Kavanagh from the University of Wales looked at the possibility that the story of major environmental events such as sea level change were preserved in myth and folklore, with examples from around the world. Although I have written about such a possibility before, I had no idea that the subject was so intensively studied and that 'narrative theory' was a discipline in its own right; more homework! Interestingly, oral history from Aboriginal tribes in northern Australia

suggest that the memory of major climatic events can be transmitted from generation to generation for over 7,000 years...

Other sessions included the whole issue of migration in prehistory and the interaction between 'natives' and 'incomers' during the Neolithic, an important theme in the Trust's forthcoming report on the early Neolithic 'causewayed enclosure' at Chalk Hill, Ramsgate and the subject of a paper I delivered to the KAS conference on 'Immigration in Kent' in 2013. Space precludes me from reporting on many of the excellent papers I listened to during the course of the conference, or the less academic but professionally important workshop run by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists looking at the future for British Archaeology, but once again the conference proved to be an extremely stimulating and useful event. Many thanks to the Friends for helping me to attend.

Peter Clark

South Foreland Lighthouse

Early in 2014 the Trust was commissioned to lead the creation of a conservation management plan (CMP) for the South Foreland lighthouse. The lighthouse, the current version of which was built (or substantially rebuilt) in 1842, was operated by Trinity House until 1988, when it was decommissioned and taken into the ownership of the National Trust. In fact it is one of a pair of lighthouses (and the 'upper light'), originally intended to warn shipping away from the notorious Goodwin Sands. By ensuring that they were to the south of a line drawn between the pair of lights, ships were safe, but over the years the Goodwins drifted southwards, meaning that by the early twentieth century the line was no longer safe. As a result the 'lower light' was decommissioned in 1904 and the lower lighthouse tower now stands as an empty shell, perilously close to the cliff edge and likely not to be around for too much longer! The upper lighthouse now has a new life as a popular destination for those walking along the famous White Cliffs, east of Dover, with its award-winning 'Mrs Knott's tearoom' (named after the wife of one long-serving lighthouse keeper) providing a much-needed source of refreshment for tired walkers.

The CMP is funded by the National Trust and the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), as part of the Up on the Downs Landscape Partnership Scheme, which funds a number of other projects in which the Trust is involved. Conservation management plans are an established way of setting out the history and significance of an historic building, site or landscape, along with recommendations for the future management and conservation of that asset. What is unusual about the South Foreland CMP is that from the start it was intended that there should be a considerable element of community involvement in the creation of the plan. This was a requirement for securing the HLF funding, but

in this case was also by far the best approach; the lighthouse has a large, dedicated and extremely knowledgeable group of volunteers who help to run and maintain it. It would have been senseless not to have made best use of this pool of knowledge and enthusiasm. Thus since spring 2014 Trust staff have been working alongside National Trust staff and volunteers on the project. This has included many hours of archival research, a full measured architectural survey of the lighthouse and its setting (the latter carried out by J.C. White Geomatics), a geophysical survey (carried out by Sub Scan South-East) and, this last summer, a two week community excavation in the grounds of the lighthouse. The final plan is due to be submitted in March 2016 and it is hoped that it will provide a firm knowledge-base for the management of the lighthouse for many years to come.

So at the time of writing the plan is still a work-in-progress. But a number of key findings can already be highlighted. Firstly, it has to be said that there is more to this lighthouse, and its site, than meets the eye. The current lighthouse is the last in a long-line of beacons, light-towers and lighthouses. There are references to a hermit displaying a light as early as the fourteenth century, whilst light towers are recorded being erected in 1635. A lighthouse was certainly present during the eighteenth century, with a major rebuild in 1793. The lighthouses were sketched in September 1808 by Captain Durrant and his sketch of the upper lighthouse appears to show the 1793 tower standing next to another tower that was presumably the old lighthouse,



Photo: St Margaret's History Society.

along with a number of ancillary buildings. The current lighthouses were constructed in 1842, probably on the same footprint as their immediate predecessors, whilst earlier structures were demolished.



The late Roman structures, looking south-west.



The trench, looking east.

During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, South Foreland was frequently the site of cutting-edge scientific experimentation. For example, in 1851, the first successful international telegraph cable was brought ashore in front of the upper light. In 1856 an experimental electrical arc lamp was installed by Professor F Hale Holmes, with the support of Michael Faraday. Thus South Foreland became the first lighthouse anywhere in the world to show an electric light, although it was not until 1872 that South Foreland switched permanently to electric lights. In March 1899 the radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi set up a small hut at South Foreland, just in front of the upper lighthouse, from where he received the first ever ship-to-shore and international radio transmissions, followed on 28 April by the first effective radio distress signal in earnest, when the steamer R F Mathews collided with the East Goodwin lightship. Marconi returned in the 1920s, installing a large rotating direction-finding emitter as part of an experiment in radio direction finding as a navigational aid (see photo, opposite). These and other experiments make South Foreland a landmark site in the history of science.

During the Second World War, despite international agreements preventing the military use of lighthouses, part of the site was used as a radar base, whilst the surrounding fields saw the construction of a range of buildings associated with coastal gun batteries. The lighthouse did sustain minor damage during the war, but this was caused by the discharge of nearby British guns. The Germans seem to leave the lighthouses alone, perhaps because the upper lighthouse tower was used as a navigation aid by the Luftwaffe!

The long history of South Foreland has been extended by the two weeks of archaeological excavation carried out by volunteers during July and August 2015. A total of fourteen small hand-dug trenches were excavated, under our supervision,

within the curtilage of the lighthouse, in order to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site. This proved to be considerable, with a range of structures and finds associated with the lighthouse, or its predecessors, being unearthed. Finds included lighthouse keeper's buttons, and a large selection of graphite rods from the carbon arc lamps, in various sizes, both metric and imperial. These were widely spread around the site, their distribution suggesting that they had simply been flung from the top of the tower when they were spent. Previously there were none of these in the lighthouse collection, now there are dozens!

A major find was the concrete track for Marconi's direction finding antennae of the 1920s, a rare case of the archaeology of radio. The depression in which this had been set had been backfilled with a wide variety of refuse, some of direct relevance to the lighthouse, including lamp room fittings.

The biggest surprise of the whole excavation, however, was provided by a post-built structure set within a shallow terrace in the chalk, one end of which had been truncated by the Marconi aerial base. This contained a late second- to third-century Roman pottery, a Roman coin, and quantities of animal bone and limpet shells. Three more Roman coins were recovered by metal detector from the surrounding topsoil. One of the coins was illegible, but the others, including a coin of Allectus, were all minted between AD 293 and 297 (David Holman, pers comm). It is thus tempting to see this enigmatic structure as representing some sort of watch-post, set up on a strategic coastal vantage point at a time when Britain was controlled by usurpers (Carausius and his successor Allectus), who would have rightly feared a military intervention by forces of the official Emperor. It is, perhaps, too soon to say, but certainly this important discovery extends the known history of the site by over 1000 years! Much further work remains to be done, but there can be no doubt that the Conservation Management Plan for South Foreland is going to be a full and interesting document, which is what this unique and important site deserves.

Andrew Richardson

MEET & GREET: A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

- Would you like to help out at Trust's 40th anniversary exhibition at the Beaney?
- We are looking for volunteers to act as stewards between Friday 25th March and
- Sunday 24th April 2016. We are also looking for volunteers to help out with the
- 'Little Dig' activity days on Saturdays 26th March, 23rd April and Sunday 24th
- April. Last, but definitely not least, if there's anyone out there who would like to
- act as volunteer co-ordinator, please do come forward. If you think you can help,
- contact Marion Green (01227 825252 or marion.green@canterburytrust.co.uk)
- and we'll take it from there!

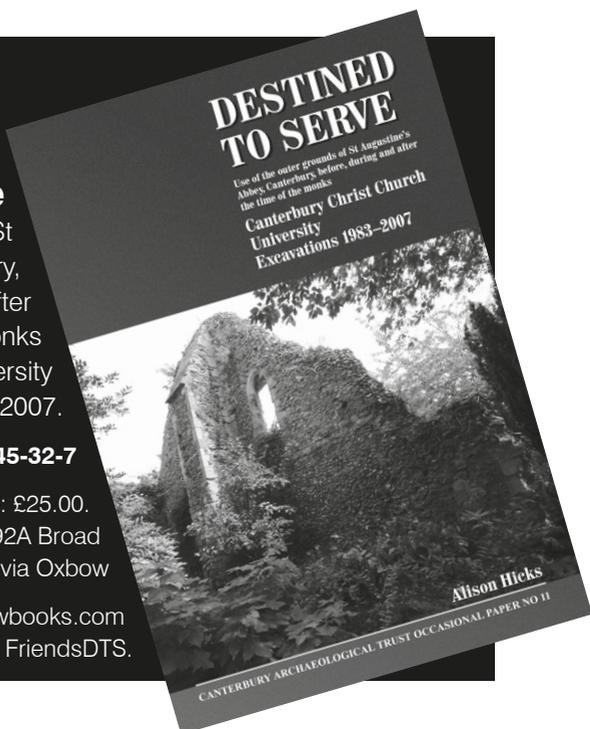
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www.oxbowbooks.com
quoting the code FriendsDTS.



Just published:

Destined to serve: use of the grounds of St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury, before, during and after the time of the monks

Hot off the press! Alison Hicks has brought together the many and varied investigations undertaken on the North Holmes campus of Canterbury Christ Church University between 1983 and 2007. All together there were twenty-five sites, remains from which span from prehistoric to modern times. The campus today is crammed full of academic buildings and it's an interesting exercise to strip these away, start at the bottom and see how the site developed over time.

The first direct evidence of settlement dates to the Bronze Age, then in the Roman period a cremation cemetery was situated close to the later Sessions House. Another Roman period feature was a masonry conduit which probably helped channel water from the hills east of the site – the same source used later by both St Augustine's Abbey and Christ Church Priory.

The site really gets busy in the Anglo-Saxon period with the establishment of the monastery of St Peter and St Paul (c AD 598) with lots of features containing debris from metalworking, suggestive of craftworking perhaps servicing the monastery. Then in the middle of the eleventh century, when the abbey church and claustral buildings

are thought to have been rebuilt, the area was again pressed into service with such industrial features as a casting pit, a lime kiln and two probable tile kilns being built together with a barn. A 'large enigmatic feature' also dates to this period. What could it have been?

St Augustine's Abbey expanded again from the mid thirteenth century with the development of inner and outer courts. The project area covered a large part of the outer court where such service buildings as the cellarer's range and brewhouse-bakehouse were located. A large portion of the brewhouse-bakehouse range was revealed enabling more to be gleaned on how the building might have functioned.

The abbey was dissolved in 1538, some parts were converted to a royal palace for Henry VIII and other parts were dismantled. A few buildings survived, including the western end of the brewhouse-bakehouse. The gable end survives today (shown on the cover).

As well as an account and discussion of the archaeology of the site, the pottery and the finds, the book includes a documentary history of the outer court by Dr Margaret Sparks.

Jane Elder

Archaeology research seminars 2015–2016

Seminars take place on Thursdays
5.30–7.00pm. All are welcome.



Canterbury
Christ Church
University

15 October: Dr Tudur Davis (University of Sheffield)

Pollen, Penllyn and the environment of early medieval Wales

Room Nf03-04 (Newton building, first floor)

22 October: Dr Andrew Jones (University of Southampton)

Making a mark: the forgotten arts of Neolithic Britain and Ireland

Room Ng03 (Newton building, ground floor)

4 February: Dr Jody Joy (University of Cambridge)

Shedding new light on an old treasure: re-examining the Iron Age hoards from Snettisham, Norfolk

Room TBC

25 February: Dr Penny Bickle (University of York)

Dealing with difference: investigating social diversity in the central European Neolithic

Room TBC

Bigbury quarrying – a few questions

I am a PhD student at the University of Kent studying the Iron Age Hillfort at Bigbury near Harbledown and there is a particular aspect of my research which I am hoping someone amongst the Friends of CAT could help me with.

I have been trying to find information regarding the gravel quarrying which damaged the Hillfort during the latter part of the 19th century; even though destructive, it was this activity that first brought Bigbury to the attention of the antiquarians with the recovery of a metalwork hoard found within the ramparts.

As part of my research, I have carried out extensive geophysics mainly focused on the fields to the west and south of the ramparts. The geophysics (Fig 1) revealed a high resistance linear anomaly at the bottom of the small valley running parallel to the southern ramparts. It was likely that this anomaly was the remains of a trackway as indicated by old aerial photographs, but to be sure a test pit was positioned to examine the anomaly. As expected it revealed a compacted clay surface but what was not expected, was a deep ditch to the south of the trackway.

At the bottom of the ditch just above a layer of iron pan, was a very soft, stone free sandy layer which contained several pieces of rusty iron as well as a modified aluminium canister (Fig 2). The canister had a modified lid to accept a fuse or wick and the canister itself was split, possibly by the action of a small explosion. This canister was originally made by Vinolia and probably contained shaving soap. A similar unmodified item (Fig 3) was found on a Slovenian website in a World War 1 context. Initial ideas of use could be that it was something to do with the orchards, possibly a homemade bird scarer or smoke canister to deter insects. Any other thoughts on its date and use would be very welcome.

Additionally, it would also be useful to know the dates that quarrying at Bigbury started and finished and if possible, who carried it out. Any information on quarrying techniques would also be helpful as it may explain the purpose of the ditch.

A probable connection with the quarrying is the alteration to the roads in the immediate area, in particular the extension of Faulkner's Lane which now zigzags through the eastern ramparts. This zigzag road does not appear on the Tithe map or on a map dated

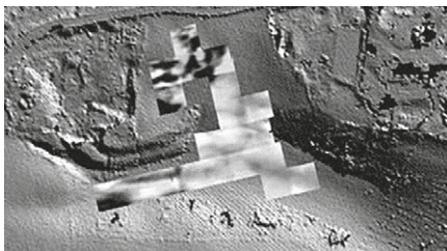


Fig 1.



Fig 2.



Fig 3.

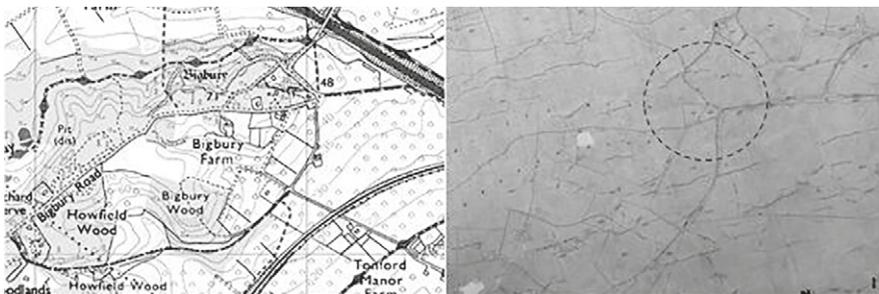


Fig 4. Modern OS map (left) and Tithe map.

1843 (Fig 4) but it does appear on OS maps dated around the 1870's. It is therefore likely that this road was constructed in response to the quarrying. I am hoping that there may still be some archives surviving such as construction drawings or meeting notes, which may shed light on why this particular route was taken; was there already a breach in the ramparts possibly the remains of an old entrance? I have tried Canterbury council but they could not help so I am hoping that someone may have local knowledge that could either help me directly or at least point me in the right direction.

If anyone does have any information on any of the questions raised above, then I would be happy to hear from you. My email is ab768@kent.ac.uk or home address 60 Highlands Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 5NB.

Andy Bates

FCAT programme

 Saturday 16 January 2016:

First Steps in Archaeology. One-day course led by Andrew Richardson.

10.00am to 4.00pm. Trust offices, 92a Broad Street, Canterbury CT1 2LU. £40 or £35 for members of the Friends.

 Wednesday 27 January 2016:

Tales of two towns: Canterbury and Northampton in the later thirteenth century.

Dr John Williams.

7.00 pm Lecture theatre NG07, Newton Building, Canterbury Christ Church University, North Holmes Road, Canterbury

In the thirteenth century Canterbury and Northampton were two of the foremost towns of England. John Williams has spent many years investigating Northampton's medieval archaeology and history. Now a resident of Canterbury, he has turned his attention to documentary sources relating to the thirteenth-century city. Comparison of the two places helps to draw out their distinctive qualities.

John was County Archaeologist for Kent for almost twenty years and is an honorary research fellow in history at the University of Kent.

 Saturday 6 February 2016:

The Archaeology of Death. One-day course led by Jake Weekes.

10.00am to 4.00pm. Trust offices, 92a Broad Street, Canterbury CT1 2LU. £40 or £35 for members of the Friends.

 Saturday 27 February 2016:

Understanding and Recording Stratigraphy. One-day course led by Peter Clark.

10.00am to 4.00pm. Trust offices, 92a Broad Street, Canterbury CT1 2LU. £40 or £35 for members of the Friends.

 Saturday 27 February 2016

Dr Paul Bennett: The Frank Jenkins Memorial Lecture

6.00 pm. Pg09, Powell Building, Canterbury Christ Church University, North Holmes Road, Canterbury

 Saturday 5 March 2016:

Putting Colour in the Past: An introduction to environmental archaeology. One-day course led by Enid Allison.

10.00am to 4.00pm. Trust offices, 92a Broad Street, Canterbury CT1 2LU. £40 or £35 for members of the Friends. Limited to 10 places.

 Saturday 12 March 2016:

Archaeological Report Writing. One-day course led by Jake Weekes.

10.00am to 4.00pm. Trust offices, 92a Broad Street, Canterbury CT1 2LU. £40 or £35 for members of the Friends.

 Saturday 19 March 2016:

First Steps in Archaeology. One-day course led by Andrew Richardson.

10.00am to 4.00pm. Trust offices, 92a Broad Street, Canterbury CT1 2LU. £40 or £35 for members of the Friends.

 Thursday 24 March 2016:

Private view for Friends of CAT of the Trust's 40th Anniversary Exhibition.

6.30pm, Beany House of Art and Knowledge, High Street, Canterbury.

 Friday 25 March 2016:

The Trust's 40th Anniversary Exhibition opens to the public.

Beany House of Art and Knowledge, High Street, Canterbury.

 1–3 April 2016:

Canterbury Medieval History weekend. Exploring the Middle Ages. See Newsletters 96 and 97 for details and for booking arrangements or: www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-humanities/school-of-humanities/medieval-canterbury-weekend/medieval-canterbury-weekend.aspx

 Advance notice:

Three public lectures form part of our 40th anniversary celebrations at the Beany. These will take place on Thursday evenings, 7th, 14th and 21st April. Details in Newsletter 99.

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.

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

FCAT

Canterbury Archaeological Trust Ltd
92a Broad Street
Canterbury CT1 2LU

t: 01227 825280

f: 01227 784724

e: friends@canterburytrust.co.uk

w: canterburytrust.co.uk



Woolcomber Street open weekend.
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