

FRIENDS

of the

CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST



Excavating the Roman building at Slatters (pp 18–20).

Newsletter 106 summer 2018

FCAT Committee

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If you would like to join the committee or help with Friends' activities, please contact chairFCAT@canterburytrust.co.uk. We would love to hear from you.

The next Newsletter will appear in November 2018.

Please send contributions to

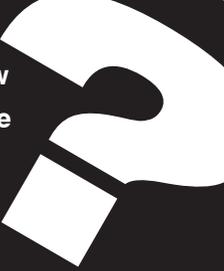
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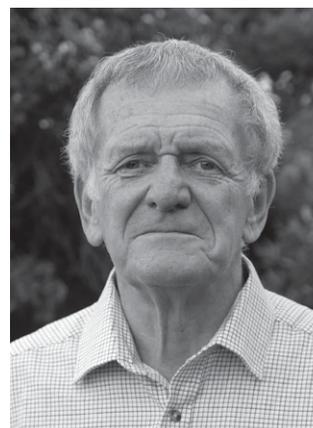
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Please note
 Donation suggested in support of the Trust for all talks:
 FCAT members £2; non-members £3; registered
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Dear Friends,

When I was writing to you for the last Newsletter Canterbury was gripped by an icy blast, but now the year has moved on and we are enjoying the balm of a pleasant English summer. Across the seasons the work of the Trust continues and I hope that you will find the various offerings in this Newsletter, relating to its ongoing endeavours, both informative and enjoyable.

One of the important roles that the Friends plays is to support the training of staff within the Trust and in this we are greatly aided by the Donald Baron Fund. During the last year Mrs Baron has again made a generous donation to the fund for which we are most grateful. Within this Newsletter you will find the accounts of various members of staff of the Trust who have benefitted from bursaries enabling them to attend courses and conferences,

which both help their personal development and keep them and the Trust well informed on current scientific and other thinking in archaeology.

You will also be able to see the programme of events for the autumn. Perhaps there is something there of interest for you. Can I draw attention to the wonderful work of Doreen Rosman in organising the FCAT walks as part of the Canterbury Festival? In each of the last two years these walks have raised over £2,000 for the Friends and, with the walks listed, hopefully 2018 will again be a profitable year.

Chris Bounds, our Vice Chair explains in a short piece how the Trust and the Friends have responded to the new personal data protection regulations. We are sure that the Trust's approach will both safeguard personal data and be in accord with the new regulations.

In terms of archaeological investigations, the major project of the last six months has been the Slatters excavation which some of you will have visited at the open evening in June. It is a pity that it was not possible to set up a viewing platform to make the investigations accessible to the public, but I am afraid that legal and other issues conspired to prevent this happening. Alison Hicks, the site director, brings us up to date with interim results of the work up to the end of June and as on other sites in the centre of Canterbury there is a most interesting sequence of Anglo-Saxon and medieval structures and associated features overlying and cutting through Roman levels that are at the heart of the Roman city - adjacent to the theatre. I am very much looking forward to hearing the full story of this very important site.

The role of the theatre in the post-Roman centuries is one that I was reflecting on in June during a visit to Italy to look at 'old' things. Lucca, with its complete circuit of bastioned defences, its squares, and fine churches and palaces, is a delightful Renaissance city. The chequerboard layout of the earlier Roman city is, however, clearly visible in the surviving street plan. Outside this grid (and indeed the Roman city) but within the bounds of the medieval and Renaissance walls is the Piazza Anfiteatro. The oval piazza is completely enclosed by buildings whose frontages follow the line of the arena wall of the former Roman amphitheatre. The piazza is entered through four arches, one at each end of the long

axis of the amphitheatre, with another midway down each side. The rears of the buildings enclosing the piazza follow the curved line of the outside wall of the amphitheatre and here and there it is possible to see traces of the Roman arches, now filled in, that supported the tiers of seating; such arches are clearly visible for example at the Colosseum and in the surviving amphitheatres at Nimes and Arles. If you are ever in Lucca the piazza is well worth a visit.

In looking at the various contributions within the Newsletter I find myself reflecting again on the importance of the archaeological heritage of Canterbury (and indeed the wider world); it is a fragile asset that needs to be cherished. Thank you for supporting the Trust and please continue to do so.

John Williams, Chair FCAT

Dear Friends,

You may not be aware that we lost one of our long-term members of staff recently after an alarmingly short illness. The wonderful Andrew Savage first came to the Trust as a volunteer in 1981 and then in 1983 worked as an excavator with our MSC team at Church Lane St Radigund's. But for the greater part of his time with us he was our photographer, x-radiographer and pottery specialist. You may not recollect him as he was a private person, rarely in the forefront. He was mostly behind the camera, or in the darkroom or stooping over a desk strewn with pottery.

Andrew was a special employee and friend to us all. Many of us have known him for over three decades, but most of us knew little of him outside working hours. He was always quiet, modest, reserved and focussed on his work. It was only at his funeral that I caught a fleeting glimpse of the other Andrew. So, I have dedicated my piece in this newsletter to him, to let Friends know just how special he was.

Andrew's brother Frank told us at the funeral that his family were second generation Lithuanian refugees, whose grandparents had sold up their homestead at the turn of the century to find a new and better life in America. When Andrew's dad was a baby they made it as far as Dover and then Motherwell in Scotland, where men were needed to work in the coal mines. Andrew's mother was born in Motherwell to Lithuanian parents; the grandparents were neighbours. In 1948 Andrew's family moved to Canterbury. He was born in 1956, the youngest of five brothers and sisters.

My background as many of you know is in mining with my grandparents, uncles and father working at Snowdown colliery. Andrew knew this, but at no time did he tell me that his father was also a miner at Snowdown Colliery. This was typical of the man, he gave so little away about himself. He clearly loved his dad who according to Frank was on permanent night shift. When his brothers and sisters had left home, Andrew and his dad spent a great deal of time together, developing in Andrew a lasting love for

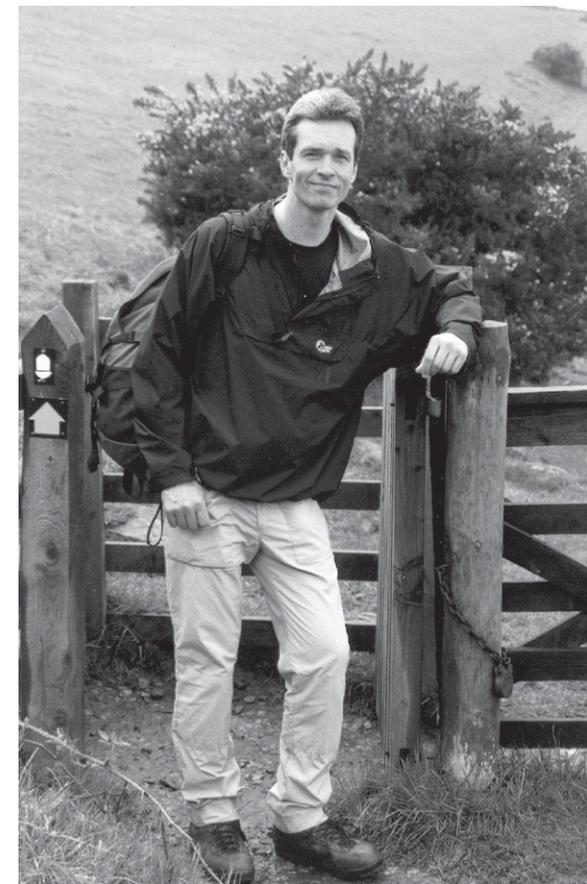
long distance walking; motorcycle trips to the coast and more distant locations embedded a love of travel. Frank said they had much in common including a gentle, shy nature and a love of the natural world.

Andrew attended St Thomas's Primary School and Simon Langton Grammar. One of few things he told me of his schooling was his affection and respect for Lawrence Lyle, who taught him history at the Langton. Andrew went on to study geography at Hull University.

Andrew was a splendid, accomplished photographer and photography was his passion. He recorded people, site shots, buildings, small finds and pottery, animal and human bones – subjects that found their way into articles, books, lectures and exhibitions. Andrew's images fill and embellish our publications and those of others; and some have been syndicated worldwide. He was our recorder at functions, celebrations and events; the man with the camera. Never in front of the lens, always behind.

But he did so much more. He maintained our cameras and image recording systems and printed our black and white images. He ran our x-ray department, taking and printing x-rays of metal objects. Above all Andrew administrated our vast photographic archive. He master-minded the many technological changes that accompanied the transition from film and chemicals to digital imagery. Not a transition – it was a revolution and Andrew embraced the new technology with a will. He was simply brilliant, not only in lighting and framing subjects but in using technology to improve and enhance images. Any lecture given over the past twenty-five years owes a debt of gratitude to him, not only for locating images but for assembling them as composites to throw on to a screen. He was in consequence forever in the darkroom, and to me the 'Prince of Darkness'.

Andrew was also our in-house Roman pottery specialist. He developed his interest with the encouragement of Marion Green who in the early days of the Trust was our



pottery person. His skill in identifying Roman pottery was considerable. He spot-dated all ceramic material from our sites, produced Roman pottery reports for publication and enjoyed the respect of others working in the field.

He ran popular courses on Roman pottery with Marion. Never one for being in the limelight or for speaking in public, this was a major ordeal for him, but the audience was always happy – and said so, often effusively.

Pottery was perhaps less of a passion to Andrew and more of a means of supporting the Trust and his photographic interests. He preferred to be called the Trust Photographer, not our Ceramic Specialist. In fact, he was both. Equally competent and equally professional. Above all, he was immensely generous with his time and would always go out of his way to help. He never let any of us down.

Andrew read voraciously, had a great love of nature, enjoyed music of all kinds and was a great walker; another interest was a shared allotment with Jane Elder. When everyone else took their annual leave in the spring or summer, Andrew took his in the deep mid-winter, cross-country skiing in Norway or Sweden - referred to by me as 'wrestling with polar bears'. Perhaps his fascination with snow was in his genes and Lithuanian roots. He was tall, lean man with large feet, and another tease was that he had no need of snow shoes. Andrew had a great sense of humour and gave back more than was ever dished out. He was quite simply a lovely man.

I will miss that quiet, gentle, modest friend and dedicated, committed colleague, and I will miss that wry and sometimes schoolboy sense of humour that never failed to catch me out.

The Trust is considerably poorer for his passing, but his legacy of quality work will live on.

Paul Bennett, Director

Chalk Hill, Ramsgate

In 1997 the Trust excavated an important Neolithic and Bronze Age site at Chalk Hill, about 2 kilometres west of Ramsgate on the Isle of Thanet. After twenty years the detailed analysis of the site is complete, and the final report on the excavations will appear in print early next year. Post-excavation work has shown that the site is a hitherto unrecognised type of Neolithic ritual monument unique to the British Isles and of international significance.

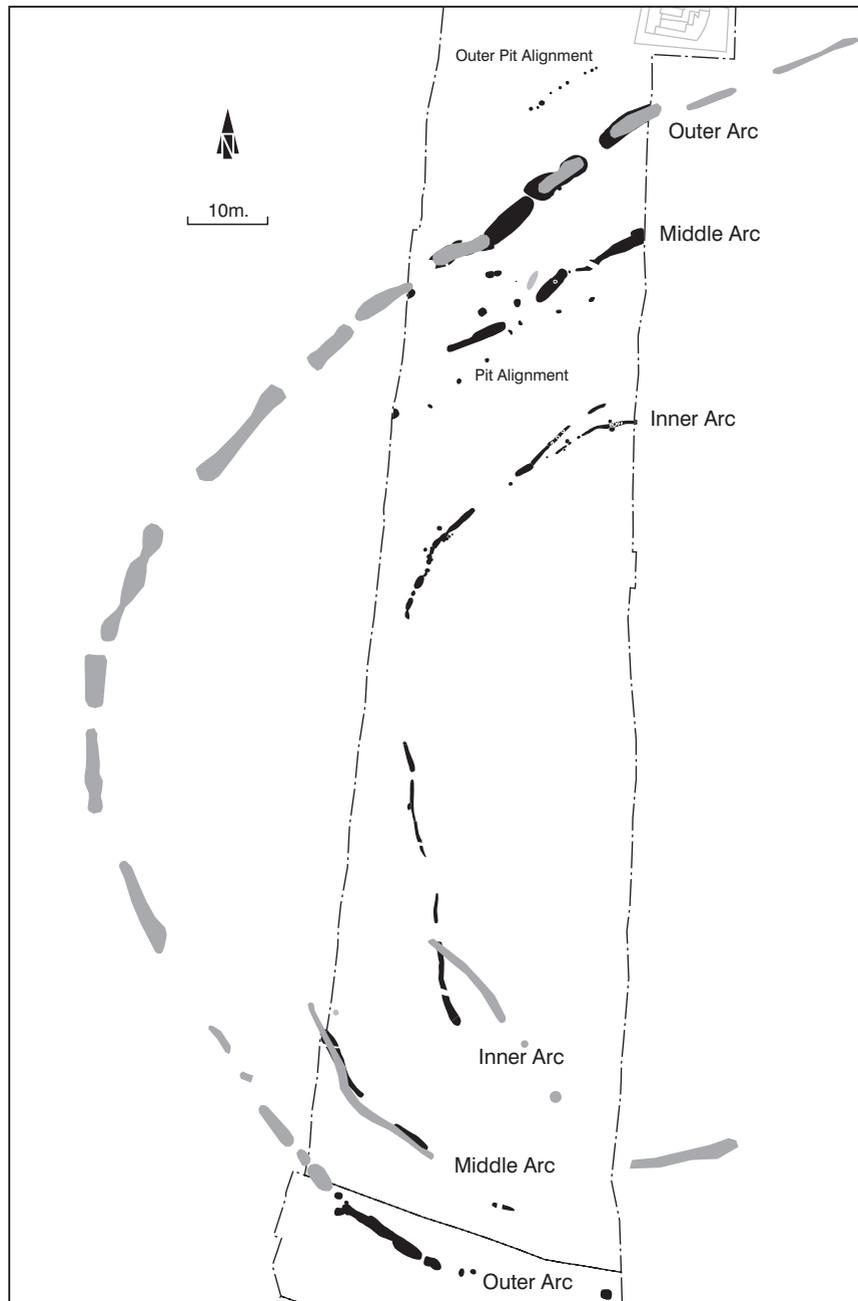
The original fieldwork, funded by KCC Highways, took place in advance of the construction of a road leading down to Ramsgate Harbour, which was to cut through some cropmarks visible on aerial photographs. These appeared to show a Neolithic

'causewayed enclosure' on the flanks of Chalk Hill. Causewayed enclosures are the earliest form of non-funerary monument known in the British Isles, typically a roughly circular or oval area surrounded by discontinuous circuits of bank and ditch. The heyday of construction of these monuments was between 3700 BC and 3550 BC; their function is uncertain, but they are generally understood to be places of communal gathering for ritual activities of some sort.

The site at Chalk Hill superficially fitted this pattern, and an interim report published in *Current Archaeology* in 2000 reported that it was indeed a 'causewayed camp', an interpretation that was followed by other authors prior to full consideration of the excavation results. The situation was exacerbated when the excavation director emigrated from Britain to Canada in 2007, leaving the post-excavation study of the site unfinished and no definitive account of the excavations available. Of course, everyone else at the Trust was very busy with their own workload and so the Chalk Hill report languished in its unfinished state for some years. Eventually Jake Weekes and I took up the challenge and started working through the site records in earnest as our other responsibilities allowed. It soon became clear that the Neolithic features at Chalk Hill did not in fact represent a 'causewayed enclosure' at all, despite the superficial resemblance to one. What appeared to be concentric circuits of discontinuous ditches separated by causeways were not ditches, but rather linear clusters of intercutting pits. The pits were filled with rich assemblages of pottery, animal bone, flintwork and even human bone, including parts of two human skulls. It appears that much of this material was not just casual rubbish but was deliberately placed in the pits, possibly derived from another source — a 'midden' — that was not found in the excavation area.



Excavation of one of the linear pit clusters at Chalk Hill, 1997.



Plan of the Neolithic features at Chalk Hill. The central north-south strip was excavated, but cropmarks revealed the outer arc of pits continuing to the west.

Whilst the phenomenon of deliberately and repeatedly digging pits in order to redeposit such material may seem bizarre to modern eyes, it is not uncommon in the British Neolithic. Clusters of intercutting pits with similar placed deposits have been found throughout Britain and have been a focus of academic research for some twenty years or so. There is no clear understanding of why Neolithic people did this; some have surmised that the introduction of cultural material into the earth may have been perceived as a way of laying claim and legitimacy to the land by immigrant farming communities. What is peculiar at Chalk Hill is the very specific morphology of these pit clusters, mirroring the layout of the interrupted ditches of 'classic' causewayed enclosures elsewhere in the country. But Chalk Hill is not alone; excavation of the causewayed enclosure at Briar Hill in Northamptonshire showed that here too the assumed 'ditch segments' were also in fact pit clusters. However monuments like Chalk Hill and Briar Hill were laid out, the creation of the 'segments' of the concentric circuits were the result of repeated pit-digging in the same spot rather than being planned from the outset. In this respect, the final phase of pit clusters seems to have emphasised the shapes of the clusters themselves, focussing on the ultimate morphology of the monument. The monument was probably first established in around 3730–3685 BC and was in use for between 60 and 120 years, being abandoned in about 3620–3585 BC, and is thus one of the earliest non-funerary monuments in the British Isles. Later monuments of similar layout with interrupted ditch circuits thus created the overall layout from the outset, rather than being a product of incremental pit digging. Was the Chalk Hill site one of the originators of the concept of later 'causewayed enclosures'?

Another interesting fact about the site is that it dates to the early Neolithic, a time when many scholars believe the 'Neolithic package' of farming, domesticated animals and other cultural elements were imported to the British Isles from continental Europe starting around 4000 BC. Yet according to our French and Belgian colleagues the phenomenon of placed deposits in pits does not occur anywhere in mainland western Europe during the Neolithic. It is an entirely British and Irish phenomenon. If this is the case, then why did incoming Neolithic communities adopt this behaviour? One possibility is that they may have adopted the practice from indigenous Mesolithic hunter-gatherers. There is a tradition of placed deposits in pits in Mesolithic culture, albeit one that has not been widely recognised, and it may be that the site at Chalk Hill is suggestive of interaction — creolisation — of native Mesolithic traditions and the incoming continental Neolithic way of life. Certainly, the millennia-long cultural traditions of native hunter-gatherers otherwise disappears from the archaeological record at the time of the Neolithisation of the British Isles, and Chalk Hill may contribute a more nuanced understanding of the impact of the introduction of the Neolithic way of life on indigenous peoples (and vice-versa).

Thus, the Neolithic monument at Chalk Hill may represent a special monument where early farming communities came together (perhaps alongside native groups) to conduct religious ceremonies, revitalise social ties through pit-digging, feasting and

other activities, possibly on a temporary, seasonal basis. The site was only in use for a few generations before it was abandoned, though the hillside remained a 'special place', being a focus of Bronze Age burial mounds and enclosures before being given over to agriculture at the end of the Bronze Age to the present day.

The Neolithic and Bronze Age discoveries at Chalk Hill thus offer an important contribution to our understanding of the prehistory of eastern Kent and the Transmanche zone, and it is most gratifying that the final report will shortly see the light of day. It is, however, just one of a number of major archaeological reports that the Trust hopes to publish in the coming year, with important volumes on the archaeology of New Romney, the Anglo-Saxon and medieval discoveries at Whitefriars, and the Bronze Age settlement (and significant Bronze Age sword moulds) at Holborough Quarry, all nearing completion. Publication is of course the life blood of archaeology; without the academic analysis of our fieldwork and the dissemination of new knowledge, we are little more than a service provider to the construction industry, clearing sites of archaeological 'contamination' to expedite the lifting of planning conditions. The publication of the Chalk Hill excavations along with the other planned volumes will go some way to satisfying our professional obligations and meeting our charitable aims.

Peter Clark

Palaeolithic deposits and deposit modelling

Kindly funded by the Friends, to whom I extend my sincere thanks, I attended an Historic England (HE) Heritage Practice course on 23 March in Swindon. The course, 'Curating the Palaeolithic: approaches to desk-based assessment and field evaluation', was introduced by HE's Regional Science Adviser for the South-East, Jane Corcoran, but the main talkers were Francis Wenban-Smith (University of Southampton) and our own County Archaeologist, Lis Dyson. An interesting dimension was added by 'Clickapads', resembling pocket calculators, enabling the audience of twenty-one non-specialists to answer multi-choice questions on the screen: and a right pigs-ear we made of them.

I found the course of special relevance as much of my work these days involves dealing with data from, or watching briefs on, geotechnical site investigations (SI). These are conducted to assess subsoil characteristics and contamination levels. The deep test-pits and boreholes employed frequently encounter Pleistocene and early Holocene deposits, that is of Palaeolithic and Mesolithic date. Over the past few years, HE and local planning authorities (LPAs) have been increasing the attention paid to these periods, whose very rare but often highly significant remains tend to be

so scattered that creating Scheduled Monuments is usually inappropriate: not even the famous Boxgrove site is scheduled (only 38 per cent of us knew/guessed that via our Clickapad).

Though the planning process is supposed to protect such early remains, LPAs, consultants and contracting archaeologists often lack the relevant expertise (or confidence) to tackle them effectively and the number of Palaeolithic specialists is still very low. The course was aimed at raising the general archaeologist's awareness and knowledge of 'Ice Age archaeology', though Francis's list of desired outcomes also included 'a relaxed retirement' for him.

Lis took us through current national planning policy and guidance, KCC and Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CifA) specifications, and research frameworks. She also discussed the recent Stour Basin Historic Environment Record (HER) enhancement project. Previously the Kent HER had 120 records for east Kent: by careful examination of published and unpublished sources, Francis had added another 108 (29 per cent answered correctly on their Clickapad).

Though these find-spots are important, their distribution can be very misleading. For example, in west Kent, a remarkable cluster around Ightham is probably due as much to the zeal of nineteenth-century local collector Benjamin Harrison as to the presence of the Oldbury rock shelters. A more reliable indicator of Palaeolithic potential is the 'deposit-centred' approach, which focuses on specific geological occurrences. Lis and Francis are great advocates of this strategy and this was the major theme of the day. Here too though, published maps can be misleading: archaeologists have found the Boyn Hill Gravels (source of Swanscombe Man) extending at least 900m beyond their published limits (19 per cent of us pressed the right button, it might have been 14 per cent had I not remembered standing years ago with Lis in an evaluation trench at Swanscombe and agreeing 'this shouldn't be here!').

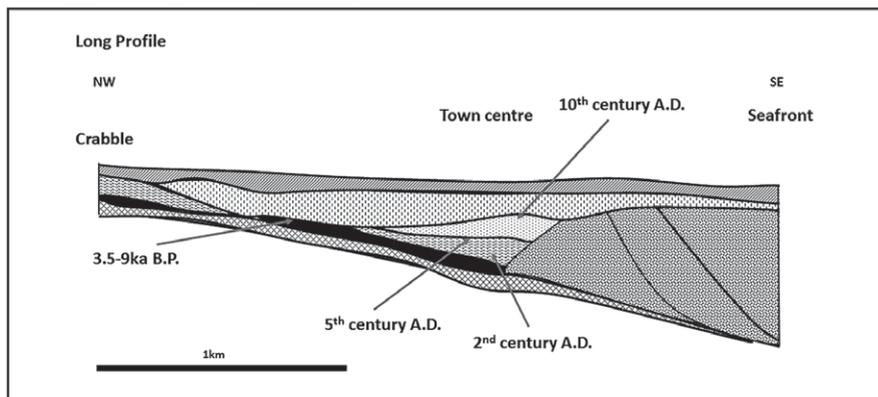
Lis then introduced the huge HS1/Ebbsfleet Village project, demonstrating the provisional identification of Palaeolithic Character Areas (PCAs) using preliminary SI data. More detail was added from targeted archaeological fieldwork and from watching briefs on further SI. After a very rapid canter through the Pleistocene deposit types we can expect in the South-east, Francis took us into the characterization stage of the Ebbsfleet project in greater detail, asking questions all the way. His occasional habit of clicking on the 'Next' button before we had voted enabled us to achieve an impressive 100% on the potential of PCA 10.

For the next case-study (a re-routing of the A36 in the Avon Valley) we were split into groups, given masses of background information and asked to identify and assess PCAs and propose suitable strategies for each one. As we had to start by plotting dozens of HER entries by hand, this was rather overambitious for the 40 minutes or so available and was, to me, the only disappointing part of the day.

Francis then turned to fieldwork methods, including geophysical survey, archaeological trenching or augering, or sitting back and letting the geotechs do the dirty work, which leads neatly into the second part of this account ...

In Britain, the use of SI (and purposive archaeological) borehole and test-pit data to model archaeological and geoarchaeological deposits has grown steadily over the past few decades. Factors in this include increasing attention paid to Pleistocene and early Holocene levels, and to palaeoenvironmental evidence of all periods, increasing planning, engineering or insurance requirements for SI, health and safety concerns about cutting archaeological evaluation trenches in potentially contaminated or unstable ground, more geoarchaeological Masters courses in our universities, and increased on-line availability of geotechnical logs (via the British Geological Survey or LPA planning portals). The sheer number of conventional archaeological evaluations and excavations, themselves on the increase due to tighter planning processes, has also contributed as we seek to understand them in their wider settings: looking at landscapes as well as individual sites. Alongside this has been an expansion in the frequency and scale of geophysical surveys, and of sonar-, radar- and lidar-based 3D surface models. There has, therefore, been an explosion in the quantity of archaeological 'point data', the raw material of deposit modelling. Very often, however, the models have appeared only in unpublished 'grey literature', as unread appendices to archaeological reports, or in specialist publications (the *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Geowissenschaften* springs to mind) seldom on the reading lists of most British field archaeologists.

In 2016, I attended an HE seminar held to bring together British archaeological deposit modellers *en masse* for the first time, to compare and discuss techniques. It was intended that this would result in the publication of HE guidelines (Carey *et al* in prep), with some case-studies appended. So numerous, varied and enthusiastic were the contributors that their studies have now been published in a separate monograph (Carey *et al* 2018).



Martin Bates's idealized long profile along the west side of the Dour at Dover, based on borehole and excavation data (from Carey *et al* 2018). © University of Brighton, used with permission.

Following the editors' introduction, pride of place is given to a long-time associate of CAT, the palaeoenvironmentalist and geoarchaeologist Martin Bates (University of Wales), putting the rest of us firmly in our place by the start of his chapter title: '35 years at the trench-face...'. He reviews the history of SI (beginning with Han Dynasty China) and its rather patchy association with early archaeologists, then moves to Dover in 1990, when the council funded paleoenvironmental assessment of deposits in the centre of the town. The geoscientists involved soon formed the nucleus of the Geoarchaeological Service Facility (GSF, 1990-1997) at University College, London. GSF worked on many sites and gave a huge boost to geoarchaeology and deposit modelling in the South-east. Martin has kept coming back to Dover and, indeed, is waiting on the release of developer funds to start adding data from the recent St James development to his deposit models and palaeoenvironmental analyses. Unfortunately, lack of adequate funding has frustrated some previous investigations: the A20 project did not progress beyond palaeoenvironmental assessment and, though the immediate context of the Dover Boat was studied, its wider setting was not.

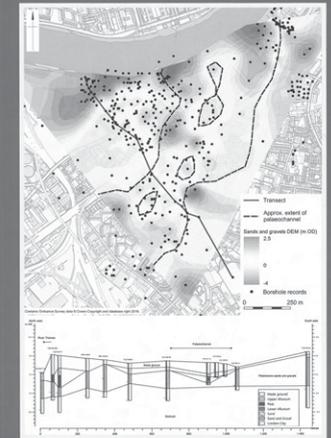
To summarize the other fifteen case studies would risk producing a supplement to this Newsletter. They involve Pleistocene deposits in Leicestershire, the Isle of Wight and along the Bexhill-Hastings link road, later buried landscapes and alluvia in Nottingham, Wandsworth, Essex and West Sussex, and large-area, multi-site models in south London, from Battersea to the Erith marshes. Models in historic urban settings, where complex Roman or later deposits are commoner, take in the City of London, York (where their first model was created in 1989), Nantwich and Canterbury. The concluding chapter reflects the discussion at the seminar, addressing the value of deposit models, the skills required (and those available), standards, outputs, archiving and, perhaps most importantly long-term data-management, so that today's models can be reviewed, extended and refined by tomorrow's analysts.

Simon Pratt

Carey, C, Howard, A J, Knight, D, Corcoran, J and Heathcote, J (eds) 2018, *Deposit Modelling and Archaeology*, University of Brighton (<<https://www.brighton.ac.uk/research-and-enterprise/groups/past-human-and-environment-dynamics/deposit-modelling-and-archaeology.aspx>>, accessed 30 May 2018)

Carey, C, Howard, A J, Knight, D, Corcoran, J and Heathcote, J (eds) in prep, *Deposit Modelling for Archaeological Projects*, Historic England

Deposit Modelling and Archaeology



Edited by Chris Carey, Andy J. Howard, David Knight, Jane Corcoran and Jen Heathcote

Cover image © University of Brighton, used with permission.

Reflections on funerary and theoretical archaeology

In April, thanks to support from the Friends, I was able to attend, in close succession, at Hull and Edinburgh, two international conferences on subjects very close to my professional heart. A major research area for me is funerary archaeology and reconstructing the whole funerary process, how it was conducted and what it meant to those participating. With Canterbury's extensive Roman cemeteries there is a wealth of local material of interest to my research. I also study archaeological theory, not just how we interpret the evidence in the ground but also how archaeologists practising in different parts of our professional world interact with each other and indeed with the archaeology itself.

The 'Remember Me' conference at the Guildhall in Hull was a multidisciplinary colloquium focussed on the anthropology, psychology and sociology of funerals and commemoration. There was a fascinating mix of delegates at this conference, which as well as researchers also included practitioners like funeral celebrants, cemetery directors, grief counsellors and palliative nurses. I gave a paper about how archaeologists are now trying to look beyond the physical remains of burial. I showed examples of reconstructing different actions of funerary ritual, from the Neolithic to the present day, including aspects I call selection, preparation, location, modification, deposition and commemoration. David Roth, a grief counsellor, was particularly interested in my examples of funerary improvisation in the archaeological record. This struck a chord for David, a modern innovator it was an honour to meet, who is clearly in the vanguard of revolutionising German attitudes to death at his amazing funeral home near Leipzig. His ethos is one of accepting the need for mourners to face and understand the death of a loved one in their own personal way, improvising their funerary response, rather than having a structure forced upon them by convention, and indeed even current (culturally defined) legal constraints. I guess it was probably heartening for David to see archaeological evidence that inclusive, creative and specialised rituals have considerable precedent in various cultures. In fact, it is very interesting to me that we can begin to elucidate those aspects of funerals that seem common across time and space, whatever particular cultural expression they receive. It was brilliant to have a chat about this over coffee with the humble and eminent Prof Douglas Davis of Durham University; we concluded that, despite much anthropological influence on archaeology to focus on specific cultures (an *idiographic* approach), there is room for developing broader cross-cultural

theory (a *nomothetic* approach). I admit I am increasingly a nomotheticist when it comes to the archaeology of ritual.

This brings me to the Roman Archaeology Conference in Edinburgh, where I co-organised a session, with Dr Andy Gardner of the Institute of Archaeology, UCL, entitled 'Alienation and Redemption: the praxis of (Roman) archaeology in Britain'. I had proposed a session like this to Andy at a previous Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference (TRAC) in Durham, and we put it together for Edinburgh as a forum for discussion, the aim being to consider how to tackle perceived systemic problems in the archaeology of Roman Britain (as much as the archaeology of other periods).

The session was very well attended by colleagues from across the board in Roman Archaeology, and included, thankfully, a decent cohort of museum-based and other curatorial colleagues, whom we had not been able to represent on the panel. We started with brief presentations to introduce topics from the panel, which was made up of Francesca Mazilli (Cambridge Archaeological Unit) Marta Alberti (Vindolanda Trust), Sadie Watson (MoLA), Lacey Wallace (University of Lincoln), Andy and myself. Speakers introduced concerns about non-archaeological values like divisive competitiveness in developer-funded archaeology and between academics competing for few jobs, silo-mentality and overly hierarchal structures that lead to a lack of joined up thinking and team work in excavation, assessment, analysis and interpretation, underrating of 'the public' as archaeologists in their own right, and the often-erroneous reconstructions of 'Roman Britain' that prevail in the media and popular understanding.

The chaired discussion was energetic and lasted over two hours. That is because these are real concerns for the archaeology of Roman Britain and for British archaeology in general: so what of 'redemption'? In my view, encouraged by the response and shared experience of colleagues at TRAC, the answer is that all archaeologists need to recognise, despite external pressures from a different value system, that we are all working in the same subject and project, the investigation of remains of material culture in order to elucidate our shared past and humanity. Moreover, we need to assert this. This is difficult if we are divided by the very systems in which we work, so we need counter-systems and fora in which to act collectively. As such, it was the general agreement of all who attended the Edinburgh TRAC session that we will look for ways to build bridges of community between systemically divided colleagues, at least in the study of Roman Britain, but hopefully, by example, beyond.

Jake Weekes

Skeleton workshops

Dr Ellie Williams, the osteoarchaeologist at Canterbury Christ Church University [CCCU] and a member of the FCAT committee, led two 'Young Medievalists' workshops on 14 April as the final event of the Medieval Canterbury Weekend 2018. This was a first for CCCU and the Centre for Kent History and Heritage, and also for the three Young Archaeologists Clubs [YACs] involved.

One workshop took place on Saturday morning and a second in the afternoon. Dr Diane Heath and I were there for both, while Josh Tyerman, one of Ellie's third year students, joined us in the afternoon. As well as the leaders of the various YACs, there were several parents, and for many of them the chance to handle bones was as new for them as it was for their children.

Ellie, who had organised such workshops before when she was at the University of Southampton, had set out a fantastic display: a Roman human skeleton, another from the Anglo-Saxon period, the skeleton of a sheep, a box containing the bones of a dog for the young archaeologists to assemble and a collection of animal bone from medieval archaeological sites. She also had a small 'station' with a cranium and jaw bone to challenge them to think about how to age a person using their teeth. Diane had brought in a couple of CAT Kit boxes so that they could also work on objects. To this 'station' Ellie added her mystery object. All she told them was that it was made from a horse bone and it was one of a pair.

Following a quick lesson on dos and don'ts and the need to respect the bones of people from the past, the morning group from Canterbury YAC got to work using Ellie's guideline sheets on what to look for and how to record their findings. In addition to the idea of ageing using the state of the molar teeth, which certainly got everyone talking, the youngsters discovered how to work out whether they were looking at the skeleton of a man or a woman by observing the shape of the skull and the pelvic bones, as well as their size. To make it more interesting, the pelvic bones of the Anglo-Saxon skeleton were not obviously 'male', whereas the skull was easier to identify as male; this provided the useful lesson that people vary and do not always show classic features as seen in text books.

The Roman skeleton was also that of a man, and in this case the pelvic bones were closer to the classic male appearance. Ellie had selected this individual because he had obviously suffered physical problems during his adult life, so much so that there were tell-tale signs on his bones. Perhaps not surprisingly, both individuals had suffered from osteoarthritis, the evidence coming from the shape of some of their vertebrae, but the Roman man's discomfort must have been even greater due to two further serious injuries. The skeleton was not complete, and only four ribs from his right side were still present but this still meant the youngsters could see what shape the ribs should be and could compare the two 'good' ribs with those that had sustained

considerable damage. Whatever had happened to him had been so traumatic that the ribs had rubbed on each other and worn away some of the bone but the damage had repaired itself to a degree, indicating that it had occurred some considerable time before he died and was not the direct cause of his death; but his ribs were never as they had been previously. The other injury was to his right shoulder. There the socket had completely disappeared, and the head of the arm bone was distorted and roughened. This would have meant bone rubbing on bone as he moved his arm, and, as Ellie said, he probably would have felt a grinding when he tried to raise his arm.

The animal bones also attracted a lot of attention, as did the CAT Kits, especially in the afternoon when we had a much larger group, comprising members of the Bexley and North Kent YACs. In the morning one youngster from the Canterbury club very carefully set out all the vertebrae belonging to the sheep skeleton, while the dog skeleton was assembled and reassembled several times by various individuals. Turning to Ellie's mystery object, a few got close while others came up with exceedingly creative suggestions, although nobody recognised that it was one of a pair of ice skates. Ellie showed an example from the Museum of London which had the necessary leather straps. This was the climax for both sessions, and it was clear from the chatter throughout that all had found the experience enjoyable and had learned new things too, although so had Ellie and her team, who were all very impressed with the youngsters' level of knowledge and their obvious enthusiasm.

Sheila Sweetinburgh



Comparing the ball and socket joints to discover the extent of injury.

General site view with Roman building top left, Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured building and cellar top centre and Roman metallurgy top right.



Slatters and Roman and Anglo-Saxon Canterbury

With just three weeks to go at the time of writing, archaeological works at the former Slatters Hotel site are nearing completion. The team have done a remarkable job, excavating throughout some of the most appalling winter weather and now in the baking heat, to uncover fascinating remains in the heart of the city.

The Slatters site lies just outside the Roman theatre and, as such, it is not surprising that Roman remains have been uncovered. They are, however, not entirely as expected. A Roman building with masonry walls was constructed on the southern part of the site adjacent to a series of courtyard surfaces and beddings. Yet the building itself appears far from conventional, since within the single room uncovered there is a series of deep channels, lined with *opus signinum* (hard Roman mortar with tile inclusions) which abuts rectangular pillars formed of clay, chalk and flint. The pillars appear to be fulfilling the function of the *pilae* stacks (formed by tiles) seen in other Roman buildings, such as, for example, in the nearby St Margaret's Street bath-house. Here and elsewhere in the town these stacks formed the basis for under-floor heating, but why a different technique was adopted in the Slatters building is as yet unclear. 'Closing' the structure at the end of its life were a cattle skull and a pig skull, both laid within the entranceway of the primary flue.

The lack of an elaborate surface surrounding the Roman theatre has also been something of a surprise. It might have been expected that such a monumental

structure, which must have loomed above the surrounding town, would have had a relatively high status and durable surface surrounding it, on to which the populace would have poured at the end of a performance. Yet what has been uncovered is a flint-metalled surface, albeit with a thickness of around 20cm, but with no sign of any bedding remnants to indicate it might once have supported something grander. And, strangely, despite evidence elsewhere to suggest that there were two phases of theatre, one constructed in the first century AD and the second in the early decades of the third, only one surface has been identified. Samples of the soils overlying the metallurgy have been taken, and it is hoped that these will indicate what activities were taking place beside the theatre.

An interesting burial has been uncovered in the corner of the site closest to the theatre, one that might shed light on activities during the sub-Roman period. The articulated remains of multiple adults, apparently buried somewhat unceremoniously within a narrow ditch, have been revealed. The skeletons lie in various postures, both face down and on their sides, and none so far uncovered have been complete: excavation has exposed almost intact inhumations, together with miscellaneous remains including single articulated legs, but curiously no skulls. A similar burial was recovered at Whitefriars, where the evidence tentatively suggested a late Roman date for burial, perhaps at a time when the taboo associated with intra-mural burial was ignored. One suggestion is that the people were the victims of an epidemic in the town, hastily buried when occupants returned after the epidemic had run its course.

Anglo-Saxon occupation has been revealed across the site, the earliest comprising three sunken-featured buildings. These would have been wooden structures, set down a short way into the ground and supported by a surround of posts and stakes. Archaeologically, what remains is the cut representing the footprint of the structure, together with the post- and stake-holes. One of these structures had a placed deposit set below the floor, a chicken buried in a small pit, whilst another contained the skeleton of a small dog in the base of a corner post-hole.



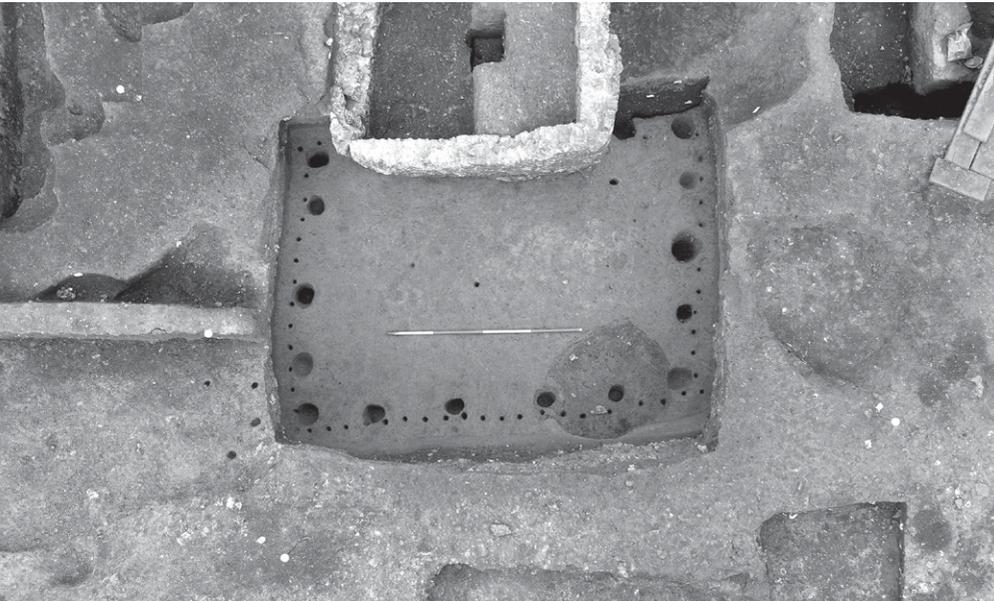
The multiple burial: the remains of many individuals packed into a narrow ditch possibly in the late Roman period.

Cutting through one of the sunken-featured buildings was a surface-laid structure, formed by beams set on the base of a rectangular cut and containing a series of clay floor and occupation deposits. This structure, too, had a placed deposit below its primary floor, the skeleton of a baby lying within a small pit.

The latest Anglo-Saxon occupation was represented by two cellars. One had been excavated in the 1970s in Slatters Hotel Yard as part of the Marlowe excavations, but on the current site was somewhat disappointing, only extending another 30cm into the excavation area before terminating. The other, however, was impressive, being approximately 5m by 4m in plan, with a depth of 1.7m, and therefore forming one of the largest excavated within the city. It was of a classic design, cut deep into the natural brickearth and with a surround of post-holes bordering an outer edge of stake-holes. The cellar would have lain below a timber structure, nothing of which survived.

During the final days of excavation, we hope to uncover both early Roman and pre-Roman remains. The edges and bases of later features show tantalising glimpses of these. The base of the Saxon cellar, for example, cuts into a pit of probable pre-Roman date. Elsewhere, pits containing charcoal and burnt daub can be seen sealed below the Roman metalling, whilst parts of the Roman masonry building are clearly subsiding into earlier remains. If the later archaeology is anything to go by, the site still has some surprises in store.

Alison Hicks



Aerial view of one of the late Saxon cellars (cut by a masonry-lined medieval cess tank, towards the top of the photograph). Drone photo: Dave Smith.

Protection of Friends' data

Members will be aware that new regulations for data protection came into force on 28 May 2018. Canterbury Archaeological Trust and the Friends have reviewed their procedures to ensure they are consistent with the new regulations. The data protection policy agreed by the Trustees will be published and placed on the Trust website.

With regard to the personal information we hold on members of the Friends, it is timely to describe how we ensure the security and privacy of your data.

The person who receives and controls the data is the Membership Secretary. To him should be addressed any queries and any updates to your details. Information is also held by the Treasurer, for example details of standing orders with banks and Gift Aid elections. They maintain the electronic records under password protection. Paper records, such as completed application forms, are kept in locked cabinets.

Whenever data is needed by others, only the information needed for the task at hand is released and only to those doing the job. For example, when newsletters are prepared for dispatch, those involved see only name and address on printed labels. They have no access to the database.

As regards e-mail addresses for those who choose to give them, they are compiled by the Membership Secretary into a 'group' named 'FCAT members'. Those FCAT and CAT officers authorised to send e-mails to members, for example the Publicity Officer, address their messages to this group, so they do not see individual members' addresses.

When other organisations inform us of events we think may be of interest to members, the information is always incorporated into the newsletters or into a circular e-mail via the 'FCAT members' group. Your contact details are never shared with third parties.

When members leave the Friends, their data will be deleted within twelve months, unless they actively consent to receive occasional information about major events. This period allows time to check whether someone may simply have overlooked to renew their donation.

Unlike some other charities, we are not asking regular members to reaffirm their willingness to receive mailings from us. This is because information about the Trust's activities, and events and activities related to the heritage of Canterbury and its region, opportunities to participate in the Trust's work as a volunteer, and discounted rates on courses and publications are all important aspects of the services offered to members. We could not provide this service without communication.

The above account should confirm to members that we are very careful to ensure that their data is kept safely and used properly within the requirements and spirit of the data protection regulations.

Chris Bounds, Vice Chair, FCAT

Forensic anthropology and archaeology

On 24 March I attended a one-day workshop run jointly by the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), hosted by the School of Forensic and Applied Sciences of UCLan in Preston. Archaeological methods of site recording have increasingly been used by the police for crime scene investigation and scientific approaches to the examination of human remains can have real benefits both for criminal and archaeological procedures.

The workshop covered the theory and practice of some of the methods used in forensic anthropology and related sciences to assess post-mortem interval in human remains (PMI – the time elapsed since a person has died). Estimation of PMI is one of the key areas in forensic taphonomy - the study of changes to human remains that focuses largely on the environment in which they were deposited and the impact of soil, water, plants, insects and animals.

The first lectures of the day were by Peter Cross and Phil Houldsworth who covered the whole process of decomposition from early changes after death to a body becoming a skeleton. The aim was to understand the role of adenosine triphosphate (ATP) and oxygen, the process of autolysis (the process that leads to cell necrosis, the death of living cells) and basic notions about post-mortem chemistry.

The second part of the workshop was led by Dr Patrick Randolph-Quinney, head of the Taphonomy Research Group, who has recently applied forensic taphonomic analyses to fossil assemblages of *Homo naledi* from the Rising Star Cave in South Africa, to investigate the evolution of hominin mortuary practices. He talked about skeletal decomposition and how components are eventually affected by diagenetic processes (the physical and chemical changes that alter the characteristics of sediments after they have been deposited) and also post-skeletonisation changes and methods of assessment such as weathering stages, bioerosion (by bacteria and fungi), bone micro-focused destruction, nitrogen and amino-acid levels, chemiluminescence (a test dependent on the presence of blood), C14 and bomb curve (the comparison of natural and man-made isotope signature – developed in connection with nuclear testing in the 1950s).

The afternoon comprised a hands-on practical laboratory session, where we had the chance to apply three main techniques (accumulated degree days (ADD), total body scoring and vitreous humour potassium levels) to simulated forensic cases. We also looked at animal bones and how they changed when they had been either exposed to the air or alternatively buried in the ground.

I would like to thank the Friends for providing a grant to make this experience possible. It will contribute greatly to my on-going training regarding human remains.

Adelina Teoaca



CANTERBURY FESTIVAL 2018

Saturday 20 October to Saturday 3 November

Once again FCAT is offering twenty walks as part of the Canterbury festival programme. These walks are a major way of raising money for the trust, over £2,000 in each of the last two years, and we are very grateful to the friends who give their time to lead them. This year there is even a 'virtual walk', catering for those of limited mobility.

A word of warning: many of our walks sell out very quickly. **If you want to come on any of them you MUST BUY TICKETS IN ADVANCE through the Festival Box Office at the Marlowe Theatre.** Full details can be found in the Festival programme, which will be published in July, but to whet your appetites here is a list of what is on offer.

Saturday 20 October: 10 am

The Geology of Herne Bay. Geoff Downer

A look at the geology of the cliffs between Herne Bay and Reculver.

Sunday 21 October: 2 pm

Victorian City: splendour and squalor. Doreen Rosman

Pigs in the streets, sewage in the Stour, elegant shops and grandiose banks: find out about life in Victorian Canterbury.

Monday 22 October: 10 am

Frontline Folkestone. Liz Minter

On the frontline of trade and of war, threatened by invasions, explore how over the centuries Folkestone reacted and survived.

Monday 22 October: 2 pm

Canterbury's Medieval Hospitals. Sheila Sweetinburgh

Some ancient almshouses still fulfil the functions envisaged by their medieval founders: an opportunity to visit and learn about them.

Tuesday 23 October: 10 am

Tales of Medieval Travellers. Meriel Connor

Throughout its history Canterbury has attracted visitors, traders, pilgrims. Learn who came and why, where they lodged, what they did.



Tuesday 23 October: 2 pm

Christ Church Priory's Water Supply. Geoff Downer
A walk within the cathedral precincts tracing the historical distribution of water to the monastic buildings.

Wednesday 24 October: 10 am

Canterbury's Medieval Friaries. Sheila Sweetinburgh
Canterbury was home to three orders of friars, but little now remains. We will explore where they lived.

Wednesday 24 October: 2 pm

The Village of Bridge. Pauline Pritchard
Roman soldiers, Canterbury pilgrims, race-course visitors, stage-coach travellers – the ancient Watling Street brought them all through Bridge.

Thursday 25 October: 10 am

Faversham: the King's Port. Lis Hamlin
Beer, bricks, gunpowder, an abbey, and a famed medieval drama: take a saunter around this historic town.

Thursday 25 October: 2 pm

A Walk in and about St Augustine's College. Peter Henderson
A tour of the buildings of the former St Augustine's College, now part of the King's School.

Friday 26 October: 10 am

The Director's Walk. Paul Bennett
The Director of the Archaeological Trust can evoke the ancient city of Canterbury in a way that no-one else can.

Saturday 27 October: 2 pm

Historic Charing and its Church. Kerstin Müller, Kevin Moon and Valerie Yeeles
Explore Charing with members of its historical society. Learn of attempts to save the Archbishop's Palace and (optionally) climb the church tower.

Sunday 28 October: 2 pm

An Armchair Tour of Hidden Canterbury. David Birmingham
A virtual excursion, enabling those of limited mobility (and others) to see images of places they can't reach. Wheelchair accessible.

Monday 29 October: 10 am

Exploring King's School. Peter Henderson
Find out about the history and buildings of the King's School on a walk round the Cathedral precincts.

Tuesday 30 October: 10 am

'Strangers' in Canterbury. Doreen Rosman
Walloons, Flemings, Huguenots sought sanctuary in Tudor and Stuart Canterbury. Find out about them, their descendants, and their new home.

Wednesday 31 October: 10 am

Introductory Tour of Dover Western Heights. Keith Parfitt
Explore some of the most interesting parts of Dover's Western fortifications (including a short low passageway) with an experienced archaeologist. Moderately strenuous.

Wednesday 31 October: 2 pm

A Literary Tour of the King's School. Peter Henderson
An opportunity to see the Maugham Library and Hugh Walpole's outstanding collection of English literary manuscripts.

Thursday 1 November: 10 am

Made in Canterbury. Peter Berg
A walk tracing industries that used to flourish in Canterbury, from tile-making and brewing to weaving and an iron foundry.

Friday 2 November: 10 am

The Roof Lines of Canterbury. Hubert Pragnell
Canterbury's medieval cathedral rises above a jumble of chimney stacks, roof ridges and gables: come and see what's above your head.

Saturday 3 November: 10 am

The Story of Canterbury. Doreen Rosman
From the Romans to the eighteenth-century remodelling of the city. See and hear how life changed over the centuries.

Doreen Rosman

canterburyfestival.co.uk



Our Friends' photo archive needs refreshing. If you have any good photographs taken at Friends events or Festival Walks that you are happy to share and which could be used to promote future events, do send them in. Send your snaps, with details of when and where taken, to jane.elder@canterburytrust.co.uk.

EVENTS Summer–Autumn 2018

FCAT lectures with CKHH

Thursday 13 September, 7pm, Newton Ng07, CCCU

Pigs in Medieval Kent. Sheila Sweetinburgh

This talk will explore pig farming in medieval Kent, from the possible use of temporary settlements and extensive management within the system of dens, to more intensive stall kept pigs, as seen in the manorial demesne records. However, pigs for medieval people were far more than just farm animals, and this talk will consider the role of the symbolic pig in the Middle Ages.

Thursday 18 October, 7pm, Newton Ng07, CCCU

Finds at CAT: Amazing things and what to do with them! Andrew Richardson

This talk will provide an overview of finds work at CAT, including past and future approaches to their study and care, and the thorny issue of their long-term future. The talk will also highlight some of the more significant finds dealt with by the Trust over the past four decades.

Thursday 29 November, 7pm, Newton Ng07, CCCU

Old Park Hill, Dover: the mystery of a lost Anglo-Saxon cemetery solved. Keith Parfitt

During research carried out for the Trust's monograph on the 1994 excavations at Buckland, it became apparent that the cemetery was one of several, all situated along the sides of the Dour valley. One of these was Old Park Hill, but with finds made in the nineteenth century being very vaguely recorded, its exact location was unclear. Trust excavations in 2017 finally solved the mystery, revealing over 40 graves in the grounds of 'Woodside' on the edge of Old Park Hill.

Other events

Canterbury Archaeological Trust

ARCHAEOLOGY COURSES **Saturday 22 September, CAT Library, 92A Broad Street**
First Steps in Archaeology

One-day course. Fee £45 (£40, FCAT). Tutor: Andrew Richardson

Booking and more details:

www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community_archaeology/archaeology-courses

Centre for Kent History and Heritage

Michael Nightingale Memorial 7th Annual Lecture

Tuesday 25 September, 7pm Og46, Michael Berry Lecture Theatre, CCCU

(wine reception from 6.30pm)

The Map as Biography: Maps, Memory and the Kent Landscape.

Professor Peter Vujakovic

J B Harley wrote his essay 'The Map as Biography' three decades ago. While one of his lesser known works, it remains a fresh and inspiring piece of writing. This lecture

takes Harley's essay as its starting point, to explore the speaker's own engagement, as a teacher, researcher and resident, with the rich history of cartography and changing landscapes of East Kent, with a focus on Wye and its surroundings.

All welcome and the lecture is free. Voluntary retiring collection.

Canterbury Archaeological Trust

ARCHAEOLOGY COURSES **Saturday 29 September, CAT Library, 92A Broad Street**
Prehistoric Kent

One-day course. Fee £45 (£40, FCAT). Tutor: Jake Weekes

Booking and more details:

www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community_archaeology/archaeology-courses

Canterbury Historical and Archaeological Society

Wednesday 10 October, 7pm, Newton Ng03, CCCU

Thirteenth-century Canterbury: a charger, a seal and a gate.

Mary Berg, historian. The William Urry Memorial Lecture

Canterbury Archaeological Trust

ARCHAEOLOGY COURSES **Saturday 13 October, CAT Library, 92A Broad Street**
A crash course in Roman Britain

One-day course. Fee £45 (£40, FCAT). Tutor: Jake Weekes

Booking and more details:

www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community_archaeology/archaeology-courses

Canterbury Archaeological Trust

ARCHAEOLOGY COURSES **Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 October, CAT Library, 92A Broad Street**
A basic introduction to animal bone

Two-day course. Fee £80 (£75, FCAT). Tutors: Enid Allison and Åsa Pehrson

Booking and more details:

www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community_archaeology/archaeology-courses

CCCU Public lecture

Tuesday 30 October, 6.00-7.00pm. Augustine Hall

Michael Wood

The title of this lecture is not confirmed at time of going to press. Originally arranged to coincide with the British Library exhibition 'Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms' (19 October 2018 – 19 February 2019), this promises to be an interesting evening.

Canterbury Historical and Archaeological Society

Wednesday 14 November, 7 pm, Newton Ng03, CCCU

Women and Chivalry

Louise Wilkinson, CCCU

Canterbury Archaeological Trust

ARCHAEOLOGY COURSES **Saturday 24 November, CAT Library, 92A Broad Street**
Exploring the Medieval and Early Tudor Cinque Ports

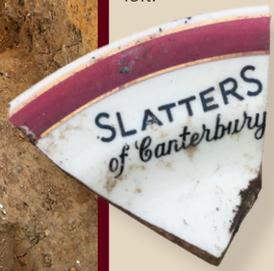
One-day course. Fee £45 (£40 FCAT). Tutor: Sheila Sweetinburgh

Booking and more details:

www.canterburytrust.co.uk/community_archaeology/archaeology-courses



Excavating small pits of pre-Roman date at the Slatters Hotel site. The features lay below remains associated with a Roman building, one wall of which is visible to the top of the photograph and another bottom left.



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