

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL Katherine Barclay

There are thousands of archaeological sites along our coastline and in tidal estuaries, from prehistoric forests and settlements, Roman forts and villas, ancient salt-working sites, harbour works, lost medieval ports, fishing settlements, to nineteenth-century ship-breaking yards full of abandoned boats, barges and ships, and coastal defences from both World Wars. Something for everyone. Many of these features are of considerable local and national significance; most have no statutory protection. Some are being exposed by extreme weather, rising sea levels or tidal scour, or are being washed away — remember the winter of 2013–14, when storms caused cliffs to crumble, defences were holed and silt was stripped off to expose previously unknown remains.

In the 1990s English Heritage set up a national programme using archaeological groups around the country, to record the location of sites in the English intertidal zone for the Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey. But there wasn't a systematic standardised system in place in England to record vulnerable sites in detail or to monitor regularly their state over the longer term.

In 2008, the Thames Discovery Programme (TDP) started to record the intertidal zone of the River Thames. its Foreshore Recording and Observation Group (known as FROGs) has trained over 450 volunteers since then, and monitored some 60 sites on the Thames.

Now archaeologists are asking the public to help with what will be one of the largest community archaeology projects in the country, potentially taking in 5,600 miles of coastline and over 500 miles of tidal foreshore.

The new Coastal and Intertidal Zone Archaeological Network — CITiZAN — has been modelled on the success of the TDP and Scotland's Coastal Heritage at Risk Programme. The CITiZAN project is promoting a standardised survey and monitoring methodology that is applicable to all kinds of coastal site, not just in England but across the UK. It has eight staff members who are organising free community-based training, in order to create a network of volunteers with the skills and systems needed to survey and monitor stretches of the shore. Using local societies, some with archaeological experience will become mentors to a small team in their area; the team then focus on a key site to survey and monitor. Armed with tape measures, buckets and mobile phones, volunteers will complete standardised records of neglected or vulnerable archaeological sites. Information about sea-level change, the speed of coastal erosion, and changes to the landscape and land use will also be collected.

A constantly evolving crowd-sourced database and interactive map of sites is being compiled by using a web-based recording system and app. The database is building on information from the Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey and will preserve the knowledge of these important sites forever in a growing resource with potential for new research opportunities. The map is already captivating to explore.

Hosted by Museum of London Archaeology (MoLA), the CITiZAN project has been awarded £1.4 m from the Heritage Lottery Fund, enhanced by funding from the Crown Estate's marine stewardship programme, together with support from the National Trust and Historic England. The three-year project has three regional centres: CITiZAN South run at MoLA, CITiZAN North at the Council for British Archaeology in York and CITiZAN West at the Nautical Archaeology Society in Portsmouth.

For more information about the project and local training opportunities and events visit their website, www.citizan.org.uk

GRANTS AND AWARDS

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL AWARDS 2015

The next awards will be made in 2016 with nominations opening in late 2015. Full details on the criteria for each award, and how to attend the ceremony, will be found on their website at www.britarch.ac.uk/awards.

RAI DISSERTATION PRIZES

The RAI awards prizes for dissertations on a subject concerned with the archaeology or architectural history of Britain, Ireland and adjacent areas of Europe. In odd-numbered years, the competition is for the best dissertation submitted by a Master's student. In even-numbered years, the competition is for the best dissertation submitted by an undergraduate in full-time education. Nominations are made by University and College Departments. The winner will receive £500 and the opportunity for a paper based on the dissertation to be published in the *Archaeological Journal*. The chief criteria considered are (a) quality of work and (b) appropriateness to the interests of the RAI as reflected in the journal.

RAI CHENEY BURSARIES

As a result of a bequest left by Frank Cheney, the Institute has a small fund of money to enable students to attend conferences or RAI meetings. An allocation is available annually from which individuals can apply for a maximum sum of £200. Please check with the Administrator that money

remains in the yearly fund before you apply. Students who wish to apply for a bursary should email to admin@royalarchinst.org.uk or write to the Administrator, RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, wij obe, at least six weeks before the event they wish to attend, stating: the institution in which they study, the event they wish to attend, the sum of money requested, a breakdown of how the money would be spent and a summary (up to 250 words) of why they would like to attend the event and in what way this would be useful to them. Successful applicants may be asked to produce a brief report of the event for the Institute.

RESEARCH GRANT REPORT:

Stones of Stonehenge in Preseli Mike Parker-Pearson

Three sites were investigated in September 2014 by a team drawn from University College London and the universities of Bournemouth, Manchester and Southampton, together with volunteers.

Craig Rhosyfelin megalith quarry

In 2014 we revealed four distinct zones of activity within the quarry which we have been excavating since 2011. From south to north, these zones consist of:

- 1. An artificial platform of sediment and stones, providing a level terrace on which a prone monolith rests
- 2. A pair of orthostats (though to be pivot stones) set into pits, one of them beside the recess from

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE RESEARCH GRANTS

The Institute awards the following grants annually:

Tony Clark Fund Up to £500 for archaeological work and dating

Bunnell Lewis Fund Up to £750 towards archaeology of the Roman period in the UK

RAI Award Up to £5000 towards archaeological work in the UK

Please download an application form at http://www.royalarchinst.org/grants or write to the Administrator.

Closing date for applications: 11 January 2016. Awards announced in April 2016.



Craig Rhosyfelin, showing the megalith quarry's zones: a) the upper platform and prone monolith (R); b) the area of orthostats and recess left by a removed monolith (centre); c) the occupation area (dark brown soil at north end of outcrop); d) the lower platform (L) adjacent to the stream's palaeochannel (e) (ANO)

which a pillar was removed (ultimately to be taken to Stonehenge)

- 3. A small occupation area and hearth set against the northern end of the outcrop
- 4. A level and largely stone-free area, augmented with stones and sediment to form a second platform. This lower platform terminated in a ruined revetment wall at the bank of a palaeochannel.

Carn Goedog megalith quarry

Three trenches were excavated at about 10m intervals along the southern edge of this outcrop, the principal geochemical match for Stonehenge's spotted dolerite bluestones. Modern quarrying extends for 35 m along part of this southern edge, leaving an undisturbed 8 m-wide zone where tall pillars remain *in situ*.

Trench 1 was located in the 8 m-wide undisturbed zone directly against the south face of the outcrop. Within it were found three hearths and a pit. A recess was recorded in the rock face above this trench where there was evidence that 4 m-long pillars had been extracted in antiquity. Trenches 2 and 3 were located west of Trench 1 at about 5–10 m from the original rock face and produced charcoal for radiocarbon dating.

Bayvil Farm prehistoric enclosure

Aerial photography (by RCAHMW) and geophysics recorded a circular, interrupted-ditched enclosure (70 m diameter) at Bayvil Farm. Four trenches were excavated within and outside the enclosure. Late Bronze Age pottery from the fill of the ditch indicated that it dates to around 1000 BC.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2015

Annual Conference 16–18 October at the University of Southampton (see below and details with this mailing)

Autumn Day Meeting 24 October to Kew, Richmond and the Thames, led by Ann Ballantyne and Robin Price (details with this mailing)

Museum visit

It has not been possible to organize a special RAI visit to the British Museum's exhibition 'Celts'. Members planning to go independently may like to note that there will be some free public lectures including 'Celtic Art in the Roman Period' by Fraser Hunter (7 November) and Celtic Revival Art' by Frances Fowler (3 December). RAI members may be able to attend one of the curator's introductory talks, followed by entry to the exhibition; details are on the British Museum website.

Forthcoming in 2016

Spring Meeting 13–15 May to Vale of Glamorgan: Llancarfen and other sites (details to be confirmed)

Summer Meeting Sunday 3 – Sunday 10 July in Wiltshire, led by David Hinton (see outline below, details to be confirmed)

Autumn Day Meeting 1 October 2016 to Knole House and Park, led by Nathalie Cohen (details to

be confirmed) The early date of this meeting is to take advantage of the opportunity to be shown the conservation work being undertaken by the National Trust, at one of Kent's great houses, set in parkland which has also been the subject of recent research.

Annual Conference 14–16 October (provisional) to be held at Lancaster, on northern Britain in prehistory (details to be confirmed)

Please check our website for news and early details, at www.royalarchinst.org/events

If you would like further details of any of these meetings sent to you, please send your e-mail or postal details to the Administrator, RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, London, wij obe or admin@royalarchinst. org or to Caroline Raison, RAI Assistant Meetings Secretary, The Firs, 2 Main Street, Houghton on the Hill, Leicester LE7 9GD, or csraison@gmail.com

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2015

Ships and Shore-lines: Maritime Archaeology for the 21st Century 16–18 October 2015, University of Southampton

There are still places available at this non-residential Conference based at the University's Avenue Campus. The opening keynote address, 'Maritime archaeology in the 21st century', will be given by Professor Jon Adams.

The programme will include lectures on the work of the Maritime Archaeology Trust, new research on HMS *Victory* by the Royal Navy Museum, subsonic investigation of the 'lost' port

of Dunwich, sea level changes, investigation of Mesolithic and other submerged landscapes in Northern Ireland, the *Mary Rose*, the Dover boat, the Swash Channel wreck and the Must Farm log boats. There will also be short presentations by postgraduate students and early-career archaeologists.

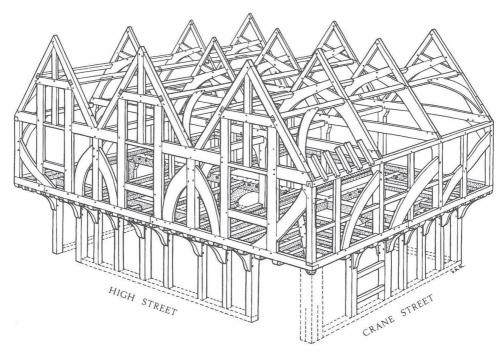
For the programme, fees and arrangements, please see details in this mailing.

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE SUMMER MEETING 2016

Wiltshire Revisited, 3–10 July david hinton

It is 69 years since the RAI's last Summer Meeting in Salisbury, and the report on it took up almost the whole of *Archaeological Journal* (vol. 104, 1947). The main focus of the 2016 Summer Meeting will be on new work within the county, which is dominated by contrasting landscapes of

chalk downland and clay vales, with a fringe of Cotswold limestone in the north east. Some of the results of recent fieldwork have been published, and other projects are in progress. The new Discovery Centre at Stonehenge and the closure of the A 344 road give a new context for the stones,



Isometric drawing of the timber framework of three fourteenth-century Salisbury houses, until recently Beach's bookshop, Salisbury (drawn by P. A. Spencer, © RCHM(E) 1980)

and studies in the landscape around them. At Avebury, excavations have explored the Avenue and other parts of the complex, and nearby Silbury Hill has been studied in detail following the collapse of the shafts dug into it in the last two centuries. At Marden, the University of Reading began a new project into the massive henge in 2015. The two principal museums in Wiltshire, at Salisbury and Devizes, have both benefited from very substantial grants that have enabled completely new and comprehensive archaeological displays to be created. All these will be visited, and many curators, archaeologists and other specialists have already kindly agreed to act as guides.

Hillforts have also received attention, notably with programmes of geophysical prospection, as at Old Sarum — RAI members at the 2015 Stockholm meeting will remember the parallel with Uppsala for the move to New Salisbury. Bishop Roger's fine twelfth-century work has a better context now that his Sherborne Castle has been published. Not far away is Clarendon Palace, rescued and redisplayed in the last twenty years, where the principal historian involved will take us round the site and explain its setting. Also a 'new town', but on a much more limited scale, is

Downton, where local volunteers have restored the eighteenth-century garden which contains the substantial twelfth-century castle motte and earthworks.

Extant Roman remains are few in Wiltshire, but the period's influence on the roads, towns and landscape can be seen, and access to the great villa with its mosaics at Littlecote may be possible. Anglo-Saxon cemetery evidence will be explained in the museums, but the great linear earthwork East Wansdyke can still be visited; its date and context have been the subject of much recent debate. Also Anglo-Saxon are eighth- and ninthcentury sculptures, now comprehensively reviewed in the new corpus volume by Professor Rosemary Cramp. At Malmesbury, the abbey contains some of the finest Romanesque sculpture; the town has recently been shown to lie within the circuit of an Iron Age hillfort, which became the setting for the defended stronghold probably instigated by King

Two papers on the Anglo-Saxon chapel at Bradford-on-Avon have been published in recent volumes of the *Archaeological Journal*, so a visit there and to the newly laid-out manorial farm complex at Barton on the edge of the town, where

the barn is one of the most impressive medieval survivals in the country, is appropriate. Opportunity to see the weavers' housing and the converted woollen cloth factories in Bradford will be taken. It is also hoped to go to the moated medieval Chalfield Manor, on which new light was thrown recently by a paper on its principal fifteenth-century builder, Sir Thomas Tropenell; there is ongoing research into its restoration in the early twentieth century, with W. H. Brakspear involved. Members of the Wiltshire Buildings Record have kindly agreed to share their expertise with the RAI on these visits.

The first few days of the Meeting will be based in Sarum College in the Cathedral Close, and will start with a walk round Salisbury to view its plan and some of its medieval buildings. It is hoped also to see the wall-paintings in St Thomas's Church. On the first evening, Dr John Hare, author of the recent book *A Prospering Economy* on later medieval Wiltshire, will give a background lecture. In mid-week, the Meeting will move to west Wiltshire for easier access to the northern and western sites.

A provisional itinerary will be posted on our website in the autumn, with details to follow.

MEETINGS NOTES

REPORT OF THE SPRING DAY MEETING at Colchester Castle Museum, 8 March 2015 JULIA HAES

Colchester was briefly Britain's first capital, established by the Romans in about AD50 at the site of the earlier settlement of Camulodunum. That it was mentioned by Pliny has led to the oftrepeated tourist slogan 'Britain's oldest recorded town'.

It is not known precisely when construction of Colchester Castle began, but it was probably in the

1070s or 1080s on the order of William the Conqueror. It is described in the Colchester Chronicle of 1076 as a motte and bailey castle, and is sited on the great stone base of what had been the Roman Temple of Claudius. William was linking his authority to that of the Roman Emperors before him. The keep is the largest surviving example built by the Normans, measuring 46 m by



Colchester Castle looking N-W across the remains of the chapel, towards the south door (CvP)

33.5 m. Its ground plan is shared in England only by the White Tower of London, which suggests Gundulf, Bishop of Rochester, as the likely designer of both castles.

In the keep against the backdrop of an illustration from *c*. 1120, Philip Wise, the city's Heritage Manager, gave the context of his talk: how does Colchester castle fit into the history of Norman castle building? How does it link with others? What was planned, and was the plan completed? How do recent archaeological research and findings, such as the Fenwick Treasure, help in this endeavour?

The first keeps were made of timber and formed a key part of the motte and bailey castles that emerged in Normandy and Anjou during the tenth century. The design spread to England, in turn to Wales during the second half of the eleventh century, and into Ireland in the 1170s. Such early constructions are shown in the Bayeux Tapestry, and may depict Bosham and Pevensey.

What is our Norman evidence?

There is a south doorway, a stairway and a great sense of what is Norman, though much altered, in the chapel. Smaller features include the narrow slit windows, individual fire places and latrines. An attempt at dating can be made through the design of certain elements of building, and decorative carving such as capitols similar to those found at Durham and Lincoln.

Eudo Dapifer (1063–1120) is linked to the construction of the castle. He was made High Steward of Normandy by William I, was present when William died in Caen in 1087 and loyally served William Rufus and Henry I. It was Henry who granted him the borough of Colchester in 1101, which may support the theory that the second phase of the building was finished *c.* 1120.

Evolution of castle design

Falaise castle was begun in 960; William was born there in *c.* 1028; it was further developed in 1123 by Henry I. The castle at Caen, one of the largest in Europe, was built by William. Its keep was demolished in the French Revolution in 1789, but one can still get some impression of it from the plan as illustrated in 1650. The huge keep was almost 30 m high, and the wall and large moat, which was dug to surround the keep after 1204,

recalls, yet again, the tremendous power of Norman military architecture.

Ivry-la-Bataille in Normandy, an early example of a stone keep or donjon said to have been built by Langfred in 960, has architectural features that link with Colchester Castle and the White Tower. This was perhaps a prototype, especially of the floor plan, and partition walls.

Pevensey was the first post conquest castle, though begun in the fourth century as one of the last and strongest of the Roman Saxon Shore Forts. Two thirds of its towered walls still stand and it was the landing place of William's army in 1066. During the century after the conquest a full-scale Norman castle, with a great square keep and a powerful gate house, was built within one corner of the fort. In the 1250s the towered bailey wall was constructed, and soon put to test during the great siege of 1264.

William's choice of Pevensey as a defensive location may not have been entirely for practical military reasons. It also has political connotations, implying that the Normans were to be compared favourably with the Romans. He followed a similar pattern elsewhere in England, building the Tower of London alongside the still extant Roman city wall and, as already noted, Colchester Castle on top of the ruins of the Temple of Claudius: 'the Norman foundations'.

At Colchester William ordered a stone castle; originally, it was plain, with a little ornamentation in archway detailing, whereas the White Tower was more elaborate. The chronology then is Colchester, the White Tower, Norwich and then Rochester, which has the tallest keep and an arcade still extant, and has more elaborate orders especially above the principal doorway, though of the same design as in Colchester.

Later history?

In 1629 the castle was sold to the crown and in 1683 came into the possession of John Wheeley, a local ironmonger. Wheeley partly demolished the castle and sold the stone, for there was a dearth of building material in the area. Fortunately this did not prove to be profitable: he became bankrupt and the work stopped before the castle was totally destroyed.

In 1726, after a number of owners, Charles Gray MP for Colchester was presented with the somewhat beleaguered castle as a wedding present, and he began to restore and alter it.

Construction?

The materials include Caen stone brought from Normandy at the entrance, which is suitable for fine detailing. Much of the rest is re-used Roman tile, flint and septaria. This vulnerable concretion is usually of calcium carbonate or of argillaceous and other minerals and only remained sound because it was protected by a layer of plaster. That said, it remains a challenge today.

Why this location?

Strategic: it is known that Ralph of Norfolk planned an uprising against William I in 1075, which was crushed. Cnut, King of Denmark, contemplated an attack on England between 1080 and 1085, leading to William implementing a 'scorched earth' policy along the east coast in 1083, and to the castle battlements being strengthened. However, Cnut died in 1085, at which point his great fleet, already assembled for invasion, was dispersed. The proximity to London is also strategic, the route then following the Roman road where the A12 now runs. In 1940 the area was heavily defended with tanks which also made use of the A12.

The Fenwick Treasure

A buried Roman treasure was discovered by archaeologist Adam Wightman at the William and

Griffin store. The group included three gold armlets, a silver chain or ?necklace, two silver bracelets, a substantial silver armlet, a small ?bag of coins, and a small jewellery box containing two sets of gold earrings and four gold finger rings, all of which had been buried in a small pit dug in the floor of a house during the early stages of the Boudican revolt in AD 61. Burnt foodstuffs lay scattered on the floor, with a collapsed wooden shelf. Human bones, uncovered recently, had been lying near the buried treasure, and two bones showed evidence of injuries suggesting a violent death.

After his talk, Philip guided us around the building.

The Exterior

Evidence of the different phases of building is visible, and of the Norman building technique of herringbone masonry using Roman materials. Surrounding the keep was a large bank and ditch, of which only the north and east sections survive substantially intact. Within this area the foundations of a chapel can still be seen, but there would have been many other buildings such as stables, storehouses and workshops. On the north side of the keep a lower bailey extended down to the town walls.

The Norman entrance doorway, which was originally protected by a fore-building, has a fine arch that is partly built of Caen stone. Perched high above the entrance on the south west corner is an eighteenth-century rotunda, with pantiled



The Fenwick treasure: gold armlet (CvP)



A vault under the Roman foundations of the Claudian temple beneath the castle (MOB)

roof and windows; part of the imaginative 'restoration' work of Charles Gray.

Next to the cupola is the castle's famous sycamore. Legend has it that there has been a tree there since 1815, planted by the gaoler's daughter to commemorate victory at Waterloo.

The Interior

The Great Stair, rising in the south-west corner tower, is the largest winding stone staircase in Britain. The first floor fireplaces are early examples of their kind and have Y-shaped chimneys that discharge through holes in the walls. The royal apartments were situated in the east gallery on the first floor, a fact marked by the presence of an adjoining chapel or crypt, and a garderobe.

The Vaults

Beneath the Norman keep lay the foundations of the Temple of Claudius, the centre of the Imperial cult in Roman Britain. The temple is thought to have been constructed shortly after the death of Claudius in AD 54 as it was not the custom to deify an emperor in his lifetime. The foundations are formed of a mixture of septaria, tile and lime mortar. Originally the foundations were filled with sand, but in the late seventeenth century, John Wheeley broke through the top of the foundations whilst in the process of trying to demolish the castle above. He removed much of the sand and since his time the open spaces he created have been known as 'the Vaults'. It was not until 1919 that their true significance was realised, when Mortimer Wheeler and local archaeologist Philip Laver, first identified their Roman origin.

In 1860 the vaults below the castle were opened to the public as a museum; in 1920 the castle was presented to the borough. In 1934/35 the keep was roofed over again, beginning the development of today's museum. Thanks to recent considerable investment from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the museum now boasts interactive displays including the star exhibit, the 'Colchester Vase', and the Colchester Mercury statue. The newly created app reanimates objects, and adorns the stone walls with colour, inspired by the renovated wall paintings of the local Copford church.

REPORT OF THE SPRING MEETING to East Dorset, 15–17 May 2015 ANNE HOLTON-KRAYENBUHL

Professor David Hinton, outgoing President of the RAI, led this meeting which was based in Poole. Twenty-nine members and guests assembled on the waterfront at Poole on a rather dull and damp Friday evening, but preoccupations with the weather were soon dispelled as we listened to David's commentary on the origins of the town. He told us about the evidence for Roman activity and how large deposits of oyster shell led on to settlement along the shore in the twelfth century when long narrow plots were laid out, each with its own waterfront access, and surviving into the twenty-first century as narrow lanes between the buildings along The Quay. Medieval buildings survive in the west part of Poole and we visited two of



Poole Museum's history centre, in part of the former Town Cellars (CvP)

them: Scaplen's Court, a medieval merchant's house comprising four ranges around a courtyard, and the Town Cellars representing the truncated remains of medieval warehousing now incorporated in Poole Museum.

We spent the rest of the evening in the Museum. We listened to an introductory talk about the contrasting landscapes and natural resources of East Dorset. The wealth of the area south-west of Poole derived from its geology, the limestone beds of the Purbeck hills yielding various types of stone including Kimmeridge shale and Purbeck marble; it also provided clay, exploited in the Roman period to produce Black Burnished Ware that had been traded throughout England and beyond. Along the coast, salt-water had been exploited for salt production since prehistoric times. The chalklands north of Poole were suitable for arable farming. We had an opportunity to look at finds from this area displayed in the Museum after a tasty buffet supper on the rooftop terrace of the cafeteria, retreating indoors as the temperature dropped.

On Saturday morning, we gathered outside the Thistle Hotel on The Quay, the departure point for the coach. Some had had time to walk along the sea front looking at various types of watercraft, ranging from luxury yachts to functional fishingboats, and to admire some freshly landed fish. The itinerary for the day took us to Wareham, Corfe Castle and the Purbeck hills, and after a cloudy start, we enjoyed warm sunshine for the rest of the day. We drove to Wareham through a landscape of rough pasture some of it made over to forestry, and we approached the town from the south to see remains of the original heathland. Wareham had been established as an element in Alfred's system of defensive burhs, the rivers Piddle and Frome providing natural defences to north, east and south. It had been laid out on the grid plan and surrounded with earthen banks and ditches and most of these features survive. David led the tour of the town that he knew well, having excavated at the church of St Martin that we would visit later in the morning.

Our first stop in Wareham was the church of Lady St Mary, a nineteenth-century replacement of a Saxon church that had still been standing in



Scenes from the life of St Margaret of Antioch at St Mary the Virgin, Tarrant Crawford (AW)

the 1840s. The door was locked, and when a keyholder eventually arrived, we found the organist practising fortissimo. Features of particular interest were the twelfth-century lead font on a stone base, the bowl decorated with a frieze of standing figures in arched niches, and five seventh- to ninth-century British inscriptions carved onto pieces of Roman building material probably brought over from the ruins of Dorchester. The perambulation continued past the site of the Norman castle that had encroached upon the south-west quadrant of the Saxon grid plan, to the site of the west gateway to the town. At that point we clambered to the top of the defensive banks and followed round as far as the northern entrance to the town and the church of St Martin. This church displayed Saxon features such as long-and-short quoins and narrow windows. It is notable for its wallpaintings, including scenes from the life of St Martin on the north wall of the chancel.

In the afternoon we visited Corfe Castle which is perched on a steep-sided hill. The keep had been built by William I, possibly replacing a late Saxon house. Further defensive works had been added in the thirteenth century. The castle had obviously been well built, as Cromwell's attempts to destroy it had been only partly successful leaving blocks of defensive masonry standing at odd angles on the slopes that we observed on the hot steep climb to the castle. The entrance was crowded with visitors queuing to enter, and a wedding party exiting young men in naval dress and ladies in uncomfortable-looking shoes. Once within the bailey, we came across a lively Viking re-enactment that involved much roaring from both 'Vikings' and young onlookers. David continued to impress us with his ability to raise his voice above the ambient noise as he stopped in various places to interpret the ruins. There were fine views from the top, including a bird's-eye view of the settlement outside the castle gate. We had time to buy ice-creams before rejoining the coach by an easier way.

We returned to Poole by a circuitous route to look at quarry sites along the Purbeck ridge between Swanage and Kingston; some of the quarries were still in use for small-scale work. Tim Tatton-Brown commented on the use of Purbeck marble that had been transported well beyond Dorset in the Middle Ages, to produce internal sculptural features in cathedrals such as Canterbury, Rochester or Ely. Purbeck marble is in fact a shelly limestone that can be highly polished and made to look like marble. The day concluded with a pleasant evening at the Storm Fish Restaurant in Poole.

On Sunday morning, the group that gathered outside the Thistle Hotel was somewhat depleted, as those who had driven to Poole were making their own way to the sites in the area around Blandford Forum. Everyone managed to locate the church of St Mary at Tarrant Crawford, despite the remoteness of its location. The drive along the narrow and winding access lane to the church was a particular challenge for the coach driver who had to reverse a considerable distance to the small church car park. Externally, St Mary's church is simple — a twelfth-century nave with chancel, and late medieval porch and west tower — but the interior has extensive traces of wall paintings. These had been cleaned in the later 1990s by Andrea Kirkham and Ann Ballantyne, who was with us. Ann explained the themes that were depicted; on the south wall there is a life of St Margaret in fourteen episodes that had been partly overpainted, other themes include an Annunciation, and a Crucifixion painted over a Visitation. We then followed the Stour valley northward to Blandford Forum and beyond where

the party divided. One group was dropped off at the foot of Hod Hill, the others continued on to Shaftesbury to look at the abbey ruins.

Hod Hill is one of the largest Iron Age hillforts in Dorset and the walk to the top provided us with some energetic exercise. From the top we had a panoramic view underlining the strategic character of this location. Tim Champion, the Institute's President, guided us round the earthworks, commenting on the archaeological evidence for occupation and abandonment. The bank and ditch enclosure of the summit had probably been constructed in c. 500 BC with minor subsequent extensions, and had remained in more or less continuous use until the arrival of the Romans. Field-walking over much of the hill top after ploughing in the 1850s had yielded Iron Age and Roman material, and a recent magnetometer survey by Bournemouth University had revealed the presence of a large number of hut circles and other features reflecting occupation over a timespan of some 500 years and therefore less densely occupied than it appeared. We walked to the north-west corner of the hillfort where the Romans had inserted a square camp, and Pete Wilson outlined the evidence for this probably short-lived camp of the AD 40s. As dark clouds gathered, we made our way down the steeper side of the hill where the coach and the rest of the party were waiting for us. There was an opportunity to



Iron Age defences at the south-east corner of Hod Hill (AW)

find out what the Shaftesbury group had seen when we gathered together in Child Okeford village hall for lunch.

We continued with the earthwork theme in the afternoon and visited Turnworth Down, west of Blandford Forum. A rare survival of an ancient landscape, it lies on sloping ground comprising woodland and pasture, and remains in use as grazing land as we soon discovered. At the upper entrance to the common, we were greeted by a herd of cattle gathered at the gate. We eventually entered the enclosure and Tim Champion

explained the palimpsest of landscapes on the slope before us. There were traces of trackways, field boundaries and enclosures, providing evidence for prehistoric occupation from the Bronze Age onwards, although difficult to date precisely. It was a lovely setting in which to end the weekend, the leaves on the trees still had their spring freshness and the air was filled with birdsong. We returned home with a clearer picture of the history and topography of East Dorset thanks to the expert knowledge of our speakers, and David and Caroline's meticulous planning.

REPORT OF THE ASA3 VISIT to Rosslyn Chapel, 13 June 2015 MARTA LORENZON

During the 2015 Annual Student Archaeology Conference (ASA3) organized at the University of Edinburgh, School of History, Classics and Archaeology, one of the field trips was kindly sponsored by RAI, whose grant went towards a guided tour of the site of Rosslyn Chapel. The tour described the architecture and artwork of the fifteenth-century chapel explaining its history,

carvings and construction techniques. The walk around the church grounds allowed students to enjoy the beautiful scenery and peaceful surroundings.

The ASA₃ organizing committee, would like to take this opportunity to thank the RAI for their generous support in making this trip possible.



RAI Newsletter 50 August 2015

Access to Lectures Online

To view the Institute's lectures online you will need to log in to our members' area. If you haven't yet got a username and password to log in, please contact the Administrator with your e-mail address at admin@royalarchinst.org.

Some of the Society of Antiquaries' lectures are available to all and can be viewed at www.sal. org.uk, under News and Events.

Presentations by New Archaeologists

For the third year running, in addition to our usual programme of lectures there will again be presentations by archaeologists starting their careers. The first trio, on 11 November 2015, will be given by postgraduates and post-doctoral fellows from the Department of Archaeology, University of

Cardiff. On 8 April 2015, the second set of presentations will be given by archaeologists early in their careers in units or museums.

These talks will start at 3.00 pm, to be followed by tea and the main lecture of the day.

Royal Archaeological Institute Lecture Programme and Abstracts: 2015/16

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month from October to May at 5.00 p.m. in the Rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London wij obe. In November and April, the lecture will be preceded at 3.00 pm by a presentation by new archaeologists. Tea will be served at 4.30 pm. Non-members are welcome but should make themselves known to the Secretary and sign the visitors' book.

2015

14 October

The Whitby Abbey Headland: 21 years of archaeological endeavour

Tony Wilmott

Since 1993, English Heritage (now Historic England) have carried out archaeological projects on the Whitby Abbey Headland. These have been undertaken in connection with the development of visitor facilities, in mitigation for sea cliff erosion and also for research objectives. The vast amount of information derived from these excavations is now being analysed. New insights have been gathered on periods from the prehistoric, through the Anglian and medieval abbeys to the

grand post-dissolution houses of the Cholmely family. This lecture will provide an overview of the works, summarising the justification for the different projects and giving a preliminary overview of the results in all periods. Perhaps unsurprisingly, prominence will be given to fresh interpretations of the Anglian monastery of St Hild.

11 November

3.00 pm: Presentations by early career archaeologists from Cardiff University

Alex Davies: A new interpretation of the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age of the Thames Valley

This study attempts to break the traditional compartmentalisation of the Bronze Age and Iron Age by approaching them with the same interpretative and methodological frameworks. Similar underlying patterns have been found throughout various aspects of the archaeological record within both the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age, but these are quite different between the periods. These patterns tell of shifts in worldviews and the nature of sociality. Ethnographic analogies will be used to

help argue that ancestors and lineage were of little importance in the social and ontological orientation of the Late Bronze Age. Identity boundaries shifted in the Early Iron Age to include these groups, eventually leading to a more hierarchically organised society later in the Iron Age.

Nicola Emmerson: Evidence-based management in preservation of cultural heritage assets

Managing the preservation of our cultural heritage in perpetuity is a complex process involving a multitude of decisions to satisfy a wide range of stakeholders. Compromises must often be reached which balance preservation and visitor experience against financial and practical constraints. Effective decision making in this context requires an evidence base demonstrating the relative efficacies of treatments and approaches. Conservation research at Cardiff University aims to generate this empirical evidence base. The theme of evidence-based management is discussed using examples of recent and current conservation research projects at Cardiff ranging from coating selection for painting historic ironwork and armoured steel to an

investigation of preservation methods for mud brick walls at Çatalhöyük.

Richard Madgwick: Investigating connectivity in Late Neolithic Britain: an isotope study on feasting centres

The great henge complexes of southern Britain are iconic monuments of the third millennium BC, long recognised as ceremonial centres where feasting took place on a grand scale. These complexes may have acted as nodes in an inter-regional trade network, power-bases in the heartland of particular groups or monuments at the border of territories, where alliances were forged and consolidated. Establishing the catchment for the communities that each centre served is vital for deciphering their role. This paper presents multiisotope data from pigs, as a proxy for human mobility, from four complexes in southern Britain. The combination of multiple isotope approaches, providing signals relating to diet, coastal proximity, climate and geological biosphere zone has the potential to refine the origins of those who converged on these sites. This in turn provides evidence for the role of feasting events and for



patterns of connectivity at this transitional phase in British prehistory.

5.00 pm lecture: Rescued from the Sea: excavation of a remarkable Mesolithic to medieval archaeological and palaeoenvironmental sequence at Low Hauxley, Northumberland

Dr Clive Waddington

A remarkable archaeological site with over 10,000 years of archaeology has been preserved in exceptional condition within an accumulating Holocene sediment stack. This includes several intact buried soils, or palaeosols, within which were a wide range of remains from Mesolithic settlement and pits through Neolithic pits, a hearth to a large Beaker period burial cairn and an Iron Age and Roman-period settlement. Coupled with the archaeology was a suite of ancient organic sediments including several cliff-face peats and an intertidal peat, the latter of which had Mesolithic hoof prints and foot prints on its surface. All these deposits are under active coastal erosion and this talk will describe the race against time to record this complex and fascinating site by way of a largescale project which included 700 individuals as well as specialist help from seven universities. The scientific results have revealed a complex story of settlement and burial through time in the context of a dynamic and changing landscape which will soon be entirely washed away.

9 December

Roman Camps in Britain: known unknowns Dr Rebecca Jones

'... there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know ...'

Donald Rumsfeld, February 2002.

Roman Camps in Britain have, until relatively recently, been the bridesmaid in studies of the Roman army — 'known unknowns'. However, their significance has recently been recognised through three corpus volumes for the three countries of Britain and the results from extensive excavations at Kintore in Aberdeenshire. Camps are enclosures which are temporary in form and constructed by Roman soldiers for a variety of

purposes ranging from active field campaigning through to training and manoeuvres.

This lecture will give an overview of what camps are, their various functions, history of research, where they are found in Britain and our current knowledge base. Difficulties of establishing context, function and dating will be discussed.

2016

13 January

Ports, Limbs and other appendages; the archaeological signature of Cinque port confederation sites

Dr Frank Meddens

The archaeology and documentary history of a small number of sites which belonged to the Confederation of the Cinque ports have been documented and analysed. The comparing and contrasting of documentary source material with the archaeological record has proven particularly productive at providing alternative models to site development from what was hypothesised on the basis of the historic evidence alone. New Romney, Grange and Dover are reviewed in some detail to establish what characterises them within their medieval and post-medieval context and to demonstrate how an integrated approach using the analytical tools of archaeology and history enriches the research outputs of both.

10 February

'Moving Heaven & Earth' — celebrating Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716–83) and his legacy

Steffie Shields

In coining the famous nickname, 'Capability', Horace Walpole has actually done England's foremost landscape architect a surprising disservice. It underplays the pioneering scale of Brown's engineering and architectural ingenuity. Few realise that Brown hired civil engineer John Smeaton on one hand, while providing theatre for Garrick or sport for kings on the other. The 'Shakespeare of Garden Arts' advised admirals and prime ministers, and charmed 'blue-stocking' ladies with his wit, before galloping hundreds of miles to

inspect pumping engine parts and 'stink piles', with oak acorns and beechnuts in his pockets. Too busy laying down future forests and building bridges in every sense, Brown never penned his visionary design philosophy. 'Moving Heaven & Earth' salutes a driven polymath, a man of science and an artist with the eye of faith who ranks alongside Constable and Turner in the national psyche.

9 March

The Whitehorse Hill Cist and its Remarkable Contents

Dr Andrew M Jones

In 2011, Cornwall Archaeological Unit were commissioned by the Dartmoor National Park Authority to excavate a Scheduled cist on Whitehorse Hill. The site was located on the western edge of a peat mound which was drying out and the cist was in danger of collapsing. The excavations revealed an intact burial deposit which was associated with an unparalleled range of artefacts, which included basketry, a leather and textile artefact, layers of matted plant material, a pelt, a woven band with studs, a cremation, beads of amber, shale, clay and tin, a copper alloy pin, flint and worked wood.

The exceptional preservation within the peat mound also meant that, in addition to the artefactual assemblage, there was a range of environmental material including: pollen, testate amoebae, tephra, fungal spores, plant macrofossils and charcoal. These have helped build up a picture of environmental conditions over time around the cist.

13 April

3.00 pm: Presentations by early career archaeologists

Sebastian Becker: Connecting Through Images: on the significance of branded imagery in later prehistoric Europe

Widespread similarities in the archaeological record of Central Europe suggest the existence of complex economic and social networks during the Bronze Age and Iron Age. I examine a corpus of material that can shed further light on the nature and significance of such interregional connections.

Towards the end of the second millennium BC a range of rather extraordinary visual designs appear across Central Europe. These are images of birds, often in combination with representations of the sun. Like modern-day brand logos, images of this type are highly emblematic, and, in addition, associated with prestigious metalwork, such as weapons, armour and metal vessels.

I suggest that the development and use of such branded imagery reflects a new strategy among social elites to participate in increasingly complex social networks, focusing on the origins and longterm repercussions of that process.

Lawrence Billington: Squeezing Blood from Stones: lithic scatters and landscape occupation in Mesolithic Eastern England

Despite a resurgence of academic interest in the Mesolithic in the last decade our understanding of the period remains largely predicated on a few intensively researched sites and regional sequences. These are invariably distinguished by histories of land use and geomorphological processes which have allowed the favourable preservation of in situ artefact scatters. Across most of Southern Britain, however, the vast majority of the evidence for Mesolithic activity takes the form of disturbed lithic scatters, often recovered from a ploughzone context. There has rarely been any attempt to incorporate this kind of material into our interpretations of Mesolithic landscape occupation. Having reviewed the evidence for Mesolithic activity from one such under researched area in Eastern England, I summarise this research and emphasise both the opportunities and difficulties of working with this kind of evidence and the implications for research into the period as a whole.

Marcus Brittain: The Mundane and the Macabre: A brief outline of the Ham Hill Archaeology Project

The Ham Hill archaeology project is a joint venture between the Cambridge Archaeological Unit and Cardiff University to fulfil research-oriented targets whilst meeting client needs under conditions of development control. The hill is

remarkable, having served as a near continuous focal point of human activity for over 6000 years. It comprises some of the country's largest monumental earthworks, notably Britain's largest Iron Age hillfort. It also provides the region of south Somerset with its richly golden stone used in the conservation of its historic buildings, and the project was initiated owing to the growth of one of its stone quarries. As summarised in this presentation, the project's findings provide the first detailed picture of the changing nature of life upon the hill, from its mundane earlier prehistory to the macabre practices of its later prehistoric inhabitants.

5.00 pm lecture: Wressle Castle, East Yorkshire: Beginning to End

Shaun Richardson

Wressle Castle, close to Howden, East Yorkshire, was built in the late fourteenth century by the Percy family, and forms one of a group of near contemporary substantial castle residences in the north of England built by leading aristocratic families. Over the past three years, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services (EDAS) have undertaken a programme of detailed archaeological recording on the structural remains of the castle and the associated landscape of which it forms part. The lecture will discuss the complex relationship between the development of Wressle as a settlement and how this influenced the organisation of the castle's immediate setting. It will then investigate the integration of the lives of those living

within the castle with the surrounding landscapes of recreation, and finish by examining the structural evidence for the three episodes of dismantling / destruction that took place during the midseventeenth century, drawing parallels with other Yorkshire castles.

11 May: the President's lecture

The making of the southern English landscape: a prehistorian's view

Professor Tim Champion

Landscape history has tended to concentrate on the currently visible forms of settlement and land division, mostly derived from various episodes of medieval activity. Ecological history, on the other hand, has placed great emphasis on the first major clearances of the post-glacial landscape, mostly dating to the earlier part of the Neolithic. Prehistoric archaeology, from the time of Gordon Childe in the 1920s, has also focused on the Neolithic Revolution as the critical phase of transition in the development of human societies. Here it is suggested that, at least for southern and eastern England, the critical phase of transition to a permanently settled and managed landscape, exploited for a variety of agricultural and related activities, and accompanied by significant changes in the ecology of wildlife, took place in the Bronze Age, in the centuries around the middle of the second millennium BC.

British Archaeological Association Meetings 2015/16

RAI members are invited to attend the meetings of the British Archaeological Association.

2015

7 Oct

Southwell Minster's Choir: A Gothic Vision of Archbishop Walter de Gray

Dr Jeffrey Miller

This lecture will be followed by the launch of Romanesque and the Mediterranean: Patterns of Contact Across the Latin, Greek and Islamic Worlds c. 1000–c. 1250 edited by Rosa Maria Bacile and John McNeill.

4 Nov

The Charles Bridge, Peter Parler and the first Bohemian Net Vault

Dr Jana Gajdosova

2 Dec

Why does architectural style change? an exploration using fourteenth-century collegiate churches

Andrew Budge

6 Jan

Excavations at Glastonbury Abbey, 1908–79: reassessing the medieval monastery

Professor Roberta Gilchrist

3 Feb

The Kailasa Temple at Ellora: rock-cut architecture and the realisation of buildings in the medieval period

Professor Peter Draper

2 Mar

Recent studies of the fabric of Exeter Cathedral

John Allan

6 Apr

Monuments in Wax: form and function in medieval charters

Dr Jessica Berembeim

4 May

Reconstructing Henry III's Great Chapel at Windsor Castle, 1240–48

Dr Steven Brindle

This lecture will be followed by the President's Reception.

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month from October to May, at 5.00 pm in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London. Tea will be served before each meeting at 4.30 pm. Non-members are asked to make themselves known to the Hon. Director on arrival and to sign the visitors' book.

THE INSTITUTE'S WEBSITE

From the RAI's website at www.royalarchinst. org all readers can download booking forms for our meetings, see the full programme for our autumn conference, and access book reviews. Please send any feedback or suggestions for future improvements to the web manager at website@royalarchinst.org

Book reviews

As soon as they are ready, we are now putting online the book reviews prepared for the *Archaeological Journal*. Currently available to read or download are reviews for Volumes 169 to 172. Further information is available on the publications page,

Access for members

If you are a full member, and haven't yet got your online log-in for the members' area of our website, please contact the Administrator with your e-mail address. You will be sent a username and password

The Archaeological Journal online

The Archaeological Journal from Volume 1 (for 1844) onwards is now available to ordinary members via the members' area of our website. Log on with your User name and password. On the

publications page, you will find a link that takes you to the Taylor and Francis website, where the entire run of the journal is now searchable and copies may be downloaded. Online, the *Journal* will be issued in two parts, the first in Jan, the second in June each year.

For associate members and others, these same volumes are available on a pay-per-view basis on Taylor and Francis' website. Volumes 1 to 120 are still freely available to all on the Archaeological Data Service website at http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/archjournal/volumes.cfm

Searching Journals Online

Members who have scrutinised David Hinton's document about using the Taylor and Francis website for searching of the back numbers of the *Archaeological Journal* will have seen that a means of finding the phrase 'The sculpture is exceedingly rude' had eluded the former President. We are grateful to Trevor Cooper for discovering that it (and any others) can be located if placed in double inverted commas, and the black dot is moved into the 'Entire site' roundel. The document has been altered accordingly.

Online lectures

The video recording of the Institute's lectures at Burlington House to link them to our website is continuing, at a much-improved quality since the Society of Antiquaries' technological services upgraded their equipment, Ordinary members may view them by logging in to the members' area of our website.

Some of the Society of Antiquaries' lectures are available to all and can be viewed at www.sal.org.uk, under News and Events.

Illustrations of Reports of Early Summer Meetings

Often to be seen in antique shops are prints showing some of the places to be visited by the RAI during one of its annual Summer Meetings in the nineteenth century. Until we had the back numbers of the Archaeological Journal scanned, I had assumed that these prints were originally pull-outs accompanying the meetings reports. A second look showed that they are from the Illustrated London News, which had a regular monthly round-up of archaeological news, including reports about the Institute's regular meetings. The print reproduced here (from a photograph taken by James Miles, one of the new archaeologists from Southampton who spoke to us in 2012) is the top part of the one published for the 1872 visit to Southampton, and as well as the elegant cartouches, shows Romsey

Abbey; the rest of the print has views of several other places in south Hampshire.

Searches have not revealed much more about these prints — whether the artists drew from life or copied other works, or whether they were issued to RAI members on the visits or only appeared within the *ILN*. Has any member looked further into their history? In the shops, they are usually hand-coloured, though the one shown here is in its original black and white. As they are decorative, some members may have bought one or two, and it might be interesting to see if we could somehow put together a small exhibition, perhaps in collaboration with the British Archaeological Association, as their visits were marked by the ILN in the same way, if anyone knows of a suitable space that we could use briefly.

The RAI's early relations with the BAA have often been discussed (neither side was without blame), but I don't know of anything being said about illustrations. Again, the scanning of the back numbers has made me wonder if there was an ideological difference in those; it looks to me as though our own style shows a preference for wood-cuts, while the BAA favoured harder-line steel engravings that allowed more detail. Someone may have greater knowledge about this.

David A. Hinton (dah5@soton.ac.uk)



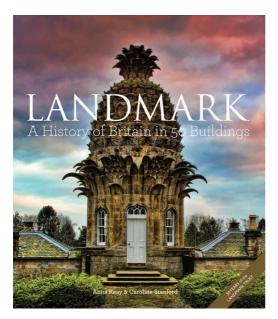
MISCELLANY

Our Secretary Pete Wilson: addendum to the profile published in *Newsletter* 48.

Pete Wilson has for virtually all of his career been with Historic England and its predecessor bodies with which he started in 1981. Having variously been a Field Officer, Archaeologist and then Senior Archaeologist in the period up to 2005 with what is now the Historic England Excavation and Analysis Team, he is now Foresight Coordinator. Much of his work at Roman Catterick (1989–94) was published in the CBA Research Report Cataractonium: Roman Catterick and its

Hinterland (2002). He is a an established member of the triennial Roman Frontiers (Limes) Congress and regularly speaks at the biennial Roman Archaeology Conference. Specific research interests include: the Roman army in Northern England, Roman and native interaction, the end of Roman Britain and Roman towns, topics on which he has published widely. For many years he was a member of the Management Board of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society (YAS) and is currently Chair of the YAS Roman Antiquities Section and is a trustee of the Roman Roads Research Association. He is currently serving his second term on the Archaeology Committee of the Roman Society.

Pete is married to Jill, an artist, baker and occasional archaeologist. They live on the Yorkshire Wolds in a house seemingly run to cater to the whims of their two Lhasa Apsos — Rose and Crantz.



Special Offer

Landmark: A History of Britain in 50 Buildings by Anna Keay and Caroline Stanford. Frances Lincoln (Sept. 2015) RRP £25

This sumptuously illustrated book celebrates the Landmark Trust's achievements in the protection of British heritage since the Trust was established fifty years ago. From a medieval hall house to the winner of the 2013 Stirling Prize for Architecture, fifty buildings rescued by Landmark from threatened oblivion are presented here that vividly illustrate the history of Britain from 1250 to the present day.

For everyone interested in British history or architecture, this enthralling book will bring fresh insights into both; for everyone interested in buildings conservation, the book will provide an insight into the unique national treasure that is the Landmark Trust.

To order *Landmark* at the discounted price of £20 including UK p&p* telephone 01903 828503 or email mailorders@lbsltd.co.uk and quote the offer code APG352.

(*UK ONLY: Please add £2.50 if ordering from overseas.)

Sir George Gilbert Scott

As a prominent founder of the Royal Archaeological Institute (though not of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain nor the Victorian Society), and the one-time bugbear of the Society of Antiquaries, Sir George Gilbert Scott became more than a (and perhaps the) leading architect of his day. Research undertaken by the late Ian Toplis into the original manuscript of what in revised form became Scott's Recollections, has now been put on line. There is a gazetteer and as well as line drawings, some 350 photographs, all of which can be searched by date, place, or building type. This is a valuable and comprehensive website detailing his vast career — www.gilbertscott.org.uk — which I commend to anyone with an interest in Victorian architecture, ecclesiology, and indeed archaeology.

Anthony Quiney



Shanghai: Holy Trinity Cathedral (1870, restored 2012)

Members' e-mail addresses

We are still seeking e-mail addresses from members, so that when we have sufficient we could mitigate the impact of increased costs of distribution, Council would like to make more information digitally available. The impact of high postage costs would be reduced if we could send out material as attachments to as many members as possible. These might include the notices of forthcoming meetings, the Accounts, the programme card, and possibly the *Newsletter*. If you would be willing to receive information digitally, please send your e-mail address to admin@royalarchinst.org

Nominations for New Years Honours 2017

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) seeks help to identify potential candidates from within the UK heritage and conservation sectors for the New Years Honours list. They consider nominations for candidates whose activities fall within the areas of sports, the creative industries, including fashion design and advertising, art, music, film, museums, tourism and hospitality, libraries, heritage, archaeology, broadcasting and radio. The deadline for nominations for the 2016 New Years Honours list was 1 May, hence this notice, which if given in the Spring Newsletter would be too late. You can download a digital version of the form at https://www.gov.uk/ government/publications/honours-nominationform-department-for-culture-media-and-sportsectors and email your completed nomination to honours@culture.gov.uk.

Castle Studies Group Conference

Rochester Castle and the Great Siege of 1215 at Guildhall, Rochester, 16–17 October 2015.



800 years after Magna Carta and the civil war in which the siege of Rochester by King John was a critical moment, this conference will explore the construction, design and history of Rochester Castle and Cathedral as well as the events of 1215 and the castle's later history. Papers will be given on Friday by Jeremy Ashbee, Pamela Marshall, Tim Tatton-Brown, Richard Eales, Hugh Doherty, Peter Purton and James Petre. with guided visits to the Castle and Cathedral on Saturday. For further details contact Peter Purton, ppurton@tiscali.co.uk or Chas Hollwey, 54 Grosvenor Rd, London E11

Subscriptions

The current rates *by direct debit* are: Ordinary member, £35, Associate £15 or Student, £20; Life member, £750 or £525 if aged over 60. Life membership represents good value for both the member and the Institute and it shows a member's commitment to the Institute. Pease see the letter from the Administrator in this mailing.

Sponsored Young Student Membership of the RAI

A year's membership of the Institute, sponsored by volunteer existing members, has been given to some second- or third-year degree students under 26, nominated by their archaeology department, and to winners of dissertation prizes. Thank you to those members who have been sponsors, and it would be a great help if you'd like to continue. New sponsors are always welcome — £20 pays for a year's membership for one. In 2015, there were nine such members. If you can help us to expand the scheme, either with funds or by proposing more candidates, please contact the Administrator at the address below.

The RAI office

The telephone number for the Administrator is o7847600756, the email is admin@royalarchinst.org and the postal address is RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London, WIJ OBE. The RAI has no office in London, but the Administrator will usually be at this address on the second Wednesday of each month from October to May, between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm.

CAPTION COMPETITION 2015



What is John Irving (centre, in blue jumper) saying to himself?

Please suggest a caption for this picture of members. It was taken by Lara O'Brien at our recent Spring Meeting during the guided tour of Colchester Castle (for the meeting report, see

pages 7-10). Send your suggestions to the Newsletter Editor at the address below, as soon as possible please, so that the winning entry might be published in the next Newsletter.

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

EDITOR Katherine Barclay, Williamsgate, Governor's Green, Pembroke Road, Portsmouth, Hants. PO1 2NS. Email: newsletter@royalarchinst.org

NEXT ISSUE Copy for the next issue must reach the editor by the end of January 2015 for publication in April 2016.

THIS ISSUE'S COVER PICTURE The patron saint of archaeologists and Essex Girl, St Helena (c.1900, John Belcher?), on Colchester Town Hall (RA)