



NEWSLETTER

C·A·T

Canterbury Archaeological Trust Ltd

Welcome to the Trust Newsletter. Keeping you updated with the latest news on site and in the office.

Schools Outreach in Rochester

- Romano-British Canterbury Seminar
- Barton Court Grammar School Careers Fair
- Canterbury Maps and Mapmaking Study Day

Amerique, Castle Street, Winchelsea

- Archaeology and Heritage Consultancy: Presentation at Clague Architects
- Dover Inspection Border Facility

17 APRIL



Finds showcase



These decorative moulds are the latest finds to be added to the online showcase.

unlockingourpast.co.uk

C·A·T Outreach Schools Outreach in Rochester



Andy and I talking to the children at St. Andrew's School.

In March, Andy Macintosh and Frances Morgan attended two schools in Rochester, Temple Mill Primary and St. Andrew's, to talk about what it is like to be an archaeologist, as well as about the recent C·A·T excavations in the area. The event was for children in Key Stage 2 (ages 7-8), as this is the point where prehistory is taught on the curriculum, in particular the Bronze and Iron Age. As usual, a lot of the children wanted to see dinosaur bones but were equally impressed and excited with the collection of items that were taken in for them to look at and handle, and the photos they were shown of the site.

Frances dressed up as an Iron-Age lady - a surprisingly comfortable outfit, especially the shoes (*carbatinae*) which she didn't want to take off! It really helped bring things to life for the children and the teachers, who were equally impressed! Andy wore his archaeology fieldwork gear, and talked about the importance of PPE and how we never go anywhere without our trusty trowel!



Frances in authentic Iron-Age dress and Andy in his archaeologist's attire!



Children designing their own coins.

The visit included a 'design your own coin' workshop, based on a silver Iron Age coin found at Frindsbury, slightly north of Rochester. The children were encouraged to draw a portrait of themselves, or a friend, on one side of the coin and an animal, such as a mythical beast or a pet, on the other. There was also an object handling session using original and replica items from C·A·T's education collection. The children loved being able to touch real finds and then discuss their thoughts with the rest of the class afterwards.



Object handling session.

Andy and Frances were welcomed by both schools in such a positive, enthusiastic way and it was a joy to be able to inspire the younger generation. We look forward to doing more school visits in the future!

Frances Morgan

Romano-British Canterbury Seminar



The first of a new quarterly series of seminars on Romano-British Canterbury, a partnership project of C·A·T and Canterbury Museums, was held at the Roman Museum in March. The meeting was hosted in the public area of the museum, next to the mosaic corridors of the townhouse dubbed by some as "No 1, Durovernum"! Dr Jake Weekes of C·A·T convened the

meeting and introduced the aims of the seminar to delegates from the Roman Museum, C·A·T, Canterbury Christ Church University, the University of Kent, the Institute of Archaeology UCL, and others. It was a great afternoon with lots of promise for future sessions. The next meeting will take place in June.

Jake Weekes

Barton Court Grammar School Careers Fair



On the 29 March, Andy Macintosh and Jessica Twyman attended a careers fair at Barton Court Grammar School in Canterbury, alongside representatives from around 20 other organisations including the Police, the Royal Navy and the construction and banking industries.

The fair was visited throughout the course of the day by pupils from years 7 to 13. The C·A·T stall aimed to inform students of the different aspects involved in a career in archaeology, provide information about the skills needed, and answer questions about the job itself and career pathway options. C·A·T's attendance intended to promote archaeology as a potential career choice for those with an interest in heritage and history. The display included a digital presentation showing different elements of working with archaeology, from site work, scale drawing and photography to finds and environmental processing, building recording and report writing. There were also finds and replica items that the students could see and handle.

The students were engaged and interested (despite the lack of freebies which appeared to be a very popular draw at other tables!) and asked lots of questions. They particularly seemed to enjoy trying to figure out the different types of animal skulls on display by looking at the teeth and having the opportunity to see a real Roman-period pot up close. Several students remembered visiting the archaeological excavation at Lydings in 2014 and were excited to learn more about the project from Andy, who worked there, and see the post-excavation report.

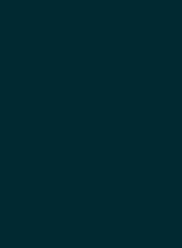
The event provided an opportunity to engage with students and share the enthusiasm of archaeology as a career. Attending the fair also seeded ideas about different ways in which information could be presented to school children in future, with potential to build upon C·A·T resources already available.

Feedback from the school after the event was excellent and it is hoped that this will form part of a long-term relationship.

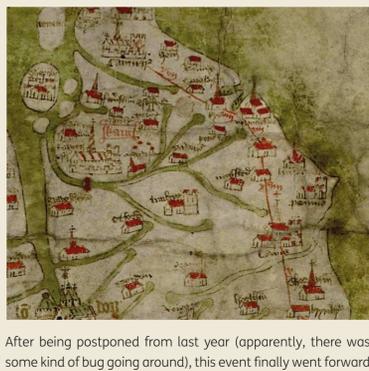
Jessica Twyman



Slides from a PowerPoint presentation.



Canterbury Maps and Mapmaking Study Day



After being postponed from last year (apparently, there was some kind of bug going around), this event finally went forward on 26 March 2022. It was organised by Avril Leach, Cressida Williams and Alexander Kent under the aegis of Canterbury Christ Church University, Canterbury Cathedral Archives and the Historic Towns Trust, to all of whom much thanks. One of the speakers was C·A·T's old friend Sheila Sweetinburgh and,

as she has produced her own summary of the presentations, I'll just direct readers to that (<https://blogs.canterbury.ac.uk/kenthistory/canterbury-maps-and-mapmakers-plus-other-events/>).

However, the presentations were only part of the day and, as might be supposed when specialists in different disciplines meet and talk about a common subject, and face questions from an equally enthusiastic and informed audience, new ideas arose during the questions, tea-breaks, walks to and time in the archives and, for some, at Evensong or in the restaurant. Might some of the elaborate north points etc on estate maps have been from wood blocks? Do properly drawn orthometric views mean there must have been an accurate plan from which to work? Is the fact that, of the two estate maps attributed to Robert Pusey, and for the same client, that of 1692 carries a decoration of tulips and a thistle growing out of one stem, whilst that of 1694 shows, in addition to a man and a woman (the latter holding a tulip), roses and tulips and a thistle growing from a single stem, indicative that a Scottish surveyor (or client) had married a Dutch woman, perhaps around the time of the Glorious Revolution, and, by 1694, raised children as English?

Simon Pratt, Senior Project Officer



C·A·T Commercial

Amerique, Castle Street, Winchelsea



View of trench 4 uncovering clay floor under demolition / levelling deposit.

View of trench 4 showing iron agricultural implements and flagstones in situ. Scale 0.50m.

on a hilltop, to replace Old Winchelsea which was submerged during successive storms in the thirteenth century. The site investigated was located within the north-eastern corner of the town, half-way along Castle Street.

Approximately 25m to the north-west of the site, a house named King's Leap marks the spot where King Edward I, in 1297, is said to have come to Winchelsea to view his fleet, lying in the harbour below the walled escarpment, preparing to sail for Flanders. The king's horse, disturbed by the grinding noise of a windmill, refused to move until prompted with whip and spurs, sending horse and rider over the wall and cliff edge. In a miraculous display of horsemanship, the king managed to remain seated after skidding to a muddy halt. . . . So it was with a 'leap of expectation' the excavations commenced.



View of trench 2 showing post-medieval pits cutting the natural. Scale 1m.

Results

The most significant archaeology encountered (trench 4) was represented by a clay floor and mortar bedding, cut by a pit that was in turn sealed by flagstones forming another possible surface. An assemblage of three rusty iron implements recovered from a post-medieval layer within trench 4 were of possible agricultural function. Elsewhere, trench 2 revealed post-medieval refuse pits; pottery sherds recovered were fairly mixed, the majority being of twelfth-century date and the latest of early seventeenth. Trench 1 exposed a deposit of friable slag waste sealing the natural clay. No archaeological remains were uncovered in trench 3 as the ground was cut by two modern services.

The evaluation demonstrated that medieval-post-medieval occupation survives on the site and although the early pottery recovered was for the most part residual, three sherds (one an identified Saintonge sherd) were French imports, a first for the historic trade links the town had with the Continent.

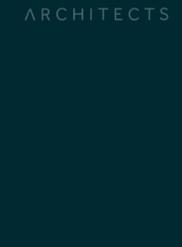
Andy Macintosh

Archaeology and Heritage Consultancy: Presentation at Clague Architects

In late March, Dr Jake Weekes, Head of Desk-based Services at C·A·T, took up an invitation from Clague Architects to visit the company and give a presentation about, and field questions on, archaeology and heritage in the planning system, and designated heritage assets. The meeting formed part of Clague's Continuing Professional Development programme.

The event went well, with explanations of archaeological desk-based assessment and heritage statements, and clarification of C·A·T's consultation role in facilitating development in relation to heritage, well received.

Jake Weekes



Dover Inspection Border Facility DIBF EX 21

In November and December 2021, a programme of archaeological works, comprising an archaeological strip, map and sample excavation, targeted two areas across the route of a known Roman Road (Margary Road 100) as part of the investigatory works for a proposed Inland Border Facility (IBF) site currently at planning stage.

Once the topsoil and subsoil were removed by machine, a metalliferous flint surface was revealed. Hand-dug interventions across the trackway and metal-detected findings from deep within the composition of the road surface revealed it to be post-medieval in date, with the discovery of a coin of George II dating from 1735 and a number of horseshoes firmly attesting to the much more modern phasing of the routeway. The excavation supported the results made in 1975 by the Dover Archaeology Group (DAG) when interventions were dug across the route of the Roman road in advance of the Lydden/Eastry bypass. Two members of the C·A·T Trainee Programme, Rylan and George, did a fantastic job of revealing the metalliferous surface during the current phase of investigation, a first for them.

Julie Martin

PREVIOUS ISSUES
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Canterbury Archaeological Trust, 52a Broad Street, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2LU
canterburytrust.co.uk | admin@canterburytrust.co.uk | 01227 462062 | Registered Charity no: 278861 | Company Registered no: 1441517 (England)

