

FRIENDS

of the
CANTERBURY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
TRUST

NEWSLETTER



The half-scale replica of the Dover Bronze Age Boat takes to the water in Dover Harbour.

WINTER 2013 | No. 92

FCAT Committee

Chairman:.....vacant
Vice-Chairman and Festival Walks:.....Mrs Meriel Connor
Treasurer:.....Mr Roger Sharp
Membership Secretary:Mr David Sadtler
Minutes Secretary:.....Prof. Christopher Bounds
Publicity and Newsletter distribution:.....Miss Jane Blackham
Meetings Secretary:.....Mrs Ursula Phillips
Newsletter Editor:vacant

*Mrs Sue Chambers, Mrs Diana Holbrook, Dr Peter Leeming, Mr Lawrence Lyle,
Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh, and Dr David Shaw*

If you would like to join the committee and help with the Friends' activities, please contact David Shaw, 61 Broad Oak Road, Canterbury CT2 7PN (phone: 01227 769843; email: david@djshaw.co.uk).

The next Newsletter will appear in March 2014. Please send contributions to David Shaw at the above address by the beginning of February 2014.

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 or the Excursions Secretary 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.**

From the Chairman of the Trust

You will see from the list of the committee on the page opposite that we have several new committee members but also two vacancies; in particular the Friends are currently without a Chairman (or Chairwoman). For the moment, I am back as acting Chairman (with help from several members of the Committee) but we must find a new chairman soon in order to plan the programme of events for the coming year.

Roger Sharp, our Treasurer has once again provided a summary of our recent financial situation. You will see that, thanks to your subscriptions as members of the Friends, we are still in a good financial position to support the work of the Trust. Our share of revenue from the Canterbury Festival Walks is another important source of revenue for the Friends and we are very grateful to Meriel Connor for her hard work in organising the walks.

In the past quarter the Committee has been able to provide a grant on your behalf to help with the final stage of making the Dover Bronze Age Boat seaworthy and, more prosaically, a grant to help with training in project management for some of the Trust's senior staff. We have also given grants for the Trust's library and for support with travel expenses for Trust staff who have been invited to give papers at conferences.

I was pleased to have an update from David Lewis about the online Notebook which the Canterbury Historical and Archaeological Society has set up to highlight aspects of Canterbury's history – though I ought to declare an interest here as I have recently helped with a translation of the funerary monument of John Whitfield, a seventeenth-century Canterbury lawyer who provided the city with two large fire engines *ad extinguenda huius urbis incendia* (for putting out fires in this city).

You will see from the inside back cover that we have several talks arranged for the new year. There is Paul Bennett's annual survey of the Trust's recent activities in January, a symposium on recent work on the medieval period in February with four speakers, and a talk in March by Professor David Birmingham looking at Canterbury's early history from the viewpoint of a modern historian. I can also strongly recommend the talk which Paul Bennett will be giving on 17 December about St Martin's Church in the Anglo-Saxon period; the proceeds from this talk are being very generously donated to the Friends' funds.

David Shaw

The replica of the Dover boat: a personal view

On Saturday, 7th September 2013, the half-scale replica of the Dover Bronze Age boat finally left the calm waters of Dover marina and headed out into the heavy swells coming in off the English Channel. Crewed by a team of eight, three of whom had been involved in the excavation of the original boat twenty-one years before, the boat sat high in the water and rode the waves with ease, proving to be extremely manoeuvrable and stable, testament not only to the skills of our modern reconstruction team but also to the genius of the original Bronze Age boat builders. It was a bright, sunny day with a force 5 wind that whipped up the sea and gave the boat a true test of its seaworthiness.

For me personally it was a day I shall never forget; a day of huge emotion and exhilaration, a day when a dream came true, a vindication of a decade of planning and effort. It is almost exactly ten years ago (November 2003) that I organised a seminar at Lloyd's Register in London to first discuss the possibility of building a replica of the Dover Bronze Age boat. Little did I know then what was to lie ahead. The project grew and metamorphosed as time went on; from small beginnings, when I made many lonely journeys seeking partners and funding for the idea, it became international, as colleagues from France and Belgium shared the vision, in time becoming a new family of friends that laboured together to make the dream a reality.

I became involved in organising a major international exhibition about Bronze Age maritime connections, writing and translating an exhibition catalogue, arranging two international conferences, stretching my schoolboy French to its limit in preparing applications for funding to the labyrinthine bureaucracy of the European Union, all the while focussed on the academic integrity of the project goals and the sharing of knowledge with the general public. It has been a remarkable, unforgettable and exhilarating adventure, in which we have scaled some wonderful highs and plumbed some dark depths. It has been a privilege to work alongside a fantastic team of consummate and impassioned professionals, not just from the Trust and Dover Museum but also from other institutions on both sides of the channel. It was very gratifying that so many of them had the opportunity to paddle the boat at the time of the Dover conference, to share in the achievement that they had all worked so hard for. But in the end, it all boiled down to that wonderful day in September, aboard a Bronze Age boat at sea, the taste of salt in my mouth and the coast of France on the horizon. What could follow that?

Peter Clark





CHAS Notebook: an update

<http://www.canterbury-archaeology.org.uk/>

A year ago FCAT Newsletter carried an article on the completion of the first stage of CHAS Notebook, an extension of the CHAS (Canterbury Historical and Archaeological Society) website presenting material on the city's past. The aim of the present note is to draw attention to material added to the CHAS site since then.

The general aim of the site remains unchanged: to focus on what can be seen today; to make good use of coloured images; to aim for text that is concise, readable and authoritative (a page for each topic); to provide bibliographic details; and to include hyperlinks between related material wherever this seems helpful for readers. For those who like statistics, we now have 1088 coloured images illuminating 331 web pages of text.

A major extension of the site during the past year has been the addition of a new Research section. This invites anyone with an interest in Canterbury history to submit their own contribution in their own way. Copyright on this material remains with the contributor. Topics covered to date are as varied as you might expect: Canterbury barracks; Canterbury pubs; the Baedeker raids; Canterbury during the First World War; an early Becket font in Sweden; and the murder of a very odd Canterbury woman in London which led to the change in name of a London square (really!).

Alongside these Research additions, we have added material on a wide variety of new topics including: a tiny bug which has survived in the cathedral for hundreds of years; evidence that the amazing high wire act by Blondin took place in Canterbury in 1871; and evidence that the young Mozart performed in the Canterbury Guildhall in 1765.

A parallel development has been the preparation of newspaper articles released under the CHAS by-line and drawn from the Notebook pages. These have been published in the Canterbury Times and, with their permission, scanned and reproduced in the website as PDFs. Ten CHAS articles have appeared over the past ten months - the most recent have covered the local architect John Green Hall, a jade hand-axe given to the British Museum by a Canterbury mayor and MP with dubious morals, and the 80th anniversary of the fire that destroyed Abbots Mill.

The site also includes biographies of individuals with Canterbury connections. Recent additions range from Mick Mannock the First World War flying ace, to local millionaire and smuggler William Baldock, to Cissie Hill, a young cabaret dancer who in 1940 received a direct hit from a German bomb whilst shopping in Burgate Street. We will soon add material on the seventeenth-century writer Aphra Behn, baptised in Harbledown, who is seen by some as the founder of modern feminism.

We also have in hand an extension of the site to cover more from outside the city walls. Harbledown and Thannington will be the first candidates. Hackington will follow.

FCAT readers who would like to be involved in writing or photography or helping with administration of the site, are invited to get in touch with me. Those requiring regular updates on what has been added are welcome to join CHAS!

David R Lewis (lewiscant@gmail.com)

CHAS website coordinator



Architect's office of John Green Hall in St Margaret's Street.
Note the large windows to maximise light for drawing.

Roman rural settlement in Greater London and the South-east of England: realising the research potential of developer-funded archaeology

In late October 2013 two members of the Trust attended a conference organised by the University of Reading and Cotswold Archaeology at the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London. This was the second in a series of eight regionally-focused meetings presenting the preliminary results of a new 3-year research project examining Roman rural settlement in Britain funded by the Leverhulme Trust and English Heritage.

As the title suggests, the project is placing special emphasis on the contributions to be made by commercial archaeological work in advance of development and, in particular, the vast quantity of data now available in unpublished 'grey' literature. Over the years the Trust has produced a significant body of such literature and it was encouraging to see how this resource is beginning to be used.

Covering a period from the first century BC to the fifth century AD, the project is exploring six themes:

Settlement and land use	The agricultural economy
Rural industry	Material culture and identity
Ritual and religious practice	Death and burial

Due to the high intensity of development in the south-east, sites investigated by the Trust and other units form a major part of the study. The focus of the project on grey reports, an enormous resource that has not previously been subject to meaningful synthesis, is providing many interesting results. Notable was a paper given on 'settlement and land-use'. The results of this area of study tie in well with our findings on prehistoric and Roman land development at Thanet Earth, the publication of which are anticipated in 2014.

The talk on ritual practice was focused almost wholly on the process of death and burial with other elements of Roman ritual and belief unfortunately largely exorcised due to lack of time. Again, many interesting results are coming to light. Late Iron Age cremations for example are apparently concentrated within the south-east of England, particularly along the Sussex coastal plain. Comparisons were made between the results provided by the south-east, the east Midlands and eastern England with the variations in burial pattern across this area quite dramatic. For example, prone (face-



down) burials are mostly concentrated in Oxfordshire though a small number is known from Kent, including one from Thanet Earth, shown here.

The conference did not however focus solely on the archaeology itself. Another paper outlined the usefulness of historic environment records and another examined the process of analysis and publication within an increasingly cut-throat commercial environment. This latter talk was of particular interest, concentrating as it did on the publication of sites within a local, regional and sometimes national scale, rather than simply as a feature by feature view of an individual site.

As well as the production of a synthesis volume which will provide a new account of the rural settlement of Roman Britain, another of the project's outputs will be to make collated data available on-line via an interactive GIS based resource, freely available through the Archaeology Data Service at the University of York.

Overall, the conference was an interesting opportunity to share ideas with other members of the archaeological community. Our attendance was supported by grants from the Friends to whom we express our thanks. The seminar papers are available online at <http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk/developer-funded-roman-archaeology-in-england/>.

James Holman and Richard Helm

Canterbury Festival Walks 2013

Although the weather for Festival fortnight was far from perfect for *most* of the walks, it turned out better than expected. Particularly notable from this point of view was Keith Parfitt's new walk on Dover Western Heights. Weather warnings had been dire, and the night preceding the walk whined with wild wind and pouring rain. However, with the dawn came sunshine, and from the St Martin's Battery car park a pathway of sun shone ahead of us across the water under a perfect blue sky.

Keith has been working on the Heights in recent times and his walk was full of interesting information. Of particular fascination for me was the phase when plans were designed to protect the coast in the event of attack from the French, not only during the Napoleonic campaigns but also at the end of the nineteenth century. The Alliance formed with France against Russia during the Crimean War was short-lived. Following the victory over Napoleon in 1815, the excellence of the British navy had been allowed to decline. In addition, many improvements in artillery power had changed the nature of warfare. The British Empire was governed and administered from London and in the event of an enemy taking and holding London the result for the nation and its empire would have been disastrous. In March 1889 the London Defence Scheme was announced in Parliament, and a programme was launched to build and upgrade fortified emplacements. At Dover this meant not only improving the lower defences facing the sea, but also building on higher ground from which, as artillery improved, an enemy could be bombarded from above. On the Western Heights a massive fortress was created, designed to hold out against any force which might have landed, and to be used as barracks. Later, the site was further strengthened for two World Wars and the walls show evidence of how the brickwork for a new battery was carefully grafted on to the Victorian yellow stock-brick, but without the extravagant embellishments which decorated the earlier fortress, built when Britain 'ruled the world'. Visible from the sea at the summit of the site is the 'Citadel', constructed in 1805 - once used for the housing of officers and now a 'removal centre' for immigrants.

CAT has carried out a detailed study of much of this complex and impressive site, but though Keith praised its construction he was doubtful that it could have held out against serious attack for more than 'a couple of weeks'. I haven't checked the wording of a quotation Keith used from Cobbett's *Rural Rides* but, loosely stated, it was that 'more brick and stone was used on this hillside than would make a stone cottage for every man in Kent'!

I have chosen to 'show case' the Dover walk, not least because it focuses in particular on work carried out by the Trust. However, there was a wonderful variety of walks to be enjoyed this year, with a number of new walks. Derek Boughton from Elham gave us a most interesting tour of his 'native' village where several generations of his family

have lived and worked. His walk showed his affection for his village and gave us a wealth of information about it. Geoff Downer increased our knowledge of the building stones of Canterbury by looking this time at that used in the building and repair of Canterbury's city wall over the centuries. Doreen Rosman contributed a new tour entitled 'Canterbury in the Nineteenth Century' which informed and entertained us. David Lewis's 'History of Canterbury in 50 Objects' introduced us to intriguing objects and oddities which most of us had failed ever to notice. David Birmingham was as amusing as ever with his introduction to pubs and premises past and present on his 'Dry Pub Crawl'. Alan Barber focused on the more sober, though no less interesting, subject of Canterbury's libraries from 'monastic to municipal', which included entry on a special visit to the Cathedral Archives and Library.

Six new walks in one year is a record, and that left thirteen other well supported walks to enjoy given by our regular team of experts, including Paul Bennett. Our walk leaders regularly draw a good crowd of followers both seasoned and new. I always marvel at their generosity in undertaking the significant amount of work involved in the preparation of these walks, and admire their willingness to share the knowledge they have – all on a voluntary basis. They are all worthy of Very Many Thanks. And thanks also to those who, on the day, collect the tickets, shepherd the participants and bring up the rear of the group

Meriel Connor



Dover Western Dock from the Heights and
St Martin's Battery entrance.

Friends of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust Financial Analysis for Tax Year 2012 to 2013

The accounts for the year have been finalised, and a simplified analysis of income and expenditure to 31st March 2013 follows. Responsibility for applying for rebate of tax against Gift Aid subscriptions was taken over by CAT in May 2011, and a sum of £3,242.00 has been claimed for the years 2011/12 and 2012/13. However, reimbursement has not been received from HMRC to date. A full record of the audited figures can be made available to members on request.

The financial situation of the Friends continues to be healthy, with sufficient reserves of capital to cover eventualities and contingencies. Account balances at 31st March 2013 were:

Barclays Community Account:	9,773.32
COIF Charities Deposit Fund:	29,040.95
COIF Charities Deposit Fund [Donald Baron Fund]:	25,561.46

Note: The capital of the Donald Baron Fund is held in reserve, but any interest accrued can be used for grants and bursaries made to Trust staff for the purpose of attending training courses, conferences and symposia.

Income:

Gift Aid Subscriptions:	6,678.00
Non Gift Aid Subscriptions:	1,390.64
Donation from Mrs. Baron [Donald Baron Fund]:	1,500.00
Donations [other]	NIL
Fund Raising [Festival Walks income, etc.]	1,777.90
Lectures & Meetings [Income minus Expenditure]:	313.00
Visits [Income minus Expenditure]:	223.00
Interest from bank accounts [non Donald Baron Fund]:	240.82
Interest [Donald Baron Fund]:	198.25

Expenditure:

Stationery and postage [newsletters, annual reports, etc.]:	781.73
Printing [newsletters, membership forms, etc.]:	1,411.13
Grants paid to CAT [for details see below]:	5,904.46
Bursaries & Grants paid to CAT staff [not from DB Fund interest]:	771.75
Bursaries & Grants paid to CAT staff [from DB Fund interest]:	NIL
Expenses relating to Festival Walks programme:	86.61

Note: Due to the level of current interest rates the return on the Donald Baron Fund has been low, and no bursaries were taken from the Fund during this tax year. However, reserves of interest have now been built up and payments can resume.

Roger Sharp, Hon Treasurer, FCAT

Grants made to CAT:

Photographic equipment [Building Recording camera equipment]:	1,256.47
Office-Pro Computer software:	395.00
Transfer of Professor Wachter's library from Cornwall to CAT:	400.00
Reimbursement to CAT of time spent by J Weekes in producing a chapter for the Oxford Handbook of Roman Britain:	850.00
Book launch expenses, Buckland Anglo-Saxon Cemetery:	237.01
Purchase of publications and subscriptions for CAT library:	2,765.98

Note: The relatively high expenditure on publications and subscriptions this year partially compensates for the previous year, when no grants were requested for this purpose.

Grants and bursaries made to CAT staff:

J Hammond, Oxford Conference on Neolithic Henges:	71.00
C Jarman, Oxford course covering Airborne LIDAR survey equipment:	210.10
J Hammond/P Bennett, Dover Boat Conference, Boulogne:	125.00
H Dędrzesewski, Zooarchaeology course, Sheffield:	184.80
P Clark, visit to 'Abugnata', the Gallo-Roman boat reconstruction:	180.85

ST MARTIN'S IN ANGLO-SAXON CANTERBURY

An illustrated lecture by Paul Bennett
Director, Canterbury Archaeological Trust,

for the 25th Anniversary of the Canterbury World Heritage Site

6.00 pm Tuesday 17 December

St Paul's Church, Church Street St Paul's CT1 2NH

Admission £5.00 at the door
all proceeds to Friends of Canterbury Archaeological Trust

A Modern Historian looks at Ancient Canterbury

Professor David Birmingham

Before the Normans arrived to build their great cathedral, Canterbury had been culturally and economically integrated into the wider European world for nigh on 10,000 years. Old stone axes were fashioned downstream at Fordwich, new stone tumuli were built up-stream by farmers at Chilham, and a polished jade tool was imported from the Alpine Dolomites. In the age of bronze and gold heavy sea-going vessels were built for long-distance trade and when iron smelting arrived workshops were opened on the university hill and ramparts were erected around the Bigbury fort. Romans later built baths, theatres and temples one of which the Jutish branch of the Anglo-Saxons turned into St Martin's church after marrying into the great Merovingian dynasty of Paris.

Wednesday 12 March 2014, 7.00 pm.

Lecture Room Ng03, Newton Building, North Holmes Road Campus,
Canterbury Christ Church University

Kent's Bronze Age gold treasures on show in Dover

A hoard of some of the rarest prehistoric gold ornaments ever found in Britain is now on public display for the first time in many years.

Owned by the Kent Archaeological Society, the Bronze Age 'torcs' (bracelets and armbands) have been released for exhibition at Dover Museum until December (2013).

During this time two events in the town will focus on Bronze Age (2100BC–750BC) and earlier periods of history and the world-famous Dover Bronze Age Boat, unearthed during roadworks in 1992, will be one of the museum's main attractions.

Mystery surrounds the torcs' provenance. Four of them were given to the KAS by one of its members, Edward Pretty, who bought them in 1861 from an unnamed vendor and understood that they had been found in a box in the River Medway at Ferry Crossing, Aylesford.

Pretty heard that the box was subsequently thrown back into the river. 'It is much to be lamented that a relic was lost that might in itself have been scarcely inferior to its



The Kent Archaeological Society's Bronze Age gold torcs.

precious contents in interest, and possibly have contributed something to their history' said Pretty, writing in the society's journal *Archaeologia Cantiana*.

Then, in about 1869, the KAS was given seven more Bronze Age gold torcs by an unknown donor. These too were said to have been found at Aylesford and were probably bought from antique dealers. Two of the objects fit neatly together to form one ornament.



One of the torcs.

'The torcs are up to 3,000 years old,' said KAS Hon Curator Dr Andrew Richardson. 'It is unlikely they were found together. Sadly their provenance is lost and even the attribution to Aylesford isn't certain. The four torcs in the 1861 acquisition probably were found together, perhaps in the river as the story says, possibly as a result of dredging, but we cannot be sure'.

Recent research has found that the 1869 acquisition is a mixture of middle and late Bronze Age types and therefore unlikely to have been a single hoard. They were probably acquired by dealers from various sources before being given to the KAS.

'The torcs are important because they are among a group of rare finds of Bronze Age ornaments from southern England' added Andrew. 'They are further evidence that communities in Kent had access to considerable wealth and supplies of gold in this period.

Our hoard has rarely been displayed before, certainly not during this century. The torcs are normally kept in a secure location that I'd rather not disclose!'

Said KAS president Ian Coulson: 'This is an appropriate time to bring our torcs to light. Normally they are kept under lock-and-key. We are displaying them to support the BOAT 1550 BC project, which is focussed around cross-Channel connections during the Bronze Age. The project relies on grants and voluntary contributions and we have donated £7,500'.

Dover Museum is currently hosting the travelling exhibition 'Beyond the Horizon: Societies of the Channel and North Sea 3,550 Years ago'.

Folkestone to 1500: A Town Unearthed

Friends will already be familiar with the excavation of the Roman villa on the East Cliff at Folkestone (Newsletters 82, 83, 85). Some may have volunteered on site as excavators or washing finds or as stewards and others may have helped with open days or school visits or taken part in the activities of the research group. Many have enjoyed talks given to the Friends by Keith Parfitt and Andrew Richardson or attended the public lectures. The 'book of the project' has now been published.

As the 'blurb' says ...

A Town Unearthed' focused on making Folkestone's past accessible to residents and visitors alike. Active participation in fieldwork, research, oral history and a wide range of educational and outreach activities over 3 years provided provided opportunities to learn about local heritage and its wider context and create a legacy of knowledge, materials and skills for the future. This book is part of that legacy. The authors provide, for the first time, a detailed and authoritative account of the early history of Folkestone from prehistory to the Reformation.

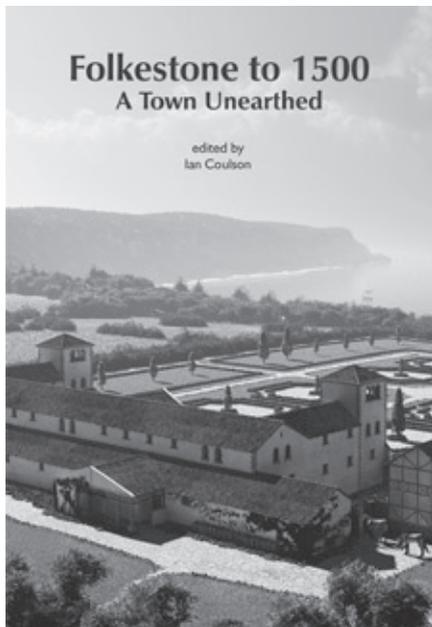
'This book presents a compelling picture of that older, almost forgotten Folkestone. The town was recorded not only in the Domesday Book of 1086, but also in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle for 991, when it was prosperous enough to attract the unwelcome attention of the Vikings. Archaeology can take us further back still, to the Roman villa on the East Cliff, now known to have been built on top of an earlier Iron Age dwelling. Indeed, as this book reveals, people (perhaps we should say folk) have been stopping, if not settling, in Folkestone for many millennia, as far back as the end of the last Ice Age.'

Mark Morris, Historian and Broadcaster

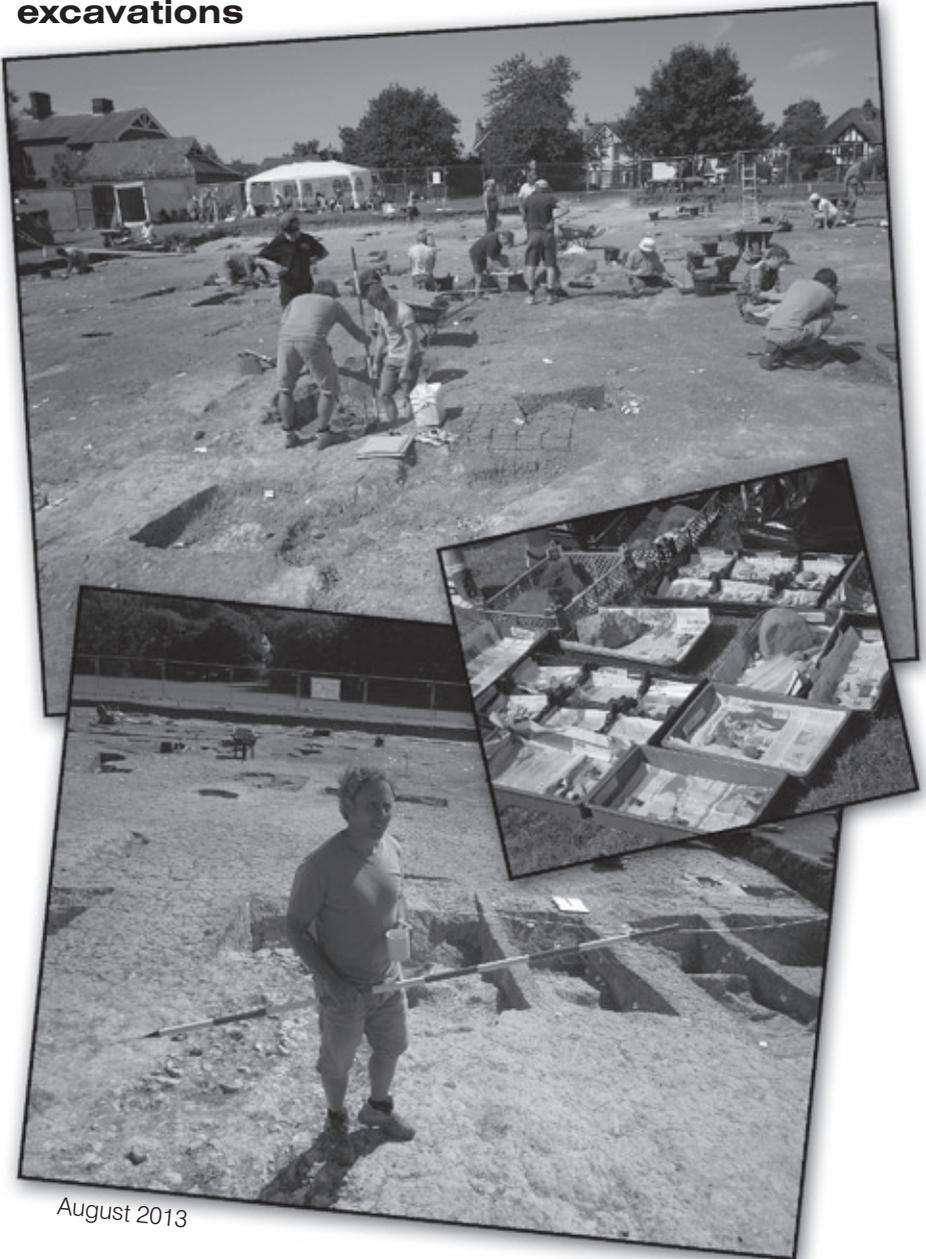
ISBN: 978-1-870545-27-3.

Available from Oxbow, Waterstones in Canterbury and to personal callers at 92A Broad Street. Price £14.99.

Jane Elder



The Friends visited the Lyminge excavations



August 2013

FCAT Events 2014

Saturday 25 January 2014

Frank Jenkins Memorial Lecture.

The annual review of the past year's work of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust by Dr Paul Bennett (Director, CAT).

6.00 pm, Michael Berry Lecture Theatre, Old Sessions House, Canterbury Christ Church University, Longport, Canterbury.

Wednesday 12 February 2014

Canterbury and East Kent in the Medieval period.

A symposium presenting recent research.

Speakers include Alison Hicks and James Holman (CAT) and Sheila Sweetinburgh and Rebecca Warren (UKC).

6.30 pm. Grimond Lecture Theatre 3, University of Kent, Canterbury.

Wednesday 12 March 2014

Professor David Birmingham, 'A Modern Historian looks at Ancient Canterbury'.

7.00 pm. Lecture Room Ng03, Newton Building, North Holmes Road Campus, Canterbury Christ Church University.

For further details see page 14.



Reminders by email

We send out reminders of meetings to all members of the Friends for whom we have email addresses. If you do not receive these reminders and would like to do so, please send a message to: friends@canterburytrust.co.uk.

You will receive updates and reminders of events of local archaeological and historical interest.

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
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Images from the CHAS online
Notebook on Canterbury.
Further information on page 6.